

# Briefing on system market power assessment

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Board of Governors Meeting General Session July 24, 2019

#### Background

- The ISO balancing authority area has in the past been assumed to be competitive at a system-level
- Management committed to analyzing system-level market competiveness and addressing identified issues after DMM raised concerns in its 2017 annual report
- Management recently published analysis results and has begun discussing the appropriate next steps with stakeholders and the Market Surveillance Committee



ISO's analysis shows a relatively small number of hours that the ISO balancing area is not competitive at the system level.

- Analysis uses "residual supply index" test to evaluate competiveness
  - Evaluates whether load can be met without the three largest suppliers
- The ISO balancing area failed the test at the system level in about 2% of hours in 2018
- These failures generally occur during the net load peak hours when supply is tight
- Department of Monitoring metrics show increased pricecost markup in these same peak hours



### Residual supply index test failures mostly occur in the net load peak hours as solar output decreases.





## High ISO market prices typically occur when supply is tight.





### High day-ahead market prices occur when natural gas prices are high.



DMM Annual Report on Market Issues & Performance, 2018



#### A number of measures could address increased pricecost markup during times of tight supply.

- Load-serving entity forward energy contracting
  - Hedges load, reduces incentives for supply to bid high
- Bilateral procurement of additional resources to increase supply during net load peak
  - Additional energy storage could add supply during net load peak as solar output decreases
- Enhanced ISO market scarcity pricing provisions
- System-level market power mitigation in ISO market
  - Would address increased price-cost markups but could reduce import supply
  - Difficult to estimate costs of import supply



#### Next steps

- Continue discussions on the appropriate response with stakeholders and Market Surveillance Committee
  - July 15 stakeholder working group meeting
  - August 19 Market Surveillance Committee meeting
- Plan to brief the Board of Governors on determination of appropriate measures to address system market power concerns
  - Market Surveillance Committee will provide a written opinion on the appropriate response
  - Tentatively planned for November

