

23 July 2018

Alec Findlater
General Manager, Network Commercial
Aurora Energy
PO Box 5140, Moray Place
Dunedin 9058

by email

Dear Alec

Aurora Energy: 2018 Asset Management Plan exemption amendment request

1. We refer to your letter of 19 July 2018 in which you requested the Commerce Commission (Commission) to grant a further extension to the time by which Aurora Energy Limited (Aurora) must publically disclose its 2018 Asset Management Plan (2018 AMP) under the Electricity Distribution Information Disclosure Determination 2012, as amended (ID Determination).

Request for amendment to exemption

2. On 14 March 2018, the Commission granted an exemption¹ to Aurora from the requirement of clause 2.6.1 of the ID Determination, allowing Aurora to complete and publically disclose the 2018 AMP by 31 August 2018, instead of 1 April 2018 (start of the disclosure year).
3. In your letter you indicated that the original exemption request was made to enable Aurora to incorporate findings from WSP New Zealand Limited's (WSP) independent state of network review.
4. WSP's emerging view report is due to be delivered on 31 August 2018, which is the same day by which Aurora needs to complete the 2018 AMP.
5. Given the importance of the 2018 AMP appropriately incorporating the views of the independent review, you requested that the Commission amend the exemption to give Aurora a further seven-week extension to the date by which it must complete and publically disclose the 2018 AMP. This would change the due date for Aurora's disclosure from 31 August 2018 to 19 October 2018.
6. You consider that amending the exemption in this manner would allow you to:

¹ Available at - <http://www.comcom.govt.nz/dmsdocument/16164>

- 6.1 prepare an asset management plan that will incorporate WSP 'emerging view' report; and
- 6.2 allow adequate time for Aurora's AMP governance and approval process to be applied.

Amendment to exemption granted

7. The Commission considers it reasonable to amend the exemption as requested by Aurora given:
 - 7.1 the importance of the 2018 AMP appropriately reflecting the findings of the WSP emerging view report; and
 - 7.2 that this will provide interested persons with a more accurate representation of Aurora's asset management strategy re-positioning.
8. Accordingly, under clause 2.11.1(2) of the ID Determination, the Commission amends:
 - 8.1 the exemption granted to Aurora to extend the due date under clause 2.6.1 for disclosing the 2018 AMP from 31 August 2018 to 19 October 2018; and
 - 8.2 the conditions on which the Commission granted the exemption, so that Aurora must now:
 - 8.2.1 note on its website by 31 August 2018 that it has been granted the extension described in paragraph 8.1 above to its exemption;
 - 8.2.2 incorporate into the 2018 AMP findings from the emerging views report that WSP is due to deliver by 31 August 2018; and
 - 8.2.3 complete and publically disclose the full 2018 AMP (including updated Schedules 11a – 12d) by Friday, 19 October 2018.²
9. The exemption (including this amendment to it) only applies to disclosure year 2018.

² To be accompanied by Schedule 17 – Director's Certificate

Further information

10. The exemption may be revoked or further amended in accordance with clause 2.11.1(2) of the ID Determination.
11. A copy of this letter will be published on the Commission's website.
12. For any further questions relating to this letter, please contact Vedika Sachan on (04) 924 3728 or vedika.sachan@comcom.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sue Begg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sue Begg

Deputy Chair