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Level 15, 357 Collins Street
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Julian Eggleston
Australian Energy Market Commission
PO Box A2449
Sydney South, New South Wales 1235

Project number: ERCO211

Dear Julian

Managing power system fault levels

Meridian Energy Australia Pty Ltd and Powershop Australia Pty Ltd (MEA Group) is pleased to provide comments to the AEMC in relation to its draft rule and draft determination on the managing power system fault levels rule change request.

As you are aware, MEA Group is the owner and operator of the Mt Mercer and Mt Millar Wind Farms as well as Powershop Australia, an innovative retailer committed to providing lower prices for customers which recognizes the benefits for customers of a transition to a more renewable based and distributed energy system.

MEA Group supports the proposed rule as an appropriate mechanism to assist in the management of system strength in a cost effective and efficient manner. Given the transformation currently underway this is an important requirement to ensure that the increased penetration of new technologies does not undermine the reliability and security of the electricity system.

We accept that placing the obligation to maintain network strength on network services providers has the potential to produce a lower cost and more practical outcome. We are also supportive of placing obligations on newly connecting generators so as not to undermine existing network strength.

The short circuit ratio calculation guidelines to be developed by AEMO under these rules will play an important role in ensuring that this rule change is implemented in a cost effective and appropriate manner with minimal disruption to existing and new market participants. We look forward to engaging with AEMO in their consultation on those guidelines if and when this rule is adopted.

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Ed McManus
Chief Executive Officer
Meridian Energy Australia Pty Ltd