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State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee

By email: sdiic@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee

Regional Planning Interests Bill 2013

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the above Bill.

This submission is made by Ergon Energy Corporation Limited (**Ergon Energy**). Ergon Energy is a Queensland Government-owned corporation that supplies electricity to approximately 700,000 customers across a vast operating area that covers approximately 97% of Queensland.

Ergon Energy's network supplies many areas that will be affected by the Bill. This is likely to include the development of the network across areas that would be "areas of regional interest" as defined in section 7 of the Bill.

Ergon Energy expects that the Bill is not intended to regulate the development of its network. However, Ergon Energy notes that the Bill includes a definition of "regulated activity", which is defined to be an activity that is likely to have an impact on an area of regional interest and that is prescribed in a regulation. There is no proposed regulation at this stage.

The scope for inclusion of an activity within the definition of regulated activity is broad. Ergon Energy has not been able to confirm with the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning if it is intended that electrical infrastructure would be included in the definition, because no decision has been made as to what might constitute a regulated activity. Ergon Energy wishes to notes its concern that if electrical infrastructure was to be included, this would impose an additional area of regulation and cost for the development of its network and to its customers.

We would welcome confirmation that development of electrical infrastructure will not be included as a regulated activity. Please contact Tim Stork on 3851 6798 if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely



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