

MINUTES

MEETING No. 36:	NATIONAL ENERGY MARKET OPERATIONS COMMITTEE NEMOC
DATE:	Thursday, 2 May 2024
TIME:	1.00PM – 3.00PM AEST
LOCATION:	Online via Microsoft Teams
TELECONFERENCE DETAILS:	Microsoft Teams Meeting Link

ATTENDEES:

NAME	COMPANY	NAME	COMPANY
Tjaart Van der Walt	AEMO (<i>Chair</i>)	Scott Partlin	CEC / Neoen
Alexis Bowman	AEMO (<i>A/Secretariat</i>)	Hugo Klingenberg	ElectraNet
Michael Gatt	AEMO	Verity Watson	ENA
Hugh Ridgway	AEC / Alinta Energy	Glenn Springall	ENA / Energy Queensland
Nigel Buchanan	APA	Jason King	TasNetworks
Tim Lloyd	AusNet Services	Jason Krstanoski	Transgrid
Christiaan Zuur	CEC / Neoen		

GUESTS:

NAME	COMPANY	ITEM REFERENCE
Alexandra Price	ElectraNet	Delegate for Ed Sellwood and Emma Rogers
Martin Maticka	AEMO	Group Manager WA Operations
James Lindley	AEMO	3.0 OTPWG Update
Yvonne Coughlan	AEMO	3.0 OTPWG Update
Martin Cavanagh	AusNet Services	4.0 Presentation VIC System Event
Carla Ziser	AEMO	5.0 Presentation Improving Security Frameworks

APOLOGIES:

NAME	COMPANY	NAME	COMPANY
Ken Harper	AEMO	Ed Sellwood	Powerlink
Peter Brook	AEC	Emma Rogers	Powerlink
Gary Adkins	ElectraNet	Jennifer Hughes	Transgrid
Steve Cursaro	ElectraNet		

1 WELCOME

- Tjaart welcomed members and guests.

2 PREVIOUS MINUTES AND ACTIONS REGISTER

- Previous meeting minutes (15 March 2024) were accepted with no changes made.

- Actions Register was reviewed and actions amended accordingly.

3 PRESENTATION | OPERATIONAL TRANSITIONS (INCLUDING WORKING GROUP UPDATE)

Yvonne Coughlan and James Lindley

- Yvonne and James presented on Operational Transitions (including WG update), as per the Discussion Paper in the meeting pack, following the meeting held on 22 March 2024.
- ToR has been written and comments received. It will be reviewed and approved in the coming months.
- Outlined the proposal presented by AEMO for an operational transition planning process (refer to presentation presented during 2 May 2024 joint NEMOC/EJPC meeting).
- Emerging operational challenges, and application of operational transition planning to these challenges, were informally discussed for each region.
- The next meeting for the OTPWG is 3 May 2024, with discussions to include priorities moving forward:
 - Agreement on design of operational transition planning process.
 - Agreement on roles and responsibilities for operational transition planning between AEMO and NSPs.
 - Agreement on operational transition points for each region.
- Tim Lloyd asked if the OTPWG has a view of the very specific outcomes and outputs it expects to achieve at certain time intervals in the future?
 - Yvonne advised that they do not have an absolute picture of this yet, they require member input to inform that. It will be discussed at the next meeting. They do know some of the pressing parts of the system including 'what's next' in Victoria and the minimum demand situation. The working group will be guided by current operational challenges and directions.
 - James agreed and added that what the working group seeks is a consistent NEM-wide approach to how we handle operational transitions. The detailed work will be done bilaterally with NEMOC, AEMO VIC Planning, DNSPs and the government.
- Michael asked about what it would take to bring forward, enable and accelerate the transition. The Regulator should be engaged, as it is a little more than what is prescribed in the rules. That conversation has not been had as yet.
- Michael then spoke about operational technology in that space and that we may not have the right dashboards at the moment. This will be part of the conversation with the Regulator.
- Christiaan asked about the work that is initially being done through the working groups and engagement with NSPs, however when does it go beyond the smaller groups? When do you start talking to the wider industry and a more focused question is when should Christiaan start briefing his members about what is coming? This is to ensure the generation side is aware of the transition process that is to be implemented.
 - James spoke about the improving security frameworks rule change recently implemented. That has reporting obligations that require the OTPWG to set out the operational transition points through a plan. That is the process that will be used to roll out information to the wider audience, including the generation side. There will be no new regulatory instruments introduced through this process. Instead the OTPWG will make use of what is currently available within the NEM and tie that together with the ISF rule changes, to produce a more transparent group.
 - Christiaan then discussed the need for the working group to implement a process to ensure significant changes relating to the operational transition are signalled well in advance to participants.
 - Michael expanded on that and discussed the opportunity for AEMO to communicate a process with industry to keep it a bit more predictable about how things change and when they change. A process change which AEMO is enacting does not have to represent the rules, however the process could be communicated more clearly.
 - AEMO does not yet have all the answers on improving security frameworks, it is still being internally navigated and will take communication on AEMO's part. Participant support and input is needed on creating a framework for that space and what it should look like. AEMO are figuring out what good transparency would look like for the industry. If we are going to put work into something at the moment, it would be communicating the process

of the transitional planning, to explain what operational planning looks like and what will be the experience of the industry in watching that unfold.

- o Tjaart concurred and furthered that stating that is why it is appropriate that the OTPWG is a working group under the NEMOC allowing members to give input into this process and develop it together.
- o Verity discussed that once we know how we are going to transition, there is the need to make sure the regulatory framework facilitates it, rather than acts as a hindrance. Verity agrees with Christiaan's point about bringing along other people in that technical operation, because we have a hard time trying to explain to the Regulator that the world of the future is not like the past. It is not nearly as stable and a lot more dynamic. We need uplifting of skills and capability, which needs to be funded.

ACTION – Yvonne and James to share the overall communications plan when they share the initial communications around SA news.

ACTION – Yvonne and James to look into whether relevant regulatory mechanisms are fit-for-purpose in this context and how they link in with the previous action, as well as how it links in with the EJPC.

ACTION – Christiaan, Scott and Verity to provide feedback to James and Yvonne on the initial comms plan and process, as it should be started prior to the next NEMOC.

4 PRESENTATION | VIC SYSTEM BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION

Martin Cavanagh

- Martin presented AusNet's perspective of the day, event, impacts and learnings.
 - MST5-SYTS No. 1 and No. 2 Fault Event – Observations
 - LOR3 Event – Loss of generation and constraints
 - Hazelwood Island Event – A blue-phase to ground fault resulted in an islanding event
 - Experiences managing multiple events – Alarms, Support, Communications, Call Prioritisation, Tracking Actions and Decisions, Situational Awareness
- Tim Lloyd discussed the impact the event had on the Distribution network across Victoria.
- Tjaart discussed that from AEMO's point of view a lot of AusNet's findings are the same. The amount of people in the control room, how AusNet managed the event, how do AusNet identify the alarms coming through, how you identify the event? The cooperation between the AEMO team and the AusNet team in the control rooms was amazing, especially considering it followed other events that occurred earlier in the day. Everything stayed in. That was impressive and proved that relating to black start capability, a battery that is backed by energy or gas turbine is a very stable restart unit.
- Jason discussed that Transgrid is working on Alarm Management, their philosophy and how they categorise alarms. He would be happy to share what they are doing because it may be of some help to other control rooms, as well as a good time to seek feedback before going too far down the track.
- Jason spoke with Martin and Tim about the event and asked if AusNet was happy with the level of support offered from TNSPs. Tim spoke about being very happy with support from the TNSPs and even the DNSPs when required.

ACTION – Jason to present on the Transgrid Alarm Management project at the next NEMOC. To be added to the agenda.

5 PRESENTATION | IMPROVING SECURITY FRAMEWORKS – ISF

Carla Ziser

- Carla presented AEMO's current view on scheduling parameter or minimum contract requirements:
 - a. AEMO Competition Law – Meeting Protocol
 - b. Transitional Security Enablement Procedure
 - c. Progressive development of AEMO's scheduling function
 - d. Contract Requirements

- Verity asked about static contract terms and whether that means that it will not be acceptable to have contracts that are linked to a coal price or gas price? Carla explained saying that this indicates mostly static contract terms. A scheduling function will be on the simpler end to start with and move to the complex. What is struck in a contract may look different to what is taken as an input to the AEMO scheduler. There may be some inputs that are updated on an annual basis and AEMO’s position is that it is up to the TNSP or the counterpart’s responsibility to provide AEMO with that update. AEMO is indicating that it would be too complex to consider if those types of inputs were being updated every day.
- Alexandra asked about the interface with the TNSPs regarding developing this, is the current mechanism through the SSSPWG? Carla confirmed this and that the SSSPWG is a sub-committee of the EJPC. The ENA has also reached out to AEMO to collaborate via them as well. Over the next month, representation will be confirmed, given its operational touch points as well as the planning representatives.

6 SAFETY

- Michael and Tjaart spoke about the newly published procedure around vulnerable lines – for wind. The procedure was previously for vulnerable lines – lightning and part of SO_OP_3715, however due to the regular updates, it was decided to publish it separately. AEMO’s position regarding vulnerable lines, is to do for wind, what is currently done for lightning.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

- Michael spoke on solving defendable core. AEMO has embarked on a project due to some of the cyber risk and issues that are being experienced in our operating environment. Work has started on scoping and undertaking feasibility studies for uplifting that space. It will not happen in isolation of TNSPs, but its focus is core AEMO systems and not necessarily TNSP systems. Communications is a large pillar of that discussion, as well as different levels of security. AEMO will communicate with members to share posit visibility, what that is going to look like. It will be done in a confidential framing as well.

8 MEETING CLOSE

- Meeting closed at 2.25pm.

NEXT MEETING / WORKSHOP	DATE
NEMOC Meeting No. 37	Wednesday 11 September 2024 9am–12pm AEST Online via MS Teams; or AEMO Sydney Office Level 19, 20 Bond Street SYDNEY NSW 2000
Joint NEMOC-EJPC Workshop No. 10	Wednesday 11 September 2024 12.30pm–3pm AEST Online via MS Teams; or AEMO Sydney Office Level 19, 20 Bond Street SYDNEY NSW 2000