

Forum meeting record

Forum:	Program Consultative Forum (PCF)
Date:	14 June 2023
Time:	1:00PM – 3:00PM AEST
Location:	MS Teams

Kate Goatley	ActewAGL	David Woods	SA Power Networks
Karen Clarke	AEMO	Andrew Wilkins	SA Water
Andrew Peart	AGL	Kambiz Vessali	Secure Meters
Robert Lo Giudice	Alinta Energy	Damien Didier	Stanwell
Wayne Turner	Ausgrid	Louise Webb	Telstra Energy
Justin Betlehem	AusNet Services	Paul Greenwood	Vector Metering
Rohan Bhosale	AusNet Services	Andrew Bell	AEMO (Australian Energy Market Operator)
Chris Payne	Energy Australia	Blaine Miner	AEMO
Jo Sullivan	Energy Australia	Chris Muffett	AEMO
Joseph Giddings	Energy One	David Reynolds	AEMO
Scott Tammara	Energy Q	Emily Brodie	AEMO
Christine Ward	Ergon Energy	Greg Minney	AEMO
Graeme Ferguson	Essential Energy	Jim Agelopoulos	AEMO
Ben Donnelly	Essential Energy	Jodie House	AEMO
Michael Karanastasis	Essential Energy	Karen Wilbrink	AEMO
Arun Sri	Gentrack	Lance Brooks	AEMO
Lewis Wand	Iberdrola	Lenard Bayne	AEMO
Dino Ou	IntelliHUB	Meghan Bibby	AEMO
Anthony Gatome	Origin Energy	Oliver Derum	AEMO
Yvonne Tuckett	Origin Energy	Paul Johnson	AEMO
Helen Vassos	PLUS ES	Peter Carruthers	AEMO
Inger Wills	Powercor	Rowena Leung	AEMO
Sean Jennings	Red Energy	Ulrika Lindholm	AEMO

PCF Session Summary

- Resource concerns persist in key project areas (especially IESS) and continue to place pressure on maintaining existing timelines.
- CDR, B2B v3.8 and other ICFs was successfully implemented in May 2023.
- Final SAPS deployment remains on track for 19 Jun Go-Live.
- August 2023 release is amber due to delay in commencing AEMO testing.
- MT PASA and 5MLP remain on track for October 2023. FFR Initiative status remains amber for October 2023 due to delays with testing.
- CDR and Metering exemptions remain on track for November 2023.
- IESS June 2024 schedule is at risk and requires management action.
- FPP June 2025 remains on track with development and testing starting.
- Discovery phase and Target state workshops completed for strategic and foundational initiatives. AEMO working through feedback to ensure alignment on target state prior to moving into next phase of consultation.

1 Welcome & Agenda

Peter Carruthers (Slides 2-4)

- Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting and gave an acknowledgement of country.
- Participants informed that the meeting will be recorded for the purpose of minute taking only.
- Chair outlined the meeting agenda and objectives.

2 Actions & Feedback from Previous Meeting

Peter Carruthers (Slides 5-6)

- All actions were closed.

Feedback from Participants (May PCF Mtg)

Peter Carruthers (Slides 7-8)

- AEMO noted concerns raised by members regarding compressed timeframes for participant development and testing programs.
- AEMO provided a summary of proposed changes/refinements to AEMO processes (slide 8) of the accompanying slide pack.

Raised by	Question/Issue Raised	Response
Rohan Bhosale – AusNet Services	Can we have a dedicated channel during the cut over period for participants?	This will be covered through the May Release lessons learnt.

3 Program & Release Update

Rowena Leung & Jim Agelopoulos (Slides 9-12)

- AEMO advised that CDR, B2B v3.8 and other ICFs was successfully implemented in May 2023.
- It was noted that resource concerns continue to be challenging in some key project areas and are placing pressure on maintaining existing timelines. Further information can be found on slide 12 of the accompanying slide pack.
- AEMO advised that the IESS June 2024 release is impacted by extended timeframes to complete build and system test across Settlements, Prudential's and Registrations and RMC applications ahead of SIT commencement. AEMO are currently working through revised plans and approaches for this release.

- AEMO advised that FFR SIT & UAT test plans are currently in place.
- An overview of the program was provided and is outlined on slide 10 of the accompanying slide pack.
- AEMO provided a snapshot of Level 1 & 2 milestones with specific call outs listed on slide 11 of the accompanying slide pack.

4 May Commencement Update

Meghan Bibby & Greg Minney (Slides 13-17)

4.1 CDR pt 2, B2Bv3.8, ICFs

Meghan Bibby (Slides 14-15)

- AEMO advised that this initiative has now been completed with the schema now released.
- All finalised procedures are available on AEMOs website.¹
- As part of the May release, AEMO provided members a brief deployment summary and outlined some key items on slide 15 of the accompanying slide pack.

Raised by	Question/Issue Raised	Response
Rohan Bhosale – AusNet Services	Can you please share the timeline for Industry test for LCCD which is prior to 1 st November Go-Live.	This will be covered as part of the November release update in this slide pack.

4.2 SAPS

Meghan Bibby (Slides 16-17)

- AEMO advised that procedures are now finalised with further status updates available on slide 17 of the accompanying slide pack.

5 Commencement Updates

Peter Carruthers (Slides 18-38)

5.1 August 2023 Update

Emily Brodie (Slides 19-21)

- AEMO advised that the August 2023 release is amber due to a delay in commencing AEMO testing. In addition, management action has re-baselined schedule to support industry test commencement. Further details on the status are available on slides 20 and 21 of the accompanying slide pack.

5.2 October 2023 Update

(Slides 22-28)

Fast Frequency Response

Chris Muffett (Slides 23-24)

- AEMO provided an update on FFR and advised that the initiative status remains amber due to delays with testing. Further information is available on slides 23 and 24 of the accompanying slide pack.

Increased MT PASA Information

Chris Muffett (Slides 25-26)

- AEMO provided an update on Increase MT PASA Information and advised that the overall status is on track. Further information is available on slides 25 and 26 of the accompanying slide pack.
- Industry testing will commence towards the end of October and will enable industry to test their interface.

¹ <https://aemo.com.au/energy-systems/electricity/national-electricity-market-nem/market-operations/retail-and-metering>

5 Minute Load Profiling

Meghan Bibby (Slides 27-28)

- AEMO provided an update on 5MLP and advised that the overall status is on track with developments in progress. Further information is available on slides 27 and 28 of the accompanying slide pack.

5.3 November 2023 Update

(Slides 29-31)

CDR Tranche 3 & CDR MSATS LCCD, Metering Exemptions

Meghan Bibby (Slides 30-31)

- AEMO has finalised the change of the date for the population of the last consumer change date and is currently in the process of publishing the draft report for metering exemptions changes. Further information is available on slides 30 and 31 of the accompanying slide pack.

5.4 June 2024 Update

(Slides 32-35)

Integrating Energy Storage Systems (IESS)

Emily Brodie (Slides 33-35)

- AEMO provided an update on IESS June 2024 release and advised that the overall status as red with details outlined on slide 33 of the accompanying slide pack.
- AEMO presented the June 2024 release timeline with key areas identified on slide 34 of the accompanying slide pack.

5.5 June 2025 Update

(Slides 36-38)

Frequency Performance Payments (FPP)

Oliver Derum (Slides 37-38)

- AEMO advised that the FPP will provide an extended period of non-financial operation for participant validation. Scope/approach of Industry testing is yet to be confirmed.
- AEMO advised that a focus group session to review proposed timelines and dependencies will be scheduled for 30 June with invitations to be sent to participants shortly.
- Further information is available on slides 37 and 38 of the accompanying slide pack.

6 Foundational & Strategic Initiatives

Andrew Bell & Ulrika Lindholm (Slides 39-44)

- AEMO advised that the consultation has reached the halfway mark with the next session looking at the transition strategy followed by the final stage which will outline the conclusions and business case. Further details are outlined on slide 40 of the accompanying slide pack.
- AEMO presented an indicative view of the level of alignment on the conceptual target state across the three initiatives.
- AEMO advised that a recent reschedule of the remaining workshops have been issued with dates outlined on slide 42 of the accompanying slide pack.
- AEMO put forward an executive engagement approach and outlined two options for consideration on slide 43 of the accompanying slide pack. Members were asked to provide their preferred option by COB 21 June.

Raised by	Question/Issue Raised	Response
Helen Vassos – PLUS ES	Can heads up on content be given earlier than 1 week in advance of workshops to facilitate resourcing?	Noted for consideration by AEMO Project team
Yvonne Tuckett - Origin Energy	<p>When we talk about the business case and assessing the benefits and costs of these initiatives, where is AEMO considering cost to the industry as a whole?</p> <p>Is there scope for participants providing quantum of impacts through offline conversations?</p> <p>Adding industry's rough order of magnitude to AEMO's estimates would be helpful to understand whether the changes stack up and over what timeline. Without it we would be going into an approval process based on a very small part of a big picture.</p>	<p>AEMO is working towards a 'Business Case Lite' to balance the upfront investment in this feasibility phase with a fit for purpose outcome that allows a decision to be made on how to move forward. Given that the project is in the feasibility phase, AEMO won't look to gather individual per participant costing due to the technical and procedural specificity that would be required and the effort required by industry to do so.</p> <p>The business case will have qualitative benefits with order of magnitude quantitative estimates to allow for comparison between options. AEMO is looking at modelling that can provide cost ranges and intend to seek input from participants as to whether those cost ranges are appropriate for the purpose of this assessment. AEMO is open to also have offline conversations with interested participants and will follow this up.</p>
	<p>When we talk about the transition strategy, it's important that we understand over the next 3-4 years that these initiatives are considered in light of the types of regulatory changes that are already planned and coming and what does it mean for the rest of the market as a whole and how does it play out for participants in that market (who have to comply with a lot of changes at once). These initiatives don't exist in isolation. Desire for this to be covered as part of Session 5: Business Case and any discussions held at an Executive Forum.</p>	<p>This is in line with what's planned. AEMO is encouraging a healthy debate to get to the best model across industry to represent the best way forward.</p>
	<p>PCF members likely to be responsible for coming up with estimates. It's a big effort, especially alongside other initiatives currently going on, and can take 1month-6 weeks to get a rough quantum together. Call out to the PCF members to come to the Exec forum with the information necessary to be able to assess industry impact.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
	<p>Can the updated version of the meeting pack be shared with participants?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>
	<p>Noting that the Exec Forum isn't up and running and functioning as a group and that coming together for the first time on this topic could be a challenge.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

Raised by	Question/Issue Raised	Response
<p>David Woods - SA Power Networks</p>	<p>I'm not clear on what we're signing up for as part of the business case step in the IDX, IDAM, Portal Consolidation process. Clear information from AEMO on what role the business case plays and input from industry means to any implementation next steps is critical as part of asking industry for input.</p>	<p>The business case summarises the outcomes from workshops with stakeholders throughout this consultation, including problems/drivers for change, outcomes that we are looking to achieve, the target state, options for how that is delivered and an assessment in terms of costs and benefit.</p> <p>The ask from industry will be to answer is whether investment in this beyond the feasibility phase is justified. Likely options include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. do nothing, 2. accelerated transition, 3. longer/slower approach to deployment of the capability. This work is in progress for AEMO. <p>A consensus on one of the transition approaches would lead AEMO to initiate another phase of consultation to get down into the specifics of updating delivery specifications and updates to procedures.</p>
	<p>Are there aspects of the business case that industry does not have influence on, and how will AEMO act if most of the industry says they don't want to move forward?</p>	<p>AEMO will seek industry insights to help inform the business case for progressing these reforms.</p> <p>AEMO would be unlikely to progress initiatives that do not have broad industry support.</p> <p>In a scenario where industry strongly opposes progressing such initiatives AEMO will revert to participant feedback to help inform next steps.</p>
<p>Dino Ou - IntelliHUB</p>	<p>Does a go-ahead from executives mean that it's a go-ahead all the way up to implementation? Or is this a go-ahead to do some more detailed work leading to another decision?</p>	<p>If an industry consensus to move forward is achieved, all changes will be dealt with in accordance with the existing and appropriate governance and change process in the NEM.</p>
	<p>It would be helpful if AEMO is able to document the process to provide clarity to industry.</p>	<p>AEMO will set out in the business case what a decision to proceed means.</p> <p>The outcome of the work on the transition strategy will help inform this, as it will tell us what services would be changed first, which in turn will determine the steps and governance structures that are relevant.</p>
<p>Inger Wills - Powercor</p>	<p>What is the ask from the PCF on exec engagement?</p>	<p>In the business case, AEMO expect to come up with a recommendation and will be seeking industry consensus that it's worth spending the money needed to move forward.</p> <p>The question to PCF members at this early stage, is, what is the best way to build industry consensus around a position?</p>

Raised by	Question/Issue Raised	Response
	It would be the first time the Exec forum met and so having this topic on the agenda for the first meeting would perhaps not be suitable.	Noted.
Sean Jennings - Red Energy	Red Energy has not received the updated invitations to workshops 4 and 5. Can I clarify that they have been sent?	These invitations were sent on 5 June. AEMO will investigate and confirm back to participants.

7 NEM2025 Forums Update (Slides 45-50)

NEM Reform Forum Update David Reynolds (Slide 46)

- Overview and update of NEM Reform program forums and respective focus areas.

NEM Reform General & Roadmap Briefings Feedback Update Ulrika Lindholm (Slides 47- 50)

- AEMO provided an overview of the recent NEM Reform General and Roadmap briefing. AEMO highlighted some feedback received with key findings outlined on slide 49 of the accompanying slide pack.

8 NEM Reform Implementation Roadmap Update Lance Brooks (Slides 51-52)

Operational Security Mechanism Lance Brooks (Slides 47- 50)

- AEMO provided an update on the Operations Security Mechanism initiative and advised that the AEMC have shifted the focus and have indicated that investigation will be carried out in relation to system strength, inertia and the Network Support and Control Ancillary Services (NSCAS) frameworks. Details on the AEMC's proposed forward are available on their website².

9 Upcoming engagements (Slides 53-56)

Upcoming Engagements David Reynolds (Slide 54)

- Overview of NEM Reform engagements for the next four months.

Fee Consultation Update Lance Brooks (Slides 55-56)

- AEMO advised that the target date for the final report will be 30 June 2023. Further information is outlined on slide 56 of the accompanying slide pack.

10 General Questions and Other business Peter Carruthers (Slide 10)

- Queries and feedback may be sent to NEMReform@aemo.com.au.

² https://www.aemc.gov.au/news-centre/media-releases/new-focus-osm-places-emphasis-managing-transition?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=AEMC-Update-25-May-2023&utm_content=aemc.gov.au%2Fnews-centre%2Fmedia-releases%2Fnew-focus-osm-places-emphasis-managing-transition&utm_source=cust49597.au.v6send.net

OPEN ACTION ITEMS

(Ref: Item = Meeting number/Agenda item number/Ref)

#	Topic	Action	Responsible	Status
8.6.0.1	Foundational & Strategic Initiatives	PCF members to give feedback on preferred approach to forming industry consensus on the business case by COB 21 June to NEMReform@aemo.com.au .	Participants	Open
8.6.0.2	Foundational & Strategic Initiatives	AEMO to consider providing earlier visibility of workshop contents to facilitate resource allocation for participants.	AEMO	Open
8.6.0.3	Foundational & Strategic Initiatives	AEMO to engage with interested participants on supplementing modelling of estimates for the business case with specific estimates.	AEMO	Open
8.6.0.4	Foundational & Strategic Initiatives	AEMO to confirm that rescheduling of calendar invites was completed, and re-issue invite to Red Energy.	AEMO	Open

CLOSED ACTION ITEMS

(Ref: Item = Meeting number/Agenda item number/Ref)

#	Topic	Action	Responsible	Status
7.4.1	CDR pt 2, B2Bv3.8, ICFs	AEMO to share link to the updated tech spec with PCF members.	AEMO	Closed
7.5.5	June 2024 Update	Participants to provide feedback on IESS readiness approach timing and IESS participant impacts, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Settlement impacts • Level of interest in a further IESS settlement information session. • Indicative timing for readiness documents • Completeness and accuracy of participant impacts • Areas for further consideration Feedback to be sent by emailing iess@aemo.com.au by Friday 19 May.	Participants	Closed
7.8.0	NEM Reform Implementation Roadmap Update	Participants to email NEMReform@aemo.com.au to request a changed marked version of the NEM Reform Implementation Roadmap v2.	Participants	Closed
		AEMO to provide a change-marked version of the artefacts to requesting participants	AEMO	Closed