



Our ref: C2004/506

Mr Dennis Stanley
Directlink Joint Venture Manager
Country Energy
8 Buller Street
Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Dear Dennis

Application for conversion of Directlink merchant interconnector

Thank you for your letters of 24 August 2004 on the above subject. Also I appreciate your consultant, Ms Sandra Gamble, discussing the progress of the conversion application on the same day with Sabesh Shivasabesan and myself.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) and its consultants have been assessing the Directlink Joint Venturers' (DJV) application of 6 May 2004. However last month Sandra informed us that DJV will provide the ACCC with a supplementary submission, in light of the recent information on the proposed augmentations in south-eastern Queensland. Subsequently she advised that DJV will provide this submission by mid-September.

I understand that the submission is likely to contain significant additional information. Also a substantial amount of time has lapsed since the original application. For these reasons the ACCC would prefer a complete revised package, as this will facilitate the assessment by the ACCC and interested parties. Such an approach is also likely to be more transparent and add rigour to the application, without causing any undue delay in the process.

Therefore, as agreed in our discussion on 24 August, I write to request that the DJV submit a complete revised package, rather than a supplementary submission. The ACCC will publish the information on its website and consult with interested parties as soon as it is practicable.

If you have any queries please call Sabesh Shivasabesan on (02) 6243 1286 or Kenny Yap on (02) 6243 1224.

Yours sincerely

Sebastian Roberts
General Manager
Regulatory Affairs – Electricity
30 August 2004