

# MINUTES

MEETING: Financial Consultation Committee 2022  
 DATE: Monday, 20 June 2022  
 TIME: 1.00pm to 2.00pm (AEST)  
 LOCATION: By Teams

## ATTENDEES:

NAME	COMPANY
Vanessa Hannan (Chair)	AEMO
Tony Chappel	AEMO
Jeff Forrest	Transgrid
Jonathan Cowper	Synergy WA
Jonathan Wills	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Katrina Porteus	Energy Consumers Australia
Nadine Lennie	Transgrid
Raif Sarcich	Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

## APOLOGIES:

NAME	COMPANY
Alastair McKeown	Energy Australia
Guy Mutasa	Energy Queensland
Ian Brooksbank	Hydro Tasmania
Jonathan Spink	Pacific Hydro
Paul Odendaal	Hydro Tasmania

## GUESTS:

NAME	COMPANY
Nevenka Codevelle	AEMO
Jane McNamara	AEMO
Paul Johnson	AEMO
Stewart Waters	AEMO
Yogesh Nagarajan	AEMO

## Introduction & Welcome

Ms Vanessa Hannan, AEMO's Executive General Manager Finance & Business Services, welcomed the attendees to the meeting especially the new members of the Committee, Jonathan Cowper, Synergy WA, and Nadine Lennie, Transgrid. Ms Hannan also introduced Nevenka Codevelle from AEMO who will be replacing Tony Chappel when he leaves at the end of the month as AEMO's new Executive General Manager, Corporate Affairs.

There were two action items from the previous meeting namely, sharing the findings of AEMO's latest internal staff survey which will be done in general business and reconvening this meeting following the final release of AEMO budget and fees document.

Ms Hannan provided a brief recap on the 2022/23 AEMO budget and fees journey and outlined the agenda for the meeting.

### **Discussion of Submissions received on Draft Budget and Fees**

Mr Tony Chappel, AEMO's Executive General Manager Corporate Affairs provided a brief update on the current market situation and market suspension.

Mr Jonathan Wills, NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment asked whether under a suspended market is dispatch done manually? Mr Chappel replied that we still use the same automatic processes as under a regular setting.

Mr Chappel discussed the feedback received on the draft budget and fees from the three submissions – AEC, EUAA and QEUN. Some of the more finance-based feedback was incorporated into the final budget and fees document. Other general feedback that there is an opportunity for greater engagement with consumer groups was noted.

### **Members Feedback on 2022/23 Meetings and Engagement**

Ms Hannan facilitated an open discussion on the structure of the committee, its operations and feedback from the 2022/23 budget and fee process.

Ms Katrina Porteus, Energy Consumers Australia noted that the length of the meeting is fine and that she values receiving advance copies of the agenda and presentation. Ms Porteus stated that we may need to broaden how we engage with consumer stakeholders and offered ECA assistance.

Mr Wills and Mr Raif Sarcich, Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning both echoed Ms Porteus feedback on the committee and its operations.

Mr Jeff Forrest, Transgrid raised the question on whether the role of the committee members is to be a voice for the stakeholder segment they represent, it was agreed that this was something that AEMO needs to further explore.

Mr Forrest suggested that for the 2023-24 budget and fees document, AEMO provides customer impacts across different market and stakeholder segments.

### **Outline of 2023/24 Meetings and Engagement Process**

Ms Hannan presented the indicative 2023/24 budget and fees engagement timeline.

Mr Forrest suggested that AEMO take into consideration of the timing of Network fees which Ms Hannan agreed to look at.

### **General Discussion**

Ms Hannan discussed the findings of AEMO staff pulse survey conducted in March 2022 and provided an update on AEMO debt funding. It is expected that AEMO additional debt funding facility will be ready in July 2022.

Ms Hannan stated that AEMO are in conversation with our Board and Banks on interest rate hedging and associated treasury policy will soon be developed.

Mr Chappel and Ms Hannan thanked the committee for their time and contribution to the 2022-23 budget and fees process.

Ms Hannan especially thanked Mr Chappel for his contribution and noted that he will be leaving AEMO in the coming weeks.

As there were no more questions or comments the meeting concluded at 1.45pm.

### **Action items**

There are no action items.