Essential Services Commission of South Australia GPO Box 2605 Adelaide SA 5001

By email to escosa@escosa.sa.gov.au

4 September 2015

Dear Commissioners,

Re: Proposed Variation to Clause 2.4.1 of the Electricity Transmission Code

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Variation to Clause 2.4.1 of the Electricity Transmission Code. As the peak body for the community services sector in South Australia, SACOSS has a long–standing interest in the delivery of essential services. Our research shows that the cost of basic necessities like electricity impacts greatly and disproportionately on vulnerable and disadvantaged people. Our advocacy is informed by our members; organisations and individuals who witness theses impacts in our community.

SACOSS supports the Commissions proposed solution to amend the Electricity Transmission Code to reclassify the Baroota exit point to Category 1. This support is based on the Commissions opinion that an upgrade to the exit point from a Category 1 reliability standard to Category 2 reliability standard is no longer economically justified. SACOSS welcomes a decision to shield South Australian households from unnecessary infrastructure investment and the associated costs.

We thank you in advance for your consideration of our comments. If you have any questions relating to the above, please contact SACOSS Senior Policy Officer, Jo De Silva on 8305 4211 or via jo@sacoss.org.au.

Yours sincerely,

Ross Womersley Executive Director

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