



Transmission Business Line (TBL)

Modification of *De Minimis* Criteria in the Available Transfer Capability Methodology

Posted: September 7, 2004

BPA's Transmission Business Line (TBL) is issuing for public comment the following proposal to modify the *de minimis* criteria of its Available Transfer Capability (ATC) Methodology. The ATC Methodology, posted and implemented on November 12, 2003, explains how power will flow over the multiple flowgates on the TBL's transmission network and how the MW impact to each flowgate is calculated. The proposal addresses how TBL would apply the *de minimis* criteria to new transmission requests including firm redirects of Point-to-Point service and the addition of new Network resources. Customers and interested parties will have 15 days from the date of this posting to provide comments to atc@bpa.gov on this proposal (close of comment is September 22, 2004).

In applying the *de minimis* criteria consistent with Appendix 4 of the ATC Methodology, TBL found certain results that it considers to be unreasonable. For example, requests for redirected transmission have been denied even though they have only minor incremental impacts on flowgates. To address such results, the *de minimis* criteria would be modified to add a new test (Test 2). Test 2 would recognize that requests which modify, replace, or supplement current service may have impact(s) to the same flowgate(s) as the current service. Test 2 presumes 10 MW or less of net impact to a flowgate and that the original flowgate impact divided by the new flowgate impact is greater than or equal to 90%.

All requests for service would be subject to both Test 1 and Test 2. If the request passes either Test 1 or Test 2, the impact of the request at the flowgate would be considered *de minimis*.

The following examples are to illustrate the application of *de minimis* criteria in Table 1 of the proposed modification to Appendix 4:

EXAMPLES (using 50 MW redirect)	Test 1	Test 2	PASS or FAIL
New Request's Impact to Flowgate A = 6 Existing Impact to Flowgate A = 5	$6 - 5 \leq 10 \text{ MW} = \text{PASS}$ $\text{PUF} \geq 0.10 = \text{FAIL}$	$6 - 5 \leq 10 \text{ MW} = \text{PASS}$ $5 \div 6 \leq 0.90 = \text{FAIL}$	FAIL
New Request's Impact to Flowgate A = 3 Existing Impact to Flowgate A = 2	$3 - 2 \leq 10 \text{ MW} = \text{PASS}$ $\text{PUF} \leq 0.10 = \text{PASS}$	$3 - 2 \leq 10 \text{ MW} = \text{PASS}$ $2 \div 3 \leq 0.90 = \text{FAIL}$	PASS
New Request's Impact to Flowgate A = 20 Existing Impact to Flowgate A = 18	$20 - 18 \leq 10 \text{ MW} = \text{PASS}$ $\text{PUF} \geq 0.10 = \text{FAIL}$	$20 - 18 \leq 10 \text{ MW} = \text{PASS}$ $18 \div 20 \geq 0.90 = \text{PASS}$	PASS

Comments should be submitted to atc@bpa.gov. If questions or clarifications are necessary, please contact your transmission account executive.

Related Documents:

[Proposed Modification to Appendix 4 of the ATC Methodology](#)

[ATC Methodology \(last updated March 15, 2004\)](#)