

Proposed Amendments to the Technical Rules Submitted by Western Power

I refer to the proposed amendments to the Technical Rules for the South West Interconnected Network as set out in the Issues Paper of February 2016. In addition to the corrections to typographical errors referenced on page 8 of the Issues Paper, I draw to your attention the following additional corrections that need to be made to the Technical Rules.

As the National Professional Engineers Register (NPER) no longer exists, all references in the Technical Rules to the NPER should be replaced with the **National Engineering Register (NER)** which was launched by Engineers Australia in November 2015 as a replacement for the former NPER.

The eligibility criteria for registration on the NER are the same as those for the former NPER, with the added requirement that registrants are required to have the benefit of professional indemnity (PI) insurance.

Chartered membership of Engineers Australia was the pathway to the former NPER. Under Engineers Australia's new model of regulation, all members of the profession who meet the national benchmark standard of professionalism for the NER are eligible to apply to be registered on the NER.

All registrants on the NER have:

- a recognised qualification benchmarked to the international education standards to which EA is the Australian signatory, which is the Washington Accord for professional engineers
- a minimum period of professional practice post-graduation
- currency of continuing professional development (CPD)
- the benefit of Professional Indemnity Insurance (PI) insurance
- a commitment to ethical practice
- an annual certificate of registration
- an entitlement to use the 'NER' postnominal.

Chartered members of Engineers Australia, professional engineer, engineering technologist and engineering associate members and non-members with five (5) or more years of professional practice assessed as meeting the eligibility criteria for registration on the NER will be eligible for registration in the eight (8) general areas of practice.

In relation to the Technical Rules for the Southwest Interconnected Network we recommend that compliance testing and certifications continue to be restricted to Chartered Professional Engineers registered on the NER as per the requirements under the former NPER.

The changes to the references in the Technical Rules are set out in the Table below.

Technical Rules Section Reference	Page reference in Technical Rules	Change required
4. Inspection, Testing, Commissioning,	Page 100	Change to read: These compliance tests must

Disconnection and Reconnection 4.1 INSPECTION AND TESTING 4.1.1 Right of entry and Inspection Section (3)		only be performed after the machine have been tested and certified by a Chartered Professional Engineer with National Engineering Register (NER) standing qualified in a relevant discipline.....
4.2.5 Commissioning Tests (b)	Page 109	Change to read:The Statement must be certified by a Chartered Professional Engineer with National Engineering Register (NER) standing qualified in a relevant discipline
Attachment 12 - Testing and Commissioning of Small Power Stations Connect to the Distribution System A12.2 Certification	Page 194	Change to read: The <i>Generator</i> must provide certification by a Chartered Professional Engineer with National Engineering Register (NER) standing in relevant areas of expertise.....

I would be pleased to provide further clarification and/or comment on the National Engineering Register (NER). Members of Engineers Australia's Electrical Engineering Panel in Western Australia have sought an extension to 16 March 2016 to comment on other aspects of the Technical Rules. The Panel's comments will be submitted under separate cover.

Regards

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