BRINGING DOWN BARRIERS TO CONNECTING SMALLER GENERATORS

CONNECTION EMBEDDED GENERATORS UNDER CHAPTER 5A OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICITY RULES

ENERGY LANDSCAPE
Business consumers are choosing to generate their own power from sources like gas, solar, wind or biomass. These local generators may want to connect to the network if they want back-up power or to sell their excess electricity to the grid.

NEW CHOICES FOR BUSINESS CONSUMERS
Giving smaller generators two options for connection to the market.

CHAPTER 5A PROCESS
• More flexible
• Generally shorter

CHAPTER 5 PROCESS
• More defined and detailed
• Generally longer

SMALLER GENERATORS

- Preliminary enquiry
- Connection application
- Connection agreement

5 business days for distributors to respond
75 business days for distributors to make a connection offer
20 business days for embedded generators to accept connection agreement

LARGER EMBEDDED GENERATORS

- Preliminary enquiry
- Detailed enquiry
- Connection application
- Connection agreement

15 business days for distributors to respond
30 business days for distributors to provide information in response
65 business days for distributors to make a connection offer
20 business days for embedded generators to accept connection agreement

WHAT THIS MEANS
Small generators can choose between the two processes and select the one most relevant to their needs.

BENEFITS
Efficient and timely connection of local generators to distribution networks
Promoting generation competition and contributing to efficient investment in generation and distribution networks

FOOTNOTE: The new arrangements will apply in states and territories that have implemented the National Energy Customer Framework.