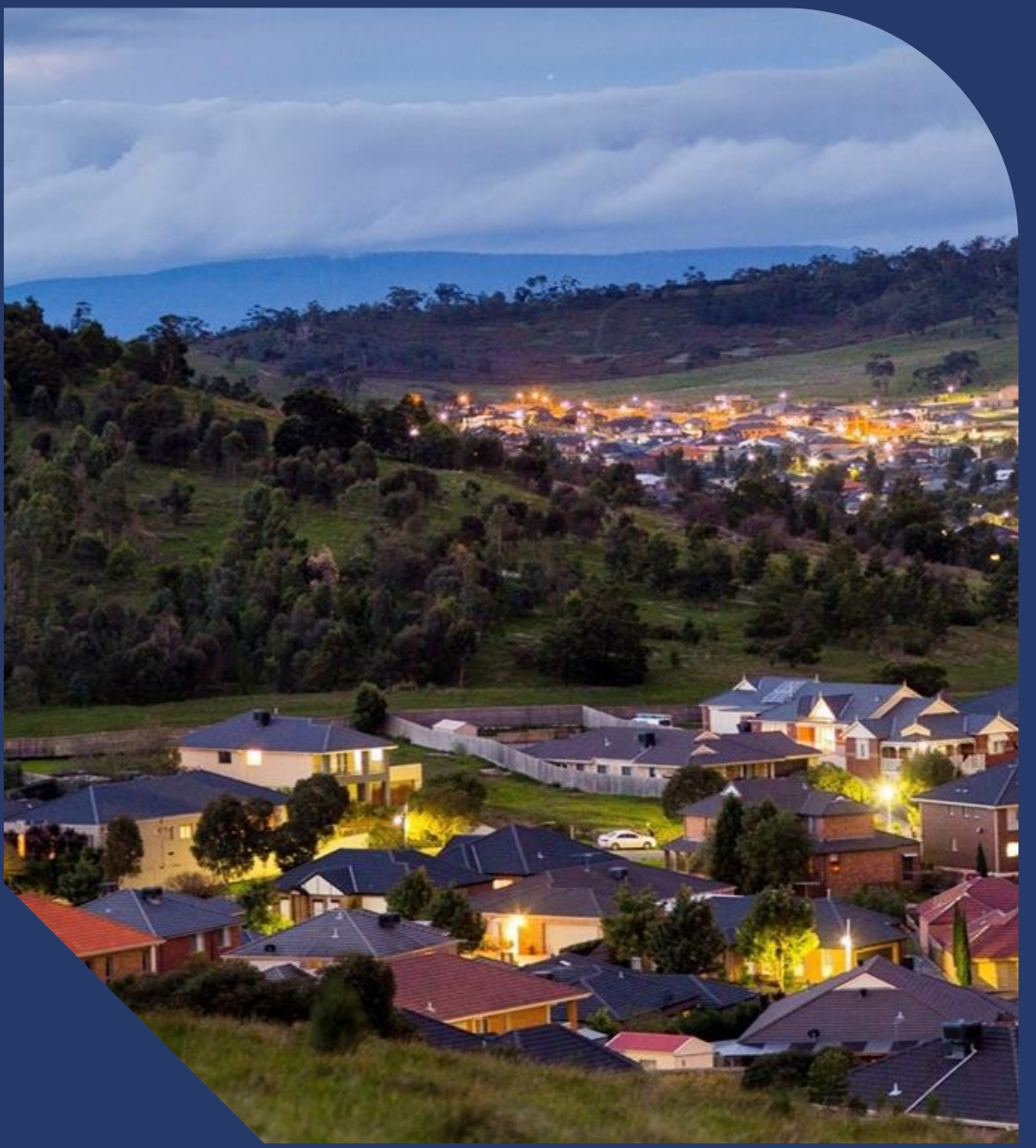
AusNet

REFCL Bairnsdale (BDL) augmentation project

Regulatory Investment Test for Distribution

Draft Project Assessment Report

Monday, 27 October 2025



AusNet

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1. Executive summary

AusNet is a regulated Victorian Distribution Network Service Provider (DNSP) that supplies electrical distribution services to more than 809,000 electricity customers. Our electricity distribution network covers eastern rural Victoria and the fringe of the northern and eastern Melbourne metropolitan area.

As expected by our customers and required by the various regulatory instruments that we operate under, AusNet aims to maintain service levels at the lowest possible cost to our customers. To achieve this outcome, we develop forward looking plans that aim to maximise the present value of economic benefit to all those who produce, consume and transport electricity in the National Electricity Market (NEM).

Our approach is to consider network and non-network options on their merits, so that we meet our customers' needs and our compliance obligations at the lowest total cost. Where applicable, we also prepare, publish, and consult on a regulatory investment test for distribution (RIT-D), which further helps ensure all credible options are identified and considered, and the best option is selected.

The Rapid Earth Fault Current Limiter (REFCL) reduces the risk of powerlines starting bushfires by rapidly limiting the current that is released in a phase to earth fault. The installation of REFCLs is driven by the Electricity Safety (Bushfire Mitigation) Regulations 2023 (the Regulations), which require us to meet the "required capacity" at zone substations that are listed in Schedule 1, which includes Bairnsdale zone substation (BDL). At present, REFCLs are the only technology available that is capable of achieving the "required capacity", as defined by the Regulations.

In April 2021, AusNet achieved compliance with the Regulations at BDL through the installation of two REFCLs. However, subsequent network growth at BDL means that action is required to maintain compliance. The nature of the compliance obligations and the particular circumstances at BDL led us to conclude that there are no credible non-network or Standalone Power System (SAPS) options capable of addressing this identified need.

This Draft Project Assessment Report (DPAR) is the second stage of the RIT-D consultation process in relation to the REFCL BDL augmentation project. The DPAR follows our earlier publication of a notice of determination in accordance with clause 5.17.4(d) of the National Electricity Rules (NER), which explained that there are no credible non-network or Standalone Power System (SAPS) options that could address the identified need relating to the REFCL BDL augmentation project.

This DPAR has been prepared by AusNet in accordance with the requirements of clause 5.17 of the NER. This document complies with the requirements of Clause 5.17.4(j) of the NER, as detailed in section 7 of this document, and the AER's RIT - D application guidelines, November 2024.

1.1. Identified Need

The area served by BDL has experienced significant network growth, which is expected to continue. This growth, which includes additional underground networks, means that the capacitive current limits of 144A on Bus 3 and 107A on Bus 4 provided by the existing REFCLs are no longer adequate. As a consequence, future compliance with the Regulations cannot be maintained at BDL in the absence of remedial action. The identified need, therefore, is to maintain compliance with the Regulations at BDL so that bushfire risk is reduced in the affected communities in accordance with the purpose of the Regulations.

As the identified need is driven by a compliance obligation, it is a 'reliability corrective action', which is defined in the NER as follows:

> "means investment by a *Transmission Network Service Provider* or a *Distribution Network Service Provider* in respect of its *transmission network* or *distribution network* for the purpose of meeting the service standards linked to the technical requirements of schedule 5.1 or in *applicable regulatory instruments* or *SAPS performance and supply standards* and which may consist of *network options* or *non-network options*."

The Regulations fall within the definition of an *applicable regulatory instrument* and, therefore, the identified need is for reliability corrective action.

1.2. Options considered and preferred option

The options considered in this DPAR are:

- 'Do nothing' or Business as Usual (BAU). This option is not credible as it results in non-compliance with the Regulations. The do nothing or BAU option is used in RIT-Ds as a base case from which the costs and benefits of other options are assessed.
- Option 1: Install a third REFCL at BDL and associated works; and
- Option 2: Install a remote REFCL on BDL44 and an additional remote REFCL in 2029 to reduce capacitive current demand on BDL and provide an additional 22kV bus at BDL in 2033.

Alternative solutions, including transfers and isolation transformers, were evaluated but did not achieve the necessary reduction in capacitance to postpone implementation of the aforementioned options. This RIT-D has identified Option 1 as the preferred option.

1.3. Submissions on this DPAR

In accordance with Clause 5.17.4(k) of the NER, we request submissions on the matters set out in this DPAR. Notification of this request for submissions will also be provided to Registered Participants, AEMO, non-network providers, interested parties and persons on our industry engagement register as required by the NER.

Submissions should be sent to ritdconsultations@ausnetservices.com.au by 12 December 2025. Submissions will be published on AusNet's website. If you do not wish to have your submission published, please clearly stipulate this at the time of lodging your submission.

2. Project background

2.1. Bushfire risk mitigation

AusNet Services' network operates in a unique geographical location, some of which is exposed to extreme bushfire risk. These conditions warrant significant investment to mitigate the risk of bushfires as a result of earth faults on the distribution network.

The Victorian Bushfire Royal Commission, established in 2009, made several recommendations with respect to fires initiated from electricity distribution networks. Subsequently, the Victorian Government established the Powerline Bushfire Safety Taskforce (PBST) to investigate new cost efficient and effective technologies and operational practices to reduce catastrophic bushfire risk. In this regard, the PBST identified REFCLs installed in zone substations as an efficient and effective technology.

The installation and application of REFCL technology at 22 AusNet zone substations was mandated the Victorian Government through the enactment of the Electricity Safety (Bushfire Mitigation) Amendment Regulations in 2016. BDL is one of the 22 zone substations in AusNet's service area where the Regulations and the following requirements apply:

- each polyphase electric line originating from a listed zone substation must have the "required capacity" specified in the Bushfire Mitigation Regulations;
- testing for the "required capacity" must be undertaken before the specified bushfire risk period each year and a report detailing the results of testing submitted to Energy Safe Victoria (ESV); and
- each new or replaced line with a nominal voltage from 1 kV to 22 kV inclusive must be covered or undergrounded in prescribed electric line construction areas.

The "required capacity" for a polyphase line originating from a selected zone substation is defined by the legislation as follows:

> …in the event of a phase-to-ground fault on a polyphase electric line, the ability—
>
> (a) to reduce the voltage on the faulted conductor in relation to the station earth when measured at the corresponding zone substation for high impedance fault to 250 volts within 2 seconds; and
>
> (b) to reduce the voltage on the faulted conductor in relation to the station earth when measured at the corresponding zone substation for low impedance faults to—
>
> (i) 1900 volts within 85 milliseconds; and
>
> (ii) 750 volts within 500 milliseconds; and
>
> (iii) 250 volts within 2 seconds; and
>
> (c) during diagnostic tests for high impedance faults, to limit—
>
> (i) fault current to 0.5 amps or less; and
>
> (ii) the thermal energy on the electric line to a maximum I2t value of 0.10 units.

As explained below, it is the compliance with the "required capacity" that is the driver of the investment that is required at BDL, which is the subject of this RIT-D.

2.2. Bairnsdale zone substation

BDL is a key component of the East Gippsland 66kV network, transforming high-voltage electricity from the grid into lower voltages to serve thousands of customers. It supplies power to the 22 kV network and features resonant earthing for bushfire mitigation, a technology that significantly reduces fault currents and improves safety. BDL is one of six zone substations in the East Gippsland network, which is the longest in AusNet's system.

To comply with the Regulations described in the previous section, AusNet completed its REFCL installation program in three tranches. The required works at BDL were completed in April 2021 as part of Tranche 2. These works included the installation of two REFCLs that have capacitive current limits of 144A on Bus 3 and 107A on Bus 4.

Subsequently, network growth in the service area served by BDL means that capacitance exceeds the existing current limit of 107A on Bus 4, with the latest measured capacitive current being 138A and is forecast to increase further. Additionally, the 144A limit on Bus 3 is forecast to be exceeded in 2029. Compliance with the Regulations is

currently achieved by manually adjusting the set point to the lowest acceptable minimum level of 11 volts. This value represents the lowest setting AusNet will operate REFCLs to ensure reliability on Total Fire Ban days. Operating below this setting requires active and dynamic monitoring of the station by a dedicated resource on Total Fire Ban days. If not addressed, additional network growth, particularly with underground cables, will mean the existing REFCL performance at BDL will become non-compliant and will be unable to reduce bushfire risk as intended.

3. Identified need

The area served by BDL has experienced significant network growth, which is expected to continue. This growth, which includes additional underground networks, means that the capacitive current limit of 144A on Bus 3 and 107A on Bus 4 provided by the existing REFCLs is no longer adequate. As a consequence, future compliance with the Regulations cannot be maintained at BDL in the absence of remedial action. The identified need, therefore, is to maintain compliance with the Regulations at BDL so that bushfire risk is reduced in the affected communities in accordance with the purpose of the Regulations.

As the identified need is driven by a compliance obligation, it is a 'reliability corrective action', which is defined in the NER as follows:

> "means investment by a *Transmission Network Service Provider* or a *Distribution Network Service Provider* in respect of its *transmission network* or *distribution network* for the purpose of meeting the service standards linked to the technical requirements of schedule 5.1 or in *applicable regulatory instruments* or *SAPS performance and supply standards* and which may consist of *network options* or *non-network options*."

The Regulations fall within the definition of an *applicable regulatory instrument* and, therefore, the identified need is for reliability corrective action.

4. Assumptions underpinning the identified need

The principal assumptions underpinning the identified need are:

- the Regulations will continue to apply at BDL. We regard this assumption as reasonable, given the continuing importance of mitigating bushfire risk; and
- the projected increase in network growth requires remedial action in order to maintain compliance with the Regulations. We regard this assumption as reasonable, as the existing capacitance on Bus 4 exceeds the 107A limit and network growth, including through new connections, is expected to continue in the area served by BDL. Additionally, the 144A limit on Bus 3 is forecast to be exceeded in 2029

In conducting the cost benefit analysis, our methodology will consider:

- the available options to maintain compliance at BDL; and
- the costs of each option.

AusNet notes that as the identified need is for reliability corrective action, the preferred option does not need to provide a positive net market benefit in order to satisfy the RIT-D.

4.1. Regulatory obligations

As already noted, the Regulations impose technical obligations on AusNet, which include a requirement that each polyphase electric line originating from BDL must have the "required capacity" as described in section 2.1. The identified need is driven by this regulatory obligation.

In addition to complying with the Regulations, AusNet routinely has regard to clause 6.5.7 of the NER which requires that AusNet's capital expenditure should achieve each of the following objectives:

(1) meet or manage the expected demand for standard control services over that period;

(2) comply with all applicable regulatory obligations or requirements associated with the provision of standard control services;

(3) to the extent that there is no applicable regulatory obligation or requirement in relation to:

(i) quality, reliability or security of supply of standard control services; or

(ii) the reliability or security of the distribution system through the supply of standard control services

to the relevant extent:

(iii) maintain the quality, reliability and security of supply of standard control services, and

(iv) maintain the reliability and security of the distribution system through the supply of standard control services; and

(4) *maintain the safety of the distribution system through the supply of standard control services*

(5) contribute to achieving emissions reduction targets through the supply of standard control services.

In addition, section 98(a) of the Electricity Safety Act requires AusNet to design, construct, operate, maintain and decommission its supply network to minimise as far as practicable:

(a) the hazards and risks to the safety of any person arising from the supply network; and

(b) the hazards and risks of damage to the property of any person arising from the supply network; and

(c) the bushfire danger arising from the supply network.

The Electricity Safety act defines 'practicable' to mean having regard to –

(a) severity of the hazard or risk in question; and

(b) state of knowledge about the hazard or risk and any ways of removing or mitigating the hazard or risk; and

(c) availability and suitability of ways to remove or mitigate the hazard or risk; and

(d) cost of removing or mitigating the hazard or risk.

AusNet has regard to these requirements in considering the options to address the identified need in relation to the emerging compliance issues at BDL.

4.2. Options screening report

AusNet considered whether it would be feasible to adopt a non-network option or Standalone Power System (SAPS) option in relation to the identified need at BDL. Our analysis indicated that there are no credible non-network or SAPS options that could address the identified need. In particular, it was not feasible to reduce the capacitance at BDL to maintain compliance with the Regulations, given the actual and projected network growth in the area served by BDL since 2021.

In accordance with clause 5.17.4(c) of the NER, therefore, AusNet concluded that it should not publish an Options Screening Report as part of the RIT-D for the REFCL BDL augmentation project and instead AusNet published a notice of determination in accordance with clause 5.17.4(d).

5. Potential Credible Options

This section explains the potential credible options that have been considered to address the identified need, and summarises the key works and costs associated with implementing these options. This RID-D considers the following options:

- 'Do nothing' or Business as Usual.
- Option 1: Install a third REFCL at BDL and associated works; and
- Option 2: Install a remote REFCL on BDL44 and an additional remote REFCL in 2029 to reduce capacitive current demand on BDL and provide an additional 22kV bus at BDL in 2033.

5.1. Option 0: Do Nothing or BAU

The Do Nothing (counterfactual) or BAU option assumes that AusNet would not undertake any investment, outside of the normal operational and maintenance processes. In RIT-D assessments, the Do Nothing (counterfactual) option establishes the base level of risk and provides a basis for comparing other credible options.

Whilst the direct capital costs of this option are zero, this option would not achieve compliance with the Regulations. In relation to the identified need for this project, 'do nothing' is not a credible option as compliance with the Regulations is mandatory. As noted above, the Do nothing or BAU option provides a reference point from which to compare credible options.

5.2. Option 1: Install a third REFCL at BDL and associated works

Option 1 is to install, test and commission a third REFCL, being a Ground Fault Neutraliser (GFN) at BDL, which would require a new 22kV Switchroom (incl commission and testings), new Neutral Bus Kisok, new REFCL room, new ASC Grid Balancing Inverter, 6MVAR Cap Bank, replacement of existing station service transformers, IEDs for Protection, and associated cable and cable terminations to manage the capacitive current prior to summer 2026/27. This solution will increase the station capacity by approximately 100A, meeting the forecast capacitance requirements of the area until approximately 2033, and likely for further years depending on demand. The inherent design of this option includes a new 22kV switch room, which addresses anticipated feeder requirements resulting from projected load growth.

The forecast total capital cost for this option is $23.25 million (nominal).

5.3. Option 2: Install a remote REFCL on BDL44 and an additional remote REFCL in 2029 and provide an additional bus at BDL in 2033

Option 2 is to install a remote REFCL on BDL44 and an additional remote REFCL in 2029 to reduce capacitive current demand on BDL and provide an additional bus at BDL in 2033. The inclusion of an additional bus in this option addresses anticipated feeder requirements resulting from projected load growth. This ensures a consistent basis for

comparison with Option 1, which incorporates an additional bus and corresponding spare circuit breakers as part of its inherent design.

The capacitive reduction available from this augmentation is 41A on Bus 4. The latest measured capacitance at BDL is 138A on Bus 4. With the remote REFCL reduction of 41A the BDL capacitive current is forecasted to be below the limit of Bus 4.

Additionally, the forecast also shows that Bus 3 will be over its limit of 144A by 2029 meaning an additional remote REFCL on one of the Bus 3 feeders would be required to maintain compliance. The Remote REFCL on Bus 4 does not allow for additional transfers from Bus 3 due to the feeder configurations.

Accordingly, Option 2 necessitates scheduled interventions in 2029 and 2033 to ensure ongoing compliance for Bus 3 and to align its performance outcomes with those of Option 1. The forecast total capital cost for this option is $54.03 million (nominal).

6. Economic assessment of the credible options

6.1. Market benefit

The regulatory investment test for distribution requires the RIT-D proponent to consider whether each credible option provides the classes of market benefits described in clause 5.17.1(c)(4) of the NER. To address this requirement, the table below discusses our approach to each of the market benefits listed in clause 5.17.1(c)(4) in assessing the credible options to address the identified need relating to the REFCL BDL augmentation project. In summary, as the identified need is driven by a compliance obligation relating to minimising bushfire risk, the credible options that address this identified need are not expected to provide any market benefits that need to be incorporated in this RIT-D assessment.

Table 1: Analysis of Market Benefits

Class of Market Benefit	Analysis
(i) changes in voluntary load curtailment;	The options are not expected to lead to changes in voluntary load curtailment.
(ii) changes in involuntary load shedding and customer interruptions caused by network outages, using a reasonable forecast of the value of electricity to customers;	The options are not expected to have an impact on involuntary load shedding.
(iii) changes in costs for parties, other than the RIT-D proponent, due to differences in: *(A) the timing of new plant;* *(B) capital costs; and* *(C) the operating and maintenance costs;*	There is no impact on other parties.
(iv) differences in the timing of expenditure;	This project will not result in changes in the timing of other expenditure.
(v) changes in load transfer capacity and the capacity of Embedded Generators to take up load;	This project will not impact on the capacity of Embedded Generators to take up load.
(vi) any additional option value (where this value has not already been included in the other classes of market benefits) gained or foregone from implementing the credible option with respect to the likely future investment needs of the National Electricity Market;	This project will not impact the option value in respect to likely future investment needs of the NEM.
(vii) changes in electrical energy losses;	This project will not result in changes to electrical energy losses.
(viii) changes in Australia's greenhouse gas emissions;	This project will not result in changes to Australia's greenhouse gas emissions.
(viii) any other class of market benefit determined to be relevant by the AER.	We do not consider any other class of market benefit as relevant to the selection of the preferred option.

6.2. Methodology

The purpose of this section is to provide a high-level explanation of our methodology for identifying the preferred option. As a general principle, it is important that the RIT-D methodology takes account of the identified need and the factors that are likely to influence the choice of the preferred option. As such, the methodology is not a 'one size fits all' approach for every RIT-D, but one that is tailored for the particular circumstances under consideration.

As explained in section 4, as the identified need in this RIT-D requires reliability corrective action, the preferred option does not need to provide a positive net market benefit in order to satisfy the RIT-D. In this instance, the identified need is driven by the compliance requirements specified in the Regulations, and there are no potential market benefits (such as changes in expected unserved energy or emissions reductions) to consider in assessing the alternative options. Accordingly, the preferred option is the one that addresses the identified need at the lowest cost to customers.

In contrast to other RIT-D assessments, therefore, the cost-benefit analysis required in relation to the REFCL BDL augmentation project is comparatively straightforward. AusNet notes that the investment analysis should be commensurate with the task at hand, as explained in the RIT-D guidelines, which state that: [1]

> *Network businesses should use their discretion in determining the rigour they apply to their investment decisions, which should be commensurate with the magnitude and risks associated with the investment.*

As explained in section 5, it is evident that Option 1 is the lowest cost credible option because Option 2 only provides a partial solution to the identified need. For that reason, it is not necessary to consider a detailed investment analysis in this RIT-D, as Option 1 is the lowest cost credible option and the superior technical solution. In the next section, however, we show the costs of Option 1 and Option 2 on a present value basis to confirm that Option 2 is inferior to Option 1.

To address uncertainty in our assessment of credible options, we typically use sensitivity analysis and scenario analysis in our cost benefit assessment. As noted by the AER's application guidelines, scenarios need to have regard to the variables or parameter that may affect the ranking of the options:[2]

> *Under the RIT-D, the number and choice of reasonable scenarios must be appropriate to the credible options under consideration. Specifically, the choice of reasonable scenarios must reflect any variables or parameters that are likely to affect:*
>
> - *the ranking of the credible options, where the identified need is for reliability corrective action and therefore only the ranking is important*
> - *the ranking or the sign of the net economic benefits of any of the credible options, for identified needs other than reliability corrective action.*

For this RIT-D, however, there are no scenarios or sensitivities that would change the ranking of the options. For that reason, it is not necessary to undertake scenario analysis or sensitivity testing in order to identify the preferred option. In addition, AusNet does not need to have regard to AEMO's 2025 Inputs, Assumptions and Scenarios Report (IASR) or its 2024 Integrated System Plan (ISP) in order to identify the preferred option. The cost benefit analysis in the next section demonstrates this point.

6.3. Cost benefit analysis

As already noted, the capital cost estimate for Option 1 is lower cost than Option 2, and provides a superior technical solution. In relation to the present value costs of the two options, however, there are differences in the proposed timing of the expenditure that should be tested by applying an appropriate discount rate.

The AER's RIT-D guidelines explain paragraphs 16–17 of the RIT-D state:

> *The present value calculations must use a commercial discount rate appropriate for the analysis of a private enterprise investment in the electricity sector. The discount rate used must be consistent with the cash flows that the RIT-D proponent is discounting.*
>
> *The lower boundary should be the regulated cost of capital.*

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1 AER, Application guidelines, Regulatory investment test for distribution, November 2024, page 17.

2 AER, Application guidelines, Regulatory investment test for distribution, November 2024, page 41.

In the table below, we show the costs of Option 1 and 2 at a discount rate of 5.56%. For each calendar year, the table shows the costs for that year expressed in present value terms.

Table 2: Present value costs of Options 1 and 2, including overheads and risk allowance ($M)

	CY 25	CY 26	CY 27	CY 28	CY 29	CY 30	CY 31	CY 32	CY 33	Total (PV)
Option 1	-	7.73	14.36	-	-	-	-	-	-	**21.79**
Option 2	2.13	9.87	7.21	1.81	8.39	6.13	-	-	7.26	**42.80**

Source: AusNet

The table shows that the cost of Option 1 is $21.79 million compared to Option 2 of $42.80 million in present value terms, assuming a discount rate of 5.56%. The alternative discount rates in AEMO's 2025 IASR[3] result in the following outcomes, which also indicate that Option 1 is the lowest cost option:

- Option 1 is $19.53 million and Option 2 is $35.67 million in present value terms, applying a discount rate of 10%; and
- Option 1 is $23.26 million and Option 2 is $47.96 million in present value terms, applying a discount rate of 3%.

Accordingly, Option 1 is the lowest cost option in present value terms, in addition to not requiring any additional intervention unlike Option 2 which requires further augmentation in 2029 or 2033. As noted in the previous section, it is not necessary to undertake scenario analysis or sensitivity testing because the ranking of these options will be unchanged.

6.4. Preferred option

Option 1 is our preferred option, which is to install, test and commission a third REFCL, being a Ground Fault Neutraliser (GFN), which would require a new 22kV Switchroom (incl commission and testings), new Neutral Bus Kisok, new REFCL room, new ASC Grid Balancing Inverter, 6MVAR Cap Bank, replacement of existing station service transformers, IEDs for Protection, and associated cable and cable terminations to manage the capacitive current prior to summer 2026/27. This solution will increase the station capacity by approximately 100A, meeting the forecast capacitance requirements of the area until approximately 2033.

6.5. Capital and operating costs of the preferred option

The direct capital expenditure for Option 1 is $18.70 million (nominal). The principal capital expenditure elements, expressed in nominal terms, are:

- Design and internal labour, $2.43 million;
- Materials, $6.05 million; and
- Contracts, $8.55 million.

The remaining costs relate to plant and equipment, overheads and an allowance for risk.

For the purposes of this RIT-D, it is assumed that the operating expenditure is unchanged from the 'BAU' costs.

In relation to the timetable for completing the works, we expect the program to commence in mid-2026 and the project In-service date is expected to be 31 December 2027.

3 AEMO, 2025 Inputs, Assumptions and Scenarios Report, August 2025, page 158.

7. Satisfaction of the RIT-D

In accordance with clause 5.17.4(j)(11)(iv) of the NER, we certify that the proposed preferred option satisfies the regulatory investment test for distribution. The table below shows how each of these requirements have been met by the relevant section of this report.

Table 3: Compliance with regulatory requirements

Requirement			Section
5.17.4(j) The draft project assessment report must include the following[4]:			
	(1)	a description of the identified need for the investment;	Chapter 3.
	(2)	the assumptions used in identifying the identified need (including, in the case of proposed reliability corrective action, reasons that the RIT-D proponent considers reliability corrective action is necessary);	Section 4.
	(3)	if applicable, a summary of, and commentary on, the submissions on the non-network options report;	Not applicable.
	(4)	a description of each credible option assessed;	Chapter 5.
	(5)	where a Distribution Network Service Provider has quantified market benefits in accordance with clause 5.17.1(d), a quantification of each applicable market benefit for each credible option;	Not applicable
	(6)	a quantification of each applicable cost for each credible option, including a breakdown of operating and capital expenditure;	Chapter 5 and section 6.5.
	(7)	a detailed description of the methodologies used in quantifying each class of cost and market benefit;	Section 6.2.
	(8)	where relevant, the reasons why the RIT-D proponent has determined that a class or classes of market benefits or costs do not apply to a credible option;	Section 6.1.
	(9)	the results of a net present value analysis of each credible option and accompanying explanatory statements regarding the results;	Section 6.3.
	(10)	the identification of the proposed preferred option;	Section 1.2 and 6.4.
	(11)	for the proposed preferred option, the RIT-D proponent must provide:	
		(i) details of the technical characteristics;	Appendix
		(ii) the estimated construction timetable and commissioning date (where relevant);	Section 6.5.
		(iii) the indicative capital and operating cost (where relevant);	Section 6.5.
		(iv) a statement and accompanying detailed analysis that the proposed preferred option satisfies the regulatory investment test for distribution; and	Chapter 7, including this table.
		(v) if the proposed preferred option is for reliability corrective action and that option has a proponent, the name of the proponent;	The proposed option is for reliability corrective action. AusNet is the proponent.

[4] Although this provision refers to the draft project assessment report, it is applicable to this FPAR by virtue of clause 5.17.4(r)(1).

	Requirement	Section
(12)	contact details for a suitably qualified staff member of the RIT-D proponent to whom queries on the draft report may be directed.	Section 1.3.
(13)	if the estimated capital cost of the proposed preferred option is greater than $100 million (as varied in accordance with a cost threshold determination), include the RIT reopening triggers applying to the RIT-D project.	Not applicable.

Appendix: Scope of work

The purpose of this appendix is to provide details of the high-level scope and technical characteristics of the preferred option. It is not intended to be a complete list of the required works.

Primary works

- Establishment of a new No2 22kV Bus with a dedicated connection to the existing No3 Transformer
- Installation of One (1) new 22kV Urban Switchroom
- Installation of an additional REFCL system which include the following:
- One (1) GFN ASC and Hebel Fire Wall
- One (1) NBK
- One (1) 6Mvar Metal Enclosed Capacitor Bank (MECB)
- One (1) Type 3A REFCL room
- Replacement of two (2) existing 750MVA station service transformers with two (2) 1MVA units
- Relocation of ex BDL41 and BDL42 Feeders to the new No2 22kV Bus
- Lines works to support the abovementioned feeder relocation
- Associated interplant connections and earthing grid extension works for the new REFCL system installation
- REFCL system validation, testing and commissioning.

Civil & structural

- Erection of new footings for primary plants
- Erection of a new REFCL Room and switchroom buildings
- Extension and installation of new conduits for HV, LV, Protection and Control cables
- Extension of the existing oily water, stormwater and drainage systems
- Switchyard access, pavement works and reestablishment.

Secondary works

- New Feeder, cap bank and Bus Prot panels in new switchroom
- New REFCL controls panels in new REFCL room
- Modify existing protection and control panels
- AC/DC supply
- Mapping tables and settings.

Distribution lines

- Feeder relocation works BDL 32 and BDL 44 from the existing No3 and 4 22kV Switchrooms to the new 22kV Switchroom.

Communication works

- Covering Infrastructure, Exchanges and Digital Networks/Asset Data Gathering.

AusNet

Level 31
2 Southbank Boulevard
Southbank VIC 3006
T +613 9695 6000
F +613 9695 6666
Locked Bag 14051 Melbourne City Mail Centre Melbourne VIC 8001
www.AusNetservices.com.au

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@AusNet.Services.Energy

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