

<b>Title</b>	<b>Respond to electricity supply external system operations communications</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>5</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	People credited with this unit standard are able to: process incoming information; communicate interruption information; and coordinate operations at the power system interface.
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<b>Classification</b>	Electricity Supply > Electricity Supply – Power System Management
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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### Guidance Information

- 1 Evidence presented for assessment against this unit standard must be consistent with safe working practices and be in accordance with applicable legislative and industry requirements.
- 2 Legislation, regulations and/or industry standards relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to
  - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
  - Electricity Act 1992;
  - Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010;
  - Electricity supply industry codes of practice and documented enterprise procedures, including *Safety Manual – Electricity Industry (SM-EI)* and EEA Guide *Switching Instructions and Communications 2019* available from [www.eea.co.nz](http://www.eea.co.nz);
 and any subsequent amendments and replacements.
- 3 Definitions
 

*Asset owner* refers to a participant who owns or operates assets used for generating or conveying electricity.

*Industry requirements* include all asset owner requirements and standards; manufacturers' specifications; and enterprise requirements which cover the documented workplace policies, procedures, specifications, business, and quality management requirements relevant to the workplace in which assessment is carried out.

*Power system interface* refers to the interface between the network operator and the field staff.

*SCADA* – Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system used for control, indication, and monitoring purposes.

*Switching instruction* is a planned sequence of operating actions (or a single action) that has been compiled in an approved format. It can also be referred to as an operating order or operating sequence.

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## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Process incoming information.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 Incoming external information is received and forwarded for internal action.
- Range may include but is not limited to – loss of supply, faults, equipment damage, car hits, animals up poles, report urgency classified, reporting, asset owner procedures.
- 1.2 Urgency implications of external communications for network security are determined and documented for reporting purposes.
- Range may include but is not limited to – priority of action required, bomb threats, risk to equipment, risk to life, timeframe specified by asset owner guidelines, reporting to supervising officer.
- 1.3 The interpretation of information is clarified in consultation with others where required.
- Range may include but is not limited to – consultation with system controllers, supervising officer, release coordinator, system operations manager.

### Outcome 2

Communicate interruption information.

#### Performance criteria

- 2.1 Planned interruptions are documented and forwarded for approval by network control centre in accordance with network operating standards and timeframe.
- Range may include but is not limited to – request received with adequate lead-time, implications of the planned interruption evaluated.
- 2.2 Contractors are advised promptly of acceptance or rejection of release of network equipment to carry out work associated with interruption.
- Range may include but is not limited to – non-acceptance reasons, alternate dates and times, acceptance limitations or conditions.
- 2.3 Customers affected by planned power interruptions are consulted without delay.
- Range may include but is not limited to – communication by letter, public notice, letterbox drop, broadcast radio, phone consultation.

**Outcome 3**

Coordinate operations at the power system interface.

**Performance criteria**

- 3.1 Scheduled interruptions and/or forced outages are coordinated and take place within timeframe slots provided or by agreements.
- Range may include but is not limited to – asset owner guidelines or customer guarantee.
- 3.2 All work requests requiring a common power system interruption are coordinated into a single outage.
- Range may include but is not limited to – rationalise concurrent work requests into single outage where compatible activities allow.
- 3.3 The implications of unavailability of the SCADA equipment when approving requests for planned interruptions are considered for maintaining operational security.
- Range may include but is not limited to – unavailability of metering, protection, load control, ancillary indication.
- 3.4 Checks are carried out to ensure planned interruptions do not conflict with each other.
- Range may include but is not limited to – scope of work equipment affected, timeframe.
- 3.5 Details of switching instructions are confirmed with the operator prior to actioning switching operations.
- Range may include but is not limited to – work approval details.
- 3.6 Communication is maintained with contractor at agreed intervals to monitor progress and status of work, until work at power system interface is completed.
- Range may include but is not limited to – live line work communications, progress reports, test requests.

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<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2026
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**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	3 August 1999	31 December 2018
Revision	2	11 February 2004	31 December 2018
Rollover and Revision	3	26 November 2007	31 December 2018
Review	4	16 April 2010	31 December 2019
Review	5	16 March 2017	31 December 2023
Review	6	30 September 2021	N/A

**Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference**

0120

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact Connexis - Infrastructure Industry Training Organisation [qualifications@connexis.org.nz](mailto:qualifications@connexis.org.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.