

## Decision Default Operations and Maintenance Costs

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The ISO has a made a commitment to review and update O&M values every three years.

- Utilicast performed a study including review and reconciliation of technical data, and benchmarking against other ISOs
- The study culminated in the recommendation of updated and more granular operations and maintenance values



# Default O&M values are used in the following calculations:

#### Proxy minimum load costs

ISO calculated minimum load costs used in unit commitment decisions and bid cost recovery calculations

#### **Default energy bids**

Cost based bids used to replace energy bids when a resource is determined to have local market power



### What are operations and maintenance costs?

- \$/MWh values intended to capture the variable, non-fuel costs associated with running a generating unit
  - raw water, waste and wastewater disposal expenses
  - demand charges and related utilities
  - chemicals, gases, and other such consumable materials and supplies
- Current values
  - \$4/MWh for combustion turbine and reciprocating engine resources
  - \$2/MWh for all other resources



Management recommends new default operations and maintenance cost values.

Generation Technology	Recommended O&M Cost Adder (\$/MWh)
Solar	\$0.00
Nuclear	\$1.00
Coal	\$2.00
Wind	\$2.00
Hydro	\$2.50
Combined Cycle, Steam	\$2.80
Geothermal	\$3.00
Landfill Gas	\$4.00
Combustion Turbine, Reciprocating Engine	\$4.80
Biomass	\$5.00



Stakeholders broadly support the proposal. Limited concerns about not including major maintenance costs.

- Major maintenance costs includes labor and parts associated with
  - Scheduled major overhauls
  - Plant maintenance that cannot be done while the unit is in commercial operation
- Some stakeholders posited that major maintenance be included in proxy start-up or proxy minimum load costs.
  - A stakeholder initiative to address this and other issues with commitment costs will start in January 2012



Management recommends that the updated operations and maintenance values be implemented.

- Stakeholders are supportive of the updated variable operations and maintenance cost adder values.
- The updated and more granular values better capture variable operations and maintenance costs used by the ISO.

