Appendix D
Transfer and Relocations Policy (marked up)
Amended proposed access arrangement

16 November 2018

Important note – Amendments that were made as part of Western Power’s
• original proposal is marked-up as purple;
• revised proposal is marked-up as blue; and
• revised amended proposal is marked-up as red.

Access Arrangement (AA) for the period
1 July 2017 to 30 June 2022
Transfer and Relocation Policy

1 July 2019
An appropriate citation for this paper is:
Transfer and Relocation Policy

Western Power
363 Wellington Street
Perth WA 6000
GPO Box L921 Perth WA 6842
T: 13 10 87 | Fax: 08 9225 2660
TTY 1800 13 13 51 | TIS 13 14 50
Electricity Networks Corporation
ABN 18 540 492 861
enquiry@westernpower.com.au
westernpower.com.au

Enquiries about this report should be directed to:

AA4 Project Team
Email: AA4@westernpower.com.au
Contents

1. Defined terms and interpretation ......................................................................................... 1
   1.1 Defined terms .................................................................................................................. 1
   1.2 Interpretation .................................................................................................................. 2

2. Application of this transfer and relocation policy .............................................................. 3
   2.1 Application in respect of an access contract .................................................................. 3
   2.2 Application in respect of a customer transfer request ..................................................... 3
   2.3 Access Code .................................................................................................................... 3

3. Assignment only under this transfer and relocation policy ............................................... 3

4. Bare transfers ...................................................................................................................... 3
   4.1 User may make bare transfer ......................................................................................... 3
   4.2 User must notify Western Power of the details of the bare transfer ................................ 3
   4.3 Bare transfer does not release the user ......................................................................... 4

5. Assignments other than bare transfers .............................................................................. 4
   5.1 Western Power’s consent required ................................................................................. 4
   5.2 Deed of novation ............................................................................................................. 4
   5.3 Assignment to financially and technically competent persons ........................................ 5

6. Relocation ............................................................................................................................ 5
   6.1 Occurrence of relocation ............................................................................................... 5
   6.2 Access contract provisions in respect of a destination point ........................................... 5
   6.3 Access contract provisions in respect to a retiring point ................................................ 5
   6.4 Consent ............................................................................................................................. 5
   6.5 Process for Relocation .................................................................................................... 6
   6.6 Western Power’s costs ..................................................................................................... 6
1. Defined terms and interpretation

1.1 Defined terms

“access arrangement” means the current access arrangement approved in respect of the network under the Code.

“access contract” has the meaning given to it in the Code.

“access rights” means all or part of a user’s rights under an access contract to obtain a covered service.

“applications and queuing policy” means the applications and queuing policy under the access arrangement.

“assign” means to assign or novate a user’s access rights under an access contract to another person, and may take the form of a bare transfer or a novation.

“assigned access right” means any access right that is or is proposed to be the subject of an assignment.

“assignee” means a person who makes an assignment.

“assignment” means an assignment of a user’s access rights under an access contract to another person, and may take the form of a bare transfer or a novation.

“assignor” is a person who takes an assignment.

“bare transfer” means an assignment under which the assignor assigns the whole or a part of its access rights under an access contract to an assignee, but under which there is no novation, with the result that the assignor’s obligations under the access contract for services, and all other terms of the access contract for services, remain in full force and effect after the assignment, whether or not the assignee becomes bound to the assignor or any other party to fulfil those obligations.

“bare transferee” means a person who takes a bare transfer.

“bidirectional point” has the meaning given to it in the applications and queuing policy.

“capacity” for a connection point, refers to the capacity of the network to transfer electricity at the connection point.


“connection point” means, in respect of a user, an exit point or an entry point or bidirectional point identified or to be identified as such in an access contract.

“contracted capacity” for a connection point, means the maximum rate at which a user is permitted to transfer electricity to or from the network at the connection point, being either:

a. the rate specified in the user’s access contract from time to time; or

b. if no rate is specified in the user’s access contract, the maximum rate of electricity permitted to be transferred under the reference service eligibility criteria for the reference service for that connection point in the user’s electricity transfer access contract; or
c. if no rate is specified in the user’s access contract or in the reference service eligibility criteria, the maximum rate of electricity permitted to be transferred through the connection assets under the technical rules, as applicable, and is measured in Watts or Volt-Amps.

“customer transfer request” has the meaning given in the customer transfer code.

“destination point” has the meaning given in clause 6.1(b).

“encumbrance” includes any lease, licence, native title right, easement, mortgage, charge, lien, pledge, deposit, hypothecation, restrictive covenant, building condition, retention of title or other interest of any third party affecting any property.

“entry point” has the meaning given to it in the applications and queuing policy.

“exit point” has the meaning given to it in the applications and queuing policy.

“law” means “written laws” and “statutory instruments” as defined in the Code, orders given or made under a written law or statutory instrument as so defined or by a government agency or authority, Codes of Practice and Australian Standards deemed applicable under a written law and rules of the general law including the common law and equity.

“network” has the meaning given to “Western Power Network” in the Code.

“novate” and “novation” mean to substitute, with the consent of all parties to the access contract and with effect on and from a date nominated as the effective date of the novation, an assignee for an assignor as a party to an access contract, with the result that:

a. all rights and obligations of the assignor under the access contract become rights and obligations of the assignee as if the assignee had been named in the access contract in place of the assignor; and

b. the assignor is released from any obligations under the access contract arising on or after the effective date of the novation, but remains liable for any default by it in the performance of those obligations prior to the effective date of the novation.

“relocation” has the meaning given in clause 6.1(a).

“retiring point” has the meaning given in clause 6.1 (a).

“service”, in respect of a connection point, means a covered service to be provided under an access contract in respect of the connection point.

1.2 Interpretation

a. Unless:

i. the contrary intention is apparent: or

ii. the term has been redefined in clause 1.1,

a term with a defined meaning in the Code has the same meaning in this transfer and relocation policy.

b. Unless the contrary intention is apparent:
iii. a rule of interpretation in the Code; and
iv. the Interpretation Act 1984, apply to the interpretation of this transfer and relocation policy.

2. Application of this transfer and relocation policy

2.1 Application in respect of an access contract

Unless otherwise expressly stated in an access contract, this transfer and relocation policy applies in its entirety to each access contract.

2.2 Application in respect of a customer transfer request

This transfer and relocation policy does not in any way apply to a customer transfer request.

2.3 Access Code

This transfer and relocation policy is based on the Code as in force as at the date this transfer and relocation policy is approved by the Authority. If there is an amendment to the Code after this date then the application of this transfer and relocation policy is subject to any varied or additional requirements imposed or required by those amendments.

3. Assignment only under this transfer and relocation policy

A user must not, except as expressly permitted by this transfer and relocation policy:

a. assign, novate, declare itself a trustee of, or otherwise dispose of, any of its rights under an access contract; or
b. subcontract the performance of its obligations under an access contract; or
c. create an encumbrance over any of its rights or obligations under an access contract.

4. Bare transfers

The provisions in this clause 4 apply to a bare transfer.

4.1 User may make bare transfer

a. Subject to clause 4.2, a user may make a bare transfer without Western Power’s prior consent.
b. For the avoidance of doubt, a bare transferee does not become a user by virtue of any bare transfer.

4.2 User must notify Western Power of the details of the bare transfer

If the user makes a bare transfer, the user must notify Western Power of:

a. the identity of the assignee; and
b. the nature of the assigned access rights,
before the assignee may commence using the assigned access rights.

4.3 **Bare transfer does not release the user**

a. A bare transfer does not constitute a novation, and does not result in:
   i. the release of the user in any way from any of its obligations to Western Power under the access contract; or
   ii. the release of any provider of any bank guarantee under the access contract from any liability to Western Power under that bank guarantee.

b. The user remains wholly liable to Western Power for any default under the access contract in accordance with its terms, whether caused by the user, the assignee or any other person.

c. The provider of any bank guarantee under the access contract remains wholly liable to Western Power in accordance with the terms of that bank guarantee.

5. **Assignments other than bare transfers**

The provisions in this clause 5 apply to an assignment other than a bare transfer.

5.1 **Western Power’s consent required**

For an assignment other than a bare transfer, the following provisions apply.

a. A user may not assign all or any access rights without Western Power’s prior written consent which consent may be withheld on reasonable commercial and technical grounds and which consent may be subject to conditions which are reasonable on commercial and technical grounds.

b. Western Power is not required to give its consent to the assignment unless, under the proposed assignment, the assignee is bound to Western Power under terms that are identical to the terms of the access contract between Western Power and the user.

c. Western Power’s consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed where the user can satisfy Western Power (acting on reasonable commercial and technical grounds) that the proposed assignee is financially and technically capable of performing the user’s obligations in respect of the assigned access rights.

5.2 **Deed of novation**

a. The assignor and the assignee must enter into a deed of novation with Western Power in such reasonable form as Western Power requires, pursuant to which, on and from the effective date of the novation:
   i. the assignee acknowledges Western Power’s rights under the relevant access contract in respect of the assigned access rights, and undertakes to observe, perform and be bound by the user’s obligations and to meet the user’s liabilities in respect of the assigned access rights under the relevant access contract; and
   ii. subject to any limitations and exclusions of liability in the relevant access contract, the assignor indemnifies the assignee and Western Power against, and agrees to defend and hold them harmless from, all liabilities and costs either of them may suffer as a
result of any default by the assignor under the relevant access contract in respect of the assigned access rights occurring prior to the effective date of the novation, including any default whose effects do not crystallise until after the effective date of the novation; and

iii. Western Power releases the assignor from that part of the user’s obligations and liabilities under the relevant access contract as they relate to the assigned access rights.

5.3 Assignment to financially and technically competent persons

Western Power is not required to give its consent to an assignment under clause 5.1 if it can reasonably demonstrate that, in Western Power’s reasonable opinion, such an assignment would have the effect of materially increasing its financial or technical risk under the relevant access contract. Western Power’s reasonable opinion may be based on, without limitation, credit reference information available to Western Power and in forming its opinion Western Power will take into account any relevant information, if any, provided by the proposed assignee.

6. Relocation

6.1 Occurrence of relocation

A “relocation” occurs when a user:

   a. decreases its contracted capacity at a connection point (a “retiring point”); and
   b. makes a corresponding increase in its contracted capacity at another connection point under the user’s access contract (a “destination point”).

6.2 Access contract provisions in respect of a destination point

Western Power and the user must comply with any provisions in the access contract with respect to an increase of contracted capacity at a connection point, or an additional connection point, relating to a destination point.

6.3 Access contract provisions in respect to a retiring point

Western Power and the user must comply with any provisions in the access contract with respect to a decrease of contracted capacity at, or a deletion of, a connection point, relating to a retiring point.

6.4 Consent

   a. A relocation is conditional upon the user obtaining the consent of Western Power. Western Power:

      i. must withhold its consent to a relocation where it would impede the ability of Western Power to provide a covered service sought in an access application or continue to provide an existing covered service to an existing user;
      ii. may withhold its consent to a relocation on reasonable commercial or technical grounds; and
iii. may consent to a relocation subject to conditions provided that the conditions are required on reasonable commercial and technical grounds.

b. Without limitation, a condition of consent under clause 6.4(a)(iii) may include that Western Power must receive at least the same amount of revenue as it would have received before the relocation or more revenue if the tariffs at the destination point are higher.

c. If Western Power withholds its consent to a relocation, or imposes a condition in respect of a relocation, Western Power must provide the user, on the user’s written request, with an explanation of the grounds relied upon by Western Power to withhold its consent or impose conditions.

A relocation may not be made where it would impede the ability of Western Power to provide a covered service sought in an access application.

A relocation is conditional upon the user obtaining the consent of Western Power, which consent Western Power may withhold on reasonable commercial or technical grounds and which consent may be subject to conditions required on reasonable commercial and technical grounds.

Without limiting the conditions Western Power may impose, on reasonable commercial or technical grounds, as a condition of consent those conditions may include that Western Power must receive at least the same amount of revenue as it would have received before the relocation or more revenue if the tariffs at the destination point are higher.

6.5 Process for Relocation

a. Nothing in this clause 6 limits the requirements of the applications and queuing policy.

b. Without limiting clauses 6.2 and 6.3, the user must also, as part of requesting a relocation, if required by the applications and queuing policy, apply for approval of the relocation. Any such application will be processed in accordance with the applications and queuing policy and the user’s access contract.

6.46.6 Western Power’s costs

A user who requests any assignment or relocation under this transfer and relocation policy shall reimburse Western Power for any cost incurred by Western Power, acting as a reasonable and prudent person, in processing such request.