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| Supporting reform to efficient distribution pricing: a refreshed Distribution Pricing Practice Note |
| Q1. Do expectations laid out in the updated Practice Note on what ‘good looks like’ for efficient pricing provide a useful guide? |
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| Q2. Do you consider any of the material to be incorrect, subjective or superfluous? |
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| Q3. Are there edits or further explanation that you’d suggest to improve clarity?  |
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| Q4. Is there material missing that would also be useful? *Note: Where you are asking us to include more material in the Practice Note, we would appreciate you explaining what you are seeking in as much detail as possible, to ensure that any further changes we make meet the need identified.* *Please also consider whether any additional material is best developed and agreed with industry, or if the Authority is best placed to provide the directive solely.* |
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| Q5. Are the expectations laid out in the updated Practice Note on timing for reform achievable? |
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| Q6. Do you believe it is useful for the Practice Note to become a ‘living document’ that is refreshed regularly to update for the Authority and industry’s understanding? *Note: Considerations include, the frequency of updates and the associated consultation with stakeholders being most useful; the level of detail that provides useful guidance, and what focus future iterations could have.* |
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| Q7. Where questions of data access or use do not fall into the Updating regulatory settings for distribution networks consultation, is there any specific pricing-relating data concerns that the Authority should know, or be involved in? |
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| Q8. Where questions of customer contact data access or use do not fall into the Updating regulatory settings for distribution networks consultation, is there any specific pricing relating data concerns that the Authority should know, or be involved in? |
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| Q9. Engaged customers are more likely to respond and in a more predictable manner than disengaged customers. What role do you see the Authority has in supporting consumer engagement on pricing? |
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| Q10. Ensuring that targeted pricing signals impact decision makers is important in distribution pricing reform. What role do you see the Authority has in supporting an industry Consultation paper: a refreshed Distribution Pricing Practice Note Page | 15 discussion on ensuring price signals reach consumers, taking into account the need to comply with the Commerce Act 1986? |
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| Q11. Complexity in pricing structures could slow reform efforts. How do you see the Authority working with the sector to strike the correct balance? |
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| Q12. Can you provide feedback on how bill shock can be managed by industry and the Authority, to support ongoing reform of prices and not unduly impact on groups of customers? |
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| Q13. Are there aspects of LFC and its announced phase out that you see as an ongoing impediment to pricing reform? |
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| Q14. We are interested to better understand what ongoing limitations LV visibility issues might have that could constrain future pricing reform, how industry can respond to them and what, if any, role you see for the Authority in addressing this area? |
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| Q15. Currently, installation of energy intensive devices such as EV fast chargers are not required to be notified to distributors. Do you see this this as an impediment to advancing pricing reform, and what role do you see the Authority having in this area, and how this could be done? |
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| Q16. As we develop our thinking on further initiatives, tools or regulation, we will engage appropriately with the sector. We welcome any immediate suggestions you have regarding how we could better promote faster pricing reform. |
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| Q17. Do you consider that the Authority has not properly understood any of the constraints listed in this paper, or has missed other issues that constrain efficient pricing reform progress and how they could be addressed? *Note: Where you provide further issues, please provide as much detail as possible. Please also consider whether any additional issues are best addressed by industry, or if the Authority is best placed to address the issue solely.* |
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| Q18. Please do not limit your feedback to the above questions - we also welcome feedback on any other ways the Authority could work constructively with industry and consumers to support and drive accelerated pricing reform. |
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| Q19. Please consider the role that you see appropriate for the Authority to be proactively involved in pricing evolution. |
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| Q20. How the Authority could engage more with industry, either individually or through structured channels, and in formal and informal ways. |
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