



SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

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[Archive](#)

SUBMISSION TO THE AUSTRALIAN ENERGY REGULATOR ON NETWORK EXEMPTION

The Shopping Centre Council has lodged a [submission](#) with the Australian Energy Regulator (part of the ACCC) on its second round of consultation on the [Draft Exemption Guideline for Electricity Network Service Provider Registration](#). This is part of a suite of reforms which includes electricity 'on-selling' exemptions ([Shop Talk 31/3/11](#)). Our submission on the previous consultation round is [here](#). We broadly support the AER's framework to enable operators of embedded networks to be exempt from requiring a network licence. These networks are legitimate aspects of shopping centre management and provide major benefits to retail tenants through lower costs and better quality electricity service. A critical issue, however, is the generally negative approach to embedded networks from the major electricity distributors, in making network connections difficult and cumbersome. This can include co-generation systems, which are featuring more prominently for building owners in order to achieve high green star ratings. For this reason, we are investigating steps to seek to improve the current situation.

ICSC RETAIL REAL ESTATE WORLD SUMMIT IN SHANGHAI ON 12-14 SEPTEMBER 2012

Save the date. The International Council of Shopping Centers has announced that its [Retail Real Estate World Summit](#) (usually held every five years) will be held in Shanghai on 12-14 September 2012. Program and registration details will be published when they become available.

ICSC RECON GLOBAL RETAIL CONVENTION EARLYBIRD BOOKINGS FOR LAS VEGAS

The International Council of Shopping Centers holds its ICSC RECon in Las Vegas on 20-23 May 2012. Click [here](#) to register for 'earlybird' booking discounts, which expire on 2 December 2011.

SA BUSINESSES PAY FOR PUBLIC HOLIDAY DEAL WITH SHOP ASSISTANTS UNION

Little attention has been given to one aspect of the recent deal over public holiday trading in South Australia which will allow shop trading on public holidays, but only in the Adelaide CBD ([Shop Talk 10/11/11](#)). The arrangement not only discriminates against the majority of retailers and retail property owners but it adversely impacts on all employers in the State. The *quid pro quo*, which the Shop Assistants Union (SDA) extracted from Business SA for the deal, is that both Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve (from 5pm) will now be declared public holidays. In other words, all employers in South Australia (retailers, particularly supermarkets, restaurants, hotels, service stations etc.) who trade late on these days – and for some this is a very busy time – will now double their wages bill (and, in some cases, pay even more) so that a minority of retailers in Adelaide can trade on some public holidays. How could Business SA, which claims to represent all businesses in South Australia, agree to an arrangement which forces most businesses to pay for a concession which benefits only a minority of retailers? Business SA has been boasting in the media about its role in negotiating this one-sided agreement. How the SDA must be laughing! Fortunately the penny has dropped with some of the other industry associations. Ian Horne, CEO SA of the Australian Hotels Association (one sector which will be very badly hit) recently said on radio: "This deal is a pig of a deal and I am going to quote Barack Obama here, Peter Vaughan and Business SA can put as much lipstick on this deal as they like but it is still a pig of a deal."

PROPERTY COUNCIL RELEASES THE 2011 NATIONAL SHOPPING CENTRE DIRECTORY

The PCA has released its latest National Shopping Centre Directory, with a comprehensive listing of over 1,500 shopping centres throughout Australia. This is available electronically. Click [here](#) to order.