

MEDIA STATEMENT - update

Thursday, 9 February 2017

The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) can confirm that at 19:03 AEDT, 100 megawatts (MW) of local load shedding was instructed in South Australia to maintain the security of the power system over the evening peak demand period.

A number of market notices were issued to all generators in the lead up to this instruction, requesting a market response to be provided due to increased demand as a result of the high temperatures in South Australia.

AEMO did not receive sufficient bids into the market to maintain the supply/demand balance in South Australia.

In order to maintain power system security, AEMO instructed South Australia transmission network business ElectraNet to load shed 100 MW, which was approximately 3% of total South Australian demand at 19:03 AEDT, to avoid potential damage to network equipment.

At 19:30 AEDT as the evening peak subsided, AEMO gave permission to restore the load as the threat of damage to network assets had reduced. At approximately 19:40 AEDT electricity supply had been restored.

AEMO understands the frustration from South Australian energy consumers as electricity is an essential service. It is important to note that AEMO instructed load shedding to ease the pressure on the power system, protecting it from potentially impacting more residents, and for a longer period.

AEMO is continuing to carefully manage the power system during this period of high temperatures and high demand across Australia's eastern states.

AEMO has today published market notices forecasting a tightening supply/demand balance across South Australia and New South Wales over the coming days, and is working with the market to mitigate the need for further load shedding events.

ENDS

For AEMO media enquiries, please contact:

[AEMO](#) media enquiries

0409 382 121

AEMO.Media@aemo.com.au

