

**Our ref: AA1000666**



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9 April 2024

Dear Interested Party

## **Pilbara ISOCo Ltd – application for authorisation AA1000666 – interested party consultation**

On 28 March 2024, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) received an application for authorisation from **Pilbara ISOCo Ltd**. This letter is to invite you to comment. You are welcome to pass this letter on to others who may wish to make submissions.

Pilbara ISOCo is seeking authorisation<sup>1</sup> under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) in respect of certain coordination and system operation activities under the 'Pilbara regime', a legislative regime formed under Part 8A of the *Electricity Industry Act 2004* (WA).

Pilbara ISOCo is the independent system operator for the North-West Interconnected System (NWIS), an electricity grid serving mining, industrial, commercial and residential loads in Western Australia's Pilbara region. Pilbara ISOCo is seeking authorisation for itself, and current and future Registered Network Service Providers, Registered Controllers and Connection Applicants (which are classes of persons defined in the Pilbara Network Rules).

Pilbara ISOCo is seeking authorisation for the parties to engage in conduct:

- (a) performing a function under the Pilbara regime (or, where the Participant is a Connection Applicant, participating in the Pilbara regime's connection process); and
- (b) with the purpose of maintaining or improving the NWIS's safety, security or reliability; and
- (c) comprising either
  - (i) exchanging information regarding, or planning or implementing, certain requirements relating to system security (**System security measures**)
  - (ii) exchanging information regarding, or planning or implementing, outages in electrical facilities and networks in respect of outages in electrical facilities and networks to enable new connections, or repairs, maintenance, renewals and upgrades (**Outage coordination**), or
  - (iii) exchanging information regarding, or planning or implementing, the technical requirements to be complied with by a facility or network which is, or is proposed to be, connected to the NWIS (**Technical connection standards**).

Authorisation is sought for a period of 5 years.

A full copy of the application for authorisation is available on the ACCC's [authorisations public register](#).

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<sup>1</sup> For information about Authorisations, please see <https://www.accc.gov.au/business/exemptions/authorisation>

## Making a submission

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the application for authorisation. In making your submission, please provide information, evidence and views about the likely public benefits, effects on competition and any other public detriment that you consider will result from the proposed conduct.

If you intend to provide a submission, please do so by **23 April 2024**.

If you wish to request an extension, please contact us on the details below as early as possible. Submissions after the due date (or after any extension granted) may not be taken into account.

Submissions should be lodged via the web form accessible on the public register page for this matter. Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Issi Lovric via the details at the end of this letter.

Your submission **will** be placed on the ACCC's [authorisations public register on the internet](#) unless you have made a request (with reasons) for us to exclude part or all of the submission from the public register. (see [Guidelines for Excluding Information from the Public Register for more information on how to make a request and how we assess requests](#)).

## Timetable

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information, and an up to date version (including any changes) will be posted on the public register.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
<b>28 March 2024</b>	Lodgement of application.
<b>9 April 2024</b>	Public consultation process begins.
<b>23 April 2024</b>	Closing date for submissions.
<b>July 2024</b>	Draft Determination.
<b>August 2024</b>	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
<b>September 2024</b>	Final Determination.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Issi Lovric on (02) 9102 4021 or [exemptions@acc.gov.au](mailto:exemptions@acc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Naomi Menon  
Director  
Competition Exemptions