THE CALIFORNIA ISO IS HELPING LEAD THE ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY’S TRANSFORMATION TO A CLEANER AND MORE RELIABLE GRID.

ISO AT-A-GLANCE

- **26,000** CIRCUIT MILES OF TRANSMISSION LINES
- **31,208** MARKET TRANSACTIONS PER DAY
- **1,080** POWER PLANTS
- **60%** RENEWABLES BY 2030
- **239 MILLION** MEGAWATT HOURS PER YEAR
- **9,700** PRICING LOCATIONS (INCLUDES EIM)

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LEADING THE WAY TO TOMORROW’S ENERGY NETWORK

CommPR/SG/12 2018
UNDERSTANDING THE ISO

The California Independent System Operator runs one of the largest and most dynamic power grids in the world. It manages the flow of bulk electricity across 26,000 circuit miles of high-voltage power lines to utilities across California and in a small part of Nevada, ultimately reaching 30 million consumers.

WHOLESALE ENERGY MARKET OPERATOR

The ISO also operates California’s wholesale electricity market, using state-of-the-art technology to match demand with the lowest cost energy available at any given time. The market runs an automated auction every day and every five minutes, across 9,700 price nodes, generating over 31,000 transactions a day.

EQUAL ACCESS

As the only independent grid operator in the western U.S., the ISO grants equal access to all participants, creating an economic based mechanism for diverse resources to compete in the power market.

THE ISO DEPLOYS STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY TO CONSISTENTLY BALANCE THE GRID

The ISO has no financial interest in any market segment and any power producer can sell energy to any buyer.

ENERGY IMBALANCE MARKET

The ISO’s commitment to equal access extends to neighbors across the West. The ISO created a market solution that gives western state utilities access to a real-time trading market and sophisticated optimization technology, allowing them to provide the lowest cost power to their customers. This solution, called the Energy Imbalance Market, has proven to reduce costs, promote greater use of renewable energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions for utilities in eight western states.

TRANSPARENCY

Another essential function of the ISO is to provide transparent information about the state of the electrical system and market prices. This information helps our customers effectively assess the economics of energy trading and manage the risks of participating in the wholesale market. The ISO provides thousands of data points every day using a variety of mechanisms, including over 100 automated systems, our website and our ISO Today mobile app.