

Appendix 4E: Forecasts of Load Growth

2027-32 Transmission Revenue Reset

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1. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide the forecasts of load growth relied upon to derive the capital expenditure forecasts and the methodology used for developing those forecasts of load growth.

All information is prepared by AEMO and accessible via their website. Published material is in line with clause 5.22.18(b) of the National Electricity Rules, as part of its national transmission planner (NTP) functions.

2. Victorian Connection Point Demand Forecasts

AusNet Services uses the Victorian connection point demand forecasts developed by AEMO as part of its 2024 VAPR to derive the capital expenditure forecasts. This demand forecast provides the maximum active power and reactive power demands forecasted to occur (or be exceeded) in summer and winter, based on a one-in-two-year (50% probability of exceedance, POE) and one-in-ten year (10% POE) likelihood for each financial year within the ten-year planning period.

The connection point demand forecasts are used to assess the amount of load at risk under asset outage conditions, for single and multiple contingencies. These are operational demand forecasts that exclude rooftop solar generation and reflect grid-supplied electricity. However, the economic impact of an asset failure must also consider the impact on load normally supplied by rooftop solar generation to ensure that the risk is not understated. Rooftop PV offsets a significant portion of instantaneous grid demand—about 25% in summer and 10% in winter—so energy-at-risk calculations are scaled up using factors of 1.33 and 1.13 respectively to account for true underlying demand. The methodology for integrating load that is normally supplied by rooftop solar PV into the forecast is explained in AMS 10-24, Section 10.3.1.3¹.

Forecasts are produced independently for each connection point (referred to as non-coincident forecasts) and at times of regional maximum demand (referred to as coincident forecasts). When an asset outage affects load supplied by a single connection point, non-coincident demand forecasts are used. When multiple connection points are impacted, coincident demand forecasts are used. The summation tool developed by AusNet Services to extract these demand forecasts is included as an appendix to this proposal².

The connection point demand forecasts developed by AEMO as part of its 2024 VAPR have been used, as they represent the most complete and publicly available data available to AusNet Services at the time of assessment.

¹ AMS 10-24 Asset Renewal Planning Guide

² Appendix 4E AEMO 2024 Victorian Connection Point Demand Forecast Summation Tool

3. Schedule of revisions

ISSUE	DATE	AUTHOR	DETAILS OF CHANGE
1	28/07/2020	D Erzetic-Graziani	Initial revision
2	30/10/2025	T Mehta	General update

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