

Meeting Agenda

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| Meeting Title: | Pilbara Advisory Committee (PAC) |
| Date: | Thursday 26 March 2026 |
| Time: | 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM |
| Location: | Online |

| Item | Item | Responsibility | Type | Duration |
|------|--|----------------|------------|----------|
| 1 | Welcome and Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflicts of interest Competition Law | Chair | Noting | 3 min |
| 2 | Meeting Apologies/Attendance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of new PAC Members | Chair | Noting | 10 min |
| 3 | Minutes of Meeting 2025_12_04 Published 3 February 2026 | Chair | Noting | 2 min |
| 4 | 22 November 2025 Power System Incident Investigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the Incident Investigation findings and recommendations Questions and Answers | ISOC0 | Discussion | 45 min |
| 5 | Update on EPNR Implementation Plan | WG Chair | Discussion | 20 min |
| 6 | General Business | Chair | Discussion | 10 min |
| | Next meeting: 21 May 2026 at 1:30pm | | | |

Please note, this meeting will be recorded.

Competition and Consumer Law Obligations

Members of the PAC (**Members**) note their obligations under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (CCA)*.

If a Member has a concern regarding the competition law implications of any issue being discussed at any meeting, please bring the matter to the immediate attention of the Chairperson.

Part IV of the CCA (titled "Restrictive Trade Practices") contains several prohibitions (rules) targeting anti-competitive conduct. These include:

- (a) **cartel conduct**: cartel conduct is an arrangement or understanding between competitors to fix prices; restrict the supply or acquisition of goods or services by parties to the arrangement; allocate customers or territories; and or rig bids.
- (b) **concerted practices**: a concerted practice can be conceived of as involving cooperation between competitors which has the purpose, effect or likely effect of substantially lessening competition, in particular, sharing Competitively Sensitive Information with competitors such as future pricing intentions and this end:
 - a concerted practice, according to the ACCC, involves a lower threshold between parties than a contract arrangement or understanding; and accordingly; and
 - a forum like the PAC is capable being a place where such cooperation could occur.
- (c) **anti-competitive contracts, arrangements understandings**: any contract, arrangement or understanding which has the purpose, effect or likely effect of substantially lessening competition.
- (d) **anti-competitive conduct (market power)**: any conduct by a company with market power which has the purpose, effect or likely effect of substantially lessening competition.
- (e) **collective boycotts**: where a group of competitors agree not to acquire goods or services from, or not to supply goods or services to, a business with whom the group is negotiating, unless the business accepts the terms and conditions offered by the group.

A contravention of the CCA could result in a significant fine (up to \$500,000 for individuals and more than \$10 million for companies). Cartel conduct may also result in criminal sanctions, including gaol terms for individuals.

Sensitive Information means and includes:

- (a) commercially sensitive information belonging to a Member's organisation or business (in this document such bodies are referred to as an Industry Stakeholder); and
- (b) information which, if disclosed, would breach an Industry Stakeholder's obligations of confidence to third parties, be against laws or regulations (including competition laws), would waive legal professional privilege, or cause unreasonable prejudice to the Coordinator of Energy or the State of Western Australia).

Guiding Principle – what not to discuss

In any circumstance in which Industry Stakeholders are or are likely to be in competition with one another a Member must not discuss or exchange with any of the other Members information that is not otherwise in the public domain about commercially sensitive matters, including without limitation the following:

- (a) the rates or prices (including any discounts or rebates) for the goods produced or the services produced by the Industry Stakeholders that are paid by or offered to third parties;
- (b) the confidential details regarding a customer or supplier of an Industry Stakeholder;
- (c) any strategies employed by an Industry Stakeholder to further any business that is or is likely to be in competition with a business of another Industry Stakeholder, (including, without limitation, any strategy related to an Industry Stakeholder's approach to bilateral contracting or bidding in the energy or ancillary/essential system services markets);
- (d) the prices paid or offered to be paid (including any aspects of a transaction) by an Industry Stakeholder to acquire goods or services from third parties; and
- (e) the confidential particulars of a third party supplier of goods or services to an Industry Stakeholder, including any circumstances in which an Industry Stakeholder has refused to or would refuse to acquire goods or services from a third party supplier or class of third party supplier.

Compliance Procedures for Meetings

If any of the matters listed above is raised for discussion, or information is sought to be exchanged in relation to the matter, the relevant Member must object to the matter being discussed. If, despite the objection, discussion of the relevant matter continues, then the relevant Member should advise the Chairperson and cease participation in the meeting/discussion and the relevant events must be recorded in the minutes for the meeting, including the time at which the relevant Member ceased to participate.



Agenda Item 4: 22 November 2026 Incident Investigation

Pilbara Advisory Committee (**PAC**) Meeting 2026_03_26

1. Purpose

The purpose of this agenda item is to:

- update the PAC with an overview of the 22 November 2025 Power System Incident Investigation process; and
- discuss potential areas of recommendations.

2. Recommendation

That the PAC discusses the overview of the incident investigation process, potential areas of recommendations and their interactions with EPWA reforms.

3. Background

- Under rule 197(1) of the Pilbara Networks Rules, the ISO may investigate any incident to which Subchapter 7.6 applies. Accordingly, the ISO undertook an investigation into the power system incident that occurred on 22 November 2025.
- The meeting presentation will provide an update on the ISO's investigation process, outline potential areas of recommendations at a high level, and how they interact with EPWA's reforms.

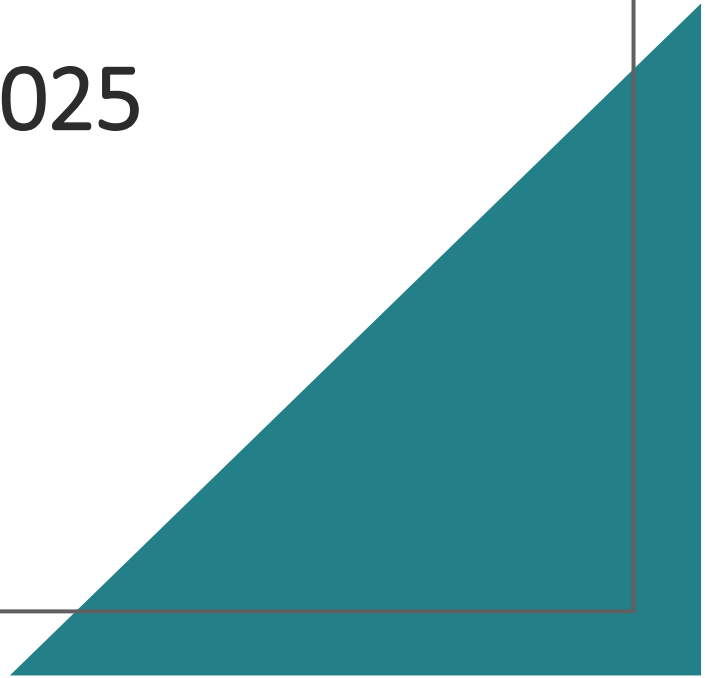
4. Attachments

- (1) Agenda Item 4 – Attachment 1 – ISO Investigation Update



Update – NWIS Blackout 22 November 2025 Investigation

26 March 2026



Introduction

- At approximately 8:18 am on the morning of Saturday 22 November 2025, the NWIS experienced widespread underfrequency load shedding and islanding events resulting in a total black out of the East and West Pilbara covered networks.
- Supply was progressively restored and the system returned to normal operation by 3:15 pm.
- On 25 November 2026 ISO commenced a formal investigation under the PNR.

Topics

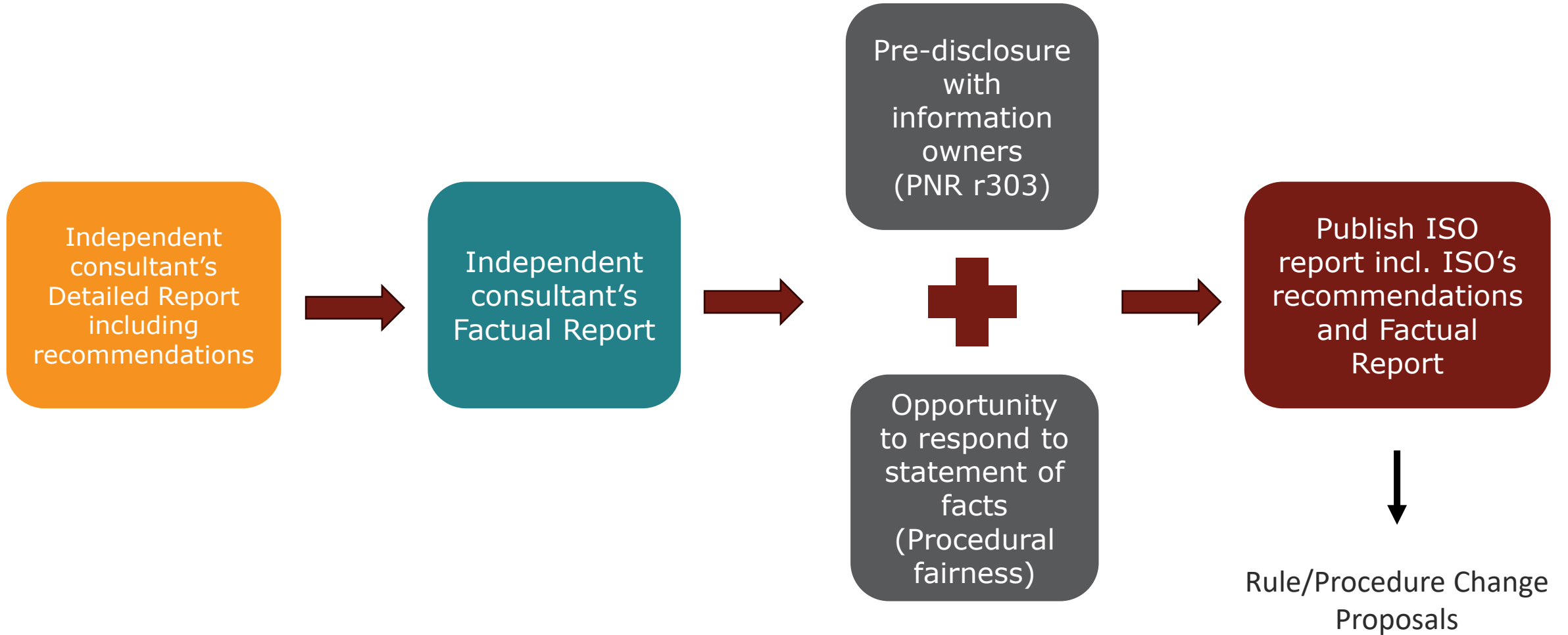
- Investigation process
- Potential areas of recommendations
- Questions



Investigation Process

- ISO obligations:
 - Publish report including at least:
 - Reports provided by Rules Participants
 - Rules participants' reliance on Rule 172 to not comply with protocols/directions
 - ISO's recommended changes to Rules, Procedures, and operational practises
 - Confidentiality – conduct pre-disclosure process with information owners, redact confidential information
 - ISO may disregard claims of confidentiality that are based solely on potential impact on information owner's reputation
 - Procedural fairness – afford opportunity to respond to statements that may adversely impact a rules participant's interests (including reputation) prior to publishing
 - Provide unredacted copy of report to Coordinator (EPWA) and Authority (ERA)

Investigation Process Overview



ISO Recommendations

- Recommendations cannot be discussed in detail until procedural fairness is afforded i.e. until after report is published.
- Next slide presents high-level areas across various functions and processes within the PNR, HTR and system operations, where the ISO is likely to make recommendations.
- The table also shows interaction with current reform initiatives, where applicable.
- Additionally, ISO has identified several potential non-compliance matters and will pursue them in accordance with Compliance Procedure.

Potential Areas of Recommendations by ISO

NOTE: the following is not final and subject to change

| Potential Areas of Recommendations | Interaction with EPRN/HTR Reform Initiatives |
|--|--|
| ➤ Interconnector control and operation | ➤ HTR Issue 35 "Special Protection Schemes" |
| ➤ Notification and coordination of planned outages | ➤ EPNR Proposal 10 Outage Planning |
| ➤ Generator black start capabilities | |
| ➤ Standards for under-frequency load shedding | |
| ➤ Definition of 'Credible Contingency' | ➤ HTR Issue 3 alignment of PNR and HTR definition for credible contingency event ➤ EPNR Proposal 10 Outage Planning |

Questions?

Contact:

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Agenda Item 5: Update on the EPNR Implementation Plan

Pilbara Advisory Committee (**PAC**) Meeting 2026_03_26

1. Purpose

Energy Policy WA (EPWA) to provide an update on the Evolution of the Pilbara Networks Rules (EPNR) project.

2. Recommendation

That the PAC notes:

- the update regarding the EPNR Implementation Plan; and
- provides feedback on the priority implementation activities to support, enable and manage the introduction of inverter-based resources in the NWIS.

3. Background

- The Coordinator of Energy is undertaking a review of the Pilbara Networks Rules (PNR), in consultation with stakeholders, to identify and implement any changes necessary to evolve the PNR and support the efficient decarbonisation of the Pilbara electricity system.
- A draft of the EPNR Implementation Plan was published for consultation on 13 October 2025. Submissions closed on 6 November 2025 and stakeholder feedback was discussed at the PAC meeting on 4 December 2025.

4. Update

- A finalised Implementation Plan is expected to be published soon. EPWA appointed a consultant in early March 2026, to assist with the commencement of implementation activities.
- The focus of implementation activities for the first part of 2026 will be on 'no regret' activities required to support, enable and manage the entry of renewable generation and energy storage facilities in the NWIS.
- Those changes are categorised in six themes, outlined in Attachment 1:
 - amendments to the HTR;
 - development of a system strength framework;
 - increasing the independence of the ISO Control Desk;
 - improvements to the outage planning framework;
 - NSP to NSP connections; and
 - miscellaneous changes.
- The rest of the implementation activities will be finalised in the Implementation Plan.

5. Attachment

(1) Agenda Item 5 – Attachment 1 – Presentation slides



Department of
**Energy and Economic
Diversification**

EPNR Update

26 March 2026

Update on EPNR Implementation Plan

A draft Implementation Plan was consulted on in late 2025, with stakeholder feedback discussed at the December 2025 PAC Meeting.

A finalised Implementation Plan is expected to be published soon.

EPWA appointed a consultant in early March to assist it with the commencement of implementation activities.

Implementation activities in the first part of 2026 will focus on 'no regret' activities required to support, enable and manage the entry of renewable generation and energy storage facilities in the NWIS. These changes can be captured in five categories:

- Amendments to the HTR
- Development of a system strength framework
- Increasing the independence of the ISO Control Desk
- Improvements to the outage planning framework
- NSP to NSP connections
- Miscellaneous changes

Note. The implementation actions identified in this slide deck are the focus, 'no regret' priorities. They are not an exhaustive list of implementation activities, which will be finalised in the Implementation Plan.

Amendments to HTR

The HTR were written for synchronous generation and require updates to contemplate and deal appropriately with Inverter Based Resources.

Background

- The HTR working group met nine times in 2024 and 2025. 20 issues have been progressed to rule drafting.
- EPWA consulted the working group on Amending Rules between 23 January and 23 February.
- Six submissions were received (APA, BHP, Horizon Power, Pilbara ISOC Co, Woodside and one confidential submission).
- Submissions were generally supportive of the intent, with submissions focused on clarifications and recommended changes for improvement.

Next steps

- EPWA has compiled and shared feedback with Issue Leads for consideration before a working group meeting is convened to discuss responses to the feedback.
- Following revision to draft Amending Rules, public consultation on the Amending Rules will occur in Q2 2026.
- Work will also continue on progressing other HTR issues towards rule drafting, including development of technical standards for storage (commencing Q4 2026).

Development of a System Strength Framework

The entry of Inverter Based Resources is expected to create system strength issues in some regions of the NWIS in the very near term.

Priority actions:

- Develop framework for determination of minimum and maximum fault levels and consideration of transition measures (commencing Q2 2026; ISO led activity) – system strength
- Develop fault level requirements for regions of the NWIS (Q4 2026, ISO/NSP led activity) – system strength

Increasing the independence of the ISO Control Desk

As renewable generation and storage penetration increases, improved visibility of the system will be required. Independence of the Control Room operations would become important.


Priority actions:

- Develop project plan to bring control desk in house (Q2 2026)
- Determine Horizon Power cost recovery mechanism for control desk transition to ISO (Q2 2026)

Improvements to the outage planning framework

The Draft Decision of the ISO Review of Subchapter 7.3 and 7.4 outlines the case for change, including managing structural issues of vertical integration (competition law obligations) and transparency (PSSR impacts of outages on third parties).


Priority actions:

- Rule Change to provide head of power for ISO to carry out preparatory work for outage regime (Q2 2026)
 - Develop and consult on outage coordination process, including risk assessment framework (Q3 2026, ISO led activity)
 - Develop criteria for including equipment on the outage planning list (Q3 2026, ISO led activity)
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NSP to NSP Connections

Some stakeholders want NSP to NSP interconnection arrangements to be prioritised, as it is important for both existing and new transmission developments.

Priority actions:

- Detailed design for NSP-to-NSP interconnections (Q2 2026)
 - Rule changes to provide head of power for ISO to manage NSP to NSP interconnections (Q4 2026)
 - Develop and consult on procedure for NSP-to-NSP interconnections (Q1 2027 , ISO led activity)
- 

Miscellaneous changes

Other miscellaneous changes are required to support, enable and manage increasing renewable energy penetration in the NWIS

Priority actions:

- Implement runway method for Contingency Reserve Raise (Q2 2026) – *This will ensure generation facilities are only allocated costs when they are contributing to contingency reserve raise costs (i.e. when they are generating).*
- Rule changes to introduce 'Energy Producing System' to PNR (Q2 2026) – *This will ensure that storage is adequately covered in the Rules.*
- Detailed design of information management framework (Q2 2026) – *This will support the ISO undertake inaugural planning functions scheduled under the Rules.*
- Rule change to require ISO to develop manual load shedding priority list (Q2 2026) – *Distinct from UFLS which is an automated process for underfrequency events, a manual load shedding list will support the ISO respond to a forecast energy shortfall.*
- Rule changes to require ISO to publish the annual Pilbara System Plan (PSP) and the Coordinator to publish a Pilbara Integrated Plan (PIP) (Q2 2026) – *This is required to provide information to support and guide investment decisions.*
- *Detailed design of Regulation services cost recovery – This will implement causer pay principles to cost allocation.*

