



News Advisory

Contact: Bill Cohen, ISO New England Inc. (413) 535-4129
Ken Klapp, New York ISO (518) 356-6253

The New York ISO and ISO New England Announce Joint Resolution for Inter-Control Area Market Coordination

Holyoke, MA -- January 16, 2001 -- The Boards of Directors of ISO New England Inc. and the New York ISO today announced the approval of a joint resolution which establishes a joint task force on inter-control area market coordination. The resolution pledges that both independent system operators work cooperatively to enhance interregional coordination and reduce barriers to transactions between the two wholesale electricity markets.

The joint resolution was approved this morning by both ISO Boards and was made in concert with their Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) filings. RTO compliance filings are due today with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

ISO New England's and the NYISO's RTO compliance filings contain several significant mechanisms for enhancing interregional coordination, initially to reduce "seams" issues between New England and New York, and a phased plan for achieving conformed markets across the northeastern control areas.

"I am particularly pleased that both our Board and the New York ISO Board of Directors have passed a joint resolution setting up a joint task force to move us toward markets free of obstructions to transactions between our two areas," said ISO New England Chairman Berry. "We will work toward conforming our two markets by examining market rules and changing them when appropriate so that we eliminate barriers. This joint effort will meet FERC's desired RTO objectives while maintaining our strong New England markets."

"This agreement is a significant step in achieving more efficient operation of the Northeast markets," said Dick Grossi, NYISO Chairman. "It will also enhance the reliability of both regions through the use of innovative market mechanisms."

ISO New England Inc. is the not-for-profit corporation responsible for the day-to-day reliable operation of New England's bulk power grid, as well as administrator of the region's wholesale electricity marketplace. ISO New England (www.iso-ne.com) is based in Holyoke, Massachusetts.

The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) (www.nyiso.com) is an independent, not-for-profit corporation that operates the state's electric power grid from a Power Control Center near Albany, New York, in a manner that ensures reliability and provides fair and open access for all buyers and sellers in the electricity wholesale markets.