INFORMATION EXCHANGE COMMITTEE MEETING

FOR DISCUSSION

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON B2B-WG ACTIVITIES

AGENDA ITEM: 11

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to report on the status of action items currently being discussed by the Business to Business Working Group (**B2B-WG**).

2. DISCUSSION

Since the September 2022 Information Exchange Committee (**IEC**) meeting, the B2B-WG has met for further discussion and input on matters relating to the following:

- Alignment of Business to Business (**B2B**) and Business to Market (**B2M**) field lengths
- Gap in National Electricity Market (**NEM**) Retailer of Last Resort (**RoLR**) Process
- Impact of Integrating Energy Storage Systems (**IESS**) on B2B processes
- Correcting an error in the technical specification of PERSONNAME in B2B transactions
- Discrepancies between B2B Service Order Process and B2B Guide (V3.7)

An update is provided on each of these matters in the following sections.

2.1. Alignment of B2B and B2M field lengths

As stated at the September IEC meeting, the B2B-WG identified:

- five fields which have inconsistences between the B2B and B2M procedures; and
- field lengths that have changed as a part of the 2019 Australian Standards

which aren't reflected in the procedures.

The B2B-WG have endorsed this issue for development, and an Issue Change Form (**ICF**) is be presented to the IEC in a draft paper.

2.2. Gap in NEM RoLR Process

As stated at the September IEC meeting, a draft ICF has been raised regarding an incorrect reference in clause 104.5 of the NEM RoLR process. The issue identifies a potential gap in the procedure where obligations similar to the LNSP do not exist for the Metering Coordinator (**MC**), Meter Provider (**MP**) and Meter Data Provider (**MDP**) roles.

The obligation relates to ensuring the service order (**SO**) response contains all fields according to the B2B Procedure Service Order Process. The proponent clarified that the ICF has no technical impact but relates to errata and clarification of clauses. The marked-up procedures were sent to the B2B-WG by the proponent for review. The B2B-WG have endorsed this issue for development and an ICF to be presented to the IEC in a draft paper.

2.3. Integrating Energy Storage Systems (IESS)

AEMO scheduled an out of session B2B-WG meeting on 26 September 2022 to review the IESS rule and complete a high-level impact assessment on how IESS may impact the B2B Procedures. The B2B-WG have noted they will engage the IEC at the February 2023 meeting, however, the high-level findings are as follows:

- Ensuring the Integrated Resource Provider (**IRP**) (a new market participant role) is not excluded from using the B2B procedures.
- Updates will be required to the service order transaction types to ensure the role definition doesn't exclude the IRP to be able to raise service orders.

The B2B procedures activities for IESS implementation are not due for consultation until mid-2023.

2.4. PERSONNAME definition specification correction

In the September B2B-WG meeting, it was raised that in Table 5 – Section 3.5 of the B2B Technical Delivery Specification Procedure v3.7, the PERSONNAME definition states for the PersonNameTitle and the PersonNameGiven field: *'Where no xxx is available to populate xxx, an empty string should be used to populate it instead.'*

It was raised that there are contradictions in the description column with the first paragraph allowing for the field to be Blank, and the second paragraph provides the condition for an empty string to be populated. The proponent received confirmation that the empty string is a requirement, contradicting the 'Blank' allowance and recommended that the procedure is amended to clarify the field cannot be 'Blank'. The B2B-WG is developing a change pack to support an expedited consultation.

2.5. Discrepancy between B2B SO Process and B2B Guide (V3.7)

A discrepancy between B2B SO Process and the B2B Guide (v3.7) for FormReference and FormNumber fields was raised at the October B2B-WG meeting. The Form Reference and Form Number fields are marked as 'N' for Sub-category Re-Energisation of the ServiceOrderType (Page 44 of SO process).

However, the B2B guide mentions different FormReference values to be provided depending on Jurisdiction and Scenarios (example: Required for VIC Re-Energisations where service is off-supply for more than 12 month) (Page 70 of B2B Guide) in Table 13 against the field FormReference, the text in Definition column makes reference to 'Supply Works Request' whereas the column headings are 'Supply Service Works'. An ICF has been drafted to be presented at the B2B-WG November meeting.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the IEC notes the ongoing work being conducted by the B2B-WG and the potential ICFs for future IEC consideration.

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