



# Alberta Electric System Operator

Approval of New Alberta Reliability Standard  
PER-006-AB-1

April 22, 2021

**Alberta Utilities Commission**

Decision 26406-D01-2021

Alberta Electric System Operator

Approval of New Alberta Reliability Standard

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Proceeding 26406

Application 26406-A001

April 22, 2021

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## **1 Introduction**

1. On March 25, 2021, pursuant to Subsection 19(4)(b) of the *Transmission Regulation*, the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)<sup>1</sup> forwarded a recommendation to approve the proposed new Alberta reliability standard PER-006-AB-1<sup>2</sup> to the Alberta Utilities Commission. The AUC registered this filing as Application 26406-A001, and designated it as Proceeding 26406.
2. Pursuant to Subsection 19(4) of the *Transmission Regulation*, before adopting or making reliability standards, the independent system operator (ISO) must consult with those market participants that it considers are likely to be directly affected. It must also forward the proposed reliability standards to the Commission for review, along with the ISO's recommendation that the Commission either approve or reject each of them.
3. Pursuant to subsections 19(5) and 19(6) of the *Transmission Regulation*, the Commission must approve or refuse to approve each reliability standard in accordance with the recommendation of the ISO, unless an interested person satisfies the Commission that the ISO's recommendation is:
  - (a) technically deficient, or
  - (b) not in the public interest.
4. On March 30, 2021, the Commission issued a notice of filing and notice for objection for the proposed new PER-006-AB-1 by uploading the notice to the Commission's eFiling System.
5. No objections were filed with the Commission by the April 13, 2021 deadline, specified in the notice of filing and notice for objection.

## **2 Background**

6. The AESO submitted that the proposed new PER-006-AB-1 requires the operator of a generating unit or aggregated generating facility to provide training to personnel who are responsible for the real-time control of the generating unit or aggregated generating facility, on the operational functionality of protection systems and remedial action schemes that affect the output of the generating unit or aggregated generating facility.
7. Further, the AESO explained that the adoption of the proposed new PER-006-AB-1 is important for maintaining the reliable operation of the interconnected electric system, as the

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<sup>1</sup> The ISO is established under Subsection 7(1) of the *Electric Utilities Act* and operates under the trade name AESO. For the purposes of this decision, AESO and ISO are used interchangeably.

<sup>2</sup> Note: The various types of reliability standards approved by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation are outlined at <http://www.nerc.com/page.php?cid=2|20>.

training of operating personnel, on those protection systems that may affect the output of their machines, can help expedite the restoration of a generating unit or aggregated generating facility to service, or possibly help mitigate the loss of a machine during certain operating conditions.

8. Regarding consultation, on December 7, 2020, the AESO posted a consultation letter on its website requesting comments from interested parties. Stakeholder comments were posted on the AESO's website on January 14, 2021. After further review, the AESO posted replies to the stakeholder comments on March 10, 2021, along with an explanation of why certain positions were accepted or rejected.

9. The AESO submitted the final proposed new PER-006-AB-1 with its application on March 25, 2021, and indicated that the proposed changes comply with the requirements of the *Transmission Regulation*, are not technically deficient and are in the public interest. The AESO recommended that the Commission approve the proposed new PER-006-AB-1.

### 3 Commission findings and decision

10. Subsection 19(4) specifies that before adopting or making reliability standards, the ISO must consult with those market participants that it considers likely to be directly affected and forward the proposed reliability standards to the Commission for review, with the ISO's recommendation that the Commission approve or reject them. The Commission is satisfied that the ISO has fulfilled these requirements.

11. Pursuant to subsections 19(5) and 19(6) of the *Transmission Regulation* the Commission must follow the recommendation of the ISO to either approve or reject proposed reliability standards unless the recommendation is demonstrated to be technically deficient or not in the public interest:

#### **Reliability Standards**

[...]

**19(5)** Subject to subsection (6), the Commission must approve or refuse to approve the reliability standards, agreements, criteria or directives, and must inform the ISO of its decision.

**(6)** The Commission must follow the recommendation of the ISO that the Commission approve or reject the proposed reliability standards, agreements, criteria or directives unless an interested person satisfies the Commission that the ISO's recommendation is

- (a) technically deficient, or
- (b) not in the public interest.

12. The ISO forwarded the proposed new PER-006-AB-1 to the Commission with a recommendation that the Commission approve it. No interested party filed an objection with the AUC indicating that the proposed new PER-006-AB-1 is either technically deficient, or not in the public interest.

13. Accordingly, pursuant to Subsection 19(6) of the *Transmission Regulation* and based on the recommendation of the ISO, the Commission approves the proposed new PER-006-AB-1, effective as of July 1, 2023.

Dated on April 22, 2021.

**Alberta Utilities Commission**

*(original signed by)*

Fino Tiberi  
Executive Director, Market Oversight and Enforcement  
On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission