

News Release

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Seattle City Light signs agreement to join western EIM

Folsom, Calif./Seattle, Wash. – The California Independent System Operator (ISO) announced today that Seattle City Light signed an agreement for the utility to participate in the western Energy Imbalance Market (EIM) beginning in April 2019.

"EIM is a proven success, producing reliability benefits, operational efficiencies and cost savings for its participants," said Steve Berberich, ISO President and CEO. "Increased participation leads to an increase in those benefits. We are pleased to welcome Seattle City Light to EIM."

Seattle City Light, which serves nearly 423,000 customers in the City of Seattle and some surrounding cities, will be the first municipal utility to participate in the EIM. The EIM is an optimization tool for utilities to balance supply and demand every 15 minutes with five-minute power plant dispatching. Utilities participating in this real-time market now share resources more cost effectively across a larger geographic footprint, which significantly lowers the cost of delivering power to customers.

"Seattle City Light has preliminarily evaluated the Energy Imbalance Market from an environmental, commercial, and reliability perspective and I believe City Light's participation can deliver benefits to our customers in all three areas," City Light General Manager and CEO Larry Weis said. "Participation in the Energy Imbalance Market is the best use of our resources and our employees' expertise to extend our support for a clean energy economy across the west. This is the first in a number of steps to better integrate large-scale renewable resources in the west, and a new tool in our 'tool belt' to address climate change and set the foundation for a cleaner energy future."

In addition to Seattle City Light, other utilities set to join the EIM include Portland General Electric on Oct. 1, 2017, and Idaho Power on April 1, 2018. The western EIM currently serves consumers in Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. In the latest report analyzing the benefits of the EIM, participants saved nearly \$115 million from November 2014 through September 2016.

The Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC) and its member Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), as well as Mexican grid operator El Centro Nacional de Control de Energía (CENACE) Baja Norte are currently exploring participation.



The implementation agreement with Seattle City Light will be filed by the ISO with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). For more information on the EIM, visit the ISO webpage [here](#).

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<i>Thanks for re-posting!</i>	     
<p>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.</p>	

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