

23 May 2019

Mr John Pierce,
Chairman,
Australian Energy Market Commission
Level 5, 201 Elizabeth St
Sydney, NSW 2000

Dear Mr Pierce

Transparency of New projects

I refer to the AEMC's current consultation on the three Rule change request relating to transparency of new projects in the National Electricity Market (NEM).

ESCO Pacific is a leading developer of utility scale solar power plants in Australia and supports the Rule change request as the confidentiality provisions under the current Rules prevents NSPs from sharing any information received through the connection process. The proposed Rule change seeks to improve the transparency of information provided to NSPs in relation to connections. These information are basic information received from connection applicants (proponent name, size, location, estimated completion date, primary technology and function) about new and proposed connections to assist connecting parties optimise connection outcomes.

- Consolidated consideration of Rule change proposals – ESCO Pacific considers the three Rule change proposals are complementary and agrees it is desirable to deal with the proposals together.
- Better coordination between generation and transmission – ESCO Pacific understands that there is currently a significant amount of generation seeking to connect to the network in the same location at similar times. Under current arrangements, potential connection applicants may be unaware of opportunities to collaborate and otherwise have limited access to information that would support more efficient commercial decisions.
- Non-commercially sensitive information – ESCO Pacific agrees that transparency of information is a key requirement for the efficient operation of the NEM. Access to the latest available and reliable information by utility scale solar farms developers like ESCO Pacific can facilitate more efficient commercial, operational and planning decisions and ultimately lead to optimal outcomes that lower costs for consumers.

Kind Regards,



Kate Osaze,
Grid Connections Manager