



**ACT**  
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and  
Economic Development

Our ref: CMTEDD2023/65

Mark Feather  
General Manager  
Australian Energy Regulator  
AERringfencing@aer.gov.au

Dear Mr Feather

## **Batteries funded under the Commonwealth Government's Community Batteries for Household Solar Program - Ring-fencing class waiver**

The ACT Government welcomes the recently announced consultation for the ring-fencing class waiver enabling distribution network service providers to lease battery capacity to third parties for batteries funded under the Commonwealth Government's Community Batteries for Household Solar Program.

The ACT Government is also considering delivering distribution network connected batteries through its Big Canberra Battery Project. Procurement is under way for large-scale batteries and behind-the-meter batteries at ACT Government sites under this Project. Distribution network connected batteries have the potential to provide further benefits and services and the ACT Government is considering the best way to support the deployment of these batteries.

Given the ACT Government is yet to identify its preferred method of supporting the development of this scale of battery, I would like to request that you consider extending this class waiver to jurisdictional schemes as well. Doing so will provide the ACT with an additional option for delivery of the Big Canberra Battery Project. It is our understanding that the ACT's energy distributor, Evoenergy, would also be supportive of this arrangement.

I expect that the same benefits identified in the AER's Initiation Notice would continue to apply to jurisdictional schemes, particularly the additional degree of review, oversight and information sharing requirements.

Regards



Sam Engele  
Coordinator General for Climate Action  
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10 January 2023