

EQR Users' Group Meeting

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 1st Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

July 13, 2011

Reasons For EQR Redesign

- Performance and Scalability
- Modernization and Support
- Database Stability
- Service-Oriented Architecture
- Out of Software Business

Performance and Scalability

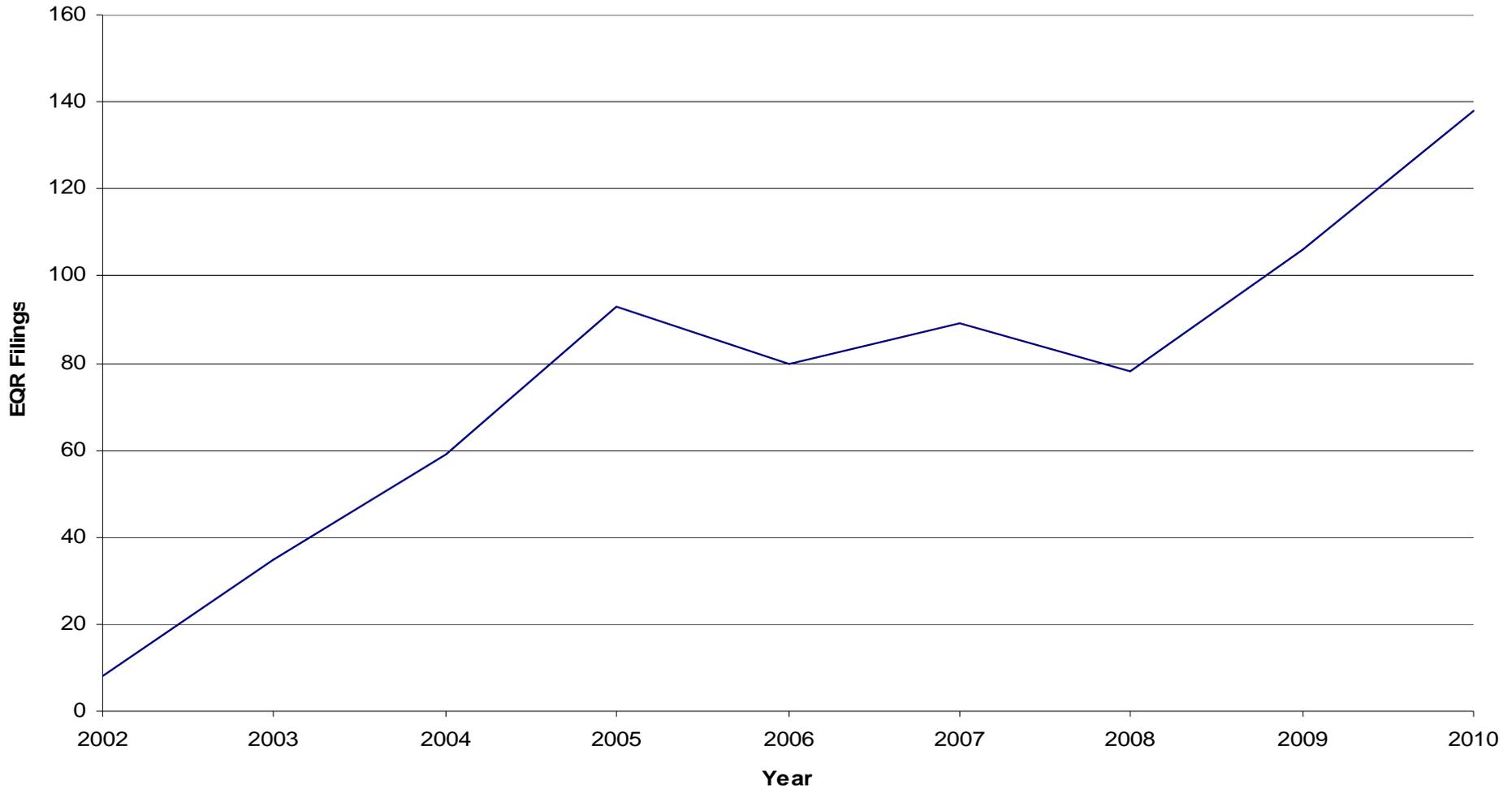
- The EQR Database is over 83 GB in size
- There are almost 1,500 EQR respondents
- In recent years, very large filings (100,000+ transactions) have been growing
- Many respondents refile their entire EQR
- In recent quarters, FERC has been receiving over 12 million lines of EQR transactions

Performance and Scalability (cont.)

- As the EQR database grows, performance has been adversely affected
 - It takes longer to unzip and upload large EQR filings
 - It takes longer to repack and re-index the EQR database after each filing is uploaded
 - It takes longer to back up the EQR database
 - There are only certain windows when EQR data can be loaded

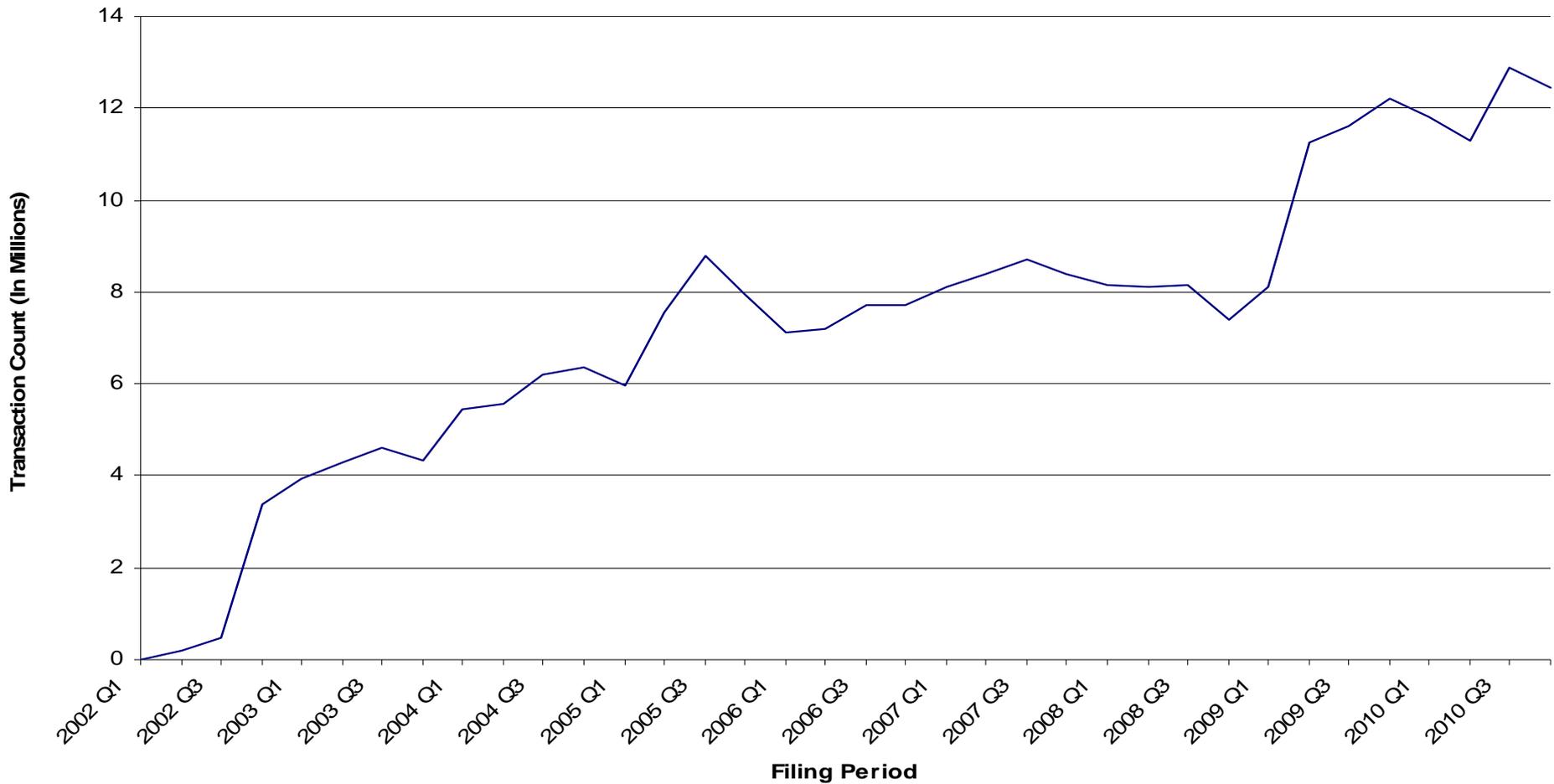
Very Large EQR Filings

Very Large EQR Filings (100,000+ Transactions) Have Been Growing Over Time



EQR Transactions

EQR Reported Transactions Have Been Growing Over Time



Modernization and Support

- In 2007, Microsoft announced that they would not be releasing any new versions of Visual FoxPro
- Microsoft only plans to support the Visual FoxPro core for a few more years
- Because of Microsoft's decision, fewer and fewer IT professionals today are specialists in Visual FoxPro

Database Stability

- EQR database stability is essential for many reasons
 - To ensure that rates are on file and available for public inspection
 - To allow public utilities and power marketers to summarize their contracts
 - To allow tariff holders without effective contracts and transactions to file ID data

Database Stability (cont.)

- EQR database stability is threatened by many factors
 - The increasing size of the database
 - The increasing number of respondents
 - The increasing size of the filings
 - The increasing frequency of refilings
 - The decreasing support from Microsoft
 - The decreasing number of FoxPro IT specialists

Service-Oriented Architecture

- Shared Components are valued at FERC
 - Registering authorized filers
 - Acknowledging receipt of submissions
 - Accepting EQR filings as valid
 - Sending out reminders
 - Sending out summaries
 - Logging events

Out of Software Supplying/Support Business

- FERC is not in the software business
- IT best practices have evolved over time
- FERC does not want to assume liability for IT architecture out of FERC's control
- Unexpected problems can arise
 - Bugs
 - System incompatibility
 - Software limitations
 - Licensing issues
 - Manufacturer business decisions