

South March - Commissioning Plan

Location: 2555 and 2625 Marchurst Rd Kanata, ON, Canada

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Date: August 6, 2025

Executive Summary

This Utility Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Commissioning Plan outlines the procedures for commissioning the system's primary components, including the 230kV Gen-Tie Line, substation, 34.5kV collection system, BESS auxiliary power system, inverter transformers, BESS containers, EMS, and SCADA systems. The plan emphasizes comprehensive testing during commissioning phases to verify system safety, performance, and readiness. The successful completion of this plan will ensure the BESS is safe, reliable, and ready for commercial operation according to project specifications.

1. Introduction and Objectives

The purpose of this commissioning plan is to ensure the safe, reliable, and efficient operation of the Utility BESS. Objectives include verifying system functionality according to design specifications, ensuring compliance with applicable safety and operational standards, assessing communication and control system integrity, and confirming seamless operation of auxiliary power provisions to critical substation control enclosures.

The project infrastructure includes:

- **Energy Storage:** 256 Sungrow ST5015UX-4H-US Battery Units. Each unit is a 5 MWh liquid-cooled Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP) system housed in a 20-ft container.
- **Power Conversion:** 63 Sungrow MVS5140-LS-US MV Skids (MVT), each with a 5140 kVA, 34.5 kV oil-filled transformer and an integrated SCC for local control.
- **Transmission Line:** A single span private 230 kV overhead transmission line between HONI and project facilities.
- **Substation:** A project substation with two Main Power Transformers, HVCBs, disconnect switches, and associated equipment
- **Ancillary Systems:** 34 Energy Management System(EMS) Controller Systems, underground MV and DC cabling in conduit, foundations for all major equipment, roadways, and a wet pond for stormwater management. The BESS area features a layer of washed gravel over an impermeable layer for step and touch protection and environmental containment.

2. Scope of Work

The commissioning plan encompasses the following major equipment and subsystems:

- 230kV Gen-Tie Line
- Project Substation
- 34.5kV Collection System
- BESS Auxiliary Power System
- Inverters and BESS Containers
- EMS and SCADA Systems

3. Commissioning Procedures

3.1 230kV Gen-Tie Line Commissioning

- Visual inspection of towers, conductors, and associated hardware.
- Verification of conductor continuity and correct phasing.
- Inspection and testing of lightning protection systems.
- Grounding system resistance and integrity testing.
- Protection relay coordination and line fault detection tests.

3.2 Project Substation

- Visual and mechanical inspections of breakers, disconnect switches, and busbars.
- Soak test on the main power transformer.
- Functional testing of transformer tap changers and control equipment.
- Protection relay testing, including primary and secondary injection tests for all relays.
- Verification of alarm and trip functionality including breaker diagnostics and communication.
- Battery system capacity testing and DC supply verification for powering the control enclosures.
- Auxiliary power supply verification for the substation control enclosure including:
 - Primary supply from the 34.5kV Medium Voltage (MV) bus.
 - Secondary backup power via the propane generator, connected through an Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS), ensuring seamless transfer on primary power failure.
- Control enclosure functionality checks, including annunciator panels and remote indications.
- Verification of SCADA interface points and communication protocols.

3.3 34.5kV Collection System

- Insulation resistance and voltage withstand testing.
- Calibration of protective devices and simulated fault operation testing.
- Breaker timing and coordination verification.
- Ground fault detection and response testing.

3.4 BESS Auxiliary Power System

- Verification and functional testing of all power sources to the BESS auxiliary system.
- Testing of uninterruptible power supplies (UPS), automatic controls, and emergency lighting systems.
- Validation of control feeds to critical auxiliary loads.

3.4 Inverter Transformer Commissioning

- Ratio, winding resistance and insulation tests.
- Vector group and polarity verification.
- Cooling system checks.

3.6 Cold Commissioning Activities (Grouped)

- **Inverter Cold Commissioning:**
 - Power-up of inverter units under no-load conditions with alarms monitored.
 - Firmware verification and updates applied as necessary.
 - Internal diagnostics and fault alarm testing.
 - Communication link tests with EMS and SCADA systems.
- **BESS Container Cold Commissioning:**
 - Verification of battery State of Charge and temperature sensor calibration.
 - HVAC system functionality tests.
 - Fire suppression system tests and safety interlock verification.
 - Battery isolation, grounding, and physical inspection.

3.7 Hot Commissioning Activities (Grouped)

- **Inverter Hot Commissioning:**
 - Stepwise loading of inverter units up to full rated power.
 - Verification of active and reactive power controls, including power factor correction.
 - Testing fault ride-through and anti-islanding functions.
 - Measurement of response times and control signal accuracy under load.
- **BESS Container Hot Commissioning:**
 - Controlled charge/discharge cycles with thermal monitoring.
 - Validation of Battery Management System (BMS) fault detection and alarm functions.
 - Safety system response testing including emergency shutdown sequences.
 - Cooling system performance verification under heating loads.

3.8 EMS and SCADA Commissioning

- Verification of communications with all field devices including relays, inverters, and sensors.
- Functional testing of control logic sequences, interlocks, and automated responses.
- Simulated alarm/event injections and operator response drills.
- Data acquisition system verification, ensuring data accuracy, secure timestamping, and archival.
- Operator interface and control panel functionality validation.

3.9 Cybersecurity

This section details the procedures for verifying the cybersecurity posture of the BESS control and communication systems.

- **Network Segmentation:** Verify that the operational technology network is logically and physically separated from the enterprise network.
- **Firewall Configuration:** Confirm that firewall rules are correctly implemented to permit only authorized traffic between network zones and external connections.
- **Access Control:** Validate password policies, user role permissions, and multi-factor authentication for all critical systems (EMS, SCADA).

- **System Hardening:** Check that all default passwords have been changed, unnecessary services are disabled, and software patches are up to date on all control system servers and devices.
- **Secure Communication:** Verify the use of secure protocols for remote access and data transmission.

4. Performance and Capacity Testing

- Execution of full discharge and recharge cycles at defined load profiles to measure usable capacity.
- Round-trip efficiency assessment.
- Verification of system response during rapid charge/discharge transients.
- Load-following and frequency regulation capability tests.
- Confirmation of compliance with grid interconnection and operational standards.

5. Safety and Quality Assurance

- Compliance with applicable safety standards, including lockout/tagout procedures and use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Testing and commissioning personnel will be properly trained, qualified, and supervised.
- All test equipment will be calibrated and used according to manufacturer instructions.
- Documentation of all anomalies, deviations, and non-conformances with a corrective action process prior to acceptance.

6. Documentation and Reporting

- Comprehensive recording of test data.
- Secure storage and management of commissioning records.
- Preparation of detailed commissioning reports summarizing tests performed, results, discrepancies, and final acceptance criteria.
- Inclusion of punch lists for outstanding items and their resolution status.

7. Environmental Considerations

- Adherence to all applicable environmental regulations.
- Procedures to minimize environmental impact including proper disposal of waste materials and noise mitigation during operation.

8. Training and Handover

- Operator and maintenance staff training covering system operations, emergency procedures, and routine maintenance.
- Handover of all relevant documentation including as-built drawings, O&M manuals, and commissioning reports to the operational team.