

Information Document

PER-003-AB-1 Clarification of Terms

ID #2018-023



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1 Purpose

This Information Document relates to the following Authoritative Document:

- Alberta Reliability Standard PER-003-AB-1, *Operations Personnel Credentials* (“PER-003-AB-1”)

The purpose of this Information Document is to provide further information regarding item (c) of the Applicability section of PER-003-AB-1, specifically, the meaning of “operating authority”.

2 Meaning of operating authority

PER-003-AB-1 only applies to those transmission facilities that are part of the bulk electric system. Item (c) of the Applicability section of PER-003-AB-1 is worded such that it only applies if all transmission facilities of the operator meet the criteria. If an operator of a transmission facility has even one transmission facility that is not covered by “an operating agreement with a NERC-certified operator”, item (c) does not apply.

In the context of item (c), the AESO considers the term “operating authority” to mean that the NERC-certified operator has the authority and accountability for decision-making in relation to the operation of the subject transmission facility. The AESO expects an operator of any transmission facilities that is subject to item (c) to only operate those transmission facilities on the bulk electric system in coordination with, and approval of, a NERC-certified operator with which they have an operating agreement that specifies the coordination protocol.

3 Meaning of direct supervision

Requirement R2 requires that each real time operating position that performs reliability-related tasks be staffed with a NERC certified operator. However, NERC provides the following footnote in relation to requirement R2:

“Non-NERC certified personnel performing any reliability-related task of an operating position must be under the direct supervision of a NERC Certified System Operator stationed at that operating position; the NERC Certified System Operator at that operating position has ultimate responsibility for the performance of the reliability-relate[d] tasks.”

The AESO agrees with this clarification.

Revision History

Posting Date	Description of Changes
2018-12-20	Initial release

¹ “Authoritative Documents” is the general name given by the AESO to categories of documents made by the AESO under the authority of the *Electric Utilities Act* and associated regulations, and that contain binding legal requirements for either market participants or the AESO, or both. AESO Authoritative Documents include: the ISO rules, the Alberta reliability standards, and the ISO tariff.