

# Terms of Reference Gas Services Information (GSI) Rules Review Working Group

16 June 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 <u>Coordinator's website</u>. 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.

Project inception	
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
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 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
Stage 2 - Options development and assessment, proposals development	
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 <a href="mailto:energymarkets@demirs.wa.gov.au">energymarkets@demirs.wa.gov.au</a>. Documentation and information related to the GSIRRWG will be published on Energy Policy WA's website.