

22nd November 2019

Renate Vogt
General Manager, Regulation
CitiPower, Powercor and United Energy
Locked Bag, 14090,
Melbourne VIC 8001

RE: Letter of support for Powercor Enabling Residential Rooftop Solar regulatory proposal

Dear Renate,

I write regarding the Enabling Residential Rooftop Solar regulatory proposal prepared by Powercor to upgrade distribution network infrastructure so that the vast majority of customers can connect up to 5kW of Solar PV to the grid.

Geelong Sustainability (GS) is a dynamic and passionate incorporated community group focused on sharing information, building community resilience, advocating for the environment and supporting effective action. Our mission is to inform, inspire and connect communities to create a sustainable future and to protect our natural environment.

GS has been a leader in innovative energy solutions since the establishment of our CORE (Community Owned Renewable Energy) Action Group in 2015. This dedicated team has steadily grown our knowledge, technical expertise and networks within the community energy sector. Our completed CORE projects include:

- Geelong's first community renewables crowd funding campaign. Following considerable fund-raising efforts \$12,000 was raised and a 9.25KW solar PV system was installed at South Geelong Primary School in May 2016.
- The establishment of the first replicable community solar investment model in Victoria and inaugural 156kW community owned solar project at Multicultural Aged Care Services. The project raised over \$150,000 from community investors in just 7 days.
- The 2018 Geelong Community Solar Program; a solar and battery bulk-buy schemes for residents. Resulting in the installation of over 1.3 MW of solar PV and 1.4 MW of battery storage with over 220 households participating across the G21 region

Particularly in Geelong region residents in several areas face significant limitations by the electricity grid when they choose to install rooftop solar. Due to the network constraints people in those areas either cannot install a solar system at all, or they experience sudden and frequent disruptions in their solar system's performance. This means less renewable energy is being used and more greenhouse emissions being created as a result.

Powercor is proposing to unlock 95% of the rooftop solar capacity in their network that would otherwise be constrained in their Enabling Residential Rooftop Solar regulatory proposal. We believe in One Planet Living principles, one of the principles is delivering all the required energy for buildings from renewable sources. We are also convinced that a significant amount of air pollution can be avoided simply by allowing more people to generate renewable energy using their rooftop solar systems.

Therefore, we inherently support any action that helps everyone adopt these principles. Our support



extends to Enabling Residential Rooftop Solar regulatory proposal from Powercor. We look forward to the project enabling many local residents to benefit from solar electricity.

Please don't hesitate to call me on 0425 802 116 if you would like further information.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "V Perrett", is positioned above the printed name.

Vicki Perrett
President
Geelong Sustainability