

Jessica Watson
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Re: Victoria to NSW Interconnector West Project (SSI-72887208)

EnergyCo has received a request from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to provide comments on the State significant infrastructure application for the Victoria to NSW Interconnector West Project (VNI West) (SSI-72887208).

EnergyCo supports the VNI West as it is an important network project to support the South West Renewable Energy Zone (REZ). VNI West is also an Actionable Project in Australian Energy Market Operator's (AEMO) Integrated System Plan.

We note that in April 2025, EnergyCo granted access rights to four projects in the South West REZ representing 3.56 GW of new renewable generation and storage capacity. Combined, these projects are set to contribute around a quarter of the NSW Government's 2030 renewable generation targets.

The award of access rights to these four renewable generation and storage projects was based on reaching 2.5 GW of intended network capacity (as declared by the Minister for Energy in the November 2022 REZ Declaration), to which the VNI West project plays a critical role.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "SSchofield".

Shannon Schofield
A/ Director Planning & Policy