



# DER STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP

## MEETING NOTES

*Thursday 2 June 2022 (1:00pm-3:00 pm AEDT)*

**Chair:** Neil Gibbs

**Attendees:** Andrew McConnell (AusNet); Anthea Harris (ESB); Ben Barnes (AEC); Brad Smart (Energy Policy WA); Bryn Williams (SAPN); Cara Teoh (FTI Consulting); Chris Alexander (ESB); Clinton Rodda (Jet Charge) ; Darren Gladman (Clean Energy Council); Dean Spaccavento (Reposit Power); Declan Kelly (Flow Power); Dor Son Tan (ENA); Ed Chan (AEMC); Emma Fagan (Tesla); Grant Stepa (Distributed Energy Services); James Hyatt (Enel); James Sturch (Solar Edge); Jess Christiansen (RACV Solar); Jo Witters (ESB); Jon Sibley (ARENA); Jonathon Dore (Ausgrid); Kurt Winter (AGL); Miriam Wishart (AER); Neil Gibbs (Online Power); Phil Blythe (ESB); Sam Lynch (KPMG); Steven Humphries (AEMO); Tess Fitzgerald (KPMG); Tom Gibson (Online Power); Vince Duffy (SA Department of Energy and Mining)

**Apologies:** Aden Barket (WA Department of Energy); Andrew Mears (Switchdin); Andy McCarthy (RACV Solar); Anthony Cooper (Business Australia); Ben Wilson (Engie); Brian Spak (Energy Consumers Australia); Bruce Thompson (Greensync); Chris Murphy (Telstra); Christian Rasmus (AER); Ed Chan (AEMC); Emma Fishburn (FTI Consulting); George Huang (AER); Greg Hannan (United Energy); Isabel Durie (AER); Jenny Gannon (Energy Queensland); Jessica Curtis (AEMC); Lachie Simpson (Telstra); Lance Hoch (Oakley Greenwood); Lee Brown (AEMO); Mark Byrne (TEC); Matthew Hyde (AEMO); Penelope Crossley (USYD); Robert Clear (AER); Rosie Elkins (AEMO); Ross De Rango (Electric Vehicle Council); Ryan Wavish (Simply Energy); Simon Moore (Business NSW); Taron Brearley (WA Department of Energy); Tennant Reed (Australian Industry Group); Trent Morrow (AEMO)

### **Working group protocol**

Attendees at this meeting must not enter into any discussion, activity or conduct that may infringe, on their part or on the part of other members, any applicable competition laws. For example, members must not discuss, communicate or exchange any commercially sensitive information, including information relating to prices, marketing and advertising strategy, costs and revenues, terms and conditions with third parties, terms of supply or access.

Topic	Key points/action items
<b>Introductions &amp; Welcome</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Anthea Harris opened the meeting and welcomed the group.</li></ul>
<b>Regroup on session 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Neil Gibbs recapped on what was covered in session 2.</li><li>An overview was provided on the actions that were captured in session 2 and how they were undertaken i.e. DER Roles and Responsibilities Deep Dive group.</li><li>No comments were offered on the Notes of the last meeting.</li></ul>



<b>Roles and Responsibilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Neil Gibbs opened this agenda item by providing an overview of the outcomes from the prioritisation and clarity survey.</li><li>• An overview of the Roles and Responsibilities Deep Dive group was provided. The focus of the group is be to analyse the 9 highest priority use cases – what specifically is unclear, and why is it a priority address now?</li><li>• The results of the first two deep dive session were then presented which focussed on the top two voted use cases: Community Storage and Inverter Standards Compliance.</li><li>• On the Community Storage use case the SWG noted:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Engineering challenges can be overcome if consideration, and engineering sign-off, if making form, fit or function modifications to the asset. This will require asset registration and approval.</li><li>○ Clarification is required on the current rules that apply and the role they play in the grid i.e. battery used for voltage support.</li><li>○ The accessibility of revenue streams for Community Storage also needs to be defined.</li><li>○ The use of Community Storage could potentially soften the impact of an energy crisis, similar to what is faced now.</li><li>○ Whole of system security concerns i.e. role to protect AEMO security.</li></ul></li><li>• On Inverter Standards Compliance use case the SWG noted:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Whose role is it to enforce compliance – state electrical regulators are bound by state legislation which makes it difficult for them to play an enhanced role i.e. cyber issues are unlikely to be captured.</li><li>○ Questions on the role of enforcement AS4777 – should it be the AER?</li><li>○ Difficulty with there being multiple applicable standards beyond AS4777.2 that also needs to be enforced.</li><li>○ There is no national enforcement of inverter standards i.e. no one is checking the work and as such high levels of noncompliance are evident.</li><li>○ Issues with grid codes being incorrectly set by installers meaning that the functionality of the inverter is not being fully realised for grid support.</li><li>○ Throughout the compliance process we need to consider not adding additional burden to the customer in both time and cost.</li></ul></li><li>• To progress broader thinking on the two use cases an action was recorded to share the live MURAL for SWG members to add key themes.</li><li>• Neil then provided an overview of the pathway forward for progressing the work of Roles and Responsibilities.</li></ul>
<b>Interoperability Roles and Responsibilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cara Teoh (FTI Consulting) and Phil Blythe (ESB) co-presented on Interoperability Roles and Responsibilities work to date.</li><li>• The group noted that considerations need to be made on how customers will experience this new world. Are we asking the right questions?</li><li>• DER won't be 'one thing' – each resource type will inherently have different behaviours and operating approaches.</li><li>• Important not to focus on just the 'trust' element but to also encourage broader engagement with both price and tariff response for the customer.</li><li>• The group questioned how much of what is going around in the DER customer body of research is actually drawn out by real customers. The world we mostly</li></ul>



	<p>operate in is trials - how does this translate to actual insights instead of being an echo chamber.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• DER often fails via the simple things i.e. a change in Wi-Fi password will knock it offline. The time to go through installers is an issue.</li><li>• Important to understand testing protocols but further questions on what it'll actually be interoperable with?</li><li>• AER regulations review of DOE still has single point of certification on the table.</li><li>• The CSIP-AUS registration process has the potential to address AS4777 settings compliance in future by publishing correct settings over the air at time of registration.</li><li>• The group further discussed options for who will hold the role of compliance; DNSP, trader, hybrid and DERC. The following comments cover the feedback from the group.</li><li>• Noted the need to align with incentives of the compliance function. There is a barrier for aggregators who are looking to orchestrate over a period of time which ultimately locks in customers.</li><li>• Trader role may have an incentive if compliance with standards is a requirement of participation in various markets.</li><li>• Need to unpack the costs and benefits – what are the efficiency gains by the DNSP doing this? Do trader naturally take on this function within their core business? Would this make it less attractive for traders to participate?</li><li>• Noted there is an option to not allocate a role to it – the 'null' case.</li><li>• There will be responsibilities across different parties e.g. installer obligations, operational role (i.e. DOE compliance) – a broad range of capabilities are needed to manage this.</li><li>• Installers have the initial relationship but each installers want different levels of relationships with the customers.</li></ul>
<b>Meeting Close and Next Steps</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jo Witters closed the meeting reflecting on key takeaways and actions from the session.</li></ul>
<b>Recorded actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To share the Mural link for further thoughts on key themes within the first two use cases; Community Storage and Inverter Standards Compliance.</li></ul>