

Warwick Anderson General Manager – Networks Finance and Reporting Branch Australian Energy Regulator GPO Box 3131 Canberra ACT 2601

Jemena Limited ABN 95 052 167 405

321 Ferntree Gully Road Mount Waverley VIC 3149 Locked Bag 7000 Mount Waverley VIC 3149 T +61 3 8544 9000 F +61 3 8544 9888 www.jemena.com.au

By email: <u>AERInquiry@aer.gov.au</u>

17 November 2014

Dear Mr Anderson,

## AER proposed amendments to post-tax revenue models—electricity transmission and distribution businesses

Jemena Electricity Networks (**JEN**) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Australian Energy Regulator's (**AER's**) proposed amendments to the post-tax revenue models (**PTRMs**) for electricity transmission and distribution businesses.

JEN contributed to and supports the Energy Networks Association (**ENA**'s) submission on these proposed amendments. Rather than re-state the points made by the ENA here, we comment on points that we feel particularly strongly about or those not covered by the ENA.

We appreciate the AER's efforts to reflect the AER's better regulation guidelines in the proposed PTRM, and support the proposed amendments that give effect to the rate of return guideline. We also propose that:

- the tax building block calculation excludes unregulated revenues from shared assets—consistent with the AER's shared asset guideline
- the PTRM handbooks clarify that network service providers (NSPs) can amend the PTRM to include depreciation methods other than real straight line depreciation and the PTRMs allow this flexibility—provided these methods are consistent with the NER, and
- smoothed and unsmoothed revenues are discounted (when equalising these
  in present value terms) using a pre-tax discount rate, rather than a nominal
  vanilla equivalent—consistent with cash flows being discounted (which are
  before tax is deducted).

We address each of these points in further detail in the attached submission, which contains no confidential information.

If you wish to discuss our submission further please contact me on (03) 8544 9164 or at <a href="mailto:eli.grace-webb@jemena.com.au">eli.grace-webb@jemena.com.au</a>.

Yours sincerely

Eli Grace-Webb

Acting General Manager Regulation Jemena Limited