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**Improving Stability in South-Western New South Wales –
Project Specification Consultation Report**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Project Specification Consultation Report for improving Stability in South-Western New South Wales (the PSCR).

RWE is a global renewable energy company with 9.5GW of installed renewable energy capacity across our core technologies and markets. Its global renewable energy development pipeline exceeds 20GW. RWE operates across core markets including the Americas, Europe and Asia Pacific with operations in 18 countries.

RWE's first Australian project is the 249 MW Limondale solar farm in Balranald, south-west NSW.

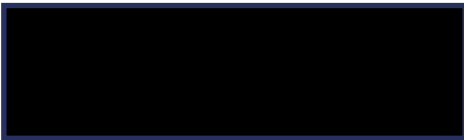
As a generator in south-west NSW affected by system stability issues, including the constraint implemented since May 2020 limiting power flows on line 63, we are very keen to see network improvements in the area. By the end of 2020, there is expected to be over 900 MW of generation connected in south-west NSW, with the line 63 constraint limiting exports to approximately 300 MW, leaving two thirds of maximum output unable to reach consumers. It is understood that there is potential for further constraints to limit exports even further.

Given that the constrained generation is low-cost renewables, it represents a lost opportunity for consumers to benefit through lower electricity prices in NSW. Furthermore, for these generators, it represents a significant financial impact on projects, and one which was not foreseen (whether by us, AEMO or Transgrid) at the time our project was committed.

We do not intend at this stage to promote any particular solution or to second-guess what the results of Transgrid's modelling into the best outcome will be, but look forward to engaging further with Transgrid as more detailed costs and benefits assumptions and modelled results are released in the project assessment draft report.

However, with most proposed solutions in the PSCR expected to take 4-5 years to complete, we are very concerned about the interim period and what it means for the generation projects in the area. We had expected Project Energy Connect would improve system stability in south-west NSW for existing projects, but the recent change of route means that project will no longer provide significant improvements to existing generation. Having seen the length of time and challenges that Project Energy Connect has faced to progress to its current point, we are also concerned that the 4-5 year timeframe for this current RIT-T may be too ambitious.

With this in mind, firstly we implore Transgrid to do all in its power to fast-track this RIT-T. Secondly, we are very interested in exploring possible interim solutions that can provide relief in the short and medium term, while a longer term solution is worked out through the RIT-T. If there is any way in which we can assist with short and medium term relief, please reach out to us at the details below.



Yours sincerely,

Matthew Dickie
Senior Regulatory Affairs Manager, APAC Region Lead
RWE Renewables

