



Corporate Policy: Sustainability

1.0 Objectives

- 1.1 To ensure that Delta Electricity complies with its social, economic and environmental obligations under the State Owned Corporations Act 1989.
- 1.2 To meet Delta Electricity's obligations under the esaa Code of Sustainable Practice.

2.0 Definitions

Sustainability involves the balancing of economic, environmental, social and corporate governance aspects of a business so as to meet the needs of today without compromising the needs of future generations.

A sustainable business would:

- be financially viable;
- minimise environmental, social and economic risks and impacts;
- optimise resource usage and costs;
- take account of the interests of all stakeholders, including shareholders, employees and the community;
- implement practices that are equitable and that enhance community development;
- maintain a system of governance that ensures compliance with all legislation and regulations; and
- set a high standard of business ethics.

3.0 Policy

- 3.1 In support of overall business **sustainability** Delta Electricity will:
 - 3.1.1 identify legislation and regulations relevant to business operations and develop systems to ensure compliance;
 - 3.1.2 develop policies, codes of conduct and corporate governance procedures to ensure a high standard of business ethics and practice;
 - 3.1.3 maintain economic, environmental and social risk assessment and management systems; and
 - 3.1.4 measure and publicly report economic, environmental and social performance to industry standards.
- 3.2 To ensure **economic sustainability**, Delta Electricity will:
 - 3.2.1 aim to achieve an industry competitive return on assets and equity whilst ensuring assets are responsibly maintained;
 - 3.2.2 continue to improve operational and resource use efficiency;
 - 3.2.3 participate in market reform to ensure electricity prices are fair and affordable, support business development and maintain security of energy supply;
 - 3.2.4 support research and development of industry capabilities;
 - 3.2.5 provide training and education programs that develop industry capabilities; and



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- 3.2.6 develop new generating facilities, products or services that support wider economic development.
- 3.3 To ensure **environmental sustainability**, Delta Electricity will:
- 3.3.1 regularly audit environmental performance and compliance with environmental legislation;
- 3.3.2 implement and maintain an accredited Environmental Management System;
- 3.3.3 develop and implement technologies and procedures to minimise environmental impacts;
- 3.3.4 act with caution when scientific knowledge is inconclusive and there are risks of serious irreversible consequences;
- 3.3.5 implement greenhouse gas reduction strategies, including the development of low emission energy technologies;
- 3.3.6 efficiently use resources and recycle, reuse or safely dispose of wastes;
- 3.3.7 ensure employees and contractors receive appropriate environmental training; and
- 3.3.8 rehabilitate unused sites and maintain buffer land in a manner which enhances biodiversity.
- 3.4 To ensure **social sustainability**, Delta Electricity will:
- 3.4.1 consult with and consider the views of shareholders, employees and the community in major operational changes or developments;
- 3.4.2 maintain procedures for sympathetic and prompt complaints and grievance handling;
- 3.4.3 provide shareholders, employees, customers and the community with timely, honest and accurate information; and
- 3.4.4 contribute to employee well-being by
- providing fair pay and work conditions for the work done
 - implementing programs to improve employee health and safety
 - providing systems of reward and recognition that value employees' contribution
 - establishing programs and opportunities for the ongoing, training, education and career development of employees;
- 3.4.5 support regional employment by
- devolving aspects of the business to regional locations where practical
 - using local contractors and businesses
 - providing equal employment opportunities and support for disadvantaged groups
 - supporting other sustainable development and employment opportunities in regional locations; and
- 3.4.6 contribute to regional emergency services and other cultural, environmental and social development programs.



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4.0 Standards and Procedures

- 4.1 This policy is supported by the Delta Electricity Policies, Standards and Procedures as published on DeltaWeb.

5.0 Legislation/Regulatory Provisions

- 5.1 Clause 20E State Owned Corporations Act 1989 defines Delta Electricity's objectives as a statutory State Owned Corporation.

The principal objectives are

- “to be a successful business and, to this end:
- to operate at least as efficiently as any comparable businesses, and
- to maximise the net worth of the State's investment in the SOC, and
- to exhibit a sense of social responsibility by having regard to the interests of the community in which it operates, and
- where its activities affect the environment, to conduct its operations in compliance with the principles of ecologically sustainable development contained in section 6 (2) of the Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991, and
- to exhibit a sense of responsibility towards regional development and decentralisation in the way in which it operates

Each of the principal objectives of a statutory SOC is of equal importance.”

- 5.2 Section 6 (2) of the Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991 defines Ecological Sustainable Development

6.0 Accountability

- 6.1 The Executive Strategy Committee is responsible for implementation of this Policy and for its periodic review.
- 6.2 Specific accountabilities for aspects of this Policy are outlined in other Delta Electricity Policy, Standards and Procedures.