

December 07, 2021

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

Dear **Notified Market Participant Primary Contact:**

Re: **Wheatland Wind Project Connection Update**

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) would like to provide you with an update on the Wheatland Wind Project Connection in the AESO South Planning Region.

A copy of the AESO Need Overview Update document is attached for your information. The AESO Need Overview Update describes the AESO's revised proposed transmission development to connect the approved Wheatland Wind Project, and the AESO's next steps, which include submitting an application to amend the needs identification document approval (NID approval)¹ to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC).

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 approved Wheatland Wind Project (approved Facility).²

Connection Assessment Findings

An updated engineering connection assessment was 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 approved Facility, 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. In addition, to address potential thermal criteria violations under Category B conditions, the AESO may 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 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.

¹ On March 22, 2019, the Alberta Utilities Commission approved the AESO's Wheatland Wind Project Connection Needs Identification Document in Decision 24040-D01-2019 and NID Approval No. 24040-D02-2019.

² The studies were performed assuming the Rate STS, *Supply Transmission Service*, contract capacity of 120 MW.

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 updated engineering connection assessment will be included in the AESO’s application to amend the NID Approval. Following submission of the application to the AUC, the 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

Attachments:

AESO Need Overview Update: *Need for the Wheatland Wind Project Connection in the Dorothy area*

Need for the Wheatland Wind Project Connection in the Dorothy area

Wheatland Wind Project Ltd. (Wheatland), has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its approved Wheatland Wind Project (Facility) in the Dorothy area.

Distribution of the original AESO Need Overview began in June 2017 and the AESO filed a needs identification document (NID) application in November 2018. As a result of a revised proposed solution and schedule, the AESO determined that amendment to the filed NID application will be required. The AESO intends to submit the amended NID as described below.

Wheatland's request can be met by the following solution:

REVISED PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 144 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, to connect the Facility to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L85 in a T-tap configuration. Originally, the Facility was proposed to connect using an in-and-out configuration.
- 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 November 2018 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 late 2021.
- The AESO's needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO's website at 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.

ATCO

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Dorothy 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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