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General Manager
Markets Branch
Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 520
Melbourne VIC 3001

Dear Sir/Madam

Exempt selling guidelines

Free TV Australia is the industry body representing all of Australia's free-to-air commercial television broadcasters. Free TV would like to comment on the Australian Energy Regulator's Draft Exempt selling guidelines for the sale of energy. Whilst we note the deadline for submissions was Friday 12 August, we only just became aware of the guidelines and so hope you will consider our submission.

Free TV Australia would like to support the submission provided by Broadcast Australia on the guidelines. The broadcast industry requests that broadcast communications infrastructure providers should be given a class exemption from the obligation to become a licensed retailer in circumstances where electricity costs are being passed on to other broadcasters which share a communications infrastructure site.

We believe that this would be consistent with the underlying intent of the licensing scheme, which is clearly intended to capture retailers of energy services. We do not believe that the existing practice of broadcast infrastructure 'site sharing' (in which several broadcasters operate from a single site, sharing towers, buildings and power connections, with electricity services negotiated via the site owner, with costs passed on to the other broadcasters sharing the site), can be likened to a true energy retail relationship. Electricity charges are passed on to the other site inhabitants on a cost-sharing basis only, and no real retail relationship exists.

Site sharing allows important administrative and logistical benefits and the ability of the site administrator to centrally negotiate electricity prices is an important part of the arrangement.

We support and share Broadcast Australia's objection to a requirement for the broadcasting and communications industry to be subject to the proposed electricity licensing scheme. In no way is selling electricity a core business activity of broadcasters and the requirement to become licensed would create unnecessary compliance costs.

If you have any queries in relation to the above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Flynn".

per. **JULIE FLYNN**
Chief Executive Officer

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