



Reliability Panel governance arrangements

Final determination and final rule published

The Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) has made a rule that clarifies and updates some of the Reliability Panel's (Panel) governance arrangements.

Final rule

The final rule amends the National Electricity Rules to:

- clarify some existing clauses relating to Panel governance
- update some clauses to align with the Panel's existing practices
- address some matters relating to the current governance of the Panel.

In relation to the Panel composition, and appointment and removal of members, the final rule:

- provides for an appointment of an Acting Chair on a standing basis
- requires the Panel to broadly represent stakeholders with direct interests not only in reliability, but also in the security and safety of electricity supply
- outlines the purpose of discretionary Panel members
- extends the exemption for independence from system operators to the Panel member representing distribution network service providers
- requires the AEMC to have regard to majority opinion when making appointments from classes of Registered Participants
- clarifies the circumstances for removal of a Panel member.

In relation to consultation procedures, the final rule:

- removes the Annual Market Performance Review consultation requirement
- provides for the Panel consultation process to be applied for amendments to the established Reliability standard and settings guidelines
- makes a public meeting for the Panel review process optional, not mandatory
- provides for notices and reports from the Panel to be published on the AEMC website.

In relation to the timing and publication of specific reports and reviews, the final rule:

- provides for AEMO's report on accuracy of its demand forecasts to be published on AEMO's website, removing the requirement for the Panel to publish them
- aligns publication of the Panel's Annual Market Performance Reviews to the financial year, not calendar year.

The final rule has been made in response to a rule change request submitted by the Reliability Panel. It starts on 1 July 2018.

Commission's reasons

The Commission considered that the rule will contribute to the achievement of the National Electricity Objective by promoting effective execution of responsibilities, transparency, and appropriate and timely consultation processes.

For information contact:

AEMC Senior Adviser, **Emily Brodie** (02) 8296 7818

AEMC Graduate Adviser, **Olga Iaroshevskaya** (02) 8296 0613

Media: Communication Director, **Prudence Anderson** 0404 821 935 or (02) 8296 7817

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