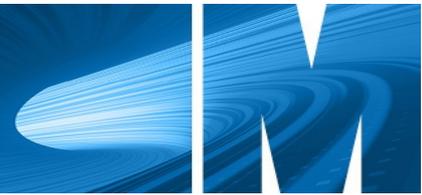


**Appendix 11B – Letters of support for innovation project collaborators**



17<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Mr Alistair Parker  
Executive General Manager, Regulated Energy Services  
AusNet Services

**Re: Letter of support for AusNet Services proposed network innovation project "Supporting network voltages with new technologies"**

Dear Mr Parker

Monash University is pleased to support the proposed Network Innovation Program put forward by AusNet Services as part of its 2021-2026 Electricity Distribution Price Review, and in particular the project titled "Supporting network voltages with new technologies".

It is very encouraging to us that an electricity distribution business such as Ausnet Services is looking to proactively address the challenges posed the energy sector transformation underway in Australia, and focussing on improved outcomes for all electricity customers.

At Monash University we have a significant research program focussed on these challenges and would welcome the opportunity to collaborate further with AusNet Services, building on the solid history of collaboration between our organisations and current engagements.

As you would know, AusNet Services is a founding member of the Monash Grid Innovation Hub, the scope of which includes many of the innovation challenges faced by AusNet Services and addressed within its proposed Network Innovation program.

The AusNet Services project "Supporting network voltages with new technologies" has definite merit in our view in addressing a key industry challenge and furthering industry knowledge. We intend to collaborate with AusNet Services to progress this project under the Grid Innovation Hub or an alternative research program and look forward to the opportunity to work together.

Sincerely,

Assoc. Professor Ariel Liebman  
Department of Data Science and AI, Faculty of IT

Co-Director, Monash Grid Innovation Hub  
Assoc. Director, Monash Energy Institute  
Monash University





Dr Chris Dunstan  
Research Director  
Institute for Sustainable Futures  
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UTS CRICOS PROVIDER CODE 00099F

Mr Alistair Parker  
Exec Gen Mgr, Regulated Energy Services  
AusNet Services  
Level 31, 2 Southbank Boulevard  
Southbank Victoria 3006

28 January 2020

Dear Mr Parker

**Re: Support for AusNet Services proposed network innovation project:  
“Maximising the benefits of solar for commercial customers”**

University of Technology Sydney’s Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF) is pleased to support the proposed Network Innovation Program put forward by AusNet Services as part of its 2021-2026 Electricity Distribution Price Review, and in particular, the project titled **“Maximising the benefits of solar for commercial customers”**.

It is very encouraging to us that an electricity distribution business such as Ausnet Services is looking to address proactively the challenges posed by the energy sector transformation underway in Australia, and focussing on improved outcomes for all electricity customers.

At ISF, we have a major research program focussed on these challenges. As you know, we have recently collaborated with AusNet Services on the award-winning **Networks Renewed** project. We would welcome the opportunity to work further with AusNet Services, building on the strong history of collaboration between our organisations and current engagements.

The AusNet Services project **“Maximising the benefits of solar for commercial customers”** has great merit in our view in addressing a key customer and industry challenge and furthering industry knowledge. As previously discussed with AusNet Services, Monash University and the Australian Alliance for Energy Productivity (A2EP), and the Victorian Government, our project concept called Renewable Energy and Load Management (REALM) addresses similar challenges. This AusNet Services innovation project aligns to the intent of REALM in terms of increasing the value of solar to commercial customers through adoption of customer energy management technologies that could also benefit network management.

We believe there are good prospects for closely integrating these two projects. As such, we are keen to collaborate with AusNet Services to progress the projects jointly and we look forward to the opportunity to work together.

Sincerely,

**Chris Dunstan**, BA, BEc, MEc (Soc Sci), PhD  
Research Director, Institute for Sustainable Futures  
University of Technology Sydney