Integrated BESS 14 – Information Sheet

Date published: 20 February 2026

Version 1.0

Overview

CER Checklist item: Integrated BESS 14

Is there a site-specific shutdown procedure that details the sequential steps to safely shutdown the BESS?

The shutdown procedure shall be:

a) installed adjacent to the PCE to which the battery system is connected; and

b) placed adjacent to and visible from the equipment to be operated in the event of a shutdown.

All labelling of devices shall be consistent with terminology used in the shutdown procedure.

The shut down procedure shall also state that isolation of the battery system by isolation and shutting down the PCE may not de-energise the battery system and further action may be required.

Standard reference: AS/NZS 5139:2019 Clause 7.16.

1. Introduction

SAA has analysed Clean Energy Regulator (CER) inspection data to identify the most common areas of non-compliance. Based on these insights, we have developed educational resources that highlight where issues typically arise and offer practical guidance to support installers in achieving compliance. This document should be read in conjunction with the relevant Standard(s).

Integrated BESS 14 shall comply with the requirements of AS/NZS 5139:2019 Clause 7.16.

This document outlines the key requirements for correct installation of equipment and includes examples of observed non-compliances to highlight common installation errors and help prevent their recurrence.

Note: This defect applies to section 4 pre-assembled integrated BESS only.

2. Key Requirements for compliant Integrated BESS 14

AS/NZS 5139:2019 clause 7.16 Shutdown procedure

All BESS shall include a permanent sign detailing the shutdown procedure that sets out the sequential steps to safely shutdown the BESS. The shutdown procedure shall be —

(a) installed adjacent to the PCE to which the battery system is connected; and
(b) placed adjacent to and visible from the equipment to be operated in the event of a shutdown.

Where the PCE is adjacent to the switchboard it is directly connected to, the shutdown procedure may be placed within that switchboard.

The sign detailing the shutdown procedure may also include the start-up procedure. All labelling of devices shall be consistent with terminology used in the shutdown procedure.

A warning shall be included in the shutdown procedure indicating that isolation of the battery system by isolation and shutting down the PCE may not de-energize the battery system and further action may be required.

The shutdown procedure should also include emergency contact information for manufacturer or supplier.

Also see: AS/NZS 5139:2019 Clause 7.2 Requirements for signs and labels

This clause contains requirements for the colour, size, durability of signs and labels.

Figure 1: Example shutdown procedure with the correct warning label.

3. Common non-compliances identified with this CER checklist item

3.1 An appropriate battery shutdown procedure has not been placed at the PCE or adjacent switchboard as required

Figure 2: Non-compliant – incorrect shutdown procedure present at the MSB and no shutdown procedure present at the battery system.

a) **Non-compliance:** The shutdown procedure label is often installed in the wrong location, or the existing PV shutdown procedure is left in place. This is non-compliant because the equipment required for safe isolation changes once a battery system is added. A new, site-specific shutdown procedure must identify all relevant equipment and supply types, and it must be visible from every piece of equipment involved in the isolation process.

b) **Best Practice:** Understanding the products you are installing—and how they interact with an existing or new PV system—is essential for determining the correct shutdown procedure. This requirement must be incorporated into the installation workflow, and custom labels may be necessary to ensure it is met.

Figure 3: Compliant Shutdown Procedure mounted adjacent to the battery system.

3.2 Some items listed on the shutdown procedure do not align with the labels on electrical isolation equipment located onsite

Figure 3: Non-compliant - shutdown procedure terminology not consistent with main switches and circuit breakers within the gateway, resulting in non-compliance sighted on inspection report.

a) **Non-compliance**: Not all labelling kits provide a shutdown procedure label that meets the required standard. In many cases, these labels are inconsistent with the actual shutdown procedure, or the battery may already include a generic label (e.g., 'BATTERY SWITCH'), leading installers to assume that no further labelling is needed. However, the equipment still requires labelling that accurately reflects both the shutdown procedure and the relevant standard. Inconsistent terminology can create confusion during an emergency shutdown and may result in incorrect isolation steps, increasing electrical safety risks.

b) **Best Practice:** Use labels from the supplied kit only when the terminology precisely matches the shutdown procedure. If it does not, source appropriate alternative labels from other suppliers. Maintain consistent terminology across all equipment on each installation to ensure the shutdown procedure remains clear, uniform, and easy to follow.

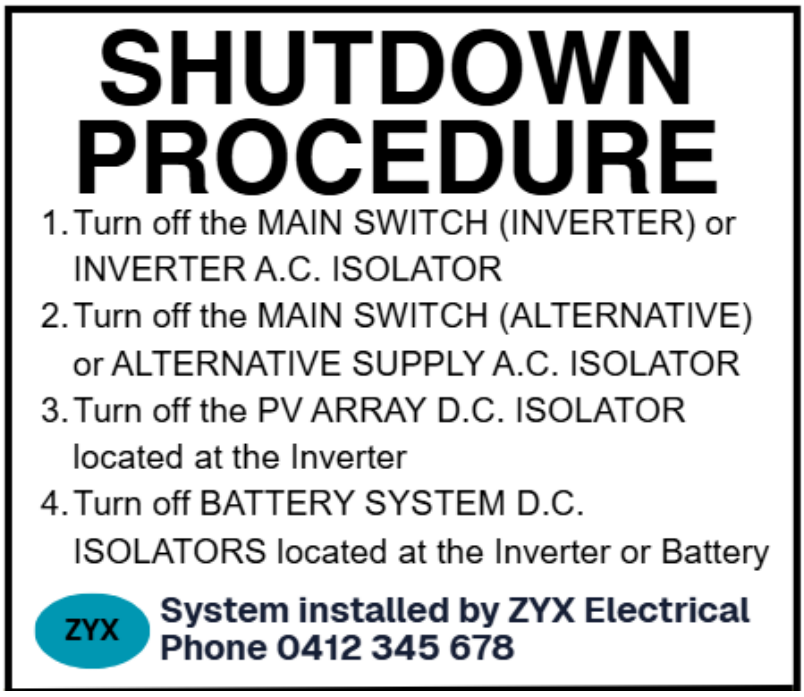

Figure 4: Example of a compliant shutdown procedure for a PV and battery system using correct terminology. Note the recommended inclusion of Emergency Contact Information.

Figure 6: Example of a compliant shutdown procedure label that uses the correct equipment terminology for the installed system