



Roma Britnell MP
Member for South West Coast

Ms Kami Kaur
General Manager, A/g
Australian Energy Regulator
via email: VIC2021-26@aer.gov.au

December 23, 2020

Response to Powercor Revised Proposal 2021-2026: Request to upgrade Tyrendarra, Strathdownie Cape Bridgewater and Gorae West to three-phase power

Dear Ms Kaur,

As the Member for South West Coast in the Victorian Parliament, I write to offer my unequivocal support for upgrading single phase power to three phase infrastructure in my electorate.

These upgrades are critical for my region's future economic prosperity and is a project I have supported for the five years I have been an elected member of the Victorian Parliament.

The 2019-2020 Victorian Food and Fibre Export Performance Report showed that Victoria delivered a record \$14.5 billion in exports and is well on target to reach its target of \$20 billion food and fibre exports by 2030.

This is a positive milestone for farmers and Victoria that produces over a quarter of Australia's food and fibre exports, with most of this production generated within the Great South Coast.

This result and growth projection demonstrates the strength of my region, however it is contingent on the infrastructure being in place to enable investment, diversification and innovation.

I was very pleased to see the upgrades recommended in Infrastructure Victoria's Draft 30-year Infrastructure Strategy.

Upgrading less than 100kms of single-phase line supplying 1,130 customers is essential to capitalise on my region's competitive advantages for economic growth and to unlock downstream economic and social value.

Roma Britnell MP
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I believe it is important to re-evaluate the role of population density as a deciding factor in determining the value of investments in power infrastructure upgrades.

This model appears to place regional Victoria at a considerable disadvantage, which is disappointing considering regional Victoria has been acknowledged as critical in maintaining Victoria's economic resilience and food supply chain integrity during the pandemic.

I encourage you to work with local stakeholders to review this process to ensure fairness for all Victorians.

I urge you to empower my region's businesses, residents and wider community to invest, build resilience and sustainability, and take advantage of opportunities to strengthen supply chains and local manufacturing.

Yours Sincerely



Roma Britnell MP

State Member for South West Coast
Shadow Minister for Rural Roads
Shadow Minister for Ports and Freight

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