

## National Consumers Electricity Advocacy Panel

### Energy Advocacy Development - Funding Round

The Advocacy Panel wishes to further develop the long term capacity of domestic and business organisations to represent electricity customers' interests affected by the national electricity market, the National Electricity Rules and the policies of the regulators of the market and of the Rules, and will consider applications for this purpose at its meeting on 7 October 2005. Grants could be for part or full time positions, in the order of up to \$50-120,000 per annum. It is envisaged that up to four grants could be made. Customer interests requiring representation include those of rural and regional areas and small and medium sized business customers.

**Who may apply:** (i) Energy customer organisations and other bodies such as consumer, welfare, business or industry organisations, and progress and regional development organisations, who represent or have the potential to represent electricity customers; (ii) persons or bodies wishing to form representative organisations that would be eligible for funding.

**Eligible projects:** An applicant should have a program or plan to ascertain and advocate the impact of the national electricity market, the Rules and the regulators, in particular the Australian Energy Market Commission and the Australian Energy Regulator, and the proposals of the Ministerial Council on Energy on the customers represented by the applicant and where necessary to provide informed submissions to the regulators or other authorities about that impact and the measures that should be taken.

Applicants should consider the Panel's present funding criteria and its proposed funding criteria, which are nearing completion. They can be found on the Panel's website at [advocacypanel.com.au](http://advocacypanel.com.au).

Details of individual advocacy projects within the overall project are not required. However it should be clear that the funds sought would be exclusively for matters within the Panel's funding criteria. Mere research on electricity market issues does not qualify.

The personnel to be used in funded advocacy should have a reasonable knowledge of the market. They could be employees or contractors. Effective advocacy may require cooperation between personnel in the organisation who know the experiences and needs of their members or their constituency - these would not necessarily need to know how the market and its institutions work - and other personnel, with an economic or engineering background (for example).

**How to apply:** Complete the application form which is available from the Panel's website at [advocacypanel.com.au](http://advocacypanel.com.au) or the Panel's office. Parties interested in forming organisations are invited to write to the Executive Officer with proposals or enquiries.

**When:** applications and proposals should be lodged by 16 September 2005, preferably by email.

Further details and enquiries:  
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