March 26, 2015

To: Market Participants and Other Interested Parties:


b) Proposed Removal of existing ISO Rules Section 9.3 Abbreviated Needs Identification Approval (“Section 9.3”); and
c) Proposed Removal of abbreviated needs identification approval process definition (“Related Definition”) from the AESO’s Consolidated Authoritative Document Glossary (“CADG”)

(collectively, the “New ISO Rules Section 501.3 Changes”).

Pursuant to section 2 of the Alberta Utilities Commission (“AUC”) Rule 017, the Alberta Electric System Operator (“AESO”) is providing notice and seeking feedback from market participants and other interested parties on the proposed New ISO Rules Section 501.3 Changes.

Applicability

The proposed New Section 501.3 applies to:

(a) a market participant; and

(b) the AESO.

Background

On September 22, 2014, the Transmission Deficiency Regulation came into effect. Section 4 of the Transmission Deficiency Regulation requires the AESO to develop rules or practices with regard to the abbreviated needs approval process (“ANAP”). Section 3 of the Transmission Deficiency Regulation provides that a needs identification document is not required for projects that proceed through the AESO’s ANAP rule or practice. Proposed New Section 501.3 sets out criteria that must be met by a project in order to be eligible for the ANAP, and also sets out requirements for the AESO to follow in determining whether to approve a project under the ANAP.

In addition to proposed New Section 501.3, the AESO proposes to describe procedural steps and activities required to support ANAP within the “Customer Connections” area on the AESO website. This approach is consistent with the approach taken by the AESO for connection projects and market participant choice projects.

The AESO is also proposing to remove existing Section 9.3. Section 9.3 was developed in accordance with Section 12 of the Transmission Regulation, “Abbreviated Needs Identification Approval Process” which was repealed in September 2014. Accordingly, Section 9.3 is obsolete and can be removed.

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Lastly, the AESO is proposing to remove the Related Definition from the AESO’s CADG. The Related Definition was developed to support Section 9.3 and is not used in the proposed New Section 501.3.

Scope of Consultation

The scope of this consultation is limited to the proposed New ISO Rules Section 501.3 Changes. Any comments received by the AESO that are outside of the scope outlined above will not be considered by the AESO.

Request for Stakeholder Comments

Please use the attached Stakeholder Comment Matrices when submitting comments to the AESO on the proposed New ISO Rules Section 501.3 Changes. Only written comments will be considered in finalizing the proposed New ISO Rules Section 501.3 Changes.

When reviewing the attached draft ISO rules, stakeholders should note that all defined terms in the draft ISO rules are emphasized using “bold”. Stakeholders are encouraged to refer to the AESO’s Consolidated Authoritative Documents Glossary when reviewing draft ISO rules to ensure they have an accurate understanding of those defined terms.

In keeping with the AESO Principles for Consultation on ISO Rules Changes, please ensure that comments provided represent all interests within each stakeholder organization with respect to the proposed New ISO Rules Section 501.3 Changes.

Please provide stakeholder comments or questions no later than April 15, 2015, to rules_comments@aeso.ca.

Adherence to deadlines is essential to the integrity of the ISO Rules Consultation Process. As such, any stakeholder comments received after April 15, 2015, may not be published, replied to, or otherwise considered by the AESO.

The AESO will be publishing all stakeholder comments received, for industry review, in April, 2015.

AESO Reply to Stakeholder Comments

In accordance with section 8 of AUC Rule 017, the AESO is required to provide a reply to stakeholder comments received regarding the proposed New ISO Rules Section 501.3 Changes. The AESO expects to publish the replies to stakeholder comments in May, 2015.

If no comments are received by the AESO regarding the proposed New ISO Rules Section 501.3 Changes, the AESO will proceed, pursuant to AUC Rule 017, to file the final proposed New ISO Rules Section 501.3 Changes with the AUC no sooner than three days after the deadline for comments as specified in this Letter of Notice.

In accordance with section 20.4 of the Electric Utilities Act, market participants may object to ISO rules filed with the AUC within 10 days after publication of the Notice of Filing of the ISO rules.

Attachments to Letter of Notice

In accordance with section 4 of AUC Rule 017, the following documents are attached to this Letter of Notice:
a) Clean copy of the proposed New Section 501.3;
b) Copy of the Stakeholder Comment Matrix for the proposed New Section 501.3;
c) Copy of the Stakeholder Comment Matrix for the proposed Related Definition removal;
d) Clean copy of existing ISO Rules Section 9, Transmission, Subsection 9.3, Abbreviated Needs Identification Approval; and
e) Copy of the comment-rationale matrix for the proposed removal of ISO Rules Subsection 9.3.

Sincerely,

“Original Signed By”

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Attachments