

ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY ACT 2000 APPLICATION FOR ELECTRICITY GENERATION LICENCE

Equis Energy (Australia) Projects (MREH A1 AssetCo) Pty Ltd (ACN 669 645 461) as trustee for Equis Energy (Australia) MREH A1 Asset Trust (ABN 92 607 537 147)

RECORD OF DECISION

20 February 2025

SUMMARY

Pursuant to the provisions of section 19(1) of the Electricity Industry Act 2000 (Vic) (El Act) the Essential Services Commission (the commission) has granted Equis Energy (Australia) Projects (MREH A1 AssetCo) Pty Ltd (ACN 669 645 461) as trustee for Equis Energy (Australia) MREH A1 Asset Trust (ABN 92 607 537 147) (MREH A1 AssetCo) a licence to generate electricity for supply or sale at the Melbourne Renewable Energy Hub A1 Battery Energy Storage System (MREH A1 BESS). The MREH A1 BESS is located in the vicinity of Plumpton, Victoria and has a total nameplate capacity of 215.85MW.

BACKGROUND

Section 16(1) of the EI Act provides that a person must not engage in the generation of electricity for supply or sale or the transmission or distribution of electricity or supply or sale of electricity by retail unless the person:

- (a) is the holder of a licence authorising the relevant activity;
- (b) is exempted from the requirement to obtain a licence in respect of the relevant activity; or
- (c) is the holder of a trial waiver in respect of the relevant activity.

Section 18(1)(a) of the EI Act provides that a person may apply to the commission for a licence authorising the person to generate electricity for supply or sale.

On 6 December 2024, MREH A1 AssetCo applied to the commission for a licence authorising it to generate electricity for supply or sale.

Consistent with the requirements of the commission's electricity generation licence application form and 'Guideline: Applications for electricity and gas industry licences', MREH A1 AssetCo provided the commission with necessary documentation supporting the application.

On 16 January 2025, the commission published a copy of the application, and invited interested parties to make submissions in respect of the application. The commission did not receive any submissions regarding the application.

CONSIDERATION OF THE APPLICATION

Section 19(1) of the EI Act provides that the commission may grant or refuse the application for any reason it considers appropriate, having regard to the objectives of the commission under the provisions of the EI Act and the Essential Services Commission Act 2001 (Vic) (ESC Act).

DECISION

The commission is satisfied that:

- MREH A1 AssetCo has the technical capacity to comply with the conditions of the licence to be granted; and
- MREH A1 AssetCo is a fit and proper person to hold a licence to generate electricity for supply
 or sale.

In accordance with Section 19(1) of the EI Act, and having regard to its objectives under the ESC Act and the EI Act, the commission has decided to grant MREH A1 AssetCo a licence to generate electricity for supply or sale. The authorisation granted by the licence is limited to the generation of electricity at the MREH A1 BESS located in the vicinity of Plumpton, Victoria.

THE COMMON SEAL of the ESSENTIAL SERVICES COMMISSION was affixed pursuant to the authority of the commission on 24 February 2025

ESSENTIAL
SERVICES
COMMISSION
A.B.N. 71 155 498 656

Gerard Brody Chairperson

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