



## **National Electricity Amendment (Including distribution network resilience in the National Electricity Rules) Rule 2025**

The Australian Energy Market Commission makes the following Rule under the National Electricity Law to the extent applied by:

- (a) the *National Electricity (South Australia) Act 1996* of South Australia;
- (b) the *Electricity (National Scheme) Act 1997* of the Australian Capital Territory;
- (c) the *Electricity - National Scheme (Queensland) Act 1997* of Queensland;
- (d) the *National Electricity (New South Wales) Act 1997* of New South Wales;
- (e) the *Electricity - National Scheme (Tasmania) Act 1999* of Tasmania;
- (f) the *National Electricity (Victoria) Act 2005* of Victoria;
- (g) the *National Electricity (Northern Territory) (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2015* of the Northern Territory; and
- (h) the *Australian Energy Market Act 2004* of the Commonwealth.

Anna Collyer  
Chairperson  
Australian Energy Market Commission

## **National Electricity Amendment (Including distribution network resilience in the National Electricity Rules) Rule 2025**

### **1 Title of Rule**

This Rule is the *National Electricity Amendment (Including distribution network resilience in the National Electricity Rules) Rule 2025*.

### **2 Commencement**

Schedule 1 of this Rule commences operation on 1 July 2027.

Schedule 2 of this Rule commences operation on 2 October 2025.

Schedule 3 of this Rule commences operation on 22 May 2025.

### **3 Amendment to the National Electricity Rules**

The National Electricity Rules are amended as set out in Schedule 1.

### **4 Amendment to the National Electricity Rules**

The National Electricity Rules are amended as set out in Schedule 2.

### **5 Savings and Transitional Amendment to the National Electricity Rules**

The National Electricity Rules are amended as set out in Schedule 3.

## **Schedule 1      Amendment to the National Electricity Rules**

(Clause 3)

### **[1] Clause 5.13.1      Distribution annual planning review**

In clause 5.13.1(d)(5), omit "and".

### **[2] Clause 5.13.1      Distribution annual planning review**

In clause 5.13.1(d)(6), omit "*disruptions.*" and substitute "*disruptions*; and".

### **[3] Clause 5.13.1      Distribution annual planning review**

After clause 5.13.1(d)(6), insert new clause 5.13.1(d)(7) as follows:

- (7) identify risks of power *outages* caused by severe weather events, taking into account the impacts of climate change.

### **[4] Clause 5.13.1      Distribution annual planning review**

In clause 5.13.1(f), after "system limitations" insert "and risks identified under paragraph (d)(7)".

### **[5] Schedule 5.8      Distribution Annual Planning Report**

In clause S5.8(b)(5), omit "factors affecting;" and substitute "the risks identified under clause 5.13.1(d)(7) and factors affecting:".

### **[6] Schedule 5.8      Distribution Annual Planning Report**

In clause S5.8(d2), after "information on *system limitations*" insert "and the risks identified under clause 5.13.1(d)(7) ".

### **[7] Schedule 5.8      Distribution Annual Planning Report**

In clause S5.8(d2)(1), after "*system limitation*" insert "or risk of power *outage*".

### **[8] Schedule 5.8      Distribution Annual Planning Report**

In clause S5.8(d2)(2), omit "the *system limitation*" and substitute "that issue".

### **[9] Schedule 5.8      Distribution Annual Planning Report**

After clause S5.8(j), insert new clause S5.8(j1) as follows:

- (j1) if any severe weather events occurred in the preceding year, information on the performance of the *Distribution Network Service Provider* and outcomes for consumers as specified by the *AER* in the *Network Resilience Guidelines*;

**[10] Schedule 5.8      Distribution Annual Planning Report**

After clause S5.8(k)(1A), insert new clause S5.8(k)(1B) as follows:

- (1B) an explanation of how the *Distribution Network Service Provider* takes into account the risks identified under clause 5.13.1(d)(7) when developing and implementing its *asset management* and investment strategy;

**[11] Schedule 5.8      Distribution Annual Planning Report**

In clause S5.8(m), after "*forward planning period*;" omit "and".

**[12] Schedule 5.8      Distribution Annual Planning Report**

After clause S5.8(m), insert new clause S5.8(m1) as follows:

- (m1) information on the amount and nature of the *Distribution Network Service Provider's resilience expenditure* which occurred in the preceding year (if any), and on the amount and nature of its planned *resilience expenditure* in the *forward planning period*;

## Schedule 2      Amendment to the National Electricity Rules

(Clause 4)

### [1] Clause 6.2.8      Guidelines

In clause 6.2.8(a)(1), after "*Asset Exemption Guidelines*" insert ", the *Network Resilience Guidelines*".

### [2] Clause 6.2.8      Guidelines

In clause 6.2.8(e), after "subject to paragraph (f), " insert "and except as otherwise provided in this Chapter,".

### [3] New clause 6.4.6 Network Resilience Guidelines

After clause 6.4.5, insert new clause 6.4.6 as follows:

#### 6.4.6      Network Resilience Guidelines

- (a) The *AER* must, in accordance with the *Rules consultation procedures*, develop, maintain and *publish* guidelines (the *Network Resilience Guidelines*) that:
  - (1) provide examples of *resilience expenditure*, which may include expenditure to assist *Distribution Network Service Providers* to:
    - (i) continue to safely provide adequate *network services* despite severe weather events;
    - (ii) communicate effectively with consumers, emergency services personnel and other relevant bodies before, during and after a severe weather event; and
    - (iii) promptly provide a level of *supply* to support consumers' essential needs while the *Distribution Network Service Provider* works to restore full *supply* through its *network*, if a power *outage* occurred as a result of a severe weather event;
  - (2) provide examples of the types of information *Distribution Network Service Providers* could include in their *regulatory proposals* to support forecasts of *resilience expenditure*, including information on climate change impacts;
  - (3) specify the information *Distribution Network Service Providers* must include in their *Distribution Annual Planning Reports* under clause S5.8(j1);
  - (4) explain how *resilience expenditure* will be addressed in incentive schemes provided for in this Chapter; and

- (5) include any other matters the *AER* considers relevant.
- (b) Nothing prevents the *AER* from publishing the *Network Resilience Guidelines* in the same document as another guideline published under this Chapter.
- (c) There must be *Network Resilience Guidelines* in force at all times after the date on which the *AER* first publishes the *Network Resilience Guidelines* under the *Rules*.
- (d) The *AER* may, from time to time and in accordance with the *Rules consultation procedures*, amend or replace the *Network Resilience Guidelines*.
- (e) Clauses 6.2.8(e) and (f) do not apply to the *Network Resilience Guidelines*.

**[4] Clause 6.5.6 Forecast operating expenditure**

In clause 6.5.6(e), omit paragraphs (1), (2) and (3), including the numbers.

**[5] Clause 6.5.6 Forecast operating expenditure**

In clause 6.5.6(e)(4), omit "(4)" and substitute "(1)".

**[6] Clause 6.5.6 Forecast operating expenditure**

In clause 6.5.6(e)(5), omit "(5)" and substitute "(2)".

**[7] Clause 6.5.6 Forecast operating expenditure**

In clause 6.5.6(e)(5A), omit "(5A)" and substitute "(3)".

**[8] Clause 6.5.6 Forecast operating expenditure**

After clause 6.5.6(e)(3), insert new paragraph (4) as follows:

- (4) the extent to which the operating expenditure forecast would efficiently reduce the risk and impact on consumers of power *outages* caused by severe weather events;

**[9] Clause 6.5.6 Forecast operating expenditure**

In clause 6.5.6(e)(6), omit "(6)" and substitute "(5)".

**[10] Clause 6.5.6 Forecasting operating expenditure**

In clause 6.5.6(e)(7), omit "(7)" and substitute "(6)".

**[11] Clause 6.5.6 Forecasting operating expenditure**

In clause 6.5.6(e)(8), omit "(8)" and substitute "(7)".

**[12] Clause 6.5.6 Forecast operating expenditure**

In clause 6.5.6(e)(9), omit "(9)" and substitute "(8)".

**[13] Clause 6.5.6 Forecasting operating expenditure**

In clause 6.5.6(e)(9A), omit "(9A)" and substitute "(9)".

**[14] Clause 6.5.6 Forecasting operating expenditure**

In clause 6.5.6(e)(10), after "*SAPS options*;" omit "and".

**[15] Clause 6.5.6 Forecasting operating expenditure**

In clause 6.5.6(e)(11), after "or (s);" insert " and".

**[16] Clause 6.5.7 Forecast capital expenditure**

In clause 6.5.7(e), omit paragraphs (1), (2) and (3), including the numbers.

**[17] Clause 6.5.7 Forecast capital expenditure**

In clause 6.5.7(e)(4), omit "(4)" and substitute "(1)".

**[18] Clause 6.5.7 Forecast capital expenditure**

In clause 6.5.7(e)(5), omit "(5)" and substitute "(2)".

**[19] Clause 6.5.7 Forecast capital expenditure**

In clause 6.5.7(e)(5A), omit "(5A)" and substitute "(3)".

**[20] Clause 6.5.7 Forecast capital expenditure**

After clause 6.5.7(e)(3), insert new paragraph (4) as follows:

- (4) the extent to which the capital expenditure forecast would efficiently reduce the risk and impact on consumers of power *outages* caused by severe weather events;

**[21] Clause 6.5.7 Forecast capital expenditure**

In clause 6.5.7(e)(6), omit "(6)" and substitute "(5)".

**[22] Clause 6.5.7 Forecast capital expenditure**

In clause 6.5.7(e)(7), omit "(7)" and substitute "(6)".

**[23] Clause 6.5.7 Forecast capital expenditure**

In clause 6.5.7(e)(8), omit "(8)" and substitute "(7)".

**[24] Clause 6.5.7      Forecast capital expenditure**

In clause 6.5.7(e)(9), omit "(9)" and substitute "(8)".

**[25] Clause 6.5.7      Forecast capital expenditure**

In clause 6.5.7(e)(9A), omit "(9A)" and substitute "(9)".

**[26] Chapter 10      Glossary**

In chapter 10, insert the following definitions in alphabetical order:

***Network Resilience Guidelines***

Guidelines made by the *AER* under clause 6.4.6.

***resilience expenditure***

Operating expenditure and capital expenditure by *Distribution Network Service Providers* of the kinds outlined in clauses 6.5.6(e)(4) and 6.5.7(e)(4).

## **Schedule 3            Savings and Transitional Amendment to the National Electricity Rules**

(Clause 5)

### **[1] New rule 11.185 Rules consequential on the making of the National Electricity Amendment (Including distribution network resilience in the National Electricity Rules) Rule 2025**

In chapter 11, after rule 11.184, insert:

#### **11.185 Rules consequential on the making of the National Electricity Amendment (Including distribution network resilience in the National Electricity Rules) Rule 2025**

##### **11.185.1 Definitions**

For the purposes of this rule 11.185:

**Amending Rule** means the *National Electricity Amendment (Including distribution network resilience in the National Electricity Rules) Rule 2025*.

**commencement date** means 2 October 2025, being the date Schedule 2 of the Amending Rule commences.

**new resilience expenditure factors** means the amendments made by Schedule 2 of the Amending Rule to the *operating expenditure factors* in clause 6.5.6(e) and the *capital expenditure factors* in clause 6.5.7(e).

**new resilience reporting rules** means the amendments made by Schedule 1 of the Amending Rule to clause 5.13.1 and Schedule 5.8.

**Victorian DNSP** means each of the following *Distribution Network Service Providers*:

- (a) AusNet Transmission Group Pty Ltd (ABN 78 079 798 173) or any successor to its business;
- (b) Citipower Pty Ltd (ACN 064 651 056) or any successor to its business;
- (c) Jemena Electricity Networks (Vic) Limited (ACN 064 651 083) or any successor to its business;
- (d) Powercor Australia Limited (ACN 064 651 109) or any successor to its business; and
- (e) United Energy Distribution Pty Ltd (ACN 064 651 029) or any successor to its business.

### **11.185.2 Network Resilience Guidelines**

By 1 December 2026, the *AER* must develop and *publish* the *Network Resilience Guidelines* (as defined in the Amending Rule) in accordance with clause 6.4.6 of the *Rules* as in force on the commencement date.

### **11.185.3 Application of new resilience expenditure factors to Victorian DNSPs' regulatory proposals**

- (a) Despite clause 6.10.3(b), Victorian DNSPs' revised *regulatory proposals* for the 2026-2031 *regulatory control period* submitted under clause 6.10.3 may include revisions to take into account the new resilience expenditure factors.
- (b) In the summaries published by the *AER* under clause 6.11.1A, the *AER* must include any revisions made under paragraph (a) above in its summary for clause 6.11.1A(b) rather than clause 6.11.1A(a).
- (c) The *AER's* distribution determination for the Victorian DNSPs for the 2026-2031 *regulatory control period* must take into account the new resilience expenditure factors.

### **11.185.4 Application of new resilience reporting rules to Distribution Annual Planning Reports**

The first year in which *Distribution Network Service Providers* are required to comply with the new resilience reporting rules is 2028.

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[END OF RULE AS MADE]

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