

Our Ref:

Mr Adam Bisits
Chairman
National Consumers Electricity Advocacy Panel
12 Marshall Ave
KEW VIC 3101

24/8/04

Dear Mr Bisits

Re : Advocacy Panel grant to attend electricity industry training course

I am pleased to be able to report back to the Advocacy Panel about my attendance last week at the *Fundamentals of the Australian Competitive Electricity Industry* 3-day training course. The course brought together a wide range of participants in the electricity industry including electrical engineers, representatives from small generators, retailers, large businesses, Commonwealth government and myself as a small end-user advocate.

As an introduction into the electricity industry, the course covered the physical structure of electricity networks, market mechanisms in the wholesale market and the design of regulation across the NEM. It provided a comprehensive picture of how the industry is constructed and how various industry participants engage with markets and regulators. The course proved particularly useful in the examination of how the physical electricity industry sits alongside market mechanisms.

I would strongly recommend the course to other consumer advocates who are new to the electricity industry and I am grateful for the funding provided by the Advocacy Panel that allowed me to attend the course. I think that the training will prove to be a valuable assistance in my capacity to undertake PIAC's advocacy work.

Please feel free to contact me provide any further information about the course.

Yours sincerely
Public Interest Advocacy Centre



Elissa Freeman
Policy Officer