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October 18, 2012

Commissioner John R. Norris

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

STATEMENT

Docket No. ER12-1179-000

Item No. E-4

Statement of Commissioner John R. Norris on Southwest Power Pool

"I want to thank the FERC team for their work on this order and their on-going work to support the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) effort to open its Day Two Market. I also want to acknowledge and thank the staff and stakeholders at SPP for all of their work to better serve consumers throughout their region by creating a better marketplace and bringing about the efficiencies that good market operation will provide.

"I recognize today's order requires more work, but that should not be a surprise to anyone who has been involved with creating an electricity market design from the ground up. This is really a collaborative effort among SPP, its stakeholders, and federal and state regulators. An order like this one is in no way a reflection on the quality of work that has been done so far - it is simply the next step in the process towards a robust market design with clear rules that support reliable operations and efficient markets. This process, however, does not end with the start-up of the Integrated Marketplace in 2014. Today's order calls for SPP to step back after it has one year of experience running its new market so that we can all assess what has worked well and identify where further changes may be needed.

"Today's order is a very positive signal that this project is progressing and moving forward in the right direction and I am optimistic it can be achieved in time for the 2014 launch planned by SPP."