

OPEN SEASON

In this Section:

[Overview](#)

[Process](#)

[Aggregation and Study of Transmission Service Requests](#)

[Expansion of System Capacity](#)

[Allocation of System Capacity](#)

[Allocation of Costs](#)

1.0 OVERVIEW

Pursuant to Section 15.8 of the [Open Access Transmission Tariff \(OATT\)](#), BC Hydro may elect to study Long-Term Firm Point-to-Point (LTFPTP) Transmission Service Requests (TSRs) in an Open Season Process. 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.

These Business Practices provide clarification of the rules, standards and practices used by BC Hydro to implement its OATT. While the terms of BC Hydro's OATT and these Business Practices govern, customers should also refer to the NAESB WEQ Business Standards and WECC Regional Criteria which BC Hydro has followed in most, but not all, respects. BC Hydro also complies with the Mandatory Reliability Standards adopted by the BCUC.

2.0 PROCESS

2.1 Open Seasons and Applicable BC Hydro Facilities

In general, Network Upgrades required for transmission requests are path specific and therefore, BC Hydro will hold Open Seasons separately for paths grouped by direction of flow. BC Hydro has identified two separate Open Seasons grouped by direction of flow and are defined as follows:

1. "West-East" Open Season

West-East Open Season 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 Season 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 LTFPTP TSRs 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 LTFPTP TSR studied with those in the Open Season at their option. A Transmission Customer with an existing queue position that elects to take part in an Open Season shall indicate their participation in the Comments field of their LTFPTP TSR before the Open Season Period ends.

3.0 **AGGREGATION and STUDY OF TRANSMISSION REQUESTS**

All LTFPTP TSRs received on OASIS during an Open Season Period and those existing LTFPTP TSRs 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.

Refer to BC Hydro’s Business Practice on *Processing of Long-Term Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service Requests* for information on BC Hydro’s evaluation of submitted LTFPTP TSRs.

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 Available Transfer Capability (ATC)

There are going to be cases where the Open Season System Impact Study discloses that ATC can be provided to satisfy part or all of a request submitted in the Open Season Period in which network upgrades are not required. In this case, BC Hydro will allocate the ATC to the Transmission Customer(s) on a first-come first-serve basis.

5.2 Network Upgrade Capacity

Transmission capacity that becomes available through Network Upgrades will be allocated pro rata among participants in the Open Season who execute a Service Agreement. However, the transmission capacity allocated to these Transmission Customers shall not exceed the amount of transmission requested in their TSR(s).

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
2	Updated and added language for clarity	July 4, 2019
1	Updated format. Previously Business Practice 18.	November 1, 2010

[Back to Top of Section](#)