



# Information Sharing Protocol

15 December 2017

**SA Power Networks**

[www.sapowernetworks.com.au](http://www.sapowernetworks.com.au)

## Table of Contents

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Information Sharing Protocol.....                      | 2 |
| 1.1. Introduction .....                                   | 2 |
| 1.2. Scope.....   | 2 |
| 1.2.1. Register inclusions .....                          | 2 |
| 1.2.2. Register exclusions.....                           | 2 |
| 1.2.2.1. Network connection electricity information ..... | 2 |
| 1.2.2.2. Publicly available information.....              | 3 |
| 1.2.2.3. Exceptions under the guideline .....             | 3 |
| 2. Information Register Compliance .....                  | 3 |
| 3. How to Apply for Confidential Information .....        | 4 |
| 3.1. Website .....  | 4 |

# 1. Information Sharing Protocol

## 1.1. Introduction

The AER Ring-fencing Guideline (the **guideline**) allows DNSPs to share confidential information (as defined in the guideline) only under certain conditions. Confidential information shared outside of these exempted conditions, be that with a Related Electricity Service Provider (**RESP**) or competitor, must be listed on a publicly available Information Sharing Register (the **register**).

In accordance with the information sharing provisions, the guideline requires SA Power Networks (**us** and **we**) to develop an information sharing protocol. This protocol outlines the circumstances under which the provision of confidential information, both to RESPs of SA Power Networks (**SAPN**) and to other legal entities (as defined in the guideline), will require inclusion on the register. The operation of the register is described in this protocol.

Except for the points covered in section 1.2.2.3 of this protocol, we must provide access on an equal basis to confidential information disclosed to a RESP, including derived information, to a legal entity where:

- The legal entity has requested to be included on the register for information of that kind; and
- The legal entity is competing or is seeking to compete with us or a RESP in relation to the provision of contestable electricity services.

It should be noted that by definition, the above excludes information provided in relation to other non-electricity services, as these are not contestable electricity services.

SAPN believes that it is not obligated to share all confidential information with any legal entity, including affiliates, and while we will abide by Section 4.3.4 of the guideline, 'Sharing of Information', we reserve the right to deny information requests on that basis.

## 1.2. Scope

This protocol only relates to confidential information as defined in the guideline under section 4.3.1, and electricity information as defined in section 1.4. We will not provide any confidential information to another legal entity (including affiliates) unless they meet the requirements of section 4.3.4 of the guideline.

This protocol does not cover any obligations to comply with the Privacy Act, fees for information, or replace any existing policies, procedures or guidelines for providing information that are not covered under the AER Ring-fencing Guideline.

### 1.2.1. Register inclusions

We will include on the register requests for information and a broad description of the kind of information shared as required by the guideline.

Confidential information that we will provide may include:

- types of non-public network quality information;
- network asset loadings downstream of zone substations;
- aggregated customer consumption profiles;
- types of non-public, non-personal tariff information; and
- other information that meets the guideline's definition.

### 1.2.2. Register exclusions

#### 1.2.2.1. Network connection electricity information

Network connection electricity information is network information provided to customers or generator developers (or their representatives) to facilitate their network connection.



Developers typically need this information to design their development and to ensure they can comply with regulatory and technical requirements.

Network connection electricity information of this type will not be made available via the information register because:

- it is only needed by the connection proponent or its representative;
- the information only relates to network assets at a specific location and is unlikely to be useful to parties not involved in that connection; and
- notifying all parties on the register that the information has been requested, and then providing the information to all registered parties, could interfere with closed or confidential connection tender processes

Current protocols for the types of requests described above will continue, and do not breach ring-fencing compliance obligations.

As stipulated in section 4.1 of the guideline, subject to section 4.3.3(b) of the guideline, we will not disclose confidential information that we have obtained through our dealings with a competitor (or potential competitor) of a RESP where the disclosure would, or would be likely to, provide an advantage to the RESP.

#### 1.2.2.2. Publicly available information

Existing information services relating to outages (current and planned) and other publicly available information will continue to be available on our website and through other mediums and will not be included in this protocol.

#### 1.2.2.3. Exceptions under the guideline

Per the guideline exceptions under section 4.3.3 of the guideline, information provided under the following situations will not be placed on the register:

- we have first obtained the explicit informed consent of the relevant customer, or prospective customer, to whom the confidential information relates;
- the disclosure is required by, or is for the purpose of, complying with any law;
- the disclosure is necessary to enable us to provide distribution services, transmission services, or other services (including by acquiring services from other legal entities);
- the information has been requested by, or on behalf of, a customer, or potential customer, of another legal entity, and the disclosure is necessary to enable the legal entity to provide its transmission services, contestable electricity services or other services to the customer or potential customer;
- the disclosure is solely for the purpose of providing assistance to another Network Service Provider in response to an event (such as an emergency) that is beyond the other Network Service Provider's reasonable control; or
- the disclosure is solely for the purposes of research by a legal entity other than a RESP, and that legal entity does not subsequently share the information with our affiliate(s).

## 2. Information Register Compliance

SAPN will comply with the guideline in regards to maintaining an Information Sharing Register.

Subject to the guideline clause 4.3.4(b), if another legal entity requests that it be placed on the register to receive confidential information, we will assess the request in regard to eligibility. If eligible, and we have previously supplied that information to another legal entity, we will also provide access to the information to the requestor. If we have not previously supplied the information to another legal entity but we are prepared to supply the information in this case, we will add the request to the register and supply the

information to the requestor. We will also provide access to the information to other entities who have been previously placed on the register for information of that kind.

If we charge a fee for confidential information we will also charge a fee to other legal entities who wish to be provided with the same information.

According to the guideline clause 4.3.4(e), where we provide information to another legal entity, it will be according to terms and conditions that requires them to comply with relevant parts of the guideline and other confidential and privacy obligations.

## 3. How to Apply for Confidential Information

### 3.1. Website

Other legal entities may apply to be added to the register, and/or receive confidential information via our website [Corporate information](#) page.

We will require the following details:

- a registered business name and ABN;
- the market(s) in which you compete or are seeking to compete with us or an affiliate of ours, that are contestable electricity services;
- a description of the kind of information you would like to receive;
- a justification for the request for information;
- an email address to receive the eligible confidential information; and
- a contact number

Your business name and a broad description of your request will be made public on the register.

You will receive the information in an agreed electronic format.