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19 September 2022

David Hatfield  
Director  
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

**By Email****FOR PUBLIC REGISTER**

Dear Mr Hatfield

**AEMO interim authorisation AA1000618-1: amendment to authorisation application**

We act for the Australian Energy Market Operator Limited (**AEMO**) in relation to the interim authorisation granted by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on 1 July 2022.

Defined terms used in this letter have the meaning given to them in AEMO's interim and final authorisation application dated 29 June 2022.

AEMO wishes to amend its application for final authorisation to extend the end date of the authorisation sought by one month from 31 March 2023 to 30 April 2023.

AEMO seeks to amend the authorisation period for a number of reasons including to assist with the decommissioning of the three remaining turbines at the Liddell power station (located in the Hunter Valley, NSW). The decommissioning will occur in April 2023. The three remaining Liddell turbines are a significant part of the National Electricity Market (**NEM**) and currently produce up to 1,500 Megawatts of electricity. This represents approximately 10.5% of NSW's scheduled plant generation.

An extension to the authorisation period will enable AEMO, AEMO Industry Participants and any Future AEMO Industry Participants, to engage in the Proposed Conduct (in particular the coordination of maintenance and repairs) to ensure the safe, secure and reliable operation of Australia's energy systems and minimise the risk of any energy outages for the benefit of both competition and consumers. While the decommissioning of the three remaining Liddell turbines has been planned for some time, the Current Market Conditions are likely to impact the ability to manage the removal of Liddell's generation capacity from the NEM. There are significant maintenance works that need to occur across the NEM which would ordinarily occur in April (as this is after the 'summer period'). Some of this maintenance has been delayed due to the Current Market Conditions. This maintenance will need to be carefully managed with the decommissioning of the Liddell generators. An extension of the authorisation period would assist AEMO in being able to manage this.

**Our Ref** EJHM:121102609  
KHNM 800963324v3 121102609 19.9.2022

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to discuss.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature]

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Partner  
Allens

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