REMOTE AREAS ENERGY SUPPLIES (RAES)

GENERATION LEVY FACT SHEET

Remote Areas Energy Supplies (RAES) Generation Levy Principles

The RAES scheme has on-going responsibility to existing customers for quality and reliability of electricity supply.

The Generation Levy has been designed to capture information about new connections so that any required RAES capacity expansion occurs in a technically and financially prudent manner, which does not compromise quality and reliability of supply to pre-existing customers, or for the newly approved connection.

History of the Generation Levy

There has been a long-standing requirement for a Generation Levy to enable connection to Government-owned electricity supplies in the RAES scheme.

The Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy took over responsibility for electricity in the remote Aboriginal Communities of Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY Lands), Maralinga Tjarutja (MT) and Aboriginal Lands Trust (ALT) in July 2011. The generation levy policy was reinstated for new connections in the RAES Aboriginal Communities scheme as of 1 January 2012 following Government approval.

This Generation Levy is in addition to connection charges paid directly to Cowell Electric Supply to provide and install the meter and to physically connect to electricity distribution systems in each RAES community.

What is the Generation Levy based on?

The Generation Levy is based on the connection capacity in kilo Volt Amps (kVA) sought by the applicant via the application form.

The required connection capacity is controlled by the rating of the meter isolator/circuit breaker that is required to be installed in association with the electricity meter. See especially clause 62.5 of connection contract conditions. This meter isolator/circuit breaker is supplied and installed by the builder’s electrician to be ready for Cowell Electric Supply to install the meter once connection is approved.

How is the Generation Levy calculated?

The Generation Levy is calculated using the formula

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\text{Generation Levy} = 1,500 \text{ (excluding GST)} \times \text{each kVA in excess of 10 kVA}
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How is the Generation Levy applied?

In administering this Generation Levy, the following principle applies:

- There is ONE 10kVA allowance per applicant/agency per community per calendar year.

Brief Explanation:

1. Per agency: as an agency might typically build several developments in a community per annum, which together contribute to the new higher peak demand that must be delivered by the RAES generation system.
2. Per community: as RAES energy supply is generally organised on the basis of supplying a recognised community. For the purpose of the definition, Indulkana, Mimili and Fregon are individual communities even if all supplied by the Central Power House (CPH).
3. Per Calendar year: as the peak demand for RAES generation systems typically occurs in winter, especially in RAES AC, hence calendar year captures an entire winter period.

In considering re-connections, any facility that was not connected during the prior system peak season will appear as new, previously unknown demand on the RAES generation system, and hence is subject to the levy for re-connection.

All customers are encouraged to minimise their demand and hence the generation levy. This will also assist them with minimising on-going bills by employing energy conservation, energy efficiency and fuel substitution such as LPG for heating applications where it is available.