

Meeting Minutes

Forum:	Gas Retail Consultative Forum (GRCF)
Meeting #:	159
Date:	17 April 2024
Time:	13:00 Melbourne time
Location:	Teleconference
Contact details:	grcf@aemo.com.au

Attendees:

Name	Company Department
Danny McGowan (Chair)	AEMO
Nandu Datar	AEMO
Louise Webb	AEMO
Alice Wang	Origin Energy
Anthony Boin	APA
Becky Caant	Synergy
Catherine Rousch	Alinta Energy
Deanna Power	KleenHeat
Emille Kueh	Jemena
Gavin Wise	Alinta Energy
John Smith	Nexif
Kate Goatley	ActewAGL
Kathi Mahalingham	Synergy
Kelly Murray	Multinet
Devika Bhatia	ERA
Marc Flynn	Jemena
Mario logha	Origin Energy
Mark Riley	AGL
Paul Bresloff-Barry	Agora Retail
Prachi Kamat	ActewAGL
Rick Abbott	AGIG
Robert Gubbins	CGI
Sagar Shah	HansenCX
Sean Harris	Brave Energy
Sean Jennings	Red and Lumo
Stephen Murray	Globird Energy
Suvid Satyawadi	Tally Group
Jo Sullivan	Energy Australia
Bree Shaw	Origin
Patrick Lau	Tel Pacific
Arun Sri	Gentrack
Nallina Luckshman	CGI
Jordan Rigby	Red and Lumo

Disclaimer

This document provides an overview of the main points of discussion at an industry forum convened by AEMO on 13 February 1024 to provide information and invite perspectives and feedback on matters relating to the GRCF.

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Readers, please note that:

- This document is a summary only and is not a complete record of discussion at the forum.
- For presentation purposes, some points have been grouped together by theme and do not necessarily appear in the order they were discussed.
- The views expressed at the forum and reflected here are not necessarily those of AEMO.

1 Confirm Agenda

Justin Bethlehem was noted as an apology.

The GRCF noted this meeting would be recorded and were reminded about complying with AEMO's Competition Law Meeting Protocol.

GRCF confirmed the meeting agenda with no additional items added.

In relation to the Zonal Heating Value work, Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that for Victorian participants, AEMO has become aware of a problem with naming and file format of the VIC FRO transition files generated on the 16th April. AEMO will provide further details on the resolution of this issue as soon as possible.

2 Previous minutes and action items

- a) The GRCF accepted the meeting minutes for the previous meeting held on 18 March 2024.
- b) Action items have been updated in the table attached below.
 - In relation to the Victorian Gas Substitution RoadMap, Rick Abbott (AGIG) advised that AGN is getting legal advice on the regulatory framework which they would be willing to share some sections of that advice with the GRCF. Danny McGowan advised that AGIG is welcome to send the information onto AEMO (grcf@aemo.com.au) and once it was received, AEMO would forward it on to the GRCF as an extension of the e-mail issued to the GRCF on the 9th April that contained roadmap feedback from other participants.

3 Issue / Change Register

In summary and with details provided in meeting pack:

- Since the previous GRCF meeting in March 2024:
 - No items completed or withdrawn from Issue/Change Register
 - 11 initiatives awaiting implementation with all consultations completed and targeting 1st May 2024 (links provided in pack)
 - Consultation for 2023 Package 6 consisting of 4 initiatives (IN009/20W, IN002/22W, IN002/23W and IN001/24W) that are minor non-controversial changes for WA has commenced. Feedback closes 26 April 2024.
- Emerging changes for the second half of 2024 are:
 - 2023 Package 4 (Renewable Gas Integration for STTM and Non STTM markets including VIC and WA),
 - 2024 Package 1 (B2B changes to be released in 2025); and
 - 2024 Package 2 (Retail Market Procedure (RMP)) changes that are minor non-controversial corrections)

No other questions raised on the Issue/Change Register.

4 Retail Consultation Calendar

None of the participants raised questions on the Retail Consultation Calendar

5 IN002/24 - Resolving issues with meter status in MDNs

This initiative is part of the 2024 Package 1 program of work.

Danny requested Mario logha to speak to the topic,

- Mario logha (Origin) noted the GMI proposes clarity within the build packs about how the meter status to be populated in Meter Data Notification (MDN) when the consumption involve historical data. A survey was conducted and there was good response from participants and majority support for the proposal.

<Secretariat note: See attachment B of these minutes which contains the slide presented at the meeting which was not part of the meeting papers. This slide contains the questionnaire responses. See e-mail dated 16th April from GRCF for the detailed participants responses to the questionnaire.>

- Couple of responses indicated major IT investment to implement the changes. In terms of updating the build pack, option 3 which included option 1 and 2 (Option 1 - only where meter status values are defined in Build Packs) (Option 2 - only where MDN transaction is referenced in Build Pack) Jemena provided wording about additional information in the build packs. Mario noted that it is early to raise a PPC. Next step proposed by Mario was for AEMO to gather information about the magnitude of the issue as requested by Multinet and Jemena that will also help with cost benefit analysis. Mario also noted that it is too early to raise a PPC.
- Danny requested comments from other retailers.
- Mark Riley (AGL) agreed and noted AEMO could collate the numbers for cost benefit analysis.
- Sean Jennings (Red/Lumo) noted that the changes should not cause costly system changes by the DBs if the benefits are minimal.
- Kate Goatley (ActweAGL) noted that theoretically they are happy to provide data as long as it's clear exactly what data is being requested.
- Danny requested comments from Multinet and Jemena.
- Kelly Murray (Multinet) noted more digging is required. Build pack should explain what each field is used for and need to understand exactly what is causing the retailer issues because they don't always send retrospective meter data.
- Mark Flynn (Jemena) noted their position aligns with that of Multinet. Mark also noted meter status being retrieved from different places and from where it is currently retrieved may lead to IT changes.
- Rick Abbott (AGIG) noted more analysis is needed and they have not had time to do it.
- Joe Sanches (ATCO) noted analysis was needed and requested if the retailers can provide some examples.
- Danny noted the full impact of this change and volumes are not clear. Full feedback from DBs about what the IT changes is not clear yet. Danny requested if Jemena and Multinet could share with AEMO what the indicative costs are by end of May (**Action 159.5.1**). By then all other DBs to give feedback. Retailers to provide details about the magnitude of the issue and the benefits that can be realised if this issue could be resolved by end of May. (**Action 159.5.2**).

6 IN004/22 - Proposed Improvements to Network Tariff B2B Notification

Danny McGowan (AEMO) introduced the initiative and noted it involves schema change,

- Mark Flynn (Jemena) noted there is no way of notifying volume boundary to the retailers. This info can be provided in MIRN discovery or standing data so that the retailers can use it while quoting to their customers. This is for NSW/ACT but only the Jemena networks. There is a proposal for tariff structure changes for July 2025 which would include volume tariff which is consumption based. These changes may provide better information and benefit the retailers.
- Mark Riley noted if this schema change can be included in other jurisdiction build packs.
- Danny noted from Mark Riley's comment that the suggestion is for lifting the field from the fixed enumeration into a flexible arrangement and adding the new fields requested by Jemena. This could be included in the work package 1. The allowable fields in NSW/ACT with the new values can be picked up by other jurisdictions. Since it is taken out of the schema, adding new values will involve only build pack changes and no schema changes. Mark Riley agreed with the summary.
- Mark Riley noted that he had looked at the Distribution Tariff used in csv data files whereby the field size is just one character, which isn't mentioned in the GMI.
- Jordan Rigby (Red and Lumo) noted he would be interested to hear opinion of other DBs about how this fits with them and if it will trigger other changes.
- Rick Abbott and Kelly Murray noted there may be other changes.
- Danny asked the GRCF if this initiative (including taking the enumeration field of the schema and into a non-version enumeration file) could be included in the 2024 Package 1 (B2B Changes to be released in 2025). There were no dissenting views and therefore the initiative will be added to the program of work. AEMO will arrange for a ASWG change request to be raised.
- Mark Riley asked that AEMO check all field size lengths in relation to Distribution Tariff field. Some are mentioned in Participant Build Pack 1.

<Secretariat note: In relation to other CSV data references to the field "Distributor Tariff" that Mark Riley (AGL) raised section 4.5.2.1 (NetworkDUoSDataTariffH/ CSVData (T334) file contains a field called "Distributor Tariff" which according to appendix A2 (CSV Data Element) this field is a single length field whereby the allowed values described this field states "Each Distributor will assign a single alpha to define the Distributor's tariff. Note: the same alpha can be used by multiple Distributors". Noting the above, 26 variables can be used to describe the "Distributor Tariff", if Distributors think that they will exceed 26 Distributor Tariff codes within the foreseeable future, then Distributors should raise a new GMI. Note CSVNetworkDUoSDataTariffH transaction is used in Vic and WA only. In WA Distributor_Tariff uses the enumerations in aseXML element as the allowable values, hence is not restricted to just 26 variables.

In relation to aseXML data element "DistributionTariff" this is an enumerated list, and the field is defined as a string therefore there is no field length limit restrictions (see Appendix A. Data Dictionary of PBP3 - B2B System Interface Definitions)>

DBs to look at the field Distribution Tariff that is a single character reference in all build packs and send an email to AEMO (grcf@aemo.com.au) advising whether they see that these CSV fields need to change, either field length size or the existing allowable values (**Action 159.6.1**).

7 Participant Survey to supplement future AEMO annual prioritisations

Danny spoke to slides 22 and 23 and noted AEMO and Mario logha have come up with a survey (available in the meeting pack) for participants to complete as part of the annual prioritisation session.

- Mario logha noted that completing the survey was optional and the intent was for AEMO to take the guess work out about what the participants want.

- Mark Riley noted that the survey needs to cover new initiatives and sending a GMI by July. Danny McGowan advised that AEMO will include a step that invites participants to submit new GMIs before the survey is issued.
- None of the participants opposed the concept of survey.

8 Other Business

1. Victorian HVZ Transition Update

- Louise Webb (AEMO) apologised to the Victorian FRO's of the issues with the Victorian heating value zone files generated on the 16h April which do not align to the VIC HVZ transition plan. AEMO is working on rectifying that misalignment, testing the misalignments and releasing the files by the close of Business Today. AEMO will send out an email and confirm if there will be any delays post today.

2. AEMO's overview gas market courses

- Danny McGowan noted the DWGM and STTM courses have re-commenced. They only relate to the wholesale market and occur in May. AEMO to send links to those courses (**Action 159.8.1**).

<Secretariat note: Below is a AEMO website link that provides details about the course content including information about how to register.>

- [Overview of the Victorian Declared Wholesale Gas Market](#)
- [Overview of the Short Term Trading Market](#)

9 Next Meeting

Danny McGowan (AEMO) noted that the May 2024 GRCF meeting is unlikely to proceed as there may not be sufficient items of business and the next meeting will likely be in June 2024.

Attachment A

Action items raised at this meeting #159

Item #	Topic	Action required	Responsible	By
159.5.1	GMI - IN002/24 - Resolving issues with meter status in MDNs	Jemena and Multinet to share their indicative costs by end of May 2024	Jemena and Multinet	31 May 2024
159.5.2	GMI - IN002/24 - Resolving issues with meter status in MDNs	Retailers to provide details about the magnitude of the issue impacts and the benefits that can be realised if this issue could be resolved to AEMO (grcf@aemo.com.au)	Retailers	31 May 2024
159.6.1	GMI IN004/22 - Proposed Improvements to Network Tariff B2B Notification	DBs to look at the field Distribution Tariff that is a single character reference in all build packs and send an email to AEMO (grcf@aemo.com.au) advising whether they see that these CSV fields needs to change, either field length size or the existing allowable values.	Distributors	31 May 2024
159.8.1	Overview of gas market courses	AEMO to send links to the STTM and DWGM courses <i><Secretariat note: Below is a AEMO website link that provides details about the course content including information about how to register.></i> Overview of the Victorian Declared Wholesale Gas Market Overview of the Short Term Trading Market	AEMO	Completed

Action items raised prior to this meeting 159¹

Item #	Topic	Action required	Responsible	By
158.2.1	Victorian Gas Substitution RoadMap – Analysis sent to AEMO	As per action 157.7.2, GRCF Victorian Retailers and Distributors to send summary of findings to (grcf@aemo.com.au) following internal analysis of new connections processes to confirm if any changes have been implemented to stop prohibited connections (Refer also to 157.7.2)	GRCF Victorian Retailers and Distributors	Completed.
158.2.2	Victorian Gas Substitution RoadMap – Analysis sent to GRCF	AEMO to forward each summary of New Connection Process findings to all GRCF participants	AEMO	Completed
158.2.3	Potential change for tariff changes related to Volume Boundary Meters/Tariffs – AEMO review and distribute	AEMO to review Jemena’s GMI and seek further updates as required from Jemena prior to submitting to GRCF for review.	AEMO	Completed
158.6.2	GRCF GMI Questionnaire Feedback to Appendix 1 of GMI IN002-22 Gas Est and Sub Codes – Discuss 2 nd round review	AEMO to include agenda item for GRCF to discuss GRCF 2 nd round review/feedback GRCF GMI Questionnaire Feedback to Appendix 1	AEMO	Completed
158.7.1	GMI -IN002/24 -Resolving issues with meter status in MDNs	Mario to update GMI including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In Options 1,2 and 3 include additional column to include receipt date – To consider increasing scope of GMI to include updating transactions other than MDN including ‘Energy History Response’ transactions (where it is clearly stated the Meter Status should reflect the 	Mario logha (Origin)	Completed

¹ Shaded grey rows signify the action item is closed/completed.

Item #	Topic	Action required	Responsible	By
		<p>current Meter Status) noting potential impacts to other Distribution Businesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Consider what would the MeterStatus be in a De-En scenario where the read is typically taken after the event? (GRCF confirmed the meter status would logically reflect the meter status after the De-En completion). In reverse, the same question applies to Re-En. – Clarify 'In all instances' and does is this reference including both current and historical instances 		
158.7.2	GMI -IN002/24 -Resolving issues with meter status in MDNs – GRCF Questions	Mario to provide questionnaire for GRCF response	Mario logha (Origin)	Completed
158.7.3	GMI -IN002/24 -Resolving issues with meter status in MDNs – GMI & GRCF Questions	AEMO to distribute updated GMI and questionnaire for GRCF response and order of magnitude to implement the change	AEMO	Completed
157.7.2	Victorian Gas Substitution RoadMap	<p>GRCF Victorian Retailers and Distributors to validate new connections processes to confirm if any changes have been implemented to stop prohibited connections and provide update at the April GRCF.</p> <p>March 2024 update – refer to action 158.2.1</p>	GRCF Victorian Retailers and Distributors	Completed
156.5.1	Participant Survey to supplement AEMO prioritisations	AEMO and Mario logha (Origin) to draft a strawman survey for future prioritisations	AEMO	Completed
156.5.5	Inclusion of IN010/21 MJ into Package 2 and bundle with delivery of IN015/22	AEMO to review recommendation to add IN010/21 (Unit of Measure (MJ)) and IN015/22 (Harmonising of Heating Values definitions) should be added to the 2024 Package 2 initiatives	AEMO	Q3 2024

Item #	Topic	Action required	Responsible	By
		to 2024 Package 2.		
156.5.6	Inclusion of IN001/21W Error correction notice into 2024 Programme of work	AEMO to review recommendation to include IN001/21W Error correction notice into 2024 Programme of work with AEMO legal.	AEMO	Q3 2024
156.5.7	IN006/20W analysis required by AEMO to enable GMI to be raised	<p>AEMO to arrange session with AGL to discuss in January to confirm the scope of work in reference to IN006/20W (Clause 115 clarity) (on pending list of initiatives) which relates to a 2-year-old issue where networks lodge disconnection notices and AEMO cancels those disconnection notices which subsequently impacts allocations. There may be a problem with the AEMO process. AGL cannot raise a GMI until AEMO perform some investigation to determine why and when this situation is occurring ideally to be performed in Q1/Q2 in order to create a GMI for Q3/Q4 or 2025.</p> <p>March 2024 update: AEMO discussed the issue with AGL And noted that since 2020 there were over 14500 disconnections requested with only 12 disconnections were cancelled by AEMO for lack of meter reading. All cancelled disconnections involved small consumption MIRNs. AEMO to discuss with ATCO to confirm why meter data was not sent. AEMO will provide ongoing updates.</p>	AEMO	Q3 2024
152.9.1	List of gas retail initiatives that are not part of the GRCF 2023 program of work	<p>Review the feedback provided by the GRCF and identify those initiatives that have reasonable outline of the requirement and a reasonable level of confidence that if implemented, the potential benefits will outweigh the cost; but this can only be established by further defining the requirement.</p> <p>April 2023 update: The Status Update document circulated at the April 2023 GRCF functions as a tracker for the above. This action item remains open. AEMO will continue to review the proposals that it is responsible for and will provide an</p>	AEMO	<p>Provide further comments on the initiatives that were not part of the GRCF 2023 program of work by next GRCF meeting.</p> <p>Q3 2024</p>

Item #	Topic	Action required	Responsible	By
		update on these matters as relevant.		
137.7.1	GMI on customer self-reads	<p>Nina Telford (Wesfarmers Kleenheat) to develop a GMI on Kleenheat’s desired changes regarding customer self reads. November 2020 update: Wesfarmers Kleenheat continues work on this item and will continue to keep AEMO and the GRCF informed of progress.</p> <p>March-June 2021 update: No update.</p> <p>August 2021 update: Mark Riley (AGL advised that he would contact Kleenheat, about actioning this action item when the NSW/ACT self-read consultation (IN001/21) concludes.</p> <p>March 2022 update: Deanna Power dpower@kleenheat.com.au nominated as an additional Kleenheat GRCF representative.</p> <p>June 2022 update: On hold noting that Joe Sanches (ATCO) agreed to progress this issue via an ATCO GMI which will be drafted by the relevant parties.</p> <p>August 2022 update: Joe Sanches advised that a GMI will be shared with WA retailers, next week, then a GMI will be submitted to AEMO.</p> <p>October 2022 update: Joe Sanches advised this will have to be put on hold due to internal changes. There is interest in circulating this before the next meeting.</p> <p>November 2022 update: No updated provided by Joe Sanches. Mark Riley (AGL) noted that this has shifted to be a network-led process. Likely to be dormant for a year or so but will need to be acted on at some point.</p> <p>February 2023 update: Mark Riley (AGL) noted that ATCO are looking into developing an app for CoRs. This will require a review of the existing Procedures. Fabian D’Mello (ATCO) noted that Joe Sanches will reach out to Mark to discuss this.</p> <p>March 2023 & April 2023 update: No update. Waiting on ATCO. December 2023 – Joe Sanches ATCO noted a GMI will be raised by early 2024.</p>	Wesfarmers Kleenheat & ATCO	Closed

Attachment B – Additional slide in relation to IN002/24 - Resolving issues with meter status in MDNs

GMI - IN002/24 – Collated GRCF Questionnaire Responses

Please also refer to item ref#4c of meeting pack (late paper)

- AEMO received x9 GRCF responses to 'Questionnaire: GMI IN002-24 Resolve issue with Meter Status in MDN'.
 - x1 GRCF response indicated no response to Questionnaire would be provided (Shell)
 - x1 GRCF response indicated further time required to complete analysis/questionnaire (AGN)
- In summary, across x7 GRCF responses:
 - Majority general support for the GMI proposal except for x1 GRCF response (MGN)
 - Majority general support for Approach A except for x1 GRCF response (MGN)
 - Varying support in how Approach A should be represented in AEMO artefacts:
 - x1 GRCF response supported Option 1 (EA)
 - x1 GRCF response supported Option 2 (Red/Lumo)
 - x4 GRCF responses supported Option 3 (Synergy, GloBird, Alinta, Jemena)
 - x1 GRCF response supported no Option (MGN)
 - General support for proposed explanatory note with additional wording proposed (Jemena) to cover abolishment / meter removal scenarios and consideration to proposed change to apply from an effective date
 - Little/no system change impacts with the exception of x2 GRCF responses indicating high system impacts (Jemena & MGN) and x1 GRCF response indicating no capacity to implement changes in 2024 (MGN)

