

# New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) Operating Agreements



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*Transmission Operating Agreement and  
Interconnection Operators Agreement*

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# NECEC Operating Documents

**Proposed Effective Date: Prior to the Trial Operation Date for the NECEC Line**

- Stakeholders are being asked to review and provide an advisory vote on two operating agreements for the NECEC Elective Transmission Upgrade (ETU)
  - The NEPOOL Transmission Committee is being asked to review and provide an advisory vote on the **NECEC Transmission Operating Agreement (TOA)** between the ISO and NECEC Transmission, LLC, the owner of the NECEC Transmission Line
    - The TOA provides for the ISO's operational control authority over the NECEC Transmission Line
  - The NEPOOL Reliability Committee is being asked to review and provide an advisory vote on the **Appalaches-Maine Interconnection Operators Agreement (A-M IOA)** between the ISO and Hydro-Québec
    - The A-M IOA provides for the coordinated operation of the Québec-to-New England interconnection
- The two agreements will be filed with FERC under Section 205 of the Federal Power Act during the first or second quarter of 2025



# Background

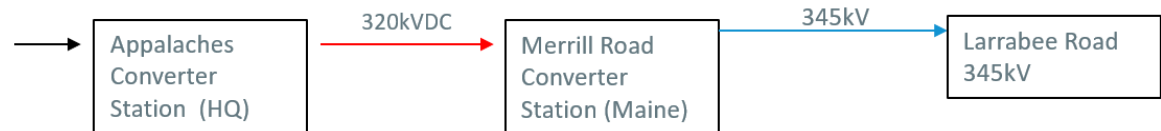
- What is NECEC?
  - An ETU that has been proposed pursuant to Schedule 25 of the Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT)
  - A 320 kV, DC transmission interconnection between the electric power systems of Hydro-Québec and ISO New England
  - Under an ETU Interconnection Agreement ([ETUIA-ISONE/CMP-20-01](#)), effective 10/30/2020, for up to 1,200 MW import (only) into NE

## NECEC transmission corridor



SOURCE: necleanenergyconnect.org

STAFF GRAPHIC | JAKE LAWS



# Rationale for Creation of NECEC TOA and A-M IOA

- Pursuant to Section 11.5 of Schedule 25 of the OATT on ETUs:
  - “Prior to achieving Commercial Operation, the Elective Transmission Upgrade must be under the Operational Authority of the System Operator pursuant to a Transmission Operating Agreement and establish a schedule under the ISO OATT pursuant to which service will be offered over the Elective Transmission Upgrade”
  - In addition, the ISO maintains coordination agreements with neighboring control areas to address the coordinated operation of interconnections, and must develop such an agreement governing operation of the NECEC
    - *See for example:* [Phase I/II Interconnection Operators Agreement](#), [Highgate Interconnection Operators Agreement](#), and Coordination Agreements with [New Brunswick](#) and [New York](#)



# NECEC Agreements and Required Schedules

- The ISO, as the entity that will have Operational Authority over the NECEC facility, has been working with NECEC to develop the NECEC TOA
- The ISO has been working with Hydro-Quebec to develop the A-M IOA
- NECEC, LLC or an affiliate, as the entity providing transmission service over the NECEC Line, will develop and file OATT Schedule 20B for transmission service over the Line



# NECEC TOA – Background

- Under the NECEC TOA, the ISO agrees to assume and exercise Operating Authority over the NECEC Transmission Line
- Such Operating Authority includes:
  - Centrally dispatching generation and implementing real-time balancing over the Line
  - Determine Operating Limits based on forecasted or real-time system conditions and in accordance with Presidential Permits and the facility ratings
  - Exchange of transmission security information with NECEC, Hydro-Québec, and other neighboring systems and regional entities
  - Dispatch the NECEC Transmission Line via the NECEC Control Center or an associated Local Control Center in accordance with applicable Operating Procedures
- The NECEC TOA defines a number of responsibilities on the part of NECEC to facilitate the ISO's Operating Authority, including:
  - Physically operating, repairing, and maintaining the NECEC Transmission Line and NECEC Control Center
  - Directing switching and tagging and clearance procedures
  - Carrying out the orders of the ISO for the purpose of scheduling power transfers with external Control Areas
  - Receiving and administering (itself or through an affiliate) all requests for Transmission Service over the NECEC Transmission Line in accordance with procedures, terms, and conditions under Schedule 20B
- The NECEC TOA also imposes, on the parties, obligations with respect to outage coordination, and requires NECEC's participation in the ISO's system planning processes for reliability purposes and System Impact Studies



# NECEC TOA – Treatment of Grandfathered Transmission Service Agreements

- The NECEC TOA contains a standard “grandfathered agreements” provision that addresses operation of the NECEC Line under the NECEC TOA in a manner that respects the parties’ rights and obligations under those third-party grandfathered agreements
- Of particular note, the NECEC Line is subject to a number of transmission service agreements, entered into between the developers of the NECEC facility and New England distribution companies, addressing the rights of such utilities to receive transmission service over the Line
- Nevertheless, the ISO is permitted to take “short-term reliability actions,” which are operating actions or directives, including real-time operating actions undertaken by the ISO, and real-time operating directives issued by the ISO to NECEC, based on the ISO’s forecast of system conditions over the next seven days, to comply with the ISO Tariff, Operating Procedures, additional HVDC Operating Procedures, applicable NERC/NPCC Requirements, other applicable regulatory standards, and Good Utility Practice



# A-M IOA – Background

- The A-M IOA addresses the coordination of the ISO and Hydro-Québec with respect to four primary functions:
  - Coordinated operation and scheduling of energy and ancillary services over the interconnection
  - The provision of Emergency Energy over the interconnection
  - The treatment of Inadvertent Interchange
  - Coordinated scheduling of outages of the interconnection facilities





# A-M IOA – Background, cont'd

- Coordination functions are to be overseen by an Appalaches-Maine Interconnection Operators Committee, established under the IOA, consisting of four members: two appointed by Hydro-Québec and two appointed by the ISO
- Coordinated operation and scheduling will be implemented pursuant to Common Operating Instructions and Common Dispatch Instructions developed by the parties in advance of the Line's completion



# A-M IOA – Provision of Emergency Energy

- Provision of Emergency Energy from New England to Québec over the NECEC Line is to be permitted only after impact of south-to-north flows are properly assessed
  - Current IOA draft states: “Notwithstanding the foregoing, Emergency Energy cannot be provided from New England to Quebec over the Appalaches-Maine Interconnection unless and until such time as the impact of the flows from or through New England to Quebec has been the subject of study, and the provision of Emergency Energy has been deemed acceptable by the ISO in accordance with applicable rules. Updated to reflect potential use of through schedules to provide emergency support.”



# Stakeholder Schedule

Stakeholder Committee and Date	Scheduled Project Milestone
Reliability Committee November 19, 2024	Initial Presentation
Reliability Committee December 17, 2024	Additional Discussion and Review of A-M IOA Document
Reliability Committee January 22, 2025	Vote on A-M IOA
Participants Committee February 6, 2025	Vote on A-M IOA

# Questions

