AS 4777.3—2005

Australian Standard™

Grid connection of energy systems via inverters

Part 3: Grid protection requirements

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee EL-042, Renewable Energy Power Supply Systems and Equipment. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 6 April 2005. This Standard was published on 20 May 2005.

The following are represented on Committee EL-042:

Alternative Technology Association
Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers Association
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
Electrical Regulatory Authorities Council
Electrical Safety Organisation, New Zealand
Electricity Engineers Association, New Zealand
ElectroComms & Energy Utilities Industries Skills Council
Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority of New Zealand
Energy Networks Association
Institution of Professional Engineers, New Zealand
Ministry of Economic Development, New Zealand
National Electrical and Communications Association
New Zealand Electrical Institute
Research Institute for Sustainable Energy
Sustainable Energy Authority, Victoria
University of New South Wales

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Part 3: Grid protection requirements

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Australian members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL-042, Renewable Energy Power Supply Systems and Equipment and is based on requirements developed by a group of utility, photovoltaic and inverter industry experts coming together under the auspices of the Energy Networks Association. After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this Standard as an Australian, rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard. This Standard replaces AS 4777.3—2002 on publication.

The objective of this Standard is to provide regulators, electricity distributors and manufacturers with the requirements and tests for grid protection devices to be used in inverter energy systems intended for the injection of electrical installation to the electricity distribution network.

It is Part 3 of AS 4777, *Grid connection of energy systems via inverters* which is published in parts as follows:

AS 4777.1 Part 1: Installation requirements

AS 4777.2 Part 2: Inverter requirements

AS 4777.3 Part 3: Grid protection requirements (this Standard)

This Standard has been revised to—

(a) simplify requirements for EMC; and

(b) clarify the grid performance test including tolerances on test values.

This Standard was developed with the assistance of the following organisations—

(i) Australian Greenhouse Office;

(ii) Research Institute for Sustainable Energy, Murdoch University; and

(iii) University of New South Wales.

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Standard to define the application of the Appendix to which they apply. A ‘normative’ Appendix is an integral part of a Standard whereas an ‘informative’ Appendix is only for information and guidance.

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1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies the requirements for grid protection devices intended to be used in inverter energy systems, with ratings up to 10 kVA for single-phase units, or up to 30 kVA for three-phase units, and for the injection of electric power through an electrical installation to the electricity distribution network.

NOTES:

1 Although this Standard does not apply to larger systems, similar principles can be used for the grid protection of such systems.

2 These devices do not replace devices used for protection and/or isolation as required in AS/NZS 3000.

3 Although this Standard is written on the basis that the renewable energy is from a d.c. source (e.g. photovoltaic array), this Standard may be used for systems where the energy is from a variable a.c. source (e.g. wind turbine or micro-hydro system) by appropriate changes to the tests.

4 This Standard does not include EMC requirements. These requirements are mandated by the Australian Communications Authority (ACA). Users attention is drawn to Australian Communications Authority's document *'Electromagnetic Compatibility—Information for suppliers of electrical and electronic products in Australia and New Zealand'* for guidance.

2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Standard.

AS
60038 Standard voltages

AS/NZS
3000 Electrical Installations (known as the Australian/New Zealand Wiring Rules)

3100 Approval and test specification—General requirements for electrical equipment

60950 Information technology equipment—Safety
60950.1 Part 1: General requirements

61000 Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC)
61000.3.3 Part 3.3: Limits—Limitation of voltage fluctuations and flicker in public low-voltage supply systems, for equipment with rated current less than or equal to 16 A per phase and not subject to conditional connection
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