

Our ref: [REDACTED]

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### **Operational Forecasting in the WEM Review**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the *Operational Forecasting in the WEM Review Consultation Paper* published July 2025.

Western Power is supportive of the Operational Forecasting in the WEM Review and the adoption of proposals that deliver improvements in achieving the State Electricity Objectives. We provide feedback on two of the proposals contained in the consultation paper that are related to our functions in the WEM.

#### ***Proposal 2: AEMO should enhance collaboration with weather providers***

The consultation paper states the rationale for this proposal is *“Limitations to weather data inputs restrict the granularity and accuracy of operational forecasts produced by AEMO. Ways to drive improvement in these outputs should be investigated in collaboration with weather information providers as they could materially improve market outcomes.”* It also states that *“it is likely to require additional information about intermittent generation facilities to be provided to AEMO and is likely to include, amongst other things, real-time meteorological information, including weather data collected at the site of wind and solar resources.”*

It is unclear from the proposal as to the preferred method as to how the *“weather data collected at the site”* will be transferred to AEMO – for example, whether it is an IT based solution directly between market participants and AEMO (such as WEMS and APIs) or is it a SCADA, Communications and ICCP based solution via the network operator. To avoid duplication of infrastructure and pathways, clear guidance should be provided on the preferred mechanism.

We are aware that the existing *AEMO’s Technical Specification: Operational Data Points for Registered Facilities* already includes some weather related information from facility sites being made available to AEMO via Western Power’s SCADA and Communications and ICCP link. If substantial additional site-level weather data is expected to be delivered via the Network Operator’s systems, then consideration will need to be given to enabling technical and infrastructure required such as capacity, bandwidth, polling rates, design, installation, commissioning and associated costs, and importantly, the governance around how these costs would be allocated and recovered.



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***Proposal 6: Formalise large load information provision - Operators of large loads should be obligated to provide AEMO with consumption forecasts and notify AEMO of unexpected changes to forecast schedules as they arise.***

Should EPWA formalise in the ESMR that operators of large loads are obligated to provide AEMO with consumption forecasts and notify AEMO of any unexpected changes to forecast schedules, we propose that this forecast information also be made available to Western Power.

From an operational standpoint, access to this data would enhance short-term planning for network outages and load extremes, without requiring direct coordination with each large customer. This approach is more efficient than duplicating AEMO's information requests.

We further recommend that the ESM Rules explicitly permit AEMO to share this information with the Network Operator.

Western Power remains supportive of measures that improve the accuracy and efficiency of operational forecasting in the WEM, and we look forward to continued collaboration with EPWA and AEMO in developing the detailed design of these proposals.

Thank you for considering this feedback as part of the Market Advisory Committee Review. Should you have any queries, please contact Andy Kondola (Energy Market Regulation Manager) by email at [andy.kondola@westernpower.com.au](mailto:andy.kondola@westernpower.com.au).

Yours sincerely,

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