

23.3.1.4 Reference Levels

23.3.1.4.1 Except as provided in Sections 23.3.1.4.3 – 23.3.1.4.6 below, a reference level for each component of a Generator's Bid to produce Energy shall be calculated on the basis of the following methods, listed in the order of preference subject to the existence of sufficient data.

A reference level for each component of a Withdrawal-Eligible Generator's Bid to produce or withdraw Energy shall be calculated consistent with Sections 23.3.1.4.1.3 or 23.3.1.4.2 below, subject to the existence of sufficient data.

23.3.1.4.1.1 The lower of the mean or the median of a Generator's accepted Bids or Bid components, in hour beginning 6 to hour beginning 21 but excluding weekend and designated holiday hours, in competitive periods over the most recent 90 day period for which the necessary input data are available to the ISO's reference level calculation systems, adjusted for changes in fuel prices consistent with Section 23.3.1.4.6, below. To maintain appropriate reference levels (i) the ISO shall exclude all Incremental Energy and Minimum Generation Bids below \$15/MWh from its development of Bid-based reference levels, (ii) the ISO shall exclude Minimum Generation Bids submitted for a Generator that was committed on the day prior to the Dispatch Day for the hours during the Dispatch Day that the Generator needs to operate in order to complete the minimum run time specified in the Bid it submitted for the hour in which it was committed, and (iii) the ISO may exclude other Bids that would cause a reference level to deviate substantially from a Generator's marginal cost when developing Bid-based reference levels;

23.3.1.4.1.2 Calculate incremental energy and minimum generation reference levels for a Generator using the mean of the LBMP at the Generator's location during the lowest-priced 50 percent of the hours that the Generator was dispatched over the most recent 90 day period for which the necessary LBMP data are available to the ISO's reference level calculation systems, adjusted for changes in fuel prices consistent with Section 23.3.1.4.6, below. To maintain appropriate reference levels (i) the ISO shall exclude all LBMPs below \$15/MWh from its development of LBMP-based reference levels, (ii) the ISO shall exclude LBMPs during hours when a Generator was scheduled as a Day-Ahead Reliability Unit or via a Supplemental Resource Evaluation or was Out-of-Merit Generation, from its development of that Generator's LBMP-based reference levels, (iii) for a Generator that was committed on the day prior to the Dispatch Day, the ISO shall exclude LBMPs for the hours during the Dispatch Day that the Generator needs to operate in order to complete the minimum run time specified in the Bid it submitted for the hour in which the Generator was committed from the ISO's development of that Generator's LBMP-based reference levels, and (iv) the ISO may exclude LBMPs that would cause a reference level to deviate substantially below a Generator's marginal cost when developing LBMP-based reference levels; or

23.3.1.4.1.3 A level determined in consultation with the Market Party submitting the Bid or Bids at issue, provided such consultation has occurred prior to the occurrence of the conduct being examined by the ISO, and provided the Market

Party has provided data on a Generator's operating costs in accordance with specifications provided by the ISO.

The reference level for a Generator's Energy and Ancillary Service Bids are intended to reflect the Generator's marginal costs. The ISO's determination of a Generator's Energy marginal costs shall include an assessment of the Generator's incremental operating costs in accordance with the following formula:

$$\begin{aligned} & (\text{heat rate} * \text{fuel costs}) \\ & + (\text{emissions rate} * (\text{emissions allowance price} \\ & + \text{Cost of Carbon Emissions})) \\ & + (\text{other variable operating and maintenance costs}) \\ & + \text{opportunity costs} \end{aligned}$$

Opportunity cost is the cost, in dollars, representing (a) the total net revenue in the future time periods that is expected to be forgone by being dispatched by the ISO in the current time period, or (b) the total net cost in future time periods that is expected to be avoided by being dispatched by the ISO in the current time period.

Opportunity costs are limited to costs that the ISO reasonably determines to be appropriate based on such data as may be furnished by the Market Party or otherwise available to the ISO. Reference levels shall also include such other factors or adjustments as the ISO shall reasonably determine to be appropriate based on such data as may be furnished by the Market Party or otherwise available to the ISO.

23.3.1.4.2 If sufficient data do not exist to calculate a reference level on the basis of either of the first two methods, or if the ISO determines that none of the three methods are applicable to a particular type of Bid component, or an attempt to determine a reference level in consultation with a Market Party has not been

successful, or if the reference level produced does not reasonably approximate a Generator's marginal cost, the ISO shall determine a reference level on the basis of:

23.3.1.4.2.1 the ISO's estimate of the costs or physical parameters of an Electric Facility, taking into account available operating costs data, appropriate input from the Market Party, and the best information available to the ISO; or

23.3.1.4.2.2 an appropriate average of competitive bids of one or more similar Electric Facilities.

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23.3.3.3 Consultation Rules for Real-Time Guarantee Payment Mitigation

23.3.3.3.1 Real-Time Guarantee Payment Consultation Process

23.3.3.3.1.1 For real-time guarantee payment mitigation determined pursuant to Sections 23.3.1.2.1 or 23.3.1.2.2, and 23.3.2.1.2 of these Mitigation Measures, the ISO shall electronically post settlement results informing Market Parties of Bid(s) that failed the real-time guarantee payment impact test. The settlement results posting shall include the adjustment to the guarantee payment and the mitigated Bid(s). The initial posting of settlement results ordinarily occurs two days after the relevant real-time market day.

23.3.3.3.1.2 For real-time guarantee payment mitigation determined pursuant to Sections 23.3.1.2.1 or 23.3.1.2.2, and 23.3.2.1.2 of these Mitigation Measures, no more than two business days after new or revised real-time guarantee payment impact test settlement results are posted, the ISO will send an e-mail or other

notification to all potentially impacted Market Parties that comply with Section 23.3.3.3.1.2.2 of these Mitigation Measures.

23.3.3.3.1.2.1 Although the ISO is authorized to take up to two business days to provide notification to all potentially impacted Market Parties that comply with Section 23.3.3.3.1.2.2 of these Mitigation Measures, the ISO shall undertake reasonable efforts to provide notification to such Market Parties within one business day after new or revised real-time guarantee payment impact test settlement results are posted.

23.3.3.3.1.2.2 A Market Party that desires to receive notification from the ISO must provide one e-mail address to the ISO for real-time guarantee payment mitigation notices. Each Market Party is responsible for maintaining and monitoring the e-mail address it provides, and informing the ISO of any change(s) to that e-mail address in order to continue to receive e-mail notification. E-mail will be the ISO's primary method of providing notice to Market Parties.

23.3.3.3.1.2.3 Regardless of whether a Market Party chooses to receive notification from the ISO, each Market Party is responsible for reviewing its posted real-time guarantee payment impact test settlement results and for contacting the ISO to request a consultation if and when appropriate.

23.3.3.3.1.3 The following notice rules apply to guarantee payment mitigation determined pursuant to Section 23.3.1.2.3 of these Mitigation Measures.

23.3.3.3.1.3.1 For mitigation of a Generator's Minimum Generation Bid, Start-Up Bid or Incremental Energy Bid resulting from its DARU or SRE commitment, the ISO shall send an e-mail or other notification to potentially impacted Market

Parties that comply with Section 23.3.3.3.1.2.2 of these Mitigation Measures within ten business days after the relevant market day, and shall undertake reasonable efforts to provide notification to such Market Parties within two business days after the relevant market day. The e-mail shall identify the date of the proposed mitigation and the Bid(s) or Bid components that the NYISO proposes to mitigate for all or part of the relevant market day.

As soon as it is able to do so, the NYISO will commence electronically posting settlement results informing Market Parties of Bid(s) that failed the Section 23.3.1.2.3 test and sending an e-mail or other notification to potentially impacted Market Parties that comply with Section 23.3.3.3.1.2.2 of these Mitigation Measures. The settlement results posting shall include the mitigated bid(s). The posting of settlement results ordinarily occurs two days after the relevant real-time market day.

23.3.3.3.1.3.2 For mitigation of a Generator's Minimum Generation Bid, Start-Up Bid or Incremental Energy Bid resulting from an Out-of-Merit dispatch above the Generator's DARU or SRE commitment, the ISO shall send an e-mail or other notification to potentially impacted Market Parties that comply with Section 23.3.3.3.1.2.2 of these Mitigation Measures within 10 business days after the relevant market day. The e-mail shall identify the date of the proposed mitigation and the bid(s) or bid components that the NYISO proposes to mitigate for all or part of the relevant market day.

23.3.3.3.1.3.3 For mitigation based on a Generator's minimum run time, start-up time, minimum down time, minimum generation MWs, or maximum number of

stops per day, or for mitigation based on temporal or operating parameters related to the withdrawal and injection of Energy by Withdrawal-Eligible Generators, the ISO shall send an e-mail or other notification to potentially impacted Market Parties that comply with Section 23.3.3.3.1.2.2 of these Mitigation Measures within 10 business days after the relevant market day. The e-mail shall identify the date of the proposed mitigation and the conduct failing Bid(s) or Bid components.

23.3.3.3.1.4 Market Parties that want to consult with the ISO regarding real-time guarantee payment impact test results, or regarding mitigation applied in accordance with Section 23.3.1.2.3 of these Mitigation Measures, for a particular market day must submit a written request to initiate the consultation process that specifies the market day and Bid(s) for which consultation is being requested (for purposes of this Section 23.3.3.3.1, a “Consultation Request”).

23.3.3.3.1.4.1 Consultation Requests must be received by the ISO’s customer relations department within 15 business days after the ISO (i) posts new or revised real-time guarantee payment impact test settlement results, or (ii) either posts new or revised real-time guarantee payment impact test settlement results or sends an e-mail informing a Market Party of the results of a test performed pursuant to Section 23.3.1.2.3 of these Mitigation Measures for the relevant market day. Consultation Requests received outside the 15 business day period shall be rejected by the ISO.

23.3.3.3.1.4.2 The ISO may send more than one notice informing a Market Party of the same instance of mitigation. Notices that identify real-time guarantee payment

impact test or Section 23.3.1.2.3 mitigation settlement results that are not new (for which the Market Party has already received a notice from the ISO) and that do not reflect revised mitigation (for which the dollar impact of the real-time guarantee payment mitigation has not changed) shall not present an additional opportunity, or temporarily extend the opportunity, for the Market Party to initiate consultation.

23.3.3.3.1.4.3 If consultation was timely requested and completed addressing a particular set of real-time guarantee payment impact test results, or addressing a particular instance of mitigation applied in accordance with Section 23.3.1.2.3 of these Mitigation Measures, a Market Party may not again request consultation regarding the same real-time guarantee payment impact test results, or the same application of Section 23.3.1.2.3 mitigation, unless revised settlement results, that are not due to the previously completed consultation and that change the dollar impact of the relevant instance of mitigation, are posted.

23.3.3.3.1.5 The Consultation Request may include: (i) an explanation of the reason(s) why the Market Party believes some or all of the reference levels used by the ISO for the market day(s) in question are inappropriate, or why some or all of the Market Party's Bids on the market day(s) in question were otherwise consistent with competitive behavior; and (ii) supporting documents, data and other relevant information (collectively, for purposes of this Section 23.3.3.3.1, "Data"), including proof of any cost(s) claimed.

23.3.3.3.1.5.1 Market Parties shall ensure that the information they submit to the ISO, including but not limited to fuel price and fuel type information, is accurate.

Except as set forth in Section 23.3.1.4.6.8, the ISO may not retroactively revise a reference level to reflect additional fuel costs if a Market Party or its representative did not timely submit accurate fuel cost information. Except as set forth in Section 23.3.1.4.8.9, the ISO may not retroactively revise a reference level to reflect additional opportunity costs if a Market Party or its representative did not timely submit accurate opportunity cost information.

23.3.3.3.1.6 If the Market Party is not able to provide (i) an explanation of the reason(s) why the Market Party believes some or all of the reference levels used by the ISO for the market day(s) in question are inappropriate, or why some or all of the Market Party's Bids on the market day(s) in question were otherwise consistent with competitive behavior, or (ii) all supporting Data, at the time a Consultation Request is submitted, the Market Party should specifically identify any additional explanation or Data it intends to submit in support of its Consultation Request and provide an estimate of the date by which it will provide the additional explanation or Data to the ISO.

23.3.3.3.1.7 Following the submission of a Consultation Request that satisfies the timing and Bid identification requirements of Section 23.3.3.3.1.4, above, consultation shall be performed in accordance with Section 23.3.3.1 of these Mitigation Measures, as supplemented by the following rules:

23.3.3.3.1.7.1 The ISO shall consult with the Market Party to determine whether the information available to the ISO presents an appropriate basis for (i) modifying the reference levels used to perform real-time guarantee payment mitigation for the market day in question, or (ii) determining that the Market Party's Bid(s) on

the market day in question were consistent with competitive behavior. The ISO shall only modify the reference levels used to perform mitigation, or determine that the Market Party's Bid(s) on the market day that is the subject of the Consultation Request were consistent with competitive behavior, if the ISO has in its possession Data that is sufficient to support such a decision.

23.3.3.3.1.7.2 A preliminary determination by the ISO shall be provided to the Market Monitoring Unit for its review and comment, and the ISO shall consider the Market Monitoring Unit's recommendations in reaching its decision. The ISO shall inform the Market Party of its decision, in writing, as soon as reasonably practicable, but in no event later than (i) 50 business days after the new or revised real-time guarantee payment impact test settlement results for the relevant market day were posted, or (ii) 50 business days after the earlier of the posting of new or revised Section 23.3.1.2.3 mitigation settlement results for the relevant market day, or the issuance of an e-mail in accordance with Section 23.3.3.3.1.3, above. If the ISO does not affirmatively determine that it is appropriate to modify the Bid(s) that are the subject of the Consultation Request within 50 business days, the Bid(s) shall remain mitigated. The responsibilities of the Market Monitoring Unit that are addressed in this section of the Mitigation Measures are also addressed in Section 30.4.6.2.7 of Attachment O.

23.3.3.3.1.7.3 The ISO may, as soon as practicable, but at any time within the consultation period, request Data from the Market Party. The Market Party is expected to undertake all reasonable efforts to provide the requested Data as promptly as possible, to inform the ISO of the date by which it expects to provide

requested Data, and to promptly inform the ISO if the Market Party does not intend to, or cannot, provide Data that has been requested by the ISO.

23.3.3.3.1.8 This Section 23.3.3.3.1 addresses Consultation Requests. It is not intended to limit, alter or modify a Market Party's ability to submit or proceed with a billing dispute pursuant to Section 7.4 of the ISO Services Tariff or Section 2.7.4.1 of the ISO OATT.

23.3.3.3.2 Revising Reference Levels of Certain Generators Committed Out-of-Merit or via Supplemental Resource Evaluation for Conducting Real-Time Guarantee Payment Conduct and Impact Tests and Applying Mitigation in Accordance with Section 23.3.1.2.3 of these Mitigation Measures

23.3.3.3.2.1 Consistent with and subject to all of the requirements of Section 23.3.3.3.1 of these Mitigation Measures, Generators that (i) are committed Out-of-Merit or via a Supplemental Resource Evaluation after the DAM has posted, and (ii) for which the NYISO has posted real-time guarantee payment impact test settlement results, or identified possible mitigation under Section 23.3.1.2.3 of these Mitigation Measures may contact the ISO within 15 business days after new or revised impact test settlement results are posted, or possible mitigation under Section 23.3.1.2.3 of these Mitigation Measures is identified, to request that the reference levels used to perform the testing and mitigation be adjusted to include any of the following verifiable costs:

23.3.3.3.2.1.1 procuring fuel at prices that exceed the index prices used to calculate the Generator's reference level;

23.3.3.3.2.1.2 burning a type of fuel or blend of fuels that is not reflected in the Generator's reference level;

- 23.3.3.3.2.1.3 permitted gas balancing charges;
 - 23.3.3.3.2.1.4 compliance with operational flow orders;
 - 23.3.3.3.2.1.5 [Cost of Carbon Emissions and costs to purchasing](#) additional emissions allowances that are necessary to satisfy the Generator's Supplemental Resource Evaluation or Out-of-Merit schedule; and
 - 23.3.3.3.2.1.6 demonstrated opportunity costs that exceed the opportunity cost used in calculating the Generator's reference level.
- 23.3.3.3.2.2 The six categories of verifiable costs specified above shall be used to modify the requesting Generator's reference level(s) subject to the following prerequisites:
- 23.3.3.3.2.2.1 the Generator must specifically and accurately identify and document the extraordinary costs it has incurred to operate during the hours of its Supplemental Resource Evaluation or Out-of-Merit commitment; and
 - 23.3.3.3.2.2.2 the costs must not already be reflected in the Generator's reference levels or be recovered from the ISO through other means.

As soon as practicable after the Market Party demonstrates to the ISO's reasonable satisfaction that one or more of the five categories of extraordinary costs have been incurred, but in no event later than the deadline set forth in Section 23.3.3.3.1.7.2 of these Mitigation Measures, the ISO shall adjust the affected Generator's reference levels and re-perform the real-time guarantee payment conduct and impact tests, or the Section 23.3.1.2.3 test, as appropriate, for the affected day. Only the reference levels used to perform real-time guarantee payment mitigation and/or mitigation pursuant to Section 23.3.1.2.3 of these Mitigation Measures, will be adjusted.

23.3.3.3.2.3 If, at some point prior to the issuance of a Close-Out Settlement for the relevant service month, the ISO or the Commission determine that some or all of the costs claimed by the Market Party during the consultation process described above were not, in fact, incurred over the course of the Out-of-Merit or Supplemental Resource Evaluation commitment, or were recovered from the ISO through other means, the ISO shall re-perform the appropriate test(s) using reference levels that reflect the verifiable costs that the Generator incurred and shall apply mitigation if the Generator's Bids fail conduct and impact, or the Section 23.3.1.2.3 test, at the corrected reference levels.

23.3.3.3.2.4 Generators may contact the ISO to request the inclusion of costs other than the six types identified above in their reference levels. The ISO shall consider such requests in accordance with Sections 23.3.1.4, or 23.3.3.3.1 of these Mitigation Measures, as appropriate.