



14/05/2019

Mr. Warwick Anderson
General Manager, Networks Finance and Reporting
Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601

By email: SAPN2020@aer.gov.au

Dear Mr. Anderson,

Re: SA Power Networks Electricity Distribution Price Review for 2020/21 – 2024/25: Public Lighting

The City of Port Lincoln welcomes the opportunity to make a submission in relation to the SA Power Networks (SAPN) Electricity Distribution Price Review 2020/21-2024/25 for public lighting. Council would like to acknowledge the important role the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) plays in providing a fair and transparent process for pricing determinations around public lighting.

Council is located more than 600 kilometres from Adelaide on the southern tip of Eyre Peninsula and has a population of just over 14,000 residents. The city is home to approximately 2,000 street lights and we have been actively involved in representing regional areas on street lighting issues.

Since late 2018, representatives from The City of Port Lincoln have been participating in a Public Lighting Working Group (Working Group), formed to facilitate a practical and representative interface between SAPN and South Australian public lighting customers, including councils and the SA Government's Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI). It was established as a representative body for negotiating issues under the current regulatory framework and facilitating the practical transition to the new regulatory framework commencing in July 2020.

The Working Group is coordinated and chaired by the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA), and is comprised of representatives of the City of Charles Sturt, City of Holdfast Bay, City of Mitcham, Mount Barker District Council, City of Mount Gambier, City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters, City of Onkaparinga, City of Port Lincoln, City of Prospect and City of West Torrens.

The introduction of the Working Group has resulted in a marked improvement in the relationship and level of communication between SAPN and the local government sector. The information provided through the Working Group has enabled councils to have a broader understanding of public lighting services and the ability to provide input into future processes.

The City of Port Lincoln has had the opportunity to provide input into the LGA's submission to the SAPN Electricity Distribution Price Review 2020/21-2024/25 for public lighting, developed by street lighting experts Ironbark Sustainability with input from the local government representatives of the Working Group.

The City of Port Lincoln supports the submission prepared by the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA).

We look forward to continuing to work with the Working Group, SAPN and the AER during the price review period and value the contribution that the AER has made in determining that equitable and consistent approaches are made to pricing which represent the best value proposition for the community, industry and all levels of government.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. Further enquiries can be forwarded to myself or [REDACTED] Community Assets & Civil Project Officer, [REDACTED]



Stephen Rufus

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER