

# **Northeast Seams Report**

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## **Update on Northeast Seams Issues**

March 11, 2009

NYISO Business Issues Committee Meeting



*Draft –for Discussion Purposes Only*



# Status of Seams Projects

## Current Deliverables

| Project                                     | Description  |
|---|--|
| <b>1. Intra-Hour Transaction Scheduling</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 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.</li><li>▪ 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.</li><li>▪ NYISO conducted a limited analysis of inter-market real-time transaction scheduling in 2007, in support of an assessment of real-time scheduling and compensation market rules. However, in 2008, that assessment of real-time market rules will focus on issues associated with generation scheduling, dispatch, and compensation. NYISO expects to re-evaluate the projected benefits of an ITS program in 2008, updating an earlier analysis to reflect current market conditions. If that analysis suggests the potential for substantial benefits for NYISO participants, NYISO will work with ISO-NE to determine the feasibility of moving forward with solution design and implementation.</li></ul> |

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# Status of Seams Projects

## Current Deliverables

| Project   | Description  |
|---|--|
| <b>1. Intra-Hour Transaction Scheduling (continued)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ In 2008, NYISO and ISO-NE expect to jointly perform an analysis of the impact of uneconomic interchange between the NYISO and ISO-NE control areas. This analysis will attempt to identify the potential economic benefits of more efficient use of available interface transfer capacity. NYISO and ISO-NE will work together to identify market mechanisms that can lead to more efficient scheduling and dispatch across the interface between control areas.</li><li>▪ The NYISO's 2007 State of the Market Report provides an analysis of scheduling and pricing patterns at the NYISO's interfaces with neighboring control areas. This analysis indicates that there is an opportunity to increase the efficient use of transfer capacity during unconstrained periods resulting in both production cost and net consumer benefits in both control areas. The analysis indicates that reducing the transaction scheduling lead time would enable market participants to more efficiently schedule transactions. The report recommends the development of processes to improve coordination between the ISOs even if only during limited circumstances, such as reserve shortages.</li></ul> |

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# Status of Seams Projects *Current Deliverables*

| Project                                    | Description   |
|--|---|
| <b>2. Regional Resource Adequacy - RAM</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="517 325 1763 586">▪ The NYISO has engaged NERA to develop a conceptual forward market design. NYISO forward capacity market initial design alternatives were presented to stakeholders in Dec. 2007 - Feb. 2008. At the joint NYISO Board of Directors Management Committee meeting on June 10, 2008 market participants expressed a range of views on alternative forward capacity market designs. The conceptual design for FCM was presented to MPs on August 28th, with additional design details presented at subsequent ICAPWG meetings from October to the present.</li><li data-bbox="517 611 1734 682">▪ Work on remaining design elements will continue in Q1-2009, with expected review through the NYISO governance process in Q2-2009.</li><li data-bbox="517 706 1690 815">▪ <b>Over the past month NYISO staff have worked on the details of FP auction mitigation, credit requirements, settlement rules and seasonal variations. These issues will be discussed at the March 19 ICAPWG meeting.</b></li></ul> |

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# Other Seams Related Activity

## Recent Initiatives

| Project   | Description  |
|---|--|
| <b>3. Cross-Border Controllable Line Scheduling</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Linden VFT, a 300MW injection from PJM to NYISO is targeted to begin operations during the third quarter 2009 with full operation targeted for the fourth quarter of 2009.</li><li>▪ Details on the operation, transmission reservations, and Tariff changes for the Linden VFT were presented at MIWG teleconferences on January 26 &amp; 30, 2009.</li><li>▪ <b>Tariff changes necessary to support implementation of the Linden VFT in the energy market were passed at the February 25, 2009 Management Committee meeting. NYISO will work with PJM and Con Ed to ensure emergency operating protocols are in place prior to operation of the Linden VFT Scheduled Line. The sale of ICAP/UCAP into the NYCA via the Linden VFT Scheduled Line is under development.</b></li></ul> |

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# Other Seams Related Activity

## Recent Initiatives (continued)

| Activity   | Description   |
|--|---|
| <b>1. COORDINATION OF INTERREGIONAL PLANNING</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To continue to develop ways to improve the coordination of planning for the Northeast region, this project is established to identify future deliverables towards achieving progress in this endeavor.</li> <li>▪ On December 14, 2007 another IPSAC meeting was held by teleconference and web-ex at which the ISOs made presentations on several topics, including: New England Loss of Source Feasibility Study; planned system improvements in each ISO/RTO region; environmental and renewable resource issues. In addition, the ISOs presented their proposed Scope of Work for an inter-regional transmission adequacy study for discussion and stakeholder input. Stakeholders raised additional issues that are currently under consideration. Interim study results for the transmission analysis were discussed with stakeholders at an IPSAC meeting held on June 27, 2008. At this meeting, the ISO/RTOs also reviewed their plans for additional analyses with stakeholders. Plans call for conduct of further transmission studies, and production analyses. An update will be presented to stakeholders at a meeting planned for the 4th quarter 2008.</li> <li>▪ The Northeastern ISO/RTO Coordination of Planning Protocol currently provides that cost allocation will be addressed consistent with the provisions of each ISO/RTO's Tariff. Merchant and elective upgrades can already be accommodated within existing tariffs. Studies are ongoing to identify potential cross border physical improvements to the system. The Protocol allows for the development of additional cost sharing mechanisms as may be needed in the future.</li> </ul> |

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# Other Seams Related Activity

## Recent Initiatives (continued)

| Activity  | Description   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1. COORDINATION OF INTERREGIONAL PLANNING (continued)</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The integration of over 450 MW (nameplate) of wind resources in the NY North Country is planned for 2009. ISO-NE and NYISO are conducting joint operating studies to ensure reliable operation of the system. These issues were discussed with stakeholders at the June IPSAC meeting.</li> <li>▪ During the month of August, high-level meetings were held between NYISO, PJM and ISO-NE to discuss possible expansion of inter-regional planning activities, including the consideration of a cross-border cost allocation mechanism for prospective application. A follow-up meeting was held with PJM in early October.</li> <li>▪ Current plans call for the following discussions at the December 11, 2008 IPSAC meeting in Albany : Review of [a draft of] the Northeast Coordinated System Plan; PJM 500kv Expansion Studies; Multi-regional Transfer Analysis; Environmental Issues; Interregional Wind Integration Studies; North Country Wind Integration Studies; Plans for analysis of tie improvements between PJM and NY as well as NY and NE.</li> </ul> |

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# Other Seams Related Activity

## Recent Initiatives (continued)

| Activity   | Description  |
|--|--|
| <b>1. COORDINATION OF INTERREGIONAL PLANNING (continued)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ An IPSAC meeting was held on December 11, 2008 at which the following items were discussed: the Northeast Coordinated System Plan, the Joint Coordinated System Plan, the North – Country Vermont Study, PJM 500kV Expansion Studies; Environmental Issues, Interregional Wind Integration Issues and Next Steps. Additional presentations demonstrated that Queue studies and other studies have also been well coordinated and resulted in proactive system plans.</li><li>▪ The draft Northeast Coordinated System Plan was posted on January 9, 2009 along with a notice scheduling an IPSAC conference call for January 30, 2009 to discuss comments on the draft Plan and to receive further input from stakeholders regarding continuing studies of interregional system assessments and system improvements. In particular, NYISO and PJM will be conducting both reliability and production cost analysis which will focus on the New Jersey – Southeast New York area during 2009. In addition, new tie lines are being explored, including further analysis between ISO-NE and NYISO, as well as their respective transmission owners, that builds upon the prefeasibility study of a tie between Plattsburgh and Vermont. The status of these and other issues, such as environmental, wind integration, and the expansion of the PJM EHV backbone, will be discussed at the next IPSAC meeting planned for 2nd Quarter 2009.</li><li>▪ <b>The final Northeast Coordinated System Plan was posted on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.</b></li></ul> |

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# Other Seams Related Activity

## Recent Initiatives

| Activity                                      | Description  |
|---|--|
| <b>2. INTERREGIONAL CONGESTION MANAGEMENT</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ NYISO and PJM are evaluating a coordinated bilateral Congestion Management Process concept. PJM and NYISO met on April 12-13, 2007 and discussed possible opportunities for coordination. The intent of this activity is to develop a concept that enables optimal dispatch between control areas such that one control area may alleviate congestion in the other. A straw-man proposal is planned to be developed by late 2007 with market participant review planned for early 2008.</li><li>▪ NYISO and PJM are evaluating a coordinated bilateral Congestion Management Process concept. The intent of this activity is to develop a concept that enables optimal dispatch between control areas such that one control area may alleviate congestion in the other. NYISO continues to work with PJM on the development of a feasible process. NYISO presented a Congestion Management process overview to market participants at the December 14, 2007 Market Issues Working Group.</li><li>▪ PJM and NYISO had a productive meeting on January 29th, 2008 to continue discussions on a potential congestion management process. More specifically, the parties reviewed RTO to RTO redispatch examples, interaction between any new process and existing PJM NYISO agreements and potential data exchanges. It is PJM's and NYISO's intent to complete the development of a conceptual design for a congestion management process and present this to stakeholders by the end of 2008.</li></ul> |

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# Other Seams Related Activity

## Recent Initiatives

| Activity  | Description   |
|---|---|
| <b>2. INTERREGIONAL CONGESTION MANAGEMENT (continued)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ PJM and NYISO have held several meetings in the first half of 2008 to develop a conceptual design for implementing a coordinated congestion management process. These discussions have focused on the overall design, potential operational procedures and data coordination protocols necessary to integrate a congestion management process. The last meeting between the design teams occurred on April 9th, 2008. The design teams are scheduled to meet in December and will continue work on the development of a conceptual design serving the needs of both control areas with the intent of bringing a proposal forward for MP review at an appropriate time.</li><li>▪ NYISO and PJM staff met on December 12, 2008 to continue discussions on a congestion management process.</li><li>▪ <b>On February 12th NYISO hosted a technical conference for market participants, with representatives from PJM, MISO, IESO and ISO-NE participating, to discuss design considerations and take stakeholder feedback on the development of an Interregional congestion management process.</b></li></ul> |

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## Issues Pending Further Discussion

| Issue   | Description   |
|---|---|
| <b>3. Reserves Participation in Adjacent Regional Markets</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 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. Since late 2005, the NYISO's Market Evolution Plan is part of its strategic planning process. The NYISO suggested this item to its Market Issues WG for stakeholder discussion and prioritization. Following implementation (October 2006) and assessment of their reserve market, ISO-NE will consider inter-control area provision of reserves.</li></ul> |

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## Issues Pending Further Discussion *(continued)*

| Issue  | Description  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>4. Congestion Rent Shortfalls Resulting From External Transmission Outages</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 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. NYISO Senior Management will evaluate project, scheduling and budget impacts in conjunction with all other identified initiatives and determine what further action will be taken.</li> <br/> <li>▪ NYISO will evaluate this issue as part of NYISO’s market rules assessment initiative.</li> </ul> |

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## Issues Pending Further Discussion *(continued)*

| Issue  | Description   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>5. Elimination of Rate Pancaking</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 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, 2005 to initiate discussions on this issue. With the Transmissions Owners as the primary drivers of this issue, NYISO and PJM are awaiting indications of intent from PJM's TOs as to the level of priority this issue has with the TOs. PJM has supply transaction data regarding volume and rates for PJM exports into NY.</li> <br/> <li>▪ The NYISO has also initiated discussions with IESO to eliminate export fees. The revenue application review process for the transmitter that owns the inter-tie transmission lines in Ontario, and is responsible to the provincial regulator for this fee, is currently ongoing. The possibility of eliminating the transmission export fee, along with other options, is being discussed at this rate hearing. The decision on the transmitter's revenue application is expected to be given in May of 2007.</li> <br/> <li>▪ The Ontario Energy Board recently upheld the \$1/MWh export charge from IESO. However, the IESO will be (1) conducting a study on appropriate export transmission service rates for Hydro One Networks' 2010 rate process; and (2) will start negotiations with the NYISO to pursue a reciprocal arrangement to eliminate export charges. The IESO will begin discussions with its neighbors early in 2008 and will complete its market impact studies in 2009. The Ontario Energy Board must approve any changes to Hydro One's export transmission charges.</li> </ul> |

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## Issues Pending Further Discussion *(continued)*

| Issue   | Description   |
|---|---|
| <b>6. Limitations Due to Loss of Large Source</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ ISO-NE has historically limited resources above certain MW levels when tripping at higher outputs could result in reliability problems for one of the other northeastern markets.</li><li>▪ The three ISOs have filed a joint protocol with FERC on the coordination of loss of source procedures. Operating studies of the loss of source, including the Phase II HVDC line connecting Quebec and New England, have been updated and approved. Planning studies are underway by the Joint ISO/RTO Planning Committee (JIPC) and were discussed at the March 23<sup>rd</sup> IPSAC meeting.</li><li>▪ Analysis of potential of short-term transmission changes (series reactors) that could relieve the severity of the loss of source contingencies were discussed at the December 14, 2007 IPSAC meeting. They have been shown to produce marginal benefits and to introduce potential operating problems. They were discussed at the December 14, 2007 stakeholder meeting and it was agreed that these changes should not be pursued.</li></ul> |

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## Issues Pending Further Discussion *(continued)*

| Issue  | Description  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>6. Limitations Due to Loss of Large Source (continued)</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Draft results of a long term assessment of the transmission system that reflects major improvements planned for NYISO, PJM, and ISO-NE were presented at the June 27, 2008 IPSAC meeting. This assessment includes a determination as to their effect on the limitations on the size of allowable source loss in New England. The analysis also identifies the technical feasibility of mitigating the loss-of-source through the use of voluntary load shedding. Compatibility of such a mechanism with existing reliability rules must also be determined. The preliminary results suggest that the loss of source limit could potentially increase to a 1,500 MW to 1,600 MW level by the 2012 timeframe. A pre-feasibility study that determines the impacts of upgrading the Plattsburgh-Vermont tie to 230kV and of adding a 345kV tie between Southwest Connecticut and Westchester will also be discussed with stakeholders. These improvements could result in a further increase in the loss of source limit. Additional study results will be discussed at an IPSAC meeting planned for the 4th quarter 2008. As needed, further analysis will then identify and analyze representative system improvements for discussion with stakeholders in 2009.</li> </ul> |

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# Issues Pending Further Discussion

*(continued)*

| Issue   | Description  |
|---|--|
| <b>6. Limitations Due to Loss of Large Source</b><br><b>(continued)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Current plans call for presentation of more detailed study results at the at the December 11, 2008 IPSAC meeting in Albany . These will more fully evaluate the impacts of 500kV transmission improvements in PJM and a potential upgrade of the Plattsburgh-Vermont tie.</li><li>▪ A status of more detailed loss of source studies was presented at the December 11, 2008 IPSAC meeting. With the addition of the planned 500kV improvements by 2012, the loss of source limit will likely be constrained by limitations in the PJM system to the 1,400 MW level. The New York constraint will become less binding than PJM at that time. Loss of source analysis is continuing as a part of other interregional studies, such as the NY-VT tie, and the NJ- Southeast NY studies.</li></ul> |

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# Issues Pending Further Discussion

*(continued)*

| Issue   | Description  |
|---|--|
| <b>7. Long-Term Solution for Unscheduled Lake Erie Loop Flows</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Unscheduled power flows, particularly around Lake Erie, can negatively impact both electric system reliability and market operations. The NYISO is conducting a comprehensive investigation of transaction scheduling and pricing protocols and incentives in order to assist its efforts to develop a long-term solution to address unscheduled Lake Erie power flows. The results of this ongoing analysis have been, and will continue to be, shared with stakeholders to facilitate an informed discussion of a viable long term solution for managing loop flow.</b></li></ul> |

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