

Fast Frequency Response Pilot Procurement Competition Fairness Advisor Summary Report

Audit Services was engaged by the AESO's Commercial group to act as the Fairness Advisor to review activities associated with the Fast Frequency Response (FFR) Pilot Competition in 2021. The role of Fairness Advisor is to ensure that the procurement is conducted in a fair and transparent manner. Audit Services is an independent function reporting to the AESO's Audit Committee (Board). In conducting our work, we are required to meet the Institute of Internal Auditors code of ethics and standards set out in the International Professional Practices Framework.

Scope of Work

The Fairness Advisor's responsibilities included:

- Reviewing all procurement documents including the Request for Proposal (RFP), Evaluation Manual, the Import Fast Frequency Response Agreement (IFFRA) and related revisions
- Providing ongoing consultation and oversight of the process
- Reviewing confidentiality requirements including commercial in confidence enquires, relationship disclosures and protection of confidential information
- Witnessing the proposal deadline and cutoff
- Reviewing communications with Proponents
- Assessing whether the evaluation process was conducted in accordance with the RFP and Evaluation Manual
- Attending any meetings and training sessions and participating in discussions which the Fairness Advisor deems necessary to make a fairness assessment
- Validating that the award to successful proponents coincides with evaluation results and the FFR target volume, as agreed upon before the RFP close date
- Observing successful and unsuccessful proponent debriefs
- Developing and issuing the Fairness Advisor Report

Conclusion

The AESO's procurement, completeness and evaluation team members undertook their roles diligently and in accordance with the processes predefined in the FFR RFP and Evaluation Manual. They responded in a fair and transparent manner to all Proponents. In Audit Services' opinion as Fairness Advisor, the FFR Pilot Competition was undertaken in a fair and transparent manner as of this June 28, 2021 date.