



Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability
Minister for Corrections and Justice Health
Minister for Justice, Consumer Affairs and Road Safety
Minister for Mental Health
Member for Kurrajong

20/19863

Mr John Pierce, Chair, Australian Energy Market Commission
Ms Audry Zibelman, MD and CEO, Australian Energy Market Operator
Ms Clare Savage, Chair, Australian Energy Regulator
C/- Ms Sarah Panizza
Stakeholder Engagement Manager
Australian Energy Market Commission
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John Audry Clare

Dear Mr Pierce, Ms Zibelman and Ms Savage

Thank you for your letter of 9 April 2020 to the Chair of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Energy Council to propose that the national work program be altered in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. I welcome this initiative and the efforts being made to see that the energy industry continues to function during this difficult time.

While I understand that reducing the financial and resource burden on industry is important, I am concerned that the proposed delay to the implementation of 5-minute settlement will unfairly impact those industry participants who have already invested in implementing the change. I propose that this delay is reconsidered and instead a shorter six-month delay is implemented, followed by a reassessment of the priorities of the national work program. This will reduce the impact on the industry participants who have already invested in the change, but still reduce some of the burden on industry.

I am also pleased to note that other important work programs, such as the Coordination of Generation and Transmission Investment (COGATI) program and related reforms, are continuing. Such programs are important to the industry and provide the certainty required for further investment in renewable energy generation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the national work program.

Yours sincerely

Shane Rattenbury MLA
Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability

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