

14 August 2012

Reference: pm:vp 081214
Enquiries: Ms J Bennett: 0428 690 935

Mr Warwick Anderson
General Manager, Network Regulation
Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601

Re: Submission to the Australian Energy Regulators on the Framework and approach to the Ausgrid, Endeavour Energy and Essential Energy regulatory control period commencing July 2014.

Central NSW Councils (Centroc) represents over 236,000 people covering an area of more than 70,000sq kms comprising the Local Government Areas of Bathurst, Blayney, Boorowa, Cabonne, Cowra, Forbes, Harden, Lachlan, Lithgow, Oberon, Orange, Parkes, Upper Lachlan, Weddin, Wellington, Young and Central Tablelands Water.

Centroc's vision is to be recognised as vital to the sustainable future of NSW and Australia.

Its mission is to be recognised as the lead organisation advocating on agreed regional positions and priorities for Central NSW whilst providing a forum for facilitating regional cooperation and sharing of knowledge, expertise and resources.

Centroc has two objectives:

Regional Sustainability - Encourage and nurture suitable investment and infrastructure development throughout the region and support members in their action to seek from Governments financial assistance, legislative and/or policy changes and additional resources required by the Region.

Regional Cooperation and Resource Sharing – Contribute to measurable improvement in the operational efficiency and effectiveness of Member Councils through facilitation of the sharing of knowledge, expertise and resources and, where appropriate, the aggregation of demand and buying power.

The Centroc Board is made up of the 34 Mayors and General Managers of its member Councils who determine priority for the region. These priorities are then progressed via sponsoring Councils.

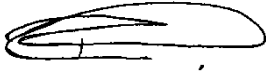
For more advice on Centroc programming and priorities, please go to our website and download our annual report at centroc.com.au/publications.

Centroc members have consistently expressed disappointment with street-lighting charges as well as the transparency and accountability of service providers in previous submission to the AER.

While the region is looking for change, given that we are dealing with a monopoly, some type of **regulation** will need to remain.

Please contact the Centroc Executive Officer Ms Jennifer Bennett on 0428 690 935 for any further questions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phyllis Miller', written over a horizontal line.

Cr Phyllis Miller OAM

Chair

Central NSW Councils (Centroc)