

Information guide

Acronyms and Terms in the Retail Market V1.0

Introduction

1. This information paper outlines a list of commonly used acronyms and terms used in the retail electricity market and their corresponding meaning.
2. This is not an exhaustive list and this paper will be updated as new acronyms and terms are introduced.

Commonly used acronyms and terms

Acronym	In full	Explanation
AM	Administration Manager	The administrator under the previous market arrangement MARIA.
CFL	Compact fluorescent light	An energy efficient light bulb.
CA	Conveyance Agreement	An agreement between an electricity distributor and electricity retailer where both the distributor and retailer have a direct relationship with the consumer. The distributor provides delivery services to the consumer and the retailer sells electricity to the consumer.
Commission	Electricity Commission	A crown entity that is responsible for providing oversight of the operation and governance of the electricity market in accordance with the rules and regulations under the Electricity Act 1992.
COP	Code of Practice	A code of practice pursuant to the rules.
DA	Data Administrator	A person responsible for collecting and processing metering data.
ECWP	Existing Capabilities Working Panel	A panel set up under the Load Management workstream to look at the existing capabilities in the market for load management.
EECA	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority	A government agency which works to bring about voluntary changes of behaviour to implement Government strategies for energy efficiency and conservation in both the private and public sectors.

Acronym	In full	Explanation
EEPS	Electricity Efficiency Potentials Study	A study to measure efficiency gains, costs to realise achievable electricity efficiency and mechanisms for realising achievable potential.
EGCC	Electricity and Gas Complaints Commission.	Formerly the Electricity Complaints Commission, this is an organisation that provides an independent dispute resolution service for consumer complaints about electricity lines, gas supply and gas or electricity retail companies in New Zealand.
EGR Committee	Electricity Governance Regulations and Rules Committee	A committee of the Electricity Commission Board, responsible for overseeing minor rule changes, the exemptions process and rule breaches.
EIEP	Electricity Information Exchange Protocols	Defined protocols for the exchange of information between Retailers and Distributors (retailer to retailer, retailer to distributor, and distributor to retailer).
EMS	Energy Market Services Limited	Service Provider that holds the Reconciliation Manager agreement with the Electricity Commission. Also known as the RM (or NRM in the previous market arrangement MARIA). This company was previously named d-cypha.
ENA	Electricity Networks Association	An association that represents the interests of the 24 organisations that distribute electricity to consumers throughout New Zealand, known as the lines sector.
DRIEPS	Distributor Retailer Information Exchange Protocols Subgroup	Subgroup originally under MARIA, reformed as a subgroup of the MDA Review Panel to review the information exchange protocols (EIEP). The subgroup completed its review of the protocols in February 2006.
GIP	Grid Injection Point	A point of connection on the grid where electricity may flow into the grid.
GPS	Government Policy Statement	Government Policy Statement on Electricity Governance October 2004
GXP	Grid Exit Point	Point of connection on the grid where electricity may flow out of the grid or as determined by the Board following an application under rule 4 of section II of part G.

Acronym	In full	Explanation
HHR	Half Hourly	An 'HHR meter' records electricity consumption for every half hour of a period. Also known as an interval meter. 'HHR data' is a record of electricity consumption for every half hour of a period.
HRPT	Historical Reconciliation Project Team	A MARIA project team that was responsible for overseeing the historical reconciliation project.
ICP	Installation Control Point	Means a point of connection on a local network or embedded network which the distributor nominates as the point at which a retailer will be deemed to supply electricity to a consumer, and has the attributes set out in rule 1 of schedule E2 of part E.
	Interposed Agreement	An agreement between an electricity distributor and an electricity retailer where the retailer has a direct relationship with the consumer. The distributor provides delivery services to the retailer and the retailer sells electricity to the consumer.
kWh	Kilowatt-hours	The amount of energy flowing through a gateway (your meter) over an hour to supply a load of 1kW.
LMWP	Load Management Work Programme	A programme of work set up under the Load Management workstream to determine the optimal load management infrastructure.
	Load management	For the purposes of the ECWP this is defined as all load controlled by signals for existing central transmitters but excluding consumer discretionary load determined in real time.
MA	Market Administrator	Prior to 1 December 2004 this was the service provider that holds the Market Administrator agreement with the Electricity Commission. Post 1 December 2004 the MA is the Electricity Commission.
MARIA	Metering and Reconciliation Information Agreement	Retail electricity market rules and governance arrangement pre-1 March 2004.
MDA Review Panel	Model Distribution Arrangements Review Panel	Electricity Commission Review Panel to review the MDAP agreements.
MDAP	Model Distribution Arrangements Project	MARIA Project to develop model interposed and conveyance agreements for distribution services.

Acronym	In full	Explanation
MED	Ministry of Economic Development	A government agency tasked with the productions and co-ordination of economic, regional and industrial development.
MGB	MARIA Governance Board	Governance Board of retail electricity market pre-Electricity Commission.
MRP	Mighty River Power	A market participant.
MRWG	MARIA Metering and Reconciliation Working Group	MARIA working group that considered metering, reconciliation and switching issues.
MW	Megawatt	Means a thousand kilowatts of electrical power.
NEECS	National Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy	A national strategy that promotes energy efficiency, energy conservation and renewable energy with the context of a sustainable energy future.
NHH	Non Half Hourly	A 'NHH meter' records electricity consumption at less than half hourly intervals, and as usually a single cumulative quantity. Often known as a simple or basic meter. 'NHH data' is a cumulative record of electricity consumption for a period.
NSP	Network Supply Point	Means a point of connection between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A local network and the grid; b) Two local networks; or c) A local network and an embedded network.
NZEM	New Zealand Electricity Market	The wholesale electricity market pre-1 March 2004.
PAWG	Pricing Approaches Working Group	A working group of the Electricity Networks Association (ENA) which has developed model approaches to distribution pricing by defining principles, methodologies and frameworks.
Regulations	Electricity Governance Regulations (2003)	The regulations provide for monitoring and enforcement of the Rules.
RIPT	Reconciliation Implementation Project Team	This Project team is tasked with the implementation of the reconciliation rules and processes, to ensure they occur in a timely and cost effective manner.
RM	Reconciliation Manager	Service Provider that holds the Reconciliation Manager agreement with the Electricity Commission.

Acronym	In full	Explanation
RMAG	Retail Market Advisory Group	The RMAG is the advisory group for the retail electricity market.
RPSG	Reconciliation Project Steering Group	The purpose of the RPSG is to act as a steering committee and oversee the RIPT in their management of the implementation of the reconciliation recommendations.
RPT	Reconciliation Project Team	Electricity Commission Reconciliation Project Team. This project team is tasked with the management of the successful implementation of the reconciliation recommendations of the Reconciliation Implementation Steering Group (RISG) to ensure that the recommendations for reconciliation are implemented in a timely, efficient and cost effective manner.
RRPT	Registry Review Project Team	Electricity Commission Project Team tasked with considering various registry review conclusions/recommendations and the suggested enhancements carried forward from the Registry Upgrade Project.
Rules	Electricity Governance Rules (2003)	The rules that provide for the operation of the New Zealand electricity industry.
SDFG	Standing Data Formats Group	The SDFG review any suggestions made by the participants to the electricity information exchange protocols. It also reviews the protocols to ensure they are current with new technology and industry advancement.
SDPA	Sustainable Development Program of Action	A United Nations initiative derived from the Kyoto Protocol, which has been incorporated into government policy.
SRDGS	Switching Reconciliation of Distributed Generation Subgroup	MARIA work stream responsible for considering the recommendations of the MARIA Reconciliation Project Team on the switching and reconciliation of distributed generation.
TAG	Transmission Advisory Group	The TAG is an advisory group tasked with providing advice regarding rule changes and affecting part F of the Rules. The group also provides comment on the impact of proposals made by other advisory groups to transmission.
TH	Approved Test House	This is a meter testing and calibration facility that has been approved by the MA in accordance with the rules.

Acronym	In full	Explanation
TOU	Time of Use Meters	A time of use meter measures the electricity consumed for a particular period – usually half-hourly.
TPAG	Transmission Pricing Advisory Group	The TPAG is an advisory group that provides advice on the pricing methodology made by Transpower.
UFE	Unaccounted for Electricity	The difference between the quantity of electricity injected into the network and the quantity used after adjustment for losses.
UOSA	Use of System Agreement	Agreements that cover retailers' arrangements with distribution companies for local distribution services can be Interposed or Conveyance Agreements.
WMAG	Wholesale Market Advisory Group	The RMAG is the advisory group for the wholesale electricity market.
XML	Extensible Markup Language	A flexible text format language used to deliver information in a format that can be used for the manipulation of data in databases.

Sources of information

If you require further information on any of these acronyms and terms, or further assistance, please contact the market administrator:

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