

February 22, 2024

To: Market Participants and Other Interested Parties

Re: **Consultation Letter on the following:**

- 1) **Proposed amended COM-001-AB-3, *Communications*;**
- 2) **Proposed amended COM-002-AB-4, *Operating Personnel Communications Protocols***  
**(together, the “COM Amendments”);**

Section 19 of the *Transmission Regulation* requires the Alberta Electric System Operator (“AESO”) to consult with market participants and other interested parties (“Stakeholders”) likely to be directly affected by the AESO’s adoption or making of reliability standards and requires the AESO to forward the proposed reliability standards to the Alberta Utilities Commission (“Commission”) for review along with the AESO’s recommendation that the Commission approve or reject them.

As detailed further below, the proposed COM Amendments comprise typographical corrections that will not change the content of the reliability standards. No Stakeholders are expected to be affected. Accordingly, the AESO intends to forward the attached COM Amendments to the Commission and recommend approval, 15 days from the posting of this letter. Should you have any concerns in the interim, please contact the undersigned.

### **Applicability**

The COM Amendments are applicable to the AESO and to:

- (a) the operator of a transmission facility;
- (b) the operator of an electric distribution system that is directly connected to the transmission system or to transmission facilities within the City of Medicine Hat;
- (c) the operator of a generating unit that is part of the bulk electric system; and
- (d) the operator of an aggregated generating facility that is part of the bulk electric system.

### **Background**

Since 2018, the AESO has been working with Stakeholders to update and consolidate the requirements for voice and messaging telecommunication capabilities. Following extensive consultations, the AESO proposed to adopt the new COM-001-AB-3, COM-002-AB-4, and the definition of the term “emergency” for reliability standards. On March 7, 2023, the Commission approved the adoption of all three, to be effective April 1, 2024.

The AESO has now identified typographical errors in the approved COM-001-AB-3 and COM-002-AB-4. These include:

- Blank pages at pages 3 and 6 of COM-001-AB-3;
- Missing line breaks between R7.A2 and R8, and between R8.A2 and R9 of COM-001-AB-3;
- Use of “emergency” throughout COM-002-AB-4 without bolding to identify the defined term;
- Excess white space in R5 of COM-002-AB-4; and
- Bolding of various punctuation marks throughout COM-002-AB-4.

The AESO therefore proposes to update them by adjusting the use of whitespace and bolding the term “emergency” throughout. These changes will correct the layout of the documents and clearly identify defined terms, while the content of the standards will remain the same.

### **Proposed Effective Date**

The AESO proposes that the COM Amendments become effective on April 1, 2024, to align with the implementation date of the originally approved COM-001-AB-3 and COM-002-AB-4.

### **Attachments to Consultation Letter**

The following documents are attached:

1. Blackline and clean copy of proposed amended COM-001-AB-3; and
2. Blackline and clean copy of proposed amended COM-002-AB-4.

Sincerely,

*Evan Valeriote*

Evan Valeriote  
Legal Manager, Technical, Operating and Reliability Rules and Standards  
Email: [ars\\_comments@aeso.ca](mailto:ars_comments@aeso.ca)