

OLD COMPETITION AUTHORITY

- 4 SEP 2009

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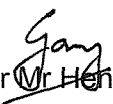


Your Ref:
Our Ref: DDG118

Department of
Mines and Energy

- 2 SEP 2009

Mr Gary Henry
Director
Queensland Competition Authority
GPO Box 2257
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear  Mr Henry

I refer to the Interim Consultation Notice dated 21 August 2009, concerning the Queensland Competition Authority's (QCA) current review of reporting requirements under both the Electricity Industry Code and the Gas Industry Code.

I am sure you are aware of work being progressed by the Ministerial Council on Energy (MCE) to transition to a national framework for regulating the sale and supply of both electricity and gas to retail customers. It is anticipated that legislation implementing the National Energy Customer Framework (NECF) will be introduced into the South Australian Parliament in the second half of 2010.

The MCE has acknowledged that jurisdictions may need to transition to the NECF on an incremental basis. Ultimately though, significant parts of State and Territory energy legislation, including industry codes, are likely to be removed or modified to give effect to the NECF.

Accordingly, to minimise impacts on stakeholders it would be appreciated if the QCA review process could be cognisant of the NECF proposals. Further, it would be helpful if any proposals arising from the QCA review did not unnecessarily diverge from the proposed approach in the NECF regarding the substance of reporting requirements for energy retailers and distributors.

I refer you to the first exposure draft of the NECF legislative package released under MCE Bulletin No. 152 at <http://www.ret.gov.au/Documents/mce/quicklinks/bulletins.html>. A second exposure draft is proposed for release in late 2009.

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Should you wish to discuss the NECF project or Queensland's implementation process, please contact Mrs Kate Ryan, Director, National Energy Market Reform of Queensland Mines and Energy on telephone 3224 8296.

Yours sincerely



ALAN MILLIS
Deputy Director-General
Policy and Operations