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18 December 2019

NSW Government: Planning and Environment
320 Pitt St
Sydney, NSW, 2000

To whom it may concern,

SUBJECT: AGL's Newcastle Power Station – State Significant Project SSI-9837

I am writing in support of AGL's 250MW Newcastle Power Station Project (SSI-9837) which is currently open for public submissions.

Ampcontrol is a leading Australian manufacturer of electrical and electronic equipment for the resources, infrastructure and energy sectors. Our company has worked on and been a regular service provider various AGL sites over the past several years.

We have proudly supported the power and infrastructure industries in NSW and Australia for over 50 years, gaining an industry wide reputation for quality and performance in challenging environments. Throughout this time, we have delivered and serviced market leading power distribution, monitoring and control systems. AGL highlighted in the recent Newcastle Power Station community information sessions AGL forecasts regional employment on a 1:3 direct to indirect employment ratio for AGL projects. Ampcontrol's headquarters and primary operations are within a 1km of the proposed power station in Tomago. The Tomago operations are inclusive of 67 Engineers/Undergrad Engineers and 131 Electricians/Apprentices which will be well placed to support construction and the ongoing operation of the Gas Peaking Plant.

I would like to take this opportunity to briefly outline how the Newcastle Power Station Project approval will have flow on benefits to suppliers such as Ampcontrol and the economy more broadly:

- **Local employment growth opportunity**

The Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan 2036 is targeting 700 additional jobs by 2036 would see local employment increase from 7,800 to 8,500 jobs within the Tomago significant advanced manufacturing and industrial area. The project is forecast to provide 23 direct full time employees work and a further 69 indirect employees supporting the project across the 25 year operational life. Further, through the construction phase the project would offer employment to 300 construction workers for 24 months. Based on AGL's forecasting there would be a further indirect 900 jobs supported through the construction phase. The project would provide local businesses, employment/upskilling opportunities to people within the area and also help AGL meet its promise of no forced redundancies with the closure of Liddell Power station *"Local businesses will be prioritised, where possible, to service the Proposal during construction and operation"* (AGL Project EIS 2019). *"Efforts will be made to source the workforce from the local area to avoid placing undue pressure on temporary accommodation in the area"* (AGL Project EIS 2019). *"The Proposal would present opportunities for upskilling and training of the workforce, as well as offering scholarships and other training opportunities for the local community"* (AGL Project EIS 2019).

- **Energy impact**

Many of NSW's coal fire power stations are approaching retirement age which will result in the reduction of NSW's base load coal fired generation. This is consistent with Australia's energy sectors transition away from ageing thermal generation to newer cleaner technologies. AEMO's 2019 Electricity Statement of Opportunities identified that if no mitigation measures are taken will expose the network

to supply gaps and involuntary load shedding. The proposed 250MW Newcastle Power Station will help to provide security and system reliability to the electricity grid with fast start dispatchable capacity via the gas peaking plant through the transition NSW and Australian grid.

- **Environmental**

Potential environmental impact is always a sensitive issue, reading though the EIS, we have confidence that AGL has clearly considered environmental impact in a diligent fashion and planned the project to minimise any both construction and ongoing operation impacts on the local fauna and flora.

We confirm our support for the development of the Newcastle Power Station Project as it represents a source of significant opportunity for local suppliers and the economy more broadly.

If you would like to discuss this submission in further detail, please contact Jennifer Ryan Executive Assistant, Jennifer.ryan@ampcontrolgroup.com.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Rod Henderson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Rod Henderson
Managing Director & CEO