



# WEM Procedure: Commissioning Tests

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## Version Release History

Version	Effective Date	Summary of Changes
1	21 September 2006	Power System Operation Procedure (Market Procedure) for Commissioning and Testing
2	17 July 2009	System Management amended changes to the procedure resulting from Procedure Change Report PPCL0009
3	23 June 2011	System Management amended changes to the procedure resulting from Procedure Change Report PPCL0016
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7.0	1 October 2023	Replacement Procedure, developed in accordance with clause 3.21A.27 of the WEM Rules

### IMPORTANT NOTICE – EXPLANATORY NOTES

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Purpose and scope

- 1.1.1. This WEM Procedure: Commissioning Tests (Procedure) is made in accordance with AEMO's functions under clause 2.1A.2(h) of the Wholesale Electricity Market Rules (WEM Rules).
- 1.1.2. The *Electricity Industry Act 2004* (WA), the WEM Regulations and the WEM Rules prevail over this Procedure to the extent of any inconsistency.
- 1.1.3. In this Procedure, where obligations are conferred on a Rule Participant, that Rule Participant must comply with the relevant obligations in accordance with clause 2.9.7A, 2.9.7D or 2.9.8 of the WEM Rules, as applicable.
- 1.1.4. The purpose of this Procedure is to document:
  - (a) a description of the activities that AEMO consider would constitute a Commissioning Test and therefore require submission of a Commissioning Test Plan under this section 3.21A, including a categorisation of the type of Commissioning Test or Commissioning Test Plan that AEMO reasonably considers would allow a Market Participant to determine the timeframes and processes applicable to a Commissioning Test Plan or Commissioning Test;
  - (b) any additional information required to be contained in a Commissioning Test Plan;
  - (c) the timelines for submitting and revising different categories of Commissioning Test Plans to AEMO, where the timelines must be no longer than 65 days;
  - (d) the criteria AEMO will use to assess whether to approve or reject a Commissioning Test Plan and to stop, reschedule or cancel a Commissioning Test in a Commissioning Test Plan;
  - (e) the process for notifying:
    - (i) whether the Commissioning Test Plan has been rejected under clause 3.21A.8;
    - (ii) whether the Commissioning Test Plan has been approved under clause 3.21A.9 and if the Commissioning Test Plan is approved, the minimum information that must be provided to the Market Participant which must include the approved dates and times where alternatives are specified in the submitted Commissioning Test Plan; or
    - (iii) whether a Commissioning Test within the Commissioning Test Plan has been stopped, rescheduled or cancelled under clause 3.21A.16;
  - (f) the process for rescheduling a Commissioning Test within the Commissioning Test Period, including the process for Market Participants and AEMO to agree to a new date and time for the Commissioning Test;
  - (g) the process and timeframes for adjustments to an approved Commissioning Test Plan, including to the Commissioning Test Period;
  - (h) the summary details of a Commissioning Test Plan that AEMO will publish on the WEM Website; and

- (i) the requirements for undertaking a Commissioning Test, including, without limitation, any actions to be taken by a Market Participant before, during and on completion of the Commissioning Test **[clause 3.21A.27]**.

1.1.5. Appendix A of this Procedure outlines the head of power clauses that this Procedure is made under, as well as other obligations in the WEM Rules covered by this Procedure.

## 1.2. Definitions

1.2.1. Terms defined in the *Electricity Industry Act 2004* (WA), the WEM Regulations and the WEM Rules have the same meanings in this Procedure unless the context requires otherwise.

1.2.2. The following definitions apply in this Procedure unless the context requires otherwise.

**Table 1 Definitions**

Term	Definition
AEMO's Outage System	The IT system required to be used by Market Participants and Network Operators to submit Outage information to AEMO and for AEMO to provide Outage notifications as published on the WEM Website and updated from time to time.
Commissioning Test Portal	The online interface located in the Wholesale Electricity Market System that is used for all Commissioning Test Plan submissions, revisions, rejections and approvals.
Template Commissioning Test Plan	Template created by AEMO in accordance with paragraph 2.3.
Significant Maintenance	Maintenance where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) major equipment and parts are modified or replaced, including control systems (even if the equipment is replaced with identical ('like-for-like') components);</li> <li>b) software changes alter the performance of a Generating System (including changing of control system logic that will affect the response of the Facility); or</li> <li>c) modifications are undertaken that are considered to be a Potential Relevant Generator Modification or Relevant Generator Modification in accordance with clauses 3A.13 and 3A.14.</li> </ul>
Wholesale Electricity Market System	An interface software that AEMO uses to administer and operate the Wholesale Electricity Market.

## 1.3. Interpretation

1.3.1. The following principles of interpretation apply in this Procedure unless the context requires otherwise.

- (a) Clauses 1.3 to 1.5 of the WEM Rules apply in this Procedure.
- (b) References to time are references to Australian Western Standard Time.
- (c) Terms that are capitalised, but not defined in this Procedure, have the meaning given in the WEM Rules.
- (d) A reference to the WEM Rules or WEM Procedures includes any associated forms required or contemplated by the WEM Rules or WEM Procedures.
- (e) Words expressed in the singular include the plural and vice versa.
- (f) A reference to a paragraph refers to a paragraph of this Procedure.

- (g) A reference to an appendix refers to an appendix of this Procedure.
- (h) A reference to a clause refers to a clause or section of the WEM Rules.
- (i) References to WEM Rules in this Procedure in bold and square brackets **[Clause XXX]** are included for convenience only, and do not form part of this Procedure.
- (j) Text located in boxes and headed as **E[X]** in this Procedure is included by way of explanation only and does not form part of this Procedure. The Procedure prevails to the extent of any inconsistency with the explanatory notes contained within it.
- (k) The body of this Procedure prevails to the extent of any inconsistency with the figures, diagrams, appendices, schedules, annexures or attachments contained within this document.

## 1.4. Related documents

1.4.1. The documents in Table 2 are associated with this Procedure.

**Table 2** Related documents

Reference	Title	Location
WEM Procedure	WEM Procedure: Outages	<a href="#">WEM Website</a>
WEM Procedure	WEM Procedure: GPS Compliance Tests and Generator Monitoring Plans	<a href="#">WEM Website</a>

## 2. Submitting a Commissioning Test Plan

### 2.1. Activities requiring a Commissioning Test Plan

- 2.1.1. A Market Participant must create a Commissioning Test Plan where it intends for a Facility to:
- (a) undergo Significant Maintenance, in accordance with clause 3.21A.5(a);
  - (b) test the control, monitoring or communications systems for the Facility **[clause 3.21A.5(b)]**;
  - (c) demonstrate compliance with Registered Generator Performance Standards under Chapter 3A of the WEM Rules **[clause 3.21A.5(c)]**; or
  - (d) demonstrate its capability to be accredited, or continue to be accredited, to provide Essential System Services under clause 2.34A **[clause 3.21A.5(d)]**.
- 2.1.2. AEMO may request a Market Participant to submit a Commissioning Test Plan where it considers that activities a Market Participant intends to conduct may impact Power System Security or Power System Reliability.
- 2.1.3. A Market Participant must submit a Commissioning Test Plan requested by AEMO under paragraph 2.1.2 in accordance with paragraph 2.4.1.

### 2.2. Commissioning Test and Commissioning Test Plan types and submission timelines

- 2.2.1. Prior to submitting a Commissioning Test Plan, a Market Participant must complete a self-assessment in accordance with Table 3, to determine the category and associated submission timeframes applicable to the Commissioning Tests the Market Participant intends to conduct under the Commissioning Test Plan.

**Table 3 Commissioning Test Plan Categories and submission timeframes**

Commissioning Test Plan category	Scenario Description	Submission Timeframe
Low impact	Commissioning Test Plan outlining a Commissioning Test Period where undertaking the Commissioning Test is expected to have a low degree of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• impact on system generation or load; or</li> <li>• AEMO control room involvement.</li> </ul>	Seven Business Days prior to the commencement of the Commissioning Test.
High impact	Significant Maintenance required under a Commissioning Test Plan; or Commissioning Test Plan outlining a Commissioning Test Period where undertaking the Commissioning Test is expected to have a high degree of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• impact on system generation or load; or</li> <li>• AEMO control room involvement.</li> </ul>	20 Business Days prior to the commencement of the Commissioning Test Plan.
Commissioning a new Facility	N/A	Between 28 and 65 calendar days prior to the commencement of the Commissioning Test Period.

## 2.3. Template Commissioning Test Plan and information requirements

- 2.3.1. AEMO will publish on the Commissioning Test Portal, a Template Commissioning Test Plan, which includes:
- (a) requirements of a Commissioning Test Plan, as outlined under clause 3.21A.7;
  - (b) any other information AEMO considers would be required to assess a Commissioning Test Plan, such as:
    - (i) capacity in MW and MVar
    - (ii) fuel type;
    - (iii) trip risk of the Facility;
    - (iv) related Outage number (from AEMO's Outage System);
    - (v) description of the coordination required with the Network Operator; and
    - (vi) description of AEMO control room action requirements.

## 2.4. Submitting a Commissioning Test Plan

- 2.4.1. A Market Participant must submit a Commissioning Test Plan via the Commissioning Test Portal:
- (a) in accordance with the timeframe associated with the relevant Commissioning Test Plan category specified in Table 3;
  - (b) using the Commissioning Test Plan Template; and
  - (c) including all information, as required under the Commissioning Test Plan Template.
- 2.4.2. A Market Participant may provide information in addition to that required under paragraph 2.4.1(c), via the Commissioning Test Portal, where it considers this may assist AEMO in reviewing and assessing the Commissioning Test Plan.

## 3. Assessment of a Commissioning Test Plan

- 3.1.1. In assessing whether to approve or reject a Commissioning Test Plan, AEMO may consider risk factors, including, but not limited to:
- (a) proximity to peak demand and alignment with the forecast daily load profile;
  - (b) level of involvement required by AEMO's control room;

### E[A] Step changes

If a Commissioning Test must be run at high impact periods or additional AEMO controller intervention/involvement may be required (such as regularly confirming visibility of supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) signals or AGC testing), it is likely AEMO will need to ensure additional control room resources are available during the Commissioning Test Period to monitor and maintain Power System Security.

- (c) forecast weather conditions;



### **E[B] Weather conditions**

An example of weather conditions AEMO may consider in its assessment is situations where clouds may introduce volatility in load (due to distributed PV), which could impact Power System Security during the Commissioning Test Period.

- (d) circumstances where MVAR injection is greater than 50MVAR between 09:00 and 15:00;
- (e) circumstances where MVAR setpoints are close to Facility extremes; and

### **E[C] MVAR setpoints**

AEMO will review MVAR setpoints close to Facility extremes in the context of cascading trips (e.g. if all units are importing and the Commissioning Test Plan Facility is importing close to its limit, a trip of another Facility could potentially also trip the Commissioning Test Plan Facility).

- (f) size of any proposed step changes in generation.

### **E[D] Step changes**

A step change of up to 90MW is unlikely to cause frequency deviation outside of the Normal Operating Frequency Band. Larger step changes should be avoided, wherever possible.

- 3.1.2. In assessing a Commissioning Test Plan where paragraph 3.1.1(d) applies, AEMO will complete a reactive power study to assist AEMO in its assessment of the risk factor associated with the Commissioning Test Plan.

## **3.2. Amending the preferred Commissioning Test Period of a Commissioning Test Plan that has not been approved**

- 3.2.1. Where AEMO considers, as part of its assessment under paragraph 3.1.1, that the preferred Commissioning Test Period submitted by a Market Participant under a Commissioning Test Plan cannot be approved, it may request, via the Commissioning Test Portal, a Market Participant to update its preferred Commissioning Test Period under the Commissioning Test Plan to that previously listed as the alternative Commissioning Test Period.
- 3.2.2. Where AEMO considers, as part of its assessment under paragraph 3.1.1, that there are conditions that are required to be met prior to the commencement of, or in order to conduct, the Commissioning Test, it may request, via the Commissioning Test Portal, a Market Participant to update its Commissioning Test Plan to include these conditions.
- 3.2.3. Where AEMO has made a request under paragraph 3.2.1 or 3.2.2, a Market Participant must:
  - (a) amend the Commissioning Test Plan, as requested, at least three Business Days prior to the start of the proposed Commissioning Test Period; or
  - (b) withdraw the Commissioning Test Plan in accordance with paragraph 8.1.1.
- 3.2.4. Where a Market Participant does not update a Commissioning Test Plan in accordance with paragraph 3.2.3, AEMO will reject the Commissioning Test Plan in accordance with paragraph 5.

### 3.3. Requests for additional information

- 3.3.1. AEMO may, via the Commissioning Test Portal, request a Market Participant to provide additional information that it considers necessary to support AEMO's assessment under paragraph 3.1.1.
- 3.3.2. Where AEMO has made a request under paragraph 3.3.1, a Market Participant must provide the information via the Commissioning Test Portal at least three Business Days prior to the start of the Commissioning Test Period.
- 3.3.3. Where a Market Participant does not provide the requested information in accordance with paragraph 3.3.2, AEMO will reject the Commissioning Test Plan in accordance with paragraph 5.

## 4. Approval of a Commissioning Test Plan

- 4.1.1. Subject to the requirements of paragraph 2.4.1 being met, AEMO will approve a Commissioning Test Plan that satisfies the requirements in clause 3.21A.9.
- 4.1.2. Where AEMO approves a Commissioning Test Plan, it must notify the Market Participant:
  - (a) via the Commissioning Test Portal; and
  - (b) as soon as practicable, which must be no later than 48 hours before the start of the Commissioning Test Period, in accordance with clause 3.21A.19.
- 4.1.3. Where AEMO provides approval of a Commissioning Test Plan under paragraph 4.1.2, it must, at a minimum, include the following details in its notification:
  - (a) the approved dates and times of the Commissioning Tests; and
  - (b) any other information AEMO considers is required to assist the Market Participant in conducting Commissioning Tests under the approved Commissioning Test Plan.
- 4.1.4. A Market Participant should submit an approved Commissioning Test Plan to the Network Operator at [system.analysis@westernpower.com.au](mailto:system.analysis@westernpower.com.au) for their information only.
- 4.1.5. Where AEMO approves a Commissioning Test Plan after conducting a study in accordance with paragraph 3.1.2, it will advise the relevant Network Operator as soon as practicable via email.

## 5. Where AEMO rejects or is not required to assess a Commissioning Test Plan

- 5.1.1. AEMO is not required to assess, and may reject, a Commissioning Test Plan where it considers:
  - (a) any of the circumstances outlined in clause 3.21A.8 apply;
  - (b) the Commissioning Test Plan is not submitted in accordance with paragraph 2.4.1;
  - (c) the category, as outlined in Table 3, under which the Commissioning Test Plan is submitted is incorrect and will result in AEMO having insufficient time to review the Commissioning Test Plan;

- (d) a Market Participant has not amended a Commissioning Test Plan, as requested under paragraph 3.2.1 or 3.2.2;
  - (e) a Market Participant has not provided additional information as requested under paragraph 3.3.1; or
  - (f) in accordance with an assessment under clause 3.21A.9, carrying out the Commissioning Test Plan is likely to adversely affect impact Power System Security or Power System Reliability.
- 5.1.2. Where AEMO rejects or does not assess a Commissioning Test Plan, in accordance with paragraph 5.1.1, and the Commissioning Test is yet to commence, AEMO must notify the Market Participant:
- (a) via the Commissioning Test Portal; and
  - (b) as soon as practicable, which must be no later than 48 hours before the start of the proposed Commissioning Test Period, in accordance with clause 3.21A.19.

## 6. Revising or adjusting an approved Commissioning Test Plan

### 6.1. Submitting a revised or adjusted Commissioning Test Plan

- 6.1.1. A Market Participant may revise or adjust an approved Commissioning Test Plan in accordance with clause 3.21A.15.
- 6.1.2. A Market Participant intending to revise or adjust an approved Commissioning Test Plan, must:
- (a) revise the Commissioning Test Plan;
  - (b) provide any supporting information; and
  - (c) submit the revised Commissioning Test Plan via the Commissioning Test Portal at least one Business Day prior to the start of the proposed Commissioning Test Period previously approved by AEMO.

### 6.2. Assessing a revised Commissioning Test Plan

- 6.2.1. AEMO will assess a revised or adjusted Commissioning Test Plan in accordance with paragraph 3.1.1.

### 6.3. Approving a revised Commissioning Test Plan

- 6.3.1. Subject to the requirements of paragraph 6.1.2 being met, AEMO must approve a revised Commissioning Test Plan, in accordance with clause 3.21A.9, including the Power System Security and Power System Reliability limitations of that clause.
- 6.3.2. Where AEMO approves a revised Commissioning Test Plan in accordance with paragraph 6.3.1, it must advise the Market Participant, as soon as practicable, via the Commissioning Test Portal and must include in its notification:
- (a) the approved dates and times for the Commissioning Test; and

- (b) any other information AEMO considers is required to assist the Market Participant in conducting Commissioning Tests under the approved Commissioning Test Plan.

## 6.4. Rejecting a revised Commissioning Test Plan

6.4.1. AEMO may reject a revised or adjusted Commissioning Test Plan where:

- (a) the requirements of paragraph 6.1.2 are not met;
- (b) any of the circumstances under clause 3.21A.8 apply; or
- (c) the Commissioning Test Plan is likely to adversely affect impact Power System Security or Power System Reliability in accordance with clause 3.21A.9.

6.4.2. Where AEMO rejects a revised or adjusted Commissioning Test Plan, it must advise the Market Participant:

- (a) via the Commissioning Test Portal; and
- (b) as soon as practicable, which must be no later than 48 hours before the start of the proposed Commissioning Test Period, in accordance with clause 3.21A.19.

## 7. Rejecting an approved Commissioning Test Plan prior to the Commissioning Test Period

7.1.1. AEMO may re-assess an approved Commissioning Test Plan in accordance with clauses 3.21A.10 and may subsequently reject an approved Commissioning Test Plan in accordance with 3.21A.11.

7.1.2. Where AEMO rejects an approved Commissioning Test Plan under paragraph 7.1.1, it must advise the Market Participant as soon as practicable, via the Commissioning Test Portal.

7.1.3. Where AEMO has rejected an approved Commissioning Test Plan under paragraph 7.1.2, a Market Participant may reschedule Commissioning Tests by:

- (a) revising the Commissioning Test Plan in accordance with paragraph 6.1.2, where applicable; or
- (b) submitting a new Commissioning Test Plan in accordance with paragraph 2.4.1.

## 8. Withdrawing a Commissioning Test

- 8.1.1. A Market Participant that no longer intends to conduct a Commissioning Test must withdraw the Commissioning Test Plan via the Commissioning Test Portal, as soon as practicable prior to the Commissioning Test Period.

## 9. Conducting Commissioning Test Plans

### 9.1. Commencing Commissioning Tests

- 9.1.1. A Market Participant must advise AEMO's control room, by telephone of its intention to undertake Commissioning Tests in accordance with an approved Commissioning Test Plan, at least 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the Commissioning Test Period.
- 9.1.2. A Market Participant should, where possible, advise the Network Operator's control room, by telephone, of its intention to undertake the Commissioning Test in accordance with an approved Commissioning Test Plan, at least 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the Commissioning Test Period.

### 9.2. Adjustments to a Commissioning Test Plan during the Commissioning Test Period

- 9.2.1. If at any point during the Commissioning Test Period, a Market Participant considers that adjustments are required to the approved Commissioning Test Plan, the Market Participant:
- (a) must advise AEMO's control room, by telephone, as soon as practicable; and
  - (b) must follow AEMO's direction, as to whether the Commissioning Tests:
    - (i) can continue, as proposed to be adjusted by the Market Participant; or
    - (ii) must stop, if AEMO considers the Commissioning Tests are likely to adversely affect Power System Security or Power System Reliability.
- 9.2.2. A Market Participant must amend the relevant Commissioning Test Plan via the Commissioning Test Portal, as soon as practicable after advising AEMO's control room of an adjustment under paragraph 9.2.1(b), to ensure the Commissioning Test Plan accurately reflects the extent and nature of Commissioning Tests conducted by the Market Participant.

### 9.3. Stopping a Commissioning Test during the Commissioning Test Period

- 9.3.1. AEMO may direct a Market Participant to stop a Commissioning Test, via telephone, at any time during the Commissioning Test Period if it determines that conducting, or continuing to conduct, the Commissioning Test is likely to adversely affect Power System Security or Power System Reliability.
- 9.3.2. A Market Participant must comply with a direction made by AEMO under paragraph 9.3.1.

## 9.4. Rescheduling a Commissioning Test during the Commissioning Test Period

- 9.4.1. A Market Participant may re-schedule a Commissioning Test by submitting a new Commissioning Test Plan in accordance with paragraph 2.4.1 where it has been requested to stop a Commissioning Test by AEMO under paragraph 9.3.1 or 9.2.1(b)(ii).

## 9.5. Completion of Commissioning Tests

- 9.5.1. A Market Participant must advise AEMO's control room, by telephone, as soon as practicable, where Commissioning Tests under an approved Commissioning Test Plan are complete.
- 9.5.2. A Market Participant should advise the Network Operator's control room, by telephone, as soon as practicable, after Commissioning Tests under an approved Commissioning Test Plan are complete.

# 10. Publishing Commissioning Test Plans on the WEM Website

- 10.1.1. AEMO must publish on the WEM Website, Commissioning Test Plan information as outlined in clause 3.21A.22.
- 10.1.2. In accordance with paragraph 10.1.1, and for the purposes of clause 3.21A.27(h), AEMO will publish the following information relevant to each Commissioning Test Plan:
- (a) identification number allocated by AEMO;
  - (b) status of the Commissioning Test Plan **[clause 3.21A.22(a)]**;
  - (c) name of the Facility **[clause 3.21A.22(b)(i)]**;
  - (d) Commissioning Test Period **[clause 3.21A.22(b)(ii)]**;
  - (e) purpose of the testing **[clause 3.21A.22(b)(iii)]**;
  - (f) revision number allocated by AEMO, where relevant; and
  - (g) date of adjustment, where relevant.

# Appendix A. Relevant clauses of the WEM Rules

Table 4 details:

- (a) the head of power clauses in the WEM Rules under which the Procedure has been developed; and
- (b) each clause in the WEM Rules requiring an obligation, process or requirement be documented in a WEM Procedure, where the obligation, process or requirement has been documented in this Procedure.

**Table 4 Relevant clauses of the WEM Rules**

Clause
3.21A.27