
Wholesale Electricity Market Rule Change Proposal Form

Change Proposal No: RC_2008_40
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Change requested by

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Organisation:	System Management
Address:	
Date submitted:	12 December 2008
Urgency:	Fast Track Rule Change Process
Change Proposal title:	Notification of synchronisation and de-synchronisation
Market Rule(s) affected:	Clauses 7.9.1 and 7.9.5, new clause 7.9.1A

Introduction

Market Rule 2.5.1 of the Wholesale Electricity Market Rules provides that any person (including the IMO) may make a Rule Change Proposal by completing a Rule Change Proposal Form that must be submitted to the Independent Market Operator.

This Change Proposal can be posted, faxed or emailed to:

Independent Market Operator
Attn: Manager Market Administration
PO Box 7096
Cloisters Square, Perth, WA 6850

Fax: (08) 9254 4339
Email: marketadmin@imowa.com.au

The Independent Market Operator will assess the proposal and, within 5 Business Days of receiving this Rule Change Proposal form, will notify you whether the Rule Change Proposal will be further progressed.

In order for the proposal to be progressed, all fields below must be completed and the change proposal must explain how it will enable the Market Rules to better contribute to the achievement of the wholesale electricity market objectives. The objectives of the market are:

- (a) to promote the economically efficient, safe and reliable production and supply of electricity and electricity related services in the South West interconnected system;
- (b) to encourage competition among generators and retailers in the South West interconnected system, including by facilitating efficient entry of new competitors;
- (c) to avoid discrimination in that market against particular energy options and technologies, including sustainable energy options and technologies such as those that make use of renewable resources or that reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions;
- (d) to minimise the long-term cost of electricity supplied to customers from the South West interconnected system; and
- (e) to encourage the taking of measures to manage the amount of electricity used and when it is used.

Details of the proposed Market Rule Change

1. Describe the concern with the existing Market Rules that is to be addressed by the proposed Market Rule change:

Clause 7.9.1 of the Market Rules provides that a Market Participant who intends to synchronise a Scheduled Generator must confirm with System Management the expected time of synchronisation:

- at least one hour before; and
- must update the advice five minutes before synchronising.

An equivalent provision exists for de-synchronisation (clause 7.9.5).

System Management believes that the second requirement, to provide five minutes notice, presents an onerous burden for both itself and Market Participants who are endeavouring to synchronise at that time and whose priority is not to contact System Management.

Nevertheless, a requirement to provide confirmation is necessary for secure operation of the power system.

System Management therefore proposes to modify the five minute notice requirement to be on an exception basis. That is, Participants will continue to be required to provide confirmation at least one hour prior to the intended synchronisation or de-synchronisation, but need only re-confirm where the synchronisation or de-synchronisation will not occur at the time already advised.

System Management also proposes the inclusion of new clause 7.9.1A, to address the issue of a facility which has de-synchronised as a result of a forced outage being able to synchronise within an hour of notice being provided.

2. Explain the reason for the degree of urgency:

System Management submits that this rule change be subject to the Fast Track Rule Change Process, on the basis that the requirements of clause 2.5.9(a) are met.

The change is procedural in character, in that an existing obligation to notify System Management five minutes before synchronisation and de-synchronisation is intended to be amended to require a second notification only when a change to the previously advised time is likely. It is therefore submitted that this rule change be expedited.

3. Provide any proposed specific changes to particular Rules: (for clarity, please use the current wording of the Rules and place a strikethrough where words are deleted and underline words added)

7.9.1 Subject to clauses 7.9.2 and 7.9.1A, if a Market Participant intends to synchronise a Scheduled Generator, then it must confirm with System Management the expected time of synchronisation:

- (a) at least one hour before the expected time of synchronisation; and
- (b) must update this advice immediately if the time confirmed pursuant to clause 7.9.1(a) changes. ~~five minutes before synchronising~~

7.9.1A Where a Market Participant intends to synchronise a Scheduled Generator within an hour of desynchronisation, it must confirm with System Management the expected time of synchronisation:

- (a) immediately it is known; and
- (b) update this advice immediately if the time advised pursuant to clause 7.9.1A(a) changes.

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7.9.5 Subject to clauses 7.9.6 and 7.9.6A, if a Market Participant intends to desynchronise a Scheduled Generator, then it must confirm with System Management the expected time of desynchronisation:

- (a) at least one hour before the expected time of desynchronisation; and
- (b) must update this advice immediately if the time confirmed pursuant to clause 7.9.5(a) changes. ~~five minutes before desynchronising.~~

4. Describe how the proposed Market Rule change would allow the Market Rules to better address the Wholesale Market Objectives:

This proposed Rule Change would better address objective (a) of the Market Objectives. The changes as submitted would promote the economically efficient, safe and reliable production and supply of electricity and electricity related services in the South West interconnected system. The change would significantly assist System Management in operating the power system through not unnecessarily diverting attention of operational staff at critical times.

5. Provide any identifiable costs and benefits of the change:

The proposed change is not considered to impose any additional costs.
