

Electricity Industry Participation Code Amendment (Co-ordination of outages affecting common quality) 2024

Under section 38 of the Electricity Industry Act 2010, and having complied with section 39 of that Act, I make the following amendments to the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010.

At Wellington on the 3rd day of December 2024



Anna Kominik
Chair
Electricity Authority

Certified in order for signature:



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29 November 2024



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29 November 2024

Contents

1	Title	2
2	Commencement	2
3	Code amended	2
4	Clause 1.1 amended (Interpretation)	2
5	Schedule 8.3, Technical Code D, clause 1 amended	2
6	Schedule 8.3, Technical Code D, clause 2 amended	3
7	Schedule 8.3, Technical Code D, clause 3 amended	4
8	Schedule 8.3, Technical Code, D clause 5 amended	4
9	Schedule 8.3, Technical Code D, clause 6 replaced	4
10	Schedule 8.3, Technical Code D, clause 7 amended	4

Amendment

- 1 Title**
This is the Electricity Industry Participation Code Amendment (Co-ordination of outages affecting common quality) 2024.

2 Commencement

This amendment comes into force on 1 January 2025.

3 Code amended

This amendment amends the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010.

4 Clause 1.1 amended (Interpretation)

- (1) In clause 1.1(1), replace definition of **notified planned outage** with:
“**notified planned outage**, for the purposes of Technical Code D of Schedule 8.3, means any **planned outage** for which the **asset owner** has given notice to the **system operator** in accordance with Technical Code D of Schedule 8.3”
- (2) In clause 1.1(1), replace definition of **outage** with:
“**outage**—
“(a) for the purposes of Technical Code D of Schedule 8.3, means any situation where an **asset** that forms part of, or is connected to, the **grid** or a **local network**—
“(i) is temporarily not available for the generation, conveyance or consumption of **electricity**; or
“(ii) is temporarily not available for the generation, conveyance or consumption of **electricity** at its normal capacity; and
“(iii) includes any situation where any **asset** of a **generator** is not available as specified in sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii) due to an **outage** of any **asset** of a **distributor**; and
“(b) for the purposes of Part 12, has the meaning given to it by clause 12.130”
- (3) In clause 1.1(1), replace definition of **planned outage** with:
“**planned outage**—
“(a) for the purposes of Technical Code D of Schedule 8.3, means any **outage** that is planned by the relevant **asset owner** and, in the case of an **outage** coming within paragraph (a)(iii) of the definition of **outage**, any such **outage** that is caused by a **planned outage** of a **distributor**; and
“(b) for the purposes of Part 12, means an **outage** carried out in accordance with the planning requirements set out in the **Outage Protocol**”
- (4) In clause 1.1(1), replace definition of **unplanned outage** with:
“**unplanned outage**—
“(a) for the purposes of Technical Code D of Schedule 8.3, means any **outage** that is not a **planned outage**; and
“(b) for the purposes of Part 12, means an **outage** not planned in accordance with the planning requirements set out in the **Outage Protocol**”

5 Schedule 8.3, Technical Code D, clause 1 amended

In clause 1—

- (a) delete “written”;
- (b) replace “planned outages of **assets** that affect **common quality**” with “**outages** to the **system operator**”; and
- (c) before “co-ordination”, replace “outage” with “**outage**”.

6 Schedule 8.3, Technical Code D, clause 2 amended

- (1) In the heading of clause 2, delete “**planned**”.
- (2) Replace clause 2(1) with:

- “(1) Subject to subclause (1A), each **asset owner** must, give notice to, and in a manner and form reasonably specified by, the **system operator** of each **outage** of each of its **assets**, whether or not the **outage** was caused or planned by the **asset owner**, as follows:
 - “(a) each **grid owner** must give notice of each such **outage**:
 - “(b) each **generator** other than an **intermittent generator** must give notice of each such **outage** that will result or results in a reduction of the **electricity** supplied at any **point of connection** for which it submits **offers** greater than or equal to 5 **MW** of the normal capacity at the **point of connection**:
 - “(c) each **intermittent generator** must give notice of each such **outage** that will result or results in a reduction of the **electricity** supplied at any **point of connection** for which it submits **offers** greater than or equal to 10 **MW** of the normal capacity at the **point of connection**:
 - “(d) each **generator** that submits **offers** must give notice of each such **outage** that they consider may impact the **system operator’s** ability to plan to comply and to comply, with the **principal performance obligations** and for which notice is not given under paragraphs (b) or (c):
 - “(e) each **distributor** must give notice of—
 - “(i) each such **outage** of an **asset** that is connected directly to the **grid**; and
 - “(ii) each such **outage** of an **asset** that is indirectly connected to the **grid** that the **distributor** considers may impact or impacts on the **system operator’s** ability to plan to comply, and to comply with, the **principal performance obligations**:
 - “(f) each **direct consumer** must give notice of each such **outage** that—
 - “(i) will result or results in a reduction of the **electricity** consumed at any **point of connection** for which it submits **bids** greater than or equal to the lesser of the following amounts of the normal capacity at the **point of connection**:
 - (A) 20 **MW**; or
 - (B) 20%, provided the reduction is 5 **MW** or more; or
 - “(ii) they consider may impact the **system operator’s** ability to plan to comply and to comply with the **principal performance obligations.**”
- (3) After clause 2(1), as replaced, insert:
 - “(1A) Each **asset owner** must provide notice to the **system operator** under subclause (1) of each **outage** of each of its **assets** as follows:
 - “(a) for a **planned outage**—
 - “(i) if the **outage** at the time it is first planned is scheduled to occur in 12 months or more time, the **asset owner** must give notice at least 12 months prior to the date the **outage** is scheduled to occur unless it is not practicable to do so, even if the **outage** is subject to change or otherwise unconfirmed; or
 - “(ii) if the **outage** at the time it is first planned is scheduled to occur in less than 12 months’ time or where is not practicable to give notice under subparagraph (i), the **asset owner** must give notice as soon as practicable after the **asset owner** has scheduled the **outage**, even if the **outage** is subject to change or otherwise unconfirmed:

“(b) for an **unplanned outage**, as soon as practicable after the **asset owner** becomes aware of the **outage** or becomes aware that the **outage** may occur, whichever occurs first.

“(1B) For the purposes of subclause (1A)(a)—

“(a) a **planned outage** of any **asset** of a **generator** that is caused by a **planned outage** of any **asset** of a **distributor** is to be treated as being first planned by the **generator** at the time that the **generator** first receives notice of the **distributor’s planned outage** from the **distributor**; and

“(b) the scheduled date and time for the **planned outage** of the **asset** of the **generator** is the date and time of the **planned outage** of the **generator’s asset**.”

(4) In clause 2(2), replace “outage” with “**outage**”.

(5) In clause 2(3)—

(a) delete “give written notice to the **system operator** up to 12 months ahead of planned outages and”; and

(b) replace “changes to the planned outages as and when the **asset owner** becomes aware of them” to “any change to any **outage** notified under subclause (1) as soon as practicable after the **asset owner** becomes aware of the change”.

7 Schedule 8.3, Technical Code D, clause 3 amended

(1) In the heading of clause 3, delete “**notified planned**”.

(2) In clause 3,—

(a) delete “**notified planned**”; and

(b) after “**outages**”, insert “notified to it under clause 2”.

8 Schedule 8.3, Technical Code D, clause 5 amended

In clause 5(1)—

(a) delete “**notified**”; and

(b) replace “**outage**” with “**outages**”.

9 Schedule 8.3, Technical Code D, clause 6 replaced

Replace clause 6 with:

“6 Asset outage programme

“The **system operator** must regularly **publish** information on all **outages** notified to it under clause 2 by **asset owners**.”

10 Schedule 8.3, Technical Code D, clause 7 amended

In clause 7, insert as subclauses (2) and (3):

“(2) The **system operator** may request an **asset owner** to terminate an **unplanned outage** in progress so that **assets** that are the subject of the **unplanned outage** can be returned to service as soon as possible to support the **system operator** in planning to comply, and in complying, with the **principal performance obligations**.

“(3) Each **asset owner** must endeavour to comply with a request made under subclause (1) or (2) unless doing so would—

“(a) cause material cost or disruption; or

“(b) create a risk to safety of personnel or plant.”

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 (“Code”) comes into force on 1 January 2025.

This amendment amends clause 1.1 and Schedule 8.3, Technical Code D of Part 8 to clarify and strengthen the outage disclosure rules, allowing the system operator and asset owners to have greater visibility to coordinate asset outages effectively.

This amendment:

- a. clarifies that outage coordination rules for planned outages apply also for capacity reductions and unplanned outages (where appropriate)
- b. requires the grid owner to disclose all its asset outages
- c. imposes the following requirements for outage notification by other asset owners:
 - i. distribution network owners must notify outages of assets that connect directly to the transmission grid
 - ii. intermittent generators that offer into the wholesale market must notify all outages resulting in a loss of generation capacity of 10 MW or more, and
 - iii. all other generators that offer into the market and grid connected loads must notify all outages resulting in a capacity reduction meeting the thresholds for updating bids and offers in the market
- d. requires the asset owners described in paragraph (c) to notify any further outages if they consider the outage may impact system security or security of supply
- e. requires that outages are notified in a manner and form reasonably specified by the system operator
- f. clarifies the timing requirements for providing notice, including to make it clear that more than 12 months’ notice of an outage can be given, and
- g. makes consequential amendments related to the above.

Date of notification in the *Gazette*: 4 December 2024