Empower
support@empowerenergy.com.au
+61 (0)2 9845 8835

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EMPOWER ENERGY

ELEKTROBANK 14 – VIC EMERGENCY BACKSTOP GUIDE

NOTICE

DNSPs in Victoria are requiring that new inverters being installed are capable of an "Emergency Backstop" functionality. This document describes the process for registering and testing the Emergency backstop capability on the ElektroBank 14 in Victoria.

See Victoria's emergency backstop mechanism for solar and Industry guidance for more information.

MODELS

ElektroBank 14

APPLICABILITY

For installations with DC connected solar to the ElektroBank 14, the capability test will be required.

- If there is an existing solar onsite installed prior to October 1, 2024, then consult the DNSP to confirm steps for completing the Capability Test. Some DNSPs require that you call them prior to doing the Capability Test so they can make an adjustment on their end, then they will have the installer turn off the existing AC coupled solar system and finally run the Capability Test only with the ElektroBank 14 via its DC coupled solar to get it to pass.
- If there is existing solar onsite installed after October 1, 2024 then you will need an exemption from the Capability Test authorised by the DNSP. Currently Empower do not support site control of solar export for the ElektroBank 14 and external CSIP compliant PV inverters.

If you are only adding battery to the site (e.g. there is no DC solar connected to the ElektroBank 14) the installer must contact the DNSP to get an exemption to the VIC Backstop registration requirements. Since a battery only install cannot control an external AC coupled inverter, the battery only install will not be able to pass the capability test. A provision to the installer for confirming this exemption is provided in the wizard.

PROCEDURE

1 CONFIGURATION (EMPOWER INSTALLATION WIZARD)

After physical installation of the ElektroBank 14 and during configuration via the installation wizard, there will be a field for the NMI number. Once entered, the wizard will automatically pre-fill the DNSP field

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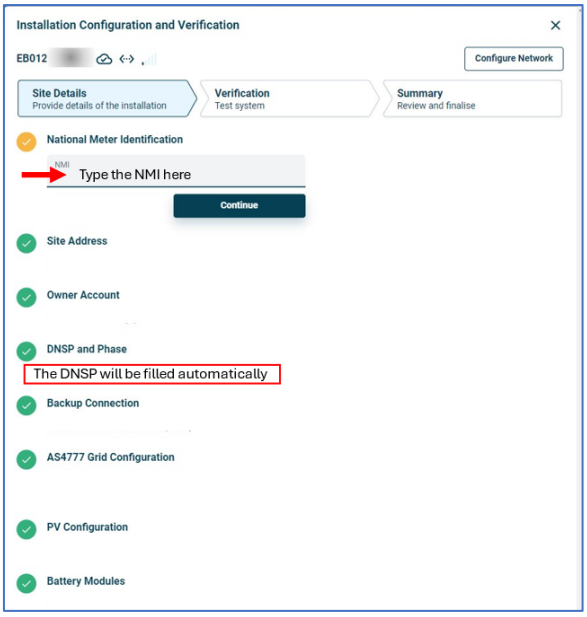

Figure 1: Site Details page of Installation Wizard showing automatic selection of DNSP by entering the NMI

Jemena

This step only applies to systems being installed in the Jemena network.

In the AS4777 Grid Configuration section of the Empower Installation Wizard, you must set a fixed (low static) export limit of 500W. A screenshot of this limit should be submitted to Jemena when completing the Inverter Commissioning Application.

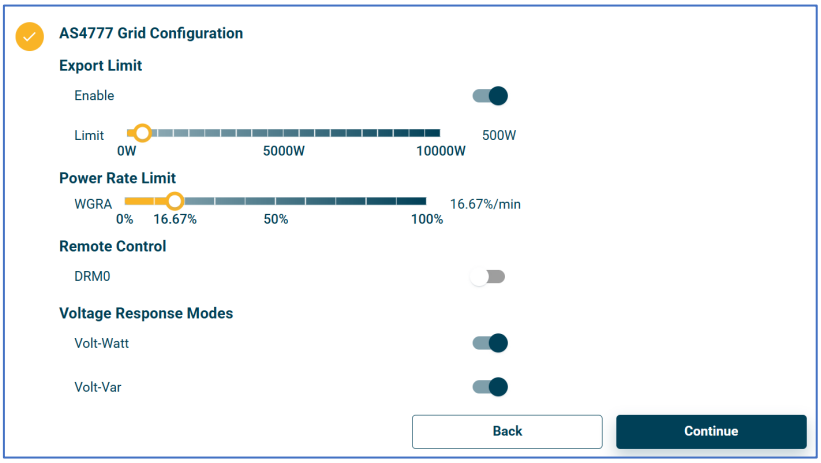

Figure 2: AS4777 Grid Configuration in the Empower Installation Wizard showing 500W Export limit specifically for Jemena systems.

2 Adding Battery Only to the site

If no DC coupled solar is being connected to the ElektroBank 14, then the installer should have an exemption for the Capability Test from the DNSP. If the installer configured the system without DC coupled solar, then the wizard will prompt the installer to confirm they have an exemption. The installer can confirm they have the exemption by ticking the box and they will bypass the Capability Test and can continue with commissioning the system.

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3 REGISTRATION OF ELEKTROBANK 14 TO THE DNSP (EMPOWER INSTALLATION WIZARD)

Citipower, Powercor & United Energy and Ausnet

In the Installation Wizard, complete all the **Verification** steps to get to the Registration step. Click Register to trigger the Emergency Backstop Registration as shown in **Figure 2**. This may take up to 10 minutes.

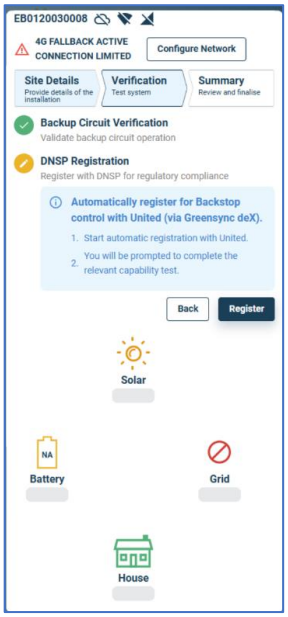

Figure 3: DNSP Registration step in Installation Wizard

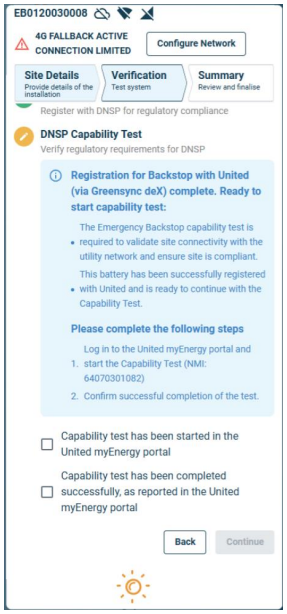

Figure 4: DNSP Capability Test showing tick boxes

Jemena

Jemena does not offer “in-band” registration, so it requires Empower to take manual steps. Thus, for all Jemena installations, please contact Empower at the start of the installation by calling 02 9845 8835 and supply the serial number of the ElektroBank 14, so we can prepare for registration.

After completing all the Verification steps, please call Empower again to request an LFDI number. Empower will email or text you the LFDI number, which can then be inputted into Jemena’s online portal. Once the LFDI has been requested from Empower and added within the Jemena portal, the DNSP Registration step (Figure 3) can be completed.

Jemena use myservices electricity distribution portal (EDP) and provide further instruction & video.

4 RUNNING THE CAPABILITY TEST (DNSP’S PORTAL)

Critical

ENSURE that **Greensync Dex** is selected as the DER Communication Device.

Citipower, Powercor & United Energy and Ausnet

To finalise testing of Emergency Backstop, the installer must log into the portal of the DNSP to verify **registration** of the ElektroBank 14 was successful and then **Run Test** to complete the Communication Capability Test.

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- Citipower & Powercor use eConnect and provide further instruction & video.
- United Energy use myEnergy and provide further instruction & video.
- AusNet use AusNet portal and provide further instruction.

Jemena

Ensure an LFDI has been received from Empower and provided to Jemena before continuing with the capability test. Jemena does not offer a capability test in their portal. Instead, the installer must submit the "Commission my CSIP-Aus Inverter" application and Jemena will perform the commissioning tests over the next 7 to 10 days.

Jemena use myservices electricity distribution portal (EDP) and provide further instruction & video.

5 FINALISING THE COMMISSIONING (EMPOWER INSTALLATION WIZARD)

Critical

DO NOT tick both boxes in Figure 3 (in the installation wizard) until the capability test has been completed and verified on the respective DNSP's portal. Proceeding to the Summary page (in the installation wizard) without having completed the capability test will change the mode of the ElektroBank 14, and potentially prevent the capability test from completing successfully.

Citipower, Powercor & United Energy and Ausnet

Once the Emergency Backstop capability test has completed successfully, the installer should complete the rest of the Empower Installation Wizard to finalise commissioning. The installation wizard will prompt the installer to confirm the capability test was started and successful (Figure 4) before allowing them to continue.

Jemena

Jemena does not offer a real-time capability test in their portal. Once the application is submitted to Jemena, they will perform the capability test at their leisure (it may up to 10 days). When the installer receives notice that the test was successful, then the installer should log back into the Installation Wizard to confirm the capability test was completed (Figure 4)

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REFERENCE LINKS

CITIPOWER & POWERCOR:

- VIC Backstop for Solar Installers
- Emergency backstop for minimum system load events
- Video: Completing the DER capability test | emergency backstop guide for solar installers | Citipower

UNITED ENERGY:

- VIC Backstop for Solar Installers
- Emergency backstop for minimum system load events
- Completing the DER capability test | emergency backstop guide for solar installers | United Energy

AUSNET:

- Solar emergency backstop
- Commissioning Checklist for Solar Emergency Backstop
- Solar emergency backstop guide

JEMENA:

- Emergency Backstop Mechanism
- Video: Emergency Backstop Mechanism, Jemena Electricity Portal Walk-through
- Solar and Other technologies
    - More useful links
- Jemena's Emergency Backstop Webinar for solar installers
- Overview of process

QUESTIONS?

Please contact the DNSP first:

- **Citipower & Powercor:** newenergyservices@powercor.com.au or on 1800 772 940 (8am-4pm, Monday to Friday).
- **United Energy:** newenergyservices@ue.com.au or on 1800 772 940 (8am-4pm, Monday to Friday).
- **AusNet:** solarbackstop@ausnetservices.com.au or on 1300 360 795
- **Jemena:** None provided. Call their general enquiry on 1300 131 871

If the issue cannot be resolved, please Empower at 02 9845 8835 or support@elektrobank.com.au.