

Ms Kate Symons
Commissioner and Chairperson
Essential Services Commission Victoria
Level 8, 570 Bourke Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

18 April 2024

Via email: licences@esc.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms Symons,

Powercor Australia geographic transmission licence application

I am pleased to attach Powercor Australia Limited's (Powercor's) application for an Electricity Transmission Licence covering the Powercor distribution licence area for publication.

Our application is driven by a need to improve competition in the market. As the Essential Services Commission Act recognises, competition is essential for good customer outcomes. Competition will provide major business and renewable proponents choice, leading to lower prices and faster delivery times.

Increased competition will also support Victoria reaching net-zero by 2045 by connecting more renewables onto the network, cheaper and faster.

Powercor's application for a Transmission Licence in Victoria demonstrates:

- our technical capability, skills and experience as an existing owner/operator of a distribution network
- our financial viability and ability to sustainably undertake transmission activities
- we are a fit and proper person to hold an Electricity Transmission Licence
- issuing us an Electricity Transmission licence would be in the long-term interest of Victorian consumers through supporting competition in the market.

Since submitting our original licence application in 2023, the new Land Access Code of Practice has been made. We appreciate the customer interest in this topic and attach to our application Powercor's commitment on land access. We wish to give customers comfort that our intention is not to construct large transmission line corridors. Our focus will be on building and upgrading transmission infrastructure, including new terminal stations and 220kV lines for customer-related projects to enable them to easily connect to the transmission network.

We encourage those interested to view our 'Vision statement' and 'Commitment on engagement and land access' to better understand our intentions if successful in a licence.

We look forward to engaging with interested stakeholders on our application, including through an upcoming webinar.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Renate Vogt".

Renate Vogt
General Manager Regulation