



Notice

9 November 2016

Amendments to Western Power's Technical Rules (Submitted March 2016 and April 2016)

FINAL DECISIONS

The Economic Regulation Authority (**ERA**) has published its final decisions on Western Power's proposed amendments to its Technical Rules that were submitted in March 2016 and April 2016.

Technical Rules consist of the standards, procedures and planning criteria governing the construction and operation of an electricity network.

The final decisions approve all the proposed amendments, except changes to the Technical Rules glossary to allow the automatic adoption of revisions to Standards and Regulations as amended from time to time.

The revised Technical Rules will take effect on 1 December 2016. The approved amendments include:

- removing three phase faults from credible contingency scenarios for voltages at or above 66kV (i.e. the transmission system);
- amending the N-1 provisions to allow voluntary load shedding and post contingent 'run back' generation tripping for user agreed connections;
- adding the term "weak infeed fault conditions" to the Technical Rules glossary and a new subclause to clause 2.9.4 setting out how quickly a protection relay and associated circuit breaker must clear a fault;
- changing the wording of the Normal Cyclic Rating criterion, which outlines the permissible level of power loss following the unplanned loss of a supply transformer at a substation;
- replacing references to *Electricity (Supply Standards and System Safety) Regulations 2001* with references to *Electricity (Network Safety) Regulations 2015*;
- correcting an incorrect cross reference in Clause 4.2.1(b); and
- correcting the misspelt word "Distribution" in the title of Section 5.

The ERA did not approve Western Power's proposed amendment to the Technical Rules glossary to automatically adopt revisions to Standards and Regulations "as amended from time to time". Western Power intends to submit a revised proposal for the ERA to review and assess at a future date.

Details on Western Power's March and April proposals, submissions received and the ERA's decisions can be found on the [ERA website](#).

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