

**Meeting record**

**Date**: 22 July 2020

**Time**: 1.30 pm to 2.10 pm

**Purpose**: Introductory meeting about the **Retailer Reference Group** for the 2022 Rate of return instrument

**Present**: Energy Australia – Lawrence Irlam, Matt Lynch, Eleonora Mentyukova
Lumo Energy – Constantine Noutso
AER – Warwick Anderson, Ben Stonehouse, Scott Johnson, Conor McSween

**Apologies**: AEC - David Markham

**Meeting notes**

* AER staff welcomed retailer representatives and outlined:
	+ The AER considers it very important to hear stakeholder perspectives.
	+ RRG meetings should not discuss confidential information, and there would be a public (high level) record kept.
	+ The proposed role of the RRG in the development of the upcoming rate of return instrument would build on the 2018 RRG involvement. A draft terms of reference is being prepared and will be circulated for comment.
	+ The RRG as a whole may make submissions to AER processes, but it is also appropriate for any retailer to make direct submissions in its own right.
* AER staff described the current status of the two major reviews relevant to the RRG:
	+ Rate of return review – our ‘Pathway to 2022’ position paper sets out the overall timeline and key process steps. Main phase of the review commences in mid-2021, but we have already begun a series of working papers on several foundational areas.
	+ Inflation review – review commenced in April 2020, currently a discussion paper out for comment, working towards a final position by the end of the year (followed by implementation of changes, if any).
* There was general discussion on the types of activities undertaken by the RRG in the previous review and the potential to contribute retailer perspectives in various forums.

**Meeting action items**

* AER staff to:
	+ Send through a package of information on 2018 RRG involvement (as an introduction for those not previously involved).
	+ Send through a list of current processes and dates (for inflation and rate of return).
	+ Prepare and distribute a draft terms of reference for the 2022 RRG.
	+ Follow up contacts with retailers who participated in the 2018 RRG who might be interested in re-joining the 2022 RRG
	+ Set up next meeting and distribute invite (tentatively scheduled for first week September)