



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of CIGRE Australia Ltd

MINUTES (DRAFT)

Friday 15th November 2024

Location: Energy Queensland, 36 Reddacliff St, Newstead and by Webinar

1. Welcome and Opening

The Chair, Dr Seán Mc Goldrick, opened the meeting at 10:30am AEST and welcomed all members present, including those online.

An Acknowledgement of Country was given by the Chair.

The Chair reminded all members of the need to comply with Trade Practices obligations and CIGRE Australia's strong commitment to compliance with the Competition and Consumer Act. Members were reminded not to discuss anything that affects electricity pricing or competition in the electricity market.

The Chair also asked members online to use the chat function in the webinar to only ask questions of the speakers.

2. Meeting Arrangements

The Chair asked the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to advise of any apologies received. The CEO read the apologies received and further advised that the meeting was quorate. The list of attendees, proxies received (and held by the Chairman), apologies and those participating in the meeting online is provided in the Attachment.

The Chair asked if members present wished any other items to be added to the agenda. None were requested.

The minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting were approved.

The Chair provided a remembrance for Mr Bob Adams, a former Principal Consultant of Electranet, who passed away during the year. The Chair outlined some of Bob's contributions to the industry and to CIGRE and extended our condolences to his family and friends.

3. Office Holder Reports

Five office holder reports were delivered, which are summarised below. Following the reports a number of questions were asked by members.

3.1 Chairman's Report

Dr Mc Goldrick delivered his address. The address covered:

- A year of good overall performance in FY2024, including strong membership growth during the year (+18.5%) and a sound financial position due to prudent financial management over a number of years and a surplus from the Cairns Symposium;
- The delivery of three events which were very well rated by delegates – the Cairns Symposium (1377 delegates), a Transformer and Reactor Workshop (107 delegates) and a Power Electronics and Power System Integration Seminar (139 delegates);
- The launch of a new three year (2024-2027) Strategic Plan with three areas of focus: Growing our Membership, Advance the Energy Transition, and Attract and Develop the Workforce of the Future. The Chair explained that our Values were also updated during the year and that an annual business plan would support the three-year strategic plan;
- A seamless change in CEO from Mr Killen to Mr McIntyre; and
- A healthy Australian involvement in the 2024 Paris Session with over 100 ANC members in Paris.

3.2 Treasurer's Report

Ms MacArthur delivered her report for the 2024 Financial Year. Some of the key highlights were:

- The financial success of the Cairns Symposium which delivered an \$810k profit, with \$453k retained by CIGRE Australia after profit sharing with CIGRE Paris;
- Changes made to our investment strategy are in line with the new Investment Policy, which allows some exposure to equities and property trust investments so long as the overall portfolio remains 'conservative' or 'balanced';
- The selection of Perpetual as the provider of a managed investment fund with a 10-year investment horizon and a target average return of 3.5% above CPI. The new fund was created in August with an initial investment of \$500k;
- The FY2025 budget and FY2026 and FY2027 forecasts; and
- The fee increases approved by the Board to apply for 2024, which were a uniform 2.5% across the various classes of memberships and Panel fees.

Mr Killen asked about the fees payable to Perpetual. The Treasurer advised that the fees were of the order of \$6k per annum, and that target returns are after fees.

3.3 Chief Executive Officer's Report

Mr McIntyre delivered his report for the 2024 Financial Year. Some of the major points discussed were:

- A deeper dive into the 2024-2027 Strategic Plan;
- An overview of some of the FY2025 Business Plan initiatives including a new customer segmented marketing plan, work on replacing the legacy website and an overview of proposed events;

- CIGRE Australia has maintained strong membership growth over the past 12 months (14% for FY2024 and a further 8.6% year to date FY2025), with Australia retaining its ranking as the third largest National Committee at mid-2024. This will entitle the ANC to an automatic seat on the CIGRE Steering Committee, providing an opportunity to better influence CIGRE's direction; and
- An overview of CIGRE rule changes aimed to enhance student conversion to Individual 2 membership and the retention of Individual 2 members.

Mr Killen asked about a potential replacement for Corona Times which has ceased being published. Mr McIntyre indicated that he had an action from the Board to complete a wider member communications review to ascertain the appropriate set of communications from CIGRE Australia, also considering CIGRE communications.

Mr Killen also asked about the status of the NGN ambassador and mentoring programs. Mr McIntyre advised that this would be better addressed by NGN Co-Chair Ms D'Silva after the NGN presentation later in the meeting, should her presentation not cover the areas of interest.

Mr Bhangor asked about our exposure and relevance to broader industry and other energy industry associations and also suggested the use of video vignettes on social media which draw on our deep technical knowledge to grow brand awareness and impact of CIGRE. Mr McIntyre indicated an increased focus on industry connection and mentioned CIGRE Australia had taken a booth at the EESA conference next week and he was providing a closing address for that conference. Mr McIntyre acknowledged the social media vignette concepts and noted that using social media to grow our connections beyond the current membership would be highly valuable. Dr Mc Goldrick noted that how we use CIGRE's depth of knowledge and impartiality to impact the energy debate more broadly has been a matter of Board discussion.

3.4 Australian Technical Committee Chair's Report

Ms Klepac spoke to some highlights of the Australian Technical Committee (ATC) over the preceding 12 months:

- The structure and content of the three main events delivered during the year: the Transformer and Reactor Workshop, the Power Electronics and Power System Integration Seminar and the ATC Technical Presentation Day;
- An overview of the record-breaking 2024 Paris Session including over 4500 delegates in attendance, over 1100 technical papers presented (including 19 from Australia) and over 100 Australian's present in Paris. The presentation also highlight the involvement of ANC members in leading and delivering events as part of the Session;
- The 2024 ATC Annual Technical Reports which have been recently finalised; and
- Information on how to get involved with Australian Panels and Working Groups and how to access CIGRE technical resources to maximise participation with CIGRE and the benefits of membership.

3.5 NGN Report

Ms D'Silva, also on behalf of Co-Chair Mr Lloyd, reported to the meeting:

- An overview of the NGN Australia Committee structure and members;
- 2024 saw NGN growth to 349 NGN members, an increase of 14% from 2023;
- Events taken during 2024 including six webinars, two networking events and a factory tour;
- CIGRE Australia's strong presence in the 2024 Paris Session including hosting the NGN Forum;
- Focus areas for NGN for 2025 include launching the NextGen professional development program, the provision of technical webinars and networking events, increasing engagement with international NGN chapters, refreshing and developing the NGN digital platforms and removing the requirement to complete membership registration in the KMS which is proving a barrier to new member activation.

Mr Killen asked whether the ambassador program would be rolled in to the NextGen program. Ms D'Silva indicated that was the current intention.

4. Election of Directors

The Chief Executive Officer, as Returning Officer for the director elections, declared the election results. Mr McIntyre declared Ms Jacqui Bridge and Mr John Clarke as the successful candidates for the two vacant General Director positions.

Dr Mc Goldrick congratulated the successful candidates and thanked the unsuccessful candidates for their interest in supporting the work of CIGRE Australia.

5. CIGRE Australia Awards

Dr Mc Goldrick noted there were a number of awards bestowed this year as a function of the Paris cycle. He acknowledged the following people for their exceptional service to CIGRE and CIGRE Australia:

For receipt of the award of Honorary Member, Alex Cruickshank

For the receipt of the Women in Energy Award, Tara-lee MacArthur

For the NGN Significant Achievement Award, Phil Coughlan

For the award of Distinguished Member: David Bones, Gary Brennan, Ray Brown, Don Geddey, Andrew Halley, Angela Klepac and Sarath Perara.

For Technical Council Awards: Babak Badzradeh, Greg Thorpe and Ray Brown.

The meeting acknowledged all recipients with applause.



6. Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 11:40am AEST.

Sean McGoldrick
Chair
CIGRE Australia

Date: ____/____/____

Members Present

Avisa Agustina
Asif Bhangor
David Bones
Rob Bradley
Gary Brennan
Rob Coggan
Alex Cruickshank
Natasha D'Silva
Jenny Gannon
Matthew Gibson
Angela Klepac
Terry Killen
Rainer Korte
Tara-lee MacArthur
Seán Mc Goldrick
Peter McIntyre
David Pita
David Strong
Ben Vanderwaal
Edward Wilson
Winston Yan

Members Participating via Webinar

Nicola Falcon
Ray Brown
Peter Wiehe
Hosu Ciprian
Myra Nolan
Phil Coughlan
John Clarke
Andrew Renton
Genevieve Lietz
Patrick McMullan
Ian Young
Nilesh Modi
Inez Zheng
Robert Lake
Philip Reilly

Apologies

Alex Baitch
Philip Southwell
Stewart Bell
David Croft



Wayne Pepper
Gamini Ekanayake
Robert Evans
Les Brand
Andreas Laubi

Proxies Received

Philippe Reboul
Philip Southwell
Stewart Bell
Nicola Falcon
Andrew Renton
John Wright-Smith
Babak Badrzadeh
Alex Baitch