

# ISO Rules

## Part 500 Facilities

### Division 501 General

#### Section 501.3 Abbreviated Needs Approval Process



#### Applicability

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

#### Requirements

##### Legislative Authority

2 Pursuant to subsection 11.2 of the *Transmission Regulation*, this Section 501.3 and any associated business practices the ISO establishes related to a **transmission facility** project outlined in subsection 3 are the sole requirements in respect of an abbreviated needs approval process.

##### Eligibility Assessment

~~23~~ The ISO must use the following eligibility criteria to determine whether the need for **may approve** a **transmission facility** project ~~can be approved by the ISO~~ under the abbreviated needs approval process provided for under Section 4 set out in subsection 4 if:

- ~~(a) the ISO has identified a need consistent with the criteria set out in subsection 34(1) of the *Transmission Deficiency Regulation: Electric Utilities Act*;~~
- ~~(a) for a (b) the ISO has determined that the **transmission facility** project that responds to a request for **system access service**:~~

if the request for **system access service** is to connect generation, an appropriate option to meet the total increase of **maximum capability** as a result of the request is less than 45 MW; need; and

  - ~~(i) if the ISO reasonably expects 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**;~~
  - ~~(ii) 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;~~
  - ~~(iii) the costs of the **transmission facility** project that to be less than \$25,000,000, of which system costs 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~~
  - ~~(iv) the studies used by the ISO to assess the **transmission facility** project have been conducted in accordance with **reliability standards**; or~~
- ~~(c) 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 expected to exceed \$15,000,000 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 set out in subsection 4:

- (a) comply with the ISO participant involvement program requirements for **needs identification documents guidelines** in Commission Rule 007, *Applications for Power Plants, Substations*,

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*Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations ~~and~~, Hydro Developments; and Gas Utility Pipelines;*

(b) confirm that the **transmission facility** project is not anticipated to result in significant environmental effects;

~~(b)(c)~~ 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; including supporting documentation; and

~~(c)(d)~~ (2) — The ISO must not approve the need for a **transmission facility** project under the abbreviated needs approval process if aconfirm that any 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 ~~nothave~~ been ~~resolved~~ addressed

~~(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.~~

#### Abbreviated Needs Approval Process

~~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 under this 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 need for the **transmission facility** project; to the **Commission** and~~

~~(b)(a) provide to the applicable 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); and~~

~~(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.~~

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[\(b\) post a notice of the approval on the AESO website.](#)

**Revision History**

Date	Description
2021-XX-XX	Simplified eligibility criteria under Section 2. Removed criteria related to facility size, configurations, etc. Updated conditions for approval under Section 3. Removed requirements related to how the ISO conducts its assessment of the need and options. Simplified and updated the approval process set out under Section 4. Removed the requirement to provide an approval letter to the market participant
2018-08-31	Amendments to subsection 2 Addition of subsection 3 Administrative amendments
2015-07-31	Initial release.