

## Meeting Agenda

<b>Meeting Title:</b>	Gas Advisory Board
<b>Meeting Number:</b>	2025_03_20
<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 20 March 2025
<b>Time:</b>	1:30 to 3:00 PM
<b>Location:</b>	Online, via TEAMS

Item	Item	Responsibility	Type	Duration
1	Welcome and Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conflict of interest</li> <li>Competition Law</li> </ul>	Chair	Noting	3 min
2	Meeting Apologies/Attendance	Chair	Noting	2 min
3	Action Items	Chair	Discussion	15 min
4	Overview of Rule Change Proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GRC_2024_01 - AEMO's Allowable Framework under the GSI Rules</li> </ul>	Chair/ Secretariat	Noting	7 min
5	Review of the Gas Services Information (GSI) Rules including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scope of Work; and</li> <li>Terms of Reference for a GAB Working Group</li> </ul>	Chair/Secretariat	Discussion	60 min
6	General Business	Chair	Discussion	3 min
	Next Meeting: 18 September 2025			

Please note this meeting will be recorded.

## Competition and Consumer Law Obligations

Members of the Gas Advisory Board (**Members**) note their obligations under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (CCA)*.

If a Member has a concern regarding the competition law implications of any issue being discussed at any meeting, please bring the matter to the immediate attention of the Chairperson.

Part IV of the CCA (titled "Restrictive Trade Practices") contains several prohibitions (rules) targeting anti-competitive conduct. These include:

- (a) **cartel conduct**: cartel conduct is an arrangement or understanding between competitors to fix prices; restrict the supply or acquisition of goods or services by parties to the arrangement; allocate customers or territories; and or rig bids.
- (b) **concerted practices**: a concerted practice can be conceived of as involving cooperation between competitors which has the purpose, effect or likely effect of substantially lessening competition, in particular, sharing Competitively Sensitive Information with competitors such as future pricing intentions and this end:
  - a concerted practice, according to the ACCC, involves a lower threshold between parties than a contract arrangement or understanding; and accordingly; and
  - a forum like the GAB is capable being a place where such cooperation could occur.
- (c) **anti-competitive contracts, arrangements understandings**: any contract, arrangement or understanding which has the purpose, effect or likely effect of substantially lessening competition.
- (d) **anti-competitive conduct (market power)**: any conduct by a company with market power which has the purpose, effect or likely effect of substantially lessening competition.
- (e) **collective boycotts**: where a group of competitors agree not to acquire goods or services from, or not to supply goods or services to, a business with whom the group is negotiating, unless the business accepts the terms and conditions offered by the group.

A contravention of the CCA could result in a significant fine (up to \$500,000 for individuals and more than \$10 million for companies). Cartel conduct may also result in criminal sanctions, including gaol terms for individuals.

**Sensitive Information** means and includes:

- (a) commercially sensitive information belonging to a Member's organisation or business (in this document such bodies are referred to as an Industry Stakeholder); and
- (b) information which, if disclosed, would breach an Industry Stakeholder's obligations of confidence to third parties, be against laws or regulations (including competition laws), would waive legal professional privilege, or cause unreasonable prejudice to the Coordinator of Energy or the State of Western Australia).

## Guiding Principle – what not to discuss

In any circumstance in which Industry Stakeholders are or are likely to be in competition with one another a Member must not discuss or exchange with any of the other Members information that is not otherwise in the public domain about commercially sensitive matters, including without limitation the following:

- (a) the rates or prices (including any discounts or rebates) for the goods produced or the services produced by the Industry Stakeholders that are paid by or offered to third parties;
- (b) the confidential details regarding a customer or supplier of an Industry Stakeholder;
- (c) any strategies employed by an Industry Stakeholder to further any business that is or is likely to be in competition with a business of another Industry Stakeholder, (including, without limitation, any strategy related to an Industry Stakeholder's approach to bilateral contracting or bidding in the energy or ancillary/essential system services markets);
- (d) the prices paid or offered to be paid (including any aspects of a transaction) by an Industry Stakeholder to acquire goods or services from third parties; and
- (e) the confidential particulars of a third party supplier of goods or services to an Industry Stakeholder, including any circumstances in which an Industry Stakeholder has refused to or would refuse to acquire goods or services from a third party supplier or class of third party supplier.

## Compliance Procedures for Meetings

If any of the matters listed above is raised for discussion, or information is sought to be exchanged in relation to the matter, the relevant Member must object to the matter being discussed. If, despite the objection, discussion of the relevant matter continues, then the relevant Member should advise the Chairperson and cease participation in the meeting/discussion and the relevant events must be recorded in the minutes for the meeting, including the time at which the relevant Member ceased to participate.

## Agenda Item 3: Gas Advisory Board (GAB) Action Items

Meeting 2025\_03\_20

Shaded	Shaded action items are actions that have been completed since the last GAB meeting.
Unshaded	Unshaded action items are still being progressed.
Missing	Action items missing in sequence have been completed from previous meetings and subsequently removed from log.

Item	Action	Responsibility	Meeting Arising	Status/Progress
112	The Economic Regulation Authority (ERA) is to annually provide information and updates to the GAB on the ERA's compliance processes.	ERA	2022_10_27	<b>Open</b> Last update provided at the GAB Meeting on 29 August 2024. The GAB secretariat will schedule the next update for the September 2025 GAB meeting.
118	<p>The ERA to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>provide more historical data on breaches over time at the 20 March 2025 GAB meeting, and to undertake further analysis on the nature of breaches for consideration by the GAB.</li> <li>Update the GAB on the timeframe for providing GAB members with information regarding the investigation into the Capacity Outlook reporting.</li> </ul>	ERA	2024_08_29	<b>Open</b> The ERA to present and provide and update at the 20 March 2025 GAB meeting.

Item	Action	Responsibility	Meeting Arising	Status/Progress
119	The Chair and Energy Policy WA to meet and discuss the GAB meeting schedule and frequency and the role of the GAB in supporting the implementation of the Inquiry recommendations.	The Chair	2024_08_29	<b>Closed</b> The Chair and Energy Policy WA have met and agreed to bring a Scope of Work for a Review of the GSI Rules and proposal to establish a GAB working group to meet on a more regular basis to support to Review. This working group will be open to everyone, including members of the GAB. <b>To be discussed under Agenda Item 5</b>
120	Ms Smith to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>advise the GAB of where further information about fuel gas is being reported outside of the GBB; and</li> <li>report back to the GAB on how/when the classification and registration issue with the GBB is being resolved</li> </ul>	Ms Smith	2024_08_29	<b>Open</b> Ms Smith to report back to the GAB regarding this Action Item.
121	Ms Tait to circulate slide pack to GAB members regarding AEMO's rule change proposal to replace the Allowable Revenue Framework.	Ms Tait	2024_08_29	<b>Closed</b> Ms Tait circulated the slide pack to the GAB members on 29 August 2024 and members were given the opportunity to provide feedback directly to Ms Tait.



Economic Regulation Authority  
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# ERA Report on GSI Rules Compliance

## Gas Advisory Board

20 March 2025

# ERA actions from 29 August 2024 GAB meeting

- ERA to provide more historical data on breaches over time at the next GAB meeting, and to undertake further analysis on the nature of breaches for consideration by the GAB.
- ERA and EPWA to discuss the timeframe for providing GAB members with information regarding the investigation into the Capacity Outlook reporting.

# GSI Rule breach trends 2020-2024

## Breach categories

- Late payment of invoices - 60%
- Market information - 30%
- Other - 10%

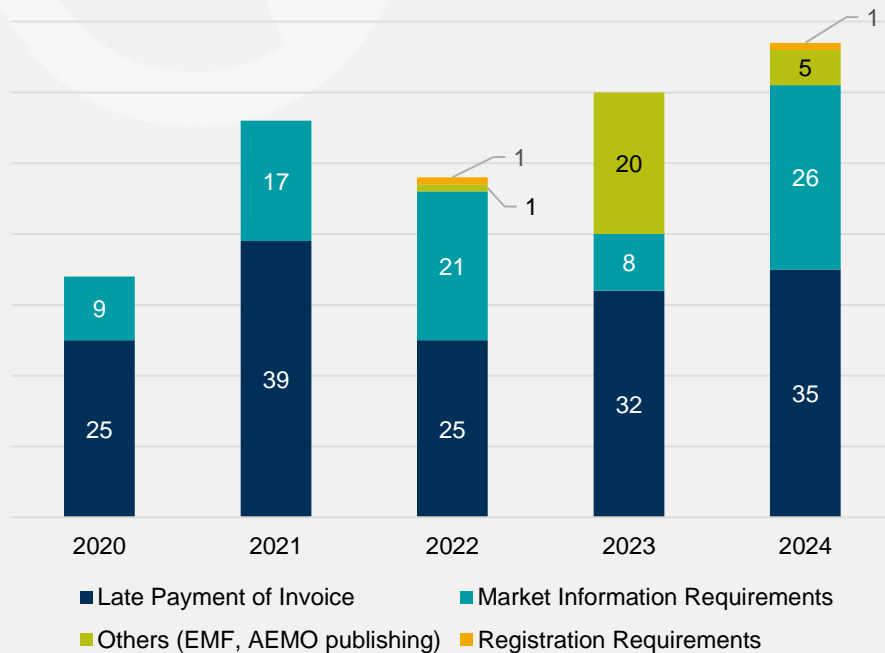
## Cause of breach

- Human error - 84%
- Process deficiency - 13%
- Other - 3%

## Low risk and low priority

## Reported by AEMO

## Reported GSI breach categories



# ERA's compliance functions



**Compliance monitoring** – Rule 165 and Rule 165A (AEMO monitoring)

**Investigations of alleged breaches** – Rule 168

**Enforcement** – Warnings (Rule 170), Civil Penalties and ERB orders (Rule 171)

**Reporting on compliance activities** – Rule 167

**Reporting on AEMO's compliance** – Rule 174



# ERA GSI compliance process

## Monitor

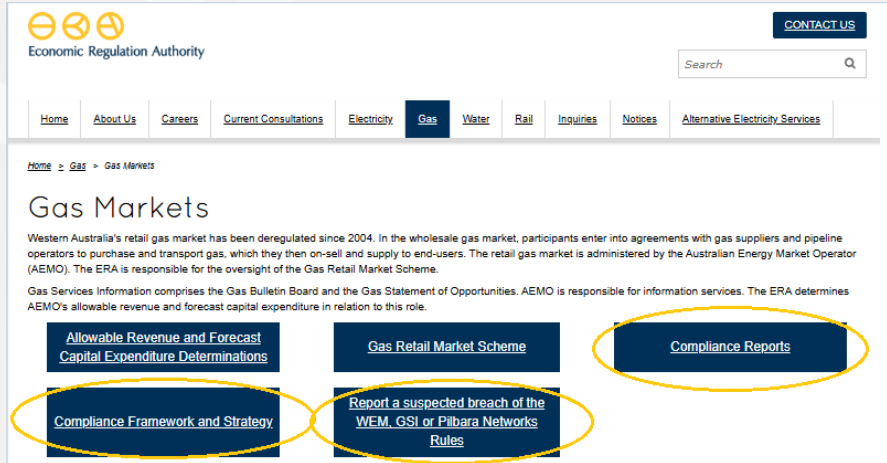
- AEMO data for targeted programs
- Public forums and external sources
- Breach trend analysis
- AEMO and Participants reporting

## Investigate

- Monitoring Protocol Section 5
- Compliance actions

## Report

- 6-monthly Compliance Report



[Gas Markets - Economic Regulation Authority Western Australia](#)

# Compliance Actions



## WEM Procedure - Monitoring Protocol

### Risk factors

- Materiality level
- Market impact
- Civil penalty
- Cause of breach
- Systemic issues
- Attitude to compliance
- Individual circumstances

# **ERA 2024/25 GSI Compliance Priorities**

- High risk breach allegations and investigations
- Parliamentary Commission recommendations
- Emergency Management Facility process
- GSI minor contraventions backlog reduction

# **Investigation into production facilities 7-day capacity outlook reporting**

**Commenced following 6 January 2023 gas supply incident**

- Investigation completed
- Investigation outcome details are confidential
- ERA shared results of the investigation and key observations with EPWA

# Thank you



Economic Regulation Authority



## Agenda Item 4: Overview of Rule Change Proposals (as at 13 March 2025)

Gas Advisory Board (**GAB**) Meeting 2025\_03\_20

- Changes to the report provided at the previous GAB meeting are shown in **red font**.
- The next steps and the timing for the next steps are provided for Rule Change Proposals that are currently being actively progressed by the Coordinator.

### Rule Change Proposals Commenced since the last GAB Meeting

Reference	Submitted	Proponent	Title and description	Commenced
None				

### Approved Rule Change Proposals Awaiting Commencement

Reference	Submitted	Proponent	Title and description	Commencement
None				

### Rule Change Proposals Rejected since the last GAB Meeting

Reference	Submitted	Proponent	Title and description	Rejected

## Rule Change Proposals Awaiting Approval by the Minister

Reference	Submitted	Proponent	Title and description	Approval Due Date
GRC_2024_01	28 August 2024	AEMO	<p><b>AEMO's Allowable Revenue Framework (ARF)</b></p> <p>A rule change proposal by AEMO, which sought to replace the current the Allowable Revenue and Forecast Capital Expenditure processes outlined in Part 7, Division 1 and 2 of the GSI Rules.</p> <p>The Coordinator's decision is to reject the Rule Change Proposal GRC_2024_01 and make Amending Rules to suspend AEMO's current ARF until market fees can be set under a new framework.</p> <p>The Amending Rules provide market certainty for fees during the transition period through a Consumer Price Index and Wage Price Index adjustment.</p> <p>The GSI Amending Rules are subject to the Minister for Energy's approval.</p> <p>The Coordinator has decided to commence a fulsome review of the ARFs (ARF Review). This is conducted separately to progressing GRC_2024_01. The purpose of this Review is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify any issues and inefficiencies regarding the current AEMO Allowable Revenue and Forecast Capital Expenditure processes;</li> <li>• undertake a jurisdictional scan of similar revenue setting mechanisms and performance reviews; and</li> <li>• develop a new fit-for-purpose replacement framework for the determination of AEMO's Allowable Revenue and Forecast Capital Expenditure under the Electricity System and Market Rules (ESMR) and GSI Rules.</li> </ul>	27 March 2025 (The Minister may extend the time for a decision up to 20 business days, and may do so more than once, by notice to the Coordinator in accordance with subrule 145).

Formally Submitted Rule Change Proposals

Reference	Submitted	Proponent	Title and description	Urgency	Next Step	Date
Fast Track Rule Change Proposals with Consultation Period Closed						
None						
Fast Track Rule Change Proposals with Consultation Period Open						
None						
Standard Rule Change Proposals with Second Submission Period Closed						
None						
Standard Rule Change Proposals with Second Submission Period Open						
None						
Standard Rule Change Proposals with First Submission Period Closed						
None						
Standard Rule Change Proposals with the First Submission Period Open						
None						



Pre-Rule Change Proposals

Reference	Proponent	Title and Description	Status	Next Step
None				

## Agenda Item 5: Review of the Gas Services Information (GSI) Rules

Gas Advisory Board (**GAB**) Meeting 2025\_03\_20

### 1. Purpose

- Energy Policy WA (EPWA) to brief the GAB on the Scope of Work for the Review of the GSI Rules (the Review) and request the establishment of a GAB Working Group to support the Review.

### 2. Recommendation

That the GAB:

1. considers the Scope of Work for the Review of the GSI Rules (**Attachment 1**);
2. approves the establishment of the GSI Rules Review Working Group (GSIRRWG);
3. approves the Terms of Reference for the GSIRRWG (**Attachment 2**); and
4. notes that the consultancy costs associated with the Review will be recovered from Gas Market Participants in accordance with the provisions of Division 2B of the GSI Rules.

### 3. Background

- There are two key drivers for the Review: the recent Inquiry into the Western Australia's (WA) Domestic Gas Policy (the Inquiry) and changes to the National Gas Law (NGL) and National Gas Rules (NGR) as they may apply in WA.
  - In June 2023, the Western WA Economics and Industry Standing Committee announced it would carry out an Inquiry into the WA Domestic Gas Policy.
    - The Inquiry was initiated in response to a tightening of the WA gas market and concerns that some liquified natural gas producers will not meet their domestic gas commitments under the WA Domestic Gas Policy by the time the gas projects reach their end-of-field life.
    - In its final report the Inquiry highlighted the need for improvements to the GSI regime and recommended that the State Government and the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) collaborate to review the GSI framework.
    - The recommendations included that the WA Gas Statement of Opportunities (WA GSOO) be expanded to cover a 20-year forecast period, and that it includes the forecasting of decarbonisation pathways for gas users. Also addressed was a need to increase the integration of gas and electricity planning, forecasting and operation with the WA GSOO. Other recommendations related to supply, reserve, demand and price transparency in the gas market.
  - In March 2023, reforms to the NGL and the NGR commenced, to facilitate the establishment of a simpler regulatory framework to support the safe, reliable and efficient use of and investment in gas pipelines.

- New information disclosure requirements for pipelines and blend processing, compression and storage facilities under the NGL have been implemented in other jurisdictions by the adoption of the [Statutes Amendment \(National Energy Laws\) \(Gas Pipelines\) Act 2022](#) (SA) and [Statutes Amendment \(National Energy Laws\) \(Other Gases\) Act 2023](#) (SA). These reporting requirements will sit outside the GSI framework.
- As WA is a party to the NGL, Energy Policy WA is preparing to consult separately on the regulatory instruments needed to adopt these reforms. These include amendments to the NGL and NGR, specifically Parts 10 and 18A of the NGR.
- Should they be adopted, provisions in the GSI Rules will need to be reviewed to ensure consistency is maintained between the reporting obligations in the two instruments.
- In response to the recommendations arising from the Inquiry into the Domestic Gas Policy and the reforms to the NGL, the Coordinator of Energy (Coordinator), in consultation with the GAB, will conduct a review of the GSI Rules.
- The purpose of this Review is to:
  - assess the GSI Rules in the context of the Inquiry’s findings, which were supported by the WA Government, and propose any necessary amendments or clarifications to the GSI Rules aimed at achieving the intent of the recommendations;
  - ensure consistency with provisions in the NGL and NGR in light of a proposal to adopt Parts 10 and 18A of the NGR in WA; and
  - evaluate additional aspects of the rules that may require clarifications or amendments.
- A Scope of Work has been developed for this Review (**Attachment 1**).
- EPWA has developed a Terms of Reference for a GSIRRWG.

#### Cost Recovery

- Under Division 2B, Rule 110B(1) of the GSI Rules, The Coordinator may recover a portion of its budget from the collection of Coordinator Fees under these Rules.
- In accordance with the requirements of Division 2B of the GSI Rules, the Coordinator intends to recover the consultancy costs related to the GSI Review through Coordinator fees in the 2025/26 Financial Year.

## 4. Next Steps

Following approval by the GAB of the Terms of Reference:

- EPWA will commence work to procure a consultant to assist with the Review;
- the GAB secretariat will establish the GSIRRWG;
- a GSIRRWG webpage will be created on the Coordinator’s Website;
- the GAB secretariat will seek nominations from stakeholders for GSIRRWG membership;
- Gas Market Participants, as well as other interested stakeholders, may submit a nomination for approval by the Chair of the working group; and
- the GSIRRWG will commence operation in early July 2025.

## 5. Attachments

- (1) Agenda Item 5 – Attachment 1–Scope of Work for the Review of the GSI Rules.
- (2) Agenda Item 5 – Attachment 2 – Draft Terms of Reference for the GSIRRWG.

# Review of the Gas Services Information (GSI) Rules Scope of Work

## 1. Introduction

Western Australia's (WA) energy sector is undergoing a transition to a low emissions energy system, with the demand profile and electricity supply sources rapidly changing. Over the coming decades more intermittent and distributed generation will enter the market, energy storage technology will continue to be deployed and improve in capability, and ageing thermal generators will retire.

Gas is expected to play a critical role, along with new renewables, storage and supporting transmission infrastructure, in ensuring reliability in the South West Interconnected System (SWIS) throughout this transition. To ensure the continuity of gas supply to maintain a secure and reliable system, a regulatory framework that promotes market transparency and reliable forecasting is essential.

These aspects were a central focus of the recent Inquiry into the WA Domestic gas policy by the Western Australia's Economics and Industry Standing Committee (EISC). Among its key findings, the Inquiry highlighted the need for improvements to the Gas Services Information (GSI) regime and recommended that the State Government and the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) collaborate to review the GSI framework.

Rule 8 (1C) (aA) of the GSI Rules confers the function on the Coordinator of Energy (Coordinator) to consider and, in consultation with the Gas Advisory Board (GAB), progress the evolution and development of the GSI Rules.

In accordance with this, the Coordinator, in consultation with the GAB and AEMO, is undertaking a review of the GSI Rules (the Review).

The purpose of the Review is to:

- assess the GSI Rules in the context of the Inquiry's findings, which were supported by the WA Government, and propose any necessary amendments or clarifications to the GSI Rules aimed at achieving the intent of the recommendations;
- ensure consistency with provisions in the National Gas Law (NGL) and National Gas Rules (NGR) in light of a proposal to adopt Parts 10 and 18A of the NGR in WA;<sup>1</sup> and
- evaluate additional aspects of the rules that may require clarifications or amendments.

## 2. Background

### 2.1 The domestic gas sector in Western Australia

The domestic gas sector in WA is distinct from other jurisdictions, largely due to its lack of interconnection, and unique market composition and structure. The WA domestic gas market primarily services a large base of industrial and mining consumers, with residential,

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<sup>1</sup> Energy Policy WA will consult separately on Western Australia's instruments to adopt the reforms to the National Gas Law already implemented in the rest of Australia by the *Statutes Amendment (National Energy Laws) (Gas Pipelines) 2022* (SA) and [Statutes Amendment \(National Energy Laws\) \(Other Gases\) Act 2023](#) (SA) (see section 3.2).

commercial, and small industrial consumers accounting for only a small portion of the market.

Most of the gas used in WA is sold through confidential, long-term bilateral contracts between a limited number of large gas producers, industrial consumers, and gas retailers. While the majority of gas transactions occur through these long-term agreements, there are platforms for short-term gas trading, such as GasTrading and Energy Access Services, where participants trade relatively small quantities of gas.

## 2.2 The GSI framework

The *Gas Services Information Act 2012* (GSI Act) and the Gas Services Information Regulations 2012 establish the heads of power for the GSI Rules and provide a regulatory framework designed to promote transparency regarding forecast and historical data on the domestic production, transmission, storage, and usage of natural gas in WA.

The GSI Rules detail the roles and functions of the Coordinator, AEMO, the Economic Regulation Authority (ERA) and Gas Market Participants; and govern the operation of the Gas Bulletin Board (GBB) and preparation of the Gas Statement of Opportunities (GSOO).

The GSI Objectives are specified in section 6 of the GSI Act and Part 1, Division 1, Rule 2(1) of the GSI Rules as follows:

The objectives of the GBB and the GSOO (the GSI Objectives) are to promote the long term interests of consumers of natural gas in relation to:

- (a) the security, reliability and availability of the supply of natural gas in the State;
- (b) the efficient operation and use of natural gas services in the State;
- (c) the efficient investment in natural gas services in the State; and
- (d) the facilitation of competition in the use of natural gas services in the State.

Under rule 2(2) of the GSI Rules, the GBB and the GSOO are intended to provide visibility of the current and forecast status of natural gas supply, transmission, storage and demand in WA.

## 3. Project Scope

As outlined above, the purpose of the Review is to:

- assess the GSI Rules in the context of the Inquiry's findings, which were supported by the WA Government, and propose any necessary amendments or clarifications to the GSI Rules aimed at achieving the intent of the recommendations;
- ensure consistency with provisions in the NGL and NGR in light of a proposal to adopt Parts 10 and 18A of the NGR in WA; and
- evaluate additional aspects of the rules that may require clarifications or amendments.

The recommendations arising from the Inquiry into the Domestic Gas Policy and the upcoming reforms to the National Gas Law that inform the scope of this Review are discussed in more detail below.

### 3.1 Inquiry into the WA Domestic Gas Policy

In June 2023, the EISC announced it would carry out an Inquiry into the WA Domestic Gas Policy (the Inquiry). The Inquiry was initiated in response to a tightening of the WA gas market and concerns that some liquified natural gas producers will not meet their domestic gas commitments under the WA Domestic Gas Policy (the Policy) by the time the gas projects reach end-of-field life.

The Inquiry focused on how well the Policy's existing mechanisms ensure the timely delivery of gas into the domestic market and the transparency of both the supply and price of gas. It also considered what role the State Government should play in ensuring that Western Australia has adequate domestic gas supplies into the future, particularly over the short to medium term.

In August 2024, the final report of the Inquiry into the Western Australian Domestic Gas Policy was published<sup>2</sup>. The report highlighted 77 findings and 30 recommendations across:

- policy implementation and compliance,
- gas market reforms,
- transparency and forecasting,
- future gas requirements, and
- opportunities to maximise supply into the future.

The State Government has published its response to the EISC's final report on the WA Domestic Gas Policy. Several recommendations related to the GSI regime have been supported or supported in principle by the WA Government (detailed in section 3.1.1 and Appendix A)<sup>3</sup>.

Additionally, in response to inquiry, the Western Australian Government released its updated Western Australian Domestic Gas Policy in September 2024<sup>4</sup>.

#### 3.1.1 Recommendations specific to the GSI regime

The EISC in its key findings identified the need for improvements to the GSI regime and made a number of specific recommendations that relate to the GSI Rules, some of which were supported or supported in principle by the State Government.

These recommendations, which will be considered and addressed in this Review, were largely aimed at improving the WA GSOO and the GBB:

- **Recommendation 15:** That the State Government collaborate with the AEMO to review the GSI regime with reference to the recommendations made in chapter 5 of the report and taking into account other evidence presented in this report.
- **Recommendation 16:** That the WA GSOO be expanded to cover a 20- year forecast period.
- **Recommendation 17:** That the WA GSOO includes forecasts of the decarbonisation pathways for gas users, despite the difficulties associated with this.

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<sup>2</sup> [Economics and Industry Standing Committee, Report 8 - DOMESTIC GAS SECURITY IN A CHANGING WORLD Inquiry into the WA Domestic Gas Policy: Final Report](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Government Inquiry Response - September 2024](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Domestic gas policy updated to secure WA's energy future](#)

- **Recommendation 23:** That government policy-making in both gas and electricity explicitly recognise and allow for the integration of, and interdependencies between, the State's gas and electricity markets, including in the rules dealing with planning, forecasting and operations, and in particular recognising the importance of a secure point-in-time supply of gas for firming Gas powered generation (GPG).

The Inquiry also found that there is very little public information about the prices being paid for domestic gas at any time. This is because most gas traded in WA is via confidential, bilateral agreements and this confidentiality extends to the price paid for the gas.

While this Review will not consider price transparency with regard to prices set in individual commercial contracts<sup>5</sup>, Energy Policy WA considers that there remains an opportunity to consider whether increased transparency about high-level price trends in the domestic gas market is needed and will include this matter as part of this Review.

### 3.1.2 AEMO actions in response to the Inquiry

Since the publication of the Inquiry report, AEMO has, in the 2024 WA GSOO, actioned recommendations to:

- include forecasts of the decarbonisation pathways for gas users; and
- increase the integration of gas and electricity planning within the GSOO.

In the 2024 GSOO AEMO also:

- adjusted inputs to the forecasts to reflect the Western Australian Domestic Gas Policy as at 2024, assuming that only the minimum volume is (15%) of gas produced by offshore liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects is reserved for the domestic gas market, and that only the maximum permissible volume is exported from new onshore gas projects;
- indicated its intention to expand the GSOO to cover a 20-year period in future; and
- noted it will continue to engage with relevant government agencies, as required, to share relevant information.

Notwithstanding this progress towards achieving the Inquiry's recommendations, further policy development and detailed design is required to ensure that the GSI Rules are fit-for-purpose.

## 3.2 Reforms to the National Gas Law

The NGL and NGR provide the overarching legislative and regulatory framework for Australia's gas pipelines and markets.

Western Australia adopted modified versions of the NGL and NGR under its *National Gas Access (WA) Act 2009* (WA) (WA Gas Act). As a result, the NGL and NGR that apply in Western Australia are different to those that apply in every other participating jurisdiction and amendments that are made to the NGL are not automatically adopted in WA.

In March 2023, reforms to the NGL and the NGR commenced to facilitate the establishment of a simpler regulatory framework to support the safe, reliable and efficient use of and investment in gas pipelines.

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<sup>5</sup> Recommendation 20, that wholesale price transparency measures be included in the transparency reforms to be considered as part of the review of the Gas Services Information regime, was only noted by the WA Government. Further, the GSI regime does not deal with prices set in contracts between commercial parties



New certain information disclosure requirements for pipelines and blend processing, compression and storage facilities under the NGL have been implemented in other jurisdictions by the adoption of the [Statutes Amendment \(National Energy Laws\) \(Gas Pipelines\) Act 2022](#) (SA) (Gas Pipelines Act) and [Statutes Amendment \(National Energy Laws\) \(Other Gases\) Act 2023](#) (SA) (Other Gases Act). These amendments will mandate certain reporting requirements, that sit outside the GSI framework, for these service providers.

As WA is a party to the NGL, Energy Policy WA is preparing to consult on the regulatory instruments needed to adopt these reforms. Under the Gas Pipelines Act, this includes amendments to the NGL and NGR, specifically Parts 10 and 18A of the NGR.

### 3.2.1 Relevance to the GSI Rules

The reporting requirements for Pipeline Operators, Storage Facility Operators and Production Facility Operator in the GSI Rules will be reviewed in the light of these changes to the NGL.

Currently, Pipeline Operators, Storage Facility Operators and Production Facility Operators are required under the GSI Rules to provide Nameplate Capacity Data, seven-day Capacity Outlook, medium term capacity/production outlook and various forecast, nominated and actual flow data.

In the light of the proposed amendments to the NGL, this Review will assess the current information and reporting provisions related to Pipeline Operators, Storage Facility Operators and Production Facility Operators and consider whether the existing frameworks can be enhanced to improve transparency, improve consistency with the NGL and NGR, and support informed decision-making by current and prospective gas market participants and the WA Government.

Specifically, the Review will consider how the GSI Rules can evolve to ensure that the relevant information is available in a way that supports efficient market functioning, minimises regulatory burden for parties reporting under both regimes and assist stakeholders to make more informed decisions. Key areas to consider include:

- assessing whether other types of data related to Pipeline Operators, Storage Facility Operators and Production Facility Operators should be disclosed to further enhance market transparency; and
- determining what information is necessary for current and potential market participants, and the government, to support informed decision-making in terms of adequacy of storage.

### 3.3 Out of scope

The legislative instruments outlined above in section 2.2 set the boundaries for this Review, guiding any required amendments or clarifications in response to the EISC's recommendations. Amendments to the GSI Act will not be considered as part of this Review.

While the Inquiry identified several areas for improvements relating to the gas market in Western Australia that would require legislative change, this Review will be focused on the recommendations that pertain to the GSI Rules as they current exist under the heads of power in the GSI Act.



- Consequently, any policy proposals or amendments to the GSI Rules must be consistent with the GSI Objectives and the broader legislative provisions outlined in the GSI Act and GSI Regulations.
- For avoidance of doubt, any recommendations made by the EISC not relating to the GSI Rules or recommendations that were 'not supported' or 'noted' by the WA Government, such as the establishment of a public long-term trading market for domestic gas (recommendations 9 -11) will be out-of-scope for this Review.

## 4. Project Stages

The Review will be delivered in three stages.

### 4.1 Stage One: Assess existing framework

Building on the work undertaken by the EISC and previous work by the AEMO as part of the five-yearly review of the WA GSOO, a comprehensive assessment of the provisions of information for the GBB and the GSOO in the GSI Rules will be undertaken. This should include, but not be limited to, assessing:

- the need for amending the relevant GSI Rules provisions to improve market transparency and forecasting;
- Part 3, Divisions 2 – 4 in the GSI Rules regarding the information requirements for Pipeline Operators, Storage Facility Operators and Production Facility Operators;
- requirements for gas users to provide further information on their decarbonisation pathways; and
- whether there is a need for the WA GSOO to include forward looking price trends.

### 4.2 Stage Two: Options development and assessment, proposals development

The next step in the process will be to develop and assess suitable proposals for amending and/or clarifying the relevant parts of the GSI Rules identified under Stage 1.

To guide the Review, the below criteria will be considered to inform the assessment and development of suitable proposals. The proposals should:

- facilitate the achievement of the GSI Objectives;
- facilitate the integration of policy-making in both gas and electricity to explicitly recognise and allow for the integration of, and interdependencies between, the State's gas and electricity markets, including in the rules dealing with planning, forecasting and operations;
- reflect the impacts associated with the rapid energy transition underway in WA; and
- ensure that reporting requirements and the information provided on the GBB and in the GSOO strikes an appropriate balance between transparency and the protection of sensitive information

Evidence, concerns, and suggestions to enhance the transparency and forecasting framework submitted by stakeholders during the EISC Inquiry, will be considered as part of this stage.

### 4.3 Stage Three: Develop amending rules

The final stage will be to draft and consult on proposed GSI Amending Rules to give effect to the policy positions and detailed design established in Stage 2. This will be undertaken through a Coordinator initiated Standard Rule Change Process under the GSI Rules.

Changes may also be required to relevant subsidiary instruments, which have their own change management process.

## 5. Stakeholder engagement and consultation

Given the role and responsibility of AEMO in relation to the provisions of information for the GBB and GSOO, AEMO will provide support to Energy Policy WA with data and analysis throughout the Review.

The Review will also be undertaken in close consultation with the GAB, directly through GAB meetings and through the establishment of a GAB Working Group. Participation in the GAB Working Group will not be limited to GAB members.

A formal, public consultation paper will be released at the end of Stage 2, followed by an Information Paper with the final design proposals and responses to submissions.

The Standard Rule Change Process sets out the consultation requirements to be followed by the Coordinator as part of Amending the GSI Rules.

## 6. Project Schedule

The following is a high-level project schedule for the GSI Review.

Tasks/Milestones	Timing (by when)
Project establishment	
Consult with the GAB on the Scope of Work and terms of reference for the Working Group	20 March 2025
Include funding for this Review in the budget setting the GSI Market Fees	May 2025
Engage and appoint a consultant to assist with the Review	June 2025
Call expression of interest for the GAB Working Group	June 2025
Kick-off meeting with the GAB Working Group	Early-July 2025
Stage 1 - Assess relevant provisions of the GSI Rules	
Review and analysis of the current information provisions in the GSI Rules	July – August 2025
Review of other relevant parts of the GSI Rules	July – August 2025
Stage 2 – Options development and assessment, proposal development	
Develop and assess proposals for changes to the GSI Rules	August – September 2025

Tasks/Milestones	Timing (by when)
Consult with the GAB on proposals to be included in a draft Consultation Paper	18 September 2025
Publish Consultation Paper for consultation	End-September 2025
Review and consolidate submissions received on the Consultation Paper, propose changes to address comments, and undertake any further assessment required	November 2025
Develop draft Information Paper with consultation summary, and final proposals. Develop Coordinator Rules Change Proposal to give effect to final design.	November – December 2025
Consult with GAB on a draft Information Paper and Coordinator Rule Change Proposal (Out of session)	December 2025
Publish Information Paper together with Rule Change Proposal and notice	End-January 2026
Stage 3 – Amending rules	
Review and consolidate submissions received on the Rules Change proposal, propose changes to address comments, and undertake any further assessment required	Early-March 2026
Develop and publish Draft Rule Change Report	End-March 2026
Review and consolidate submissions received on the Draft Rules Change Report, propose responses and changes to address comments, and undertake any further assessment required	End-April 2026
Develop and publish Final Rule Change Report	Mid-May 2026
Implementation	
Submit amending rules for approval by the Minister for Energy	Mid-May 2026
Commencement of rule changes	TBD

## Appendix A.

The following table is provided as a summary of the recommendations made by the EISC and the WA Government response to those recommendations relevant to the Review of the GSI Rules that were supported or supported in-principle. A complete summary of the recommendations and responses can be found at [the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation's website](#).

Finding	Recommendation	Government response
	15: That the State Government collaborate with the Australian Energy Market Operator to review the Gas Services Information regime with reference to the recommendations made in this chapter and taking into account other evidence presented in this report.	<b>Supported.</b> The Western Australian Government supports opportunities to collaborate with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) on reviewing the information provisions of the Gas Services Information regime, where it supports AEMO to provide the market with more comprehensive and up-to-date forecasts
48: Lengthening the forecast period covered by the Western Australia Gas Statement of Opportunities will assist market participants in making decisions about investment and will increase transparency of both supply and demand.	16: That the Western Australia Gas Statement of Opportunities be expanded to cover a 20-year forecast period.	<b>Supported in-principle.</b> The Western Australian Government will engage with the Australian Energy Market Operator to investigate opportunities for longer forecast periods.
49 Western Australia's decarbonisation pathway, including interactions and switching between gas and electricity, is a critical input to both gas forecasting in the Western Australia Gas Statement of Opportunities and electricity forecasting in the Electricity Statement of Opportunities, South West Interconnected System Demand Assessment and Whole of System Plan	17: That the Western Australia Gas Statement of Opportunities includes forecasts of the decarbonisation pathways for gas users, despite the difficulties associated with this.	<b>Supported in-principle.</b> The Western Australian Government will engage with the Australian Energy Market Operator to investigate further opportunities to include decarbonisation forecasts.
55: As the economy decarbonises, the gas and electricity markets will become increasingly integrated, and policy and operational decisions in one market may have important consequences in the other. Policymaking, planning, forecasting and operations in both markets will need to be coordinated, and recognise these interdependencies	23: That government policy-making in both gas and electricity explicitly recognise and allow for the integration of, and interdependencies between, the State's gas and electricity markets, including in the rules dealing with planning, forecasting and operations, and in particular recognising the importance of a secure point-in-time supply of gas for firming GPG.	<b>Supported.</b> The Western Australian Government will investigate, where appropriate, integration and alignment of the State's gas and electricity markets to support better planning, forecasting and operations of the State's energy system.

# Terms of Reference

## Gas Services Information (GSI) Rules Review Working Group

20 March 2025

### 1. Background

Energy Policy WA is carrying out a review of the Gas Services Information (GSI) Rules. There are two key drivers for the Review: the recent Inquiry into the WA Domestic Gas Policy (the Inquiry), and proposed changes to the National Gas Law (NGL) and National Gas Rules (NGR) as they may apply in WA.

#### Inquiry into the WA Domestic Gas Policy

In June 2023, the WA Economics and Industry Standing Committee announced it would carry out an Inquiry into the WA Domestic Gas Policy.

The Inquiry was initiated in response to a tightening of the WA gas market and concerns that some liquified natural gas producers will not meet their domestic gas commitments under the WA Domestic Gas Policy by the time the gas projects reach end-of-field life.

In its final report the Inquiry highlighted the need for improvements to the GSI regime and recommended that the State Government and the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) collaborate to review the GSI framework.

The recommendations included that the WA Gas Statement of Opportunities (WA GSOO) be expanded to cover a 20-year forecast period, and that it includes the forecasting of decarbonisation pathways for gas users. Also addressed was a need to increase the integration of gas and electricity planning, forecasting and operation with the WA GSOO. Other recommendations related to supply, reserves, demand and price transparency in the gas market.

#### Changes to the NGL and NGR

In March 2023, reforms to the NGL and the NGR commenced, to facilitate the establishment of a simpler regulatory framework to support the safe, reliable and efficient use of and investment in gas pipelines.

- These reforms introduce new information disclosure requirements for pipelines and blend processing, compression and storage facilities that, to date, have been implemented in jurisdictions other than WA. These amendments will mandate certain reporting requirements, that sit outside the GSI Rules, for these service providers.
- As WA is a party to the NGL, Energy Policy WA is preparing to consult separately on the regulatory instruments needed to adopt these reforms. This includes amendments to the NGL and NGR, specifically Parts 10 and 18A of the NGR.

#### The GSI Review

In response of the above developments, the Coordinator of Energy (Coordinator), in consultation with the Gas Advisory Board (GAB), is conducting a review of the GSI Rules (the Review).

The purpose of this Review is to:

- assess the GSI Rules in the context of the Inquiry's findings, which were supported by the WA Government, and propose any necessary amendments or clarifications to the GSI

Rules aimed at achieving the intent of the recommendations;

- ensure consistency with provisions in the NGL and NGR in light of a proposal to adopt Parts 10 and 18A of the NGR in WA; and
- evaluate additional aspects of the rules that may require clarifications or amendments.

Energy Policy WA has developed a Scope of Work for the Review. The Scope of Work is available on the Coordinator's website. The Scope of Work for the Review includes:

- project scope and guiding principles for the Review;
- issues to be considered;
- stakeholder engagement; and
- project schedule.

The GAB has established the GSI Rules Review Working Group (GSIRRWG) under rule 16(1) of the GSI Rules to assist the Coordinator with the Review.

## **2. Scope of the GSIRRWG**

The GSIRRWG has been established to provide expert advice and analysis on all aspects of the GSI Rules identified in the Scope of Work, including:

- assessing the GSI Rules in the context of the Inquiry's findings;
- ensuring consistency with provisions in the NGL and NGR in light of a proposal to adopt Parts 10 and 18A of the NGR in WA;
- evaluating additional aspects of the rules that may require clarifications or amendments.
- identifying and formulating proposals regarding any relevant changes to the GSI Rules;
- providing analysis on the impact of any proposals on different stakeholder groups; and
- development of suitable Rule Change Proposals and drafting Amending Rules, if required.

## **3. Membership**

Energy Policy WA will chair the GSIRRWG.

Interested stakeholders may nominate a person for membership on the GSIRRWG for approval by the Chair.

All members of the GSIRRWG are required to contribute their time and resources to complete specific analysis and other tasks as requested by the Chair.

There are no restrictions on the number of GSIRRWG members. However, the Chair of the GSIRRWG may only approve one member from each organisation.

The Chair of the GSIRRWG will have discretion to allow additional subject matter experts to attend specific meetings or workshops, either generally or on a case-by-case basis.

Energy Policy WA may use consultants to support the delivery of the Review and to support the work of the GSIRRWG.

## **4. Documentation**

Energy Policy WA will establish a GSIRRWG webpage on its website. Any discussion papers, meeting papers and meeting minutes will be posted to this page.



Interested stakeholders may register with Energy Policy WA to receive weekly RulesWatch email communications that will contain links to content relevant to the GSIRRWG, including notices of publication of papers on the GSIRRWG webpage.

## **5. Responsibilities of Meeting Attendees**

A person attending a GSIRRWG meeting is expected to:

- have suitable knowledge and experience to engage in and contribute to discussions relevant to the specific meeting;
- prepare for the meeting, including by reading any meeting papers distributed before the meeting;
- participate as a general industry representative rather than representing their company's interests;
- where relevant, provide appropriate analysis and evidence to support an assessment of views against the GSI Objectives;
- complete actions requested by the Chair, which may include undertaking of analysis or preparation of papers for discussion by the GSIRRWG; and
- if relevant, update the member of the GAB within their organisation on the meeting discussions and outcomes.

## **6. Administration**

Energy Policy WA will Chair and provide secretariat support for the GSIRRWG.

Energy Policy WA will ensure contact details for the GSIRRWG members are maintained on the GSIRRWG webpage.

The Chair will convene meetings of the GSIRRWG, as required, to support the Review timelines in Section 8 of these Terms of Reference.

The GSIRRWG will meet at least once a month, and more frequently as required.

Energy Policy WA will provide the following meeting documentation and correspondence by email to the GSIRRWG members:

- notices of meetings, agendas and relevant meeting papers (at least 5 Business Days prior to the meeting); and
- key outcomes and actions emerging from each meeting (where practical, no more than 10 business days following the meeting).

All meeting documentation will be published on Energy Policy WA's website as soon as practicable after it has been sent to GSIRRWG members.

Meetings will generally be held online via Microsoft Teams. Meeting minutes are to record meeting attendance, main outcomes of discussion, agreed recommendations to the GAB and action items. Meetings will be recorded to assist with the preparation of minutes.

## **7. Reporting Arrangements**

The Chair of the GSIRRWG will report back to the GAB on the GSIRRWG progress at each GAB meeting. The reports must include, at a minimum:

- details of all GSIRRWG meetings since the last report to the GAB, including the date of the meeting and the key outcomes of each meeting;

- the date of the next meeting and the issues to be considered (if known); and
- any recommendations from the GSIRRWG to the GAB.

The GAB will provide advice to the Coordinator based upon the work, analysis and recommendations of the GSIRRWG.

## 8. Projected Timeline

The following is a preliminary high-level project schedule for the Review.

<b>Project inception</b>	
Seek the GAB approval for the establishment of, and the Terms of Reference for, a GAB Working Group for the GSI Rules Review	20 March 2025
Engage and appoint a consultant to assist with the Review	June 2025
Nominations open for the GSIRRWG	June 2025
Inaugural meeting of the GSIRRWG	Early-July 2025
<b>Stage 1 - Assess relevant provisions of the GSI Rules</b>	
Review and analysis of the current information provisions in the GSI Rules	July – August 2025
Review other relevant parts of the GSI Rules	July – August 2025
GSIRRWG meetings	As required
Update to the GAB on GSIRRWG meeting outcomes	18 Sept 2025
<b>Stage 2 - Options development and assessment, proposals development</b>	
Develop and assess proposals for changes to the GSI Rules	August–September 2025
Consult with the GAB on proposals to be included in a draft Consultation Paper	18 September 2025
Publish Consultation Paper for consultation	End-September 2025
Review and consolidate submissions received on the Consultation Paper, propose responses and changes to address comments, and undertake any further assessment required	November 2025
Develop draft Information Paper with consultation summary, and final proposals. Develop Coordinator Rules Change Proposal to give effect to final proposals.	November–December 2025
Consult with GAB on a draft Information Paper and Coordinator Rule Change Proposal (Out of session)	December 2025
Publish Information Paper together with Rule Change Proposal and notice	End-January 2026
GSIRRWG meetings	As required



Stage 3 - Amending rules	
Review and consolidate submissions received on the Rules Change proposal, propose responses and changes to address comments, and undertake any further assessment required	Early-March 2026
Develop and publish Draft Rule Change Report	End-March 2026
Review and consolidate submissions received on the Draft Rules Change Report, propose responses and changes to address comments, and undertake any further assessment required	End-April 2026
Develop and publish Final Rule Change Report	Mid-May 2026
GSIRRWG meetings	As required
Implementation	
Submit amending rules for approval by the Minister for Energy	Mid-May 2026
Commencement of rule changes	TBD

## 9. Contact Details

Gas Market Participants and other stakeholders may contact the GSIRRWG Secretariat at [energymarkets@demirs.wa.gov.au](mailto:energymarkets@demirs.wa.gov.au). Documentation and information related to the GSIRRWG will be published on Energy Policy WA's website.