

Electricity Reform Act 2000

SECTION 87 EXEMPTION – VIRTUAL POWER PLANTS

1. In this exemption, the term virtual power plant (VPP) means multiple electricity generating plants, including energy storage systems, located at different sites that work together under centralised control.
2. This exemption applies to a person who operates a VPP where the maximum combined capacity of the electricity generating plant under the control of the VPP operator is two megawatts (2 MW) or less (small VPP).
3. Pursuant to sections 14(2) and 87 of the *Electricity Reform Act 2000* (the Act), a person who operates a small VPP is exempt from the requirement to hold a licence for the generation of electricity and selling electricity in relation to the small VPP.
4. In accordance with section 87(1) of the Act, the exemption granted in this document is subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - (a) the exempt person must register their existing small VPP operations with the Commission in accordance with section 5 below no less than 3 months from commencement of this exemption or, for new small VPP operations, within 3 months from commencement of those operations;
 - (b) electricity generated by the VPP must either be used at the site at which it is generated or an adjoining site or sold under contract to a licensed electricity entity;
 - (c) any other electricity services provided by the VPP, for example essential system services, must be sold under contract to a licensed electricity entity;
 - (d) the exempt person must comply with directions from a person licensed under Part 3 of the Act to exercise system control over the power system (where relevant);
 - (e) the exempt person must comply with all relevant requirements under technical codes established under Division 2A of the Act;
 - (f) the exempt person must comply with all relevant safety and technical requirements of the Act, the *Electrical Safety Act 2022* and associated regulations; and
 - (g) the exempt person must, from time to time, provide the Commission, in a manner and form and timeframe to be determined by the Commission, such information as the Commission may request in the performance of its functions under any applicable laws.
5. Registration is to be made by email to utilities.commission@nt.gov.au providing the following information:
 - (a) full legal name and ABN/ACN of the exempt person;
 - (b) name, title and contact details (telephone, email) of a nominated and alternative contact officer on behalf of the exempt person;
 - (c) details of the VPP operations, including total combined capacity of electricity generating plant; and

- (d) details of the parties contracted to buy electricity and other services provided by the VPP.
- 6. If a person operating a small VPP fails to adhere to the conditions of this exemption, that person and their VPP operations are not covered by this exemption and that person will be operating without a licence, which may result in a penalty under the Act.
- 7. Under section 87(3) of the Act, this exemption document may be varied or revoked by the Commission, with the approval of the Minister, by notice in writing.
- 8. This exemption document will remain in force until it is varied or revoked by the Commission by notice in writing.

Date: 25 November 2024

THE COMMON SEAL of UTILITIES)
COMMISSION is duly affixed in the)
presence of:)

Kimberlee McKay
Signature of authorised person

DIRECTOR Utilities Commission
Office held

Kimberlee McKay
Name of authorised person (block letters)



Approved, in accordance with section 87 of the *Electricity Reform Act 2000*:

[Signature]
Hon Gerard Maley
Minister for Mining and Energy

- 6 NOV 2024