

16 May 2025

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Clare Savage AER Chair Level 17 Casselden 2 Lonsdale Street Melbourne VIC 3000

## Dear Ms Savage

We are pleased to submit our Revenue Proposal to the Australian Energy Regulator (**AER**) for the delivery of the Hunter-Central Coast (**HCC**) Renewable Energy Zone (**REZ**) Network Infrastructure (**RNI**), our first non-contestable Revenue Proposal under the NSW Electricity Infrastructure Investment (**EII**) Act 2020. This proposal covers the initial regulatory period from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2031 (2026-31 Regulatory Period).

Ausgrid owns and operates a shared distribution grid that stretches from southern Sydney to the Upper Hunter Valley, including the Sydney CBD. More than 4 million Australians rely on our infrastructure to power their homes and businesses every day. Our vision is for our communities to have the power in a resilient, affordable and sustainable future. By connecting 1GW of new renewables, HCC RNI is a significant step towards Ausgrid achieving that vision.

Ausgrid's proposed solution replaces 132kV assets in existing corridors. This solution is more visually appealing, involves smaller easements and requires little land acquisition – resulting in lower costs, greater certainty of delivery, and better social and environmental outcomes.

Our proposal has been shaped by an HCC regulatory panel comprising of three highly experienced customer advocates. We also thank AER staff for their time and constructive approach to engaging with Ausgrid during a robust and extremely helpful pre-lodgement engagement.

I look forward to meeting with you and discussing our Proposal with the AER Board.

Regards,

Marc England Chief Executive Officer