

PROJECT 251: POLICY ADVOCAY

Forum	Task or process	Outputs	Outcomes	Time frame and other considerations
<p>CCCL RPWG SCO (Queensland) Minister Department of Mines and Energy</p>	<p>National Framework for non economic distribution and retail negotiations</p>	<p>Formal submission to the RPWG in response to draft decision following the release of the composite paper.</p> <p>Hold discussions with other NEM advocates on common positions</p> <p>Hold discussions with senior SCO staff about the CCCL position on the recommendations</p> <p>Letter to Queensland Energy Minister promoting preferred consumer protections to be included in the national</p>	<p>To ensure that robust consumer protections measures are included in the framework and related policy and that the interests of low income and vulnerable consumers are both considered and protected. To also ensure that consumers are empowered in the marketplace and that the potential for market failure is significantly diminished or is addressed through appropriate policy responses.</p> <p>To leverage the benefits for consumers by achieving national positions on the above measures</p> <p>To ensure that the position of CCCL on behalf of consumer, including vulnerable consumers, is clearly communicated. To present an opportunity for alignment between Qld Government and CCCL positions.</p> <p>To ensure that the above positions are communicated at the top level of government particularly given that no direct contact with Qld</p>	<p>The discussion paper from Government will be due out in May. The advocate will respond accordingly.</p> <p>Liaison ongoing.</p> <p>Qld SCO staff recently liaised with the advocate on the CSO discussion paper.</p> <p>This will occur on release of the RPWG discussion paper.</p>

To Advocacy Panel: CCCL proposed outputs and outcomes for period February1 to April 30 Project 251

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		framework	SCO representative has occurred to-date.	
CCCL Productivity Commission	Australia's Consumer Policy Framework	CCCL Submission in response to the Draft Report of the Review of Australia's Consumer Policy Framework with particular reference to the Commission's energy policy recommendations	To build upon CCCL's previous submission to the Commission in ensuring that the best interests of Queensland residential energy users are taken into account in the final report's recommendations	CCCL participated in a joint submission with other energy advocates and making an individual institutional submission in February 2008 (see attached).
CCCL Queensland Competition Authority	Benchmark Retail Cost Index 2008-09	Formal submission and oral submission to the second consultation notice ideally through securing an expert consultant via Advocacy Panel funding	To ensure that the interests of Queensland consumers (residential users) including vulnerable consumers are taken into account by the Qld Competition Authority in its final draft determination particularly in relation to price impacts.	CCCL Submission to Draft Consultation Notice Benchmark Retail Cost Index for Electricity 2009 was undertaken in March (see attached). Second consultation notice released February 2008. CCCL also supported the Queensland Consumer Association application to the Panel for funding of an expert consultant regarding the above. The funding was secured and CCCL liaised with the Qld Consumer Association and the consultant during this time and provided feedback on drafts. A submission was subsequently made to the regulator.
CCCL	Smart Meter Cost-benefit	Formal submission to Phrase 1	To ensure that the interests of	CCCL made a second

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MCE	analysis		Queensland consumers (residential users) including vulnerable consumers are not compromised or penalised by the development of a national minimum functionality for smart meters but rather empowered and supported through their introduction.	submission on the Smart Meter CBA and Direct Load Control in March (see attached).
CCCL MCE	Review of Community Service Obligations (CSOs)	Formal submission to discussion paper	Queensland is currently divided into contestable and non-contestable areas for residential FRC. CSOs are vital to ensuring that rural and regional consumers maintain access to affordable electricity. Through responding to this discussion we aim to proactively influencing the debate around CSOs to ensure that no residential user is worse off in paying for their electricity under the NEM regime.	A discussion paper was released and CCCL made a submission in March (see attached)
CCCL National Framework for Energy Efficiency (NFEE) MCE	Next Stage	Formal submission. CCCL responded to NFEE State 2 measures in recognition of the need for responses on behalf of consumers in the field of energy efficiency. The area of energy efficiency and demand management will continue to grow.	CCCL wants to be able to position Qld consumer needs in this debate and will respond to future requests for feedback within the context of NFEE, demand management and sustainability policy contexts.	Awaiting release of next discussion paper in 2008.
CCCL	Various submissions. Respond where possible given time and resource constraints to other	Lodge submissions on priority issues that arise throughout the funding period.	Full consideration by policy makers and institutions of well formulated submissions that represent the concerns and interests of	No additional submissions have been made at this time.

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	requests from NEM agencies for input into NEM policy matters. This potential pool includes responding to requests for submissions to the following bodies and regarding the following subjects: AER, AEMO, AEMC National Electricity Rules Embedded Networks Pricing arrangements (including carbon pricing and distribution pricing) Transmission Feed-in tariffs Connection and capital contribution requirements Distribution network expansion		consumers.	