

Ms Audrey Zibelman
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Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO)
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Dear Ms Zibelman

Integrated System Plan Consultation Paper - Submission

The South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy (SACOME) welcomes the opportunity to make this submission to AEMO's Integrated System Plan Consultation Paper.

SACOME is the peak industry body representing companies with interests in the South Australian minerals, energy, extractive, oil & gas sectors and associated service providers.

SACOME supports AEMO's role in developing the Integrated System Plan (ISP) as an action arising out of Recommendation 5.1 of *the Independent Review into the Future Security of the National Electricity Market* ('Finkel Review'):

"By mid-2018, the Australian Energy Market Operator, supported by transmission network service providers and relevant stakeholders, should develop an integrated grid plan to facilitate the efficient development and connection of renewable energy zones across the National Electricity Market".

The strategic, coordinated approach being undertaken by AEMO will greatly assist in developing a plan to transition the national energy system, taking into account the many and complex variables that comprise it, as well as the changing nature of energy generation in Australia.

The high penetration of asynchronous generation in South Australia, coupled with the retirement of thermal generation, means that this State is at the vanguard of energy system transition.

As such, SACOME is fundamentally concerned with ensuring that any future infrastructure framework for the national electricity system provides secure, reliable and affordable energy. Similarly, the large industrial operators who SACOME represents identify that affordability, reliability and security are key criteria that are required to be able to operate competitively.

Our member companies have strongly indicated that development of cohesive national energy policy is one of their major concerns. As such, SACOME views the development of the ISP as both timely and welcome.

SACOME believes the key questions relating to long-term NEM infrastructure development that AEMO has set out in its consultation paper are relevant to achieving the policy objectives of affordable, reliable and secure power whilst meeting emission targets.

SACOME views the ISP as a sound first-step toward the development of a coordinated generation and network plan for the National Electricity Market and supports AEMO's consultative approach.

SACOME and its members look forward to AEMO's delivery of the June 2018 Integrated System Plan.

Yours sincerely



Rebecca Knol
Chief Executive Officer