



Our ref: AA1000586  
Contact officer: Michael Pappa  
Contact phone: (03) 9658 6531

23/02/2022

## By email

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Australian Energy Market Operator authorisation AA1000586 — final determination**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) has issued a final determination, with conditions, in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by the Australian Energy Market Operator (**AEMO**) on behalf of itself, AEMO Industry Participants and Future AEMO Industry Participants on 15 October 2021.

For the reasons set out in its final determination, the ACCC has granted authorisation to enable AEMO and current and future industry participants to coordinate and share information relating to the maintenance of electricity systems for the purpose of ensuring their safe, secure and reliable operation, and minimise the risk of any outages, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The conditions of authorisation require AEMO to regularly report to the ACCC about material decisions or arrangements discussed at industry coordination meetings, and for the immediate termination of any arrangements entered into upon the expiry of ACCC authorisation.

Authorisation is granted until 27 October 2022 (which is 12 months after interim authorisation was granted, as requested by AEMO).

A copy of the ACCC's determination is **attached** and also available on the ACCC's authorisations [public register](#).

### **Application for review**

Pursuant to section 101 of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth), a person dissatisfied with this determination may apply to the Australian Competition Tribunal for a review. An application for review must be made within 21 days of the date of this determination; that is, on or before 16 March 2022. If no application for review is lodged by this date, the ACCC's determination will come into force on 17 March 2022.

An application for review of the ACCC's determination should be lodged directly with the Australian Competition Tribunal. The Australian Competition Tribunal is a separate body from the ACCC and is located within the Federal Court of Australia.

For further information about the process involved in reviewing decisions in the Australian Competition Tribunal please refer to the tribunal's website at <http://www.competitiontribunal.gov.au/>.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter please do not hesitate to contact Michael Pappa on (03) 9658 6531 or via email [exemptions@acc.gov.au](mailto:exemptions@acc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D Hatfield', is placed over a light yellow rectangular background.

David Hatfield  
Director  
Competition Exemptions