

CONGESTION INFORMATION RESOURCE GUIDELINES

FINAL REPORT AND DETERMINATION

Published: **October 2021**





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The publication of this Final Report and Determination (Final Report) finalises the Rules consultation process conducted by AEMO to amend the Congestion Information Resource Guidelines (CIR Guidelines) under the National Electricity Rules (NER).

In response to the first stage notice, AEMO received two submissions from EnergyAustralia and Shell Energy. Both generally considered the CIR to be a valuable resource in its current state, but could be improved. EnergyAustralia and Shell Energy both suggested AEMO consider how historical and forecast data can be made more accessible to market participants, for example in the form of possible future network congestion and binding constraints, and emerging network stability limits. They also recommended more transparency from TNSPs to publish limits advice, and for AEMO to provide statistical reports on the Network Outage Schedule (NOS) and possible future congestion in the form of binding constraints in MT PASA runs.

AEMO agrees the MT PASA information could be used to provide a forecast of network congestion, and that that more granular segregation of data would be appropriate for the constraint reports. AEMO is investigating which information from the MT PASA constraint results can be published and where this would most appropriately be located in the CIR. AEMO is not able to provide MT PASA reporting on interconnector binding constraints as suggested by Energy Australia as the MT PASA does not currently report this information.

In response to the second stage notice, AEMO received two submissions from Shell Energy and CS Energy. Both responses were supportive of the changes proposed in the draft report and determination, but urged AEMO to reconsider its draft decision not to make available to market participants a replica of the network mimic panel used by AEMO's control room. CS Energy also recommended that AEMO ensure that the proposed High Impact Outages (HIO) definition in the CIR is consistent with the HIO definition in the AEMO SO_OP Outage Assessment Procedure.

In response to these submissions, AEMO is investigating options to provide information on the network status in real-time.

After consideration of feedback from the second stage consultation, AEMO has amended the CIR Guidelines to:

- Require TNSPs to enter into NOS outages that are classified as high impact outages (HIOs).
- Require TNSPs to provide AEMO with limits advice so network constraints can be modelled in NEMDE.
- Require TNSPs to either publish the limits advice on their websites (which AEMO will link to from the CIR) or provide to AEMO to publish in the CIR.
- Require TNSPs to regularly review their limits advice and notify AEMO of any updates to ensure the advice remains current.

AEMO's final determination is to amend the CIR Guidelines in the form published with this Final Report.



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1. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION PROCESS

As required by clause 3.7A(m) of the NER, AEMO has consulted on the CIR Guidelines in accordance with the Rules consultation process in rule 8.9.

AEMO's steps and timeline for this consultation are outlined below.

Deliverable	Date
Notice of first stage consultation published	10 May 2021
First stage submissions closed	17 June 2021
Meetings held with submitting stakeholders	14 July 2021
Draft Report & Notice of second stage consultation published	19 August 2021
Submissions due on Draft Report	3 September 2021
Final Report published	20 October 2021

The publication of this Final Report concludes this consultation.

Note that there is a glossary of terms used in this Final Report at Appendix A.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1. NER requirements

The NER specifies the following requirements for the CIR Guidelines:

- 3.7A(k) AEMO must develop and publish guidelines (the congestion information resource guidelines) in relation to:
- (1) the categories of information to be contained in the congestion information resource including the source of that information;
 - (2) the scope and type of information to be provided by Transmission Network Service Providers in accordance with paragraphs (n) and (o);
 - (3) the processes to be implemented by AEMO to obtain the information from Transmission Network Service Providers in accordance with paragraphs (n) and (o);
 - (4) the determination of the intervals for updating and publishing the congestion information resource under paragraph (e); and
 - (5) the processes to be implemented by AEMO for providing Registered Participants with information under paragraph (g).
- 3.7A(l) AEMO must develop and publish the first congestion information resource guidelines in accordance with the Rules consultation procedures by 1 September 2010 and there must be a set of congestion information resource guidelines available and up to date at all times after that date.
- 3.7A(m) AEMO must amend the congestion information resource guidelines in accordance with the Rules consultation procedures.

2.2. Context for this consultation

The existing CIR Guidelines call for AEMO to undertake consultation with interested parties at least every three years. The previous consultation was undertaken in mid-2018, requiring a new consultation to be undertaken in mid-2021.



2.3. First stage consultation

AEMO issued a Notice of First Stage Consultation on 10 May 2021. The matters for consultation were:

1. Whether the quality, relevance and frequency of information provided in the CIR remains appropriate.
2. What additional information stakeholders consider should be included in the CIR, including explanations of the value to stakeholders.
3. What current congestion-related information AEMO could stop publishing in the CIR with no or little loss of value for stakeholders (for example because it is published elsewhere or no longer relevant).
4. AEMO’s proposal to revise the CIR Guidelines to include a clear requirement for Transmission Network Service Providers (TNSPs) to publish their limit advice on their website or on AEMO’s limits advice page.

AEMO also proposed a number of minor drafting changes to the CIR Guidelines to improve readability, remove redundant text and transition to an updated form. A consultation draft of the CIR guidelines was published with the first stage notice.

AEMO received two written submissions in the first stage of consultation and subsequently held meetings with both stakeholders.

Copies of all written submissions have been published on AEMO’s website at: <https://aemo.com.au/consultations/current-and-closed-consultations/2021-congestion-information-resource-guidelines>. Minutes of the meetings held with stakeholders are attached to the Draft Report.

2.4. Second stage consultation

AEMO issued a Draft Report and updated draft CIR Guidelines on 19 August 2021.

AEMO received two written submissions in the second stage of consultation. Copies of all written submissions have been published on AEMO’s website: <https://aemo.com.au/en/consultations/current-and-closed-consultations/2021-congestion-information-resource-guideline>.

3. SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ISSUES

The key material issues arising from the proposal and raised by Consulted Persons are summarised in the following table:

No.	Issue	Raised by
1.	Replication of the AEMO control room network mimic panel.	Shell Energy
2.	Requests that AEMO ensure that the proposed High Impact Outages (HIO) definition in the CIR is consistent with the HIO definition in the AEMO SO_OP Outage Assessment procedure in Section 7.	CS Energy

4. DISCUSSION OF MATERIAL ISSUES

Appendix B sets out the detail of each material issue raised by stakeholders in the 2nd stage submissions. These are discussed in this section of the Final Report, together with AEMO’s assessment and draft conclusions.



4.1. Consistent definition of HIO in both the CIR and SO_OP Outage Assessment Procedure

4.1.1. Issue summary and submissions

CS Energy recommended that AEMO ensure that the proposed High Impact Outages (HIO) definition in the CIR is consistent with the HIO definition in the AEMO SO_OP Outage Assessment Procedure.

4.1.2. AEMO's assessment

AEMO agrees with CS Energy's recommendation for a consistent definition of HIO in both the CIR and AEMO SO_OP Outage Assessment Procedure.

4.1.3. AEMO's conclusion

AEMO will ensure that the definition of HIO in the CIR is consistent with the AEMO SO_OP Outage Assessment Procedure.

4.2. Replication of the AEMO control room network mimic panel

4.2.1. Issue summary and submissions

Shell Energy requested in its first stage submission that AEMO make available to market participants a replica of the network mimic panels used by AEMO's control room. Shell Energy indicated that this would enable participants to react promptly to real-time information following extreme power system conditions in the form of unplanned network outages and provide more efficient market response.

Shell Energy and CS Energy expressed their disappointment at AEMO's draft decision not to make a replica mimic panel available to market participants and requested that AEMO reconsider its decision.

4.2.2. AEMO's assessment

AEMO will re-examine this submission and determine what options are potentially available to provide better information on the current state of power system elements to participants – taking into account implementation cost and security requirements.

4.2.3. AEMO's conclusion

AEMO will add this to the requested items list in the CIR Guidelines and investigate options if this information can be provided in a secure and cost-effective manner.

5. FINAL DETERMINATION

Having considered the matters raised in submissions, AEMO's final determination is to amend the CIR Guidelines in the form of published on AEMO's website at: <https://aemo.com.au/consultations/current-and-closed-consultations/2021-congestion-information-resource-guidelines> in accordance with clause 8.9A of the NER.

**APPENDIX A. GLOSSARY**

Term or acronym	Meaning
AEMO	Australian Energy Market Operator
CIR	Congestion Information Resource
ESOO	Electricity Statement of Opportunities
HIO	High Impact outages
ISP	Integrated System Plan
NEM	National Electricity Market
NER	National Electricity Rules
NOS	Network Outage Scheduler
TNSP	Transmission Network Service Provider



APPENDIX B. SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS AND AEMO RESPONSES

Consulted person	Issue	AEMO response
Shell Energy	<p>Shell Energy welcomes AEMO’s draft determination to incorporate the following suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • modify the annual and monthly constraint reports to provide more granular segregation of data. • investigate which information from the MT PASA constraint results can be published and where this would most appropriately be located in the CIR. • investigate the feasibility of providing additional NOS statistics as a part of the existing annual and monthly constraint reports. 	Support for changes noted.
Shell Energy	We are disappointed that AEMO has rejected our suggestion to make available to market participants a replica of the network mimic panel used by AEMO’s control room. We question the rationale for disagreeing with our suggestion and urge AEMO to reconsider its position.	Noted in S4.2.1 and addressed in S4.2.2.
CS Energy	Is disappointed that AEMO has not embraced the Shell proposal to make available to Participants a replica of the network mimic panel used in the AEMO control rooms. In CS Energy’s view, AEMO’s reasons for rejecting the proposal require further justification.	Noted in S4.2.1 and addressed in S4.2.2.
CS Energy	Requests that AEMO ensure that the proposed High Impact Outages (HIO) definition in the CIR is consistent with the HIO definition in the AEMO SO_OP Outage Assessment procedure ⁴ in Section 7	Noted in S4.1.1 and addressed in S4.1.2.
CS Energy	CS Energy is strongly supportive of the CIR and considers it and its related documents as key education instruments in the NEM as well as a mechanism for transparency in understanding and anticipating outcomes delivered by constraints and associated processes in the NEM.	Support for changes noted.
CS Energy	CS Energy is supportive of the matters and proposals raised in the Energy Australia and Shell first stage submissions and as detailed in the CIR Guidelines Draft Report and Determination, Appendix B. The incorporation of the proposals by AEMO will enhance the value of the CIR.	Support for changes noted.