

807 BCTC EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE ENERGY

1. Purpose

To outline the terms and conditions for provision of emergency assistance between the ISO and British Columbia Transmission Corporation (BCTC), and to define the policies and procedures for the system controller (SC); and the policies for the BCTC system operator, in meeting the requirements for the exchange of emergency assistance energy.

2. Background

Emergency assistance energy can be requested from the ISO by BCTC or requested from BCTC by the ISO. Emergency assistance energy is made available to assist the requesting party when it is experiencing a system emergency. The amount of emergency assistance energy that can be provided from the ISO to BCTC depends on several conditions, the amount of supplemental and excess spinning reserves available, and the total transfer capability (TTC) of the Alberta-BC tie-line.

The Alberta-BC interconnection consists of the 500 kV line (1201L/5L94) between the Langdon substation (T102S) in Alberta and the Cranbrook substation in BC, plus the 138 kV circuits between BC's Natal substation and Alberta's Coleman (T799S) and Pocaterra (T48S) substations (1L275/786L and 1L274/887L, respectively). The ISO and BCTC post the hourly TTC on their respective websites.

3. Policy

3.1 Requesting emergency assistance energy

- In the event of a system emergency on either the BC or Alberta system, the party whose system experiences the system emergency (the requesting party) will make all efforts to address its needs through existing market mechanisms. System emergency is defined as any event that has resulted in the curtailment of firm load or where the curtailment of firm load is imminent.
- In the event these efforts are insufficient to address the need, one party may request emergency assistance energy from the other party.
- The emergency assistance energy capability will be tested in real-time up to twice a year as described in [Section 5.5](#).
- The requesting party will submit an e-tag in accordance with the WECC after-the-fact (ATF) business practice after the use of emergency assistance energy is complete.

3.2 Providing emergency assistance

- The party receiving a request for emergency assistance energy (the providing party) will use reasonable efforts to supply the emergency assistance energy from its own system subject to these conditions:
 - Emergency assistance energy will be provided for up to one hour or until the requesting party notifies the providing party that the emergency assistance energy is no longer required, whichever is the lesser. Emergency assistance energy may be provided after the first hour only if a separate request has been received.

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- The providing party will not risk reliability of its own system, and specifically will not be required to:
 - Curtail firm load.
 - Reduce curtailable load, other than load used for supplemental reserve.
 - Issue directives for spinning reserves that result in the control area carrying less than the required amount of spinning reserve.
 - Provide emergency assistance energy from regulating reserves.
 - Violate contingency reserve obligations to the NWPP or any other obligations to the NWPP, VRC, WECC, or NERC.
 - Curtail exports (other than interruptible export used for non-spinning reserve) and/or imports from and to its system.
- Emergency assistance energy will be provided only from supplemental reserve or from spinning reserve that is in excess of the required amount of spinning reserve.
- The providing party will include this energy as part of its supplemental reserve.
- Emergency assistance energy is considered interruptible and will be curtailed as required for a supply contingency in the providing party's system within 10 minutes from the time of the notification to the requesting party
- Emergency assistance energy may be curtailed when supplemental reserve is required for native load, NWPP contingency reserve obligations, or any other NWPP, WECC or NERC obligation
- Emergency assistance energy will be supplied only to the extent that :
 - There is transmission capacity available up to the TTC on the BC/AB Intertie.
 - Scheduled transactions (import and export) are not affected. If scheduled transactions and emergency assistance energy exceed TTC, then emergency assistance energy will be reduced first before reducing scheduled transactions.
 - Should the TTC limit be violated during delivery of emergency energy, action will be taken to reduce the actual flow within the TTC limit.

3.3 Scheduling emergency assistance energy

- The providing party will determine the amount of emergency assistance energy capacity available as the lesser of:
 - The requested amount of emergency assistance energy.
 - The amount of energy available from supplemental and excess spinning reserves.
 - The available transmission capability of the BC-AB intertie.
 - BCTC and the AESO will confirm the following before implementing the new schedule:
 - The amount of emergency assistance energy to be sent (MW).
 - The new net interchange schedule amount (MW).
 - The ramp start time, as agreed to by both parties.

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- The ramp duration, as agreed to by both parties.
- The requesting party will submit an e-tag after the fact in accordance with WECC standards and business practices i.e., not more than 168 hours in the past.

3.4 Settling emergency assistance

- Within three business days of the provision of emergency assistance energy, the requesting party will prepare and provide the providing party with a brief written report. The report will include:
 - date and time requested
 - MW quantity requested
 - MW quantity accepted
 - effective start time
 - completion time
 - ramp start time
 - ramp duration
 - name of BCTC or AESO operator making the request
 - name of BCTC or AESO operator accepting the request
 - prior system conditions
 - reason for the request
- Settlement for the emergency assistance energy delivered will be by repayment of energy in kind. In that regard, all emergency assistance energy received will be returned in accordance with the following:
 - The requesting party will use reasonable efforts to return energy within one calendar week of receipt.
 - The requesting party will use its reasonable effort to return the emergency assistance energy at times requested by the providing party.
 - Energy will be returned in kind of the amount and likeness of the energy received. For example, 50 MWh on peak for 50 MWh on peak or 100 MWh off peak for 100 MWh off peak.
 - The requesting party shall not take the cost of supply into consideration when considering the providing party's scheduling requests for settlement;
 - Each party will have the right to audit records of the other party pertaining to emergency assistance energy assistance transactions.
- Each party will have the right to inspect the books and records of the other party pertaining to any emergency energy transaction at its own cost and upon reasonable notice.
- Up to two times during the period between October to March, BCTC may request and the AESO will, on a timely basis, provide via email the following information:

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- prevailing Alberta System to BC System TTC and ATC
- Alberta system load
- prevailing wind generation output on the Alberta system
- maximum emergency assistance energy which could be made available to the BC system.

4. Responsibilities

4.1 ISO

The ISO will:

- Update this OPP as required to reflect any changes that may result from implementing an interconnection agreement or other agreements, between the ISO and BCTC.
- Prepare a brief written report about each request for emergency assistance, including the reasons for the request. This report will also fulfill the requirement for written confirmation of the emergency assistance request described in [Section 3.4](#).

System Controller

The SC will:

- Use reasonable efforts (see [Section 3.2](#)) to supply the requested emergency assistance to BCTC.
- Request emergency assistance from BCTC in the event of a system emergency in the AESO, when the assistance will help to mitigate the emergency, in accordance with [Section 3.1](#).
- Record emergency assistance transactions and information about these transactions.

4.2 BCTC

BCTC will:

- Use reasonable efforts (see [Section 3.2](#)) to supply the requested emergency assistance to the AESO.
- Request emergency assistance from the SC in the event of a system emergency in the BC system, when the assistance will help to mitigate the emergency, in accordance with [Section 3.1](#).
- Prepare and issue to the AESO a brief written report about each request for emergency assistance, including the reasons for the request. This report will also fulfill the requirement for written confirmation of the emergency assistance request described in [Section 3.4](#).
- Request emergency assistance energy capability tests with AESO in real-time up to twice a year.

5. System Controller Procedures

5.1 Sending emergency assistance energy to BCTC

When the BCTC System Operator requests emergency assistance energy, the SC will:

1. Determine the amount of emergency assistance energy to send to BCTC as the lesser of:

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- The requested amount of emergency assistance energy.
 - The available transmission capability on the AB-BC tie-line up to its TTC (see [OPP 304](#)). If the requested volume of emergency assistance energy exceeds the available export amount, consider increasing the posted TTC limit.
 - The amount of energy available from supplemental and excess spinning reserves.
2. Call the BCTC System Operator and confirm:
 - The amount of emergency assistance energy to be sent to BCTC.
 - The new net interchange schedule amount (MW).
 - The ramp start time, as agreed to by both parties.
 - The ramp duration, as agreed to by both parties.
 3. Issue ancillary service directives for supplemental and excess spinning reserves equal to the amount of emergency assistance energy being provided.
 4. Notify the manager of AESO Tools and Applications by an e-mail prior to the end of the shift that emergency assistance energy has been scheduled and enter in the shift log (see [OPP 1301](#)) the time when the schedule started, the MWh amount, and the reason for the request (if known).

5.2 Requesting emergency assistance energy from BCTC

When emergency assistance energy is required for the AESO, the SC will:

1. Call the BCTC system operator and request the amount of emergency assistance energy required, up to the import TTC on the Alberta–BC interconnection (see [OPP 304](#)).
2. Confirm with the BCTC system operator:
 - The new net interchange schedule amount (MW).
 - The ramp start time, as agreed to by both parties.
 - The ramp duration, as agreed to by both parties.
3. Notify the manager AESO Tools and Applications by an e-mail prior to the end of the shift and enter in the shift log (see [OPP 1301](#)) that emergency assistance energy was received from BCTC, the time when the schedule started, the MWh amount, and the reason for the request

5.3 Terminating or curtailing emergency assistance energy to BCTC

The SC will:

1. If a supply contingency occurs in the AESO and curtailment of emergency assistance energy is required to recover, determine the amount to curtail and go to step 3.
2. After one hour, or upon notification from the BCTC system operator, discontinue sending emergency assistance energy to BCTC.
3. Confirm with the BCTC system operator:
 - The new net interchange schedule amount (MW).
 - The schedule start time.

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- The ramp start time (assume to be 10 minutes before the scheduled start time unless otherwise agreed to).
 - The ramp duration (assume to be 20 minutes unless otherwise agreed to).
 - The integrated energy amount (MWh) for the hour(s).
4. Cancel or issue new ancillary service directive(s) to the supplemental and spinning reserve assets as required.
 5. Have BCTC create an ATF e-tag for the integrated energy amount of the emergency assistance energy sent to BCTC in the webTrans System Controller Display under the TAX1 asset for the required hour(s).
 6. Enter in the shift log (see [OPP 1301](#)) when the schedule for the delivery of emergency assistance energy to BCTC ended.

5.4 Terminating or curtailing emergency assistance energy from BCTC

The SC will:

1. If notified by the BCTC system operator that emergency assistance energy must be curtailed, go to Step 3.
2. Request termination of emergency assistance energy by the BCTC system operator within one hour from the start of the schedule.
3. Confirm with the BCTC system operator:
 - The new net interchange schedule amount (MW).
 - The ramp start time (assume to be 10 minutes before the scheduled start time unless otherwise agreed to).
 - The ramp duration (assume to be 20 minutes unless otherwise agreed to).
 - The integrated energy amount (MWh) for the hour(s).
4. Create an ATF e-tag for the integrated energy amount of the emergency assistance energy received from BCTC in the webTrans System Controller Display, under the TAI1 asset for the required hour(s).
5. Enter in the shift log (see [OPP 1301](#)) when the schedule for the receipt of emergency assistance energy from BCTC ended.

5.5 Emergency Assistance Energy Capability Test

The SC will provide the BCTC the following information on request up to two times during the period between October to March:

- Provide prevailing Alberta system to BC system TTC and ATC;
- Alberta system load;
- prevailing wind generation output on the Alberta system; and
- maximum emergency assistance energy which could be made available to the BC system.

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6. Revision History

Issued	Description
2009-09-01	Supersedes 2008-11-13
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2008-05-30	New issue