

Issue 13 | October 2025

Welcome to our October Program update

The latest news from across the NEM Reform Program to help you navigate the reforms supporting the energy transition. Read on for important updates to help you understand the opportunities and implications of each reform initiative and prepare for implementation.

Since our last issue, another key reform has been delivered, and the broader program continues to progress at pace.

Key highlights of this edition include:

- A spotlight on successful completion of ST PASA Procedure & Recall Period.
- Latest version of the Implementation Roadmap and participant impact assessment dashboard.
- Updates on all inflight initiatives including Metering Services Review (MSR) and Improving Security Frameworks (ISF) with important milestones this year.

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In the spotlight

ST PASA Procedure & Recall Period successfully completed

As of 31 July 2025, AEMO successfully completed the ST PASA Procedure and Recall Period project, with the Updating Short Term PASA Rule now in effect.

What is ST PASA?

Projected Assessment of System Adequacy (PASA) is AEMO's tool to forecast power system reliability and security conditions in the National Electricity Market (NEM). Short Term PASA (ST PASA) specifically forecasts for seven days ahead.

What was delivered?

The delivery includes a new requirement for AEMO to publish an ST PASA Procedure, system changes to enable Recall Period as part of participant energy bids, and

publication of new and updated NEM Reports.

The updated Rule gives participants more flexibility to communicate their unit availability and outage conditions to the market, and improves AEMO's visibility of changing market conditions.

For more information, visit the dedicated [ST PASA Procedure & Recall Period page](#).

New version of implementation roadmap is here

AEMO has published version 7 of the NEM Reform Implementation Roadmap and supporting artefacts. The updated roadmap reflects the evolving scope and timing of the reforms which are underpinning Australia's energy transition.

Key updates include:

- Progression of Market Interface Technology Enhancements (MITE) initiatives
- Alignment of DER/CER work with the National CER Roadmap.
- Inclusion of new rule changes such as Integrated Distribution System Planning and Improving the NEM Access Standards – Package 2.

Stakeholders can view the updated Roadmap, supporting artefacts, and Participant Impact Assessment dashboard on AEMO's [NEM Reform webpage](#). The Participant Impact Assessment dashboard is available to help participants quickly identify which reforms may affect their organisation and plan accordingly.

AEMO is hosting a General Stakeholder briefing on the NEM Reform Program and the Roadmap at 1.00pm to 3.00pm on 24 November 2025. Register your interest for this session [here](#).

Inflight initiatives – 2025 delivery

15 May 2025	DELIVERED - SCADA Lite
8 Jun 2025	DELIVERED - Frequency Performance Payments (FPP) (Release with rule commencement)
1 Jul 2025	DELIVERED - Enhanced Reserve Information (ERI) and ST PASA Procedure and Recall Period (Release with rule commencement)
31 Jul 2025	DELIVERED - ST PASA Procedure and Recall Period rule commencement (rule commencement)
26 Oct and 30 Nov 2025	Metering Services Review (MSR) (Release)
1 Dec 2025	Metering Services Review (MSR) (Rule commencement)

Metering Services Review

Enabling the national roll out of smart meters to provide a digital foundation for the energy system.

Recent achievements

- Package 3 Final Report published 30 September 2025.
- Tech specs for 26 October and 1 December 2025 release published.
- Industry testing commenced 8 September 2025, ending 27 November 2025 (for package 1 and package 2).

Next steps

- Legacy Meter Replacement Plan MSATS changes in place from 26 October 2025. From this date, DNSPs can start loading their Legacy Meter Replacement Plans in alignment with rule commencement on 1 December 2025.
- Progress will be monitored and reported on in the twice weekly MSR Q&A sessions.
Participants are encouraged to continue their development and participation in industry testing and stay informed via industry forums and accompanying packs which outline consultation dates.

For more information, visit the dedicated [MSR project page](#).

Improving Security Frameworks (ISF)

Increasing transparency of system security needs and incentivising market participants to invest long term in system security provision.

- **2 December 2025 (rule commencement):** Release 1 will deliver system initiated manual enablement, automated back-end processing and market reports
- **August 2026:** Release 1.1 will include automated enablement functions and other non-core functionality.

Recent achievements

- Final Market Trial Test Plan published 25 September 2025.
- Go-Live Plan published for comment until 31 October 2025.
- Three-month readiness checkpoint completed, with release on track for commencement from 2 December 2025.

Next steps

- Invitation-only market trial to commence from 27 October 2025. Join the Q&A sessions by contacting NEMReform@aemo.com.au.
- Participants are encouraged to continue their development and preparations for industry testing. They are also advised to attend relevant forums and refer to accompanying packs which outline consultation dates.

For more information, visit the dedicated [ISF project page](#).

Inflight initiatives – beyond 2025

The following section highlights key initiatives with delivery schedules extending beyond 2025. These initiatives have notable engagement or consultation activity underway through the Program's 2025 delivery schedule.

31 May and 1 Nov 2026	Flexible Trading Arrangements (FTA)
1 Jul 2026	Metering Services Review (MSR) Release 2 - Power Quality Data (PQD)
Aug and Nov 2026	Project Energy Connect Market Integrations (PEC-MI)
9 Aug 2026	Shortening the Settlement Cycle (SSC)
1 Nov 2026	Cash Security
23 May 2027	Integrating Price Responsive Resources into the NEM (IPRR)
1 Mar 2027	Identity and Access Management (IDAM)
Q1 2027	Industry Data Exchange (IDX)
TBC	Portal Consolidation (PC)

CY 2026 Planning & Testing

The NEM Reform Program has a number of committed initiative releases and rule commencements in 2026. To maximise efficiency for industry and AEMO, a consolidated release strategy for 2026 is being developed in collaboration with participants.

Key focus areas include alignment of non-rule date releases, industry test periods and software releases to support required rule commencement dates. Schema and Data model releases are also consolidated to minimise the number of releases.

The resulting 2026 delivery schedule has been structured across four releases. Testing and implementation timelines for the initial May and July releases are now confirmed. Planning for the more complex August and November releases continues to progress.

If you'd like to join upcoming discussions on the delivery schedule, please reach out to

us at NEMReform@aemo.com.au.

Flexible trading arrangements (FTA)

Enabling consumers to better manage their energy usage and participate in the market.

Recent achievements

- AEMO's final determination on 30 September for changes to the Retail Electricity Market procedures under the new rule enabling more flexible consumer energy participation.

Next steps

- Information Exchange Committee (IEC) Final report (B2B) to be published 10 December 2025.
- Accreditation for type 8 and type 9 roles opens to participants as well as NMI Service Providers on 31 October 2025. Further information regarding the accreditation is available on the [FTA consultation webpage](#), under 'Artefacts for Noting' in the Final Stage tab.

For more information, visit the dedicated [FTA project page](#).

Metering Services Review (MSR) Power Quality Data (PQD)

Providing power quality information to local network service providers to better manage networks and reduce customer costs.

A component of the Accelerating Smart Meter Deployment (ASMD) rule, Basic Power Quality Data (BPQD) is to be provided by Metering Coordinators (MCs) to local network service providers (DNSPs) from 1 July 2026.

BPQD will be the first implementation on the Industry Data Exchange (IDX) platform.

Recent achievements

- The Final determination for the 2025 Metering Services Review Package 3 was published on 1 October 2025 concluding consultation on changes to the Retail Electricity Market Procedures under the Accelerating Smart Meter Deployment (ASMD) rule.
- Commenced Information Exchange Committee (IEC) (MSR Package 3).
- Technical specifications published.

Next steps

- Information Exchange Committee (B2B) to publish the final report on MSR Package 3 on 24 October 2025.

For more information, visit the dedicated [MSR project page](#).

Project EnergyConnect Market Integration (PEC-MI)

Improving energy security and lowering prices through the reallocation of automated inter-regional negative settlement residues.

Recent achievements

- Consultation on Automated Negative Residue Management procedure closed 11 July 2025.
- On 25 September 2025, the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) made a [final determination](#).

Next steps

- AEMO will publish more information on loop operation as soon as practicable, including within its upcoming final HLIA, which AEMO is on track to publish in early November.
- Participants are encouraged to attend EWCF for further updates and the latest information.

For more information, visit the dedicated [PEC-MI project page](#).

Shortening the Settlement Cycle (SSC)

Making participation in the NEM more competitive and providing more choice for consumers by reducing the working capital needed to cover accrued liabilities.

Recent achievements

- Credit Limit Procedures (CLP) second stage consultation commenced 9 September 2025.
- Formal consultation on the NEM Settlement Estimates Policy commenced 9 September 2025.
- Formal submissions on both the second stage of the CLP consultation and first stage of the NEM Settlement Estimates Policy consultation closed on 13 October 2025.
- [Draft SSC Transition Plan](#) published on 21 October 2025 with an information session to be held on 6 November 2025 to capture any stakeholder questions or feedback.

Next steps

- Participants are encouraged to engage with the EWCF and Program Consultative Forum for the latest information on our engagement and consultation approach.

- Retail procedure consultations on track to commence 14 October 2025.

For more information, visit the dedicated [Shortening the Settlement Cycle](#) project page.

Cash Security

Enabling lower risk and cost of providing credit support for small and prospective retailers in the NEM.

Recent achievements

- Final High Level Implementation Assessment published 7 August 2025.

Next steps

- Draft Cash Security Guidelines expected to be published February 2026.
- Credit Limit Procedures (CLP) consultation for Cash Security changes expected to commence February 2026.

For more information, visit the dedicated [Cash Security](#) project page.

Integrating Price Responsive Resources into the NEM (IPRR)

A voluntary mechanism that allows integration of the growing number of unscheduled energy resources into the National Electricity Market (NEM).

Recent achievements

- Second Draft Voluntarily Scheduled Resource (VSR) Guidelines and report published 4 September 2025
- AEMO hosted two industry forums in September to enable collaboration on the VSR guidelines.
- Received stakeholder feedback on the second draft VSR guidelines and report, and Price Responsive Reporting draft determination. Thank you to everyone who provided feedback, consultation is now closed.

Next steps

- AEMO to review and incorporate stakeholder feedback as required ahead of publishing:
- Voluntarily Scheduled Resources Incentive Mechanism Procedure final determination by 27 October 2025.
- Final VSR guidelines on 27 November 2025.
- Price Responsive Reporting final determination by 10 December 2025.

Participants are encouraged to watch for consultation announcements via the Electricity Wholesale Consultative Forum (EWCF) and AEMO's communications newsletter.

For more information, visit the dedicated [IPRR project page](#).

Industry Data Exchange (IDX)

A unified data exchange mechanism to support the secure and efficient exchange of data between stakeholders for new services required by NEM Reforms, existing legacy services and provide a framework extensible to other energy markets.

Recent achievements

- Approach for BPQD Interface Design ID and authentication approach was presented to industry participants at the September MITE working group meeting.
- Detailed design & delivery is progressing and will continue throughout the remainder of 2025 and into 2026.

Next steps

- An integrated plan for IDX Foundation release (along with IDAM Foundation and Portal Consolidation) will be presented to the industry in October.
- Detailed design work is expected to continue in Q4 2025 and delivery to progress throughout the remainder of 2025 and into 2026.
- Participants are encouraged to continue engaging with the ongoing MITE consultation process with the next WG scheduled 25th November.

For more information, visit the dedicated [MITE project page](#).

Identity and Access Management (IDAM)

A unified mechanism to authenticate and authorise external identity and entitlements when accessing AEMO services, consolidating and improving overall cyber security controls.

Recent achievements

- Project has commenced work on detailed design and internal development and testing preparation underway.
- A forward workshop schedule for industry consultation was presented to the participants at the September MITE Working Group with nominations received for three Focus Groups.

Next steps

- Integrated delivery approach to be presented to the industry in October.
- Industry testing for IDAM and IDX is planned from December 2026 to February 2027, with test cases defined by mid 2026 and participants able to trial migrations earlier in pre-production before going live.
- Participants are encouraged to continue engaging with the ongoing MITE consultation process and consider their involvement in IDAM foundation implementation.

For more information, visit the dedicated [MITE project page](#).

Portal Consolidation (PC)

A new web and mobile user portal to provide a unified stakeholder experience and support energy market participants to consume AEMO browser services in a secure manner.

Recent achievements

- Industry participants provided feedback on the six web apps that are to be ported over to the new external portal.
- Participants provided with a forward industry workshop schedule.

Next steps

- An updated implementation plan to be published and presented to the industry in October.
- User interface screen build for PC is due to start in late October through to the end of financial year.
- Schedule for PC initiatives for migration of the confirmed web application services is targeted for February 2026.

For more information, visit the dedicated [MITE project page](#).

Real Time Data for Consumers (RTD)

In September 2025, AEMC published a draft determination proposing a framework to enable access to RTD from smart meters.

The AEMC consider that all consumers should have access to RTD as part of their electricity service and have proposed a draft rule that would see the fleet of meters progressively upgraded to enable access to RTD at no charge.

AEMO published a [High-Level Implementation Assessment \(HLIA\)](#) on 16 October and held an industry briefing session on 17 October.

Submissions for the Draft Determination is due by 23 October and participant feedback to AEMO and the IEC on the draft HLIA is due by 31 October. If you'd like to provide feedback, please reach out to us at NEMReform@aemo.com.au.

The final determination and rules will be published by the AEMC on 4 December 2025.

Get involved in the Program

Stay up to date

Subscribe to program updates [here](#).

Check for upcoming forums

Visit AEMO's [Industry forums calendar](#).

Please don't hesitate to contact the team at NEMReform@aemo.com.au should you have any inquiries, or if you wish to participate in a forum.

Regards,

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For general enquiries, [contact us](#).

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