

NOTICE OF FIRST STAGE OF CONSULTATION

National Electricity Rules – Rule 8.9

CONGESTION INFORMATION RESOURCE GUIDELINES

Date of Notice: 7 May 2015

This notice informs all interested parties (**Consulted Persons**) that AEMO is conducting a consultation on the Congestion Information Resource Guidelines (**CIR Guidelines**).

This consultation is being conducted under clause 3.7A(d) of the National Electricity Rules (**NER**), in accordance with the Rules consultation requirements detailed in rule 8.9 of the NER.

Matter under Consultation

The matter for consultation is the CIR Guidelines, more particularly, the following issues:

1. The quality, relevance and frequency of information provided under the existing CIR Guidelines.
2. Suggestions of what additional information stakeholders consider should be included in the CIR Guidelines, including explanations of the value to stakeholders.
3. What current congestion-related information AEMO could stop publishing with no or little loss of value for stakeholders.
4. AEMO's proposal to revise the CIR Guidelines to:
 - a) Remove the requirement to undertake annual consultations. Instead, AEMO proposes to undertake consultations as needed, but in any event, at least every three years.
 - b) Cancel a number of low-benefit/high-cost items from the list of "Items Requested for the CIR".

A consultation draft of the CIR Guidelines is published with this Notice.

The Consultation Process

The consultation process is outlined below. Dates are indicative only and subject to change.

PROCESS STAGE	INDICATIVE DATE
Closing date for submissions in response to this Notice	19 June 2015
Publication of Draft Report and Determination	17 July 2015
Closing date for submissions in response to the Draft Report and Determination	31 July 2015
Publication of Final Report and Determination	28 August 2015

Invitation to Make Submissions

AEMO invites written submissions on the matter under consultation, including any alternative or additional proposals you consider may better meet the objectives of this consultation and the national electricity objective in section 7 of the National Electricity Law.

Please identify any parts of your submission that you wish to remain confidential, and explain why. AEMO may still publish that information if it does not consider it to be confidential, but will consult with you before doing so.

Please note that material identified as confidential may be given less weight in the decision-making process than material that is published.

Meetings

In your submission, you may request a meeting with AEMO to discuss the matter under consultation, stating why you consider a meeting is necessary or desirable.

If appropriate, meetings may be held jointly with other Consulted Persons. Subject to confidentiality restrictions, AEMO will generally make details of matters discussed at a meeting available to other Consulted Persons, and may publish them.

Closing Date and Time

Submissions in response to this Notice of First Stage of Rules Consultation should be sent by email to magnus.hindsberger@aemo.com.au, to reach AEMO by 5.00pm (Melbourne time) on 19 June 2015.

All submissions must be forwarded in electronic format (both pdf and Word). Please send any queries about this consultation to the same email address.

Submissions received after the closing date and time will not be valid, and AEMO is not obliged to consider them. Any late submissions should explain the reason for lateness and the detriment to you if AEMO does not consider your submission.

Publication

All submissions will be published on AEMO's website, other than confidential content.