



Pilbara Advisory Committee (PAC) - Minutes

Date:	26 March 2026
Time:	1:30 pm – 3:00 pm
Location:	Online, via TEAMS

Attendees	Representing in PAC	Comment
Sally McMahon	Chair	
James Campbell-Everden	Independent System Operator (ISO)	
Momcilo Andric	Registered NSP	
Anthony Ravi	Registered NSP	Left at 2:36pm
Sandy Morgan	Registered NSP	
Ben Bradfield	Excluded Network Service Provider (NSP)	
Ken Chong	Excluded Network Service Provider (NSP)	
Rosh Ireland	Small-Use Consumer	
Kristian Myhre	Discretionary Rule Participant	
Nick Bardsley	Discretionary Rule Participant	
Timothy Edwards	Discretionary Rule Participant	
Warner Priest	Discretionary Rule Participant	
Noel Ryan	Minister Appointed Observer	
Melinda Anderson	ERA Appointed Observer	
Other attendees	From	Comment
Peter Van Den Dolder	Independent System Operator (ISO)	Presenter for Item 4
Dora Guzeleva	EPWA	PAC Secretariat
Tom Coates	EPWA	PAC Secretariat
Samantha Jasmin	EPWA	PAC Secretariat
Luke Commins	EPWA	PAC Secretariat



1. WELCOME

The Chair opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country.

The Chair noted that she continues as a Commissioner at the AEMC and a Councillor at the National Competition Council, and that any views expressed by the PAC are not necessarily those of the independent Chair.

The Chair noted the Competition Law Statement, reminded members of their obligations, and encouraged them to bring any issues to her attention should they arise.

The Chair reminded members that the meeting would be recorded to develop the Minutes.

2. MEETING APOLOGIES AND ATTENDANCE

The Chair noted the attendance as listed above and welcomed five new members.

3. MINUTES OF MEETINGS 2025_08_28

The 4 December 2025 meeting minutes were approved out-of-session and published on the Coordinator's website on 3 February 2026.

4. 22 NOVEMBER 2025 POWER SYSTEM INCIDENT INVESTIGATION

The Chair introduced this item and Mr Campbell-Everden provided an overview of the widespread NWIS blackout incident that occurred on 22 November 2025 and the subsequent investigation initiated under the PNR.

Mr Van Den Dolder presented the slides outlining the investigation process and noted that:

- The independent investigation will examine the ISO arrangements, including its preparation for credible contingencies and ESS procurement arrangements.
- A redacted factual report has been provided to affected parties for procedural fairness, with feedback due by 7 April 2026.
- ISOC_o will publish a redacted final report, including recommendations for rule and procedure changes, once confidentiality considerations are resolved.
- An unredacted copy will be provided to the Coordinator and Authority.

Mr Van Den Dolder outlined likely areas for ISO recommendations and their interaction with proposed Energy Policy reforms, including:

- control and operation of the interconnected system;
- notification and coordination of planned outages;
- generator black-start capabilities;
- standards for under-frequency load shedding; and
- definition of 'Credible Contingency'.

Mr Van Den Dolder noted that Pilbara ISOC_o is required to pursue any rule changes necessary to implement its recommendations.

- Mr Chong queried if the PAC would have access to unredacted reports and, if not, how participants could have confidence in the recommendations.



Mr Van Den Dolder advised that this is not permitted under the current rules and emphasised that any recommendations would be progressed through the rule change process.

- Mr Ireland asked whether impacts on small-use customers were assessed.

Mr Campbell-Everden confirmed that the report does not analyse individual customer welfare impacts. He noted that the Coordinator would also produce a report but clarified that this is not required under the Rules and is for internal use only.

- Mr Bardsley asked if the current rules adequately support the investigations.

Mr Van Den Dolder considered that they do, but noted that confidentiality obligations may limit transparency. He cautioned that affected parties may assert confidentiality more broadly, although it is too early to determine the extent of this issue.

Mr Campbell-Everden suggested a further detailed discussion with the PAC once the investigation report and recommendations are published.

5. UPDATE ON THE EPNR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Ms Guzeleva provided an update on EPWA's implementation plan for the PNR evolution reforms. In advance of an approved implementation plan, implementation activities in 2026 will focus on 'no regrets' actions required to support, enable and manage the entry of renewable generation and energy storage facilities in the NWIS, as well as interconnections.

a) Amendments to the HTR

Ms Guzeleva advised that draft rule changes for the HTR amendments have been developed following extensive working group input.

- Ms Morgan queried whether transitional and grandfathering arrangements would apply to existing facilities.

Ms Guzeleva noted that the HTR comprise automatic standards and that existing facilities are expected to be able to comply. She added that no implementation issues had been identified to date, but this could be further considered by the working group.

- Mr Bardsley noted that storage standards are a high priority given upcoming project Financial Investment Decisions and asked if transitional provisions were necessary for projects progressing ahead of the proposed Q4 2026 timeline for developing the storage standards.

Ms Guzeleva acknowledged this point and suggested referring it to the working group.

Action: Working Group (HTR) to consider whether transitional arrangements are required, particularly against the storage standards planned for Q4 2026.

b) Development of a system strength framework

Ms Guzeleva highlighted that development of system strength frameworks is complex and modelling-intensive. She noted that ISOC Co has commenced preliminary studies.

- Mr Campbell-Everden added that ISOC Co was considering publishing these studies.

Ms Guzeleva suggested that the working group would be well placed to review and provide feedback.

c) Increasing the independence of the ISO Control Desk



- Mr Campbell-Everden advised that ISOC Co has secured board approval and funding, with a project plan expected in July or August 2026. He emphasised that the move was intended to enhance system-wide visibility.

d) Improvements to the outage coordination framework

- Mr Campbell-Everden advised that ISOC Co has identified this as a critical reform given its relevance to the November 2025 incident.
- Ms Morgan noted that the ISO is a stakeholder in this process and queried the Department of Energy and Economic Diversification's (DEED's) governance role.

Ms Guzeleva advised that reforms will be developed through a consultative process, including working group engagement and public consultation led by DEED.

- Mr Bardsley sought clarification on outage coordination for LNG operations and maintenance schedules, including Pluto.

Ms Guzeleva responded that outages should be coordinated if they have the potential to impact PSSR in accordance with a defined risk framework. She also noted that specific rules already limit the ability to direct Pluto.

e) NSP to NSP connections

Ms Guzeleva noted that these connections are a priority for stakeholders.

- Ms Morgan raised concerns about the timing of NSP-to-NSP work potentially constraining priority corridor development, and requested this be accelerated.

Ms Guzeleva agreed and advised that work will commence, as soon as practicable, in early 2026. She noted that rules development can proceed once detailed design is complete.

f) Miscellaneous changes

- Ms Morgan acknowledged the PAC's remit for PNR development but noted that the PNAC is also relevant to many reforms.

Ms Guzeleva agreed and advised that EPWA will coordinate internally with the DEED team responsible for PNAC reforms.

- Mr Edwards highlighted the volume of work and recommended including placeholders where full solutions will take time to develop.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Mr Ireland requested that DEED provide an update to the PAC on State/Commonwealth negotiations and allocation of Clean Energy Finance Corporation funding for the Pilbara.

Ms Guzeleva agreed to arrange an update at a future PAC meeting.

Action: DEED to provide an update to the PAC on State/Commonwealth negotiations and allocation of CEFC funding for the Pilbara.

The Chair thanked members for their contributions.

The next PAC meeting will be held online at 1:30pm on Wednesday 21 May 2026.

The meeting closed at 2:56pm.