

Bulletin 2020-21

May 26, 2020

Amendments to AUC Rule 027: Specified Penalties for Contravention of Reliability Standards

On May 20, 2020, the Alberta Utilities Commission approved amendments to Rule 027: *Specified Penalties for Contravention of Reliability Standards*, with an effective date of June 1, 2020. The changes incorporate all of the currently applicable Alberta reliability standards under appropriate classifications in Rule 027's penalty table.

Background

Beginning in January 2020, the Alberta Utilities Commission initiated a rule-review process in which it sought feedback from stakeholders on changes to Rule 027. The proposed changes involved the addition of new and amended reliability standards to the penalty table as well as the removal of reliability standards that have been replaced or retired.

At the same time, the Market Surveillance Administrator (MSA) suggested additional changes be made to Rule 027 to allow the MSA to rely on the sanction guidelines established by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation. Stakeholders commented that further consultations are required to discuss the merits of the MSA's proposal. Due to the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission has not yet had the opportunity to determine how and when to resume the consultation.

Consequently, the revised rule is limited to reflecting the currently applicable Alberta reliability standards and has incorporated stakeholders' comments regarding the placement of specific reliability standards in the penalty table.

All the materials related to the Rule 027 consultation, including a summary of the changes to Rule 027, are on the AUC website under the tab, Rule-related consultations, Rule 027 - Specified Penalties for Contravention of Reliability Standards. The AUC will also be posting the comments received from stakeholders, along with the AUC's responses, on the AUC website.

The AUC thanks stakeholders for their time and participation in the consultation process and for their efforts in reviewing and providing comments on the proposed changes to the rule.

Future updates

A new initiative for 2020 will be to pursue opportunities to reduce the lag time between the approval of new or revised reliability standards or the removal of obsolete reliability standards and the inclusion of the new or revised reliability standards in Rule 027.

Any questions related to this bulletin should be directed to Joanna Wright at joanna.wright@auc.ab.ca.

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