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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Integrate and Refine Procurement Policies and Consider Long-Term Procurement Plans.

Rulemaking 13-12-010
(Filed December 19, 2013)

ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER'S RULING ON UPDATES TO THE PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS AND SCENARIOS FOR USE IN THE 2014 LONG-TERM PROCUREMENT PLAN AND THE CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR'S 2015-2016 TRANSMISSION PLANNING PROCESS

This Assigned Commissioner's Ruling (Ruling) adopts an update to the standardized Assumptions and Scenarios for use in this Long-Term Procurement Planning rulemaking and for use in the California Independent System Operator's (CAISO's) 2015-2016 Transmission Planning Process.

Commission Staff have coordinated with the California Energy Commission (CEC) and the CAISO to recommend these Assumptions and Scenarios. The update to these Assumptions and Scenarios will be used in resource planning studies in this proceeding and in the CAISO's Transmission Planning Process.

The proposed update is not a comprehensive overall update to the standardized Assumptions and Scenarios. Rather, it includes technical updates to key planning assumptions that incorporate the best available information for this rulemaking and for the CAISO to utilize in its Transmission Planning Process.

The updates include the following key changes:

- Updated solar generation profiles, specifically:

- Updated behind-the-meter PV load profiles to reflect industry practice of installing panels with total capacity larger than the corresponding inverter (the inverter loading ratio); which flattens the generation profile.
- Updated utility scale PV load profiles to reflect the most recent IOU portfolios, with updated inverter loading ratios for each IOUs: fixed, 1-axis tracking, and 2-axis tracking systems.
- Updated RPS portfolios to reflect changes caused by Coolwater-Lugo transmission availability.
- Updated retirement assumptions:
 - Dynegy Moss Landing Settlement with Water Board now reflected: Units 1 and 2 now be assumed to be successfully retrofitted per OTC compliance and will continue operation beyond 2020 while Units 6 and 7 will be retired in 2020.
 - Long Beach peakers will now be assumed to retire by 2017.
- Reduced assumed generation of Carlsbad by 100 MW and increased assumed generation of storage and preferred resources by the same amount to reflect the May 2015 Commission Decision.

The updated Standardized Planning Assumptions with redlines is contained in Attachment A of this Ruling. These changes reflect both incremental updates since the last Ruling was issued in March of 2015¹, as well as modifications made based on discussions between the three agencies. The Scenario Tool Excel Workbook referenced in the attachments is also updated to version 5 and will be available on the Commission's website at:

http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/Procurement/LTPP/ltp_history.htm.

1 <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M147/K780/147780118.PDF>.

Should any minor technical errors in the standardized Assumptions and Scenarios and associated tools (i.e., the RPS Calculator and the Scenario Tool, both described in the attachments to this Ruling) be discovered after this Ruling is issued, I hereby direct the Commission's Energy Division Staff to collaborate with the staff of the CEC and CAISO to correct the error, notify parties of the correction, and ensure that the correction is applied consistently across each organization.

IT IS RULED that the standardized Assumptions and Scenarios (Attachment A) are adopted for use in this Rulemaking and in the California Independent System Operator's 2015-2016 Transmission Planning Process.

Dated October 28, 2015 at San Francisco, California.

 /s/ MICHAEL PICKER

Michael Picker
Assigned Commissioner