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Our ref: AA1000643 Contact officer: Penny Bigham Contact phone: 07 3052 1221

13 July 2023

Dear Interested Party

Australian Energy Market Operator Limited - application for authorisation AA1000643 – interim authorisation decision

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) has decided to grant conditional interim authorisation to the Australian Energy Market Operator (**AEMO**) and current and future AEMO Industry Participants for arrangements involving coordination on the scheduling of outages and associated information sharing. A copy of the ACCC's decision is attached.

Interim authorisation protects the arrangements for which authorisation is sought from legal action under the relevant provisions of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) while the ACCC considers and evaluates the merits of the substantive application.

Next steps

The ACCC will continue to assess the substantive application for authorisation.

The ACCC is still inviting submissions on the application. In making your submission, please provide information, evidence and views about the likely public benefits, effects on competition and any other public detriment that you consider will result from the conduct.

If you intend to provide a submission, please do so by **28 July 2023**. Submissions should be lodged via the web form accessible on the public register page for this matter, which can be found on the ACCC's public register.

Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Penny Bigham via the details at the end of this letter.

Your submission **will** be placed on the ACCC's <u>authorisations public register on the internet</u> unless you have made a request (with reasons) for us to exclude part or all of the submission from the public register (see <u>Guidelines for Excluding Information from the Public Register for more information on how to make a request and how we assess requests).</u>

Timetable

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information, and an up to date version (including any changes) will be posted on the public register.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
7 June 2023	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
13 June 2023	Public consultation process begins.
23 June 2023	Closing date for submissions on interim authorisation.
13 July 2023	ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation.
28 July 2023	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
September 2023	Draft determination.
October 2023	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
November 2023	Final determination.

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 Penny Bigham on 07 3051 1221 or exemptions@accc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

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David Hatfield

Director

Competition Exemptions