

**INDEPENDENT COMPETITION AND REGULATORY
COMMISSION**

**Licence to provide gas distribution and
connection services under the
*Utilities Act 2000 (ACT)***

granted

**ACTEW Distribution Ltd ACN 073 025 224
and
Jemena Networks (ACT) Pty Ltd ACN 008 552 663
trading as
“ActewAGL Distribution”**

**As varied on
1 July 2009**



**AUSTRALIAN
CAPITAL TERRITORY**

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Licence to provide **Utility Services** granted on 29 June 2001

BY

Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission, a body corporate established under the *Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission Act 1997* (ACT) ("**ICRC**") pursuant to the *Utilities Act 2000* (ACT)

TO

The **Person** specified in **Item 1** of the **Reference Schedule** ("**Licensee**").

ICRC has determined to grant a licence under section 37 of the *Utilities Act 2000* (ACT) in respect of the utility service defined under section 9 (b) and section 9 (c) of the Act on the conditions set out in this licence.

1. COMMENCEMENT AND TERM

1.1 Commencement date

This licence will take effect from 1 July 2001.

1.2 Licence term

This licence will remain in force until it is transferred, surrendered or revoked.

2. DICTIONARY

The dictionary at the end of this licence is part of this licence.

3. LICENCE NOT TO LIMIT LICENSEE

This licence does not and is not to be taken to:

- (1) limit or prevent the **Licensee** from doing anything that it may lawfully do without the benefit of this licence; or
- (2) override or derogate from a requirement under any other **Law**.

4. AUTHORISATION

4.1 Authorised Utility Services

This licence confers on the **Licensee** the right to provide the **Authorised Utility Services** referred to in **Item 3** of the **Reference Schedule**.

4.2 Area of operations

The **Licensee** may exercise the rights conferred on it in any part of the **Territory**.

4.3 Non-exclusive rights

The rights conferred by this licence on the **Licensee** are not exclusive.

5. LICENSEE TO COMPLY WITH OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS LICENCE

5.1 Licensee to comply with obligations

The **Licensee** must, at all times during the term of this licence, provide the **Authorised Utility Services** in accordance with the obligations imposed upon it by this licence, including the obligations set out in the schedule.

5.2 Joint and several responsibility

Where the **Licensee** comprises two or more legal entities, each entity is jointly and severally liable for the **Licensee's** compliance with the terms of this licence.

6. COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS

6.1 Licensee to comply

The **Licensee** must comply with all **Laws** for the time being in force in the **Territory** and applicable to any services provided by the **Licensee** in the **Territory**.

6.2 Licensee to comply with the Act

Without limiting the generality of clause 6.1, in providing the **Authorised Utility Services** the **Licensee** must comply with:

- (1) any requirement of the **Act**;
- (2) relevant **Industry Codes** including the performance standards (if any) prescribed under those codes;
- (3) relevant **Technical Codes** including the performance standards (if any) prescribed under those codes;
- (4) any direction given to the **Licensee** by **ICRC** or the **Chief Executive** under the **Act**; and
- (5) any applicable ring fencing requirements.

6.3 Severance of any part of the licence does not affect continued operation of remainder of licence

If any part of this licence is prohibited, void, voidable, illegal or unenforceable, then that part is severed from the licence but without affecting the continued operation of the remainder of the licence.

7. LICENCE COMPLIANCE

7.1 Licensee to monitor compliance

The **Licensee** must monitor its compliance with this licence and any **Law** or such other code of practice, directions and guidelines applicable to the **Licensee** and to any of the other services to be rendered by the **Licensee** that it is required to comply with under clause 6.2.

7.2 Licensee to notify ICRC of any material breaches

If the **Licensee** becomes aware of a material breach of this licence and any **Law** or such other code of practice, directions and guidelines applicable to the **Licensee** and to any of the other services to be rendered by the **Licensee** that it is required to comply with under clause 6.2, the **Licensee** must notify **ICRC** of the breach as soon as practicable.

7.3 Licensee to provide statement on any non-compliance

If the **Licensee** has not complied with any of its obligations under clause 6.2, the **Licensee** must identify those obligations and provide a brief statement to **ICRC** that explains the circumstances of, and reasons for the non-compliance, consequences of the non-compliance (including any penalties imposed) and outlines measures that the **Licensee** will put in place to rectify that non-compliance.

7.4 Licensee to report annually

The **Licensee** must report to **ICRC** on its obligations under clause 6.2, and in relation to any other reporting requirements the **Licensee** has under the **Act**, including information which **ICRC** requires to be reported against pursuant to the **Act**, by 1 October every year during the term of this Licence.

7.5 Availability of annual report

The **Licensee** must ensure that a summary of the annual report required under clause 7.4 is publicly available.

7.6 Operation and compliance audits

- (1) The **Licensee** must, from time to time, undertake audits of the services and operations authorised by this licence and of its compliance with its obligations under this licence and any **Law**, code of practice, directions and guidelines that it is required to comply with under clause 6.2.
- (2) The audits must be conducted by an independent expert or auditor nominated by the **Licensee** and approved by **ICRC**.
- (3) The audit results must be reported to **ICRC** in a manner (including as to form and substance) approved by **ICRC**.

8. TECHNICAL AND PRUDENTIAL CRITERIA

8.1 Requirement to continue to meet criteria

The **Licensee** must, throughout the term of this licence, continue to satisfy the same technical and prudential criteria that it was required to meet as a condition of the grant of the licence under the **Act**.

8.2 Licensee to advise ICRC of financial and technical capacities

The **Licensee** must, from time to time as reasonably required by **ICRC**, provide **ICRC** with:

- (1) details of the **Licensee's** financial, technical and other capacity (including the capacity of its major contracted providers) to continue to provide the services and to conduct the operations authorised by this licence; and
- (2) such other information as **ICRC** requires.

9. CONTRACTING OUT

9.1 Licensee may contract out

The **Licensee** may contract out the provision, construction, operation, management or maintenance of any of the systems or services that are the subject of this licence.

9.2 Licensee bound by obligations under licence

Contracting out does not relieve the **Licensee** of its responsibility to comply with its obligations under this licence.

10. CHARGE AND ASSIGNMENT

10.1 Charge

The **Licensee** must not grant a charge over its interest in this licence without the prior written consent of **ICRC**.

10.2 Assignment

The **Licensee** must not **assign** its interest under this Licence without the prior written consent of **ICRC**.

10.3 Assignment generally

An application by a **Licensee** to **ICRC** for consent to an assignment must demonstrate, to the reasonable satisfaction of **ICRC**, that the proposed assignee is a respectable, responsible, and solvent **Person** who is capable of performing all obligations in this licence on the part of the **Licensee**.

10.4 Changes in Licensee's shareholdings

A change in the shareholding in the **Licensee**, at any one time, resulting in the transfer of more than 50 percent of the shares in the **Licensee** to a third party will be deemed to be an assignment for the purposes of clause 10.2. **ICRC's** consent to assignment in these circumstances will not be unreasonably withheld.

10.5 Changes in ownership

A **Licensee** must keep the **ICRC** informed of all relevant changes in the ownership of the **Licensee**.

11. RISK MANAGEMENT

11.1 ICRC may request information

ICRC may, from time to time, request details of the **Licensee's** risk management strategy.

11.2 Information that may be requested

The information requested by **ICRC** may include information about the **Licensee's** levels of insurance cover for the protection of:

- (1) persons affected by the activities or operations of the **Licensee** (including **customers**, owners or occupiers of land and members of the general public) from injury or harm; and
- (2) the property of those persons against damage or loss.

11.3 Licensee must provide information

The **Licensee** must provide the details requested under clause 11.1.

11.4 Licensee to indemnify ICRC

The **Licensee** will indemnify **ICRC**, the **Territory** and their respective employees and agents ("those indemnified") against liability in respect of all claims and for all loss, damage or injury to persons or property caused by the **Licensee**, its employees, agents or contractors in connection with services it provides pursuant to this licence (and those it purports to deliver under this licence). The amount of all claims, damage, costs and expenses which may be paid, suffered or incurred by those indemnified in respect of any such claim, loss, damage or injury will be made good at the **Licensee's** expense, except to the extent that **ICRC** or the Territory caused the relevant loss, damage or injury.

12. OTHER RESTRICTIONS ON LICENSEE

12.1 Restrictions on Licensee

A **Licensee** must first consult with **ICRC** if the **Licensee**:

- (1) intends to dispose of any major asset;
- (2) intends to enter into any major transaction;
- (3) is granted a **security interest** or a lien over the **Licensee's network facilities**; or
- (4) intends to engage in any other business activity;

that is likely to materially adversely affect the **Licensee's** ability to:

- (5) provide the **Authorised Utility Services**; or
- (6) comply with its obligations under:

- (a) the **Act**,
- (b) any **Law**,
- (c) this licence, or
- (d) the **customer contract**.

12.2 Suspension of licence

If during the term of this licence the **Licensee** breaches a licence condition in circumstances whereby **ICRC** determines that the breach is not serious and is remediable by the **Licensee** in a timely manner, **ICRC** may suspend this licence, or suspend the **Licensee's** conduct of specified services or operations under this licence, until the breach is remedied.

12.3 Licensee to comply with requirements of suspension notice

In the event of **ICRC** notifying the **Licensee** that this licence is suspended, or that the **Licensee's** provision of any specified services or operations under this licence are suspended, the **Licensee** must comply with any requirements under the suspension notice for the purpose of remedying a specified breach of this licence in a timely manner.

13. CONSENTS

The **Licensee** must obtain and keep current all **consents** necessary for it to lawfully provide the **Authorised Utility Services**.

14. INSPECTION OF RECORDS

14.1 Licensee to keep records

The **Licensee** must keep, or cause to be kept, comprehensive records in accordance with **ICRC's** requirements under the **Act**.

14.2 Licensee to provide copies of records

ICRC's officers and agents may request the **Licensee** to provide copies of records referred to in clause 14.

14.3 Licensee to comply with all requests

The **Licensee** must comply with all reasonable requests by **ICRC** for copies of the records.

15. ANNUAL LICENCE FEE

The **Licensee** must pay to **ICRC** an annual licence fee determined in accordance with the **Act**. The payment of the fee is to be made in accordance with **ICRC's** determination.

16. REVIEW OF LICENSEE'S OBLIGATIONS

ICRC may review this licence at any time in accordance with section 46 of the **Act**.

17. TRANSFER, SURRENDER OR REVOCATION OF LICENCE

This licence may only be transferred, surrendered or revoked in accordance with the **Act**.

18. VARIATION OF LICENCE

The terms of this licence may be varied by **ICRC** in accordance with section 38 of the **Act**.

19. COMMUNICATION

19.1 Communication to be in writing

A communication under this licence is to be in writing and:

- (1) delivered by hand at the address for service of the addressee;
- (2) sent by post to the address for service of the addressee; or
- (3) sent by facsimile to the facsimile number of the addressee.

19.2 Address for service

The **Licensee's** service address is the address referred to in **Item 4** of the **Reference Schedule** or another address subsequently notified to **ICRC** by the **Licensee**.

19.3 ICRC to be advised of contact details

The **Licensee** must notify the **ICRC** of a change in address in **Item 4** and any other contact details within 10 **business days** of the change.

19.4 Deemed delivery

Where a notice or other communication to be given under this licence is delivered or sent, it is deemed given to, and received by, the addressee:

- (1) if hand delivered, upon delivery;
- (2) if mailed to an address, two **business days** after the date of posting; or
- (3) if sent by facsimile before 4:00 pm on a **business day** at the place of receipt, on the day it is sent and otherwise on the next **business day** at the place of receipt.

20. WAIVER

20.1 Non exercise of power or right

A failure or delay to exercise a power or right arising under this licence by **ICRC** or the **Licensee** does not waive that power or right.

20.2 Exercise of power or right

The exercise of a power or right arising under this Licence does not preclude either its exercise in the future or the exercise of any other power or right.

20.3 Waiver must be in writing

A waiver by the **Licensee** or the **ICRC** of a power or right arising under this licence is not effective unless it is in writing.

20.4 Limit on application

A waiver of a power or right arising under this licence is effective only with respect to the specific instance to which it relates and for the specific purpose for which it is given.

REFERENCE SCHEDULE

Item 1	Licensee ACTEW Distribution Ltd ACN 073 025 224 and Jemena Networks (ACT) Pty Ltd ACN 008 552 663 trading as "ActewAGL Distribution"
Item 2	Commencement date 1 July 2001
Item 3	Authorised Utility Services (a) gas distribution services under section 9 (b) of the Act ; and (b) gas connection services under section 9 (c) of the Act .
Item 4	Address for Service of Licensee GPO Box 366 Canberra ACT 2601

SCHEDULE 1: ADDITIONAL UTILITY SERVICE LICENCE OBLIGATIONS – GAS DISTRIBUTION AND CONNECTION SERVICES

1. EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SERVICE

1.1 Availability of telephone service

The **Licensee** must have a 24 hour emergency telephone service that is accessible to the public. The telephone service must be:

- (1) accessible every day of the year; and
- (2) able to receive reports of escapes of gas supplied by the **Licensee**.

1.2 Telephone service publicity

The **Licensee** must ensure reasonable publicity is given to the ways in which the public can contact the **Licensee** for the purpose of reporting escapes of gas.

2. NETWORK OPERATION STANDARDS

2.1 Licensee to adopt network operation standards

The **Licensee** must adopt and comply with network operation standards. The standards must set out the **Licensee's** policies, practices and procedures with respect to the provision of services to gas suppliers necessary to facilitate the operation of a competitive gas retail market in the **Territory**.

2.2 Standards to be approved by ICRC

Network operation standards must be submitted to **ICRC** within 14 **business days** of the grant of the **Licensee's** licence. **ICRC** must approve the standards before the **Licensee** can adopt the standards.

2.3 Variation of standards

Any variation to the standards must be negotiated with, and agreed to by, gas suppliers. Should agreement between the **Licensee** and the gas suppliers not be reached, **ICRC** shall:

- (1) assist the **Licensee** and the gas suppliers to resolve unresolved issues and to develop agreed standards; and/or
- (2) develop, in consultation with the **Licensee** and the gas suppliers, agreed standards.

The **Licensee** must notify **ICRC** of any variations to the standards.

2.4 Expiry of licence condition

This condition expires on a date determined by **ICRC** and notified in writing to the **Licensee**.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

The **Licensee** must adopt the objectives, policies and practices relating to environmental management for the gas industry in accordance with AG750 Environmental Code of Practice and the Australian Pipeline Industry Code of Practice for Pipeline Construction.

4. ANNUAL REPORTING

4.1 Additional reporting requirements

In addition to the reporting requirements under clause 7 of this licence, the **Licensee** must report to **ICRC** on the following:

- (1) Market:
 - (a) aggregate quantity of gas billed (terajoules);
 - (b) aggregate quantity of gas entering the **gas distribution network** (terajoules);
 - (c) total number of **customer** transfers processed by **customer class**;
 - (d) total number of end users by **customer class**; and
 - (e) total revenue;
- (2) Operation and maintenance:
 - (a) number of unplanned outages;
 - (b) significant gas leaks detected by survey by pressure classes;
 - (c) number of gas regulators replaced by **customer class**;
 - (d) number of meter replacements by **customer class**; and
 - (e) number of times **gas distribution network** goes below normal operating system minimum pressure by pressure classes;
- (3) Environment:
 - (a) amount of gas lost from the **Licensee's gas distribution network** in the **year** (unaccounted for gas);
 - (b) a plan to minimise gas losses in the forthcoming **year**; and
 - (c) an assessment of the effectiveness of the **year's** plan;
- (4) Technical:
 - (a) total pipeline length (kilometres) – by pressure classes at end of **year**;

- (b) update of general technical description (in total) as provided in application;
- (5) Incidents:
 - (a) number of gas leaks (from mains, service and meters) reported by the public to the company by pressure classes;
 - (b) number of mechanical damage incidents to mains and services by pressure classes; and
 - (c) number of times gas specification reaches the maximum or minimum limits.

4.2 Licensee to report annually

The **Licensee** must report to **ICRC** on the matters outlined in clause 4.1 of this schedule by 1 October every year.

5. NOTIFICATION OF SPECIFIC EVENTS

The following events must be notified to the **Chief Executive** as soon as possible:

- (1) any serious injury, fatality, significant property damage, or major equipment failure that has resulted from gas leaks or damage to pipeline infrastructure;
- (2) when any part of the **gas distribution network** reaches the emergency system minimum pressure; and
- (3) when the gas specification exceed the maximum specification or falls below the minimum specification.

The following event is to be notified to the **Chief Executive** prior to commencement:

- (4) augmentation or major maintenance of the primary and secondary steel mains; and
- (5) increasing the network operating pressure.

6. REGISTRATION WITH THE AUSTRALIAN ENERGY MARKET OPERATOR

The **Licensee** must register as a participant with the Australian Energy Market Operator as required under the National Gas Law in accordance with the National Gas Rules.

SCHEDULE 2: VARIATIONS TO THE LICENCE

Date	Clause	Reason for variation
20 August 2002	15	To simplify the licence fee payments and remove administrative anomalies. (NI2002 – 276)
1 July 2009	Title page Reference Schedule	To reflect the change of name of AGL Gas Company (ACT) Ld ACN 008 552 663 to Jemena Networks (ACT) Pty Ltd ACN 008 552 663
	Clause 6 Schedule 1	To reflect the formation of the Australian Energy Market Operator and its role in the operation of competitive gas markets. (NI2009 – 316)

SIGNED for and on behalf of)
THE INDEPENDENT COMPETITION AND)
REGULATORY COMMISSION by)
PAUL BAXTER in the presence of:)
.....

.....
Signature of Witness

.....
Name of Witness (BLOCK LETTERS)

DICTIONARY

In this licence, unless the contrary intention appears:

- (1) “**Act**” means the *Utilities Act 2000* (ACT);
- (2) “**assign**” includes assign, transfer, mortgage or otherwise deal with an interest but does not include the granting of a charge over an interest;
- (3) “**Authorised Utility Services**” means the **Utility Services** referred to in the **Reference Schedule** that the **Licensee** is authorised to provide under clause 4.1;
- (4) “**business day**” means a day, other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in the **Territory**;
- (5) “**Chief Executive**” means the **Chief Executive** responsible for administering Part 5 of the **Act**;
- (6) “**consent**” includes any licence, permit, authority or consent issued or given by an agency or a Minister;
- (7) “**customer**” has the same meaning as in the **Act**;
- (8) “**customer class**” means all domestic, commercial and industrial **customers**;
- (9) “**customer contract**” has the same meaning as the **Act**;
- (10) “**electricity network**” has the same meaning as in the **Act**;
- (11) “**gas distribution network**” has the same meaning as in the **Act**;
- (12) “**gas transmission network**” has the same meaning as in the **Act**;
- (13) “**ICRC**” means the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission established under section 5 of the *Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission Act 1997* (ACT);
- (14) “**Industry Code**” means a code approved or determined by **ICRC** under Part 4 of the **Act**;
- (15) “**Item**” means the relevant **Item** in the **Reference Schedule**;
- (16) “**Law**” means any statute, regulation, rule, proclamation, order, ordinance or by-law whether present or future and whether Commonwealth, **Territory** or otherwise (in this subclause referred to as “statutory provision”) and includes:
 - (a) any such statutory provision as amended or re-enacted from time to time; and
 - (b) any statute, regulation, rule, proclamation, order, ordinance or by-law enacted in replacement of any statutory provision;

- (17) “**Licensee**” means the **Person** referred to in **Item 1** of the **Reference Schedule**;
- (18) “**network facilities**” means:
- (a) any part of the infrastructure of a **utility network**; or
 - (b) any powerline, pole or wire, any water, sewerage or gas main or pipe, or any equipment, apparatus, structure or other thing used or for use, in connection with the provision of a **utility service**;
- (19) “**Person**” includes a natural person, a firm, an unincorporated association, a **Territory** agency, a corporation or any other body corporate;
- (20) “**Reference Schedule**” means the **Reference Schedule** to this licence;
- (21) “**security interest**” means:
- (a) a mortgage, pledge, lien, charge, assignment, hypothecation, secured interest, title retention arrangement, preferential right, trust arrangement or other arrangement (including any set off or “flawed asset” arrangement) having the same or equivalent or commercial effect as a grant of security; or
 - (b) an agreement to create or give any arrangement referred to above;
- (22) “**sewerage network**” has the same meaning as in the **Act**;
- (23) “**Technical Code**” means a code approved or determined by the Minister under Part 5 of the **Act**;
- (24) “**Territory**” means:
- (a) when used in a geographical sense, the Australian Capital Territory; and
 - (b) when used in any other sense, the body politic established by section 7 of the *Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988* (Cth);
- (25) “**utility network**” means:
- (a) an **electricity network**,
 - (b) a **gas transmission network**,
 - (c) a **gas distribution network**,
 - (d) a **sewerage network**, or
 - (e) a **water network**;
- (26) “**utility services**” has the same meaning as in the **Act**;
- (27) “**water network**” has the same meaning as in the **Act**.