

NSW Emergency Backstop Mechanism & CER Installer Portal

Project Update #3 | September 2026

Important changes start in November 2026

From **November 2026**, solar businesses will need to use the **NSW CER Installer Portal** when installing new and upgrading CER systems (rooftop solar and/or home batteries). The **Emergency Backstop Mechanism (EBM)** rollout will also begin in selected NSW postcodes.

Exact dates for when these changes come into effect will be provided at the upcoming industry webinar on 14 October, so it is important that you [register to attend](#).

Solar retailers should continue to submit connection applications through the relevant distribution network's connections portals, and solar installers will then need to use the NSW CER Installer Portal to complete the installations when these changes come into effect.

CER Installer Portal

For connection applications made from November, use of the NSW CER Installer Portal will be mandatory for all new and upgrading CER (solar and/or battery) systems up to 200kW.

These systems must be registered and commissioned through the portal, which will cover the Certificate of Compliance for Electrical Work (CCEW) and AEMO Distributed Energy Resources Register (DERR) requirements for those installations.

To keep up-to-date with the November rollout, including exact dates for when these changes come into effect, and learn more about the portal, visit the [NSW Government CER Installer Portal webpage](#).

Emergency Backstop Mechanism

From November, emergency backstop requirements for rooftop solar will be phased in by postcode, managed by the relevant distribution network.

Check when emergency backstop requirements apply in your area:

- [Endeavour Energy](#) postcode rollout timing
- [Essential Energy](#) postcode rollout timing
- [Ausgrid](#) postcode rollout timing

From these dates, the CER Installer Portal must be used to conduct a capability test during installation to confirm relevant systems are backstop-enabled.

To learn about the emergency backstop requirements, visit the [NSW Government Emergency Backstop Mechanism webpage](#).

What industry can do now to prepare

- 1 [Register](#) for the upcoming industry webinar on 14 October.
- 2 Complete the [NSW CER Installer Portal Training](#).
- 3 Ensure your solar equipment complies with Standards Australia TS5573 (CSIP-AUS).
- 4 Check the postcode rollout timing for the emergency backstop in your area.