2025 Competitive Electricity Acquisition Process (CEAP)
Virtual Workshop Q&As

June 20th, 2025 / June 26th, 2025

Disclaimer: This questions and answers (Q&As) document has been prepared as a reasonable summary of select questions posed by attendees and BC Hydro's responses during the CEAP virtual workshops, but are not a transcription. BC Hydro assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions in the herein content and this information is provided on an "as is" basis with no guarantees of completeness or accuracy.

1. **If the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for a submitted project isn't created until later in the bid process (after the CEAP Interconnection Request Submission Date), is it ok to complete a CEAP Interconnection Request submission with a separate company instead of the specific legal entity that will submit the bid for the Request for Proposal (RFP)?**

   Response: The full legal name provided on the CEAP Interconnection Request (IR) submission must match the name of the legal entity who will be providing/paying the $30,000 + GST deposit for the CEAP IR and Feasibility Study. BC Hydro understands that ownership and/or legal entities attached to a particular project may change over time, and it may change between the CEAP IR submission and the RFP bid submission / CEAP completion. BC Hydro asks the participant to inform BC Hydro through email (CEAP2025@bchydro.com) if the name changes after the original CEAP IR submission. For tracking purposes, each project will be assigned a specific CEAP IR number as a unique identifier during the CEAP process to keep individual projects separate and clear.

2. **Will BC Hydro make this presentation available to Participants? If so, where will the slides be located?**

   Response: This presentation will be posted on the 2025 Call for Power public website in the days following the June 26th workshop at https://app.bchydro.com/accounts-billing/electrical-connections/transmission-generator-interconnections/request-ceap.html.

3. **Will BC Hydro share examples of Generator Interconnection Data Forms (GIDF) and clear instructions on how to complete them?**

   Response: The instructions for completing the Generator Interconnection Data Forms are provided within each form. BC Hydro will not be providing a completed GIDF as a sample. Questions on the IR GIDF for this 2025 CEAP, and any other CEAP IR submission requirements, can be directed to the CEAP 2025 mailbox: CEAP2025@bchydro.com.

4. **Please clarify what a "non-valid" Interconnection Request would be.**

   Response: For a CEAP IR submission to be considered "valid", the following mandatory requirements must be met:

   a) A CEAP participant must complete the pre-submission of the CEAP IR so that it can be reviewed by BC Hydro and any deficiencies can be identified.
      i. The pre-submission IR must be received by September 2nd, 2025, at 17:00 Pacific Time.

ii. BC Hydro will review the pre-submission CEAP IR for completeness and consistency. The CEAP Participant will receive a deficiency list within 5 business days from receipt of the pre-submission if there are any deficiencies identified.
iii. CEAP Participants will have 10 business days from receipt of the deficiency list to cure deficiencies.

b) Participants must complete the following by the CEAP IR Submission Date of October 2nd, 2025, at 17:00 Pacific Time:
   i. Submit a valid (deficiency-free) IR as per *4.a* above.
   ii. Execute the tendered Feasibility Study Agreement.
   iii. Pay the CEAP IR and Feasibility Study deposit of $30,000 + GST (payment must be received by BC Hydro).

If the above mandatory requirements are not met by the CEAP Participant, the IR will be considered "non-valid" and the CEAP IR will not be assigned a Queue Position.

5. The $15,000 CEAP IR deposit is non-refundable with a valid Interconnection Request; does that mean the $15,000 Feasibility Study deposit could be refundable?

Response: If a Participant withdraws their CEAP IR submission *before* the delivery of the Interconnection Feasibility Study Report, the $15,000 Feasibility Study deposit may be refundable in part, less any costs incurred by BC Hydro in partially executing the Feasibility Study, up to the date of withdrawal. Similarly, if the Participant withdraws their CEAP IR submission *after* delivery of the Feasibility Study Report, the Feasibility Study deposit may be refundable in part, less any costs incurred by BC Hydro in fully executing the Feasibility Study.

For clarity, Participants are required to pay for the *actual costs* incurred by BC Hydro in reviewing Interconnection Requests and completing Feasibility Studies. At the end of the CEAP, the IR financials will be reconciled, and Participants will be billed the costs exceeding the total $30,000 deposit, or refunded as per the rules above if the costs are less than the deposit.

6. BC Hydro stated November 19th, 2025 is a "target" for delivering the Feasibility Study reports. If individual Feasibility Study Reports are completed earlier than others, would they be released earlier? Is there a guarantee that the latest reports would be delivered is November 19th?

Response: Per the Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT) Attachment M-2 Section 4.7 (c), BC Hydro shall deliver all Feasibility Study Reports to Participants on the same day. Per the OATT, BC Hydro must use reasonable efforts to deliver the Feasibility Study Reports within 10 weeks of the CEAP IR Submission Date. BC Hydro is targeting November 19th, 2025, to allow Participants time to review the study results before the 2025 Call for Power's RFP bid due date.

7. The results shown in the Feasibility Study Report are essential inputs to the bids (Network Upgrade costs, in-service date). In 2024, there were six weeks between Feasibility Study report distribution and 2024 Call for Power RFP closing date. That same period for this 2025 Call for Power and the associated CEAP is approximately 10 days. Can BC Hydro share preliminary study outcomes prior to November 19th with developers to inform bid strategy, or provide the Feasibility Study reports earlier?

Response: Per OATT Attachment M-2 Section 4.7 (c), BC Hydro shall deliver all Feasibility Study Reports to Participants on the same day. Therefore, BC Hydro cannot share preliminary study outcomes prior to delivery of all the completed studies. BC Hydro is targeting November 19th, 2025, to allow Participants time to review the study results before the 2025 Call for Power's RFP bid due date.

8. **What will be the output of the optional studies and how will they be used to evaluate the bids after the bids have been submitted? Will this be similar to the project specific line losses that were provided prior to the bid deadline during the 2024 Call for Power?**

   Response: The 2025 Call for Power team may request optional studies to assist with their selection of the successful Participants. All questions regarding the optional studies can be directed to the 2025 Call for Power team at 2025Call@bchydro.com.

9. **Can BC Hydro talk about the process for submitting different project sizes (MW capacity) for the same Point of Interconnection (POI) and same project in the pre-CEAP process?**

   Response: If Participants elect to submit multiple IRs of differing MW capacity, either using the same or different POIs, each variation/combination of capacity and POI for the same project must be submitted as a separate IR. This is to say, each MW size / POI option must have its own CEAP IR submission, requiring separate agreements and deposits, and each IR will receive its own CEAP IR number.

10. **Can BC Hydro provide a link to the interconnection queue for the 2024 RFP?**

    Response: The transmission generator interconnection queue is located on BC Hydro's public website at https://app.bchydro.com/accounts-billing/electrical-connections/transmission-generator-interconnections/queue.html.
    For clarity, the transmission generator interconnection queue is updated once per month and includes all active transmission generator interconnection requests, including the successful 2024 Call for Power projects. BC Hydro does not manage a separate queue for RFPs/Calls for Power, as all projects that are successful in the same Call for Power selection enter the Transmission Generator Interconnection Queue at the same position. For clarity, the transmission generator interconnection queue includes all active generator interconnection requests, including the successful 2024 Call for Power projects, and it is updated once per month.

11. **There was a pre-CEAP information request process last year related to the 2024 Call for Power, where BC Hydro provided feedback on interconnection options/capacity. Will there be a similar process this year?**

    Response: Due to the time constraints of the 2025 CEAP, BC Hydro will not be evaluating and providing feedback on project options outside of the CEAP IR Pre-Submission validation and the subsequent Feasibility Studies of valid IRs. Per the response to Question 9, if Participants would like different project options evaluated, they must provide separate CEAP IR submissions for each option.

12. **During the workshop presentation, BC Hydro used the term "businesses". Does this 2025 Call for Power include First Nations governments, or will we be asked to have a business status to be eligible to apply?**

    Response: The 2025 CEAP virtual workshops were focussed on the CEAP process, which is then followed by the Standard Generator Interconnection Process (SGIP). To be eligible for participation in CEAP, a Participant must provide the Interconnection Request, including all required deposits, technical data, and agreements. The CEAP process is separate from the 2025 Call for Power RFP, which may have different eligibility requirements from CEAP. Any questions regarding RFP eligibility criteria can be directed to the 2025 Call for Power mailbox: 2025Call@bchydro.com.

13. **Is there an e-mail address where we can ask questions about the CEAP process? Will all questions asked and answered through this inbox be made public?**

    Response: All questions regarding the CEAP process can be directed to the CEAP 2025 mailbox: CEAP2025@bchydro.com. To ensure a competitive and fair process, BC Hydro will not answer project-specific questions. All responses to questions will point to information that is publicly available, typically through BC Hydro's public websites and documents, like the Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT). For reference, the OATT can be found at this link: https://www.bchydro.com/toolbar/about/strategies-plans-regulatory/tariffs-terms-conditions/oatt.html.

14. **What are the requirements for showing site control? Can BC Hydro be specific as to what and exactly when this is needed?**

    Response: The requirements for demonstration of site control can be found on BC Hydro's public website at https://app.bchydro.com/accounts-billing/electrical-connections/transmission-generator-interconnections.html.
    Demonstration of site control is required at the System Impact Study (SIS) stage, at the same time as executing a Combined Study Agreement, providing SIS technical data, and an SIS deposit. BC Hydro does not require for demonstration of site control for the CEAP IR submission. For site control requirement related to the 2025 Call for Power RFP, please direct your questions to the 2025 Call for Power mailbox: 2025Call@bchydro.com.

15. **If a System Impact Study has been completed for a previously submitted project, is that considered in the CEAP?**

    Response: BC Hydro completes Interconnection Studies based on the transmission generator interconnection queue. The base case for any IRs in the queue will consider the system effects and potential network upgrades triggered by IRs earlier in the queue. Therefore, IRs that are ahead of the 2025 CEAP IRs in the queue will be considered when studying the 2025 CEAP IRs.

    To clarify, 2025 CEAP IRs that may have been submitted prior to the 2025 Call for Power will not necessarily benefit from a previous study, as the 2025 CEAP will be based on a new base case.

16. **What will be the accuracy level of the non-binding estimate?**

Response: BC Hydro will provide a non-binding good faith estimate for each Interconnection Study during the CEAP/SGIP, with the following approximate accuracy ranges:

a) Feasibility Study +150% / -50%
b) System Impact Study +100% / -35%
c) Facilities Study +15% / -10%

17. **Is all project information shared with BC Hydro confidential at every stage? Is there a time limit on its confidentiality, whatever the outcome of each stage is?**

Response: To ensure the fairness and competitive nature of the CEAP, BC Hydro does not share project information between CEAP Participants. Once the CEAP concludes, and the RFPs are awarded to the successful Participants, BC Hydro is required by the OATT to post all completed Interconnection Studies, with the Interconnection Customer's identity and other customer confidential information redacted. All redacted Interconnection Studies will be published at https://app.bchydro.com/accounts-billing/electrical-connections/transmission-generator-interconnections/studies.html.

Further information on the posting of IRs and Interconnection Studies can be found in OATT Attachment M-1 Section 3.5.

18. **When are the redacted Feasibility Study Reports posted during the CEAP?**

Response: Per OATT Attachment M-2 Section 4.10, all CEAP Feasibility Studies will be posted publicly within 3 business days after the selection of successful participants.

19. **Can you confirm that "contracted capacity" is what the max capacity will be at the POI (HV) and not the aggregate of the generators as it appears on the MV bus?**

Response: The "contracted capacity" required on the Interconnection Request GIDF V1.0 item 3.03 refers to the installed plant capacity in megawatts (MW). This is not the same as the maximum injection at the Point of Interconnection required on the GIDF item 3.02. The maximum injection at the POI must be less than the plant capacity to account for expected losses.

20. **At what stage we will know how much injection is allowed compared to the installed capacity?**

Response: BC Hydro does not govern installed capacity vs. maximum injection at the POI. A Participant will submit a CEAP IR with a specified installed capacity, and based on the design of project, the Participant must calculate the expected maximum injection by accounting for the expected losses.

21. **Is a Participant restricted to using only the equipment specified in the IR when constructing the proposed facility, or is alternative equipment permissible so long as capacity at the POI is not exceeded?**

Response: All modifications to information provided in a valid IR are governed by the OATT, specifically OATT Attachment M-1 Section 4.4, and a Participant must submit any such modifications to BC Hydro for review. OATT Attachment M-1 Sections 4.4.1, 4.4.2, and 4.4.5 identify some of the

permitted modifications based on what stage of the interconnection process the project is in when the modification request is being considered, and what effect the modification request may have on the IR's queue position. If the modification falls outside those permitted in Sections 4.4.1, 4.4.2, and 4.4.5, then the Participant can request BC Hydro to evaluate the modification to determine if it is a Material Modification. Any review or evaluation of a proposed modification may require additional studies, to be completed by BC Hydro at the cost of the Participant.

There are no permitted changes allowed to an Interconnection Request during the CEAP once a submitted IR is considered valid.

Incremental increases to the plant capacity and/or maximum injection at the POI resulting from modifications may require a separate IR that will go to the end of the queue.

22. Is the technical information required in the CEAP IR submission for 3rd party line interconnections (indirect interconnection) already defined in the GIDF?

Response: The GIDFs do not have specific sections for 3rd party line interconnections. A Participant should incorporate the 3rd party system data into the GIDF as necessary, and any additional information should be provided as attachments to the GIDF. A Participant should try to include as much information as possible in their IR regarding the 3rd party system data to ensure BC Hydro has the full picture when reviewing data and completing interconnection studies. For example, when connecting to a 3rd party transmission line, the Participant should include the 3rd party line data (length, expected losses, etc.) in the GIDF.

23. Do we need to provide the 3rd party interconnection agreement for the CEAP IR submission or can this be submitted later?

Response: BC Hydro does not require a Participant to provide information on any agreement in place with a 3rd party (e.g., interconnection agreement, wheeling agreement) as part of the CEAP IR submission. However, to complete the Feasibility Study, the applicable technical data related to the 3rd party system would be required in the CEAP IR submission, as determined by the GIDF.

Interconnections requirements may differ from the 2025 Call for Power RFP requirements, and it is recommended that Participants also direct any questions on RFP requirements pertaining to indirect interconnections to the 2025 Call for Power mailbox: 2025Call@bchydro.com.

24. When and where will the Transmission System Information for the 2025 Call for Power be provided?

Response: The "*BC Hydro Transmission System Information for the 2025 Call for Power*" is posted on the 2025 Call for Power public website, under the Documents section. The direct link to the 2025 Call for Power documents is https://www.bchydro.com/work-with-us/selling-clean-energy/2025-call-for-power/documents.html.

25. Can BC Hydro provide some detailed instruction on the website on what modeling data is required for submission with the GIDF?

Response: BC Hydro has made best efforts to ensure the GIDF is clear and detailed on what system modelling data is required for an Interconnection Request. There are two stages where modelling data will be required: as part of the CEAP IR Submission as required on the Interconnection Request – GIDF (which will be used to complete the Feasibility Study), and as part of the System Impact Study submission at a later stage. Each submission has its own specific GIDF, and the extent of modelling data required for each GIDF is clearly identified. Any questions regarding GIDF requirements can be directed to the CEAP 2025 mailbox: CEAP2025@bchydro.com.

26. **Can simultaneous load applications be submitted to charge Participant-owned Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) from the interconnection with BC Hydro.**

    Response: Any charging of battery systems must be done from the Participant-owned generation, not from the BC Hydro system to participate in 2025 CEAP. If further clarification is required, questions on battery system charging eligibility for the 2025 Call for Power RFP can be directed to the 2025 Call for Power mailbox: 2025Call@bchydro.com.

27. **Is fast frequency response required for wind or solar projects?**

    Response: Yes, fast frequency response is required for CEAP IR submissions for Inverter Based Resources, including wind or solar projects. This is outlined in the 60 kV to 500 kV Technical Interconnection Requirements (TIR) for Power Generators, located on BC Hydro's public website at https://app.bchydro.com/accounts-billing/electrical-connections/transmission-generator-interconnections.html.

28. **When does BC Hydro allow a tap connection to the transmission line instead of requiring a switching station at the POI?**

    Response: BC Hydro must consider each IR based on its effects on the existing system in that operating area. The introduction of a new interconnection shall not negatively affect existing customers and shall not degrade the system reliability. In the case of adding a tap connection, the complexity of the line protection requirements and the risk to system reliability are both increased. BC Hydro must consider these elements, as well as other factors like line voltage, existing customers and generation, and environmental risks (wildfire, lighting, etc.), to assess a potential for tap connection on a case-by-case basis.