



## **Provision of Metering Data Services and Clarification of Existing Metrology Requirements Rule Change Request- Section 108A Report**

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### **Purpose**

This Report outlines the Australian Energy Market Commission's (Commission) reasoning regarding the time required to make a final Rule determination for the Provision of Metering Data Services and Clarification of Existing Metrology Requirements Rule change proposal. The Commission is required under section 108A of the National Electricity Law (NEL) to publicly report on Rules not made within 12 months of publication of a notice under section 95 of the NEL.

### **Background**

On 18 June 2009, the Australian Energy Market Operator (previously NEMMCO) submitted a Rule Change Request to the Commission primarily seeking amendments to Chapter 7 of the National Electricity Rules (Rules). Chapter 7 of the Rules deals with metrology. On 27 August 2009, the Commission gave notice under section 95 of the NEL to commence consultation on the Rule Change Request and published an accompanying consultation paper.

The Rule Change Request has two aspects. Firstly, it seeks to introduce a new service provider in the Rules - called a Metering Data Provider - consequently abolishes the deeds arrangements which currently regulate the provision of remotely read metering data services. Further, AEMO proposes to shift the responsibility for remotely read metering data services from itself to the Responsible Person.

Secondly, the Rule Change Request seeks to clarify provisions in Chapter 7 of the Rules by modifying definitions, ensuring consistency in the use of terms and proposing some restructuring of the provisions within this Chapter. More information about the Request can be found at [www.aemc.gov.au](http://www.aemc.gov.au).

### **Reasons for the Rule change determination not being made within 12 months**

The reason why the final Rule determination was not made within 12 months was because this Rule Change Request raised many complex issues that have taken significant time to resolve.

The main issues addressed by this Rule change request:

- Responsibility framework for remotely read metering data services;
- Management of complex connection points;
- Interaction with smart metering arrangements;
- Service Level Procedure and Metrology Procedures; and
- Child metering points in embedded networks.

In addition, submissions to the draft Rule determination, raised over 150 technical drafting issues relating to Chapter 7 and Chapter 10 of the Rules. These technical drafting issues require careful consideration to ensure that any changes to the Rules reflect, in light of the NEO, best practice in relation to metrology in the NEM.

Over the course of this Rule Change Request, there were 4 notices issued under section 107 of the NEL due either to reasons of sufficient complexity or a material change in circumstances.

**Expected timing for the final Rule determination**

The Commission considers that it will make the final Rule determination for the Provision of Metering Data Services and Clarification of Existing Metrology Requirements Rule Change Request by 25 November 2010.