

ISO Rules

Part 500 Facilities

Division 501 General

Section 501.3 Abbreviated Needs Approval Process



Final Draft

Applicability

- 1 Section 501.3 applies to:
- (a) the **ISO**.

Requirements

Eligibility Assessment

- 2 The **ISO** must use the following eligibility criteria to determine whether the need for a **transmission facility** project can be approved by the **ISO** under the abbreviated needs approval process provided for under Section 4 of the *Transmission Deficiency Regulation*:
- (a) for a **transmission facility** project that responds to a request for **system access service**:
 - (i) if the request for **system access service** is to connect generation, the total increase of **maximum capability** as a result of the request is less than 45 MW;
 - (ii) if the request for **system access service** is to connect load, the load has contracted for an increase of less than 45 MW of Rate DTS in accordance with the **ISO tariff**;
 - (iii) the **transmission facility** project can be provided through substation additions, enhancements, rebuilds and reconfigurations, all within an existing substation fenced area, and through line reconfigurations within 300 metres of the substation;
 - (iv) the costs of the **transmission facility** project that are classified as system-related in accordance with the **ISO tariff** are estimated to be less than \$5,000,000 in the **service proposal**; and
 - (v) the studies used by the **ISO** to assess the **transmission facility** project have been conducted in accordance with **reliability standards**; or
 - (b) for a **transmission facility** project that does not respond to a request for **system access service**, the costs classified as system-related in accordance with the **ISO tariff** are estimated to be less than \$5,000,000 in the **service proposal**.

Conditions for Approval

- 3(1) The **ISO** must, prior to approving the need for a **transmission facility** project under the abbreviated needs approval process:
- (a) comply with the participant involvement program requirements for **needs identification documents** in **Commission** Rule 007, *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations and Hydro Developments*; and
 - (b) provide at least fourteen (14) **days** notice, by way of a posting to the AESO website, of the **ISO's** intention to consider a **transmission facility** project for approval under the abbreviated needs approval process.
- (2) The **ISO** must not approve the need for a **transmission facility** project under the abbreviated needs approval process if a stakeholder, identified by the **ISO** in accordance with the participant involvement program requirements for **needs identification documents** in **Commission** Rule 007, *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations and Hydro Developments*, has concerns or objections with the need for a **transmission facility** that, as determined by the **ISO**, have not been resolved.

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(3) The **ISO** must, when considering whether to approve the need for a **transmission facility** project under the abbreviated needs approval process, in accordance with the requirements for **needs identification documents** in **Commission** Rule 007, *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations and Hydro Development*.

- (a) assess the current transmission system capability and the record of the last five-year recorded summer and winter peak substation loads applicable to the development area;
- (b) perform a comparison of the options considered to connect or serve the **transmission facility** project, including, as applicable, connection configurations, capital costs, system impacts, environmental and land-use effects, and other considerations; and
- (c) obtain an implementation schedule for the **ISO**'s preferred option to connect or serve the **transmission facility** project.

Approval

4(1) The **ISO** may, subject to subsection 3, approve the need for a **transmission facility** project that meets the eligibility criteria described in subsection 2 under the abbreviated needs approval process.

(2) The **ISO** must, where it approves the need for a **transmission facility** project that responds to a request for **system access service** under the abbreviated needs approval process:

- (a) provide an approval letter to the **market participant** that has requested **system access service**, certifying that the **ISO** has approved the **transmission facility** project; and
- (b) provide the **legal owner** of a **transmission facility** who is eligible to apply for construction or operation of a **transmission facility** in the applicable geographic area, as determined under section 24(1) of the *Transmission Regulation*, with a copy of the approval letter described in subsection 5(2)(a).

(3) The **ISO** must, where it approves the need for a **transmission facility** project that does not respond to a request for **system access service** under the abbreviated needs approval process, provide the **legal owner** of a **transmission facility** who is eligible to apply for the construction or operation of a **transmission facility** in the applicable geographic area, as determined under section 24(1) of the *Transmission Regulation*, with an approval letter, certifying that the **ISO** has approved the **transmission facility** project.

Revision History

Date	Description
2018-xx-xx	Amendments to subsection 2
	Addition of subsection 3
	Administrative amendments
2015-07-31	Initial release.