



OUR REF: AR/pk
YOUR REF:

24 December 2020

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

Via Email: VIC2021-26@aer.gov.au

Dear Ms Kaur

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

I am writing in support of upgrading single phase power to three phase infrastructure in South West Victoria. To achieve our regions' economic goals focusing on renewable energy and water sustainability, as well as maintaining and enhancing our position as a world class food and fibre producer, we need infrastructure that supports innovation and business growth.

Glenelg Shire Council is an integral part of the economic contribution to both the South West and Victoria. Glenelg Shire is part of the Great South Coast region that contains 1,500 dairy farms, and approximately 39 per cent of Victoria's beef cattle (by value).

The 2019-2020 Victorian Food and Fibre Export Performance Report showed that Victoria delivered a record \$14.5 billion in exports and is well on target to reach its target of \$20 billion food and fibre exports by 2030, with the majority of production being generated within the Great South Coast area, including the Glenelg Local Government area.

Without enabling infrastructure economic growth is inhibited. Whilst we are pleased to see that power upgrades are recommended in Infrastructure Victoria's Draft 30-year Infrastructure Strategy, we need them to become a reality. Three phase power will help more 1,130 Tyrendarra, Strathdownie, Cape Bridgewater and Gorae West customers grow their businesses and unlock downstream economic and social value.

Business continuity is being challenged by weather emergencies and other reliability factors. This three phase power upgrade will allow businesses to operate throughout the year and provide certainty, not just with current operations, but confidence to invest in expansion.

We recognise this infrastructure is vital to further improve our natural resource stewardship as food, forestry and aquaculture producers and seek your support for this vital piece of infrastructure .

We urge you to empower Victoria's Great South Coast businesses, residents and wider community to invest, build resilience and sustainability, and take advantage of opportunities to strengthen supply chains and local manufacturing.

Yours sincerely,



CR ANITA RANK
Mayor