

Contact: Terry Cooper
Reference: TC:WAN

5 August 2014

Mr Warwick Anderson
General Manager, Networks Branch
Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601
(email – NSWACTelectricity@aer.gov.au)

Dear Mr Anderson,

Subject: Submission to Essential Energy – proposal for Network prices 2014-2019

Goulburn Mulwaree Council wishes to make a submission in relation to Essential Energy's proposal for electricity Network prices for 2014-2019, particularly as they relate to Public Lighting Charges.

Currently Council's public lighting charges for 2014/15 are estimated to be \$414,407 (excl GST) excluding carbon costs. The operational (or maintenance) charges make up \$146,692 (excl GST) of this amount.

Council is concerned about the potential effects the proposed changes in public lighting charges will have on its ongoing ability to provide services to our community. Specifically it is noted that Attachment 8.1 of Essential Energy's proposal indicates that in 2015/16 Council's operational charges for public lighting will increase to \$289,544 which is almost a 100% increase.

This is considered an acceptable additional impost on our community to provide basic essential services and public safety.

Council requests that the Australian Energy Regulator does not support the increases proposed by Essential Energy or alternatively that the increases be staged over a minimum of 10 years.

It is also my understanding that a more detailed submission to this proposal will be made by SEROC, which Council is an active member, with support from CENTROC.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 4823 4464.

Yours faithfully



Terry Cooper
Director Engineering Services