8 November 2024

Australian Energy Regulator GPO Box 3131 Canberra ACT 2601

Via email - PipelineFOR@aer.gov.au

Draft Decision on South-West Queensland Pipeline review

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission to the Australian Energy Regulator's (AER) draft decision on the review into whether to make a scheme pipeline declaration for the South-West Queensland Pipeline (SQWP).

The Business Council of Australia (BCA) champions the role that responsible businesses play in generating sustainable economic growth and advocates for policy settings in the national interest. The BCA represents Australia's major corporations in Australia, with more than 130 members.

The BCA made a submission to the review, highlighting the negative consequences of over-regulation and a preference to allow the market to operate. This is increasingly important to attracting investment to and managing the gas supply in Australia. As detailed in the BCA submission to the Department of Industry, Science and Resources' Future Gas Strategy Consultation Paper, the BCA supports Australia's transition to a net-zero emissions economy by 2050. The transition must be efficient, effective and affordable.

For this reason, we welcome the draft decision not to make a scheme regulation determination at this time.

We believe this will provide certainty for the sector and avoid the additional costs from regulation at a time when cost pressures are a key concern for business and the community generally.

Yours sincerely

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