

## For Official Use Only



Dear Stakeholder,

As you are aware, from Monday, 28 September 2020, amendments to the Electricity (General) Regulations 2012 to implement new technical standards and requirements will come in to effect. This includes:

- Voltage ride through standards for electricity generating systems connected via an inverter
- Remote disconnection and reconnection requirements
- Export limit requirements
- Smart meter technical standards

Amendments to the National Energy Retail Law (Local Provisions) Regulations 2013 also commence to implement:

- Tariffs to incentivise energy use in low demand periods.

### New Regulations

Regulations mandating the above technical standards and requirements for Smarter Homes and the associated gazette notices are now available in the South Australian Government Gazette, No. 76, Thursday 24 September 2020 <https://governmentgazette.sa.gov.au/>

- Electricity (General)(Technical Standards) Variation Regulations 2020 – page 4679
- National Energy Retail Law (Local Provisions) Tariff Structures) Variation Regulations 2020 – page 4688

### Voltage ride through standards

#### *Approved Inverters*

In addition, the department has now expanded the [list of approved inverters](#), which provides details of inverter models that are approved for installation after 28 September 2020.

There are now over 320 models of inverters which have been assessed and approved for installation by the Office of the Technical Regulator.

Manufacturers of inverters who have not yet submitted test results and the associated forms to the Technical Regulator can do so via [otr.invertertestresults@sa.gov.au](mailto:otr.invertertestresults@sa.gov.au).

Further information on this process can be found on the [Voltage Ride Through](#) webpage.

### Remote disconnection and reconnection requirements

#### *Prescribed Day*

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.

The prescribed day is 28 September 2020 as notified in the South Australian Government Gazette, No. 76, Thursday 24 September 2020, page 4720, <https://governmentgazette.sa.gov.au/>

#### *Designated Electricity Generating Plant*

The remote disconnection and reconnection requirement only applies to designated electricity generation plant. Solar photovoltaic systems connected to a relevant distribution network are designated electricity generation plant as notified in South Australian Government Gazette, No. 76, Thursday 24 September 2020, page 4719, <https://governmentgazette.sa.gov.au/>

#### *Declared Components*

The remote disconnection and reconnection requirement only applies to existing designated electricity generating plant when a declared component is replaced. The [Technical Regulator guidelines for Declared Components](#) details declared components for the purpose of this requirement.

#### *Excluded Distribution Network*

The remote disconnection and reconnection requirement only applies to designated electricity generating plant connected to a relevant distribution network. A relevant distribution network does not include excluded distribution networks. Excluded distribution networks are listed in the notice in South Australian Government Gazette, No. 76, Thursday 24 September 2020, page 4719, <https://governmentgazette.sa.gov.au/>

#### *Exemptions*

Exemptions associated with the new remote disconnection and reconnection requirement are outlined in the [list of class exemptions \(PDF 398.1 KB\)](#).

#### *Relevant Agents*

The Office of the Technical Regulator published [guidelines](#) providing details of relevant agent roles and responsibilities.

The department also published a [list of relevant agents](#) who are registered with the Office of the Technical Regulator to provide remote disconnection and reconnection services to owners or operators of designated electricity generating plants in an emergency.

A dedicated webpage is available to provide more [information for Relevant Agents](#).

The department is seeking additional parties to register and become a relevant agent. Interested parties should submit the [registration form](#) or any questions to the Office of the Technical Regulator via [otr.relevantagents@sa.gov.au](mailto:otr.relevantagents@sa.gov.au).

### **Export Limits**

#### *Designated Electricity Generating Plant*

The export limits requirements only apply to designated electricity generation plant. Electricity generating plant connected via an inverter to a relevant distribution network are designated

electricity generation plant as notified in South Australian Government Gazette, No. 76, Thursday 24 September 2020, page 4719, <https://governmentgazette.sa.gov.au/>

#### *Declared Components*

The export limits requirements only applies to existing electricity generating plant when a declared component is replaced. The [Technical Regulator guidelines for Declared Components](#) details declared components for the purpose of this requirement.

#### *Excluded Distribution Network*

The export limits requirements only applies to designated electricity generating plant connected to a relevant distribution network. A relevant distribution network does not include excluded distribution networks. Excluded distribution networks are listed in the notice in South Australian Government Gazette, No. 76, Thursday 24 September 2020, page 4719, <https://governmentgazette.sa.gov.au/>

#### *Guideline*

The [Technical Regulator guidelines for remote communications](#) specifying details of the communication capabilities required of inverters is available on the [Dynamic Exports Limits](#) webpage.

### **Smart Meters**

#### *Guideline*

New [Technical Regulator guidelines for smart meters](#) has been published by the Office of the Technical Regulator which specifies the 'Smart Meter Minimum Technical Standard' and the 'Deemed to Comply Wiring Arrangements' applicable to Metering Coordinators, Metering Providers and Electrical Contractors.

#### *Exemptions*

Exemptions associated with the new smart meter requirement are outlined in the [list of class exemptions \(PDF 398.1 KB\)](#).

### **Tariffs to incentivise energy use in low demand periods**

A new requirement applies to electricity retailers operating in South Australia to have a standing offer which includes a tariff structure that incentivises electricity use in low demand periods.

Retailers can also meet these new requirements with a standing offer tariff structure of the retailer's choice where the retailer has been assessed to be providing market offers that reward customers for using electricity in low demand periods.

Retailers are [invited to submit](#) compliant market offers for assessment.

#### *Consumer information*

A consumer information sheet on time of use tariffs is also [available](#).

### **Fact sheets**

The department has developed fact sheets to provide key information to solar owners / customer and for installers / sellers. These fact sheets are now available on [Smarter Homes](#) webpage.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

The department has recently updated the Smarter Homes website with answers to frequently asked questions for [customers](#), [installers](#) and [relevant agents](#).

#### Further information

For more information on Smarter Homes, please visit the website:

[www.energymining.sa.gov.au/smarterhomes](http://www.energymining.sa.gov.au/smarterhomes)

The Department for Energy and Mining would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your engagement and support throughout the process.

Kind regards,

### Regulatory Changes for Smarter Homes Project Team

#### Energy and Technical Regulation

Department for Energy and Mining

E: [ETRConsultations@sa.gov.au](mailto:ETRConsultations@sa.gov.au)

GPO Box 320, Adelaide, South Australia 5001  
Level 8, 11 Waymouth Street, Adelaide 5000



**Government of South Australia**  
Department for Energy and Mining

[www.energymining.sa.gov.au](http://www.energymining.sa.gov.au)



**SOUTH**  
AUSTRALIA



**Government of South Australia**  
Department for Energy and Mining

Information contained in this e-mail message may be confidential and may also be the subject of legal professional privilege or public interest immunity. If you are not the intended recipient, any use, disclosure or copying of this document is unauthorised.