



MEDIA RELEASE

COMMISSION RELEASES ISSUES PAPER ON

RETAIL ELECTRICITY PRICES FOR SMALL CUSTOMERS

The ACT Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission today released an issues paper as the first step in determining retail electricity prices to apply in the ACT from 1 July 2020. The Commission has been asked by the ACT Government to determine the price of electricity for small customers who purchase their electricity from ActewAGL on a standard customer contract.

In the ACT, customers who use less than 100 MWh per year can purchase their electricity under a regulated tariff from ActewAGL. Alternatively, these customers can choose to enter into contract arrangements either with ActewAGL or other electricity retailers licensed in the ACT.

The issues paper describes the Commission's current pricing approach and sets out issues that may be relevant to this price investigation.

The ACT Government has also asked the Commission to investigate whether changes are needed in the Territory to improve the transparency and comparability of electricity offers. This may make it easier for consumers to choose the best offer for their circumstances.

The issues paper invites stakeholders to make a submission to the price investigation. The Commission will take into account each of the submissions it receives when preparing the draft report and proposed price direction which is expected to be released in February 2020. There will also be an opportunity for further comment following the release of the draft report.

The issues paper is available on the Commission's website at <u>www.icrc.act.gov.au</u> or can be obtained by contacting the Commission either on (02) 6205 0799 or via email at <u>icrc@act.gov.au</u>. The closing date for submissions is **11 October 2019**.

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For media enquiries, please call 02 6205 0799 or email: icrc@act.gov.au