



12 March 2020

BY EMAIL ([isp@aemo.com.au](mailto:isp@aemo.com.au))

Australian Energy  
Market Operator  
Level 22, 530 Collins Street,  
Melbourne, Victoria, 3000

Dear Sir/Madam

New Sky is an Australian based investment company committed to assisting Victoria reach its renewable energy targets and provide leadership to a low carbon economy.

The company has a range of green investments proposed the largest being a 1000 megawatt solar farm in Kerang in Victoria's north west. We currently have a planning permit for stage 1 of this project which is a 510 megawatt solar farm together with battery storage.

Currently our plans are on hold until we have the confidence that the transmission network has the capacity to handle the proposed generation in stage 1. The land for stage 1 has been purchased and we have spoken to other landowners regarding the stage 2 proposal. As a developer we are keen to get this project moving but are being delayed by capacity issues.

New Sky has the backing of the largest construction company in China, who are very keen to invest in the Victorian economy providing much needed jobs and investment in regional Victoria.

The choice of Kerang for the project was based on a number of factors including the following;

1. The solar resources in the Murray river REZ are well above all other locations in Victoria
2. The location is lower value farmland that has been used for minimal grazing only. All water rights has been transferred off the property.
3. The land is very flat and the 220kv transmission lines run through the property.
4. We believe that Kerang is the ideal hub to develop the Victoria – NSW interconnector as it services the Kerang to Mildura transmission line and the Darlington Point transmission line.
5. Kerang has a strong social licence for solar developments and the Council is a great supporter of renewables.
6. Kerang has a far less intensive agricultural landscape with larger land titles making any new construction a far simpler process.
7. We have flagged the idea of investing in the transmission network between Kerang and Bendigo believing this route is an ideal link into Melbourne.
8. The Kerang Link proposal has the potential to open up the Murray River REZ and provide the scope for far greater energy generation for many years to come. Kerang Link has the potential to provide the strategic links between Murray River REZ and south west NSW REZ creating one of the strongest solar generation locations in Victoria and NSW. It is a critical generation zone in the NEM.
9. Kerang is well known for solar generation potential and we were encouraged to invest in Kerang by our business partners in China. They were aware of the potential for solar in the Murray River REZ from the other side of the world.



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# NEW SKY

We ask that AEMO and the Victorian State Government recognise that the Murray River REZ has in the vicinity of 3,000MW of permitted projects waiting in limbo along with serious interest in an additional 3,000MW. If a solution isn't forthcoming many will move their investments interstate. These projects are from Bendigo to Mildura.

The Murray River Group of Councils has thrown their support behind Kerang Link and we agree with their vision of North West Victoria becoming the solar capital of Australia.

We are also excited having read the recent press release that the Andrews Government is seeking to override the complex regulatory issues believing that this will assist us to not only develop our solar generation facilities but invest in other exciting opportunities in the Kerang region.

We look forward to being part of Victoria's energy future!

Yours sincerely

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Director

