ISO Board of Governors and Western EIM Governing Body jointly approve initial set of real-time market governance rule changes
Governance Review Committee brings stakeholders together around consensus recommendations

FOLSOM, Calif. – The California Independent System Operator (ISO) Board of Governors and Western Energy Imbalance Market (EIM) Governing Body refined the real-time energy market’s governance process to better reflect the growing participation and level of engagement in the Western EIM.

At a joint meeting of the ISO Board of Governors and the Western EIM Governing Body yesterday the two bodies approved the EIM Governance Review Committee’s proposal for part 1 of the refinements which:

- Elevate the representative for the public interest and consumer advocate groups to a voting member of the EIM Governing Body nominating committee;
- Allow the Regional Issues Forum to address or offer opinions on issues that are part of an ongoing stakeholder process, revise the sector definitions, and memorialize a standing agenda item for EIM Governing Body meetings;
- Recommend the Body of State Regulators consider adding non-voting positions for federal power market agencies and consumer-owned utilities that participate in the Western EIM, and
- Enhance the Western EIM Governing Body’s role in market monitoring and market expertise, including shared authority with the Board of Governors to approve Market Surveillance Committee members.

“I applaud the Governance Review Committee’s work to advance a package of consensus recommendations that were unanimously approved at yesterday’s meeting,” said ISO President and CEO Elliot Mainzer. “The Board of Governors and the Western EIM Governing Body recognized the need for governance enhancements to better reflect the growth and evolution of the real-time energy market and the expanding community of utilities committed to greater regional collaboration."

The Governance Review Committee is continuing to address stakeholder comments related to a proposal for joint authority between the ISO Board of Governors and the Western EIM Governing Body on certain rules related to the real-time energy market, with a second package of proposed reforms to be presented within the next few months.

The Western EIM Governance Review Committee has worked since late 2019 through an iterative public stakeholder process to advance proposed governance revisions, and
has completed several papers as it developed its recommendations. Use these links to access the joint board meeting documents, including the memo, presentation, and final proposal.

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The California Independent System Operator (ISO) is a nonprofit public benefit corporation dedicated, with its partners, to continuous improvement and secure operation of a reliable grid operated for the benefit of consumers. It provides comprehensive grid planning, open and nondiscriminatory access to one of the largest networks of high-voltage transmission power lines in the world, and operates a $9 billion competitive electricity market. Recognizing the importance of the global climate challenge, the ISO is at the forefront of integrating renewable power and advanced technologies that will help provide a sustainable energy future efficiently and cleanly.

The Western Energy Imbalance Market (EIM) Governing Body is the governing authority designed by regional stakeholders with delegated authority from the ISO Board of Governors to resolve rules specific to participation in the Western EIM.