

Terms of Reference

Operations Planning Working Group (OPWG)

1 Mission

This is a technical expert working group established under the National Electricity Market Operations Committee (NEMOC), and primarily focuses on the operations planning issues associated with the power system under the control or influence of AEMO and the Transmission Network Service Providers (TNSPs). The OPWG focuses on operational matters that are outside the real-time operations time frame, and which do not fit into the long-term planning time frame, with the aim of improving power system security and efficiency of operational processes.

2 Objective

- Establish and refine procedures and methodologies for wider power system operation.
- Address existing and emerging power system operational issues that limit utilisation of the transmission network capacity and introduce methods to improve the network utilisation.
- Assess operational preparedness when major changes to power system is anticipated.
- Efficient management of power system frequency under normal and extreme power system conditions.
- Efficient power system outage management, including generating units and transmission plant.
- Facilitate power system augmentation, sharing information between the TNSPs and AEMO efficiently.
- Identify systemic issues that can introduce potential risks to the power system security.

3 Scope

In order to achieve its objectives, the OPWG will:

- Develop, maintain, and amend, guidelines and processes for power system operations planning catering for normal and extreme power system conditions.
- Review power system incidents and other power system performance measures to identify systemic issues and implement methodologies for secure power system operation.
- Coordinate and review the NEM under-frequency load shedding (UFLS) and over-frequency generation shedding (OFGS) designs and implementation.

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- Facilitate establishment of efficient voltage control processes across the NEM.
- Develop, maintain, and amend, as required, guidelines and procedures to ensure efficient outage management and communicating outage information to NEM participants.
- Coordinate Congestion Information Resource (CIR) reviews.
- Review and, where possible, develop guidelines to improve the utilisation of network plant, including dynamic transmission line ratings and transformer cyclic ratings.
- Advise the NEMOC on emerging operational matters.

4 Governance

The OPWG will consist of representation chosen from the following organisations and may invite others at its discretion.

The PSSWG will consist of representatives from AEMO and NEM TNSPs:

AusNet Services	Powerlink
Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO)	TasNetworks
Australian Pipeline Authority	TransGrid
ElectraNet	

5 Meetings

AEMO convenes and provides secretariat services to the OPWG. Meetings are convened quarterly.

6 Expenses

For the avoidance of doubt, any expenses incurred as a result of attending meetings or activities associated with the OPWG are at the expense of the individual business that the person may represent.

7 Version control and contact details

Version	Effective date	Comments
1	March 2021	Review
2	June 2022	New AEMO Terms of Reference template.

For more information on the OPWG please email [Sujeewa Rajapakse](mailto:Sujeewa.Rajapakse@AEMO.gov.au).

For a list of industry forums and working groups refer to AEMO's [website](https://www.aemo.gov.au/industry-forums-and-working-groups).