



Part of the Energy Queensland Group



Operational Update

EQL Contestable Works Process Change – Enquiry Stage

Issue # C-0055 – 16/01/2024

Target Audience

EQL Accredited Service Providers – Consultants

Introduction

Contestable Works are implementing a process change regarding new project applications. This supports EQL's continued alignment of Energex and Ergon Energy within Contestable Works and the wider business. The objective of this Operational Update is to align ASP - Consultants in the submission of the application pack information, which will be required at an earlier stage.

Consultants will be required to provide project specific information upfront in an enquiry/concept stage. This process change will assist in gathering vital information for evaluating applications to provide planning advice in a timely manner, reduce rework and avoid non-compliant designs.

Note: Projects that meet the requirements for a small lot subdivision and projects that have previously approved stages on master planned developments can go straight to application stage.

Overview

EQL has identified significant differences between the information provided by the ASP Consultants. To address this issue, EQL will now require additional information for relevant projects in the enquiry/concept stage. This change will further align the submission of new project applications.

Currently there are multiple ways in which projects and information are submitted, depending on the Consultant and geographical location. This approach is contributing to an increased workload and delaying timeframe for the DNSP to make an offer. This process change will ensure that any network augmentation or design alteration requirements are provided upfront before the project progresses to the offer stage.

To enable us to create the necessary internal Work Orders in each DNSP to progress your enquiry, and where necessary engage internal stakeholders under the new process, it is still required that;

- **Ergon Energy** enquiries will be required to request a Works Request number prior to submitting any documentation.
- **Energex** enquiries will be required to allocate a project number (SXXXXXXX) from your pre-assigned allocation.

You will then be required to submit the following relevant project information at the enquiry stage.

- A .dxf or .dwg file & PDF's containing the lot layout.
- High Voltage (HV) concept plan (HV schematic), major electrical assets (Cable size, conduit arrangement transformers, switching assets etc)
- Locations of HV and Low Voltage (LV) coupling points to the existing network.
- Access Tracks.
- Civil & Hydraulic design if conflicts are identified.

- Development Master Plan –Staging plan, multiple developers /developments abutting and/or sharing the same HV & LV feeders.
- Community Title Development - Overall Master Concept – Survey Plan, Architectural layout, including building design driveway locations, common property, landscaping plan, other utility assets, possible clashes with Energex Assets, Civil design drawings, hydraulic design, solar if being proposed by the developer or builder if known.
- Anticipated completion dates of the electrical works to be gifted to the DNSP.
- A copy of the LGA's Decision Notice.

The project will then be assigned to the relevant Contestable Technical Officer who will assess the information provided to confirm viability to progress the enquiry. Once it has been established sufficient information has been supplied, the Technical Officer will, where necessary, seek advice from internal stakeholders. The relevant information and connection conditions will be communicated back to the consultant where applicable.

The amended process will support all stakeholders in identifying design constraints early in the projects concept, meeting the relevant DNSP's network security requirements, validating project feasibility while ensuring efficiencies and negating unforeseen rework. These benefits will occur prior to the application for a SESA/PLSA (Energex) or NCEC (Ergon).

New Requirements

New project applications in both **Ergon Energy and Energex** will now be required to contain the above outlined information as a minimum at the Enquiry stage. While at times more information may be requested as we see is applicable to assess your enquiry, we do rely on you as industry experts to determine if additional information will assist us in our assessment. All network planning and augmentation requirements will then be assessed, and a scope of work developed, before lodging the Connection Application.

Summary

Providing this essential information at an initial stage, will enable our EQL Contestable Technical Officers to prepare relevant reports that will assist in aligning your design with network requirements. These changes will have the additional benefit of closer alignment of both DNSP's, a more streamlined process and will assist in reducing network connection timeframes at project completion.

Implementation Date:

These changes are effective from **5th February 2024** for all new projects, or where a new NCEC, SESA or PLSA is required for an existing project.

For more information contact:

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