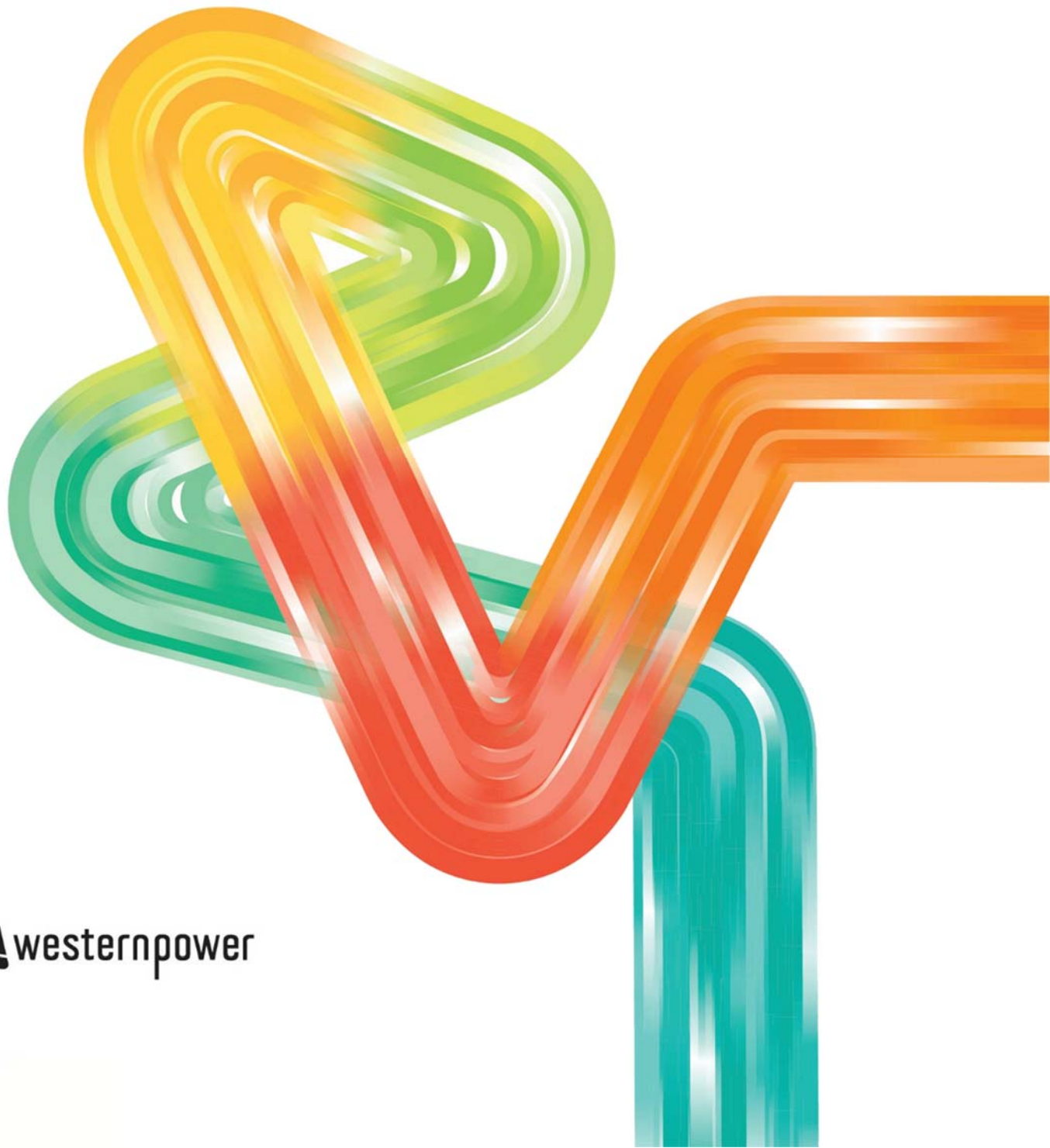


# Western Power Metering Model Service Level Agreement

## Summary of Amendments

7 June 2019



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## 1. Introduction and Approach

Western Power has previously submitted a revised Metering Model Service Level Agreement (MSLA) on 13 October 2017 and 22 December 2017. These submissions were intended to improve alignment of the instrument to Western Power's fourth access arrangement (AA4) proposal.

The revised MSLA has not been subject to a decision from the Economic Regulation Authority (ERA) as the access arrangement revisions process was actively considering changes to the approach for access to metering services that would have had material changes to the form of the MSLA.

The access arrangement has now been finalised<sup>1</sup> and includes changes to the metering framework<sup>2</sup> as allowed for in the access regime. The changes to this revised MSLA submission largely reflect these framework changes and are outlined in this document. For further discussion on matters introduced earlier, the previous submissions can be found on the ERA's website<sup>3</sup>.

Included in this round of amendments to the MSLA are changes that have been made following further consultation with Synergy. This consultation was intended to resolve outstanding issues following public consultation undertaken by Western Power in September 2017 and by the ERA in November 2017.

Western Power's prior MSLA submission also introduced the concept of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI). Western Power has updated its proposal to reflect that the metering framework set out in AA4 does not specifically recognise AMI meters. Western Power has amended its proposal to contemplate the provision of remote meter reading services via a cellular solution and priced these services accordingly.

Although the AA4 metering framework does not specifically recognise AMI meters, the framework and Western Power's proposed MSLA do not prevent the provision of AMI services, should users seek to obtain them. Western Power will continue to work with users to achieve the lowest sustainable costs of providing metering services.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.erawa.com.au/electricity/electricity-access/western-power-network/access-arrangement/access-arrangement-period-2017-2022>

<sup>2</sup> Note that metering services are covered by both the access framework (governed by the Electricity Networks Access Code 2004) and the Electricity Industry (Metering) Code 2012.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.erawa.com.au/electricity/electricity-access/western-power-network/model-service-level-agreement>

## 2. Amendments

### 2.1 Service classifications

The Access Arrangement 4 (AA4) introduces choice for users around the metering services they receive (subject to eligibility criteria). Resulting from this change, 16 new metering reference services have been introduced. This has created a requirement for consequential changes to the classification of metering services in the MSLA.

The previous MSLA used the following metering classifications:

- Standard metering services. These standard<sup>4</sup> services included the minimum metering requirements for the electricity market to function, and the charges were included in the reference tariffs for reference services in the Price List.
- Extended metering services. A range of metering services which users generally require ad hoc.

For alignment to the introduction of metering reference services, classifications in the MSLA have been revised to:

- Reference Services (Metering):
  - Reference Service (Metering) (Standard Metering Service).
  - Additional Reference Service (Metering).
- Accessory Metering Services. Certain metering services requested by a user and which Western Power provides under the MSLA are an 'accessory' to a Reference Service (Metering).
- Extended Metering Services. A range of metering services which users generally require ad hoc.

These concepts are more fully described in Schedule 2 of the proposed MSLA.

### 2.2 Other amendments required for framework alignment

#### 2.2.1 Removal of services which are now provided as reference services

Western Power has removed services which are now reference services:

- Supply Abolishment. Provided as reference service D1 in AA4.
- Remote de-energisation and remote re-energisation. Provided as reference services D8 and D9 in AA4.

#### 2.2.2 Inclusion of services for manually read interval meters

Western Power has added services relating to manually read interval meters:

- Scheduled energy data provision (MS-1)
- Non-scheduled special meter reading (MS-19)

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<sup>4</sup> As defined by Western Power and in accordance with the requirements in the Metering Code.

### **2.2.3 Consolidation of cyclic energy data provision service descriptions**

Western Power has consolidated the previously separate service descriptions relating to the provision of scheduled meter reading services, as these services are now reference services. Amendments have been made to reflect how the MSLA interacts with these reference services.

### **2.2.4 Addition of “Communications Link Deactivation” service**

This service is required so that users can move between remote services and manual services, if they choose to.

### **2.2.5 Minor consequential changes – numbering, table layouts etc**

Due to the changes described above, several clauses and tables have been removed, added or renumbered.

## **2.3 Other amendments (following further consultation with Synergy)**

Several other amendments have been made following further consultation with Synergy, these include:

- Amendments to definitions
- Amendments to service descriptions
- Additional breakdown of fee structure
- Adjustment of escalation mechanism from Consumer Price Index (CPI) to Wage Price Index (WPI)