

Impact Analysis Statement

Summary IAS

Details

Lead department	Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning
Name of the proposal	Sunset review of the <i>Electrical Safety Regulation 2013</i>
Submission type	Summary IAS
Title of related legislative or regulatory instrument	<i>Electrical Safety Regulation 2013</i>
Date of issue	August 2026

What is the nature, size and scope of the problem? What are the objectives of government action?

The *Electrical Safety Regulation 2013* (ES Regulation) is subordinate legislation made under the *Electrical Safety Act 2002* (ES Act) that details compliance requirements and ways of meeting obligations created by the ES Act. The purpose of the ES Act is directed at eliminating the human cost to individuals, families and the community of death, injury and destruction that can be caused by electricity. This is achieved by establishing an electrical safety framework for Queensland (the Framework) to help prevent people from being killed or injured by electricity and prevent property from being destroyed or damaged by electricity.

The Framework is made up of the ES Act, ES Regulation and five codes of practice, including:

- Electrical Safety Code of Practice 2020 – Works
- Electrical Safety Code of Practice 2020 – Working Near Overhead and Underground Electric Lines
- Electrical Safety Code of Practice 2020 – Electrical Equipment Rural Industry
- Electrical Safety Code of Practice 2021 – Managing Electrical Risks in the Workplace
- Construction and Operation of Solar Farms Code of Practice 2024

Section 210 of the ES Act provides a regulation-making power that empowers the ES Regulation to perform its functions to support the ES Act and achieve its objectives. The ES Regulation applies to persons conducting a business or undertaking (PCBUs), licenced electrical workers, electricity entities, property owners/managers including people responsible for maintaining electrical installations, manufacturers, sellers, testers and users of electrical equipment, and installers and owners of cathodic protection systems.

The codes of practice are practical guides to support duty holders to achieve the standards of electrical safety required under the ES Act and ES Regulation. Codes of practice are admissible in court proceedings and courts may regard a code of practice as evidence of what is known about a hazard, risk or control and may rely on a relevant code in determining what is reasonably practicable.

Under the *Statutory Instruments Act 1992*, subordinate legislation automatically expires (or 'sunset') after 10 years unless action is taken to preserve it. The ES Regulation expires on 1 September 2026. OIR has undertaken a sunset review of the ES Regulation to evaluate its continuing need, effectiveness, and efficiency.

Scope of the sunset review

Recent amendments to the ES Regulation

Following a review of the ES Act in 2021, a number of amendments were made to the ES Regulation by the *Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024* (ESOLA Act 2024) and the *Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024* (ESOLA Regulation).

Amendments to the ES Regulation at this time included:

- clarifying the types of testing that form energised electrical work to ensure it is undertaken in line with the energised electrical work requirements
- providing new requirements for PCBU's and workers carrying out work in or entering domestic roof spaces and a new infringement notice offence where PCBU's fail to meet these requirements
- reducing the risk of arc flash injuries by extending requirements for electrical work on energised electrical equipment to apply to electrical work near energised electrical equipment
- reducing timeframes for electrical contractors to notify the regulator of changes to qualified technical persons or qualified business persons on their license, considering online notifications
- providing clarity on requirements for the Electrical Equipment Safety System (EESS) regarding second-hand in-scope electrical equipment, the definition of 'certificates of sustainability' and the role of recognised external certification schemes
- new provisions to legislate water equipment as prescribed electrical equipment.

Amendments made to the ES Regulation by the ESOLA Act and ESOLA Regulation are out of scope for the purposes of the sunset review given the effectiveness of the relevant provisions has recently been considered and amendments were made accordingly. As such, the amended provisions have not been in force for a sufficient length of time to be considered in scope for a review.

National Electrical Safety Taskforce (NEST) and the EESS

Part 7 of the ES Regulation prescribes requirements for Part 2A of the ES Act relating to in-scope electrical equipment (consumer low voltage electrical equipment) for the purposes of the EESS. It includes requirements to register as a responsible supplier, recordkeeping provisions and outlines how the regulatory compliance mark (RCM) must be used. Requirements for testing, registering, certifying and selling in-scope electrical equipment is also governed by this part.

The EESS framework is currently the subject of a national review as part of the process to implement recommendations from the Review of the Regulatory Framework for the Safety of Household Electrical Products that focused on household consumer equipment (low voltage and extra low voltage) in 2024. The resulting NEST recommendations 2, 5 and 6 focus on actions to achieve a nationally consistent fit-for-purpose framework for household electrical equipment.

In seeking national consistency these recommendations also propose the review of requirements for certification, registration, marking and recalls which are the subject of Part 7 of the ES Regulation.

Queensland is participating in the review process and any changes to this part will be considered at the appropriate time to avoid pre-empting any nationally agreed reforms to the EESS requirements. This part has therefore not been considered in scope of the sunset review.

Risks and hazards associated with electricity

Electrical risks are risks of death, shock or other injury caused directly or indirectly by electricity. The most common electrical risks and causes of injury are:

- electric shock causing injury or death. The electric shock may be received by direct or indirect contact, tracking through or across a medium, or by arcing. For example, electric shock may result from indirect contact where a conductive part that is not normally energised (such as a metal toaster body or a fence) becomes energised due to a fault.
- fire (such as fire resulting from an electrical fault), arcing or explosion causing burns. These injuries are often suffered because arcing or explosion or both occur when high fault currents are present.

- electric shock from ‘step-and-touch’ potentials. This can occur when a person comes into contact with two different voltages, such as a downed powerline and the ground or another object, causing electrical current to flow through the body, creating a serious shock or electrocution hazard.
- toxic gases causing illness or death. Burning and arcing associated with electrical equipment may release various gases and contaminants.

Even the briefest contact with electricity can have serious consequences for a person’s health and safety, leading to contact burns, damage to internal organs and death. Electric shocks may also lead to other injuries, including falls from ladders, scaffolds or other elevated work platforms. Other injuries or illnesses may include muscle spasms, palpitations, nausea, vomiting, collapse and unconsciousness.

Risks posed by electricity are not limited to workers using electricity — faulty electrical equipment and poor electrical installations can lead to fires that may also cause death or injury to others. It is important that Queenslanders are protected from electrical safety risks, without being unnecessarily hindered as they go about their daily lives.

Objectives of the ES Regulation

Consistent with the purpose of the ES Act, the primary objectives of the ES Regulation are to:

- maintain the continuity of Queensland’s electrical safety framework
- ensure Queensland’s electrical safety laws are aligned (where relevant) with the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act) and the *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011* (WHS Regulation)
- ensure the electrical safety of licensed electrical workers, other workers, licensed electrical contractors, electricity entities, consumers and the general public
- enhance consumer protection in relation to electrical work
- ensure electrical equipment hired or sold is electrically safe
- prevent cathodic protection systems from damaging or interfering with the property of others
- ensure a safe supply of electricity.

The ES Regulation achieves its objectives by prescribing:

- requirements for the performance of electrical work and work on or near energised electrical equipment
- electrical licensing arrangements established under the ES Act
- requirements for electrical equipment, including registration and certification requirements, requirements about the hiring, selling, testing and using of electrical equipment, and requirements to mark particular equipment for compliance with relevant standards
- requirements and procedures for the design, building and maintenance of electric lines and the works of electricity entities, working around exposed parts and energised electrical equipment, and the performance of electrical work
- requirements for safety management systems (SMS) for prescribed electricity entities, electrical installations and the operation of cathodic protection systems and registration of systems
- notification and reporting requirements for serious electrical incidents (SEI) and dangerous electrical events (DEE).

To support the administration of these matters, the ES Regulation prescribes a range of fees which act as levers to help effectively achieve its objectives and recoup costs associated with administering the electrical safety framework. Schedule 8 of the ES Regulation outlines the fees collected. Fees apply for the registration, renewal or reinstatement of an electrical work licence or an electrical contractor licence, the appointment and renewal of an accredited auditor, the registration of cathodic protection systems and requirements relating to in-scope electrical equipment. Certain provisions allow for the Regulator to refund the administration component of the fee where applicants are unsuccessful or withdraw their application.

Objectives of government action

The objective of government action is to continue to help achieve the purpose of the ES Act including to prevent death, injury and the destruction of property caused by electricity across industry and the community.

Effectiveness of the ES Regulation

Over the past two and a half decades, there has been a steady decline in electrical deaths per capita across all states and territories, with the exception of the Northern Territory which has experienced a decline with a greater fluctuation in deaths per million people¹. In Queensland, electrical fatalities have experienced a continual decline since the establishment and commencement of the ES Act and ES Regulation in October 2002. From 2002-03 to 2012-13, Queensland recorded 46 electrical fatalities and from 2013-14 to 2024-25 there have been 34 electrical fatalities recorded in Queensland¹. This continuous reduction in electrical fatalities directly correlates to the change in the way electrical safety was regulated from 2002 onwards and the effectiveness of the electrical safety framework.

The ES Regulation is comprised of largely discrete parts that provide for its objectives to be achieved. **Attachment 1** provides a detailed analysis of each Part of the ES Regulation, including information about the importance and impact provisions have on PCBU's, licenced electrical workers, electricity entities, consumers and the public to protect safety. The ES Regulation is an important part of the electrical safety framework and is currently meeting the Government's objectives to improve electrical safety and reduce the risk of death and injury from electricity.

The OIR is comprised of four regulators, one of which is the Electrical Safety Office (ESO). ESO administers the ES Regulation including performing monitoring and compliance activities and administering frameworks for electrical worker and electrical contractor licensing, in-scope electrical equipment, safety managements systems, accredited auditors and cathodic protection systems. ESO delivers the government's objectives by applying a risk-based, intelligence-led and data-driven approach to setting strategic priorities and delivering compliance and enforcement activities. These actions are important to the regulatory framework as they serve to deter unsafe practices and reinforce that non-compliance will result in regulatory action. Evidence of ongoing non-compliance reinforces the importance of the ES Regulation and the need to ensure that the ESO can take action to prevent future harm to persons or property.

ESO reviews its regulatory priorities regularly to ensure they remain contemporary, responsive to incident and injury trends, aligned to emerging hazards and reflective of community expectations and industry change². ESO also proactively provides electrical safety guidance, education and training, including about electrical equipment product recalls and safety alerts. The effectiveness of the ES Regulation is supported by the ESO's delivery of compliance and enforcement mechanisms and, in turn, impacts the ability of ESO to effectively carry out compliance and enforcement activities. Together, these mechanisms work to achieve the objectives of government action.

ESO's conduct, effectiveness and impact is held to a high standard through annual evaluations and reporting requirements to ensure accountability for performance is upheld. The Queensland Government's Regulator Performance Framework requires regulators whose regulatory activities impact business to publicly report their performance against five model practices. A key focus is to demonstrate the extent to which the ESO adopts the model practices and outlines plans for future improvements. The OIR conducts an annual self-assessment against the framework to assess how each of the OIR's regulators, including the ESO, align with the framework's principles and demonstrates its commitment to effective, transparent and responsive regulation. This public accountability measure assisted in holding the ESO accountable to ensure its regulation is proportionate.

To support the regulatory framework, the ESO undertakes a range of non-regulatory activities and has an extensive catalogue of information products to support the electrical industry to undertake their business safely and comply with the relevant regulatory provisions. Through information sharing, community engagement and targeted initiatives, the ESO helps educate the community and applies an evidence-based approach to target awareness, education and compliance activities across the electrical industry. The ESO establishes and delivers an annual evidence-based proactive compliance and engagement program (aligned to the [Electrical Safety Plan for Queensland 2023-2027](#)) which is informed by electrical incidents,

¹ Electrical Regulatory Authorities Council, 2025, <https://www.erac.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/ERAC-Electrical-fatality-report-2024-2025.pdf>.

² Electrical Safety Office, 2026, https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0021/132915/whsq-and-eso-our-regulatory-approach-full-version.pdf

complaints, industry trends, emerging technologies, research, and collaboration with interstate and national regulators³.

The Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning's Annual Report 2024-2025 states that 97% of stakeholders surveyed were satisfied with electrical safety services effectiveness and professionalism⁴. In 2024-2025, the average cost of electrical safety services in Queensland was \$5.05 per person, less than the forecasted estimate of \$5.37 per person.

What options were considered?

Option 1 – ES Regulation expires

Option 1 would result in the ES Regulation expiring on 1 September 2026 without replacement.

The government supports the objectives of the ES Act including to prevent death, injury and the destruction of property caused by electricity across industry and the community. Allowing the ES Regulation to expire without being remade would render key provisions within the ES Act inoperative. This would have significant adverse impacts on electrical safety and regulatory certainty for PCBU's, licenced electrical workers, electricity entities, people responsible for maintaining electrical installations, manufacturers, sellers, testers and users of electrical equipment, and installers and owners of cathodic protection systems. Failure to remake the ES Regulation to support the ES Act would likely expose government to higher costs in the administration of the electrical safety framework

Option 2 – Remake the ES Regulation as it currently stands

Under this option, the ES Regulation would be re-made exactly as is and as outlined in **Attachment 1**. The ES Regulation currently supports the electrical safety of licensed electrical workers, other workers, licensed electrical contractors, consumers and the general public. This includes enhancing consumer protection for electrical work, stopping cathodic protection systems from damaging or interfering with the property of others, ensuring a safe supply of electricity and electrical equipment that is hired or sold is electrically safe. A remade ES Regulation will continue to help achieve the purpose of the ES Act including to prevent death, injury and the destruction of property caused by electricity across industry and the community.

The ES Regulation no longer represents modern drafting practices that enable the intended policy objectives to be achieved in the most efficient manner and align with the WHS Legislation. This option would also not align with ongoing industry and community expectations around fit-for-purpose regulation. In addition, if left unaddressed the ambiguity in the ES Regulation identified by this review could become increasingly costly to comply with and enforce.

This option is not supported as it would miss the opportunity to act on areas identified during this review to improve the application of the ES Regulation, to better align the structure of the regulation with the ES Act, clarify provisions and ensure the regulation reflects contemporary drafting practices.

Option 3 – Remake the ES Regulation with amendments to improve its relevance, effectiveness and efficiency

Under this option, the ES Regulation would be remade as per option 2 but with amendments to improve its relevance, effectiveness and efficiency.

Option 3 proposes remaking the ES Regulation with structural changes as well as minor machinery and grammatical amendments to modernise language and align with contemporary drafting practices. The ES Regulation would be reorganised to group related provisions and provide better alignment with the ES Act and WHS legislation. Ambiguous provisions would be made clearer so that they are easier to understand and apply, with transitional provisions as required. This option proposes to modernise the ES Regulation, improve its effectiveness and efficiency in achieving its objectives and provide a fit-for-purpose regulatory framework for industry and the community. This option does not propose changes to the existing policy intent and regulatory requirements.

³ Office of Industrial Relations, 2025, https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0024/154950/OIR-regulatory-performance-self-assessment-report-2024-2025.pdf.

⁴ Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning, 2025, https://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0012/106014/dsdip-annual-report-24-25.pdf.

Amendments include:

- reordering the ES Regulation to improve navigation and to strengthen the connection with the authorising ES Act
- consolidating like provisions into dedicated parts (e.g. grouping provisions from Parts 3 and 6 of the ES Regulation that relate to electrical work)
- machinery and grammatical amendments, such as opportunities to modernise language, correct grammatical errors and ensure accuracy of in text references
- removing unnecessary or obsolete provisions such as omitting sections 3 and 4 relating to the purposes of the regulation and how they are to be achieved as these are already defined in the authorising legislation
- more efficiently grouping provisions such as moving sections 276 and 277 under Part 1 to ensure that application provisions are grouped together
- clarifying amendments to provide greater clarity where there have been past issues with interpreting and applying provisions, for example, the inclusion of more modern and fit for purpose examples, providing clarity around timeframes and to ensure consistent language and terminology throughout
- incorporating the requirements for a qualified person or qualified technical person (section 7) into the licensing part and providing consistency throughout this part about the maximum penalty that applies for failure to comply with notification requirements
- re-drafting of provisions related to safety management systems to remove ambiguity and clarify requirements
- additional amendments to ensure the ES Regulation remains in step with current and accepted business processes and reduce regulatory burden where possible, such as updating notification requirements to include online options.

Proposed amendments to the safety management system provisions seek to improve clarity where the provisions are ambiguous. The ES Act sets requirements for prescribed electricity entities to have and give effect to a safety management system, which requires a comprehensive approach to identifying and managing hazards and risks associated with the works of a prescribed electricity entity. There are currently nine prescribed electricity entities, including Airtrain Citylink Ltd, Aurizon Network Pty Ltd, Energex Ltd, Ergon Energy Corporation Ltd, Essential Energy, GoldlinQ Pty Ltd, Powerlink Queensland, Queensland Rail Limited and RTA Weipa Pty Ltd. The regulation prescribes requirements for how the safety management system document is to be developed, lodged with the Regulator and assessed and validated by accredited auditors. The sunset review identified the requirements in this Part were ambiguous and do not accurately reflect the requirements, creating confusion and are not consistently understood or applied by prescribed electricity entities.

This part of the ES Regulation will be remade with amendments to improve clarity and provide greater detail for each existing clause relating to how the safety management system document must be developed, and the initial, modification and annual audit requirements. The proposed amendments also provide clarity that an audit report and audit certificate is required to be provided to the Regulator. the requirement for prescribed electricity entities to provide any additional information the Regulator requires has been removed in light of duplicative powers in the ES Act. The existing requirements have been reframed and restructured to improve clarity and readability.

Proposed amendments to sections 68 and 69 of the ES Regulation require a PCBU to not come within an unsafe distance of an electric line. The sunset review identified that while the ES Regulation provided clear guidance on what constitutes an unsafe distance for an overhead electric line, including distances provided for in Schedule 2 of the ES Regulation, the provision was silent on the requirements for an underground electric line. Proposed amendments to this provision seek to make clear, the requirement in relation to underground electric lines, is for a PCBU to conduct a risk assessment in relation to work that may impact an electric line, as is currently the requirement, to ensure an underground electric line is not damaged. This amendment acknowledges the differences between the risk profile of an overhead electric line compared with an underground electric line. There is no change to the requirements for a PCBU to comply with the

proposed amendments and the record keeping requirements and obligations of the WHS Act and Regulation continue to apply for excavation work that is High-Risk Construction Work.

In relation to the electrical licensing framework, this option relocates the requirements for a Qualified Technical Person (QTP) and Qualified Business Person (QBP) from the front of the ES Regulation to the licensing part as the requirements relate directly to this Part. This option also reframes the requirements to provide greater clarity. Other proposed amendments to the Licensing part clarify the time period for an electrical licence holder to notify the ESO of a change to their contact details from 14 days to 10 'business days'. This reflects contemporary drafting practices to refer to business days as a means of providing greater clarity to the application of the provision while not placing an unreasonable requirement on licence holders.

The maximum penalty of 20 penalty units for non-compliance is consistent with other similar provisions in the ES Regulation and is proportionate to the broader regulatory consequences this may have, of limiting the Regulators' ability to undertake timely compliance and enforcement action. The penalty is set at a level that encourages compliance without being excessive or punitive and reflects that the offence is administrative in nature and does not directly involve harm to a person or property, whilst still recognising the importance of maintaining an effective and responsive electrical safety framework.

What are the impacts?

Option 1 – ES Regulation expires

Impacts for industry and community

There would be considerable economic and social impacts associated with this option. The ES Act establishes the framework and duties and delegates the operational detail to the ES Regulation. If the ES Regulation were to expire, parts of the ES Act would no longer be able to operate effectively or at all, thus not achieving the full purposes of the ES Act. Some of the practical implications for the ES Act that would, in turn, impact industry and the community are:

- section 14A of the ES Act that defines prescribed electrical equipment would lack effect as the ES Regulation prescribes equipment for this section.
- section 18(2)(d) of the ES Act that excludes particular types of work from the meaning of 'electrical work' if it is done at a prescribed workplace would lack effect as the ES Regulation prescribes workplaces for this subsection. This would mean that work undertaken at these workplaces would be inadvertently captured and would need to comply with all requirements of the ES Act, including licensing requirements to perform work.
- section 19(1)(b) of the ES Act that provides for the replacement of an appliance in an electrical installation with a similar appliance in circumstances prescribed by regulation would lack effect.
- the licensing framework established by Part 4 of the ES Act would cease to operate. This would impede the performance of licenced electrical work in Queensland by reducing clarity for licence holders on what electrical work they can lawfully perform. This risks weakening the electrical safety framework for licenced electricians, leading to a decline in the safety of electrical work carried out by electricians and reduced confidence in the profession. Failure to clarify the safety requirements for managing the risks associated with electrical work may contribute to a rise in incidents and fatalities which, in turn, would reduce confidence in the electrical industry and potentially encourage the community to engage unlicensed electrical workers and contractors.
- Part 5 requires prescribed electricity entities to develop and implement an SMS. Section 66 requires electricity entities to be declared by regulation as a 'prescribed electricity entity'. Without Part 11 (Safety management systems) and Schedule 6 (Prescribed electricity entities) of the ES Regulation, Part 5 of the ES Act becomes inoperative as there would be no prescribed electricity entities, making the requirement for an SMS redundant.
- accredited auditors would not be able to be appointed under Part 10, Division 3 as there would be no prescribed approach to making a valid application. Part 12 of the ES Regulation prescribes conditions in which someone can be appointed as an accredited auditor, it also sets the term of office and provides for the refund of fees. Without the ES Regulation to prescribe how an application can be made, individuals would be unable to make a valid application to be appointed

as an accredited auditor. This could greatly impact current accredited auditors as they would no longer be able to lawfully undertake their role. The industry would also be significantly impacted since there would be no accredited auditors to undertake audits.

Without the ES Regulation, the ability of the electrical industry to demonstrate compliance with safety standards would be seriously diminished as the ES Regulation has industry specific safety requirements and suitable practices to help industry comply with the ES Act. Further, the electrical safety codes of practice are heavily relied upon by industry to guide their safety practices. Without the ES Regulation to guide the codes of practice content, industry would not have clarity on the appropriate compliance and safety measures.

Industry is largely supportive of electrical safety regulation, as it gives confidence to the community, users, and workers that they are protected from the risks and harms associated with electricity. Allowing the ES Regulation to expire without replacement would erode electrical safety and the level of oversight of electrical hazards and risks that the ES Regulation currently provides. This would likely result in electrical injuries and fatalities increasing and extensive property damage as the electrical licencing framework would be unable to operate.

OIR would need to solely rely on the non-regulatory measures it already uses to attempt to meet the standard of safety that the ES Regulation supports. OIR provides a number of non-regulatory services to support the ES Act and ES Regulation including information, education, and awareness campaigns to communicate key electrical safety risks to the electrical industry and the broader community. This includes comprehensive advertising supplemented by media releases, 'e-alerts' and feeds from the Electrical Safety Office's social media accounts. However, education and awareness campaigns alone would not achieve Queensland's target of an electrical fatality rate below the national average or be able to achieve an equivalent level of protection for workers and the community.

Without specific requirements, advice and assessment for the electrical industry and workers to help uphold safety standards, the standard of electrical work will decline, posing increased risks to industry and the community. Without clear work and licensing requirements, the risk of unsafe, unlicensed work occurring in the community would increase and prosecution for serious harm would be unachievable. There is general consensus within the electrical industry in Queensland that strong, effective and enforceable electrical safety is a priority, including strong support for government oversight of new and emerging technologies.

Impacts to Government

Allowing the ES Regulation to expire would adversely impact ESO's ability to enforce electrical safety standards. OIR and the independent Work Health and Safety Prosecutor would not have a regulation to refer to in support of its enforcement and prosecution activities. This would provide little deterrent to PCBU's acting unlawfully.

ESO's ability to effectively administer the ES Act would be significantly impacted. Parts of the ES Act that would be impacted by the ES Regulation expiring and have the greatest impacts on government include:

- the enforceability of Part 2 of the ES Act (Electrical safety duties) would be weakened. There are 20 sections in the ES Regulation that outline how the primary duty of care in section 30 of the ES Act is to be performed. Removing the way in which a person's duty is to be performed weakens the enforceability of the duty, increasing legal uncertainty and reducing clarity for industry on how to comply. This could lead to increased disputes and additional strain on court resources and impact the Regulator's confidence to prosecute.
- inability to administer the licensing framework set out in Part 4. Section 55 requires that a person may only perform or supervise electrical work if they hold an electrical work licence that authorises them to perform the work. Similarly, section 56 requires that a person must hold an electrical contractor licence to conduct a business that performs electrical work. Part 4 of the ES Regulation provides what types of work each licence authorises and their eligibility requirements. Allowing the ES Regulation to expire would curtail ESO's ability to issue electrical licences.
- the incomplete adoption of the national EESS. Part 2A of the ES Act and Part 7 of the ES Regulation rely on each other to implement the national EESS in Queensland. The reliance on a regulation is signposted throughout Part 2A of the ES Act, without the ES Regulation to support this system to operate, certain requirements would be unenforceable.

- the inability to appoint accredited auditors under Part 10, Division 3. Section 129 of the ES Act provides that the Regulator can only appoint a person as an accredited auditor if they make an application for appointment in the way prescribed under a regulation. Without the ES Regulation to prescribe how an application can be made, the ESO would be unable to satisfy the requirements of the ES Act and could not legally appoint any person as an accredited auditor.

Further, the codes of practice that support industry to work safely rely on the ES Regulation and would be unable to be used if the ES Regulation expired. Relying solely on non-regulatory means is unlikely to meet community expectations in ensuring electrical safety, leading to reduced public confidence in government and the electrical safety framework.

There is ample evidence to support that argument for the continued usefulness and practicality of the ES Regulation. If the ES Regulation were to expire, alternative ways to satisfy and support the ES Act to an equivalent level that the ES Regulation currently provides would need to be investigated and assessed as non-regulatory measures alone would not be sufficient.

If option 1 were to proceed, it is expected to result in adverse electrical safety outcomes for Queensland where the rate of electrocutions, serious electrical injuries and property damage would increase posing a significant social cost to the community and failing to meet government objectives. Option 1 is therefore not supported due to the seriousness of the risks of fatalities and injuries associated with electrical work, as well as the negative impacts on the industry and the community if incidents were to rise.

Option 2 – Remake the ES Regulation ‘as-is’

The ES Regulation supports the Government’s objectives to improve electrical safety and reduce the risk of death and injury from electric shock, fire and explosion, and to work with Queensland’s electrical industry to help keep all Queenslanders safe around electricity, at work, at home and in the community. Maintaining the ES Regulation ‘as-is’-would retain its current inefficiencies rather than securing the opportunity to improve the relevance and efficiency of the ES Regulation.

Impacts for industry and community

Option 2 is expected to yield continued reductions in electrocution and electrical injury rates and would provide industry with the stable continuation of the ES Regulation. However, this option fails to address the ES Regulation’s shortcomings and outdated drafting style which would impact industry’s ability to effectively and efficiently comply with requirements.

Attachment 1 provides a detailed analysis of each Part in the ES Regulation, its importance and impact on industry, government and consumers. The costs and compliance impact outlined in Attachment 1 would remain under Option 2.

The fees prescribed by the ES Regulation have incrementally increased year on year in line with the government indexation rate set by the Queensland Treasury each year. The [Queensland Government Principles for Fees and Charges](#) requires agencies to set fees that accurately reflect the cost of providing services and ensure fees maintain their value over time.

Impacts for government

Under this option, ESO would continue with a business-as-usual approach to regulating electrical safety. **Attachment 1** provides information on the specific requirements and costs to government to administer the existing ES Regulation .

In comparison to the impact of allowing the ES Regulation to expire, this option would provide no additional costs to the current operation of ESO as there would be minimal updates to guidance material, codes of practice and other resources would be required. Inefficiencies in how the ES Regulation is currently administered would remain and none of the benefits from improvements to the structure or operation of the ES Regulation would be realised. Outdated drafting styles would remain which may create confusion and legal ambiguity when examined in the context of contemporary legislative drafting practice and interpretation.

Option 3 – Remake the ES Regulation with amendments to improve its relevance, effectiveness and efficiency

The impacts of option 3 compared to option 1 are consistent with those identified in option 2, with some additional impacts outlined below reflective of the additional amendments option 3 proposes.

Impacts for industry and community

Option 3 would continue to yield reductions in electrocution and electrical injury rates when compared with Option 1, while improving the relevance and efficiency of the ES Regulation to ensure it remains fit-for-purpose and contemporary. Continuing to regulate electrical safety in Queensland ensures that workers and the community continue to be protected by the risks and hazards associated with electricity through electrically safe behaviours and practices.

Proposed amendments would provide improved readability and make the ES Regulation easier to use and comply with. Modernising language and aligning the ES Regulation with contemporary drafting styles would provide industry with increased clarity on their obligations and how to fulfill them. Amendments will improve the ES Regulation's effectiveness and efficiency and provide a fit-for-purpose regulatory framework for industry and the community.

As there are no proposed changes to the policy intent of provisions or existing regulatory requirements, the regulatory burden on Queensland businesses is not anticipated to change. The most significant change is the proposed restructuring of the ES Regulation and section renumbering. Other key amendments are outlined below.

Proposed amendments to sections 68 and 69 of the ES Regulation which require a PCBU to not come within an unsafe distance of an electric line will not impact industry's current requirements as no changes have been made. Rather, these amendments will provide clarity on requirements specific to underground electric lines.

Proposed changes to the licencing part of the ES Regulation largely reframe the requirements in this part to provide clarity, including the time period for electrical licence holders to update contact details. These changes will impose a minimal administrative burden on electrical license holders, as they are simple requirements that arise infrequently. ESO requires accurate and up to date license contact details from electrical license holders to ensure proper communication about important safety notices and license conditions and allow for timely communication about compliance and enforcement actions. Where contact details are not kept up to date there is an increased risk that license holders will not receive critical communications, which may compromise compliance with the electrical safety framework.

Remaking the safety management systems provisions with amendments is anticipated to provide prescribed electricity entities with greater clarity around regulatory requirements when compared with Option 2. The changes include providing a more relevant description of the content and auditing requirements where they were previously ambiguous and caused confusion amongst entities. These details replace a broad information requesting power in the 2013 ES Regulation.

A transitional provision is proposed to be included to delay the commencement of the safety management system requirements in the remade ES Regulation for 12 months to provide time for prescribed electricity entities to align with the remade ES Regulation, including making modifications to a system to provide specifically for the audit report. This only requires minor administrative amendments to a safety management system and will not be onerous.

Overall, Option 3 would improve the clarity and application of the ES Regulation while providing a stable regulatory environment for industry and the community. Costs and compliance requirements for industry, government and consumers as outlined in **Attachment 1** would remain unchanged. However, there may be a temporary administrative adjustment period for industry to adapt to the new structure of the ES Regulation. The impacts of this would be alleviated by the provision of relevant communication materials to help with implementation, and the continuation of existing dialogue between ESO and the prescribed electricity entities. This impact on industry would be balanced by the benefits of additional clarity and useability of the remade ES Regulation.

Impacts for government

Option 3 would support and improve OIR's enforcement capability by clarifying requirements in the ES Regulation and providing contemporary language and terminology to better reflect modern practices. This option and the proposed amendments are not intended or expected to increase regulatory costs on government, including compliance or enforcement costs. However, there may be a temporary administrative adjustment period for government to communicate to inspectors and technical areas how the remade ES Regulation has changed structurally in comparison to the current ES Regulation.

ESO's suite of educational resources, guidance published online and the five codes of practice would be required to be updated to align with the remade ES Regulation. While the costs to update these resources is not insignificant, they are a one-time cost and will be absorbed within current budgets. The guidance material and codes will also benefit from updates that reflect contemporary language and terminology.

Option 3 is the preferred option to promote effectiveness and efficiency of the electrical safety regulatory framework and to ensure the ES Regulation remains current and fit-for-purpose.

Who was consulted?

In February 2025, OIR sought feedback on the ES Regulation from a range of industry representatives, worker representatives, electricity entities and accredited auditors, to inform the review. Five submissions were received from Masters Electricians Australia, Queensland Risk Management Consultants Risk Management, Energy Queensland, Powerlink and Resources Safety and Health Queensland (RSHQ).

Several opportunities were identified to improve the clarity, readability and consistency of the ES Regulation. Feedback relating to a change of policy or that would introduce additional regulatory requirements were considered out of scope for the purposes of the sunset review. Matters deemed out of scope for the sunset review were added to OIR's internal policy issues register to be considered as part of future policy work.

In April 2026, public consultation was undertaken on a consultation draft of the remade ES Regulation. A Consultation Paper was prepared and published online for feedback, along with a summary of changes between the ES Regulation and a draft version of the proposed remake of the regulation. This provided industry and the community with an opportunity to better understand what the remake of the ES Regulation would entail.

OIR received 13 submissions from members of the public, electrical entities and industry groups. Additionally, OIR met with four electricity entities who had requested a meeting to discuss their respective feedback (Energy Queensland, Powerlink, Queensland Rail and Aurizon).

Broadly, feedback was supportive of the draft remake. A number of submissions welcomed the restructure of the ES Regulation to group similar provisions and better align with the ES Act. Further amendments were made to the draft version of the proposed remake of the regulation in response to feedback including several opportunities to resolve minor drafting errors and clarify the operation of provisions to ensure they meet the policy intent. Consistent with the approach taken in the first round of consultation, feedback relating to policy change or alternative regulatory requirements has been added to OIR's internal policy issues register for future consideration.

The Queensland Building and Construction Commission, RSHQ, the Department of Trade, Employment and Training, the Department of Housing and Public Works, Queensland Health, the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Queensland Treasury (QT) and the Office of Best Practice Regulation, were consulted during the sunset review and the remake of the ES Regulation. The Department of Justice was consulted regarding the remake of the offence provisions. QT was also specifically consulted regarding the remake of the various fees contained within the ES Regulation.

What is the recommended option and why?

The recommended option is Option 3 – remake the ES Regulation with amendments to reflect contemporary drafting practices and terminology, improving efficiencies and provide clarity to promote consistency in applying the ES Regulation. It is not proposed that the remake of the ES Regulation introduce or amend policy changes.

Remaking the ES Regulation with amendments to improve efficiency is a key enabler for the continuation of a safe and successful electrical industry in Queensland. This option recognises that the ES Regulation appropriately supports the ES Act by providing important operational requirements, while also making several minor amendments to improve administration and clarify intent. Maintaining a robust regulatory structure for electrical safety is considered essential for a number of reasons. The frequency of incidents and fatalities in Queensland has declined since the electrical safety regulatory framework was introduced in its current form in 2002. This demonstrates that the introduction of the ES Regulation has had a positive effect in reducing the number of electrical fatalities and serious incidents in Queensland even as the size of the electrical industry and the prevalence of electricity in everyday lives has continued to increase. These trends underscore why a comprehensive, well-structured regulatory approach is essential to a continued reduction in electrical fatalities.

While incidents are reducing, they do still occur and are preventable. Addressing incidents and seeking to improve the electrical safety framework is a key function of the Electrical Safety Regulator. . There is justification to continue to improve the regulation of electrical safety including through amendments that improve the operation of the ES Regulation by promoting efficiencies and providing clarity.

This option best meets the objectives of government action in preventing harm caused by electricity and its benefits outweigh the cost of compliance and enforcement. As such, Option 3 provides the greatest net benefit to Queensland and is the preferred option.

The remake of the ES Regulation allows the ESO and the independent Work Health and Safety Prosecutor to continue to conduct enforcement and prosecution activities relating to the electrical industry in an effective and efficient manner, supported by a comprehensive and productive legislative framework. Enforcement and prosecution for those who do not comply with requirements under the ES Act and ES Regulation is a powerful deterrent against poor safety practices.

Implementation

It is not proposed that the remake of the ES Regulation make any policy changes. Given this, the regulatory burden on Queensland businesses, workers and the community is not anticipated to change substantially with the implementation of Option 3. However, administrative adjustments will be required by government, industry and the community as the proposed remake of the ES Regulation reorganises sections of the ES Regulation and changes provision numbers.

OIR will communicate with industry regarding the commencement date and any transitional provisions to ensure industry understands their obligations and to assist them in complying. A stocktake of outdated information and resources is underway and these will be updated to ensure accurate and timely information is available to industry and the community. New education material will be provided as well to assist industry and the community to adopt and use the remade ES Regulation, including a high-level comparison table between the ES Regulation and the remade ES Regulation. ESO will also continue to work closely with prescribed electricity entities to ensure that safety management system compliance and auditing requirements are clearly understood.

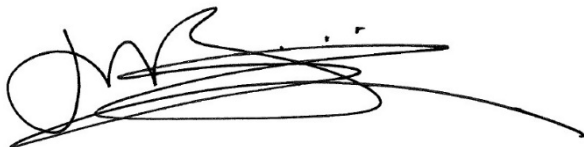
Impact assessment

	First full year	First 10 years
Direct costs – <i>Compliance costs</i>	There are expected to be various administrative costs as industry adjust to the new structure of the ES Regulation. As no changes to policy have been made, there are no additional compliance costs expected for industry.	See Impacts section and Attachment 1 for more information on holistic costs associated with the lifetime of the ES Regulation.
Direct costs – <i>Government costs</i>	There are expected to be various administrative costs that will be met from within existing resources.	See Impacts section and Attachment 1 for more information on holistic costs associated with the lifetime of the ES Regulation.

Signed



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Shaun Ferris
Acting Director-General
Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning
Date: 30/07/2026



.....
Jarrod Bleijie MP
Deputy Premier,
Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations
Date: 02/08/2026

Attachment 1 Detailed analysis of the performance and impact of the Electrical Safety Regulation 2013 (ES Regulation)

Note: Equivalent provisions of the Electrical Safety Regulation 2026 shown in brackets

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
Part 1 – Preliminary [Part 1 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 1 contains machinery and administrative provisions to help interpret and apply the ES Regulation, including the commencement date, purpose and key definitions.	This Part is necessary for consistent enforcement of the ES Regulation as it provides clarity on the legislation and its interpretation.	There are no direct financial costs associated with this Part.
Part 2 – General risk management [Part 2 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 2 requires persons conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) to manage electrical risks at workplaces in accordance with work health and safety legislation.	Part 2 is necessary as it makes clear a PCBU's primary duty under the ES Act to ensure that work is conducted in a way that is electrically safe, and to meet their responsibilities under the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 (WHS Regulation).	This Part requires PCBU to manage risks to health and safety at work associated with electrical risk in the same risks to health and safety are required to be managed under the WHS Regulation.
Part 3 – Electrical work [Part 8 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 3 regulates how electrical work must be performed and includes requirements for: - work on or near energised equipment - the performance of high voltage live line work - testing of electrical equipment after electrical work and its	This part supports the achievement of the objective to ensure the electrical safety of licensed electrical workers, other workers, licensed electrical contractors, electricity entities, consumers and the general public. The dangers of working near energised electrical equipment include electric shock and damage to property. This part extends the requirements for electrical work on energised electrical equipment to also apply to electrical work near energised electrical equipment. The limitations and controls prescribed by	Non-compliance with this part can result in electrocution, injury and property damage related to contact with live parts, arc flash, explosion and electrical fires. PCBU and licenced electrical workers may incur a time cost to satisfy the requirements of this Part. For example, the time associated with testing whether electrical equipment is de-energised before conducting work or conducting a risk assessment and recording the results. Other administrative costs include preparing and maintaining Safe Work Method Statements (SWMS), the provision of tested and suitable PPE,

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
certification after completion • prescribed circumstances for the replacement of similar appliances as required by the <i>Electrical Safety Act 2002</i> (ES Act). • documents required by the ES Act about the performance of electrical work • misrepresentation about electrical equipment or electrical work.	this part aim to minimise exposure of electrical workers to electrical risk. Certain aspects of electrical work, such as ‘live’ work, although undertaken by licensed electrical workers, carry a high risk of injury or death. To minimise this risk, this Part sets requirements for when electrical work is performed, including control measures to minimise the risk of electric shock as far as is reasonably practicable. Measures provided for in Part 3 include provisions that require isolation and lockout procedures and the testing of electrical work. Workers who perform electrical work are also required to be competent in rescue and resuscitation. Electrocutation is a common cause of cardiac arrest which can cause the heart to stop beating or beat irregularly. Performing Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and using an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in these circumstances can increased survival rates to 60-70%⁵.	ensuring safety observers are present for specific work, recordkeeping requirements and completing certificates for the testing and safety of electrical work. These administrative and time costs would contribute to the operational costs of the PCBU. The requirement on PCBUs to ensure workers are competent in rescue and resuscitation may incur costs to industry and workers to complete suitable training and become competent in accordance with recognised practices in the electricity industry. CPR costs are considered proportionate to the risks and are significantly outweighed by the benefits to workers lives’ if electrocution occurs and rescue or resuscitation is required. It is a requirement of an electrical work licence that a person is competent in CPR and a requirement of an electrical linesperson licence that a person be competent in rescue at pole top or transmission tower in addition to CPR. The removal of this Part would result in additional and unjustifiable costs being transferred onto workers’ families, the community and government as higher rates of electrocution, electrical injuries, interruption to supply and property damage would likely occur. There would also be a range of indirect costs to businesses through higher workers compensation premiums, higher property insurance premiums, productivity losses and staff turnover.
Part 4 – Licensing [Part 7 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 4 prescribes matters to support Queensland’s electrical licensing framework established	Queensland’s electrical licensing framework aims to ensure electrical work is performed by qualified	There are several compliance costs associated with this Part, including training costs to satisfy license eligibility, fees for licences, administrative and time costs for individuals and

⁵ Heart Foundation, 2026, <https://www.heartfoundation.org.au/heart-of-the-nation/cardiac-arrest>.

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
under the ES Act which provides that a person can only perform electrical work if they hold an electrical work licence and a business which provides electrical work services must have an electrical contractor licence.	individuals, protecting the electrical safety of industry and the community. Part 4 is important to give effect to and make operable provisions in the ES Act. Without it, there would be no defined licence classes (including their scope) and consumers and PCBUs would lose the ability to verify licence status. The public register of licences established under the ES Regulation provides transparency and assists consumers in verifying credentials. This Part prescribes all eligibility requirements for electrical work and electrical contractor licences, including training and competency requirements. Without this Part the Regulator would have no criteria to inform and support a lawful licensing decision. The absence of this Part would lead to the erosion of the community's trust towards electrical workers and service providers due to a lack of clear benchmark of training for licence holders. Section 41 works with Schedule 1 to recognise the equivalent external licences obtained interstate or in New Zealand. This allows licenced electrical worker in other jurisdictions to legally carry out work in Queensland in line with the equivalent licence class listed in schedule 1 without applying for a Queensland electrical work licence. This is important to support labour mobility in Queensland and Australia.	businesses to apply for and renew electrical licences, and costs for government to assess, issue and administer licences. This part requires licensed electrical workers to be trained and competent in resuscitation and for an electrical lineperson's to also be trained and competent in rescue from a pole top or transmission tower as outlined above. Apprentice courses such as UEE30820 Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician include units on resuscitation training. The cost of training is factored into the cost of obtaining the qualification in these circumstances. Refresher training for CPR is typically completed annually⁶. To be eligible for an electrical contractor licence, the applicant must have a qualified business person (QBP) and a qualified technical person (QTP) endorsed on the licence, which can be the same person. Electrical contractors must also have a minimum of \$5,000,000 public and product liability insurance, and \$50,000 consumer protection insurance. These requirements are considered proportionate to the nature of work contracted and ensure work is completed in a way that is electrically safe and that the business meets legal and financial requirements. While licence fees incrementally increase each year in line with the government indexation rates, compared with other jurisdictions, Queensland has some of the lowest licensing fees for both electrical work and electrical contractor licences. The regulation also provides for the refund of the administrative part of a fee if an electrical licence application is withdrawn or is refused by the regulator.

⁶ Workplace Health and Safety Queensland, https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0019/72631/first-aid-in-the-workplace-cop-2021.pdf.

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
		At 1 July 2025, an application for the issue, renewal or reinstatement of an electrical work licence costs \$93.98 (85.75 fee units) and remains valid for five years. As of 31 December 2025, there were approximately 67,000 active electrical work licence holders in Queensland. On average, 4,062 new licences are issued each year. Over the past decade, the cost to industry to obtain a new electrical work licence, in terms of fees payable, is estimated to be approximately \$342,370 per year, or around \$3,423,690 over the past decade⁵. An application for issue, renewal or reinstatement of electrical contractor licence costs \$449.14 (409.80 fee units) and remains valid for one year. As of 31 December 2025, there were approximately 13,800 active electrical contractor licence holders in Queensland. The number of new licences issued on average each year is approximately 414. It is estimated that the issuing of new electrical contractor licences has cost industry an average of approximately \$534,809 per year, or around \$5,348,095 over the past decade⁷. Additional costs include the time and money to obtain the relevant qualifications to satisfy the eligibility criteria for a licence, the time taken to apply for the licence and the cost to government to assess and issue licences. These costs are considered proportionate to maintain the integrity and functionality of the electrical licensing framework.

⁷ This figure accounts for the incremental increases in the application fees and the value of fee units.

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
		This part of the ES Regulation also provides a framework to recognise equivalent external licences, which helps minimise costs while supporting labour mobility. The regulator incurs costs to administer the register of electrical licences. The benefit this register provides to industry, and the community is deemed to greatly outweigh the cost burden on government as it provides transparency of who has an electrical licence and in doing so, instils confidence in users of licenced electrical workers and contractors in Queensland. Despite the compliance costs associated with this part, its removal would unjustifiably transfer costs onto the community, through higher rates of electrocution, electrical injuries and property damage. There would also be a range of subsequent costs to business through higher workers compensation premiums, higher property insurance premiums, productivity losses and staff turnover.
Part 5 – Overhead and underground electric lines [Part 1 -sections 10 & 11 and Part 2 – sections 13, 14 & 15 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 5 provides requirements for PCBUs for working near overhead and underground electric lines.	This part provides critical safety requirements to address the high risk associated with working near overhead and underground electrical lines. Electrocution from contact with overhead electric lines is a leading cause of electrical fatalities linked to network infrastructure. Nationally, there have been 161 electrical deaths associated with overhead or underground lines from electricity supply networks since 2000⁸. This Part sets risk avoidance measures to ensure, so far as reasonably practicable, that a person avoids coming	PCBU operating near overhead or underground electric lines must conduct a risk assessment and implement control measures before commencing work. The requirements of this part impose obligations on industry, including the time cost to comply, which is considered proportionate to the risk of electrocution and arc flash. The additional time taken to ensure workers are safely distanced from electric lines is minimal and justified given the significance of the risk of electrocution and death in circumstances where the proximity to electric lines is unsafe. This requirement also seeks to mitigate the potential of costly damage and disruption to electricity infrastructure.

⁸ Electrical Regulatory Authorities Council, 2025, <https://www.erac.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/ERAC-Electrical-fatality-report-2024-2025.pdf>.

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
	into direct contact with electric lines and keeps a prescribed distance from the line to minimise exposure to arc flash.	
Part 6 – Electrical installations [Part 2 – sections 16, 17 and 18, Part 3 and Part 6 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 6 prescribes requirements for electrical installations that are fundamental for electrical safety in both work and domestic settings.	Part 6 prescribes requirements for electrical installations; these requirements are nuanced and seek to ensure the electrical safety of electrical workers and the general public. Proportionate to the risk of electrocution, it is important that the installation, maintenance and testing of electrical installations is conducted in a way that meets standards and is electrically safe and reduces the risk of injury or death associated with an electrical installation.	There are several compliance obligations required by this part for licenced electrical workers and contractors, PCBU, workers and individuals. Division 1 requires that licenced electrical workers and PCBU must ensure that electrical work performed on an electrical installation complies with the wiring rules and any other standard relevant to the electrical installation as provided for in the ES Regulation. This obligation is proportionate to the risks imposed by an unsafe electrical installation and maintaining compliance with the wiring rules is a requirement of an electrical licence. Divisions 2 and 3 require a person in control of an electrical installation fix defects and maintain the electrical safety of an electrical installation, e.g., by ensuring trees are trimmed and supporting structures and electric lines owned by the person is maintained to a reasonable extent. There may be cost obligations for a person to trim trees or maintain a structure that they own that supports an electric line. These costs are proportionate to the risk of electrocution or injury from an unsafe electrical installation. Division 4 sets requirements for individuals and licenced electrical workers and contractors relating to having safety switches installed in a domestic residence. Obligations to comply include notification requirements for a person when selling a residential property and requirements for a buyer or

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs				
		lessor of residential land or person performing electrical work at a domestic residence, to ensure a safety switch is installed on all general-purpose socket outlets. The cost to have a safety switch installed is approximately \$200 to \$400 and takes approximately 1-2 hours. It is widely accepted that safety switches increase electrical safety in homes and reduce the incidence of electrocution. The benefit these requirements have on workers and the community by preventing deaths occurring greatly outweighs the costs of having safety switches installed. Divisions 5, 6 and 7 set requirements for PCBU relating to electrical installations, including the installation of ceiling insulation, work at a workplace and work in a roof space. Obligations and cost relating to these divisions may include training costs on industry to understand and implement their obligations, e.g., ceiling insulation installers must undertake electrical risk training and conduct inspections, and costs on PCBU to regularly test and tag electrical equipment (per AS/NZS 3760). These costs are considered necessary to maintain electrical safety and proportionate to the electrical risks they mitigate.				
Part 7 – In-scope electrical equipment [Part 4 of the 2026 Regulation]						
Part 7 prescribes requirements for Part 2A of the ES Act relating to in-scope electrical equipment for the purposes of the Electrical Equipment Safety System (EESS). Divisions 2-13 cover registration of responsible suppliers, the testing, registration, certification	The EESS is intended to provide a nationally harmonised framework aimed at increasing consumer safety when interacting with low voltage household electrical equipment (referred to as ‘in-scope electrical equipment’). Queensland has signed an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) to participate. Participating jurisdictions are required to establish legislation based on the principles contained in the IGA.	The EESS is a self-funding, user-pays system where registration fees fund improved compliance, surveillance and post-market enforcement activities. Associated fees include: <table><tr><th>Application type</th><th>Fee (from 1 July 2026)</th></tr><tr><td>Registration fee as responsible supplier</td><td>\$239.74 (211.60 fee units)</td></tr></table>	Application type	Fee (from 1 July 2026)	Registration fee as responsible supplier	\$239.74 (211.60 fee units)
Application type	Fee (from 1 July 2026)					
Registration fee as responsible supplier	\$239.74 (211.60 fee units)					

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs	
and sale of in-scope electrical equipment, records to be kept by a responsible supplier to demonstrate compliance, usage of the regulatory compliance mark (RCM) for electrical equipment and recording information in the national register.	Without this Part, Queensland would be in breach of its commitments as a signatory of the IGA as the legislative framework to support the adoption of the EESS would be inoperable. This part supports the objective of ensuring electrical equipment hired or sold is electrically safe in addition to ensuring the electrical safety of licensed electrical workers, other workers, licensed electrical contractors, electricity entities, consumers and the general public.	Registration fee of type of level 2 or level 3 in-scope electrical equipment	\$89.85 (79.30 fee units) (1 year) \$179.69 (158.60) (2 years) \$449.23 (396.50) (3 years)
		Application for declaration of scheme as recognised external certification scheme	\$5160.82(4,555 fee units)
		Annual fee for declaration of scheme as recognised external certification scheme	\$2946.93 (2,601 fee units)
		There are additional fees associated with applying for, modifying, amending or renewing certificates of conformity. Manufacturers, importers and retailers of electrical equipment incur costs to comply with this Part. Obligations include a need to obtain and maintain registrations and certificates of conformity, including relevant fees, keep compliance records, ensure compliant equipment bears the required RCM, conduct or commission testing and monitor for changes to standards. The community ultimately benefits from safer products, with compliance costs reflected in retail prices. The RCM represents compliance with two independent schemes: EESS and the Australian Communications Media Authority’s labelling requirements. This reduces red tape and saves time and money for industry as there is no longer a need to track and mark equipment with unique approval/certificate numbers. Using the RCM also allows consumers to easily identify when a product is compliant.	
Part 8 – Electrical equipment- general [Part 5 of the 2026 Regulation]			

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
Part 8 prescribes requirements for general electrical equipment, including those relating to prohibiting the sale or use of electrical equipment, labelling and inspecting electrical equipment and the hiring of electrical equipment.	This Part is important as people who perform unlicensed and DIY electrical work risk contact with electricity, which can lead to fatalities or serious injuries for themselves or others who use the electrical installation later due to improper work. Major property damage from an electrical fire is also a risk and if it was the result of illegal electrical work, insurers may refuse the claim. The DIY warning sign requirements for retailers warning customers not to undertake electrical work in relation to the product as installation must be done by a licensed electrical worker or contractor, are important to support the safety of the general public. The regulator's prohibition power in this part enables rapid response to product safety risks to help make sure unsafe electrical equipment is not sold and distributed within the community. This contributes to ensuring electrical equipment hired or sold is electrically safe.	Retailers must source and display approved DIY warning signs. Signs are available online, provided by ESO, posing costs. Regulator powers to prohibit the sale of electrical equipment may cost businesses to comply where this results in holding costs for excess stock. Ensuring that unsafe electrical equipment is prevented from being sold and distributed within the community justifies the cost to retailers due to the significance consequences unsafe electrical equipment can have, including the risk of death or serious injury. Consumers must engage a licenced electrical worker or contractor to perform work for particular electrical equipment and are prevented from self-installing certain electrical products. This includes a labour cost but significantly reduces the safety risks associated with working with electricity.
Part 9 – Works of an electricity entity [Part 12 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 9 prescribes the requirements for the works of an electricity entity, including requirements to maintain records in an accessible form.	Requirements are aimed at ensuring electrical safety for the public and workers in relation to the entity works. This part applies to a person, including an electricity entity, who designs, builds, maintains or operates works of an electricity entity. Electricity entities include generation entities, transmission entities or distribution entities in addition to particular railway manager or light rail managers.	Compliance obligations fall primarily on electricity entities for this part; this includes the ongoing costs associated with maintenance of works. Vegetation management (tree trimming near overhead lines) also represents an ongoing operational cost.

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
	Most Queenslanders are supplied with electricity via an electricity distribution system (also called supply networks) which connects the high-voltage transmission system to individual customer premises. Energex, Ergon Energy and Essential Energy are the three distributors that supply almost 2.4 million industrial, commercial and domestic electricity consumers with electricity through a network of over 212,600 kilometres of overhead and underground electric lines and over 1,721,500 power poles⁹. It is important that these and other entities function in an electrically safe way to ensure the safety of their workforce and the community they service. Nationally, there have been 161 deaths involving electricity supply assets since 2000-01¹⁰. The majority of deaths were associated with overhead lines, directly demonstrating the safety significance of the clearance and maintenance requirements in this Part.	
Part 10 – Electricity supply [Part 9 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 10 regulates the connection of an electrical installation to a source of electricity.	This Part prescribes requirements to ensure the connection of private electrical installations and electricity sources are safe. These requirements prescribe controls to ensure only safe electrical installations are connected to a source of electricity. This is important to support the electrical safety of licensed electrical workers and the general public who interface with connected installations.	Licensed electrical contractors bear the primary compliance burden as they complete certificates of testing and compliance for every connection, notify the distribution entity before energising, and retain copies of reports. Requirements to inspect, test and connect electrical installations ensure unsafe electrical installations are not connected to the electricity network as this could have wide-ranging negative impacts for workers, business and consumers. Similarly, requirements on safely connecting private generating

⁹ Energex, <https://www.energex.com.au/about-us/about-our-network>; Ergon, <https://www.ergon.com.au/network/about-us/about-our-network>.

¹⁰ Electrical Regulatory Authorities Council, 2025, <https://www.erac.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/ERAC-Electrical-fatality-report-2024-2025.pdf>.

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
		plant with the electricity network is critical for the safety of persons where private generating plant is used in conjunction with entity works. Most provisions in this Part relate directly to preventing work-related injury and electrocution. The associated costs to comply are outweighed by the critical need to ensure safety is not compromised. The absence of safety standards for electricity supply would likely lead to increased injuries and fatalities, lost working time and skills, higher workers' compensation premiums and decreased confidence in the safety of Queensland's electricity network.
Part 11 – Safety management systems [Part 10 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 11 supports the function of Part 5 of the ES Act by prescribing requirements for safety management systems (SMS) for prescribed electricity entities, including auditing requirements.	Section 5 of the ES Act outlines that one of the ways the purpose of the ES Act is to be achieved is by establishing benchmarks for industry and the community generally through introducing safety management systems for prescribed electricity entities. Part 11 sets out to operationalise these requirements of the ES Act, building on ES Act section 66. The purpose of an SMS is to provide a systematic approach for identifying, analysing and evaluating the risks related to the works of a prescribed electricity entity and effectively manage, monitor and adjust safety management measures to meet an entities safety goals and objectives, ultimately improving safety performance. Requiring the external audit of SMSs annually ensures prescribed electricity entities not only meet regulatory requirements but also continually improve safety	Prescribed electricity entities (listed in Schedule 6) are required to develop, maintain, update and implement their SMS, engage and finance accredited auditors to conduct annual audits, submit audit documents to the Regulator and implement any modifications reasonably required by the Regulator. Compliance with these requirements is borne by the prescribed electricity entities. There are time and labour costs associated with requiring annual audits by an accredited auditor of the SMS and administrative costs to prepare audit plans and compliance certificates and submit these to the Regulator. Over the past decade, these costs have been built into the operation of prescribed entities and are well-established practices within the industry. ESO also provides industry with extensive guidance and an SMS framework to assist entities and

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
	practices to protect their people, assets, and the communities they serve.	remove barriers to compliance ¹¹ . The benefits that SMSs produce in protecting health and safety as well as the costs saved by industry and community far outweigh the cost incurred to establish and maintain these systems.
Part 12 – Accredited auditors [Part 11 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 12 prescribes requirements for the appointment of accredited auditors to support Part 10, Division 3 (Accredited auditors) of the ES Act.	An accredited auditor's role is to independently verify certain higher risk electrical installations. Accredited auditors also audit SMSs for prescribed electricity entities and how prescribed electricity entities are giving effect to their SMS as required under Part 11 of the ES Regulation. These audit processes ensure that appropriate specialist expertise is available to independently assess the electrical safety and compliance of specific higher risk electrical installations, prior to connection or reconnection to a source of electricity, and that SMSs comply with the requirements of the ES Regulation. This part supports the electrical safety of licensed electrical workers, other workers, licensed electrical contractors, electricity entities, consumers and the general public as well as supporting the objective of ensuring a safe supply of electricity.	Primarily, persons seeking appointment as an accredited auditor bare the application and renewal fees set out in Schedule 8. In Queensland, there are approximately 76 accredited auditors registered to conduct electrical safety audits¹². From 1 July 2025, the application fee for appointment as an accredited auditor (external to OIR) is \$470.51 (429.30 fee units) and is valid for five years. An application for renewal costs \$278.06 (253.70 fee units). Officers of OIR are not required to pay registration or renewal fees. Additionally, there are further administrative and operational costs incurred to qualify and apply for appointment as an accredited auditor and for government to assess applications and appoint auditors. The administration component of the fee is refunded where applications are refused or withdrawn before determination to ease the financial burden on unsuccessful applicants and ensure that industry isn't paying unnecessary costs to the regulator. Accredited auditor fees have incrementally increased year on year in line with the government indexation rate set by the Queensland Treasury each year. The Queensland Government

¹¹ Electrical Safety Office, 2026, https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0027/157428/prescribed-electricity-entity-safety-management-system.pdf.

¹² Office of Industrial Relations, <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/compliance-and-enforcement/audits-and-inspections/electrical-safety-audits-and-guidance>.

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
		<u>Principles for Fees and Charges</u> requires agencies to set fees that accurately reflect the cost of providing services and ensure fees maintain their value over time. The commissioning of high-risk electrical installations and the conduct of associated systems of work without independent verification would represent an unacceptable level of risk to the community. While the fees charged for such audits are commercial-in-confidence, the impact on industry for this Part is considered justified in relation to the very high costs of the installations involved and the potential of associated risks as well as possible noncompliance with primary electrical safety duties of care. The demand for services and fees commanded by accredited auditors is expected to offset any regulatory costs, such as registration fees and training, required of an accredited auditor.
Part 13 – Cathodic protection systems [Part 13 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 13 prescribes requirements for cathodic protection systems in line with s210 of the ES Act.	Cathodic protection systems are used to prevent property from being destroyed or damaged by the effects of corrosion. Such systems are integral to the safety of structures like building reinforcement, buried metallic pipeline and cables. They protect structures and metalwork by using the metal to be protected as a cathode in an electrochemical process created by an extra low voltage electric current which facilitates corrosion in sacrificial anode material, completing the system. Cathodic protection systems present a low risk to the electrical safety of persons whether they are licensed	From 1 July 2026, the application fee to register a cathodic protection system is \$382.95 (338 fee units). There would be additional administrative and maintenance costs to industry on top of this fee. Unless cancelled earlier, cathodic protection systems are registered for five years after which the owner is required to apply to register the system for a further five years if necessary. As of 18 June 2026, there are approximately 1380 cathodic protection systems listed on Queensland’s Open Data Portal¹³. Fees for cathodic protection systems have incrementally increased year on year in line with the government indexation

¹³ Queensland Government, 18 June 2026, <https://www.data.qld.gov.au/dataset/cps-locations>.

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
	electrical workers, other workers, consumers or the general public. If poorly maintained or operated incorrectly, they have the potential to cause significant acceleration of corrosion in neighbouring structures. As such, these provisions should be maintained to protect the integrity and effective use of these systems. This part supports the achievement of the objective to prevent cathodic protection systems from damaging or interfering with the property of others.	rate set by the Queensland Treasury each year. The Queensland Government Principles for Fees and Charges requires agencies to set fees that accurately reflect the cost of providing services and ensure fees maintain their value over time. The overall cost savings to industry and community associated with cathodic protection systems due to decreased corrosion of significant structures (i.e. bridges, buildings, piers etc.) outweighs the expense of these systems.
Part 14 – Incident notification and reporting [Part 14 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 14 requires entities or PCBU to notify the Regulator of an incident in particular circumstances and take action in the interests of electrical safety.	Incident notification and reporting requirements in this part are important to allow the Regulator to respond efficiently and effectively to incidents and investigate in a timely manner. A core function of the regulator is to support the prevention of death, injury, and destruction of property caused by electricity across industry and the community. Requiring that PCBU and distribution entities notify the Regulator of incidents immediately after they occur ensures that the Regulator can fulfill its duties by responding in a timely manner and maintaining oversight of electrical incidents occurring throughout Queensland. The regulator uses incident reports and complaints alongside industry trends and research to develop its forward program of proactive compliance and engagement for each financial year. These targeted and	Approximately 1,388 electrical incidents on average are notified to ESO every year¹⁴. At an estimated cost of \$100 an hour for one hour of labour and incidentals such as phone calls and paper, it is estimated that the cost to industry to notify the Regulator of incidents is approximately \$138,800 annually. It is important to note that the advancements in online reporting systems in the last 10 years have likely led to a reduction in the time and cost associated with incident reporting, but each business would have their own processes and reporting requirements which may vary.

¹⁴ Based on incident notification data from 2020-21 to 2024-25.

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
	data-driven campaigns help address safety issues in key industries or occupations where incidents are occurring and assist in improving safety outcomes for workers and the community.	
Part 15 – Miscellaneous provisions [Part 15 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 15 prescribes miscellaneous provisions including operational provisions for the payment of electrical safety contributions as set out by Part 14A, division 1 of the ES Act and clarity regarding the operation of the ES Regulation at mines, petroleum plants and prescribed workplaces, and other matters. It also prescribes water equipment as prescribed electrical equipment and outlines requirements for supervising electrical apprentices.	This Part covers critical regulatory gaps that would otherwise not be captured elsewhere in the ES Regulation and operationalises provisions set up by the ES Act. In particular, the prescription of water equipment as prescribed electrical equipment recognises that extra low voltage equipment in water can cause drowning as a result of paralysis from electric shock. This provision ensures that electrical work on water equipment continues to only be done by licensed electrical workers, which supports the electrical safety of the general public. The limitations on types of work electrical apprentices are able to perform ensures that new, less experienced and often younger workers are not placed at risk of electrical shock or injury. This important in supporting the electrical safety of workers in Queensland.	There is minimal compliance costs associated with this Part as provisions mainly function to operationalise sections of the ES Act. In September 2025, ESO published updated guidance material on supervising electrical apprentices including information on how to comply with the requirements outlined in section 279 of the ES Regulation¹⁵. The requirement on electrical distribution entities to pay an electrical safety contribution to the Regulator each financial year is required by Part 14A of the ES Act, not the ES Regulation. However, this Part provides how the electrical safety contribution for the current financial year is to be calculated based on a premises figure (or customer numbers). The contribution amount for the 2026-27 financial year as published in the Queensland Government Gazette on 25 June 2026, is \$23,893,600¹⁶.
Part 16 – Repeal and transitional provisions [Part 16 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Part 16 repeals the Electrical Safety Regulation 2002 and provides transitional	Transitional provisions are essential for regulatory continuity. The transitional arrangements ensure that regulatory change can be implemented without	No compliance costs associated with this Part. Parties with licences, approvals or certificates under the repealed regulation or repealed provisions retained them automatically.

¹⁵ Queensland Government, 2025, https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/134303/Safe-working-and-supervision-guide-for-electrical-apprentices.pdf.

¹⁶ Queensland Government, 2026, <https://www.publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/bee7090f-0c69-4dce-b36f-e6cd98eb4a18/resource/62968cb9-8eb1-48e0-9b6d-c154c9ccc029/download/25.06.26-39-extra-gazette.pdf>.

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
arrangements to preserve the effect of actions taken under the repealed regulation. Division 2 preserves existing actions, licences, approvals, applications and obligations made under the repealed regulation. This Part includes transitional provisions for subsequent amendments to the ES Regulation since commencing.	disrupting the rights and obligations of existing licence and registration holders.	
Schedule 1 – External licenses and electrical work licence equivalents [Schedule 4 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Schedule 1 provides a list of licences issues in other jurisdictions that are equivalent to Queensland’s electrical work licence for the purposes of enabling workers from other jurisdictions to perform equivalent works in Queensland without obtaining a separate Queensland licence.	This schedule makes section 41 operable which allows for external licences issues in relevant jurisdictions to apply in Queensland. This is essential for labour mobility across Queensland and Australia. There are persistent shortages of electricians and inter-state labour mobility is essential to meeting workforce demand, particularly for large infrastructure projects in Queensland that draw workers from across Australia ¹⁷ . Without this Schedule, significant barriers to inter-state labour mobility would impede project delivery and increase project costs for industry.	No compliance costs associated with this schedule. Providing for equivalent electrical work licences to apply in Queensland rather than requiring workers to obtain a Queensland-specific licence, significantly eases the burden on industry and licence holders, supports cross-border movement of workers and prevents duplicating qualifications.
Schedule 2 – Exclusion zones for overhead electric lines [Schedule 2 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Schedule 2 sets out the exclusion zones, differentiated by voltage level, for persons, plant and vehicles working near overhead electric lines.	Schedule 2 relates to the operation and enforcement of section 69 (Meaning of <i>unsafe distance</i> for persons, operating plant and vehicles for overhead electric lines). Providing for safe distances from electric lines is critical due to the high risk associated with working near them.	PCBU must ensure workers are aware of and trained to recognise and apply the exclusion zones. Compliance with the exclusion zones outlined in this schedule significantly benefits the health and safety of workers.

¹⁷ Jobs and Skills, <https://www.jobsandskills.gov.au/publications/towards-national-jobs-and-skills-roadmap-summary/current-skills-shortages>.

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
	This schedule provides critical information to support the electrical safety of the general public and workers.	
Schedule 3 – Information to be included in declarations by responsible suppliers [Schedule 3 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Schedule 3 outlines what information is to be included in declarations by responsible suppliers relevant to in-scope electrical equipment.	Declarations by responsible suppliers are required as part of the registration process for each level of in-scope electrical equipment to show the equipment will meet safety standards and rules.	Responsible suppliers are required to declare how Level 2 and Level 3 equipment will meet relevant standards and be electrically safe. This obligation is part of the registration process.
Schedule 4 – Clearance of overhead electric lines (other than low voltage service lines) [Schedule 6 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Schedule 4 specifies minimum clearance distances for overhead electric lines (other than low voltage service lines) from ground level, structures, buildings, roads, railways and other conductors.	Schedule 4 relates to the operation and enforcement of sections 207 and 208 which require adequate clearance of overhead electric lines from the ground and structures. Providing for safe distances from electric lines is critical due to the high risk associated with working near them.	Electricity entities must ensure compliance with the minimum clearance distance required by this schedule. Compliance with the minimum clearance distance from the ground and structures significantly benefits the health and safety of workers and the community.
Schedule 5 – Clearance of low voltage overhead service lines [Schedule 7 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Schedule 5 specifies minimum clearance distances for low voltage overhead service lines from the ground and structures.	Schedule 5 relates to the operation and enforcement of section 207 and 208 which require adequate clearance of overhead electric lines from the ground and structures. Providing for safe distances from electric lines is critical due to the high risk associated with working near them.	Electricity entities must ensure compliance with the minimum clearance distances required by this schedule. Compliance with the minimum clearance distance from the ground and structures significantly benefits the health and safety of workers and the community.
Schedule 6 – Prescribed electricity entities [Schedule 5 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Schedule 6 lists prescribed electrical entities for the purposes of Part 11 (Safety management systems), defining the scope of the safety management system regime.	Prescribed electricity entities are businesses which have a large exposure/reliance on electricity or own significant electricity assets, such as electricity supply authorities or electrified rail owners. The nature of these businesses presents them with a significantly higher exposure to electrical risk. For this reason, these businesses need to have a comprehensive policy framework in place to manage this risk, in the form of a safety management system.	Prescribed entities must comply with the requirements set out in Part 11, including annual audits and reporting to the Regulator. Costs and benefits associated with these requirements are expanded on above in Part 11.

Description	Impact and importance	Compliance obligations and costs
Schedule 7 – Prescribed workplaces [Schedule 1 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Schedule 7 prescribes workplaces for the purposes of section 277 (Prescribed workplaces – Act, s 18(2)(d)).	Section 18(2)(d) of the ES Act carves out work that is expressly excluded from the meaning of ‘electrical work’ if it is done at a prescribed workplace (listed in Schedule 7). These provisions provide clarity for industry on what types of work are considered electrical work and captured under the electrical safety framework.	This schedule primarily provides clarification for workplaces whose regulatory coverage might otherwise be ambiguous, rather than imposing entirely new obligations on workplaces already subject to relevant safety requirements.
Schedule 8 – Fees [Schedule 9 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Schedule 8 outlines the fees payable for the electrical licences provisions, in-scope electrical equipment provisions, accredited auditors’ provisions and the cathodic protection system provisions.	Fees outlined in this schedule are collected by ESO for the purposes of delivering and maintaining the electrical safety framework including the provision of licences, registrations under the EESS, the appointment of accredited auditors and the registration of cathodic protection systems.	The Queensland Government Principles for Fees and Charges requires agencies to set fees that accurately reflect the cost of providing services and ensure fees maintain their value over time. Industry is required to pay the relevant fees when applying for licences, registrations and certificates. More information about the costs and benefits of these fees is included in the relevant sections above.
Schedule 8A – Prescribed Acts–Act, section 193 [Schedule 8 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Schedule 8A lists the Acts that are prescribed for the purposes of section 193 of the ES Act and section 285A of the ES Regulation.	Inspectors are given broad powers to investigate non-compliance, to issue statutory notices and to take other prescribed actions under the ES Act. As such, a duty of confidentiality exists to ensure inspectors and other officers are accountable and credible when they perform functions and exercise powers. This schedule allows for the disclosure, access or use of information that is necessary for the administration or enforcement of an Act listed in this schedule.	The Regulator has an obligation to manage information sharing appropriately. These provisions reduce duplicate reporting as information can be shared among regulators for the purposes of administering prescribed Acts.
Schedule 9 – Dictionary [Schedule 10 of the 2026 Regulation]		
Schedule 9 defines key terms used in the ES Regulation.	This schedule provides clarity on the definition of key terms to ensure their consistent interpretation and application.	There are no compliance costs or obligations associated with this schedule, rather this schedule reduces ambiguity on key terms used and provides a shared understanding on what they mean to assist industry, government and the judicial system to consistently apply the ES Regulation.

