

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### Data Standards Body seeking EOI for Energy Advisory Committee

24 September 2019

The Chairman of the Australian Government's Data Standards Body is seeking Expressions of Interest for membership to a new advisory committee for the energy sector. The new Energy Advisory Committee will engage in the next phase of Consumer Data Right (CDR) work to improve the consumers' ability to compare and switch between products and services.

The Consumer Data Right, passed on 1 August 2019, gives Australians greater control over their data, providing customers and small businesses choice about how their data is shared with third parties, and sets standards for a whole industry about what data should be made available, safely. In doing so, CDR will encourage competition between service providers, leading to better prices for customers and more innovative products and services.

The focus on the energy sector follows the first phase of CDR in the banking sector, which has involved the development of standards for data to be made available about credit and debit card, deposit and transaction accounts.

Mr Andrew Stevens, the Data Standards Chair, said the "Data Standards Body has delivered common technical standards for open banking and is now looking to the next industry to roll out the Consumer Data Right regime."

"Expressions of interest for membership to a new advisory committee for the energy sector are welcome. Members will be selected to ensure consumer and industry considerations are addressed and the data standards developed for the energy sector will maximise the benefits for consumers."

The Advisory Committee members for the energy sector will be appointed in a personal capacity on a voluntary basis and are intended to represent the broad economy-wide application of the CDR identified by the Treasurer.

Key selection criteria for members of the Advisory Committee will include:

- a strong appreciation of consumer-facing innovation;
- understanding of privacy and security issues for consumers and business;
- understanding of standards setting processes; and
- understanding of the technical requirements of systems development and applications.

Nominations should be submitted via email with a brief description (no more than three paragraphs) of how the nominated member satisfies selection criteria for the advisory committee, alongside a one-page CV by **Monday, 14 October 2019, 5pm AEST**. Members will be appointed at the discretion of the Chair.

Nominations should be sent to: [cdr-data61@csiro.au](mailto:cdr-data61@csiro.au).

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### **About Andrew Stevens, Data Standards Chair**

Mr Andrew Stevens is the Chairman of Innovation and Science Australia and the former Managing Director of IBM Australia and New Zealand and former Chairman of the Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre. He is a current director of Stockland and the Thorn Group Limited. He is a former director on the National Board of the Australian Information Industry Association and is a member of the UNSW Business School Business Advisory Council.

### **About the Data Standards Body**

The Consumer Data Right is a competition and consumer reform announced by the Australian Government in May 2018. The consumer data right will be implemented first in the banking sector and [then in the energy and telecommunications sectors](#).

CSIRO has been appointed by the Treasurer as the Data Standards Body to support the delivery of the Consumer Data Right. The Data Standards Body is responsible for assisting the Data Standards Chair in the development of common technical standards to allow Australians to access data held about them by businesses and direct its safe transfer to others. The Data Standards Body draws on the expertise of CSIRO's Data61 team.

The Data Standards Body works closely with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) as lead regulator of the Consumer Data Right, supported by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC).

The *Treasury Laws Amendment (Consumer Data Right) Act 2019* was passed on 1 August 2019 and paves the way for consumers and small businesses to consent to securely share data with trusted third parties.