

PDRS Reference Table

September 2026

The *Peak Demand Reduction Scheme (Amendment No. 3) Rule 2026* commences on **7 September 2026**. Detailed changes are set out in the table below.

Change	Details and impact	What you need to do
All activities		
Defined requirements for Exempt Energy Programs (EEPs) in Clause 6.12	The new clause provides for Ministerial approval of an initiative as an EEP, including imposing, varying and revoking any conditions of approval, and revoking approval. . Definition in Clause 10.1 updated to reference the new clause.	No action required. Stay up to date with notices published by IPART and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water on how EEP programs will operate.
Reducing Demand Using Efficiency Method		
Removed the minimum Cooling Capacity threshold – Activity Definition HVAC2 – Eligibility Requirement 1	Air conditioners with less than 30kW that are not multi-split systems are now eligible under F4. <i>Note: a new clause allows energy savings from HVAC2 implementations from 1 July to 6 September 2026 to be calculated using the previous or new version of the Rule – see details below.</i>	Review Eligibility Requirement 1 and update your internal systems and processes to meet eligibility requirements and hold appropriate evidence.
Specified eligibility of small Single-Split or Ducted air conditioners – Activity Definition HVAC2 – Eligibility Requirement 2	New or replacement Multi-split Systems from Product Classes 20, 21 or 27 in the GEMS Registry must have cooling capacity of at least 30kW to be eligible.	Review the new Eligibility Requirement 2 and update your internal systems and processes to make sure you can evidence that new or replacement Multi-split Systems meet the minimum cooling capacity requirement.
Revised Activity Definition HVAC2 – Equipment Requirements and Activity Peak Demand Savings Capacity to align with the new Eligibility Requirement 2	References to Product Classes 18 and 19 in the GEMS Registry removed from the following to align with the new Eligibility Requirement 2: - Equipment Requirements 1 and 6 - Tables HVAC2.1 and HVAC2.2.	Update your internal systems and processes to make sure only eligible products are offered to consumers.
Store and Shift Capacity Method		
Clarified minimum payments for BESS3 and BESS4 apply per implementation – Clauses 8.1.7(f) and 8.1.13(f)	Minimum payment requirements for BESS3 and BESS4 apply per implementation – not per item of End-User Equipment (EUE).	Check your internal systems, templates and processes to collect minimum payments on a per implementation basis.
Clarified which EUE must be on an approved list – Activity Definitions BESS1, BESS3 and BESS4 – Equipment Requirement 1	Clarifies that only batteries must be listed on approved product list specified by the Scheme Administrator.	No action required

Change	Details and impact	What you need to do
Clarified battery to inverter ratios – Activity Definitions BESS3, BESS4, BESS5	Usable Battery Capacity of EUE is measured in kWh and must not exceed six times the Battery Inverter Output of EUE in kW .	Understand and make sure EUE meets the requirement.
Updated eligibility requirement to allow installation of additional battery capacity – Activity Definition BESS3 – Eligibility Requirement 2	Additional capacity can be added to an existing battery. A BESS3 Implementation must not have previously been conducted at the Site.	Review Eligibility Requirement 2 and update your internal systems and processes to make sure you can evidence that no BESS3 implementation has previously been undertaken at the site.
Clarified electricity supply requirements – Activity Definition BESS3 – Implementation Requirement 6	Clarifies that the EUE installed must supply electricity to common property loads and/or be capable of supplying multiple dwellings.	Review the requirement and update your internal systems and processes to meet eligibility requirements and hold appropriate evidence.
Clarified that New Solar Photovoltaic Capacity is not required for all implementations – Activity Definitions BESS4 and BESS5 – Equipment Requirement 4	Clarifies that Equipment Requirement 4 only applies when EUE is installed within 90 days of New Solar Photovoltaic Capacity.	Understand the requirement for the equations to be used to calculate certificates.
Clarified UL9540A performance criteria – Activity Definition BESS5, Eligibility Requirement 1	Clarifies that batteries installed under BESS5 must be tested and pass the performance criteria in accordance with UL9540A in a manner specified by the Scheme Administrator.	Review Eligibility Requirement 1 and update your internal systems and processes to meet eligibility requirements and hold appropriate evidence.
Clarified that EUE must be installed Behind the Meter – Activity Definition BESS5 – Implementation Requirement 1	Makes clear that EUE must be installed Behind the Meter.	Review Eligibility Requirement 1 and update your internal systems and processes to meet eligibility requirements and hold appropriate evidence.
Household Annual Demand Response Method		
Updated eligibility requirement relating to life support equipment – Activity Definition BESS2 – Eligibility Requirement 2	Updated to require that <i>Registered</i> Life Support Equipment must not be used at the site, reflecting the new definition in Clause 10 (see below). Non-registered equipment such as CPAP machines may be used.	Understand the change and update internal systems and processes to reflect the changed requirement.
Other administrative changes		
Definition of <i>Life Support Equipment</i> deleted and new <i>Registered Life Support Equipment</i> definition added – Clause 10 – Definitions and Interpretation	New definition <i>Registered Life Support Equipment</i> added to clarify that life support equipment that must not be used at the site under BESS2 has the same meaning as in the <i>National Energy Retail Rules</i> under the <i>National Energy Retail Law (NSW)</i> and has been registered with an electricity retailer or Network Service Provider.	Understand the equipment that must not be used on Site and update internal systems and processes to ensure implementations meet BESS2 Eligibility Requirement 2.
Amended definitions – Clause 10 – Definitions and Interpretation	<i>Exempt Energy Program</i> (EEP) definition now references new clause 6.12 <i>Nominal Battery Capacity</i> definition updated for BESS5 and battery systems with more than one battery Redundant <i>Voluntarily Scheduled Resource</i> definition removed	Understand the definition of Nominal Battery Capacity and update internal systems and processes to ensure it is used correctly when calculating Usable Battery Capacity. No action required for EEP and Voluntarily Scheduled Resource definitions.

Change	Details and impact	What you need to do
Transitional arrangements		
Added a saving provision for Activity Definition HVAC2 – HVAC2 implementations with an Implementation Date from 1 July to 6 September 2026 may use the current or previous Rule when calculating peak demand reduction capacity – Clause 11.13	Peak Demand Reduction Capacity may be calculated using either the <i>Peak Demand Reduction Scheme (Amendment No.2) Rule 2026</i> or <i>Peak Demand Reduction Scheme (Amendment No.3)</i> for HVAC2 implementations with an Implementation Date on or after 1 July and on or before 6 September 2026.	Use the previous or new version of the PDRS Rule to calculate PRCs for HVAC2 implementations from 1 July to 6 September 2026. Use the new version of the PDRS Rule to calculate PRCs for HVAC2 implementations on or after 7 September 2026.

Acronyms

BESS1 – Install a battery (single dwelling residential and small business), BESS2 – Install a battery (with a Demand Response Aggregator), BESS3 – Install a battery (apartments), BESS4 – Install a battery (small and medium businesses), BESS5 – Install a battery (commercial and industrial businesses), HVAC1 – Install or replace an air conditioner with a high efficiency air conditioner (residential or small business), HVAC2 – Install or replace an air conditioner with a high efficiency air conditioner (non-residential)