Solar Industry Update

Electrical Partners Portal changes

We're making some changes to the Electrical Partners Portal to help improve usability, speed up timeframes and provide more information and tools to assist you when using the portal. To implement these changes, the portal will be inaccessible on the morning of Saturday 22 September.

From Saturday afternoon you'll notice a number of changes when you access the portal. Full details on the changes, including screenshots of what you'll see, are included in this Electrical Partners Portal Changes document.

Some of the key changes we're making include, but are not limited to:

**Terminology changes**

Form A will now be referred to as EWR (Electrical Work Request) and Form B will be referred to as Form 3. This will align terminology between Ergon Energy Network and Energex, making it simpler for those who work in both network areas. You'll still see Form A and Form B on the paper versions of these forms until existing stock is depleted, after which the names will be updated.

For solar applications, when selecting the metering required in the drop down list, you'll now see “Embedded Generation” rather than “Photovoltaic”.

**Enhanced EWR (Previously Form A)**
EWR (previously known as Form A) enhancements include improved help text, more logical grouping of fields, removal of obsolete fields plus the following new features:

- New option to request an appointment
- New **Power User Links** and **Quick Links** to quickly and easily select your desired request
- New **Action Summary Text** provides you with more information on Primary and Secondary Actions and the roles of the different parties (Ergon Energy Network / Metering Provider)
- For basic jobs, the tariff selection function will now only appear when required, eliminating the need for you to identify what tariffs currently exist on site
- Ability to advise what appliances are to be connected for a controlled load
- Option to delete unwanted EWRs that have been saved but not submitted

**Notification improvements**

- Notifications will include additional information e.g. responsible parties
- New notifications to help keep you informed about what’s happening with your work requests. Please review and update your notification preferences via the MyProfile tab on the portal.

**New LV & HV Connection Standard released**

**LV Connection Standard**

In August we asked for feedback from industry on the LV Connection Standard and our proposed changes. Based on feedback received and to align the standard with industry practices and Australian and International standards, the following areas have been changed:

- The power quality requirements for flicker (Inverter Energy Systems (IES) and rotating machines) and harmonics (rotating machines) have been revised
- Clarity that power quality measurements are to be taken at the connection point
- Clarification on when you need certified compliance to Australian or International standards
- The frequency protection settings, including over and under frequency settings for IES as well as changes to rate of change of frequency (ROCOF) settings for both IES and rotating machines
- We may also require that you supply an electromagnetic transients (EMT) model for embedded generating (EG) systems greater than 200 kW where they are connecting to a constrained network. This aligns with industry guidelines and our HV Connection Standard

Please ensure you now refer to the new **Standard for Connection of Embedded Generating Systems (>30 kW to 1,500 kW) to a Distributor's LV Network** which is effective from 15 September 2018.

**HV Connection Standard**
Energex and Ergon Energy Network have released the new joint standard that applies to all Embedded Generating (EG) systems connected at either low voltage (LV) or high voltage (HV), where the connection point with us is to the HV distribution network. The standards that were previously in use for HV EG connections have now been withdrawn.

Please ensure you now refer to the new Standard for Connection of Embedded Generating systems to a Distributor’s HV Network which is effective from 13 August 2018.

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 are around meter wiring size, remote meter positions and asbestos management. Please refer to the manuals for further information.

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

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

Multiple meters on single NMIs at commercial sites

Consideration should be given to the metering arrangement at commercial sites when designing the connection of an inverter energy system. Where multiple meters are used for a single NMI, the electricity exported or consumed is not offset across meters. This may result in customers not seeing the reduction in electricity and/or demand charges they were expecting. Where a customer is looking to offset consumption or demand across meters, the site wiring may need to be reconfigured.

Please ensure wiring is in compliance with the connection manual (QECM) and metering manual (QEMM) and all relevant legislation and Australian Standards, including AS/NZS 3000.
Further information

**Portal:** For user guides, FAQs and more information visit the [Portal Help webpage](#). If you require further assistance with the portal please call **13 74 66** or email [externalpartnerships@energyq.com.au](mailto:externalpartnerships@energyq.com.au).

**Technical Enquiries:** Please email [tech.enquiries@energyq.com.au](mailto:tech.enquiries@energyq.com.au)

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**About Solar Industry Update**

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