
TASMANIAN ELECTRICITY CODE

MAY 2015

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TASMANIAN ELECTRICITY CODE

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BACKGROUND

The Regulator issues and maintains the Tasmanian Electricity Code (Code) as part of its functions under the *Electricity Supply Industry Act 1995* (ESI Act). The Code is designed to regulate matters relating, or incidental, to the electricity supply industry in Tasmania.

Tasmania entered the National Electricity Market (NEM) in 2005 and implemented full retail contestability under the National Energy Customer Framework (NECF) on 1 July 2014. This has seen the full implementation of the National Electricity Rules (NER), National Electricity Retail Law and the National Electricity Retail Rules in Tasmania.

The result of this is that the responsibility for retail licensing (authorisation), network pricing regulation, and many technical standards now lies with the Australian Energy Regulator and the Australian Energy Market Operator. This has led to a reduced regulatory role for the Code, which now focuses on jurisdictional matters that are not covered by the national laws.

As a result, the Code still regulates jurisdictional matters not covered by the national laws including: licensing fee, supply and retailing on the Bass Strait Islands (BSI) which are not part of the NEM, distribution system operations, distribution power-line vegetation management, and Code administrative procedures.

EXPLANATORY NOTES IN RESPECT OF CODE CHAPTERS

This section provides a brief overview of various chapters of this Code to assist in interpretation or general understanding of the relationship to other regulatory instruments, particularly the ESI Act, licences and guidelines.

CHAPTER 1 – Introduction and Code Supervision

This chapter is largely confirming the authority of the Code, the responsibilities of the Regulator, and the scope of the Code, i.e. it is generally limited in its application to the extent of requiring compliance, to licensed electricity entities.

It confirms that the intention embodied in the Code is to complement the NEM regulatory arrangements by addressing certain issues of more specifically jurisdictional interests.

The objectives of the Code are necessarily the same as those of the ESI Act, but there has been some more detailed specification of the responsibilities of the general responsibility of the Regulator to administer and maintain the Code.

CHAPTER 2 – Licensees and Fees

This chapter covers the responsibilities of the licensees to pay licence fees.

The Regulator continues to be self-funded with expenditure met through licence fees with appropriate auditing and accounting in accordance with the *Public Account Act 1986*. Provision has been made for the establishment of an account for the purpose of recording revenue received and expenditure incurred by the Regulator in the discharge of its functions under the legislation and the Code.

The Regulator has an obligation to develop a structure of licence fees, the principles to be applied in determining that structure, determination of the Regulator's budgeted revenue requirements and the quantum of fees payable by each licensee. This supports accountability and transparency in the Regulator's discharge of its responsibilities.

Costs incurred in conducting an electricity price investigation have been specifically excluded from the determination of the Regulator's budgeted revenue requirements as cost recovery provisions are separately contained within the *Electricity Supply Industry (Pricing and Related Matters) Regulations 2013* as amended or substituted from time to time.

CHAPTER 3 Scheduling and Despatch processes

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CHAPTER 4 Power System Security

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CHAPTER 4A – Bass Strait Islands (System Operations and Network Service Provisions)

Chapter 4A is intended to introduce a means of regulating the system operations and network service provision on the Bass Strait Islands. Chapter 4A was inserted into the Code and effective on 1 October 2013.

The major features of Chapter 4A are as follows:

1. Provision for the technical regulation of generation, power system operations, and distribution on the Bass Strait Islands.
2. Specification of the requirements for Bass Strait Island power system participants that are not specified in licences.
3. Recognition of existing power quality standards including frequency control and performance targets.
4. Provision for connection to the Bass Strait Islands power system through commercial agreements.
5. Recognition of the responsibility of the Bass Strait Island System Controller for power system operations, system control on the Bass Strait Islands, and obligations and responsibilities arising from government policies including those obligations and responsibilities included in the relevant Ministerial Charter as amended from time to time.

CHAPTER 5 Network connection

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CHAPTER 6 Network Pricing for Transmission and Distribution Systems

Chapter 6, Parts B and C – Network Pricing for Transmission Systems

Deleted by Ministerial Notice

Chapter 6, Parts A, D and E – Network Pricing for Distribution Systems

Deleted

CHAPTER 7 Non-Retail Metering

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CHAPTER 8 – Distribution System Operation

This chapter is intended to align the Tasmanian distribution sector with current practice, good industry practice, and to complement the NER where relevant.

The major features of Chapter 8 are as follows:

1. In recognition of the separate roles and responsibilities of the parties in the NEM and looking forward to the introduction of contestability in Tasmania (July 2006) – there is a clear severance of the link between the Distribution Network Service Provider (DNSP) and a retailer – hence the insertion of a requirement on the DNSP to have a customer charter (8.3.1) and complaint handling procedures (8.4).
2. The National Electricity Rules apply to the planning obligations of the DNSP (8.3.2) from 1 January 2013. The DNSP is required to publish its Distribution Annual Planning Report by ~~30 June~~31 October each year.
3. The applicable technical standards for quality of network services have been included in this chapter (e.g. voltage and power factor).
4. Access arrangements and standards of service and quality for embedded generators are included and applicable to the extent that such matters are not covered by the NER.
5. A Guaranteed Service Level scheme set through the pricing determination is recognised.
6. Technical requirements have been amended to reflect good industry practice, including requirements to comply with the latest relevant Australian Standards. For example, amendments to the nominal voltages and the allowable voltage range are included in order to meet AS 60038. A DNSP will remain compliant with the Standard's nominal voltage of 230V and the allowable voltage range of (+10% - 6%) in continuing to operate at a voltage of 240V.

CHAPTER 8A – Distribution Powerline Vegetation Management

This Chapter was made mandatory in October 2007 as recommended by the CCP. It has the following objectives:

- to promote public safety in respect of fire hazards;
- to establish a standard of care which should be observed when managing vegetation near distribution powerlines;
- to reduce vegetation related interruptions to electricity supply;

- to encourage the Distribution Network Service Provider to consult with affected persons, seek advice on specifics from the relevant authorities and have regard to any guidelines provided by relevant authorities;
- to balance fire safety, reliability of the electricity system and community costs with conservation, amenity, utility and heritage values in the best interests of the people of Tasmania; and
- to minimise the effect of the management of vegetation around distribution powerlines on the natural environment.

CHAPTER 9 - Retailing

Since 1 July 2012, retailing electricity on mainland Tasmania came under AER's jurisdiction, Chapter 9 applies solely to retailing on the Bass Strait Islands.

Chapter 9, Part A - Customer Retailing

This Part of Chapter 9 provides a more complete scheme of customer protection for Tariff Customers on the Bass Strait Islands and further detail on certain matters such as content of electricity bills, methods of payment, some aspects of payment plans, and imposes an obligation to develop a customer charter.

Chapter 9, Part B - Retail Metering

Part B of Chapter 9 applies to retail metering procedures on the Bass Strait Islands. As the Bass Strait Islands are not part of the NEM, retail metering and its technical standards and procedures remain a jurisdictional responsibility.

CHAPTER 9A Retailing - Prepayment Meters
Deleted

CHAPTER 10 Generation pricing
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CHAPTER 11 Ring Fencing
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CHAPTER 12 – Administrative Functions

The Code continues for jurisdictional purposes and while some of the administrative provisions fall away on NEM entry (e.g. references to the ACCC and the NEL Tribunal), there is nevertheless a clear commitment in the ESI Act (as revised and amended in 2003) to maintaining the Code as a significant regulatory instrument.

This requires that there be administrative arrangements to ensure defined procedures for the maintenance and review of the Code. This will ensure that it continues to meet the

developing requirements of the Tasmanian electricity supply industry and customers. National regulatory reforms as well as the introduction of contestability and other market developments will create new issues requiring that Code provisions be well matched to such changes.

Dispute Resolution

There is a discretionary dispute resolution power provided for the Regulator to determine disputes as between licensees in respect of the Code.

This reflects the fact that there is a quite comprehensive scheme of dispute resolution institutions, obligations and procedures provided for in the Code and otherwise. Accordingly, the Regulator will not generally handle individual disputes.

There is a clear scheme of dispute resolution provided for in the *Energy Ombudsman Act 1998* with appropriate resourcing to deal with most disputes involving electricity entities. The Regulator does have a discretionary mediation role provided for in the ESI Act in certain limited circumstances.

Retailers and distributors are required to have procedures in place to deal with complaints from small customers. There is also an obligation on network service providers to have a dispute framework for matters arising in connection with the NER.

In exercising its discretion as to hearing and determining a dispute between licensees in relation to the Code, the Regulator would not generally determine such a dispute unless the parties have first attempted to resolve that dispute by agreement or arbitration. It would not be appropriate for the Regulator to hear a dispute which impacts on its enforcement role under the Code, for example if it requires the Regulator to make a determination that a licensee has breached the Code.

Code Change

It is important that there be a clearly identifiable and accountable Code change process as the Code is central to the regulatory scheme in Tasmania. The Code ought to the greatest degree possible consolidate relevant regulatory instruments in the one place with a single governance regime. This provides for ease of reference and transparency of process. It also avoids what appears to be a proliferation of codes and other regulatory instruments as is commonly the case in other jurisdictions.

When the Code was introduced, it was modelled on the then National Electricity Code (NEC), on the basis that this would assist in the transition to the national scheme. The comprehensive Code change procedure, administered by the CCP, was modelled on the NEC. The original structure was valuable in the early years after the implementation of the Code, however, administering Code change matters through that process was at times an unwieldy, resource intensive and lengthy.

Since 2005, much of the transition to the national scheme has been made, and the scope of the Code has been reduced significantly. The scope of the Code will further be reduced with the implementation of the National Energy Customer Framework, hence the Code will have an entirely local focus. The comprehensive Code change procedures were therefore overly prescriptive and not consistent with an efficient regulatory approach. The Regulator considered it more appropriate to manage changes to the Code with a level of consultation that is appropriate to the nature of the change. Accordingly,

after consultation the CCP was dissolved in 2009 and the Code change process was revised.

The new Code change process:

- modifies the existing fast track procedure to include matters on which consultation has previously been undertaken and decided; and
- provides for a streamlined general Code change procedure.

The extension of the fast track procedure to cover matters on which consultation has been previously undertaken and decided is to avoid duplication in consultation. A set of criteria have been prescribed that must be satisfied before the fast track procedure may be invoked to deal with Code change matters on which consultation has previously been undertaken and decided. The prescribed criteria set up the appropriate safeguards to ensure the transparency and due process of decision making.

Confidentiality

The ESI Act provides a duty of confidentiality on the Regulator but it does not prescribe any procedures. It is appropriate that the Regulator develop a set of policies and procedures to provide some certainty of process in such matters.

The confidentiality provisions apply to the Regulator and Code bodies (and members of such bodies). It is also of general application and not confined to information arising under Code processes, although there is considerable detail on that category of information.

There are dispute resolution and appeal procedures in respect of the classification of information.

Incident Reporting

The NER provides for certain incident reporting but the principal focus of this is on matters affecting power system security. This leaves the vast majority of incidents which interrupt supply or affect power system quality outside the scope of the NER provisions.

The Code provides a bare obligation to review and report on incidents or deviations from normal operating conditions, but it further provides that the Regulator shall publish guidelines governing these incident reports.

Consultation Procedures

The Code had within it a number of consultation procedures for different occasions and different bodies, e.g. the former Reliability and Network Planning Panel, as well as those relating to network development assessment. The Regulator has a separate duty of administrative fairness arising out of the ESI Act.

In some instances there is also a prescribed legislative scheme of consultation, e.g. *Electricity Supply Industry (Pricing and Related Matters) Regulations 2013* as amended or substituted from time to time. This reflects the significance of the subject matter of the regulations and the legislative requirement of an assurance as to the scheme of consultation. Such a legislative scheme in effect codifies the established 'best practice' administrative law in such matters.

In respect of those matters which are outside express legislative prescription, it is considered appropriate to bring these various consultative procedures together by requiring that the Regulator develop consultation policies and procedures which may then be applied in a more consistent manner within the Code and in other circumstances. This is consistent with the general statutory duty of administrative fairness under the ESI Act.¹

The outcome in terms of the Code (but more widely having regard to the actual provision) is that the Regulator shall develop policies and procedures for consultation of Code matters, and for more general application in respect of the exercise of discretionary decision making. To this end, the Regulator has developed and published *Consultation Policy and Procedures of the Tasmanian Economic Regulator*, which is available on the Regulator's website at www.economicregulator.tas.gov.au.

Management Plans and Compliance Plan, Reporting and Independent Appraisal

These provisions are in large part new to the Code and reflect a regulatory intention that matters of general application to licensees are best provided for in the Code. This adopts the general legislative scheme that licence conditions are applicable to the particular licensee and do not bind or apply to other persons.

These provisions reflect the fact that to protect the interests of consumers of electricity, the Regulator must ensure the identification and management of the risks of 'failure' of the electricity supply industry, whatever such risks may be. These risks can be evaluated ex-ante by looking at the processes, policies and procedures used by entities, or ex-post by looking at performance outcomes.

The Regulator utilises both approaches. The approach taken in relation to the ex-ante evaluation has been 'light handed' in that the Regulator has not sought to intervene in the day-to-day management of the entities. Rather, it seeks to ensure that entities have strategies supported by plans in place to identify and manage relevant risks. The Regulator is thereby provided with sufficient information to properly assess the performance of the entities in meeting their regulatory obligations consistent with the achievement of the objectives of the ESI Act.

An important aspect of this 'light handed' approach to regulation is independent review or 'appraisal' of information, analysis and data supplied by the entities. This appraisal is designed to provide a reliable basis for on-going performance assessment, and thus enhance the effectiveness of the incentives provided by comparative reporting (competition by comparison), including improving service performance and innovation.

Compliance plans are recognised in the Code and are treated as being distinct from other 'management plans'. The development of and adherence to a compliance plan is one of many risk management strategies that an organisation may apply. Through the application of a compliance plan, an organisation can maintain effective control of its legal risks and demonstrate to a court that it has exercised due diligence in carrying out its activities. The legal aspect of the compliance plan separates it somewhat from the more operational nature of the other management plans. All licensees will be required to

¹ ESI Act, section 8.

maintain a compliance plan, while other management plans will be required depending on the nature of the licensee's operations.

The detail of reporting and appraisal against management plans (including compliance plans) is provided for by the requirement that such a plan be produced in accordance with any relevant guideline.

It is to be noted that 'performance reports' have been separated from management plans. This reflects the fact that performance reports have an annual (or shorter) timeframe. While performance reports should link to the management plans, they are a short term indicator of entity performance which ought to be managed in the longer term through the relevant management plans.

The 'independent appraiser' shall be appointed in accordance with any guidelines produced by the Regulator, and the Regulator may request that an independent appraiser be appointed to report on any management plan, compliance plan or performance report submitted by the licensee.

CHAPTER 13 Derogations

Deleted by Ministerial Notice

CODE UPDATES (SINCE MAY 2005)

A ready reference to the most recent versions of other Chapters of the Code, to be read in conjunction with this update, is provided below.

READY REFERENCE TO UP-TO-DATE CHAPTERS OF THE CODE

| | Latest version |
|---|--|
| PREAMBLE | February-April 2020 February-April 2021 |
| CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION AND CODE SUPERVISION | July 2014 |
| CHAPTER 2 LICENSEES AND FEES | April 2017 |
| CHAPTER 4A BASS STRAIT ISLANDS | February 2020 |
| CHAPTER 8 DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OPERATION | April 20172021 |
| Schedule to Chapter 8 | January 2008 |
| CHAPTER 8A DISTRIBUTION POWERLINE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT | January 2015 |
| CHAPTER 9 RETAILING | May 2015 |
| Schedule to Chapter 9 | January 2008 |
| CHAPTER 12 ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS | September 2015 |
| CHAPTER 14 TASMANIAN ELECTRICITY CODE GLOSSARY | February 2020 |

CHRONOLOGY OF CHANGES TO THE CODE

| Date change effected | Clause / Chapter version | Nature of change / subject matter | Reflected in Chapter version |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| XX April 2021 | PREAMBLE April 21 | Code Updates sections amended | April 2021 |
| XX April 2021 | Chapter 8 April 21 | Amendment to align the publication deadline for the distribution annual planning report with that for the transmission annual planning report. | April 2021 |
| 19 February 2020 | PREAMBLE February 20 | Explanatory Notes and Code Updates sections amended | February 2020 |
| 19 February 2020 | Chapter 4A February 20 | Amendments to provisions relating to the technical envelope and voltage management, and removal of references to the 5kW generation threshold. | February 2020 |
| 19 February 2020 | GLOSSARY February 20 | Consequential amendments made to the Glossary as a result of updating the Code. | February 2020 |
| 5 April 2017 | PREAMBLE April 17 | Amendments to correct citing of Regulations. Code Updates section amended. | April 2017 |
| 5 April 2017 | Chapter 2 April 17 | Amendment to correct citing of Regulations. Amendments consequential to the publication of the Structure of Licence Fees (1 July 2017-30 June 2020). | April 2017 |

| Date change effected | Clause / Chapter version | Nature of change / subject matter | Reflected in Chapter version |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 5 April 2017 | Chapter 8 April 17 | Amendments to align voltage performance standards with the National Electricity Rules and industry best practice. | April 2017 |
| 5 April 2017 | GLOSSARY April 17 | Amendment to correct citing of Regulations. | April 2017 |
| 1 September 2015 | PREAMBLE September 15 | Code Updates section amended, outdated ISBN removed from cover page. | September 2015 |
| 1 September 2015 | Chapter 12 September 15 | Consequential amendment made as a result of amendments to <i>Electricity Supply Industry Act 1995</i> . | September 2015 |
| 29 May 2015 | PREAMBLE May 15 | Code Updates section amended. | May 2015 |
| 29 May 2015 | GLOSSARY May 15 | Consequential amendments made to the glossary as a result of updating the code. | May 2015 |
| 29 May 2015 | Chapter 9 May 15 | Revoked and substituted by Ministerial Amendment | May 2015 |
| 14 January 2015 | PREAMBLE Jan 15 | Code Updates section amended. | January 2015 |
| 14 January 2015 | GLOSSARY Jan 15 | Consequential amendments made to the glossary as a result of updating the code. | January 2015 |
| 14 January 2015 | Chapter 8A Jan 15 | Amendments to provisions relating to fire risk areas and customer obligations. | January 2015 |
| 1 July 2014 | PREAMBLE July 14 | Explanatory Notes and Background updated. | July 2014 |
| 1 July 2014 | GLOSSARY July 14 | Consequential amendments made to the glossary as a result of updating the code. | July 2014 |
| 1 July 2014 | Chapter 1 July 14 | Consequential amendments made as a result of commencement of full retail contestability | July 2014 |
| 1 July 2014 | Chapter 2 July 14 | Consequential amendments made as a result of commencement of full retail contestability. | July 2014 |
| 1 July 2014 | Chapter 8 July 14 | Amended to be consistent with the NER provisions for DNSPs. | July 2014 |
| 1 October 2013 | PREAMBLE October 13 | Explanatory Notes and Code Updates Sections amended | October 2013 |
| 1 October 2013 | GLOSSARY October 13 | Consequential amendments made to Glossary as result of inserting Chapter 4A | October 2013 |
| 1 October 2013 | Chapter 4A October 13 | Chapter 4A inserted for Bass Strait Islands System Operations and Network Service Provisions | October 2013 |
| 1 January 2013 | PREAMBLE January 13 | Explanatory Notes and Code Updates sections amended | January 2013 |

| Date change effected | Clause / Chapter version | Nature of change / subject matter | Reflected in Chapter version |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 January 2013 | GLOSSARY January 13 | Consequential amendments made to Glossary as result of amending Chapters 2, 8 and 12 | January 2013 |
| 1 January 2013 | Chapter 2 January 13 | Amendments to provisions relating to budgeted revenue requirements | January 2013 |
| 1 January 2013 | Chapter 8 January 13 | Amendments to provisions relating to distribution annual planning report publication | January 2013 |
| 1 January 2013 | Chapter 12 January 13 | Amendments to provisions relating to code change implementation and notice by publication | January 2013 |
| 15 August 2012 | PREAMBLE August 12 | Code Updates Section amended | August 2012 |
| 15 August 2012 | Chapter 12 August 12 | Amendments to provisions relating to the reliability review process | August 2012 |
| 3 November 2010 | PREAMBLE November 10 | Code Updates Section amended | November 2010 |
| 3 November 2010 | Chapter 8 November 10 | Amendments to provisions relating to electromagnetic interference | November 2010 |
| 3 November 2010 | GLOSSARY November 10 | Consequential amendments made to Glossary as result of amending Chapter 8 | November 2010 |
| 26 May 2010 | PREAMBLE May 10 | Explanatory Notes and Code Updates Sections amended | May 2010 |
| 26 May 2010 | Chapter 1 May 10 | Clarification amendment regarding applicability to the Bass Strait Islands | May 2010 |
| 26 May 2010 | Chapter 8 May 10 | Amendments to improve distribution system reliability in communities that are experiencing poor reliability performance | May 2010 |
| 26 May 2010 | Chapter 8A May 10 | Amendments to clarify application of the Chapter to the Bass Strait Islands | May 2010 |
| 26 May 2010 | Chapter 9 May 10 | Amendments to require licensed retailers to promote all payment options to tariff customers | May 2010 |
| 26 May 2010 | Chapter 9A May 10 | Amendments to provide for an automatic annual review of the level of emergency credit and to clarify price variation procedure | May 2010 |
| 26 May 2010 | Chapter 12 May 10 | Amendments to clarify submission of management plans/compliance plan. | May 2010 |
| 26 May 2010 | GLOSSARY May 10 | Amendments to ensure continuing cohesion with the ESI Act. | May 2010 |
| 16 December 2009 | PREAMBLE December 09 | Explanatory Notes and Code Updates Sections amended | December 2009 |
| 16 December 2009 | Chapter 12 December 09 | Amendments for the dissolution of the Reliability and Network Planning Panel and revised reliability review process | December 2009 |

| Date change effected | Clause / Chapter version | Nature of change / subject matter | Reflected in Chapter version |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 16 December 2009 | GLOSSARY December 09 | Consequential amendments made to Glossary as result of amendments to Chapter 12 | December 2009 |
| 25 November 2009 | PREAMBLE November 09 | Introduction, Explanatory Notes and Code Updates Sections amended | November 2009 |
| 25 November 2009 | Chapter 12 November 09 | Amendments for the dissolution of the Code Change Panel and revised Code change process | November 2009 |
| 25 November 2009 | GLOSSARY November 09 | Consequential amendments made to Glossary as result of amendments to Chapter 12 | November 2009 |
| 1 January 2008 | PREAMBLE January 08 | Code Updates Section amended | January 2008 |
| 1 January 2008 | Chapter 1 January 08 | Amendments for alignment with National Electricity Law | January 2008 |
| 1 January 2008 | Chapter 6 January 08 | Amendments for alignment with National Electricity Law | January 2008 |
| 1 January 2008 | Schedule 6 January 08 | Amendments for alignment with National Electricity Law | January 2008 |
| 1 January 2008 | Chapter 8 January 08 | Chapter 8 amended / Distribution Systems Operation | January 2008 |
| 1 January 2008 | Schedule 8.1 January 08 | Schedule 8.1 inserted / Method of Calculating Supply Reliability Performance | January 2008 |
| 1 January 2008 | Chapter 9 January 08 | Amendments for alignment with National Electricity Law | January 2008 |
| 1 January 2008 | Schedule 9 January 08 | Amendments for alignment with National Electricity Law | January 2008 |
| 1 January 2008 | Chapter 12 January 08 | Amendments for alignment with National Electricity Law | January 2008 |
| 1 January 2008 | GLOSSARY January 08 | Consequential amendments made to Glossary as result of amendments to Chapter 8 and for alignment with National Electricity Law | January 2008 |
| 3 October 2007 | PREAMBLE October 07 | Code Updates Section amended | October 2007 |
| 3 October 2007 | Chapter 8A October 07 | Chapter 8A amended / Distribution Powerline Vegetation Management | October 2007 |
| 25 May 2007 | Chapter 9A May 07 | Chapter 9A inserted / Retailing - Prepayment Meters | May 2007 |
| 25 May 2007 | PREAMBLE May 07 | Consequential amendments made to Preamble as result of inserting Chapter 9A | May 2007 |
| 25 May 2007 | GLOSSARY May 07 | Consequential amendments made to Glossary as result of inserting Chapter 9A | May 2007 |
| 20 Dec 06 | PREAMBLE May 05 | Code Updates Section inserted | December 2006 |

| Date change effected | Clause / Chapter version | Nature of change / subject matter | Reflected in Chapter version |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 20 Dec 06 | Clause 12.6.3 May 05 | Clause amended by Ministerial Notice / Reliability Review Process | December 2006 |

DETAILED NOTES ON SPECIFIC UPDATES

April 2021 (amendments to Preamble and Chapter 8)

Amendment to Chapter 8 to align the publication deadline for the distribution annual planning report with the publication deadline for the transmission annual planning report as prescribed by the NER. The alignment allows TasNetworks to publish one consolidated annual planning report by 31 October each year.

February 2020 (amendments to Preamble, Chapter 4A and Chapter 14)

Amendments to Chapter 4A to remove references to the 5kW generation capacity as all new generators must now enter into a connection agreement with Hydro Tasmania in its capacity as network service provider. The technical envelope has also been amended to impose protection systems on voltage management. Chapter 14 amended as the changes in Chapter 4A introduced terms requiring definition.

April 2017 (amendments to Preamble, Chapter 2, Chapter 8 and Chapter 14)

Amendments to the Preamble, and Chapter 2 and Chapter 14 to correct citing of Regulations and to revise Code Updates Section. Amendment to Chapter 2 consequential to the approval and publication of the Structure of Licence Fees applicable from 1 July 2017. Amendment to Chapter 8 to align voltage performance standards with the National Electricity Rules and industry best practice.

September 2015 (amendments to Preamble and Chapter 12)

The Code was amended to align the frequency of the reliability review process with the new section 10B of the *Electricity Supply Industry Act 1995*.

May 2015 (amendments to Preamble, Chapter 9 and Chapter 14)

Chapters 9 and 14 of the Code were updated via ministerial amendment to implement changes to customer protections for Tariff Customers on the Bass Strait Islands.

January 2015 (amendments to Preamble, Chapter 8A and Chapter 14)

The Code was amended to implement changes to fire risk areas, vegetation management practices and the customer obligations mandated in Chapter 8A.

July 2014 (amendments to Preamble, Chapters 1, 2, 6, 8, 9A and 14)

The Code was amended consequent to the introduction of full retail competition in Tasmania on 1 July 2014 to ensure consistency with, and avoid duplication of, the applicable national electricity legislation. Chapters 6 and 9A were deleted in this process.

October 2013 (amendments to Preamble, Chapter 14 and insertion of Chapter 4A)

Chapter 4A was inserted to provide a means of regulating the system operations and network service provision on the Bass Strait Islands.

January 2013 (amendments to Preamble, Chapters 2, 8, 12, and 14)

The Code was amended to implement changes to notice publication, budgeted revenue requirements, and distribution annual planning report publication, and reflect the transition to the National Energy Customer Framework in July 2012.

August 2012 (amendments to Preamble and Chapter 12)

The provisions relating to the reliability review process in Chapter 12 were amended.

November 2010 (amendments to Preamble, Chapters 8 and 14)

The provisions relating to electromagnetic interference in Chapter 8 were amended.

May 2010 (amendments to Preamble, Chapters 1, 8, 8A, 9, 9A, 12 and 14)

The Code was amended to implement changes arising from the identification of a number of required improvements and clarifications from regular dealings under the Code.

December 2009 (amendments to Preamble, Chapter 12 and Chapter 14)

The Code was amended to implement the changes resulting from the Regulator's decision to dissolve the Reliability and Network Planning Panel and revise the reliability review process.

November 2009 (amendments to Preamble, Chapter 12 and Chapter 14)

The Code was amended to implement the changes resulting from the Regulator's decision to abolish the Code Change Panel to enable a more efficient code change process.

January 2008 (amendments to Preamble, Chapters 1, 6, 8, 9, and 12, Schedules 6, 8, and 9 and Glossary)

The Code was amended to implement the changes resulting from the *Electricity Supply Industry (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2005* to ensure alignment with the terminology in the National Electricity Law.

January 2008 (amending Chapter 8 and Preamble, and inserting Schedule 8.1)

Clause 8.6.11(a) and (b) were amended to reflect the higher distribution reliability standards and a new schedule 8.1 was inserted to provide the method of calculating supply reliability performance.

October 2007 (amending Chapter 8A)

Chapter 8A was amended to take account of the Code Change Panel's recommendations in respect of proposals to amend the Code. Fast-Track changes were also made to update reference to an Australian Standard, to recognise the change of name for the Department of Primary Industries and Water and to correct a table reference number. Consequential amendments to this Preamble were also made.

May 2007 (inserting Chapter 9A)

The Code was amended to include a new Chapter 9A (Retailing - Prepayment Meters). Consequential amendments to the Preamble and Glossary were also made.

December 2006 (amending clause 12.6.3 of Chapter 12 of the Code)

Clause 12.6.3 amended to effectively remove the RNPP's responsibility to annually review frequency operating standards.