



Independent Market Operator

Rule Change Notice

**Title: Notification of
synchronisation and
desynchronisation**

Ref: RC_2008_40

Fast Track Rule Change Process

Date: 17 December 2008

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1. THE RULE CHANGE PROPOSAL

1.1. The Submission

On 12 December 2008 System Management submitted a Rule Change Proposal regarding changes to clauses 7.9.1 and 7.9.5, and the addition of clause 7.9.1A in the Wholesale Electricity Market Rules (Market Rules).

This Rule Change Notice is published according to Market Rule 2.5.7, which requires the IMO to publish a notice within 7 Business Days of receiving a Rule Change Proposal.

1.1.1 Submission details

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Date submitted:	<i>12 December 2008</i>
Urgency:	<i>High</i>
Change Proposal title:	Notification of synchronisation and desynchronisation

1.2. Details of the Proposal

Clause 7.9.1 of the Market Rules provides that a Market Participant who intends to synchronise a Scheduled Generator must confirm with System Management the expected time of synchronisation:

- at least one hour before; and
- must update the advice five minutes before synchronising.

An equivalent provision exists for de-synchronisation (clause 7.9.5).

System Management believes that the second requirement, to provide five minutes notice, presents an onerous burden for both itself and Market Participants who are endeavouring to synchronise at that time and whose priority is not to contact System Management.

Nevertheless, a requirement to provide confirmation is necessary for secure operation of the power system.

System Management therefore proposes to modify the five minute notice requirement to be on an exception basis. That is, Participants will continue to be required to provide confirmation at least one hour prior to the intended synchronisation or de-synchronisation, but need only re-confirm where the synchronisation or de-synchronisation will not occur at the time already advised.

System Management also proposes the inclusion of new clause 7.9.1A, to address the issue of a facility which has de-synchronised as a result of a forced outage being able to synchronise within an hour of notice being provided.

1.3. *The Proposal and the Wholesale Market Objectives*

This proposed Rule Change would better address objective (a) of the Market Objectives. The changes as submitted would promote the economically efficient, safe and reliable production and supply of electricity and electricity related services in the South West interconnected system. The change would significantly assist System Management in operating the power system through not unnecessarily diverting attention of operational staff at critical times.

2. WHETHER THE PROPOSAL WILL BE PROGRESSED FURTHER

The IMO has decided to proceed with this proposal on the basis that the IMO's preliminary assessment indicated that the proposal is consistent with the Wholesale Market Objectives.

The IMO has decided to process this Rule Change Proposal using the Fast Track Rule Change Process, described in section 2.6 of the Market Rules, on the basis that it satisfies the criteria in section 2.5.9 (a) of the Market Rules. All amendments included in this proposal are of a procedural nature.

Section 2.5.9 states:

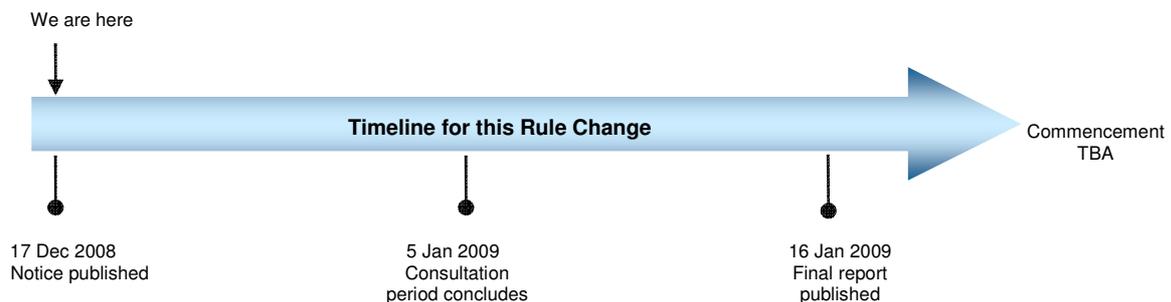
The IMO may subject a Rule Change Proposal to the Fast Track Rule Change Process if, in its opinion, the Rule Change Proposal:

(a) is of a minor or procedural nature; or

(b) is required to correct a manifest error; or

(c) is urgently required and is essential for the safe, effective and reliable operation of the market or the SWIS.

The projected timelines for processing this proposal are:



3. CONSULTATION

Any Rule Participant wishing to be consulted regarding this Rule Change Proposal is invited to notify the IMO within 5 Business Days of this notice being published.

The IMO prefers to receive submissions by email to **marketadmin@imowa.com.au** using the submission form available on the IMO website:

http://www.imowa.com.au/10_5_1_MarketRulesChangeSummary.html

Submissions may also be sent to the IMO by fax or post, addressed to:

Independent Market Operator
Attn: Manager Market Administration
PO Box 7096
Cloisters Square, Perth, WA 6850

Fax: (08) 9254 4399

4. PROPOSED AMENDING RULES

System Management proposes the following amendments to the Market Rules (~~deleted words, added words~~):

7.9.1 Subject to clauses 7.9.2 and 7.9.1A, if a Market Participant intends to synchronise a Scheduled Generator, then it must confirm with System Management the expected time of synchronisation:

- (a) at least one hour before the expected time of synchronisation; and
- (b) must update this advice immediately if the time confirmed pursuant to clause 7.9.1(a) changes. ~~five minutes before synchronising~~

7.9.1A Where a Market Participant intends to synchronise a Scheduled Generator within an hour of desynchronisation, it must confirm with System Management the expected time of synchronisation:

- (a) immediately it is known; and
- (b) update this advice immediately if the time advised pursuant to clause 7.9.1A(a) changes.

...

7.9.5 Subject to clauses 7.9.6 and 7.9.6A, if a Market Participant intends to desynchronise a Scheduled Generator, then it must confirm with System Management the expected time of desynchronisation:

- (a) at least one hour before the expected time of desynchronisation; and
- (b) must update this advice immediately if the time confirmed pursuant to clause 7.9.5(a) changes. ~~five minutes before desynchronising.~~

5. ABOUT RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS

Market Rule 2.5.1 of the Wholesale Electricity Market Rules (Market Rules) provides that any person (including the Independent Market Operator) may make a Rule Change Proposal by completing a Rule Change Proposal Form and submit this to the Independent Market Operator (IMO).

The IMO will assess the proposal and, within 5 Business Days of receiving the proposal form, will notify the proponent whether the proposal will be progressed further.

In order for the proposal to be progressed the change proposal must explain how it will enable the Market Rules to better contribute to the achievement of the Wholesale Market Objectives. The market objectives are:

- (a) to promote the economically efficient, safe and reliable production and supply of electricity and electricity related services in the South West interconnected system;
- (b) to encourage competition among generators and retailers in the South West interconnected system, including by facilitating efficient entry of new competitors;
- (c) to avoid discrimination in that market against particular energy options and technologies, including sustainable energy options and technologies such as those that make use of renewable resources or that reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions;
- (d) to minimise the long-term cost of electricity supplied to customers from the South West interconnected system; and
- (e) to encourage the taking of measures to manage the amount of electricity used and when it is used.

A Rule Change Proposal can be processed using a Standard Rule Change Process or a Fast Track Rule Change Process. The standard process involves a combined 10 weeks public submission period, while the fast track process involves the IMO consulting with Rule Participants who either advise the IMO that they wish to be consulted or the IMO considers have an interest in the change.