

ISO Tariff – Section 3 System Access Service Requests

Applicability

3.1(1) This section applies to a **market participant** who has requested a new **system access service** or changes to an existing **system access service** under:

- (a) Rate DTS, *Demand Transmission Service*;
- (b) Rate FTS, *Fort Nelson Demand Transmission Service*;
- (c) Rate PSC, *Primary Service Credit*, or
- (d) Rate STS, *Supply Transmission Service*.

Applying for System Access Service or Change to an Existing System Access Service

3.2(1) A **market participant** wishing to receive a new **system access service** or change an existing **system access service** must submit a request for **system access service** to the **ISO**, in the form specified by the **ISO** on the AESO website.

3.2(2) A **market participant** must provide the following critical information, as part of its request under subsection 3.2(1) above:

- (a) the requested Rate STS **contract capacity** or requested change in Rate STS **contract capacity**, including **contract capacity** by stage, if applicable;
- (b) the **maximum capability** of each **generating unit** or **aggregated generating facility**;
- (c) the requested Rate DTS **contract capacity** or requested change in Rate DTS **contract capacity**, including **contract capacity** by stage, if applicable;
- (d) generation type(s) in the case of a **generating unit** or **aggregated generating facility**;
- (e) in-service date, including the dates relating to any staged **contract capacity** request;
- (f) location of the load or generation related to the request of the **market participant**; and
- (g) if load or generation related to the request of the **market participant** are or will be part of a **Commission**-designated industrial system, or if the **market participant** has otherwise obtained an approval from the **Commission** that permits the export to the **interconnected electric system** of electric energy in excess of the **market participant's** own self-supply requirements, whether the load and generation will be metered on a gross or net basis.

3.2(3) In addition to the critical information set out in subsection 3.2(2) above, the **ISO** may establish additional critical information as part of the **ISO's** connection process and a **market participant** must provide any additional critical information that exists at the time the **market participant** makes a **system access service** request.

3.2(4) If a **market participant** requesting **system access service** is the **legal owner** of an **electric distribution system** and its **system access service** request contemplates a load transfer from one **point of delivery** to another **point of delivery**, or is related to another **system access service**, then the

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market participant must include the following additional critical information as part of its **system access service** request:

- (a) a list of the related **system access service** request(s);
- (b) the amount of any load transfer from one **point of delivery** to another **point of delivery**;
- (c) all distribution and transmission connection alternatives, or combinations of both, that have been considered by the **legal owner** of the **electric distribution system**;
- (d) the larger geographical area considered, including any **point of delivery** or **point of supply** in the area;
- (e) a complete description of why the **system access service** request is necessary; and
- (f) any other information that the **ISO** determines to be relevant.

Review of System Access Service Request

3.3(1) The **ISO** may, at any point in the **ISO**'s connection process, reject a **system access service** request submitted to the **ISO** under subsection 3.2 above if the **ISO** determines the request to be incomplete.

3.3(2) If the **ISO** determines a **system access service** request under subsection 3.2 above to be complete, then the **ISO** must determine whether a new or amended **needs approval** is required to respond to the request.

3.3(3) If a new or amended **needs approval** is required under subsection 3.3(2) above, then the **market participant** must follow the connection process described on the AESO's website and pay a **construction contribution** in accordance with section 4 of the **ISO tariff**, *Classification and Allocation of Connection Projects Costs*.

3.3(4) If a new or amended **needs approval** is not required under subsection 3.3(2) above, then the **market participant** must follow the **ISO**'s behind the fence or contract change process. The **ISO** must prepare if applicable, an amendment to the **market participant**'s *System Access Service Agreement Proformas*, and may require payment of a **construction contribution** in accordance with section 4 of the **ISO tariff**, *Classification and Allocation of Connection Project Costs*, or an adjustment to the **construction contribution** in accordance with section 5 of the **ISO tariff**, *Changes to System Access Service*.

ISO Preferred Alternative

3.4(1) If a new or amended **needs approval** is required for a connection project, the **ISO** must determine how to respond to the **system access service** request, and select the **ISO**'s preferred connection alternative taking into account relevant factors including the following:

- (a) the overall long-term cost of a connection alternative, including, as applicable:
 - (i) if the **system access service** request was submitted by the **legal owner** of an **electric distribution system**, all distribution costs;

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- (ii) costs classified as participant-related in accordance with subsection 4.2(2) of the **ISO tariff**, *Classification and Allocation of Connection Projects Costs*;
 - (iii) costs associated with **system transmission facilities**; and
 - (iv) all other transmission costs (including the costs of any non-wires solutions) not included in subsections 3.4(1)(a)(i), (ii) and (iii) above required for the connection; and
- (b) if the **system access service** request is for both Rate DTS and Rate STS, the **ISO** must consider the effect on the **transmission system** separately for Rate DTS and Rate STS.

3.4(2) For a **system access service** request for Rate DTS, if the **ISO**'s preferred connection alternative includes or depends upon the construction of **system transmission facilities**, then the **market participant** must:

- (a) accept the preferred connection alternative and pay any applicable advancement costs determined by the **ISO** in accordance with subsection 4.2(3)(a) of section 4 of the **ISO tariff**, *Classification and Allocation of Connection Projects Costs*;
- (b) amend the **market participant's system access service** request to connect at a reduced **contract capacity** that:
 - (i) can be accommodated by the existing **transmission system**; and
 - (ii) as determined by the **ISO**, allows for a minimum of 5 years of area growth following the **market participant's** projected in-service date, or such other reduced **contract capacity** or period of time that the **ISO** determines to be consistent with the **ISO's transmission system** planning obligations and the safe, reliable and economic operation of the **interconnected electric system**;
- (c) amend the **market participant's system access service** request to connect at an in-service date that is a minimum of 5 years following the execution of an agreement for **system access service** for Rate DTS substantially in the form included in Appendix A of the **ISO tariff**, *System Access Service Agreement Proformas*; or
- (d) withdraw the **system access service** request.

3.4(3) For a **system access service** request for Rate STS, if the **ISO**'s preferred connection alternative includes or depends upon the construction of **system transmission facilities**, then the **market participant** must:

- (a) accept the **ISO's** preferred connection alternative;
- (b) amend the **market participant's system access service** request to connect at a reduced **contract capacity** that the **ISO** determines to be consistent with the **ISO's transmission system** planning obligations and the safe, reliable and economic operation of the **interconnected electric system**; or
- (c) withdraw the **system access service** request.

Construction Commitment Agreement

3.5(1) The **market participant** providing **financial security, construction contribution** or both for a connection project must enter into a *Construction Commitment Agreement* with the **legal owner** of the **transmission facility**, substantially in the form included in Appendix A of the **ISO tariff, System Access Service Agreement Proformas**, unless:

- (a) the **market participant** is a **legal owner** of an **electric distribution system**; or
- (b) the **market participant** and the **legal owner** of the **transmission facility** are **affiliates**.

Execution of Agreement for System Access Service

3.6(1) A **market participant** must execute a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS or for Rate STS substantially in the form included in Appendix A of the **ISO tariff, System Access Service Agreement Proformas**:

- (a) if a new or amended **needs approval** is required for a connection project, before the **ISO** submits a **needs identification document** to the **Commission** or, before the **ISO** approves the connection project under the abbreviated needs approval process provided for under the *Transmission Regulation*; or
- (b) if a new or amended **needs approval** is not required for a connection project, at the time specified by the **ISO** on the AESO website.

3.6(2) A **market participant** must execute a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS for a **contract capacity** that, in the **ISO's** determination approximates the expected maximum coincident sum of the flows from the **transmission system** through each physical connection to the **market participant's** facilities.

3.6(3) A **market participant** must execute a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS for a **contract capacity** that, in the **ISO's** determination approximates the expected maximum coincident sum of the flows to the **transmission system** through each physical connection to the **market participant's** facilities.

3.6(4) Notwithstanding subsections 3.6(2) and 3.6(3) above, a **market participant** may execute a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS or Rate STS at a **contract capacity** determined by the **market participant** on either a gross or net basis if the **market participant** is seeking to connect a **Commission**-designated industrial system to the **transmission system**, or if an approval from the **Commission** has been obtained to permit the export of electric energy in excess of the **market participant's** own self-supply requirements (or in excess of a transmission-connected end-use customer's own self-supply requirements, if an arrangement under section 101(2) of the Act has not been entered into).

3.6(5) Notwithstanding subsections 3.6(2) and 3.6(3) above, if a **market participant** is the **legal owner** of an **electric distribution system** and each feeder at the substation does not have a **revenue meter** or the infrastructure to accommodate the installation of a **revenue meter**, as determined by the **ISO**, then the **market participant** may:

- (a) execute a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS for a **contract capacity** that, in the **ISO's** determination, reflects the maximum coincident sum of the flows from the

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transmission system using the available **revenue meters** and infrastructure at the substation; and

(b) execute a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS for a **contract capacity** that, in the **ISO's** determination, reflects the maximum coincident sum of the flows to the **transmission system** using the available **revenue meters** and infrastructure at the substation.

3.6(6) Prior to executing a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS or Rate STS for a connection project that requires a new or amended **needs approval**, a **market participant** must inform the **ISO** of any regulatory approvals and non-financial matters that the **market participant** expects could cause a delay or prevent the achievement of the in-service date that has been requested by the **market participant**, together with the expected dates for the receipt of the regulatory approvals and successful resolution of the non-financial matters.

3.6(7) The **ISO** must include as a condition precedent in Section 2 of the *System Access Service Agreement*, the receipt of any regulatory approvals identified by the **market participant** pursuant to subsection 3.6(6) above that the **ISO** determines could cause a delay or prevent the achievement of the in-service date that has been requested by the **market participant**.

3.6(8) The **ISO** may, in its discretion, include as a condition precedent in Section 2 of the *System Access Service Agreement*, the successful resolution of any non-financial matters identified by the **market participant** pursuant to subsection 3.6(6) above.

3.6(9) The **ISO** may reject a system access service request if a **market participant** does not execute a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS or Rate STS by the time specified by the AESO pursuant to subsection 3.6(1) above.

Effective Date of Agreement for System Access Service

3.7(1) If a new or amended **needs approval** is required for a connection project, a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS or Rate STS becomes effective immediately following the later of:

- (a) the issuance by the **Commission** of the permit(s) and licence(s) for the connection project;
- (b) the receipt by the **market participant** of any regulatory approvals included as a condition precedent in Section 2 of the *System Access Service Agreement*; and
- (c) the successful resolution of any non-financial matters included as a condition precedent in Section 2 of the *System Access Service Agreement*.

3.7(2) Until such time as conditions precedent related to any regulatory approvals or non-financial matters included in Section 2 of a *System Access Service Agreement* have been satisfied, the **market participant** must provide the **ISO** with quarterly updates or as otherwise specified by the **ISO** regarding the status of the regulatory approvals or non-financial matters, including updates to the expected dates for the receipt of any regulatory approvals and the successful resolution of non-financial matters.

3.7(3) A **market participant** must promptly inform the **ISO** when any regulatory approvals that are the subject of conditions precedent have been received or non-financial matters that are the subject of conditions precedent have been successfully resolved.

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3.7(4) If a new or amended **needs approval** is not required for a connection project, a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS or Rate STS becomes effective the day it is executed.

3.7(5) If a new or amended **needs approval** is required for a connection project, the **ISO** may cancel a **system access service** request and terminate the related *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS or Rate STS if the *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS or Rate STS does not become effective within 1 year of issuance by the **Commission** of the permit(s) and licence(s).

3.7(6) The **ISO** must include a connection project in the **ISO**'s forecast, **transmission system** plans and engineering connection assessments when the related *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS or Rate STS becomes effective in accordance with subsection 3.7(1) or (4) above.

Amending a System Access Service Request

3.8(1) A **market participant** must, in a timely manner, notify the **ISO** of any changes to the information provided in a **system access service** request if the information provided in, or in connection with, a **system access service** request ceases to be accurate.

3.8(2) If a **market participant** changes the information provided in a **system access service** request, the **ISO** may:

- (a) accept the change, subject to such further information or requirements that the **ISO** determines to be necessary that may include:
 - (i) revised or new connection studies; and
 - (ii) revised or new connection alternatives;

or

- (b) reject the change.

3.8(3) The **ISO** may, at any point in the **ISO**'s connection process, cancel a **system access service** request if a **market participant** fails to notify the **ISO** of a change to the critical information required under subsections 3.2(2), 3.2(3) and 3.2(4) above in a timely manner.

3.8(4) A **market participant** may reapply for **system access service** under subsection 3.2(1) above, if the **ISO** rejects or cancels the **system access service** request.

Cancellation Due to Action or Inaction

3.9 The **ISO** may cancel a connection project after reasonably concluding, based on the action or inaction of the **market participant**, that the **market participant** is not proceeding with the market participant's **system access service request**.

Alternative Processes

3.10 The **ISO** may satisfy the provisions of this section through processes other than those described above and, in particular, alternative processes may be utilized if the **ISO** anticipates the impact on the **transmission system** may be significant.

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Revision History

Effective	Description
2025-01-01	Revised as approved in Commission Decision 28441-D02-2023 issued on November 27, 2023.
2023-07-20	Revised as applied for in the AESO 2022 ISO Tariff Modernization Application, as approved in Commission Decision 27864-D01-2023 issued on May 31, 2023 and in effect as of July 20, 2023 as per Commission Decision 28294-D01-2023 (Alberta Electric System Operator ISO Tariff Compliance Filing Pursuant to Decision 27864-D01-2023).
2021-01-01	Revised and reformatted all subsections, as approved in Commission Decision 25175-D02-2020 issued on November 30, 2020.
2015-07-01	Updated subsections, as approved in Commission Decision 3473-D01-2015 issued on June 17, 2015.