Applying for a Digital Certificate

What are Digital Certificates?

The process to submit bids and offers to the energy and ancillary service markets, register/accept net settlement instructions (NSI), and retrieve statements/reports is handled through the AESO's Energy Trading System (ETS). In order to ensure internet-based communication between participants and the AESO is secure, participants must purchase a digital certificate.

A digital certificate is your assurance that the website you access is the secure AESO ETS. At the same time, the certificate allows the ETS to recognize authorized system users and allow access to appropriate information.

For security integrity, certificates require renewal on the anniversary date of the installation. Symantec VeriSign will automatically notify you one month prior to the annual renewal date.

The AESO administers digital certificate issuance, renewal or revocation. Symantec VeriSign is the provider of the encrypted digital signature services. Questions about digital certificate requirements can be discussed with the contact listed at the end of this document.

How do I apply for a digital certificate?

Please access the Energy Trading System (ETS) digital certificate enrolment procedure and follow the step by step instructions on how to complete the digital certificate"application form" and online enrollment.

How many digital certificates will my Company Require?

It is up to each company to determine how many digital certificates will be required. For security reasons and for audit purposes, the AESO recommends one certificate per user as individual digital certificates can be set up with different access levels.

The user access levels are authorized by your organization's corporate contact. The corporate contact for your organization can be found on the pool participant list.

Participants are responsible for maintaining internal security relating to digital certificates. Be aware that certificates can be installed or shared on computers outside of an organization. Therefore individuals who leave your company may still have access to your confidential information. Contact the AESO if you need to cancel a digital certificate or if you require changes to security access levels.

It is important to note that any changes to the applicant's original information (i.e. email address, name, and computer) may result in the applicant needing to obtain a new certificate. It is the participant's responsibility to send these changes to cert.admin@aeso.ca to verify whether a new certificate is required.

How do I Install a digital certificate?

Details on installing digital certificates are found in the Energy Trading System (ETS) digital certificate enrolment procedure, or by request, from the contact listed at the end of this document.

Please note you must use the same browser on the same computer to enroll and install your digital certificate. Once the AESO verifies your enrollment information and grants your request, you will receive an automated email instructing you to pick up your certificate.

How much do they Cost?

Digital certificates cost $100 each plus GST per year. The cost, which will appear on your statement, reflects the number of certificates your company has installed.

For Further Information

Email: cert.admin@aeso.ca