



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PJM ADVANCES THE GRID WITH NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY

PJM one of few dual-primary control centers in the world

(Valley Forge, Pa. – Nov. 9, 2011) – [PJM Interconnection](#) has completed the switchover today to new advanced technology systems to run the power grid and wholesale power markets. The new systems are part of the Advanced Control Center (AC²) program that equipped PJM with state-of-the-art control centers—each fully functional and able to run the system independently if needed.

“PJM and its members have successfully invested in cutting-edge solutions that will adapt to swift technology developments, protect against sophisticated security threats, allow membership growth and provide excellence in reliability,” said Terry Boston, president and chief executive officer of PJM.

The \$200 million- program was realized through more than five years of design, development and testing. PJM initiated the program to raise its systems to new standards for security and resiliency while recognizing that fundamental change – innovations beyond marginal improvements in existing control systems – would be necessary to maintain [reliability](#) of one of the most critical societal services, electricity, and to ensure the continuity of the \$35 billion/year [wholesale electricity markets](#) that PJM administers.

PJM’s AC² program improves the reliability of the grid and market operations by replacing aging legacy systems with state-of-the-art technology. PJM is the only grid operator in North America, and one of the few worldwide, to have dual primary control centers. The AC² program reduces risk because the two fully staffed primary control centers better ensure uninterrupted operation of markets and grid control if functionality were lost at either center.

AC² improves the management of data and will integrate [Smart Grid](#) applications, encourage demand response and other resources for managing grid loads. Many legacy systems had been in place since before PJM’s membership more than doubled.

“It is a very exciting time for us as we are well positioned to embrace new possibilities, enhance reliability and support new more flexible applications development,” Boston said.

PJM Interconnection, founded in 1927, ensures the reliability of the high-voltage electric power system serving 58 million people in all or parts of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. PJM coordinates and directs the operation of the region’s transmission grid, which includes 61,000 miles of transmission lines; administers a competitive wholesale electricity market; and plans regional transmission expansion improvements to maintain grid reliability and relieve congestion. Visit PJM at www.pjm.com.

###