



MINUTES

MEETING:	Information Exchange Committee
DATE:	Monday 18 February 2019
TIME:	1:30 PM (AEDT)
LOCATION:	WEBEX (VC&PHONE), AEMO BRISBANE AND MELBOURNE MEETING ROOMS
MEMBER ATTENDEES:	Mr John Pittard, AEMO director (IEC Chair) Mr Peter Van Loon, Powershop (discretionary retailer representative) (Webex) Mr David Markham, AEC (retailer representative) (Webex) Mr Marco Bogaers, Metropolis (discretionary, metering representative) Mr Robert Lo Giudice (metering representative) Mr David Havyatt, Energy Consumer Australia (consumer representative) (Webex) Mr Adrian Hill, Ausnet (discretionary distributor representative) Mr Peter Price, Energy Queensland (distributor representative) (Webex)
APOLOGIES:	Nil
IN ATTENDANCE:	Violette Mouchaileh (IEC Secretariat, Webex), Michelle Norris (AEMO) (Webex), Mark Riley (B2B Working Group member)

The Chair opened the meeting at 1:35 PM

1. Apologies

There were no apologies for this meeting. All members were present for the meeting.

2. Member's Declarations of Interests

The Chairperson noted there were no conflicts of interest declared.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without change.

4. Matters Arising and Actions from Previous Meetings

The Secretariat provided an update on the actions from previous meetings. These updates were noted by the IEC. Any additional subsequent actions have been noted in the updated version of the Matters Arising that has been circulated with the Minutes. The Matters Arising were accurate at the time these Minutes were circulated.

Matters for Decision

5. B2B Working Group paper: Seeking approval to consult on NOMW meter reading codes initial procedures

The Committee discussed the paper from the B2BWG which outlined its progress and recommendations on progression of the Acumen Metering Change Request. The Committee endorsed the recommendation that AEMO commence consultation on the Notice of Metering Works Initial Procedures. The Committee noted that AEMO would commence consultation in Q3 2109 (**Action 1802-01**).

Matters for Discussion

6. Customer Access to data

David Havyatt and Violette Mouchaileh provided an update on the current status of the Consumer Data Rights legislation. The key points outlined included:

- Legislation was introduced into Parliament last week (week concluding 15 February 2019).
- The ACCC are releasing a consultation paper in the week commencing 25 February 2019).
- Federal Treasury will be determining the *designated data set* for that will be included.
- There are three main data models being discussed (with a number of additional variations on these models):
 - Economy-wide / decentralised hub (point-to-point engagement between parties). In this model, consumers will need to approach different parties.
 - Utilising the B2B e-Hub as a platform (hybrid model).
 - Centralised model with AEMO at the centre.

Consultation will commence in the week of 25 February 2019. David and Violette posed the question of whether there was an opportunity to talk to the ACCC about the B2B e-Hub and the potential for it to be uplifted to service the energy sector more broadly in relation to consumer data rights.

It was noted that the ACCC was expected to develop the legal / regulatory platform, with Commonwealth (Treasury) expected to make a decision on data sets and the final data model.

Data 61 has been appointed by the Commonwealth Government to look a data formats as the data standards body. Data 61 is also undertaking this role for the banking sector, and there was some discussion within the Committee that this may pose a risk that existing definitions and standards already in the energy sector may not be used.

David Havyatt suggested that the energy industry should make a strong case and propose that the hybrid model be adopted, along with using the existing definitions and standards where appropriate. The IEC agreed that the B2B platform was a strong position from which to start.

David Markham supported this position noting that in keeping with the principle of minimising costs, utilising an existing platform and not expanding the requirements was a sensible position. In addition, given an existing platform was being used, it was also more likely to work, rather than if a new system is built.

Peter Price noted that avoiding duplication and new / additional systems was important and he would talk with the ENA regarding this position.

Peter Price and David Markham agreed to confirm the position of the ENA and the AEC in support of a hybrid model (**Action 1802-02**) as soon as possible.

John Pittard suggested that the industry bodies (ENA and AEC) and the IEC develop a joint submission in response to the ACCC paper advocating for the hybrid model, utilising the existing B2B platform. This was supported by the IEC.

John Pittard requested that AEMO (Violette Mouchaileh) prepare a draft submission on behalf of the industry bodies and the IEC (**Action 1802-03**). The submission was to be branded as IEC, AEC, ENA and ECA.

It was agreed that finalising this submission will be a priority for IEC members and will need to occur out of session.

David Havyatt also requested that Customer Access to Data remain as an Agenda Item on all IEC meetings for the remainder of the year (**Action 1802-04**).

Secretariat note: on 25 February the ACCC released its consultation paper - Consumer Data Right in Energy - Consultation paper: data access models for energy data. This paper can be found at the following site:

<https://www.accc.gov.au/system/files/ACCC%20consultation%20paper%20-%20data%20access%20models%20for%20energy%20data.pdf>

Submissions close on 22 March 2019.

7. Expiring terms of office for IEC members

John Pittard indicated that the terms of office for Discretionary members and for himself as Chairperson were due to expire in March 2019. John indicated that the AEMO Secretariat would approach the Discretionary Members regarding their interest in continuing to serve on the IEC for a further 12 months (**Action 1802-05**).

8.1 B2BWG Paper – PoC deferred transactions

Mark Riley from the B2BWG outlined the work undertaken by the Working Group during its January workshops which focussed on examining the remaining 20 deferred potential PoC transactions of the original group of 51 items.

Of the 20 potential transactions reviewed, the Working Group determined that there were 8 further items which could be closed.

There are 12 remaining items which the B2BWG will undertake further analysis and report back to the IEC in its May meeting (**Action 1802-06**).

The IEC noted the work underway within the B2BWG and thanked them for their ongoing advice. John Pittard asked how this information was being communicated to the industry and the Secretariat noted that:

- B2BWG members were discussing this amongst their peers as industry representatives.
- The IEC B2BWG papers and minutes are published on IEC's AEMO webpage.
- There were industry representatives (or those with close ties to industry groups) on the IEC.
- A new B2BWG webpage had been established on the AEMO webpage and there was potential to publish additional information on this page.

The Secretariat agreed that with much of the analysis being due for completion in May, it was appropriate to consider how best the information as to the analysis undertaken by the IEC's B2BWG could be best disseminated to industry (**Action 1802-07**).

8.2 B2BWG Standing Agenda Item – B2BWG Report

On behalf of the IEC, John Pittard noted the update and it was agreed that the main activities of the B2BWG had been covered off by Agenda Items 5 and 8.1. There were no further questions from the IEC.

9. Update on go-live of the B2B life support system changes

The Secretariat provided a verbal update on the go-live of the B2B system changes for life support on 1 February 2019. The key points noted were:

- AEMO published the updated B2B Guide on 1 February 2019.
- The system go-live for the life support changes went reasonably smoothly with AEMO providing technical support over the cut-over weekend. Feedback provided to AEMO was that this technical support availability was well-received by Participants. There were a small number of challenges over the cut-over weekend which were resolved by AEMO/Participants successfully.
- Two minor defects have been lodged with AEMO with proposed date of 20th March in production. These minor defects are:
 - Life Support Contact Name (LSContactName) is a Required/None field formatted as PersonName. If a Participant has the data there is a requirement to provide it (Required). If the Participant does not have this data, the field is left blank (None). Once a Participant has met the Required condition, then the field PersonNameType is Mandatory. Unfortunately it is currently setup as Optional and this means some Participants have not been providing it and the LSN gets rejected by the other party as it does not meet the procedures; and
 - Search screen for Life Support Translog has not been setup. This is a quick way to search for the list of transactions by transaction type. There are other ways to search which take longer but are available.

IEC members indicated that this was consistent with their understanding of the go-live weekend.

Presentations

10. Strategic Priorities 2019

The IEC re-examined its strategic priorities agreed at the November 2018 meeting which were intended to represent those areas of focus for the IEC for 2019 (to ensure that they remained appropriate).

The Committee also discussed its role – either as a group that responds to issues or, one which seeks to influence, become more directly involved in sectoral issues and advocate for specific positions. The Committee agreed that it was looking to become more proactive in areas in which it could exert influence and provide expertise.

The Committee agreed to the following:

- Reconfirmed the strategic priorities agreed in November 2018, noting that these may change depending on external factors.
- Becoming more proactive in specific areas of influence, in particular (based on current issues), the ACCC Customer Access to Data and the DER workstreams.
- Developing a road map to understand what current reviews / issues and those which will evolve or emerge in the near future which will allow the IEC to better position itself strategically (looking forward 3-4 years). As part of this the IEC is wanting to understand the rule changes, COAG agendas and other reviews that are currently underway that it could look to influence, and what information that is available relating to future rule changes that the industry is aware of.
- Looking to have a more significant strategy session in the May IEC meeting.

The actions are as follows:

- John Pittard will work with the Secretariat in planning the strategy session for the May meeting (**Action 1802-08**); and
- The Secretariat will pull together a list of rule changes, COAG and other processes which has a potential impact on the B2B framework and platforms for discussion in the May meeting (**Action 1802-09**).

11. Review of 2018 Elected Representatives Process

As per **Action Item 3011-10**, the IEC Secretariat undertook a review of the 2018 Election process for the Elected Representatives on the Committee. The key findings were as follows:

- AEMO communicated the election process for the Elected Representative in a number of ways:
 - Verbally in an IEC meeting.
 - On the IEC webpage on the AEMO website, and
 - In the AEMO weekly industry newsletter.
- The Secretariat also contacted the AEC and ENA in relation to nominations for the retail and distribution Elected Representatives. At the time, the AEC were also providing support services to CMIG (the metering peak body).

- There was only one nomination received for each of the distribution, retail and metering Elected Representative categories. There were no nominations for the Third Party category. As a result, there was no election process required to be run. The Third Party category remains vacant.

In reviewing the IEC Procedures and Operating Manual, the Secretariat recommended to the Committee that a review be conducted to potentially update the document to reflect a more mature Committee structure and meeting framework, given the document was published almost three years ago during the establishment of the IEC.

It was also apparent that the most appropriate communication method for reaching potential IEC candidates is likely to vary over time and that the procedures should be flexible enough to accommodate changes in the sector (such as those driven by Power of Choice in 2017, and potentially by the ACCC's Customer Access to Data in 2019).

Given there have now been several rounds of elections and nominations for Discretionary and Elected Representatives, the Committee also agreed it would be good to consider the option of having appointment periods for the Discretionary Representatives for longer than the current 12 months given there may be a strong case for having a stable Committee to help provide continuity in delivering outcomes for the sector.

John Pittard asked that the Secretariat come back to the IEC with proposed changes to the current procedural framework for discussion (**Action 1802-10**).

12. IEC Forward Plan

The IEC reviewed the Forward Work Plan, as endorsed in November 2018. As per previous Action Items **1802-04** and **1802-08**, Customer Access to Data will be added as an agenda item for the remainder of 2019, and the May meeting will also include a further session to enable the IEC to develop a better appreciation of the strategic environment and develop a road map.

The Forward Work Plan will be reviewed at each of the IEC meetings.

13. Other Business

13.1 AEMO Secretariat Role

Violette Mouchaileh advised that she had accepted a more senior role within AEMO leading the Emerging Markets and Services Group. This group has a major focus on both DER and data. Given this new role, Violette advised that it is appropriate to step down from the IEC Secretariat role. In her place Violette indicated that Michelle Norris would be available to take on the AEMO Secretariat role.

John Pittard on behalf of the IEC thanked Violette for her contributions and wished her well in her new role. John also asked that Violette remain available to brief the Committee on matters relating to DER and data, given their relevance to the IEC agenda and members.

John also welcomed Michelle to the Secretariat role.

13.2 Question from Robert Lo Giudice (metering representative) regarding B2BWG representation at the IEC

Robert posed the question to the Committee as to whether a B2BWG member should be present for every IEC meeting, or whether AEMO as the B2BWG Chairperson could

adequately provide an update to the IEC. This was because for the foreseeable future, Robert indicated it was likely that CMIG would be unable to provide additional B2BWG representation given that the metering sector was still developing following the introduction of PoC in late 2017. Because of this there is a higher burden on a smaller number of representatives from the metering sector, than for the distribution or retailer sectors. The IEC discussed this position and all other members indicated that they were looking to continue with having a B2BWG representative at the IEC meeting, in particular, where the meeting agenda required their expertise. It was also noted that the B2BWG could determine the representative to attend, or alternatively, given Robert is both a current IEC and B2BWG member, that the Committee was happy to have Robert attend in both capacities if needed. This proposal was rejected.

13.3 Question on Notice from Peter Van Loon (discretionary retailer representative) regarding updates to the B2B Guide

Note that this was not discussed at the IEC meeting. This response has been provided by the IEC Secretariat

Peter Van Loon asked (by email) about the process to have a change to the B2B Guide considered / developed.

IEC Secretariat response: The process to have a new addition or change to the B2B Guide developed is to propose that change to the IEC. This can be emailed to the IEC Secretariat to raise at the next IEC meeting, or alternatively, if the matter is considered urgent, circulated out of session to IEC members.

In most cases, the IEC will refer this matter to its B2BWG for advice / action.

Meeting Close

The next meeting is scheduled for 13 May 2019.

The Chair closed the meeting at 4.00 PM (AEDT).

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John Pittard
IEC Chair

Date: 26 February 2019