

Submission Type: Rule Change

Reference: Accelerating smart meter deployment

Organisation: personal

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Comments: Most switchboards which house meters are old and do not comply with current safety regulations of AS3000. Some may contain asbestos. When performing work on such switchboards, these must be made compliant to the current safety rules of AS 3000 and other related regulations. No drilling on asbestos boards is allowed. To avoid shortcuts being taken and to make clear who has to pay for such works, the rule change should include

- a) A clear hint/obligation that current safety rules under AS 3000 for the main switchboard must be implemented by the electrician performing the works when upgrading the meter
- b) A clear statement who shall pay for related cost (e.g. the retailer or the owner).

Upgrading the meter only as a change old against new is probably the easy part. But having to remove asbestos contaminated back plates, exchanging the main fuses, checking the earthing and implementing RCCBs can cost several hundred or thousand \$.