

# Fact Sheet

## Large Load Integration

June 4, 2025

### ***Large loads are a new and unique situation for Alberta***

- Large load connection requests are outpacing available generation in Alberta.
- Connecting projects with loads larger than those of most Alberta cities presents unique operational and technical challenges to grid reliability (e.g., City of Edmonton load is approximately 1,400 MW).
- The grid can not connect all the current data centre requests in the short term.
- A new, fit-for-purpose approach is crucial to balance reliability risks with economic development.

### ***AESO prioritizing reliability***

- 1,200 MW interim limit ensures large load projects like data centres do not compromise the reliability of the Alberta grid.

### ***Approach aligns with the current legislative framework***

- The interim limit is grounded on the AESO's overarching public interest mandate for maintaining reliability of our grid.
- Allocation aligns with the AESO's mandate to carry out its functions in a fair, timely and responsible manner, as well as provide a reasonable opportunity for transmission system access.

### ***Approach represents a significant step forward for the Alberta data centre industry***

- The limit is a major shift for Alberta and the data centre industry—it adds the equivalent of 10 per cent to the province's current peak electricity use.
- 1,200 MW could unlock billions of dollars in investment in data centres in the province.
- A new large load framework will be developed to enable additional large load integration.