



Ref: MR:JC:A84004

9 August 2011

Mr Chris Pattas
General Manager
Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 520
Melbourne VIC 3001

Email: aer inquiry@aer.gov.au

Dear Mr Pattas

Connection charge guidelines: for accessing the electricity distribution network

Essential Energy appreciates the opportunity to respond to the Australian Energy Regulator's (AER's) consultation paper on the development of connection charge guidelines.

Attached to this cover letter is Essential Energy's response to the issues and preliminary positions proposed in the AER's consultation paper.

Essential Energy would be pleased to discuss this matter further. Should you require further information or clarification please feel free to contact Natalie Lindsay on 02 6589 8419 or Jason Cooke on 02 6338 3685.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Col Ussher".

Col Ussher
**Executive General Manager
Infrastructure Strategy**

Att. 1