

Gregory Thorpe



Summary

Greg Thorpe has 35 years experience in the energy utility sector: primarily in electricity and also in gas. He brings a combination of deep and pragmatic knowledge of governance, management, regulation and the commercial operation of the industry and dispute resolution to his work.

Experience

Mr Thorpe has extensive experience working with boards and the senior management of businesses and authorities within utility and competitive market environments to develop, interpret and manage strategic and policy positions and the resultant details of commercial and regulatory instruments.

He uses sophisticated market modelling tools to advise investors about opportunities for acquisitions within the sector and market authorities about policy questions and market settings.

He has led strategic reviews associated with significant change in electricity and gas. He was project director for advice to a major federal government review of arrangements for strategic planning of electricity transmission networks – a new strategic planning function has been established broadly along the lines recommended in the work. He was joint author of a major review of the finances and position of a major state owned generator within the WA electricity market. The recommendations of the review have been accepted and he is now engaged to assist with consequential amendments to market rules. Internationally, he has advised on the design of electricity sector arrangements in the Philippines (Energy Regulatory Commission), South Africa (National Electricity Regulator) and New Zealand (Electricity Commission and private clients).

His career includes 15 years in a series of engineering and management roles in power system control/management and transmission network design. In system control he held a number of engineering and management positions relating to operational management of the supply demand balance for the previous utility in the state of Victoria. In those roles he was involved in managing the utility's generation, transmission and controllable loads across the supply chain from fuel to customer and the purchase and sale of electricity with neighbouring utilities.

Building on that experience he made major contributions to the design of both the Victorian and National Electricity Markets (NEM) and has subsequently advised on similar arrangements in other markets including in Western Australia and international power systems. For the four years from the launch of the NEM in 1998 Mr Thorpe was executive officer to the Reliability Panel: the Panel sets key standards for reliability and security of supply in the NEM. Subsequently he was lead advisor to major reviews of reliability and security by the Panel under the auspices of the Australian Energy Market Commission in 2007 and for an update in the light of climate change initiatives in 2008. He also established the monitoring and surveillance function for the NEM (now transferred to the Australian Energy Regulator).

Professional and academic background

Mr Thorpe has qualifications in engineering (B.E: Monash University 1974), business (Grad Dip: Deakin University 1992) and Arbitration & Mediation (Prof Cert: Adelaide University 2006) and is a member of the Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators, Australia.

He is a member of standing pools in Australia available to hear disputes under market rules. He has sat on panels hearing disputes in both electricity and gas. He has recently been accredited as an arbitrator with IAMA (Gr 3). He has also been an expert witness and assisted parties in private mediation.

He is also a member of CIGRE (an international organisation dealing with engineering matters associated with large power systems) and sits on the Australian Committee for Electricity Markets and Regulation.

Employment summary

2008 – current	Director, Oakley Greenwood Pty Ltd
2001 - 2008	Vice President, CRA International/Charles River Associates Pty Ltd (Australia)
1998 – 2001	Associate Director, National Electricity Code Administrator (Australia)
1992 – 1998	Manager Codes and Rules, Victorian Power Exchange/National Electricity
1991 – 1992	State Electricity Commission Victoria (Australia): Internal market reform task force
1976 – 1991	State Electricity Commission Victoria (Australia): Management and engineering roles in system control and transmission network design
1975-1976	Australian Department of Defence: Graduate project engineering roles