



# INFORMATION

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## Implementation advice on the shared market protocol

### Release of consultation paper

**The AEMC has today released a consultation paper to seek stakeholder feedback on implementing a shared market protocol. This protocol would allow parties to communicate in relation to the services offered by smart meters. This advice is supplementary to the earlier advice on open access and common communication standards.**

### Background

This advice on implementing a shared market protocol is supplementary to the AEMC's advice on a framework for open access and common communication standards (open access advice).

The open access advice, provided to the COAG Energy Council in March 2014, recommended the adoption of a shared market protocol. However, due to interdependencies with the expanding competition in metering rule change process that is currently underway, the AEMC recommended that this supplementary advice on implementing a shared market protocol would be provided to the COAG Energy Council following the final rule determination on the competition in metering rule change request. The purpose of this advice is to develop a rule change request for implementing a shared market protocol, for consideration by the COAG Energy Council.

These projects form part of the package of reforms to implement the recommendations from the Power of Choice review to enable consumers to participate more actively in the electricity market.

### What is a shared market protocol?

A shared market protocol is an electronic platform that will allow parties to communicate with each other regarding the services that will be offered by smart meters. It also defines the format of the associated messages sent between parties to provide these services.

It is expected to promote competition in the provision of advanced metering services by reducing barriers to entry for new retailers and energy service providers, while not preventing parties from innovating new communication methods.

### Key milestones

The final advice is expected to be provided to the COAG Energy Council at the same time as the final rule determination on the competition in metering rule change request is made. This is anticipated to be in July 2015.

### Submissions requested

The consultation paper sets out the issues that will be considered by the AEMC in developing this advice and seeks stakeholder feedback on a number of questions.

Submissions are requested to be provided by 5pm, Thursday 12 February 2015.

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