

Achievement Through Collaboration

### Stakeholder Workshop on Low Voltage Adjustments in Benchmarking

October 7, 2013

Cornerstone Hydro Electric Concepts Association Ltd.

#### **Overall Premise**

- LV Charges are not representative of LDC costs
- Select LV charges should be removed from benchmarking
- Reasons for Removing
  - LV Charges are a result of system configuration and geography
  - Pooled nature of LV charges prevents accurate determination for specific LDCs
  - Rate structure (not to be discussed) do not distribute costs accurately
  - LDCs have limited control over the cost as system TX and DX development has pre-determined cost.
- For legitimate benchmarking system costs which were not and are not in the control of the LDC should be removed



### Impacts of LV Charges



LDCs with significant LV charges can only affect a portion of their total costs limiting their ability to show improvement.

% Impact = (OM&A + LV Cost Data Request + LVHON Revised – HV Charges)/LVHON Revised

30 LDCs or 40% LDCs have an impact of greater than 5%

11 LDCs or 15% with an impact equal or greater than 10%

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### **Listing of Charges**

Component	Charge Determinant per Billing Month
Service Charge	\$/Delivery Point
Meter Charge	\$/Meter
Common ST Lines Charge	\$/KW
Specific Primary Lines Charge	\$/KM
LVDS	\$/KW
Specific ST Lines Charge	\$/KM
HVDS Low	\$/KW
HVDS High	\$/KW

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#### **Charges Comments Provided On**

Component	Charge Determinant per Billing Month
Service Charge	\$/Delivery Point
Meter Charge	\$/Meter
Common ST Lines Charge	\$/KW
Specific Primary Lines Charge	\$/KM
LVDS	\$/KW
Specific ST Lines Charge	\$/KM
HVDS Low	\$/KW
HVDS High	\$/KW

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#### **Common ST Lines**

- Common ST Line costs are pooled across the province
- LDCs with common ST line contribute to costs
- Based on demand charge
- Inaccurate costs
  - LDC with short km common lines but high demand pays significant common charge
  - LDC with long km common line but low demand pays low common charge
- Charges do not reflect accurate costs or controllable cost
- Remove from benchmarking



## Common ST Lines (cont.)

- ST Lines within the LDC boundary
  - ST Lines within service territory attract cost in the OM&A
  - LDC has cost factor similar to LDCs that are supplied directly in their service territory
- Additional OM&A
  - LDCs supplied at LV are required to maintain DS's within their service territory
  - Supply at HV displaces a portion of this cost as fewer DS's are required (if any)
- Removing Common ST Line charges does not disadvantage others and removes the impact of geography and TX system design



# LVDS

- Cost is driven by:
  - Number of metering points and voltage level
  - TX and DX system design determines supply point available for each LDC (LV)
  - Costing based on peak sharing for the station LDC may represent 75% of load but 25% of facility
  - Is coincident peak determined or just station?
- Not an accurate reflection of cost nor controllable by LDC
- Remove from benchmarking



## **Metering Charges**

- Similar to LVDS
- Baseline is one metering point
- Represents limitations of the TX and DX to supply at one point only and reflects the geography of the LDC
- Recommend that consideration be given for no more than one LV metering point be included in benchmarking



## **Specific ST Line Charges**

- Constructed specifically for LDC
- Costing based on km of line
- Has some merit as a cost of the LDC although recognized geography and TX, DX design impacts
- Would suggest forms a cost of the LDC although not really controllable
- No recommendation whether to leave in or take out



#### Service Charge

- Service charge is applied for each delivery point
- Number of delivery points is impacted by TX and DX design – little choice for LDC
- Include one charge in benchmarking