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# TASMANIAN ELECTRICITY CODE

## NOVEMBER 2022

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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**

**Deleted by Ministerial Notice**

### **CHAPTER 4            Power System Security**

**Deleted by Ministerial Notice**

### **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 standards.
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**

**Deleted by Ministerial Notice**

**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**

**Deleted by Ministerial Notice**

**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 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 Deleted by Ministerial Notice**

#### **CHAPTER 11      Ring Fencing Deleted by Ministerial Notice**

## **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.<sup>1</sup>

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

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<sup>1</sup> ESI Act, section 8.

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](http://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 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

	<b>Latest version</b>
PREAMBLE .....	<b>November 2022</b>
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION AND CODE SUPERVISION .....	<b>July 2014</b>
CHAPTER 2 LICENSEES AND FEES .....	<b>April 2017</b>
CHAPTER 4A BASS STRAIT ISLANDS .....	<b>June 2021</b>
CHAPTER 8 DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OPERATION .....	<b>April 2021</b>
Schedule to Chapter 8 .....	<b>June 2021</b>
CHAPTER 8A DISTRIBUTION POWERLINE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT .....	<b>November 2022</b>
CHAPTER 9 RETAILING .....	<b>May 2015</b>
Schedule to Chapter 9 .....	<b>January 2008</b>
CHAPTER 12 ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS .....	<b>June 2021</b>
CHAPTER 14 TASMANIAN ELECTRICITY CODE GLOSSARY .....	<b>November 2022</b>

## CHRONOLOGY OF CHANGES TO THE CODE

<b>Date change effected</b>	<b>Clause / Chapter version</b>	<b>Nature of change / subject matter</b>	<b>Reflected in Chapter version</b>
16 November 2022	PREAMBLE November 2022	Code Updates section amended.	November 2022
16 November 2022	Chapter 8A November 2022	Establish a dimension of clearance space from a still distribution cable for CCT.	November 2022
16 November 2022	Chapter 14 November 2022	Definition of <i>covered conductor thick</i> inserted and definition of <i>insulated service cable</i> amended.	November 2022
23 June 2021	PREAMBLE June 21	Code Updates section amended.	June 2021
23 June 2021	Chapter 12 June 21	Deadline for licensees to submit annual performance reports to the Regulator extended.	June 2021
23 June 2021	Schedule to Chapter 8 June 2021	Uniform definition of SAIDI and SAIFI inserted.	June 2021
23 June 2021	Chapter 4A June 2021	New reliability standards for distribution networks on the Bass Strait Islands inserted.	June 2021
22 April 2021	PREAMBLE April 21	Code Updates sections amended.	April 2021

<b>Date change effected</b>	<b>Clause / Chapter version</b>	<b>Nature of change / subject matter</b>	<b>Reflected in Chapter version</b>
22 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
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



<b>Date change effected</b>	<b>Clause / Chapter version</b>	<b>Nature of change / subject matter</b>	<b>Reflected in Chapter version</b>
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
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

<b>Date change effected</b>	<b>Clause / Chapter version</b>	<b>Nature of change / subject matter</b>	<b>Reflected in Chapter version</b>
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
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

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

## DETAILED NOTES ON SPECIFIC UPDATES

### November 2022 (amendments to Preamble, Chapter 8A and Chapter 14)

Amend Chapter 8A to establish a dimension of clearance space from a still distribution cable for *covered conductor thick*. The clearance space dimension for *covered conductor thick* is the same as the clearance space dimension for *aerial bundled cable*.

Amend Chapter 14 to introduce the definition of *covered conductor thick* and amend the definition of *insulated service cable*.

### June 2021 (amendments to Preamble, Chapter 4A, Schedule to Chapter 8 and Chapter 12)

Amendments to Chapter 4A introduce new network performance standards for the distributor on the Bass Strait Islands. This sets the same distribution network performance standards between the Bass Strait Islands and mainland Tasmania.

Amendments to the Schedule to Chapter 8 align the method of calculating distribution supply reliability performance with the method prescribed by the AER.

An amendment to Chapter 12 extends the deadline for all licensees to submit annual performance report to the Regulator from 30 September to 31 October.

**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.