



Consultation on Approved Process changes

Initiation Document

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New South Wales | Queensland | South Australia | Victoria | Australian Capital Territory | Tasmania | Western Australia

Australian Energy Market Operator Ltd ABN 94 072 010 327

Explanatory Statement and consultation notice

This consultation paper commences the first stage of the consultation conducted by AEMO to amend the approved process required by Rule 135EC of the National Gas Rules (NGR). This consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the standard consultative procedure as required by Rule 135EC(2) and detailed in Rule 8 of the NGR.

The key changes to the approved process are:

- Addition of requirement on AEMO to include a summary of the significant changes to the existing procedures in the IIR. This change clarifies AEMO's existing process in the approved process.
- Removal of requirement on AEMO to provide a recommendation in the IIR on whether the expedited or ordinary consultation should be used. Instead, if the expedited process is applicable, the reason for the expedited consultation will be included in the IIR.
- Amendment to requirement on AEMO to engage with a consultative forum prior to the Procedure consultation. Engagement with the consultative forums in addition to the Procedure consultation is not always practical or necessary.

Consultation Notice

AEMO is consulting on this proposal and invites written submissions from interested persons to gwcf_correspondence@aemo.com.au by 5:00pm (Melbourne time) on **21 October 2024**.

Prior to commencing the consultation process, this proposal was considered by the Gas Wholesale Consultative Forum (GWCF) and the Gas Retail Consultative Forum (GRCF) in accordance with the existing approved process.

Please note the following important information about submissions:

- All submissions will be published on AEMO's website, other than confidential content.
- Please identify any parts of your submission that you wish to remain confidential, and explain why. AEMO may still publish that information if it does not consider it to be confidential, but will consult with you before doing so. Material identified as confidential may be given less weight in the decision making process than material that is published.
- Submissions received after the closing date and time will not be valid, and AEMO is not obliged to consider them. Any late submissions should explain the reason for lateness and the detriment to you if AEMO does not consider your submission.

Interested persons can request a meeting with AEMO to discuss any particularly complex, sensitive or confidential matters relating to the proposal. Meeting requests must be received by the end of the submission period and include reasons for the request. We will try to accommodate reasonable meeting requests but, where appropriate, we may hold joint meetings with other stakeholders or convene a meeting with a broader industry group. Subject to confidentiality restrictions, AEMO will publish a summary of matters discussed at stakeholder meetings.

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1. Proposed changes

The Approved process outlines the process for examining and assessing a proposal for the making of Procedures and the preparation of an Impact and Implementation Report (IIR).

The proposed changes to the approved process include the following:

- Addition of requirement on AEMO to include a summary of the significant changes to the existing procedures in the IIR. This change clarifies AEMO's existing process in the approved process.
- Removal of requirement on AEMO to provide a recommendation in the IIR on whether the expedited or ordinary consultation should be used. Instead, if the expedited process is applicable, the reason for the expedited consultation will be included in the IIR.
- Amendment to requirement on AEMO to engage with a consultative forum prior to the Procedure consultation. Engagement with the consultative forums in addition to the Procedure consultation is not always practical or necessary.
- Amendments include editorial amendments for readability and usability (including those detailed above); removal of requirements already detailed in the Part 15B; and adoption of the latest AEMO template.

The proposed amendments to the approved process are attached in Appendix A.

1.1. Meeting the National Gas Objective

This proposed change is being assessed against the National Gas Objective (NGO). The NGO is expressed in the National Gas Law (NGL) as:

The objective of this Law is to promote efficient investment in, and efficient operation and use of, covered gas services for the long term interests of consumers of covered gas with respect to—

(a) price, quality, safety, reliability and security of supply of covered gas; and

(b) the achievement of targets set by a participating jurisdiction—

(i) for reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions; or

(ii) that are likely to contribute to reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions.

AEMO considers that the objective of the proposed changes is efficient operation of covered gas services in relation to regulation of AEMO's Procedure change process which impacts the quality of AEMO's decision making.

AEMO considers the proposed amendments to the approved process meet this assessment criteria.

2. Consultation

2.1. Invitation to make submissions

AEMO invites written submissions on the approved process changes under consultation from interested persons to gwcf_correspondence@aemo.com.au by 5:00pm (Melbourne time) on **21 October 2024**.

AEMO’s preference for submissions is for interested persons to use the submission template provided by AEMO.

Please identify any parts of your submission that you wish to remain confidential and explain why. AEMO may still publish that information if it does not consider it to be confidential but will consult with you before doing so. AEMO will publish any submissions that are not identified as confidential when submitted.

2.2. Consultation timeline

This consultation will be undertaken in accordance with Rule 135EC(2) which requires AEMO to apply the standard consultative procedure detailed in Rule 8. The consultation timeline is provided below, provided that future dates may be adjusted and additional steps may be included if necessary, as the consultation progresses:

Stage	Date
Initiation	30 September 2024
Submissions to Initiation	21 October 2024
Draft Decision	18 November 2024
Submissions to Draft Decision	9 December 2024
Final Decision	9 January 2025
Proposed Effective date	23 January 2025

Appendix A. Consultation documents

The following consultation document is provided in tracked change format attached separately to this document:

- Approved Process v2.0 (initiation) (track changes)

The consultation response template has also been attached separately to this document. There are two sections in the template:

Section 1 seeks general feedback on the consultation and Approved Process.

Section 2 seeks specific drafting proposals for the Approved Process.

The process to make a submission is outlined in section 2.1.

Appendix B. Participant Response Template

The following consultation document is provided in tracked change format:

- Approved Process v2.0 (initiation) (track changes)