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Friday, 28 March 2025

The Hon Clayton Barr MP
Committee Chair
Legislative Assembly Committee on Environment and Planning
NSW Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Barr

Supplementary information – Inquiry into the electricity outages affecting Far West NSW in October 2024

Dear Mr Barr,

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the Broken Hill hearing for the New South Wales (NSW) Legislative Assembly Committee on Environment and Planning's inquiry into the electricity outages affecting Far West NSW in October 2024.

We refer to your email in relation to the questions taken on notice by Transgrid representatives at the public hearing on 6 March 2025 and the additional questions from the Committee provided on 20 March 2025. Transgrid appreciates the extension provided by the Committee which allowed Transgrid to fully respond to these matters. The responses to the questions are enclosed with this letter.

Transgrid would also like to take this opportunity to clarify certain matters related to the evidence provided by Transgrid on 6 March 2025, to ensure the Committee has access to accurate evidence during its ongoing deliberations. Of note:

At the public hearing, Marie Jordan stated that "*[i]n March of 2021, we were given a date of 10 July*". In March 2021, Essential Energy notified Transgrid that it would cease to provide network support by way of the gas turbines on 10 January 2022.

At the public hearing, in relation to the AGL BESS, Marie Jordan stated, "*[w]e just need an AER variance to work under a temporary GPS*". The correct entity to which she intended to refer in this statement is AEMO.

Also at the public hearing, Marie Jordan stated in relation to the Community Partnerships Program, "*We have... \$300,000 in the wings... and next year there's a \$500,000 grant going into the community.*" For clarity, during the emergency response, Transgrid advised the NSW Government that to assist in the initial recovery, it would provide \$1,500,000 to the community for emergency relief. The NSW Government provided additional funding and at its request, the combined funding package was distributed by ServiceNSW.

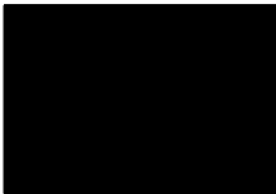
In addition, via our Far West NSW Community Partnership Program, Transgrid committed \$500,000 in new funding (in total). This funding is in the form of community grants for applicants in areas impacted by the outages. Of that \$500,000 commitment, \$296,461 has, as at the end of February 2025, been shared by 44 charities and not-for-profit organisations. The list of recipients is [here](#). The next round of grants will be announced on 31 March 2025.

We look forward to our continued dialogue with the community, our industry colleagues, stakeholders and the NSW Government, as we work together to implement improvements and provide solutions to the long-term reliability and security of energy for the people of Far West NSW.

If you require further information from Transgrid as the Committee finalises its report, please contact Emma Ashton, Senior Manager Government and Stakeholder Relations at [REDACTED].

Thank you again for your and the Committee's consideration of our evidence and learnings.

Yours faithfully



Maryanne Graham

**Executive General Manager
Stakeholder, Regulatory and Corporate Affairs**