

29 August 2025

Original: English

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

- 1. Notifying Member: AUSTRALIA
 - If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):
- 2. Agency responsible:

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)

- 3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [X], 5.7.1 [], 3.2 [], 7.2 [], Other:
- 4. Products covered (HS codes or national tariff lines. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Consumer Energy Resources (CER) are a diverse range of small to medium scale energy resources that are located behind the meter at residential, commercial and industrial premises and are owned or operated by the customer. CER include:
 - Rooftop solar: Photovoltaics (PV)
 - Energy Management Systems (EMS)
 - Household and community batteries: Energy Storage Systems (ESS), such as batteries and fly-wheels.
 - Electric vehicles (EV) passenger and light commercial vehicles
 - Electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) the infrastructure and components that deliver electricity to charge EVs including EVSE load only and bidirectional EVSE.
 - Flexible Loads controlled loads including electric water heaters, pool pumps, air conditioners and smart devices.

Note: The interoperability standards covered in this consultation apply to the inverter and not the PV panel.

5. Details of notified document(s) (title, number of pages and languages, means of access): National Consumer Energy Resources (CER) Roadmap - Consultation on technical priorities; (32 page(s), in English), (56 page(s), in English)

Link to notified document(s) and/or contact details for agency or authority which can provide copies upon request:

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2025/TBT/AUS/25 05760 00 e.pdf https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2025/TBT/AUS/25 05760 01 e.pdf

Two documents for consultation are attached, with weblinks to the same documents below: Consultation on Draft Prototype CER National Technical Regulatory Framework: https://storage.googleapis.com/files-au-climate/climate-

au/p/prj3737dfec9a5ee2d441175/page/National Technical Regulatory Framework Draft prototype PDF 683KB .pdf

Consultation on Technical Standards for Consumer Energy Resources (CER) Interoperability: https://storage.googleapis.com/files-au-climate/climate-

au/p/prj3737dfec9a5ee2d441175/page/Technical Standards for Consumer Energy Resources CER Interoperability Consultation Paper PDF 1.4MB .pdf

6. Description of content: Australia is consulting on two related documents under the National Consumer Energy Resources (CER) Roadmap. The first paper is Technical Standards for CER Interoperability, which seeks stakeholder input to identify priority gaps and develop an initial set of agreed requirements and applicable technical standards to support device interoperability and flexibility. It is an exploratory consultation and does not itself impose binding obligations.

The second paper is a prototype National Technical Regulatory Framework for CER, which outlines a proposed, consumer-centric framework and key regulatory functions (e.g., establishing national CER technical requirements and standards, device and installer accreditation, connection information updates, and system-integrity support) to enable consistent, secure, and reliable integration of CER across jurisdictions. This prototype is for discussion and does not establish mandatory requirements at this stage.

This consultation is an early step in a staged process. By the end of 2025, Energy Ministers will consider an initial set of agreed technical requirements and a prototype regulatory framework. A pathway is being developed to support voluntary adoption of these requirements, commencing in 2026 and delivered by the end of 2027, before a national regulatory framework is implemented. Future work may expand the scope of interoperability requirements as technologies evolve, including vehicle-to-grid integration. The timing of regulator establishment remains to be determined.

7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: The objective of this work is to support the reliable and secure integration of consumer energy resources (CER)—such as rooftop solar, batteries, electric vehicles and smart devices—into the Australian electricity system. Increasing CER uptake presents opportunities for greater consumer choice, lower energy costs and emissions reductions, but also raises interoperability, grid security and system reliability challenges. This work aims to address those challenges, by identifying gaps in existing standards and establishing national technical requirements.; Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection; Quality requirements; Harmonization

8. Relevant documents:

DCCEEW 'Have Your Say' webpage for the consultation, including links to the notified documents, further context on the consultation and addition resources and reports: National Consumer Energy Resources (CER) Roadmap - Consultation on technical priorities - Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water

9. Proposed date of adoption: To be determined

Proposed date of entry into force: To be determined

10. Provision of comments

Final date for comments: 30 September 2025

[] 60 days from notification

Contact details of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification:

WTO TBT Enquiry Point
Office of Global Trade Negotiations
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Canberra

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Email: <u>tbt.enquiry@dfat.gov.au</u>
Website: <u>https://www.dfat.gov.au/</u>