

Consultation on transparency and duration of MT PASA

AEMC invites submissions on consultation paper

The Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) has commenced consultation on changes which seek to improve transparency and accuracy of the medium-term projected assessment of system adequacy (MT PASA), and to extend its outlook from two to three years. Submissions close on 15 August 2019.

Background

The MT PASA is a forecasting exercise that assesses the adequacy of electricity supply to meet demand across a two-year horizon, including through regular assessment of any projected failure to meet the reliability standard.

Under the National Electricity Rules, AEMO is required to produce multiple forecasts as part of the MT PASA, as well as publish multiple outputs. The forecasts include demand forecasts which AEMO uses as inputs into its assessment of the reliability standard. Generators are also required to provide their estimates on generation availability, which is then used by AEMO in the MT PASA process.

Overview of rule change request

On 31 March 2019 the Commission received two rule change requests from ERM Power which relate to the MT PASA. As both rule change requests seek changes to the MT PASA process, the Commission has consolidated these two rule change requests into one to best address any overlapping issues and facilitate efficient stakeholder engagement.

ERM Power's consolidated rule change request is seeking changes to the MT PASA in the following main areas:

- changes aimed at improving transparency and accuracy of generation availability data through the provision of individual generator availability data, the inclusion of committed generation in the MT PASA process and additional information on unplanned generator outages
- changes aimed at improving transparency and accuracy of demand forecasts through requiring AEMO to publish an additional demand forecast, increasing the frequency of demand forecast updates and simplifying the format of published demand.
- changes to extend the outlook of MT PASA from two to three years, i.e. market
 participants would be required to provide information for up to three years ahead, while
 AEMO would be required to forecast information and run the MT PASA process up to three
 years ahead.

Issues for consultation

The consultation paper sets out a range of questions for the purpose of seeking stakeholder feedback, including feedback on:

- the proposals relating to generation availability data, including any views on requiring AEMO to:
 - publish individual generation availability data, including any concerns around commercial-in-confidence information
 - include committed-type generation information in MT PASA

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- report maximum and minimum aggregate generation availability data
- the proposals relating to demand forecasts, including any views on requiring AEMO to:
 - forecast and publish an additional demand forecast in MT PASA
 - update its demand forecasts at least monthly
 - provide consistent types of demand in its forecasts.
- the proposal to extend the MT PASA outlook from being a two-year horizon to being a three-year horizon.

Stakeholders are encouraged to comment on these issues, the costs and benefits involved in the proposed changes and solutions, as well as any other aspect of the rule change request or the consultation paper, including the proposed assessment framework set out in the consultation paper.

Stakeholders have four weeks to respond, with submissions due by 15 August 2019.

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