



30 June 2014

The Research Director
State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Lodged online: sdiic@parliament.qld.gov.au

SUBMISSION

Electricity Competition and Protection Legislation Amendment Bill 2014; and National Energy Retail Law (Queensland) Bill 2014

Alinta Energy Retail Sales Pty Ltd (**Alinta Energy**) welcomes the opportunity to submit to the Committee for State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee (**Committee**) on the *Electricity Competition and Protection Legislation Amendment Bill 2014* and the *National Energy Retail Law (Queensland) Bill 2014* both currently with the Committee for consideration.

Alinta Energy is both a generator and retailer of electricity and gas in Western Australia and the National Energy Market (**NEM**). It has over 2500MW of generation facilities and in excess of 750,000 retail customers, including around 140,000 customers in Victoria and South Australia.

The *National Energy Retail Law (Queensland) Bill 2014* facilitates the implementation of the *National Energy Retail Law 2014 (SA)* and the National Energy Customer Framework (**NECF**) in south east Queensland (**SEQ**). Alinta Energy supports and welcomes the Queensland Government's commitment to adopt the national framework and believes that it will offer consumers greater choice as the adoption of the national framework will reduce the barriers to entry for new retailers and have a positive impact on competition in the market, whilst also ensuring the consistent application of customer protections.

The *Electricity Competition and Protection Legislation Amendment Bill 2014* seeks to remove retail price regulation in SEQ and establish a market monitoring regime. Additionally the legislation amends provisions of the *Electricity Act 1994 (Qld)* to facilitate the seamless introduction of the National Energy Retail Law in Queensland. Alinta Energy believes the suite of reforms announced by the Queensland Government, including implementation of the NECF and the removal of retail price regulation will maximise the benefits of competition in the retail energy market in SEQ to the benefit of consumers.



Should you have any questions or wish to discuss our submission further, please contact Lauren Zambotti on (02) 9372 2667 or via email: lauren.zambotti@alintaenergy.com.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shaun Ruddy".

Shaun Ruddy

Manager National Retail Regulation