

April 30, 2019

**[Notified Market Participant]**

**[Notified Market Participant Address]**

Dear **Notified Market Participant**:

Re: **Planned Generating Facility Connections in the AESO's South Planning Region**

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) would like to advise you that the proponents of two planned generating facilities (planned Facilities) have each applied for transmission system access to connect their respective planned Facilities to the Alberta interconnected electric system (AIES) in the AESO's South Planning Region.

Planning for the connection of these facilities is undertaken by the AESO as part of the *AESO Connection Process*. The planned Facilities are as follows:

- the Drywood Expansion Power Plant; and
- the McLaughlin Wind Power Plant.

The AESO has produced Need Overview documents that describe the AESO's proposed transmission development to connect each of the planned Facilities to the AIES and the AESO's next steps, which includes submitting needs identification document (NID) applications to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval. Copies of the applicable AESO Need Overview documents are attached for your information.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that the AESO has identified that, under some potential system conditions, the operation of the **[Notified Market Participant Facility]** may be affected following the connection of one or more of the above-noted planned Facilities.<sup>1</sup>

### ***Connection Assessment Findings***

Engineering connection assessments were carried out by the AESO in order to assess the transmission system performance following the connection of the planned Facilities. The connection assessments identified the potential for system performance issues, under some future system conditions, following the connection of one or more of the planned Facilities.

### ***Transmission Constraint Management***

To mitigate these potential system performance issues, existing and planned remedial action schemes (RASs) may be modified.

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<sup>1</sup> The studies were performed assuming the following Rate STS, *Supply Transmission Service*, contract capacities: the Drywood Expansion Power Plant Connection, Rate STS of 34 MW; and the McLaughlin Wind Power Plant Connection, Rate STS of 47 MW.

The AESO may also make use of real-time operational measures to mitigate these potential system performance issues in accordance with Section 302.1 of the ISO rules, *Real Time Transmission Constraint Management* (TCM Rule). 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 assessments have identified source assets, including the **[Notified Market Participant Facility]**, which are effective in mitigating the potential transmission constraints.

### ***Renewable Generation Integration***

The actual impacts of these connection projects depend on their actual energization timing, as well as the energization timing of other planned renewable generation connection projects in the area. The AESO will ensure plans are in place when impacts of the Drywood Expansion Power Plant Connection, the McLaughlin Wind Power Plant Connection, and the other planned renewable generation connection projects in the area become certain. As mentioned in the AESO’s *Transmission Capability Assessment for Renewables Integration* report and addendum,<sup>2</sup> renewable integration capability could be achieved through use of RASs, which is consistent with the findings of the engineering connection assessments.

### ***For Further Information***

The engineering connection assessment will be included in the AESO’s Drywood Expansion Power Plant Connection and McLaughlin Wind Power Plant Connection NID applications. Following submission of the NID applications to the AUC, the NID applications 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](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca)

Yours truly,

*“Electronically signed by”*

Maz Mazadi, PhD, P.Eng., SMIEEE  
 Manager, Project and System Access Studies

### **Attachments:**

- AESO Need Overview: *Need for the Drywood Expansion Power Plant Connection in the hamlet of Twin Butte area*
- AESO Need Overview Update: *Need for the McLaughlin Wind Power Plant Connection in the Pincher Creek Area*

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<sup>2</sup> Available on the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/long-term-transmission-plan/>

# Need for the Drywood Expansion Power Plant Connection in the hamlet of Twin Butte area

*BowArk Energy Ltd. (BowArk) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its proposed Drywood Expansion Power Plant (Facility) in the hamlet of Twin Butte area. BowArk's request can be met by the following solution:*

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add a 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 164L.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission development.

## NEXT STEPS

- The AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need in mid-2019.
- The AESO's needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO's website at [www.aeso.ca/grid/projects](http://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects) at the time of its application to the AUC.

*The following organizations have key roles and responsibilities in providing access to the transmission system:*

## THE AESO

- Must plan the transmission system and enable access to it for generators and other qualified customers.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its NID.

## ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Twin Butte area.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing, constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

## WHO IS THE AESO?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) plans and operates Alberta's electricity grid and wholesale electricity market safely, reliably and in the public interest of all Albertans. We are a not-for-profit organization with no financial interest or investment of any kind in the power industry.

We appreciate your views, both on the need for transmission system development and proposed transmission plans. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us directly.

## CONTACT US

### Alberta Electric System Operator

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# Need for the McLaughlin Wind Power Plant Connection in the Pincher Creek Area

*Renewable Energy Services Ltd. (RESL) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its proposed McLaughlin Wind Power Plant (Facility) in the Pincher Creek area.*

*Distribution of the original AESO Need Overview began in May 2015 and the AESO filed a needs identification document (NID) application in December 2015. As a result of a change in schedule, the AESO determined that an amendment to the filed NID application will be required. The AESO intends to submit the amended NID as described below.*

*RESL's request can be met by the following solution:*

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 164L.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

## REVISED NEXT STEPS

- The AESO has determined that the NID application submitted in December 2015 needs to be amended. The AESO now intends to submit the amended NID application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need in early 2019.
- The AESO's needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO's website at [www.aeso.ca/grid/projects](http://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects) at the time of its application to the AUC.

*The following organizations have key roles and responsibilities in providing access to the transmission system:*

## THE AESO

- Must plan the transmission system and enable access to it for generators and other qualified customers.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its NID.

## ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Pincher Creek Area.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing, constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

## WHO IS THE AESO?

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We appreciate your views, both on the need for transmission system development and proposed transmission plans. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us directly.

## CONTACT US

### Alberta Electric System Operator

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