

27 October 2025

Laura Walsh
GM Transmission
AusNet Services
Lvl 31, 2 Southbank Boulevard
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Dear Laura

Replacement of Keilor Terminal Station (KTS) 500/220kV transformers

Ausnet currently have a RIT-T underway for the replacement of the existing 3 x 750 MVA 500/220kV transformers at KTS that are approaching end of life. Based on the published documentation for the RIT-T the two main options being considered by Ausnet are replacing the transformers like for like or replacing with larger 1000 MVA units and from the Project Assessment Draft Report (PADR) the preferred option is to replace the transformers with larger 1000 MVA units.

In 2024 AEMO commenced the Western Metro Grid Reinforcement RIT-T to address limitations in the Moorabool-Geelong and Geelong-Deer Park-Keilor 220kV network. The RIT assessment has identified that for majority of the credible options to address the limitations in the scope of the RIT require the upgrading the 500/220kV transformers at KTS to 1000 MVA.

As part of the Victorian Annual Planning Report (VAPR) 2025, AEMO identified that with the latest demand forecasts the Keilor A transformers have now transitioned from being a monitored limitation to a priority limitation, which is the trigger level for AEMO to commence further feasibility studies that may lead to a RIT-T for the transformer loading.

The only credible options that AEMO has identified for either the existing RIT-T and the priority limitation that do not involve replacement of the transformers with larger units, involve either the construction of new 500/220kV transformation and 220 kV lines at either new or existing stations. AEMO anticipates that these options will not be efficient solutions compared to replacing these transformers with larger units and that these options would only delay augmentation of these transformers rather than avoid the need.

Based on the work that AEMO is currently undertaking with the RIT-T and the results of the recent VAPR, AEMO recommend that Ausnet replace the end-of-life transformers with the larger 1000 MVA units as it is expected to be an efficient way to address the planning limitations that AEMO have identified.

Yours sincerely,



Adam Ryan

Manager, Victorian Transmission Planning

AEMO

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