

NOTICE OF FIRST STAGE OF RULES CONSULTATION ON AMENDMENTS TO THE ENERGY CONVERSION MODEL GUIDELINES- 2016

[National Electricity Rules – clause 8.9]

AMENDMENT TO THE WIND ENERGY CONVERSION MODEL (ECM) GUIDELINES AND THE SOLAR ENERGY CONVERSION MODEL (ECM) GUIDELINES

This notice informs Semi-Scheduled Generators and any party having an interest in the Wind and Solar ECM Guidelines (**Consulted Persons**) that AEMO is conducting a consultation on *Amendment to the Wind Energy Conversion Model Guidelines and the Solar Energy Conversion Model Guidelines*. The Wind ECM Guidelines are applicable to Semi-Scheduled wind farms connected to the NEM and the Solar ECM Guidelines are applicable to solar farms connected to the NEM.

This consultation is being conducted under clause 2.2.7(d) of the National Electricity Rules (**Rules**) in accordance with the consultation requirements detailed in clause 8.9 of the Rules.

Date of Notice

This Notice of First Stage of Rules Consultation was issued on **18 March 2016**.

Objectives of the Consultation

The objectives of the consultation are to:

- Give Consulted Persons the opportunity to be consulted on proposed amendments to the Wind and Solar ECM Guidelines.
- Ensure that Consulted Persons are properly informed on the rationale for the proposed amendments and any final changes to the Wind and Solar ECM Guidelines.

Matters under Consultation

AEMO is proposing changes to the Wind and Solar Energy Conversion Model Guidelines ('the ECM Guidelines') and consulting with Semi-Scheduled Generators on the changes as required by clause 2.2.7(d) of the National Electricity Rules ('the Rules').

In late 2015, AEMO identified an issue with the accuracy of the Australian Wind Energy Forecasting System ('AWEFS') dispatch forecasts. This issue had the potential to affect Semi-Scheduled Generators at times when output is constrained by a local limit not reflected in the AWEFS forecast.

AEMO discussed the issue with a number of affected participants, and has identified a proposed solution, which would require Semi-Scheduled generators (wind and solar) to provide their Local Limit to AEMO in real time. AEMO continues to investigate options for limits that do not fit within the proposed solution.

During these discussions, further improvements to the dispatch forecast were proposed. These included investigating the use of a 'Possible Power' SCADA feed provided by Semi-Scheduled Generators in real time, and allowing the 'Wind Speed' SCADA feed to be an average of several representative wind speeds.

To implement these requirements, AEMO is proposing changes to the ECM Guidelines outlined in this paper. AEMO is also proposing additional minor changes to the ECM Guidelines. All changes are summarised in Appendix A.

AEMO is seeking feedback on the issues and questions raised in *Wind and Solar Energy Conversion Model Guidelines Consultation – Issues Paper- 2016* published in conjunction with this Notice.

The consultation process will be conducted in accordance with clause 8.9 of the Rules.

ECM Guidelines Developed under the NER

Guidelines developed under consultation are identified in clause 2.2.7(d) of the Rules.

Under this clause:

“AEMO must develop and publish guidelines in consultation with Semi-Scheduled Generators and such other person that AEMO, acting reasonably, considers appropriate setting out the information to be contained in energy conversion models. Any amendments to the guidelines are also to be made in consultation with Semi-Scheduled Generators and such other person that AEMO, acting reasonably, considers appropriate.”

“Energy conversion model” is defined in Chapter 10 of the Rules as:

“The model that defines how the intermittent input energy source (such as wind) is converted by the semi-scheduled generating unit into electrical output. That model must contain the information set out in the guidelines published by AEMO in accordance with clause 2.2.7(d).”

The Consultation Process

The following table outlines the consultation process, including key dates. Please note that these are proposed dates and may be subject to change by AEMO.

PROCESS	DATE
Closing date for submissions received in response to this Notice of First Stage of Rules Consultation	28 April 2016
Publication of the Draft Determination and Report and invitation to make submissions in response to the Draft Determination	26 May 2016
Closing date for submissions received in response to the Draft Determination and Report	10 June 2016
Publication of the Determination and Report	25 July 2016

Invitation to make Submissions

AEMO invites written submissions on Amendments the ECM Guidelines from Consulted Persons. In particular, AEMO requests comments on:

- Amendments to the Wind and Solar ECM guidelines to add provision of real-time SCADA feeds for *Local Limit* as a mandatory provision for all existing and future semi-scheduled generators.
- Amendments to the ECM guidelines to add optional provision of a real-time SCADA feed for *Possible Power*, for all existing and future semi-scheduled generators.
- Amendments to the Wind and Solar ECM guidelines to add the static data item *Maximum Capacity*, for all existing and future semi-scheduled generators.

- Additional clarifications and amendments to descriptions included in the ECM guidelines, including revisions to the definitions of the SCADA item *Wind Speed* and the static item *Slope Tracking Direction*.

Comments are also invited on any other issues relating to the subject matter of this Consultation.

Please identify any information in your submission that you consider to be confidential, and provide the reasons why you wish that information to be treated as confidential. AEMO reserves the right to publish material it does not consider to be confidential, despite your submission about confidentiality.

You should also note that material identified as confidential may be accorded less weight in the decision-making process than material that is published.

Closing Date for Submissions

Submissions in response to this Notice of First Stage of Rules Consultation should reach AEMO by 5:00pm EST on *28 April 2016*.

AEMO has some discretion to consider late submissions. Any late submission should explain:

1. The reason the submission is late; and
2. The detriment to you if AEMO fails to consider your submission.

Meetings

In your submission, you may request a meeting and specify the reasons why you consider such a meeting necessary. Please note that details of matters discussed at a meeting may be made available to other Consulted Persons.

Further Information

A document *Wind and Solar Energy Conversion Model Guidelines Consultation – Issues Paper- 2016* has been published with this Notice.

More information on previous changes to the ECM Guidelines can be found on AEMO's website.

Information on the consultation that ended in March 2013 on prior amendments to the Wind Energy Conversion Model (ECM) Guidelines can be found on AEMO's website at:
<http://www.aemo.com.au/Consultations/National-Electricity-Market/Open/Amendment-to-the-Energy-Conversion-Model-Guidelines>

Information on the consultation that ended in June 2013 to develop the Solar Energy Conversion Model (ECM) Guidelines can be found on AEMO's website at:
<http://www.aemo.com.au/Consultations/National-Electricity-Market/Energy-Conversion-Model-for-Solar-Forecasting>

Contact Details

AEMO prefers that submissions be forwarded in electronic format (both pdf and Word) as they will be published on the AEMO website.

Please send all e-mail submissions **Subject: ECM Consultation** to Op.forecasting@aemo.com.au or post submissions to:

*Attn. Clare Greenwood, Forecasting, AEMO
GPO Box 2008
Melbourne VIC 3001.*