

Energy Retailers Association of Australia Limited

24 August 2012

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

By email: <u>NSWACTelectricity@aer.gov.au</u>

Dear Mr Anderson

RE: Framework and approach paper – Ausgrid, Endeavour Energy and Essential Energy

The Energy Retailers Association of Australia (ERAA) welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the Ausgrid, Endeavour Energy and Essential Energy Framework and Approach Paper (the Paper). Also, the ERAA thanks the AER the extension granted for this submission.

The ERAA is the peak body representing the core of Australia's energy retail organisations. Membership is comprised of businesses operating predominantly in the electricity and gas markets in every State and Territory throughout Australia. These businesses collectively provide electricity to over 98% of customers in the National Electricity Market and are the first point of contact for end use customers of both electricity and gas.

The ERAA will limit its comments to metering service types, covered in section 2.4.5 of the Paper, referring to the individual submissions of our members for input on other sections. The ERAA supports the AER's preliminary position outlined in section 2.4.5, agreeing that the unbundling of metering service costs from standard control service costs is essential. Further rationale for our support for this policy position is outlined in the attached paper ERAA Paper, *Enabling a market-driven smart meter rollout*.

Should you wish to discuss the details of this submission and the related attachment further, please contact me on (02) 9241 6556 and I will be happy to facilitate such discussions with my member companies.

Yours sincerely

Cameron O'Reilly Chief Executive Officer Energy Retailers Association of Australia

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