

# Guide to Becoming a Licensed Electricity Retailer

## *Introduction*

This Guide summarises the steps that you will need to take towards becoming a Licensed Electricity Retailer (“LER”). The whole process may take 6-8 months to complete.

You will need to engage the following entities in the application process:

- **Energy Market Authority (“EMA”)**  
EMA is the regulator of Singapore’s electricity and gas industry.
  
- **Power System Operator (“PSO”)**  
PSO operates the power system in Singapore.
  
- **Energy Market Company Pte Ltd (“EMC”)**  
EMC operates the Singapore Wholesale Electricity Market (“WEM”).
  
- **SP Services Ltd (“SPS”)**  
SPS is the Market Support Services Licensee (“MSSL”). It provides services such as reading meters, management of meter data and facilitating access to the WEM.

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### Steps to becoming a Licensed Electricity Retailer

S/No.	Step	Entity	Description	Application Process	Estimated Time to Complete (up to) <sup>1</sup>
1	<b>Electricity Retailer Licence Application</b>	EMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ You will have to apply to EMA for an Electricity Retailer Licence to retail electricity in Singapore.</li> <li>➤ There are 2 types of retailers:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Market Participant Retailers (“MPR”)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MPRs are retailers who purchase electricity <u>directly</u> from the WEM to sell to contestable consumers.</li> <li>○ Registration with EMC is required to participate in the WEM.</li> </ul> </li> <li><u>Non-Market Participant Retailers (“NMPRs”)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NMPRs are retailers who purchase electricity <u>indirectly</u> from the WEM through SPS to sell to contestable consumers.</li> <li>○ Registration with EMC is <u>not</u> required.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Proceed to the <a href="#">GoBusiness Licensing portal</a> to apply for an Electricity Retailer Licence.</p> <p>For licensing clarifications, please contact EMA at 6835 8000, or email <a href="mailto:ema_enquiry@ema.gov.sg">ema_enquiry@ema.gov.sg</a>.</p> <p>For information on the access and use of GoBusiness Licensing, you may wish to refer to <a href="#">GoBusiness Licensing Helpdesk</a>.</p>	8 weeks

<sup>1</sup> The estimated time to complete each step is subject to the applicant cooperating with the relevant entity in particular the submission of complete information for processing.

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S/No.	Step	Entity	Description	Application Process	Estimated Time to Complete (up to) <sup>1</sup>
2a	<b>Market Support Services Agreement (“MSS Agreement”)</b>	SPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ For both MPRs and NMPRs, the MSS Agreement is required for SPS to provide market support services (as defined in the Market Support Services Code).</li> </ul>	<p>Refer <a href="#">here</a> for more information and signing of the MSS Agreement.</p> <p>Refer <a href="#">here</a> for the Market Support Services Code.</p> <p>For further clarification, please contact SPS at 1800 233 8000 or email <a href="mailto:retailerhelp@spgroup.com.sg">retailerhelp@spgroup.com.sg</a>.</p>	2 weeks
2b	<b>Power System Operator – Market Participant Agreement (“PSO-MP Agreement”)</b>	PSO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ For a MPR, the PSO-MP Agreement is required to enforce each party’s rights and obligations under the Market Rules.</li> <li>➤ This step is not applicable to NMPRs.</li> </ul>	<p>Refer <a href="#">here</a> for more information and signing of the PSO-MP agreement.</p> <p>Refer <a href="#">here</a> for the Market Rules.</p> <p>For further clarification, please contact EMA at 6835 8000, or email <a href="mailto:ema_enquiry@ema.gov.sg">ema_enquiry@ema.gov.sg</a>.</p>	1 week
3	<b>Market Participation Application</b>	EMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ To become a MPR, you will need to register with EMC as a Market Participant (“MP”).</li> <li>➤ There are broadly three requirements to become a MP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Prudential Requirements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Each MPR is required to provide credit support to EMC in one or more of the following form:</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Refer <a href="#">here</a> for more information on the Market Participation Application.</p> <p>Refer <a href="#">here</a> for the Market Rules.</p> <p>For further clarification, please contact EMC at 6779 3000, or email <a href="mailto:MPRegistration@emcsg.com">MPRegistration@emcsg.com</a>.</p>	4 weeks

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S/No.	Step	Entity	Description	Application Process	Estimated Time to Complete (up to) <sup>1</sup>
			<p>a. Guarantee or irrevocable commercial letter of credit;</p> <p>b. Cash deposits; or</p> <p>c. Singapore Government Treasury bills.</p> <p>Refer to the Market Rules – Section 7.6.2 – for more information.</p> <p>○ Under the Market Rules, the amount of credit support is calculated as follows: Credit Support Value = Estimated Average Daily Exposure x 38 Days</p> <p><u>Technical Requirements</u></p> <p>○ Each MPR is required to have the necessary IT system and interface with EMC.</p> <p><u>MP Bank Account</u></p> <p>○ Each MPR is required to open a bank account with EMC’s clearing bank, currently Overseas Chinese Banking Corporation (“OCBC”).</p>		

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S/No.	Step	Entity	Description	Application Process	Estimated Time to Complete (up to) <sup>1</sup>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ MPRs shall inform EMC on the desired Start Trading Date in advance.</li> <li>➤ This step is not applicable to NMPRs.</li> </ul>		
4	<b>Electronic Business Transaction System (“EBT System”)</b>	SPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Both MPRs and NMPRs are required to implement an IT system to interface with SPS’ EBT System. This is required for managing customer transfers and service requests.</li> <li>➤ SPS will provide the Market Participation Kit with guidance and direction to design, develop and deploy a software solution for enabling access to SPS’ EBT System.</li> <li>➤ You may wish to engage an IT vendor to assist in the implementation of your IT system for interfacing with SPS’ EBT System. This step can be done in parallel with Step 1 – 3. A non-refundable Retailer Registration charge of \$5,000 is payable to SPS (as stated in the MSS Agreement).</li> </ul>	<p>Refer <a href="#">here</a> for the Market Participation Kit.</p> <p>For further clarification, please contact MSSL at 6916 7228 or email <a href="mailto:retailerhelp@spgroup.com.sg">retailerhelp@spgroup.com.sg</a>.</p>	<p>4 months</p> <p><i>Time will be needed for the setting up, interfacing and testing of the system between both parties (i.e. MSSL and LERs).</i></p>

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### Other Relevant Information

	Description	Contact Information
<b>Open Electricity Market</b>	➤ Refer to the Open Electricity Market website ( <a href="http://www.openelectricitymarket.sg">www.openelectricitymarket.sg</a> ) for more information.	
<b>Market and Other Charges</b>	➤ Refer <a href="#">here</a> for the description of market and other charges applicable to LERs.	For any clarification, please contact MSSL at 6916 7228 or email <a href="mailto:retailerhelp@spgroup.com.sg">retailerhelp@spgroup.com.sg</a> .
<b>Code of Conduct</b>	➤ Each LER is required to comply with the <a href="#">Code of Conduct for Retail Electricity Licensees</a> .	For any clarification, please contact EMA at 6835 8000, or email <a href="mailto:ema_enquiry@ema.gov.sg">ema_enquiry@ema.gov.sg</a> .