UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.  )  Docket No. EL18-34-000

Motion for Leave to Reply and Reply of Joint Commenters


The Commission’s December Order\(^3\) initiating this proceeding provided for initial briefs, which PJM filed on February 13, 2018, and reply briefs, which the Joint Commenters and others filed on March 14, 2018.\(^4\) The Commission did not provide an opportunity for answers to the reply briefs, and the Commission’s Rule 213 prohibits answers to replies without leave of the Commission, which PJM did not request in its April 19 answer. To the extent the Commission

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\(^1\) 18 C.F.R. § 385.213.

\(^2\) Answer of PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., Docket No. EL18-34-000, filed Apr. 19, 2018 (“PJM Answer”).

\(^3\) PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., 161 FERC ¶ 61,295 (2017) (“December Order”).

\(^4\) Reply Brief of Joint Commenters, Docket No. EL18-34-000, filed March 14, 2018 (“Joint Commenters Reply Brief”).
nevertheless accepts PJM’s Answer, good cause exists to accept this further reply to ensure a full and complete record.\(^5\)

In our March 14 reply brief, the Joint Commenters demonstrated that the two-hour time horizon analyzed by PJM’s real-time dispatch tool, the Intermediate Term Security Constrained Economic Dispatch application (“IT SCED”), actually undermines rather than supports PJM’s proposal to expand the definition of fast-start resources to units with a start-up and minimum run time of two hours or less.\(^6\) In its Answer, PJM contends that the Joint Commenters’ “argument is based on a misunderstanding of how the IT SCED application functions.”\(^7\) PJM asserts that “[t]he IT SCED looks out at least four hours and fifteen minutes in total to capture the entire commitment period for a resource with a two hour time to start and a two hour minimum run time.”\(^8\) PJM therefore argues that our comments to the contrary should be dismissed.

PJM has failed to acknowledge, much less explain, this departure from its own description of IT SCED in its February 13 brief. There, PJM stated:

Specifically, PJM’s real-time dispatch tool known as the Intermediate Term Security Constrained Economic Dispatch (“IT SCED”) application is an integral component of PJM real-time applications. As Mr. Pilong states: “The IT SCED application is a **two hour look-ahead** optimization engine with an objective function to provide the least cost solution to meet projected load, reserve requirements and interchange, while ensuring all transmission system constraints are maintained within limits.” The IT SCED application provides resource commitment recommendations to system operators to maintain reliability and calculates the projected energy dispatch and reserve trajectory for multiple intervals over a **two-hour look-ahead** period. As Mr. Pilong explains, the **two-hour look ahead** is used because PJM “has determined that the most accurate


\(^6\) Joint Commenters Reply Brief at pgs. 6-9.

\(^7\) PJM Answer at pgs. 4-5.

\(^8\) *Id* at pg. 5.
reflection of what the system will look like, while providing some lead time, is two hours.”[9]

As noted in those statements, PJM’s dispatch Director described IT SCED as operating within a two-hour look-ahead horizon. Specifically, Mr. Pilong stated:

By design, IT SCED tool only looks at system conditions two hours out to arrive at a recommendation that is most likely to meet actual system conditions. That is, PJM has determined that the most accurate reflection of what the system will look like, while providing some lead time, is two hours.10

Mr. Pilong’s description of IT SCED is corroborated by affidavits submitted by other commenters, such as the PJM Power Providers Group (with Robert Stoddard attesting that “PJM has used a two-hour scheduling window in its real-time commitment software for many years and views its ability to respond to short-term unforeseen needs within that timeframe”11) and Exelon Company (with Michael Schnitzer attesting that “PJM’s real-time unit commitment software, IT-SCED, looks at system conditions two hours out to make real-time unit commitment decisions….”12).

These various sworn statements are further corroborated by PJM’s own manuals and other materials. For example, Manual 11 states that IT SCED utilizes a “1-2 hour look-ahead period”.13

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9 PJM Brief at pgs. 14-15 (emphasis added; internal citations omitted).
10 PJM Brief, Pilong Affidavit at P 7 (emphasis added).
11 Reply Brief of the PJM Power Providers Group, Stoddard Affidavit at P 30, Docket No. EL18-34-000, filed March 14, 2018 (emphasis added).
12 Reply Brief of Exelon Corporation, Schnitzer Testimony at pg. 7, Docket No. EL18-34-000, filed March 14, 2018 (emphasis added).
This description is consistent with the summary of IT SCED that PJM has provided to market participants:\textsuperscript{14}

And that summary is consistent with the training materials used by PJM to test stakeholders’ knowledge of IT SCED, which state that the application’s time range is two hours:\textsuperscript{15}

Given these repeated statements by PJM and others that IT SCED provides a two-hour look-ahead to PJM dispatchers, it is somewhat curious for PJM to claim in its April 19 answer that there has been “an incorrect understanding of how the IT SCED application functions” and that, in actuality, “IT SCED looks out at least four hours and fifteen minutes.”\textsuperscript{16} PJM has failed to


\textsuperscript{15} Quizlet, PJM GEN101 How PJM Ops & Dispatches (available at https://quizlet.com/9632724/pjm-gen101-how-pjm-ops-dispatches-flash-cards/).

\textsuperscript{16} PJM Answer at pgs. 4-5.
reconcile these statements with its own prior filing and affidavit in this proceeding, much less the affidavits and other PJM materials noted above.

As the Joint Commenters explained in our March 14 reply, the December Order carefully – and intentionally – limited the set of resources eligible for fast-start pricing to ensure that locational marginal prices in PJM’s energy markets reflect the marginal cost of serving load. PJM has not justified departing from the one-hour definition of fast-start resources adopted in that order. The Joint Commenters therefore reaffirm our request that, should the Commission take final action on the December Order, PJM’s attempts to expand the scope of resources eligible for fast start pricing be rejected.

Respectfully submitted,

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May 8, 2018
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Rule 2010 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, I, W. Mason Emnett, certify that on this day, I emailed or mailed, postage prepaid, a copy of the foregoing document to all parties on the official service list.

Dated at Washington, D.C. this 8th day of May, 2018.

/s/ W. Mason Emnett
Senior FERC Counsel