



# INFORMATION

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## STTM Interface Protocol

**The Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) has started consultation on a rule change request which seeks to streamline the consultation processes required for changes to the short term trading market procedures and interface protocol.**

### Background

The Short Term Trading Market (STTM) is a market for the trading of natural gas at the wholesale level at three defined hubs — Sydney, Adelaide and Brisbane.

The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) is responsible for the formal market procedures (STTM Procedures) that cover matters of a technical and procedural nature. This includes establishing the STTM Interface Protocol to govern the provision of communication in the market between market participants and also with AEMO in the market.

While the STTM Protocol and Procedures both relate to the operation of the STTM, changes to these instruments are currently consulted on under different processes. In addition, both the STTM Protocol and Procedures have a standard and an expedited consultation process.

The key differences between the two standard consultative processes relate to requirements around the publication of notices. The key differences between the two expedited processes relates to timing requirements around the publication of the final report.

### The rule change request

On 31 July 2019, AEMO submitted a rule change request to the AEMC seeking to amend the National Gas Rules so that the processes of consultation for the STTM Interface Protocol would be the same as the consultation process for changes to the STTM Procedures. This would enable consultation on related changes to the STTM Procedures and Interface Protocol to be carried out under one process.

As part of this rule change, the additional obligation to consult with the wider public (via a notice published in a nationally circulated newspaper) separately to consultations on Procedures will no longer be required. AEMO intend to continue to publish notices of consultation on its website and inform participants of consultations opening for comment via email.

### Expedited rule making process

The AEMC will assess this rule change request under an expedited rule making process subject to the receipt of any written objections from stakeholders by 10 October 2019.

### Submissions

The AEMC has published a consultation paper seeking stakeholder views on AEMO's proposal. Submissions should be provided to the AEMC by 24 October 2019.

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