

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 **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.

3.2(5) A **market participant** must make separate requests for changes to existing **system access services** at each **point of delivery** and **point of supply** at a single point of connection, unless the **market participant** is requesting or currently receiving **system access service** under both Rate DTS, *Demand Transmission Service*, and under Rate STS, *Supply Transmission Service*, at a single **point of connection**.

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 the construction of **transmission facilities** is required to respond to the request.

3.3(3) If the construction of **transmission facilities** 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 the construction of **transmission facilities** 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 an amendment to the **market participant**'s *System Access Service Agreement* substantially in the form included in Appendix A of the **ISO tariff**, *System Access Service Agreement Proformas*, and may require 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 the construction of **transmission facilities** 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;
 - (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**, being **transmission facilities** that the **ISO** determines will benefit many **market participants**, identified in subsections 3.4(1)(b) and (c) below; 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;
- (b) if the **system access service** request is for Rate DTS, the effect of a connection alternative on the **transmission system**, including all transmission constraints, under Category A and Category B conditions as described in **reliability standards**, as a result of the connection alternative, and the system **transmission facilities** required to resolve the transmission constraints; and
- (c) if the **system access service** request is for Rate STS, the effect of a connection alternative on the **transmission system**, including:
- (i) all transmission constraints under Category A conditions as described in **reliability standards**, that are a result of the connection alternative, and the system **transmission facilities** required to resolve the transmission constraints;
 - (ii) all transmission constraints under Category B conditions as described in **reliability standards**, that are a result of the connection alternative, the system **transmission facilities** required to operationally manage the transmission constraints, and the operating procedures required to manage the Category B transmission constraints; and
 - (iii) all transmission constraints under Category B conditions as described in **reliability standards**, that are a result of the connection alternative and cannot be managed operationally, then the system **transmission facilities** required to resolve the transmission constraints.
- and;
- (d) 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 under subsections 3.4(1)(b) or (d) above, if the **ISO**'s preferred alternative includes system **transmission facilities**, then the **market participant** must:

- (a) accept the preferred alternative and pay any applicable advancement costs determined by the **ISO** in accordance with subsection 4.2(3)(a) 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 under subsections 3.4(1)(c) or (d) above, if the **ISO's** preferred alternative includes system **transmission facilities**, then the **market participant** must:

- (a) accept the **ISO's** preferred 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.

3.4(4) If the construction of **transmission facilities** is required for a connection project, the **ISO** must examine a connection alternative that does not give rise to any transmission constraints as described in subsection 3.4(1)(b) or (c) above.

3.4(5) Estimates required by the **ISO** to compare connection alternatives must be prepared with the same accuracy range, completed, at a minimum, to the level required for **need identification documents** and include all costs that have identified in subsection 3.4(1)(a) above.

3.4(6) The **ISO** must calculate a **construction contribution** for a connection project and must classify all transmission costs of the connection project as either participant-related or system-related in accordance with section 4 of the **ISO tariff**, *Classification and Allocation of Connection Projects Costs*.

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* with the **legal owner** of a **transmission facility**, 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**.

3.5(2) The **market participant** providing **financial security**, **construction contribution** or both for a connection project must provide the **ISO** with an executed copy of a *Construction Commitment Agreement* referred to in subsection 3.5(1), as well as a record of the **financial security** and **construction contribution** unless the **legal owner** of the **transmission facility** provides a copy of the same to the **ISO**.

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*, as applicable:

- (a) if the construction of **transmission facilities** 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 Deficiency Regulation*; or
- (b) if the construction of **transmission facilities** is not required for a connection project, within 30 days of the issuance of a letter by the **ISO** acknowledging completion of an engineering connection assessment for the project, or within such later time period that the **ISO** determines to be reasonable in the circumstances.

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**.

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**.

3.6(4) Prior to executing a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS or Rate STS for a connection project when the construction of **transmission facilities** is required, 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(5) 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(4) 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(6) 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(4) above.

3.6(7) If the construction of **transmission facilities** is not required for a connection project, 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 date required pursuant to subsection 3.6(1)(b) above.

3.6(8) At the time of executing a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS, the **market participant** must provide the **ISO** with evidence satisfactory to the **ISO** that the owner of the generating facility (as that term is used in section 7 of **ISO tariff**, *Generating Unit Owner's Contribution*) has sufficient funds available to pay any contribution for a generating facility calculated in accordance with section 7 of the **ISO tariff**, *Generating Unit Owner's Contribution*. For purposes of the foregoing, such evidence may include a fully executed, enforceable and irrevocable assignment of funds, satisfactory to the **ISO**, that unconditionally directs the payment when due of any contribution for a generating facility calculated in accordance with section 7 of the **ISO tariff**, *Generating Unit Owner's Contribution*.

3.6(9) For a connection project that requires a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS, the contribution for a generating facility calculated in accordance with section 7 of the **ISO tariff**, *Generating Unit Owner's Contribution* must be paid by the owner of the generating facility in full to the **ISO**:

- (a) if the construction of **transmission facilities** is required for the connection project, within 30 days of the *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS becoming effective pursuant to subsection 3.7(1) below; or
- (b) if the construction of **transmission facilities** is not required for the connection project, within 30 days of the *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS becoming effective pursuant to subsection 3.7(4) of the **ISO tariff** below.

Effective Date of Agreement for System Access Service

3.7(1) If the construction of **transmission facilities** 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) required to construct and operate the **transmission facilities**;
- (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.

3.7(4) If the construction of **transmission facilities** 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 the construction of **transmission facilities** 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) required to construct and operate the **transmission facilities**.

3.7(6) The **ISO** must include the critical information of a specific 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.

Transitional Election of GUOC and System Access Service Agreement Provisions

3.8(1) If, prior to the effective date of this **ISO tariff**, a connection project that requires the construction of **transmission facilities** is in Stage 4 or 5 of the **ISO's** connection process or if a connection project that does not require the construction of **transmission facilities** is in Stage 5 of the **AESO's** behind the fence process and a power plant approval has been issued by the **Commission** for any associated generating facility, then the **market participant** may elect, by no later than 11:59 pm Mountain Time of

the 14th day following the effective date of this **ISO tariff** to pay the contribution for a generating facility according to either:

- (a) the **ISO tariff** that was in effect immediately prior to this **ISO tariff**, in which case;
 - (i) a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS must be executed at the time and in the form specified in the prior **ISO tariff**;
 - (ii) the contribution for a generating facility must be calculated and paid in accordance with the prior **ISO tariff**; and
 - (iii) subsection 3.6(8) above does not apply; or
- (b) this **ISO tariff**, in which case:
 - (i) if the permit(s) and licence(s) required to construct and operate the **transmission facilities** have been issued by the Commission prior to the effective date of this **ISO tariff**:
 - (A) a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS must be executed within 90 days from the effective date of this **ISO tariff**;
 - (B) the *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS becomes effective either immediately upon execution of the *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS if it does not include conditions precedent referred to in subsections 3.6(5) and 3.6(6) above or in accordance with subsection 3.7(1) above if the *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS includes an unsatisfied condition precedent referred to in one or both of subsections 3.6(5) and 3.6(6) above;
 - (C) the evidence required to be provided in accordance with subsection 3.6(8) above must be provided to the **ISO** within the 14-day election period; and
 - (D) the contribution for a generating facility must be calculated in accordance with section 7 of this **ISO tariff**, *Generating Unit Owner's Contribution*, and paid either within 30 days from the execution of the *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS if it becomes effective upon execution, or in accordance with subsection 3.6(9)(a) above if the *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS includes an unsatisfied condition precedent referred to in one or both of subsections 3.6(5) and 3.6(6) above; or
 - (ii) if the permit(s) and licence(s) required to construct and operate the **transmission facilities** have not been issued by the Commission prior to the effective date of this **ISO tariff**:
 - (A) a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS must be executed within 90 days from the effective date of this **ISO tariff** and becomes effective in accordance with subsection 3.7(1) above;
 - (B) the evidence required to be provided in accordance with subsection 3.6(8) above must be provided to the **ISO** within the 14-day election period; and
 - (C) the contribution for a generating facility must be calculated in accordance with section 7 of this **ISO tariff**, *Generating Unit Owner's Contribution*, and it must be paid within 30 days of the *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS becoming effective; or
 - (iii) if the construction of **transmission facilities** is not required:

- (A) a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS must be executed within 90 days from the effective date of this **ISO tariff** and becomes effective immediately upon execution;
- (B) the evidence required to be provided in accordance with subsection 3.6(8) above must be provided to the **ISO** within the 14-day election period; and
- (C) the contribution for a generating facility must be calculated in accordance with section 7 of this **ISO tariff**, *Generating Unit Owner's Contribution*, and must be paid within 30 days of the *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS becoming effective.

3.8(2) The ISO may deny the election of a **market participant** to pay the contribution for a generating facility according to this **ISO tariff** if the **ISO** determines such denial would be consistent with the **ISO's transmission system** planning obligations and the safe, reliable and economic operation of the **interconnected electric system**.

3.8(3) If a **market participant** that is eligible to make an election in accordance with subsection 3.8(1):

- (a) does not make the election within 14 days from the effective date of this **ISO tariff**, or
- (b) elects to pay the contribution for a generating facility according to subsection 3.8(1)(b) but fails to provide the evidence required in accordance with subsections 3.6(8) and 3.8(1)(b) above, or fails to execute a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate STS within 90 days from the effective date of this **ISO tariff**,

then subsection 3.8(1)(a) above shall be deemed to apply to the **market participant**.

3.8(4) If prior to the effective date of this **ISO tariff**, a connection project that requires the construction of **transmission facilities** is in Stage 4 or Stage 5 of the **ISO's** connection process, or Stage 5 of the **ISO's** "Behind the Fence" process, for **system access service** under Rate DTS, *Demand Transmission Service*, then a *System Access Service Agreement* for Rate DTS must be executed at the time and in the form specified in the prior **ISO tariff**.

Amending a System Access Service Request

3.9(1) A **market participant** must, in a timely manner, amend or withdraw a **system access service** request if the information provided in, or in connection with, a **system access service** request ceases to be accurate and, in the case of an amended **system access service** request, the **market participant** must clearly identify the change and reasons for the change.

3.9(2) The **ISO**, upon receipt of an amended **system access service** request that includes changes to critical information, may:

- (a) accept the amendment, subject to such requirements or further amendments as 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 amended **system access service** request.

3.9(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.

3.9(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.

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.

Revision History

Effective	Description
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.
2011-07-01	Revised and reformatted all subsections, as approved in Commission Decision 2011-275 issued on June 24, 2011.