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NTESMO  
Communications Guideline  
and MSATS Procedures v1.1  
Consultation

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16 August 2023

Issues Paper

Proposed Changes

Change the effective date of the Communications Guideline and  
associated procedures only

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# Notice of consultation

**Date of Notice:** 16 August 2023

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 Market Settlements and Transactions Solutions (MSATS) procedures.

The Consultation is being conducted under clause S7A.1.3 of the Northern Territory National Electricity Rules (NT NER), in accordance with the minor rules consultation requirements in NT NER clause 8.9.4.

## Matters under consultation

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

- Change the effective date of the following documents only:
  - NTESMO Communications Guideline
  - NTESMO MSATS Procedure – Consumer Administration and Transfer Solution (CATS) Procedure Principles and Obligations
  - NTESMO Standing Data for MSATS
  - NTESMO Meter Data File Format Specification NEM12 and NEM13
  - 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
  - NTESMO B2B Procedure One Way Notification Process
  - NTESMO NT B2B Procedure Technical Delivery Specification

**Table 1** Summary of Proposal

<b>Instrument</b>	<b>New/Amended</b>
<b>NTESMO Communications Guideline</b>	Change of effective date only
<b>NTESMO B2B Procedure Customer Site Details Notification Process</b>	Change of effective date only
<b>NTESMO B2B Procedure Service Order Process</b>	Change of effective date only
<b>NTESMO B2B Procedure Meter Data Process</b>	Change of effective date only

Instrument	New/Amended
NTESMO B2B Procedure One Way Notification Process	Change of effective date only
NTESMO B2B Procedure Technical Delivery Specification	Change of effective date only
NTESMO B2B Guide	Change of effective date only
NTESMO Meter Data File Format NEM12 and NEM13	Change of effective date only
NTESMO MSATS CATS Procedures	Change of effective date only
NTESMO Standing Data for MSATS	Change of effective date only

## 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.

NTESMO considers this matter to be a minor rules consultation as the only change to the documents is the effective date of the documents with no changes to the contents of any of the impacted documents.

Submissions in response to this Notice should be sent by email by 5:00pm (ACST) on 30 August 2023 to [market.operator@powerwater.com.au](mailto: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	16 August 2023
Closing date for submissions in response to Issues Paper	30 August 2023
Publication of Final Report and Determination (Final Report)	11 September 2023

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 2.2)

The Changes have been considered and recommended by NTESMO.

The Changes would result in changing the effective date of the following documents:

- NTESMO Communications Guideline
- NTESMO MSATS Procedure – CATS Procedure Principles and Obligations
- NTESMO Standing Data for MSATS
- NTESMO Meter Data File Format Specification NEM12 and NEM13
- NTESMO B2B Guide
- NTESMO B2B Procedure Service Order Process
- NTESMO B2B Procedure Customer and Site Details Notification
- NTESMO B2B Procedure Meter Data Process
- NTESMO B2B Procedure One Way Notification Process
- NTESMO B2B Procedure Technical Delivery Specification

There are no other changes to these documents under consultation as part of this proposal.

## 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:

- Amend the effective date of the Communications Guideline and associated procedures only

The relevant effective date for all the documents is 2 September 2024.

## 1.2 Proposed Consultation plan

The proposed consultation plan is as follows:

**Table 3**      **Plan**

<b>Stage</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
<b>Publication of Notice of Consultation and Issues Paper</b>	16 August 2023	
<b>Participant submissions to be provided to NTESMO</b>	16 August 2023	30 August 2023
<b>Closing date for submissions in response to Issues Paper</b>	30 August 2023	
<b>NTESMO to consider all valid submissions and prepare Draft Report and Determination (Draft Report), including change-marked Procedures</b>	30 August 2023	11 September 2023
<b>Publication of Final Report</b>	11 September 2023	

## 2. Proposed Changes

### 2.1 Change of Effective Date

The only change to the documents is a change to the effective date of the documents. The Utilities Commission (UC) published a revised NT Electricity Retail Supply Code (ERSC) with an effective date of 1 July 2023. In the revised ERSC the UC end dated the current customer transfer and business to business rules effective the commencement date of the Communications Guideline (clauses 7.2.7A and 8.2.24 of the ERSC).

Currently the Communications Guideline, and associated procedures, have an effective date of 2 October 2023. Due to project delivery delays all the NT Market Participants will not be ready to communicate in accordance with the Communications Guideline on the current effective date. NTESMO is therefore undertaking a minor consultation (as outlined in Clause 8.9.4 of the NT NER) to update the effective date of the Communications Guideline and associated procedures to 2 September 2024. The only change being made to the Communications Guideline and procedures is to change the effective date.

NTESMO is running this consultation now to prevent regulatory uncertainty. If the effective date is not changed then on 3 October 2023 NT participants will be unable to communicate via the current market rules. In the event that the commencement date for the use of MSATS in the Northern Territory is not 2 September 2024 then NTESMO will complete a further consultation to revise the effective date.

**Question 1:** Do you support changing the effective date of the Communications Guideline to 2 September 2024?

**Question 2:** Do you have any further questions or comments in relation to the change in effective date?



## 2.2 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	Providing regulatory certainty to market participants allows the participants to have certainty in their processes and procedures used to deliver services to the end consumer
Ensure consumers benefit from competition	Without changing the effective date of the Communications Guideline could prevent customer transfers from occurring which would limit the consumer's access to the benefits from competition
Prevent misuse of monopoly power	Not applicable for this change proposal

## 2.3 Benefits

The proposed change in effective date will benefit the Northern Territory electricity consumers in the following manner:

- Providing regulatory certainty to market participants in managing changes of retailer for electricity customers and for requesting services to support requests from the end use consumer

## 2.4 Costs

NTESMO will incur the costs of running this consultation. There are no other direct costs associated with this change proposal.

# 3.NT Communications Guideline Proposal

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

