PJM Resource Adequacy Senior Task Force

PJM Industrial Customer Coalition's Perspective on KWA #1

January 10, 2022

Susan E. Bruce

McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC

sbruce@mcneeslaw.com



PJMICC in a Nutshell

- Ad hoc coalition of approximately 30 energy-intensive businesses and institutions located within the PJM footprint
- Active in PJM stakeholder process through several PJMICC members that are also PJM Members
- Engaged at FERC/appellate courts
- Focus: Supporting reliable electric service using competitive forces to discipline ultimate cost to customers
 - Use markets to realize customer preferences from the type of pricing (e.g., index vs. fixed pricing) to the favored level of reliability
- Presentation for discussion purposes only and does not reflect the views of any individual PJMICC member



It's All Happening ...

- Significant growth in businesses and institutions pursuing "green power"
 - Federal and state policies
 - Renewable Portfolio Standard mandates
 - Corporate sustainability goals
- Declining technology costs and rising capacity and usage factors
- Renewable energy procurement has proven to be resilient to pandemic and recession forces



Current State of Play

- A vibrant bilateral market has developed to support renewable project development as reflected in the PJM generation interconnection queues
 - Generally developed through RFPs or bilateral negotiations, including development of Letters of Intent and long-term renewable energy power purchase agreements
 - E.g., delivery of physical power and renewable energy credits to customers and virtual power purchase agreements (e.g., contracts for differences) with delivery of renewable energy credits to project off-takers
 - Interlocking suite of agreements, including renewable energy purchase agreements (REPAs) to arrangements with tax equity investors, etc.



Getting from Here to There ...

- Current bilateral approach has facilitated customer choice in pursuing sustainability mandates, allowing for counterparties to allocate risk and benefits, including:
 - Credit risk
 - Supply chain risks
 - Interconnection risks
 - Site development risks
 - Project/REC availability
 - Regulatory change

Reflected in tailored, transaction-specific agreements



What Is the Problem To Be Solved?

- There is a lot that is working in the bilateral market to accommodate customer preferences for renewable energy attributes
 - Accommodates different state mandates
 - Facilitates individual customer preferences not one size fits all
 - Supports customers' efforts to build "additionality"
 - Exists independent of evolving state and federal policies
 - Drives innovation, including with respect to the bilateral market platform (e.g., web-based platforms)
- Concern that dedicating time to forward procurement of clean energy may undercut existing forward momentum in bilateral market



6

What Opportunity Exists?

Current approach is not without drawbacks, including

- Negotiating offtake arrangements can be very time and resource intensive
- Lack of standardization adds to transaction costs
- Lack of transparency
- Complexity
- Transaction costs may be a barrier for some businesses/institutions incorporating sustainability mandates
- As such, there may be value in considering developing a <u>voluntary</u> market around clean attributes
 - Should complement, not supplant, current market dynamics

© 2022 McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC

www.mcneeslaw.com

Some Pragmatic Considerations

Why a voluntary market?

- Differing customer preferences and state requirements across the PJM footprint
- Questionable jurisdictional authority for a regional mandatory clean energy market
- Any mandatory market would need to internalize numerous risks, e.g., supply chain; supply chain integrity; PJM queue reform, that may be better handled bilaterally
- Corollary issue: Provided that robust bilateral markets are not thwarted, a voluntary market <u>could</u> reflect exogenous costs (however defined)
 - PJM's existing markets should not be tied to the social cost of carbon absent a federal mandate

© 2022 McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC

8

www.mcneeslaw.com

Some Pragmatic Considerations

Why PJM?

- In-house tracking through GATS platform
- PJM Member interest
- PJM track-record in operating markets
- Transformative change within an industry with a deep history of transformation
- BUT ... PJM's mission is providing reliable electric supply at least cost how do clean energy attributes fit?





