

NATIONAL ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS ADVOCACY PANEL

Summary of funding decisions made at the Panel's meeting on 25 July 2007

1. Application 264: Energy Users Association of Australia - The future for gas-fired generation and impacts on energy users

Resolved that the application be approved for funding of \$29,000 excl GST.

2. Application 265: Energy Users Association of Australia - Technical advice on NEMMCO, Victorian Government and AER reports on January 2007 blackouts

Resolved that the application be rejected on the grounds that:

- The ramifications of the blackout should be fully dealt with through the three reports each of which comes from a different perspective. It is therefore not necessary to fund a further report on the other three reports;
- The project has a lower level of priority (given that there will be three separate reports on the blackout) than do other projects before the Panel.

- 3 Application 267: Energy Users Association of Australia - The underlying cost drivers of generation in the NEM

Resolved that the project be rejected on the grounds that:

- The project has a lower level of priority than do other projects before the Panel;
- The project would only be of value to a small proportion of electricity end-users – those who can negotiate their prices.

- 4 Application 268: Energy Action Group - Standing offer/price caps

Resolved that the project be deferred pending the applicant providing further information in relation to:

- The scope and size of its membership in order to determine whether it represents a reasonable number of end-users;
- A description of the end-users whose interests it purports to represent;
- An explanation as to why it would be able to complete this project when it failed to complete two earlier projects in accordance with their funding agreements.

- 5 Application 269: Consumer Utilities Advocacy Centre - Distributed generation: Removing the barriers to efficient network investments made by consumers

Resolved that the application be deferred pending advice from CUAC on the following matters:

- Whether it is the appropriate advocate in terms of experience to undertake the project given that other advocates such as the Total Environment Centre and the Alternative Technology Association are more experienced in this area;
- Whether the term of the project can be reduced to less than seven months.

- 6 Application 270: Consumer Action Law Centre - Consumers' experiences of energy marketing - a case study report

Resolved that the application be approved for funding of \$22,500 excl GST.

- 7 Application 272: Major Energy Users Inc (EMRF, ECCSA, EUCV & MEG Tasmania) - Reliability Panel's 2nd Interim report

Resolved that the project be approved in principle in relation to the relevance and priority of the subject matter but that the question of funding for the MEU be deferred and the MEU asked to submit a revised budget after it has been able to review the Reliability Panel's report and assess the amount of work required to respond to it.

David J L Bremner
Executive Officer