



Optional Firm Access Project Plan – September 2014

The Standing Council of Energy and Resources (SCER) has directed the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) to undertake detailed design and testing of the optional firm access (OFA) model. SCER has also requested that the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) undertake an associated work program.

The AEMC and the AEMO have developed the following coordinated project plan, which sets out our intended timetable for completion of this project as of September 2014. This also sets out our preliminary view of the likely report contents. We will coordinate our outputs in order to provide an integrated set of recommendations and to engage most efficiently with stakeholders.

Publication stage	Purpose	Date
AEMC First Interim Report	To present the proposed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> assessment framework for the project; planning and operating standard(s) for transmission businesses; associated transmission business incentive scheme(s); inter-regional access process; transitional access methodology, including indicative values; and implementation options, including for staged implementation. 	Published Jul 2014
AEMO First Interim Report	To present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> how AEMO is approaching its work program; and a summary of some early findings and observations. 	Published Jul 2014
AEMC Supplementary Report on Pricing	To present the proposed access pricing methodology, including indicative prices.	Oct 2014
AEMO Draft Report	To address issues raised in submissions to the First Interim Report, and to present draft findings relating to AEMO's terms of reference.	Dec 2014
AEMC Draft Report	To address issues raised in submissions to the First Interim Report, and to present our draft: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> overall assessment of the OFA model, including staged implementation options; recommendation on whether to implement OFA or not; recommended approach to how OFA should be implemented (if necessary); and detailed design of the OFA model (if necessary), including the following elements: access; pricing; procurement; regulation; transition; and implementation. 	Feb 2015
AEMO Final Report	To address issues raised in submissions to the previous reports, and to present final findings relating to AEMO's terms of reference.	By mid-2015
AEMC Final Report	To address issues raised in submissions to the previous reports and to present the final: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> overall assessment of the OFA model, including staged implementation options; recommendation on whether to implement OFA or not; detailed design of the OFA model, including the following elements: access; pricing; procurement; regulation; and transition; and detailed implementation plans for the introduction of OFA, including for the following elements: access; pricing; procurement; regulation; and transition. 	By mid-2015