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Our Ref: AER #15,191,337
Contact Officer: Krystle Roche
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27 April 2023

Mr Jarrod Parker
National Commercial Manager – Alternative Income
QIC Limited
South Tower, Level 11
80 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

By email: Cc:

Dear Mr Parker

Re: Notice of Acceptance of eligibility to register network exemption – QIC Limited as trustee for the QIC Castle Towers Trust – Castle Towers Shopping Centre

I refer to the application of QIC Limited as trustee for the QIC Castle Towers Trust (**QIC**) for eligibility to register network exemptions under the requirements of section 4.9 of the Network Service Provider Registration Exemption Guideline (Network Exemptions Guideline)<sup>1</sup> to create an embedded network at Castle Towers Shopping Centre (Castle Towers).

I am writing to inform you that QIC's application satisfactorily addresses the requirements of section 4.9 of the Network Exemptions Guideline. We therefore issue this Notice of Acceptance effective from 27 April 2023 and confirm that QIC is now eligible to register the relevant network exemptions for publication on the Australian Energy Regulator's (AER) public register of exemptions.

## Eligibility for exemption in relation to conversions of existing networks

In accordance with condition 4.1.12.1 of the Network Exemptions Guideline, an embedded / private network must not be created without the express written consent of existing energy consumers who will be included within the proposed network (affected energy consumers).<sup>2</sup> Parties intending to create such a network without the written consent of all affected energy consumers must meet the requirements stipulated in section 4.9 of the Network Exemptions Guideline to be eligible for network exemption.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Version 6 (2018)

This condition applies wherever an exempt customer is eligible under State or Territory legislation to purchase energy from a retailer of their choice.

In addition, section 4.9.7 of the Network Exemptions Guideline stipulates that a network must not be converted until the effective date specified in this notice.

Parties who are issued with a Notice of Acceptance under section 4.9 are eligible to register and hold network exemptions for the network at that particular site according to the appropriate activity class. Activity classes are detailed under section 3 of the Network Exemptions Guideline and are subject to the further conditions detailed in section 4 of the Network Exemptions Guideline.

Failure to observe the conditions of exemption may render an exemption invalid. Owning, controlling or operating a network without registration with the Australian Energy Market Operator (**AEMO**) or holding a valid exemption from the AER constitutes a breach of section 11(2) of the National Electricity Law.

## Additional conditions applicable to the network exemption class(es) registered

In addition to the conditions usually applicable to the network exemption class(es) held in relation to the embedded network at this site, QIC must also comply with the conditions of section 4.9 of the Network Exemptions Guideline. These conditions concern:

- retaining consent records for a period of at least 2 years;
- facilitating the continuation of a customer's energy contract with their current retailer;
- maintaining a customer's direct connection to the registered distributor;
- offer matching;
- avoidance of duplicated network charges;
- liability of the costs of metering/network changes; and
- the ability of metering arrangements to allow for access to retail competition.

For the full list of conditions, please refer to the Network Exemptions Guideline.

If you have any further queries, or would like to discuss this further, please contact Krystle Roche on (08) 8213 3406.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Pinchuck A/g Director

Compliance and Enforcement

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Sent by email on: 27.04.2023