Forecasting Reference Group (FRG) DRAFT MINUTES

MEETING: FRG #14 2020

DATE: Wednesday, 25 November 2020

TIME: 2:00pm – 3:30pm AEDT

LOCATION: Teleconference

ATTENDEES:

Name	Company	Name	Company
Abbas Mohammadi	AEMO	Patrick Gan	Energy Australia
Adrian Grantham	AEMO	Kerina Heath	Ergon Energy Queensland
Andrew Turley	AEMO	Ron Logan	ERM Power
Dane Winch	AEMO	Brent Hudson	Essential Energy
Daniel Collins	AEMO	Zoe Dowsett	Essential Energy
Ebby Thomas	AEMO	David Headberry	Major Energy Users
Gregory Staib	AEMO	Alan Yap	Nous Group
Helen Wang	AEMO	Bill Nixey	NSW DPIE
Levi Rosenbaum	AEMO	Reinzy Colle	NSW DPIE
Magnus Hindsberger	AEMO	Sharon Young	NSW DPIE
Natasha Sinclair	AEMO	Sarah-Jane Derby	Origin
Nick Culpitt	AEMO	Anna Livsey	PIAC
Ashok Kaniyal	AER	Adam Ryan	Powercor
Christian Rasmus	AER	Dean Knight	Powerlink
Paul Grzinic	Aurora Energy	Enrique Montiel	Powerlink
Alexandra Sidorenko	Ausgrid	Jennifer Brownie	QEUN
Ed White	Ausgrid	Bret Hudson	RepuTex
Marc Thiebaut	Ausgrid	Andrew Manson	SA Gov
Ricky Chen	Ausgrid	Marino Bolzon	SA Gov
Sanju Vargeese	BHP	Elisia Reed	SA Power Networks
Thakshila Gunaratna	Clean Energy Council	Noel John Sligar	Sligar and associates
Henry Gorniak	CS Energy	Brendan Ash	Stanwell
Henryk Smyczynski	DELWP	Joe Hemingway	Stanwell
Sharon Raymond	Department of state growth	Reza Tabibi	Synergy
Anna Evans	DISER	Sean Law	Synergy
Abu Abdullah	ElectraNet	Yuichi Yano	Synergy
Ben Skinner	Energy Council	Julie Morrison	TasNetworks
Shane Brunker	Energy Queensland	Prateek Beri	TasNetworks
William Zhu	Energy Queensland	Arindam Sen	TransGrid
Jakes Jacobs	Energy Skills Queensland	Sujeewa Vithana	United Energy
Bradley Woods	Energy Australia	Marc Hyndman	Value Leader
Florie Fong	Energy Australia		

1. Welcome and Introductions

Daniel Collins (AEMO) welcomed everyone and covered the following:

- Open and recently closed actions.
- Asked for any corrections for the Oct 28 minutes to be provided by November 30.
- Open Formal consultations on:
  - AEMOs Reliability Forecast Guidelines. First stage submissions close on 16 December 2020. (Action 4.11.1)
  - Demand Side Participation Information. Second stage submissions closed on 25 November 2020. (Action 4.11.2)
  - Submissions to Energy.forecasting@aemo.com.au are appreciated.

2. Presentation 1 – Forecast Accuracy Report

Nick Culpitt (AEMO) presented a summary of AEMOs process in developing its Draft 2021 Inputs, Assumptions and Scenarios Report (IASR), which will be published on December 11, followed by a formal consultation, accepting submissions to forecasting.planning@aemo.com.au until 1 February 2021[1]. The Draft IASR is to contain abundant detail on input and scenario narratives and settings, considering stakeholder feedback in workshop discussions and virtual whiteboards. A calendar with engagement opportunities is available on AEMO's website[2].

Key topics raised by stakeholders during this session included:

- Ron Logan (ERM Power) and David Headberry (Major Energy Users): Do all scenarios include current legislated government projects and policy?
  - AEMO: All legislated policies will be appropriately captured in the relevant scenario narratives. The IASR clearly sets out which policies are defined in each scenario.
- Ashok Kaniyal (AER): What assumptions are made regarding decarbonisation goals for the electricity sector and its impact on other sectors?
  - AEMO: Scenario narratives are guided by technology and decarbonisation ambitions. Due to uncertainty around electrification of other sectors and therefore, the full decarbonisation impact of energy, the energy sector is assumed to account for a proportional share of Australia's decarbonisation goals. Some of the scenarios reflect varying target years for reaching net zero carbon emissions. Feedback on the treatment of decarbonisation within the narratives is welcome within stakeholder submissions to the formal consultation.

3. Presentation 2 – Forecasting Approach

Daniel Collins (AEMO) presented AEMO's proposed Forecasting Approach website[3].

Key topics raised by stakeholders during this session included:

- Jennifer Brownie (QEUN): The term "Commercial" could be misinterpreted.
  - AEMO: "Commercial" represents the non-Large Industrial Load (LIL) component of business loads, "Small to Medium Enterprises." The image though will be updated to more clearly state that the Business sector includes both LIL and Commercial customers.
- Joe Hemingway (Stanwell): The level of detail is appropriate. Forecasts from external consultants should include collective consultation and feedback processes.

[1] See: https://aemo.com.au/consultations/current-and-closed-consultations/2021-planning-and-forecasting-consultation-on-inputs-assumptions-and-scenarios
[2] Available at: https://aemo.com.au/energy-systems/major-publications/integrated-system-plan-isp/2022-integrated-system-plan-isp/opportunities-for-engagement
[3] Available at: https://www.aemo.com.au/energy-systems/electricity/national-electricity-market-nem/nem-forecasting-and-planning/forecasting-approach

        - AEMO: The forward plan includes opportunities for feedback on consultants' forecasts. A key need for finalising AEMO's forecasting components is stakeholder consultation, which will include FRG consultation and discussion.
    - Ben Skinner (AEC): In the diagram, "Transmission" could be feeding directly into market modelling.
        - AEMO: The image will be updated to correct this missing arrow.
    - Kerina Heath (Ergon Energy): Will the interactive map link to the Connection Point Forecasts (CPF) values?
        - AEMO: CPFs are currently released as spreadsheets as they do not fit into the forecasting portal framework.
    - Kerina Heath: How will the Wholesale Demand Response (WDR) rule change impact methodologies and future forecasting?
        - AEMO: WDR is included in Demand Side participation (DSP) forecasts and follow the same consistent approach. Forecasts for the first summer (2021-22) requires additional assumptions and information from potential participants.

4. Presentation 3 – FRG Forward Plan & review

Daniel Collins (AEMO) presented a summary of the past year of FRG meetings and planned and implemented improvements. The draft forward plan for January – June 2021 FRG meetings was presented, including consultant presentations. This draft will be updated on the FRG website ahead of the January 2021 meeting.

Key topics raised by stakeholders during this session included:

- Jennifer Brownie (QEUN): Will consultants research hydrogen vehicles?
    - AEMO: CSIRO's 2020 DER report included hydrogen vehicles and will continue to explore them next year, noting that the scenarios consider hydrogen more explicitly.
- David Headberry (Major Energy Users): Full online FRG meetings have benefited regionally located participants, reducing travel time and increasing participation opportunities.

5. Other Business

AEMO are actively working on improving workshop logistics, operation and timing to maximise their benefits.
Daniel Collins (AEMO) thanked the FRG participants for attending and participating in 2020.

6. Meeting close

The next FRG meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 27 January 2021, focusing on Gas.

Appendix A Forecasting Reference Group (FRG) Actions Items

FRG Action Items – OPEN (as at 18 November 2020)

Item	Date Raised	Topic	Action required	Responsible	Due	Status
4.2.2	10/06/2020	Improve FOR data collection	Improve data collection to include causes of outages	AEMO	Dec 2020	OPEN
4.11.1	11/11/2020	Reliability Forecast Guidelines Consultation	First stage submissions to RFG Consultation sent to energy.forecasting@aemo.com.au	Participants	16 December 2020	OPEN

FRG Action Items – CLOSED (as at 18 November 2020)

Item	Date Raised	Topic	Action required	Responsible	Details	Status
4.11.2	11/11/2020	DSPI Guidelines Consultation	Second stage submissions to energy.forecasting@aemo.com.au	Participants	25 November 2020	CLOSED