AUSTRALIAN ENERGY MARKET COMMISSION: BRINGING DOWN BARRIERS TO CONNECTING GENERATION

CONNECTING EMBEDDED GENERATORS DRAFT RULE FOR CONSULTATION

WHOLESALE MARKET
(Generators sell their power to retailers)

RETAIL MARKET

WHAT THE AEMC’S PROPOSED CONNECTION PROCESS WILL DO

PROPOSED CONNECTION PROCESS

WHAT

Distribution companies + Embedded generators → Working together to connect embedded generation = Delivering timely, reliable and efficiently priced connections

WHY

Publish on their websites
- Connection information pack
- Technical requirements register

Preparing their business case
- Does the project meet technical requirements?
- Is it safe from a network connection perspective?

Three month process
- Agreed projects fast tracked
- Additional time allowed for more complex projects
- New independent technical appraisal process can be used if needed

Potential customer benefits
- More efficient investment in networks and generation
- Consumers don’t pay more than necessary for electricity
- Increased options for sourcing electricity
- Expand regulatory certainty and clarity in relation to connecting smaller generators to the distribution network

STEP BY STEP

Preliminary enquiry
- 15 business days for distributors to respond

Detailed enquiry
- 30 business days for distributors to respond
- Where no shared network augmentation is required (otherwise up to 4 months)

Connection application
- 20 business days for distributors to respond for ‘agreed projects’

Connection agreement
- 20 business days for embedded generators to accept connection agreement