

10 January 2024

Electrical Engineering & Computer Science

Stephanie Jolly
A/Executive General Manager
Consumers, Policy & Markets
Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 3131, Canberra ACT 2601

Email:

Subject: Submissions on Ergon Energy ring-fencing waiver application

Dear Stephanie

Ergon Energy's Microgrid and Isolated Systems Test (MIST) facility is a unique laboratory for industry project's validation. I am aware of the need for microgrid testing, modelling and simulation for government funded microgrid projects. University of Queensland has complementary research facilities for hardware in loop testing and validation using Real Time Digital Simulator and Opal-RT platforms. Considering our capability, I support the use of MIST facility for projects receiving funding via the Queensland Government's Microgrid Pilot Fund and the Australian Government's Regional and Remote Communities Reliability Fund. Use of MIST facility will avoid delays for microgrid project implementations. Industry will be further benefitted to access the MIST Facility equipment and expertise even beyond those two specific grants if the facility is permitted to provide competitive services in the longer term.

Sincerely yours

Tapan Saha Professor, School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science The University of Queensland, Brisbane, QLD-4072 AUSTRALIA