ENERGY ROADMAP AMENDMENT BILL 2025

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Committee Secretary
Governance, Energy and Finance Committee
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Dear Chair and Committee Members

RE: Submission to the Governance, Energy and Finance Committee on the Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025

On behalf of Decmil, please accept this submission on the Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025.

Decmil, part of the McMahon Group, owns and operates Homeground Gladstone, a purpose-built accommodation facility located in the Gladstone Region designed to support large-scale industrial and infrastructure projects.

Homeground Village has capacity for more than 1,000 guests and comprises 1,392 high-quality, self-contained rooms. It is strategically located close to Gladstone's airport, port, and major highways, ensuring efficient access and connectivity for project personnel.

The Village has hosted construction and maintenance workforces supporting CSG-LNG projects, Callide Power Station maintenance, and other major industry and infrastructure developments in the Gladstone region.

Decmil brings this to the Committee's attention in light of the Energy Roadmap Amendment Bill 2025, which will guide the facilitation of new generation and transmission projects under the Energy System Outlook, Priority Transmission Investment (PTI) framework, and Regional Energy Hub initiatives. The Bill also supports the procurement of up to 400 MW of new gas generation capacity for Central Queensland and the continued expansion of large-scale wind, solar, and battery storage projects.

In evidence before the Committee on 27 October 2025, Ms Kellie Reeves, Deputy Under Treasurer, Energy and Government Owned Corporations, Queensland Treasury, highlighted the importance of the PTI framework and the Gladstone Project, noting:

"The retention of the PTI framework reflects its important use in delivering strategic transmission projects that help meet the state's energy objectives. It includes the delivery of the Gladstone project, which is a major transmission project to replace and strengthen a critical part of Central Queensland's electricity transmission network and ensure ongoing reliability and security of energy supply in the Gladstone region, which is one of Queensland's largest industrial hubs. The Gladstone project is intended to upgrade that area in terms of transmission capacity to accommodate new generation and strengthen the network in anticipation of the potential closure of the Gladstone Power Station. In June 2025 Powerlink submitted its assessment of the

Gladstone project under the Priority Transmission Investment framework for government consideration. In performing the role of a suitably qualified person under the PTI framework, the Australian Energy Regulator is now reviewing the investment proposed in Powerlink's assessment for prudency and efficiency. The AER's advice will help to inform the Queensland government's final decision on the Gladstone project, expected in 2026. It is important because on 1 October 2025 the owners of GPS formally notified the Australian Energy Market Operator of its potential retirement by March 2029. This does underscore the importance of continuing to progress the assessment of the Gladstone project under the PTI framework. The government recently reiterated the criticality of the project in the Energy Roadmap, which also identified the Gladstone project as: a no-regrets, government-led investment; critical for system security and reliability; and supporting Queensland's industrial loads and economic growth. The bill revises the Priority Transmission Investment framework to improve flexibility and operational efficiency. It also introduces transitional provisions for the Gladstone project that allow the project to be delivered under this revised framework. The transitional provisions allow the project to leverage and benefit from the efficiencies embedded in the revised framework, while ensuring continuity of the project and avoiding disruptions."

As the Gladstone and Central Queensland region scales up major energy, grid, and infrastructure projects, it is vital to ensure that the associated surge in construction workforce does not place additional pressure on the local housing market and community housing supply.

Decmil notes the Queensland Government's increased emphasis on ensuring that proponents of large-scale renewable energy projects demonstrate appropriate workforce accommodation planning at the development assessment stage.

Accordingly, Decmil recommends that the Committee consider how the Energy System Outlook, due for review by 31 May 2027, can also incorporate workforce and accommodation requirements associated with both the construction and ongoing maintenance of energy generation and transmission infrastructure. The Outlook should form part of the Government's broader monitoring and reporting on the accommodation footprint of major projects in key regional centres such as Gladstone.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission. Decmil would welcome the opportunity to provide further information or participate in future consultations.

Yours sincerely,

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