



### Offshore Wind Development through the Interconnection Queue

#### **Problem / Opportunity Statement**

Improve interconnection process to allow merchant transmission developers to request capacity interconnection rights, or equivalent rights, for non-controllable A.C. transmission facilities that will provide interconnection points for future off-shore generation resources.

OATT Section 36.1.03 allows Merchant Transmission Interconnection Requests to obtain Transmission Injection and/or Withdrawal Rights if the facilities are Merchant D.C. Transmission Facilities or Controllable A.C. Merchant Transmission Facilities that are connected to another control area outside of PJM.

Transmission developers have expressed interest to develop A.C Transmission Facilities that will provide a connection for future Generation Interconnection Requests, which may not be in the queue. Proposed merchant transmission facilities may consist of a single offshore generator lead line or networked offshore transmission facilities for interconnection of future generation. These transmission developers are interested in obtaining Capacity Interconnection Rights to ensure PJM can identify the necessary network upgrades in support of the future generation.

#### **Issue Source:**

The existing Tariff and interconnection process do not accommodate the option to propose merchant transmission facilities for future generation interconnection where the developer would be eligible for interconnection rights that could be used for future generators.

#### **Stakeholder Group Assignment**

PJM proposes that this issue be addressed at the Planning Committee.

#### **Key Work Activities**

PJM proposes the following work activities:

1. Education of the current interconnection study process and the interconnection rights that can be granted through the process. The education will clarify what is unique about the proposed merchant transmission developer requests related to offshore grid development that is different from existing merchant transmission projects that are currently in the queue.
2. Explore alternatives, if any, in two phases to address the challenges with interconnecting merchant transmission such that the project may be eligible for rights that can be used for interconnection of future offshore generation.
  - a. Phase 1 - Single non-controllable AC lead line
  - b. Phase 2 - Networked offshore interconnection transmission facilities
3. Review and endorse governing documents to implement alternatives.



## Problem Statement & Issue Charge

### **Expected Deliverables**

PJM expects to complete work within the Planning Committee in two Phases:

Phase 1 – Present draft language by July 2019

Phase 2 – Complete by September 2020

### **Decision-Making Method**

Tier 1, consensus (unanimity) on a single proposal

### **Expected Duration of Work Timeline**

PJM expects to be able to conduct the discussion within the scheduled monthly Planning Committee meetings. As determined by the PC members, special PC sessions may be scheduled. If special PC sessions are scheduled, the frequency would be monthly. PJM anticipates starting work in January 2019 and completing phase 1 activities by September 2019 and Phase 2 by September 2020.