

AUSTRALIAN ENERGY REGULATOR

Key Issues and Action Items

DATE: 27 August 2018
TO: AER's Retailer Reference Group on Rate of Return
CC: Warwick Anderson
SUBJECT: **RRG 27 August video conference**

Introduction

The AER met with the RRG to provide an update on the Rate of Return guideline review process. The meeting was held on 27 August in AER offices across Australia via videoconference.

Key Issues

Recent updates

The AER gave a brief outline of the presentations at the public forum. The AER stated that letters were submitted by the NSG and ENA regarding the review process and draft decision and the AER has responded. The AER stated it intends to publish the letters, response and public forum presentations on the AER webpage.

Independent panel

AER staff briefly explained the role of the independent panel. The AER indicated that the independence of the panel is important and that correspondence between AER staff and the panel will continue to be published on the AER website. The AER stated that the submission window will likely be extended to 21 September, to take account of the expected panel report date.

Next steps

The AER stated that the RRG will be invited to present to the AER Board after the submission window closes to provide additional context to their submission. The AER stated further engagement with the RRG is important to ensuring a fully considered final decision. The AER stated that staff will be available to meet with members of the RRG to further discuss the draft decision.

Action items

AER:

- *Arrange for the RRG to meet with the AER Board*

IRG:

- *Notify staff if additional staff level meetings with the AER are sought*