

Ms. Kami Kaur, General Manager, A/g Australian Energy Regulator GPO Box 520 Melbourne VIC 3001

Dear Ms Kaur,

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

We are writing to you in support of the proposed upgrade of power supply in the above region of South West Victoria. This area has huge potential dur to the reliable climate, fertile soil and good quality accessible groundwater. Aquaculture, forestry and tourism as well as dairy, beef, sheep and horticulture are all reliant on adequate power availability.

Presently there is evidence of inability of business expansion due to SWER line infrastructure unable to deliver appropriate power. There is also evidence of individual and corporate investment lost because of no 3 phase power availability, in one case a huge dairy now in Tasmania not South West Victoria.

Our family has been fortunate over the years to have close access to 3 phase power and it has led to great outcomes -

 We were irrigating from a river using a diesel motor and upgraded to electric 3 phase, thus eliminating the environmental risk of diesel and oil spillage as well as easier operation.

Significantly 3 of our neighbours saw the benefit of our operation and over a few years all connected as well.

2 As part of a an expansion program we were able to purchase a grazing property in close proximity to 3 phase power. This farm now milks 700 cows in a rotary dairy, has a big irrigation set-up and innovative effluent disposal. We employ 4 local people, 2 that have young families.

This would not have happened without the power infrastructure that was available and is an indication of what is possible in the proposed area.

We fully support the work of Food & Fibre-GSC inc. to grow the production of all commodities in this region and suitable power infrastructure is an absolute necessity.

## Yours sincerely,