



MEDIA RELEASE

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT 'DEAD WRONG' ON LIMITED MERITS REVIEW – SHOULD DEVELOP A NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY

Today's decision by the Federal Court to uphold the findings of the Australian Competition Tribunal shows precisely why the merits review is needed said [Infrastructure Partnerships Australia](http://www.infrastructurepartnerships.org.au).

"Electricity is a major political issue because it's a total mess, but the Federal Government is dead wrong to seek to remove appropriate checks and balances over the network price regulator," said IPA Chief Executive Brendan Lyon.

"Both the Australian Competition Tribunal and the Federal Court found that the Australian Energy Regulator had made errors in determining the revenue requirements of energy networks in NSW and the ACT.

"The Tribunal only overturns the AER's determinations when it finds that decisions are not in the best interests of consumers – a fundamentally important role in the regulatory process.

"If regulatory errors are not corrected, the consumer will end up paying much more than they should or suffer poor reliability outcomes.

"Electricity is in crisis because of the heavy political disagreement about carbon emissions.

"The Federal Government should be urgently working on a meaningful national energy policy that resolves carbon and starts to sort out the mess in energy markets."

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