Northeast Seams Report

Update on Northeast Seams Issues

March 08, 2006 Business Issues Committee Meeting





Status of Seams Projects

Current Deliverables

ls	sue	Activity Description
Tra	ra-Hour insaction neduling	 NYISO and ISO-NE have documented a technical definition of a virtual regional dispatch process and have received potentially viable alternative methodologies from their stakeholders. The ISOs will proceed with further stakeholder meetings to finalize the technical definition and to work towards a joint stakeholder acceptance of the proposal. Target is to complete an acceptable proposal by the end of 2005. The first set of pilot tests were conducted on April 20-21. Any additional tests will be scheduled based upon results evaluation of the April tests. NYISO and ISO-NE issued a report on the first pilot test on October 24, 2005. A joint meeting of NY and NE stakeholders to review the pilot test report and further develop market participant based proposals for improving the efficiency of the NYISO/ISO-NE interface was held on Nov. 14. Based on discussions at that meeting, ITS will be considered along with other market issues as part of the rules assessment initiative currently underway. Also, an ITS progress report will be posted upon completion of NYISO internal review.



Status of Seams Projects Current Deliverables (cont'd)

	Issue	Activity Description
2.	Regional Resource Adequacy (RAM)	 The NYISO has submitted a hybrid proposal to its stakeholders for consideration incorporating a voluntary forward capacity market for procurement of a portion of its future resource requirements. On March 1, 2004, ISO-NE filed a locational capacity market with the Commission. In an order issued June 2, 2004, the Commission established hearing procedures. Following completion of evidentiary hearings, the FERC ALJ decision was issued on June 15. On September 20, 2005, FERC heard oral arguments on ISO-NE's locational capacity market design. On October 21, 2005 the Commission issued an order establishing settlement procedures on alternatives to the LICAP demand curve proposed by ISO-New England, authorizing the ISO to make a compliance filing on its Shortage Hours proposal and requiring the ISO to file updated cost estimates of its LICAP proposal. On January 31, 2005, an agreement in principle was reached on changes to New England's capacity markets, establishing an auction-based Forward Procurement Market looking three years ahead. Settlement discussions have been extended until March 6, 2006, to finalize details of the capacity market's design. PJM introduced a proposal for a Reliability Pricing Model ("RPM") in June 2004 and has subsequently presented and revised the proposal at numerous stakeholder meetings. PJM filed its RPM proposal with FERC on August 31, 2005. On September 23, 2005, FERC issued a notice extending until October 19, 2005 the deadline for parties to file interventions, comments, or protests concerning PJM's reliability pricing model. NYISO filed comments on the PJM RPM proposal on Oct. 19, 2005. A technical conference on RPM was held on February 3, 2006 in Washington. A joint meeting of ISO-NE/NYISO/PJM and stakeholders is being deferred until such time as clear direction is established with pending market changes in the PJM and ISO-NE markets.



Other Seams Related Activity

Recent Initiatives

	Issue	Activity Description
3.	Cross-Border Controllable Line Scheduling	 Full market deployment of the Cross-Sound Scheduled Line occurred on June 7, 2005 Implementation Date for 1385 Line: NYISO and ISO-NE have discussed the implementation of scheduling of transactions on the 1385 (Northport to Norwalk Harbor) cable with LIPA and NUSCO and the addition of appropriate pricing nodes. ISO-NE has provided its Participants with a memo describing the operational issues of scheduling across the 1385 line and proposed solutions. The Participants had a meeting on Oct. 31 and held further discussions in November. A meeting was held on December 19, 2005 involving LIPA, ISO-NE, and NYISO to discuss the timeframe and steps required to initiate scheduling over the 1385 line. On December 23, 2005, LIPA proposed a timetable for NY discussion of operational issues and possible tariff changes. The NYISO has established biweekly internal meetings to identify any implementation issues and draft tariff language for stakeholder review as necessary. The NYISO is finalizing our schedule for the work that needs to be accomplished to implement the generic controllable lines software for the 1385 line; the schedule will be released in early March. The multiple critical projects that ISO-NE and its stakeholders will be coordinating over the next two years indicate that NE implementation may not be completed by the previously-projected October 2006 date.



Other Seams Related Activity

Recent Initiatives (continued)

	Issue	Activity Description
6.	ISO-NE Phase II HVDC Evaluation	 ISO-NE, NYISO, PJM and HQ – This is a joint project lead by ISO-NE and HQ TransÉnergie to update the methodology and procedures for scheduling of the Phase II HVDC interconnection between New England and Quebec. Initial efforts were focused on use of the IDC as a possible tool to forecast availability of Phase II above the 1200 MW limit, however the parties have concluded that the IDC in it's current form would not be suitable. The group has drafted a report, "Review of the PJM-NY-NE Procedures and Methodology for the TE-NE HVDC Line". This document is posted on the ISO-NE website at www.iso-ne.com/smd/transmission_services/scheduling NYISO, PJM and ISO-NE are preparing a data sharing agreement for future data sharing. PJM and NYISO staffs have been participating with ISO-NE and TransEnergie in periodic conference call meetings and continue to support this effort.

Issues Pending Further Discussion

Issue		Activity Description	
1.	Reserves Participation in Adjacent Regional Markets	There is Market Participant interest in selling operating reserves from generation sources in one region to provide reserves in another region. This issue will be considered along with other longer-term market issues as part of the NYISO Market Evolution Plan, which was presented to NY stakeholders in June 2005 and is currently under discussion with NY stakeholders. ISO-NE will consider inter-control area provision of reserves following implementation and assessment of their reserve market.	
2.	NY MS-7040 Transfer Study	 NY study on the impact of MS-7040 transfers above the current 1500 MW limit is complete and recommended no change in the current limit but did recommend developing a process to assess available margins to support HAM scheduling above current MW limits. The NYISO is targeting Q1-2006 to determine the feasibility of implementing this process. 	
3.	Congestion Rent Shortfalls Resulting From External Transmission Outages	• Transmission outages or deratings occurring outside of the NYCA that are not anticipated at the time of a TCC auction can force the NYISO to reduce the assumed transfer capability between the NYCA and the adjacent control area. If the resulting set of TCCs are rendered infeasible, the NYISO will incur congestion rent shortfalls in the day-ahead market. There is currently no way to assign the cost impact (due to the congestion rent shortfall) of that outage to the responsible external transmission owner. In addition, transmission outages or deratings that cause reductions in transfer capability between regions may have an impact on ICAP sales between regions. This issue will be addressed as part of the Market Evolution Plan.	



Issues Pending Further Discussion

(continued)

Issue		Activity Description
4.	Modeling of Netted Transactions at the NYISO-HQ Interface	• Currently, real-time imports from HQ are limited to 1200 MW based upon NY first contingency criteria. Day-ahead and real-time scheduling software recognizes a 1500 MW limit at the NY-HQ proxy bus comprised of imports, exports and wheel-throughs. One solution that has been suggested would create a second proxy bus model at the interface, which would be used to schedule only wheel-through transactions; the first proxy bus would be used to schedule imports/exports up to a net level of 1200 MW. A high-level presentation on functional requirements and preliminary resource requirements was presented at the Jan. 20, 2006 S&PWG meeting. NYISO Senior Management will evaluate this project, scheduling and budget impacts in conjunction with all other identified initiatives and determine what further action will be taken.
5.	Multiple Proxy Buses for Free- Flowing Interfaces	 Further analysis of the feasibility of implementing multiple proxy buses will be included with future assessment of market coordination efforts of the ISOs after implementation and testing of several current initiatives (i.e., PJM's market to market coordination with MISO, NY's SMD2) and will be brought back to a future seams coordination meeting.
6.	Elimination of Rate Pancaking	• The NYISO, with the support of the New York TOs, will initiate discussions among the affected parties in the Northeast to explore the potential for rate pancaking relief between New York and PJM. A meeting between the NY and PJM TOs was held on August 18 th to initiate discussions on this issue.