

## **AER Draft Report: Confidentiality Guidelines**

The Australian Energy Regulator (AER) is required under the National Electricity Rules (the Rules) to develop and issue guidelines relating to the confidentiality of information obtained, used and disclosed for the purposes of resolving a dispute under the dispute resolution process established by Chapter 8 the Rules.

The AER commenced its consultation on the development of the confidentiality guidelines in March, releasing for comment a consultation draft of the guidelines.

The Draft Confidentiality Guidelines attached to this report have been revised in response to submissions, and form the second stage of the public consultation process set out in the Rules.

Interested parties are invited to comment on the draft confidentiality guidelines attached to this report. Parties who have made submissions in response to the AER's initial consultation draft are not required to resubmit those comments to the AER, but are welcome to make further submissions in response to the draft report and revised draft guidelines.

Submissions can be sent electronically to: [aer inquiry@ aer.gov.au](mailto:aer inquiry@ aer.gov.au). Alternatively, written submissions or submissions on disk, in Word 7.0 compatible format, can be sent to:

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AER – Markets Branch  
GPO Box 520  
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

The AER prefers that all submissions be publicly available, to facilitate an informed and transparent consultative process. The AER is required by clause 8.9(g) of the Rules to make available to all consulted persons, on request, copies of any material submitted. Submissions received will be made available on the AER's website. Therefore submissions must identify any confidential material.

A copy of the draft report and the AER's Draft Confidentiality Guidelines is available from the AER's web site ([www.aer.gov.au](http://www.aer.gov.au)).

The closing date for submissions is Friday, 23 June 2006.

If you require further information please contact the AER's Markets Branch on (03) 9290 1436.