



Economic Regulation Authority

Report to the Minister for Energy on Western Power's self-reported compliance for 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025

Electricity System and Market Rules

20 November 2025

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Acknowledgement of Country

At the ERA we value our cultural diversity and respect the traditional custodians of the land and waters on which we live and work.

We acknowledge their continuing connection to culture and community, their traditions and stories. We commit to listening, continuously improving our performance and building a brighter future together.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

The Economic Regulation Authority (ERA) is responsible for monitoring and enforcing compliance with the Electricity System and Market (ESM) Rules.¹

As part of its regulatory obligations, the ERA must prepare an annual report for the Minister for Energy detailing each Network Operator's self-reported compliance with the ESM Rules and Wholesale Electricity Market (WEM) Procedures.² The report must also include the findings of any investigations conducted by the ERA into each Network Operator's compliance with the ESM Rules and Wholesale Electricity Market (WEM) Procedures. The report must be published on the ERA's website.

The Electricity Networks Corporation trading as Western Power, is the sole Network Operator registered under the ESM Rules for the South West Interconnected System (SWIS).

This report focuses exclusively on compliance with the ESM Rules and WEM Procedures. It does not address matters related to the Electricity Networks Access Code 2004, the *Electricity Industry Act 2004 (WA)*, or associated subsidiary legislation and regulations.

The ERA is responsible for regulating Western Power's licensing and access arrangements. For information regarding electricity network access and licensing, please refer to the relevant areas of the ERA's website.³

1.2 Western Power obligations under the ESM Rules

Western Power has obligations under the ESM Rules as a network operator and as a meter data agent.

As a network operator, Western Power is responsible for developing and publishing technical standards, including network congestion and limit advice, generator performance standards and transmissions system plan. Western Power must adhere to all relevant procedures developed by AEMO and the ERA and comply with its obligations under the ESM Rules and WEM Procedures.

As a metering data agent Western Power must maintain a meter registry and operate in accordance with the Metering Protocol requirements and the relevant procedures documented by AEMO.

¹ Electricity System and Market Rules 27 September 2025, clause2.14.6. ([online](#))

² Electricity System and Market Rules 27 September 2025, clause2.13.23. ([online](#))

³ ERA website – Electricity Access ([online](#))

2. Western Power self-reported non-compliances

During the 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025 reporting period, Western Power self-reported eight suspected breaches of the ESM Rules and WEM Procedures. All reported matters related to obligations for information provision and reporting forced outages. These matters did not materially affect management of network outages, system security and reliability, or outcomes for energy customers.

The ERA has reviewed the eight self-reported breaches and determined that one did not constitute a breach of the ESM Rules. The remaining seven breaches had been rectified, and Western Power has advised the ERA that processes have been implemented to prevent recurrence.

For the remaining seven allegations, the ERA's breach assessments determined that the matters posed a low risk to the market. The ERA did not commence investigations into any of these matters.

The ERA will continue to monitor Western Power's compliance with the ESM Rules and WEM Procedures.

3. ERA investigations into Western Power non-compliances

During the same 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025 reporting period, the ERA completed investigations into four Western Power non-compliances alleged to have occurred prior to 1 October 2023. These breach allegations were received in December 2024. The ERA's investigations were delayed due to difficulty in obtaining additional information from Western Power to determine the veracity of the allegations. Western Power was unable to provide the ERA with a complete record of the matters under investigation due to the departure of key personnel since the dates of the breach allegations. This suggests gaps in Western Power's record keeping practices and systems.

The ERA determined that Western Power breached clause 2.28.3B of the WEM Rules by failing to provide the Australian Energy Market Operator with the information it was obligated to on four separate occasions between February 2022 and August 2023.⁴

Western Power plays an integral role in maintaining the security and reliability of the SWIS, including through the provision of information to AEMO for the purposes of planning and modelling the SWIS. When Western Power fails to provide AEMO with the information AEMO needs, AEMO's ability to fulfill its obligations under the ESM Rules is impaired.

The ERA has been advised that AEMO and Western Power have established a working group to address previous information sharing deficiencies and ensure that AEMO has timely and accurate information about the network.

The ERA strongly recommends that Western Power comply with all its obligations under the ESM rules and WEM Procedures and:

- Provides AEMO with prompt updates of any changes to relevant data.

⁴ Wholesale Electricity Market Rules in effect from 1 February 2022 and 22 July 2023 ([online](#))

- Ensures data accuracy by making reasonable efforts to keep all information complete, current, and correct.
- Notifies AEMO immediately if there are grounds to suspect the data is inaccurate or incomplete.

The ERA will continue to monitor Western Power's provision of information to AEMO. In January 2026, the ERA will examine whether Western Power has established appropriate governance and record management systems and processes to prevent future reoccurrence of these non-compliant behaviours.