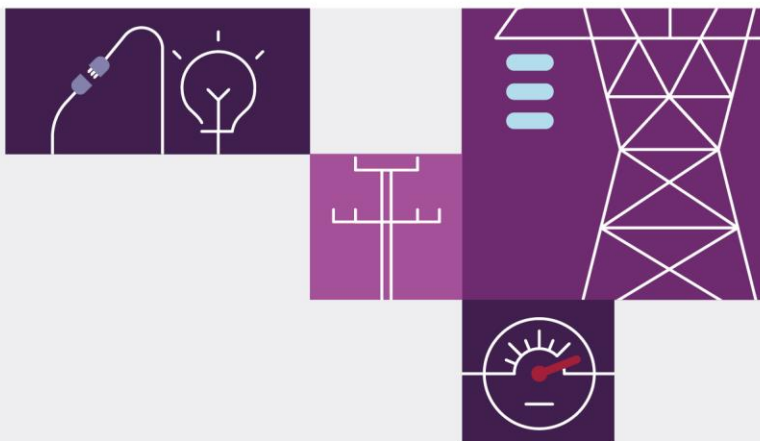


Request for fast track rule

April 2024

Improving the NEM access standards





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Introduction

This rule request is Attachment A to AEMO's *Overview of rule change proposals to improve NEM access standards (the Overview)*.

AEMO requests the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) to consider making a 'fast track' rule under section 96A of the National Electricity Law (NEL) to improve the National Electricity Rules (NER or rules) access standards for the connection of plant to the National Electricity Market (NEM).

In December 2023 AEMO published the final report on its review of the technical requirements for connection under NER schedules 5.2, 5.3 and 5.3a (the Review).¹ To give effect to the recommendations from this Review AEMO is submitting rule change proposals under two rule requests: this request for a fast track rule and a request for consideration under the AEMC's standard rule change process.

AEMO conducted extensive public consultation in undertaking the Review. Based on this consultation, most of the rule changes recommended in the Review are proposed as part of the fast track request. The standard request covers issues, solutions or related matters that may not have been fully canvassed in the Review and are likely to benefit from an additional stage of consultation by the AEMC.

The rule change proposals covered by both requests are best understood as a package. They share the same objectives and address similar issues. Taken together, they deliver on AEMO's final recommendations from the Review, but the fast track proposals can stand alone. The Overview explains the rule change proposals including their objectives, the issues that they seek to address and how AEMO considers they advance the national electricity objective (NEO).

The rule change proposals include suggested rule drafting, marked up in Attachment C to the Overview (with further explanation provided in drafting notes). The proposed fast track rule changes are marked up in red.

¹ AEMO, [Final Report – AEMO review of technical requirements for connection - National Electricity Rules Schedules 5.2, 5.3 and 5.3a](#), December 2023.



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1 Supporting information

This section sets out the prescribed information for a rule request, or indicates where AEMO has provided that information.

1.1 Rule change proponent

The rule change proponent is Australian Energy Market Operator Limited:

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1.2 Explanation and justification

The Overview provides the top-down explanation and justification for the rule change proposals covered by this request, by reference to the objectives of the Review and the issues covered by it. Due to the number of changes proposed, it is not practical for the Overview to provide an explanation of each individual drafting change proposed to the NER.

The individual proposed amendments are therefore also presented in the context of marked up rule drafting. The marked up rules in Attachment C to the Overview include each of the proposed rule changes, together with further explanation and justification for the specific amendments as appropriate.

Together the Overview and marked up rule extracts set out:

- the nature and scope of the issues that the rule change seeks to address
- how the rule change proposals address the issues
- how the amendment contributes to the achievement of the national electricity objective
- the expected costs and benefits of the amendments
- the precise NER amendments that AEMO is proposing.

1.3 Summary of consultation

Section 2.3 of the Overview describes the consultation undertaken in the Review on the issues and solutions covered by the rule change proposals. AEMO requests the AEMC to consider the fast track process based on the extensive and public nature of this consultation, which included the opportunity to provide feedback on a preliminary draft of the proposed NER amendments.



2 Proposed amendments

The draft NER amendments proposed in Attachment C and shown in red give effect to the bulk of the recommendations of AEMO's final report for the Review. Amendments that are part of the standard rule request are explicitly identified in the Overview and do not form part of this fast track rule request.