

## ***Consumer Reference Group***

Mr Warwick Anderson  
General Manager, Network Finance and Reporting  
Australian Energy Regulator  
GPO Box 3131  
Canberra 2601

15th February 2018

### **Re -Rate of Return Review - Timeline**

Dear Warwick

The Rate of Return Consumer Reference Group greatly appreciates the support the AER has been providing to our deliberations. The CRG is mindful of the AER's twin requests that the CRG engage with Energy Networks Australia and that the CRG develop a collaborative submission to the AER following the concurrent evidence sessions (by 20 April 2018).

The two processes are potentially reinforcing as the ENA engagement is providing the CRG with useful information to inform our views. It does, however, also require a lot of time by the CRG which may make finalising a collaborative submission problematic.

The CRG will continue to work to achieving both goals. We have separately discussed with you additional resources that could facilitate this achievement.

We do however feel it is incumbent upon us to flag to you the risk that we will not complete a substantial submission by 20 April 2018.

The CRG does commit to providing, by that date, a high level summary of our responses to the issues raised in the concurrent evidence sessions, incorporating the outcomes from the joint CRG/ENA discussions, but feel that a quality, comprehensive, and detailed collaborative submission may not be ready by then.

We expect it will be possible to deliver such a submission to the AER within three weeks of the publication of the session two transcripts. We also expect that the CRG will be well placed to provide a detailed response to the AER's draft guideline, to be published at the end of May.

For your consideration.

Regards

John Devereaux  
Chairman