

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

MINISTERIAL DIRECTION

NO. 296 OF 2001

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Section 19 of the *Utilities Act 2000* provides that a Minister can direct the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission that certain requirements be included as a licence condition for utilities operating in the ACT.

This direction to the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission is to ensure that gas retailers and distribution networks operating in the ACT must participate in the Gas Market Company's gas market scheme or another scheme which the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission deems to be equivalent. The gas market scheme facilitates the transfer of customer meter details and financial settlement transactions underpinning customer choice of natural gas retailer.