

CONGESTION INFORMATION RESOURCE GUIDELINES CONSULTATION

FINAL REPORT AND DETERMINATION

Published: **September 2018**





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The publication of this Final Report and Determination (Final Report) finalises the Rules consultation process conducted by AEMO to amend the Congestion Information Resource Guidelines (CIR Guidelines) under the National Electricity Rules (NER).

AEMO's original proposal was to revise the CIR Guidelines to:

- Require Transmission Network Service Providers (TNSPs) to provide their planned network outages via NOS and only those outages which have a material impact (i.e. those which have historical binding constraint equations).

In response to the 1st stage notice, AEMO received two submissions, from EnergyAustralia Pty Ltd and ERM Power Limited. Both responses were generally supportive of the change for planned network outages. ERM Power Limited suggested changes to the annual Constraint Report and a CIR information pack for new participants.

AEMO received no submissions in response to its Draft Report and Determination (Draft Report).

After consideration of feedback from the first stage consultation, AEMO has amended the CIR Guidelines to:

- Require Transmission Network Service Providers (TNSPs) to provide their planned network outages via NOS for outages that have historically caused binding constraint equations or for outages that are forecast to cause binding constraint equations (due to network changes, new/future generators or generators retiring).

AEMO's final determination is to amend the CIR Guidelines in the form published with this Final Report.



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1. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION PROCESS

As required by clause 3.7A(m) of the NER, AEMO is consulting on CIR Guidelines in accordance with the Rules consultation process in rule 8.9.

AEMO’s timeline for this consultation is outlined below.

Deliverable	Indicative date
Notice of first stage consultation [and Issues Paper] published	24 May 2018
First stage submissions closed	29 Jun 2018
Draft Report & Notice of second stage consultation published	27 Jul 2018
Submissions due on Draft Report	13 Aug 2018
Final Report published	24 Sep 2018

The publication of this Final Report marks the conclusion of the consultation.

Note that there is a glossary of terms used in this Final Report at **Appendix A**.

1.1. NER requirements

The NER specifies:

3.7A(k) AEMO must develop and publish guidelines (the congestion information resource guidelines) in relation to:

- (1) the categories of information to be contained in the congestion information resource including the source of that information;
- (2) the scope and type of information to be provided by Transmission Network Service Providers in accordance with paragraphs (n) and (o);
- (3) the processes to be implemented by AEMO to obtain the information from Transmission Network Service Providers in accordance with paragraphs (n) and (o);
- (4) the determination of the intervals for updating and publishing the congestion information resource under paragraph (e); and
- (5) the processes to be implemented by AEMO for providing Registered Participants with information under paragraph (g).

3.7A(l) AEMO must develop and publish the first congestion information resource guidelines in accordance with the Rules consultation procedures by 1 September 2010 and there must be a set of congestion information resource guidelines available and up to date at all times after that date.

3.7A(m) AEMO must amend the congestion information resource guidelines in accordance with the Rules consultation procedures.

1.2. Context for this consultation

The existing CIR Guidelines calls for AEMO to undertake consultation with interested parties at least every three years. The previous consultation was undertaken mid-2015 requiring a new consultation to be undertaken by mid-2018.

1.3. First stage consultation

AEMO issued a Notice of First Stage Consultation on 24 May 2018. The matters for consultation were:

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 require Transmission Network Service Providers (TNSPs) to provide their planned network outages via NOS and only those outages which have a material impact (i.e. those which have historical binding constraint equations).

A consultation draft of the CIR guidelines was published with the first stage notice.

AEMO received two written submissions in the first stage of consultation.

Copies of all written submissions, minutes of meetings and issues raised in forums (excluding any confidential information) have been published on AEMO's website at: <http://aemo.com.au/Stakeholder-Consultation/Consultations/2018-Congestion-Information-Resource-Guidelines-Consultation>

1.4. Second stage consultation

AEMO issued its Draft Report and Determination on 27 July 2018. No submissions were received.

2. FINAL DETERMINATION

Having considered the matters raised in submissions, AEMO's final determination is to amend the CIR Guidelines in the form of published on AEMO's website at: <https://www.aemo.com.au/Stakeholder-Consultation/Consultations/2018-Congestion-Information-Resource-Guidelines-Consultation> in accordance with clause 8.9A of the NER.



APPENDIX A. GLOSSARY

Term or acronym	Meaning
AEMO	Australian Energy Market Operator
CIR	Congestion Information Resource
NEM	National Electricity Market
NER	National Electricity Rules
NOS	Network Outage Scheduler
TNSP	Transmission Network Service Provider

APPENDIX B. SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS AND AEMO RESPONSES

No.	Consulted person	Issue	AEMO response
1.	ERM Power Limited	"ERM Power supports the continued publication of all current information in accordance with the CIR guideline. We also believe a few minor amendments to the provision of information would offer benefits to participants and other interested parties. These are set out below."	Support for continued publication of information currently in the CIR noted.
2.	ERM Power Limited	"We note AEMO's proposal to require all Network Service Providers (NSPs) to provide information regarding all network outages which are planned to occur within the next 13 month period and which historically have had a material impact on network transfer in AEMO's Network Outage Schedule (NOS) as opposed to the current separate reporting systems used by some NSPs. We agree with AEMO's view that the NOS is the appropriate system for the notification of all network outage by NSPs to both AEMO and the Market."	Support for the use of NOS noted in S4.1.1. of the draft determination and report.
3.	ERM Power Limited	"However, given the speed with which additional generation is being connected to the network, and the impact this may have in changing the historical level of congestion associated with a network outage, we believe that NSP' should be required to undertake a forward looking assessment with regards to the potential for a network outage to lead to network congestion and where this may occur also include these outages in the NOS."	Noted in S4.1.1 and addressed in S4.1.2. of the draft determination and report.
4.	ERM Power Limited	"ERM Power believes there would be benefit for current and future participants if improved segregation of the types of constraints were included in both the tabular and graphical reporting features of the reports, in particular in the section regarding market impact. We believe the top 10 system normal and top 10 outage constraints and annual trends should be reported separately to the other forms of constraint equations as these are the more critical indicators of the impacts of network congestion in the NEM."	Noted in S4.2.1 and addressed in S4.2.2. of the draft determination and report.
5.	ERM Power Limited	"In addition, AEMO currently reports on outage submit times prior to outage start date in the Annual Constraints Report with one of the categories being submit times greater than 30 days. We believe a potential improvement to guide improvements in network outage	Noted in S4.2.1 and addressed in S4.2.2. of the draft determination and report.

		planning by NSPs would be to change this reporting to greater than 30 days and less than 90 days and add a new category of greater than 90 days. This would then better highlight those NSP's that are attempting to advise network outages with submit times that provide benefits to the efficient operation of the market."	
6.	ERM Power Limited	"ERM Power believes there would be benefit for AEMO or the relevant NSP to supply to any new connection enquiries an information source pack prepared by AEMO for the CIR at the time an initial connection enquiry is lodged indicating the information contained in the CIR and how the information may be accessed. This would assist potential new NEM participants to better understand the potential for congestion in the network associated with alternative connection locations."	Noted in S4.3.1 and addressed in S4.3.2 and S4.3.3. of the draft determination and report.
7.	EnergyAustralia Pty Ltd	"Under the National Electricity Rules (NER) Transmissions Network Service Providers (TNSPs) are required to submit their current intentions and best estimates regarding planned network events. EnergyAustralia supports AEMO extending the requirement to all TNSPs to use the Network Outage Scheduler (NOS) when providing AEMO with this information. This will ensure that the most up to date information on TNSPs planned outages is available to participants through the NOS. Information on planned outages is critical to market participants allowing them to make informed decisions when committing plant (in the short term) and planning maintenance (in the short and longer term)."	Support for the use of NOS noted in S4.1.1. of the draft determination and report.
8.	EnergyAustralia Pty Ltd	"We are concerned that the requirement to only publish outages that have historically caused a binding constraint may omit outages that may bind in the future. Significant new generation capacity is forecast to be installed in the NEM over the coming years, industry has committed to over 1GW of new solar and wind projects with over 20GW proposed ² . This installation of new capacity (and retirement of older capacity) will undoubtedly change how the power system operates and may cause outages that have not previously impacted the power system to bind in the future. TNSPs should be required to submit all outages to NOS allowing AEMO to assess the impact and invoke constraint sets accordingly."	Noted in S4.1.1 and addressed in S4.1.2 of the draft determination and report.

