

**NATIONAL CONSUMERS ELECTRICITY
ADVOCACY PANEL**

FEBRUARY 2006 UPDATE

Summary of funding decisions from the meeting of 15 February 2006

1. Application 170: Major Energy Users Inc representing Energy Market Reform Forum, Energy Consumers Coalition of South Australia, Energy Users Coalition of Victoria and Major Employers Group Tasmania - Continue involvement in AEMC electricity transmission revenue and pricing review.

Resolved that the application is rejected pending discussions with the applicant about the project budget and the lack of quotations.
2. Application 171: Major Energy Users Inc representing Energy Markets Reform Forum, Electricity Consumers Coalition of South Australia, and Energy Users Coalition of Victoria - respond to AEMC on proposed Rule changes for advocacy, regulatory test, regional boundaries and Snowy regional boundary.

Resolved that the application is rejected pending discussions with the applicant about the project budget and the lack of quotations.
3. Application 172: Energy Market Reform Forum, Energy Consumers Coalition of South Australia, Energy Users Coalition of Victoria and Major Employers Group Tasmania - respond to AER paper on pass through and revenue cap re-opening.

Resolved that the Panel approves the funding request for \$14,000 excl GST.
4. Application 173: Major Energy Users Inc representing Energy Market Reform Forum, Energy Consumers Coalition of South Australia, and Energy Users Coalition of Victoria - respond to AEMC Issue Paper on enforcement and compliance with technical standards under the NER.

Resolved that the application is rejected pending discussions with the applicant about the project budget and the lack of quotations.
5. Application 174: Energy Users Association of Australia and Energy Action Group - respond to AEMC on Advocacy Panel Rule change.

Resolved that the application is deferred pending further discussion with the applicant.
6. Application 175: Energy Users Association of Australia - respond to AEMC on Rules change to last resort planner powers

Resolved that the application is deferred as the regulatory test debate is not within the proposed Rule change and request that the applicant resubmit it as a response focussed on the proposed Rule with an appropriate project budget.
7. 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 rejected if the applicant accepts the Panel's proposal for application 181 because the work could be carried out by the retained consultant or deferred until the applicant makes a decision on the Panel's offer on application 181.
8. Application 177: Energy Users Association of Australia - network service and connection agreements in Queensland.

Resolved that the application be approved in principle for funding of \$52,500 excl GST subject to the applicant seeking tenders for the work and advising why the successful tenderer was chosen.

9. Application 178: Energy Users Association of Australia and Energy Action Group - review of end-user implications of proposed sale of Snowy Hydro scheme.

Resolved that the application is rejected but may be re-submitted if the issue becomes relevant.

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

Resolved that the application is deferred pending a decision by the applicant on the Panel's offer on application 181 as the work could be undertaken by the retained generalist consultant.

11. Application 180: Energy Users Association of Australia - MCE gas market development & ACCC authorisation of PNG gas

Resolved that the application is rejected as it does not comply sufficiently with the Panel's funding criteria and its focus on the national electricity market.

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

Resolved that the Executive Officer discuss with the applicant an offer that the application be approved for funding of \$82,750 excl GST subject to conditions requested by the Panel.

13. Application 182: M Grenning and J Wellsmore - provide technical and economic advice to end-user representatives on Reliability Panel

Resolved that funding of \$49,000 excl GST be approved.

14. Application 183: Energy Action Group - respond to AEMC on enforcement and compliance with technical standards under the NER.

Resolved that the application is rejected on the grounds that the project would require technical skills in order to make a meaningful submission and the outcome from the project does not justify its cost.

15. Application 184: Total Environment Centre - develop issues paper on jurisdictional directions

Resolved that the project be approved for funding of \$37,500 excl GST.

16. Application 185: Energy Action Group - respond to AER on revenue determinations for transmission network, especially Powerlink

Resolved that the application is rejected on the grounds that the applicant would need the support of a domestic end-user group in Queensland in order to present their views and the EUAA has already been funded to participate in the review.

17. Application 186: Energy Action Group - respond to Reliability Panel review of reliability criteria

Resolved that the application be deferred pending information from the applicant as to who it represents on this issue, for example does it have, expressed in writing, broad support from domestic end-users groups for the position it would put.

18. Application 187: Consumer Law Centre Victoria - continue NEM project through network coordination, communication and conferences

Resolved that the project be approved for funding of \$48,860 excl GST.

David J L Bremner
Executive Officer