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25 July 2022

Ms Clare Savage Chair Australian Energy Regulator GPO Box 3131 Canberra ACT 2601

Email: clare.savage@aer.gov.au

Dear Clare

Re: AER - Draft letter to Consumer Trustee, feedback on LTESA tender rules

Thank you for your feedback dated 14 July 2022 on the updated draft tender rules, prepared by AEMO Services acting as the NSW Consumer Trustee, with respect to long-term energy service agreements (LTESAs) as required under section 47(6) of the *Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020* (NSW) (EII Act).

The AEMO Services Board, acting as the NSW Consumer Trustee, has considered and approved the publication of the latest version of the draft tender rules as part of AEMO Services' Draft Tender Pack. The version considered by the Board reflects the AER's feedback from March and July 2022.

The <u>Draft Tender Pack</u> was released on 18 July 2022 and includes the tender rules, tender guidelines and long form agreement templates. The pack is intended to help potential proponents become familiar with, and prepare to participate in the inaugural tender in October 2022.

I note your interest in the approach to assessing both financial value and outstanding merit for projects outside of a declared renewable energy zone (REZ). Section 4 of the <u>draft tender guidelines</u> sets out the intended approach to assessing a project's merit, including financial value and outstanding merit. You may also be interested in reviewing <u>regulations</u> recently gazetted by the NSW Government that define outstanding merit and other matters relevant to the NSW Consumer Trustee's assessment of outstanding merit.

Please convey my appreciation to the AER Board and staff for the continued engagement and constructive feedback on the tender rules and generally across our work as NSW Consumer Trustee.

To discuss the draft tender rules and to coordinate publication of correspondence relating to the AER's consultation on the tender rules, please contact Baharak Sahebekhtiari, General Manager Commercial at <u>baharak.sahebekhtiari@aemoservices.com.au</u>.

Yours sincerely

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Paul Verschuer Executive General Manager AEMO Services Limited

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