

Terms of Reference

Evolution of the Pilbara Network Rules Working Group

29 February 2024

1. Background

The Pilbara Networks Rules (Rules) govern the operation, management, security and reliability of the Pilbara Networks. The current Rules are designed for a power system dominated by vertically integrated participants and predominantly for dispatchable thermal generation.

Following the conclusion of the Pilbara Industry Roundtable (Roundtable) in August 2023, participants published a [Roundtable Communiqué](#) outlining consensus among participants that:

- new common use electricity infrastructure has an important role to play in supporting increased levels of renewable energy and decarbonisation in the Pilbara; and
- there is support for the Pilbara electricity regulatory regime to evolve to support the energy transition.

Subsequently, the Coordinator of Energy has approved a Scope of Works (presented to the PAC at its 29 February 2024 meeting) for an Evolution of the Pilbara Networks Rules (EPNR) Project. At this meeting, the PAC approved the PAC Secretariat forming the EPNR Working Group (EPNRWG) to support the delivery of this project.

2. Scope of the EPNRWG

The EPNRWG is convened under clauses A2.3.17(a) and A2.3.1 to:

- support the PAC in providing the PAC advice to the Coordinator on the EPNR and to support Energy Policy WA's delivery of the EPNR Project; and
- consider the evolution and development of the HTR.

The EPNRWG Chair will update the PAC on the work of the EPNRWG at each of the PAC meetings. The PAC will provide advice to the Coordinator based upon the work, analysis and recommendations of the EPNRWG.

Accordingly, the EPNRWG will structure its work program around two distinct workstreams:

- EPNR Project Delivery ('Workstream 1'); and
- Evolution and Development of the HTR ('Workstream 2').

Typically, each meeting of the EPNRWG will be dedicated to a single workstream.

3. Membership

The EPNRWG will be chaired by Energy Policy WA (Chair).

Rules Participants and other interested stakeholders may nominate a person for membership on the EPNRWG for approval by the Chair.

The EPNRWG will comprise Rules Participant representatives and other interested persons. The 'other interested persons' may include PAC members or stakeholders who are

appropriately qualified technical experts as referred to under clause A2.3.17A. There are no restrictions on the number of EPNRWG members.

The Chair of the PAC Working Group will have discretion to allow additional subject matter experts or consultants to attend specific meetings or workshops, either generally or on a case-by-case basis.

It is recognised that the EPNRWG members may wish to attend and contribute to either one of, or both of the EPNRWG workstreams (refer section 2).

Energy Policy WA may use consultants to support the delivery of the EPNR Project and to support the work of the EPNRWG.

4. Documentation

Energy Policy WA will establish an EPNRWG webpage on its website. Any discussion papers, meeting papers and meeting minutes will be posted to this page and grouped under the appropriate Workstream.

Market Participants and other stakeholders may register with Energy Policy WA to receive email communications regarding the EPNRWG, including notices of publication of papers on the EPNRWG webpage.

5. Responsibilities of Meeting Attendees

A person attending an EPNRWG meeting is expected to:

- have suitable knowledge and experience to engage in and contribute to discussions relevant to the specific meeting;
- prepare for the meeting, including by reading any meeting papers distributed before the meeting;
- participate as a general industry representative rather than representing their company's interests;
- complete actions requested by the Chair, which may include undertaking of analysis or preparation of papers for discussion by the EPNRWG; and
- if relevant, update the member of the PAC within their organisation on the meeting discussions and outcomes.

Members should attend meetings of the EPNRWG as required, based on whether their expertise/interest relates to the Workstream which is the subject of the next EPNRWG meeting, or as otherwise agreed with the Chair.

6. Administration

Energy Policy WA will Chair and provide secretariat support for the EPNRWG.

Energy Policy WA will ensure contact details for the EPNRWG members are maintained on the EPNRWG webpage.

The Chair will convene meetings of the EPNRWG, as required, to support the EPNR Project timelines in Section 9 of these Terms of Reference.

Energy Policy WA will provide the following meeting documentation and correspondence by email to the EPNRWG members:

- notices of meetings, agendas and relevant meeting papers (at least 5 Business Days prior to the meeting); and
- key outcomes and actions emerging from each meeting (where practical, no more than 10 business days following the meeting).

Energy Policy WA will endeavour to meet the timeframes indicated (above) for the provision of this information.

All meeting documentation will be published on Energy Policy WA's website as soon as practicable after it has been sent to EPNRWG members.

Meetings will generally be held online via Microsoft Teams. Meeting minutes are to record meeting attendance, main outcomes of discussion, agreed recommendations to the PAC and action items. Meetings will be recorded to assist with the preparation of minutes.

7. Reporting Arrangements

The Chair of the EPNRWG will report back to the PAC on the EPNRWG progress at each PAC meeting. The reports must include, at a minimum:

- details of all EPNRWG meetings since the last report to the PAC, including the date of the meeting and the key outcomes of each meeting;
- the date of the next meeting and the issues to be considered (if known); and
- any recommendations from the EPNRWG to the PAC.

8. EPNR Project Timeline

Tasks/Milestones	Timing
Stage 1 – Project establishment	
Approval of scope of works	December 2023
Engage a consultant(s) to assist with the review	Late February 2024
Request that the PAC approves the Terms of Reference for the EPNRWG	February 2024
Call expressions of interest for EPNRWG membership	February 2024
EPNRWG kick-off meeting(s)	March 2024
Stage 2 – Scenario development and modelling	
Agree modelling approach / methodology	March 2024
Scenario development	March – April 2024
Modelling activity and results / trajectory(s)	April – May 2024
Stage 2 – Assessment of PNR	
Assessment and analysis of PNR against Stage 2 outcomes	May – August 2024
Development of proposals for PNR evolution	August – November 2024

Tasks/Milestones	Timing
Development of PNR evolution glide path	November 2024
Update PAC (multiple)	20 June, 29 August and 7 November 2024
Stage 4 – Implementation Plan	
Draft Implementation Plan	December 2024
Final Implementation Plan	February 2025

9. Contact Details

Rule Participants and other stakeholders may contact the EPNRWG Secretariat at energymarkets@dmirs.wa.gov.au. Documentation and information related to the EPNRWG will be published on Energy Policy WA's website.