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Australian Energy Market Commission  
PO Box A2449  
Sydney NSW 1235

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Almondco Australia Limited are a food processor and marketing company based in the Riverland, South Australia. We have two processing sites based in the Riverland region and are in the process of building a third processing plant in the MIA region of NSW. As a consequence of our processing facilities we are a relatively large user of electricity which we source from what is very loosely called a 'national grid' and with our major operations being in South Australia are subject to very high power pricing both in comparison to the remainder of mainland Australia and globally.

Almondco, like many other organizations, are forced to consider alternative means to generate power for ourselves as we are not able to sustain our business longer term based on current and future pricing from the grid. Consequently our business is currently initiating both solar and biomass projects in a bid to shield our business against spiraling energy costs. However in the current political environment there is little in the way of financial incentives to offset some of the large up front costs of these projects.

The submission lodged to the AEMC for the introduction of Local Generation Network Credits for customers who can support the distribution network is one that Almondco fully endorse. The network providers will continue to maximize their returns through their regulatory review processes so indirect pressure via LGNC will not only 'keep the bastards honest' but provide the necessary incentive for businesses such as ours to invest in alternative generation options to assist with stabilization of pricing

  
Yours Faithfully

Brenton Paige  
Group Operations Manager  
Almondco Australia Limited