

Evoenergy Energy Consumer Reference Council Communiqué Meeting 30 – August 14 2019

The Evoenergy Energy Consumer Reference Council (ECRC) met on 14 August in Canberra City.

Representatives from Gungahlin Community Council, Tuggeranong Community Council, Council on the Ageing (COTA), Australian National University, the ACT Council of Social Service (ACTCOSS), Property Council of Australia (ACT), Engineers Australia, Canberra Business Chamber, Conservation Council ACT Region, Better Renting and Master Builders Association (ACT), participated in the meeting. The Australian Energy Regulator and Consumer Challenge Panel (CCP24) representatives attended as observers.

The following presentations and discussion occurred at the meeting:

Consumer Challenge Panel and Australian Energy Regulator: Introduction and Role; Slavko Jovanoski, Director, Networks at The Australian Energy Regulator (AER) spoke about the role of the AER and the gas network access arrangement review (regulatory reset). Robyn Robinson, Chair of the Consumer Challenge Panel (CCP) appointed to Evoenergy's gas regulatory reset outlined the role of the CCP in providing advice to the AER on Evoenergy's consumer engagement practices and submitted proposal.

Gas Networks Access Arrangement Review (GN21); ECRC members and guests heard an update on the development of Evoenergy's gas regulatory proposal. This included placeholder inputs and preliminary results and indicative impacts on future gas prices. A workshop component unearthed areas of interest on which Evoenergy should provide more information to assist consumers in providing feedback on our regulatory proposal. Members and guests expressed interest in hearing from independent experts on future gas network options including long-term alignment of various network management options with the ACT Government emission reduction targets.

Evoenergy environment Team Overview; Bronwen Butterfield, Evoenergy Environment Team Lead, provided an overview of the responsibilities of the Environment Team and how environmental considerations are incorporated into all aspects of Evoenergy's work. Bronwen outlined the range of stakeholders Evoenergy works with to achieve outcomes that support a sustainable electricity distribution network.

Energy Consumer Reference Council Terms of Reference (ToR) Review; Giuliana Baggoley, Evoenergy Consumer Engagement Manager opened the 2019 review of the ECRC ToR which have existed in their current form since the ECRC was established in 2014. Internal and external stakeholders are being consulted as part of this review which aims to ensure that the ECRC ToR remain current and in line with Evoenergy's business strategy that has an ever-increasing focus on customers. Members elected to contribute via a shared document and by responding to a discussion paper.

Remote Area Power Supply – Gudgenby; Brad Eagle, Senior Project Manager, told ECRC members and guests about a project to provide Gudgenby (and other remotely located sites) with energy supplies independent of the network. This work is being delivered in conjunction with SolarHub and will address challenges associated with managing long overhead lines across rugged, heavily vegetated terrain that support reasonably small energy loads. An extensive trial period seeks to better manage bushfire risk among other benefits.

Copies of ECRC presentations are available at www.evoenergy.com.au/consumerengagement

The next meeting of the ECRC is scheduled for October 2019.

For further information contact Evoenergy Consumer Engagement Manager [Giuliana Baggoley](mailto:Giuliana.Baggoley@evoenergy.com.au) on 0459 873 434.