1. In Queensland, peak electricity demand is a key driver of electricity infrastructure expenditure. Approximately 11 per cent of distribution network capacity is built to meet a level of demand which only occurs approximately one per cent of the time. For example, in south-east Queensland, approximately $700 million worth of assets are used only three days per year.
2. One of the most effective ways to reduce this cost impost is to shift the time of energy use from peak demand periods which reduces the capacity needed to cater for these relatively infrequent demand levels.
3. Each year approximately 9,500 newly constructed swimming pools contribute an additional 6.3 megawatts (MW) to Queensland’s peak load which equates to $18.81 million worth of electricity infrastructure annually. By 2020, under a “business as usual” scenario pool filtration systems will contribute an estimated 63 MW to peak demand requiring infrastructure expenditure of $188 million.
4. The primary objective of this proposal is to reduce the contribution of pool filtration systems to peak load by mandating that from 1 July 2010 all new swimming pool filtration systems be demand response active i.e. they can be turned off at peak periods to reduce demand on the network.
5. In order to achieve the policy objectives, the Queensland Government will amend the Queensland Development Code through Mandatory Part 4.1 Sustainable Buildings.
6. Under the proposed obligation these pool owners would be required to connect to a controlled network tariff (Tariff 33) and would subsequently incur reduced electricity costs with annual savings of $180 each year.
7. A Regulatory Impact Statement detailing the proposal has been prepared and will be released for six weeks public consultation in July 2009.
8. Cabinet noted the release of the RIS detailing the proposed requirement for pool filtration systems to be demand response active.
9. *Attachment*
* [Regulatory Impact Statement - Requirement for pool filtration systems to be demand response active.](Attachments/Att%20New%20Pool%20Filtration%20Systems.docx)