

Our Ref: 55055
Contact Officer: Susan Faulbaum
Contact Phone: (08) 8213 3463

12 September 2014

Mr David Hayes

By email: david@nextbusinessenergy.com.au

Dear Mr Hayes

Next Business Energy Pty Ltd application for electricity retailer authorisation

I am writing to inform you that the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) has approved Next Business Energy Pty Ltd's (NBE) application for an electricity retailer authorisation in accordance with s.92 of the *National Energy Retail Law (Retail Law)*.

The AER must grant an application for a retailer authorisation if an applicant has satisfied the entry criteria:

- a) the organisational and technical capacity criterion—the applicant must have the necessary organisational and technical capacity to meet the obligations of a retailer;
- b) the financial resources criterion—the applicant must have resources or access to resources so that it will have the financial viability and financial capacity to meet the obligations of a retailer;
- c) the suitability criterion—the applicant must be a suitable person to hold a retailer authorisation.¹

On 12 September 2014, the AER considered NBE's application for an electricity retailer authorisation. In making its decision the AER is guided by the objective of the *Retail Law*.² The AER's decision is also informed by the assessment approach outlined in the AER's *Retailer authorisation guideline*. The AER has consulted on NBE's application³ but did not receive any submissions.

¹ Retail Law, s. 90(1).

² The national energy retail objective is to 'promote efficient investment in and efficient operation and use of energy services for the long term interests of energy consumers with respect to price, quality, safety, reliability and security of supply of energy' (Retail Law, s. 13).

³ Retail Law, s. 91.

The AER considers that NBE has demonstrated its capacity and suitability to operate as an energy retailer under the *Retail Law*. NBE is therefore authorised to sell electricity under the *Retail Law*, as and when it is adopted in each participating jurisdiction.

Please note that this letter constitutes the AER issuing NBE's electricity retailer authorisation under s. 96 of the *Retail Law*. NBE's electricity retailer authorisation identification number is **E14004**.

The AER will publish a notice about NBE's retailer authorisation on its website,⁴ and NBE's details will also appear on the AER's public register of authorised retailers (on the AER's website).⁵

If you have any further queries, or would like to discuss this further, please contact Susan Faulbaum on 08 8213 3463.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Reeves
a/g Chair

⁴ Retail Law, s. 96(2)(b),

⁵ Retail Law, s. 119.