Australian Energy Regulator GPO Box 520 Melbourne VIC 3001

Dear Australian Energy Regulator,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my concerns regarding the recent electricity price rises and specifically the allocation of funds towards the HumeLink Project. As a consumer, I believe it is crucial for regulatory bodies like yours to safeguard our interests and ensure transparency in the expenditure of public funds.

The recent increases in electricity prices have had a significant impact on my household budget. I understand the necessity of infrastructure projects like HumeLink for improving energy transmission efficiency. However, it is essential that the costs associated with such projects are justified and reasonable, considering the burden they place on consumers like myself.

I urge the AER to thoroughly scrutinize the expenditure related to the HumeLink Project and ensure that:

- 1. The costs are necessary and proportionate to the benefits accrued.
- 2. The project is implemented efficiently to minimize additional financial burdens on consumers.
- 3. There is transparency in how costs are calculated and passed on to electricity users.

Furthermore, I request the AER to explore measures to mitigate the impact of electricity price rises on consumers, especially those stemming from infrastructure projects. This could include regulatory mechanisms to control price increases or subsidies for vulnerable households.

As a responsible consumer, I value the role of regulatory bodies in ensuring fair and affordable energy prices for all Australians. I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to seeing positive outcomes that protect consumer interests.

Thank you for considering my concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

**Andrea Sturgess**