

EXEMPTION PROCEDURE – METERING INSTALLATION MALFUNCTIONS

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Approved for distribution and use by:

APPROVED BY: PETER GEERS
TITLE: EXECUTIVE GENERAL MANAGER, MARKETS

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VERSION RELEASE HISTORY

| Version | Effective Date | Summary of Changes |
|---------|----------------|---|
| 1.0 | | First Issue. Document incorporates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Electricity Amendment (Expanding competition in metering and related services) Rule 2015. No.12;• National Electricity Amendment (Embedded Networks) Rule 2015 No. 15; and• National Electricity Amendment (Meter Replacement Processes) Rule 2016 No. 2. |
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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose and Scope

The Exemption Procedure – Metering Installation Malfunctions (**Procedure**) is made in accordance with clause 7.8.10(b) of the NER.

This Procedure sets out the process by which a Current MC may apply for an exemption from complying with clause 7.8.10(a) for the rectification of a *metering installation malfunction*.

This Procedure has effect only for the purposes set out in the NER. The NER and the *National Electricity Law* prevail over this Procedure to the extent of any inconsistency.

1.2 Definitions and Interpretation

The Retail Electricity Market Procedures – Glossary and Framework:

- (a) is incorporated into and forms part of this Procedure; and
- (b) should be read with this Procedure.

1.3 Related AEMO Documents

| Title | Location |
|---|---|
| Retail Electricity Market Procedures – Glossary and Framework | http://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/National-Electricity-Market-NEM/Retail-and-metering/Glossary-and-Framework |
| Metrology Procedure: Part A | http://www.aemo.com.au/Electricity/National-Electricity-Market-NEM/Retail-and-metering |

2. APPLICATION PROCESS

2.1 Applicant

The only person who can apply for, and benefit from, an exemption granted by AEMO under clause 7.8.10 of the NER is the Current MC for the metering installation affected by the *metering installation malfunction*.

2.2 Timing of Application

The Current MC must apply to AEMO as soon as the Current MC becomes aware of a *metering installation malfunction* that cannot be repaired within the timeframes specified by clause 7.8.10(a) of the NER using the application form provided in Appendix A.

2.3 AEMO's Determination

Within 2 *business days* of receipt of an application for exemption, AEMO will:

- (a) assign a unique ID number to the application, or verify the identification number provided by the applicant for an application for an extension to an existing exemption;
- (b) provide the applicant with confirmation of receipt;
- (c) review the application and, where necessary, request additional information; and
- (d) determine whether to approve the application and communicate that determination to the applicant by the end of the second *business day* of receipt of the application or additional information requested (whichever is the later).

2.4 Matters taken into Consideration

Applicants will note that all applications will be considered on their merits and no previous grant of an exemption will be taken as creating a binding precedent on AEMO.

AEMO will take into account the following when considering an application:

- (a) the contents of the application;
- (b) the nature of the *metering installation malfunction* and whether it was caused by a breach of the NER by the Current MC;
- (c) whether the Current MC has actively sought to find a way in which to rectify the *metering installation malfunction*;
- (d) the impact of the *metering installation malfunction* on *settlements* and other Participants;
- (e) how *metering data* will continue to be provided to AEMO and other Participants from that *metering installation* until the *metering installation malfunction* has been rectified, specifying how the quality and timeliness of the provision of that *metering data* will be addressed;
- (f) the practical consequences of granting an exemption;
- (g) where provided, a draft rectification plan; and
- (h) any other information that AEMO considers to be relevant to the application.

2.5 Grant of Exemption

If AEMO grants an exemption, it will commence on the date that AEMO received the application.

AEMO may grant the exemption on a conditional basis. Typical conditions that AEMO might impose include, without limitation, the following:

- (a) The Current MC provide a rectification plan in the form specified in section 3 for the rectification of the *metering installation malfunction* by a specified date.

- (b) The Current MC complete the rectification of the *metering installation malfunction* by a specified date.
- (c) What action the Current MC must take to mitigate the effects of the *metering installation malfunction* on *settlements* and other Participants.

If the Current MC fails to meet any condition specified in the grant of the exemption, AEMO may revoke the exemption by notice to the Current MC.

2.6 Application Unsuccessful

If AEMO does not grant the exemption sought by the Current MC, AEMO will provide reasons.

The types of reasons for which an application might not be successful include the following, without limitation:

- (a) A failure to provide sufficient information in the application.
- (b) The malfunction referred to in the application does not constitute a *metering installation malfunction*.
- (c) The existence of other options available to the Current MC to rectify the *metering installation malfunction* that would not require an exemption.

2.7 Extension to Exemption

The Current MC may apply to AEMO for an extension to an exemption using the application form provided in Appendix B.

Any application for an extension must be submitted to AEMO prior to the expiry of the exemption. AEMO will consider the application in accordance with sections 2.3 to 2.6.

2.8 Current MC's Obligations during the Exemption Period

The Current MC must:

- (a) diligently pursue the rectification of the *metering installation malfunction*;
- (b) keep AEMO informed of any changes to the rectification plan and provide a copy of the amended rectification plan; and
- (c) notify AEMO if the *metering installation malfunction* has been rectified.

2.9 Expiry of Exemption

Any exemption (or extension) granted by AEMO in accordance with this Procedure will expire upon the earliest of:

- (a) the rectification of the *metering installation malfunction*;
- (b) the expiry date specified by AEMO;
- (c) the abolishment of the *NMI* and *metering installation*; and
- (d) Current MC's cessation of appointment as MC for the *metering installation* affected by the *metering installation malfunction*.

3. RECTIFICATION PLAN

3.1 Timing

Where it is practicable to do so, the Current MC may provide a draft of the MP's rectification plan with its application for exemption.

If not, the Current MC must ensure that the MP's rectification plan is provided to AEMO in accordance with 7.8.10(c) of the NER, by the date specified by AEMO in its notice of exemption to the Current MC.

3.2 Contents

The rectification plan must include:

- (a) a technical assessment carried out by the MP of the reason for the *metering installation malfunction* and the repair work required;
- (b) a timetable listing the dates on which the relevant repair work will be carried out;
- (c) details of any equipment or facility to be replaced;
- (d) a timetable listing the test and re-certification program for replaced *metering installation* components; and
- (e) any planned shutdown or outage periods.

APPENDIX A. APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION

Application for Exemption from the Requirement to Repair Metering Installation Malfunction within the period specified in clause 7.8.10(a) of the National Electricity Rules

To enable a timely response to your Application please complete all sections of this form. Please use additional pages and attach supporting documentation where required.

| | | |
|---|-------|-----------------|
| 1. Applicant: Participant ID: | | |
| 2. Contact Details: Name: Phone: Email: | | |
| 3. Postal Address: | | |
| 4. Date of Application: | | |
| 5. Date Applicant became aware of the <i>metering installation malfunction</i> : | | |
| 6. Reason for seeking exemption (i.e. reason for requiring more than allowed time to carry out repairs): | | |
| 7. Date of initial notification of <i>metering installation malfunction</i> to the Applicant and circumstances in which the Applicant found out: | | |
| 8. <i>NMI</i> : | | |
| 9. Details of the <i>metering installation malfunction</i> : | | |
| 10. Action taken in relation to the <i>metering installation malfunction</i> , including any instructions provided to the MDP and MP. | | |
| 11. Describe other options or solutions considered and give reasons why they were not suitable to rectify or otherwise repair the <i>metering installation malfunction</i> : | | |
| 12. List of the affected Participant IDs: | LNSP: | Participant ID: |
| | LR: | Participant ID: |
| | MDP: | Participant ID: |
| | MP: | Participant ID: |
| | FRMP: | Participant ID: |
| 13. Explain the impact the exemption will have on the Applicant's, and other Participants', ability to comply with the NER: | | |
| 14. How will the provision of <i>metering data</i> be addressed during exemption, if granted? | | |
| 15. Draft MP rectification plan? | | |
| 16. Period of exemption sought Include details if there is a specific event (such as a substation upgrade, or an abolishment of supply, etc.) that may mean that the exemption could end sooner. | | |
| 17. Describe how the <i>metering installation malfunction</i> will be addressed if the exemption is not granted: | | |

Please send this application to:
meter@aemo.com.au

APPENDIX B. APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION

Application for Extension of Exemption from the Requirement to Repair Metering Installation Malfunction within the period specified in clause 7.8.10(a) of the National Electricity Rules

To enable a timely response to your Application please complete all sections of this form. Please use additional pages and attach supporting documentation where required.

| | |
|---|--|
| 1. Applicant: Participant ID: | |
| 2. Contact Details: Name: Phone: Email: | |
| 3. Postal Address: | |
| 4. Exemption ID: | |
| 5. Date of application for extension: | |
| 6. NMI: | |
| 7. Reason for seeking extension to exemption: | |
| 8. Remedial action taken to date: | |
| 9. Period of extension sought: Include details if there is a specific event (such as a substation upgrade, or an abolishment of supply, etc.) that may mean that the exemption could end sooner. | |

Please send this application to:
meter@aemo.com.au