



Notice

17 February 2025

Emu Downs Wind Farm Joint Venture 2024 performance audit and asset management system review

The Economic Regulation Authority has published the 2024 [performance audit and asset management system review report](#) and the [post-audit and post-review implementation plan](#) for EDWF Holdings 1 Pty Ltd and EDWF Holdings 2 Pty Ltd's (trading as Emu Downs Wind Farm Joint Venture) electricity generation licence EGL1.

EDWF Holdings 1 Pty Ltd and EDWF Holdings 2 Pty Ltd are owned by the APA Group.

The joint venture is located approximately 200 kilometres north of Perth and includes a wind farm (79.2 megawatts) and a solar farm (20 megawatts). The power generated is exported to the South West Interconnected System.

The ERA's decision

The ERA considers that Emu Downs has achieved a high level of compliance with its licence and has an effective asset management system.

The ERA has decided to maintain the audit and review period at 60 months. The next audit and review will cover the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2029, with the report due to be provided by 30 September 2029.

Audit and review findings

Audit

The audit of the 33 licence obligations applicable to Emu Downs found two minor administrative non-compliances:

- Late payment of standing charges.
- Late submission of standing data and submission of an incomplete annual compliance report to the ERA.

The late payment was due to an administrative error, which was resolved during the audit period, therefore a recommendation from the auditor was not required.

The auditor made one recommendation to address the outstanding non-compliance, which is in Emu Downs' post-audit implementation plan.

Review

The assessment of the 58 effectiveness criteria prescribed in the ERA's *2019 Audit and Review Guidelines: Electricity and Gas Licences* found six asset management deficiencies in:

- Asset planning (two)
- Asset disposal (one)
- Contingency planning (one)
- Review of asset management system (two).

The auditor made six recommendations to address the deficiencies, which are in the post-review implementation plan.

The ERA's assessment of the audit and review findings

Audit

Emu Downs has achieved a high level of compliance with its licence obligations. The audit only found two minor administrative non-compliances, and one was resolved during the audit period.

Review

The auditor found that Emu Downs has an effective asset management system, but there is room for improvement. The deficiencies stem from the wind farm nearing the end of its operational life, which is expected to be reached between 2026 and 2031, and APA not confirming its plans for the wind farm yet. This has prolonged reviews and updates to the asset management plan and manual, resulting in deficiencies, which were not present in the last review in 2019.

APA is conducting a life extension study to determine its strategy for the wind farm. The study is due to be completed this year and, once APA decides on the future of the wind farm, the corresponding updates to documentation are expected to resolve the related deficiencies.

For these reasons, the ERA has maintained the audit and review period at 60 months.

Further information

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