



In reply please quote

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26 February 2013

Mr Warwick Anderson
General Manager
Network Regulation
Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 3131
CANBERRA ACT 2061
By email: ElectraNet.2013@aer.gov.au

Dear Mr Anderson

Ref: Support for (ElectraNet) Eyre Peninsula Line upgrade

The Resources & Energy Sector Infrastructure Council (RESIC) is an advisory body to the South Australian Government on key infrastructure to support the state's resources sector.

Of particular concern to mining projects is connectivity distance to the transmission infrastructure, the available capacity on the grid, and uncertainty about future planning for transmission.

The 2011 Infrastructure Demand Study commissioned by RESIC identified that there are approximately 15 projects with an estimated capex of \$8.3billion on the Eyre Peninsula, indicating an expected aggregated electricity demand obtained via the grid of an estimated 450MW from 2017 to 2021.

In late 2012, RESIC submitted five recommendations to the South Australian Government to support the planning and development of infrastructure for the resources sector. Augmentation of electricity infrastructure on the Eyre Peninsula was identified as a priority project for the state and the South Australian Government assigned a case manager to assist ElectraNet in accelerating the 275kV augmentation on Eyre Peninsula.

RESIC strongly supports the augmentation of the 275kV line proposed for the Eyre Peninsula's anticipated demands from developing and established projects located there, and the subsequent growth of surrounding communities and industry. The augmentation will also provide the opportunity to facilitate potential wind farm development in the region.

The council endorses the importance of the AER including the Eyre Peninsula contingent project in its final decision, given the prospective mining developments in this region.

With regard to land acquisition for easements, RESIC acknowledges that timely electricity transmission infrastructure development will be impacted by the lead times taken to identify appropriate siting and development approval. Whilst this specific element of the ElectraNet proposal is not strictly within the remit of RESIC and is contingent on (resource) project maturity, the council believes that an early strategic approach to land and easement acquisition is warranted

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tino Guglielmo".

Tino Guglielmo
Chair
Resources & Energy Sector Infrastructure Council