

Connection Policy and Distribution Pricing Scheme

Access Arrangement Policy Webinar

September 2026





Western Power acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet, the Whadjuk people, and recognises their continuing connection to the land, water and community. We also pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

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Introduction

The current **Applications and Queuing Policy (AQP)** and **Distribution Low Voltage Connection Scheme (DLVCS)** were developed decades ago for a connection environment that was very different to the market Western Power serves today.

The proposed new **Connection Policy**, addresses connection policy for both transmission and distribution with clear provisions for each and reflects the connections process changes from the past few years.

The proposed **Distribution Pricing Scheme**, is a much simpler and clearer model that addresses the range of connection pathways, customer configurations, and the charging arrangements now required.

Both policies support a more **equitable, transparent** and **coordinated approach** to connection assessment and distribution connection pricing. And we have focussed on simplicity.

Importantly, these new policies are developed to **provide clarity** on customer rights, process, and charging methodologies going forward. Part of this is ensuring the new policies are **sufficiently flexible** to accommodate WA's energy future.



Connection Policy



Prioritise connection-ready projects

Focus effort on proponents that are ready, willing and able to proceed.



Improve transparency and confidence

Apply consistent, evidence-based criteria for transmission connections, based on readiness, and a clear distribution approach.



Align with current practice

Reflecting the past few years of connections process reform.



Support WA's energy transition

With a modern policy framework that aligns with State Government objectives and Western Power's strategic commitments.

Distribution Pricing Scheme



Improve customer experience

With faster headworks processes, less rework and more upfront certainty for customers.



Simplify the methodology

With less complexity, less process iterations, and consistent outcomes for similar projects.



Enable upfront cost visibility

Provide clearer pricing and timeframes early, while ensuring fairness and transparency.



Reduce processing burden

Supported by self-service tools and streamlined workflows to lower administrative and engineering load for high-volume simple applications.

AA6 timeline



Consultation timeline



Sept 7

Western Power's policy consultation starts

Connection Policy and Distribution Pricing Scheme is open for consultation on Western Power Access Arrangement webpage

Oct 5

Western Power's policy consultation ends

Submit your feedback in writing by 5pm Monday 5 October, via AA6@westernpower.com.au

**Nov –
Dec**

Policies are finalised based on feedback and insights

Western Power will prepare the final policies and develop a feedback and insights report to be issued along with the final submission

2027

Policies are formally submitted to the ERA

Western Power will formally submit the policies and feedback report to the Economic Regulatory Authority by 1st February 2027

New Connections Policy

The new Connections Policy:

- ✓ Drafted in simple, user-friendly language and structure
- ✓ Includes a transmission chapter, addressing current state (e.g. new major customer process, critical projects, readiness)
- ✓ Includes a new distribution chapter, creating clarity for distribution
- ✓ Meets ENAC requirements

From the previous AQP, it has:

- ✗ Removed outdated, or unused content
- ✗ Reduced repetition
- ✗ Removed content in other legs, regs, guidelines

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New Distribution Pricing Scheme

The new Distribution Pricing Scheme:

- ✓ Drafted in simple, user-friendly language and structure
- ✓ Sets clear connection types, as standard and non-standard
- ✓ Defines clear provisions for customer eligibility and contribution
- ✓ Better meets ENAC requirements and scheme objectives

From the previous DLVCS, it has:

- ✗ Reduced pricing uncertainty
- ✗ Removed complex provisions within the method

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How to provide feedback

Review the draft policy documents:

- Connections Policy, formerly Application and Queuing Policy
- Distribution Pricing Scheme, formerly Distribution and Low Voltage Connection Scheme

Please ensure that you:

- Refer to the policy that you are commenting on
- Provide clear, written feedback that we can take on board
- General feedback is welcome! As is commentary on specific components

Provide your feedback or make your written submission via email at:

- AA6@westernpower.com.au

You can find each policy here:

- <https://www.westernpower.com.au/about/what-we-do/regulation/access-arrangements/>



Q&A

Polices are live at <https://www.westernpower.com.au/about/what-we-do/regulation/access-arrangements/>

Make a written submission or presentation via email at: AA6@westernpower.com.au

Late submissions or presentations can not be considered.