

## **OPEN SEASON**

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## **1.0 OVERVIEW**

The purpose of an Open Season is: 1) to enable BC Hydro to study transmission requests together so that efficiencies can be achieved in planning, study and expansion of system capacity; and 2) to share cost responsibility for associated network upgrades among customers participating in an Open Season.

This Business Practice outlines the BC Hydro Open Season process.

## **2.0 PROCESS**

### **2.1 Open Seasons and Applicable BC Hydro Facilities**

Generally, Network Upgrades required for transmission requests are path specific. Therefore, BC Hydro will hold Open Seasons separately for paths grouped by direction of flow. Currently, BC Hydro identifies two separate Open Seasons grouped by direction of flow, defined as follows:

#### **1. “West – East” Open Season**

West-East Open Seasons will apply only to requests for service on the following transmission paths:

- US – BC;
- BC – Alberta; and
- US – Alberta.

#### **2. “East – West” Open Season**

East-West Open Seasons will apply only to requests for service on the following transmission paths:

- Alberta – BC
- BC – US; and
- Alberta – US.

## **2.2 How to Participate**

All transmission requests received on OASIS during an Open Season Period for the path specified in the Open Season will be considered to be part of that Open Season and will be assigned the same queue priority.

Transmission Customers in the existing queue (prior to an Open Season Period) may have their request studied with those in the Open Season at their option. Any Transmission Customer with an existing queue position may participate in an Open Season by indicating a desire to participate in the *Comments* field in their request on OASIS. Subject to Section 15.9 of the OATT, a Transmission Customer must make such an election before the Open Season Period ends.

## **3.0 AGGREGATION and STUDY OF TRANSMISSION REQUESTS**

All transmission requests received on OASIS during an Open Season Period and those existing requests that have elected to participate in the Open Season will be studied together. However, BC Hydro expects to divide requests into sub-groups to the extent warranted by physical and/or technical considerations.

## **4.0 EXPANSION OF SYSTEM CAPACITY**

BC Hydro will endeavour to expand system capacity to fully meet all the requests of customers participating in an Open Season.

## **5.0 ALLOCATION OF SYSTEM CAPACITY**

### **5.1 Existing ATC**

There are going to be cases where the Open Season System Impact Study discloses that some existing ATC is available to satisfy part or all of a request that is made in the Open Season Period. BC Hydro will allocate the existing ATC on a first-come first-serve basis.

### **5.2 Network Upgrade Capacity**

For Transmission Customers executing Service Agreements, network upgrade capacity will be allocated pro rata among unsatisfied requests, or portions thereof, based on the size of the transmission request received or unsatisfied, each allocation to not exceed the amount of requested capacity.

## 6.0 ALLOCATION OF COSTS

BC Hydro will allocate study and upgrade costs arising from the Open Season pro rata among participants as follows:

- Subject to the provisions of Section 19.2 of the Tariff, the costs of System Impact Studies for a specific path will be allocated pro rata based on requested capacity to all participants in the Open Season that have executed a System Impact Study Agreement for that path.
- The costs of Facilities Studies for a specific path will be allocated pro rata based on requested capacity to all participants in the Open Season that have executed a Facilities Study Agreement for that path.
- The costs of Network Upgrades for a specific path will be allocated pro rata based on awarded capacity to all participants in the Open Season that have executed a Service Agreement for that path.
- The costs of any increment of capacity made available prior to completion of all Network Upgrades will be allocated pro rata based on awarded capacity.

### Document Change History

Issue	Reason for Issue	Date
1	Updated format. Previously Business Practice 18.	November 1, 2010

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