

Energy Consumers Australia Board Meeting Communique 11 December 2015

Strategic Planning

On its establishment, the Board identified the following strategic priorities for consumers in the National Energy Market (NEM)

- New technologies and their disruptive effect on traditional business and impact on consumers
- Effectiveness of competition across the whole supply chain, and the ability of consumers to drive competition
- Reasonableness and affordability of energy prices, including how understandable pricing structures are to consumers
- Contributing to the review of governance arrangements for the market bodies, and the impact of those on consumers.

The Board has now initiated its review of those priorities, and will consult closely with stakeholders.

To kick off its strategic planning process, the Board sought input from the members of the ECA Reference Committee on consumer's priorities in the NEM.

The discussion was conducted through a forward looking hypothetical, moderated by Craig Memery, which highlighted the impacts of the extent of structural change in this sector.

Reference Committee members are chosen on the basis of their expertise, and represent a broad range of stakeholders groups. The [list of members](#) can be accessed on ECA's website.

ECA Disconnections

The Board was briefed on KPMG's work - commissioned by ECA – on its whole of sector analysis of the cost of disconnections, which is an integral module of ECA's research project on disconnections. That project arose from discussions with the Reference Committee earlier this year.

Once finalised, the report will be made public, and ECA will brief policy-makers and regulators on its findings.