

## NOTICE OF SPECIFIED PENALTY

|                                 |                                  |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Date of Issue: January 30, 2026 |                                  | Payment Due Date: March 2, 2026 |   |
| MSA File Number                 | RS2025-224                       | <b>Specified Penalty Amount</b> | <b>\$ 10,000</b>  |
| Market Participant Name         | Alberta Electric System Operator |                                 |   |
| Reliability Standard            | COM-002-AB-4                     | Self-Report                     | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO |
| Requirement                     | R5                               | Accepted Mitigation Plan        | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO |
| Date of Referral                | December 4, 2025                 | Date of Contravention           | April 1, 2024   |

### MSA FINDINGS

Requirement R5 of COM-002-AB-4 states:

R5 The ISO and operator of a transmission facility that issues an oral two-party, person-to-person operating instructions during an emergency, excluding written or oral single-party to multiple-party burst operating instruction, shall either:

- (a) confirm the receiver's response if the repeated information is correct (in accordance with requirement R6);
- (b) reissue the operating instruction if the repeated information is incorrect or if requested by the receiver; or
- (c) take an alternative action, if a response is not received or if the operating instruction was not understood by the receiver.

The Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) conducted a compliance audit of the AESO. The applicable audit period with respect COM-002-AB-4 R5 was from April 1, 2024 to June 10, 2025.

For three occurrences, when the AESO declared an Emergency Alert Level 3, on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the AESO did not issue consistent oral two-party, person-to-person operating instructions during an emergency and either did not confirm the receiver's response if the repeated information is correct, or reissue the operating instruction if the repeated information is incorrect, or if requested by the receiver, nor did the AESO take an alternative action, if a response is not received or if the operating instruction was not understood by the receiver.

The MSA is satisfied that the conduct was a contravention of the reliability standard COM-002-AB-4 requirement R5, from April 1, 2024 to June 10, 2025.

The MSA has determined the Severity of this contravention as a Moderate severity, as non-adherence to three-part communication, during emergency conditions, could result in control room miscommunication and lead to unplanned system events.

The MSA did not accept the mitigation plan, consistent with AUC Rule 027 s. 4.9 (c), as the provided mitigation plan activity does not sufficiently prevent re-occurrence of the contravention.

### DELIVERY OF PAYMENT

Payment can be made by electronic funds transfer (EFT). Please reach out to [compliance@albertamsa.ca](mailto:compliance@albertamsa.ca) for instructions. When submitting the EFT, please send an email to [AU.FinOps@gov.ab.ca](mailto:AU.FinOps@gov.ab.ca), [compliance@albertamsa.ca](mailto:compliance@albertamsa.ca) and [enforcement@auc.ab.ca](mailto:enforcement@auc.ab.ca) noting the MSA file #, market participant name, name as appears on bank account, payment amount and the date of the payment. Questions can be directed to [compliance@albertamsa.ca](mailto:compliance@albertamsa.ca).

### NOTICE

The Market Surveillance Administrator (MSA) is granted the power and authority under s. 52 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act* to issue a Notice of Specified Penalty where the MSA is satisfied that a person has contravened an Alberta Reliability Standard. Specified penalties are set out in AUC Rule 027.

In accordance with the relevant enactments and rules, a dispute regarding the issuance of a Notice of Specified Penalty or failure to pay the specified penalty in accordance with this notice will result in a hearing or other proceeding before the AUC.

In accordance with s. 5.1 of AUC Rule 027 this Notice of Specified Penalty will be made public no earlier than receipt of confirmation of payment from the Commission and no later than 45 days after issuance. The MSA will, if applicable, also post on its website the link to any decision of the AUC respecting the specified penalty.

If your organization disputes the issuance of this Notice of Specified Penalty, or if you have any other questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact the MSA compliance team at [compliance@albertamsa.ca](mailto:compliance@albertamsa.ca).

**APPROVED BY**

Johanne Poirier Mouallem, Advisor, Alberta Reliability Standards on January 30, 2026