

8 September 2015

John Pierce
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Australian Energy Market Commission
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Dear Mr Pierce

AEMO Access to Demand Forecasting Information – Draft Rule Determination

AEMO welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the Commission's draft determination. We are pleased that the Commission's draft rule makes it clear that AEMO may collect information in order to prepare demand forecasts at the connection point and regional level. We support the substance of the Commission's proposed amendments to the National Electricity Rules (NER). We would like the Commission to consider further how the requirement for AEMO to publish related information would be implemented in practice.

The draft Rule provides that AEMO must publish its regional and connection point demand forecasts, including the information used to develop such forecasts. AEMO supports transparency as a general principle, noting that the existing provisions in NER 5.20.4 provide effective protection for confidential information.

AEMO uses very large volumes of data to develop our demand forecasts. Developing a platform that would allow us to publish all this information on our website in a manner that is usable by stakeholders will be a major task. AEMO utilises data at various levels, including half hourly load data, in our forecasting models. Data is sourced from both internal AEMO systems and external public sources, including the Australian Bureau of Statistics and rooftop PV data published by the Clean Energy Regulator. In some cases, a level of aggregation is required to comply with confidentiality requirements.

AEMO engages with stakeholders and interested parties on the methodologies, approach and assumptions that we use for our demand forecasting. We are currently seeking views on the type and format of supporting information that best meets the needs of stakeholders.

Given these matters of practicality, we propose the following amendment to draft Rule 5.20.4(b1):

"The NTNDP database must also include any forecasts prepared under clause 5.20.6(b), including the information used to develop such forecasts sufficient information to enable interested parties to understand how the forecasts have been developed."

If you have any questions regarding any aspects of this submission please do not hesitate to contact Craig Price, Group Manager Forecasting (Ph: 03 9609 8590).

Yours sincerely



Mark Stedwell
Chief Operating Officer (Acting)