

**From:** Alan du Mee  
**Sent:** Friday, 17 August 2007 9:02 AM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** National Transmission Planner Scoping Paper - Broadening of Scope Submission

Dear AEMC

National Transmission Planner Scoping Paper - Broadening of Scope Submission

NTQ Energy has examined the proposed parameters for the National Transmission Planner Review. As a Transmission Project Promoter and Developer we have a very specific interest in the long term planning aspects of transmission infrastructure, the limitations of the current regulatory test applied by the ACCC and other instruments that limit long term and strategic transmission investments to small increments. Transmission infrastructure limitations risk becoming yet another Australian infrastructure bottleneck if we do not move more quickly.

NTQ Energy's greatest concern is that the review still enshrines the essentially state based grid system linked by small interconnectors, some as small as 5% of the capacity of adjoining states' generation capacity. This will do little to encourage development of national electricity market transmission infrastructure but will continue to support the patchwork of interlinked state based systems.

Generation businesses and large consumers watch with cynicism, frustration and occasional amusement, attempts to for instance expand the major 1000MW link from Queensland to NSW by just 270MW that has take years to get approved.


Power stations and large power consuming businesses are being developed in locations, not where it is best or most economic and in the national interest to position them but where transmission grids limitations allow them to be positioned to avoid transmission access risk. This most basic flaw in assessment processes means that the Reliability (least cost) and Market Benefits (NPV) tests enshrine the current structure of the grid that exists today.

Unless an even broader role is envisaged for the National Transmission Planner, which encompasses where economic generation should be based and that then allows and encourages transmission interconnection to be put in place to allow the locational decision for economic generation to be feasible, we will have achieved little in the way of freeing up a constrained state based system.

Only when such a National and Strategic role is envisaged can Australia start to envisage for instance, an east coast HVdc transmission grid to allow free and fair competition between electricity providers and their customers.

We therefore recommend that an even broader role be envisaged for the National Transmission Planner, which also takes into account where economic generation should be based and that then encourages transmission interconnection to be put in place to allow generation to be developed in the most economic location.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Alan du Mée, Director  
MSc MBA FAIM FAICD MIIE