

146 FERC ¶ 61,159
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

March 6, 2014

In Reply Refer To:
ISO New England Inc.
Docket No. ER14-970-000

ISO New England Inc.
Attn: Kevin W. Flynn
Senior Regulatory Counsel, ISO New England Inc.
One Sullivan Road
Holyoke, MA 01040-2841

Day Pitney LLP
Attn: Patrick M. Gerity
New England Power Pool Participants Committee
242 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103-1212

Dear Mr. Flynn and Mr. Gerity:

1. On January 10, 2014, pursuant to section 205 of the Federal Power Act (FPA)¹ and Order No. 787,² ISO New England Inc. (ISO-NE) and the New England Power Pool Participants Committee (together, Filing Parties) submitted proposed revisions to ISO-NE's Transmission, Markets and Services Tariff (Tariff) to allow the sharing of confidential information concerning natural gas-fired generation with the operating personnel of the interstate natural gas pipeline companies.³ As discussed below, the

¹ 16 U.S.C. § 824d (2012).

² *Communication of Operational Information Between Natural Gas Pipelines and Electric Transmission Operators*, Order No. 787, 78 Fed. Reg. 70,163 (Nov. 22, 2013), FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,350 (2013) (cross-referenced at 145 FERC ¶ 61,134 (2013)).

³ ISO New England Inc., ISO New England Inc. Transmission, Markets and Services Tariff, [Attachment D, Attachment D ISO-NE Information Policy, 14.0.0](#).

Commission accepts the proposed Tariff revisions, effective January 11, 2014, as requested.

2. In Order No. 787, the Commission revised its regulations to provide explicit authority to interstate natural gas pipelines and public utilities that own, operate, or control facilities used for the transmission of electric energy in interstate commerce to share non-public, operational information with each other for the purpose of promoting reliable service or operational planning on either the public utility's or pipeline's system. The Commission stated that, to the extent an electric transmission operator wants to take advantage of the information sharing provided for by Order No. 787 but has existing tariff provisions that prevent it from doing so, the transmission operator must first make a section 205 filing with the Commission to allow the sharing of such information.⁴

3. Explaining that ISO-NE's current Tariff does not permit the type of communications authorized under Order No. 787, the Filing Parties propose revisions that explicitly authorize ISO-NE to share confidential information concerning natural gas-fueled generation located in New England with the operating personnel of interstate natural gas pipeline companies, provided that it is operationally necessary to share the information and that it will be shared only with the pipeline directly serving that generator. More specifically, the proposed changes allow ISO-NE to provide interstate natural gas pipeline operators with output schedules for individual generators and discuss real-time information concerning specific resources for the purpose of maintaining reliability. The Filing Parties contend that, by sharing this information, ISO-NE and the interstate natural gas pipeline operators will have a better picture of their combined systems, will be able to discuss specific conditions instead of generalities, and may be able to take actions, under their existing authorities, to avoid reliability problems. Additionally, the Filing Parties suggest that, by sharing this information with the interstate natural gas pipeline operators, the pipeline operators may be able to provide information on gas availability that will allow ISO-NE to better anticipate and address potential reliability problems in the event that there is insufficient fuel for all gas-fired generators to meet their schedules.

4. Notice of ISO-NE and NEPOOL's filing was published in the *Federal Register*, 79 Fed. Reg. 3368, (2014), with interventions and protests due on or before January 31, 2014. Exelon Corporation and Northeast Utilities Service Company submitted timely motions to intervene. No protests or adverse comments were filed. Pursuant to Rule 214

⁴ Order No. 787, FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,150 at P 135 (cross-referenced at 145 FERC ¶ 61,134 at P 135).

of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure,⁵ the timely, unopposed motions to intervene serve to make the entities that filed them parties to this proceeding.

5. The Commission accepts the proposed Tariff revisions for filing, as the revisions are consistent with the explicit authority provided in Order No. 787 to any public utility that owns, operates, or controls facilities used for the transmission of electric energy in interstate commerce to share non-public, operational information with a pipeline or another public utility for the purpose of promoting reliable service or operational planning. We find that the proposed Tariff revisions will improve communication and coordination among ISO-NE and operating personnel of the interstate natural gas pipeline companies in New England to ensure that the ISO-NE and interstate natural gas pipeline control room operators have better information on which to base operating decisions. We also find that the sharing of real-time information concerning specific generation resources as proposed here will aid the operators in promoting the reliability of the interstate natural gas pipeline service and ISO-NE's system.

6. The proposed Tariff revisions are hereby accepted for filing, effective January 11, 2014, as requested.

By direction of the Commission.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

⁵ 18 C.F.R. § 385.214 (2013).