

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ELECTRICITY ENGINEERS' ASSOCIATION AND THE ELECTRICITY NETWORKS ASSOCIATION

Introduction

The Electricity Networks Association (ENA) is the industry membership body that represents the local electricity distribution businesses (lines companies). ENA's primary role is to guide the development of policy for the electricity distribution sector, to engage with government agencies on the sector's behalf and to co-ordinate communications and other activities on behalf of the lines companies.

The Electricity Engineers' Association (EEA) is a "pan-industry" membership body in the Electricity Supply Industry (generation, transmission, distribution, and contractors, consultants and equipment suppliers) representing its members on technical, engineering and safety issues. EEA includes Corporate Member organisations and individual professional engineering and H&S members.

Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to set out the key areas of activity for each organisation thereby enabling collaboration, efficient engagement and avoiding duplication of effort and enabling each organisation to work effectively to support their members' interests.

The MoU also supports effective co-operation and understanding between ENA and EEA when dealing with issues of mutual interest. The intention is to facilitate an integrated relationship between the two associations by promoting co-operation and communication on relevant issues.

Areas of responsibility

ENA

ENA is the collective voice for the lines companies and takes the lead on all issues that affect them. This will primarily be in political engagement and advocacy focussing on economic and market regulation areas, strategic leadership on Health & Safety and may also include other issues, as directed by its members.

Areas where ENA takes the lead include:

- Market regulation
- Economic regulation
- Distribution pricing
- Workplace Health and Safety – Strategic leadership

- Electricity Price Reviews
- Future networks and associated technologies
- Vegetation Regulation
- Private service lines
- Customer engagement

EEA

EEA provides engagement, advocacy, advice and support for the whole Electricity Supply Industry (generation, transmission, distribution, contractors, consultants and equipment suppliers). This is primarily in the areas of policy, operational support and guidance relating to Member needs in the areas of engineering (including asset management) safety, health and professional development but may also include other areas as directed by the EEA Executive Committee on behalf of its Membership.

Areas where EEA takes the lead or facilitates industry engagement include:

- Workplace Health and Safety – Regulation, Standards, guides, and industry reporting
- Engineering/Technical – Regulation, Standards, guides, and industry reporting
- Asset Management – Regulations, Standards, guides, and industry reporting
- Emerging technologies –Technical and Safety Regulations, Standards, guides and industry reporting
- Professional Development – Engineering, technical, safety and health
- National and international Standards development

Areas of Joint Interest

ENA and EEA will where appropriate:

- Share knowledge and information to support their members' common aims, objectives and needs;
- Develop and share a common understanding of industry issues and concerns;
- Support and share the development and adoption of good practice Regulation, guidance, and details of successful initiatives;
- Work together to address jointly agreed priority issues;
- Explore the possibilities for collaborative research and guide development in areas of mutual interest;

- Work together to ensure that the views of the electricity sector as a whole are represented when regulatory impacts on health and safety and other operational issues are identified. This may include joint responses to consultations as appropriate;
- Where agreed, the associations will work together on distribution network asset management, operational and other technical aspects in order to present innovative and effective solutions.
- Cooperate in other ways, such as the organisation of joint events and workshops where this would best serve their members' interests.

Operation

Both organisations will meet on a regular basis to update each other on work programmes and to look for opportunities to collaboration areas of shared interest.

This may include the development of an agreed shared priority list.

Both associations will make sure that, where there is an area of mutual interest, clear lines of communication are agreed, and messages are consistent.

Each association agrees to regard information shared as confidential unless otherwise agreed.

There will be a regular review of the agreed shared priority list and the effectiveness of any joint working and either association may initiate a general review of areas of responsibility and/or areas of joint interest at any time.

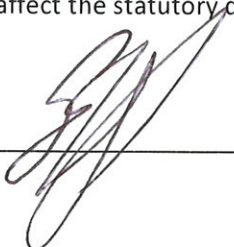
All decisions on the operation of this MoU will rest with the individual association and their member companies.

This MoU is not intended by either association to be legally binding and it is recognised that nothing in this MoU shall affect the statutory duties or responsibilities of either association.

Signed by

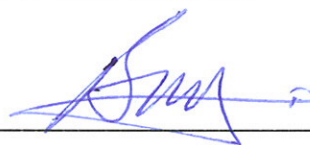
Graeme Peters

Chief Executive, ENA



Peter Berry

Executive Director, EEA



Annex 1

Priority Issues (2018 - 2022)

- Support a consistent approach to the identification, assessment and management of industry health and safety hazards and risks (including fatal and high impact low probability risks);
- Support the development of robust industry guidelines for effectively managing LV work (both live and de-energised);
- Monitor the effectiveness of the EEA guidelines for selection of HV work method;
- Support the development of robust industry guidelines for effectively and safely managing switching operations;
- Support the development of a common H&S competency framework for the Electricity Distribution Businesses (EDBs);
- Support the development and application of Asset Management, Asset Criticality and Asset Resilience Guidelines
- Work together to successfully address the issues surrounding Network Transformation Road Map and Private Electricity Service Lines;
- Focus on the work-related health risks that are identified as priorities within the ESI to ensure that they are being effectively documented and support the development of targeted intervention programmes where appropriate to achieve effective management of the risks;
- Work together pro-actively to facilitate the assessment of health and safety risks from new and emerging technologies, processes and work procedures;
- Promote health and well-being in ESI workplaces;
- Support ongoing work to develop meaningful ESI leading and lagging indicators;
- Support the next formal review of the Safety Manual – Electricity Industry (to begin in 2019);
- Improve collective systems for sharing lessons learned from incidents and near misses;
- Co-operate in the forthcoming review of the Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations;
- Co-operate in the forthcoming review of Electricity Safety Regulations;
- Co-operate on common issues involving government agencies including but not limited to MBIE, Worksafe, Commerce Commission and Electricity Authority

- Monitor standards development for potential impact on EDB operations. Provide constructive input to standards setting, the implementation of new standards and advocacy for new standards where a need is identified;
- Co-operate to ensure an effective ESI voice to Government regarding the new Government H&S strategy 2018 – 2028;