

## Technical Rules General Conditional Exemption Notification

### Clause 3.6.7.2 Main Switch requirements

Technical Rules (**Rules**) clause 3.6.7.2 outlines the main switch requirements for *small generating units* and groups of *small generating units* of aggregate rated capacity up to 10MW. The purpose of the clause is to provide appropriate switch arrangement, fault protection response and isolation point(s) for network personnel. Where a *User/Generator* proposes to vary Rules clause 3.6.7.2, Western Power ordinarily requires a Rules exemption request to be submitted.

The Rules clause 3.6.7.2(a) calls for a single customer main switch in addition to individual Generator main switch(es) combined protection functionality integral to modern *inverter coupled generating units* allows for some of the requirements of the *Rules* clause 3.6.7.2 to be revised (in accordance with the sections 12.33 to 12.39 of the *Electricity Networks Access Code 2004*). Provided the *User/Generator* meets the conditions outlined below, an exemption will be registered against the requested *connection point*.

### Conditions for Exemption

For *Users/Generators* to be considered for an automatic exemption, the *User/Generator* must be:

- Connected to the distribution system via a low voltage *connection point*;
- Inverter coupled and certified compliant with AS/NZS 4777 requirements;
- Of rated aggregate capacity between 30 kVA and 1 MVA and not exceed *connection point* supply capability; and
- Requesting consideration under this general exemption at the time of application.

Under this exemption, the Rules clause 3.6.7.2 (a) is modified for the *User/Generator* only, and it now states:

#### 3.6.7.2 (a)

“Each *facility* at which a *generating unit* in a *small power station* is connected to the *distribution system* must contain one main switch provided by the *User* for each *connection point* and one main switch for each *generating unit*, where a *generating unit* shares a *connection point* with other *generating units* or *loads*. **Alternative arrangements comprising of clearly labelled multiple main switches will be accepted, provided response to faults on the network or on the *User’s* installation is not adversely affected by this change.** For larger installations, additional *connection points* and main switches or a dedicated feeder may be required.”

The *User/Generator* must continue to be compliant with all other applicable *Rules*, regulations, standards and network requirements, where no additional exemptions have been granted. If the conditions listed above have not been met to Western Power’s (as the *Network Service Provider*) satisfaction, the *User/Generator* will not be eligible for an automatic exemption and *Rules* clause 3.6 will apply in its entirety.



## Assessment

*Users/Generators* that request consideration, and are eligible in accordance with the outlined conditions, will be individually assessed and granted the exemption in the course of applying for connection. The exemptions will apply at the *connection point*, be granted to the *connection point* owner and remain conditional on all other applicable *Rules* and *connection agreement* requirements being met.