

To the Australian Energy Regulator.

Dear Ms Kami Kaur,

I am a resident and business owner in [REDACTED] Tyrendarra, Victoria 3285.
I am providing this letter to support a three phase power upgrade in regional Victoria.

I own and run an engineering/steel fabrication business and have wide range of customers. Some of these customers include Bluegum harvesting contractors(AKL), Limestone quarries(Tyrendarra Lime, Ontrak), Trucking industry(Kalari Transport), Steel suppliers(Bluescope), Keppel Prince Engineering, Fertiliser spreaders (Wayne and Janet Nunn), Dairy farms(Radnor Properties and Alanvale Farms just to name a few). We also build sheds and fabricate steel work for numerous builders.

I employ 3 people(2 boiler makers and 1 Fitter) as well as through our services and products support our regional economy by rates and purchasing many other materials from different suppliers. I also use other service providers to assist in my business such as Engineering designer, shop drawers and Protective coaters for steel products and Crane companies for erecting steel work.

I have lived in Tyrendarra all my life(59 years) and support our local sporting clubs and recreational areas (Fitzroy river).
Having lived in Tyrendarra all my life I would like to see the region GROW.

When I heard we were getting 3 phase power I started to think how I could upgrade equipment ,making us more efficient and cost effective,which inturn leads us to handle bigger work loads requiring more employees.

To now hear that you don't think it would be justified and you have recommended against it seems to me a backward step and a lack of understanding of how to assist in making the area grow. I think this decision needs to be looked at because we need this upgrade and it will benefit all of us.

I currently run 110 KVA diesel generator and 22 KW 3 phase inverter which is not enough power for my business requirements and is not environmentally friendly.
If I had 3 phase power I would install solar panels on the roof of the workshop which cover an area of 800 square metres approximately, enabling me to put in a large system,inturn lowering my energy costs and pumping energy back into the grid.I see this as a win for me and the environment.

I would be happy to have a phone call and tell you why this is needed and how it will support my business to grow and our community.

Thank you
Ricky Holmes