
From: Tony Snell [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 4 February 2021 2:59 PM
To: Exemptions
Cc: Camilleri, Lyn; Ross, Nicole; Sood, Rajat; Drake, Michael; Janissen, Robert; Brett Hausler; Mark Stedwell
Subject: AEMO Authorisation dated 17 September 2020: report for period 1 January – 31 January 2021

We refer to condition 1 of the authorisation granted by the ACCC on 17 September 2020 (**Authorisation**) and the reporting protocol contained in Attachment A of the Authorisation.

Set out below is AEMO's report for the period 1 January – 31 January 2021 (**Reporting Period**).

This report can be published on the public register.

1. Material contracts, arrangements, understandings or decisions that rely on the Authorisation

No material contract, arrangement or understanding that relies on the Authorisation was entered into during the Reporting Period.

The following decisions that rely on the Authorisation were made during the Reporting Period:

- a) Two meetings of Victorian industry participants occurred during the Reporting Period as follows:
- i. A meeting between AEMO, AusNet, Basslink, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (**DELWP**), Energy Australia and Origin was held on Friday 15 January 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss any potential issues that may arise in relation to maintenance or scheduled outages in Victoria, and the resources required, in light of COVID-19. The participants shared information relating to the timing of current and proposed maintenance, including the potential timing of outages of the 500kV transmission lines to South Australia and other upcoming AusNet outages. AusNet also raised an issue about the current border restrictions and the entry of personnel with specialist skills from interstate which potentially impacts on an outage in late January.
 - ii. A meeting between AEMO, AGL, Alinta, AusNet, DELWP, Energy Australia and Origin was held on Friday 29 January 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss any potential issues that may arise in relation to maintenance or scheduled outages in Victoria, and the resources required, in light of COVID-19. The participants shared information relating to the timing of current and proposed maintenance, the specialist skills required and any potential disruptions to planned maintenance due to COVID-19 (including possible issues sourcing labour and/or parts from overseas). The participants also further discussed AusNet's program of transmission outages.
- b) One meeting of Queensland industry participants occurred during the Reporting Period, as follows:
- i. A meeting between AEMO, Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (Queensland) (**DNRME**), Intergen, Origin and Powerlink was held on Friday 22 January 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss any potential issues that may arise in relation to maintenance or scheduled outages in Queensland, and the resources required, in light of COVID-19. The participants shared information relating to the timing of current and proposed maintenance and the specialist skills required. The participants also discussed the impact of current inter-State border crossing restrictions and quarantine requirements.

The next meeting of Queensland industry participants is scheduled for Friday 5 February 2021.

2. Update to the Energy Coordination Mechanism

The Energy Coordination Mechanism did not meet during the Reporting Period.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any queries in relation to this report.

Kind regards

Tony Snell AM
Group Manager, Legal
Australian Energy Market Operator Limited

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Working days at AEMO: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, AEMO has adopted digital and remote ways of working to protect our people and critical operations. Please be aware that most meetings will now be conducted digitally to minimise physical contact and allow business to continue. Given the dramatic increase in load on our systems, please bear with us while we work through any technical issues that may result.