



Guide to understanding the scope of the Victorian Retail Gas Market, the Declared Wholesale Gas Market and AEMO's **and** directions powers.

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Purpose

Precise and unambiguous definitions of the declared transmission system (DTS), [and](#) the declared distribution systems (DDS) are critical to understanding and defining the scope of the Declared Wholesale Gas Market (DWGM), the Victorian Retail Gas Market (VRGM) and AEMO's ~~emergency and~~ directions powers. –AEMO has prepared this document to assist participants and other interested parties to understand the scope of these terms, as applied in each relevant context described below, as at the date of publication.

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1. Understanding the declared transmission system and declared distribution systems.

The Victorian Declared Wholesale Gas Market (DWGM), is the market¹ that enables competitive and dynamic trading of gas injections and withdrawals from the Declared Transmission System (DTS) and certain declared distribution systems (DDS) in Victoria. Pursuant to a Ministerial Order made on 30 June 2009 under section 43 of the National Gas (Victoria) Act 2008 (NGVA), the DWGM, was declared to be a declared wholesale gas market for the purposes of the National Gas Law (NGL).

The Victorian Retail Gas Market (VRGM) is the market which enables customers connected to distribution pipelines and systems in Victoria (including the [non-DTS connected](#) DDS) to buy gas from a licenced retailer of their choice. This market also allows large customers [s](#) to directly participate in the market and the DWGM whereby they are responsible for sourcing their own gas, via commercial arrangements rather than buy the gas from a retailer. There are some distribution systems within the Victorian Retail Gas Market ~~but~~ [that are](#) not part of the DWGM. These are further explained in sections [4](#), [5](#) and [6](#) of this guide.

AEMO has directions powers that apply to the DTS and the declared distribution systems (including the [DTS connected DDS and non-DTS connected](#) DDS).

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¹ The meaning of Market is described in Rule 200 of the NGR.

2. The Victorian declared transmission system (DTS).

The Victorian DTS, as defined in the National Gas Law (NGL), is made up of the transmission pipelines that are specified in a Ministerial Order made pursuant to section 39 (b) of the National Gas (Victoria) Act 2008.

Such a Ministerial Order was made on 30 June 2009 which declared that the DTS is the transmission pipelines (including extensions or expansions treated as part of the pipeline under an applicable access arrangement) with respect to which, immediately before 1 July 2009, a service provider was APA GasNet Australia (Operations) Pty Ltd (ACN 083 009 278). [APA GasNet Australia](#), and is identified in AEMO's market systems as company id 14.

[The DTS is the transmission system owned by APA GasNet Australia and is defined in AEMO's market systems by the custody transfer meters² detailed in the DWGM Custody Transfer Meter report.³](#)

~~The DTS is defined by the custody transfer meters⁴ detailed in the DWGM Custody Transfer Meter report, and is identified in AEMO market systems as company id 14.~~

3. Declared Distribution Systems for the purpose of the Victorian DWGM (DDS).

Outside Part 19 of the NGR, Victorian declared distribution systems are defined in the NGL as the distribution pipelines that are specified in the Ministerial Order made pursuant to section 39 (1) (a) of the NGVA on 30 June 2009.

This Ministerial Order specified a number of distribution systems, including distribution systems that are directly connected to the DTS and some distribution systems that are not directly connected to the DTS. These are described in Table 1 below.

Table 1 Declared distribution systems under s39 (1) (a) NGVA Ministerial Order

On 30 June 2009 are assets owned by:	Market system details as at the date when this guide was published: Company name ⁵ , ABN ⁵ , Company id ⁶ , Retail Market Network id ⁶
SPI Networks (Gas) Pty Ltd ACN 086 015 036	Named: AusNet Gas Services Pty Ltd ABN: 43 086 015 036 Company id: 11 Retail Market Network id: 00
Envestra Victoria Pty Ltd ACN 085 882 373 Vic Gas Distribution Pty Ltd ACN 085 899 001	Named: Australian Gas Networks (VIC) Pty Ltd ABN: 73 085 899 001

² [The meaning of a custody transfer meters is described in section 1.4 \(Definitions and interpretation\) of the Wholesale Market Metering Procedures.](#)

³ [See 'INT188 - CTM to Heating Value Zone Mapping' as defined in the User Guide to MIBB Reports.](#)

~~⁴ [The meaning of a custody transfer meters is described in section 1.4 \(Definitions and interpretation\) of the Wholesale Market Metering Procedures.](#)~~

⁵ This information is from report INT125 (Details of Organisations) published on AEMO website.

⁶ In the Victorian Gas Retail Market, a number that identifies a specific distribution businesses network. See Participant Build Pack 2 – Interface Definition for further details.

On 30 June 2009 are assets owned by:	Market system details as at the date when this guide was published: Company name ⁵ , ABN ⁵ , Company id ⁵ , Retail Market Network id ⁶
	Company id: 9 Retail Market Network id: 00
Multinet Gas (DB No. 1) Pty Ltd ACN 086 026 986 Multinet Gas (DB No. 2) Pty Ltd ACN 086 230 122	Named: Multinet Gas Distribution Partnership ABN: 53 634 214 009 Company id: 10 Retail Market Network id: 00
The Albury Gas Co. Ltd (ACN 000 001 249)	Named: Australian Gas Networks (Albury) Limited ABN: 84 000 001 249 Company id: 57 Retail Market Network id: 00
Australian Gas Network's Bairnsdale network	Named: Australian Gas Networks (VIC) Pty Ltd ABN: 73 085 899 001 Company id: 9 Retail Market Network id: 01
Multinet's South Gippsland network (Korumburra, Leongatha, Inverloch and Wonthaggi).	Named: Multinet Gas Distribution Partnership ABN: 53 634 214 009 Company id: 10 Retail Market Network id: 04
AusNet's Grampians network (Ararat, Avoca, Stawell and Horsham)	Named: AusNet Gas Services Pty Ltd ABN: 43 086 015 036 Company id: 11 Retail Market Network id: 05

Table 2—However, for the purpose of the DWGM, Part 19 of the NGR limits the distribution systems that form part of the DWGM to only those distribution systems that are directly connected to the DTS. This subset of declared distribution systems which forms part of the DWGM is referred to in [AEMO's wholesale market procedures made for the purposes of the DWGM as the DDS](#)~~this note as the DDS~~.⁷

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Table 3**Table 2** Declared Distribution Systems that are directly connected to the Declared Transmission System and are part of the DWGM (DDS).

On 30 June 2009 are assets owned by:	Market system details as at the date when this guide was published: Company name, ABN, Company id, Retail Market Network id
SPI Networks (Gas) Pty Ltd ACN 086 015 036	Named: AusNet Gas Services Pty Ltd ABN: 43 086 015 036 Company id: 11 Retail Market Network id: 00
Envestra Victoria Pty Ltd ACN 085 882 373 Vic Gas Distribution Pty Ltd ACN 085 899 001	Named: Australian Gas Networks (VIC) Pty Ltd ABN: 73 085 899 001 Company id: 9

⁷ [However, it should be noted that clause 3.1 \(Distributor obligation\) of the Essential Services Commissions \(ESC\), Gas Distribution Code of Practice Essential Service requires distributors operating a non-DTS distribution system must, to the extent practicable, adhere to requirements of Division 3, Subdivision 4 of Part 19 of the NGR in relation to metering installations.](#)

On 30 June 2009 are assets owned by:	Market system details as at the date when this guide was published: Company name, ABN, Company id, Retail Market Network id
	Retail Market Network id: 00
Multinet Gas (DB No. 1) Pty Ltd ACN 086 026 986 Multinet Gas (DB No. 2) Pty Ltd ACN 086 230 122	Named: Multinet Gas Distribution Partnership ABN: 53 634 214 009 Company id: 10 Retail Market Network id: 00
The Albury Gas Co. Ltd (ACN 000 001 249)	Named: Australian Gas Networks (Albury) Limited ABN: 84 000 001 249 Company id: 57 Retail Market Network id: 00

4. Declared distribution systems for the purpose of the Victorian retail gas market.

Clause 135AB (4) (b) (i) of the NGR and the Victorian retail gas market procedures specify the distributors that must register in order to participate in the Victorian retail gas market.

Clause 135AB (4) (b) (ii) (iii) and the procedures also specify that distributors that operate a distribution pipeline in Victoria that, in addition to distributors that operate a declared distribution system (as defined by the s39 NGVA Ministerial Order), distributors that operate a distribution pipeline in Victoria that does not form part of a declared distribution system and the operator of the distribution pipelines that serve Albury and its environs (the Albury gas distribution system) can participate in the Victorian retail gas market.

The Victorian retail gas market therefore covers all [declared](#) distribution systems in Victoria (including [the DTS connected](#) declared distribution systems that are part of the DWGM, [the non-DTS connected](#) declared distribution systems that are not part of the DWGM and the Albury gas distribution system).

Table 4 [Table 3](#) The following distribution systems are directly connected to the DTS and are part of the Victorian Retail Gas Market (and part of the DWGM).

On 30 June 2009 are assets owned by:	Market system details as at the date when this guide was published: Company name, ABN, Company id, Retail Market Network id
SPI Networks (Gas) Pty Ltd ACN 086 015 036	Named: AusNet Gas Services Pty Ltd ABN: 43 086 015 036 Company id: 11 Retail Market Network id: 00
Envestra Victoria Pty Ltd ACN 085 882 373 Vic Gas Distribution Pty Ltd ACN 085 899 001	Named: Australian Gas Networks (VIC) Pty Ltd ABN: 73 085 899 001 Company id: 9 Retail Market Network id: 00
Multinet Gas (DB No. 1) Pty Ltd ACN 086 026 986 Multinet Gas (DB No. 2) Pty Ltd ACN 086 230 122	Named: Multinet Gas Distribution Partnership ABN: 53 634 214 009

On 30 June 2009 are assets owned by:	Market system details as at the date when this guide was published: Company name, ABN, Company id, Retail Market Network id
	Company id: 10 Retail Market Network id: 00
The Albury Gas Co. Ltd (ACN 000 001 249)	Named: Australian Gas Networks (Albury) Limited ABN: 84 000 001 249 Company id: 57 Retail Market Network id: 00

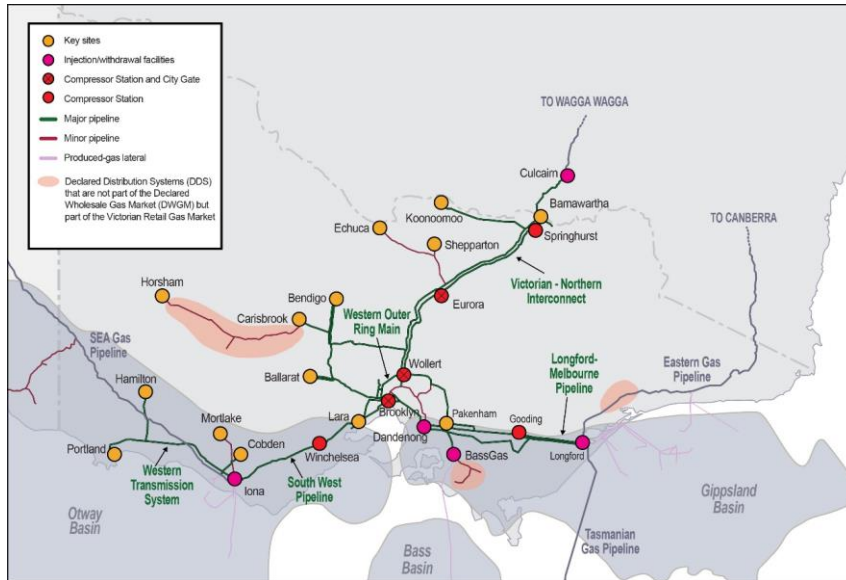
Table 4 The following distribution systems are NOT directly connected to the DTS and are part of the Victorian Retail Gas Market (but not part of the DWGM).

On 30 June 2009 are assets owned by:	Market system details as at the date when this guide was published: Company name, ABN, Company id, Retail Market Network id
Australian Gas Network's Bairnsdale network	Named: Australian Gas Networks (VIC) Pty Ltd ABN: 73 085 899 001 Company id: 9 Retail Market Network id: 01
Multinet's South Gippsland network (Korumburra, Leongatha, Inverloch and Wonthaggi).	Named: Multinet Gas Distribution Partnership ABN: 53 634 214 009 Company id: 10 Retail Market Network id: 04
AusNet's Grampians network (Ararat, Avoca, Stawell and Horsham)	Named: AusNet Gas Services Pty Ltd ABN: 43 086 015 036 Company id: 11 Retail Market Network id: 05

[For the avoidance of doubt, the remote distribution networks \(supplying Robinvale, Swan Hill, Kerang, Nathalia, Maron, Maldon, Heathcote, Invermay, Terang, Lakes Entrance, Orbost\) are not declared distribution systems. Therefore, they are not part of the DWGM or the Victorian Retail Market.](#)

5. Physical representation of the Victorian gas pipelines, infrastructure, and areas.

The following map shows the various pipelines and key infrastructure. It also shows the DTS (see legend green Major pipeline) and distribution systems that are not directly connected to the DTS (Table 4) (see legend orange shaded areas) as at the date of this document.



6. Services agreements for distribution systems NOT directly connected to the DTS which are part of the Victorian Retail Gas Market.

AEMO has agreed services agreements (ASAs) in place for each of the distribution systems listed in table 4. These agreements include services required to facilitate the retail market, and require the provision of data [including metering data in relation to metering installation which AEMO would otherwise receive through DWGM mechanisms.](#)

[These ASA's mirror the obligations in Part 19 of the NGR and the wholesale market procedures which would ordinarily apply to distribution systems which are connected to the DTS.](#)

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7.6. Declared distribution systems for the purpose of AEMO's direction powers.

Under [section 91BC of the NGL](#), AEMO may give written directions to a Registered participant (or an exempted participant) with respect to the DTS or a declared distribution system to maintain and improve the supply of natural gas, to maintain and improve the security of the DTS or a declared distribution system and in the interests of public safety.

[Under section 53 of the NGVA, AEMO must make the Gas Emergency Protocol⁸, which is comprised of the following documents:](#)

⁸ The Emergency Protocol is published on AEMO's website at: <https://aemo.com.au/energy-systems/gas/emergency-management/victorian-role>

- (a) [Emergency Procedures \(Gas\)](#);
- (b) [Gas Load Curtailment and Gas Rationing and Recovery Guidelines](#); and
- (c) [Gas Curtailment List \(published on AEMO's Market Information Bulletin Board \(MIBB\)\)](#).

In relation to:

- [AEMO's power of direction, the references to a declared distribution system refers to those distribution pipelines that were specified in the Ministerial Order made pursuant to section 39 \(1\) \(a\) of the NGVA on 30 June 2009 \(see Table 1 above\)](#).
- [AEMO's Gas Emergency Protocol, the references to a declared distribution system refers to those distribution pipelines that were specified in the Ministerial Order made pursuant to section 39 \(1\) \(a\) of the NGVA on 30 June 2009 \(see Table 1 above\)](#)

As a result, AEMO's powers of direction under the NGL include the power to make directions with respect to the safety, security or reliability of the DTS and both [declared](#) distribution systems that are directly connected to the DTS and [declared](#) distribution systems that are not directly connected to the DTS. [Similarly, the scope of AEMO's Gas Emergency Protocol covers both declared distribution systems that are directly connected to the DTS and declared distribution systems that are not directly connected to the DTS.](#)

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Version Release History

Version	Effective Date	Summary of Changes
1.0	1 May 2024	First Issue