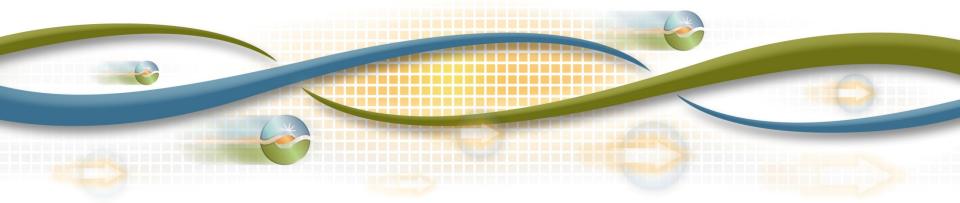


Decision on accounting of minimum load costs proposal

Greg Cook
Director, Market & Infrastructure Policy

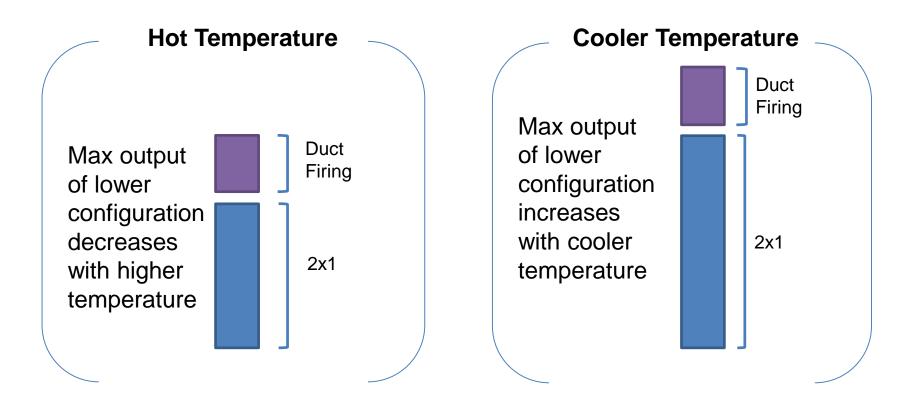
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Current market inefficiency when generator's minimum operating level is increased due to ambient, environmental or mechanical reasons.

- Current methodology to temporarily increase minimum operating level:
 - Generator reports minimum operating level change through ISO's outage management system
 - However, minimum load costs not adjusted
- Results in inefficiencies:
 - Market inefficiently commits generator because \$/MWh minimum load costs are too low
 - Generator's actual costs not reflected in bid cost recovery
 - Problematic for NV Energy combined-cycle units because of large daily summer temperature variations

Illustration of outage use for temperature impacts on multi-state generator output levels



Adjusting minimum load costs for minimum operating level changes will improve commitment decisions.

- Propose to adjust minimum load costs using default energy bid corresponding to energy above minimum operating level in master file
- Adjustment accounts for generator's change in costs
 - default energy bids are based on each generator's estimated costs plus 10 percent
- Enables improved commitment decisions by reflecting incremental energy costs associated with higher minimum operating level

Stakeholders support modifying minimum load costs but some prefer alternative methodology

- Broad support for adjusting minimum load costs when minimum operating levels increase
- Some stakeholders prefer scaling minimum load costs as opposed to using default energy bid

Management recommends the Board approve the use of a revised minimum load cost for rerated resources.

 Improves efficiency of commitment decisions by appropriately including incremental energy costs

 As EIM expands in the southwest, ambient conditions drive more frequent minimum operating level updates