

29 May 2018

Suzanne Falvi
Executive General Manager
Australian Energy Market Commission
PO Box A2449
Sydney South NSW 1235



Dear Ms Falvi,

Reinstatement of the long-notice RERT consultation paper

The Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) is an independent, non-profit legal centre based in New South Wales. Established in 1982, PIAC tackles systemic issues that have a significant impact upon people who are marginalised and facing disadvantage. We ensure basic rights are enjoyed across the community through litigation, public policy development, communication and training. The Energy + Water Consumers' Advocacy Program represents the interests of low-income and other residential consumers, developing policy and advocating in energy and water markets.

PIAC welcomes the opportunity to respond to the AEMC's consultation paper.

PIAC supports the rule change proposal to the extent that it will allow AEMO to access a broader and more robust set of potential providers for the Reliability and Emergency Reserve Trader (RERT). This will help ensure that, if AEMO chooses to exercise the RERT, it has the best opportunity to meet any reliability shortfall and at least cost.

However, this does not diminish AEMO's responsibility in choosing if and when to exercise the RERT. PIAC maintains that mechanisms to ensure system security and reliability such as the RERT must only be exercised when it is in the long-term interests of consumers.

Continued engagement

PIAC would welcome the opportunity to meet with the AEMC and other stakeholders to discuss these issues in more depth.

Yours sincerely,

Miyuru Ediriweera
Senior Policy Officer, Energy and Water
Public Interest Advocacy Centre

Direct phone: +61 2 8898 6525
E-mail: mediriweera@piac.asn.au