

10 September 2024

Our Ref: 60:D24:3756
Your Ref: 18:D24:18872

Lyndon Rowe
Utilities Commissioner
Utilities Commission
GPO Box 915
DARWIN NT 0801

By email: utilities.commission@nt.gov.au

Dear Commissioner

RE: 2024 ELECTRICITY RETAIL SUPPLY CODE REVIEW (RETAILER OF LAST RESORT AMENDMENTS)

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission in response to the Electricity Retail Supply Code (ERS Code) Retailer of Last Resort (RoLR) Amendments released by the Utilities Commission (**Commission**) on 29 July 2024.

In general, Jacana Energy supports the Commission's proposed amendments, including the material changes to clause 9 relating to the RoLR scheme.

Jacana Energy has the following comments with the proposed amendments as provided below:

- **Clause 9.2 Approval of RoLR tariffs:** Jacana Energy acknowledges clause 9.2.2 is reflective of the provisions included within Section 44(3A)(b) of the *Electricity Reform Act 2000*, however notes:
 - Jacana Energy envisages that, consistent with existing customer arrangements, RoLR customers using under 750MWh of electricity per year would transfer onto tariff structures / rates covered under the Electricity Pricing Order (EPO) in force at the time of the RoLR event and customers using over 750MWh of electricity per year would transfer onto Jacana Energy's default commercial tariffs as advertised on Jacana Energy's website. RoLR customers using over 750MWh of electricity per year would subsequently be able to enter into bespoke contracts with Jacana Energy if they choose to do so.
 - Jacana Energy envisages it would only propose RoLR tariffs should this be an approved cost recovery method in line with Clause 9.9.4(b).
 - The EPO currently in force does not provide for RoLR events. It may be beneficial for future iterations of the EPO to consider RoLR events.
- **Clause 9.3 RoLR plans to be made by certain electricity entities:** Jacana Energy supports the inclusion of this clause that requires the development of a plan for a timely and coordinated response to a RoLR event.

To assist with preparing a coordinated plan, Jacana Energy proposes the Commission conducts a joint desktop test exercise with the entities required to develop a RoLR plan, which would help participating stakeholders compare key decision-making points and communication flows in the lead up to and after the event.

- **Clause 9.9 RoLR cost recovery scheme:** Clause 9.9.1 requires the RoLR to apply within six months of the RoLR event for RoLR cost recovery. Jacana Energy notes Section 6 of the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) RoLR Guidelines allows for nine months. Jacana Energy requests that the Commission considers extending the timeframe from six to nine months consistent with the AER RoLR Guidelines.

Please contact Diane Holmes, Senior Compliance Officer, by email to Compliance@jacanaenergy.com.au or 08 8943 6514, if you require further information regarding the details of this letter.

Yours sincerely



Louisa Kinnear
Chief Executive Officer
Jacana Energy