



Residential Energy Management  
Forum

# Report of the Second Meeting

of the

# Residential Energy Management Forum

Energy Australia Energy Efficiency Centre  
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prepared by

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## Report of the Discussions of the Residential Energy Forum Meeting Two

### ***Introduction***

The need to be aware of other related projects, such as the I-Grid involving CSIRO and UTS, and Smart Grid was recognised, and it was agreed that the relationship between the REM Forum and other related initiatives needs to be clarified and clearly established. It was emphasised that there was a valid space for the REM Forum between Smart Grid uptake and individual proprietorial systems in the market place.

It was also acknowledged that there are many players in the supplier chains to the REM industry who are seeking guidance on likely forms of development so they can make necessary preparations, particularly in training.

### ***Objectives***

The draft objectives, as shown below, were discussed.

Recognising:

1. the economic benefits to be realised by the establishment of effective residential energy management in Australia; and
2. that residential energy management needs to encompass energy efficiency, demand response and dynamic demand mechanisms and their interaction.

The proposed objectives of the REM Forum are:

- To foster a REM network to share ideas and experience, provide a mechanism to foster and conduct debate, and plan for the development of a REM industry.
- To pursue 'agreement' between the various players and stakeholders in a potential REM industry over a mutually beneficial pathway to development.
- To raise public awareness of the needs and opportunities for energy demand management and conservation.

Proposed amendments included:

- inclusion of environmental as well as economic benefits;
- rephrasing the objectives in terms of triple bottom line benefits to all parties;
- consideration of the inclusion of other utilities;
- consideration of extending the scope to incorporate the design industry;
- redrafting as action-oriented, rather than merely scene-setting objectives.

Revised objectives for consideration are:

*Recognising:*



1. *the significant economic, environmental and community benefits that could be realised by the establishment of effective residential energy management practices and services in Australia; and*
2. *that residential energy management needs to encompass energy efficiency, demand response and dynamic demand mechanisms and their interaction, and the perspective of the consumer as well as the other major players in energy supply.*

*The proposed objectives of the REM Forum are:*

- *To foster a REM network to share ideas and experience, provide a mechanism to foster and conduct debate, and plan for the development of a REM industry.*
- *To pursue 'agreement' between the various players and stakeholders in a potential REM industry over a mutually beneficial pathway to development.*
- *To raise awareness in the general community, with politicians and government officials, and with industry of the needs and opportunities for energy demand management and conservation.*

### **Membership**

A preliminary list of organisations that were expected to have an interest in the REM Forum was provided Annex 1). . A request was made to participants to examine the list and identify any major gaps or weaknesses and pass this information to John Fennell.

### **Schematic of the REM Landscape**

A brief presentation was made of the schematic of the REM landscape developed by Peter Seebacher, based on eleven distinct fields within the market space (Annex 2). While the detail of the schematic was not made available for consideration, there was general support for further development of the schematic and its distribution to members for detailed consideration. Specific suggestions included:

- development of an architecture of the actors, services, regulations and standards relevant to REM;
- inclusion of the three major nodes of the energy equation – generation, consumption and storage;
- more precise definition of the functional requirements of the services identified;
- the need to be aware of the six-months timeframe to feed into the process of service functionality associated with the National Broadband Network (NBN)
- recognition that compliance with AS4755 would be instituted from 2010 and mandatory for the industry by 2012.



### **Communication between REM members**

The establishment of the REM Forum website at [www.REMFORUM.com.au](http://www.REMFORUM.com.au) was reported. Members were invited to provide suggestions for content and functionality development. There was broad agreement that the site needed to be far more active, for example through the establishment of an effectively moderated Wiki web tool.

### **Future Program**

There was some discussion of the next major activities, with an emphasis on a Discussion Paper designed to identify the value of a strong REM capability in Australia and the key steps to its achievement through a focused roadmap. It was agreed that considerable clarification was required, in terms of scope, terms of reference, audience and timelines. There would be particular value in identifying gaps in the current and emerging systems. It would also be useful if it were possible to influence the near-term AMI rollouts in the various States.

*A proposed program to carry these objectives forward is:*

#### **Step 1 (February 2010)**

*Preparation of a report, building on the broad industry schematic, to clearly identify and scope major issues likely to shape REM, such as:*

- *what are the major drivers of a future REM demand;*
- *what are the preferred means of engagement with Smart Grids and I – Grids; where will the Smart Grid stop?*
- *the elements of the supply and management of energy that a REM industry might address and be responsible for;*
- *the roles of the various industry players;*
- *the relative influence of utilities, retailers, aggregators, appliance manufacturers, designers and consumers in shaping the structure and delivery of REM;*
- *an appropriate framework for connection to appliances.*

*Consideration of the report at a February meeting of the REM Forum.*

*Preparation (at the meeting) of some preliminary likely scenarios of the development of REM*

#### **Step 2 (April 2010)**

- *Assimilation of feedback on the report of February 2010 meeting*
- *Further development and refinement of the scenarios*
- *Preparation of an assessment of the likely characteristics of predominant (primary?) and secondary technologies*
- *Assessment of the requirements for standards architecture*
- *Analysis and cost assessment of installation*
- *Alignment with NBN roll out*
- *Identify need for REM research*



**Step 3 (July 2010)***Market assessment by consumers**Review of Step 2 report conclusions by key industry forum members and Government**Develop framework for an Industry position paper**Identify next steps***Step 4 (September 2010)***Review and develop Industry Position paper**Agree to method of dissemination**Agree on methods of industry support**Establish guidelines for development of REM Industry Roadmap and possible trial.****The Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering as Host for the REM Forum***

Mike Dureau outlined the operations of the Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering and the model it operated within in managing projects. It was agreed that the Warren Centre was an appropriate host, and approval is to be sought from the Warren Centre Board at its next meeting to take on the REM project.

***Membership, Governance and Financial Arrangements***

It was agreed that the REM Forum should make the move to a more formal structure, with an agreement that all institutional members should meet a sponsorship fee of \$5000 per annum, in order to provide the necessary budget for the next phase of operations.



## Participants

### Apologies

Glenn Wightwick  
George Wilkenfeld  
Martin Thomas

### Attendees

Dynalite	Aaron Castles
Dynalite	Anthony Seddon
Tytronics	Brian Smith
Connections Research	Cassandra Phillips
Service Stream	Chad Orr
Energy Response	Dean Spaccavento
Pacific HiFi	Frank Di Bartolo
Wilkenfeld and Associates	George Wilkenfeld
CSIRO	Greg Foliente
AREMA	Greg Groppenbacher
Integral Energy	Ian Lett
NECA	Jim Tinslay
CDC	John Fennell
CISCO	Kevin Block
ActewAGL	Lucas Millmore
AIG	Mark Amos
Alcatel	Max Bryan
Warren Centre	Michael Dureau
Wessex Consult	Michael Davidson
ENA	Peter Birk
AusEng	Peter Seebacher
CSIRO	Phillip Paevere
Daikin	Robert Beggs
Ergon	Robert Wilson
Uni Of Sydney	Ron Johnston
Intel	Sean Casey
Clipsal	Simon Wehr
CDC	Stephen Freeth
Sinclair Knight Merz	Tony Strasser
NECA	Vicky Rigler



## Annex 1 Organisations to be invited

Actew AGL
Ai Group
AIG
AIIA
Alcatel
Ampy Email Meter
AREMA
AusEng
CDC
CISCO
Clipsal
Connections Research
Consumer Action Law Centre
Country Energy
CSIRO
Daikin
Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism
Dulhunty Power
ENA
Energex
Energia
Energy Division Dpt of Primary Industries
Energy Response
Ergon
ETSA
Foxtel
Google
HIA
IBM
Intel
Integral Energy
Itech Corporation Pty Ltd
Landis & Gyr
Lighting Council of Australia
Macquarie Bank
Microsoft
Mitsubishi
NECA
NICTA
Service Stream
Simon Barnes
Sinclair Knight Merz
Society for Knowledge Economist
Telstra - Sydney
Tyree



Tytronics
Uni Of Sydney
Warren Centre
Western Power
Westpac
Westpac
Whitespace Private Equity
Wilkenfeld and Associates

