

Sydney

11 October 2006

Dr John Tamblyn
Chairman
Australian Energy Market Commission
PO Box H166
Australia Square, NSW 1215

Dear John

**National Electricity Amendment (Metrology) Rule 2006
Submission on Draft Rule Determination of 24 August 2006**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the AEMC's draft determination in relation to the National Electricity Amendment (Metrology) Rule 2006. We support the AEMC's draft determination, but seek clarification of the following matters, as detailed in the Attachment:

- Define the term *Accredited Service Provider* in the Rules Glossary (Chapter 10) in a manner that differentiates the role from that of a *Metering Provider*.
- Extend clauses S7.4.2 and S7.4.5 to allow more than one category of *Accredited Service Provider* registration to be established (c.f. multiple Metering Provider categories) and clarify that an *Accredited Service Provider* may only provide services in categories for which they are registered (i.e. only for defined metering installation types, rather than imply service provision for all metering installation types).
- Two minor drafting matters are also detailed.

I note that the draft Rule, in clause 11.6.1, requires NEMMCO to publish an initial metrology procedure by 31 December 2006. To achieve this date, the AEMC's final Rule determination needs to be provided in accordance with your current schedule (i.e. by 9 November 2006). Should this date prove unachievable, we request that the AEMC discuss with us the potential impact, to clarify whether clause 11.6.1 needs further amendment.

If you require further clarification of this submission, please do not hesitate to contact me on 02 9239 9103, or Mike Robson, Head of Retail Market Development, on 03 9648 8728.

Yours sincerely



Brian Spalding
Chief Operating Officer

Attachment: Comments on Draft Rule Determination of 24 August 2006

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Attachment

Comments on Draft Rule Determination of 24 August 2006 National Electricity Amendment (Metrology) Rule 2006

Glossary Term

Although *Accredited Service Provider* is italicised in the Draft Rule Determination, implying a defined term, there is no definition of the term in the Rules Glossary (Chapter 10). NEMMCO recommends that a definition for *Accredited Service Provider* be added and therefore propose the following:

accredited service provider

A person authorised as a consequence of the policy requirements of a NEM jurisdiction to install *metering installations*.

Clauses S7.4.2 and S7.4.5 (Schedule 7.4)

We assume that the intention of these clauses is to provide NEMMCO with a flexible means to recognise jurisdictional *Accredited Service Provider* arrangements. However, by only allowing a single category of registration, it could be implied that any *Accredited Service Provider* registered in that category may undertake work on all types of metering installation, as follows:

Proposed clause S7.4.2(c) allows NEMMCO to "... establish an *Accredited Service Provider* category of registration for a *Metering Provider* ...". This clause is written in the singular, implying that NEMMCO may only establish one category of *Metering Provider* registration of the type *Accredited Service Provider*.

Proposed clause S7.4.5 is also written in the singular, requiring that the category of *Accredited Service Provider* span work "relating to the installation of types 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 *metering installations*".

In practice, the skills required for installation of a Type 1 or 2 metering installation are different to the skills required for installation of a Type 5 or 6 metering installation. Hence, a single category of *Metering Provider* registration (i.e. *Accredited Service Provider*) covering all types of metering installation (Types 1 to 6) would require skills beyond those of every *Accredited Service Provider*.

We recommend that multiple "categories" of *Accredited Service Provider* registration be allowed, to allow capabilities between *Accredited Service Provider* categories to be distinguished.

The following change-marked amendments are proposed:

S7.4.2 Categories of registration

- (c) NEMMCO may establish ~~an *Accredited Service Provider* category~~ categories of registration for a *Metering Provider* in accordance with clause S7.4.5;

S7.4.5 Capabilities of Accredited Service Provider

- (a) The ~~category~~ categories of *Accredited Service Provider* established by NEMMCO under clause S7.4.2(c) may perform work relating to the installation of one or more metering installation types 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 ~~metering installations~~.
- (b) NEMMCO must include the *Accredited Service Provider* ~~category~~ categories in the accreditation guidelines prepared and published under rule 7.4.2(ba).
- (c) NEMMCO may determine:
 - (1) the competencies of a Metering Provider registered in the ~~each~~ category of an Accredited Service Provider provided that those competencies are consistent with any service requirements established in the metrology procedure in respect of the work performed under paragraph (a); and
 - (2) different Accredited Service Provider competencies for each participating jurisdiction.

Other Drafting Matters

The following drafting matters are submitted for consideration:

- At clause 7.2.1, the need for sub-clause 7.2.1(1) seems superfluous given that sub-clause (3) includes Chapter 7.
- At Clause 7.14.2(h), the comma following emanating appears unnecessary.