



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, seas and waters across Australia. We honour the wisdom of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past and present and embrace future generations.

We acknowledge that, wherever we work, we do so on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lands. We pay respect to the world's oldest continuing culture and First Nations peoples' deep and continuing connection to Country; and hope that our work can benefit both people and Country.

'Journey of unity: AEMO's Reconciliation Path' by Lani Balzan

AEMO Group is proud to have launched its first [Reconciliation Action Plan](#) in May 2024. 'Journey of unity: AEMO's Reconciliation Path' was created by Wiradjuri artist Lani Balzan to visually narrate our ongoing journey towards reconciliation - a collaborative endeavour that honours First Nations cultures, fosters mutual understanding, and paves the way for a brighter, more inclusive future.

Important notice

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for industry participants for the Gas Retail Initiatives B2B Package 1 May 2026 cutover period.

Disclaimer

Any dealings with AEMO regarding proposed reforms or other initiatives, all participants agree to adhere to the Competition and Consumer Act and to comply with AEMO Protocol. You may view the AEMO Competition Law Meeting Protocol [here](#).

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Version control

Version	Release date	Changes
0.1	27/01/2026	Initial draft
0.2	18/03/2026	Incorporating ITDF feedback
0.3	01/04/2026	Incorporating GRCF feedback
1.0	17/04/2026	Final



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1 Background

In December 2023, The Gas Retail Consultative Forum (GRCF) initiated a program to find cost-effective solutions for three specific initiatives: IN004/22, IN002/22 and IN005/24.

From April to November 2024, AEMO and participants conducted a detailed review of these issues, identifying necessary changes to existing Technical Protocols (TPs) and impacted business-to-business (B2B) transactions. Additionally, a new initiative, IN003/25, emerged during the first-round of consultation.

Note: The Gas Retail Consultative Forum (GRCF) is an industry group focused on improving the retail gas market through procedural and technological changes. Their goal is to enhance the efficiency of the market by reviewing and discussing necessary updates to Gas Retail Market Procedures (RMPs), technical protocols, and supporting documentation.

2 Scope

On 16 June 2025, AEMO published and approved its Notice of AEMO Decision on consultation Gas Retail Initiatives B2B Package 1 that includes the following initiatives.

- IN004/22: Improvements to Network Tariff B2B Notification in NSW/ACT, requiring a schema change.
- IN002/22: Updates to Gas Scheduled Read Est Sub Codes and Special Read No Access Enumerations, also requiring a schema change.
- IN005/24: Inclusion of Contract Maximum Daily Quantity (MDQ) in Gas Retail of Last Resort (RoLR) transactions, involving customer and site details from failed retail businesses to RoLR.
- IN003/25: Adopting the aseXML schema version 46 to align customer address fields with AS4590.1:2017 standards, which is expected to prevent large-scale future implementation costs.

In August 2025 the GRCF agreed to add the following initiative to the scope of works:

- IN004/25 - Residual changes that relate to 2024 Package 1.

Other key points to note:

- The Western Australian Gas Retail Market will remain on aseXML schema version 40 and is excluded from Package 1.
- Initiative IN005/24 requires only retailers to modify their systems, thus these changes are not included in this cutover plan as these transactions don't utilise the aseXML format nor AEMO's B2B hub.

Listed below are the information web pages for the gas retail market consultation that generated these changes:

- [Package 1 Gas Retail B2B Changes](#)
- [Notice of Decision NoD 2024 Package 1 B2B changes](#)

- [AEMO | IN004-25 Residual East Coast B2B changes Consultation](#)
- [AEMO | Gas Retail Initiatives B2B Package 1](#)

3 Purpose

The purpose of this Cutover plan is to provide guidance for industry participants and AEMO for the Gas Retail Initiatives B2B Package 1 May 2026 cutover period with respect to the following cutover activities:

- Cross-Industry management, decision-making (incl. escalation), reporting and communications
- Establishing a timeline of activities
- Production Verification Test approach
- Initial Post go-live monitoring

For each of these cutover activities, this document will provide guidance within the following categories:

- Industry requirements that must be adhered to by all participants.
- Requirements that apply only to Users, Network operations or AEMO but require visibility to industry participants.

4 Cutover Approach

The cutover approach will be to utilise the same cutover timetable and responsibilities as the Gas Life Support in Q4 2021.

The industry cutover approach is based on a 'fix-on-fail/roll-forward' approach in which AEMO and all participants will commit to cutting over to modified systems and processes and will avoid rollback by addressing any problems if they arise. This approach is consistent with all other previous gas retail system changes that have involved an aseXML schema version uplift.

If any participant or AEMO have system readiness issues, they must implement contingency (e.g., manual) arrangements in their organisations and notify AEMO so that they can meet their obligations after go-live without impacting other participants.

5 Pre-requisites

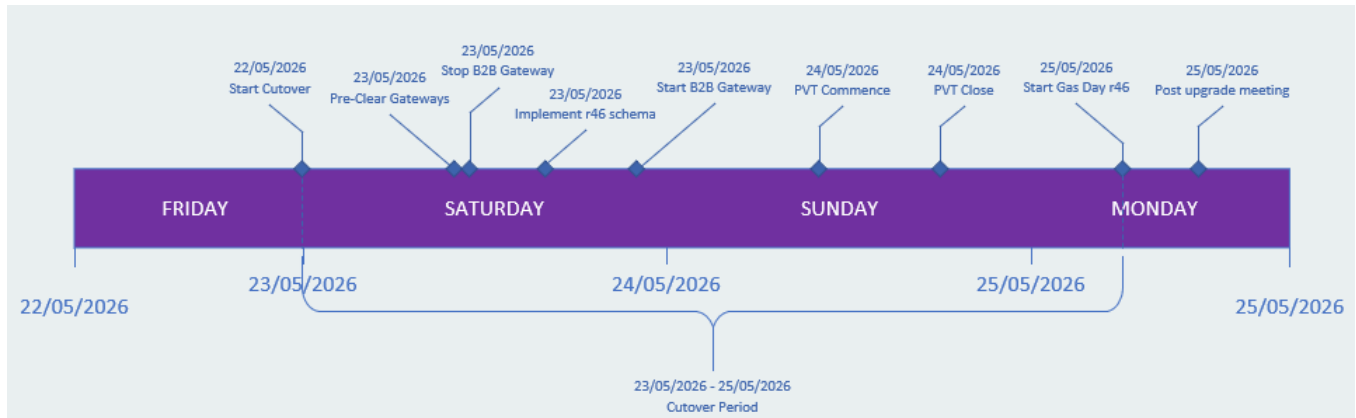
It is expected that all participants (and AEMO) will have completed internal UAT and optional bi-lateral testing in the lead up to the schema release. It is also expected that all participants (and AEMO) will undertake the necessary steps to ensure that their certification obligations pertaining to the B2B Hub remains valid as described in the Gas FRC B2B Connectivity Testing and Certification document which is published on AEMO website [here](#) . The above pre-requisites should be completed prior to cutover.

All participants (and AEMO) will be responsible for developing their own release plan such that it is compatible with the overall Industry Implementation plan set out in the Detailed Cutover plan section of this document.

6 Timelines

The cutover period is defined as Sat 23/05/2026 12:00AM AEST to Mon 25/05/2026 06:00AM AEST.

Participants should cease sending new transactions by Fri 22/05/2026 11:59 PM AEST.



7 Production Verification Test Approach

- To validate the implementation of the r46 schema, an optional Bi-Lateral Production Verification Test (PVT) period will be scheduled from Sun 24/05/2026 10:00AM to Sun 24/05/2026 6:00PM. AEMO is not co-ordinating the PVT.
- Detail about the timing of the PVT and the pre-requisite activities are described in the Detailed Cutover plan section.
- During the PVT window, AEMO will be available to assist where participants have connectivity issues that arise.
- During the PVT window, participants will restrict all transactions other than those that are included in the test.
- Participants should contact their chosen bilateral testing participants (if any) for PVT to discuss and confirm the scope of the PVT transactions.
- Only a minimal number of B2B and B2M transactions should be sent during the PVT period as these transactions will be 'live' market transactions.

8 Cutover Communications

- As each step of the cut-over period approaches, AEMO will broadcast the forthcoming event using the system notification messaging service as described in section 4.3 of the FRC Hub Participant User Guide. Click [here](#) to view this guide. The mailbox for this messaging service is known as FRCRelay.
- AEMO's FBSAdmin is responsible for maintaining this distribution list for this messaging service. Participants should ensure their contact information is updated one week prior to the cut-over window. Any updates or question about this messaging service should be sent to FBSAdmin@aemo.com.au.

9 Detailed Cutover Plan

Step	Title	Description	Gas Market Time / AEST	Responsible Party
1	Start cutover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cease generating new outbound transactions in the old schema version (i.e. r40 in QLD, SA, VIC, NSW/ACT). Batch jobs completed before this time. Start using B2B Outage Protocol for all service order processing. 	Fri 22/5/2026 11:59 PM AEST	All participants
2	Pre-Clear gateways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear both incoming and outgoing failures from the gateway. Finish processing all r40 in QLD, SA, VIC and NSW/ACT transactions. The old schema versions are no longer used from this point onwards (excepting WA that remains on r40). Note: Jemena interval and gate point data can process as usual timing (r40 format). 	Sat 23/5/2026 Between 12:00AM and 10:00 AM AEST	All participants
3	Stop B2B gateway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AEMO B2B Hub stops processing transactions and will cease to be available. Participants switch to manual processes to handle any priority-C transactions initiated between 10:00 AM AEST and 4 PM AEST Western Australian (WA): During cutover steps 3-5 the Gas FRC Hub will not be active to B2B traffic including WA B2B transactions. 	Sat 23/5/2026 Between 10:00AM AEST and 4:00 PM AEST	AEMO
4	Implement r46 schema	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement schema change r46 in QLD, SA, VIC, NSW/ACT 	Sat 23/5/2026 Between 4:00PM AEST and 8:00 PM AEST	All participants
5	Start B2B Gateway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> B2B Hub becomes available 	Sat 23/5/2026	All participants

Step	Title	Description	Gas Market Time / AEST	Responsible Party
			Before 8:00 PM AEST	
6	Gateway troubleshoot period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal troubleshooting period allowed to validate gateways are operational. Re-establish connectivity to FRC Hub Participant systems into production 	Sat 23/5/2026 8:00PM AEST to Sun 23/5/2026 10:00AM AEST	All participants
7	Production Verification Test (PVT) Opens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PVT window Opens (optional) 	Sun 24/5/2026 10:00AM AEST	Participants (optional)
8	Production Verification Test (PVT) Closes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PVT window Closes (optional) 	Sun 24/5/2026 06:00PM AEST	Participants (optional)
9	PVT status meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teleconference of the nominated Industry Lead Contacts during the cutover period to assess final participant readiness and for industry awareness of issues facing any participants. 	Sun 24/5/2026 06:00PM AEST to 06:30PM AEST	Participants (optional)
10	PVT Defects resolution period opens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start of period for internal trouble-shooting to resolve any issues identified in PVT. 	Sun 24/05/2026 06:30PM AEST	Participants (optional)
11	PVT Defects resolution period closes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End of period for internal trouble-shooting to resolve any issues identified in PVT. 	Mon 25/05/2026 06:00AM AEST	Participants (optional)
12	Start Gas Day r46 schema	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All B2B transactions send with r46 schema in QLD, SA, VIC, NSW/ACT (including pending responses to transactions received prior to the cutover in r40 schema). 	Mon 25/05/2026 06:00AM AEST	All participants
13	Post r46 schema upgrade monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants that have the capacity to do so will limit the number of transactions sent through their gateway to the FRC Hub 	Mon 25/05/2026 06:00AM AEST to 10:30AM AEST	All participants

Step	Title	Description	Gas Market Time / AEST	Responsible Party
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All participants will monitor their backend systems and gateways to ensure successful implementation. 		
14	Post upgrade meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting to determine the status of the implementation across industry Determine corrective action for any issues and defects that are identified based on their severity and market impact. 	Mon 25/05/2026 10:30AM AEST	All participants

10 References

Reference	Link
FRC Hub documentation	AEMO Gas systems guides
Gas Retail Initiatives B2B Package 1	AEMO Gas Retail Initiatives B2B Package 1

11 Glossary

Term	Definition
GRCF	Gas Retail Consultative Forum
Priority C service orders	Priority C is a class of Service Order job request codes that are of a reasonably urgent priority, transmitted via the Gas Hub.