AEMO Future Power System Security Program update

May 2016

Technical advisory group workshop – 16 May 2016

The Power System Implications Technical Advisory Group convened in Melbourne on Monday, 16 May 2016 for the fourth and final workshop under the first phase of AEMO's Future Power System Security Program.[1] AEMO engaged the advisory group to seek technical input to assist AEMO to identify and prioritise the technical challenges in maintaining long-term power system security with the changing supply and demand side.

Specifically, discussion at the 16 May advisory group workshop focused on:

- Finalising a comprehensive list of potential future operational challenges, representing the close of the initial identification phase. A report summarising these challenges will be published in July/August along with actions pursued by AEMO as part the Future Power System Security Program.
- Developing a list of the possible technical solutions that could address these challenges.
- Acknowledging that some challenges are expected to arise initially only in localised regions of the power system and at specific times, before gradually becoming prevalent across the system.
- Considering the appropriateness of whole-of-National Electricity Market (NEM) provisions versus region-specific provisions when exploring solutions to challenges that emerge in regions before becoming system-wide.
- Confirming that the three highest priority areas for further investigation are frequency control, fault levels, and accessibility of data and information.
- Endorsing the need to conduct risk assessments to verify and understand the potential likelihood and impacts of possible future operational challenges before proposing solutions.

The advisory group considered that the objective, progress and outcomes of the Future Power System Security Program needed to be communicated to a broad audience.

Current work of the Future Power System Security Program

AEMO is conducting detailed analysis of the three priority challenges (frequency control, fault levels, and accessibility of data and information). This involves quantifying the technical characteristics around the challenges, in parallel with identifying potential technical solutions that are capable of addressing the challenges. This will enable a cost benefit assessment and, where justified, provide the technical specifications for changes to frameworks.

Coming up

AEMO will release a program report in July/August outlining the broader work package and an update on initial studies under way.

For more information, head to the Future Power System Security Program page on the AEMO website (http://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/Market-Operations/Power-system-security) or contact Stakeholder Relations, StakeholderRelations@aemo.com.au

[1] A summary of the previous meetings is available in the April update.