

**Powerline Bushfire Safety Committee**

Meeting 8 -11 September 2018

*[Please note the start time of 10:00 am for Members and 11:00 for Members and Observers]*

**Agenda**

**Part A - Committee Members and secretariat only** 10:00 am

**Committee Discussion - David Harris [60 minutes]**

- 1.1. **Committee procedural** – records of meetings - Chair
- 1.2. **Register of Engagements** – Committee Members update - Secretariat
- 1.3. **Committee Charter** – government acceptance of the recommendations contained in the Independent Review of Victoria’s Electricity and Gas Network Safety Framework, Final Report– DoES
- 1.4. **PBSC Advice Process** – 2.3 *Outstanding Action* - Secretariat
- 1.5. **REFCL Program** – Exemption Applications to DoES – Status Update – Secretariat
- 1.6. **REFCL Required Capacity** – Tony Marxsen
- 1.7. **Other**

*Coffee break* [15 minutes]

**Part B - Committee Members and Observers** 11.15 am

2. **Introduction** - Chair [10 minutes]
  - 2.1. **Attendance and apologies**
  - 2.2. **Previous meeting minutes**
  - 2.3. **Previous actions** - Secretariat
3. **DB progress to-date** - on delivering the legislative requirements, exemptions & DB views on REFCLs meeting the required capacity [60 minutes]
  - 3.1. **Powercor** - Steve Neave [25 minutes]
  - 3.2. **AusNet** - Tom Hallam [25 minutes]
  - 3.3. **Discussion** - Chair [10 minutes]
4. **Discussion** - Chair [10 minutes]
  - 4.1. **Committee Member raised matters**
  - 4.2. **Other matters**
5. **Future meetings** – Chair [5 minute]
  - 5.1. **Next meeting** - 11 December 2018
  - 5.2. **Subsequent meetings** - 12 March 2019, 11 June 2019, 10 September 2019

**Meeting close** 12.30 pm

## **Exemption/Extensions to legislative requirements:**

Electrical distributions have advised relief from requirements may be sought for the following matter(s):

### **1. Exemption Request**

#### ○ AusNet Services

AusNet Services applied to ESV in May 2018 for seven exemptions against the requirements in regulations 7 (1)(ha) and 7 (1)(hb) of the Electricity Safety (Bushfire Mitigation) Regulations 2013 and Section 120M of the Electricity Safety Act.

All of the exemptions sought are to exclude underground cables associated with the installation of HV customer isolating transformers from the requirement to be protected by a REFCL.

Advice on six of these applications has been given by the committee and accepted by the Minister, with an Order-in-Council currently being prepared

One application is associated with the Seymour zone substation and at the time of forming this agenda this application has not been forwarded to the committee for advice.

#### ○ Powercor

Powercor applied to ESV in June 2018 for four exemptions against the requirements in regulations 7 (1)(ha) and 7 (1)(hb) of the Electricity Safety (Bushfire Mitigation) Regulations 2013 and Section 120M of the Electricity Safety Act.

All but one of the exemptions sought is to exclude underground cables associated with the installation of HV customer isolating transformers from the requirement to be protected by a REFCL. One application associated with the installation of an isolating transformer into its Winchelsea network to manage the high capacitance from more than 53km of underground network.

None of these applications have been forwarded to the committee for advice, at the time of forming this agenda.

### **2. Extension Request**

Both AusNet Services and Powercor had indicated that they may seek extensions to the Tranche 1 dates for REFCLs.

AusNet Services has specifically flagged a time exemption application relating to achieving the required capacity at Woori Yallock.

**Standing actions:**

Action	Status
The Secretariat to provide Members a list of matters where the industry is likely to seek relief from requirements with each meeting agenda.	To be provided with the agenda of the next meeting.
Members to provide advice to the Secretariat on matters where there may be a perceived conflict of interest.	To be provided at or prior to each meeting.
Presenters to send the Secretariat a copy of their presentation a clear two business days before the meeting for distribution to members	To be provided prior to each meeting
Powercor's presentation to include updates on SWER ACR deployment and powerline replacement in Electric Line Construction Areas.	To be provided prior to each meeting
AusNet Services' presentation to include updates on powerline replacement in Electric Line Construction Areas.	To be provided prior to each meeting

**Actions from last meeting:**

Meeting date	Matter	Action	Status
12/06/2018	1.3 Committee Charter	Secretariat to post the revised committee charter on the PBSC web page	Revised committee charter posted on the PBSC web page
	1.4 PBSC Advice Process	Secretariat to finalise the draft process outline including certain explanatory footnotes from the committee's discussion.	Revised draft process circulated to members.
	1.5 ESCV Draft Decision on the review of the Electricity Distribution Code	Chair to provide the committee's advice on the review of the Electricity Distribution Code to the DoES by 15 June 2018	Chair provided the committee's advice to the DoES (13 June 2018)
	1.6 REFCL Program Exemptions	Chair to provide the committee's advice on the six AusNet Services exemption applications to the DoES by 27 June 2018	Chair provided the committee's advice to the DoES (26 June 2018)
	2.2 Previous meeting minutes	Secretariat to post the minutes on the ESV PBSC web page	Adjusted minutes have been emailed to Members & Observers Settled minutes to be posted following the September committee meeting
	3.1 Powercor presentation	Copy of Powercor's Power Point presentation to be distributed to Members and Observers and made available on the ESV PBSC web page	Need to see if posted
	3.2 AusNet Services presentation	Copy of AusNet Services Power Point presentation to be distributed to Members and Observers and made available on the ESV PBSC web page	Need to see if posted
<b>Outcome legend</b>			Open
			Closed

**Outstanding actions from previous meetings:**

Meeting date	Matter	Action	Status
12/12/2017	4.1 Committee Member raised matters –REFCL operation	AusNet Services and Powercor to confirm that their current intended REFCL operation modes are specified in their bushfire mitigation plans.	AusNet Services have confirmed their BFM plan contains their intended REFCL operation modes. Email sent to Members & Observers June 22, 2018.
	4.1 Committee Member raised matters –REFCL operation	AusNet Services and Powercor to provide a <b>narrative</b> out of session, in the next couple of weeks, of their current intended REFCL operation modes contained in their respective bushfire mitigation plans.	AusNet Services have confirmed their BFM plan contains a narrative regarding their intended REFCL operation modes. Email sent to Members & Observers June 22, 2018.
	2.2 Previous meeting minutes	Secretariat to post the minutes on the ESV PBSC web page	Adjusted minutes have been emailed to Members & Observers (June 1, 2018). Minutes on the ESV PBSC web page
	2.4 Outstanding actions from previous meetings	AusNet services and Powercor to confirm the circumstances where and when they intend to bypass the GFN to use a Neutral Earthing Resistor for sustained faults.	AusNet Services have confirmed their BFM plan contains their intended REFCL operation modes which include the use of NERs. Email sent to Members & Observers June 1, 2018.
<b>Outcome legend</b>			Open
			Closed