



# INFORMATION

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## Consultation on System restart services, standards and testing

### AEMC invites submissions on consultation paper

The AEMC has commenced consultation on two rule change requests regarding the regulatory frameworks for System Restart Ancillary Services (SRAS). Submissions are due by 17 October 2019.

### What are these rule changes about?

SRAS is a service currently provided by generators with the ability to start, or remain online, without drawing electricity from the grid. This service helps kickstart the process of restoring the power system following a major blackout. Once an SRAS provider has restarted its own plant, it provides energy to restart other generators, which in turn restore supply to consumers.

The AEMC has received two rule change requests in relation to SRAS. The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) has submitted a rule change request to expand the range of services it can call upon to restart and restore the power system, and to implement a process to enable better testing of SRAS providers. AEMO's request proposes:

- AEMO should be able to buy new services to support restoration of the power system
- new generators should be capable of providing one or more of these new services
- greater flexibility for AEMO when procuring SRAS
- introducing new arrangements for testing of SRAS sources

The Australian Energy Regulator (AER) has submitted a rule change request to clarify the responsibilities of parties involved in testing SRAS and restoring the power system.

### Making the system stronger

These rule change requests are part of the AEMC's work looking at the resilience of the power system. Resilience is about how the power system avoids, survives and recovers from major disturbances. Resilience can be delivered in a number of ways, including by improving how quickly the system can be restored following a major blackout. Expanding the range of services to restore the system can help improve power system resilience. Better communications protocols and processes can also deliver more effective restorations and speed recovery from a major blackout.

### Consultation process

The consultation paper and rule change requests are available on the AEMC's website. Stakeholders are invited to make submissions by 17 October 2019.

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19 September 2019