Renewable Energy Zone (South West) Access Scheme Order

2023

Under the *Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020*

I, Matthew Kean MP, Minister for Energy, make the following Order under section 24(1) of the Act.

Dated this 1 March 2023

Matthew Kean MP Minister for Energy

Part 1 Introduction

1. Name of order

This Order is the Renewable Energy Zone (South West) Access Scheme Order 2023.

2. Commencement Date

This Order commences on the date that it is published in the Gazette.

3. Definitions

- (1) Unless otherwise defined in this Order, words and phrases defined in the *Act* have the same meaning in this Order.
- (2) Words and expressions that are defined in the Dictionary have the meaning set out in the Dictionary.

4. Declaration of the access scheme to apply to the South West REZ

The South West REZ Access Scheme set out in this Order is hereby declared for the purposes of section 24 of the Act.

Part 2 Description of Access Scheme

5. Access scheme

- (1) This Order establishes the South West REZ Access Scheme for the access rights network.
- (2) A person may only submit an application to *connect* generation or storage plant to the *access rights network* where:
 - (a) the plant is an *eligible project*; and
 - (b) the person holds an access right for the eligible project and is registered as the holder of an access right for the eligible project in the access rights register.
- (3) A network operator must not make an offer to connect generation or storage plant to the access rights network unless the person seeking to connect the generation or storage plant is registered as the holder of an access right for the generation or storage plant in the access rights register.
- (4) A person may only *connect* network infrastructure or plant or equipment that consumes electricity (other than generation or storage plant) to the *access rights network* in accordance with clause 16 of this Order. Nothing in this clause prevents a *network operator* who owns or operates part of the *access rights network* from maintaining or augmenting that part of the *access rights network*.

6. Access rights

An *access right* authorises the *access right holder* to:

- (1) submit an application to *connect* the relevant *approved project* to a specified part of the *access rights network* in accordance with the terms of any applicable *access right agreement* and the *Rules*; and
- (2) to send out generation from the *approved project* into the *access rights network* in accordance with the terms of any applicable *access right*

agreement, the relevant connection agreement and the Rules up to its maximum capacity for the relevant capacity period,

provided that subclauses 6(1) and 6(2) do not in any way limit the *central dispatch process* in accordance with the *Rules* or Australian Energy Market Operator Limited's ability to dispatch an *approved project* above its *maximum capacity* during a *capacity period* for any reason including, but not limited to, a lack of reserve declaration under the *Rules*.

Part 3 Grant of Access rights and increases to maximum capacity

7. Procedure for the grant of access rights and increases to maximum capacity

Limits on grant of access rights

- (1) Subject to the remainder of this clause 7, the *Infrastructure Planner* may grant an *access right* to an *eligible operator*, or approve an increase in the *maximum capacity* of an *approved project* in any *capacity period*:
 - (a) in the *initial allocation* if:
 - (i) the Consumer Trustee has recommended the grant or increase; or
 - (ii) in accordance with subclause 12(3); and
 - (b) once the *initial allocation* has been completed:
 - (i) where the *Infrastructure Planner* has made a final determination to approve the grant of additional *maximum capacity* as the result of a proposed *market-led augmentation* under clause 11; or
 - (ii) at the absolute discretion of the *Infrastructure Planner*, including in accordance with subclause 12(3).
- (2) An access right may only be granted:
 - (a) to an eligible operator;
 - (b) for an eligible project with specified project characteristics; and
 - (c) for a maximum capacity in each capacity period.
- (3) The *Infrastructure Planner* may only grant an *access right*, approve an increase in the *maximum capacity* of an *approved project* for a *capacity period* or approve a material change in the *project characteristics* of an *approved project*, if it is satisfied that the grant or approval will not cause:
 - (a) the aggregate maximum capacity of all approved projects during any capacity period (including for these purposes the proposed maximum capacity of the proposed eligible project or proposed increase in maximum capacity of the relevant approved project) to exceed the aggregate maximum capacity cap for that capacity period; or
 - (b) the forecast curtailment on the access rights network (as calculated in accordance with Schedule 3) to exceed the target transmission curtailment level; or
 - (c) the network element forecast curtailment on a network element to exceed the target network element curtailment level, if the

Infrastructure Planner has notified a target network element curtailment level for that network element under subclause 9(2).

Completion of the initial allocation

- (4) The *Infrastructure Planner* may determine that the *initial allocation* has been completed by notifying the *Consumer Trustee* and *access right holders*, and publishing a notice on its website, if:
 - (a) the aggregate maximum capacity in any capacity period of approved projects granted access rights under the initial allocation exceeds 90% of the initial aggregate maximum capacity cap in that capacity period; or
 - (b) it does not reasonably expect that significant further *access rights* may be granted in the *initial allocation* in accordance with the terms of this Order, including due to the application of subclause 7(3).

Use of maximum capacity profiles

- (5) The Infrastructure Planner may grant an access right to an eligible operator for an eligible project, or increase the maximum capacity of an approved project, using different maximum capacity amounts for different capacity periods within a 24-hour day (a maximum capacity profile), provided that the Infrastructure Planner has:
 - (a) notified the *Consumer Trustee* and *access right holders*, and published a notice on its website, of:
 - (i) the proposed date from which the *Infrastructure Planner* may grant access rights or increase the maximum capacity of approved projects using a maximum capacity profile;
 - (ii) the proposed *capacity* periods;
 - (iii) the methodology for granting access rights or increasing maximum capacity for approved projects using maximum capacity profiles; and
 - (iv) the consultation period during which submissions may be made by the *Consumer Trustee*, access right holders and the public, which must not be less than 28 days;
 - (b) considered any submissions received from the *Consumer Trustee, access right holders* and the public during the consultation period notified under subclause 7(5)(a)(iv); and
 - (c) if the *Infrastructure Planner* decides to introduce *maximum capacity profiles*, notified the *Consumer Trustee* and *access right holders*, and published a notice on its website, of:
 - (i) the date from which the *Infrastructure Planner* will grant access rights or increase maximum capacity for approved projects using maximum capacity profiles;
 - (ii) the *capacity periods*; and
 - (iii) the methodology for granting access rights or increasing maximum capacity for approved projects using maximum capacity profiles.
- (6) Until a notification by the *Infrastructure Planner* under subclause 7(5)(c), *access rights* will be granted using one *maximum capacity* across a single

24-hour day capacity period. Following a notification by the *Infrastructure Planner* under subclause 7(5)(c), existing access right holders will be deemed to have their relevant maximum capacity at the date notified under subclause 7(5)(c)(i) in each of the notified capacity periods. For the avoidance of doubt, this subclause does not limit an access right holder's obligations under subclause 12(6) or affect the restriction in clause 7(2)(b).

- (7) From the date notified in accordance with subclause 7(5)(c)(i), the grant of *access rights,* and any increase to the *maximum capacity* of *approved projects* under subclause 7(1)(a)(i), must:
 - (a) use maximum capacity profiles that specify a maximum capacity for each of the capacity periods notified under subclause 7(5)(c)(ii); and
 - (b) be determined using the methodology for applying *maximum capacity profiles* published by the *Infrastructure Planner* under subclause 7(5)(c),

and any recommendation by the *Consumer Trustee* to grant an *access right* to an *eligible operator* or to approve an increase in the *maximum capacity* of an *approved project* in any *capacity period* must be consistent with these requirements.

Basis for determining expected capacity profiles

(8) The *Infrastructure Planner* must determine an *expected capacity profile* for a relevant *project* based on information that the *Infrastructure Planner* considers will assist it in accurately forecasting the *project's* likely future generation profile including, without limitation, representative information for the relevant plant type from the *Integrated System Plan*, market modelling, the *project's* own forecast generation profile, the *project characteristics* and, in the case of an *approved project*, any historical *available capacity* and *sent out generation*.

Registration evidence of grant

(9) Registration by the *Infrastructure Planner* of an *access right* in the *access rights register* in accordance with clause 22 is evidence of the grant of the *access right* to the relevant *access right holder* for the relevant *approved project*, the *maximum capacity* of the *approved project* for any *capacity period* and any other details specified in the *access right register*.

8. Capacity caps

- (1) The *initial aggregate maximum capacity cap* in all *capacity periods*, based on the indicative capacity of the *access rights network* as identified in the initial *South West REZ Declaration*, is 1,220MW.
- (2) Following a final *headroom* assessment under subclause 10(5)(c), or determination of additional *maximum capacity* as the result of a proposed *market-led augmentation* under clause 11, the *aggregate maximum capacity cap* for each *capacity period* will be the amount specified in the relevant notification.
- (3) The Infrastructure Planner must notify the Consumer Trustee and access right holders, and publish a notice on its website, of any increase to the aggregate maximum capacity cap for a capacity period.

9. Target transmission curtailment levels

- (1) The target transmission curtailment level for the initial term is 0.54%. The Infrastructure Planner may notify the Consumer Trustee and access right holders, and publish a notice on its website, of a revised target transmission curtailment level to apply for any period of the term after the initial term.
- (2) The Infrastructure Planner may, in its absolute discretion, notify the Consumer Trustee and access right holders, and publish a notice on its website, of the transfer capacity of a network element and a target network element curtailment level for that network element at any time during the term.
- (3) A target network element curtailment level notified under subclause 9(2) during the *initial term* will apply for the remainder of the *initial term*. The *Infrastructure Planner* may notify the *Consumer Trustee* and access right holders, and publish a notice on its website, of a revised target network element curtailment level to apply for any period of the term after the *initial term*.
- (4) Any change to the aggregate maximum capacity cap for a capacity period will not affect the target transmission curtailment level or any target network element curtailment level.

10. Headroom assessment

Conducting a headroom assessment

- (1) The Infrastructure Planner:
 - (a) must conduct a *headroom* assessment as soon as practicable following completion of the *initial allocation*;
 - (b) must conduct a *headroom* assessment once every two calendar years during the period of six calendar years following its initial *headroom* assessment under subclause 10(1)(a), unless the *Infrastructure Planner* determines, in its absolute discretion, that a *headroom* assessment is not required. The *Infrastructure Planner* must notify the *Consumer Trustee* and *access right holders*, and publish a notice on its website, of any such determination; and
 - (c) may conduct a headroom assessment at any time if the *Infrastructure Planner* forms the opinion that there is likely to be material headroom in any capacity period, including as the result of a proposed market-led augmentation. The *Infrastructure Planner* must notify the *Consumer Trustee* and access right holders, and publish a notice on its website, of any such opinion.
- (2) In undertaking a headroom assessment, the Infrastructure Planner must calculate, in accordance with the process in Schedule 3, the extent to which additional maximum capacity could be granted under access rights in all relevant capacity periods without forecast curtailment exceeding the target transmission curtailment level.
- (3) The *Infrastructure Planner* may decide, in its absolute discretion, that the amount of additional *maximum capacity* in a *capacity period* should be less than the *headroom* calculated under a *headroom* assessment under Schedule 3, including without limitation after taking into account relevant *power system* limits.

Notification and response to headroom assessment

- (4) As soon as practicable after completing a *headroom* assessment, the *Infrastructure Planner* must notify the *Consumer Trustee* and *access right holders*, and publish a notice on its website, of its draft assessment including the following information:
 - (a) the proposed *headroom* available in each *capacity period* and the proposed increase to the *aggregate maximum capacity cap* for each *capacity period*;
 - (b) forecast curtailment on the access rights network before and after the proposed increase to the aggregate maximum capacity cap for each capacity period;
 - (c) any material assumptions about the *aggregate expected capacity profiles* or the technology mix of *potential future projects* made as part of the *headroom* assessment;
 - (d) any other information having a material impact on the *headroom* assessment; and
 - (e) the consultation period during which submissions may be made by the *Consumer Trustee, access right holders* and the public, which must not be less than 28 days.
- (5) Following notification of a draft *headroom* assessment under subclause 10(4):
 - (a) a person may make a written submission in response to the draft headroom assessment during the consultation period notified under subclause 10(4)(e);
 - (b) the *Infrastructure Planner* must consider any written submissions received under subclause 10(5)(a); and
 - (c) as soon as practicable following its consideration of any written submissions received under subclause 10(5)(a), the *Infrastructure Planner* must notify the *Consumer Trustee* and *access right holders*, and publish a notice on its website, of its final *headroom* assessment, including, if relevant:
 - (i) the *headroom* available in each *capacity* period and increased *aggregate* maximum capacity cap for each *capacity* period (if applicable); and
 - (ii) any material assumptions about the aggregate expected capacity profiles or the technology mix of potential future projects made as part of the headroom assessment.

11. Market-led augmentations

- (1) A market-led augmentation may:
 - (a) increase the *transfer capacity* of the *access rights network* and, following a *headroom* assessment, result in an increase to the *aggregate maximum capacity cap* for relevant *capacity periods*; or
 - (b) increase the transfer capacity of a network element, reducing the forecast network element curtailment on that network element. An increase in the transfer capacity of a network element will not result

in an increase to the *aggregate maximum capacity cap* for relevant *capacity periods*.

- (2) If potential maximum capacity will be made available by an increase to the aggregate maximum capacity cap for a capacity period, or by increased transfer capacity on a network element, as the result of a market-led augmentation, then that potential maximum capacity must, to the extent that the proposed market-led augmentation will be funded by eligible operators, be granted to the eligible operators that have funded or committed to fund the proposed market-led augmentation. Nothing in this subclause prevents the Infrastructure Planner from granting additional maximum capacity to other eligible operators as the result of a subsequent headroom assessment that includes the proposed market-led augmentation.
- (3) One or more eligible operators who will fund a proposed market-led augmentation (the **proponent(s)**) may request the *Infrastructure Planner* to grant additional maximum capacity made available by the proposed market-led augmentation. A request must be made in writing to the *Infrastructure Planner*.
- (4) The *Infrastructure Planner* must assess any request made in accordance with subclause 11(3) to determine, in its absolute discretion, whether to grant additional *maximum capacity* and, if so:
 - (a) the increase in the *transfer capacity* of the *access rights network* or any *network element* resulting from the proposed *market-led augmentation*;
 - (b) the *headroom* in each *capacity period* calculated in accordance with Schedule 3 and increased aggregate maximum capacity cap for each relevant *capacity period* that will result from the proposed market-led augmentation;
 - (c) forecast curtailment on the access rights network before and after the proposed market-led augmentation;
 - (d) network element forecast curtailment on a network element for which a network element curtailment level has been notified under subclause 9(2) before and after the proposed market-led augmentation under subclause 9(3);
 - (e) any material assumptions made about the *aggregate expected capacity profiles* or the technology mix of *potential future projects* as identified in Schedule 3;
 - (f) any conditions relating to an *access right* that the *Infrastructure Planner* in its absolute discretion considers appropriate, which may include financial commitments from the *proponent(s)* and
 - (g) the access right to be granted to the proponent(s), or the increase in the maximum capacity of the relevant approved projects of the proponent(s), in each capacity period.
- (5) The *Infrastructure Planner* may, in its absolute discretion, reject any request made in accordance with subclause 11(3) for any reason.
- (6) If the *Infrastructure Planner* proposes to grant additional *maximum capacity* following a request made in accordance with subclause 11(3) it must make a draft determination of the matters set out under subclause 11(4) and notify the *proponent(s)* of that draft determination.

- (7) Following notification under subclause 11(6) of a draft determination:
 - (a) the *Infrastructure Planner* must publish notice of the draft determination on its website and the relevant consultation period, which must not be less than 28 days;
 - (b) any person may make a written submission in response to the draft determination during the consultation period notified under subclause 11(7)(a); and
 - (c) the *Infrastructure Planner* must consider written submissions received under subclause 11(7)(b).
- (8) As soon as practicable following expiry of the consultation period under subclause 11(7)(a), the *Infrastructure Planner* must make a final determination and notify the *proponent(s)*, the *Consumer Trustee* and *access right holders*, and publish a notice on its website, of that final determination.
- (9) If the *Infrastructure Planner's* final determination under subclause 11(8) is to make an allocation of *maximum capacity* available to the *proponent(s)*, the notice under subclause 11(8) must include the *Infrastructure Planner's* final determination of the matters set out under subclause 11(4).
- (10) The *proponent(s)* must pay the *Infrastructure Planner*'s costs of making a determination under this clause 11.
- (11) This clause 11 relates only to the grant of access rights, or an increase in the maximum capacity of an approved project in a capacity period, as the consequence of a market-led augmentation. It does not affect the need to obtain any regulatory approvals and commercial arrangements required to undertake a proposed market-led augmentation.
- (12) Nothing in this clause 11 requires the *Infrastructure Planner* to publish any confidential or commercially sensitive information.

12. Project modifications

Maximum Capacity

- (1) An access right holder may apply to the Infrastructure Planner for an increase in the maximum capacity of an approved project in a capacity period.
- (2) The *Infrastructure Planner* may only approve an increase in the *maximum* capacity of an approved project in a capacity period in accordance with subclause 7(3).
- (3) Where the maximum capacity of an approved project in a capacity period will be increased by less than 5% of the first maximum capacity registered in the access rights register for that approved project and capacity period, the Infrastructure Planner may, in its absolute discretion but subject always to the requirements in subclause 12(2), approve the increase in the maximum capacity, provided that the Infrastructure Planner has given the Consumer Trustee prior notice of its proposal to approve the increased maximum capacity.
- (4) The Infrastructure Planner may reduce the maximum capacity of an approved project in any capacity period in accordance with the terms of the relevant access right agreement.

(5) The *Infrastructure Planner* must update the *access rights register* to record any increase or reduction in the *maximum capacity* of an *approved project* in a *capacity period*.

Project Characteristics

- (6) An access right holder may only make a material change to the project characteristics of an approved project if the change has been approved by the Infrastructure Planner.
- (7) The Infrastructure Planner may only approve a material change in the project characteristics of an approved project in accordance with subclause 7(3).
- (8) A proposed change to the *project characteristics* of an *approved project* will be material if it will have a material impact on the *approved project's expected capacity profile*.
- (9) The *Infrastructure Planner* will have the absolute discretion to determine whether the impact on an *approved project's expected capacity profile* is material.
- (10) The *Infrastructure Planner* must update the *access rights register* where relevant to record any approved change in the *project characteristics* of an *approved project* recorded in the *access rights register*.

Conditions on approvals

(11) The *Infrastructure Planner's* approval under this clause 12 may be made subject to conditions in an *access right agreement*.

Part 4 Terms and Conditions

13. Duration of access rights

- (1) All access rights granted under this Order expire on the expiry of the term.
- (2) The Infrastructure Planner must notify access right holders of the date of the electrification of the first network element of the access rights network.
- (3) The *Infrastructure Planner* must consider whether to extend the *term* as soon as practicable following the date that is 5 years before the scheduled expiry of the *initial term* (or the scheduled expiry of any extension of the *term* notified under subclause 13(4), if relevant).
- (4) The *Infrastructure Planner* may extend the *term*, in its absolute discretion, by notifying the *Consumer Trustee* and *access right holders*, and publishing a notice on its website, of the extended *term*.

14. Access fees

An access right holder must pay the Scheme Financial Vehicle the access fees determined by the Consumer Trustee in accordance with section 26 of the Act in accordance with the terms of its access right agreement.

15. Connection to the access rights network

An access right holder, a network operator and any person proposing to connect generation and storage plant to the access rights network, must comply with any *REZ* access standards or other applicable performance standards and any additional processes established to coordinate the connection of multiple plant to the access rights network, including for the collection and use of generation and

storage plant data, the modelling of generation and storage plant compliance with any *REZ* access standards or any other applicable performance standards and assessing the system impacts of multiple generation and storage plant connections:

- (1) notified to access right holders and persons proposing to connect generation and storage plant to the access rights network by the Infrastructure Planner or a network operator;
- (2) set out in a relevant access right agreement; or
- (3) as otherwise set out in the *Rules*.

16. Connection to the access rights network by load or network service providers

Any application by:

- (1) a *network service provider* to *connect* a transmission network or distribution network; or
- (2) a person to *connect* plant that consumes electricity (other than generation or storage plant),

to the access rights network may only proceed with the prior written approval of the *Infrastructure Planner*, in its absolute discretion, after having regard to the impact of the proposed *connection* on existing and future access right holders and the objects of the Act.

17. Transfer, suspension and termination of access rights

- (1) An access right, or any maximum capacity under an access right, may only be transferred, suspended or terminated in accordance with the terms of this Order or the access right holder's relevant access right agreement.
- (2) An access right must be terminated if the access right holder's relevant access right agreement is terminated. Termination of an access right agreement does not affect any maximum capacity transferred in accordance with the terms of the access right agreement prior to the date of termination.
- (3) The *Infrastructure Planner* must update the *access rights register* to record any transfer, suspension or termination of *access rights*, or transfer of *maximum capacity* under an *access right*, under subclauses 17(1) or (2).
- (4) The maximum capacity under an access right terminated under subclause 17(2) may be granted to one or more other eligible operators by the Infrastructure Planner in accordance with clause 7.

18. Amendments

- (1) This Order may only be amended in accordance with section 28 of the Act.
- (2) For the purposes of section 28(1)(d) of the *Act*, this Order may be amended under subclauses 18(3) and 18(4).
- (3) The Minister may amend this Order by declaration in the Gazette after following the process specified below:
 - (a) The *Minister* may make a proposal to amend this Order after considering any advice from the *Infrastructure Planner*.
 - (b) The Infrastructure Planner must give notice to access right holders of the declaration change proposal and seek submissions from access right holders on the declaration change proposal.

- (c) The notice under subclause 18(3)(b) must specify:
 - (i) the proposed amendments to this Order;
 - (ii) the reasons for the *declaration change proposal*, including any relevant supporting documents;
 - (iii) whether the Infrastructure Planner considers that the declaration change proposal will have a material adverse impact on access right holders and its reasons for this view; and
 - (iv) the time period, which must not be less than 28 days, within which access right holders may make submissions on the declaration change proposal.
- (d) The Infrastructure Planner must consider any submissions from access right holders made during the consultation period notified under subclause 18(3)(c)(iv) and provide advice to the Minister on whether to proceed with the declaration change proposal and, if so, on any amendments that should be made to the declaration change proposal as a result of the submissions received during the consultation period notified under subclause 18(3)(c)(iv) and whether the Infrastructure Planner considers that the declaration change proposal will have a material adverse impact on access right holders.
- (e) Following consideration of the advice from the *Infrastructure Planner* under subclause 18(3)(d), if the *Minister* wishes to proceed with the *declaration change proposal* the *Minister* must:
 - (i) prepare an updated *declaration change proposal* taking into account the advice provided by the *Infrastructure Planner* under subclause 18(3)(d). The updated *declaration change proposal* must state whether the *Infrastructure Planner* considers that the updated *declaration change proposal* will have a material adverse impact on *access right holders* and its reasons for this view;
 - (ii) procure that notice of the updated *declaration change proposal* is published on the *Infrastructure Planner's* website: and
 - (iii) the time period, which must not be less than 28 days, within which access right holders may make submissions on the updated declaration change proposal.
- (f) The Infrastructure Planner must consider any submissions made during the consultation period notified under subclause 18(3)(e)(iii) and provide advice to the Minister on whether to proceed with the updated declaration change proposal and, if so, on any amendments that should be made to the updated declaration change proposal as a result of submissions received during the consultation period notified under subclause 18(3)(e)(iii) and whether the Infrastructure Planner considers that the updated declaration change proposal will have a material adverse impact on access right holders.
- (g) Following consideration of the advice from the *Infrastructure Planner* under subclause 18(3)(f), if the *Minister* wishes to proceed

with the updated declaration change proposal the Minister must develop a final declaration change proposal and notify access right holders of the final declaration change proposal.

- (h) If the *Infrastructure Planner* considers that the final *declaration change proposal* will have a material adverse impact on *access right holders*, the final *declaration change proposal* will be subject to the approval of *access right holders* and the *Minister* may only implement the final change proposal if:
 - access right holders with access rights representing more than 75% of the aggregate maximum capacity of access right holders voting (determined on the basis of each approved project's highest maximum capacity across all capacity periods), vote in favour of the final declaration change proposal; or
 - (ii) more than 75% of access right holders voting, vote in favour of the final declaration change proposal.
- (i) Voting on a final *declaration change proposal* must be conducted in accordance with voting procedures notified to *access right holders* by the *Infrastructure Planner*.
- (4) The Infrastructure Planner may amend the eligibility criteria under Schedule 2 by publishing amended eligibility criteria on its website. The Infrastructure Planner must consult with the Consumer Trustee on any amendment to the eligibility criteria before any competitive tender for the grant of access rights or an increase in maximum capacity is conducted.

Part 5 The Scheme Financial Vehicle

19. Liabilities of the Scheme Financial Vehicle for administration and operation costs

- (1) The Scheme Financial Vehicle is liable to pay all of the Infrastructure Planner's costs of administering and operating the South West REZ Access Scheme and performing its functions related to this Order, including:
 - (a) costs associated with:
 - (i) the administration, oversight and enforcement of this Order;
 - (ii) the administration, oversight and enforcement of *access right agreements*;
 - (iii) the administration of community and employment benefits; and
 - (b) an amount equal to the GST liability, if any, of the *Infrastructure Planner* payable to the Commissioner of Taxation in connection with a supply of access rights to eligible operators or an increase in maximum capacity to access right holders in respect of an approved project.
- (2) The Scheme Financial Vehicle must make the payments specified in subclause 19(1) in accordance with principles and processes agreed between the Scheme Financial Vehicle and the Infrastructure Planner.

20. Liabilities of the Scheme Financial Vehicle to make other payments

The Scheme Financial Vehicle is liable to pay the Infrastructure Planner:

- (1) the component of access fees received by *the Scheme Financial Vehicle* and identified as being for community and employment purposes;
- (2) any payments received by the Scheme Financial Vehicle under an access right agreement for remediation of any non-compliance by the relevant access right holder with its obligations under the access right agreement relating to a community or employment outcome; and
- (3) an amount equal to the GST liability, if any, of the *Infrastructure Planner* payable to the Commissioner of Taxation in respect of amounts referred to in subclauses 20(1) and (2).

Part 6 Administration

21. Infrastructure Planner to administer scheme

The *Infrastructure Planner* is appointed to administer the *South West REZ Access Scheme*.

22. Access rights register

- (1) The *Infrastructure Planner* must maintain an *access rights register* that includes all relevant detail in relation to each *access right*, which at a minimum must include:
 - (a) the identity of the access right holder;
 - (b) a description of the relevant *approved project*, including its location and plant type;
 - (c) the maximum capacity of the relevant approved project in each capacity period;
 - (d) the date of registration;
 - (e) identification of any *REZ access standards* applicable to the *approved project*;
 - (f) the part of the access rights network to which the approved project may connect or is connected;
 - (g) the relevant *network operator* for the part of the access rights *network* to which the approved project may connect or is connected;
 - (h) whether the *approved project* is subject to clause 3.13.3(b2)(2) of the *Rules*; and
 - (i) if the *access right* has been suspended or terminated, or has otherwise expired or ended, including the date on which this occurred.
- (2) The *Infrastructure Planner* may, at its absolute discretion, include additional information in relation to an *access right* in the *access rights register*, including any other relevant *project characteristics*.

Part 7 Transitional Provisions

23. Existing participants

Subject to clause 24, any person that:

- (1) is the registered participant under the *Rules* for generation or storage plant that is *connected* to the *access rights network* and who has entered into a *connection agreement* with the relevant *network operator* in accordance with clause 5.3.7 of the *Rules*; or
- (2) has received an offer to *connect* generation or storage plant to the *access rights network* from the relevant *network operator* in accordance with clause 5.3.6 of the *Rules*, but has not yet entered into a *connection agreement* with the relevant *network operator* in accordance with clause 5.3.7 of the *Rules*,

at the date of this Order (an **existing participant**), is not required to hold an *access* right to connect or to maintain the connection of that generation or storage plant to the *access rights network*, or to operate and send out generation from the relevant generation or storage plant.

24. Application of the South West REZ Access Scheme to existing participants

- (1) Despite any other provision of this Order, *existing participants* are taken to have a *maximum capacity* for their generation or storage plant equal to the maximum capacity specified in their *connection agreement* or offer to *connect* (as applicable) at the date of this Order.
- (2) Existing participants are taken to be eligible operators and access right holders for the purposes of:
 - (a) clauses 7 and 12, for the purposes of any proposed increase in the *maximum capacity* of their generation or storage plant; and
 - (b) clause 11, for the purposes of proposing a market-led augmentation.
- (3) The *Infrastructure Planner* must consider the reasonable likelihood of the relevant generation or storage plant being built and *connected* and the likely future generation profile of the generation or storage plant in any relevant determination or calculation under this Order, including without limitation:
 - (a) in assessing whether to grant an access right, approve an increase in the maximum capacity of an approved project for a capacity period or approve a material change in the project characteristics of an approved project, under subclause 7(3)
 - (b) in the *initial aggregate maximum capacity cap* for the purposes of determining whether the *aggregate maximum capacity* of *approved projects* granted access rights under the *initial allocation* in any *capacity period* exceeds 90% of the *initial aggregate maximum capacity cap* under subclause 7(4)(a);
 - (c) in assessing the extent to which additional *maximum capacity* could be granted under *access rights* in all relevant *capacity periods* without *forecast curtailment* exceeding the *target transmission curtailment level* as part of undertaking a *headroom* assessment under clause 10;
 - (d) in calculating the *aggregate expected capacity profile* in accordance with paragraph (2)(a) of Schedule 3;
 - (e) in calculating the *forecast curtailed electricity* and the *forecast potential sent out generation* in accordance with paragraph (5) of Schedule 3; and

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(f) in calculating the network element forecast curtailed electricity and the network element forecast potential sent out generation in accordance with paragraph (7) of Schedule 3,

as if such persons were *eligible operators* and such generation or storage plant were *approved projects* for the purposes of such determination or calculation.

Dictionary

access right has the meaning given in clause 6.

access right agreement means one or more agreements between the *Infrastructure Planner* or *Scheme Financial Vehicle* and an *eligible operator* that:

- (1) contains obligations relating to the development or operation of a *project*, including the technical specification of the *project* and other *project characteristics*, construction milestones, community and employment purposes and outcomes and any terms and conditions of the *access right*; and
- (2) includes an acknowledgement that it is an *access right agreement* for the purposes of this Order.

access right holder means the person who holds an *access right* granted under this Order.

access rights network means the electricity network described in Schedule 1.

access rights register means the register established and maintained by the *Infrastructure Planner* in accordance with clause 22.

Act means the Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020.

aggregate expected capacity profile means:

- (1) the aggregate of the expected capacity profiles of all relevant projects; less
- (2) the *Infrastructure Planner*'s forecast profile of electricity consumption by any plant or equipment (other than approved projects) connected to the access rights network.

aggregate maximum capacity cap means the cap on the aggregate maximum capacity of all approved projects during a capacity period, being the *initial aggregate maximum* capacity cap as amended from time to time under clause 8.

approved project means an *eligible project* for which an *eligible operator* has been granted an *access right* in accordance with this Order.

available capacity has the meaning given in the Rules.

capacity period means:

- (1) an intra-day period notified by the *Infrastructure Planner* in accordance with subclause 7(5), and which may vary for days during different seasons; and
- (2) until a notification by the *Infrastructure Planner* under subclause 7(5)(c), a single 24-hour day.

central dispatch process has the meaning given in the Rules.

co-located hybrid infrastructure project means a project that includes:

- (1) generation plant and storage plant; or
- (2) generation plant or storage plant and plant (other than generation or storage plant) that consumes electricity,

that is or will be *connected* at the same *connection point* to the *access rights network*. *connect* has the meaning given to it in the *Rules* and *connecting, connection* and *connected* have a corresponding meaning.

connection agreement means one or more agreements between an *eligible operator* and the relevant *network operator* or other parties regarding the *connection* of an *approved project* to the *access rights network*.

connection assets has the meaning given to it in the Rules.

connection point has the meaning given in the *Rules*.

Consumer Trustee has the meaning given under the Act.

declaration change proposal means a proposal made in accordance with subclause 18(3)(a).

eligible operator means a person that owns or operates an *eligible project* or *approved project* or *proposes* to own or operate an *eligible project* or *approved project*.

eligible project means a proposed *project* that is, or is to be, located within the geographical area of the *South West REZ* and meets the eligibility criteria for the grant of an *access right* specified in Schedule 2.

existing participant has the meaning given in clause 23.

expected capacity profile for a period means in relation to a *project*, the *Infrastructure Planner*'s forecast of that project's likely future generation profile over the relevant period determined in accordance with subclause 7(8).

forecast curtailed electricity has the meaning given in paragraph (5) of Schedule 3.

forecast curtailment means forecast curtailment on the *access rights network* or a *network element* (as the case may be) determined by the *Infrastructure Planner* in accordance with Schedule 3.

forecast potential sent out generation has the meaning given in paragraph (5) of Schedule 3.

GST has the same meaning as in section 195-1 of the A New Tax System (Goods and Services) Tax Act 1999 (Cth).

headroom means the increase in aggregate maximum capacity in a capacity period that (when considered together with any proposed increase in aggregate maximum capacity in any other capacity period) could be allocated without resulting in forecast curtailment on the access rights network exceeding the target transmission curtailment level, as calculated by the Infrastructure Planner in accordance with Schedule 3.

Infrastructure Planner means the Energy Corporation of New South Wales appointed as Infrastructure Planner for the *South West REZ* pursuant to clause 6 of the *South West REZ Declaration*.

initial aggregate maximum capacity cap means the initial *aggregate maximum capacity cap* set out in subclause 8(1).

initial allocation means the grant of *access rights* in accordance with subclause 7(1)(a) comprising aggregate *maximum capacity* in any *capacity period* up to the *initial aggregate maximum capacity cap*, unless the *Infrastructure Planner* has determined that the *initial allocation* has been completed in accordance with subclause 7(4).

initial term means the period from the date of this Order to the date that is 20 years after the date of the electrification of the first *network element* within the *access rights network*, as notified by the *Infrastructure Planner* to the *Consumer Trustee* and *access right holders* under subclause 13(2).

Integrated System Plan has the meaning given in the Rules.

LTES agreement has the meaning given to it in section 46(1) of the Act.

market-led augmentation means an augmentation that will increase the *transfer* capacity of the access rights network or a network element that is funded by one or more eligible operators.

maximum available capacity profile has the meaning given in paragraph (2)(b) of Schedule 3.

maximum capacity means, in relation to an *approved project*, the amount in MW specified as its maximum capacity in the *access rights register* for a *capacity period*.

maximum capacity profile means, in relation to a *project*, the *maximum capacity* of that *project* for a *capacity period*.

Minister means the Minister for Energy.

network element means a network element within the meaning given in the *Rules* that comprises part of the *access rights network*.

network element forecast curtailment means forecast curtailment on a network element (as relevant) determined by the *Infrastructure Planner* in accordance with Schedule 3. *network operator* has the meaning given in the Act.

network service provider has the meaning given in the Rules.

potential future projects has the meaning given in paragraph (3)(a) of Schedule 3.

power system has the meaning given in the *Rules*.

project means generation or storage plant or a *co-located* hybrid infrastructure project. *project characteristics* means:

- (1) a *project's* plant type;
- (2) a *project's* location; and
- (3) any other technical specifications which are specified as a *project characteristic* in a relevant *access right agreement*,

as modified in accordance with clause 12.

proponent(s) has the meaning given in clause 11(3).

regulations means regulations made under the Act.

REZ access standards means technical requirements for generation and storage plant connecting to the access rights network. **Rules** means the National Electricity Rules made under Part 7 of the National Electricity Law, as amended from time to time in accordance with Part 7 of the National Electricity (NSW) Law or the National Electricity (NSW) Act 1997 and as modified by the regulations.

Scheme Financial Vehicle has the meaning given in the Act.

sent out generation has the meaning given in the Rules.

South West REZ means the South West renewable energy zone declared in the *South West REZ Declaration*.

South West REZ Access Scheme means the access scheme declared in this Order for the access rights network.

South West REZ Declaration means the Renewable Energy Zone (South West) Order 2022 made by the Minister on 31 October 2022 as amended from time to time.

target network element curtailment level means for a *network element*, the percentage notified by the *Infrastructure Planner* in accordance with subclause 9(2).

target transmission curtailment level means the percentage specified in subclause 9(1).

term means the term of the *South West REZ Access Scheme*, being the *initial term* as extended under subclause 13(4) (if relevant).

transfer capacity has the meaning given in Schedule 3.

Schedule 1 – Access rights network

The following network infrastructure is specified as the *access rights network* for the purposes of this Order:

- all planned and new network infrastructure *connecting*, and including, Buronga and Dinawan substations in the 'specified geographical area' defined in Schedule 2 of the *South West REZ Declaration* and operating at nominal voltages of 220kV, 330kV or 500kV; and
- (2) to the extent not specified in paragraph (1), all planned and new network infrastructure directly *connecting* the Dinawan substation to any other substation or switching station outside the 'specified geographical area' defined in Schedule 2 of the *South West REZ Declaration* and operating at nominal voltages of 220kV, 330kV or 500kV; and
- (3) any repair, replacement, extension or augmentation of the network infrastructure specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) that is owned or operated by a *network operator*, including any *market-led augmentation*.

Schedule 2 – Eligibility criteria

- (1) The eligibility criteria set out in Table 1 will apply to the grant of *access* rights or approval of an increase in the maximum capacity of an approved project in any capacity period by the *Infrastructure Planner*.
- (2) The *Infrastructure Planner* may determine amended eligibility criteria for the grant of access rights or approval of an increase in the *maximum capacity* of an *approved project* in any *capacity period* from time to time under subclause 18(4).

Table 1: Eligibility criteria for the grant of *access rights* or approval of an increase in the *maximum capacity* of an *approved project* in any *capacity period*

| Plant type | Initial allocation | After completion of the initial |
|----------------|--|--|
| | | allocation |
| Generation | (a) Projects that involve generation | (a) Projects that involve generation |
| projects | from a renewable energy source with | from a renewable energy source with |
| | a proposed maximum capacity of | any proposed maximum capacity. |
| | 30MW or above. | (b) Generation infrastructure projects |
| | For this purpose, multiple projects to | awarded a firming infrastructure LTES |
| | be connected at the same connection | agreement. |
| | point to the access rights network | |
| | may aggregate the capacity of their | |
| | generating units. | |
| | (b) Generation infrastructure projects | |
| | awarded a firming infrastructure | |
| | LTES agreement. | |
| Co-located | (a) Projects that involve generation | (a) Projects that involve generation |
| hybrid | from a renewable energy source, | from a renewable energy source with |
| infrastructure | where the sum of the generation and | any proposed maximum capacity. |
| project | storage plant has a proposed | (b) Co-located hybrid infrastructure |
| | maximum capacity of 30MW or above. | projects awarded a firming |
| | For this purpose, multiple projects to | infrastructure LTES agreement. |
| | be connected at the same connection | |
| | point to the access rights network | |
| | may aggregate the capacity of their | |
| | generating units. | |
| | (b) Co-located hybrid infrastructure | |
| | projects awarded a firming | |
| | infrastructure LTES agreement. | |

| Storage | Storage infrastructure projects with | Storage infrastructure projects with |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| infrastructure | any proposed maximum capacity. | any proposed maximum capacity. |
| projects | | |

Schedule 3 – Calculations

Headroom

- (1) Headroom requires an assessment of whether the aggregate maximum capacity cap in any capacity period may be increased to allow the Infrastructure Planner to grant additional access rights or increased maximum capacity in any capacity period under existing access rights pursuant to subclause 7(3).
- (2) The Infrastructure Planner must determine:
 - (a) the aggregate expected capacity profile of all approved projects; and
 - (b) the maximum aggregate expected capacity profile of potential future projects that could be granted access rights without, when added to the aggregate expected capacity profile of all approved projects, causing forecast curtailment on the access rights network to exceed the target transmission curtailment level (maximum available capacity profile).
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph (2) of this Schedule 3:
 - (a) **potential future projects** are notional future eligible projects.
 - (b) the aggregate expected capacity profile of potential future projects will be calculated by the *Infrastructure Planner* using:
 - (i) the Infrastructure Planner's determination of the technology mix and expected capacity profiles of potential future projects; and
 - (ii) in the case of *eligible projects* for which a *market-led augmentation* is proposed, the *aggregate expected capacity profile* of the relevant *eligible projects*.
- (4) Once the maximum available capacity profile has been determined, the Infrastructure Planner must determine the aggregate potential maximum capacity of the potential future projects comprising the maximum available capacity profile in each relevant capacity period. Subject to subclause 10(3), headroom for a capacity period will be the amount calculated in accordance with the following formula (for the relevant capacity period):

headroom = aggregate *maximum capacity* of *approved projects*

- + aggregate maximum capacity of relevant potential future projects
- aggregate maximum capacity cap

Forecast curtailment

(5) In relation to the access rights network, **forecast curtailment** is, for a reference year, the percentage calculated in accordance with the following formula:

 $forecast\ curtailment\ (\%) = \frac{forecast\ curtailed\ electricity}{forecast\ potential\ sent\ out\ generation}$

Where:

forecast curtailed electricity means the amount of the forecast potential sent out generation (in MWh) that will not be sent out by approved projects in a reference year because the forecast potential sent out generation would exceed the transfer capacity of the access rights network. **Approved projects** in this calculation will be taken to include:

- (a) for the purposes of an assessment under subclause 7(3), the relevant *project* for which an *access right* or increase in *maximum capacity* or material change in *project characteristics* is being assessed under that clause; and
- (b) for the purposes of an assessment relating to the additional *maximum capacity* resulting from a proposed *market-led augmentation*, the relevant *project* that relates to the proposed *market-led augmentation*.

forecast potential sent out generation means the generation (in MWh) that the *Infrastructure Planner* forecasts could be sent out by *approved projects* in a reference year if the *transfer capacity* of the *access rights network* was unlimited and the generation sent out by each *approved project* in a reference year was consistent with its *expected capacity profile*. *Approved projects* in this calculation will be taken to include:

- (a) for the purposes of an assessment under subclause 7(3), the relevant *project* for which an *access right* or increase in *maximum capacity* or material change in *project characteristics* is being assessed under that clause; and
- (b) for the purposes of an assessment relating to the additional *maximum capacity* resulting from a proposed *market-led augmentation*, the relevant *project* that relates to the proposed *market-led augmentation*.
- (6) The *Infrastructure Planner* must select a reference year for the purposes of the calculation of *forecast curtailment*.

Network element forecast curtailment

(7) In relation to a *network element*, *network element forecast curtailment* is, for a reference year, the percentage calculated in accordance with the following formula:

network element forecast curtailment (%) = $\frac{network \ element \ forecast \ curtailed \ electricity}{network \ element \ forecast \ potential \ sent \ out \ generation}$

Where:

network element forecast curtailed electricity means the amount of the network element forecast potential sent out generation (in MWh) that will not be sent out by approved projects utilising the network element in the reference year because of the transfer capacity of the network element being exceeded. **Approved projects** in this calculation will be taken to include:

(a) for the purposes of an assessment under subclause 7(3), the relevant *project* for which an *access right* or increase in *maximum*

capacity or material change in *project characteristics* is being assessed under that clause; and

(b) for the purposes of an assessment relating to the additional *maximum capacity* resulting from a proposed *market-led augmentation*, the relevant *project* that relates to the proposed *market-led augmentation*.

network element forecast potential sent out generation means the generation (in MWh) that the *Infrastructure Planner* forecasts could be sent out by *approved projects* utilising the *network element* in a reference year if the *transfer capacity* of the *network element* was unlimited and the generation by each relevant *project* in a reference year was consistent with its *expected capacity profile*. **Approved projects** in this calculation will be taken to include:

- (a) for the purposes of an assessment under subclause 7(3), the relevant *project* for which an *access right* or increase in *maximum capacity* or material change in *project characteristics* is sought under that clause; and
- (b) for the purposes of an assessment relating to the additional *maximum capacity* resulting from a proposed *market-led augmentation*, the relevant *project* that relates to the proposed *market-led augmentation*.
- (8) The *Infrastructure Planner* must select a reference year for the purposes of the calculation of *network element forecast curtailment*.
- (9) An approved project will be taken to utilise a network element if the generation sent out from the approved project must flow across that network element in order to be transferred from the access rights network to any other transmission network to which the access rights network is connected.

Transfer capacity of the access rights network

- (10) The **transfer capacity** of the access rights network means the network capacity in MW between the access rights network and any other transmission network to which the access rights network is connected. If there is more than one point of connection between the access rights network and another transmission network the transfer capacity will take into account the combined transfer capacity across all points of connection.
- (11) Until revised in accordance with paragraphs (12) to (15) (inclusive) of this Schedule 3, the *transfer capacity* of the *access rights network* is 800MW.
- (12) The transfer capacity of the access rights network will be taken to be the capacity (in MW) determined by the *Infrastructure Planner* following:
 - (a) an authorisation of, or direction to, a *network operator* to carry out any addition, extension or augmentation to the *access rights network* that affects the *transfer capacity*, under section 31(1)(b) or section 32 of the *Act*. In making this determination the Infrastructure Planner must take into account the technical specifications of any addition, extension or augmentation to the *access rights network*, in the relevant recommendation made under section 30 of the Act;

- (b) commitment of any other addition, extension or augmentation to the *access right network* not specified in paragraph (12)(a); and
- (c) on the commissioning of an addition, extension or augmentation to the *access right network* covered in paragraphs (12)(a) or 12(b).
- (13) Following an increase in *transfer capacity* (in MW) determined under subclause 11(8) created by a *market-led augmentation*, the *transfer capacity* of the *access rights network* will be taken to be the sum of the *transfer capacity* of the *access rights network* immediately prior to the determination under subclause 11(8) and the increase determined under subclause 11(8).
- (14) Following commissioning of the access rights network, or any addition, extension or augmentation to the access rights network (including a market-led augmentation), the transfer capacity of the access rights network will be the capacity (in MW), determined by the Infrastructure Planner.
- (15) For the purposes of determining *headroom* under subclause 11(4)(b) or assessing the relevant *project* for which a *market-led augmentation* is proposed, the *transfer capacity* applied in determining *forecast curtailed electricity* will include the assessment of *transfer capacity* under subclause 11(4)(a).
- (16) The Infrastructure Planner must notify access right holders, and publish a notice on its website, of a revision to the access rights network transfer capacity.

Transfer capacity of a network element

- (17) The **transfer capacity** of a network element means the capacity (in MW) to transfer electricity between that network element and another network element on the access rights network.
- (18) Until revised under paragraphs (19) and (20) of this Schedule 3, the *transfer* capacity of a network element is taken to be the MW capacity notified by the *Infrastructure Planner* in accordance with subclause 9(2).
- (19) The transfer capacity of a network element will be revised by the *Infrastructure Planner* in accordance with any additional capacity in the *network element* following:
 - (a) an authorisation of, or direction to, a *network operator* to carry out any addition, extension or augmentation to a *network element* that affects the *transfer capacity* of that *network element* under section 31(1)(b) or section 32 of the *Act*. In making this determination the *Infrastructure Planner* must take into account the technical specifications of the *network element*, and any addition, extension or augmentation to the *network element*, in the relevant recommendation made under section 30 of the Act;
 - (b) commitment of any other addition, extension or augmentation to a *network element* not specified in paragraph (21)(a); and
 - (c) on the commissioning of an addition, extension or augmentation to a *network element* covered in paragraphs (21)(a) or 21(b).
- (20) In assessing a relevant *project* for a proposed *market-led augmentation*, the *transfer capacity* applied in determining *network element forecast curtailed*

electricity will include the assessment of *transfer capacity* under subclause 11(4)(a).

- (21) The *Infrastructure Planner* must notify *access right holders*, and publish a notice on its website, of the *transfer capacity* of each relevant *network element* following:
 - (a) a notification under subclause 9(2) in respect of the relevant *network element*; or
 - (b) a revision to the transfer capacity of a network element

Outages

(22) For the avoidance of doubt, the determination of *transfer capacity* of the *access rights network* or a *network element* under this Schedule 3 will not include any allowance for planned or unplanned outages or temporary reduced capacity of the *access rights network* or a *network element*, or any transmission network to which the *access rights network* is *connected*.

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