

FACTSHEET

POWER OF CHOICE
IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM



WHAT IS THE POWER OF CHOICE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM?

Power of Choice (PoC) is a package of National Electricity Market (**NEM**) reforms that are designed to give consumers more options and control of the way they use and manage their electricity expenditure.

These reforms were initiated following the 2012 Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) PoC Review. Since then the AEMC has made several interrelated rule change amendments, including:

- Expanding competition in metering and related services (final determination published 26 November 2015).
- Embedded networks (final determination published 17 December 2016).
- Meter replacement processes (final determination published 10 March 2016).
- Updating the Electricity B2B Framework (final determination published 30 June 2016).

These rule changes are effective from 1 December 2017.

WHAT'S AEMO'S ROLE UNDER POWER OF CHOICE?

AEMO was tasked with leading the PoC implementation. This includes updating and developing NEM procedures, system changes, and facilitating a coordinated industry transition to the new market arrangements by 1 December 2017.

In 2015 AEMO established its Power of Choice Implementation Program and developed a work plan that details the key activities to be undertaken with industry. This includes major tasks, deliverables and timeframes required to support an effective transition to the new market arrangements.

AEMO's Power of Choice Implementation Program has been structured into the following workstreams:

- AEMO Procedures Development workstream – to define the required changes to electricity retail market procedures.
- Business-to-Business (B2B) Procedural Development workstream – to facilitate the required changes and updates to the B2B Procedures, on behalf of the Information and Exchange Committee (IEC).
- Systems Development workstream – to design, develop, implement and test changes to AEMO's retail market systems.
- Market Readiness workstream – to coordinate, assist and prepare industry and AEMO for the start of the revised arrangements, and to monitor and report on preparation efforts.

AEMO has established a PoC Program Consultative Forum (PoC-PCF) to coordinate the program and facilitate discussions with industry participants about risks, issues and broader implementation matters. In addition to the PoC-PCF, each workstream has a dedicated working group for industry engagement and developing key workstream deliverables.

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE POWER OF CHOICE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM?

While participation is not mandatory, AEMO has encouraged all NEM participants and affected parties to participate in the PoC Implementation Program.

In particular, all retailers, distributors, metering service providers, market generators and exempt embedded network service providers have been strongly encouraged to participate in the program to gain a detailed understanding of how the PoC reforms will affect their respective organisations.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

More information on AEMO's Power of Choice Implementation Program is available on [our website](#).

For any further enquiries, please contact AEMO's Information and Support Hub via supporthub@aemo.com.au or call 1300 236 600.