

2 December 2021

Mr Harrison Gibbs Advisor Australian Energy Market Commission Level 15, 60 Castlereagh St Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Mr Gibbs

Re: National Gas Amendment (DWGM Distribution Connected Facilities) Rule 2022

The Australian Hydrogen Council (AHC) is the peak body for the hydrogen industry, with 87 members from across the hydrogen value chain.

Our members are at the forefront of Australia's hydrogen industry, developing the technology, skills and partnerships necessary to build Australia's hydrogen economy.

AHC welcomes the proposed rule change as part of the broader review of regulatory instruments to facilitate the transition to a zero emissions gas network. Establishing a regulatory framework which allows for the use of hydrogen and other zero emissions gases will ensure that Australians can continue to use gas as an energy source into the foreseeable future and will reduce the risk of stranded assets which would occur if gas use was abandoned completely in favour of alternative zero emissions energy sources.

AHC has endorsed an initial 10% hydrogen blending target and understand that this target cannot be achieved in Victoria without amendment to the National Gas Rules. Consequently, we support this change as it is vital to Victorian efforts to decarbonise its gas infrastructure.

We look forward to continuing to engage with the AEMC on this consultation.

If you would like to discuss this matter, please contact me via email to <u>jkremzer@h2council.com.au</u> or via telephone on 0413 266 081

Yours sincerely,

Joe Kremzer GM Policy Australian Hydrogen Council