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NYISO Joins With U.S. ISOs and RTOs, and the IMO of Ontario In Support of FERC's SMD Proposal

**- In Joint FERC Filing, Market Operators Assert Wholesale Competition Is Working
And That "Standardization" Will Result in Further Efficiencies and Savings -**

(Guilderland, New York – November 12, 2002) – The New York Independent System Operator, Inc. ("NYISO") announced today that it has joined with six other North American RTOs and ISOs to file comments in support of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's ("FERC's") proposal to establish a Standard Market Design ("SMD") for wholesale electricity markets nationwide.

The group, comprised of the California Independent System Operator Corporation, ISO New England Inc., Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc., the NYISO, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., and Southwest Power Pool, Inc. represents all FERC-jurisdictional ISOs and RTOs currently administering wholesale electricity markets. The Independent Electricity Market Operator of Ontario is a party to the joint comments as well.

"We believe that the unified support demonstrated by this joint filing underscores the importance of pressing forward with the FERC's SMD approach," said William J. Museler, NYISO President and CEO. "Despite some glitches along the way, electric industry restructuring is working and working well. FERC's SMD proposal offers a clear roadmap for where the industry should proceed from here. As such, they should be commended for their leadership."

Major elements of the SMD NOPR supported by all seven organizations include: 1) providing an SMD for wholesale electric markets, 2) utilizing a new single flexible transmission service, referred to as Network Access Service, 3) permitting continued use of license plate rates for recovery of the fixed charge component of transmission charges, 4) adopting a single tariff to integrate transmission and market issues, 5) recognizing the independence of the ITP, and, 6) acknowledging new security requirements.

A copy of the joint filing may be found on the NYISO website at www.nyiso.com.

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The New York Independent System Operator ("NYISO")—www.nyiso.com-- is a not-for-profit corporation established in 1999 to facilitate the restructuring of New York State's electric industry. Based in New York's Capital Region, in addition to administering the State's wholesale energy markets, the NYISO operates the State's high voltage electric transmission system. Last year, the NYISO's market volume exceeded \$5.6 billion.