

# **Uplift Allocation and Causation**

## **The Myth of Balanced Schedules Why Allocation to Deviations is a Flawed Approach**

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# Discussion Topics

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## ■ Uplift Allocation

- ISO-wide comparison of uplift allocation
- Balancing market commitments primarily caused by factors other than financial bids
- Uplift's relationship with "price formation" problems
- Beneficiary (load) pays principle: Balancing uplift from RT price formation issues not only lowers RT prices, but also lowers DA and forward market prices
- Importance of convergence bidding for market efficiency

# Market Comparison of Uplift Allocation

## Higher Balancing Uplift Rates in PJM Create a Significant Barrier for Convergence Bidding

### Uplift - What/How Others Are Really Paying

ISO	Live Date	Netting	RT Uplift	Avg \$/MW 2013
ERCOT	Dec-10	YES	Hourly Net short	\$0.02
NYISO	Dec-99	N/A	N/A	N/A
CALISO	Apr-09	YES	Hourly Net short	\$0.26 (FMM)
MISO	Apr-06	YES	DDC: Hourly Net Short	\$1.00 (DDC)
		(MARKET WIDE)	CMC: Hourly Net Flows	\$0.02 (CMC)
PJM	Jun-00	Yes for Physical	Daily Abs MW	\$3.28 (East)
		No for Financial		\$1.65 (West)
SPP	Mar-14	NO	Daily Abs MW	\$1.82 (H1 2014)



<http://www.pjm.com/~media/committees-groups/task-forces/emustf/20140813/20140813-item-03-red-wolf-xo-energy-proposal.ashx>



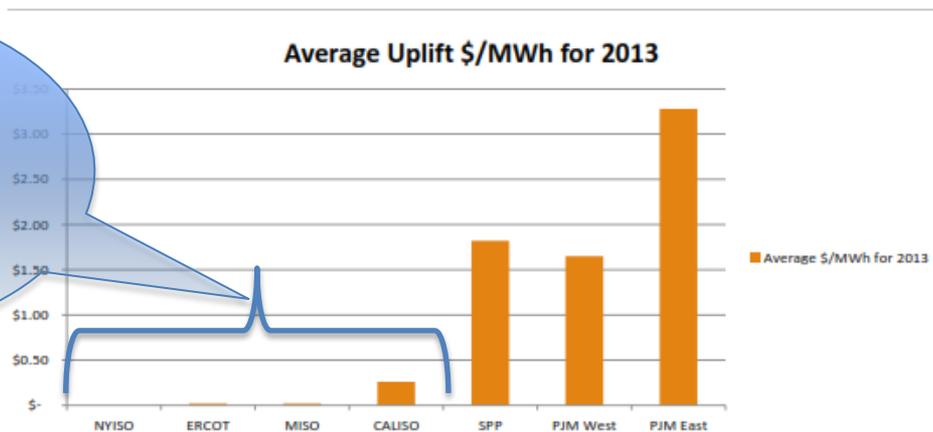
The flaw in PJM uplift allocation is the presumption that schedule deviations are the primary cause of real-time (RT) uplift

# Market Comparison of Uplift Allocation

## Higher Balancing Uplift Rates in PJM Create a Significant Barrier for Convergence Bidding

How PJM Really Stacks Up!!

Markets with structures that facilitate convergence trading



\*Note: SPP has same Market Design and uplift allocation as PJM (H1 2014)



<http://www.pjm.com/~media/committees-groups/task-forces/emustf/20140813/20140813-item-03-red-wolf-xo-energy-proposal.ashx>

The flaw in PJM uplift allocation is the presumption that schedule deviations are the primary cause of real-time (RT) uplift

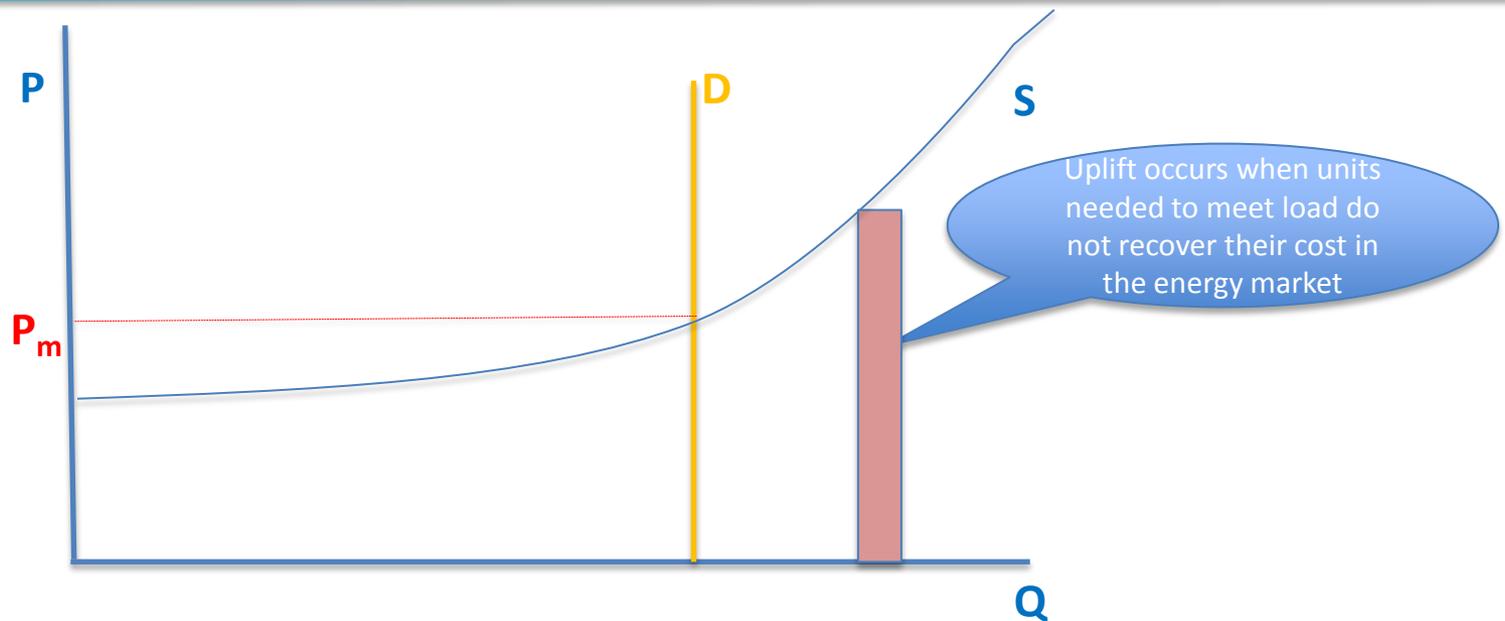
# RT Commitments Not Due to Financial Bids

## Reasons for Uplift

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- Generators need make-whole payments (uplift):
  - Marginal units start-up and no-load costs
  - Marginal units may not be “in merit” for many intervals of their commitment cycle
  - Price formation issues identified in AD14-14
- Many (most) reasons for balancing market commitments unrelated to financial bids:
  - Operator out-of-market actions
  - Local reliability requirements
  - Transmission outages
  - Load forecast error
  - Generator trips
  - Voltage issues
  - Changes in loop flow between DA and RT
- PJM, has been able to reduce uplift merely by reducing their reliance on expensive steam units in the Reliability Commitment, without deviations changing
- Not all deviations are equal – many financial bids actually improve the day-ahead commitment and reduce overall costs

# Uplift Allocation Cannot Be Separated from Price Formation Problems Identified in AD14-14



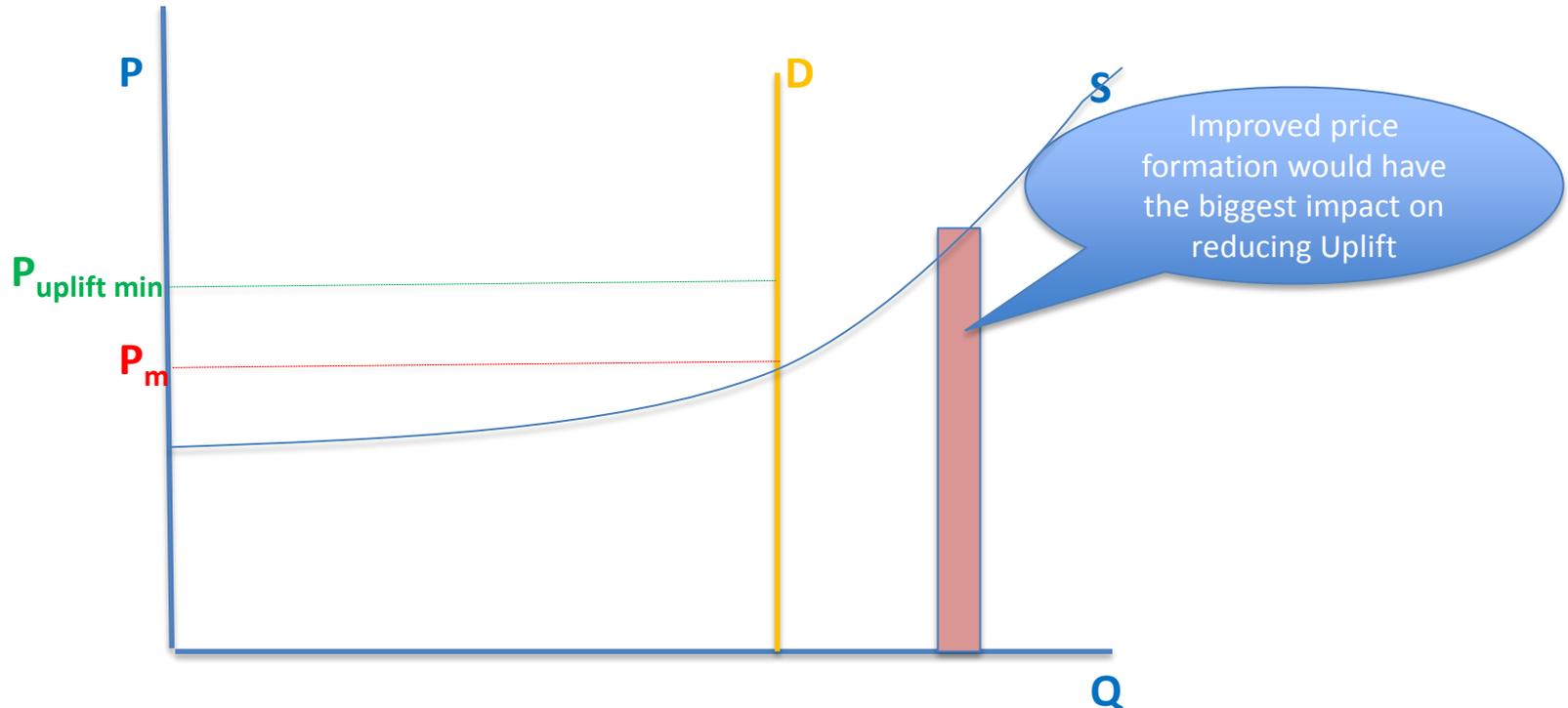
- In a more perfect theoretical market, prices would be high enough to fully compensate all generators running to meet load
- A primary cause of uplift is the software issues that prevent units from setting correct prices in the RT market, as noted in the Staff white paper from AD14-14 and pointed out in the subsequent technical conferences
- **If the RT prices were “right,” there would not be much uplift**

# Uplift Allocation

## Need for Improved Price Formation

- Price formation issues in the RT markets are a major contributor to uplift (see FERC Docket AD14-14)
  - Peakers committed and not setting price
  - Peakers unable to adjust bids in RT if costs increase
  - Pricing of shortage events like load reduction
  - Co-optimization of reserves/energy

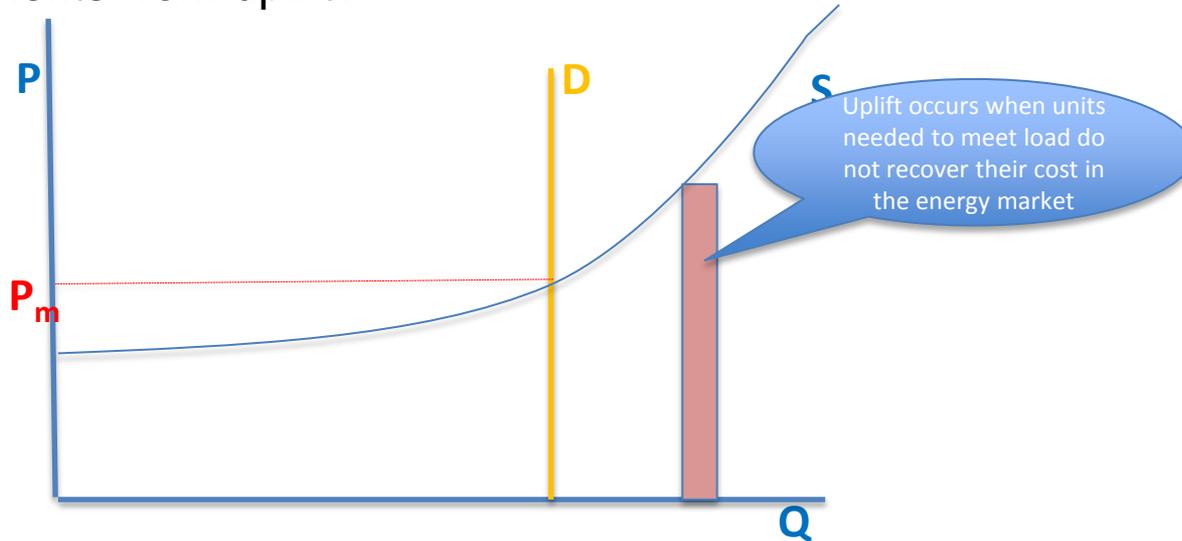
<http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventDetails.aspx?ID=7424&CalType=%20b>



- If RT prices were “right” we’d have much less uplift
  - Prices would be higher
  - Some financial deviations would pay more, some less

# Beneficiary Pays Approach Would Allocate Uplift to Buyers

- Who benefits from uplift?



- Load/buyers benefit from the inherent price suppression implied by the fact that marginal units must be paid outside (and over and above) the normal market price formation mechanism
  - We accept the assigning of uplift costs to load for the day-ahead market
  - But DA load also benefits from price suppression in the RT market through the price convergence process
- What about load that buys DA with no deviations?
  - Imagine the thought experiment: What if RT imbalances were settled for \$0/MWh?

The existence of uplift in the RT market means that both DA and forward market prices are less than they would be without the RT price suppression

# Convergence Bidding Is Important for Market Efficiency

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- Convergence trading (Incs, Decs, UTCs) improves price convergence and market price signals
  - Incs replace the missing DA gen
  - Decs replace the missing DA load
  - UTCs make DA congestion look more like the “real” RT congestion
- A robust convergence bidding market is critical for the PJM market to work properly
  - A fact from AD14-14 is that peaking units cannot set price in the Day-ahead market in PJM
  - Because of this, day-ahead price efficiency requires a robust market of incs and decs and UTCs
- ISO markets are extremely competitive when they are open to financial market participants facilitating the convergence of DA and RT markets
  - Isolated load and generation pockets with limited access to transmission need to be addressed through market mitigation (such as bid caps, FTR forfeiture rule, etc.)
  - For the broader ISO market, the Commission should promote market structures – and cost allocation rules -- that reduce the barriers to these important and efficiency-enhancing transactions