

Retail Energy Market Company

# IMPACT & IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (INCORPORATING THE PROPOSED RULE CHANGE) – SUMMARY SECTION

(For REMCo to complete and administer)

Rule Change Number	C03/13R			
Impacted jurisdiction(s)	Western Australia			
Proponent	Stephen Eliot	Company	REMCo	
Industry consultative forum(s) used	RCC	Date concluded by Rule Change Committee ("RCC")	24/04/13	
Rule change ranking (as per Chapter 9):  Non-substantial  Low impact  High impact	High impact			
Short description of change(s)	Amendments to FRC Hub Operational Terms and Conditions			
Rule(s) or documentation impacted	Rules 2 and 14 of the Retail Market Rules; and the FRC Hub Operational Terms and Conditions.			
Summary of the change(s)	<ul> <li>Replacing all references to "FRC Hub Conditions" with "FRC Hub Operational Terms and Conditions";</li> <li>Amending Rule 14(2) to remove the Hub T&amp;Cs from the Rule change process under Chapter 9 of the Retail Market Rules (the "Rules");</li> <li>Inserting a new Rule 14(4) that requires REMCo to publish new versions of the Specification Pack, as amended from time to time; and</li> <li>Developing a new version 6 of the FRC Hub Operational Terms and Conditions that applies consistently across WA, SA, VIC and QLD.</li> </ul>			
I&IR prepared by	Tim Sheridan	Approved by	Stephen Eliot	
Date I&IR published	03/05/12	Date consultation concludes	17/05/13	
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# **IMPACT & IMPLEMENTATION REPORT – DETAILED REPORT SECTION**

# CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF PROPOSAL

 Description of change(s) and reasons for change(s) This Impact and Implementation Report ("I&IR") has been developed by REMCo in accordance with Rule 398, and is raised for consideration by gas retail market participants as a High Impact Rule Change (C03/13R).

The proposed amendments in this I&IR were initially raised for discussion as a Gas Market Issue ("GMI") by REMCo at the Rule Change Committee ("RCC") on 29/08/12 and were endorsed by the RCC as a High Impact Rule Change at the RCC meeting on 24/04/13.

In summary, this Rule Change proposes:

- replacing all references to "FRC Hub Conditions" with "FRC Hub Operational Terms and Conditions" to be consistent with the correct title of the document:
- amending Rule 14(2) to remove the FRC Hub Operational Terms and Conditions ("Hub T&Cs") from the Rule change process under Chapter 9 of the Rules;
- inserting a new Rule 14(4) that requires REMCo to publish new versions of the Specification Pack, as amended from time to time. This is consistent with a proposed amendment to the SA Procedures; and
- developing a new version 6 of the Hub T&Cs that applies consistently across WA, SA, VIC and QLD.

The effective date for Rule Change C03/13R is targeted for 01/10/13.

The drafting amendments to the Rules are detailed in **Attachment A**, and a marked-up copy of the draft version 6.0 of the Hub T&Cs is detailed in **Attachment B**.

# **Background**

The proposed amendments in this Rule Change have been discussed at the RCC since August 2012, and in addition to Attachments A and B, REMCo has provided the RCC with the following information:

- a risk assessment of the impact of the proposed changes on WA gas retail market participants; and
- an extract of the relevant provisions under the FRC Hub Services Agreement between REMCo and AEMO.

At the meeting on 24/04/13, the RCC noted that the FRC Hub Services Agreement contains appropriate provisions for REMCo to accept or reject any proposed changes to the services provided by AEMO under the Hub T&Cs.

Based on this, the RCC agreed that, while there the risk that changes could be made to the Hub T&Cs that may have a negative impact on WA participants, this risk is very low; and is outweighed by the benefits of making this change.

Therefore, in accordance with Rule 398 of the Rules, the RCC determined REMCo should commence consultation on the proposed changes as a High Impact Rule Change.

- 2. Reference documentation
  - Retail Market Rules (the "Rules");
  - Business/Information/ Specification Pack Reference; and/or
  - Other Reference.

The reference documentation includes:

- the Retail Market Rules Version 6.4;
- FRC Hub Terms and Conditions (SA/WA) Version 4.0;
- FRC Hub Operation Terms and Conditions (VIC/QLD) Version 5.0.
- The high-level details of the change(s) to the existing Rules.

This includes:

- a comparison of the existing operation of the Rules to the proposed change to the operation of the Rules; and
- a marked up version of the proposed Rule changes (see Attachment A)

In summary, this Rule Change C03/13R proposes:

- replacing all references to "FRC Hub Conditions" with "FRC Hub Operational Terms and Conditions" to be consistent with the correct title of the document;
- amending Rule 14(2) to remove the Hub T&Cs from the Rule change process under Chapter 9 of the Rules;
- inserting a new Rule 14(4) that requires REMCo to publish new versions of the Specification Pack, as amended from time to time. This is consistent with a proposed amendment to the SA Procedures;
- developing a new version 6 of the Hub T&Cs that applies consistently across WA, SA, VIC and QLD.

The drafting changes for the proposed Rule changes are detailed in **Attachment A**, and a marked-up copy of the draft version 6.0 of the Hub T&Cs is detailed in **Attachment B**.

4. Explanation regarding the order of magnitude of the change

(e.g. material, non-material or non-substantial)

The impact of the proposed amendments as described in this I&IR are considered to be 'high impact' because the proposed changes could have a material commercial impact on REMCo, participants, pipeline operators, or prescribed persons. That is:

- there will no longer be regulatory oversight of changes to the Hub T&Cs by the Economic Regulation Authority ("ERA"); and
- changes could be made to the Hub T&Cs that are to the benefit of the eastern States' markets that are not to the benefit of the WA market.

However, a mechanism is in place under the Hub Services Agreement between REMCo and AEMO that allows REMCo to manage this risk under contract, rather than via requlatory oversight by the ERA, which is a more appropriate mechanism given the nature of the FRC Hub services. This contractual mechanism minimises the potential for ths risk to arise, and mitigates the impact of this risk should it arise.

 Overall Industry cost/benefit analysis (tangible / intangible / risk) and/or cost estimates

#### Cost

This is a documentation change only, and REMCo has not identified any costs in the implementation of this Rule Change. REMCo has not received any information from other gas retail market participants on the cost of this Rule Change on their business.

#### **Benefits**

REMCo considers that the likely benefit for industry as a whole are:

 efficiency gains in maintaining and administering a single version of the Hub T&Cs across all applicable

	jurisdictions;
	<ul> <li>not making the changes would increase risk of needing to operate the WA gas retail market on different Hub T&amp;Cs than the eastern States jurisdictions, which has the potential to significantly increase costs and/or reduce quality of FRC Hub services; and</li> <li>consistency with the VIC, QLD and SA jurisdictions; and</li> </ul>
	with the latest version of the Hub T&Cs.
6. The likely effect of the change(s) on stakehol (e.g. industry or end-u	1 1 1 51 51 101 101 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
7. Testing requirements	There are no testing requirements.
8. Consideration of the recommended Rule change; or  recommended rule change  recommended rule change; or  reject the recommended rule change	and agreed that REMCo should commence consultation on the proposed changes as a High Impact Rule Change.
9. Consultation forum outcomes  (e.g. the conclusions r on the change(s), whe there was unanimous approval, any dissentitiviews)	ther Provider; b. APT as a Pipeline Operator and Swing Service Provider;
does this rule cha impact the ACCC authorisation?     is an external legareview required?	change does not impact the ACCC authorisation; and no external legal review is required.
11. Should the proposed F change be made, (with	

without amendments)?	amendments.
12. If applicable, a proposed effective date for the proposed Rule change(s) to take effect and justification for that timeline.	The effective date for this Rule change and version 6.5 of the Rules is targeted for 01/10/13.

#### ATTACHMENT A – Amendments to the Retail Market Rules

All amendments to the Rules are change marked, where <u>underlining (blue)</u> represents an addition, and <u>strike (red)</u> through represents a deletion.

# 1. Amend page 20 of the Rules as follows:

# OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

These rules are one element of the retail market arrangements that *REMCo* operates for the Western Australian gas markets. These rules should be read in conjunction with:

- the following documents that relate to the governance of *REMCo*, the operation of the Gas Retail Market System that supports these rules; and the manner in which *participants*, *pipeline* operators, *prescribed persons* and *REMCo* interact in the gas markets:
  - the REMCo Constitution;
  - the REMCo Specification Pack; and
  - o the User Guidelines for the REMCo Specification Pack; and
  - o the FRC Hub Operational Terms and Conditions; and
- all applicable Western Australian laws. Whether or not a person is required to comply with a
  particular law will depend on that person's constitution, business and activities. Each person
  should obtain their own advice in relation to compliance with such laws.

# 2. Amend the definitions under Rule 2 as follows:

**"FRC Hub certification process"** means the testing process set out in the Connectivity Testing and Technical Certification document within the *REMCo Specification Pack* to ensure that a person's *information system* complies with the requirements of the *FRC Hub Operational Terms and Conditions*.

"FRC Hub Operational Terms and Conditions" means the terms and conditions <u>published</u> by the Australian Energy Market Operator under whichthat apply between REMCo, each <u>user</u> and <u>network operator</u> seek connection to and are obliged to operate under when connecting to and <u>issuing or and any business that sends or receives receiving transactions on via the FRC Hub, as amended from time to time under these rules.</u>

"permitted down time" has the meaning given to that term in the FRC Hub <u>Operational Terms</u> <u>and Conditions.</u>

# 3. Amend clause 14 as follows:

# 14 Other instruments

- (1) Each person required to comply with these rules, must also comply with the following documents (as applicable):
  - (a) the REMCo Specification Pack; and
  - (b) FRC Hub Operational Terms and Conditions.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, Chapter 9 and the rule change procedure under these rules apply to any amendment made to the document listed in rule 14(1)(a), but not to the document listed in 14(1)(b) or to the portions of the REMCo Specification Pack that apply only in South Australia.
- (3) In the event of any inconsistency between the provisions of these rules and either of the documents listed in clause 14(1), the inconsistency is to be resolved by giving precedence to these rules and then each of the other documents shall be read in the order of precedence as listed in clause 14(1).
- (4) REMCo must publish the REMCo Specification Pack, as amended from time to time.

ATTACHMENT B	- Amendments	to the FRC Hub O	perational and	<b>Conditions</b>
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See the draft copy of version 6.0 of the FRC Hub Operational Terms and Conditions.