

19 August 2022

Energy Security Board
Review Panel
By email: info@esb.org.au

Dear Review Panel,

Re: Response to Data Strategy Initial Reforms Consultation Paper June 2022

The Central Victoria Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Energy Security Board's (ESB) consultation paper on a set of targeted, initial reforms designed to remove regulatory barriers and enable more effective access to existing energy market data.

CVGA is a formal alliance of 13 councils across Central and Northern Victoria¹, working together to deliver climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and advocating for initiatives that support sustainable, resilient, and carbon positive communities.

We urge the ESB to include local governments in the definition of "Class B bodies" under the market's regulations to ensure that councils can have timely and accurate access to existing energy data. This data will primarily be used by councils to quantify municipal greenhouse gas emission profiles and to monitor and evaluate the impact of community emission reduction initiatives.

We consider it appropriate that AEMO and network operators disclose postcode level data on energy consumption (segmented by industrial/residential/commercial) to councils on an annual basis (at minimum). Access to this data is critical to support local planning and policy development in the energy market transition and will provide genuine public-benefit value to communities.

If you have any questions or queries relating to this letter, please don't hesitate to contact me at the details below.

Yours sincerely,



Annika Kearton
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Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Inc.
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¹ CVGA members councils are: Ararat Rural City, City of Ballarat, City of Greater Bendigo, Buloke Shire, Central Goldfields Shire, Gannawarra Shire, Hepburn Shire, Loddon Shire, Macedon Ranges Shire, Mildura Rural City, Mount Alexander Shire, Pyrenees Shire, Swan Hill Rural City