

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 151
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 5
Program: Energy Division (ED)
Topic: Semi-scheduled generator classification
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 14 March 2017
Question Type: Written

Senator Back asked:

When was the 'semi-scheduled' generator classification introduced into the National Electricity Rules?

What was the reasoning behind the introduction of the 'semi-scheduled' classification?

What did the introduction of the 'semi-scheduled' classification mean in terms of the reliability of the electricity grid?

Answer:

The semi-scheduled' generator classification was introduced into the National Electricity Rules on 1 May 2008.

It was introduced to integrate significant intermittent generating units (such as wind farms) into the central dispatch and projected assessment of system adequacy (PASA) processes in order to enhance system security and reliability.

The introduction of 'Semi-Scheduled Generator' means all new intermittent generators greater than 30 MW are required to submit offers and receive dispatch instructions in a similar manner to scheduled generating units, and limit their output at times when that output would otherwise violate secure network limits.

The Rule change assists the Australian Market Operator to control power network flows within secure limits and improve system reliability.