



AUSTRALIAN ENERGY MARKET OPERATOR

Independent Assurance Report on AEMO's compliance with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This independent assurance report sets out the results of the market audit by Robinson Bowmaker Paul (RBP) assessing AEMO's compliance with the Wholesale Electricity Market Rules (WEM Rules) and Market Procedures.

AUDITED ENTITY

For avoidance of doubt:

- The term **AEMO CBD** is used to refer to AEMO's market operator function based in central Perth (comprising Market Operations, System Capacity, Finance, Legal & Compliance and IT).
- The term **AEMO** (System Management) (SM) is used to refer to AEMO's system operator function based in East Perth (comprising Power System Market Operations, Power System Planning and Control Room Operations).

AUDIT PERIOD

The Audit Period is 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017, both dates inclusive.

REGULATORY CONTEXT AND SCOPE

Regulatory context

The regulatory context for the audit is summarised in the table below.

Table 1: Regulatory context for the Electricity Compliance Audit

Clause reference	Comment		
2.14.1	Requirement for AEMO to appoint market auditor		
2.14.2	Requirement for AEMO to ensure market audits are undertaken no less than annually		
2.14.3	Defines the scope of the audit to include, at minimum:		
	The compliance of AEMO's Internal Procedures and business processes with the WEM		
	Rules		

Clause reference	Comment		
	AEMO's compliance with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures		
	The compliance of AEMO's market software systems and processes for software management with clause 2.36.1 of the WEM Rules.		
2.36.1	Defines obligations with respect to AEMO's software management systems and controls; this provides the compliance criteria for the review of processes for software management		

Scope

Given the regulatory context above, the purpose of the Electricity Compliance Audit is to assess:

- How AEMO implements its obligations under the WEM Rules
- How AEMO manages non-compliance risk with respect to the obligations above
- Instances of non-compliance by AEMO during the Audit Period
- AEMO's market software systems and its processes for software management, and specifically,
 AEMO's compliance with clause 2.36.1 of the WEM Rules. It includes an assessment of whether:
 - AEMO maintains appropriate records
 - The software used by AEMO to implement its obligations under WEM Rules is compliant with the underlying mathematical formulations and the rules themselves.
 - AEMO has been compliant with its market systems certification obligations
 - AEMO can reproduce past results.

The Electricity Compliance Audit includes AEMO's role as both market and system operator and includes the following work streams within scope:

- Compliance Assessment of AEMO's operational compliance and application of controls to mitigate compliance risk
- Procedures Assessment of Market Procedures and Internal Procedures that have changed during the Audit Period
- Software Compliance Assessment
- Review of General IT Controls.

AUDIT CRITERIA

Criteria for determining operational and procedural compliance

The criterion we have used for determining the compliance of AEMO's Market Procedures is the WEM Rules dated 30 June 2017.

The criteria we have used for determining AEMO's operational compliance and the compliance of AEMO's Internal Procedures are the WEM Rules and the Market Procedures.

Criteria for determining control application

When assessing whether AEMO has applied effective controls during the Audit Period we have used relevant Internal Procedure and Confluence Work Instruction documentation as our audit criteria.

Table 2: Procedures reviewed to assess control application

AEMO functional area	Procedures against which control application has been assessed
Market Operations	Daily Operations Procedure, Prudential Requirements Procedure, Settlements Procedure and Confluence work instructions relating to Annual Loss Factor Review and NSTEM and STEM verification, billing and invoicing procedures
System Capacity	Certification Procedure and Preparation of ESOO Procedure
Finance	Determination of AEMO Budget Procedures and Fees Procedure
System Management Market Operations	Daily Market Operations Procedure, Daily Market Operations Contingency and Backup Procedure, Weekly Ad-hoc Market Operations Procedure, Dispatch Advisory Guidelines, Dispatch Advisory Software User Guide
System Management - System Operations	SOCC_UI Operation Manual, SWIS Technical Envelope
System Management - Planning	MetrixIDR Technical Guide
IT	Access Control and Authentication Standard, AEMO AD Domain Administrator Access Procedure, Application Security Standard, Backup Standard, Cyber Security Policy, Encryption Standard, Information Handling Guidelines, IT Security Incident Response Procedure, Logging and Log Management Standard, Malware Protection Standard, Mobile Computing and Remote Access Security Standard, Network Security Standard, Patch Management Standard, Secure Deletion and Disposal Standard, Workstation Security Standard, IT Change Management Policy, Incident Management Policy, Problem Management Policy, Software
	Configuration Management Plan, Western Power IT Branch Change Management Policy and

AEMO functional area	Procedures against which control application has been assessed			
	Process, Western Power IT Problem Management Process, Western Power Release			
	Management Guidelines, Western Power Incident Management Process			

Where AEMO does not have documented controls or procedures relating to a business process under review we have used best practice criteria for a prudent market and system operator. This includes:

- The use of automated/semi-automated tools to reduce risk of errors
- Use of automated alerts or calendar reminders
- Approval and authorisation processes
- Issue escalation processes
- Validation and review processes
- Exception reporting

APPROACH

Assurance

This audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board's 'Framework for Assurance Engagements', ASAE 3000 'Assurance Engagements Other than Audits and Reviews of Financial Information'.

- We provide reasonable assurance under this standard with respect to our review of:
 - The compliance of AEMO's Internal Procedures with the WEM Rules
 - The compliance of AEMO's market software with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures
- We provide limited assurance under this standard with respect to our review of:
 - AEMO's compliance with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures
 - AEMO's software management processes and controls

Compliance and risk ratings

Table 3: Compliance and risk rating definitions

Compliance rating

- **1**: Instances of non-compliance with the WEM Rules
- 2: Findings that are not an instance of non-compliance, but pose compliance risk
- **3**: Findings related to minor housekeeping issues that do not affect compliance risk

Risk Rating

Critical: Potential for catastrophic impact on market or system operations or other market outcomes if not addressed immediately. Requires executive actions and monitoring at board level.

Significant: Potential for major impact on market or system operations or other market outcomes if not addressed as a matter of priority. Requires senior management attention with regular monitoring at executive meetings.

Medium: Potential for moderate impact on market or system operations or other market outcomes if not addressed within a reasonable timeframe. Requires management attention with regular monitoring.

Low: Potential for minor impact on market or system operations or other market outcomes if not addressed in the future. Requires team level attention with regular monitoring.

Materiality (qualification of audit opinion)

In determining whether to qualify our opinion on whether AEMO has complied "in all material respects", we have taken the following factors into account:

- Purpose and objectives of the market audit
- AEMO's overall objectives
- AEMO's risk matrix definitions of impact
- Financial impacts on Market Participants
- The number of Market Participants or other stakeholders affected
- The impact of an issue on market objectives such as transparency, equity and efficiency
- Whether an issue is systemic
- Whether an issue is recurring (from previous audits).

Audit activities

We have undertaken a combination of:

- Reviewing self-reported incidents of AEMO non-compliance with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures
- Business process walkthroughs and interviews with staff

- Reviewing AEMO's Market Procedures, Internal Procedures¹ and IT Procedures to ensure WEM Rules changes and other changes (e.g. processes, systems, etc.) have been reflected in the procedures
- Compliance testing to audit AEMO's operational compliance with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures and to determine the effectiveness of operating controls².

The first two activities were conducted as part of two field-visits (one undertaken in March 2017 and the other in June 2017). Remaining activities have been undertaken remotely.

Compliance testing and business process walkthroughs were focussed on subset of functional areas based on residual compliance risk, materiality, and rule changes occurring in the Audit Period. These areas include:

Table 4: Audit focus areas

AEMO functional area	Focus area
Market Operations	Verification, billing and invoicing procedures for initial NSTEM settlement, daily market operations procedures relating to operating the STEM and Balancing Markets, end to end credit limit reviews and publication and review of Loss Factors
System Capacity	Capacity certification approval procedures and Electricity Statement of Opportunities (ESOO) report preparation
Finance	Calculation and publication of WEM budget and market fees (considering recent changes in fee categories)
System Management Market Operations	Reviewing, assessing and incorporating standing data changes, manual preparation of settlement input data and other market data (in particular, market data preparation and publication obligations that were previously split between AEMO and System Management), System Management and Synergy meetings under clause 7.6A of the WEM Rules
System Management - System Operations	Dispatch, including control room operations, operational load forecasting, manual generation constraints and Dispatch Advisories
System Management - Planning	ST and MT PASA, Synergy Dispatch plan

¹ In some instances, We have reviewed draft versions of Internal Procedures that had not been formally approved as at the time of the audit.

² In doing so, we have sourced information from all AEMO (WA) teams.

AEMO functional area	Focus area
IT	Business continuity, service management, and user-facing information security policies and
	procedures, System Management software processes and procedures

AUDIT THEMES AND FINDINGS

Comment

Considerable progress in raising AEMO (System Management) capability and reducing risk

AEMO (System Management) (SM) has made considerable progress in reducing the very significant risks around the transition from Western Power to AEMO, particularly in relation to the departure of experienced control room staff and System Operations Planning Engineers. Since the last audit, System Management has recruited and trained around 20 new staff and successfully retained some experienced ex-Western Power staff; this has contributed greatly to the effectiveness of the training programme (also developed since the last audit and tailored to the Western Australian system operations).

System Management has also addressed another previous finding relating to outdated Control Room Instructions (CRIs) by revising their suite of CRIs to reflect current operational practices; this is a valuable support tool for the newly recruited control room operators.

In terms of service level agreements with Western Power, System Management continues to make good progress standardising process and protocols for control room and IT support.

There are still outstanding risk areas with respect to control room staffing; particularly the newly recruited control room operators may still not be sufficiently experienced to deal with system contingencies during bushfire season; especially in a new control room in light of AEMO's upcoming move to new premises in central Perth. This risk is further exacerbated due to frequent IT system issues as discussed below.

Continuing improvement in compliance management practices at AEMO CBD³

We continue to note increasing levels of maturity in managing compliance and a strong compliance culture with respect to AEMO CBD.

³ Covering market operator functions: Market Operations, System Capacity, Finance and Legal & Compliance.

- Audit findings from previous years have been consistently addressed and closed with no
 material recurring themes noted. The vast majority of medium or higher risk audit findings from
 the current Audit Period have likewise been addressed and closed promptly.
- Over 75% of non-compliance incidents with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures were self-reported; this speaks to the effectiveness of AEMO's detective controls.
- Settlement processes employ strong controls which are effective in detecting data errors and anomalies (including meter data errors originating from Western Power). Furthermore, the Market Operations (CBD) team are proactive in improving controls (for settlement and other areas) as issues are detected.
- Our site visits have indicated that the Market Operations and System Capacity teams maintain and apply effective controls to manage compliance risk.

System Management IT issues continue to cause non-compliance and pose risk

Problems with System Management IT systems have caused breaches on multiple occasions in the Audit Period. Further, the currency of and support for critical control room tools need more focus.

We noted at least 15 occasions on which System Management IT issues resulted in AEMO not dispatching from the latest Balancing Merit Order. Root causes vary, but most incidents appear to have been caused by an issue in the design of the FTP transfer process, which has now been addressed via automated error checking and alerting. Other causes include:

- A missed maintenance task which led to unavailability of real-time input data
- The inadvertent disabling of a production file transfer account during routine maintenance
- A server turned off as part of the Western Power data centre move, which unexpectedly
 affected market functions, and turned out to be a single point of failure
- A task missed during a data centre failover that left FTP services pointing to the wrong server
- Issues with Western Power's ISP that meant data could not be transferred between the two different parts of AEMO.

Further, during our audit of the Real-time Dispatch Engine (RTDE), we noted that documentation and information about both RTDE and SOCCUI (interface) was difficult to find, and when found, not current. There is very little deployment documentation for RTDE, and the support team had never installed the tool on a new environment before. As a result, it took several weeks and numerous follow ups to work out a way to test the tool, and several more weeks to work through the issues in getting the tool to run outside the existing environments.. If, for example, the server running RTDE failed in a way that required it to be reinstalled, this would likely lead to market suspension.

In our control room visits, we noted multiple issues with the SOCCUI tool, affecting its use for controllers, none of which are captured in defect or change requests. Two examples of such issues include:

- Changes to facility Ancillary Service capability have not been reflected in SOCCUI, meaning that
 figures displayed overestimate available reserves and load following. Such a mismatch means
 that operator may not provision enough Ancillary Services, which could impact system security,
 and in a major contingency, could lead to load shedding
- Weather data in the tool (used to identify similar days for load forecasting purposes) dates back to 2015, and there is no 2016 or 2017 data. This severely hampers controllers' ability to identify similar days 2015 load profiles are sufficiently different to 2017 that they are not useful.

In both cases controllers have used manual work arounds to address the issues; however, these work arounds are not adequate controls for compliance risk.

Due to the frequency, impact and variety of IT issues, the nature of the additional risks around software, and the fact that the market design changes previously planned in the WA Electricity Market Review are at least two years in the future, we have recommended that AEMO puts a very high priority on addressing the future of these systems.

AEMO has commenced work to develop a strategy for the System Management IT systems which are currently being hosted and supported by Western Power.

Scope to improve business continuity planning and testing

AEMO maintains redundant IT systems, so that the market can continue to operate in the event of losing one data centre. Both data centres are regularly exercised, by running production market systems from each location at regular intervals. While this is perhaps the most critical part of AEMO's business continuity preparation, other aspects of business continuity have not been explored. We have not seen evidence of any business continuity testing beyond system failover and backup restoration testing. This means that reliance on key people, office premises, physical equipment, and communications channels has not been tested. This applies to both AEMO CBD and System Management (East Perth) activities, and is particularly concerning for control room operations.

AEMO has initiated an organisation wide review and update of Business Continuity Plans as part of its move to a new organisational structure.

Lack of System Management process documentation continues to be a compliance risk area

As noted in previous years, many of System Management's business processes are undocumented. This includes all areas except Market Operations, affecting obligations including outage planning and approval, setting Ancillary Services requirements, commissioning tests, dispatch, and power system security. Network outage scheduling and approval processes (in the process of being transferred from Western Power staff to AEMO). This results in inconsistent practices; for example, different controllers have different approaches to assessing on the day opportunistic maintenance requests.

System Management is currently in the process of updating all of its Internal Procedures and has assigned responsibilities to the relevant manager for each process.

Manual data preparation poses compliance risk

Much of System Management's data preparation process is manual, though generally well-documented in the System Management daily and weekly operations Internal Procedures. Given the manual nature of the processes, it is inevitable that from time to time errors and oversights will occur. During the audit, we have noted a number of instances where manual errors have been root causes for non-compliance incidents and where data preparation activities could be improved to reduce compliance risk.

To address this risk, System Management proposes to:

- Review the suite of Market Operations spreadsheets and consider improvements where System Management can increase automation and/ or decrease manual input to the spreadsheet (as possible).
- Review how to improve calendar reminder notifications.

Summary

Table 5 below summarises the total number of audit findings (broken down by risk rating) reported during the 2015/16 and 2016/17 Audit Periods.

The majority of open issues pertain to power system operations and planning (System Management) findings (27 of the 36 open issues), many of which are recurring issues from previous audits.

Table 5: Audit finding summary by risk rating and open/closed status, 2015/16 and 2016/17.

	2015/16 Findings	2016/17 Findings		
Risk Rating	Total	Total	Closed	Open
Significant	4	4	0	4
Medium	11	17	4	14
Low	23	30	12	18
Total	38	52	16	36

Table 6: Summary of audit findings

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 1.01	Issue Type N/A Process System Management - Market & System Operations	Risk Rating Significant Compliance Rating 2	Level of support for control room software tools needs improvement	Ensure adequate support and development capacity for control room tools. Monitor staffing levels to ensure that knowledge is increased, and to cover key person risk where possible. Improve mechanism to effectively capture defects and enhancement requests for SOCCUI, including a route for users to contribute on an ongoing basis. Consider a strategy for control room tools to address known problems with significant risk. Ensure all System Management IT systems are in version control.
17 WEM 2.01	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process Finance	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Failure to publish historical WEM Financial Report	Update Internal Procedures to document this process.
17 WEM 2.02	Issue Type N/A Process System Capacity	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 2	Validation processes for ESOO data registers are undocumented	No recommendations as AEMO has addressed this finding
17 WEM 2.03	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	AEMO has not published an updated equipment list	Schedule twice annual reviews in organisational calendar

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation
	System Management - Planning			
17 WEM 2.04	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process System Management - Planning	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	AEMO does not take DSM availability into account when assessing outages	Review costs/risks/benefits of incorporating DSM availability into outage assessment. If inclusion is decided against, consider proposing a rule change to remediate.
17 WEM 2.05	Issue Type N/A Process System Management	Risk Rating Significant Compliance Rating 2	Lack of Internal Procedures (or business process documentation) poses compliance risk	Develop and maintain procedure documentation for all business processes. We recommend using collaboration tools as well as MS word or pdf documents. For example, System Management could take a similar approach to the CBD office, using Confluence for collaborating on work instructions and recording work done. Add Temperature deration update process to market operations procedure document Update market operations procedure document for new AEMO email accounts, and removal of references to retired tools such as the Generator trip log.
17 WEM 2.06	Issue Type N/A Process System Management - Planning & Market Operations	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 2	Manual process to include transmission outages and potential constraints for MT and ST PASA reports poses risks of omission and errors.	Following transfer of network outage management functions from WP to AEMO, review internal network outage process and identify ways to reduce manual error.

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.07	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process System Management - Planning	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	AEMO does not provide updated Dispatch Plans to Synergy on the Trading Day	Review internal definition of 'significant event', and update Dispatch Advisory guidelines to ensure notifications to Synergy are included. Investigate whether to remove Synergy fuel calculations from Dispatch Plan provided to Synergy by System Management.
17 WEM 2.08	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process System Management - Market Operations	Risk Rating Significant Compliance Rating	Not using latest BMO due to IT systems issues	Investigate backup methods of importing market data into System Management systems. Ensure plan for future of systems is completed by the end of 2017, so that action can be taken to address this ongoing risk.
17 WEM 2.09	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process System Management - Market Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Late issuance of Dispatch Advisories	Long term: Investigate alternate mechanisms for providing information to Market Participants, for example regular automated publication of System Management projected dispatch schedules each time RTDE is rerun with new inputs every time RTDE is rerun using new information (e.g. new forecasts, new constraints, or a new BMO). Medium term: Review this issuance of Dispatch Advisories in conjunction with the establishment of the security desk. Short term: Investigate whether Market Operations analysts can have remote access to issue Dispatch Advisories from off-site
17 WEM 2.10	Issue Type N/A Process	Risk Rating Significant	Departure of experienced control room operators poses significant risk to	Ensure access to experienced control room staff during 2018 bushfire season.

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation
	System Management - System Operations	Compliance Rating 2	power system security and market dispatch obligations (particularly in light of patchy process documentation in this area)	Create and maintain procedure documentation for control room processes.
17 WEM 2.11	Issue Type N/A Process System Management - System Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating 2	There is room to better align the dispatch process with market objectives around economic efficiency	Investigate feasibility of updating software to recalculate and issue dispatch instructions at 5-minute intervals.
17 WEM 2.12	Issue Type N/A Process System Management - System Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating 2	Communication protocols between Western Power and AEMO will be required to ensure seamless application of network constraints in dispatch	Short term: Develop and agree communication protocol between Western Power Networks and AEMO System Management. Medium term: Introduce tools and processes (as part of new security desk) to allow AEMO staff to assess and monitor network security including dynamic powerflows.
17 WEM 2.13	Issue Type N/A Process System Management - System Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating 2	System Management's dispatch decisions around Synergy plant are opaque; there is potential for breaches of Clauses 7.6.2 and 7.13.1(a)	Short term: As part of developing control room documentation, ensure that verbal dispatches of Synergy facilities are included in the Reporting and Logging protocol Medium term: Investigate potential for keeping electronic records of Synergy dispatch.
17 WEM 2.14	Issue Type N/A Process	Risk Rating Medium	There is opportunity to improve the audit trail of control room operations	Short term: Define standard for control room logging, and explicitly note items to be recorded

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation
	System Management - System Operations	Compliance Rating 2		Medium term: Investigate ways to automate or assist the capture of information about real time events
17 WEM 2.15	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process System Management - Planning & Market Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	RDQ forecasts prepared by System Management do not always reflect best estimate of forecast load	Investigate a mechanism to capture and publish the actual load forecast used in the control room. Include reasons for Metrix override in control room logging standard.
17 WEM 2.16	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process System Management - Market Operations	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	System Management does not publish updates to the ST PASA when material changes occur	Following transfer of network outage planning function to AEMO, review usefulness of PASA information to participants, refine reports to provide match with what participants need and investigate automatic publication. In the meantime, continue with current ST PASA publication approach.
17 WEM 2.17	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process System Management - Planning & Market Operations	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	System Management does not publish transmission constraint information in PASA	Following the transfer of the network planning function to AEMO, review usefulness of PASA information to Market Participants, refine reports to provide better match with what participants need, and investigate automatic publication.

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.18	Issue Type N/A Process System Management - Market Operations	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	SCADA data cleansing processes remove consumption data	Update Cleansing of Generation Facility MWh output data PSOP to reflect all data cleansing steps Review and refine SCADA cleansing processes to improve accuracy
17 WEM 2.19	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process System Management - Planning	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Ancillary Service Report not published on AEMO website by 1 July 2017	Schedule publication in organisational calendar. Allow more time for internal review in submission timetable.
17 WEM 2.20	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process System Management - Planning	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Dispatch Plan and associated Information provided to Synergy does not include specified ancillary service information, and the format and time resolution is not described in a procedure.	Standardise Dispatch Plan creation process and describe in a procedure Alter dispatch plan preparation process to remove reliance on sheet containing confidential information.
17 WEM 2.21	Issue Type N/A Process System Management - System Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating 2	Verbal dispatch instructions are not automatically recorded in IT systems	Consider moving responsibility from Market Operations to control room staff to enter verbal dispatch instructions into systems.

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.22	Issue Type N/A Process System Management - System Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating 2	Control room business continuity plans do not include continuous oversight of power system, and IT system disaster recovery plans are not sufficient	Investigate mechanism to provide remote access (e.g. from home or another office location) to control room tools, to allow continuous system oversight in the event of evacuating the primary site. Develop and test disaster recovery plans for System Management IT systems.
17 WEM 2.23	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process Various	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	PSOPs out of date	AEMO should update the PSOP to reflect the various organisational changes, including publication obligations
17 WEM 2.24	Issue Type N/A Process Various	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Missing obligations in Market Procedures	AEMO should update the relevant Market Procedures to include the omissions next time there is a Procedure Change Proposal progressed for the relevant Market Procedure
17 WEM 2.25	Issue Type N/A Process Various	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Missing obligations in AEMO's non-System Management Internal Procedures	AEMO should update the relevant Internal Procedures to pick up gaps and transitional rule changes
17 WEM 2.26	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Allocation of Certified Reserve Capacity to facilities that did not meet WEM Rules criteria ⁴	While it was an executive decision to breach the WEM Rules in this particular circumstance, AEMO should document any future deviations from the WEM Rules to support the rationale of its decision.

⁴ Reported as out of period finding in last year's Electricity Compliance Audit.

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation
	Process System Capacity			
17 WEM 2.27	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process Market Operations	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Incorrect calculation of IRCR due to software bug.	No recommendations as AEMO has addressed this finding through a system fix
17 WEM 2.28	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process System Capacity	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Incorrect calculation of Relevant Level and assigned CRC level due to manual error (and consequential technical breach in calculating Monthly Reserve Capacity Price)	No recommendations as AEMO has addressed this finding.
17 WEM 2.29	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process System Capacity	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Delay in publication of Market Procedure for Expected DSM Dispatch Quantity and DSM Activation Price	No recommendations – AEMO has published the Market Procedure as at 9 June 2017.
17 WEM 2.30	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process Market Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Incorrect Reserve Capacity Refund calculation due to WEMS defect	No recommendations as AEMO has fixed the software defect and is addressing the settlement errors through adjustments.

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation	
17 WEM 2.31	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process Market Operations	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Delay to STEM Window closing time due to manifest error in the WEM Rules	No recommendations – AEMO has taken appropriate actions to mitigate the risk of breach recurrence and the extent of delay caused by AEMO exercising its right to extend timelines under clause 6.4.6 of the WEM Rules.	
17 WEM 2.32	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process Market Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Incorrect settlement calculations due to erroneous Spinning Reserve import	No recommendations as AEMO has updated procedures to prevent recurrence of similar breaches.	
17 WEM 2.33	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process Market Operations	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Failure to acknowledge notice of disagreement due to oversight.	No recommendations as AEMO has adequate controls to mitigate recurrence of similar breaches. This was an instance of human error.	
17 WEM 2.34	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process Market Operations	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Failure to notify participant of incorrect Capacity Credit Allocation leading to erroneous revocation of Capacity Credit Allocation	No recommendations as AEMO has updated the failover checklists and internal process documentation to include a check of the MOSMI logs to identify errors. This should prevent recurrence of this breach.	
17 WEM 2.35	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process Various	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Failure to publish summary of closed Rule Change Proposals and Procedures Changedsproposals	No recommendation as AEMO has resolved the issue.	

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.36	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process Various	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Failure to notify MAC of Procedure Change Proposal publication	Include checklists that cover change process deadlines, notification and publication requirements.
17 WEM 2.37	Issue Type N/A Process Market Operations	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Rule inconsistency in relation to settlement tolerances raises a risk of incorrect tolerances being used	No recommendations.
17 WEM 2.38	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process Market Operations	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Technical non-compliance with requirement to notify receipt by telephone	No recommendations.
17 WEM 2.39	Issue Type N/A Process IT	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 2	Documentation for backup architecture not available	Ensure that current backup refresh project delivers documentation for the architecture of the backup environment.
17 WEM 2.40	Issue Type N/A Process IT	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating 2	Business continuity exercises are limited to system failovers	Plan and conduct regular desk-based and live business continuity exercises covering selected credible contingency scenarios.
17 WEM 2.41	Issue Type N/A Process IT	Risk Rating Low	WA backup media not encrypted as required by AEMO Encryption Standard	Consider backup media encryption as part of backup refresh project.

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation
		Compliance Rating 2		
17 WEM 2.42	Issue Type N/A Process System Management - Market Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating 2	Market operations data preparation processes are heavily manual.	Assess opportunities for automating to reduce manual effort and reduce errors. In particular: • Automate: • preparation of the ancillary service activation quantities and • calculation of outage quantities for intermittent generators. • Lock key spreadsheet tools and add to source control. • Implement timestamping on manually amended database tables. Long term: Introduce MOSMI alerts for System Management market operations activities Medium term: Centralise management of activity reminders and deadline notifications, for example in a shared calendar.
17 WEM 2.43	Issue Type N/A Process IT	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 3	New IT applications staff have had limited exposure to service management concepts	Ensure support staff have appropriate service management training.
17 WEM 2.44	Issue Type N/A Process IT	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Configuration management system could be improved	Ensure support staff have appropriate service management training Consider refreshing CMDB as part of the wider AEMO service management programme
17 WEM 2.45	Issue Type N/A Process IT	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 2	One data centre is not Tier III aligned	Consider moving to a more distant Tier III aligned data centre site as part of next data centre lifecycle refresh project.

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.46	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process System Management - Market Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Non-issuance of Dispatch Advisories	Review Dispatch Advisory Guidelines, including threshold significance of unit constraint on a facility. We recognise that if the constraint is only for a short time (e.g. less than the gate closure period), the market effects may be minimal, and in these cases AEMO might choose to accept non-compliance rather than incur the overhead of creating and maintaining a Dispatch Advisory.
17 WEM 2.47	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process System Management - System Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Insufficient Spinning Reserve activated	Ensure ancillary service dispatch is considered in planning for evolution of System Management IT systems. Monitor ancillary service provision to identify any trend towards greater volatility of requirement or activation.
17 WEM 2.48	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process System Management - Market Operations	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Late preparation of data	See 17WEM2.42
17 WEM 2.49	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process System	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Not following the PSOP in approving Day Ahead Opportunistic maintenance	No recommendations

Ref	Process	Risk & Compliance Rating	Finding	Recommendation
	Management - Planning			
17 WEM 2.50	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance Process System Management - Planning	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Not providing aggregate resource plan data to Synergy	No additional recommendations
17 WEM 2.51	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance Process System Management - Market Operations	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Not using latest temperature dependence ratio provided under Standing Data to calculate facility outage quantities	Clarify to Market Participants (including updating market facing documentation) the relationship between Appendix 1(b)iii and 1(b)iv of the WEM Rules. Request that all Market Participants update their Appendix 1(b)iii values to be at 15 degrees Celsius OR change outage calculations to assume 41 degrees and ask Market Participants to submit on that basis Request that Market Participants responsible for the 9 facilities who have not supplied a temperature deration curve supply one. Review process for incorporating derate curves, including explicit instructions in Internal Procedure documentation.

OPINION

Qualifications

We have noted three instances of material non-compliance with the WEM Rules; our definition of materiality is set out on page 7:

- System Management has used incorrect temperature deration coefficients to calculate outage values, which is not compliant with clause 3.21.6(a) of the WEM Rules.
- On at least two occasions System management has not provisioned Spinning Reserve sufficient to meet the Spinning Reserve requirement as required by clause 3.12.1 of the WEM Rules.
- Due to IT issues, System Management has dispatched other than from the latest Balancing Merit Order (BMO) on several occasions, which is not compliant with clauses 7.6.1C and 7.6.1D of the WFM Rules.

Conclusion

Opinion on the compliance of AEMO's Market and Internal Procedures with the WEM Rules

Subject to the inherent limitations set out in Section 1.5.4, based on the audit procedures we have performed and the evidence we have examined, AEMO's Market Procedures and Internal Procedures are compliant with the WEM Rules.

Opinion on AEMO's operational compliance with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures

Subject to the inherent limitations set out in Section 1.5.4 and with the exception of the instances set out above, based on the audit procedures we have performed and the evidence we have examined, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe AEMO has not been compliant with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures during the Audit Period, in all material respects.

Opinion on the compliance of AEMO's Market Software Systems with the WEM Rules

Subject to the inherent limitations set out in Section 1.5.4, based on the audit procedures we have performed and the evidence we have examined, AEMO's Market Software Systems are compliant with the WEM Rules in all material respects.

Opinion with respect to the compliance of AEMO's software management processes with the WEM Rules

Subject to the inherent limitations set out in Section 1.5.4, based on the audit procedures we have performed and the evidence we have examined, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that AEMO's processes for software management have not been compliant with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures during the Audit Period in all material respects.

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1 Introduction

This chapter sets out the regulatory context for the Electricity Compliance Audit and our approach to performing the audit.

1.1 AUDITED ENTITY

The audited entity for this report is AEMO.

For avoidance of doubt:

- The term *AEMO CBD* is used to refer to AEMO's market operator team based in central Perth (comprising Market Operations, System Capacity, Finance, Legal & Compliance and IT).
- The term *AEMO (System Management) (SM)* is used to refer to AEMO's system operator team based in East Perth (comprising Power System Market Operations, Power System Planning and Control Room Operations).

1.2 AUDIT PERIOD

The Audit Period is 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017, both dates inclusive.

1.3 REGULATORY CONTEXT AND SCOPE

1.3.1 Regulatory context

The regulatory context for the audit is summarised in the table below. For avoidance of doubt, the heads of power for the Electricity Compliance Audit are derived from clauses 2.14.1, 2.14.2 & 2.14.3 of the WEM Rules and covers AEMO's role as both market operator and system operator.

Table 7: Regulatory context for the market audit

Clause reference	Comment
2.14.1	Requirement for AEMO to appoint market auditor.
2.14.2	Requirement for AEMO to ensure market audits are undertaken no less than annually.

Clause reference	Comment
2.14.3	Defines the scope of the audit to include, at minimum:
	The compliance of AEMO's Internal Procedures and business processes with the WEM
	Rules.
	AEMO's compliance with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures.
	The compliance of AEMO's market software systems and processes for software management with clause 2.36.1 of the WEM Rules.
2.36.1	Defines obligations with respect to AEMO's software management systems and controls; this provides the compliance criteria for the review of processes for software management.

1.3.2 Scope

Given the regulatory context above, the purpose of the Electricity Compliance Audit is to assess:

- How AEMO implements its obligations under the WEM Rules.
- How AEMO manages non-compliance risk with respect to the obligations above.
- Instances of non-compliance by AEMO during the Audit Period.
- AEMO's market software systems and its processes for software management, and specifically, AEMO's compliance with clause 2.36.1 of the WEM Rules. It includes an assessment of whether:
 - AEMO maintains appropriate records.
 - The software used by AEMO to implement its obligations under WEM Rules is compliant with the underlying mathematical formulations and the rules themselves.
 - AEMO has been compliant with its market systems certification obligations.
 - AEMO can reproduce past results.

The Electricity Compliance Audit includes AEMO's role as both market and system operator and includes the following work streams within scope:

• Compliance Assessment of:

- Areas where we have noted breaches or non-compliance risk during past audits.
- Areas that have changed or been introduced in the past Audit Period (e.g. in terms of rule changes, system changes, operational practice changes.
- AEMO's self-reported instances of non-compliance with the WEM Rules.
- Areas of potential risk identified by Market Participants during the Stakeholder Session on 23 March 2017.

- **Procedures Assessment** of Market Procedures and Internal Procedures that have changed during the Audit Period.
- Software Compliance Assessment. Our audit team has tested and certified updates to WEMS
 and settlements systems on an ad-hoc basis throughout the year (prior to implementation).
 Hence the Software Compliance Assessment does not include certification testing but does
 include:
 - A review of AEMO's change logs for WEMS, settlements, SPARTA, RTDE and SOCCUI
 - A review of rule changes and release notes to determine whether all rule changes have been reflected in software
 - Testing compliance of MR 2.36.1(b) in respect of Balancing Merit Orders for 8 July 2016 to check whether AEMO can recreate system outputs
 - Certification of the Real-time Dispatch Engine (RTDE) tool against its functional specifications and the WEM Rules. This year, the scope of the Software Compliance Assessment has been expanded to include testing and certification of RTDE, which is not yet complete, and results will be reported separately.
- Review of General IT Controls. This year we have broadened the scope of our software management process review to encompass general IT controls not reviewed (or reviewed only in part) in previous years. This review covers:
 - Change and release management for all AEMO WA systems
 - Incident and problem management
 - Backup arrangements, retention and restoration
 - Authentication, authorisation and access management
 - Database management
 - User-facing information security controls.

1.4 AUDIT CRITERIA

1.4.1 Criteria for determining operational and procedural compliance

The criterion we have used for determining the compliance of AEMO's Market Procedures (referred to as the *Market Procedures*) is the Wholesale Electricity Market Rules dated 28 June 2017 (referred to as the *WEM Rules*).

The criteria we have used for determining AEMO's operational compliance and the compliance of AEMO's Internal Procedures are the WEM Rules and the Market Procedures.

1.4.2 Criteria for determining control application

When assessing whether AEMO has applied effective controls during the Audit Period we have used relevant Internal Procedure and Confluence Work Instruction documentation as our audit criteria. These are summarised below.

Table 8: Procedures reviewed to assess control application

AEMO functional area	Procedures against which control application has been assessed
Market Operations	Daily Operations Procedure, Prudential Requirements Procedure, Settlements Procedure and Confluence work instructions relating to Annual Loss Factor Review and NSTEM and STEM verification, billing and invoicing procedures
System Capacity	Certification Procedure and Preparation of ESOO Procedure
Finance	Determination of AEMO Budget Procedures and Fees Procedure
System Management Market Operations	Daily Market Operations Procedure, Daily Market Operations Contingency and Backup Procedure, Weekly Ad-hoc Market Operations Procedure, Dispatch Advisory Guidelines, Dispatch Advisory Software User Guide
System Management System Operations	SOCC_UI Operation Manual, SWIS Technical Envelope
System Management Planning	MetrixIDR Technical Guide
IT	Access Control and Authentication Standard, AEMO AD Domain Administrator Access Procedure, Application Security Standard, Backup Standard, Cyber Security Policy, Encryption Standard, Information Handling Guidelines, IT Security Incident Response Procedure, Logging and Log Management Standard, Malware Protection Standard, Mobile Computing and Remote Access Security Standard, Network Security Standard, Patch Management Standard, Secure Deletion and Disposal Standard, Workstation Security Standard, IT Change Management Policy, Incident Management Policy, Problem Management Policy, Software Configuration Management Plan, Western Power IT Branch Change Management Policy and Process, Western Power IT Problem Management Process, Western Power Release Management Guidelines, Western Power Incident Management Process

Where AEMO does not have documented controls or procedures relating to a business process under review we have used best practice criteria for a prudent market and system operator. This includes:

• The use of automated/semi-automated tools to reduce risk of errors.

- Use of automated alerts or calendar reminders.
- Approval and authorisation processes.
- Issue escalation processes.
- Validation and review processes.
- Exception reporting.
- Practices at other system and market operators with which we are familiar.

1.5 APPROACH

1.5.1 Assurance

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards
Board's 'Framework for Assurance Engagements', ASAE 3000 'Assurance Engagements Other than
Audits and Reviews of Financial Information'

- We provide reasonable assurance under this standard with respect to our review of:
 - The compliance of AEMO's Internal Procedures with the WEM Rules
 - The compliance of AEMO's market software with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures
- We provide limited assurance under this standard with respect to our review of:
 - AEMO's compliance with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures
 - AEMO's software management processes and controls

1.5.2 Risk ratings and materiality

Compliance and risk ratings

Audit findings are categorised as follows:

Table 9: Compliance and risk ratings

Compliance rating

- **1**: Instances of non-compliance with the WEM Rules
- 2: Findings that are not an instance of non-compliance, but pose compliance risk
- **3**: Findings related to minor housekeeping issues that do not affect compliance risk

Risk Rating

Critical: Potential for catastrophic impact on market or system operations or other market outcomes if not addressed immediately. Requires executive actions and monitoring at board level.

Significant: Potential for major impact on market or system operations or other market outcomes if not addressed as a matter of priority. Requires senior management attention with regular monitoring at executive meetings.

Medium: Potential for moderate impact on market or system operations or other market outcomes if not addressed within a reasonable timeframe. Requires management attention with regular monitoring.

Low: Potential for minor impact on market or system operations or other market outcomes if not addressed in the future. Requires team level attention with regular monitoring.

Risk rating descriptors for audit findings were set in consultation with AEMO and are based on AEMO's corporate risk matrix. Please refer to Section 15.1 for more information on compliance and risk ratings.

Materiality (qualification of audit opinion)

In determining whether to qualify our opinion on whether AEMO has complied "in all material respects", we have taken the following factors into account:

- Purpose and objectives of the market audit
- AEMO's overall objectives
- AEMO's risk matrix definitions of impact
- Financial impacts on Market Participants
- The number of Market Participants or other stakeholders affected
- The impact of an issue on market objectives such as transparency, equity and efficiency
- Whether or not an issue is systemic
- Whether or not an issue is recurring (from previous audits).

1.5.3 Audit activities

We have undertaken a combination of:

- Reviewing self-reported incidents of AEMO non-compliance with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures
- Business process walkthroughs and interviews with staff to audit the application of operating controls and to determine the level of compliance risk associated with selected business processes
- Reviewing AEMO's Market Procedures, Internal Procedures⁵ and IT Procedures to ensure WEM Rules changes and other changes (e.g. processes, systems, etc.) have been reflected in the procedures
- Compliance testing to audit AEMO's operational compliance with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures and to determine the effectiveness of operating controls. In doing so, we have sourced information from all AEMO (WA) teams, with a particular emphasis on the Market Operations team.

The first two activities were conducted as part of two field-visits (one undertaken in March 2017 and the other in June 2017). Remaining activities have been undertaken remotely.

Compliance testing and business process walkthroughs were focussed on subset of functional areas based on residual compliance risk, materiality, and rule changes occurring in the Audit Period. These areas include:

- Market Operations:
 - Verification, billing and invoicing procedures for initial NSTEM settlement
 - Daily market operations procedures relating to operating the STEM and Balancing Markets
 - Capacity certification approval procedures
 - End to end credit limit reviews
 - Electricity Statement of Opportunities (ESOO) report preparation
 - Publication and review of Loss Factors
 - Calculation and publication of WEM budget and market fees (considering recent changes in fee categories).
- System Management Market Operations
 - Reviewing, assessing and incorporating standing data changes

⁵ We have reviewed draft versions of Internal Procedures that had not been formally approved as at the time of the review.

- Manual preparation of settlement input data and other market data (and in particular, market data preparation and publication obligations that were previously split between AEMO and System Management)
- System Management and Synergy meetings under clause 7.6A of the WEM Rules.
- System Management System Operations
 - Dispatch, including control room operations, operational load forecasting, manual generation constraints and Dispatch Advisories.
- System Operations Planning
 - ST and MT PASA
 - Synergy Dispatch plan.
- Review of general IT controls:
 - Business continuity
 - Service management
 - User-facing information security policies and procedures
 - System Management software processes and procedures.

1.5.4 Inherent limitations

As in previous years, we note that there are limitations to any external audit. Audits are not an absolute guarantee of the truth or reliability of agency information or the effectiveness of internal controls. They may not identify all matters of significance. This is because external audit techniques involve:

- Professional judgement as to "good industry and market operational practice"
- The use of sample testing
- An assessment of the effectiveness of internal control structures and
- An assessment of risk.

A market audit does not guarantee every procedure and action carried out in the operation of the electricity market in the audit report, nor does it examine all evidence and every transaction. However, our audit procedures should identify errors or omissions significant enough to adversely affect market outcomes.

Our opinion with respect to AEMO's compliance with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures is therefore subject to the following caveats:

- Our audit procedures did not include assessing irregularities such as fraudulent or illegal
 activities. As such, our audit should not be relied upon to disclose such irregularities. However,
 in the event that we were to detect any fraudulent or illegal activity, we would report this to
 AEMO. No such findings have been made during this audit.
- Our audit is not designed to detect all weaknesses in control procedures as it is not performed continuously throughout the Audit Period and is performed on a sample basis.

1.6 STRUCTURE OF THIS REPORT

The remainder of this report is structured as follows:

- Chapters 2 to 13 present our audit findings relating to the Compliance Assessment and Procedures Assessment work streams on an WEM Rule chapter by chapter basis.
- Chapter 14 presents findings relating to the Software Compliance and general IT Controls work streams.

1.7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

RBP would like to thank managers and staff from AEMO and Western Power who willingly provided information and shared in discussions with us while we carried out this audit.

2 WEM RULES CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION

WEM Rules Chapter 1 sets out the Introduction to the WEM Rules and covers areas such as the objectives of the market, conventions and transitional arrangements.

2.1 RULE AMENDMENTS

There have been transitional changes to Chapter 1 of the WEM Rules to reflect reallocation of obligations across AEMO, the Independent Market Operator (IMO) and the Economic Regulation Authority (ERA).

2.2 AEMO PROCEDURES

AEMO's Market Procedures and Internal Procedures are compliant with Chapter 1 of the WEM Rules in all material respects.

2.3 COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 1

We have not conducted any audit procedures to assess AEMO's compliance with Chapter 1 of the WEM Rules.

There have been no self-reported instances of non-compliance with Chapter 1 of the WEM Rules.

3 WEM Rules Chapter 2 - Administration

Chapter 2 of the WEM Rules sets out obligations relating to Functions and Governance; Market Documents; Monitoring, Enforcement and Audit; Reviewable Decisions and Disputes; Market Consultation; Budgets and Fees; Maximum and Minimum Prices and Loss Factors; Participation and Registration; Communications and Systems Requirements; Prudential Requirements and Emergency Powers.

3.1 RULE AMENDMENTS

Amendments to Chapter 2 reflect both transitional changes and changes to Demand Side Program (DSP) registration:

- Transitional changes such as:
 - Changes to clauses that previously referenced System Management have been amended to reflect AEMO as the obligated entity (given the transfer of System Management functions to AEMO)
 - Changes to reflect the amended processes for market rule and procedure changes including reallocation of tasks between the ERA, IMO, AEMO and the Rule Change Panel
 - Changes to reflect reallocation of market monitoring tasks between the ERA and AEMO.
 - Changes to market fee structure to take into account the above transitional changes.
- Changes to registration of Associated Loads to a DSP.

3.2 **AEMO** PROCEDURES

AEMO's Market Procedures and Internal Procedures are compliant with Chapter 2 of the WEM Rules in all material respects.

3.2.1 Market Procedures (including the PSOP)

AEMO's Market Procedures are compliant with Chapter 2 of the WEM Rules. This includes a new PSOP section under 2.28.3A covering information to be provided by networks (IMS Interface Market Procedure - Network Operators and AEMO).

We have noted two issues that are not instances of non-compliance:

- All PSOPs need to be updated to reflect the transfer of functions from the IMO and Western Power, to AEMO, ERA and the Rule Change Panel. This is not a breach as clause 1.19.3 provides for transitional roles of the IMO, ERA and AEMO. This applies to all rule chapters, not just chapter 2.
- We have noted a small number of obligations that are not documented in Market Procedures.

3.2.2 Internal Procedures

As noted in previous years, many of SM's business processes are undocumented. This includes all areas except Market Operations, affecting obligations including outage planning and approval, setting ancillary services requirements, commissioning tests, dispatch, and power system security. Network outage scheduling and approval processes (undertaken by Western Power staff under formal delegation) are likewise undocumented. This results in inconsistent processes - for example different controllers have different approaches to assessing on the day opportunistic maintenance requests. Some existing procedures need to be updated. This applies to all rule chapters, not just chapter 2.

AEMO's non-SM procedures have not been updated to reflect a small number of AEMO obligations (relating to fees, participant compliance monitoring and rule and procedure changes).

Except for the issues noted above, AEMO's Internal Procedures are compliant with the WEM Rules.

We have additionally noted a small number of obligations that are undocumented.

3.2.3 Compliance of AEMO's procedures with the WEM Rules

Audit findings related to the compliance of AEMO's procedures are summarised below:

Table 10: Findings associated with AEMO's internal procedures

Ref	Finding	Risk & Compliance Rating	Recommendation
17WEM2.05	Many of SM's business processes are undocumented. This includes all areas except Market Operations, affecting obligations including outage planning and approval, setting ancillary services requirements, commissioning tests, dispatch, and power system security.	Significant Level 2	Develop and maintain procedure documentation for all business processes. We recommend using collaboration tools as well as MS word or pdf documents. For example, SM could take a similar approach to the CBD office, using Confluence for collaborating on work instructions and recording work done.

Ref	Finding	Risk & Compliance Rating	Recommendation
	Network outage scheduling and approval processes (undertaken by Western Power staff under formal delegation) are likewise undocumented. This results in inconsistent processes - for example different controllers have different approaches to assessing on the day opportunistic maintenance requests. Further, some existing procedures need to be updated.		Add Temperature deration update process to market operations procedure document Update market operations procedure documents for new AEMO email accounts, and removal of references to retired tools such as the Generator trip log.
17WEM2.23	All PSOPs need to be updated to reflect the transfer of functions from the IMO and Western Power, to AEMO, ERA and the Rule Change Panel.	Low Level 2	Update PSOP to reflect the various organisational changes, including publication obligations
17WEM2.24	A small number of obligations are not documented in Market Procedures	Low Level 3	AEMO should update the relevant Market Procedures to include the omissions next time there is a Procedure Change Proposal progressed for the relevant Market Procedure
17WEM2.25	In a small number of instances, AEMO's Internal Procedures have not been updated to reflect the transfer of functions from IMO to ERA and SM to AEMO. There are also a small number of undocumented obligations.	Low Level 3	AEMO should update the relevant Internal Procedures to pick up gaps and transitional rule changes

3.3 OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 2

3.3.1 Audit activities

- We have conducted (retrospective) business process walkthroughs to determine whether AEMO
 has complied with the WEM Rules and its Internal Procedures and whether AEMO has applied
 appropriate controls in the following areas:
 - Determination and publication of AEMO budget (clause 2.22A of the WEM Rules)

- Determination and publication of market fees (clause 2.24 of the WEM Rules).
- We have conducted compliance testing on a sample of end-to-end Credit Limit reviews to ensure credit limits have been calculated and notified in accordance with the WEM Rules and Prudential Requirements Market Procedure.
- We reviewed AEMO's compliance with the requirement to publish system operations delegations on the Market Website under clause 2.2.4 of the WEM Rules.
- We reviewed AEMO's execution and publication of tolerance reviews under clauses 2.13.6D and 2.13.6E of the WEM Rules.
- We conducted process walkthrough and compliance testing on AEMO System Management's processes for reviewing, assessing and incorporating standing data changes.

Instances of non-compliance and areas of compliance risk associated with Chapter 2 of the WEM Rules are summarised in the table below.

Table 11: Operational compliance findings associated with Chapter 2 of the WEM Rules

Ref	Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.01	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation WEM 2.22A.5	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Failure to publish historical financial report. The WEM Rules require AEMO to publish by 30 October a historical financial report comparing actuals to budgeted amounts. AEMO failed to publish the WEM Financial Report for the 2015/16 financial year on 30 October 2016 due to an oversight. AEMO has now published the 2015/16 historical financial report and has implemented calendar reminders or other alerts to ensure the breach does not recur	AEMO's Internal Procedures should be updated to document this obligation as it is currently undocumented.
17 WEM 2.36	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance (New issue) Obligation Procedure Administration, Section 2.5.1	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Failure to notify MAC of Procedure Change Proposal publication. Section 2.5.1 of the Procedure Administration Market Procedure requires AEMO to notify the Market Advisory Committee (MAC) within one business day of publishing a Procedure Change Proposal. AEMO published Procedure Change Proposal AEPC_2017_04 (relating to Market Procedure: Certification of Reserve Capacity) on 27 June 2017 but did not notify MAC on 28 June 2017; MAC was notified on 30 June 2017. The Market Procedure and Rule change process was previously administered by the Market Development team which was disestablished in 2016. Procedure and rule change activities are now decentralized, and as indicated above, undocumented. Similar	We recommend AEMO: Include checklists that cover change process deadlines, notification and publication requirements.

	instances of non-compliance are therefore possible. However, we note that	
	such breaches would have minimal/negligible market impact.	

4 WEM Rules Chapter 3 – Power System Security and Reliability

Chapter 3 of the WEM Rules sets out obligations relating to Power System Security and Reliability; Ancillary Services; Medium and Short-Term Planning; Commissioning Tests; Decommitment and Reserve Capacity Obligations; and Settlement Data relating to power system operation.

4.1 RULE AMENDMENTS

Amendments to Chapter 3 of the WEM Rules include:

- Transitional changes to reflect the transfer of System Management functions to AEMO and IMO functions to the ERA.
- Minor cosmetic changes to clarify rule intent.
- Changes to reflect interim arrangements for constrained grid access.

4.2 AEMO PROCEDURES

AEMO's Market Procedures and Internal Procedures are compliant with Chapter 3 of the WEM Rules in all material respects. Please refer to Table 10 for audit findings relating to AEMO's procedures.

4.3 OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 3

4.3.1 Audit activities

- We have conducted business process observation and walkthroughs to determine whether AEMO has complied with the WEM Rules and its Internal Procedures and whether AEMO has applied appropriate controls in the following areas:
 - Preparation of MT-PASA (clause 3.16 of the WEM Rules).
 - Preparation of ST PASA (clause 3.17 of the WEM Rules).

- Outage acceptance and approval (clauses 3.18 and 3.19 of the WEM Rules).
- Manual preparation of settlement input data and other market data.
- We have conducted compliance testing on:
 - Content and timing of MT-PASA.
 - Content and timing of ST PASA.
 - Manual preparation of settlement input data and other market data.

Instances of non-compliance and areas of compliance risk associated with Chapter 3 of the WEM Rules are summarised in the table below.

Table 12: Operational compliance findings associated with Chapter 3 of the WEM Rules

Ref	Issue type & obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.03	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 3.18.2(b)	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	AEMO has not published an updated equipment list. Clause 3.18.2(b) of the WEM Rules requires System Management to publish any updates to the equipment list. Between 27 Aug 2014 and July 2017, new generators and network components were commissioned but the list was not updated and republished until 21 July 2017. Further, Outages PSOP section 3.1.5 requires System Management to review the list every 6 months. We have not seen any evidence that this timing requirement was met in the Audit Period.	Schedule twice annual reviews in organisational calendar
17 WEM 2.04	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance (Recurring issue) Obligation 3.18.11(a)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	AEMO does not take Demand Side Management (DSM) availability into account when assessing outages. Clauses 3.18.11 and 3.19.6 of the WEM Rules require System Management to take into account a reasonable estimate of available DSM when approving outages. When approving outages, System Management does not take available DSM into account, assuming zero availability. In our view, this is not a reasonable forecast of total available demand side management'. This treatment arises from the difficulty of using DSM in practice - DSM may only be dispatched as a last resort, requires a four-hour notice period, and would typically only be dispatched in summer. Most facilities schedule long-duration outages in the off-peak/shoulder months.	Review costs/risks/benefits of incorporating DSM availability into outage assessment. If inclusion is decided against, consider proposing a rule change to remediate.

Ref	Issue type & obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			Because the market has significant overcapacity, the omission of DSM as part of the outage approval process is unlikely to result in different outage decisions, and we have seen no evidence that any outage decision would have been different if DSM were accounted for. Therefore, this breach is likely to have negligible impact on market outcomes. Nevertheless, with recent rule changes to make DSM treatment more comparable to generation, it is more usable, and there is potential for outage decisions to be affected in future.	
17 WEM 2.06	Issue Type (Recurring issue) Obligation 3.17.9(f)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 2	Manual process to include transmission outages and potential constraints for MT and ST PASA reports poses risks of omission and errors. Clause 3.17.9(f) of the WEM Rules requires System Management to include information about transmission outages and potential constraints in the ST PASA report. System Management retrieves outages from the Network Operator Interface, and manually checks them against the Equipment List (as network outages are entered using a free text field, and Western Power Networks personnel sometimes use different labels to identify transmission equipment). Identification of generators affected by transmission outages is adhoc, and may not reflect potential consequential outages. System Management is dependent on the integrity of information provided by participants. Furthermore, the manual processing of transmission outages has some risk of omissions and errors. We note that System Management is currently in the process of taking over the outage management system for network operations, and this may provide an opportunity to reduce potential for manual error, by, for example removing free text fields and standardising equipment labelling nomenclature.	Following transfer of network outage management functions from Western Power to AEMO, review internal network outage process and identify ways to reduce manual error.

Ref	Issue type & obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.16	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 3.17.1	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	System Management does not publish updates to the ST PASA when material changes occur. Clause 3.17.1(b) of the WEM Rules requires System Management to update and publish the ST PASA if changes occur that would materially affect market outcomes during the first week of the ST PASA. No updates have been published in the Audit Period. A version of the ST PASA spreadsheet tool is also used by System Operations Planning Engineers in outage assessment, using automatically refreshed data, but these updates are not published to the market. Most of the information in the ST PASA is available to Market Participants, but transmission outages, and 1st and 2nd standard deviation load forecasts are not available except in the PASA.	Following transfer of network outage planning function to AEMO, review usefulness of PASA information to participants, refine reports to provide match with what participants need and investigate automatic publication. In the meantime, continue with current ST PASA publication approach.
17 WEM 2.17	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 3.16.9(f), 3.17.9(f)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	System Management does not publish transmission constraint information in PASA. Clauses 3.16.9(f) and 3.17.9(f) of the WEM Rules require System Management to publish forecast transmission capacity between potentially constrained regions under normal conditions (and for MT PASA, some contingencies). The PASA reports have placeholder fields for this information, but they are not populated, and have never been. In some situations, it would be reasonable to expect this information to be provided, such as when transmission to the Goldfields or North Country is constrained or those regions will potentially be islanded. Given that these fields have never been populated, it is difficult to say that there has been any great impact.	Medium term: Review usefulness of PASA information to participants, refine reports to provide better match with what participants need, investigate automatic publication.
17 WEM 2.19	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance (New issue)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Ancillary Service Report not published on AEMO website by 1 July. Clause 3.11.13 of the WEM Rules requires AEMO to publish the annual ancillary service report by 1 July 2017. AEMO did not publish the report until 3 July 2017, and it was approved by ERA on 7 July 2017.	Schedule publication in organisational calendar Allow more time for internal review in submission timetable.

Ref	Issue type & obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
	Obligation 3.11.13		We also note that clause 3.11.11 of the WEM Rules requires AEMO to submit the annual ancillary service report to ERA by 1 June 2017. While AEMO initially submitted the report on 31 May 2017, it resubmitted an updated version on 2 June 2017. Changes were to commentary only, and did not affect the core figures reported or planned for.	
17 WEM 2.42	Issue Type (Recurring issue) Obligation Ch 3	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating 2	 Market operations data preparation processes are heavily manual. Much of System Management's data preparation process is manual, though generally well-documented in the System Management daily and weekly operations Internal Procedures. Given the manual nature of the processes, it is inevitable that from time to time errors and oversights will occur. We noted instances where System Management data preparation activities could be improved. Specifically: One of the check formulae in the ST PASA preparation sheet has replaced with a hardcoded value of '0', which means it would not pick up an issue. When adjusting outage amounts for RCOQ, the analyst must manually change the values for intermittent generators, because RCOQ is 0 for these facilities. Updates to temperature derating data are manually calculated and entered into the database. There is no history kept on this table, so identifying unintended changes is difficult Network Operator Interface queries are based on Calendar Days, not Trading Days Calendar reminders and notifications for activity deadlines are not centralised. Individual analysts must create and maintain their own reminders, resulting in omissions, duplications and inconsistencies. Non-compliance notifications are manually edited in the database. 	 Assess opportunities for automating to reduce manual effort and reduce errors. In particular, consider automating: preparation of the ancillary service activation quantities and calculation of outage quantities for intermittent generators. Lock key spreadsheet tools and add to source control Implement timestamping on manually amended database tables Long term: Introduce MOSMI alerts for System Management market operations activities Medium term: Centralise management of activity reminders and deadline notifications, for example in a shared calendar.t

Ref	Issue type & obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.47	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 3.12.1	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Insufficient Spinning Reserve activated. Clause 3.12.1 of the WEM Rules requires System Management to schedule and dispatch facilities to meet the Ancillary Service Requirements in each Trading Interval. Clause 3.10.2 of the WEM Rules defines the standard for Spinning Reserve to be the greater of 70% of total output of the unit with the largest current injection, or the maximum load ramp expected over a period of 15 minutes. The amount of Spinning Reserve available includes the quantities utilised to meet the load following requirement. The standard can be relaxed by 12% where the shortfall is expected to last less than 30 minutes. On 12 June 2017, two Trading Intervals had Spinning Reserve activation less than the relaxed requirement: • Trading Interval 14-2, where the requirement was 170.352 (could be relaxed to 149.9) and the average available Spinning Reserve was 147.4. • Trading Interval 15-2, where the requirement was 213.0 (could be relaxed to 187.5) and the average available Spinning Reserve was 169.8. Another two intervals were higher than the relaxed requirement, but lower than the full requirement. If the contingency were to occur in that period, system stability would be at risk. All these periods occurred in mid to late afternoon, where distributed solar PV injection is high, load is increasing as the evening ramp begins, and baseload thermal generation is ramping up again after having been backed off through the middle of the day. These dynamics make it difficult to manage load following and Spinning Reserve availability, and are likely to continue worsen in the short to medium term. We note that provisioning additional Spinning Reserve comes at a cost, and that the activation of Spinning Reserve is a manual task. As such, the potential	 Ensure ancillary service dispatch is considered in planning for evolution of System Management IT systems. Monitor ancillary service provision to identify any trend towards greater volatility of requirement or activation.

Ref	Issue type & obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			for such non-compliance will remain until AEMO can introduce new or changed systems to automatically adjust Spinning Reserve quantities. There is a similar general issue with Load Rejection Reserve (LRR), but we have not observed any particular instance of non-compliance in relation to LRR.	
17 WEM 2.49	Issue Type AEMO Self-reported non-compliance (New issue) Obligation 3.19.14	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Not following the PSOP in approving Day Ahead Opportunistic maintenance. Section 10.2.4 of the PSOP: Facility Outages requires System Management to not approve a request for Opportunistic Maintenance application made between 3:30pm on the day prior to the Scheduling Day and 6am on the Scheduling Day, after 12pm on the Scheduling Day. On 25 May 2017, System Management approved Day Ahead Opportunistic Maintenance request at 5.29pm. There was no impact on the market or on power system security. As we have noted in past audits, the rules and processes around opportunistic maintenance are overly prescriptive around timing of requests and approvals.	No recommendations
17 WEM 2.51	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 2.34.14(b), 3.21.6(a)	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Not using latest temperature dependence ratio provided under Standing Data to calculate facility outage quantities. Clause 3.21.6(a) of the WEM Rules requires System Management to convert outage data to a sent-out basis at 41 degrees Celsius. To do so, System Management uses temperature derating curves supplied by Market Participants under Appendix 1(b)iv of the WEM Rules, as part of their standing data. For 12 of 49 facilities, System Management was not using the facility derating coefficient provided in the most recent temperature derate curve provided by the facility. This means that the outage values calculated by System Management have been incorrect for these facilities, possibly for some time.	 Clarify to Market Participants (including updating the PSOP) the relationship between Appendix 1(b)iii and 1(b)iv of the WEM Rules. Request that all Market Participants update their Appendix 1(b)iii values to be at 15 degrees Celsius OR change outage calculations to assume 41 degrees and ask participants to submit on that basis. Request that Market Participants responsible for the 9 facilities who

Ref	Issue type & obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			This is also non-compliant with clause 2.34.14(b) of the WEM Rules, which requires AEMO to commence using this kind of revised Standing Data as soon as practicable. System Management also uses the maximum facility capacity provided for each facility under Appendix 1(b)iii of the WEM Rules in outage calculations, and assumes that it is a 15 degree value. For some facilities, this capacity matches the 15 degree figure in the temperature derate curve supplied under Appendix 1(b)iv, but for 23 facilities it does not. It is not clear that Market Participants understand the relationship between the Appendix 1(b)iii capacity and the 1(b)iv data, and how it is used, and the use of the Appendix 1(b)iii figure as a 15 degree figure is not explicitly noted in the rules or Market Procedure: Facility Registration, De-Registration and Transfer. We note another 9 facilities who have no temperature derate curve lodged with AEMO, though all have temperature deration coefficients. AEMO updated all temperature deration coefficients to match the latest curve data provided by Market Participants as part of the release of WEMS3.21 on 3 August 2017.	have not supplied a temperature deration curve supply one. Review process for incorporating derate curves, including explicit instructions in Internal Procedure documentation.

5 WEM RULES CHAPTER 4 - RESERVE CAPACITY RULES

Chapter 4 of the WEM Rules sets out the Reserve Capacity Rules, including: Expressions of Interest; LT PASA; Certification of Capacity; Auctions and Bilateral Trades; Capacity Credits; Special Price Arrangements; Shortages of Reserve Capacity; Testing, Monitoring and Compliance; Funding; Capacity Refunds; Early Certification; and Settlement Data.

5.1 RULE AMENDMENTS

Amendments to Chapter 4 of the WEM Rules include:

- Transitional changes to reflect the transfer of System Management functions to AEMO and IMO functions to the ERA.
- Correction of manifest errors relating to the assignment of Capacity Credits (under clause
 4.20.5B of the WEM Rules) and the publication of provisional and final versions of the IRCR peak
 intervals and Existing Facility Load for Scheduled Generation under Appendix 9 of the WEM
 Rules.
- Changes to reflect interim arrangements for constrained grid access.

5.2 AEMO PROCEDURES

AEMO's Market Procedures and Internal Procedures are compliant with Chapter 4 of the WEM Rules in all material respects. Please refer to Table 10 for audit findings relating to AEMO's procedures.

5.3 OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 4

5.3.1 Audit activities

We have:

• Reviewed self-reported instances of non-compliance with Chapter 4 of the WEM Rules.

- Conducted sample testing of certification process outputs (for the 2015 Reserve Capacity Cycle conducted in August 2016) to determine compliance with clause 4.11.1 of the WEM Rules.
- Conducted a (retrospective) business process walkthroughs to determine whether AEMO has complied with the WEM Rules and its Internal Procedures and whether AEMO has applied appropriate controls in the following areas:
 - Certification activities for the 2015 Reserve Capacity Cycle (conducted in August 2016)
 - Preparation and publication of the Electricity Statement of Opportunities Report.

Instances of non-compliance and areas of compliance risk associated with Chapter 4 of the WEM Rules are summarised in the table below.

Table 13: Operational compliance findings associated with Chapter 4 of the WEM Rules

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.02	Issue Type (New issue) Obligation N/A	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 2	ESOO Data Register validation controls are undocumented. AEMO staff undertake a range of validation processes to ensure the data registers used in the ESOO processes are correct. This includes historical comparisons, checking for manifest errors as well as verification by senior analysts. During site visits we noted these validation procedures were not documented in the ESOO procedures. AEMO has since documented validation procedures in the ESOO Internal Procedure.	No recommendations - AEMO has addressed this finding.
17 WEM	Issue Type Out of period finding reported in last audit	Risk Rating Medium Compliance	 Allocation of Certified Reserve Capacity (CRC) to facilities that did not meet WEM Rules criteria. Clause 4.11.1 of the WEM Rules sets out the principles to which AEMO must adhere when setting Certified Reserve Capacity, including: Clause 4.11.1(bA) – that CRC must not exceed the unconstrained level of network access held by the facility, as shown in the evidence provided in the 	As these were conscious breaches, AEMO should reiterate to staff and management the requirement to follow
2.26	Obligation 4.11.1(bA) 4.11.1(bB)	Rating 1	facility's application for CRC. • Clause 4.11.1(bB) – that where two facilities share a Declared Sent Out Capacity (DSOC), the total CRC assigned to both must not exceed the shared DSOC. Some aspects of the capacity assessment process provide for AEMO to set the CRC not exceeding 'AEMO's reasonable expectation' of the amount of capacity	the documented certification procedure which is compliant with the WEM Rules.

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			likely to be available, or not exceeding 'the capacity that AEMO believes' a facility can usefully contribute. Clause 4.11.1(bA) states only that CRC must not exceed the level of unconstrained network capacity already held and evidenced by the Market Participant, and does not provide for discretion. Clause 4.11.1(bB) does not provide for discretion either.	
			In August 2016, AEMO set CRC higher than the level of unconstrained network access held (and evidenced) in relation to one facility, and for two facilities, set the total CRC higher than the shared DSOC.	
			In the first case, the facility was yet to start construction, had not completed the network access process, and provided evidence of its ongoing negotiations to get a network access arrangement, including a draft proposal at an advanced stage of negotiation. AEMO certified the facility on the basis that its final access arrangement would be the same as the draft arrangement provided.	
			In the second case, the facilities were already in service, already held capacity credits, and were applying for an increase in the amount of CRC for its facility. The access arrangement included DSOC sufficient for the combined level of CRC currently held, but not enough to cover the additional amount requested. Both facilities had demonstrated their ability to run at the higher output level, and the participant provided evidence of an application to increase its level of	
			unconstrained network access. AEMO certified the facilities on the basis that this application would be approved. In the first case, there was no direct market impact, as the facility subsequently failed to provide the necessary evidence to move from 'proposed' to 'committed' status, and was therefore unable to trade capacity credits. In the second case, the	
			additional CRC is likely to be worth around \$1.2M in additional capacity payments to that Market Participant, although forthcoming changes to the	

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			Reserve Capacity rules may change this figure. This amount would otherwise have been retained by other Market Participants, and the amount involved makes this a material finding. If the Market Participant is not able to operate at the required level, the additional payments can be recovered.	
17 WEM 2.27	Issue Type Out of period finding reported in last audit Obligation 4.28.11 Appendix 5, Step 6	f period g reported audit ation 1 ndix 5, Step Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 1	Incorrect calculation of IRCR due to software bug. Clause 4.28.11 of the WEM Rules requires AEMO to determine and publish updated Individual Reserve Capacity Requirements according to Appendix 5 of the WEM Rules. In July 2016, AEMO incorrectly calculated the IRCR related to one Intermittent load (IL) facility. Due to a software bug, AEMO's systems did not correctly account for the transfer of intermittent load facilities between participants where the IL facility had both intermittent and temperature dependent load (TDL) components. The transfer of both components based on the same time period, rather than having TDL component transferred 3 months later. In this case, the rules appear to be at fault, not contemplating this scenario, leading to an unintended outcome of requiring the transferring participant to remain liable for the TDL component of	No recommendations as AEMO has addressed this finding through a system fix.
17			an IL for some time after the transfer has been effected. This is the first time such a transfer has occurred, and the impact totalled several hundred thousand dollars. The issue was fixed for the next IRCR calculation. Incorrect calculation of Relevant Level and assigned CRC level due to	No recommendations
WEM	AEMO Self-	Medium Compliance	manual error (and consequential technical breach in calculating Monthly	as AEMO has
2.28	reported non- compliance (New issue)	Rating	Reserve Capacity Price) . Clause 4.11.2(b) of the WEM Rules requires AEMO to use the Relevant Level calculation to determine CRC if that approach has been nominated by a Market Participant under clause 4.10.1(i) of the WEM Rules. On 6	addressed this finding.

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
	Obligation		September 2016 AEMO published CRC and quantity of Capacity Credits assigned	
	4.11.2; 4.14.9 -		to facilities for the 2015/16 Reserve Capacity Cycle; this included non-scheduled	
	Calculation of		generators whose CRC had been calculated using the Relevant Level	
	Relevant Level		Methodology. On 9 September 2016, an AEMO staff member identified a	
	4.1.12, 4.1.15A -		potential error in the relevant level calculation which had occurred as a result of	
	Publication of		incorrect data manipulations. We have noted in our previous certifications of this	
	Capacity Credit		tool that it is highly error prone and unwieldy. We further note that AEMO did	
	assignment		have mitigation measures in place to prevent such errors (including detailed	
	results		work instructions and validation and verification by two staff members). In this	
	4.29.1(b) -		instance, the error was repeated by both staff members and affected eight non-	
	Calculation of		scheduled generators. This error is a potential breach of clauses 4.11.2(b) and	
	Monthly Reserve		4.14.9(b) of the WEM Rules.	
	Capacity Price		Once the error was identified, AEMO corrected the calculations which RBP staff	
			verified as being accurate and compliant with the WEM Rules. The correct	
			capacity credit assignments were republished; the republication is a potential	
			breach of clauses 4.1.12 and 4.1.15A of the WEM Rules but one that AEMO has	
			consciously taken as allowing the incorrect CRC calculations to remain would	
			have been inconsistent with market objectives.	
			If the error had not been corrected then the financial impact on the eight	
			affected generators would have been to the order of \$1M per year for five years.	
			However, as AEMO corrected the error, there was no financial impact. The	
			Relevant Level Calculation Tool is in the process of being systematised as part of	
			the RCM system changes; this will reduce significantly the potential for similar	
			errors in the future. For this reason, we have deemed this to be a medium risk	
			(not a significant one).	

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			A consequential technical breach of clause 4.29.1(b) of the WEM Rules also occurred as a result of the breach above. Particularly, clause 4.29.1(b) requires the Monthly Reserve Capacity Price to be calculated using the originally published values (which were incorrect in this case). AEMO calculated the Monthly Reserve Capacity Price using the corrected Relevant Level values and therefore technically breached the WEM Rules; however, AEMO's actions were compliant with the intent of the WEM Rules.	
17 WEM 2.29	Issue Type AEMO Self- reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 4.5.14B	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Delay in publication of Market Procedure for Expected DSM Dispatch Quantity and DSM Activation Price. Clause 4.5.14B of the WEM Rules requires AEMO to publish an Market Procedure setting out the methodology for the DSM Activation Price and Expected DSM Dispatch Quantity by 31 December 2016. Although a draft was completed, the consultation process means that the procedure was not approved and published by the required deadline. This is a minor issue with limited market impact as the WEM Rules provide default values for the DSM Activation Price and Expected DSM Dispatch Quantity until the Market Procedure is published. AEMO published the finalized procedure on 9 June 2017.	No recommendations – AEMO has published the Market Procedure as at 9 June 2017.
17 WEM 2.30	Issue Type AEMO Self- reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 4.26.1A(vii)	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Incorrect Reserve Capacity Refund calculation due to WEMS defect. AEMO calculated the Reserve Capacity Deficit Refund incorrectly for a number of Demand Side Programme (DSPs) between October 2016 and February 2017 due to a defect in WEMS that meant that the MinLoad quantity (which is used to calculate the Reserve Capacity Deficit Refund for DSPs and is the sum of minimum load quantities corresponding to the DSPs' Associated Loads) were not updating correctly. As a result of this defect one Market Participant was overcharged for Reserve Capacity Deficit Refund amounts while three Market	No recommendations – AEMO has fixed the software defect and is addressing the settlement errors through adjustments.

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			Participants were undercharged. AEMO has since rectified this defect and will reverse the effect of these errors in upcoming settlement adjustments.	

6 WEM RULES CHAPTER 5 – NETWORK CONTROL SERVICES

Chapter 5 of the WEM Rules sets out obligations relating to Network Control Services, including the process, and settlement data requirements.

There are currently no contracts for network control services. Therefore, AEMO has no active obligations under Chapter 5 of the WEM Rules.

Our audit therefore excludes any review of AEMO's compliance with Chapter 5 of the WEM Rules.

7 WEM RULES CHAPTER 6 - THE ENERGY MARKET

Chapter 6 of the WEM Rules sets out obligations relating to the Energy Scheduling Timetable and Process; the Short-Term Energy Market; Non-Balancing Dispatch Merit Orders; Balancing Prices and Quantities; Market Advisories and Energy Price Limits; and Settlement Data

7.1 RULE AMENDMENTS

Amendments to Chapter 6 of the WEM Rules include only transitional changes to reflect the transfer of System Management functions to AEMO and IMO functions to the ERA.

7.2 AEMO PROCEDURES

AEMO's Market Procedures and Internal Procedures are compliant with Chapter 6 of the WEM Rules in all material respects. Please refer to Table 10 for audit findings relating to AEMO's procedures.

7.3 OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 6

7.3.1 Audit activities

- We conducted a (real-time) business process walkthrough to determine whether AEMO has
 complied with the WEM Rules and its Internal Procedures and whether AEMO has applied
 appropriate controls when conducting the daily market operations shift covering AEMO's
 obligations under Chapter 6 of the WEM Rules (bilateral submissions, STEM operation and
 resource plans).
- Reviewed system logs to compliance test whether AEMO opened and closed market windows and published market information in accordance with the requirements set out in Chapter 6 of the WEM Rules.

Instances of non-compliance and areas of compliance risk associated with Chapter 6 are summarised in the table below.

Table 14: Operational compliance findings associated with Chapter 6 of the WEM Rules

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.31	Issue Type AEMO Self- reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 6.4.6	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Delay to STEM Window closing time due to manifest error in the WEM Rules. Clause 6.3B.1 of the WEM Rules enables Market Participants to make STEM submissions between 9 am and 9:50 am. On 6 January 2017, a Market Participant was unable to make a compliant STEM submission due to an error in AEMO's facility limits calculation, which in turn was due to an error in the Ancillary Services calculation made by System Management under clause 7.2.3A of the WEM Rules (see Finding 17WEM2.48). AEMO made the decision to extend the closing of the STEM submission window (under clause 6.4.6 of the WEM Rules) to rectify the issue and to enable the affected participant to make their submission. However, clause 6.4.6 only contemplates the extension of STEM windows due to software failures or delays in preparing load forecasts (clause 7.2.1) or the outage schedule (clause 7.3.4). AEMO has escalated a proposed rule change to the Public Utilities Office to correct the manifest rule error and has delegated authority to the on-duty operator to delay the STEM window (to reduce the extent of the delay attributed to issue escalation). In this case there was no market impact due to the delay.	No recommendations as AEMO has taken appropriate actions to mitigate the risk of breach recurrence and the extent of delay caused by AEMO exercising its right to extend timelines under clause 6.4.6 of the WEM Rules.
17 WEM 2.37	Issue Type (Recurring issue) Obligation	Risk Rating Low Compliance	Rule inconsistency in relation to settlement tolerances raises a risk of incorrect tolerances being used. AEMO can determine Facility Tolerance ranges for all facilities, but the rules only specify that settlement shall use those for Scheduled Generators, with others calculated according to a specific formula.	No recommendations as AEMO has added issue to its rule change backlog

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
	6.17.9	Rating	System Management has determined a tolerance range for two of the wind farms (at the	
	Settlement	3	Market Participants' request), but there is no provision in the rules to use this in	
	Tolerances		determining the settlement tolerance. As it happens, the determined range is the same	
			as would be calculated in its absence, so there is no effect. However, if in future a	
			different tolerance range is determined for any non-scheduled generator, the correct	
			treatment would be unclear.	
			We understand that AEMO has added this issue to AEMO's rule change backlog.	

8 WEM RULES CHAPTER 7 - DISPATCH

Chapter 7 of the WEM Rules sets out obligations relating to the dispatch process, including: non-balancing dispatch; dispatch compliance; advisories, balancing suspension and reporting; and settlement and monitoring data relating to dispatch.

8.1 Rule Amendments

Amendments to Chapter 7 of the WEM include only transitional changes to reflect the transfer of System Management functions to AEMO and IMO functions to the ERA.

8.2 AEMO PROCEDURES

AEMO's Market Procedures and Internal Procedures are compliant with Chapter 7 of the WEM Rules in all material respects. Please refer to Table 6 for audit findings relating to AEMO's procedures.

8.3 OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 7

8.3.1 Audit activities

We have conducted business process observation and walkthroughs to determine whether AEMO has complied with the WEM Rules and its Internal Procedures and whether AEMO has applied appropriate controls in the following areas:

- Preparation and provision of information to Synergy, including the Synergy Dispatch Plan.
- Dispatch (control room operations).

We have conducted compliance testing on:

- Content of Synergy Dispatch Plans.
- Content and timing of Dispatch Advisories.
- Agendae and minutes of System Management/Synergy meetings.
- Spinning reserve provision, to compare availability with requirement.
- Operational load forecasts and manual overrides.

• Application and reporting of manual generation constraints.

8.3.2 Audit findings

Instances of non-compliance and areas of compliance risk associated with Chapter 7 of the WEM Rules are summarised in the table below.

Table 15: Operational compliance findings associated with Chapter 7 of the WEM Rules

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 1.01	Issue Type (New issue) Obligation Ch 7	Risk Rating Significant Compliance Rating 2	Currency of and support for critical control room tools needs more focus. Documentation and information about RTDE and SOCCUI has been difficult to find, and when found, not current. It took the support team two months to identify a way to allow us to test RTDE. Deployment documentation is minimal. If something were to go wrong with RTDE, it would likely lead to market suspension, and take some time to resolve. During our control room visits, we noted a number of issues with the SOCCUI tool. For example: Changes to facility Ancillary Service capability have not been reflected in SOCCUI, meaning that figures displayed overestimate available reserves and load following. Such a mismatch means that operator may not provision enough Ancillary Services, which could impact system security, and in a major contingency, could lead to load shedding. The tool has no way to incorporate credible multiple-unit contingencies (e.g. when a single transmission line outage would island a region) when calculating Spinning Reserve requirements.	 Ensure adequate support and development capacity for control room tools. Monitor staffing levels to ensure that knowledge is increased, and to cover key person risk where possible. Improve mechanism to effectively capture defects and enhancement requests for SOCCUI, including a route for users to contribute on an ongoing basis. Consider a strategy for control room tools to address known problems with significant risk Ensure all System Management IT systems are in version control.

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			New screens have been added to XA21 to make up for some of	
			these shortfalls, creating another tool that must be maintained.	
			The tool provides no way to constrain the Portfolio, which means	
			that when a portfolio facility has a forced outage, updated dispatch	
			instructions must be calculated manually by the controller.	
			Weather data in the tool (used to identify similar days for load	
			forecasting purposes) dates back to 2015, and there is no 2016 or	
			2017 data. This severely hampers controllers' ability to identify similar	
			days - 2015 load profiles are sufficiently different to 2017 that they	
			are not useful.	
			A new version of SOCCUI was deployed in early April, but did not	
			address any of these issues. We understand that this is partially due to	
			historic change requests being lost when Western Power changed	
			service management platforms. None of the issues above are on that	
			list, or indeed any list. Although there are processes in place to identify	
			bugs and enhancements to these tools, they do not appear to be	
			working.	
			IT support levels are specified in a service level agreement with	
			Western Power, which has been agreed on a 'steady state' basis.	
			AEMO has existing work underway to plan for the future support of	
			control room IT tools, given that the current market structure will be in	
			place until at least mid-2019. The first stage of this work, currently	
			underway, is to consider the options for re-siting, remediation, and	
			partial or full replacement. Mitigating this risk will not be a quick	
			process.	

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			We further note that AEMO is working to improve its documentation as part of action items to address the Systems Stability Audit for Western Power systems.	
17 WEM 2.07	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 7.6A.2(f)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	AEMO does not provide updated Dispatch Plans to Synergy on the Trading Day. Clause 7.6A.2(f) of the WEM Rules requires System Management to notify Synergy of any change in conditions, occurring after 4pm on the Scheduling Day but before the start of the Trading Interval, requiring a significant change in the Dispatch Plan (such as a generator trip or large change in load forecast). In practice, System Management sends three dispatch plans per day - at 3:30pm, 6:30pm, and 7:30am on the Scheduling Day. System Management do not notify Synergy of updates to the Dispatch Plan on the Trading Day, as stated in section 5.7 of the Dispatch PSOP. In practice, this has minimal impact, as the main use of the Dispatch Plan is to estimate Synergy's fuel requirements for the coming Trading Day. In fact, the spreadsheet calculates estimated fuel use, and the forecast fuel requirement is sometimes explicitly stated in System Management's covering email when sending the plan to Synergy. While this is a function of the presence of the Portfolio in the market design, the calculation of fuel requirements would seem to be something that should be calculated by Synergy, rather than provided by the system operator, who does not do this for any other participant. As we have noted in previous years, alternate, automatic mechanisms for providing information to Market Participants (for example regular automated publication of System Management projected dispatch schedules) would remove the requirement for manual effort, and	 Review internal definition of 'significant event', and update Dispatch Advisory guidelines to ensure requirements for notifications to Synergy are covered. Remove Synergy fuel calculations from Dispatch Plan provided to Synergy by System Management.

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			provide better information to participants. We recognise that this approach will take some time to develop, will require rule changes, and may be best considered the next time significant market changes are on the cards. At present, AEMO's approach is to notify participants of significant events on the power system through Dispatch Advisories.	
17 WEM 2.08	Issue Type AEMO Self- reported non- compliance (Recurring issue) Obligation 7.6.1C, 7.6.1D	Risk Rating Significant Compliance Rating 1	Not using latest BMO due to IT systems issues. Clauses 7.61C and 7.6.1D of the WEM Rules set out the Dispatch Criteria and the rules around out of merit dispatch. On multiple occasions, IT systems issues resulted in System Management being unable to load the latest BMOs to its systems. During these times, System Management continued to dispatch in accordance with the most recently loaded BMO. The impact of the breach depends on the timing of the outage. When occurring in the early hours of the morning (when generation and load is flat) the system impact would be minor, but at other times (and particularly where the outage extended over several hours) out of merit dispatch is more likely to result. In any case, dispatching from something other than the latest BMO is a breach of Clauses 7.6.1C and 7.6.1D of the WEM Rules and subsequent out of merit dispatch will result in a constraint payment to a participant who would have otherwise not received one. Root causes vary, but most incidents appear to have been caused by an issue in the design of the FTP transfer process, which has now been addressed via an automated workaround. Other causes include:	 Investigate backup methods of importing market data into System Management systems. Ensure plan for future of systems is completed by the end of 2017, so that action can be taken to address this ongoing risk.

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			 A missed maintenance task which caused a PI server synchronisation issue, and subsequent unavailability of data. A new version of PI software has removed the need for the maintenance task. The inadvertent disabling of a production file transfer account during routine active directory maintenance A server turned off as part of the Western Power data centre move, which unexpectedly affected market functions, and turned out to be a single point of failure. Redundancy has now been introduced. A task missed during a data centre failover that left FTP services pointing to the wrong server Issues with Western Power's ISP. This will be a potential problem as long as AEMO uses the internet to access Western Power systems. Given the recurrence of this issue and the potential financial impact on multiple participants, we have deemed this to be a significant audit finding. As discussed in 17WEM1.01, AEMO has a project underway to consider the future of System Management IT systems. In our view, the risk of managing the current systems with a 'steady state' approach cannot continue until new market changes are introduced, as current market structures will be in place until at least mid-2019. 	
17 WEM 2.09	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance (Recurring issue)	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Late issuance of Dispatch Advisories. Clause 7.11.3 of the WEM Rules requires System Management to send out Dispatch Advisories (in accordance with clause 7.11.5) as soon as practicable after System Management becomes aware of the relevant event. In the sample we have tested, we have noted 9 instances in which System Management	Long term: Investigate alternate mechanisms for providing information to Market Participants, for example regular automated publication of System Management projected dispatch schedules each time RTDE is rerun with

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
	Obligation 7.11.3		sent out Dispatch Advisories over an hour late. These are DAs 16615, 16629, 16791, 16868, 16902, 16911, 16960, 16981, 16984. All these Dispatch Advisories related to High Risk Operating State events. As such, it is important for System Management to release such advisories promptly. Eight of these Dispatch Advisories were issued late because the events occurred outside of business hours, requiring Market Operations staff to drive in to the office to prepare and transmit the advisory, as the controllers are not responsible for issuing Dispatch Advisories, and Market Operations do not have remote access to the Dispatch Advisories tool. 2 of these were not issued until the following morning, a gap of more than 9 hours. One Dispatch Advisory was issued late during the business day, because the situation was not communicated from the controller to Market Operations. As in past years, we note that the rules around Dispatch Advisories date from before the in-day balancing market, and are not really fit for purpose in a close-to-real-time market.	new inputs every time RTDE is rerun using new information (e.g. new forecasts, new constraints, or a new BMO). • Medium term: Review this issuance of Dispatch Advisories in conjunction with the establishment of the security desk • Short term: Investigate whether Market Operations analysts can have remote access to issue Dispatch Advisories from off-site
17 WEM 2.10	Issue Type (Recurring issue) Obligation Ch 7	Risk Rating Significant Compliance Rating 2	Departure of experienced control room operators poses significant risk to power system security and market dispatch obligations (particularly in light of patchy process documentation in this area). Last year we noted that the departure of all senior control room staff posed a major risk to SWIS operations and AEMO compliance. AEMO has made major progress in recruiting and training new control room operators to replace the departing	 Ensure access to experienced control room staff during 2018 bushfire season. Create and maintain procedure documentation for control room processes.

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			senior controllers, and in retaining the services of senior control room staff on contract to mitigate the risk of complete change in personnel. Nevertheless, significant risk remains in that none of the new controllers have experience during a hot season, when there are often multiple instances of High Risk and Emergency Operating State declarations. If the experienced controllers all depart in 2017, then the new recruits will have to manage the control room without veteran experience during the 2018 bushfire season. We further note that while AEMO has developed and delivered training material as part of onboarding the new cohort of controllers, there is still no documented process documentation relating to control room operations.	
17 WEM 2.11	Issue Type (Recurring issue) Obligation Ch 7	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	There is room to better align the dispatch process with market objectives around economic efficiency. System Management controllers use Synergy plant to manage LFAS position instead of the marginal plant. Although this may be considered "Dispatch Support Services", when there is large movement in load during the interval, rerunning RTDE (with an updated load forecast) would lead to a more economically efficient outcome. In this sense, rerunning RTDE more frequently during the Trading Interval (e.g. once every five minutes; at the moment RTDE is run three times during the interval) would yield a more efficient outcome, particularly if the dispatch period was shortened from the current half hour. Also, constraints are manually entered into RTDE and remain in place until the causing issue has been resolved. Sometimes constraints can remain on for hours. This means that if participants change their offers	Investigate feasibility of updating software to recalculate and issue dispatch instructions at 5-minute intervals.

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			to avoid being constrained on or off, this change in bidding will not be reflected in market outcomes (as System Management does not conduct a security constrained economic dispatch each interval). This may lead to potential breaches of clauses 7.6.1C and 7.6.1D of the WEM Rules (e.g. if a more expensive plant remains constrained on or a cheaper plant remains constrained off). We also note that on four occasions during the Audit Period (10 Jan 2017, 10 Feb 2017, 12 March 2017, 19 May 2017) System Management has not issued an updated dispatch instruction following facility advice of being unable to comply. In our view, where the decision does not affect the dispatch criteria, and has no effect on power system security, there is no breach of clause 7.10.5(d) of the WEM Rules. Nevertheless, the equivalent quantity would instead be provided by the Synergy Portfolio even if it is not the marginal unit. We understand that the low level of staffing in the control room is a contributing factor to the above practices.	
17 WEM 2.12	Issue Type (Recurring issue) Obligation Ch 7	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Communication protocols between Western Power and AEMO will be required to ensure seamless application of network constraints in dispatch. As noted in previous audits, security assessments used by the controller to place security constraints in RTDE are undertaken by Western Power Network Operations staff (as the single controller cannot both dispatch and undertake the security assessment, particularly during high risk/emergency situations). Likewise, the network aspects of system monitoring required to monitor the system state as defined in clauses 3.3.1, 3.4.1 and 3.5.1 of the WEM Rules (e.g. overloading of transmission lines, voltage issues,	 Short term: Develop and agree communication protocol between Western Power Networks and AEMO System Management. Medium term: Introduce tools and processes (as part of new security desk) to allow AEMO staff to assess and monitor network security including dynamic powerflows

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			circuit issues) are undertaken by Network Operations staff (who then notify the controller). The introduction of a security desk will allow this function to be carried out by AEMO staff, but Western Power staff are likely to continue carrying out these functions for some time yet. As System Management is currently co-located with Western Power Network Operations staff these security related processes can be undertaken with ease. However, when System Management transfers to new premises in late 2017., it will be important to have communication protocols in place to ensure network security constraints and network security status is communicated to System Management staff in a timely and efficient manner. System Management's current network study tool (TSM) does not model some protection schemes, and reports contingency violations	
			on certain circuits all the time. The controller must know that the contingencies at issue are covered by protection schemes not modelled. Also, TSM is only able to do steady state assessments of voltage and thermal constraints. System Management staff are not able to do dynamic studies, increasing the risk of unanticipated consequences of network outages.	
17 WEM 2.13	Issue Type (Recurring issue) Obligation 7.6.2, 7.13.1	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating 2	System Management's dispatch decisions around the Synergy portfolio are opaque; there is potential for breaches of Clauses 7.6.2 and 7.13.1(a). Clause 7.6.2 of the WEM Rules requires System Management to dispatch the Synergy Portfolio either under a Dispatch Plan or a Dispatch Order (the former notifying a deviation from a Dispatch Plan). Clause 7.13.1 of the WEM Rules requires System	Short term: As part of developing control room documentation, ensure that verbal dispatches of Synergy facilities are included in the Reporting and Logging protocol

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
		Ratings	Management to prepare a record of Dispatch Orders issued for each Trading Interval in the Trading Day. System Management prepares a Dispatch Plan under clause 7.6A.2 of the WEM Rules on the Scheduling Day which it sends to Synergy (which includes low, mean and high bounds for all portfolio facilities). In practice, however, this Dispatch Plan's primary purpose is to assist Synergy with its gas nomination. During real-time operations, the controller may vary individual Synergy facilities as they deem necessary to maintain power system security requirements. In effect, this means that the Dispatch Plan prepared on the Scheduling Day is not, in practice, a reflection of System Management's real-time dispatch decisions. Additionally, System Management does not issue electronic Dispatch Orders to Synergy facilities; relying instead on Automatic Governor Control (AGC) or the telephone, meaning the Synergy dispatch audit trail is intractable. Due to the lack of audit trail it is difficult to definitively state whether or not System Management has breached clause 7.6.2 of the WEM Rules (or clause 7.13.1 as a result of not sending Dispatch Orders to AEMO when there has been a deviation from the Dispatch Plan), as System Management alleges that Synergy facilities are typically dispatched between the high and low bounds of the Dispatch Plan. However, this this is not always the case, as the high and low bounds of the Dispatch Plan are based on forecasts that will not always reflect real-time conditions up to 24 hours in the future. Although we are not alleging a breach, we reiterate our past findings	Medium term: Investigate potential for keeping electronic records of Synergy dispatch.
			that the approach adopted to dispatching Synergy is opaque and runs counter to market transparency objectives. We also note the lack of	

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			proper governance around processes (specifically around audit trails) is a recurring issue in multiple areas such as control room operations and planning. We are pleased to note that some controllers are now recording their instructions to Synergy units on the control room log. These entries are not recorded in a database, but they are available for inspection after the fact if required.	
17 WEM 2.14	Issue Type (Recurring issue) Obligation Ch 7	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating 2	There is opportunity to improve the audit trail of control room operations. The level of records for control room activities is not sufficient to reconstruct events after the fact. The written log provides little (and sometimes no) information on actions or rationale for actions taken by the controller. On some days the control room log for a particular shift can contain as little as one or two entries. While there are database records of some actions taken such as constraints applied, these are not sufficient. This year for example, we have again noted instances where the control room operator has overridden the Metrix forecast with an alternate load forecast without indicating the rationale for doing so.	 Short term: Define standard for control room logging, and explicitly note items to be recorded Medium term: Investigate ways to automate or assist the capture of information about real time events
17 WEM 2.18	Issue Type (New issue) Obligation 7.13.1(cA)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 3	SCADA data cleansing processes remove consumption data. When preparing facility SCADA data for use in settlement, System Management manually cleans the data to remove spurious readings. This includes adjusting any negative values to equal zero. This practice is not described in the Cleansing of Generation Facility MWh output data PSOP. However, some facilities do legitimately draw power, for example when starting a thermal unit. In these cases, the unit will not be charged for	 Update Cleansing of Generation Facility MWh output data PSOP to reflect all data cleansing steps Review and refine SCADA cleansing processes to improve accuracy

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			its usage, and the additional usage will be washed up and settled as part of the notional meter. Because only Synergy facilities are settled on SCADA data, the overall effect should be minimal, as the amounts involved still form part of Synergy's bill. The ultimate solution to this issue would be to require facilities currently settled on SCADA data have revenue meters installed, but this is not likely to occur unless and until the market moves to a facility bidding model.	
17 WEM 2.20	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 7.6A.2(c)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	 Dispatch Plan and associated Information provided to Synergy does not include specified ancillary service information, and the format and time resolution is not described in a procedure. Clause 7.6A.2 requires AEMO to provide to Synergy by 4pm: Forecast energy required from the balancing portfolio The Dispatch Plan for each portfolio facility A forecast of the detailed Ancillary Services required from each Facility in the portfolio. where the format and time resolution of this data is to be described in a procedure. We have not observed any procedure (either internal or Market Procedure) which describes the format and time resolution. We note that slight variations on format are used, some including aggregated resource plan quantities and LFAS enablement for non-portfolio facilities, and some not. The information is prepared by copying information from the SOCCUI tool, which does include confidential 	 Standardise Dispatch Plan creation process and describe in a procedure Alter dispatch plan preparation process to remove reliance on sheet containing confidential information

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			information on non-portfolio facilities. We did not find any confidential information in the dispatch plans we reviewed, but it has been sent in the past, and the risk remains. Finally, the information provided to Synergy provides only aggregated Ancillary Services requirements - not broken out by facility as required by the rules. Adding this level of detail is unlikely to be of much value until facility bidding is introduced.	
17 WEM 2.21	Issue Type (New issue) Obligation Ch 7	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating 2	Verbal dispatch instructions are not automatically recorded in IT systems. In our review of control room logs, we identified one instance where a facility was verbally dispatched by the controller in advance of the automatic RTDE recalculation. This meant that a matching electronic record had to be added manually after the fact. The Market Operations analyst on duty did not notice the occurrence, meaning that the record of dispatch would have been lost, and also that participant non-compliance data would be incorrect. The long-term solution would be to make all dispatch electronic, but we accept that this may not be pragmatic until facility bidding is introduced.	Consider moving responsibility from Market Operations to control room staff to enter verbal dispatch instructions into systems.
17 WEM 2.22	Issue Type (New issue) Obligation Ch 7	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating 2	Control room business continuity plans do not include continuous oversight of power system, and IT system disaster recovery plans are not sufficient. Control room business continuity plans (currently in the process of being documented) involve controllers moving to a secondary site in case of primary site evacuation. Under current policies, this will mean physically relocating personnel to a second site and starting up IT systems. From the time that personnel leave the primary site until the user interfaces are up at	 Investigate mechanism to provide remote access (e.g. from home or another office location) to control room tools, to allow continuous system oversight in the event of evacuating the primary site. Develop and test disaster recovery plans for System Management IT systems.

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			the secondary site, no one will be in control of the power system. If a serious power system event were to go occur in this period, there would be a high chance of losing load, damaging equipment, and otherwise breaching the market rules. We understand that AEMO's access to control room systems is controlled by Western Power, whose security policy does not allow anything other than direct, onsite access to these systems by anyone other than the Western Power SCADA/OT support team. In our view, this policy must be updated to allow the critical power system operations function to continue uninterrupted in case of loss of site, and the risk managed using modern IT security practices. This will become even more pressing once AEMO's control room functions move to new premises later in 2017. Also, disaster recovery plans for System Management IT systems are very limited. There are a handful of references in the System Management IT support wiki, but in our view, they are not sufficient to describe what to do in case of disaster. We are not confident that the systems could be restored in a timely manner in some scenarios, including loss of the primary site. These tools will be in use for at least another two years, and in our view the current 'steady state' support approach is not robust enough to provide certainty of service over that horizon.	
17 WEM 2.46	Issue Type RBP and AEMO	Risk Rating Medium Compliance	Non-issuance of Dispatch Advisories. Clause 7.11.5(g) of the WEM Rules requires System Management to issue a Dispatch Advisory in the event of or in anticipation of issuing a dispatch instruction out of merit. This includes situations where a Market Participant advises they cannot	Review Dispatch Advisory Guidelines, including threshold significance of unit constraint. We recognise that if the constraint is only for a short time (e.g. less

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
	reported non-compliance (Recurring issue) Obligation 7.11.5	Rating 1	meet their dispatch. On three occasions generation units refused their dispatch, were constrained to zero in RTDE by System Management (meaning that the next unit or units in the BMO would be selected), but no Dispatch Advisory was issued: • 24 July 2016 17:16:29 • 11 Aug 2016 17:18:13 • 4 Sep 2016 18:27:36 Clause 7.11.5(d) of the WEM Rules requires System Management to issue a Dispatch Advisory if significant outages of generation equipment are occurring. On 9 March 2017, a large generator tripped, but no Dispatch Advisory was issued.	than the gate closure period), the market effects may be minimal, and in these cases AEMO might choose to accept non-compliance rather than incur the overhead of creating and maintaining a DA.
			In each of these cases, Market Participants were not informed of a circumstance that made them more likely to be dispatched, and missed the opportunity to adjust their commercial offers.	
17 WEM 2.48	Issue Type AEMO Self- reported non- compliance (Recurring issue) Obligation 7.2.1, 7.2.3A, 7.6A.2, 7A.3.7, 7A.3.15	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	 Late preparation of data. Various rules oblige System Management to prepare information for use in market processes, and/or to publish it to Market Participants. On several occasions, System Management has prepared or published data after the time specified in the WEM Rules. Specifically, on the following dates: 19 July 2016, when IT issues resulted in provisional Relevant Dispatch Quantity and Resource End of Interval Quantities being provided at 11.35am, rather than by 10am (clause 7A.3.7 of the WEM Rules) 22 July 2016, when IT issues resulted in correct Relevant Dispatch Quantity Data being prepared at 10.36am, to update the incorrect 	See 17WEM2.42

Ref Issue Obliga	Type & Complian Ratings	nce Finding	Recommendation
		data prepared before the 10am requirement (clause 7A.3.7(b) of the WEM Rules). • 6 January 2017, when a mistake in manual data processing resulted in correct Ancillary Service Forecast data being prepared at 10.10am, to update the incorrect data prepared before the 8:30am requirement (clause 7.2.3A of the WEM Rules). This data is used in STEM processes, and the market had to be delayed until the data could be corrected. • 8 January 2017, when IT issues meant that Relevant Dispatch Quantities were not updated for three intervals (clause 7A.3.15 of the WEM Rules). These figures are used in preparing the Forecast BMO, meaning that information provided to Market Participants was not current. • 21 February 2017, when System Management sent the system demand forecast to Synergy at 9.06am instead of by 8:30am (clause 7.6A.2(b) of the WEM Rules). Synergy had access to this information from other sources. • 21 February 2017, when System Management sent the Dispatch Plan and forecast data to Synergy at 4.20pm instead of by 4pm (clause 7.6A.2(c) of the WEM Rules) because IT issues affected access to required information. The information was still provided in time for Synergy's day ahead processes. • 31 March 2017, when System Management prepared the daily informational load forecast at 7,32am instead of by 7:30am (clause 7.2.1 of the WEM Rules).	

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			In all cases, the effect on the market is small, but not nothing. Some of the IT issues have been addressed, but given the manual nature of many of the processes, non-compliances are likely to continue to occur.	
17 WEM 2.50	WEM compliance e		Not providing aggregate resource plan data to Synergy. Clause 7.6A.2(c).i.1 of the WEM Rules requires System Management to provide Synergy with a forecast of requirements for energy from the balancing portfolio by 4pm, including the effects of the aggregate quantity of participant resource plans (i.e. the forecast of non-Synergy generation for the following day). On 29 April 2017, due to IT issues, System Management provided a forecast that used the previous day's resource plans. The impact was minimal. Since the start of the balancing market in July 2012, resource plan data is a much less relevant component of expected Synergy generation, and System Management provides Synergy with an updated forecast at 6:30pm, once the first balancing forecast for the following day is available.	

9 WEM RULES CHAPTER 7A - BALANCING MARKET

Chapter 7A of the WEM Rules sets out obligations relating to the balancing market.

9.1 RULE AMENDMENTS

Amendments to Chapter 7A of the WEM Rules include only transitional changes to reflect the transfer of System Management functions to AEMO and IMO functions to the ERA.

9.2 **AEMO** PROCEDURES

AEMO's Market Procedures and Internal Procedures are compliant with Chapter 7A of the WEM Rules in all material respects. Please refer to Table 6 for audit findings relating to AEMO's procedures.

9.3 OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 7A

9.3.1 Audit activities

- We conducted a (real-time) business process walkthrough to determine whether AEMO has
 complied with the WEM Rules and its Internal Procedures and whether AEMO has applied
 appropriate controls when conducting the daily market operations shift covering AEMO's
 obligations under Chapter 7A (Balancing Market Operations) of the WEM Rules.
- We reviewed system logs to compliance test whether AEMO has published balancing prices in accordance with the requirements set out in Chapter 7A of the WEM Rules.
- We reviewed the use of manual Load Forecast overrides, and the monitoring of load forecast accuracy

9.3.2 Audit findings

Instances of non-compliance and areas of compliance risk associated with Chapter 7A of the WEM Rules are summarised in the table below.

Table 16: Operational compliance findings associated with Chapter 7A of the WEM Rules

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.15	Issue Type AEMO Self- reported non- compliance (Recurring issue) Obligation 7A.3.15	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	RDQ forecasts prepared by System Management do not always reflect best estimate of forecast load. Clause 7A.3.15 of the WEM Rules requires System Management to prepare a forecast of the Relevant Dispatch Quantity (RDQ) for each future Trading Interval, which is then used in preparing the Forecast BMO. Additionally, each time it has new information on which to determine the forecast RDQ, System Management must update the forecast (but does not need to do so more than once per Trading Interval). System Management uses the Metrix tool to determine the forecast RDQ, which is published to the market every half hour. However, from time to time (8.1% of Trading Intervals during the period from 1 July 2016 to 31 March 2017), the control room operator will over-write the Metrix forecast with an alternate forecast (if they deem the Metrix forecast to not be tracking well against the actual SCADA outputs). System Management asserts that this override is a real-time decision; the Metrix tool self-corrects within 15-20 minutes there is limited value in sending the alternate load forecast to the market (as an update under clause 7A.3.15 of the WEM Rules), as the Metrix forecast is still their best forecast for the next Trading Interval.	 Investigate a mechanism to capture and publish the actual load forecast used in the control room. Include reasons for Metrix override in control room logging standard.

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
			To this end, we reviewed System Management's use of alternate forecasts and noted	
			10 instances in which the Metrix forecast was overridden by an alternate forecast for	
			more than four hours (the longest override was for 11 hours on 26 August 2016):	
			In four cases, the change is noted on the control room log sheet, along with a reason.	
			In two cases, the change is noted with no reason given.	
			In four cases, there is no record of the change on the control room log sheet.	
			We have determined these 10 instances to be a breach of clause 7A.3.15 of the WEM	
			Rules as the prolonged use of the alternate forecast is a clear indication of System	
			Management not believing Metrix to be the best forecast of RDQ in upcoming	
			intervals. As this is a recurring issue and System Management has no means to	
			transmit alternate forecasts to the market, it is likely this breach will recur. We have	
			not assessed the impact of these particular breaches, but at least some are likely to be	
			material, as according to the control room logs for four of the intervals, the Metrix	
			forecasts were substantially incorrect. This issue is a recurring and systemic issue	
			around the provision of market data. In this case, the most recent and accurate	
			forecast should be stored, as this is a crucial input into the BMO. If System	
			Management is using alternate load forecasts for multiple consecutive intervals then it	
			is the alternate load forecast that should be stored and used in downstream processes	
			to create the BMO (as this is the best estimate at the time).	
			We further note that there is opportunity to improve the audit trail around the use of	
			alternate forecasts in the control room. Currently, the controller does not always note	
			in the log that they have overridden Metrix, and does not always describe the reason	
			for doing so. As noted above, for 6 of the instances reviewed, System Management	
			was unable to provide justification for the Metrix load forecast override.	

10 WEM RULES CHAPTER 7B – LOAD FOLLOWING SERVICE MARKET

Chapter 7B of the WEM Rules sets out obligations relating to the load following service market.

10.1 RULE AMENDMENTS

Amendments to Chapter 7B of the WEM Rules include only transitional changes to reflect the transfer of System Management functions to AEMO and IMO functions to the ERA.

10.2 AEMO PROCEDURES

AEMO's Market Procedures and Internal Procedures are compliant with Chapter 7B of the WEM Rules in all material respects. Please refer to Table 6 for audit findings relating to AEMO's procedures.

10.3 OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 7B

10.3.1 Audit activities

- We conducted a (real-time) business process walkthrough to determine whether AEMO has
 complied with the WEM Rules and its Internal Procedures and whether AEMO has applied
 appropriate controls when conducting the daily market operations shift covering AEMO's
 obligations under Chapter 7B (LFAS Operations) of the WEM Rules.
- Reviewed system logs to compliance test whether AEMO has published LFAS prices in accordance with the requirements set out in Chapter 7B of the WEM Rules.

10.3.2 Audit findings

We did not observe any instances of non-compliance with Chapter 7B of the WEM Rules.

11 WEM RULES CHAPTER 8 – WHOLESALE MARKET METERING

Chapter 8 of the WEM Rules sets out obligations relating to metering, including: Metering Data Agents; Meter Registry; Meter Data Submissions; Metering Protocol Requirements; and Support of Calculations.

11.1 RULE AMENDMENTS

There have been no amendments to Chapter 8 of the WEM Rules.

11.2 AEMO PROCEDURES

AEMO's Market Procedures and Internal Procedures are compliant with Chapter 8 of the WEM Rules in all material respects.

11.3 OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 8

AEMO has limited obligations under Chapter 8 of the WEM Rules.

We have conducted no audit activities pertaining to Chapter 8 of the WEM Rules.

We have noted no instances of non-compliance or compliance risk associated with AEMO's obligations under Chapter 8 of the WEM Rules.

12 WEM RULES CHAPTER 9 - SETTLEMENT

Chapter 9 of the WEM Rules sets out obligations relating to Settlement Data; Settlement Calculations; Settlement Statements; Invoicing and Payment; and Default and Settlement in Default Situations.

12.1 RULE AMENDMENTS

Amendments to Chapter 9 of the WEM Rules include only transitional changes to reflect the transfer of System Management functions to AEMO and IMO functions to the ERA.

12.2 AEMO PROCEDURES

AEMO's Market Procedures and Internal Procedures are compliant with Chapter 9 of the WEM Rules in all material respects. Please refer to Table 6for audit findings relating to AEMO's procedures.

12.3 OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 9

12.3.1 Audit activities

We have:

- Reviewed instances of self-reported non-compliance incidents with AEMO staff.
- Undertaken (real-time) business process walkthroughs of NSTEM billing and invoicing activities (including prepayment application).
- Undertaken (retrospective) business process walkthroughs of:
 - Meter data validation activities.
 - NSTEM Initial Settlement and Adjustment Settlement verification activities.

12.3.2 Audit findings

Instances of non-compliance and areas of compliance risk associated with Chapter 9 of the WEM Rules are summarised in the table below.

Table 17: Operational compliance findings associated with Chapter 9 of the WEM Rules

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.32	Issue Type AEMO Self- reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 9.9.2(f), (i) & (l)	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	Incorrect settlement calculations due to erroneous Spinning Reserve import. AEMO settlement systems uses the SRCAPPK_IMOWA parameter to determine spinning Reserve Capacity for peak intervals which in turn determines ancillary service payments. For the November 2015 billing month, as a result of a manual error, AEMO used incorrect values for the SRCAPPK_IMOWA parameter for the first (May 2016) and second (August 2016) adjustments. This resulted in an overpayment to the affected Market Participant; the error was also notified to AEMO by the participant. AEMO rectified the error in the third adjustment in November 2016. AEMO has updated its procedures to prevent recurrence of similar breaches. Manual line item imports into settlements are now verified by senior analysts before settlement processing commences.	No recommendations as AEMO has updated procedures to prevent recurrence of similar breaches.
17 WEM 2.33	Issue Type AEMO Self- reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 9.20.2	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Failure to acknowledge notice of disagreement due to oversight. AEMO failed to acknowledge receipt of a notice of disagreement within one business day as required under clause 9.20.2 of the WEM Rules as a result of human error. The participant had submitted a notice on 3 March 2017 relating to the December 2016 Initial Settlement. AEMO confirmed receipt on 14 March 2017 (instead of 4 March 2017). The breach was a result of the operator not following AEMO's documented process for handling disagreements. The impacts are minor as the window for resolving the disagreement had not passed.	No recommendations as AEMO has adequate controls to mitigate recurrence of similar breaches.

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
				This was an instance of human error.
17 WEM 2.34	Issue Type AEMO Self- reported non- compliance (New issue) Obligation 9.4.10	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Failure to notify participant of incorrect Capacity Credit Allocation leading to erroneous revocation of Capacity Credit Allocation. Clause 9.4 of the WEM Rules sets out the capacity credit allocation process (which follows the timeline set out in clause 9.16.2 of the WEM Rules and the Settlement Cycle Timeline document). If a Market Participant has had more Capacity Credits allocated to it than its IRCR, AEMO must identify such a participant (rule 9.4.9) and notify the participant (clause 9.4.10 of the WEM Rules) so that the participant can modify its nomination. AEMO's automated alert system (MOSMI)) alerts AEMO staff whether a notification under clause 9.4.10 is required. However, on 16 June 2017, due to an emergency failover this alert was not triggered. As a consequence, the participant did not modify their allocation, and AEMO's market systems (WEMS) revoked the allocation under clause 9.4.12 of the WEM Rules (setting the participant's allocation to zero). Settling based on this amount would result the participant paying capacity costs to the market which were covered by bilateral arrangements; this is inconsistent with the intent of the WEM Rules. Therefore, AEMO allowed the participant to modify its Capacity Credit allocation (outside the rules stipulated timeframe) so that they do not incur the additional (unnecessary) capacity costs. As a result, there was no market impact. AEMO has updated the failover checklists and internal process documentation to include a check of the MOSMI logs to identify errors.	No recommendations – AEMO has resolved this issue.
17 WEM 2.38	Issue Type RBP reported non- compliance (Recurring issue)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	Technical non-compliance with requirement to notify receipt by telephone . Clause 9.4.7 of the WEM Rules requires AEMO to confirm receipt of a Capacity Credit Allocation Submission from a Market Participant (made under clause 9.4.6 of the WEM Rules) by telephone within 30 minutes of receiving the submission. AEMO has automated the receipt of Capacity Credit Allocation Submissions in WEMS, and is therefore in technical breach of clause 9.4.7 (as it does not confirm receipt via telephone).	No recommendations

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
	Obligation 9.4.7 Capacity Credit Allocation process		This is a non-material technical breach identified in 2014. AEMO is complying with the intent of the rule (by automating confirmation receipts), and confirmation by telephone is unnecessary. We note that this issue may be resolved through a minor rule change to remove the telephone requirement. A rule change (RC_2014_07) is currently in the process to align obligation with practice.	

13 WEM RULES CHAPTER 10 - MARKET INFORMATION

Chapter 10 of the WEM Rules sets out obligations relating to Market Information, including: confidentiality; and publication on the Market Web Site.

13.1 RULE AMENDMENTS

Amendments to Chapter 10 of the WEM Rules include transitional changes to reflect the transfer of System Management functions to AEMO and IMO functions to the ERA and changes to reflect interim arrangements for constrained grid access.

13.2 **AEMO** PROCEDURES

AEMO's Market Procedures and Internal Procedures are compliant with Chapter 10 of the WEM Rules in all material respects. Please refer to Table 6 for audit findings relating to AEMO's procedures.

13.3 OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 10

13.3.1 Audit activities

We have reviewed AEMO's website and AEMO's procedures to determine compliance and compliance risk associated with its Market Data publication obligations under clause 10.5.1 of the WEM Rules.

13.3.2 Audit findings

Instances of non-compliance and areas of compliance risk associated with Chapter 10 are summarised in the table below.

Table 18: Operational compliance findings associated with Chapter 10 of the WEM Rules

Ref	Issue Type & Obligation	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
17	Issue Type	Risk Rating	Failure to publish summary of closed Rule Change Proposals	No recommendation as
WEM	AEMO Self-	Low	and Procedure Changed proposals. Clause 10.5.1(a)(ix) requires	AEMO has resolved the
2.36	reported non-	Compliance	AEMO to publish a document summarising all Rule Change	issue.
2.30	compliance	Rating	Proposals and Procedure Change Proposals that are no longer open	
	(New issue)	_	to public comment and whether or not those proposals were	
	Obligation	Level 1	accepted or rejected. This document had not been moved across to	
	Procedure		AEMO website from the now superseded AEMO WA specific	
	Administration,		website.	
	Section 2.5.1		AEMO has now rectified this issue and has included a standing link	
			to the ERA's website.	

14 MARKET SYSTEMS AND IT CONTROLS

This chapter covers the compliance of AEMO's market software and software management processes with the WEM Rules, in accordance with clause 2.14.3(c) of the WEM Rules.

- Section 14.1 sets out our review of AEMO's market software systems
- Section 14.2 sets out our review of AEMO's general IT controls, including processes for software management.

14.1 COMPLIANCE OF AEMO SOFTWARE

The software testing and certification process assesses whether the mathematical formulations specified in the WEM Rules and Market Procedures have been correctly implemented by the software.

The software systems covered by this section of the review are:

- WEMS
- POMAX Settlements
- POMAX Metering

We are currently carrying out initial certification testing of the Real Time Dispatch Engine software used by AEMO System Management to generate a security constrained dispatch from the unconstrained BMO.

14.1.1 Approach

Software testing and certification under clause 2.36.1(d) of the WEM Rules is carried out on a release by release basis throughout the year. Hence, at the time of the annual market audit, we rely upon the testing conducted throughout the year and our review of AEMO's software release change log (and other documentation) to determine:

- Whether all changes to market software contemplated by clause 2.36.1(d) have been independently certified, and therefore
- Whether all market software contemplated by clause 2.36.1(d) is still compliant with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures.

14.1.2 2016-17 market software certification

Certification of core market systems

The initial versions of AEMO's WA market systems were certified at market start in 2006/7. Since that time, various system changes have been made and certified, as set out in Section 15.2.

For this audit, we reviewed the release notes for all changes made to AEMO's market systems during the Audit Period. Most changes maintained certification without additional testing, as they did not involve changes that would be expected to have material impact on prices or quantities. All releases having material impact on market prices or quantities were independently certified prior to release. The changes are set out in Table 19, along with the certification status of the software version. The list only includes releases implemented in the production environment, and does not include versions which were only implemented in a development or test environment.

Table 19: Changes to AEMO market systems in the Audit Period

System	Version number	Release date	Material effect on prices / quantities?	Certification status	Comment
WEMS	3.17-1149-11	Aug 2016	Yes	Certified	DSM Reserve Capacity bilateral trade changes for EMR
WEMS	3.18-1183-5	Sep 2016	No	Maintained	
WEMS	3.19-1192-10	Apr 2017	No	Maintained	
WEMS	3.19-1192-13	May 2017	No	Maintained	
Metering	11.0.28	May 2017	No	Maintained	
Settlements	3.4.16	Sep 2016	Yes	Certified	IRCR changes for Intermittent Loads with TD component

Where the above software is designated 'Certified', it has either been independently tested by RBP, or AEMO testing has been reviewed and accepted by RBP. RBP has then certified that the software complies with the requirements of the WEM Rules.

Certification of tools outside core market systems

In addition to certification of core market systems, RBP has certified changes to supporting tools as shown in Table 20.

Table 20: 2016-2017 supporting tool certification

System	Subject	Certification scope	Date certified
Protected Excel Workbook	Alternative Maximum STEM Price	Calculation of Alternative Maximum STEM Price under clause 6.20.3 of the WEM Rules	25 July 2016
Relevant Level tool	Relevant level for intermittent generation	Relevant Level calculations under Appendix 9, steps 1 to 3 and 5 to 18 of the WEM Rules	12 May 2017

14.1.3 Compliance of market software with the WEM Rules

We have no audit findings to report with respect to the compliance of the market software with the WFM Rules

14.2 GENERAL IT CONTROLS (INCLUDING SOFTWARE MANAGEMENT)

General IT controls are also reviewed in the Gas audit. We carried out a single review covering both audits. Other than findings in Table 21, the findings here are the same as those under the Gas Compliance Audit, and use the same reference numbers.

14.2.1 Audit activities

We reviewed AEMO's policies and procedures for:

- Business continuity
- Service management (including AEMO/Western Power service management integration workflows, and Western Power service management procedures)
- User-facing information security policies and procedures

System Management software processes and procedures

We carried out compliance testing on:

- User password requirements
- Release notes
- Service management records (including AEMO and Western Power Jira and ServiceNow incident, problem, change and release records)
- Monthly service reports under AEMO's Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Western Power
- Data centre specifications
- Application and system logs
- Backup schedule, and backup restoration tasks

14.2.2 Management of market software

AEMO's obligations in respect of software management processes are specified in clause 2.36.1 of the WEM Rules.

Where AEMO uses software systems to determine Balancing Prices, to determine Non-Balancing Facility Dispatch Instruction Payments, to determine LFAS Prices, in the Reserve Capacity Auction, STEM Auction or settlement processes, it must:

- a. maintain a record of which version of software was used in producing each set of results, and maintain records of the details of the differences between each version and the reasons for the changes between versions;
- b. maintain each version of the software in a state where results produced with that version can be reproduced for a period of at least 1 year from the release date of the last results produced with that version;
- c. ensure that appropriate testing of new software versions is conducted;
- d. ensure that any versions of the software used by AEMO have been certified as being in compliance with the Market Rules by an independent auditor; and
- e. require vendors of software audited in accordance with clause 2.36.1(d) to make available to Rule Participants explicit documentation of the functionality of the software adequate for the purpose of audit.

Clause 2.36.2 of the WEM Rules defines a 'version' as follows:

A "version" of the software referred to in clause 2.36.1 means any initial software used and any changes to the software that could have a material effect on the prices or quantities resulting from the use of the software

14.2.3 Audit Findings

Compliance of market software

We have reviewed the relevant AEMO IT system change control logs (including release notes, JIRA records, and database logs) and have confirmed that, other than the changes set out in section 14.1.2, the core market systems and the non-core market software referenced in Section 14.1.2 have not been materially changed since the referenced tests were performed.

As such, as at the time of the market audit, we found all market software (contemplated by clause 2.36.1(d) of the WEM Rules) and non-core market software referenced in Section 14.1.2 to be compliant with the WEM Rules and Market Procedures, in all material respects.

Compliance of software management processes with the WEM Rules

There have been no self-reported or other instances of non-compliance with clause 2.36.1 of the WEM Rules.

AEMO's software management processes for the market systems remain sufficient to comply with the market rules.

Table 21: Comment on AEMO's compliance with clause 2.36.1 of the WEM Rules during the Audit Period

Clause	Comment on compliance
2.36.1(a)	AEMO has maintained a record of all versions of market software used together with their dates in service, details of the differences between each version and the reasons for the changes between versions. These take the form of release notes, JIRA records, ServiceNow records and database entries.
2.36.1(b)	AEMO has maintained the ability to roll back versions of the market software by restoring previous database versions and re-installing previous versions of the software. AEMO was able to reproduce past results exactly for a sample case.
2.36.1(c)	AEMO has conducted appropriate testing on all new releases of market software prior to their being placed in service.
2.36.1(d)	AEMO has ensured that all software versions are covered by an independent certification prior to implementation.
2.36.1(e)	AEMO provides documentation to Market Participants covering the functionality of the market software. AEMO also holds release artefacts including detailed release notes for each release, which are available to Market Participants.

General findings

Table 22: Operational compliance findings associated with general IT controls

Ref	Issue Type	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.39	(New issue)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 2	The current backup regime and architecture is not documented. Regular backup testing does occur, with no more than six months elapsing between restoration tests, but coverage is unclear. AEMO has a project underway to refresh the backup infrastructure and regime in line with organisational standards.	Ensure that current backup refresh project delivers documentation for the architecture of the backup environment
17 WEM 2.40	(New issue)	Risk Rating Medium Compliance Rating	AEMO maintains redundant IT systems, so that the market can continue to operate in the event of losing one data centre. Both data centres are regularly exercised, by running production market systems from each location at regular intervals. While this is perhaps the most critical part of AEMO's business continuity preparation, other aspects of business continuity have not been explored. We have not seen evidence of any business continuity testing beyond system failover and backup restoration testing. This means that reliance on key people, office premises, physical equipment, and communications channels has not been tested. This applies to both CBD and EPCC activities, and is particularly concerning for control room operations.	Plan and conduct regular desk- based and live business continuity exercises covering selected credible contingency scenarios
17 WEM 2.41	(New issue)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 2	AEMO's Encryption Standard requires backup media to be encrypted where technically possible. AEMO WA backup media is not encrypted.	Consider backup media encryption as part of backup refresh project.

Ref	Issue Type	Risk & Compliance Ratings	Finding	Recommendation
17 WEM 2.43	(New issue)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 3	IT applications support and development has been insourced to new application support team. Team members are all new recruits, and are largely from a development background and relatively new to service management concepts. This increases the risk of problems in support processes.	Ensure support staff have appropriate service management training
17 WEM 2.44	(New issue)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating	AEMO CBD does have a configuration management database of sorts, but definitions used are inconsistent. Different people have used different concepts of what a "product" is, what a "configuration item" is, and which assets should be recorded and how. This significantly reduces the usefulness of a CMDB or CMS.	Ensure support staff have appropriate service management training Consider refreshing CMDB as part of the wider AEMO service management programme
17 WEM 2.45	(New issue)	Risk Rating Low Compliance Rating 2	Best practice for a critical infrastructure organisation like AEMO would be to have full, UTI Tier III, site level redundancy for critical systems, with sufficient geographic separation to avoid having both sites affected by the same incident. AEMO's IT infrastructure is located in two WA data centres. The newer facility is certified as UTI Tier III. The older facility does have redundancy on many levels, the facility is not certified as Tier III, and does not meet the Tier III requirements. The two facilities are 10.25km apart, both close to the centre of Perth.	Consider moving to a more distant Tier III aligned data centre site as part of next data centre lifecycle refresh project

15 APPENDICES

15.1 COMPLIANCE AND RISK RATING INFORMATION

This appendix contains information on the compliance and risk ratings used to classify audit findings.

15.1.1 Compliance and Risk Ratings

Audit findings are categorised as follows:

Table 23: Compliance ratings

Compliance rating	Description
1	Instances of non-compliance with the WEM Rules
2	Findings that are not an instance of non-compliance, but pose compliance risk
3	Findings related to minor housekeeping issues that do not affect compliance risk

Risk Rating descriptors for audit findings were set in consultation with AEMO and are based on AEMO's corporate risk matrix (including definitions of impact and likelihood).

Table 24: Risk Ratings

Risk Rating	Description
Critical	Potential for catastrophic impact on market or system operations or other market outcomes if not addressed immediately. Requires executive actions and monitoring at board level.
Significant	Potential for major impact on market or system operations or other market outcomes if not addressed as a matter of priority. Requires senior management attention with regular monitoring at executive meetings.
Medium	Potential for moderate impact on market or system operations or other market outcomes if not addressed within a reasonable timeframe. Requires management attention with regular monitoring.
Low	Potential for minor impact on market or system operations or other market outcomes if not addressed in the future. Requires team level attention with regular monitoring.

AEMO's definitions of likelihood and consequence are provided in the sections below.

15.1.2 AEMO likelihood ratings

Likelihood	Annual Probability	Qualitative Description
Almost Certain	>90%	Will occur in most circumstances; statistical record of several occurrences
Likely	51% - 90%	Can be expected to occur in most circumstances; statistical record of some occurrence
Possible	11% - 50%	May occur, but not expected in most circumstances; statistical record of at least one occurrence
Unlikely	1% - 10%	Conceivable but unlikely to occur in any given year; no history of occurrence
Rare	<1%	Will only occur in exceptional circumstances; no history of occurrence

15.1.3 AEMO impact ratings

Type of impact	EXTREME	MAJOR	MODERATE	MINOR	IMMATERIAL
Reputation & Stakeholders	Significant long-term damage to stakeholder confidence and relationships; total loss of public confidence; intensive adverse media exposure	Significant short-term damage to stakeholder confidence and relationships; some loss of public confidence; adverse media exposure	Some damage to stakeholder confidence and relationships	Manageable reduction in stakeholder confidence	No lasting effects
AEMO Financial Impact	>\$25M	>\$5M-25M	>\$500K-\$5M	>\$100K-\$500K	<\$100K
Safety	Single fatality or permanent injury or widespread impact on public safety	Serious injury requiring hospitalisation >5 days or localised impact on public safety	Injury requiring <5 days hospitalisation or medical treatment	Medical treatment only	First aid
Infrastructure, Assets & Environment	Permanent long-term effect and or rectification not possible	Significant effect, difficult rectification	Measurable effect, easy rectification	Measurable effect, no rectification required	No measurable damage or effect
Market	Loss of supply to >50% of customer demand in any one jurisdiction or >25% across multiple jurisdictions Market suspension in one jurisdiction or market	Loss of supply to >25% of customer demand in any one jurisdiction or >10% across multiple jurisdictions Market suspension in one jurisdiction or market	Loss of supply to >10% of customer demand in any one jurisdiction or >5% across multiple jurisdictions Market operating in an administered state for > 5 days for gas market or >1 day for electricity market	Loss of supply to >5% of customer demand in any one jurisdiction or >2% across multiple jurisdictions Market operating in an administered state for <5 days for gas market or <1 day for electricity market	No restriction of supply No disruption to markets

Type of impact	EXTREME	MAJOR	MODERATE	MINOR	IMMATERIAL
Legal & Regulatory	Imprisonment or fine >\$100 personal liability to officer or director of company Disqualification as officer/director Regulator or parliamentary inquiry with loss of Market Participants and public confidence	>\$100K personal liability to officer or director Disqualification as officer/director Regulator or parliamentary inquiry with substantial loss of reputation, financial cost, loss of stakeholder confidence, political impact	Fine of less than \$100K and no personal liability Regulator or government inquiry with loss of reputation or adverse government impact	Nominal fine Regulator or government inquiry resolved by routine management procedures	No fine No government or regulator inquiry

15.2 HISTORICAL MARKET SOFTWARE CERTIFICATION PRIOR TO THE 2016-17 AUDIT PERIOD

15.2.1 Initial software testing

When AEMO notifies us of changes to market software or release of new software we adopt one or both of the following methods:

- Constructing independent models of the specific case. The model may perform a set of
 calculations (such as pre-processing of data or quantity allocations, as defined by the
 formulation), or it may include an optimisation procedure designed to replicate a portion of the
 software's formulation.
- Directly comparing the software results to our understanding of the formulation. This may involve answering questions such as:
 - Are the appropriate constraints binding?
 - Does the set of calculations change as we expect when input values are altered and the software is re-run?
 - Does the software make optimal trade-offs between alternative resources, given their costs and associated constraints?

In testing AEMO's market software, we use both approaches.

As much of the software tested is embedded in the market systems, RBP specifies the tests to be performed (including input data requirements and output data to be provided) and AEMO staff conducts the tests on the market systems. We then review the test results to determine whether the results are compliant with the requirements of the WEM Rules and Market Procedures.

15.2.2 Assessment of software compliance at time of market audit

Once software has been tested and shown to be compliant, it is not necessary to retest the software unless:

- Changes have been known to be made to the software which render the previous testing no longer valid; or
- It is believed that unapproved changes have been made to the software.

The first circumstance is readily picked up where there is a rigorous software change control process. The second exists where such a change control process is lacking.

As part of the 2006-7 and 2007-8 annual audits of the IMO's market software systems we carried out full regression tests to verify that the market software systems comply with the requirements of the WEM Rules and Market Procedures. Since the 2008-9 year, we have determined the compliance of the market software by:

- Examining AEMO's market software change procedures to ensure that they are robust
- Examining various records of changes made to the market software systems (including change process logs, release notes and system audit trails) to determine whether the changes required independent testing and certification
- Examining WEM Rules and Market Procedure changes and assessing whether corresponding changes to market software have been implemented (where relevant) and
- Carrying out such testing and certification on those software changes as required.

Under this regime, if there are no changes made to the software since the last time it was certified, we may deduce that the software continues to comply with the WEM Rules.

If changes are made to the software, we plan and conduct tests to exercise any new or changed calculations, and other calculations that are likely to have been affected.

This is in line with the approach we use when verifying software compliance in other jurisdictions.

This incremental approach provides a cost-effective means for providing assurance on compliance when changes to the market are incremental in nature, but it becomes less meaningful as time goes on and/or if major changes are introduced to the market.

15.2.3 Summary of historic tests

This section provides a summary of the relevant certification tests previously conducted on the core AEMO market software systems along with the results of those tests. The core market software systems are comprised of:

- WEMS Wholesale Electricity Market Systems, a software system developed and maintained by AEMO, and incorporating proprietary components provided by ABB
- POMAX Settlements a software system provided by the vendor Brady Energy
- POMAX Metering a software system provided by the vendor Brady Energy

WEMS certification relies on the chain of certification testing back to the comprehensive testing conducted in 2007-8. We conducted comprehensive testing of new WEMS components for the introduction of balancing and load following markets in 2012.

Settlements certification is based on the chain of certification testing back to the comprehensive testing conducted in 2014 for the new settlements version 3.4.6.

For the 2008-2011 Audit Periods, the information presented is organised around the tests conducted and sets out:

- The features of Market Systems software which have been tested.
- The nature of the tests conducted.

For the 2011-2015 Audit Periods, we set out the specific market software component releases, and their certification status. Releases with certification status of 'maintained' did not require additional testing, as they did not involve changes that would be expected to have material impact on prices or quantities.

System	Subject	Test	Result	Year
Market Systems	STEM & Non-STEM	STEM ST1: Two	PASS	2008
		Participants	PASS	2008
		STEM ST2: Multiple		
		Optima Clearing	PASS	2008
		Quantities	PASS	2008
		STEM ST3: Multiple		
		Optima Clearing	PASS	2008
		Prices		
		STEM ST4: Price set	PASS	2008
		at Min-STEM price by		
		default bid	PASS	2008
		STEM ST5: Price set	PASS	2008
		at Alt-Max-STEM	PASS	2008
		price by default bid		
		STEM ST6: Bilateral	PASS	2008
		position outside of	PASS	2008
		Price Curve		
		STEM ST7: Three		
		Participants		

System	Subject	Test	Result	Year
		NST 1 Dispatch Merit Order NST 2 Dispatch Instructions NST 3 Administered Balancing Prices NST 4 Reserve Capacity Obligation Quantities		
Market Systems	Non-STEM	Maximum Alternative Maximum Stem Price calculation	PASS	2008
Market Systems	Non-STEM	Incremental Reserve Capacity Ratio calculation	PASS	2008
Market Systems	Non-STEM	Prudential Requirements calculation	PASS	2008
Market Systems	STEM & Non-STEM	Change to the resource plan calculation	PASS	2009
Settlement	Other Settlement	Settlement of intermittent load generators	PASS	2009
Market Systems	Reserve Capacity	Supplementary Reserve Capacity calculation	PASS	2009
Market Systems	STEM	Inclusion of more than 50 participants in STEM auction and dispatch merit order calculations	PASS	2011

System	Version number	Changes to calculations affecting market outcomes?	Certification status
WEMS	2.6.6	No	Maintained
WEMS	2.6.7	Yes	Certified
WEMS	2.6.8	No	Maintained
WEMS	2.7.37	No	Maintained
WEMS	2.7.39	No	Maintained
WEMS	2.7.41	No	Maintained
WEMS	2.8.28	No	Maintained
WEMS	2.8.29	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.0.18	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.0.21	Yes	Certified
WEMS	3.1.36	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.1.41	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.1.43	Yes	Certified
WEMS	3.1.44	Yes	Certified
WEMS	3.1.45	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.2.8	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.3.12	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.4.11	Yes	Certified
WEMS	3.5.6	Yes	Certified
WEMS	3.6.12	Yes	Certified
WEMS	3.6.13	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.6.15	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.6.16	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.7.9	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.7.12	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.7.13	Yes	Certified

System	Version number	Changes to calculations affecting market outcomes?	Certification status
WEMS	3.8.5	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.8.6	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.9.2	Yes	Certified
WEMS	3.9.2 (AS-2456)	Yes	Certified
WEMS	3.10.99-15	Yes	Certified
WEMS	3.10.99-59	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.10-99-63	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.10-99-71	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.11.374-57	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.11.374-63	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.11.374-81	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.11.374-84	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.11.374-94	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.11.374-116	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.11.374-128	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.12-913-9	Yes	Certified
WEMS	3.12-913-35	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.13-981-1	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.13-981-6	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.14-1016-3	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.14-1016-4	No	Maintained
WEMS	3.16-1105-2	Yes	Certified
Metering	11 update 14	Yes	Certified
Metering	11.0.20	No	Maintained
Metering	11.0.25	No	Maintained
Metering	11.0.27	No	Maintained

System	Version number	Changes to calculations affecting market outcomes?	Certification status
Settlements	3.4.6	Yes	Certified
Settlements	3.4.7	No	Maintained
Settlements	3.4.8	Yes	Certified
Settlements	3.4.9	No	Maintained
Settlements	3.4.12	No	Maintained