



Correspondence

CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

1. 1469266 * 449
Local Government Association Of Qld Ltd - LGAQ

LGAQ Circular - 2015-059 - Australian Energy Regulator Final Decision for Ergon Energy Distribution Area 2015-2020.
2. 1469342 * 1308
Queensland Audit Office

Final Management Report - Completion of 2014-15 Audit.
3. 1469864 * 449
Local Government Association Of Qld Ltd - LGAQ

LGAQ Circular - 2015-061- ABC Regional Bulletin and Program Schedule for 2016.



Circular

AER Final Decision for Ergon Energy Distribution Area: 2015-2020

For Information

Circular: 2015-059
Release Date: Friday, 6 November 2015
Authorised by: Greg Hallam PSM Chief Executive Officer

The Australian Energy Regulator's (AER) final decision for the 2015-2020 regulatory control period was released on Thursday 29 October 2015. LGAQ's advocacy efforts throughout the regulatory reset process have resulted in substantial reductions in ACS charges.

The AER estimates that its final decision will lead to small reductions in annual electricity bills, both residential and business, over each year of the five-year period.

A [fact sheet](#) on the AER's final decision, final decision and supporting appendices can be found on the Australian Government, [Australian Energy Regulator website](#).

Rate of Return – reduced from previous regulatory period

The AER's final decision includes a rate of return (cost of capital) of 6.01 per cent for 2015-16. This is an increase of 0.16 per cent over the rate of 5.85 per cent from its preliminary decision in April 2015. Despite this small increase, the rate of return has reduced significantly from the 9.72 per cent in the previous five-year (2010-15) regulatory control period.

Street Light Alternate Control Service (ACS) Charges

LGAQ's advocacy efforts throughout the regulatory reset process have resulted in substantial reductions in ACS charges. The AER's final decision for Street Light ACS Charges for 2015-16 has changed since the preliminary decision in April 2015 following direct representations from LGAQ - ultimately delivering further reductions across the five-year period.

The ACS Charges across the five year period are shown in the following table.

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Rate 1 - Major	0.9997	0.9021	0.9021	0.9021	0.9021
Rate 1 - Minor	0.4037	0.4221	0.4221	0.4221	0.4221
Rate 2 - Major	0.5956	0.5443	0.5443	0.5443	0.5443
Rate 2 - Minor	0.2645	0.2777	0.2777	0.2777	0.2777

Implementation

Any necessary adjustments to pricing will take effect from **1 July 2016**. As noted in the AER's final decision fact sheet:

In April 2015, we published our preliminary decision for Ergon Energy which took effect on 1 July 2015. Our preliminary decision formed the basis for approving prices for 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016. Our final decision comes into effect from 1 July 2016. Our final decision incorporates a 'true-up' of Ergon Energy's revenue for 2015-16 and spreads the adjustment over the remaining four years.

Premier Palaszczuk has directed Ergon Energy by a [media statement](#) released 9 October 2015, to not challenge the AER's final decision.

For further information contact [Scott Britton](#), Principal Advisor, Advocacy – Roads, Transport and Infrastructure 1300 542 700.

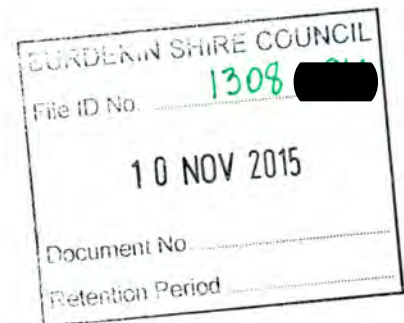


Queensland Audit Office

Your ref:
Our ref: 2015-4025
Christopher Weh 3149 6000

5 November 2015

Councillor B Lewis
Mayor
Burdekin Shire Council
PO Box 974
AYR QLD 4807



Dear Councillor Lewis

Final Management Report for Burdekin Shire Council

The 2014-15 audit for Burdekin Shire Council has been completed.

QAO issued an unmodified audit opinion on Council's financial statements. An unmodified opinion was also issued on the current year financial sustainability statement. However, an emphasis of matter was included in that auditor's report to highlight the use the special purpose basis of accounting.

Since our interim report of 8 July 2015, there were no significant issues or deficiencies highlighted in the conduct of the final audit of the Council.

Each year QAO reports the results of all financial audits and significant issues to Parliament. If we intend to include any significant matters for Burdekin Shire Council in a report to Parliament, you and the chief executive officer will be given an opportunity to comment and those comments will be reflected in the report.

We would like to thank you and your staff for the assistance provided to us during the audit.

If you would like to discuss these issues or any matters regarding the audit process, please contact Chantelle Hanna on 0422 115 901.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Weh
Acting Director

VIEW	MAYOR	AGENDA	CI 4
CEO	FIN BUD	DATE	24/11/2015
NOTED		APPLIC #	
TENDER		PROP #	
ACTION		LAND #	
DEADLINE			

cc : Mr M Magin, Chief Executive Officer, Burdekin Shire Council

Circular

ABC Regional Bulletin and Program Schedule for 2016

For Information

Circular: 2015-061
Release Date: Wednesday, 11 November 2015
Authorised by: Greg Hallam PSM Chief Executive Officer

The ABC has written to the LGAQ with an explanation of the recent changes to ABC Regional's radio program and bulletin schedule for 2016. The ABC has also offered to brief Queensland mayors on the changes in coming weeks.

In response to recent media reporting of changes to ABC Regional's radio program and bulletin schedule, the LGAQ approached the ABC with a request for clarification. In response, Fiona Reynolds, Director ABC Regional, has now [written to LGAQ CEO Greg Hallam](#) with an explanation of the changes.

The LGAQ is due to hold further discussions with the ABC on 16 November 2015 with regard to the issues raised in a recent LGAQ Annual Conference resolution regarding ABC funding cuts.

The LGAQ contact for these matters is [Stephan Bohnen](#), Principal Advisor – Intergovernmental Relations, who can be contacted on 1300 542 700.