

Wholesale Electricity Market Rule Change Proposal Submission

RC_2018_05

ERA access to market information and SRMC investigation process

Submitted by

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Date submitted:	3 February 2020

Submissions on Rule Change Proposals can be sent by:

Email to: support@rcpwa.com.au

Post to: Rule Change Panel
Attn: Executive Officer
C/o Economic Regulation Authority
PO Box 8469
PERTH BC WA 6849

1. Please provide your views on the proposal, including any objections or suggested revisions.

Synergy appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback in response to the call for submissions: Notice of the Minister's Decision Regarding the Amending Rules from Rule Change Proposal RC_2018_05.

Synergy notes that the Minister has proposed two additional changes to the Amending Rules.

Proposed clause 2.13.3B: Information Disclosure

Synergy is supportive of new clause 2.13.3B regarding information disclosure and welcomes the transparency the change affords to impacted Rule Participants. However, Synergy considers that amendments be made to provide clarity in terms of timing and context.

Proposed clause 2.13.3B, as it stands, does not specify at what point the Economic Regulation Authority (ERA) is required to inform Rule Participants of receiving market related data, information or documents provided by AEMO. Unless the Rule Participant is informed in a timely manner, intended transparency benefits may be diminished.

Further, there is no obligation for the ERA to outline what aspect of monitoring the information has been requested for. Provision of the underlying context may provide impacted Rule Participants with greater clarity with regards to how the ERA believes that the data, information and documents requested from AEMO will assist with the monitoring of Rule Participant's behaviour.

Therefore, Synergy recommends that the Rule Change Panel adopts the Minister's revisions and amend proposed clause 2.13.3B so that:

- a) the ERA administers the requirement for information disclosure at the same time as their request to AEMO for information; and
- b) the ERA provides clarity as to what compliance function the information requested will be used for.

Proposed clause 2.15.4: Procedural Fairness

Synergy is also supportive of proposed clause 2.15.4 which includes an express requirement for the ERA's monitoring processes to adhere to procedural fairness when assessing compliance with the Market Rules and Market Procedures.

To optimise the ERA's monitoring processes under the principle of procedural fairness, Synergy wishes to recommend that:

- a) where non-compliance relates to SRMC, Rule Participants are able to make submissions to the ERA prior to the ERA bringing proceedings before the Energy Review Board (ERB).

2. Please provide an assessment whether the change will better facilitate the achievement of the Wholesale Market Objectives.

Synergy considers that the inclusion of the Minister's revisions in relation to information disclosure and procedural fairness will improve the efficiency of the market monitoring process and should be adopted.

Synergy also considers that implementation of proposed amendments to clause 2.13.3B and 2.15.4 has the potential to further improve transparency, thereby better facilitating the achievement of the Wholesale Market Objectives.

3. Please indicate if the proposed change will have any implications for your organisation (for example changes to your IT or business systems) and any costs involved in implementing these changes.

The proposed changes have no foreseeable impacts to Synergy IT and business systems.

4. Please indicate the time required for your organisation to implement the change, should it be accepted as proposed.

Synergy will require up to one month to educate staff on the implications of the Rule Change Proposal. Specifically, that any information produced or exchanged under the Market Rules and/or Market Procedures under section 2.16 of the Wholesale Electricity Market Rules (WEM Rules) can be used by the ERA for any of its functions (clause 2.16.14 of the WEM Rules).
