

149 FERC ¶ 61,067
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

October 23, 2014

In Reply Refer To:
Midcontinent Independent System
Operator, Inc.
Docket No. ER14-2599-000

Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.
P.O. Box 4202
Carmel, IN 46032-4202

Attention: Michael L. Kessler

Dear Mr. Kessler:

1. On August 5, 2014, Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO) filed proposed revisions to its Open Access Transmission, Energy and Operating Reserve Markets Tariff (Tariff) to allow External Asynchronous Resources (EARs)¹ to export energy from the MISO Energy and Operating Reserve Markets (Bi-Directional EARs Filing). Under MISO's proposal, EARs would retain the existing ability to import energy to the MISO region, and also purchase dispatchable energy exports. MISO states that allowing EARs to purchase energy from the MISO region is expected to result in a reduction of operating reserve costs and Real-Time price volatility during minimum generation periods.
2. MISO requests an effective date of March 1, 2015 for the proposed Tariff provisions and requests waiver of the Commission's regulations requiring that proposed revisions to rate schedules be filed no earlier than 120 days before the requested effective

¹ The Tariff defines an External Asynchronous Resource as: "An asynchronous DC tie between the synchronous Eastern Interconnection grid and an asynchronous grid that is represented within the Transmission Provider Region through a Dynamic Interchange Schedule Import Schedule in the Day-Ahead Energy and Operating Reserve Market and/or Real-Time Energy and Operating Reserve Market. External Asynchronous Resources are located where the asynchronous tie terminates in the synchronous Eastern Interconnection grid." MISO, FERC Electric Tariff, Module A, § 1.E "External Asynchronous Resource" (33.0.0).

date.² MISO states that good cause exists to grant the waiver because of the complexity of software and system development and the lead-time necessary to test and finalize software and system changes.

3. Notice of the Bi-Directional EARs Filing was published in the *Federal Register*, 79 Fed. Reg. 47,097 (2014), with interventions and protests due on or before August 26, 2014. Manitoba Hydro and MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed timely motions to intervene and comments. On September 9, 2014, MISO filed a motion for leave to answer Manitoba Hydro's and MidAmerican's comments and an answer.

4. Manitoba Hydro supports MISO's proposed Tariff revisions. However, it finds errors and omissions in Tariff Module A and Section 40.3.3b.vi. Manitoba Hydro suggests that in Module A the definition of "Hourly Emergency Minimum Limit" should be revised to include a reference to "or External Asynchronous Resource" and in section 40.3.3b.vi, the words "Offer curve" should be inserted after the word "Energy" in the second paragraph. MidAmerican generally supports MISO's filing but suggests the following revisions: (1) adding the reference "External Asynchronous Resource" to the Module A definition "Hourly Emergency Minimum Limit" and (2) deleting in section 39.2.5B.b the phrase "for which the Market Participant is willing to sell Energy and/or Operating Reserve." MISO states, in its answer, that it agrees with all of these clarifications and further agrees to remedy these errors and omissions in a compliance filing if so directed by the Commission.

5. Pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 C.F.R. § 385.214 (2014), the timely, unopposed motions to intervene serve to make the entities that filed them parties to this proceeding. Rule 213(a)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 C.F.R. § 385.213(a)(2) (2014), prohibits answers to protests unless otherwise permitted by the decisional authority. We will accept MISO's answer because it provides information that assisted us in our decision-making process.

6. We conditionally accept the Tariff revisions, effective March 1, 2015, as requested, subject to MISO making a compliance filing. For good cause shown, we grant MISO's request for waiver of the Commission's prior notice requirements.³ We direct

² 18 C.F.R. § 35.3(a)(1) (2014).

³ *Id.*

MISO to submit a compliance filing, within 30 days of the date of this order making the revisions identified by Manitoba Hydro and MidAmerican, and agreed to by MISO in its answer.

By direction of the Commission.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.