



MEDIA RELEASE

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ACCC RELEASES DRAFT DECISION ON VICTORIAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEM

APA Group (APA) notes that the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has today released its Draft Decision on the proposed Access Arrangement submitted by APA for the Victorian Transmission System.

APA Managing Director Mick McCormack said the ACCC had accepted some elements of its proposed Access Arrangement.

“Importantly, the Draft Decision proposes a rate of return which is consistent with that sought by APA and allowed under recent decisions handed down by the ACCC.

“As is APA’s usual practice, we will work constructively with the ACCC to demonstrate that our proposed capital works will benefit gas users and that our proposed operating costs are efficient”, Mr McCormack said.

A four-week consultation period applies to allow APA and interested parties to make submissions on the Draft Decision. The ACCC has indicated it expects to make a final decision early next year after considering submissions.

The Access Arrangement applies to what is known as the Victorian Principal Transmission System, which is the regulated part of the GasNet business acquired by APA in 2006.

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About APA Group (APA)

APA Group, comprised of Australian Pipeline Trust and APT Investment Trust, is the major ASX-listed energy transmission company in Australia with interests in more than 10,000 kms of natural gas pipeline infrastructure, over 2,300 kms of gas distribution networks in south east Queensland, Coal Seam Gas processing plants, gas fired power stations, gas storage facilities and two high voltage direct current interconnector systems. APA manages and operates all its assets and also provides management and operations services to gas distribution and transmission company Envestra (which owns 19,100 km of natural gas distribution networks and 1,029 km of natural gas transmission pipelines). It also holds a 17.2 percent stake in Envestra and a one-third interest in the SEAGas pipeline. The Group has a varied and quality customer base including AGL Energy, Cooper Eromanga Basin Producers, Xstrata, Newmont, CS Energy, BHP Billiton, Zinifex, Incitec Pivot, Origin, RioTinto, Nickel West, Synergy and Verve Energy.