IMPLEMENTING THE ELECTRICITY NETWORK TRANSFORMATION ROADMAP

Released in April 2017, The Energy Network Transformation Roadmap is helping pave the way to support the huge changes required of Australia’s electricity system as we modernise, decarbonise and support customers as they embrace new technologies.

The Roadmap identified the complex challenges facing Australia’s electricity system and set out how networks must innovate and adapt to help achieve a secure, reliable, affordable energy system. Based on extensive research and consultation, the implementation program is now well underway for the Roadmap’s 45 Milestones and 158 Actions.

Since the Roadmap was released, the fast-moving energy landscape has shifted. There have been advances in the environment that have required rapid, but well-planned responses.

The most notable advances have been as a consequence of the Independent Review into the Future Security of the National Electricity Market, chaired by Dr Alan Finkel. This blueprint echoed many of the Roadmap’s findings, and its recommendations and the subsequent establishment of the Energy Security Board have had a material effect on the Roadmap’s implementation.

This is particularly evident in the work of the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) on an Integrated System Plan and AEMO’s project with Energy Networks Australia to co-design the development of an ‘open energy networks’ model to enable the effective integration and orchestration of technologies such as household solar and batteries into the grid.

This year’s addendum to 2017’s Roadmap aims to build on the significant engagement and collaboration already achieved across a range of deliverables from consumer engagement, ‘NewReg’ approaches, distributed energy resource connection guidelines and the development of the ‘open energy networks’ model.

A key area where progress has been limited is the transition to smarter and fairer pricing for electricity. As the Roadmap identified, changing the way we charge for electricity is an enabler of many further reforms that can save customers billions over coming decades. Energy networks around the country are continuing to focus on electricity pricing as a priority.

Energy Networks Australia is supporting network businesses to respond to the evolving environment with the agility, innovation and collaboration required to secure Australia’s energy future.
### Foundation Phase: 2018 Report Card

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<th>2017/18 Key Activities:</th>
<th>2018/19 Focus areas:</th>
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<td>- Establishment of a biannual national forum for networks and key stakeholders to share engagement best practice. The first of these took place in May 2017 and included presentations from the Consumer Challenge Panel, Energy Consumers Australia (ECA) and the Australian Energy Regulator (AER);</td>
<td>- Continued innovation to deliver additional Finkel recommendations, including a review of generators’ fast frequency response and capability;</td>
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<td>- Institution of a consumer engagement specialist group to share experience and expertise;</td>
<td>- Further strengthening of the sector’s cyber security capability;</td>
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<td>- Creating the Energy Consumers Australia Energy Network Consumer Engagement Awards.</td>
<td>- AEMO’s Generator Technical Performance Standard rule change progression;</td>
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<td>- The Inaugural award winners, announced at the Energy Networks Australia Annual Dinner in November 2017, were ElectraNet and Mondo Power.</td>
<td>- Establishment of improved forecasting capability to anticipate network constraints.</td>
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### 2017/18 Key Activities:

- "Trials and projects established to orchestrate DER through the distribution networks across Australia, helping to keep the power on during extreme weather or disturbances in the network, whilst enabling cost savings to customers."

### 2018/19 Focus areas:

- "Continued collaboration between Energy Networks and advocates through the biannual forums;"

- "Research and information sharing to improve data analytics capabilities and understanding of diverse customer needs."

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