

Tan, Jasmine

From: Sidney Humpreys
Sent: Sunday, 12 November 2017 1:45 PM
To: Ring Fencing
Cc: 'Debbie Newton'
Subject: FW: ring fencing

From: Sidney Humpreys
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2017 8:21 AM
To: 'Col Humpreys'
Subject: ring fencing

AER Ring Fencing Guidelines

Being an ASP for the past 20 years, I would like to take up the offer, make comment on Ring Fencing Guidelines.

Contestable Technical Training Courses

Having attended the refresher courses for the last 20 years I feel that the courses are needed to be continued, as a service to the regional areas, for local tradesmen to be able to do additional training it means, attending a city location, which adds costs, being accommodation and time involved.

The fact that Essential Energy appears charge commercial rates, the courses are conducted by experienced tradesmen, with coal face knowledge, where private operators are for a profit and at times the training can be very ordinary.

Realising that the quality of training is not your concern.

I support the Essential Energy be allowed to continue training.

Local Area Service Providers.

Having worked as an ASP in Casino for the past 20 years, I have had no problem with competing with Essential Energy during this time.

I believe that should Ring Fencing be implemented, it will have an adverse effect on services provided to local communities. In some cases it has not been possible, for ASP's to carry out the work required due to various reasons, namely;

Height of work involved.

Access to the work site.

At times it is not possible to carry out the required work during a shutdown period, due to the complexity of the job.

Essential Energy has the equipment and man power to cover the above conditions.

It could be argued that with more Level 1&3 operators the work could be carried out by them, in this area up to recent times only 1 Level 1&3 A S P provided such services.

As far as competition goes there is limited competition between Level 1, 2&3 A.S.P. in some rural areas. I believe that Essential Energy should be allowed to provide service, not only at last resort but be available to the community to provide all services, particular in remote areas.

Metering

In regard to metering, which possible does not come under the aspect of ring fencing , I would like to comment on what I see major issues in regard to the metering of installations, I attended an Acumen, induction course, with intention of installing meter for Acumen, I believe the requirements are completely over kill.

I am not proceeding with my accreditation.

As I see the metering the whole process is added costs to the consumer, with no provision for not normal coal face conditions, such as ;

1. What happens when a meter fails, say 1.5 hours from a service centre, complaint being no power, Essential Energy attends and finds the meter faulty, under Acumen requirements an job offer is to be sought from Essential Energy,(can be up to 2 weeks), once the offer is obtained an application is to made

to Origin to get a meter for the NMI numbered site,(up to 1 week) and the meter is forwarded to the meter installer, to be installed, say a time frame of up to 3 weeks. May be I have missed something in the process, but I suggest that the above is completely unsatisfactory, the process will be added cost to regional consumers.

Will the Essential Energy personal or the meter installer be allowed to short out the meter to give supply to the consumer?????

May I suggest that installers have a stock of meters.

Metering Comments.

I suggest that training requirements will make it very hard for regional tradesmen to justify the out lay needed, for meter installation, limited numbers will take on the meter installation, which will mean limited competition in regional areas.

Which will mean increase in costs in the sector of the industry.

General Comments

I have experience some every serious issues in the metering area, the worst case being that a client was charge \$6000.00, for a shed area that was not

connected, and was hassled for payment, realising that massive changes have been implemented, the mistakes I feel are extreme, with lack of supervision by the retailers, in handling accounts, access to the retailer is also a major issue.

The other issuer is that retailer operators do not know coal face issues and all that happens is inquires get buck passed from the retailer to the distributor, all taking time.

The privatisation of the industry I feel is worse than the Telstra privatisation which leave a lot to be desired, as far as final detail, the issues being while the computers can handle mundane issues but once the unusual issues arise brick walls are met, nobody wants to know.

I believe that the supply of electricity should be a community service, I know that the same should be for city and country, but the same rules are not applicable to regional areas as city areas due to local conditions and exceptions should be made.

Signed

Col Humphreys

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