

## MINUTES – WA Electricity Stakeholder Consultation Forum

MEETING: 1  
 DATE: Tuesday, 12 April 2016  
 TIME: 2:00pm to 4:00pm  
 LOCATION: AEMO WA Office; 197 St Georges Tce, Perth  
 CONTACT: wa@aemo.com.au

### ATTENDEES:

NAME	COMPANY
Cameron Parrotte	AEMO
Sandra McLaren	AEMO
Courtney Roberts	AEMO
John Rhodes	Alinta Energy
Tim McLeod	Amanda Australia Pty Ltd
Michael Brooks	ATCO Australia
Timothy Rosser	Blair Fox Pty Ltd
Shaun McLagan	Bluewaters Power
Gemma O'Reilly	Collgar Wind Farm
Steve Gould	Community Electricity
Rajat Sarawat	Economic Regulation Authority
Elizabeth Walters	Economic Regulation Authority
Geoff Hobley	EDL LNG (WA) Pty Ltd
Kristian Myhre	Future Effect Pty Ltd
Denise Ooi	Kleenheat
Tony Leahy	Landfill Gas and Power Pty Ltd
Geoff Gaston	Perth Energy
Bryon McLaughlin	Public Utilities Office
Susanna Floth	Skyfarming
Emily Alford	South32 Worsley Alumina Pty Ltd
Angelo Dagostino	South32 Worsley Alumina Pty Ltd
Hans Dopheide	South32 Worsley Alumina Pty Ltd
Jason Froud	Synergy
Jacinda Papps	Synergy
Dean Sharafi	System Management
Chi Hong	Tesla Corporation Pty Ltd
Morgan Peart	Transalta
Peter Huxtable	Water Corporation
Matthew Cronin	Western Power
Shane Duryea	Western Power
Dean Frost	Western Power
Andy Kondola	Western Power
Adam Peard	Western Power
Shaun Pethick	Western Power
Andrew Walker	Western Power

## 1. Welcome

Sandra McLaren (Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO)) opened the meeting at 2:05pm welcoming attendees to the first AEMO electricity stakeholder consultation forum in WA.

## 2. Top issues in WA today

Sandra McLaren invited Cameron Parrotte (AEMO) to present an update on recent events in the industry.

Cameron Parrotte provided an update on the Electricity Market Review (EMR) and AEMO's structure and role in the Wholesale Electricity Market (WEM) going forward. Cameron Parrotte highlighted the key milestones and split of functions between AEMO, the Independent Market Operator (IMO), Western Power and the Economic Regulation Authority (ERA) resulting from the EMR.

Cameron Parrotte noted that all of the information in relation to the EMR is available on the Public Utilities Office (PUO) website.

The presentation along with AEMO contact details will be circulated after the forum. (Action item 2.1) Stakeholders with any questions or further comments are invited to contact Cameron Parrotte at [Cameron.Parrotte@aemo.com.au](mailto:Cameron.Parrotte@aemo.com.au).

## 3. Building a stakeholder engagement plan for WA

Sandra McLaren outlined the purpose of the forum highlighting that transparency is a key focus for AEMO and invited stakeholders to give their views on how they would like to see AEMO engage with them in the future.

### ***Market website***

Jacinda Papps (Synergy) noted that the market data component of the website that feeds into the visualisations is highly valued and is a very useful tool which participants use every day to conduct their business. Stakeholders noted their strong need for the visualisations on the website to remain as is. Jacinda Papps also raised concerns about the content on the website and that some of the history around the development of the WEM has been lost and the market website is becoming harder to navigate. Jacinda Papps highlighted the importance of keeping the history and information around rule changes from market start available on the website for participant's convenience.

Timothy Rosser (Blair Fox Pty Ltd) added that references in WEM Market Procedures are directing participants to pages that are buried deep within other areas of the website and noted that necessary information is becoming increasingly difficult to source. Timothy Rosser noted the importance for stakeholder consultation on any changes to WEMS as not all participants have the same resources available to implement updates.

### ***Reserve Capacity Mechanism***

Peter Huxtable (Water Corporation) highlighted that participants will need guidance during the certification process for the 2015 reserve capacity cycle that is fast approaching when the new WEM rules take effect. Geoff Gaston (Perth Energy) suggested that AEMO put in place some strategy to educate and help participants understand the new rules to avoid misinterpretation and potential breaches in the market. Jacinda Papps noted an example of a change to ramp rates and fuel requirements under the new rules and that there is a need for clarity around this in terms of what AEMO's requirements are for participants to satisfy them and suggested that AEMO continue to hold information sessions for participants at the start of the reserve capacity cycle.

### ***System Security***

Dean Frost (Western Power) raised concerns around system security in the south country and the need for these to be addressed strategically by considering 'where we want to be and how we can get there'. It was noted that Western Power would like support from AEMO in addressing these issues. Dean Sharafi (System Management) noted the benefits of the information around network connections being more transparent to the market. Stakeholders agreed upon a need for something similar to the National Transmission Network Development Plan (NTDP) to be developed for the WEM and expressed interest in providing input into its development.

### ***Branding***

Dean Frost noted the usefulness of the IMO's strong branding in the past, particularly for making stakeholders aware of market objectives (e.g. displaying the objectives on the boardroom wall) and questioned whether AEMO would be doing something similar moving forward? Sandra McLaren advised that this would be followed up. (Action item 3.1)

### ***Timelines around EMR***

Stakeholders noted the need for more visibility and increased communication around EMR timelines and suggested that AEMO develop ways to inform and prepare the market on upcoming dates, what the market structure looks like now and what it will look like post implementation.

### ***General Business***

Dean Sharafi noted the Market Advisory Committee's (MAC) absence in recent months and highlighted the importance of their role in the WEM. Dean Sharafi further noted that participants are feeling that they are losing the opportunity to voice market issues or concerns and that the MAC needs to be substituted. Hans Dopheide (South32 Worsley Alumina Pty Ltd) indicated that a forum be established where a wider group of stakeholders be included and also suggested there be one portal for market information which could house contact details, industry related events, training, etc.. Jacinda Papps suggested that AEMO implement a subscription service where participants can subscribe to relevant mailing lists. (Action Item 3.2)

Stakeholders noted that more clarity and communication is needed around the roles that industry bodies will have in the WEM going forward. It appears that participants are unclear as to who to go for differing questions. Matthew Cronin (Western Power) acknowledged that while the industry has little influence in these reforms due to policy decisions, AEMO can play a role in informing the industry of these changes.

It was agreed that a more personable service would be preferred when dealing with AEMO. Jacinda Papps highlighted that the IMO had the company organisation structure on the website which enabled participants to have that direct contact. Participants prefer knowing the key contact that is dealing with their query so they don't always have to go through a generic email address. Susanna Floth (Skyfarming) noted that being a small market participant makes it very difficult to contribute and influence the direction of the EMR. Susanna Floth also highlighted the role of the MAC which enables small market participants to be represented as well as provides visibility on issue accountability to Industry.

It was raised that information feeding through to participants has not been consistent. An example was given where participants were advised at the AEMO breakfast that there were two reserve capacity cycles happening this year, yet participants were later advised that there will be only one. This gives the impression that the government is running a reform that isn't transparent and as a result leaves participants with a sense of disempowerment.

As raised in the gas stakeholder forum, Bryon McLaughlin noted that in the past, the PUO has had open and timely one-on-one communications with System Management during electricity supply disruption incidents and advised that it would be preferred that this healthy relationship continue and it was asked

that, with the merging of System Management with AEMO, no additional layers of management impede the timely and accurate flow of information.

Shaun Pethick (Western Power) noted concerns related to the tight EMR timeframes and to the availability of resources necessary to complete this work overall. He provided an example of timelines of transition work that are not being met for legal agreements. Matthew Cronin added that the lack of transparency around information processes contributes to deadlines not being met.

Attendees stated they were keen to understand AEMO's key EMR leads, AEMO's EMR plan, how industry can feed in to this and understand what is required of them. Potentially AEMO should consider a single portal for EMR information which can provide up to date information, particularly relating to actions required of participants. Given the WEM is becoming more NEM like, there may be benefit in some overview sessions on the NEM and AEMO's NEM systems.

Dean Sharafi questioned stakeholders views on the generator forums held by System Management. Stakeholders advised that these forums have been extremely valuable to the industry and should be continued however there could be improvements in advertising and/or the registration for these forum.

Stakeholders noted their concerns about not having adequate time to learn the new rules. Susanna Floth highlighted that the IMO was very proactive in working with participants and assisting with compliance. It was clearly noted that stakeholders would like guidance and support from AEMO when the new rules are released to prevent any breaches. It was suggested that WEM Market Procedures remain updated and readily available on the website for participants and that ad-hoc information sessions be held on the changes to the market.

#### **4. Next steps**

Sandra McLaren advised participants that a stakeholder engagement plan will be developed based on today's discussions and will be circulated to attendees finalised. (Action Item 4.1)

#### **5. Close**

Sandra McLaren thanked stakeholders for their contributions and closed the meeting at 3:35pm.

**Action items raised at meeting - WA Electricity Stakeholder Consultation Forum**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Action required</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>By</b>
<b>2.1</b>	Top issues in WA today	AEMO to circulate presentation provided on 'Electricity Market Review in WA' along with C. Parrotte and S. McLaren's contact details.	AEMO	
<b>3.1</b>	Building a stakeholder engagement plan for WA	Sandra McLaren to look into ways to strengthen AEMO's branding in the industry and displaying the market objectives.	AEMO	
<b>3.2</b>	WA mailing list subscription service	AEMO to develop a subscription service for participants to subscribe to relevant mailing lists.	AEMO	
<b>4.1</b>	WA Stakeholder Engagement Plan	AEMO to develop a WA Stakeholder Engagement Plan and circulate to participants for consideration.	AEMO	