

News Release

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Western EIM produces significant savings despite low demand

Expanded real-time market also displaced more than 10,000 tons of emissions

FOLSOM, Calif. – The western Energy Imbalance Market (EIM) welcomed two new participants to the real-time marketplace last fall that positively contributed to the fourth quarter’s realized benefits, even though demand was lower throughout the region, the California Independent System Operator (ISO) announced today.

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) of Washington state and Arizona Public Service (APS) entered the EIM in October 2016. Demand in the EIM area is generally lower in the fall; a similar trend was noted in the results for Q4 2015 when NV Energy joined the EIM.

The western EIM produced benefits of \$28.26* million in the fourth quarter of 2016. The benefits since the real-time market was launched in November 2014 now total \$142.62 million. The EIM also displaced about 10,011 metric tons of CO2 emissions from less clean resources by using surplus renewable energy from California that otherwise would have gone unused, according to the fourth quarter report.

“We continue to see growing energy savings to consumers in the West,” said ISO President and CEO Steve Berberich. “We are pleased with the continued growth of the market and interest from prospective participants.”

NV Energy total benefits in Q4 2016 were \$3.07 million. PacifiCorp saw benefits of \$8.99 million, while the ISO realized \$8.66* million. APS realized benefits of \$5.98 million while PSE benefits reached \$1.56 million. Both APS and PSE began EIM participation on Oct.1, 2016.

The EIM uses state-of-art technology to automatically optimize the real-time grid and find low-cost energy regardless of its location to serve consumers in Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. In addition, Portland General Electric will enter the EIM in October 2017 followed by Idaho Power in April 2018 and Seattle City Light in April 2019. The Balancing Area of Northern California/Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) and the El Centro Nacional de Control de Energía (CENACE) have separately announced their intention to enter or explore entering the EIM.

Another benefit comes from lessening the amount of energy reserves utilities must carry as they can lean upon resources outside of their service area to serve their load at less cost.

Click [here](#) to see more about the EIM and read the full report.

* Corrected ISO quarterly results to account for daylight savings time

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