

News Release

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ISO to add Puget Sound Energy to the Energy Imbalance Market

PSE to join ISO, PacifiCorp and NV Energy to find mutual savings for their consumers

FOLSOM, Calif. / BELLEVUE, Wash. – The California Independent System Operator Corporation (ISO) and Puget Sound Energy (PSE) announced today that the Bellevue, Wash.-based energy company will begin participating in the Energy Imbalance Market (EIM) in October 2016.

“We are pleased Puget Sound Energy is moving to take advantage of the ISO’s western regional services and benefits — which increase for all market participants as new companies enter the EIM,” said ISO President and CEO Steve Berberich. “The greater number of EIM participants means the western grid customers benefit from lower costs and enhanced reliability as our technology automatically optimizes the grid, finds the lowest cost energy to meet demand over the western region.”

In addition to the savings expected for customers of EIM’s current participants, PSE’s economic analysis indicates benefits of between \$18 million to \$30 million a year by taking advantage of the EIM intra-hour power scheduling and plant dispatching capabilities. Furthermore, existing EIM participants yield additional benefits of nearly \$4 million annually as a result of PSE’s participation. The ISO and Portland-based PacifiCorp, which participated in the launch of EIM on Nov. 1, 2014, realized nearly \$6 million in benefits combined over the first two months of its EIM participation (check [here](#) to read more).

“The ISO Energy Imbalance Market will help us deliver the reliability and savings that are important to our electric customers,” said David Mills, PSE’s Vice President of Energy Operations. “Our studies show that participating in the ISO Energy Imbalance Market will help us enhance system reliability and offer economic savings through lower production costs.”

Using the EIM’s real-time market allows PSE to purchase the lowest cost energy available across the West to meet their customer’s needs. It can also move lower cost energy to other EIM participants, which currently includes the ISO and PacifiCorp. Las Vegas-based NV Energy is scheduled to begin participation this October. I. By year’s end, the EIM will encompass seven western states – California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Utah, Idaho and Wyoming.

In addition to the operational benefits, the EIM manages the influx of renewable resources, such as wind and solar, and takes advantage of local differences. This can help maximize the use of renewable resources across a larger region. EIM participants also gain the advantage of being able to understand current grid conditions across many systems. This further builds opportunities to optimize resources and/or strengthen reliability of energy delivery.

PSE was first established in 1873 as the Seattle Gas Light Company and now serves over one million electric consumers in 10 Washington state counties. PSE will now focus efforts on preparing its grid systems to interface with the EIM network.

For more information on EIM, visit the ISO's Energy Imbalance Market [overview webpage](#).

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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.	

Puget Sound Energy is Washington state's oldest local energy company.
We serve 1.1 million electric customers and more than 770,000 natural gas customers in 10 counties.
For more information, visit pse.com. Also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).