## EESA

# Electric Energy Society of Australia 

A.B.N. 80810665167
eesa.org.au

A Technical Society of Engineers Australia

Founded 1924

## Constitution

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## Constitution of The Electric Energy Society of Australia Incorporated

## 1 Name

1.1 The name of the Society shall be " The Electric Energy Society of Australia", hereinafter referred to as "the Society" or as "EESA".
1.2 The Society consists of the body formerly known as The Electricity Supply Engineers' Association, Incorporated, and such chapters as may be formed in accordance with this constitution. The Society operates by affiliation with Engineers Australia and in accordance with that organisation's Royal Charter insofar as it is consistent with this constitution.
1.3 All Members of the Society shall be bound by the principles of the Code of Ethics of Engineers Australia.

## 2 Purpose

2.1 The Society is a non-profit organisation which has as its core function the representation of Members who have an interest in the field of electric energy. This field is defined as generation, transmission, distribution, retail and customer end-use of electric energy. The Society will meet the changing needs of Members involved in the electric energy industry in Australia, which is subject to constant restructure and reform.

## 3 Mission

3.1 The Mission of the Society is to "provide opportunities for the sharing and transfer of knowledge amongst Members involved in the electric energy industry".

## 4 Vision

4.1 The Vision of the Society is "to be the prime focus group for professional development of its Members and to promote their value to the community".

## 5 Objectives

5.1 The objectives of the Society are:
5.1.1 To be a national and regional based learned society focusing on electric energy.
5.1.2 To be active in career development, information sharing and provide opportunities for continual learning.
5.1.3 To promote electric energy with an emphasis on engineering technology as well as management through expert advice and with impartiality.
5.1.4 To provide the expert focus of Engineers Australia in electric energy matters.

To participate in setting best practice through membership of relevant StandardsAustralia committees and other relevant national and international working groups.
5.1.5 To be active across all broad categories of electric energy including generation, transmission, distribution and retail as well as end-use applications of electric energy and emerging technologies.
5.1.6 To stimulate research and innovation in the fields of electric energy generation, transmission, distribution, retail and customer end-use.
5.1.7 To improve communications with and networking of Individual and Corporate Members.
5.1.8 To recognise Member contributions and increase membership, in particular to increase the number of young Australians and those from diverse backgrounds developing careers in the electric energy industry.
5.1.9 To run effective conferences and seminars, satisfying conference and seminar needs by developing close relationships with suppliers.
5.1.10 To promote EESA Members to the community, represent community interest on electricity energy
industry matters, influence government energy industry policy, develop good working relationships with the media and improve relationships and co-ordinate activities with other industry groups, in accordance with Engineers Australia guidelines.
5.1.11 To encourage Members to seek formal recognition of their competency and continued professional development.
5.1.12 To exchange and disseminate matters related to the electric energy industry with like organisations both locally and internationally.
Improve Member services through the use of modern tools and communication platforms.

## 6 Activities of The Electric Energy Society of Australia

6.1 The main activities of the Society will be to:-
6.1.1 Sponsor and conduct relevant conferences and seminars.
6.1.2 Disseminate relevant information to Members.
6.1.3 Promote the electric energy industry and profession through publication in the media, in particular the proceedings, journals and other publications of Engineers Australia.
6.1.4 Provide expert advice to industry, government and the community on electric energy matters.
6.1.5 Develop 3 year annual business plans.

## 7 Governance

7.1 The Society will meet all necessary criteria for registration under a relevant regulatory scheme for registration of incorporated entities.
7.2 The Society will conduct its affairs and manage its operations, including reporting, in accordance with the requirements of Engineers Australia, in particular the guidelines and regulations for Technical Societies.
7.3 The Society will develop and maintain Policies and Operating Procedures relevant to its activities.

## 8 Membership

8.1 Membership of the Society shall be open to all persons and organisations who are interested in the purpose and objectives of the Society, particularly (but not limited to) those persons and organisations involved with the electric energy industry. Membership shall include:
8.1.1 Members of Engineers Australia who pay the prescribed Society fee.
8.1.2 Non-Members of Engineers Australia who have an interest in and are able to contribute to the objectives of the Society and who pay the prescribed Society fee.
8.2 Authority to admit, decline or terminate membership of the Society lies with the Society Council.
8.3 An application for membership must be in a form approved by the EESA Council and be accompanied by the prescribed payment and any other information required. The EESA Council reserves the right to reject an application for membership.
8.4 Membership grades shall be:
8.4.1 Members:
a) Full Members
b) Concession Members
c) Student Members (non-fee paying)
d) Life Members
e) Fellows
8.4.2 Industry and Tertiary Institution Members
a) Corporate Members
b) Tertiary Institution Partners
8.4.3 Membership at all levels shall be conferred by the Society Council.
8.5 Members

### 8.5.1 Full Members

8.5.1.1 Full Members are persons who are interested in the purpose and objectives of the Society and who pay the prescribed membership fee. Members have voting rights, the ability to take part in discussion, and eligibility to hold office.

### 8.5.2 Concession Members

8.5.2.1 Concession Members are eligible for concession fee payment (as prescribed in Cl 10.2 .3 ), having all the privileges of a Full Member, including voting rights, taking part in discussion, and eligibility to hold office. Categories of Concession Members are:
a) Premium Student Members - A Premium Student Member is a person who is attending a full time course of secondary or tertiary education at a recognised educational institution.
b) Graduate Members - A Graduate Member is a person who has completed a full time course of secondary or tertiary education at a recognised educational institution. Graduate membership is available for up to 2 years following graduation.
c) Retired Member Any Full Member who retires from the workforce and is over 60 years of age shall be eligible for Retired Membership.
d) Retired Fellow Any Fellow who retires from the workforce and is over 60 years of age shall be eligible for Retired Fellow Membership.
e) Non-Working Member- Any Member who is out of work and who does not have a regular income.
f) Non-Working Fellow Any Fellow who is out of work and who does not have a regular income.

### 8.5.3 Student Members

8.5.3.1 A Student Member is a person who is attending a full time course of secondary or tertiary education at a recognised educational institution. Student Members are non-fee paying and are not eligible to vote or hold office on National Council or to vote on any EESA issues including elections, but will be able to vote on a Chapter Committee if elected to it (refer Section 8.7). Note: Student members who wish to avail themselves of full membership privileges should apply for Premium Student Membership (see Clause 8.5.2.1 a)).

### 8.5.4 Life Members

8.5.4.1 Life Members shall not be liable for payment of membership fees and shall retain all the privileges of a Full Member, including voting rights, taking part in discussion, and eligibility to hold office.
8.5.4.2 The Society President, on confidential nomination by a Chapter Committee, may recommend to Council the grade of Life Member on a Member in recognition of distinguished and outstanding service to the Society.
8.5.4.3 The nomination is to be considered by the National Council and the Life Membership conferred by a vote of the National Council.
8.5.4.4 The following guidelines are to be used by the Council when considering a Member for elevation to Life Member:
8.5.4.4.1 The number of Life Members should be limited to a select deserving group so that the classification is held in high esteem.
8.5.4.4.2 The Member is to have made a distinguished and outstanding contribution to the Society or the electricity supply industry in one or more of the following areas:
a) as a Member of the Council.
b) as an EESA representative on an industry committee.
c) meeting/achieving the objects of the Society over a long period.
8.5.4.5 The assessment of contribution should take into account the commitment of the individual, the
significance and originality of input and the length of service.
8.5.4.6 Holding a senior position (office) either within the Society or the electricity industry should not automatically qualify a Member for the award.
8.5.4.7 Nominations for the award of Life Member should be lodged by a Chapter Committee, together with a brief outline of the contributions of the nominee.

### 8.5.5 Fellow

8.5.5.1 Fellows shall be liable for payment of the normal Member fee and shall retain all the privileges of Full Members, including voting rights, taking part in discussion, and eligibility to hold office.
8.5.5.2 The Society President, on confidential nomination by a Chapter committee, may recommend to Council the grade of Fellow on a Member.
8.5.5.3 The nomination is to be considered by the National Council and the Fellowship conferred by a vote of the National Council (replaces the Distinguished Member category).
8.5.5.4 The following guidelines are to be used by the Council when considering a Member for elevation to Fellow:
8.5.5.4. The number of Fellows should be limited to a select deserving group so that the classification is held in high esteem.
8.5.5.4.2 The Member is to have made significant contributions to the field of electric energy and to EESA (including paper presentations and committee activity) over a significant period of time.
8.5.5.4.3 The assessment of contribution should take into account the commitment of the individual, the significance and originality of input and the length of service.
8.5.5.4.4 Holding a senior position (office) either within the Society or the electricity industry should not automatically qualify a Member for the award.
8.5.5.5 Nominations for the award of Fellow should be lodged by a Chapter Committee, together with a brief outline of the contributions of the nominee.
8.6 Industry and Tertiary Institution Members

### 8.6.1 Corporate Members

8.6.1.1 Corporate Members are incorporated bodies. Corporate Members are represented by the owner of the corporate account and the nominated membership beneficiaries (number is dependent on the level of Corporate Membership), who have all the rights and privileges of Full Members. They may use EESA membership services through the personappointed by the Corporation to represent it.

### 8.6.2 Tertiary Institution Partners

8.6.2.1 Tertiary Institution Partners receive Member services through their nominee. A Tertiary Institution Partner and their nominee is not eligible to vote and may not hold office.

### 8.7 Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office

8.7.1 Non fee paying Student Members are not eligible to vote or hold office on National Council or to vote on any EESA issues including elections.
8.7.2 Full Members, Concession Members, Life Members and Fellows require one year of continuous membership to be eligible to vote on any EESA issues including elections.
8.7.3 Full Members, Concession Members, Life Members and Fellows require two years of continuous membership to be eligible to nominate for the National Council.
8.7.4 All Members, as defined in Clause 8.4.1, and all Corporate Members, are eligible to nominate for Chapter Committees and will be able to vote on such Committees if elected to them.

### 8.8 Chapters and Membership (Refer section 19 for details of Chapters)

8.8.1 Any Member who desires to resign shall inform their local Chapter Secretary or the Society Secretary in writing. The Chapter committee or the Council may accept the resignation at the next meeting provided all moneys owed by the Member to the Society have been duly paid. The Chapter Secretary shall inform the Society Secretary of all such resignations immediately.
8.8.2 All Members of the Society will be affiliated with a Chapter of the Society. By default the Member will be a Member of the Chapter in whose geographic area they work or reside, unless they nominate an alternative.
8.8.3 The Society shall keep in each Chapter and at its registered office a Register of Members. The Society Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining this register at the registered office. Chapter sections shall maintain their registers at the Chapter Office. Member personal information is collected to provide the services and products of the Society. This information may be disclosed to a third party for an authorised purpose only with the consent of the Member or where required by law to do so.

## 9 Professional Conduct

### 9.1 Dispute Resolution

### 9.1.1 Parties to a Dispute

9.1.1.1 The procedure set out in this Constitution applies to disputes involving parties as follows:
a) between Members; or
b) between one or more Members and the EESA Chapter Committee; or
c) between one or more Members and the EESA National Council.
d) This procedure shall refer to both Chapter Committee and National Council as the "EESA committee".

### 9.1.2 Parties to attempt to resolve dispute

9.1.2.1 The parties to a dispute must attempt to resolve the dispute between themselves within 14 days after the dispute has come to the attention of each party.

### 9.1.3 How grievance procedure is started

9.1.3.1 If the parties to a dispute are unable to resolve the dispute between themselves within the time required, any party to the dispute may start the grievance procedure by giving written notice to the EESA Secretary of:
a) the parties to the dispute; and
b) the matters that are the subject of the dispute.
9.1.3.2 Within 28 days after the Secretary is given the notice, a committee meeting must be convened to consider and determine the dispute.
9.1.3.3 The Secretary must give each party to the dispute written notice of the committee meeting at which the dispute is to be considered and determined at least 7 days before the meeting is held.
9.1.3.4 The notice given to each party to the dispute must state:
a) When and where the committee meeting is to be held and that the party or the party's representative may attend the meeting and will be given a reasonable opportunity to make written or oral (or both written and oral) submissions to the committee about the dispute.
b) If the dispute is between one or more Members and the EESA committee and any party to the dispute gives written notice to the Secretary stating that the party does not agree to the dispute being determined by the committee and requests the appointment of a mediator, the committee must not determine the dispute.

### 9.1.4 Determination of dispute by committee

9.1.4.1 At the committee meeting at which a dispute is to be considered and determined, the committee must
give each party to the dispute, or the party's representative, a reasonable opportunity to make written or oral (or both written and oral) submissions to the committee about the dispute and give due consideration to any submissions so made, and determine the dispute.
9.1.4.2 The committee must give each party to the dispute written notice of the committee's determination and the reasons for the determination within 7 days after the committee meeting at which the determination is made.
9.1.4.3 A party to the dispute may, within 14 days after receiving notice of the committee's determination under subrule ( 9.1 .3 .4 b ), give written notice to the Secretary requesting the appointment of a mediator.
9.1.4.4 If notice is given under subrule (9.1.4.3), each party to the dispute is a party to the mediation.

### 9.2 Mediation

### 9.2.1 Application of Mediation

9.2.1.1 Mediation applies if written notice has been given to the EESA Secretary requesting the appointment of a mediator by a Member or by an EESA committee. If mediation applies, a mediator must be chosen or appointed.

### 9.2.2 Appointment of Mediator

9.2.2.1 The mediator must be a person chosen if the appointment of a mediator was requested by a Member by agreement between the Member and the committee, or if the appointment of a mediator was requested by the EESA committee, by agreement between the parties to the dispute.
9.2.2.2 If there is no agreement, the committee must appoint the mediator.
9.2.2.3 The person appointed as mediator by the committee must be a person who acts as a mediator for another not-for-profit body, such as a community legal centre.
9.2.2.4 The person appointed as mediator by the committee may be a Member or former Member of the EESA but must not have a personal interest in the matter that is the subject of the mediation or be biased in favour of or against any party to the mediation.

### 9.3 Mediation Process

9.3.1 The parties to the mediation must attempt in good faith to settle the matter that is the subject of the mediation.
9.3.2 Each party to the mediation must give the mediator a written statement of the issues that need to be considered at the mediation at least 5 days before the mediation takes place.
9.3.3 In conducting the mediation, the mediator must:
a) give each party to the mediation every opportunity to be heard;
b) allow each party to the mediation to give due consideration to any written statement given by another party; and
c) ensure that natural justice is given to the parties to the mediation throughout the mediation process.
9.3.4 The mediator cannot determine the matter that is the subject of the mediation.
9.3.5 The mediation must be confidential, and any information given at the mediation cannot be used in any other proceedings that take place in relation to the matter that is the subject of the mediation.
9.3.6 If the dispute is not resolved by mediation within 3 months, a party may refer the dispute to arbitration in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Act 2010.
9.3.7 The costs of the mediation are to be paid by the party or parties to the mediation that requested the appointment of the mediator.

### 9.4 Suspension

9.4.1 The committee may decide to suspend a Member's membership or to expel a Member from EESA if the

Member contravenes the constitution, the code of conduct or the Member acts detrimentally to the interests of EESA.
9.4.2 The Secretary must give the Member written notice of the proposed suspension or expulsion at least 28 days before the committee meeting at which the proposal is to be considered by the committee. The notice given to the Member must state:
a) when and where the committee meeting is to be held;
b) the grounds on which the proposed suspension or expulsion is based; and
c) that the Member, or the Member's representative, may attend the meeting and will be given a reasonable opportunity to make written or oral (or both written and oral) submissions to the committee about the proposed suspension or expulsion;
9.4.3 At the committee meeting, the committee must:
a) give the Member, or the Member's representative, a reasonable opportunity to make written or oral (or both written and oral) submissions to the committee about the proposed suspension or expulsion; and
b) give due consideration to any submissions so made; and
c) decide:
(i) whether or not to suspend the Member's membership and, if the decision is to suspend the membership, the period of suspension; or :
(ii) whether or not to expel the Member from the EESA.
9.4.4 A decision of the committee to suspend the Member's membership or to expel the Member from the EESA takes immediate effect.
9.4.5 The committee must give the Member written notice of the committee's decision, and the reasons for the decision within 7 days after the committee meeting at which the decision is made.

### 9.5 Consequences of suspension

9.5.1 During the period a Member's membership is suspended, the Member:
a) loses any rights (including voting rights) arising as a result of membership; and
b) is not entitled to a refund, rebate, relief or credit for membership fees paid or payable to EESA.
9.5.2 When a Member's membership is suspended, the Secretary must record in the register of Members:
a) that the Member's membership is suspended;
b) the date on which the suspension takes effect; and
c) the period of the suspension.
9.5.3 When the period of the suspension ends, the Secretary must record in the register of Members that the Member's membership is no longer suspended.

## 10 Finance

### 10.1 Financial Arrangements

10.1.1 The financial structure of the Society shall be based on its National and Chapter components.
10.1.2 The Society's fiscal year shall extend from 1st July to the $30^{\text {th }}$ June the following calendar year.
10.1.3 The Council shall cause true accounts to be kept of all moneys received and expended by the Society, the manner in respect of which such receipts and expenditure takes place and of the credits and liabilities of the Society.
10.1.4 The Honorary Treasurer shall cause all money received by the Society to be deposited in a Bank at interest to be recommended by the Honorary Treasurer and approved by the Council.
10.1.5 Payment of all accounts of more than ten dollars shall be made by electronic funds transfer, cheque, or by debit card subject to obtaining invoices and receipts, and to be authorised by at least two of the following: The President or Chair, Treasurer, or any approved signatory.
10.1.6 An allowance to cover extraordinary expenses incurred by a President, Conference Co-ordinator or Newsletter Editor in the performance of their offices may be determined and payment authorised by the Council.
10.1.7 A statement showing receipts and expenditure (including an itemised list of payments for confirmation) since the previous Council meeting, amount at bank, and reconciliation with accounts, together with bank statements, shall be submitted by the Honorary Treasurer to each regular meeting of the Council.
10.1.8 A statement of income and expenditure for twelve months $1^{\text {st }}$ July to $30^{\text {th }}$ June and a balance sheet as at $30^{\text {th }}$ June will be prepared, audited and submitted by the Honorary Treasurer with the Auditor's report to the Council and the Annual General Meeting.
10.1.9 Every candidate for membership and every Member shall pay such fees and subscriptions as outlined below:

### 10.2 Member Subscriptions

10.2.1 A subscription fee for membership for the first year of election and thereafter shall be paid as prescribed.
10.2.2 Fees and Subscriptions shall be determined by the Council from time to time and notified in the Bulletin.
10.2.3 The Council may decide to set fees for Concession Members at a lower level than for Full Members, as it deems appropriate.
10.2.4 The Council shall have power to write off from the accounts such arrears of subscriptions and/or other moneys owing to the Society by persons who have been expelled from membership for the non-payment of subscriptions.
10.2.5 Subscriptions shall be due on the first day of July in each year. ..
10.2.6 Notwithstanding the provisions of Clause 10.2.5 above:
10.2.6.1 A Member whose subscription remains unpaid after the expiry of six months following the date on which it becomes due will be reclassified as a Past Member.
10.2.6.2 No Member owing fees or subscriptions shall be eligible for nomination or for election to hold office while moneys owing to the Society remain unpaid.
10.2.6.3 No member owing fees or subscriptions as provided in subclause 10.2.6.1above shall vote or take part in any business of the Society in which a division or show of hands is required.
10.2.7 When a Member is owing amounts made up of overdue fees, sundry services and supplies, any amount that they may pay on account of their indebtedness shall be first placed to liquidating the debt for supplies for which the Society has incurred expense, leaving the Member still unfinancial unless the amount outstanding is within the limit set out in the preceding subclauses 10.2.6.2 and 10.2.6.3.
10.2.8 The Council shall have power to review the account of any Member who is in arrears and if it shall be shown by any Member that payment of their account will inflict hardship upon them by reason of them being out of employment or in temporary difficulties through causes over which they have had no control, the Council may defer any payment due by such Member at its discretion.

### 10.3 Use of EESA Resources

10.3.1 The income and property of the Society from whatsoever source derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of Objectives of the Society as set forth in this Constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend or bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the Members of the Society, provided that nothing herein shall prevent payment in good faith of remuneration or presentation if approved at an Annual General Meeting of the Society to any officer or servants of the Society or to any Members of the Society or other persons in return for services actually rendered to the Society.
10.3.2 The liability of a Member of the association to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the association or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the association is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid by the Member in respect of membership of the association.

## 11 Limits Of Financial and Legal Liability

11.1 The Society is incorporated with limited liability. Therefore, the absolute limit of individual Member's financial liability will be confined to the amount of their annual subscription, or in the event of the Society being wound up, those charges provided in clause10.3.2.
11.2 The income and property of the Society whencesoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objectives of the Society as set forth in this Constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to Members of the Society, provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration, or presentation if approved at an Annual General Meeting of the Society, to any officers or servants of the Society or to any Member of the Society in return for any services actually rendered to the Society, nor for goods supplied in the ordinary and usual way of business, nor prevent the payment of interest at a rate not exceeding the rate for the time being fixed for the purposes of this paragraph by resolution of the Council on money borrowed from any Member of the Society, reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let by any Member to the Society but so that no Member of the Council or governing body of the Society shall be appointed to any salaried office of the Society or any office of the Society paid by fees and that a remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth shall be paid or given by the Society to a Member of such Council or governing body except repayment of out of pocket expenses and interest at a rate aforesaid on money lent or reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let to the Society.

## 12 Communications

12.1 The Society will issue or sponsor such publications as in the judgement of the Council will best carry out the objectives of the Society.
12.2 The official record of technical papers and discussions, arising from the Annual Conference, Regional Conferences and other conferences, seminars or meetings the Society may organise from time to time, shall be known as "The Proceedings of The Electric Energy Society of Australia", and shall be published by direction of the Council. The Annual Report of the Council, the Balance Sheet and such other business records of the Society as may be deemed necessary, may be published by inclusion on the Society website, or otherwise as may be decided by the Council.
12.3 Where an electronic mailing address for a Member is maintained in the register of Members, written notice may be served on that Member by sending it to that electronic mailing address.

## 13 Awards

13.1 The Council may, at its discretion, make an award or prize to any individual in recognition of their contribution to the aims and objectives of the Society. The conditions, value and criteria for any award shall be determined by the Council.

## 14 The Council of The Electric Energy Society of Australia

14.1 The Council shall have the management and direction of the affairs of the Society, either itself or through committees, and shall do all such acts as appear to it to be necessary or desirable for the purpose of carrying into effect the Objects of the Society, subject to the provisions of the Constitution. The Council will co-ordinate conferences run by the separate Chapters. Such conferences should normally aim to recover costs, whilst also meeting the membership needs and interest for Continuing Professional Development, networking and fellowship.
14.2 The Council of the Society shall consist of Chairs of each of the Chapters or their representative as agreed by their Chapter Committee, three nationally elected Members, the Secretary, an appointed Honorary Treasurer, an appointed representative of young professional Members, and the Past President (see Clause 14.10). The President, or Chair elected in their absence, shall have a deliberative vote, and in the event of an equality of votes, a casting vote. All other members of Council have a deliberative vote except for the Secretary and Past President.
14.3 In addition, Council may elect to appoint Corresponding Members for specific roles or reasons as may be determined from time to time by the Council. These positions will have defined roles and terms. During their appointment the Corresponding Members may take part in the deliberations of the National Council but shall not vote.
14.4 If one of the Chapter Committee Representatives becomes the new President then a Corresponding Member position may be considered by the National Council for the Chapter involved.
14.5 Prior to an election, the Council shall establish the national election process to ensure that it is not possible for Members of any one Chapter to have majority voting power on the Council (including the casting vote of the President, the votes of the Members of Council appointed by Council and the Chapter

Committee Representatives).The Office Bearers of the Council of the Society shall be as in clauses 14.6 to 14.8 .

### 14.6 President:

14.6.1 The President shall be the Executive Officer of the Society and preside over all meetings of the Society at which they are present.

### 14.7 Secretary:

14.7.1 It shall be the duty of the Secretary, under the direction of the Council to conduct the ordinary business of the Society; keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Society and of the Council; keep a correct roll of Members' names, with their addresses and dates of admission and grade transfer; direct the collection of subscriptions; conduct the correspondence of the Society; give notice of all meetings of the National Council and meetings of the Society, supervise the publishing of the Proceedings of the Society in accordance with the Constitution. During their appointment they may take part in the deliberations of the National Council but shall not vote.

### 14.8 Honorary Treasurer:

14.8.1 The Honorary Treasurer shall be a Member, appointed by the elected Council Members, from nominations called from the Members of the Society for a term of three years. The Honorary Treasurer can be re-nominated at the end of the term.
14.8.2 The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible to the National Council for the funds of the Society in accordance with the EESA Operating Procedures.

### 14.9 Young Professional Member:

14.9.1 This Council position is filled from a call of expressions of interest from Members who are under the age of 35 years, having State Chapter Committee involvement for at least two years and whose nomination is supported by that Chapter. The expressions of interest will be called during the national election process. The new Council makes the appointment decision of the final selection of the individual taking into account the voting power of Chapters (refer Clause 14.5) to ensure that a Chapter does not have a majority of votes.

### 14.10 Past President

14.10.1 The Past President shall be the President who last held office and is willing to remain on the Council for a term of one year. The Past President is a Corresponding Member and shall not vote unless that Member has nominated for election and been nationally elected or is a Chapter Committee Representative.
14.11 The Council shall meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn or otherwise regulate its meetings as it thinks fit, and shall determine by a majority of votes any matter coming before it.
14.12 The Council may conduct its business by telephone or video conference, or correspondence and a motion or proposal in writing, a copy of which has been sent to each Member of the Council, shall if endorsed by a majority of Members of the Council, be as valid and effective as though duly proposed and carried at a properly constituted meeting of the Council.
14.13 Council Members shall be Members elected or appointed annually, (except in the cases of specific terms for the President and Honorary Treasurer as described in Clauses 14.14 and 14.8.1), and shall hold office until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting or a National Council meeting called by the President following the date of the Member's election. The outgoing President shall hold office until a new President is elected by the new Council. Council Members and the President shall be eligible for reelection.
14.14 A President, following the expiry of a President's term, shall be elected by the incoming Council from its own Members for a term of three years, provided that the election of the said President and vicepresident shall be by a majority vote of the Council by ballot. Corresponding Members, the Young Professional Member, the Honorary Treasurer and the Secretary are ineligible to nominate for the President position. The President may stand for re-election to the National Council at the end of their 3 year term. The re-election is to be on the basis of their election to the National Council as a nationally elected Member or their appointment as a Chapter Committee Representative. If successful in achieving a second term of office, the President can serve a further 3 year term only, making a maximum term of 6 years.
14.15 If through any cause the office of President becomes vacant, the Council shall elect from its number a successor until the next annual Council election, and the vacancy in the office of Council Member thus created shall be filled, until the next annual election, by the Council which shall select a Council Member from eligible Members of the Society.
14.16 Nominations of Members for Council Members for the ensuing year, other than those with fixed terms yet to expire (for example, the Treasurer and/or President), shall be invited from Members and the election of such Council Members shall be in accordance with Clause 14.25.1.
14.17 More than half the voting Members shall be present to form a quorum of the Council.
14.18 If through any cause a position on the Council becomes vacant before the expiry of the term, the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by the Council which shall select a Council Member from the eligible Members of the Society. Every effort shall be made to fill the vacancy from the Chapter in which the vacancy arose.
14.19 The Secretary shall be appointed by the National Council of the Society on an annual basis and need not be a Member of the Society. The Secretary is to undertake the following activities:
a) Administration: Conduct front office functions of EESA at national level with regard to general enquiries, information dissemination to EESA members and others by webpage, email, phone, fax and mail.
b) Publications: assist with printing and distribution of journals.
c) Meetings: provide secretarial services for meetings of the EESA National Council.
14.20 The appointment of a paid secretary to conduct the main work requirements in EESA is accepted.
14.21 The Members of the Council may continue to act as a fully constituted Council pending the selection of a member to fill any vacancy.
14.22 Substitute Council Members
14.22.1 Any Member of the Council who is unable to attend a Council Meeting may appoint another Member of the Council to act as their proxy, but the Secretary must be notified in writing the name of such Member before the meeting.

### 14.23 Temporary Authorisation

14.23.1 The Council may at any time authorise any officer, other person, or committee to perform any acts or functions which in the Constitution or Operating Procedures may be prescribed to be performed by any specified officer, other person, or committee whenever by reason of death, absence, disability, or other cause, sufficient ground therefore shall be apparent to the Council.
14.24 Exemption of Council from Impeachment
14.24.1 Any act of the Council receiving the expressed or implied sanction of the Members at a General Meeting of the Society shall be deemed to be an act of the Society and shall not be impeached by any Member of the Society on any grounds whatever.
14.25 National Elections
14.25.1 An annual election of National Council Members for announcement at the Annual General Meeting shall be held. This Clause applies to the three (or two - see Clause 14.25.8) nationally elected Members for Council as described in Clause 14.2.
14.25.2 Nominations shall only be accepted from the Society membership and shall include the Member's Chapter.
14.25.3 Nominations shall be made by at least one Member as proposer and require consent by the candidate prior to the national election.
14.25.4 The Secretary shall call for nominations for election of Members for Council and Honorary Treasurer and for expressions of interest for the Young Professional Member as required.
14.25.5 The Secretary shall be the Returning Officer and may appoint two Members to act as Scrutineers. If required, the Secretary and President may engage an independent external provider to act as ballot provider and returning officer.
14.25.6 The ballot shall take account of individual chapter representation, to provide Council membership from all chapters in accordance with Clause 14.5.
14.25.7 In the case where three (or two - see Clause 14.25.8) Members are to be nationally elected, each elected Member must be from a different Chapter. This is to ensure the requirements of Clause 14.5 are met.
14.25.8 During the three year term of the President, in the case where the President was selected from one of the three nationally elected Members, or in the case where the President was elected when they were a Chapter Committee Representative but has since been replaced as that Chapter Committee Representative, then only two Members will be nationally elected. This is in order that the Council membership numbers remain the same.
14.25.9 The National Council will appoint a Membership Co-ordinator, who may be the Secretary. The Membership Co-ordinator shall communicate regularly with the Chapter membership officers to keep membership lists up to date, to follow up on arrears, to develop plans to grow membership and to be generally pro-active in all membership activities.

## 15 Auditor

15.1 The Society shall appoint an Auditor, who shall be a CPA or Chartered Accountant, appointed by the Members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting, and they shall be responsible for the Audit of the accounts for the ensuing year. They shall have access at all reasonable times to the accounts of the pecuniary transactions of the Society, and shall verify and sign the Annual Statement of the Accounts before it is submitted to the Annual General Meeting.

## 16 Representatives to Kindred Bodies and Other Societies

16.1 Members may be appointed as representatives of the Society to kindred bodies, other Societies, and/or committees. Such representatives, when appointed or nominated by the Society, shall be appointed by the Council.

## 17 General Meetings

17.1 A General Meeting shall mean a meeting to which all Members of the Society are duly summoned, as provided in this Constitution.
17.2 General Meetings may be held at such times and places as the Council may determine.
17.3 Annual General Meeting
17.3.1 A General Meeting to be called the Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held each year at a time and place in conformity with this Constitution. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall include the presentation of the audited financial statements of account and the report of the Council of the Society of the transactions of the past year, the declaration of the results of the ballots for the election of the Council for the ensuing year, the election of Auditor and the consideration of any other business.
17.3.2 The Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting shall be held at such time and place as may be decided by the Council.
17.4 Special General Meetings
17.4.1 The Council may, and shall upon a requisition made in writing by not less than fifteen (15) Members of the Society, convene a Special General Meeting to be held within a period of three months from the date when such requisition is received by the Secretary;
17.4.2 Any requisition made by Members shall include a statement of the object of the meeting proposed to be called and shall be sent or delivered to the Secretary.
17.4.3 Special General Meetings may be called by the Council and shall be convened upon requisition by at least fifteen (15) Members as provided in Clause 17.4.1 of the Constitution. At any Special General Meeting only such business as is shown on the notice convening the meeting shall be considered.

### 17.5 Notice of General Meetings

17.5.1 Seven days notice at the least, specifying the place, day and hour of the meeting and the general nature of the business shall be sent to each Member, but the non-receipt of such notice by any Member shall not invalidate the proceedings of any General Meeting.
17.5.2 Council Meetings shall be held at the discretion of the Council, provided that there shall be at least one Council meeting in each year.

## 18 Standing Orders for General Meetings

18.1 These Standing Orders shall be applicable to all General Meetings of the Society and shall be construed subject to the Constitution.
18.2 No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum of Members is present when the meeting proceeds to business. A quorum shall be fifteen Members or $50 \%$ of the total Members, whichever is the lesser.
18.3 If within one hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened upon a requisition of Members shall be dissolved; in any other case it shall stand adjourned to a time and place to be nominated by the President, and if at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present it shall be adjourned sine die.
18.4 The President shall preside as Chair at every General Meeting of the Society. If there is no President or Vice-president present at the meeting within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the Members present shall choose one of their number to be Chair.
18.5 The Chair may, with the consent of the meeting, adjourn any meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.
18.6 At any General Meeting
18.6.1 The Chair shall have a deliberative vote, and in the event of an equality of votes, a casting vote.
18.6.2 Unless a secret ballot be demanded by at least five Members, a declaration by the Chair that a motion has been carried or lost and an entry to that effect in the Minutes of the meeting shall be sufficient evidence of the fact.
18.6.3 If a secret ballot be demanded by five or more Members, it shall be taken in such manner as the Chair directs.
18.6.4 Before proceeding to conduct any ballot there shall be elected from the Members present at the meeting a returning officer and two Members who shall act as scrutineers.
18.6.5 Any Member desiring to speak shall rise in their place and, when called upon by the Chair, shall firstly give their name and the name of their employer, then address the Chair.
18.6.6 When the Chair rises during a debate, any Member then speaking or offering to speak shall resume their seat and the meeting shall be silent so that the Chair may be heard without interruption.
18.6.7 The proposer of any motion or amendment shall submit it in writing if required to do so by the Chair.
18.6.8 A motion or an amendment shall not be debated or put to the vote unless or until it has been seconded. A motion or amendment lapsing for want of a seconder shall not be recorded in the Minutes.
18.6.9 A motion or an amendment may be withdrawn by the mover with the consent of the seconder of such motion and the meeting which shall be signified without debate.
18.6.10 A motion or an amendment before the meeting may be reworded by the mover with the consent of the seconder of such motion and by leave of the meeting which shall be signified without debate.
18.6.11 An amendment shall be relevant to and shall not be a direct negation of the motion to which it. is moved.
18.6.12 A Member shall not speak more than once to any question except by way of explanation, provided that the mover of a motion, including a motion incorporating amendments, shall have a right of reply after all amendments have been dealt with and discussion on the motion has ended. Such reply shall close the debate. An amendment shall constitute a separate question from the original motion and from any other amendment. The mover of an amendment shall not have a right of reply.
18.6.13 When speaking in reply, the mover of a motion shall not introduce any new matter but shall confine their comments to answering previous speakers.
18.6.14 A Member moving a motion or an amendment shall be deemed to have spoken to it. A Member seconding a motion or an amendment without speaking to it may reserve their right to speak to it subsequently.
18.6.15 Except with the concurrence of the meeting:
18.6.15.1 A Member shall not speak for more than five minutes in moving a motion or three minutes in reply.
18.6.15.2 Every other speaker shall speak for not more than three minutes on any question and the debate on any motion including amendments shall not exceed thirty minutes.
18.6.16 When an amendment is before the meeting, discussion shall be confined to that amendment. No further amendment shall be proposed until the amendment before the meeting has been disposed of. A Member may propose more than one amendment to any motion, provided not more than one amendment upon any motion shall be considered unless notice of such further amendment has been given before the amendment then under discussion has been disposed of.
18.6.17 Upon the adoption of any amendment to a motion, such motion as amended shall become a substantive motion and for all purposes of subsequent discussion shall be treated as an original motion.
18.6.18 Members shall speak in succession either for or against any question, subject to the right of the seconder to speak immediately after the mover. If at the conclusion of a speaker's remarks no Member rises to speak on the other side or, in the case of a motion, to move an amendment, the question shall at once be put, provided that, in the case of a motion, the mover shall have the right to reply.
18.6.19 No motion to the same effect as any motion which has been negatives by the meeting shall be again entertained at the same meeting.

### 18.7 Rescission Motions

18.7.1 A Resolution of a General Meeting shall not be altered or rescinded except by a motion to that effect of which notice has been duly given, provided that where a notice of motion to rescind a Resolution is given at the meeting at which the Resolution is carried, such Resolution shall not be carried into effect until such notice of rescission has been dealt with. Provided further upon receipt of such notice of rescission at the meeting, the Chair of the meeting may allow a motion of rescission to be dealt with immediately or shall forthwith determine and announce the time and place of a further General Meeting to consider the notice of rescission or that the matter be resolved by a postal vote.
18.7.2 A Notice of Motion to rescind a Resolution shall not be in order unless signed by at least five Members, provided that this shall not apply where three months have elapsed since the Resolution was passed.
18.7.3 Where a motion to alter or rescind a Resolution has been negated, no similar motion shall be brought forward within twelve months thereafter and the effect of this provision shall not be evaded by substituting any other motion differently worded but in principle the same.
18.7.4 Any such motion as aforesaid may be removed upon a report of the Council of the Society, and such report shall be specially mentioned in the Minutes.
18.7.5 A rescission motion to rescind a motion that has amended the Constitution in accordance with clause 22.4 must be carried by a two thirds vote of the Members present.

### 18.8 Other Meeting Procedures

18.8.1 Any Member may raise a point of order which shall take precedence over all other business. No discussion shall take place on a point of order. The Chair when called upon to decide a point of order shall give their decision and no debate or comment shall be permitted thereon; their decision shall be final subject to a formal motion proposing disagreement with the Chair's ruling.
18.8.2 Any Member may, upon the Chair having given \their ruling on a point of order, move dissent. Such motion shall be put to the meeting forthwith without debate. Should such motion be passed, a motion shall be received declaring the interpretation of the meeting.
18.8.3 After not less than two Members in addition to the mover and seconder have had the opportunity to speak on the question, any Member who has not already participated in the debate may, whether another speaker has the floor or not, move "That the question be now put", which motion, if accepted by the Chair, shall be put without amendment or debate. The Chair shall have absolute discretion to accept or refuse the motion. The Chair may also, of their own volition, put the question if they feel that adequate discussion has taken place. In either case, the mover of a motion shall retain their right of reply. If an amendment is before the meeting, the closure motion shall be deemed to close the debate on the amendment only.
18.8.4 A Member who has not already participated in the debate may move, "That the debate (or the meeting) be adjourned". Discussion and/or amendments shall be limited to the time and place of the adjourned debate or meeting. The motion shall take precedence over all other business except points of order. On resuming the adjourned debate or meeting the Member who moved the adjournment shall be entitled to speak first.
18.8.5 A General Meeting may at any time during the discussion of a motion or an amendment resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole.
18.8.6 Standing Orders 18.6 .5 to 18.6 .19 and 18.8 to 18.8 .4 or any of them may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of the Members present. The Member moving the suspension of any Standing Order shall state their reason for so doing and if seconded it shall be put to the vote without debate.
18.8.7 No Member shall reflect on the vote of a meeting except on a motion for the rescission of any Resolution previously adopted. No Member shall reflect on a Section of the Constitution or By-Laws except on a motion (of which due notice has been given) to amend or repeal such Section or by-law.
18.8.8 Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, a decision by a validly constituted meeting shall not be void by reason only of a departure from these Standing Orders which was not discovered until after the decision had been made.
18.8.9 Any matter not dealt with in these Standing Orders shall be governed by the customary procedure at meetings.

## 19 Chapters

19.1 The Society shall have Chapters in such geographic regions in Australia and in countries as the Council shall from time to time determine. A Chapter shall have a minimum of 20 voting Members and shall be bound by this Constitution. Chapters shall organise themselves formally, electing a committee structure for the purpose. Chapters shall exist primarily for the purpose of promoting the interests of the Society and facilitating intercourse between Members in country and regional districts.
19.2 Any Member, group of Members, or Chapter of the Society may use their endeavours to form a new Chapter. Copies of all correspondence and broad outlines of action shall however be forwarded regularly to the Secretary of the Council.
19.3 A Member enrolled with any Chapter, while visiting the centre in which another Chapter is based, shall be entitled to participate in all the proceedings of that Chapter except that they shall not be entitled to vote on any motion or resolution of that other Chapter.
19.4 A Member enrolled with any Chapter who wishes to be enrolled by more than one Chapter shall apply for each enrolment to the second or further chapters but one Chapter only shall be listed for financial and enrolment purposes.
19.5 Chapters shall conform to directions from the Council on all matters. In the event of a Chapter failing to abide by the Council's decision, the Council shall have the power to take over the affairs of the Chapter.
19.6 Each Chapter shall pass Rules to regulate the affairs of that Chapter and may from time to time amend and add to them but no such Rule shall be inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Constitution, nor shall any Rule or any amendment thereof have any force or effect until it has been approved by the Council.
19.7 Each Chapter shall have a Chapter committee which shall be nominated and elected by the voting members of the Society enrolled with that Chapter. Nominations for Committee Members shall be called and submitted in writing not later than 21 days prior to the Chapter Annual General Meeting
19.8 The management of the Chapter shall be vested in the Chapter Committee which shall have the right to control, use, expend and deal with all funds and other assets of the Chapter subject to this Constitution and the payment by that Committee to the Council of such contributions as may from time to time be payable.
19.9 The Chapter shall submit a broad outline of its major activities to the Council for agreement, to ensure that does not clash in time or purpose with other activities of the Society.
19.10 Chapters shall forward to the Council within twenty-eight days copies of minutes of all Ordinary and Special Chapter Committee Meetings and each year the Chapter shall forward a copy of its Annual Report to the Council.
19.11 The Chapter Chair shall have power to arrange for meetings and social gatherings at dates convenient to their group, but avoiding the date of any regular meetings of the Society, and shall notify all Members included in the Chapter region of all meetings and functions to be held therein.
19.12 Chapter Meetings may take the form of technical discussions and associated social gatherings.
19.13 Chapter Meetings may be open to visitors introduced by Members. If visitors are present, no discussion shall be held on Society domestic matters.
19.14 Members at Chapter Meetings may submit any matter as a recommendation for attention by the National Council, but such recommendation will be dealt with only as an opinion from the group of Members at the meeting. It will be judged by the Council in its relation to the interests of the Society.
19.15 The activities of Chapters shall at all times have in view the provisions of the Constitution of the Society, and especially the Objectives of the Society as defined therein. Chapters shall function strictly under the guidance and control of the Council of the Society in all respects.
19.16 Chapters will operate a trading account and provide a financial report to the National Treasurer every quarter.
19.17 Chapters will prepare an annual budget for submission to the National Council.
19.18 Chapters will receive a dividend of the annual membership for their region every year.

## 20 Chapter Committees

20.1 Each Chapter of the Society shall be managed by an elected Chapter Committee comprising Chapter Chair, Chapter Secretary and Chapter Treasurer and a membership of two or more as appropriate to the needs of each Chapter. One Member of the Committee is to act as membership officer for the Chapter. Committee Members shall be eligible for re-election.
20.2 Each elected Member other than the Chapter Chair has equal voting rights.
20.3 Only the Chapter Chair has a casting vote. Co-opted Members do not have voting rights.
20.4 The positions of Chapter Chair, Chapter Secretary and Chapter Treasurer shall be filled by election by Members of the Chapter Committee at their first meeting after the Chapter Annual General Meeting. The Chair holding office prior to the AGM shall hold office until a new Chair is elected by the new Chapter Committee.
20.5 Chairs are to be elected annually. The retiring Chapter Chair can stand for re-election. As a guideline the preferred consecutive terms of the Chapter Chair should be three to six years.
20.6 The timing of Chapter Committee Elections shall be such that Chapter Chairs can be established before the National Council Elections.
20.7 The Chapter Chair may nominate an alternative Committee Member as Chapter Representative on National Council, provided that the nomination is supported by the Chapter Committee.
20.8 A Committee Member may be removed from office in accordance with Section 9.5 of Professional Conduct, requirements.

## 21 Chapter Annual General Meetings

21.1 The Chapter Annual General Meeting shall be held before the National Annual General meeting each year. The Meeting shall consider the following business:
21.1.1 The Minutes of the previous Chapter Annual General Meeting;
21.1.2 Any appropriate correspondence;
21.1.3 The Chapter Annual report, comprising the reports of the Chapter Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and specialist groups and others;
21.1.4 Election of the incoming Committee; and
21.1.5 General Business as appropriate.
21.2 The Chair holding office prior to the Annual Chapter General Meeting shall chair the meeting.
21.3 No business shall be transacted at any Chapter General Meeting unless a quorum of Members is presented when the meeting proceeds to business. A quorum shall be ten Members or $30 \%$ of the total Members, whichever is the lesser.

## 22 Amendments to the Constitution

22.1 Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed:
a) by means of a petition signed by not less than ten (10) Members of the Society; or
b) by a resolution of the Council passed by a majority of its Members.
22.2 The Council may, in both the above cases, provided at least 75\% of Chapter Chairs are in favour, submit such proposed amendments of the constitution to the Chapters to be voted upon as in accordance with the standing orders.
22.3 A Chapter may propose amendments on the Constitution to the Council, provided the amendment has the support of at least $75 \%$ of voting Chapter Members present at a Special Chapter Meeting called for the purpose. Fourteen days clear notice stating business and details of the meeting shall be given to Members prior to the Special Chapter Meeting.
22.4 Proposed amendments shall be submitted to all Members entitled to vote by circular letter or notice containing a proxy form, sent at least 30 days prior to a General Meeting of the Society.
22.5 If a two-thirds majority of the votes cast at a General Meeting are in favour of the proposed amendments, the same shall thereupon become part of the Constitution.

## 23 Termination

23.1 Should a Chapter desire to disband, a Special General Meeting with appropriate notice and notice of motion shall be called to debate the issue. If at least $75 \%$ of voting Members present decide in favour of disbanding then:
23.1.1 A notice to this effect shall be circulated to all Chapter Members for their written vote within two weeks of the Special General Meeting
23.1.2 A statement of argument and reasons therefore shall be forwarded to the Council. Should the postal ballot show at least 75 percent of voting Members of the Chapter are in favour of disbanding, then a further Special General Meeting shall be called and held not less than 30 nor more than 60 days after the closing date of the written ballot, to appoint a select committee to collaborate with the Council to terminate the affairs of the Chapter and to prepare final statements of Chapter Affairs, unless the number of Members opposing termination is sufficient to constitute a Chapter. All assets and liabilities shall revert to Council for administering as Council sees fit.
23.1.3 The Society may be wound up if the Council and all remaining Chapters confirm resolutions to disband in accordance with the above clause 23.1 in which case the Council shall prepare a statement of the Society's affairs, pay all indebtedness and expenses of termination and shall dispose of all assets as required by Clause 24.1 of this Constitution. Council may, in these extreme circumstances, elect as an alternative to combine with or be absorbed by any other organisation of kindred interest so that the aims of the Society are served.

## 24 Asset Distribution on Termination

24.1 If for any reason, it is decided to terminate the activities of the Society, then Society residual assets will be passed to any officially recognised successor organisation (s) or to Engineers Australia for reallocation in the promotional interests of on-going electric energy activities. In any case, the distribution of income, property and surpluses will not be made to Members of the Society.

## 25 Interpretation

25.1 In this Constitution, the following definitions shall apply:
25.1.1 "In writing" or "written" means and includes printing, email or other means or representing or reproducing words in visible form.
25.1.2 Words importing the singular include plural and words importing the plural include the singular where the context permits.
25.1.3 The heading is for convenience of understanding only and shall not affect the construction of this Constitution.

## 26 Nomination Form for Position of Member of the Council

This form may be amended as prescribed by the Council from time to time, as required by circumstance, in accordance with Clause 14.25.2.


To be received by the Secretary on or before

