

## Terms of Reference

### 1. Background

---

The Western Australian electricity sector is experiencing a major transformation as a result of the rapid uptake of Distributed Energy Resources (DER) such as rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) and battery storage systems, and increasing levels of large-scale renewable generators.

Large-scale renewables and DER offer great opportunities for low cost, low emissions energy. However, the intermittent and uncontrolled nature of these new energy sources is presenting challenges to maintaining the security, reliability and affordability of the power system.

To maximise the benefits and manage the challenges of this transition, a number of initiatives are being undertaken as part of the Energy Transformation Strategy (Strategy) announced by the Minister for Energy on 6 March 2019.

This Strategy is designed to help deliver the Government's overarching objectives for the energy sector, which are to:

- maintain a secure and reliable electricity supply;
- ensure affordable electricity for households and businesses;
- reduce energy sector emissions;
- transition affected workers in the Collie region from the move away from coal; and
- promote local jobs and growth.

### 2. Purpose and role

---

The purpose of the Energy Transformation Taskforce (Taskforce) is to oversee delivery of the Strategy. The Strategy provides for the delivery of a significant program of work that falls into three interconnected areas.

1. The development of a Whole of System Plan for the South West Interconnected System (SWIS), to inform investment and regulatory decisions, policy and market development, and manage the security and reliability impacts of transitioning from traditional energy sources to new low-emissions technologies.
2. Modernising the foundation regulatory frameworks that govern connection of generators to Western Power's network and the operation of the Whole Electricity Market in the SWIS, including changes to the type of system security services provided to the power system and the way they are supplied, as well as removing barriers to the connection of new technologies.
3. Managing the integration of DER by:
  - a. developing a Roadmap to identify ways to maximise the benefits provided from DER in the power system of the future;

- b. specifying the connection requirements and performance standards for distributed technologies like solar PV and battery storage; and
- c. improving visibility of these systems on the power grid.

Work stream	Key deliverables and timing
Whole of System Planning	Delivery of the initial Whole of System Plan in mid- 2020
Foundation regulatory frameworks	Regulatory changes introduced by early 2021
DER	Delivery of the DER Roadmap by end 2019 Regulatory changes for DER technical requirements introduced by mid-2020

The role of the Taskforce is to:

- provide strategic oversight and direction regarding implementation of the Strategy;
- provide information and advice to the Minister for Energy on the progress and deliverables of the Strategy;
- ensure the objectives, deliverables and outcomes of the Strategy are consistent with, and supportive of, Government strategic policy directions;
- monitor the progress of the Strategy's delivery to ensure targets and objectives are being met and expected benefits realised;
- review and comment on key outputs as they are developed;
- secure support and resources, facilitate the removal of any barriers, as required to ensure the Strategy is successfully delivered; and
- assist in resolution and management of risks and issues.

The Taskforce will be supported by a dedicated Energy Transformation Implementation Unit (Implementation Unit) within the Department of Treasury.

### **3. Responsibilities of the Taskforce**

---

It is expected that Taskforce members will:

- ensure that sound governance is maintained throughout the delivery of the Strategy;
- oversee and provide strategic guidance to the Implementation Unit, in particular in relation to procurement activities, responding to issues and risks, and progressing deliverables;
- actively participate in meetings through attendance, discussion, and review of minutes, papers and other documents; and
- share relevant experience and learnings from other projects which may assist in achieving best practice implementation.

## 4. Taskforce membership

The members of the Taskforce are:

Organisation	Position
Independent Chair	Mr Steven Edwell
Department of Treasury	Deputy Under Treasurer
Department of Treasury	Executive Director – Public Utilities Office
Department of the Premier and Cabinet	To be advised
Office of the Hon Bill Johnston MLA	Principal Policy Adviser (Energy)

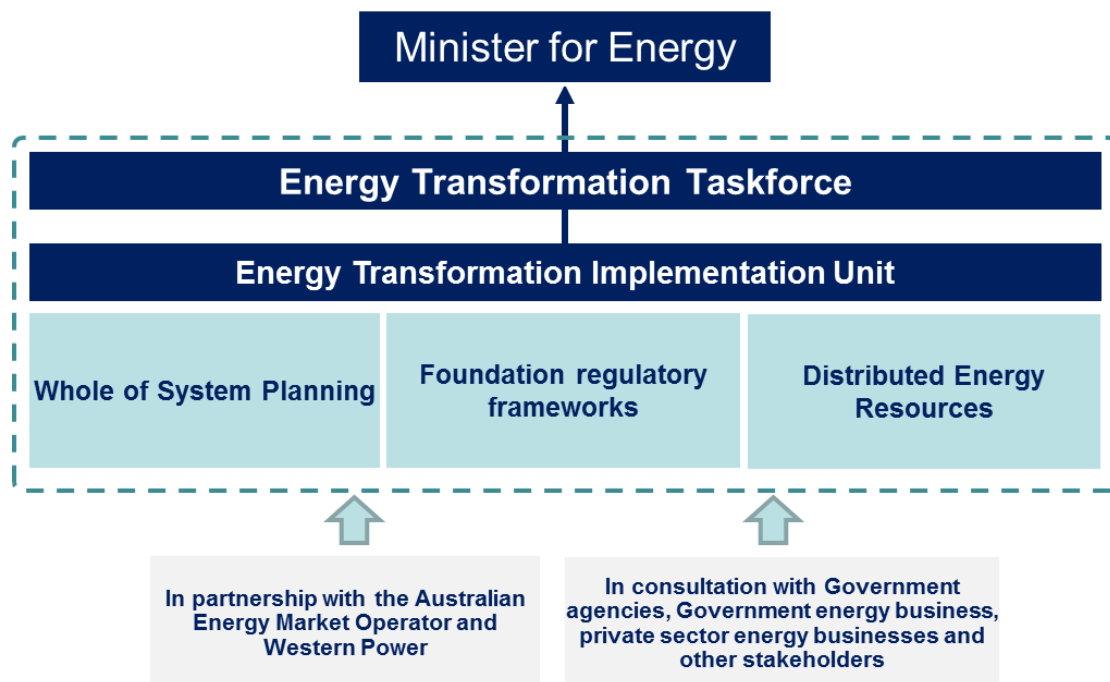
Other parties may be invited to attend Taskforce meetings on an as needs basis.

## 5. Governance structure

The Taskforce will report directly to the Minister for Energy. The Implementation Unit will work directly to and provide secretariat support for the Taskforce and will share information with and regularly report on progress to the Department of Treasury.

The Strategy will be developed in close consultation with all stakeholders, including the Strategic Consultative Committee already established to support activities underway to modernise the foundation regulatory frameworks for access to the Western Power network and delivery of the future power system.

The governance arrangements for the Taskforce are summarised in the following diagram.



## 6. Administration and reporting

---

The Taskforce will:

- meet regularly , with the frequency of meetings being determined by the needs of the work program;
- report periodically to the Minister for Energy on the progress of the Strategy's implementation;
- be provided with secretariat support by the Implementation Unit; and
- communicate regularly with industry stakeholders on its activities.