

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR UPDATE



New Connection and Metering Manuals

The Queensland Electricity Connection and Metering Manual (QECMM) provides minimum requirements for connection of supply and metering of customer installations. Following Power of Choice reform to expand competition in metering and related services, the QECMM has now been split into two documents:

- [The Queensland Electricity Connection Manual \(QECM\)](#).
- [The Queensland Electricity Metering Manual \(QEMM\)](#).

Where existing documents or legislation refer to the QECMM, please now refer to the connection manual (QECM), which will in turn refer you to the metering manual (QEMM) if required.

The majority of content in the two manuals remains the same as the previous QECMM, however some key changes to note include:

- meter wiring size
- remote meter positions
- asbestos management

Further information on the above three topics is provided below.

As a registered electrical contractor it's your responsibility to be fully aware of the content and requirements of the new connection manual (QECM) and the metering manual (QEMM).

The new manuals can be accessed on the [Forms, Manuals & Standards](#) page on the Contractors and Industry section of our website.

Meter wiring size

Since the implementation of Power of Choice there have been inconsistent cable sizes being used for meter wiring. To assist with clarifying and standardising this, Clause 2.8 *Size of Direct Connected Meter Wiring* has been reinstated in the metering manual (QEMM).

Remote meter positions

To facilitate a safe and efficient testing procedure for staff in the new Power of Choice environment, metering must be located with the Meter Isolation Link (MIL), Metering Neutral Link and the Main Neutral Link. Remote meter positions are not to be installed isolated from the Main Switchboard. Refer to the connection manual (QECM) Clause 6.6.1.

Asbestos management

Where an existing meter panel contains asbestos and the customer requests a change to metering or control equipment, the asbestos panel must now be removed as per the connection manual (QECM) Clause 6.9.1.

If our crews attend properties to carry out customer requested work and find the meter panel contains asbestos, they'll notify the customer of the required panel replacement and advise them to inform us once completed so the crews can re-attend and undertake the work.

Metering active and neutral link mounting

It's important that metering active and neutral links are mounted on the rear of the meter panel or meter enclosure. The links must be mounted in such a way that they don't interfere with the mounting of the metering equipment (normally mounted on the upper or middle section of the meter panel).

It's preferable for the metering active and neutral links to be mounted as close as practical to the bottom of the meter panel.

Access to metering links must not be obstructed by any structure or wiring within the switchboard.

Authorised persons reminder

Electrical Contractors and Meter Providers working near overhead or underground electric lines in the Ergon Energy network (in particular low voltage services, low voltage underground pillars, and low voltage switchboards associated with distribution transformers) are required to be an Authorised Person (Electrical).

Please remember, only an approved Authorised Person (Electrical) can remove and replace LV service fuses when a customer's LV service line needs to be isolated to:

- eliminate the exclusion zone around the LV service line, or
- work on the customer's mains and/or switchboard.

An Authorised Person (Electrical) is not allowed to:

- replace a blown LV service fuse/s after loss of supply to a customer's installation or to alter the Network overhead LV services, or
- climb or work aloft on our Network's poles or assets.

For information on how to register yourself or your workers to become Authorised Persons please visit our [Authorised Person web page](#).

Alternative Control Services Price List updated

Ergon Energy Network has updated the Price List for Alternative Control Services. This may assist you in advising customers of costs for certain services.

The final charge reflected on the customer's retail bill may vary and customers should also contact their Retailer to ensure there are no additional charges.

To access the price list, open the [2018-19 Network Tariff Table](#) and click on the ACS Price List tab at the bottom of the table. You can find this document on our [Price List for Alternative Control Services webpage](#).

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About Electrical Contractor Update

This newsletter will keep you informed about what's happening in the industry and any changes to compliance, rulings and legislation.