

Regulator welcomes fourth commissioner

The state's independent economic regulator, the Essential Services Commission has welcomed the appointment of a fourth commissioner.

Economist Rebecca Billings will take up the role next month, joining fellow economist Simon Corden, barrister Sitesh Bhojani and commission chairperson Kate Symons.

Ms Symons says Rebecca's 18 years' experience providing economic and policy advice to government across a range of regulatory systems will be a welcome addition to the commission table.

"As we grow with new and expanding roles and responsibilities, we need to ensure our decision making body has the range of experience and diversity that leads to robust discussion with a range of perspectives," she said.

Ms Symons says it's the first time the commission has had an even representation of men and women, to complement a strong line up of economic, legal and policy expertise.

"It's important to me that we are as diverse, in experience, age, gender and qualifications, as the community we serve," she said.

Ms Billings says she's excited to be joining the commission at this pivotal time.

"I have always been passionate about working with policy makers and regulators to strengthen the appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency of regulatory regimes.

"I look forward to working with my fellow commissioners to lead the commission as it delivers on its goal of improving customer outcomes in Victoria," she said.

Ms Billings will commence at the commission next month.

**For further information call: Michelle Bryne, Head of Strategic Communication,
9032 1324 or 0437 677 385**