

NTESMO Communications Guideline V1.4 Draft Report and Determination

29 November 2024

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Notice of Second Stage Consultation

Date of Notice: 29 November 2024

This Notice of the Second Stage of rules Consultation (Notice) informs all relevant parties including;

- Northern Territory Electricity Market (NTEM) participants
- NT Utilities Commission
- NT Office of Sustainable Energy
- Australian Electricity Market Operator (AEMO)
- 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.

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.

Invitation to Make Submissions

NTESMO invites written submissions on this Draft Report and Determination (Draft Report).

Please identify any parts of your submission that you wish to remain confidential and explain why. NTESMO may still publish that information if it does not consider it to be confidential but will consult with you before doing so.

Consulted Persons should note that material identified as confidential may be given less weight in the decision-making process than material which is published.

Closing Date and Time

Submissions in response to this Notice should be sent by email to market.operator@powerwater.com.au, to reach NTESMO by 5.00pm (Darwin time) on 10 January 2025.

All submissions must be forwarded in electronic format (both pdf and Word). Please send any queries about this consultation to the same email address.

Submissions received after the closing date and time will not be valid, and NTESMO is not obliged to consider them. Any late submissions should explain the reason for lateness as well as the detriment to you if NTESMO does not consider your submission.

Publication

All submissions will be published on NTESMO's website, other than confidential content.

Executive Summary

The publication of this Draft Report and Determination (Draft Report) commences the second stage consultation by NTESMO on proposed changes to the NTESMO Communications Guideline.

On 18 October 2024, NTESMO published the Notice of First Stage Consultation and the Issues Paper. The changes (Changes) which are proposed (Proposal) are:

Inclusion of interim procedures in the following document:

- NTESMO Communications Guideline

NTESMO received 3 submissions from Retailers & Local Network Service Providers (LNSPs). Overall, respondents indicated broad support of the proposed changes.

NTESMO has identified the following material issues, based on these submissions, as well as NTESMO's own analysis:

- Notice period of termination for the interim procedures

NTESMO's draft determination is to update changes within the Communications Guideline in the form published with this Draft Report.

1. Stakeholder Consultation Process

NTESMO is consulting on the proposed changes to the Communications Guideline in accordance with the Rules Consultation Procedures in clause 8.9 of the NT NER, as required by clause S7A.1.3 of the NT NER.

NTESMO's indicative timeline for this consultation is outlined below. Future dates may be adjusted depending on the number and complexity of issues raised in submissions.

Deliverable	Indicative date
Issues Paper published	18 October 2024
Submissions due on Issues Paper	18 November 2024
Draft Report published	29 November 2024
Submissions due on Draft Report	10 January 2025
Final Report published	24 January 2025

The publication of this Draft Report marks the commencement of this second stage consultation.

2. Background

2.1 NT NER requirements

NTESMO is responsible for the establishment and maintenance of a Communications Guideline specified in S7A.1.3 of the NT NER.

The Communications Guideline authorised by NTESMO under Chapter 7A must be established and amended by NTESMO in accordance with the Rules consultation procedures.

2.2 Context for this consultation

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:

- Include interim procedures into the Communications Guideline to address a market discrepancy which has caused participants to not be transacting in accordance with the Communications Guideline

The Communications Guideline authorised by NTESMO under Chapter 7A must be established and amended by NTESMO in accordance with the Rules consultation procedures.

The proposed effective date for the documents is 24 January 2025.

2.3 First stage consultation

On 18 October 2024, NTESMO issued a Notice of First Stage Consultation and published an Issues Paper and initial draft amended procedure document. This information is available on NTESMO's website.

The Issues Paper included a summary of the proposed changes.

In response, NTESMO received 3 submissions.

NTESMO has published copies of all written submissions (excluding any confidential information) on NTESMO's website.

3. Summary of Material Issues

The key material issues are as follows:

No.	Issue	Raised by
1.	What is the process for early termination of the interim procedures	Power and Water

A detailed summary of the issues raised by Consulted Persons in submissions, together with NTESMO’s responses, is contained in **Appendix A**.

4. Discussion of Material Issues

4.1 Notice Period to terminate the Interim Market Procedures

NTESMO has developed section 9 of the Communications Guideline to include interim market procedures to apply in the NTEM. As the v1.3 consultation on the Communications Guideline was not completed by 31 August 2024 the Communications Guideline v1.2 came into effect on 1 September 2024 and this expired the relevant rules in the Electricity Retail Supply Code. As the market participants are not ready to transact via MSATS interim procedures are required to enable continued business to business communication to occur in the NTEM.

The interim procedures reflect the expired Electricity Retail Supply Code rules for customer transfers and service orders. The purpose of the interim procedures is to permit market participants to continue to transact via the expired ERSC rules until all market participants are ready to transact via clauses 3 & 4 of the Communications Guideline.

The interim market procedures expire on the date contained in the NATIONAL ELECTRICITY (NORTHERN TERRITORY) (NATIONAL UNIFORM LEGISLATION) (MODIFICATION) REGULATIONS 2016 clause 11A.5 NTESMO has the right to terminate these procedures before this date by issuing a market notice.

Power and Water requested clarification on the notice period for early termination of the market procedures. NTESMO has updated clause 9 of the Communications Guideline to state that the NTESMO must give 30 calendar days notice to participants if NTESMO determines to terminate the interim procedures ahead of the date contained in the NT regulations.

Questions:

1. Do participants support the 30 calendar days notice to end the interim procedures before the expiry?

5. Draft Determination

NTESMO's draft determination is to amend the following procedure documents in the form published with this Draft Report, in accordance with Chapter 7A of the NT NER:

- NTESMO Communications Guideline v1.4 Draft Determination Change Marked

Appendix A: Summary of Submissions and NTESMO's Responses

Number	Question	Consulted Person	Participant Comments	NTESMO Response
1	Do you support the inclusion of the interim procedures into the Communications Guideline?	Jacana Energy	Jacana Energy support the inclusion of the interim procedures into the Communications Guideline.	NTESMO notes the response from Jacana Energy.
1	Do you support the inclusion of the interim procedures into the Communications Guideline?	Rimfire Energy	Yes, Rimfire Energy is supportive of the inclusion of the interim procedures into the Communications Guideline.	NTESMO notes the response from Rimfire Energy.
1	Do you support the inclusion of the interim procedures into the Communications Guideline?	Power and Water	Power and Water supports the inclusion of the interim procedures into the Communications Guideline	NTESMO notes the response from Power and Water.
2	Do you have any other suggestions, comments or questions regarding this consultation?	Jacana Energy	No further questions	NTESMO notes the response from Jacana Energy.
2	Do you have any other suggestions, comments or questions regarding this consultation?	Rimfire Energy	No.	NTESMO notes the response from Rimfire Energy.
2	Do you have any other suggestions, comments or questions regarding this consultation?	Power and Water	Power and Water would like to better understand the process NTESMO will follow to potentially activate the early termination of the interim procedures. What notice period will market participants be provided of the termination date for the interim procedures? This needs	NTESMO notes the response and advises that NTESMO proposes to provide 30 calendar days' notice before

Number	Question	Consulted Person	Participant Comments	NTESMO Response
			to be an adequate time period to allow Power and Water to implement the required system and training changes.	the expiry of the interim procedures

Contact

Senior Manager Electricity & Market Reform
Core Operations
Market.operator@powerwater.com.au
ntesmo.com.au