

Re: AEMO 2023 ISP written consultation

We are writing to submit our report, [Scenarios for Future Living \(2030/2050\)](#), for consideration in AEMO's 2023 ISP written consultation process.

The *Scenarios for Future Living (2030/2050)* report uses foresight and evidence gathered across the four year [Digital Energy Futures \(DEF\) project](#) to centre people's current practices and future aspirations and expectations in industry scenarios and forecasting.

Digital Energy Futures (DEF) is a partnership between Monash University, the Australian Research Council, Ausgrid, AusNet Services and Energy Consumers Australia Limited. The \$2.3 million research project draws on future-focused social science research to better understand how emerging technologies are shaping the way people live – and ultimately, the future energy needs of Australian households.

Scenarios for Future Living (2030/2050) draws on the findings of 10 design ethnographic futures workshops with 42 people and ethnographic research with 72 households across Victoria and New South Wales, and two years of survey data from over 4,661 consumers from across Australia. They have been developed in consultation with our research partners, an industry Advisory Council (including representation from AEMO), and a network of energy forecasters convened by Energy Consumers Australia.

Our *Scenarios for Future Living* were developed in direct response to industry scenarios and draw on findings from our [Future Home Life](#), [Foresights for Future Living](#), and [Demand Management Opportunities](#) reports, and the [Energy Consumers Australia's Energy Consumer Behaviour Survey](#) (ECBS).

The *Foresights for Future Living* report recommends 14 Foresighting Concepts to reframe dominant assumptions found throughout the energy industry about how people do, or will, interact with energy and technology. The *Future Home Life* report presented a set of key principles speculating on the conditions of future home life that informed a set of recommendations to orient energy planning and forecasting for future home life. The *Demand Management Opportunities* report focused on what the Future Home Life research revealed about enabling household demand flexibility to respond to grid constraints and shifts in electricity supply. Finally, key findings from across the whole DEF project are being quantified and tracked into future years via the ECBS.

We analysed the assumptions and storylines about people embedded within industry's core scenarios, **including AEMO's Step Change scenario**, and compared these assumptions to our findings and foresighting concepts. By directing the focus of our contribution toward industry scenarios, we generated an alternative set of plausible energy futures grounded in evidence-based data about people that places consumers' lives, values, and practices at the core.

With this new evidence-base, we aim to support more efficient, cost-effective and reliable networks, and identify new datasets for forecasting that consider the role of people in energy visions while supporting desirable and equitable futures for Australian energy consumers.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like to discuss this research, our scenarios, or forecasting resources in more detail.

Regards,

DEF team.