

# **An Efficient Alternative for A Allocating FTR Underfunding Costs**

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#### **Principles to Govern FTR Funding Alternatives**

- The development of a reasonable and efficient FTR funding alternative should:
  - ✓ Recognize that FTRs are financial instruments that should embody well-defined economic property rights; and
  - ✓ Be governed by sound economic principles.
- We propose the following principles:
  - Settlement obligations should be as well-defined as possible;
  - Settlements of FTRs should be non-discriminatory;
  - ✓ FTR shortfall costs should be allocated consistent with cost causation.
- The status quo in PJM is inconsistent with these principles and the PJM proposal makes it worse.



## A Simple and Efficient Alternative for FTR Funding

- Step 1: Stop Allocating Balancing Congestion to FTR Holders
  - ✓ FTRs and their holders do nothing to create balancing congestion
  - ✓ Balancing congestion is unrelated to the portfolio of FTRs that an RTO has issued.
  - ✓ PJM's proposal in 2012 to allocate negative balancing congestion to transmission customers is reasonable.
- Step 2: Fully Fund All FTRs
  - Recognizes that FTR holders do not cause under-funding;
  - ✓ Makes FTRs more valuable for hedging and facilitating efficient trading and forward contracting;
  - ✓ Ensures that prevailing flow and counter flow FTRs settle in a non-discriminatory manner.





## A Simple and Efficient Alternative for FTR Funding

- <u>Step 3</u>: Allocate shortfalls due to transmission outages to responsible transmission owners, and the balance to transmission customers.
  - ✓ Consistent with cost-causation and will provide efficient incentives for the transmission owners;
  - ✓ Transmission customers ultimately pay for FTR underfunding today through reduced ARR allocations and lower FTR revenues (FTR prices fall due to underfunding expectations).
  - ✓ Would likely reduce transmission customers' costs by removing the effects of FTR funding uncertainty from FTR prices.
  - ✓ The allocation to transmission customers can be deliberately designed to achieve equity objectives and minimize cost-shifting.
    - Allows for an equitable allocation of infeasible ARRs if that is deemed important.



#### **Comparison to PJM Proposal**

In contrast, the proposed PJM alternative would:

- Increase the discrimination against counterflow FTRs and restrict efficient FTR trading as a result;
- In times of FTR surpluses, this discrimination would create adverse (gaming) incentives to hold offsetting FTR positions.
- Provide no incentives for parties that actually cause underfunding to take actions to reduce it.
- Create significant cost-shifting by recovering negative balancing congestion costs largely through reduced ARR allocations/FTR revenues.
- Create a process that will predictably build transmission uneconomically.
  - ✓ The fact that ARRs are infeasible on a path does not indicate that investment is economic.
  - ✓ Inflating load forecasts will exacerbate this problem and raise costs to PJM's customers.