



Electricity Demand Forecasting Methodology Information Paper

August 2019

Important notice

PURPOSE

AEMO has prepared this document to provide information about methodologies used to forecast annual consumption and maximum and minimum demand in the National Electricity Market (NEM) for use in planning publications such as the Electricity Statement of Opportunities (ESOO), and the Integrated System Plan (ISP).

The methodologies described here may also be considered in other jurisdictions, such as forecasting demand in the Wholesale Electricity Market (WEM) in Western Australia.

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VERSION CONTROL

Version	Release date	Changes
1	26/09/2018	Initial release.
2	28/02/2019	Updated to address issues raised in AEMO's Demand Forecasting Methodology Consultation.
3	17/04/2019	Draft publication of intended updates for 2019 demand forecasts to be used in 2019 Electricity Statement of Opportunities for the NEM.
4	22/08/2019	Updated to reflect changes to the methodology applied.

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1. Introduction

AEMO produces independent customer electricity demand forecasts for use in publications such as the Electricity Statement of Opportunities (ESOO) and Integrated System Plan (ISP). These forecasts provide projections of customer connections, customer technology adoption, electricity consumption, maximum and minimum demand over a forecast period up to 30 years for each region of the National Electricity Market (NEM). This report outlines the forecasting methodologies in use.

1.1 Forecasting principles

AEMO is committed to producing quality forecasts that support informed decision-making. For decision-makers to act on forecasts, they must be credible and dependable. Forecasting principles help guide the multitude of decisions that need to be made towards this goal. Principles guide choices about how the forecasts are done, particularly where there are trade-offs in outcome. For example, simplicity versus comprehensiveness, speed versus insight.

To achieve this, AEMO's forecast team work to three main objectives:

1. Transparency – to ensure inputs and forecast methodologies are well understood.

AEMO consults broadly to develop scenario inputs and model methodologies. This document further aims to improve adequate stakeholder understanding of the methodologies deployed.

2. Accountability – to measure forecasting performance, refine and improve where issues are detected.

AEMO monitors the accuracy of past forecasts by comparing actual data against forecasted data. Forecasting accuracy reports¹ explore both the levels of accuracy and any causes of inaccuracy and have generated numerous process improvements.

3. Accuracy – to adopt best practise methodologies and monitor lead indicators of change.

AEMO employs good practises, such as developing clear work instructions, clearly identifying information sources and using best practise model development techniques.

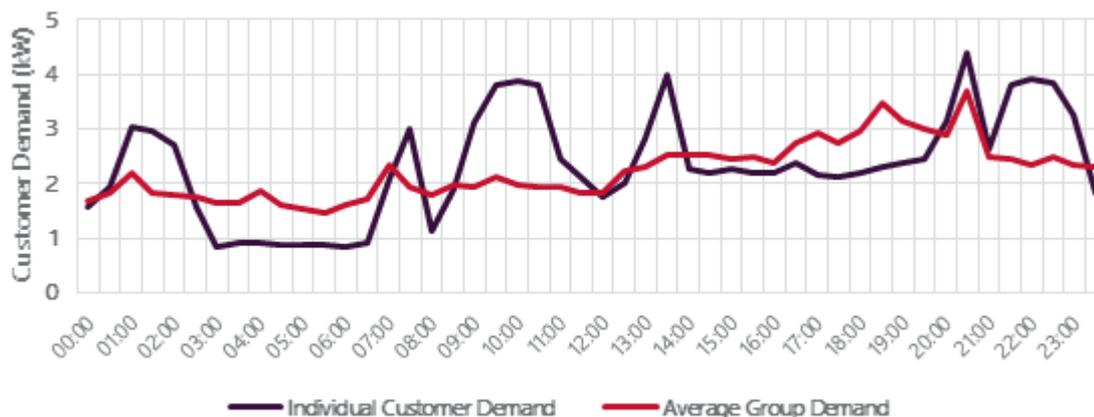
1.2 Modelling consumer behaviour

Individual consumers do not behave consistently every day and can sometimes behave unpredictably. Even on days with identical weather, the choices of individuals are not identical, and reflect the lifestyle of the household, or operation of the business. It is only when customer electrical demand is aggregated to a regional level that the group behaviour becomes more predictable. This is because the group demand largely cancels out the idiosyncratic behaviour of the individual.

¹ Forecasting accuracy reports can be found at <https://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/National-Electricity-Market-NEM/Planning-and-forecasting/Forecasting-Accuracy-Reporting>

Figure 1 shows the load profile of an individual customer, compared to the average of a group of similar customers. While the load profile of the individual is spikey and erratic, the group profile has smoothed out some of idiosyncrasies of the customer.

Figure 1 Example individual and group demand shown on one day

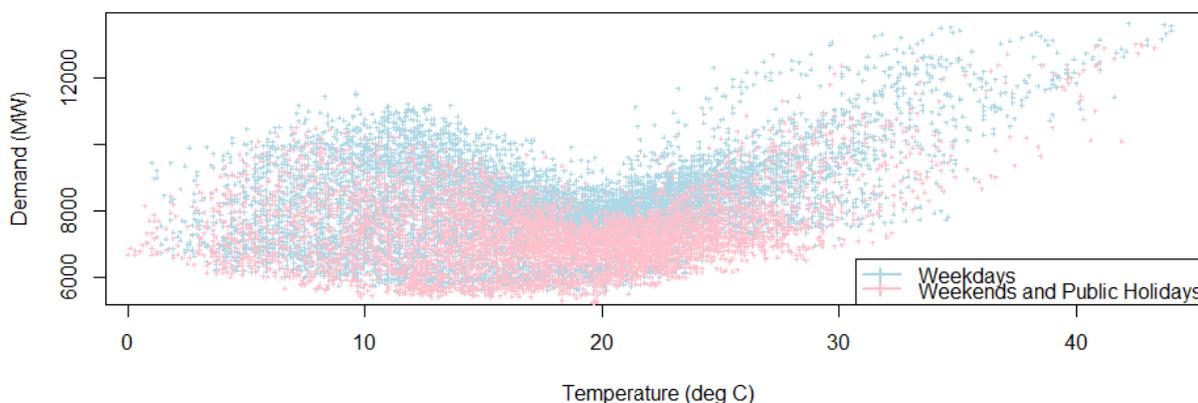


Although demand becomes more predictable when aggregated, it remains a function of individual customer decisions. Periods of high demand only become so because individual customers choose to do the same things at the same time. Peak demand is therefore driven by the degree of coincident appliance use across customers, across regions. There are many factors that drive customers to make similar appliance choices at the same time including:

- Work and school schedules, traffic and social norms around meal times.
- Weekdays, public holidays, and weekends.
- Weather, and the use of heating and cooling appliances.
- Many other societal factors, such as whether the beach is pleasant, or the occurrence of retail promotions.

Figure 2 shows a scatter plot of temperature and electrical load. A strong relationship between temperature and group electrical load can be seen, however the relationship cannot explain all variations. Even when all observable characteristics are considered, the variance attributable to coincident customer choices remains.

Figure 2 Scatterplot of NSW demand and temperature. Example based on 2017 calendar year.



It is standard industry practise to model the drivers of demand in two parts:

- structural drivers, which are modelled as scenarios, including considerations such as:
 - population,
 - economic growth,
 - electricity price,
 - technology adoption,
 - atmospheric greenhouse gas concentration.
- random drivers, which are modelled as a probability distribution, including considerations such as:
 - weather driven coincident customer behaviour,
 - weather driven embedded generation output,
 - non-weather driven coincident customer behaviour.

The methods deployed by AEMO are consistent with standard industry practise, in that:

- numerous scenarios are developed to test uncertainty in structural drivers.
- maximum and minimum demand forecasts use probability distributions to describe uncertainty in random drivers.

Consumption and demand forecasts are based on aggregated customer segments:

- **Residential:** residential customers only.
- **Business:** includes industrial and commercial users. This sector is categorised into large industries and small/medium sized businesses (subcategorised further in accordance with Section 2) as follows:
 - **Large industrial loads (LIL)**, including transmission-connected facilities, and
 - **Small/medium businesses**, covering any distribution connected loads not included in the LIL category.

1.3 Key definitions

AEMO forecasts are reported as²:

- **Operational:** Electricity demand is measured by metering supply to the network rather than what is consumed. Operational refers to the electricity used by residential, commercial and large industrial consumers, as supplied by scheduled, semi-scheduled, and significant non-scheduled generating units with aggregate capacity ≥ 30 MW. Operational demand generally excludes electricity demand met by non-scheduled wind/solar generation of aggregate capacity < 30 MW, non-scheduled non-wind/non-solar generation and exempt generation.

The exceptions which are included in the operational demand definition are:

- Yarwun (registered as non-scheduled generation but treated as scheduled generation).
- Mortons Lane wind farm, Yaloak South wind farm, Hughenden solar farm, Longreach solar farm (non-scheduled generation < 30 MW but due to power system security reasons AEMO is required to model in network constraints).
- Non-scheduled diesel generation in South Australia.

² More definition information is available at http://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Security_and_Reliability/Dispatch/Policy_and_Process/Demand-terms-in-EMMS-Data-Model.pdf (Accessed 21 February 2019).

- Batteries that are owned, operated or controlled with a nameplate rating of 5 MW or above, as these need to be registered as both a scheduled generator and a market customer.³
- **Consumption:** Consumption refers to electricity used over a period of time, conventionally reported as gigawatt hours (GWh). It is reported on a “sent-out” basis unless otherwise stated (see below for definition).
- **Demand:** Demand is defined as the amount of power consumed at any time. Maximum and minimum demand is measured in megawatts (MW) and averaged over a 30-minute period. It is reported on a “sent-out” basis unless otherwise stated (see below for definition).
- **“As generated” or “sent out” basis:** “Sent out” refers to electricity supplied to the grid by scheduled, semi-scheduled, and significant non-scheduled generators (excluding their auxiliary loads, or electricity used by a generator). “As generated” refers to the same consumption, but including auxiliary loads, or electricity used by a generator.
- **Auxiliary loads:** Auxiliary load, also called ‘parasitic load’ or ‘self-load’ refers to energy generated for use within power stations, but excludes pumped hydro. The electricity consumed by battery storage facilities within a generating system is not considered to be auxiliary load. Electricity consumed to charge by battery storage facilities is a primary input and treated as a market load.

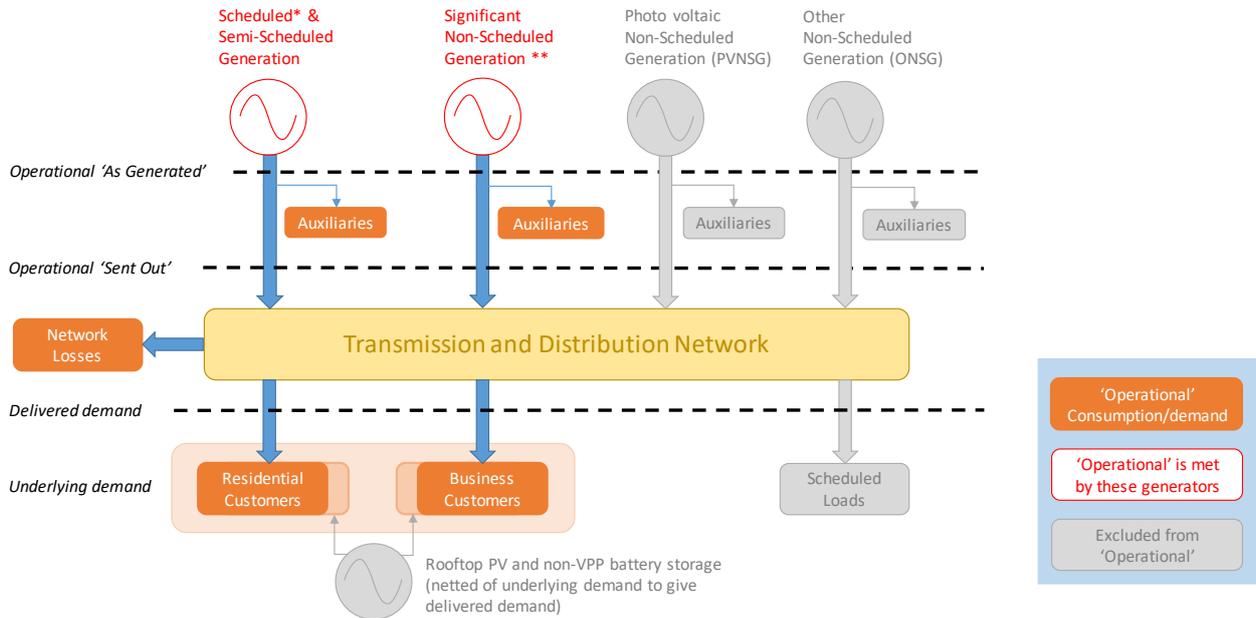
Other key definitions used are:

- **Probability of Exceedance (POE):** POE is the likelihood a maximum or minimum demand forecast will be met or exceeded. A 10% POE maximum demand forecast, for example, is expected to be exceeded, on average, one year in 10, while a 90% POE maximum demand forecast is expected to be exceeded nine years in 10.
- **Rooftop PV:** Rooftop PV is defined as a system comprising one or more photovoltaic (PV) panels, installed on a residential or commercial building rooftop to convert sunlight into electricity. The capacity of these systems is less than 100 kilowatts (kW).
- **PV Non-Scheduled Generators (PVNSG):** PVNSG is defined as PV systems larger than 100 kW but smaller than 30 MW non-scheduled generators.
- **Other Non-Scheduled Generators (ONSG):** ONSG represent non-scheduled generators that are smaller than 30 MW and are not PV.
- **Energy Storage Systems (ESS):** ESS are defined as small distributed battery storage for residential and commercial consumers.

Figure 3 provides a schematic of the breakdown and linkages between demand definitions. Operational demand “sent out” is computed as the sum of residential, commercial and large industrial customer electricity consumption plus distribution and transmission losses minus rooftop PV, PVNSG and ONSG.

³ Registering a Battery System in the NEM – Fact Sheet is available at https://aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Participant_Information/New-Participants/battery_fact_sheet_final.pdf (Accessed 18 January 2019).

Figure 3 Operational demand/consumption definition



* Including VPP from aggregated behind-the-meter battery storage

** For definition, see: <https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Security and Reliability/Dispatch/Policy and Process/Demand-terms-in-EMMS-Data-Model.pdf>

1.4 Recent methodology changes

AEMO continues to evolve its forecasting methodologies to reflect changes to technology uptake, consumer behaviour, demographics and industry restructuring across the NEM. The improvements are triggered through directly monitoring of industry trends and through assessment of forecast performance.

The accuracy of AEMO's forecasts are assessed at least annually through the Forecast Accuracy Report⁴, which assesses the accuracy of forecast energy consumption, maximum demand, minimum demand, and key input forecasts.

Based on the Forecast Accuracy Report's findings, AEMO presents a workplan of improvements to the forecast data and methodology to address issues found. AEMO may improve the demand forecasting methodology based on its own observations (generally reported as part of the improvement program in the Forecast Accuracy Report), or incorporating suggestions from stakeholders (for example, at AEMO's Forecasting Reference Group meetings or during consultation on forecasting methodologies).

Since the 2018 ESOO, AEMO is implementing a number of enhancements to its demand forecasts. The changes are explained in detail in the respective sections throughout this document, and include:

- Improved business sector consumption modelling– the overall sector has been segmented differently this year, to provide better visibility of consumption by large industrial users and better model performance of the remainder (commercial and smaller industrial sectors). This is reflected in the customer segmentation outlined in Section 2.
- Energy efficiency savings – this year modelling has included consideration of energy efficiency savings from manufacturing small-medium enterprises, and methodological improvements have also been applied in apportioning existing and future schemes into the forecasts.
- Maximum/minimum demand forecasting – a hybrid maximum/minimum demand forecasting methodology mixing detailed half-hourly models (capturing change in timing of extremes due to changes in technology mix) and an extreme value theory approach, focusing on high/low demand points only. This

⁴ See <https://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/National-Electricity-Market-NEM/Planning-and-forecasting/Forecasting-Accuracy-Reporting>.

extreme value approach is new in 2019 and has been shown to be particularly accurate for the initial years of the forecast horizon.

- Battery charging – profiles have now been linked to solar availability, with 18 half-hourly historical reference years used to ensure the maximum demand model can capture weather sensitive charge/discharge patterns.
- EV forecasts – through consultation with both energy and transport sectors, different segments and vehicle types are now captured and forecast separately and a variety of charge profiles are used for each vehicle category, depending on the scenario settings.
- Energy efficiency impacts on maximum demand – the way energy efficiency measures are applied on extreme weather days has been updated, based on consultancy advice, reducing the projected impact of energy efficiency on maximum demand on extremely hot days.
- Demand traces – AEMO has made several improvements to the way demand traces are developed to meet the annual maximum demand targets. The new approach better captures the likelihood of peak demands in the months before and after summer. When building traces to meet high peak demand targets (10% POE targets), the new approach produces profiles which more resemble historical years where peak demand has been high.

2. Business annual consumption

The business sector captures all non-residential consumers of electricity in the NEM. These have been segmented into two broad categories, recognising the different drivers affecting forecasts. This sector is further categorised into large industries and small to medium sized businesses, to apply an integrated, sectoral-based approach to business forecasts to capture structural changes in the Australian economy:

- **Large industrial loads (LIL)** – further being split into subcategories:
 - **Coal seam gas (CSG)** – associated with the extraction and processing of CSG for export as liquefied natural gas (LNG) or supplied to the domestic market.
 - **Aluminium smelting** – including Bell Bay, Boyne Island, Portland, and Tomago aluminium smelters.
 - **Coal mining** – customers mainly engaged in open-cut or underground mining of bituminous thermal and metallurgical coal.
 - **Other transmission and distribution connected customers** – covering any transmission and distribution connected loads not accounted for in the categories above.
- **Small to medium enterprises (SME)** – covering any distribution connected loads not included in the LIL category.
- **Electric Vehicles (EV)** – covering commercial fleet, trucks and buses.

2.1 Data sources

Business sector modelling relies on a combination of sources for input data where possible. Table 1 outlines the schedule of sources for each data series.

Table 1 Historical and forecast input data sources for business sector modelling

Data series	Source 1	Source 2	Source 3
Electricity consumption data	AEMO Database	Transmission and distribution industrial surveys	
Historical consumption data by industry sector	Dept. of Energy and Environment		
Economic data*	ABS	Economic Consultancy	
Retail electricity price	Retail Standing Offers	AEMC Price Trend Report 2018	Network Regulatory Information Notices
Wholesale electricity price	Consultancy		
Energy efficiency	Consultancy	Energy User Survey	

Data series	Source 1	Source 2	Source 3
Rooftop PV/Battery/Electric vehicle generation	Consultancy		

* Economic data includes the Input Producer Price Index, Gross State Product and Household Disposable Income.

2.2 Methodology

The overall approach to forecasting business consumption is to measure the energy-intensive large loads separately from broader business sector, based on the observation they have each historically been subject to different underlying drivers. AEMO periodically reviews whether further segmentation of the business sector is feasible; the availability of consumption data and the size of sector are limiting factors to whether AEMO can monitor the segments separately.

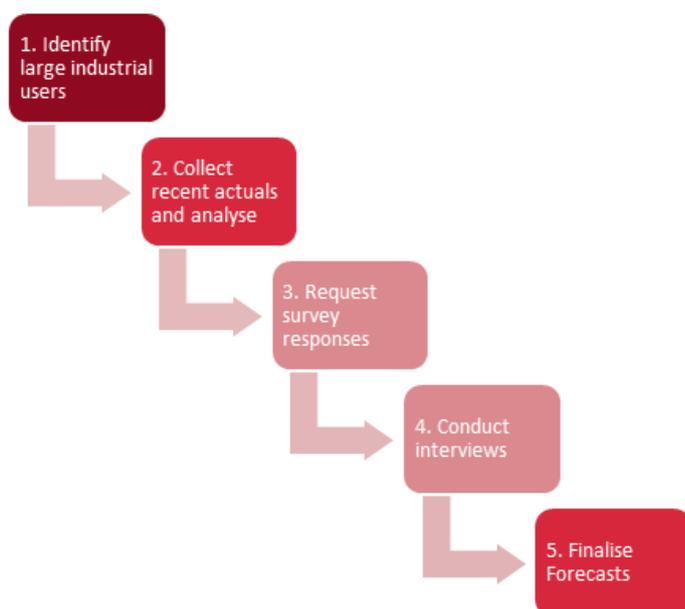
Either surveys or standard econometric methods were used to forecast consumption in these sectors:

- **Large industrial loads (LIL):** survey-based forecasts.
- **Small to medium enterprises (SME):** econometric modelling.

2.2.1 Large Industrial Load forecast

The process that produces the large industrial load (LIL) forecast has 5 steps, illustrated in Figure 4. It requires AEMO to identify the LILs, collect and analyse historical data, conduct a survey (questionnaire) and interview key personnel from key LILs and incorporate the information into a final forecast for each LIL.

Figure 4 Steps for large industrial load survey process



Identify large industrial users

AEMO maintains a list of large industrial users identified primarily by interrogating AEMO's meter data. A threshold of demand greater than 10 MW for greater than 10% of the latest financial year is used to identify those loads. This threshold aims to capture the most energy intensive consumers.

The list is further validated and updated using two methods:

- *Distribution and transmission surveys:* requesting information on aggregate and new loads. From network service providers

- *Media search*: augmenting the existing portfolio of users with new users if AEMO is made aware of such users through public sources including media, conferences and industry forums.

Collect recent actuals and analyse

Updated actual consumption data for each site of the large industrial loads was analysed to:

- Understand consumption trends at the site level.
- Prioritise industrial users to improve the effectiveness of the interview process.

Request survey responses and conduct interviews

Step 1: Initial survey

AEMO surveys identified LILs⁵ requesting historical and forecast electricity consumption information by site. The survey requested annual electricity consumption and maximum demand forecasts for three scenarios:

1. Central Scenario – electricity consumption when the economy follows the most likely economic pathway.
2. Step Change Scenario – electricity consumption when the economy follows a stronger economic pathway.
3. Slow Change Scenario – electricity consumption when the economy follows a weaker economic pathway.

Step 2: Detailed interviews

After the survey, large industrial users were contacted to expand on their responses. This included discussions about:

- Key electricity consumption drivers, such as exchange rates, commodity pricing, availability of feedstock, current and potential plant capacity, mine life, and cogeneration.
- Current exposure of business to spot pricing and management of price exposures, such as contracting with retailers, Power Purchase Agreements and hedging.
- Future management of prices and impact of prices on consumption, based on AEMO provided guidelines.
- Potential drivers of major change in electricity consumption (e.g. expansion, closure, cogeneration, fuel substitution).
- Assumptions governing the scenarios.

Not all large industrial loads were interviewed. Interviews with large industrial loads were prioritised based on the following criteria:

- Volume of load (highest to lowest) – movement in the largest volume consumers can have broader market ramifications (such as an impact on realised market prices).
- Year-on-year percentage variation – assess volatility in load, noting that those with higher usage variability influences forecast accuracy.
- Year-on-year absolute variation – relative weighting of industrial load is needed to assess materiality of individual variations.
- Forecast vs actual consumption and load for historic survey responses – forecast accuracy is an evolving process of improvement and comparisons between previous year actual consumption and load against the forecast will help improve model development.

Finalise forecasts

The following subsections detail the methodology for producing forecasts for each of the subsectors.

⁵ Defined by AEMO as those who had a maximum demand of 10 MW or more for at least 10% of the time in a year.

Aluminium

The aluminium forecast was based on a survey and interview process (see Section 2.2.5). To maintain confidentiality⁶, AEMO aggregates these forecasts with the econometric results prior to publishing the LIL forecast.

Coal seam gas

Electricity forecasts for the CSG sector reflect the grid-supplied electricity consumed predominantly in the extraction and processing of CSG to service sales to domestic consumers or exports of LNG.

Surveys of CSG production forecasts were obtained directly from the east coast LNG consortia for projected demand over at least the next five years. Electricity consumption was adjusted to align with these responses. For longer-term indications, independent advice was obtained from external consultants.

Coal mining

Coal mining and port service companies were surveyed, and selected operations were interviewed, to obtain a baseline for the coal industry. The consumption forecast was based on these survey result⁷.

Other transmission and distribution connected customers

Other large users of energy that do not fall into the above categories (such as large manufacturers or large rail networks) are surveyed separately with forecasts based on these results.

2.2.2 Small to medium enterprises (SME) consumption forecast

The small to medium sized business enterprises (SME) forecast is split into a short term forecast for consumption in the initial forecast year accounting for weather sensitive loads (heating/cooling from offices and retail mainly) and a longer term forecast that grows the initial year forecast based on forecast developments of input drivers.

Short-term forecast

The business sector short-term forecast was developed using a linear regression model with ordinary least squares to estimate coefficients. The independent variables are described in Table 2 with subscript i representing days.

The business forecasts for underlying annual consumption were aggregated by end-use components (base load⁸, heating, and cooling components).

The short-term forecast, also referred to as the *Base Year* forecast, predicts the weather normalised starting year forecast in the absence of behavioural changes to economic drivers. This gives a refined starting point (to reflect current consumption patterns) that considers intra-year variation to seasonality, holidays and weather. Long-term forecasts launch off base year forecasts.

$$\text{Bus_Cons}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{HDD}_i + \beta_2 \text{CDD}_i + \beta_3 \text{non-workday}_i + \varepsilon_i$$

⁶ As required by the National Electricity Law (NEL).

⁷ This approach accounts for additional growth in existing assets as well as for new projects.

⁸ Base load is the non-temperature sensitive demand, covering categories such as water heating, lighting, white goods, and home entertainment.

Table 2 Short-term base model variable description

Variable	Abbreviation	Units	Description
Business consumption	Bus_Cons	GWh	Total SME business consumption including rooftop PV but excluding network losses. Adjustments were made to account for business closures. For businesses that have closed before the time of modelling, their consumption was removed from historical data.
Heating Degree Days	HDD	°C	The number of degrees that a day's average temperature is below a critical temperature. It is used to account for deviation in weather from normal weather standards*.
Cooling Degree Days	CDD	°C	The number of degrees that a day's average temperature is above a critical temperature. It is used to account for deviation in weather from normal weather standards*.
Dummy for non-work day	non-workday	{0,1}	A dummy variable that captures the ramp-down in industrial processes and electricity consumption, for a non-work day (public holidays, Saturdays, and Sundays)

*Weather standard is used as a proxy for weather conditions. The formulation for weather standard indicates that business loads react to extreme weather conditions by increasing the power of their climate control devices *only* when the temperature deviates from the 'comfort zone,' inducing a threshold effect.

More detail on critical temperatures applied in the calculation of HDD and CDD is provided in Appendix A2.

Long-term regression model

The long-term SME forecast was developed using a linear regression model with ordinary least squares to estimate coefficients⁹. The variables are described in Table 3 with subscript *i* representing years.

$$SME_Cons_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1(GSP_i) \text{ or } \hat{\beta}_1(POP_i) + \hat{\beta}_2(Elec_P_i)$$

Table 3 SME model variable description

Variable names	Abbreviation	Units	Description
SME consumption	SME_Cons	GWh	SME business consumption.
Population	POP	Persons	Population of a state (net of deaths, births, and migration). Used for Tasmania only.
Gross State Product	GSP	\$ million	Real GSP is a measurement of the economic output of a state. It is the sum of all value added by industries within the state. Used for all states except Tasmania.
Electricity price	Elec_P	\$MWh	Commercial retail electricity price for business users*.

* Coefficients for price elasticity for SME consumers were benchmarked against a broad literature review by AEMO.

Energy efficiency adjustment

AEMO engaged a consultant (in 2019, *Strategy. Policy. Research. Pty Ltd*) to develop forecasts of energy efficiency savings for the Commercial and Industrial sectors. The forecasts estimate savings from a range of Federal and state government measures, including the National Construction Code (NCC), building disclosure schemes, the Equipment Energy Efficiency (E3) Program, and state schemes¹⁰. AEMO adjusted the forecasts to fit with the SME model by:

⁹ These coefficients represent elasticity responses.

¹⁰ For 2019, the consultant modelled the NSW Energy Savings Scheme, Victorian Energy Upgrade Program, and the SA Retailer Energy Efficiency Scheme.

- Removing savings from Commercial and Industrial LILs¹¹,
- Rebasings the consultant's forecast to the SME model's base year,
- Removing the estimated future savings from activities that took place prior to the base year,
- Extending the savings attributed to state schemes beyond legislated end dates, on the assumption that a significant percentage (75%) of activities would continue as business as usual, and
- Revising the consultant's emissions target for the Victorian Energy Upgrades Program, of 6.5 million tonnes of CO₂-e beyond 2020, to a more conservative target reduction of 10% pa from 2021 until the Program is legislated to end in 2030.

AEMO applied a discount factor of approximately 25% to the adjusted energy efficiency forecasts, to reflect the potential increase in consumption that may result from lower electricity bills. The discount factor also reduces, in addition to steps taken by the consultant, the risk of overestimating savings from potential double-counting and non-realisation of expected savings from policy measures.

For more details on trends and drivers on energy efficiency see the energy efficiency report produced by *Strategy. Policy. Research. Pty Ltd*¹².

Climate change adjustment

The final step in producing the underlying consumption econometric forecast for the SME sector is to adjust for climate change. While the forecasts were produced assuming normalised weather standards, these standards evolve over the forecast period due to climate change (see Appendix A2).

A climate change index was used to adjust heating and cooling load¹³ forecast for the SME sector. LIL consumption is mainly through operational use of machinery, which is insensitive to temperature variation and captured in base load consumption. For this reason, the climate change adjustment was applied to the SME forecast.

The SME consumption is split into Heat, Base, and Cool elements for the start year. The start year values are then adjusted:

- the Heat and Cool load elements are grown by the econometric growth rate, adjusted for the climate change index.
- the base load element is grown by the econometric growth rate only.

The details of the climate change adjustment process are outlined below.

Step 1: Split SME Sector into Heating, Cooling and Base load in first year

A short-term linear regression model (see Section 2.2.2) was used to estimate daily actual consumption data for the latest year available and regress against the Heating Degree Day (HDD) and Cooling Degree Day (CDD). This allowed AEMO to segment the base year forecast by heating load, cooling load and base load¹⁴.

The total consumption for projected base year (t_1) was split into heating load, cooling load and base load as follows¹⁵:

$$Base\ Load = \beta_{Base} \times 365$$

¹¹ The consultant's forecasts include savings from the LIL sector. AEMO surveys LILs separately and assumes that savings activities would be factored into the consumption data obtained through the surveys, and as such removed LIL savings from the consultant's forecasts.

¹² *Strategy. Policy. Research. Pty Ltd. Energy Efficiency Forecasts: 2019 - 2041*. July 2019. Available at: https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/StrategyPolicyResearch_2019_Energy_Efficiency_Forecasts_Final_Report.pdf

¹³ Heating load is defined as consumption that is temperature dependent (e.g. electricity used for heating). Load that is independent of temperature (e.g. electricity used in cooking) is called Baseload or Non-heating load.

¹⁴ Cooling load is consumption that increases with warmer temperatures such as air conditioners; Heating load is consumption that increases with cooler temperatures such as heating appliances; Base load refers to load that does not vary with varying temperature such as lighting and cooking appliances.

¹⁵ This is done at the annual level after projecting the base year using a daily model and aggregating to annual consumption (GWh).

$$\text{Heating Load} = \beta_{\text{HDD}} \times \text{AnnualHDD}$$

$$\text{Cooling Load} = \beta_{\text{CDD}} \times \text{AnnualCDD}$$

which combine to give:

$$\text{Total SME Load}_{t1} = \text{Base Load}_{t1} + \text{Heating Load}_{t1} + \text{Cooling Load}_{t1}$$

Step 2A: Heating load forecast

The heating load for the forecast period was computed by taking the previous year's ($t - 1$) SME heating load component, then adding the current year's GSP and Price components (adjusted by the climate change index), with the energy efficiency heating component (EE_{heat_t}) subtracted. The following equation illustrates this process:

$$\text{Heating Load}_t = \text{Heating Load}_{t-1} + \frac{\text{HDD}_t}{\text{HDD}_{t-1}} * \left((\Delta\text{GSP} * \hat{\beta}_1) + (\Delta\text{Elec}_P * \hat{\beta}_2) \right) * \frac{\text{Heating Load}_{t-1}}{\text{Total SME Load}_{t-1}} - EE_{\text{heat}_t}$$

Step 2B: Cooling load forecast

The cooling load for the forecast period was computed by taking the previous year's ($t - 1$) SME cooling load component, then adding the current year's GSP and Price components (adjusted by the climate change index which increases the future cooling load requirements), with the energy efficiency cooling component (EE_{cool_t}) subtracted. The following equation illustrates this process:

$$\text{Cooling Load}_t = \text{Cooling Load}_{t-1} + \frac{\text{CDD}_t}{\text{CDD}_{t-1}} * \left((\Delta\text{GSP} * \hat{\beta}_1) + (\Delta\text{Elec}_P * \hat{\beta}_2) \right) * \frac{\text{Cooling Load}_{t-1}}{\text{Total SME Load}_{t-1}} - EE_{\text{cool}_t}$$

Step 2C: Base load forecast

The base load for the forecast period was computed by taking the previous year's ($t - 1$) SME base load component, then adding the current year's GSP and Price components, with the energy efficiency base component (EE_{base_t}) subtracted. The following equation illustrates this process:

$$\text{Base Load}_t = \text{Base Load}_{t-1} + \left((\Delta\text{GSP} * \hat{\beta}_1) + (\Delta\text{Elec}_P * \hat{\beta}_2) \right) * \frac{\text{Base Load}_{t-1}}{\text{Total SME Load}_{t-1}} - EE_{\text{base}_t}$$

For a given year, t , the total SME load was calculated by the sum of these components. Note, for the Tasmanian regression model, the Population coefficient was used instead of GSP.

2.2.3 Electric Vehicles

Projections for electricity consumption by electric vehicles were produced by the afore-mentioned consultants. Charging of non-residential electric vehicles is considered to add to the consumption of the SME category. For more detail refer to Appendix A4.

2.2.4 Battery storage loss adjustment

Battery losses were accounted-for by applying a round-trip efficiency of around 85% associated with the utilisation of battery storage. For more details on trends and drivers see Appendix A3, and consultant reports, the latest of which is by CSIRO¹⁶ and Energeia¹⁷.

2.2.5 Rooftop PV adjustment

This adjustment was made to translate energy consumption forecasts from an underlying consumption basis to a delivered consumption basis. Underlying consumption refers to behind the meter consumption for a business and does not distinguish between consumption met by energy delivered via the electricity grid or generated from rooftop PV. Delivered consumption is the metered consumption from the electricity grid and is derived by netting off rooftop PV generation from underlying consumption. For more details on trends and drivers see the afore-mentioned consultant reports.

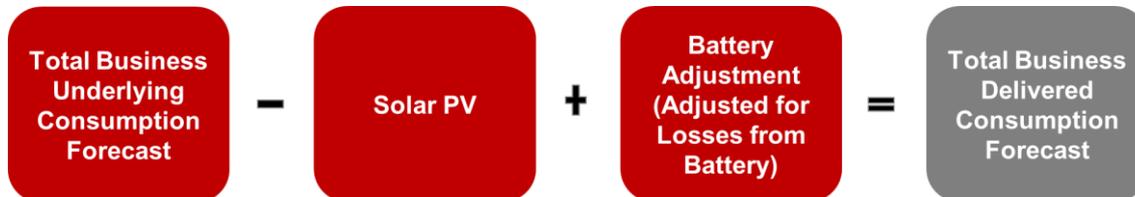
2.2.6 Total business forecasts

The aggregation of all sector forecasts is used to obtain the total business underlying consumption forecasts.

$$\textit{Total Business Underlying Consumption} = \textit{LIL consumption} + \textit{SME consumption} + \textit{Electric Vehicles consumption}$$

Total business delivered consumption can be found as shown in Figure 5.

Figure 5 Aggregation process for final delivered forecast



¹⁶ CSIRO, 2019 projections for small-scale embedded technologies report, available at https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/2019-Projections-for-Small-Scale-Embedded-Technologies-Report-by-CSIRO.pdf.

¹⁷ Energeia, Distribution Energy Resources and Electric Vehicles Report, available at https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/Distributed-Energy-Resources-and-Electric-Vehicle-Forecasts---Report-by-Energeia.pdf.

3. Residential annual consumption

This chapter outlines the methodology used in preparing residential annual consumption forecasts for each NEM region.

3.1 Data sources

Residential consumption forecasts require large datasets to adequately represent the complex consumption behaviours of residential users. Data sources are presented in Table 4 and Table 5.

Table 4 Historical input data sources for residential sector modelling

Data series	Reference
Total daily residential connections for each region*	AEMO metering database
Total daily underlying consumption for all residential customers for each region**	AEMO metering database
Daily actual weather measured in HDD and CDD***	BoM temperature observations

* Daily residential connections were estimated by interpolating annual values.

** See Appendix A7 for more information

*** See Appendix A2 for more information

Table 5 Forecast input data sources for residential sector modelling

Data series	Reference
Forecast annual HDD and CDD in standard weather conditions	Appendix A2
Forecast annual residential connections	Appendix A5
Forecast climate change impact on annual HDD and CDD	Appendix A2
Forecast residential retail electricity prices	Appendix A1
Forecast annual energy efficiency savings for residential base load, heating and cooling consumption	Consultancy (Strategy. Policy. Research. Pty Ltd*in 2019)
Forecast gas to electric appliance switching	2019 GSOO**
Forecast annual rooftop PV generation	Appendix A3

Data series	Reference
Forecast electric appliance uptake	Appendix A5
Forecast electric vehicles	Consultancy (CSIRO and Energeia in 2019)

* Strategy. Policy. Research. Pty Ltd. *Energy Efficiency Forecasts: 2019 - 2041*. July 2019. Available at: https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/StrategyPolicyResearch_2019_Energy_Efficiency_Forecasts_Final_Report.pdf

** AEMO 2019 *Gas Demand Forecasting Methodology Information Paper*. Available at: https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Gas/National_Planning_and_Forecasting/GSOO/2019/Gas-Demand-Forecasting-Methodology.pdf

*** CSIRO, 2019 projections for small-scale embedded technologies report, available at https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/2019-Projections-for-Small-Scale-Embedded-Technologies-Report-by-CSIRO.pdf, and Energeia, *Distribution Energy Resources and Electric Vehicles Report*, available at https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/Distributed-Energy-Resources-and-Electric-Vehicle-Forecasts---Report-by-Energeia.pdf.

3.2 Methodology

3.2.1 Process overview

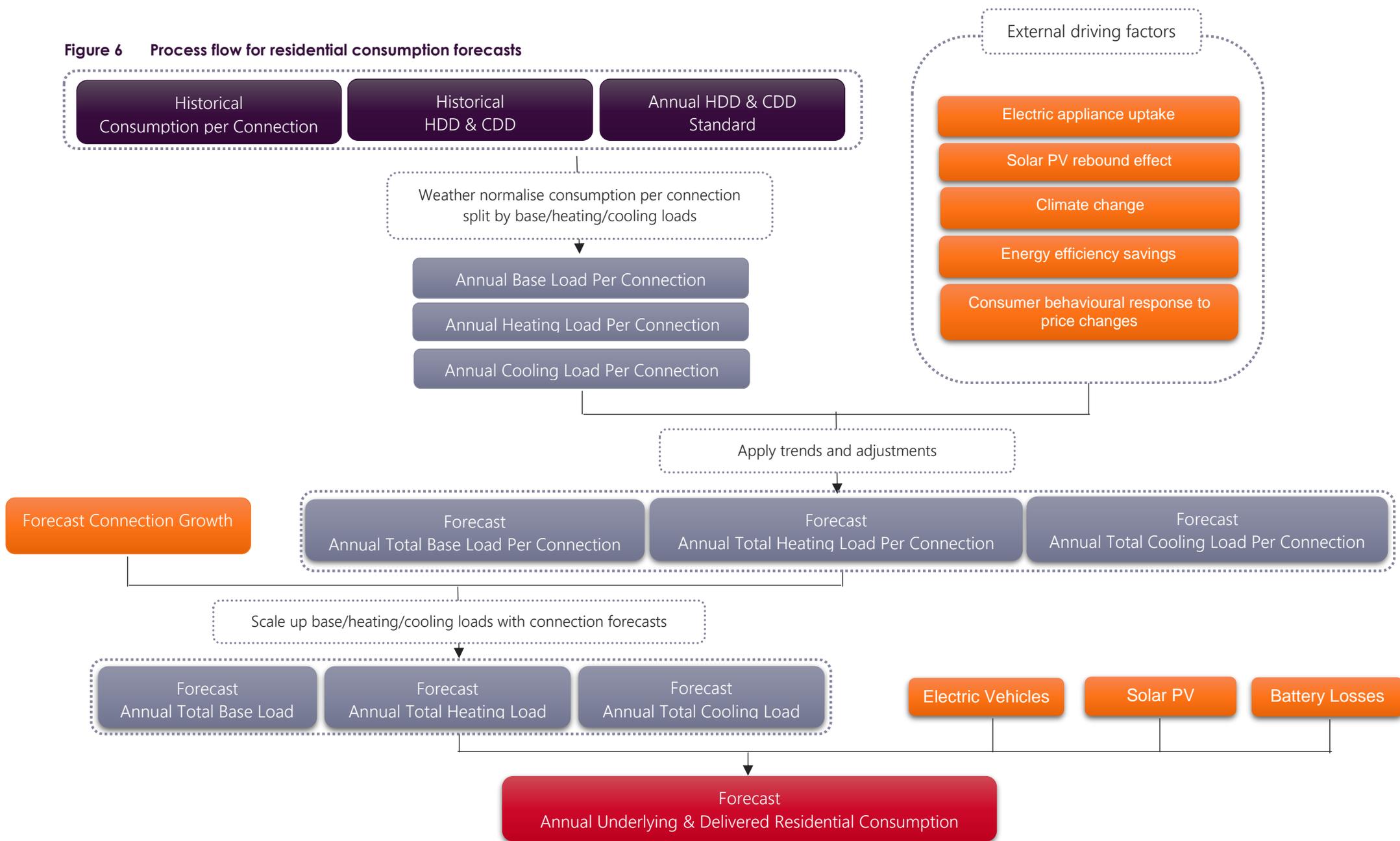
AEMO applied a “growth” model to generate 20-year annual residential electricity consumption forecasts. At the core of the forecast were the following stages:

- The average annual base load, heating load, and cooling load at a per-connection level were estimated. This was based on projected annual heating degree days (HDD) and cooling degree days (CDD) under ‘standard’ weather conditions.
- The forecast then considered the impact of the modelled consumption drivers including electric appliance uptake, energy efficiency savings, changes in retail prices, climate change impacts, gas-to-electricity switching, and the rooftop PV rebound effect.
- The forecasts were then scaled up with the connections growth forecast to project future base, heating, and cooling consumption by region over the forecast period¹⁸.
- The forecast of underlying residential consumption was estimated as the sum of base, heating, and cooling load as well as the consumption from electric vehicles. The contribution from rooftop PV was then subtracted to compute the forecast of delivered residential consumption, as well as adding back the losses incurred in operating battery systems.

Figure 6 illustrates the steps undertaken to derive the underlying residential consumption forecast. Analysis of the historical residential consumption trend is based on daily consumption per connection, on a regional basis. The analysis conducted for each of these steps is discussed below.

¹⁸ The connection forecast methodology has been refined with a split of residential and non-residential connections. Only the residential connections are used. For further information, see Appendix A5.

Figure 6 Process flow for residential consumption forecasts



3.2.2 Model process

Step 1: Weather normalisation of residential consumption

Historical residential consumption was analysed to estimate average annual temperature-insensitive consumption (base load) and average annual temperature-sensitive consumption in winter and summer (heating load and cooling load) at a per-connection level. The estimates were independent of the impact from year-to-year weather variability and the installed rooftop PV generation. The process is described in more detail in the following steps.

Step 1.1: Analyse historical residential consumption

Daily average consumption per connection was determined by:

- Estimating the underlying consumption by removing the impact of rooftop PV generation (adding the expected electricity generation from rooftop PV including avoided transmission and distribution network losses from residential consumers to their consumption profile to capture all the electricity that the sector has used, not just from the grid).
- Calculating the daily average underlying consumption in each region.
- Estimating the daily underlying consumption per residential connection by dividing by the total connections.

A daily regression model is used to calculate the daily average consumption split between baseload, cooling and heating load.

Daily regression model

Daily consumption per connection was regressed against temperature measures (namely, CDD and HDD) over a two-year window (training data) leading up to the reference year, using OLS estimates. The two-year window is chosen to reflect current usage patterns, e.g. the dwelling size and housing type mix but long enough to capture seasonality in residential consumption.

A similar regression approach was applied to all regions, except Tasmania (due to cooler weather conditions in this region). The models are expressed as follows:

Regression model applied to all regions except Tasmania:

$$Res_Con_{i,t} = \beta_{Base,i} + \beta_{HDD,i}HDD_{i,t} + \beta_{CDD,i}CDD_{i,t} + \beta_{Non-workday,i}Non_workday_{i,t} + \varepsilon_{i,t}$$

Regression model applied to Tasmania:

$$Res_Con_{i,t} = \beta_{Base,i} + \beta_{HDD,i}HDD_{i,t} + \beta_{HDD^2,i}HDD_{i,t}^2 + \beta_{Non-workday,i}Non_workday_{i,t} + \varepsilon_{i,t}$$

The above parameters were then used to estimate the sensitivities of residential loads per connection to warm and cool weather.

For all regions (excluding Tasmania) this is expressed as:

$$CoolingLoadPerCDD_i = \beta_{CDD,i}$$

$$HeatingLoadPerHDD_i = \beta_{HDD,i}$$

For Tasmania this is expressed as:

$$CoolingLoadPerCDD_i = 0$$

$$HeatingLoadPerCDD_i = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^n (\beta_{HDD,i} \times HDD_t) + (\beta_{HDD^2,i} \times HDD_t^2)}{\sum_{t=1}^n HDD_t}$$

Where n is the total number of days in the two-year training data set.

Step 1.2: Estimate average annual base load, heating load and cooling load per connection, excluding impacts from weather conditions and installed rooftop PV generation

$$Baseload_Con_i = \beta_{Base,i} \times 365$$

$$HeatingLoad_Con_i = HeatingLoadPerCDD_i \times AnnualHDD_i$$

$$CoolingLoad_Con_i = CoolingLoadPerCDD_i \times AnnualCDD_i$$

The variables of the model are defined in Table 6.

Table 6 Weather normalisation model variable description

Variable	Description
$Res_Con_{i,t}$	Daily average underlying consumption per residential connection for region i on day t
$HDD_{i,t}$	Average heating degree days for region i on day t
$CDD_{i,t}$	Average cooling degree days for region i on day t
$HDD_{i,t}^2$	Square of average heating degree days for region i on day t which is to capture the quadratic relationship between daily average consumption and HDD
$Non - workday_{i,t}$	Dummy variable to flag a day-off for region i on day t. This includes public holidays and weekends.
$CoolingLoadPerCDD_i$	Estimated cooling load per CDD for region i.
$HeatingLoadPerHDD_i$	Estimated heating load per HDD for region i
$AnnualHDD_i$	Projected annual HDD in standard weather conditions for region i
$AnnualCDD_i$	Projected annual CDD in standard weather conditions for region i
$Baseload_Con_i$	Estimated average annual base load per connection for region i
$Heatingload_Con_i$	Estimated average annual heating load per connection for region i
$Coolingload_Con_i$	Estimated average annual cooling load per connection for region i

Step 2: Apply forecast trends and adjustments

The average annual base load, heating load and cooling load per connection estimated in Step 1 will not change over the forecast horizon, being unaffected by the external driving factors. The adjustment that accounts for external impacts, was performed in this second step.

For the purpose of forecasting changes to the annual consumption:

- Forecast residential retail prices are expressed as year-on-year percentage change.
- Forecast impact of annual energy efficiency savings, appliance uptake, and climate change are expressed as indexed change to the reference year.

Step 2.1: Estimating the impact of electrical appliance uptake

The change in electrical appliance uptake is expressed using indices for each forecast year (set to 1 for the reference year), for each region and split by base load, heating load and cooling load. The indices reflect growth in appliance ownership, and also changes in the sizes of appliances over time (larger refrigerators and televisions) and hours of use per year. See Appendix A5 for more detailed discussion of appliance uptake.

Excluded, however, were impacts from energy efficiency, which are captured in Step 2.6 below.

Certain appliances affect base load (such as fridges and televisions) while others are weather-sensitive (such as reverse-cycle air-conditioners). The annual base load, heating load, and cooling load per connection is scaled with the relevant indices to reflect the increase or decrease in consumption over time, relative to the base year.

Step 2.2: Estimating the impact of solar PV rebound effect

It was assumed that households with installed rooftop PV are likely to increase consumption due to lower electricity bills. The PV rebound effect was set equal to 20% of average forecast PV generation allocated proportionally to base load, heating, and cooling load per connection.

Step 2.3: Estimating impact of climate change

The BoM and CSIRO assisted AEMO in understanding the impact of climate change on projected temperatures. AEMO then adjusted the consumption forecast to account for the impact of increasing temperatures (see Appendix A2 for more information). Climate change is anticipated to cause milder winters and warmer summers which, as a result, reduce heating load while increasing cooling load in the forecast. Due to the opposing effects of climate change on weather-sensitive loads, the annual net impact of climate change can take a positive or negative value depending on which effect, on average, is larger.

Step 2.4: Estimating impact of consumer behavioural response to retail price changes

Changes in electricity prices have an impact on how consumers use electricity. Household response to price change that was not captured by energy efficiency and rooftop PV was modelled through consumer behavioural response. The asymmetric response of consumers to price changes is reflected in the price elasticity estimation, with price impacts being estimated in the case of increases, but not for price reductions. A price rise was estimated to have minimal impact on residential base load, which is largely from the operation of appliances such as refrigerators, washing machines, microwaves, and lights. Hence, the price elasticity for base load was set to be 0. For weather-sensitive loads, price elasticity was projected to be -0.1, applied to both heating and cooling load per connection.

Step 2.5: Estimating impact of energy efficiency savings

Ongoing improvements in appliance efficiency and thermal performance of dwellings drive energy savings in the residential sector. AEMO engaged a consultant (in 2019, *Strategy. Policy. Research. Pty Ltd*) to forecast residential energy savings from a range of government measures, including the NCC, E3 program and state schemes. Fuel switching between gas and electricity for space and water heating is embedded in the EE forecasts and detailed in the consultant's report¹⁹.

The consultant apportioned energy savings by load segment using ratios developed by AEMO for each NEM region, considering the total annual consumption that is sensitive to cool weather (heating load) and to hot weather (cooling load). The residual consumption is considered temperature-insensitive and is apportioned to baseload.

AEMO adjusted the consultant's residential forecasts and applied a discount factor of around 25%, similar to the SME forecast.

Step 2.6: Estimating the forecasts of annual base load, cooling load and heating load per connection accounting for external impacts

The forecasts of base load, heating load and cooling load per connection are then adjusted, considering the impacts of external drivers estimated from Step 2.1 to 2.6. The external impacts are added to or subtracted from the forecasts depending on how they affect each of the loads.

¹⁹ Available at https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/StrategyPolicyResearch_2019_Energy_Efficiency_Forecasts_Final_Report.pdf

$$TOTBaseload_Con_{i,j} = Baseload_Con_i + API_BL_Con_{i,j} + PVRB_BL_Con_{i,j} - EEI_BL_Con_{i,j}$$

$$TOTHeatingload_Con_{i,j} = Heatingload_Con_i + API_HL_Con_{i,j} + PVRB_HL_Con_{i,j} - EEI_{HLCon_{i,j}} - CCI_HL_Con_{i,j} + PI_HL_Con_{i,j}$$

$$TOTCoolingload_Con_{i,j} = Coolingload_Con_i + API_CL_Con_{i,j} + PVRB_CL_Con_{i,j} - EEI_{CLCon_{i,j}} + CCI_CL_Con_{i,j} + PI_CL_Con_{i,j}$$

Variables and their descriptions are detailed in Table 7.

Table 7 Variables and descriptions for residential consumption model

Variable	Description
<i>TOTBaseload_Con_{i,j}</i>	Forecast total base load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>TOTHeatingload_Con_{i,j}</i>	Forecast total heating load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>TOTCoolingload_Con_{i,j}</i>	Forecast total cooling load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>API_BL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of electrical appliances uptake on annual base load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>API_HL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of electrical appliances uptake on annual heating load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>API_CL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of electrical appliances uptake on annual cooling load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>PVRB_BL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of rooftop PV rebound effect on annual base load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>PVRB_HL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of rooftop PV rebound effect on annual heating load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>PVRB_CL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of rooftop PV rebound effect on annual cooling load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>CCI_HL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of climate change on average heating load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>CCI_CL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of climate change on average cooling load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>PI_HL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of consumer behavioural response to price changes on annual heating load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i> . This takes negative value, reflecting reduction in consumption due to price rises.
<i>PI_CL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of consumer behavioural response to price changes on annual cooling load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i> . This takes negative value, reflecting reduction in consumption due to price rises.
<i>EEI_BL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of energy efficiency savings on annual base load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>EEI_HL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of energy efficiency savings on annual heating load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>
<i>EEI_CL_Con_{i,j}</i>	Impact of energy efficiency savings on annual cooling load per connection for region <i>i</i> in year <i>j</i>

Step 3: Scale by connections forecasts

Forecasts of annual base load, cooling load, and heating load at per connection level, after adjustment for future appliance and technology trends, were then scaled up by connections forecast over the projection period.

Forecasts of annual base load, heating load and cooling load were modelled as follows:

$$TOTBaseload_{i,j} = TOTBaseload_Con_{i,j} \times TotalNMI_{i,j}$$

$$TOTHeatingload_{i,j} = TOTHeatingload_Con_{i,j} \times TotalNMI_{i,j}$$

$$TOTCoolingload_{i,j} = TOTCoolingload_Con_{i,j} \times TotalNMI_{i,j}$$

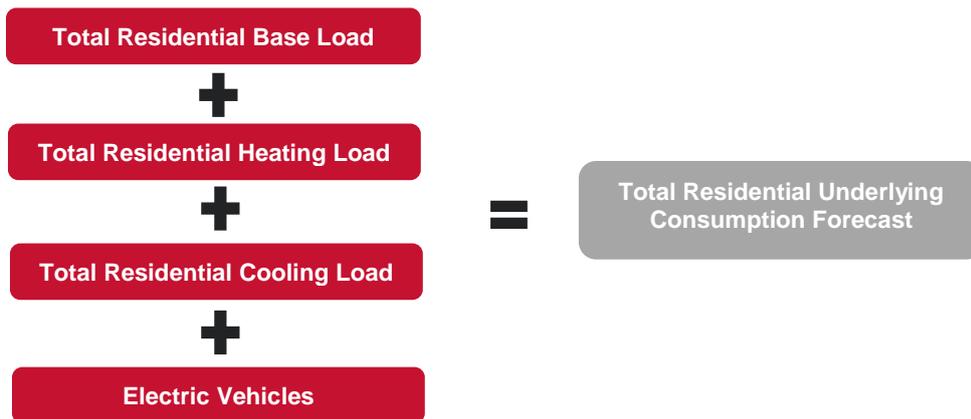
Table 8 Residential base load, heating load and cooling load model variables and descriptions

Variable	Description
$TotalNMI_{i,j}$	Total connections for region i in year j
$TOTBaseload_{i,j}$	Forecast total base load for region i in year j
$TOTHeatingload_{i,j}$	Forecast total heating load for region i in year j
$TOTCoolingload_{i,j}$	Forecast total cooling load for region i in year j

Step 4: Estimate underlying and delivered annual consumption forecast

The forecast underlying annual consumption is expressed as the sum of base, heating and cooling loads and residential electric vehicles:

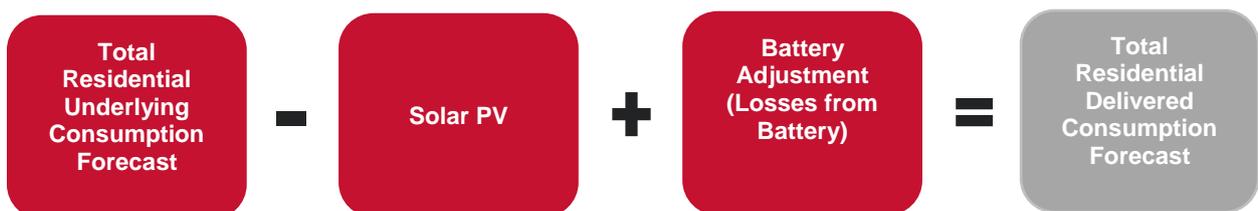
Figure 7 Aggregation process for final residential underlying forecast



External advice is obtained from consultancies (in 2019 this was CSIRO and Energeia) for estimates of historical and forecast electric vehicle uptake²⁰.

Forecast delivered annual consumption refers to underlying consumption, adjusted for consumption offsets due to solar PV and customer battery storage system losses with an assumed round trip efficiency of 85% (see Appendix A3 for more information):

Figure 8 Aggregation process for final residential delivered forecast

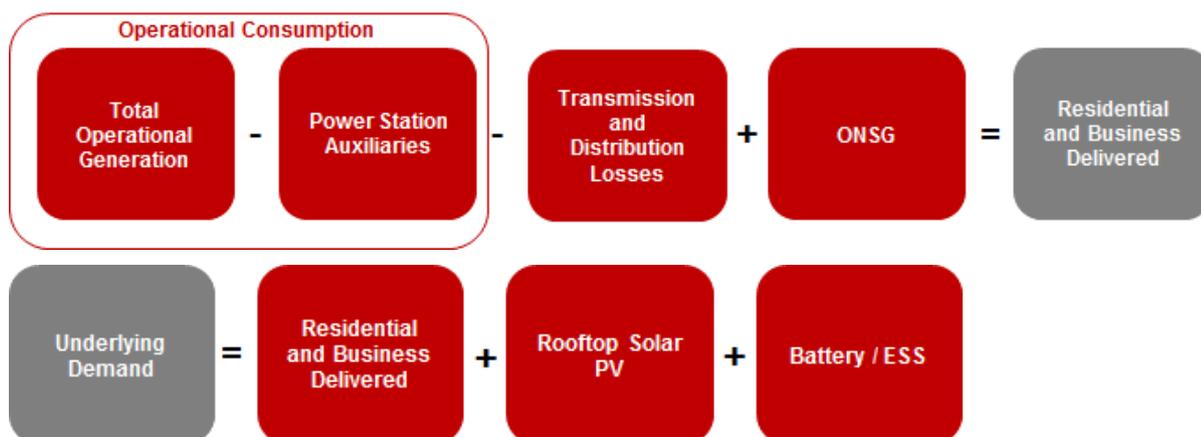


²⁰ See Appendix A4 for more information

4. Operational consumption

AEMO forecasts operational consumption, representing consumption from residential and business consumers, as supplied by scheduled, semi-scheduled and significant non-scheduled generating units²¹. The remainder of non-scheduled generators are referred to as small non-scheduled generation (NSG). When calculating operational consumption, energy supplied by small NSG was subtracted from delivered residential and business sector consumption. Estimations of the transmission and distribution losses are added to the delivered consumption to arrive at the operational consumption forecast.

Figure 9 Demand relationships



4.1 Small non-scheduled generation

This section discusses the methodology of the PV non-scheduled generation (PVNSG) and Other non-scheduled generation (ONSG).

4.1.1 Data sources

AEMO forecast small NSG based on the following data sources:

- AEMO's generation information pages²².
- Publicly available information.
- Data provided by network businesses.
- Projection of PV uptake (as forecast by the consultants, in 2019 CSIRO and Energeia).

²¹ Operational definition may be found here http://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Security_and_Reliability/Dispatch/Policy_and_Process/Demand-terms-in-EMMS-Data-Model.pdf (Accessed 21 February 2019).

²² <https://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/National-Electricity-Market-NEM/Planning-and-forecasting/Generation-information>. (Accessed 21 February 2019).

4.1.2 Methodology

The small NSG forecast was split into two components:

- **PVNSG:** PV installations above 100 kW but below 30 MW. Until 2016, this was combined with ONSG. In 2017 this was forecast separately for the first time, though based on growth rates for commercial rooftop PV. From 2018, this sector has been forecast with a different approach; larger projects require special purpose financing and their uptake has been forecast by AEMO's consultants by modelling whether the return on investment for different size systems meets a required rate of return threshold for a given year and region.
- **ONSG:** All other technologies, such as small-scale wind power, hydro power, gas or biomass-based cogeneration, generation from landfill gas or wastewater treatment plants, and smaller peaking plants or emergency backup generators.

PVNSG

The PVNSG annual generation forecast was developed using:

- Forecast PV capacity in the 100 kW to 30 MW range.
- A simulated normalised generation trace.

Annual PVNSG generation was obtained by multiplying the normalised generation trace by the capacity forecast to produce a MW generation trace at half-hourly resolution, which was then aggregated to determine annual energy in MWh.

The normalised generation trace was produced by:

- Simulating historical normalised generation of single axis tracking PV systems for a selection of geographic locations across the NEM, using NREL's System Advisor Model²³ software. Satellite solar irradiance observations and ground station temperature measurements are used to estimate PV generation for every half hour back to 2009.
- Determining regional normalised generation traces by averaging traces for all Renewable Energy Zones in each region.
- Finding a median normalised generation value for each half hour of the year, based on the historical traces. This median trace is used as a proxy for future PV generation in each forecast year.

The historical traces were used to update historical underlying demand based on installed capacity in the given years.

ONSG

For the other technologies, AEMO reviewed the list of generators making up the current ONSG fleet, and made adjustments to add newly commissioned or committed generators and remove retired generators or units that may already be captured through net metering of the load it is embedded under. This resulted in a forecast capacity, for each NEM region, for each technology.

The forecast capacity was converted into annual energy generation projections, based on historical capacity factors for these technologies in each region. The capacity factors used for the projections were calculated using up to five years of historical data.

AEMO assumed that the installed capacity of existing projects would remain unchanged over the 20-year outlook period, unless a site has been decommissioned or announced to retire.

All new projects were assumed to begin operation at the start of the financial year in which they are due for completion and remain at this level over the 20-year outlook period.

²³ NREL System Advisor Model is available at <https://sam.nrel.gov/>. (Accessed 21 February 2019).

Capacity factors for existing projects were estimated using a weighted average of the historical capacity factors for each project, based on the past five years of data.

For future ONSG projects, where historical output is not available, AEMO estimated capacity factors using the following methods:

- Where similar projects already exist, in terms of NEM region and generator class (fuel source), AEMO used the total historical output from all similar, existing projects, divided by their combined rated capacity.
- Where no similar projects exist typically a new generator class in a particular NEM region, AEMO either used the regional average for all existing generators or applied the capacity factor of similar generators from another region.

AEMO then combined the resulting capacity factor profile with the expected capacities of all future generator projects and used this to forecast the expected generation per project over the outlook period.

4.2 Network losses and auxiliary loads

4.2.1 Network losses

Transmission losses forecast methodology

Transmission losses represent energy lost due to electrical resistance and the heating of conductors as electricity flows through the transmission network.

The Australian Energy Regulator (AER) and the network operators provide AEMO with historical transmission loss factors. AEMO use the transmission loss factors to calculate historical losses across the transmission network for each region.

AEMO forecast annual transmission losses by using the historical normalised transmission losses averaged over the last five years. Annual transmission losses were normalised by electricity consumption by large industrial customers as well as residential and commercial customers.

Distribution losses

To calculate operational demand from estimated delivered demand, distribution losses are needed in addition to transmission losses. The distribution losses were estimated as a volume weighted average per region, generally based on recent losses reported to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) by distribution companies as part of the Distribution Loss Factor approvals process.

4.2.2 Auxiliary loads methodology

Auxiliary loads account for energy used within power stations (the difference between “as generated” energy and “sent-out” energy).

Auxiliary loads (historical)

Analysis for auxiliary loads requires historical data obtained from the wholesale market system – Market Management System (MMS). Auxiliary loads are not directly measured and so are modelled with the assumption that they are equal to the difference between total generation as measured at generator terminals and the electricity that is sent out into the grid. The amount of energy that is sent out to the grid is estimated by multiplying the metered generation for an individual generating unit by using an estimated *auxiliary percentage*²⁴ for the generation station such that:

$$\text{Auxiliary Load} = \text{Metered Generation} \times \text{Auxiliary Percentage}$$

²⁴ See: https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/2019-Input-and-Assumptions-workbook.xlsx.

For example, a new combined cycle gas turbine has an assumed auxiliary factor of 3%, such that if the metered generation in a day was 30 MWh will have a calculated auxiliary load of 0.9 MWh. The sent out energy for this power station is therefore determined to be 29.1 MWh.

This method is applied for approximately 250 generating units in the NEM to arrive at the calculated historical auxiliary load and operational demand as sent out on a half hourly basis.

Auxiliary loads (forecast)

The annual auxiliary loads in each region were forecast using the auxiliary loads from a future generation forecast that have a mix of technologies. Forecasts of the future generation mix are currently based on the 2018 Integrated System Plan (ISP) auxiliary load forecasts with each of the 2019 scenarios mapped to the nearest counterpart modelled in 2018. As the 2018 ISP was based on earlier consumption forecasts than the 2019 forecasts, they needed to be rebased to preserve a similar percentage of auxiliary loads observed in the 2018 ISP, yet consistent with the 2019 forecasts. To arrive at this adjustment, the forecast auxiliary factor for each financial year and for each NEM region in the 2019 ESOO was defined as:

$$\text{Auxiliary Load Factor (2019 ESOO)} = \frac{\text{Total Auxiliary Load (ISP)}}{\text{Operational Consumption Forecast as sent out (ISP)}}$$

The annual auxiliary load forecast was then determined by first calculating the operational consumption forecast (as generated) by dividing the 2019 ESOO operational consumption forecast (as sent-out) by the 2018 ESOO Auxiliary Load Factor. The auxiliary load forecast is then the difference between the operational consumption forecast (as generated) and the operational forecast (as sent out).

5. Maximum and minimum demand

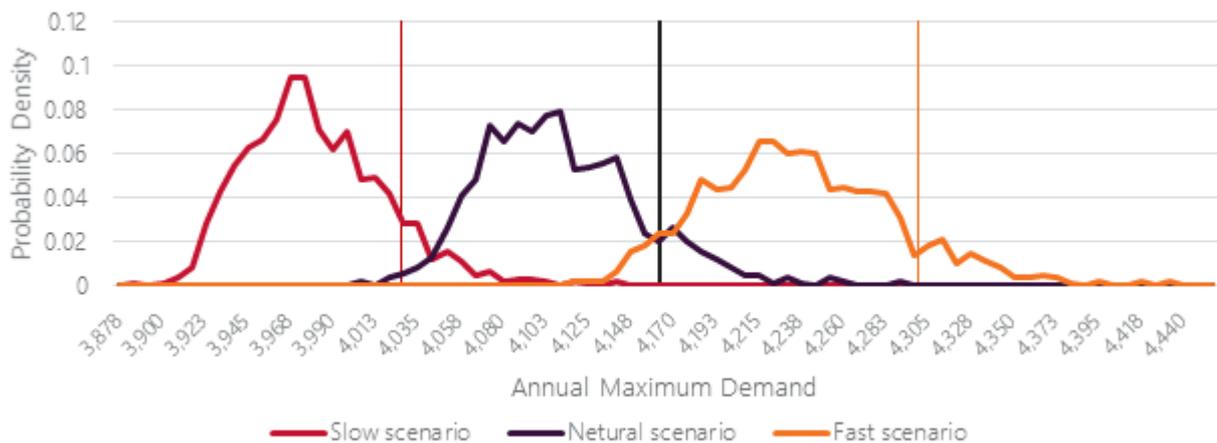
Regional minimum and maximum demand forecasts are developed by season using a probabilistic methodology. Demand is dependent on both structural drivers as well as random drivers including weather conditions, seasonal effects and random stochastic volatility.

To model this uncertainty, several scenarios are developed to capture uncertainty in structural drivers, while uncertainty attributable to random drivers is expressed as an interval, probability of exceedance (POE) forecast from a forecast distribution. As such, forecast maximum demand (MD) is not a single point forecast. For any given season or year:

- A 10% POE MD value is expected to be exceeded, on average, one year in ten.
- A 50% POE MD value is expected to be exceeded, on average, one year in two.
- A 90% POE MD value is expected to be exceeded, on average, nine years in ten.

Figure 10 shows modelled probability density functions that represent possible maximum demand outcomes for a typical southern region. Three probability density functions are shown, one for each of the scenarios with unique structural drivers. The 10% Probability of exceedance (POE) estimates are sampled from the probability distributions, shown by the vertical lines.

Figure 10 Conceptual summer maximum demand probability density functions for 3 scenarios.



For the purpose of forecasting demand, AEMO defined summer as the period from November to March (inclusive) except for Tasmania where summer was defined as the period from December to February (inclusive). Winter was defined as being from June to August for all jurisdictions.

AEMO forecasts unconstrained maximum and minimum demand. That is, demand that is unconstrained by subregional network constraints, generation constraints or outages, wholesale market dynamics and demand side participation.

AEMO forecasts operational demand 'sent out' as defined in Section 1.3. In the following it will be referred to as OPSO. Based on estimates of auxiliary load, this can be converted into forecast operational 'as generated' (OPGEN) maximum and minimum demand.

Maximum demand is forecast as Season Year to prevent any of the seasons (summer/winter) being arbitrarily split by the year definition. Season Year is from 1 September to 30 August. For instance, 1 September 2018 to 30 August 2019 would be season year 2019.

5.1 Data preparation

Data preparation for both the minimum and maximum demand models was similar to the requirements for annual consumption, however each requires the use of half-hourly data. The requirement for higher-frequency data drives the need for more thorough data cleaning and to consider the daily shape of small-scale technologies and large industrial loads.

At a half-hour frequency by region the following data inputs were used:

- Historical and forecast rooftop PV capacity, generation and normalised generation.
- Historical and forecast PVNSG installed capacity, generation and normalised generation.
- Forecast electric vehicles numbers and charge profile.
- Forecast ESS installed capacity and charge/discharge profile.
 - A proportion of ESS is considered virtual power plant (VPP) or distributed energy resource (DER) with the proportion varying by scenario. This proportion is included in operational demand.
- National Meter Identifier (NMI) data for the top 100 large industrial loads (loads over 10 MW, 10% of the time).
- Historical and forecast Large Industrial Loads.
- Historical underlying demand.
- Projected climate change adjusted dry temperature.

AEMO sourced half-hourly weather data from the BoM for the weather stations listed in Appendix A.2. The weather data was climate change-adjusted for temperatures expected in the forecast horizon based on information available on www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au.

The model aimed to generate forecasts of *underlying demand less large industrial load*. Large industrial load was subtracted from underlying demand before constructing the model. Large industrial load may be seasonal but is not considered to be weather-sensitive, although it can have the potential to cause structural shifts in demand.

5.2 Exploratory data analysis

Exploratory data analysis (EDA) was used to detect outliers and identify important demand drivers and multicollinearity during model development.

5.2.1 Outlier detection and removal

Outlier detection procedures were used to detect and remove outliers caused by data errors and outages. A basic linear model was specified to examine all observations greater than more than three standard deviations from the predicted value at each half-hour.

The resulting list of outliers and the known list of network outages was used to remove these data points to constrain the dataset. Any data errors detected through this process were tracked to determine cause followed by appropriate data corrections. No data was removed unless there was cause to remove it because

by definition maximum demand is an outlier more than 3 standard deviations from the mean and the purpose is not to remove legitimate data. No augmentation of data was performed for missing data.

5.2.2 EDA to identify important short-term demand drivers

EDA was used to identify key variables that drive demand over the course of the year, by examining summary statistics of each variable, correlations between explanatory variables to identify multicollinearity, and correlations between explanatory variables and demand.

Broadly, the EDA process examined:

- Weather data – temperature variables including:
 - Instantaneous cooling degree (CDs) and heating degree (HDs)
 - Dry bulb temperature – both instantaneous and heatwave/coolwave.
 - ‘Instantaneous’ temperature may be transformed as half-hourly up to three hour rolling average of temperature.
 - ‘Heatwaves’ and ‘coolwaves’ as daily up to three day rolling average of temperature.
 - Heatwaves were collinearly related with temperature variables derived from humidity. To avoid multicollinearity, the heatwave variables were retained, and the temperature variables derived from humidity were dropped.
 - Apparent temperature²⁵ – both instantaneous and heatwave/coolwave.
 - EHF – excess heating factor is a measure of heatwave intensity. When maximum daily temperatures are above the 95th percentile²⁶ for three consecutive days, then these days are deemed to be in heatwave conditions with the variable increasing with the intensity.
 - Heat index²⁷ – both instantaneous and heatwave.
 - Higher order terms of the above variables, for example *InstantTemperature*² and *DailyTemperature*², to capture changing dynamics between temperature and demand at different ends of demand.
- Calendar/seasonal variables, including weekday/weekend and public holiday Boolean (true/false) variables.

The Calendar/seasonal variables and other indicator variables in practise work to stratifies the data in different seasons, weekends and weekdays. The fixed effects model effectively models different seasons, months, weekdays and hours separately within the same model.

The EDA process assessed multicollinearity of the explanatory variables by consider the Variance Inflation Factor²⁸ caused by collinear variables.

5.3 Model development and selection

AEMO developed three models for each region, a half-hourly model, a maximum Generalized Extreme Value (GEV) model and a minimum GEV model. Models for each region were specified using the variables identified as statistically significant during the EDA process.

The half-hourly models simulate half-hourly demand and perform well in modelling the impact of disruptive technology such as PV, ESS and EV. These technologies have a half-hourly shape and cause demand to shift over the day. The GEV models are seasonal (or monthly) minimum and maximum models that produce

²⁵ Measures the temperature perceived by humans. It is a function of dry bulb air temperature, relative humidity and wind speed.

²⁶ The 95th percentile on the daily maximum temperature for that weather station in the region

²⁷ Measures the perception of temperature above 27 degrees. It is a function of dry bulb air temperature and humidity.

²⁸ The variance inflation factor is a measure of multicollinearity between the explanatory variables in the model. Multicollinearity occurs when multiple explanatory variables are linearly related and is undesirable because it could have the effect of increasing the variance of the model.

interval forecasts for minimum and maximum demand. AEMO used the GEV models to estimate the intervals of minimum and maximum demand in the first year of the forecast. Then AEMO used the half-hourly model to grow demand out 20 or 30 years.

Half-hourly model

The half hourly models aimed to describe the relationship between underlying demand and key explanatory variables including calendar effects such as public holidays, day of the week and month in the year as well as weather effects (such as *InstantTemperature*, and *InstantTemperature*² and daily rolling average of temperature).

AEMO used a variable selection algorithm to derive a model with good fit and strong predictive power. The Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator (LASSO) regression model selects the best variables by causing variables with poor explanatory power to approach zero. The model was developed trading off the model bias²⁹ and model variance³⁰ to derive a parsimonious model with strong explanatory power. LASSO is a modelling technique that finds the best model by:

- Performing k-folds out-of-sample cross validation³¹ to find the optimal model that trades off between bias and variance.
- Considering the out-of-sample forecast accuracy of the model.
- Dropping statistically insignificant coefficients by iteratively scaling them to zero.

AEMO then performed additional in-sample and out-of-sample model diagnostic checks on the best model selected by LASSO regression. Where the best model failed these checks AEMO adjusted the LASSO regression iteratively. AEMO:

- Inspected the QQ-plots, the residual diagnostics over time and against the x variables to ensure the residuals were random with no discernible patterns that could indicate missing explanatory factors.
- Inspected residuals at the relevant ends of demand to ensure that the assumptions for residuals when simulating minimum and maximum demand are relevant and that there is no bias at either ends of extreme demand.
- Compared actual against predicted from the half-hourly model.
- Compared actual detrended historical minima and maxima against simulated minima and maxima from the model.

Table 9 details the variables selected as important in the EDA process after rejecting the other variables for reason of weak correlation with demand or multicollinearity with other explanatory variables. In the case of multicollinearity, the EDA process opted for simplicity by selecting more easily understood variables such as dry temperature rather than derived weather variables such as apparent temperature. These variables were then used in the final half-hourly demand model.

Table 9 List of variables included for half-hourly demand model

Variable	Description
Public holiday	Dummy flag for public holiday
Weekend dummy	Dummy flag for weekend
Month factor	A factor variable with values for each months of the year

²⁹ Under-fitting the model results in a model with high bias

³⁰ Over-fitting the model result in a model with high variance

³¹ A 10-fold cross validation was performed by breaking the data set randomly into 10 smaller sample sets (folds). The model was trained on 9 of the folds and validated against the remaining fold. The model was trained and validated 10 times until each fold was used in the training sample and the validation sample. The forecast accuracy for each fold was calculated and compared between models.

Variable	Description
Dry temperature	Half-hourly dry temperature
Dry temperature ²	Half-hourly dry temperature squared
Dry temperature 1 to 3-hour rolling average	One to three-hour rolling average of dry temperature
Dry temperature 1 to 3-hour rolling average ²	One to three-hour rolling average of dry temperature squared
Dry temperature 1 to 3-day rolling average	Three-day rolling average of dry temperature
Dry temperature 1 to 3-day rolling average ²	Three-day rolling average of dry temperature squared

Generalize extreme value model

AEMO specified a separate model for minimum and maximum demand. The GEV is based on extreme value theory to capture the distribution of rare events or the limit distribution of normalized minima and maxima. The GEV model aimed to model the distribution of extreme values (minima and maxima) for operational demand less large industrial load. As such the extreme value model was trained on weekly operational minima and maxima less large industrial loads.

The GEV models found the relationship between minimum and maximum demand and PV Capacity, PVNSG capacity and weekly weather metrics. AEMO developed the GEV models by iteratively selecting variables to explain demand and testing the performance of the model through in-sample and out-of-sample diagnostics.

The explanatory variables are detailed in Table 10. The GEV model was fit using weekly operational minima and maxima as a function of PV capacity, PVNSG capacity, customer number count (NMI), calendar effect variables and average weather. Similar to the half-hourly model, AEMO then assessed the in-sample performance by:

- Inspecting the QQ-plot, the residual diagnostics over time and explanatory power of the x variables to ensure the residuals were random with no discernible patterns that could indicate missing explanatory factors, and
- Inspecting that degree of serial correlation in the residuals, where no serial correlation is desired.

Finally, AEMO assessed the out-of-sample performance by comparing:

- Actual against predicted from the GEV model, and
- Actual historical minima and maxima against simulated minima and maxima from the GEV models.

Table 10 List of variables included for half-hourly demand model

Variable	Description
Month factor	A factor variable with values for each months of the year
PV capacity	The sum in MW of the all the rooftop PV panels in a region
PVNSG capacity	The sum in MW of the all the PV non-scheduled generators in a region

Variable	Description
NMI count	The number of NMIs within a region
Average temperature	The average temperature in the week
Average solar irradiance	The average solar irradiance in the week

5.4 Simulate base year (weather and calendar normalisation)

The half-hourly and GEV models selected from the above process were used to simulate demand for each region. All three models were used to simulate, the half-hourly models were used to simulate every half-hour hour and aggregate to the season. The GEV models were used to simulate minima and maxima for each week which were aggregate to the season. Such that for each season and region we had minima and maxima from the half-hourly model and minima and maxima from the GEV models (two set of minima and maxima). The GEV was used for the first forecast year then transitioned to the half-hourly model for the long-term forecast horizon.

Demand was simulated using calendar effects, stochastic volatility and weather. Historical weather events were simulated to develop a weather distribution to normalise demand then stochastic volatility was applied:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Underlying}_{hh} &= f(x_{hh}) + \varepsilon_{hh} \\ \text{MaxOpso}_{week} &= f(x_{week}) + g(x_{week}) + \mu_3 + \varepsilon_{week} \\ \text{MinOpso}_{week} &= f(x_{week}) + g(x_{week}) + \mu_3 + \varepsilon_{week} \end{aligned}$$

Where:

- $f(x_{hh})$ is the relationship between demand and the demand drivers such as weather and calendar effects.
- $f(x_{week})$ is the relationship between weekly minima/maxima demand and the weekly demand drivers such as PV or PVNSG capacity and NMI count.
- $g(x_{week})$ the second moment scale parameter as a function of x variables.
- μ_3 the third moment shape parameter which was found to be a constant.
- ε_{hh} represents random normally distributed³² changes in demand not explained by the model demand drivers.
- ε_{weekly} represents random normally distributed³³ changes in demand not explained by the model demand drivers from the GEV models.

Half-hourly model simulation

The weather was simulated for the base year by block bootstrapping historical weather observations (x_{hh}) to create a year consisting of 17,520 half-hourly weather observations. A synthetic weather-year was constructed by randomly selecting 26 fortnightly weather patterns (“weather blocks”) and stitching together the 26 fortnights to construct one weather year. The fortnights were stitched together in order to ensure that they corresponded to the correct time of year, summer fortnights to summer and winter fortnights to winter.

³² A fundamental assumption of Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) is that the error term follows a normal distribution. This assumption was tested using graphical analysis and the Jarque–Bera test.

³³ A fundamental assumption of Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) is that the error term follows a normal distribution. This assumption was tested using graphical analysis and the Jarque–Bera test.

The weather data was block bootstrapped from 20 historical weather years warmed to future climates³⁴. A total of 3,000 weather simulations were created to derive 3,000 weather years of data (at half-hourly observations)³⁵.

The weather blocks were spliced together from midnight to midnight 14 days after. No attempt was made to smooth the joins between the fortnights. Only a given half-hour is considered in the context of minimum and maximum demand not the full time-series or the shape of the data.

Linear regression models were used to estimate demand for the given conditions of a synthetic year, which accounts for the correlation between demand and the conditions implied by the models. Simultaneously, the stochastic volatility was simulated to account for the component of demand variability unexplained by other demand drivers captured in the linear model (ϵ_{hh}) which is a feature of all statistical models. The synthetic half-hourly demand traces were estimated for 3,000 simulated years.

The simulation process recognised that there are several drivers of demand including weather, day of week, and hour of day, as well as the natural stochastic volatility of a statistical model. The process also preserved the probabilistic relationship between demand and its key drivers.

GEV model simulation

The GEV model was simulated in a similar process as the half-hourly model. However, the GEV model is less reliant on weather and is more reliant on capturing and understanding the distribution of the extreme values. The simulation process constructed synthetic weather years by sampling daily weather data from history. While the GEV model was specified as a weekly model, daily data was used to increase the number of simulations. The GEV model was then applied to the synthetic weather years to estimate the point forecast component of the GEV.

The GEV distribution was simulated using the same synthetic weather years. In the GEV model the variance of the model is a function of the x variables. The variance of the GEV model was simulated using the x variables from the synthetic weather years.

Finally, the simulation process simulated random normally distribution stochastic volatility of demand. The stochastic volatility was simulated to account for the component of demand variability unexplained the demand drivers captured in the linear model (ϵ_{hh}) which is a feature of all statistical models.

5.5 Forecast probability of exceedance for base year

The GEV simulation estimates demand for the base year of the forecast. The base year of the ESOO MD demand forecast is the last year of summer actuals. For instance, if the last summer actual demand was 31-March-2019 then base year for the purpose of the forecast is financial year end 2019.

The minimum and maximum demand values were pulled for each synthetic weather year of the GEV simulation. Then the distribution of the minima and maxima was established to calculate the probability of exceedance for operational demand for the base year of the forecast.

5.6 Forecast probability of exceedance for long term

Once the base year was established from the GEV simulation, the half-hourly model then forecast the year-on-year change in demand accounting for shifts in time of day for minimum and maximum demand.

³⁴ Bootstrapping with replacement preserves empirical correlations between time-of-year, temperature, and solar irradiance time series.

³⁵ Previous tests indicate that 500 Monte Carlo simulations is a sufficient number of simulations to converge to a stable result that varies around half a percent in the early years, while 1000 simulations reduce the variability to about 0.3% in the early years. Variability does increase in the later years of the forecast horizon.

The half-hourly forecast process grows half-hourly demand by economic conditions such as price and GSP, demographic conditions such as connections growth, and technological conditions such as electric vehicle uptake to derive an annual growth index.

The forecast year-on-year change was applied to each of the 17,520 half-hours for each simulation in the half-hourly model and to each forecast year. The process breaks demand for each half-hour into heat-base-cooling load. The process then grows half-hourly heat-base-cooling load by annual or seasonal growth indices such as energy efficiency of air-conditioners decreasing cooling load, or population growth and price impacting half-hourly heat, base and cooling load. As a result, the load factor between maximum demand and annual energy changes over time.

This process yields demand values for each half-hour over a simulated year. This represents the half-hourly prediction of the 17,520 half-hours forecast in a given year, for each year in the forecast horizon. The prediction values, as explained previously, represent Underlying demand less LIL.

At this point, the process converts this to operational demand 'sent out' and 'as generated'. This is done by subtracting other forms of generation (rooftop PV, PVNSG and ONSG), adjusting for daily profiles for ESS and EV operation, and adding LIL, distribution and transmission losses back on. For more information on translating Underlying demand to Operational demand, see Figure 3 in Section 1.3.

See below for more information on the LIL, losses, ONSG and auxiliary (needed for 'as generated') forecasts at time of minimum and maximum demand.

AEMO then extract the seasonal minima and maxima from the simulations. The number of simulations is chosen to be large enough to obtain a smooth distribution of predictions, subject to computational resource limits. For example, if 3,000 simulations are performed, there will be 3,000 maximum and 3,000 minimum values for each scenario-season-year combination. From the 3,000 simulated minima/maxima, AEMO then extracts the necessary POE levels as well as the characteristics at times of the minimum/maximum (such as weather conditions and calendar positioning at the time of minimum/maximum).

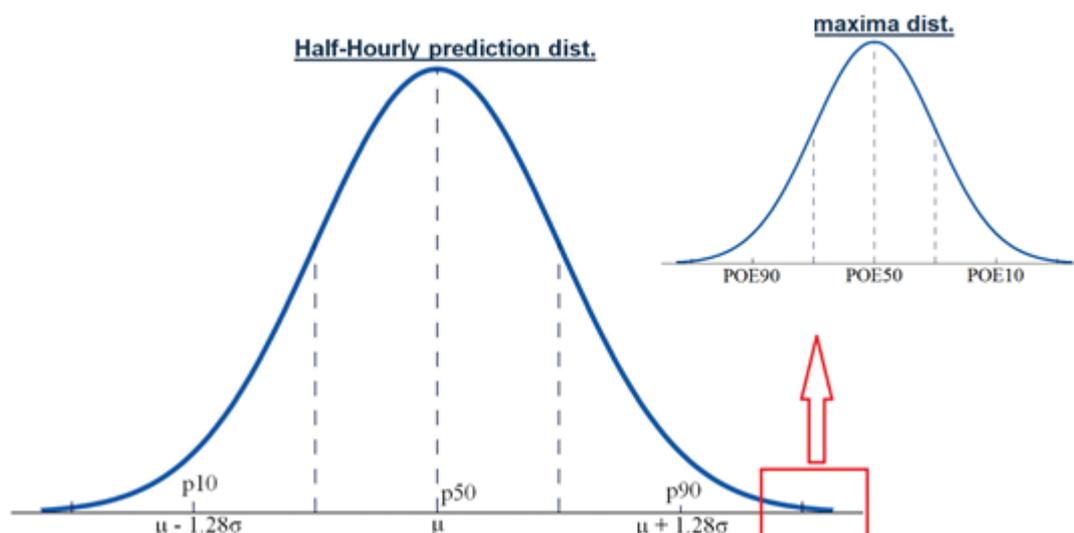
In Figure 11:

- The first distribution represents the variability of 17,520 half-hour demand for each simulation. This is obtained for all years needed to produce a forecast year. Data for one half-hour representing the largest predicted MD (indicated by the red box and arrow) was then extracted from the 17,520 half-hours and added to the distribution of annual maxima (represented by the smaller bell curve). This extraction was repeated 1,000 times, once for each simulation.
- The second smaller bell curve represents the distribution of maxima which may or may not be normally distributed.³⁶

AEMO extracts minimum/maximum values by region from this minima/maxima distribution by selecting the 10th, 50th and 90th percentile as 90%, 50% POE and 10% POE values, respectively.

³⁶ It is not necessary for the minima or maxima to follow a normal distribution. Regardless of whether the distribution is skewed, leptokurtic, mesokurtic or platykurtic, the percentiles can be found by ranking the minimum/maximum demand values and extracting the desired percentile.

Figure 11 Theoretical distribution of annual half-hourly data to derive maxima distribution



AEMO then transitioned from the minima and maxima from the GEV model in the base year to the minima and maxima of the half-hourly model for the 20-year forecast horizon.

Transmission and distribution losses

AEMO forecast transmission and distribution losses using transmission and distribution loss factors as provided by the AER.

Large industrial loads

Based on analysis, AEMO assumed that large industrial loads in all regions except for Tasmania are not correlated with the regional maximum demand. Further, large industrial loads have a load factor of greater than 0.9 in most cases. For all regions except Tasmania AEMO includes average large industrial load demand in the maximum regional demand. In the case of Tasmania, however, large industrial loads drive the regional minima and maxima. AEMO apply the large industrial load minimum and maximum to Tasmania’s regional minimum and maximum rather the average.

Other non-scheduled generation

As for annual consumption, the ONSG forecast is done by technology categories, such as biomass, thermal peaking plants and small-scale wind farms. The forecast impact on maximum and minimum demand is calculated based on the different technologies’ historical generation at time of maximum or minimum demand³⁷, grown proportionally with any forecast growth in installed capacity.

Auxiliary load forecast

AEMO provides forecast auxiliary load at time of maximum demand. This forecast is based on generator dispatch across hundreds of Monte-Carlo simulations with different thermal generator outages using the PLEXOS simulation software. The forecast uses the average modelled auxiliary load at time summer/winter peak demand.

³⁷ For maximum demand, the top 10 highest demand half-hours in each of the last five years were used to calculate the average generation at time of maximum demand. For minimum demand, the bottom 10 demand periods were used.

6. Half-hourly demand traces

Demand traces (referred to as demand time-series in general terms) were prepared by deriving a trace from a historical reference year (financial-year) and growing (scaling) it to meet specified future characteristics using a constrained optimization function to minimize the differences between the grown trace and the targets.

The traces were prepared on a financial year basis, to various targets, categorised as:

- Maximum summer demand (at a specified probability of exceedance level).
- Maximum winter demand (at a specified probability of exceedance level).
- Minimum demand (at a specified probability of exceedance level).
- Annual energy (consumption).

Traces were differentiated by:

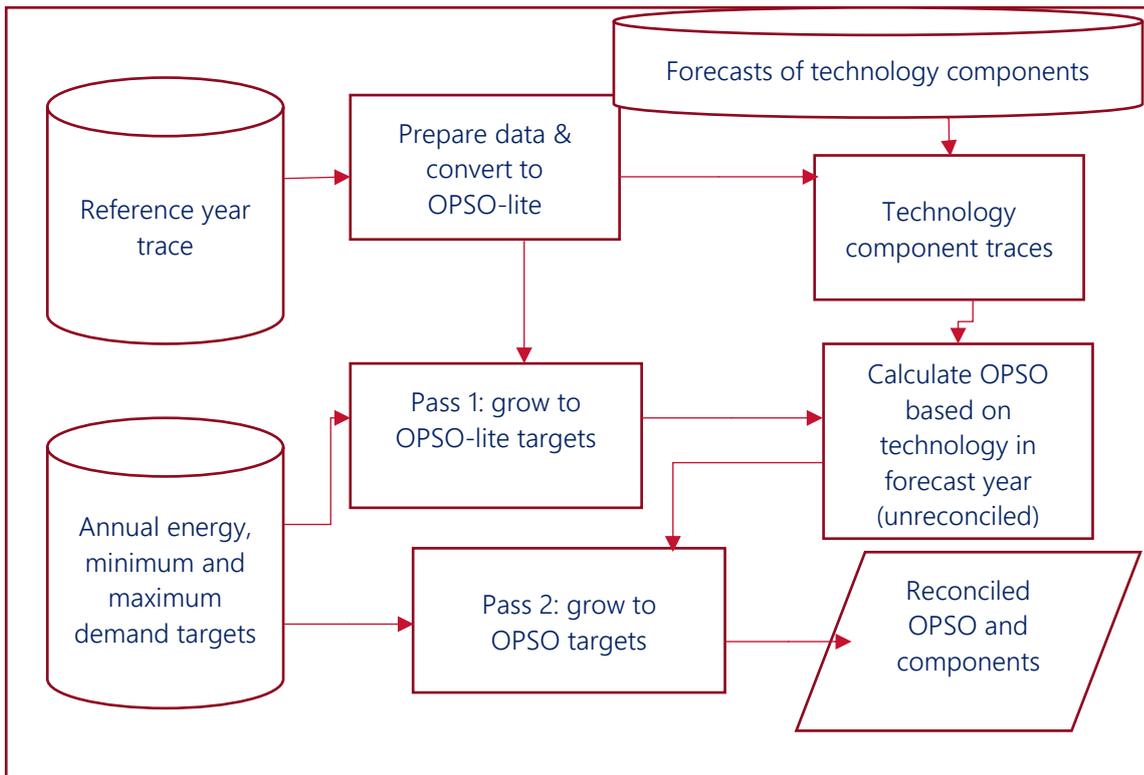
- NEM region.
- Historical reference year.
- Target year.
- Scenario.
- POE level.

The trace development process was conducted in two passes for each combination of NEM region, historical reference year, target year, scenario and POE level:

- Pass 1. Growing the reference year trace on an operational demand as sent-out *lite* (OPSO-*lite*) basis to meet OPSO-lite targets (demand trace has forecasts of technology components removed, refer to Section 6.2 for full description).
- Pass 2. Reinstating forecasts of technology components and reconciling the time series to meet the OPSO targets.

The trace development process is summarised as a flow diagram in Figure 12. A worked example of the growth scaling algorithm (discussed in section 6.1) is also provided in Appendix A8.

Figure 12 Demand trace development process flow diagram



6.1 Growth (scaling) algorithm

Demand from the particular reference year was scaled to match the targets of the forecast year using a constrained optimisation algorithm. Each pass of the two-pass approach followed this growth algorithm. The algorithm found scaling factors for each half-hour which minimised the difference between the adjusted demand and the targets, such that seasonality, weekly and intra-day demand patterns are preserved. The demand trace was adjusted for each period so that the target was met for each pass. The approach:

1. Applied a day-swapping algorithm, such that weekends or public holidays in the reference year align with weekdays or public holidays in the forecast year.
1. Categorized each day in the reference year into day-type groups:
 - high-demand days in summer to target the summer maximum demand target,
 - high-demand days in winter to target the winter maximum demand target,
 - low-demand half-hour periods to target the annual minimum demand target, and
 - Other which is used to target the annual consumption target.

A threshold number of days or periods in each group was nominated as an input parameter.

2. Scaled the half-hourly demands across all summer high-demand days such that only the highest demand point exactly matched the summer maximum demand target.
3. Scaled the half-hourly demands across all winter high-demand days such that only the highest demand point exactly matched the winter maximum demand target.
4. Scaled the minimum demand across all low-demand half-hour periods such that only the minimum demand point exactly matched the annual minimum demand target.
5. Determined the scaling factor for each day-type group such that the energy across the year matched the annual energy target.

6. Calculated future annual energy for each day-type group by multiplying the energy in each day-type group with demand scaling factors.
7. The "other" day type had no scaling factor for the purpose of meeting a demand target. As such, the algorithm allocated the remainder of future energy to the 'other' day-type category for the purpose of meeting the annual energy target.
8. Checked the grown traces against the targets. If all targets were met, the process was complete. If any of the targets were not fully met, the algorithm re-grew the demand traces for the reference year recursively by repeating steps 1 to 8 until the targets were met. At each repeat the threshold number of days or periods is increased to enlarge the coverage of periods at which the changes in energy are guided by the target maxima and minimum.

In the case of negative operational demand, the process managed the handling of periods near or below zero by adding a fixed amount to all periods before growing. This was then removed after growing.

6.2 Pass 1 – grow to OPSO-lite targets

As highlighted in Figure 12, the first pass grew the OPSO-lite reference year traces to the forecast year OPSO-lite targets. OPSO-lite is operational demand that has been cleaned to remove atypical demand events and has had the impact of the following technologies removed:

- Rooftop PV (PVROOF).
- Non-scheduled PV (PVNSG).
- Energy storage systems (ESS).
- Electric vehicles (EV).
- In the case of Queensland, CSG.

After growing the traces, the technology components were reinstated. This produced an unreconciled OPSO. The technology components were also prepared to reflect changing installed capacities, vehicle numbers, installation numbers or, in the case of CSG, demand, such that these components were consistent with the forecasts for the forecast year.

6.3 Pass 2 – Reconciling to the OPSO targets

The second pass sought to ensure that the grown maximum operational demand met the OPSO targets.

Generally, because the trace is based on historical information, the unreconciled OPSO maximum demand doesn't always meet the OPSO target once rooftop PV, PVNSG, ESS, EV and CSG were taken into account, as well as DSP. This is because the OPSO targets were based on simulating weather, while the reference year is a single weather year. Further, the reference year may be an unexceptional demand year grown to a 10% POE demand year and this stretching can cause the OPSO targets to be missed.

The second pass re-ran the growth algorithm in Section 5.2 to ensure the OPSO characteristics were met. The technology components were not modified, therefore this process, in effect, ensured that OPSO targets were met but could only be done if proximity to OPSO-lite targets was relaxed.

6.4 Reporting

AEMO prepared the traces with all the components such that they were modular, and the user could apply the components to calculate the desired demand definition. The choice of trace definition depended on the purpose of the modelling performed. For example, the market modelling strategy could elect to model PV separately or model ESS as a virtual power plant, in turn necessitating control over how those resources were discharged.

A1. Electricity retail pricing

AEMO assesses behavioural and structural changes of consumers in response to real or perceived high retail prices. AEMO calculated the retail price forecasts sourcing a combination of AEMO internal modelling and publicly available information. Separate prices have been prepared for three market segments:

1. Residential prices
2. Commercial prices
3. Industrial prices

The electricity retail price projections were formed from bottom-up projections based on separate forecasts of the various components of retail prices:

- Network costs.
- Wholesale costs.
- Environmental costs.
- Retail costs and margins.

The retail price structure followed the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) 2018 Residential Electricity Price Trends³⁸ report, and the wholesale price forecasts were prepared for AEMO by Aurora Energy Research³⁹. Additional transmission development costs associated with AEMO's ISP central development plan also impact the total cost. The process of residential pricing modelling is summarised in Table 12.

Commercial and industrial pricing models were developed using the residential pricing model as a baseline. Each component is then adjusted based on methodology from Jacob's 2017 Retail Electricity Price History and Projected Trends Jacobs Report⁴⁰. Price elasticity coefficients are applied in each of the residential, commercial and industrial models, details of which are discussed in the respective chapters for these segments.

³⁸ AEMC, 2018 Residential Electricity Price Trends, at <https://www.aemc.gov.au/market-reviews-advice/residential-electricity-price-trends-2018>.

³⁹ Aurora, Energy Research analysis of AEMO's ISP Part 1: benefits of interconnection, at <https://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/National-Electricity-Market-NEM/Planning-and-forecasting/Integrated-System-Plan>.

⁴⁰ Jacobs, Retail Electricity Price History and Projections, available at https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Demand-Forecasts/EFI/Jacobs-Retail-electricity-price-history-and-projections_Final-Public-Report-June-2017.pdf (Accessed 21 February 2019).

Table 11 Residential pricing model component summary

Component	Process summary
Wholesale costs*	Employ wholesale cost methodology from Aurora's analysis of AEMO's ISP Part 1: benefits of interconnection
Network costs	Use 2018 Residential Electricity Price Trends AEMC Report. Benchmark against published network tariffs.
Environmental costs	Use 2018 Residential Electricity Price Trends AEMC Report. Extrapolate the trajectories based on publicly available information of environmental schemes. These include federal and state-based renewable energy, energy efficiency and feed-in-tariff schemes.
Retail costs and margin	Use 2018 Residential Electricity Price Trends AEMC Report.

* The wholesale costs component of retail price consists of wholesale price, hedging cost, ancillary services, market fees and energy losses from networks.

A2. Weather and climate

A2.1 Heating Degree Days (HDD) and Cooling Degree Days (CDD)

HDD and CDD are measures of heating and cooling demand, respectively. They are estimated by differencing air temperature from a critical temperature.⁴¹

Table 12 Critical regional temperatures for HDD and CDD

Region	Critical temperature in degrees C	
	HDD critical temperature	CDD critical temperature
New South Wales	17.0	19.5
Queensland	17.0	20.0
South Australia	16.5	19.0
Tasmania	16.0	20.0
Victoria	16.5	18.0

Note: The HDD and CDD critical temperatures for each region are not BoM standard values but are selected for each region based on the temperature at which a demand response is detected that demonstrates the greatest predictive power of the models.

The formula for HDD⁴² is:

$$HDD = \text{Max}(0, CT - \bar{T})$$

The formula for CDD⁴³ is:

$$CDD = \text{Max}(0, \bar{T} - CT)$$

Where \bar{T} is average 30-minute temperature between 9:00 PM of the previous day's consumption to 9:00 PM of the consumption day-of-interest, to account for the demand response with temperature that could be due (in-part) to the previous day's heat/cool conditions. CT is the critical temperature threshold and is specific to the region.

HDD and CDD are used in modelling and forecasting of consumption and are calculated at the regional level. The weather station temperature data is sourced from the BoM⁴⁴ and the stations used are given below.

⁴¹ Critical temperature is a threshold temperature for electricity heating.

⁴² All the HDDs in a year are aggregated to obtain the *annual* HDD.

⁴³ All the CDDs in a year are aggregated to obtain the *annual* CDD.

⁴⁴ BoM Climate Data, <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/>.

Table 13 Weather stations used for HDD and CDD

Region	Station name	Data range
New South Wales	BANKSTOWN AIRPORT AWS	1989/01 ~ Now
Queensland	ARCHERFIELD AIRPORT	1994/07 ~ Now
South Australia	ADELAIDE (KENT TOWN) ⁴⁵	1993/10 ~ Now
Tasmania	HOBART (ELLERSLIE ROAD)	1882/01 ~ Now
Victoria	MELBOURNE (OLYMPIC PARK)	2013/05 ~ Now
Victoria	MELBOURNE REGIONAL OFFICE	1997/10 ~ 2015/01

A2.2 Determining HDD and CDD Standards

The data used to derive a median weather trend are from 2000 to the reference year. AEMO has used the derived median weather standard for future HDD/CDD projections using a probabilistic methodology for a given region. This was calculated based on the following formulas:

$$\text{AnnualHDD} = \text{POE50}\left(\sum \text{HDD}_{365}\right)$$

$$\text{AnnualCDD} = \text{POE50}\left(\sum \text{CDD}_{365}\right)$$

where HDD_{365} is heating degree days over a 365-day period, based on a daily-rolling period starting from 1 January 2000 until the latest available data point in the reference year, and POE50 is where 50% Probability of Exceedance is expected for the given total heating/cooling degree days within that 365-day period.

Dry-bulb temperature (DBT) is the temperature measured by a thermometer freely exposed to air but shielded from radiation and moisture. DBT is equivalent to air temperature. In contrast, wet-bulb temperature (WBT) is the temperature read by a wet-bulb thermometer (a thermometer shrouded in a water-soaked cloth) over which air is passed. At 100% relative humidity, the wet-bulb temperature is equal to the air temperature (dry-bulb temperature) and is lower at lower humidity.

A2.3 Climate change

AEMO incorporated climate change into its minimum and maximum demand forecast as well as its annual consumption forecast. For the annual consumption forecast, average annual temperatures are increasing by a constant rate. However, half-hourly temperatures have higher variability and increasing extremes due to the higher frequency of the data.

AEMO collaborated with the BoM and CSIRO to develop a climate change methodology for the purpose of half-hourly demand forecasting. This process recognised that climate change is impacting temperature differently across the temperature distribution. Generally, higher temperatures are increasing by more than average temperatures which are increasing more than low temperatures. This results in higher extreme temperatures relevant to maximum demand.

The methodology adopted a quantile-to-quantile marching algorithm to statistically downscale publicly available daily minimum, mean and maximum temperature projects out to 20 to 50 years.

The methodology can be broken into six steps:

- Step 1. Collect climate projection data from www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au for weather stations relevant to the region.

⁴⁵ Kent Town station is anticipated to close permanently. Adelaide Airport weather station will be used for South Australia once Kent Town is unavailable.

- Step 2. Collect historical actual half-hourly weather station observations from the BoM and calculate the daily minimum, mean and maximum temperature.
- Step 3. Calculate the empirical temperature cumulative density function (CDF) in the projection period for the daily minimum, mean and maximum temperatures.
- Step 4. Calculate the empirical temperature CDF of the historical weather data for the daily minimum, median and maximum temperatures.
- Step 5. Match the temperature quantiles of the projected temperature distribution with the quantiles of the historical temperature distribution. Assign a scaling factor for each quantile for daily minimum, mean/median and maximum temperature to transform the historical temperatures to the distribution of projected temperatures.
- Step 6. Interpolate the daily minimum, mean/median and maximum scaling factor for each quantile down to the half-hourly level.

Step 1 – Collect daily temperature projection data

- Collect daily minimum and maximum temperature projection data from:
<https://www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au/en/climate-projections/explore-data/data-download/station-data-download/>
- Collect data for each climate model:
 - ACCESS1-0, CanESM2, CESM1-CAM5, CNRM-CM5, GFDL-ESM2M, HadGEM2, MIROC5, NorESM1
- The mean temperature for each day is calculated (i.e., simple average equated as (daily minimum + daily maximum)/2).

Step 2 – Collect historical actual half-hourly temperature observations and calculate daily minimum, median and maximum

- Collect half-hourly temperature data for weather stations in each region relevant to the energy demand centres of those regions.
- Find the daily minimum, median and maximum temperatures.
- To ensure that the daily mid-point matches to an actual half-hourly value the median is used in place of the daily mean. As temperature is (normally) normally distributed the median should be roughly equal to the mean to within a fraction of a percent.

Step 3 – Calculate the empirical temperature CDF of projected daily temperatures data

- Set up an 11-year rolling window to account for variability in weather between different years including the 8 different weather models in the same window (in effect 8 * 11 years in the window).
- Rank the daily minimum, mean and maximum temperatures from lowest to highest for the 11-year window including the 8 weather models.
- Attribute a percentile to each temperature value in the forecast horizon.

Step 4 – Calculate the empirical temperature CDF of historical daily observations

- Set up an 11-year rolling window to account for variability in weather between different years.
- Rank the daily minimum, median and maximum temperatures from lowest to highest for the 11-year window.
- Attribute a percentile to each temperature value in history.

Step 5 – Map historical temperature quantiles to projected temperature quantiles and assign a scaling factor

- Map quantiles of the forecast model daily CDF onto quantiles of the historical CDF.
- Calculate a scaling factor for each quantile for daily minimum, mean/median and maximum temperatures.

Step 6 – Interpolate daily scaling factors to half-hourly and scale

- Rank the 48 half-hourly temperature observations for each day from the daily minimum to the daily mid-point and to the daily maximum.
- Interpolate the scaling factor for each half-hour.
- Scale up each historical half-hour for each historical weather year to match each projected weather years.

The final result is a table with dimensions $T_A \times T_H \times 17520$, where:

- T_h is the number of historical actual weather years;
- T_H is the number of projected weather years in the forecast horizon; and
- 17520 half-hourly data points in each weather year.

A3. Rooftop PV and energy storage

A3.1 Rooftop PV forecast

A3.1.1 Installed capacity forecast

AEMO’s 2019 forecast of installed capacity for rooftop PV (installations with a capacity < 100 kW) was based on advice from two external consultants.

Table 14 below provides details on the scenario mapping used for the 2019 ESOO scenarios; the forecast methodologies are available in CSIRO’s published report.⁴⁶ For scenarios modelled in AEMO’s Integrated System Plan (ISP), AEMO also used forecasts produced by CSIRO and Energeia.⁴⁷

Table 14 Mapping of consultant trajectories used for DER forecasts

	ESOO Scenarios			ISP Scenarios	
	Slow Change	Central	Step Change	Fast Change	High DER
PV	CSIRO Slow Change	CSIRO Neutral	CSIRO High DER	CSIRO Fast Change transitioning to CSIRO Neutral growth beyond 2025	Energeia Neutral 45%
Embedded battery systems	CSIRO Slow Change	CSIRO Neutral	CSIRO High DER	CSIRO Fast Change	Energeia Neutral 45%
Electric Vehicles	CSIRO Low DER	CSIRO Neutral	CSIRO High DER	Energeia High DER	Energeia High DER

The main drivers behind the forecast rooftop PV uptake are:

- Financial incentives, such as Small Technology Certificates (STCs) and feed-in tariffs (FiTs).
- Installation costs, including both system/component costs and non-hardware “soft costs”, including marketing and customer acquisition, system design, installation labour, permitting and inspection costs, and installer margins.

⁴⁶ CSIRO, 2019 projections for small-scale embedded technologies report, available at https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/2019-Projections-for-Small-Scale-Embedded-Technologies-Report-by-CSIRO.pdf.

⁴⁶ CSIRO (2019) Projections for small-scale embedded technologies, available at: https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/2019-Projections-for-Small-Scale-Embedded-Technologies-Report-by-CSIRO.pdf

⁴⁷ Energeia, Distribution Energy Resources and Electric Vehicles Report, available at https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/Distributed-Energy-Resources-and-Electric-Vehicle-Forecasts---Report-by-Energeia.pdf.

- The payback period considering forecast retail electricity prices and feed-in tariffs.
- Population growth across most states in Australia, allowing for more rooftop PV systems to be adopted before saturation is reached.
- Complementary uptake of other technologies that can be used to leverage the energy from PV systems for increased financial benefit (for example, energy storage systems).

The consultant forecasts effective capacity, which is the capacity adjusted for degradation of panels over time. AEMO rebased this forecast so the forecast starts from the most recent Clean Energy Regulator (CER) data.

A3.1.2 Rooftop PV generation

AEMO obtained estimates of historical 30-minute generation of installed rooftop PV systems for each NEM region. The primary dataset, procured from Solcast, supplements data derived from AEMO's in-house model (developed with the University of Melbourne, covering the period 2000-2008). The resulting historical generation is a time series for each NEM region from 1 January 2000. It is based on solar irradiance from satellite imagery and weather from ground-based observing stations.

The historical PV generation is first obtained in the form of a normalised measure representing average (30-minute) power for a notional 1 kW unit of installed capacity. For the energy forecast, a climatological mean of normalised generation for each market period in a year is applied to the effective capacity projections.⁴⁸ The resulting normalised generation values for the outlook period are verified against actual annual and monthly capacity factors.

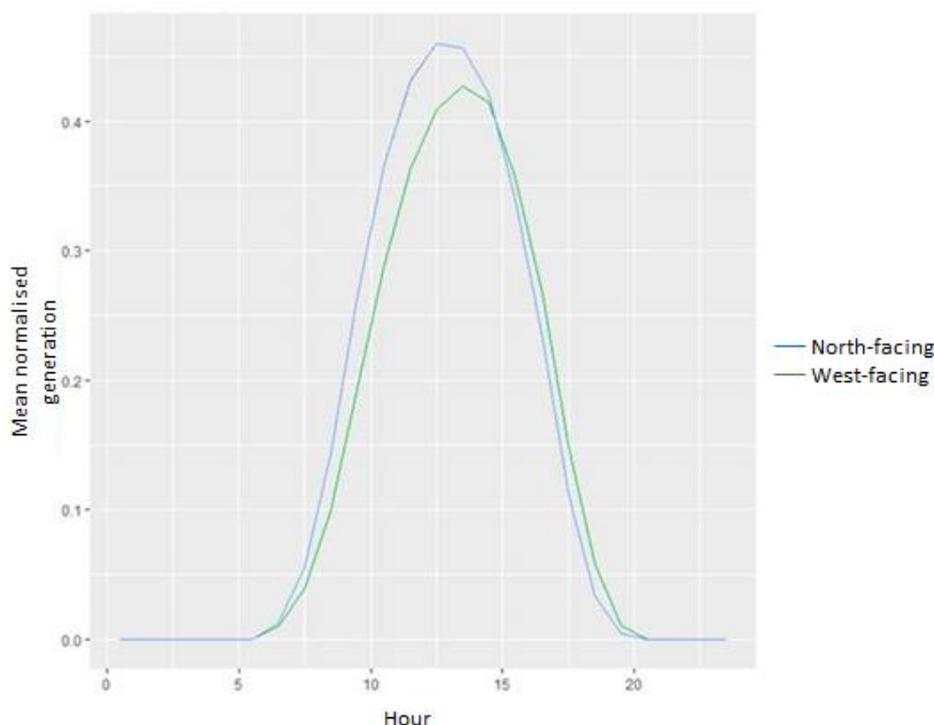
For each region, an additional profile is calculated for west-facing PV panels by using clear-sky estimates to manipulate the actual normalised generation profiles.

The generation profiles are used to calculate total rooftop PV generation in future years, by multiplying with the forecast of effective rooftop PV capacity. The generation profiles are blended to account for the AEMO assumption that over time there will be a shift towards a larger proportion of panels installed with a westerly orientation, reaching a predefined percentage of the forecast effective capacity after 20 years. This reflects AEMO's consideration that:

- As more and more solar generation is connected to the NEM, grid-supplied electricity will increase in cost, relative to the value of exporting rooftop PV generation to the grid around the time of the evening peak.
- Consumer incentives will continue to evolve over the forecast period to reflect the lower value of generation mid-day and increasing value towards the evening peak.
- West-facing panels, which better align rooftop PV generation with the period of peak consumption and assumed higher energy cost, will remain economic for installation and use and add approximately 10% to generation output during the late afternoon compared to north-facing panels. As illustrated in Figure 13, west-facing panels have the potential to generate around 15% less power at midday and 15% more power towards sunset relative to north-facing panels. The proportion of west-facing panels, in the 2018 ESOO was set to reach 10% by 2027-28 so the change in PV output from west-facing panels will amount to around 1.5% at the time of maximum. This is immaterial relative to total operational demand.

⁴⁸ The climatological mean was based on a 30-day rolling means of data back to 2000, designed to impart smoothness throughout the year into the normalised generation values.

Figure 13 Example of north-facing vs west-facing PV generation



Source: AEMO

A3.2 Energy Storage Systems forecast

A3.2.1 Installed capacity forecast

The Energeia and CSIRO forecasts are utilised to inform AEMO's forecast of Energy Storage Systems (ESS). The ESS forecast is behind-the-meter residential and business batteries integrated with PV systems less than 100 kW. These forecasts do not include grid-connected batteries.

The main drivers for the ESS installed capacity forecast are:

- State and Federal incentive schemes.
- The payback period for integrated PV and ESS systems considering forecast retail prices.
- Population growth.
- The uptake of rooftop PV systems (as ESS is forecast as an integrated PV and ESS system)

The general approach to developing the battery forecasts remains consistent with the methods developed in the 2018 ESOO. The assumptions for each scenario have been updated to capture recent observations and stakeholder feedback⁴⁹. These include the following changes to the scenario assumptions:

- The FYE 2018 estimated actual data has been revised upwards, based on new average battery size information⁵⁰, increasing the installed capacity from 193 MW, from 78 MW assumed in the 2018 ESOO forecast. The increase in installed capacity is coincident with observations of larger sized battery installations than previously estimated.

⁴⁹ Such as the feedback detailed in the National Electricity Market Demand Forecasting Methodology Final Report and Determination: https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Stakeholder_Consultation/Consultations/NEM-Consultations/2018/NEM-Demand-Forecasting-Methodology---Final-Report-and-Determination.pdf

⁵⁰ Average battery size information was sourced from market intelligence provided by a third party consultant to CSIRO.

- Updated population and economic forecasts.
- Development of state specific representative customer load profiles,⁵¹ which are linked to the 19 years of estimated historic rooftop PV generation by state described in A3.1.
- Updates to the battery and balance of plant installed costs based on GenCost 2018⁵² forecasts.
- Revised retail tariff assumptions, with a smaller proportion of customers accessing smart tariffs in the Central scenario based on low historical consumer interest in opt-in time-of-use tariffs.
- A degradation factor of 1% per annum⁵³ has been applied to the forecasts to account for loss of battery storage capacity over time.

A3.2.2 ESS charge discharge profile used in minimum and maximum demand

CSIRO also provided AEMO the daily charge and discharge profile for behind-the-meter ESS used in the minimum and maximum demand modelling. The profiles were based on historical solar irradiance (as ESS is assumed to primarily charge from excess rooftop PV generation) and with the strategy to minimise household/commercial business bills without any concern for whether the aggregate outcome is also optimised for the electricity system.

The demand forecasts consider two types of battery operation provided by the consultant:

- Shift energy from daytime periods to be consumed during the evening household peak, offsetting peak consumption for that customer (“Shift Solar” profile)
- Shift solar, and avoid peak battery operating types (“Shift Peak” profile)

A third operating type, control of battery by an aggregator, commonly referred to as a “virtual power plant” (VPP), with the battery operation optimised to reduce overall system costs and operated as a scheduled, controllable form of generation, much like a traditional form of grid-generated electricity supply.

The proportions of each battery operating type are provided in Table 15 below.

Table 15 NSW Central scenario tariff and associated battery operating type shares

Customer Class	Shift solar (PV energy Shifting) algorithm		Shift Peak (Shift solar, and avoid peak algorithm)*		Virtual Power Plant (VPP)	
	2030	2050	2030	2050	2030	2050
Residential	60%	50%	4%	1%	35%	47%
Commercial	13%	5%	52%	47%	35%	47%

* Battery is topped up where necessary before the peak demand period and does not discharge until close to the peak demand period, to ensure there is sufficient charge to cover the customers demand over this time.

To calculate the effect of batteries contribution to the 2019 ESOO demand profile forecasts, CSIRO has developed a detailed set of battery charge/discharge profiles. These profiles were developed using New South Wales customer load profile data for from the Smart Grid Smart Cities program run by Ausgrid. CSIRO provided load profiles for each region based from these profiles.

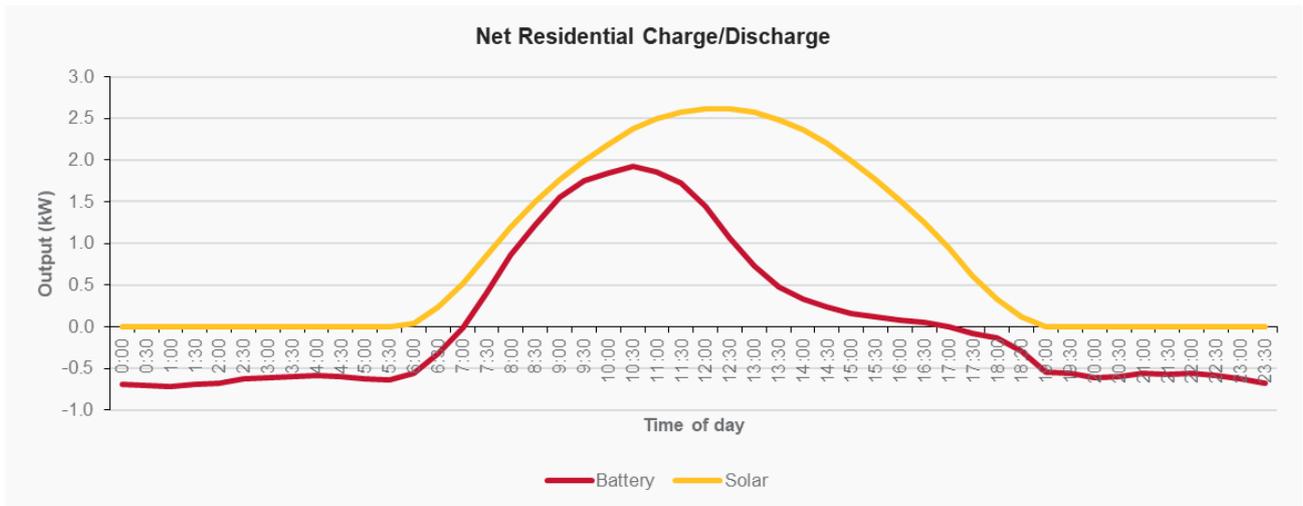
Figure 14 compares the charge/discharge profiles of the two battery operating types for New South Wales for February and July. Actual charge/discharge profile will depend on the actual availability of solar resources to charge the battery system.

⁵¹ See Appendix A.2 of Projections for small-scale embedded technologies, 2019.

⁵² Graham, P., Hayward, J., Foster, J., Havas, L. (2018). GenCost 2018 Updated projections of electricity generation technology costs.

⁵³ Based on CSIRO research and analysis.

Figure 14 Average daily February profile



The charge/discharge profiles have the effect of smoothing out demand across the day and reducing maximum demand, however for shift solar and shift peak battery operating types, the effect per battery at reducing the operational demand at peak times in summer is relatively small given that battery operations are targeting residential load reductions, rather than whole-of-grid reductions.

A3.2.3 ESS in annual consumption

ESS stores energy for later use, but in so doing incurs electrical losses as indicated by a battery's round-trip efficiency. In the 2019 forecasts, the round-trip efficiency is assumed to be 85%. That is, for each kWh of energy stored in the battery, 15% of that energy is lost in the process of charging and then discharging the battery. This lost energy is accounted for in business and residential consumption forecasts as an additional form of energy consumption applying the expected level of battery operation. These losses are small relative to NEM operational consumption, accounting for <0.01 % of total electricity consumption by FYE 2039 in the Central scenario.

A4. Electric vehicles

A4.1.1 Electric vehicles forecast

Consultancies provided AEMO's forecast of electric vehicles (EVs), including residential, light commercial, and heavy commercial such as buses and trucks. The most recent CSIRO and Energeia reports are available on AEMO's forecasting website⁵⁴.

The main drivers for the EV forecast are:

- Relative price between EV and alternatives.
- Payback period – EVs have higher upfront costs in the initial period of the forecast but lower “fuel” cost as kW per km.
- Level of increased ride sharing – reducing the number of vehicles.
- Battery and technology improvements.

A4.1.2 Electric vehicles charge profiles used in minimum and maximum demand

Consultancies also provided AEMO the daily charge and discharge profile for EVs used in the minimum and maximum demand modelling.

Four different charge profiles are applied in the 2019 forecasts:

- Convenience charging – vehicles assumed to have no incentive to charge at specific times, resulting in greater evening charging after vehicles return to the garage.
- Daytime charging – vehicles incentivised to take advantage of high PV generation during the day, with available associated infrastructure to enable charging at this time.
- Night-time charging – vehicles incentivised to take advantage of low night-time demand.
- Highway fast charging – vehicles that require a fast charging service while in transit, based on a mix of simulated and actual arrivals of vehicles at public fast charging from CSIRO research.

The charge profiles are used in the minimum and maximum demand simulation process and load trace growing algorithm.

A4.1.3 Electric vehicles annual consumption

For the purpose of annual consumption, EVs travel a certain number of kilometres in a year, with a certain level of efficiency per charge. The time of charge is not important when considering annual consumption.

⁵⁴ Available at: <https://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/National-Electricity-Market-NEM/Planning-and-forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-and-Methodologies>.

A5. Connections and uptake of electric appliances

A5.1 Connections

As the retail market operator for most Australian electricity retail markets (except NT and TAS), AEMO has access to historical connections data for these markets, historical connections data for the other markets are acquired from a confidential survey. AEMO forecast the number of new connections to the electricity network, starting from the most recent data history, as this is a key driver for residential electricity demand. The number of new connections is driven by demographic and social factors like population projections and changes to household density.

The electricity connection forecasts were made up of two components, residential and non-residential electricity connection forecasts. AEMO only used the residential electricity connections to forecast residential sector consumption. The non-residential component was captured by the commercial sector which is driven by economic indicators. Therefore, AEMO underwent a process of splitting the residential connections projections from the non-residential connections⁵⁵.

For the 2019 forecasts, AEMO updated its connections forecasts by applying the Housing Industry Association (HIA) dwelling forecasts, and both the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2018 long-term population projections and the ABS 2019 household dwelling projections:

- In the first four years, the new connections forecast uses the HIA dwelling completion forecasts.
- Beyond four years, AEMO applies ABS housing and population forecasts.

A5.2 Uptake and use of electric appliances

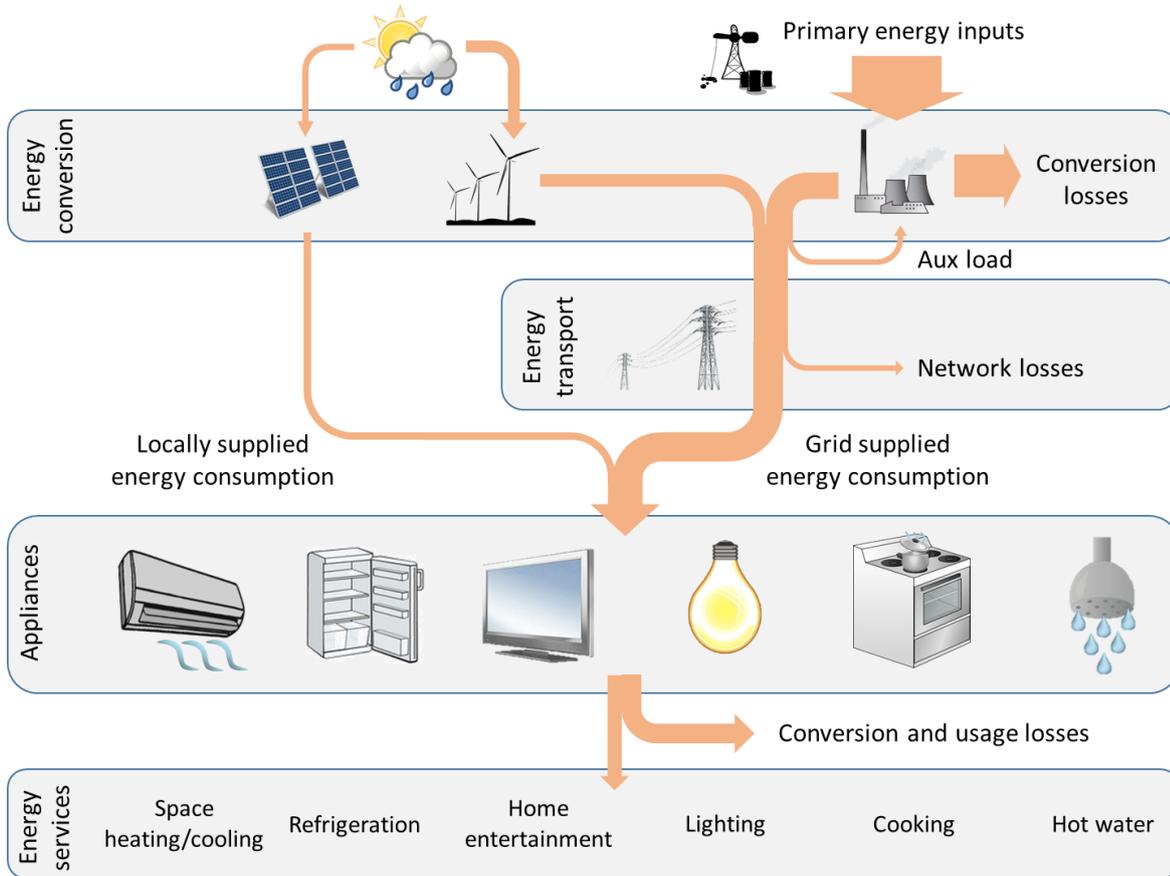
AEMO uses appliance data from the Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy⁵⁶ to forecast growth in electricity consumption by the residential sector.

The data allowed AEMO to estimate changes to the level of energy services supplied by electricity per households across the NEM. Energy services here is a measure based on the number of appliances per category across the NEM, their usage hours, and their capacity and size. Figure 15 illustrates the difference between energy services and energy consumption.

⁵⁵ Residential connections forecasts are available on AEMO's Forecasting Data Portal. Please see <http://forecasting.aemo.com.au>.

⁵⁶ AEMO would like to thank the E3 Committee for access to the appliance model underpinning the 2015 *Residential Baseline Study for Australia 2000 – 2030*, available at www.energyrating.com.au.

Figure 15 Energy services vs energy consumption



A5.2.1 Appliance growth calculation

The following lists how AEMO calculates energy services by appliance group per connection. “Appliance penetration” is the number of appliances in total divided by the number of connections.

- Heating/cooling: Appliance penetration × output capacity of appliance × hours used per year.
- White goods: Appliance penetration × capacity (volume of freezer/refrigerators/washing machine) × number of times used per year (dishwashers, washing machines and dryers only).
- Home entertainment: Number of appliances × hours used per year × size (TVs only).
- Lighting: Number of light fittings.
- Cooking: Appliance penetration.
- Hot water: Appliance penetration.

The calculated demand for energy services by appliance group is converted into a growth index with the reference year of the consumption forecast being the base year (index = 100). These indices are combined into a composite index for all appliances based on their relative estimated energy consumption in the base year. As the index captures the benefits to users from the appliance use, it is also referred to as the benefits index.

The table below shows the appliances covered by the calculations.

Table 16 List of appliance categories used in calculating the appliance growth index

Demand type	Category	Group
Heating/cooling load	Combined space heating/cooling	AC ducted AC non-ducted (split and window/wall units)
Heating/cooling load	Space cooling	Evaporative (mostly central) Fans
Heating/cooling load	Space heating	Electric resistive Mains gas non-ducted Mains gas ducted LPG gas non-ducted Wood Heaters
Base load	White goods	Refrigerators Freezers Dishwashers Clothes washers Clothes dryers
Base load	IT & Home Entertainment	Television – composite average Set-top box – free-to-air Set-top box – subscription Video players and media recorders Home entertainment – other (mostly audio) Game consoles Computers – desktop (and associated monitors) Computers – laptop Wireless/Wired networking device Miscellaneous IT equipment
Base load	Lighting	MV incandescent MV halogen ELV halogen CFL Linear fluorescent LED
Base load	Cooking Products	Upright – Electric Cooktop – Electric Oven – Electric Upright – Gas Cooktop – Gas Oven – Gas Upright – LPG Cooktop – LPG Oven – LPG Microwave

Demand type	Category	Group
Base load	Hot water heaters	Electric water heater, storage – small Electric water heater, storage – medium/large Electric water heater, instant Gas water heater, storage (mains) Gas water heater, storage (LPG) Gas water heater, instant (mains) Gas water heater, instant (LPG) Solar electric Solar gas Heat pump Wood, wetbacks
Base load	Other Equipment	Pool Equipment – Electric Pool Equipment – Gas Pumps Battery chargers Miscellaneous Class 2 Common Areas

A5.2.2 Difference between scenarios

In addition to forecast changes in appliance uptake and use for known appliance categories, AEMO adds to the composite index a small increase in growth from “new” appliance types/categories (not shown specifically in Table 16), representing yet unknown technologies that are expected to enter the market over the forecast period and affect electricity demand. The three scenarios have different assumptions of how much these new and yet unknown appliances would add to the composite appliance growth index.

A6. Data sources

Table 17 ANZSIC code mapping for industrial sector disaggregation

ANZSIC division ID	ANZSIC division name	AEMO sector category
A	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	Other
B	Mining (including CSG)	Other
C	Manufacturing	Manufacturing
D	Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	Other
E	Construction	Other
F	Wholesale Trade	Other
G	Retail Trade	Other
H	Accommodation and Food Services	Other
I	Transport, Postal and Warehousing	Other
J	Information Media and Telecommunications	Other
K	Financial and Insurance Services	Other
L	Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	Other
M	Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	Other
N	Administrative and Support Services	Other
O	Public Administration and Safety	Other
P	Education and Training	Other
Q	Health Care and Social Assistance	Other
R	Arts and Recreation Services	Other
S	Other Services	Other

Table 18 Historical and forecast input data sources

Data series	Data sources	Reference	Notes
Historical Consumption data by region	AEMO Database	http://forecasting.aemo.com.au/	Actuals derived from aggregate of these sources are reported and available on our forecasting data portal
Historical Consumption data by industry sector	AEMO Database	http://forecasting.aemo.com.au/	Actuals derived from aggregate of these sources are reported and available on our forecasting data portal
Large Industrial Historical Consumption data by region	Transmission & Distribution, Industrial Surveys	http://forecasting.aemo.com.au/	Actuals derived from aggregate of these sources are reported and available on our forecasting data portal
Residential and Commercial Historical Consumption data by region	AEMO Database (for Victoria) Distribution businesses (other regions)	http://forecasting.aemo.com.au/	Actuals derived from aggregate of these sources are reported and available on our forecasting data portal
Weather & Climate Change Data	BOM	http://www.bom.gov.au/	
Weather & Climate Change Data	CSIRO	https://www.csiro.au/	
Weather & Climate Change Data	Climate Change Australia	https://www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au/	
Household Forecasts	Housing Industry Association	https://www.hia.com.au	AEMO uses the new dwelling completion forecasts from HIA.
Historical Number of NMIs	AEMO Database	http://forecasting.aemo.com.au/	Actuals derived from aggregate of these sources are reported and available on our forecasting data portal
ABS Population Forecasts	ABS	http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/allprimarymainfeatures/5A9C0859C5F50C30CA25718C0015182F?opendocument	AEMO uses population growth projections series A (Fast change scenario); series B (Neutral scenario); series C (Slow change scenario)
Demographic and Economic Data	ABS	http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/5206.0Mar%202014?OpenDocument	Population, Gross State Product, Household Disposable Income, Input Producer Price Index,
Economic Data	Economic Consultancy	http://forecasting.aemo.com.au/	Economic projections were developed by an economic consultant, according to AEMO's scenario requirements
Wholesale Electricity Price	Consultancy	https://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/National-Electricity-Market-NEM/Planning-and-	Wholesale price forecasts by Aurora Energy Research

Data series	Data sources	Reference	Notes
		forecasting/Integrated-System-Plan	
DER forecasts	CSIRO and Energeia	https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/2019-Projections-for-Small-Scale-Embedded-Technologies-Report-by-CSIRO.pdf https://www.aemo.com.au/-/media/Files/Electricity/NEM/Planning_and_Forecasting/Inputs-Assumptions-Methodologies/2019/Distributed-Energy-Resources-and-Electric-Vehicle-Forecasts---Report-by-Energeia.pdf	
Transmission losses	AEMO database (Victoria); Transmission businesses (other regions)	https://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/National-Electricity-Market-NEM/Security-and-reliability/Loss-factor-and-regional-boundaries	
Distribution losses	AEMO database (Victoria); Distribution businesses (other regions)	https://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/National-Electricity-Market-NEM/Security-and-reliability/Loss-factor-and-regional-boundaries	
Operational demand	AEMO database (Victoria), Transmission businesses where permission has been granted	http://forecasting.aemo.com.au/	Actuals derived from aggregate of these sources are reported and available on our forecasting data portal

A7. Data segmentation

AEMO used a combination of Residential to Business annual percentage splits (provided to AEMO by the Australian Energy Regulator) and its own meter data classification to calculate the half-hourly Residential and Business split for the latest year of actual consumption. This forms the starting point for the forecasting process. This segmentation process delivered:

- Delivered consumption.
- Underlying consumption.

For the definition of the consumption types see Section 1.3.

A7.1 AER residential to business splits

The Australian Energy Regulator (AER) annually surveys Distribution Network Survey Providers and from this provides AEMO with Residential to Business sector annual splits of distribution connected delivered consumption for the latest financial year of data available. AEMO used this to derive annual consumption targets to calibrate to when performing half-hourly splits between residential and business sector consumption. The configuration and execution of the separate business and residential forecast models, - with their different demand drivers - will determine the total for the business and residential components for each subsequent period in the forecast.

A7.2 AEMO meter data and half-hourly profile

Since the introduction of smart metering technology in 2003, there has been varied adoption of smart meters across states. While all meters in Victoria have been transitioned to smart meters, in other states there are still many households and smaller businesses on basic meters.

The key distinction is that smart meter reads give actual recording of delivered consumption at the half-hourly level while basic meters are read quarterly and require some estimation to interpolate into half-hourly delivered consumption. Typically, most basic meter customers are residential customers while most businesses have transitioned to smart meters (also known as interval meters).

With this assumption in mind, AEMO preserved the profile of business half-hourly data over a financial year (as it was deemed more accurate), but determined the profile of the residential half-hourly data by taking the difference between the total grid consumption half-hourly profile (derived from the metred half hourly operational demand data) and the business half-hourly profile.

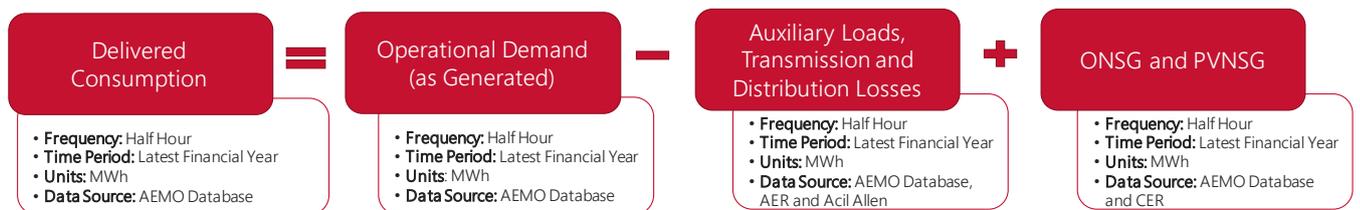
Business half-hourly data

In 2015 AEMO conducted a meter data analytics study to refine the classification of its business meters. While it is not possible to capture all business sector meters, the bulk of the business delivered consumption was captured by querying AEMO's database and then scaling up to meet the target annual business delivered consumption, derived by applying AER's business percentage to AEMO's total delivered annual consumption.

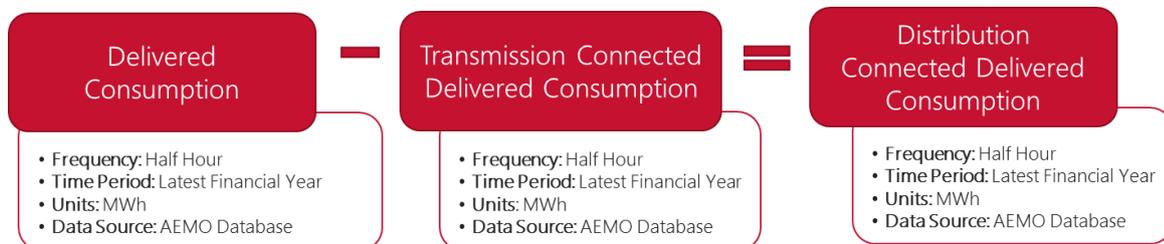
A7.3 Methodology

Stage 1: Developing residential to business delivered consumption split

Calculate delivered consumption to energy users from the metered operational demand (as generated) data, netting off auxiliary load and distribution and transmission losses and adding in the small non-scheduled generation (PVNSG and ONSG):

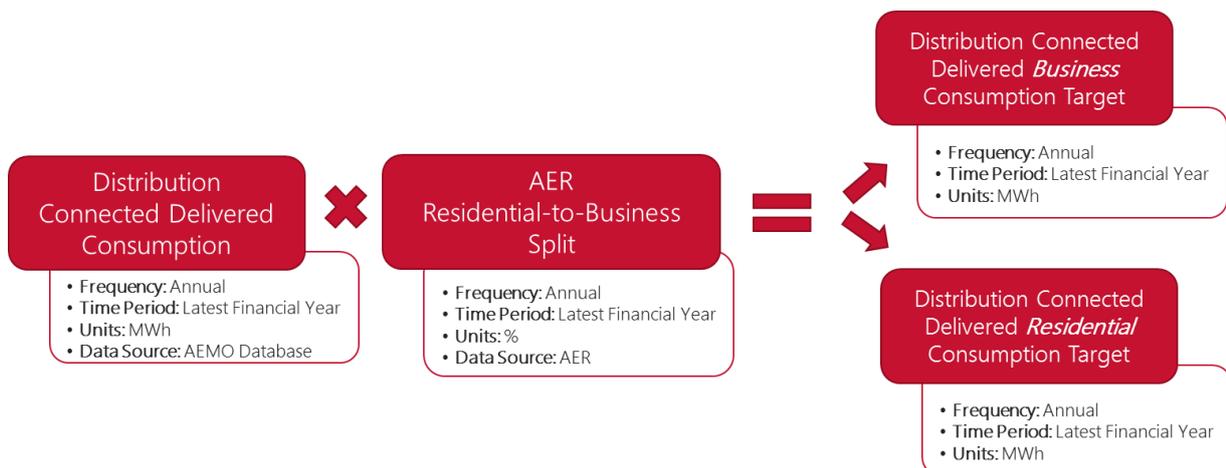


Translate AEMO half-hourly meter data into distribution connected delivered consumption:

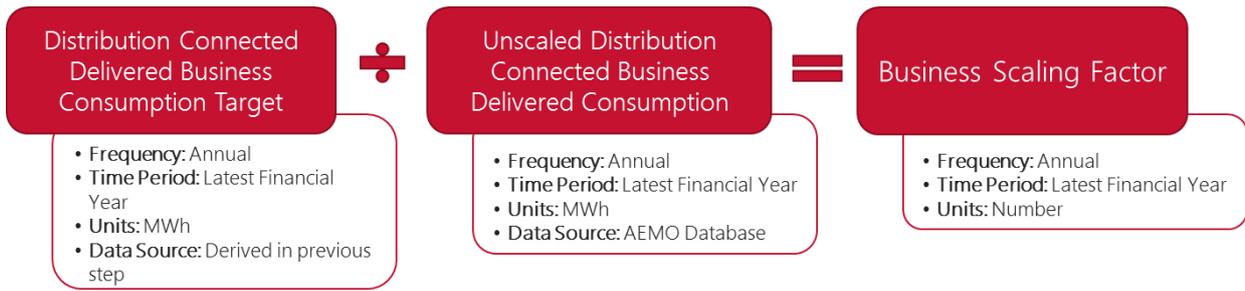


Transmission connected consumption was assumed to be business load, and was separated from the total demand to keep AEMO's meter data on the same basis as the AER's percentage splits.

Aggregate AEMO half-hour data to financial year data and apply AER split to obtain annual target:



Calculate business scaling factor and scale half-hourly business delivered data to annual target:



The unscaled distribution-connected business delivered consumption is the aggregate consumption of the known business sector meters (for more detail see *Business half-hourly data* above). This consumption was summed to the annual level and the total delivered business consumption annual target (derived in the previous step) was divided by this unscaled business consumption to get a scaling factor. This scaling factor was applied to the half-hour frequency unscaled business delivered consumption to get the total half-hour distribution connected delivered business consumption. In this way, AEMO preserves the business sector half hourly profile and calibrates to an annual target to capture any missing business sector meters.



Calculate business half-hourly delivered consumption:



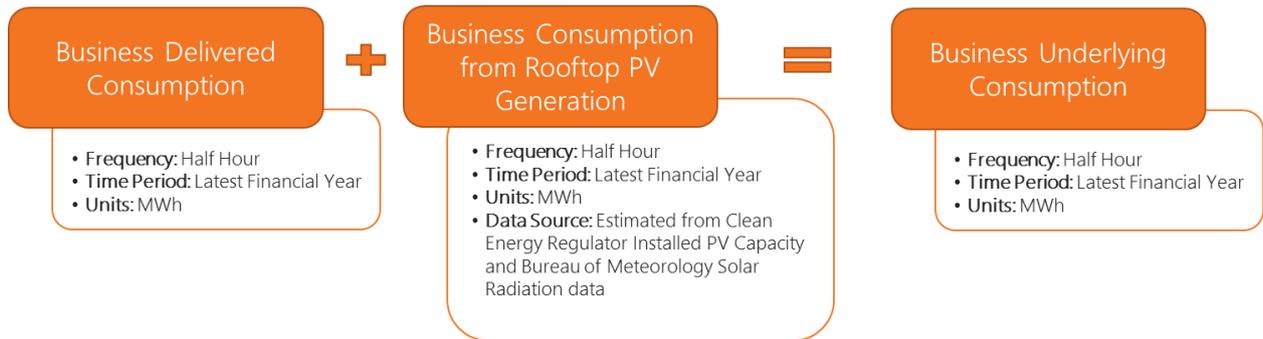
Note that all transmission-connected loads are heavy industrial users and fall in the business category.

Calculate residential half-hourly delivered consumption:

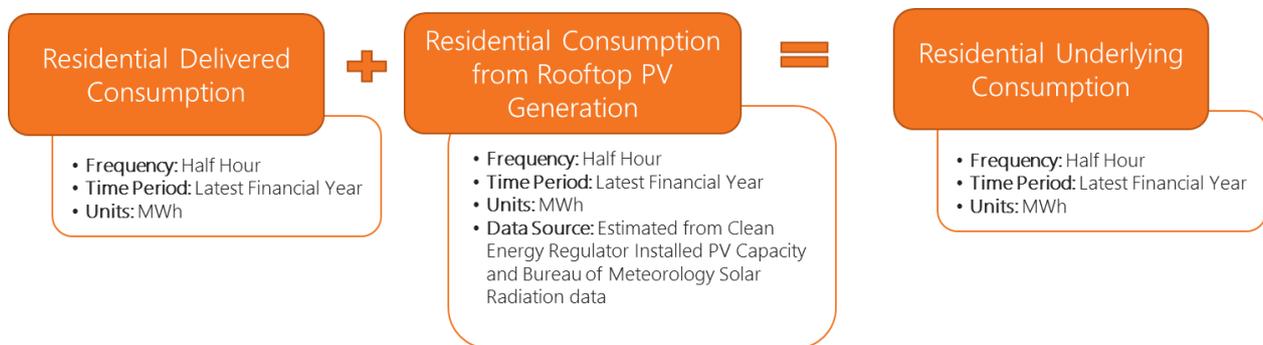


Stage 2: Developing Residential to Business Underlying Consumption Split

Calculate business underlying consumption:



Calculate residential underlying consumption:

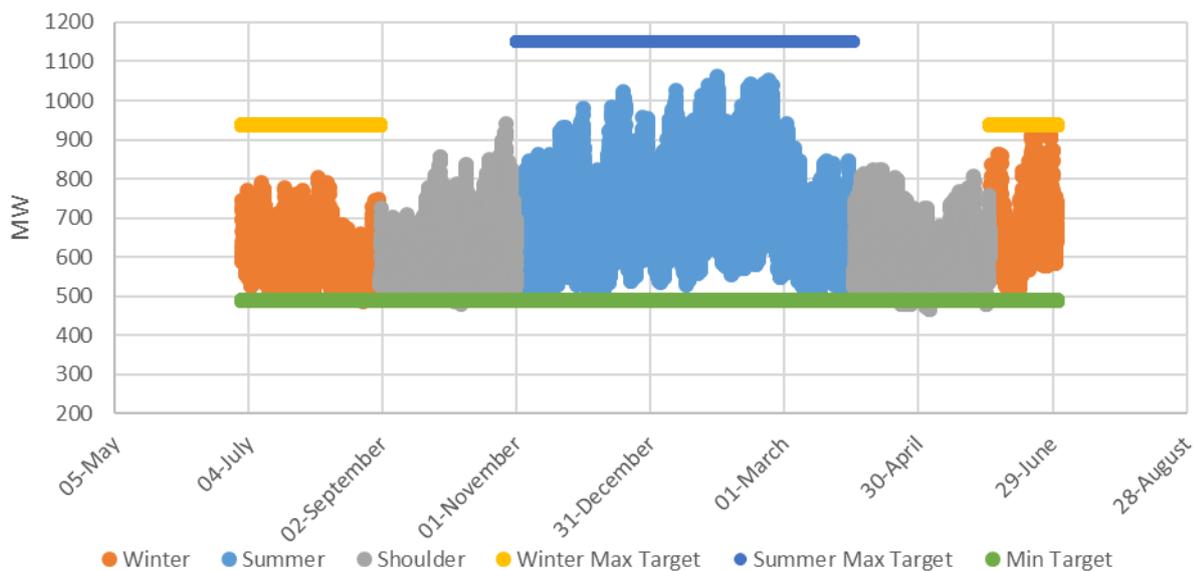


A8. Demand trace scaling algorithm

This appendix provides a worked example of how half-hourly demand traces are scaled for the outlook period. The method is described in Section 6.

The example begins with a financial-year time series of demand to be scaled to predefined targets. It has been prepared by taking demand from a reference year and converting the values to OPSO-lite (removing influence of PV, other non-scheduled generation, CSG, ESS and EVs). The example trace is presented in Figure 16.

Figure 16 Prepared demand trace



Day swapping is performed to exchange weekend and holiday dates between the reference year and the forecast year. In this example, day swapping is assumed to have taken place.

The targets are summarised in Table 19. All targets represent an increase to the reference trace.

Table 19 Prepared demand trace and targets

	Prepared trace	Target	Unit
Summer Max	1063.231	1148.29	MW
Winter Max	911.79	938.33	MW
Minimum	466.695	488.695	MW
Energy	5733.727	6364.407	GWh

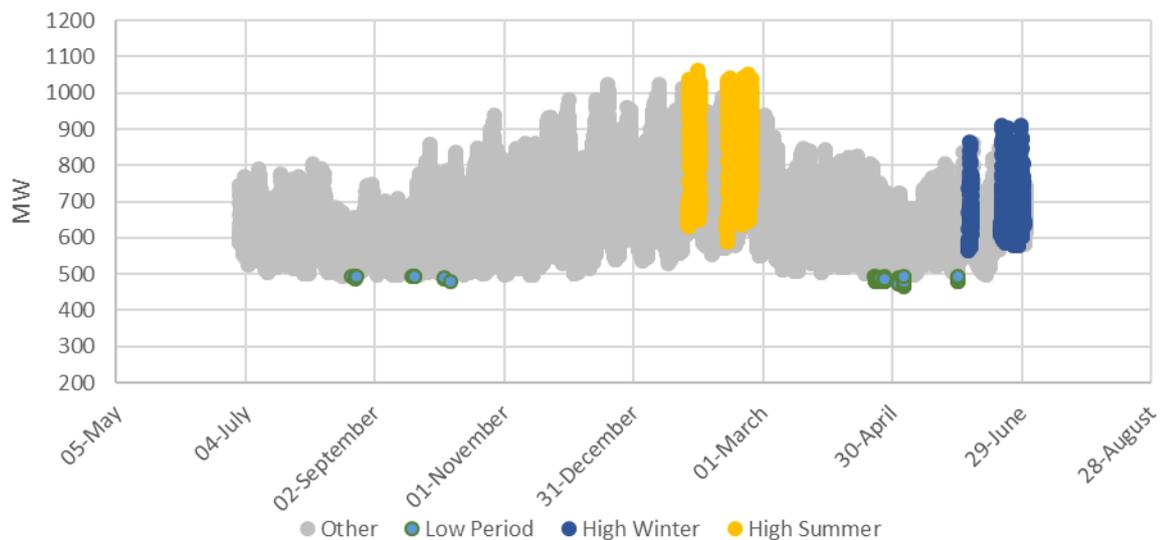
The series is categorised into n highest-demand days in summer (using daily maximum as the reference), n highest demand days in winter, p lowest demand half-hour periods. In this example,

$$n = 10 \text{ days}$$

$$p = 70 \text{ half-hour periods}$$

The day-type categorisation (High Summer, High Winter, Low Period and Other) is displayed in Figure 17.

Figure 17 Day-type categories



Scaling then commences. The demand, categorised into day-types, is scaled according to the ratios in Table 20. The ratios are calculated as $target / prepared\ trace$ using the information from Table 19.

Table 20 Scaling ratios

Day-type category	Prepared trace	Unit	Target/Base ratio
Summer high days	169.81	GWh	1.080000
Winter high days	166.53	GWh	1.029108
Low periods	35.37	GWh	1.047140

The scaling ratios for the key day-type categories are based on maximum or minimum demand targets. Therefore, the maximum demand and minimum demand targets are met by applying this process. Note that the energy target still needs to be addressed. Application of the scaling factors results in the energy

presented in Table 21 and the remaining energy difference is calculated as the *target minus the current grown total*.

Table 21 Resulting Energy

	Resulting GWh	Units
Summer high days	183.40	GWh
Winter high days	171.38	GWh
Low periods	37.04	GWh
Remaining energy difference	610.58	GWh

The remaining energy difference from Table 21 equates to an 11.38% increase on the 'other' category's energy. This is applied to the demand in the other category and the targets are checked. The check is summarised in Table 220 and the grown trace is plotted in Figure 18.

Figure 18 Grown trace and targets

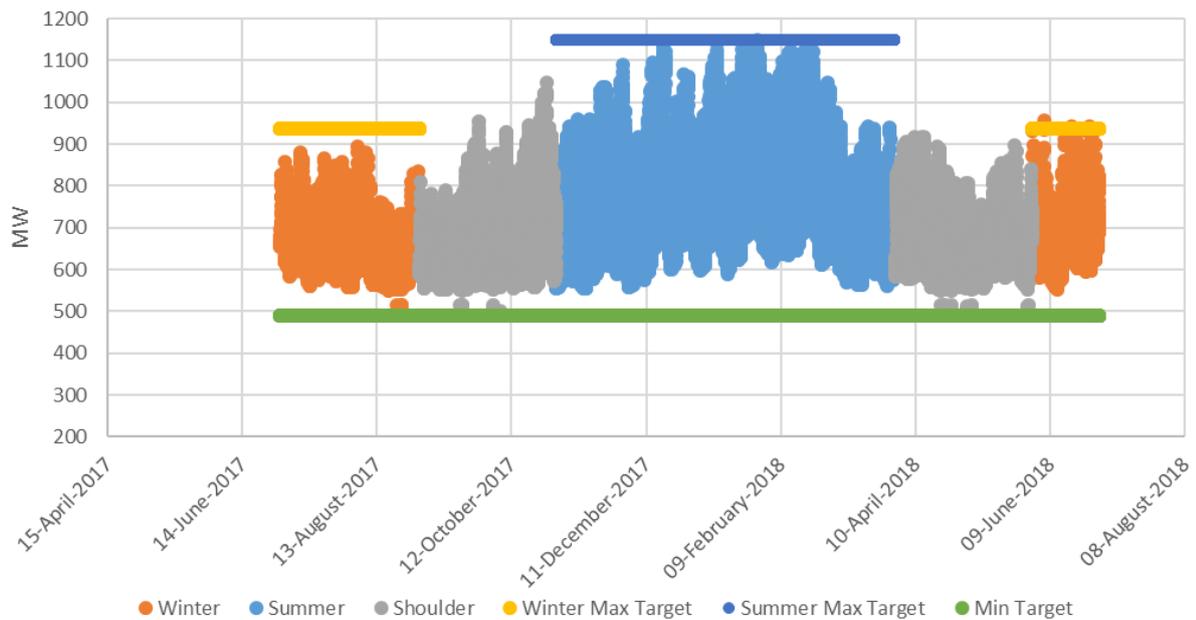


Table 22 Check of grown trace against targets

	Base trace	Target	Grown	Units
Summer Max	1063.231	1148.29	1148.29	MW
Winter Max	911.79	938.33	957.54	MW
Minimum	466.695	488.695	488.695	MW
Energy	5733.727	6364.407	6364.407	GWh

The check summarised in Table 22 uncovers an inconsistency between the grown winter maximum and the target (bold highlight). This was caused by the allocation of energy in the 'other' category which increased some winter values above the initial peak.

In accordance with the methodology, the process is repeated until the targets are met.

Following completion of this first-pass growing process, and in accordance with the methodology, the forecast technology components are added back to the trace to derive the unreconciled OPSO trace. Each component-trace is prepared to reflect the forecast capacities or numbers in the target year and the nominal or normalised power trace (from the reference year). In this way, the influence of PV, other non-scheduled generation, CSG, ESS and EVs is appropriately applied to each half hour to derive the unreconciled OPSO trace.

The growing process is then repeated on the unreconciled OPSO trace as per the 'second pass' of the methodology. Demand and energy targets are changed accordingly to reflect demand being on the OPSO basis.

EVs that can act as home batteries have been modelled for the first time in the 2019 Step Change scenario. Long-range EVs that potentially are on the market by FYE2040 could have enough capacity to serve both the daily driving needs and battery needs of the residential household. To model this, a certain proportion of the residential vehicle fleet are modelled to have their EVs discharge in the home (termed vehicle-to-home) to serve the users energy requirements. This discharge profile is included in the demand trace growing algorithm in a similar way as the other behind the meter technologies. The charge profile is not captured within the demand traces but is instead optimally charged within the supply model, similar to VPP charging. In this way, the EV fleet charges from the grid at times of low system cost, avoiding contribution to maximum demand.

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full name
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AER	Australian Energy Regulator
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology
CD	Cooling degree
CDD	Cooling degree day
CDF	Cumulative density function
CER	Clean Energy Regulator
COP	Coefficient of performance
CSG	Coal seam gas
DER	Distributed energy resource
DSP	Demand side participation
DBT	Dry-bulb temperature
EDA	Exploratory data analysis
EDD	Effective degree day
ESS	Energy storage systems
EV	Electric vehicle
FiTs	Feed-in tariffs
GFC	Global Financial Crisis
GWh	Gigawatt hours
HD	Heating degree

Abbreviation	Full name
HIA	Housing Industry Association
HDD	Heating degree day
ISP	Integrated System Plan
KW	Kilowatts
LIL	Large industrial loads
LNG	Liquefied natural gas
MD	Maximum demand
MMS	Market Management System
MW	Megawatts
NEM	National Electricity Market
NMI	National meter identifier
NSG	Non-scheduled generation
OLS	Ordinary least squares
ONSG	Other non-scheduled generators
OPSO	Operational demand as sent out
POE	Probability of exceedance
PVNSG	PV non-scheduled generators
PVROOF	Rooftop PV
STCs	Small-scale technology certificates
VPP	Virtual power plant
WBT	Wet-bulb temperature