

# South-West Renewable Energy Zone: Update to Access Fee Guidelines and draft Determination

December 2024



## In its role as the Consumer Trustee, AEMO Services (ASL) has made an Access Fee Determination that sets Access Fees for the South-West Renewable Energy Zone (SW REZ).

ASL as the Consumer Trustee has the function under section 26 of the *Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020* (NSW) (EII Act) of setting Access Fees that are payable to the Scheme Financial Vehicle (SFV) by Access Right Holders in an Access Scheme.

The Consumer Trustee has made an Access Fee Determination for the SW REZ and updated the SW REZ Access Fee Guidelines to provide clarity to NSW electricity customers and potential Access Right Holders in the SW REZ.

This document sets out a high-level summary of the key changes between the May 2024 Access Fee Guidelines and draft Access Fee Determination, and the final Access Fee Determination and updated Access Fee Guidelines. It does not identify all changes to those documents that may be relevant to NSW electricity customers and potential Access Right Holders.

### Summary of key changes:

- The Access Fee Determination applies to all Access Right Holders who hold an Initial Allocation Access Right. This is different to the previous approach where a separate Determination was proposed to be made for each project (and for each Access Right Holder).
- The Access Fee is set based on a \$/MW formula contained in Annexure 1 of the Determination, which will be applied quarterly at 0.625% per quarter (2.5 % per annum). The formula will be applied by the SFV when it issues quarterly invoices to Access Right Holders. This is different to the previous approach where the Determination was proposed to contain an Access Fee schedule setting out the quarterly access fees for the relevant project. This change does not affect the quantum of fees payable by access right holders.

- The Access Fee Determination no longer contains any variation events or a variation process. The Determination has been simplified so that variation events are no longer required, and Access Fees are now set based on the formula set out in the Determination.
- The 5% maximum cap on reductions in an Access Fee resulting from a decrease in an Access Right Holder's Maximum Capacity is removed. Any changes in Maximum Capacity are administered by the Infrastructure Planner via the Access Rights Register.
- As a result of the above simplifications, an Access Fee Calculator is no longer required.
- The note in the Guidelines that Access Fees are determined differently for standalone storage and hybrid projects has been removed as this is not relevant to the SW REZ.
- The Guidelines now identify Transgrid as the network operator of the SW REZ Access Rights Network.