



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.00 AM TUESDAY 20 DECEMBER 2005**

# **REGULATION OF GREENFIELD ELECTRICITY INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission has concluded its review of the form of regulation to apply to greenfield electricity infrastructure developments in the ACT.\*

The Commission has been required by the government to review its regulatory methodology to be sure that appropriate oversight and transparency is applied to greenfields network infrastructure developments, as ActewAGL Distribution is the sole supplier of these works.

“The final decision is consistent with the draft decision released in November. That is, ActewAGL Distribution will be required to formally publish, and make available on request, its pricing policies and guidelines for the provision of greenfield electricity infrastructure developments in the ACT,” said Senior Commissioner Paul Baxter.

“In addition, ActewAGL Distribution must inform the Commission if it wishes to alter the prices charged or arrangements under which these electricity infrastructure services are provided. The Commission will monitor movements in these prices. Adopting an approach such as this will prevent ActewAGL Distribution from taking advantage of its position as the sole provider of these works while imposing minimal additional regulatory cost,” Mr Baxter said.

\* Greenfield electricity infrastructure includes residential, commercial or industrial subdivisions in urban areas that require the installation of the initial electricity network infrastructure for a subdivision of land that has not previously been reticulated. The provision of a network connection for a single new installation is not considered a greenfield development.

For a copy of the final decision, contact the Commission on (02) 6205 0799.

**STATEMENT ENDS 20/12/05**

For further information, please contact Paul Baxter on 0418 633 396.

