

# MEDIA STATEMENT

1 December 2017



## Power of Choice

The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) is pleased to announce that the Power of Choice (PoC) reforms are in effect from today.

These reforms originated from the Australian Energy Market Commission's Power of Choice review and are intended to enhance competition for consumers and enable them to better access and manage electricity usage.

Responsibility for installing and maintaining advanced meters has previously been with the distribution businesses. Under these reforms, from 1 December 2017, this now shifts to electricity retailers who will contract a metering coordinator to maintain and install the meters. Customers are also free to choose whether they want the advanced meter installed or not.

"These reforms will allow the introduction of further new and innovative services to the National Electricity Market, ultimately enabling customers to manage their electricity services and usage in a manner that suits best," said AEMO's Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Audrey Zibelman.

"On behalf of AEMO, I would like to thank the industry for their efforts and commitment in working with us to deliver these suite of changes, which will result in better outcomes for consumers," she said.

To access the best out of the Power of Choice changes, customers need to talk to their retailer to see what services they offer once a smart meter is installed.

## ENDS

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### **About AEMO**

*AEMO is responsible for operating Australia's largest gas and electricity markets and power systems, including the National Electricity Market and interconnected power system in Australia's eastern and south-eastern seaboard, and the Wholesale Electricity Market and power system in Western Australia.*

*AEMO also operates the Victorian Declared Wholesale Gas Market and the Victorian gas transmission system; the wholesale gas Short Term Trading Market hubs in Adelaide, Sydney and Brisbane; the Wallumbilla Gas Supply Hub in Queensland; and the Moomba Gas Supply Hub in South Australia.*

*As Australia's independent energy markets and power systems operator, AEMO provides critical planning, forecasting and power systems security advice and services to deliver energy security for all Australians. For more information, head to [www.aemo.com.au](http://www.aemo.com.au)*