

What is AEMO's DER Register?

Fact Sheet

New Rules require a register to be created

The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) is scheduled to launch Australia's first database of distributed energy resources (DER) by 1 March 2020.

AEMO is responsible for operating Australia's energy market and power system, including the delivery of affordable, secure and reliable energy to consumers, whilst pursuing new data-driven solutions to help shape a better energy future for all Australians.

In late 2018, the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) amended the National Electricity Rules enabling AEMO to establish a DER Register to improve visibility and access to essential device information across Australia.



AEMO has worked with stakeholders across the electricity sector to design the DER Register, agree on DER data sets and data collection processes into the register.



The comprehensive DER data held securely in the DER Register database will enable AEMO to:

- Forecast, plan and operate the grid more efficiently, ensuring the system and market can deliver energy at an efficient price for all customers,
- Be more prepared for major disruptions to the system with a greater understanding of how DER assets will behave during these events,
- Prepare the grid for major innovations with DER such as virtual power plants, and enabling customers to consider and participate in new markets with their DER, and
- Allow networks to make better informed decisions about network investment options in the future as demand changes and DER increases.

From 1 March 2020 the new rules mandate NSPs to provide information on every small generating or battery system within 20 days of the system commissioning or activation, which will feed into AEMO's DER Register.

Why Distributed Energy Resources?

Australian homes and businesses are global leaders in exercising choice by installing generation, such as rooftop solar, and battery storage and electric vehicles that can act as generators are also emerging.

While there isn't much of this generation capacity on the grid its okay. But DER is on track to be the largest installed capacity of any generation technology by 2029. The AEMC made their rule to give AEMO better visibility of this capacity so we can run the grid well for the benefit of all Australians.

The DER Register will provide this visibility as it will include all forms of small grid-connected generation and storage¹.

Although the DER Register holds technical rather than personal information, some information is held on electrical contractors and DER installers when they provide the information. This information will be collected in line with appropriate privacy policies².



A critical requirement for a quality data set is that it captures information on the equipment installed on site. This information can be provided through existing processes or straight into AEMO's portal. AEMO's systems are also enabling mobile applications DER installers already use to support data provision. The systems AEMO has developed are designed to minimise the effort from DER installers and electrical contractors.



The new system and approach represent a change to the way small-scale solar, batteries and other forms of DER are deployed in Australia, but the benefits for all Australian's will be large.

¹ Generators or batteries that are *only* used as standby or back-up power, and generators or energy storage that registers with AEMO for market participation are exempt.

² https://www.aemo.com.au/Privacy_and_Legal_Notices

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The DER Register system is designed to draw information from available data sets, such as the Clean Energy Council's approved product databases, to streamline data provision. Installers will be mostly be asked to confirm information, rather than enter it.



With better knowledge and visibility of DER, AEMO can better manage the grid and ensure that consumer-led energy investments can deliver their expected value to consumers and the energy system.

Want more information?



For more information and resources, visit [AEMO's website](https://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/National-Electricity-Market-NEM/DER-program/DER-Register-Implementation) (<https://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/National-Electricity-Market-NEM/DER-program/DER-Register-Implementation>)

Email questions to: DERRegister@aemo.com.au