

March 11, 2004

Attn: Commission's Docket Office California Public Utilities Commission 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Docket # R.01-10-024, Order Instituting Rulemaking to Establish Policies and Cost Recovery Mechanisms for Generation Procurement and Renewable Resource Development

Dear Clerk:

Enclosed for filing please find an original and five copies of the Reply Comments of The California Independent System Operator Corporation on the Resource Adequacy Workshops in Docket # R. 01-10-024. Please date stamp one copy and return to California ISO in the self-addressed stamped envelope provided.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gene L. Waas 'Regulatory Counsel

Cc: Attached Service List

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Establish Policies and Cost Recovery Mechanisms for Generation Procurement and Renewable Resource Development

R.01-10-024

REPLY COMMENTS OF THE CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR CORPORATION ON THE RESOURCE ADEQUACY WORKSHOPS

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Dated: March 11, 2004

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I. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the Assigned Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) Ruling On
The Scope And Schedule Of Resource Adequacy Workshops ("Workshops Ruling"), the
California Independent System Operator Corporation ("ISO") respectfully submits its
Reply Comments¹ on the Resource Adequacy Workshops.

II. PROCESS ISSUES

The California Energy Commission ("CEC") suggests the following two modifications to the workshop process: (1) a comment opportunity should be provided for the workshop report after it is filed or a draft of the report should be circulated to participants and the views of the participants should be incorporated either as changes to the draft recommendations or as alternate positions; and (2) alternate workshop dates that span a reasonable period of time should be developed. CEC Comments at 3. San Diego

Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning set forth in the Master Definitions Supplement, Appendix A to the ISO Tariff.

Gas & Electric Company ("SDG&E") recommends that the California Public Utilities

Commission ("CPUC") devote more time to resolving the issues scheduled for

consideration in the workshop process. SDG&E Comments at 1. The ISO supports these
recommendations. In combination with the ISO's earlier recommendation to establish a

priority order to the list of issues, adoption of the CEC's and SDG&E's recommendations

will result in a more effective workshop process that will allow fair and adequate vetting

of the issues.

III. LOAD FORECASTING ISSUES

The Alliance for Retail Energy Markets ("AREM") recommends a "bottoms up" approach to load forecasting with each load serving entity ("LSE") being responsible for forecasting its peak loads. AREM Comments at 4. Pacific Gas & Electric Company ("PG&E") also argues that LSEs should be responsible for forecasting their own non-coincident peak loads. PG&E Comments at 4. In a similar vein, the CEC believes that no party other than an Energy Service Provider ("ESP") can accurately forecast the ESP's load. CEC Comments at 4.

The ISO supports the concept that LSEs should be responsible for forecasting the loads they serve because LSEs are in the best position to do so. In addition, LSEs will need their non-coincident load forecast for purposes such as grid planning. However, the ISO notes that LSE forecasts are inherently focused on a portion of the system load that may peak at different times of the year. Therefore, such individual LSE forecasts must be reconciled to a system-wide forecast and correlated to a coincident peak forecast.

PG&E states that calculation of an LSE-specific coincidence factor is best left to the ISO or the CEC. PG&E comments at 10. This concept was further supported by

Southern California Edison Company ("SCE"), which stated that, with proper analysis and data, an average diversity factor can be determined. SCE comments at 4. The ISO supports this concept because it will permit the ISO and/or the CEC to develop a method to reconcile the LSE non-coincident peaks such that they will be consistent with a system-wide coincident peak load forecast. As the ISO indicated in its Opening Comments (p.11), a coincident peak-based methodology is appropriate because, *inter alia*, such methodology is consistent with the historical approach to integrated planning. The ISO also agrees with PG&E that LSEs, the CPUC, the CEC and the ISO should use consistent assumptions, and develop a process to reconcile significant forecast differences.

IV. COUNTING ISSUES

AREM states that consistency should be a guiding principal in developing standards and criteria for counting resources. AREM Comments at 11. AREM also states that a forward contract held by an ESP should count toward the ESP's resource adequacy requirements to the same extent that a similar contract would count toward a utility's resource adequacy requirements. AREM Comments at 13.

The ISO agrees that consistent standards should apply to all LSEs, utilities and ESPs alike. In that way, all LSE's will be providing their proportionate and appropriate share of resources to serve load plus operating reserves.

PG&E suggests that system or non-unit specific power is more reliable than unit specific power because of the diversity of the portfolio supporting a specific transaction and the financial backing of the supplier. PG&E Comments at 17.

The ISO is concerned about this notion. First, the objective of resource adequacy is to ensure adequate resources are committed to California load. The lack of unit specificity will make it impossible to determine whether the capacity is committed elsewhere. Second, the lack of unit specificity will not allow for an effective deliverability assessment. Third, the supplier may be anticipating it can purchase the necessary capacity in the ISO spot market. As far as the ISO is aware, none of the other functioning capacity markets, or markets where there is a capacity obligation, facilitates a portfoliobased approach to capacity adequacy. Finally, whenever one introduces a financial incentive to perform in one manner or another, unintended consequences invariably occur. For example, in a true regional scarcity situation, a supplier with a liquidated damages provision in its contract may decide that it is financially advantageous to not perform under its contract and sell to another third party willing to cover those costs. This is exactly the outcome California needs to avoid – California needs capacity that is firmly committed to California load. A reliance on financial arrangements such as liquidated damages to ensure resource adequacy is not prudent at this point in time.

SCE states, "[s]ystem purchases should be allowed to the extent that seller can verify sufficient resources exist to satisfy all their sale obligations through firm liquidated damages contracts or by demonstration of a physical portfolio of resources". SCE Comments at 17. In the ISO's opinion, there should be a showing that there are physical resources supporting the contract, as well as a specified point of delivery. As further described above, the mere existence of a liquidated damages provision is insufficient because such provision does not ensure that the capacity will be available, *e.g.* the contract supplier may be anticipating that it can buy capacity in the ISO spot market.

Consequently, this creates an explicit opportunity for "free-riding" on the capacity procured by other LSEs².

Finally, SDG&E states, "[a]s a general matter, spot capacity should not be counted for purposes of the reserve requirement calculation. Only capacity for which the utility has contractual or ownership rights should be counted". SDG&E Comments at 10. The ISO agrees with SDG&E that, as a general matter, spot capacity should not be counted for purposes satisfying the reserve requirement calculation. Only capacity for which the utility has contractual or ownership rights should be counted. There is no guarantee that specific spot capacity will be available on a given day.

V. DELIVERABILITY ISSUES

AREM states that the fact that a contract does not specify a delivery point does not diminish the deliverability of the resources behind the contract. AREM Comments at 15. The ISO disagrees with that conclusion. A LSE cannot confirm a resource's deliverability without knowledge of the specific resources and the anticipated point of delivery. Further, while a LSE may believe there is sufficient transmission to meet its needs, other LSEs may be relying on the same transmission in their plans, and the "same" transmission may not be able to meet the LSE's aggregate needs. This is the reason why the ISO has recommended that it perform the system-wide deliverability assessment based on the specific plans of each LSE.

PG&E states that for QFs located outside of the control area, PG&E either has transmission arrangements or access to sufficient transmission to deliver QF power to

It essentially results in certain LSEs "leaning" on other LSEs without having to pay any cost for doing so and therefore an inappropriate form of cross-subsidization. See ISO Opening Comments at 11

6

load. PG&E Comments at 16. The ISO agrees with this concept, otherwise the deliverability of the resource could be in question.

PG&E also states that resource deliverability is satisfied when it can be shown that there is enough network transmission capacity to adequately transfer the amount of resources needed to support the LSE's resource requirement under normal conditions during the monthly peak hours. PG&E Comments at 22. This concept is consistent with the deliverability proposal of the ISO. ISO Opening Comments at 18-19.

The ISO agrees with SDG&E that deliverability needs to be addressed on a statewide basis and consistent with the ISO's rules. The ISO also agrees with SCE that there should be uniform deliverability standards for all contracts. Deliverability is assessed in two timeframes. First, in the long-forward market, each LSE should demonstrate, and the ISO should validate, that the resources LSEs have procured are deliverable to load. In its opening comments, the ISO summarized a three-pronged approach for performing such an analysis. Second, when resources are scheduled or otherwise made available to the ISO in the day-ahead timeframe, the ISO performs another validation of deliverability, *i.e.*, congestion management. Each of these assessments should be performed on a comparable basis, with the goal being to ensure "simultaneous feasibility". To achieve such an outcome, the ISO must examine all transmission elements on the system, not just in one LSE's area. Because deliverability must be assessed, in the first instance, on a *system*-wide basis and under a given set of *system* conditions, it is appropriate that each LSE's portfolio of resources be evaluated on that same basis.

SCE states that the ISO will identify local generation requirements for local reliability problems. SCE Comments at 13. The ISO agrees. This was one of the three elements of the ISO's proposal regarding deliverability. *See* ISO Opening Comments at 20-21.

Further, SCE states "[t]o meet the Commission's Resource Adequacy
Requirement, those resources should be able to demonstrate that they can deliver into the
ISO system to meet peak load. SCE Comments at 24. Resources already within ISO (*i.e.*,
participating generator agreements with the ISO) should be deemed deliverable.
Resources outside the ISO would need to demonstrate deliverability to the load the
resource is counting towards.

The ISO is concerned that deeming resources already in the ISO Control Area as deliverable would be problematic for two reasons. First, some generators currently within the ISO Control Area are not fully deliverable during system peak conditions. Second, FERC Order 2003, Paragraph 768 requires that new generators analyzed for deliverability should be analyzed "in the same manner as the [existing ISO Control Area resources] ... for purposes of assessing whether aggregate supply is sufficient to meet aggregate load within the Transmission Provider's Control Area". Therefore, deeming all existing resources as deliverable would implicitly deem all future resources to be deliverable. This would overstate the ability for all resources declared as capacity resources to be deliverable to the system aggregate load. While, in the end, the ISO acknowledges that certain accommodations may be necessary and appropriate during a transition period, the ISO recommends that the deliverability of each resource or portfolio of resources be assessed so as to ascertain the potential cost consequences of deeming

such resource(s) deliverable. Such a transparent process is necessary in order to avoid the hidden or opaque cross-subsidies that exist today (*i.e.*, real-time Intra-Zonal Congestion costs that are allocated to all load in a given area as opposed to the specific entities that cause such congestion).

VI. PHASE-IN OF THE RESOURCE ADEQUACY REQUIREMENT

With respect to the phase-in of the reserve requirement, SDG&E and SCE recommend a linear phase-in starting with a nine percent reserve requirement in 2005. SDG&E Comments at 3; SCE Comments at 6. Pacific Gas & Electric Company ("PG&E") argues that the appropriate starting point for phasing in the reserve requirement is the equivalent amount of planning reserves required for 2004. For PG&E, that figure is ten percent. PG&E Comments at 14.

The ISO supports PG&E's recommendation. As the ISO indicated in its Opening Comments, the minimum starting level for the planning reserve margin should be set at a minimum level of 10 percent for 2005 in order to account for the lowest quantity of forced outages, thereby establishing an adequate level of resources that are available for operation during the summer months. ISO Opening Comments at 22.

SCE states that a "Reserve Margin of one year advance may be sufficient". SCE defines "a year in advance" to be a calendar year prior to the summer month in question. For example, to meet the resource adequacy requirement for May 2008, the LSE will forward contract 90% of its peak demand plus 15% reserve margin prior to the end of 2007." SCE Comments at 8. In other words, SCE is saying that the LSE must demonstrate by December 31, 2007 the reserves that it will have for May 2008.

The ISO disagrees with SCE. Committing reserves in December is not one year in advance; it is only four months prior to the summer months as they were defined by the Initial Order (May through September). That is inconsistent with the intent of the CPUC's interim order. The ISO believes that this "shrinkage" in the amount of time that LSEs are required to forward commitment will significantly reduce the benefits and flexibility in meeting the requirement. For example, the LSE will be taking much greater risk that sufficient hydro resources will be known by waiting until December, of the preceding year, than by the CPUC intended deadline of April of the prior year. This risk would result in significantly higher prices for capacity that was still available after April, but prior to December, because fewer options remain available to the LSE.

VII. AVAILABILITY OF SPOT ENERGY AND CAPACITY

SCE raises the issue of whether it is in the long-term best interests of California ratepayers to rely on uncommitted surpluses forecast in other states in the WECC. SCE Comments at 8. The ISO supports the notion that there should not be any reliance on uncommitted surpluses in other states. The ISO has continued to voice its concern that surpluses outside of California do not meet the reliability objectives of an effective resource adequacy framework because they are more likely to serve local load than be exported to California. Therefore, without a contractual commitment, the "appearance" of surplus resources can quickly vanish.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The ISO agrees with most of the comments regarding the scope of the reporting obligation. For example, the ISO agrees with AREM that a standard, straight-forward

load report be developed for ESPs to report their estimated aggregate peak loads. AREM Comments at 4. This should be provided at least one year in advance and include information as to which resources the ESP has procured to meet its load plus the 15%-17% planning reserve margin.

The ISO also agrees with the CEC that the ISO needs to receive the annual reports and any intra-year updates. For example, a well-designed resource adequacy requirement should require LSEs to report contracted-for capacity available for use by the ISO. ISO Opening Comments at 8. Such a requirement will ensure that (1) the ISO can operate the grid reliably, (2) resources procured by the LSEs are utilized by the ISO to meet operational requirements and (3) costs are not unnecessarily increased. Finally, as proposed by PG&E, each LSE should report to the CPUC and the ISO for a rolling five-year period the LSE's summer month load and the resources that the LSE has forward contracted with to meet the planning reserve requirement. PG&E Comments at 23.

IX. PENALTIES

SDG&E contends that penalties for failing to satisfy resource adequacy obligations is one detail that is best addressed through the ISO's mechanisms under the CPUC's framework. SDG&E Comments at 13. Further, SDG&E states that close coordination between the CPUC and the ISO in the process is necessary. In particular, SDG&E states that the "ISO needs to occupy a key, centralized role in the ultimate resource adequacy framework that emerges from this process" and the rules adopted by the CPUC "must be aligned with the ISO's operations, particularly in the areas of counting resources, reporting and penalties." SDG&E Comments at 2.

The ISO agrees with SDG&E. The ISO, unlike the CPUC, is in a position to enforce the resource adequacy requirement for all LSEs in the control area. In addition, it is likely that the ISO will develop resource adequacy requirements for LSEs that are in the ISO's Control Area but which are not subject to the CPUC's jurisdiction. Therefore, it is essential for the CPUC and ISO to work together in working out the details of an appropriate enforcement mechanism for resource adequacy.

Further, in the ISO's Opening Comments, the ISO delineated two timeframes³ that have emerged with regard to an effective enforcement mechanism. In both these instances, it appears the ISO will have an integral role. In the first instance, the CPUC and CAISO would review the utility and LSE plans to determine whether they have satisfied their capacity obligation for each of the summer months. In the second instance, the ISO will have information that results from real-time operations that may be the basis for determining whether an LSE was resource adequate in real-time.

X. MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

AREM states that the CPUC intends for certain resource adequacy requirements to apply to LSEs while it intends for other requirements to apply only to utilities. AREM Comments at 9.

The ISO generally believes that any resource adequacy requirement should be consistently applied to all LSEs in the ISO Control Area. Such an approach will ensure

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The ISO proposes that the CPUC recognize two time periods for which it will establish penalties for the inadequate procurement of capacity by the utilities. First, the Interim Order established an explicit annual obligation to procure 90% of the resource adequacy requirement, load plus planning reserves, for the summer months of May through September. Second, the Interim Order placed a "soft" cap on utility purchases in the spot market of 5%. Thus, the Interim Order essentially established an implicit requirement that utilities and LSEs "close the capacity gap" between the 90% annual obligation and 100% of real time needs.

that all LSE's will compete on a level playing field and that LSEs will not be able to unfairly "lean" on the reserves that other LSEs have procured and are paying the costs.

XI. CONCLUSION

As discussed herein and in the ISO's Opening Comments, the ISO respectfully urges the CPUC to adopt the ISO's recommendations on the workshop issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 11, 2004

PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on March 11, 2004 I served, by electronic and U.S. mail, Reply Comments of The California Independent System Operator Corporation on the Resource Adequacy Workshops in Docket # R. 01-10-024.

DATED at Folsom, California on March 11, 2004.

Karen Voong

An Employee of the California Independent System Operator

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