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Electricity Industry Participation Code (Common Quality Related Amendments) Amendment 2026

This amendment to the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 (Code) is made under section 38 of the Electricity Industry Act 2010 (Act) by the Electricity Authority having complied with section 39 of the Act.

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Amendment

1 Title

This is the Electricity Industry Participation Code (Common Quality Related Amendments) Amendment 2026.

2 Commencement

This amendment comes into force on 1 December 2026.

3 Code amended

This amendment amends the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010.

Part 1

Amendments to Part 1 of the Electricity Industry Participation Code

4 Clause 1.1 amended (Interpretation)

- (1) In clause 1.1(1), replace the definition of **fast instantaneous reserve** with:

fast instantaneous reserve means **instantaneous reserve** provided after the start of a “Contingent Event” or an “Extended Contingent Event” (both as defined in the **policy statement**) that results in a fall in frequency, where that **instantaneous reserve** is provided in accordance with the requirements for fast instantaneous reserve set out in the **procurement plan** and that is sustained until at least 60 seconds after the start of the “Contingent Event” or “Extended Contingent Event”

- (2) In clause 1.1(1), revoke the definition of **maximum South Island frequency**.

- (3) In clause 1.1(1), revoke the definition of **over frequency limit**.

- (4) In clause 1.1(1), replace the definition of **sustained instantaneous reserve** with:

sustained instantaneous reserve means **instantaneous reserve** provided after the start of a “Contingent Event” or an “Extended Contingent Event” (both as defined in the **policy statement**) that results in a fall in frequency, where that **instantaneous reserve** is provided in accordance with the requirements for sustained instantaneous reserve set out in the **procurement plan** and that is sustained until at least 15 minutes after the start of the “Contingent Event” or “Extended Contingent Event” (unless a new **dispatch instruction** is given before the expiry of that 15 minute period)

Part 2

Amendments to Part 7 of the Electricity Industry Participation Code

5 Clause 7.2A amended (System operator to maintain frequency)

- (1) In clause 7.2A, replace subclause (5) with:

- (5) During a contingent event in the North Island, the **system operator** must ensure that, for that **island**—

- (a) frequency remains at or above 48 Hertz and at or below 52 Hertz during the contingent event; and
 - (b) frequency returns to or above 49.25 Hertz and to or below 50.75 Hertz within 60 seconds after the contingent event.
- (5A) During a contingent event in the South Island, the **system operator** must ensure that, for that **island**—
 - (a) frequency remains at or above 48 Hertz and at or below 55 Hertz during the contingent event; and
 - (b) frequency returns to or above 49.25 Hertz and to or below 50.75 Hertz within 60 seconds after the contingent event.
- (2) In clause 7.2A(6),—
 - (a) in paragraph (a), insert “and at or below 52 Hertz during the extended contingent event” after “47 Hertz”; and
 - (b) in paragraph (b), insert “during the extended contingent event” after “5 seconds”; and
 - (c) in paragraph (c), insert “during the extended contingent event” after “20 seconds”; and
 - (d) in paragraph (d), insert “and to or below 51.2 Hertz” after “49.25 Hertz”.
- (3) In clause 7.2A(7),—
 - (a) in paragraph (a) insert “and at or below 55 Hertz during the extended contingent event” after “45 Hertz”; and
 - (b) in paragraph (b) insert “and to or below 52 Hertz” after “49.25 Hertz”.

Part 3

Amendments to Part 8 of the Electricity Industry Participation Code

6 Clause 8.17 replaced (Contribution by injections to overall frequency management)

Replace clause 8.17 with:

8.17 Contribution by injections to overall frequency management

- (1) Subject to subclause (2), each **generator** and the **HVDC owner** must ensure that its **assets**, other than any **excluded generating station**, at all times make the maximum possible **injection** contribution—
 - (a) to maintain frequency within the **normal band**; and
 - (b) to restore frequency to the **normal band** when frequency is outside the **normal band**.
- (2) Subclause (1) applies—
 - (a) to a **generator** only when its **assets** are **synchronised**; and
 - (b) to the **HVDC owner** only when the **HVDC link** is **electrically connected**.
- (3) Any contribution made by the **assets** of a **generator** or the **HVDC owner** in accordance with subclause (1) must be assessed against the **technical codes**.

7 Clause 8.19 amended (Contributions to frequency support in under-frequency events)

- (1) Replace clause 8.19(1) with:

- (1) Each North Island **generator** must ensure that its **assets**, other than any **excluded generating station**, contribute to supporting frequency at all times while **synchronised** by ensuring that each of its **generating units** remain **synchronised** and, subject to any variability or intermittency in the **generating unit's** power source, sustain at least their pre-event output—
 - (a) indefinitely when the frequency is above 47.5 Hertz; and
 - (b) for at least 120 seconds when the frequency is 47.5 Hertz; and
 - (c) for at least 20 seconds when the frequency is 47.3 Hertz; and
 - (d) for at least 5 seconds when the frequency is 47.1 Hertz; and
 - (e) for at least 0.1 seconds when the frequency is 47.0 Hertz; and
 - (f) at any frequencies between those specified in paragraphs (b) to (e), at least for a period of time derived by linear interpolation.
- (2) Replace clause 8.19(3) with:
- (3) Each South Island **generator** must ensure that its **assets**, other than any **excluded generating station**, contribute to supporting frequency at all times while **synchronised** by ensuring that each of its **generating units** remain **synchronised** and, subject to any variability or intermittency in the **generating unit's** power source, sustain at least their pre-event output—
 - (a) indefinitely when the frequency is at or above 47 Hertz; and
 - (b) for 30 seconds if the frequency falls below 47 Hertz but not below 45 Hertz.

8 Clause 8.25A amended (Fault ride through)

- (1) In clause 8.25A(2), replace “bus” with “busbar” in each place.
- (2) Revoke clause 8.25A(3).

9 New clause 8.25AB inserted (Assessing fault ride through compliance)

After clause 8.25A, insert:

8.25AB Assessing fault ride through compliance

- (1) The **system operator** must assess whether each of a **generator's assets**, when **electrically connected** to a **network**, meets the requirements of clauses 8.25A(1) and 8.25A(2) by reviewing the power system analysis the **generator** must undertake in compliance with the fault ride through study obligations in the **connected asset commissioning, testing and information standard**.
- (2) The power system analysis referred to in subclause (1) must use—
 - (a) for any **generating station** with a **point of connection** on the **grid**, one or more network models provided by the **system operator**; and
 - (b) subject to subclause (3), for any **embedded generating station**, one or more network models provided by the **system operator** and the **distributor** to whose **distribution network** the **embedded generating station** is directly connected; and
 - (c) relevant system assumptions provided by the **system operator**.

- (3) If there is a material inconsistency between the software type or the configuration of the network models provided by the **system operator** and the software type or the configuration of the network models provided by the **distributor** under subclause (2), the **generator** and the **system operator** must use the software type and the configuration of the network models provided by the **system operator** to the extent of the inconsistency.
- (4) If the **system operator** considers that a **generator's asset** does not meet the requirements of clauses 8.25A(1) and 8.25A(2), the **system operator** and the **generator** must seek to reach agreement on—
 - (a) any further power system analysis needed to prove whether the **asset** meets the requirements of clauses 8.25A(1) and 8.25A(2); and
 - (b) any measures needed for the **asset** to meet the requirements of clauses 8.25A(1) and 8.25A(2).

10 Clause 8.25B amended (Reactive current and active power output)

In clause 8.25B(3),—

- (a) replace “a **wind generating station**” with “an **intermittent generating station**”; and
- (b) replace “the intermittent wind power source” with “its variable and/or intermittent power source”.

11 Clause 8.25D amended (Application)

Revoke clause 8.25D(a).

Schedule 8.3 amended

12 Schedule 8.3, Technical Code A, clause 5 amended

In Schedule 8.3, Technical Code A, clause 5, replace subclause (2) with:

- (2) Each **generator** must ensure that for each of its **generating stations** with a **point of connection** on the **grid**—
 - (a) if a **generating unit** is equipped with a voltage **control system**, the voltage **control system**—
 - (i) has a voltage set point that is adjustable over the range of voltages set out in clause 8.23; and
 - (ii) operates continuously in the voltage control mode when **synchronised**; and
 - (ab) if a **generating unit** is not equipped with a voltage **control system**, then the **generating station** must be equipped with a voltage **control system** that—
 - (i) has a voltage set point that is adjustable over the range of voltages set out in clause 8.23; and
 - (ii) operates continuously in the voltage control mode when **synchronised**; and
 - (b) the **generating station** has either—
 - (i) at least one connection transformer, located at the **generating station's point of connection** on the **grid** or between the **generating station's point of connection** on the **grid** and the **generating units**, with an appropriate range of taps together with an on-load tap-changer; or

- (ii) **assets** to give a dynamic performance at least equivalent to those required by subparagraph (i).

13 Schedule 8.3, Technical Code B, clause 9 amended

In Schedule 8.3, Technical Code B, clause 9(1)(b), replace “the **over frequency limit** is reached and the frequency continues to rise” with “the frequency reaches 50.5 Hertz and continues to rise”.

Made at Wellington on 20 October 2026



John Harbord
Chair
Electricity Authority

Certified in order for signature:



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16 October 2026



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13 October 2026

Explanatory Note

This note is not part of the amendment but is intended to indicate its general effect.

This amendment to the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 (the Code) comes into force on 1 December 2026.

The amendment amends provisions in the Code relating to common quality to:

- Align over-frequency limits between the Code and the Policy Statement – a document incorporated by reference in Part 8 of the Code:
- Clarify requirements for voltage control systems and connection transformers:
- Amend the ‘fast instantaneous reserve’ and ‘sustained instantaneous reserve’ definitions in Part 1 of the Code:
- Revise two fault ride through exclusions:

- Clarify who provides information to assess compliance with fault ride through obligations:
- Clarify obligations related to frequency management and frequency support.

More information about the amendments is available on the Electricity Authority's website <https://www.ea.govt.nz/>

Electricity Industry Participation Code (Common Quality Related Amendments)
Amendment 2026

This is secondary legislation issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2019 .	
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