

Electricity transmission licence application form

Purpose of this form

This form must be completed by persons applying to the Essential Services Commission (the commission) for a licence to authorise electricity transmission in Victoria.

Basis for this form

Section 18 of the *Electricity Industry Act 2000* (the Industry Act) provides that a licence application must be made to the commission in a form approved by the commission. This is the form approved by the commission.

Use of this form and the applicant's responsibilities

A licence application may be made by any legal person including, without limitation, individuals, incorporated associations, unit and other forms of trusts and corporations. Entities that are not a legal person (for example, an unincorporated joint venture or a partnership) cannot apply for a licence.

For the purpose of this application form, reference to the term "Officer" includes the applicant's directors and secretary, and other persons who make or participate in making decisions that affect a substantial part of the business (for example, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer or General Manager).

The applicant should list the information required in the spaces provided in this form and enclose additional information when required.

The applicant must take all reasonable steps to ensure the information provided in the application form is complete, true and correct.

An officer of the applicant is required to make a declaration to this effect in the application form. Failure to disclose information or misrepresent any matter relevant to such information may result in a licence not being issued or in the revocation of a licence later.

It is a criminal offence under section 61A of the *Essential Services Commission Act 2001* to provide the commission with false or misleading information or documentation.

The applicant is responsible for providing the commission with current, accurate and relevant documentation. It is the applicant's responsibility to make all reasonable inquiries to obtain the information required by this form.

Providing accurate and relevant information and a complete application (answering all questions and providing all information) will assist in timely processing of an application. All applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis. If insufficient information is provided with an application, we will contact the applicant about the requirement for additional information to be submitted before the application is considered further.

Prior reading

It is expected that the applicant has read our [Guideline: Applications for electricity and gas industry licences](#) before completing this form.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure its compliance with legal obligations when applying for a licence.

Licence conditions

Section 20 of the Industry Act authorises the commission to issue licences subject to conditions as decided by the commission. Licences are published on our [website](#). We recommend the applicant familiarise itself with the relevant conditions and be confident that it can comply with those conditions prior to applying for a licence.

Further information

The applicant should note that we may ask for further information, or to clarify the information that the applicant has already provided with the application.

Consultation and confidentiality

We will consult with relevant government, industry and consumer groups on the licence application through a public consultation process. Applications and/or supporting information that is not confidential will be made available on our website.

If the applicant believes that any information provided as part of its application is confidential or commercially sensitive, it is the applicant's responsibility to clearly identify this information on those documents. The applicant should also provide a 'non-confidential' version of the application form and documents for publication on our website.

How to lodge an application

The applicant may send the completed application form electronically (preferred) or in hard copy to:

Electronically: licences@esc.vic.gov.au

Hard copy: Market Operations, Energy Division
Essential Services Commission
Level 8, 570 Bourke Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Large files

Applicants generally need to send us large files which is often not suitable via email. Please contact us at licences@esc.vic.gov.au to discuss alternative options to provide an application to the commission.

Application fees and annual licence fees

The commission has the authority to set a licence application fee. Currently, there is no application fee.

Holding a licence incurs annual licence fees. Refer to the commission's [Guideline: Applications for electricity and gas industry licences](#) for more information regarding annual licence fees.

1. General Information – The Applicant

The applicant must answer all questions in this section.

1.1 Legal name of applicant

State the full legal name of the applicant. The applicant is the person who will be transmitting electricity that will be the subject of the licence.

Name: Hazelwood BESS Line Co Pty Ltd

1.2 Legal identity of applicant

Provide the applicant's ABN and ACN (where relevant) and information about the applicant (for example, whether the applicant is a private limited company, trust, or joint venture).

ABN: 27 692 783 216

ACN: 692 783 216

Type of entity: Australian Proprietary Company, Limited by Shares

Attachment reference:

Attachment 1.2 - Hazelwood BESS Line Co Pty Ltd ASIC Company Summary

1.3 Contact details and address of the applicant

The applicant	
Business address: Level 23, 2 Southbank Boulevard, Southbank	
State: Victoria	Postcode: 3006
Postal address (if different):	
State:	Postcode:
Full name of contact person: [Redacted]	
Position title: [Redacted]	
Telephone: [Redacted]	Mobile: [Redacted]
Email: [Redacted]	

1.4 Diagram of corporate and organisational structure

Attach a diagram illustrating the corporate structure (including details of any related companies within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001*) and the organisational chart.

- a) corporate structure (including any parent and related companies within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001*), and

Attachment reference: Attachment 1.4A - Hazelwood BESS Line Co Pty Ltd Corporate Structure (CONFIDENTIAL)

- b) organisational chart (including composition of the board, management, and other key personnel responsible for the key functions)

Attachment reference: Attachment 1.4B - Hazelwood BESS Line Co Pty Ltd Organisational Chart January 2026 (CONFIDENTIAL)

1.5 The Licence and transmission infrastructure details

The applicant must answer all questions in this section.

If the applicant is seeking for a licence to be issued by a certain date, identify this date. **Note: we do not undertake to issue the licence by this date.** The applicant should usually allow a minimum of eight to 10 weeks **once we consider the application to be complete.**

An application is considered complete once we have all the information needed for the commission to make a decision. In other words, when we have no need to request further information from the applicant. This includes a public consultation period of four weeks (generally) as part of our consideration of licence applications.

Provide details on the following	
(a) Date from which licence is sought:	30 June 2026 Attachment reference: Attachment 1.5A - HBESS 2 Delivery Schedule (Dec-2025) (CONFIDENTIAL)
(b) Transmission asset name:	Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line
(c) Location of transmission asset (including the local government area, nearest town, or other identifying features):	The Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line, including its connection and extension assets, is located on Brodribb Road, Hazelwood, Victoria 3840 adjacent to the Hazelwood mine and mine site.

- (d) Nature and scope of operations for which the licence is sought, including details of works related to the transmission asset (for example, details of the associated generation facility or augmentation of the electricity transmission system):

The existing 220 kV ~750m Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line was constructed to connect Hazelwood Battery Energy Storage System 1 (**HBESS 1**) to the declared shared network, where it currently connects at bus no. 3, bay 20 of the Hazelwood Power Station Switchyard. At the time of this application, HBESS 1 is the sole generation facility connected to the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line. The Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line currently operates in its capacity as a connection asset.

Works will be undertaken to enable Hazelwood Battery Energy Storage System 2 (**HBESS 2**), a second utility-scale battery, to connect into the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line. This will also include the construction of new high-voltage infrastructure to enable HBESS 2's connection to the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line.

Once these Works are Completed, the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line will be reclassified from a connection asset to part of the declared shared network, requiring a Declared Transmission System Operator (**DTSO**) to operate the line. The Applicant is seeking an asset-specific transmission licence to operate the Hazelwood BESS Transmission line in the capacity of a DTSO.

The licence is intended to cover the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line, including its connection and extension assets, in its capacity as an asset that forms part of the declared shared network.

Where:

Works means all works and associated infrastructure necessary or desirable (as determined by the Applicant, acting reasonably) for the movement of HBESS 1 connection point so that it is located in the HBESS 1 substation (the **New Connection Point**)

Completed means such time that:

- (a) the Works are completed in accordance with all agreements regulating the Works;
- (b) it is safe to use and operate the New Connection Point;
- (c) all relevant authorisations and approvals required to use and operate the New Connection Point have been obtained; and
- (d) use of the New Connection Point is otherwise permitted by law, as determined by the Applicant, acting reasonably."

Connection Point has the same meaning as in the National Electricity Rules.

- (e) Provide a copy of any maps, shapefiles or line diagrams identifying project footprint, transmission routes and proposed location for connection assets (if applicable):

Attachment reference:

Attachment 1.5Ea - Satellite image of line corridor (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 1.5Eb - Proposed connection configuration (CONFIDENTIAL)

- (f) Provide details about the proposed connection point (include latitude and longitude, as well as names, locations and other useful identifiers):

GPS coordinates: 38°16'06.7"S 146°23'27.3"E

Attachment reference: Attachment 1.5F - Details about the proposed connection point (CONFIDENTIAL)

- (g) Provide details of the proposed connection arrangement (physical and electrical layouts) into the existing transmission network:

Attachment reference: Attachment 1.5G - Details about the proposed connection arrangement (CONFIDENTIAL)

- (h) Provide details of the proposed transmission assets (for example, ratings, HVdc technology type, voltage class, substation/converter station details, etc.):

Line rated voltage: 220 kV (up to 245 kV continuous)

Connection: From Hazelwood switching station bay 20 to Hazelwood BESS substation in Attachment 1.5G

- (i) Provide details regarding the status of the proposed transmission project with respect to the Regulatory Investment Test – Transmission (RIT-T):

The Works are below the \$5 million cost threshold determination to trigger a RIT-T (NER Clause 5.16.3(2)).

- (j) Provide details of when the applicant expects to receive 'considered project' status under the National Electricity Rules:

The Applicant expects the Works to be Completed by Q4 2027.

2. Technical capacity

The applicant must answer all questions in this section.

2.1 Experience and knowledge of the industry

Provide information about the human resources available to the applicant. This includes:

- a) the experience and qualifications of those employees outlined in the organisational chart (see 1.4b)

Attachment reference: Attachment 2.1A - Key Individual Biographies January 2026 (CONFIDENTIAL)

If the applicant will employ contractors or agents to assist with the licensed activities, the name of those contractors or agents, details about the experience of the contractors or agents in such operations and details of the processes in place to ensure the contractors or agents comply with the licence conditions, including relevant regulatory obligations.

The Applicant will engage the following contractors to assist with its licenced activities.

1. [Redacted] is the owner and operator of the Hazelwood Switchyard. Hazelwood BESS Project Co Pty Ltd, the HBESS 1 Project SPV, previously engaged [Redacted] to undertake all necessary augmentation and interface works to facilitate connection of the HBESS 1 Project to the Hazelwood Switchyard, and to maintain those works for ongoing connection of the HBESS Projects (the extant HBESS 1 and the proposed HBESS 2 Project). [Redacted] is obligated to comply with all relevant regulatory obligations under its current contracts with the HBESS 1 Project SPV.

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.1Ba – HBESS PCCD (executed) (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.1Bb – HBESS Side Deed (executed) (CONFIDENTIAL)

2. Hazelwood BESS Project Co Pty Ltd, the HBESS 1 Project SPV – The HBESS 1 Project SPV commissioned construction of the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line and currently oversees the operation and maintenance of the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line, which is procured from [Redacted] – a global market leader in energy storage products and services. HBESS 1 Project SPV has engaged [Redacted] to undertake all operation and maintenance of the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line. [Redacted] is obligated to comply with all relevant regulatory obligations under its contract with HBESS 1 Project SPV.

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.1Bc – O&M Agreement – Hazelwood BESS (redacted) (CONFIDENTIAL)

Hazelwood BESS Line Co Pty Ltd will negotiate and sign a new agreement to directly procure the O&M Services with respect to the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line once HBESS 2 reaches Final Investment Decision, which is expected in [Redacted]. [Redacted]

3. [Redacted] dedicated to providing energy supply solutions and risk management services to support its customers through their decarbonisation journey, while optimising the Group's assets and contributing to value creation. [Redacted]. [Redacted] will be obligated to ensure compliance with regulatory obligations under its contract with the Applicant.

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.1Bd – HBESS LineCo Asset Management Agreement (CONFIDENTIAL)

Where the applicant is relying on a third party to provide staff and/or resources to meet the technical capacity requirements of the transmission licence, provide:

- b) the experience and qualifications of any relevant key employees who will manage those systems and processes;
- c) if the applicant will engage third parties to assist with the licensed activities, provide the following information in relation to each third party:
 - (i) the name of that third party
 - (ii) the scope of activities undertaken by the third party
 - (iii) details and copies of any agreements for the provision of services
 - (iv) details about the experience of the third party in relation to the activities that it will be undertaking, including any accreditations
 - (v) details of the processes in place to ensure the third party complies with the licensee's regulatory obligations.

Attachment reference: See Attachment references in Section 2.1

2.2 Risk management

- c) Provide confirmation and evidence that the applicant has identified the risks associated with electricity transmission. Additionally, provide evidence that the applicant has established, utilised and relied upon risk management systems and processes which are adequate, accurate and current to address those risks.
- d) Provide a copy of the applicant's risk management strategy. A statement should also be provided (or supporting document must make it clear) whether the strategy has been developed in line with any Australian or International Standard (for example, ISO 31000:2018).
- e) Provide a copy of a risk register that identifies risks, controls and mitigations.

The ENGIE in Australia Group has robust and comprehensive enterprise, operational and financial / market risk programs supported by both well-resourced local expertise in addition to the resources of a global organisation. Its programs are documented in the various attachments, including:

- ENGIE ANZ Risk Management Policy
- ENGIE ANZ Risk Management Framework
- ENGIE INCOME Framework
- ENGIE Operational Excellence

The Applicant, as a member of the ENGIE in Australia Group, will be subject to and bound by, the risk management policies and frameworks in place to identify and address risks across multiple facets of electricity transmission operations. These Attachments contain confidential documents relating to the Applicant's approach to risks associated with its assets (including its transmission line) and wholesale operations, including industrial and process safety management, and cyber security.

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.2Ea – ENGIE ANZ Risk Management Policy (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.2Eb – ENGIE ANZ Risk Management Framework (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.2Ec – INCOME Handbook (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.2Ed – Operational Excellence - Process Safety Framework Guide (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.2Ee – HBESS Line Operational Excellence Matrix (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.2Ef – Risk Appetite Statement (CONFIDENTIAL)

2.3 Land access dispute resolution

If relevant, identify how persons whose land may be accessed can raise a dispute in relation to any activities connected with the transmission of electricity and the proposed processes and procedures in place to resolve disputes.

The land on which the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line is located is owned by [Redacted]. [Redacted] currently leases the land to controlled entities within the ENGIE Group, including Hazelwood BESS Project Co Pty Ltd which is the entity that owns HBESS 1 and the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line in its current capacity as a connection asset.

The Applicant will assume ownership of the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line in its capacity as a transmission asset once Works are Completed. The lease will then be amended to cater for the land tenure requirements of the Applicant and the Applicant will exercise its Call Option for Easement relating to the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line including its associated connection and extension assets. This will effectively transfer the easement for the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line from HBESS 1 Project SPV to the Applicant. Any land access disputes will then be managed in line with these private land access arrangements.

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.3a - Agreement for Lease (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.3b - Short Term Lease (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.3c – Call Option Deed - HBESS 1 Easement [Draft] (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.3d – Call Option Deed - HBESS 2 Easement [Draft] (CONFIDENTIAL)

2.4 Registration with the Australian Energy Market Operator

Advise if the applicant will apply to register with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO). If so, provide evidence of registration or exemption, or intending registration or exemption (for example, correspondence between the applicant and AEMO). If the applicant is not registering with AEMO, describe why that is the case.

The Applicant has engaged with the Australian Energy Regulator and has received confirmation that the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line is eligible for an NRO2 exemption, which exempts the Applicant from the requirement to be registered as a network service provider with AEMO and

the requirement to comply with the NER Chapter 5 obligations.

The Applicant intends to submit its NRO2 exemption in [Redacted], subject to timing guidance from the AER. The AER Exemptions Portal allows applicants to nominate a future commencement date, and the Applicant intends to select a date that aligns with the Completion of Works to ensure that compliance obligations align with the change in Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line's definition from a connection asset, to an asset that forms part of the declared shared network.

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.4a - AER Confirmation of Exemption (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.4b – Correspondence with AEMO-VicGrid on Exemption (CONFIDENTIAL)

2.5 Licences held in other jurisdictions

If the applicant holds, or has previously held, electricity and/or gas licences or authorisations in other jurisdictions, provide details. If a licence or authorisation previously held has been suspended or cancelled, provide details.

The Applicant does not hold, nor has it previously held, any electricity or gas licence or authorisation in any other Australian jurisdiction.

2.6 Previous unsuccessful licence applications in other jurisdictions

Confirm whether the applicant has applied for an electricity or gas licence or authorisation in another jurisdiction and not been issued with a licence or authorisation, provide details.

The Applicant has not previously applied for an electricity or gas licence or authorisation in another jurisdiction.

2.7 Licences held by associates of the applicant

If an associate (within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001*) holds an electricity or gas licence or authorisation in Victoria or another Australian jurisdiction, provide details.

Attachment reference: Attachment 2.7 - Licences/Authorisations (CONFIDENTIAL)

2.8 Compliance management

- a) Provide evidence of compliance management which demonstrates how the compliance systems the applicant has (or will have) in place will ensure compliance with all the relevant regulatory obligations required by the transmission licence.
- b) Provide a copy of the applicant's compliance management strategy. A statement should also be provided (or supporting document must make it clear) whether the strategy has been developed in line with any Australian or International Standard (for example, AS ISO 19600:2015).

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.8a – Compliance Management (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.8b – Group Risks Matrix and Consequences & Likelihood Table (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.8c – Compliance Statement (ISSUED) (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.8d – Compliance Policy [Draft] (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.8e – Hazelwood BESS Line Co Pty Ltd Compliance Register (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Compliance Register covers proposed transmission licence obligations based on recent transmission licences granted by the commission and available on its website (which will be updated to reflect the actual licence obligations once the licence is granted).

2.9 Material agreements

Provide copies of agreements entered into, or intended to be entered into, by the applicant that are material to the undertaking of the transmission activity.

Agreements that are material to the undertaking of the transmission activity may include:

- a) Connection agreements, such as a Generator Connection Agreement and Generator Project Agreement with a generation facility.
- b) Any contract concerning the construction and delivery of the project (sometimes commonly referred to as a Project Construction and Coordination Deed (PCCD) or Engineering, Procurement and Construction Agreement).
- c) Any Network Services Agreements.
- d) Any contracts concerning the managerial aspects of the activity (sometimes commonly referred to as a Management Services Agreement).
- e) Any contract concerning the ongoing operations and maintenance of the transmission assets (sometimes commonly referred to as an Operations and Maintenance Agreement).

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.1Ba – HBESS PCCD (executed) (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.1Bb – HBESS Side Deed (executed) (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.1Bc – O&M Agreement – Hazelwood BESS (redacted) (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.1Bd – HBESS LineCo Asset Management Agreement (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.3a - Agreement for Lease (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.3b - Short Term Lease (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.3c – Call Option Deed - HBESS 1 Easement [Draft] (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.3d – Call Option Deed - HBESS 2 Easement [Draft] (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.4b – Correspondence with AEMO-VicGrid on Exemption (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.9a - Asset Sale Agreement 1 (HBESS 1 to LineCo) [Draft] (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.9b – Applicant Engagement with VicGrid-AEMO (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.9c – Hazelwood BESS Line Co Contractual Matrix November 2025 (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.9d – HBESS 1 – Asset Services Agreement (CONFIDENTIAL)

2.10 Declared Transmission System Operator

An explanation of whether the transmission assets are contemplated to form part of the Declared Transmission System and whether the applicant is, or has requested to be, a Declared Transmission System Operator.¹

The Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line will form part of the Declared Transmission System once Works are Completed. The Applicant has engaged with the Minister of Energy and Resources' office and is intending to become a DTSO.

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.10a - Engagement with Victorian Minister's Office (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.10b - Meeting with Victorian Minister's Office (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.10c - Update on DTSO declaration to Minister's Office (CONFIDENTIAL)

2.11 Approvals

Provide a copy of any planning or environmental approvals that permit the applicant to undertake preparatory works in relation to the transmission of electricity.

The attached planning permit allows for development of land for utility installation and associated infrastructure at the land that the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line is located.

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.11 – Planning Permit (CONFIDENTIAL)

2.12 Land access

Provide the following in relation to land access (if the applicant is intending to access private land for the purpose of transmission (or preparatory works):

- a) Copies of any agreements to access land for the purpose of the transmission (including preparatory works). If there are multiple agreements on similar terms, a copy of a single agreement is sufficient.

¹ See section 31 *National Electricity (Victoria) Act 2005*.

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.12Aa - Agreement for Lease (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.12Ab - Short Term Lease (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.9a – Call Option Deed - HBESS 1 Easement [Draft] (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.9b – Call Option Deed - HBESS 2 Easement [Draft] (CONFIDENTIAL)

- b) A description of any complaints, including resolution or outcomes, concerning the applicant's activities in relation to land access.

Nil.

- c) Copies of any policy or process of the applicant relating to the negotiation of access to land for the purpose of the transmission (including preparatory works). Where relevant, that policy or process, should demonstrate the applicant has the technical capacity to undertake land access in accordance with the commission's Land Access Code of Practice.

The Applicant has provided policies and processes regarding land access negotiations for transmission purposes to demonstrate its technical capacity. All affected land involved in the easement pathway is held within the ENGIE Group.

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.12Ca - Bushfire Mitigation Plan [Draft] (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.12Cb – Environmental Policy (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.12Cc – Hazelwood Site Induction (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.12Cd – Hazelwood Site Access Procedure (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.12Ce – Land Access Policy [Draft] (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.12Cf – Biosecurity Policy (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.12Cg - Complaints Procedure (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.12Ch – Fire Risk Management Plan (CONFIDENTIAL)

- d) Information about the skills, experience and expertise of the key personnel who will be engaging with local communities and landowners regarding the applicant's intended use of land access powers under the Electricity Industry Act 2000.

The Applicant does not intend to use land access powers under the *Electricity Industry Act 2000* given the land access arrangements that will be in place between the Applicant and its related entity. For completeness, the Applicant has provided information about the skills, experience and expertise of the key personnel who would be engaging with local communities and landowners should the Applicant be required to use land access powers.

Attachment reference:

Attachment 2.1A - Key Individual Biographies January 2026 (CONFIDENTIAL).

The Applicant will engage with the ESC should the circumstances relating to the intended use of land access powers change.

2.13 Engagement with Energy Safe Victoria

Provide details about the applicant's engagement with Energy Safe Victoria and any copies of correspondence regarding the proposed electricity transmission infrastructure.

The Applicant first engaged with Energy Safe Victoria (**ESV**) in relation to the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line via email on 22 September 2025. Subsequent email and verbal correspondence led to an online meeting between the Applicant and ESV on 21 October 2025 to provide a briefing on the project. The Applicant will continue to engage with ESV regarding the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line.

Attachment Reference:

Attachment 2.13a - Correspondence with ESV (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2.13b – Meeting with ESV (CONFIDENTIAL)

2.14 Additional information

Provide any additional information the applicant considers relevant to the commission's assessment of the applicant's technical capacity

N/A

3. Financial viability

3.1 Financial resources

The applicant must provide a statement that will be made available to the public during the consultation period that the applicant has the financial resources to commence and sustainably perform the relevant licensable activities.

Provide a statement to confirm that:

- a) the applicant is financially viable and has the financial resources to sustainably undertake the electricity transmission activity; and
- b) the applicant will be a registered market participant with the Australian Energy Market Operator for its electricity transmission activities.

The commission reserves the right to conduct a financial viability assessment and require the applicant to produce information and documents it considers appropriate to complete such an assessment.

The Applicant is financially viable and has the financial resources to commence and sustainably undertake the electricity transmission activity.

The Applicant will be the owner of the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line, once sold to it, and will have revenue generated from the use of this Line from the two BESS assets to cover its operating costs.

The Applicant has engaged with the AER and has received guidance that the Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line is eligible for an NRO2 exemption from the requirement to register as a network service provider with AEMO.

Attachment Reference:

Attachment 3.1a – ENGIE Renewables Australia (ERA) Group FY24 Financial Statements (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 3.2b – ENGIE S.A 2024 Annual Financial Report

Attachment 3.2c – ENGIE S.A 9M 2025 Financial Presentation

4. Fit and proper person

The applicant must answer all questions in this section.

In deciding whether to grant or refuse a licence application, the commission will consider whether the applicant is a fit and proper person to hold a licence in Victoria.

The concept of a 'fit and proper person' is established by common law and takes its meaning from its context, from the activities in which the person is or will be engaged, and the ends to be served by those activities.

In considering whether an applicant is a fit and proper person, we will have regard to the applicant's honesty, integrity and reputation. These are relevant factors as they can inform an assessment of the likelihood of future conduct.

We will also consider the conduct of directors, office holders or any person with significant managerial duties or influence. We will also consider the conduct of related bodies corporate or entities that can exert control over the applicant.

The answers below are given to the best of our knowledge and belief, having undertaken appropriate due diligence enquiries, and are confined to a consideration of the conduct of relevant persons of the ENGIE Group operating in Australia over the past seven years (2018 - 2025). This is relevant as the Transmission Asset will be operated by the ENGIE Group in Australia.

- a) Have any directors of the applicant, directors of any entity that can exert control over the applicant, or any person with significant managerial responsibility or influence on the applicant:
- i. been declared bankrupt,
 - ii. had their affairs placed under administration,

- iii. been disqualified from managing a company,
- iv. been subject to debt judgements,
- v. or insolvency proceedings (including any administration, liquidation or receivership in connection with the affairs of a company)?

If yes, provide details:

No.

- b) Has the applicant, any directors of the applicant, directors of any entity that can exert control over the applicant or any person with significant managerial responsibility or influence on the applicant been prosecuted for any offences or had any enforcement action taken under any state, territory, Commonwealth or foreign legislation (including, but not limited to, the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*, *Corporations Act 2001*, or the *Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 2001*)?

If yes, provide details:

No.

- c) Has the applicant, any directors of the applicant, any related body corporate, or any person with significant managerial responsibility or influence on the applicant been involved in any material breaches of obligations regulated by the commission or any other regulator?

If yes, provide details:

Yes. See **Attachment reference:** Attachment 4C&D – Material Breaches (CONFIDENTIAL)

- d) Has the applicant, any directors of the applicant, any related body corporate, or any person with significant managerial responsibility been under investigation in relation to its regulatory obligations or is currently bound by an enforceable undertaking?

If yes, provide details:

Yes. See **Attachment reference:** Attachment 4C&D – Material Breaches (CONFIDENTIAL)

- e) Has the applicant, any related body corporate or any person with significant managerial responsibility or influence on the applicant, been refused a licence or authorisation, or had restricted, suspended or revoked any such licence or authorisation (in any jurisdiction)?

If yes, provide details:

No, with the exception of the voluntary surrender/revocation of the electricity generation licence of the Hazelwood Power Partnership in respect of the Hazelwood Power Station following the decision to cease generating electricity and to decommission the station and mine site.

- f) Provide any other information the applicant considers relevant to the commission's fit and proper person assessment.

Attachment reference:

Attachment 4F – Further information on material breaches (CONFIDENTIAL)

Additional information

Answer the following questions and, where the answer to any question is “no” (except to question b)), provide further detail.

- a) Is the applicant a resident of, or does it have permanent establishment in, Australia?

Yes.

- b) Is the applicant under external administration (as defined in the Corporations Act 2001) or under a similar form of administration under any laws applicable to it in any jurisdiction?

No.

- c) Is the applicant immune from suit in respect of the obligations under the Electricity Industry Act 2000?

No.

- d) Is the applicant capable of being sued in its own name in a court of Australia?

Yes.

5. Commission objectives

The applicant must answer all questions in this section.

In deciding whether to grant or refuse an electricity transmission licence application, the commission must consider its objectives under the *Electricity Industry Act 2000* and the *Essential Services Commission Act 2001* (ESC Act).

Our primary objective under the ESC Act, when performing our functions and exercising our powers, is to promote the long-term interests of Victorian consumers. In seeking to achieve this objective, we must have regard to the price, quality, and reliability of essential services and the matters set out in section 8A to the extent they are relevant.

In seeking to achieve the objectives specified in section 8, the commission must have regard to the matters to the extent that they are relevant in any particular case.

Provide any information the applicant considers relevant to the commission's consideration of its objectives outlined in:

- Section 8 of the ESC Act (also see section 8A of the ESC Act); and
- Section 10 of the *Electricity Industry Act 2000*.

The Applicant has considered the objectives of section 8 and 8A of the ESC Act and Section 10 of the *Electricity Industry Act 2000*.

The Applicant believes the transmission licence contributes to the long-term interests of Victorian consumers as it will enable the connection of HBESS 2 to the declared shared network using the existing Hazelwood BESS Transmission Line infrastructure. This connection of additional utility battery capacity may allow Victorian consumers to benefit from the HBESS 2's contribution to system reliability and grid stability, with potential for cost savings due to reduced wholesale electricity prices.

6. Statutory declaration

All the information provided in this application and attached documents for an electricity transmission licence must be true and correct and must be verified by a statutory declaration. This statutory declaration must be made by the applicant (where the applicant is an individual) or a director of the applicant (where the applicant is a corporation) and must be made in accordance with the requirements of the *Oaths and Affirmations Act 2018*.

An example statutory declaration form can be found [here](#). Information for authorised witnesses can be found [here](#).

The statutory declaration must address the following:

- a) identification of the declarant's position and/or role with the applicant
- b) that the declarant believes the information provided in the application to be true and correct
- c) that the declarant believes the applicant has the financial resources to commence and operate the activities the subject of the licence.

I [name].....

of [address].....

make the following statutory declaration under the *Oaths and Affirmations Act 2018* (Victoria):

- a) That I am the director of **[insert company name and details]**
- b) The information provided in this application (including any attachments) to the Essential Services Commission for an electricity transmission licence is true and correct

and I make this declaration conscientiously believing these matters to be true and knowing that making a statutory declaration that I know to be untrue is an offence.

I make it knowing that making a statutory declaration that I know to be untrue is an offence.

Date:

Signature:

(signature of person making this statutory declaration in the presence of the authorised statutory declaration witness)

Declared at: on

Witness

I am an authorised statutory declaration witness and I sign this document in the presence of the person making the declaration:

.....

[signature of authorised statutory declaration witness]

on [date]

[full name and personal or professional address of authorised statutory declaration witness in legible writing, typing or stamp]

[qualification as an authorised statutory declaration witness]

A person authorised under section 30(2) of the ***Oaths and Affirmations Act 2018*** to witness the signing of a statutory declaration.

See **Attachment reference:** Attachment 6 – Statutory Declaration