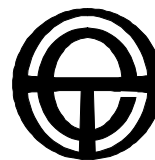


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Mr Frank Peach  
Chairperson  
National Electricity Consumers Advocacy Panel  
PO Box 43  
Surrey Hills VIC 3127

23 July 2008

Dear Mr Peach,

**Re: ACIL Tasman recommendation regarding advocacy for 'green consumers'**

We are writing to urge your implementation of the ACIL Tasman report recommendation for the Panel to consider establishing a separate advocacy category for consumers and stakeholders concerned with alternative energy and environment/climate change issues (green consumers).<sup>1</sup>

We are grateful for the funding provided so far to Total Environment Centre which has been used to advocate for improved regulatory and policy approaches, particularly with regard to demand management in the NEM. As a result of this support, we have developed significant capacity to engage with NEM issues, and remain the only environment group in Australia to do so.

The time has clearly arrived, however, for NEM advocacy to meet the challenge that the intersection between the NEM and climate change now presents. Policy and consumer interest is now firmly focused on the urgent need to reduce greenhouse emissions from electricity. Indeed, the recently announced review by the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) into energy market frameworks in the context of emissions trading and the renewable energy target demonstrates the need for intelligent advocacy on the nexus between the NEM and climate change policies. Further, the constituency of 'green consumers' is now well demonstrated by the 748,000 households and businesses that voluntarily pay more for GreenPower.

We strongly urge your consideration and support for the establishment of a separate category that funds NEM advocacy on behalf of consumers and stakeholders concerned with alternative energy, environment and climate change issues.

We would be happy to discuss this issue with you further at your convenience, and look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Jeff Angel  
Executive Director

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<sup>1</sup> ACIL Tasman for the National Electricity Consumers Advocacy Panel, *Advocacy Process: final report on the gaps and overlaps in advocacy*, June 2008, p. xiii.

