



November 2023 Release

October 2023

Industry Go-live Plan

Important notice

PURPOSE

This paper describes the go-live approach with respect to the upgrade of AEMO's wholesale systems for the November 2023 release planned to be released on 29th October 2023 in preparation for procedure commencement on 7th November, 2023.

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VERSION CONTROL

Version	Release date	Changes
0.1	28 September 2023	Draft released to Implementation Forum for comment
1.0	10 October 2023	Final version
1.1	23 October 2023	Clarification on compliance holiday CR Validation for MSDR in section 3.1.

Executive summary

On 29th October 2023 AEMO will implement a software release, to its Retail systems supporting AEMO's reform delivery program for electricity under the NEM Reform Program¹.

The release introduces changes under MSDR (MSATS Standing Data Review) that support the end of the compliance holiday for MSDR.

AEMO has a key coordination role, through collaboration with its industry working groups, to ready Industry and itself for the various system and market "go-live" dates. This document describes the go-live approach with respect to the November 2023 release.

At a high level, the go-live responsibilities are set out below:

- AEMO to facilitate Industry Tests for the November 2023 release.
- AEMO to enable the market software to commence operations in line with rule requirements.
- Participants to complete their preparations in readiness for the November 2023 release.

¹ <https://www.aemo.com.au/initiatives/major-programs/nem2025-program/about-nem2025-program>

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1. Introduction

This chapter describes the implementation of the Australian Energy Market Operator's (AEMO) NEM Reform November 2023 Release. This document covers Fast Frequency Response (Part 2) go-live activities and then details the purpose and context of the release Go-Live Plan.

1.1 November 2023 Release

The November 2023 Release contains multiple Procedure changes:

- CDR Tranche 3: Retailers with >10k customers must now support CDR requests
- LCCD: Participants must now provide LCCD
- MSDR: Compliance Holiday ends for several MSATS Standing Data fields

1.1.1 CDR (Consumer Data Right) Tranche 3

Retailers with >10k customers must now support Consumer Data Right requests (excluding complex requests)

1.1.2 LCCD (Last Consumer Change Date)

The current FRMP must update the LCCD field upon becoming aware that the account holder has changed at a premise.

AEMO will populate LCCD upon completion of a CR1030/1040.

1.1.3 MSDR (MSATS Standing Data Review)

Compliance Holiday ends. Participants must to populate the following fields which will become mandatory (where meter status = Current):

CRs 3004, 3005, 3050, 3051, 3080, 3081, 3090, 3091

- Manufacturer
- Model
- Use

CRs 5050, 5051, 5001, 5021, 5060, 5061

- Connection Configuration

1.2 Document purpose & approach

This document describes the go-live approach for the November 2023 Release with respect to the deployment of Retail System enhancements.

The November 2023 Release Industry Go-Live plan is developed in consultation with industry through the Implementation Forum. Table 1 below illustrates AEMO's engagement approach and timeline for developing the plan.

Table 1 November 2023 Release Go-Live Plan development timeline

Milestone	Date
Initial engagement with the Implementation Forum	30 May 2023
Publish draft for industry feedback	28 September 2023
Deadline for industry feedback	5 October 2023
Publish final plan	10 October 2023

2. November 2023 Release Go-live Plan Framework

2.1 Scope

- In scope
 - Deployment of Retail system changes to support the implementation of the November 2023 Release.
 - Communications during deployment.
 - Support arrangements during the go-live period.
- Out of scope
 - Meter Exemptions – Deferred until March 2024. No formal Industry testing will be conducted in October 2023 however the Metering Exemptions APIs and User Interface changes will be deployed to the Pre-Prod environment to provide Participants an extended window to test their API integration. Formal Industry testing will commence in late January 2024.
 - Bulk updates of LCCD –Decision deferred until included in DSB.
 - Participant Contingency plans.

2.2 Principles

The industry transition and go-live strategy principles apply to the November 2023 Release changes. These are:

1. The changes within the November 2023 Release are mandated via Procedure changes.
2. NEM operations should be uninterrupted during periods of transition and go-live.
3. Market system go-live risks should be minimised.
4. Participants should be provided with implementation flexibility where possible.
5. Participants and AEMO are responsible for their own go-live planning.

3. November 2023 Release Industry Go-Live Plan

3.1 Industry Testing

Industry testing is optional for participants and provides the opportunity to prove their market systems against AEMO's market systems in the pre-production environment.

- LCCD: 1st September, 2023 – 27th October, 2023
- High Level Scope
 - Addition of new CATS NMI Standing Data column: Last Consumer Change Date.
 - LCCD updated to the effective date on completion of CR1030/1040
 - FRMPs can update the field retrospectively when they verify Consumers' start dates.
 - The Last Consumer Change Date is included in:
 - The aseXML B2M Schema r43
 - New Change Requests 5056 & 5057. The field is maintained by FRMPs when the consumer for a NMI changes, e.g., move-ins and used by AEMO to verify meter data requests for CDR.
- MSDR: 4th October, 2023 – 27th October, 2023
- High Level Scope
 - From the 7th of November 2023, for CR5XXX series Change Reason Codes that require ConnectionConfiguration to be mandatory, as the CR moves from the status of pending to completed, where a value has not been supplied in the CR and is not already populated in NMI Details table, the CR shall move from the status of Pending (PEND) to Rejected (REJ) as per existing MSATS CR processing logic.
 - From the 7th of November 2023, for CRs 3004, 3005, 3050, 3051, 3080, 3081, 3090, and 3091, where ElectricityMeter/Status is Current, the following Meter Register data items shall be mandatory, as the CR moves from the status of pending to completed, where a value has not been supplied in the CR and is not already populated in the Meter Register table, the CR shall move from the status of Pending (PEND) to Rejected (REJ) as per existing MSATS CR processing logic. The Meter Register Standing Data Items are: Manufacturer, Model, Use.
 - UnstructuredAddress: No longer searched when undertaking NMI Discovery or returned for: CATS Reports (C1, C4, C7), MSATS Snapshot Report
- CDR:
 - No formal Industry Testing as this functionality was delivered November 2022

3.2 Go-live plan

The November 2023 release contains a single release for Retail Systems.

There will be a Retail Systems outage during the deployment:

10AM – 2PM Market Time October 29th, 2023

**Note: There are no deployment requirements for CDR & LCCD as these have been previously deployed to Production.

3.3 Go-live criteria and readiness decision

Solution Go Live Criteria	Description
Solution readiness	AEMO solution tested in-line with requirements. System Changes required to meet initiative requirements and ongoing stability of existing systems.
AEMO business readiness	AEMO business ready to support November Release changes

Service Commencement Criteria	Description
Market readiness	Whilst there are no formal Market Readiness requirements, Participants must ensure that they are able to generate and accept the relevant changes.

3.3.1 Participant readiness

Participant readiness activities, including participation in industry testing, are not a pre-requisite for AEMO to confirm technical readiness to go-live. As such, the November Release will not require formalised participant readiness reporting.

AEMO encourages Participants to engage in Industry Testing during September/October 2023.

3.3.2 Commissioning period

Not applicable for November 2023 Release

3.3.3 Transition period

Not applicable for November 2023 Release

3.3.4 In Flight Transactions

Please note that where a CR is raised ‘today’, the CR will not be validated until ‘tomorrow’ morning when MSATS batch processing occurs.

This means that where a CR is on November 6th without the mandatory fields included, these will not be validated until batch processing runs early AM November 7th and may be Rejected.

If this occurs, please resubmit the CR with the required mandatory fields.

3.4 Communications

Correspondence regarding the go-live will be released through AEMO Support Hub bulletins and the NEM Reform mailbox, NemReform@aemo.com.au.

There are three categories of cutover communications that participants will receive:

- General progress updates – provide participants with information about the status implementation activities via the NEM Reform mailbox
- Support Hub Notices – provides information to the market on Software releases including notifications of releases and outage completion.
- Issues – should any issues arise or deviations from the previously communicated processes, participants will be notified through the NEM Reform mailbox. If the issue or deviation is in relation to a notice previously sent through AEMO’s Support Hub Notices, participants will receive a communication through this channel (via the AEMO IT Duty Manager) in addition to the NEM Reform mailbox. Participants experiencing issues as result of the go-live should raise these incidents directly via the AEMO Support Hub.

3.5 November 2023 release industry go-Live schedule

The steps for the implementation of AEMO market system changes and associated communications are outlined in Table 2.

Table 2 November 2023 Release Schedule

#	AEMO actions	Industry Impacts and actions	Planned Time (Market Time)	Communication channel
PREPRODUCTION				
1	LCCD CRs come into effect. (No deployment required)	Participants can commence testing of the LCCD CRs	Fri 1 st Sept 2023	
2	AEMO will deploy MSATS changes to Preproduction.		Tues 3 rd Oct 2023	

#	AEMO actions	Industry Impacts and actions	Planned Time (Market Time)	Communication channel
	AEMO notifies participants that supported industry test period has opened.	Participants can commence industry testing for MSDR and informal testing on Metering Exemptions.	From Wed 4 th Oct 2023	Email to implementation forum and impacted participants.
PRODUCTION				
3	AEMO confirms intention for Solution go-live.		Tues 17 th Oct 2023	Support Hub Outage Notification
4	MSATS 50.0 Deployment.	MSATS unstructured address changes take effect.	10:00 to 14:00 Sun 29 th Oct 2023	Email to implementation forum and impacted participants. At the successful conclusion of the release.
LCCD Effective date				
5	LCCD procedure effective date	Retailers can commence using CR5056/CR5057	12:01 Wed 1 st Nov 2023	Above Notification
MSDR Effective Date				
6	MSDR end of compliance holiday changes take effect	MSATS CRs without the new mandatory fields will be rejected	12:01 7 th Nov 2023	Email to implementation forum and impacted participants.
CDR Tranche 3 Effective date				
7	No AEMO changes required	Retailers with >10k customers must now support CDR requests	12.01 1 st Nov 2023	NA

4. Participant Support Arrangements

Participants should use AEMO's BAU support channels and raise all issues and incidents with the Support Hub. The NEM Reform mailbox will remain open for general queries relating to the September/October 2023 Release.

4.1 Support Arrangements for preparing for November 2023

The NEM Reform Program will support participant preparations for the November 2023 Release through:

- Planning and facilitation of the Industry Test approach for November 2023 Release
- Progress and Issue management during Industry Test
- Q&A sessions to be scheduled for the duration of the Industry Test Period
- Continued operation of Industry working groups including Implementation Forum and the Industry Test Working Group (ITWG)
- Participant queries will be managed through the NEM Reform mailbox

4.2 Production Support

All production issues should be raised via the Support Hub and will be managed through the current Retail System support processes.

4.3 Participant Support Arrangements

Support Hub will remain the main point of contact for issues, incidents and queries post 29th October.

Industry Q&A sessions will be arranged following the Go-live should there be demand from Participants. Questions from participants can also be directed via the NEM Reform mailbox.

Glossary

This document uses many terms that have meanings defined in the National Electricity Rules (NER). The NER meanings are adopted unless otherwise specified.

Term	Definition
AEMC	Australian Energy Market Commission
AEMO	Australian Energy Market Operator
BAU	Business as Usual
CATS	Consumer Administration and Transfer Solution
CDR	Consumer Data Rights
Cutover / Go-live	System implementation event
CR	Change Request
DSB	Data Standards Body
FRMP	Financially Responsible Market Participant
IF	Implementation Forum
ITWG	Industry Testing Working Group
LCCD	Last Consumer Change Date
MSATS	Market Settlement and Transfer Solutions
MSDR	MSATS Standing Data Review
NEM	National electricity market