

ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY ACT 2000 APPLICATION FOR ELECTRICITY GENERATION AND SALE LICENCE

Winton Asset Co Pty Ltd (as trustee for the Winton Asset Trust) (ACN 623 824 288)

RECORD OF DECISION

18 November 2020

SUMMARY

Pursuant to the provisions of section 19(1) of the Electricity Industry Act 2000 (Vic) (Industry Act) the Essential Services Commission (the commission) has granted Winton Asset Co Pty Ltd (as trustee for Winton Asset Trust) (ACN 623 824 288) (WSF) a licence to generate electricity for supply or sale, and to sell electricity at the Winton solar farm located approximately 25 km south-west of Wangaratta in north-central Victoria.

BACKGROUND

Requirement to obtain a Licence

Section 16(1) of the Industry Act provides that a person must not engage in the generation of electricity for supply or sale or the transmission, distribution, supply or sale of electricity, unless the person is:

- (a) the holder of a licence authorising the relevant activity; or
- (b) is exempted from the requirement to obtain a licence in respect of the relevant activity.

Entitlement to apply for a Licence

Section 18(1) of the Industry Act provides that a person may apply to the commission for a licence authorising the person to generate electricity for supply or sale, and to sell electricity.

The applicant

On 10 July 2020, WSF submitted an application to the commission for a licence authorising it to generate electricity for supply or sale, and to sell electricity to the wholesale electricity market

The application

Consistent with the requirements of the commission's 'Guide to Applications for Electricity Industry Licences', WSF provided the commission with comprehensive documentation supporting the application.

In particular, WSF presented information to provide assurance concerning its technical capacity.

On 1 October 2020, the commission published a copy of the application, and invited interested parties to make submissions in respect of the application.

The commission did not receive any submissions regarding the application.

CONSIDERATION OF THE APPLICATION

Section 19(1) of the Industry Act provides that the commission may grant or refuse the application for any reason it considers appropriate, having regard to the objectives of the commission under the provisions of the *Industry Act* and the *Essential Services Commission Act* 2001 (Vic) (Commission Act).

DECISION

The commission is satisfied that WSF:

- has the technical capacity to comply with the conditions of the licence to be granted; and
- is a fit and proper person to hold a licence in Victoria.

In accordance with Section 19(1) of the Industry Act, and having regard to its objectives under the Commission Act and the Industry Act, the commission has decided to grant WSF a licence to generate electricity for supply or sale, and to sell electricity. This authorisation granted by the licence is limited to generation of electricity at the Winton solar farm located approximately 25 km south-west of Wangaratta in north-central Victoria, and the sale of electricity generated by this facility through the wholesale market.

THE COMMON SEAL of the ESSENTIAL SERVICES COMMISSION was affixed pursuant to the authority of the Commission on 18 November 2020

Kate Symons Chairperson

ESSENTIAL SERVICES COMMISSION ABN. 71156498666