

WESTERN ENERGY IMBALANCE MARKET



News Release

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California ISO western EIM produces solid Q4 2017 benefits

FOLSOM, Calif. – The California Independent System Operator (ISO) has released its western Energy Imbalance Market (EIM) 2017 fourth quarter benefits report that shows the real-time energy imbalance market produced \$33.46 million benefits for its six participating members. The benefits since the western regional market was launched in 2014 now total \$288.44 million.

Western EIM participants helped reduce carbon emissions in the region by 7,730 metric tons by using 18,060 megawatt-hours of excess renewable energy that otherwise would have been turned off; this translates into removing 1,655 passenger cars from the highways for a year.

“The ISO’s western EIM continues its positive uptick in benefits, accruing savings as it promotes a greener and more reliable energy grid,” said ISO President and CEO Steve Berberich. “We are very pleased with the results for all participants in this growing market.”

During fourth quarter of 2017, PacifiCorp realized benefits of \$6.83 million while the California ISO saved \$4.52 million and Arizona Public Services \$10 million. NV Energy saved \$6.45 million and Puget Sound Energy of Washington state saved \$2.83 million during the three month period. EIM’s newest participant, Portland General Electric, saw \$2.83 million in benefits. [When compared to the other quarterly benefits of 2017, the fourth quarter’s benefits reflect seasonal conditions such as lower loads.]

Idaho Power and Canada’s Powerex are on track to join the market on April 1. The Balancing Authority of Northern California/Sacramento Municipal Utility District and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power will begin participating in April 2019. Salt River Project of Phoenix and Seattle City Light are slated to enter the market in April 2020.

The EIM’s state-of-art technology automatically finds and delivers low-cost energy to serve consumers in California, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and Nevada. In addition to leveraging the diverse resources from a larger pool, the effective use of carbon-free generation provides added environmental benefits.

Besides using low-cost energy, EIM utilities reduce their costs by being able to join together to decrease the amount of energy reserves that individual utilities must carry in real time to manage load.

Click [here](#) to see more about the EIM and read the full report.

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The California ISO provides open and non-discriminatory access to one of the largest power grids in the world. The vast network of high-voltage transmission power lines is supported by a competitive energy market and comprehensive grid planning. Partnering with about a hundred clients, the nonprofit public benefit corporation is dedicated to the continual development and reliable operation of a modern grid that operates for the benefit of consumers. Recognizing the importance of the global climate challenge, the ISO is at the forefront of integrating renewable power and advanced technologies that will help meet a sustainable energy future efficiently and cleanly.