

April 25, 2019

To: Market Participants and Other Interested Parties

Re: Consultation Letter for Proposed Retirement of Existing Alberta Reliability Standard PRC-023-AB-2, *Transmission Relay Loadability* (“existing PRC-023-AB-2”)

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

Accordingly, the AESO is providing notice and seeking comments from market participants on the attached proposed retirement of existing PRC-023-AB-2.

Applicability

The existing PRC-023-AB-2 is applicable to:

- (a) a legal owner of a transmission facility with load-responsive phase protection systems, as described in Appendix 1 applied to any one (1) or more of the following facilities:
 - (i) transmission lines operated at two hundred (200) kV and above;
 - (ii) transmission lines operated below two hundred (200) kV which the ISO identifies as essential to the reliability of the bulk electric system as required in requirement R6.2;
 - (iii) transformers with low voltage terminals connected at two hundred (200) kV and above; or
 - (iv) transformers with low voltage terminals connected below two hundred (200) kV which the AESO identifies in accordance with requirement R6.2;
- (b) a legal owner of a generating unit, that also owns the associated switch yard, with load-responsive phase protection systems, as described in Appendix 1 applied to any one (1) or more of the following facilities:
 - (i) transmission lines operated at two hundred (200) kV and above;
 - (ii) transmission lines operated below two hundred (200) kV which the AESO identifies as essential to the reliability of the bulk electric system as required in requirement R6.2;
 - (iii) transformers with low voltage terminals connected at two hundred (200) kV and above; or
 - (iv) transformers with low voltage terminals connected below two hundred (200) kV which the AESO identifies in accordance with requirement R6.2;

- (c) a legal owner of an aggregated generating facility, that also owns the associated switch yard, with load-responsive phase protection systems, as described in Appendix 1 applied to any one or more of the following facilities:
 - (i) transmission lines operated at two hundred (200) kV and above;
 - (ii) transmission lines operated below two hundred (200) kV which the AESO identifies as essential to the reliability of the bulk electric system as required in requirement R6.2;
 - (iii) transformers with low voltage terminals connected at two hundred (200) kV and above; or
 - (iv) transformers with low voltage terminals connected below two hundred (200) kV which the AESO identifies in accordance with requirement R6.2; and
- (d) the AESO.

Previous Consultation

On January 10, 2019, the AESO issued a [consultation letter](#) on proposed new PRC-025-AB-2 and amended PRC-023-AB-4. As a result of this consultation stakeholders [submitted comments](#) for the proposed new PRC-025-AB-2 and amended PRC-023-AB-4. On April 25, 2019, the AESO posted replies to comments received on January 31, 2019, for the proposed new PRC-025-AB-2 and amended PRC-023-AB-4.

During the drafting of replies, the AESO identified that the proposed amended PRC-023-AB-4 was actually a new NERC version and not an Alberta amendment of a reliability standard. Therefore, the AESO is now consulting on the proposed retirement of existing PRC-023-AB-2 and notifying stakeholders of the change to the previously consulted on amended PRC-023-AB-4. PRC-023-AB-4 was previously consulted on as a proposed amendment and is now being consulted on as a proposed new reliability standard. There are no material changes in the content between the previously consulted on proposed amended PRC-023-AB-4 and proposed new PRC-023-AB-4.

Background Proposed Retirement of Existing PRC-023-AB-2

With the status of PRC-023-AB-4 being changed from a proposed amendment to a proposed new reliability standard, the existing PRC-023-AB-2 is proposed for retirement.

The purpose of existing PRC-023-AB-2 is to ensure the protective relay settings do not limit transmission loadability, do not interfere with an operator's ability to take remedial action to protect the reliability of the system, and are set to reliably detect all fault conditions and protect the electrical network from these faults.

Defined Terms

When reviewing the attached proposed retirement of existing PRC-023-AB-4 market participants should note that all defined terms appear **bolded**. Market participants and other interested parties are encouraged to refer to the AESO's CADG when reviewing proposed Alberta reliability standards to ensure they have an accurate understanding of those defined terms.

Implementation of Alberta Reliability Standards

In accordance with Section 19 of the *Transmission Regulation*, the reliability standards that apply in Alberta are those of the Electric Reliability Organization ("ERO") or any other reliability standards, to the extent that such reliability standards are adopted by the AESO after consultation with market participants and after receipt of Commission approval. The NERC was certified as the ERO for the United States by

the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission under the US *Energy Policy Act* of 2005. Further, the NERC was recognized as the ERO by the Minister of Energy in Alberta.

Alberta reliability standards and definitions proposed for approval or rejection by the AESO are developed:

- (a) based on the reliability standards and definitions of the NERC; or
- (b) to amend, supplement or replace the NERC reliability standards or definitions.

For more information on the AESO's reliability standards, visit the AESO website at www.aeso.ca and follow the path Rules, Standards and Tariff > Alberta Reliability Standards.

Request for Comment

Please use the attached Market Participant Comment Matrix when submitting comments to the AESO. Only written comments will be considered in finalizing proposed retirement of existing PRC-023-AB-2. Market participants should ensure that comments provided represent all interests within their organization. The scope of comments is limited to the proposed retirement of existing PRC-023-AB-2. Any comments received that are outside of this scope will not be considered by the AESO.

Market participants are asked to provide comments no later than **May 10, 2019** to ars_comments@aeso.ca. Adherence to deadlines is essential to the integrity of the Alberta reliability standard comment process. As such, any market participant comments received after May 10, 2019 may not be published, replied to, or otherwise considered by the AESO.

The AESO will be publishing all comments received for industry review in May, 2019. The AESO expects to publish replies to the comments with the final proposed retirement of existing PRC-023-AB-2 in May 2019.

If the AESO does not receive comments regarding the proposed retirement of existing PRC-023-AB-2, the AESO expects to forward the proposed retirement of existing PRC-023-AB-2, proposed new PRC-025-AB-2, and proposed new PRC-023-AB-4 to the Commission in May 2019, along with its recommendation that the proposed retirement of existing PRC-023-AB-2 becomes effective midnight the day before proposed new PRC-023-AB-4 becomes effective.

Attachments to Consultation Letter

The following documents are attached:

1. [Market Participant Comment Matrix](#) for proposed retirement of existing PRC-023-AB-2; and
2. [Clean copy of existing PRC-023-AB-2](#).

Sincerely,

"Melissa Mitchell-Moisson"

Melissa Mitchell-Moisson
Regulatory Administrator
Phone: 403-539-2948
Email: melissa.mitchell-moisson@aeso.ca

Attachments