DRAFT MINUTES – GAS RETAIL CONSULTATIVE FORUM (GRCF)

MEETING:	146
DATE:	Thursday 28 October 2021.
TIME:	11.00 AM – 1.00 PM AWST (2.00 PM – 4.00 PM AEDT)
LOCATION:	AEMO Offices and Teleconference
CONTACT:	GRCF@aemo.com.au

ATTENDEES:

NAME	COMPANY	LOCATION
Danny McGowan (Chair)	AEMO	Teleconference
Carol Poon	AEMO	Teleconference
Lenard Bull	AEMO	Teleconference
Nandu Datar	AEMO	Teleconference
Arjun Pathy	AEMO	Teleconference
Sophie Williams	AEMO	Teleconference
Prachi Kamat	ActewAGL	Teleconference
Rick Abbott	AGIG	Teleconference
Sue Richardson	Agility CIS	Teleconference
Mark Riley	AGL	Teleconference
Paul Bresloff-Barry	Agora Retail	Teleconference
Catherine Rousch	Alinta Energy	Teleconference
Joe Sanches	ATCO Gas	Teleconference
Justin Betlehem	AusNet Services	Teleconference
Robert Gubbins	CGI	Teleconference
Patrick Lau	CovaU	Teleconference
Lipakshi Dhar	Economic Regulation Authority WA	Teleconference
Jo Sullivan	EnergyAustralia	Teleconference
Marc Flynn	Jemena Gas Networks	Teleconference
Nina Telford	Kleenheat	Teleconference
Bab Kamath	Momentum Energy	Teleconference
Kelly Murray	Multinet Gas Networks	Teleconference
Mario Iogha	Origin Energy	Teleconference
Camille Hymer	Pacific Hydro	Teleconference
Sean Jennings	Red and Lumo Energy	Teleconference
Adam Graves	Synergy	Teleconference
Karthi Mahalingham	Synergy	Teleconference
Gerrod Murphy	Weston Energy	Teleconference

DRAFT

1. Welcome, Apologies and AEMO Competition Law Meeting Protocol – Danny McGowan (AEMO)

Danny McGowan (AEMO) welcomed GRCF participants to the meeting.

Sarah Silbert (AGL) was an apology.

Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted AEMO's Competition Law Policy.

2. Agenda confirmation – Danny McGowan (AEMO)

Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that AEMO had one item to add to agenda item 8 regarding the Q4 2021 release.

The GRCF confirmed the meeting agenda.

3. Accept previous meeting minutes and action items – Danny McGowan (AEMO)

The GRCF accepted the meeting minutes for the previous meeting. Action items have been updated in the table attached.

4. Requirements to include authorised helpdesk contact (as per Gas ROCL) when sending request to AEMO – Carol Poon (AEMO)

Carol Poon (AEMO) noted that AEMO had received some questions regarding the requirement to include an authorised helpdesk contact for certain requests to AEMO (e.g., FRO history) and asked for the GRCF's views on retaining that requirement. The GRCF broadly expressed that the requirement should remain and requested that AEMO send an email to the GRCF explaining the requirement to include an authorised helpdesk contact (**Action item 146.4.1**). *Secretariat note: this action item has been completed; see email from rmo@aemo.com.au sent on 28 October 2021 with subject "GRCF meeting 28 Oct agenda item 4 - Authorised helpdesk contact".*

5. Issues and Change Register – Danny McGowan (AEMO)

Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that no items had been added to the Issues and Change Register since the previous meeting.

Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted, as per the email sent to the GRCF on 22 September 2021, that the following item had been withdrawn:

- IN001/20W (Bundled WA explicit informed consent process review)

6. 2021 Gas and Electricity Retail Consultations Calendar – Danny McGowan (AEMO)

Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted the changes to the 2021 Gas and Electricity Retail Consultations Calendar.

7. 2022 prioritisation session – Danny McGowan (AEMO)

Danny McGowan (AEMO) spoke to the paper for the 2022 prioritisation session.

Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that WA may also need to consult on hydrogen-related changes in 2022. The GRCF noted that participants should liaise with Energy Policy WA (EPWA) to evaluate whether EPWA should ask AEMO to review the WA RMP. *Secretariat note: In relation the WA hydrogen discussion, click here to view the hydrogen consultation paper published on the website of the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources. Section 1.3 of the paper notes NGL amendments will flow through to all jurisdictions except Western Australia.*

Mark Riley (AGL) noted AGL's belief that AEMO should undertake a holistic review of gas metrology. Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that AEMO would most likely not have adequate

DRAFT

legal resources to review metrology changes and therefore a holistic review of gas metrology would not be feasible in 2022.

Sean Jennings (Red / Lumo) noted Red / Lumo's support for a limited business-as-usual scope of GRCF initiatives for 2022.

The GRCF broadly expressed that initiatives requiring a schema change should not be pursued until 2023.

The GRCF endorsed:

- AEMO's proposed prioritisation and planning strategy in 2022, as described in Section 4 of the paper.
- The following items (as per Section 5 of the paper) as consultation candidates to progress in 2022:
    - IN007/21 – Amend the gas regulatory framework to accommodate hydrogen and biogas (east coast).
    - IN000/00 – Add Customer Own Read (CORs) provisions into the SA RMP. Currently the SA RMP don't mention anything about CORs whereas other East Coast RMPs provide some details about the COR process. This is a documentation change only *Secretariat note: This has been assigned IN001/22.*
    - Bundled minor documentation changes:
        - IN009/21 – Minor corrections following 29 November 2021 release. These changes are collated in the "List of Documentation Anomalies", which has been circulated with the monthly bulletins for the 2021 release.
        - IN006/21 – Clarification of purpose and content of B2B Service Order Specifications - Part 1
        - IN004/21W – Add a new Appendix to the Connectivity Testing and Technical Certification (WA Only) document that shows the required transactions for certification per role.
        - IN011/18 – Remove erroneous quotations marks in the NSW/ACT technology protocol Participant Build Pack (PBP) 5.
- AEMO's proposal in Section 6 of the paper to review initiatives that have been on the register for more than 5 years.

The GRCF noted that the following new initiatives would be added to the register but would not be part of the 2022 program of work:

- IN000/00 - Update Gas Estimation / Substitution Reason Codes (See also IN030/15). *Secretariat note: This has been assigned IN002/22*
- IN000/00 - DSD service order – dealing with scenario of temporary disconnection at a path valve (e.g. where a disconnection reading is not possible to be collected). *Secretariat note: This has been assigned IN003/22*
- IN00/000 - Volume Boundary Meters – a form of market indicator / flag (interim solution and potential longer term solution) - note this is independent of IN004/20 which is to address estimation and validation improvements. *Secretariat note: This has been assigned IN004/22*
- IN000/00 - Additional fields on SCR / MFX service orders – Builder's details (currently plumber and customer details are catered for and builder's details are important in the new homes segment of new connections). *Secretariat note: This has been assigned IN005/22*

DRAFT

8. Other Business (all) – Danny McGowan (AEMO)

Arjun Pathy (AEMO) noted that AEMO had received a number of questions regarding the Mandatory/Optional/Required status of fields in transactions introduced by the Q4 2021 Gas Retail System Changes package. Arjun noted that, if an element was "optional" according to the schema, then participants should not be rejecting transactions that did not contain that element as schema-invalid. *Secretariat note: further information on the meaning of mandatory/optional/required statuses is contained on page 15 of the [Participant Build Pack 2: Usage Guide](#)*.

9. Next GRCF meeting – Danny McGowan (AEMO)

Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that the next GRCF meeting would be 18 November 2021.

10. Proposal to address concerns identified regarding IN004/20 – Arjun Pathy (AEMO)

Arjun Pathy (AEMO) provided an update regarding the proposed RMP changes for IN004/20 (BL and TSF changes in NSW/ACT). Arjun thanked AGL, JGN, and Red / Lumo for their work in drafting proposed RMP changes that addressed both the original requirements raised by JGN and the concerns raised by Red / Lumo in Red / Lumo's submission to the IIR consultation. Arjun noted that the three parties had written the new RMP changes to meet the following drafting approach:

- Remove the originally proposed "Residential Medium Density / High Rise Customer" characterisation to decouple gas meters with associated hot water meters from customer characterisation
- Add additional clauses (ix) to cater for gas meters with an associated hot water meter without referencing customer characterisations.
- Tabularise the way that volume boundary meters, volume boundary hybrid meters, and gas meters with an associated hot water meter will source their data for BL and TSF as well as the clauses that describe the calculations for the BL and TSF.

Arjun Pathy (AEMO) noted that AEMO had performed a legal review of the proposed RMP changes and had made some additional editorial edits to clarify the intent of the changes. Arjun noted that the drafting approach had changed significantly from that proposed in IN004/20 (e.g., the removal of the "residential medium density / high rise customer" category), and so—as flagged at the preceding GRCF—the new changes would have to proceed under a new initiative to reflect the new drafting approach. On this basis, AEMO asked whether Jemena Gas Networks was comfortable to withdraw IN004/20 in order that AEMO can proceed with a new initiative to reflect the updated drafting approach. Marc Flynn (Jemena Gas Networks) confirmed that JGN withdrew IN004/20. *Secretariat note: the initiative number for the new initiative is IN011/21.*

Arjun Pathy (AEMO) further noted that AEMO would be seeking GRCF endorsement of the RMP changes before AEMO published the IIR for IN011/21. Arjun proposed that AEMO would send the updated RMP changes to the GRCF, with feedback due COB 16 November 2021, after which point AEMO would address any feedback and then publish the IIR (**Action item 146.10.1**). The GRCF endorsed this approach.

11. Other Business (east coast) – Danny McGowan (AEMO)

Danny McGowan (AEMO) closed the meeting.

DRAFT

Action items raised at meeting #146

Item	Topic	Action required	Responsible	By
146.4.1	AEMO to send email regarding requirement to include authorised helpdesk contact	AEMO is to send an email to the GRCF explaining the requirement to include an authorised helpdesk contact.	Carol Poon (AEMO)	Completed
146.10.1	AEMO to send updated RMP changes for BL and TSF initiative	AEMO is to send to the GRCF the updated RMP changes regarding the changes to BL and TSF in NSW, with feedback due COB 16 November 2021.	Arjun Pathy (AEMO)	Completed

DRAFT

Action items raised prior to meeting #145

Item	Topic	Action required	Responsible	By
145.6.1	Alternative B2B contact for cutover weekend	AEMO to investigate including a list of "alternative B2B contact addresses for the cutover weekend" following the "Industry Lead Contact During the Cutover Period" table in the Industry Cutover Plan.	Arjun Pathy (AEMO)	Completed
145.8.1	Updated changes for IN004/20	Marc Flynn (JGN), Sean Jennings (Red and Lumo Energy), and Mark Riley (AGL) to reformulate the changes from IN004/20 to address Red / Lumo's concerns.	Mark Flynn (JGN, Sean Jennings (Red and Lumo Energy), and Mark Riley (AGL)	Completed
137.7.1	GMI on customer self-reads	Nina Telford (Wesfarmers Kleenheat) to develop a GMI on Kleenheat's desired changes regarding customer self reads. November 2020 update: Wesfarmers Kleenheat continues work on this item and will continue to keep AEMO and the GRCF informed of progress. March 2021 update: No update. April 2021 update: No update. June 2021 update: No update. August 2021 update: Mark Riley (AGL advised that he would contact Kleenheat, about actioning this action item when the NSW/ACT self-read consultation (IN001/21) concludes.	Nina Telford (Wesfarmers Kleenheat)	Next GRCF meeting

DRAFT