

CitiPower Determination 2026-31 Submission Objection

The proposal by CitiPower, and the shameful enabling by the AER, represents a betrayal of the National Electricity Objective (NEO) and an active erosion of Australia's energy sovereignty.

1. The AER Has Failed in Its Most Basic Duty

The AER's own words state:

"...ensure that consumers pay no more than is necessary for an energy system that delivers safe, reliable, secure energy that contributes to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions."

The practical reality for Electricity Consumers is the antithesis of this!

- Dangerous increases in infrastructure spending with no guarantee of improved reliability—just corporate spin.
- Justifications for higher electricity prices masked behind terms like "electrification," "customer-driven investment," and "climate obligations."
- A fantasy of "engagement" with stakeholders while real dissent is sidelined.

The AER is not regulating. It is enabling.

It has become a facilitator for network profiteering and ideological agendas that are neither scientifically nor economically rational.

2. The Network Monopoly Model Has Morphed Into Market Exploitation

CitiPower's \$1.2 billion investment claim is neither prudent nor efficient.

It is based on ideology, not engineering.

Their narrative of increased demand from EVs, electrified households, and rooftop solar instability is used as a convenient excuse to justify bloated capital investment.

Yet the reality is that Australia's power prices have soared while service quality deteriorates.

Reliability claims mask a precarious future where intermittent energy has displaced baseload generation and made Victoria's grid vulnerable to cascading failures.

3. Foreign-Controlled Networks Are a National Security Risk

Australia's critical energy infrastructure is increasingly owned by foreign interests—many of which are directly or indirectly tied to the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

United Energy and Jemena are significantly owned by State Grid Corporation of China, controlled by the Chinese state.

Powercor and CitiPower are linked to Cheung Kong Holdings, whose alignment with Beijing's geopolitical ambitions are not for Australia's benefit.

AusNet, a key player in the state's energy framework, is now owned by a Brookfield consortium with Chinese interests and no allegiance to the Australian public interest.

This is not just economic folly; it is a strategic risk of the highest order.

We are building an energy grid increasingly reliant on Chinese supply chains, Chinese manufacturing, and Chinese capital, while tearing down our self-reliant energy base.

4. The “Energy Transition” is a Smokescreen for Economic and Environmental Damage

It is outrageous that we are deindustrialising Australia, wrecking our Economy and Intergenerational Equity, destroying precious landscapes and essential Agriculture with unnecessary Interconnector Nightmares and Swindle Factories while pretending to "go green"—all the while exporting more fossil fuels to countries like China that are building hundreds of new coal plants.

The Fake Green, so-called “clean energy” transition is Shambolic Policy Making, Dangerous to Grid Operation and Totally Mad - enriching multinational players and corporate elites, while everyday Australians are plunged into energy poverty.

The foolish obsession with EVs and rooftop solar that has no synchronous inertia is pushing system costs higher, not lower, and driving systemic instability.

The Regulator must prioritise Australia NOT China’s Energy Dream as

“Carbon dioxide reduction only makes sense for those it (China) wishes to harm and supplant.”

This so-called transition isn’t just misguided it is economic sabotage disguised as environmental virtue.

5. Australia Needs Energy Realism, Not Energy Fantasy

We call for an immediate moratorium on all ‘renewable’ energy infrastructure mandates and a Royal Commission into the failure of the Regulator, the actions of network owners, and the foreign takeover of our energy grid.

We need Australian Power for Australian Interests:-

- New HELE (High-Efficiency, Low-Emissions) coal-fired power stations
- Investment in a future Australian nuclear power industry
- Energy security over energy speculation
- Grid reliability, not volatility
- An end to forced electrification mandates and the destruction of our Coal and Gas industries.

We have no Confidence in CitiPower or the AER.

We reject CitiPower’s proposal as it is driven not by the needs of consumers but by ideological dogma, profiteering, and foreign interests.

We reject AER’S deliberate dismantling of our once world-class Australian electricity system - the envy of the world for reliability, affordability, and security - now an experimental, CCP CONTROLLED basket case on the verge of collapse.

We demand the AER fulfil its original role as a guardian of the public interest—not a greenwashing assistant of transnational energy conglomerates under the guise of "transition."

Yours Sincerely,

Lynette LaBlack – Save our Surroundings Riverina