

Our ref: RN

**28 January 2021**

**Ms Merryn York**

Acting Chair

Australian Energy Market Commission

Submitted online to [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

Dear Merryn

**Submission on Connection to Dedicated Connection Assets Draft Determination**

CleanCo welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Australian Energy Market Commission's (the Commission) Connection to Dedicated Connection Assets Draft Determination (DCA Draft Determination).

CleanCo is Queensland's newest electricity generator. Our purpose is to deliver reliable clean energy solutions at a competitive price for Queenslanders. Our activities will help to improve electricity affordability, contribute to the achievement of Queensland's 50 per cent renewable energy target by 2030, support secure and reliable electricity generation, and create new investment and jobs in regional Queensland. We have a target to support 1,000 MW of new renewable generation by 2025 and we will achieve this by building, owning and operating our own assets and by investing in new renewable projects driven by others. CleanCo's supports rule and policy changes that help facilitate an affordable, reliable supply of clean energy to customers into the future.

CleanCo supports the proposed changes and recognises the efforts of the Commission in developing a rule that works for transmission network service providers (TNSPs) and generators, and that will integrate with future REZ frameworks.

CleanCo is of the view that the 6-month commencement date following the release of the Commission's final decision should be an outer bound timeframe, and that earlier adoption should be facilitated and encouraged where relevant parties can reach agreement. Notwithstanding the work to be undertaken following the release of the final decision, the model should be flexible enough to allow parties to opt-in earlier in circumstances where relevant parties (TNSP and initial connecting parties) to a designated network asset can reach agreement. There is no merit in delaying the implementation of the improved rules where parties can agree on a path forward.

Timeliness is particularly important given the substantial delays experienced to date with this rule change. A number of proponents (including CleanCo) have projects that cannot proceed until these new rules take effect.

We have reviewed Acciona's submission to the DCA Draft Determination and agree with its proposed approach to facilitating earlier opt-in to the new rules and the benefits that this would bring to the sector.

We thank the Commission for the opportunity to make a submission on this process. If you have any questions about our submission, please contact me at [rimu.nelson@cleancoqld.com.au](mailto:rimu.nelson@cleancoqld.com.au) or on 0455 080 871.

Yours sincerely



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