

ActewAGL Distribution Energy Consumer Reference Council Communique

Meeting 10 – 10 February 2016

The ActewAGL Distribution Energy Consumer Reference Council (ECRC) met on 10 February 2016. Representatives from Canberra Business Chamber, ACT Council of Social Services, Engineers Australia, SEE-Change, Council on the Aging ACT, Tuggeranong Community Council and Gungahlin Community Council participated in the meeting.

The following discussion occurred:

- Michael Costello, CEO ActewAGL presented to the meeting and thanked the ECRC for their considered input over the past 12 months which has been very beneficial to the business. He updated the ECRC on a range of gas and electricity regulatory processes as well as outlining the opportunities and challenges ahead for 2016. He discussed the impacts of emerging technologies including renewable energy, smart metering requirements, battery storage and electric vehicles.
- Presentation by Dr Greg Buckman, Energy Policy Division, ACT Government, on the ACT 90% Renewable Energy Target.
- Responding to discussions by the ECRC over a number of meetings, ActewAGL Distribution provided two presentations on emerging technologies across both the electricity and gas industries.
 - Discussions included PV systems, battery storage, micro grids, appliance control, efficiencies and electric vehicles. With respect to electric vehicles ActewAGL Distribution will be rolling out fast charging stations across Canberra over the next year.
 - Gas emerging technologies include discussion on assessing the potential for renewable gas generation in the ACT, including at the Lower Molonglo Water Quality Control Centre and opportunity to promote potential for increased use of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) for vehicles in combination with electric vehicles.
- ActewAGL Distribution gave a presentation on the status of the Gas Access Arrangement 2016 – 2021. Australian Energy Regulator handed down their draft decision on 26 November 2015, ActewAGL submit a revised proposal on 6 January 2016. The final decision from the Australian Energy Regulator is due 28 April 2016.
- ActewAGL Distribution updated the meeting on community consultation being undertaken on proposals to amend the Vegetation clearance requirements in rural and Bushfire Abatement Zones. Feedback from the community is now being considered with the proposal to Government due to be submitted in March 2016.

Copies of PowerPoint presentations and papers presented to the meeting are available at www.actewagl.com.au/consumerengagement.

The next meeting of the ECRC is scheduled for April 2016. For further information contact Peter Cunningham, ActewAGL on 02 6293 5108.