

7 February 2025

Clare Savage Chair Australian Energy Regulator (AER) GPO Box 520 Melbourne VIC 3001 Australia 24-28 Campbell St Sydney NSW 2000 All mail to GPO Box 4009 Sydney NSW 2001 T +61 2 131 525 ausgrid.com.au

Dear Clare

## Re: Commitment to Construct Wallumatta Substation to Supply Data Centres in Macquarie Park Area

I am writing to formally notify the Australian Energy Regulator of Ausgrid's commitment to the construction of the Wallumatta Sub-transmission Substation (STS), a critical new infrastructure project designed to meet the growing demand for electricity supply from data centres in the Macquarie Park area. This project aligns with our ongoing efforts to support the evolving needs of key industries in our network area.

The Wallumatta STS is a strategically planned development aimed at addressing the increasing power requirements driven by the expansion of data centres in the region, which are vital for supporting Australia's digital economy. As data centres play a crucial role in the storage and management of data for a range of industries, their increasing energy demands present an opportunity for Ausgrid to deliver a sustainable, reliable, and scalable energy solution.

We have now received formal applications for data centre connections, and in line with our commitment to ensuring that network infrastructure meets current and future needs, we have completed the Regulatory Investment Test for Distribution. Construction of this project will commence as soon as practicable, following a favorable decision on this contingent project application, and the new Wallumatta STS is expected to be commissioned in 2028-29, ahead of when the new customers are expected to connect.

We are committed to ensuring that the project is completed efficiently, sustainably, and in compliance with all applicable regulations.

Thank you for your attention to this important project. We look forward to continuing to work with the AER to support the development of a modern, reliable, and sustainable energy network for all stakeholders.

Yours sincerely,

Marc England
Chief Executive Officer