

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Power of Choice ‘Business-to-Business’ Working Group (B2B-WG)

1. Background

The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) is working with industry to implement procedural and system changes arising from a number of Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) interrelated rule changes which originated from the AEMC’s Power of Choice (POC) review.

1.1. AEMC “Updating the electricity B2B framework” rule change

Among the POC rule changes is the “Updating the electricity B2B framework” rule change, for which the AEMC released a final rule and determination on 30 June 2016. The rule change updates the governance and other arrangements for electricity business-to-business (B2B) Procedures on communications for services related to small customer meters, and is expected to enhance the efficiencies and benefits of the POC rule changes by facilitating communications between the businesses offering and accessing services related to these meters.

The rule change also contains transitional arrangements relating to AEMO, the Information Exchange Committee (IEC) and B2B Procedures, which include:

- AEMO to develop and publish new IEC election procedures and an operating manual by 1 August 2016.
- AEMO to establish the new IEC by 1 September 2016.
- IEC to recommend changes to B2B Procedures to be consistent with the POC rule changes by 1 May 2017.
- AEMO to publish the new B2B Procedures within 20 business days of the IEC recommendation.
- AEMO to establish and publish information in respect of the process for accreditation as a B2B e-hub participant by 1 June 2017
- Commencement of the new B2B Procedures and new B2B framework on 1 December 2017.

1.2. Development of revised B2B Procedures

To support the development of necessary revisions to the B2B Procedures prior to establishment of the new IEC, AEMO and industry are developing draft B2B Procedures by no later than 31 December 2016 for public consultation, with a view to finalising the B2B Procedures by no later than 1 March 2017.

This work is being led by the POC Business-to-Business Working Group (B2B-WG), which AEMO has established. The B2B-WG will become a formal working group of the new IEC once established (as per the National Electricity Rules (NER)).

2. Purpose

- The B2BWG needs to ensure that changes made to procedures do not affect the current service levels, but do comply with new Rules and the NEO; and ensure benefits for customers. The new procedures should allow for an efficient and seamless B2B communication process, provide clarity on various procedures and responsibility changes impacted as a result of recent rule changes; and allow a seamless transition to the new world. This will be done with an even distribution of work amongst the B2B Members; an open collaborative environment focussing on future and not the past, utilising the groups accumulated learnings and information.

3. Operations

The B2B-WG is expected to:

- Operate primarily as a working group.
- Deliver proposed changes to the B2B Procedures for IEC review and consideration, as per the NER.
- Develop and implement a work program to deliver the updated B2B Procedures in line with the POC timeframe, including provision of draft B2B Procedures to the IEC by no later than 30 September 2016 for their consideration.
- Work closely with the IEC, AEMO and market participants.

4. Scope

The following activities are deemed within the scope of the POC B2B-WG:

- Determining the approach to achieve the POC implementation timetable, including prioritisation of B2B services.
- Developing the changes to the B2B Procedures to accommodate the interrelated POC rule changes, for IEC review and consideration.
- Consulting with wider industry in the preparation of draft B2B Procedures.
- Reviewing and responding to stakeholder submissions received during consultation on the draft B2B Procedures.

5. Membership

The POC B2B-WG will consist of the following members:

- Four retailer members (as nominated by the Australian Energy Council).
- Four distribution network service provider members (as nominated by the Energy Networks Association).
- Four metering members – representing metering coordinators, metering providers and metering data providers (as coordinated by AEMO).
- One AEMO member (Chair).

5.1. Membership Criteria

The following membership criteria is targeted to all members on behalf of the represented category:

- Detailed knowledge of the subject matter of B2B Procedures, the POC rule changes and relevant provisions of the NER.

- Experience with, and skills in, considering B2B and retail market businesses and data processes that impact retailers, distribution network service providers and metering providers, respectively.
- Experience with, and skills in, stakeholder consultation processes to support the development and implementation of solutions to market operational issues in a timely manner.

6. Governance

The POC B2B-WG is under the mandate of the IEC.

Under the NER, the IEC is responsible for making recommendations to AEMO on changes to the B2B Procedures, having regard to the national electricity objective and the B2B factors, and considering the B2B Principles.

6.1. Administration

AEMO will prepare and distribute all meeting calendar invitations, agendas, meeting papers and meeting notes via email.

AEMO will provide the Chair, secretariat services and subject matter expert(s) for each meeting.

6.2. Meeting facilities

AEMO will provide meeting facilities for at least one of the AEMO offices listed below, and where possible video-conference facilities, between locations. A small number of tele-conference lines may also be made available for members where they cannot attend an AEMO office location.

Meeting Location:	AEMO Office:
Adelaide	Level 9, 99 Gawler Place, ADELAIDE SA 5000
Brisbane	Level 10, 10 Eagle Street, BRISBANE QLD 4000
Melbourne	Level 22, 530 Collins Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000
Sydney	Level 2, 20 Bond Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000

6.3. Meeting timings

Meeting frequency: will be determined by the working group.

Meeting papers: AEMO will endeavour to provide advice and all meeting documentation no less than five business days prior to each meeting.

Meeting notes: AEMO will endeavour to circulate all meeting notes and outcomes within five business days after each meeting.

All documents will be made available on AEMO's website following each meeting.

6.4. Disbandment

The POC B2B-WG will be disbanded when the final B2B Procedures are completed, or as decided by the IEC.

6.5. Resourcing

Any expenses incurred as a result of attending meetings or activities associated with meetings are at the expense of the member's employer.

For more information or for other enquiries, please email the POC inbox: poc@aemo.com.au