



Queensland

Energy Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2013

Explanatory Notes for SL 2013 No. 85

made under the

Electricity Act 1994

Gas Supply Act 2003

General outline

Short title

Energy Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2013.

Authorising law

Section 263 of the Electricity Act 1994 and section 323 of the Gas Supply Act 2003

Policy objectives and reasons for them

The objective of the subordinate legislation is to "increase prescribed regulatory fees by the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) or indexation rate set by the Queensland government."

Regulatory fees are reviewed annually under standing Government policy to increase fees and charges by either the annual movement in CPI or indexation rate set by the Queensland government.

Achievement of policy objectives

The subordinate legislation will achieve its objectives by increasing the relevant fees and charges under Schedule 7 and Schedule 8 of the Electricity Regulation 2006 and of Sections 51,52 and Schedule 1 of the Gas Supply Regulations 2007 by 3.5 percent as set by the Queensland Government.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The subordinate legislation is consistent with the main policy objective of the Electricity Act 1994

- a) set a framework for all electricity industry participants that promotes efficient, economical and environmentally sound electricity supply and use; and
- (b) regulate the electricity industry and electricity use; and
- (c) establish a competitive electricity market in line with the national electricity industry reform process; and
- (d) ensure that the interests of customers are protected; and take into account national competition policy requirements.

The subordinate legislation is consistent with the main policy objective of the Gas Supply Act 2003:

- (a) implement the franchising and licensing principles under clauses 13 and 14 of the national gas agreement; and
- (b) promote efficient and economical processed natural gas supply; and protect customers in reticulated processed natural gas markets.

(2) The purposes under subsection (1) (b) and (c) are achieved by-

- (a) regulating the distribution and retail services for reticulated processed natural gas; and
- (b) providing, under chapter 5A, for the making of industry codes for reticulated processed natural gas markets.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The subordinate legislation is not inconsistent with any policy objectives of any legislation

Alternative ways of achieving policy objectives

The Electricity and Gas Supply Acts sets out the framework for the administration of the electricity and gas fees. There are no alternative means to effectively achieve the policy objectives.

Benefits and costs of implementation

The State Government will not incur any additional costs in the implementation of this subordinate legislation.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The subordinate legislation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

Queensland Treasury and Trade was consulted in determining the indexation figure. The result of the consultation was that a 3.5 percent figure should be used as the basis for annual indexation in fees and charges.

The Queensland Competition Authority was also consulted regarding the need for a Regulatory Impact Statement. The result of the consultation was that a Regulatory Impact Statement was not required for this subordinate legislation.

ENDNOTES

- 1 Laid before the Legislative Assembly on . . .
- 2 The administering agency is the Department of Energy and Water Supply.

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