

# RCM 3.2 Release Notes

March 2025





# Important notice

## Purpose

AEMO has prepared this document to provide information about the RCM 3.2 (build 3.2.401) release as at the date of publication.

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## Version control

Version	Release date	Changes
1	06/03/2025	Initial publication.

## Document approval

Name	Position	Date
Amy Tait	Group Manager, WA Market Development & Energy Procurement	06/03/2025



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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Overview

The Reserve Capacity Mechanism (RCM) Review Rules introduced a new Flexible Capacity product from the 2025 Reserve Capacity Cycle. AEMO has implemented the WEM Rules related to the certification of Flexible Capacity in the WEM System. These release notes for the RCM Portal 3.2 (build 3.2.401) cover the changes to the Certified Reserve Capacity (CRC) Application tab in the RCM Portal and include allowing:

- Market Participants to apply for Flexible CRC for components of Scheduled Facilities (SF), Semi-Scheduled Facilities (SSF) and Demand Side Programmes (DSP).
- AEMO to assign Flexible CRC.

These changes are explained in further detail in Section 2.

## 1.2 Supporting documentation

The RCM User Guide has been updated for this release and is available on AEMO's website<sup>1</sup>.

## 1.3 Version summary

The change in versions post-deployment of this release is summarised in Table 1. To view the current application version, navigate to **Help > About** in the Market Participant Interface (MPI).

**Table 1** Version summary

Application	Current version	New version
RCM Operations	3.1 (build 3.1-177)	3.2 (build 3.2.401)

## 1.4 Terms and abbreviations

The terms and abbreviations used in this document are outlined in Table 2.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at: <https://aemo.com.au/en/energy-systems/electricity/wholesale-electricity-market-wem/procedures-policies-and-guides/guides>.

**Table 2** Terms and abbreviations

Abbreviation	Expanded name
AEMO	Australian Energy Market Operator
CRC	Certified Reserve Capacity
DSP	Demand Side Programme
SF	Scheduled Facility
SSF	Semi-Scheduled Facility
RCM	Reserve Capacity Mechanism

# 2 RCM Portal changes

## 2.1 Flexible CRC applications

### 2.1.1 Apply for Flexible CRC

From the 2025 Reserve Capacity Cycle, Market Participants will have an opportunity to apply for Flexible CRC in addition to Peak CRC for a Scheduled Facility, Semi-Scheduled Facility and Demand Side Programme.

Within the existing Peak CRC application, Market Participants can select a checkbox under 'Apply for Flexible CRC'. Selecting this checkbox will create the Flexible CRC application and display all relevant fields. For a Scheduled Facility or Semi-Scheduled Facility, the checkbox will display on the component page for either an Electric Storage Resource, Non-Intermittent Generating System or Intermittent Generating System. All fields marked with an asterisk are mandatory, meaning the information must be provided to successfully submit the CRC application.

Figure 1 Apply for Flexible CRC checkbox

Apply for Flexible CRC

Flexible Quantity\* ⓘ  
(MW)

Maximum Ramp Up Rate\* (MW/min)

Maximum Ramp Down Rate\* (MW/min)

Minimum Ramp Up Rate\* (MW/min)

Minimum Ramp Down Rate\* (MW/min)

Minimum Required Running Time \*  
0 minutes ▼ 0 seconds ▼

Minimum time between receiving a Dispatch Instruction in a cold state and operating at the minimum stable loading level \*  
0 minutes ▼ 0 seconds ▼

Minimum time after receiving a Dispatch Instruction to ramp down from the minimum stable loading level to zero output \*  
0 minutes ▼ 0 seconds ▼

Minimum time before the component can be restarted after it is shut down \*  
0 minutes ▼ 0 seconds ▼

Minimum Stable Loading Level\* ⓘ  
(MW)

Additional supporting documentation

Drag file here or browse

Once a Market Participant has applied for Flexible CRC, the user will be able to view the Flexible Application Status and Assigned Flexible CRC fields in the summary section of the CRC application.

**Figure 2 Flexible Capacity information in the summary section of the CRC application**

The screenshot shows a web interface for a CRC application. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs: Home, Indicative Facility Class, CRC Application (highlighted), Security, Trade Declaration, CDA, NTDL, Capacity Allocation, IRCR, Peak Intervals, and RC Testing. Below the navigation bar, there is a year selection menu with options: 2023, 2023 - 2024 (selected), 2024 - 2025, 2025 - 2026, 2026 - 2027, and 2027 - 2028. The main content area is titled "Application for Certification" and contains the following fields:

Participant:	Capacity Year:
Facility Name:	Certification Window:
Facility Class:	
Facility Status:	
Peak Application Status:	Flexible Application Status:
Assigned Peak CRC:	Assigned Flexible CRC:
Application Type:	NAFF Determination:

### 2.1.2 Flexible CRC validations

In accordance with clause 4.11.1(bG) of the WEM Rules, AEMO must not assign Flexible CRC to a Facility that does not meet the minimum eligibility requirements<sup>2</sup> set for the relevant Reserve Capacity Cycle. AEMO has implemented automatic validations on relevant Flexible CRC fields that check the information provided by the Market Participant against the minimum eligibility requirements. If a requirement is not met, an error message will be displayed. Market Participants are encouraged to check the minimum eligibility requirements for the 2025 Reserve Capacity Cycle before applying for Flexible CRC.

**Figure 3 Error message example for the Flexible CRC minimum eligibility requirement validations**

The screenshot shows the same "Application for Certification" page as Figure 2, but with a red error message box overlaid. The error message reads: "There was an error submitting your application" and lists four specific validation failures:

- MinRampUpRate' minimum eligibility requirements must be met
- MinRampDownRate' minimum eligibility requirements must be met
- MinRampUpTime' minimum eligibility requirements must be met
- MinStableLoadingLevel' minimum eligibility requirements must be met

The error message box has a close button (X) in the top right corner. A "Submit" button is visible in the top right corner of the application page.

<sup>2</sup> Available here for the 2025 Reserve Capacity Cycle: [https://aemo.com.au/consultations/current-and-closed-consultations/FCMER\\_2025](https://aemo.com.au/consultations/current-and-closed-consultations/FCMER_2025)



### 2.1.3 Other changes

To reduce the time required in submitting CRC applications, AEMO has introduced auto-copy at the Facility and component level for Flexible CRC fields. Most Flexible CRC application fields and supporting documents will now be automatically copied from the previous year's Flexible CRC application. **Note this feature will apply from the 2026 Reserve Capacity Cycle.**

### 2.1.4 AEMO changes

The following changes have been implemented to the AEMO view of the CRC Application tab:

- New Flexible CRC application fields in line with the Market Participant facing changes.
- Ability to assess Flexible CRC applications.
- Ability to assign Flexible CRC.





## 3 Market trial

AEMO has scheduled a Market Trial period from 12- 25 March 2025.

Questions and feedback can be directed to the WA Capacity Investment & Assessment team at [wa.capacity@aemo.com.au](mailto:wa.capacity@aemo.com.au).