22 March 2019

ACCC Consultation Paper – data access models for energy data

Tesla Motors Australia, Pty Ltd (Tesla) welcomes the opportunity to provide the ACCC with our feedback on the Consumer Data Right (CDR) in Energy – Consultation Paper (the CDR Consultation Paper). Tesla supports this process and the aim of providing Australian customer's with streamlined access to their electricity retail information.

We also support the acknowledgement from the ACCC of the different requirements that apply to the energy sector when compared to the banking sector.

There are a number of areas that would benefit from an expansion of the existing description in the Rules Outline following on from this Consultation Process, specifically:

- **CDR Customers:** clarification as to whether the same definitional approach will apply as is currently being proposed for the banking sector. Energy customers can include a range of residential, small and large business customers. The CDR in Energy should outline which consumers are considered for the purpose of energy.
- **Data Holder:** the CDR Consultation Paper implies that the key data holders that will be captured are retailers, metering data providers, and possibly distribution network service providers, as well as AEMO in respect of the Distributed Energy Resource (DER) Register. The Rules Outline should also clarify this approach, to ensure industry has the full information regarding compliance requirements.
- **Accredited data recipient:** the ACCC should specify whether the approach outlined in the Rules Outline intended to apply directly to the energy sector, or whether there will be alternative arrangements in place for the energy sector.

We hope that industry feedback from this consultation process also flows through to an update in the Rules Outline (corrected version published January 2019) to provide additional clarity in respect of the points noted above.

Data collected

The CDR Consultation Paper outlines potential datasets for an initial energy CDR including:

- NMI standing data (average daily load, network tariff code, the presence of a controlled load, and metering installation type).
- Metering data, including interval metering data where available.
- Customer data (including customer address)
- Historical retailer billing data
- Retail product data
- DER Register data

Tesla supports these data-sets with a caveat in respect to the fact that the DER Register is currently under development. The intention of the DER Register was to ensure that information is made public

only at an aggregated level. The CDR in Energy should ensure that this position is maintained, and does not present a risk to breaching this.

Preferred Model

Of the three models presented, Model 1 appears to represent the most streamlined approach for customers to access all information streams. There are certainly benefits to being able to access all data points from a single repository.

AEMO is playing an increasingly large role in the customer energy space, and it makes sense for them to maintain this position. Model 2 similarly streamlines the process – but with an increased likelihood of delays in respect of the data provided. Model 3 does not appear to provide many benefits beyond business as usual.

General comments

Consent

Support the position noted by the ACCC in the CDR Consultation Paper, whichever Model is adopted, ensuring customer consent for accredited data recipients to receive data on the customer's behalf will be critical.

Consistency

There are a number of overlapping reviews currently underway in respect of the development of energy related APIs. Noting the work that AEMO is currently undertaking in developing an API for VPP participation, it would be beneficial to align this process as much as possible. This will create consistency in the market for customers and accredited data recipients.

Protection of commercial interests

We note that customer assets are increasingly being used for participation in virtual power plants (VPPs). While VPP product offerings from retailers may be picked up as a CDR product, it will be important that access to data should not include anything that have an adverse impact on the commercial decisions of the VPP operator. Any market information should be treated with the same approach that AEMO currently adopts for utility scale generation assets.

Tesla welcomes continued work in this space, and is looking forward to working collaboratively. For more information on any of the comments above, please contact Emma Fagan at efagan@tesla.com.