

Solar & Battery Connections: Embedded Network FAQs for Residents

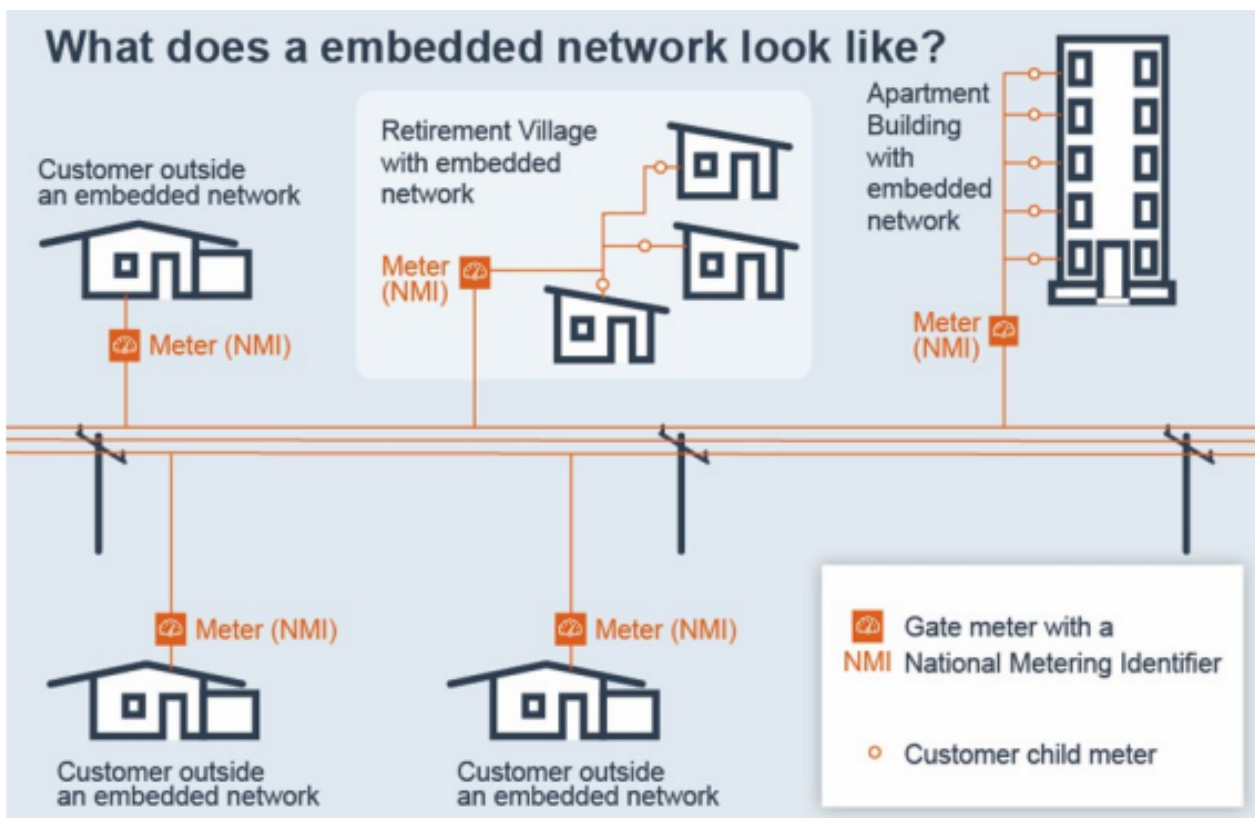


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What is an Embedded Network?

Embedded networks are formed when there is one 'parent' point of connection to our electricity distribution network with multiple 'child' meters within it.

In the example below, the embedded network is configured so the owner or operator of the site can on-sell electricity to the residents within the embedded network.



Source: AER Guideline - Exemption from registration as a network service provider

Who is the electricity retail customer for an embedded network?

The electricity retail customer for an embedded network will likely be the embedded network owner or operator e.g., the company who owns or operates the embedded network. They will receive the power bill from the electricity retailer.

Who is responsible for the application and approval of solar/battery installations within an embedded network?

The embedded network owner, operator or their approved authorised agent is responsible for the submission of a connection application to us for any solar or battery installations within the embedded network.

We will review the connection application and provide approval to the applicant.

Why is the embedded network owner/operator responsible for solar/battery installations at residents' dwellings?

An embedded network has one point of connection to our electricity distribution network. The National Electricity Rules state that the owner of that connection point must be the connection applicant and the party whom we enter into the connection contract with.

How do residents of an embedded network apply for solar or batteries at their dwelling?

Approval from the embedded network owner/operator must be obtained and included within the connection application for the proposed solar or battery installation.

Your electrical contractor must provide the embedded network owner's/operator's details within the application (not your details), as we will assess the application and provide an offer to the embedded network owner/operator to accept.

Once the offer has been accepted by the embedded network owner/operator, your electrical contractor can commence the installation of the system and submit the relevant paperwork to us to complete the application process and form the connection contract.

What happens where solar/batteries are already installed at a resident's dwelling and the embedded network owner/operator was not consulted?

It is the responsibility of the embedded network owner/operator to ensure a valid connection contract is in place with us for any solar or batteries installed within an embedded network.

The electrical contractor also has a responsibility to provide correct embedded network owner/operator information within a connection application.

If you believe there are solar or batteries installed without approval, talk to your embedded network owner/operator. They can engage an electrical contractor to audit the site and submit a connection application to us to ensure there's a valid connection contract in place.



What happens when the embedded network site reaches generation of 30kVA, and a sole resident requests to install solar/battery at their dwelling?

As the process, cost and technical requirements are greater for capacities over 30kVA, it is recommended the embedded network owner/operator asks all residents if they are interested in installing solar/batteries within a 12-month period. Then a connection enquiry and application for the larger capacity can be submitted to us, the cost can be shared, and the residents have 12 months to install their solar/battery systems.

How to contact us

If you have any questions at all, please contact us at the below email addresses or call us on (07) 4789 5959.
ergongeneration@energyq.com.au or energexgeneration@energyq.com.au.



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