

## Licence Conditions Data Handling Fact Sheet

In February 2019, the Minister of Energy and Utilities, formally notified Essential Energy about a number of changes to its Distributor's Licence Conditions.

Most of the changes came about as a result of Essential Energy's distribution network being classified as "critical infrastructure" by the Critical Infrastructure Centre (CIC), which is part of the Department of Home Affairs under the Federal Government.

The new Critical Infrastructure requirements are covered by:

- > Condition 9 – Must have a Substantial Presence in Australia
- > Condition 10 – Data Security

### The key points from Condition 9 are:

- Maintenance of the distribution system must only be undertaken within Australia except where maintenance requires physical servicing offshore;
- Any non-employee undertaking maintenance of the distribution system must have approval of the senior officer responsible for network operations;
- Operation and control of its distribution system, including associated ICT infrastructure, can be accessed, operated and controlled only from within Australia.

### The key points from Condition 10 are:

- All OT information and associated ICT infrastructure must be held in Australia, and only accessible from within Australia by authorised personnel;
- All load data, bulk personal data and sensitive data must be stored in Australia, not exported, and only accessible from within Australia.