

**Electricity Industry Participation Code Amendment
(Application for Distributed Generation) 2021**

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

At Wellington on the 20th day of July 2021

Dr Nicola Crauford
Chair
Electricity Authority

Certified in order for signature:

Nicholai Mumford
Senior Legal Counsel
Electricity Authority

19 July 2021

Nick Crang
Partner
Duncan Cotterill

19 July 2021

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Amendment

- 1 Title**
This is the Electricity Industry Participation Code Amendment (Application for Distributed Generation) 2021.

2 Commencement

This amendment comes into force on 1 September 2021.

3 Code amended

This amendment amends the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010.

4 Clause 1.1 amended (Interpretation)

(1) In clause 1.1(1), definition of **connection and operation standards**—

(a) in paragraph (b)(iii), insert “; and” after “standards”; and

(b) after paragraph (b), insert:

“(c) 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 Part 1A of Schedule 6.1, and the methodology used to determine that threshold.”

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

“**maximum export power** means the maximum **active power** exported into the **local network** or **embedded network** at an **ICP** of a **distributed generator**, and is equal to—

“(a) the **nameplate capacity** of the **distributed generation** minus the minimum load at the **point of connection**; or

“(b) the power export limit imposed by an active export control device.”

5 Clause 6.3 amended (Distributors must make information publicly available)

In clause 6.3(2), after paragraph (da), insert:

“(db) 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”

6 Schedule 6.1, clause 1D replaced (When application may be made under Part 1A)

(1) In Schedule 6.1, replace clause 1D with:

“**1D When application may be made under Part 1A**

“(1) A **distributed generator** may elect to apply to a **distributor** under Part 1A instead of Part 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 4777.2:2015 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) In Schedule 6.1, after clause 1D(1) insert:

“(2) Until 1 September 2026, a **distributed generator** may only elect to apply to a **distributor** under Part 1A instead of Part 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;

“(b) a volt-var response mode;

“(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**.”

7 Schedule 6.1, clause 9B amended (Application for distributed generation of 10 kW or less in total in specified circumstances)

- (1) In Schedule 6.1, clause 9B(2)(e)(ii), delete “protection”.
- (2) In Schedule 6.1, clause 9B(2)(f), replace “AS/NZS 4777.2” with “AS/NZS 4777.2:2015”.
- (3) In Schedule 6.1, after clause 9B(2) insert:
 - “(2A) 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**;
 - “(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**.”

8 Revocation

The amendments in clauses 4, 5, 6(2) and 7(3) of this amendment only apply until the close of 1 September 2026 and are revoked from that time.

Explanatory Note

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

This amendment to the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 (Code) comes into force on 1 September 2021.

The amendment adds additional requirements that a distributed generator must meet in order to be eligible under Schedule 6.1, clause 1D to elect to make an application to a distributor under the simplified application process in Schedule 6.1, Part 1A of the Code (Applications for distributed generation of 10 kW or less in total in specified circumstances) instead of the standard application process in Part 1 (Applications for distributed generation 10 kW or less in total). The additional requirements apply until 1 September 2026.

The amendment also updates a reference to standard AS 4777.1 (Grid connection of energy systems via inverters - Part 1: Installation requirements) to replacement standard AS/NZS 4777.1:2016. References to standard AS/NZS 4777.2 (Grid connection of energy systems via inverters - Part 2: Inverter requirements) are also replaced with references to AS/4777.2:2015 to clarify which version of that standard the Code is referring to.