

Facility Modifications – Understanding IESO related processes

Market participants are reminded that any modification to their facilities, including like-for-like changes, must be assessed by the IESO for impacts of the change on the longer-term reliability of the grid. In contemplating any change to a facility, market participants are encouraged to reach out to the [Connection Assessments group](#) to confirm whether an assessment is required.

Please be aware that the following less apparent examples of modifications may require an assessment to be performed:

- Load-displacement generator additions
- Engine (turbine) replacements for generating units
- Inverter changes or replacements for renewables
- Plant controller or SCADA replacements or upgrades
- Station service changes
- Protection or RTU replacements or upgrades

To initiate an assessment as per the [IESO Connection Assessment and Approval \(CAA\) process](#), market participants need to submit an application package to the Connection Assessments group. The IESO will assess the application and determine if a formal assessment needs to be completed. If necessary, the IESO will complete a System Impact Assessment (SIA) or an expedited SIA, depending on the complexity of the modification. At the request of market participants, the IESO may complete a single, “blanket” connection assessment for certain like-for-like modifications that occur frequently or at regular intervals. This approach would eliminate the requirement for the IESO to complete an assessment for each change, reduce assessment costs for market participants, and provide market participants with more certainty with future changes.

In conjunction with the CAA process, market participants are also reminded that prior to placing any new or modified facility into service, they must contact the [Market Registration & Data group](#) and initiate the [IESO Market Registration process](#) to update all their applicable IESO registered data and perform IESO commissioning tests to validate performance as per applicable market rules requirements. The IESO will issue a Registration Approval Notification (RAN) allowing the market participant to place the new or modified facility into service. If a market participant has a ‘blanket’ formal assessment, the IESO Market Registration process must be initiated for each modification as

soon as possible before energization to the IESO-controlled grid and prior to the commencement of any related outages.

Finally, once an outage plan is developed to implement a modification to a facility, market participants must follow the [Outage Management process](#) so the IESO can assess the reliability impact during the outage period.

More information on the three sequenced processes can be found here:

1. [Connection Assessment and Approval \(CAA\) process](#)
2. [IESO Market Registration process](#)
3. [Outage Management process](#)

Any questions should be directed to: customer.relations@ieso.ca