

Responsibilities of owning a micro embedded generator (solar PV system)



This fact sheet provides a summary of the conditions that need to be met in regards to the network connected micro embedded generator (solar PV system) installed at your premises.

These conditions are to ensure safe and stable operation of your solar PV system with the electricity supply network, in accordance with Section 157 of the *Electrical Safety Regulations 2002*.

For a comprehensive list of the conditions for the operation of your solar PV system, please see the current *Energex connection of micro embedded generator model standing offer* at energex.com.au.

These important conditions are not only designed to ensure the safety and convenient operation of your solar PV system, but also the safe and reliable supply of electricity to nearby customers.

Technical, operational and maintenance requirements of your solar PV system

For your safety, as well as the safety of other customers and our employees, you are required to maintain the solar PV installation and any associated equipment in a safe working order at all times. Some of the key requirements are:

- Ensuring the solar PV system remains compliant with the Technical and Operations requirements detailed in the *Energex connection of micro embedded generator model standing offer*.
- Ensuring the solar PV system is inspected and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Where there are no manufacturer's recommendations, inspection and condition-based maintenance shall be performed by a qualified person.
- If requested by us, provide results of any inspections carried out in accordance with the maintenance requirements.
- Ensuring the system remains compliant to Australian Standard 4777, including labelling of the switchboard.
- Displaying the inverter isolation procedure at the main switchboard.
- Keep a copy of the inverter operation manual in or near the main switchboard or meter box at all times.

Changes to your solar PV system

You are required reapply to Energex for connection approval prior to any changes to the approved solar PV system. A new connection contract is required to:

- Increase the capacity of your inverter beyond the previously approved maximum allowed generation capacity.
- Change the metering scheme arrangements, such as gross metering scheme to a net metering scheme (or net to gross).

A new connection contract is not required if you are increasing the number of panels for an already approved inverter.

Disconnection of the solar PV system

You must comply with any request from us for the solar PV system to be isolated or disconnected for the following reasons:

- Planned maintenance to our supply network.
- Health and safety risks as a result of the operation of the solar PV system.
- The solar PV installation not complying with the technical and operational conditions.
- The replacement of a solar PV system without approval including any increase to inverter capacity.

We may enter your premises to isolate or disconnect the system if such request is not complied with or we consider it necessary to manage our supply network. Where the request relates to a compliance issue, the system will remain isolated or disconnected until the compliance issue is rectified.



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Exported energy

If supply to your premises is disconnected for any reason, your solar PV system is designed to automatically turn off.

If the solar PV system is unable to export electricity to the Supply Network for any reason, we will not be liable for any loss of revenue or other entitlements under any scheme including the Solar Bonus Scheme.

Manage an emergency event

The solar PV system is the responsibility of the owner. In the event of an emergency, for example fire, flood or storm, we are not accountable for any issues that may occur with the solar PV panels or inverter.

In the event of an emergency, we recommend you contact a licensed electrical contractor or accredited solar PV system installer for any advice in relation to the system or damage to the system.

Access to your premises

We will need safe, unhindered access to your premises at reasonable times to:

- read, inspect or change our electricity meters
- perform any services requested by you
- confirm that the solar PV equipment installed matches the original application
- test the solar PV installation to ensure compliance with ongoing requirements. The test will require disconnection and reconnection of the premises from the supply network.

Legislation

These conditions are detailed in the following legislations and codes:

- *Electrical Safety Regulations 2002*, Section 157.
- *Electricity Regulations 2006*, Section 28.
- *Electrical Safety Act 2002*.
- *Queensland Electricity Industry Code*.

Please note that this list and the section references is an overview and not strictly limited to what has been referenced.

Who do I contact?

- Your electricity retailer for any billing enquiries including information about what tariffs you are on.
- A solar PV installer for any questions relating to the ongoing maintenance requirements of your system.

- A licensed Electrical Contractor for any electrical work that needs to be performed on the system.
- The owner of your premises if you are a tenant.
- Visit us at energex.com.au for additional information about this fact sheet.

Your solar PV check list

- Ensure you receive confirmation from Energex before making any material changes to the inverter, for example, increasing the capacity of the inverter.
- Confirm you are still eligible for any Government feed-in-tariff you may be receiving before you make any changes to your system.
- Have a regular maintenance program for your solar PV system to ensure your inverter continues to comply with Australian Standard 4777.
- Ensure that your electricity retailer has your up-to-date postal address and telephone numbers.

For more detail and further information

The full copy of our conditions for the connection of a micro embedded generator can be found on our website at energex.com.au. Enter *ongoing solar obligations* in the search box on the top right hand side of the home page. In request, we can mail a copy of this information to you.

Contact Energex

To report loss of supply:

- 13 62 62

For electricity emergencies:

- 13 19 62

For general enquiries:

- energex.com.au
- custserve@energex.com.au
- 13 12 53 (8am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday)
- Telephone interpreter service 13 14 50

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