

April 27, 2022

To: Market Participants and Other Interested Parties (“Stakeholders”)

Re: Alberta Electric System Operator Reply to Stakeholder Comments on Proposed New Alberta Reliability Standard CIP-012-AB-1, Cyber Security – *Communications between Control Centers* (“CIP-012-AB-1”)

On November 3, 2021, the Alberta Electric System Operator (“AESO”) issued a consultation letter regarding proposed new CIP-012-AB-1 and requested Stakeholders comments on the same.

AESO Reply to Stakeholder Comments

On December 3, 2021, the AESO posted written comments received regarding proposed new CIP-012-AB-1. The AESO’s replies to comments, including the rationale or basis for the AESO’s position that explains why certain positions were rejected or accepted, are set out in the *Stakeholder Comment and AESO Replies Matrix*.

The AESO has made amendments to proposed new CIP-012-AB-1 in response to comments received and to address grammatical errors, which are reflected in the blackline.

Forwarding of the Final Proposed New CIP-012-AB-1

Pursuant to Section 19 of the *Transmission Regulation*, the AESO expects to forward proposed new CIP-012-AB-1 to the Alberta Utilities Commission (“Commission”) on May 12, 2022 with the AESO’s recommendation that the Commission approve proposed new CIP-012-AB-1 as a reliability standard.

New CIP-012-AB-1 is proposed to become effective as outlined in *Appendix 1 – Implementation Plan* of proposed new CIP-012-AB-1. In the AESO’s view, it remains reasonable to require all Responsible Entities to be compliant by July 1, 2023 in order to address known security risks. The AESO will continue to work closely with stakeholders to assist them in meeting their CIP-012-AB-1 obligations by the effective date of July 1, 2023. If a Responsible Entity is unable to meet the implementation timeline, despite best efforts, the Responsible Entity may submit a request for a variance to the implementation timeline pursuant to ADM-002-AB-1, *Waivers and Variances*. The AESO will consider granting variances to the implementation timeline for up to 12 months.

Related Materials to AESO Reply Letter

The following documents are attached:

1. *Stakeholder Comment and AESO Replies Matrix* on proposed new CIP-012-AB-1; and
2. Blackline and clean copies of proposed new CIP-012-AB-1.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Jackie Gow

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