

29 January 2024

Australian Energy Regulator

Via email: <u>AERringfencing@aer.gov.au</u>

To whom it may concern

RE: Ergon Energy's application for a Ring Fencing Waiver – Microgrid and Isolated Systems Test Facility

Ener-G Management Group Pty Ltd (Ener-G) wishes to express it's support for Ergon Energy Corporation's application for a ring fencing waiver in regards to the Microgrid and Isolated Systems Test (MIST) facility in Cairns.

Ener-G understands that Ergon Energy is seeking a waiver such that parties other than Ergon Energy can also use the MIST Facility through hiring the Facility and associated technical support.

Ener-G is a Cairns based energy consulting company that wishes to make use of the MIST facilities in the future to support the work we do to assist regional and remote communities to analyse and deploy microgrid technologies to enhance regional community resilience.

Ener-G supports the analysis conducted by Ergon Energy that there are relatively few participants that can provide the services supported by the MIST facility, especially in regional Queensland. Ener-G also believes that it is difficult to see how the MIST Facility will harm competition because of the existing scarcity of service providers, and the differentiated services currently offered in the market.

Ener-G wishes to ensure that consultants and contractors in regional Australia have access to competitively priced technical services of the nature provided by the MIST team. Through direct experience, we believe that the Ergon Energy MIST team has high quality technical staff, who have experience in energy supply challenges faced by regional and remote communities. This body of relevant experience provides measurable value to consultants like Ener-G and our clients in regional and remote Australia.

Yours sincerely

Ken Ash Director ENER-G MANAGEMENT GROUP