B2B Working Group Minutes

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| MEETING: | B2B Working Group |
| DATE: | Wednesday 3 August 2016 |
| TIME: | 1:30 Pm |
| LOCATION: | AEMO Office Melbourne and Video/Teleconference |

Attendees:

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| Attendees | Company | Location |
| Andrew Suwignjo | AEMO | Melbourne |
| Chris Cormack | AEMO | Melbourne |
| Paul LeFavi | AEMO | Melbourne |
| Aakash Sembey | Momentum Energy | Melbourne |
| Brett McLean | United Energy | Melbourne |
| Charles Coulson | Metropolis Metering | Melbourne |
| Darren Bailey | Origin Energy | Melbourne |
| David Sales | Tasnetworks | Melbourne |
| Dean Van Gerrevink | Vector AMS | Melbourne |
| Mara Tenis | Lumo/ Red Energy | Melbourne |
| Mark Riley | AGL | Melbourne |
| Michael Cruse | Active Stream | Melbourne |
| Shaun Cupitt | Acumen Metering | Melbourne |
| Anna Russo | Endeavour Energy | Video Conference |
| David Woods | SA Power Networks  | Teleconference |

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Chris Cormack (AEMO) welcomed participants to the B2B Working Group (B2B WG) and noted two changes to the working group. Darren Bailey (Origin Energy) replacing Neil Hyde (Click Energy) and Shaun Cupitt (Acumen Metering) as replacement for Rod Jones (IntelliHUB).

It was noted the transitional Information Exchange Committee (IEC) had met and election process for new IEC was currently underway.

It’s expected the first meeting of the new IEC to be held on 10 September 2016, with John Pittard from AEMO Board as Chair. The remit for the B2B WG is to support the IEC to develop and recommend changes to B2B Procedures

**2. B2B Meetings and Schedule**

Meeting schedule for the B2B WG includes 5 meetings over the next two months (approx. every 10 days). The schedule is to allow sufficient time for the B2B WG to work collaboratively on development of procedures, provide the opportunity for WG members consult with other industry participants interested in this process and allow time to complete as much work between meetings as possible.

Meetings will be held in Melbourne with video and teleconference across other AEMO offices. AEMO aims to distribute papers halfway between each meeting and minutes 5 days after each meeting. B2B WG meeting papers will be published on the AEMO website under the Power of Choice page.

**3. B2BWG Purpose/Vision/Objective**

B2B WG was asked to come prepared with feedback on the purpose (per slide 2 of hand-out) for the working group.

AEMO noted it was important the group was focused on delivering a shared outcome to deliver draft procedures by 30 September 2016.

Three questions where put forward to help define the purpose for the B2B WG with participants highlighting the following feedback:

1. Imperative - Why do we need to change these procedures?

Not limited to:

* comply with Rules and NEO;
* Meet industry’s and customers’ expectations;
* Ensuring (tangible) benefits for customers;
* Allow for multiple parties participating in B2B or Many-2-Many requests for the delivery of a service – often parts of the same service (to maintain the operational efficiency);
* Provide a foundation on which various processes can be overlayed and performed by the industry.
* Standardise where appropriate to maintain operational and safety efficiency.
* Minimise re-work and not go backwards on what the market currently delivers.
1. Vision - What will these changes enable?

Not limited to:

* Efficient and seamless communication processes
* Clarity on various procedures and responsibility changes impacted as a result of recent rule changes;
* Seamless transition to the new world;
* Enabling efficient communications and not forcing a particular business model onto participants.
* Procedures that support future innovation and provide low barriers to entry
* Where possible, consistency across jurisdictions
* Better understanding of the grey area between obligation v/s contractual;
* Business as usual environment for customers without a ‘Comms’ meter;
* Cost effective delivery of services to customers and industry participants;
* Allow the market to establish and evolve future developments to meet industry needs.
1. Solution - How can we get to this outcome?

Not limited to:

* Even distribution of work amongst the B2B Members;
* Open collaborative environment focussing on future and not the past;
* Utilising our accumulated learnings/information for the past two years;
* Workshopping/Brainstorming exercises;
* Ex-IEC’s transaction list to be well understood in order to create process flows and use cases;
* Establishing standards where possible;
* Establishing criteria to prioritise changes (based on vision and imperative) to assist the WG to focus on high priority changes first;
* Identifying the benefits & risks the B2B changes will have to customers and industry which will assist with demonstrating the value of the changes.

(Note: The above includes feedback the Retail reps provided prior to the meeting).

Primary objective as a working group is to deliver draft B2B procedures to the IEC no later than 30 September 2016 to meet March 2017 final determination for procedures.

AEMOs approach is to have an open collaborative approach and shared accountability for developing procedures within the B2B WG.

UED highlighted the need to establish a prioritisation criteriato assist the group to prioritise the list of transactions previously captured.

Acumen expressed the importance to narrow down on the imperatives that must be delivered for day one and if required, being ruthless about non-essential changes in order to meet the timelines.

General view put forward by participants was that 5 meetings was not enough to complete the task.

AEMO is open to possibly having more meetings if needed, however as a working group there was no reason much of the work couldn’t continue outside of meetings rather than using meetings to do the work.

Tasnetworks stated documenting end to end business processes (flows) should come first and from there work out what transactions are needed. Others expressed concern with this approach, noting this could force a specific business model and remove the flexibility of B2B communications. AEMO noted delivering this level of detailed work (end to end business processes flows), as well as new complete drafting B2B Procedures was not achievable within the current timeline of 30 September 2016 for recommendation to IEC.

It was also noted that the transitional IEC in establishing the B2B Working Group had also established the priorities for work to be done at the IEC meeting of 27 June 2016 (Agenda Item 7) –

* Recognising the above, the Committee agreed to request the B2B working group to develop B2B procedures that support all four service categories, and to start work in the following order: efficiency transactions, minimum service specifications, peer to peer requirements, and advanced metering services

**3. Procedure Update Options**

Andrew (AEMO), introduced procedure update options (per slide 7 of the hand out) outlining potential approach how the working group might update existing and define new services.

As baseline AEMO will be using B2B Procedures version 2.3 that incorporates the requirements for Embedded Networks/Metering Coordinator and Life Support requirements.

UED indicated that detailed prioritisation of the services/transactions/scenarios/processes was needed to to determine the extent of changes to existing B2B Procedures.

A question was raised about how the IEC’s list of 47 transactions would be incorporated in with the changes. Some participants noted the initial list was collated without any prioritisation and not all participants agreed with the content.

Endeavour Energy highlighted the need for a criteria for prioritising changes impacted by new services and existing high volume transactions.

UED and Momentum proposed the starting point should be the IEC list of 47 transactions/scenarios for prioritisation to work what we want.

It was proposed the group focus on identifying existing B2B list of transactions that will ‘break’ that needed to be updated.

There was general alignment by the working group with the ‘moderate change’ option, as it supported the principle of minimising re-work, whilst noting the previous comment regarding the prioritisation activity.

**4. B2B Principles and B2B factors**

Paul (AEMO), introduced the topic of B2B factors and B2B principles (per slide 8 of the hand out).

AEMO expressed the B2B factors and principles must be considered when developing new procedures to facilitate communications between participants to meet legal obligations set out in the NEL, NER and jurisdictional requirements.

B2B procedures need to be developed in way that promote innovation in advanced meter services and not impose barriers to entry. The aim is to develop efficient, reliable and easy to implement communications that don’t discriminate between parties, protect confidential information and ensure a uniform approach across jurisdictions.

There was consensus that any changes reflect the B2B Factors, B2B Principles and NEO.

**4. Participant Involvement Options**

AEMO asked the working group, how much input did they want have in process and how much did they want AEMO to do. The two options where;

AEMO goes and does all of the work and bring back changes to the working group? Or

Have as much participant involvement as possible to identify and develop changes?

General consensus from the working group to contribute as part of a collaborative effort. Over the next two weeks the WG will focus on prioritising and then progress the packages of work to develop new transactions and update to existing B2B procedures.

Participants requested an additional meeting be held prior to the 17 August to prioritise changes for new and existing B2B transactions. AEMO proposed that prioritisation could be completed outside of the meetings, however participants wished to discuss and prioritise as a group.

Participants preferred the idea of reviewing a consolidation of the IEC 47 transactions, the list of transactions prepared by Lee Brown (AEMO) and list of existing B2B transaction as a starting point.

AEMO to get back to the B2B WG if an additional meeting can be arranged prior to 17 August.

The group did not support that the implementation of new AEMO template for reasons previously raised by participants e.g. difficulty in referencing, difficulty in determining material changes from format/template changes. The group recommended given tight timeframes that the format does not change as everyone is familiar with the existing Procedures.

AEMO will share the views of the WG regarding the use of new templates internally, however noted that AEMO’s position was unlikely to change.

Participants noted any change in document template formats is an IEC decision and matter that would be taken up with IEC members for direction.

**5. Next Steps**

* Circulate meeting minutes.
* Circulate a consolidated list of transactions for prioritisation
* Follow up on an additional meeting prior to 17 August.