



## **2079816 Alberta Ltd.**

**Application for an Order Permitting the Sharing  
of Records Not Available to the Public Regarding  
the Joffre Solar Project**

**September 13, 2023**

**Alberta Utilities Commission**

Decision 28399-D01-2023

2079816 Alberta Ltd.

Application for an Order Permitting the Sharing  
of Records Not Available to the Public Regarding  
the Joffre Solar Project

Proceeding 28399

Application 28399-A001

September 13, 2023

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## **1 Decision summary**

1. In this decision, the Alberta Utilities Commission considers whether to approve an application brought under Section 3 of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*, by 2079816 Alberta Ltd., for the preferential sharing of records that are not available to the public between 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE Canada LP (PACE LP) and URICA Energy Real Time Ltd.

2. As discussed in greater detail below, 2079816 Alberta Ltd. established that the sharing of such records is reasonably necessary for it to carry out its business and that the shared records will not be used for any purpose that will not support the fair, efficient and openly competitive operation of the electricity market. On this basis, and noting the support of the Market Surveillance Administrator (MSA), the Commission has granted the application to permit the sharing of records pertaining to the Alberta electricity market under Section 3(3) of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*.

## **2 Introduction and procedural background**

3. On August 15, 2023, 2079816 Alberta Ltd., as general partner of PACE LP, filed an application<sup>1</sup> with the AUC pursuant to Section 3 of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*. The application seeks an order from the Commission permitting the sharing of records not available to the public between 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE LP and URICA. The requested order relates to the Joffre Solar Project, which consists of two phases: the Joffre Solar Project Phase 1 (asset ID JFS1) and the Joffre Solar Project Phase 2 (asset ID JFS2), both of which will be located near the hamlet of Joffre. Combined, JFS1 and JFS2 will consist of 112,300 LONGI LR5-72HBD-540-550M solar modules and 12 SMA MVPS 4600-kilowatt (kW) inverters, in addition to collector systems, with total generating capabilities of 22 megawatts (MW) and 25 MW, respectively.

4. In its application, 2079816 Alberta Ltd. indicated that it has entered into commercial arrangements with URICA, which, among other things, appoint URICA as an agent of 2079816 Alberta Ltd. to provide 24-hour real-time dispatch-desk service for operational energy market services and energy restatements for events at JFS1 and JFS2. These arrangements will make it necessary for 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE LP and URICA to share with each other certain records that are not otherwise available to the public, including energy price and volume pairs, and available capability. The agreement between the companies is for services to be provided until the earlier of June 1, 2029, or the termination of the commercial arrangements.

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<sup>1</sup> Application 28399-A001.

5. The AUC issued a notice of the application on August 29, 2023. In the notice, the Commission advised that the parties granted standing in the proceeding were limited to 2079816 Alberta Ltd. and the MSA, in accordance with Section 3(5) of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*.
6. On September 5, 2023, the MSA advised the Commission that it supports the application of 2079816 Alberta Ltd. and does not require further evidentiary process.
7. The Commission considers the record for this proceeding closed as of September 5, 2023.
8. The Commission reviewed the entire record in coming to this decision; lack of reference to a matter addressed in evidence or argument does not mean that it was not considered.

### **3 The Commission's authority to allow record sharing**

9. Section 3(1) of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation* establishes that an electricity market participant shall not share records that are not available to the public relating to any past, current or future price and quantity offers made to the power pool or for the provision of ancillary services. Section 3(2) establishes instances where records that are not available to the public may be shared. Section 3(3) allows the Commission to issue an order permitting the sharing of records, stating:

- (3) The Commission may, on application by a market participant that is otherwise prohibited from sharing records referred to under subsection (1), issue an order permitting the sharing of those records on any terms and conditions the Commission considers appropriate where the market participant establishes that
- (a) the records will not be used for any purpose that does not support the fair, efficient and openly competitive operation of the electricity market, including the conduct referred to in section 2, and
  - (b) the sharing of the records is reasonably necessary for the market participant to carry out its business.

10. Another factor that the Commission considers in making a determination on the sharing of records is market share offer control. Section 5(5) of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation* states that a market participant shall not hold offer control in excess of 30 per cent of the total maximum capability of generating units in Alberta.

11. The Commission is also cognizant of the requirement in Section 6 of the *Electric Utilities Act* that “[m]arket participants are to conduct themselves in a manner that supports the fair, efficient and openly competitive operation of the market.”

### **4 Submissions of the applicant**

#### **4.1 Is the proposed sharing of records reasonably necessary**

12. 2079816 Alberta Ltd. does not have an internal 24-hour real-time dispatch desk in order to address events at power producers as required by the independent system operator (ISO) rules.

13. URICA provides dispatch-desk service to clients for operational energy market services, ancillary services, dispatch-down services and energy restatements for events at generators as required by the ISO rules and has the necessary expertise and resources to assist 2079816 Alberta Ltd.

14. For this reason, 2079816 Alberta Ltd. asserted that the sharing of non-public records relating to JFS1 and JFS2 is reasonably necessary in order for it to carry out its business regarding JFS1 and JFS2. A written representation from a senior officer of 2079816 Alberta Ltd. and PACE LP, attesting to the necessity for the sharing of records with URICA, was filed with the application.

#### **4.2 Fair, efficient and openly competitive operation of the electricity market**

15. As part of the application, a written representation from a senior officer of 2079816 Alberta Ltd. and PACE LP was filed indicating that the records subject to preferential information sharing will not be used for any purpose that does not support the fair, efficient and openly competitive operation of the Alberta electricity market, including but not limited to, the conduct referred to in Section 2 of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*.

16. The senior officer's written representation also identified that 2079816 Alberta Ltd. and PACE LP have formal systems of controls and policies which ensure that the information shared with URICA will be handled appropriately, including adherence to Section 2 of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*.

17. Additionally, the written representation from the senior officer of 2079816 Alberta Ltd. and PACE LP confirmed that both companies have in place a *Compliance Policy*, which requires all officers, employees, consultants, contractors and directors of the companies to comply with the law and relevant rules and regulations, including the protection of confidential information.

18. A written representation from a senior officer of URICA was filed with the application, which confirms that any records shared with URICA will not be used for any purpose that does not support the fair, efficient and openly competitive operation of the Alberta electricity market, including but not limited to the conduct referred to in Section 2 of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*.

19. The senior officer of URICA confirmed that URICA has a formal compliance plan and program in place to safeguard confidential and commercially sensitive information and access to such information, including non-public quantity-offer information and the confidential information of companies with which URICA does business. All of URICA's employees, officers and affiliates are required to acknowledge and comply with the compliance plan and the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*. Access to secured information is strictly controlled and monitored.

#### **4.3 Offer control**

20. 2079816 Alberta Ltd. advised that the total offer control of 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE LP and affiliated companies is 0.4 per cent, and that the total offer control of URICA is zero per cent, both of which are less than the offer-control limit of 30 per cent, as set out in Section 5(5) of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*.

## 5 Commission findings

21. Section 3(3) of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*, authorizes the Commission to issue an order permitting the sharing of records on any terms and conditions that the Commission considers appropriate, provided that certain requirements are satisfied. For the reasons that follow, the Commission finds that those requirements have been met.

22. The Commission is satisfied that 2079816 Alberta Ltd. has demonstrated that (i) the records sharing order is reasonably necessary for 2079816 Alberta Ltd. to carry out its business; and (ii) the subject records will not be used for any purpose that does not support the fair, efficient and openly competitive operation of the Alberta electricity market, including the conduct referred to in Section 2 of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*. The Commission is further satisfied that 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE LP and URICA will conduct themselves in a manner that supports the fair, efficient and openly competitive operation of the market. In making these findings, the Commission has relied on:

- (a) Submissions from 2079816 Alberta Ltd. stating that it and PACE LP do not have an internal 24-hour real-time dispatch desk in order to address events at power producers as required by the ISO rules.
- (b) Written representations from senior officers of 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE LP and URICA confirming that any records subject to preferential information sharing will not be used for any purpose that does not support the fair, efficient and openly competitive operation of the Alberta electricity market and that they will conduct themselves in a manner that supports the operation of the market.
- (c) Written representation from 2079816 Alberta Ltd. and PACE LP confirming that they have formal systems of controls and policies that ensure the information shared with 2079816 Alberta Ltd. and PACE LP will not be used for any purpose that does not support the fair, efficient and openly competitive operation of the Alberta electricity market, including the conduct referred to in Section 2 of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*. The Commission understands that all employees and others conducting business on behalf of 2079816 Alberta Ltd. and PACE LP are required to comply with these policies.
- (d) Written representations from URICA stating that they have a formal system of controls and policies that ensure the information shared with URICA will not be used for any purpose that does not support the fair, efficient and openly competitive operation of the Alberta electricity market, including the conduct referred to in Section 2 of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*. The Commission understands that all officers and employees of URICA are required to comply with these policies.

23. The Commission also finds that offer-control figures for all entities involved (both before and after any approval to share records) are less than the offer-control limit of 30 per cent, as set out in Section 5(5) of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*.

24. Finally, the Commission considers the MSA's support of this application to be a contributing factor in its determination to permit the sharing of records, given the MSA's mandate under Section 39(2)(a)(vi) of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*, to survey,

investigate or enforce the “arrangements, information sharing and decisions relating to electricity market participants exchanging or wishing to exchange electric energy and ancillary services or any aspect of those activities.”

25. For all of the above reasons, the Commission is prepared to issue an order allowing 2079816 Alberta Ltd. and PACE LP to share records not available to the public with URICA, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) The order applies to the sharing of non-public price, quantity and availability information, between 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE LP and URICA, pertaining to JFS1 and JFS2, that may relate to JFS1 and JFS2’s participation in the Alberta electricity market, as described in the application.
- (b) 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE LP and URICA must notify the Commission of the termination of the commercial arrangements between 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE LP and URICA as soon as is practicable and within 30 days of the termination of such commercial arrangements.
- (c) 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE LP and URICA must notify the Commission of any material changes to the information and continued applicability of any representations included within this application that may affect the compliance of 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE LP or URICA with the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation* as soon as is practicable and within 30 days of the material changes.

26. The order shall be effective from the date of this decision until the earlier of June 1, 2029, or the termination of commercial arrangements between 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE LP and URICA.

## 6 Order

27. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 3 of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*, the Commission grants the application for the sharing of records as set out in the following order granted to 2079816 Alberta Ltd., PACE Canada LP, and URICA Energy Real Time Ltd., which is a separate disposition in this proceeding:

- (1) Preferential Sharing of Records – Joffre Solar Project –  
Order 28399-D02-2023

Dated on September 13, 2023.

**Alberta Utilities Commission**

*(original signed by)*

Fino Tiberi  
Executive Director, Compliance and Enforcement Division  
On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission