

Submission

Default price-quality paths for electricity distribution businesses from 1 April 2025 – Proposed Process

23 June 2023



1 Introduction

Aurora Energy welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Commerce Commission's (Commission) consultation paper "Default price-quality paths for electricity distribution businesses from 1 April 2025" (the consultation paper).

No part of our submission is confidential, and we are happy for it to be publicly released.

If the Commission has any queries regarding this submission, please contact:

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2 Aurora Energy' Aurora Energy's CPP Roll-off

As you will be aware, Aurora Energy are currently subject to a five-year customised price-quality path (CPP) which expires on 31 March 2026 (the end of year 1 of DPP4).

For us to consider an orderly CPP roll-off, we request that the Commission includes Aurora Energy in its DPP4 reset process alongside the other EDBs that are currently subject to default price-quality paths.

3 General Comments on the Proposed Process

3.1 Stakeholder workshops

We support the Commission's proposal to hold stakeholder workshops during the process. We have participated in workshops during previous DPP resets and have found them very useful to support open dialogue with the Commission.

3.2 Disclosure of 2024 expenditure forecasting

We understand the Commission's desire to bring forward elements of the 2024 AMP process to allow more time to assess the information provided. However, we note that the advanced timeframe will place additional resourcing pressures on EDBs which may require EDBs to engage external expertise at additional cost to the EDB.

We expect that our 2024 AMP will include an uplift of expenditure to address recently identified resiliency gaps and new demand growth projections to support decarbonisation.

We also note that the current inflationary environment is increasing the costs of renewals. This may mean that EDBs reduce renewal quantities in the current regulatory period, with a flow on increase in renewal quantities required in future regulatory periods.