

INPUT METHODOLOGIES REVIEW - CUSTOMISED PRICE-QUALITY PATHS

Notification of a workshop for electricity distribution businesses

Purpose of this notification

This notification is to confirm that the Commerce Commission (Commission) will hold a workshop on certain aspects of the input methodologies (IMs) for customised price-quality paths (CPPs).

Objective of the workshop

The objective of the workshop is to test our evolving thinking on improvements to two aspects of the CPP requirements ahead of the June 2016 draft decision for the IM review:

- refinements to Schedules D and E of the CPP information requirements; and
- the potential to introduce flexibility to the number of projects the verifier will review and the criteria for selecting this number.

Our evolving thinking relates to improving the IMs for electricity distributors, but we expect that the discussions on the number of projects the verifier will review may be of interest to gas pipeline businesses ahead of future work to the IMs for this sector.¹ We encourage gas stakeholders to provide any questions on this matter ahead of the workshop.

Workshop details

Date	Tuesday 19 April 2016
Time	10:00 am and 4:30 pm
Venue	Commerce Commission, 44 The Terrace, Wellington

Registration for the workshop closes at 6pm on 8 April 2016.

To allow for a focused discussion and to provide ample opportunity for interaction we will be contacting some relevant industry representatives to nominate a small number of participants for the workshop.

¹ Input Methodologies review – process update paper – 29 February 2016, <http://www.comcom.govt.nz/regulated-industries/input-methodologies-2/input-methodologies-review/>.

In addition, please email hazet.adam@comcom.govt.nz, Subject: Input Methodologies Review – workshop on EDB CPP IMs, if you:

- (a) are interested in participating in the workshop and have not heard directly from us or an industry representative; or
- (b) have any questions regarding this notification or any of the accompanying documents. Please send any questions by 6 pm on 11 April 2016.

Materials for the workshop

Today we have also published materials to support the workshop:²

- an overview paper summarising the matters we intend to discuss at the workshop; and
- proposed amendments to Schedules D and E of the CPP information requirements.

We invite questions and comments in advance of the workshop

Whether or not you attend the workshop, we encourage interested parties to send us any questions on our evolving thinking as set out in the accompanying documents. While we may not have answers to all of them at the workshop, it can help us focus the discussion at the workshop on the issues that stakeholders find important.

We will be grateful if you could send your questions to hazet.adam@comcom.govt.nz, by **13 April 2016**. Please include 'Input Methodologies Review – workshop on EDB CPP IMs' as the subject line.

We will publish any questions and answers on our website in advance of the workshop.

² We have made amendments to these schedules to reflect our emerging views on information requirements on expenditure. We are making these Schedules available in advance of the workshop in order to help interested parties both consider any questions they may have and to prepare for the workshop. The Schedules are available at <http://www.comcom.govt.nz/regulated-industries/input-methodologies-2/input-methodologies-review/interactions-between-dpps-and-cpps-and-the-requirements-for-cpps/>.

Additional information on the workshop

Agenda

The provisional agenda for the workshop is shown below.

Time	Topic
10:00	Welcome and objective of the workshop
10:10	Overview of the review of the CPP IMs
10:30	Schedule D – Qualitative information requirements
13:00	Lunch
13:30	Schedule D – Qualitative information requirements (continue)
14:30	Verifier
15:15	Afternoon tea
15:30	Schedule E - Quantitative information requirements
16:00	Wrap up and general discussion
16:30	Finish

Workshop format

We are seeking to discuss a range of views on our evolving thinking, including those sent to us before the workshop. At the workshop we intend to allow an open discussion and exchange of information between the attendees. The inputs from the workshop will inform our draft decision.

Any thinking or views expressed by Commission staff or our advisors at the workshop are for the purpose of stimulating discussion.

The draft decision is due to be published in mid-June 2016, which will provide another opportunity for interested parties to comment before the final decision is published in December 2016.

Confidential information

The Commission does not intend to hold any closed sessions for participants providing confidential information during the workshop. If parties wish to discuss confidential information, please advise Hazet Adam at the Commission on (04) 924 3757 by Wednesday 13 April 2016.

Workshop record

The discussions will not be recorded or transcribed.

High-level minutes will be taken at the workshop. They will be published on our website as soon as possible after the workshop.