





## 1. INTRODUCTION

At its first meeting held on February 22, the Market Advisory Committee (MAC) agreed to establish a Working Group to develop a Revised Reserve Capacity Refund Mechanism. This requirement arose following identification of shortcomings with the present arrangement in its early

- The wording describing the refund mechanism in the Market Rules requires more clarity
- The workings of the Market Rules do not reflect the intention of the refund mechanism

The Working Group was established in March 2011 under the terms of Reference which is attached as Appendix

The Working Group has met three times and has developed a structure for presentation to the MAC for discussion

The Working Group has also developed a set of refund rules that could apply in various trading interests and this is also provided to the MAC as a basis for final refund arrangement for discussion

## 2. THE REFUND MECHANISM

Facilities that have been assigned Capacity Credits are, unless they are undergoing an approved outage required to be refunded to the Market in the event that they are unable to offer their full capacity through bilateral contracts or into the EM. The development of the original refund mechanism was based on a number of significant objects for the success of the Market, albeit that some of the objectives were conflicting

- The level of refunds for each outage should be set at the appropriate level to provide the incentive for generators to meet their Reserve Capacity Obligations
- There should be a very strong incentive on peaking plants to deliver capacity when required, especially where there is no other spare generation capacity available on the system, but that these plants should only be called on to run for a few hours each year
- There should be a strong incentive to encourage capacity providers to perform well at other times of the year when scheduled outages reduce the available system capacity
- The refund rules should be high enough to encourage good operational performance, they should not be so high as to deter investment or force capacity providers to include an excessive risk component into their pricing

The Working Group determined that equity between participants should also be considered in developing the mechanism in particular in the context of a given size

say 'M' should increase the size of the reference of ref and irrespective of whether this is a  
function of 'M' unit or a partial function of say 'M' unit

References are determined in accordance with Market Rules and Regulations. Copies  
of these Rules are attached as Appendix

References that apply comprise

- A reference that applies in each period or off period trading interval
- A cap that is applied per day
- A cap that is applied to the total reference applied in any season
- An annual cap based on the amount of Reserve Capacity payments received by the facility

It is intended that a facility that experienced a short outage or a high initial  
reference. For longer outages the total reference would be capped by the daily season

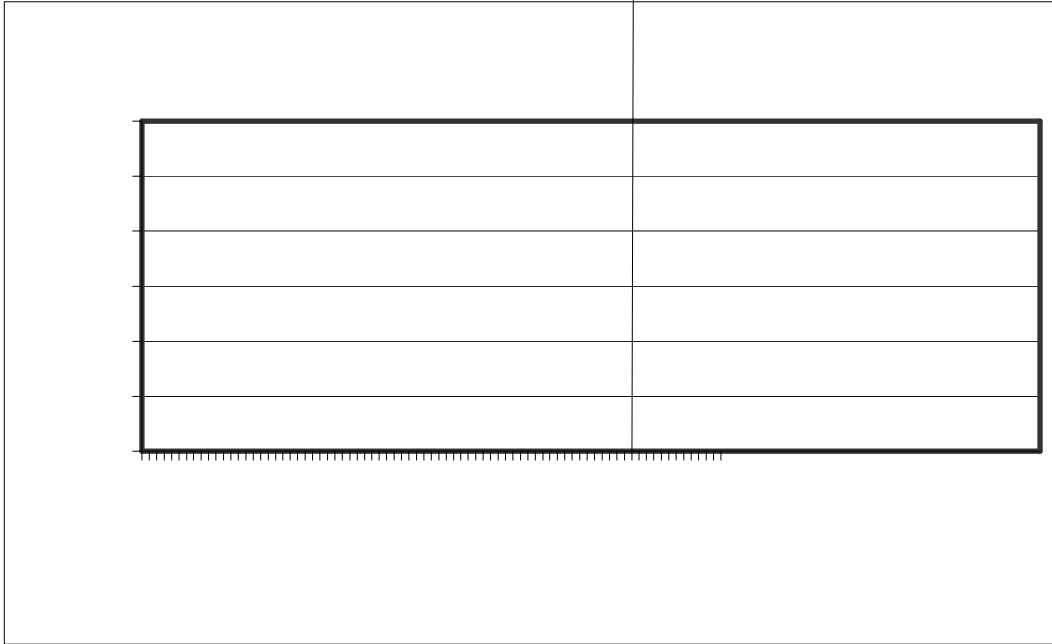
The third option is not pursued in detail; this approach is considered to be more suitable for an energy only market changes in the Eastern States

#### 4. REWORKING OF THE EXISTING MARKET RULES

The original intention is to have a high reference mechanism

- Applied a high reference for the initial trading interval

**Figure 1 – Hot Season Refunds**  
(“Y” is set at \$1.00 per Trading Interval. Facility Capacity = 1 MW)



After consideration and analysis, the Working Group concluded that it does not appear possible to fully address all of these issues within this approach and therefore developed an alternative.

## 5. ALINTA SALES' INTERPRETATION OF THE MARKET RULES

The reference in the Market Rules to the term "per average MW shortfall per trading interval" in the Season and Market Rule 6.1 defines the reference as the Maximum Season Rate determined in accordance with the Reference multiplied by the average trading interval Capacity.

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of any other is, in effect, to be ~~se~~ ere For this reason it is proposed that a



**Table 2. Out Workings of Revised Refund Rates (for 2007/08)**

Month	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
No of days												
No of Business Days												
No of non business days												
Refund rates per trading inter												
Business days per inter												
Non Business days per inter												
Advisory Off per inter												
Average refund for continuous outage												
Average for business days												
Average for non business days												
Average for month												

The three lines highlighted in yellow show the refund rates that would apply in each trading inter. These are taken directly from the table. This shows the three rates that apply to

- Business day per trading inter
- Non business day per trading inter
- Non per trading inter for other business and non business days

The two lines highlighted in green show the average refund rate that would apply to a facility that has a forced outage extending for a full day. The current provisions of the Market Rules establish a daily refund rate which is capped at times Y. Under the proposed arrangement the daily refund is reduced

- On business days in the winter season the daily advisory refund would be times Y for December and January and nearly times Y for the February and March
- The advisory refunds for a full outage on non business days would be times Y or times Y

The three figures highlighted in blue show the average refund rate that would apply to a facility that has a forced outage which lasts for a full season

- times Y for an outage that lasts the full winter/early season
- times Y for an outage lasting the full winter season
- times Y for an outage lasting the full Cold season

These refund rates are a little higher than the seasonal caps that are in the current Market Rules

The last line on the table shows the accumulation of refunds that would occur if a facility has a forced outage that commences at the start of the capacity year and

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## Appendix 1 - Terms of Reference

### *The Reserve Capacity Refund Mechanism Group*

#### **SCOPE**

The Reserve Capacity Refund arrangements need to be better aligned with the Market Objectives and the original intent of the Reserve Capacity Refund concept. The MO has prepared a discussion paper that outlines the issues with the current Market Rule provisions and has put forward some alternative arrangements for consideration.

In order to propose an alternative set of refund arrangements

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## Appendix 2 – Market Rules

### Market Rule 4.26.1

If a Market Participant holding Capacity Credits fails to comply with its Reserve Capacity Obligations then the Market Participant shall refund to the MO the amount in accordance with the following provisions

#### REFUND TABLE

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Season	Cold	Intermediate	Hot
Dates	April to October	October to December	December to April

**Market Rule 4.26.3**

For each Market Participant holding Capacity Credits the MO shall determine the amount of the refund **Capacity Cost Refund** to be applied for trading Month in respect of Capacity Shortfalls defined in cases occurring that trading Month. The Capacity Cost Refund is the lesser of

- the Market Refund determined in accordance with the Refund Rate less Capacity Cost Refunds applicable to the Market Participant in previous trading Months falling in the same Capacity Year as trading Month; and
- the Market Season Rate determined in accordance with the Refund Rate multiplied by the average trading net Capacity Shortfall calculated over the season within which trading Month falls less the sum of the Capacity Cost Refund in Capacity Years