



AUC

Alberta Utilities Commission

Alberta Electric System Operator

**Approval of New Alberta Reliability Standards
and Retirement of Existing Alberta Reliability Standards**

August 16, 2022

Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 27516-D01-2022

Alberta Electric System Operator

Approval of New Alberta Reliability Standards
and Retirement of Existing Alberta Reliability Standards

Proceeding 27516

Application 27516-A001

August 16, 2022

Published by the:

Alberta Utilities Commission

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1 Introduction

1. On July 12, 2022, pursuant to Section 19(4)(b) of the *Transmission Regulation*, the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)¹ forwarded a recommendation to the Alberta Utilities Commission to approve two new Alberta Reliability Standards (EOP-005-AB-3, *System Restoration from Blackstart Resources* and EOP-006-AB-3, *System Restoration Coordination*) and to approve the retirement of two existing Alberta Reliability Standards (EOP-005-AB-2, *System Restoration from Blackstart Resources* and EOP-006-AB-2, *System Restoration Coordination*).² The AUC registered this filing as Application 27516-A001, and designated it as Proceeding 27516.

2. Pursuant to Section 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 sections 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 July 21, 2022, the Commission issued a notice of application for the proposed changes to the EOP reliability standards by uploading the notice to the Commission's eFiling System.

5. No objections were filed with the Commission by the August 4, 2022 deadline, specified in the notice of application.

2 Background

6. The AESO submitted that the purpose of the proposed new EOP-005-AB-3 and EOP-006-AB-3 is to set out requirements related to the restoration of the Alberta interconnected electricity system (AIES), as is the case for the existing EOP-005-AB-2 and EOP-006-AB-2.

¹ The ISO is established under Section 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.

² The various types of reliability standards approved by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation are outlined at <https://www.nerc.com/pa/Stand/Pages/default.aspx>.

7. Proposed new EOP-005-AB-3 ensures plans, facilities, and personnel are prepared to enable restoration of the AIES starting from blackstart resources; ensures reliability is maintained during restoration; and places priority on restoring the AIES and the interconnection in accordance with the ISO's restoration plan.
8. Proposed new EOP-006-AB-3 ensures plans are established and personnel are prepared to enable effective coordination of the system restoration process, guaranteeing that reliability is maintained during restoration of the AIES in the event of a complete or partial blackout.
9. The AESO indicated that various requirements in the reliability standards were amended to align with other AESO reliability standards and the Alberta electric energy market, in addition to administrative amendments. Further revisions and clarifications were made following stakeholder consultation.
10. Regarding consultation, on May 3, 2022, the AESO posted a consultation letter on its website requesting comments from interested parties. Stakeholder comments were posted on the AESO's website on May 26, 2022, and the AESO posted its replies on June 27, 2022, along with an explanation of why certain comments were accepted or rejected.
11. The AESO submitted the proposed new reliability standards and the recommendation to retire the existing reliability standards with its application on July 12, 2022, 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 EOP-005-AB-3 and EOP-006-AB-3, and approve the retirement of existing EOP-005-AB-2 and EOP-006-AB-2.

3 Does the AESO's recommendation align with the criteria in the Transmission Regulation

12. Section 19(4) of the *Transmission Regulation* 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.
13. Pursuant to sections 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.

14. The ISO forwarded the proposed new EOP-005-AB-3 and EOP-006-AB-3 to the Commission with a recommendation that the Commission approve them, along with a recommendation that the Commission approve the retirement of existing EOP-005-AB-2 and EOP-006-AB-2. No interested party filed an objection with the AUC indicating that the AESO's recommendations are either technically deficient, or not in the public interest.

4 Order

15. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 19(6) of the *Transmission Regulation*, and based on the recommendation of the ISO, the Commission approves proposed new EOP-005-AB-3 and EOP-006-AB-3, and the retirement of EOP-005-AB-2 and EOP-006-AB-2, effective as of October 1, 2023.

Dated on August 16, 2022.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

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