

NOTICE OF FIRST STAGE OF CONSULTATION

National Electricity Rules – Rule 8.9

INITIAL DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCE MINIMUM TECHNICAL STANDARD

Date of Notice: 24 August 2020

In March 2020, the Council of Australian Government Energy Council (COAG EC) tasked the Energy Security Board (ESB) and AEMO to develop a rule change request that establishes in the National Electricity Market (NEM) the initial minimum distributed energy resource (DER) technical standards, and to develop mirror requirements in Western Australia. At the same time, the ESB was also tasked with considering the future governance arrangements for DER technical standards.

The publication of this Notice and associated Issues Paper commences the first stage of a consultation process to develop the initial DER minimum technical standard (“Initial Standard”). This consultation addresses the content of the Initial Standard to be made under the rule, should this come into effect. The COAG EC agreed to the ESB’s recommendation the initial minimum DER technical standards:

- focus on updates to inverter standard AS/NZS 4777.2; and
- consider what interoperability capabilities are available and should be included in the initial minimum DER technical standards.

This consultation is being conducted in parallel with the AEMC consultation on Technical Standards for DER to enable publication of an Initial Standard by December 2020. AEMO notes that Rules to establish DER minimum technical standards are not in place at this time and that changes may be needed to any Initial Standard on this basis.

This notice informs all Registered Participants and interested parties (including but not limited to manufacturers, test laboratories, consumer groups and peak member bodies) (**Consulted Persons**) that AEMO is conducting a consultation on an Initial Standard. This consultation is being conducted in accordance with the Rules consultation requirements detailed in rule 8.9 of the NER.

Matter under Consultation

The matter for consultation is the content of an Initial Standard to be published alongside the AEMC’s rule determination on Technical Standards for DER. The intent of establishing DER minimum standards is to put in place the enabling technical capability to facilitate consistent consumer access to the power system and provide for grid and power system security and reliability.

Further details are provided in the Issues Paper published with this notice.

The Consultation Process

The consultation process is outlined below. Dates are indicative only and subject to change.

PROCESS STAGE	INDICATIVE DATE
Closing date for submissions in response to this Notice and Issues Paper	29 September 2020

PROCESS STAGE	INDICATIVE DATE
Public Forums (via EOI by 7 September 2020)	9 – 16 September 2020
Publication of Draft Standard and Determination	27 October 2020
Closing date for submissions in response to the Draft Report	11 Novmeber 2020
Publication of Final Standard and Determination	23 December 2020

Invitation to Make Submissions

AEMO invites written submissions on the matter under consultation, including any alternative or additional proposals you consider may better meet the objectives of this consultation and the national electricity objective in section 7 of the National Electricity Law.

Please identify any parts of your submission that you wish to remain confidential, and explain why. AEMO may still publish that information if it does not consider it to be confidential, but will consult with you before doing so.

Please note that material identified as confidential may be given less weight in the decision-making process than material that is published.

Meetings

In your submission, you may request a meeting with AEMO to discuss the matter under consultation, stating why you consider a meeting is necessary or desirable.

If appropriate, meetings may be held jointly with other Consulted Persons. Subject to confidentiality restrictions, AEMO will generally make details of matters discussed at a meeting available to other Consulted Persons, and may publish them.

Closing Date and Time

Submissions in response to this Notice of First Stage of Rules Consultation should be sent by email to DERProgram@aemo.com.au, to reach AEMO by 5.00pm (Melbourne time) on 29 September 2020.

All submissions must be forwarded in electronic format (both pdf and Word). Please send any queries about this consultation to the same email address.

Submissions received after the closing date and time will not be valid, and AEMO is not obliged to consider them. Any late submissions should explain the reason for lateness and the detriment to you if AEMO does not consider your submission.

Publication

All submissions will be published on AEMO's website, other than confidential content.