

Attachment 8.03

Policy for non-standard lighting

May 14



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Document and Amendment History

Issue No.	Date	Approved By	Summary of Changes
1.0	March 2014	Reg Team	Final
2.0	May 2014	John Bedding	Final

Policy for non-standard lighting

1.0 Background

Ausgrid currently offers a limited range of decorative luminaires and decorative steel columns to customers under Network Standard NS119. These can currently be installed by Ausgrid and charged as rate 1 (capital and maintenance charges) or developers/customers may purchase and install the fittings specified in NS119 and Ausgrid will take ownership of these and assume the ongoing responsibility for them as a rate 2 installation (maintenance charges only).

Decorative lighting in most cases has a higher capital cost than standard lighting and is also designed more on aesthetics than functionality. The photometrics and performance of these luminaires may be inferior to standard lighting. As decorative installations age and need repair, it often becomes difficult to source parts or similar style fittings, as they may no longer be available.

Ausgrid currently has approximately 4,000 decorative luminaires in 25 different styles and four types of decorative steel columns.

This action is being taken to streamline Ausgrid's street lighting business by:

- Rationalising the range of public lighting that Ausgrid offers, to standard luminaires, poles and fittings;
- Reducing spare parts inventories;
- Simplifying maintenance activities;
- Reducing the complexity associated with maintaining the inventory of public lights and simplifying the existing pricing;
- Leveraging off the network business, with public lights mounted on network poles, by reducing the number of diverse installations on private properties.

By focusing on core business activities and standard types of lighting equipment, Ausgrid will be able to provide a more efficient and cost effective service to public lighting customers.

2.0 New public lighting installations

Ausgrid proposes to cease offering decorative luminaires and new decorative steel columns to public lighting customers for new installations, from 1 July 2014. This service can be provided to customers by a number of companies and it is expected that this may promote greater competition in the provision of this service.

Public lighting customers that require decorative or non standard lighting arrangements that are not part Ausgrid's standard range may still do so. However, the customer would become responsible for sourcing, installing and maintaining the fittings as well as sourcing parts for repairs. Such new installations will be classified as privately metered installations.

3.0 Existing decorative installations

Existing rate 1 and rate 2 decorative installations will continue to be maintained by Ausgrid until such time as they are no longer serviceable, by carrying out lamp or photo electric cell changes as necessary. Other minor repairs or replacement will also be carried out, until such time as Ausgrid's existing stocks of spare fittings are exhausted. Ausgrid does not propose to procure any new stocks of decorative fittings.

When the decorative fitting is no longer serviceable and Ausgrid's stock of spare fittings is exhausted, Ausgrid will advise the customer.

Ausgrid will offer the customer the option of replacing the decorative fitting with a standard fitting from the current standard range of columns and luminaires. If this option is chosen, Ausgrid will continue to maintain the columns and luminaires and charge the relevant rate 1 to the customer.

If the customer chooses to install new decorative columns and/or new decorative luminaires the site will be classified as a privately metered installation. The customer will then become responsible for sourcing, installing and maintaining the decorative fittings, as well as sourcing parts for repairs

It should also be noted that Ausgrid will not permit replacement decorative luminaires to be installed on network poles as privately metered installations, when existing decorative luminaires are replaced.

Ausgrid wishes to minimise the financial impact of this strategy on our customers. We would therefore like to work individually with each customer to facilitate a transitional process which is of benefit to both parties.

4.0 New decorative installations

Ausgrid is proposing to only accept standard luminaires and columns for new installations.

Where Customers wish to install decorative lighting at a Greenfield site (i.e. new housing development or Park) this will be a privately metered installation. The customer will be responsible for sourcing, installing and maintaining these fittings as well as sourcing parts for repairs.

It should be noted that Ausgrid will not permit decorative luminaires to be installed on Network poles as part of a new installation.