

Key Messages

- To stay in the AESO Connection Process and advance to Stage 3, projects in Cluster 1 are required to make financial commitments and meet other requirements by November 29, 2024. Projects that do not meet these requirements will be cancelled and would be required to pay a reassessment fee.
- As the schedule for Cluster 1, including material financial commitments, coincides with the ongoing Restructured Energy Market engagement, the AESO is providing a one-time waiver of the reassessment fee for Cluster 1 projects to allow Market Participants (MPs) to cancel projects prior to entering Stage 3 without incurring the cost of the reassessment fee.
 - The reassessment fee will be waived for all Cluster 1 projects that cancel before Stage 3, either as a result of an MP request for cancellation or because Stage 2 gate requirements are not met.
 - This waiver grants MPs wishing to gain more information about potential market changes the flexibility to exit the Connection Process (and potentially enter a future cluster) without incurring the cost of the reassessment fee.
- The previously communicated timelines for Cluster 1 remain unchanged. To stay in the AESO Connection Process and advance to Stage 3, projects in Cluster 1 are required to meet Stage 2 gate requirements by November 29, 2024.
 - Stage 2 gate requirements include GUOC evidence or payment, acceptance of revised dynamic files (if required), and confirmation of Stage 3 & 4 Security to the TFO (if applicable).
 - The project change proposal submission deadline for projects in Cluster 1 is October 18, 2024.
 - Projects in Cluster 1 can proceed into Stage 3 at any point prior to the November 29, 2024 deadline, once the Stage 2 gate requirements are met.
 - MPs are reminded that in alignment with the ISO tariff, if a project is cancelled following the payment of GUOC, the full GUOC amount will be forfeited.
 - Projects in Cluster 1 that do not meet the Stage 2 gate requirements by November 29, 2024 will be cancelled and the reassessment fee will be waived.
- Cluster 1 projects that wish to re-apply for Cluster 2 must cancel the associated Cluster 1 project before submission of a system access service request (SASR) in Cluster 2.
 - The Cluster 2 SASR submission deadline remains October 18, 2024.
 - The previously communicated timelines for Stages 1 and 2 of Cluster 2 may be adjusted depending upon the number of Cluster 1 cancellations and the number of applications received for Cluster 2.
- Cluster 1 projects that meet Stage 2 gate requirements and continue in the AESO Connection Process will be subject to the reassessment fee should the project be cancelled at a later date.
- Questions regarding the above can be directed to your assigned AESO Project Manager or customer.connections@aeso.ca.