

DER Data and connections issues paper - submission themes

This one-page summary is the same as Part C from the [full summary report on our website](#). We identified six broad themes across general and specific feedback that stakeholders provided, shown below.

Theme 1: Simpler commercial and industrial connections

Stakeholders most strongly supported efforts to standardise data and technical requirements for larger but routine DER systems. Key issues included bespoke technical assessments for relatively routine installations, information requirements, and the opportunity cost of long connection timeframes for customers.

Theme 2: Clearer statutory obligations

Stakeholders consistently supported clearer Western Power statutory functions for DER data collection, validation and governance. Several submissions mentioned current issues with data quality and supported assigning clear accountability for data collection and validation responsibilities as a way to improve it.

Theme 3: National alignment and interoperability

Stakeholders strongly supported alignment with national technical standards, particularly CSIP-AUS communications standards and existing DER Register arrangements. Respondents noted national consistency would reduce costs and complexity for manufacturers, service providers and customers.

Theme 4: Customer-centric data sharing

Several responses supported allowing customers to authorise access to DER, energy usage and connection information, noting it would reduce friction for new installations and easier DER participation. Broadly, stakeholders supported sharing aggregated information while opposing publication of customer-specific or NMI-level information. Some responses expressed concern about customer targeting, disclosure of sensitive information and customer protections.

Theme 5: Network visibility

There was strong support for publishing more network capacity information to assist customer and investor decision making. Stakeholders also requested more granular constraint information for both imports and exports, and better access to both historical and forward-looking network data. Submissions noted that spatial data is useful for planning and context day to day, but it was important people had access to up to date data in a machine readable format.

Theme 6: VPP visibility

Stakeholders broadly supported improving visibility of VPP capability and contribution to the power system. Most submitters accepted that some level of VPP reporting could assist planning, forecasting and network management. However, there were differing views regarding the detail and scope of required reporting. Generally, stakeholders supported a 'controllable capacity' concept that automatically reflects differences in technology type and behind the meter usage trends.