

Our ref: EDM 55119823  
Contact: Kei Sukmadjaja (9326 6808)

15 January 2020

AEMO Stakeholder Relations  
Australian Energy Market Operator  
Level 22, 530 Collins Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000

Dear Sir/ Madam

### **Western Power's Submission to the Renewing AEMO's Engagement Model – Response Paper**

Western Power welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Renewing AEMO's Engagement Model – Response Paper (**Paper**). Western Power is broadly supportive of AEMO's plans to make additional changes to the existing forums structure to ensure that its forums and working groups are effective, transparent and collaborative.

Western Power considers the AEMO forums and working groups to be valuable and is supportive in maintaining its strong working relationship with AEMO, in particular the WA office. Western Power has interest in the operation of the WA Forums, which plays an important role in the engagement of stakeholders in the Wholesale Electricity Market (**WEM**).

Western Power notes that, as set out in Figure 1 and Attachment 2 of the Paper, AEMO plans to maintain the WA forums operating in their current form (until WEM reform is complete) and that there are no plans to make changes to the current structure of the forums. Western Power considers that whilst it may be prudent to maintain status quo of the forums until the end of reform, several minor changes could be made to further improve the effectiveness of the WA forums.

### **Terms of Reference**

Western Power is of the view that there is benefit in AEMO reviewing the terms of reference of the WA forums and working groups for any areas that warrant a change prior to the completion of reform. Additionally, Western Power would like further clarity regarding AEMO's plans for the WA forums following the completion of the reforms.

### **Network Operator Matters**

For matters relating to the Network Operator, Western Power requires AEMO to engage with us prior to the circulation of the meeting papers and presentation of the matters to stakeholders. This would enable clearer messaging of the issues, better understanding of the technical information and possible solutions to the issues, and a more effective handling of stakeholder queries. Western Power looks forward to working with AEMO on these improvements.



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## Distributed Energy Resources (DER)

Western Power recognises that there is a substantial amount of work being undertaken nationally with respect to DER, including future standards requirements, that has an impact on the South West Interconnected System (SWIS). Western Power requires further clarity regarding how this aspect of the revised engagement model is proposed to interface with stakeholders in the SWIS on these matters.

Western Power has been working closely and effectively with AEMO in the implementation of the WA DER Roadmap, and highlights that (in our role as Distribution System Operator in the SWIS) we have a significant amount of experience and expertise on the performance and characteristics of DER that will be of great benefit at a national level. We request continued early and open collaboration with AEMO on performance, issues and potential solutions associated with the large number of small-scale resources are critical to ensuring the SWIS can continue to be developed and operated safely, securely, reliably and efficiently.

Should you have any queries regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact Kei Sukmadjaja on (08) 9326 6808.

Yours sincerely

P.P.  Mohsin Miyarji

**Zahra Jabiri**

Head of Regulation and Investment Assurance