

Basic Connection Services

APA offers two basic connection services for retail customers on the distribution network at Tamworth.

1. The first basic connection service available under APA's model standing offer comprises the provision of a new connection between APA's distribution pipeline and a retail customer's premises, where:
 - a. the provision of the service involves minimal or no extension to, or augmentation of, the distribution network; and
 - b. APA estimates that the retail customer's consumption of gas, at or through the connection, will be less than 1 terajoule ("TJ") of gas per annum; and
 - c. APA believes that the capital expenditure conforms with the National Gas Rules and estimates that the present value of the expected incremental value to be generated as a result of APA's capital expenditure for the relevant connection assets exceeds the present value of that capital expenditure
 - d. APA (and its authorised representatives) have safe and unhindered access to the retail customer's premises, so that it is not necessary for APA (or its authorised representatives) to make a repeat visit to the premises.
2. The second basic connection service available under APA's model standing offer comprises a repeat visit to commence or continue new connection work where APA (or its authorised representatives) do not get safe and unhindered access to the retail customer's premises, so that a repeat visit becomes necessary.

The two basic connection services are provided on and subject to the terms of APA's Model Standing Offer for a Basic Connection Service, a copy of which has been published on APA's website.

If a connection applicant wishes to negotiate those terms and conditions, the connection service is no longer a basic connection service but becomes a negotiated connection service.

The two basic connection services are available for any retail customer on the distribution network at Tamworth whose estimated gas consumption will be less than 1 terajoule per annum.

Expedited Connections

An expedited connection is the "default connection process" when a connection applicant applies for a **basic connection service**.

Expedited connections are intended to automate the connection process where the connection service is generally simple in nature, offers are likely to be generic and demand for the service is sought by a significant number of applicants.

Essentially this type of connection alleviates the need for a lengthy connection process and reduces the burden of administrative tasks associated with formal offer and acceptance periods.

Requirements for an expedited connection

If:

- a. a connection applicant requests an *expedited connection* in the connection application; and
- b. APA is satisfied that the connection application is for a basic connection service that falls within the terms of APA's Model Standing Offer for a Basic Connection Service (a copy of which is available on our website www.apa.com.au); and
- c. the connection applicant indicates in the connection application that a connection offer in terms of APA's Model Standing Offer for a Basic Connection Service would be acceptable to the applicant,

APA is taken to have made, and the connection applicant is taken to have accepted, a connection offer in terms of APA's Model Standing Offer for a Basic Connection Service on the date that APA receives the application.

If a connection applicant applies for an expedited connection but APA does not agree that an offer in terms of its Model Standing Offer for a Basic Connection Service is appropriate, APA must notify the connection applicant accordingly and draw the applicant's attention to the provisions of the National Gas Rules which deal with negotiated connections.