

Energy reform

information and publications UPDATE

The following is an updated list of major statutes and associated publications relevant to energy deregulation and competition in Western Australia. New additions are marked ✪. Unless otherwise indicated, publications are available from the State Law Publisher. A fee is payable for some of the documents. Most State Legislation is available on their new website.

State Law Publisher

10 William St, PERTH

Phone (08) 9321 7688

<http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/index.html>

Electricity

Electricity Act 1945

Provides for approval of new electricity undertakings.

Electricity Corporation Act 1994

Provides for obligatory third party access to Western Power's electricity transmission and distribution networks.

Electricity Referee and Dispute Resolution Regulations 1997

Establishes the office of the Electricity Referee for resolving disputes regarding electricity transmission and distribution access.

Transmission

Electricity Transmission Access Order 1996

Specifies that there is full open third party access to Western Power's transmission network at 66 kilovolts and higher. Details were published in the *WA Government Gazette* number 207, which was issued on 31 December 1996.

Electricity Transmission Pricing and Charges Paper 1999/2000

This paper sets out the prices and charges a user must pay Western Power for the provision of transmission access services for the period 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000.

The Pricing & Charges Paper, is available from Phil Southwell, Western Power Corporation, phone (08) 9326 6687.

Electricity Transmission Regulations 1996

Provides the framework for third party access to Western Power's electricity transmission network at equal to or greater than 66 kilovolts.

Electricity Transmission Technical Code

The code specifies the technical terms and conditions for connections between electricity consumers, generators and the transmission network.

The Technical Code is available from Phil Southwell, Western Power Corporation, phone (08) 9326 6687.

Distribution

Electricity Distribution Access Order 1998

Replaces the 23 December 1997 Access Order. The new order specifies the level of access to Western Powers' interconnected networks. Details were published in the *WA Government Gazette* number 220 which was issued on 3 November 1998.

Electricity Distribution Access (Regional Systems) Order 1998

Provides for access to Western Power's regional non-interconnected distribution networks. Details were published in the *WA Government Gazette* number 220 which was issued on 3 November 1998.

Electricity Distribution Pricing & Charges Paper 1999/2000

This paper sets out the prices and charges a user must pay Western Power for the provision of distribution access services for its interconnected networks, for the period 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000.

The Pricing & Charges Paper is available from Peter Mattner, Western Power Corporation, phone (08) 9326 4911.



Electricity Distribution Regional Systems Pricing and Charges Paper 1999

This paper will set out the prices and charges a user must pay Western Power for the provision of distribution services to its regional non-interconnected systems for 1999. It is expected to be published by Western Power in the first quarter of 2000.

Electricity Distribution Regional Systems Technical Code

The code will specify the technical terms and conditions for connections between electricity consumers, generators and Western Powers regional non-interconnected distribution networks. It is expected to be published by Western Power in the first quarter of 2000.

Electricity Distribution Regulations 1997 (as amended)

Provides the framework for third party access to Western Power's interconnected and regional non-interconnected distribution networks at lower than 66 kilovolts.

Electricity Distribution Technical Code

The code specifies the technical terms and conditions for connections between electricity consumers, generators and Western Powers' interconnected distribution network

The code is available from Peter Mattner, Western Power Corporation, phone (08) 9326 4911.

Energy

Energy Coordination Act 1994

Specifies the role and function of the Coordinator of Energy and Director of Energy Safety and also provides for a gas distribution and gas trading licensing regime.

Energy Corporations (Transitional and Consequential) Provisions Act 1994

Provided for the abolition of the State Energy Commission of Western Australia and establishment of the Electricity and Gas Corporations.

Energy Corporations (Powers) Act 1979

Vests powers in the Electricity Corporation and the Gas Corporation and makes provisions in respect of the functions of those corporations. Also provides for approval of new gas undertakings other than gas trading and gas distribution activities.

Gas

★ *Gas Corporation (Business Disposal) Act 1999*

Provides for the sale of AlintaGas by way of a cornerstone initial public offering.

★ *Energy Coordination Amendment Act 1999*

Implements a licensing regime for gas distribution and gas trading activities.

★ *Energy Coordination (Licensing Fees) Regulations 1999*

Specifies the application fee and license fees for gas trading and gas distribution activities.

★ *Energy Coordination (Supply Areas) Order 1999*

Specifies the geographic areas in which a gas trading and/or a gas distribution license may be granted over.

★ *Gas Standards (Natural Gas) Regulations 1999*

The regulations prescribe the gas quality standard for natural gas to be supplied through a gas distribution system.

★ *Gas Standards (Gasfitting and Consumer Gas Installations) Regulations 1999*

The regulations prescribe the requirements for gasfitting in consumers' gas installations.

Goldfields Gas Pipeline Agreement Act 1994

Provides for amongst other things, third party access to the Goldfields pipeline and for access by approved consumers to Western Powers electricity networks.

Energy Corporations (Liquid Petroleum Gas) Notice 1997

Revokes the 1989 notice which defined the restricted trading area. Details are published in the *WA Government Gazette* number 231, issued on 23 December 1997.

Gas Corporation Act 1994

Includes obligations for AlintaGas to provide third party access to its gas transmission and distribution systems.

Gas Pipelines Access (Western Australia) Act 1998

An Act to regulate third party access to gas pipeline systems and to create the Office of Gas Access Regulation.

Gas Referee Regulations 1995

Establishes the Office of Gas Referee for resolving disputes about gas transmission and distribution access.

Gas Standards Act 1972

Covers the standards of quality, pressure, purity and safety of gas supplied and the standards and safety of gas installations and gas appliances.

Liquid Petroleum Gas Act 1956

Regulates the standard, sale and delivery of Liquid Petroleum Gas.

Petroleum Pipelines Act 1969

Covers the construction, operation and maintenance of pipelines for the transportation of petroleum and related products, such as natural gas.

Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1982

Makes provision with respect to the exploration for and the exploitation of the petroleum resources of certain submerged land areas adjacent to the coast of Western Australia.

★ Gas Pipelines Access (Privatized DBNGP System) (Transitional) Regulations 1999

The Regulations amend Regulation 35 of the Dampier to Bunbury Pipeline Regulations 1998 to clarify the statutory cap on tariffs to apply to the DBNGP from 1 January 2000 until an access arrangement is approved under the National Access Code.

Dampier to Bunbury Pipeline Access Manual

A Manual which supports the DBNGP Regulations and contains details on how the new pipeline owner will be expected to manage the pipeline and provide a transport service for shippers. The Manual is available from Epic Energy for current or prospective shippers.

Dampier to Bunbury Pipeline Act 1997

Enabling legislation for the sale of the DBNGP. Sets out the rights and responsibilities of the new owners and provides for the establishment of a gas corridor from the North West to the South West for future gas pipelines.

Dampier to Bunbury Pipeline (Corridor) Regulations 1998

Provides amongst other matters for the compensation of lands if the land is injuriously affected by the DBNGP corridor.

Dampier to Bunbury Pipeline Regulations 1998

Transitional third party access regulations for the pipeline to apply until the National Access Code then takes effect. These regulations become effective the day of the sale of the pipeline, on 25 March 1998.

Gas Transmission Access Order 1998

Specifies the new levels of access to the privatised DBNGP. Details were published in the *WA Government Gazette* number 24, which was issued on 6 February 1998.

Gas Distribution Access Order 1996

Specifies the levels for third party access to AlintaGas' gas distribution system. Details are published in the *WA Government Gazette* number 160, issued on 29 October 1996.

Gas Distribution Access Order 1998

Specifies the new levels for third party access to AlintaGas' gas distribution system. Details were published in the *WA Government Gazette* number 74, which was issued on 3 April 1998.

Gas Distribution Pricing Redetermination 1998/99

This paper sets out the prices and charges a user must pay AlintaGas for the provision of distribution access services for the period 1 July 1998 until the National Access Code takes effect. There is another paper titled "Gas Distribution Access Pricing Methods" which covers general access pricing methods. A paper titled "Description of the Gas Distribution System" is also available.

All papers are available from Deborah Evans, AlintaGas, phone (08) 9486 2709.

Gas Distribution Regulations 1996

Provides the framework for third party access to AlintaGas' distribution system. These regulations apply until the National Access Code takes effect.

ACCESS TIMETABLES FOR ENERGY SYSTEMS

GAS – Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline and AlintaGas' Mid and South West Distribution Systems.

The timetable for access to the DBNGP transmission pipeline or AlintaGas' Mid and South West distribution systems, for delivery via the customer's single metered connection, is as follows:

| EFFECTIVE DATE | ANNUAL GAS VOLUME | EXAMPLE OF GAS USER |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 January 1998 | At least 250 TJ | Medium to large industrial plant |
| 1 January 2000 | At least 100 TJ | Small to medium industrial plant |
| 1 January 2002 | At Least 1 TJ | Hospitals, large hotels |
| 1 July 2002 | Any amount | Householder, small business |

This timetable means that, from the dates specified, a gas user can arrange its own gas transport or its chosen gas supplier to supply it with at least the amount of gas specified in the table for delivery via a single metered connection to a single site, from outlet points on the DBNGP or AlintaGas' Mid and South West distribution systems.

ELECTRICITY – Western Power's Distribution Networks.

The timetable for access to Western Power's distribution networks is as follows:

| FROM: | ANNUAL ELECTRICITY VOLUME | EXAMPLE OF ELECTRICITY USER |
|-------------|---|---|
| 1 July 1998 | Average load of at least 5 MW or 43,800 MWh pa | Large mine or manufacturing plant |
| 1 Jan 1999 | Average load of at least 34 kW or 300,000 kWh pa – regional non interconnected systems only | Small business |
| 1 Jan 2000 | Average load of at least 1 MW or 8,760 MWh pa | Multistorey office building, large hospital |
| 1 Oct 2000 | Average load of at least 34 kW or 300,000 kWh pa – renewable generation (Green Power) only | Small business |

This timetable means that from the dates indicated, a large electricity user can arrange for a private generator to supply it with at least the specified quantity of electricity, for delivery to a single metered site, using Western Power's distribution lines.

There is full open access to Western Power's transmission lines as of 1 January 1997.