

Review Frequency for the Template for Generator Compliance Programs

Publication of final rule determination and final rule

The AEMC has amended the frequency of reviews by the Reliability Panel of the template for generator compliance programs.

Final rule determination

The Commission has made a rule which amends the frequency of reviews of the template for generator compliance programs from at least every three years, to at least every five years. The AEMC retains the ability to require an earlier review of the template if necessary.

Current arrangements

The generator compliance template is designed to assist participants in developing programs to meet their obligations to comply with performance standards. It is also intended to assist the Australian Energy Regulator with enforcement and monitoring of compliance under the Rules. The Reliability Panel conducts periodic reviews of the template to keep it fit-for-purpose in a changing environment. These reviews must currently be conducted at least every three years.

Reliability Panel's rule change request

On 15 September 2015, the Reliability Panel submitted a rule change request to the Commission seeking to amend the frequency with which generator compliance templates are required to be reviewed from at least every three years, to at least every five years.

Commission's reasons

The template needs to be updated from time to time in order to stay up to date as conditions evolve. However, there is a trade-off between keeping the template current, and the administrative burden on stakeholders involved with the reviews. Under the status quo this trade-off is not being optimised, as it is possible to reduce administrative costs without compromising the reliability, safety and security of the national electricity system.

Reducing the frequency of the reviews of the template would save time and resources. There is unlikely to be any reduction in registered participants' compliance with performance standards. Plus, to the extent the template needs to be reviewed earlier, the AEMC would be able to require a review at any time. For these reasons, the Commission has determined that the rule be made as proposed.

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