Electricity Industry Participation Code (Network Connections) 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 that Act.

Contents

Part 2

Amendments to Parts 1 and 6 of the Electricity Industry Participation Code that come into force on 1 June 2027

Amendment

1   Title

This is the Electricity Industry Participation Code (Network Connections) Amendment 2026.

2   Commencement

This amendment comes into force on 1 December 2026, except for clauses 39 to 61 which come into force on 1 June 2027.

3   Code amended

This amendment amends the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 (the **Code**).

Part 1
Amendments to Parts 1 and 6 of the Electricity Industry Participation Code that come into force on 1 December 2026

4   Clause 1.1 amended (Interpretation)

(1)   In clause 1.1(1), insert in their appropriate alphabetical order:

aggregated capacity, for the purposes of Part 6, means the sum of the capacity of **distributed generation** of all **points of connection** subject to an application under Part 6

applicant, for the purposes of Part 6, means any person who:

(a)   applies to a **distributor** to have **distributed generation** owned or operated by that person, or that the person intends to own or operate, connected to a **distribution network** or to a **consumer installation** that is connected to a **distribution network**, including by a **network extension**; or

(b)   applies to a **distributor** to continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** in the circumstances specified in clause 6.1(b)(ii) and (iii); or

(c)   is a **distributed generator** and applies to a **distributor** to change the **maximum export power** or fuel type of connected **distributed generation**

clock stop/start mechanism for distributors means a policy that all **distributors** have jointly adopted for the purposes of Part 6 that, if made, **distributors** must use under clause 6.12A to determine stopping and restarting time frames that apply to **initial applications**, **interim applications** and **final applications** under Part 6

distributed generator, for the purposes of Part 6, means a person who owns or operates, or intends to own or operate, **distributed generation**

interim application, for the purposes of Part 6, means an application made under clause 7 of Appendix 3 of Schedule 6.1

network connections pipeline, for the purposes of Part 6, means the applications to a **distributor** under Part 6 to connect **distributed generation** to the **distribution network** of the **distributor** ranked in the order of their **priority position** for consideration of those applications by the **distributor** in accordance with the **queueing and management policy for distributors**, if made

priority position is the position in the **network connections pipeline** that indicates the priority a **distributor** places on an application relative to other applications in the **network connections pipeline**

process 1, for the purposes of Part 6, means the process that applies to applications for **distributed generation** that has a **maximum export power** of 10 kW or less under Appendix 1 of Schedule 6.1

process 1A, for the purposes of Part 6, means the process that applies to applications for **distributed generation** that has a **maximum export power** of 10 kW or less under Appendix 1A of Schedule 6.1

process 2, for the purposes of Part 6, means the process that applies to applications for **distributed generation** that has a **maximum export power** above 10 kW and below 300 kW under Appendix 2 of Schedule 6.1

process 3, for the purposes of Part 6, means the process that applies to applications for **distributed generation** with a **maximum export power** of 300 kW or more under Appendix 3 of Schedule 6.1

queueing and management policy for distributors means a policy that all **distributors** have adopted for the purposes of Part 6 and which, if made, **distributors** use under clause 9 of Appendix 2 and clause 14 of Appendix 3 for queueing and managing an application to connect **distributed generation** to a **distribution network**, and to change the capacity of a **distributed generation** connection where—

(a) queueing includes the **distributor's** processes to set the **priority position** of, and manage, applications in the **network connections pipeline**; and

(b) managing includes the process for managing applications from **initial application** to construction and completion, including setting project milestones, applying tolerance, and what occurs when project milestones are missed

(2) In clause 1.1, replace the definition of **connection and operation standards** with:

connection and operation standards, in relation to a **distributor** or **distributed generation**,—

(a) means requirements, as amended from time to time by the **distributor**, that—

  (i) are set out in the **distributor's** written policies and standards; and

  (ii) relate to connecting **distributed generation** to a **distribution network** or to a **consumer installation** that is connected to a **distribution network**, and the operation of the **distribution network**, including requirements relating to the planning, design, construction, testing, inspection, and operation of **distributed generation** that is, or is proposed to be, connected; and

  (iii) are **published** in accordance with clause 6.3; and

  (iv) reflect, or are consistent with, **reasonable and prudent operating practice**; and

(b) includes the following, as amended from time to time by the **distributor**:

  (i) the **distributor's congestion management policy**, as referred to in clause 6.3(2)(d):

  (ii) the **distributor's** emergency response policies:

  (iii) the **distributor's** safety standards:

(c) includes the following, if made and as amended from time to time by **distributors** jointly:

  (i) the **queueing and management policy for distributors**:

  (ii) the **clock stop/start mechanism for distributors**:

(d) until 1 September 2026, may include the **distributor's** policies for specifying available **maximum export power** amongst categories of **network** users, a **maximum export power** threshold for applications under Process 1A of Schedule 6.1, and the methodology used to determine that threshold

(3) In clause 1.1, definition of **final application**, replace "clause 15" with "clause 7 of Appendix 2 of Schedule 6.1 and clause 12 of Appendix 3".

(4) In clause 1.1(1), replace the definition of **generating plant** with:

generating plant means—

    (a)   equipment collectively used for generating **electricity**; and

    (b)   for the purposes of Part 6, includes **energy storage systems**, bi-directional chargers, inverters and equipment that converts solar energy to **electricity**, to the extent that they inject **electricity** into a **distribution network** and/or support **distribution network** management

(5)   In clause 1.1, definition of **initial application**, replace "clause 11" with "clause 2 of Appendices 2 and 3".

(6)   In clause 1.1(1), definition of **maximum export power**—

    (a)   replace "the **local network** or **embedded network**" with "a **network**"; and

    (b)   in paragraph (b), replace "power" with "**active power**"; and

    (c)   in paragraph (b), replace "active" with "**active power**".

5   Part 6 heading amended (Connection of distributed generation)

In the heading to Part 6, replace "**of distributed generation**" with "**to distribution networks**".

6   Clause 6.1 replaced (Contents of this Part)

(1)   Replace clause 6.1 with:

6.1   Contents of this Part

This Part specifies—

    (a)   a framework to enable the connection and continued connection of **distributed generation** to a **distribution network** if consistent with a **distributor's connection and operation standards** required under clause 6.2C; and

    (b)   in Schedule 6.1, processes (including time frames) under which **applicants** may—

        (i)   connect **distributed generation** to a **distribution network**; or

        (ii)   continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** to a **distribution network** if the connection contract for the connection—

            (A)   is in force and the **applicant** wishes to extend the term of the connection contract; or

            (B)   has expired; or

        (iii)   continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** to a **distribution network** that is connected without a connection contract if the **regulated terms** do not apply; or

        (iv)   change the **maximum export power**, **nameplate capacity**, inverter model, **electricity** producing components within the connected **distributed generation**, or fuel type of connected **distributed generation**; and

    (c)   in Schedule 6.2, the **regulated terms** that apply to **distributed generation** in the absence of a connection contract; and

    (d)   in Schedule 6.3, a default dispute resolution process for disputes related to this Part; and

    (e)   in Schedule 6.4, the **distributed generation** pricing principles to be applied for the purposes of this Part; and

    (f)   in Schedule 6.5, prescribed maximum fees.

7   Clause 6.2 amended (Purpose)
In clause 6.2, replace "**connection and operation standards**" with "the **distributor's connection and operation standards**".

8   Clause 6.2A amended (Application of Part to distributors in respect of embedded networks)
In clause 6.2A(b), insert "that conveys less than 5 GWh of **electricity** per annum" after "**embedded network**".

9   New clause 6.2AB inserted (Application of Part to applicants who are not participants)
After clause 6.2A, insert:

6.2AB Application of Part to applicants who are not participants

(1)   For the avoidance of doubt, an **applicant** who is not a **participant** is not required to comply with this Part and cannot be subject to the enforcement measures set out in the **Act** or the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations 2010 for failing to comply with this Part.

(2)   Despite subclause (1), a **distributor** may refuse an application under this Part if an **applicant** who is not a **participant** fails to carry out the requirements expressed in this Part as applying to an **applicant**.

10   New clause 6.2AC inserted (Application of Part to multiple points of connection or installations at the same location)
Before clause 6.2B, insert:

6.2AC Application of Part to multiple points of connection or installations at the same location

(1)   This clause applies where—
   (a)   a person is intending to do any of the matters in clause 6.1(b) in respect of activity that will require more than one **point of connection** or more than one installation (**distributed generation**) at a **point of connection** at the same location; and
   (b)   those matters are intended to be carried out at or about the same time; and
   (c)   the person wishes to make an application or applications under this Part in respect of those matters.

(2)   Where this clause applies,—
   (a)   in order for this Part to apply, unless there are reasonable grounds not to do so, the person must make a single application in respect of the **point of connection** or **points of connection**; and
   (b)   if a person makes a single application in respect of the **point of connection** or **points of connection**—
       (i)   the total **aggregated capacity** of **distributed generation** for the **point** or **points of connection** applies for the purpose of determining under Schedule 6.1 which application process applies; and
       (ii)   every reference in this Part to a **point of connection** is to be read as a reference to all **points of connection** included in the single application.

(3)   Reasonable grounds under subclause (2)(a) includes that for genuine commercial reasons it is necessary for the person to stagger or make more than one application in respect of the **point of connection** or **points of connection**.

11   Clause 6.2B amended (Application of Part to distributors in respect of systems of lines not directly or indirectly connected to grid)
In clause 6.2B(b)(ii)(B), replace "1" with "one".

12   New clause 6.2C inserted (Connection and operation standards)
After clause 6.2B, insert:

6.2C Connection and operation standards
Each **distributor** must have **connection and operation standards** that align with good electricity industry practice.

13   Clause 6.3 replaced (Distributors must make information publicly available)
Replace clause 6.3 with:

6.3   Distributors must publish information that is not confidential
(1)   The purpose of this clause is to require each **distributor** to **publish** certain information to enable the efficient approval of **distributed generation** under Schedule 6.1.
(1A) Confidential information, for the purposes of this clause, means information that is—
    (a)   commercially sensitive to the **applicant**, to any person to which the information relates or any person who supplied the information to the **applicant**; or
    (b)   subject to an obligation of confidence; or
    (c)   by its nature, confidential; or
    (d)   for any other genuine reason, confidential.
(1B) Each **applicant** when providing information to the **distributor** must, acting reasonably, identify what information, if any, is the **applicant's** confidential information.
(1C) Where an **applicant** advises the **distributor** that certain information it has provided is confidential information under subclause (1A), the **distributor** must—
    (a)   mark that item of information as confidential in its records; and
    (b)   treat that information as confidential; and
    (c)   not disclose that information publicly in a manner that identifies the confidential information without the **applicant's** written consent; and
    (d)   comply with clause 5(5) of Schedule 6.1.
(2)   Each **distributor** must **publish**—
    (a)   application forms to be used for applications under Schedule 6.1; and
    (b)   the **distributor's connection and operation standards**; and
    (c)   a copy of the **regulated terms** together with an explanation of how the **regulated terms** will apply if—
        (i)   approval is granted under Schedule 6.1; and
        (ii)   the **distributor** and the **distributed generator** do not enter into a connection contract; and
    (d)   a statement of the circumstances in which **distributed generation** will be, or may be, curtailed or interrupted from time to time in order to ensure that the **distributor's connection and operation standards** are met; and

(da) a list, updated before the first **business day** after 15 December, 15 March, 15 June, and 15 September, of all locations on its **distribution network** that the **distributor** knows are subject to **export congestion**; and

(db) a list, updated before the first **business day** after 15 December, 15 March, 15 June, and 15 September, of all locations on its **distribution network** that the **distributor** expects to become subject to **export congestion** within the next 12 months; and

(dc) until 1 September 2026, the **maximum export power** threshold and the methodology used to determine that threshold, for locations at which the **distributor** has set a **maximum export power** threshold for applications under Part 1A of Schedule 6.1; and

(dd) **distributor** contact information for queries about available and upcoming **network** capacity; and

(de) lists containing the following information if known ("capacity information") updated before the first **business day** after 15 December, 15 March, 15 June, and 15 September—

    (i) location and available capacity at points along zone substation distribution feeders; and

    (ii) location and available capacity of transformers 500 kVA and above; and

(df) the capacity information recorded in the lists referred to in paragraph (de) should—

    (i) be marked with an as at date, which is as close as possible to the applicable date set out in paragraph (de); and

    (ii) be to the best of the **distributor's** knowledge at the time of **publication** and should be corrected as soon as reasonably practicable if an error is discovered; and

    (iii) be marked as estimated where it is estimated; and

    (iv) include caveats where the capacity is subject to change intra-day or intra-year; and

    (v) note that **applicants** should contact the **distributor** directly for the most up to date and accurate capacity information.

(e) a list of any fees that the **distributor** charges under Schedule 6.1, which must not exceed the relevant maximum fees prescribed in Schedule 6.5; and

(f) a list of the makes and models of inverters that the **distributor** has approved for connection to its **distribution network**; and

(g) the **distributor's** contact information for any enquiries relating to connecting to its **distribution network**.

(3) The application forms referred to in subclause (2)(a) must specify the information, including any supporting documents, that must be provided with an application under Schedule 6.1.

(4) Subject to subclause (1B), the **distributor** must **publish** information, at both the **network** and zone substation level, about its **network connections pipeline**, which information—

(a) for **distributed generation** applications received by the **distributor** under **Process 3** must include the following:

      (i)   the number of **distributed generation** applications in the **network connections pipeline**:

      (ii)   the sum of the **maximum export power** of these applications (in **MW**):

      (iii)   the number of applications by fuel type:

      (iv)   the number of applications by project stage (**initial application**, **interim application**, **final application**, construction, or connected):

      (v)   detail on each application in the **network connections pipeline** (**priority position** in pipeline, **maximum export power** (in **MW**), fuel type, project stage, location by zone substation or feeder, and (where relevant) date commissioned; and

   (b)   the **distributor** must update before the final **business day** of each calendar month, except for December which is to be updated on 22 December or the next **business day** if 22 December is not a **business day**.

(5)   The **distributor** must continue to **publish** information on applications under subclause (4) unless—

   (a)   an application is withdrawn; or

   (b)   six months have passed since the date on which the **distributed generation** to which the application relates was connected.

14   Clause 6.4 replaced (Process for obtaining approval)

Replace clause 6.4 with:

6.4   Process for obtaining approval

(1)   Schedule 6.1 applies if an **applicant** wishes to—

   (a)   connect **distributed generation** to a **distribution network**, whether the **distributed generation** will be on the **regulated terms** or on other terms; or

   (b)   continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** to a **distribution network** if the connection contract—

      (i)   is in force and the **applicant** wishes to extend the term of the connection contract and the connection contract does not otherwise provide for an extension of its term; or

      (ii)   has expired; or

   (c)   continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** to a **distribution network** that is connected without a connection contract if the **regulated terms** do not apply; or

   (d)   change the **maximum export power**, **nameplate capacity**, inverter model, **electricity** producing components within the connected **distributed generation**, or fuel type of connected **distributed generation**.

(2)   A **distributor** must approve an application to connect **distributed generation** submitted under Schedule 6.1 if the application complies with the requirements of that Schedule.

(3)   Except as provided in clause 6.4A, a **distributor** cannot contract out of the provisions of Schedule 6.1 with an **applicant**.

15   Clause 6.4A replaced (Distributor and distributed generator may agree to simpler process for existing connection)
Replace clause 6.4A with:

6.4A Distributor and applicant may agree to simpler process for existing connection
A **distributor** and an **applicant** may agree a simpler process to continue an existing connection to the **distributor's distribution network** than the relevant process set out in Schedule 6.1 if—
(a)   a connection contract—
(i)   is in force and the **applicant** wishes to extend the term of the connection contract and the connection contract does not otherwise provide for an extension of its term; or
(ii)   has expired; or
(b)   the **applicant** is connected without a connection contract; or
(c)   there is a change in the **maximum export power**, **nameplate capacity**, inverter model, **electricity** producing components within the connected **distributed generation**, or fuel type of the **distributed generation**; and
(d)   the parties agree to terms which are consistent with the principles and requirements in Part 12A.

16   Clause 6.5 replaced (Connection contract)
Replace clause 6.5 with:

6.5   Connection contract
If approval is granted under Schedule 6.1 and a **distributor** and an **applicant** enter into a connection contract to connect **distributed generation** to a **distribution network**—
(a)   their rights and obligations in respect of the connection of **distributed generation** are governed by that contract, and accordingly the **regulated terms** do not apply; and
(b)   a breach of the terms of that contract is not a breach of this Code.

17   Clause 6.6 amended (Connection on regulated terms)
(1)   In clause 6.6(2)—
(a)   in paragraph (a), replace "a **distributed generator**" with "an **applicant** for connection of **distributed generation**"; and
(b)   in paragraph (a), replace "clauses 9 or 24" with "clause 6 of Appendix 1, clause 13 of Appendix 2 and clause 18 of Appendix 3"; and
(c)   in paragraph (b), replace "clause 9G" with "clause 7 of Appendix 1A".
(2)   In clause 6.6(3)(a), delete "of the **distributed generation**".
(3)   In clause 6.6(4), replace "a **distributed generator**" with "an **applicant**".

18   Clause 6.7 amended (Extra terms)
(1)   In clause 6.7(1)—
(a)   in paragraph (a), replace "made publicly available" with "**published**"; and
(b)   in paragraph (a), delete "to **distributed generation**"; and
(c)   in paragraph (b)(ii), insert "under clause 6 of Appendix 1, clause 13 of Appendix 2 and clause 18 of Appendix 3 of Schedule 6.1" after "negotiation period".

(2)   In clause 6.7(2), replace "1" with "one".

19   Clause 6.8 amended (Dispute resolution)
(1)   In clause 6.8(1)—
        (a)   replace "a **distributed generator**" with "an **applicant**"; and
        (b)   in paragraph (aa), delete "clause 18 of"; and
        (c)   in paragraph (ab), delete "clause 6 or clause 21 of".
(2)   In clause 6.8(2):
        (a)   replace "a **distributed generator**" with "an **applicant**"; and
        (b)   in paragraph (c), replace "**distributed generator**" with "**applicant**".

20   New clause 6.8A inserted (Complaints by applicants that are not participants)
        After clause 6.8, insert:

6.8A Complaints by applicants that are not participants
(1)   If an **applicant** that is not a **participant** is in a dispute with a **distributor** about the application of this Part, and has notified the **distributor** of the dispute, the **distributor** must attempt to resolve the dispute in good faith within 20 **business days**.
(2)   This clause does not prevent the **applicant** from reporting a breach or possible breach of the Code under regulation 9 of the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations 2010 or from making a complaint to the **distributor** under regulation 5 of the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations 2010 at any time.

21   Clause 6.9 heading amended (Pricing principles)
        Replace the heading to clause 6.9 with:

6.9   Distributed generation pricing principles

22   Clause 6.11 amended (Distributors must act at arm's length)
        In clause 6.11—
        (a)   replace "**distributed generators**" with "**applicants**"; and
        (b)   in paragraph (a), replace "**distributed generator**" with "**applicant**, in the project to which the application relates, or any other **distributed generation** project connected to the **distributor's** network for which the **distributor** has received an application"; and
        (c)   in paragraph (b), replace "**distributed generator**" with "**applicant**".

23   Clause 6.12 amended (This Part does not affect rights and obligations under Code)
        In clause 6.12, replace "a **distributed generator**" with "an **applicant** who is a **participant**".

24   New clause 6.12A inserted (Time frames for actions defined in this Part)
        After clause 6.12, insert:

6.12A Time frames for actions defined in this Part
(1)   Where an action is dependent on the provision of any information that is not held by the **applicant** or the **distributor**, and despite using best endeavours the **applicant** or the **distributor** has not been able to obtain that information, the **distributor** or the

applicant, acting reasonably, may pause and restart the time frame in accordance with the **clock stop/start mechanism for distributors**, if made.

(2)   When time frames in this Part are exceeded, the **applicant** may refer the failure to comply with the time frame issue to the complaint process set out in clause 6.8A or the dispute process set out in Schedule 6.3.

25   New clause 6.12B inserted (Distributors to act reasonably)

After clause 6.12A, insert:

6.12B Distributors to act reasonably

Distributors must act reasonably and process applications received under this Part without undue delay.

Schedule 6.1

26   Schedule 6.1 replaced

Replace Schedule 6.1 with:

Schedule 6.1   **cl 6.4**
Process for obtaining approval

Contents

Preliminary provisions

1   Contents of this Schedule
2   Applicant must apply
3   How this Schedule applies to applications
4   When application may be made under Process 1A

Confidentiality

5   Confidentiality of information provided

Record keeping

6   Distributors must keep records

Costs

7   Responsibility for costs under this Schedule

Appendix 1

Process 1: Applications for distributed generation with maximum export power of 10 kW or less in total

1   Contents of this Appendix

Application process

2   Application for distributed generation with maximum export power of 10kW or less in total
3   Distributor's decision on application
4   Extension of time by mutual agreement for distributor to process application
5   Distributed generator must give notice of intention to negotiate

Post-approval process

6   30 business days to negotiate connection contract if distributed generator gives notice of intention to proceed
7   Testing and inspection
8   Connection of distributed generation if connection contract negotiated
9   Connection of distributed generation on regulated terms if connection contract not negotiated

Appendix 1A
Process 1A: Applications for distributed generation with maximum export power of 10 kW or less in total in specified circumstances

1   Contents of this Appendix
2   Application for distributed generation with maximum export power of 10 kW or less in total in specified circumstances
3   Distributor may inspect distributed generation
4   Export congestion
5   Non-compliance or incomplete information
6   Notice of final approval
7   Regulated terms apply
8   When distributed generator may connect to distribution network

Appendix 2
Process 2: Applications for distributed generation with maximum export power above 10 kW and below 300 kW in total

1   Contents of this Appendix
Initial application process
2   Distributed generator must make initial application and give information
3   Distributor must give information to distributed generator
4   Other matters to assist with decision making
5   Distributor and distributed generator must make reasonable endeavours regarding new information
6   Distributor's decision on initial application
Final application process
7   Distributed generator must make final application
8   Notice to third parties
9   Priority of final applications
10   Distributor's decision on final application
11   Time within which distributor must decide final applications
12   Distributed generator must give notice of intention to negotiate
Post-approval process
13   30 business days to negotiate connection contract if distributed generator gives notice of intention to negotiate
14   Testing and inspection
15   Connection of distributed generation if connection contract negotiated
16   Connection of distributed generation on regulated terms if connection contract not negotiated

17   Approved final applications must connect to retain approval

Appendix 3
Process 3: Applications for distributed generation with maximum export power
of 300 kW or more in total

1   Contents of this Appendix

Initial application process

2   Distributed generator must make initial application, give information and pay initial application fee
3   Distributor must give information to distributed generator
4   Other matters to assist with decision making
5   Distributor and distributed generator must make reasonable endeavours regarding new information
6   Distributor's decision on initial application

Interim application process

7   Distributed generator must make interim application and give information
8   Notice to third parties
9   Distributor's decision on interim application
10   Time within which distributor must decide interim applications
11   Distributed generator must give notice of a dispute

Final application process

12   Distributed generator must make final application
13   Notice to third parties
14   Priority of final applications
15   Distributor's decision on final application
16   Time within which distributor must decide final applications
17   Distributed generator must give notice of intention to negotiate

Post-approval process

18   30 business days to negotiate connection contract if distributed generator gives notice of intention to negotiate
19   Connection of distributed generation if connection contract negotiated
20   Connection of distributed generation on regulated terms if connection contract not negotiated
21   Approved applications must meet milestones to retain priority position in distributor's network connections pipeline
22   Approved final applications must meet milestones to retain approval
23   Treatment of approved applications at the same network location
24   Testing and inspection

Preliminary provisions

1   Contents of this Schedule
This Schedule specifies the procedures under Part 6 for:

(a)   processing applications from **applicants** for the connection or continued connection of **distributed generation** to a **distribution network**; and

(b)   for the renewal of an existing or expired connection contract; and

(c)   particular changes to connections of **distributed generation**.

2   Applicant must apply

Subject to clause 6.4A and clause 4 of Schedule 6.1, an **applicant** must apply to a **distributor** if it wishes to—

(a)   connect **distributed generation** to the **distributor's distribution network** using the processes in Part 6 and this Schedule; or

(b)   continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** to the **distributor's distribution network** using the processes in Part 6 and this Schedule if a connection contract—

   (i)   is in force and the **applicant** wishes to extend the term of the connection contract; or

   (ii)   has expired; or

(c)   continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** using the processes in Part 6 or this Schedule to the **distributor's distribution network** that is connected without a connection contract if the **regulated terms** do not apply; or

(d)   change the **maximum export power**, **nameplate capacity**, inverter model, **electricity** producing components within the connected **distributed generation**, or fuel type of the **distributed generation** for applications under **Process 2** and **Process 3**; or

(e)   change the **maximum export power** or fuel type of the **distributed generation** for applications under **Process 1** and **Process 1A**.

3   How this Schedule applies to applications

(1)   The appendices to this Schedule set out different processes which apply to different kinds of applications under clause 2.

(2)   The appendices and the processes in those appendices apply as follows:

(a)   **Process 1**, which is set out in Appendix 1, applies to applications for **distributed generation** that has **maximum export power** of 10 kW or less in total, unless the **distributed generator** has elected, under clause 4, to apply under **Process 1A**:

(b)   **Process 1A**, which is set out in Appendix 1A, applies to applications for **distributed generation** that has maximum export power of 10 kW or less in total, if the **distributed generator** has elected, under clause 4, to apply under **Process 1A**:

(c)   **Process 2**, which is set out in Appendix 2, applies to applications for **distributed generation** with **maximum export power** above 10 kW and below 300 kW in total:

(d)   **Process 3**, which is set out in Appendix 3, applies to applications for **distributed generation** with **maximum export power** of 300 kW and above in total:

4   When application may be made under Process 1A

(1)   A **distributed generator** may elect to apply to a **distributor** under **Process 1A** instead of **Process 1** if the **distributed generation** to which the application relates—

(a)   is designed and installed in accordance with AS/NZS 4777.1:2016; and

(b)   incorporates an inverter that—

(i)   has been tested and issued a Declaration of Conformity with AS/NZS 4777.2:2020 by a laboratory with accreditation issued or recognised by International Accreditation New Zealand; and

(ii)   has settings that meet the **distributor's connection and operation standards**.

(2)   Until 1 September 2026, a **distributed generator** may only elect to apply to a **distributor** under **Process 1A** instead of **Process 1**, if the **distributed generation** to which the application relates has, in addition to the requirements in subclause (1)—

(a)   a volt-watt response mode; and

(b)   a volt-var response mode; and

(c)   control settings and volt response mode settings that meet the **distributor's connection and operation standards**; and

(d)   a **maximum export power** limit at the **ICP** of the **distributed generator** that does not exceed the **maximum export power** threshold, if any, specified by the **distributor** in its **connection and operation standards**.

Confidentiality

5   Confidentiality of information provided

(1)   A **distributor** must comply with clause 6.3(1A) and clause 6.3(1B) as soon as it is provided with information by an **applicant** for the purposes of an application under this Schedule.

(2)   A **distributor** may require an **applicant** to keep information confidential that—

(a)   is given to the **applicant** by the **distributor** for the purpose of an application under this Schedule; and

(b)   the **distributor** reasonably identifies as being confidential.

(3)   A **distributor** may decline to process an application made by an **applicant** under this Schedule if the **applicant** does not agree to comply with a requirement to keep information confidential under subclause (2).

(4)   Despite subclause (1), the **distributor**—

(a)   may, in response to an application under this Schedule, disclose to the **applicant** that another **applicant** has made an application under this Schedule (without identifying who the other **applicant** is); and

(b)   may, in the case of an application under **Processes 1**, **1A**, **2** or **3** of this Schedule, generally indicate the location or proposed location of the other application; and

(c)   may, in the case of an application under **Processes 2** or **3** of this Schedule, disclose the **maximum export power** of the other application; and

(d)   where an **applicant** under this subclause gives written consent, may share the contact details of that **applicant** for applications under **Process 3** of this Schedule, for the express purpose of encouraging complementary applications.

(5)   The obligation to keep information confidential in clause 6.3(1A) and clause 6.3(1B) includes—

(a)   an obligation not to use the information for any purpose other than considering the application under this Schedule, populating the **network connections pipeline**, enabling the connection or continued connection to a **distribution network**, and meeting the registry requirements under Part 11; and

(b)   an obligation to maintain the information for a minimum of 60 months after receiving the information; and

(c)   an obligation after the period in paragraph (b) has ended to destroy the information as soon as is reasonably practicable if the information is no longer reasonably needed by the distributor for the purposes in paragraph (a).

Record keeping

6   Distributors must keep records

A **distributor** must maintain records of each application and notice received under this Schedule and the resulting outcomes, for a minimum of 60 months after the day on which the **initial applications**, **interim applications** and **final applications** are approved or declined, including records of the following:

(a)   how long it took to approve or decline **initial applications**, **interim applications** and **final applications**:

(b)   the number of and time duration of each extension sought by the **distributor**:

(c)   the number of and time duration of each extension sought by the **applicant**:

(d)   justification for these outcomes.

Costs

7   Responsibility for costs under this Schedule

A **distributor** and an **applicant** must pay their own respective costs (including legal costs) incurred under this Schedule.

Appendix 1
Process 1: Applications for distributed generation
with maximum export power of 10 kW or less in total

1 Contents of this Appendix

(1) This Appendix sets out **Process 1** and applies to applications for **distributed generation** that has a **maximum export power** of 10 kW or less in total, unless the **distributed generator** that owns or operates the **distributed generation** has elected, under clause 4 of Schedule 6.1, to apply under **Process 1A**.

(2) **Process 1** provides for a one-stage application process.

Application process

2 Application for distributed generation with maximum export power of 10kW or less in total

(1) A **distributed generator** must apply to a **distributor** by—

    (a) using the application form provided by the **distributor** that is **published** under clause 6.3(2)(a); and

    (b) providing any information in respect of the **distributed generation** to which the application relates that is—

        (i) referred to in subclause (2); and

        (ii) specified by the **distributor** under clause 6.3(3) as being required to be provided with the application; and

    (c) paying the application fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

(2) The information required by subclause (1)(b) includes the following:

    (a) the full name and address of the **distributed generator** and the contact details of a person that the **distributor** may contact regarding the **distributed generation**:

    (b) whether the application is to—

        (i) connect **distributed generation**; or

        (ii) continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** that is connected in accordance with a connection contract if the connection contract—

            (A) is in force and the **distributed generator** wishes to extend the term of the connection contract; or

            (B) has expired; or

        (iii) continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** that is connected without a connection contract; or

        (iv) change the **maximum export power** or fuel type of connected **distributed generation**:

    (c) evidence of the **maximum export power** that the **distributed generation** will have, or other suitable evidence that the **distributed generation** is or will only be capable of generating **electricity** at a rate of 10 kW or less:

    (d)   if the application is to change the **maximum export power** or fuel type of connected **distributed generation**—

        (i)   the **maximum export power** that the **distributed generation** will have after the change; and

        (ii)   the aggregate **maximum export power** that all **distributed generation** that is connected at the **point of connection** at which the **distributed generation** is connected will have after the change; and

        (iii)   the fuel type that the **distributed generation** will have after the change:

    (e)   details of the fuel type of the **distributed generation** (for example, solar, wind, or liquid fuel):

    (f)   a brief description of the physical location at the address at which the **distributed generation** is or will be connected:

    (g)   if the application is to connect **distributed generation**, when the **distributed generator** expects the **distributed generation** to be connected:

    (h)   technical specifications of the **distributed generation** and **associated equipment**, including the following:

        (i)   technical specifications of equipment that allows the **distributed generation** to be **electrically disconnected** from the **distribution network** on loss of mains voltage:

        (ii)   manufacturer's rating of equipment:

        (iii)   number of phases:

        (iv)   proposed or current **point of connection** to the **distribution network** (for example, the **ICP identifier** and street address):

        (v)   details of either or both of any inverter and battery storage:

        (vi)   details of the voltage (for example, 400 V or 11 kV) when it is **electrically connected**:

    (i)   information showing how the **distributed generation** complies with the **distributor's connection and operation standards**:

    (j)   any additional information or **documents** that are reasonably required by the **distributor**.

(3)   The **distributed generator** must provide the **distributor** with the information required by clause 7(1)(o) of Schedule 11.1.

(4)   The **distributor** must, within 5 **business days** of receiving an application, give written notice to the **distributed generator** advising whether or not the application is complete.

3   Distributor's decision on application

(1)   A **distributor** must, within 30 **business days** after the date of receipt of a completed application made in accordance with clause 2, give notice in writing to the **applicant** stating whether the application is approved or declined.

(2)   A **distributor** must approve an application if—

    (a)   the application has been properly made in accordance with the **Act** and Part 6 of this Code; and

    (b)   the information provided in the application reasonably demonstrate that—

        (i)   the **distributed generator** will ensure that the **distributed generation** complies with the **Act** and this Code; and

        (ii)   the **distributed generation** meets the **distributor's connection and operation standards**; and

  (c)   if applicable, the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** for approving the application are satisfied.

(3)   A **distributor** may only decline a completed application if it reasonably considers that the matters in subclause (2) are not met.

(4)   A notice stating that an application is declined must be accompanied by the following information:

  (a)   detailed reasons as to why the application has been declined and the steps that the **applicant** can take to achieve approval if it makes a new application:

  (b)   if applicable, the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** that supported the decision:

  (c)   information about the default process under Schedule 6.3 for the resolution of disputes between **participants** about an alleged breach of any provision of Part 6 of this Code:

  (d)   that if the **distributed generator** is not a **participant**, the **distributed generator** may report to the **Authority** under the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations 2010 if it considers that the **distributor** has breached any requirement in Part 6 of this Code.

4   **Extension of time by mutual agreement for distributor to process application**

(1)   A **distributor** may seek an extension of the time specified in clause 3(1) by which the **distributor** must give notice in writing stating whether an application is approved or declined.

(2)   The **distributor** must provide notice in writing to the **distributed generator** specifying the reasons for the extension.

(3)   The **distributed generator** that made the application—

  (a)   may grant an extension which must not exceed 20 **business days**; and

  (b)   must not unreasonably withhold consent to an extension.

5   **Distributed generator must give notice of intention to negotiate**

(1)   If a **distributor** advises a **distributed generator** that its application is approved, the **distributed generator** must give written notice to the **distributor** confirming whether the **distributed generator** intends to negotiate a connection contract under clause 6 and, if so, confirming the details of the **distributed generation** to which the application relates.

(2)   The **distributed generator** must give the notice under subclause (1) within 10 **business days** after the **distributor** gives notice of final approval, or such later date as is agreed by the **distributor** and the **distributed generator**.

(3)   The **distributor's** duties under Part 6 of this Code arising from the application no longer apply if the **distributed generator** fails to give notice to the **distributor** within the time limit specified in subclause (2).

(4) Subclause (3) does not prevent the **distributed generator** from making a new application under Part 6 of this Code.

Post-approval process

6 30 business days to negotiate connection contract if distributed generator gives notice of intention to proceed

(1) If a **distributed generator** whose application under clause 2 is approved gives notice to a **distributor** under clause 5, the **distributor** and the **distributed generator** have 30 **business days**, starting on the date on which the **distributor** receives the notice, during which they must, in good faith, attempt to negotiate a connection contract.

(2) The **distributor** and the **distributed generator** may, by agreement, extend the time specified in subclause (1) for negotiating a connection contract.

7 Testing and inspection

(1) Subject to subclause (2), a **distributed generator** whose application under clause 2 is approved by a **distributor** must test and inspect the **distributed generation** to which the application relates within a reasonable time frame specified by the **distributor**.

(2) The **distributor** may waive the requirement that the **distributed generator** test and inspect if the **distributor** is satisfied that the **distributed generation** complies with the **distributor's connection and operation standards**.

(3) The **distributed generator** must give adequate notice of the testing and inspection to the **distributor**.

(4) The **distributor** may send qualified personnel to the site to observe the testing and inspection.

(5) The **distributed generator** must give the **distributor** a written test report when testing and inspection is complete, including suitable evidence that the **distributed generation** complies with the **distributor's connection and operation standards**.

(6) The **distributed generator** must pay any fee specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e) for observing the testing and inspection.

8 Connection of distributed generation if connection contract negotiated

(1) This clause applies if a **distributor** and a **distributed generator** whose application under **Process 1** is approved enter into a connection contract before the period for negotiating a connection contract under **Process 1** expires.

(2) If the application is to connect **distributed generation** under clause 2(1)(a) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must allow the **distributed generator** to connect the **distributed generation** in accordance with the contract as soon as practicable.

(3) If the application is to continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** under clause 2(1)(b) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **distributed generator's** existing connection continues apply—
    (a) as soon as practicable, if the previous connection contract has expired; or
    (b) no later than the expiry of the previous connection contract, if the contract is in force.

(4) If the application is to continue an existing connection for which there is no connection contract under clause 2(1)(c) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **distributed generator's** existing connection continues apply as soon as practicable.

(5) If the application is to change the **maximum export power** or fuel type of connected **distributed generation** under clause 2(e) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **distributed generator's** existing connection continues apply as soon as practicable.

9   Connection of distributed generation on regulated terms if connection contract not negotiated

(1) This clause applies if a **distributor** and a **distributed generator** whose application under **Process 1** is approved do not enter into a connection contract before the period for negotiating a connection contract under this Part of this Schedule expires or, prior to expiry, a **distributed generator** gives notice to a **distributor** that it will not enter into a connection contract.

(2) If the application is to connect **distributed generation** under clause 2(a) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must allow the **distributed generator** to connect the **distributed generation** on the **regulated terms** as soon as practicable after the expiry of the period.

(3) If the application is to continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** under clause 2(b) of Schedule 6.1, the **regulated terms** apply to the **distributed generator's** existing connection as follows:

   (a) if the previous connection contract has expired, the **regulated terms** apply from the day after the date on which the period for negotiating a connection contract under **Process 1** expires:

   (b) if the previous connection contract is still in force, the **regulated terms** apply from the day after the date on which the contract expired.

(4) If the application is to continue an existing connection for which there is no connection contract under clause 2(c) of Schedule 6.1, the **regulated terms** apply from the day after the date that the period for negotiating a connection contract under **Process 1** expires.

(5) If the application is to change the **maximum export power** or fuel type of connected **distributed generation** under clause 2(e) of Schedule 6.1, the **regulated terms** apply from the day after the date that the period for negotiating a connection contract under this Part of this Schedule expires.

Appendix 1A
Process 1A: Applications for distributed generation with maximum export power of 10 kW or less in total in specified circumstances

1   Contents of this Appendix

(1)   This Appendix sets out **Process 1A** and applies to applications relating to **distributed generation** that has a **maximum export power** of 10 kW or less in total to a **distribution network** if the **applicant** has elected, under clause 4 of Schedule 6.1, to apply under **Process 1A**.

(2)   **Process 1A** provides for a simplified one-stage application process.

2   Application for distributed generation with maximum export power of 10 kW or less in total in specified circumstances

(1)   An application to a **distributor** must use the application form provided by the distributor that is publicly available under clause 6.3(2)(a), and specify which of the following circumstances applies:

(a)   the **distributed generator** wishes to connect **distributed generation**:

(b)   the **distributed generator** wishes to continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** that is connected in accordance with a connection contract that—

(i)   is in force and the **distributed generator** wishes to extend the term of the connection contract; or

(ii)   has expired:

(c)   the **distributed generator** wishes to continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** that is connected without a connection contract:

(d)   the **distributed generator** wishes to change the **maximum export power** or fuel type of connected **distributed generation**.

(2)   An application made under this clause must include the following:

(a)   the name, contact, and address details of the **distributed generator** and, if applicable, the **distributed generator's** agent:

(b)   a brief description of the physical location at the address at which the **distributed generation** is or will be connected:

(c)   any application fee specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e):

(d)   details of the make and model of the inverter:

(e)   confirmation as to whether the inverter—

(i)   is included on the **distributor's** list of approved inverters **published** under clause 6.3(2)(f); or

(ii)   conforms with the settings specified in the **distributor's connection and operation standards**:

(f)   if the inverter is not included on the **distributor's** list of approved inverters, a copy of the AS/NZS 4777.2:2020 Declaration of Conformity certificate for the inverter:

(g)   details of—

      (i)   the **maximum export power** of the **distributed generation**; and

      (ii)   the fuel type of the **distributed generation** (for example, solar, wind, or liquid fuel).

  (h)   the information required by clause 7(1)(o) of Schedule 11.1.

(3)   Until 1 September 2026, an application must also include—

  (a)   confirmation as to whether the inverter conforms with the control settings and volt response mode settings specified in the **distributor's connection and operation standards**; and

  (b)   confirmation that the **distributed generation** has a **maximum export power** limit that does not exceed the **maximum export power** threshold, if any, specified by the **distributor** in its **connection and operation standards**; and

  (c)   the **maximum export power** of the **distributed generation**.

(4)   The **distributed generator** must also give the **distributor** the following information as soon as it is available, but no later than 10 **business days** after the approval of the application:

  (a)   a copy of the Certificate of Compliance issued under the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010 that relates to the **distributed generation**:

  (b)   the **ICP identifier** of the **ICP** at which the **distributed generation** is connected or is proposed to be connected, if one exists.

(5)   A **distributor** must, no later than 2 **business days** after receiving an application from a **distributed generator**, acknowledge receipt of the application.

3   Distributor may inspect distributed generation

(1)   A **distributor** may inspect **distributed generation** that is connected or is proposed to be connected to its **distribution network** for the purpose of—

  (a)   verifying that the **distributed generation** meets, or continues to meet, the requirements specified in clause 4 of Schedule 6.1; or

  (b)   verifying the information contained in an application made under **Process 1A**.

(2)   If a **distributor** wishes to inspect **distributed generation**, the **distributor** must give the **distributed generator** at least 2 **business days'** notice of the time and date on which the inspection will take place.

(3)   Following receipt of a notice, the **distributed generator** must—

  (a)   pay the fee specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e) for the inspection (if any); and

  (b)   provide or arrange for the **distributor** to have reasonable access to the **distributed generation**.

4   Export congestion

(1)   This clause applies if a **distributed generator** applies to a **distributor** under **Process 1A** to connect **distributed generation** or continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** to a location on the **distributor's distribution network** that is included in the list **published** in accordance with clauses 6.3(2)(da) or 6.3(2)(db).

(2)   The **distributor** may advise the **distributed generator** that the **distributed generation** may be subject to **export congestion** as set out in the **distributor's congestion management policy**.

(3)   If a **distributor** has advised a **distributed generator** under subclause (2), the **distributor** must take reasonable steps to work with the **distributed generator** to assess whether solutions exist to mitigate the **export congestion**.

5   Non-compliance or incomplete information

(1)   This clause applies if a **distributor** considers that an application made to it by a **distributed generator** under **Process 1A** has one or more of the following deficiencies:

(a)   the **distributed generation** to which the application relates does not meet the requirements specified in clause 4 of Schedule 6.1:

(b)   the **distributed generation** to which the application relates is not as described in the information given under clause 2(2):

(c)   the **distributed generator** has not complied with clause 2(2).

(2)   If this clause applies, the **distributor** must advise the **distributed generator** of the deficiency or deficiencies.

(3)   If the **distributed generator** is advised of a deficiency or deficiencies, it must remedy each deficiency to the satisfaction of the **distributor** no later than 10 **business days** after being advised of the deficiency.

(4)   If the **distributed generator** is required to remedy a deficiency it must pay the relevant fee specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

(5)   If the **distributed generator** does not remedy each deficiency of which it is advised within the time frame specified in subclause (3)—

(a)   if the **distributed generation** to which the application relates is **electrically connected** to the **distributor's distribution network** at the time the **distributor** advises the **distributed generator** under subclause (2), the **distributor** may, by notice to the **distributed generator**, require the **distributed generator** to—

(i)   **electrically disconnect** the **distributed generation** within a reasonable time frame specified by the **distributor** (if applicable); and

(ii)   keep the **distributed generation electrically disconnected** until each deficiency is remedied to the **distributor's** satisfaction; or

(b)   if the **distributed generation** is not connected to the **distributor's distribution network** at the time of being advised under subclause (2), the **distributor** may, by notice to the **distributed generator**, prohibit the **distributed generator** from connecting the **distributed generation** to the **distributor's distribution network** until each deficiency is remedied to the **distributor's** satisfaction.

(6)   The **distributor** must approve connection of the **distributed generation** as soon as is reasonable in the circumstances if—

(a)   the **distributed generator** complies with a notice given under subclause (5)(a) (if applicable); and

(b)   the **distributed generator** remedies each deficiency advised under subclause (2)—

(i)   to the satisfaction of the **distributor**; and

(ii)   no later than 12 months after the date of the notice given under subclause (5) or such later date as is agreed by the **distributor** and the **distributed generator**.

(7) If the **distributor** approves the connection of **distributed generation**, it must give a notice of final approval to the **distributed generator** under clause 6.

6   Notice of final approval

(1) A **distributor** must give a notice of final approval of **distributed generation** to a **distributed generator** that has made an application to the **distributor** under **Process 1A** if the **distributor** is satisfied that—

(a)   the **distributed generation** meets the requirements specified in clause 4 of Schedule 6.1; and

(b)   the information given by the **distributed generator** under clause 2(2) is complete and accurate.

(2) The **distributor** must give the notice no later than 10 **business days** after the date on which the application was submitted.

(3) If the **distributed generator** does not receive a notice by the date specified in subclause (2), the **distributor** is deemed to have given notice of final approval.

7   Regulated terms apply

(1) If a **distributor** gives a notice of final approval to a **distributed generator** under clause 6, the **regulated terms** apply.

(2) Despite subclause (1), and in accordance with clause 6.6(4), the **distributor** and **distributed generator** may at any time enter into a connection contract on terms that apply instead of the **regulated terms**.

8   When distributed generator may connect to distribution network

(1) A **distributed generator** that has submitted an application to a **distributor** under clause 4 of Schedule 6.1 may connect the **distributed generation** to which the application relates to the **distributor's distribution network** if the **distributed generator** receives a notice of final approval under clause 6(1), or is deemed to have received a notice of final approval under clause 6(3).

(2) Despite subclause (1) a **distributor** may prohibit a **distributed generator** from connecting if—

(a)   the **distributor** has advised the **distributed generator** of a deficiency under clause 5(2) and the deficiency has not been remedied in accordance with clause 5(3); or

(b)   the **distributor** gave notice that it wished to inspect the **distributed generation** under clause 3(2), but the **distributed generator** has not provided or arranged for the **distributor** to have reasonable access to the **distributed generation** under clause 3(3)(b).

Appendix 2
Process 2: Applications for distributed generation with maximum export power of 10 kW and below 300 kW in total

1   Contents of this Appendix

(1)   This Appendix sets out **Process 2** and applies to applications for **distributed generation** with **maximum export power** above 10 kW and below 300 kW in total to a **distribution network**.

(2)   **Process 2** provides for a two-stage application process.

Initial application process

2   Distributed generator must make initial application and give information

(1)   A **distributed generator** must make an **initial application** to a **distributor** by—

  (a)   using the application form provided by the **distributor** that is **published** under clause 6.3(2)(a); and

  (b)   providing any information in respect of the **distributed generation** to which the application relates that is—

    (i)   referred to in subclause (2); and

    (ii)   specified by the **distributor** under clause 6.3(3) as being required to be provided with the application; and

  (c)   paying the application fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

(2)   The information required by subclause (1)(b) includes the following:

  (a)   the full name and address of the **distributed generator** and the contact details of a person whom the **distributor** may contact regarding the **distributed generation**:

  (b)   whether the application is to—

    (i)   connect **distributed generation**; or

    (ii)   continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** that is connected in accordance with a connection contract if the connection contract—

      (A) is in force and the **distributed generator** wishes to extend the term of the connection contract; or

      (B) has expired; or

    (iii) continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** that is connected without a connection contract; or

    (iv)   change the **maximum export power**, **nameplate capacity**, inverter model, **electricity** producing components within the connected **distributed generation**, or fuel type of connected **distributed generation**:

  (c)   evidence of the **maximum export power** that the **distributed generation** will have:

(d) if the application is to change the **maximum export power**, **nameplate capacity**, inverter model, **electricity** producing components within the connected **distributed generation**, or fuel type of connected **distributed generation**—

    (i) the **maximum export power** that the **distributed generation** will have after the change; and

    (ii) the aggregate **maximum export power** that all **distributed generation** that is connected at the **point of connection** at which the **distributed generation** is connected will have after the change; and

        (iii) if applicable—

            (A) the model number of the new inverter; and

            (B) the technical specifications for the new **electricity** producing components; and

            (C) the fuel type that the **distributed generation** will have after the change:

(e) details of the fuel type of the **distributed generation** (for example, solar, wind, or liquid fuel):

(f) a brief description of the physical location at the address at which the **distributed generation** is or will be connected:

(g) if the application is to **connect distributed generation**, when the **distributed generator** expects the **distributed generation** to be connected:

(h) technical specifications of the **distributed generation** and **associated equipment**, including the following:

    (i) technical specifications of equipment that allows the **distributed generation** to be **electrically disconnected** from the **distribution network** on loss of mains voltage:

    (ii) manufacturer's rating of equipment:

    (iii) number of phases:

    (iv) proposed or current **point of connection** to the **distribution network** (for example, the **ICP identifier** and street address):

    (v) details of either or both of any inverter and battery storage:

    (vi) details of the voltage (for example, 400 V or 11 kV) when **electrically connected**:

(i) information showing how the **distributed generation** complies with the **distributor's connection and operation standards**:

(j) the maximum **active power** injected (**MW** max):

(k) the **reactive power** requirements (MVArs) (if any):

(l) resistance and reactance details of the **distributed generation**:

(m) fault level contribution (kA):

(n) method of voltage control:

(o) single line diagram of proposed connection:

(p) means of **synchronising** with, **electrically connecting** to, and **electrically disconnecting** from, the **distribution network**, including the type and ratings of the proposed **circuit breaker**:

(q) details of compliance with frequency and voltage support requirements as specified in this Code (if applicable):

    (r)   proposed periods and amounts of **electricity injections** into, and **offtakes** from, the **distribution network** (if known):

    (s)   any other information that is required by the **system operator**:

    (t)   any additional information or **documents** that are reasonably required by the **distributor**.

(4)   The **distributed generator** must provide the **distributor** with the information required by clause 7(1)(o) of Schedule 11.1.

(5)   The **distributor** must, within 5 **business days** of receiving an **initial application**, give written notice to the **applicant** advising whether or not the application is complete and, if not, what information is needed to complete the application.

3   **Distributor must give information to distributed generator**

A **distributor** must give a **distributed generator** that makes an **initial application** the following information within 30 **business days** of receiving the completed **initial application**:

    (a)   information about the **capacity** of the **distribution network**, including both the design **capacity** (including fault levels) and actual operating levels:

    (b)   information about the extent to which connection and operation of the **distributed generation** may result in a breach of the relevant standards for safety, voltage, power quality, and reliability of **electricity** conveyed to **points of connection** on the **distribution network**:

    (c)   information about any measures or conditions (including modifications to the design and operation of the **distribution network**, the **grid** or to the operation of the **distributed generation**) that may be necessary to address the matters referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b):

    (d)   the approximate costs of any **distribution network** related measures or conditions identified under paragraph (c) and an estimate of time constraints or restrictions that may delay connecting the **distributed generation**:

    (e)   information about any further detailed investigative studies, including estimated cost and time to complete those studies, that the **distributor** reasonably considers are necessary to identify any potential adverse effects the **distributed generation** may have on the system, together with an indication of—

        (i)   whether the **distributor** agrees to the **distributed generator**, or a suitably qualified agent of the **distributed generator**, undertaking those studies and, if not, the reasons for the **distributor's** decision; or

        (ii)   if the **distributor** does not agree to the matters in subparagraph (i), whether the **distributor** could undertake those studies and, if so, the reasonable estimated cost of the studies that the **distributed generator** would be charged:

    (f)   information about any obligations to other parties that may be imposed on the **distributor** and that could affect the **distributed generation** (for example, obligations to **Transpower**, in respect of other **networks**, or under this Code):

    (g)   any additional information or **documents** that the **distributor** considers would assist the **distributed generator's** application:

(h)   information about the extent to which planned and **unplanned outages** may adversely affect the operation of the **distributed generation**.

4   Other matters to assist with decision making

(1)   A **distributor** must provide, if requested by a **distributed generator** making an **initial application**, further information that is reasonably necessary to enable the **distributed generator** to consider and act on the information given by the **distributor** under clause 3.

(2)   The information that the **distributor** must provide under subclause (1) may include single line diagrams, equipment ratings, normal switch configurations (including fault levels), and protection system details relevant to the current or proposed **point of connection** of the **distributed generation** to the **distribution network**.

(3)   The **distributor** must provide the further information under this clause within 10 **business days** of the request being received.

5   Distributor and distributed generator must make reasonable endeavours regarding new information

If a **distributor** or a **distributed generator** has given information to the other party under this Appendix and subsequently becomes aware of new information that is relevant to the application, the party that becomes aware of the new information must use reasonable endeavours to provide the other party with the new information.

6   Distributor's decision on initial application

(1)   A **distributor** must, within 40 **business days** after receiving the completed **initial application**, give notice in writing to the **distributed generator** stating whether the **initial application** is approved or declined.

(2)   A **distributor** must approve an **initial application**, subject to any conditions specified by the **distributor** that are reasonably required, if—

(a)   the **initial application** has been properly made in accordance with the **Act** and Part 6 of this Code; and

(b)   the information provided in the **initial application** would reasonably support an assessment by the **distributor**; and

(c)   if applicable, the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** for approving the application are satisfied.

(3)   A **distributor** may only decline a completed application if it reasonably considers that the matters in subclause (2) are not met.

(4)   A **distributor** may approve an **initial application** that does not comply with their **connection and operation standards**.

(5)   If the **distributor** does not give notice in accordance with subclause (1) before the expiry of the time frame in this clause, the **distributed generator** may refer the failure to comply with subclause (1) to the disputes process set out in Schedule 6.3.

(6)   A notice stating that an **initial application** is approved must be accompanied by information about estimated charges payable by the **distributed generator** to the **distributor** to assess a **final application**.

(7) A notice stating that an **initial application** is declined must be accompanied by detailed reasons as to why the **initial application** is declined and, if applicable, include the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** that supported the decision.

Final application process

7 Distributed generator must make final application

(1) A **distributed generator** that makes an **initial application** to a **distributor** must make a **final application**, no later than 12 months after the date on which the **distributor** approved the **initial application**, if the **distributed generator** wishes to proceed with the application, unless—

  (a) the **distributor** and the **distributed generator** agree that a **final application** is not required; and

  (b) there are no persons to whom the **distributor** must give written notice under clause 8 at the time that the **distributor** and **distributed generator** agree that a **final application** is not required; or

  (c) the **distributor** agrees to accept a **final application** later than 12 months after the date on which it approved the **initial application**.

(2) If a **final application** is not required under subclause (1)—

  (a) subclause (3) does not apply; and

  (b) the **distributed generator's initial application** must be treated as a **final application** for the purposes of clauses 8 to 17.

(3) The **distributed generator** must make the **final application** by—

  (a) using the **final application** form provided by the **distributor** that is **published** under clause 6.3(2)(a); and

  (b) providing the results of any investigative studies that were identified by the **distributor** under clause 3(e)(i) and to be undertaken by the **distributed generator** or the **distributed generator's** agent; and

  (c) paying the **final application** fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

8 Notice to third parties

A **distributor** that receives a **final application** must give written notice of the **final application** to the following persons no later than 10 **business days** after receiving the **final application**:

  (a) all persons that have made an **initial application**, **interim application** and **final application** relating to a part of the **distribution network** that the **distributor** considers would be affected by the approval of the **final application**; and

  (b) all **distributed generators** that have **distributed generation** with a **maximum export power** of 10 kW or more in total connected on the **regulated terms** to the part of the **distribution network** that the **distributor** considers would be affected by the approval of the **final application**.

9   Priority of final applications

A **distributor** must prioritise and manage **final applications** in accordance with the **queueing and management policy for distributors**.

10   Distributor's decision on final application

(1)   A **distributor** must, within the time limit specified in clause 11 but subject to clause 9, give notice in writing to the **distributed generator** stating whether the **final application** is approved or declined.

(2)   A **distributor** must approve a **final application**, subject to any conditions specified by the **distributor** that are reasonably required, if—

(a)   the application has been properly made in accordance with the **Act** and Part 6 of this Code; and

(b)   the information provided in the application reasonably demonstrates that—

(i)   the **distributed generator** will ensure that the **distributed generation** complies at all times with the **Act**, and this Code; or

(ii)   the **distributed generation** meets the **distributor's connection and operation standards**.

(3)   A **distributor** may only decline a completed application if it reasonably considers that the matters in subclause (2) are not met.

(4)   A notice stating that a **final application** is approved must be accompanied by the following information:

(a)   a detailed description of any conditions (or other measures) that are conditions of the approval under subclause (2), and what the **distributed generator** must do to comply with them:

(b)   detailed reasons for those conditions (or other measures):

(c)   a detailed description of any charges payable by the **distributed generator** to the **distributor** or by the **distributor** to the **distributed generator**, and an explanation of how the charges have been, or will be, calculated:

(d)   the default process for resolving disputes under Schedule 6.3, if the **distributed generator** disputes all or any of the conditions (or other measures) or charges payable.

(5)   A notice stating that a **final application** is declined must be accompanied by the following information:

(a)   detailed reasons as to why the **final application** was declined and what the **distributed generator** must do to obtain the **distributor's** approval if it makes a new **final application**:

(b)   if applicable, the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** that supported the decision:

(c)   the default process for resolving disputes between **participants** under Schedule 6.3.

11   Time within which distributor must decide final applications

(1)   A notice required by clause 10(1) must be given by a **distributor** to a **distributed generator** no later than 45 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **final application**.

(2) The **distributor** may, where zone substation work and/or input from **Transpower** is required to connect a **distributed generator**, seek up to 2 extensions of the time specified in subclause (1).

(3) If the **distributor** requires **grid** studies to decide the **final application**, the **distributor** may seek up to 2 additional extensions of the time specified in subclause (1).

(4) If a **distributor** seeks an extension of time under subclauses (2) and (3) it must provide the **distributed generator** with a notice in writing specifying the reasons why the extension of time is sought.

(5) A **distributed generator** that receives a notice seeking an extension of time under subclauses (2) and (3)—

(a) may grant an extension which must not exceed 40 **business days**; and

(b) must not unreasonably withhold consent to an extension.

(6) The **distributor** may use the dispute resolution process set out in Schedule 6.3 if it considers the **distributed generator** has unreasonably withheld consent to an extension under subclause (5)(b).

(7) Subclause (8) applies if the **distributor** requests or requires further information from the **distributed generator** that was missing from the **final application** that the **distributor** reasonably needs in order to progress the **final application**.

(8) The total time frame will pause on the making of the request or requirement and will resume on the **business day** after the **distributor** receives the information.

(9) If the **distributor** does not give notice in accordance with subclause (1) before the expiry of the time frames in this clause, including any extensions of time, the **distributed generator** may refer the failure to comply with subclause (1) to the disputes process set out in Schedule 6.3.

(10) If subclause (9) applies, the **applicant** may choose to defer the **distributor's** decision on its **final application** until a later date of its choosing.

12   Distributed generator must give notice of intention to negotiate

(1) If a **distributor** approves a **final application**, the **distributed generator** must give written notice to the **distributor** confirming whether or not the **distributed generator** intends to proceed to negotiate a connection contract under clause 13(1) and, if so, confirming—

(a) the details of the **distributed generation**; and

(b) that the **distributed generator** accepts all of the conditions (or other measures) that have been specified by the **distributor** under clause 10.

(2) The **distributed generator** must give the notice under subclause (1) no later than 30 **business days** after the day on which the **distributor** gives notice of final approval under clause 10, or such later date as is agreed by the **distributor** and the **distributed generator**.

(3) If the **distributed generator** is a **participant** and does not accept one or more of the conditions specified by the **distributor** under clause 10(2) (if any), but intends to proceed to negotiate a connection contract under clause 13(1), the **distributed generator** must—

(a) give notice of the dispute in accordance with clause 2 of Schedule 6.3 within 30 **business days** after the day on which the **distributor** gives notice of final approval under clause 10; and

(b) give a notice under subclause (1) within 30 **business days** after the dispute is resolved.

(4) The **distributor's** duties under Part 6 of this Code arising from the application no longer apply if the **distributed generator** fails to give notice to the **distributor** of an intention to proceed to negotiate a connection contract under clause 13(1) within the time limits specified in this clause.

(5) Subclause (4) does not prevent the **distributed generator** from making a new application under Part 6 of this Code.

Post-approval process

13   30 business days to negotiate connection contract if distributed generator gives notice of intention to negotiate

(1) If a **distributed generator** whose **final application** is approved gives notice of its intention to negotiate a connection contract to a **distributor** under clause 12(1), the **distributor** and the **distributed generator** have 30 **business days**, starting on the date on which the **distributor** receives the notice, during which they must, in good faith, attempt to negotiate a connection contract.

(2) The **distributor** and the **distributed generator** may, by agreement, extend the time specified in subclause (1) for negotiating a connection contract.

14   Testing and inspection

(1) A **distributed generator** whose **final application** is approved by a **distributor** must test and inspect the **distributed generation** to which the **final application** relates within a reasonable time frame specified by the **distributor**.

(1A) The **distributor** may waive the requirement that the **distributed generator** test and inspect if the **distributor** is satisfied that the **distributed generation** complies with the **distributor's connection and operation standards**.

(2) The **distributed generator** must give adequate notice of the testing and inspection to the **distributor**.

(3) The **distributor** may send qualified personnel to the site to observe the testing and inspection.

(4) The **distributed generator** must give the **distributor** a written test report when testing and inspection is complete, including suitable evidence that the **distributed generation** complies with the **distributor's connection and operation standards**.

(5) The **distributed generator** must pay any fee specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e) for observing the testing and inspection.

15   Connection of distributed generation if connection contract negotiated

(1) This clause applies if a **distributor** and a **distributed generator** whose **final application** is approved enter into a connection contract before the period for negotiating a connection contract under **Process 2** expires.

(2)   If the application is to connect **distributed generation** under clause 2(a) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must allow the **distributed generator** to connect the **distributed generation** in accordance with the contract as soon as practicable.

(3)   If the application is to continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** under clause 2(b) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **distributed generator's** existing connection continues apply—

(a)   as soon as practicable, if the previous connection contract has expired; or

(b)   no later than the expiry of the previous connection contract, if the contract is in force.

(4)   If the application is to continue an existing connection for which there is no connection contract under clause 2(c) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **distributed generator's** existing connection continues apply as soon as practicable.

(5)   If the application is to change the **maximum export power**, **nameplate capacity**, inverter model, **electricity** producing components within the connected **distributed generation**, or fuel type of connected **distributed generation** under clause 2(d) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **distributed generator's** existing connection continues apply as soon as practicable.

16   Connection of distributed generation on regulated terms if connection contract not negotiated

(1)   This clause applies if a **distributor** and a **distributed generator** whose **final application** is approved do not enter into a connection contract before the period for negotiating a connection contract under **Process 2** expires or, prior to expiry, a **distributor** gives notice to a **distributed generator** that it will not enter into a connection contract.

(2)   If the application is to connect **distributed generation** under clause 2(a) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must allow the **distributed generator** to connect the **distributed generation** on the **regulated terms** as soon as practicable after the later of the following:

(a)   the expiry of the period for negotiating a connection contract under **Process 2**:

(b)   the date on which the **distributed generator** has fully complied with any conditions (or other measures) that were specified by the **distributor** under clause 10 as conditions of the connection.

(3)   If the application is to continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** under clause 2(b) of Schedule 6.1, the **regulated terms** apply to the **distributed generator's** existing connection from the later of the following:

(a)   the expiry of the period for negotiating a connection contract under **Process 2**:

(b)   the expiry of the existing connection contract:

(c)   the date on which the **distributed generator** has fully complied with any conditions (or other measures) that were specified by the **distributor** under clause 10 as conditions of the connection.

(4) If the application is to continue an existing connection for which there is no connection contract under clause 2(c) of Schedule 6.1, the **regulated terms** apply from the later of the following:

   (a) the expiry of the period for negotiating a connection contract under **Process 2**:

   (b) the date on which the **distributed generator** has fully complied with any conditions (or other measures) that were specified by the **distributor** under clause 10 as conditions of the connection.

(5) If the application is to change the **maximum export power**, **nameplate capacity**, inverter model, **electricity** producing components within the connected **distributed generation**, or fuel type of connected **distributed generation** under clause 2(d) of Schedule 6.1, the **regulated terms** apply from the later of the following:

   (a) the expiry of the period for negotiating a connection contract under **Process 2**:

   (b) the date on which the **distributed generator** has fully complied with any conditions (or other measures) that were specified by the **distributor** under clause 10 as conditions of the connection.

17   Approved final applications must connect to retain approval

(1) A **distributor** may lapse final approval of a **final application** if the **distributed generator** fails to connect to the **distributor's network** within the later of—

   (a) 2 years from the date of final approval; or

   (b) the date by which the **distributed generator** has agreed with the **distributor** to connect to the **distributor's network** through fault of the **distributed generator**.

(2) A **distributed generator** may refer the **distributor's** decision to lapse final approval under subclause (1) to the disputes process in Schedule 6.3.

(3) If a **distributor** decides to lapse final approval under subclause (1) the **distributed generator** must submit an **initial application** under clause 2 if it wishes to connect **distributed generation** to the **distributor's network**.

Appendix 3
Process 3: Applications for distributed generation with maximum export power of 300 kW or more in total

1   Contents of this Appendix

(1)   This Appendix sets out **Process 3** and applies to applications for **distributed generation** with **maximum export power** of 300 kW or more in total to a **distribution network**.

(2)   **Process 3** provides for a three-stage application process.

Initial application process

2   Distributed generator must make initial application, give information, and pay initial application fee

(1)   A **distributed generator** must make an **initial application** to a **distributor** by—

(a)   using the application form provided by the **distributor** that is **published** under clause 6.3(2)(a); and

(b)   providing any information in respect of the **distributed generation** to which the application relates that is—

(i)   referred to in subclause (3); and

(ii)   specified by the **distributor** under clause 6.3(3) as being required to be provided with the application; and

(c)   paying the **initial application** fee specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

(2)   The **initial application** fee is non-refundable and non-transferable unless the **distributor** agrees otherwise.

(3)   The information required by subclause (1)(b) includes the following:

(a)   the full name and address of the **distributed generator** and the contact details of a person whom the **distributor** may contact regarding the **distributed generation**:

(b)   whether the application is to—

(i)   connect **distributed generation**; or

(ii)   continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** that is connected in accordance with a connection contract if the connection contract—

(A)   is in force and the **distributed generator** wishes to extend the term of the connection contract; or

(B)   has expired; or

(iii)   continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** that is connected without a connection contract; or

(iv)   change the **maximum export power**, **nameplate capacity**, inverter model, **electricity** producing components within the connected **distributed generation**, or fuel type of connected **distributed generation**:

(c) evidence of the **maximum export power** that the **distributed generation** will have:

(d) if the application is to change the **maximum export power**, **nameplate capacity**, inverter model, **electricity** producing components within the connected **distributed generation**, or fuel type of connected **distributed generation**,—

    (i) the **maximum export power** that the **distributed generation** will have after the change; and

    (ii) the aggregate **maximum export power** that all **distributed generation** that is connected at the **point of connection** at which the **distributed generation** is connected will have after the change; and

    (iii) the model number of the new inverter; and

    (iv) the technical specifications for the new electricity producing components; and

    (v) the fuel type that the **distributed generation** will have after the change:

(e) details of the fuel type of the **distributed generation** (for example, solar, wind, or liquid fuel):

(f) a brief description of the physical location at the address at which the **distributed generation** is or will be connected:

(g) if the application is to connect **distributed generation**, when the **distributed generator** expects the **distributed generation** to be connected:

(h) technical specifications of the **distributed generation** and **associated equipment**, including the following:

    (i) technical specifications of equipment that allows the **distributed generation** to be **electrically disconnected** from the **distribution network** on loss of mains voltage:

    (ii) manufacturer's rating of equipment:

    (iii) number of phases:

    (iv) proposed or current **point of connection** to the **distribution network** (for example, the **ICP identifier** and street address):

    (v) details of either or both of any inverter and battery storage:

    (vi) details of the voltage (for example, 400 V or 11 kV) when **electrically connected**:

(i) information showing how the **distributed generation** complies with the **distributor's connection and operation standards**:

(j) the maximum **active power** injected (in **MW**):

(k) the **reactive power** requirements (in MVArs) (if any):

(l) resistance and reactance details of the **distributed generation**:

(m) fault level contribution (in kA):

(n) method of voltage control:

(o) single line diagram of proposed connection:

(p) means of **synchronising** with, **electrically connecting** to, and **electrically disconnecting** from, the **distribution network**, including the type and ratings of the proposed **circuit breaker**:

(q) details of compliance with frequency and voltage support requirements as specified in this Code (if applicable):

(r)   proposed periods and amounts of **electricity injections** into, and **offtakes** from, the **distribution network** (if known):

(s)   any other information that is required by the **system operator**:

(t)   any additional information or **documents** that are reasonably required by the **distributor**.

(4)   The **distributed generator** must provide the **distributor** with the information required by clause 7(1)(o) of Schedule 11.1.

(5)   The **distributor** must, within 5 **business days** of receiving an **initial application**, give written notice to the **applicant** advising whether or not the application is complete and, if not, what information is needed to complete the application.

3   Distributor must give information to distributed generator

A **distributor** must give a **distributed generator** that makes an **initial application** the following within 30 **business days** of receiving the completed **initial application**:

(a)   information about the **capacity** of the **distribution network**, including both the design **capacity** (including fault levels) and actual operating levels:

(b)   information about the extent to which connection and operation of the **distributed generation** may result in a breach of the relevant standards for safety, voltage, power quality, and reliability of **electricity** conveyed to **points of connection** on the **distribution network**:

(c)   information about any measures or conditions (including modifications to the design and operation of the **distribution network**, the **grid**, or to the operation of the **distributed generation**) that may be necessary to address the matters referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b):

(d)   the approximate costs of any **distribution network** related measures or conditions identified under paragraph (c) and an estimate of time constraints or restrictions that may delay connecting the **distributed generation**:

(e)   information about any further detailed investigative studies, including estimated cost and time to complete those studies, that the **distributor** reasonably considers are necessary to identify any potential adverse effects the **distributed generation** may have on the system, together with an indication of—

    (i)   whether the **distributor** agrees to the **distributed generator**, or a suitably qualified agent of the **distributed generator**, undertaking those studies and, if not, the reasons for the **distributor's** decision; or

    (ii)   if the **distributor** does not agree to the matters in subparagraph (i), whether the **distributor** could undertake those studies and, if so, the reasonable estimated cost of the studies that the **distributed generator** would be charged:

(f)   information about any obligations to other parties that may be imposed on the **distributor** and that could affect the **distributed generation** (for example, obligations to **Transpower**, in respect of other **networks**, or under this Code):

(g)   any additional information or **documents** that the **distributor** considers would assist the **distributed generator's** application:

(h)   information about the extent to which planned and **unplanned outages** may adversely affect the operation of the **distributed generation**.

4   Other matters to assist with decision making

(1)   A **distributor** must provide, if requested by a **distributed generator** making an **initial application**, further information that is reasonably necessary to enable the **distributed generator** to consider and act on the information given by the **distributor** under clause 3.

(2)   The information that the **distributor** must provide under subclause (1) may include single line diagrams, equipment ratings, normal switch configurations (including fault levels), and protection system details relevant to the current or proposed **point of connection** of the **distributed generation** to the **distribution network**.

(3)   The **distributor** must provide the further information under this clause within 10 **business days** of the request being received.

5   Distributor and distributed generator must make reasonable endeavours regarding new information

If a **distributor** or a **distributed generator** has given information under this Appendix and subsequently becomes aware of new information that is relevant to the application, the party that becomes aware of the new information must use reasonable endeavours to provide the other party with the new information.

6   Distributor's decision on initial application

(1)   A **distributor** must, within 40 **business days** of receiving the completed **initial application**, give notice in writing to the **distributed generator** stating whether the **initial application** is approved or declined.

(2)   A **distributor** must approve an **initial application**, subject to any conditions specified by the **distributor** that are reasonably required, if—

(a)   the **initial application** has been properly made in accordance with the **Act** and Part 6 of this Code; and

(b)   the information provided in the application would reasonably support an assessment by the **distributor**; and

(c)   if applicable, the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** for approving the application are satisfied.

(3)   A **distributor** may only decline a completed application if it reasonably considers that the matters in subclause (2) are not met.

(4)   A **distributor** may approve an **initial application** that does not comply with their **connection and operation standards**.

(5)   If a **distributor** does not give notice in accordance with subclause (1), the **distributed generator** may refer the failure to comply with subclause (1) to the disputes process set out in Schedule 6.3.

(6)   A notice stating that an **initial application** is approved must be accompanied by the following information:

(a)   the **priority position** of the **initial application** in the **distributor's network connections pipeline** at the time the **distributor** approved the **initial application**; and

(b)   estimated charges payable by the **distributed generator** to the **distributor** to assess an **interim application** and **final application**.

(7) A notice stating that an **initial application** is declined must be accompanied by detailed reasons as to why the **initial application** is declined and what the **distributed generator** must do to resubmit an **initial application** and, if applicable, include the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** that supported the decision.

(8) A **distributed generator** may only resubmit an **initial application** once and must do so within 30 **business days** after receiving a notice under subclause (7), otherwise a new application is required.

(9) The **distributor** must not charge a **distributed generator** for **initial applications** that are resubmitted in accordance with subclause (8), where—

    (a) there is no increase in either **nameplate capacity** or **maximum export power** of the **distributed generation**; and

    (b) there is no change to the physical location of the **point of connection** of the **distributed generation**; and

    (c) there is no change to the **applicant** making the application.

Interim application process

7   Distributed generator must make interim application and give information

(1) A **distributed generator** that makes an **initial application** to a **distributor** must make an **interim application**, no later than 12 months after receiving initial approval from the **distributor**, if the **distributed generator** wishes to proceed with the application, unless—

    (a) the **distributor** and the **distributed generator** agree that an **interim application** is not required; and

    (b) there are no persons to whom the **distributor** must give written notice under clause 8 at the time that the **distributor** and **distributed generator** agree that an **interim application** is not required; or

    (c) the **distributor** agrees to accept an **interim application** later than 12 months after the date on which it approved the **initial application**.

(2) If an **interim application** is not required in accordance with subclause (1)—

    (a) subclause (3) does not apply; and

    (b) the **distributed generator's initial application** must be treated as an **interim application** for the purposes of clauses 8 to 11; and

    (c) the **distributed generator** must still pay the **interim application** fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

(3) The **distributed generator** must make the **interim application** by—

    (a) using the **interim application** form provided by the **distributor** that is **published** under clause 6.3(2)(a); and

    (b) providing the results of any investigative studies that were identified by the **distributor** under clause 3(e)(i) and to be undertaken by the **distributed generator** or the **distributed generator's** agent; and

    (c) providing details of any changes the **distributed generator** has made from the **initial application**; and

(d)   paying the **interim application** fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

8   Notice to third parties

A **distributor** that receives an **interim application** must give written notice of the **interim application** to the following persons no later than 10 **business days** after receiving the **interim application**:

(a)   all persons that have made an **initial application**, **interim application** and **final application** relating to a part of the **distribution network** that the **distributor** considers would be affected by the approval of the **interim application**; and

(b)   all **distributed generators** that have **distributed generation** with **maximum export power** of 10 kW or more in total connected on the **regulated terms** to the part of the **distribution network** that the **distributor** considers would be affected by the approval of the **interim application**.

9   Distributor's decision on interim application

(1)   A **distributor** must, within the time limit specified in clause 10, give notice in writing to the **distributed generator** stating whether the **interim application** is approved or declined.

(2)   A **distributor** must approve an **interim application**, subject to any conditions specified by the **distributor** that are reasonably required, if—

(a)   the **interim application** has been properly made in accordance with the **Act** and Part 6 of this Code; and

(b)   the information provided in the application reasonably demonstrates that—

(i)   the **distributed generator** will ensure that the **distributed generation** complies at all times with the **Act**, and this Code; and

(ii)   the **distributed generation** meets the **distributor's connection and operation standards** (assuming that the **distributed generator** meets the conditions (if any) referred to in subclause (4)); and

(iii)   the results of the studies provided indicate to the **distributor's** approval that the **distributed generation** can be connected without affecting other customers connected to the **distributor's network**; and

(iv)   the **distributor** has not identified, as a result of the initial studies, additional studies required to support the connection.

(3)   A **distributor** may only decline a completed application if it reasonably considers that the matters in subclause (2) are not met.

(4)   A notice stating that an **interim application** is approved must be accompanied by the following information:

(a)   a detailed description of any conditions (or other measures) that are conditions of the approval under subclause (2), and what the **distributed generator** must do to comply with them:

(b)   detailed reasons for those conditions (or other measures):

(c) a detailed description of any charges that would be payable by the **distributed generator** to the **distributor** or by the **distributor** to the **distributed generator**, and an explanation of how the charges have been, or will be, calculated:

(d) the default process for resolving disputes under Schedule 6.3, if the **distributed generator** disputes all or any of the conditions (or other measures) or charges payable:

(e) the **priority position** of the **interim application** in the **distributor's network connections pipeline** at the time the **distributor** approved the **interim application**:

(f) estimated charges payable by the **distributed generator** to the **distributor** to assess a **final application**.

(5) A notice stating that an **interim application** is declined must be accompanied by the following information:

(a) detailed reasons as to why the application has been declined and what the **distributed generator** must do to obtain the **distributor's** approval if it resubmits its **interim application** under subclause (6):

(b) if applicable, include the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** that supported the decision:

(c) the default process for resolving disputes between **participants** under Schedule 6.3:

(d) that if the **distributed generator** is not a **participant**, the **distributed generator** may report to the **Authority** under the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations 2010 if it considers that the **distributor** has breached any requirement in Part 6 of this Code.

(6) A **distributed generator** may only resubmit an **interim application** once and must do so within 60 **business days** after receiving a notice under subclause (5), otherwise the **distributed generator** must submit a new **interim application** to the **distributor**.

(7) The **distributor** must not charge a **distributed generator** for **interim applications** that are resubmitted in accordance with subclause (6), where—

(a) there is no increase in either **nameplate capacity** or **maximum export power** of the **distributed generation**; and

(b) there is no change to the physical location of the **point of connection** of the **distributed generation**; and

(c) there is no change to the **applicant** making the application.

10 Time within which distributor must decide interim applications

(1) A notice required by clause 9(1) must be given by a **distributor** to a **distributed generator** no later than—

(a) 45 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **interim application**, in the case of **distributed generation** with **maximum export power** of less than 1 **MW**; or

(b) 60 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **interim application**, in the case of **distributed generation with maximum export power** of 1 **MW** or more but less than 5 **MW**; or

(c) 80 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **interim application**, in the case of **distributed generation** with **maximum export power** of 5 **MW** or more.

(2)   The **distributor** may seek up to 2 extensions of the time specified in subclause (1) for approval of an **interim application** less than 1.5 **MW**, but only where zone substation works or input from **Transpower** is required, and may seek a further 2 extensions to decide an **interim application** of 1.5 **MW** or greater where zone substation works or input from **Transpower** is required.

(3)   If the **distributor** requires **grid** studies to decide the **interim application**, the **distributor** may seek up to 2 additional extensions of time after subclause (2).

(4)   If a **distributor** seeks an extension of time under subclause (2) and (3) it must provide the **distributed generator** with a notice in writing specifying the reasons why the extension of time is sought.

(5)   A **distributed generator** that receives a notice seeking an extension of time under subclause (2) and (3)—

    (a)   may grant an extension which must not exceed 40 **business days**; and

    (b)   must not unreasonably withhold consent to an extension.

(6)   The **distributor** may use the dispute resolution process set out in Schedule 6.3 if it considers the **distributed generator** has unreasonably withheld consent to an extension under subclause (5)(b).

(7)   Subclause (8) applies if the **distributor** requests or requires further information from the **distributed generator** that was missing from the **interim application**, during the period set out in subclause (1).

(8)   The total time frame will pause on the date the **distributor** makes the request or requirement and will resume on the **business day** after the **distributor** receives the information.

(9)   If the **distributor** does not give notice in accordance with subclause (1) before the expiry of the time frames in this clause, including any extensions of time, the **distributed generator** may refer the failure to meet the time frame to the disputes process set out in Schedule 6.3.

(10)   If subclause (9) applies, the **distributed generator** may choose to defer the **distributor's** decision on its **interim application** until a later date of its choosing.

11   Distributed generator must give notice of a dispute

(1)   If the **distributed generator** is a **participant** and does not accept one or more of the conditions specified by the **distributor** under clause 9(2) (if any), the **distributed generator** may give notice of the dispute in accordance with clause 2 of Schedule 6.3 within 30 **business days** after the day on which the **distributor** gives notice of approval under clause 9(1).

(2)   If the **distributed generator** fails to notify the **distributor** of a dispute under subclause (1) within 30 **business days** after the date on which the **distributed generator** receives the conditions specified by the **distributor** under clause 9(2), the **distributed generator** is deemed to have accepted the conditions specified by the **distributor**.

(3)   Subclause (2) does not prevent the **distributed generator** from declining the conditions specified by the **distributor** under clause 9(2) and making a new application under Part 6 of this Code.

Final application process

12 Distributed generator must make final application

(1) A **distributed generator** that makes an **interim application** to a **distributor** must make a **final application** to the **distributor** no later than 90 **business days** after receiving a notice from the **distributor** under clause 9(2) approving the **interim application**, or 90 **business days** after the date on which a dispute was settled under Schedule 6.3, if the **distributed generator** wishes to proceed with the application, unless—

(a) the **distributor** and the **distributed generator** agree that a **final application** is not required; and

(b) there are no persons to whom the **distributor** must give written notice under clause 13 at the time that the **distributor** and **distributed generator** agree that a **final application** is not required; or

(c) the **distributor** agrees to accept a **final application** more than 90 **business days** after **interim approval** or the date that a dispute was settled under Schedule 6.3.

(2) If a **final application** is not required in accordance with subclause (1)—

(a) subclause (3) does not apply; and

(b) the **distributed generator's interim application** must be treated as a **final application** for the purposes of clauses 13 to 23; and

(c) the **distributed generator** must still pay the **final application** fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

(3) The **distributed generator** must make the **final application** by—

(a) using the **final application** form provided by the **distributor** that is **published** under clause 6.3(2)(a); and

(b) accepting the conditions stipulated by the **distributor** under clause 9(3) (if any) and setting out how the **final application** responds to these conditions; and

(c) paying the **final application** fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

(4) If the **distributor** considers the **final application** does not adequately respond to the conditions the **distributor** must—

(a) notify the **distributed generator** of the inadequacies; and

(b) allow the **distributed generator** 10 **business days** to correct the inadequacies in the **final application**; and

(c) if the **distributed generator** has not been able to correct the inadequacies in the **final application**, the **distributor** may treat the **final application** as an **interim application** under clause 9.

(5) If subclause (4) applies, the **distributor** must not charge the **distributed generator** another **interim application** fee.

13 Notice to third parties

A **distributor** that receives a **final application** must give written notice of the **final application** to the following persons no later than 10 **business days** after receiving the **final application**:

(a) all persons that have made an **initial application**, **interim application** and **final application** relating to a part of the **distribution network** that the **distributor** considers would be affected by the approval of the **final application**; and

(b) all **distributed generators** that have **distributed generation** with a **maximum export power** of 10 kW or more in total connected on the **regulated terms** to the part of the **distribution network** that the **distributor** considers would be affected by the approval of the **final application**.

14 Priority of final applications

A **distributor** must prioritise and manage **final applications** in accordance with the **queueing and management policy for distributors**, if made.

15 Distributor's decision on final application

(1) A **distributor** must, within the time limit specified in clause 16, give notice in writing to the **distributed generator** stating whether the **final application** is approved or declined.

(2) A **distributor** must approve a **final application**, subject to any conditions specified by the **distributor** that are reasonably required, if—

    (a) the **final application** has been properly made in accordance with the **Act** and Part 6 of this Code; and

    (b) the information provided in the application reasonably demonstrates that—

        (i) the **distributed generator** will ensure that the **distributed generation** complies with the **Act**, and this Code; and

        (ii) the **distributed generation** meets the **distributor's connection and operation standards** (assuming that the **distributed generator** meets the conditions (if any) referred to in subclause (3)).

(3) A **distributor** may only decline a **final application** if it reasonably considers that the matters in subclause (2) are not met.

(4) A notice stating that a **final application** is approved must be accompanied by the following information:

    (a) a detailed description of any conditions (or other measures) that are conditions of the approval under subclause (2), and what the **distributed generator** must do to comply with them:

    (b) detailed reasons for those conditions (or other measures):

    (c) a detailed description of any charges payable by the **distributed generator** to the **distributor** or by the **distributor** to the **distributed generator**, and an explanation of how the charges have been, or will be, calculated:

    (d) the default process for resolving disputes under Schedule 6.3, if the **distributed generator** disputes all or any of the conditions (or other measures) or charges payable:

    (e) the **priority position** of the **final application** in the **distributor's network connections pipeline** at the time the **distributor** approved the **final application**:

(5) A notice stating that an application is declined must be accompanied by the following information:

    (a) detailed reasons as to why the application has been declined and what the **distributed generator** must do to obtain the **distributor's** approval if it resubmits its **final application**:

(b) if applicable, include the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** that supported the decision:

(c) the default process for resolving disputes between **participants** under Schedule 6.3:

(6) A **distributed generator** may only resubmit a **final application** once and must do so within 30 **business days** of receiving a notice under subclause (5), otherwise the **distributed generator** must submit a new **final application**.

(7) The **distributor** must not charge a **distributed generator** for **final applications** that are resubmitted in accordance with subclause (6), where—

(a) there is no increase in either **nameplate capacity** or **maximum export power** of the **distributed generation**; and

(b) there is no change to the physical location of the **point of connection** of the **distributed generation**; and

(c) there is no change to the **applicant** making the application.

16   Time within which distributor must decide final applications

(1) A notice required by clause 15(1) must be given by a **distributor** to a **distributed generator** no later than—

(a) 20 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **final application**, in the case of **distributed generation** with **maximum export power** of less than 1 **MW**; or

(b) 30 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **final application**, in the case of **distributed generation** with **maximum export power** of 1 **MW** or more but less than 5 **MW**; or

(c) 40 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **final application**, in the case of **distributed generation** with **maximum export power** of 5 **MW** or more.

(2) The **distributor** may seek one extension of the time specified in subclause (1) for approval of a **final application** less than 1.5 **MW**, but only where zone substation works or **Transpower's** input is required, and may seek a further 2 extensions of the time specified in subclause (1) to decide a **final application** of 1.5 **MW** or greater where zone substation works or input from **Transpower** is required.

(3) If a **distributor** seeks an extension of time under subclause (2) it must provide the **distributed generator** with a notice in writing specifying the reasons why the extension of time is sought.

(4) A **distributed generator** that receives a notice seeking an extension—

(a) may grant an extension which must not exceed 40 **business days**; and

(b) must not unreasonably withhold consent to an extension.

(5) The **distributor** may use the dispute resolution process set out in Schedule 6.3 if it considers the **distributed generator** has unreasonably withheld consent to an extension under subclause (4)(b).

(6) Subclause (7) applies if the **distributor** requests or requires further information from the **distributed generator** that was missing from the **final application**.

(7) The total time frame will pause on the making of the request or requirement and will resume on the **business day** after the **distributor** receives the information.

(8) If the **distributor** does not give notice in accordance with subclause (1) before the expiry of the time frames in this clause, including an extension of time, the **distributed**

generator may refer the failure to comply with subclause (1) to the disputes process set out in Schedule 6.3.

(9) If subclause (8) applies, the **applicant** may choose to defer the **distributor's** decision on its **final application** until a later date of its choosing.

17 Distributed generator must give notice of intention to negotiate

(1) If a **distributor** approves a **final application**, the **distributed generator** must give written notice to the **distributor** confirming whether or not the **distributed generator** intends to proceed to negotiate a connection contract under clause 18(1) and, if so, confirming—

    (a) the details of the **distributed generation**; and

    (b) that the **distributed generator** accepts all of the conditions (or other measures) that have been specified by the **distributor** under clause 15(2).

(2) The **distributed generator** must give the notice under subclause (1) no later than 30 **business days** after the day on which the **distributor** gives notice of final approval under clause 15(1), or such later date as is agreed by the **distributor** and the **distributed generator**.

(3) If the **distributed generator** is a **participant** and does not accept one or more of the conditions specified by the **distributor** under clause 15(2) (if any), but intends to proceed to negotiate a connection contract under clause 18(1), the **distributed generator** must—

    (a) give notice of the dispute in accordance with clause 2 of Schedule 6.3 within 30 **business days** after the day on which the **distributor** gives notice of final approval under clause 15(1); and

    (b) give a notice under subclause (1) within 30 **business days** after the dispute is resolved.

(4) The **distributor's** duties under Part 6 of this Code arising from the application no longer apply if the **distributed generator** fails to give notice to the **distributor** of an intention to proceed to negotiate a connection contract under clause 18(1) within the time limits specified in this clause.

(5) Subclause (4) does not prevent the **distributed generator** from making a new application under Part 6 of this Code.

Post-approval process

18 30 business days to negotiate connection contract if distributed generator gives notice of intention to negotiate

(1) If a **distributed generator** whose **final application** is approved gives notice to a **distributor** under clause 17(1), the **distributor** and the **distributed generator** have 30 **business days**, starting on the date on which the **distributor** receives the notice, during which they must, in good faith, attempt to negotiate a connection contract.

(2) The **distributor** and the **distributed generator** may, by agreement, extend the time specified in subclause (1) for negotiating a connection contract.

19   Connection of distributed generation if connection contract negotiated

(1)   This clause applies if a **distributor** and a **distributed generator** whose **final application** is approved enter into a connection contract before the period for negotiating a connection contract under this Part of this Schedule expires.

(2)   If the application is to connect **distributed generation** under clause 2(a) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must allow the **distributed generator** to connect the **distributed generation** in accordance with the contract as soon as practicable.

(3)   If the application is to continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** under clause 2(b) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **distributed generator's** existing connection continues apply—

(a)   as soon as practicable, if the previous connection contract has expired; or

(b)   no later than the expiry of the previous connection contract, if the contract is in force.

(4)   If the application is to continue an existing connection for which there is no connection contract under clause 2(c) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **distributed generator's** existing connection continues apply as soon as practicable.

(5)   If the application is to change the **maximum export power**, **nameplate capacity**, inverter model, **electricity** producing components within the connected **distributed generation**, or fuel type of connected **distributed generation** under clause 2(d) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **distributed generator's** existing connection continues apply as soon as practicable.

20   Connection of distributed generation on regulated terms if connection contract not negotiated

(1)   This clause applies if a **distributor** and a **distributed generator** whose **final application** is approved do not enter into a connection contract before the period for negotiating a connection contract under this Part of this Schedule expires or, prior to expiry, a **distributed generator** gives notice to a **distributor** that it will not enter into a connection contract.

(2)   If the application is to connect **distributed generation** under clause 2(a) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must allow the **distributed generator** to connect the **distributed generation** on the **regulated terms** as soon as practicable after the later of the following:

(a)   the expiry of the period for negotiating a connection contract under this Part of this Schedule:

(b)   the date on which the **distributed generator** has fully complied with any conditions (or other measures) that were specified by the **distributor** under clause 15 as conditions of the connection.

(3)   If the application is to continue an existing connection of **distributed generation** under clause 2(b) of Schedule 6.1, the **regulated terms** apply to the **distributed generator's** existing connection from the later of the following:

(a)   the expiry of the period for negotiating a connection contract under this Part of this Schedule:

(b)   the expiry of the existing connection contract:

(c)   the date on which the **distributed generator** has fully complied with any conditions (or other measures) that were specified by the **distributor** under clause 15 as conditions of the connection.

(4)   If the application is to continue an existing connection for which there is no connection contract under clause 2(c) of Schedule 6.1, the **regulated terms** apply from the later of the following:

(a)   the expiry of the period for negotiating a connection contract under this Part of this Schedule:

(b)   the date on which the **distributed generator** has fully complied with any conditions (or other measures) that were specified by the **distributor** under clause 15 as conditions of the connection.

(5)   If the application is to change the **maximum export power**, **nameplate capacity**, inverter model, **electricity** producing components within the connected **distributed generation**, or fuel type of connected **distributed generation** under clause 2(d) of Schedule 6.1, the **regulated terms** apply from the later of the following:

(a)   the expiry of the period for negotiating a connection contract under this Part of this Schedule:

(b)   the date on which the **distributed generator** has fully complied with any conditions (or other measures) that were specified by the **distributor** under clause 15 as conditions of the connection.

21   Approved applications must meet milestones to retain priority position in distributor's network connections pipeline

(1)   A **distributor** must queue and manage approved **final applications** in accordance with the **queueing and management policy for distributors** including setting delivery milestones that the **distributed generator** must meet to maintain its **priority position** in the **distributor's network connections pipeline**.

(2)   A **distributor** and a **participant** must act reasonably when negotiating milestones.

(3)   These milestones may relate to:

(a)   securing environmental approvals:

(b)   obtaining property rights and easements:

(c)   obtaining Overseas Investment Office approval:

(d)   confirming final grid connection requirements:

(e)   signing delivery services agreement:

(f)   signing construction contract:

(g)   completing works construction:

(h)   other issues that are reasonably required by the **queueing and management policy for distributors**.

(3)   The **distributor** must apply the **queueing and management policy for distributors**, recognising that there could be delays that lead to milestones not being achieved on time.

22   Approved final applications must meet milestones to retain approval

(1)   A **distributor** may remove a **final application** that has not met the requirements in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** with regard to **milestones** referred to in clause 21 by applying the framework set out in the **queueing and management policy for distributors**.

(2)   A **distributor** may lapse final approval of a **final application** if the **distributed generator**—

(a)   consistently misses its milestones; or

(b)   fails to renegotiate its missed milestones; or

(c)   fails to connect to the **distributor's network** within the later of—

(i)   2 years from the date of final approval; or

(ii)   by the date agreed with the **distributor**, through fault of the **distributed generator**.

(3)   The **distributed generator** may—

(a)   provide an **initial application** if it wishes to proceed; and

(b)   dispute the lapsing of the **final approval** through the disputes process in Schedule 6.3.

23   Treatment of approved applications at the same network location

A **distributor** must adhere to the **queueing and management policy for distributors** when making decisions on the **priority positions** of projects at the same **network** location.

24   Testing and inspection

(1)   A **distributed generator** whose **final application** is approved by a **distributor** must test and inspect the **distributed generation** to which the **final application** relates within a reasonable time frame specified by the **distributor**.

(2)   The **distributor** may waive the requirement that the **distributed generator** test and inspect if the **distributor** is satisfied that the **distributed generation** complies with the **distributor's connection and operation standards**.

(3)   The **distributed generator** must give adequate notice of the testing and inspection to the **distributor**.

(4)   The **distributor** may send qualified personnel to the site to observe the testing and inspection.

(5)   The **distributed generator** must give the **distributor** a written test report when testing and inspection is complete, including suitable evidence that the **distributed generation** complies with the **distributor's connection and operation standards**.

(6)   The **distributed generator** must pay any fee specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e) for observing the testing and inspection.

Schedule 6.2

27   New clause 2A of Schedule 6.2 inserted

After clause 2 of Schedule 6.2, insert:

2A **Application of this Schedule**

These **regulated terms** apply where a **distributed generator** has applied to connect **distributed generation** to a **distributor's network** and a connection contract is not agreed within the time frame set out in this Part.

28 **Clause 3 of Schedule 6.2 amended**

(1) After clause 3(4) of Schedule 6.2, insert:

(4A) The **distributed generator** must seek the **distributor's** approval before making any changes to the connection of the **distributed generation**, or changes to the **distributed generation** protection settings.

(2) In clause 3(6)—

  (a) delete "clause 18 of"; and

  (b) delete "clause 20(3) of".

(3) After clause 3(6) of Schedule 6.2, insert:

(7) Where the **distributor's** power quality obligations are breached for any reason due to the operation of the **distributed generation**, the **distributed generator** will resolve the power quality obligations as soon as practicable at its own cost.

29 **Clause 4 of Schedule 6.2 amended**

After clause 4(2) of Schedule 6.2, insert:

(2A) The **distributed generator** must—

  (a) provide any data required under subclause (2) to the **distributor** within 3 **business days** of the request unless agreed otherwise; and

  (b) deliver the data to the **distributor** in a manner agreed with the **distributor**; and

  (c) format the data to comply with **EIEP**3 unless an alternative format is agreed; and

  (d) manage the data in accordance with Parts 10 and 15 of the Code.

30 **Clause 8 of Schedule 6.2 amended**

In clause 8(2)(a) of Schedule 6.2, insert "only if it is safe to do so" after "prior written consent".

31 **Clause 15 of Schedule 6.2 amended**

(1) In clause 15(1)(a) of Schedule 6.2, insert "or the **trader** responsible for the **distributed generation**" after "**distributed generator**".

(2) In clause 15(1) of Schedule 6.2 after paragraph (a), insert:

  (aa) on request of the Authority in the **event of default** by a **trader**:

  (ab) in the event that the **distributed generation** interferes with the **distributor's network** as set out in clause 13, and the **distributed generator** fails to correct the problem:

32 **Clause 15A of Schedule 6.2 amended**

In clause 15A(1) of Schedule 6.2, replace "Part 1, Part 1A, or Part 2" with "**Process 1** and **Process 1A**".

33 Clause 16 of Schedule 6.2 amended

(1) In clause 16(1) of Schedule 6.2, replace "subclause (2)" with "clause 5 of Schedule 6.1 and subclause (2)".

(2) After clause 16(1) of Schedule 6.2, insert:

(1A) The **distributor** may seek a confidentiality agreement between itself and the **distributed generator** that does not contravene the requirements of clause 5 of Schedule 6.1.

34 Clause 22 of Schedule 6.2 amended

In clause 22(b) of Schedule 6.2, replace "**nameplate capacity**" with "**maximum export power**".

Schedule 6.3

35 Clause 4 of Schedule 6.3 amended

In clause 4(1) of Schedule 6.3, replace "pricing principles" with "**distributed generation** pricing principles".

Schedule 6.4

36 Schedule 6.4 heading amended

Replace the heading to Schedule 6.4 with:

Distributed generation pricing principles

37 Clause 2 of Schedule 6.4 amended

In clause 2(i) of Schedule 6.4, replace "1" with "one".

Schedule 6.5

38 Clause 2 of Schedule 6.5 replaced

Replace clause 2 of Schedule 6.5 with:

2 A **distributor** may require the payment of fees for any of the following activities prescribed under Part 6 of this Code to the maximum fee specified in the column opposite that activity:

Description of fee	$ (exclusive of GST)
Process 1 of Schedule 6.1 application	
Application fee under clause 2(1)(c) of Appendix 1	310

Fee for observation of testing and inspection under clause 7(5) of Appendix 1	90
Process 1A of Schedule 6.1 application	
Application fee under clause 2(2)(c) of Appendix 1A	140
Fee for inspection under clause 3(3) of Appendix 1A	80
Deficiency fee under clause 5(4) of Appendix 1A	110
Process 2 and Process 3 of Schedule 6.1 applications	
Application fee for **distributed generation** with **nameplate capacity** of more than 10 kW but less than 100 kW	770
Application fee for **distributed generation** with **nameplate capacity** of 100 kW or more in total but less than 1 **MW**	1,540
Application fee for **distributed generation** with **nameplate capacity** of 1 **MW** or more	7,690
Fee for observation of testing and inspection of **distributed generation** with **nameplate capacity** of more than 10 kW but less than 100 kW	180
Fee for observation of testing and inspection of **distributed generation** with **nameplate capacity** of 100 kW or more	1,850

Part 2
Amendments to Parts 1 and 6 of the Electricity Industry Participation Code that come into force on 1 June 2027

39   Clause 1.1 amended (Interpretation)

(1)   In clause 1.1(1), definition of **aggregated capacity**, replace "**distributed generation**" with "either **load** or **distributed generation**".

(2)   In clause 1.1(1), definition of **applicant**—
   (a)   in paragraph (a), replace "**distributed generation**" with "**load** or **distributed generation**"; and
   (b)   in paragraph (b), replace "**distributed generation**" with "**load** or **distributed generation**"; and
   (c)   in paragraph (c), insert "; or" after "**distributed generation**"; and
   (d)   after paragraph (c), insert:

   (d)   is a **consumer** and applies to a **distributor** to change the connected capacity of the person's **load** connection

(3)   In clause 1.1(1), definition of **connection and operation standards**, insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**" in each place.

(4)   In clause 1.1(1), definition of **final application**—
   (a)   replace "Appendix 2" with "Appendices 2 and 4"; and
   (b)   replace "Appendix 3" with "Appendices 3 and 5".

(5)   In clause 1.1(1), definition of **initial application**, replace "Appendices 2 and 3" with "Appendices 2, 3, 4, and 5".

(6)   In clause 1.1(1), definition of **interim application**, replace "Appendix 3" with "Appendices 3 and 5".

(7)   In clause 1.1(1), insert in their appropriate alphabetical order:

load means, for the purposes of Part 6, any connection to a **distribution network** or to a **consumer installation** that consumes **electricity**

process 4, for the purposes of Part 6, means the process that applies to applications for **load** above 69 kVA and below 500 kVA under Appendix 4 of Schedule 6.1

process 5, for the purposes of Part 6, means the process that applies to applications for **load** of 500 kVA or more under Appendix 5 of Schedule 6.1

(8)   In clause 1.1(1), definition of **maximum export power**, in paragraph (a), insert "**load**" after "minimum".

(9)   In clause 1.1(1), definition of **network connections pipeline**, insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**".

(10)   In clause 1.1(1), definition of **queueing and management policy for distributors**—
   (a)   insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**" in each place; and
   (b)   replace "clause 9 of Appendix 2 and clause 14 of Appendix 3" with "clause 9 of Appendix 2, clause 14 of Appendix 3, clause 8 of Appendix 4 and clause 13 of Appendix 5".

40   Clause 6.1 amended (Contents of this Part)

(1)   In clause 6.1(a), insert "and **load**" after "**distributed generation**".

(2)   In clause 6.1(b)—

(a)   in paragraph (i), insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**"; and

(b)   in paragraph (ii), insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**"; and

(c)   in paragraph (iv), replace "; and" with "; or"; and

(d)   insert:

(v)   change the capacity of a **load** connection; and

41   Clause 6.2 amended (Purpose)

In clause 6.2, insert "and **load**" after "**distributed generation**".

42   Clause 6.2A amended (Application of Part to distributors in respect of embedded networks)

(1)   In clause 6.2A(b), replace "." with "; or".

(2)   In clause 6.2A after paragraph (b), insert:

(c)   an **applicant** when the **applicant** wishes to connect or has **load** connected to such an **embedded network** that conveys less than 5 GWh of **electricity** per annum.

43   Clause 6.2AC amended (Application of Part to multiple points of connection or installations at the same location)

In clause 6.2AC, replace "**distributed generation**" with "**load** or **distributed generation**" in each place.

44   Clause 6.3 amended (Distributors must publish information that is not confidential)

(1)   In clause 6.3(1), insert "and **load**" after "**distributed generation**".

(2)   In clause 6.3(2)(d), insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**".

(3)   In clause 6.3(4) after paragraph (a), insert:

(ab)   for **load** applications received by the **distributor** under **Process 5** must include the following information:

(i)   the number of **load** applications received:

(ii)   the sum of the **load** capacity of each of those applications (in MVA):

(iii)   the number of applications by **load** type (transport, process heat, data centre, or other **load**):

(iv)   the number of applications by project stage (**initial application**, **interim application**, **final application**, construction or connected):

(v)   detail on each application in the **network connections pipeline** (**priority position** in pipeline, capacity (in MVA), **load** type, project stage, location by zone substation or feeder, and (where relevant) date connected).

(4)   In clause 6.3(5)(b), insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**".

(5)   After clause 6.3(5), insert:

(6)   If an **application** is for connection of both **distributed generation** and **load** at the same **ICP**, then the **distributor** must **publish** the information for both **distributed generation** and **load** in accordance with subclause (4).

45   Clause 6.4 amended (Process for obtaining approval)

(1)   In clause 6.4(1)—

    (a)   in paragraph (a), replace "connect **distributed generation**" with "connect **distributed generation** or **load**"; and

    (b)   in paragraph (b), insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**"; and

    (c)   in paragraph (c), insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**"; and

    (d)   in paragraph (d), replace "." with "; or"; and

    (e)   after paragraph (d), insert:

    (e)   change the capacity of an existing **load** connection.

46   Clause 6.4A amended (Distributor and applicant may agree to simpler process for existing connection)

(1)   In clause 6.4A(c) replace "; and" with "; or".

(2)   In clause 6.4A after paragraph (c), insert:

    (ca)   there is a change to the capacity of the existing **load** connection; and

47   Clause 6.5 amended (Connection contract)

In clause 6.5, insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**" in each place.

48   Clause 6.7 amended (Extra terms)

In clause 6.7(1)(b)(ii), replace "clause 13 of Appendix 2 and clause 18 of Appendix 3" with "clause 13 of Appendix 2, clause 18 of Appendix 3, clause 13 of Appendix 4, and clause 18 of Appendix 5".

49   Clause 6.9 amended (Distributed generation pricing principles)

In clause 6,9, insert as subclause (2):

(2)   Where an application for connection includes both **distributed generation** and **load** (including an **energy storage system**), then clause 6B.2(3) applies for the **load** component and, subject to 6B.2(3), Schedule 6.4 applies to the **distributed generation** component of the application (including, in respect of an **energy storage system**, the provision of network support management by the **energy storage system**).

50   Clause 6.11 amended (Distributors must act at arm's length)

In clause 6.11(a), insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**".

51   Clause 6.13 amended (This Part does not apply to earlier connections)

(1)   In clause 6.13, insert as subclause (2):

(2)   This Part does not apply in relation to, or affect, any **load** connections connected under a contract entered into before 1 June 2027, except for the purpose of renewing or extending the term of the contract.

Schedule 6.1

52   Clause 1 of Schedule 6.1 amended

In clause 1 of Schedule 6.1—

(a)   in paragraph (a), insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**"; and

(b)   in paragraph (c), insert "and **load connections**" after "**distributed generation**".

53   Clause 2 of Schedule 6.1 amended

(1)   In clause 2(a), (b) and (c) of Schedule 6.1, insert "or **load**" after "**distributed generation**" in each place.

(2)   In clause 2(e) of Schedule 6.1, replace "." with "; or".

(3)   In clause 2 of Schedule 6.1 after paragraph (e), insert:

(f)   change the capacity of an existing **load** connection.

54   Clause 3 of Schedule 6.1 amended

(1)   In clause 3(2) of Schedule 6.1 after paragraph (d), insert:

(e)   **Process 4**, which is set out in Appendix 4, applies to applications for **load** above 69 kVA and below 500 kVA in total:

(f)   **Process 5**, which is set out in Appendix 5, applies to applications for **load** at 500 kVA and above in total:

(2)   In clause 3 of Schedule 6.1 after subclause (2), insert:

(3)   If an **applicant** wishes to connect both **distributed generation** and **load** at the same **ICP** the **applicant** must only make an application for the connection of the higher capacity of either **distributed generation** or **load**.

(4)   Where subclause (3) applies—

(a)   an **applicant** must provide the required information for both **distributed generation** and **load**; and

(b)   the **distributor** and the **applicant** may enter into a combined connection contract; and

(c)   if a combined connection contract cannot be agreed within the period set out in this Part, the **regulated terms** for the connection of **distributed generation** apply for the **distributed generation** connection.

55   Clause 5 of Schedule 6.1 amended

In clause 5(4) of Schedule 6.1—

(a)   in paragraph (b), replace "**Processes 1, 2** and **3**" with "**Processes 1, 2, 3, 4** and **5**"; and

(b)   in paragraph (c), replace "**Processes 2** and **3**" with "**Processes 2, 3, 4** and **5**"; and

(c)   in paragraph (c), insert "and export **load** profile" after "**maximum export power**".

56   Schedule 6.1, Appendix 1, clause 2 amended

In Schedule 6.1, Appendix 1, clause 2(2)(h), after subparagraph (v) insert:

(va)   details of any **load** at the proposed or current **point of connection**:

57   Schedule 6.1, Appendix 2, clause 2 amended

In Schedule 6.1, Appendix 2, clause 2(2)(h), after subparagraph (v), insert:

(va)   details of any **load** at the proposed or current **point of connection**:

58   Schedule 6.1, Appendix 3, clause 2 amended
In Schedule 6.1, Appendix 3, clause 2(2)(h), after subparagraph (v) insert:

(va)   details of any **load** at the proposed or current **point of connection**:

59   New Appendix 4 of Schedule 6.1 inserted
Insert new Appendix 4 of Schedule 6.1:

Appendix 4
Process 4: Applications for load above 69 kVA and below 500 kVA in total

1   Contents of this Appendix
(1)   This Appendix sets out **Process 4** and applies to applications for **load** above 69 kVA and below 500 kVA in total to a **distribution network**.
(2)   **Process 4** provides for a two-stage application process.

Initial application process

2   Distributor must receive information to process an initial application
(1)   To process an **initial application** from an **applicant**, a **distributor** must receive—
   (a)   a completed **initial application** from the **applicant** using the form **published** by the **distributor** under clause 6.3(2)(a); and
   (b)   information in respect of the connection to which the application relates that is—
      (i)   referred to in subclause (2); and
      (ii)   specified by the **distributor** under clause 6.3(3) as being required to be provided with the **initial application**; and
   (c)   the **initial application** fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).
(2)   The information includes the following:
   (a)   the full name and address of the **applicant** and the contact details of a person whom the **distributor** may contact regarding the connection:
   (b)   whether the application is to—
      (i)   connect new **load**; or
      (ii)   continue an existing **load** connection that is connected in accordance with a connection contract if the connection contract—
         (A)   is in force and the **applicant** wishes to extend the term of the connection contract; or
         (B)   has expired; or
      (iii) continue an existing **load** connection that is connected without a connection contract; or
      (iv)   change the capacity of an existing **load** connection:
   (c)   proposed or current point of connection to the **distribution network** (for example, the **ICP identifier** and street address):

(d)   when the **applicant** would like the **load** connection or increased capacity to be available:

(e)   details of the required voltage (for example, 400V or 11kV) for the **load** connection:

(f)   information showing how the **load** installation complies with the **distributor's connection and operation standards**:

(g)   evidence that the **applicant** has undertaken a capacity assessment that considers maximum demand and, if known, time of use demand from the **distribution network**:

(h)   any other information that is required by the **system operator**:

(i)   any additional information or **documents** that are reasonably required by the **distributor**.

(3)   The **distributor** must, within 5 **business days** of receiving an **initial application**, give written notice to the **applicant** advising whether or not the application is complete and, if not, what information is needed to complete the application.

3   Distributor must give information to applicant

(1)   A **distributor** must give an **applicant** that makes an **initial application** the following information within 30 **business days** of receiving the completed **initial application**:

(a)   information about the **capacity** of the **distribution network**, including both the design **capacity** (including fault levels) and actual operating levels:

(b)   information about the extent to which the connection and operation of the **load** connection may result in a breach of the relevant standards for safety, voltage, power quality, and reliability of **electricity** conveyed to **points of connection** on the **distribution network**:

(c)   information about any measures or conditions (including modifications to the design and operation of the **distribution network** or **grid**) to the operation of the **load** connection that may be necessary to address the matters referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b):

(d)   the approximate costs of any **distribution network** related measures or conditions identified under paragraph (c) and an estimate of time constraints or restrictions that may delay connecting to the **network**:

(e)   information about any further detailed investigative studies that the **distributor** reasonably considers are necessary to identify any potential adverse effects the connection may have on the system, together with an indication of—

(i)   whether the **distributor** agrees to the **applicant**, or a suitably qualified agent of the **applicant**, undertaking those studies and, if not, the reasons for the **distributor's** decision; or

(ii)   if the **distributor** does not agree to the matters in subparagraph (i), whether the **distributor** could undertake those studies and, if so, the reasonable estimated cost of the studies that the **applicant** would be charged:

(f)   information about any obligations to other parties that may be imposed on the **distributor** and that could affect the connection:

(g)   information about the extent to which planned and **unplanned outages** may adversely affect the operation of the **load** connection:

(h)   any additional information or **documents** that the **distributor** considers would assist the **applicant's** application:

4   Other matters to assist with decision making

(1)   A **distributor** must provide, if requested by an **applicant** making an **initial application**, further information that is reasonably necessary to enable the **applicant** to consider and act on the information given by the **distributor** under clause 3.

(2)   The information that the **distributor** must provide under subclause (1) may include single line diagrams, equipment ratings, normal switch configurations (including fault levels), and protection system details relevant to the current or proposed **point of connection** of the **load** connection.

(3)   The **distributor** must provide the further information under this clause within 10 **business days** of the request being received.

(4)   **Distributors** must treat all connection applications in a fair, consistent, and non-discriminatory manner, without giving preference to any **applicant** or class of **applicant**.

5   Distributor must make reasonable endeavours regarding new information

If a **distributor** receives information under **Process 4** from an **applicant** who is not a **participant**, and subsequently becomes aware of new information that is relevant to the application, the **distributor** must use reasonable endeavours to obtain the new information from the **applicant**.

6   Distributor's decision on initial application

(1)   A **distributor** must, within 40 **business days** of receiving the completed **initial application**, give notice in writing to the **applicant** stating whether the **initial application** is approved or declined.

(2)   A **distributor** may approve an **initial application**, subject to any conditions specified by the **distributor** that are reasonably required, if—

(a)   the **initial application** has been properly made in accordance with the **Act** and Part 6 of this Code; and

(b)   the information provided in the application would reasonably support an assessment by the **distributor**.

(3)   A **distributor** may approve an **initial application** that does not comply with their **connection and operation standards**.

(4)   If the **distributor** does not give notice in accordance with subclause (1) before the expiry of the time frame in this clause, the **applicant** that is not a **participant** may notify the **distributor** of a complaint under clause 6.8A.

(5)   A notice stating that an **initial application** is approved must be accompanied by information about estimated charges payable by the **applicant** to the **distributor** to assess a **final application**.

(6)   A notice stating that an **initial application** is declined must be accompanied by detailed reasons as to why the **initial application** is declined and what the **applicant** must do to obtain the **distributor's** approval if it makes another **initial application** and, if

applicable, include the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** that supported the decision.

Final application process

7   Distributor must receive final application

(1)   To process a **final application**, a **distributor** must, unless the **distributor** and the **applicant** agree that a **final application** is not required, receive—

(a)   a completed **final application** from an **applicant** using the form published by the **distributor** under clause 6.3(2)(a); and

(b)   the **final application** fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e); and

(c)   the results of any investigative studies that were identified by the **distributor** under clause 3(e)(i) and to be undertaken by the **applicant** or the **applicant's** agent; and

(d)   a **final application** within 12 months after the date on which it approved an **initial application**, unless—

(i)   the **distributor** and the **applicant** agree that a **final application** is not required; or

(ii)   the **distributor** agrees to receive a **final application** later than 12 months after approving an **initial application**.

(2)   If a **final application** is not required, the **distributor** must—

(a)   treat the **applicant's initial application** as a **final application** for the purposes of clauses 8 to 14; and

(b)   receive, from the **applicant**, the **final application** fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

8   Priority of final applications

A **distributor** must prioritise and manage **final applications** in accordance with the **queueing and management policy for distributors**.

9   Distributor's decision on final application

(1)   A **distributor** must, within the time limit specified in clause 10, give notice in writing to the **applicant** stating whether the **final application** is approved or declined.

(2)   A **distributor** may approve a **final application**, subject to any conditions specified by the **distributor** that are reasonably required, if—

(a)   the **final application** has been properly made in accordance with Part 6 of this Code; and

(b)   the information provided in the application would reasonably support an assessment by the **distributor** that the connected **load** will comply with the **distributor's connection and operation standards**.

(2)   A **distributor** may make a notice approving a **final application** subject to conditions that the **applicant** must meet in order to address any significant risks to network stability, safety or operational viability that the connection would cause.

(3)   A notice stating that a **final application** is approved must be accompanied by the following information:

    (a)   a detailed description of any conditions (or other measures) that are conditions of the approval, and what the **applicant** must do to comply with them:

    (b)   detailed reasons for those conditions (or other measures):

    (c)   a detailed description of any charges payable by the **applicant** to the **distributor** or by the **distributor** to the **applicant**, and an explanation of how the charges have been, or will be, calculated:

    (d)   the default process for resolving disputes under Schedule 6.3, if the **applicant** is a **participant** and disputes all or any of the conditions (or other measures) or charges payable.

(4)   A notice stating that a **final application** is declined must be accompanied by the following information:

    (a)   detailed reasons as to why the **final application** has been declined and what the **applicant** must do to obtain the **distributor's** approval if it makes a new **final application**:

    (b)   if applicable, the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** that supported the decision:

    (c)   that an **applicant** that is not a **participant** may notify the **distributor** of a complaint under clause 6.8A:

    (d)   that if the **applicant** is not a **participant**, the **applicant** may report to the **Authority** under the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations 2010 if it considers that the **distributor** has breached any requirement in Part 6 of this Code.

10   Time within which distributor must decide final applications

(1)   A notice required by clause 9 must be given by a **distributor** to an **applicant** no later than 30 **business days** after the date the **distributor** receives the **final application**.

(2)   The **distributor** may seek up to 2 extensions of the time specified in subclause (1) but only where zone substation works or **Transpower** input is required.

(3)   If the **distributor** requires **grid** studies to decide the **final application**, the **distributor** may seek up to 2 additional extensions of the time specified in subclause (1).

(4)   If a **distributor** seeks an extension of time under subclauses (2) and (3) it must provide the **applicant** with a notice in writing specifying the reasons why the extension of time is sought.

(5)   Each extension of time sought under subclauses (2) and (3) must not exceed 40 **business days**.

(6)   Subclause (7) applies if the **distributor** requests or requires further information from the **applicant** after receiving the **final application**.

(7)   The total time frame will pause on the making of a request or requirement and will resume on the **business day** after the **distributor** receives the information.

(8)   If the **distributor** does not give notice in accordance with subclause (1) before the expiry of the time frames in this clause, including any extensions of time, the **applicant** may notify the **distributor** of a complaint under clause 6.

(9) If subclause (8) applies, the **applicant** may choose to defer the **distributor's** decision on its **final application** until a later date of its choosing.

11 Distributor must negotiate if notified by applicant

(1) A **distributor** must negotiate with an **applicant** if, after providing the **applicant** with notice of final approval, it receives written notice from the **applicant** confirming the **applicant** intends to proceed to negotiate a connection contract under clause 12(1) and—

(a) the **applicant** provides details of the **load** connection; and

(b) the **applicant** confirms it accepts all of the conditions (or other measures) that have been specified by the **distributor** under clause 9.

(2) The **distributor** is not required to negotiate if it receives the written notice later than 30 **business days** after the day on which it gives notice of final approval under clause 9, or such later date as previously agreed by the **distributor** and the **applicant**.

(3) If the **applicant** is a **participant** and does not accept one or more of the conditions specified by the **distributor** under clause 9(2) (if any), but intends to proceed to negotiate a connection contract under clause 13(1), the **applicant** must—

(a) give notice of the dispute in accordance with clause 2 of Schedule 6.3 within 30 **business days** after the day on which the **distributor** gives notice of final approval under clause 9; and

(b) give a notice under subclause (1) within 30 **business days** after the dispute is resolved.

(4) The **distributor's** duties under Part 6 of this Code arising from the application no longer apply if the **applicant** fails to give notice to the **distributor** of an intention to proceed to negotiate a connection contract under clause 12(1) within the time limits specified in this clause.

(5) Subclause (4) does not prevent the **applicant** from making a new application under Part 6 of this Code.

Post-approval process

12 Distributor has 40 business days to negotiate connection contract if applicant gives notice of intention to negotiate

(1) If an **applicant** whose **final application** is approved gives notice to a **distributor** under clause 11(1), the **distributor** has 40 **business days**, starting on the date on which the **distributor** receives the notice, during which they must, in good faith, attempt to negotiate a connection contract.

(2) The **distributor** and the **applicant** may, by agreement, extend the time specified in subclause (1) for negotiating a connection contract.

13 Connection of load if connection contract negotiated

(1) This clause applies if a **distributor** and an **applicant** whose **final application** is approved enter into a connection contract before the period for negotiating a connection contract under **Process 4** expires.

(2) If the application is to continue an existing connection under clause 2(b) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **applicant's** existing connection continues apply—

    (a) as soon as practicable, if the previous connection contract has expired; or

    (b) no later than the expiry of the previous connection contract, if the contract is in force.

(3) If the application is to continue an existing connection for which there is no connection contract under clause 2(c) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **applicant's** existing connection continues apply as soon as practicable.

(4) If the application is to change the capacity of an existing **load** connection under clause 2(e) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **applicant's** existing connection continues apply as soon as practicable.

14 Approved final applications must connect to retain approval

(1) A **distributor** may lapse final approval of a **final application**, if the **applicant** fails to connect to the **distributors network**, within the later of—

    (a) 2 years from the date of final approval; or

    (b) by the date agreed with the **distributor** through fault of the **applicant**.

(2) The **applicant** may—

    (a) provide an **initial application** to the **distributor** if it wishes to connect **load** to the **distributor's network** after the **distributor** has lapsed final approval under subclause (1); and

    (b) notify the **distributor** of a complaint under clause 6.8A, if the **applicant** is not a **participant**.

60 New Appendix 5 of Schedule 6.1 inserted

Insert new Appendix 5 of Schedule 6.1:

Appendix 5
Process 5: Applications for load at 500 kVA or more in total

1 Contents of this Appendix

(1) This Appendix sets out **Process 5** and applies to applications for **load** at 500 kVA or more in total to a **distribution network**.

(2) **Process 5** provides for a three-stage application process.

Initial application process

2 Distributor must receive information to process an initial application

(1) To process an **initial application** from an **applicant**, a **distributor** must receive—

    (a) a completed **initial application** from the **applicant** using the form **published** by the **distributor** under clause 6.3(2)(a); and

     (b)   information in respect of the connection to which the **initial application** relates that is—

         (i)   referred to in subclause (2); and

         (ii)   specified by the **distributor** under clause 6.3(3) as being required to be provided with the **initial application**; and

     (c)   the **initial application** fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

(2)   The information includes the following:

     (a)   the full name and address of the **applicant** and the contact details of a person whom the **distributor** may contact regarding the connection:

     (b)   whether the application is to—

         (i)   connect new **load**; or

         (ii)   continue an existing **load** connection that is connected in accordance with a connection contract if the connection contract—

            (A)   is in force and the **applicant** wishes to extend the term of the connection contract; or

            (B)   has expired; or

         (iii)   continue an existing **load** connection that is connected without a connection contract; or

         (iv)   change the capacity of an existing **load** connection:

     (c)   proposed or current **point of connection** to the **distribution network** (for example, the **ICP** identifier and street address):

     (d)   when the **applicant** would like the **load** connection or increased capacity to be available:

     (e)   details of the required voltage (for example, 400V or 11kV) for the **load** connection:

     (f)   information showing how the **load** installation complies with the **distributor's connection and operation standards**:

     (g)   evidence that the **applicant** has undertaken a capacity assessment that considers maximum demand and, if known, time of use demand from the **distribution network**:

     (h)   any other information that is required by the **system operator**:

     (i)   any additional information or **documents** that are reasonably required by the **distributor**.

(3)   The **distributor** must, within 5 **business days** of receiving an **initial application**, give written notice to the **applicant** advising whether or not the application is complete and, if not, what information is needed to complete the application.

3   Distributor must give information to applicant

A **distributor** must give an **applicant** that makes an **initial application** the following within 30 **business days** of receiving the completed **initial application**:

     (a)   information about the **capacity** of the **distribution network**, including both the design **capacity** (including fault levels) and actual operating levels:

     (b)   information about the extent to which the connection and operation of the **load** connection may result in a breach of the relevant standards for safety, voltage,

power quality, and reliability of **electricity** conveyed to **points of connection** on the **distribution network**:

(c) information about any measures or conditions (including modifications to the design and operation of the **distribution network** or **grid**) to the operation of the **load** connection that may be necessary to address the matters referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b):

(d) the approximate costs of any **distribution network** related measures or conditions identified under paragraph (c) and an estimate of time constraints or restrictions that may delay connecting to the **network**:

(e) information about any further detailed investigative studies that the **distributor** reasonably considers are necessary to identify any potential adverse effects the connection may have on the system, together with an indication of—

    (i) whether the **distributor** agrees to the **applicant**, or a suitably qualified agent of the **applicant**, undertaking those studies and, if not, the reasons for the **distributor's** decision; or

    (ii) if the **distributor** does not agree to the matters in subparagraph (i), whether the **distributor** could undertake those studies and, if so, the reasonable estimated cost of the studies that the **applicant** would be charged:

(f) information about any obligations to other parties that may be imposed on the **distributor** and that could affect the connection:

(g) information about the extent to which planned and **unplanned outages** may adversely affect the operation of the **load** connection:

(h) any additional information or **documents** that the **distributor** considers would assist the **applicant's** application.

4 Other matters to assist with decision making

(1) A **distributor** must provide, if requested by an **applicant** making an **initial application**, further information that is reasonably necessary to enable the **applicant** to consider and act on the information given by the **distributor** under clause 3.

(2) The information that the **distributor** must provide under subclause (1) may include single line diagrams, equipment ratings, normal switch configurations (including fault levels), and protection system details relevant to the current or proposed **point of connection** of the **load**.

(3) The **distributor** must provide the further information under this clause within 10 **business days** of the request being received.

(4) A **distributor** must treat all connection applications in a fair, consistent, and non-discriminatory manner, without giving preference to any **applicant** or class of **applicant**.

5 Distributor must make reasonable endeavours regarding new information
If a **distributor** receives information under **Process 5** from an **applicant** who is not a **participant**, and subsequently becomes aware of new information that is relevant to the application, the **distributor** must use reasonable endeavours to obtain the new information from the **applicant**.

6   Distributor's decision on initial application

(1)   A **distributor** must, within 40 **business days** of receiving the completed **initial application**, give notice in writing to the **applicant** stating whether the **initial application** is approved or declined.

(2)   A **distributor** may approve an **initial application**, subject to any conditions specified by the **distributor** that are reasonably required, if—

(a)   the **initial application** has been properly made in accordance with the **Act** and Part 6 of this Code; and

(b)   the information provided in the **initial application** would reasonably support an assessment by the **distributor**.

(3)   A **distributor** may approve an **initial application** that does not comply with their **connection and operation standards**.

(4)   If the **distributor** does not give notice in accordance with subclause (1) before the time frame in this clause expires, an **applicant** that is not a **participant** may notify the **distributor** of a complaint under clause 6.8A.

(5)   A notice stating that an **initial application** is approved must be accompanied by the following information:

(a)   the **priority position** of the **initial application** in the **distributor's network connections pipeline** at the time the **distributor** approved the **initial application**; and

(b)   estimated charges payable by the **applicant** to the **distributor** to assess an **interim application** and **final application**.

(6)   A notice stating that an **initial application** is declined must be accompanied by detailed reasons as to why the **initial application** is declined and what the **applicant** must do to obtain the **distributor's** approval if the **applicant** resubmits an **initial application** under subclause (7), and, if applicable, include the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** that supported the decision.

(7)   An **applicant** may only resubmit an **initial application** once and must do so within 30 **business days** after receiving a notice under subclause (6), otherwise a new application is required.

(8)   The **distributor** must not charge an **applicant** for **initial applications** that are resubmitted in accordance subclause (7) where—

(a)   there is no increase in **load** capacity; and

(b)   there is no change to the physical location of the **point of connection** of the **load**; and

(c)   there is no change to the **applicant** making the application.

Interim application process

7   Distributor must receive interim application

(1)   To process an **interim application**, a **distributor** must—

(a)   receive a completed **interim application** from the **applicant** using the form **published** by the **distributor** under clause 6.3(2)(a); and

(b)   the **interim application fee** (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e); and

(c)   receive the results of any investigative studies that were identified by the **distributor** under clause 3(e)(i) and to be undertaken by the **applicant** or the **applicant's** agent; and

(d)   receive the **interim application** within 12 months after the date on which it approved the **initial application**, unless—

    (i)   the **distributor** and the **applicant** agree that an **interim application** is not required; and

    (ii)   there are no persons to whom the **distributor** must give written notice under clause 8 at the time that the **distributor** and **applicant** agree that an **interim application** is not required; or

    (iii)   the **distributor** agrees to accept an **interim application** later than 12 months after the date on which it approved the **initial application**.

(2)   If the **distributor** and **applicant** agree an **interim application** is not needed, the **distributor** must—

(a)   treat the **applicant's initial application** as an **interim application** for the purposes of clauses 8 to 10; and

(b)   receive, from the **applicant**, the **interim application** fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

8   Notice to third parties

A **distributor** that receives an **interim application** must, within 10 **business days** after receiving the **interim application**, give written notice of the **interim application** to all persons that have made an **initial application**, **interim application** and **final application** relating to a particular part of the **distribution network** that the **distributor** considers would be affected by the approval of the **interim application**.

9   Distributor's decision on interim application

(1)   A **distributor** must, within the time limit specified in clause 10, give notice in writing to the **applicant** stating whether the **interim application** is approved or declined.

(2)   A **distributor** may approve an **interim application**, subject to any conditions specified by the **distributor** that are reasonably required, if—

(a)   the **interim application** has been properly made in accordance with the **Act** and Part 6 of this Code; and

(b)   the information provided in the application would reasonably support an assessment by the **distributor** that the connected **load** will meet the **distributor's connection and operation standards** (assuming that the **applicant** meets the conditions (if any) referred to in subclause (3)).

(3)   A notice stating that an **interim application** is approved must be accompanied by the following information:

(a)   a detailed description of any conditions (or other measures) that are conditions of the approval under subclause (2), and what the **applicant** must do to comply with them:

(b)   detailed reasons for those conditions (or other measures):

(c)   a detailed description of any charges that would be payable by the **applicant** to the **distributor** or by the **distributor** to the **applicant**, and an explanation of how the charges have been, or will be, calculated:

(d)   the default process for resolving disputes under Schedule 6.3, if the **applicant** disputes all or any of the conditions (or other measures) or charges payable:

(e)   the **priority position** of the **interim application** in the **distributor's network connections pipeline** at the time the **distributor** approved the **interim application**:

(f)   estimated charges payable by the **applicant** to the **distributor** to assess a **final application**.

(4)   A notice stating that an **interim application** is declined must be accompanied by the following information:

(a)   detailed reasons as to why the **interim application** has been declined and what the **applicant** must do to obtain the **distributor's** approval if it resubmits its **interim application** under subclause (5):

(b)   if applicable, the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** that supported the decision:

(c)   the default process for resolving disputes between **participants** under Schedule 6.3:

(d)   that if the **applicant** is not a **participant**, the **applicant** may report to the **Authority** under the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations 2010 if it considers that the **distributor** has breached any requirement in Part 6 of this Code.

(5)   An **applicant** may only resubmit an **interim application** once and must do so within 60 **business days** after receiving a notice under subclause (4), otherwise the **applicant** must submit a new **interim application** to the **distributor**.

(6)   The **distributor** must not charge an **interim application** fee for **interim applications** that are resubmitted in accordance with subclause (5) where —

(a)   there is no increase in **load** capacity; and

(b)   there is no change to the physical location of the **point of connection** of the **load**; and

(c)   there is no change to the **applicant** making the application.

(7)   The resubmission of an **interim application** resets the time frame for the **distributor's** approval of the **interim application**, unless the **distributor** and **applicant** agree otherwise.

10   Time within which distributor must decide interim applications

(1)   A notice required by clause 9 must be given by a **distributor** to an **applicant** no later than—

(a)   45 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **interim application**, in the case of **load** with a maximum demand of less than 1 **MVA**; or

(b)   60 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **interim application**, in the case of **load** with a maximum demand of 1 **MVA** or more but less than 5 **MW**; or

(c)   80 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **interim application**, in the case of **load** with a maximum demand of 5 **MVA** or more.

(2)   The **distributor** may seek up to 2 extensions of time specified in subclause (1), for approval of an application less than 1.5 **MW**, but only where zone substation works or input from **Transpower** is required, and may seek a further 2 extensions to decide an **interim application** of 1.5 **MW** or greater where zone substation works or input from **Transpower** is required.

(3)   If the **distributor** requires **grid** studies to decide the **interim application**, the **distributor** may seek up to 2 additional extensions of the time specified in subclause (1).

(4)   If a **distributor** seeks an extension of time under subclauses (2) and (3) it must provide the **applicant** with a notice in writing specifying the reasons why the extension of time is sought.

(5)   Each extension of time sought under subclauses (2) and (3) must not exceed 40 **business days**.

(6)   Subclause (7) applies if the **distributor** requests or requires further information from the **applicant** that was missing from the **interim application**, during the period set out in subclause (1).

(7)   The total time frame will pause on the making of a request or requirement and will resume on the **business day** after the **distributor** receives the information.

(8)   If the **distributor** does not give notice in accordance with subclause (1) before the expiry of the time frames in this clause, including any extensions of time, the **applicant** may refer the failure to meet the time frame to the disputes process set out in clause 6.8A, or Schedule 6.3 if the **applicant** is a **participant**.

(9)   If subclause (8) applies, the **applicant** may choose to defer the **distributor's** decision on its **interim application** until a later date of its choosing.

11   Applicant may complain under section 95 of the Act

(1)   An **applicant** who is not a **participant** can make a complaint about the reasonableness of a **distributor's** conditions to the dispute resolution scheme under section 6 of the **Act**.

(2)   Subclause (1) does not prevent the applicant from declining the conditions specified by the distributor under clause 9(2) and making a new application under Part 6 of this Code.

Final application process

12   Distributor must receive final application

(1)   To process a **final application**, a **distributor** must receive—

(a)   a completed **final application** from the **applicant** using the form **published** by the **distributor** under clause 6.3(2)(a); and

(b)   the **final application** fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e); and

(c)   written acceptance from the **applicant** of the conditions stipulated by the **distributor** under 9(3)(a) (if any); and

(d)   setting out how the **final application** responds to these conditions; and

(e) the **final application** within 90 **business days** after approving the **interim application**, unless—

  (i) the **distributor** and the **applicant** agree that a **final application** is not required; or

  (ii) the **distributor** agrees to accept a **final application** received more than 90 **business days** after the approval of the **interim application** or the date on which a dispute was resolved under Schedule 6.3, under section 95 of the **Act**.

(2) If the **distributor** considers the **final application** does not adequately respond to the conditions, and the **distributor** and **applicant** cannot agree on a resolution, then the **distributor** may treat the **final application** as an **interim application**.

(3) If the **distributor** treats the **final application** as an **interim application** under subclause (2) —

 (a) the **distributor** may request that the **applicant** undertake further investigative studies; and

 (b) the **distributor** may not require the **applicant** to pay another **interim application** fee (regardless of whether any such fee was paid in respect of any **interim application** that was made).

(4) If the **distributor** and **applicant** agree a **final application** is not needed, the **distributor** must—

 (a) treat the **applicant's interim application** as a **final application** for the purposes of clauses 13 to 22; and

 (b) receive, from the **applicant**, the **final application** fee (if any) specified by the **distributor** in accordance with clause 6.3(2)(e).

13 Priority of final applications

A **distributor** must prioritise and manage **final applications** in accordance with the **queueing and management policy for distributors**.

14 Distributor's decision on final application

(1) A **distributor** must, within the time limit specified in clause 15, give notice in writing to the **applicant** stating whether the **final application** is approved or declined.

(2) A **distributor** may approve a **final application**, subject to any conditions specified by the **distributor** that are reasonably required, if—

 (a) the **final application** has been properly made in accordance with the **Act** and Part 6 of this Code; and

 (b) the information provided in the application would reasonably support an assessment by the **distributor** that the connected **load** meets the **distributor's connection and operation standards** (assuming that the **applicant** meets the conditions (if any) referred to in subclause (3)).

(2) A **distributor** may make a notice approving a **final application** subject to conditions that the **applicant** must meet in order to address any significant risks to network stability, safety or operational viability that the connection would cause.

(3) A notice stating that a **final application** is approved must be accompanied by the following information:

(a)   a detailed description of any conditions (or other measures) that are conditions of the approval, and what the **applicant** must do to comply with them:

(b)   detailed reasons for those conditions (or other measures):

(c)   a detailed description of any charges payable by the **applicant** to the **distributor** or by the **distributor** to the **applicant**, and an explanation of how the charges have been, or will be, calculated:

(d)   the default process for resolving disputes under Schedule 6.3, if an **applicant** who is a **participant** disputes all or any of the conditions (or other measures) or charges payable:

(e)   the priority position of the **final application** in the **distributor's network connections pipeline** at the time the **distributor** approved the **final application**.

(4)   A notice stating that a **final application** is declined must be accompanied by the following information:

(a)   detailed reasons as to why the **final application** has been declined and what the **applicant** must do to get approval if it resubmits its **final application** under subclause (5):

(b)   if applicable, the criteria in the **queueing and management policy for distributors** that supported the decision:

(c)   the default process for resolving disputes between **participants** under Schedule 6.3:

(d)   that if the **applicant** is not a **participant**, the **applicant** may report to the **Authority** under the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations 2010 if it considers that the **distributor** has breached any requirement in Part 6 of this Code.

(5)   An **applicant** may only resubmit a **final application** once and must do so within 30 **business days** of receiving a notice under subclause (4), otherwise a new **final application** is required.

(6)   The **distributor** must not charge a **final application** fee for **final applications** that are resubmitted in accordance with subclause (5), where —

(a)   there is no increase in **load** capacity; and

(b)   there is no change to the physical location of the **point of connection** of the **load**; and

(c)   there is no change to the **applicant** making the application.

(7)   The resubmission of a **final application** resets the time frame for the **distributor's** approval of the **final application**, unless the **distributor** and **applicant** agree otherwise.

15   Time within which distributor must decide final applications

(1)   A notice required by clause 14 must be given by a **distributor** to an **applicant** no later than—

(a)   20 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **final application**, in the case of **load** with a maximum demand of less than 1 **MVA**; or

(b)   30 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **final application**, in the case of **load** with a maximum demand of 1 **MVA** or more but less than 5 **MVA**; or

     (c)   40 **business days** after the date of receipt of the **final application**, in the case of **load** with a maximum demand of 5 **MVA** or more.

(2)   The **distributor** may seek one extension of time specified in subclause (1) for approval of a **final application** of less than 1.5 **MW**, but only where zone substation works or input from **Transpower** is required, and may seek a further 2 extensions of the time specified in subclause (1) to decide a final application of 1.5 **MW** or greater where zone substation works or input from **Transpower** is required.

(3)   If a **distributor** seeks an extension of time under subclause (2) it must provide the **applicant** with a notice in writing specifying the reasons why the extension of time is sought.

(4)   An extension of time sought under subclause (2) must not exceed 40 **business days**.

(5)   Subclause (6) applies if the **distributor** reasonably requests or requires further information from the **applicant** after receiving the **final application**.

(6)   The total time frame will pause when the **distributor** has made a request or requirement and will resume on the **business day** after the **distributor** receives the information.

(7)   If the **distributor** does not give notice in accordance with subclause (1) before the expiry of the time frames in this clause, including an extension of time, the **applicant** may refer the failure to meet the time frame to the disputes process set out in clause 6.8A or Schedule 6.3 if the **applicant** is a **participant**.

(8)   If subclause (7) applies, the **applicant** may choose to defer the **distributor's** decision on its **final application** until a later date of its choosing.

16   **Distributor must negotiate if notified by applicant**

(1)   A **distributor** must negotiate with an **applicant** if, after providing the **applicant** with notice of final approval, it receives written notice from the **applicant** confirming the **applicant** intends to proceed to negotiate a connection contract under clause 17(1) and—

    (a)   the **applicant** provides details of the **load**; and

    (b)   the **applicant** confirms it accepts all of the conditions (or other measures) that have been specified by the **distributor** under clause 14.

(2)   The **distributor** is not required to negotiate if it receives the written notice later than 30 **business days** after the day on which it gives notice of final approval under clause 14, or such later date as previously agreed by the **distributor** and the **applicant**.

(3)   If the **applicant** is a **participant** and does not accept one or more of the conditions specified by the **distributor** under clause 14(2) (if any), but intends to proceed to negotiate a connection contract under clause 17(1), the **applicant** must—

    (a)   give notice of the dispute in accordance with clause 2 of Schedule 6.3 within 30 **business days** after the day on which the **distributor** gives notice of final approval under clause 14; and

    (b)   give a notice under subclause (1) within 30 **business days** after the dispute is resolved.

(4)   Subclause (3) does not prevent the **applicant** from making a new application under Part 6 of this Code.

Post-approval process

17 **Distributor has 40 business days to negotiate connection contract if applicant gives notice of intention to negotiate**

(1) If an **applicant** whose **final application** is approved gives notice to a **distributor** under clause 16(1), the **distributor** has 40 **business days**, starting on the date on which the **distributor** receives the notice, during which the **distributor** must, in good faith, attempt to negotiate a connection contract.

(2) The **distributor** and the **applicant** may, by agreement, extend the time specified in subclause (1) for negotiating a connection contract.

18 **Connection of load if connection contract negotiated**

(1) This clause applies if a **distributor** and an **applicant** whose **final application** is approved enter into a connection contract before the period for negotiating a connection contract under **Process 5** expires.

(2) If the application is to continue an existing connection of **load** under clause 2(b) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **applicant's** existing connection continues apply—
   (a) as soon as practicable, if the previous connection contract has expired; or
   (b) no later than the expiry of the previous connection contract, if the contract is in force.

(3) If the application is to continue an existing connection for which there is no connection contract under clause 2(c) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **applicant's** existing connection continues apply as soon as practicable.

(4) If the application is to change the capacity of the connected **load** under clause 2(e) of Schedule 6.1, the **distributor** must use its best endeavours to ensure that the new terms under which the **applicant's** existing connection continues apply as soon as practicable.

19 **Approved applications must meet milestones to retain priority position in distributor's network connections pipeline**

(1) A **distributor** must queue and manage approved **final applications** in accordance with the **queueing and management policy for distributors**. This includes setting delivery milestones that a project must meet to maintain its **priority position** in the **distributor's network connections pipeline**.

(2) A **distributor** and a **participant** must act reasonably when negotiating milestones.

(3) These milestones may relate to:
   (a) securing environmental approvals:
   (b) obtaining property rights & easements:
   (c) getting Overseas Investment Office approval:
   (d) confirming final grid connection requirements:
   (e) signing delivery services agreement:
   (f) signing construction contract:
   (g) completing works construction:

(h)   other issues that are reasonably required by the **queueing and management policy for distributors**.

(4)   The **distributor** must apply stated tolerances with regards to milestones, recognising that there could be delays that lead to milestones not being achieved on time.

20   Approved applications must meet milestones to retain final approval

(1)   The **distributor** must adhere to the framework for removing approved **final applications** that are not progressing as set out in the **queueing and management policy for distributors**.

(2)   A final approval of a **final application** may be lapsed by a **distributor** if the **applicant**—

(a)   consistently misses milestones; or

(b)   fails to renegotiate milestones; or

(c)   fails to connect to the **distributors network** within the later of—

    (i)   2 years from the date of final approval; or

    (ii)   the date agreed with the **applicant** has agreed with the **distributor** to connect to the **distributor's network** through fault of the **applicant**.

(3)   The **applicant** may—

(a)   provide an **initial application** to the **distributor** if it wishes to connect **load** to the **distributor's network** after the **distributor** has lapsed final approval under subclause (2); and

(b)   notify the **distributor** of a complaint under clause 6.8A, if the **applicant** is not a **participant**.

21   Treatment of approved applications at the same network location

A **distributor** must adhere to the **queueing and management policy for distributors** when making decisions on the **priority positions** of projects in its **network connections pipeline**.

Schedule 6.2

61   Clause 2A of Schedule 6.2 replaced

Replace clause 2A of Schedule 6.2 with:

2A   Application of this Schedule

These **regulated terms** apply where—

(a)   a **distributed generator** has applied to connect **distributed generation** to a **distributor's network** and a connection contract is not agreed within the time frame set out in this Part; and

(b)   an **applicant** that is not a **participant** has applied to connect both **load** and **distributed generation** at the same **ICP** and a **connection contract** is not agreed within the period set out in this Part, in which case these **regulated terms** apply to the **distributed generation** connection.

Made at Wellington on 9 February 2026
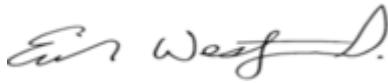
Erik Westergaard
Deputy Chair
Electricity Authority

Certified in order for signature:

Amy Williams   Nick Crang
Senior Legal Counsel   Partner
Electricity Authority   Duncan Cotterill
 9 February 2026   5 February 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 comes into force on 1 December 2026, except for clauses 39 to 61 which come into force on 1 June 2027.

The amendment amends Parts 1 and 6 of the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 ("Code") to update the application processes for the connection of distributed generation and insert new application processes for the connection of load as part of the Authority's Network Connections Project (Stage 1) by:

   (a)   replacing the application processes for connecting distributed generation of less than 10kW to distribution networks with two new processes, set out in Appendices 1 and 1A of Schedule 6.1;

   (b)   introducing a new application process for connecting distributed generation above 10kW but below 300kW, set out in Appendix 2 of Schedule 6.1;

   (c)   replacing the application process for connecting distributed generation over 10kW with a new process for connecting distributed generation of above 300kW, set out in Appendix 3 of Schedule 6.1;

   (d)   introducing a new application process for the connection of load above 69kVA and below 500kVA, set out in Appendix 4 of Schedule 6.1;

(e)   introducing a new application process for the connection of load above 500kVA, set out in Appendix 5 of Schedule 6.1;

(f)   introducing new requirements for distributors in managing and prioritising applications to connect, including the introduction of the obligation to maintain a network connections pipeline in accordance with the queueing and management policy that is to be developed jointly by distributors;

(g)   amending the information that distributors must publish and what information is confidential, providing for better protection of information that is commercially sensitive to applicants; and

(h)   making further consequential amendments to reflect these updated and new application processes.

The new processes introduced by the amendment will come into force in two stages with the amendments relating to connection of distributed generation taking effect on 1 December 2026 and the amendments relating to connection of load taking effect on 1 June 2027.

This is secondary legislation issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2019.	
Title	Electricity Industry Participation Code (Network Connections) Amendment 2026
Principal or amendment	Principal
Consolidated version	No
Empowering Act and provisions	Electricity Industry Act 2010, section 38
Replacement empowering Act and provisions	Not applicable
Maker name	Electricity Authority
Administering agency	Electricity Authority
Date made	9 February 2026
Publication date	11 February 2026
Notification date	11 February 2026
Commencement date	1 December 2026 and 1 June 2027
End date (when applicable)	Not applicable
Consolidation as at date	Not applicable
Related instruments	Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010