

AER Consumer Engagement – Electricity Distribution

The AER wishes to advise interested parties about our forthcoming review of electricity distribution prices in Queensland for 2015 to 2020. We are holding a meeting on 7 November 2013 at 10.00am-12.00pm EST at our Brisbane office. This is the first of a series of meetings we will hold that will provide consumers and stakeholders an opportunity to engage with AER staff before and during the review process.

This information sheet provides further details

Who is the AER?

The AER aims to make energy markets work better for consumers. Our pricing decisions are guided by the National Electricity and Gas objectives. These aim to promote efficient investment and operation of energy networks for the long term interests of energy consumers, including safety and reliability.

What is the purpose of these meetings?

The purpose of consumer meetings is threefold. First, we will identify where and how you can be involved in the review of the regulatory arrangements for Energex and Ergon Energy in the 2015 to 2020 regulatory control period. Second, participants may develop a greater understanding of the energy sector and regulatory environment. Third, participants will be able to engage with us to make meaningful and informed contributions to the regulatory process the AER is responsible for.

Why are we holding consumer meetings?

Our aim is to improve our understanding of consumer and stakeholder concerns and obtain input on a range of regulatory issues relating to electricity distribution in Queensland.

How will participants benefit by attending meetings?

Participants can inform us about energy issues that directly concern them or their organisations. The meetings will also provide an opportunity for us to provide information about the energy sector and regulatory framework. Participants may also benefit from information about how best to contribute to the AER's regulatory review.

Who to contact to register or for further information?

If you wish to attend our first meeting on 7 November (or for further information) please contact Robyn Lowien on 07 3835 4659 or email <u>robyn.lowien@aer.gov.au</u>.

We appreciate all registrations by 5 November 2013.

The meeting will be held at AER offices, Level 24, 400 George St Brisbane, 10am to 12pm EST.