

July 25, 2019

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

Re: **Letter of Notice for Feedback on the Requirements of the Proposed New Section 502.17 of the ISO Rules, Voice Communication System Requirements ("Section 502.17")**

Pursuant to Section 6 of Alberta Utilities Commission Rule 017: *Procedures and Process for Development of ISO Rules and Filing of ISO Rules with the Alberta Utilities Commission*, the Alberta Electric System Operator ("AESO") is providing notice and seeking feedback from Stakeholders on the content of proposed new Section 502.17.

Issue

The AESO is seeking Stakeholder feedback on the proposed new Section 502.17 voice communication system requirements in order to gain a better understanding of the impact the requirements have on Stakeholders.

Objectives

The next step of the consultation process is seeking feedback on the requirements of the proposed new Section 502.17. Specifically, the AESO is seeking feedback on:

- (a) cost and timeline of complying with the proposed new Section 502.17 requirements;
- (b) availability requirements set out in subsection 8, *Performance and Maintenance of Primary and Backup Voice Communication Systems*;
- (c) extended power outage requirements set out in subsection 9, *Extended Power Outage*;
- (d) operational requirements; and
- (e) the description of utility orderwire.

Background

The objectives of the proposed new Section 502.17 are to combine all voice communication system requirements and accountability for electricity market participants and the AESO into a single document; and to improve the reliability and performance of critical voice services for the Alberta interconnected electric system ("AIES").

To meet these objectives, the AESO proposes moving the voice communication system requirements from Section 502.4 of the ISO rules, *Automated Dispatch and Messaging System and Voice Communication System Requirements*, and related reliability standard COM-001, *Telecommunications* into the proposed new Section 502.17.

In addition, the proposed new Section 502.17 includes new and refined voice communication systems requirements relating to design and performance, control rooms and control centres, and extended power outages for backup voice equipment. It also restricts the use of some backup systems.

Consultation Completed to Date

- Letter of Notice for Development of a Proposed New and Amended ISO Rule – October 9, 2018
- Market Participant Comments on Letter of Notice for Development – October 30, 2018
- Letter of Notice of Proposed New and Amended ISO Rules - March 19, 2019
- AESO Reply Letter - April 18, 2019
- Save the Date for Stakeholder Consultation Session on the Development of the Proposed New Section 502.17 of the ISO Rules – *Voice Communication System Requirements* (“Section 502.17”) - June 4, 2019
- Invitation for Stakeholder Consultation Session on the Development of the Proposed New Section 502.17 of the ISO Rules – *Voice Communication System Requirements* (“Section 502.17”) - June 27, 2019
- Past Meeting Minutes and Presented Material related to the Development of the Proposed New Section 502.17 and the proposed amended Section 502.4 – July 2, 2019
- Late Stakeholder Comments in Response to AESO Replies – July 3, 2019
- Stakeholder Consultation Session – July 9, 2019
- Presentation from Stakeholder Consultation Session – July 9, 2019

Stakeholder Comments

Please use the *Stakeholder Comment Matrix for Additional Feedback*, when submitting comments to the AESO. Stakeholders should ensure that comments provided represent all interests within their organization.

The deadline for Stakeholders to provide comments is September 5, 2019 to rules_comments@aeso.ca. Adherence to deadlines is essential to the integrity of the comment process, and as such, the AESO may choose not to consider any Stakeholder comments received after the deadline.

The AESO will publish all Stakeholder comments received on the AESO website in September 2019.

Related Materials

1. [Stakeholder Comment Matrix for Additional Feedback](#)
2. [Stakeholder Comment Matrix for Additional Feedback Attachment](#)
3. [Copy](#) of proposed new Section 502.17 posted on March 19, 2019 in the Letter of Notice of Proposed New and Amended ISO Rules.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

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 Legal & Regulatory Affairs
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