# Our Regulatory Proposals AER Public Forum

9 April 2019



# **Energy Queensland**

## A community and customer centric business

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Leading

We lead and

follow each other

to success

## Vision

## Purpose

We energise Queensland communities.

To safely deliver secure, affordable and sustainable energy solutions with our communities and customers.

### **Our values**



Safe

We are committed to keeping our people, community and customers safe



Knowledgeable Innovative We strive to make our business better



Listening

We respect and hear each other



Diverse We are diverse which makes us stronger





We openly share

our knowledge

The Energy Charter

Energy Queensland is a foundational member of The Energy Charter

We work as a

team to be the

best we can be



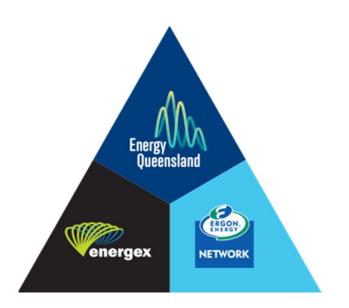
# Our engagement program has underpinned our Regulatory Proposals

- Extensive consultation and engagement with our stakeholders has identified that, consistent with our purpose, our communities and customers want us to safely deliver affordable, secure and sustainable energy solutions.
- By listening to our customers and adapting our approach we have cemented our path forward, and will continue to engage our communities and customers, as the AER continues toward making its revenue determinations for Queensland distribution services.





# We have adopted one approach to deliver for Queensland's communities and customers



- Our broadly consistent Regulatory Proposals, provide strong outcomes for our customers in line with their stated needs.
- With the AER's support, Energy Queensland will look to demonstrate its position as an industry leader in a rapidly evolving market while delivering benefits to our customers in 2020-25, and beyond.



# We believe that our Regulatory Proposals, when viewed in total, deliver strong outcomes for customers

- In the current regulatory period, Energex and Ergon Energy have worked hard to achieve proactive management savings of \$729 million in real terms while maintaining service levels and emergency response capability
- We committed to reducing network charges by at least 10% in Our Draft Plans and have delivered even further benefits for customers in our Regulatory Proposals
- We have proposed > \$1 billion in savings for customers for the 2020-25 period through a range of leadership commitments including:
  - Committing to reduce Energy Queensland's overhead costs by 10%
  - Building in savings from a 3% productivity improvement for 2020-25
  - Not claiming efficiency incentive scheme revenues in 2020-25
  - Passing on all benefits of WACC reductions to customers
- We are continuing to work with customers to deliver meaningful tariff reform consistent with delivering what our customers expect today and also enabling a sustainable future



#### SAFETY FIRST

Our number one priority is safety – our commitment is to the people and communities who we work with and support every day, We aspire to be an industry leader in health, safety, environment and cultural heritage.



#### AFFORDABILITY

We continue to look for ways to make electricity more affordable across our networks, and to advocate for the reforms needed for a bright energy future for all Queenslanders.



#### SECURITY

We're here 24/7 to keep the lights on – providing peace of mind with a safe, reliable electricity supply, and the knowledge that we'll be there 'after the storm'.



#### SUSTAINABILITY

Enabling your use of new and emerging technologies and providing easier access to the network - we give you as much control as you choose for your energy solutions with information and more sustainable choices.



## Our Regulatory Proposals have been developed to ensure we meet community and customer expectations



### Our networks must evolve to meet existing and future customer choices Photovoltaic (PV)



#### **Peak Demand Growth**

0.29% average annual peak demand growth for Energex and 0.38% for Ergon Energy



### **Net Connections**

117,000 Energex 60,000 Ergon Energy

### Reliability



Maintain recent improvements in power reliability, improve outcomes where network outages are outside our service standards



- · Initially growth spurred by generous feed-in tariffs
- Sustained growth through lower cost and rising electricity prices
- Average system size growing

#### **Batteries**

- · Sparked by retirement of feed-in tariffs
- Sustained through product bundling with solar PV

#### **Electric Vehicles**

· Reducing costs and improved capabilities



#### Local Energy Management Systems

Consumers adopt new technologies adding value by improving PV & battery system performance and optimising charging



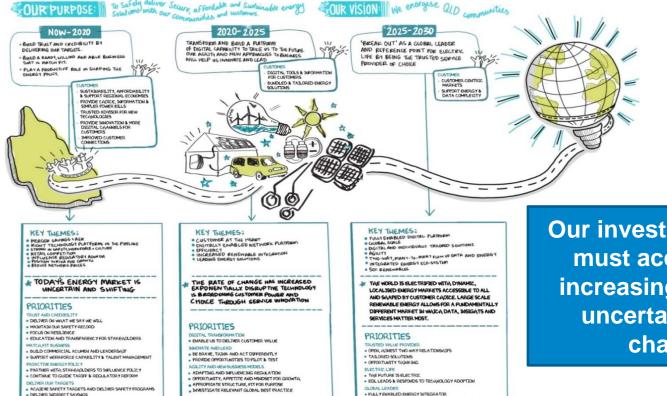
#### Aggregators

Seek to monetise value from additional network services through growing Active DER capabilities





# Our proposals for 2020-25 have been developed with a view to 2030



· CUSTOMERS EMPLOYEES COMM NUTLES ASSETS AND TECH

CONVERGE TO CREATE VALUE

Our investment plans must account for increasing levels of uncertainty and change



. GROW UNREGULATED REVENUE

EFFICIENT DELIVERY OF DEBBS

## Our revenue at a glance



- Energex's revenue requirement for 2020-25 is \$6,541 million nominal (\$150M down from Our Draft Plans), 11% lower than for 2015-20 in real terms.
- Annual revenue/customer is forecast to be \$176 lower (19%) in real \$2019-20 by the end of 2020-25 compared to the end of the current period.

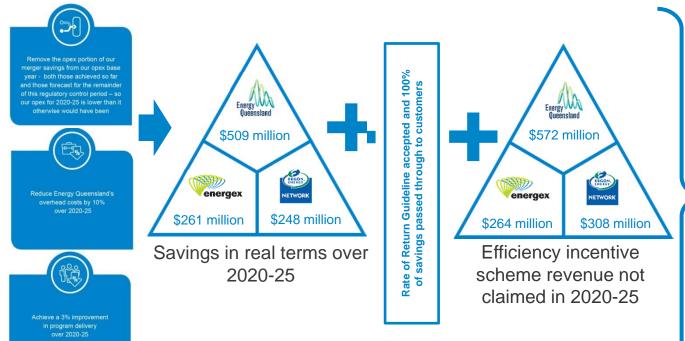


- Ergon Energy's revenue requirement for 2020-25 is \$6,516 million nominal (\$364M down from Our Draft Plans), 8% lower than for 2015-20 in real terms.
- Annual revenue/customer is forecast to be \$278 lower (16%) in real \$2019-20 by the end of 2020-25 compared to the end of the current period\*.

\*The Queensland Government supports regional Queenslanders via Community Service Obligations to ensure they pay similar prices for their electricity as customers in South East Queensland.



## Our leadership commitments ensure that every dollar delivers value to customers



- No compromise to safety
- 2. Sustainable investment to avoid future bill shock
- Invest in technology to enable a low carbon future
- 4. Prudently invest in ICT and other nonnetwork assets



# We continued to refine our expenditure proposals based on customer feedback



Energex's forecast total capex for the next period is 18% below what we expect to spend in the current period and 48% lower than the previous period on a like for like basis

Energex's forecast opex for the next period is 5% below what we expect to spend in the current period and 12% lower than the previous period on a like for like basis

#### Changes since Our Draft Plans:

- \$43 million reduction in ICT capex
- \$11 million reduction in connections expenditure
- \$3 million reduction in property capex
- Adjustment to relative proportions of our repex and augex forecasts.
- \$4.8 million opex increase for 2020-25 since Our Draft Plans is driven by changes in escalation and growth factors



**Ergon Energy's forecast total c**apex for the next period is 2% higher than what we expect to spend in the current period and 27% lower than the previous period on a like for like basis.

**Ergon Energy's forecast opex** for the next period is 9% below what we expect to spend in the current period and 16% lower than the previous period on a like for like basis.

#### Changes since Our Draft Plans:

- \$211 million increase in safety driven repex
- \$17 million reduction in ICT capex
- \$9 million reduction in augex
- \$2 million increase in property capex
- \$45 million opex increase for 2020-25 since Our Draft Plans is driven by changes in escalation and growth factors as well as the application of the CAM given changes in capex/opex mix



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## **Areas of interest - Capex**

### Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

- Our networks currently rely on aged ICT systems which have been run beyond the end of their lives. This means the systems are no longer supported and results in increased cyber risk.
- The quantum of our proposed ICT spend was a topic of intense interest during our customer engagement.
- As a direct result of customer feedback upon the publication of Our Draft Plans, we revised our forecast and submitted a reduced 2020-25 ICT spend in our Regulatory Proposals.

We have proactively committed to significant savings targets for overheads and field productivity which will benefit customers. This will be achieved through a digital transformation of our business.

# Replacement capital expenditure (repex)

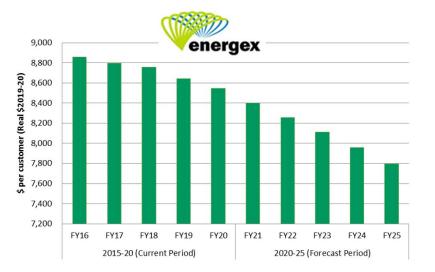
- Throughout 2010-15, Ergon Energy took a reactive approach to replacement of its aging network assets and this increased the risk profile across the entire network.
- We are now taking a **more proactive approach** to replacing aging assets.
- Even with this proactive approach, risk across the network has continued to increase due to the age profile of our assets. This is a major driver of our repex forecast for 2020-25.

The benefits to customers of our revised repex approach include:

- 1. Improved safety outcomes
- 2. Maintain reliability
- 3. Lower cost
- 4. Avoid the boom-bust cycle now and in future periods

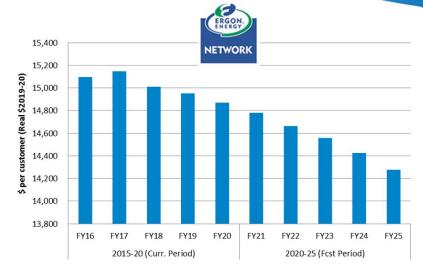


## **Areas of interest – Regulatory Asset Base**



Energex's forecast closing RAB is **\$14,314 million** nominal as at 30 June 2025. It will be 0.5% lower than 30 June 2020 in real terms.

RAB/customer is forecast to be **\$748 lower** (9%) in real \$2019-20 by the end of 2020-25 compared to the end of the current period.



Ergon Energy's forecast closing RAB is **\$13,554 million** nominal as at 30 June 2025. It will be 4% higher than 30 June 2020 in real terms.

RAB/customer is forecast to be **\$595 lower** (4%) in real \$2019-20 by the end of 2020-25 compared to the end of the current period.

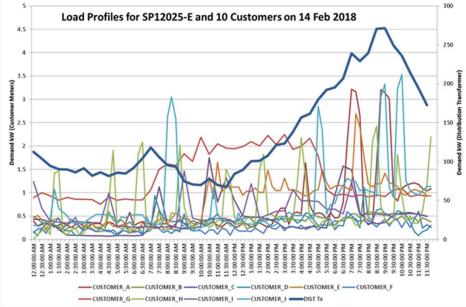


# We are continuing to work with customers to deliver new tariffs



# We must rethink our approach to tariff reforms

- Investment drivers are changing – its increasingly about distribution networks
- We have demonstrated the benefits of demand management incentives to manage critical peaks
- Increasingly the distribution network is about energy security not energy delivery



It's not just about demand – it's about the network capacity required to meet customers' energy needs



## Tariff Reform is required to effectively manage and enable efficient bi-directional power flows

- As penetration of distributed energy resources (DER) increases capacity tariffs will evolve to account for bi-directional powerflows
- For an individual customer it is about the network capacity required to enable customers' import/export requirements. Individual import and export capacities are essential in enabling customer participation in a decentralised energy market



## **Tariff Reform –** Transitioning to Capacity Tariffs



It's not just about demand – it's about the network capacity required to meet customers' energy needs

- Network assets have an average lifetime of ~ 40 years
- Capacity based network tariffs signal this long term investment to consumers
- Capacity is a stable, predictable and consistent signal, closely aligned with investment drivers
- Capacity tariffs will enable the transition to a decentralised and high DER future with multidirectional power flows
- In the transition to capacity based tariffs, peak demand may be used as a proxy
- Capacity tariffs more appropriately reflect the permanent network infrastructure requirements of a customer connection than legacy volume-based tariffs



# **TSS Engagement**

#### Gather July 2017 - Dec 2017

Review of current insights and identify how customers can best inform our TSS plans.

#### Listen Jan 2018 - Aug 2018

Build capacity to engage, explore views in depth and seek feedback on TSS direction.

#### Evaluate

Share Sept 2018 - Dec 2018

Engage on draft TSS incorporating feedback, explain and seek to refine.

#### Review

Explain Jan 2019 - Mar 2019

Publish TSS and explain further how feedback has been incorporated.

#### Monitor

#### Revise Apr 2019 - Dec 2019

Draft TSS determination, re-engage, revise and resubmit for final TSS determination.

#### Milestones

31 January 2019 Energex and Ergon Energy submitted their proposals

28 March 2019 AER issues paper published

#### Milestones

9 April 2019 Public forum on Energex and Ergon Energy proposals 16 May 2019 Submissions on AER's isues paper and Energex and Ergon Energy's proposals due September 2019 AER Draft decision to be published October 2019 Public forum on draft decision December 2019 Energex and Ergon Energy submit revised proprosals January 2020

Submissions on draft decision and revised proposals due

April 2020 AER final decision to be published

### Stakeholder consultation March-May 2019

- Customer engagement sessions held in early March 2019 (small, large and agricultural customer groups), with numerous individual consultations since 18 March
- EQL has advised the AER that revised tariffs are being developed through engagement with customers and retailers
- The revised tariffs and rates will be provided in early May 2019 to inform stakeholders' responses to the AER Issues Paper
- We will continue to engage with stakeholders throughout April and May 2019



# We look forward to continuing the conversation

## Revenue

• We will respond to your public submissions to the AER and continue build on the successful engagement so far

## Tariffs

 We are committed to working collaboratively with the AER and customers on the preferred tariff pathway for 2020-25 and beyond







## **Questions?**

