

Essential Services Commission
Victoria
energy.submissions@esc.vic.gov.au



NORTHERN
ALLIANCE FOR
GREENHOUSE
ACTION

c/- Moreland Energy Foundation Limited
Level One 233 Sydney Road Brunswick
Postal Address PO Box 276 Brunswick 3056
Phone 03 9385 8504 Fax 03 9385 8586
judy@mefl.com.au www.naga.org.au

14 August 2013

Harmonisation of the Energy Retail Code and Guidelines with the National Energy Customer Framework (NECF) – Draft Decision (Consultation Paper)

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Harmonisation Draft Decision.

NAGA made a submission on 1 February 2013 to the ESC on the Consultation Paper that was released in December 2012. NAGA's submission focused on Guideline 13: Greenhouse gas disclosure on electricity bills.

I am concerned that the Draft Decision released in July 2013, following the consultation process and submissions (as above) does not respond to NAGA's concerns on this issue, and that the draft decision will result in reduced access to information for Victorian consumers.

As part of the harmonisation process, the Victorian government has committed to '**no reduction in key protections for Victorian consumers**', and to align consumer protection arrangements with the national framework where it **does not result in lower standards**. NAGA believes that information on the greenhouse impacts of consumers' energy consumption as currently provided for under Guideline 13, **is a key protection** in accordance with State Government Policy and that this should be **maintained in the final harmonised code** to ensure that **it does not result in lower standards for Victorians**.

NAGA strongly supports the permanent retention of this disclosure on electricity bills; in future, consideration could be given to building on this information base to support improved levels of awareness of the links between greenhouse gas emissions, energy literacy and options to reduce environmental risks in the long-term interests of consumers.

Please contact me if you would like to discuss any of these issues in more detail.

Yours sincerely

Judy Bush
Executive Officer

The views represented in this submission do not necessarily represent the views of all NAGA members individually.

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

BANYULE CITY COUNCIL, HUME CITY COUNCIL, MANNINGHAM CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF MELBOURNE, MORELAND CITY COUNCIL, MORELAND ENERGY FOUNDATION LIMITED, NILLUMBIK SHIRE COUNCIL, CITY OF WHITTLESEA, CITY OF YARRA