

Meeting of COSS Policy Staff – National Electricity Market

Tuesday 05 and Wednesday 06 February, Melbourne

DRAFT AGENDA

Attending: Peter Sutherland (ACTCOSS), Stephanie Nazer (WACOSS), Mark Henley (Wesley UnitingCare SA), Dean Lombard (VCOSS), Kath McLean (TasCOSS), Tony Westmore (ACOSS).

Tuesday 05/02

10:00 at venue

10:30 introductions and agenda review

11:00 scope... where are we at?, what has shifted since last year?
the new federal government and implications for us - overview
opportunities and challenges > the year ahead

the acoass nceap project, related coass-based projects
other consumer advocates and the national consumers' roundtable

national [energy] reform agenda
framework for national regulation of energy markets: work in train, ahead

climate change and responses
encouraging action that is equitable

1:00 lunch

2:00 the retail policy working group [rpwg] and stakeholder reference group [rpwg srg]
update on process... through until december '09
current issues, coass positions and consultation

3:00 hardship and responses
concessions and community service obligations [and working with retailers]
utility allowance [\$500 p/a paid in quarterly instalments]

4:00 aemc reviews of effectiveness of competition
victoria: status, outcomes, lessons
south australia: preparation, support

5:00 productivity commission
consumer policy framework
consumer protection and 'the market'

5:30 day one close

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Wednesday 06/02

- 9:00 review day one and agenda for day two
climate change, equity in response: efficiency, tariffs, safety net
- 9:15 sustainability and affordability: priorities, engagement
'lifeline' pricing
- 10:00 demand management, energy efficiency and advanced metering
demand management
aemc rule change and other matters
energy efficiency including the acf/choice/acoss project
federal budget and beyond
advanced metering (consumer information and behaviour)
functionality and applications (including disconnection, load limiting etc)
- 12:30 lunch
- 1:00 the future of the acoss project, the advocacy panel
electricity, gas, gas + electricity, research agenda
- 1:30 role of acoss: informing sector, networking and advocacy
communications between coss energy workers, the roundtable
congress
lobbying ie ministers, officials (including federal/state/territory issues)
- 2:00 review decisions, planning for work
- 3:00 close

energy markets and related issues
what's on '08

february:

06 deadline for responses to pc review of consumer policy framework

06 deadline for regular round of panel funding

22 smart meter phase two cost-benefit analysis released for consultation [6 weeks], earliest

26 mce sco meets

march:

05-06 national consumer congress, perth

06 deadline for regular round of panel funding

?? coag meets

17-19 consumer roundtable, canberra

?? or april? rpwg: sco policy statement released for consultation [8 weeks]

april:

03 deadline for regular round of panel funding

?? advocacy panel calls for applications. staff funded projects

week of 07: MAYBE ONLY across congress [social inclusion etc], melbourne

?? roundtable masterclass climate change, melbourne

may:

08 deadline for regular round of panel funding

13 federal budget

?? mce meets canberra

june:

05 deadline for regular round of panel funding

?? consumer roundtable, melbourne