



## **Alberta Electric System Operator**

### **Review and Variance of Decision 26215-D01-2021**

**June 3, 2021**

**Alberta Utilities Commission**

Decision 26215-D02-2021

Alberta Electric System Operator

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Proceeding 26215

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## **1 Decision summary**

1. The Alberta Utilities Commission has decided to review and vary Decision 26215-D01-2021,<sup>1</sup> and approve the Alberta Electric System Operator's (AESO's) effective date change request for Section 3 of the Independent System Operator's (ISO's) tariff.

## **2 Review and variance**

2. In Decision 26215-D01-2021 (Decision), the Commission approved, in part, changes to the terms and conditions of the ISO tariff to come into effect on July 1, 2021.

3. On May 19, 2021, the Commission received a letter from the AESO on the post-disposition record of this proceeding. In its letter, the AESO requested that the Commission defer the date for the new and amended language in Section 3 of the ISO tariff, which relates to the adjusted metering practice (AMP), to become effective. The AESO requested that the date be deferred to a date specified in a future proceeding that the AESO was going to file, regarding the AMP implementation plan.<sup>2</sup>

4. The sections of the approved ISO tariff that related to the substation fraction methodology involved changes to subsection 4.5(5) of the ISO tariff, as well as the change to the AESO's consolidated authoritative document glossary (Glossary). The result of the AESO's request is that the portions of the approved changes related to the substation fraction methodology would still come into effect on July 1, 2021.

5. The AESO explained that it requested the change in effective date because it only received approval to apply Section 3 of the ISO tariff as of July 1, 2021, to connection projects that request new or altered system access service and to enter into AMP-compliant system access service agreements. However, it did not receive approval to bill those projects in accordance with the AMP until its implementation plan is approved. The AESO detailed how the inconsistency with contract capacity and billing affect both its tariff as well as one of its rules that relate to the metering location for system access service.<sup>3</sup>

6. The Commission's authority to review its own decisions is discretionary and is found in Section 10 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*. Rule 016: *Review of Commission Decisions* sets out the standard process for considering an application for review. Section 2 of Rule 016

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 26215-D01-2021: Alberta Electric System Operator, Compliance with Decision 25848-D01-2020, Proceeding 26215, April 29, 2021.

<sup>2</sup> AESO Post-disposition letter, May 19, 2021, PDF page 1.

<sup>3</sup> AESO Post-disposition letter, May 19, 2021, PDF pages 2-3.

states “notwithstanding sections 3 to 6 of this rule, the Commission may review a decision, in whole or in part, on its own motion at any time.”

7. The Commission finds it in the public interest to review and vary the effective date of subsections 3.2(2), 3.6(2) and 3.6(3), and new subsection 3.6(4) of the ISO tariff to a date to be specified by the Commission in its approval of the AMP implementation plan that has yet to be filed by the AESO. This is because:

- (a) granting the AESO’s request corrects what the AESO described as an “unworkable situation” in terms of compliance with Section 3 of the ISO tariff and certain sections of ISO rules”; and
- (b) the AMP implementation plan is meant to comprehensively address all factors involved in implementing the AMP. Accordingly, granting the AESO’s request provides parties with an opportunity to gain important clarity regarding how the AMP implementation plan will impact them before it is approved by the Commission and takes effect.

8. Accordingly, paragraphs 36, 60 and 65 of the Decision and the order are varied as set forth below.

9. Paragraph 36 related to the approval date of the ISO tariff for language changes in Section 3. These changes relate to the consequences of applying for a new or changed system access service agreement. The Commission varies the final two sentences in paragraph 36 as follows (red text is the replacement text and deleted text is omitted):

The upshot is that if a change is executed prior to **the date to be approved by the Commission in the AESO’s implementation plan proceeding**, on behalf of load or DCG, [distribution-connected generation] the relevant substation will not be subject to AMP. The relevant substation will not be subject to AMP unless and until a change to the agreement on or after **that date**, is made.

10. Paragraph 60 related to the approval of all changes made in the application. The Commission varies paragraph 60 as follows (red text is the replacement text and deleted text is omitted):

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that **an** effective date of July 1, 2021, should be applied as the effective date for the revised ISO tariff language in **Section 4** based on this decision. This date is for both T&C [terms and conditions] and Glossary changes **related to the substation fraction methodology**. The Commission notes that the effective date for the commencement of ISO tariff billing **as well as the changes to all tariff language in Section 3 of the ISO tariff** that is applied to specific market participants is subject to Commission determinations of the AESO’s proposed AMP implementation plan discussed in Section 5 below.

11. Paragraph 65 discussed tariff language within Section 3 of the ISO tariff. The Commission varies paragraph 65 as follows (red text is the replacement text and deleted text is omitted):

The Commission’s determination discussed in Section 4, that the ISO tariff T&C amendments, including the AESO’s proposed amendments to subsection 3.6(4) to be made effective **when the Commission approves this date in the forthcoming**

**implementation plan**, will not have the effect of causing sites currently billed on a “net” basis to be billed on a “gross” basis unless a contract change is made by the market participant on or after **that date**. At substations where “gross” meters are installed, the AESO stated that it was targeting to have the AMP in place for ISO tariff billing on January 1, 2022.<sup>4</sup> The Commission will approve a comprehensive plan that includes when exactly the “gross” metering will be used for billing for all sites that have new or altered system access service contracts after an implementation plan is filed in a future ISO rule proceeding.

12. For clarity, the Commission is not varying the language in Section 3 of the ISO tariff; rather, only the effective date of those provisions is being varied.

13. In addition to changes to sections 3 and 4 of the ISO tariff as well as its Glossary, the AESO made additional administrative changes to the ISO tariff that were approved at paragraph 38 of the Decision. These changes include updating references in the ISO tariff to other provisions within the ISO tariff, or updating the revision history of ISO tariff sections that have changed. As a result of the new approvals and order within this decision, some of those changes may differ from those approved in the Decision. The AESO is authorized to update the administrative changes required that are consistent with the approvals granted in this decision.

### 3 Order

14. The order of Decision 26215-D01-2021 is varied as follows:

It is hereby ordered that:

- (1) The Alberta Electric System Operator’s consolidated authoritative documents glossary shall be updated to incorporate the revised definition of substation fraction as set out in Appendix C to the application, **effective July 1, 2021**.
- (2) The Independent System Operator tariff shall be updated to reflect the changes to **Section 4** as set out in Appendix A to the application, effective July 1, 2021.
- (3) The Alberta Electric System Operator shall file an application regarding its adjusted metering practice implementation plan no later than January 1, 2022.

Dated on June 3, 2021.

### Alberta Utilities Commission

*(original signed by)*

Carolyn Dahl Rees  
Chair

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<sup>4</sup> Exhibit 26215-X0016, AESO-AUC-2021FEB4-003(a), PDF page 8.

*(original signed by)*

Douglas A. Larder, QC  
Vice-Chair

## Appendix 1 – Proceeding participants

Alberta Utilities Commission

Commission panel

C. Dahl Rees, Chair

D.A. Larder, Vice-Chair

Commission staff

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