



MINUTES

MEETING: Information Exchange Committee
DATE: Monday 20 February 2017
TIME: 1:00 PM
LOCATION: VIDEOCONFERENCE/TELECONFERENCE: SYDNEY, MELBOURNE AND BRISBANE

MEMBER ATTENDEES: Mr John Pittard, AEMO director (IEC Chair)
Mr David Havyatt, Energy Consumer Australia (consumer member)
Mr David Markham, Australian Energy Council (retailer member)
Mr Alan Hume, Jemena (discretionary, distributor representative)
Mr Dean Van Gerrevink, Vector (metering member)
Mr Peter Price, Energy Queensland (distributor representative)
Mr Peter Van Loon, Powershop (discretionary, retailer representative)
Mr Marco Bogaers, Metropolis (discretionary, metering representative)

ALTERNATES:

APOLOGIES:

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms Violette Mouchaileh (IEC Secretariat), Mr Peter Geers (AEMO), Mr Ben Healy (POC Program Manager), Mr Chris Cormack (B2B Procedure lead), Ms Stefanie Macri (B2B Working Group representative)

The chairman opened the meeting at 1:00 pm

1. Apologies

There were no apologies for the meeting.

2. Member's Declarations of Interests

The Committee noted there were no conflicts of interest declared.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The Committee endorsed the minutes of the meetings held on 21 December 2016 and were confirmed as a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising

The Committee noted the status of the jurisdictional safety regulation item as follows:

- Energy networks were recently approached by the Department of Environment and Industry and asked to collaborate with the Australian Energy Council to develop a proposal for the remote energisation and de-energisation of smart meters, for consideration by the jurisdictional regulators. Comments were also sort as to the appropriate form of regulation that should apply if this process were

to be adopted. A high level process, including the options and arguments for utilising an “Auto Disconnect” feature on the smart meter, is currently being developed for discussion with the MCG, prior to involving other market participants.

- The MCG is also identifying other safety issues and discussing possible solutions; with a view to proactively approaching the jurisdictional safety regulators.
- A draft Australian standard for metering safety was released for comment in December 2016. The brief document, which was developed with the help of three network representatives indicates the amendments to the IEC standard needed to suit Australian conditions and meet our requirements. The draft standard includes:
 - An Appendix detailing an “Auto Disconnect” feature which will trip the meter if it detects load when it is remotely energised. This feature, which is currently used in Victoria, ensures that the customer has opened their main switch prior to the meter being remotely energised.
 - A 2-hour overload rating of 126A for the 100A rated meter. The overload rating and duration corresponds to the time taken for an 80A HRC fuse to operate (1.6 per unit). These changes are currently being discussed with the MCG.

The Committee requested to include this issue as a standing item on the IEC agenda.

Action Item 1

5. B2B Procedures – IEC recommendation to amend the B2B procedures

The Committee approved the final B2B procedures amendments and agreed to make an IEC recommendation to AEMO to amend the B2B procedures, subject to the following changes:

- **Notified parties:** A key issue raised during the B2B procedure consultation is whether to place mandatory obligations on retailers to notify parties for all service order requests. The IEC noted that having a level of awareness of what other parties are doing in the supply chain may help minimise issues and efficient delivery of customer outcomes. The IEC also noted that there are avenues (i.e. through MSATS) to receive information to minimise inefficient visits to customer sites; and the decision to build the functionality into the system is a commercial one (based on retailer review of the workings of internal process and customer feedback).

IEC resolution: the IEC resolved to make the obligation to notify parties for service orders a non-binding obligation. The IEC noted the e-hub will have this functionality and a number of distributors and retailers are building this functionality into their systems and processes. The IEC agreed to revisit the requirement, after 1 December 2017, if there is evidence to show that the non-binding arrangements are resulting in inefficient outcomes for the market and end-consumers.

- **Pre-installation data request:** a proposal was discussed around whether to include a transactions (pre-installation data request and response) to allow metering coordinators to ascertain information about a site before their visit. The IEC noted that MSATS has a framework (standing data) for the population of such information, and if the data is available, then it should be provided via the MSATS framework through populating the optional data fields.

IEC resolution: the IEC agreed to remove the transactions and request AEMO commence a process with industry to review the MSATS procedures (separate to the POC process) with the intent of making optional data fields mandatory to ensure there is a source of central data available to relevant parties and minimise inefficient communication and processes being put in place. The IEC noted that such a change would be subject to a standard consultation process under the rules to ensure there are no unintended consequences.

- **Email addresses:** an issue raised during the B2B consultation process is whether to include a customer's email address in the customer detail notification transactions for use by the distributor for outage and supply issue contact purposes. The IEC noted that there is an upcoming AEMC rule change around life-support customer requirements, which is likely to require changes to the B2B procedures post 1 December 2017.

IEC resolution: the IEC considered it appropriate to include the address as an optional field. Once the AEMC has finalised its life-support customer rule change considerations, the IEC will consider what changes are required to the B2B procedures.

- **Service order subtypes and backward compatibility:** some participants have raised concerns regarding the changes to the service order transactions (i.e. the existing transaction have been split out to reflect service orders to be sent to either distributors or metering coordinators or others). A number of small retailers had expectations that the B2B framework would continue to support FTP and existing transactions structures (particularly for the majority of retailer transactions like re-energisation, de-energisation and special reads which will continue effectively unchanged under POC). The IEC notes that the expectation was the B2B framework would continue to support FTP and notes minimising the changes to support the POC reforms so as to minimise impact on participants is a desirable outcome.

IEC resolution: the IEC agreed to not incorporate this into the final B2B procedures released in March 2017. The IEC requested AEMO consider whether a translation table can be made available to participants to enable them to continue to send some old transaction types (old schema) in a manner compatible with the new transaction types (new schema). AEMO was asked to engage with the relevant stakeholders and working groups (system and B2B working groups) to consider the viability of this issue and report back to the IEC in two weeks. Should a change be needed to the B2B procedures, this could be picked up as part of the as-built B2B consultation to occur prior to 1 December 2017.

- **Planned interruption notification:** a new transaction has been included in the B2B procedures which allows participants to meet their obligations to notify each other of planned interruptions. The B2B Working Group requested confirmation that this transactions should remain non-binding.

IEC resolution: The IEC, consistent with its considerations regarding notified parties, agreed to make this transaction a non-mandatory notification. The IEC requested the B2B procedures be amended to clarify that the transaction is an optional transaction.

- **Guidance notes:** the IEC noted that there were a number of new guidance notes added in the final procedures based on submission feedback.

IEC resolution: the IEC agreed to include new guidance notes, consistent with previous IEC directive to the B2B Working Group.

The Committee agreed that the final set of B2B procedures will be circulated on 22 February 2017, to reflect the IEC changes and any other tidy-ups picked up by the B2B Working Group, for final approval by 24 February 2017 via circular resolution.

Action Item 2

The Committee noted the final B2B procedures are to be presented to the AEMO Board for an AEMO Decision to approve the B2B procedures in early March 2017 for release on 6 March 2017.

6. Program update

The Committee discussed the POC program status update, the January 2017 readiness report, and POC and B2B program risks and proposed mitigations.

7. B2B procedure changes – as built consultation

The Committee agreed to run an as-built B2B procedure consultation from April 2017 to November 2017 to capture any errors or corrections to the B2B procedures required in the lead up to 1 December 2017. The Committee also agreed to continue with the existing B2B Working Group to manage this process.

8. B2B – day 2 changes

The Committee discussed the scope of possible B2B priorities post implementation of the Power of Choice program. The Committee noted that priorities post 1 December 2017 will largely depend on what issues, if any, arise post POC implementation. Furthermore, transactions that were de-scoped as part of package 1 will need to be considered in the context of need and value.

To inform the priorities beyond POC, the Committee requested AEMO develop a scorecard that measures the performance of the B2B arrangements. The Committee also requested (noting it is already an item on the Matters Arising), reviewing the methodology and change process to progress B2B changes noting the importance of a timely change process to better meet the needs of the market.

Action Item 3

9. IEC forward plan

The Committee noted the forward plan and noted it will be amended to reflect the items discussion at this meeting.

The Chair closed the meeting at 3:00pm.

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John Pittard
IEC Chair

Date: 8 May 2017