

Electricity generation licence application form

Purpose of this form

This form must be completed by persons applying to the Essential Services Commission (the commission) for a licence to authorise electricity generation in Victoria. Electricity generation includes battery energy storage systems.

Basis for this form

Section 18 of the *Electricity Industry Act 2000* (the Industry Act) provides that a licence application must be made in a form approved by the commission. This is the form approved by the commission.

Use of this form and the applicant's responsibilities

A licence application may be made by any legal person including, without limitation, individuals, incorporated associations, unit and other forms of trusts and corporations. Entities that are not a legal person (for example, an unincorporated joint venture or a partnership) cannot apply for a licence.

For the purpose of this application form, reference to the term "Officer" includes the applicant's directors and secretary, and other persons who make or participate in making decisions that affect a substantial part of the business (for example, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer or General Manager).

The applicant should list the information requested in the spaces provided in this form and enclose additional information when required.

The applicant must take all reasonable steps to ensure the information provided in the application form is complete, true and correct.

An officer of the applicant is required to make a declaration to this effect in the application form. Failure to disclose information or misrepresent any matter relevant to such information may result in a licence not being issued or in the revocation of a licence later.

It is a criminal offence under section 61A of the *Essential Services Commission Act 2001* to provide the commission with false or misleading information or documentation.

The applicant is responsible for providing the commission with current, accurate and relevant documentation. It is the applicant's responsibility to make all reasonable inquiries to obtain the information requested by this form.

Providing accurate and relevant information and a complete application (answering all questions and providing all information) will assist in timely processing of an application. All applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis. If insufficient information is provided with an application, we will contact the applicant about the requirement for additional information to be submitted before the application is considered further.

Prior reading

It is expected that the applicant has read our [Guideline: Applications for electricity and gas industry licences](#) before completing this form.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure its compliance with legal obligations when applying for a licence.

Licence conditions

Section 20 of the Industry Act authorises the commission to issue licences subject to conditions as decided by the commission. Licences are published on our [website](#). We recommend the applicant familiarise itself with the relevant standard conditions and be confident that it can comply with those conditions prior to applying for a licence.

Further information

The applicant should note that we may ask for further information, or to clarify the information that the applicant has already provided with the application.

Consultation and confidentiality

We will consult with relevant government, industry and consumer groups on the licence application through a public consultation process. Applications and/or supporting information that is not confidential will be made available on our website.

If the applicant believes that any information provided as part of its application is confidential or commercially sensitive, it is the applicant's responsibility to clearly identify this information on those documents. The applicant should also provide a 'non-confidential' version of the application form and documents for publication on our website.

How to lodge an application

The applicant may send the completed application form electronically (preferred) or in hard copy to:

Electronically: licences@esc.vic.gov.au

Hard copy: Market Operations, Energy Division
Essential Services Commission
Level 8, 570 Bourke Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Large files

Applicants generally need to send us large files which is often not suitable via email. Please contact us at licences@esc.vic.gov.au to discuss alternative options to provide an application to the commission.

Application fees and annual licence fees

The commission has the authority to set a licence application fee. Currently, there is no application fee.

Holding a licence incurs annual licence fees. Refer to the commission's [Guideline: Applications for electricity and gas industry licences](#) for more information regarding annual licence fees.

1. General Information – The Applicant

The applicant must answer all questions in this section.

1.1 Legal name of applicant

State the full legal name of the applicant. The applicant is the person who will be generating electricity and/or selling (wholesale) electricity that will be the subject of the licence.

Name:	Golden Plains WF2 Pty Ltd in its personal capacity and as trustee of the Golden Plains WF2 Unit Trust
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1.2 Legal identity of applicant

Provide the applicant's ABN and ACN (where relevant) and information about the applicant (for example, whether the applicant is a private limited company, trust, or joint venture).

ABN: ABN 19 955 437 506	ACN: ACN 650 490 109
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Type of entity: Trust

1.3 Contact details and address of the applicant

The applicant	
Business address: Level 1&2, 110-112 The Corso, Manly	
State: NSW	Postcode: 2095
Postal address (if different):	
State: NA	Postcode: NA
Full name of contact person:	
Position title:	
Telephone:	Mobile:
Email:	
Financial Queries:	

1.4 Diagram of corporate and organisational structure

Attach a diagram illustrating the corporate structure, including details of any related companies within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the organisational chart. Provide a diagram of the:

a) corporate structure (including any parent and related companies within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001*), and

Attachment reference: Appendix B - Commercial In Confidence - Corporate Structure

b) organisational chart (including composition of the board, management, and other key personnel responsible for the key functions).

Attachment reference: Appendix B - Commercial In Confidence - Key Personnel

1.5 The licence

The applicant must answer all questions in this section.

If the applicant is seeking for a licence to be issued by a certain date, identify this date. **Note: we do not undertake to issue the licence by this date.** The applicant should usually allow a minimum of eight to 10 weeks **once we consider the application to be complete.** An application is considered complete once we have all the information needed for the commission to make a decision. In other words, when we have no need to request further information from the applicant. This includes a public consultation period of four weeks (generally) as part of our consideration of licence applications.

Provide details on the following:

Date from which licence is sought: **30 March 2025**

Type of generation: **Electricity Generation Licence**

Expected name plate capacity: **576.6MW**

Location of generation facility: **Rokewood, Victoria, 3330**

Details of how the generator will be connected to the network:

GPWF2 will be connected to the network via the newly constructed 220kV connection point at Golden Plains Terminal Station (**GPTS**) as “Generator II”. GPTS was constructed in 2023/2024 during the construction of Golden Plains Wind Farm 1, “Generator I”.

From GPTS, a newly constructed 5km 220kV overhead line (double circuit GPTS No 1 and No 2 line) which forms part of the AEMO network connects into the 500kV line that runs between Haunted Gulley Terminal Station (**HGTS**) / Mortlake Power Station (**MOPS**) and Moorabool Terminal Station (**MLTS**) at a the newly constructed 220/500kV terminal station, Cressy Terminal Station (**CRTS**). This arrangement is shown on the single line diagrams below in figure 1. A small extension to GPTS bus and a Reactive Bay will be constructed as part of the GPWF2

project as shown on figure 2 on the following page.

GPWF2 will connect into GPTS via a double circuit overhead 220kV line. One of which will run to the Golden Plains Central Collector (GPCC) and one of which will run to the Golden Plains Western Collector (GPWC). In addition, GPWF2 will have reactive equipment installed at GPTS (GP2R).

Refer to images below for a more detailed breakdown of the connection of the Project.

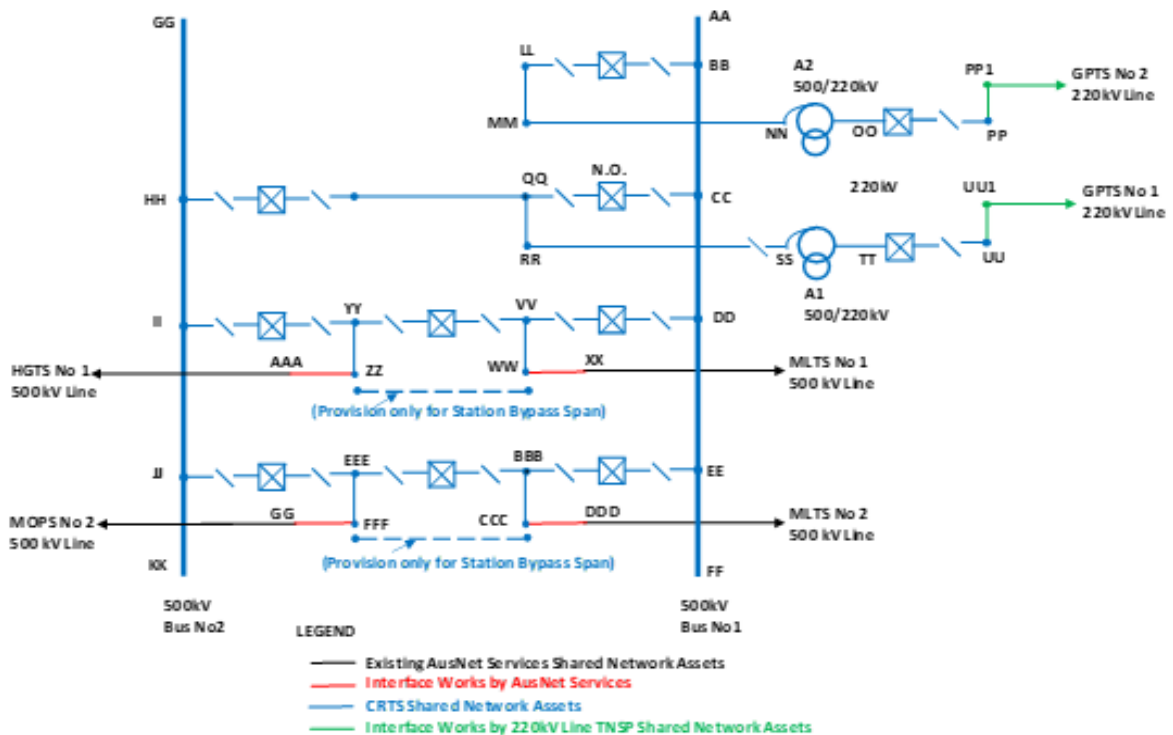


Figure 1: New Cressy Terminal Station and New 220kV Lines to Golden Plains Terminal Station (GPTS) constructed in 2023/2024

LEGEND

- GPTS Shared Network Assets as part of Stage I
- Interface Works by 220kV Line TNSP Shared Network Assets
- Generator II Connection Assets
- New Shared Network Assets as part of Stage II

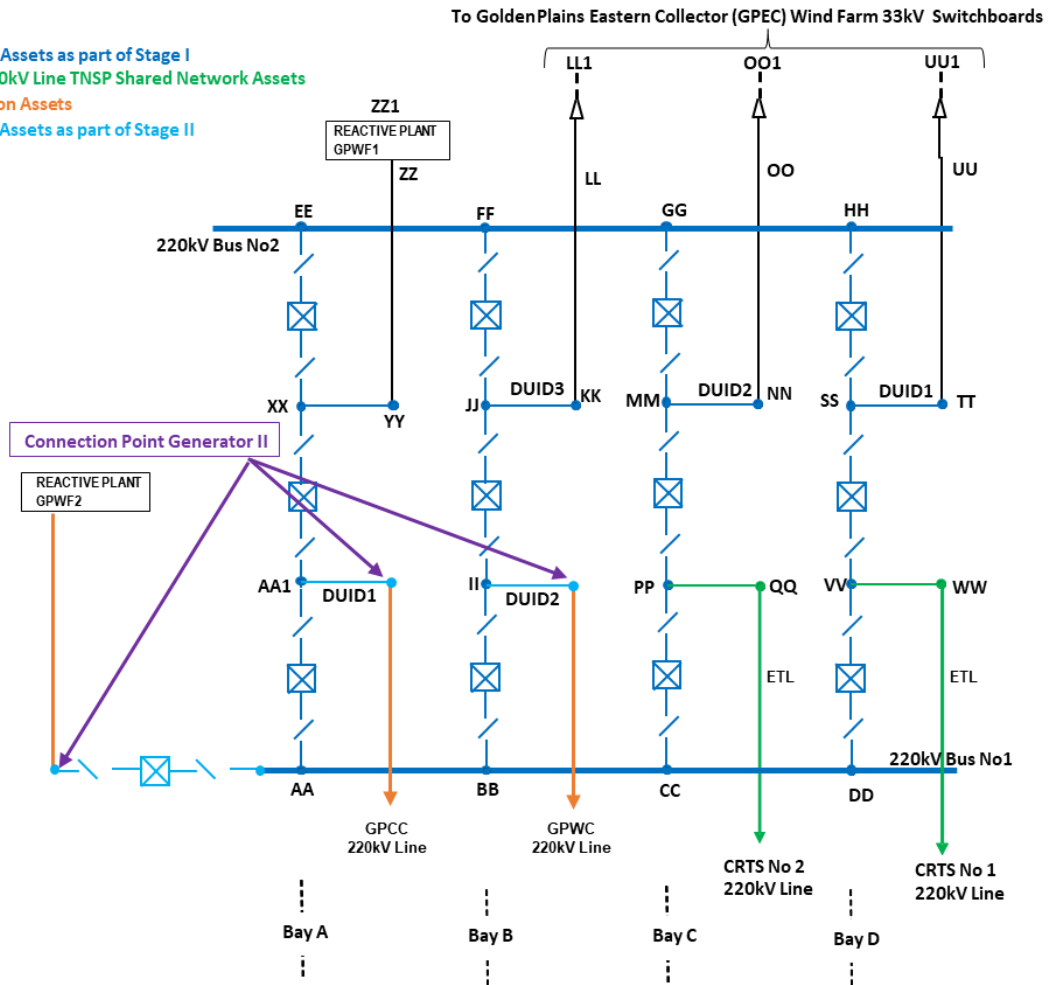


Figure 2: Golden Plains Terminal Station (GPTS) – Assets shown as light blue and orange to be constructed as part of GPWF2 project. All other assets were constructed as part of Stage 1 of the project.

2. Technical capacity

The applicant must answer all questions in this section.

2.1 Experience and knowledge of the industry

Provide information about the human resources available to the applicant. This includes:

- a) The experience and qualifications of those employees outlined in the organisational chart (see 1.4b);
- b) If the applicant will employ contractors or agents to assist with the licensed activities, the name of those contractors or agents, details about the experience of the contractors or agents in such operations and details of the processes in place to ensure the contractors or agents comply with the licence conditions, including relevant regulatory obligations

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a). GPWF2 is managed by the directors appointed by TagEnergy and through the experienced teams at the TagEnergy and WestWind organisations via management services agreements as outlined in following sections.

Attachment reference: Appendix B - Commercial In Confidence - Key Personnel

Agreement	Between Parties	Executed Date
Revenue Management Agreement	Golden Plains WF2 Pty Ltd as Principal and TagEnergy Australia Pty Ltd as Supplier	31 May 2024
Asset Management Deed	Golden Plains WF2 Pty Ltd as Principal and WestWind Energy Management Pty Ltd as Supplier.	5 March 2024
EPC Contract (Engineer Procure Construct)	Golden Plains WF2 Pty Ltd (as trustee for the Golden Plains WF2 Unit Trust) as Principal and Vestas Australian Wind Technology Pty Ltd as Contractor.	9 May 2024
MSA Agreement (Maintenance Services Agreement)	Golden Plains WF2 Pty Ltd (as trustee for the Golden Plains WF2 Unit Trust) as Principal and Vestas Australian Wind Technology Pty Ltd as Contractor.	9 May 2024
Use of System Agreement for Victorian Transmission Network Services for	Australian Energy Market Operator Ltd (AEMO) and Golden Plains WF1 Pty Ltd (as trustee for the Golden Plains WF1 Unit Trust) and AusNet Transmission Group Pty Ltd and Golden Plains WF2 Pty Ltd (as trustee for the Golden Plains WF2 Unit Trust)	7 June 2024
PCCD	Australian Energy Market Operator Ltd (AEMO) and Golden Plains WF1	7 June 2024

	Pty Ltd (as trustee for the Golden Plains WF1 Unit Trust) and AusNet Transmission Group Pty Ltd and Golden Plains WF2 Pty Ltd (as trustee for the Golden Plains WF2 Unit Trust)	
CSA	Not required for this project – point of connection is directly into AEMO network.	
NSA	Held between Australian Energy Market Operator Ltd (AEMO) and AusNet Transmission Group Pty Ltd.	-

b)

TagEnergy

TagEnergy is a clean energy enterprise operated by a highly-experienced team of manager-shareholders. Its operations span the renewables value chain, from development, financing, construction and asset management of wind, solar and storage projects, to commercialisation of its competitive energy. TagEnergy has developed a portfolio of close to 4GW in the UK, Australia, Spain, Portugal and France and is part of the Impala SAS Group, owned by Jacques Veyrat. Veyrat and Impala have a strong history of entrepreneurial success, creating and growing major players in renewable energy and telecommunications, including Cegetel, Direct Energie and Neoen. Other significant investors in TagEnergy include Mirova and Omnes. Mirova is a French leading sustainable asset manager and affiliate of Natixis Investment Managers. Mirova has close to €28 billion in assets under management, with approximately €2 billion invested in the energy transition infrastructure sector through five funds. Omnes is a leading private equity and infrastructure investor with over €5 billion of assets under management, including over €3 billion purely in renewable energy investments.

WestWind

WestWind is a subsidiary of WestWind Energy Group which built its first wind farm in the community of Marklohe (northern Germany) in 1999 (Lemke Wind Park). Since then, the WestWind Energy Group has expanded both within Germany and internationally and has developed and constructed over 56 wind farm projects and carries out the technical and administrative management of over 40 wind farms, grid operating companies and substations. The WestWind Energy Group is also active in a number of international markets, namely Turkey, Poland, Canada, and Australia. In Australia, WestWind has developed:

Mt Mercer Wind Farm – 131MW; sold to Meridian Energy in 2009

Moorabool Wind Farm – 350 MW; sold to Goldwind Australia in 2016

Lal Lal Wind Farm – 216 MW; sold to Macquarie Capital in 2017

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Where the applicant is relying on a third party to provide staff and/or resources to meet the technical capacity requirements of the generation and wholesale licence, provide:

- c) the experience and qualifications of any relevant key employees who will manage those systems and processes;
- d) if the applicant will engage third parties to assist with the licensed activities, provide the following information in relation to each third party:
 - (i) the name of that third party
 - (ii) the scope of activities undertaken by the third party
 - (iii) details and copies of any agreements for the provision of services
 - (iv) details about the experience of the third party in relation to the activities that it will be undertaking, including any accreditations
 - (v) details of the processes in place to ensure the third party complies with the licensee's regulatory obligations.

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TagEnergy Australia PTY LTD – TagEnergy act as owner and operators of the Golden Plains Wind Farm – West and execute Revenue Management Functions for the applicant. Refer to **Appendix A** - Commercial In Confidence - Key Contracts, for a copy of the Revenue Management Agreement. Refer to **Appendix B** - Commercial In Confidence - Key Personnel, for a breakdown of key personnel within TagEnergy, and their experience.

WestWind Energy Management PTY LTD - WestWind Energy has been engaged by the Applicant to offer asset management services for Golden Plains Wind Farm – West. Refer to **Appendix A** - Commercial In Confidence - Key Contracts, for a copy of the AMD (Asset management Deed) which contracts WestWind Energy's services to the Applicant. Refer to **Appendix B** - Commercial In Confidence - Key Personnel, for a breakdown of key personnel within WestWind Energy.

Vestas - Australian Wind Technology PTY LTD – Vestas have been engaged by the applicant, to provide Engineering, Procurement and Construction services for the Golden Plains Wind Farm – West, under an EPC contract. Vestas are also contracted by the Applicant under an MSA (Maintenance Services Agreement) to operate and maintain the project during operations. **Appendix A** - Commercial In Confidence - Key Contracts, for a copy of the EPC and MSA agreements which contracts Vestas' services to the Applicant.

AusNet Transmission Group PTY LTD – AusNet have been engaged by the Applicant to provide transmission line and grid connection services for the Golden Plains Wind Farm – West, under a PCCD (Project Construction and Co-ordination Deed). Refer to **Appendix A** - Commercial In Confidence - Key Contracts, for a copy of the PCCD which contracts AusNet's services to the Applicant.

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Attachment reference: Appendix A - Commercial In Confidence - Key Contracts & Appendix B - Commercial In Confidence - Key Personnel

2.2 Risk management

- a) Provide confirmation and evidence that the applicant has identified the risks associated with electricity generation and wholesale operations. Additionally, provide evidence that the applicant has established, utilised and relied upon risk management systems and processes which are adequate, accurate and current to address those risks.
- b) Provide a copy of the applicant's risk management strategy. A statement should also be provided (or supporting document must make it clear) whether the strategy has been developed in line with any Australian or International Standard (for example, ISO 31000:2018).
- c) Provide a copy of a risk register that identifies risks, controls and mitigations.

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- GPWF2 has a robust risk management strategy in place in accordance with industry standards. Monthly review of project risks is carried out with senior members of the management teams from both TagEnergy and WestWind. The risk register and risk policy / strategy documents have been attached.

Attachment reference: Refer to commercial in confidence Appendix D for Risk Documentation

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2.3 Registration with the Australian Energy Market Operator and generator performance standards

Advise if the applicant will apply to register with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO). If so, provide evidence of registration or exemption, or intending registration or exemption (for example, correspondence between the applicant and AEMO). If the applicant is not registering with AEMO, describe why that is the case.

Provide confirmation from AEMO that proposed negotiated generator performance standards will meet requirements for power system security and reliability under the National Electricity Rules.

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- GPWF2 already has an approved GPS and AEMO Onboarding and Connections has completed its assessment of the proposed access standards under clause 5.3.4A. These documents and evidence of the original intention to register are attached for reference. GPWF is also a committed generator as evidenced in the attached.

Attachment reference: Refer to commercial in confidence Appendix E for GPS and 5.3.4A Letter.

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2.4 Licences held in other jurisdictions

If the applicant holds, or has previously held, electricity and/or gas licences or authorisations in other jurisdictions provide details. If a licence or authorisation previously held has been suspended or cancelled, provide details.

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- GPWF2 confirms it does not hold any current Generation Licences. Further, GPWF2 confirms it has not or is not in the process of applying for any other licences in other jurisdictions.
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2.5 Previous unsuccessful licence applications in other jurisdictions

Confirm whether the applicant has applied for an electricity or gas licence in another jurisdiction and not been issued with a licence or authorisation, provide details.

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- No such applications have been made
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2.6 Licences held by associates of the applicant

If an associate (within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001*) holds an electricity or gas licence in Victoria or in other Australian jurisdiction, provide details.

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- GPWF2 confirms that GPWF1 is an associate (as defined by Corporations Act 2001) and holds an Electricity Generation and Sale Licence - issued on 29 February 2024 in Victoria.
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2.7 Compliance management

- a) Provide evidence of compliance management which demonstrates how the compliance systems the applicant has (or will have) in place will ensure compliance with all the relevant regulatory obligations required by an electricity generation licence.
 - b) Provide a copy of the applicant's compliance management strategy. A statement should also be provided (or supporting document must make it clear) whether the strategy has been developed in line with any Australian or International Standard (for example, AS ISO 19600:2015).
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TagEnergy and WestWind working together as managers of Golden Plains WF2 Pty Ltd are contracted to ensure that resources and processes are in place to comply with regulatory obligations. Vestas as the appointed wind farm contractor shares in some of the key obligations under both the EPC and MSA Contracts that are place.

Attachment reference: Refer to commercial in confidence Appendix C for GPWF2 Compliance Register and Policy Document.

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2.8 Material agreements

Provide copies of agreements entered into, or intended to be entered into, by the applicant that are material to the undertaking of the electricity generation activity. Agreements that are material to the undertaking of the electricity generation activity may include:

- a) Connection agreements, such as a Generator Connection Agreement and Generator Project Agreement with a generation facility.
- b) Any contract concerning the construction and delivery of the project (sometimes commonly referred to as a Project Construction and Coordination Deed (PCCD) or Engineering, Procurement and Construction Agreement).
- c) Any Network Services Agreements.

- d) Any contracts concerning the managerial aspects of the activity (sometimes commonly referred to as a Management Services Agreement or Asset Management Agreement).
- e) Any contract concerning the ongoing operations and maintenance of the transmission assets (sometimes commonly referred to as an Operations and Maintenance Agreement).
- f) Any contract concerning the sale of electricity from the generator under a Power Purchase Agreement.

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Attachment reference: Refer to commercial in confidence Appendix A - Commercial In Confidence - Key Contracts

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2.9 Engagement with Energy Safe Victoria

Provide details about the applicant’s engagement with Energy Safe Victoria and any copies of correspondence regarding the proposed electricity generation facility.

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- To ensure compliance with ESV requirements, GPWF2 (via Vestas) will engage the services of Victorian Electrical Inspections Pty Ltd to provide inspection and certification of the Substation (primary and secondary systems including earthing), Medium Voltage Collector groups (including earthing), and all 93 x V162, 6.2MW Wind Turbine Generators. Inspection and certification will be carried out under the Victorian Electricity Safety (General) Regulations 2019, and Victorian Electricity Safety Act 1998. In addition, evidence is provided to demonstrate that GPWF2 has directly engaged with ESV.

Attachment reference: Refer to commercial in confidence Appendix F - ESV Engagement

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2.10 Additional information

Provide any additional information the applicant considers relevant to the commission’s assessment of the applicant’s technical capacity.

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No further Information required

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3. Financial viability

3.1 Financial resources

The applicant must provide a statement that will be made available to the public during the consultation period that the applicant has the financial resources to commence and sustainably perform the relevant licensable activities.

Provide a statement to confirm that:

- c) the applicant is financially viable and has the financial resources to sustainably operate the electricity generation facilities, and
- a) the applicant will be a registered market participant with the Australian Energy Market Operator for its electricity generation activities, therefore subject to the prudential requirements under the National Electricity Rules.

The commission reserves the right to conduct a financial viability assessment and require the applicant to produce information and documents it considers appropriate to complete such an assessment.

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The construction of the GPWF2 is being financed through a mixture of debt and equity. On 27th March 2024 TagEnergy (via its subsidiaries) acquired the windfarm from WestWind Energy. TagEnergy is funding the project construction costs with equity of approximately \$897M AUD (15% of which will be funded by its investor Ingka) and debt finance of approximately \$A985million from a consortium of Australian and international banks including Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Westpac Banking Corporation, Clean Energy Finance Corporation, Bank of China Limited, Natixis, Deutsche Bank, and Mizuho Bank, Export & Investment Fund of Denmark (EIFO). Debt financing is provided under a Syndicated Facility Agreement, Loan Note Subscriptions Agreements, and a Common Terms Deed that dictate the terms, purpose, monitoring and the conditions of Utilisation.

The windfarm will generate revenues during the operational period through a combination of Power Purchase Agreements and energy and green products sales to the spot market. The applicant will be a registered market participant with the Australian Energy Market Operator for its electricity generation activities, therefore subject to the prudential requirements under the National Electricity Rules.

TagEnergy is a clean energy group for a new cycle in the renewable energy industry. TagEnergy, S.A., the holding of the group, was incorporated in 2019. The aim of the group is to accelerate the energy transition by developing and investing in competitive and clean power stations in order to compete directly and actively on the energy markets.

TagEnergy Group is operated by a highly experienced team. Its operations cross the renewables value chain, from development, financing, construction and asset management of wind, solar and storage projects, to commercialisation of its competitive energy.

The applicant is financially viable and has the financial resources to sustainably operate the electricity generation facilities, and

The applicant will be a registered market participant with the Australian Energy Market Operator for its electricity generation activities, therefore subject to the prudential requirements under the National Electricity Rules.

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4. Fit and proper person

The applicant must answer all questions in this section.

In deciding whether to grant or refuse a licence application, the commission will consider whether the applicant is a fit and proper person to hold a licence in Victoria.

The concept of a 'fit and proper person' is established by common law and takes its meaning from its context, from the activities in which the person is or will be engaged, and the ends to be served by those activities.

In considering whether an applicant is a fit and proper person, we will have regard to the applicant's honesty, integrity and reputation. These are relevant factors as they can inform an assessment of the likelihood of future conduct.

We will also consider the conduct of directors, office holders or any person with significant managerial duties or influence. We will also consider the conduct of related bodies corporate or entities that can exert control over the applicant.

- a) Have any directors of the applicant, directors of any entity that can exert control over the applicant, or any person with significant managerial responsibility or influence on the applicant:
- (i) been declared bankrupt,
 - (ii) had their affairs placed under administration,
 - (iii) been disqualified from managing a company,
 - (iv) been subject to debt judgements, or

- b) insolvency proceedings (including any administration, liquidation or receivership in connection with the affairs of a company)?

If yes, provide details:

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No representatives of the applicant or the applicant themselves has declared bankruptcy, had their affairs placed under administration, been disqualified from managing a company, been subject to debt judgment or insolvency proceedings (including any administration, liquidation or receivership in connection with the affairs of a company)

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c) Has the applicant, any directors of the applicant, directors of any entity that can exert control over the applicant or any person with significant managerial responsibility or influence on the applicant been prosecuted for any offences or had any enforcement action taken under any state, territory, Commonwealth or foreign legislation (including, but not limited to, the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*, *Corporations Act 2001*, or the *Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 2001*)?

If yes, provide details:

.....

No representatives of the applicant or the applicant themselves has been subject to any such prosecutions

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d) Has the applicant, any directors of the applicant, any related body corporate, or any person with significant managerial responsibility or influence on the applicant been involved in any material breaches of obligations regulated by the commission or any other regulator?

If yes, provide details:

.....

No representatives of the applicant or the applicant themselves has been subject to any such breaches of obligations

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e) Has the applicant, any directors of the applicant, any related body corporate, or any person with significant managerial responsibility been under investigation in relation to its regulatory obligations or is currently bound by an enforceable undertaking?

If yes, provide details:

.....
No directors of the applicant, any related body corporate, or any person with significant managerial responsibility been under investigation in relation to its regulatory obligations or is currently bound by an enforceable undertaking.
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f) Has the applicant, any related body corporate or any person with significant managerial responsibility or influence on the applicant, been refused a licence or authorisation, or had restricted, suspended or revoked any such licence or authorisation (in any jurisdiction)?

If yes, provide details:

.....
No representatives of the applicant or the applicant themselves has been refused a license or authorisation or had restricted, suspended or revoked any such license or authorisation
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g) Provide any other information the applicant considers relevant to the commission's fit and proper person assessment.

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No further information required
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Additional information

Answer the following questions and, where the answer to any question is “no” (except for question b)), provide further detail.

a) Is the applicant a resident of, or does it have permanent establishment in, Australia?

The applicant is a resident/has permanent establishment in Australia
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b) Is the applicant under external administration (as defined in the *Corporations Act 2001*) or under a similar form of administration under any laws applicable to it in any jurisdiction?

The applicant is not under external administration
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c) Is the applicant immune from suit in respect of the obligations under the *Electricity Industry Act 2000*?

The Applicant is not immune from suit in respect of the obligations under the Electricity Industry Act 2000.

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d) Is the applicant capable of being sued in its own name in a court of Australia?

The Applicant is capable of being sued in its own name in a court of Australia.

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5. Commission objectives

The applicant must answer all questions in this section.

In deciding whether to grant or refuse an electricity generation licence application, the commission must consider its objectives under the *Electricity Industry Act 2000* and the *Essential Services Commission Act 2001* (ESC Act).

Our primary objective under the ESC Act, when performing our functions and exercising our powers, is to promote the long-term interests of Victorian consumers. In seeking to achieve this objective, we must have regard to the price, quality, and reliability of essential services and the matters set out in section 8A to the extent they are relevant.

In seeking to achieve the objectives specified in section 8, the commission must have regard to the matters to the extent that they are relevant in any particular case.

Provide any information the applicant considers relevant to the commission's consideration of its objectives outlined in:

- Section 8 of the ESC Act (also see section 8A of the ESC Act); and
- Section 10 of the *Electricity Industry Act 2000*.

The Essential Services Commission Act 2001

The Essential Services Commission Act 2001 (Vic) (the Act), section 8, sets the Commissions objectives as follows:

(1) In performing its functions and exercising its powers, the objective of the Commission is to promote the long-term interests of Victorian consumers.

(2) Without derogating from subsection (1), in performing its functions and exercising its powers in relation to essential services, the Commission must in seeking to achieve the objective specified in subsection (1) have regard to the price, quality and reliability of essential services.

8.1 Promotion of the Long-Term Interests of Victorian Consumers

The applicant believes that the granting of this licence is consistent with the Commission's objective relating to section 8(1) of the Act. GPWF2 will be a financially viable generator, being owned by an experienced parent company, which has a history of constructing projects that it continues to own on a long-term basis. The major suppliers engaged for the project are market leaders and have been engaged with long-term operations and maintenance agreements, ensuring long-term certainty and control of the project and its ongoing viability. Financial price modelling performed for the project energy generation forecast income sufficient to ensure will have ongoing

profitability to ensure it can meet its licence obligations. The renewable nature of the generator will ensure that Victorians consumers continue to have access to energy whilst minimising the negative effects of producing that energy.

8a(1)(B) Financial Viability of the Industry

The project is of State significance and represents 4% of Victoria's large-scale generation assisting the State in reaching its renewable energy targets and creating jobs within the industry. The project has engaged major industry suppliers for the construction contract of the project and for the long-term operations and maintenance. This will ensure that the project is delivered and maintained throughout the life of the asset. The project's economic viability supports the Commissions objective of ensuring the financial viability of the industry.

8a(1)(c) Degree of scope for Competition within the Industry, Including Countervailing Market Power and Information Asymmetries

The introduction of such a large new generator into Victoria increases competition in the industry, which in turn supports the Commission's objective by creating downwards pressure on pool prices. Despite its large capacity GPWF2 will not be in a position to hold significant market power due to the variable nature of the wind as a fuel source. They are only able to generate when sufficient wind is present.

8a(1)(d) Relevant Health, Safety, Environmental and Social Legislation Applying to the Industry

The applicant has a strong commitment to the environment and health and safety. There are appropriate policies and procedures in place to ensure the most stringent standards are met. The construction and operations of the project will be in accordance with all relevant health, safety, environment and social legislation ensuring the project meets the Commission's objective.

8a(1)(e) Benefits and Costs of Regulation for Consumers and Users (including Low Income and Vulnerable Consumers) and Regulated Entities

The applicant will ensure compliance with all its regulated requirements and will work with the associated bodies to ensure it does not cause them to breach regulations. This will ensure that the project meets the Commission's objective and supports others to do so also.

8a(1)(f) Consistency in Regulation Between States and on a National Basis

The electricity generated at the facility will be sold into the wholesale spot market of the National Electricity Market via the regulated systems operated and supervised by AEMO. Large Scale Generation Certificates, which will be created by GPWF2 will be done so in accordance with the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000. The project believes the Commission would be acting consistently with other jurisdictions in granting the licence to GPWF2.

8a(1)(g) Matters Specified in the Empower Instrument

The Empowering Instrument for the Act is the Electricity Industry Act 2000 (Vic) Section 10, which is consistent with the Objectives of the Commission to be:

(a) to the extent that it is efficient and practicable to do so, to promote a consistent regulatory approach between the electricity industry and the gas industry; and

(b) to promote the development of full retail competition; and

(c) to promote protections for customers, including in relation to assisting customers who are facing payment difficulties.

The granting of the licence for the project is consistent with these objectives.

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6. Statutory declaration

All the information provided in this application and attached documents for an electricity generation licence must be true and correct and must be verified by a statutory declaration. This statutory declaration must be made by the applicant (where the applicant is an individual) or a director of the applicant (where the applicant is a corporation) and must be made in accordance with the requirements of the *Oaths and Affirmations Act 2018*.

An example statutory declaration form can be found [here](#). Information for authorised witnesses can be found [here](#).

The statutory declaration must address the following:

- a) identification of the declarant's position and/or role with the applicant
- b) that the declarant believes the information provided in the application to be true and correct
- c) that the declarant believes the applicant has the financial resources to commence and operate the activities the subject of the licence.