

Gas Wholesale Consultative Forum

Subject:	Gas Quality and Metering Rule Change Proposal
Agenda item:	11
Paper #:	6
Contact:	Luke Garland
Date:	THURSDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2020

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Item raised by:	AEMO
Rule requirement:	NGR 287, 288, 289, 291, 299 & 303
Link to National Objectives:	To promote efficient investment in, and efficient operation and use of, natural gas services for the long term interests of consumers of natural gas with respect to price, quality, safety, reliability and security of supply of natural gas
Previous forum discussion(s):	GWCF Meeting 28 – 17 September 2020
Item impact:	Align the NGR better with the Gas Safety Act (Victoria), remove inconsistencies and reflect current practise.
Impacted parties:	Registered participants in the DWGM
Purpose:	This paper provides further clarification to the GWCF of AEMO's proposed approach to modify the National Gas Rules with respect to gas quality and metering.
Desired outcome:	Through consultation, endorsement for AEMO submitting this rule change request to the AEMC.

2. BACKGROUND

At the previous GWCF held on 17 September 2020, AEMO introduced a paper outlining proposed amendments to NGR 287, 288, 289, 291, 299 & 303 (see [GWCF meeting 28 - meeting papers ref 6](#)).

AEMO sought feedback from the forum and received a formal submission from one participant, and verbal clarifications from two other participants.

As a result of this feedback, AEMO would like to provide the GWCF some clarification on this proposed rule change.

3. DISCUSSION

Hydrogen

AEMO received feedback as to whether it is possible to include hydrogen into this current rule change request. AEMO is currently investigating hydrogen separately as it has larger NGR implications than just gas quality. AEMO will present a paper to the GWCF regarding hydrogen and its implications on the market design and operation within 2021.

Rule 287 Gas quality standards and 289 Off-specification gas:

AEMO was queried as to whether this rule change would remove AEMO's discretion on approving a plan which deviates from the standards. The proposed amendment to NGR 287 does not seek to remove AEMO's ability to approve a written agreement to allow gas injections into the DTS which does not comply with the standard gas quality specifications. The proposed amendments are intended to recognise a single standard rather than multiple standards and a deviation from the single standard will be possible through an exemption process.

Following the determination by the AEMC regarding this rule change, AEMO will initiate a consultation process to update the *Gas Quality Guidelines* and the *Gas Quality Standard and Monitoring Guidelines*. AEMO intends to include a process in these documents on how a participant may apply to AEMO for a deviation away from the standard or an exemption from monitoring a certain parameter.

Rule 293 Review of Metering Calibration Requirements:

In the previous paper, AEMO advised that it would seek to change the frequency of the metering calibration review but did not provide a frequency. AEMO proposes that the calibration requirements contained in the Wholesale Market Metering Procedures (Vic) are reviewed at a frequency of not greater than 5 years, subject to any changes in metering standards or technology during that time. This timeframe allows for sufficient calibration data to be collected by the responsible persons, which is necessary for AEMO to conduct an appropriate review of the calibration frequencies.

It should be noted that AEMO is not proposing to change the frequencies at which DTS meters must be calibrated by the responsible persons, the change only seeks to address the period at which these frequencies must be reviewed by AEMO.

Following the determination by the AEMC regarding this rule change, AEMO will initiate a consultation process to update the Wholesale Market Metering Procedures to reflect the updates rules.

4. TIMING AND NEXT STEPS

AEMO is seeking feedback any final feedback on the proposed rule change to be provided to GWCF_Correspondence@aemo.com.au prior to 21 January 2021.

If feedback received is generally supportive of this change and there are no concerns, AEMO will progress this rule change request as an expedited rule change request, per NGR 9. For further detail on the rule change process please see the AEMC link below.

<https://www.aemc.gov.au/our-work/changing-energy-rules>

