

ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY ACT 2000 APPLICATION FOR ELECTRICITY GENERATION AND SALE LICENCE

Cranbourne BESS Project Co Pty Ltd (ACN 663 227 843) as trustee for the Cranbourne BESS Project Trust (ABN 19 402 244 760)

RECORD OF DECISION

19 March 2024

SUMMARY

Pursuant to the provisions of section 19(1) of the Electricity Industry Act 2000 (Vic) (Industry Act) the Essential Services Commission (the commission) has granted Cranbourne BESS Project Co Pty Limited (ACN 663 227 843) as trustee for the Cranbourne BESS Project Trust (ABN 19 402 244 760) (Cranbourne BESS) a licence to generate electricity for supply or sale, and to sell electricity at the Rangebank BESS located in the vicinity of Cranbourne West, Victoria 3977 with a nameplate capacity of 200 MW / 400MWh.

BACKGROUND

Section 16(1) of the Industry Act provides that a person must not engage in the generation of electricity for supply or sale or the transmission, distribution, supply or sale of electricity 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) of the Industry Act provides that a person may apply to the commission for a licence authorising the person to generate electricity for supply or sale and to sell electricity (under subsections (1)(a) and (d)).

On 27 October 2023, Cranbourne BESS applied to the commission for a licence authorising it to generate electricity for supply or sale, and to sell electricity to the wholesale electricity market.

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

On 6 February 2024, 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 Industry 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 Industry Act and the Essential Services Commission Act 2001 (Vic) (Commission Act).

DECISION

The commission is satisfied that:

- Cranbourne BESS has the technical capacity to comply with the conditions of the licence to be granted; and
- Cranbourne BESS is a fit and proper person to hold a licence to generate electricity for supply or sale, and to sell electricity in Victoria.

In accordance with Section 19(1) of the Industry Act, and having regard to its objectives under the Commission Act and the Industry Act, the commission has decided to grant Cranbourne BESS a licence to generate electricity for supply or sale. The authorisation granted by the licence is limited to the generation of electricity at the Rangebank BESS located in the vicinity of Cranbourne West, VIC 3977, for supply and sale through the wholesale market.

THE COMMON SEAL of the ESSENTIAL SERVICES COMMISSION was affixed pursuant to the authority of the commission on 19 March 2024

ESSENTIAL SERVICES COMMISSION A.B.N. 71 165 498 668

Kate Symons **Chairperson**