

System Control Schedule of Audit and Inspection

2026/2027

Issue Date: 01/07/2026

Background

This Schedule of Audit and Inspection is issued under clause 6.22.1(e) of the System Control Technical Code (SCTC) and sets out the Power System Controller's annual program of audits and inspections for the 2026–27 financial year.

The program has been developed having regard to the matters specified in clause 6.22.1(c), including the security implications and economic consequences of non-compliance, and the likelihood that the relevant equipment or activity may be non-compliant. The schedule also includes an indicative forward program for the following two financial years. The forward program is provided for planning and may be revised as risks, priorities, and information change.

Where necessary, System Control may substitute a scheduled activity with an alternative audit or inspection. This may occur where an activity cannot reasonably be completed because of operational, system, information or resource constraints, or where an emerging matter, such as a significant power system incident, warrants immediate assurance. System Control will consult affected System Participants regarding any proposed substitution, where practicable.

Previous schedules have included some business-as-usual activities undertaken under the SCTC, such as the development, publication, or routine review of procedures. These activities will no longer be included as a matter of course. The schedule will instead focus on risk-based technical audits and inspections that provide assurance regarding compliance, power system security, and the effectiveness of relevant controls, consistent with the SCTC.

Benefits

Audits and inspections provide ongoing value to all system participants. The audits and inspections planned, listed in this document, aim to provide the following benefits:

- Identify if documented processes and procedures are being adhered to.
- Indicate if the sequence of processes is correct and effective.
- Aid system participants to gauge the effectiveness of the procedure in place.
- Assist with continuous improvement, improve awareness and understanding of the process requirements.
- Enable government policy by ensuring technical requirements and specifications are maintained.
- Assist in identifying and managing risks.

2025-26 Schedule

During 2025–26, System Control completed fieldwork for the following technical audits:

- Owen Springs Power Station (Alice Springs).
- Tennant Creek Power Station.

The associated reports will be completed during 2026–27. No material non-compliances have been identified from the fieldwork completed to date.

Several other planned technical audits and inspections could not proceed during 2025–26 because of resource constraints, changes affecting the relevant facilities, and competing operational priorities. These activities have been carried forward or rescheduled within the 2026–27 program or the indicative forward schedule.

2026-27 Schedule

The 2026–27 program focuses on black start capability, model and data integrity, incident reporting, and selected technical and operational compliance risks. Some activities are conditional and may be rescheduled where prerequisite projects, operational changes, information availability, or resource constraints prevent the activity from being completed as planned.

Black Start Witness Testing

System Control will witness demonstrations of black start capability against the applicable power station procedures. The witness testing will consider:

- the adequacy and currency of the relevant procedures
- operator familiarity and readiness
- operational communications and coordination
- the capture and retention of test evidence
- the identification, escalation, and management of defects, deviations, or test limitations.

Black start witness testing is proposed for:

- Weddell Power Station.
- Channel Island Power Station.

System Control recognises that significant changes to the generation and energy-storage configuration at Channel Island may require the witness test to be deferred until 2027–28, when the relevant operating arrangements and procedures have been sufficiently developed and implemented.

Model Data and Information Governance

Power system models and associated technical data support system planning, operational studies, connection assessments, and real-time decision-making. Effective governance is therefore necessary to ensure that information relied upon by System Control remains accurate, complete, current, and appropriately controlled.

The 2026–27 program includes the following activities:

DIA.NE model data inspection

Compare selected DIA.NE settings implemented in the field with the corresponding settings in power system models, technical records, or other information provided by the relevant System Participant. The inspection will identify any material discrepancies that exist and assess whether validation and change-control arrangements are in place.

Jenbacher inspection

Undertake a focused review of selected Jenbacher generating units in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek. The inspection will consider available technical data, plant settings, model information, compliance evidence, and the consistency of information across relevant records.

Automatic generation control model data inspection

Review the source, ownership, validation, maintenance, and change-control arrangements for automatic generation control data relied upon by the Power System Controller's control room. The inspection will assess whether responsibilities are clearly defined and whether changes to relevant data are appropriately verified, documented, and communicated.

Incident Reporting

System Control and System Participants are required to identify, assess, and report relevant power system incidents under the SCTC and the Power System Incident Reporting Guideline.

The 2026-27 audit will review the System Controls incident process and assess whether incident-reporting arrangements are operating effectively, including:

- the timely identification and classification of reportable incidents
- the timeliness and completeness of initial and subsequent reporting
- the management and tracking of submissions, including any delayed, incomplete, or inconsistent reporting to and by the System Controller
- emerging trends in the incident data
- the adequacy of internal recording, tracking, and escalation controls
- the allocation of responsibilities between System Control and System Participants.

Other Assurance Activities

The following activities will provide targeted assurance regarding selected Network Technical Code and System Control Technical Code requirements.

Behind-the-meter solar export compliance

Review a sample of behind-the-meter solar installations to assess whether actual export behaviour is consistent with approved or expected export limits.

Gas communications and coordination

Review the adequacy of operational communication and coordination arrangements between relevant gas and electricity-sector stakeholders, which may include Power and Water's Gas Services team, Territory Generation, gas suppliers and System Control.

Network Technical Code Compliance Audit – clause 5.4

Assess whether Power and Water has established a clearly owned, documented and consistently applied framework for monitoring the ongoing compliance of connected generating plant with applicable technical requirements.

Schedule of Audit and Inspection

Period	Black Start Witness Testing	Model Data and Information Governance	Incident Reporting Procedures	Misc. Audit
FY 2026-27	- Weddell Power Station - Channel Island Power Station*	- Alice Springs Power System DIA.NE Model Data Validation* - Jenbacher Inspection - AGC Model Data Inspection*	System Control	- Behind The Meter Solar Compliance - Network Technical Code Compliance Audit - 5.4* - Gas Communications Processes - APA, Power and Water (Gas Services) and Territory Generation*
FY 2027-28	Katherine Power Station	- Network Assets - Pine Creek Power Station Generator Model Data Validation*	- EDL Energy - ENI	UFLS Schedule and inspection
FY 2028-29	Owen Springs Power System	- Weddell Power Station Generator Model Data Validation - Territory Generation Assets	Territory Generation	- Pre-2019 Plant ongoing compliance 6.15 Embedded generation

* Audits subject to resourcing and data availability or conditional triggers (system conditions, operational decisions).

** The scope, timing, or inclusion of individual activities may be subject to adjustments during the financial year, particularly considering major changes to the Territory electrical industry.

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