



News Release

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ISO 2011 budget down \$5.3 million in spite of challenging work load integrating diverse resources that accelerate state energy and environmental goals; Supports Five-Year Strategic Plan

FOLSOM, Calif. – The California Independent System Operator Corporation (ISO) Board of Governors today approved a 2011 budget that is lower than the current year's budget in spite of increased activities associated with reliably integrating renewable resources and opening the ISO energy market to demand response and storage technology.

The 2011 revenue requirement of \$189.8 million is \$5.3 million lower than 2010. Next year's grid management charge, the toll for wholesale users of the power grid, is 79 cents per megawatt hour. This is virtually unchanged from 2010 even though the sluggish economy is reducing the volume of electricity delivered on the grid. Volume in 2011 is estimated at 240 terawatt-hours, which is 2.4 percent below the 2010 budgeted volume.

As with most companies, the California ISO is keeping an eye on costs while working to improve services by ensuring efficient staffing levels and skills sets to meet current and future needs, scrutinizing expenses and managing investment and debt obligations.

"The 2011 budget reflects the pressing need to manage expenses," said ISO Chief Administrative Officer Nancy Saracino. "It takes innovation and flexibility to absorb the intense work necessary to open our market to diverse resources all the while maintaining a reliable and stable power grid."

The budget uses an activity-based costing approach that directly ties division budgets with the goals contained in the ISO 2011-2015 Five-Year Strategic Plan, which the Board also approved today. Find the Plan here: <http://www.caiso.com/2866/286671e137220.pdf>.

Created in close consultation with stakeholders, the 2011 budget process information is located at: <http://www.caiso.com/27b7/27b7dae667de0.html>.

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The California ISO operates the state's wholesale transmission grid, providing open and non-discriminatory access supported by a competitive energy market and comprehensive planning efforts. Partnering with more than 90 client organizations, the ISO is dedicated to the continual development and reliable operation of a modern grid that operates at the least cost to the benefit of consumers. The ISO bulk power market allocates space on transmission lines, maintains operating reserves and matches supply with demand. Recognizing the importance of global climate change, the ISO welcomes new, advanced technologies that will help meet the energy needs of 30 million Californians efficiently and cleanly. The ISO is a nonprofit public benefit corporation.