



An Australian Government Initiative



REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA: HUME

Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 3131
CANBERRA ACT 2601

By email: vic2026@aer.gov.au

January 2026

To whom it may concern,

Letter of support: AusNet's submission for BN11 express feeder

The Regional Development Australia (RDA) Hume Committee writes to support AusNet's submission to invest in energy infrastructure within the Hume region. Specifically with the investment in the introduction of the proposed BN11 express feeder.

RDA Hume has identified energy security and transition as a critical factor in the Hume region's economic growth and prosperity. The BN11 express feeder will address critical unreliability experienced acutely by residents and businesses in the Strathbogie Council area.

As indicated by AusNet's submission, in 2025 customers served by the 22KV radial feeder experienced 75 outages in a year. With customers experiencing an average of 6 outages over the same period. This level of unreliability not only has an impact on liveability within the region but presents a significant opportunity cost to the area as business is less likely to locate themselves in the area without a reliable energy supply.

We note that tourism is a significant economic driver for the region, with a thriving visitor economy forming one of the key themes in the Council's Economic Development Strategy. The summer spike in demand for electricity, which occurs during the heavy visitation period of summer, is consistent across each year. Therefore, this represents a reliable source of ongoing demand data. Reliable energy supply is key to this important economic driver achieving its potential for the Council area.

The BN11 is the longest distribution feeder in Victoria, covering 1,216 kilometres. The need to enhance the reliability and resilience of the network was very evident during the bushfire emergency still being experienced by customers and businesses serviced by the BN11. It is imperative that the existing network constraints are addressed in a long term and sustainable manner.

OFFICIAL

The RDA Hume Committee urges you to reconsider your position regarding this important regional project and urges you to support the introduction of the BN11 express feeder.

If you would like to discuss this submission further, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at



Yours sincerely



Brett Luxford
Chair
RDA Hume