

22 June 2023

Notice of suspension of Pilbara Network Rules – Chapter 6 – Generation Adequacy

In accordance with Rule 151 of the Pilbara Network Rules (the Rules), the ISO advises the suspension of Chapter 6 – Generation Adequacy.

The ISO has made this decision considering that, having regard to the overall balance between generation and load in the power system, the primary objective in Rule 150(1) will likely be achieved whether or not the processes in this Chapter 6 are followed.

The primary objective of Chapter 6 is to ensure that the power system has enough installed generating capacity, to give reasonable confidence in accordance with GEIP and applicable laws, that the power system will remain secure and reliable at times of power system peak demand, despite credible contingencies including planned and unplanned outages.

The secondary objective of Chapter 6 is to achieve the primary objective as simply, and with as little compliance burden and cost, as practicable.

As per Rule 152(1)(a), Chapter 6 does not apply in respect of a non-covered network, instead under Rule 152(1)(b) the ISO may require non-covered Network Service Providers (NSPs) to confirm that the balance between generation and load in its network is appropriate in accordance with GEIP. After inquiring with relevant non-covered NSPs and reviewing SCADA data the ISO is satisfied that the balance of generation and load on non-covered networks is adequate.

For covered networks, the ISO has reviewed installed generation capacity and load using SCADA data provided by the covered NSPs, and found that there is around 150% excess installed generation capacity.

Generation adequacy assessment studies were undertaken using the Pilbara ISOC Co full system model, as at 1 April 2023.

The generation adequacy assessment reviewed the installed generation capacity to see if the system will have adequate generation capacity at times of peak demand and after credible contingency events. The assessment found that generation availability was adequate for both transmission line outages and generator contingencies in the system.

The ISO will monitor supply and demand changes in the NWIS, and will review the suspension of Chapter 6 Generation Adequacy periodically and following changes to the system including “new connections” as defined in Rule 267 of the Rules.