



April 13, 2012

Feedback - Trading on Wind Outage Information

The MSA received a request regarding clarity about trading on outage records related to wind facilities. The MSA is of the view that guidance on these issue should be taken from a plain reading of Section 4 of the *Fair, Efficient and Open Competition Regulation*.

Subsection 4(1) reads as follows: “A market participant shall not, directly or indirectly, use outage records to trade unless permitted to do so under this section” and subsection 4(5) states: “A market participant may use an outage record to trade after the outage record has been made available to the public by the ISO.”

The AESO *Information Document #2011-007R Wind Power Forecasting* requires that wind facilities provide Current Turbine Availability (CTA) and Planned Turbine Availability (PTA) for AESO’s wind power forecasts (Section 3.4.3.1 and 3.4.4 respectively). The CTA is used to measure the “[o]utage-related temporary reduction in Maximum Capacity (in MW) for an aggregated generating facility”, and the PTA is used to measure “planned temporary reduction in Maximum Capacity (in MW) for a facility during the next 144 hours (6 days).”¹ These records are used as an input of the AESO wind forecast which is subsequently made public. Consequently, such CTA and PTA records can be used for trading after the AESO has made them public in its wind forecast.

Beyond the 6 days covered in the wind power forecast, wind outage information is not made public and if traded upon may be subject to investigation by the MSA under section 42 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*. The MSA expects that as the AESO develops new rules for wind power facilities that will result in additional wind outage records being made public.

¹ AESO Information Document #2011-007R, “Wind Power Forecasting” (http://www.aeso.ca/downloads/2011-06-23_Wind_Forecasting_ID.pdf).

Note to reader: This feedback does not constitute a formal guideline or opinion of the MSA. However, within the parameters of the applicable facts and absent any superseding view, we consider ourselves bound by feedback given. Views expressed by the MSA do not supplant the role and authority of the courts, the Alberta Utilities Commission or other adjudicative body with jurisdiction over a given matter. Questions or comments regarding this feedback can be sent to the MSA through the Contact Us link on our website.