Variable Operations and Maintenance Cost Proposals

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The Sole Purpose of Cost Based Offers is Market Power Mitigation.

- The stated purpose of PJM Manual 15 is to support market power mitigation (see M15 Section 1.6.1).
 - Cost offers do not guarantee avoidable cost recovery.
- Market power is only mitigated if suppliers cannot raise prices above a competitive level.
- The competitive level is short run marginal cost.

 The IMM's package is the only proposal that would mitigate market power in the PJM Energy Market.

Variable Operations Costs

- Variable Operations and Maintenance Costs are currently separated in Manual 15.
- Manual 15 does not currently define variable operations costs. They appear throughout M15.
 - Other fuel related costs
 - Incremental adjustment parameter
 - VOM combined in some calculations, like no load.
- The IMM and RECO packages clarify and consolidate the use of variable operations costs.
- The PJM and AEP proposals do not.

Magnitude of Short Run Marginal Costs

	Short Run		
	Marginal Costs	Heat Rate	VOM
Unit Type	(\$/MWh)	(Btu/kWh)	(\$/MWh)
CT	\$28.95	9,437	\$0.25
CC	\$20.07	6,679	\$1.00
CP	\$30.52	9,250	\$4.00
DS	\$142.62	9,660	\$0.25
Nuclear	\$8.50	NA	\$3.00
Wind	\$0.00	NA	\$0.00
Solar	\$0.00	NA	\$0.00

- The VOM level in the State of the Market Report reflects only variable operations costs.
- Short run marginal costs also include fuel and emissions allowance costs.

Variable Maintenance Costs

- Manual 15 describes maintenance costs based on FERC accounts and excludes some maintenance costs from energy market cost-based offers.
- OA Schedule 2 describes:
 - incremental maintenance
 - incremental labor costs
 - peak prepared for maintenance costs
 - maintenance adder
- Only the IMM package would clarify that maintenance costs are not short run marginal costs and not includable in cost-based offers.

Monitoring Analytics

Maintenance Costs in Cost-Based Offers

- The IMM monitors and analyzes the use of maintenance costs in cost-based offers.
- Includable maintenance costs are not consistently defined across market participants.
- The IMM and RECO packages provide transparency around the application of the market rules with respect to VOM
- The PJM and AEP packages do not provide transparency around the application of the market rules with respect to VOM.

Market Impacts

- Maintenance costs affect LMP directly for marginal units. (See SOM Table 3-85)
- Maintenance costs affect uplift, run hours, cycling, and withholding for all units.
- Specific provisions in M15 exacerbate the effects of maintenance costs on the energy market.
 - Maintenance in dollars per start or per hour
 - Cyclic starting and peaking factors

VOM Outcomes Ranked by Effectiveness of Market Power Mitigation

- 1. Short Run Marginal Cost, IMM package
- 2. Capped VOM levels, RECO proposal
- 3. Status Quo
- 4. Increase allowable maintenance costs, optional EIA Defaults, no fixed maintenance for energy only resources, AEP package
- 5. Increase allowable maintenance costs, include fixed maintenance for energy only resources, PJM package

Tariff Changes

- Clear definitions of includable costs in cost-based offers should be included in the PJM tariff.
- The IMM package includes tariff changes, because the IMM thinks the result of any VOM package should be clarified in the tariff.
- All packages should be held to the same standard regarding whether tariff changes are required to define VOM in cost-based energy offers.

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