

22 June 2020

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## 2020-21 AEMO draft budget and fees consultation

Dear Ms Zibelman,

Energy Networks Australia welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) Consultation Paper on the 2020-21 AEMO draft budget and fees consultation.

Energy Networks Australia is the national industry body representing Australia's electricity transmission and distribution and gas distribution networks. Our members provide more than 16 million electricity and gas connections to almost every home and business across Australia.

### ***AEMO budget may benefit from improved information and stakeholder engagement***

Energy Networks Australia understands that AEMO has voluntarily provided this opportunity for consultation on the draft budget and fees which we appreciate. Energy Networks Australia is mindful of costs to customers and the current level of reform and changes in fees.

To enable us and other stakeholders to meaningfully engage in the consultation, Energy Networks Australia would encourage AEMO to provide additional transparency. The consultation process would benefit from additional detail to underpin the basis of the forecasts.

Earlier consultation on the draft budget and fees, and publication of the final budget and fees paper, may allow a more consistent and streamlined approach in the charging arrangements across participants.

### ***Further information about likely future fee levels***

In past budget papers AEMO has provided more information on each of the fees including providing both forecast and historical fees.

Energy Networks Australia recommends that AEMO provide a five year forward forecast for its fees. In particular, more detailed public information and consultation on the National Transmission Planner function fees would be helpful for stakeholders given the significant changes underway in that area.

Should you have any queries on this response please feel free to contact  
Verity Watson, [vwatson@energynetworks.com.au](mailto:vwatson@energynetworks.com.au).

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Dillon

Chief Executive Officer