

Our Ref: 48322
Your Ref:
Contact Officer: Susan Faulbaum
Contact Phone: (08) 8213 3643

22 June 2012

Mr James Gerraty
Corporate Counsel
Meridian Energy Australia Pty Ltd
9 Queen Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

By email: James.Gerraty@meridianenergy.com.au

Dear Mr Gerraty

Powershop Australia Pty Ltd application for electricity retailer authorisation

I am writing to inform you that the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) has decided to approve Powershop Australia Pty Ltd's (Powershop) application for electricity/gas retailer authorisation in accordance with s.92 of the National Energy Retail Law (Retail Law).

Once the AER receives an application it must publish it on its website and seek submissions from interested parties—it must also consider these submissions in making its decision on whether to grant a retailer authorisation.¹ The AER did not receive any submissions in response to Powershop's application for electricity retailer authorisation.

The AER must grant an application for a retailer authorisation if an applicant has satisfied the entry criteria:

- a) the organisational and technical capacity criterion—the applicant must have the necessary organisational and technical capacity to meet the obligations of a retailer;
- b) the financial resources criterion—the applicant must have resources or access to resources so that it will have the financial viability and financial capacity to meet the obligations of a retailer;
- c) the suitability criterion—the applicant must be a suitable person to hold a retailer authorisation.²

¹ Retail Law, s. 91.

² Retail Law, s. 90(1).

On 22 June 2012, the AER considered Powershop's application for electricity retailer authorisation. In making its decision the AER is guided by the objective of the Retail Law.³ The AER's decision is also informed by the assessment approach outlined in the AER's *Retailer authorisation guideline*.

The AER considers that Powershop has demonstrated its capacity and suitability to operate as an energy retailer under the Retail Law. Powershop is therefore authorised to sell electricity under the Retail Law, as and when it is adopted in each participating jurisdiction.

Please note that this letter constitutes the AER issuing Powershop's electricity retailer authorisation under s. 96 of the Retail Law. Powershop's electricity retailer authorisation identification number is **E12045**.

The AER will publish a notice about Powershop's retailer authorisation on its website,⁴ and Powershop's details will also appear on the AER's public register of authorised retailers (on the AER's website).⁵

If you have any further queries, or would like to discuss this further, please contact Susan Faulbaum on (08) 8213 3463.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Reeves
Chair

³ The national energy retail objective is to 'promote efficient investment in and efficient operation and use of energy services for the long term interests of energy consumers with respect to price, quality, safety, reliability and security of supply of energy' (Retail Law, s. 13).

⁴ Retail Law, s. 96(2)(b),

⁵ Retail Law, s. 119.