



## Extension of time for final rule on provision of metering services

Final determination to be published on 26 November 2015

**On 2 July 2015, the AEMC extended the period of time for publication of the final rule determination on the Competition in Metering and Related Services rule change request. The extension is necessary to consider complex issues raised in stakeholder submissions around the details of implementing a competitive framework for metering. The final determination will be published on 26 November 2015.**

### Reason for the extension

The AEMC is extending the date for publishing the Competition in Metering and Related Services rule change request from 2 July 2015 to 26 November 2015. The extension is necessary due to the complexity of implementing a competitive framework for providing metering services.

The AEMC received 44 submissions to the draft determination and draft rule. The submissions raised many important issues that need to be considered and, if necessary, resolved, including:

- policy refinements that may help to strengthen the framework;
- operational issues that need to be addressed for the rules to work in practice; and
- legal drafting clarifications that, among other things, clearly identify liabilities and obligations on all parties.

While we do not anticipate that the broad policy framework will change significantly, it will take some time to address the issues that have been raised so that the final rule is robust, clear and workable, and delivers outcomes that are in the long term interests of consumers.

We are likely to undertake further consultation via an operational workshop in mid-July to clarify some of the operational issues raised in submissions. Further details on this will be released shortly.

We may also hold an additional workshop, or some other form of targeted consultation, on legal drafting issues if required.

### Impact of the extension on implementation of the new rules

The AEMC recognises that there are significant inter-linkages between the various Power of Choice Projects that are currently being undertaken and that there is a need for this rule change to be implemented as quickly as possible to facilitate competition in metering and greater choice for consumers. This must be balanced against the need for all parties affected by this rule change to have sufficient time to put in place the necessary procedures, guidelines and systems stemming from the new framework.

We expect that the implementation date for the new Chapter 7 of the national electricity rules will be revised to **1 December 2017**. This will provide participants with two years to implement the new arrangements, consistent with the proposal under the draft determination. The dates for the Australian Energy Market Operator and the Information Exchange Committee to finalise procedure changes would be similarly extended to 1 September 2016 and the Australian Energy Regulator would have until 1 December 2016 to publish distribution ring fencing guidelines. While we recognise that these timeframes are tight, feedback in submissions to the draft determination suggested that they are achievable.

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**The final  
determination for  
competition in  
metering and  
related services  
will be published  
on 26 November  
2015**

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