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Australian Energy Market Operator
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System Restart Ancillary Services Guideline 2020 Draft Report and Determination

Meridian Energy Australia Pty Ltd and Powershop Australia Pty Ltd (MEA Group or Powershop) thanks the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) for the opportunity to provide comments on the AEMO's System Restart Ancillary Services Guideline 2020 Draft Report and Determination (the Paper).

Background on the MEA Group

MEA Group is a vertically integrated generator and retailer focused entirely on renewable generation. Powershop is an innovative retailer committed to providing lower prices for customers and which recognises the benefits to customers in transitioning to a more distributed and renewable-based energy system. Powershop has consistently introduced innovative and customer-centric initiatives into the Victorian market, including the first mobile app that allows customers to monitor their usage, a peer-to-peer solar trading trial and a successful customer-led demand response program. Powershop has also been active in supporting community energy initiatives, including providing operational and market services for the community-owned Hepburn Wind Farm, supporting the Warburton hydro project, and funding a large range of community and social enterprise energy projects through our Your Community Energy program.

Submission

MEA Group is generally supportive of the Paper and AEMO's amendments to the System Restart Ancillary Services (SRAS) Guidelines. As part of the first stage of consultation, MEA Group made a submission to the SRAS Guideline 2020 Issues Paper. MEA Group's submission made reference to several points in the Issues Paper which we sought to clarify further. We are pleased to see general adoption and amendments were made in respect of that submission. Ensuring the SRAS Guidelines remain fit for purpose is integral to ensuring system security and reduced costs for consumers into the future. The amendments to the SRAS Guidelines will enable greater participation from current and emerging technology types, such as synchronous generators and subsequently facilitate the transition of the National Electricity Market (NEM) to a lower-emissions system.

MEA Group looks forward to further consultation and engagement as AEMO sets about finalising amendments to the SRAS Guidelines. If you have any queries or would like to discuss any aspect of this submission, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Powershop Australia Pty Ltd
Meridian Energy Australia Pty Ltd