Terms of Reference
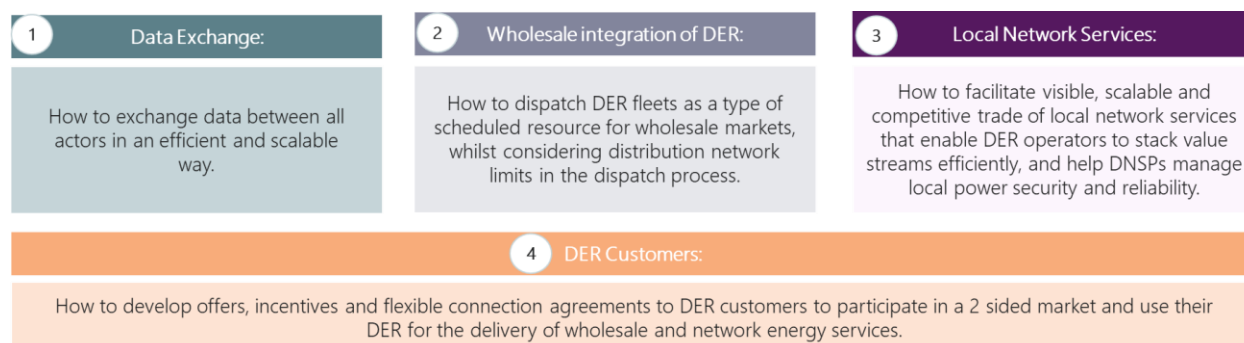
Project EDGE – A Distributed Energy Market Pilot

Networks Advisory Group

Introduction

AEMO (Market and Power System Operator), Ausnet Services (DNSP) and Mondo (Aggregator) are partnering to develop a proof of concept marketplace to efficiently dispatch Distributed Energy Resources (DER) for wholesale markets and local network support services, and to do so within the constraints of the distribution grid in the north-east region of Victoria. The project is co-funded by the three partners as well as a significant contribution by ARENA (~50% of project costs)

The project will target customers in the Hume region of Victoria and run from October 2020 until March 2023. Additional aggregators will be able to participate in later phases of the project.

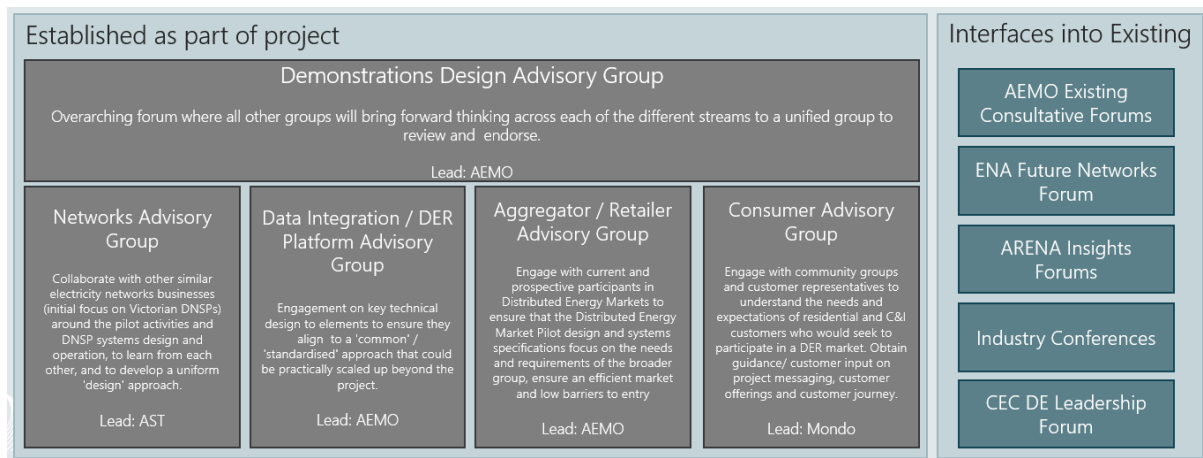Key functions being tested as part of this demonstration pilot are:

1 **Data Exchange:**	2 **Wholesale integration of DER:**	3 **Local Network Services:**
How to exchange data between all actors in an efficient and scalable way.	How to dispatch DER fleets as a type of scheduled resource for wholesale markets, whilst considering distribution network limits in the dispatch process.	How to facilitate visible, scalable and competitive trade of local network services that enable DER operators to stack value streams efficiently, and help DNSPs manage local power security and reliability.

4 DER Customers:

How to develop offers, incentives and flexible connection agreements to DER customers to participate in a 2 sided market and use their DER for the delivery of wholesale and network energy services.

Purpose/objectives

The Networks Advisory Group is one of several project advisory groups being established to consult with a panel of industry experts and seek feedback on the Project EDGE demonstration pilot, specifically in relation to electricity distribution network aspects, so that:

- Project partners can consider feedback from industry experts in their decision making.

- Knowledge and learnings are effectively shared between project participants and industry experts.

- Project outputs and outcomes can be utilised or referenced in related industry decision making by relevant authorities within the Australian context.

For context, the following figure provides an overview of the envisaged project advisory groups structure:

The aims of this Networks Advisory Group would include:

- To collaborate with other similar electricity networks businesses around the Distribution System Operations (DSO) design being tested within the pilot, to learn from each other, and to develop a uniform "design" or implementation approach where appropriate;

- To obtain guidance and feedback on key functional aspects, applied methodologies/operating models and decisions that are made under the project which influence DSO platform development and implementation within the Victorian context, and more broadly within the Australian market.

Scope

Once operational, it is intended that the Advisory Group will function to review and provide feedback on project content that is made available to them. This is intended to include:

- Aspects of operating envelope design;
- Operating model options being tested;
- DER-Network-Market optimisation;
- Local services definition and functionality;
- Option analysis and cost-benefit assessment.

Comment will also be sought on how the project could best address the posed research questions, and how the learnings, insights and evidence should be made available to relevant authorities to be used/referenced in regulatory decision making.

Members may also be asked to discuss and raise matters that may require input and advice from their respective organisations to inform ARENA and the project partners, and to help support the Project to achieve its objectives.

It is anticipated that, where necessary, the project team would curate the information so that the time spent by the Advisory Group can be efficiently applied.

Governance

AusNet Services will provide Chair and secretariat services for each meeting.

The Networks Advisory Group will not have decision making power.

Information shared during meetings will be done so in confidence and no official meeting documents will be published or made publicly available unless consented to by all Project Participants and Networks Advisory Group members.

Membership

Initial membership of the Networks Advisory Group has primarily been drawn from the companies who expressed their support for the original project submission, plus other entities involved in similar DER demonstration projects. Membership is by invitation only.

AusNet Services reserve the right to update membership throughout the lifecycle of the project subject to approval by the project partners. At time of establishment, invited membership consists of one representative from each of:

- Citipower/Powercor
- United Energy
- Jemena
- South Australian Power Networks
- TasNetworks
- Essential Energy
- Western Power
- Horizon Power
- ENA
- evolve DER (ANU/ZepBen)
- University of Melbourne (contracted by AusNet Services within the project)
- Australian Energy Market Commission
- AusNet Services

Those not currently participating in the Networks Advisory Group may request to do so by sending the following details to EDGENetworksAdvisoryGroup@ausnetservices.com.au for consideration by the project partners:

- Name
- Organisation
- Role
- Reason for participation

Meetings

The Networks Advisory group will run monthly for the first six months after establishment. At such time, the cadence and length of meetings will be reviewed, and ongoing arrangements will then be established for the remainder of the project lifecycle.

Meetings will be held via digital platforms until further notice.

Administration

AusNet Services will prepare and distribute all meeting correspondence via email and manage meeting invitations and documents.

AusNet Services will endeavour to provide stakeholders with:

- A draft agenda and relevant meeting papers five business days prior to the meeting.
- Meeting outcomes and actions approximately five business days after the meeting.

Resourcing and Expenses

Any expenses incurred by Networks Advisory Group members or invitees attending meetings, or undertaking activities associated with the advisory group actions, agendas or meetings are at the expense of the member's employer.

Version control and contact details

Version 0.2

Effective date 30 October 2020

Draft document (AusNet Services)

For more information on the Networks Advisory Group, contact EDGENetworksAdvisoryGroup@ausnetservices.com.au.