

MEETING NOTES – ERCF

MEETING: Electricity Retail Consultative Forum
DATE: Thursday, 25 March 2021
TIME: 9:30am-12:00pm (Melba Time)
LOCATION: Teleconference
MEETING #: 3
CONTACT ercf@aemo.com.au

ATTENDEES:

Name	Company
Meghan Bibby (Chair)	AEMO
Michelle Norris	AEMO
Nandu Datar	AEMO
Noura Elhawary	AEMO
Jackie Krizmanic	AEMO
Adrian Honey	TasNetworks
Andrew Jumeau	Evoenergy
Andrew Mair	Next Business Energy
Ben Friebel	HSN Tech
Chantal Wright	Jemena
Christophe Bechia	Red / Lumo
Collette Reedy	ActewAGL
Damien Tillig	Brave Energy
David Woods	SA Power Networks
Dino Ou	Endeavour Energy
Greg Szot	PowerCor
Helen Vassos	PLUS ES
Jane Hutson	Energy Queensland
Jeff Roberts	EvoEnergy
Joe Castellano	Origin
John Dawson	Unknown
Jordan Daly	ENSEK
Justin Betlehem	Ausnet Services
Justine Stute	Mondo
Kam Vessali	Secure Meters
Kamal Kisto	Origin Energy
Kate Goatley	ActewAGL
Kiran Balaraman	Energy Intelligence
Laura Peirano	United Energy (UE)
Leon Vilfand	Jemena
Mamta Madan	Unknown
Mark Leschke	Energex
Mark Riley	AGL
Mussan Larnach	Unknown
Paul Greenwood	VectorAMS

Name	Company
Rebecca Neatnica	Ausnet Services
Robert Lo Guidice	intelliHUB
Shaun Cupitt	Alinta Energy
Steve Blair	Energy Queensland
Sue Richardson	AgilityCIS
Wayne Turner	Ausgrid

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Welcome, agenda items, AEMO Competition Law Meeting Protocol, Acknowledgement of country - Meghan Bibby, AEMO

Meghan Bibby (AEMO) welcomed all participants to the meeting and spoke to the items as per the slides. The agenda was accepted by attendees.

2. Action Items from Previous Meeting – Meghan Bibby, AEMO

Meghan Bibby (AEMO) noted the closed and progressed items, as detailed in the meeting pack and agenda. No comments or further actions were taken.

It was noted several items had been updated since the meeting pack was circulated, which will be reflected on the meeting pack published online.

MATTERS FOR NOTING

3. 2021 January & March Consultations & ICF Register– Meghan Bibby, AEMO

Meghan Bibby (AEMO) spoke to this item according to the slide in the meeting pack in conjunction with the ICF Register discussion. No comments or further actions were taken.

The Change Log was also discussed, with the ICFs and CIPs for discussion later in the meeting or awaiting consultation.

There were no comments.

4. Customer Switching, MSDR & MCPI Update – Meghan Bibby, AEMO

Meghan Bibby (AEMO) provided an update as to the implementation of the MSATS Standing Data Review and Metering Coordinator Planned Interruptions changes.

The pre-meeting information for the first MSDR Data Transition workshop was circulated to participants on Wednesday 24th March 2021 for participants to consider and gather some thoughts before the data transition workshop scheduled on Tuesday 30th March 2021.

There were no comments.

COMMON ITEMS

No items tabled.

MSATS-ONLY ITEMS

Steve Blair (Energy Queensland) spoke to the updates of the definitions of SMALL and LARGE NMI Classification Code (Table 4E – CATS Procedure v4.94) which were detailed in ICF_031 and becomes effective on 14th March 2022.

Discussion:

- Steve Blair (Energy Queensland) asked what changes will need to occur to their large residential NMIs, and how to determine which of them should transition to small residential NMIs and which should transition to Business NMIs. He posed a question to the retailers on their plans to implement this change.
- Meghan Bibby (AEMO) noted that looking at the tariffs of the NMIs should determine how to transition the large residential NMI classification codes, and that retailers will need to undertake an assessment to determine the process to follow to achieve this transition.
- Mark Riley (AGL) mentioned that NMI classification is about assets and customer classification is about customer negotiation, and that they don't have residential tariffs for significant loads.
- Steve Blair (Energy Queensland) mentioned that there will be no large residential NMI classification in the future, but they think that it will still exist for some time to come, and asked how can we comply with the CATS Procedures and the changes in the NMI Classification Codes without having a negative impact on the customers.
- Mark Riley (AGL) noted that if changing the NMI classification will have a negative impact on the customers then it shouldn't be done.
- Meghan Bibby (AEMO) mentioned that the change in the NMI Classification Codes in the CATS Procedure was to align with the National Electricity Retail Law (NERL), and suggested that retailers may want to have a discussion around each NMI that needs to change and review some examples to determine how the transition should happen.
- Dino Ou (Endeavour Energy) asked if the networks need to change tariffs by the effective date of the CATS procedure, or if there is another effective date for the networks to apply those changes, and whether there is any transition period.
- Jackie Krizmanic (AEMO) mentioned that depending on how many NMIs needs to change, we can determine the effective date or the transition period. If the number of NMIs is small then we would expect the changes in tariffs should happen within 1 week of the effective date of the CATS Procedure. The changes will be done as a joint work between retailers and the networks, where retailers will have to decide what classification code the NMIs need to change to, and the networks/Distributors will need to do the actual updates in MSATS.

Actions:

- Steve Blair (Energy Queensland) will reach out to the top 3-4 retailers so that they can start working on some examples of the NMIs that needs to change as a result of the change in the NMI classification codes.
- Mark Riley (AGL), Joe Castellano (Origin), and Shaun Cupitt (Alinta) volunteered and would like to be involved in the discussion with Steve Blair (Energy Queensland).

- Steve Blair (Energy Queensland) to obtain email addresses and contact details from Meghan Bibby (AEMO) to start reaching out to Participants.

METROLOGY AND SERVICE-LEVEL PROCEDURES ITEMS

5. ICF_042: Estimation Reason Codes – Joe Castellano (Origin)

Meghan Bibby (AEMO) spoke to the ICF as per the documents and slides, and went through the second survey results summary which AEMO had a larger response for comparing to the first survey for this ICF.

Discussion:

- Joe Castellano (Origin) thanked everyone for taking the time to do the survey and asked what the next step should be given that the preferences for the status quo and Option 2 are very close in the survey responses.
- Meghan Bibby (AEMO) mentioned that the next step would be to look into the current estimation reason codes and consider the feedback received that current reason codes only cover individual NMI situation and that we need new reason codes to cover the group situations. She also mentioned that this change will have to go through consultation.
- Joe Castellano (Origin) asked if Option 1 should be disregarded given that it had very low number of supporters in the survey responses and whether we should only have one solution Option which is Option 2, Meghan Bibby (AEMO) agreed with Joe on that.
- Wayne Turner (Ausgrid) asked what is meant by estimation reason codes covering individual NMI level or group NMI level.
- Meghan Bibby (AEMO) clarified that if there is a group situation where we need to estimate a group of NMIs (usually manual readings) like a whole postcode, then the estimation reason code for group NMIs would apply rather than the ones for the single NMI level. Noting that the estimated data and reason code are sent at the NMI level.
- Mark Riley (AGL) mentioned that we have a focus group meeting on the 20th April 2021 for ICF_042, and that we can clarify in that meeting critical situations that were not covered by the current estimation reason codes and discuss more options for the consultation.
- Meghan Bibby (AEMO) clarified that the purpose of the 20th April meeting was to review all existing estimation reason codes to determine whether they meet their purpose and whether they need updating, but she agreed that they can add an item for discussion at the beginning of the meeting to discuss the critical situations to be covered by estimation reason codes and what should go into consultation.
- Joe Castellano (Origin) mentioned that now is good timing to consider this ICF given the floods happening in NSW and asked participants what estimation reason codes they are using for the NSW floods, as part of the ICF is about having consistency to what reason codes should be used in certain situations.
- Dino Ou (Endeavour Energy) answered that he needs to get back to Joe on this but it seems that Extreme Weather reason code is the reasonable one to use, EQL mentioned that they are using Extreme Weather reason code.

- Helen Vassos (PLUS ES) suggested that we have a definition of reason codes for group NMI level vs the ones for single NMI level in the consultation because it is confusing given that we will always have the data sent at the NMI level.
- Meghan Bibby (AEMO) explained that the reason codes for group NMI level will be used to explain group events so the code will be the same for every affected area even though the data is still sent at the NMI level. Meghan agreed to include a definition in the consultation as requested by Helen Vassos.
- Mark Leschke (Energex) asked if we need to consider having separate estimation reason codes for manually read meters vs remotely read meters. Meghan Bibby (AEMO) mentioned that this can be considered in the focus group meeting on 20th April 2021 and then updates can be provided to the wider ERCF group later on.

Actions:

- Focus group meeting for ICF_042 on 20th April 2021 to consider the following:
 - Critical scenarios that needs to be covered by estimation reason codes, and whether new reason codes are required or expansion to current ones can be done.
 - Review of current estimation reason codes to determine if it meets its purpose and whether updates are needed.
 - Looking into the additional and detailed feedback received for the second survey of ICF_042.
 - Considering what needs to go into consultation for ICF_042.
 - Consider whether we need to have separate estimation reason codes for manually read meters vs remotely read meters.

6. ICF_044: New substitution method/ ICF_045: Agreed substitution reasons/ ICF_046 Clarifying objective of estimation - Mark Riley (AGL), Shaun Cupitt (Alinta), Jeff Roberts (Evo Energy)

Shaun Cupitt (Alinta) spoke to the 3 ICFs as per the documents and slides, and mentioned that he used ICF_044 to introduce a new substitution method, and ICF_045's purpose is to change timeframes for type 16 reason as the current timeframes are quite short and we need to increase them specially with the move to Global Settlement. Lastly he spoke about ICF_046 and that it is used for clarifying the objective of the estimation and substitution by adding an obligation on the MDP to provide a substitute that is as close as practicable to the likely actual consumption of the site to ensure that retail billing and wholesale allocations of the NEM are carried out with information that aligns as close a practicably with the actual site consumption.

Discussion:

- Kam Vessali (Secure Meters) asked if including any changes to the procedures need to go to the jurisdictions first.
- Jackie Krizmanic (AEMO) answered that changes to procedures come straight to AEMO and they do not need to go to the jurisdictions unless they are jurisdiction specific changes.
- Dino Ou (Endeavour Energy) asked for clarification on how Global Settlement will result in more people involved in the substitution and estimation, as Dino's

understanding that Global Settlement should result in less people involved as there will no longer be an LR.

- Shaun Cupitt (Alinta) mentioned that once global settlement commences, the LR as an affected party is no longer relevant, however, the affected number of retailers increases from the FRMP to all retailers (due to the UFE process), which significantly increases the administrative burden on agreed substitution processes.
- Dino Ou (Endeavour Energy) suggested that the affected participants from UFE in global settlement is a separate issue but it needs clarification as it has an impact on these ICFs.
- Jackie Krizmanic (AEMO) agreed that clarification needs to be sought from the AEMC and the AEMO legal team in relation to who are the affected participants from UFE in global settlements and whether it is only the financially impacted participants or more.
- Mark Leschke (Energex) asked if we can get more clarification on type 14 substitution and how is it different from type 16.
- Meghan Bibby (AEMO) asked if we need to have a broader look at some of the substitution types and how they are used, many participants agreed that we do.
- Meghan Bibby (AEMO) asked if those 3 ICFs need to go to consultation, 5 participants voted that it should go to consultation and no one voted against it going to consultation.
- Dino Ou (Endeavour Energy) asked when is the next consultation will be?
- Meghan Bibby (AEMO) answered that we will need to wait until mid this year (mid-2021) to determine when will the next consultation will be given all the other B2M and B2B consultation work that is going on now. She asked if anyone has issues with timing to let AEMO know.

Actions:

- Jackie Krizmanic (AEMO) to clarify who are the affected participants from UFE in global settlements and whether it is only the financially impacted participants or more.
- Perform a broader review of substitution types to see if it needs updating.
- Shaun Cupitt (Alinta) to clarify the 3 ICFs before it goes to consultation.

OTHER BUSINESS

Meghan Bibby (AEMO) summarised action items from the meeting as detailed in the sections above in this document.

7. GENERAL QUESTIONS & NEXT MEETING – Meghan Bibby, AEMO

Mark Riley (AGL) mentioned that with the question related to affected participants and UFE, this is a question for government, as if only one party making the decisions, how do we know that they are making the right decision? This needs to be clarified. Meghan Bibby (AEMO) noted the question and will add it as an item for clarification in relation to affected participants and UFE in global settlement.

Mark Riley (AGL) mentioned that the issue raised with type 14 substitution can be opened up now as consultation won't happen till after mid-year 2021, Meghan Bibby (AEMO) suggested that Mark Leschke (Energex) can raise either an ICF or a series of questions for this matter to be considered in the next ERCF meeting.

Mark Leschke (Energex) asked if there is any consideration for a new substitution method for type 4 small meters, as there is enough differences to warrant a review of substitution types. We may need to get feedback from the MDPs on whether we need a new substitution method to suit small customers and we can use the MDP working group. Meghan Bibby (AEMO) suggested we can run a small survey asking contestable MDPs to clarify whether we need new substitution methods for small customers.

Next ERCF meeting is on 22nd April 2021, papers and new are due by 8th April 2021.

Future meeting dates are in the Stakeholder Meetings calendar on AEMO's website at <https://aemo.com.au/consultations/industry-forums-and-working-groups/calendar>
[o.com.au/consultations/industry-forums-and-working-groups/calendar](https://aemo.com.au/consultations/industry-forums-and-working-groups/calendar).

ACTION ITEMS RAISED AT MEETING

Item	Topic	Action required	Responsible	Notes
2503-01	NMI Classification Code (Table 4E – CATS Procedure v4.94)	<p>Steve Blair (Energy Queensland) to reach out to the top 3-4 retailers so that they can start working on some examples of the NMIs that needs to change as a result of the change in the NMI classification codes.</p> <p>Mark Riley (AGL), Joe Castellano (Origin), and Shaun Cupitt (Alinta) volunteered and would like to be involved in the discussion with Steve Blair (Energy Queensland).</p> <p>Steve Blair (Energy Queensland) to obtain email addresses and contact details from Meghan Bibby (AEMO) to start reaching out to Participants.</p>	Steve Blair (Energy Queensland)	

Item	Topic	Action required	Responsible	Notes
2503-02	ICF_042 - Estimation Reason Codes	<p>Focus group meeting for ICF_042 on 20th April 2021 to consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical scenarios that needs to be covered by estimation reason codes, and whether new reason codes are required or expansion to current ones can be done. • Review of current estimation reason codes to determine if it meets its purpose and whether updates are needed. • Looking into the additional and detailed feedback received for the second survey of ICF_042. • Considering what needs to go into consultation for ICF_042. • Consider whether we need to have separate estimation reason codes for manually read meters vs remotely read meters. 	Focus group meeting attendees on 20 th April 2021	
2503-03	ICF_044: New substitution method/ ICF_045: Agreed substitution reasons/ ICF_046: Clarifying objective of estimation	Jackie Krizmanic (AEMO) to clarify who are the affected participants from UFE in global settlements and whether it is only the financially impacted participants or more.	Jackie Krizmanic (AEMO)	
2503-04	Substitution Types	Perform a broader review of substitution types to see if it needs updating.	ERCF following survey (see action 2503-07)	

Item	Topic	Action required	Responsible	Notes
2503-05	ICF_044: New substitution method/ ICF_045: Agreed substitution reasons/ ICF_046_Clarifying objective of estimation	Clarify the 3 substitution methods ICFs before it goes to consultation.	Shaun Cupitt (Alinta)	
2503-06	Other Business	Issue raised with type 14 substitution can be opened up now as consultation won't happen till after mid-year 2021, Meghan Bibby (AEMO) suggested that Mark Leschke (Energex) can raise either an ICF or a series of questions for this matter to be considered in the next ERCF meeting.	Mark Leschke (Energex)	
2503-07	Other Business	Get feedback from the MDPs on whether we need a new substitution method to suit small customers and we can use the MDP working group. Meghan Bibby (AEMO) suggested we can run a small survey asking contestable MDPs to clarify whether we need new substitution methods for small customers.	Meghan Bibby (AEMO)	