



Facility Interconnection Requirements under FAC-001-4

Procedures for study coordination and notification of those responsible for reliability

Hydro-Québec in its role as Transmission Owner

October 2024

1 Purpose of the document

This document clarifies certain elements relating to interconnecting new Facilities to the Hydro-Québec transmission system or making qualified changes to existing facility interconnections.

Section 2 addresses the definition of the term “qualified change” established by the Planning Coordinator for the Québec Interconnection and the differences in applicable requirements when interconnecting generation, transmission or electricity end-user Facilities to the Hydro-Québec transmission system.

Section 3 summarizes procedures for ensuring that coordinated studies are conducted for new interconnections to the Hydro-Québec transmission system or qualified changes to existing interconnected Facilities.

Section 4 informs entities wishing to connect to the Hydro-Québec transmission system, or to make a qualified change to an already connected Facility, of the procedures for notifying those responsible for reliability, in this case the Planning Coordinator and the Reliability Coordinator in Québec.

Finally, Section 5 instructs entities wishing to connect to the Hydro-Québec transmission system, or to make a qualified change to an existing interconnected Facility, about the procedure for confirming with those responsible for the reliability of affected systems that new Facilities or Facilities that have undergone a qualified change are within the metered boundary of a Balancing Authority Area.

2 Qualified change

As used in this document, the term “qualified change” has the meaning set forth in the definition established by the Planning Coordinator for the Québec Interconnection under reliability standard FAC-002-4.¹ This definition distinguishes between changes to facilities that require reliability impact studies and those that do not. It is not meant to be used to determine the applicability of Facility interconnection requirements. In other words, a “qualified change” is not the same thing as a “substantial change” as defined in Chapter 3 of the Technical Requirements for the Connection of Generating Stations to the Hydro-Québec Transmission System.²

Qualified changes are a subset of changes subject to Facility interconnection requirements, as the following figure illustrates.

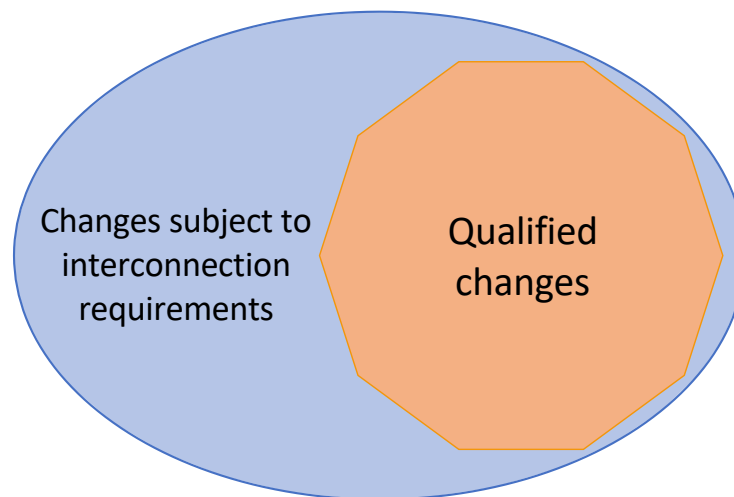


Figure 1: Qualified changes and applicability of interconnection requirements

3 Coordination information

To ensure the reliability of its transmission system, Hydro-Québec conducts coordinated studies of new interconnections or qualified changes to existing interconnected Facilities. Possible impacts are thus identified and taken into account.

¹ Definition of a “qualified change” for the Québec Interconnection (October 2024), https://www.hydroquebec.com/data/transenergie/raccordement-reseau/definition-modification-fac-002-4_2024-09-26.pdf

² Technical Requirements for the Connection of Generating Stations to the Hydro-Québec Transmission System (July 2022), Hydro-Québec, Chap. 3, https://www.hydroquebec.com/data/transenergie/pdf/Exigences_raccordement_centrales_ang_2022-07-15.pdf
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The following table provides links to websites where relevant documents for new interconnections can be found.

Procedures for coordinating studies of new interconnections to the Hydro-Québec transmission system

Interconnection	Procedures
Generating Facilities	Procedure for connecting an electricity generating facility to the Hydro-Québec grid Exploratory study request form Interconnection Study Agreement Facilities Study Agreement Connection agreement regarding the integration of a generating station into the system (Generating stations)
Customer Facilities	The procedure for requests relating to exploratory studies, planning studies, draft designs and work performance is available on the Hydro-Québec website under the Business customer space tab. (Business customers)
Transmission Facilities	Hydro-Québec's <i>Open Access Transmission Tariff</i> - System Impact Study Agreement (Tariff)

In case of a change to a Facility connected to Hydro-Québec's transmission system, the procedure is as follows:

- 1- Inform Hydro-Québec of the desired change by contacting the appropriate account representative.
- 2- Provide technical information about the equipment to be modified.
- 3- Collaborate with Hydro-Québec on the required reliability studies (in case of a qualified change) and provide necessary information.
- 4- Obtain written approval from Hydro-Québec.
- 5- Carry out the change.

Documents on technical requirements for interconnections, available on the [Transmission Provider's website](#), provide additional information about the coordination of studies and the sharing of information.

This section addresses requirement R3.1 of FAC-001-4: Procedures for coordinated studies for new interconnections or existing interconnections seeking to make a qualified change as defined by the Planning Coordinator and their impacts on affected systems.

4 Notification information

When an entity begins the process (under one of the procedures mentioned in the preceding section) of interconnecting a new Facility to the Hydro-Québec system or making a qualified change to an existing interconnected Facility, the following entities must be copied (cc) on the request:

- Hydro-Québec's Direction – Conception intégrée et optimale du système énergétique [optimal, integrated energy system design branch], which acts as Transmission Planner (TP) and Planning Coordinator (PC), at TEPlanification@hydroquebec.com
- Hydro-Québec's Direction principale – Contrôle des mouvements d'énergie et exploitation du réseau (DPCMÉER) [system control and operation branch], which acts as the Reliability Coordinator in Québec (RC), Transmission Operator (TOP) and Balancing Authority (BA), at fiabilite@hydro.qc.ca

Note that changes to a Facility that are not covered by the definition of a qualified change but are subject to technical interconnection requirements must still be communicated to and approved by Hydro-Québec before the change is implemented.

This section addresses requirement R3.2 of FAC-001-4: Procedures for notifying those responsible for the reliability of affected system(s) of new interconnections or existing interconnections seeking to make a qualified change.

5 Balancing Authority Area information

Facilities that connect to the Hydro-Québec system are automatically included in the metered boundaries of the Québec Balancing Authority Area, subject to the following paragraph:

For entities grappling with a complex situation (e.g., border Facilities that are part of more than one Balancing Authority Area), the entity may ask the Balancing Authority (BA) to provide it with a certificate indicating the Balancing Authority Area(s) of which it is a part (fiabilite@hydro.qc.ca).

This section addresses requirement R3.3 of FAC-001-4: Procedures for confirming with those responsible for the reliability of affected systems that new Facilities or existing Facilities seeking to make a qualified change are within a Balancing Authority Area.