

EDPR 2026-31

Availability Panel Meeting #10

Summary Notes for Meeting on Pre-Offsite #3

Details	Members	AusNet Staff
4:00pm Tuesday 6 August 2024 **Online (MS Teams)** **Chair:** Charlotte Eddy **Secretariat:** AusNet	Marki Grenning Helen Bartley Chris Harvey Emma Birchall Tricia Hiley Piang Lillian **Apologies**: Lucy Holder	**AusNet Staff:** Charlotte Eddy Robert Ball Lia Mavrias **Observers:** Nil

Agenda

1. **Where we are on Availability |** Outcomes from this work stream, and what's going into our draft proposal
2. **Offsite #3 Briefing |** Agenda & how to prepare

Summary

Topics	Discussion points
Welcome	Charlotte opened the session and spoke through the purpose of the session.
Where we are on Availability	Robert highlighted the work the Future Networks has done over the past 18 months and handed over to Kieran to summarise the agreements reached. Robert addressed each focus question that the panel has worked to answer over time, as well as the few that remain open. **Discussion included:** • A panel member questioned who will pay for the regional reliability fund and the amount of customers that will receive enhanced services, differing across the two investment figures. • A panel member inquired whether preferred support from them is wanted in the form of a specific dollar amount or the general proposal idea. AusNet responded that they would rather receive panel support to ensure their spending is justified and aligned with customer preferences and keep the prudency and efficiency judgement to the AER. • The importance of putting forward a strong premise and rigour behind the fund to overcome the standard economic testing. Additionally, the cross learnings and evaluation from the fund to build capacity from the program. • A panel member commented that the AER's VCR is nearing the end of its five-year application period, necessitating a review of their base figure. The new figure will be

received too late to incorporate into the draft proposal. As a result, the comparison between the VCR and AusNet's QCV will remain unclear until then.

- Surrounding the use of VCR or QCV, panel members and AusNet discussed the language surrounding AusNet's QCV. Specifically, the discretion of the AER to have the final input on its prudency. A panel member praised the methodological and analytic approach behind AusNet's QCV.
- A panel member asked for greater understanding of the cost accuracy of capital costs, as it affects his ability to support programs without knowing the true bill impact in the future.
- Some geographically specific customers lack the capability to export solar energy from battery storage and may require non-network augmentation solutions. This issue will be addressed and further explored during the offsite meeting.

Offsite Pre-Briefing	As most panel members had attended prior pre-meeting briefings, Charlotte touched on the objectives and agenda for the offsite.
Close	Charlotte thanked the panel members for their attention and closed out the session.

Action items

	Action	Assigned to	Status	Due
1	AusNet team to provide data to show how many customers are within 160MW hours and the proportion of CNR customers within that.	AusNet Reg Team	Underway	15 Aug
2	Ensure name tags for offsite clearly state each participant's representation	AusNet Engagement Team	Complete	15 Aug