

Compliance Template Review 2026

The Reliability Panel is commencing a review of the Template for Compliance Programs

The Reliability Panel (Panel) has published an issues paper to consult on amendments to the Template for Compliance Programs (Template). This review will consider changes to the Template to incorporate new plant types such as integrated resource systems (batteries), registered loads and synchronous condensers, in line with recent changes to the National Electricity Rules.

Stakeholder submissions to the issues paper are due by **22 January 2026**.

Effective compliance programs are critical to ensure a secure power system

System security refers to the ability of the power system to remain within safe technical limits during both normal operation and during disturbances. The technical characteristics of all plant connected to the system must adhere to standards that are set out in the NER and in connection agreements.

Plant compliance with these technical standards is an important component in maintaining a secure power system that is able to withstand disturbances to reduce the likelihood of major disruptions to supply (such as black system events).

The Template provides valuable guidance to Registered Participants to demonstrate ongoing compliance

Under the National Electricity Rules (NER), Registered Participants have obligations to ensure that their plant meets or exceeds their technical performance standards and that their plant does not adversely affect power system security. To provide assurance of ongoing compliance with their obligations, plant owners and operators must create compliance programs that are consistent with the Panel's template.

The Template contains:

- a set of compliance principles that should be considered when developing and modifying compliance programs
- information about the compliance framework
- examples of specific test methods and procedures that may be used to demonstrate compliance with each of the technical requirements set out in the NER.

The Reliability Panel must review the Template to account for recent rule changes

Under the NER, the Panel is required to conduct a review of the Template at least every five years. However, the Commission made a rule change to defer the commencement of the next review to 19 December 2025, so that the Panel could consider the Commission's decisions on access standard rule changes in its review.

The Commission's Terms of Reference has requested that the Panel consider changes made to the NER from the [Improving the NEM access standards - Package 1 Rule 2025](#), which made significant amendments to the technical requirements to the NER.

The existing Template only provides guidance to generators due to historical reasons. As such, the Terms of Reference has requested that the Panel broadens the Template to provide guidance to relevant plant types other than generators, who also have performance standards (such as synchronous condensers, battery systems, HVDC links and loads).

The Panel is seeking feedback on three key issues to revise the Template

The issues paper identifies the following issues for consideration,

1. **Updating the Template to reflect a broader set of plant types** - the Template should provide guidance to schedule 5.2 plant (for example, generating systems, integrated resource systems and synchronous condenser systems), schedule 5.3 plant (for example, registered loads) and schedule 5.3a plant (HVDC links).
2. **Updating the Template to reflect new and amended technical requirements** - there have been several rule changes since the Panel's 2019 review of the Template that have amended the technical requirements in the NER, which should be reflected in the Template.
3. **Updating the Template to reflect changes in technologies and costs** - there may be new testing and monitoring regimes, or amendments to existing regimes, that have become more practical or cheaper since the Panel's 2019 review.

The Panel may hold a technical workshop to inform revisions to the Template

The Panel is considering conducting a technical workshop to discuss the issues and test potential amendments to the Template. This workshop would occur in early 2026, following the close of submissions to this issues paper.

If you are interested in participating, please contact the project team or indicate your interest via your submission to the issues paper.

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