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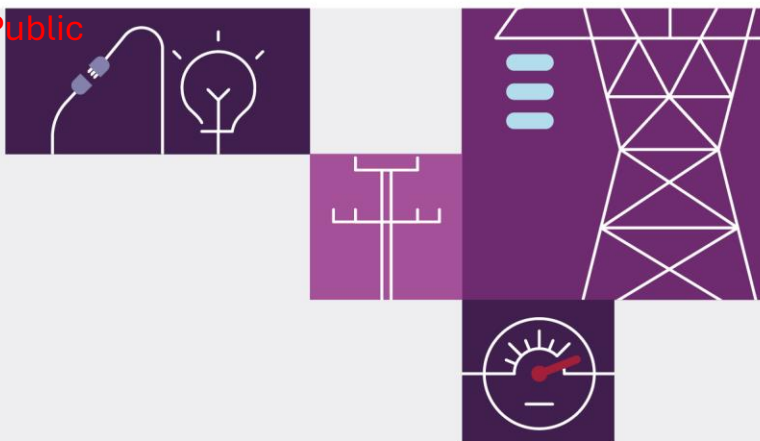


Flexible Trading Arrangements Release 2 2026

Industry Go-live Plan - Final



Public



Important notice

Purpose

This document describes the go-live approach for implementing AEMO's retail systems for Flexible Trading Arrangements (FTA) Release 2, which is one of four initiatives in AEMO's November 2026 release. Its purpose is to assist Participant implementation planning for the commencement of broader flexible trading arrangements on 1 November 2026. FTA Release 2 supports the implementation of the broader FTA market and procedure changes, including the introduction of Type 8 metering arrangements and Secondary Settlement Points.

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Version control

Version	Release date	Changes
0.1	14 August 2026	Draft for Industry Review
1.0	18 September 2026	Final version following Participant Review

1. Executive summary

This document outlines the industry go-live approach for the Australian Energy Market Operator's (AEMO) **Flexible Trading Arrangements (FTA) Release 2**, delivered as part of the National Electricity Market (NEM) Reform Program's November 2026 Release. The purpose of this plan is to provide Participants with a clear overview of the scope, timing, readiness considerations, and support arrangements associated with the deployment of retail system changes required to support the commencement of **Type 8 metering installations and Secondary Settlement Points (SSPs)**, effective **1 November 2026**.

FTA Release 2 introduces the retail market system and procedural changes required to support broader FTA from 1 November 2026, including the commencement of Type 8 metering installations and SSPs. These changes include updates to MSATS standing data, change requests, reporting, settlements and related data aggregation processes, along with amendments to relevant procedures and updates to B2B and B2M aseXML schemas. This go-live plan is limited in scope to the November 2026 FTA Release 2 deployment and the associated retail system changes required to enable these arrangements.

The release will be implemented through a single production deployment during AEMO's standard Retail Systems maintenance window on **Sunday, 25 October 2026**. An industry testing period in AEMO's pre-production environment will be available prior to go-live to support participant preparation. Participation in industry testing is encouraged but is not a prerequisite for AEMO's technical readiness decision.

This plan also describes the go-live framework, readiness criteria, deployment schedule, communications approach, and post-implementation support arrangements, including a defined hypercare period. The go-live plan will be revised with industry through established engagement forums and will be updated as required prior to final publication.

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2. Introduction

This chapter describes the implementation of the National Electricity Market (NEM) Reform Program's November 2026 Release: Flexible Trading Arrangements Release 2.

2.1 Audience

This document provides information to Participants and IT staff that will be impacted by the functional and technical changes being implemented with the FTA Retail Systems deployment on 25 October 2026.

2.2 FTA rule change

On 15 August 2024, the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) updated electricity and retail rules in response to a rule change request submitted by the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO). This rule change request was developed as part of the Energy Security Board's (ESB) consumer energy resources (CER) implementation plan.

The final rules make a series of changes that, alongside other reforms, will unlock substantial benefits from CER for consumers and the system as a whole.

The rules will enable three key arrangements:

- Large customers will be able to engage multiple energy service providers at their premises more easily- to manage and obtain more value from their CER.
- Energy service providers for small and large customers will be able to separate and manage 'flexible' CER from 'passive' loads in the energy market - leading to innovative products and services for consumers.
- Market participants will be able to use in-built measurement capability in technology such as electric vehicle (EV) chargers and smart streetlights - to enable the delivery of innovative and essential products and services at lower cost.

These arrangements will make it easier for energy service providers to offer products and services to households, businesses, and the public sector, to unlock the value of flexible CER. The arrangements will also provide a strong foundation for CER to be delivered to and integrated into the National Electricity Market (NEM).

The new in-built metering arrangements will also make it easier for market participants to deploy public EV chargers and smart streetlights, which could deliver up to \$100m in benefits over 20 years as a result of reduced metering installation costs, reduced maintenance costs, reduced wholesale costs, and emissions reductions.

These arrangements will be voluntary, so that energy service providers and consumers can take up these arrangements when and how they see fit.

* [Unlocking CER benefits through flexible trading | AEMC](#)

AEMO is delivering the FTA solution over two releases:

- May 2026 release (FTA release 1), the commencement of Type 9 metering installations, effective 31 May 2026 and
- November 2026 (FTA Release 2), the commencement of flexible trading arrangements, effective 1 November 2026.

The scope of this go-live plan is limited to FTA release 2. A separate go-live plan was produced to support FTA Release 1 which was successfully deployed on 31 May 2026.

2.3 FTA Procedural changes

The following procedures have been amended to support FTA Release 2 with an effective date of 1 November 2026:

- [Guide to the Role of the Metering Coordinator v1.5](#)
- [Metrology Procedure Part A v8.1](#)
- [Metrology Procedure Part B v8.1](#)
- [MSATS National Metering Identifier Procedure v7.4](#)
- [MSATS Procedures – Principles and Obligations for All Connection Points v8.0](#)
- [Retail Electricity Market Procedures – Glossary and Framework v4.5](#)
- [Service Level Procedure MP Services v2.0](#)
- [Service Level Procedure MDP Services v2.59](#)
- [B2B Procedure Customer and Site Details Notification Process v3.91](#)
- [B2B Procedure Meter Data Process v3.91](#)
- [B2B Procedure Service Order Process v3.91](#)

2.4 FTA Release 2 Market Systems Changes

FTA Release 2 introduces the following changes to support the Type 8 metering installation rule change:

MSATS and standing data

- **Secondary settlement point / Type 8 meter support** for FTA Release 2, including standing data updates and relationships required to establish and maintain flexible trading arrangements.
- **New Participant Role / Role Categories** to support Release 2 processes, including the PNSP (Premises Network Service Provider) role and the NMISP (National Metering Identifier Service Provider) role category used for the establishment and management of secondary settlement point arrangements.
- **Reporting enhancements** including changes to market reports and data quality outputs required to support Release 2 standing data, SSP relationships and monitoring activities, in particular updates to the RM29 report.
- **Change requests** including the creation, maintenance and update of relevant Type 8 NMIs, datastreams, participant roles and standing data required for flexible trading arrangements.

CDR/CDP and reporting outputs

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- SSP NMIs will be excluded from the CDR/CDP output results for PCPs.

Registrations

- PCPs with SSPs will not be eligible to provide Wholesale Demand Response (WDR).

Settlements

- Implementation of subtractive metering for Type 8 meters and SSPs, enabling flexible trading arrangements where energy measured at SSPs can be netted from the parent PCP for settlement purposes.

2.5 Schema updates

FTA Release 2 includes schema changes to both B2B and B2M aseXML schemas.

aseXML r47 B2M

This schema release contains changes for the Shortening Settlement Cycle (SSC) initiative and FTA Release 2. It adds the following new fields to existing ElectricityNMIMasterGroup and ElectricityMasterStandingData in ElectricityMasterStandingData_r47.xsd:

- IsPCP
- PremisesNMI

The r47 schema became the B2M current version in production on 9 August 2026. Further information on aseXML r47 can be found in [MSATS - aseXML B2M schema r47 - August 2026](#)

aseXML r48 B2B

This schema release contains changes specifically for FTA Release 2 and includes:

- New B2B Service Order Type
- New Standing Data Request Fields
- New PurposeOfRequest enumerations
- New Metering Service Works Subtype
- New Allocate NMI Fields
- New Service Order Rejection Codes
- GPSCoordinatesLat and GPSCoordinatesLong for certain Install Meter and Commission Meter transactions

Further information on aseXML r48 can be found in [MSATS - aseXML B2B schema r48 - November 2026](#)

2.6 Go-live planning engagement

The FTA Release 2 Industry Go-Live Plan is developed in consultation with industry through the Implementation Forum. Table 1 below illustrates AEMO's engagement approach and timeline for developing the plan.

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Table 1 FTA Release 2 Go-Live Plan development timeline

Milestone	Date
Publish draft for industry feedback	14 Aug 2026
Deadline for industry feedback	11 September 2026
Publish final plan	18 September 2026

3. Go-live Plan Framework

3.1 Scope

- In Scope
 - Deployment of retail system changes to support the implementation of FTA Release 2 including update of the B2B aseXML Schema to r48
 - Communications during deployment
 - Support arrangements during the Go-live period
- Out of Scope
 - Participant contingency plans
 - The other AEMO November Release initiatives (PEC-MI Release 2, ISF Release 1.1b and Cash Security) will have a separate Go-live plan.

3.2 Principles

The industry transition and go-live strategy principles apply to the FTA Release 2 changes. These are:

- The changes within the Retail Systems deployment are mandated via Procedure changes – The commencement date of 1 November 2026 should be met.
- Operation of the NEM should be uninterrupted during periods of transition and go-live.
- Market system go-live risks should be minimised.
- Participants should be provided with implementation flexibility where possible.
- Participants and AEMO are responsible for their own go-live planning.

4. Industry Go-live Plan

4.1 Industry Testing

The FTA Release 2 Industry Test provides participants with the opportunity to test their market systems against AEMO's market systems in the pre-production environment.

There is no requirement for a Pre-Production Retail or Wholesale environment refresh for this Industry Test. Pre-production was refreshed in March 2026 from the following Production dates:

- Wholesale production copy taken from 12 March 2026
- Retail production copy taken from 18 March 2026

For further details including testing scope inclusions please refer to the [FTA November Release Industry Test Strategy](#).

4.2 B2B and B2M Schemas

Participants should note the following regarding aseXML schema versions:

- Participants should be operating on aseXML r47 for B2M noting that this is already the current B2M schema following the Shortening the Settlement Cycle (SSC) release in August 2026.
- AEMO recommends that participants move to aseXML r48 for B2B.

Participants migrating to aseXML r48 B2B should do so during a pre-arranged unique timeslot as outlined in section 4.4.2 of this document for both pre-production and production. This is to mitigate the risk of performance issues with the Transfers and Protocol screen.

Participants on r43 (B2B) will be moved to r46 as part of AEMO's deployment and these Participants will need to be ready to process transactions in r46.

For further information on preparing for your schema transition please refer to the following documents: [Guide to Transition of aseXML](#), [B2M transition process](#), [Change your B2B schema](#), [MSATS Technical Specification November 2026](#).

4.3 Go-live Plan

There will be a single production deployment for the FTA November 2026 Release. This is scheduled on Sunday 25 October 2026 during the standard Retail Systems maintenance window.



4.4 Go-live criteria and readiness decision

Solution Go-live Criteria	Description
Solution readiness	AEMO solution tested in-line with requirements. System Changes required to meet initiative requirements and ongoing stability of existing systems.
AEMO business readiness	AEMO business ready to support release changes.

Service Commencement Criteria	Description
Market readiness	Accreditation Requirements • MPs providing Type 8 services require relevant Type 8 accreditation. • MDPs providing Type 8 services require relevant Type 8 accreditation. • Organisations intending to act as NMISPs require NMISP accreditation. Participants will need to move to aseXML B2M schema r47 and aseXML B2B schema r48 if they wish to participate in FTA Release 2.

Checkpoint decisions will be made approximately one month prior to go-live to determine overall initiative readiness for Production and communicated via the Implementation Forum.

4.4.1 Participant readiness

Participant readiness activities, including participation in industry testing, are not a pre-requisite for AEMO to confirm technical readiness to go-live. As such, the release will not require formalised reporting on participant readiness activities.

AEMO encourages Participants to engage in the industry testing scheduled to commence on 7 September 2026.

4.4.2 Transition period

AEMO will be scheduling Participant transitions to aseXML r48 (B2B) to manage the performance risks associated with the schema transition process. AEMO will directly contact participants who have indicated that they are transitioning to r48 via the FTA Release 2 survey to arrange a unique time to cut over to r48. Participants who haven't responded to the survey can arrange a window for their cutover by contacting NEMReform@aemo.com.au. AEMO will provide technical support during this window for both Pre-production and Production.

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There are no other Transition requirements for this release.

4.5 Communications

Correspondence regarding the FTA Release 2 go-live will be released through AEMO Support Hub bulletins and the [NEM Reform mailbox](#). AEMO will provide the following forms of updates to participants during the AEMO cutover:

- **General updates** – provide participants with information about the status of implementation activities via the NEM Reform mailbox.
- **Support Hub Notices** – provides information to the market on software releases including notifications of releases and outage completion.
- **Issues** – should any issues arise or deviations from the previously communicated processes, participants will be notified through the NEM Reform mailbox. If the issue or deviation is in relation to a notice previously sent through AEMO's Support Hub Notices, participants will receive a communication through this channel in addition to the NEM Reform mailbox. Participants experiencing issues as a result of the go-live, should raise these incidents directly via the AEMO Support Hub.

4.6 Go-live schedule

The retail system's production deployment for FTA Release 2 is scheduled for Sunday 25 October 2026 during the standard maintenance window of 10:00 to 14:00 Market Time (AEST). During this period the following applications will be unavailable:

User Interfaces

- Users will not be able to access the MSATS and B2B Browser.
- User Rights Management (URM) will continue to operate, however the administration screens will not be accessible.

NEM B2M

- MTRD/MDMT Meter data processing and RM reports will not be available.
- CATS CRs and Cn Reports will not be available.
- NMID NMI Discovery will not be available.

NEM B2B

- B2B Transactions via the SMP eHub will be unavailable.
- Customer Data
- CDR and CDP will not be available.

Table 2 FTA Release 2 Go-live Schedule

Ref ID	Date	AEMO Action	Participant Impact/Action	Communication Channel
Pre-Production				
	Friday 4 September 2026	Industry Test Kick-off meeting		Teams meeting
	Prior to the 1 Sept Pre-production deployment		Participants should move to aseXML r47 for B2M if they haven't already done so and will need to make arrangements to move to r48 for B2B prior to the AEMO Deployment. - Participants who haven't responded to the FTA Release 2 Readiness Survey to email NEMReform@aemo.com.au to schedule supported r48 B2B schema migration window. - Participants will need to migrate to aseXML r47 (B2M) prior to Industry testing. Note aseXML r47 (B2M) is the current aseXML B2M version in Pre-production following the SSC deployment.	
	Tuesday 1 Sept 2026	FTA Release 2 deployed to pre-production.	- Pre-production outage from 12:00 to 16:00 - Participants can install validation module version 1.9 in Pre-production	- Support Hub Notification - Email to ITWG members when MSATS is available.
	By arrangement with AEMO - Prior to the Industry Test in Sept.		Participants migrating to aseXML r48 B2B can update their B2B schema settings via the MSATS Transforms and Protocols screen in Pre-production. This cannot be done until the AEMO deployment is complete.	
	Monday 8 Sept 2026	Industry Test for FTA Release 2 commences	Participants can commence testing FTA Release 2 in Pre-production	Q&A sessions commence via Teams from Wednesday 2 September
	Friday 30 October 2026	Industry Test for FTA Release 2 concludes	Participants can continue testing beyond this date	Email to Implementation Forum and ITWG members at completion

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Ref ID	Date	AEMO Action	Participant Impact/Action	Communication Channel
Production Go-live 25 October 2026				
	Prior to the 25 Oct Production deployment		Participants should move to aseXML r47 for B2M if they haven't already done so and will need to make arrangements to move to r48 for B2B prior to the AEMO Deployment. - Participants who haven't responded to the FTA Release 2 Readiness Survey to email NEMReform@aemo.com.au to schedule supported B2B schema migration window. - Participants planning to participate with FTA Release 2 will need to migrate to aseXML r47 (B2M). Note aseXML r47 (B2M) is the current aseXML B2M version in Production.	
	Sunday 25 Oct 2026	FTA Release 2 changes are deployed to production.	- Production outage from 10:00 to 14:00 AEST - Participants can install validation module version 1.9 in Production	- Email to Implementation Forum & ITWG members when MSATS is available - AEMO to run a Teams call for Implementation Forum & ITWG members for the duration of the deployment - Email to Implementation Forum and ITWG members when MSATS is available - Incident management on Teams call for prioritisation escalation if required
	By arrangement with AEMO following the Production deployment		Participants migrating to aseXML r48 B2B can update their B2B schema settings via the MSATS Transforms and Protocols screen in Production. This cannot be done until the AEMO deployment is complete.	
	Sunday 25 Oct 2026 (following Production deployment) to Friday 27 Nov 2026	AEMO to provide Hypercare for FTA Release 1	Participants needing to migrate to aseXML r48 B2B can do so during their designated window.	Hypercare Teams sessions will be scheduled for Implementation Forum & ITWG members. These

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FTA Release 2 2026 Industry Go-Live Plan

Ref ID	Date	AEMO Action	Participant Impact/Action	Communication Channel
				will be daily for the first week reducing on an as-needed basis.
FTA Release 2 Rule effective date 1 November 2026				
	Sunday 1 November 2026	Rule effective date for FTA release 2: the commencement of Type 8 metering installations and Secondary Settlement Points (SSPs)		Email to PCF, ERCF Implementation Forum and ITWG members

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4.7 Deployment Contingency

The Release is comprised of updates to current AEMO systems only. Where a task/deployment has a participant impact, AEMO will provide communication confirming the successful deployment.

Where an issue arises that impacts the Readiness and Go-live Criteria, participants will be notified and a path forward will be communicated. This may involve consultation and will be assessed if/when required.

5. Participant Support Arrangements

All production issues should be raised via the Support Hub and managed through the current retail system support processes.

AEMO will run Hypercare for FTA Release 2 until 27 November 2026. There will be heightened SME availability to support participants during this time along with:

- Hypercare Teams sessions to be scheduled to provide direct support for Participants
 - Deployment support session to be scheduled on Sunday 25 October
 - Daily hypercare sessions to be scheduled from Monday 26 October, reducing to an as-needed basis throughout the hypercare period
- Issue Tracking:
 - AEMO will publish identified Issues
 - Participants are requested to follow BAU process and log issues via the AEMO Support Hub
- Communications:
 - Market communications will be used for the notification of any impacts to processing

Glossary

Term	Definition
AEMC	Australian Energy Market Commission
AEMO	Australian Energy Market Operator
B2B	Business to Business
B2M	Business to Market
CATS	Consumer Administration and Transfer Solution
CDP	Consumer Data Platform
CDR	Consumer Data Right
CER	Consumer Energy Resources
Cutover	System or process implementation event
ERCF	Electricity Retail Consultative Forum
ESB	Energy Security Board
FTA	Flexible Trading Arrangements
Industry testing	Informal, uncoordinated testing by participants in AEMO's IT environments. Self-testing of functionality such as connectivity, and/or coordinated multi-party testing of functional scenarios.
ITWG	Industry Test Working Group
MDP	Meter Data Provider
MP	Metering Provider
NEM	National Electricity Market
NMISP	National Metering Identifier Service Provider
PCP	Premises Connection Point
PNSP	Premises Network Service Provider
Q&A	Question and Answer
SME	Subject Matter Expert
SSP	Secondary Settlement Point
URM	User Rights Management