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8 July 2011

Khayen Prentice
Regulatory Review – Smart Meters
Essential Services Commission
Level 2, 35 Spring Street
Melbourne, VIC 3000

Email: khayen.prentice@esc.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms Prentice,

Re: Capacity control and verifying bills – Draft Decision

Citipower and Powercor (**the Businesses**) refer to the Essential Services Commission's (**the Commission**) Draft Decision entitled *Smart Meters Regulatory Review – Capacity Control and Verifying Bills* dated June 2011 (**Draft Decision**). The Businesses appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Draft Decision and are supportive of the Commission's findings in the Draft Decision.

The Businesses agree that supply capacity control for non-credit management purposes should not be extended to retailers at the present time. The Businesses note the Commission's acknowledgment that load and supply capacity control measures are currently being considered in the National Smart Metering Program (**NSMP**), and highlight that the NSMP has allowed all stakeholders, including consumers, to participate in an effective and meaningful way on all issues relating to the smart meter rollout.

The Businesses are also supportive of the Commission's decision to allow customers to verify bills using existing final readings conducted by distributors under the Metrology Procedure: Part A. The Businesses agree that it is not necessary to require final meter readings by customers given such readings are already mandated under existing regulation.

If you have any questions, please contact me on (03) 9683 4465 or by email at bcleeve@powercor.com.au.

Yours sincerely,

Brent Cleeve
MANAGER REGULATION