

# ELECTRICITY REFORM OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

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## STATUS REPORT

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**Date: 30 August 2012**

The Electricity Reform Oversight Committee met on 29 August 2012.

The following matters were discussed:

- status of the nine project work streams;
- project risks and issues;
- resourcing;
- issues raised by the Business Issues Reference Group; and
- reports from the various working groups.

The Electricity Reform Oversight Committee:

- considered possible options for price related regulatory frameworks under full retail competition. This includes:
  - the regulation of fall-back standing offer contracts for customers that choose not to accept market offers; and
  - the regulation of wholesale contract mandatory offers and prices that will be available to retailers from Hydro Tasmania.

The Committee requested that a Minute be prepared for the Government's consideration;

- approved the preparation of a Minute seeking the Government's endorsement of the scope of full retail competition. The Committee noted that key issues include customers on pay-as-you-go, the Bass Strait Islands and embedded networks;
- noted that a number of emerging policy issues have been identified under the various project streams and requested that policy papers be prepared for consideration at later meetings;
- noted the Greens MPs' reply to the Expert Panel Report and requested that a draft of Treasury's cost-benefit assessment of the Greens three trading room model be presented to the Committee;
- noted that a Communications Coordination and Strategy Committee has been established with representatives from the three State-owned electricity businesses, the Department of Infrastructure Energy and Resources and the Department of Premier and Cabinet. The Terms of Reference will be finalised at the group's next meeting and submitted to Electricity Reform Oversight Committee for endorsement; and

- noted that the Communications Coordination and Strategy Committee will establish Stakeholder Reference Groups which will include representatives from welfare agencies and employer and industry groups;
- noted that the State-owned electricity businesses are making a solid contribution to progressing the implementation of the reforms; and
- noted that it is important that staff of the electricity businesses be kept informed on the progress of the reforms.

Martin Wallace  
Chair