

Ms Meredith Mayes
Director
Australian Energy Market Commission



Lodged online

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Dear Ms Mayes,

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SACOSS thanks the Commission for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Determination on Multiple Trading Relationships.

SACOSS supports the Draft Determination not to make a draft rule as the significant increased costs for retailers and distributors, and consequently consumers, are not outweighed by the benefits for a significant number of consumers. SACOSS concurs with the Commission that "Under the current National Electricity Rules (NER), a customer who wishes to engage with multiple retailers can do so by establishing a second connection point. The rule change request was intended to make it easier for customers to engage with multiple retailers, by implementing a new framework that removed the need for a second connection point...the proposed framework is unlikely to reduce the cost incurred by most consumers that wish to engage with multiple retailers. While a small number of customers may benefit, other customers that do not wish to enter into MTR arrangements are likely to face increased electricity retail prices due to the high costs of implementing the proposed framework" (AEMC MTR Information Sheet, p.1).

We thank you in advance for your consideration of our comments. If you have any questions relating to the above, please contact SACOSS Senior Policy Officer, Jo De Silva on 8305 4211 or via jo@sacoss.org.au.

Yours sincerely,

Ross Womersley
Executive Director