



# PROCEDURE PROCEDURE



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Support

**Issue 30.0** 

This procedure describes the activities to be undertaken by the IESO and Market Participants to manage the prudential support required to participate in the real-

MDP-PRO-0045 Public

## **Market Manual 5: Settlements**

# Part 5.4: Prudential Support

Issue 30.1 October 13, 2020 Issue 30.1

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This procedure describes the activities to be undertaken by the IESO and Market Participants to manage the prudential support required to participate in the real-time market.

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## Document Change History

| Issue           | Reason for Issue   | Date                        |
|-----------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 1.0             | Unapproved version released for Baseline 3   | <del>June 19, 2000</del>    |
| <del>2.0</del>  | Unapproved version released for Baseline 4   | October 2, 2000             |
| 3.0             | Unapproved version released for Baseline 5   | January 2, 2001             |
| 4.0             | Unapproved version released for Baseline 6   | February 21, 2001           |
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| <del>17.0</del> | Name and logo changed to IESO  | March 9, 2005               |
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| <del>19.0</del> | Revisions resulting from SE 23 Prudential Review Implementation  | August 1, 2007              |
| <del>20.0</del> | Update of transmission tariff rates to reflect the new Ontario Transmission Rate Schedule issued by the Ontario Energy Board   | November 1, 2007            |
| <del>21.0</del> | To reflect: (1) the GST rate reduction by one percentage point from 6% to 5%, effective January 1, 2008; and (ii) the OEB's interim fees order to allow the reduction to the IESO's usage fee starting January 1, 2008 from \$0.815/MWh to \$0.799/MWh, and change to the OPA's usage fee from \$0.372/MWh to \$0.391/MWh. | February 1, 2008            |
| <del>22.0</del> | To reflect: (i) the OEB's interim fees order to change the OPA's usage fee starting January 1, 2009 from \$0.346/MWh to \$0.485/MWh, and (ii) the OEB's fees order to change the Network Service, Line Connection Service, and Transformation Connection   | January 1, 2009             |

## Related Documents\_\_MDP-PRO-0045

| Issue           | Reason for Issue  | Date               |
|-----------------|---|--------------------|
|                 | Service Rates from \$2.31/kW, \$0.59/kW, and \$1.61/kW to \$2.57/kW, \$0.70/kW, and \$1.62/kW respectively. |                    |
| <del>23.0</del> | To reflect: (i) the OEB's interim fees order to change the OPA's usage fee starting January Dele            | ted Cells          |
|                 | 2010 from \$0.185/MWh to \$0.551/MWh, (ii) the OEB's fees order to change the Network Dele                  | ted Cells          |
|                 | Service, Line Connection Service, and Transformation Connection Service Rates from                          |                    |
|                 | \$2.66/kW, \$0.70/kW, and \$1.57/kW to \$2.97/kW, \$0.73/kW, and \$1.71/kW respectively. (iii)              |                    |
|                 | update the IESO fee to \$0.822/MWh (iv) update Rural and Remote rate to \$1.30/MWh and (v)                  |                    |
|                 | <del>update applicable taxes from 5% to 13%.</del> For changes prior to 2016, refer to versions 30.0 and    |                    |
|                 | prior.  |                    |
| <del>24.0</del> | Updated for Baseline 28.0   | September 12, 2012 |
|                 | To reflect: (i) Approval of MR 00392: Remove  |                    |
|                 | Provisions for Physical Allocation Data (ii) the OEB's fees order to change the Network Service, Line       |                    |
|                 | Connection Service, and Transformation Connection   |                    |
|                 | Service Rates to \$3.57/kW, \$0.80/kW, and \$1.86/kW  |                    |
|                 | respectively. (iii) update the Rural and Remote rate to   |                    |
|                 | \$1.10/MWh  |                    |
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|                 | To reflect 2013 Prudential Review   | ,                  |
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|                 | To reflect: DR Security Obligations   | ,                  |
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|                 | To reflect: DR Prudential Support Obligations   |                    |
| 28.0            | Updated for Baseline 36.0   | January 11, 2017   |
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|                 | Capacity Obligation Transfers   |                    |
| 29.0            | Updated in advance of Baseline 42.1   | October 15, 2019   |
|                 | To reflect: Capacity Prudential Support Obligations   |                    |
| 30.0            | Updated in advance of Baseline 43.1   | May 4, 2020        |
|                 | To reflect: Capacity Prudential Support Obligations applicable to <i>capacity auctions</i> whose            |                    |
|                 | commitment periods begin on or after May 1, 2021starting June 2020  |                    |
| 30.1            | Updated in advance of Baseline XX.X   | TBD                |
|                 | To reflect: Market Renewal Project  |                    |

| Related Documents |        |            |
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(\*\*This page must be removed before the document is released to the public. This section is only pertinent to *IESO* internal people, not the public.\*\*)

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## **Market Manuals**

The *market manualsmanuals* consolidate the market procedures and associated forms, standards, and policies that define certain elements relating to the operation of the *IESO-administered markets*. Market procedures provide more detailed descriptions of the requirements for various activities than is specified in the "Market Rules". *market rules*. Where there is a discrepancy between the requirements in a document within a *market manual* and the "Market Rules", *market rules*, the "Market Rules" *market rules* shall prevail. Standards and policies appended to, or referenced in, these procedures provide a supporting framework.

## **Market Procedures**

## **Conventions**

The Settlements Manual is Volume 5 of the *market manuals*, where this document forms "Part 5.4: Prudential Support."

A list of the other component parts of the Settlements Manual is provided in "Part 5.0: Settlements Overview", in Section 2, "About This Manual".

## Structure of External Procedures

Each external The standard conventions followed for market manuals are as follows:

- The word 'shall' denotes a mandatory requirement;
- Terms and acronyms used in this market manual including all Parts thereto that are italicized have the meanings ascribed thereto in Chapter 11 of the "Market Rules";
- All user interface labels and options that appear on the *IESO* portals and tools are formatted with the **bold** font style;
- Double quotation marks are used to indicate titles of legislation, publications, forms and other documents; and

Any procedure is composed of the following sections:

1. "Introduction", which contains general information about the procedure, including an overview, a description of the purpose and scope of the procedure, and information about roles and responsibilities of the parties involved in the procedure.

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- "Procedural Work Flow", which contains a graphical representation of the steps and flow of information\_specific convention(s) shall be identified within the procedure document itself.
- "Procedural Steps", which contains a table that describes each step and provides other details related to each step.
- 3. "Appendices", which may include such items as forms, standards, policies, and agreements.

## **Conventions**

The market manual standard conventions are defined in the "Market Manual Overview" document.

- End of Section -

## 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Purpose

This procedure <u>market manual</u> describes the activities <u>undertakenperformed</u> by the <u>IESO</u> and <u>market participants</u> (or <u>applicants</u> wishing to become authorized <u>participants</u>, as <u>market participants</u>)<sup>‡</sup> in relation to the initial, and ongoing, assessment of a <u>market participants</u>' they relate to <u>prudential support obligation</u> (PSO). <u>Market participants</u>' <u>prudential support obligations</u> are reviewed at the time of authorization and on an ongoing <u>basis</u> by the <u>IESO</u> and may increase or decrease <u>based</u> on the <u>market participants</u>' actual and expected and actual market activities. <u>It</u><sup>2</sup> This <u>market manual</u> also addresses the posting of <u>prudential support</u> by <u>market participants</u> to <u>satisfy these obligations</u> and the actions undertaken by the <u>IESO</u> when this is not done.

The *IESO* is responsible for ensuring that *prudential support* is posted by all *market participants* post *prudential support* to satisfy their *prudential support* obligation and, therefore, mitigate the impact of an *event of default* by a *market participant*. This process involves the following activities: *obligations* for *physical transactions* and *virtual transactions* and the actions undertaken by the *IESO*.

- the initial assessment of the prudential support obligation for an applicant wishing
  to become authorized as a market participant, based on their estimated trading
  activity in the real time market;
- the regular review of a market participant's trading limit by the market participant
  (with the exception of market participants under the no margin call option);
- the regular review of a market participant's trading limit, default protection amount
  (DPA) and prudential support obligation by the IESO prior to the start of a new
  billing period as applicable;
- the annual review of each price basis used in the calculation of a metered market participant's minimum trading limit and default protection amount, and modification of the applicable price basis if it has increased or decreased by 15% or more from the price basis used by the IESO;
- the daily monitoring of the market participant's actual exposure in the real time market against their trading limit (with the exception of market participants under the no margin call option);
- the posting of prudential support by market participants to meet their current prudential support obligation; and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>-Unless otherwise stated, references to *market participants* in this procedure should also be read as including applicants wishing to become authorized as a *market participant*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise stated, references to a *market participant* in this procedure are deemed to also include persons who intend to become authorized as a *market participant*.

 the review of the prudential support requirements set out in Chapter 2 of the market rules at least once every three years, with the first review to be completed no later than September 30, 2010.

The initial assessment of the *prudential support obligation* for an *applicant* wishing to become authorized as a *market participant* (and the subsequent posting of initial *prudential support* by the *applicant*) is undertaken as part of the Participant Authorization process. (See the Market Manual 1: "Market Entry, Maintenance & Exit, Part 1.1 Participant Authorization" for more information on this process.) However, the calculation of the initial *prudential support obligation* that occurs as part of this authorization process is undertaken in accordance with the process for establishing a *prudential support obligation* described in this procedure.

Elements of the assessment of a *market participant's prudential support obligation* are an internal process undertaken by the *IESO*, in accordance with the obligations established in the *market rules*. However, details on this process are documented in this procedure to provide background information and context for the processes that are addressed in this procedure.

## 1.2. Scope

This procedure is intended to provide market participantsmanual provides market participants with a summary of the steps and interfaces between market participants and the IESO with regardregards to managing their prudential support. The procedural work flowsworkflows and steps described in this document serve as a roadmap for applicants and the IESO, and and reflect the requirements set out withinin the market rules and applicable rules and IESO policies and standards.

- This procedure relates market manual applies only to the real time market. In addition, this procedure prudential support obligations that relate to the IESO's physical markets. This market manual does not address:
- the process of posting *transmission rights* (*TR*) *market deposits*, which are a prerequisite for participating in a *TR auction*. See Market Manual 4: Market Operations, "Part 4.4 Transmission Rights Auction" for more details on this process. This process is provided in Market Manual 4: Market Operations Part 4.4: Transmission Rights Auction;

The overview information in Section 1.3 is provided for context purposes only, highlighting the main actions that comprise the procedure, as set out in Section 2.

- the process of posting capacity auction deposits, which are a prerequisite for participating in a capacity auction. This process is provided in Market Manual 12: Capacity Auctions; and
- the process of issuing a *default levy* by the *IESO*, which is provided in Market Manual 5 Settlements Part 5.9: Settlement Payment Methods and Schedule.

## This *market manual* covers the following:

- set prudential support obligations for physical transactions this section describes
  the calculation and the IESO review of a market participant's prudential support
  obligation for physical transactions and the forms of prudential support for physical
  transactions,
- daily monitoring of prudential support for physical transactions this section
   describes the IESO's daily monitoring of actual exposure and trading limit, as well as
   margin call warnings and margin calls for physical transactions.
- set prudential support obligations for virtual transactions this section describes the
  calculation and IESO review of a market participant's prudential support obligation
  for virtual transactions, the forms of prudential support for virtual transactions and
  monitoring of actual exposure and trading limit. It also describes margin call
  warnings and margin calls for virtual transactions;
- daily monitoring of prudential support for virtual transactions this section describes
  the IESO's daily monitoring of actual exposure and trading limit and margin call
  warnings and margin calls for virtual transactions;
- consolidated process for physical transactions and virtual transactions this section
  describes the IESO's daily monitoring of market participants' consolidated trading
  limit for their physical transactions and virtual transactions against their consolidated
  actual exposure for their physical transactions and virtual transactions;
- event of default this section discusses the impact of an event of default on physical bilateral contract quantities for market participants and default levy issuance to market participants conducting physical transactions and virtual transactions.
- capacity prudential requirements this section describes the calculation of prudential support obligations for capacity auction participants; and
- appendices the appendices include information such as forms, credit rating reduction tables and good payment history reduction tables.

## 1.3. <u>Prudential Security Overview</u>

Assessment of In real-time electricity markets, there is no way to recover the physical commodity if a buyer is unable to pay because the electricity has already been consumed. In addition, for *virtual transactions*, once a *bid* or *offer* has been approved in the *day-ahead market*, the virtual *energy trader* must buy back or sell the quantity of *energy* equal to their original virtual *offer* or *bid* at the *real-time market* locational marginal price of *energy* at a *virtual transaction* zonal trading entity. The difference between *the day-ahead market* locational marginal price of *energy* at a *virtual transaction* zonal trading entity and the *real-time market* locational marginal price of *energy* at a *virtual transaction* zonal trading entity

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could lead to losses for the *market participant* conducting *virtual transactions,* which it may not be able to cover.

Under the *market rules*, the *IESO* must pay *market creditors* within four *business days* from the time when the *IESO* issues an *invoice*. *Market debtors* must pay the *IESO* within two *business days* of receiving an *invoice* from the *IESO* so that the *IESO* can remit funds owed. *Market participants* conducting *virtual transactions* are subject to the same invoicing and payment timelines.

If market participants do not remit their full amount due, the IESO does not assume the outstanding debt. Instead, all non-defaulting market participants assume the debt. The prudential support process helps ensure that the IESO has a reasonable amount of collateral on hand to cover potential default situations for both physical transactions and virtual transactions. The process helps provide protection to non-defaulting market participants from the risk of having to incur the costs of another market participant's default.

The IESO requires prudential support from market participants seeking authorization to participate in the day-ahead market and real-time market and for capacity auction participants that acquire a capacity obligation in the capacity auction. For details on capacity prudential support requirements for capacity auction participants, refer to section 7 of this market manual.

Figure 1-1 provides an overview of the process to calculate *market participants' prudential support obligations*. The *market participant* information requirements, the *IESO's* calculation of the *prudential support obligation*, and the acceptable forms of *prudential support* will differ depending on whether *market participants* conduct *physical transactions* or *virtual transactions*.

Part 5.4: Prudential Support 1 Introduction

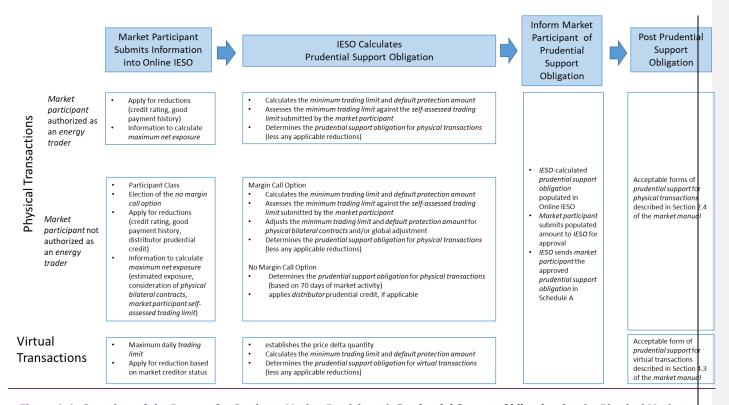
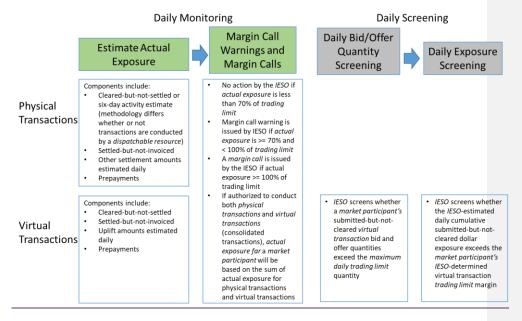


Figure 1:1: Overview of the Process for Setting a Market Participant's Prudential Support Obligation-for the Physical Markets

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Figure 1-2 provides an overview of the process for daily monitoring and screening of *market participants' prudential support obligation*. The components that are used in *market participants' actual exposure* estimate differ depending on whether *market participants* conduct only *physical transactions*, only *virtual transactions*, or a combination of *physical transactions* and *virtual transactions*. Daily screening is limited to *market participants* conducting *virtual transactions*.



<u>Figure 1-2: Overview of the Process for Monitoring and Screening of a Market Participant's Prudential Support Obligation</u>

## 1.4. Roles and Responsibilities

Responsibility for prudential support is shared among:

- The IESO undertakes an assessment of the prudential support obligation for each applicant wishing to become authorized as a market participant during participants, who are responsible for functions and responsibilities such as:
  - <u>submitting</u> the <u>Participant Authorization process</u>. The <u>IESO</u> assesses
     <u>this required</u> <u>prudential support</u> <u>obligation</u> based on information <u>provided by</u>

- the applicant about its via Online IESO and/or **Prudential Manager** for physical transactions and virtual transactions;
- notifying the IESO that they wish to adjust their self-assessed trading limits
   for physical transactions as necessary to reflect their expected trading activity
   in the real timeduring that billing period. This excludes market via the IESO's
   online Appian workflow tool. participants authorized to conduct physical
   transactions under the no margin call option;
- The notifying the IESO that they wish to adjust their maximum daily trading
   limit quantity (in MWh) for virtual transactions as necessary to reflect their
   expected trading activity during that billing period;
- posting an appropriate form of prudential support that satisfies their prudential support obligations for physical transactions and/or virtual transactions;
- submitting to the IESO the quantity and duration of the applicable physical bilateral contracts and notifying the IESO immediately upon a change in the quantity or duration of the physical bilateral contract. This includes the termination of the contracts for a market participant that is not an energy trader with a credit rating of BBB— or higher that has requested its physical bilateral contract quantities be taken into consideration when calculating its minimum trading limit and default protection amount for its physical transactions;
- ensuring valid prudential contacts are registered with the IESO to receive margin call warnings and margin call notices and taking appropriate action;
- ensuring valid prudential contacts are registered with the *IESO* to receive a
   default notice, or a *notice of intent to suspend*, and taking appropriate action
   to remedy the *event of default*; and
- maintaining appropriate levels of *prudential support* as required under the market rules,
- if prudential support is due to expire or terminate, market participants must provide prudential support at least 10 business days prior to expiration (Chapter 2, section 5.2.5 of the market rules);
- where market participants' credit rating or good payment history are revised resulting in additional prudential support requirements, they must provide any additional prudential support within five business days (Chapter 2, section 5.2.6 of the market rules); or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> **Prudential Manager** can be accessed by navigating through: https://portal.ieso.ca

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- where any part of the *prudential support* provided by *market participants* otherwise ceases to be current or valid for any reason, *market participants* must immediately notify the *IESO* and provide to the *IESO* within two *business days*, a replacement of its *prudential support* (Chapter 2, section 5.2.7 of the *market rules*).
- The IESO, which is responsible for functions and responsibilities such as:
  - continuously assessing the minimum trading limit, trading limit, and default protection amount of each prospective market participation authorization (or market participant) as applicable;
  - assessing (and reassessing) the maximum net exposure and prudential support obligation of each applicant seeking authorization (or each market participant);
  - determining whether adequate prudential support has been provided by the market participant, according to the market rules,
  - checking for credit rating watch warnings against market participants
     conducting physical transactions,
  - determining if the estimated actual exposure amount is below the trading limit and warning market participants of potential margin calls or issuing margin calls, as appropriate (with the exception of market participants under the no margin call option);
  - providing information to the Energy Market Interface regarding the maximum quantity (in MWh) and trading limit (in dollars) that a market participant can transact through virtual transactions on a given trading day,
  - o taking appropriate action in response to an event of default, and
  - drawing on a market participant's prudential support, as necessary, and verifying that prudential support is re-established within a specified timeframe.

## 1.5. Contact Information

As part of the participant authorization and registration process, *market participants* are required to identify a Prudential Requirements Contact. If a *market participant* has not identified a specific contact, the *IESO* will seek to contact the Primary Contact for activities within this *market manual*, unless alternative arrangements have been established between the *IESO* and the *market participant*. If *market participants* wish to contact the *IESO*, they can contact *IESO* Customer Relations via email at IESOCustomerRelations@ieso.ca, *IESO* 

Prudentials via email at prudential@ieso.ca, or by using the phone number provided on the *IESO*'s website (www.ieso.ca), on the Contact page.

End of Section —

may reassess this initial

# 2. Setting Prudential Support Obligations for Physical Transactions

This section describes the process of setting *market participants' prudential support* obligation and the process of posting prudential support for market participants authorized to conduct physical transactions in the day-ahead market and the real-time market. Market participants that intend to conduct physical transactions in the day-ahead market and the real-time market are required to initiate this process prior to entering the IESO-administered market.

Market participants with prudential support obligations are grouped into two categories:

- market participants authorized as energy traders4; and
- market participants not authorized as energy traders.

The process for setting the prudential support obligation consists of the following activities:

- 1. *Market participants* submit *prudential support* information to the *IESO* using Online IESO.
- 2. The *IESO* uses the information submitted by the *market participants* to calculate the *market participants* aggregate *day-ahead market* and *real-time market prudential* support obligation as per the market rules.
- 3. The *IESO* informs *market participants* of the *prudential support obligation* using Online IESO.
- 4. Market participants post their prudential support in a form required by the IESO. If no further changes are required, the IESO will provide the market participants with a Schedule A<sup>5</sup>.

## 2.1. Submitting Prudential Support Information

As part of the Authorization and Participation process described in Market Manual 1: Connecting to Ontario's Power System Part 1.5: Market Registration Procedures, *market participants* must submit their *prudential support information*, using Online IESO. To do this, each prospective *market participant* must first assign a Prudential Requirements Contact.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For the purposes of setting a *market participant's prudential support obligation* for *physical transactions* and monitoring activities in respect of *physical transactions*, as described in sections 2 and 3 of this *market manual*, a *retailer* shall be deemed to be an *energy trader* (Chapter 2, section 5.2.10 of the *market rules*).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> A Schedule A sets out a *market participant's prudential support obligation* and is available in the "prudential support obligation" tab of the Prudential Manager on the *IESO* portal.

This contact will be granted permissions in Online IESO to submit the information required to establish the *market participant's prudential support obligation* and will function as the point of contact for the *IESO* for matters relating to *prudential support*.

After authorization, *market participants* must keep the *IESO* informed, using Online IESO, o circumstances that could change their *prudential support obligation* for *physical transactions*; and ensure that all amounts of *prudential support* continue to satisfy the *market participant's prudential support obligation*. Notably, this is likely to occur in the circumstances that include but are not limited to:

- a change to market participants' credit rating or payment history, which requires a
  review of the market participant's prudential support obligation. Market participants
  that owe the IESO additional prudential support as a result of a review to their
  prudential support obligation, will have up to five business days to post the balance
  required to satisfy their prudential support obligation; or
- an event of default.

In addition, *market participants* should review their *self-assessed trading limit* for *physical transactions* and submit a revised *self-assessed trading limit* for *physical transactions*, as appropriate, as described in Chapter 2, section 5.3.2 of the *market rules*.

# 2.1.1. Information Required of Market Participants Authorized as Energy Traders

<u>Market participants</u> authorized (or requesting authorization) as <u>energy traders</u> provide two <u>sets of information:</u>

- application for reductions; and
- information to calculate maximum net exposure. This information consists of the estimated maximum monthly settlement amount and the option to submit a selfassessed trading limit.

#### 2.1.1.1 Application for Reductions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.8)

<u>Market participants</u> authorized as <u>energy traders</u> may select one of the following for <u>reductions:</u>

- reduction for credit rating. During the first three months of conducting transactions
  in the *IESO-administered markets* of any type, *market participants* authorized as
  energy traders are not eligible for this reduction;
- reduction for good payment history. During the first two years of conducting transactions in the *IESO-administered markets* of any type, *market participants* are not eliqible for this reduction.

#### 2.1.1.2 Information to Calculate Maximum Net Exposure

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, sections 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.4.2, 5.3.4.3, 5.3.5, and 5.3.8.2)

Market participants authorized as energy traders who have not conducted physical transactions for energy for at least the three most recent billing periods are required to provide their estimated net settlement amount for the upcoming energy market billing period. After an energy trader has conducted physical transactions for energy for at least three previous billing periods, energy traders are no longer required to provide their estimated net settlement amounts. The IESO will use an average of the actual net settlement amounts for the three most recent energy market billing periods for which the energy trader has conducted physical transactions for energy, to calculate maximum net exposure.

Prospective *market participants* who wish to be authorized as *energy traders* are also required to submit a *self-assessed trading limit*, even if that *self-assessed trading limit* might be zero. Once authorized as a *market participant, energy traders* may, on an ongoing basis elect to submit a revised *self-assessed trading limit* in dollars or as a percentage of their estimated net *settlement amount*. *Energy traders* may consider using up to 100% of their estimated net *settlement amount* for the upcoming *energy market billing period* in their calculation if they want to decrease the likelihood of receiving *margin calls*. *Energy traders* who wish to post the lowest amount of *prudential support* allowable by the *IESO* should continue to keep their *self-assessed trading limit* at zero.

## 2.1.2. <u>Information Required of Market Participants Not authorized as</u> Energy Traders

Market participants not authorized as energy traders provide the following information:

- participant class;
- option to select the *no margin call option*;
- application for reductions; and
- information to calculate maximum net exposure. This information consists of the estimated exposure, physical bilateral contracts, and self-assessed trading limits.

## 2.1.2.1 Participant Class

<u>Market participants</u> must provide their participant class as one of class A, class B or local distribution company. This is used to determine the <u>market participant's</u> global adjustment allocation.

#### 2.1.2.2 Election of the No-Margin Call Option

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, sections 5.6.4, 5.6.5, 5.6.6 and 5.6.7)

Subject to the *IESO's* approval, *market participants* that are authorized to conduct *physical transactions*, but are not authorized as a *virtual trader*, may elect to participate in the *no margin call option*. *Market participants* that elect the *no margin call option* are exempt from receiving *margin calls* (Chapter 2, section 5.6.4 of the *market rules*). *Margin calls* are issued to *market participants* when their *actual exposure* reaches 100% of their *trading limit*. However, the *IESO* determines the *prudential support obligation* for *market participants* electing the *no margin call option* using an alternate methodology as described in Chapter 2, sections 5.6.5 and 5.6.6 of the *market rules*.

#### 2.1.2.3 Application for Reductions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.8)

<u>Market participants</u> that are not <u>distributors</u> may apply for one of credit rating or good payment history reductions to their <u>prudential support obligation</u> relative to their <u>maximum net exposure</u>.

<u>Distributors</u> may apply for one of credit rating or good payment history reduction in addition to the reduction for the <u>distributor</u> prudential credit to their <u>prudential support obligation</u> relative to their <u>maximum net exposure</u> for <u>physical transactions</u>:

- reduction for credit rating; or
- reduction for good payment history; and
- distributor prudential credit.

Note: The reductions mentioned in this section are only applicable to *maximum net* exposure for *physical transactions*.

#### **Reduction for Credit Rating**

Indebija keterajalo teman baterubi amutribo vala abreljebe etgedio tre marimum net exposure using their credit rating (refer to

Appendix C: Credit Ratings). For this application, *market participants* provide their credit rating in accordance with Standard & Poors, Moody's and DBRS Morningstar. *If market participants* share their credit rating with multiple *market participants*, they must provide all the associated *market participant* information along with the percentage share to be allocated to each.

If market participants elect the no margin call option and are small distributors, they may apply for a reduction based on their credit rating. However, market participants that are small distributors are not eliqible for this reduction if they are authorized to conduct virtual

<u>transactions</u>. All other <u>market participants</u> that have elected the <u>no margin call option</u> are ineligible for a reduction for a credit rating.

## **Reduction for Good Payment History**

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Appendix D: Good Payment History).

All other *market participants* that have elected the *no margin call option* are ineligible for a reduction for a credit rating.

#### **Distributor Prudential Credit**

The Ontario Energy Board's Retail Settlement Code authorizes distributors to collect prudential support from their customers. In such cases, the retail customers post prudential support with the distributor, in addition to the prudential support for physical transactions posted by the distributor with the IESO for the same energy measured in MWh.

<u>Distributors</u> are permitted to apply a 60% reduction to their <u>prudential support obligation</u> for <u>physical transactions</u> for every dollar in <u>prudential support</u> they have collected from their <u>customers</u> (Chapter 2, section 5.8.8 of the <u>market rules</u>) if in one of the following "tangible" forms:

- cash;
- Government of Canada T-Bills;
- irrevocable commercial letters of credit from a Schedule Bank in Canada; and
- guarantees by a third person or affiliate. for a number of reasons

To qualify for this reduction in their *prudential support obligation* for *physical transactions*, *distributors* must provide proof of the *prudential support* they have collected from their customers. They can provide this proof by swearing an "Affidavit Regarding Reduction in *Prudential Support* Obligations" – IMO AFF 0001 form for *physical transactions*. This form is an affidavit attesting to the amount of tangible *prudential support* that *distributors* hold for their customers. The submitted proof may also include copies of the irrevocable letters of credit and bank statements detailing cash deposits held for such a purpose as requested by the *IESO*.

For example, if a *distributor* has a *maximum net exposure* of \$25 million for its *physical transactions*, but the *distributor* has collected *prudential support* in the amount of \$10 million from its own customers, and can provide verifiable proof (i.e. an affidavit) of said *prudential support* to the *IESO*, then its outstanding *prudential support obligation* would be \$19 million [\$25M – (\$10M \* 0.6)]. Any outstanding *prudential support obligation* would have to be met by using one or a combination of the other instruments listed in Chapter 2, section 5.7 of the

market rules. Under this option, a distributor can also claim good payment history or credit rating reduction pursuant to Chapter 2, section 5.8.5 or 5.8.1A of the market rules to meet its prudential support obligation for its physical transactions. The distributor prudential credit will be deducted first before other applicable reductions can be applied.

<u>Under a no margin call option</u>, all *distributors*, with the exception of *small distributors*, will be ineligible for the *distributor* prudential credit.

#### 2.1.2.4 Information to Calculate Maximum Net Exposure

#### **Estimated Exposure**

To estimate their maximum net exposure for physical transactions, market participants mus submit their combined estimated daily maximum quantity of energy to be transacted in the both the day-ahead market and the real-time market and expected estimated peak load associated with the daily maximum quantity of energy. Market participants can update these estimated values in Online IESO for an upcoming billing period that may impact their prudential support obligation.

#### **Option for Consideration of Physical Bilateral Contracts**

Market participants with a credit rating of BBB— or higher, subject to any adjustments set out in Chapter 2, section 5.8.2 of the market rules, may choose to use the IESO's settlement process to settle their physical bilateral contracts. If market participants choose for the IESO to settle their physical bilateral contracts, they may submit to the IESO the aggregate energy quantities and duration associated with the physical bilateral contracts from all applicable resources. Market participants can then request that the IESO remove these energy quantities when calculating their minimum trading limit and default protection amount in respect of physical transactions. Market participants are required to also notify the IESO immediately upon a change in the submitted energy quantities or duration of their applicable physical bilateral contracts, including termination of any of the contracts.

## **Market Participant Self-Assessed Trading Limit**

For the purpose of establishing *market participants' trading limit*s and *maximum net exposure* for *physical transactions, market participants* that conduct *physical transactions* are eligible to submit a self-assessed *trading limit* by providing either:

- the number of calendar days up to 70 calendar days, in which they intend to participate in *physical transactions* in the *day-ahead market* and the *real-time market*; or
- a dollar amount estimate of their *trading limits* for the upcoming *billing period*.

A market participant that intends to reduce the number of margin calls should base their self-assessed trading limit on 49 calendar days of market activity. If a market participant

wants to post a lower *prudential support* amount, the *market participant* may at a minimum, use seven calendar days of market activity.

# 2.2. Calculating Prudential Support Obligation for Physical Transactions

# 2.2.1. Assessment for Market Participants Authorized as Energy Traders

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, sections 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.4.2, 5.3.4.3, 5.3.5, 5.3.8.2 and 5.8)

<u>Upon receipt of the prudential support information from market participants, the IESO</u> undertakes a five-stage process to calculate the <u>prudential support obligation</u> for <u>physical transactions</u> for <u>market participants</u> authorized as <u>energy traders</u> during which the <u>IESO</u>.

- Calculates the *minimum trading limit* as a dollar amount.
- Calculates the *default protection amount* as a dollar amount, which is equal to the *minimum trading limit* in the previous step.
- Assesses the minimum trading limit against the self-assessed trading limit submitted by market participants. The IESO then selects the greater of the two trading limit amounts and establishes the maximum net exposure for market participants as the sum of the selected trading limit and the default protection amount.
- Applies any applicable reductions.
- Determines the market participant's prudential support obligation for physical transactions. This amount is equal to the market participant's maximum net exposure for physical transactions.

Figure 2-1 provides an illustration of how the *prudential support obligation* for *physical transactions* are determined for *market participants* that are *energy traders*.

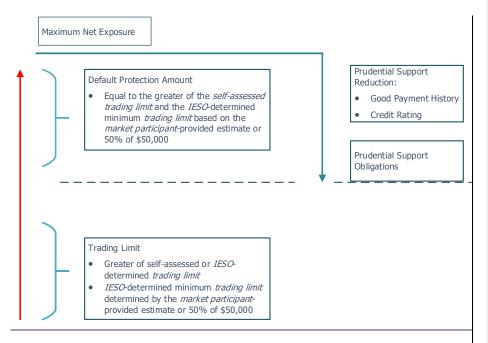


Figure 2-1: Determination of Prudential Support Obligation for a Market Participant that is an Energy Trader

#### 2.2.1.1 Determining the Minimum Trading Limit

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, sections 5.3.4.2, 5.3.4.3 and 5.3.5)

The *IESO*-calculated *minimum trading limit* for *physical transactions* is a dollar amount that represents a *market participant's* lowest possible *trading limit* that may be established unde the *market rules*. This amount is based on an estimate of *a market participant's* expected combined activity for *physical transactions* in the *day-ahead market* and the *real-time market* (refer to Chapter 2, section 5.3.5 of the *market rules*).

The *IESO* calculates the *minimum trading limit* by estimating the net *settlement amount* that a *market participant* would incur conducting *physical transactions* in the *day-ahead market* and the *real-time market*.

For market participants that are energy traders, the IESO sets their minimum trading limits for their physical transactions to 25% of each market participant's estimated net settlement amount for the upcoming energy market billing period. If any market participant has been subject to more than one margin call per billing period, the IESO may use a greater percentage, up to and including 100%, of the market participant's estimated net settlement amounts (Chapter 2, section 5.3.4.2 of the market rules).

To estimate the net *settlement amount,* the *IESO* uses the following:

- an average of the *market participant's* estimated net *settlement amounts* for physical transactions for the three most recent energy market billing periods where the market participant transacted energy within the IESO-administered markets; or
- an estimate of the market participant's future market activity as the estimated net
   settlement amount for physical transactions for the upcoming billing period if the
   market participant has not conducted physical transactions for energy for at least
   three most recent energy market billing periods, calculated in accordance with
   Chapter 2, section 5.3.4.3 of the market rules.

For further details surrounding the process of calculating the *prudential support obligation* for *market participants* authorized as *energy traders that* have not conducted *physical transactions* for *energy* for at least the three most recent *energy market billing periods*, refer to section 2.2.1.4 below (Chapter 2, section 5.3.4.3 of the *market rules*).

## **2.2.1.2 Determining the Default Protection Amount**

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.3.8.2)

The default protection amount for physical transactions represents the IESO's estimate of the additional debt market participants could accumulate while conducting physical transactions in the day-ahead market and real-time market. The default protection amount estimates the debt that can be accumulated if a market participant were to default on a payment date until such time as the market participant could be removed from the IESO-administered markets, and prevented from incurring any further debt. For market participants that are energy traders, the default protection amount is equal to the minimum trading limit calculated by the IESO.

For details on the process of calculating the *default protection amount* for a *market participant* authorized as an *energy trader* that has not conducted *physical transactions* for *energy* for at least the three most recent *energy market billing periods*, refer to section 2.2.1.4 below (Chapter 2, section 5.3.4.3 of the *market rules*).

#### **2.2.1.3 Determining the Maximum Net Exposure**

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.3.1)

The *IESO* calculates the *maximum net exposure* for *physical transactions* of an *energy trader* by adding the *trading limit* with *default protection amount* in respect of *physical transactions*.

## 2.2.1.4 Application of Reductions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.8)

<u>Market participants</u> may be eligible for a reduction to their <u>maximum net exposure</u> based on:

- the market participants' credit rating;
- the market participants' good payment history for the purchase of electricity in Ontario.
- Appendix B and Appendix C provide further details for credit rating reductions for non-distributors and reduction amounts for good payment history for nondistributors.

The *IESO* applies reductions equally to the *default protection amount* and the *trading limit*. In addition, new *market participants* will be ineligible for reductions associated with credit ratings until they have conducted *physical transactions* for at least three consecutive months.

## 2.2.1.5 Determination of Prudential Support Obligation

The *IESO* determines the *prudential support obligation* for *energy traders* using the following two methods.

## Energy Traders with Transaction History for Three Most Previous Energy Market Billing Periods

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, sections 5.3.4.2, 5.3.8.2 and 5.8)

For energy traders that have conducted physical transactions for three previous energy market billing periods, its prudential support obligation for physical transactions is equal to their maximum net exposure for physical transactions minus applicable reductions.

## **Energy Traders Without Transaction History for Three Previous Energy Market Billing Periods**

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, sections 5.3.4.3, 5.3.8.2, and 5.8.6.3)

For energy traders that have not conducted physical transactions for three previous energy market billing periods, their prudential support obligation for physical transactions is equal to their maximum net exposure.

The *IESO* requires *market participants* that are *energy traders* without any activity of conducting *physical transactions* in the *IESO-administered markets* in the most recent three *energy market billing periods* to post no less than \$50,000 of *prudential support*. This requirement applies to all *market participants* regardless of whether they expect to be a net creditor.

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The prudential support obligation for physical transactions for market participants that are energy traders without experience conducting physical transactions for at least three previous energy billing periods is equal to the greater of the following:

- the *minimum trading limit* plus the *default protection amount* for *physical transactions*, or
- \$50,000, equalling the sum of its *minimum trading limit* of \$25,000 and the *default* protection amount of \$ 25,000 for physical transactions.

## 2.2.2. Assessment for Market Participants Not Authorized as Energy Traders

#### 2.2.2.1 Margin Call Option

<u>Upon receipt of market participants' prudential support</u> information, the <u>IESO</u> undertakes a <u>six-stage process</u> to calculate <u>market participants' prudential support obligation</u> for <u>physical transactions</u> under a <u>margin call</u> option, during which the <u>IESO</u>:

- calculates the *minimum trading limit* as a dollar amount;
- calculates the default protection amount as a dollar amount;
- assesses the minimum trading limit against the self-assessed trading limit submitted by the market participants. The IESO then selects the greater of the two trading limit amounts and establishes the maximum net exposure for the market participant as the sum of the selected trading limit and the default protection amount;
- adjusts the minimum trading limit and default protection amount for physical bilateral contracts;
- applies any applicable reductions; and
- determines the market participant's prudential support obligation for physical transactions.

Figure 2-2 provides an illustration of how *physical transaction prudential support obligations* are determined for *market participants* that are not *energy traders* under a *margin call option*.

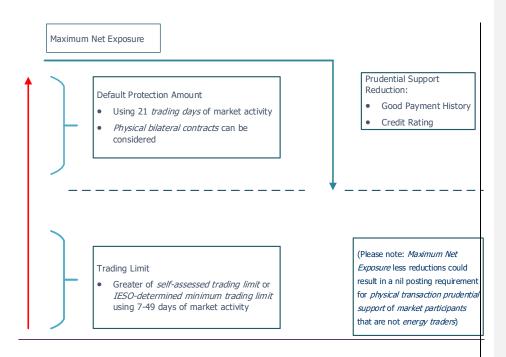


Figure 2-2: Margin Call Option for Physical Transactions for a Market Participant that is not an Energy Trader

The charges estimated as part of the *minimum trading limit* and *default protection amount* for a *market participant* that is not an *energy trader* include but may change over time:

- energy exposure (including physical bilateral contract credit (if requested by market participant);
- global adjustment;
- transmission exposure;
  - o line connection service rate (as applicable);
  - o network service rate (as applicable);
  - o transformation connection service rate (as applicable);
- rural rate protection;
- IESO fee; and
- uplifts and ancillary charges.

The *IESO* applies HST to all charges listed as part of the *minimum trading limit* and *default* protection amount estimation.

#### **Determining the Trading Limit for Physical Transactions**

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, sections 5.3.2, 5.3.4.1, and 5.3.5)

The *IESO* establishes the *trading limit for market participants* to limit the amount of debt that *market participants* may accumulate before the *IESO* issues a *margin call*. The *IESO* determines the *trading limit* for *physical transactions* based on the greater of a *market participant's* (i) *self-assessed trading limit*; and (ii) the *IESO*-calculated *minimum trading limit* for *physical transactions* (refer to Chapter 2, section 5.3.5 of the *market rules*).

Both the self-assessed trading limit and IESO-calculated minimum trading limit for physical transactions are dollar amounts that are based on the expected activity of market participants in both the day-ahead market and the real-time market related to physical transactions. The minimum trading limit for physical transactions represents a market participant's lowest possible trading limit that may be established under the market rules.

The IESO calculates the minimum trading limit for physical transactions by estimating the net exposure that market participants would incur when they conduct physical transactions in the day-ahead market and the real-time market. This estimate accounts for at least seven calendar days of market activity, ignoring the impact of physical bilateral contracts. For additional information on the calendar days of market activity factored into the calculation of the minimum trading limit, refer to Chapter 2, section 5.3.4.1 of the market rules. The IESO will use the applicable energy price for each resource of a market participant to calculate that market participant's minimum trading limit.

#### **Determining of Default Protection Amount for Physical Transactions**

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.3.8.1)

The default protection amount for physical transactions represents the IESO's dollar estimate of the additional debt that market participants could accumulate while conducting physical transactions in the day-ahead market or the real-time market. The default protection amount is determined by estimating the amount of additional debt market participants could experience if an event of default were to occur until the time market participants could be removed from the day-ahead market or the real-time market. The IESO's calculation of the default protection amount under a margin call option is similar to the methodology it uses to calculate the minimum trading limit.

For a market participant that is not an energy trader, the IESO determines the default protection amount for physical transactions by factoring 21 calendar days of market activity

ignoring the impact of *physical bilateral contracts*, covering potentially both the *day-ahead market* activity and the *real-time market* activity following an *event of default*.

The *IESO* will use the applicable estimated *energy* price for each *resource* of a *market* participant to calculate that *market* participant's default protection amount.

#### **Determining the Maximum Net Exposure**

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.3.1)

The maximum net exposure, in respect of physical transactions, is the IESO's estimate of the net settlement amount market participants could owe for conducting physical transactions in the day-ahead market and the real-time market.

The *IESO* establishes *market participants' maximum net exposure* for *physical transactions* by adding the *market participants' trading limit* for *physical transactions* and *default protection amount* for *physical transactions*. In the event *market participants' maximum net exposure* for *physical transactions* is negative or equal to zero, *market participants* are not required to post *prudential support*.

## Adjustment of Minimum Trading Limit and Default Protection Amount for Physical Bilateral Contracts

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, sections 5.3.8A and 5.3.8B)

If market participants that are not energy traders request an adjustment based on their physical bilateral contracts, as described in section 2.1.2.4, the IESO calculates their minimum trading limits and default protection amounts by removing the energy quantities associated with the market participants' physical bilateral contracts registered with the IESO.

For this calculation, the *IESO* assumes all transacted quantities are completed through the *day-ahead market* and *real-time market* net of *energy* quantities associated with those *physical bilateral contracts*. For details on *physical bilateral contracts*, refer to Chapter 2, section 5.38A-5.3.8B and Chapter 8 of the *market rules*.

#### **Application of Reductions**

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.8)

<u>Market participants</u> may be eligible for a reduction to their <u>maximum net exposure</u> based <u>on:</u>

- the market participants' credit rating;
- the *market participants'* good payment history for the purchase of electricity in Ontario; or
- the distributor prudential credit.

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 Appendix C and Appendix D provide further details for credit rating reductions for non-distributors, credit rating reductions for distributors, reduction amounts for good payment history for non-distributors and reduction amounts for good payment history for distributors.

#### **Determination of Prudential Support Obligation**

The maximum net exposure less allowable reductions that may be permitted under Chapter 2, section 5.8 of the market rules constitute the amount of prudential support obligation for physical transactions that market participants not authorized as energy traders must submit. The IESO determines the prudential support obligations for market participants as follows:

- if the maximum net exposure calculated by the IESO for a market participant is positive, and available prudential support reductions do not lower the market participant's prudential support obligation to zero, the market participant must post prudential support to the IESO; and
- if a *market participant's maximum net exposure* for *physical transactions*, as calculated by the *IESO*, is zero or negative, the *market participant* is not required to post any *prudential support* to the *IESO* for *physical transactions*.

#### 2.2.2.2 No Margin Call Option

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, sections 5.6.4 and 5.6.5)

For market participants that elect the no margin call option, the IESO establishes the maximum net exposure for those market participants' physical transactions by factoring in 70 calendar days of market activity into the calculation (Chapter 2, section 5.6.5 of the market rules). The IESO does not take into account physical bilateral contracts for the dayahead market and real-time market towards market participants' maximum net exposure for their physical transactions under a no margin call option. Other than small distributors, market participants that elect the no margin call option are ineligible to receive reductions to their maximum net exposure (refer to Chapter 5, section 5.6.6 of the market rules).

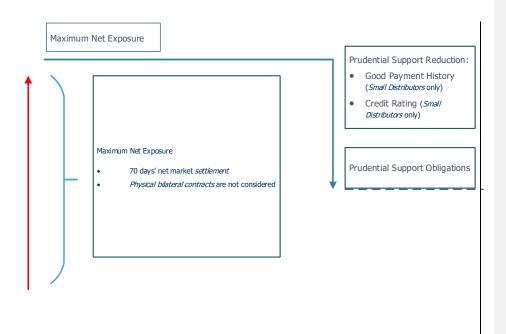


Figure 2-3: No Margin Call Option for Physical Transactions for a Market Participant that is not an Energy Trader

## 2.3. Informing of Prudential Support Obligations

After determining *prudential support obligations*, the following steps occur to inform *market participants* of their *prudential support obligations*:

- Online IESO presents the market participants' proposed prudential support obligation for their review in the Tasks tab.
- 2. If the *market participants* are satisfied with the *IESO*-proposed *prudential support obligation*, they will submit the proposed amount into Online IESO for processing.
- 3. Upon approval of this amount by the *IESO*, an email notification from the *IESO* will be sent to the *market participants* advising them that the *prudential support* obligation, as set out in Schedule A assessment results, is available in Online IESO. Schedule A assessment results also reflect whether any allowable reductions are applied to the calculation of the *prudential support obligation*.

## 2.4. Posting of Prudential Support for Physical Transactions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.7)

After market participants receive their Schedule A assessment results, they are then required to post prudential support to satisfy their prudential support obligation for physical transactions with the IESO or the IESO's custodian. Prudential support must be posted at least two weeks before market participants becomes authorized to participate in the IESO-administered markets. Furthermore, existing market participants that have previously posted prudential support in the form of a guarantee or letter of credit to satisfy their prudential support obligation for physical transactions must provide the IESO with updated prudential support for physical transactions in order to become authorized as virtual traders (Chapter 2, section 5.7.3A of the market rules). Such market participants must provide the IESO with replacement prudential support dated no earlier than January 1, 2023.

The *prudential support* posted by *market participants* to satisfy their *prudential support obligations* for *physical transactions* must be in one or a combination of the following formats as outlined in Chapter 2, section 5.7.2 of the *market rules*.

- a guarantee or an irrevocable commercial letter of credit, which is in a form acceptable to the *IESO* and provided by:
- a bank named in a Schedule to the Bank Act, S.C. 1991, c.46, with a minimum longterm credit rating of "A" from an IESO(Chapter 2, section 5. approved credit rating agency; or
- a credit union licensed by the Financial Services Commission of Ontario with a minimum long-term credit rating of "A" from an *IESO*-approved credit rating agency;
- a guarantee in a form acceptable to the *IESO* provided by a person, other than an affiliate of the market participant, having a credit rating from an *IESO* approved credit rating agency;
- marketable securities in the form of Canadian Government treasury bills. Such
  treasury bills shall be valued as cash at their current market value less 2% to take
  into account the potential eroding effects of interest rate increases;
- subject to Chapter 2, section 5.7.4 and 5.7.4A of the market rules, a guarantee in a form acceptable to the IESO provided by a person that is a rated affiliate of the market participant and has a credit rating from an IESO approved credit rating agency (refer to Chapter 2, sections 5.7.2.2, 5.7.3A, 5.7.3B, 5.7.4 and 5.7.4A of the market rules for limits on the guarantee from a rated affiliate); or
- cash deposits made to the IESO by a market participant or on the market
  participant's behalf, as long as the market participant meets the following criteria:
- the market participant had already met its prudential support obligation for physical transactions in whole or in part through a cash deposit on November 4, 2004; and

• the *market participant's prudential support obligation* for *physical transaction* was \$200,000 or less on November 4, 2004 and it remains \$200,000 or less.

Once a *market participant* posts its *prudential support*, the *IESO* will review and, upon acceptance, will send the *market participant* an e-mail notification stating that a detailed Schedule A is available in the **Prudential Support Obligation** tab of the **Prudential Manager.** 

# 2.5. Updating the Prudential Support Obligation for Physical Transactions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.3.11 of the market rules):-)

To ensure that the *prudential support* posted by *market participants* is sufficient to satisfy their *prudential support obligations*, the *IESO* regularly reviews *market participants' prudential support obligations* for *physical transactions*. The *IESO* conducts this review in the following circumstances and applicable timelines:

- prior to the start of each *energy market billing period*, when the *IESO* reviews:
- the daily trading activity in MWh for *market participants* that are not an *energy* trader against their submitted daily quantity in MWh; or
- the average net *settlement amounts* for the most recent three *energy market billing periods* for *market participants* that are *energy traders*,
- within two business days after a-market participants' actual exposure for
   <u>physical transactions</u> exceeds the <u>market participants' trading limit for that market</u>
   <del>participant</del> (with the exception of market participants under the no margin call
   option);
- within two business days after the IESO receives notice of any changes to the status
  of a market participant if the IESO determines that the change in such status would
  have a material impact on the market participant's maximum net exposure.

  Examples of such changes include operational changes, such as increase or decrease
  in load, peaks, etc.;
- when the IESO has adjusted the minimum trading limit for market participants that
  are energy traders conducting physical transactions pursuant to Chapter 2, section
  5.3.4.3 of the market rules;
- when the *IESO* has adjusted its price basis under Chapter 2, section 5.3.10B of the *market rules*, and
- when the IESO annually estimates future Class A or Class B global adjustment amounts.

• If the IESO review reveals that market participants' maximum net exposure for physical transactions has changed from the amount that was previously determined, the IESO will update the market participants' Schedule A<sup>6</sup> accordingly, and inform the market participants of the same. If market participants are required to post additional prudential support as a result of the change to their maximum net exposure for physical transactions, they must provide the additional prudential support within five business days from the effective date of the change.

<u>There are circumstances where market participants may be required to re-establish a portion or all of their prudential support to ensure that their prudential support obligations for physical transactions are satisfied. These circumstances include but are not limited to:</u>

- if any part of market participants' prudential support is due to expire or terminate, those market participants must provide the replacement at least 10 business days before the expiry date;
- if any part of *market participants' prudential support* is otherwise no longer current or valid, the *market participants* must provide a replacement within two *business* days of being notified to that effect by the *IESO*; or
- if the IESO draws or claims any part of the market participants' prudential support, the market participant must provide a replacement within five business days of receiving notice from the IESO.

## 2.5.1. Credit Warnings in the context of Physical Transactions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.8.2)

If the *IESO* determines that there is a credit watch negative warning for a *market* participant, there is an automatic one-notch reduction in the *market participant's* credit rating (for example, from BBB+ to BBB), as set out in Appendix C . A credit watch negative warning is generated when there is a movement of the *market participant* to a negative credit watch status by any *IESO* approved bond-rating agencies. The *IESO* will review the *market participant's prudential support obligation* for *physical transactions* and/or review the acceptability of any prudential guarantees received as *prudential support* for *physical transactions*, based on the revised credit rating of the guarantor.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> A Schedule A sets out a *market participant's prudential support obligation* and is available in the "prudential support obligation" tab of the Prudential Manager on the *IESO* portal. Schedule A also reflects whether any allowable reductions are used in the calculation of the *prudential support obligation*.

## 3. Daily Monitoring of Prudential Support for Physical Transactions

The *IESO* verifies that each *market participant* has provided sufficient levels of *prudential* support to cover their financial trading activity for both the day-ahead market and the real-time market. Daily monitoring applies to market participants who are subject to margin calls by not electing the no margin call option.

Daily monitoring for *market participants* authorized to conduct *physical transactions* consists of the following activities:

- the IESO calculates market participants' estimated actual exposure using an estimate
  of charges;
- the *IESO* compares the calculated *actual exposure* against the *trading limit* to determine whether to issue a *margin call* or a *margin call* warning<sup>7</sup> to a *market* participant; and
- market participants take actions to respond to margin calls or margin call warnings.

Throughout the process, *market participants* can view their own estimated *actual exposure* and *margin call* warnings and *margin calls* using the **Prudential Manager**.

## 3.1. Estimated Actual Exposure for Physical Transactions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.5.1)

<u>Market participants' actual exposure</u> for their <u>physical transactions</u> are comprised of the <u>following components:</u>

- cleared-but-not settled (for dispatchable resources) or six-day activity estimate (for resources that are not dispatchable);
- settled-but-not-invoiced;
- other settlement amounts estimated daily; and
- prepayments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The *IESO issues margin call warnings* by delivering a "Notice of Margin Call Warning" via a generic email.

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#### 3.1.1. Cleared-But-Not-Settled or Six-Day Activity Estimate for Physical Transactions

<u>Settlement amounts</u> for a given <u>trading day</u> are first calculated by the <u>IESO</u> on the seventh <u>calendar day following a trading day</u>. As a result, the <u>IESO must estimate actual exposure</u> <u>during the six-calendar day period during which settlements</u> data is unavailable using the following components:

- for *physical transactions* conducted by *market participants* by using *dispatchable resources*: a cleared-but-not-settled component; and
- for *physical transactions* conducted by *market participants* by using *resources* that are not *dispatchable*: a six-day activity estimate component.

#### 3.1.1.1 Cleared-but-Not-Settled for Physical Transactions Conducted by a Market Participant by Using a Dispatchable Resource or Price Responsive Load

The cleared-but-not-settled calculation for *physical transactions* applies to *market participants* conducting *physical transactions* using *dispatchable resources*. It is an estimate based on *bids* and *offers* of the net amount of *dispatched energy* and *operating reserve* that has not yet been settled.

<u>Cleared-but-not settled amounts for physical transactions are applicable to market participants</u> using the following <u>dispatchable resources</u>:

- dispatchable generation resources;
- dispatchable loads; and
- boundary entity resource import and export transactions.

For the purpose of calculating the cleared-but-not-settled component, *physical transactions* conducted by *market participants* by using *price responsive loads* are subject to the same methodology as used for *dispatchable loads*.

The *IESO* updates the cleared-but-not-settled component applicable to the *physical* transactions conducted by market participants by using a dispatchable resource on a daily basis.

At any given time, the *IESO's* rolling six-calendar days cleared-but-not-settled calculation covers the previous six calendar days with market activity that has not yet been recategorized under the settled-but-not-invoiced component. On the seventh calendar day following a given *trading day* with market activity, the *IESO* removes the amount for the oldest calendar day from the six-calendar day rolling calculation of the cleared-but-not-settled calculation and adds the amount from the calendar day to the settled-but-not-invoiced total. The daily update to the cleared-but-not-settled calculation by the *IESO* reflects the total based on the cleared-but-not-settled calculation for that *trading day*.

# 3.1.1.2 Six-Day Activity Estimate Calculation for Physical Transactions Conducted by a Market Participant by Using a Resource that is Not Dispatchable

The six-day activity estimate calculation for *physical transactions* applies to *market* participants conducting *physical transactions using resources* that are not *dispatchable*. *Physical transactions* conducted by *market participants* by using *resources* that are not *dispatchable* include but are not limited to:

- transactions arising from the consumption of energy from non-dispatchable loads such as local distribution companies; and
- transactions arising from the injection of *energy* by *market participants* using self scheduling *generation resources*.

For a given *trading day*, the *IESO's* rolling six-day activity estimate uses the average Allocated Quantity of Energy Withdrawn ("AQEW") or the Allocated Quantity of Energy Injected ("AQEI") from the previous six calendar days and multiplies the quantities by the applicable average daily prices.

#### 3.1.2. Settled-but-Not-Invoiced for Physical Transactions

The settled-but-not-invoiced component represents settlement amounts specific to a market participant that appear on the preliminary settlement statements or final settlement statements but that have not yet appeared on a market participant's invoice.

The *IESO* determines the settled-but-not-invoiced component of the *actual exposure* for *physical transactions* based on a *market participant's day-ahead market* and *real-time market* activity. All *settlement amounts* used in the settled-but-not-invoiced component are either hourly or non-hourly charges from a *market participant's preliminary settlement statements* and *final settlement statements*. For details on physical *settlement statements*, refer to Market Manual 5 Settlements Part 5.5: Physical Markets Settlement Statements.

#### 3.1.3. Other Settlement Amounts Estimated Daily

On a daily basis, the *IESO* estimates other *settlement amounts*. The other *settlement amounts* do not fall under the category of cleared-but-not-settled, six-day estimate and are non-hourly. The majority of these non-hourly *settlement amounts* are calculated based on legislation and regulation in Ontario. *Market participants* may view all *settlement amounts* under the *actual exposure* calculation through the **Estimated Net Exposure** tab in the **Prudential Manager**.

#### 3.1.4. Prepayments

<u>Market participants</u> may reduce the level of their estimated <u>actual exposure</u> at any time by <u>making a pre-payment to the *IESO*, and then logging in to send the *IESO* an electronic Notification of Prepayment using **Prudential Manager**. These prepayments are then</u>

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applied to the *invoice* once the invoice is issued. These include *margin call* prepayments and voluntary prepayments.

## 3.2. Margin Call Warnings and Margin Calls for Physical Transactions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5.4 and 5.6)

<u>Table 3-1 summarizes the actions taken by the IESO based on a comparison of market participants' trading limit for physical transactions and their actual exposure for physical transactions.</u>

Table 3-1: Actions Taken as a Result of Daily Monitoring of Physical Transactions

| Trading Limit – AE comparison                             | IESO Action  | Market Participant Action   |
|---|--|---|
| Actual exposure< 70 % trading limit                       | <u>None</u>  | <u>None</u>   |
| 70% trading limit <= actual exposure< 100 % trading limit | The IESO issues a "Notice of Margin Call Warning" to market participants for their physical transactions for the day-ahead market and the real-time market via a generic e-mail. | Market participants may make a cash payment to reduce a portion of any amounts payable to the IESO to reduce their actual exposure for physical transactions, or take other appropriate actions to ensure that their actual exposure for physical transactions does not reach their trading limit for physical transactions (Chapter 2, section 5.4.1 of the market rules).   |
| Actual exposure >= 100 % trading limit                    | The IESO issues a margin call to market participants for their physical transactions for the day-ahead market and the real-time market via a generic e-mail.                     | A market participant is required to satisfy a margin call by paying cash in an amount sufficient to reduce its actual exposure for physical transactions to no more than 75% of the market participant's trading limit for physical transactions (Chapter 2, section 5.6.1 and 5.6.2 of the market rules).  Note, payment must be made by 4:00 pm eastern prevailing time (EPT) on the second business day following the date of the margin call. |

Note, *market participants* can log on to the **Prudential Manager** located on the *IESO* portal to view *margin call* warnings and *margin call* details.

The *IESO* has the authority to draw upon all or part of the *market participant's prudential support* for *physical transactions* in the event that *market participants* default on their required *margin call* payment. *Market participants* are considered to have defaulted on the required *margin call* payment if their *actual exposure* for *physical transactions* is not reduced to no more than 75% of the *trading limit* for *physical transactions* by 4:00 pm EPT on the second *business day* following the date of the *margin call*.

#### End of Section —

# 4. Setting Prudential Support Obligations for Virtual Transactions

The *IESO* requires that *market participants* be authorized as *virtual traders* to conduct *virtual transactions* in the *day-ahead market* (refer to Market Manual 1: Connecting to Ontario's Power System Part 1.5: Market Registration Procedures, section 2). To account for the heightened risk profile associated with *virtual transactions*, the authorization to conduct *virtual transactions* gives rise to a *prudential support obligation* specific for *virtual transactions*. Therefore, the *IESO* calculates the *prudential support obligation* for *virtual transactions* and *actual exposure* for *virtual transactions* differently than for *physical transactions*.

The following section describes the process of setting *market participants' prudential support obligations* and posting of *prudential support* for *market participants* authorized as *virtual traders*.

The process is made up of the following activities:

- Market participants submit prudential support information to the IESO using Online IESO.
- The IESO uses the information submitted by market participants to determine that market participant's prudential support obligation subject to any applicable reductions.
- 3. The *IESO* informs *market participants* of their *prudential support obligation*. If this is the first time *market participants* have submitted *prudential support* or if there is a requirement to change the amount of *prudential support*, the *IESO* will inform *market participants* through Online IESO.
- 4. Market participants post their prudential support in a form required by the IESO.
- 5. The IESO receives the prudential support and either accepts or rejects the prudential support. If the prudential support is accepted by the IESO, the IESO sends an e-mail notification to the market participant which states the detailed Schedule A<sup>8</sup> is available to be viewed by the market participant in the Prudential Support tab of the Prudential Manager.

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<sup>8</sup> A Schedule A sets out a market participant's prudential support obligation and is available in the Prudential Support Obligation tab of the Prudential Manager on the IESO portal.

# 4.1. Submitting Prudential Support Information for Virtual Transactions

As part of the Authorization and Participation process described in Market Manual 1: Connecting to Ontario's Power System Part 1.5: Market Registration Procedures, all *market participants* must submit their *prudential support* information using Online IESO. To do this, each *market participant* must first assign a Prudential Requirements Contact, who will be granted permissions in Online IESO to submit information required to establish the *market participant's prudential support obligation*. The Prudential Requirements Contact is also the *IESO's* point of contact for matters relating to *prudential support*.

After authorization, *market participants* must keep the *IESO* informed of circumstances that could change their *prudential support obligation* for *virtual transactions* by using Online IESO. *Market participants* must confirm that all amounts of *prudential support* continue to satisfy the *market participants' prudential support obligation*. Notably, this is likely to occur in the circumstances that include but are not limited to:

- if there has been a change to the market participant's credit ratings; or
- if an event of default occurs.

Market participants authorized (or requesting authorization) to conduct virtual transactions shall provide, using Online IESO, their maximum daily trading limit. This limit represents the maximum quantity a virtual trader may bid or offer in a given trading day and is the absolute value in MWh that can be submitted by a virtual trader. The maximum daily trading limit is the input by which market participants may adjust the amount of their trading limits for virtual transactions, and accordingly, their prudential support obligations for virtual transactions. In addition, market participants should review their maximum daily trading limit prior to the start of each billing period and submit a revised maximum daily trading limit, as appropriate.

The maximum daily trading limit is applicable for all energy market billing periods until a revised maximum daily trading limit is submitted by market participants. If market participants submit a revised maximum daily trading limit, this maximum daily trading limit will supersede any previous maximum daily trading limit once approved by the IESO. If the revised maximum daily trading limit results in an increase in the market participants prudential support obligations for its virtual transactions, the market participant must provide the IESO with additional prudential support before the IESO authorizes the increase in the maximum daily trading limit.

# 4.2. Determining the Prudential Support Obligation for Virtual Transactions

The *prudential support obligations* for *virtual transactions* represents an amount that is distinct from a *prudential support obligation* for *physical transactions*, and is determined using a different methodology. Notable differences between the calculation of a *prudential* 

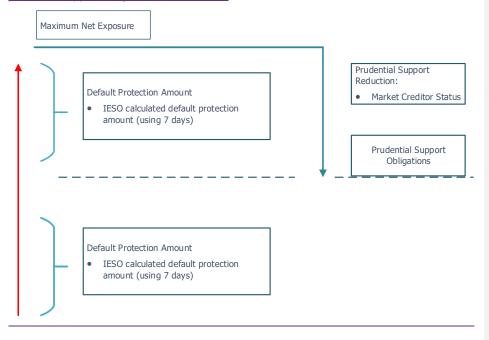
<u>support obligation</u> for <u>physical transactions</u> and a <u>prudential support obligation</u> for <u>virtual transactions</u> include the following:

- the no *margin call* option is unavailable to *market participants* authorized to conduct *virtual transactions*; and
- prudential support obligations for virtual transactions are not eligible for the same reductions available for prudential support obligations for physical transactions.

The *IESO* undertakes the following five-step process to establish the *prudential support obligation* for *virtual transactions*.

- 1. Establish the price delta quantity applicable to all *market participants* authorized to conduct *virtual transactions*.
- 2. Calculate the *minimum trading limit* (in dollars) for the *market participant*.
- 3. Calculate the *default protection amount* (in dollars) for the *market participant*.
- 4. Apply a reduction to the *prudential support obligation* for *virtual transactions* based on credit received for *physical transactions*, if applicable.
- 5. Determine the prudential support obligation for the market participant (in dollars).

Figure 4-1 provides an illustration of how a *market participant's virtual transaction* prudential support obligation is determined.



#### Figure 4-1: Margin Call Option for Virtual Transactions

## 4.2.1. Determining the Price Delta for Prudential Support Obligation for Virtual Transactions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5C.1.9)

To determine *market participants' prudential support obligations* for *virtual transactions*, the *IESO* uses various inputs. One of these inputs is a price delta that is applicable to all *virtual traders* at a given time. The *IESO* calculates a single price delta for an interim period and an enduring period using historical data. The price delta for the interim period will be calculated using historical data based on outcomes from the day-ahead commitment prices and shadow prices. After the *IESO* accumulates *day-ahead market* and *real-time market* historical price data for the period mentioned in the section below, the *IESO* will calculate an enduring price delta. The circumstances where the *IESO* is required to review the interim price delta are the same as the circumstances used for the enduring price delta.

## 4.2.1.1 Enduring Price Delta for Prudential Support Obligation for Virtual Transactions

The *IESO* determines a price delta between the *day-ahead market* and the *real-time market* applicable to *virtual traders*. A single price delta applies to all *virtual traders* and is used as one of the inputs by the *IESO* to calculate the:

- minimum trading limit for virtual transactions; and
- default protection amount for virtual transactions.

The price delta represents the absolute value of the difference between the day-ahead virtual zonal *energy* price and the hourly average real-time virtual zonal *energy* prices. Each year, the *IESO* determines the price delta by:

- collecting energy prices for all hours over the most recent three years for all virtual transaction zonal trading entities;
- assessing the difference between the day-ahead virtual zonal energy price and the applicable hourly average real-time virtual zonal energy price;
- identifying the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile for the data set; and
- modifying the price delta if it has increased or decreased by 15% or more from the previous delta.

The *IESO* publishes the price delta for *market participants* through the *IESO* website. The *IESO* annually updates the data used to calculate the price delta by replacing the data from the oldest year with data from the most recent year. The *IESO* also performs an annual review, and modifies the price delta if it has increased or decreased by 15% or more from the previous delta.

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## 4.2.1.2 Interim Price Delta for Prudential Support Obligation for Virtual Transactions

The *IESO* uses an interim price delta, made up of a smaller data set, until three years of hourly day-ahead virtual zonal *energy* prices and hourly average real-time virtual zonal *energy* prices are available. Similar to the enduring price delta, the *IESO* uses the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile of interim price delta data to set the interim price delta to be used for the calculation of *prudential support obligations* for *virtual transactions*.

#### 4.2.2. Determining the Minimum Trading Limit for Virtual Transactions

The IESO calculates market participants' minimum trading limit (in dollars) for virtual transactions based on the maximum daily trading limit quantity (in MWh) submitted by market participants. The IESO-determined minimum trading limit for virtual transactions will be the trading limit for virtual transactions.

Equation 4-1 contains the formula for calculating *the minimum trading limit* for *virtual transactions*.

#### **Equation 4-1: Minimum Trading Limit for Virtual Transactions**

 $TL_{VT\$} = [(TL_{VT} \times \Delta DAP_{VT}, ARTP_{VT} \times \#Days_{TL}) + (U_{VT} \times TL_{VT} \times \#Days_{TL})]$ 

#### where:

| <u>Variable</u>                                 | Description   |
|---|---|
| $\mathrm{TL}_{\mathrm{VT}\$}$                   | is the minimum trading limit for virtual transactions (in dollars);   |
| $\mathrm{TL}_{\mathrm{VT}}$                     | is the <i>market participant</i> submitted absolute value of the <i>maximum daily trading limit</i> quantity (in MWh) for <i>virtual transactions;</i>  |
| $\Delta$ DAP <sub>VT</sub> , ARTP <sub>VT</sub> | is the <i>IESO</i> determined price delta calculated in accordance with section 4.2.1 of this <i>market manual</i> ,  |
| #Days <sub>TL</sub>                             | is the <i>minimum trading limit</i> assessment period for <i>virtual transactions</i> denoted as a number of calendar days assuming two calendar days of participation in the <i>day-ahead market</i> with the <i>IESO's</i> authority to increase up to and including seven calendar days if the <i>market participant</i> was subject to more than one <i>margin call</i> per <i>energy market billing period</i> ; and |
| <u>Uvr</u>                                      | is the <i>virtual transaction</i> uplift estimation rate in \$/MWh. This is the <i>IESO's</i> estimation of <i>day-ahead market</i> reliability unit commitment uplift amounts that may be incurred by <i>virtual transaction offers</i> to provide <i>energy</i> . This rate may be updated on annual basis if it increases or decreases by 15% or more.   |

# 4.2.3. Determining the Default Protection Amount for Virtual Transactions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5C.1.7)

The *IESO* determines the *default protection amount* for *virtual transactions* using the same formula to calculate the *minimum trading limit* for *virtual transactions*. Although the formula is the same, the number of calendar days used in each calculation can differ. When calculating the *default protection amount*, the *IESO* uses seven calendar days of participation in the *day-ahead market*.

Equation 4-2 contains the formula for the default protection amount for virtual transactions.

#### **Equation 4-2: Default Protection Amount for Virtual Transactions**

 $\mathsf{DPA}_{\mathsf{VT}\$} = [(\mathsf{TL}_{\mathsf{VT}} \times \Delta \ \mathsf{DAP}_{\mathsf{VT}}, \mathsf{ARTP}_{\mathsf{VT}} \times \mathsf{\#Days}_{\mathsf{DPA}}) + (\mathsf{U}_{\mathsf{VT}} \times \mathsf{TL}_{\mathsf{VT}} \times \mathsf{\#Days}_{\mathsf{DPA}})]$ 

#### where:

| <u>Variable</u>                                 | <u>Description</u>   |
|---|--|
| $\mathrm{TL}_{\mathrm{VT}}$                     | is the market participant submitted absolute value of the maximum daily trading limit quantity (in MWh) for virtual transactions,  |
| $\Delta$ DAP <sub>VT</sub> , ARTP <sub>VT</sub> | is the <i>IESO</i> determined price delta calculated in accordance with section 4.2.1 of this <i>market manual</i> ;   |
| #Days <sub>DPA</sub>                            | is the <i>default protection amount</i> assessment period for <i>virtual transactions</i> for seven calendar days; and   |
| $\rm U_{ m VT}$                                 | is the <i>virtual transaction</i> uplift daily estimation rate, in \$/MWh. This is the same as the rate used for the calculation of the <i>minimum trading limit</i> for <i>virtual transactions</i> . |

#### 4.2.4. Applicable Reduction

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5C.6)

<u>Market participants</u> may be eligible for a reduction to their <u>maximum net exposure</u> for <u>virtual transactions</u> based on their credit with the <u>IESO</u> in accordance with Chapter 2, section 5C.6.1 of the <u>market rules</u>, as expressed in Equation 4-3.

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#### Equation 4-3: Applicable Reduction to Maximum Net Exposure for Virtual Transactions

$$PSO_{VT\$} = TL_{VT\$} + DPA_{VT\$} - (0.75 \times AIS_{VT\$})$$

where:

 Variable
 Description

 PSO<sub>VT\$</sub>
 is the market participant's prudential support obligation for virtual transactions (in dollars)

 TL<sub>VT\$</sub>
 is the minimum trading limit for virtual transactions (in dollars)

 DPA<sub>VT\$</sub>
 is the default protection amount for virtual transactions (in dollars)

 is the average of its most recent six consecutive invoices where a market participant conducts physical transactions using a generation unit and is eligible for market creditor status (in dollars)

### 4.3. Posting of Prudential Support for Virtual Transactions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5C.5)

<u>Market participants</u> may satisfy their <u>prudential support obligations</u> for <u>virtual transactions</u> by submitting a guarantee or an irrevocable commercial letter of credit, which in both cases must be in a form acceptable to the <u>IESO</u> and provided by (Chapter 2, section 5C.5.2 of the <u>market rules</u>):

- a bank named in a Schedule to the *Bank Act*, S.C. 1991, c.46, with a minimum long-term credit rating of "A" from an *IESO* approved credit rating agency; or
- a credit union licensed by the Financial Services Commission of Ontario with a minimum long-term credit rating of "A" from an *IESO* approved credit rating agency.

Market participants that are authorized to conduct both physical transactions and virtual transactions must post an authorized form of prudential support for each of their prudential support obligations for physical transactions and virtual transactions. The IESO may draw upon both physical forms of prudential support and virtual forms of prudential support in the event of default by market participants engaging in both physical transactions and virtual transactions.

# 4.4. Updating the Prudential Support Obligation for Virtual Transactions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5C.1.12)

The IESO will, on an ongoing basis, review a market participant's minimum trading limit, trading limit, default protection amount and maximum net exposure, for virtual transactions in circumstances that include:

- prior to the start of each energy market billing period;
- within two business days after a market participant's actual exposure for virtual transactions exceeds the market participant's trading limit for virtual transactions;
- within two business days after it receives notice of any changes to the status of a
  market participant as compared to such status that was in effect when the market
  participant's maximum net exposure for virtual transactions was last calculated if the
  IESO determines that the change in such status would have a material impact on the
  market participant's maximum net exposure; for virtual transactions (e.g., change in
  the market creditor status of a market participant conducting virtual transactions);
- —when the IESO has adjusted a market participant's minimum trading limit-(Chapter 2, section 5.3.4.3 of the market rules); and
- when the IESO has adjusted its price basis under Chapter 2, section 5.3.10B of the market rules).

Market participants must submit an initial self assessed trading limit (with the exception of market participants under the no margin call option) as part of the authorization process. Market participants should review this self assessed trading limit prior to the start of each billing period and submit a revised self assessed trading limit, as necessary at least seven business days prior to the start of the next billing period (Chapter 2, section 5.3.2 of the market rules). Once a market participant's trading limit has been established (Chapter 2, Section 5.3.7 of the market rules), that market participant is not permitted to change or request a change to that trading limit during the upcoming energy market billing period. If a revision is not required, the previously submitted self assessed trading limit is treated as a standing self assessed trading limit by the IESO (Chapter 2, section 5.3.3 of the market rules).

The *IESO* undertakes a three stage process in assessing the *prudential support obligation* that a *market participant* must satisfy. This consists of:

- assessing a minimum dollar trading limit (with the exception of market participants
  under the no margin call option) and dollar default protection amount for the
  market participant as set out in Appendix B;
- reviewing this minimum trading limit against the self assessed trading limit
  submitted by the market participant (or the trading limit applied to the market
  participant during the previous billing period, if the market participant has not
  sought to revise its trading limit), selecting the greater of the two trading limit

amounts and establishing the *maximum net exposure* for the *market participant* as the sum of the selected *trading limit* and the *default protection amount* (with the exception of *market participants* under the *no margin call option)*; and was subject to more than one *margin call* per *billing period*, pursuant to (Chapter 2, section 5C.1.4 of the *market rules*);

- <u>calculating</u>when the <u>IESO</u> has adjusted the price delta under (chapter 2, section 5C.1.9 of the <u>market rules</u>); and
- when the market participant's prudential support obligation as being equal to the amends its previously submitted maximum daily trading limit quantity (in MWh) for virtual transactions.

Should a market participant's maximum net exposure, unless reduced, where appropriate to reflect the market participant's credit rating , the market participant's good payment history for the purchase of electricity in Ontario, or the LDC prudential credit. for virtual transactions change as revealed over the course of the IESO's review, the IESO will inform the market participant of an updated Schedule A. In all such cases where the prudential support obligation increases, market participants must respond by providing additional prudential support for their virtual transactions within five business days from the effective date of the change.

For prudential calculation purposes, the *IESO* shall calculate a *metered market participant's minimum trading limit* and *default protection amount* using *energy* prices based on the *Ontario Energy Board's* ("*OEB's''*) price forecasts for electricity in Ontario for use in setting retail prices under its regulated price plan ("RPP"). The price basis for Local Distribution Companies will be equal to the lower tier RPCMT1 as reported by the *OEB* for its tiered RPP prices. The price basis for all other *market participants* will be equal to the average RPP supply cost (RPA) adjusted for any Class A global adjustment factors as forecasted by the *OEB*. The *IESO* shall annually review each price basis referred to in Chapter 2, section 5.3.10A of the *market rules*, and shall modify the applicable price basis if it has increased or decreased by 15% or more from the price basis used by the *IESO*.

Please refer to the "Guide to Prudentials at the IESO" document for examples on how prudentials are calculated:

http://www.ieso.ca/Documents/training/UnderstandingPrudentials.pdf

The *IESO* may reduce the *market participant's prudential support obligation* from the full *maximum net exposure* amount, depending on the credit rating of the *market participant*, good payment history (if applicable), or the LDC prudential credit in accordance with Section

5 of Chapter 2 of the "Market Rules"." The IESO currently may accept Standard & Poors, Moody's and DBRS credit ratings.

If a market participant's maximum net exposure, as calculated by the IESO is zero or negative, the market participant is not required to Similarly, market participants must keep the IESO informed of circumstances that could change their prudential support obligation for virtual transactions and ensure that all amounts of prudential support continue to satisfy the market participants' prudential support obligations.

There are circumstances where a *market participant* may be required to update a portion or all of its *prudential support* for *virtual transactions* to ensure that its *prudential support* obligation is satisfied. These circumstances include:

- if any part of a market participant's prudential support is due to expire or terminate, the market participant must provide the replacement at least 10 business days before the expiry date;
- <u>if</u> any form of prudential support to the IESO. If a market participant's maximum net exposure, as calculated by the IESO is positive, and the allowable prudential reductions do not reduce the market part of a market participant's prudential support obligation to zero is otherwise no longer current or valid, the market participant must provide a replacement within two business days; and
- if the IESO draws or claims any part of the market participant prudential support, the market participant must provide prudential support to replacement within five business days of receiving notice from the IESO.

The calculated *default protection amount*, If a revision to the maximum daily *trading limit* is not submitted by *market participants*, the *IESO* treats the previously submitted maximum daily *trading limit* for *virtual transactions* as a standing maximum *net exposure*, *trading limit* and *prudential support obligation* (where applicable) are communicated by the *IESO* and sent to the *market participant*.

Regardless of the activity that initiates the assessment of the *prudential support obligation* for a *market participant*, the *prudential support* posted by a *market participant* to satisfy this obligation must take one of the following forms daily *trading limit* for *virtual transactions* (Chapter 2, section 5.7.25C.1.3 of the *market rules*):).

 a guarantee or irrevocable commercial letter of credit, which in both bases must be in a form acceptable to the IESO and provided by:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>-Where a credit rating is available, this will take precedence over any good payment history that may be available.

- (a) a bank named in a Schedule to the Bank Act, S.C. 1991, c.46, with a minimum long-term credit rating of "A" from an IESO approved credit rating agency; or
- (b) a credit union licensed by the Financial Services Commission of Ontario with a minimum long term credit rating of "A" from an IESO approved credit rating agency;
- a guarantee in a form acceptable to the IESO provided by a person, other than an
   affiliate of the market participant, having a credit rating from an IESO approved
   creditrating agency;
- Marketable securities in the form of Canadian Government treasury bills. Such
  treasury bills shall be valued as cash at their current market value less 2 percent to
  take into account the potential eroding effects of interest rate increases; and/or
- subject to Section 5.7.4 and 5.7.4A of Chapter 2 of the "Market Rules," a guarantee
  in a form acceptable to the IESO provided by a person that is a rated affiliate of
  the market participant and has a credit rating from an IESO approved creditrating
  agency;

Section 5.7.4 and 5.7.4A of Chapter 2 of the "Market Rules" states that the *IESO* shall not accept a guarantee from a person referred to in Section 5.7.2.4 where the value of the guarantee exceeds, or would bring the total value of all guarantees provided by that person to an amount that exceeds, the greater of the allowable reduction—amounts referred to in the tables in Sections 5.7.4 and 5.7.4A. This section is intended to apply to guarantees provided to the *IESO* only.

# 2.5. Daily Monitoring of Prudential Support for Virtual Transactions

#### Actual Exposure of a Market Participant

The *IESO* verifies that each *market participant* has provided sufficient levels of *prudential support* to cover their financial trading activity in the *real time market*. The *IESO* calculates the *market participant's* estimated *actual net exposure*) and compares it to the *trading limit* (with the exception of a *market participant* who has elected the *no margin call option*) established for the *market participant*.

#### **ESTIMATED ACTUAL NET EXPOSURE**

Overview:

Each market participant can view their own daily estimated actual net exposure by logging into the IESO's online Market Participant Prudential System.

Monitoring of estimate actual net exposure against the trading limit is done on a daily basis.

The estimate actual net exposure calculation begins with estimates of charges for both dispatchable and non-dispatchable market participants. The estimated actual net exposure calculation will also take into account an adjustment for both dispatchable and non-dispatchable market participants, for an estimated level of physical bilateral

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# contracts based on previous participant activity.

Table 1–1 summarizes the resulting action taken by the *IESO* based on the results of this comparison between a *market participant's trading limit* and their *estimate actual net exposure* (with the exception of *market participants* under the *No margin call option*). While a *market participant* may only revise its self assessed *trading limit* as set out in Section 1.3.1, a *market participant* may reduce the level of *its estimate actual net exposure* at any time through making a pre-payment to the *IESO*, via logging in and sending the IESO an electronic Notification of Prepayment using the Market Participant Prudential System.

#### Table 1-1: Trading Limit and Actual Exposure comparisons

The IESO monitors market participants' virtual transaction activity within the IESO-administered markets using two methods:

- the IESO performs the daily screening of bids and offers that have been submittedbut-not-cleared during the day-ahead market submission window with respect to virtual transactions; and
- the *IESO* performs the daily monitoring of *actual exposure* for *market participants'* virtual transactions against that market participant's *IESO*-determined trading limit for virtual transactions.

These methods require the *IESO* to determine and use *day-ahead market* to *real-time market* price deltas, which are described in greater detail in the sub-sections that follow.

## 5.1. Daily Screening of Virtual Transactions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5C.2.3)

<u>Market participants</u> that submit <u>bids</u> and <u>offers</u> related to <u>virtual transactions</u> for the <u>day-ahead market</u> submission window will have all of their <u>virtual transactions</u> rejected if they fail either of the following two screenings:

- daily bid and offer quantity screening; or
- daily dollar exposure screening.

If market participants fail one of the screenings, they will receive a rejection message through the Energy Market Interface ("EMI") and will not be able to submit bids or offers in the day-ahead market up until the close of the day-ahead market submission window for a given trading day. In order to avoid the rejection of the virtual transaction bids and offers market participants should consider using the formulae listed in Chapter 2, section 5C.2.1 of

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the *market rules* to calculate the potential exposure for their *virtual transaction bids* and *offers*.

### 5.1.1. Daily Bid and Offer Quantity Screening

The IESO screens the market participants'-submitted virtual transaction bid and offer quantities (in MWh) against their maximum daily trading limit quantity (in MWh) supplied by market participants in the EMI. The IESO will reject the market participants'-submitted virtual transaction bid and offer quantities should the market participants' virtual transaction bids and offer quantities (in MWh) exceed their maximum daily trading limit quantity (in MWh). The IESO's daily bid and offer quantity screen calculate the absolute value of the sum of all virtual transaction bid and offer energy quantities (in MWh) submitted by the market participant at any of the virtual zonal trading entities during the day-ahead market submission window.

#### 5.1.2. Daily Exposure Screening

The IESO screens whether the market participants' IESO-estimated daily cumulative submitted-but-not-cleared dollar exposure exceeds the market participants' IESO-determined virtual transaction trading limit margins. The IESO determines market participants' virtual transaction trading limit margins by deducting the market participants' actual exposure for virtual transactions from their trading limit for virtual transactions on a daily basis.

Equation 5-1 contains the formula for the submitted-but-not-cleared dollar exposure used by the *IESO* as part of the daily dollar exposure screen.

## Equation 5-1: Submitted-but-not-cleared Dollar Exposure as part of the Daily Exposure Screen

$$\ \ \, _{SNC_{VT\$}} = \Sigma_{m=1}^{M} \ \, \left[ \text{SNC}_{VT_{m,h}} \times \Delta \left( \text{DAP}_{VTZ_{m,h}}, \text{ARTP}_{VTZ_{m,h}} \right) \right] + \left( \textbf{U}_{VT} \times \text{SNC}_{VT_{m,h}} \right) \\ \text{Where:}$$

## Trading Limit - AE comparison Variable

#### **Action Description**

| Actual exposure < 70 % trading limit | None |
|--------------------------------------|------|
|                                      |      |

70% trading limit <= AE < 100 % trading limitSNC<sub>VT\$</sub> *IESO* issues a notice of *margin call* warning (with the exception of *market participants* under the *no margin call* option) is the *IESO*-estimated daily cumulative submitted-but-not-cleared dollar exposure. This dollar value will be \$0 for each trade date at the start of the *day-ahead market* submission window;

is the virtual transaction uplift estimation rate, in \$/MWh. This is the IESO's estimation of day-ahead market reliability unit commitment uplift amounts that may be incurred by virtual transaction offers to provide energy.

Where a market participant's estimate actual net exposure reaches the level of 70% of their trading limit but remains less than 100% of their trading limit, as identified in Table 1 1, the IESO issues a "Notice of Margin Call Warning" to the market participant (with the exception of market participants under the no margin call option). The market participant may make a cash payment to reduce a portion of any amounts payable to the IESO at this time to reduce their estimate actual net exposure, or take other appropriate action to ensure that its estimate actual net exposure does not reach its trading limit<sup>to</sup> (Chapter 2, section 5.4.1 of the market rules).

Where a market participant's estimate actual net exposure equals or exceeds its tradina limit, as identified in table 1-1, the IESO issues a margin call to the market participant (with the exception of market participants under the no margin call option). The market participant is required to satisfy this margin call through paying a portion of the amount payable by cash sufficient to reduce the market participant's estimate actual net exposure to no more than 75% of the market participant's trading limit (Chapter 2, section 5.6.1 and 5.6.2 of the *market rules*).

If a margin call is not satisfied by 4pm on the second business day after the margin call is issued, an event of default is declared, and a default notice (or notice of intent to suspend) may be issued. The market participant is given a period of time to remedy the event of

 $U_{VT}$ 

<sup>10</sup> This could include entering in to a physical bilateral contract with another market participant. See "Part 5.3: Submission of Physical Bilateral Contract Data" for more information on this process.

default. This can be done by the market participant paying all monies due for payment, together with any default interest and other costs or expenses established by the IESO.

If the *event of default* is not rectified within the timeframe specified in the default notice, the *IESO* may begin the process to draw upon part or all of the *market participant's* prudential support, or impose a lower trading limit, more frequent schedule of payments, or more stringent prudential support requirements.

For further information on events of default, please refer to "Market Manual 2: Market Administration, Part 2.6: Treatment of Compliance Issues."

#### **Credit Warnings**

Where the *IESO* determines that there is a credit watch negative warning on a *market* participant (i.e. a movement of the *market participant* to a negative credit watch status by any of the major bond rating agencies) there is an automatic one notch reduction in the *market participant's* credit rating (for example, from BBB+ to BBB), as set out in Appendix (Chapter 2, section 5.8.2 of the *market rules*). The *IESO* will reassess the *market participant's prudential support obligation*, on this basis, and/or review the acceptability of any Prudential Guarantees received as *prudential support*, based on the revised credit rating of the guarantor.

### 1.1.2 No Margin Call Option

Subject to *IESO* approval, a *market participant* may elect the *no margin call option*, which would exempt a *market participant* from receiving a *margin call*, regardless of the level of its *estimate actual net exposure* (Chapter 2, sections 5.6.4, 5.6.5 and 5.6.6 of the market rules). The *IESO* will set the *maximum net exposure* for a *market participant* that has elected this option, to be equal to 70 days of market activity and assuming all of the participant's energy injected or withdrawn is transacted through the *real time market*, or 100% of the *market participant's* net settlement amount for non *metered market participants*. A *market participant* under the *no margin call option* will not have a *trading limit*. This participant would not be subject to *margin calls*, and would only receive the regular monthly *invoice* from the *IESO*. This *market participant* would not be able to claim any allowed reductions in *prudential support obligations* (i.e. good payment history, credit rating, or LDC prudential credit reduction) with the exception of the *small distributor*. The price basis used in the calculation of the *prudential support obligation* for *metered market participants* under the *no margin call option* will be consistent with Chapter 2, section 5.3.10A.1, 5.3.10A.2, and 5.3.10B of the *market rules*.

#### 1.1.3—Small Distributor

A small distributor is defined as a distributor with a projected energy consumption less than or equivalent to 0.25% of projected total system energy on an annual basis. A small distributor would be able to elect the no margin call option and still be able to claim allowed

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reductions in its *prudential support obligation* (i.e. good payment history, LDC prudential credit). Asmall distributor may make a rough determination from their forecast annual energy consumption for the upcoming year as provided in their submission divided by the sum of the monthly total system energy forecasts for the year. Final determination as to whether a *market participant* qualifies as a *small distributor* will be made by the *IESO*.

#### 1.1.4—LDC Prudential Credit

There are three allowed reductions that may be used by *market participants* (if applicable) in order to reduce their *prudential support obligation* (Chapter 2, section 5.8 of the *market rules*):

- 1.—Reduction for credit rating
- 2. Good payment history reduction
- 3.—LDC prudential credit

#### **LDC Prudential Credit**

The Retail Settlement Code authorizes *distributors* to collect *prudential support* from its customers, be they retailers or retail end-use customers. This can result in instances where there is *prudential support* posted by both the (wholesale) *distributor* participant and its retail customer for the very same MWhs (i.e. *prudential support* posted by retail customer with the *distributor*, in addition to prudential support posted by the *distributor* with the *IESO* for the same MWhs).

5.2. In order to eliminate this over-collateralization, and to provide greater flexibility for distributors to meet their prudential support obligation, the distributors are permitted to have a sixty cent reduction in their wholesale market prudential support obligation of the "tangible" prudential support for every dollar collected in retail prudential support they have collected from their customers (Chapter 2, section 5.8.8 of the market rules). Tangible prudential support includes cash, Government of Canada T-Bills, irrevocable commercial letters of credit from a Schedule Bank in Canada and

# <u>Daily Monitoring of Virtual Transaction Actual Exposure</u> and Trading Limit

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5C.3.1)

Actual exposure for virtual transactions consists of all financially unsettled and settled dayahead market transactions attributable to market participants' virtual transactions. The IESO calculates and accrues market participants' actual exposure for their virtual transactions from the start of a given billing period up to and including three business days prior to invoice issuance, net of any prepayments made after the issuance of the previous month's invoice and up to one business day prior to the issuance of the current month's invoice. The IESO monitors market participants' actual exposure for their virtual transactions against the market participants' IESO-determined virtual transaction trading limit on a daily basis. The amounts of actual exposure and trading limit for virtual transactions used for the daily monitoring by the IESO are available on the Prudential Manager.

The *IESO* takes into account *market participants' virtual transaction day-ahead market* activity when determining the components of *actual exposure* for *market participant*. The components of *actual exposure* for *virtual transactions* include:

- cleared-but-not-settled:
- settled-but-not-invoiced; and
- prepayments.

Similar to *physical transactions*, prepayment allows for the reduction in *actual exposure*. These prepayments can be either voluntary prepayments or *margin call* prepayments.

#### 5.2.1. Cleared-but-Not-Settled Component for Virtual Transactions

The cleared-but-not-settled component includes the sum of a *market participant's bids* and *offers* submitted with respect to their *virtual transaction*s for the previous six consecutive rolling calendar days that have cleared the *day-ahead market* and the *real-time market* but have not yet been settled. The six calendar days of cleared-but-not-settled can be further broken down into the following two categories:

- day-ahead market cleared-but-not-settled; and
- real-time market cleared-but-not-settled.

#### 5.2.1.1 Day-Ahead Market Cleared-but-Not-Settled Calculation for Virtual Transactions

A market participant's day-ahead market cleared-but-not-settled amount for virtual transactions, includes virtual transaction day-ahead market schedules and IESO-estimated virtual zonal trading entity price deltas as described in section 5.3 this market manual.

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The *IESO* considers *market participants' bids* and *offers* for their *virtual transactions* to be cleared-but-not-settled in the *day-ahead market* until the virtual zonal *energy* prices become available from the *real-time market*.

## 5.2.1.2 Real-Time Market Cleared-but-Not-Settled Calculation for Virtual Transactions

A market participant's real-time market cleared-but-not-settled amount for virtual transactions is based on virtual transaction day-ahead market schedules, day-ahead virtual zonal energy price and hourly average real-time virtual zonal energy price.

The *IESO* calculates the cleared-but-not-settled amount for the *real-time market* once virtual zonal *energy* prices become available in the *real-time market*. For the cleared-but-not-settled calculation for the *real-time market*, the *IESO*-estimated price deltas are no longer required as the actual price deltas become available for the same location, day and hour as the *bid* and/or *offer*.

#### 5.2.2. Settled-but-Not-Invoiced for Virtual Transactions

The settled-but-not-invoiced component includes the settled value of *virtual transactions* plus any associated *day-ahead market* reliability unit commitment uplift.

The *IESO* determines the amount of the settled-but-not-invoiced component of the *actual exposure* for *virtual transactions* for a *market participant* on a daily basis, based on that *market participant's* activity in the *day-ahead market* and *real-time market* covering any amount that has been settled but has not yet appeared on an *invoice*. The settled-but-not-invoiced amount includes:

- all settlement amounts used in the settled-but-not-invoiced component are hourly and non-hourly charges from the market participants' preliminary settlement statements and final settlement statements, and
- all amounts calculated from the time they are no longer cleared-but-not-settled to the time the amounts appear on a *preliminary settlement statement*.

The *IESO* calculates the settled-but-not-invoiced component of *actual exposure* using the following *settlement amounts*:

- Hourly Virtual Transaction Settlement Amount; and
- Day-Ahead Market Reliability Unit Commitment Uplift, which applies to virtual transactions to sell energy only.

For details on physical market *settlement statements*, refer to Market Manual 5: Settlements Part 5.5: Physical Markets Settlement Statements.

### 5.3. Price Delta for Daily Cumulative Submitted-but-Not-Cleared Dollar Exposure and Cleared-but-Not-Settled for Virtual Transactions

The IESO determines a price delta to calculate:

- the daily cumulative submitted-but-not-cleared dollar exposure; and
- the daily cleared-but-not-settled component of actual exposure.

<u>Determining a price delta will include calculating a price delta for an interim period then</u> <u>calculating a price delta for an enduring period.</u>

# 5.3.1. Enduring Price Delta for Daily Cumulative Submitted-but-Not-Cleared Dollar Exposure and Cleared-but-Not-Settled

The enduring price delta is used in the *IESO's* daily dollar exposure screening and is distinct from the price delta discussed at section 4.2.1 of this *market manual*. It is based on the absolute value of the difference between the day-ahead virtual zonal *energy* price and the hourly average real-time virtual zonal *energy* price calculated to the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile. This enduring price delta is observed for the 30 calendar days prior to the given *trading day* of the current year and 30 calendar days prior and after the same *trading day* and month for the prior 24 months for each of the virtual zones.

The *IESO* modifies the applicable enduring price delta if the price delta is not within 15% of the actual price differences within a *virtual transaction* zonal trading entity.

## 5.3.2. Interim Price Delta for Daily Cumulative Submitted-but-Not-Cleared Dollar Exposure and Cleared-but-Not-Settled

The *IESO* uses an interim price delta, until 25 months of hourly day-ahead virtual zonal *energy* prices and hourly average real-time virtual zonal *energy* prices are available for all virtual zones.

Similar to the enduring price delta noted above, the *IESO* uses the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile of interim price delta data to set the interim price delta for each of the virtual zones. The rolling data set used also corresponds to the same timelines as mentioned in the enduring price delta sub-section above. The circumstances where the *IESO* is required to review the interim price delta are the same as the circumstances used for the enduring price delta.

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## 5.4. Margin Call Warnings and Margin Calls for Virtual Transactions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, sections 5C.2.1, 5C.2.2 and 5C.4)

<u>Table 5-1 summarizes the actions taken by the *IESO* based on a comparison of *market participants' trading limit* for *virtual transactions* and their *actual exposure* for *virtual transactions*.</u>

<u>Table 5-1: Actions Taken as a Result of Daily Monitoring of Virtual Transactions</u>

| Trading Limit – AE comparison                             | IESO Action  | Market Participant Action  |
|---|--|--|
| Actual exposure< 70 % virtual transaction trading limit   | None   | <u>None</u>  |
| 70% trading limit <= actual exposure< 100 % trading limit | The IESO issues a "Notice of Marqin Call Warning" to market participants for their virtual transactions for the day-ahead market via a generic e-mail.   | Market participants may make a cash payment to reduce a portion of any amounts payable to the IESO to reduce their actual exposure for virtual transactions, or take other appropriate actions to ensure that their actual exposure for virtual transactions does not reach their trading limit for virtual transactions (Chapter 2, section 5C.2.1 of the market rules).  |
| Actual exposure >= 100 % trading limit                    | The IESO issues a margin call via a generic e-mail to market participants when their actual exposure for their virtual transactions reaches or exceeds 100% of its IESO-determined virtual transaction trading limit The IESO will reject a market participant's subsequent bids and offers for the market participant's virtual transactions. | Market participants are required to satisfy a margin call by paying cash in an amount sufficient to reduce their actual exposure for physical transactions to no more than 75% of the market participant's trading limit for physical transactions (Chapter 2, section 5C.4.1 and 5C.4.2 of the market rules).  Note, payment must be made by 4:00 pm eastern prevailing time ("EPT") on the second business day following the date of the margin call by a market participant.  The market participant's ability to conduct virtual transactions will be reinstated after it brings its actual exposure for virtual transactions to at least the dollar equivalent of 75% of its trading limit. |

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Part 5.4: Prudential Support

Note, market participants can log on to the **Prudential Manager** located on the *IESO* portal to view margin call warnings and margin call details.

<u>– End of Section –</u>

# 6. Consolidated Process for Monitoring Physical Transactions and Virtual Transactions

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 5D)

Where a *market participant* is authorized to conduct both *physical transactions* and *virtual transactions*, the *IESO* monitors *market participants*′ consolidated *actual exposure* against that *market participants*′ consolidated *trading limit* (in dollars).

Market participants' consolidated actual exposure is determined as the sum of:

- actual exposure for virtual transactions, and
- actual exposure for physical transactions.

Market participants' consolidated trading limit is determined as the sum of the:

- trading limit for virtual transactions, and
- trading limit for physical transactions.

The *IESO* issues a Notice of Margin Call Warning to *market participants* via a generic e-mail, when a *market participant's* consolidated *actual exposure* reaches or exceeds 70% of its *IESO*-determined consolidated *trading limit* (in dollars).

The IESO issues a margin call to market participants when their consolidated actual exposure reaches or exceeds 100% of the sum of their consolidated trading limit (in dollars). Market participants that are authorized to conduct both physical transactions and virtual transactions will have their prepayment applied to their consolidated actual exposure. In addition, market participants that are authorized to conduct both physical transactions and virtual transactions will have their bids and offers in respect of their virtual transactions rejected in the event their consolidated actual exposure exceeds their consolidated trading limit (in dollars). Table 6-1 summarizes comparisons of daily monitoring of actual exposure and trading limit between market participants that are solely authorized to conduct physical transactions or solely authorized to conduct virtual transactions against market participants that are authorized to conduct both physical transactions and virtual transactions.

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<u>Table 6-1: Comparison of Monitoring Activities between Market Participants Authorized</u> <u>to Conduct Physical Transactions, Virtual Transactions, or Both</u>

| Activity  | Authorized to Conduct either Physical Transactions or Virtual Transactions   | Authorized to Conduct both Physical Transactions and Virtual Transactions  |
|---|--|--|
| "Margin Call Warning<br>Notification" and Margin Call | "Notice of Margin Call Warning" and margin call issued for physical transactions or virtual transactions   | Consolidated "Notice of Margin Call Warning" and margin call issued for the sum of actual exposure for physical transactions and actual exposure for virtual transactions (Chapter 2, section 5D.2 of the market rules).   |
| Margin Call Warning and Margin Call Thresholds        | "Notice of Margin Call Warning" issued when actual exposure for physical transaction or actual exposure for virtual transactions reaches 70% and is less than 100% of the market participant's respective trading limit (in dollars).  Margin call issued when actual exposure for physical transactions or virtual transactions equals or exceeds the market participant's respective trading limit (in dollars). | "Notice of Marqin Call Warning" issued when consolidated actual exposure for physical transaction and virtual transactions reaches 70% and is less than 100% of the market participant's consolidated trading limit (in dollars) (Chapter 2, section 5D.3.1 of the market rules) Margin call issued when consolidated actual |
| Prepayment  | Prepayments applied to actual exposure for physical transactions or to actual exposure for virtual transactions  | Prepayment applied collectively to the consolidated actual exposure for physical transactions and virtual transactions (Chapter 2, section 5D.3.2 of the market rules)   |

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| <u>Activity</u>            | Authorized to Conduct either Physical Transactions or Virtual Transactions   | Authorized to Conduct both Physical Transactions and Virtual Transactions  |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Virtual Trading Privileges | The IESO will reject bids and offers from a market participant in respect of its virtual transactions when the actual exposure for a market participant's virtual transactions equals or exceeds its virtual transaction trading limit (in dollars). | The IESO will reject bids and offers from a market participant in respect of its virtual transactions when the consolidated actual exposure for a market participant equals or exceeds its consolidated trading limit (in dollars) (Chapter 2, section 5D.3.3 of the market rules) |

#### – End of Section –

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guarantees by a third person or affiliate.—To qualify for this reduction in *prudential support* obligation in the market, a *distributor* would need to provide proof for the *prudential* support it has collected from its customers. This proof would be in the form of completion o "Affidavit Regarding Reduction in Prudential Support Obligations" — IMO\_AFF\_0001, which is an affidavit attesting to the amount of tangible *prudential support* being held by the *distributor* from its customers, and copies of the irrevocable letters of credit and bank statements detailing cash deposits held for such a purpose as requested by the *IESO*.

For example, if an LDC has a *maximum net exposure* of \$25 million, but the LDC has collected prudentials in the amount of \$10 million from its own customers, and can provide verifiable proof (i.e. an affidavit) of said prudentials to the *IESO*, then its outstanding prudential support obligation—would be \$19 million [\$25M—(\$10M \* 0.6)]. Any outstanding prudential obligation would have to be met from one or a combination of the other instruments listed in Chapter 2. Under this option *distributors* would also be able to claim good payment history or credit rating reduction pursuant to Chapter 2, Section 5.8.5 or 5.8.1A of the "*Market Rules*" to meet its *prudential support obligation*. The LDC prudential credit will be deducted first before other applicable deductions could be utilized.

A *market participant* claiming the LDC prudential credit reduction, *market participants* must submit the required documentation.

### 3.7. Event of Default

(Market Rules: Chapter 2, section 8)

Where the IESO issues a default notice, or a notice of intent to suspend, it will-also:

- <u>deemdeems</u> any *physical bilateral contract quantities* to be zero for the period from the date the *event of default* occurs until it is remedied if that *market participant* is the *selling market participant*; or
- rescindrescinds or refuserefuses to accept any initial or revised physical bilateral
  contract data relating to a dispatch day after the date of the event of default if that
  market participant is the buying market participant.

The process of default is addressed in "Part 5.9: Payment Methods and Schedule", Market Manual 5: Settlements Part 5.9: Payment Methods and Schedule, where this relates to non-payment of an *invoice* and in "Market Manual 2: Market Administration, Part 2.6: Treatment

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of Compliance Issues", Market Manual 2: Market Administration Part 2.6: Treatment of Compliance Issues, where it relates to a compliance issue.

See "Part 5.3: Submission of Physical Bilateral Contract Data" Refer to Market Manual 5: Settlements Part 5.3: Submission of Physical Bilateral Contract Data for more information on the Physical Bilateral Contract process.

#### 1.1.5—[Intentionally Left Blank]

#### 7.1. Default Levy

If the *IESO* is unable to remedy an *event of default* using the posted *prudential support* by a defaulting *market participant*, the *IESO* is entitled to issue a *default levy* to all *non-defaulting market participants* that were participating in the *energy* markets at the time of the failure of payment of a *defaulting market participant* irrespective of whether the *event of default* occurred in the context of *physical transactions* or *virtual transactions*.

Following an *event of default*, the *IESO* has the authority to draw upon *market participants'* prudential support for both physical transactions and virtual transactions if a market participant has posted prudential support for both.

- End of Section -

### 4.8. Capacity Prudential Requirements

The *IESO* determines the *capacity prudential support* obligation for each-market participant or each obligation period based on a percentage of the monthly availability payment, less any allowable reductions.

The IESO calculates the capacity prudential support obligation as follows:

• [Monthly Availability Payment (\$) × 50%] – Allowable Reductions

#### Where;

#### where:

• Monthly Availability Payment =  $\Sigma$  (*Capacity obligation(s)* for the *obligation* period  $\times$  Zonal Clearing Price  $\times$  23 days).

All *capacity auction participants* with a *capacity obligation* are encouraged to post *prudential support* for the *obligation period*, at least 60 days prior to the *obligation period*.

The Prudential Requirements Contact <u>will have has</u> a task in Online IESO to submit the *capacity prudential support* information.

The *capacity prudential support* posted by a-*market* participant/participants or capacity market participants to satisfy this obligation must be in the following form format (Chapter 2, section 5.B.4.2 of the *market rules*):

- a guarantee or irrevocable commercial letter of credit, which in both cases must beis
  in a form acceptable to the IESO and provided by:
  - a bank named in a Schedule to the Bank Act, S.C. 1991, c.46 with a minimum Standard and Poor's long-term credit rating of "A" or equivalent from an *IESO* acceptable major bond rating agency; or
  - a credit union licensed by the Financial Services Commission of Ontario with a minimum Standard and Poor's long-term credit rating of "A" or equivalent from an *IESO* acceptable major bond rating agency.

There are two allowed reductions that may be used by *market participants* (if applicable) in order to reduce their *prudential support obligation* (Chapter 2, section 5B.5 of the *market rules*):

• 1. Reduction reduction for credit rating-; and

2. Goodgood payment history reduction.

If <u>reductions</u> are currently <u>being utilized by a participantutilizing</u> <u>reductions</u> in the *physical market*, the reductions will be adjusted accordingly to not exceed the maximum allowable under the *market rules*.

The *capacity prudential support obligation* amount may increase depending on poor creditworthiness-/ history in the *IESO* market.

In the case where a full or partial *capacity obligation transfer* is being requested:

- The the capacity transferee must satisfy its capacity prudential support obligation, including any additional capacity prudential support obligation that may be required as a result of a transfer request, within 5 business days of receiving a notification from the IESO or within such longer period of time as may have been agreed to with the IESO.
- Afterafter the capacity transferee has satisfied the capacity prudential support
  obligation or revised capacity prudential support obligation, as applicable, has been
  satisfied by the capacity transferee, the IESO will notify the capacity transferor of its
  approval or rejection of the transfer request and, upon. Upon receiving an approval
  notification, the capacity transferor may request the IESO to reassess its capacity
  prudential support obligation.

#### 4.1.1.1. Roles and Responsibilities

Responsibility for prudential support is shared among:

- Market participants, who are responsible for:
  - Submitting the required prudential support information via Appian tool and/or Market Participant Prudential System;
  - notifying the IESO that they wish to adjust its self-assessed trading limit, as
    necessary at least seven business days prior to the start of a billing period, to
    reflect its expected trading activity during that billing period; (with the
    exception of market participants under the no margin call option)
  - providing prudential support that satisfies their prudential support obligation;
  - for metered market participants with a credit rating of BBB or higher, and who have requested their minimum trading limit and default protection amount be calculated removing the energy quantities associated with the participant's physical bilateral contracts registered with the IESO, submit to the IESO the quantity and duration of the applicable physical bilateral contracts and notify the IESO immediately upon a change in the quantity or duration of the physical bilateral contract including the termination of the contracts;
  - receiving a notice of margin call warning and/or a margin call and taking appropriate corrective action (with the exception of market participants under the no margin call option);

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- receiving a default notice, or a notice of intent to suspend, and taking appropriate action to remedy the event of default; and
- re-establishing prudential support, if drawn on by the IESO, in order to retain market participation—If prudential support is due to expire or terminate, at least ten business days prior to expiration ("Market Rules," Chapter 2, Section 5.2.5); Where a participant's credit rating or good payment history had been revised, resulting in additional prudential support requirements, participants must provide any additional prudential support within five business days ("Market Rules," Chapter 2, Section 5.2.6); Where any part of the prudential support provided by a participant otherwise ceases to be current or valid for any reason, the participant must immediately notify the IESO and provide to the IESO within two business days, a replacement prudential support ("Market Rules," Chapter 2, Section 5.2.7).

#### • The IESO, which is responsible for:

- assessing (and reassessing) the minimum trading limit, trading limit, and default protection amount of each market participant (or applicant seeking authorization) as applicable;
- annually reviewing each price basis used in the calculation of a metered market participant's minimum trading limit and default protection amount, and modification if the applicable price basis has increased or decreased by 15% or more from the price basis used by the IESO;
- assessing (and reassessing) the maximum net exposure and prudential support obligation of each market participant (or applicant seeking authorization);
  - determining whether adequate prudential support has been provided by the market participant, according to the market rules;
- · checking for credit rating watch warnings against market participants,
- determining if the estimated actual net exposure is within the trading limit, and warning market participants of potential margin calls or issuing margin calls, as appropriate (with the exception of market participants under the no margin call option);
  - taking appropriate action in response to an event of default, and
  - drawing on a market participant's prudential support, as necessary, and verifying that prudential support is re-established within a specified timeframe.

#### 4.2.1.1.—Contact Information

As part of the participant authorization and registration process, market participants required to identify a contact for prudential matters. If a market participant has not identified a specific contact, the IESO will seek to contact the Main Contact for prudential matters. The IESO will seek to contact these individuals for activities within this procedure, unless alternative arrangements have been established between the IESO and the market

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participant. If the market participant wishes to contact the IESO, the market participant can contact IESO Customer Relations via email at IESO Customer Relations@ieso.ca, or by the phone number provided on the IESO's website (www.ieso.ca), on the "Contact Us" page.

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<u>– End of Section –</u>

# 9. Prudential Security Reports

The *IESO* will publish two reports, described in Table 9-1, for *market participants* authorized to conduct *virtual transactions*.

<u>Table 9-1: Virtual Transaction Price Delta Reports Description</u>

| Report Name                                   | Publication<br>Frequency | <u>Audience</u> | Report Description   |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Annual Virtual Transaction Price Delta Report | Annual                   | Public          | One price calculated annually to the 97 <sup>th</sup> percentile based on the dayahead and real-time price differences of all the nine virtual zonal trading entities.   |
| Daily Virtual Transaction Price Delta Report  | <u>Daily</u>             | Public          | Nine price deltas (one for each virtual zonal trading entity) calculated daily to the 97 <sup>th</sup> percentile using the differences between the corresponding dayahead prices and real-time prices for each of the nine virtual zonal trading entities |

— End of Section —

# Appendix A: Acronyms

| <u>Acronym</u> | <u>Meaning</u>                         |  |
|----------------|--|--|
| AQEI           | Allocated Quantity of Energy Injected  |  |
| <u>AQEW</u>    | Allocated Quantity of Energy Withdrawn |  |
| <u>EMI</u>     | Energy Market Interface                |  |
| <u>EPT</u>     | Eastern Prevailing Time                |  |

#### <u>– End of Section –</u>

### Appendix B: Forms

This appendix contains a list of forms associated with the *prudential support* procedure market manual, which are available on the *IESO*'s Web site (<a href="http://www.ieso.ca/">http://www.ieso.ca/</a>). The forms included are as followslisted in table A-1 below:

Table B-1: Forms

| Form Name  | Form Number          | Description  |                         |
|--|----------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Prudential Guarantee   | IMP_GRNT_0001        | Guarantee agreement to provide<br>prudential support by the guarantor<br>the IESO. Only applicable to a mark<br>participant's physical transactions.   |                         |
| Affidavit Regarding Reduction in<br>Prudential Support Obligations | IMOIESO_AFF_0<br>001 | Affidavit provided by a market particle that is a distributor, in respect of a conference of reduction to its prudential support obligation for it physical transaction.                                     | <u>laim</u><br><u>t</u> |
| Pledge of Cash and Treasury<br>Bills                               | IESO AGR 0013        | Pledge of Cash and Treasury bill as form of <i>prudential support</i> between pledger and the <i>IESO</i> to cover a <i>ma participant's prudential support oblig</i> for its <i>physical transactions</i> . | the<br><i>rket</i>      |

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#### **B.1** Introduction

With the exception of a market participant who has elected the no-margin call option, the maximum net exposure for a market participant is equal to the sum of its trading limit and default protection amount (Chapter 2, section 5.3.1 of the market rules).

#### **B.2** Default Protection Amount

The IESO shall establish a default protection amount for each market participant as follows (Chapter 2 section 5.3.8 of the market rules):

- For a metered market participant, its default protection amount shall be equal to the IESO's estimate of the metered market participant's net settlement amounts for that energy market billing period, excluding estimated settlement amounts associated with the energy forward market and estimated settlement amounts associated with a transmission right, assuming 21 days of participation in the realtime market and assuming all energy injected or withdrawn is transacted through the real time market (i.e. ignoring the impact of physical bilateral contracts);
- For a market participant that is not a metered market participant, the default protection amount shall be equal to the minimum trading limit for that market participant for that energy market billing period as determined by the IESO pursuant to Chapter 2, section 5.3.4.2 or section 5.3.4.3, as applicable..

#### Adjusting the Default Protection Amount for Physical Bilateral Contracts

- A metered market participant with a credit rating of BBB or higher, subject to any adjustment under section 5.8.2, may request its default protection amount be calculated removing the energy quantities associated with the participant's physical bilateral contracts registered with the IESO provided it submits to the IESO the quantity and duration of the applicable physical bilateral contracts and it notifies the IESO immediately upon a change in the quantity or duration of the physical bilateral contracts including the termination of any of the contracts.
- —If the above conditions are met (Chapter 2, section 5.3.8A of the market rules), the IESO shall determine the metered market participant's default protection amount assuming all energy injected or withdrawn is transacted through the real-time market net of energy quantities associated with those physical bilateral contracts.

### **B.3** Minimum Trading Limit

The *IESO* shall establish a *minimum trading limit* amount for each *market participant* as follows (with the exception of *market participants* under the *no margin call option*) (Chapter 2, section 5.3.4 of the *market rules*):

- The minimum trading limit for a metered market participant shall be equal to the IESO's estimate of the metered market participant's net settlement amounts, excluding estimated settlement amounts associated with the energy forward market and estimated settlement amounts associated with a transmission right, assuming 7 days of participation in the real time market and assuming all energy injected or withdrawn is transacted through the real time market (i.e. ignoring the impact of physical bilateral contracts). The IESO may use a greater number, up to and including 49 days of participation in the real time market for the determination of a metered market participant's minimum trading limit if that metered market participant was subject to more than one margin call per energy market billing period, provided that any such margin call is not the result of a price spike.
- The minimum trading limit for a market participant that is not a metered market participant, shall be equal to 25% of the IESO's estimate of the market participant's net settlement amounts for the upcoming energy market billing period. In estimating this net settlement amount, the IESO shall, subject to section 5.3.4.3, use an average of actual net settlement amounts for the 3 most recent energy market billing periods in which that market participant has transacted in the real-time market. The IESO may use a greater percentage up to and including 100% of the estimated market participant's net settlement amounts for the determination of a market participant's minimum trading limit if that market participant was subject to more than one margin call per energy market billing period, provided that any such margin call is not caused by a price spike; and
- The minimum trading limit for a market participant that is not a metered market participant who has not transacted for at least 3 months in the real time market shall be equal to 25% of the market participant's estimate of its net settlement amount for the upcoming energy market billing period. Such a market participant shall provide to the IESO, an estimate of its net settlement amount for the upcoming energy market billing period at least 7 business days prior to the start of the applicable energy market billing period. The IESO may adjust the market participant's minimum trading limit at any time if that market participant's actual net settlement amounts for the current billing period are projected to differ significantly from the estimate provided.

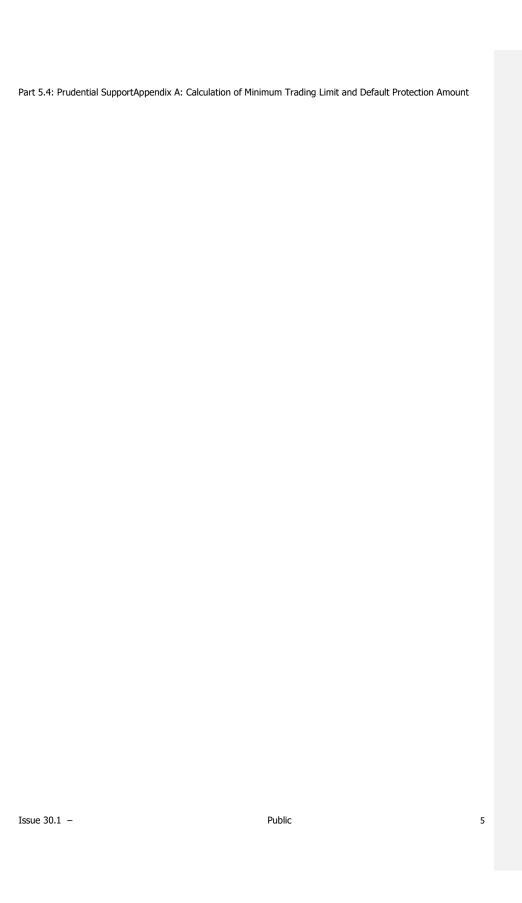
#### Adjusting the Minimum Trading Limit for Physical Bilateral Contracts

A metered market participant with a credit rating of BBB or higher, subject to any
adjustment under section 5.8.2, may request its minimum trading limit be
calculated removing the energy quantities associated with the participant's physica
bilateral contracts registered with the IESO provided it submits to the IESO the

- quantity and duration of the applicable *physical bilateral contracts* and it notifies the *IESO* immediately upon a change in the quantity or duration of the *physical bilateral contracts* including the termination of any of the contracts.
- If the above conditions are met (Chapter 2, section 5.3.8A of the market rules), the IESO shall determine the metered market participant's minimum trading limit assuming all energy injected or withdrawn is transacted through the real time market net of energy quantities associated with those physical bilateral contracts.

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## <u>Appendix C:</u> Credit Ratings

The reduction in the level of *prudential support obligation* relative to the *market participant's participant's maximum net exposure* that can be applied by the *IESO* based on a *market participant's* credit rating is set out in the following tables (Chapter 2, section 5.8.1 and 5.8.1A of the *market rules*):

Table C—1: Credit Rating Reductions for Non-Distributors

| Credit Rating with Standard and Poor's<br>Rating Terminology | Maximum allowable reduction in<br>Prudential Support (\$)     |
|--|---|
| AA- and above or equivalent                                  | 100% of maximum net exposure                                  |
| A-, A, A+ or equivalent                                      | Greater of 90% of <i>maximum net exposure</i> or \$37,500,000 |
| BBB-, BBB, BBB+ or equivalent                                | Greater of 65% of <i>maximum net exposure</i> or \$15,000,000 |
| BB-, BB, BB+ or equivalent                                   | Greater of 30% of <i>maximum net exposure</i> or \$4,500,000  |
| Below BB- or equivalent                                      | 0   |

Table C—2: Credit Rating Reductions for Distributors

| Credit Rating with Standard and Poor's Rating Terminology | Maximum allowable reduction in<br>Prudential Support (\$)     |
|---|---|
| AA- and above or equivalent                               | 100% of maximum net exposure                                  |
| A-, A, A+ or equivalent                                   | Greater of 95% of <i>maximum net exposure</i> or \$45,000,000 |
| BBB-, BBB, BBB+ or equivalent                             | Greater of 80% of <i>maximum net exposure</i> or \$22,500,000 |
| BB-, BB, BB+ or equivalent                                | Greater of 55% of <i>maximum net exposure</i> or \$7,500,000  |
| Below BB- or equivalent                                   | 0   |

- End of Section -



# Appendix D: Good Payment History

**Table D-1: Good Payment History Reductions for Non-Distributors** 

| Good Payment History                         | Allowable Reduction in Prudential Support Obligation (for non-distributors) |
|--|---|
| Six years or more                            | The lesser of \$12,000,000 or 50% of maximum net exposure                   |
| Five or more years but less than six years   | The lesser of \$7,500,000 or 30% of maximum net exposure                    |
| Four or more years but less than five years  | The lesser of \$6,000,000 or 25% of maximum net exposure                    |
| Three or more years but less than four years | The lesser of \$4,500,000 or 20% of maximum net exposure                    |
| Two or more years but less than three years  | The lesser of \$3,000,000 or 15 % of maximum net exposure                   |
| Less than two years                          | <u>\$0</u>  |

Table D-2: Good Payment History Reductions for Distributors

| Good Payment History                         | Allowable Reduction in Prudential Support Obligation (for distributors) |
|--|---|
| Six or more years                            | The lesser of \$14,000,000 or 80% of maximum net exposure               |
| Five or more years but less than six years   | The lesser of \$9,000,000 or 65% of maximum net exposure                |
| Four or more years but less than five years  | The lesser of \$7,500,000 or 45% of maximum net exposure                |
| Three or more years but less than four years | The lesser of \$6,000,000 or 35% of maximum net exposure                |
| Two or more years but less than three years  | The lesser of \$4,500,000 or 25% of maximum net exposure                |
| Less than two years                          | <u>\$0</u>  |



- End of Section -

**Appendix A:\_Calculation of Minimum Trading Limit and Default Protection Amount**MDP-PRO-0045

### Appendix E: Global Adjustment Calculation for Minimum Trading Limit and Default Protection Amount

The *IESO* estimates global adjustment for *market participants* that are not *energy traders*. The global adjustment estimate is included as part of their *physical transaction minimum trading limit* and *default protection amount* calculation for the *IESO-administered markets*.

The *IESO* calculates the global adjustment 'Class B' estimate for a *market participant* that is not an *energy trader* as follows for its *prudential support obligation*:

Global Adjustment (Class B) Minimum Trading Limit and Default Protection Amount calculation = Global Adjustment (Class B) price per MWh provided by the OEB x

Market participant-provided daily quantity (in MWh) x # of days for Minimum Trading
Limit or Default Protection Amount

The global adjustment price for a *market participant* that is not an *energy trader* stays static until the daily quantity of MWh injected or withdrawn for that *market participant* is changed or after conducting the annual review for global adjustment.

The *IESO* calculates the global adjustment 'Class A' estimate for a *market participant* that is not an *energy trader* as follows for its *prudential support obligation*:

Global Adjustment (Class A) Minimum Trading Limit and Default Protection Amount calculation = (PDF11 x Total Global Adjustment Dollars Forecasted by the OEB)/(Market participant provided Daily Maximum withdrawals in MWh x 365 days)

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<sup>11</sup> PDF is the Peak Demand Factor assigned to each 'Class A' market participant based on their five coincident peak demands during a predetermined base period.

## References

| Document ID  | Document Title  |
|--------------|---|
| IMO_LST_0001 | List of Financial Institutions Eligible to Provide Prudential Support |
| N/A          | The Bank Act, S.C. 1991   |
|              |   |

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