

# Basic Power Quality Data Industry Readiness Approach

Metering Services Review – Release 2  
January 2026



# Context

- BPQD is the second release (third package) for the Metering Services Review initiative. Packages 1 and 2 (release 1) were delivered 1 December 2025.
- DNSPs visibility of Power Quality Data (PQD) is a new requirement placed on MCs under the [Accelerating Smart Meter Deployment Rule](#) and will assist them to understand their network better.
- Basic PQD consists of 3 measures; volts, amps and power factor (phase angle). Each unit of measure is to record at the trading interval, per phase, for meters which meet the Min Specification in chapter 7 of the NER.
- Basic PQD is to be sent by MCs to DNSP daily using API or WebUI technology and requires smart meter functionality to record and deliver the data.
- AEMO is tasked with determining the specifications, formats and delivery mechanism for the basic PQD service

# Confirmed changes

- New PQD B2B transaction for NEM Retail built on new Industry Data eXchange (IDX) platform.
- New Industry Data eXchange platform to support BPQD changes.
- New MSATS browser user interface (UI) for low-voltage interfaces, built on new Portal Consolidation (PC) platform.

## **New Architecture to be delivered by BPQD:**

- Power Quality Data API will be the first Business Function built on new IDX platform.
- New Industry Data eXchange platform (IDX) and supporting infrastructure noting that is planned to be available in the Preproduction environment to support BPQD Industry Testing.
- New AEMO Gateway software will support both current (aseXML) and new (JSON) interface technology.
- Note, current 'basic Auth' framework will continue to be used for identity and access management.

# Purpose of Initiative Readiness Approach

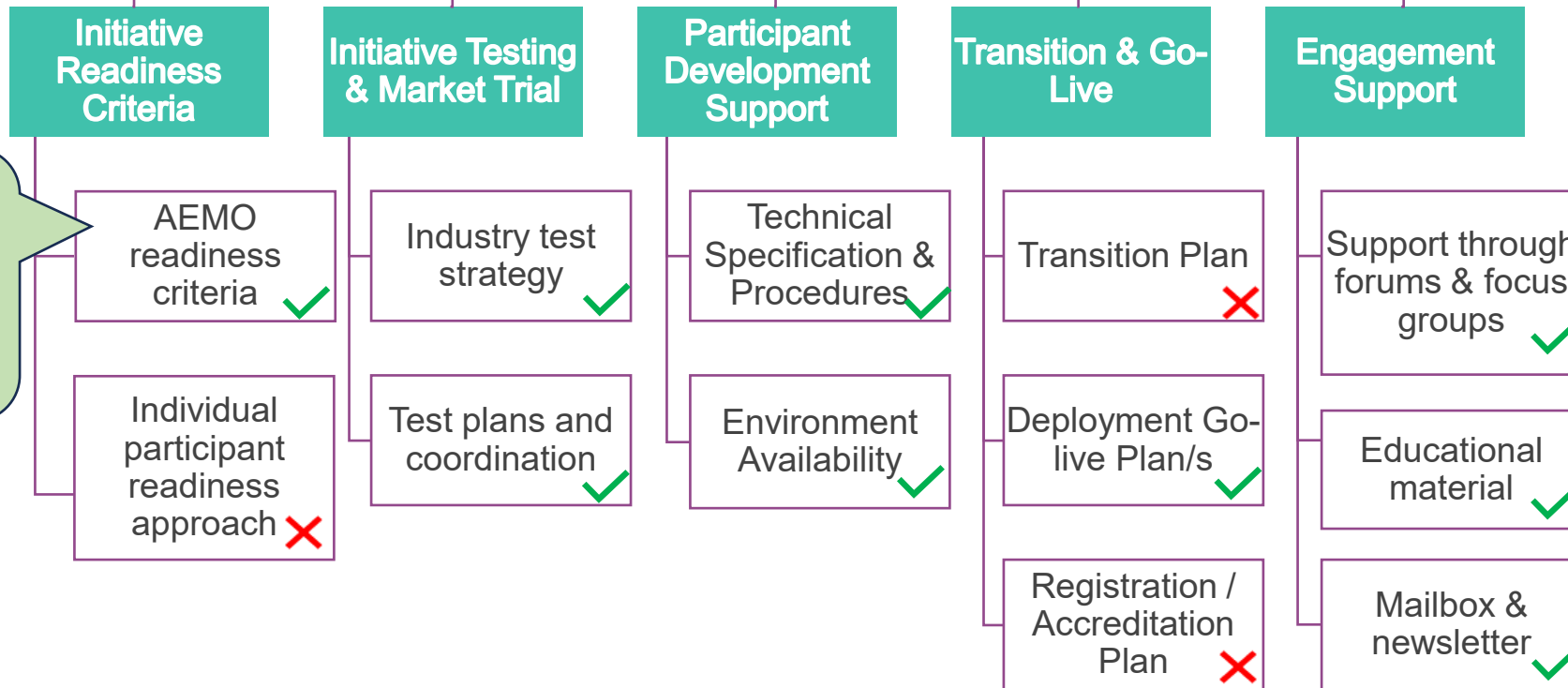
- To assist industry with their own planning and delivery activities to be ready for basic Power Quality Data (BPQD) as it is operationalised.
- To define the criteria against which go-live decisions will be made.
- Aligns to and supports the implementation approach for BPQD:
  - 1 July 2026 - Rule commencement

# Context: NEM Reform program industry strategy

## NEM REFORM READINESS STRATEGY (ALL INITIATIVES)

### Proposed BPQD Readiness Approach

BPQD readiness approach adopts the standard NEM Reform Program Framework



- AEMO solution needs to be built and tested
- AEMO business needs to be ready to operate
- AEMO IT support needs to be in place

## RISK & CONTINGENCY MANAGEMENT ✓

## INITIATIVE READINESS REPORTING ✓ & GO-LIVE CRITERIA MANAGEMENT ✓

<p><b>Initiative readiness criteria</b></p>	<p>Individual participant readiness approach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual participant readiness is not a dependency for go-live and rule commencement on 1 July 2026.</li> <li>• However impacted participants, Metering Coordinators and DNSPs, may need to plan for and implement changes to accommodate the delivery and receipt of Basic Power Quality Data (PQD) via the new Power Quality Data API on the IDX platform. Noting that arrangements for the provision of basic PQD may currently be in place.</li> </ul>
	<p>AEMO readiness criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By rule commencement date, 1 July 2026, AEMO’s overall solution needs to be built and tested for:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ New Power Quality Data API (Business Function) for basic Power Quality Data* exchange</li> <li>➢ New Industry Data Exchange (IDX) including AEMO Gateway software, platforms and underlying infrastructure to support the implementation of the new Business Function</li> <li>➢ New MSATS browser UI on Markets Portal to support low-volume interfaces, delivered on new Portal Consolidation (PC) platform. Current <i>basic auth framework</i> using MSATS URM identity system will continue to be used for identity and access management.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• AEMO business needs to be ready to support the new Business Service (low impact)</li> <li>• IT support needs to be in place for the solution, IDX platform and PC platform for new support requirements, requiring technical upskilling (high impact)</li> </ul> <p>* advanced Power Quality Data future capability</p>
<p><b>Initiative testing</b></p>	<p>Industry test strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Industry Test Strategy will be developed in collaboration with industry.</li> <li>• AEMOs Preproduction environment will be available to run an Industry Test for 4 weeks from 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026.</li> <li>• Preproduction environment will include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ New AEMO Gateway software and the Power Quality Data API on the IDX platform, to allow participants to test B2B BPQD API post, get and delete messages.</li> <li>○ New MSATS browser UI on the Portal Consolidation platform, to allow participants to test low volume interfaces.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• AEMO plans to conduct briefing sessions on participant onboarding and new IDX protocols to support Metering Coordinators and DNSPs, prior to commencement of Industry Testing.</li> </ul>
	<p>Test plans and coordination</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AEMO proposes test plans will be developed in collaboration with affected participants for any AEMO coordinated testing and developed independently by impacted participants appropriate to own requirements and any bilateral testing between participants.</li> <li>• Industry Test Working Group (ITWG) sessions will provide updates on testing progress and for additional support. Sign up <a href="#">here</a></li> </ul>

READINESS AREA	INITIAL VIEW OF INDUSTRY READINESS APPROACH	
Participant development support	Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• B2B and B2M procedures finalised.</li> <li>• Expedited consultation of Basic Power Quality Data (MSR Package 3) for minor amendments:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Basic Power Quality Data procedure and Retail Electricity Market Procedures – Glossary and Framework</li> <li>○ <a href="#">Draft Report and Procedures</a> were published on 24 November 2025</li> <li>○ Final report is expected to be published on 16 February 2026</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Technical Specifications	<p>Technical Specifications will be made available for BPQD-related changes and the IDX Platform to support BPQD.</p> <p><b>Industry Data Exchange - BPQD June 2026</b> technical specification provides designs for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Power Quality Data API</li> <li>• PQD payload schema</li> <li>• New IDX data exchange delivery mechanism for BPQD</li> <li>• Event notifications WebSockets for BPQD-related communications between AEMO and Market Participants</li> <li>• Markets Portal IDX User Interfaces (remains in progress)</li> <li>• <a href="#">IDX Technical Specification – BPQD June 2026</a> is available on the AEMO Technical Specification Portal and ‘ready for participants’ builds’</li> </ul> <p><b>Industry Data Exchange – IDX Platform – June 2026</b> technical specification will provide designs for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data exchange patterns and mechanisms to support NEM, WEM and Gas including platform capabilities to support BPQD.</li> </ul>
	BPQD Schema	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Draft published</a> – ‘ready for participant build’</li> <li>• Available in Preproduction on 19 April 2026</li> <li>• Available in Production on 21 June 2026</li> </ul>
	Additional documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AEMO will develop a Markets Portal User Guide for the Low Volume Interface (LVI) to support participants with new user interfaces and troubleshooting PQD transactions.</li> </ul>
	IT development support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AEMO does not envisage the need for a Participant Development Support Environment (PDSE) as the development support can be managed in the pre-production environment.</li> <li>• AEMO will run daily Q&amp;A sessions during the Industry Test period to support participants.</li> <li>• As required, AEMO will provide industry support via NEM Reform forums, information sessions, focus groups for affected participants. Forums occur monthly and remaining engagements will be scheduled as required to support participants development.</li> </ul>
Transition and Go-live	Transition plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No transitional activities have been identified.</li> </ul>
	Go-live plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will be developed in consultation with industry to confirm AEMO deployment activities and timeframes, any participant co-ordinated activity and required notifications to industry               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Draft plan published - 1 May 2026</li> <li>○ Final plan published – 22 May 2026</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Go-live plan will articulate extended hyper-care arrangements to support participants if required beyond the standard hyper-care period.</li> </ul>
	Registration or accreditation plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are no accreditation or registration requirements stipulated in the MSR rule however, MCs have additional obligations stipulated in the Guide to the Role of the Metering Coordinator.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Engagement, Support and Communications</b></p>	<p>Forums and Focus Groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NEM Reform Program will support affected market participants in each reform phase from implementation design, procedures development, solution delivery through to industry testing.</li> <li>• Support will be provided as required via NEM Reform forums: Implementation Forum and Industry Test Working Group (ITWG) Q&amp;A sessions</li> <li>• Engagement has commenced on minor amendments to procedures for BPQD via the Electricity Retail Consultative Forum (ERCF).</li> <li>• Affected participants may also wish to attend:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information Exchange Committee (IEC) for B2B Procedures</li> <li>• Market Systems User Group (MSUG) for assistance with technical specifications.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>Educational material</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AEMO will make available educational material to support awareness, assessment and preparation for affected participants as required. FAQs and industry presentations will be made available through the Metering Services Review project’s dedicated webpage.</li> </ul>
	<p>Mailbox and newsletter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants support will be provided via the monitored NEMReform <a href="#">mailbox</a>.</li> <li>• Regular communications around project milestones.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Risk &amp; contingency management</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AEMO will checkpoint with Participants progress against required delivery timeframes and develop appropriate contingency approaches reflecting impacts to rule commencement timing, participant development costs, and market impact.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Initiative readiness reporting &amp; go-live criteria management</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AEMO will report to industry, impacts to industry, of any changes to confirmed L1/L2 industry milestones, through NEM Reform forums.</li> <li>• The readiness approach, when confirmed, will form the basis of the go-live criteria to be used for readiness reporting through NEM Reform forums</li> <li>• AEMO provided a 6-month checkpoint against the baselined delivery schedule at the December Implementation Forum reporting:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The completion of B2B and B2M procedures and delivery of BPQD schema and Power Quality Data API technical specifications ‘ready for participant builds’, provides affected participants at least a 6-month window for development / test ahead of Industry Test.</li> <li>• AEMO delivery remains tight and on target for industry test and deployment milestones.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Additional checkpoints against go-live criteria to provide assurance of implementation preparations ahead of industry test period and go-live, allowing time for finalising AEMO’s and Participants business preparations, scheduled as follows:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 3-month Checkpoint – 1 April 2026</li> <li>❖ 1-month Checkpoint – 1 June 2026</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Formalised Participant readiness reporting is not required on the basis that there is no mandatory participant transition or preparatory activities that if not performed will impact technical readiness for market or other participants.</li> </ul>

# Feedback

AEMO is requesting [Feedback](#) if what we are proposing meets participant needs?

What, if any, additional support is needed to assist impacted participants with the implementation of BPQD?

# Glossary

Term	Definition
<b>AEMO</b>	Australian Energy Market Operator
<b>DNSP</b>	Distribution Network Service Provider
<b>DM</b>	Data Model
<b>HLIA</b>	High Level Implementation Assessment
<b>ITWG</b>	Industry Testing Working Group
<b>MC</b>	Metering Coordinator
<b>MDP</b>	Meter Data Provider
<b>MSATS</b>	Market Transfer and Settlements Solution
<b>MSUG</b>	Market Systems User Group
<b>NEM</b>	National Energy Market
<b>NER</b>	National Energy Rules
<b>NSP</b>	Network Service Provider