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## Standards Australia

### Technical Governance Review

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Submitted: [tgr@standards.org.au](mailto:tgr@standards.org.au)

#### Technical Governance Review – Standards Australia response to final report

AGL Energy (AGL) welcomes the opportunity to comment on Standards Australia's response to the Final Report on the Technical Governance Review released by Cameron.Ralph.Khorury (CRK).

AGL is one of Australia's leading integrated energy companies and largest ASX listed owner, operator and developer of renewable generation. AGL is also a significant retailer of energy, providing energy solutions to over 3.6 million customers accounts throughout eastern Australia. AGL is a customer-focussed business and we endeavour to provide customers with products and services that best meet their diverse wants and needs. AGL is a representative on a number of Standards Australia technical committees through our membership with the Australian Energy Council.

AGL is pleased to see Standards Australia adoption and adaptation of the CRK recommendations to allow for modernisation and transparency of the standards process. AGL supports a system that ensures that there is a fair and proportionate level of representation across the different interest areas on standards committees. This ensures that one body, or one group, is not over represented by holding a larger proportion of seats than other interests. By ensuring the committee makeup is broad and diverse, Standards Australia can help minimise risk of unconscious bias or unrepresentative standards being finalised. AGL consider that the proposed technical governance approach by Standards Australia will help ensure that there is fair and equal representation and management of standards going forward.

AGL also supports the Standards Australia response on the following points:

- **Proactive work** – Standards Australia's response will allow the organisation to switch focus to a mix of both reactive and proactive work. Stakeholders will be able to track and monitor standards and sectors and be able to forecast workload and changes in line with the strategic priorities set by Standards Australia.
- **Improved participation** - The development and drafting phases becoming more transparent, with information readily available on the Standards Australia website, will allow for interested parties to remain informed and participate at different stages of reviews and/or standards development. By running public comment processes, Standards Australia will be able to assess stakeholder interest and influence in standards development and ensure that broader views are captured or considered.
- **Modernisation of the technology** utilised by Standards Australia will also facilitate improved participation.
- **Committee support** – further to our comment on the make-up of the committees, allowing for greater transparency in voting decisions by committee members will assist in the reduction of deadlocks. It will assist in reducing the politicisation of standards work that can hinder timely responses, particularly new and emerging considerations, including relating to safety.



- **Committee transparency** - AGL support the transparency of the committee and nominations processes. However, we would like to understand more the scope and manner of committee member activity being tracked and the type of information intended to be disclosed on the Standards Australia website (i.e. what time of information will be displayed – contact number, name, organisation name, will it link/list them against all the Standards they are participating on).

AGL is glad to see these changes are being run through various pilots throughout the standards review/development process and look forward to reviewing the results of these tests.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Kathryn Burela on 0498 001 328.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Con Hristodoulidis'.

Con Hristodoulidis

Senior Manager | Energy Markets Regulation