

Mr D J Hewitt - 9710.0389 File Ref: GR/06/579784 (DJH:cek)

16 February 2009

Mr M Buckley General Manager Network Regulation North Branch Australian Energy Regulator c/- aeringuiry@aer.gov.au Administration Centre 4-20 Eton Street, Sutherland NSW 2232 Australia

Please reply to: General Manager, Locked Bag 17, Sutherland NSW 1499 Australia

Tel 02 9710 0333

Monday to Friday

Fax 02 9710 0265 DX4511 SUTHERLAND Email ssc@ssc.nsw.gov.au www.sutherland.nsw.gov.au ABN 52 018 204 808 Office Hours 8.30am to 4.30pm

Dear Mr Buckley

Re: Council Submission on AER's NSW Draft Distribution Determination 2009-2014 & Energy Australia's Revised Regulatory Proposal

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the AER's NSW Draft Distribution Determination 2009-14 and Energy Australia's Revised Regulatory Proposal of 16 January 2009.

Sutherland Shire Council is extremely concerned about Energy Australia's proposed increases of approximately 78% in street lighting network charges over the coming regulatory period and the lack of transparency in Energy Australia's pricing submissions.

Sutherland Shire Council endorses the submission made by SSROC's SLI Program on behalf of councils served by Energy Australia and urges the AER to give its fullest possible attention to the issues raised. In doing so, Sutherland Shire Council reiterates its concerns about longstanding issues with the pricing and governance regime for public lighting in New South Wales.

Yours faithfully

D J Hewitt for J W Rayner General Manager