

Our ref: 47191270

19 December 2018

Matt Armitage
DER Program
Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO)
Level 22, 530 Collins Street
Melbourne, VIC 3000
DERProgram@aemo.com.au

Dear Matt,

NEM Virtual Power Plant (VPP) Demonstrations Program Consultation Paper – Western Power Feedback

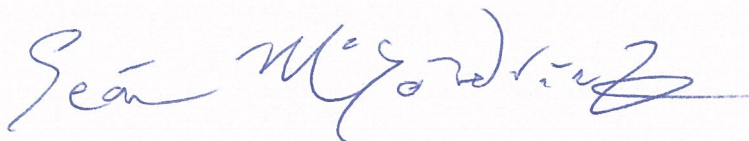
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your NEM VPP Demonstrations Program Consultation Paper. We note that this project applies only to the NEM, however we welcome the opportunity to provide feedback from a Distribution Network Service Provider (DNSP) perspective.

Western Power has been actively participating in AEMO's and Energy Network Australia's Open Energy Networks (OEN) project, which we see as a great initiative to determine the model for integration of Distributed Energy Resources (DER) that delivers the best outcome for all customers. We understand that a number of the DNSPs in Australia have been similarly focussing their efforts on this initiative.

The NEM VPP Demonstrations Program Consultation Paper notes that effective integration of DER will involve enabling, '*Distribution network limits to be considered when dispatching DER*'. Western Power's view is that this point should first be resolved through the OEN project before the VPP Demonstrations Program can commence. Results of the OEN project may provide important insights to take into consideration when framing the VPP Demonstrations Program.

Should you wish to discuss the above points in more detail, please feel free to contact our Distribution Grid Strategy Principal Engineer Nathan Kirby at nathan.kirby@westernpower.com.au or 08 9326 6409.

Yours Sincerely,



Sean McGoldrick
A/CEO

