

# Key differences between Non-Scheduled Facilities and Demand Side Programmes

A DSP is now allowed to inject into the grid from the 2025 Reserve Capacity (RC) Cycle. Applicants may find it hard to distinguish between a Non-Scheduled Facility (NSF) and a Demand Side Programme (DSP). The table below highlights the key differences and obligations for an NSF and a DSP, helping applicants understand the distinctions between the two and select the most appropriate Facility Class:

	NSF	DSP
<b>Facility configuration</b>		
Are there any System Size requirements?	Yes, the System Size must be less than 10 MW	No
Must each Measurement Point be registered in a Facility Class in the WEM?	Yes, each Measurement Point must go through the Facility registration process for NSF and meet all NSF requirements, including WEM communications requirements/SCADA	No, each Measurement Point (or unregistered Non-Dispatchable Load) may be associated to a DSP in the substation area (Transmission Node Identifier (TNI))
Is it associated with Non-Dispatchable Loads?	No	Yes
Does it contain an Energy Producing System?	Yes	May or may not
What are the usual underlying Technology Types?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intermittent Generating System (IGS)</li> <li>• Electric Storage Resource (ESR)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loads and/or</li> <li>• Technology Types that are not suitable for Relevant Level methodology, such as Non-Intermittent Generating System</li> </ul>
<b>Facility location</b>		
Are there any registration limitations on the Facility location in the South West Interconnected System (SWIS)?	<p>No</p> <p>Please note, while there are no registration limitations, dispatch of Registered Facilities is subject to Security Constrained Economic Dispatch (SCED) and this will be the basis on which AEMO will dispatch an NSF (e.g. Power system constraint or being in a highly network constrained area (TNI area) may prevent dispatch of the NSF)</p>	<p>Yes, the aggregated DSPs, which are exempt from clause 4.10.1B of the ESM Rules, must not locate in the TNI exclusion list* starting from the 2026 RC Cycle</p>

	NSF	DSP
<b>CRC assessment</b>		
What is the CRC assessment methodology?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IGS: <a href="#">Relevant Level methodology (RLM)</a></li> <li>ESR: Linear Derating Capacity or RLM</li> </ul>	Based on <a href="#">Individual Reserve Capacity Requirement (IRCR)</a> , minimum consumption of the loads, or capacity nominated by the applicants
Is independent expert report required in the CRC application?	Yes, if RLM applies	No
Can it apply for Flexible CRC?	Not eligible	Yes, if the DSP meets the <a href="#">Minimum Eligibility Requirements</a>
<b>Obligations</b>		
What are the expected actions at dispatch?	Injection	Curtailement and/or injection
When should the Facility dispatch?	Self-scheduling	In accordance with AEMO Dispatch Instructions, the minimum notice period must be no more than 2 hours for Peak Capacity and no more than 5 minutes for Flexible Capacity
What is the Reserve Capacity Obligation Quantity (RCOQ)?	None	Quantity of Capacity Credits assigned
What are the requirements on availability?	No requirements for specific timing and period from the CRC assessment perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><u>Available Period:</u></b> Between 8:00am and 8:00pm on all Business Days</li> <li><b><u>Maximum number of Trading Intervals available for dispatch per Trading Day:</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(Peak Capacity) At least 24 Trading Intervals</li> <li>(Flexible Capacity) At least 8 Trading Intervals</li> </ul> </li> <li><b><u>Maximum number of Trading Intervals available for dispatch per RCC:</u></b> At least the Peak DSP Dispatch Requirement and/or Flexible DSP Dispatch Requirement**</li> </ul>

\* The 2026 TNI exclusion list can be found on the [Network Access Quantities page](#) after 15 January 2026.

\*\* The Peak DSP Dispatch Requirement and Flexible DSP Dispatch Requirement are published in the [Wholesale Electricity Market \(WEM\) Electricity Statement of Opportunities \(ESOO\)](#) every Reserve Capacity Cycle.

For more details regarding the CRC process, please reach out to the WA Capacity Investment and Assessment (WA CIA) team ([wa.capacity@aemo.com.au](mailto:wa.capacity@aemo.com.au)).

For more details regarding registration requirements, please reach out to the WA Registrations, Monitoring, and Procurement (WA RMP) team ([wa.rmp@aemo.com.au](mailto:wa.rmp@aemo.com.au)).

For more details regarding Real-Time Market obligations, please reach out to the WA Real-Time Market Monitoring (WA RTMM) team ([wa.rtm@aemo.com.au](mailto:wa.rtm@aemo.com.au)).