

Author name: Anonymous

Date of submission: Tuesday, 12 June 2018

Submission: The current system of meter acquisition and installation does not work. I have been installing meters since 2008. Under the old scheme I could install a meter the same time I installed and powered up the mains cabling, now I can not do this. If I had an asbestos meter panel to replace I would do it and install a new meter, now that can not happen so the asbestos panels are not getting replaced they are getting drilled out and left in place. Here is an example of what did happen after a fire prior to December 1 - I went to the house after Essential Energy had disconnected the mains and I isolated all damaged circuits. I then removed the damaged meter panel and melted meters and replaced them both, the customer had their power on again within hours. that would not be possible today it would take weeks to get the power on again simply due to the delays in getting a new meter. The current system has taken away the customers "power of choice" as to who does their work and the meter providers are trying to micromanage installation work but they are not installers we are. Meter suppliers are acting like supply authorities (which they are not) stating we have to give our own customers 11 business notice in writing to do work the customer has requested, when we work on a customers premises and isolate the power we are not causing an "outage" we are simply doing the work as requested, we should not be subject to the frankly stupid regulation. PLEASE RETURN TO THE SYSTEM WE HAD PRIOR TO DECEMBER 1 2017 that would solve all the issues this new system has caused.