

January 20, 2021

Notified Market Participant Corporate Legal Name
Address Line 1.
Address Line 2.
City, Province, Postal Code.

Dear Notified Market Participant Primary Contact:

Re: Approved Generating Facility Connection in the AESO's Central Planning Region

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) would like to advise you that TransAlta Corporation has applied for transmission system access to connect their approved Garden Plain Wind Power Project (approved Facility) to the Alberta interconnected electric system (AIES) in the AESO's Central Planning Region.

A copy of the applicable AESO Need Overview document is attached for your information. The AESO Need Overview document describes the AESO's proposed transmission development to connect the approved Facility to the AIES and the AESO's next steps, which includes submitting a needs identification document (NID) application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that the AESO has identified that, under credible worse case forecast conditions, the operation of the **[Effective Generation Facility Name] ([Effective Generation Facility Asset ID])** may be affected following the connection of the above noted approved Facility.¹

Connection Assessment Findings

Engineering connection assessments were carried out by the AESO to assess the transmission system performance following the connection of the approved Facility. The connection assessment identified the potential for thermal criteria violations following the connection of the Garden Plain Wind Power Project, under credible worse case forecast conditions, with all transmission facilities in service (Category A). In addition, thermal criteria violations were also identified when a single transmission facility is out of service (Category B) following the connection of the approved Facility.

Should the AESO determine that mitigation is required to address potential thermal criteria violations under Category A conditions, the AESO may develop operational procedures or other mitigation measures until the approved Provost to Edgerton and Nilrem to Vermilion Transmission System Reinforcement project is in place. In addition, to address potential thermal criteria violations under Category B conditions, the AESO may implement new remedial action schemes (RASs) or other mitigations, as required.

The AESO may also make use of real-time operational procedures to mitigate these potential thermal criteria violations, in accordance with [Section 302.1 of the ISO rules, Real Time Transmission Constraint](#)

¹ The studies were performed assuming a Rate STS, *Supply Transmission Service*, contract capacity of 130 MW.

Management (TCM Rule), which is in effect today. When applied, the TCM Rule could result in the AESO issuing directives for curtailment to source assets that are effective in managing a constraint.

The connection assessment identified source assets, including the **[Effective Generation Facility Name]** (**[Effective Generation Facility Asset ID]**), which are effective in mitigating the potential transmission constraints.

If the AESO determines that congestion will arise under Category A conditions, the AESO will make an application to the AUC to obtain approval for an “exception” under Section 15(2) of the *Transmission Regulation*. The AESO will notify market participants if and when the AESO determines it is necessary to apply to the AUC for approval of such an exception.

For Further Information

The engineering connection assessment will be included in the AESO’s Garden Plain Power Project Connection NID application. Following submission of the NID application to the AUC, the NID application will be posted on the AESO website at: <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects/>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the AESO at 1-888-866-2959 or stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca

Attachment:

AESO Need Overview Update: *Need for the Garden Plain Wind Power Project Connection in the Castor and Holden areas*