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1 August 2016

Ms Andrea Steele
General Counsel
WINconnect Pty Ltd
Suite 201, 12 Cato Street
Hawthorn East, VIC 3123

Email: andrea.steele@WINenergy.com.au

Dear Ms Steele,

WINconnect Pty Ltd's application for a gas retailer authorisation

I am writing to inform you that the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) has approved WINconnect Pty Ltd's (ACN 112 175 710) application for a gas retailer authorisation in accordance with s.92 of the *National Energy Retail Law (Retail Law)*.

The AER must grant an application for a retailer authorisation if an applicant has satisfied the entry criteria:

- a) the organisational and technical capacity criterion—the applicant must have the necessary organisational and technical capacity to meet the obligations of a retailer;
- b) the financial resources criterion—the applicant must have resources or access to resources so that it will have the financial viability and financial capacity to meet the obligations of a retailer;
- c) the suitability criterion—the applicant must be a suitable person to hold a retailer authorisation.¹

On 29 July 2016, the AER considered WINconnect's application for a gas retailer authorisation. In making its decision the AER is guided by the objective of the *Retail Law*.² The AER's decision is also informed by the assessment approach outlined in the AER's *Retailer authorisation guideline*. The AER has consulted on WINconnect's application but did not receive any submissions.³

¹ Retail Law, s. 90(1).

² The national energy retail objective is to 'promote efficient investment in and efficient operation and use of energy services for the long term interests of energy consumers with respect to price, quality, safety, reliability and security of supply of energy' (Retail Law, s. 13).

³ Retail Law, s. 91.

The AER considers that WINconnect has demonstrated its capacity and suitability to operate as an energy retailer under the *Retail Law*. WINconnect is therefore authorised to sell gas under the *Retail Law*, as it is adopted in each participating jurisdiction.

Please note that this letter constitutes the AER issuing WINconnect's gas retailer authorisation under s. 96 of the *Retail Law*. WINconnect's gas retailer authorisation identification number is **G13050**.

The AER will publish a notice about WINconnect's retailer authorisation on its website,⁴ and WINconnect's details will also appear on the AER's public register of authorised retailers (on the AER's website).⁵

If you have any further queries, or would like to discuss this further, please contact Susan Faulbaum on 08 8213 3463.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Proudfoot', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sarah Proudfoot
General Manager
AER Retail Markets

⁴ Retail Law, s. 96(2)(b).

⁵ Retail Law, s. 119.