

Mr John Pierce Chairman Australian Energy Market Commission PO Box A2449 SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235

Transmission Frameworks Review – Connections and Planning Rule Change proposal

Dear Mr Pierce John

The Council of Australian Governments Energy Council (the Council) has agreed to submit a rule change request to the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) to amend the transmission connection and planning frameworks contained within the National Electricity Rules.

The rule change request has been developed based on recommendations in the AEMC's Transmission Frameworks Review Final Report and proposes amendments to enhance contestability in transmission connection arrangements, improve the transparency of information for negotiated transmission services and provide greater consistency between Annual Planning Reports, among other matters.

As you are aware, transmission connection arrangements are quite different in jurisdictions for which the Australian Energy Market Operator is authorised to exercise its declared network functions. This means that many of the amendments contained within this proposal are not appropriate in those jurisdictions. In light of this, the Council has provided further clarity around the treatment of connections and planning arrangements in those jurisdictions.

On behalf of the Council, it is with pleasure that I submit the attached rule change proposal and associated draft rules for consideration.

Yours Sincerely

The Hon Ian Macfarlane MP

Chair

COAG Energy Council

23 July 2015