NOTICE TO MARKET PARTICIPANTS AND STAKEHOLDERS

June 22, 2020

Re: COVID-19 compliance update

Further to the MSA's notice dated March 30, 2020,[1] the MSA recognizes the sustained potential for COVID-19 to cause non-compliance with the Alberta Reliability Standards and the ISO rules. Opportunities remain available to request waivers and variances of certain requirements from the AESO[2] and the MSA will continue to appropriately exercise its regulatory discretion during this period to assist market participants.

Effective from March 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020, the effects of the COVID-19 virus will continue to be considered an acceptable reason on a case-by-case basis for non-compliance with the Alberta Reliability Standards. The applicable time period for PER-003-AB-1 and PER-004-AB-2 continues until December 31, 2020, to which the MSA is today adding PER-005-AB-2. Self-reports must continue to clearly identify the cause of the non-compliance, the date it was discovered, the date it commenced or will commence, and the steps and timelines for returning to compliance.

The MSA recognizes that COVID-19 may be the cause of non-compliance with the ISO rules as well. To the extent that these impacts are described in self-reports, along with the steps and timelines for returning to compliance, market participants will qualify for favourable treatment in alignment with the MSA's Compliance Process.

Sincerely,

Derek Olmstead
Market Surveillance Administrator

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[1] See the MSA's notice, "The Coronavirus and Specified Penalties Notice," dated March 30, 2020; available online at https://www.albertamsa.ca/assets/Documents/MSA-Notice-re-The-Coronavirus-and-Specified-Penalties.pdf.

[2] See "Requests for Information, Waivers or Variances Regarding Documents," available online at https://www.aeso.ca/rules-standards-and-tariff/requests-for-information-waivers-or-variances-regarding-authoritative-documents/.