

U. S. Department of Energy National Electric Transmission Congestion Study Workshop Saint Louis, Missouri



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CONGESTION IN THE MIDWEST

- Midwest ISO performs regular congestion studies looking at historical and expected future congestion
 - Top Congested Flowgate Study
 - Cross-Border Congested Flowgates (with PJM)
- Significant congestion exists in several areas
 - Southeast Missouri, Southern Illinois and Indiana
 - Chicago area, Southern Wisconsin and Northern Indiana surrounding Lake Michigan
 - Indiana and Kentucky border
- Historically, dozens of transmission projects were evaluated to mitigate congestion on the top congested flowgates
 - RECB II Benefit/Cost Threshold was used
 - Only one small project passed the criteria



SOLUTIONS TO CONGESTION

- MISO developed a multi-benefit, portfolio approach for transmission expansion planning and cost allocation
- A Multi Value Project (MVP) must:
 - Enable the Transmission System to reliably and economically deliver energy in support of documented energy policy mandates or laws that have been enacted or adopted through state or federal legislation or regulatory requirement
 - The MVP must be shown to enable the transmission system to deliver such energy in a manner that is more reliable and/or more economic than it otherwise would be without the transmission upgrade.
- MVPs are evaluated on a portfolio basis to ensure reasonable alignment between benefits and cost allocations
- MVP Portfolio benefits include integration of renewable resources, reduced congestion, and increased reliability, among other benefits

Result: Projects that could not be justified based on congestion mitigation alone can now be developed based on the broad array of benefits.





FUTURE IMPACTS ON CONGESTION

- MISO is continuing to evaluate other transmission projects
 - Southeast Missouri and Southern Illinois area will likely require mitigation
 - Over 6000 MW of generation is concentrated in this area
- Other factors to consider
 - Continued wind development
 - Plant closures due to market conditions, age, and/or environmental regulations
 - Changing generation dispatch patterns due to environmental regulations (eg. gas generation favored over coal)
 - Impact of transmission maintenance on congestion
 - New generation
 - New market participants
 - Changing load profiles due to demand response and energy efficiency or economic conditions



OTHER ISSUES

- DOE congestion studies should include a variety of scenarios
 - Economic
 - Environmental Regulations
 - Gas Prices
 - Generation fleet mix
 - Transmission system buildout
- EIPC/EISPC scenario analysis could be helpful
- RTOs provide good data source



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