



May 14, 2009

Dear Stakeholder

The AESO is committed to ensuring we conduct our business in a manner that supports the fair, efficient and openly competitive (FEOC) operation of the electricity market in Alberta. The AESO also has a legislated obligation to collect, store and disseminate data relating to the current and future electricity needs of Albertans. As part of this obligation, the AESO is required to make decisions on the appropriateness of publicly disclosing data.

To ensure the AESO manages such expectations in a comprehensive and consistent manner, we have developed a Commercially Sensitive Data Policy. The Policy provides direction to AESO staff on how to best identify, manage and publicly disclose commercially sensitive data and also emphasizes the importance of these actions to market participants. AESO staff will make an assessment of whether the data in question is commercially sensitive and if it is appropriate to publicly disclose such data. The Policy recognizes that for example, certain data disclosure may impact the price fidelity of the wholesale electricity market or a market participant's expectation that certain data they share with the AESO will be treated as confidential.

The Policy addresses two types of data disclosure. The first is where the AESO is proactively disclosing data through a formal process such as a regulatory filing, or an informal process like a telephone conversation or email to a customer. The second is where an external stakeholder makes a specific request for data that is not currently published by the AESO. Non-confidential data resulting from a data request may be posted to a new [Data Request](#) section on the AESO website. To view the new section click [here](#) or visit the AESO website at www.aeso.ca and follow the path Market > Participant Information > Data Requests.

The AESO is in the process of rolling out the Commercially Sensitive Data Policy to our organization to ensure that all employees understand the obligations of the Policy as well as its importance to market participants.

If you have any questions on this internal AESO initiative, please contact Ron Smith ph: (403) 539-2595, ron.smith@aeso.ca or myself ph: (403) 539-2836, cheryl.terry@aeso.ca at any time.

Sincerely,

"original signed by"

Cheryl Terry
Vice-President (Interim)
Market Services