

Notice of Consultation – Business-to-Business (B2B) Procedures Version 2.1

This Notice of Consultation was issued on 15 November 2013 and informs all NEM Registered Participants, Metering Providers, Intending Participants and interested parties that the Information Exchange Committee (IEC) is conducting a consultation on B2B Procedures. The consultation is being conducted under Clause 7.2.A.3 (e) of the National Electricity Rules (the Rules) in accordance with the Rules Consultation requirements in clause 8.9 of the Rules.

1. Background and Scope

The IEC is a body established under the Rules. Its functions and powers include managing the ongoing development of the B2B Procedures and any changes to them (clause 7.2A.2 (g)(2) of the Rules).

This consultation proposed further changes to the B2B Procedures. The proposed changes to be consulted on, at the request of industry, relates to;

- **002 Life Support Reconciliation**

The changes to the Customer Details Reconciliation Process were originally proposed as of the November 2013 Release but were removed from the consultation as a result of industry feedback. However, the associated aseXML schema changes have already been implemented. Following further investigation and a ‘proof of concept’ conducted in September 2013; the BMRG recommended updating the process to limit the Reconciliation Process to NMIs with Life Support customers only.

- **009 Timing Requirements**

This change relates to the timing obligations for Retailers in raising a Customer Details Notification and a Distributor raising a Customer Details Request in relation to a customer transfer or a New Connection. The aim is to have a consistent understanding across the industry as to what constitutes the completion of a customer transfer as well as the completion of a New Connection. In addition to this, a minimum timing requirement has also been added to the Distributor for raising a Customer Details Request to ensure that a Retailer has had sufficient time to be able to provide a Customer Details Notification.

- **010 Removal of Obsolete Business Event ‘Agree that NMI is not Sender’s’**

In the B2B Procedure Technical Guidelines, the event ‘Agree that NMI is not Sender’s’ for the Meter Data Process is proposed to be removed to avoid confusion. Currently it does not have an actual code specified.

After investigation it was found that the event ‘Agree that NMI is not Sender’s’ originally had 1970 as the associated code. It has been determined that during the initial transposition of Business Events from the B2B Participant Build Pack to the B2B Procedure Technical Guidelines (B2B v1.7 consultation in 2009/2010), the event was not removed despite participant feedback indicating that it could be removed. A new

EventCode was introduced for Customer and Site Details as part of B2B v2.0 that used code 1970.

- **011 Service Paperwork Reference Table**

Reference in the B2B Procedure Technical Delivery Specification to the location of the Service Paperwork Reference Table has been updated to reflect the decommissioning of NEMConnect. The Service Paperwork Reference Table will be published on the AEMO website.

- **001 Minor & Manifest Changes**

In addition, a number of minor and manifest changes were identified and have been included in this consultation.

The IEC considered amendments to the B2B Procedures as recommended by the B2B and MSATS Reference Group (BMRG) and documented in the draft 'B2B Procedures Version 2.1 - Change Pack'. On 14 November 2013 the IEC confirmed that a prima facie case exists for amending the B2B Procedures and endorsed the draft B2B Procedures Version 2.1 Change Pack. The endorsed B2B Procedures Version 2.1: Change Pack is submitted by the IEC for consultation.

2. The consultation process

The matter under consultation is described in the B2B Procedures Version 2.1 - Change Pack, namely:

- i. Section 1 to 7 of the B2B Procedures Change Pack provides the issues statement, B2B proposal with regard to the B2B Objectives and Principles and an impact statement.
- ii. Section 9 of the B2B Procedures Change Pack provides details of the Proposed Changes.

Following is an outline of the consultation process including key dates. Please note that these dates are proposed dates and may be subject to change by the IEC.

Process	Date
Closing date for submissions received in response to this Notice of Consultation	23/12/2013
Publication of the draft determination and invitation to make submissions in response to the draft determination	Currently, proposed date is 23/01/2014
Closing date for submissions received in response to the draft determination	Currently, proposed date is 10/02/2014
Publication of the final determination	Currently, proposed date is 26/03/2014
Proposed Effective Date of the B2B Procedures	Current, proposed date is

3. Objectives of the consultation

The objectives of the consultation are to:

- Provide AEMO, Local Retailers, Market Customers, Metering Providers, Distribution Network Service Providers, Intending Participants, and other interested parties, with the opportunity to be involved in the development of the updated B2B Procedures; and
- To ensure that AEMO, Local Retailers, Market Customers, Metering Providers, Distribution Network Service Providers, Intending Participants, and other interested parties are properly informed about the proposed and final outcome.

4. Invitation to make submissions

As part of the consultation process, the IEC invites written submissions on the provided document: **B2B Procedures 2.1 - Initial Consultation Change Pack**. In particular, the IEC would like comments on:

- i. Possible impacts on business processes
- ii. Possible impacts on IT systems
- iii. Changes proposed

However, comments are also invited on any other issues relating to the matter under consultation.

Please identify any information in your submission that you consider to be confidential. The IEC may require you to give reasons as to why you regard information as confidential. The IEC reserves the right to publish material that it does not consider confidential. Material identified as confidential may be accorded less weight in the decision-making process than material that is published and withstands challenge and exposure to the market.

5. Closing date for submissions

Submissions in response to this Notice of Consultation should reach AEMO on behalf of the IEC by 5:00pm on 23 December 2013.

The IEC has the discretion to consider late submissions. Any late submission should explain:

- i. the reason for the lateness; and
- ii. the detriment to you if your submission is not considered

6. Meetings

In your written submission you may request a meeting in connection with the matter under consultation and, if so, you must specify the reasons why such a meeting is considered necessary or desirable.

Please note that details of matters discussed at a meeting may be made available to other consulted parties.

7. Further information

The following lists the documents used for this consultation:

Document Name	Purpose
Notice of Consultation B2B v2.1 – v1.00.doc	This document.
B2B Procedures v2.1 - Initial Consultation Change Pack v1.00.doc	Issues Statement, B2B Proposal with regard to B2B Objective and B2B Principles and Impact Statement Section 9 details the changes proposed to the existing B2B Procedures: Version 2.0.
B2B Procedures v2.1 - Initial Consultation Participant Response Pack v1.00.doc	Template for Participants to provide a response to the items under consultation.

8. Contact details

The IEC prefers that submissions be forwarded using the B2B Procedures Version 2.1 Initial Consultation Participant Response Pack in electronic format as they will be published on the AEMO website.

Please send all e-mail submissions to the IEC Secretary c/o the Enhancements Team to:

enhancements@aemo.com.au

Alternatively, you may post submissions to:

*Oriel Mendoza
C/O AEMO
GPO Box 2008S
Melbourne VIC 3001*