

21 February 2017

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)

Re: Support for ACCC Authorisation to Establish a Joint Electricity Buying Group

The Whyalla City Council, write in support of SACOME's proposal for collective purchasing of electricity in South Australia.

We believe that the current energy system is in crisis and is having an impact on consumers and businesses in SA.

The high price, the high volatility, and the unreliability of the power network is impacting on the competitiveness of the state and the nation.

This proposal aggregates sufficient load with an attractive term that will enable new or existing unutilised generation assets to be brought into the supply mix, which will increase competition amongst the electricity wholesalers in South Australia.

As a local Council we support this SACOME facilitated application, and if successful, the establishment of the joint electricity purchasing arrangements is expected to deliver:

- increased competition in the South Australian electricity market by encouraging new generation;
- improve power system security and a reduced risk of major unplanned supply interruptions (blackouts); and
- increased potential for lower electricity prices for other consumers through increased competition.

Yours faithfully



Migelle Hiscock
Acting Chief Executive Officer

