



30 January 2015

## **Energy Networks welcome strong Consumer Advocate**

The Energy Networks Association welcomes the establishment of Energy Consumers Australia and the appointment of its inaugural Board.

ENA Chief Executive Officer John Bradley said the body would play a critical role in leading consumer advocacy across Australia on energy related issues.

"It is fantastic to see the formation of Energy Consumers Australia with its strong suite of Board members, led by Louise Sylvan as Chair.

"As energy networks businesses transform their consumer engagement, we welcome Energy Consumers Australia and its leadership of consumer advocacy on the energy issues important to customers," Mr Bradley said.

Mr Bradley said the body would commence at a critical time given the increasing innovation in energy network businesses in customer oriented services.

"Electricity and gas network businesses are making significant changes to increase the participation of consumers to ensure their voices are heard on issues affecting convenience, price, reliability, amenity and safety of their energy service.

"Energy Consumers Australia can influence a national, co-ordinated approach to consumer advocacy, while recognising the need for effective localised approaches given the differences across Australia," Mr Bradley said.

Mr Bradley said the ENA and network businesses looked forward to working closely with the Board during 2015.

**ENDS.**

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ENA is the peak national body for Australia's energy networks; and represents gas distribution and electricity network businesses on economic, technical, environment and safety regulation as well as national energy policy issues.