

DRAFT MINUTES – GAS RETAIL CONSULTATIVE FORUM (GRCF)

MEETING: 127
DATE: Tuesday 29 January 2019
TIME: 1.00 PM – 3.00 PM AEDT
LOCATION: AEMO Offices and Teleconference
CONTACT: GRCF@aemo.com.au

ATTENDEES:

NAME	COMPANY	LOCATION
Danny McGowan (Chair)	AEMO	Melbourne
Nandu Datar	AEMO	Melbourne
Arjun Pathy	AEMO	Melbourne
Justin Betlehem	Ausnet Services	Melbourne
Josephine Gaetani	Alinta	Melbourne
Mario Iogha	Origin	Melbourne
Mark Riley	AGL	Melbourne
Tim Sheridan	Jemena	Melbourne
Shawn Tan	EnergyAustralia	Melbourne
Chantal Wright	Momentum	Melbourne
Rick Abbott	APA	Adelaide
Paul Bresloff-Barry	Agora Retail	Teleconference
Mark Flynn	Jemena	Teleconference
Robert Gubbins	CGI	Teleconference
Corey Hennessey	Jemena	Teleconference
Emille Kueh	Jemena	Teleconference
Stephanie Lommi	Red/Lumo	Teleconference
Charlie McNamara	M2	Teleconference
Kelly Murray	United Energy	Teleconference
Michelle Norris	AEMO	Teleconference
Natalie Robins	ERA	Teleconference
Emily Watkins	ActewAGL	Teleconference

1. Welcome and Apologies

Danny McGowan (AEMO) welcomed participants to the first GRCF meeting with both WA and east coast participants.

2. Agenda Confirmation

Participants confirmed the agenda for the meeting. No new items were added.

3. Previous Meeting Minutes and Action Items

Participants took the previous minutes from the November meeting (#126) as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Action items have been updated in the table appended.

4. Updated GRCF Terms of Reference published

Nandu Datar (AEMO) noted that new Terms of Reference have been published for the GRCF to reflect the merging of the Procedure Change Committee (PCC) and GRCF.

5. Issues and Change Register

Three new items were added to the Register since the last GRCF meeting:

- IN010/18 (fixes a mismatch between the retail gas market registration provisions in the NGR and the exempt seller regime in the NERL)
- IN011/18 (removes quotation marks in the NSW/ACT PBP to make the document consistent)
- IN007/18W (taken from the Register for the PCC, amends references to the PCC in the RMP WA to refer instead to the GRCF)

One item was completed:

- IN007/18 (amends Hot Water Estimation and Substitution Methodology in the NSW/ACT RMP)

Participants noted that the Register is accurate and up-to-date.

6. Prioritisation Session

Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that the meeting's prioritisation session will only cover east coast issues; prioritisation for WA issues will occur at the February meeting.

Danny McGowan (AEMO) introduced the Proposed Gas Retail Work Program 2019 paper noting that this was the third year in a row the GRCF has undertaken the prioritisation approach described in the paper. For 2018, 13 east coast items were addressed leaving 49 "open" items.

Participants noted that sections 1–4 of the paper accurately reflect the background of the 2019 work program and generally agreed that a modest approach may be better given resourcing constraints.;

The GRCF agreed with the criteria used to prioritise issues: namely, that an issue be regulatory or that it be editorial/procedural in nature and involve minimal system changes. From those criteria, AEMO identified seven initiatives from the Register, which should provide a GRCF work program for at least the first half of 2019.

The GRCF broadly accepted the following east coast items as consultation candidates to progress in 2019, though several participants noted other initiatives that they would like to add.

- IN006/17 - Harmonise SA RMPs with other jurisdictions
- IN002/16 - NGR rule change proposal - change of gas day start time in SA, Qld & NSW/ACT to align to Vic (6:30);

- IN014/17 - Remove the text "using the sum of the actual heating degree days calculated under rule 177 of the SA RMPs for each of the previous 365 gas days for the HDD zone" from clause 373B as in AEMO's view it is not required.
- IN004/18 - Changes to the SA RMP clause 177(5) (Calculation of heating degree day) to accommodate Forecast hour of sunshine;
- IN012/17 - Updates to deregistered MIRN status for SA. This was IN022/12.
- IN009/18 - RMP regulatory relief transitionals for the shorter gas day on 30 Sept 2019. This is linked to IN002/16, Change proposal - change of gas day start time in SA, Qld & NSW to align to Vic (6:00)
- IN010/18 - AEMO has identified a mismatch between the retail gas market registration provisions in the National Gas Rules (NGR) (Part 15A) and the exempt seller regime within the National Energy Retail Law (NERL).

The GRCF agreed the following items as possible candidates to progress in 2019, noting that these issues were not fully understood and that no solution had been fully worked through.

- IN005/18 - Estimated Consumption after meter removal
- IN006/18 - Improving Customer transfers in the Gas Retail Markets (Customer Own-Reads)

Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that AEMO will organise this workshop and add placeholders for both issues for inclusion in the work program subject to the outworking of the workshop (**Action item 127.6.1**). Mark Riley (AGL), Mario Iogha (Origin), and Stephanie Lommi (Red/Lumo) will draft the covering email and papers for that workshop and send them out at least two weeks in advance of the workshop (**Action item 127.6.2**).

Shawn Tan (EnergyAustralia) asked that gas life support be included as a consultation. Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that AEMO's position is to not commence AEMO work until there is a unanimously agreed solution from industry. The GRCF supported the idea of AEMO's convening a workshop in late May for industry to discuss the issue. AEMO agreed to host a gas life support workshop and will book meeting rooms and advise the GRCF (**Action item 127.6.3**).

Tim Sheridan (Jemena) proposed two additions to the 2019 work program.

The first relates to changing high/low meter reading tolerances in NSW/ACT. Danny McGowan (AEMO) and Tim Sheridan (AEMO) both noted that this change can be executed without a full formal consultation. As such, AEMO will add the item as a placeholder in the work program, Jemena will send a GMI out to the GRCF and then the changes will be put out to the GRCF for feedback (**Action item 127.6.4**) (**Action item 127.6.5**). (*Secretariat note – This has been assigned IN001-19*)

The second relates to amending BTSF in NSW/ACT to add a new E2 classification for medium-density buildings with one MIRN and two meters (one for hot water and one for domestic consumption). Danny McGowan (AEMO) asked that Jemena prepare a GMI to determine the materiality, costs, and benefits of the change (**Action item 127.6.6**).

Several participants raised questions regarding the GDH transition plan. Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that AEMO is establishing a readiness working group and asks that all questions be sent to the GDH email (gdh@aemo.com.au).

Stephanie Lommi (Red/Lumo) notes that the MIRN Structure document currently has a problem with ranges and that this should ideally be addressed in the 2019 work program.

The GRCF considered several items that AEMO would like to withdraw from the Register:

- IN013/14 [to be withdrawn](#)
- IN002/17 [to be withdrawn](#)

Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that AEMO will amend the Register to reflect these changes and will later in the year prepare an additional list of items to be removed ([Action item 127.6.7](#)).

Mark Riley (AGL) suggested that any “clean up” items on the Register be included in any consultations on that set of procedures.

Chantal Wright (Momentum) asked that the GRCF address IN016/14 (which relates to developing a harmonised gas and electricity cost–benefit assessment methodology). Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that he will find out where AEMO stands with respect to developing that methodology ([Action item 127.6.8](#)).

7. Other Business

Nil.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on [Tuesday 19 February 2019](#). It will be the first GRCF meeting to include WA items, which will be first on the agenda.

Action items raised at meeting #127

Item	Topic	Action required	Responsible	By
127.6.1	IN005/18 and IN006/18 workshop and placeholders	AEMO to book meeting room in late February in order to facilitate a workshop to discuss both issues.	AEMO	Next meeting
127.6.2	Papers and covering email for late Feb workshop	Mark Riley (AGL), Mario logha (Origin), and Stephanie Lommi (Red/Lumo) to draft covering email and papers for the IN005/18 and IN006/18 workshop.	M. Riley (AGL), M logha (Origin), S. Lommi (Red/Lumo)	Early February
127.6.3	Life support discussion	AEMO to organise a meeting in late May for industry to discuss life support.	AEMO	Next meeting
127.6.4	High/low meter reading tolerances placeholder	AEMO to add a placeholder in the GRCF work program for an informal consultation regarding high/low meter reading tolerances in NSW/ACT.	AEMO	Next meeting
127.6.5	High/low meter reading tolerances GMI	Jemena to prepare a GMI on its proposed changes to the high/low meter reading tolerances in NSW/ACT.	T. Sheridan (Jemena)	Next meeting
127.6.6	BTSF changes in NSW/ACT	Jemena to prepare a GMI on its proposed BTSF E2 classification for medium-density buildings with one MIRN and two meters in NSW/ACT	T. Sheridan (Jemena)	Start of Q2 2019
127.6.7	Register amendment	AEMO to withdraw obsolete items from register	AEMO	Next meeting
127.6.8	Cost–benefit assessment methodology	AEMO to follow-up internal to find out where AEMO stands with respect to developing CBA methodology.	AEMO	Next Meeting

Action items raised prior to meeting #127

Item	Topic	Action required	Responsible	By
126.5.1	Moving from actual sunshine hours to forecast sunshine hours	AEMO to follow up internally to see if any analysis work is being done to measure the materiality of moving to forecast sunshine hours.	AEMO	Completed

119.10.3	Reconnect service in street in the case of a move in	<p>A GMI to be drafted containing a proposal to resolve the reconnect service in street in the case of a move in and this item added to the register.</p> <p>20/02: #120 Update: Draft complete, ready by next GRCF.</p> <p>20/03: Being finalised by APA currently. Ready for GRCF.</p> <p>20/11/2018 Update: <i>Work in progress.</i></p> <p>29/01/2019 Update: Work in progress, ready by next GRCF</p>	R. Abbott (APA)	Next meeting
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