

Intending Participant in the NEM

Fact Sheet

This fact sheet explains the registration requirements for Intending Participants and their rights and obligations as contemplated under the National Electricity Rules (NER) as at September 2020.

This fact sheet is only a simplified summary of the relevant provisions of the National Electricity Law (NEL), NER and AEMO's NEM Intending Participant Application documents, which prevail in the case of any inconsistency. Applicants must ensure they read and understand those documents and should obtain independent advice on their specific circumstances.

AEMO may also adapt its approach as new technology and configurations emerge, and as market rules and technology regulations change.

Overview

One of the ways a person can register with AEMO in the National Electricity Market (NEM) is as an Intending Participant.

This may be an appropriate step for anyone in the relatively early stages of developing a generation asset or intending to register with AEMO as a Market Participant. A person who is intending to register in a participant category other than Generator may also apply to be an Intending Participant with respect to that category.

A person who is registered as an Intending Participant with respect to the Generator category, can request certain power system data that may only be available to Registered Participants.¹

The Intending Participant registration application form can be accessed on the AEMO website, <https://www.aemo.com.au/> together with the registration guide and a schedule of the rights and obligations of Intending Participants.

For a successful application, AEMO needs to be reasonably satisfied of the applicant's intent to participate in the NEM, as per the NER clause 2.7(a):

"Any person intending to act in any Registered Participant category may, on application for registration by that person in accordance with rule 2.9, be registered by AEMO as an Intending Participant if that person can reasonably satisfy AEMO that it intends to carry out an activity in respect of which it must or may be registered as a Registered Participant."

Applications will not be recommended to AEMO's internal committee for registration approval until all mandatory application information and evidence has been provided.

For example:

- Signed Application
- All relevant personnel contacts for the applicant
- Organisational capability and supporting documentation (refer to the application form)
- Registration Fee paid in full.
- Category specific evidence (refer below)

AEMO is required to review the status of each registered Intending Participant at least once a year to ensure it continues to satisfy the registration eligibility criteria. If AEMO is not satisfied that an Intending Participant continues to meet the criteria, then its registration will cease. AEMO will notify the Intending Participant concerned by written notice.

Intending Participants that no longer satisfy the clause 2.7(a) requirements need to notify AEMO immediately.

AEMO undertakes a merit-based assessment on a case-by-case basis for each Intending Participant registration application. The requirements specific to the most common Intending Participant categories (Generator and Customer) are briefly described below.

¹ The data request form is located on AEMO's website www.aemo.com.au

Intending Participant in the NEM

Fact Sheet

AEMO Assessment for Intending Participant – Generator category

Applications for Intending Participant registration in the Generator category must be specific to an identified generation project. While each application will be unique in terms of the project’s development stage, the table below provides illustrative examples of the evidence that may be needed to support your registration application.

Applicants must also provide evidence that they have the necessary capability to carry out their intended activities, such as brief résumés of key personnel and an organisation chart.

Project criteria	Evidence requirements
Land	Evidence that the applicant has a long-term arrangement in place to use the land. For example, a copy of an executed lease agreement, option of sale or option to lease
Connection	A copy of the connection inquiry and favourable response from the Network Service provider (NSP) Sign-off from the AEMO connections team that the project has technical merit
Project Plan	Project milestones which demonstrate to AEMO’s satisfaction an intent to progress to completion in the near future. These milestones must represent a program of work that is consistent with the planning and development processes for the project

AEMO Assessment for Intending Participant – Customer category

A Customer is a person registered with AEMO who purchases electricity that has been supplied from a transmission or distribution system through a connection point. A Market Customer is a person who purchases electricity directly from the NEM and is registered with AEMO as a Market Customer.

An applicant for Intending Participant registration in a Customer category must satisfy AEMO that it:

- intends to classify within a reasonable period of time its electricity as a first-tier load, a second-tier load, a market load or an intending load²,
- is able to satisfy the eligibility criteria for a Customer,
- is registering for the purpose of acting as a Retailer of Last Resort (RoLR), and
- can show they have the understanding and ability to comply with their obligations under the NER.

The type of evidence AEMO is likely to require to be satisfied that these criteria are met, includes:

- Board approved business plan including key milestones.
- Evidence of funding/finance.
- Evidence of application to obtain a retail license.
- A list of policies and procedures in place that demonstrate an ability to comply with the NER.



Applicants are advised to contact AEMO early in the design phase of their project to confirm the latest registration and technical requirements.

Where can I find more information?

For any further enquiries, please contact AEMO’s Information and Support Hub via

- supporthub@aemo.com.au or
- call 1300 236 600

² The proposed purchase of load at a connection point.