



**INDEPENDENT PRICING AND REGULATORY TRIBUNAL
OF NEW SOUTH WALES**



Australian Competition & Consumer Commission

**Tender Approval Request for the Supply of Natural Gas
to the Central Ranges Region of NSW**

Invitation for Submissions

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART) and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) have received a Tender Approval Request (TAR) from the Central Ranges Natural Gas and Telecommunications Association Inc (CRNG&TAI) for the supply of natural gas to the Central Ranges region of NSW.

The CRNG&TAI seeks to facilitate the extension of a gas transmission pipeline from Dubbo to Tamworth and reticulation of gas within the region, as outlined in the proposed tender documents.

In accordance with the National Third Party Access Code for Natural Gas Pipeline Systems ("the Code"), IPART and the ACCC are required to inform interested parties of the TAR via a notice published in a national daily newspaper, and invite submissions.

After due consideration of any public submissions, IPART and the ACCC will independently approve or disapprove the TAR, according to criteria outlined in the Code, as it relates to distribution and transmission respectively.

Interested persons may obtain a copy of the TAR and a brief issues paper from the website of IPART (www.ipart.nsw.gov.au) or ACCC (www.accc.gov.au), or by contacting Andrew Hall on (02) 9290 8435 or by email at andrew_hall@ipart.nsw.gov.au.

Submissions should address matters upon which IPART as regulator for distribution, and the ACCC as regulator for transmission, of natural gas will base their decisions on whether to approve the TAR. These matters are listed in section 3.28 of the Code, and outlined in the issues paper.

Submissions should be submitted in both written and electronic form. All submissions, marked "Central Ranges Natural Gas Tender Approval Request", must be mailed or hand delivered to either:

Deborah Walker
**Independent Pricing and Regulatory
Tribunal**
Level 2, 44 Market Street
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(PO Box Q290, QVB Post Office NSW 1230)
Email: deborah_walker@ipart.nsw.gov.au

Nicole Moffatt
**Australian Competition and Consumer
Commission**
Level 7, Angel Place, 123 Pitt Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
(GPO Box 3648, SYDNEY NSW 2001)
Email: nicole.moffatt@acc.gov.au

Submissions should be received no later than 5:00pm on Friday 7 February 2003. IPART and the ACCC are not obliged to consider late submissions.

Dr Thomas G Parry
Chairman
IPART

Ross Jones
Acting Chairman
ACCC

14 January 2003