



21 May 2024

Mr Charles Millstead  
Chief Executive Officer  
Queensland Competition Authority  
GPO Box 2257,  
Brisbane Qld 4001

Web address: [www.qca.org.au/submissions](http://www.qca.org.au/submissions)

Dear Mr Millstead,

**RE: Regulated retail electricity prices in regional Queensland for 2024–25 – Draft Determination**

Origin Energy (Origin) appreciates the opportunity to provide a submission in response to the Queensland Competition Authority's (QCA) Draft Determination for 2024-25 Regulated retail electricity prices in regional Queensland.

Origin strongly supports the QCA's draft decision to retain the existing default retail tariff arrangements for small customers in regional Queensland. The existing arrangements are simple and easy to understand. As the default retailer of last resort for the Ergon Energy distribution network (including the regional network) Origin becomes responsible for customers at short notice and they have no opportunity to nominate a tariff before the standard contract is established. The default tariff arrangement provides Origin with a simple mechanism to set up contracts for customers in last resort events.

To the extent that more complicated default arrangements are contemplated, such as the default network demand tariffs, we may not be able to accommodate customers of failed retailers in our system. For example, Origin does not currently offer retail demand tariffs to its customers. We consider that demand charges are difficult to explain to residential customers and customers typically cannot easily measure their demand and respond to these charges. We would not support a default arrangement that obliged us to provide a demand tariff to residential customers.

If you have any questions regarding this submission, please contact me in the first instance at [gary.davies@originenergy.com.au](mailto:gary.davies@originenergy.com.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Davies".

Gary Davies  
Manager Regulatory Policy  
[gary.davies@originenergy.com.au](mailto:gary.davies@originenergy.com.au)