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CSIP-AUS Connect Conference

CSIP-AUS Regulatory Harmonisation A Brief History

2 October 2025

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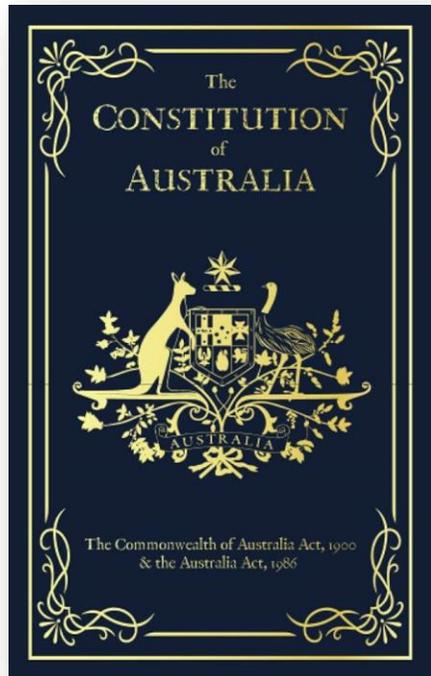
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1. The Australian Constitution limits Commonwealth powers to 15 areas. Electricity industry regulation is not one of them.

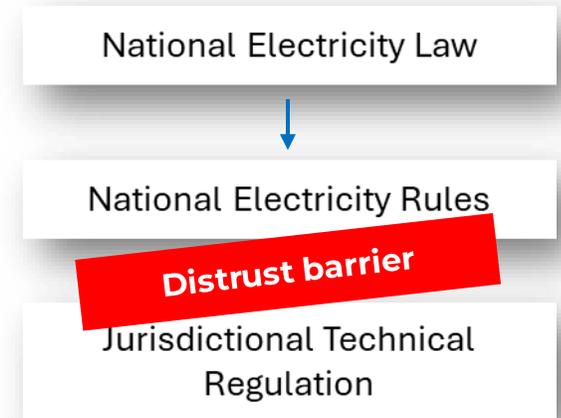
2. The Australian Energy Market Agreement (2004) transferred some powers to a federalised energy regulatory framework. Technical/Safety Regulation was excluded.

3. The resulting framework has no 'explicit' mechanism to harmonise technical requirements



State and Territory Functions (current responsibility retained)

16. **Distributor technical/safety business authorisation** - licensing and authorisation schemes that require demonstration of technical capability.



- The Energy Security Board identified benefits in national harmonisation of CSIP-AUS product certification processes and PKI arrangements



- AER opted not to encourage harmonisation through its assessment of DNSP expenditure proposals



- The AEMC volunteered “another” review process into a National Technical Regulator

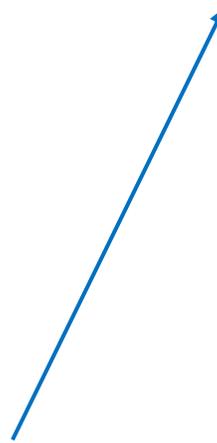


- The Review was inconclusive and the AEMC kicked it back to Energy Ministers

- enX initiated a project with ENA to try to facilitate harmonised product certification processes and PKI arrangements

- AEMO Emergency Backstop requirements (2024) required DNSPs (e.g. Vic) to push ahead before a nationally consistent approach could be settled

- NEPKI was proposed and then conditionally approved by the ACCC (2025). Industry collaborated on certification and server consistency from 2023 (ongoing).



A National Technical Regulator?

- DCCEE is consulting on the development of a National Technical Regulator (the “T2” workstream)
- The T2 consultation paper contemplates CSIP-AUS a potential standard that could be enforced *for new DER products* in a harmonised way
- The T2 consultation acknowledges the importance of DNSP harmonisation but *it does not canvass any new regulatory authority that could enforce consistency between DNSPs*

So, where does this leave us?

- CSIP-AUS will have a national product test procedure, certification and listing process
- There will be national test procedure for utility servers, but no penalties on DNSPs if they don't conform to it
- We do not have any levers to *enforce* harmonisation by DNSPs on CSIP-AUS implementation or any other technical regulatory requirement

- Harmonisation of CSIP-AUS is happening, however...
- Policy, regulation and institutional settings have conspired against it:
 - The Constitution
 - Competing interests (legitimate and otherwise)
 - Bounded rationality of market institutions
 - Public sector inertia and resourcing constraints
 - Regulatory silos and distrust
- The positive outcomes that are being achieved are largely the result of the effort of individuals committed to common sense outcomes and the community interest

