

Alert Details: SA41 - Unregistered Distributed Generation

Date of Alert: 31/5/2024

Description:

Through an audit process, it has been identified that several ICPs connected to the Aurora Energy network are either not on the electricity registry as exporting energy to the network or have not lodged a distributed generation application form with Aurora Energy and therefore may be exporting energy through a connection that has not been inspected.

The risk is that the Distribution Generation connections are not set up correctly and during a power outage continue to generate to the network, placing people working on the network at risk.

Potential causes

1. Installation tested, livened & inspected, but the inspector's livening report is either late or forgotten.
2. Installing DG systems, without any knowledge or regard to the application/inspection process, I.E. no application received, so Aurora Energy is unaware of the Distributed Generation installation.
3. Accidental omission of the update to ICP connection database and Electricity Registry, when processing the Inspector's report.

Recommendations / Actions / Controls

Aurora Energy Controls

- [Regular ICP connection database and Electricity Registry audit of ICP's with DG applications to identify unregistered connections](#). Regular ICP connection database and Electricity Registry audit of ICP's with Distributed Generation applications to identify unregistered connections.
- Tracking of the CIW portal to identify where applications have not been finalised.
- Guidance on the Aurora Energy website outlining the correct process ([Solar and distributed energy connections \(auroraenergy.co.nz\)](https://www.auroraenergy.co.nz)).
- Network Approved Inspectors who inspect the connections to ensure they are connected safely and register the connection correctly & in a timely manner.
- Regular meetings with Network Approved Inspectors

Contractors / Inspectors

- Ensure timely reporting once Distributed Generation installations have been tested and livened.

Ensure that LV work methods have considered the risk of livening from distributed generation sources and that appropriate controls are in place.

Contact Details

Contact name for more information

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