

5 September 2025

Australian Energy Regulator  
Via email: [AERringfencing@aer.gov.au](mailto:AERringfencing@aer.gov.au)

**Re: Letter of Support for Essential Energy**

Joblink Plus is pleased to provide this letter of support for Essential Energy and their application to establish a Training Academy to offer accredited training courses and establish a regional training academy delivering accredited training critical for regional economic development.

Joblink Plus is a leading for-purpose not-for-profit community-based organisation operating for over 35 years. With offices in 70 per cent of NSW, including the Hunter, New England North West, Central West and Far West Orana, Joblink Plus has extensive specialist experience in delivering a variety of employment and training services to diverse rural and regional communities. Joblink Plus delivers federal government employment services such as Workforce Australia, Transition to Work, and Disability Employment Services across its footprint. We are proud to deliver employment and training support to more than 100 communities across New South Wales, working within the frameworks of Trauma Informed Practice, Ethical Values and with a commitment to Reconciliation.

As a well-established employment and training services provider, Joblink Plus has grown continuing and beneficial relationships with businesses and industry throughout regional NSW, including organisations such as Essential Energy.

Essential Energy's proposed Training Academy will be well-placed to address regional skills shortages through the provision of access to high-quality, industry-relevant training. This training will develop a skilled workforce who will then go on to participate in the electricity and renewable energy sectors, reducing regional unemployment rates. The Academy itself will also create direct and indirect employment opportunities, including roles for trainers, administrative staff, and facility maintenance.

Joblink Plus will engage with the Academy after its establishment through the referral of participants who are interested in the industry. As Joblink Plus New England North West predominantly works with young people and people who identify as First Nations, we will support local employers through the referral of candidates from these cohorts to apprenticeships through the Academy.

We trust that our submission meets all the requirements for consideration, and we are available to provide any further information should it be required. We look forward to the success of this project and support Essential Energy in their application.

Yours sincerely,  
Greg Maschio  
Executive Leader Transition to Work Northern Sites, Joblink Plus

