



Register of large generator connections

Final determination and final rule published

The Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC or Commission) has made a rule in response to a rule change request received from the COAG Energy Council. The rule requires transmission network services providers (TNSPs) to establish, maintain and publish a register of information in respect of large generator connections and undertake impact assessments for new large generator connections to the transmission network.

Final rule

The AEMC has made a final rule, which is a more preferable rule, that requires TNSPs to establish, maintain and publish a register of information in respect of large generator connections. TNSPs would also be required to undertake impact assessments for new large generator connections to the transmission network to consider the impact of the generator's connection upon the transmission network.

The rule will commence on 1 July 2017.

Commission's reasons

The Commission has determined to make a final rule, since it considers it will contribute to the National Electricity Objective (NEO). This is because it considers the final rule is likely to promote efficient investment in electricity services with respect to price by increasing the level of transparency relating to the effect of transmission connections in the National Electricity Market (NEM). More effective sharing of information between generation and transmission sectors could lead to more efficient investment decisions.

The Commission has made a more preferable rule because it is satisfied that, having regard to the issues raised in the proposed rule, the final rule will likely better contribute to the NEO than the proposed rule. The final rule makes clear that, in Victoria, AEMO will be responsible for establishing, maintaining and publishing the register and impact assessment as the jurisdictional planning body for that jurisdiction, resulting in information being displayed consistently across that jurisdiction. A number of minor amendments to the proposed rule have also been made to clarify the operation of the provisions in response to stakeholder submissions.

Background

The rule change request arises from a recommendation made in the Optional Firm Access, Design and Testing (OFA) review. The OFA review concluded in June 2015, and, amongst other things, recommended increasing the level of transparency relating to the effect of transmission connection in the NEM on the network.

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