

Northern Territory Electricity System and Market Operator

Communications Guideline and MSATS Procedures v1.5 Issues Paper

Table of Contents

Notice of consultation	2
Matters under consultation	2
The consultation process	3
1. Background	5
1.1 Issues statement and scope.....	5
1.2 Proposed Consultation plan.....	6
2. Proposed Changes	7
2.1 Changes to the MSATS Procedures	7
2.2 Changes to the B2B Procedures	7
2.3 aseXML Schema	8
2.4 NTESMO Market Assessment	8
2.5 Benefits	8
2.6 Costs.....	9
3. NT Communications Guideline Proposal.....	9

Notice of consultation

Date of Notice: 28 March 2025

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

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

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

Matters under consultation

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

- *Change the following documents as per the below table:*
 - *NTESMO Communications Guideline*
 - *NTESMO MSATS Procedures Principles and Obligations for all Connection Points*
 - *NTESMO Standing Data for MSATS*
 - *NTESMO B2B Procedure Service Order Process*
 - *NTESMO B2B Procedure Customer and Site Details Notification*
 - *NTESMO B2B Procedure Meter Data Process*
 - *NTESMO B2B Procedure Technical Delivery Specification*
 - *NTESMO B2B Procedure Meter Data File Format Specification NEM12 NEM13*
 - *NTESMO B2B Procedure One Way Notification Process*

Table 1 Summary of Proposal

Instrument	New/Amended
NTESMO Communications Guideline	Update to align naming conventions with revised NTESMO procedures
NTESMO B2B Procedure Customer Site Details Notification Process	Updated based on IEC version 3.9
NTESMO B2B Procedure Service Order Process	Updated based on IEC version 3.9
NTESMO B2B Procedure Meter Data Process	Updated version number and effective date to retain version numbering based on IEC version 3.9
NTESMO B2B Procedure One Way Notification Process	Updated version number and effective date to retain version numbering based on IEC version 3.9
NTESMO B2B Procedure Technical Delivery Specification	Updated based on IEC version 3.9
NTESMO MSATS Procedures Principles and Obligations for all Connection Points	Updated based on NEM version 7.1
NTESMO Standing Data for MSATS	Updated based on NEM version 6.1
NTESMO Procedure MDFF Specification NEM12 NEM13	Updated based on NEM version 2.7

The consultation process

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

Submissions in response to this Notice should be sent by email by 5:00pm (ACST) on 1 May 2025 to market.operator@powerwater.com.au.

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

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

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

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

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

Table 2 Summary of consultation stages

Process Stage	Date
Publication of Issues Paper	28 March 2025
Closing date for submissions in response to Issues Paper	1 May 2025
Issue Prelim report	26 May 2025
Prelim report feedback	25 June 2025
Publication of Final Report and Determination (Final Report)	18 July 2025

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

1. Background

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

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

- An issues statement in respect of the Proposal (see section 1.1)
- A summary of the Changes, including consideration of the information exchange rules
- A consideration of the NT Electricity Reform Act objectives (see section 2.2)
- The Changes have been considered and recommended by NTESMO.

The Changes would result in changing the following documents:

- *NTESMO Communications Guideline*
- *NTESMO MSATS Procedures Principles and Obligations for all Connection Points*
- *NTESMO Standing Data for MSATS*
- *NTESMO B2B Procedure Service Order Process*
- *NTESMO B2B Procedure Customer and Site Details Notification*
- *NTESMO B2B Procedure Meter Data Process*
- *NTESMO B2B Procedure Technical Delivery Specification*
- *NTESMO B2B Procedure Meter Data File Format Specification NEM12 NEM13*
- *NTESMO B2B Procedure One Way Notification Process*

1.1 Issues statement and scope

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

In summary, the Changes are to:

Table 4 **Summary of Changes**

Instrument	New/Amended
NTESMO Communications Guideline	Update to align naming conventions with revised NTESMO procedures
NTESMO B2B Procedure Customer Site Details Notification Process	Updated based on IEC version 3.9

Instrument	New/Amended
NTESMO B2B Procedure Service Order Process	Updated based on IEC version 3.9
NTESMO B2B Procedure Meter Data Process	Updated version number and effective date to retain version numbering based on IEC version 3.9
NTESMO B2B Procedure One Way Notification Process	Updated version number and effective date to retain version numbering based on IEC version 3.9
NTESMO B2B Procedure Technical Delivery Specification	Updated based on IEC version 3.9
NTESMO MSATS Procedures Principles and Obligations for all Connection Points	Updated based on NEM version 7.1
NTESMO Standing Data for MSATS	Updated based on NEM version 6.1
NTESMO Procedure MDFF Specification NEM12 NEM13	Updated based on NEM version 2.7

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

The proposed effective date for all the changed documents is 1 December 2025.

1.2 Proposed Consultation plan

The proposed consultation plan is as follows:

Table 3 Plan

Stage	Start Date	End Date
Publication of Notice of Consultation and Issues Paper	28 March 2025	
Participant submissions to be provided to NTESMO	28 March 2025	1 May 2025
Closing date for submissions in response to Issues Paper	1 May 2025	
Issue Prelim report	26 May 2025	25 June 2025
Prelim report feedback	25 June 2025	
Publication of Final Report	18 July 2025	

2. Proposed Changes

2.1 Changes to the MSATS Procedures

The NT MSATS procedures have been updated to reflect changes to the NEM MSATS procedures. This is to maintain alignment between the procedures. The main updates are around formatting of addresses and recording of metering defects in MSATS against a site.

The NEM procedures have been updated to include both wholesale and retail connection points. The inclusion of wholesale connection points (transmission, boundary meters etc) is not applicable in the NT as these connection points do not exist. These changes have minimal impact on the NT procedures.

The proposed changes to the MSATS procedures allow for the Metering Coordinator to record a metering defect against a site for all participants, who have a relationship with that site, to have visibility of the stated metering defect.

NTESMO has considered this change and consider having additional fields available to the Metering Coordinator to record metering defects against a site would be beneficial to participants. This increases information flow between participants.

Question 1: Do you support the inclusion of fields in MSATS for the Metering Coordinator to record metering defects against a site??

Question 2: Are there any other comments on the minor changes through the rest of the MSATS Procedures and Standing Data for MSATS documents?

2.2 Changes to the B2B Procedures

The NT Business to Business procedures have been updated to align with the NEM procedures. The main changes have been the addition of fields in the service orders to allow for the mandatory replacement of all basic meters in the NEM under a network planned roll out. This is a AEMC initiative that does not apply in the NT.

The additional fields are optional and will not impact on the NT participants.

The Meter Data File Format has been updated to align with the latest NEM version. The updates are in clarification of fields and increase in the allowed substitution type values rather than a material change to the NEM12 / NEM13 file format.

Minor formatting changes have been made through the documents as marked up in the versions released for consultation.

Question 3: Do the participants support the proposed changes to the business to business procedures?

Question 4: Do the participants support the proposed changes to the Meter Data File Formats?

2.3 aseXML Schema

The impact of the changes in procedures is to require a revision to the aseXML schema used by all participants to submit transactions via MSATS. The new schema, version r45, will come into effect with these changes from 1 December 2025.

All participants are required to transact via MSATS using the current version of the schema or the 'n-1' version of the schema.

The effect of this consultation process on the aseXML schema needs to be evaluated by all participants. It is the responsibility of all participants to maintain the schema being used to transact via MSATS.

Question 5: Do the participants understand the impacts on the aseXML schema being used to submit transactions via MSATS?

2.4 NTESMO Market Assessment

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

Market Objectives	Justification
Promote economic efficiency	Providing increased clarity on metering defects allows participants to have greater visibility of the current conditions at each site
Ensure consumers benefit from competition	Improvements to the business to business communication and the flow of data to retailers will allow them to provide improved services to the end use consumers
Prevent misuse of monopoly power	Not applicable from this change proposal

2.5 Benefits

The proposed changes will benefit the Northern Territory electricity consumers in the following manner:

- Providing increased information on conditions at each connection point and the ability to provide that to the end use consumer

2.6 Costs

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

3. NT Communications Guideline Proposal

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

Contact

Power and Water - 1800 245 092 from 8am to 5pm weekdays.

Market Operator - 08 8985 8566

Email: market.operator@powerwater.com.au

NTESMO