

Dear Noel,

I left Western Power in 2010 after being in Western Power for 21 years (the last 4 years being Branch Manager of Access Solutions). I am now a consultant helping generators connect to the Network.

I have read the consultation papers and I offer the following comments:

1. Between now and the Constrained market in Oct 2022, all new generation connected via the GIA tool is being connected as a Constrained Generator (unless they specifically sought to connect otherwise) but subjected to a Queuing Policy that is applicable to a Unconstrained Generator. This does not make sense. The Queuing Policy needs to be revised now.
2. There are a lot of investors willing to build new renewable power stations in WA. However, it is very difficult to sell their output as Synergy is now building their own renewable power stations and appears not to be interested in any Power Purchase Agreements. Existing contestable customers are generally locked in mid to long term Contracts already. This really means that only Synergy and possibly other existing Generator/Retailers can be building any new larger scale renewable power station. In my opinion, a **fully contestable market** is the key to driving more power station investments in WA and to lower electricity prices. Looking at what is happening to the gas market in WA, I personally have switched from Alinta to Kleenheat to AGL, and now enjoying a 37% reduction in gas usage price.

Improving access to Western Power Network is important but until a fully contestable market is implemented, investments in new renewable power stations is only open to a few existing Generator/Retailers.

Regards,
Mike Lu
DL Power Services Pty Ltd