


28 April 2025

Ms Anne Collyer
Chair
Australian Energy Market Commission
PO Box A2449
Sydney South NSW 1235File reference
TRM: 58-F25-157-0018By email: anne.collyer@aemc.gov.auDear Ms Collyer **Re: Implications for the Northern Territory from the proposed National Electricity Amendment (Improving the NEM access standards - Package 1) Rule 2025**

I understand the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) has yet to make a final decision regarding the *National Electricity Amendment (Improving the NEM access standards - Package 1) Rule 2025* which typically would automatically be adopted into the Northern Territory's version of the National Electricity Rules (NT NER).

In its draft determination for this rule change, the AEMC sought feedback on whether it should make a uniform or differential rule for the Territory. Under the relevant Territory legislation, the AEMC may make a differential rule if it is satisfied that, having regard to any relevant national and jurisdictional statements of policy principles, a differential rule will, or is likely to, better contribute to the achievement of the National Electricity Objective (NEO) than a uniform rule.

In this case, the Department of Mining and Energy (DME) considers the rule change would not achieve the NEO as it would increase costs, complexity and ambiguity in the Territory.

AEMC and DME officers have discussed potential solutions, including a differential rule to adopt parts of the proposed rule or, alternatively, that the proposed rule does not have effect with respect to the Northern Territory. The former is likely to present challenges for the AEMC due to the complexities of the proposed rule as well as the limited timeframe for making the final determination and rule.

Given the potential consequences of adopting the proposed rule in the NT NER and the complexities and limited timeframe for making the final determination and rule, DME considers that a differential rule that disapplies the entirety of the proposed rule from adoption into the NT NER is a suitable solution.

To discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Matthew Sargeant, Executive Director Sustainable Energy, on 08 899 95305 or matthew.sargeant@nt.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alister Trier'.

Alister Trier
Chief Executive

CC: AEMC Senior Advisor, Achint Jain; achint.jain@aemc.gov.au