

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2023 9:10 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback loop rule change request up on our website [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)

Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**

Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW

T [REDACTED]



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---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 13 July 2023 5:44 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@aemo.com.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>;  
[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback loop rule change request up on our website [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Hi [REDACTED]

We aren't sure if we will use the fast-tracked process on this one as we have heard some TNSPs now have differing views. It is a possibility though and it is something we will consider further. We are also considering consolidation with one of the other rule changes (e.g. ex post or EAP) but we haven't come to any recommended view at a staff level yet as it depends on timing.

We are conscious of all the guideline updates and will keep that in mind once we get to the rule change process. We will keep you all in the loop as we progress.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 3:52 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback loop rule change request up on our website [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks for the update, [REDACTED] Is this proposed to use the streamlined process?

With regards to when it'll come into effect, the AER would look to consolidate any guideline update from this rule with the other updates we need to make from other related reforms. If there's an urgent need to have it come into effect by a specific date we'd likely need to know early.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)  
Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**  
Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW  
T: [REDACTED]



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---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 13 July 2023 2:52 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@aemo.com.au>; [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Feedback loop rule change request up on our website

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Hi All

I hope you are well.

I wanted to let you know that the [feedback loop rule change request](#) has been received from Minster Bowen and is up on our website.

We are still working out timing for this rule change, and whether we would look to consolidate with any

of the other expected TPIR rule changes.

█ from AEMO's point of view, when does the rule change need to be in place? Noting that the proposed rule (as based on TPIR) requires changes to AER guidelines to give rise to the exclusion window. That means it wont be in place in time from Humelink.

Thanks

█  
█ Director  
**Australian Energy Market Commission**  
D █ | T █  
█ [@aemc.gov.au](mailto:█@aemc.gov.au) | [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2023 10:09 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback loop and emissions rule changes now on our website [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Yay! Thank you for the heads up [REDACTED] ☐☐

**From:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 2:43 PM  
**To:** Danielle Beinart <Danielle.Beinart@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Feedback loop and emissions rule changes now on our website

Good afternoon all

The rule change request for feedback loop, and well as the rule change requests for emissions are now on the AEMC's website.

You can find the feedback loop rule change [here](#).

The emissions rule change related to expenditure [here](#).

And the emissions rule change related to electricity network planning and investment and AER guidance [here](#).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Director  
**Australian Energy Market Commission**  
D [REDACTED] | T [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [@aemc.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au) | [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 4:00 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback loop rule change request up on our website

Hi [REDACTED]

Apologies for the delay in responding to this.

Neither the rules nor guidelines will not be in place for any upcoming feedback loop requests that we can foresee, so I think the urgency is low from an AEMO perspective. It's hard to say exactly when this needs to be in place given this. I hope that makes sense.

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
Manager - Transmission Reform, Reform Development & Insights



**Australian Energy Market Operator**

M [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au

L1/25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide 5000

[aemo.com.au](http://aemo.com.au)

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**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 13 July 2023 2:22 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@aemo.com.au>; [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Feedback loop rule change request up on our website

Hi All

I hope you are well.

I wanted to let you know that the [feedback loop rule change request](#) has been received from Minister Bowen and is up on our website.

We are still working out timing for this rule change, and whether we would look to consolidate with any of the other expected TPIR rule changes.

█ from AEMO's point of view, when does the rule change need to be in place? Noting that the proposed rule (as based on TPIR) requires changes to AER guidelines to give rise to the exclusion window. That means it wont be in place in time from Humelink.

Thanks

█

█ Director  
**Australian Energy Market Commission**  
D █ | T █  
█@aemc.gov.au | www.aemc.gov.au

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\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 2:00 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Community engagement rule change [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks for update [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)

Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**

Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW

T: [REDACTED]



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---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 20 July 2023 9:22 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Community engagement rule change [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Morning [REDACTED]

Just wanted to let you know that we have decided to fast track the community engagement rule change.

We are looking to publish the draft determination in early August.

I will set up a meeting to discuss the transitionals soon.

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Cheers,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Adviser



**Australian Energy Market Commission**

D [redacted] | T [redacted]  
[redacted]@aemc.gov.au | [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@aer.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 11:22 AM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@aer.gov.au>; [redacted]<[redacted]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Community engagement rule change [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**



Kind regards,  
[redacted] (he/him)  
Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation  
**Australian Energy Regulator**  
Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW  
T: [redacted]

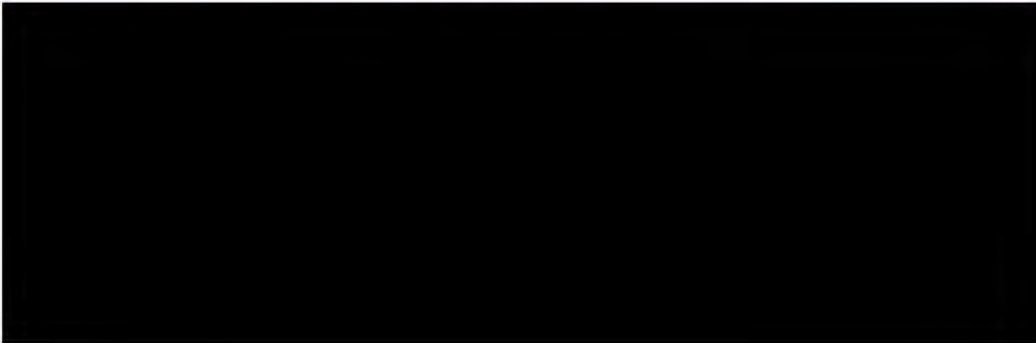


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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 7 July 2023 10:44 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Community engagement rule change [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Cheers,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Adviser  
**Australian Energy Market Commission**  
D [REDACTED] | T [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au> | [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 6, 2023 1:16 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>

Cc: [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
Subject: RE: Community engagement rule change [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**



Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)  
Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**  
Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW  
T: [REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 4 July 2023 10:28 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Community engagement rule change [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Morning [REDACTED]

Any chance you would be able to provide me with feedback by Thursday this week? Understandably everyone has a lot on their plate.

Cheers,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Adviser

**Australian Energy Market Commission**

D [REDACTED] | T [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] @aemc.gov.au | www.aemc.gov.au

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**From:** [REDACTED] @aer.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023 12:34 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] @aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Community engagement rule change [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks, [REDACTED] I'll circulate it around and find the relevant people

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)  
Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**  
Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW  
T: [REDACTED]



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---

**From:** [REDACTED] @aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 28 June 2023 10:57 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] @aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Community engagement rule change [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Thanks [REDACTED]

I have attached the rule change request.

We were particularly keen on the AER views on the transitional rules included in the rule change request. Specifically, whether they are needed. There is also a transitional relating to updates to the CBA guidelines which we are keen to sense check with the AER.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Cheers,  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Adviser  
**Australian Energy Market Commission**  
D [REDACTED] T [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au | [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

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**From:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023 10:14 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Community engagement rule change [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi [REDACTED]  
I hope you've been well too!

The social licence stuff sits across several teams in the AER so it might depend on what specifically you were looking to discuss. Could you send through some topics or questions and I can chase down who the right person (or people) would be.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)  
Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**  
Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW  
T: [REDACTED]



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---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 28 June 2023 9:58 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Community engagement rule change

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Hi [REDACTED]

Hope you have been well!

Would you happen to know who in the AER I should reach out to for a discussion on the community engagement rule change request (social licence reform from TPIR)? Perhaps someone who is involved in developing the new guidelines?

Cheers,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Adviser  
**Australian Energy Market Commission**  
D [REDACTED] | T [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au | [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2023 2:56 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Update on TPIR rule change timings [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks [REDACTED] – really appreciate the update!  
I think last we heard DCCEEW were looking to circulate the draft rule change proposals for the early works and targeted ex-post for comment and feedback  
I assume you're also aware they're working on a rule change to formalise cost recovery agreements between jurisdiction governments?

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)  
Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**  
Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW  
T: [REDACTED]



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---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 July 2023 2:06 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Update on TPIR rule change timings

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Hi [REDACTED]

There has been a lot of movement and changes!

- We have commenced the following TPIR related rule changes:
  - [Financeability](#)- submissions due 3 August



- [Concessional finance](#)- submissions closed on 14 July. Draft due 21 September
- [Emissions](#)- submissions due 17 August
- We have received and are about to commence the [enhancing community engagement](#) rule change (social licence). Aiming for Draft determination on 10 August
- We have received [workability of the feedback loop](#). Timeframe TBC
- We have not yet received, but are expecting in the next couple of months:
  - Economic assessment process 1
  - Targeted ISP ex post review.

Let me know if you have any questions,  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 21, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Update on TPIR rule change timings

Hi [REDACTED]

Could you please share an update of the timings for the TPIR and related rule changes?  
I've been trying to track them as we get updates from DCCEEW as they develop and lodge the proposals but there have been a lot of changes!

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)  
Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation  
**Australian Energy Regulator**  
Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW  
T: [REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 28, 2023 11:02 AM  
**To:** Danielle Beinart; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up- Tuesday 1 August at 1pm- draft agenda

Good morning all

Looking forward to meeting next Tuesday at 1 pm

The draft agenda is below. Can you please let me know if you have anything you would like added?

Could you also let me know if you would like to be no longer included on these invites, or if there is anyone else we should add.

Draft agenda

1. Update on received rule changes approach and timing (AEMC)
  - a. Financeability
  - b. Concessional finance – including update on submissions received
  - c. Community Engagement (Social licence)
  - d. Feedback loop
  - e. Emissions
2. Update on pending rule changes (DCCEEW and AEMC)
  - [REDACTED]
  - b. EAP1
  - c. Targeted ex-post review
3. [REDACTED]
4. [REDACTED]
5. Other business

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Director  
**Australian Energy Market Commission**  
D [REDACTED] | T [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au | [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

**Level 15, 60 Castlereagh St, Sydney NSW 2000.**

The Gadigal people of the Eora nation are the traditional owners of the land on which AEMC's office is located.

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**Subject:** Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up

**Location:** Murrumbidgee

**Start:** 8/1/2023 3:00 AM

**End:** 8/1/2023 4:00 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** Monthly

**Recurrence Pattern:** the first Tuesday of every 1 month(s) from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** [REDACTED]

**Required Attendees:** Danielle Beinart; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]

**Optional Attendees:** [REDACTED]

**Resources:** Murrumbidgee

#### Draft agenda

1. Update on received rule changes approach and timing (AEMC)
  - a. Financeability
  - b. Concessional finance – including update on submissions received
  - c. Community Engagement (Social licence)
  - d. Feedback loop
  - e. Emissions
2. Update on pending rule changes (DCCEEW and AEMC)
  - a. [REDACTED]
  - b. EAP1
  - c. Targeted ex-post review

5. Other business

---

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Video Conference ID: 135 744 345 4

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---

**Subject:** Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up

**Location:** Murrumbidgee

**Start:** 8/1/2023 3:00 AM

**End:** 8/1/2023 4:00 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** Monthly

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**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** [REDACTED]

**Required Attendees:** Danielle Beinart: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

**Optional Attendees:** [REDACTED]

**Resources:** Murrumbidgee

#### Draft agenda

1. Update on received rule changes approach and timing (AEMC)
  - a. Financeability
  - b. Concessional finance – including update on submissions received
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  - b. EAP1
  - c. Targeted ex-post review
3. [REDACTED]
4. [REDACTED]
5. Other business

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---



**Subject:** Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up

**Location:** Murrumbidgee

**Start:** 8/1/2023 3:00 AM

**End:** 8/1/2023 4:00 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** Monthly

**Recurrence Pattern:** the first Tuesday of every 1 month(s) from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** [REDACTED]

**Required Attendees:** Danielle Beinart; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

**Optional Attendees:** [REDACTED]

**Resources:** Murrumbidgee

#### Draft agenda

1. Update on received rule changes approach and timing (AEMC)
  - a. Financeability
  - b. Concessional finance – including update on submissions received
  - c. Community Engagement (Social licence)
  - d. Feedback loop
  - e. Emissions
2. Update on pending rule changes (DCCEEW and AEMC)
  - b. EAP1
  - c. Targeted ex-post review
3. [REDACTED]
4. [REDACTED]
5. Other business

---

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---

**Subject:** Canceled: Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up

**Location:** Murrumbidgee

**Start:** 8/1/2023 3:00 AM

**End:** 8/1/2023 4:00 AM

**Show Time As:** Free

**Recurrence:** Monthly

**Recurrence Pattern:** the first Tuesday of every 1 month(s) from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

**Importance:** High

**Organizer:** [Redacted]

**Required Attendees:** Danielle Beinart: [Redacted]

[Redacted]@industry.gov.au; [Redacted]

[Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au;

[Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au;

[Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [Redacted]

**Optional Attendees:** [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Resources:** Murrumbidgee

Draft agenda

1. Update on received rule changes approach and timing (AEMC)
  - a. Financeability
  - b. Concessional finance – including update on submissions received
  - c. Community Engagement (Social licence)
  - d. Feedback loop
  - e. Emissions
2. Update on pending rule changes (DCCEEW and AEMC)
  - b. EAP1
  - c. Targeted ex-post review
3. [Redacted]
4. [Redacted]
5. Other business

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---

**Subject:** Transmission Working Group Meeting 4 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Location:** Microsoft Teams

**Start:** 8/17/2023 5:00 AM

**End:** 8/17/2023 6:30 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Received

**Organizer:** [REDACTED]

**Required Attendees:** [REDACTED] Gowans, Kirsty;

[REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@act.gov.au; [REDACTED]@act.gov.au; [REDACTED]@nt.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au; [REDACTED]

**Optional Attendees:** [REDACTED]@dpie.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au;

[REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au; [REDACTED]

(DEECA); [REDACTED]

**Resources:** Microsoft Teams

**Attachments:** Agenda - Meeting 4 - Transmission Working Group - August 2023.docx;  
 Meeting 3 Minutes - Transmission Working Group - 8 June 2023.docx

Dear Transmission Working Group members,

Please see a calendar invite above for Meeting 4 of the Transmission Working group from 3-4:30pm on Thursday 17 August (AEST).

You may note a change in the times from the original placeholder. We have extended this meeting by half an hour to account for all the agenda items we propose to cover and to ensure there is enough time for any comments or feedback. If you have any issues with this meeting being extended, can you please let us know by **COB Wednesday 16 August (AEST)**.

We have also attached an agenda for the upcoming meeting to this invite, as well as the minutes from the previous meeting on June 8 which we will be seeking to endorse in this meeting.

Please note, the invitation to this meeting has been extended to electricity market bodies. **Can market body representatives please join at 3.25.**

Kind Regards,

**Secretariat**

**Electricity Transmission Working Group**

Electricity Division | Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Email [REDACTED]@industry.gov.au

---

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597361658@t.plcm.vc

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# Transmission Working Group

## Agenda – 17 August 2023 3 pm - 4:30 pm

Meeting Chair: [REDACTED] Principal Adviser, DCCEEW

TIME	ITEM
3:00	<p><b>1. Welcome, acknowledgement of country and introductions (Chair)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorsement of meeting minutes from 8 June 2023</li> <li>• Review of action items</li> <li>• Terms of Reference</li> </ul>
3:05	<p><b>2. Rule changes (Commonwealth)</b></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p><i>TPIR stage 2 recommendations - update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accommodating finance ability in the regulatory framework</li> <li>• Enhanced community engagement in transmission</li> <li>• Improving the workability of the feedback loop</li> </ul> <p><i>TPIR stage 3 recommendations - update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concessional finance for TNSPs</li> <li>• Early works CPA</li> <li>• Targeted ex post review for ISP projects</li> </ul>
3:15	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [REDACTED]</li> </ul> <p><b>Market Bodies (AER, AEMC, AEMO) join from 3:25pm</b></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
	[REDACTED]

3:35	[REDACTED]
3:40	[REDACTED]
3:50	[REDACTED]
4:20	<b>8. Other business</b>
4:30	<b>7. Meeting close</b>

ACTIONS				
No.	Action	Responsible	Due	Status
12	Commonwealth to provide update on the interactions between the working groups for the August meeting.	DCCEEW	Next meeting	In progress
14	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

COMPLETED ACTIONS				
No.	Action	Responsible	Due	Status
9	Opportunity for Victoria to provide any further updates on the Victorian Transmission Investment Framework (VTIF) as more information becomes available from VicGrid	Victoria	Complete	Complete
13	[REDACTED]	All	30 June 2023	Complete



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2023 4:28 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** For Information: Transmission Working Group Meeting 4 details [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Agenda - Meeting 4 - Transmission Working Group - August 2023.docx

Hi all,

As per our updated calendar invite yesterday, you will note the upcoming transmission working group meeting on Thursday has been extended by half an hour to ensure we are able to cover all of the listed agenda items. An agenda for the meeting is attached to this email.

We would be grateful if you could join the meeting on Thursday at 3:25 so we are able to discuss the first few items with jurisdictions.

We are seeking to follow up with some additional papers before the meeting.

Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind Regards,

**Secretariat**  
**Electricity Transmission Working Group**  
Electricity Division | Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
Email [REDACTED]@industry.gov.au

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**From:** Electricity Networks

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 16, 2023 8:49 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Gowans, Kirsty; [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@act.gov.au; [REDACTED]@act.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@nt.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au; [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au; [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au; [REDACTED]@esb.org.au; Victoria Mollard;

**CC:** [REDACTED]@dpie.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]

**Subject:** For Information: Papers for Transmission Working Group Meeting 4

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Attachments:** [REDACTED] - Draft Version 0.1 -  
 Transmission Working Group.docx; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Meeting 3 Minutes - Transmission Working Group - 8 June 2023.docx; Agenda -  
 Meeting 4 - Transmission Working Group - August 2023.docx

Dear Transmission working group members,

Please find attached-

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- **For endorsement:** Meeting 3 minutes. These remain unchanged from the version circulated on Monday in the meeting invite.
- Meeting 4 agenda, also circulated on Monday.

Kind Regards,

**Secretariat**

**Electricity Transmission Working Group**

Electricity Division | Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Email [REDACTED]@industry.gov.au

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**From:** Energy System Planning

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 4:26 PM

**To:** [redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
[redacted]@sa.gov.au; [redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
[redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]@act.gov.au;  
[redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [redacted]@nt.gov.au;  
[redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
[redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [redacted]@dpic.nsw.gov.au';  
[redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [redacted]

**CC:** [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]@aemo.com.au; [redacted]  
[redacted]

**Subject:** System Planning Working Group (29 August) - meeting agenda and papers  
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Attachments:** Meeting Agenda 3 - System Planning Working Group.docx; Attachment A - Meeting 2 minutes (31 July 23).docx; [redacted]  
[redacted]

Good afternoon,

Please find attached the draft agenda for the System Planning Working Group meeting on 29 August from 1.00-2.30pm.

Included in the pack are the following attachments (Note: Attachment B is expected to be circulated later this week):

Attachment A: Meeting 2 minutes (31 July 2023)  
[redacted]

Kind regards,

[redacted]

**System Planning Working Group Secretariat**

Electricity Division | Network Reform and Projects Branch | [redacted]  
Ngunnawal Country, 51 Allara St, Canberra ACT 2601 Australia  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
M [redacted] | E [redacted]

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

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**From:** AER External Affairs  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:53 PM  
**CC:** AER External Affairs  
**Subject:** EMBARGO: AER Determination - HumeLink Stage 1 part 2 contingent project application - August 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL] [ACCC-ACCCANDAER.FID2689891]  
**Attachments:** EMBARGO - AER Determination - HumeLink Stage 1 (part 2) - August 2023.pdf; EMBARGO - Communications notice - Humelink stage 1 part 2 determination 25 August 2023.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon

On Friday 25 August 2023, the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) will publish our determination paper on Transgrid's contingent project application for HumeLink early works stage 1 part 2.

Please find attached, an embargo copy of the determination paper and accompanying communications notice which outlines the approved costs and their consumer bill impact.

**This material is strictly under embargo until published on the AER website Friday, 25 August 2023.**

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

 (she/her)  
Assistant Director | Stakeholder Engagement  
Strategic Communications & Engagement Branch  
**Australian Energy Regulator**  
Level 17 | 2 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000  
M:  E: @aer.gov.au  
[www.energymadeeasy.com.au](http://www.energymadeeasy.com.au) | [www.aer.gov.au](http://www.aer.gov.au)



The AER acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of Country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to the land, sea and community.  
We pay our respects to them and their cultures; and to their Elders past, present and future.

---

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# AER

# Determination

HumeLink Early Works Stage 1 (Part 2)  
Contingent Project

**August 2023**

AER Determination | HumeLink Early Works Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project Application

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Australian Energy Regulator  
GPO Box 3131  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Tel: 1300 585 165

## Executive Summary

HumeLink is an estimated \$3.9 billion (\$2022-23) transmission update linking Greater Sydney load area with the Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme and Project Energy Connect. It involves 360 km of new 500 kilovolts (kV) transmission lines, which will expand transmission in southern NSW.

HumeLink is included in the Australian Energy Market Operator's (AEMO) 2022 Integrated System Plan (ISP) as a 'staged actionable project' under the optimal development path (ODP).<sup>1</sup>

The ISP considers four scenarios of future plausible market developments to capture uncertainty regarding the pace of energy transformation on the path to reach net zero by 2050.<sup>2</sup> HumeLink delivers value in all scenarios and the project would optimise benefits to consumers if delivery is targeted for 2026-27.<sup>3</sup>

The value of staging HumeLink is in mitigating the risk that not enough dispatchable capacity is available if there are early coal closures in the period 2025 to 2028. There are two stages in the delivery of HumeLink:

- Stage 1 (Early Works) are pre-construction activities that can be taken while keeping the option to either continue or discontinue the project as new information becomes available.
- Stage 2 is implementation, the completion of the new 500kV transmission that links the Greater Sydney load centre with the Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme and Project EnergyConnect in south west New South Wales.<sup>4</sup>

Transgrid proposes that the commissioning of HumeLink will be complete by 2026-27, which aligns with AEMO's target project delivery date in the 2022 ISP. Prior to constructing the project, Transgrid is undertaking early works to:<sup>5</sup>

- Determine the prudent and efficient project construction cost by refining the project scope through innovation and cost-effective design.
- Identify, explore and manage the project risks in order to mitigate and/or diversify the project's risks to reduce residual risk costs.
- Progress activities on the critical path and undertake engagements to retain social licence to achieve AEMO's target delivery date of 2026-27.

On 17 August 2022, we approved Transgrid's early works stage 1 contingent project application (CPA) and capex proposal of \$383.3 million (\$2022-23) in full. These works are expected to be completed by July 2024.

---

<sup>1</sup> AEMO, *2022 Integrated System Plan*, June 2022, p. 61.

<sup>2</sup> AEMO, *2022 Integrated System Plan*, June 2022, p. 25.

<sup>3</sup> AEMO, *2022 Integrated System Plan*, June 2022, p. 68.

<sup>4</sup> AEMO, *Integrated System Plan Feedback Loop Notice – HumeLink (Early Works)*, 27 January 2022.

<sup>5</sup> Transgrid, *HumeLink – Stage 1 (Early Works) Contingent Project Application*, 5 April 2022, p.1

## AER Determination | HumeLink Early Works Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project Application

Transgrid subsequently identified the need for a second Early Works CPA. Transgrid has referred to the first CPA as stage 1 (part 1) and the additional Early Works CPA as stage 1 (part 2).

Transgrid's early works stage 1 (part 2) included \$226.7 million (\$2022-23) for the procurement of long lead equipment (LLE).

For actionable ISP projects such as HumeLink, our role is to assess whether the trigger event for actionable ISP projects has been satisfied. If we assess the trigger event for actionable ISP projects has been satisfied, our role is then to determine the incremental revenues that will be added to Transgrid's revenue allowance, reflecting the forecast prudent and efficient capital expenditure and operating expenditure required to deliver the project.<sup>6</sup>

Table 1 sets out the incremental revenues that will be added to Transgrid's revenue allowance, the forecast prudent and efficient capital expenditure required to deliver the project, and the estimated impact on the transmission component of residential customer electricity bills in New South Wales.

**Table 1 HumeLink contingent project – Assessment of forecast expenditure, revenues and bill impact**

	Determination
Proposed total capex (\$ 2022-23) to be commissioned for HumeLink stage 1 (part 2) 2023-24 and 2024-25	\$226.7 million
AER final decision HumeLink stage 1 (part 2)	\$227.9 million <sup>7</sup>
Stage 1 (part 2) indicative increase in residential electricity bills in NSW over 2024-25 to 2027-28	\$1.1 p.a
Total incremental revenue to be recovered from customers over 2024-25 to 2027-28 (\$ nominal)	\$38.7 million
Stage 1 (part 1) indicative increase in residential electricity bills in NSW over 2024-25 to 2027-28	\$2.60 p.a
Total indicative HumeLink early works increase in residential electricity bills in NSW over 2024-25 to 2027-28	\$3.70 p.a

Source: AER analysis.

The total indicative increase in residential electricity bills in NSW over 2024–25 to 2027–28 from HumeLink early works (part 1 and part 2) is \$3.70 p.a. We acknowledge the bill impact from HumeLink both early works CPAs reflects a minor proportion of total HumeLink costs and expect a further increase in bills following the HumeLink stage 2 CPA.

### **HumeLink early works stage 1 (part 2)**

The purpose of Transgrid's 'early works' stage 1 (part 2) CPA is to secure LLE procurement as part of HumeLink's overall early works activities. LLE refers to items that have a long time between the order and delivery dates. The length of time is typically relative to the length of the project. For HumeLink LLE would be any asset that would take longer than 6 months to deliver.

Stage 1 (part 2) includes the purchase of transformers, reactors, conductors and steel towers. Transgrid has identified this CPA will bring the associated cost forward and reduce its stage 2 CPA forecast capex by an equivalent amount.

<sup>6</sup> NER, cl 6A.8.2

<sup>7</sup> This reflects minor modelling adjustments.

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The long lead equipment procurement for HumeLink is also part of Transgrid's Powering Tomorrow Together (PTT) procurement strategy. The PTT procurement strategy is a joint procurement process bundling HumeLink, VNI West and EnergyConnect. Transgrid expects this process will result in material cost savings for Transgrid's customers.

The key objective of Transgrid's submission of its stage 1 (part 2) contingent project application in advance of stage 2 is to reduce cost uncertainty, by mitigating against current inflation and to secure supply chain availability by bringing the associated costs forward and reducing the stage 2 cost by an equivalent amount.

The additional early works contingent project, consistent with stage 1 (part 1), provides Transgrid with revenue certainty to undertake activities prior to commencing construction on the project. This revenue certainty is provided in advance of making final investment decisions and is intended to fund activities that reduce future system costs and promote the long-term interests of consumers.

If the project goes ahead, a second round of revenue is provided for the construction phase (stage 2) of the project via the next HumeLink CPA process.

#### **Transgrid can proceed to the next stage of the HumeLink project**

Contingent projects are significant network augmentation projects that may arise during a regulatory control period but the need and or timing is uncertain. While the expenditures for such projects do not form part of the total forecast expenditure in a revenue determination, the project costs may ultimately be recovered from customers if the four conditions set out at clause 5.16A.5 are met (also called the 'trigger event') and the project costs exceed a materiality threshold.

The four conditions set out at clause 5.16A.5 of the National Electricity Rules (NER) that will allow Transgrid to recover the prudent and efficient costs of HumeLink (including stages of HumeLink) from customers are:

- Transgrid must issue a Regulatory Investment Test for Transmission (RIT-T) project assessment conclusions report (PACR) that meets the requirements of clause 5.16A.4 and which identifies a project as the preferred option (which may be a stage of an actionable ISP project if the actionable ISP project is a staged project)
- Transgrid as the proponent must obtain written confirmation from AEMO that the preferred option addresses the relevant identified need specified in the most recent ISP and aligns with the ODP referred to in the most recent ISP (this process is the 'ISP feedback loop').
- No dispute notice has been given to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) under rule 5.16B(c) or, if a dispute notice has been given, then in accordance with rule 5.16B(d), the dispute has been rejected or the project assessment conclusions report has been amended and identifies that project as the preferred option.<sup>8</sup>
- The cost of the preferred option set out in the contingent project application must be no greater than the cost considered in AEMO's ISP feedback loop assessment.

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<sup>8</sup> NER, cl. 5.16B(e)

We are satisfied that all four conditions have been met and as such Transgrid is now entitled to recover revenues from energy consumers to deliver the Stage 1 (part 2) component of HumeLink.

***The forecast costs of undertaking stage 1 (part 2) are efficient and prudent***

The forecast costs that are reasonably required to deliver the project is the key driver of the incremental revenues that would be recovered from consumers.

Transgrid's application proposed \$226.7 million (\$2022-23) in forecast capex to undertake procurement for early works.

We have examined Transgrid's proposed capex forecast and our view is that the amount proposed is reasonable, prudent and efficient to deliver early works for HumeLink.

In particular, we consider that:

- Transgrid's proposed scope of works reflects activities that can be included in an early works CPA. Our assessment found that Transgrid's proposed scope and equipment ratings for LLE procurement for HumeLink are reasonable as a whole and adopt a prudent approach to meeting the objectives of early works for HumeLink.
- Transgrid's proposed costs for transformers and reactors, steel towers and conductors included in the long lead equipment procurement is efficient as we consider Transgrid's procurement practices are prudent and efficient.
- The benefits to customers in reducing cost uncertainty and mitigating the risk of construction delay offset the increased costs as a result of bringing forward costs that would have been included in Transgrid's HumeLink stage 2 CPA.

***Next steps***

The incremental revenues we have approved in this determination will now be added to Transgrid's total maximum allowed revenues for the 2023–28 regulatory control period. This follows the process set out in clause 6A.8.2 of the NER.

The increase in allowed revenues will be reflected in customer bills over the remaining four years of the 2023–28 regulatory control period (2024–25 to 2027–28).

The next stage of the HumeLink project will be important in ensuring that Transgrid determines the accurate cost of constructing the full project and obtains all necessary approvals to deliver the project on time. This will ensure that AEMO has all the necessary information when undertaking the ISP feedback loop, and the next CPA includes an accurate updated forecast for the costs reasonably required to construct the project.

We expect that Transgrid will have resolved all outstanding issues relating to the implementation of the project by the completion of both early works processes, including land costs, environmental impacts and biodiversity offsets, project design and LLE equipment.

We also expect that Transgrid also demonstrate the benefits of its early works activities as part of its HumeLink stage 2 contingent project application.

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## 1 HumeLink contingent project

HumeLink is a \$3.9 billion (\$2022-23) transmission update linking Greater Sydney load area with the Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme and Project Energy Connect. It involves 360 km of new 500 kilovolts (kV) transmission lines, which will expand transmission in southern NSW.

HumeLink is included in the AEMO 2022 ISP ODP as a 'staged actionable project'. The ISP considers four scenarios of future plausible market developments to capture uncertainty regarding the pace of energy transformation on the path to reach net zero by 2050.<sup>9</sup> Under the ISP, AEMO considers that the optimal timing for HumeLink is a target delivery date of 2026-27, with early works delivered by 2024.

HumeLink delivers value in all scenarios and the project would optimise benefits to consumers with a 2026-27 delivery date.<sup>10</sup>

The value of staging is mitigating the risk that not enough dispatchable capacity is available if there are early coal closures in the period 2026 to 2028. There are two stages in the delivery of HumeLink. Stage 1 are pro-construction activities that can be taken while keeping the option to either continue or discontinue the project as new information becomes available. We refer to this as an early works contingent project. Stage 2 is implementation, the completion of the new 500kV transmission line that links the Greater Sydney load centre with the Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme and Project EnergyConnect in south west New South Wales.<sup>11</sup>

Completion of HumeLink Stage 1 is targeted by June 2025 and Stage 2 by July 2026.<sup>12</sup>

TransGrid applied for an additional Stage 1 contingent project, referred to as Stage 1 (part 2). As a staged project in the ISP, HumeLink will go through the ISP feedback loop assessment for contingent project application. The feedback loop assessment comprehensively tests alignment with the ODP. This may include re-running the ISP modelling if necessary and by considering multiple complex interactions that are unable to be captured within the decision rules.<sup>13</sup>

The HumeLink CPA is the preferred option identified in TransGrid's RIT-T process. In November 2021, TransGrid amended the HumeLink PACR to include a double circuit option for the path between Maragle and Bannaby as a credible option, to meet the requirement of the NER. The amended PACR concluded that the preferred option in the PACR remained the preferred option. In January 2022, AEMO confirmed that the proposed option and preferred cost is consistent with the ODP in the draft 2022 ISP.

On 17 August 2022, we approved Transgrid's stage 1 part 1 CPA of \$383.3 million (\$2022-23) in full. This application included Early Works activities, including project design,

<sup>9</sup> AEMO, *2022 Integrated System Plan*, June 2022, p. 25.

<sup>10</sup> AEMO, *2022 Integrated System Plan*, June 2022, p. 68.

<sup>11</sup> AEMO, *Integrated System Plan Feedback Loop Notice – HumeLink (Early Works)*, 27 January 2022.

<sup>12</sup> Transgrid, *A.1 HumeLink – Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project Application*, 23 May 2023, p.16

<sup>13</sup> AEMO, *2022 Integrated System Plan*, June 2022, p. 69.



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stakeholder engagement, land-use planning and approvals and acquisition, procurement activities, and project management.

TransGrid's early works stage 1 part 2 CPA of \$226.7 million (\$2022-23) in forecast capex is for the procurement of long lead equipment (LLE). These early works include the purchase of transformers, reactors, conductors and steel towers. Transgrid has identified its stage 1 (Part 2) application will bring the associated cost forward to stage 1 and reduce its stage 2 forecast capex by an equivalent amount.

## 1.1 Early works contingent projects

Early works contingent projects were introduced as part of the staging of large transmission projects. Our regulation of actionable ISP projects guidance note identified staging as a means to reduce the risks of actionable projects and increase flexibility to respond to changing market conditions.<sup>14</sup> Early works allows for investing time in the planning and design phase. It can help identify and quantify project risks, and enable innovative and cost effective design.<sup>15</sup>

The first early works contingent project was TransGrid's HumeLink stage 1 part 1 CPA which the AER approved on 17 August 2022. TransGrid did not foresee any additional CPA before its HumeLink stage 2 CPA. However, it has included stage 1 part 2 to reflect additional costs to be included in Stage 1 Early Works.

Early works is a relatively recent addition to the regulatory framework. We consider early works contingent projects is an evolving area. Where different cost types are proposed, we would be open to considering those to the extent that the early work would promote the long term interests of consumers.

As demonstrated by our assessment of TransGrid's stage 1 part 2 CPA, we remain committed to being flexible within the regulatory framework and to assist the timely delivery of ISP projects.

We consider early works should produce reliable cost estimates and expenditure forecasts for later CPA stages.

We expect TransGrid to provide information on how early works has assisted in the delivery of a multi-stage contingent project such as TransGrid as part of its stage 2 CPA.

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<sup>14</sup> AER, *AER – Final - Guidance Note – Regulation of actionable ISP projects*, March 2021, p.25.

<sup>15</sup> AER, *AER – Final - Guidance Note – Regulation of actionable ISP projects*, March 2021, p.26.

## 2 Our contingent project determination

Under clause 6A.8.2 of the NER, Transgrid may apply to amend its existing revenue determination to increase allowed revenues for a contingent project. However, we are only required to determine the incremental revenues required to deliver the contingent project if we are satisfied that the trigger event in 5.16.A.5 has occurred, and the project exceeds a cost threshold.

As set out in section 3, the HumeLink CPA meets the conditions required for us to make a determination because:

- we are satisfied that each element of the trigger event for this project has occurred
- we are satisfied that the capex amount of \$226.7 million sought exceeds the applicable materiality threshold of \$44.9 million (5% of MAR).

We have now made a determination on Transgrid's CPA in accordance with clause 6A.8.2 of the NER, which specifies the process we must undertake and the determination we must make on a CPA.

In accordance with clause 6A.8.2(e) of the NER, we have determined:

- the total capex that is reasonably required for the project and the amount of capex for each remaining year of the regulatory control period (see section 4).
- the incremental revenue which is likely to be required by Transgrid for each remaining regulatory year as a result of the efficient capex for the contingent project. This also includes our assessment of a negative capex adjustment for 2022-23 (see section 5), and
- that the project has commenced and is aimed to be completed by July 2026.

We are also required to publish Transgrid's application and invite interested parties to make written submissions.<sup>16</sup> We sought submissions on Transgrid's application on 5 June 2023.<sup>17</sup>

In making our determination, we were required under clause 6A.8.2(f) to consider whether we can accept Transgrid's proposed revenues and project expenditure included in its application. This includes considering if its proposed project costs are prudent and efficient. If we are not satisfied that we can accept Transgrid's forecast revenues and project costs, we can determine a different forecast.

Based on our review of Transgrid's application we accept Transgrid's forecast \$227.9 million for capex related to stage 1 part 2 to be incurred in 2023-24 and 2024-25. However, we do not accept Transgrid's proposed negative \$1.1 million capex adjustment to account for the differences between actual and estimated capex in 2022-23. This capex does not relate to stage 1 part 2. Accounting for such differences will be a part of our true-up process in the roll forward model (RFM) and the requirements of the NER.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>16</sup> NER, cl. 6A.8.2(c).

<sup>17</sup> No public submissions received during the submission period 5 June 2023 to 30 June 2023 published on the AER [website](#).

<sup>18</sup> NER, cl. S6A.2.1(f)(3).

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Our reasoning is set out in section 4.1 and section 5.

We have published on our website a supporting post-tax revenue model (PTRM) for the 2023–28 period which sets out the updated annual revenues and X-factors for the 2023-28 period after including the contingent project amount.

### 3 Project trigger and expenditure threshold

Under clause 6A.8.2 of the NER, we are required to determine the incremental revenues necessary to deliver the contingent project if we are satisfied that a specific trigger event has occurred, and the project exceeds a cost threshold.

#### 3.1 Assessment of trigger event

The trigger event for the HumeLink project is set out in clause 5.16A.5 of the NER as these triggers relate to actionable ISP projects (including staged actionable projects).

Table 2 sets out the required elements of the post RIT-T actionable ISP project trigger event, as per NER 5.16A.5 and our assessment against each trigger event. We are satisfied that each element of the trigger event has occurred.

**Table 2 Post-RIT-T actionable ISP project trigger event (NER 5.16A.5)**

Element	Description of trigger event	Assessment
1	The RIT-T proponent must issue a RIT-T project assessment conclusions report that meets the requirements of clause 5.16A.4 and which identifies a project as the preferred option (which may be a stage of an actionable ISP project if the actionable ISP project is a staged project).	Transgrid published a RIT-T project assessment conclusions report (PACR) for HumeLink on 29 July 2021 that meets the requirements of clause 5.16A.4, and which identified the preferred option to be a new 500kV double circuit transmission line in an electrical 'loop' between Maragle, Wagga Wagga and Bannaby (i.e., 'Option 3C').
2	The RIT-T proponent must obtain written confirmation from AEMO that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NER, clause 5.16A.5(b)(1): the preferred option addresses the relevant identified need specified in the most recent ISP and aligns with the optimal development path referred to in the most recent ISP; and</li> <li>NER, clause 5.16A.5(b)(2): the cost of the preferred option does not change the status of the actionable ISP project as part of the optimal development path as updated in accordance with clause 5.22.15 where applicable.</li> </ul> (This is the 'ISP feedback loop').	Transgrid received written feedback loop confirmation from AEMO on 19 May 2023 that its proposed Stage 1 (Part 2) capex for LLE meets the identified need in the most recent ISP, this being the 2022 ISP, and that its proposed HumeLink total Stage 1 (Part 1 and Part 2) cost remains part of the optimal development path at an updated total cost of \$632.9 million (\$2022-23), including \$383.3 million for Stage 1 (Part 1) approved in August 2022 and \$249.6 million (\$2022-23) for this Stage 1 (Part 2) forecast capex approved by AEMO.
3	No dispute notice has been given to the AER under rule 5.16B(c) or, if a dispute notice has been given, then in accordance with rule 5.16B(d), the dispute has been rejected or the project assessment conclusions report has been amended and identifies that project as the preferred option.	There are no outstanding RIT-T PACR disputes that have been given to the AER under rule 5.16B(c) regarding the HumeLink Stage 1 (Part 2) contingent project application received on 23 May 2023.
4	The cost of the preferred option set out in the contingent project application must be no greater than the cost considered in AEMO's assessment in requirement 2 above.	Transgrid's proposed Stage 1 (Part 2) capex \$226.7 million (\$2022-23) is no greater than the \$249.6 million approved by the AEMO's feedback loop confirmation. Total Stage 1 capex (Part 1 and Part 2) in this application is within the updated Stage 1 cost cap of

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		\$632.9 million (\$2022-23), set out in AEMO's feedback loop confirmation. <sup>19</sup>
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Source: AER analysis.

We are also satisfied that the Transgrid's HumeLink Stage 1 (Part 2) contingent project application we received, and the supporting and explanatory materials we requested, are consistent with the requirements of AER's regulation of actionable ISP project for staged ISP project. They are also consistent with its previous approved HumeLink Stage 1 (Part 1) contingent project application.

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<sup>19</sup> AEMO, *Integrated System Plan Feedback Loop Notice – HumeLink (Early Works) – 19 May 2023*, 19 May 2023. See <https://aemo.com.au/en/energy-systems/major-publications/integrated-system-plan-isp/integrated-system-plan-feedback-loop-notices>

## 4 Prudent and efficient project expenditure

This section outlines our assessment of Transgrid's proposed forecast capex for HumeLink early works Stage 1 part 2 and our determination on the prudent and efficient expenditure reasonably necessary to undertake this project.

The forecast capex is a key component to determining the incremental revenue Transgrid may recover over the 2023-28 regulatory control period. The forecast capex will also be added to the target capex for Transgrid's expenditure incentive schemes.<sup>20</sup> Any incentive rewards and penalties Transgrid receives as a result of under or overspending on the project will be applied as additional revenue adjustments in the next regulatory control period.

### 4.1 Forecast capital expenditure

Transgrid's CPA forecasts that stage 1 part 2 will require \$226.7 million (\$2022-23) in capex.<sup>21</sup> Table 3 sets out our determination on the total capex required for the procurement of LLE in each year of the 2023-28 regulatory control period and the last year of the previous 2018-23 regulatory control period. We have accepted Transgrid's proposed forecast capex of \$227.9 million for 2023-24 and 2024-25. For the purpose of our assessment in section 4, we have referred to Transgrid's forecast as \$227.9 million, as this is the capex that is relevant to works undertaken for Stage 1 (part 2).

We have not included Transgrid's negative capex adjustment in 2022-23 section 4 as this adjustment does not relate to activities for Stage 1 (part 2). More information on our assessment of the negative adjustment is in section 5.

Table 3 shows our decision on the proposed capex, by year.

**Table 3 AER determination of forecast capex (\$m, 2022-23)**

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Total
Proposed capex	(1.1)	102.1	125.8	-	-	-	226.7
AER decision	-	102.1	125.8	-	-	-	227.9

Source: Transgrid, A.1 HumeLink – Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project Application, 23 May 2023, p.22.

Note: Numbers may not add up due to rounding. Excludes equity raising costs. The negative figure for 2022-23 is due to reducing estimated spending between CPA stage 1 part 1 and part 2.

Transgrid states that its proposed LLE procurement will deliver on the following three key objectives:

- Providing greater cost certainty for customers by locking in prices now<sup>22</sup>
- Protecting against future inflationary pressure to ensure the Project is delivered at the lowest sustainable cost, and<sup>23</sup>

<sup>20</sup> The Capital Expenditure Sharing Scheme (CESS) and the Efficiency Benefit Sharing Scheme (EBSS).

<sup>21</sup> Transgrid, A.1 HumeLink – Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project Application, 23 May 2023, p.4

<sup>22</sup> Transgrid, A.1 HumeLink – Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project Application, 23 May 2023, p.1

<sup>23</sup> Transgrid, A.1 HumeLink – Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project Application, 23 May 2023, p.1

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- Securing supply-chain availability, in a competitive global market, in order to meet AEMO's target delivery date of July 2026.<sup>24</sup>

Transgrid's CPA included a range of supporting documents: a detailed scope of work document, a detailed breakdown of the project cost elements and delivery date, a capex forecasting methodology, and an outline of its procurement process. It also provided an independent engineering verification and assessment of its capex forecast.<sup>25</sup>

#### *Overall conclusion on Transgrid's proposed capex*

Based on our analysis of the available information, we consider that Transgrid's proposed \$227.9 million (\$2022-23) capex is a prudent and efficient estimate of the forecast capex for the delivery of HumeLink early works stage 1 part 2. In addition, we note Transgrid's forecast capex is within the amount included in the confirmation of AEMO's feedback loop of \$249.6 million.<sup>26</sup>

Our decision is to accept Transgrid's forecast capex for the purchase of LLE for HumeLink, on the basis that it would reasonably likely be incurred by an efficient and prudent operator to deliver this project. In particular:

- Transgrid's proposed scope and equipment ratings for LLE procurement for HumeLink are reasonable as a whole and adopt a prudent approach to meeting the objectives of early works for HumeLink.
- Transgrid's methodology to forecast its proposed capex is largely consistent with its previous PACR report and approved Stage 1 (Part 1) Early Works CPA project scope. The LLE procurement governance and early contractor involvement tender process for HumeLink, supported by Transgrid's (PTT) procurement strategy, satisfies the requirements of AER's regulation of actionable ISP project guidance note. We are satisfied that procurement is a critical step for project delivery by 2026-27.
- Transgrid provided additional information in response to our information requests. Based on the additional information for transformers and reactors, we consider Transgrid's forecasts reasonable as these are actual contract costs and its new procurement processes are prudent and efficient.
- Transgrid also engaged consultants, Fission, to undertake independent technical verification and assumption of its steel tower and conductor unit rates and capex forecast for HumeLink, which it has endorsed. Based on our analysis against industry benchmarks on the quantities of assets and unit price, we consider the proposed cost forecast methodology is reasonable and likely to result in a reasonable estimate for forecast capex.
- We are broadly satisfied by Transgrid's claims this CPA will provide a benefit to customers through reducing cost uncertainty and mitigating delivery risk. We are also satisfied that the risk of sunk costs is mitigated by the likelihood that Transgrid will be able to resell the LLE assets if HumeLink does not proceed.

<sup>24</sup> Transgrid, *A.1 HumeLink – Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project Application*, 23 May 2023, p.1

<sup>25</sup> Fission, *Transgrid-Fission-Fission Technical Memo-19042023-Confidential\_sent to AER 23 May 2023*.

<sup>26</sup> AEMO, *Integrated System Plan Feedback Loop Notice – HumeLink (Early Works) – 19 May 2023*, 19 May 2023. See <https://aemo.com.au/en/energy-systems/major-publications/integrated-system-plan-isp/integrated-system-plan-feedback-loopnotices>

Our decision has also been informed by Transgrid's engagement with us over the process. This has included information requests, workshops, and attending a meeting between Transgrid and the Transgrid Advisory Council (TAC) on 23 March 2023. Stakeholders at the meeting did not raise any issues. We note that we did not receive any submissions in response to this CPA. In addition, we have consulted AEMO in the making of our decision. This process has ensured we have all the necessary information to make a fully informed decision.

The remainder of this section sets out our findings in more detail about:

- Transgrid's proposed forecast capex for LLE procurement and the reason it is likely to reasonably reflect prudent and efficient expenditure
- why the proposed scope of works for LLE procurement is reasonable as a whole and adopts a prudent approach to meeting the objectives of early works for HumeLink, and
- why the claimed benefits to customers are largely reasonable and supported by Transgrid's evidence.

*Transgrid's proposed scope of works for HumeLink early works stage 1 part 2 LLE procurement and its approach prudently meet the objectives of staging*

Transgrid's proposed scope of works are reasonable. In addition, we are satisfied that if Transgrid commenced the procurement of the LLE as part of stage 2 instead of stage 1 part 2, then it would materially increase the risk of delay in the delivery of HumeLink.

Transgrid's proposed long lead equipment scope is largely consistent with its previous Project Assessment Conclusions Report (PACR) and approved stage 1 part 1 early works CPA project scope. We are satisfied that the costs in stage 1 part 2 are an extension of stage 1 part 1.

We consider the scope of work reflects activities that can be included in an early works CPA. This is because procurement activities are considered to be a part of early works in our Regulation of actionable ISP projects guidance note.<sup>27</sup> Our assessment also found that Transgrid's proposed scope and equipment ratings for LLE procurement for HumeLink are reasonable as a whole and adopt a prudent approach to meeting the objectives of HumeLink early works.

The LLE procurement governance and early contractor involvement tender process for HumeLink, supported by Transgrid's (PTT) procurement strategy, satisfies the expectations set out in our Regulation of actionable ISP project guidance note.

The procurement time and payment schedule are prudent, and the included manufacturing and delivery time forecast are largely reasonable for delivering the towers and conductors in full by February 2025, and the transformers and reactors in full at the end of 2025.

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<sup>27</sup> AER, AER – Final - Guidance Note – Regulation of actionable ISP projects, March 2021



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In examining the project scope, we have identified issues relating to project delivery timeframes. The proposed LLE delivery schedule for late 2025 indicates the whole project is on an accelerated work schedule.

We also acknowledge that earlier inclusion of LLE costs in early works may mitigate these types of delivery risks.

**Transgrid's proposed forecast capex is likely to reasonably reflect prudent and efficient expenditure**

We have found Transgrid's forecast capex is likely to represent an efficient and prudent amount of expenditure to deliver the proposed scope of activities in its application.

Transgrid included the following information to support its forecast:

- Actual procurement costs (for transformers and reactors) for contracts Transgrid has already entered into.
- Estimates developed by its consultant Fission for the equipment that has not yet been contracted for (towers and conductors).

The total cost of the 2 early works contingent projects is \$609.2 million. Transgrid claimed this will not change the total project cost and will bring the associated costs forward and reduce its stage 2 cost by an equivalent amount. At this stage we are satisfied that the 2 early works stages have not increased the total cost of HumeLink. However, we will assess this in more detail as part of our stage 2 assessment.

We note that stage 1 part 1 included \$27.2 million for LLE, this brings the total cost of LLE to \$253.9 million (\$2022-23). We are satisfied that the costs that were previously approved have not been included in stage 1 part 2. However, we have assessed the total cost of LLE from both stages to ensure that the total costs for these assets are prudent and efficient.

We consider Transgrid's forecast for transformers and reactors to be efficient as we consider Transgrid's new procurement practices are prudent and efficient. Transgrid's procurement methodologies reflect new innovations in risk sharing that have resulted in lower costs than its older procurement models used in other large projects such as EnergyConnect. We consider the detailed information on procurement and delivery plans appeared to be reasonable.

For steel towers and conductors, we have undertaken a bottom-up assessment of the unit rates and volumes. We have reviewed the assumptions from Fission's independent cost and technical report which are based on the outcome of stage 1 part 1 early contractor involvement tender process and design reports. Additional consultant data provided in information request responses showed that the estimates are largely within a reasonable market price range.

We note that some elements of Transgrid's forecast reflect the higher range of forecasts and in some instances above current market rates. We consider that due to the nature of early works, there is a greater forecast uncertainty in providing early forecasts. This uncertainty is increased due to current market conditions where there has been higher price fluctuations. We are satisfied in this circumstance that a forecast that is slightly higher than current market conditions would result in a lower overall cost as it provides certainty to Transgrid to deliver HumeLink. We note that there is a risk that if Transgrid were to procure these assets later,

## Overview | Final decision – HumeLink Early Works Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project

then the costs may be higher in stage 2. We consider this early works process should result in overall lower costs for the whole project. We expect Transgrid to reflect the benefits of stage 1 part 2 in its stage 2 forecast to ensure that consumers do benefit from this early works stage.

There may be cost differences between the forecast and actual contract costs once they have been signed. We are satisfied that this is unlikely to result in a material change of overall costs for consumers if Transgrid's stage 2 forecasts reflect any of these differences to ensure that consumers benefit from stage 1 part 2. We expect Transgrid to update its stage 2 forecasts to reflect any differences in contract costs.

**Transgrid's claimed benefits of this contingent project application to include long lead equipment procurement in the early works stage are reasonable**

We have reviewed Transgrid's objectives, identified in section 4.1, and whether they provide benefits to customers. We are largely satisfied by Transgrid's evidence. We note that due to the timing of the CPA, the benefits have not been fully quantified. However, we consider qualitatively the benefits identified by Transgrid appear to be reasonable. Through our ongoing engagement with Transgrid we expect the stage 2 CPA to include the benefits and outcomes of both early works CPAs.

We consider the benefit of locking in costs earlier is reasonable where uncertain market conditions such as supply-side issues are likely to result in costs being more likely to increase overtime, rather than decrease. We are also satisfied that the risk of asset stranding if HumeLink does not proceed is mitigated as these assets can be used in other projects by Transgrid or resold to other 500kV level transmission line projects.

We found the benefit of securing supply chain availability is crucial for the timely delivery of the HumeLink project. The LLE manufacturing and delivery time estimate also have a direct impact on the project construction planning and delivery management plan in the stage 2 application.

We consider that the primary benefit to the system and customers are the avoidance of a further delay in the completion of works due to supply and manufacturing constraints. There are many factors that could result in delays in completing HumeLink and this process mitigates a key project delivery risk. Had these costs been included in Transgrid's stage 2 application, it is possible there would not be sufficient time for Transgrid to procure its LLE.

Our analysis also indicates the benefit of cost certainty claimed by Transgrid is dependent on market conditions and the true benefit of LLE is to avoid project delay risk. We estimate that if there is more than a 10% to 15% chance that the project will be delayed by 1 year (or more) then the cost of the LLE is less than the reduction in benefits to customers.

We are satisfied that the risk of sunk costs as a result of earlier LLE procurement is mitigated by Transgrid's expectation that the LLE equipment can be resold at no decrease in value. We must be satisfied that the inclusion of extra costs for these assets do not result in a reduction in option value which is consistent with the intent for early works.

Given, the overall demand for LLE nationally, if the HumeLink project does not proceed to stage 2, Transgrid could repurpose those LLE assets internally for its other transmission

## Overview | Final decision – HumeLink Early Works Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project

projects (such as VNI-West) or resell those LLE to other 500kV transmission projects nationally or sell in return for the underwritten funds.<sup>28</sup>

We also consider the benefits of increased certainty through the staging process provides a more reasonable sharing of the risks and benefits between Transgrid and its consumers. This is because Transgrid can undertake tasks to progress HumeLink earlier than it otherwise would. Through this process Transgrid will also be able to produce more robust forecasts for Stage 2. We note that forecasts and the application of incentive schemes are closely linked in our ex-ante incentive based regulatory framework. We will have regard to the outcomes of the two early works contingent projects as part of our Stage 2 assessment on how incentive schemes should apply for HumeLink overall.

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<sup>28</sup> Transgrid, *A.1 HumeLink – Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project Application*, 23 May 2023, p.21.

## 5 Calculation of incremental allowed revenues

This section sets out our calculation of the indicative incremental revenue that Transgrid would recover from customers over the 2023–28 period to account for our determination of efficient project costs. We have applied an annual building block revenue approach, in accordance with clause 6A.8.2(h) of the NER. Transgrid's application is consistent with this approach.

Table 4 shows Transgrid is to recover \$38.7 million (\$ nominal) in additional revenues for HumeLink stage 1 part 2 from customers over the 2023–28 period.

As a result of recovering these revenues, we estimate that the transmission component of an indicative residential electricity bill in New South Wales<sup>29</sup> would increase by \$1.1 per year over the remaining four years of the 2023–28 period (2024–25 to 2027–28).

The total impact of HumeLink early work (including both part 1 and part 2) on the transmission component of an indicative residential electricity bill in New South Wales would be \$3.7 per year over the remaining four years of the 2023–28 period (2024–25 to 2027–28).<sup>30</sup>

**Table 4 Indicative incremental revenue calculation – HumeLink stage 1 part 2 (\$m, nominal)**

	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26	2026–27	2027–28	Total
Return on capital	0.0	6.1	14.3	14.5	14.9	49.8
Return of capital <sup>a</sup>	0.0	-3.8	-1.8	-1.7	-1.6	-9.0
Straight-line depreciation <sup>b</sup>	0.0	-0.7	5.3	5.5	5.6	15.8
Less: inflation indexation on opening Regulatory Asset Base (RAB)	0.0	3.1	7.2	7.2	7.3	24.8
Operating expenditure	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4
Revenue adjustments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net tax amount <sup>c</sup>	0.0	0.1	-0.7	-0.6	-0.5	-1.8
Annual building block revenue requirement (unsmoothed)	0.0	2.5	11.9	12.3	12.8	39.5
Annual expected maximum allowed revenue (smoothed)	0.0	9.1	9.5	9.8	10.2	38.7
Increase to annual expected MAR (smoothed) (%)	n/a	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	0.8%

Source: AER analysis.

a Regulatory depreciation (return of capital) consists of straight-line depreciation net of indexation of the RAB. The negative incremental regulatory depreciation is a result of a higher growth in the RAB and the consequent increase in the indexation of the RAB exceeding the increase in the straight-line depreciation.

<sup>29</sup> The indicative residential customer electricity bill reflects the weighted average of AER's 2023–24 Default Market Offer prices for Ausgrid, Endeavour Energy and Essential Energy, using the number of customers in each distribution zone as the weights; AER, *Default market offer prices 2023–24 – Final decision*, 25 May 2023.

<sup>30</sup> The impact of HumeLink stage 1 part 1 on the transmission component of an indicative residential electricity bill in New South Wales was estimated to be \$2.6 per year over the remaining four years of the 2023–28 period; AER, *Amendment of Transgrid's 2023–28 Revenue Determination for HumeLink Early Works Contingent Project (Stage 1 Part 1)*, July 2023, p. 6.

## Overview | Final decision – HumeLink Early Works Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project

b The straight-line depreciation in 2024–25 is negative because the as-commissioned capex for 2023–24 for HumeLink stage 1 part 2 is a negative amount.

c The negative tax amount in this decision is due to the growth in tax expenses, primarily the TAB and tax depreciation, being higher than the incremental increase in taxable income as a result of HumeLink stage 1 part 2.

Table 5 provides the effect of the resultant incremental increase in revenues on Transgrid's total annual building block revenue requirement (unsmoothed), expected maximum allowed revenues, and the X-factor over the remainder of 2023–28 period.

**Table 5 Annual building block revenue requirement, expected MAR and X-factors (\$m, nominal)**

	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26	2026–27	2027–28	Total
Annual building block revenue requirement (unsmoothed)	864.4	949.1	1018.8	1077.0	1087.6	4996.9
Annual expected MAR (smoothed)	924.0	960.1	996.0	1033.2	1071.8	4985.0
X-factors	n/a	-0.96%	-0.79%	-0.79%	-0.79%	n/a

Source: AER analysis.

#### Minor modelling issue regarding 2022–23 capex

As part of its application for HumeLink stage 1 part 2 contingent project, Transgrid proposed a negative adjustment of \$1.1 million (\$ nominal) for the estimated capex amount for 2022–23.<sup>31</sup> This adjustment was proposed to reflect the best estimates at the time of its CPA.<sup>32</sup>

In the amended AER final decision roll forward model (RFM) for HumeLink stage 1 part 1, we provided for a total of \$1,054.1 million (\$ nominal) as-incurred capex in 2022–23.<sup>33</sup> This reflects an estimated amount of capex for that year and is included in the opening RAB value as of 1 July 2023.<sup>34</sup>

While the opening RAB value should be adjusted for any actual and estimated capex in 2022–23, such an adjustment will be made at the time of the 2028–33 transmission determination when the actual capex becomes available. This is consistent with the true-up process in the RFM and the requirements of the NER.<sup>35</sup> Therefore, we did not make any further updates to the estimated capex for 2022–23 in this decision. In its response to our information request, Transgrid agreed with this approach.<sup>36</sup>

<sup>31</sup> This is shown as a negative as-incurred capex for HumeLink stage 1 part 2 in 2022–23 in the proposed RFM for stage 1 part 2. Transgrid, A.1.2B - Transgrid 2023-28 - FD - RFM - April 2023 HL CPA-1B – PUBLIC.

<sup>32</sup> Transgrid, *Email response to AER information request IR01 HumeLink stage 1 part 2 contingent project application*, 17 July 2023.

<sup>33</sup> AER, *Transgrid 2023-28 - Final decision - RFM - HumeLink Early Works - S1P1*, July 2023.

<sup>34</sup> AER, *Transgrid 2023-28 - Final decision - PTRM - HumeLink Early Works - S1P1*, July 2023.

<sup>35</sup> NER, cl. S6A.2.1(f)(3).

<sup>36</sup> Transgrid, *Email response to AER information request IR01 HumeLink stage 1 part 2 contingent project application*, 17 July 2023.

Overview | Final decision – HumeLink Early Works Stage 1 (Part 2) Contingent Project

## Glossary

Shortened form	Extended form
AEMO	Australian Energy Market Operator
AER	Australian Energy Regulator
CPA	Contingent Project Application
capex	capital expenditure
ISP	Integrated System Plan
kV	kilovolt
LLE	Long Lead Equipment
MAR	Maximum Allowed Revenue
NER	National Electricity Rules
ODP	Optimal Development Path
PACR	Project Assessment Conclusion Report
PTRM	Post-tax Revenue Model
PTT	Powering Tomorrow Together
PTRM	Post-tax Revenue Model
RAB	Regulatory Asset Base
RIT-T	Regulatory Investment Test for Transmission
TAC	Transgrid Advisory Council

25 August 2023

## AER approves costs for HumeLink early works stage 1 part 2

The Australian Energy Regulator (AER) has approved costs for HumeLink early works stage 1 part 2 following Transgrid's contingent project application.

Transgrid applied for a contingent project application on 23 May 2023. A contingent project application outlines the amount of revenue an energy business seeks to recover from its customers to deliver a project. The AER's role is to assess whether the trigger event for actionable Integrated System Plan (ISP) projects has been satisfied and to review the reasonableness of the proposed costs of the project.

The AER has approved Transgrid's cost of \$227.9 million (2022–23) in forecast capex for the procurement of long lead equipment. Transgrid's stage 1 part 2 application will bring the associated cost forward to stage 1 and reduce its stage 2 forecast capex by an equivalent amount. This is its second 'early works' contingent project application which includes purchase of transformers, reactors, conductor and steel as part of early works activities.

The stage 1 part 2 project costs approved by the AER will be added to Transgrid's total maximum allowed revenue for the 2023–28 regulatory control period. This will be reflected in customer bills from 2024–25 onwards, with an estimated slight increase in household electricity bills in NSW over 2024–25 to 2027–28 of around \$1.10 per annum (total \$3.70 per annum for stage 1).

Following the approvals of stage 1 activities, the AER expects to receive a contingent project application from Transgrid seeking approval of the construction phase (stage 2) of the HumeLink project before the end of 2023.

### Background

HumeLink is a transmission upgrade connecting the Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme to Bannaby in NSW, expanding transmission capacity in southern NSW. HumeLink is included in the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) 2022 ISP optimal development path as a 'staged actionable project'. The 2022 ISP provides a comprehensive roadmap for the National Electricity Market for supplying affordable and reliable electricity to homes and businesses while supporting Australia's net zero ambitions.

More information about the HumeLink project is available [here](#).

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: FOR COMMENT: Draft 'early works' and draft 'ISP ex post review' rule change requests [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** DCCEEW - Early works rule change request draft - August 2023 (AEMC comments) .docx

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for sending this through for our comment.

We have added some comments, mainly to the framing and the emphasis of stage 2 in the back ground and issue. We are a bit concerned that the current framing focuses on the cost recovery for TNSPs- which is a barrier that we are aiming to remove in this rule change request, but we think the underlying issue is how to facilitate more and earlier planning activities. We suggest it would be helpful to frame more in terms of our recommendations in the TPIR stage 3 final report. This may also improve the chances for us being able to fast track the rule change request.

It would be beneficial if the rule change can emphasise the need for more and earlier planning and explain how the rule change encourages TNSPs to undertake more and earlier planning.

We are happy to chat through any of our comments if that would be helpful.

I will send through any comments on targeted ex post review either later this afternoon or on Monday.

Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 11, 2023 4:44 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: FOR COMMENT: Draft 'early works' and draft 'ISP ex post review' rule change requests [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi all,

Please find attached the drafts of the 'early works' and 'ISP ex post review' rule change requests that were distributed to jurisdictions for comment this afternoon.

Thank you for your comments provided on the early drafts of each rule change request.



If you have any comments on the updated drafts, please send them through to myself or another member of the team by **28 August 2023**.

I hope everyone has a nice weekend.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Assistant Director (a/g)**

Networks Reform | Rewiring the Nation Office | Electricity Division  
Gadigal Land, L7 100 Market Street, Sydney 2000, GPO Box 3090  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
P [Redacted] | E [Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au

[DCCEEW.gov.au](http://DCCEEW.gov.au) ABN 63 573 932 849



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

**From:** [Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>

**Sent:** Friday, August 11, 2023 4:38 PM

**To:** [Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [Redacted]@sa.gov.au; [Redacted]@sa.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@act.gov.au; [Redacted]@act.gov.au; [Redacted]@nt.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
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[Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au

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<[Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>

**Subject:** FOR COMMENT: Draft 'early works' and draft 'ISP ex post review' rule change requests [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear Transmission Working Group,

Please find attached for comment the 'early works' and 'ISP ex post review' rule change requests that

are the result of the work of the Australian Energy Market Commission's (AEMC) Transmission Planning and Investment Review.

This is the first of two opportunities for all jurisdictions to comment on the rule change requests prior to formal submission by the Commonwealth to the AEMC scheduled for late September.

On 8 June, Transmission Working Group members agreed that the Commonwealth would be the proponent for these two rule change requests.

Please respond to [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au with comments or Nil response on these rule change requests by **28 August 2023**.

If you have any questions on either rule change request, please contact [REDACTED] (P [REDACTED]) E [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au).

Kind regards  
Networks Reform Section

Networks Reform | Rewiring the Nation Office | Electricity Division  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
**DCCEEW**[gov.au](http://dcceew.gov.au) ABN 63 573 932 849



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

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Australian Government  
Department of Climate Change, Energy,  
the Environment and Water

## Rule Change Request

Providing TNSPs with certainty and timely cost recovery for early works activities for ISP projects

DRAFT

**Commented [A1]:** A AEMC  
8/25/2023 11:29:00 AM  
Suggest this is framed more in line with the recommendations in the review around improving the economic assessment process / encouraging more planning activities earlier to improve the timeliness and efficiency of delivery of major transmission projects. The underlying issue is better planning information earlier and better cost recovery certainty for TNSPs is part of how we can achieve this.

September 2023

OFFICIAL

## 1. Request to make a Rule

### 1.1. Name and address of the person making the request

The Honourable Chris Bowen MP  
Minister for Climate Change and Energy  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

## 2. Relevant background

### 2.1 AEMC Transmission Planning and Investment Review

The Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) established the Transmission Planning and Investment Review (the Review) to consider how to ensure the regulatory framework can support the timely and efficient delivery of major transmission projects, while ensuring investments in these projects are in the long-term interests of consumers. The review had two major reports. The Stage 2 final report (published October 2022) made recommendations to help manage uncertainty in the near-term and the Stage 3 final report (published May 2023) focused on recommendations to manage uncertainty in the longer-term.

#### 2.1.1. Stage 2 recommendations – defining early works activities

'Early works' is not defined in the National Electricity Rules (NER) but is referenced in several regulatory documents including the Integrated System Plan (ISP), the Australian Energy Regulator's (AER's) *Cost Benefit Analysis Guideline* and the AER's *Guidance Note on the Regulation of Actionable ISP projects*.

The Review's Stage 2 final report recommended the AER provide additional guidance to stakeholders around its expectations on Transmission Network Service Providers (TNSPs) regarding engagement and consultation with local communities and other stakeholders affected by major transmission projects. It also recommended the AER describe early works in its guidance as: activities that commence prior to the construction of the preferred option, to improve the accuracy of cost estimates, and/or to facilitate a project being delivered within the time frames specified by the most recent ISP.<sup>1</sup>

The AER is implementing these recommendation as part its [Review of the cost benefit analysis and regulatory investment test guidelines](#).

The Stage 2 final report also recommended changes be made to the NER to ensure that the expectations on TNSPs to engage and consult local communities and other affected stakeholders are consistent for all transmission projects identified through the ISP.

The AEMC has commenced the [Enhancing community engagement in transmission building rule change](#) to implement this recommendation. It will clarify TNSP community consultation

**Commented [A2]:** A AEMC

8/25/2023 11:31:00 AM

This recommendation is from stage 3- it does build on the stage 2 work but stage 3 should be the focus so it is clear for stakeholders.

**Commented [A3]:** A AEMC

8/23/2023 12:09:00 PM

Consider whether the emphasis on stage 2 recommendations should be reduced. We did not recommend rule changes in stage 2 in relation to early works. Stage 3 recommendations should be the focus.

**Commented [A4]:** A AEMC

8/23/2023 11:58:00 AM

Suggest removing this as this is part of the social licence recommendations and not the early works recommendations.

**Commented [A5]:** A AEMC

8/23/2023 12:01:00 PM

Not sure whether this is true, the AER may be implementing this work as part of a separate guidance note. Suggest confirming with the AER.

<sup>1</sup> Australian Energy Market Commission, Transmission Planning and Investment Review Stage 2 Final Report, Sydney, 27 October 2022, p.37.

expectations for actionable ISP projects and improve stakeholder engagement with impacted communities.

Currently, in practice, Early works are preceded by preparatory activities. Preparatory activities are undertaken to investigate the cost and benefit estimates of ISP projects, that develop the design of investment options and improve project cost estimates informing subsequent ISPs.

TNSPs have an obligation under the NER to undertake preparatory activities for all actionable and future ISP projects, where specified in the ISP. These activities can include:

- Route selection and easement assessment work and relevant cost estimations,
- Preliminary assessments of environmental and planning approval; and
- Stakeholder and local council engagement.

Early works and preparatory activities lead to better outcomes for consumers by reducing uncertainty in the delivery of major transmission projects through improved expenditure forecasts, managing the risk of project delays, and promoting innovative and cost-effective design.

Clarifying the meaning of early works will help stakeholders:

- distinguish early works from preparatory activities, and understand the types of activities TNSPs are able to complete when the ISP recommends completing early works, and
- understand what to include in an early works contingent project application (CPA), discussed in the following Stage 3 recommendations.

2.1.2. Stage 3 recommendations – early works specific contingent project application

The Stage 3 final report recommended that TNSPs be given the ability to conduct an early works specific Contingent Project Application (CPA) – a request to the AER to amend the TNSP’s revenue determination to include early works costs – without first being required to complete the Regulatory Investment Test for Transmission (RIT-T) and feedback loop. This will give TNSPs cost recovery certainty for early works.

This rule change request aims to implement this recommendation, building on the Stage 2 recommendation and the AER’s work to clarify early works expectations.

3. Statement of Issue

3.1 Cost recovery uncertainty and delays could deter TNSPs undertaking timely early works

The Review examined whether the economic assessment process for ISP projects appropriately balances timeliness and rigour. The Review identified that the NER does not provide cost recovery certainty for TNSPs to conduct early works earlier in the planning (RIT-T) process.

The current economic assessment process for ISP projects is:

**Commented [A6]:** A AEMC  
8/23/2023 12:03:00 PM  
Similar to the comment above, suggest removing this to avoid confusion between the social licence recommendations and the early works ones.

**Commented [A7]:** A AEMC  
8/23/2023 12:05:00 PM  
We consider it would be useful to explain purpose of preparatory activities as the rule change would enable them to happen concurrently with early works.

**Commented [A8]:** A AEMC  
8/23/2023 12:07:00 PM  
Suggest maintaining consistency with the existing definition of preparatory activities.

**Commented [A9]:** A AEMC  
8/25/2023 11:33:00 AM  
In the AEMC's view this should be the main focus. The recommendations are from stage 3 not too. This will be important in any decision to fast track the rule change (or not)

**Commented [A10]:** A AEMC  
8/25/2023 11:39:00 AM  
This would benefit from more context and why we recommended that they be able to do this and what the benefit would be. Cost recovery is a barrier the recommendations in the TPIR stage 3 final report aim to overcome. Suggest this is taken from the key recommendations box on page 11 of the stage 3 final report. The framing of this will be important.

**Commented [A11R10]:** A AEMC  
8/25/2023 11:40:00 AM  
E.g. The Commission’s recommendations aim to encourage TNSPs to efficiently undertake more planning activities earlier. This will improve the quality of information available to TNSPs when identifying and assessing transmission investment options and reduce the likelihood of unnecessary or higher costs being incurred later in the process such as the costs associated with delays or addressing impacts on communities and the environment.

**Commented [A12]:** A AEMC  
8/25/2023 11:43:00 AM  
The issue is not just about cost recovery. Cost recovery is a barrier to TNSPs undertaking more planning activities earlier. The issue is that major transmission projects would benefit from more planning activities earlier to improve the quality of information earlier. Suggest this framing and then the cost recovery being a sub heading explaining it is a barrier that needs to be resolved. The AEMC is happy to discuss if this would be useful.

1. **TNSP network planning:** The TNSP identifies the need to augment its network and publishes augmentation options in its Transmission Annual Planning Report.
2. **ISP:** AEMO's ISP identifies the optimal development path—the least cost combination of transmission, generation, and storage— to meet system needs through a combination of actionable and future ISP projects. For actionable projects AEMO identifies one or more credible options the TNSP must consider in its RIT-T, known as ISP candidate options.
3. **RIT-T:** The TNSP identifies and assesses the net market benefit of all credible options (ISP candidate options and others) to the meet the identified need. The option with the greatest net market benefit becomes the preferred option.
4. **ISP feedback loop:** AEMO assesses whether the preferred option aligns with the most recent ISP's optimal development path.
5. **Contingent project application:** The TNSP applies to the AER to amend the TNSP's revenue determination to include the cost of the preferred option. The AER considers whether the project is reasonably required to be undertaken and assesses if the costs are prudent and efficient. Costs cannot exceed the value assessed by AEMO in the feedback loop.
6. **Project commencement:** With AER approval of the CPA, the TNSP can commence the project with the certainty that it will recover all project costs.

Normally, a TNSP would commence early works after the AER approves the CPA for the preferred option. In this case the cost of early works is part of the project's costs and the TNSP has certainty early works costs will be recovered.

However, in some cases undertaking early works concurrently with the RIT-T can speed up project delivery because it encourages better planning upfront. For example, there may be community engagement activities, assets and equipment with long delivery times the TNSP requires regardless of the preferred option. Early community engagement and purchasing these assets and equipment or securing a place in the delivery queue earlier may avoid delivery delays and costs associated with supply chain delays, supporting the timely delivery of transmission projects.

Currently, if a TNSP commences early works prior to AER approval of a CPA, there is a risk that the costs associated with these activities may not be recoverable. Where a TNSP does initiate early works, TNSPs may not decide not to incur significant early works costs not fund them adequately in order to manage this risk; resulting in, for example, less extensive environmental or land use impact analysis or poor or limited ongoing community engagement. The current arrangements do not encourage thus deter TNSPs from the timely commencement of early works to an appropriate standard and scope, and can mean TNSPs delay projects.

For some projects, AEMO has addressed this problem by defining an ISP project as a two-stage project with the TNSP submitting a CPA for each stage, with stage 1 being early works specific. However, this approach depends on the two yearly ISP development cycle and may not be timely enough for some projects.

Governments have also addressed this issue by underwriting early works for a project, whereby the TNSP is assured that should it not be able to subsequently obtain AER approval to recover

**Commented [A13]:** A AEMC

8/23/2023 12:50:00 PM

Suggest emphasise the need for better upfront planning throughout the document. Better planning reduces the risk of delays, and earlier cost recovery certainty of early works encourages more and earlier planning.

**Commented [A14]:** A AEMC

8/23/2023 12:23:00 PM

It is correct that early works costs may include costs involved with stakeholder engagement but its more the costs of establishing and operating extensive ongoing stakeholder engagement once the final route is clearer rather than early community engagement.

costs its costs would be met by the Government. This has enabled early works for some projects to proceed, however, it is an ad hoc mechanism and not automatically available to all projects.

The Review also highlighted that there is currently no consistent definition of early works in the NER or what activities the AER should consider early works, further adding to cost recover uncertainty.

In summary, the two key issues this rule change addresses are that:

- Early works costs are only able to be recovered following the completion of a RIT-T and feedback loop, which may lead to TNSPs delaying the commencement of early works activities, or performing them ~~less extensively~~ ~~poorly~~.
- There is no consistent definition of early works in the NER to guide the AER's assessment of an early works CPA.

#### 4. Description of the proposed rule

The proposed early works rule would amend the NER to implement the rule change recommendations contained in the Review's Stage 3 final report. The proposed amendments, which were prepared by the AEMC and accompanied the Stage 3 final report, are attached to this request.

In summary, these are:

- TNSPs be enabled to submit a separate early works specific CPA to the AER without needing to first complete a RIT-T and feedback loop.
  - This is to encourage TNSPs to bring forward early works and undertake more thorough planning activities earlier in the economic assessment process.
- Introducing in the NER a definition of early works to guide the AER's assessment of an early works CPA, provide cost recovery certainty, and protect consumers from inefficient expenditure.
- Clarifying in the NER that AEMO, in the ISP, can specify examples of early works and preparatory activities for actionable ISP projects.

##### 4.1. TNSPs should be able to submit an early works CPA without having to complete a RIT-T and feedback loop

TNSPs should have the explicit ability to submit an early works CPA, for an actionable ISP project, without having to complete a RIT-T and feedback loop.<sup>2</sup>

This proposed change may represent a time saving of up to four months for an ISP staged project to complete the economic assessment process relative to the current arrangements as conducting earlier planning activities, such as early works, may reduce supply chain delays and mitigate other project delay risks.

For example, a TNSP could purchase equipment which will be needed regardless of the preferred option to avoid costs associated with equipment supply chain delays.

**Commented [A15]:** A AEMC  
8/25/2023 12:40:00 PM  
Suggest use the framing with the TPIR stage 3 final report to keep it consistent. The issue is that more and earlier planning activities would be beneficial in improving timely delivery. Then these sub issues that are barriers.

**Commented [A16]:** A AEMC  
8/23/2023 12:42:00 PM  
Suggest for this section to include separate sub sections for its application to ISP staged and un staged projects. The section currently interchanges between the two.

<sup>2</sup> Proposed clause 5.16A.4(b1), 5.16A.5(e), 5.16A.6(b) of the NER.

The proposed rule also clarifies that when a TNSP is preparing a RIT-T, feedback loop and CPA for an actionable ISP project, a TNSP must reflect the costs approved in any prior early works CPAs for the specific actionable ISP project to accurately reflect the total cost of the project.<sup>3</sup>

Due to each stage of an actionable ISP staged project being considered a distinct actionable ISP project, the costs approved in an early works CPA for staged ISP projects would not need to be included in any subsequent RIT-T, feedback loop or CPA as these costs are discrete from the following stages.

Under this proposal TNSPs will maintain the discretion not to bring early works/cost recovery forward in cases it is considered not beneficial or necessary.<sup>4</sup>

#### 4.2. Defining early works

It is essential that there is a clear definition of early works in the NER to guide the assessment of an early works CPA.

The proposed definition introduces principles to assist the AER in determining whether costs proposed in an early works CPA are for activities that:

- Improve the accuracy of cost estimates for that project, or
- Facilitate delivery in line with the timeframes specified by the most recent ISP.<sup>5</sup>

The Commonwealth considers that alongside this definition in the NER, the AER should update current guidance, or create new guidance, that aims to address risks associated with bringing early works forward. These guidelines should:

- Provide clarity on the types of early works to be brought forward,
- Have regard to the cost efficiency of proposed early works activities.

This rule change process should further consider the need for such guidance.

#### 4.3. AEMO can specify early works and preparatory activities in the ISP

This rule proposes clarifying in the NER that AEMO, in the ISP, can specify examples of early works and preparatory activities for actionable ISP projects. The ISP providing specific examples of early works and preparatory activities will assist:

- TNSPs in including efficient costs in their revenue proposal or early works CPA, and
- the AER when assessing the efficiency of early works costs.

AEMO should build on this list, where beneficial, within the ISP. Further, AEMO providing this information in the ISP would not obligate TNSPs to complete specific activities.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Proposed clause 5.16A.5(d) and 6A.8.2(b)(9) of the NER.

<sup>4</sup> Proposed clause 5.16A.4(b1) of the NER.

<sup>5</sup> See proposed definition of early works in Chapter 10 of the NER.

<sup>6</sup> Proposed clause 5.22.6(a)(6)(vii) of the NER.



The proposed rule clarifies that the ISP may specify early works for all actionable ISP projects, rather than only specifying for staged ISP projects.<sup>7</sup>

The NER should further clarify that TNSPs must conduct preparatory activities for actionable ISP projects, that the TNSP considers beneficial, where these activities have not already commenced.<sup>8</sup> This clarifies that TNSPs must carry out preparatory activities for actionable ISP projects regardless of whether these activities are specified in the ISP or not.

## 5. How the proposed rule will address the issue

Giving cost recovery certainty for early works will encourage early works to be conducted by TNSPs earlier in the planning process, ultimately leading to better [planning upfront community engagement](#), and increasing the pace of transmission delivery.

In particular, [earlier](#) cost recovery certainty for early works will:

- Enable TNSPs to develop options for transmission investment that more accurately reflect social, cultural, heritage and environmental impacts.
- Identify supply chain risks and challenges earlier in the planning process to prevent unforeseen delays later in the project.
- Mitigate the risk of later project cost increases and project delays due to later consideration of critical social, cultural, heritage and environmental factors that may increase costs.
- Allow time for comprehensive evaluation of land use and easements for timelier development of potential routes.

Defining early works in the NER, clarifying early works activities in guidelines and AEMO specifying early works activities in the ISP will remove uncertainty about early works activities TNSPs can undertake.

## 6. How the proposed rule will or is likely to contribute to the achievement of the National Electricity Objective

The national electricity objective (NEO), as set out in section 7 of the National Electricity Law, is:

“to promote efficient investment in, and efficient operation and use of, electricity services for the long term interests of consumers of electricity with respect to:

- (a) price, quality, safety, reliability, and security of supply of electricity; and
- (b) the reliability, safety, and security of the national electricity system.”

The relevant aspect of the NEO, with respect to this rule change request, is the promotion of efficient investment in electricity services for the long-term interests of consumers of electricity with respect to price, quality, safety, reliability, and security of the supply of electricity.

<sup>7</sup> Proposed clause 5.22.6(a)(6)(vii) of the NER.

<sup>8</sup> Proposed clause 5.22.6(d)(1) of the NER.

Timely and efficient investment in actionable ISP projects is required to ensure reliability and security of the supply of electricity, and to reduce adverse impacts on price as the electricity system transitions to net zero.

The proposed amendments advance the NEO by:

1. Supporting timely and efficient project delivery to promote better outcomes for consumers by encouraging TNSPs to undertake increased and earlier planning activities.
2. Improving economic efficiency through greater cost recovery certainty for TNSPs.
3. Retaining flexibility in the regulatory framework and making the delivery of the preferred option more adaptive to changes in conditions because of greater planning undertaken earlier.
4. Facilitating decarbonisation through reducing the risk of transmission delays and supporting the timely connection of renewable energy resources.

## 7 Expected costs, benefits and impacts of the proposed rule

### 7.1. Expected benefits

Undertaking more planning activities earlier in the process would enable TNSPs to develop options for transmission investment that more accurately reflect social, cultural, heritage and environmental impacts. This would mitigate the risk of later project cost increases and project delays because of the later consideration of these factors. Bringing these activities forward could also mitigate the risk of additional costs to consumers due to supply chain delays and labour supply issues currently impacting major transmission projects.

The proposed early works amendments would help ensure early and thorough stakeholder engagement.

### 7.2. Expected costs

The proposed amendments are not expected to impose any significant new costs on the energy market bodies, TNSPs or consumers. They will result in TNSPs recovering the costs for early works earlier for some projects and could potentially help reduce project costs. These amendments are not expected to materially increase project costs.

There is the risk of a TNSP recovering costs for early work, which are passed on to consumers, but the project does not go ahead. However, the Commonwealth considers the risk of this eventuating is low.

There will be some additional administrative and compliance costs associated with the proposed rule, due to a TNSP completing two CPAs for a project, but these costs are not expected to be material.

### 7.3. Expected impacts

TNSPs, market bodies and consumers are likely to be impacted by this rule change.

**Commented [A17]:** A AEMC

8/23/2023 1:16:00 PM

It may be appropriate to acknowledge that planning costs may go up because TNSPs are expected to do more upfront. This should be offset by reduced delays etc.

TNSPs may be impacted by:

- Being able to submit a separate early works specific CPA to the AER without needing to first complete a RIT-T or feedback loop.
- Having certainty they will recover the cost of early works regardless of whether the project passes the RIT-T and proceeds.
- Early works being conducted earlier in the regulatory process.
- Clarifying the requirement to carry out preparatory activities for actionable ISP projects it considers to be beneficial where they have not already commenced and regardless of whether these activities are specified by AEMO in the ISP.

Consumers may be impacted by:

- Minimising bill impacts by
  - Helping ensure the timely delivery of transmission infrastructure
  - Enabling new renewable generation, enabling lower wholesale electricity costs in the longer term.
- Paying for early works for projects that do not proceed.

The reform may also impact the market bodies through:

- The AER assessing two CPAs for one project—an early works CPA and a CPA for project construction.
- The requirement for the AER to assess an early works CPA without having a RIT-T as reference.
- Additional administrative work for the AER associated with both the implementation and administration of the proposed amendments.
- The AER developing guidelines required to implement this rule change request.

**Commented [A18]:** A AEMC  
8/23/2023 1:10:00 PM  
May be more work for AEMO to specify examples of prep activities and early works

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 2:12 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Feedback loop rule change request - AEMO's feedback [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Categories:** Rules/Reviews

Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We also know TG doesn't necessarily agree with the rule change anymore- however this rule change is more about stopping TNSPs putting in feedback loop requests at certain times where it will cause delays and require a lot more work. It is unclear what their exact concern is.

It might be worth setting up a meeting with your team and [REDACTED] and I to take you through the recommendations and history at a high level?

---

**From:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2023 10:24 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au>; Danielle Beinart <Danielle.Beinart@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback loop rule change request - AEMO's feedback [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for confirming this, I will add your suggested wording into the rule change request.

Thanks again,  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 March 2023 8:32 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@industry.gov.au>; Danielle Beinart <Danielle.Beinart@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback loop rule change request - AEMO's feedback [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [REDACTED]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Happy to discuss.

Thanks

[Redacted]

---

**From:** [Redacted] <[Redacted]@industry.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 March 2023 2:42 PM  
**To:** [Redacted] <[Redacted]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [Redacted] <[Redacted]@industry.gov.au>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]@industry.gov.au>;  
Danielle Beinart <Danielle.Beinart@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback loop rule change request - AEMO's feedback [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [Redacted]

Thanks for getting back to me so quickly. [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

No word yet from the NFF on social licence, but I will let you know as soon as we've heard anything.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

---

**From:** [Redacted] <[Redacted]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 March 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** [Redacted] <[Redacted]@industry.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [Redacted] <[Redacted]@industry.gov.au>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]@industry.gov.au>;  
Danielle Beinart <Danielle.Beinart@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback loop rule change request - AEMO's feedback [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [Redacted]

I hope you are well too.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Was there any update on the NFF feedback on the social licence rule change request?

Happy to chat if that would be easier.

kind regards,

[Redacted]

---

**From:** [Redacted] <[Redacted]@industry.gov.au>

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 March 2023 11:38 AM

**To:** [Redacted] <[Redacted]@aemc.gov.au>

**Cc:** [Redacted] <[Redacted]@industry.gov.au> [Redacted] <[Redacted]@industry.gov.au>

**Subject:** Feedback loop rule change request - AEMO's feedback [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [Redacted]

I hope you're well.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]



**Senior Policy Officer**

Electricity Division | Networks Reforms and Projects |  
Turrbal and Jagera Land, L13 100 Creek Street, Brisbane 4000  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

P [redacted] | E [redacted]@industry.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849

**Acknowledgement of Country**

Our department recognises the First Peoples of this nation and their ongoing connection to culture and country. We acknowledge First Nations Peoples as the Traditional Owners, Custodians and Lore Keepers of the world's oldest living culture and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging

OFFICIAL

**From:** Energy System Planning  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 5:21 PM  
**To:** [redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@sa.gov.au; [redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]@act.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [redacted]@nt.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [redacted]@dpic.nsw.gov.au';  
 [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au

**CC:** [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]@aemo.com.au; [redacted]  
 [redacted]

**Subject:** RE: System Planning Working Group (29 August) - meeting agenda and papers [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Attachments:** Meeting Agenda 3 - System Planning Working Group.docx; Attachment A - Meeting 2 minutes (31 July 23).docx; [redacted]

[redacted] Attachment B.1 - Jurisdictions consolidated responses to AEMOs recommendation.docx; [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]

Good afternoon,

Please find attached an updated agenda and a full pack of papers for the System Planning Working Group meeting next week.

Note the pack now includes the following attachments:

[redacted]

Kind regards,

[redacted]

**System Planning Working Group Secretariat**

Electricity Division | Network Reform and Projects Branch | [redacted]  
 Ngunnawal Country, 51 Allara St, Canberra ACT 2601 Australia  
 Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
 M [redacted] | E [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849





We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 4:26 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au; [REDACTED]@act.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [REDACTED]@nt.gov.au; [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]@dpie.nsw.gov.au'; [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
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 [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<Miyuru.Ediriweera@aer.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
 <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>

**Subject:** System Planning Working Group (29 August) - meeting agenda and papers [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good afternoon,

Please find attached the draft agenda for the System Planning Working Group meeting on 29 August from 1.00-2.30pm.

Included in the pack are the following attachments (Note: Attachment B is expected to be circulated later this week):

Attachment A: Meeting 2 minutes (31 July 2023)  
[REDACTED]

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
System Planning Working Group Secretariat

Electricity Division | Network Reform and Projects Branch | [REDACTED]  
Ngunnawal Country, 51 Allara St, Canberra ACT 2601 Australia  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
M [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au

**DCCEEW**[gov.au](http://dcceew.gov.au) ABN 63 573 932 849



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**Subject:** Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up

**Location:** Murrumbidgee

**Start:** 9/5/2023 3:00 AM

**End:** 9/5/2023 4:00 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** Monthly

**Recurrence Pattern:** the first Tuesday of every 1 month(s) from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** [REDACTED]

**Required Attendees:** [REDACTED]@industry.gov.au; Danielle Beinart; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]

**Optional Attendees:** [REDACTED]

**Resources:** Murrumbidgee


Hi All

Looking forward to catching up tomorrow. Please see the draft agenda below and let me know if there is anything else you would like me to add. We can give some high level feedback on the [REDACTED] if that would be helpful.

We have a couple of people who wont be able to attend until the last half of the meeting, which means we may have to switch a couple of the rule change updates until the second half depending on how quickly we get through everything.

Draft agenda

1. Update on received rule changes approach and timing (AEMC)
  - a. Financeability
  - b. Community Engagement (Social licence)
  - c. Feedback loop
  - d. Emissions
  - e. Concessional finance
2. Update on pending rule changes (DCCEEW and AEMC)
  - a. EAP1
  - b. Targeted ex-post review
3. [REDACTED]

4. 
5. Other business

---

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 5, 2023 2:09 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for the discussion today.

Could I please suggest that we invert the agenda and begin with [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED], then end with the rule changes?

This would just allow some of our team to log off after their relevant items rather than attend the full meeting.

Thank you,  
[REDACTED]

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>

**Sent:** Monday, September 4, 2023 2:28 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Danielle Beinart; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up

**When:** Tuesday, 5 September 2023 1:00 PM-2:00 PM (UTC+10:00) Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney.

**Where:** Murrumbidgee

Hi All

Looking forward to catching up tomorrow. Please see the draft agenda below and let me know if there is anything else you would like me to add. We can give some high level feedback on the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] if that would be helpful.

We have a couple of people who wont be able to attend until the last half of the meeting, which means we may have to switch a couple of the rule change updates until the second half depending on how quickly we get through everything.

Draft agenda

1. Update on received rule changes approach and timing (AEMC)
  - a. Financeability
  - b. Community Engagement (Social licence)
  - c. Feedback loop
  - d. Emissions
  - e. Concessional finance
2. Update on pending rule changes (DCCEEW and AEMC)

- a. EAP1
- b. Targeted ex-post review
- c. [REDACTED]
3. [REDACTED]
4. [REDACTED]
5. Other business

---

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 5, 2023 8:54 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback loop rule change request

**Categories:** Diary

Hi [REDACTED]

All good here thanks!

I am free:

- Thursday 9-12
- Friday 9-12
- Monday 12-2.30

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Manager - Transmission Reform, Reform Development & Insights



**Australian Energy Market Operator**

M [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au

L1/25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide 5000

[aemo.com.au](http://aemo.com.au)

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---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 5 September 2023 3:47 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Feedback loop rule change request

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well.

I wanted to reach out about the feedback loop rule change request. We are now planning on commencing the rule change this year, potentially fast tracked.

I know AEMO had some feedback to the rule change request (around the exclusion window for the PACR for example) and the project team (cced) were wanting to set up a meeting to discuss.

Could you please let us know your availability over the next week or so for a meeting?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Director  
Australian Energy Market Commission  
D [REDACTED] | T [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au | www.aemc.gov.au

Level 15, 60 Castlereagh St, Sydney NSW 2000.

The Gadigal people of the Eora nation are the traditional owners of the land on which AEMC's office is located.

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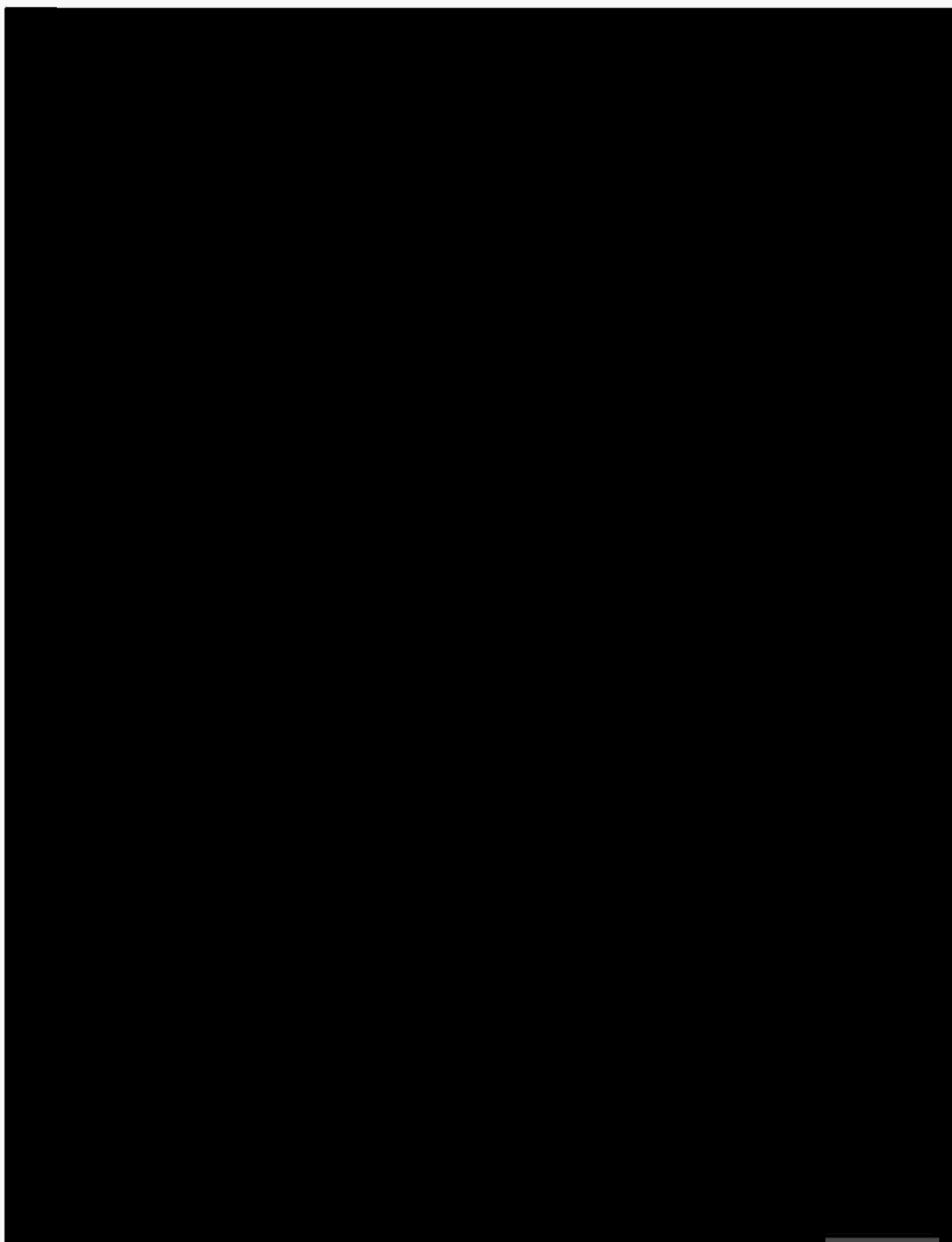
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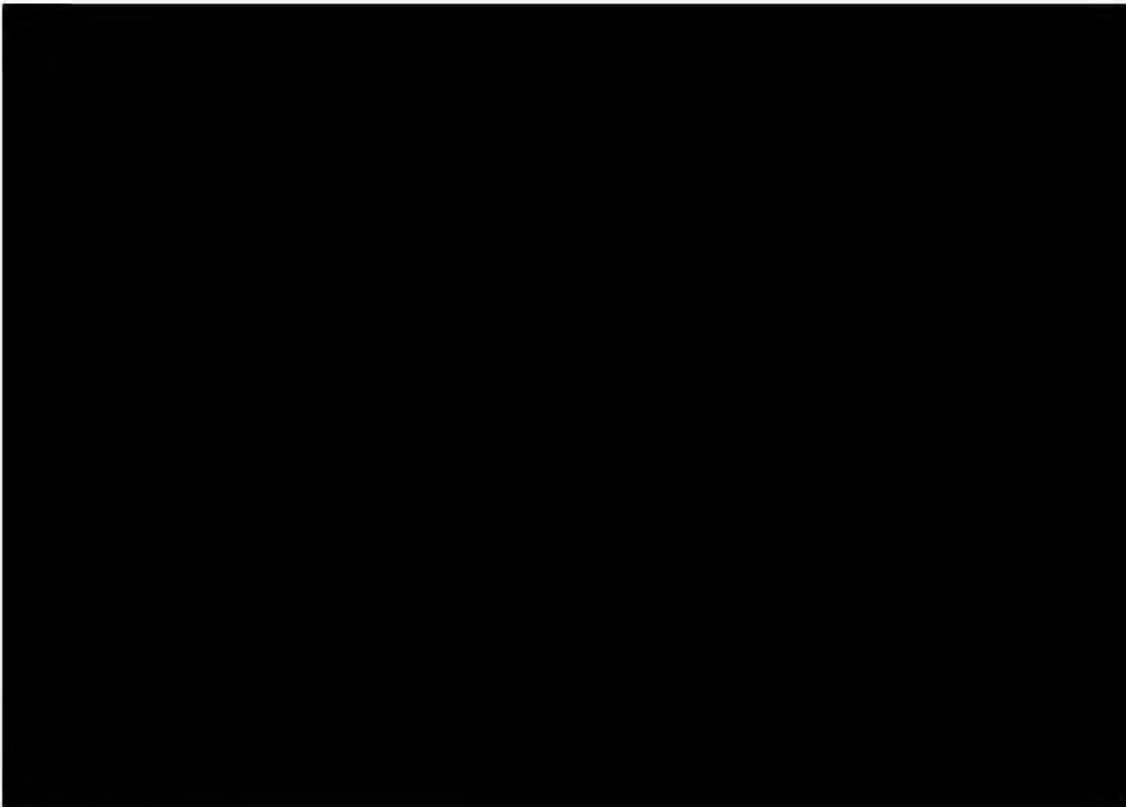


**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 9:07 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: For Information: Papers for Transmission Working Group Meeting 4 - comments on [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** [REDACTED]

Good morning [REDACTED] and team

[REDACTED]





Kind regards,

█

█ Director

**Australian Energy Market Commission**

D █

T █

█@aemc.gov.au | [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

**Level 15, 60 Castlereagh St, Sydney NSW 2000.**

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From: [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>  
 Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 8:49 PM  
 To: [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au;  
 Gowans, Kirsty <Kirsty.Gowans@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [redacted]@sa.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@sa.gov.au; [redacted]@act.gov.au; [redacted]@act.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@nt.gov.au; [redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]  
 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@aer.gov.au; [redacted]  
 <[redacted]@aer.gov.au>; [redacted]@esb.org.au; Victoria Mollard  
 <Victoria.Mollard@aemc.gov.au>; [redacted]@aemc.gov.au; [redacted]  
 <[redacted]@aemc.gov.au>; [redacted]@aemo.com.au>  
 Cc: [redacted]@dpie.nsw.gov.au; [redacted]@sa.gov.au; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au <[redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au>; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]  
 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]  
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 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au;  
 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]  
 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>

**Subject:** For Information: Papers for Transmission Working Group Meeting 4 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear Transmission working group members,

Please find attached-

- [redacted]
- [redacted]

- **For endorsement:** Meeting 3 minutes. These remain unchanged from the version circulated on Monday in the meeting invite.
- Meeting 4 agenda, also circulated on Monday.

Kind Regards,

Secretariat  
Electricity Transmission Working Group

Electricity Division | Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
Email: [REDACTED]@industry.gov.au

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**Subject:** SPWG [REDACTED] Sub-working Group meeting 2 - Gas integration deep dive  
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Start:** 9/12/2023 3:30 AM

**End:** 9/12/2023 5:00 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Received

**Organizer:** Energy System Planning

**Required Attendees:** [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@sa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au; [REDACTED]@act.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [REDACTED]@nt.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dpie.nsw.gov.au';  
[REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@aemo.com.au; [REDACTED]@act.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@nt.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;

**Optional Attendees:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Resources:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Attachments:** [REDACTED]  
Attachment A - [REDACTED]

Please find attached the agenda (and [REDACTED]) for the [REDACTED] meeting.

---

## Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 435 983 869 28

Passcode: DusJfv

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

**Join with a video conferencing device**

[597361658@t.plcm.vc](mailto:597361658@t.plcm.vc)

Video Conference ID: 136 496 338 0

[Alternate VTC instructions](#)

**Or call in (audio only)**

[+61 2 7208 4605,482169787#](tel:+61272084605482169787) Australia, Sydney

Phone Conference ID: 482 169 787#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

---

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 7, 2023 9:07 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au'; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au'; [REDACTED]@act.gov.au'; [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au'; [REDACTED]@nt.gov.au'; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au'; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au'; [REDACTED]@cpw.qld.gov.au'; [REDACTED]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** System Planning Working Group - 29 August 2023 meeting minutes and action items [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Meeting 3 minutes (29 Aug 23).docx; Attachment D - [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Attachment D.1 - [REDACTED]

Good evening,

Please find attached the draft minutes from the System Planning Working Group meeting on 29 August 2023.

There was one action item from the meeting, with the Working Group asked to provide written

[REDACTED] Can this please be provided by **12 September 2023**. Thanks to those that have already sent feedback through!

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Assistant Manager

Electricity Division | Network Reform and Projects Branch | [REDACTED]  
Ngunnawal Country, 51 Allara St, Canberra ACT 2601 Australia  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
M [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED]@dceew.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



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**Subject:** AEMC - AER: feedback loop rule change

**Location:** Jarrah - MS Teams

**Start:** 9/18/2023 1:30 AM

**End:** 9/18/2023 2:00 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** [REDACTED]

**Required Attendees:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au

**Resources:** Jarrah - MS Teams

To discuss the rule change request from Minister Bowen to improve the workability of the feedback loop  
- <https://www.aemc.gov.au/rule-changes/improving-workability-feedback-loop>

---

## Microsoft Teams meeting

### Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 418 851 934 134

Passcode: A25e6w

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

### Join with a video conferencing device

270539195@t.plcm.vc

Video Conference ID: 135 387 002 4

[Alternate VTC instructions](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 11:19 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting request - feedback loop rule change request [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for circulating those options – I'll send through a calendar invitation shortly to you and Sophia.

In terms of commencement timing, the project team is currently working that through and we should be able to have an informed discussion at our meeting. Of course, appreciate any views you may have as well.

Look forward to meeting next week.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 8, 2023 12:17 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting request - feedback loop rule change request [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] – thanks for reaching out to get in touch. I'd appreciate the chance to discuss the feedback loop rule change. Do you have an estimate of when the AEMC is looking to commence consultation? I'm looping in [REDACTED] as well who has been working with me on many of the reforms coming out of TPIR.

We can make the following times in the week after next:

- Mon 18 Sept - any time after 10am
- Tue 19 Sept – any time after 1pm
- Thu 21 Sept – 9-11am

If none of those times work on your end, please let me know and we can find some alternatives.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)  
Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation  
**Australian Energy Regulator**  
Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW

T: [REDACTED]



The ACCC acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of Country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to the land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures; and to their Elders past, present and future.

---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 7 September 2023 4:04 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Meeting request - feedback loop rule change request

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Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. It's nice to have the opportunity reconnect.

[REDACTED] I've included a link to the rule change here -  
<https://www.aemc.gov.au/rule-changes/improving-workability-feedback-loop>

I understand from colleagues you are the appropriate person to connect with at the AER. It would be useful to find a time to discuss the AER's views on the rule change request.

Let me know your availability over the next couple of weeks, preferably the week after next.

Look forward to hearing from you and having the opportunity to engage again.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Senior Adviser  
**Australian Energy Market Commission**  
D [REDACTED] | M [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au | [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 2:40 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: For Information: Papers for Transmission Working Group Meeting 4 - comments on [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well.

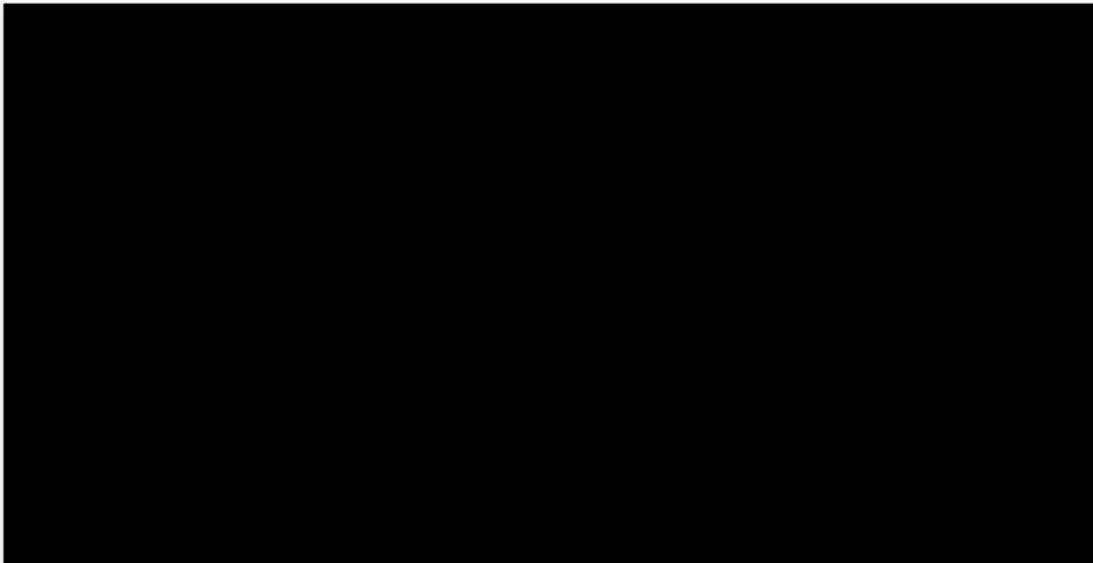
As discussed last week, attached and below is our response to DCCEEW on the [REDACTED]. We would be grateful if you could also share AEMO's response with us.

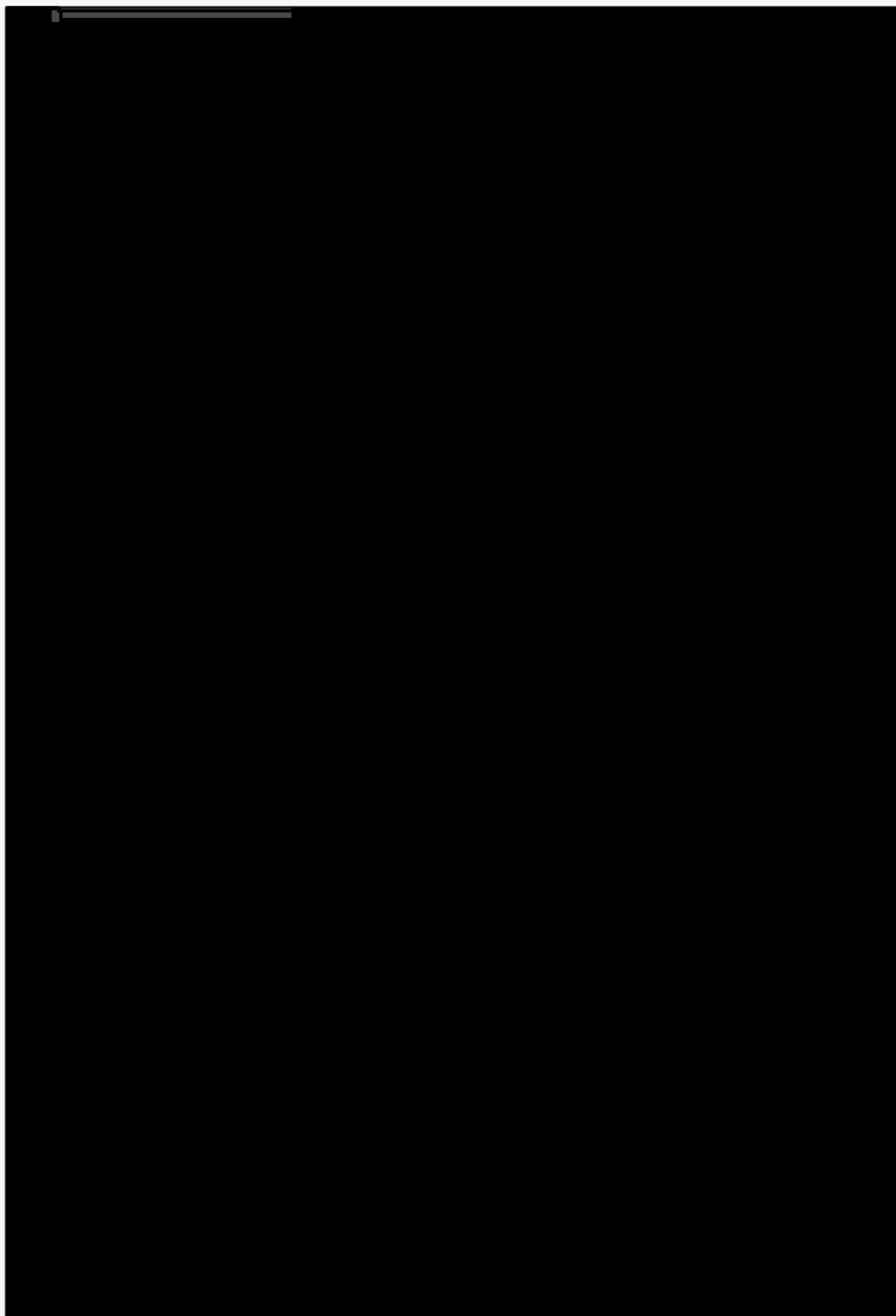
Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

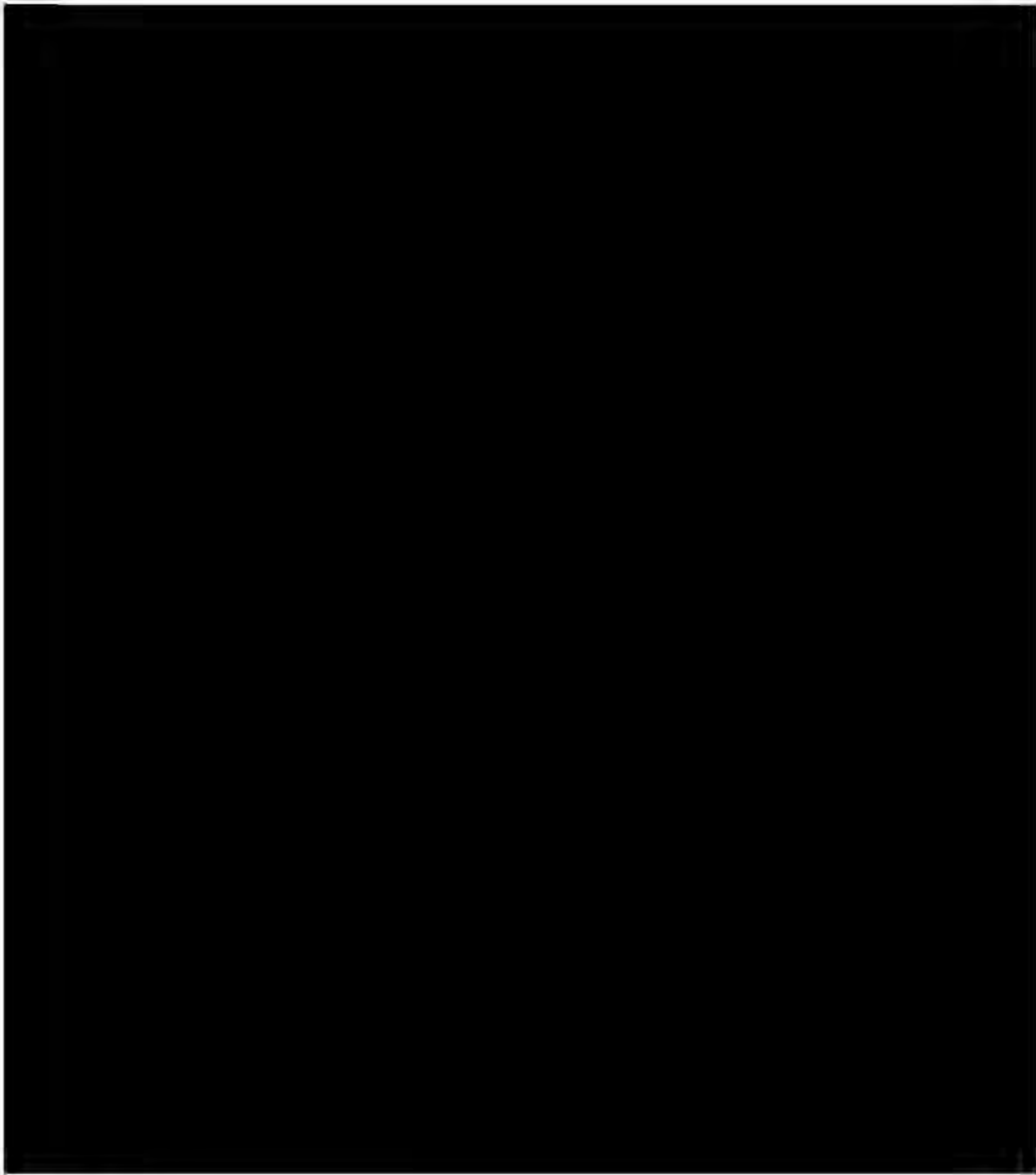
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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 9:07 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: For Information: Papers for Transmission Working Group Meeting 4 - [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Good morning [REDACTED] and team







Kind regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Director



**Australian Energy Market Commission**

D [redacted] | T [redacted]  
[redacted]@aemc.gov.au | www.aemc.gov.au

**Level 15, 60 Castlereagh St, Sydney NSW 2000.**

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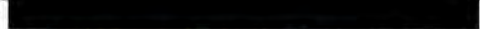
---

**From:** [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 16, 2023 8:49 PM  
**To:** [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au;>  
 Gowans, Kirsty <Kirsty.Gowans@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [redacted]@sa.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@sa.gov.au; [redacted]@act.gov.au; [redacted]@act.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@nt.gov.au; [redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]  
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 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@aer.gov.au; [redacted]  
 <[redacted]@aer.gov.au>; [redacted]@esb.org.au; Victoria Mollard  
 <Victoria.Mollard@aemc.gov.au>; [redacted]@aemc.gov.au>; [redacted]  
 <[redacted]@aemc.gov.au>; [redacted]@aemo.com.au>  
**Cc:** [redacted]@dpi.nsw.gov.au; [redacted]@sa.gov.au; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au;>  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]  
 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]  
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 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>

**Subject:** For Information: Papers for Transmission Working Group Meeting 4 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear Transmission working group members,

Please find attached-

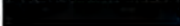
- 
- 
- **For endorsement:** Meeting 3 minutes. These remain unchanged from the version circulated on Monday in the meeting invite.
- Meeting 4 agenda, also circulated on Monday.

Kind Regards,

**Secretariat**

**Electricity Transmission Working Group**

Electricity Division | Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Email @industry.gov.au

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2023 9:03 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: For Information: Papers for Transmission Working Group Meeting 4 - comments on [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** [REDACTED] - AEMO comments.docx

Good morning [REDACTED]

Thanks for this, much appreciated. Here is our response attached – happy to discuss anything in here.

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
Manager - Transmission Reform, Reform Development & Insights



**Australian Energy Market Operator**

M [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au

L1/25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide 5000

[aemo.com.au](http://aemo.com.au)

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**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 15 September 2023 2:10 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: For Information: Papers for Transmission Working Group Meeting 4 - [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well.

[REDACTED]

Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 9:07 AM

**To:** [REDACTED]@dceew.gov.au>

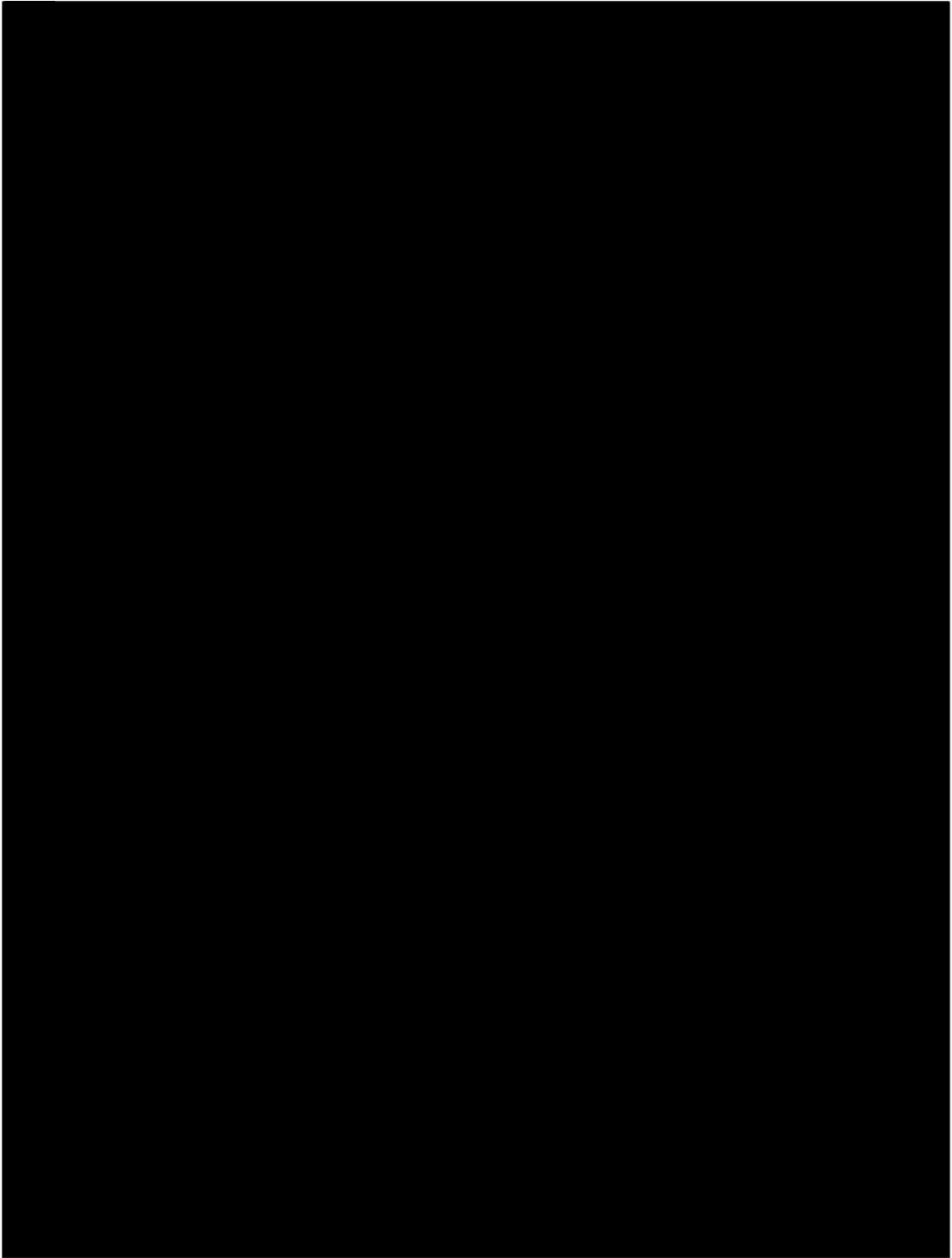
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>;

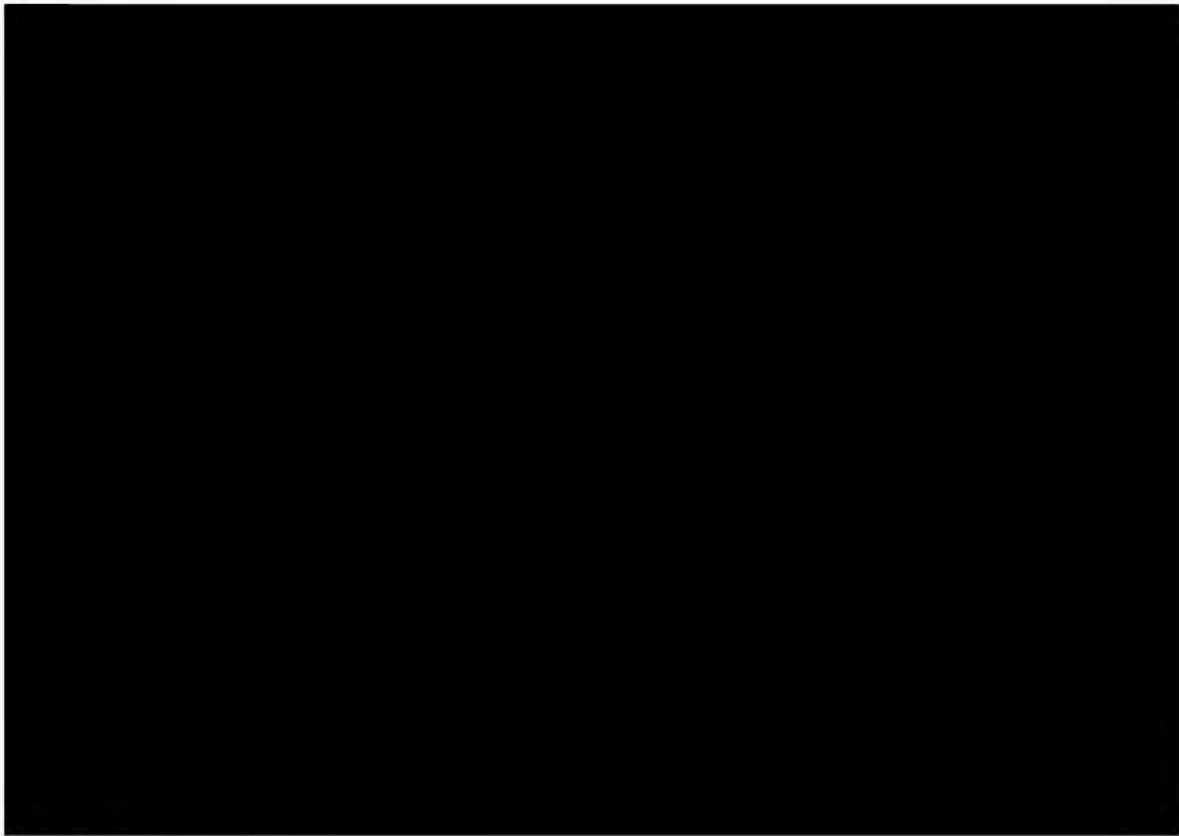
[REDACTED]@dceew.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: For Information: Papers for Transmission Working Group Meeting 4 - [REDACTED]

Good morning [REDACTED] and team







Kind regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Director

**Australian Energy Market Commission**

D [Redacted] T [Redacted]  
[Redacted]@aemc.gov.au | [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

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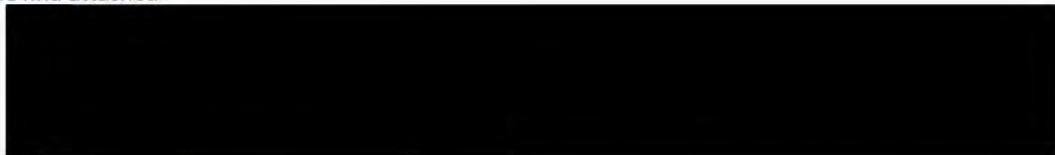
Please consider the environment before printing.

From: [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>  
 Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 8:49 PM  
 To: [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 Gowans, Kirsty <Kirsty.Gowans@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [redacted]@sa.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@sa.gov.au; [redacted]@act.gov.au; [redacted]@act.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@nt.gov.au; [redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@aer.gov.au; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@aer.gov.au; [redacted]@esb.org.au; Victoria Mollard  
 <Victoria.Mollard@aemc.gov.au>; [redacted]@aemc.gov.au>; [redacted]  
 <[redacted]@aemc.gov.au>; [redacted]@aemo.com.au>  
 Cc: [redacted]@dpie.nsw.gov.au; [redacted]@sa.gov.au; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au <[redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au>;  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au> [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]  
 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 <[redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>

**Subject:** For Information: Papers for Transmission Working Group Meeting 4 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear Transmission working group members,

Please find attached-



- [redacted]
- **For endorsement:** Meeting 3 minutes. These remain unchanged from the version circulated on Monday in the meeting invite.
- Meeting 4 agenda, also circulated on Monday.

Kind Regards,

**Secretariat**  
Electricity Transmission Working Group

Electricity Division | Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
Email: [redacted]@industry.gov.au

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\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2023 10:42 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@sa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au; [REDACTED]@act.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [REDACTED]@nt.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au;  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@aemo.com.au;  
[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au;  
**Subject:** System Planning Working Group - Meeting 4 (26 September) agenda and papers [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Meeting Agenda 4 - System Planning Working Group.docx; Attachment A - Meeting 3 minutes (29 Aug 23).docx; Attachment B - AEMC's system security work.pdf;

Good morning,

Please find attached the draft agenda for the System Planning Working Group meeting on 26 September from 1.00-2.30pm.

Included in the pack are the following attachments:

Attachment A: Meeting 3 minutes (29 August 2023)  
Attachment B: AEMC System Security Presentation

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Assistant Manager

Electricity Division | Network Reform and Projects Branch | [REDACTED]  
Ngunnawal Country, 51 Allara St, Canberra ACT 2601 Australia  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
M [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED]@dceew.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 22, 2023 1:12 PM  
**To:** [Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@sa.gov.au; [Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [Redacted]@act.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [Redacted]@nt.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au;  
**CC:** [Redacted]  
 [Redacted]@aemo.com.au;  
 [Redacted]@aer.gov.au;  
**Subject:** [Redacted]: System Planning Working Group - Meeting 4 (26 September) agenda and papers [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Meeting Agenda 4 - System Planning Working Group.docx; Attachment A - Meeting 3 minutes (29 Aug 23).docx; Attachment B - AEMC's system security work.pdf;

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a revised agenda for the System Planning Working Group meeting next week which now includes an update on [Redacted]

Kind regards,

[Redacted]  
Assistant Manager

Electricity Division | Network Reform and Projects Branch | [Redacted]  
Ngunnawal Country, 51 Allara St, Canberra ACT 2601 Australia  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
M [Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2023 10:42 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au; [REDACTED]@act.gov.au; [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@nt.gov.au; [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au; [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>

**Subject:** System Planning Working Group - Meeting 4 (26 September) agenda and papers [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good morning,

Please find attached the draft agenda for the System Planning Working Group meeting on 26 September from 1.00-2.30pm.

Included in the pack are the following attachments:

- Attachment A: Meeting 3 minutes (29 August 2023)
- Attachment B: AEMC System Security Presentation



Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Assistant Manager

Electricity Division | Network Reform and Projects Branch | [REDACTED]  
Ngunnawal Country, 51 Allara St, Canberra ACT 2601 Australia  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
M [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au



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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 5:10 PM  
**To:** [Redacted] Gowans, Kirsty; [Redacted]  
 [Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [Redacted]@sa.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@sa.gov.au; [Redacted]@act.gov.au; [Redacted]@act.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@nt.gov.au; [Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@aer.gov.au; [Redacted]@esb.org.au; Victoria Mollard;

**CC:** [Redacted]@dpie.nsw.gov.au; [Redacted]@sa.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]  
 [Redacted]  
 [Redacted]

**Subject:** FW: For action: Transmission Working Group Meeting 5 Papers - Tue 3 October 3pm AEST [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Agenda - Meeting 5 - TWG - 3 October 2023.docx; Transmission Working Group - Meeting 4 Minutes - 3pm 17 August 2023 .docx; [Redacted]  
 [Redacted]; TWG paper - additional network measures - 3 October 2023.docx

Hi all,

Please find attached the package of papers for the next Transmission Working Group meeting on Tuesday 3 October at 3pm (AEST). Apologies for the delay in getting this to you.

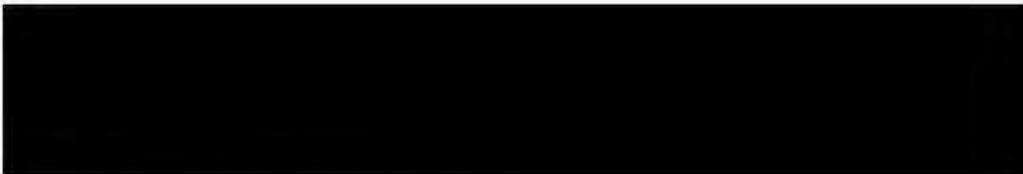
A short summary of the agenda and papers is below.

1. Agenda – Meeting 5
  2. **For endorsement:** Draft Minutes from TWG meeting 4 on 17 August
    - o Ongoing action items for this meeting are:
      - [Redacted]
      - [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]



4. **For discussion: Focus group to discuss draft guidelines** (agenda item 2)

- At the meeting we will propose a focus group to discuss the draft guidelines on **13 or 14 November 2023**.
- We would like to know if they are aware of any potential clashes that would rule these dates out. Appreciate if you could propose alternatives (as close to these dates as possible) should you note anything tricky.
- If the focus group is agreed at the meeting, we will request one nominated representative per jurisdiction and would be grateful for your support in coordinating the nominated representative's attendance in due course.



Please get in touch if you have any questions.

Best



**Director (a/g) – Transmission Policy**

Electricity Division

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

E @dcceew.gov.au

[DCCEEW.gov.au](http://DCCEEW.gov.au) ABN 63 573 932 849



**Acknowledgement of Country**

Our department recognises the First Peoples of this nation and their ongoing connection to culture and country. We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the Traditional Owners, Custodians and Lore Keepers of the world's oldest living culture and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 5:10 PM  
**To:** [Redacted] Gowans, Kirsty; [Redacted]  
 [Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [Redacted]@sa.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@sa.gov.au; [Redacted]@act.gov.au; [Redacted]@act.gov.au;  
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 [Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@aer.gov.au; [Redacted]@esb.org.au; Victoria Mollard;  
**CC:** [Redacted]@dpie.nsw.gov.au; [Redacted]@sa.gov.au;

**Subject:** FW: For action: Transmission Working Group Meeting 5 Papers - Tue 3 October 3pm AEST [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Agenda - Meeting 5 - TWG - 3 October 2023.docx; Transmission Working Group - Meeting 4 Minutes - 3pm 17 August 2023 .docx;

Hi all,

Please find attached the package of papers for the next Transmission Working Group meeting on Tuesday 3 October at 3pm (AEST). Apologies for the delay in getting this to you.

A short summary of the agenda and papers is below.

1. Agenda – Meeting 5
2. **For endorsement:** Draft Minutes from TWG meeting 4 on 17 August
  - o Ongoing action items for this meeting are:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

4. **For discussion: Focus group to discuss draft guidelines** (agenda item 2)

- At the meeting we will propose a focus group to discuss the draft guidelines on **13 or 14 November 2023**.
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- If the focus group is agreed at the meeting, we will request one nominated representative per jurisdiction and would be grateful for your support in coordinating the nominated representative's attendance in due course.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please get in touch if you have any questions.

Best

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Director (a/g) – Transmission Policy**

Electricity Division

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

E [REDACTED]@[dceew.gov.au](mailto:dceew.gov.au)

[DCCEEW.gov.au](http://DCCEEW.gov.au) ABN 63 573 932 849



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**Subject:** Transmission Working Group Meeting 5 - Tuesday 3 October 2023 3-4:30pm

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Start:** 10/3/2023 4:00 AM

**End:** 10/3/2023 5:30 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Received

**Organizer:** [Redacted]

**Required Attendees:**

[Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [Redacted]@sa.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@sa.gov.au; [Redacted]@act.gov.au; [Redacted]@act.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@nt.gov.au; [Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@aer.gov.au; [Redacted]@esb.org.au; Victoria Mollard;

**Optional Attendees:**

Gowans, Kirsty; [Redacted]@dpie.nsw.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]@sa.gov.au;  
 [Redacted]  
 [Redacted]  
 [Redacted]  
 [Redacted]

**Resources:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Attachments:** Agenda - Meeting 5 - TWG - 3 October 2023.docx; Transmission Working Group - Meeting 4 Minutes - 3pm 17 August 2023 .docx; [Redacted]

Dear Transmission Working Group members,

Please see dial in details below for Meeting 5 of the Transmission Working group from 3-4:30pm on Tuesday 3 October 2023 (AEST).

Kind regards,  
**Secretariat**  
 Electricity Transmission Working Group

Electricity Division | Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
Email [REDACTED]@industry.gov.au

---

## Microsoft Teams meeting

### **Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

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Meeting ID: 498 715 533 964

Passcode: 4txWQ5

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597361658@t.plcm.vc

Video Conference ID: 133 635 352 4

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**From:** [Redacted]

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 10:01 AM

**To:** [Redacted] Gowans, Kirsty; [Redacted]

[Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [Redacted]@sa.gov.au; [Redacted]@sa.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@act.gov.au; [Redacted]@act.gov.au; [Redacted]@nt.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [Redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [Redacted]@aer.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@esb.org.au; Victoria Mollard; [Redacted]

**CC:** [Redacted]@dpie.nsw.gov.au; [Redacted]@sa.gov.au; [Redacted]

**Subject:** RE: For action: Transmission Working Group Meeting 5 Papers - Tue 3 October 3pm AEST [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Attachments:** Agenda - Meeting 5 - TWG - 3 October 2023.docx; Transmission Working Group - Meeting 4 Minutes - 3pm 17 August 2023 .docx; [Redacted]

Apologies, now with the [Redacted]

Kind regards,

Secretariat

Electricity Transmission Working Group

Electricity Division | Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Email [ElectricityNetworks@industry.gov.au](mailto:ElectricityNetworks@industry.gov.au)

**From:** [Redacted]

**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 5:10 PM

**To:** [Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; Gowans, Kirsty <Kirsty.Gowans@dcceew.gov.au>;  
[Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [Redacted]  
<[Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [Redacted]@dcceew.gov.au; [Redacted]  
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[Redacted]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [Redacted]@sa.gov.au; [Redacted]@sa.gov.au;  
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[Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [Redacted]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [Redacted]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
[Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [Redacted]@planning.nsw.gov.au;

[redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au; [redacted]@epw.qld.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@aer.gov.au; [redacted]@aer.gov.au; [redacted]@esb.org.au;  
 victoria.mollard@aemc.gov.au; [redacted]@aemc.gov.au; [redacted]@aemc.gov.au;  
 [redacted]@aemc.gov.au; [redacted]@farrierswier.com.au; [redacted]@aemo.com.au  
**Cc:** [redacted]@dpi.nsw.gov.au; [redacted]@sa.gov.au; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]  
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 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 [redacted]@agriculture.gov.au; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]  
 [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>; [redacted]@dcceew.gov.au>

**Subject:** FW: For action: Transmission Working Group Meeting 5 Papers - Tue 3 October 3pm AEST [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi all,

Please find attached the package of papers for the next Transmission Working Group meeting on Tuesday 3 October at 3pm (AEST). Apologies for the delay in getting this to you.

A short summary of the agenda and papers is below.

1. Agenda – Meeting 5
2. **For endorsement:** Draft Minutes from TWG meeting 4 on 17 August
  - o Ongoing action items for this meeting are:

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

4. **For discussion: Focus group to discuss draft guidelines** (agenda item 2)

- At the meeting we will propose a focus group to discuss the draft guidelines on **13 or 14 November 2023**.
- We would like to know if they are aware of any potential clashes that would rule these dates out. Appreciate if you could propose alternatives (as close to these dates as possible) should you note anything tricky.
- If the focus group is agreed at the meeting, we will request one nominated representative per jurisdiction and would be grateful for your support in coordinating the nominated representative's attendance in due course.



Please get in touch if you have any questions.

Best



**Director (a/g) – Transmission Policy**

Electricity Division

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

E @dcceew.gov.au

[DCCEEW.gov.au](http://DCCEEW.gov.au) ABN 63 573 932 849



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 10:01 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] Gowans, Kirsty; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@act.gov.au; [REDACTED]@act.gov.au; [REDACTED]@nt.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au; [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au; [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@esb.org.au; Victoria Mollard; [REDACTED]

**CC:** [REDACTED]@dpie.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: For action: Transmission Working Group Meeting 5 Papers - Tue 3 October 3pm AEST [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Agenda - Meeting 5 - TWG - 3 October 2023.docx; Transmission Working Group - Meeting 4 Minutes - 3pm 17 August 2023 .docx; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Apologies, now with the [REDACTED]

Kind regards,  
**Secretariat**  
 Electricity Transmission Working Group  
 Electricity Division | Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
 Email [ElectricityNetworks@industry.gov.au](mailto:ElectricityNetworks@industry.gov.au)

**From:** Electricity Networks  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2023 5:10 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; Gowans, Kirsty <Kirsty.Gowans@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
 [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au;  
 [REDACTED]@recfit.tas.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@act.gov.au; [REDACTED]@act.gov.au; [REDACTED]@nt.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dmirs.wa.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au; [REDACTED]@delwp.vic.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@planning.nsw.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au; [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au; [REDACTED]@epw.qld.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au; [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au; [REDACTED]@esb.org.au;  
victoria.mollard@aemc.gov.au; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au;  
[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au; [REDACTED]@farrierswier.com.au; [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@dpi.nsw.gov.au; [REDACTED]@sa.gov.au; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>;  
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[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@agriculture.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au>

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Hi all,

Please find attached the package of papers for the next Transmission Working Group meeting on Tuesday 3 October at 3pm (AEST). Apologies for the delay in getting this to you.

A short summary of the agenda and papers is below.

- 1. Agenda – Meeting 5
- 2. **For endorsement:** Draft Minutes from TWG meeting 4 on 17 August
  - o Ongoing action items for this meeting are:

[REDACTED]

- 3.

[REDACTED]



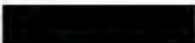
4. **For discussion: Focus group to discuss draft guidelines** (agenda item 2)

- At the meeting we will propose a focus group to discuss the draft guidelines on **13 or 14 November 2023**.
- We would like to know if they are aware of any potential clashes that would rule these dates out. Appreciate if you could propose alternatives (as close to these dates as possible) should you note anything tricky.
- If the focus group is agreed at the meeting, we will request one nominated representative per jurisdiction and would be grateful for your support in coordinating the nominated representative's attendance in due course.



Please get in touch if you have any questions.

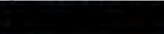
Best



**Director (a/g) – Transmission Policy**

Electricity Division

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

E  [@dcceew.gov.au](mailto:dcceew.gov.au)

[DCCEEW.gov.au](http://DCCEEW.gov.au) ABN 63 573 932 849



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 4:56 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Further to below – let me know if any of the following times work for you and [REDACTED] for a quick catch up on the feedback loop rule change:

- Thu 2 Nov - 10:00am
- Mon 6 Nov - 10:30am; 11:30am; 12:30pm
- Wed 8 Nov - 2:30pm – 5:00pm

Regards,  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 4:05 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks [REDACTED] I've passed this on to the team looking after the RIT guideline updates

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)  
Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation  
**Australian Energy Regulator**  
Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW  
T: [REDACTED]



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---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 October 2023 3:29 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Re: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Thanks [REDACTED]

I have an update on the pending rule changes- they should be with us mid December, which means we wouldn't start them until next year. We would plan to start early works in Q1, if received in time.

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 3:10:44 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
<[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] – looking forward to hearing from both of you soon

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)

Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**

Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW

T: [REDACTED]



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---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 October 2023 1:36 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
<[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Thanks [REDACTED]

Further to [REDACTED] comment on the feedback loop rule change, I'll be in touch shortly to organise another catch up.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 12:28 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [REDACTED]

I am well thank you, I hope you are too.

For the remaining TPIR rule changes we are still waiting on early works and the targeted ISP ex post review rule changes. I am going to try and get some clarity around timing from DCCEEW this week.

Feedback loop we are planning to commence this year (likely December) and are planning on a fast tracked process. We will let you know if the timing or planned process changes on this one.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 10:29 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@minister.nsw.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi [REDACTED] I hope everything's well. I just wanted to check in about your expected timing to initiate the remaining TPIR rule changes. The team are planning the RIT-T/CBA guideline updates next year and are considering a consultation paper in Feb-Mar.

It'd be good to know when you expect the feedback loop and early works rules would be running (as far as you have planned given DCCEEW are yet to lodge the early works proposal).



Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

(he/him)

Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**

Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW

T: [REDACTED]



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---

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**Subject:** Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up

**Location:** Wattle; Willow

**Start:** 11/9/2023 4:30 AM

**End:** 11/9/2023 5:30 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** Monthly

**Recurrence Pattern:** the first Tuesday of every 1 month(s) from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** [REDACTED]

**Required Attendees:** [REDACTED]@industry.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED] - MS Teams

**Optional Attendees:** [REDACTED]

**Resources:** Wattle; Willow

Draft agenda

1. Update on [REDACTED] social licence work and RtN and AEMC feedback on papers (DCCEEW and AEMC)
2. [REDACTED]
3. Update on received rule changes approach and timing (AEMC)
  - a. Financeability
  - b. Concessional finance
  - c. Feedback loop
  - d. Community Engagement (Social licence)
  - e. Emissions
4. Update on pending rule changes (DCCEEW and AEMC)
  - a. EAP1
  - b. Targeted ex-post review
  - c. [REDACTED]
5. Other business

---

Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 477 960 171 875

Passcode: WqwWhQ

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

**Join with a video conferencing device**

[270539195@t.plcm.vc](mailto:270539195@t.plcm.vc)

Video Conference ID: 135 744 345 4

[Alternate VTC instructions](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2023 10:27 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

We can do Monday – please send an invite through

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)

Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**

Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW

T: [REDACTED]



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---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 November 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi [REDACTED]

It was nice to see you too – it was a very interesting event.

Unfortunately, there's been a scheduling change at our end, so if we could make it Monday at 12.30pm that would be great. I can send through a diary invite.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2023 9:24 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi [REDACTED]

It was a nice coincidence to bump into you at the panel discussion last night and I'm I didn't get to say more than hello.

[REDACTED] and I can do Thu 10am to discuss the feedback loop rule change. If anything changes we can fallback to one of the other timeslots next week.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)

Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**

Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW

T: [REDACTED]



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---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 October 2023 4:56 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Hi [REDACTED]

Further to below – let me know if any of the following times work for you and Sophia for a quick catch up on the feedback loop rule change:

- Thu 2 Nov - 10:00am
- Mon 6 Nov - 10:30am; 11:30am; 12:30pm
- Wed 8 Nov - 2:30pm – 5:00pm

Regards,

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 4:05 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>

**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks [REDACTED] I've passed this on to the team looking after the RIT guideline updates

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)

Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

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T: [REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 October 2023 3:29 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>

**Subject:** Re: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Thanks [REDACTED]

I have an update on the pending rule changes- they should be with us mid December, which means we wouldn't start them until next year. We would plan to start early works in Q1, if received in time.

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 3:10:44 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] – looking forward to hearing from both of you soon

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] (he/him)

Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**

Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW

T: [REDACTED]



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---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 October 2023 1:36 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>

**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Thanks [REDACTED]

Further to [REDACTED] comment on the feedback loop rule change, I'll be in touch shortly to organise another catch up.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 12:28 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>

**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@aer.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [REDACTED]

I am well thank you, I hope you are too.

For the remaining TPIR rule changes we are still waiting on early works and the targeted ISP ex post review rule changes. I am going to try and get some clarity around timing from DCCEEW this week.

Feedback loop we are planning to commence this year (likely December) and are planning on a fast tracked process. We will let you know if the timing or planned process changes on this one.

Thanks

██████████

---

**From:** ██████████@aer.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 10:29 AM  
**To:** ██████████@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** ██████████@aemc.gov.au>; ██████████@minister.nsw.gov.au;<██████████@aer.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Update on timing of TPIR rule change processes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi ██████████ I hope everything's well. I just wanted to check in about your expected timing to initiate the remaining TPIR rule changes. The team are planning the RIT-T/CBA guideline updates next year and are considering a consultation paper in Feb-Mar.

It'd be good to know when you expect the feedback loop and early works rules would be running (as far as you have planned given DCCEEW are yet to lodge the early works proposal).

Kind regards,

██████████

(he/him)

Assistant Director | Policy Development | Strategic Policy & Energy Systems Innovation

**Australian Energy Regulator**

Level 29 | 135 King Street Sydney NSW

T: ██████████



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2023 12:03 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Follow up - feedback loop

Thanks [REDACTED] – I've just sent through a calendar invite.

---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2023 11:12 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow up - feedback loop

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for reaching out. Please put some time in on Thursday at 12pm.

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
Manager - Transmission Reform, Reform Development & Insights



**Australian Energy Market Operator**

M [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au

L1/25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide 5000

[aemo.com.au](http://aemo.com.au)

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---

**From:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 November 2023 10:15 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Follow up - feedback loop

Hi [REDACTED]

Hope you're well. I'm following up on our discussion a little while ago regarding the feedback loop rule change request to see if you have 30 minutes next week for an update.

I've included some suggested times below for a meeting:

- Wed 8 Nov - 2:30pm – 4:30pm
- Thurs 9 Nov – 12pm

Let me know if any of those times/dates are convenient and we will book it in.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
 Senior Adviser  
 Australian Energy Market Commission  
 D [REDACTED] | M [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au | [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

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\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2023 1:26 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback loop meeting - week of 13 Nov

**Categories:** Diary

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for your email. The following times would suit [REDACTED] and I in that week:

- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November, 12.30-2.30pm
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, 10.30am-12.30pm
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November, 11.30am-2pm

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
Manager - Transmission Reform, Reform Development & Insights



**Australian Energy Market Operator**

M [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED]@aemo.com.au

L1/25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide 5000

[aemo.com.au](http://aemo.com.au)

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---

**From:** [REDACTED]>@aemc.gov.au  
**Sent:** Friday, 3 November 2023 9:39 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]>@aemo.com.au  
**Subject:** Feedback loop meeting - week of 13 Nov

Hi [REDACTED]

Looking forward to catching up next week to provide an update on the feedback loop rule change.

We think there is benefit in scheduling an additional meeting for the following week (week of 13 November) when we are a bit more advanced to include [redacted] and Danielle from our respective organisations.

Are you able to identify some times that could work for [redacted] and your diaries and we will do the same for Danielle's.

Hope you have a great weekend.

Regards,

[redacted]

[redacted]

Senior Adviser  
Australian Energy Market Commission  
D [redacted] M [redacted]  
[redacted]@aemc.gov.au | www.aemc.gov.au

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\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Subject:** Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up

**Location:** Blackwood - MS Teams

**Start:** 11/9/2023 4:30 AM

**End:** 11/9/2023 5:30 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** Monthly

**Recurrence Pattern:** the first Tuesday of every 1 month(s) from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** [REDACTED]

**Required Attendees:** [REDACTED]@industry.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED] - MS Teams;

**Optional Attendees:** [REDACTED]

**Resources:** Blackwood - MS Teams

Draft agenda

1. Update on [REDACTED] social licence work and RtN and AEMC feedback on papers (DCCEEW and AEMC)
2. [REDACTED]
3. Update on received rule changes approach and timing (AEMC)
  - a. Financeability
  - b. Concessional finance
  - c. Feedback loop
  - d. Community Engagement (Social licence)
  - e. Emissions
4. Update on pending rule changes (DCCEEW and AEMC)
  - a. EAP1
  - b. Targeted ex-pcst review
  - c. [REDACTED]
5. Other business

---

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Meeting ID: 477 960 171 875

Passcode: WqwWhQ

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[270539195@t.plcm.vc](mailto:270539195@t.plcm.vc)

Video Conference ID: 135 744 345 4

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[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

---

**Subject:** Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up

**Location:** Blackwood - MS Teams

**Start:** 11/9/2023 4:30 AM

**End:** 11/9/2023 5:30 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** Monthly

**Recurrence Pattern:** the first Tuesday of every 1 month(s) from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** [REDACTED]

**Required Attendees:** [REDACTED]@industry.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - MS Teams;

**Optional Attendees:** [REDACTED]

**Resources:** Blackwood - MS Teams

Draft agenda

1. Update on [REDACTED] social licence work and RtN and AEMC feedback on papers (DCCEEW and AEMC)
2. [REDACTED]
3. Update on received rule changes approach and timing (AEMC)
  - a. Financeability
  - b. Concessional finance
  - c. Feedback loop
  - d. Community Engagement (Social licence)
  - e. Emissions
4. Update on pending rule changes (DCCEEW and AEMC)
  - a. EAP1
  - b. Targeted ex-pcst review
  - c. [REDACTED]
5. Other business

---

Microsoft Teams meeting



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---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 15, 2023 5:12 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** ERC0369: Feedback Loop - AEMO meeting

[REDACTED]

-----

Hi Danielle,

We have a meeting with AEMO scheduled tomorrow to discuss the feedback loop rule change request. The attendees from AEMO are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

The project team met with [REDACTED] last week to update him on our policy approach consistent with previous advice given to AEMO, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[INSERT]

Let me know if you're happy with the proposed approach and the text being provided to AEMO later today/tomorrow morning.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Senior Adviser  
**Australian Energy Market Commission**  
D: [REDACTED] | M: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au | [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au)

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**Subject:** Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up

**Location:** Murrumbidgee

**Start:** 12/5/2023 2:00 AM

**End:** 12/5/2023 3:00 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** Monthly

**Recurrence Pattern:** the first Tuesday of every 1 month(s) from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** [REDACTED]

**Required Attendees:** [REDACTED]@industry.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au; [REDACTED]

**Optional Attendees:** [REDACTED]

**Resources:** Murrumbidgee

Draft agenda

1. Update on [REDACTED] social licence work and RtN (DCCEEW)
2. [REDACTED]
3. Update on received rule changes approach and timing (AEMC)
  - a. Financeability
  - b. Concessional finance
  - c. Feedback loop
  - d. Emissions
4. Update on pending rule changes (DCCEEW and AEMC)
  - a. EAP1
  - b. Targeted ex-post review
  - c. [REDACTED]
5. Other business

---

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[Click here to join the meeting](#) [REDACTED]

Meeting ID: 477 960 171 875  
Passcode: WqwWhQ  
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**Join with a video conferencing device**

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Video Conference ID: 135 744 345 4  
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---

**From:** AER External Affairs  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2023 10:12 AM  
**CC:** AER External Affairs  
**Subject:** EMBARGO – AER releases Marinus Link Stage 1, Part 1 revenue determination [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive] [ACCC-ACCCANDAER.FID2689891]  
**Attachments:** AER - EMBARGO - Revenue Determination - Marinus Link - Stage 1, Part A (Early works).pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**OFFICIAL:Sensitive**

Good Morning

On Tuesday 19 December 2023, the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) will publish the Stage 1, Part A (Early works) revenue determination for Marinus Link.

The determination approves proposed prudent and efficient capital expenditure of \$196.5 million and finds the proposed scope of works are consistent with the Australian Energy Market Commission's definition of early works.

Please find attached, an embargo copy of the revenue determination. Please note that its scope is substantially narrower than that of a standard determination.

**This information is strictly under embargo until published on the AER website tomorrow, 19 December 2023.**

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind Regards

[Redacted]

(she/her)

Senior Engagement Officer  
Strategic Communications & Engagement Branch

**Australian Energy Regulator**  
Level 24 | 32 Turbot St, Brisbane (Meanjin) QLD 4000  
T: [Redacted] | M: [Redacted]

[www.energymadeeasy.gov.au](http://www.energymadeeasy.gov.au) | [www.aer.gov.au](http://www.aer.gov.au)



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## FOI\_CRP0177

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**From:** AER External Affairs  
**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 11:54 AM  
**CC:** AER External Affairs  
**Subject:** AER Notice -Transgrid contingent project applications received for VNI West early works and HumeLink [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**OFFICIAL**

Good morning

The Australian Energy Regulator (AER) has now received Transgrid's contingent project applications for VNI West early works and HumeLink. We will publish these applications on our website in the new year, following completion of our compliance and confidentiality checks.

A contingent project application outlines the amount of revenue an energy business seeks to recover from its customers to deliver a project. The AER's role is to assess whether the trigger event for actionable Integrated System Plan (ISP) projects has been satisfied and to review the reasonableness of the proposed costs of the project. Both projects are included in the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) draft 2024 ISP optimal development path as an actionable project.

Please note that public consultation on these two processes will **commence in January 2024**. We will keep you informed on any updates related to this process.

If you have any questions at this stage, please let us know.

Warm regards and happy holidays,

██████████ (she/her)  
Assistant Director | Stakeholder Engagement  
Strategic Communications & Engagement Branch  
**Australian Energy Regulator**  
Level 17 | 2 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000  
M: ██████████@aer.gov.au  
[www.energymadeeasy.com.au](http://www.energymadeeasy.com.au) | [www.aer.gov.au](http://www.aer.gov.au)



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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemo.com.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 31 January 2024 4:21 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]@aemc.com.au  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: AEMO:AEMC feedback loop update

**Categories:** Rules/Reviews

Hi all,

Nice to meet you all earlier.

Here is the information you were after:

1. *TNSP election to "stage the CPA process"* (as described on pg.25): [AER guidance note on the regulation of actionable ISP projects](#) (the whole of Chapter 3 covers staging CPAs). For commentary on "directly staging the CPA process", instead see [AER's CBA Guidelines](#) section 4.4

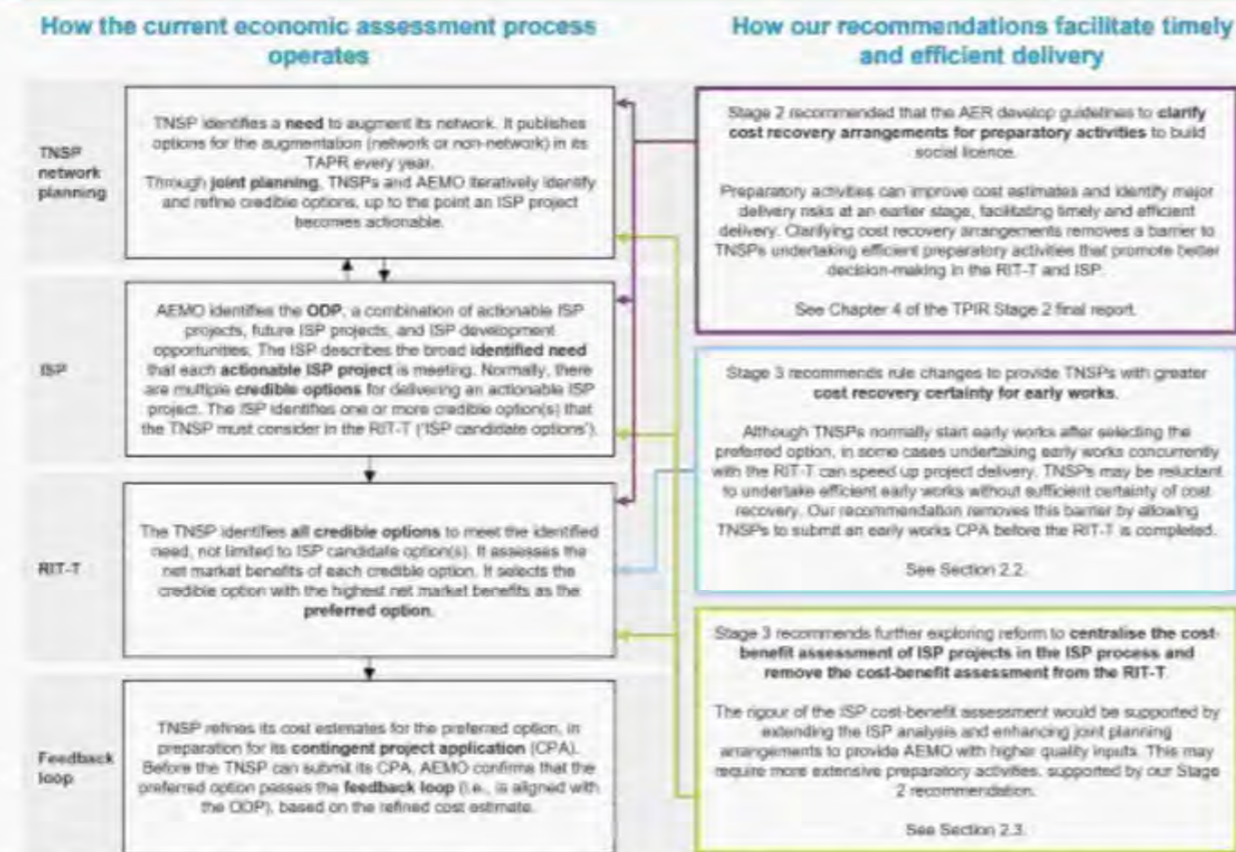
I'm not sure how far you want/need to go down this rabbit hole. The type of staging affects how the feedback loop is assessed (ie cost assessed/cost cap = stage cost vs total project cost), but I think the more relevant, overarching point is that a feedback loop does not "lock costs in". We tried to make this point at the end of the recent [ISP Update](#) notice (see "The 2024 ISP will re-test project actionability"). The AER subsequently tests and consults on the prudence and efficiency of costs in the CPA and the final 2024 ISP will re-test the actionability of all projects that have not yet had all funding requests approved by the AER (ie. a CPA decision is published for every stage of the project, regardless of the type of staging involved). We included this largely to address comments made by [REDACTED] previously where he referred to similar concerns raised by the ISP consumer Panel about "locking costs in".

The final few paragraphs of the [VNI West feedback loop notice](#) should also help to clarify the consequences of a "passed" feedback loop where only an early works (Stage 1) CPA has been lodged:

*"This feedback loop confirmation satisfies one of the criteria needed for Transgrid to be eligible to submit a CPA to the AER to recover total project capital costs for the VNI West project. Transgrid's feedback loop request provides that it intends to apply for contingent project funding in stages. CPA-1, to be lodged shortly, will include early works costs and CPA-2, currently scheduled to be lodged by September 2024, will include the balance of project costs. The total cost of the project may be updated to reflect the outcomes of Transgrid's early works activities. If there is an increase in the total cost of the project assessed in this feedback loop, Transgrid must repeat the feedback loop to confirm that increase does not affect alignment of the project with the ODP before CPA-2 is lodged and any cost increases can be considered by the AER."*

2. *Are there any examples of a project identified as "actionable" in a Draft ISP losing its actionable status in the Final ISP?* I followed this up with [REDACTED] (GM System Planning) and the answer is no. This is perhaps not surprising given the Draft ISP is generally published around 6 months before the Final ISP (so there shouldn't be too many changes in that time), and the fact that for a project to be identified as actionable in a draft/final ISP it is generally found to be needed now or in the near future in multiple scenarios (and that decision/identification should be fairly robust to individual changes in inputs, as tested in ISP sensitivities).
3. *Key changes in inputs and assumptions from the 2022 ISP to the Draft 2024 ISP:* see p.18-19 of the [Draft 2024 ISP](#).
4. *Overviews of the economic assessment process for ISP projects.* I found these TPIR figures the most useful:
  - Left column below in the [TPIR Stage 3 Final Report](#) p.16:

**Figure 2.1: Our Stage 2 and 3 recommendations facilitate timely and efficient delivery of ISP projects**



Note: TAPR refers to the Transmission Annual Planning Reports, prepared by TNSPs as part of their network planning process. Appendix B provides a more detailed overview of the current economic assessment process in the form of a process map.

- A broader view including CPAs, early works and construction activities is provided in [TPIR Stage 3 Draft Report](#), p.38:

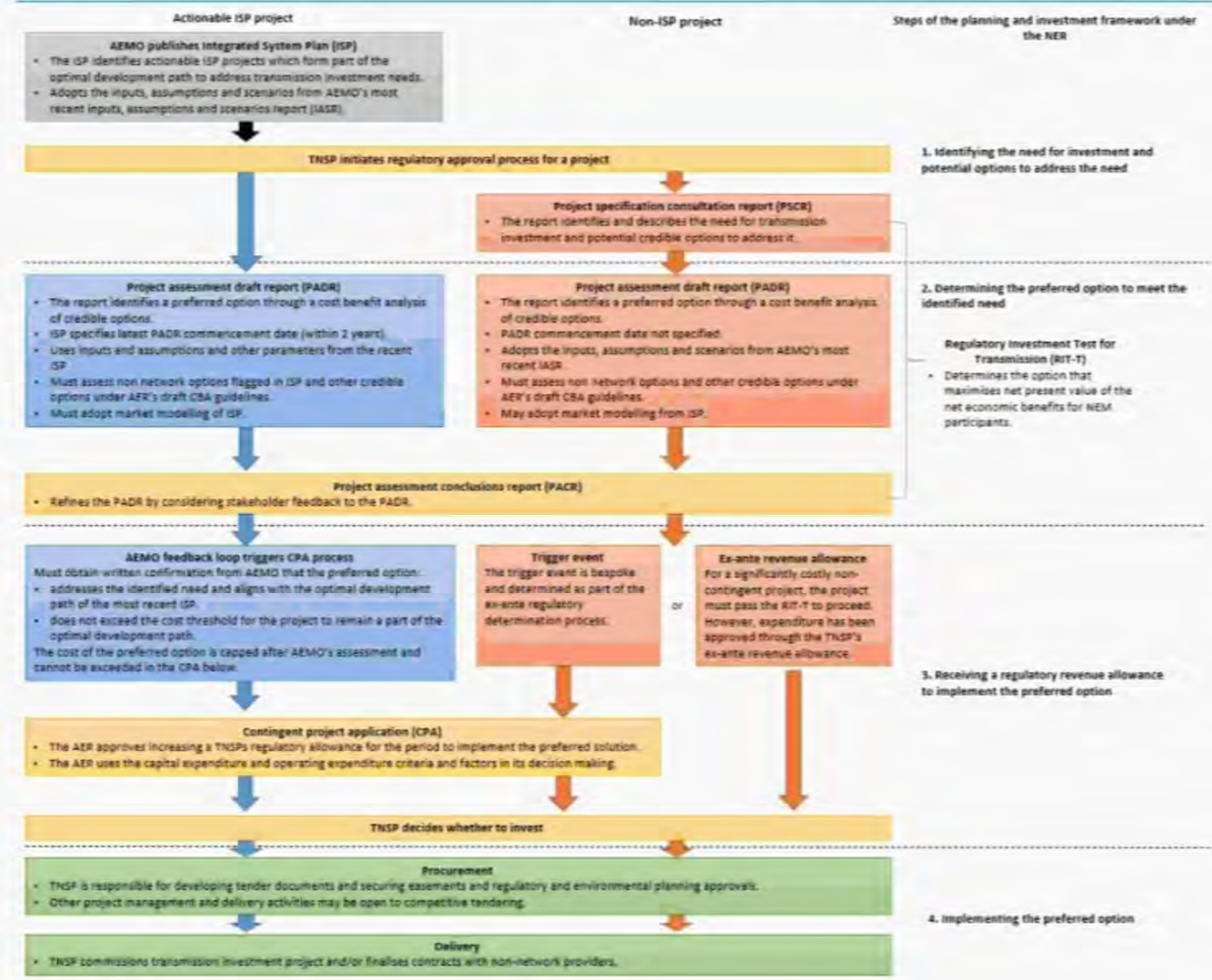
Figure 2.7: Stylised stages of project planning, design and approval

Project development stage	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6	Stage 7
EAP process	Future ISP project identified	Preparatory activities to refine future project	PADR for actionable ISP project	PACR for actionable ISP project	CPA 1	CPA 2	FID
<p><b>Project development</b> : activities undertaken before each stage</p>	<p><b>High-level scoping of need and options.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May reflect system needs and initial solutions identified in TNSP TAPRs, and/or AEMO's own analysis during the ISP.</li> <li>High-level technical specification (e.g., voltage/capacity and conceptual single line diagrams).</li> <li>Network path may be identified at concept level, or at screening level with some site-specific review and TNSP input.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Initial preparatory activities to refine future ISP assumptions.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AEMO may direct TNSPs to undertake preparatory activities for future projects, to refine delivery time, cost and technical scope. Feeds into subsequent ISP, where the future project may become actionable.</li> <li>Network studies underway.</li> <li>Desktop geotechnical / ecology / heritage / planning studies.</li> <li>Generally no consultation with affected communities on options / route.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Further preparatory activities to refine options and costs.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refinement of ISP candidate option / identification of new credible options.</li> <li>Network studies substantially complete.</li> <li>Credible network options developed based on geotechnical / heritage / land desktop planning and network studies, potentially with some field work in high-risk areas.</li> <li>Biodiversity offset liability estimated based on available ecology reports.</li> <li>May have guide budget estimate from contractors/suppliers.</li> <li>Generally no consultation with affected communities on options / route.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Detailed preparatory activities to refine final option selection.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further refinement of credible network options in light of stakeholder feedback to select preferred option.</li> <li>Technical specification completed.</li> <li>Credible route identified, avoiding significant known risks / sensitivities.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Start of early works prior to first CPA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Market engagement underway.</li> <li>Commenced engagement with affected communities.</li> <li>Commenced studies for EIS submission.</li> <li>Further refinement of route, commenced initial consultation with landowners.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Completion of early works</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procurement substantially progressed including early contractor involvement and long-lead items.</li> <li>Finalise studies for EIS submission, EIS approval.</li> <li>Further refinement of route, secure options over easements, planning for compulsory acquisition.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Construction activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FID, finalise land acquisition, unconditional execution of construction contracts, start construction.</li> </ul>
Indicative AACE class	Class 5	Class 4 – 5	Class 4 – 5	Class 3 – 5	Class 2 – 4		

Source: AEMC analysis, based on AEMO's 2020 Transmission Cost Report and Transgrid's first CPA for HumLink.

- The economic assessment process for both ISP and non-ISP projects: [TPIR Stage 3 Draft Report](#) p.12:

Figure 2.1: Overview of key steps in the economic assessment process



Source: AEMC.

I think I've covered all you asked for. Please reach out if you have any further queries.

Regards,

[Redacted Name]

[Redacted Name]

Specialist – Network Regulation



Australian Energy Market Operator

T [Redacted] | E [Redacted] @aemo.com.au

Adelaide SA 5000

[aemo.com.au](http://aemo.com.au)**Disclaimer**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024 5:05:53 pm  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemo.com.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: AEMO:AEMC feedback loop update

Hi [REDACTED]

Please see below link to Submission from the [REDACTED]  
[https://www.aemc.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-01/Confidential%20\[REDACTED\]%20ERC0369%20-%20Improving%20Workability%20of%20the%20Feedback%20Loop.pdf](https://www.aemc.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-01/Confidential%20[REDACTED]%20ERC0369%20-%20Improving%20Workability%20of%20the%20Feedback%20Loop.pdf)

other submissions are also on our project page:

<https://www.aemc.gov.au/rule-changes/improving-workability-feedback-loop>

Cheers  
[REDACTED]

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024 1:56 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** AEMO:AEMC feedback loop update  
**When:** Wednesday, 31 January 2024 1:30 PM-2:00 PM (UTC+10:00) Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney.  
**Where:** Microsoft Teams Meeting; Wattle

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for being available on such short notice to catch up.

Speak tomorrow.

Cheers  
[REDACTED]

---

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**Subject:** Monthly AEMC-DCCEEW catch up

**Location:** Murrumbidgee

**Start:** 2/28/2024 11:00 PM

**End:** 2/29/2024 12:00 AM

**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** Monthly

**Recurrence Pattern:** the first Tuesday of every 1 month(s) from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** [REDACTED]

**Required Attendees:** [REDACTED]@industry.gov.au; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au;

[REDACTED]@dcceew.gov.au

**Optional Attendees:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Resources:** Murrumbidgee

#### Agenda

1. Update on [REDACTED] social licence work and RtN and AEMC feedback on papers (DCCEEW and AEMC)
2. [REDACTED]
3. Update on received rule changes approach and timing (AEMC)
  - a. Financeability
  - b. Concessional finance
  - c. Feedback loop
  - d. Community Engagement (Social licence)
  - e. Emissions
4. Update on pending rule changes (DCCEEW and AEMC)
  - a. EAP1
  - b. Targeted ex-post review  
[REDACTED]
5. Other business

---

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 16, 2024 11:52 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fw: Notes from AEMO / AEMC executive meeting on 19 October 2023

**From:** Victoria Mollard <Victoria.Mollard@aemc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:30 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@aemc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Notes from AEMO / AEMC executive meeting on 19 October 2023

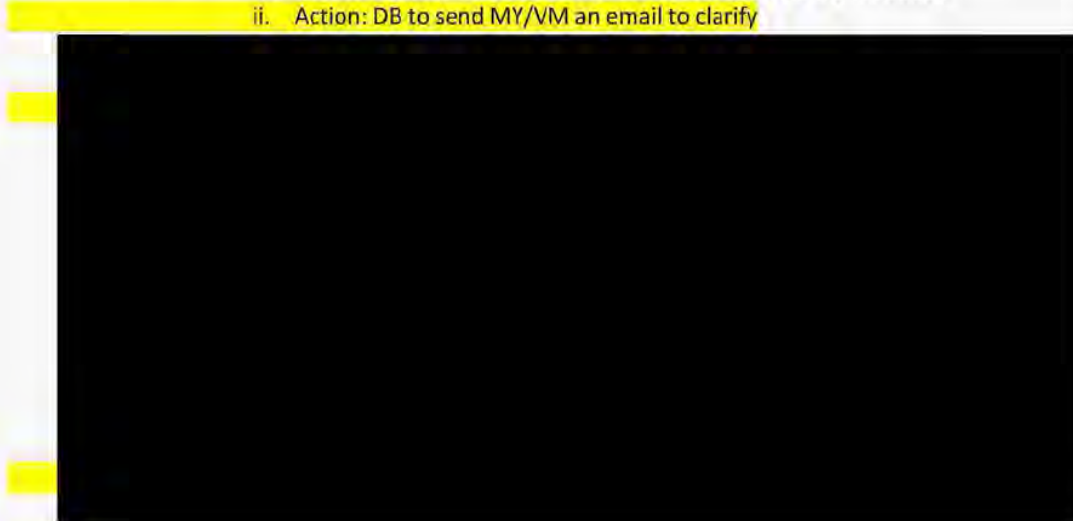
**Notes from AEMC / AEMO exec meeting:**

AEMO: Michael Gatt, Violette Mouchaileh, [REDACTED] Merryn York, Nevenka Codevelle  
AEMC: Benn Barr, Jack Schmidtke, Michael Bradley, [REDACTED] Danielle Beinart, Victoria Mollard

1. Standing item: update on priority rule changes



- b. Workability of the feedback loop rule change – DB gave an update on where we are at with this rule change, planning to fast track the rule change
    - i. AEMO clarified whether or not we're taking on AEMO feedback
    - ii. Action: DB to send MY/VM an email to clarify





**Victoria Mollard** Executive General Manager  
**Australian Energy Market Commission**  
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Assistant: [Redacted] [@aemc.gov.au](mailto:[Redacted]@aemc.gov.au)

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JRG TPIR

Fridays  
23 / 9 / 22

them

	Commonwealth	NSW	Tas	NT
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

Monday

Financeability:

[redacted] - how long would the AGL have to make an assessment - to provide certainty to trusts & investors.

Wednesday 21/9/22

2

re R, Benjamin

[redacted] - understand can take 6 months to negotiate terms with a financier - initial stages discussion with banks - would be doing it in parallel - before you sign off any loans bankers would need to know what depreciation.

is groups of

AGL would need to make a decision within a couple of months to make this workable.

with us.

[redacted] - road test from private sector perspective - make sure it is workable.

have to

[redacted] - once it has been in place for number of years may be greater

Timing until it is in.

able - but

[redacted] - who would be proponent.  
checking that drafting ~~text~~ will be in final report.

Social licence no comments.

stakeholders

Planning activities - mm - linked to stage 3  
[redacted] - would ~~be~~ the ISP final or draft be updated with early work definition?  
Workability feedback

3th

Date:

Page:

PA

Each project has to stand on its own to proceed on its own.

would you use these moody's ratings to assess a stand alone project.

↳ moody's is doing a different task than proposed here → useful framework

why the four metrics from moody's - clear + replicable methodology.

features of financialability test:

- standalone basis

- benchmark basis

- outcomes over coming regulatory period.

↳ reason for that is comes fr

moody's updates methodology from time to time - but high degree of stability.

BPV rate of return during construction phase would under-compensate the TNSP.

complexity ~ additional effort and work required

APR should be given role to set parameters.

- other parameters would use the standard

APMC @ least acknowledge the principle - risks change over the life cycle of the projects.

two schools of thought on whether a law change is required?

↳ clear indication of what is allowed under the ROR

ROR explicitly excluded ROR?  
are discussing it with the ACP

Date:

Page:

think there is a lack of clarity on whether the AEC could make this change to their ROR.  
 - risk it would fall through the gaps. - some needs to address with someone.  
 ↳ whos door should we knock on?

B. Why is construction riskier exactly?  
 ↳ it may not be riskier - they are just saying the risks are different.  
 construction industry different risks and they appear to be higher.  
 a lot of uncertainty, unknowns, risks are different.

█ - comments in AEC's report.  
 ↳ wouldn't necessarily impact all NSPs and all projects - might impact specific project.

Not proposing ROR be changed. Suggesting that there is a different type of activity. unlikely standard rate of return will compensate them appropriately.

additional depreciation rate that year NPV neutral.  
 reduces return on capital.  
 two prongs to it.

Transmission projects key.

Has AEC ever provided as incurred depreciation?  
 has there ever been a request for incurred depreciation.

the view is that construction period.  
 - developed ways in which financial help can be used needed

Thursday

27, 9, 22.

MBAG

- - first two principles ok.  
 concessional financing ~~principle~~ -  
 how does it fit in with those  
 principles.
- - how it is factored in - where principle  
 (c) goes to.
- - preferable to receive rule changes  
 at the same time so we can work  
 them through together.  
 financeability enduring rule change.
- - would be ideal to consider them  
 in tandem
- - trying to solve the same  
 underlying issue.  
 trying to make an investment take  
 place that may not always happen.
- both impact financeability metrics.  
 - would assume some benefit retained  
 by business.  
 C - a bit of a catch all



comment made NPV neutral but  
 may not be consumer welfare  
 neutral. - words for the report

benefits may be lower than what  
 they otherwise may be

Principle c →

- what sort of things Board  
 may had in mind → concessional  
 finance, bill shock / affordability?

- to the last dot point referring  
 back to the guideline.

Are they posing risks on the borrower  
 which may impact financial  
 metrics.

- AER Board - concern - might look  
 like the two principles were exhaustive  
 and there wasn't enough flexibility  
 any other factors  
 identified in any guidelines  
 that were developed.

Transgrid / AEMC

14 / 11 / 22

Stage 2, supportive of financialability proposed rule.

↳ more +ve discussions with AER around the rule change.

discussions with ~~AER~~ ENA about putting in a rule change.

Commonwealth - package of all. prioritise concessional finance → financialability.

Timing of

CRA - last quarter of next year.  
financialability & feedback loop  
by end of June

1 October to end of year - cannot be any later than end of year.  
Contractors - period of time to renegotiate.

feedback loop - final decision  
end of Sept.

exclusion window - difficult

need to have more discussions  
with Aemo.

~~Site~~  
-> better to submit when Aemo  
published its draft ISP - same  
inputs and assumptions.

↳ feedback loop @ CPA concurrently  
on 15 Dec?

financeability - 30 done. feeds  
right.

feedback loop 30 June as well.

↳ want to do 3 months prior to  
CPA → pre decision from the AER  
- would allow 2 step process.

feedback loop @ same time.

need financeability & feedback loop  
order that ~~the~~ the rule changes  
are required.

reaching all to DCCEW.

Transgrid / Aemc

Monday

14.11.22

what means things can stay on fast tracked.

Concessional finance - where would this fit in?

↳ sooner the better on concessional finance.

↳ extra clarity in NER. - not a big issue if not in place @ the time an agreement might be struck by the Commonwealth.

↳ novel that you have to align on purpose -

clarity - forcing parties to be clearer on intent.

the more from RTN the less they would need depreciation changes.

Discussions @ higher level.

conversations with AER insights running the nation.

submitting proposal to AER - add on timeframe.

would want something clear prior to submitting CPA2.

engagement compliance.

- having a breathing tool kit - constantly updated

Biodiversity - focus in old - per North  
 Old issue elevated - statewide mapping  
 all old energy companies involved.

Accountability process - businesses  
 need to disclose how they are meeting  
 these commitments



Deliver the transition.

82% target of electricity sector.

Collaborative manner - people are at the  
 heart of the energy transition.

Need to bring along people with us  
 How we work with colleagues on biodiversity  
 and conservation outcomes.

Biodiversity plans in REZ - partner with  
 jurisdictions.

NETP - how commonwealth works  
 with jurisdictions & market bodies

Societal level Learning the Nation  
 approach. We will be looking your  
 rule change raised shortly.

In meeting indicated happy for

↳ this particular rule change - were keen to lead - reforming RTI.

↳ [redacted] - very keen to own those rule changes:

FPIR Stage 3 - update from marking

[redacted] - on option 2 - where suggesting further rule change - would you be looking for a signal from ministers?

Commonwealth - very interested on  
 Support on option 2 subject to

OCCE@W + AGMC

## Concessional finance

Final draft to us by the end of Oct.

Last review for us.

→ ESOM on Friday - for comment  
2-3 weeks to review - submit this year.

don't have to go to ESOM for others.  
others can be submitted directly by the minister.

- Tas General update on concessional finance.  
Submitted by Ministers.

Financeability - note on that meeting with ENA + TGA.

Spoken to AER, CECF + AEMC.

- send through key points  
will suggest the rule change as written as TRIR. stage  
Humelink CPA 2.

Feedback loop rule change

- Humelink CPA 2.  
- rule change by end of the year

DCCFEW + AEMC  
monthly catch up

Tuesday  
10/1/23

Concessional finance

13 January Concessional finance  
- minister - corresponding  
briefing

↳ same version that went to ESOM

FBL - let TG run with it  
- decision made @ end of last  
year.

- send them would have it to us  
end Dec.



TPIR stage 3



to contact

re carbon rule change.

get some of the economic



DCCCEW

7, 2, 23

concessional finance  
 - abstained vote from vic. didn't  
 reflect their current arrangements.  
 difficulty getting in touch with  
 ASOM re planning.

contacts for DCCCEW.

financeability & social licence.  
 → will go to internal review.  
 want be seeking approval from  
 ASOM - as far as they are aware.  
 ↳ possibly with us before  
 concessional finance.

congestion management reform - ESB  
 - likely enhanced info will be a  
 rule change request attached to  
 ministers papers. drafted by ESB.  
 ↳ rule change request to be  
 attached to ministers at Feb  
 meeting.

DCCEW/AGRI/AGMC  
Financeability

Wednesday  
 16.2.23

Depreciation during construction.

↳ Aemc out to EN & TA -

- could do depreciation during construction. don't think it is that material.

don't object to a rule change that makes it explicit.

the asset hasn't produced anything  
 - should consumers pay

↳ would prefer not to do it unless there was a very compelling reason.

wasn't clear we could do it under the rules.

CEFC - of the view of bringing it forward to construction in conjunction with RIN & concessional finance.

Tuesday

28, 2, 23

DCCEEW/AEMC  
Social LicenceSupport from minister - everyone  
on board.Jurisdictional Working Group.  
Priority:

- in private meetings
- Developing national framework
  - Community engagement
  - benefits sharing
  - impact assessment - how we measure

interest in testing whether we need  
benchmarks to assess how industry  
is going.

- consistency & transparency  
need a way of knowing people are  
actually doing that.

→ equitable outcomes

rely on other incentives in regulatory  
space and financing space to  
adopt national framework.

have it operationalised in a way  
on the ground - application.

Research piece - progression.

Rules on depreciation as in Page 2 final report.

add 6.3.A d. 65-831184.

exclude. sets out requirements for depreciation

no link to D.

think B1

Should be linked to

D: doesn't say take into account o.

cord?

don't let them shorten the asset life. tension between.

OCEEW + AEMC  
catch

Concessional finance - how it will  
apply in victoria  
work with Aemo + AEMO vic  
planning. - solidify discussions  
waiting for vic approval.  
→ brief minister.

financiability - received comments  
from jurisdictions. no one other than  
NSW provided comments

- not wanting it brought forward to  
pre construction.

depreciation of asset classes.

- biodiversity offsets - CECC progressing  
this work -

→ take forward what proposed.

clarifying how they will submit.

social liana incorporating final  
feedback - documents to brief  
Minister. brief before financiability  
most likely.

DCCCEW monthly  
 call up

Tuesday  
 2.15.23

[redacted] - Assistant Sec at  
 Prime Minister & Cabinet -  
 [redacted] was previously Director of  
 Network Reform.

Financeability: biodiversity → Tx  
 working group.

up to 1/3 of capital costs - now  
 a significant portion.

NSW - currently biodiversity treated  
 in perpetuity - not being depreciated.  
 not all biodiversity assets are the  
 same.

CEFC example - either manage the  
 land or pay to buy credit - regardless  
 they get income as if they were getting  
 revenue for land.

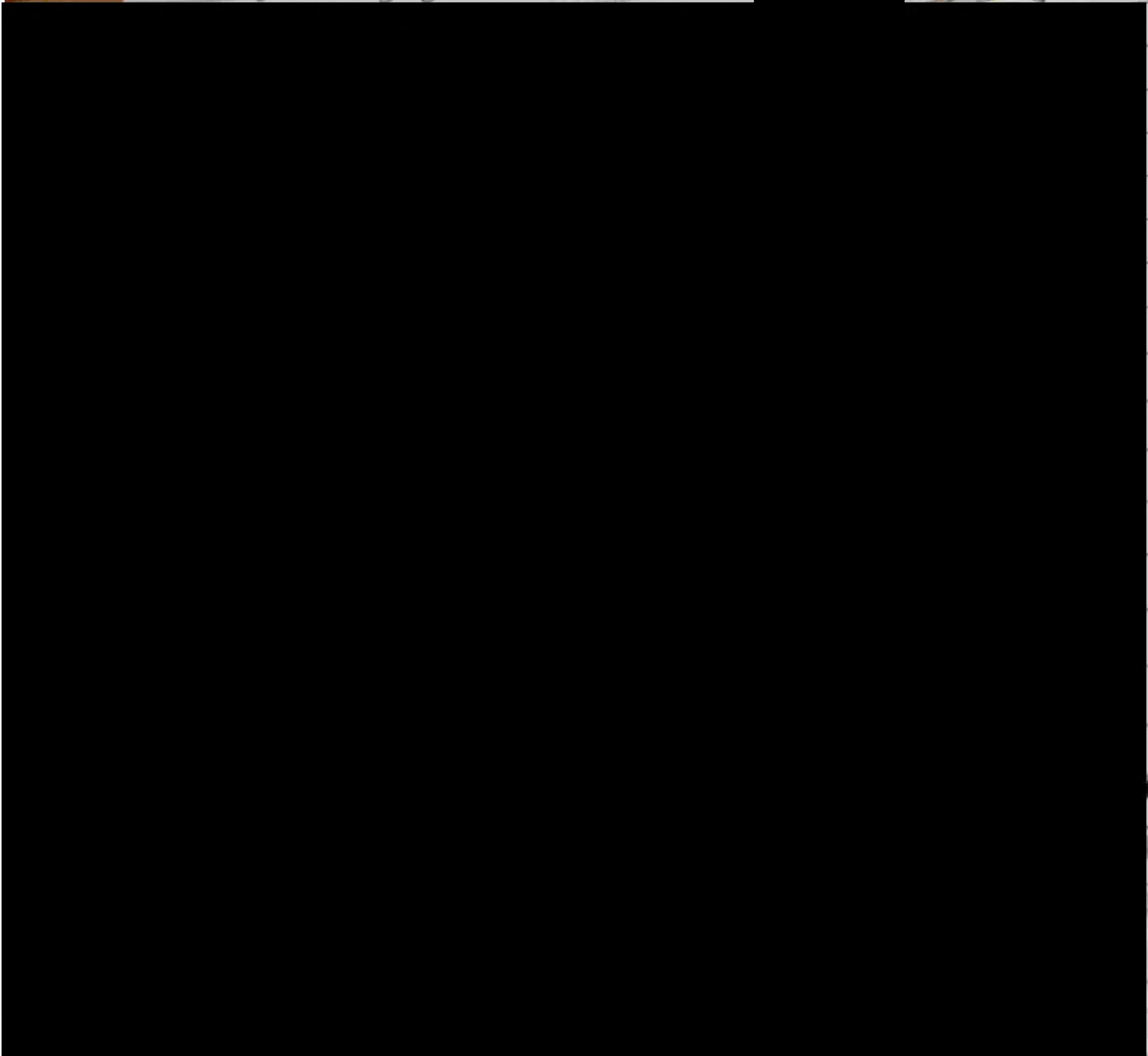
was there any discussion/interest  
 from other states.

NSW - Humelink CPA2 coming up.  
 No states objected to change.

Feedback loop → does it know  
 - sent to  
 States & Territories for feedback  
 - until next Friday - then to  
 minister.

Feedback loop - ACEI AEMC feedback.  
waiting feedback from AEMC.

Wade  
Jma



Missosdas  
7/9/23

FBI rule change memo  
Discussion with

FBI - SOP in draft or final or guided by  
and efficient delivery  
and efficient delivery  
and efficient delivery

Don't think exclusion number is  
necessary that it make change  
transparency for stakeholders  
discussing to do within discussion  
window

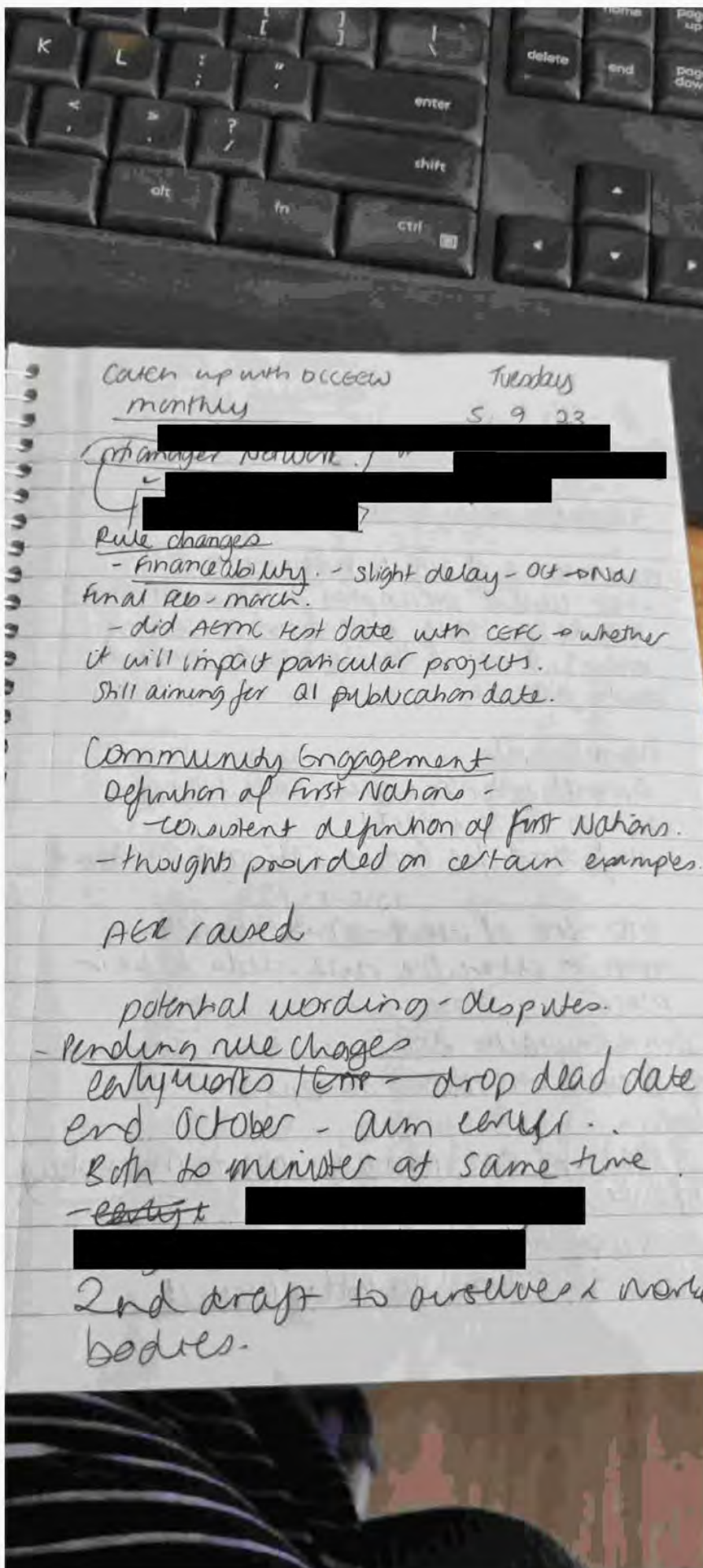
on the PACR - no longer support  
exclusion window with present - action  
was to address misalignment - prevent  
use latest EPSE info

highlight of PACR how think it is  
relevant - can be adopted in  
FBI now during any updates  
- through meeting address delay

relevant comment FBI e CPA  
addressment

understand same Missos have  
concerns re FBI address  
with some members - TGA





Catch up with DCC/CEW  
monthly

Tuesday

5.9.23

(Manager Network)

Rule changes

- Financeability - slight delay - Oct - ONDA  
final Feb - March.

- did AEMC test date with CEFC - whether  
it will impact particular projects.

Still aiming for Q1 publication date.

Community Engagement

Definition of First Nations -

- consistent definition of First Nations.

- thoughts provided on certain examples.

AEC raised

potential wording - disputes.

- pending rule changes

early works term - drop dead date

end October - aim correct.

Both to minister at same time

- ~~early~~

2nd draft to ourselves & member  
bodies.

