

VPP Demonstrations: Guide to Transition

December 2021

This document provides a guide for existing VPP Demonstrations Participants (VDPs) continuing to participate in the contingency Frequency Control Ancillary Services (FCAS) markets once the revised MASS (MASS v7.0) becomes effective and the VPP Demonstration Terms & Conditions have ceased.

Registered Market Participants in AEMO's VPP Demonstrations were permitted to deliver fast FCAS with a different measurement time resolution to that specified in the Market Ancillary Services Specification (MASS).

The VPP Demonstrations Transitional Arrangements outlined in section 11 of the revised MASS (MASS v7.0) provide a period for portfolios of VPP Demonstrations Participants (VDPs) currently providing fast FCAS at the slower measurement time resolution permitted in the Demonstrations to align to the MASS v7.0.

Eligible participants

Only existing participants in the VPP Demonstrations at the end of the VPP Demonstrations project will be eligible to continue participating in contingency FCAS markets under the Transitional Arrangements.

Transitional Arrangements will begin when the MASS v7.0 becomes effective on 1 February 2022 and will be applicable until 30 June 2023.

Transition when MASS v7.0 becomes effective

Loads will not need to be reclassified when the MASS v7.0 becomes effective and the existing VPP Dispatchable Unit ID's ('VS' DUID) will continue to apply to loads under the Transitional Arrangements.

Verification of FCAS delivery

Verification of Fast FCAS delivery will continue to accept 1 second measurement time resolution behind-the-meter data (i.e. aligned to the verification process adopted during the VPP Demonstrations) during the transitional period. All other elements of the MASS v7.0 must be adhered to.

A discount of 5% will apply to the measurement of Fast FCAS delivered in the verification process to recognise the error introduced by capturing measurements of power at 1 second intervals (rather than intervals of 200 ms or less).

For example, a VDP enabled for 1 MW of FCAS would need to measure 1.05 MW of delivered FCAS to avoid an under-delivery and the initiation of clawback processes.

Provision of FCAS Data

The VPP APIs will not be re-instated and AEMO will continue to use Excel files until further notice for the provision of aggregated data. AEMO will review NMI-level data on an ad-hoc basis.

AEMO is working with the University of New South Wales (UNSW) through Project MATCH to build a tool that allows AEMO to process and review NMI-level data for FCAS Assessment.

Measurement Location

During the VPP Demonstrations trial, VDPs were sharing data of the aggregated measurements of power from the distributed PV systems, battery system and net/grid flow at 1s intervals. There will be no changes to this arrangement during the transitional period.

Amendments to registered portfolios

VDPs will be able to apply to amend their portfolio to add/remove NMIs to maintain their registered maximum market ancillary service capacity (MW). This includes adding NMIs to maintain capacity when the discount is applied.

Note: there is no limit to the number of NMIs which can be added or removed, provided the registered maximum market ancillary service capacity (MW) is NOT increased.

Applications to increase registered maximum market ancillary service capacity (MW) under the Transitional Arrangements will NOT be accepted.

Enrolment Details (Plant Details/NMI Lists)

The VPP Enrolment API will not be re-instated and VDPs will be required to provide a spreadsheet with Plant Details for all Applications, the details required are

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outlined in Appendix A of the Application for Registration forms.

An extract from the VPP Demonstration Platform has been provided to participants.

Loads that are fully MASS compliant

Where a VDP's load can meet the requirements of the MASS, they can seek to reclassify the load under the MASS. A new Registration Application must be lodged and an FCAS assessment must be undertaken to verify performance.

A new DUID will need to be established to classify loads that are fully compliant with the MASS for relevant services.

ESCOSA Exemption

An ESCOSA exemption is in place for the existing South Australian VDPs and ESCOSA has now approved an "[Electricity generation licence exemption for VPP operations](#)" which will apply until 30 November 2023.

Further information can be obtained by contacting ESCOSA.

Separating Loads

VDPs may apply to separate their load to assist them in meeting the measurement requirements of the MASS. For example, a participant with 5 MW capacity can classify a new load of 1 MW under the MASS and retain 4 MW under the transitional arrangements.

Moving Loads

VDPs who have separated their load may apply to declassify NMI/capacity in the DUID under the Transitional Arrangement and then classify these NMI/capacity in the DUID under the MASS.

For instance, a VDP with separated loads (4 MW & 1 MW) can move 2 MW to the DUID under the MASS and retain 2 MW under the Transitional Arrangements.

Test data for classification under the MASS

Applications to classify new load under the MASS or increase capacity under the MASS must include the VPP Wide Test data with measurements at intervals of 200 ms or less.

The Lab Test does not need to be repeated if it was previously provided for the VPP Demonstration.

Market Registration Fees

Normal market registration fees will apply to all applications in line with the [National Electricity Market Fees and Charges](#).¹

Closure of Transitional Arrangements

The loads remaining under the Transitional Arrangements will be de-classified after 30 June 2023. Participants are able to apply to have loads re-classified under the MASS prior to this date if these loads meet the MASS requirements.

Only fully MASS compliant loads will be permitted to participate in contingency FCAS markets from 1 July 30 June 2023.

Support for Transition & Applications

The Account Management & Market Registration teams will be available to support participants through the transition and application process.

Note: Applications will not be accepted until the MASS v7.0 becomes effective on 1 February 2022.

Participants should refer to the registration forms & guides on the Registrations pages on the AEMO website for:

- [Demand Response Service Provider \(DRSP\)](#)
- [Market Customer](#)

You can request assistance through AEMO's Information and Support Hub:

- support.hub@aemo.com.au
- 1300 236 600
- [Contact Us form](#)

¹ AEMO. Available: <https://aemo.com.au/about/corporate-governance/energy-market-fees-and-charges>