



Regulatory Changes for Smarter Homes

New requirements for installers

Several new technical standards and requirements for installing smaller energy generators (such as rooftop solar) come into effect from 28 September 2020 that you need to be aware of.

What do you need to know before installing an electricity generating plant?

When installing a new electricity generating plant, you will need to:

1. Install only the inverters that are assessed and approved by the Technical Regulator
 - A list of approved inverters is available on the [Smarter Homes Voltage Ride Through web page](#).
 - These inverters have been shown to ride through short duration undervoltage disturbances as specified in the Short Duration Undervoltage Disturbance Ride-Through ([VDRT Test Procedure](#)) set by the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO).
 - From 31 March 2021 this information will be held with the Clean Energy Council.
2. Ensure the electricity generating plant has a nominated relevant agent
 - A relevant agent is required to act on instructions to manage rooftop solar output in an emergency.
 - Check that the relevant agent is registered with the Office of the Technical Regulator and has been appointed before installing a solar system. A list is available on the [Smarter Homes Remote Connection web page](#).
 - Select the relevant agent when completing your eCoC
3. Ensure you are familiar with the new smart meter wiring guidelines prescribed by the Technical Regulator
 - The wiring guidelines can be found on the [Smarter Homes Smart Meter Requirements web page](#).
 - Often, a smart meter has been wired in the lowest cost manner, including the aggregation of data types. From 28 September 2020, a meter installed at a connection point must be capable of separately measuring and controlling an electricity generating plant and controllable load from the essential load.
 - Two and three-phase metered electrical installations are exempt from the new Smart Meter Minimum Technical Standard.
 - A number of class exemptions are detailed in the wiring guidelines.

In the future you may also need to ensure that the electricity generating plant has the capability to be export limited and for these limits to be updated remotely.

What information should I provide to customers/owners?

Customers/owners affected by these changes should be made aware of the new requirements.

The customer/owner should seek information upfront on any associated charges for maintaining the disconnect/reconnect agreement.

The Department for Energy and Mining has developed a [fact sheet](#) that can be downloaded and provided to customers giving a summary of the new requirements.

Why are these changes being implemented?

The Government of South Australia is implementing new 'Smarter Homes' initiatives to support the transition into a modern renewable power system. These new technical standards and requirements manage some of the emerging risks to our power grid, help operate the electricity network more efficiently, and help us to prepare for the smarter energy technology in our future.

The changes outlined above have been designed to both increase the amount of generation connected to the distribution network in the future and to assist the market operator to maintain the required balance between our electricity supply and demand. Better balancing of supply and demand will help avoid potential energy outages.

Additional information, including Frequently Asked Questions can be found at energymining.sa.gov.au/smarterhomes
The Office of the Technical Regulator can also respond to queries on 08 8226 5518 or via otr.smarterhomes@sa.gov.au