IESO Technical Panel Meeting Minutes of Meeting

Date held: August 11, 2020		Time held: 1:00 PM	Locati	ion held: Online	
Invited/Attended	Sector Representation			Attended; Regrets	
Robert Bieler	Consumer		Attended		
David Brown	Ontario Energy Board		Attended		
Ron Collins	Energy Related Businesses and Services		Attended		
Rob Coulbeck	Retailers or Wholesalers		Attended		
Dave Forsyth	Consumer		Attended		
Sarah Griffiths	Other Market Participants		Attended		
Robert Lake	Residential Consumer		Attended		
Phil Lasek	Industrial Consumer		Regrets		
Robert Reinmuller	Transmitter		Attended		
Sushil Samant	Generator	Generator		Attended	
Joe Saunders	Distributor			Attended	
Jessica Savage	IESO	IESO		Attended	
Vlad Urukov	Generator	Generator		Attended	
Michael Lyle	Chair			Attended	
Observers / Presenters					
Gabriel Adam	IESO	IESO			
Adam Cumming	IESO				
Sam Jager	IESO				
Secretariat					
Jason Grbavac	IESO	IESO		Present	
Prepared by: Mitchell Beer / Smarter Shift Inc.					

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Agenda Item 1: Introduction and Administration

Jason Grbavac, IESO, welcomed participants and observers and conducted a roll call for the online meeting. He reminded participants that they could both attend by phone and view slides and other support materials via webcast.

Chair's Remarks:

The Chair said the Markets Committee meeting August 25 and the Board meeting August 26 would be asked to consider a package of three Market Rule amendments, the Performance Requirements package on the agenda for the day's meeting, and two items the Technical Panel addressed earlier in the year, the Transmission Rights Clearing Account and Reliability-Related Information. The IESO will also be bringing forward proposed candidates to fill vacancies on the Technical Panel for representatives of the storage and renewable generation constituencies, and the Chair said he hoped the new members would be in place for the Panel's next meeting.

The agenda was adopted on a motion by Joe Saunders.

The minutes of the Technical Panel's June 23 meeting were adopted on a motion by Robert Lake.

Sarah Griffiths noted the rationale for Panel members' votes that had been appended to the minutes, and asked whether it would be possible to circulate future rationales to members closer to the actual vote, in addition to including them in the official record. The Chair said the IESO would arrive at a process to circulate the rationales shortly after the Secretariat receives them.

Agenda Item 2: Stakeholder Engagement Update

Jason Grbavac, IESO, reviewed the prospective Technical Panel schedule in members' information packages and drew their attention to several upcoming engagement initiatives. He noted that the next MRP education session was scheduled for the September 15 meeting, and would build on information the IESO had already shared with Panel members during the first two sessions earlier in the year. He reiterated that the sessions are designed to provide timely, relevant updates and content to assist Panel members in advance of upcoming Market Rule amendments.

An education session on Operating Reserve Accessibility will take place during the October 20 Panel meeting, and the IESO anticipates a vote to post for the Storage Design Project at the September 15 meeting, followed by a vote to recommend October 20.

Mr. Grbavac said the IESO's new engagement calendar, with sessions scheduled for a couple of days each month, had been very well received by the stakeholder community. Sessions have been scheduled through the end of the year to allow participants to mark their calendars well in advance, with the next round taking place August 26-27.

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While the COVID-19 pandemic was the catalyst for conducting the engagements in a virtual setting, Mr. Grbavac said the format has worked well, and may continue in some form once the IESO normalizes its processes and returns to in-person meetings. He said the IESO conducted 22 different engagement webinars through May, June, and July, and the Stakeholder Advisory Committee held a successful first virtual public meeting on the morning of August 11, featuring an update from IESO Vice President Terry Young.

Sushil Samant asked whether the Technical Panel's annual meeting with the Board would still take place. Mr. Grbavac said this year's joint meeting would be held virtually, and was currently scheduled for October. The Chair said there will be no face-to-face meetings for the remainder of the year, and most IESO staff won't return to their offices this fall, apart from those whose presence is required based on critical system need. He said the technology the IESO used for the SAC meeting performed well, and might be suitable for the joint Technical Panel-Board meeting, as well.

Agenda Item 3: Performance Requirements		
Presenter	Gabriel Adam, Adam Cumming, Sam Jager	
Action	Vote on whether to recommend MR-00445, Performance Requirements, for consideration by the IESO Board	

Adam Cumming, IESO, said that two revisions were made to the proposed Market Rule amendment based on recommendations from Ontario Power Generation—to explicitly define the voltage requirements for reactive power in Appendix 4.2, and to relocate the definition of rated field current from the appendix. OPG had recommended retaining the definition, Mr. Cumming said, so it will now be found in Market Manual 1.6.

The final revision, pursuant to a Technical Panel recommendation last month, switched the order of Categories 11 and 12 in Appendix 4.3 to improve the clarity of the text. With the revision, Voltage Ride-Through will appear before Generation Units.

Mr. Saunders said it made sense that the IESO had received stakeholder feedback on the proposed amendments from OPG, as the largest generator in the province. But he asked whether there was any concern about the absence of feedback from smaller players in the market who will probably see the greatest impacts. Mr. Cumming said the IESO conducted a broader, 16-month stakeholder process through a series of webinars, in addition to discussions before the Technical Panel. The webinars drew well over 100 participants—and one of them, TC Energy, actually recommended more stringent provisions than the IESO had proposed.

Vlad Urukov thanked the IESO staff for engaging with OPG and conveyed his colleagues' positive feedback on a very productive session. Mr. Cumming thanked the OPG team in turn.

Robert Reinmuller noted that the documentation supporting the proposed Market Rule amendment made no reference to behind-the-meter generation, and concluded on that basis that those resources would not be subject to the new requirements. Gabriel Adam, IESO, said

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the requirements will indeed apply to behind-the-meter resources, since they connect through distributors or within wholesale customers, which are subject to IESO Market Rules.

Mr. Reinmuller said Hydro One is generally aligned with the recommended Market Rule amendments but called for a phased approach, recognizing that the changes will have an impact on generators as well as the distributors that provide their connection to the grid. He recommended that the IESO start with larger units when it begins its work with the Ontario Energy Board to define the short- and long-term applicability of the new rules in order to address the bulk of the issues early on, rather than starting with the 10-kilowatt units and putting a heavy burden on smaller power producers.

Mr. Adam stated that the new performance requirements will apply to all new facilities as soon as the amendments are approved, and agreed that, through the IESO-OEB initiative to address the performance of the existing DER, priority should be given to larger facilities.

A participant asked whether Market Participants would be expected to fulfill their obligations in Appendix 4.3 based on the Ontario Energy Board's Distribution System Code. Mr. Adam said the requirements in the proposed amendments do not contradict the Code, and distributors need to meet both the Distribution System Code and Appendix 4.3.

Robert Bieler asked whether compliance with the new rules would require new capital investment or monitoring on the part of smaller generators. Mr. Adam said the IESO did not foresee any need for different equipment to address requirements that focus on abnormal voltages and frequencies.

On a motion by Vlad Urukov, the Technical Panel voted unanimously to recommend MR-00445, Performance Requirements, for consideration by the IESO Board.

Mr. Grbavac asked members to provide their written rationales by the end of the day Wednesday, August 12, and reiterated that rationales would be shared with members more promptly.

Agenda Item 4: Other Business

The Chair wished everyone an enjoyable remainder of the summer, and the meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

The vote to recommend the proposed Market Rule amendment to the IESO Board of Directors for review and approval passed unanimously (11 in favour, 0 opposed, 1 absent) at the August 11, 2020 Technical Panel meeting.

MR-00445-R00: Updates to Performance Requirements: Market Rule Appendices 4.2 and 4.3			
TP Member	Rationale to Support Vote		
Ron Collins (Energy Related	I recommend MR-00445-R00 Performance Requirements August 2020 to the IESO Board for consideration based on the following rationale:		
Businesses and Services)	The market rule amendment addresses the recommendations related to generation facility requirements from the 2019 Operability Study report, while improving and clarifying the language of several other performance requirements. Devoid of the proposed market rule amendment the IESO-		

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	controlled grid would be unduly exposed to an unacceptable level of risk to the reliability of the IESO controlled grid.		
Robert Reinmuller (Transmitters)	I voted in favour of the updated Performance Requirements for the following reasons and included recommendations for future approach.		
	There has been extensive collaboration and stakeholdering on this topic over the past years. Hydro One has provided input throughout the IESO engagement directly or indirectly through industry participation (IEEE1547/NERC WG & Guidelines etc.) to ensure the technical fundamentals have been captured.		
	The Interconnection Requirements specific to Ontario will need to be updated to adopt these changes by market participants. Hydro One will continue to recommend a phased approach to ensure that market participants, LDC's, generators, etc. are not burdened with the changes and there is sufficient consideration for planning the work and funding the required changes		
	In addition, Hydro One continues to supports the direction of addressing larger units first (ex. larger than 1MW) that would have the most impact to the fundamental need that drives these updates and continue implementation with smaller units over time.		
Joe Saunders (Distributors)	I voted "In Favour", to recommend MR-00445-R00, updates to Performance Requirements, Market Rule Appendices 4.2 and 4.3 to the IESO Board for review and approval. The proposed market rule amendment has been discussed at the May 26, 2020, June 23, 2020, and August 11, 2020 TP meetings and has gone through stakeholder engagement. This amendment to the performance requirements for generators, wholesale customers, and distributors will expand applicability of several requirements to include all distributed energy resources.		
	In addition to the clarification of language on performance requirements, this amendment addresses required behaviour for inverter-based facilities following disturbances to avoid current being injected onto the system during disturbances.		
	As a result of staff presentations, TP discussions, and stakeholder feedback, I voted in favour to recommend the amendment of the market rule to the IESO Board for consideration.		
Jessica Savage (IESO)	I vote in favor of recommending the proposed rule amendments to the IESO Board for approval because the amendments will support reliability by specifying requirements for inverter-based facilities during and immediately following disturbances to avoid these facilities ceasing to inject current during system disturbances.		

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