

News Release

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Media Hotline | 888.516.6397

For more information, contact:

Anne Gonzales - ISO | agonzales@caiso.com

Mike MacDougall - Powerex | mike.macdougall@powerex.com

Powerex will join western Energy Imbalance Market

Folsom, Calif. – The California Independent System Operator (ISO) and Powerex Corp. announced today that Powerex will participate in the western Energy Imbalance Market beginning in April 2018. Powerex is the wholly owned energy marketing subsidiary of BC Hydro, Canada’s third largest utility, and will be the first non-U.S. participant to join the market.

"Powerex has long been active in the ISO market and we applaud its decision to begin participating in the EIM," said Steve Berberich, ISO President and CEO. "The successful western real-time market is producing significant efficiencies and savings for its participants. The ISO and other participants welcome Powerex to the western EIM."

From its headquarters in Vancouver, British Columbia, Powerex buys and sells wholesale power, natural gas, ancillary services, as well as clean and renewable energy products across western North America. Combining its access to the BC Hydro integrated hydro-electric system with a broad portfolio of market purchases and transmission rights, Powerex is a reliable supplier to its over 400 trade partners. It is a member of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council, the non-profit corporation that oversees grid reliability standards in two Canadian provinces, 14 western U.S. states and Northern Baja Mexico.

"Powerex has actively participated in the ISO’s 5-minute market since 2005 through a dynamic scheduling arrangement, so joining the EIM is a logical extension of our intra-hour market participation," said Teresa Conway, Powerex President and CEO. "Participation in the growing EIM footprint will allow us to transact sub-hourly wholesale energy across multiple utility service territories, generating economic benefits, while helping integrate renewables and enhance grid reliability in the West."

The EIM participating utilities can balance supply and demand within their respective service areas by scheduling power deliveries every 15 minutes with 5-minute power plant dispatching. Utilities from across a larger geographic region can exchange resources more effectively while significantly lowering the cost of delivering power to consumers.

These efficiencies have led to savings totaling over \$173 million since the market was launched in November 2014 through first quarter of 2017.

Utilities now participating in the EIM include Oregon-based PacifiCorp, NV Energy of Las Vegas, Puget Sound Energy of Washington state and Arizona Public Service of Phoenix, Ariz. Other utilities that have formally agreed to join the EIM include Portland General Electric on Oct. 1, 2017, Idaho Power on April 1, 2018, Seattle City Light, the Balancing Authority of Northern California/Sacramento Municipal Utilities District on April 1, 2019 and Phoenix-based Salt River Project on April 1, 2020. Participation by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power in EIM was approved by the LA City Council on May 19, and LADWP expects to announce a formal agreement shortly. The western EIM serves utility consumers in Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Mexican grid operator El Centro Nacional de Control de Energía (CENACE) Baja Norte has announced it is exploring participation in the market.

For more information on the EIM, visit the ISO webpage [here](#).

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California ISO Media Hotline 888.516.6397	
250 Outcropping Way Folsom, California 95630 www.caiso.com	
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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.	

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