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8 October 2024

Ms Anna Collyer Chair Australian Energy Market Commission

By online submission

Dear Ms Collyer

## Retraction of Electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) standing data Rule change request

On 12 December 2023, the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) submitted a Rule change request to the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) seeking to extend the scope of the Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Register data and collection framework to include standing data for EVSE. The Energy Security Board (ESB) recommended AEMO deliver this request as part of their EVSE Standing Data Consultations Outcomes Report<sup>1</sup>.

One of the key challenges identified in the Rule change request was the existing limitations in the compliance and enforcement framework for consumer energy resources (CER), which would have a direct effect on the quality and completeness of data collected. There are also broader distribution network service provider (DNSP) visibility challenges for most EV charging installations. These challenges were highlighted by several stakeholders in both the ESB's EVSE standing data consultation and in subsequent targeted engagement between AEMO and industry. These limitations cannot be addressed through changes to the National Electricity Rules (NER)<sup>2</sup>, so an alternative solution is needed.

In November 2023, Energy Ministers agreed to give consideration to implementing a national approach to technical regulatory settings for consumer energy resources in 2024 and to develop a National CER Roadmap – Powering Decarbonised Homes and Communities<sup>3</sup>. In line with this commitment, a National CER Roadmap was delivered to and endorsed by Ministers in July 2024<sup>4</sup>. The roadmap commits to an operational national regulatory framework for CER in 2026. This regulatory framework is a suitable solution to support the effective collection of standing data for EVSE from 2027. In August 2024 the interjurisdictional CER Working Group which has oversight of the roadmap agreed to adopt this solution to meet the tasking by Ministers. To align with these changes and positions, AEMO is seeking to formally retract its EVSE standing data Rule change request.

Improving the understanding of EV charging across the NEM remains a priority for AEMO, and I acknowledge the strong industry collaboration that led to the development of the Rule change proposal. One of the aspects that has become clear from AEMO's engagement to date is that improving EV visibility across the NEM will require multiple sources of information. Electric vehicles (EVs) are mobile resources, and not all EV users will be charging at a fixed location or

<sup>2</sup> AEMC (21 September 2023), Review into consumer energy resources technical standards, Final report, https://www.aemc.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-09/RCERTS%20Final%20Report.pdf.

11/ECMC%20Communique 24%20Nov%202023.docx.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Energy Security Board (June 2023), Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Standing Data Consultations Outcomes Report, <u>https://www.datocms-assets.com/32572/1688103470-attachment-b-evse-standing-data-consultation-paper-final-june-2023.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Energy and Climate Change Ministerial Council Meeting Communique Friday 24 November 2023, <u>https://www.energy.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Department of Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (July 2024), National Consumer Energy Resources Roadmap – Powering Decarbonised Homes and Communities, <u>national-consumer-energy-resources-roadmap.pdf</u>.



through hardwired chargers. The data ecosystem is also evolving, with both smart meters and smart devices becoming more prevalent across the NEM. More broadly, it's important to ensure any requirements to collect data are streamlined to ensure they do not disincentivise the uptake of smart chargers and that the responsible parties have the necessary incentives to comply.

AEMO is committed to pursue a non-regulatory work program in the short-term to capture other data relevant to EV charging, while we work with the interjurisdictional CER Working Group on the design of a future regulatory framework for improving EV and EVSE visibility. The non-regulatory work program will include collaboration with industry and governments, with a focus on leveraging existing databases and data sources to capture and share data with interested parties, subject to the appropriate data sharing protections.

AEMO looks forward to engaging with industry, governments and the AEMC on the next steps. Any queries concerning this letter should be directed to Kate Reid, Manager – Retail and DER Reform at kate.reid@aemo.com.au.

Yours sincerely,

Violette Mouchaileh Executive General Manager Reform Delivery