



7 May 2015

Mr John Pierce
Chairman
Australian Energy Market Commission
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Via website: www.aemc.gov.au

Dear John

**Consultation Paper – Aligning network and retail tariff structures for small customers
rule change proposal (Ref. ERC0175)**

AusNet Services welcomes the opportunity to make a submission into the AEMC's consultation on this rule change proposal, for the Rules to stipulate that a distribution network business must offer a tariff with a structure that matches the structure of a jurisdictionally mandated retail standing offer.

The consultation paper seeks comment on the interaction between the rule change request and the Distribution Pricing Arrangements rule change, made on 27 November 2014. In our view the proposal does not raise any issues that have not been contemplated in the earlier rule change process, or which cannot be accommodated by obligations within the new pricing principles.

It is therefore not apparent that the proposal would advance the National Electricity Objective and accordingly we consider that the AEMC should determine not to make the proposed rule.

AusNet Services is a member of the Energy Networks Association (ENA), which has also made a submission into the consultation. The ENA has similarly concluded that the rule change is not warranted, and we endorse the ENA's submission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelvin Gebert". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kelvin Gebert
Regulatory Frameworks Manager