

Ms Kami Kaur
General Manager, A/g
Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 520
Melbourne VIC 3001

via email: VIC2021-26@aer.gov.au

Response to Powercor Revised Proposal 2021-2026: Request to upgrade Tyrendarra, Strathdownie Cape Bridgewater and Gorae West to three-phase power

Dear Ms Kaur,

The purpose of this letter is to express my support for upgrading single phase power to three phase infrastructure in South West Victoria.

This investment has been called for by members of our community over a period spanning six years. Upgrading less than 100kms of single phase line directly supplying 1,130 Tyrendarra, Strathdownie, Cape Bridgewater and Gorae West customers is essential to capitalise on the competitive advantage in the south west for economic growth and to unlock downstream economic and social value.

Specifically, this investment will create:

- economic growth and scaling up of key industries such as food and fibre, which drives 60 percent of the regional economy,
- infrastructure to support significant investment in renewables, irrigation, high tech applications and machinery, the Internet of Things and smart farming,
- new jobs, upskilling, better servicing of customers through improved turnaround times, and enhanced function of social, education and community facilities, and
- a positive f