

NATIONAL CONSUMERS ELECTRICITY ADVOCACY PANEL

OCTOBER 2005 UPDATE

Summary of funding decisions from the meeting of 7 October 2005

Application 144: Energy Action Group - AEMC initial consultation - review of the electricity transmission revenue and pricing rules. On 18 August 2005 the Panel resolved to provide funding of \$5,000.

Application 145: Energy Users Association of Australia - participate in NEMMCO Wind Energy Industry Reference Group. On 25 August 2005 the Panel resolved to approve a grant of \$14,000 plus a further \$5,000 for a report on the project to be given to other consumer groups.

Application 133: Australian Council of Social Service - Fund NEM advocate for 12 months. At its July meeting the Panel approved in principle funding of \$122,000 for the project and at its October meeting ratified that decision.

Application 25: Energy Users Association of Australia - Employment of a national electricity market specialist. The Panel resolved that funding \$135,536 for the third year of the project, the year ending 31 October 2006, be approved.

Application 135: Energy Users Association of Australia - Funding for 2005/6 NEM work program. The applicant advised the Panel that it had withdrawn the application and will instead submit individual applications for projects originally included in the work program.

Application 146: Tasmanian Council of Social Service - Research pre-payment meter use in Tasmania. The Panel resolved the application be approved for funding of \$27,000 and a waiver of the bulk of the co-funding requirement was granted;

Application 147: Energy Action Group - Funding to cover administration and operational costs for two years. The Panel resolved the application was rejected on grounds that the Panel was not satisfied with the competency of EAG as an advocate or that it is representative of a sufficient number of domestic end-users.

Application 148: Major Energy Consumers Pty Ltd - Funding of NEM specialist for three years. The Panel resolved the application was rejected as the applicant organisation does not currently exist.

Application 149: Energy Users Association of Australia - Facilitating end user advocacy and capacity building. The Panel rejected the application on the grounds that

- The application did not represent value for money in relation to the work to be undertaken;
- The relationship between the work of the analyst set out in the application and that of the NEM specialist was not explained; and
- Approving the funding would result in less diversity as between applicant bodies.

Application 150: Energy Users Association of Australia - ESC distribution business pricing review appeal. The Panel rejected the application as it was premature. If the applicant can make a case to the Panel as to the grounds for an appeal, the Panel will promptly consider the matter.

Application 151: Energy Users Association of Australia - Assess the impact of network price and revenue determinations on end users. The Panel rejected the application as it was of a general kind and the issue or problem was not identified. Much work has been done on network prices (principally in price reviews) and it needs to be assessed before further work is done.

Application 152: Energy Users Association of Australia - Work on network connection agreements and network service agreements with NSPs and end users. The Panel rejected the application as it did not identify any particular issue affecting EUAA members that needs advocacy.

Application 153: Energy Users Association of Australia - Develop end-user performance indicators for the Snowy constraint pricing trial derogation. The Panel resolved that funding of \$27,125 be provided.

Application 154: Energy Action Group - Participate in the ESCoV end-to-end customer transfer paper and FRC IT system. The Panel rejected the application as its scope appears to be inappropriate in relation to the proposed ESCoV discussion paper.

Application 155: Energy Action Group - Respond to AEMC transmission revenue and pricing issues papers to be released October 2005. The Panel resolved that funding of \$10,000 be provided.

Application 156: Energy Action Group - Respond to AER regulatory accounting methodologies position paper, September 2005. The Panel rejected the application as it is unlikely that the applicant has the skills needed to make a meaningful submission.

Application 157: Australian Business Council for Sustainable Energy - Review potential for self generation in the NEM and barriers to it. The Panel rejected the application on grounds that the applicant:

- Does not qualify under as a representative body under the Panel's criteria;
- Should review the work on this issue undertaken by the Alternative Technology Association; and
- Should have identified the sections of the national electricity rules that need to be changed.

David J L Bremner
Executive Officer
24 October 2005