

# ASP General Information Electrical Safety & Compliance

Alert Number: GI23\_20

1 September 2020

## Subject: Christmas shutdown period 21 December 2020 – 10 January 2021

Dear ASPs,

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a challenging year and like many organisations, Ausgrid has also had to make tough decisions to ensure the ongoing health of our business. The welfare of our people, customers and business partners is, as always, very important. Due to the impacts of COVID-19, Ausgrid is taking steps to manage our workforce with as little impact as possible on our people, customers, ASPs and contractors.

With this in mind, Ausgrid will be implementing a Christmas shutdown period for all but essential work.

### **This shutdown will be in place for 12 business days between 21<sup>st</sup> December 2020 and 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

During this period, Ausgrid will have limited ability for essential work only. As a result, we will not be booking any:

- outages,
- mandatory or milestone inspections, or
- site meetings,

for ASP/1 and ASP/2 customer-initiated works. All ASPs will need to consider the impacts of this shutdown period when planning your works.

Additional to this shutdown period, it is recognised that Ausgrid sees an increased volume of contestable works being undertaken on the network in the lead-up to the new year. We would like to emphasize the importance of submitting Operator Request Forms (ORF) with as much additional notice as possible prior to the planned outage date. This will assist Ausgrid in planning the limited resources available to complete your planned works in a timely manner. For planned works into January please take into account the addition of the Christmas shutdown.

Notwithstanding the above, it is imperative that works are carefully and accurately planned to ensure any unnecessary risk of cancellation to a planned outage is minimised.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation through these challenging times and hope that this early notice provides the best opportunity for you to plan your works for yourself and your customers now and into the new year.

**Ausgrid**

**Electrical Safety & Compliance**