

EXEMPTION PROCEDURE – METERING INSTALLATION MALFUNCTIONS

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VERSION RELEASE HISTORY

Version	Effective Date	Summary of Changes
1.0	1 December 2017	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.
1.1	20 May 2020	Updated to incorporate additional clause reference in the National Electricity Amendment (Metering installation timeframes) Rule 2018 No. 15.
1.2	1 May 2022 14 March 2022	Updated to incorporate clause reference changes in National Electricity Amendment (Introduction of metering coordinator planned interruptions) Rule 2020 No. 7.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Purpose and scope

This is the Exemption Procedure – Metering Installation Malfunctions made under clause 7.8.10(b) of the National Electricity Rules (NER) (Procedure).

This Procedure sets out the process by which a Current Metering Coordinator (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

1.2.1. Glossary

Terms defined in the *National Electricity Law* and the NER have the same meanings in this Procedure unless otherwise specified in this clause.

Terms defined in the NER are intended to be identified in this Procedure by italicising them, but failure to italicise a defined term does not affect its meaning.

The Retail Electricity Market Procedures – Glossary and Framework:

- (a) Is incorporated into and forms part of this Procedure; and
- (b) Should be read in conjunction with this Procedure.

1.2.2. Interpretation

This Procedure is subject to the principles of interpretation set out in Schedule 2 of the *National Electricity Law*.

1.3. Related 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 Participant 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*.

A Current MC is not required to apply for an exemption in the circumstances contemplated by clause 11.86.7(g)(2) of the NER where it is the Local Network Service Provider (LNSP):

- (a) Appointed as the Current MC under clause 11.86.7(a) of the NER; or
- (b) Deemed to be appointed as the Current MC under clause 11.86.7(c) of the NER,

in respect of a type 5 or 6 *metering installation*.

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

- (a) Within two *business days* of receipt of an application for exemption, AEMO must:
 - (i) Assign a unique ID number to the application, or verify the ID number provided by the applicant where the application is for an extension to an existing exemption;
 - (ii) Provide the applicant with confirmation of receipt and the ID number of the application; and
 - (iii) Review the application and, where necessary, request additional information.
- (b) Within five business days of receipt of an application for exemption, or two business days after the receipt of the requested additional information (as applicable), AEMO must determine whether to approve the application and communicate that determination to the applicant.

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 of the MP's rectification plan; and
- (h) Any other information that AEMO considers to be relevant to the application.

2.5. Grant of Exemption

An exemption granted by AEMO 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 date by which the Current MC must provide AEMO with the MP's rectification plan in the form specified in section 3 for the rectification of the *metering installation malfunction*.

- (b) The date by which the Current MC must ensure the MP completes the rectification of the *metering installation malfunction* in accordance with the MP's rectification plan.
- (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 complete the application form;
- (b) A failure to provide further information by the date specified by AEMO in its request for that information;
- (c) The malfunction referred to in the application does not constitute a *metering installation malfunction*; and
- (d) 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) Provide the Metering Provider's (MP's) rectification plan to AEMO in the form specified in section 3 for the rectification of the *metering installation malfunction* by the date specified by AEMO;
- (b) Within one *business day*, notify all affected Participants of the grant of the exemption and any extension to the exemption and provide them with a copy of the MP's rectification plan;
- (c) Diligently pursue the rectification of the *metering installation malfunction* in accordance with the MP's rectification plan and complete the rectification by the date specified by AEMO;
- (d) Keep AEMO and all affected Participants informed of any changes to the MP's rectification plan and provide a copy of the amended rectification plan to them;
- (e) Notify AEMO and all affected Participants when the *metering installation malfunction* has been rectified; and
- (f) Where there is a New MC for a *connection point*, notify the New MC of the exemption and provide the New MC with a copy of the exemption and MP's rectification plan prior to the change in Role.

2.9. Expiry of Exemption

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

- (a) Rectification of the *metering installation malfunction*;
- (b) Expiry date specified by AEMO;
- (c) Abolishment of the *NMI* and *metering installation*;
- (d) Current MC's cessation of appointment as MC for the *metering installation* affected by the *metering installation malfunction*; and
- (e) Revocation of the exemption by AEMO.

2.10. Revocation of Exemption

If the Current MC fails to meet any condition of the exemption specified by AEMO, or any of the conditions specified in section 2.8, AEMO may revoke the exemption and notify the Current MC of the revocation, whereupon the Current MC must notify all affected Participants of the revocation within one *business day*.

3. RECTIFICATION PLAN

3.1. Timing

Where it is practicable to do so, the Current MC must 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 Name: 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/NMIs</i> (attach a spreadsheet for more than one <i>NMI</i>)	
9. Details of the <i>metering installation malfunction</i> :	
10. Action taken to date in relation to the <i>metering installation malfunction</i> , including any instructions provided to the MDP and MP.	
11. Describe all options or solutions to be considered to rectify or otherwise repair the <i>metering installation malfunction</i> , or provide a draft of the MP's proposed rectification plan:	
12. List of the affected Participant IDs:	LNSP: Participant ID:
	LR: Participant ID:
	MDP: Participant ID:
	MP: Participant ID:
	FRMP: Participant ID:
	Other: (e.g. NSP2, EENSP etc) 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. 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.	
16. 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. <i>NMI/NMIs</i> (attach a spreadsheet for more than one <i>NMI</i>)		
7. Reason for seeking extension to exemption:		
8. Remedial action taken to date:		
9. List of the affected Participant IDs:	LNSP:	Participant ID:
	LR:	Participant ID:
	MDP:	Participant ID:
	MP:	Participant ID:
	FRMP:	Participant ID:
	Other: (e.g. NSP2, EENSP etc)	Participant ID:
10. Explain the impact the exemption will have on the Applicant's, and other Participants', ability to comply with the NER: (If no change from the date of the original application, please indicate 'no change')		
11. How will the provision of <i>metering data</i> be addressed during the extension, if granted? (If no change from the date of the original application, please indicate 'no change')		
12. Describe how the <i>metering installation malfunction</i> will be addressed if the extension is not granted: (If no change from the date of the original application, please indicate 'no change')		

<p>13. 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.</p>	
<p>IMPORTANT NOTE: This application will be rejected if an updated draft of the MP's rectification plan is not provided with this application form to AEMO.</p>	

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