



18 January 2013

Australian Energy Market Commission
PO Box A2449
Sydney South NSW 1235

Lodged via AEMC website

Dear Commissioners,

ERC0148 – Changes to normal voltage

Alinta Energy welcomes the opportunity to make a submission in response to the Australian Energy Market Commission's (AEMC) consultation paper on the National Electricity Amendment (Changes to normal voltage) Rule 2012, proposed by GDF Suez Australian Energy (formerly International Power).

Alinta Energy supports the draft rule determination and notes that:

- participants will be notified when a request to change normal voltage has been received so as to enable participants to raise any concerns with the Australian Energy Market Operator and that this is a preferred outcome over the original proposal;
- the new rule requires participants to be notified of the nature of the change and if it is to proceed which Alinta Energy agrees will improve market transparency;
- the rule change meets the National Electricity Objective by supporting efficient investment in and operation of generation and network services;
- the rule change alleviates Alinta Energy's concerns that potential changes to normal voltage represent an unknown but possibly significant outcome in any one instance; and
- although the changes are likely to be rarely used they will be important in instances when called upon and therefore the proposal, while possibly inelegant, is a proportional response that formalises a range of existing informal consultation processes; and
- minimal implementation costs should arise if the proposal is implemented.

Should you have any queries in relation to the Alinta Energy submission, or wish to discuss these matters more generally, please do not hesitate to contact me on, telephone, 02 9372 2633.

Yours sincerely,

Jamie Lowe
Manager, Market Regulation