

NATIONAL ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS ADVOCACY PANEL

Summary of funding decisions made at the meeting held on 19 April 2006

1. Application 188: Energy Users Coalition of Victoria and Electricity Consumers Coalition of South Australia - Fund attendance of D Headberry as a member of the AEMC's Transmission Prescribed Services and Negotiated Transmission Services Working Group.

Resolved that upon presentation of invoices for the costs, the Panel will pay 80% of the actual cost of travel, at economy rates, and accommodation necessary for attendance at the Working Group by Mr Headberry. This approval is limited to those meetings held prior to 1 July 2006.

2. Application 189: Energy Market Reform Forum, Energy Consumers Coalition of South Australia, Energy Users Coalition of Victoria and Major Employers Group Tasmania - Develop response to the AEMC Draft Rule on transmission revenue and attend conference.

Resolved that the application is deferred pending resolution of discussions with Major Energy Users Inc.

3. Application 181: Energy Users Association of Australia - Proposal to retain consultants for NEM based advocacy work.

Resolved that the application is rejected because the applicant has difficulty with the Panel's condition that no further applications be submitted prior to October 2006 unless skills the retained consultant did not have were needed for the project. The Panel will meet with the applicant to discuss how such projects can be made to work successfully for the applicant and the Panel.

4. Application 174: Energy Users Association of Australia and Energy Action Group - Respond to AEMC on Advocacy Panel Rule change.

Resolved that the project is rejected as no merit can be seen in the extent of legal advice proposed by the application. However, the applicant is invited to submit a new application if it can identify the issue that it wishes to advocate.

5. Application 175: Energy Users Association of Australia - Respond to AEMC on Rules change to last resort planner powers.

Resolved that the application is rejected as it will need to be reviewed in the light of the AEMC's change to its timetable for dealing with this matter. The applicant is invited to submit a revised application.

6. Application 176: Energy Users Association of Australia and Energy Action Group - Undertake advocacy on MCE SCO review of decision making by AER.

Resolved that the application is approved for funding of up to \$8,500 excluding GST for travel and accommodation costs provided that:

- Travel is at economy class;
- Copies of travel and accommodation invoices are provided to the Panel for reimbursement.

7. Application 179: Energy Users Association of Australia - Assessment of the performance of reserve capacity in the NEM over summer 2006.

Following the meeting, the applicant advised that the applicant was withdrawn.

8. Application 180: Energy Users Association of Australia - MCE gas market development & ACCC authorisation of PNG gas.
- Resolved that the project is rejected as it falls outside the Panel's funding criteria.
9. Application 193: Alternative Technology Association - Continued funding for representation and advocacy for small-scale renewable energy in the NEM.
- Resolved that the application be approved for funding of \$24,064 excl GST subject to:
- Payment of up to \$1,600 excluding GST for study tour costs subject to the presentation of copies of invoices for those costs;
 - Payment of the funding for the advocacy position by instalments as follows:
 - 33% of the amount approved on the date of the signing of the funding agreement (the commencement date) and the provision of an invoice;
 - 33% of the amount approved three months after the commencement date upon provision of an invoice and a written report on the activities and advocacy undertaken in furtherance of the project during the last three months including copies of any reports and submissions made during the period;
 - the balance of the amount approved six months after the commencement date upon provision of an invoice and a written report on the activities and advocacy undertaken in furtherance of the project during the last three months including copies of any reports and submissions made during the period.
10. Application 194: City of Greater Bendigo - Transmission equalisation adjustment type scheme retention strategy
- Resolved that the application is approved for funding of up to \$75,000 excluding GST provided that:
- The applicant provides to the Panel for its information a copy of the project brief issued with the tender documents;
 - The applicant provides to the Panel a report on the tenders received, the reasons why the successful tender was chosen and the tender price;
 - Payment for the project will be by instalments to be agreed with the applicant.

David J L Bremner
Executive Officer