

As communicated on April 26, 2006, the AESO has established a Reliability Threshold of 900 MW on the amount of wind generation able to be connected to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES) to ensure the continued safe and reliable operation of the AIES.

Wind generation projects currently operational or committed in the interconnection process in total exceed 900 MW. The AESO therefore proposes the following modifications to certain aspects of the AESO's Project Sequencing Determination Process dated May 10, 2006, applicable to wind generation interconnection projects.

1. The AESO will continue to accept Preliminary Assessment Applications (PAA) for wind generation projects. Wind generation projects must follow and comply with the various stages of the interconnection process as outlined in the AESO's Project Sequencing Determination Process.
2. If a customer wishes to commit early to a wind generation interconnection project, the customer must pay the full customer contribution on or after acknowledgement of the Interconnection Proposal and move up to Position 2 of the sequencing queue. A Proposal to Provide Service (PPS) will be developed for the project but the project will not be allocated transmission capacity nor will a facilities application be developed or filed with the EUB until there is sufficient operational or transmission capacity available.
3. Any wind generation project that requested system access service prior to May 8th, 2006 and now wishes to cancel the project will be refunded the system access application fee. The refund provision to this group of customers will only be available for 180 days following the May 8th, 2006 stakeholder session (until Nov 8, 2006).
4. Any wind generation project that requests system access after May 8th, 2006 remains subject to Article 5.2 of the AESO's terms and conditions.
5. Any wind generation project may request the return of their customer and/or system contribution (less any project costs incurred to date), and will return to its previous position in the interconnection queue prior to paying the contribution. For example, if a project was at Position 2 in the interconnection sequence they would return to Position 2. If it was at Position 4 before making its contribution, requesting refund of the contribution would move the project back to Position 4. The applicable compliance requirements will apply on a go forward basis.
6. Projects that request the return of their customer and system contribution and are moved to their previous position in the interconnection sequence while the Reliability Threshold remains in effect. Project are still expected to comply with all outstanding interconnection milestones or be canceled as outlined in the Project Sequencing Determination document.

Questions or concerns regarding the wind project interconnection sequencing proposal can be submitted to customer.interconnections@aeso.ca.