## Regulatory DEIP Dive Endeavour Energy



Ty Christopher

### A new energy eco-system is emerging, with the increase in

digitalisation and two-way flows enabling end-consumers to have greater control and power





### There are four main areas transforming the energy market

#### **COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE**

- Break down of industry boundaries between electricity, technology, telecommunications and mobility
- Stagnant or declining demand for electricity
- Distributed generation and disconnection from grid enables small start-ups to capture emerging opportunities, with focus on skills and innovation

#### CUSTOMER DEMANDS

- Increasingly mobile, interconnected customers
- · Increasing demand for additional services that go beyond the commodity
- · Convenience and digital engagement becoming more important
- · New technologies will drive new consumer demands and consumption behaviours





- Maturity of technologies (e.g. solar PV, electric vehicles, battery storage, energy efficiency) becoming more cost-competitive in an increasing number of markets
- New technologies such as intelligent grids and smart meters giving enhanced demand-side management opportunities

#### **Energy Market** Transformation

#### **REGULATORY FOCUS**

- Global trend towards tighter regulation around CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and energy efficiency
- Balancing supply security and affordability with environmental impact
- Broad energy reforms possible as new technologies and markets continue to evolve with expanding market base

# Distributed Energy Eccus

### Distributed Energy Focus Areas







### Changing customer expectations

#### Industrial

We are receiving applications from customers to apply new business models for DER integration.

These models seek to apply commercial and physical solutions which operate behind the meter and in front of the meter.

Current rules around NMI's etc were not written with such arrangements in mind.

#### Residential

Economics would appear to be providing a reliable moderating influence.

Increasing solar uptake is increasing the level of cross subsidy between solar generators and electricity consumers





## System operation and security

#### Industrial

Generally larger scale solar generation is well supported by adjacent load, minimising technical issues such as voltage control.

Development of the DER register may prove challenging but is on the right  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{track}}$ 

#### Residential

Micro solar output capacity of 5kW single phase or 30 kW three phase per premise are within system capability and present a low risk to connection.

As DER penetration increases, voltage constraints will continue to emerge.

New technology (low voltage Stat Coms) is available to increase hosting capacity at  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{LV}}$ 

Proactive resetting of distribution transformer taps to facilitate voltage management is occurring

Presently, the vast majority of customers connecting solar or solar + battery systems to Endeavour Energy's network are not constrained in exporting up to their prescribed installation limit.

There has been an increasing trend in voltage based export complaints.

SAP's are a reality. In remote areas they can offer a superior economic and social solution to grid connection.





## System operation and security – example 1

#### Kellyville

Distribution Substation with close to 100% solar penetration.

System sizes 3-5kW.

Voltage reduction undertaken at zone substation. Likely headroom to retap distribution transformer as well.

Routinely has reverse power flows but strong urban network can accommodate this.



DS32302







# System operation and security – examples 2&3

#### Parklea

Analysis shows contribution to peak demand reduction from solar + batteries on peak summer day.



Bungarribee

100% solar penetration, average size2kWReverse power flows on 11kV feederlevel at some times.Strong underground LV network iscoping.









## System operation and security – example 4

#### Kentlyn

Solar DER at urban fringe.

Customer has ~16kW 3-phase solar (compliant installation).

Other solar customers on the same LV feeder (~40kW total solar)

Customer complaint is loss of generation (volt-watt curtailment and trips).

Data shows minimal opportunity to export before curtailment, at best  $\sim$ 3kW can be exported.

LV Stat Com the recommended solution











#### Intelligent Networks and Markets

Acquiring smart meter data from energy retailers and metering coordinators will allow NSP's to monitor edge of grid safety, reliability and security.

The OPEn energy network project demonstrates the need for greater information visibility and coordination.

Due to a lack of visibility of the LV network (via measurement/monitoring), Endeavour Energy's primary knowledge of LV export constraints are through responding to customer complaints.

Customers expect a closer relationship between them and their NSP. Customers want to know about their electricity supply situation in real time.







### Incentives & Network Regulation

Endeavour Energy is currently experiencing a period of significant customer growth, current forecasts are that we will add about 10% to our customer numbers of the next 5 years in greenfield customers.

We expect near to 100% penetration of PV in these new areas to meet the relevant housing code, as evidenced in the previous examples.

When engaging with the AER and stakeholders during our most recent determination process for the period that commences next month there was a great focus on the ADMD used in our planning assumptions for sizing the network. This is of course an appropriate discussion.

However, what this measure does not consider is the expectation of DER generation within those areas and what the "load" from these generation sources may be.

It is entirely conceivable that by reducing the ADMD assumptions we may be creating the environment where localised generation constraints may arise in the future.

As the current range of benchmarking measures and other regulatory assessment tools are focused on consumption load, the allowed network investment will be sized accordingly.







### Incentives & Network Regulation

As customers change how they use the network our perception of the services that the network provides also needs to change to keep pace.

The simplest concept that takes a future proofing view is that the network of the future is an open source network.

An open source network is ambivalent to whether you use network capacity to 'buy' or 'sell' electricity; it only matters that network capacity is used. It is also agnostic to the technology or devices themselves.

If we price the correct network cost drivers – say demand and demand at peak – how relevant is it that a customer uses the network for airconditioning, selling PV energy, or charging an EV?

Telecommunications networks have faced similar economic challenges and approach the issue very differently, but they also have different rules.





### 1

### Distributed Energy Summary





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