

STATE OF ILLINOIS

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

Commonwealth Edison Company)	
)	
Proposal to implement a competitive)	Docket No. 05-0159
procurement process by establishing)	
Rider CPP, Rider PPO-MVM,)	
Rider TS-CPP and revising)	
Rider PPO-MI.)	

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ROBERT M. FAGAN
ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD
AND THE COOK COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

CUB-CCSAO EXHIBIT 1.0

June 8, 2005

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
ROBERT M. FAGAN**

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1 **DOCKET NO. 05-0159**
2 **BEFORE THE ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**
3 **DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ROBERT M. FAGAN**
4 **ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD**
5 **AND THE COOK COUNTY STATE’S ATTORNEY’S OFFICE**

6 **I. INTRODUCTION**

7 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, OCCUPATION, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

8 A. My name is Robert M. Fagan. I am a Senior Associate at Synapse Energy
9 Economics, Inc., 22 Pearl Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 02139.

10 **Q. ON WHOSE BEHALF DID YOU PREPARE THIS PREFILED TESTIMONY?**

11 A. I prepared this testimony on behalf of the Citizens Utility Board and the Office of the
12 Cook County State’s Attorney.

13 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND**
14 **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND.**

15 A. I am an energy economics analyst and mechanical engineer with 19 years of
16 experience in the energy industry. My work has focused primarily on electric power
17 industry issues, especially economic and technical analysis of competitive electricity
18 markets development, electric power transmission pricing structures, and assessment
19 and implementation of demand-side resource alternatives. Prior to joining Synapse
20 Energy Economics in December 2004, I was employed at Tabors Caramanis &
21 Associates for eight years and Charles River Associates for four years. I hold an
22 M.A. from Boston University in Energy and Environmental Studies and a B.S. from
23 Clarkson University in Mechanical Engineering. Details of my experience are
24 provided in Exhibit 1.1.

25 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THE ILLINOIS**
26 **COMMERCE COMMISSION?**

27 A. No.

28 **Q. HAVE YOU TESTIFIED BEFORE OTHER REGULATORY BODIES OR**
29 **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES ON RELATED WHOLESALE MARKET**
30 **ISSUES?**

31 A. Yes. I testified before the Texas Public Utilities Commission on stranded cost issues,
32 which encompassed both wholesale and retail market considerations during the
33 transition to a competitive market. I have submitted testimony on Open Access
34 Transmission Tariff issues in Nova Scotia, and I have submitted joint testimony in
35 Maine on transmission capacity reservation needs. I testified on transmission tariff
36 and transmission system code issues in Ontario and Alberta. In all of those
37 jurisdictions, the structure of the impending (Ontario, Nova Scotia) and existing
38 (Texas, Alberta, Maine) competitive wholesale and retail markets was germane to my
39 testimony.

40 I also testified orally before the Illinois House Electric Utility Oversight
41 Committee on May 3, 2005 on issues similar to those as I address in this testimony.

42 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

43 A. The purpose of my testimony is to examine the wholesale electricity market
44 environment in which the proposed ComEd basic utility service (“BUS”) auctions
45 would take place, recognizing that the foundation for a successful procurement
46 requires a well-functioning, fully competitive wholesale market. I identify the

47 shortcomings of the post-2006-period wholesale market structure in the Northern
48 Illinois (“NI”) region of PJM, and I highlight the many price-influencing uncertainties
49 that exist.

50 **Q. HOW IS YOUR TESTIMONY ORGANIZED?**

51 A. The introductory section includes a brief statement of my qualifications and a purpose
52 statement. I then summarize the major points of my testimony. This follows with a
53 section describing the high generation ownership concentration in Northern Illinois. I
54 next address the immaturity of the Midwest Regional Transmission Organization’s
55 (“MISO”) spot energy markets, and describe the impact of the PJM-MISO “seam.” I
56 then address the current state of FERC’s review of market-based rate authority
57 applications. Lastly, I describe the role of the PJM and MISO RTO in mitigation of
58 the exercise of market power and recommend strengthening the mitigation policies of
59 each.

60 **II. SUMMARY**

61 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY.**

62 A. First, I show that generation capacity and energy supply concentration in the Northern
63 Illinois region in post-2006 coupled with the pending expiration of the existing
64 ComEd-Exelon contracts for BUS supply will result in the ability of Northern Illinois
65 generation suppliers to exercise market power at times, leading to wholesale market
66 prices that do not reflect competitive market outcomes.

67 I describe how the inescapable fact of the underlying generation ownership
68 concentration will influence the pricing strategies of all auction participants,

69 regardless of how many suppliers participate in the proposed auction. The presence
70 of a concentrated supply market in Northern Illinois will influence the PJM spot
71 prices in the Northern Illinois region, thereby influencing auction participant
72 perceptions of the value of power available for purchase, in turn exerting upward
73 pressure on the BUS procurement auction “offer” prices (or bids made by the
74 participants to supply BUS) and leading to higher auction clearing prices. The ability
75 of Northern Illinois generation to drive up PJM Northern Illinois prices will be
76 present during times in which transmission constraints restrict the ability of non-
77 Northern Illinois suppliers to effectively compete with Northern Illinois-based
78 suppliers.

79 Second, I describe how the relative immaturity of the MISO spot energy
80 markets and the insufficient scope of capacity and ancillary service structures in
81 MISO result in a high level of uncertainty concerning the competitiveness of the
82 MISO spot energy markets. This in turn impacts the ability of potential auction
83 participants to secure competitively priced supplies from the MISO region for
84 delivery to the Northern Illinois region, reducing the degree of competition available
85 for supplying BUS in the Northern Illinois region.

86 Third, I show how the “seam” between PJM and MISO presents a barrier to
87 effective trade between the regions, illustrating that the seam runs directly across
88 Illinois, separating the wholesale electric markets in Northern Illinois from those in
89 Southern Illinois, and thereby denying Northern Illinois residents the benefits of a
90 cohesive, integrated wholesale marketplace for electricity purchase by prospective
91 retail suppliers.

92 Fourth, I describe the highly uncertain state of the criteria to be used by FERC
93 in the post-2006 timeframe to determine if an entity has market power, noting that
94 current rules are expressly “interim” in nature and may change pending the outcome
95 of FERC’s current proceeding on this issue. I explain that existing FERC-granted
96 market-based rate authority for Midwest Generation, and Exelon’s pending
97 application to FERC for such authority are premised on conditions that will not exist
98 in Northern Illinois in post-2006, and therefore such authority or pending authority
99 does not lead to any conclusions about the potential for exercise of market power in
100 Northern Illinois in post-2006.

101 Fifth, I point out why existing market monitoring and mitigation rules in place
102 in PJM and MISO are insufficient to address the potential exercise of wholesale
103 market power and the resulting increase in prices likely to be seen in the proposed
104 auction.

105 Lastly, I state here that I support the recommendations made by William
106 Steinhurst in his testimony in this proceeding.

107

107 **III. NORTHERN ILLINOIS GENERATION OWNERSHIP CONCENTRATION**

108 **Q. WHAT ISSUE DO YOU ADDRESS IN THIS SECTION OF YOUR**
109 **TESTIMONY?**

110 A. I examine the generation ownership concentration in the Northern Illinois region and
111 the potential for the exercise of market power. Using data from a recent Exelon
112 FERC filing, along with transmission import capability information, I compute
113 installed capacity market shares and generation capacity ownership concentration
114 using the Herfindahl-Hirschman Index (HHI). I also review generation energy and
115 capacity ownership concentration indices in the Northern Illinois region based on
116 reports from the PJM Market Monitoring Unit.

117 **Q. WHAT IS GENERATION MARKET POWER?**

118 A. Simply stated, a generation supplier has the ability to exercise generation market
119 power when its actions have the effect of raising prices (in any applicable market, e.g.
120 capacity and energy) above competitive levels for a significant period of time.¹
121 These actions include some form of physical withholding of supply; or some form of
122 strategic bidding or economic withholding, wherein the offer prices for available
123 supply are raised above marginal costs. In a perfectly competitive market, no
124 supplier has the ability to exercise market power; all suppliers are “price takers” at all

¹ For a broad overview of market power in electricity markets, see, for example, *Horizontal Market Power in Restructured Electricity Markets*, US Department of Energy, Office of Economic, Electricity and Natural Gas Analysis, Office of Policy, March 2000. Also, see *Understanding Competitive Pricing and Market Power in Wholesale Electricity Markets*, PWP-067, Severin Borenstein, University of California Energy Institute, August 1999.

125 times. However, in a concentrated supply market, there is a greater likelihood that
126 market power can be exercised.

127 **Q. WHY IS THE OWNERSHIP CONCENTRATION RELEVANT?**

128 A. Concentration of generation ownership gives a supplier or a group of suppliers the
129 ability to either physically or economically withhold generation, resulting in clearing
130 prices higher than those expected in a competitive market. This is the exercise of
131 market power. Physical withholding of generation is when a supplier or suppliers
132 reduce the availability of generation to sell or schedule into the physical marketplace,
133 or spot markets. Economic withholding is when a supplier or suppliers increase
134 (above marginal cost) the price at which they are willing to sell into the spot
135 marketplace. In either of these instances, the spot market clearing price will be above
136 the clearing price that would have resulted in a competitive market and the generation
137 owner or owners -- and other spot market suppliers -- will earn greater revenues than
138 they would have earned in a competitive market.

139 **Q. WHAT EFFECT WILL THE POTENTIAL FOR HIGHER SPOT MARKET
140 PRICES HAVE ON THE PROPOSED AUCTION?**

141 A. Clearing prices in the proposed auction logically will be influenced by auction
142 participants' perceptions of spot market prices. Auction "winners" likely will supply
143 at least some fraction of their BUS obligation from the spot market. In the extreme, a
144 "financial" auction participant not willing to secure long-term supplies could elect to
145 supply all BUS obligations from the spot market.

146 **Q. WHAT IS THE HERFINDAHL-HIRSCHMAN INDEX OF**
147 **CONCENTRATION?**

148 A. The HHI is a broad measure of ownership concentration. Its calculation is based on
149 the weighted market shares² of individual companies in a defined market area. The
150 HHI can be used to gauge whether or not a market might be susceptible to market
151 power abuse.

152 **Q. CAN THE HHI BE USED AS A “BRIGHT LINE” TEST FOR MARKET**
153 **POWER?**

154 A. No. However, the FERC Merger Policy Statement³, adapted from the Department of
155 Justice / Federal Trade Commission Merger Guidelines⁴, uses three threshold levels
156 of HHI to gauge market concentration. A market with an HHI below 1000 is said to
157 be unconcentrated. A market with an HHI between 1000 and 1800 is said to be
158 moderately concentrated. And a market with an HHI above 1800 is said to be highly
159 concentrated.

160 **Q. CAN YOU SUMMARIZE HOW CONCENTRATION RATIOS CAN**
161 **INDICATE THE POTENTIAL FOR MARKET POWER ABUSE?**

162 A. Yes. I refer to the PJM MMU 2004 State of the Market Report for a good summary
163 statement of this issue:

² The HHI is computed as the sum of the squares of company market shares. Thus, a market with 5 equally sized firms (each with 20% share of the market) has an HHI equal to $(20)^2 + (20)^2 + (20)^2 + (20)^2 + (20)^2 = 2000$. A market with a single supplier has an HHI = 10,000 (=100²). A market with 20 equally-sized firms has an HHI of $(5)^2 \times 20 = 500$.

³ FERC Order 592, Inquiry Concerning the Commission's Merger Policy Under the Federal Power Act: Policy Statement, December 18, 1996.

164 “Concentration ratios are a summary measure of market share, a
165 key element of market structure. High concentration ratios mean
166 that a comparatively small number of sellers dominate a market,
167 while low concentration ratios mean that a larger number of sellers
168 share market sales more equally. Concentration measures must be
169 applied carefully in assessing the competitiveness of markets. Low
170 aggregate market concentration ratios do not establish that a
171 market is competitive, that market participants cannot exercise
172 market power or that concentration is not high in particular
173 geographic market areas. High aggregate market concentration
174 ratios do, however, indicate an increased potential for market
175 participants to exercise market power.” (Page 146)

176 **Q. ARE NI REGION ENERGY AND CAPACITY MARKETS HIGHLY**
177 **CONCENTRATED?**

178 A. Yes. As I will show, both the energy and capacity markets in the Northern Illinois
179 region are generally highly concentrated.

180 **Q. WHAT OUTPUT METRICS CAN BE USED TO MEASURE GENERATION**
181 **OWNERSHIP CONCENTRATION?**

182 A. Generation ownership concentration can be measured with respect to energy output,
183 installed or unforced generation capacity⁵, or ancillary service capability/availability.
184 Historically, measures of generation ownership concentration have usually focused on
185 capacity ownership, using any of several metrics to measure capacity. These metrics
186 include nameplate MW capacity rating, seasonal MW capacity rating (e.g., generation
187 capacity can vary depending on seasonal conditions such as ambient temperature or

⁴ U.S. Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission, Horizontal Merger Guidelines, April 2, 1992, revised April 8, 1997.

⁵ Installed generation capacity is usually a reference to the nameplate or seasonal capacity (MW) rating of a generator, without accounting for its planned or unplanned outages (when the capacity is not available). Unforced capacity is the term used in PJM, and the metric upon which the PJM Capacity Credit market is based, that recognizes a reduction in average annual capacity of installed generation based on estimates of outage rates.

188 cooling water availability or temperature), or average MW capacity adjusted for
189 outages. A capacity concentration metric is usually based on a snapshot in time, and
190 often annual or seasonal snapshots are used. However, a capacity concentration
191 metric can be based on the smallest time interval comprising a market. Thus,
192 capacity concentration metrics could be created for monthly capacity markets, a
193 common period for capacity settlement; or even daily capacity markets, such as
194 PJM's capacity credit market. PJM indeed does compute capacity market HHIs for
195 its daily and its monthly and multi-monthly capacity markets.⁶

196 Generation energy output over any defined interval (MWh) can also be used
197 to define the ownership concentration of energy supply. PJM uses the hourly interval
198 when examining the potential for exercise of market power within load pockets. To
199 examine concentration on an annual basis, the annual MWh output from the supplies
200 of each generation owner can thus form the numerator of the "market share" metric
201 used to compute HHIs, with the total annual MWh output as the denominator.
202 Computing energy market HHIs over a longer time interval will thus weight
203 ownership concentration based on annual capacity factors; i.e., an owner with
204 considerable baseload generation, such as Exelon, will likely provide a greater
205 fraction of the annual energy than its installed capacity share would otherwise
206 indicate. As I show, this is exactly what the PJM MMU found in the energy markets
207 for northern Illinois since the integration of the ComEd territory into PJM on May 1,
208 2004.

⁶ See for example, PJM's 2004 State of the Market Report, Table 4-1, page 147, *PJM Capacity Market HHI: Calendar Year 2004*. The values reported in that table exclude the ComEd region, as during 2004 the ComEd region was under a separate capacity market construct than the rest of PJM.

209 Lastly, a generation unit’s ancillary service capability in each of several
210 categories can be considered, for example spinning reserve or regulation MW
211 capability.

212 **Q. WHAT IS THE OWNERSHIP CONCENTRATION OF INSTALLED**
213 **GENERATION CAPACITY IN NORTHERN ILLINOIS?**

214 A. Exhibit 1.2 shows installed generation capacity ownership concentration in Northern
215 Illinois. An index of 1800 is the threshold at which a market is said to be “highly
216 concentrated.” Based on data provided in Exelon’s recent filing to FERC⁷, I compute
217 an installed capacity concentration index of 2,015, above the threshold for a “highly
218 concentrated” market.

219 When imports into the Northern Illinois region are accounted for, Exelon’s
220 share of capacity decreases from 37.5% to 32.5%. However, Exelon and Midwest
221 Generation together still account for more than 50% of the installed capacity in the NI
222 region even when taking simultaneous import capacity into account, as shown in
223 Exhibit 1.2.

224 **Q. WHAT DID THE PJM MMU REPORT SHOW FOR INSTALLED CAPACITY**
225 **AND ENERGY MARKET OWNERSHIP CONCENTRATION IN THE**
226 **NORTHERN ILLINOIS REGION FOR 2004?**

⁷ Supplemental Affidavit of William H. Hieronymus, Exelon filing to FERC May 23, 2005, Exhibit EXE-3 and EXE-4.

227 A. In the 2004 State of the Market report⁸, the PJM MMU stated that installed capacity
228 HHIs in the ComEd region during “phase 2” (May through September, prior to AEP’s
229 integration)⁹ ranged from 2670 to 4065, with an average of 3368 over the five month
230 period from May 1 to September 30, 2004. The report also indicates hourly energy
231 HHIs ranging from from 4005 to 7746, with an average of 5935. The PJM MMU
232 reports a range because they compute HHIs for all capacity market intervals (daily,
233 monthly and multi-monthly) and for all hourly energy market intervals.

234 **Q. WHY DOES YOUR HHI COMPUTATION RESULT IN A LOWER**
235 **AVERAGE INSTALLED CAPACITY HHI THAN THE PJM MMU**
236 **RESULTS?**

237 A. My approach is conservative. I assume a best-case scenario in which all generation
238 units are in service and all capacity from those units is available. The PJM MMU
239 computations use actual data accounting for those variables.

240 **Q. HOW DID YOU DETERMINE THE HHI FOR THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS**
241 **REGION?**

242 A. I collected data on installed capacity ownership using the most recent market-based
243 rate authority filing by Exelon. To determine Exelon’s market share of installed
244 capacity considering imports, I used Exelon’s estimate of simultaneous import
245 capacity into the Northern Illinois region.

⁸ 2004 State of the Market, PJM Market Monitoring Unit, March 8, 2005. Tables 2-8 and 2-9, Page 55 (ComEd installed capacity and hourly energy market HHI, phase 2).

⁹ American Electric Power (“AEP”) integrated its transmission system into the PJM RTO on October 1, 2005.

246 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPORT CAPACITY INTO THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS**
247 **REGION?**

248 A. The overall connected transmission capability into the ComEd region is greater than
249 the “simultaneous import capacity,” or how much energy can actually flow into the
250 region given the operational constraints unique to electric power transmission
251 systems. I understand that that value is not easily determined, varies considerably
252 depending on system conditions, and is not readily agreed to; in this case, I have used
253 the value noted by Exelon’s consultant in a 2003 filing to the FERC, i.e., 4,700
254 MW.¹⁰

255 **Q. HOW WOULD THE EXERCISE OF MARKET POWER BE MANIFESTED**
256 **IN NORTHERN ILLINOIS?**

257 A. The exercise of market power is usually manifested through physical or economic
258 withholding of capacity from the market. Physical withholding occurs when an
259 owner or owners declare a plant or some portion of a plant unavailable for operation,
260 outside of the approved planned maintenance period. Unplanned extension of an
261 outage could also be used to withhold capacity or energy from a market. Economic
262 withholding occurs when a supplier or suppliers offer in capacity or energy to a
263 market at prices above marginal costs. Either of these two actions can result in
264 market clearing prices that would be higher than what is expected in a competitive
265 market.

¹⁰ Affidavit of William H. Hieronymus, Triennial Market Power Study Update, Exelon filing to FERC, November 7, 2003. Page 9.

266 In Northern Illinois, both the spot market and the forward bilateral markets
267 will be influenced by the exercise of market power. For example, auction
268 participants' perceptions of higher spot market prices will lead to higher bilateral
269 market prices, including those negotiated in advance of the auction, reflecting the
270 expectation that spot prices would be high.

271

272 **Q. WHAT CONDITIONS WILL EXIST IN THE POST-2006 PERIOD THAT**
273 **CAN EXACERBATE THE POTENTIAL FOR EXERCISE OF MARKET**
274 **POWER IN THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS REGION?**

275 A. Currently, Exelon is contracted to supply ComEd's BUS needs through December
276 2006. When this obligation to supply load terminates, Exelon may be able to sell its
277 capacity and energy at market-based rates.¹¹ As long as this obligation is in place, the
278 high ownership concentration levels in the Northern Illinois region are less likely to
279 lead to market power abuse in the PJM spot markets, since Exelon's Northern Illinois
280 capacity is committed to serving this load. However, once this capacity becomes
281 "uncommitted," Exelon is free to either sell into the spot market or negotiate bilateral
282 sales to market participants, without any oversight of the ICC or FERC (if market-
283 based rate authority is granted and/or renewed by FERC). The current load obligation
284 serves to mitigate the likely exercise of market power; but once the load obligation
285 terminates, effective mitigation ceases and the pricing outcomes in both the spot and
286 the proposed auction process will be subject to "highly concentrated" market forces.

¹¹ This will depend on the outcome of the current proceeding before FERC where Exelon has requested a renewal of its market-based rate authority, and of any future proceedings that may be required.

287 Those prices are likely to be greater than would be expected with a fully competitive
288 wholesale market.

289 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON COMPETITION NOW THAT THE**
290 **NORTHERN ILLINOIS REGION IS PART OF THE PJM RTO?**

291 A. The inclusion of the former ComEd and American Electric Power (“AEP”) and
292 Dayton Power and Light control areas into the PJM RTO allows for a greater degree
293 of unit commitment and dispatch efficiency in the region, but it does not change the
294 generic structural concerns associated with high concentration in Northern Illinois.
295 Post-2006, when transmission constraints bind “into” the Northern Illinois region, the
296 ability of non-Northern Illinois generators to effectively compete with Northern
297 Illinois generators is eliminated or at least diminished (considerably so for many
298 generators in PJM who are electrically distant from the Northern Illinois region).
299 Thus, the relevant market will still be a subset of the broader PJM RTO market during
300 these times, and it is at these times that market power can be exercised in the region.

301 **IV. INSUFFICIENT COMPETITIVENESS OF THE PJM AND MISO WHOLESALE**
302 **MARKETS**

303 **Q. WHAT ISSUES ARE ADDRESSED IN THIS SECTION OF YOUR**
304 **TESTIMONY?**

305 A. I address three issues, each of which affects the extent of wholesale market
306 competitiveness in both the Northern Illinois region (within the PJM RTO) and the
307 Southern Illinois region (within the MISO RTO). First, I address my concern that the
308 PJM wholesale energy and capacity markets in the Northern Illinois region are not
309 fully competitive. Next, I address the relative immaturity of the MISO spot energy

310 markets. Lastly, I address the seam that exists between the PJM and MISO regions
311 and the market consequences arising from the existence of such a seam.

312 **Q. WHAT SIGNIFICANCE DO THESE ISSUES HAVE ON THE WHOLESALE**
313 **MARKET AND THE PRICING OUTCOMES IN THE PROPOSED BUS**
314 **AUCTION?**

315 A. These three attributes of the regional wholesale market structure lead to less
316 competitive wholesale market prices, thereby exposing BUS customers to prices
317 arising from the proposed auction that will be higher than would be expected with
318 fully competitive wholesale markets.

319 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR CONCERN THAT THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS**
320 **ENERGY AND CAPACITY MARKET WILL NOT BE FULLY**
321 **COMPETITIVE IN POST-2006.**

322 A. The high concentration of generation capacity ownership in the Northern Illinois
323 region and the correspondingly high concentration of energy supply ownership will
324 result in time periods when there will be the potential for exercise of market power.
325 In particular, this will occur any time there are binding transmission constraints in the
326 region that effectively prevent non-Illinois PJM suppliers or MISO-region suppliers
327 from competing against Northern Illinois region generation.

328 During the summer of 2004, energy supplier ownership concentration in the
329 Northern Illinois region was exceedingly high. As I've noted, in the PJM 2004 State
330 of the Market Report, the results for the ComEd region during "Phase 2" of the year
331 (May through September) indicate hourly energy market HHIs ranging from 4,005 to

332 7,746, with an average of 5,935.¹² These values illustrate that the energy market was
333 “highly concentrated” at that time.

334 Currently, and during the summer of 2004, ComEd’s default load was
335 supplied under forward contract with Exelon, mitigating the potential exercise of
336 market power in the PJM spot markets. Because Exelon has this load obligation, it
337 has a greatly reduced incentive to see higher prices in the region, as during any period
338 in which Exelon’s supply is not sufficient to serve ComEd’s default load Exelon must
339 purchase from the market.

340 However, when the high ownership concentration is combined with the loss of
341 Exelon’s obligation to supply ComEd’s default load, the result is an incentive for
342 higher spot market prices.

343 **Q. BUT THE CONCENTRATION VALUES YOU CITE WERE PRIOR TO**
344 **AEP’S INTEGRATION INTO PJM. HASN’T THE AEP INTEGRATION**
345 **CHANGED THE PICTURE?**

346 A. The integration of AEP has only minimally changed the picture. The concentration
347 values cited for the summer 2004 energy market in Northern Illinois reflect the
348 presence of import capacity, including that associated with the “pathway” that existed
349 across the AEP region between Northern Illinois and the rest of the PJM region.
350 However, the underlying concentration levels remain high in the Northern Illinois
351 region even after the integration of AEP.

352 **Q. ARE THE MISO ELECTRICITY SPOT MARKETS IMMATURE?**

¹² PJM 2004 State of the Market Report, page 55.

353 A. Yes. The Midwest RTO commenced day-ahead and real-time spot electricity market
354 operations on April 1, 2005. For the first two months, all supplier offers into this
355 market were cost-based.¹³ Beginning June 1, 2005, all offers into this market will be
356 market-based. Thus at the time of this filing, there will have been just eight days of
357 operation of MISO spot electricity markets using market-based offers from generation
358 suppliers.

359 **Q. WILL THE MISO SPOT ENERGY MARKETS BE MATURE ENOUGH TO**
360 **ENSURE COMPETITIVE PRICING OUTCOMES BY THE TIME THE**
361 **PROPOSED PROCUREMENT AUCTION WOULD BE HELD?**

362 A. No. At the conclusion of this proceeding, which I understand to be in early 2006, it
363 will likely be too soon to confirm that even the fundamental MISO systems and
364 software will function as expected throughout all seasonal load and capacity
365 conditions. For example, the accuracy and stability of the locational marginal price
366 (“LMP”) pricing outcomes arising from the complex security-constrained economic
367 dispatch algorithms are not readily confirmable, and the programmatic inputs used by
368 MISO to compute LMPs are updated frequently. This is but one reason that at
369 present, the MISO RTO spot energy markets are too immature to draw any
370 conclusions regarding the extent to which they do or do not, and in post-2006 will or
371 will not, reflect competitive pricing outcomes. There are several additional reasons
372 that uncertainty of pricing outcomes is to be expected.

¹³ 108 FERC ¶ 61,163, August 6, 2004, P. 63. MISO Energy Market Tariff Approval in Docket ER04-691.

373 **Q. WHAT ARE THE OTHER REASONS THE MISO MARKET IS TOO**
374 **IMMATURE TO ENSURE COMPETITIVE PRICING OUTCOMES?**

375 A. There are two additional substantive reasons why the MISO spot markets can not be
376 sufficiently relied upon to produce competitive pricing outcomes: i) centralized
377 dispatch operations at the MISO RTO are brand new and cover a wide geographic
378 scope; and ii) the MISO energy markets lack a complementary ancillary service
379 market structure and a comprehensive, MISO-wide approach to resource adequacy
380 concerns.

381 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY THE NEWNESS OF THE MISO CENTRALIZED**
382 **DISPATCH IS A CONCERN.**

383 A. Unlike PJM, New York, and New England, the Midwest ISO has commenced
384 centralized generation unit commitment and dispatch operations with no prior
385 experience, and is doing so in an environment where 35 control areas remain (PJM,
386 New York and New England are each a single control area). While I understand that
387 the Midwest RTO as an institution has apparently made laudable strides in
388 establishing the systems required to operate spot wholesale electric markets, that does
389 not imply that the pricing outcomes in the early years of operation can be predictably
390 free from concern, nor that bidders in any proposed Illinois BUS auction would
391 expect those spot markets to so operate.

392 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY THE LACK OF STRUCTURED ANCILLARY**
393 **SERVICE MARKETS IS A CONCERN.**

394 A. The Midwest RTO markets lack centralized operating reserve markets, and a capacity
395 market structure, features of the PJM RTO markets. The presence or absence of these
396 ancillary markets impact the pricing outcomes in the energy market, especially the
397 relationship between regulating resources, spinning and near-term non-spinning
398 operating reserves, and the pricing of energy.

399 **Q. WHEN WILL THERE BE STRUCTURED ANCILLARY SERVICE**
400 **MARKETS IN THE MISO REGION?**

401 A. It is very difficult to say when structured ancillary service markets will be operational
402 in MISO. MISO has just this spring established an ancillary services task force
403 reporting to the markets subcommittee. One startup document states that a regulation
404 market is planned for the end of 2005 and an operating reserves market is planned for
405 the first quarter of 2006.¹⁴ Another document states that the ancillary services task
406 force will sunset when the ancillary service markets are operational in 2007.¹⁵ In
407 other RTO regions, ancillary service markets have undergone considerable change
408 over many years of evolution.¹⁶

409 **Q. WHAT IS REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH CONFIDENCE THAT THE MISO**
410 **SPOT MARKETS WILL PRODUCE COMPETITIVE WHOLESALE**
411 **MARKET PRICING OUTCOMES?**

¹⁴ MISO ancillary services task force presentation, March 15, 2005.

¹⁵ MISO Ancillary Services Task Force Charter Document, dated April 1, 2005, page 1, "Sunset Provisions."
Part of meeting materials of April 4, 2005 MISO Market Subcommittee meeting.

¹⁶ PJM, New England, New York, and California have all experienced considerable difficulty in establishing
stable and efficient ancillary service market structures.

412 A. In short, time -- on the order of years. At least two threshold milestones should be
413 met before the MISO spot market pricing outcomes can be considered competitive.
414 First, an independent evaluation of the pricing outcomes of the market over all
415 seasons and the most common load/supply conditions is required. For example, such
416 an evaluation could determine the price-cost markup present in the market as a
417 measure of its competitiveness. Second, given the impact of local ancillary service
418 markets on unit commitment and dispatch, it would be preferable to have at least one
419 year of energy market operation after incorporation of ancillary service features into
420 the MISO markets structure.

421 **Q. WHAT IS THE PJM-MISO SEAM?**

422 A. The PJM-MISO seam consists of the physical transmission interconnections between
423 the two RTOs. This seam spans over one hundred interconnection points with a
424 nominal non-simultaneous transfer capability on the order of at least 60,000 MW.¹⁷
425 Exhibit 1.3 visually depicts the boundaries of the Midwest RTO and the PJM RTO in
426 the Illinois region, and the thick solid black line shows the complex and
427 discontinuous seam between the RTOs.

428 Notionally, however, the seam consists of any impediments load or generation
429 may face in trying to buy or sell energy, capacity, or ancillary services across the
430 boundary. These impediments prevent a seamless integration of wholesale energy
431 markets between northern Illinois (PJM region) and southern Illinois (MISO region).

¹⁷ FERC Docket EL02-65-000, Affidavit of Ronald R. Jackups, filed July 9, 2002. An affidavit by Mr. Ronald Jackups of Cinergy, filed on behalf of certain MISO transmission owners, stated that the seam between MISO and PJM (when Illinois Power was still planning on joining PJM) consisted of 139 interconnections totaling 72,400 MVA of capacity (paragraph 15, page 3). Illinois Power has since been acquired by Ameren

432 The impediments include the day-to-day operational hurdles the RTOs must
433 overcome to allow efficient transactions between the regions, and they include the
434 existence of different energy, capacity, and ancillary service market structures
435 between the regions.

436 **Q. HOW DOES THIS SEAM IMPACT ILLINOIS' ELECTRICITY**
437 **CONSUMERS?**

438 A. Illinois consumers will be impacted by any wholesale market attributes that arise due
439 to the presence of this seam. As shown in Exhibit 1.3, the seam particularly impacts
440 Illinois, as it slices through the state and leaves approximately two-thirds of the
441 consumers on one side (Northern Illinois) and the remaining third on the other side
442 (Southern Illinois). Thus, two-thirds of the customers will be impacted by wholesale
443 market activity in the western portion of PJM, and one-third of the customers will be
444 impacted by wholesale market activities in central MISO.

445 **Q. HOW DID THIS SEAM ARISE?**

446 A. The seam arose due to the RTO choices made by a number of companies, in
447 particular the choices of ComEd, AEP, and Dayton Power and Light to join PJM
448 rather than MISO. If these companies had chosen to join MISO instead of PJM, it has
449 been argued that the electrical seam would have been much smaller between the two

and is part of MISO. Subtracting out the direct interconnections between Illinois Power and MISO will conservatively leave at least 60,000 MW of nominal interconnection capacity across the seam.

450 regions.¹⁸ If they had joined MISO, all of Illinois would have been included under
451 the umbrella of a single RTO.

452 **Q. WAS FERC’S APPROVAL OF COMED JOINING THE PJM RTO**
453 **CONDITIONED ON RESOLUTION OF TRANSACTION ISSUES ACROSS**
454 **THIS SEAM?**

455 A. Yes. FERC explicitly called for the formation of a “joint and common market” in its
456 order conditionally approving ComEd’s joining of PJM.¹⁹ FERC recognized the
457 importance to regional wholesale market development of resolving the problems
458 created by the existence of this seam. Notwithstanding FERC’s condition, PJM and
459 MISO currently still have separate energy markets (and separate provisions for
460 ancillary services and capacity requirements). There is no joint and common market.

461 FERC’s call for a joint and common market was and is aimed at allowing free
462 flowing competition between generators on one side of these lines, and load on the
463 other side of these lines and resolving the complex dispatch and commitment issues
464 that effect each RTO due to the presence of transmission line electricity flows created
465 by suppliers and load in the adjacent region (i.e., “loop flows”).

466 The way in which increased wholesale market competition is projected to
467 come about is through greatly improved dispatch coordination mechanisms used by
468 each of the RTOs on a daily basis. If or when these coordination mechanisms are
469 perfected, in theory each RTO can serve as another source of generation (possibly

¹⁸Jackups affidavit, paragraphs 15 and 27, for example. See also the “RTO Configuration Letter” from MISO Market Monitor David Patton to MISO CEO James Torgerson, July 10, 2002.

¹⁹ 100 FERC ¶ 61,137 (July 31, 2002), P. 37-41.

470 less expensive) that can be used to relieve transmission constraints in the neighboring
471 RTO. While the RTOs claim that much progress has been made towards
472 implementing the required data, communications, and modeling capabilities to put
473 this coordination in action, it nonetheless is projected that the earliest a joint and
474 common market would be ready is September 2007.²⁰ Given the history of initiating
475 complex RTO coordination mechanisms²¹, and the unprecedented scale of the seams
476 coordination proposed for this seam, I believe it is unlikely that the joint and common
477 market that FERC predicated ComEd's PJM RTO participation on will be in place at
478 that time. Thus, well after the date of the proposed auction, it is likely that major
479 seams issues will remain unresolved, negatively impacting the competitiveness of the
480 wholesale markets on either side of the seam.

481 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT TO THE WHOLESALE MARKET OF**
482 **UNRESOLVED SEAMS ISSUES?**

483 A. The main impact is less efficient energy transactions between the two RTO regions,
484 resulting in greater overall production costs for energy than would be required if a
485 single common market was in place, and likely "distorted" LMPs, or deviations from
486 LMPs that would be expected if a common market were functioning and coordination
487 between RTOs was comprehensive. While PJM and MISO will likely eventually
488 resolve the technical issues to ensure such coordination, it may well be 2008 or
489 beyond before such resolution is assured.

²⁰ MISO and PJM joint filing to FERC, FERC Order in Dockets No. ER04-375-17 and ER04-375-18, Order Modifying and Accepting Tariff Filing, Paragraph 64, March 3, 2005.

490 **Q. WILL THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN ILLINOIS REGION SPOT**
491 **MARKETS BE LESS COMPETITIVE BECAUSE OF THE EXISTENCE OF**
492 **THIS SEAM?**

493 A. Yes, considerably so. The presence of the seam prevents dispatch coordination that
494 would give rise to load diversity gains, production cost improvements, increased unit
495 commitment economies, better ancillary service coordination and greater supply
496 competition. All of those features of broader markets result in reduced prices for any
497 consumer depending on market pricing outcomes.

498 **V. FERC MARKET-BASED RATE AUTHORITY**

499 **Q. WHAT ISSUES DO YOU ADDRESS IN THIS SECTION OF YOUR**
500 **TESTIMONY?**

501 A. I examine FERC's current "interim" methods for evaluating whether or not a supplier
502 should be granted wholesale market-based rate authority, or the ability to sell into
503 wholesale electricity markets in the US at whatever price the market will bear.²² I
504 also describe the current process whereby FERC is evaluating whether it should
505 consider changing its interim analytical approach to considering market-based rate
506 applications from wholesale suppliers.

507 **Q. HOW DOES THIS RELATE TO WHOLESALE MARKET**
508 **COMPETITIVENESS IN THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS REGION?**

²¹ FERC initially required PJM and MISO to operate a joint and common market commencing October 1, 2004. It has taken a significant amount of time and resources to come to agreement on a "Joint Operating Agreement", let alone implement the systems required to create a joint and common market.

509 A. Any supplier in PJM granted market-based rate authority could, legally, exercise
510 market power (to a certain extent). Thus, whether or not a supplier has FERC
511 approval for market-based rate authority is critical to assessing whether or not the
512 Northern Illinois region of the PJM market might be competitive post-2006: if
513 Northern Illinois suppliers with the potential to exercise market power are granted
514 market-based rate authority, then the only remaining obstacle to exercise of market
515 power is the limited ability of the PJM RTO to mitigate such exercise.

516 The fact that FERC is currently re-evaluating its “interim” rules used to grant
517 or deny market-based rate authority is telling. This uncertainty concerning how
518 federal regulators will evaluate market power in the PJM region post-2006 is another
519 reason for the ICC to reconsider the use of market-based methods to secure BUS
520 supplies post-2006.

521 **Q. HOW DOES THE FERC ADDRESS WHOLESALE MARKET POWER IN US**
522 **ELECTRICITY MARKETS?**

523 A. FERC evaluates market power in proposed mergers; grants or denies “market-based
524 rate authority” to wholesale market supplier applicants; oversees cost-based rates for
525 wholesale energy transactions; and oversees ISO and RTO market monitoring and
526 mitigation functions.

527 **Q. WHAT MECHANISMS DOES FERC CURRENTLY USE TO REVIEW**
528 **WHETHER A COMPANY HAS GENERATION MARKET POWER WHEN**

²² 107 FERC ¶ 61,018, Order on Rehearing and Modifying Interim Generation Market Power Analysis and Mitigation Policy, April 14, 2004. And, 107 FERC ¶ 61,026, Order on Rehearing, July 8, 2004.

529 **DETERMINING IF IT SHOULD GRANT MARKET-BASED RATE**
530 **AUTHORITY?**

531 A. FERC currently uses two indicative screens to test whether or not an applicant may
532 have the potential to exercise generation market power.²³ Those tests are known as
533 the uncommitted capacity pivotal supplier test, and the uncommitted capacity market
534 share test. Uncommitted capacity refers to a supplier's capacity net of native load
535 obligations. The pivotal supplier test examines whether or not a company's
536 uncommitted capacity is pivotal to serving a region's peak load. It is designed to
537 address the potential exercise of market power during a region's peak period. The
538 market share test examines whether or not a company's market share exceeds 20% in
539 each of four seasons, accounting for planned outages in each of the seasons. It is
540 designed to address more broadly the ability for a company to exercise market power
541 at various times throughout the year. A rebuttable presumption that a company does
542 not have market power is established if a company passes both the pivotal supplier
543 screen and the market share screen in all four seasons. Conversely, a rebuttable
544 presumption is established that a company does have the ability to exercise market
545 power if it fails either the pivotal supplier screen or the market share screen in any of
546 the four seasons.

547 **Q. ARE THESE TESTS DEFINITIVE DETERMINATIONS OF MARKET**
548 **POWER?**

²³ FERC examines three other "prongs" when reviewing a market-based rate application: transmission market power, affiliate abuse or reciprocal dealing, and if an applicant can erect barriers to entry.

549 A. No. They are designed primarily to screen out those companies that clearly are small
550 and not likely to be pivotal. It is possible that a company that passes both tests could
551 still have the potential to exercise market power.

552 **Q. DOES EXELON CURRENTLY HAVE FERC-APPROVED MARKET-BASED**
553 **RATE AUTHORITY?**

554 A. Yes. However, FERC is currently examining Exelon's application for retention of
555 that authority. Exelon submitted in September of 2004²⁴ an update to its "Triennial
556 Market Power Study Update" which was submitted in November of 2003.²⁵ The
557 November 2003 submission was in compliance with FERC policy that requires an
558 updated market power analysis every three years. Since Exelon submitted that
559 analysis, FERC issued an Order revising its methods for analyzing market power
560 potential, and required Exelon to submit an update to its triennial filing. Exelon's
561 September 2004 application to FERC was deficient, and FERC required Exelon to
562 submit additional materials, which Exelon completed on May 23, 2005. The outcome
563 of that proceeding is pending.

564 **Q. IF FERC APPROVES EXELON'S APPLICATION TO RETAIN ITS**
565 **MARKET-BASED RATE AUTHORITY, DOES THAT IMPLY THAT THE**
566 **WHOLESALE MARKETS IN NORTHERN ILLINOIS POST-2006 ARE**
567 **COMPETITIVE?**

²⁴ Exelon Filing to FERC, ER97-3954-017 et al., *Filing in Compliance with Orders on Rehearing in FERC Docket No. PL02-8*, September 27, 2004.

²⁵ Exelon Filing to FERC, ER00-3251-005 et al., *Triennial Market Power Study Update*, November 7, 2003.

568 A. No. Exelon's current application reflects its contract obligation to supply ComEd
569 default load through 2006. Each of FERC's two indicative screen tests embodied in
570 its analysis of an applicant's potential to exercise market power examines
571 uncommitted capacity, or the generation capacity net of native load and long-term
572 contract commitments. Post-2006, these commitments no longer are in force and
573 Exelon's uncommitted capacity will increase substantially. Also, Exelon's proposed
574 merger with PSEG is pending. If that merger goes forward, Exelon's capacity
575 ownership concentration in PJM will increase considerably.

576 **Q. WHAT MITIGATION OPTIONS EXIST IF A SUPPLIER HAS THE ABILITY**
577 **TO EXERCISE MARKET POWER?**

578 FERC has indicated that it could apply case-specific mitigation options and that
579 applicant companies can propose mitigation options. FERC's default mitigation
580 option would be for Exelon to sell power at cost-based rates.

581 **Q. DOES MIDWEST GENERATION CURRENTLY HAVE MARKET-BASED**
582 **RATE AUTHORITY FROM FERC?**

583 A. Yes. FERC approved Midwest Generation's application for market-based rate
584 authority on April 14, 2005.²⁶

585 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE STATUS OF EXELON AND MIDWEST**
586 **GENERATION'S MARKET-BASED RATE AUTHORITY AND WHAT IT**
587 **MEANS FOR NI POST-2006.**

²⁶ FERC Order Accepting Updated Market Power Analysis, April 14, 2005, Docket No. ER99-3693-001 et al.

588 A. Midwest Generation currently has market-based rate authority from FERC. Exelon is
589 likely to obtain such authority given the structure of FERC’s pivotal supplier and
590 market share indicative screens, which use an “uncommitted” capacity metric based
591 on January 1, 2005 data.²⁷ However, in both cases the authority granted is premised
592 on conditions that will not be in place in Illinois post-2006. Post 2006, Exelon’s
593 obligation to serve a large portion of ComEd load and Midwest Generation’s
594 obligation to sell a significant portion of its output to Exelon will no longer be in
595 place. Each of the companies will have an increased level of uncommitted capacity
596 post-2006 compared to the levels examined by FERC in the recent (Midwest
597 Generation) and pending (Exelon) market-based rate authority applications. Also, if
598 Exelon’s pending merger with PSEG occurs, Exelon’s capacity share in PJM will
599 increase. Lastly, the criteria used by FERC to assess market power are undergoing
600 review and may change.

601 **Q. DOES FERC-GRANTED MARKET-BASED RATE AUTHORITY**
602 **DEFINITELY ESTABLISH WHETHER OR NOT AN APPLICANT HAS**
603 **THE ABILITY TO EXERCISE MARKET POWER IN NI POST-2006?**

604 A. No. Applicants may need to re-apply if the conditions under which approval was
605 granted change significantly. FERC is also currently examining the method it uses to
606 analyze market power and grant or deny market-based rate authority. The current
607 method, which was approved in the aforementioned FERC Orders in April and July
608 of 2004, is an “interim” solution; and FERC initiated its current examination in a

²⁷ Exelon FERC filing in Docket No. ER00-3252-007 et al., William H. Hieronymus Affidavit, May 23, 2005, page 2.

609 companion order to the April 2004 ruling.²⁸ Thus, the underlying analytical method
610 on which FERC grants or denies market-based rate authority may change (and even
611 under the current interim rules applicants may need to re-apply).

612 **Q. HOW MIGHT THE CURRENT INTERIM RULES CHANGE?**

613 A. One possible option is that FERC may require forward-looking modeling to
614 determine if strategic behaviors result in market price outcomes that exceed certain
615 thresholds. For example, a common indicator of the extent to which market power is
616 being exercised is the increase in prices above marginal cost that exists in a market,
617 referred to as the Lerner Index. A modeling exercise simulating strategic offer
618 behavior by a generator or multiple generators could determine the Lerner Index for a
619 number of scenarios.

620 **Q. WHAT ARE OTHER REASONS WHY FERC MARKET-BASED RATE**
621 **AUTHORITY FOR EXELON AND MIDWEST GENERATION DOES NOT**
622 **ESTABLISH THE POTENTIAL FOR MARKET POWER TO BE**
623 **EXERCISED IN THE REGION?**

624 A. FERC's current methodology allows each of Exelon and Midwest Generation to use
625 the entire "expanded" PJM RTO as the geographic scope of the market into which
626 they sell. This explicitly biases the results of any applicant's market share or degree
627 to which it is pivotal in favor of the applicant, as it greatly increases the total
628 competing generation even though there are times when non-Northern Illinois PJM
629 RTO based generation supplies cannot effectively compete with NI generators in the

²⁸ *Initiation of Rulemaking Proceeding on Market Based Rates and Notice of Technical Conference*, April 14,

630 PJM RTO spot markets. The method does not take into account the time period when
631 transmission constraints bind within the PJM RTO region, as I've noted previously in
632 this testimony. Instead, FERC's rules allow the RTO's mitigation policy to act as a
633 check on market power.

634 **Q. DO RTO RULES ALLOW FOR THE EXERCISE OF MARKET POWER?**

635 A. Yes. For example, PJM allows supplier offers above marginal cost for any generator
636 as long as there are no binding transmission constraints or if there are binding
637 constraints and a sufficient number of competing generators available to relieve those
638 constraints. If there are binding transmission constraints and an insufficient number
639 of competing generators are available to relieve those constraints, PJM still allows
640 offer prices up to 110% of marginal cost. MISO rules allow for the exercise of
641 market power unless certain, relatively generous "offer" price thresholds and price
642 impact thresholds are met, as I describe in the following section.

643 **Q. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?**

644 A. It means that in less than fully competitive markets, it is legal for suppliers to act in a
645 manner that could result in clearing prices higher than the level that would be seen in
646 fully competitive markets.

647

648

VI. RTO MARKET POWER MITIGATION CONCERNS

649 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE SALIENT ASPECTS OF THE MARKET**
650 **POWER MITIGATION STRUCTURE IN PLACE IN PJM AND MISO.**

651 A. PJM and MISO each have separate market power mitigation protocols in place.
652 PJM’s market power mitigation consists primarily of the ability to “offer price cap”
653 generation suppliers to one of four possible levels when local transmission constraints
654 are binding and an insufficient number of suppliers exist to relieve the constraint.²⁹ A
655 commonly understood offer-cap level is 110% of the incremental operating cost of
656 the resource; alternatively, the level could be equal to a weighted LMP, or an agreed-
657 upon level between the owner and PJM. If a resource is considered “frequently
658 mitigated”, or offer-capped for more than 80% of its run hours, then the offer cap
659 consists of incremental costs plus the higher of \$40/MWh or an agreed-upon amount
660 between the owner and PJM.

661 The mitigation protocol in MISO is different from that in PJM. MISO
662 imposes offer-price mitigation only if offer price and market impact thresholds are
663 violated. MISO defines two areas: broadly constrained area (BCA) and narrowly-
664 constrained area (NCA) within which its mitigation protocols apply. Within BCAs, if
665 a transmission constraint is binding, MISO will screen offer prices and if they are
666 below the threshold of 300% of the “reference level” offer price (a marginal cost

²⁹ Currently, the PJM tariff states “Offer price caps shall be suspended for any transmission limit(s) for any hour in which there are not three or fewer generation suppliers available for re-dispatch under subsection (a) that are jointly pivotal with respect to such transmission limit(s). Notwithstanding the number of jointly pivotal suppliers in any hour, if the Market Monitoring Unit determines that a reasonable level of competition will not exist based on an evaluation of all facts and circumstances, it may propose to the Commission the removal of offer-capping suspensions otherwise authorized by this section.”

667 based metric) or \$100/MWh, whichever is lower, then no action is taken. Within
668 NCAs, the threshold is lower; it is tied to the cost of a new peaking unit in the area.
669 At present, for market-based price offerings commencing June 1, 2005 in MISO, the
670 NCA threshold above reference level is approximately \$37/MWh.³⁰

671 **Q. WHAT ARE THE WEAKNESSES AND LIMITATIONS OF THE PJM**
672 **MARKET MONITORING AND MITIGATION TOOLS AND**
673 **CAPABILITIES?**

674 A. Primarily, PJM is limited to offer-capping suppliers at 110% of marginal costs, even
675 if such an offer cap results in a greater return to the supplier than would be expected
676 in a fully competitive market. The ten percent adder is somewhat arbitrary and it has
677 not been definitively shown that a lower level would not result in outcomes more
678 closely approximating fully competitive markets. Also, there is currently uncertainty
679 in whether or not an additional offer capping exemption will be granted for any major
680 constraints in the PJM West region, which consists of the ComEd, AEP, Dayton
681 Power and Light and Allegheny Power areas. This would result in a reduced ability
682 for the PJM market monitor to impose mitigation in the PJM West region when
683 certain transmission constraints are binding. Also, there is uncertainty around the
684 extent to which PJM can use its “no three pivotal suppliers” test to determine if
685 mitigation can be used when certain transmission constraints bind.

³⁰ MISO email on May 26, 2005 to all participants.

686 **Q. WHAT ARE THE WEAKNESSES AND LIMITATIONS OF THE MISO**
687 **MARKET MONITORING AND MITIGATION TOOLS AND**
688 **CAPABILITIES?**

689 A. The ability of the MISO market monitor to impose mitigation is even more limited
690 than the authority of the PJM market monitor. In most of the MISO region, there is
691 no mitigation at all unless the offer prices of a generation supplier exceed either 300%
692 of the “reference level” or \$100/MWh, whichever is lower.

693 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF HAVING RELATIVELY WEAK AND LIMITED**
694 **MARKET POWER MITIGATION TOOLS AVAILABLE TO THE PJM AND**
695 **MISO MARKET MONITORS?**

696 A. The result is a reduced ability to ensure that market price outcomes are competitive.

697 **Q. IN WHAT WAYS SHOULD THE MARKET POWER MITIGATION TOOLS**
698 **BE STRENGTHENED IN THE PJM AND MISO REGIONS?**

699 A. The best way to address the presence of market power in wholesale markets is to
700 ensure a competitive market structure, which results in a reduced need to impose
701 mitigation solutions. However, absent a fully competitive structure – i.e., a structure
702 with reduced supplier ownership concentration – mitigation that results in market
703 prices that reflect a competitive outcome is required. To achieve this result, the 10%
704 adder used in PJM should be lowered, recognizing that a just and reasonable rate of
705 return to wholesale suppliers could result with mitigation that lowers the cap to values
706 closer to 100% of marginal costs, since capacity markets exist in PJM to provide
707 return to fixed costs associated with generation assets.

708 In MISO, the imposition of mitigation should be triggered in a manner similar
709 to PJM – e.g., when transmission constraints bind and limit the available of suppliers,
710 offer capping at a level at least equal to PJM’s 110% protocol should be required if
711 there are less than four pivotal suppliers. As MISO develops a more uniform
712 approach to resource adequacy, then its mitigation protocol should be adjusted closer
713 to 100% of marginal costs.

714 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE MAIN CONCLUSIONS YOU DRAW FROM**
715 **YOUR EXAMINATION OF WHOLESALE ELECTRICITY MARKETS IN**
716 **NORTHERN ILLINOIS.**

717 A. High generation ownership concentration levels, coupled with the termination of
718 Exelon’s obligation to serve ComEd BUS load, will lead to the potential for exercise
719 of market power in the Northern Illinois region. This wholesale market structure
720 flaw, combined with immature MISO markets and the presence of a market “seam”
721 between the NI and Southern Illinois regions will result in less than fully competitive
722 wholesale markets in Illinois. The proposed ComEd BUS procurement auction can
723 only be successful if the foundation of a fully competitive wholesale market exists.
724 Thus, even if a superior auction mechanism was devised, until the regional wholesale
725 markets are competitive it is likely that resulting prices to consumers will be higher
726 than necessary.

727 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

728 A. Yes.

Northern Illinois Installed Capacity Market Concentration

Without Imports

	Nameplate Capacity (MW)	Capacity Share	Capacity Share Squared
ExelonGen	11,426	37.5%	1,403
Midwest Gen	6,539	21.4%	459
Ameren	540	1.8%	3
ArcLight	692	2.3%	5
Calpine	644	2.1%	4
Constellation	342	1.1%	1
Dom/Peoples	1728	5.7%	32
Dominion	1932	6.3%	40
DTE	356	1.2%	1
Duke	814	2.7%	7
Dynegy	1465	4.8%	23
Exel/Peoples	407	1.3%	2
MidAmerican	691	2.3%	5
NRG	732	2.4%	6
PPL	540	1.8%	3
Reliant	1275	4.2%	17
Tenaska	386	1.3%	2
	30,509	100%	2,015

With Imports

	Nameplate Capacity (MW)	Capacity Share
ExelonGen	11,426	32.5%
Midwest Gen	6,539	18.6%
Other NI Suppliers	12,544	35.6%
Imports	4,700	13.3%
	35,209	100%

HHI

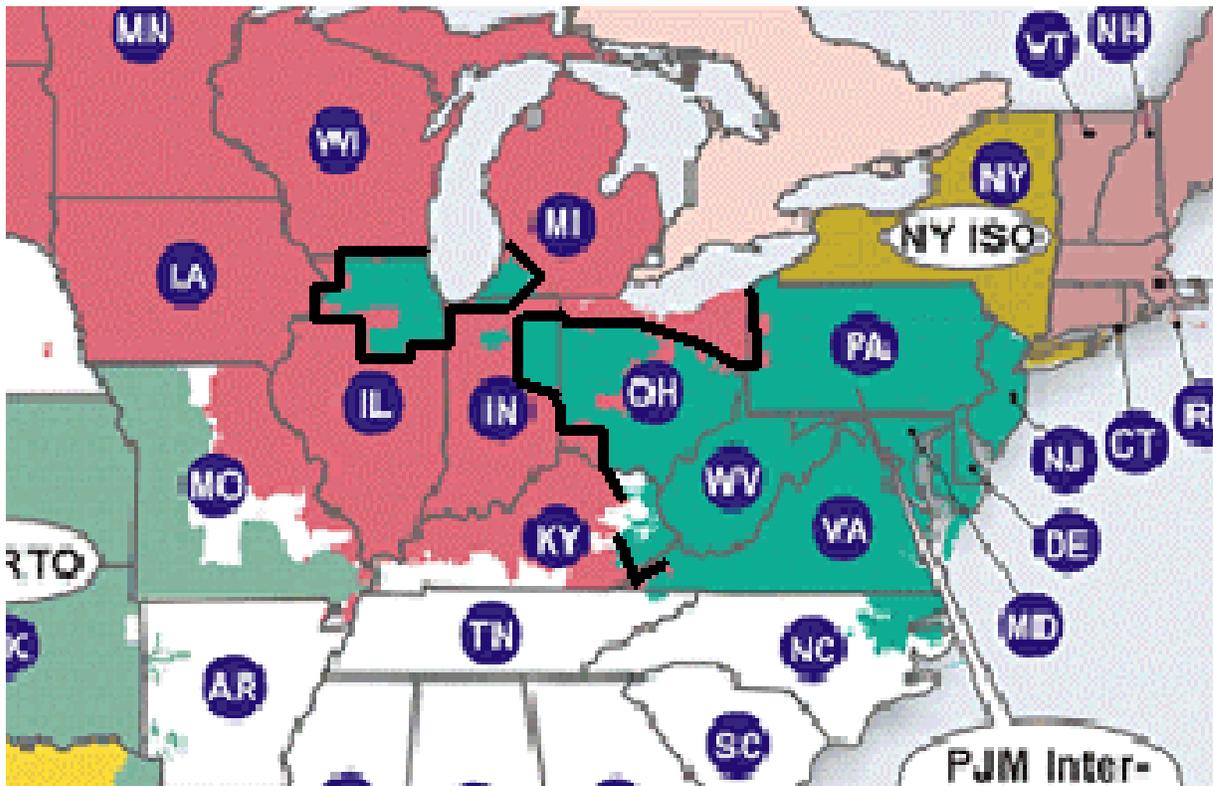
FTC Merger Guidelines - HHI Concentration Index

- Below 1000 Unconcentrated
- 1000-1800 Moderately Concentrated
- Above 1800 Highly Concentrated

Data Sources:

Supplemental Affidavit of William H. Hieronymus, Exelon Filing to FERC 5/23/05, Exhibit EXE-3, EXE-4 (capacity values).
 Affidavit of William H. Hieronymus, Triennial Market Power Study Update, Exelon Filing to FERC, 11/7/2003, page 9 (import capacity).

PJM – MISO Seam



Original Image Source: FERC, “Existing and Proposed RTOs and ISOs, from Platts POWERmap, March 3, 2005

Currently:

- Electrical boundary between the PJM and MISO RTOs.
- Consists of over one hundred electrical interconnections between MISO and PJM companies, at transmission voltage levels.
- Approximately 60,000 MW interconnected capability (contrast: ~3,000 MW connected capability between PJM and the NY ISO)
- Energy transfers across the seam monitored by PJM and MISO RTOs.
- MISO and PJM control their own generation output to ensure no violation of transmission constraints within each of their own regions.

Planned:

- Generation control to be coordinated between MISO and PJM to allow for “cheapest” “redispatch” to prevent transmission constraints from binding.
- Ultimately, a “joint and common market” will result from full-scale coordination.
- This will help to minimize market power concerns by allowing more generation from one region to more closely compete against generation from the adjacent region.