

THE REVIEW OF VICTORIA'S ELECTRICITY AND GAS NETWORK SAFETY FRAMEWORK UPDATE

Expansion of the review to include the gas network safety framework

The Victorian Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change announced an expansion to the Review of Victoria's Electricity Network Safety Framework's terms of reference to include the gas network safety framework on the 5 May 2017.

An issues paper providing general background information on the electricity network safety framework and identifying high level questions on electricity was released on 3 April 2017. Submissions on the electricity network safety framework were due on Friday 28 April.

A short supplementary issues paper on the gas network safety framework was released on 11 May 2017 which allows additional time for stakeholders wishing to address issues specifically related to the gas transmission and distribution network safety framework. **Submissions on the gas network safety framework are due Friday 16 June 2017.**

The existing Secretariat established within the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning to support the independent reviewer, Dr Paul Grimes, has been additionally resourced to undertake the expanded review.

The review's interim report with draft recommendations on the electricity and gas network safety frameworks will be released in the latter half of 2017. Consistent with a consultative approach, the review's interim report will be released publicly for comment prior to the final report, which is to be provided to the Minister later in 2017.

Community and Industry Stakeholder Consultation Forum

A Community and Industry Stakeholder Consultation Forum was held in Melbourne on the afternoon of Tuesday 4 April 2017. Over thirty attendees representing a variety of organisations participated in the forum.

Effective consultation and engagement with interested stakeholders is a priority for the review. The Secretariat is available to assist stakeholders with any questions or issues they may wish to raise. The Secretariat can be contacted at delwp.secretariat@delwp.vic.gov.au or (03) 9412 4556.

Update: 11 May 2017