

March 29, 2022

To: Market Surveillance Administrator, Market Participants and Other Interested Parties
("Stakeholders")

Re: **Invitation for Stakeholder Consultation Session on the Development of the Proposed New and Amended Communication ISO Rules and Reliability Standards:**

- 1) **Proposed amendments to Section 502.4 of the ISO rules, *Automated Dispatch and Messaging System and Voice Communication System Requirements* ("Section 502.4");**
- 2) **Proposed new Alberta Reliability Standard COM-001-AB-3, *Communications* ("COM-001-AB-3"); and**
- 3) **Proposed new Alberta Reliability Standard COM-002-AB-4, *Operating Personnel Communication Protocols* ("COM-002-AB-4"),**
collectively referred to as the ("Communication ISO Rules and Reliability Standards").

Further to the *Save the Date for Stakeholder Consultation Session on the Development of the Proposed New and Amended Communication ISO Rules and Reliability Standards*, this invitation provides additional details regarding the Stakeholder consultation session.

Along with this invitation, the AESO has posted clean and blacklines copies of draft communication ISO rules and reliability standards, comparison matrices, and related draft information documents.

Purpose

The purpose of the Stakeholder consultation session is to solicit feedback from Stakeholders on the requirements of the Communication ISO Rules and Reliability Standards, including the AESO's proposed approach to the organization of the Communication ISO Rules and Reliability Standards requirements which is described further below.

In addition, during the session, the AESO will provide an update on the related Voice Communications and Grid-Operations Wide-Area Network Development system project ("GO-WAN Project").¹

Background

In 2018, the AESO initiated a Stakeholder engagement on COM-001-AB1-1.1, COM-002-AB1-2a and Section 502.4. The purpose was to align with the latest NERC communication reliability standard requirements, eliminate overlap and improve clarity and organization of the voice communication, and operating personnel communication protocol requirements within these rules and standards. Background materials on this Stakeholder engagement are available on the AESO's Stakeholder Engagement webpage.

In 2020, this engagement was put on hold while the GO-WAN Project was initiated to ensure that efforts and

¹ Facility proposals related to the Voice Communications and Grid-Operations Wide-Area Network Development system project were approved by the AUC in December 2021 through AUC Decisions 27019-D01-2021 and 27027-D01-2021.

requirements were aligned. Following the confirmation of the GO-WAN Project scope in 2021, and in consideration of Stakeholder feedback received during the earlier Stakeholder engagement, the AESO revisited its approach to the Communication ISO Rules and Reliability Standards.

AESO's Proposed Approach to the Communication ISO Rules and Reliability Standards

The proposed approach is as follows:

- **COM-001-AB-3** is to replace COM-001-AB1-1.1 and will contain all voice communication system requirements. The majority of the COM-001-AB-3 requirements align with NERC COM-001-3, aside from differences that are needed to accommodate the legal and regulatory framework for the Alberta electricity industry. COM-001-AB-3 also contains requirements that were established by the AESO. These requirements have been deemed necessary in Alberta and are either new or have been moved from Section 502.4 and modified. For clarity, the AESO has made a distinction between the NERC and the AESO-specific requirement numbering in the proposed COM-001-AB-3. The formerly proposed Section 502.17 of the ISO rules, *Voice Communication System Requirements* has been discontinued.
- **COM-002-AB-4**, which sets out voice communication protocols, is to replace COM-002-AB1-2a. The requirements in this standard remain largely the same as previous versions consulted on, however, minor changes have been made to better align the requirements with NERC COM-002-4.
- **Proposed amended Section 502.4** is to be amended to retain the requirements related to Automated Dispatch and Messaging System. These requirements have been modified to provide further clarity on the AESO's expectation for market participants with Automated Dispatch and Messaging System.

The AESO is of the view that this approach is more logical and efficient than previous approaches considered.

Draft AESO Information Document Content

The AESO has provided a draft version of amended AESO Information Document #2012-001RS, *Communications* ("ID #2012-001RS") and draft amended AESO Information Document #2017-006R, *Automated Dispatch and Messaging System* ("ID #2017-006R") as related material for this Stakeholder consultation.

The AESO's approach is to release information documents after authoritative documents have been approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission; however, the AESO and Stakeholders have discussed information document content several times over the past 4 years. Some of this content is no longer relevant given changes to the proposed approach for and content of Communications ISO Rules and Reliability Standards.

The AESO wishes to ensure a common understanding of information document content that is still relevant and sees value in providing these draft amended information documents for Stakeholder review at this time. If there is previously discussed information document content that has not been captured and is still important to include, the AESO is interested in this feedback from Stakeholders.

In relation to ID#2017-006R, this information document provides a list of ancillary services that are dispatched through the AESO's Automated Dispatch and Messaging System. By providing the draft amended information document at this time, Stakeholders will be aware of the impact of the proposed amended Section 502.4.

Stakeholder Consultation Session Details

The Stakeholder consultation session will be a virtual session using Zoom. The AESO would like to provide Stakeholders with information for the Stakeholder consultation session as follows:

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Date: **May 10, 2022**

Registration Details: Registration details will be provided at least 3 weeks prior to the Stakeholder consultation session.

Agenda

Stakeholders may propose agenda items by sending an email to rules_comments@aeso.ca on or before **April 19, 2022**. The AESO will consider and accommodate these requests where possible. The agenda is subject to change upon the AESO's review of Stakeholder comments. The AESO would like to discuss the following items with Stakeholders:

- 1) Introductions and session overview
- 2) Reliability Standards and ISO Rule development timeline
- 3) Update on the Voice Communications and Grid-Operations Wide-Area Network Development system project
- 4) Proposed amended Section 502.4 and ID #2017-006R and Discussion
- 5) Proposed COM-001-AB-3 and ID #2012-001R and Discussion
- 6) Proposed COM-002-AB-4 Presentation and Discussion
- 7) Next Steps

The presentation, which will include the agenda, will be posted on the Stakeholder Engagement webpages on or before **May 3, 2022**.

Related Material

The following documents are posted on the AESO website:

- 1) Clean and blackline copies of proposed amended Section 502.4;
- 2) Clean and blackline copies of proposed new COM-001-AB-3;
- 3) Clean and blackline copies of proposed new COM-002-AB-4;
- 4) *Comparison Rationale Matrix* for proposed new COM-001-AB-3;
- 5) *Comparison Rationale Matrix* for proposed new COM-002-AB-4;
- 6) Proposed Amended Information Document #2017-006R, *Automated Dispatch and Messaging System Requirements* relating to proposed amended Section 502.4; and
- 7) Proposed Amended Information Document #2012-001RS, *Communications* relating to proposed new COM-001-AB-3.

Sincerely,

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