



**ENERGY
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27 September 2018

Mr Chris Pattas
General Manager Networks
Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 520
Melbourne VIC 3001
chris.pattas@aer.gov.au

RE: AER's forthcoming draft decision on Ausgrid's proposed Tariff Structure Statement 2019-24

Dear Chris,

I am writing concerning the AER's forthcoming draft decision in respect of Ausgrid's regulatory proposal for 2019-24, including the Tariff Structure Statement (TSS).

As part of our ongoing engagement we provided feedback that the Ausgrid proposals for network tariffs were not capable of acceptance. Recently, as part of the continuing engagement on pricing, Ausgrid indicated that they had taken this feedback on board. As a result, Ausgrid is proposing to develop new structures and pricing, in particular a demand tariff and changes to the proposed fixed charges, to be included in their Revised Regulatory Proposal.

In view of this significant shift in direction, Energy Consumers Australia supports Ausgrid's request that the AER in its making of the draft decision does not preclude a substantially revised TSS proposal which has the potential to result in better outcomes from the pricing reform process in the interests of consumers.

We reserve our position on any updated tariff proposals and will continue to engage with Ausgrid on the design of these tariffs to ensure what is developed is consistent with the long-term interests of consumers.

I would be pleased to discuss this further if this would be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RSinclair'.

Rosemary Sinclair AM
Chief Executive Officer