
NTESMO
Communications Guideline
and MSATS Procedures v1.2
Consultation

31 January 2024

Issues Paper

Proposed Changes

Revisions to the Communications Guideline and associated Procedures in
the Northern Territory Electricity Market

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Notice of consultation

Date of Notice: 31 January 2024

This Notice of First Stage of Rules Consultation (Notice) informs all relevant parties including;

- Northern Territory Electricity Market (NTEM) participants
- NT Utilities Commission
- Australian Electricity Market Operator (AEMO) and
- Persons who identify themselves to NT Electricity System Market Operator (NTESMO) as interested in the Communications Guideline (Consulted Persons) that NTESMO is conducting a consultation (Consultation) on the Communications Guideline and associated procedures.

The Consultation is being conducted under clause S7A.1.3 of the Northern Territory National Electricity Rules (NT NER), in accordance with the Rules consultation requirements in NT NER clause 8.9.

Matters under consultation

The changes (Changes) which are proposed (Proposal) are to:

- Include a Dispute Management process in the Communications Guideline attached to this consultation notice
- Revisions to the procedures as detailed below for managing information exchange transactions via the AEMO MSATS and B2B eHUB system
 - NTESMO MSATS Procedure – Consumer Administration and Transfer Solution (CATS) Procedure Principles and Obligations
 - NTESMO Standing Data for MSATS
 - NTESMO Business to Business (B2B) Guide
 - NTESMO B2B Procedure Service Order Process
 - NTESMO B2B Procedure Customer and Site Details Notification
 - NTESMO B2B Procedure Meter Data Process

Table 1 Summary of Proposal

| Instrument | New/Amended |
|--|--------------------|
| NTESMO Communications Guideline | Amended Document |
| NTESMO B2B Procedure Customer Site Details Notification Process | Amended Document |
| NTESMO B2B Procedure Service Order Process | Amended Document |
| NTESMO B2B Procedure Meter Data Process | Amended Document |

| Instrument | New/Amended |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| NTESMO B2B Guide | Amended Document |
| NTESMO MSATS CATS Procedures | Amended Document |
| NTESMO Standing Data for MSATS | Amended Document |

The consultation process

NTESMO invites written submissions for the matters under consultation, including any alternative or additional proposals which may provide a more efficient information exchange process for the Northern Territory Electricity Market.

Submissions in response to this Notice should be sent by email by 5:00pm (ACST) on 1 March 2024 to market.operator@powerwater.com.au.

A response template has been provided on NTESMO's website. Please send any queries in respect of the Consultation to the same email address.

NTESMO is not obliged to consider late submissions for this reason. A late submission should explain the reason for lateness and the detriment to you if NTESMO does not consider the submission.

Please identify any confidential parts of your submission which you wish to remain confidential, explaining why. NTESMO may still publish that information, if it does not consider it to be confidential, and contact will be made prior to publishing. Please note that material identified as confidential may be given less weight in the decision-making process than material that is published.

In your submission, you may request a meeting with NTESMO to discuss the matters under consultation, stating why you consider a meeting is necessary or desirable.

If appropriate, meetings may be held jointly with other Consulted Persons. NTESMO will generally make details of matters discussed at a meeting available to other Consulted Persons and may publish them, subject to confidentiality restrictions.

Table 2 Summary of consultation stages

| Process Stage | Date |
|--|-----------------|
| Publication of Issues Paper | 31 January 2024 |
| Closing date for submissions in response to Issues Paper | 1 March 2024 |
| Publication of Draft Report and Determination (Draft Report) | 5 April 2024 |
| Closing date for submissions in response to Draft Report | 10 May 2024 |
| Publication of Final Report and Determination (Final Report) | 7 June 2024 |

NTESMO developed the Changes in the interests of improving the NTEM information exchange processes. The Changes do not require AEMO MSATS or B2B e-Hub system changes. Some of the participants may require system changes due to the Changes.

1. Background

This Issues Paper has been prepared to detail the Proposal. The Changes have been developed under NTESMO's power to manage the ongoing development of the information exchange processes as contemplated by NT NER S7A.1.3.

This Issues Paper also provides information which is considered by NTESMO in determining whether to change the information exchange processes, namely:

- An issues statement in respect of the Proposal (see section 1.1)
- A summary of the Changes, including consideration of the information exchange rules
- A consideration of the NT Electricity Reform Act objectives (see section 2.4)

The Changes have been considered and recommended by NTESMO.

The Changes would result in amendments to the following documents:

- NTESMO Communications Guideline
- NTESMO MSATS Procedure – CATS Procedure Principles and Obligations
- NTESMO Standing Data for MSATS
- NTESMO B2B Guide
- NTESMO B2B Procedure Service Order Process
- NTESMO B2B Procedure Customer and Site Details Notification
- NTESMO B2B Procedure Meter Data Process

1.1 Issues statement and scope

NTESMO has developed the Changes to improve the functionality and efficiency of information exchange transactions between the NTEM participants. The Changes were developed by NTESMO.

In summary, the Changes are to:

- Adopt the version of the Communications Guideline attached to this Consultation notice
- Adopt the administration amendments as detailed below
 - NTESMO MSATS Procedure – CATS Procedure Principles and Obligations
 - NTESMO Standing Data for MSATS
 - NTESMO B2B Guide
 - NTESMO B2B Procedure Service Order Process
 - NTESMO B2B Procedure Customer and Site Details Notification
 - NTESMO B2B Procedure Meter Data Process

The relevant effective date for all the documents is 1 September 2024.

1.2 Proposed Consultation plan

The proposed consultation plan is as follows:

Table 3 Plan

| Stage | Start Date | End Date |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|
| Publication of Notice of Consultation and Issues Paper | 31 January 2024 | |
| Participant submissions to be provided to NTESMO | 31 January 2024 | 1 March 2024 |
| Closing date for submissions in response to Issues Paper | 1 March 2024 | |
| NTESMO to consider all valid submissions and prepare Draft Report and Determination (Draft Report), including change-marked Procedures | 21 March 2024 | 5 April 2024 |
| Publication of Draft Report | 5 April 2024 | |
| Participant submissions to be provided to NTESMO | 5 April 2024 | 10 May 2024 |
| Closing date for submissions in response to Draft Report | 10 May 2024 | |
| NTESMO to consider all valid submissions and prepare Final Report and Determination (Final Report), including change-marked Procedures | 10 May 2024 | 7 June 2024 |
| Publication of Final Report | 7 June 2024 | |

2. Proposed Changes

2.1 Dispute Management process in the Communications Guideline

Through the Communications Guideline participants are required to maintain the site data in MSATS and exchange Business to Business transactions via MSATS. The data in MSATS is provided and maintained by participants and is not the responsibility of NTESMO. Any errors or omissions in the site data is the responsibility of the participants to maintain and amend as required.

Where there is a dispute over the site data maintained in MSATS then NETSMO will confirm the audit trail of the transactions that have been raised and that the system is accurately reflecting the transactions raised by the participants. The responsibility for resolving any errors or omissions in the site data stored in MSATS resides with the participants as the participants control the entry of the data into the system.

NTESMO will support the dispute management processes of the NT Regulatory bodies, as required, with providing the audit trail of transaction raised by participants.

All Business to Business (B2B) transactions are participant initiated requests and the responsibility resides with the initiating party to ensure that each B2B request is correct. NTESMO will provide the audit trail and confirmation that the system has accurately transported the B2B transaction as raised. Any disputes between participants are their responsibility to resolve as they provide the contents of each B2B transaction.

Question 1: Do you support having the MSTATS Dispute Management process included in the Communication Guideline?

Question 2: Do you support the responsibility residing with the initiating party of each transaction for the accuracy of the data in MSATS?

2.2 Revisions to the CATS & NMI Standing Data procedures

Under this Proposal, updating table 4K PR code changing from not used in NT procedures to include Advice from the New FRMP to the MDP that the transfer is to occur on a previous Meter Reading. The previous Meter Reading must have been determined by MSATS, and have a Quality Flag of 'A' or 'F'. Only for a CR1040 or CR1071

Question 3: Do you support the adoption on the new proposal in the CATS procedure?

2.3 Administrative amendments to documents

The following documents have had minor administrative amendments to the documents such as formatting & removal of unused dot points.

2.3.1 NT B2B Procedure Customer and Site Details Notification

Changing of section 3.2.d from two business days to one business day

Question 4: Does the change from two business days to one business days align with the Northern Territory regulatory requirements?

2.3.2 NT B2B Procedure Meter Data Process

No Changes

2.3.3 NT B2B Guide

- Table 1 One way notifications remove details from 'Initiator' and 'Recipient' columns
- 6.1.3.1 Figure 12 change to 'Not Used in the NT Procedures'
- 6.1.4 Figure 15 change to 'Not Used in the NT Procedures'

2.3.4 NT B2B Procedure Service Order Process

The inclusion in the table 11 notice periods for disconnection process to carry out the work in the required timeframe from the day of the receipt of the request the DNSP must receive a valid Request by:

- a) In NT, by 3:00pm

PWC will not disconnect the premises during the following times ('the protected period'):

- I. on a business day before 8.00am or after 3.00pm; or
- II. on a Friday or the day before a public holiday; or
- III. on a weekend or a public holiday; or
- IV. on the days between 20 December and 1 January (both inclusive) in any year; or
- V. if you are being disconnected for a failure to pay, during an extreme weather event.

Question 5: Do you support the proposed inclusion of the protection period for De-energisations?

2.4 NTESMO Market Assessment

NTESMO considers that this Issues Paper and Proposal supports and promotes the efficient operation of the Northern Territory Electricity Market:

| Market Objectives | Justification |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Promote economic efficiency | The majority of the changes are designed to maintain alignment with the NEM instance of the MSATS system which will reduce the potential requirement for NT specific customisations in participant systems. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Ensure consumers benefit from competition | These changes do not represent a barrier to competition and ensure all market participants have a clear method for managing customer transfers |
| Prevent misuse of monopoly power | All market participants operating in the NT will be transacting under the same set of business rules and this provides equal access to data for all participants. |

2.5 Benefits

The proposed amendments to the information exchange processes will benefit the Northern Territory electricity consumers in the following manner:

- Providing a clear process for management of disputes if they arise under the Communications Guideline
- Maintaining alignment with the NEM instance of MSATS and therefore reducing the potential for NT specific customisations to participant systems

2.6 Questions on proposed changes

Question 6: Are there other options to accommodate the proposed change that better achieve the stated objectives? What are the related pros and cons? How would they be implemented?

Question 7: What are the main challenges in adopting these proposed changes? How should these challenges be addressed?

Question 8: What are the costs and/or benefits if the proposed changes were not made? Consider the perspectives of process, training, system and customer impacts.

Question 9: Do you have any other suggestions, comments or questions regarding this consultation?

3. NT Communications Guideline Proposal

The proposed changes are detailed within the attached Communications Guideline and Procedures published with this Issues Paper.

