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5 May 2006

Mr Sebastian Roberts
General Manager
Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 560J
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Mr Roberts

Response to Gas and Electricity Distribution Regulatory Guidelines Scoping Paper

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Australian Energy Regulator's *Scoping Paper*. ActewAGL welcomes the AER's intention to inform regulated businesses of how it intends to implement the new regulatory framework.

As the owner of an electricity distribution network scheduled for the first round of AER distribution reviews, ActewAGL is particularly keen for guidance on how the AER intends to administer the new regulatory framework (once it is developed) and what needs to be done in the transition to the new regime. We need certainty about what will be required under the new regime and how that differs from requirements in past reviews, well ahead of the scheduled start of the reviews in mid 2008.

We therefore have concerns, for reasons detailed in the submission, about the priority being given in the Scoping Paper to the development of regulatory guidelines.

Should you have any questions relating to this submission, please do not hesitate to contact Mr David Graham, Director Regulatory Affairs and Pricing on (02) 6248 3605 or by e-mail to david.graham@actewagl.com.au.

Yours sincerely

J A Mackay
Chief Executive Officer