

South Australia

## **Electricity (General) Regulations 2012**

under the *Electricity Act 1996*

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### **Contents**

#### **Part 1—Preliminary**

- 1 Short title
- 3 Interpretation
- 4 Interpretation—definition of annual electricity consumption level
- 5 Interpretation—definition of electrical installation
- 6 Interpretation—definition of electricity infrastructure
- 7 Interpretation—definition of generation
- 8 Interpretation—definition of small customer
- 9 Interpretation—definition of retailing
- 10 Interpretation—definition of electricity supply industry
- 11 Compliance with standards that are varied or substituted

#### **Part 2—Administration**

- 12 Functions and powers of Commission
- 13 Functions of Technical Regulator—major interruptions to electricity supply
- 13A Functions of Technical Regulator—technical and safety standards relating to switching
- 14 Function associated with use of emergency powers

#### **Part 3—Licensing of electricity entities**

- 15 Exemptions from requirement to be licensed
- 16 Licence fees and returns
- 17 Consideration of application for licence
- 18 Prescribed class of customers for purposes of section 24(2)(b) of Act
- 19 Prescribed date for purposes of section 24(2)(d) of Act
- 20 Prescribed information in small customer accounts for purposes of section 24(2)(da) of Act
- 21 Ombudsman scheme

#### **Part 4—Retailer Energy Productivity Scheme**

##### **Division 1—Preliminary**

- 22 Application
- 23 Interpretation

##### **Division 2—Energy productivity activities**

- 24 Energy productivity targets
- 25 Primary and secondary subtargets
- 26 Energy productivity activities
- 27 Energy productivity activities—subtargets
- 28 Determination of activities or measures that constitute energy productivity activities

## Division 3—Other matters

- 29 Administration
- 30 Notification and adjustment of targets
- 31 Retailers may enter into arrangements
- 32 Energy productivity activities acquisition scheme
- 33 Compliance and reporting
- 34 Energy productivity shortfalls
- 35 Review
- 36 Expiry

## Part 5—System controller

- 38 Functions and powers of system controller

## Part 6—Standard terms and conditions for sale or supply

- 39 Prescribed classes of customers

## Part 6A—Contestable services

- 39A Contestable services

## Part 7—Special provisions relating to small customers

- 40 Interpretation
- 41 Exemption from standing contract condition
- 42 Provisions relating to default contracts

## Part 8—Electricity entities' powers and duties

- 43 Carrying out certain work on public land

## Part 9—Undergrounding of powerlines

- 44 Prescribed amount for undergrounding work

## Part 9A—Regulation of NERL retailers

- 44A NERL retailers to comply with code provisions and other requirements
- 44B Inset networks
- 44C Sale of electricity to small customers—early termination fees prohibited
- 44D Participation in ombudsman scheme
- 44E Annual administration fee

## Part 10—Safety and technical issues

### Division A1—Preliminary

- 44F Preliminary

### Division 1—Safety and technical requirements

- 45 Purpose of Division
- 46 Quality of electricity supply
- 47 General requirements for electricity infrastructure
- 48 Aerial lines
- 49 Underground lines
- 50 Powerlines other than aerial or underground lines
- 51 Substations

---

52	Earthing and electrical protection systems
53	Electrical installations
54	Connection testing and inspection procedures
55	General requirements for electrical installation
55A	Electronic certificates of compliance
55B	Remote disconnection and reconnection of electricity generating plant
55C	Relevant agents
55D	Register of relevant agents
55E	Export limits for electricity generating plant
55F	Voltage ride through for low voltage inverters of electricity generating plant
55G	Meters

### Division 2—Certain electrical installation work

56	Certain electrical installation work and electronic certificates of compliance
57	Electronic certificates of compliance—Technical Regulator may publish requirements etc
58	Prescribed work (section 61(4))

### Division 3—Safeguarding persons working with conductors or electrical equipment

#### Subdivision 1—General

59	Basic safety principle
60	Compliance with provisions of Division

#### Subdivision 2—Work on or near live electric conductors or electrical equipment

61	Application of Subdivision
62	Safe work practices
63	Work involving danger of direct contact with live conductors etc
64	Work in proximity to conductors etc

#### Subdivision 3—Work on or near exposed high voltage conductors or electrical equipment

65	Work above exposed high voltage conductors etc
66	Work by direct contact with exposed high voltage conductors etc
67	Live high voltage line work

#### Subdivision 4—Miscellaneous

68	Rescue and resuscitation training
69	Suitability of testing instruments

### Division 4—Reporting and investigation of accidents

70	Reporting of accidents
----	------------------------

### Division 5—Safety, reliability, maintenance and technical management plans and reports

71	Application of Division
72	Safety, reliability, maintenance and technical management plans
73	Safety, reliability, maintenance and technical management reports

### Part 11—Cathodic protection systems

74	Application of Part
75	Tests before operating cathodic protection system

## Part 12—Miscellaneous

- 76 Preparation, approval, publication and purchase of technical installation rules
- 77 Register of underground lines
- 78 Protection of underground lines
- 79 Entangled objects
- 80 Altering ground levels near infrastructure
- 81 Erection of buildings in proximity to aerial lines
- 82 Erection of buildings in proximity to underground lines
- 83 Prohibition of certain activities in proximity to aerial lines and other cable systems
- 84 Erection of conductors or other cable systems so as to cross or be attached to existing aerial lines or their supports etc
- 85 Placement of materials near supporting structures etc
- 86 Placement of materials in proximity to substations
- 87 Transportation
- 88 Interference and obstruction
- 88A Provision of limit advice
- 89 Technical Regulator may grant exemption from Part 10, Part 11 or this Part
- 90 Exemption of operations associated with electrified railway and tramway
- 92 General penalty
- 93 Fees for reinspection etc

## Schedule 1—Requirements for aerial lines

- 1 Interpretation
- 2 Design
- 3 Materials
- 4 Thermal ratings
- 5 Short circuit ratings
- 6 Mechanical loading conditions
- 7 Conductor tensions
- 8 Structures and footings
- 9 Facade mounted cables
- 10 Safety clearances
- 11 Installation of aerial lines
- 12 Maintenance of aerial lines
- 13 Tables

## Schedule 2—Requirements for underground lines and certain other powerlines

- 1 Interpretation
- 2 Design—general
- 3 Cables and accessories
- 4 Cable ratings
- 5 Short circuit rating of conductors and cable screens
- 6 Installation—general
- 7 Installation of underground lines
- 8 Part of underground line installed on or above ground
- 9 Shared trenches
- 10 Maintenance

## Schedule 3—Requirements for substations

- 1 Interpretation

---

2	Design
3	Plant and equipment
4	Clearances to live equipment and lines
5	Containment of insulating liquids
6	Security of substation buildings and enclosures
7	Kiosk padmount type substations
8	Ground type substations
9	Pole mounted substations
10	Installation
11	Maintenance

#### Schedule 4—Requirements for earthing and electrical protection systems

1	Interpretation
2	Design—general
3	Protection equipment
4	Earthing equipment and ancillaries
5	Earthing of low voltage electrical supply networks
6	Earthing of substations
7	Protection systems for low voltage aerial lines and underground lines
8	Step and touch potentials and earth potential rise
9	Installation of earthing and protection systems—general
10	Connections and joints of earthing systems
11	Mechanical strength and protection of earthing systems
12	Maintenance—general
13	Inspection and testing of earthing systems
14	Inspection and test results of earthing systems
15	Inspection and testing of protection systems
16	Inspection and test results of protection systems

#### Schedule 5—Clearance from aerial lines

#### Schedule 6—Transitional provisions

2	Transitional provisions
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#### Legislative history

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## Part 1—Preliminary

### 1—Short title

These regulations may be cited as the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012*.

### 3—Interpretation

- (1) In these regulations, unless the contrary intention appears—

*Act* means the *Electricity Act 1996*;

*active*, in relation to a conductor, means—

- (a) any 1 of the conductors of a power system which is maintained at a difference of potential from—

- (i) the neutral conductor; or
- (ii) an earthed conductor; or
- (b) if a power system does not include a neutral or earthed conductor—all conductors;

**aerial line** means a powerline placed above the ground and in the open air;

**AS** or **Australian Standard**, followed by a number, or **AS/NZS** or **Australian/New Zealand Standard** followed by a number, is a reference to the standard published by Standards Australia as in force from time to time;

**centre-line**, in relation to an aerial line, means a notional vertical plane extending upwards from any point on the ground and running through, and connecting, the centre of each structure that supports the aerial line;

**circuit** means any number of conductors connected together for the purpose of carrying current;

**conductor** means a wire, or other form of conducting material suitable for carrying current, other than wires, cables or other metallic parts directly used in converting electrical energy into another form of energy;

**connection point** means a connection point to a transmission or distribution network;

**facade mounted line** means an aerial line attached to a building;

**high voltage** or **HV**, in relation to electricity, means electricity at a voltage exceeding 1 000 volts alternating current (**ac**) or 1 500 volts direct current (**dc**);

**insulated** means contained within a material or medium (including air) in order to limit the flow of current between conductors at different potentials;

**insulated conductor** means a conductor that—

- (a) is wholly covered with insulating material in accordance with the appropriate requirements of the relevant Approval and Test specification of an Australian Standard; or
- (b) is of a type approved by the Technical Regulator;

**live**—a term applied to an object when a difference of potential exists or would exist between it and earth under normal conditions of operation, including all metal connected to the neutral conductor of the supply system even if such neutral is earthed at the source of supply; but the following are not to be taken to be live:

- (a) earthing conductors;
- (b) copper sheaths of Mineral Insulated Metal Sheathed (**MIMS**) cables used in Earthed Sheathed Return (**ESR**) systems;
- (c) neutral busbars or links in installations where the multiple earthed neutral system is employed;

**low voltage** or **LV** has the same meaning as in AS/NZS 3000;

**multiple earthed neutral system** or **MEN system** means a system of earthing in which the parts of an electrical installation required by AS/NZS 3000 to be earthed—

- (a) are connected to the general mass of earth; and

- (b) are connected within the installation to the neutral conductor of the supply system;

**nominal system voltage** means the voltage by which a system of supply is designated and to which certain operating characteristics of that system of supply are referred in accordance with AS 2926 (as in force immediately before it was superseded);

**operator**, in relation to a transmission or distribution network, any electricity infrastructure or any electrical installation, means the person who operates, owns or controls the network, infrastructure or installation;

**other cable system** means—

- (a) telecommunication and control cables; or
- (b) aerial earthed cables; or
- (c) electrolysis drainage cables,

attached to, or in the vicinity of, structures supporting cables under the control of an electricity entity;

**retail contract** means a contract between an electricity entity and a customer for the sale and purchase of electricity;

**service line** means the terminating span of a powerline—

- (a) constructed or designed or ordinarily used for the supply of electricity at low voltage; and
- (b) through which electricity is or is intended to be supplied by an electricity entity to a customer from the transmission or distribution network of the entity;

**substation** means any premises or place (including a switchyard) in which high voltage supply is converted, controlled or transformed;

**technical installation rules** of the operator of a transmission or distribution network, means the safety and technical requirements of the operator relating to electrical installations that must be complied with if electricity supply from the network is to be connected to the installations;

**U**, in relation to voltage of electricity, means nominal system voltage;

**underground line** means a powerline which is placed under the ground, including those portions which are erected above the ground.

- (2) A provision contained in a standard, code, guide or other document that is required to be complied with under these regulations is not, despite that requirement, to be taken to be a mandatory provision for the purposes of these regulations unless it is expressed in mandatory terms.
- (3) In subregulation (2), a reference to a standard, code, guide or other document includes a reference to a part of a standard, code, guide or other document.

#### **4—Interpretation—definition of annual electricity consumption level**

- (1) For the purposes of the definition of *annual electricity consumption level* in section 4 of the Act, the following provisions apply to the determination of a customer's annual electricity consumption level:
- (a) the customer's annual electricity consumption level is to be determined for each metered connection point through which the customer has or seeks electricity supply under a retail contract;
  - (b) if the customer has been entitled under a retail contract to electricity supply through the connection point for the 12 months immediately preceding the relevant day, the customer's annual electricity consumption level for the connection point is—
    - (i) the actual volume of the electricity supply, expressed in MW.h, through the connection point for that 12 month period as measured by the meter at the connection point; or
    - (ii) if the measurement of the volume of electricity by the meter has been significantly affected by inaccuracies during that 12 month period—the estimated volume of the electricity supply, expressed in MW.h, through the connection point for the 12 months immediately following the relevant day;
  - (c) if the customer has not been entitled under a retail contract to electricity supply through the connection point for the 12 months immediately preceding the relevant day, the customer's annual electricity consumption level for the connection point is the estimated volume of the electricity supply, expressed in MW.h, through the connection point for the 12 months immediately following the relevant day;
  - (d) an estimate is to be made for the purposes of paragraph (b) or (c) taking into account relevant past electricity consumption levels, the electricity consumption level of plant and equipment to be powered through the connection point, the operations for which electricity is required to be supplied through the connection point and other relevant factors;
  - (e) the determination of the actual or estimated volume of electricity supply through the connection point may be by agreement between the customer and the electricity entity or, failing such agreement, will be a matter for the decision of the Commission on application to the Commission by the customer or the entity;
  - (f) a determination under this regulation of the customer's annual electricity consumption level for the connection point continues in operation from the relevant day until—
    - (i) the customer ceases to be entitled to electricity supply through the connection point under a retail contract with the electricity entity; or
    - (ii) a subsequent determination is made under this regulation of the customer's annual electricity consumption level for the connection point,whichever first occurs;

- (g) at least 12 months must elapse from the relevant day before a subsequent determination is made under this regulation of the customer's annual electricity consumption level for the connection point.
- (2) In this regulation—
- the relevant day*, in relation to the determination of the customer's annual electricity consumption level for the connection point, means—
- (a) the day on which the determination is made; or
  - (b) if some earlier or later day is agreed to by the customer and the electricity entity, or is decided on by the Commission, as the relevant day for the purposes of the determination—that day.

### **5—Interpretation—definition of electrical installation**

For the purposes of the definition of *electrical installation* in section 4 of the Act, a set of wires and associated fittings, equipment and accessories installed for the conveyance, control, measurement or use of electricity for general power and lighting in a place used for electricity generating operations, or incidental or related operations, is an electrical installation.

### **6—Interpretation—definition of electricity infrastructure**

For the purposes of the definition of *electricity infrastructure* in section 4 of the Act, a set of wires and associated fittings, equipment and accessories installed for the conveyance, control, measurement or use of electricity for general power and lighting in a place used for electricity generating operations, or incidental or related operations, does not form part of electricity infrastructure.

### **7—Interpretation—definition of generation**

For the purposes of the definition of *generation* in section 4 of the Act, the operation of a set of wires and associated fittings, equipment and accessories installed for the conveyance, control, measurement or use of electricity for general power and lighting in a place used for electricity generating operations, or incidental or related to an electrical installation is not the generation of electricity.

### **8—Interpretation—definition of small customer**

For the purposes of the definition of *small customer* in section 4 of the Act, each customer whose annual electricity consumption level for a connection point is less than 160 MW.h is classified as a small customer in relation to electricity supply to the customer through the connection point.

### **9—Interpretation—definition of retailing**

For the purposes of the definition of the term in section 4 of the Act, *retailing* of electricity does not include the following activities:

- (a) a customer charging for the supply of electricity if the charge forms an unspecified part of rent or charges for the occupation or use of premises;
- (b) a holder of a licence authorising the operation of an electricity generating plant charging a fee for supplying electricity to another person who is the holder of a licence authorising the operation of a transmission or distribution network.

## 10—Interpretation—definition of electricity supply industry

- (1) For the purposes of the definition of *electricity supply industry* in section 4 of the Act, the following are operations of a prescribed kind:
  - (a) the provision, operation or maintenance of poles, equipment, fittings or wiring associated with the provision of lighting in a street or other place;
  - (b) operations conducted in relation to the Leigh Creek township, railway or mine by—
    - (i) Flinders Power Pty Ltd (ACN 082 988 270); or
    - (ii) NRGenerating Holdings (No. 2) GmbH (ARBN 094 284 723), Flinders Labuan (No. 1) Ltd (ARBN 094 284 812) and Flinders Labuan (No. 2) Ltd (ARBN 094 284 769), or a body related to any of those bodies.
- (2) Bodies are related for the purposes of this regulation if—
  - (a) 1 takes over or otherwise acquires the business or part of the business of the other; or
  - (b) they are related bodies corporate within the meaning of the *Corporations Law*; or
  - (c) a series of relationships can be traced between them under paragraph (a) or (b).

## 11—Compliance with standards that are varied or substituted

- (1) Despite a requirement of these regulations for work to be carried out in accordance with a standard as in force from time to time, where the standard is varied or substituted, work for the installation, commissioning or modification of electricity infrastructure or an electrical installation may be carried out in accordance with the old standard—
  - (a) if—
    - (i) design work for that installation, commissioning or modification commenced before (but not more than 1 month before) the publication of the new standard and the work is to be completed within 1 year after that publication; or
    - (ii) the work (disregarding design or other preparatory work) had commenced before the publication of the new standard and is to be completed within 1 year after that publication; or
    - (iii) the work commenced after the publication of the new standard and is to be completed within 6 months after that publication; or
    - (iv) the work is to be undertaken under a contract based on the old standard and entered into before the publication of the new standard and is to be completed within 1 year after that publication; or
    - (v) the work is connected with the construction of premises and construction work had commenced before the publication of the new standard and is to be completed within 1 year after that publication; or

- 
- (b) in any other case—with the approval of the Technical Regulator, on terms and conditions the Technical Regulator considers appropriate.
- (2) If—
- (a) pursuant to subregulation (1) work is purportedly carried out in accordance with an old standard; and
- (b) the work complies with that old standard,
- an approval or certification that the work complies with the standard may be given for the purposes of these regulations.
- (3) In this regulation—
- (a) a reference to a **standard** includes a reference to—
- (i) a code, guide or other document; and
- (ii) a part of a standard, code, guide or other document; and
- (b) a standard as in force following the variation or substitution of the standard is referred to as the **new standard**; and
- (c) a standard as in force immediately prior to the variation or substitution of the standard is referred to as the **old standard**; and
- (d) a reference to **work** includes a reference to examinations and tests related to the work.
- (4) This regulation does not apply in relation to the *National Electricity Rules* or a code made by the Commission under the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002*.
- (5) This regulation does not apply in relation to regulations 55B to 55G (inclusive).

## Part 2—Administration

### 12—Functions and powers of Commission

- (1) Pursuant to section 6A of the Act, the Commission has (in addition to the Commission's functions and powers under the Act and the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002*) the following functions and powers:
- (a) if a sale/lease agreement (within the meaning of the *Electricity Corporations (Restructuring and Disposal) Act 1999*) contemplates that the Commission will determine certain matters—to determine those matters in accordance with the terms of the agreement;
- (b) functions and powers conferred on the Jurisdictional Regulator under the *National Electricity Rules* to the extent that those functions and powers are not authorised by the State, pursuant to the *National Electricity Rules*, to be exclusively performed or exercised by some other body or bodies;
- (c) on or before 31 August in each year, to submit to the Minister and publish on its website a report prepared for the purposes of monitoring prices for the sale of electricity available to a small customer under the *National Energy Retail Law (South Australia)* during the immediately preceding financial year containing the information required by the Minister under subregulation (2).

- (2) The Minister may require the following information for the year to which the report relates to be included in a report prepared under subregulation (1)(c):
- (a) comparisons of standing offer prices of NERL retailers generally available to classes of small customers in South Australia;
  - (b) estimates relating to the annual cost to a small customer of electricity supplied to the customer (based on a reasonable estimate of the average annual level of consumption of electricity by a small customer in South Australia) under each standard retail contract of NERL retailers generally available to classes of small customers in South Australia;
  - (c) details relating to the difference in annual cost to a small customer of electricity supplied to the customer (based on a reasonable estimate of the average annual level of consumption of electricity by a small customer in South Australia) under market offer prices of NERL retailers generally available to classes of small customers in South Australia compared to the cost to that customer under standing offer prices of NERL retailers generally available to classes of small customers in South Australia;
  - (d) such other information as the Minister requires in writing to be included.
- (3) The Minister may require the information referred to in subregulation (2) to be presented in such manner and form as the Minister considers appropriate, including in the form of variations or trends over time.
- (4) In this regulation—
- market offer prices*, *standard retail contract* and *standing offer prices* have the same respective meanings as in the *National Energy Retail Law*.

### **13—Functions of Technical Regulator—major interruptions to electricity supply**

- (1) Pursuant to section 8(ca) of the Act, the Technical Regulator must, in relation to major interruptions to the electricity supply in the State, after taking into account the operation of subregulation (2), comply with the requirements set out in subregulation (3).
- (2) The Technical Regulator will determine whether to act under this regulation after taking into account the significance of the interruption and, for that purpose, the Technical Regulator should have regard to—
- (a) the actual or likely duration of any interruption; and
  - (b) the number of customers affected, or likely to be affected, by any interruption; and
  - (c) such other factors as the Technical Regulator determines to be relevant.
- (3) The Technical Regulator must, in acting under this regulation in relation to the monitoring and investigation of major interruptions to the electricity supply in the State, advise the Minister in respect of—
- (a) the causes or likely causes of such interruptions;
  - (b) the nature and extent of such interruptions;
  - (c) the actual and likely effects and duration of such interruptions;

- (d) the steps taken by regulated entities and others to manage such interruptions and to restore and maintain electricity supply;
- (e) the adequacy, appropriateness and timeliness of those steps;
- (f) the action that should be taken by regulated entities and others to minimise the likelihood of such interruptions in the future;
- (g) any other matter relating to such interruptions that the Technical Regulator considers appropriate.

### **13A—Functions of Technical Regulator—technical and safety standards relating to switching**

- (1) For the purposes of section 8(d) of the Act, the Technical Regulator has (in addition to the Technical Regulator's functions and powers under the Act) the function of making technical and safety standards relating to switching in connection with the safe operation of a transmission or distribution network, including in relation to electricity infrastructure or an electrical installation connected to, or used in connection with, a transmission or distribution network (the *switching manual*).
- (2) In addition, the switching manual may provide for any other matter relating to switching that the Technical Regulator considers appropriate.
- (3) The Technical Regulator may vary or revoke the switching manual.
- (4) A relevant entity must, in accordance with the switching manual—
  - (a) provide such information and assistance as is required by the Technical Regulator for the purposes of preparing and maintaining the switching manual; and
  - (b) prepare and maintain a manual (an *internal switching manual*) which—
    - (i) specifies the technical requirements of the relevant entity in relation to switching; and
    - (ii) is consistent with the switching manual; and
    - (iii) addresses all matters set out in the switching manual relevant to the operations of the relevant entity; and
  - (c) ensure that any person with whom the relevant entity enters into—
    - (i) a connection agreement relating to network services provided by the relevant entity; or
    - (ii) an agreement to perform work to which the switching manual relates for the relevant entity,is required under the agreement to comply with the relevant entity's internal switching manual.
- (5) The Technical Regulator may, before making, varying or revoking the switching manual, consult with such representative bodies and participants in the electricity supply industry as the Technical Regulator considers appropriate.
- (6) The Technical Regulator must—
  - (a) give notice of the making, variation or revocation of the switching manual to each electricity entity to which the switching manual applies; and

- (b) ensure that a copy of the switching manual (as in force from time to time) is published on a website determined by the Technical Regulator.
- (7) The switching manual, or a variation or revocation of the switching manual, takes effect from a date fixed by the Technical Regulator and the Technical Regulator must—
  - (a) give notice of the date fixed to each electricity entity given notice of the making, variation or revocation under subregulation (6)(a); and
  - (b) publish notice of the date fixed on a website determined by the Technical Regulator.
- (8) The switching manual published by the Technical Regulator may—
  - (a) be of general or limited application; and
  - (b) provide that a matter or thing in respect of which the switching manual applies is to be determined according to the discretion of the Technical Regulator, or any other person determined or approved by the Technical Regulator; and
  - (c) provide for exemptions to be granted (with or without conditions) by the Technical Regulator, or any other person authorised by the Technical Regulator; and
  - (d) apply, adopt or incorporate, with or without modification, any code, standard or other document prepared or approved by a body or authority referred to in the switching manual as in force from time to time or as in force at a specified time.
- (9) If a code, standard or other document is applied, adopted or incorporated in the switching manual—
  - (a) a copy of the code, standard or other document must be published on a website determined by the Technical Regulator; and
  - (b) in any legal proceedings, evidence of the contents of the code, standard or other document may be given by production of a document apparently certified by or on behalf of the Technical Regulator as a true copy of the code, standard or other document.
- (10) The Commission—
  - (a) is required to impose a condition on a relevant licence that the licence holder comply with the requirements in subregulation (4), in accordance with section 21(2) of the Act (so that a failure to do so will constitute a contravention of a condition of the licence); and
  - (b) is to vary conditions of a relevant licence to ensure that the licence holder comply with the requirements in subregulation (4), in accordance with section 27(1) of the Act (so that a failure to do so will constitute a contravention of a condition of the licence).
- (11) In this regulation—

***internal switching manual***—an internal switching manual is a manual prepared by an electricity entity under subregulation (4)(b);

**relevant entity** means the holder of a relevant licence or a person exempted from the requirement to hold such a licence;

**relevant licence** means any of the following licences under the Act:

- (a) a licence authorising the generation of electricity;
- (b) a licence authorising the operation of a transmission or distribution network;
- (c) a licence authorising system control over a power system;

**switching manual**—the switching manual is the manual prepared by the Technical Regulator under subregulation (1).

#### **14—Function associated with use of emergency powers**

- (1) A responsible officer is to fulfil obligations under a protocol agreed by the jurisdictions participating in the National Electricity Market (ie the market regulated by the *National Electricity Law*) relating to the use of emergency powers that may affect the operation of that market.
- (2) Without limiting subregulation (1), a responsible officer may assume operational responsibility for managing power system emergencies under any relevant plan established or adopted by AEMO.
- (3) In this regulation—

**the Department** means the administrative unit of the Public Service that is, under the Minister, responsible for the administration of the Act;

**responsible officer** means an officer within the Department nominated by the Minister to be a responsible officer for the purposes of this regulation.

### **Part 3—Licensing of electricity entities**

#### **15—Exemptions from requirement to be licensed**

- (1) A person who carries on operations in the electricity supply industry (the **operator**) is exempt from the requirement to hold a licence under the Act authorising the operations if the electricity in relation to which the operations are carried on is only for the consumption of 1 or more of the following:
  - (a) the operator;
  - (b) a designated body;
  - (c) a person at premises occupied or used by the person as a tenant or licensee (whether directly or indirectly) of the operator or a designated body where that person is not charged for the supply of electricity except by an electricity entity or as an unspecified part of rent or charges for the occupation or use of the premises.
- (2) A person who carries on the generation of electricity is exempt from the requirement to hold a licence under the Act authorising the operations if—
  - (a) the generating plant has a rated nameplate output of 100 kVA or less; or
  - (b) the person does not supply electricity for reward to or by means of a transmission or distribution network.

- (3) A person who carries on operations as an inset network operator or inset network retailer is exempt from the requirement to hold a licence under the Act authorising the operations on the condition that an inset customer must have an effective right of access to a licensed retailer of the customer's choice.
- (5) An exemption under this regulation is (in addition to any other condition to which it is expressed to be subject under this regulation) subject to the condition that the person comply with any requirement imposed by or under the Act, these regulations, the *National Electricity Rules* or a code made by the Commission under the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002* as if the person were an electricity entity authorised by a licence to carry on the operations to which the exemption relates.
- (6) An exemption from subregulation (5), or from specified requirements referred to in that subregulation, may be granted by—
- (a) in relation to Part 6 of the Act or Part 10, Part 11 and Part 12 of these regulations or any safety requirement—the Technical Regulator, on terms and conditions the Technical Regulator considers appropriate; or
  - (b) in any other case—the Commission, on terms and conditions the Commission considers appropriate.
- (7) For the purposes of this regulation, an inset customer has ***an effective right of access to a licensed retailer of the customer's choice*** only if the customer may—
- (a) have access to and use the inset network for the purpose of consuming electricity purchased by the customer from a licensed retailer of the customer's choice; and
  - (b) install, maintain and use meters and other equipment necessary for that purpose,

without any charge being payable by the customer (other than to the licensed retailer) or by the licensed retailer.

- (8) In this regulation—

***community or strata title premises*** means premises the subject of the same community plan under the *Community Titles Act 1996* or the same strata plan under the *Strata Titles Act 1988*;

***designated body*** means a body or group of persons designated by the Minister by notice in the Gazette;

***inset customer***, in relation to an inset network, means a person (other than the inset network operator or the inset network retailer) who has or seeks a supply of electricity from the inset network;

***inset network*** means a transmission or distribution network that serves only a group of premises in the same ownership or community or strata title premises;

***inset network operator*** means a person who operates an inset network;

***inset network retailer*** means a person (other than an electricity entity) who retails electricity supplied through an inset network;

***licensed retailer*** means an electricity entity licensed to retail electricity;

***premises*** includes part of premises.

- (9) The Minister may—
- (a) by notice in the Gazette, designate a body or group of persons for the purposes of the definition of *designated body*; and
  - (b) by subsequent notice in the Gazette, vary or revoke a notice under this subregulation.

#### **16—Licence fees and returns**

- (1) For the purposes of section 20(2) of the Act, the licence fee, or the first instalment of the licence fee, (as the case may require) must be paid before the anniversary in each year of the day on which the licence was issued.
- (2) For the purposes of section 20(2) of the Act, an annual return must be lodged before 31 August in each year.
- (3) For the purposes of section 20(5) of the Act, the penalty for default—
  - (a) for failing to pay a licence fee, or an instalment of a licence fee, is 10% per annum of the outstanding amount calculated daily on a cumulative basis;
  - (b) for failing to lodge an annual return is \$500.
- (4) The following costs are prescribed for the purposes of paragraph (d) of the definition of *administrative costs* in section 20(7) of the Act:
  - (a) the costs of any committee established for the purpose of advising the Minister in relation to the preparation of programs for the undergrounding of powerlines under section 58A of the Act;
  - (b) the costs of administration of the *Energy Products (Safety and Efficiency) Act 2000*;
  - (c) the costs of administration of the Australian Energy Market Commission in relation to the electricity supply industry in South Australia in the financial year to which the licence relates.

#### **17—Consideration of application for licence**

Pursuant to section 17(3)(d) of the Act, the following are prescribed as matters that the Commission may consider in deciding whether an applicant is a suitable person to hold a licence authorising the retailing of electricity:

- (a) whether the applicant holds or has held such a licence;
- (b) if the applicant holds such a licence—the duration of contracts for the retailing of electricity entered into by the applicant;
- (c) if the applicant holds or has held such a licence—whether the applicant has been guilty of a contravention of a condition of the licence or any other contravention of a requirement imposed by or under the Act in connection with the operations authorised by the licence.

#### **18—Prescribed class of customers for purposes of section 24(2)(b) of Act**

For the purposes of section 24(2)(b) of the Act, each small customer is a customer of a prescribed class.

### **19—Prescribed date for purposes of section 24(2)(d) of Act**

For the purposes of section 24(2)(d) of the Act, 1 July 2004 is the prescribed date.

### **20—Prescribed information in small customer accounts for purposes of section 24(2)(da) of Act**

For the purposes of section 24(2)(da) of the Act, the following provisions apply:

- (a) the electricity entity must include in each account for electricity charges sent to a small customer for electricity supply through a particular metered connection point the following information:
  - (i) the customer's average daily consumption level, expressed in kW.h, of electricity supplied through the connection point for the period to which the account relates;
  - (ii) the customer's average daily consumption level, expressed in kW.h, of electricity supplied through the connection point for each period during the preceding 12 months in respect of which the customer was sent by the entity an account for electricity supply through the connection point;
  - (iii) the average daily cost to the customer of electricity supplied to the customer through the connection point during the period to which the account relates;
- (b) the electricity entity must also include in each account for electricity charges sent to a small customer the following statement:

For more information about energy efficiency, visit  
[www.escosa.sa.gov.au](http://www.escosa.sa.gov.au) or call ..... [telephone number as  
specified by the Commission by written notice to the entity].

### **21—Ombudsman scheme**

For the purposes of sections 23(1)(k) and 24(2)(l) of the Act, the gas supply industry is prescribed.

## **Part 4—Retailer Energy Productivity Scheme**

### **Division 1—Preliminary**

#### **22—Application**

- (1) The following provisions apply in relation to the application of this Part to a regulated entity authorised to sell electricity by retail (whether or not the entity is required to hold a licence under the Act):
  - (a) this Part applies in a calendar year to a regulated entity if, as at 30 June in the preceding year, the regulated entity sold electricity as a retailer to a number of residential customers within South Australia equal to or greater than the threshold set for the purposes of this paragraph;

- (b) without derogating from paragraph (a), this Part, other than regulation 25 or 27, applies in a calendar year to a regulated entity if, during the preceding financial year, the regulated entity purchased a quantity of electricity, excluding designated electricity purchases, equal to or greater than the threshold set for the purposes of this paragraph for retailing to customers within South Australia.
- (2) For the purposes of subregulation (1)(a) and (b), the Minister must, by notice in the Gazette, set the relevant thresholds for a 5 year period at the time of setting the annual energy productivity targets for the purposes of this Part.
- (3) This regulation applies subject to the operation of regulations 26(5) and 27(4).
- (4) In this regulation—
- designated electricity purchase*** means a purchase of electricity of a kind determined by the Minister by notice in the Gazette;
- residential customer*** means a small customer—
- (a) who acquires electricity primarily for domestic use; and
- (b) who satisfies other criteria (if any) determined by the Commission for the purposes of this definition.

## 23—Interpretation

- (1) In this Part, unless the contrary intention appears—
- energy credit***, in relation to energy productivity activities, means the difference between the amount of normalised gigajoules actually achieved by a retailer in a year through the conduct or acquisition of energy productivity activities under this Part and the EPT that applies to the retailer for that year (if the difference is positive);
- energy productivity activity*** means an activity or measure determined by the Minister under regulation 28 to be an energy productivity activity for the purposes of this Part;
- EPT***—see regulation 24;
- priority group household*** means residential premises in which a person of a class determined by the Minister for the purposes of these regulations resides;
- relevant electricity retailer*** means a regulated entity within the ambit of regulation 22(1);
- relevant gas retailer*** means a relevant gas retailer within the meaning of Part 4 of the *Gas Regulations 2012*;
- retailer*** means a relevant electricity retailer or a relevant gas retailer.
- (2) For the purposes of this Part, an energy productivity activity undertaken in accordance with this Part will be taken to have been undertaken on the day on which the activity is reported to the Commission under regulation 33.

## Division 2—Energy productivity activities

### 24—Energy productivity targets

- (1) The Minister must, by notice in the Gazette, set the annual energy productivity targets for the purposes of this Part, being the amount of normalised gigajoules required to be achieved by retailers through the carrying out of energy productivity activities in accordance with this Part and Part 4 of the *Gas Regulations 2012*.
- (2) The Minister must, for the purposes of subregulation (1), set annual energy productivity targets relating to each of the following 5 year periods:
  - (a) 2021 to 2025 (inclusive);
  - (b) 2026 to 2030 (inclusive).
- (3) The Commission must set an annual energy productivity target (*EPT*) for each retailer by apportioning the relevant annual target set by the Minister between retailers in accordance with any requirements of the Minister.

### 25—Primary and secondary subtargets

- (1) The Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, determine that a percentage or specified amount of an annual energy productivity target is to be achieved by any 1 or more of the following (a *primary subtarget*):
  - (a) the provision of energy productivity activities to a class of customers specified in the notice;
  - (b) the undertaking of a kind of energy productivity activity specified in the notice.
- (2) For the purposes of this Part, the Minister—
  - (a) must determine a primary subtarget in relation to priority group households; and
  - (b) may determine other primary subtargets.
- (3) A notice under this regulation may specify that a percentage or specified amount of a subtarget is to be achieved by any 1 or more of the following (a *secondary subtarget*):
  - (a) the provision of energy productivity activities to a class of customers specified in the notice;
  - (b) the undertaking of a kind of energy productivity activity specified in the notice.

#### Example—

The Minister determines (under subregulation (1)) that 50% of an annual energy productivity target must be achieved by retailers through the carrying out of energy productivity activities in households (the *household primary subtarget*). The Minister determines (under subregulation (3)) that 50% of the household primary subtarget must be achieved by retailers through the carrying out of "demand-response" energy productivity activities (specified by the Minister) (the *demand-response secondary subtarget*).

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- (4) The Commission must, in accordance with any requirements of the Minister—
- (a) set primary subtargets for each retailer by apportioning each primary subtarget determined by the Minister in accordance with any requirements of the Minister; and
  - (b) set secondary subtargets for each retailer by apportioning each secondary subtarget determined by the Minister (if any) in accordance with any requirements of the Minister.

## **26—Energy productivity activities**

- (1) A retailer must, subject to subregulation (2), undertake energy productivity activities sufficient to achieve the EPT that applies to the retailer for that year (as adjusted to take into account any shortfall added under subregulation (3)).
- (2) A retailer will be taken not to have failed to achieve the EPT that applies to the retailer for a year if the retailer undertakes energy productivity activities in the year sufficient to achieve at least 90% of the EPT.
- (3) Despite subregulation (2), where a retailer fails to achieve its EPT in a year, the energy productivity shortfall must be added to an EPT that applies to the retailer in a subsequent year.
- (4) An energy productivity activity undertaken by a retailer for the purposes of achieving a primary subtarget or secondary subtarget under regulation 27 is taken to be included as an energy productivity activity undertaken by a retailer for the purpose of achieving its EPT under this regulation.
- (5) If—
  - (a) a retailer undertakes energy productivity activities in a year sufficient to achieve at least 90% of its EPT for that year but does not achieve its EPT; and
  - (b) in the subsequent calendar year this Part no longer applies to the retailer as a result of the operation of regulation 22(1),

the retailer must undertake energy productivity activities in the subsequent year to account for its energy productivity shortfall from the previous year.

- (6) If—
  - (a) a retailer fails to achieve its EPT with respect to any year; and
  - (b) the retailer—
    - (i) pays a shortfall penalty in accordance with the requirements of section 94B of the Act with respect to that failure; or
    - (ii) is subject to a penalty on account of a prosecution in respect of that failure,

the energy productivity shortfall to which the shortfall penalty or prosecution relates will no longer apply to the retailer.

(7) In this regulation—

*energy productivity shortfall* means the difference between the EPT that applies to the retailer for a year and the amount of normalised gigajoules actually achieved (in accordance with this Part) by that retailer in that year through the conduct of energy productivity activities.

## 27—Energy productivity activities—subtargets

- (1) A retailer must, subject to subregulation (2), undertake energy productivity activities sufficient to achieve each primary subtarget and secondary subtarget applying to the retailer for a year (as adjusted to take into account any shortfall added under subregulation (3)).
- (2) A retailer will be taken not to have failed to achieve a primary subtarget or secondary subtarget applying to the retailer for a year if the retailer undertakes energy productivity activities in the year sufficient to achieve at least 90% of the primary subtarget or secondary subtarget (as the case requires).
- (3) Despite subregulation (2)—
  - (a) if a retailer fails to achieve a primary subtarget in a year, the Commission must ensure that the energy productivity shortfall is added—
    - (i) if an equivalent primary subtarget applies to the retailer in the subsequent year—to that primary subtarget; or
    - (ii) in any other case—to the EPT that applies to the retailer in a subsequent year; and
  - (b) if a retailer fails to achieve a secondary subtarget in a year, the Commission must ensure that the energy productivity shortfall is added—
    - (i) if an equivalent secondary subtarget applies to the retailer in the subsequent year—to that secondary subtarget; or
    - (ii) in any other case—to the EPT that applies to the retailer in a subsequent year.
- (4) If—
  - (a) a retailer undertakes energy productivity activities in a year sufficient to achieve at least 90% of a primary subtarget or secondary subtarget for that year but does not achieve the primary subtarget or secondary subtarget (as the case requires); and
  - (b) in the subsequent calendar year this Part no longer applies to the retailer as a result of the operation of regulation 22(1),the retailer must undertake energy productivity activities in the subsequent year to account for its energy productivity shortfall (for the relevant primary subtarget or secondary subtarget) from the previous year.
- (5) If—
  - (a) a retailer fails to achieve a primary subtarget or secondary subtarget that applies to the retailer for a year; and
  - (b) the retailer—

- (i) pays a shortfall penalty in accordance with the requirements of section 94B of the Act with respect to that failure; or
- (ii) is subject to a penalty on account of a prosecution in respect of that failure,

the energy productivity shortfall to which the shortfall penalty or prosecution relates will no longer apply to the retailer.

- (6) In this regulation—

*energy productivity shortfall* means—

- (a) in the case of a failure by a retailer to achieve a primary subtarget applying to the retailer in a year—the difference between the primary subtarget and the amount of normalised gigajoules actually achieved by that retailer in that year by undertaking energy productivity activities to achieve that primary subtarget; or
- (b) in the case of a failure by a retailer to achieve a secondary subtarget applying to the retailer in a year—the difference between the secondary subtarget and the amount of normalised gigajoules actually achieved by that retailer in that year by undertaking energy productivity activities to achieve that secondary subtarget.

## **28—Determination of activities or measures that constitute energy productivity activities**

- (1) The Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, on the Minister's own initiative or by application, determine 1 or more activities or measures that may be undertaken by retailers to be energy productivity activities for the purposes of this Part.
- (2) An application under subregulation (1) must be made in a manner and form determined by the Minister.
- (3) A determination may be of general application or limited (according to criteria determined by the Minister) in its application to a particular retailer or particular retailers.
- (4) A notice published under this regulation must set out relevant information relating to an activity or measure that constitutes an energy productivity activity, including—
  - (a) a description of the activity or measure that constitutes the energy productivity activity; and
  - (b) the minimum specification in accordance with which the activity or measure that constitutes the energy productivity activity must be performed; and
  - (c) the amount of normalised gigajoules taken to be achieved, or the method of calculating such an amount, if the activity or measure that constitutes the energy productivity activity is undertaken; and
  - (d) any other matter the Minister thinks fit.
- (5) The Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, vary or revoke a determination made under this regulation.

## Division 3—Other matters

### 29—Administration

- (1) The Commission has such functions and powers as are necessary or expedient to give effect to the retailer energy productivity scheme including the following functions:
  - (a) to administer the scheme;
  - (b) to ensure that retailers comply with the relevant requirements of this Part;
  - (c) to report to the Minister—
    - (i) at the end of each year as to the administration of the scheme and the progress of retailers in achieving the targets set by this Part; and
    - (ii) from time to time on any other matter relating to this Part as required by the Minister;
  - (d) to include the following information in its annual report under the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002*:
    - (i) information relating to energy productivity activities and measures being undertaken under this Part, including the kind, number and average cost of such activities and measures;
    - (ii) any other information required by the Minister or considered relevant by the Commission.
- (2) The Commission (in the case of a relevant electricity retailer required to hold a licence under the Act)—
  - (a) is required to impose a condition on the licence of the retailer under the Act that the retailer comply with the relevant provisions of this Part, pursuant to section 21(2) of the Act (so that a failure to comply with a relevant provision of this Part will constitute a contravention of a condition of the licence); and
  - (b) is to vary conditions of the licence of the retailer under the Act to ensure that the retailer complies with the relevant provisions of this Part as required from time to time, pursuant to section 27(1) of the Act (so that a failure to comply with a relevant provision of this Part will constitute a contravention of a condition of the licence).

### 30—Notification and adjustment of targets

- (1) The Commission must, in relation to each calendar year in which the retailer energy productivity scheme is to apply, notify in writing each retailer of any annual—
  - (a) EPT; and
  - (b) primary subtarget; and
  - (c) secondary subtarget,that applies to the retailer for that year.

- (2) The Commission may adjust a target that would otherwise apply to a retailer after taking into account any energy productivity shortfall under regulation 26 or 27 from a previous year that must be added to the target in accordance with regulation 26 or 27 (as the case requires).
- (3) The Commission may, in accordance with any requirements of the Minister, also adjust a target that would otherwise apply to a retailer in 2021 to reflect any amount to be added to the target under a notice published by the Minister under old regulation 35A (approving an alternative arrangement relating to the retailer).
- (4) If the customers of 1 retailer (in this regulation referred to as the *first retailer*) are transferred during a year to another retailer (in this regulation referred to as the *acquiring retailer*) by the sale, transmission or assignment of the whole or part of the business or undertaking of the first retailer, the Commission may adjust the targets of both the first retailer and the acquiring retailer for that year on a pro rata basis taking into account the date on which the customers were transferred.
- (5) If—
  - (a) this Part and Part 4 of the *Gas Regulations 2012* did not apply to the acquiring retailer before the transfer of customers to the acquiring retailer as a result of the operation of regulation 22(1); and
  - (b) as a result of the transfer of customers the acquiring retailer has at least the threshold number of customers set for the purposes of regulation 22(1)(a) or the threshold amount set for the purposes of regulation 22(1)(b),this Part and Part 4 of the *Gas Regulations 2012* apply with immediate effect to the acquiring retailer and the Commission must—
  - (c) in accordance with subregulation (1), notify the acquiring retailer of its targets under this Part; and
  - (d) adjust the targets that apply to both the first retailer and the acquiring retailer for that year on a pro rata basis taking into account the date on which the transfer of customers occurred.
- (6) Subject to subregulation (7), if a retailer accrues an energy credit in a year and does not transfer the credit under regulation 31, the Commission must, on application by the relevant retailer, take the credit into account in determining whether the retailer has met a target that applies to the retailer in any subsequent year.
- (7) The Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, determine the maximum energy credit that a retailer may apply to have taken into account in determining whether the retailer has met a target that applies to the retailer in the subsequent year.
- (8) The Minister must publish a notice under subregulation (7) in the Gazette on or before 31 December in the year preceding the year in which the energy credit may be accrued.

**Example—**

The Minister publishes a notice in December 2021 determining the maximum energy credit that a retailer may apply in 2023 to have taken into account in determining whether the retailer has met a target applying to the retailer (in 2023).

- (9) In this regulation—

*old regulation 35A* means regulation 35A of these regulations as in force immediately before 1 January 2021.

### 31—Retailers may enter into arrangements

- (1) If a retailer accrues an energy credit, the retailer may, at any time, transfer the credit to another retailer.
- (2) A retailer may enter into an arrangement with another person (including another retailer) for that person to undertake energy productivity activities on its behalf.
- (3) Despite any arrangement entered into under subregulation (2), a retailer remains liable for any offence or penalty arising from a failure to meet an EPT, primary subtarget or secondary subtarget that applies to the retailer under this Part.

### 32—Energy productivity activities acquisition scheme

- (1) The Minister may adopt a scheme providing for—
  - (a) energy productivity activities to be performed by persons or bodies in accordance with the scheme; and
  - (b) retailers to acquire energy productivity activities performed by such persons or bodies under the scheme in connection with achieving targets under this Part; and
  - (c) procedural and other matters related to the operation of the scheme.
- (2) A scheme adopted under this regulation must be published by the Minister in the manner determined by the Minister.
- (3) A reference in this regulation to an *energy productivity activity* includes a reference to any activity or measure relating to energy productivity determined by the Minister for the purposes of this regulation (in addition to an activity or measure determined by the Minister under regulation 28).

### 33—Compliance and reporting

- (1) A retailer must, as required from time to time by the Commission, submit to the Commission a compliance plan for the purposes of this Part in accordance with a code published by the Commission under Part 4 of the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002*.
- (2) A retailer must, as required from time to time by the Commission, report on compliance with this Part in accordance with a code published by the Commission under Part 4 of the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002*.
- (3) A code published under this regulation must comply with any requirements of the Minister.

### 34—Energy productivity shortfalls

- (1) For the purposes of section 94B of the Act, a *relevant electricity retailer* is a retailer who is subject to the application of this Part (including on account of regulation 26(5) or 27(4)).

- (2) For the purposes of section 94B(13)(a) of the Act, the requirements imposed under this Part on a retailer—
- (a) to undertake energy productivity activities under regulation 26 sufficient to achieve the relevant EPT; and
  - (b) to undertake energy productivity activities under regulation 27 sufficient to achieve any relevant primary subtarget or secondary subtarget,
- constitute the activities relating to energy productivity in which a relevant electricity retailer must engage, and for the purposes of that section the retailer must engage in those activities to the extent necessary to achieve compliance with regulation 26(2) or 27(2) (as the case requires).
- (3) For the purposes of section 94B(13)(b) of the Act, the extent of an energy productivity shortfall with respect to a particular year—
- (a) will be determined in relation to each of the activities referred to in subregulation (2)(a) and (b); and
  - (b) will be as follows:
    - (i) in relation to energy productivity activities under regulation 26—an amount equal to the energy productivity shortfall applying to the retailer for that year;
    - (ii) in relation to energy productivity activities under regulation 27 relating to a primary subtarget or secondary subtarget—an amount equal to the energy productivity shortfall for the primary subtarget or secondary subtarget (as the case requires) applying to the retailer for that year.
- (4) For the purposes of section 94B(2)(a) of the Act, the prescribed base penalty is \$10 000 for each category of shortfall identified under subregulation (3).
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (2)(b) of section 94B of the Act, the amount payable under that subsection will be—
- (a) in the case of an energy productivity shortfall under subregulation (3)(b)(i)—the amount constituting the energy productivity shortfall (expressed in normalised gigajoules) multiplied by \$21.45; or
  - (b) in the case of an energy productivity shortfall under subregulation (3)(b)(ii)—the amount constituting the energy productivity shortfall for the relevant primary subtarget or secondary subtarget (expressed in normalised gigajoules) multiplied by \$21.45.

### **35—Review**

- (1) The Minister must cause a review of the operation of this Part to be conducted and a report on the results of the review to be submitted to the Minister before 31 December 2029.
- (2) The review must consider whether the scheme should continue and any other matter the Minister considers should be considered in the review.
- (3) The Minister must, within 12 sitting days after receiving the report, cause copies of the report to be laid before both Houses of Parliament.

### 36—Expiry

This Part will expire on 31 December 2030.

## Part 5—System controller

### 38—Functions and powers of system controller

- (1) Pursuant to section 31 of the Act, the functions of a system controller for a power system operated in the National Electricity Market are limited to the following:
  - (a) when required to do so under the *National Electricity (South Australia) Law* or any Act, giving appropriate directions to regulated entities that are engaged in the operation of the power system, or contribute electricity to, or take electricity from, the system, for the purposes of maintaining the system in, or restoring it to, a safe and reliable state of operation;
  - (b) functions or powers performed or exercised as an agent employed by, or pursuant to a contractual arrangement with, AEMO under the *National Electricity Rules*;
  - (c) when required to do so under the *National Electricity Rules*, under an agency or contractual arrangement of a kind referred to in paragraph (b) or under any other agreement—
    - (i) undertaking action to protect such parts of the transmission network as are necessary to maintain the security of the power system;
    - (ii) managing the interruption of, and coordinating the restoration of, loads placed on the power system;
    - (iii) taking specified steps to restore the power system to a safe and reliable state of operation;
    - (iv) monitoring the operation of the power system with a view to ensuring that the system operates safely and reliably;
    - (v) maintaining voltage control throughout the power system;
    - (vi) shedding loads placed on the power system to the extent necessary during emergency situations.
- (2) A system controller for a power system operated in the National Electricity Market has all powers necessary for, or incidental to, the proper performance of the functions set out in subregulation (1).
- (3) In this regulation—

***National Electricity Market*** means the market regulated by the *National Electricity Law*.

## Part 6—Standard terms and conditions for sale or supply

### 39—Prescribed classes of customers

For the purposes of sections 23(1)(n)(iv) and 36(1) of the Act—

- (a) each customer whose annual electricity consumption level for a metered connection point equals or exceeds 160 MW.h is a customer of a prescribed class in relation to electricity supply to the customer through the connection point;
- (b) each customer whose annual electricity consumption level for a metered connection point equals or exceeds 30 MW.h but is less than 160 MW.h is a customer of a prescribed class in relation to electricity supply to the customer through the connection point.

## Part 6A—Contestable services

### 39A—Contestable services

- (1) For the purposes of section 36AF(3)(a) of the Act, a connection service—
  - (a) which is provided to a standard—
    - (i) that is of a higher or lower quality or reliability than the standard of quality or reliability required by the *National Electricity Rules*, any code made by the Commission under the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002* relating to electricity distribution or any other relevant instrument; or
    - (ii) that exceeds the levels of service or plant ratings required by the connection assets of the operator of the distribution network to which the connection relates; and
  - (b) to which a customer is required to contribute to the cost of providing the service,is prescribed.
- (2) For the purposes of section 36AF(3)(b) of the Act, the following requirements are specified and must be applied in relation to the provision of a contestable service prescribed under subregulation (1):
  - (a) a customer may request the operator of a distribution network to prepare technical specifications for the construction of connection assets or an extension to the network (*assets or an extension*);
  - (b) if a request is made under paragraph (a), the operator must only prepare technical specifications if the customer—
    - (i) supplies the operator with the information that is reasonably required to allow the preparation of the specifications; and
    - (ii) pays a reasonable fee (which must not exceed an amount approved by the Commission) to the operator for the preparation of the specifications;

- (c) the technical specifications prepared by the operator must set out the general design parameters and operating requirements for the assets or an extension to enable connection to the network and must—
  - (i) contain sufficient details to allow the customer to call for tenders from third parties for the design and construction of the assets or an extension; and
  - (ii) contain details of the voltage of the connection, required current rating, minimum transformer sizes, and other equipment requirements; and
  - (iii) contain details of the operator's technical and maintenance requirements, to ensure the works, when designed and completed—
    - (A) are compatible with the network; and
    - (B) are capable of being operated and maintained by the operator in accordance with its operations and maintenance procedures; and
    - (C) do not adversely affect the network or other persons connected to the network; and
  - (iv) inform the customer that tenderers must submit separate amounts for designing and constructing the connection assets or designing and undertaking an extension; and
  - (v) inform the customer of a reasonable period for conducting the tender, given the nature of the works and the technical specifications;
- (d) the operator must prepare the technical specifications as requested by the customer—
  - (i) if the preparation of the specifications involves complex work—within a reasonable period agreed with the customer after receipt of the request (and that period must not exceed 20 business days); or
  - (ii) in any other case—within the period of 10 business days after receipt of the request;
- (e) a customer may call for tenders for the design and construction of the assets or an extension, based on the technical specifications prepared by the operator;
- (f) if, within the period specified under paragraph (c)(v), the customer notifies the operator that it has selected a successful tenderer, the operator must liaise, in a reasonable manner having regard to paragraph (g), with the customer and the successful tenderer about the following matters:
  - (i) the design and construction of the assets or an extension;
  - (ii) payments from the customer and payments to the successful tenderer;
  - (iii) warranties in relation to the work performed and the equipment installed;
  - (iv) the program for undertaking the works;

- (v) handing over the assets or an extension to the operator on completion of the works;
- (g) the operator is not obliged to accept the design and construction of the assets or an extension by a successful tenderer if the operator considers on reasonable grounds that—
  - (i) the successful tenderer does not have the requisite skill and competence to undertake the design and construction of the works in accordance with the technical specifications; or
  - (ii) the proposed design and construction does not meet the technical specifications, in particular, the matters referred to in paragraph (c)(iii);
- (h) if a dispute between a customer and an operator arises under paragraph (g), the customer or operator may refer the dispute to the Technical Regulator for resolution.

(3) In this regulation—

**connection** means a physical link between a distribution network and a customer's premises to allow the flow of electricity;

**connection alteration** means an alteration to an existing connection including an addition, upgrade, extension, expansion, augmentation or any other kind of alteration;

**connection assets** means those components of a distribution system which are used to provide a connection service;

**connection service** means the design and construction of connection assets that may be built separate to, or in isolation from, the existing distribution network relating to either or both of the following:

- (a) a service relating to a new connection for premises;
- (b) a service relating to a connection alteration;

**extension** means works (outside the boundaries of the operator's distribution network (as it existed before the construction of any connection assets or an extension on behalf of a customer in accordance with this regulation)) required for the connection requested by the customer;

**new connection** means a connection established or to be established in accordance with Chapter 5A of the *National Electricity Rules* and relevant energy laws, where there is no existing connection.

## Part 7—Special provisions relating to small customers

### 40—Interpretation

In this Part—

**business day** means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday;

**default contract** means a retail contract under which an electricity entity to which section 36AB of the Act applies sells electricity at the entity's default contract price and subject to the entity's default contract terms and conditions;

*default contract price* and *default contract terms and conditions* have the same respective meanings as in section 36AB of the Act;

*excluded area* means an area—

- (a) that is not served by the same continuous network for the transmission and distribution of electricity that serves Adelaide; or
- (b) that is for the time being determined by the Minister to be an excluded area;

*market contract* means a retail contract other than a standing contract or default contract;

*standing contract* means a retail contract under which an electricity entity to which section 36AA of the Act applies sells electricity at the entity's standing contract price and subject to the entity's standing contract terms and conditions;

*standing contract price* and *standing contract terms and conditions* have the same respective meanings as in section 36AA of the Act.

#### **41—Exemption from standing contract condition**

An electricity entity to which section 36AA of the Act applies is exempt from the application of subsection (2) of that section in relation to the sale of electricity to be supplied through a particular connection point if—

- (a) the connection point is situated within an excluded area; or
- (b) the customer is bound to receive electricity supply through the connection point under a market contract.

#### **42—Provisions relating to default contracts**

- (1) If a person receives electricity supply through a connection point otherwise than under a retail contract—
  - (a) that person; and
  - (b) the electricity entity that was last a party to a retail contract in relation to that connection point,

become parties to a default contract in relation to that connection point for the purposes of section 36AB(2) of the Act.

- (2) Subregulation (1) does not apply in relation to a connection point situated within an excluded area.
- (3) The default contract continues until—
  - (a) the customer becomes a party to a market contract or standing contract (whether with the same entity or some other electricity entity) in relation to the connection point; or
  - (b) some other person becomes a party to a retail contract in relation to the connection point.
- (4) On the electricity entity becoming aware that it has become a party to the default contract, the entity must, within 5 business days, give the customer a written notice setting out the terms and conditions of the default contract and describing, in general terms, the other contractual options that may be available to the customer for the purchase of electricity.

- (5) The electricity entity must, in giving notice under subregulation (4), comply with any requirements imposed by a code made by the Commission under the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002*, relating to the contents of the notice or the manner in which the notice is to be given.
- (6) For the purposes of paragraph (b) of the definition of *default contract price* in section 36AB(3) of the Act, the prescribed period is—
  - (a) if the price fixed as the default contract price by the entity by the notice referred to in that paragraph is the same as the price that will be in force as the standing contract price (whether or not for the same entity) 14 days from the date of publication of that notice—14 days; or
  - (b) in any other case—28 days.

## **Part 8—Electricity entities' powers and duties**

### **43—Carrying out certain work on public land**

- (1) For the purposes of section 47(5) of the Act, prior notice and agreement are not required under section 47(3) of the Act for—
  - (a) work in an emergency; or
  - (b) maintenance or repairs of existing electricity infrastructure, including any necessary excavation or removal of obstructions; or
  - (c) minor works to connect electricity supply from a transmission or distribution network to an electrical installation or proposed electrical installation.
- (2) For the purposes of section 47(6) of the Act, agreement is not required under section 47(3) of the Act for—
  - (a) erection of padmount transformers and switching cubicles in connection with the installation of underground lines; or
  - (b) installation or relocation of electricity infrastructure as a part of road reconstruction; or
  - (c) alterations or additions to existing electricity infrastructure not involving any significant enlargement of the area of public land occupied by the infrastructure or any significant change in appearance; or
  - (d) relocation of a pole or supporting structure in an existing electricity cable system.

## **Part 9—Undergrounding of powerlines**

### **44—Prescribed amount for undergrounding work**

For the purposes of section 58A(3) of the Act, the amount is—

- (a) for the financial year 2011/2012—\$6.093 million;
- (b) for each subsequent financial year—the amount determined by the Minister in accordance with the following formula:

$$A = \left[ \$6.093 \text{ million} \times \frac{CPI_x}{CPI_1} \right] + \left[ \frac{A_x}{TC_x} \times GST_x \right]$$

where—

$CPI_x$  is the Consumer Price Index, All Groups Index Number (All Cities) published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, for the March quarter preceding the financial year concerned;

$CPI_1$  is the Consumer Price Index, All Groups Index Number (All Cities) published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, for the March quarter 2011;

$A_x$  is the amount (in dollars) determined by the Minister under this regulation for the purposes of section 58A(3) of the Act for the previous financial year;

$TC_x$  is the total cost (in dollars) of the undergrounding work undertaken in the previous financial year in accordance with programs prepared under section 58A of the Act;

$GST_x$  is the amount (in dollars) determined by the Minister as being the total GST (within the meaning of the *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999* of the Commonwealth, as amended from time to time) paid in respect of all undergrounding work undertaken in the previous financial year in accordance with programs prepared under section 58A of the Act.

## Part 9A—Regulation of NERL retailers

### 44A—NERL retailers to comply with code provisions and other requirements

For the purposes of section 63AB(1) of the Act, a NERL retailer must comply with—

- (a) a code made by the Commission under the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002* relating to electricity metering; and
- (b) if the scheme under Part 4 of these regulations applies to the retailer, a code made by the Commission under the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002* relating to energy productivity; and
- (c) the technical and safety requirements or standards prescribed under Parts 10, 11 and 12 of these regulations; and
- (d) clause 8.2 (as amended from time to time) of the electricity pricing order under section 35B of the Act.

**Note—**

Regulation 22 provides for the application of a scheme relating to energy efficiency to NERL retailers.

### 44B—Inset networks

- (1) For the purposes of section 63AB(1)(c) of the Act, an exempt seller within the meaning of the *National Energy Retail Law (South Australia)* may only carry on operations as an inset network operator or inset network retailer if the exempt seller ensures that an inset customer has an effective right of access to a NERL retailer of the customer's choice.

- (2) For the purposes of this regulation, an inset customer has *an effective right of access to a NERL retailer of the customer's choice* only if the customer may—
- (a) have access to and use the inset network for the purpose of consuming electricity purchased by the customer from a NERL retailer of the customer's choice; and
  - (b) install, maintain and use meters and other equipment necessary for that purpose,
- without any charge being payable by the customer (other than to the NERL retailer) or by the NERL retailer.
- (3) In this regulation—
- inset customer, inset network, inset network operator* and *inset network retailer* have the same respective meanings as in regulation 15.

#### **44C—Sale of electricity to small customers—early termination fees prohibited**

- (1) For the purposes of section 63AB(1)(e) of the Act, a NERL retailer must not offer a market retail contract to small customers if a term or condition of the contract provides for the payment of a fee or charge (however described) for early termination of the contract.
- (2) Nothing in subregulation (1) prevents a NERL retailer from offering to small customers a fixed term contract that provides for the payment of—
- (a) a fee or charge for early termination of a fixed benefit period under the contract by the small customer (whether or not the contract is terminated at the same time); or
  - (b) a fee or charge for early termination of the contract if the fee or charge only involves the NERL retailer recovering its reasonable costs for the installation or provision of designated equipment to the small customer (and accounts for, in the event of early termination of the contract, any payments towards those costs made by the small customer before the termination).
- (3) However, subregulation (2) only applies if—
- (a) the NERL retailer provides information to the small customer before the small customer enters into the contract that clearly specifies—
    - (i) the nature and amount of the relevant fee or charge referred to in that subregulation; and
    - (ii) the consequences of early termination of the contract by the small customer; and
  - (b) a fee or charge for early termination provided for under that subregulation complies with the relevant requirements applying under the National Energy Retail Rules.

- (4) In this regulation—

**designated equipment** means a meter or other equipment related to the provision of electricity at the premises of the small customer that is fixed to the premises and intended to remain at those premises (whether or not any contract relating to the provision of electricity at the premises is terminated early);

**Examples—**

- (a) a solar photovoltaic system;
- (b) a battery storage system.

**fixed benefit period** means a period of a fixed term contract during which pricing is fixed;

**fixed term contract** means a market retail contract for a fixed term.

- (5) Unless the contrary intention appears, terms used in this regulation and in the *National Energy Retail Law* or the National Energy Retail Rules have the same respective meaning in this regulation as they have in the *National Energy Retail Law* or National Energy Retail Rules.

#### **44D—Participation in ombudsman scheme**

For the purposes of section 63AC(1) of the Act, the prescribed level is 750 MW.h.

#### **44E—Annual administration fee**

- (1) For the purposes of section 63AE(2) of the Act, the annual administration fee is to be calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$X = \frac{(EA + ESC + AEMC + Q)}{Y}$$

where—

**X** is the annual administration fee for a NERL retailer;

**EA** is the costs determined by the Minister of the administration of the Act;

**ESC** is the costs determined by the Minister of the administration by the Commission of the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002* attributable to the retailing of electricity to small customers;

**AEMC** is the costs referred to in subregulation (2);

**Q** is the amount determined by the Minister to adjust the annual administration fee based on events that occurred during the period to which the previous annual administration fee related (such as a new entrant to the market for the retailing of electricity) or such other matter relating to that previous period that the Minister thinks fit;

**Y** is the number of NERL retailers that retail electricity to small customers at the commencement of the period to which the annual administration fee relates.

- (2) For the purposes of section 63AE(7)(c) of the Act, the costs determined by the Minister of the administration in relation to retailing of electricity in South Australia of Part 9 of the *National Energy Retail Law (South Australia)* by the Australian Energy Market Commission established by the *Australian Energy Market Commission Establishment Act 2004* are prescribed.

- (3) If a NERL retailer commences retailing electricity to small customers as a NERL retailer during a period to which an annual administration fee relates, the annual administration fee for the NERL retailer is to be adjusted by multiplying—
- (a) the annual administration fee that would have been payable by the NERL retailer had it been retailing electricity as a NERL retailer during the whole of the relevant period; and
  - (b) the proportion that the number of whole months between the commencement of retailing and the end of the relevant period bears to 12 months.
- (4) If a relevant entity within the meaning of section 33 of the *National Energy Retail Law (South Australia) Act 2011* had, before 1 February 2013, paid (as an electricity entity under the *Electricity Act 1996*) to the Commission a licence fee under section 20 of the Act in respect of the whole or any part of the period commencing on 1 February 2013 and ending on 1 February 2014, the Commission must determine an amount in relation to the licence fee that is to be offset against the annual administration fee that applies to the entity, or credited or refunded to the entity (as determined by the Commission).

## Part 10—Safety and technical issues

### Division A1—Preliminary

#### 44F—Preliminary

In this Part—

**contractor**, in relation to an employed worker, means a licensed electrical contractor or licensed building work contractor (as the case requires) by whom the employed worker is employed or engaged to carry out the work or examinations and tests related to the issue of an electronic certificate of compliance;

**contractor's duly authorised agent** means a person acting as the contractor's duly authorised agent who has or had a supervisory role in relation to the employed worker;

**designated employer** means an employer designated by the Technical Regulator for the purposes of this Part;

**designated registered electrical worker** means a registered electrical worker employed or engaged by a designated employer;

**electronic certificate of compliance** means a certificate of compliance issued under this Part in electronic form in accordance with any requirements of the Technical Regulator under regulation 57;

**employed worker**, in relation to an electronic certificate of compliance issued in relation to an electrical installation, means a registered electrical worker employed or engaged to carry out work or examinations and tests related to the issue of the certificate (whether or not together with other work or examinations and tests on the installation) by a contractor.

## **Division 1—Safety and technical requirements**

### **45—Purpose of Division**

The requirements contained in this Division and related Schedules are safety or technical requirements for the purposes of sections 59 and 60 of the Act.

### **46—Quality of electricity supply**

The operator of a distribution network must ensure that the network is designed, constructed, operated and maintained so that at a customer's point of supply—

- (a) the voltage is as set out in AS 60038; and
- (b) the voltage fluctuations that occur are contained within the limits set out in Parts 3.3 and 3.5 of AS/NZS 61000 or Part 4 of AS 2279 (as in force immediately before it was superseded); and
- (c) the harmonic voltage distortions do not exceed the values set out in Part 3.2 of AS/NZS 61000 or Part 2 of AS 2279 (as in force immediately before it was superseded).

### **47—General requirements for electricity infrastructure**

- (1) No circuit in electricity infrastructure may be allowed to remain in service unless every part of the circuit functions in a safe manner.
- (2) Each active conductor of a high voltage powerline or other high voltage equipment must be protected by an automatic disconnecting device.
- (3) Metal components of electricity infrastructure not normally conducting electricity that may become energised must be connected to earth.
- (4) Electricity infrastructure must be adequately protected against earth faults.

### **48—Aerial lines**

- (1) Aerial lines (including service lines) must be designed, installed, operated and maintained to be safe for the electrical service conditions and the physical environment in which they will operate.
- (2) Without limiting the effect of subregulation (1), line construction in a bushfire risk area must be suitable for the levels of hazard in the area.
- (3) Schedule 1 applies in relation to aerial lines (including service lines) installed after 1 July 1997.

### **49—Underground lines**

- (1) Underground lines (including service lines) must be designed, installed, operated and maintained to be safe for the electrical service conditions and the physical environment in which they will operate.
- (2) Schedule 2 applies in relation to underground lines (including service lines) installed after 1 July 1997.

**50—Powerlines other than aerial or underground lines**

- (1) Powerlines, other than aerial lines or underground lines, must be designed, installed, operated and maintained to be safe for the electrical service conditions and the physical environment in which they will operate.
- (2) Schedule 2 (other than clauses 6, 7 and 9) applies in relation to such powerlines installed after 1 July 1997 in the same way as to underground lines.

**51—Substations**

- (1) Substations must be designed, installed, operated and maintained to be safe for the electrical service conditions and the physical environment in which they will operate.
- (2) Schedule 3 applies in relation to substations installed after 1 July 1997.

**52—Earthing and electrical protection systems**

- (1) Earthing and electrical protection systems must be designed, installed, operated and maintained to safely manage abnormal electricity network conditions likely to significantly increase the risk of personal injury or significant property damage.
- (2) Schedule 4 applies in relation to earthing and electrical protection systems installed after 1 July 1997.

**53—Electrical installations**

- (1) Electrical installations must comply with AS/NZS 3000 and any other Australian Standard or Australian/New Zealand Standard called up by AS/NZS 3000.
- (2) Despite any other regulation—
  - (a) aerial lines, underground lines or other powerlines; and
  - (b) earthing and electrical protection systems,

that form part of an electrical installation and that comply with AS/NZS 3000 and any other Australian Standard or Australian/New Zealand Standard called up by AS/NZS 3000, will be taken to comply with these regulations.

**54—Connection testing and inspection procedures**

- (1) For the purposes of section 59(1b)(b), (1d)(d) and (1g)(b) of the Act, electricity supply from a transmission or distribution network must not be connected to an electrical installation unless the connection testing and inspection procedures of the operator of the network have been complied with.
- (2) The connection testing and inspection procedures of a network operator relating to the connection of electricity supply from powerlines designed to operate at a voltage of less than 11 kV must be procedures that have been approved by the Technical Regulator.
- (3) For the purposes of section 59(1g)(a) of the Act, the work of installing or replacing a meter, or examinations and tests relating to such work, must be carried out in accordance with the technical installation rules of the operator of the transmission or distribution network to which the meter is connected.

- (4) A person who personally carries out the work of connecting electricity supply from a transmission or distribution network to an electrical installation must—
- (a) make and sign a written record that—
    - (i) specifies the place and date at which the work has been carried out and sets out the person's full name; and
    - (ii) states that the person has complied with the connection testing and inspection procedures of the network operator relating to the work; and
  - (b) provide the record—
    - (i) to the network operator; or
    - (ii) in the case of work carried out on behalf of a prescribed person (as defined in section 59 of the Act) other than the network operator, to that prescribed person.

Maximum penalty: \$2 500.

Expiation fee: \$210.

- (5) A network operator or other prescribed person who receives a record referred to in subregulation (4) must keep the record for at least 2 years.

Maximum penalty: \$2 500.

Expiation fee: \$210.

## **55—General requirements for electrical installation**

- (1) For the purposes of section 60(1) of the Act, an electrical installation must be designed, installed, operated and maintained so as to comply with any applicable requirements of—
- (a) in all cases—AS/NZS 3000 and any Australian Standard or Australian/New Zealand Standard called up by AS/NZS 3000; and
  - (b) if the installation is, or is to be, connected to a distribution network—the technical installation rules of the operator of the network.

## **55A—Electronic certificates of compliance**

- (1) For the purposes of section 60(2) of the Act, an electronic certificate of compliance may only be relied on if it—
- (a) certifies that the electrical installation to which the electronic certificate of compliance relates complies with any applicable requirements set out in AS/NZS 3000 and any Australian Standard or Australian/New Zealand Standard called up by AS/NZS 3000; and
  - (b) is issued by a registered electrical worker.
- (2) Subject to subregulations (3) and (4), the following requirements apply to an electronic certificate of compliance issued under this regulation:
- (a) in the case of an electronic certificate of compliance issued by a registered electrical worker who is an employed worker—

- (i) the registered electrical worker must, before the electrical installation is made available for energisation, complete the electronic certificate of compliance to the extent required by the Technical Regulator under regulation 57 and issue the certificate to—
  - (A) the contractor; or
  - (B) the contractor's duly authorised agent; and
- (ii) the contractor or the contractor's duly authorised agent (as the case may be), if satisfied that the work or examinations and tests have been carried out in accordance with the standards and requirements referred to in subregulation (1), must—
  - (A) complete the electronic certificate of compliance; and
  - (B) within 30 days after the electrical installation was made available for energisation, provide the electronic certificate of compliance to the Technical Regulator and the owner or operator of the installation;
- (b) in any other case—the registered electrical worker must, within 30 days after the electrical installation was made available for energisation, issue the electronic certificate of compliance and provide it to—
  - (i) the Technical Regulator; and
  - (ii) the owner or operator of the installation.
- (3) Despite subregulations (1) and (2), for the purposes of this regulation, a designated registered electrical worker must issue to the designated employer a hard copy certificate of compliance approved by the Technical Regulator that certifies that work or examinations and tests have been carried out in accordance with the standards and requirements referred to in subregulation (1).
- (4) Despite subregulation (2)(a)(i), a registered electrical worker—
  - (a) is not required to complete and issue an electronic certificate of compliance before an electrical installation is made available for energisation if it is not reasonably practicable to do so (for example, because the worker's electronic device cannot connect to a telecommunications network in the relevant location); but
  - (b) must instead complete and issue the electronic certificate of compliance as soon as is reasonably practicable after the electrical installation is made available for energisation.

### **55B—Remote disconnection and reconnection of electricity generating plant**

- (1) This regulation applies to a designated electricity generating plant that is, or is to be, connected to a relevant distribution network and that—
  - (a) is installed on or after the relevant day; or
  - (b) was installed before the relevant day if a declared component of electricity infrastructure or an electrical installation associated with the plant is replaced on or after that day.

- (2) From the prescribed day, the owner or operator of a designated electricity generating plant to which this regulation applies must ensure that the following requirements are complied with in relation to the plant:
  - (a) the plant must be capable of being remotely disconnected from, and reconnected to, the relevant distribution network;
  - (b) the owner or operator must give a relevant agent written authorisation to remotely disconnect the plant from, and reconnect the plant to, the relevant distribution network in circumstances where the owner or operator of the plant is lawfully directed to disconnect or reconnect the plant.
- (3) In addition, from 1 January 2021, the owner or operator of a designated electricity generating plant to which this regulation applies must ensure that the plant is capable of being remotely disconnected from, and reconnected to, the network by the relevant agent of the owner or operator of the plant.
- (4) The owner or operator of a designated electricity generating plant to which this regulation applies must notify their relevant agent if there is, or is to be, a change in the owner or operator of the plant as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the change (and in any event within 7 days after the change).
- (5) A designated electricity generating plant to which this regulation applies must not be connected to a relevant distribution network unless the requirements under subregulations (2) and (3) (as relevant) are complied with in relation to the plant.
- (6) The Technical Regulator may prepare and publish guidelines that set out methods for ensuring that a designated electricity generating plant is capable of being remotely disconnected from, and reconnected to, a relevant distribution network.
- (7) Guidelines published under subregulation (6) may indicate that a method is, or is not, appropriate for designated electricity generating plant with particular nameplate capacity.
- (8) For the purposes of this regulation, a particular designated electricity generating plant (*installed plant*) will be taken to be **capable of being remotely disconnected from, and reconnected to, a relevant distribution network** if the installed plant complies with a method that is appropriate for designated electricity generating plant with nameplate capacity of the installed plant set out in guidelines published under subregulation (6).
- (9) The Technical Regulator must maintain an up to date list of **declared components** for the purposes of subregulation (1)(b) on a website determined by the Technical Regulator.
- (10) The Minister may—
  - (a) by notice in the Gazette, designate an electricity generating plant as a **designated electricity generating plant** for the purposes of this regulation; and
  - (b) by subsequent notice in the Gazette, vary or revoke a notice under this subregulation.
- (11) The Technical Regulator may—
  - (a) by notice in the Gazette, declare that a distribution network is an **excluded distribution network** for the purposes of this regulation; and

- (b) by subsequent notice in the Gazette, vary or revoke a notice under this subregulation.

- (12) In this regulation and regulations 55C and 55D—

***declared component***—see subregulation (9);

***designated electricity generating plant***—see subregulation (10);

***excluded distribution network***—see subregulation (11);

***prescribed day*** means a day specified by the Minister by notice in the Gazette for the purposes of subregulation (2);

***relevant agent*** means a person who is authorised by the owner or operator of the designated electricity generating plant to be their relevant agent and who meets the requirements set out in regulation 55C;

***relevant day***, in relation to a designated electricity generating plant, means—

- (a) the day on which the Minister publishes the first notice under subregulation (10)(a); or
- (b) in the case of an electricity generating plant that is designated as a designated electricity generating plant after the day referred to in paragraph (a)—the day on which the electricity generating plant is so designated;

***relevant distribution network*** means a distribution network other than an excluded distribution network.

### 55C—Relevant agents

- (1) A person may be authorised, on or before 31 December 2020, to be a relevant agent by an owner or operator of a designated electricity generating plant to which regulation 55B applies if the person—
  - (a) is suitably qualified in accordance with the requirements set out in any guidelines under subregulation (4); and
  - (b) nominates, in accordance with any guidelines under subregulation (4), the technology they will use to remotely disconnect plant from, and reconnect plant to, the relevant distribution network; and
  - (c) gives a written undertaking to the Technical Regulator, in the form determined by the Technical Regulator, that the person will—
    - (i) complete, on or before 31 December 2020, all actions necessary to allow the person to remotely disconnect plant from, and reconnect plant to, the network; and
    - (ii) demonstrate, on or before 31 December 2020, that the technology nominated by them under paragraph (b) is capable of remotely disconnecting plant from, and reconnecting plant to, a relevant distribution network to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator.

- (2) A person may be authorised, on or after 1 January 2021, to be a relevant agent by an owner or operator of a designated electricity generating plant to which regulation 55B applies if the person—
  - (a) is suitably qualified in accordance with the requirements set out in any guidelines under subregulation (4); and
  - (b) has nominated, in accordance with any guidelines under subregulation (4), the technology they will use to remotely disconnect plant from, and reconnect plant to, the relevant distribution network; and
  - (c) has completed all actions necessary to allow the person to remotely disconnect plant from, and reconnect plant to, the network; and
  - (d) has demonstrated that the technology nominated by them under paragraph (b) is capable of remotely disconnecting plant from, and reconnecting plant to, a relevant distribution network to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator.
- (3) A person must not act contrary to, or fail to comply with, a written undertaking given under subregulation (1)(c).
- (4) The Technical Regulator may prepare and publish guidelines that set out the requirements for, and role and responsibilities of, a relevant agent.

#### **55D—Register of relevant agents**

- (1) The Technical Regulator must keep and maintain a register of relevant agents for the purposes of regulations 55B and 55C.
- (2) The requirement under subregulation (1) will be taken to be satisfied if the Technical Regulator adopts a register maintained by another person or body that the Technical Regulator is satisfied contains the information specified by subregulation (3).
- (3) The register must contain the following information:
  - (a) the location and size of each designated electricity generating plant to which regulation 55B applies;
  - (b) the name and contact details of the relevant agent for each designated electricity generating plant to which regulation 55B applies.
- (4) Information contained in the register may be provided to the following persons:
  - (a) a person with lawful authority to direct that a designated electricity generating plant be disconnected from, or reconnected to, a relevant distribution network;
  - (b) the operator of a relevant distribution network.

#### **55E—Export limits for electricity generating plant**

- (1) This regulation applies to a designated electricity generating plant that is, or is to be, connected to a relevant distribution network and that—
  - (a) is installed on or after the relevant day; or
  - (b) was installed before the relevant day if a declared component of electricity infrastructure or an electrical installation associated with the plant is replaced on or after that day.

- (2) The owner or operator of a designated electricity generating plant to which this regulation applies must ensure that the following requirements are complied with in relation to the plant:
- (a) the plant's inverter is remote communications capable;
  - (b) on or after the prescribed day—
    - (i) the plant is capable of being export limited; and
    - (ii) the export limits of the plant are capable of being updated remotely.
- (3) A designated electricity generating plant to which this regulation applies must not be connected to a relevant distribution network unless the requirements under subregulation (2) are complied with in relation to the plant.
- (4) The Technical Regulator must prepare and publish guidelines that set out the requirements for ensuring that an inverter is *remote communications capable*.
- (5) The Technical Regulator may prepare and publish guidelines that set out methods for ensuring that—
- (a) a designated electricity generating plant is capable of being export limited (*export limiting methods*); and
  - (b) the export limits of a designated electricity generating plant are capable of being updated remotely (without a person being required to attend the site of the designated electricity generating plant) (*remote updating methods*).
- (6) Guidelines published under subregulation (5) may indicate that a method is, or is not, appropriate for designated electricity generating plant with particular nameplate capacity.
- (7) For the purposes of this regulation—
- (a) a designated electricity generating plant (generally) is *capable of being export limited* if the electricity exported to a relevant distribution network from the plant can be programmed to not exceed thresholds (*export limits*), which may vary at different times of the day; and
  - (b) a particular designated electricity generating plant (*installed plant*) will be taken to be *capable of being export limited* if the installed plant complies with an export limiting method that is appropriate for designated electricity generating plant with nameplate capacity of the installed plant set out in guidelines published under subregulation (5); and
  - (c) the export limits of a designated electricity generating plant (*installed plant*) will be taken to be *capable of being updated remotely* if the installed plant complies with a remote updating method that is appropriate for designated electricity generating plant with nameplate capacity of the installed plant set out in guidelines published under subregulation (5).
- (8) The Technical Regulator must maintain an up to date list of *declared components* for the purposes of subregulation (1)(b) on a website determined by the Technical Regulator.

- (9) The Minister may—
- (a) by notice in the Gazette, designate an electricity generating plant as a ***designated electricity generating plant*** for the purposes of this regulation; and
  - (b) by subsequent notice in the Gazette, vary or revoke a notice under this subregulation.
- (10) The Technical Regulator may—
- (a) by notice in the Gazette, declare that a distribution network is an ***excluded distribution network*** for the purposes of this regulation; and
  - (b) by subsequent notice in the Gazette, vary or revoke a notice under this subregulation.
- (11) In this regulation—
- declared component***—see subregulation (8);
- designated electricity generating plant***—see subregulation (9);
- excluded distribution network***—see subregulation (10);
- prescribed day*** means a day specified by the Minister by notice in the Gazette for the purposes of subregulation (2)(b);
- relevant day***, in relation to a designated electricity generating plant, means—
- (a) the day on which these regulations come into operation; or
  - (b) in the case of an electricity generating plant that is designated as a designated electricity generating plant after the day referred to in paragraph (a)—the day on which the electricity generating plant is so designated;
- relevant distribution network*** means a distribution network other than an excluded distribution network.

### **55F—Voltage ride through for low voltage inverters of electricity generating plant**

- (1) Subject to subregulation (2), this regulation applies to an electricity generating plant that is, or is to be, connected to a distribution network through a low voltage inverter and that—
- (a) is installed after the commencement of this regulation; or
  - (b) was installed before the commencement of this regulation if the plant's inverter is replaced after the commencement of this regulation, unless the inverter is replaced under warranty.
- (2) Despite subregulation (1)(a), this regulation—
- (a) does not apply to an electricity generating plant installed after the commencement of this regulation where a written application to connect the plant to the distribution network was received by the operator of the distribution network on or before 10 August 2020; but
  - (b) does apply to such an electricity generating plant if the plant's inverter is subsequently replaced, unless the inverter is replaced under warranty.

- (3) The owner or operator of an electricity generating plant to which this regulation applies must ensure that the low voltage inverter of the plant—
- (a) on or before 31 March 2021—is a designated inverter; or
  - (b) has been tested in accordance with both of the following procedures relating to voltage ride through:
    - (i) a procedure published from time to time by AEMO;
    - (ii) a procedure in *Australian Standard AS/NZS4777.2*.
- (4) An electricity generating plant to which this regulation applies must not be connected to a distribution network unless the requirements under subregulation (3) are complied with in relation to the plant.
- (5) The Technical Regulator must, from the commencement of this regulation until 31 March 2021, keep and maintain a publicly available register of **designated inverters**, being inverters that meet the following requirements:
- (a) the manufacturer of the inverter has provided the Technical Regulator with a test report that demonstrates that the inverter meets a procedure published from time to time by AEMO relating to voltage ride through, excluding any requirement in the procedure that the test be conducted at an appropriate testing facility;
  - (b) the manufacturer of the inverter has given a written undertaking to the Technical Regulator, in the form determined by the Technical Regulator, that—
    - (i) they will complete the testing referred to in subregulation (3)(b) through an appropriate testing facility on or before 31 March 2021; and
    - (ii) if the inverter fails to pass a test referred to in subregulation (3)(b) through an appropriate testing facility, they will—
      - (A) replace any such inverter supplied after the commencement of this regulation with an inverter that passes the tests referred to in subregulation (3)(b) through an appropriate testing facility; or
      - (B) upgrade any such inverter supplied after the commencement of this regulation so that the inverter passes the tests referred to in subregulation (3)(b) through an appropriate testing facility;
  - (c) the importer of the inverter (if any) has given a written undertaking to the Technical Regulator, in the form determined by the Technical Regulator, that, if the inverter fails to pass a test referred to in subregulation (3)(b) through an appropriate testing facility, they will—
    - (i) replace any such inverter supplied after the commencement of this regulation with an inverter that passes the tests referred to in subregulation (3)(b) through an appropriate testing facility; or
    - (ii) upgrade any such inverter supplied after the commencement of this regulation so that the inverter passes the tests referred to in subregulation (3)(b) through an appropriate testing facility.

- (6) A person must not act contrary to, or fail to comply with, a written undertaking given under subregulation (5)(b) or (c).

- (7) In this regulation—

*appropriate testing facility* means a testing facility that meets any requirements set out in a procedure published from time to time by AEMO relating to voltage ride through;

*designated inverter*—see subregulation (5);

*importer* means a person who imports an inverter into Australia.

## **55G—Meters**

A meter installed at premises on or after the commencement of this regulation must—

- (a) be capable of separately measuring and controlling an electricity generating plant and controllable load from essential load (whether or not there is electricity generating plant or controllable load at the premises); and
- (b) be installed in accordance with any guideline prepared and published by the Technical Regulator in respect of wiring, meter configurations and other installation requirements.

## **Division 2—Certain electrical installation work**

### **56—Certain electrical installation work and electronic certificates of compliance**

- (1) The following provisions apply for the purposes of section 61(1) of the Act:
- (a) work on an electrical installation or proposed electrical installation that is work of any kind referred to in AS/NZS 3000 or another Australian Standard or Australian/New Zealand Standard called up by AS/NZS 3000 must be carried out, and the installation must be examined and tested—
    - (i) in accordance with AS/NZS 3000 and any Australian Standard or Australian/New Zealand Standard called up by AS/NZS 3000 and so that the installation complies with any other technical and safety requirements under these regulations; and
    - (ii) in accordance with the technical installation rules of the operator of the distribution network to which the installation is or is to be connected;
  - (b) subject to subregulation (1a)—
    - (i) if an electronic certificate of compliance is issued by a registered electrical worker who is an employed worker—
      - (A) the registered electrical worker must, before the electrical installation is made available for energisation, complete the electronic certificate of compliance to the extent required by the Technical Regulator under regulation 57 and issue the certificate to—
        - the contractor; or
        - the contractor's duly authorised agent; and

- (B) the contractor or the contractor's duly authorised agent (as the case may be), if satisfied that the work or examinations and tests have been carried out in accordance with the standards and requirements referred to in subregulation (1), must—
- complete the electronic certificate of compliance; and
  - within 30 days after the electrical installation was made available for energisation, provide the electronic certificate of compliance to the Technical Regulator and the owner or operator of the installation; or
- (ii) if an electronic certificate of compliance is issued by a registered electrical worker other than under subparagraph (i), the registered electrical worker must, within 30 days after the electrical installation was made available for energisation, complete and issue the electronic certificate of compliance to—
- (A) the Technical Regulator; and
  - (B) the owner or operator of the installation;
- (d) if the work is associated with the making of a connection to a transmission or distribution network, the electronic certificate of compliance (completed in accordance with paragraphs (b) and (c)) must be furnished to the operator of the network before the energisation of the work or a part of the work;
- (e) if the work was, or examinations and tests were, carried out on behalf of the owner or occupier of the premises concerned (whether under a contract or arrangement made directly between the owner or occupier and the person to whom section 61(1) of the Act applies, under a subcontract or otherwise), the electronic certificate of compliance (completed in accordance with paragraphs (b) and (c)) must be furnished to the owner or occupier within 30 days after the installation was made available for energisation;
- (f) the electronic certificate of compliance (completed in accordance with paragraphs (b) and (c)) must be stored at the business premises of the person to whom section 61(1) of the Act applies or, if that person does not have business premises, at that person's residence for at least 5 years after the installation was made available for energisation.
- (1a) Despite subregulations (1) and (2), a designated registered electrical worker must issue a hard copy certificate of compliance approved by the Technical Regulator that certifies that work or examinations and tests have been carried out in accordance with the standards and requirements referred to in subregulation (1) for the purposes of this regulation in accordance with any requirements of the Technical Regulator under regulation 57.

- (1b) Despite subregulation (1)(b)(i)(A), a registered electrical worker—
- (a) is not required to complete and issue an electronic certificate of compliance before an electrical installation is made available for energisation if it is not reasonably practicable to do so (for example, because the worker's electronic device cannot connect to a telecommunications network in the relevant location); but
  - (b) must instead complete and issue the electronic certificate of compliance as soon as is reasonably practicable after the electrical installation is made available for energisation.
- (2) An electronic certificate of compliance may not be relied on by an owner or operator of an electrical installation under section 60(2) of the Act if the certificate has been issued in relation to the installation by a registered electrical worker who is an employee of the owner or occupier.

**57—Electronic certificates of compliance—Technical Regulator may publish requirements etc**

- (1) The Technical Regulator may prepare and publish requirements relating to electronic certificates of compliance under this Part.
- (2) Requirements prepared and published under subregulation (1) may include—
- (a) requirements as to the use of the official format for electronic certificates of compliance determined by the Technical Regulator; and
  - (b) requirements as to the issuing, providing and certifying of electronic certificates of compliance, including as to the electronic provision of certificates; and
  - (c) other requirements determined by the Technical Regulator.
- (3) In addition, the Technical Regulator may prepare and publish requirements relating to the hard copy certificates of compliance under this Part.
- (4) The Technical Regulator may exempt a person, or persons of a specified class, from a requirement under this regulation on conditions determined by the Technical Regulator.
- (5) For the purposes of the definition of *designated employer* in regulation 44F, the Technical Regulator may designate an employer as a designated employer for the purposes of this Part.
- (6) The Technical Regulator must maintain an up to date list of designated employers on a website determined by the Technical Regulator.

**58—Prescribed work (section 61(4))**

- (1) For the purposes of section 61(4) of the Act, work of a kind referred to in AS/NZS 3000 or any other Australian Standard or Australian/New Zealand Standard called up by AS/NZS 3000 is prescribed.

- (2) For the purposes of section 61(4) of the Act, work on an electrical installation or proposed electrical installation that is work of a kind prescribed by subregulation (1) must be carried out—
- (a) in accordance with AS/NZS 3000 and any other Australian Standard or Australian/New Zealand Standard called up by AS/NZS 3000; and
  - (b) in accordance with the technical installation rules of the operator of the distribution network to which the installation is or is to be connected.

## **Division 3—Safeguarding persons working with conductors or electrical equipment**

### **Subdivision 1—General**

#### **59—Basic safety principle**

Persons engaging or preparing to engage in work on or near electricity infrastructure or an electrical installation must treat exposed conductors as live until they are—

- (a) isolated from all sources of electricity supply and proved to be de-energised; and
- (b) if they are high voltage conductors—earthed.

#### **60—Compliance with provisions of Division**

- (1) Persons carrying out work on or near electricity infrastructure or an electrical installation must comply with the provisions of this Division.
- (2) Electricity infrastructure operators, electrical installation operators and employers must ensure compliance with the provisions of this Division with respect to their employees and contractors.

### **Subdivision 2—Work on or near live electric conductors or electrical equipment**

#### **61—Application of Subdivision**

This Subdivision applies to work carried out—

- (a) in proximity to exposed live high or low voltage conductors, exposed live parts of high or low voltage electrical equipment or other conductors or electrical equipment; or
- (b) by direct contact with exposed live high or low voltage conductors or exposed live parts of high or low voltage electrical equipment; or
- (c) on de-energised exposed conductors or exposed parts of electrical equipment if there is a possibility of the conductors or parts becoming live,

unless the work is necessary to avoid a possible danger to life or serious personal injury.

## **62—Safe work practices**

All reasonable steps must be taken to ensure safety in work to which this Subdivision applies through—

- (a) the provision of suitable protection from adjacent live electrical conductors or adjacent live parts of electrical equipment; and
- (b) the use of insulated tools and equipment; and
- (c) the use of equipment and plant designed and made in accordance with recognised electricity industry practice; and
- (d) the use of safe work practices.

## **63—Work involving danger of direct contact with live conductors etc**

In the case of work involving a danger of accidental direct contact with exposed live conductors or exposed live parts of electrical equipment—

- (a) the work must only be carried out by a person who is competent and qualified to carry out the work; and
- (b) except where the contrary is shown by reference to generally accepted industry practices or the particular circumstances of the case, it will be presumed that safe work practices require the person to carry out the work with a competent assistant suitably trained in the work and—
  - (i) in resuscitation; and
  - (ii) in releasing persons from live electrical apparatus; and
  - (iii) if appropriate, in rescuing persons from poles, structures, elevated work platforms or confined spaces.

## **64—Work in proximity to conductors etc**

- (1) Work must not be carried out in proximity to conductors or electrical equipment unless—
  - (a) it is carried out—
    - (i) by a person who is suitably trained and qualified for such work beyond the approach limits set out in this regulation for such persons; or
    - (ii) by a person who has been instructed in the identification of high and low voltage overhead conductors and the safety aspects of work near live powerlines beyond the approach limits set out in this regulation for such persons; and
  - (b) it is carried out beyond the approach limits set out in this regulation that are applicable in the circumstances.
- (2) However, a person may work within the approach limits if—
  - (a) the work can be carried out safely in any of the following circumstances:
    - (i) there are installed suitable barriers or earthed metal shields between the person carrying out the work and the conductors or electrical equipment;

- (ii) the work to be carried out is testing of equipment and the equipment is designed such that the approach limits cannot be complied with;
  - (iii) the work to be carried out is earthing of the conductors or equipment and is carried out after the conductors have been isolated and proved to be de-energised; and
- (b) written instructions have been given, either generally or in a particular case, about the work and the precautions to be taken.
- (3) For the purposes of this regulation, the approach limits for a person, including an article of clothing worn by a person, or a conductive object held or carried by the person, are set out below—

Voltage of conductor or equipment	Approach limit A	Approach limit B	Approach limit C	Approach limit D
	(Distance in metres)			
Insulated aerial line, not more than 1 000 V	0.6	0.1	0	0
Not more than 1 000 V	3.0	1.0	0.3	0
More than 1 000 V but not more than 11 kV	3.0	2.0	0.6	0.3
More than 11 kV but not more than 33 kV	3.0	3.0	0.9	0.45
66 kV	4.0	4.0	1.4	0.7
132 kV	5.0	5.0	2.4	1.5
275 kV	6.0	6.0	4.0	2.6

where—

- (a) approach limit A applies to a person to whom none of approach limits B, C or D applies;
  - (b) approach limit B applies to a person who has conducted a risk assessment before carrying out the work;
  - (c) approach limit C applies to a person who has been instructed in the identification of high and low voltage overhead conductors and the safety aspects of work near live powerlines and who has conducted a risk assessment before carrying out the work;
  - (d) approach limit D applies to a person suitably qualified and trained to work in proximity to exposed high and low voltage conductors or exposed parts of high and low voltage electrical equipment and who has conducted a risk assessment before carrying out the work.
- (4) In this regulation—
- risk assessment**, in relation to work to which this regulation applies, means an assessment of the risks involved in carrying out the work, taking into account the potential for movement of tools, materials and structures during the work.

### **Subdivision 3—Work on or near exposed high voltage conductors or electrical equipment**

#### **65—Work above exposed high voltage conductors etc**

Work must not be carried out and equipment must not be positioned above exposed high voltage conductors or exposed parts of high voltage electrical equipment unless the work or positioning of the equipment is authorised in writing by the operator of the electricity infrastructure or electrical installation concerned.

#### **66—Work by direct contact with exposed high voltage conductors etc**

- (1) Work must not be carried out by direct contact with exposed high voltage conductors or exposed parts of high voltage electrical equipment unless the exposed high voltage conductors or exposed parts of high voltage electrical equipment are—
  - (a) isolated, and shown by testing to be isolated, from all sources of electricity supply; and
  - (b) earthed.
- (2) If any such conductor or equipment cannot be directly contacted to prove isolation from all sources of electricity supply, it is sufficient if—
  - (a) written instructions have been given for the isolation of the conductor or equipment from all sources of electricity supply; and
  - (b) the conductor or equipment is earthed by a lockable earthing switch designed to be safely operated if the high voltage conductor or equipment has not been isolated from all sources of supply.

#### **67—Live high voltage line work**

- (1) Electrical work on exposed live high voltage conductors or exposed live parts of high voltage electrical equipment (*live line work*) must not be carried out unless authorised in writing by the operator of the electricity infrastructure or electrical installation on which the work will be carried out.
- (2) An electricity infrastructure operator or electrical installation operator may authorise a person to carry out live line work if satisfied the person—
  - (a) has successfully finished a course of training approved by the Technical Regulator and provided by a training provider approved by the Technical Regulator; and
  - (b) has been assessed by the training provider as competent to carry out the work.
- (3) The voltage of the powerlines on which live line work is carried out must be as stated by the relevant operator in the authorisation.
- (4) The relevant operator must take reasonable steps to satisfy itself as to the continuing competency of a person authorised by the operator to carry out live line work.

**Subdivision 4—Miscellaneous****68—Rescue and resuscitation training**

Persons required to carry out, or help in carrying out, electrical work must be suitably trained in rescue and resuscitation in accordance with the requirements of the Technical Regulator.

**69—Suitability of testing instruments**

If tests are required to be performed on electricity infrastructure, an electrical installation or safety equipment under the Act—

- (a) the testing instruments used must be designed for and capable of correctly performing the required tests; and
- (b) each testing instrument must be tested and calibrated to ensure it is in proper working order; and
- (c) the records of tests performed on testing instruments must be kept for at least 2 years.

**Division 4—Reporting and investigation of accidents****70—Reporting of accidents**

- (1) For the purposes of section 63 of the Act, a report must be made to the Technical Regulator of the details of the accident—
  - (a) in the case of a death resulting from the accident—immediately by telephone;
  - (b) in the case of a person requiring medical assistance resulting from the accident—within 1 working day of the accident;
  - (c) in any other case—within 10 working days of the accident.
- (2) An electricity entity or person who is required to report an accident in accordance with section 63 of the Act must provide the Technical Regulator with such further details of the accident as the Technical Regulator reasonably requires.
- (3) An electricity entity that operates a transmission or distribution network must—
  - (a) promptly investigate any accident that involves electric shock or electrical burns that may have been caused by the operation or condition of the transmission or distribution network or an electrical installation connected to the network and report the results of the investigation to the Technical Regulator in the form, and containing the details, required by the Technical Regulator; and
  - (b) comply with any direction given by the Technical Regulator relating to the investigation of an accident to which section 63 of the Act relates, including a direction to conduct such examinations and tests as are required by the Technical Regulator.
- (4) If in the course of an investigation under subregulation (3) it is determined that the electric shock or electrical burns were caused by an electrical installation connected to the network, the electricity entity must report that result to the Technical Regulator and need not proceed further with the investigation.

## **Division 5—Safety, reliability, maintenance and technical management plans and reports**

### **71—Application of Division**

- (1) This Division applies to a licensee holding a licence authorising the generation of electricity or the operation of a transmission or distribution network or a person exempted from the requirement to hold such a licence.
- (2) However, the Technical Regulator may grant an exemption from this Division, or specified provisions of this Division, on terms and conditions the Technical Regulator considers appropriate.

### **72—Safety, reliability, maintenance and technical management plans**

- (1) A person to whom this Division applies who is exempted from the requirement to hold a licence must, if so required by the Technical Regulator by notice in writing—
  - (a) prepare, maintain and periodically revise a safety, reliability, maintenance and technical management plan—
    - (i) in the case of an exemption which authorises the operation of solely generating plant to which AS 5577 does not apply—dealing with matters prescribed by subregulation (2); or
    - (ii) in any other case—dealing with matters prescribed by subregulation (2a);
  - (b) obtain the approval of the Technical Regulator to the plan and any revision;
  - (c) comply with the plan as approved from time to time;
  - (d) audit from time to time the person's compliance with the plan and report the results of those audits to the Technical Regulator.
- (2) For the purposes of section 22(1)(c) of the Act, the following are matters that must be dealt with by a safety, reliability, maintenance and technical management plan of a person to whom this Division applies in relation to a licence or exemption which authorises the operation of solely generating plant to which AS 5577 does not apply:
  - (a) the safe design, installation, commissioning, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of electricity infrastructure owned or operated by the person;
  - (b) the maintenance of a supply of electricity of the quality required to be maintained by or under the Act, these regulations, the person's licence or the conditions of any exemption granted to the person;
  - (c) the implementation and conduct of safety measures and training programs for the purpose of—
    - (i) reducing the risk of death or injury, or damage to property, arising out of the operation of electricity infrastructure owned or operated by the person;

- (ii) ensuring that employees performing work in respect of electricity infrastructure owned or operated by the person are competent and properly trained, perform their work safely and are provided with a safe system of work;
  - (d) ensuring that contractors performing work in respect of electricity infrastructure owned or operated by the person have processes and procedures for ensuring that the persons personally performing the work are competent and properly trained, perform their work safely and are provided with a safe system of work;
  - (e) the manner in which accidents and unsafe situations are to be dealt with, reported and investigated;
  - (f) monitoring compliance with safety and technical requirements imposed by or under the Act, these regulations, the person's licence or the conditions of any exemption granted to the person;
  - (fa) the preparation and maintenance of an internal switching manual that complies with the switching manual prepared by the Technical Regulator under regulation 13A;
  - (g) monitoring electricity infrastructure owned or operated by the person for the purposes of identifying infrastructure that is unsafe or at risk of failing or malfunctioning;
  - (h) monitoring and inspecting aerial lines owned or operated by the person in a bushfire risk area for the purpose of identifying risks posed by the aerial lines relating to bushfires;
  - (i) in the case of a person who operates a transmission or distribution network—
    - (i) monitoring compliance with requirements for vegetation clearance;
    - (ii) the communication of information to the public for the purpose of reducing the risk of death or injury, or damage to property, arising out of the operation of electricity infrastructure owned or operated by the person;
    - (iii) the communication of information to existing and potential customers about the facilities that customers must provide for connection to the network and procedures that customers must follow in order to prevent damage to or interference with the network.
- (2a) For the purposes of sections 22(1)(c) and 23(1)(c) of the Act, the following are matters that must be dealt with by a safety, reliability, maintenance and technical management plan of a person to whom this Division applies (other than a person to whom this Division applies in relation to a licence or exemption which authorises the operation of solely generating plant to which AS 5577 does not apply):
- (a) the preparation and maintenance of an Electricity Network Safety Management System in accordance with the requirements of AS 5577;
  - (b) the matters prescribed in paragraphs (b), (f), (fa), (h) and (i) of subregulation (2).

- (3) A person to whom this Division applies must, at the request of the Technical Regulator, provide the Technical Regulator with such information and access to such officers, employees and contractors as the Technical Regulator reasonably requires for the purposes of determining whether a safety, reliability, maintenance and technical management plan prepared by the person is operating effectively and whether that person is complying with the plan.

### **73—Safety, reliability, maintenance and technical management reports**

- (1) A person to whom this Division applies who operates a transmission or distribution network must, within 21 working days after the end of each month, lodge with the Technical Regulator a report—
- (a) stating in relation to each unplanned interruption to the supply of electricity during that month that—
    - (i) affected the supply of electricity to customers such that the aggregate of the periods for which the customers' supply was affected exceeded 120 000 minutes; or
    - (ii) affected for 30 minutes or more the supply of electricity to 1 or more customers with a demand of greater than 1 MVA,the following:
    - (iii) the date, time and cause of the interruption;
    - (iv) the number of customers affected by the interruption;
    - (v) the time taken to restore supply to all of the customers affected;
    - (vi) the time taken to restore supply to the majority of the customers affected;
  - (b) stating in relation to all unplanned interruptions to the supply of electricity during that month and in relation to each region as defined by the Technical Regulator—
    - (i) the aggregate of the periods for which customers' supply was affected by the interruptions; and
    - (ii) the average time taken to restore supply to all of the customers affected.
- (2) Subregulation (1) does not apply in relation to—
- (a) an interruption to the supply of electricity to a customer if the interruption was in accordance with an interruptible or curtailable supply contract with the customer; or
  - (b) an interruption to the supply of electricity to a customer that occurred at the request of the customer or that was caused by the customer; or
  - (c) an interruption that was rectified by an automatic supply restoration operation.

- (3) A person to whom this Division applies must, on or before 31 August in each year, lodge with the Technical Regulator a report relating to the previous financial year containing the following information:
- (a) a general description of the circumstances in which electricity infrastructure owned or operated by the person has failed or malfunctioned or been found to be unsafe and of the action taken to rectify, or to prevent or minimise the risk or recurrence of, the failure, malfunction or unsafe situation;
  - (b) the total costs actually incurred to maintain, repair and replace electricity infrastructure owned or operated by the person, together with an estimate of the total costs likely to be incurred for those purposes in the financial year following that to which the report relates;
  - (c) whether the person has been able to comply with all aspects of the person's safety, reliability, maintenance and technical management plan and whether the person considers the plan to have been operating effectively.
- (4) However, this regulation only applies to a person who is exempted from the requirement to hold a licence to the extent specified by the Technical Regulator by notice in writing to the person.

## **Part 11—Cathodic protection systems**

### **74—Application of Part**

This Part does not apply to a cathodic protection system—

- (a) installed on any floating mobile structure, fishing equipment, fixed off shore structure (not connected with land above sea level) or internal surface of any apparatus, equipment or structure; or
- (b) using only galvanic anodes.

### **75—Tests before operating cathodic protection system**

- (1) The person who owns or operates a cathodic protection system must ensure that it does not adversely affect the integrity or safety of any electricity infrastructure or supply system through corrosion.
- (2) The person who owns or operates a cathodic protection system that has an anode immersed in water or a marine environment must, within 90 days before starting to operate the system, perform tests to ensure that the potential difference between any 2 accessible points spaced 1 metre apart in the water or marine environment is not more than 3 V when the system is energised.

## **Part 12—Miscellaneous**

### **76—Preparation, approval, publication and purchase of technical installation rules**

The operator of a distribution network must—

- (a) prepare, maintain and periodically revise technical installation rules; and
- (b) obtain the approval of the Technical Regulator to the rules and any revision; and

- (c) publish the rules on an internet site to which the public has access free of charge; and
- (d) make copies of the rules available for purchase by the public for a reasonable fee (which must not exceed an amount fixed by the Commission).

### **77—Register of underground lines**

- (1) An electricity entity authorised to operate a transmission or distribution network must keep and maintain a register describing the nature and location of each line installed underground that is under the control of the entity.
- (2) The transmission or distribution network operator in an area must be notified by any other electricity entity of the nature and location of any line installed underground in the area by that other entity and that information must be recorded in the register kept by the network operator under subregulation (1).
- (3) Information contained in the register must be made available on request by a member of the public during normal business hours.

### **78—Protection of underground lines**

A person must not—

- (a) place or maintain, or cause to be placed or maintained, any corrosive, abrasive, heavy or deleterious material or substance above any underground line; or
- (b) carry out any operation on, or make any opening in, the ground surface that may endanger any underground line; or
- (c) remove, tamper with or cover any underground line marker,

without the written authority of the operator of the electricity infrastructure of which the line forms part.

### **79—Entangled objects**

A person must not, without the authority of the operator of the electricity infrastructure or electrical installation, pull or interfere with any object resting on or entangled in electricity infrastructure or the electrical installation unless the action is reasonably necessary to prevent or reduce injury to a person or property.

### **80—Altering ground levels near infrastructure**

- (1) A person must not, without the written authority of the electricity infrastructure operator—
  - (a) cut away, excavate or remove, or cause to be cut away, excavated or removed, earth or material supporting electricity infrastructure so as to endanger the stability of the infrastructure; or
  - (b) make an excavation deeper than 0.3 metre within 3 metres of—
    - (i) a pole structure or stand, not being a tower or tower structure supporting electricity infrastructure; or
    - (ii) any pole or bed log to which is affixed a staywire used to support electricity infrastructure; or

- (c) make an excavation deeper than 0.5 metre within 10 metres of any tower or tower structure supporting electricity infrastructure; or
  - (d) make an excavation deeper than 0.3 metre within 0.6 metre of any wall, fence or foundation of a substation; or
  - (e) place any material, construct any artificial surface above ground level, smooth the ground or remove vegetation—
    - (i) below an electric line or within the vertical projection of any points to which a conductor of the electric line may sway; or
    - (ii) adjacent to electricity infrastructure,  
in a manner that may—
      - (iii) in any case—alter the level of the ground at any place so as to infringe any permissible clearance distance under these regulations;  
or
      - (iv) in the case of smoothing of ground or removal of vegetation—allow the ground to be used in a manner that was not possible before the smoothing or removal.
- (2) The allowable depth of an excavation under subregulation (1) is, if the ground level unaffected by previous works is known, to be determined by reference to that level, but is otherwise to be determined by reference to the current ground level.

### **81—Erection of buildings in proximity to aerial lines**

- (1) For the purposes of section 86 of the Act, a person must not, except as approved by the Technical Regulator, erect a building or structure in proximity to an aerial line as follows:
- (a) in the case of an aerial line (other than a facade mounted line) constructed to operate at a voltage of more than 66 kV—
    - (i) under the aerial line; or
    - (ii) so that the horizontal distance from any part of the building or structure to the centre-line of any such aerial line is less than the relevant distance as set out in Table 1 in Schedule 1;
  - (b) in the case of an aerial line (other than a facade mounted line) or other cable system constructed to operate at a voltage of 66 kV or less—so that the vertical or horizontal distance from any part of the building or structure to any position to which a conductor in the aerial line or other cable system may sag at maximum design temperature, or move as a result of normal prevailing wind pressures, is less than the relevant distance as set out in Table 1 in Schedule 1.

**Note—**

The figures following Table 1 in Schedule 1 are to be used to assist in understanding the information contained in the Table.

- (2) Despite regulation 48(3), for the purposes of subregulation (1) the distances set out in Table 1 in Schedule 1 apply in relation to aerial lines whether installed before, on or after 1 July 1997.

- (3) The Technical Regulator may only approve the construction or reconstruction (including reconstruction in a different form) of a building or structure in proximity to an aerial line that is not situated on a public road and is constructed to operate at a voltage of more than 66 kV if—
- (a) the Technical Regulator has consulted with the entity responsible for the aerial line; and
  - (b) the Technical Regulator is satisfied that the entity will be able to access the aerial line if the building or structure is constructed or reconstructed.
- (4) The requirements of this regulation do not apply in relation to—
- (a) a fence, sign or notice that is less than 2.0 metres in height and is not designed for a person to stand on; or
  - (b) a service line installed specifically to supply electricity to the building or structure by the operator of the transmission or distribution network from which the electricity is being supplied.

## **82—Erection of buildings in proximity to underground lines**

- (1) For the purposes of section 86 of the Act, a person must not, except as approved by the Technical Regulator, erect a building or structure—
- (a) above or below an underground powerline that forms part of a transmission or distribution network; or
  - (b) within the prescribed distance of an underground powerline that forms part of a transmission or distribution network measured from vertical planes extending above and below each outer edge of the conductor comprising the powerline or, in the case of a powerline that consists of more than 1 conductor, each outer edge of each outer conductor.
- (2) Before giving approval under subregulation (1), the Technical Regulator must consult with the electricity entity operating the underground powerline.
- (3) In this regulation—
- prescribed distance* means—
- (a) in relation to an underground powerline designed to operate at a voltage of 33 kV or less—2 metres;
  - (b) in any other case—3 metres.

## **83—Prohibition of certain activities in proximity to aerial lines and other cable systems**

A person must not, without the written authority of the electricity infrastructure operator—

- (a) place or maintain any material closer than the relevant distance set out in Table 1 in Schedule 5 to any point to which an aerial line (including a service line) or other cable system may swing or sag; or

- (b) operate a machine, vehicle or vessel equipped with an elevating component or shear legs so that any part of the machine, vehicle, vessel or its load comes within the relevant distance set out in Table 2 in Schedule 5 to any point to which an aerial line (including a service line) or other cable system may swing or sag; or
- (c) attach or keep attached to electricity infrastructure any conductors of circuits or other cable system.

#### **84—Erection of conductors or other cable systems so as to cross or be attached to existing aerial lines or their supports etc**

- (1) A person must not erect any conductors of circuits, or other cable system—
  - (a) so as to cross the circuit of any existing aerial line, or other cable system (whether or not they are to be attached to the same support as the existing aerial line or other cable system); or
  - (b) so as to be attached to the same support as, or share any portion of the same span as, any existing aerial line, or other cable system,unless—
  - (c) the clearances specified in the Energy Networks Association Limited *Guidelines for design and maintenance of overhead distribution and transmission lines* C(b)1, as published from time to time, will be achieved and maintained; and
  - (d) the reasonable operational requirements of the operator of the existing aerial line or other cable system will not be adversely affected; and
  - (e) the person has, before erecting the conductors of circuits, or other cable system, lodged detailed work proposals with the operator of the existing aerial line or other cable system and the operator has approved the proposals as indicating that the work would, if carried out in accordance with the proposals, meet the requirements of paragraphs (c) and (d).
- (2) The operator must, on receipt of detailed work proposals from the person (the **proponent**), consider the proposals and decide within a reasonable period whether or not to approve the proposals.
- (3) If the operator decides that the proposals should not be approved, the operator must, if requested to do so by the proponent—
  - (a) prepare written reasons for that decision; and
  - (b) provide the reasons to the proponent; and
  - (c) provide the reasons and the proponent's detailed work proposals to the Technical Regulator.
- (4) The Technical Regulator must, on receipt of the proponent's proposals and the operator's reasons, review the operator's decision.
- (5) If, on reviewing the operator's decision, the Technical Regulator decides that the proponent's proposals should be approved (with or without the imposition of conditions by the Technical Regulator), the proponent will be taken to have the approval required under subregulation (1)(e), subject to compliance with the conditions (if any) imposed by the Technical Regulator.

- (6) The Technical Regulator must allow the operator and the proponent a reasonable opportunity to make written or oral submissions before deciding on the review whether or not the proponent's proposals should be approved.

### **85—Placement of materials near supporting structures etc**

A person must not, without the written authority of the electricity infrastructure operator, place or maintain any material closer than the relevant distance set out in Table 1 in Schedule 5 to electricity infrastructure consisting of supporting or protective structure or equipment for aerial lines.

### **86—Placement of materials in proximity to substations**

- (1) A person must not, without the written authority of the electricity infrastructure operator—
- (a) place or maintain any timber or flammable material within 3 metres in any direction of a wall or fence surrounding a substation; or
  - (b) impede access to any door, gate or entrance of a substation or interfere in any way with the free flow of air through any openings or fittings used for ventilation in the walls of a substation; or
  - (c) —
    - (i) place or maintain any material adjacent to a wall or fence of a substation; or
    - (ii) plant or nurture vegetation near or adjacent to a wall or fence of a substation,so as to enable unauthorised access to the substation.

### **87—Transportation**

- (1) A person who drives a vehicle carrying a load or equipment on the vehicle or on any trailer attached to the vehicle that exceeds the height limit established under the *Road Traffic Act 1961* or the *Heavy Vehicle National Law (South Australia) Act 2013* must ensure—
- (a) that the distance between the load being transported and any aerial line along the route taken is greater than the relevant distance set out in Table 3 in Schedule 5; and
  - (b) that arrangements approved by the operator of the electricity infrastructure of which the aerial line is part have been made before, and are observed during, transportation.
- (2) The person must give written notice of the proposal to transport the load to the electricity infrastructure operator at least 3 clear business days before the commencement of the transportation with the notice clearly stating—
- (a) the nature of the vehicle and the load; and
  - (b) the height and width of the load; and
  - (c) the date and the time of the proposed transportation; and
  - (d) the starting point and finishing point of the transportation; and

- (e) the proposed route; and
  - (f) the name and contact address of the person; and
  - (g) that the person agrees to pay the reasonable costs that are incurred by the operator in considering the proposal, approving the transportation arrangements or facilitating the transportation; and
  - (h) any other particulars that the operator may in the circumstances require.
- (3) The electricity infrastructure operator may charge in advance or bring proceedings in a court of competent jurisdiction to recover as a debt the reasonable costs referred to in subregulation (2)(g).

### **88—Interference and obstruction**

- (1) A person must not obstruct any road under the control of an electricity infrastructure operator or otherwise do anything to prevent or impede access to the electricity infrastructure.
- (2) A person must not interfere with or damage the surface of a road made by an electricity infrastructure operator that is used for the purposes of works.
- (3) An electricity infrastructure operator may, without notice to the owner, remove anything which causes or may cause a danger to people or property using or on the road.

### **88A—Provision of limit advice**

- (1) The relevant transmission network service provider must, from time to time, provide to AEMO information on the limitations of the Heywood Interconnector, for the purpose of AEMO's power system security responsibilities under the National Electricity Rules, in order to maintain the expected Rate of Change of Frequency of the South Australian power system, in relation to the non-credible coincident trip of both circuits of the Heywood Interconnector when the power system is in a secure operating state as defined in the National Electricity Rules, at or below 3Hz per second.
- (2) In this regulation—  
*relevant transmission network service provider* means ElectraNet Pty Ltd (ACN 094 428 416).

### **89—Technical Regulator may grant exemption from Part 10, Part 11 or this Part**

- (1) The Technical Regulator may grant an exemption from a specified provision or provisions of Part 10, Part 11 or this Part on terms and conditions the Technical Regulator considers appropriate.
- (2) An exemption under subregulation (1) may be varied or revoked by the Technical Regulator by notice in writing.

### **90—Exemption of operations associated with electrified railway and tramway**

Electricity operations related to the construction, installation, alteration, maintenance or operation of—

- (a) aerial lines; and

- (b) underground lines; and
- (c) earthing and bonding; and
- (d) any other related electricity infrastructure, electrical installation or electrical equipment,

directly associated with an electrified railway and tramway are exempt from the application of Part 6 and section 86 of the Act.

## 92—General penalty

A person who contravenes or fails to comply with a provision of these regulations for which a specific penalty is not provided is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty: \$5 000.

Expiation fee: \$315.

## 93—Fees for reinspection etc

- (1) A person to whom a direction has been given under section 62, 70 or 72 of the Act is liable to pay a fee of an amount equal to the reasonable costs of any reinspection or reattendance by an authorised officer for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the direction or approving reconnection of the electricity supply.
- (2) The Technical Regulator may recover a fee payable under subregulation (1) as a debt by action in a court of competent jurisdiction.

# Schedule 1—Requirements for aerial lines

(regulation 48)

## 1—Interpretation

In this Schedule—

*listed standards* means the standards (both national and international), codes, guides and other documents, as published from time to time, listed in the Appendix at the end of this Schedule;

*maximum design temperature* means the maximum temperature that conductors may reach under the influence of load current (excluding fault current), ambient temperature of the air and solar radiation.

## 2—Design

Aerial lines must be designed so that the lines—

- (a) have safe levels of electrical insulation; and
- (b) will carry the electrical load currents for which they are designed without failure; and
- (c) will allow the passage of electrical short circuit currents which will enable the correct operation of protective devices; and
- (d) are structurally secure for the environmental and service conditions for which they are designed; and
- (e) maintain safe clearances,

so as to comply with the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.

### **3—Materials**

Aerial line structures, their components, conductors, cables and accessories must, so as to ensure safe operational performance, conform to the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.

### **4—Thermal ratings**

- (1) The thermal capacity of a conductor must be sufficient to pass the electrical load for which it is designed without losing any mechanical properties that would affect the safety of the line.
- (2) Thermal ratings of conductors must be determined in accordance with the guidelines set out in the listed standards.

### **5—Short circuit ratings**

- (1) The conductors of aerial lines must be of sufficient size to pass short circuit currents so as to enable the correct operation of protective devices without losing any mechanical properties that would affect the safety of the line.
- (2) Short circuit capacity of conductors must be determined in accordance with the guidelines set out in the listed standards.

### **6—Mechanical loading conditions**

- (1) The mechanical loads used for the design of aerial lines must be based on the local environment and electrical service conditions.
- (2) In determining electrical service conditions and the physical environment under which the line will operate, due care must be given to the consideration of extremes that may occur, the likelihood of their occurrence and the associated risks.
- (3) Mechanical loading conditions must be determined in accordance with the guidelines set out in the listed standards.

### **7—Conductor tensions**

- (1) The conductors for use with aerial lines must be designed to withstand the mechanical loads determined for their operation over the designed operational life of the line.
- (2) Conductors for lines must be designed so as to comply with the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.

### **8—Structures and footings**

- (1) The structures and footings for use with aerial lines must be designed to withstand the mechanical loads determined for their operation over the designed operational life of the line.
- (2) Structures and footings for lines must be designed so as to comply with the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.

## 9—Facade mounted cables

- (1) Cables and accessories designed for facade mounting must be constructed with suitable insulated conductors and be manufactured to be durable for the environment and service conditions for which they are designed.
- (2) In determining electrical service conditions and the physical environment under which the line will operate, due care must be given to the consideration of extremes that may occur, the likelihood of their occurrence and the associated risks.
- (3) Mechanical loading conditions must be determined in accordance with the guidelines set out in the listed standards.

## 10—Safety clearances

- (1) Aerial lines must be designed to maintain safety clearances to the ground and other buildings or structures under the environmental and electrical service conditions determined for the line.
- (2) In determining circuit arrangement, electrical service conditions and the physical environment under which the line will operate, due care must be given to the consideration of extremes that may occur, the likelihood of their occurrence and the associated risks.
- (3) The environmental and electrical conditions for the determination of clearances to lines must be determined in accordance with the listed standards.
- (4) Aerial lines must be designed so that safety clearances are as follows:
  - (a) for an aerial line (other than a facade mounted line) constructed to operate at a voltage of 66 kV or less—so that the vertical or horizontal distance from any building or structure (other than a support to which the aerial line is attached or a support of another overhead line which crosses the aerial line) to any position to which a conductor in the aerial line may sag at maximum design temperature, or move as a result of normal prevailing wind pressures, is not less than the relevant distance as set out in Table 1;

**Note—**

The figures following Table 1 are to be used to assist in understanding the information contained in the Table.

- (b) for an aerial line (other than a facade mounted line) constructed to operate at a voltage of more than 66 kV—so that the horizontal distance from any building or structure (other than a support to which the aerial line is attached or a support of another overhead line which crosses the aerial line) to the centre-line of the aerial line is not less than the relevant distance as set out in Table 1;

**Note—**

The figures following Table 1 are to be used to assist in understanding the information contained in the Table.

- (c) for an aerial line (other than a service line, other cable system or aerial line within a substation)—so that the distance to the ground in any direction from a position to which any part of the aerial line may sag at maximum design temperature, or move as a result of normal prevailing wind pressures, is not less than the relevant distance as set out in Table 2;

- (d) for a service line or other cable system—so that the distance to the ground in any direction from a position to which any part of the service line or cable system may sag at maximum design temperature, or move as a result of normal prevailing wind pressures, is not less than the relevant distance as set out in Table 3;
- (e) for a facade mounted line—
  - (i) so that the distance from any part of the facade of the building which supports a line to any position to which the line may sag at maximum design temperature is not less than the relevant distance set out in Table 4;
  - (ii) where it is designed so the line is more than 0.3 m from the facade of the building supporting it—so that the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (d) are complied with.
- (5) The arrangement of and clearances between circuits, either attached to a common structure, unattached, in shared spans or crossing, must be designed to be safe for the environmental and electrical service conditions for which they are designed and so as to comply with the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.
- (6) Aerial lines operating at a voltage greater than 66 kV must not be installed above any building or structure.

## **11—Installation of aerial lines**

Aerial lines must be installed in accordance with the guidelines set out in the listed standards.

## **12—Maintenance of aerial lines**

- (1) Aerial lines, their structures and components must be maintained to be in a safe operating condition.
- (2) A system of maintenance must be instituted for aerial lines, their structures and their components, including—
  - (a) predetermined processes to confirm the safe state of components;
  - (b) managed replacement programs for components approaching the end of their serviceable life.
- (3) Maintenance programs must be carried out in accordance with the listed standards.

## **13—Tables**

**TABLE 1: Clearance distances between aerial lines (other than facade mounted lines) and buildings or structures**

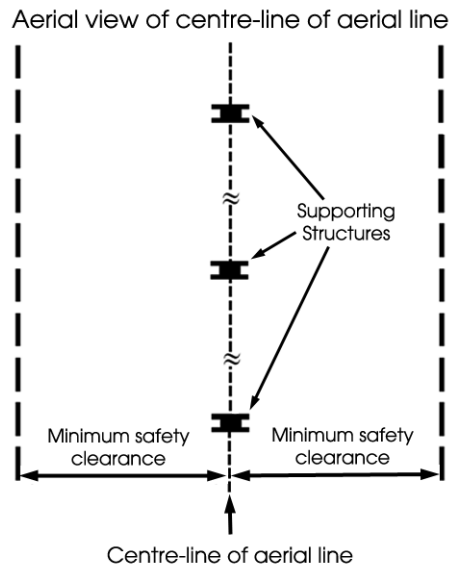
Direction	Distance measured from nearest conductor (in metres)							Distance measured from centre-line of aerial line (in metres)				
	U ≤ 1 000 V			U > 1 000 V		U > 1 000 V U ≤ 33 kV	U > 33 kV U ≤ 66 kV	U > 66 kV U ≤ 132 kV	U > 132 kV U ≤ 275 kV	U > 275 kV U ≤ 330 kV	U > 330 kV U ≤ 500 kV	
	Insulated	Bare		Insulated		Bare or covered	Bare	Bare		Bare	Bare	
	neutral	active	with earthed screen	without earthed screen			single pole	other				
Vertically above those parts of a building or structure normally accessible to persons (A)	2.7	2.7	3.7	2.7	3.7	5.5	6.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vertically above those parts of a building or structure not normally accessible to persons but on which a person can stand (B)	0.1	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	4.7	5.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Horizontally from those parts of a building or structure normally accessible to persons or that is not normally accessible to persons but on which a person can stand (C)	0.1	0.9	1.5	1.5	1.5	3.1	5.5	15.0	20.0	25.0	30.0	38.0
In any direction from those parts of a building or structure not normally accessible to persons (D)	0.1*	0.3*	0.6*	0.1	0.6	2.5	4.5	15.0	20.0	25.0	30.0	38.0
In any direction from ground	Refer to Table 2 or 3					Refer to Table 2						

\* This clearance can be further reduced to allow for termination at the point of attachment.

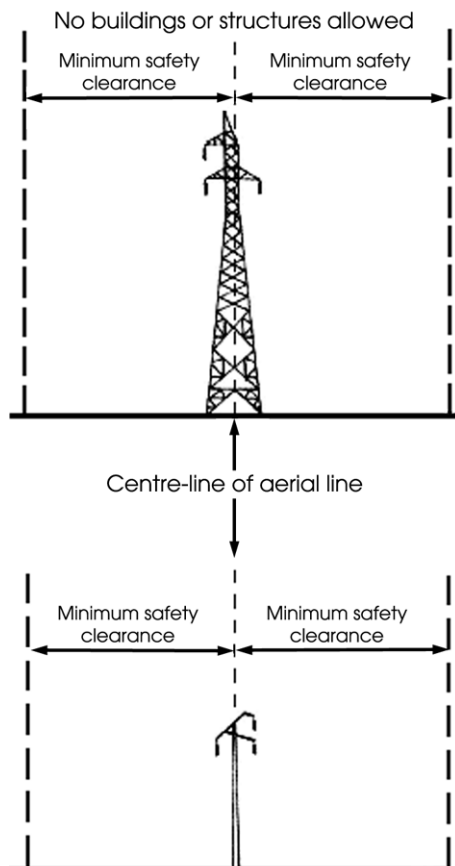
**Table 1 figures—**

- (1) Figures (a) and (b) will assist in understanding the required minimum safety clearance for aerial lines constructed to operate at a voltage of more than 66 kV.
- (2) Figure (c) will assist in understanding the required minimum safety clearance for aerial lines constructed to operate at a voltage of 66 kV or less (that is, minimum safety clearance from nearest conductor (maximum swing and sag)).

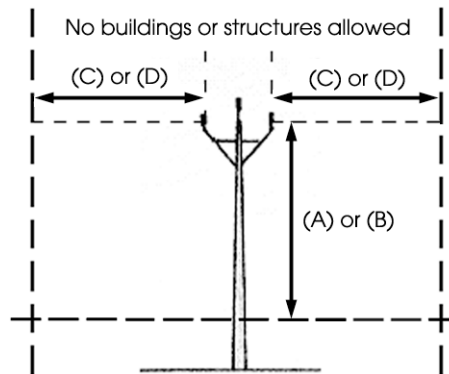
(a)



(b)



(c)



Vertical dimension (A) applies for example to:

- Balconies
- Terraces
- Walkways
- Bridges
- Scaffolds

Vertical dimension (B) applies in relation to things such as:

- Roofs with a slope of less than 45°
- Parapets wider than 0.1 m
- Pergolas
- Carports

Horizontal dimension (C) applies to the same as (A) and (B)

Horizontal dimension (D) applies in relation to things such as:

- Roofs with a slope of 45° or more
- Poles
- Light Poles

**TABLE 2: Clearance distance for aerial lines (excluding service lines, other cable systems and aerial lines within substations)**

Nominal system voltage (U)	Clearance distance (in metres)		
	Over carriageway of road	Over land other than carriageway of road	Over land not traversable by vehicles
Bare or insulated conductor $U \leq 1 \text{ kV}$	5.5	5.5	4.5
Insulated conductor with earthed screen $U > 1 \text{ kV}$	5.5	5.5	4.5
Insulated conductor without earthed screen $U > 1 \text{ kV}$	6.0	5.5	4.5
Bare or covered conductor $1 \text{ kV} < U \leq 33 \text{ kV}$	6.7	6.0	4.5
$33 \text{ kV} < U \leq 132 \text{ kV}$	6.7	6.7	5.5
$132 \text{ kV} < U \leq 275 \text{ kV}$	7.5	7.5	6.0
$275 \text{ kV} < U \leq 330 \text{ kV}$	8.0	8.0	6.7
$330 \text{ kV} < U \leq 500 \text{ kV}$	9.0	9.0	7.5

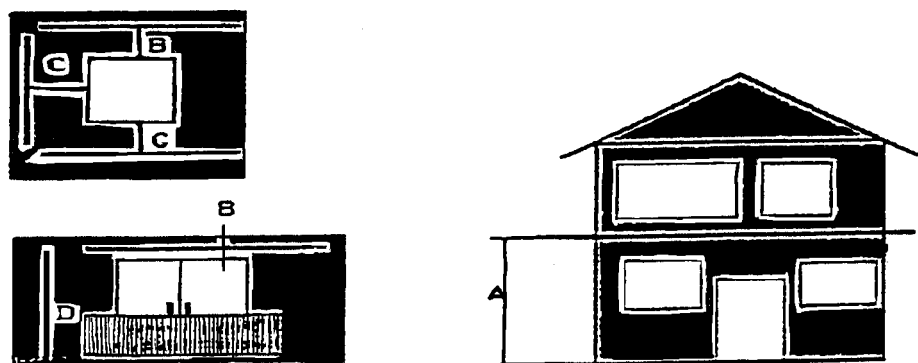
**TABLE 3: Clearance distances for aerial service lines and other cable systems**

Location of line	Clearance distance (in metres)
Over a road or part of a road specified by the Technical Regulator as being a preferred route for vehicles with loads exceeding the height restrictions established under the <i>Road Traffic Act 1961</i> or the <i>Heavy Vehicle National Law (South Australia) Act 2013</i>	6.5
Over any part of a main road within the meaning of the <i>Highways Act 1926</i>	5.5
Over the centre of each carriageway of a public road	5.5
Over any other part of a road	4.6
Over any part of a driveway	3.0
Elsewhere	2.7

**TABLE 4: Facade mounted lines**

	Facade situation	Clearance distances (in metres)
A	Clearance vertically from ground at footway level	2.5*
B	Above windows and doors	0.3*
C	Each side and below windows	0.5*
D	Each side of doors and balconies	1.0*
E	From metallic parts of buildings eg downpipes	0.05*
* This clearance may be reduced based on a proper risk assessment in any case where additional mechanical protection is provided to the cable.		

**Table 4 figures—**



The following figures will assist in understanding the information in Table 4.

## Appendix—Standards, codes, guides and other documents relating to aerial lines

In this Appendix—

- (a) *ENA* means Energy Networks Association Limited.

### Conductors

Conductor - Bare overhead - Hard - drawn copper.....	AS 1746
Conductor - Bare overhead - Aluminium and aluminium alloy.....	AS 1531
Conductor - Bare overhead, aluminium and aluminium alloy - Steel reinforced.....	AS 3607
Steel conductors and stays - Bare overhead - Galvanised (SC/GZ).....	AS 1222
Steel conductors and stays - Bare overhead - Aluminium clad (SC/AC).....	AS 1222
Galvanised steel wire strand.....	AS 2841

### Insulated cables

Electric cables - Polymeric insulated - For working voltages up to and including 0.6/1(1.2) kV.....	AS/NZS 5000
Electric cables - Polymeric insulated - For distribution and service applications.....	AS/NZS 4961
Electric cables - Cross-linked polyethylene insulated - Aerial bundled - For working voltages up to and including 0.6/1(1.2) kV.	AS/NZS 3560
Mechanical fittings for low voltage aerial bundled cable.....	AS 3766
Electric cables - Aerial bundled - Polymeric insulated - Voltages 6.35/11(12) kV and 12.7/22(24) kV - Metallic screened.....	AS/NZS 3599
Electric cables - Aerial bundled - Polymeric insulated - Voltages 6.35/11(12) kV and 12.7/22(24) kV - Non-metallic screened.....	AS/NZS 3599
Conductors - Covered overhead - For working voltages 6.35/11(12) kV up to and including 19/33(36) kV.....	AS/NZS 3675

### Insulators

Insulators - Ceramic or glass - Station post for indoor and outdoor use - Voltages greater than 1 000 V ac.....	AS 4398
Insulators - Porcelain and glass for overhead powerlines - Voltages greater than 1 000 V ac - Test methods - Insulator units ..	AS/NZS 2947
Insulators - Porcelain and glass for overhead powerlines - Voltages greater than 1 000 V ac.....	AS/NZS 2947
Insulators - Porcelain and glass for overhead powerlines - Voltages greater than 1 000 V ac - Couplings.....	AS 2947
Insulators - Porcelain and glass for overhead powerlines - Voltages greater than 1 000 V ac - Test methods - Insulator strings and insulator sets.....	AS/NZS 2947
Insulators - Porcelain and glass, pin and shackle type - Voltages not exceeding 1 000 V ac.....	AS 3608
Insulators - Porcelain stay type - Voltages greater than 1 000 V ac.....	AS 3609

Guidelines for the design and maintenance of overhead  
distribution and transmission lines—

- (a) Selection ..... ENA C(b)1

**Insulator and conductor fittings**

Insulator and conductor fittings for overhead powerlines -  
Performance, material, general requirements and dimensions ..... AS 1154

Insulator and conductor fittings for overhead powerlines -  
Performance and general requirements for helical fittings..... AS 1154

**Thermal limits**

Guidelines for the design and maintenance of overhead  
distribution and transmission lines—

- (a) Thermal limits ..... ENA C(b)1

Current rating of bare overhead line conductors ..... ENA D(b)5

**Short circuit capacity**

Guidelines for the design and maintenance of overhead  
distribution and transmission lines—

- (a) Fault ratings..... ENA C(b)1

**Mechanical loading conditions**

Guidelines for the design and maintenance of overhead  
distribution and transmission lines—

- (a) Mechanical loading conditions..... ENA C(b)1

Structural design actions - General principles..... AS/NZS 1170

Structural design actions - Permanent, imposed and other actions... AS/NZS 1170

Structural design actions - Wind actions ..... AS/NZS 1170

Minimum design loads on structures (known as the SAA  
Loading Code) - Earthquake loads ..... AS 1170

**Conductor tensions**

Guidelines for the design and maintenance of overhead  
distribution and transmission lines—

- (a) General ..... ENA C(b)1

- (b) Calculations ..... ENA C(b)1

**Structures and footings**

Guidelines for the design and maintenance of overhead  
distribution and transmission lines—

- (a) General ..... ENA C(b)1

Methods of testing soils for engineering purposes ..... AS 1289

Piling - Design and installation ..... AS 2159

Design of steel lattice towers and masts..... AS 3995

Steel structures ..... AS 4100

Concrete structures ..... AS 3600

#### **Clearances from ground**

Guidelines for the design and maintenance of overhead distribution and transmission lines—

- (a) Environmental and loading conditions..... ENA C(b)1

#### **Clearances from structures**

Guidelines for the design and maintenance of overhead distribution and transmission lines—

- (a) Environmental and loading conditions..... ENA C(b)1

#### **Spacing of conductors**

Guidelines for the design and maintenance of overhead distribution and transmission lines—

- (a) Clearances..... ENA C(b)1
- (b) Environmental and loading conditions..... ENA C(b)1

#### **Maintenance**

Guidelines for the design and maintenance of overhead distribution and transmission lines—

- (a) Maintenance and inspection procedures..... ENA C(b)1

## **Schedule 2—Requirements for underground lines and certain other powerlines**

(regulations 49 and 50)

### **1—Interpretation**

In this Schedule—

*listed standards* means the standards (both national and international), codes, guides and other documents listed in the Appendix at the end of this Schedule as published as referred to in the Appendix or, if no such reference is included in the Appendix, as published from time to time.

### **2—Design—general**

- (1) Underground lines must be designed so that—
  - (a) cables have safe levels of electrical insulation; and
  - (b) cables will carry load currents for which they are designed without failure; and
  - (c) cables will pass short circuit current which will enable the correct operation of protective devices; and
  - (d) the required clearances between a building or structure and an underground powerline as prescribed by regulation 82 are maintained,

and so as to comply with the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.

- (2) In determining electrical service conditions and the physical environment under which the line will operate, due care must be given to the consideration of extremes that may occur, the likelihood of their occurrence and the associated risks.

### **3—Cables and accessories**

Cables and their accessories must, so as to ensure safe operational performance, conform to the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.

### **4—Cable ratings**

- (1) The rating of a cable must be sufficient to pass the electrical load for which it is designed without failure or excessive heating.
- (2) Rating of cables must be determined in accordance with the listed standards.

### **5—Short circuit rating of conductors and cable screens**

- (1) The cable conductors and cable screens must be of sufficient size to pass short circuit currents without overheating for the time taken for the operation of the protective device.
- (2) The short circuit capacity of cable must be determined in accordance with the listed standards.

### **6—Installation—general**

Underground lines must be installed in a safe manner in accordance with this Schedule and the listed standards or so as to achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.

### **7—Installation of underground lines**

- (1) An underground line must be installed in accordance with Table 1 below and, subject to this clause, at the depth fixed for the designated voltage and cable type.
- (2) For the mechanical cover and enclosures referred to in Table 1 below, 1 of the following must be used:
  - (a) a layer of concrete at least 50 mm thick with a characteristic strength defined by AS 3600 and AS 1012 and determined to be not less than 15 MPa at 28 days placed not less than 50 mm and not more than 150 mm above the cable and overlapping the cable by at least 40 mm on each side; or
  - (b) concrete slabs of at least 40 mm thickness with a characteristic strength defined as AS 3600 and AS 1012 and determined to be not less than 15 MPa at 28 days with—
    - (i) each slab touching the next so that there are no spaces left between slabs; and
    - (ii) the slabs being placed not less than 50 mm and not more than 150 mm above the cable and overlapping the cable by at least 40 mm on each side of the cable; or
  - (c) a plastic or composite material that offers comparable protection (depending on depth of installation).

- (3) The enclosure referred to in the last column of Table 1 must be a medium or heavy galvanised steel tube conforming to AS 1074 or a non-metallic heavy duty conduit conforming to AS/NZS 2053 (depending on depth of installation).
- (4) If it is impractical to lay an underground line at a depth which complies with Table 1 then they may be laid at a lesser depth provided that additional covers or enclosures are installed to provide equivalent protection to that prescribed.
- (5) The underground line, from where it enters the ground to a position where it complies with the requirements of depth and protection in Table 1, must be protected by a cover or enclosure described above.
- (6) **Table**

**TABLE 1: Minimum depth of burial from surface of ground to top of cable or enclosure**

Nominal system voltage (U)	Method of burial and burial depth (in metres)		
	Direct buried	Direct buried and covered by mechanical cover	Enclosed in conduit or pipe
U ≤ 1 kV			
Single core type	(a) For a single insulated single core type—1;  (b) For a double insulated single core type—0.75;	0.6	0.45
Multi core type	For a double insulated multi core type—0.75	0.45	0.45
1 kV < U ≤ 22 kV Both cable types	0.75	0.6	0.6
22 kV < U ≤ 66 kV Both cable types	1	0.75	0.75

### 8—Part of underground line installed on or above ground

- (1) If an underground line is located on the surface of the ground or attached above the surface of the ground, it must be mechanically protected to a height of 2.4 m from any surface on which a person can stand to the point where it enters the ground.
- (2) The mechanical protection must be provided—
  - (a) by a cable guard made of mild steel of 2.5 mm thickness for HV cables and 1.6 mm thickness for LV cables, galvanised to AS/NZS 4680, AS/NZS 4791 or AS/NZS 4792; or
  - (b) a galvanised steel tube conforming to AS 1074; or
  - (c) some other material giving equivalent mechanical protection.

- (3) If the attachment of the underground line is more than 2.4 m from a surface on which a person can stand, the cable need not be mechanically protected provided that—
  - (a) the cable is beyond reach (determined in accordance with AS 2067 Appendix G) from windows or other accessible parts of the building; or
  - (b) the cable is less than or equal to 1 000 volts; or
  - (c) the cable is more than 1 000 volts but is metallic screened; or
  - (d) the cable is within a substation.
- (4) If the cable is high voltage, it must be enclosed in metallic piping or casing which is earthed in accordance with these regulations.

## 9—Shared trenches

Separation between cables and service lines of other utilities laid parallel must comply with the listed standards.

## 10—Maintenance

- (1) Underground lines must be maintained to be in a safe operating condition.
- (2) A system of maintenance must be instituted for underground lines and their components, including—
  - (a) predetermined processes to confirm the safe state of components;
  - (b) managed replacement programs for components approaching the end of their serviceable life.
- (3) Maintenance programs must be carried out in accordance with the listed standards.

### Appendix—Standards, codes, guides and other documents relating to underground lines

In this Appendix—

- (a) *ANSI* means American National Standards Institute;
- (b) *IEC* means International Electrotechnical Commission;
- (c) *IEEE* means Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

#### High voltage cables

Electric cables - Polymeric insulated - For working voltages 1.9/3.3(3.6) kV up to and including 19/33(36) kV .....	AS/NZS 1429
Electric cables - Impregnated paper insulated - For working voltages up to and including 19/33(36) kV .....	AS/NZS 1026
Electric cables - For underground residential distribution systems .....	AS/NZS 4026
Power cables with extruded insulation and their accessories for rated voltages from 1 kV up to 30 kV .....	IEC 60502
Power cables with extruded insulation and their accessories for rated voltages above 30 kV up to 150 kV - Test methods and requirements .....	IEC 60840

**Low voltage cables**

Electric cables - Impregnated paper insulated - For working voltages up to and including 19/33(36) kV ..... AS/NZS 1026

Conductors in insulated electric cables and flexible cords..... AS/NZS 1125

Electric cables - Polymeric insulated - For distribution and service applications..... AS/NZS 4961

Electric cables - Polymeric insulated - For working voltages up to and including 0.6/1(1.2) kV ..... AS/NZS 5000

Electric cables - For underground residential distribution systems..... AS/NZS 4026

**High voltage cable accessories**

High Voltage Cable Terminations ..... ANSI/IEEE 48

High Voltage Cable Joints ..... ANSI/IEEE 404

Separable insulated connectors for power distribution systems above 1 kV..... AS 2629

**Continuous cable ratings**

Electric cables - Calculation of the current rating..... IEC 60287

Electrical installations - Selection of cables - Cables for alternating voltages up to and including 0.6/1 kV ..... AS/NZS 3008

**Short circuit currents**

Calculation of short circuit currents..... IEC 60949

**Installation**

*Services in Streets—A Code for the Placement of Infrastructure Services in New and Existing Streets* (prepared for PUACC and published September 1997)

## **Schedule 3—Requirements for substations**

(regulation 51)

### **1—Interpretation**

In this Schedule—

***Building Code of Australia*** means the *Building Code of Australia* as published from time to time;

***ground type substation*** means a substation that is a semi-enclosed, free-standing substation connected to a high voltage aerial line or underground line;

***kiosk padmount type substation*** means a substation that is a totally enclosed, free-standing, self-contained substation not designed for bodily entry, generally operated from door openings;

***listed standards*** means the standards (both national and international), codes, guides and other documents, as published from time to time, listed in the Appendix at the end of this Schedule.

## **2—Design**

- (1) Substations must be designed so that—
  - (a) buildings and enclosures are secure; and
  - (b) plant, equipment and lines have safe levels of electrical insulation; and
  - (c) plant, equipment and lines will carry electrical load currents for which they are designed without failure; and
  - (d) plant, equipment and lines will carry short circuit currents which will enable the correct operation of protective devices,so as to comply with the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.
- (2) In determining electrical service conditions and the physical environment under which the line will operate, due care must be given to the consideration of extremes that may occur, the likelihood of their occurrence and the associated risks.

## **3—Plant and equipment**

All substation plant and equipment must conform to the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.

## **4—Clearances to live equipment and lines**

- (1) Substations must be designed to provide safe operating and working clearances from live equipment and lines.
- (2) Clearances between live equipment to structures and buildings and the provision of safe operating and working clearances must be determined in accordance with the listed standards.

## **5—Containment of insulating liquids**

Buildings must be designed in respect of the containment of insulating liquids in an enclosure or in an area in which the equipment is housed so as to comply with the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.

## **6—Security of substation buildings and enclosures**

- (1) Buildings and enclosures must be secured so as to prevent entry by unauthorised persons.
- (2) Buildings and enclosures must have signs on all entrances prohibiting unauthorised entry and warnings of the danger associated with unlawful entry.
- (3) The ventilation system of buildings and enclosures must be designed so to prevent the intrusion of foreign objects into the building or enclosure likely to interfere with the safe operation of the electrical equipment.

## **7—Kiosk padmount type substations**

The installation design of a kiosk padmount type substation must ensure that no part of the kiosk enclosure is within 1.2 m of any part of a building or wall that has a fire rating less than 3 hours as determined by the *Building Code of Australia*.

## 8—Ground type substations

- (1) The calculations for the design of structures supporting aerial lines in ground type substations must, in addition to allowing for the maximum loading in accordance with Schedule 1, also allow for forces under short circuit conditions.
- (2) Walls and fences enclosing a ground type substation must be designed—
  - (a) so that the minimum horizontal clearances from any building or structure (including fences or walls which are not solid) within the boundary, or forming the boundary of the ground type substation to any live and bare equipment is sufficient to ensure safe operating conditions;
  - (b) to be constructed of a substantive material (such as brick, masonry, wood, sheet metal or galvanised chain-wire mesh with an aperture dimension of not more than 0.05 m) and be a minimum height of 2.5 m.
- (3) The top 0.5 m of a wall or fence enclosing a ground type substation may consist of securely supporting barbed wire, or razor wire, with a maximum separation of the strands of 0.15 m or tiger tape flat loops.
- (4) Clearances between any building or structure within the boundary of the ground type substation and any live equipment must be determined so as to comply with the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.

## 9—Pole mounted substations

Pole mounted substations must be designed so that—

- (a) the calculations for the design of structures supporting aerial lines and busbars in substations, in addition to allowing for the maximum loading in accordance with Schedule 1, also allow for forces under short circuit conditions;
- (b) all parts of supporting platforms and equipment which are mounted on or attached to the pole or cross arms, except for conductors, are at height not less than that set out in Table 1;
- (c) any equipment mounted at a height less than that prescribed in paragraph (b), is less than 0.2 m from the surface of the pole and at least 0.5 m from the vertical projection of the kerb line of any road.

**TABLE 1: Heights of supporting platforms and mounted equipment**

	Outside 0.5 m of the vertical projection of the kerbline (on the non road side) of any road	Elsewhere
Height above ground surface	3.6 m	4.6 m

## 10—Installation

Substations must be installed to the requirements of a design that complies with the requirements of this Schedule.

## 11—Maintenance

- (1) Substations, substation enclosures, associated plant, components and lines must be maintained in a safe operating condition.

- (2) A system of maintenance must be instituted for substation buildings and enclosures and associated plant, equipment and lines, including—
- (a) predetermined processes to confirm the safe state of components; and
  - (b) managed replacement programs for components approaching the end of their serviceable life.
- (3) Maintenance programs must be carried out in accordance with the listed standards.

**Appendix—Standards, codes, guides and other documents relating to substations**

In this Appendix—

- (a) *IEC* means International Electrotechnical Commission;
- (b) *IP Code* means International Protection Code.

**Electrical design**

Switchgear assemblies & ancillary equipment for alternating voltages above 1 kV ..... AS 2067

**Circuit breakers and ancillary equipment**

Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)..... AS 60529

High voltage ac switchgear and controlgear - Circuit breakers for rated voltages above 1 000 V ..... AS 2006

**Switchgear assemblies and ancillary equipment**

High voltage switches - Switches for rated voltages above 1 kV and less than 52 kV ..... AS/NZS 60265

High voltage, ac switchgear and controlgear - Switches and switch-disconnectors - For rated voltages of 52 kV and above..... AS 1025

High voltage ac switchgear and controlgear - Disconnectors (isolators) and earthing switches ..... AS 1306

High voltage ac switchgear and controlgear - Switch-fuse combinations ..... AS 2024

Common specifications for high-voltage switchgear and controlgear standards ..... AS/NZS 2650

AC metal-enclosed switchgear and controlgear for rated voltages above 1 kV and up to and including 72.5 kV ..... AS 2086

AC insulation-enclosed switchgear and controlgear for rated voltages above 1 kV and up to and including 38 kV..... AS 2264

Switchgear assemblies and ancillary equipment for alternating voltages above 1 kV ..... AS 2067

Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)..... AS 60529

Insulating liquids - Specifications for unused mineral insulating oils for transformers and switchgear ..... AS 1767

**Control equipment**

Low voltage switchgear and controlgear - General rules ..... AS 60947

Low voltage switchgear and controlgear - Switches, disconnectors, switch-disconnectors and fuse combination units .... AS/NZS 3947

Low voltage switchgear and controlgear - Contactors and motor starters: Electromechanical contactors and motor starters ..... AS 60947

Low voltage switchgear and controlgear - Circuit control devices and switching elements - Electromechanical control circuit devices ..... AS 60947

Low voltage switchgear and controlgear - Control circuit devices and switching elements - Proximity switches ..... AS 60947

**Insulating panels**

Sheets and boards for electrical purposes - Classification and general requirements..... AS 1795

Sheets and boards for electrical purposes - Dimensions of switchboard panels..... AS 1795

**Power transformers**

Power transformers - General ..... AS 2374

Power transformers - Temperature rise..... AS 2374

Power transformers - Insulation levels and dielectric tests - General requirements..... AS 2374

Power transformers - Insulation levels and dielectric tests - External clearances in air ..... AS 2374

Power transformers - Ability to withstand short circuit..... AS 2374

Power transformers - Determination of transformer and reactor sound levels ..... AS 2374

Insulating liquids - Specification for unused mineral insulating oils for transformers and switchgear..... AS 1767

**Bushings**

Bushings for alternating voltages above 1 000 V ..... AS 1265

**Surge arresters**

Surge arresters (diverters) - Silicon carbide type for ac systems ..... AS 1307

Surge arresters - Metal-oxide surge arresters without gaps for ac systems..... AS 1307

**Batteries**

Stationary batteries - Lead-acid - Vented type..... AS 4029

Stationary batteries - Lead-acid - Valve-regulated type..... AS/NZS 4029

Stationary batteries - Lead-acid - Pure lead positive pasted plate type ..... AS 4029

**Insulation coordination**

Insulation coordination - Definitions, principles and rules ..... AS 1824

Insulation coordination (phase-to-earth and phase-to-phase, above 1 kV) - Application Guide..... AS 1824

Insulation coordination for equipment within Low Voltage systems: Principles, requirements and tests ..... IEC 60664

**Safety clearances**

Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code) ..... AS 60529

Switchgear assemblies and ancillary equipment for alternating voltages above 1 kV .....	AS 2067
<b>Buildings and enclosures</b>	
Building Code of Australia	
Fixed platforms, walkways, stairways and ladders: Design construction and installation.....	AS 1657
The use of ventilation and air conditioning in buildings - Ventilation design for indoor air contaminant control .....	AS 1668
The use of ventilation and air conditioning in buildings - Fire and smoke control in multi-compartment buildings .....	AS/NZS 1668
Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code).....	AS 60529
The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids ....	AS 1940
Oil containment.....	Environment Protection Authority
Electrical installations - Secondary batteries installed in buildings - Vented cells .....	AS 3011
Electrical installations - Secondary batteries installed in buildings - Sealed cells .....	AS 3011
<b>Switchyard structures, footings and foundations</b>	
Structural design actions - General principles.....	AS/NZS 1170
Structural design actions - Permanent, imposed and other actions..	AS/NZS 1170
Structural design actions - Wind actions .....	AS/NZS 1170
Minimum design loads on structures (known as the SAA Loading Code) - Earthquake loads.....	AS 1170
Design of steel lattice towers and masts.....	AS 3995
Steel structures .....	AS 4100
Concrete structures.....	AS 3600
<b>Maintenance</b>	
Guide to maintenance and supervision of insulating oils in service .....	AS 1883
Maintenance of electrical switchgear.....	AS 2467
Guide to the installation, maintenance, testing and replacement of secondary batteries in buildings - Vented cells .....	AS 2676
Guide to the installation, maintenance, testing and replacement of secondary batteries in buildings - Sealed cells .....	AS 2676

## Schedule 4—Requirements for earthing and electrical protection systems

(regulation 52)

### 1—Interpretation

In this Schedule—

*ENA* means Energy Networks Association Limited;

*listed standards* means the standards (both national and international), codes, guides and other documents, as published from time to time, listed in the Appendix at the end of this Schedule;

*neutral conductor* means a conductor or a group of conductors of a multi-wired system of supply which is maintained at an intermediate and approximate uniform electrical potential in respect of the other conductors of the same circuit, or the conductor of a two-wire system that is earthed at its origin;

*protective devices or equipment* means devices or equipment intended to isolate the active conductors of a circuit in the event of an electrical fault.

### 2—Design—general

- (1) Earthing and protection systems must be designed to ensure—
  - (a) reliable passage of fault and Single Wire Earth Return (*SWER*) load currents to earth; and
  - (b) reliable and speedy operation of circuit protection devices; and
  - (c) step, touch and transfer potentials with respect to assets associated with the circuit are safe; and
  - (d) detection and isolation of electrical conditions likely to significantly increase risk to people or cause significant damage to property,and so as to comply with the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better safety and technical outcomes.
- (2) In determining abnormal electrical service conditions, due care must be given to the consideration of extremes that may occur, the likelihood of their occurrence and the associated risks.

### 3—Protection equipment

All protection equipment must, to ensure safe operational performance, conform to the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better outcomes.

### 4—Earthing equipment and ancillaries

Earthing systems must be designed to be constructed of material that is—

- (a) copper, copper alloy, stainless steel or some other material having superior corrosion resistance; and
- (b) electrically conductive.

## **5—Earthing of low voltage electrical supply networks**

- (1) The earthing of low voltage electrical networks of supply must be designed to be a MEN system, unless otherwise approved by the Technical Regulator.
- (2) A MEN system must be designed so that—
  - (a) a continuous neutral conductor connects all customers' premises in accordance with AS/NZS 3000; and
  - (b) the neutral conductor is connected to earth at each distribution substation or generator.
- (3) A direct earthing system must be approved by the Technical Regulator and must be designed so that—
  - (a) a continuous earthed conductor connects—
    - (i) all customers' premises in accordance with AS/NZS 3000; and
    - (ii) the neutral conductor at the distribution substation or generator; and
    - (iii) every surge diverter,  
to earth at the generating station or distribution substation only; and
  - (b) the earthed conductor is formed from—
    - (i) the metallic sheath of an insulated cable providing the LV supply to the customers' premises; or
    - (ii) a separate conductor of an insulated cable providing the LV supply to the customers' premises; or
    - (iii) a separate earthing conductor affixed to structures supporting the LV supply circuit to the customers' premises; and
  - (c) the system is earthed at the substations or generating stations.

## **6—Earthing of substations**

Substations must be designed to have an earthing system that complies with the listed standards or achieves, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better outcomes.

## **7—Protection systems for low voltage aerial lines and underground lines**

Each of the aerial and underground service lines of a transmission or distribution network must form part of a circuit that is protected by protective equipment that can isolate each of the active conductors of the lines.

## **8—Step and touch potentials and earth potential rise**

Uninsulated metal or reinforced concrete that—

- (a) forms part of a circuit in a transmission or distribution network (excluding the current carrying conductors); and
- (b) is accessible to persons; and
- (c) may, in the event of a primary insulation failure of the circuit, experience a rise in voltage,

must be effectively earthed to comply with the requirements of the ENA *Guidelines for Design and Maintenance of Overhead Distribution and Transmission Lines* C(b)1, as published from time to time.

### **9—Installation of earthing and protection systems—general**

Earthing and protection systems must be installed in accordance with design requirements set out in this Schedule and to conform with the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better outcomes.

### **10—Connections and joints of earthing systems**

Terminations to earthing conductors and joints in earthing conductors must be of a type that utilises materials and techniques specifically developed for earthing electrical installations so as to comply with the listed standards or achieve, to the satisfaction of the Technical Regulator, the same or better outcomes.

### **11—Mechanical strength and protection of earthing systems**

Earthing conductors and other components of an earthing system must be installed in a manner that provides protection against likely mechanical damage, inadvertent interference and chemical deterioration.

### **12—Maintenance—general**

- (1) Protection and earthing systems must be maintained to be in a safe operating condition.
- (2) A system of maintenance must be instituted for protection and earthing systems and their components, including—
  - (a) predetermined processes to confirm the safe state of components; and
  - (b) managed replacement programs for components approaching the end of their serviceable life.
- (3) Maintenance programs must be carried out in accordance with the listed standards.

### **13—Inspection and testing of earthing systems**

- (1) Earthing systems must be inspected and tested from time to time to ensure that the design requirements of—
  - (a) resistance to the general mass of earth; and
  - (b) electrical capacity; and
  - (c) step, touch and transfer potentials; and
  - (d) corrosion resistance,are being maintained.
- (2) The condition of earthing systems must be verified by instruments designed for that purpose.

### **14—Inspection and test results of earthing systems**

The results of visual inspections and resistance readings must be recorded and audited to identify changes that would influence the frequency of inspections, tests and maintenance.

## 15—Inspection and testing of protection systems

- (1) Protection systems must be inspected and tested from time to time as required according to the risk of damage to, or aging of, components or changes in the network electrical parameters, to ensure that—
  - (a) detection sensitivity; and
  - (b) speed of operation; and
  - (c) discrimination of load currents; and
  - (d) co-ordination with other protection systems,of the systems are being maintained.
- (2) The performance of protection systems must be verified by instruments designed for that purpose.

## 16—Inspection and test results of protection systems

The results of visual inspections and performance tests must be recorded and audited to identify changes that would influence the frequency of inspections, tests, maintenance and replacements.

### Appendix—Standards, codes, guides and other documents relating to earthing and electrical protection systems

In this Appendix—

- (a) *ENA* means Energy Networks Association Limited;
- (b) *IEEE* means Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

#### Protection

All or nothing relays.....	AS 2481
Voltage transformers for measurement and protection .....	AS 1243
Current transformers for measurement and protection.....	AS 1675
Low voltage switchgear and controlgear - General rules .....	AS 60947
Low voltage switchgear and controlgear - Switches, disconnectors, switch-disconnectors and fuse-combination units ....	AS/NZS 3947
Low voltage switchgear and controlgear - Contactors and motor starters - Electromechanical contactors and motor starters .....	AS 60947
Low voltage switchgear and controlgear - Control circuit devices and switching elements - Electromechanical control circuit devices.....	AS 60947
Low voltage switchgear and controlgear - Control circuit devices and switching elements - Proximity switches .....	AS 60947

#### Earthing

Switchgear assemblies and ancillary equipment for alternating voltages above 1 kV .....	AS 2067
Guide for safety in AC substation grounding.....	IEEE 80
Electrical installations .....	AS/NZS 3000

Relocatable premises (including caravans and tents) and their site installations .....	AS/NZS 3001
Guidelines for the design and maintenance of overhead distribution and transmission lines—	
(a) Stay wires.....	ENA C(b)1
(b) Step and touch potentials .....	ENA C(b)1
Switchgear assemblies and ancillary equipment for alternating voltages above 1 kV.....	AS 2067
<i>AS/NZS 3835 Earth potential rise - Protection of telecommunications network users, personnel and plant</i>	
<b>Maintenance</b>	
Switchgear assemblies and ancillary equipment for alternating voltages above 1 kV.....	AS 2067
Electrical installations.....	AS/NZS 3000
Guide to safety in AC substation grounding.....	IEEE 80
ENA Guidelines for design and maintenance of overhead distribution and transmission lines.....	ENA C(b)1
<i>AS/NZS 3835 Earth potential rise - Protection of telecommunications network users, personnel and plant</i>	
<b>Testing</b>	
Electrical installations - Earthing.....	AS/NZS 3000
Guide for safety in AC substation grounding .....	IEEE 80
ENA Guidelines for design and maintenance of overhead distribution and transmission lines.....	ENA C(b)1

## **Schedule 5—Clearance from aerial lines**

(regulations 83, 84 and 87)

**TABLE 1: Clearance distance between materials and aerial lines or supporting structures**

Direction of distance	Type and voltage of aerial line (clearance distance in metres)					
	Low voltage aerial lines, service lines & other cable systems U ≤ 1 kV	U > 1 kV U ≤ 33 kV	U > 33 kV U ≤ 132 kV	U > 132 kV U ≤ 275 kV	U > 275 kV U ≤ 330 kV	U > 330 kV U ≤ 500 kV
Distance between any material (other than flammable materials) and aerial lines—						
(a) horizontal distance	1.5	2.1	3.0	4.6	5.5	6.4
(b) vertical distance	3.7	4.6	4.6	6.8	8.0	9.8
Distance between flammable materials and aerial lines—						
(a) horizontal distances	3.0	3.0	3.0	4.6	5.5	6.4
(b) vertical distances	3.7	4.6	6.8	6.8	8.0	9.8
Distance between any material and supporting structure—						
(a) horizontal distances	5.0	10.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
(b) vertical distances	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**TABLE 2: Clearance distance between operation of machine, vehicle or vessel with elevating component or shear legs and aerial lines**

Type and voltage or aerial line	U ≤ 1 kV ABC	U ≤ 1 kV Bare and covered conductor	U > 1 kV U ≤ 33 kV	U > 33 kV U ≤ 132 kV	U > 132 kV U ≤ 275 kV	U > 275 kV U ≤ 330 kV	U > 330 kV U ≤ 500 kV
Clearance distance in all directions in metres	0.5	1.0	1.5	3.0	4.0	6.0	8.0

**TABLE 3: Clearance distance between load being transported and aerial lines**

Nominal system voltage (U)	Clearance distance in all directions (in metres)
Low voltage aerial lines, service lines or other cable systems $U \leq 1$ kV	0.33
$1 \text{ kV} < U \leq 11 \text{ kV}$	0.6
$11 \text{ kV} < U \leq 33 \text{ kV}$	0.9
$33 \text{ kV} < U \leq 66 \text{ kV}$	1.4
$66 \text{ kV} < U \leq 132 \text{ kV}$	2.4
$132 \text{ kV} < U \leq 275 \text{ kV}$	3.2
$275 \text{ kV} < U \leq 330 \text{ kV}$	4.6
$330 \text{ kV} < U \leq 500 \text{ kV}$	5.5

## Schedule 6—Transitional provisions

### 2—Transitional provisions

- (1) Despite regulation 11 of these regulations, regulation 5AC of the revoked regulations as in force immediately before the commencement of this clause will continue to apply to work to be undertaken or underway (being work within the ambit of regulation 5AC) until 1 March 2013.
- (2) Despite regulation 68 of these regulations, regulation 29 of the revoked regulations as in force immediately before the commencement of this clause will continue to apply to persons required to carry out, or help in carrying out, electrical work until 1 September 2014.
- (3) Despite regulation 76 of these regulations, the technical installation rules published by an operator of a distribution network for the purposes of regulation 34 of the revoked regulations and in force immediately before the commencement of this clause will continue to apply for the purposes of these regulations until 1 March 2013.
- (4) In this clause—  
*revoked regulations* means the *Electricity (General) Regulations 1997*.

## Legislative history

### Notes

- Please note—References in the legislation to other legislation or instruments or to titles of bodies or offices are not automatically updated as part of the program for the revision and publication of legislation and therefore may be obsolete.
- Earlier versions of these regulations (historical versions) are listed at the end of the legislative history.
- For further information relating to the Act and subordinate legislation made under the Act see the Index of South Australian Statutes or [www.legislation.sa.gov.au](http://www.legislation.sa.gov.au).

### Legislation revoked by principal regulations

The *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012* revoked the following:

*Electricity (General) Regulations 1997*

### Principal regulations and variations

New entries appear in bold.

Year	No	Reference	Commencement
2012	199	<i>Gazette 30.8.2012 p3982</i>	1.9.2012: r 2
2013	4	<i>Gazette 31.1.2013 p178</i>	1.2.2013: r 2
2013	308	<i>Gazette 19.12.2013 p5133</i>	10.2.2014: r 2
2014	262	<i>Gazette 6.11.2014 p6380</i>	1.1.2015: r 2
2016	240	<i>Gazette 12.10.2016 p3994</i>	12.10.2016: r 2
2016	279	<i>Gazette 8.12.2016 p4934</i>	1.1.2017: r 2
2017	292	<i>Gazette 17.10.2017 p4347</i>	17.10.2017: r 2
2019	209	<i>Gazette 26.9.2019 p3358</i>	30.12.2019: r 2
2020	232	<i>Gazette 9.7.2020 p3776</i>	9.7.2020: r 2
2020	278	<i>Gazette 24.9.2020 p4679</i>	28.9.2020: r 2
<b>2020</b>	<b>304</b>	<b><i>Gazette 26.11.2020 p5373</i></b>	<b>1.1.2021: r 2</b>

### Provisions varied

New entries appear in bold.

Entries that relate to provisions that have been deleted appear in italics.

Provision	How varied	Commencement
Pt 1		
r 2	<i>omitted under Legislation Revision and Publication Act 2002</i>	<i>1.2.2013</i>
r 11		
r 11(5)	inserted by 278/2020 r 4	28.9.2020
Pt 2		

**Electricity (General) Regulations 2012—1.1.2021 to 3.11.2021**

## Legislative history

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r 12		
r 12(1)	r 12 varied and redesignated as r 12(1) by 4/2013 r 4(1), (2)	1.2.2013
r 12(2)—(4)	inserted by 4/2013 r 4(2)	1.2.2013
r 13		
r 13(3)	varied by 4/2013 r 5	1.2.2013
r 13A	inserted by 292/2017 r 4	17.10.2017
Pt 3		
r 15		
r 15(3)	substituted by 4/2013 r 6(1)	1.2.2013
r 15(4)	deleted by 4/2013 r 6(1)	1.2.2013
r 15(8)		
<i>transitional inset customer</i>	deleted by 4/2013 r 6(2)	1.2.2013
r 20	substituted by 4/2013 r 7	1.2.2013
<i>Pt 4 before substitution by 262/2014</i>	<i>will expire: r 37</i>	<i>(31.12.2014)</i>
r 22		
r 22(1)	varied by 4/2013 r 8(1)	1.2.2013
r 22(1a)	inserted by 4/2013 r 8(2)	1.2.2013
r 22(2)	varied by 4/2013 r 8(3)	1.2.2013
r 23		
r 23(1)		
<i>EEAT</i>	inserted by 4/2013 r 9(3)	1.2.2013
<i>EGRT</i>	varied by 4/2013 r 9(2)	1.2.2013
<i>ELEAT</i>	deleted by 4/2013 r 9(3)	1.2.2013
<i>energy credit</i>	varied by 4/2013 r 9(1)	1.2.2013
<i>relevant electricity retailer</i>	varied by 4/2013 r 9(4)	1.2.2013
<i>relevant gas retailer</i>	varied by 4/2013 r 9(5)	1.2.2013
r 23(3)	varied by 4/2013 r 9(6)	1.2.2013
r 28		
r 28(1)	varied by 4/2013 r 10	1.2.2013
r 29		
r 29(1)—(4)	varied by 4/2013 r 11	1.2.2013
r 29(5)		
<i>energy audit shortfall</i>	varied by 4/2013 r 11	1.2.2013
r 33		
r 33(3)	varied by 4/2013 r 12	1.2.2013
<i>Pt 4 before substitution by 304/2020</i>	<i>substituted by 262/2014 r 4</i>	<i>1.1.2015</i>
	<i>will expire: r 37</i>	<i>(31.12.2020)</i>
r 35A	inserted by 232/2020 r 4	9.7.2020

<b>Pt 4</b>	<b>substituted by 304/2020 r 4</b>	<b>1.1.2021</b>
	<b>will expire: r 36</b>	<b>(31.12.2030)</b>
Pt 5		
r 38		
r 38(1)	varied by 4/2013 r 13	1.2.2013
Pt 6		
r 39	<i>(c) and (d) deleted by 4/2013 r 14</i>	1.2.2013
Pt 6A	inserted by 4/2013 r 15	1.2.2013
Pt 9A	inserted by 4/2013 r 16	1.2.2013
r 44A	varied by 262/2014 r 5	1.1.2015
	<b>varied by 304/2020 r 5</b>	<b>1.1.2021</b>
r 44C	substituted by 209/2019 r 4	30.12.2019
Pt 10 Div A1	inserted by 279/2016 r 4	1.1.2017
Div 1		
r 46	varied by 292/2017 r 5	17.10.2017
r 55		
r 55(2) and (3)	<i>deleted by 279/2016 r 5</i>	1.1.2017
r 55A	inserted by 279/2016 r 6	1.1.2017
rr 55B—55G	inserted by 278/2020 r 5	28.9.2020
Div 2		
r 56		
r 56(1)	varied by 279/2016 r 7(1)—(5)	1.1.2017
	<i>(c) deleted by 279/2016 r 7(1)</i>	1.1.2017
r 56(1a) and (1b)	inserted by 279/2016 r 7(6)	1.1.2017
r 56(2)	varied by 279/2016 r 7(7)	1.1.2017
r 57	substituted by 279/2016 r 8	1.1.2017
Div 3		
r 64(3)	varied by 292/2017 r 6 (1), (2)	17.10.2017
Div 5		
r 72(1)	varied by 292/2017 r 7 (1)	17.10.2017
r 72(2)	varied by 292/2017 r 7 (2)—(4)	17.10.2017
r 72(2a)	inserted by 292/2017 r 7(5)	17.10.2017
Pt 12		
r 86(2)	<i>deleted by 292/2017 r 8</i>	17.10.2017
r 87		
r 87(1)	varied by 308/2013 r 4	10.2.2014
r 88A	inserted by 240/2016 r 4	12.10.2016
r 91	<i>deleted by 4/2013 r 17</i>	1.2.2013
Sch 1		
cl 13		
table 3	varied by 308/2013 r 5	10.2.2014
Sch 6		

## Transitional etc provisions associated with regulations or variations

### *Electricity (General) Variation Regulations 2014 (No 262 of 2014), Sch 1—Transitional provisions*

#### 1—Interpretation

In this Schedule—

**new Part 4** means Part 4 of the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012* (as substituted by these regulations);

**old Part 4** means Part 4 of the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012* as in force immediately before the commencement of these regulations.

#### 2—Energy credits

Despite the revocation of old Part 4 by these regulations, an energy credit accrued by a retailer before that revocation (other than a credit transferred under regulation 33 of old Part 4) will, on the commencement of new Part 4, be taken to be an energy credit for the purposes of new Part 4.

#### 3—Energy efficiency activities and energy audits

An energy efficiency activity or an energy audit undertaken by a retailer immediately before the commencement of new Part 4 will only be taken to be an energy efficiency activity or an energy audit for the purposes of new Part 4 if the activity or audit is reported to the Commission before a day designated by the Commission by notice in the Gazette.

#### 4—Commission to convert energy savings

- (1) For the purposes of clauses 2 and 3, the Commission must, in accordance with any requirements of the Minister, determine the manner in which—

- (a) an energy efficiency activity undertaken by a retailer; or
- (b) an energy credit accrued by a retailer,

before the revocation of old Part 4 by these regulations and expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent will be converted into an amount of energy taken to have been saved by the retailer for the purposes of new Part 4.

- (2) In addition, the Commission must, in accordance with any requirements of the Minister, determine the manner in which any—

- (a) energy efficiency shortfall; or
- (b) energy efficiency shortfall for priority group households,

which—

- (c) applied to a retailer immediately before the revocation of old Part 4; and
- (d) must be added to a target under new Part 4 (as a result of the operation of regulations 26(3) and 27(3)); and

(e) is expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent,  
will be converted into an amount of energy required to be saved by the retailer for the purposes of new Part 4.

## ***Electricity (General) Variation Regulations 2016 (No 279 of 2016), Sch 1***

### **1—Transitional provisions**

- (1) Until the prescribed day, despite regulation 55A(1) and (2) of the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012* (as inserted by these regulations), a hard copy certificate of compliance may be issued in accordance with those subregulations (as in force immediately after the commencement of these regulations) using an official form in accordance with regulation 57 of the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012* as in force immediately before the commencement of these regulations.
- (2) If a hard copy certificate of compliance is issued in accordance with subclause (1), regulations 44F and 55A(2) of the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012* (as inserted by these regulations) apply to the certificate of compliance with the following variations:
  - (a) a reference in regulation 44F or 55A(2) to an electronic certificate of compliance will be taken to be a reference to the hard copy certificate of compliance;
  - (b) the hard copy certificate of compliance is not required to be provided to the Technical Regulator under regulation 55A(2).
- (3) Until the prescribed day, despite the variations to regulation 56 of the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012* by regulation 7 of these regulations, a hard copy certificate of compliance may be issued in accordance with that regulation (as in force immediately after the commencement of these regulations) using an official form in accordance with regulation 57 of the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012* as in force immediately before the commencement of these regulations.
- (4) If a hard copy certificate of compliance is issued in accordance with subclause (3), regulation 56 of the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012* (as varied by these regulations) applies to the certificate of compliance with the following variations:
  - (a) a reference to an electronic certificate of compliance will be taken to be a reference to a hard copy certificate of compliance;
  - (b) the hard copy certificate of compliance is not to be provided to the Technical Regulator under regulation 56(1)(b).
- (5) In this clause—  
*prescribed day* means 30 June 2018.

## ***Electricity (General) (Retailer Energy Productivity Scheme) Variation Regulations 2020, Sch 1—Transitional provisions***

### **1—Interpretation**

In this Schedule—

*new Part 4* means Part 4 of the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012* (as substituted by these regulations);

*old Part 4* means Part 4 of the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012* as in force immediately before the commencement of these regulations.

## **2—Energy credits**

- (1) Despite the revocation of old Part 4 by these regulations, energy credits accrued by a retailer before that revocation (other than a credit transferred under regulation 33 of old Part 4) up to an amount equivalent to 20% of the energy efficiency target applying to the retailer for 2020 (under old Part 4) will, on the commencement of new Part 4, be taken to be an energy credit for the purposes of new Part 4.
- (2) The Commission must, in accordance with any requirements of the Minister, apply an energy credit referred to in subclause (1) to a retailer's EPT, or (if relevant) a primary subtarget or secondary subtarget applying to the retailer, under new Part 4.

## **3—Energy efficiency shortfalls from 2020**

For the purposes of regulation 30(2) of new Part 4, the Commission may adjust a target that would otherwise apply to a retailer in 2021 after taking into account any energy efficiency shortfall of a retailer under regulation 26 or 27 of old Part 4.

## **Historical versions**

1.2.2013

10.2.2014

1.1.2015

12.10.2016

1.1.2017

17.10.2017

30.12.2019

9.7.2020

28.9.2020