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Rulings Panel Procedures 2011

The Rulings Panel has revised its procedures to ensure they remain effective and are consistent with the Electricity Industry Act 2010, the Electricity Industry Participation Code, and the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations.

The Rulings Panel sought industry feedback on its draft revised procedures. Feedback was received from Transpower and Meridian Energy and is available on the Authority's website at:

- <http://www.ea.govt.nz/our-work/consultations/compliance/revised-rulings-panel-procedures/submissions/>

Following consideration of the feedback, the Rulings Panel decided to confirm its draft revised procedures.

The Rulings Panel Procedures 2011 are available at:

- <http://www.ea.govt.nz/act-code-regs/rulings-panel/>

Recalculated reconciled annual levy rates for the financial years ended 30 June 2008, 2009 and 2010

The Authority has recalculated reconciled annual levy rates for the financial years ended 30 June 2008, 2009 and 2010.

The recalculation was carried out after a participant questioned the interpretation of distributor in relation to a particular point of connection. This issue affects distributor participant totals only. Where a material amount was involved, invoices to correct the levies paid by distributors were posted out on 30 June 2011.

The levy rates were gazetted on Thursday 30 June, and are also available on the Authority website at:

- <http://www.ea.govt.nz/about-us/levy/levy-rates/>



Potential consultation: Reserve energy and emergency measures

The current appropriation for reserve energy and emergency measures (availability costs) was set on the basis of the Whirinaki power station being sold by 30 September 2011. The Crown's sales agents, the Ministry of Economic Development (MED) and Treasury, expect to conclude a sale in the near future and have advised that a transfer will not be completed by 30 September 2011.

The Authority and MED are therefore discussing the potential need for an increased appropriation to cover Whirinaki availability costs until removal of the plant from the reserve energy scheme. The outcome could be a need for the Authority to consult levy payers on an appropriation change in accordance with section 129 of the Electricity Industry Act 2010. If required, consultation may need to take place soon and be of relatively short duration.

Transmission Pricing Discussion Paper: Deadline

The Authority has received requests from MEUG and three large users to extend the consultation period for the Transmission Pricing Advisory Group (TPAG) discussion paper. After considering these requests, the Authority has decided not to extend the deadline. The requests and the Authority's response, detailing the reasons for its decision, are available at:

- <http://www.ea.govt.nz/our-work/consultations/advisory-group/transmission-pricing/>

A request has also been received for a spreadsheet used for TPAG analysis of HVDC options - this document is available on the same page.

TPAG briefing presentations

Presentations provided to the 29 June briefing session on the TPAG discussion paper are available at:

- <http://www.ea.govt.nz/about-us/news-events/events-calendar/tpag-public-briefing-on-transmission-pricing/>

Independent Hedge Market Evaluation Report

Energy Link was engaged in May 2011 to evaluate and report on progress by major generators towards achieving the Government's expectations concerning a liquid electricity hedge market and to recommend actions to address any identified shortcomings.

The report is the result of independent work by Energy Link and therefore the views, analysis and conclusions expressed in the report should not be regarded as representing the position of the Authority.

The report is available at:

- <http://www.ea.govt.nz/our-work/programmes/market/hedge-market-development/>



Industry and market monitoring - information paper

The Authority is required to undertake industry and market monitoring under section 16(1)(g) of the Act, which is a new function not previously performed by the Electricity Commission. The Authority has been developing its approach to undertaking the new market performance responsibilities and had earlier signalled it would release a paper by the end of June describing how the function will be carried out. The Market Performance team has been heavily involved in preparing analysis for the recent UTS decisions and has therefore deferred its work on the information paper. The Authority now expects to release the paper by the end of September.

Credit rating – Code amendment 1 July 2011

The amendment to Part 14 of the Code to add an A-rating from Fitch Ratings to the list of acceptable credit ratings for the purposes of payers' prudential security requirements came into effect on 1 July 2011.

The Code amendment and Gazette Notice are available at:

- <http://www.ea.govt.nz/act-code-regs/code-changes/2011/>

Part 10 Review: Submissions published

Submissions on Advanced Metering Infrastructure: Nomination of the MEP and access to data have been published and are available at:

- <http://www.ea.govt.nz/our-work/consultations/priority-projects/AMI-nomination-MEP-data-access/submissions/>

Standardisation: Submissions published

Submissions on More standardisation of distribution arrangements: Proposed amendments to the Code have been published and are available at:

- <http://www.ea.govt.nz/our-work/consultations/priority-projects/more-standardisation-proposed-code-amendments/>

Current consultations

- 2011 Draft Procurement Plan

The Authority is consulting on the 2011/2012 Draft Procurement Plan. This year's plan includes changes of a minor nature, mainly related to the changeover from the Electricity Governance Rules 2003 to the Code.

The consultation paper is available at:

- <http://www.ea.govt.nz/our-work/consultations/pso-cq/2011-draft-procurement-plan/>

Starting: 21/06/2011, Ending: 06/07/2011 4:00pm



- **Transmission Pricing Discussion Paper**

This consultation relates to the Transmission Pricing Discussion Paper prepared by the Transmission Pricing Advisory Group (TPAG). TPAG provides independent advice to the Authority, to assist with the Transmission Pricing Review and the TPAG discussion paper represents the views of TPAG, not the Electricity Authority.

The discussion paper is available at:

- <http://www.ea.govt.nz/our-work/consultations/advisory-group/transmission-pricing/>

Starting: 07/06/2011, Ending: 14/07/2011 5:00pm

- **Demand-side bidding and forecasting: Proposed amendments to Code**

The Authority is currently consulting on proposed Code amendments for the implementation of its Demand-side Bidding and Forecasting proposal.

The consultation paper is available at:

- <http://www.ea.govt.nz/our-work/consultations/priority-projects/demand-side-bidding-forecasting/>

Starting: 21/06/2011, Ending: 20/07/2011 5:00pm

Subscription

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