Attachment 6

Checklist of requirements for AusNet Services' Distribution Regulatory Proposal

Version 132 of Chapter 6 [current at 1 January 2020] of the National Electricity Rules¹

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.3.1	Building block determinations	
	(c) The building block proposal:	(1) The completed PTRM is submitted with the
	(1) must be prepared in accordance with the post-tax revenue model and other relevant requirements of this Part;	Regulatory Proposal. The building block components are summarised in Chapter 8.
	(2) must comply with the requirements of, and must contain or be accompanied by the	(2) Accompanied by completed RINs and RIN checklist.
	information required by, any relevant regulatory information instrument, and	(3) See S6.1 in this checklist.
	(3) must be prepared in accordance with Schedule 6.1.	
6.5.2	Return on capital	
	The return on capital for a <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> for a <i>regulatory year</i> (RCt) is to be calculated using the following formula:	The return on capital is calculated in accordance with this requirement, as set out in section 8.4.2 and Table 8.3.
	$RCt = a_t \times v_t$	Details on the allowed rate of return are provided in Chapter 14.
	where:	The opening RAB values are sourced from the AER's
	at is the allowed rate of return for the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> for the <i>regulatory year</i> ; and	PTRM model (version 4) and the basis is explained in Chapter 12 – RAB.
	v _t is the value, as at the beginning of the <i>regulatory year</i> , of the regulatory asset base for the <i>distribution system</i> owned, controlled or operated by the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> (as established in accordance with clause 6.5.1 and schedule 6.2).	

¹ It should be noted that only those provisions that are directly relevant to the submission of a Regulatory Proposal have been included in this checklist.

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.5.3	Estimated cost of corporate income tax	
	The estimated cost of corporate income tax of a <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> for each <i>regulatory year</i> (ETC _t) must be estimated in accordance with the following formula:	The benchmark tax liability is set out in section 8.4.6 and Table 8.7. Section 14.9 sets out the value of imputation
	$ETC_t = (ETI_t \times r_t) (1 - \gamma)$	credits.
	where:	Chapter 15 – Corporate Tax Allowance explains our approach which conforms with these requirements
	ETIt is an estimate of the taxable income for that <i>regulatory year</i> that would be earned by a benchmark efficient entity as a result of the provision of <i>standard control services</i> if such an entity, rather than the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> , operated the business of the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> , such estimate being determined in accordance with the <i>post-tax revenue model</i> ;	
	r_t is the expected statutory income tax rate for that <i>regulatory year</i> as determined by the AER ; and	
	γ is the value of imputation credits.	
6.5.5	Depreciation	
	(a) The depreciation for each regulatory year.	Chapter 13 explains our approach to depreciation, which conforms with these requirements.
	(1) must be calculated on the value of the assets as included in the regulatory asset base, as at the beginning of that regulatory year, for the relevant distribution system; and	
	(2) must be calculated:	
	(i) providing such depreciation schedules conform with the requirements set out in paragraph (b), using the depreciation schedules for each asset or category of assets that are nominated in the relevant <i>Distribution Network Service Provider's building block proposal</i> ; or	
	(ii) to the extent the depreciation schedules nominated in the Distribution Network Service Provider's building block proposal do not so conform, using the depreciation schedules determined for that purpose by the AER.	

Clause			Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.5.5	(b)		depreciation schedules referred to in paragraph (a) must conform to the following uirements:	Chapter 13 explains our approach to depreciation, which conforms with these requirements.
		(1)	the schedules must depreciate using a profile that reflects the nature of the assets or category of assets over the economic life of that asset or category of assets;	
		(2)	the sum of the real value of the depreciation that is attributable to any asset or category of assets over the economic life of that asset or category of assets (such real value being calculated as at the time the value of that asset or category of assets was first included in the regulatory asset base for the relevant <i>distribution</i> system) must be equivalent to the value at which that asset or category of assets was first included in the regulatory asset base for the relevant <i>distribution</i> system;	
		(3)	the economic life of the relevant assets and the depreciation methods and rates underpinning the calculation of depreciation for a given <i>regulatory control period</i> must be consistent with those determined for the same assets on a prospective basis in the distribution determination for that period.	
6.5.6	For	ecast	t operating expenditure	
	(a)	rele	uilding block proposal must include the total forecast operating expenditure for the vant regulatory control period which the Distribution Network Service Provider siders is required in order to achieve each of the following (the operating enditure objectives):	Chapter 10 explains our operating expenditure forecasts, which satisfy these requirements by adopting the AER's preferred base-step-trend forecasting methodology.
		(1)	meet or manage the expected demand for <i>standard control services</i> over that period;	
		(2)	comply with all applicable <i>regulatory obligations or requirements</i> associated with the provision of <i>standard control services</i> ;	
		(3)	to the extent that there is no applicable <i>regulatory obligation or requirement</i> in relation to:	
			(i) the quality, reliability or security of supply of standard control services; or	
			(ii) the reliability or security of the distribution system through the supply of standard control services,	
		to th	ne relevant extent:	
			(iii) maintain the quality, reliability and security of supply of <i>standard control services</i> ; and	
			(iv) maintain the reliability and security of the distribution system through the supply of standard control services; and	
		(4)	maintain the safety of the <i>distribution system</i> through the supply of <i>standard control services</i> .	

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.5.6	 (b) The forecast of required operating expenditure of a Distribution Network Service Provider that is included in a building block proposal must: (1) comply with the requirements of any relevant regulatory information instrument; 	The AER's RIN requirements are addressed in a separate checklist.
	(2) be for expenditure that is properly allocated to standard control services in accordance with the principles and policies set out in the Cost Allocation Method for the Distribution Network Service Provider, and	Section 1.2 notes that the proposal reflects our cost allocation methodology. Section 10.10.3 sets out the reallocation of metering system costs.
	(3) include both:	Section 10.3, Table 10.1.
	 the total of the forecast operating expenditure for the relevant regulatory control period; and 	
	(ii) the forecast operating expenditure for each regulatory year of the relevant regulatory control period.	
	(c) The AER must accept the forecast of required operating expenditure of a Distribution Network Service Provider that is included in a building block proposal if the AER is satisfied that the total of the forecast operating expenditure for the regulatory control period reasonably reflects each of the following (the operating expenditure criteria):	Strictly speaking, clause 6.5.6(c) is not a requirement for AusNet Services to address. Nevertheless, Chapter 10 demonstrates that the forecast operating expenditure satisfies these criteria.
	(1) the efficient costs of achieving the operating expenditure objectives; and	
	(2) the costs that a prudent operator would require to achieve the operating expenditure objectives; and	
	(3) a realistic expectation of the demand forecast and cost inputs required to achieve the operating expenditure objectives.	
	(d) If the AER is not satisfied as referred to in paragraph (c), it must not accept the forecast of required operating expenditure of a Distribution Network Service Provider that is included in a building block proposal.	

Clause		Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.5.6		eciding whether or not the AER is satisfied as referred to in paragraph (c), the AER at have regard to the following (the operating expenditure factors):	These requirements apply to the AER, not AusNet Services. Nevertheless, as noted in section 10.13, we
	(1)	[Deleted]	have considered these factors in developing our forecasts.
	(2)	[Deleted]	
	(3)	[Deleted]	
	(4)	the most recent annual benchmarking report that has been published under rule 6.27 and the benchmark operating expenditure that would be incurred by an efficient Distribution Network Service Provider over the relevant regulatory control period;	
	(5)	the actual and expected operating expenditure of the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> during any preceding <i>regulatory control periods</i> ;	
	(5A)	the extent to which the operating expenditure forecast includes expenditure to address the concerns of electricity consumers as identified by the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> in the course of its engagement with electricity consumers;	
	(6)	the relative prices of operating and capital inputs;	
	(7)	the substitution possibilities between operating and capital expenditure;	
	(8)	whether the operating expenditure forecast is consistent with any incentive scheme or schemes that apply to the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> under clauses 6.5.8 or 6.6.2 to 6.6.4;	As above.
	(9)	the extent the operating expenditure forecast is referable to arrangements with a person other than the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> that, in the opinion of the <i>AER</i> , do not reflect arm's length terms;	
	(9A)	whether the operating expenditure forecast includes an amount relating to a project that should more appropriately be included as a <i>contingent project</i> under clause 6.6A.1(b);	
	(10)	the extent the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> has considered, and made provision for, efficient and prudent non-network options; and	
	(11)	any relevant final project assessment report (as defined in clause 5.10.2) published under clause 5.17.4(o), (p) or (s);	There are no final project assessment reports in relation to the forecast period.
	(12)	any other factor the AER considers relevant and which the AER has notified the Distribution Network Service Provider in writing, prior to the submission of its revised regulatory proposal under clause 6.10.3, is an operating expenditure factor.	

Clause		Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.5.7	Foreca	st capital expenditure	
	rel co	building block proposal must include the total forecast capital expenditure for the evant regulatory control period which the Distribution Network Service Provider nsiders is required in order to achieve each of the following (the capital expenditure jectives):	Chapter 9 sets out our capital expenditure forecasts, and explains why they satisfy these objectives. Section 9.3 sets out the total forecasts.
	(1) meet or manage the expected demand for standard control services over that period;	
	(2) comply with all applicable <i>regulatory obligations or requirements</i> associated with the provision of <i>standard control services</i> ;	
	(3) to the extent that there is no applicable <i>regulatory obligation or requirement</i> in relation to:	
		(i) the quality, reliability or security of supply of standard control services; or	
		(ii) the reliability or security of the distribution system through the supply of standard control services,	
	to	the relevant extent:	
		(iii) maintain the quality, reliability and security of supply of standard control services; and	
		(iv) maintain the reliability and security of the distribution system through the supply of standard control services; and	
	(4) maintain safety of the <i>distribution system</i> through the supply of <i>standard control services</i> .	
		e forecast of required capital expenditure of a Distribution Network Service Provider at is included in a building block proposal must:	RIN requirements are addressed in a separate checklist.
	(1) comply with the requirements of any relevant regulatory information instrument;	
	(2	 be for expenditure that is properly allocated to standard control services in accordance with the principles and policies set out in the Cost Allocation Method for the Distribution Network Service Provider; 	Section 1.2 notes that the proposal reflects our cost allocation methodology.
	(3) include both:	Section 9.3, Tables 9.1 and 9.2.
		 the total of the forecast capital expenditure for the relevant regulatory control period; and 	
		(ii) the forecast capital expenditure for each regulatory year of the relevant regulatory control period; and	
	(4) identify any forecast capital expenditure for the relevant regulatory control period that is for an option that has satisfied the regulatory investment test for transmission or the regulatory investment test for distribution (as the case may be).	N/A.

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.5.7	(5) not include expenditure for a restricted asset, unless:	Our capital expenditure forecasts do not include any
	 (i) to the extent that any such expenditure includes an amount of unspent capital expenditure for a contingent project in accordance with paragraph (g), an asset exemption has been granted by the AER under clause 6.4B.1(a)(2) in respect of that asset or that class of asset for that contingent project; 	expenditure for restricted assets.
	(ii) to the extent that any such expenditure relates to a <i>positive pass through</i> amount, an asset exemption has been granted by the AER under clause 6.4B.1(a)(3) in respect of that asset or that class of asset for that <i>positive</i> pass through amount, or	
	(iii) otherwise, the Distribution Network Service Provider has submitted an exemption application with the regulatory proposal requesting an asset exemption under clause 6.4B.1(a)(1) for the regulatory control period in respect of that asset or class of asset.	
	(c) The AER must	
	(1) subject to subparagraph (c)(2), accept the forecast of required capital expenditure of a Distribution Network Service Provider that is included in a building block proposal if the AER is satisfied that the total of the forecast capital expenditure for the regulatory control period reasonably reflects each of the following (the capital expenditure criteria):	Strictly speaking, this clause does not specify requirements that apply directly to AusNet Services. Nevertheless, the forecasts presented in Chapter 9 have been developed to satisfy these criteria. Our forecasting approach is discussed in section 9.6.
	(i) the efficient costs of achieving the capital expenditure objectives;	
	 the costs that a prudent operator would require to achieve the capital expenditure objectives; and 	
	 (iii) a realistic expectation of the demand forecast and cost inputs required to achieve the capital expenditure objectives. 	

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.5.7	(2) not accept the forecast of required capital expenditure of a Distribution Network Service Provider that is included in a building block proposal if that forecast includes expenditure for a restricted asset, unless:	Our capital expenditure forecasts do not include any expenditure for restricted assets.
	 (i) to the extent that any such expenditure includes an amount of unspent capital expenditure for a contingent project in accordance with paragraph (g), an asset exemption has been granted by the AER under clause 6.4B.1(a)(2) in respect of that asset or that class of asset for that contingent project; 	
	(ii) to the extent that any such expenditure relates to a positive pass through amount, an asset exemption has been granted by the AER under clause 6.4B.1(a)(3) in respect of that asset or that class of asset for that positive pass through amount; or	
	(iii) otherwise:	
	(A) that Distribution Network Service Provider has requested an asset exemption under subparagraph (b)(5) in respect of that asset or that class of asset; and	
	(B) the AER has granted that asset exemption.	
	(d) If the AER is not satisfied as referred to in paragraph (c), it must not accept the forecast of required capital expenditure of a Distribution Network Service Provider.	Strictly speaking, this clause does not specify requirements that apply directly to AusNet Services. Nevertheless, the forecasts presented in Chapter 9 have been developed to satisfy paragraph (c).
	(e) In deciding whether or not the AER is satisfied as referred to in paragraph (c), the AER must have regard to the following (the capital expenditure factors):	These requirements apply to the AER, not AusNet. Nevertheless, the information presented in Chapter 9,
	(1) [Deleted]	including sections 9.6 and 9.15 is intended to address the matters in this paragraph (e).
	(2) [Deleted]	It should be noted that customer concerns are addressed
	(3) [Deleted]	in sections 9.3, 9.4 and 9.7.
	(4) the most recent annual benchmarking report that has been published under rule 6.27 and the benchmark capital expenditure that would be incurred by an efficient Distribution Network Service Provider over the relevant regulatory control period;	

Clause		Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.5.7	(5)	the actual and expected capital expenditure of the Distribution Network Service Provider during any preceding regulatory control periods;	As above.
	(5A)	the extent to which the capital expenditure forecast includes expenditure to address the concerns of electricity consumers as identified by the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> in the course of its engagement with electricity consumers	
	(6)	the relative prices of operating and capital inputs;	
	(7)	the substitution possibilities between operating and capital expenditure;	
	(8)	whether the capital expenditure forecast is consistent with any incentive scheme or schemes that apply to the Distribution Network Service Provider under clauses 6.5.8A or 6.6.2 to 6.6.4;	
	(9)	the extent the capital expenditure forecast is referable to arrangements with a person other than the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> that, in the opinion of the <i>AER</i> , do not reflect arm's length terms;	As above.
	(9A)	whether the capital expenditure forecast includes an amount relating to a project that should more appropriately be included as a contingent project under clause 6.6A.1(b);	
	(10)	the extent the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> has considered, and made provision for, efficient and prudent non- <i>network options</i> ;	
	(11)	any relevant final project assessment report (as defined in clause 5.10.2) published under clause 5.17.4(o), (p) or (s); and	
	(12)	any other factor the AER considers relevant and which the AER has notified the Distribution Network Service Provider in writing, prior to the submission of its revised regulatory proposal under clause 6.10.3, is a capital expenditure factor.	
	Forecast	capital expenditure and contingent projects	Noted. See responses below.
	(f) Para	graphs (g) - (j) apply where:	
	(1)	in a <i>regulatory control period</i> (the first regulatory control period), the <i>AER</i> determines under clause 6.6A.2(e)(1)(iii) that the likely completion date for a <i>contingent project</i> is a date which occurs in the immediately following <i>regulatory control period</i> (the second regulatory control period); and	
	(2)	there is an unspent amount of capital expenditure for that <i>contingent project</i> under paragraph (g).	

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.5.7	(g) Subject to paragraphs (ga) and (j), a <i>Distribution Network Service Provider's regulatory proposal</i> for the second <i>regulatory control period</i> must include in the forecast of required capital expenditure referred to in paragraph (a) an amount of any unspent capital expenditure for each <i>contingent project</i> as described in subparagraph (f)(2), that equals the difference (if any) between:	There is unspent expenditure associated with Tranche 3 of the REFCL program. Our capital expenditure forecasts comply with this requirement.
	(1) the total capital expenditure for that contingent project, as determined by the AER in the first regulatory control period under clause 6.6A.2(e)(1)(ii); and	
	(2) the total of the capital expenditure actually incurred (or estimated capital expenditure for any part of the first regulatory control period for which actual capital expenditure is not available) in the first regulatory control period for that contingent project.	
	(ga) For the purposes of calculating any unspent capital expenditure in accordance with paragraph (g), the total or estimate of capital expenditure referred to in subparagraph (g)(2) must not include expenditure for a restricted asset, unless:	The amount calculated for 6.5.7(g) does not include expenditure for a restricted assets
	(1) the Distribution Network Service Provider has submitted an exemption application under clause 6.6A.1(a1) for the previous regulatory control period, which requested an asset exemption under clause 6.4B.1(a)(2) in respect of that asset or class of asset for that contingent project, and	
	(2) the AER has granted that asset exemption.	
	(h) The AER must include in any forecast capital expenditure for the second <i>regulatory</i> control period which is accepted in accordance with paragraph (c) or substituted in accordance with clause 6.12.1(3)(ii) (as the case may be) the amount of any unspent capital expenditure calculated in accordance with paragraph (g).	This requirement applies to the AER, not AusNet Services. Nevertheless, the information presented in Chapter 9, provides information that addresses the matters in this paragraph (h).
	(i) Without limiting the requirement in paragraph (h), in deciding whether or not to accept the forecast of required capital expenditure of a <i>Distribution Network Service Provider for the second regulatory control</i> period in accordance with this clause 6.5.7, the AER must not:	As above.
	 assess the reasonableness of the amount of unspent capital expenditure for a contingent project referred to in paragraph (g) or the remaining period to which the contingent project applies; 	
	(2) assess the reasonableness of the timing of the unspent capital expenditure within the remaining period for a contingent project referred to in paragraph (g) except as part of the assessment of the total forecast capital expenditure under paragraph (c); or	As above.

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.5.7	(3) take into account any amount which represents for a contingent project referred to in paragraph (g) the difference between:	As above.
	(1) the amount representing the sum of the forecast capital expenditure for that contingent project for each year of the immediately preceding regulatory control period referred to in clause 6.6A.2(e)(1)(i); and	
	(2) the total capital expenditure actually incurred (or estimated capital expenditure for any part of the preceding regulatory control period for which actual capital expenditure is not available) in the immediately preceding regulatory control period for that contingent project.	
	(j) A regulatory proposal in respect of the second regulatory control period must not include in the forecast of required capital expenditure referred to in paragraph (a) any capital expenditure for a contingent project for the first regulatory control period:	As above.
	(1) to the extent that the capital expenditure was included in the amount of capital expenditure for that contingent project as determined in the first regulatory control period under clause 6.6A.2(e)(1)(i); and	
	(2) the capital expenditure actually incurred (or estimated capital expenditure for any part of the first regulatory control period for which actual capital expenditure is not available) in the first regulatory control period for that contingent project exceeded the capital expenditure referred to in subparagraph (1).	
6.5.9	The X factor	
	(b) The X factor:	Section 8.5. Strictly speaking this provision applies to the
	(1) must be set by the AER with regard to the Distribution Network Service Provider's total revenue requirement for the regulatory control period; and	AER.
	(2) must be such as to minimise, as far as reasonably possible, variance between expected revenue for the last regulatory year of the regulatory control period and the annual revenue requirement for that last regulatory year, and	

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.5.9	(3) must conform with whichever of the following requirements is applicable:	As above.
	 (i) if the control mechanism relates generally to standard control services – the X factor must be designed to equalise (in terms of net present value) the revenue to be earned by the Distribution Network Service Provider from the provision of standard control services over the regulatory control period with the provider's total revenue requirement for the regulatory control period; 	
	(ii) if there are separate control mechanisms for different standard control services – the X factor for each control mechanism must be designed to equalise (in terms of net present value) the revenue to be earned by the Distribution Network Service Provider from the provision of standard control services to which the control mechanism relates over the regulatory control period with the portion of the provider's total revenue requirement for the regulatory control period attributable to those services.	
	(c) There may be different X factors:	Section 8.5.
	(1) for different regulatory years of the regulatory control period; and	
	(2) if there are 2 or more control mechanisms – for each control mechanism.	
6.5.10	Pass through events	
	(a) A building block proposal may include a proposal as to the events that should be defined as pass through events under clause 6.6.1(a1)(5) having regard to the nominated pass through event considerations.	Chapter 17, section 17.4.
	(b) In determining whether to accept the pass through events nominated by a <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> in its <i>building block proposal</i> under paragraph (a), the <i>AER</i> must take into account the <i>nominated pass through event considerations</i> .	While this provision applies to the AER, section 17.4 explains how each nominated pass through proposal addresses these considerations.
		Please note clause 6.6 has not been included in this checklist because it sets out matters for the AER to address, rather than AusNet Services.
6.6A	Contingent Projects	N/A. No new contingent projects are being proposed.
		Please note, as indicated in our response to 6.5.7(g), our proposal includes unspent expenditure associated with Tranche 3 of the REFCL program.
6.6A.1	Acceptance of a contingent project in a distribution determination	
	(a) Subject to paragraph (a1), a regulatory proposal may include proposed contingent capital expenditure, which the Distribution Network Service Provider considers is reasonably required for the purpose of undertaking a proposed contingent project.	

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference	
6.6A.1	(a1) Proposed contingent capital expenditure that is included in a regulatory proposal of a Distribution Network Service Provider must not include expenditure for a restricted asset, unless that Distribution Network Service Provider has submitted an exemption application with the regulatory proposal, which requests an asset exemption under clause 6.4B.1(a)(2) in respect of that asset or class of asset for the contingent project.	As above.	
	(b) Subject to paragraph (b1), the AER must determine that a proposed contingent project is a contingent project if the AER is satisfied that:	As above.	
	(1) the proposed contingent project is reasonably required to be undertaken in order to achieve any of the capital expenditure objectives;		
	(2) the proposed contingent capital expenditure:		
	 (i) is not otherwise provided for (either in part or in whole) in the total of the forecast capital expenditure for the relevant regulatory control period which is accepted in accordance with clause 6.5.7(c) or substituted in accordance with clause 6.12.1(3)(ii) (as the case may be); 	As above.	
	 (ii) reasonably reflects the capital expenditure criteria, taking into account the capital expenditure factors, in the context of the proposed contingent project as described in the regulatory proposal; and 		
	(iii) exceeds either \$30 million or 5% of the value of the annual revenue requirement for the relevant Distribution Network Service Provider for the first year of the relevant regulatory control period, whichever is the larger amount;		
6.6A.1(b)	(3) the proposed contingent project and the proposed contingent capital expenditure, as described or set out in the regulatory proposal, and the information provided in relation to these matters, complies with the relevant requirements of any relevant regulatory information instrument; and	As above.	
	(4) the trigger events in relation to the proposed contingent project which are proposed by the Distribution Network Service Provider in its regulatory proposal are appropriate.	As above.	
	(b1) The AER must not determine that a proposed contingent project is a contingent project if the proposed contingent capital expenditure for that proposed contingent project includes expenditure for a restricted asset, unless:	As above.	
	(1) the relevant Distribution Network Service Provider has requested an asset exemption under paragraph (a1) in respect of that asset or that class of asset; and		
	(2) the AER has granted that asset exemption.		

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.6A.1	(c) In determining whether a trigger event in relation to a proposed contingent project is appropriate for the purposes of subparagraph (b)(4), the AER must have regard to the need for a trigger event.	As above.
	(1) to be reasonably specific and capable of objective verification;	
	(2) to be a condition or event, which, if it occurs, makes the undertaking of the proposed contingent project reasonably necessary in order to achieve any of the capital expenditure objectives;	
	(3) to be a condition or event that generates increased costs or categories of costs that relate to a specific location rather than a condition or event that affects the distribution network as a whole;	
	(4) to be described in such terms that the occurrence of that event or condition is all that is required for the distribution determination to be amended under clause 6.6A.2; and	
	(5) to be an event or condition, the occurrence of which is probable during the regulatory control period, but the inclusion of capital expenditure in relation to it under clause 6.5.7 is not appropriate because:	As above. Please note clauses 6.6A.2 to 6.7.4 have not been included in this checklist because they are not directly
	 (i) it is not sufficiently certain that the event or condition will occur during the regulatory control period or if it may occur after that regulatory control period or not at all; or 	relevant to the submission of a Regulatory Proposal.
	(ii) subject to the requirement to satisfy subparagraph (b)(2)(iii), the costs associated with the event or condition are not sufficiently certain.	
6.7.5	Preparation of and requirements for negotiating framework for negotiated distribution services	A negotiating framework has been prepared and submitted with the regulatory proposal.
	(a) A Distribution Network Service Provider must prepare a document (the negotiating framework) setting out the procedure to be followed during negotiations between that provider and any person (the Service Applicant or applicant) who wishes to receive a negotiated distribution service from the provider, as to the terms and conditions of access for the provision of the service.	

Clause		Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.7.5		negotiating framework for a Distribution Network Service Provider must comply with be consistent with:	Please refer to responses below. Please note that AusNet Services may seek to amend or
	(1)	the applicable requirements of the relevant distribution determination; and	replace its negotiating framework at the time it submits its
		Note: Clause 6.7.3 states: The determination specifying requirements relating to the <i>negotiating framework</i> forming part of a distribution determination for a <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> is to set out requirements that are to be complied with in respect of the preparation, replacement, application or operation of its <i>negotiating framework</i> .	proposal for the next regulatory control period, by submitting a new proposed negotiating framework in accordance with the Rules as in force at that time
	(2)	paragraph (c), which sets out the minimum requirements for a <i>negotiating</i> framework.	
	(c) The	negotiating framework for a Distribution Network Service Provider must specify:	Section 3 of the negotiating framework.
	(1)	a requirement for the provider and a Service Applicant to negotiate in good faith the terms and conditions of access to a negotiated distribution service; and	
	(2)	a requirement for the provider to provide all such commercial information a <i>Service Applicant</i> may reasonably require to enable that applicant to engage in effective negotiation with the provider for the provision of the <i>negotiated distribution service</i> , including the cost information described in subparagraph (3); and	Section 4 of the negotiating framework.
	(3)	a requirement for the provider:	Section 4 of the negotiating framework.
		 to identify and inform a Service Applicant of the reasonable costs and/or the increase or decrease in costs (as appropriate) of providing the negotiated distribution service; and 	
		 (ii) to demonstrate to a Service Applicant that the charges for providing the negotiated distribution service reflect those costs and/or the cost increment or decrement (as appropriate); and 	
		(iii) to have appropriate arrangements for assessment and review of the charges and the basis on which they are made; and	
	Note:		
	assume change	ample) a charge, or an element of a charge, is based on a customer's actual or a maximum demand, the assessment and review arrangements should allow for a to the basis of the charge so that it more closely reflects the customer's load profile reduction or increase in maximum demand has been demonstrated.	
	(4)	a requirement for a <i>Service Applicant</i> to provide all commercial information the provider may reasonably require to enable the provider to engage in effective negotiation with that applicant for the provision of the <i>negotiated distribution service</i> ; and	Section 4 of the negotiating framework.

Clause		Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.7.5	(5)	a requirement that negotiations with a Service Applicant for the provision of the negotiated distribution service be commenced and finalised within specified periods and a requirement that each party to the negotiations must make reasonable endeavours to adhere to the specified time limits; and	Section 3 of the negotiating framework.
	(6)	a process for dispute resolution which provides that all disputes as to the <i>terms</i> and conditions of access for the provision of negotiated distribution services are to be dealt with in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Law and the Rules for dispute resolution; and	Section 6 of the negotiating framework.
	(7)	the arrangements for payment by a <i>Service Applicant</i> of the provider's reasonable direct expenses incurred in processing the application to provide the <i>negotiated distribution service</i> ; and	Section 3 of the negotiating framework.
	(8)	a requirement that the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> determine the potential impact on other <i>Distribution Network Users</i> of the provision of the <i>negotiated distribution service</i> ; and	Section 5 of the negotiating framework.
	(9)	a requirement that the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> must notify and consult with any affected <i>Distribution Network Users</i> and ensure that the provision of <i>negotiated distribution services</i> does not result in non-compliance with obligations in relation to other <i>Distribution Network Users</i> under the <i>Rules</i> ; and	Section 5 of the negotiating framework.
	(10	0) a requirement that the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider publish</i> the results of negotiations on its website.	Section 3 of the negotiating framework.
		twithstanding the foregoing, the negotiating framework must not be inconsistent with y of the requirements of:	
	(1)	rules 5.3, 5.3A and 5.3AA insofar as the <i>negotiating framework</i> applies to <i>negotiated distribution services</i> which would have been <i>negotiated distribution services</i> regardless of the operation of clause 6.24.2(c); and	The negotiating framework complies with this requirement. Note parapagraph (e) has not been included in this
	(2)	rules 5.3 and 5.3A and, for the declared transmission system of an adoptive jurisdiction, rule 5.4A (as preserved under clause 11.98.8(a)(2)) insofar as the negotiating framework applies to negotiated distribution services which would have been treated as negotiated transmission services were it not for the operation of clause 6.24.2(c),	checklist as it relates to compliance with the negotiating framework during the regulatory period, rather than the preparation of the negotiating framework.
		d any other relevant provisions of this Chapter 6 and, in the event of any consistency, those requirements prevail.	

Clause		Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.7A.1	Preparation of	of, and requirements for, connection policy	
	connection customer	oution Network Service Provider must prepare a document (its proposed on policy) setting out the circumstances in which it may require a retail or or real estate developer to pay a connection charge, for the provision of a connection charge and on service under Chapter 5A.	Please refer to accompanying connection policy.
	(b) The prop	osed connection policy:	As above.
	(1) mus	st be consistent with:	
	(i)	the connection charge principles; and	
	(ii)	the connection charge guidelines; and	
	(2) mus	st specify:	As above.
	(i)	the categories of persons that may be required to pay a <i>connection charge</i> and the circumstances in which such a requirement may be imposed; and	
	(ii)	the aspects of a <i>connection service</i> for which a <i>connection charge</i> may be made; and	
		Example	
		The Distribution Network Service Provider might (for example) make separate connection charges for the provision of a connection asset and for making a necessary extension to, or other augmentation of, the distribution network.	
	(iii)	the basis on which connection charges are determined; and	As above.
	(iv)	the manner in which <i>connection charges</i> are to be paid (or equivalent consideration is to be given); and	
		Examples	
		The payment (or equivalent consideration) might take the form of a capital contribution, prepayment or financial guarantee.	
	(v)	a threshold (based on capacity or any other measure identified in the connection charge guidelines) below which a retail customer (not being a non-registered embedded generator or a real estate developer) will not be liable for a connection charge for an augmentation other than an extension.	Pease note provisions to 6.8.1A have not been included in this checklist as they are not directly relevant to the submission of a Regulatory Proposal.

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.8.2	Submission of regulatory proposal, tariff structure statement and exemption application	
	(a) A Distribution Network Service Provider must, whenever required to do so under paragraph (b), submit to the AER a regulatory proposal and a proposed tariff structure statement related to the distribution services provided by means of, or in connection with, the Distribution Network Service Provider's distribution system.	Noted. Noted.
	(a1) A Distribution Network Service Provider must submit to the AER any exemption application for an asset exemption under clause 6.4B.1(a)(1) or 6.4B.1(a)(2) for the regulatory control period at the same time as submitting the relevant regulatory proposal under paragraph (a).	
	(b) A regulatory proposal, a proposed tariff structure statement and, if required under paragraph (a1), an exemption application must be submitted:	AusNet Services' Tariff Structure Statement and the accompanying Explanatory Document are provided in
	(1) at least 17 months before the expiry of a distribution determination that applies to the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> , or	accordance with paragraph (b).
	(2) if no distribution determination applies to the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> , within 3 months after being required to do so by the <i>AER</i> .	Noted.
	(c) A regulatory proposal must include (but need not be limited to) the following elements: (1) a classification proposal: (i) showing how the distribution services to be provided by the Distribution Network Service Provider should, in the Distribution Network Service Provider's opinion, be classified under this Chapter; and	Section 19.3 reproduces the AER's service classification in its Framework and Approach Paper, which AusNet Services has adopted. Our proposed service classification is also discussed in sections 20.4, 21.3, 21.5, 21.6 and 21.7.
	 (ii) if the proposed classification differs from the classification suggested in the relevant framework and approach paper – including the reasons for the difference; 	
	(2) for direct control services classified under the proposal as standard control services – a building block proposal;	Part III
	(3) for direct control services classified under the proposal as alternative control services – a demonstration of the application of the control mechanism, as set out in the framework and approach paper, and the necessary supporting information;	Sections 20.9.1, 21.8.1 and 21.8.2. It should be noted that we propose a change to the formula for quoted services, as explained in 21.8.2.
	(4) [Deleted]	
	 (5) for services classified under the proposal as negotiated distribution services – the proposed negotiating framework; 	Please refer to the negotiating framework.
	(5A) the proposed connection policy; and	Please refer to the accompanying connection policy.

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.8.2	(6) an identification of any parts of the regulatory proposal the Distribution Network Service Provider claims to be confidential and wants suppressed from publication on that ground in accordance with the Distribution Confidentiality Guidelines.	See AusNet Services' Confidentiality Response Document
	(7) a description (with supporting materials) of how the proposed tariff structure statement complies with the pricing principles for direct control services including:	Tariff Structure Statement, sections 3.2 and 3.3, and Appendices B and C.
	 (i) a description of where there has been any departure from the pricing principles set out in paragraphs 6.18.5(e) to (g); and 	
	(ii) an explanation of how that departure complies with clause 6.18.5(c).	
	(c1) The <i>regulatory proposal</i> must be accompanied by an overview paper which includes each of the following matters:	Our Overview Paper addresses each of these matters.
	 a summary of the regulatory proposal the purpose of which is to explain the regulatory proposal in reasonably plain language to electricity consumers; 	
	(2) a description of how the Distribution Network Service Provider has engaged with electricity consumers in developing the regulatory proposal and has sought to address any relevant concerns identified as a result of that engagement;	
	(3) a description of the key risks and benefits of the regulatory proposal for electricity consumers; and	
	(4) a comparison of the Distribution Network Service Provider's proposed total revenue requirement with its total revenue requirement for the current regulatory control period and an explanation for any material differences between the two amounts.	
	(c1a) The overview paper must also include a description of how the <i>Distribution Network</i> Service Provider has engaged with retail customers and retailers in developing the proposed tariff structure statement and has sought to address any relevant concerns identified as a result of that engagement.	Overview Paper, chapter 7.
	(c2) The regulatory proposal must be accompanied by information required by the Expenditure Forecast Assessment Guidelines as set out in the framework and approach paper.	Completed RINs and Chapters 9 and 10.
	(d) The <i>regulatory proposal</i> must comply with the requirements of, and must contain or be accompanied by the information required by any relevant <i>regulatory information instrument</i> .	Completed RINs.
	(d1) The proposed tariff structure statement must be accompanied by an indicative pricing schedule.	Tariff Structure Statement, Appendix D.
	(d2) The proposed <i>tariff structure statement</i> must comply with the <i>pricing principles for direct control services</i> .	Tariff Structure Statement, sections Error! Reference source not found. and Error! Reference source not found., and Appendices B and C.

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
6.14A ²	(b) The Distribution Confidentiality Guidelines must specify the manner in which the Distribution Network Service Provider may make confidentiality claims in its regulatory proposal, which may include categories of confidential information by reference to which Distribution Network Service Providers must classify any claims of confidentiality in their regulatory proposals.	See AusNet Services' Confidentiality Response Document.
6.15.1	Duty to comply with Cost Allocation Method A Distribution Network Service Provider must comply with the Cost Allocation Method that has been approved in respect of that provider from time to time by the AER under this rule 6.15.	Section 1.2.
6.18.1A	Tariff structure statement A tariff structure statement of a Distribution Network Service Provider must include the following elements: (1) the tariff classes into which retail customers for direct control services will be divided during the relevant regulatory control period	Tariff Structure Statement sections Error! Reference source not found. and Error! Reference source not found
	(2) the policies and procedures the Distribution Network Service Provider will apply for assigning retail customers to tariffs or reassigning retail customers from one tariff to another (including any applicable restrictions);	Tariff Structure Statement, section Error! Reference source not found
	(3) the structures for each proposed tariff;	Tariff Structure Statement, sections Error! Reference source not found., Error! Reference source not found., Error! Reference source not found., Error! Reference source not found. and Error! Reference source not found.
	(4) the charging parameters for each proposed tariff; and	Tariff Structure Statement, sections Error! Reference source not found., Error! Reference source not found., Error! Reference source not found., Error! Reference source not found. and Error! Reference source not found.
	(5) a description of the approach that the Distribution Network Service Provider will take in setting each tariff in each pricing proposal of the Distribution Network Service Provider during the relevant regulatory control period in accordance with clause 6.18.5.	Tariff Structure Statement, sections Error! Reference source not found., Error! Reference source not found. and 5.8.

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² As already noted, only those provisions that are directly relevant to the submission of a Regulatory Proposal have been included in this checklist.

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
	(b) A tariff structure statement must comply with the pricing principles for direct control services.	Tariff Structure Statement sections Error! Reference source not found. and Error! Reference source not found., and Appendices B and C.
6.18.1A	(c) A Distribution Network Service Provider must comply with the tariff structure statement approved by the AER and any other applicable requirements in the Rules, when the provider is setting the prices that may be charged for direct control services.	Noted. This provision relates to our future compliance with the Tariff Structure Statement, rather than its content.
	(d) Subject to clause 6.18.1B, a tariff structure statement may not be amended during a regulatory control period.	Noted. This provision relates to amendments to the Tariff Structure Statement, rather than its content.
	Note	
	Rule 6.13 still applies in relation to a <i>tariff structure statement</i> because that rule deals with the revocation and substitution of a distribution determination (which includes a <i>tariff structure statement</i>) as opposed to its amendment.	
	(e) A tariff structure statement must be accompanied by an indicative pricing schedule which sets out, for each tariff for each regulatory year of the regulatory control period, the indicative price levels determined in accordance with the tariff structure statement.	Tariff Structure Statement, appendix D.
6.18.2	Pricing proposals	This is not a requirement for this proposal.
6.18.3	Tariff classes	
	(a) [Deleted].	
	(b) Each retail customer for direct control services must be a member of 1 or more tariff classes.	Tariff Structure Statement.
	(d) Separate tariff classes must be constituted for retail customers to whom standard control services are supplied and retail customers to whom alternative control services are supplied (but a retail customer for both standard control services and alternative control services may be a member of 2 or more tariff classes).	Tariff Structure Statement.
	(d) A tariff class must be constituted with regard to:	

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
	(1) the need to group retail customers together on an economically efficient basis; and	Tariff Structure Statement.
	(2) the need to avoid unnecessary transaction costs.	
6.18.4	Principles governing assignment or re-assignment of retail customers to tariff classes	
	and assessment and review of basis of charging	
	(a) In formulating provisions of a distribution determination governing the assignment of retail customers to tariff classes or the re-assignment of retail customers from one tariff class to another, the AER must have regard to the following principles:	This is an AER requirement.
	(1) retail customers should be assigned to tariff classes on the basis of one or more of the following factors:	
	(i) the nature and extent of their usage;	
	(ii) the nature of their connection to the network;	
	 (iii) whether remotely-read interval metering or other similar metering technology has been installed at the retail customer's premises as a result of a regulatory obligation or requirement; 	
	(2) retail customers with a similar connection and usage profile should be treated on an equal basis;	As above.
	(3) however, retail customers with micro-generation facilities should be treated no less favourably than retail customers without such facilities but with a similar load profile;	As above.
	(4) a Distribution Network Service Provider's decision to assign a customer to a particular tariff class, or to re-assign a customer from one tariff class to another should be subject to an effective system of assessment and review.	As above.

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
	Note:	As above.
	If (for example) a customer is assigned (or reassigned) to a <i>tariff class</i> on the basis of the customer's actual or assumed <i>maximum demand</i> , the system of assessment and review should allow for the reassignment of a customer who demonstrates a reduction or increase in <i>maximum demand</i> to a <i>tariff class</i> that is more appropriate to the customer's <i>load</i> profile.	
	(b) If the charging parameters for a particular tariff result in a basis of charge that varies according to the usage or load profile of the customer, a distribution determination must contain provisions for an effective system of assessment and review of the basis on which a customer is charged.	As above.
6.18.5	Pricing principles	
	Network pricing objective	Tariff Structure Statement, section 3 and Appendix B.
	(a) The network pricing objective is that the tariffs that a Distribution Network Service Provider charges in respect of its provision of direct control services to a retail customer should reflect the Distribution Network Service Provider's efficient costs of providing those services to the retail customer.	
6.18.5	Application of the pricing principles	Tariff Structure Statement, section 3 and Appendix B.
	(b) Subject to paragraph (c), a <i>Distribution Network Service Provider's</i> tariffs must comply with the pricing principles set out in paragraphs (e) to (j).	
	(c) A Distribution Network Service Provider's tariffs may vary from tariffs which would result from complying with the pricing principles set out in paragraphs (e) to (g) only:	
	(1) to the extent permitted under paragraph (h); and	
	(2) to the extent necessary to give effect to the pricing principles set out in paragraphs(i) to (j).	
	(d) A Distribution Network Service Provider must comply with paragraph (b) in a manner that will contribute to the achievement of the network pricing objective.	
	Pricing principles	Tariff Structure Statement, Appendix B.1 and B.2.
	(e) For each tariff class, the revenue expected to be recovered must lie on or between:	
	 (1) an upper bound representing the stand alone cost of serving the retail customers who belong to that class; and 	
	(2) a lower bound representing the avoidable cost of not serving those <i>retail</i> customers.	

Clause		Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
	(f)	Each tariff must be based on the <i>long run marginal cost</i> of providing the service to which it relates to the <i>retail customers</i> assigned to that tariff with the method of calculating such cost and the manner in which that method is applied to be determined having regard to:	Tariff Structure Statement, Appendix B.3.
		 the costs and benefits associated with calculating, implementing and applying that method as proposed; 	
		(2) the additional costs likely to be associated with meeting demand from retail customers that are assigned to that tariff at times of greatest utilisation of the relevant part of the distribution network; and	
		(3) the location of <i>retail customers</i> that are assigned to that tariff and the extent to which costs vary between different locations in the <i>distribution network</i> .	
6.18.5	(g)	The revenue expected to be recovered from each tariff must:	Tariff Structure Statement, Appendix B.4.
		(1) reflect the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider's</i> total efficient costs of serving the retail customers that are assigned to that tariff;	
		(2) when summed with the revenue expected to be received from all other tariffs, permit the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> to recover the expected revenue for the relevant services in accordance with the applicable distribution determination for the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> , and	
		(3) comply with sub-paragraphs (1) and (2) in a way that minimises distortions to the price signals for efficient usage that would result from tariffs that comply with the pricing principle set out in paragraph (f).	
	(h)	A Distribution Network Service Provider must consider the impact on retail customers of changes in tariffs from the previous regulatory year and may vary tariffs from those that comply with paragraphs (e) to (g) to the extent the Distribution Network Service Provider considers reasonably necessary having regard to:	Tariff Structure Statement, Appendix B.5.
		(1) the desirability for tariffs to comply with the pricing principles referred to in paragraphs (f) and (g), albeit after a reasonable period of transition (which may extend over more than one <i>regulatory control period</i>);	
		(2) the extent to which retail customers can choose the tariff to which they are assigned; and	
		(3) the extent to which <i>retail customers</i> are able to mitigate the impact of changes in tariffs through their usage decisions.	

Clause		Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
	(i)	The structure of each tariff must be reasonably capable of being understood by <i>retail customers</i> that are assigned to that tariff, having regard to:	Tariff Structure Statement, Appendix B.6.
		(1) the type and nature of those retail customers; and	
		(2) the information provided to, and the consultation undertaken with, those <i>retail customers</i> .	
	(j)	A tariff must comply with the Rules and all applicable regulatory instruments.	Tariff Structure Statement, Appendix B.7.
6.18.6	Sid	e constraints on tariffs for standard control services	
	(a)	This clause applies only to <i>tariff classes</i> related to the provision of <i>standard control services</i> .	This requirement is addressed through the annual pricing approval process – see TSS, section 3.4.
	(b)	The expected weighted average revenue to be raised from a <i>tariff class</i> for a particular regulatory year of a regulatory control period must not exceed the corresponding expected weighted average revenue for the preceding regulatory year in that regulatory control period by more than the permissible percentage.	
6.18.6	(c)	The permissible percentage is the greater of the following:	As above.
		 the CPI-X limitation on any increase in the Distribution Network Service Provider's expected weighted average revenue between the two regulatory years plus 2%; 	
		Note:	
		The calculation is of the form $(1 + CPI)(1 - X)(1 + 2\%)$	
		(2) CPI plus 2%.	
		Note:	
		The calculation is of the form (1 + CPI)(1 + 2%)	
	(d)	In deciding whether the permissible percentage has been exceeded in a particular regulatory year, the following are to be disregarded:	
		 the recovery of revenue to accommodate a variation to the distribution determination under rule 6.6 or 6.13; 	
		 the recovery of revenue to accommodate pass through of designated pricing proposal charges to retail customers; 	
		(3) the recovery of revenue to accommodate pass through of jurisdictional scheme amounts for approved jurisdictional schemes.	
	(e)	[Deleted]	

Clause	Requirement		Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
Schedule	6.1 - Contents of	of Revenue Proposals ³	
S6.1.1	Information a	nd matters relating to capital expenditure	Chapter 9, especially section 9.3 and sections 9.8 to 9.13
	A building bloc to capital expe	k proposal must contain at least the following information and matters relating nditure:	inclusive.
	of cl	recast of the required capital expenditure that complies with the requirements ause 6.5.7 and identifies the forecast capital expenditure by reference to well expenditure such as:	
	(i)	asset class (eg. distribution lines, substations etc); or	
	(ii)	category driver (eg. regulatory obligation or requirement, replacement, reliability, net market benefit, business support etc),	
	an	d identifies, in respect of proposed material assets:	
	(iii)	the location of the proposed asset;	
	(iv) the anticipated or known cost of the proposed asset; and	
	(v)	the categories of <i>distribution services</i> which are to be provided by the proposed asset;	
	(2) the r	nethod used for developing the capital expenditure forecast;	Chapter 9, especially sections 9.4 to 9.6 inclusive.
		orecasts of load growth relied upon to derive the capital expenditure forecasts the method used for developing those forecasts of load growth;	Chapter 7.
	(4) the l	key assumptions that underlie the capital expenditure forecast;	Chapter 9, especially section 9.5.
		rtification of the reasonableness of the key assumptions by the directors of the ribution Network Service Provider,	See Signed Statutory Declaration.
	curre the I the s	tal expenditure for each of the past regulatory years of the previous and ent regulatory control period, and the expected capital expenditure for each of ast two regulatory years of the current regulatory control period, categorised in same way as for the capital expenditure forecast and separately identifying for a such regulatory year	
	(i)	margins paid or expected to be paid by the <i>Distribution Network Service</i> Provider in circumstances where those margins are referable to arrangements that do not reflect arm's length terms; and	No margins are paid in circumstances where the arrangements are not arm's length.
	(ii)	expenditure that should have been treated as operating expenditure in accordance with the policy submitted under paragraph (8) for that <i>regulatory year</i> ;	There is no such expenditure.

³ As already noted, only those provisions that are directly relevant to the submission of a Regulatory Proposal have been included in this checklist.

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference	
S6.1.1	(7) an explanation of any significant variations in the forecast capital expenditure from historical capital expenditure; and	See chapter 9, especially section 9.3.	
	(8) the policy that the Distribution Network Service Provider applies in capitalising operating expenditure.	Section 1.2 and accompanying document.	
S6.1.2	Information and matters relating to operating expenditure		
	A building block proposal must contain at least the following information and matters relating to operating expenditure:		
	(1) a forecast of the required operating expenditure that complies with the requirements of clause 6.5.6 and identifies the forecast operating expenditure by reference to well accepted categories such as:	Section 10.3 presents this in a graphical format in well accepted catagories. A full breakdown in in RIN template 3.2.1.	
	(i) particular programs; or	With regard to subclause (1)(iii), the relationship between	
	(ii) types of operating expenditure (eg. maintenance, payroll, materials etc),	growth and operating expenditure is discussed in section 10.11.	
	and identifies in respect of each such category:	The opex forecasts relate to the provision of Standard	
	(iii) to what extent that forecast expenditure is on costs that are fixed and to what extent it is on costs that are variable; and		
	(iv) the categories of distribution services to which that forecast expenditure relates;		
	(2) the method used for developing the operating expenditure forecast;	Chapter 10, section 10.4.	
	(3) the forecasts of key variables relied upon to derive the operating expenditure forecast and the method used for developing those forecasts of key variables;	Chapter 10, sections 10.7 and 10.11.	
	(4) the method used for determining the cost associated with planned maintenance programs designed to improve the performance of the relevant distribution system for the purposes of any service target performance incentive scheme that is to apply to the Distribution Network Service Provider in respect of the relevant regulatory control period;	N/A. No such maintenance programs are proposed.	
	(5) the key assumptions that underlie the operating expenditure forecast;	Chapter 10.7, 10.8, 10.9, 10.10 and 10.11.	
	(6) a certification of the reasonableness of the key assumptions by the directors of the Distribution Network Service Provider,	See Signed Statutory Declaration	
	(7) operating expenditure for each of the past regulatory years of the previous and current regulatory control period, and the expected operating expenditure for each of the last two regulatory years of the current regulatory control period, categorise in the same way as for the operating expenditure forecast;		
S6.1.2	(8) an explanation of any significant variations in the forecast operating expenditure from historical operating expenditure.	Section 10.7.	

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
S6.1.3	Additional information and matters A building block proposal must contain at least the following additional information and matters:	
	 an identification and explanation of any significant interactions between the forecast capital expenditure and forecast operating expenditure programs; 	Chapter 9, sections 9.6, 9.12 and 9.13. Chapter 10, section 10.9.4.
	(2) [Deleted]	
	(3) a description, including relevant explanatory material, of how the Distribution Network Service Provider proposes any efficiency benefit sharing scheme that ha been specified in a framework and approach paper that applies in respect of the forthcoming distribution determination should apply to it;	Chapter 16.9.
	(3A) a description, including relevant explanatory material, of how the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> proposes any <i>capital expenditure sharing scheme</i> that has been specified in a <i>framework and approach paper</i> that applies in respect of the forthcoming distribution determination should apply to it;	Chapter 16.10.
	(4) a description, including relevant explanatory material, of how the Distribution Network Service Provider proposes any service target performance incentive scheme that has been specified in a framework and approach paper that applies respect of the forthcoming distribution determination should apply to it;	Chapter 16.5.
	(5) a description, including relevant explanatory material, of how the Distribution Network Service Provider proposes any demand management incentive scheme or demand management innovation allowance mechanism that has been specifie in a framework and approach paper that applies in respect of the forthcoming distribution determination should apply to it;	Chapter 16.8.
	(5A) a description, including relevant explanatory material, of how the Distribution Network Service Provider proposes any small-scale incentive scheme that has been specified in a framework and approach paper that applies in respect of the forthcoming distribution determination should apply to it;	Chapter 16.4.

Clause		Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
S6.1.3	(6)	the Distribution Network Service Provider's calculation of revenues or prices for the purposes of the control mechanism proposed by the Distribution Network Service Provider together with:	Sections 8.4 and 8.5, and the completed PTRM.
		(i) details of all amounts, values and inputs (including X factors) relevant to the calculation;	
		(ii) an explanation of the calculation and the amounts, values and inputs involved in the calculation; and	
		(iii) a demonstration that the calculation and the amounts, values and inputs on which it is based comply with relevant requirements of the Law and the <i>Rules</i> ;	
	(7)	the Distribution Network Service Provider's calculation of the regulatory asset base for the relevant distribution system for each regulatory year of the relevant regulatory control period using the roll forward model referred to in clause 6.5.1, together with:	Chapter 12. The regulatory asset base has been calculated using the roll forward model, which is submitted as part of this Regulatory Proposal. Our application of the model satisfies these Rules
		(i) details of all amounts, values and other inputs used by the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> for that purpose;	requirements.
		(ii) a demonstration that any such amounts, values and other inputs comply with the relevant requirements of Part C of Chapter 6; and	
		(iii) an explanation of the calculation of the regulatory asset base for each regulatory year of the relevant regulatory control period and of the amounts, values and inputs referred to in subparagraph (i);	
	(8)	[Deleted]	
	(9)	the Distribution Network Service Provider's calculation of the allowed rate of return for each regulatory year of the relevant regulatory control period;	Chapter 14, including section 14.6.
	(9A)	the Distribution Network Service Provider's calculation of the allowed imputation credits for each regulatory year of the regulatory control period;	Chapter 15, including section 15.8.
	(10)	the post-tax revenue model completed to show its application to the Distribution Network Service Provider and the completed roll-forward model;	A completed PTRM is provided as part of this Regulatory Proposal.
	(11)	the Distribution Network Service Provider's estimate of the cost of corporate income tax for each regulatory year of the regulatory control period;	Chapter 15, including Table 15.10.

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
S6.1.3	(12) the depreciation schedules nominated by the Distribution Network Service Provider for the purposes of clause 6.5.5, which categorise the relevant assets these purposes by reference to well accepted categories such as:	the 1 July 2021 opening RAB depreciation. The AER's
	(i) asset class (eg distribution lines and substations); or	PTRM model (also forming part of our submission) contains the relevant calculations for depreciation of new
	(ii) category driver (eg regulatory obligation or requirement, replacement, reliability, net market benefit, and business support),	capex proposed in FY22-26. Both of these models conform with clause 6.5.5 of the NER.
	together with:	
	(iii) details of all amounts, values and other inputs used by the <i>Distribution</i> Network Service Provider to compile those depreciation schedules;	
	(iv) a demonstration that those depreciation schedules conform with the requirements set out in clause 6.5.5(b); and	
	(v) an explanation of the calculation of the amounts, values and inputs refer to in subparagraph (iii);	red
	(13) the commencement and length of the regulatory control period proposed by the Distribution Network Service Provider, and	Section 1.1.
	(14) if the Distribution Network Service Provider is seeking a determination by the A that a proposed contingent project is a contingent project for the purposes of the relevant distribution determination:	
	 a description of the proposed contingent project, including reasons why the Distribution Network Service Provider considers the project should be accepted as a contingent project for the regulatory control period; 	ne
	 (ii) a forecast of the capital expenditure which the Distribution Network Service Provider considers is reasonably required for the purpose of undertaking the proposed contingent project; 	
	(iii) the methodology used for developing that forecast and the key assumption that underlie it;	ns N/A. No contingent projects are being proposed.
	 (iv) information that demonstrates that the undertaking of the proposed contingent project is reasonably required in order to achieve one or more the capital expenditure objectives; 	N/A. No contingent projects are being proposed.
	 information that demonstrates that the proposed contingent capital expenditure for the proposed contingent project complies with the requirements set out in clause 6.6A.1(b)(2); and 	
	(vi) the trigger events which are proposed in relation to the proposed continger project and an explanation of how each of those conditions or events addresses the matters referred to in clause 6.6A.1(c).	ent

Clause	Requirement		Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
Schedule	chedule 6.2 - Regulatory Asset Base		
S6.2.1	Est	ablishment of opening regulatory asset base for a regulatory control period	
	(a)	Application of this clause	Noted.
		This clause S6.2.1	
		(1) applies to the establishment of the value of the regulatory asset base for a distribution system as at the beginning of a regulatory control period on the roll forward of the regulatory asset base to that regulatory control period from the previous regulatory control period; and	
		(2) also applies to the establishment of the value of the regulatory asset base for a distribution system as at the beginning of a regulatory control period where the distribution system was not immediately before that time the subject of a building block determination.	
	(b)	Roll forward model to comply with this clause	
		The values to be used for completing the <i>roll forward model</i> must be established in accordance with this clause and clauses S6.2.2 and S6.2.3.	A completed roll forward model is provided alongside the Regulatory Proposal.
	(c)	Distribution systems of specific providers	
		(1) In the case of a <i>distribution system</i> owned, controlled or operated by one of the following <i>Distribution Network Service Providers</i> as at the commencement of this schedule, the value of the regulatory asset base for that <i>distribution system</i> as at the beginning of that first <i>regulatory year</i> must be determined by rolling forward the regulatory asset base for that <i>distribution system</i> , as follows:	Chapter 12 sets out the detailed calculation of the RAB, which complies with this requirement.
		AusNet Services - \$1,307.2 million (as at 1 January 2006 in July 2004 dollars)	
		(2) The values above are to be adjusted for the difference between:	
		 (i) any estimated capital expenditure that is included in those values for any part of a previous regulatory control period; and 	
		(ii) the actual capital expenditure for that part of the previous regulatory control period.	
		This adjustment must also remove any benefit or penalty associated with any difference between the estimated and actual capital expenditure.	
		(3) When rolling forward a regulatory asset base under subparagraph (1), the AER must take into account the derivation of the values in the above table from past regulatory decisions and the consequent fact that they relate only to the regulatory asset base identified in those decisions.	
	(d)	Other distribution systems	N/A.

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
S6.2.1	(e) Method of adjustment of value of regulatory asset base Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) or (d) and subject to paragraph (g), the value of the regulatory asset base for a distribution system as at the beginning of the	See responses below.
	first regulatory year of a regulatory control period must be calculated by adjusting the value (the previous value) of the regulatory asset base for that distribution system as at the beginning of the first regulatory year of the immediately preceding regulatory control period (the previous control period) as follows:	
	(1) Subject to subparagraph (e)(9), the previous value of the regulatory asset base must be:	Chapter 12 sets out the detailed calculation of the RAB, which complies with this requirement.
	(i) increased by the amount of all capital expenditure incurred during the previous control period, including any capital expenditure determined for that period under clause 6.6A.2(e)(1)(i) in relation to contingent projects where the distribution determination has been amended by the AER in accordance with clause 6.6A.2(h) (regardless of whether such capital expenditure is above or below the forecast capital expenditure for the period that is adopted for the purposes of the distribution determination (if any) for that period); and	
	(ii) reduced by the amount of any capital expenditure that has been recovered by way of a pass through under clause 6.6.1 where the amount of that capital expenditure would otherwise have been included in the value of the regulatory asset base.	
	(2) The previous value of the regulatory asset base must be increased by the amount of the estimated capital expenditure approved by the AER for any part of the previous control period for which actual capital expenditure is not available, including any capital expenditure in relation to contingent projects where the total revenue requirement has been amended by the AER in accordance with clause 6.6A.2(h).	Section 12.4.2.

Clause		Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
S6.2.1(e)	(3) The previous va difference between	lue of the regulatory asset base must be adjusted for the een:	The 1 July 2021 opening RAB has been adjusted for the difference between actual and forecast 2015 net capex
		ted capital expenditure for any part of a previous regulatory control are that estimated capital expenditure has been included in that	(and the compounded return on the difference). These adjustments are contained in the submitted RFM model alongside this proposal.
	(ii) the actual operiod.	capital expenditure for that part of the previous regulatory control	
		must also remove any benefit or penalty associated with any een the estimated and actual capital expenditure.	
	or estimated cap properly allocate	lue of the regulatory asset base must only be increased by actual bital expenditure to the extent that all such capital expenditure is ed to the provision of standard control services in accordance with ion Method for the relevant Distribution Network Service Provider.	Confirmed.
	depreciation of t	lue of the regulatory asset base must be reduced by the amount of he regulatory asset base during the previous <i>regulatory control</i> ed in accordance with the distribution determination for that period.	Confirmed – the RAB for SCS is rolled forward using forecast real depreciation (per the 2016-20 decision) and adjusted for actual inflation.
		lue of the regulatory asset base must be reduced by the disposal set where that asset has been disposed of during the previous of period.	Asset disposals are reported on an actuals basis in the RFM model for years 2016 to 2018. Placeholders are used for years 2019, 2020 and 6 months Jan-Jun 2021.
	an asset where (or their equivale change to the cl	lue of the regulatory asset base must be reduced by the value of the asset was previously used to provide <i>standard control services</i> ent under the previous regulatory system) but, as a result of a assification of a particular service under Part B, is not to be used for the relevant <i>regulatory control period</i> .	N/A. We are not aware of any service reclassifications that would affect the RAB roll forward.

Clause	Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
S6.2.1(e)	(8) Subject to subparagraph (e)(9), the previous value of the regulatory asset base may be increased by the value of an asset to which this subparagraph applies to the extent that:	N/A.
	 the AER considers the asset to be reasonably required to achieve one or more of the capital expenditure objectives; and 	
	(ii) the value of the asset has not been otherwise recovered.	
	This subparagraph applies to an asset that:	
	 (i) was not used to provide standard control services (or their equivalent under the previous regulatory system) in the previous regulatory control period but, as a result of a change to the classification of a particular service under Part B, is to be used for that purpose for the relevant regulatory control period; or 	
	(ii) was never previously used to provide standard control services (or their equivalent under the previous regulatory system) but is to be used for that purpose for the relevant regulatory control period.	
	(9) The previous value of the regulatory asset base must not be increased by the value of expenditure for a restricted asset incurred during the relevant regulatory control period, unless the capital expenditure for that asset or that class of asset for that regulatory control period was the subject of an asset exemption granted by the AER under clause 6.4B.1(a).	N/A.
S6.2.1	(f) An increase or reduction in the value of the regulatory asset base under subparagraph (7) or (8) of paragraph (e) is to be based on the portion of the value of the asset properly allocated, or formerly properly allocated, to <i>standard control services</i> in accordance with the principles and policies set out in the <i>Cost Allocation Method</i> for the relevant <i>Distribution Network Service Provider</i> . The value of the relevant asset is taken to be its value as shown in independently audited and published accounts.	Where actuals are used in the RFM model inputs these are based on independently audited regulatory accounts.
	(g) The previous value of the regulatory asset base must be reduced by any amount determined by the AER in accordance with clause S6.2.2A(f), (i) or (j).	N/A.
S6.2.2A	Reduction for inefficient past capital expenditure	
	(a) Prior to making a decision on the regulatory asset base for a <i>distribution system</i> as required by clause 6.12.1(6), the <i>AER</i> may determine under this clause S6.2.2A that the amount of capital expenditure as a result of which the previous value of the regulatory asset base would otherwise be increased in accordance with clause S6.2.1(e) should be reduced.	This provision applies only if the requirements in clause S6.2.2A(b) are met. These conditions have not been met.

Clause		Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
S6.2.2A	(a1) 1	or the purposes of this clause S6.2.2A, "review period" means:	For information only.
		 the previous control period (excluding the last two regulatory years of that previous control period); and 	
		(2) the last two regulatory years of the regulatory control period preceding the previous control period.	
		The AER may only make a determination under paragraph (a) if any of the following requirements is satisfied:	These conditions have not been met.
	((1) the requirement set out in paragraph (c) (the overspending requirement);	
	((2) the requirement set out in paragraph (d) (the margin requirement); or	
	((3) the requirement set out in paragraph (e) (the capitalisation requirement).	
		The overspending requirement is satisfied where the sum of all capital expenditure ncurred during the review period exceeds the sum of:	As noted in section 12.3, this condition has not been met.
	(the forecast capital expenditure accepted or substituted by the AER for the review period as such forecast capital expenditure has been adjusted in accordance with clauses 6.6.5(f) and 6.6A.2(h); and 	
		(2) any capital expenditure that is recovered by way of such part of an approved pass through amount as is permitted to be passed through to Distribution Network Users during the review period less any capital expenditure that is included in a negative pass through amount that is required to be passed through to Distribution Network Users during the review period.	
		The margin requirement is satisfied where the amount of the capital expenditure as a result of which the previous value of the regulatory asset base would otherwise be increased in accordance with clause S6.2.1(e) includes capital expenditure that represents a margin paid by the Distribution Network Service Provider in circumstances where the margin is referable to arrangements that, in the opinion of the AER, do not reflect arm's length terms.	This condition has not been met.
	i	The capitalisation requirement is satisfied where the amount of the capital expenditure as a result of which the previous value of the regulatory asset base would otherwise be increased in accordance with clause S6.2.1(e) includes expenditure that, under the Distribution Network Service Provider's applicable capitalisation policy submitted to the AER as part of a regulatory proposal, should have been treated as operating expenditure.	This condition has not been met.

Clause		Requirement	Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
S6.2.2A	(f)	Where the <i>overspending requirement</i> is satisfied, and subject to paragraphs (g) and (h), the <i>AER</i> may determine that the amount of the capital expenditure as a result of which the previous value of the regulatory asset base would otherwise be increased in accordance with clause S6.2.1(e) should be reduced by such amount as the <i>AER</i> is satisfied corresponds to capital expenditure incurred during the review period that does not reasonably reflect the <i>capital expenditure criteria</i> .	As noted in section 12.3, this condition has not been met.
	(g)	The amount determined by the AER under paragraph (f):	N/A.
		(1) must not be greater than the amount calculated in accordance with paragraph (c);	
		(2) must be determined in a manner that is consistent with the capital expenditure incentive objective; and	
		(3) must be determined taking into account the Capital Expenditure Incentive Guidelines.	
	(h)	In making a determination under paragraph (f), the AER must:	N/A.
		(1) have regard to the capital expenditure factors; and	
		(2) only take into account information and analysis that the <i>Distribution Network</i> Service Provider could reasonably be expected to have considered or undertaken at the time that it undertook the relevant capital expenditure.	
	(i)	Where the <i>margin requirement</i> is satisfied, and subject to paragraph (k), the <i>AER</i> may determine that the amount of the capital expenditure as a result of which the previous value of the regulatory asset base would otherwise be increased in accordance with clause S6.2.1(e) should be reduced by such of the margin referred to in paragraph (d) as the <i>AER</i> is reasonably satisfied would not have been paid if the arrangements to which the margin is referable had been on arm's length terms.	N/A.
	(j)	Where the <i>capitalisation requirement</i> is satisfied, and subject to paragraph (k), the <i>AER</i> may determine that the amount of the capital expenditure as a result of which the previous value of the regulatory asset base would otherwise be increased in accordance with clause S6.2.1(e) should be reduced by any or all of the amount of expenditure referred to in paragraph (e) which should have been treated as operating expenditure.	N/A.
	(k)	A determination made under paragraph (i) or (j) must be consistent with the <i>capital</i> expenditure incentive objective and, in making such a determination, the AER must take into account the <i>Capital Expenditure Incentive Guidelines</i> .	N/A.

Clause	Requirement		Regulatory Proposal Cross-Reference
S6.2.3	Roll forward of regulatory asset base within the same regulatory control period		Noted.
	(a)	Application of this clause	
		This clause applies to the establishment of the value of the regulatory asset base for a distribution system as at the beginning of one regulatory year in a regulatory control period on the roll forward of the regulatory asset base to that regulatory year from the immediately preceding regulatory year (if any) in that regulatory control period.	
	(b)	Roll forward model to comply with this clause	Noted.
		The <i>roll forward model</i> referred to in clause 6.5.1 must provide for that value to be established in accordance with the requirements of this clause.	
	(c)	Method of adjustment of value of regulatory asset base	Noted.
		The value of the regulatory asset base for a <i>distribution system</i> as at the beginning of the second or a subsequent year (the later year) in a <i>regulatory control period</i> must be calculated by adjusting the value (the previous value) of the regulatory asset base for that <i>distribution system</i> as at the beginning of the immediately preceding <i>regulatory year</i> (the previous year) in that <i>regulatory control period</i> as follows:	
		(1) The previous value of the regulatory asset base must be increased by the amount of forecast capital expenditure accepted or substituted by the <i>AER</i> for the previous year in accordance with clause 6.5.7(c) or clause 6.12.1(3) and (3A) (as the case may be).	Noted.
		(2) The previous value of the regulatory asset base must be reduced by the amount of depreciation included in the <i>Distribution Network Service Provider's annual revenue requirement</i> for the previous year.	The RFM and PTRM models contain the relevant inputs and calculations that account for these elements.
		(3) The previous value of the regulatory asset base must be reduced by the disposal value of any asset included in that value where the asset is forecast to be disposed of during the previous year.	and salediations that account for these cicinents.
		(4) The previous value of the regulatory asset base must be increased by an amount necessary to maintain the real value of the regulatory asset base as at the beginning of the later year by adjusting that value for inflation.	
	(d)	Allowance for working capital	
		If the <i>AER</i> determines that it is appropriate to do so, it may include an allowance for working capital in the regulatory asset base for a <i>distribution system</i> which is rolled forward in accordance with this clause.	Noted.