

GRID SUPPORT:

REVEALING MID-SCALE GENERATION AND STORAGE POTENTIAL

The energy system of the future will see much more distributed generation (like solar) and storage installed in businesses.

Now is the time to consider how to integrate these energy resources to best support a growing power grid.

A new report, completed by Entura, has analysed the issues and opportunities for generation and storage to support the grid to be smarter, cleaner and more efficient.

The relationship between grid support, distributed generation and storage is complex. The report identified six main areas to address to reveal the potential of mid-scale generation and storage.

Price signals

Value to the grid dependent on location and time

Customer objectives not aligned to network objectives

Incremental benefit to the grid from behind-the-meter generation not captured

Price signals need to capture incremental benefits of generation by time and location

Performance standards

Grid performance standards create unacceptable risk for supporting parties

Relaxation of performance standards would apply to all customers

Exemptions or an independent insurance mechanism may be necessary

Aggregate contribution of generators can share the risk

Information

Information on network expansion projects costing less than \$5 million is not readily accessible

Costs of competing solutions are not transparent

Clarity and consistency needed on avoided transmission charges

Connection process

Generator connections and contracts complex and difficult to negotiate

Connection process not aligned to network investment processes

Connection process reforms need time to gain further experience

Reliability

Overcoming the perception of generation not reducing peak demand

Geographic location influences contribution to peak

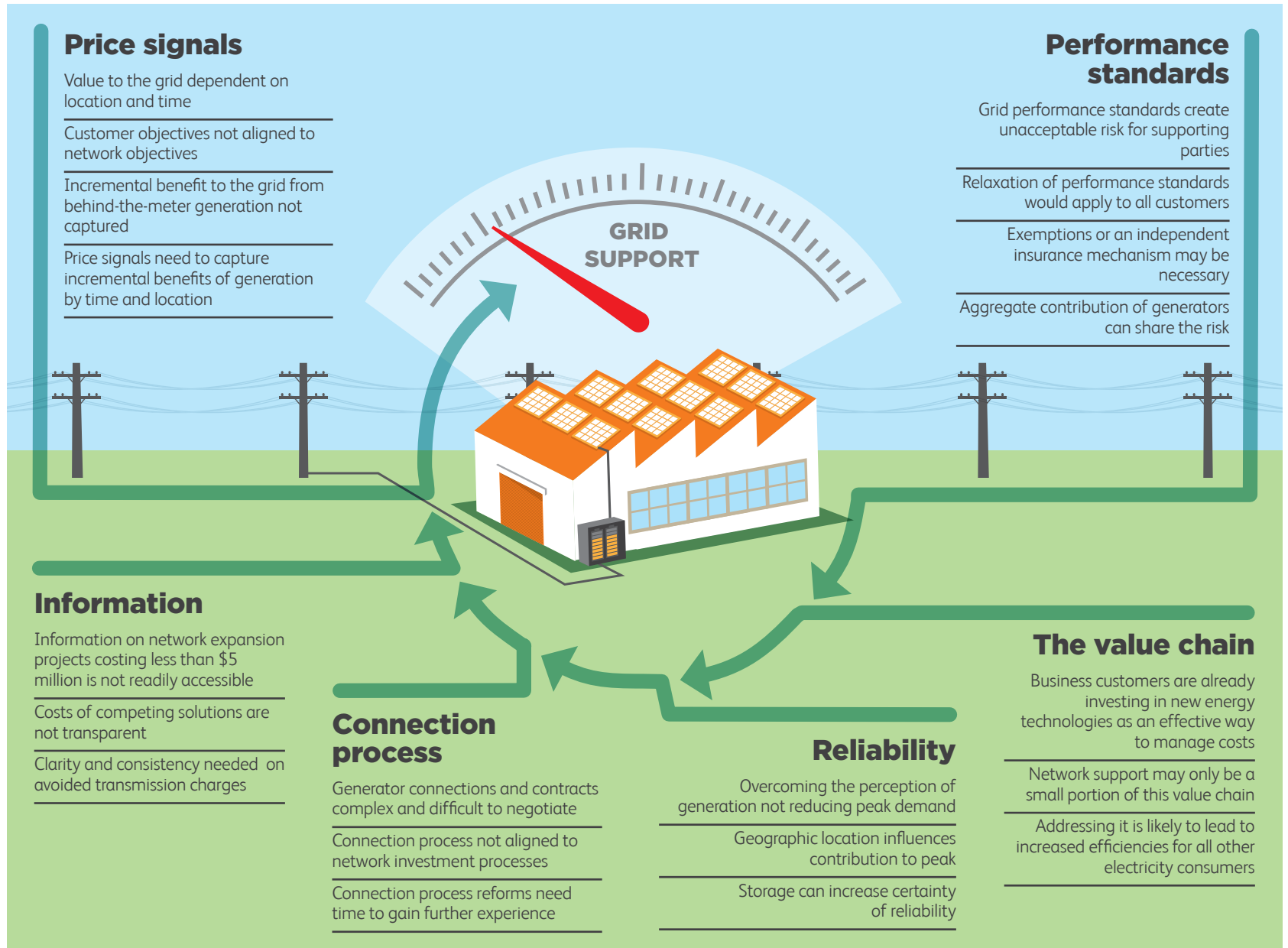
Storage can increase certainty of reliability

The value chain

Business customers are already investing in new energy technologies as an effective way to manage costs

Network support may only be a small portion of this value chain

Addressing it is likely to lead to increased efficiencies for all other electricity consumers



TO DOWNLOAD THE FULL REPORT, PRODUCED AS PART OF THE CLEAN ENERGY COUNCIL'S FUTURE-PROOFING IN AUSTRALIA'S ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION INDUSTRY PROJECT, VISIT FPDI.CLEANENERGYCOUNCIL.ORG.AU

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