

# STATEMENT



14 February 2017

## **Speculation regarding on-site battery storage in Australian homes**

Contrary to recent speculation, Standards Australia is not developing standards that will ban the introduction of on-site lithium-ion battery storage in Australian homes.

Standards Australia is working with stakeholders to develop a new draft Australian Standard AS/NZS 5139, *Electrical Installations – Safety of battery systems for use in inverter energy systems* that will enable the safe installation of battery energy storage systems.

It is proposed that the draft document will contain provisions for:

- Installation requirements for all battery systems connected to inverter energy systems, covering all battery types;
- Mitigating hazards associated with battery energy storage system installations; and
- Classifying batteries based on hazards, and not chemistry type

Following preparation of the draft, it will be released for a nine week period of public comment. This will afford all stakeholders the opportunity to comment on the proposed standard. Public comment is scheduled for April 2017 but this is subject to change.

All comments received will be considered by the representative technical committee, EL-042, *Renewable Energy Power Supply Systems & Equipment*. EL-042 is comprised of stakeholders from all sectors with an interest in this work, including the renewables sector.

As the work progresses, a formal ballot will be undertaken to ensure that there is sufficient community consensus to proceed to develop the document as an Australian Standard.

In these circumstances, further speculation of a 'ban on on-site storage' by Standards Australia would be inaccurate and misleading.

The use of all Australian Standards is voluntary and governments may choose to reference Australian Standards and other documents in regulation.

Standards Australia looks forward to the continued work of our technical committee and wide community dialogue.

**EL-042, the committee responsible for the development of AS/NZS 5139, includes representatives from the following organisations:**

Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council  
Australian Energy Council  
Australian Energy Market Operator  
Australian Industry Group  
Australian PV Institute  
Australian Solar Council  
Clean Energy Council  
Clean Energy Regulator  
Construction, Environment and Workplace Protection, ACT Government  
Consumer Electronics Suppliers Association  
CSIRO  
Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (VIC)  
Electrical Compliance Testing Association  
Electrical Regulatory Authorities Council  
Electrical Safety Organisation (New Zealand)  
Electricity Engineers Association (New Zealand)  
Energy Networks Australia  
Engineers Australia  
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers  
Institute of Electrical Inspectors  
Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand  
Master Electricians Australia  
National Electrical and Communications Association  
New Zealand Electrical Institute  
NSW Fair Trading  
Office of the Technical Regulator (SA)  
Solar Energy Industries Association Inc  
Sustainable Electricity Association New Zealand  
Sustainable Energy Association  
The University of New South Wales  
Wellington Electrical Association Inc.  
Worksafe New Zealand

ENDS.

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