

The Proprietors Couran Cove Resort Eco Lodges GTP 106783

10 November 2020

Australian Energy Regulator
email: AERExemptions@aer.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: South Stradbroke Utilities Pty Ltd / ABN 49 636 726 497
AER REF: 201345

We are writing on behalf of the Lot Owners in the Eco Body Corporate at Couran Cove.

The Owners generally are very concerned that the AER is considering this application because as far as we are aware, South Stradbroke Utilities has no arrangement in place to provide electricity at Couran Cove. There is however an existing arrangement in place with another service provider already and all of the Lot Owners within the resort already contribute to the operation and maintenance of that facility. Just 2 weeks ago a budget was presented by the existing operator to the tune of around \$1.1M for the yearly costs which was approved and individual owners are already being billed separately for that through the individual Body Corporates. Any approval by AER would mean that AER is authorising this operator to double charge which is an untenable position for all residents!

It is our understanding that the Body Corporates own the electricity meters that are already fitted to all buildings (which means that all Owners have already contributed and paid for those meters) and question why the Owners would be charged again for new meters by an operator that has not been invited to provide power and has no connection to our existing network. This just seems a ludicrous proposition to consider.

AER must question South Stradbroke Utilities intention here and seek the agreements that are supposedly giving them access to the private electrical network that exists within the resort! So far this necessary agreement has not been furnished with any application information provided by AER for Anyone to consider. If that agreement does not exist why is AER even considering this application?

The Owners must then be given an opportunity to read and understand this agreement if it exists before AER can make any decision in regards to this application. We find the entire application and submission process completely bizarre in this regard.

I welcome an AER representative to contact us to talk through these issues prior to any decision being made.

Yours faithfully,

Dave Bowden (Chairperson)
Couran Cove Resort Eco Lodges Committee
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