



Draft National Electricity Amendment (Supporting compliance with meter maintenance obligations) Rule 2026

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

Draft National Electricity Amendment (Supporting compliance with meter maintenance obligations) Rule 2026

1 Title of Rule

This Rule is the *Draft National Electricity Amendment (Supporting compliance with meter maintenance obligations) Rule 2026*.

2 Commencement

This Rule commences operation on 1 April 2027.

3 Amendment to the National Electricity Rules

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

Schedule 1 Amendment to the National Electricity Rules

(Clause 3)

[1] Clause 7.6.2A Obligations of retailers and other persons who appoint Metering Coordinators

After clause 7.6.2, insert new clause 7.6.2A as follows:

7.6.2A Obligations of retailers and other persons who appoint Metering Coordinators

- (a) Where:
- (1) in accordance with clause 7.6.2(a) a person has appointed a *Metering Coordinator* with respect to a *connection point*; and
 - (2) the *Metering Coordinator* has, for the purposes of enabling compliance with its obligations under Parts D, E and F of this Chapter 7 to inspect or test the *metering installation* or to repair a *metering installation malfunction* at the *connection point*, requested the reasonable assistance and cooperation of that person,

the person must promptly provide to the *Metering Coordinator* such reasonable assistance and cooperation to assist the *Metering Coordinator* to comply with its obligations under Parts D, E and F of this Chapter 7, including any applicable timing requirements.
- (b) For the purpose of paragraph (a), the person that appointed the *Metering Coordinator* is required to promptly:
- (1) where requested by the *Metering Coordinator*, facilitate a *supply* interruption at the *connection point*, including by agreeing the date on which the *supply* interruption will take place and facilitating access to the *metering installation* on that date;
 - (2) where requested by the *Metering Coordinator* inform the *retail customer* at the *connection point* of the date that the *Metering Coordinator* proposes to test or inspect the *metering installation* or repair the *metering installation malfunction* (as relevant) in accordance with the *Metering Coordinator's* obligations under this Chapter 7, and provide any further information the *retail customer* may require to prepare for the *Metering Coordinator* to carry out its work; and
 - (3) if there was a *defect at the metering installation* and the person is aware it has been rectified, inform the *Metering Coordinator* of that rectification.

Note

The Commission proposes to recommend this clause 7.6.2A be classified as a tier 2 civil penalty provision under the National Electricity (South Australia) Regulations.

[2] Clause 7.8.10 Metering installation malfunctions

After clause 7.8.10(b), insert new clauses 7.8.10(b1), 7.8.10(b2) and 7.8.10(b3) as follows:

- (b1) Without limiting paragraph (b), the procedure must:
 - (1) include the process for *AEMO* to grant, vary or revoke an exemption from the requirements set out in paragraph (a); and
 - (2) provide for *AEMO* to grant an exemption from the requirements set out in paragraph (a):
 - (i) where the *metering installation* is not accessible or safe or ready to be repaired, for a period determined by *AEMO*; and
 - (ii) otherwise, for the period prescribed in the procedure.
- (b2) A *Metering Coordinator* must comply with the procedures published by *AEMO* under paragraph (b) in making an application for an exemption under this clause.
- (b3) *AEMO* may grant an exemption under this clause, or vary or revoke an exemption, at any time in accordance with the procedure established under paragraph (b).

[3] Clause 7.9.1 Responsibility for testing

In clause 7.9.1(a), omit "A person who" and substitute "Except to the extent an exemption under paragraph (m) applies, a person who".

[4] Clause 7.9.1 Responsibility for testing

After clause 7.9.1(l), insert new clauses 7.9.1(m), 7.9.1(n), 7.9.1(o), 7.9.1(p) and 7.9.1(q) as follows:

- (m) *AEMO* may exempt a *Metering Coordinator* from the timeframes for testing and inspection specified in this clause 7.9.1 and Schedule 7.6.1.
- (n) *AEMO* must establish, maintain and *publish* a procedure applicable to the provision of exemptions for the purpose of paragraph (m).
- (o) Without limiting paragraph (n), the procedure must:
 - (1) include the process for *AEMO* to grant, vary or revoke an exemption for the purposes of paragraph (m); and

- (2) provide for *AEMO* to grant an exemption from the requirements set out in subparagraph (a)(2) where the *metering installation* is not accessible, safe or ready to be tested or inspected, for a period determined by *AEMO*.
- (p) If a *Metering Coordinator* seeks an exemption under paragraph (m), it must:
 - (1) comply with the procedures *published* by *AEMO* under paragraph (n); and
 - (2) include in its application a proposed schedule for the testing and inspection required by Schedule 7.6.1.

Note

The Commission proposes to recommend this clause 7.9.1(p)(2) be classified as a tier 2 civil penalty provision under the National Electricity (South Australia) Regulations.

- (q) *AEMO* may grant an exemption under paragraph (m), or vary or revoke an exemption, at any time in accordance with the procedure established under paragraph (n).

[5] New rule 7.9A Notice procedure for testing, inspecting and repairing metering installations where there are defects

After rule 7.9, insert new rule 7.9A as follows:

7.9A Notice procedure for testing, inspecting and repairing metering installations where there are defects

- (a) Where a *Metering Coordinator* is unable to arrange for the testing, inspection or repair of a *metering installation* due to a *defect at the metering installation*, the *Metering Coordinator* must send a notice to the person who appointed the *Metering Coordinator* requesting that the *defect at the metering installation* be rectified.
- (b) Upon receiving the notice issued under paragraph (a), the person who appointed the *Metering Coordinator* must:
 - (1) take all reasonable steps to arrange for the *defect at the metering installation* to be rectified (including, where the person is a *retailer*, sending the notice under paragraph (a) to the *retail customer* at the premises); and
 - (2) notify the *Metering Coordinator* when the *defect at the metering installation* has been rectified.
- (c) When the *Metering Coordinator* is notified that the *defect at the metering installation* has been rectified, the *Metering Coordinator* must progress the inspection, test or repair (as applicable) of the

metering installation in accordance with this Chapter 7, including any exemption granted by *AEMO* in accordance with clauses 7.8.10 or 7.9.1.

- (d) If the *Metering Coordinator* has not received the notification described in subparagraph (b)(2) within 40 *business days* of issuing the notice under paragraph (a), the *Metering Coordinator* must send a reminder notice to the person who appointed the *Metering Coordinator* no more than 45 *business days* after issuing the notice under paragraph (a). If the person is a *retailer*, the person must promptly send the reminder notice to the *retail customer*.
- (e) If the *retail customer* at the premises changes at any time after the *Metering Coordinator* has sent the notice under paragraph (a) and before it has received the notice under paragraph (b)(2), the notification process in this rule 7.9A must commence again.
- (f) For the purposes of paragraph (e), if the person who appointed the *Metering Coordinator* is a *retailer* and it becomes aware of a change in *retail customer* at the premises, the person must inform the *Metering Coordinator* of the change.
- (g) Paragraph (a) applies to a *Metering Coordinator* regardless of whether or not any *Metering Coordinator* previously appointed for the relevant *metering installation* has already issued a notice under paragraph (a).

Note

The Commission proposes to recommend this rule 7.9A be classified as a tier 3 civil penalty provision under the National Electricity (South Australia) Regulations.

[6] Clause S7.6.1 General

After clause S7.6.1(b), insert new clause S7.6.1(b1) as follows:

- (b1) Where the *Metering Coordinator* ceases to be appointed in respect of a *connection point*, it must, within 10 *business days* after receiving a request from the newly appointed *Metering Coordinator*, make available to that newly appointed *Metering Coordinator* the test certificates for the tests referred to in paragraph (a), where the *Metering Coordinator* has access to those certificates.

[7] Chapter 10 Glossary

In the definition of "**defect at the metering installation**", after "installation is unable to be", insert "inspected, tested,".

[8] New rule 11.191 2026 Savings and Transitional Rules

In chapter 11 after rule 11.190 insert new rule 11.191 as follows:

11.191 Rules consequential on making the National Electricity Amendment (Supporting compliance with meter maintenance obligations) Rule 2026

11.191.1 Definitions

For the purposes of this rule 11.191:

Amending Rule means the *National Electricity Amendment (Supporting compliance with meter maintenance obligations) Rule 2026*.

commencement date means 1 April 2027, being the date the Amending Rule commences.

11.191.2 AEMO procedures

- (a) By the commencement date, *AEMO* must:
 - (i) update and *publish* the procedures required by clause 7.8.10 as in force on the commencement date;
 - (ii) develop and *publish* the procedures required by clause 7.9.1 as in force on the commencement date (either together with the procedures described in subparagraph (a)(i) or separately); and
 - (iii) review and if necessary amend and *publish* any other relevant procedures and guidelines developed by *AEMO*, to account for the Amending Rule.
- (b) In *publishing* the procedures described in subparagraphs (a)(i) and (a)(ii), *AEMO* must comply with the *Rules consultation procedures*.
- (c) In *publishing* the procedures described in subparagraph (a)(iii) (if any), *AEMO* must comply with the applicable consultation procedures, or if no consultation procedures are specified, the *Rules consultation procedures*.