



14 February 2020

Ms Audrey Quicke and Mr Bill Browne  
The Australia Institute  
Level 1 Endeavour House, 1 Franklin St  
Manuka  
ACT 2603  
AUSTRALIA

Dear Ms Quicke and Mr Browne

**RE: Fossil Fails in the Smart State Discussion Paper**

Your recent *Fossil Fails in the Smart State* Discussion Paper listed Stanwell Corporation Limited's Stanwell Power Station as one of the most unreliable generators in Australia, based on your measure of total breakdowns.

The claim contained in your paper, that Stanwell Power Station "broke down" 18 times between December 2017 and December 2019, is inaccurate.

Nine of the events your report characterised as breakdowns at Stanwell Power Station were controlled test activities for the commissioning of the power station's new Unit 4 control system.

We use these test activities to ensure our reliability and to prevent any future issues.

A further two of the events you reported were controlled tests, which we performed in conjunction with the Australian Energy Market Operator to demonstrate our capability to quickly and safely respond in the event of the system "going black".

These planned tests, which account for more than half of the instances Stanwell Power Station went offline, are a precautionary measure to ensure the grid's ability to respond should the system "go black" and ensure we can continue to deliver the energy needs of the market.

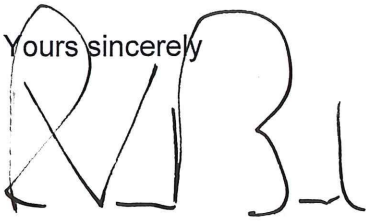
According to the Australian Energy Council's Generation Performance Benchmarking Report, Stanwell Power Station has the second lowest forced outage factor in Australia, at just 0.4 per cent for 2017/18 and 1.5 per cent in 2018/19.

Forced outage factor is a measure of the time that a unit is offline for unplanned outages. I believe this would serve as a more widely accepted and accurate measure of reliability than the analysis of breakdowns contained in your discussion paper.

In addition, in 2018/19 Stanwell Power Station had a target availability of 91.4 per cent, and exceeded this by achieving an actual availability of 93.5 per cent – meaning our plant was available to deliver electricity to the market even more often than planned.

As you can appreciate, our reliability is something we put considerable planning and effort into and our results are something our people are very proud of.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Van Breda', written over a faint, large watermark of the same name.

**Richard Van Breda**  
**Chief Executive Officer**