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**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

3 September 2014

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BY EMAIL

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Dear Sir/Madam

www.accc.gov.au

**Stanwell Corporation Limited & Diamantina Power Station Pty Ltd -
applications for authorisation A91448 & A91449 - interested party consultation**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has received applications for authorisation from Stanwell Corporation Limited & Diamantina Power Station Pty Ltd (the Applicants).

As a potentially interested party, the ACCC invites you to provide a submission in relation to these applications. If you do not wish to make a submission, no further action is required from you.

Applications for authorisation

The Applicants both operate (or will operate) electricity generators which supply electricity to the North West Power System (NWPS) for use by an energy retailer and large companies, predominately mining operations. The NWPS is an isolated electricity generation and transmission network based in Mt Isa and is not connected to the national grid.

The Applicants are seeking authorisation of the technical and operational arrangements related to the operation of the NWPS. Specifically, the parties are seeking authorisation to agree rules related to the coordination of dispatch of generators, and demand management and load shedding of certain electricity consumers within the NWPS.

Authorisation has been sought for 5 years.

The Applicants originally sought authorisation for technical and operational arrangements related to the operation of the NWPS on 27 February 2014. These applications for authorisation were made on the basis of a draft Dispatch Protocol on the understanding that a final Dispatch Protocol would be agreed between the parties within a relatively short timeframe. On 13 June 2014 the Applicants withdrew these applications for authorisation because the Dispatch Protocol had not been finalised. The applications were withdrawn with the intention of new applications being lodged once the Dispatch Protocol was finalised. The current applications for authorisation have been lodged as the Dispatch Protocol is now finalised.

A full copy of the applications for authorisation is available on the ACCC's website:
www.accc.gov.au/AuthorisationsRegister.

Interim authorisation

The applicants have also requested interim authorisation for the proposed arrangements.

The ACCC endeavours to deal with requests for interim authorisation quickly. In making an assessment as to whether it is appropriate to grant interim authorisation, the ACCC is not required to undertake a full assessment of the benefit and detriment likely to arise as a result of the proposed conduct.

The ACCC decides whether to grant interim authorisation on a case by case basis. Should an applicant request interim authorisation, the ACCC will usually consider a range of factors, including harm to the applicant and other parties if interim authorisation is or is not granted, possible benefit and detriment to the public, the urgency of the matter and whether the market would be able to return to substantially its pre-interim state if the ACCC should later deny authorisation.

Request for submissions

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the likely public benefits and effect on competition, or any other public detriment, from the proposed arrangements.

If you intend to provide a submission in relation to the applications for authorisation and/or the request for interim authorisation, please do so by **17 September 2014**. Submissions should be emailed to adjudication@accc.gov.au with the subject "A91448 & A91449 – Stanwell Corporation Limited & Diamantina Power Station Pty Ltd – submission".

Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Gavin Jones on 03 9290 1475 to organise a suitable time.

If you have previously provided a submission in relation to the applications for authorisation lodged by the Applicants on 27 February 2014 and withdrawn on 13 June 2014 and your views about the current applications remains as expressed in that submission you may wish to indicate this and limit your submission to any additional comments you wish to make.

Submissions, including oral submissions, will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Further information about excluding information from the public register is available here:
www.accc.gov.au/excludinginformationfrompublicregister.

Timetable

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

29 August 2014	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
3 September 2014	Public consultation process begins.
17 September 2014	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
Early October 2014	ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation.
October 2014	Applicants respond to any issues raised in the public consultation process.
October 2014	Draft determination.
November/December 2014	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
November/December 2014	Final determination.

Please advise if you do not wish to make a submission at this time, but would like to be informed of the progress of the applications at the draft and final determination stages. You can also forward this letter to any other party who may wish to make a submission to the ACCC regarding the applications.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Gavin Jones on 03 9290 1475 or adjudication@accc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Gavin Jones
Director
Adjudication Branch