

Submission Type: Rule Change

Reference: Accelerating smart meter deployment

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Comments: Proposed legislation changes need to address the following issues:

Forcing customers to have smart meters. They are not the solution to our growing environmental issues.

All customers have the right to choose their electricity option -smart meter or not - without being penalised

Not everyone wants to 'radiate' themselves needlessly and without their knowledge or consent.

Data sharing to be approved by the customer as part of the process - not have a blanket rule that it is ok for their electricity provider to assume 'data sharing' is ok. Informed choice/consent needs to apply.

Customers must be informed that wireless smart meters emit RF radiation and that this type of radiation is a Class 2B carcinogen. It is negligence not to do so.

The legislation must also explicitly acknowledge that:

RF radiation has been classified as a Class 2B carcinogen by the IARC;

A growing number of people are more sensitive/vulnerable to RF radiation than others, including foetuses, babies, the sick, people with cancer, the immune compromised and the elderly.

The legislation must provide avenues for compensation if someone is diagnosed or made unwell from the RF meter installed to that customer's property.

The legislation must address the cause of 'fires' from smart meters over the recent years.

All electricity providers and smart meter manufacturers need to have adequate insurance covering them specifically for adverse effects related to the meters and/or the radiofrequency radiation they emit.

Questions that need to be answered by the AEMC Further comments and questions to be answered:

What is the driving force for installing smart meters?

What is the benefit to the customer vs the benefits to the companies or smart meter developers?

What is the total replacement cost of electricity meters as proposed for New South Wales, Queensland, Australian Capital Territory and South Australia? Is this cost justified?