



25 June 2014

Essential Services Commission of Victoria
Level 37
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Melbourne VIC 3000

By email: energy.submissions@esc.vic.gov.au

VARIATIONS TO STANDING OFFER TARIFFS FOLLOWING THE REMOVAL OF THE CARBON PRICE - POSITION PAPER

Alinta Energy Retail Sales Pty Ltd (**Alinta Energy**) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the *Variations to Standing Offer Tariffs Following the Removal of the Carbon Price Position Paper* (**Position Paper**).

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.

Alinta Energy supports the preferred option outlined in the Position Paper that is the allowance of a single variation to retailers' standing tariffs outside the parameters of the six month legislative moratorium to permit the reflection of the removal of the carbon tax. The compliance statement to be released by the Commission should clearly state that the variation following the removal of the carbon tax does not reset the six month moratorium for retailers to vary their standing tariffs. Alinta Energy believes that this option provides the most logical solution to the potential impediment that the restriction on varying standing offer tariffs places on retailers in complying with the *Clean Energy Legislation (Carbon Tax Repeal) Bill 2013* when it comes into effect and provides consumers with adequate pricing certainty while ensuring any savings arising from the repeal is passed on to consumers as soon as practicable.

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

Shaun Ruddy
Manager National Retail Regulation