

NOTICE OF NSCAS PLANNING ASSUMPTION - LINE SWITCHING, VICTORIA

Pursuant to Network Support and Control Ancillary Services Description and Quantity Procedure, made under clause 5.20.3 of the National Electricity Rules

Date of Notice: 17 December 2021

This notice is intended to inform stakeholders that AEMO (in its role as National Transmission Planner) has applied the following planning assumption for the 2021 Network Support and Control Ancillary Services (NSCAS) assessments:

- One 500 kV transmission line between Hazelwood and South Morang Terminal Stations can be switched pre-contingent for voltage control during light load periods.

This is based on advice from AEMO (Victorian Transmission Planner). The following qualifications apply:

- AEMO (in its role as National Transmission Planner) will apply its judgement in using this line switching assumption for planning purposes, including considering at the time of assessment whether any material adverse system security and reliability issues could occur due to the use of this assumption.
- Line switching for voltage control would only be assumed to the extent relevant and appropriate for expected network conditions.
- This assumption does not affect or limit AEMO's Victorian planning functions or any action AEMO may take in operational timeframes in its role as system operator.

Context of notice

Network Support and Control Ancillary Services (NSCAS) are non-market ancillary services that may be delivered to maintain power system security and reliability of supply of the transmission network, or to maintain or increase the power transfer capability of the transmission network. More information can be found on AEMO's website¹.

To meet its obligation to consider NSCAS needs in the NEM, AEMO:

- Develops and publishes a NSCAS description and quantity procedure.
- Assesses NSCAS needs for the upcoming five-year period.
- Publishes NSCAS tender guidelines, for cases where AEMO tenders for NSCAS rather than the transmission network service provider.

This notice serves to update the line switching assumptions for NSCAS as described in Appendix A of the NSCAS description and quantity procedure.

¹ NSCAS service procedure and guidelines, AEMO, accessed 2021-12-15 via <https://aemo.com.au/en/energy-systems/electricity/national-electricity-market-nem/system-operations/ancillary-services/network-support-and-control-ancillary-services-procedures-and-guidelines>