



INDEPENDENT
MARKET
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2015 Review of the Gas Bulletin Board Zones

Invitation to Provide Submissions on Draft Report

2 June 2015

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– Invitation to Provide Submissions on Draft Report

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Independent Market Operator

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1. Background

The Gas Bulletin Board (GBB)¹ commenced operation in 2013 to improve the transparency of information, security of supply and to facilitate competition in the WA natural gas market. To show where natural gas is being supplied and used across the state, much of the information on the GBB is published by Zones. The Zones are set out in Schedule 2 of the Gas Services Information (GSI) Rules and are defined with respect to GBB Pipelines. Currently the allocation of a new pipeline to one of the GBB Zones or the creation of a new Zone requires a rule change which amends Schedule 2 of the GSI Rules.

In accordance with subrule 82(2) of the GSI Rules, the IMO must review the GBB Zones at least once in each five year period or may do so at any point in time. In addition, subrule 82(3) requires that a review of the Zones must be carried out in consultation with Gas Market Participants and gas industry groups.

Following the recent allocation of the Fortescue River Gas Pipeline to the Pilbara Zone² and in light of new pipelines expected to commence operation in the next 12 months the IMO considered it would be appropriate to undertake the first review of the GBB Zones.

The IMO engaged Marsden Jacob Associates, an independent consultant, to assist the IMO in undertaking the GBB Zones review.

As part of this review, Marsden Jacob Associates has prepared a draft report which includes six main recommendations. The recommendations are to:

1. remove the definition of the GBB Zones from the GSI Rules and instead include it in a GSI Procedure;
2. publish nominations and forecasts for individual facilities;
3. capture large user facility data connected to non-GBB pipelines;
4. divide the current Dampier Zone into a number of Zones;
5. adopt new guidelines for the allocation of new pipelines to GBB Zones; and
6. adopt new guidelines to inform any future revision of GBB Zones.

The draft report is available at: http://www.imowa.com.au/2015_GBB_Zones_Review.

2. Invitation for submissions

The IMO invites all sectors of the Western Australian gas industry, including end-users, to make submissions on the draft report.

A period of four weeks from the publication date of the draft report will be provided for written submissions. Submissions must be delivered to the IMO by **5:00 PM (WST)** on **Tuesday 30 June 2015**.

¹ The GBB is available at: <https://gbb.imowa.com.au>.

² Refer to Rule Change Proposal: Amendments to Schedule 2 – GBB Zones (GRC_2015_01) available at: http://www.imowa.com.au/home/gas/rules/rule-changes/commenced/grc_2015_01.

Submissions should clearly address any issues that interested parties consider relevant to this review and provide any supporting evidence.

In accordance with rule 139 of the GSI Rules, the IMO is required to make all submissions public. If confidential information is provided in a submission as supporting evidence, it must be clearly marked as confidential. Any confidential information will be excluded when the submission is made public.

The IMO prefers to receive submissions by email to market.development@imowa.com.au.

Written submissions may also be sent to the IMO by post, addressed to:

Independent Market Operator

Attn: Group Manager, Development & Capacity
PO Box 7096
Cloisters Square, PERTH, WA 6850

3. Next Steps

Following the consultation period, Marsden Jacob will prepare a final report which will be published on the IMO website. The IMO anticipates publishing the final report in July 2015.

If the IMO proposes any changes to the GSI Rules in relation to the GBB Zones as a result of the review, these will be subject to further consultation throughout the rule change process.