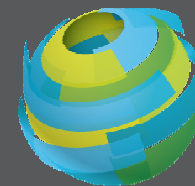


# The Flex DA/RT Co-Optimization Model Method:

*A More Efficient Unit Commitment  
For an Uncertain Grid*

FERC Technical Conference:  
Increasing RT/DA Efficiency Through Improved Software  
Washington, D.C.  
June 22-24, 2015

**Charlie Noble**



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# Overview



1. Setting the DA Position: A Brief History
2. Proposed Methodology
3. Characteristics of the Modified Solution
4. Review of DA & RT Deviation - MISO
5. Modification of the Objective Function
6. Example Flex DA/RT
7. Benefits of the Flex DA/RT Methodology
8. Summary
9. Q/A Session

# Setting the DA Position: A Brief History



- Minimize Expected Costs
  - DA Exposure is **Hedged**
  - **Risks** Are Managed
  - Portfolio is Positioned to Take Advantage of Real-Time **Opportunities**

# Setting the DA Position: A Brief History

- Hedge
  - Use of One or More Positions Within a Portfolio to Offset All or Part of the Risks Associated With Other Positions Within the Portfolio



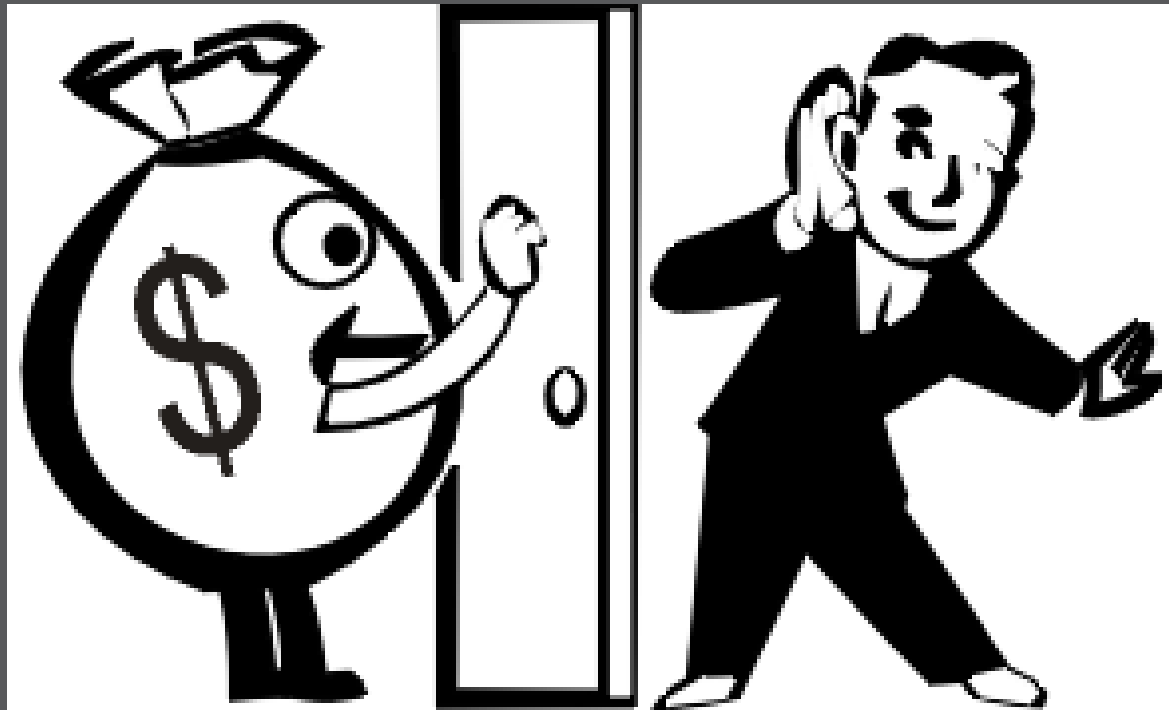
# Setting the DA Position: A Brief History

- Risk
  - Associated With Future Outcomes **Not in Your Control**
  - Taking Risks Can Be Beneficial or Costly



# Setting the DA Position: A Brief History

- Opportunity
  - Associated With Future Outcomes That **Are in Your Control**
    - E.g., Raising Generation When Prices Are High and Lowering Generation When Prices Are Low



# Unit Commitment Today?



- **Hedging:**
  - Committing the Most Cost-Effective Combination of Resources That Offset the Forecasted Energy and Ancillary Requirements, While Respecting Transmission and Unit Operation Constraints
- **Risk:**
  - Acquisition of Spinning and Non-Spinning Reserves
  - Reliability Unit Commitment (RUC)
- **Opportunity?**

# Proposed Methodology



- Monetize the Value of a Resource's Flexibility
  - Determine the Resource's "Call" and "Put" value
- Incorporate into the Objective Function
- Co-optimize with the Resource's Energy and Ancillary Benefits, **AND....**



# Proposed Methodology

**READ MY LIPS...**



**NO NEW  
CONSTRAINTS!**

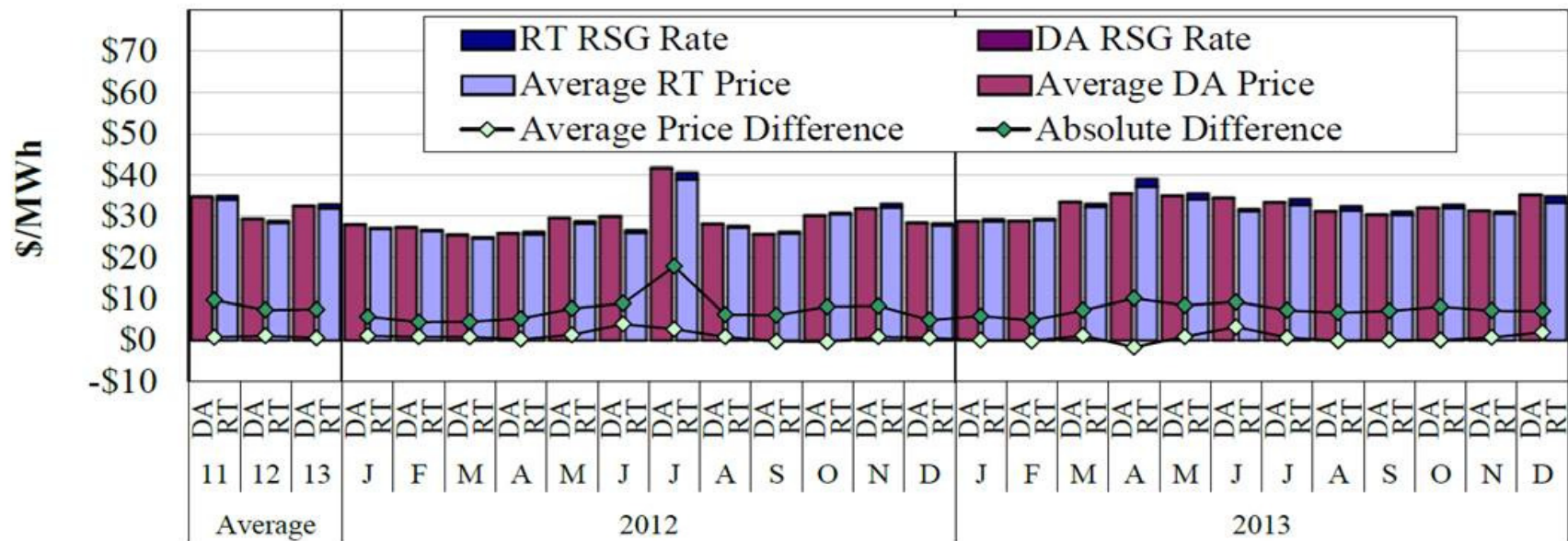
# Three Characteristics of the Solution



- The More Flexibility a Resource Offers the RTO/ISO, the More Consideration that will be Given to the Resource for Commitment
- Flexible Resources will be Given the Most Consideration Where and When RT Price Volatility is Expected to Be Highest
- Only Resources Expected to Offer **Cost Effective Flexibility Benefits** Will Be Recommended For Commitment

# Review of DA and RT Deviation: MISO

**Figure 9: Day-Ahead and Real-Time Prices**  
2012–2013



Source: Potomac Economics

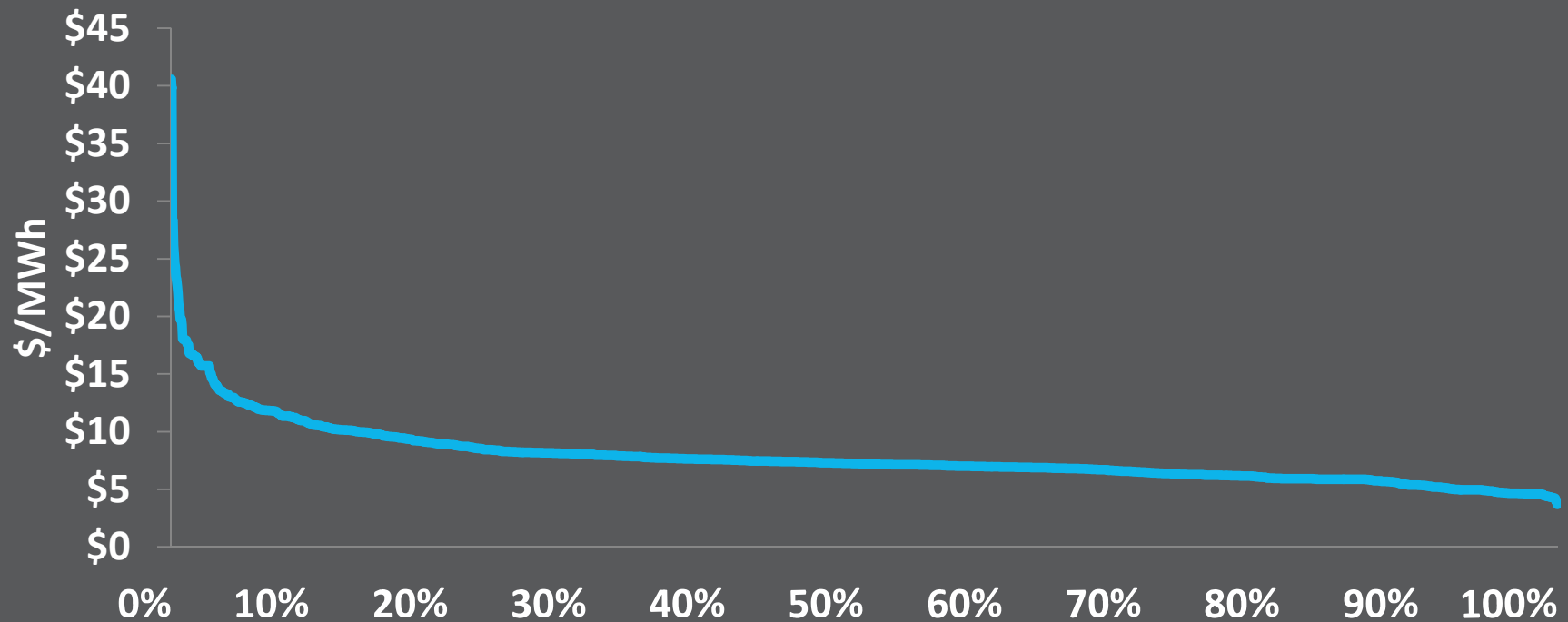
“A Number of Factors, Such as Wind Output Volatility, Forced Generation or Transmission Outages, and Load Forecasting Errors, Can Cause Real-Time Prices to Be **Significantly Higher or Lower** Than Anticipated in the Day-Ahead”

– 2013 State of the Market Report For the MISO Electricity Markets By Potomac Economics

# Review of DA & RT Deviation: MISO



DA/RT Absolute Difference  
Average by Node (Ordered Highest to Lowest)  
April 2014 - March 2015



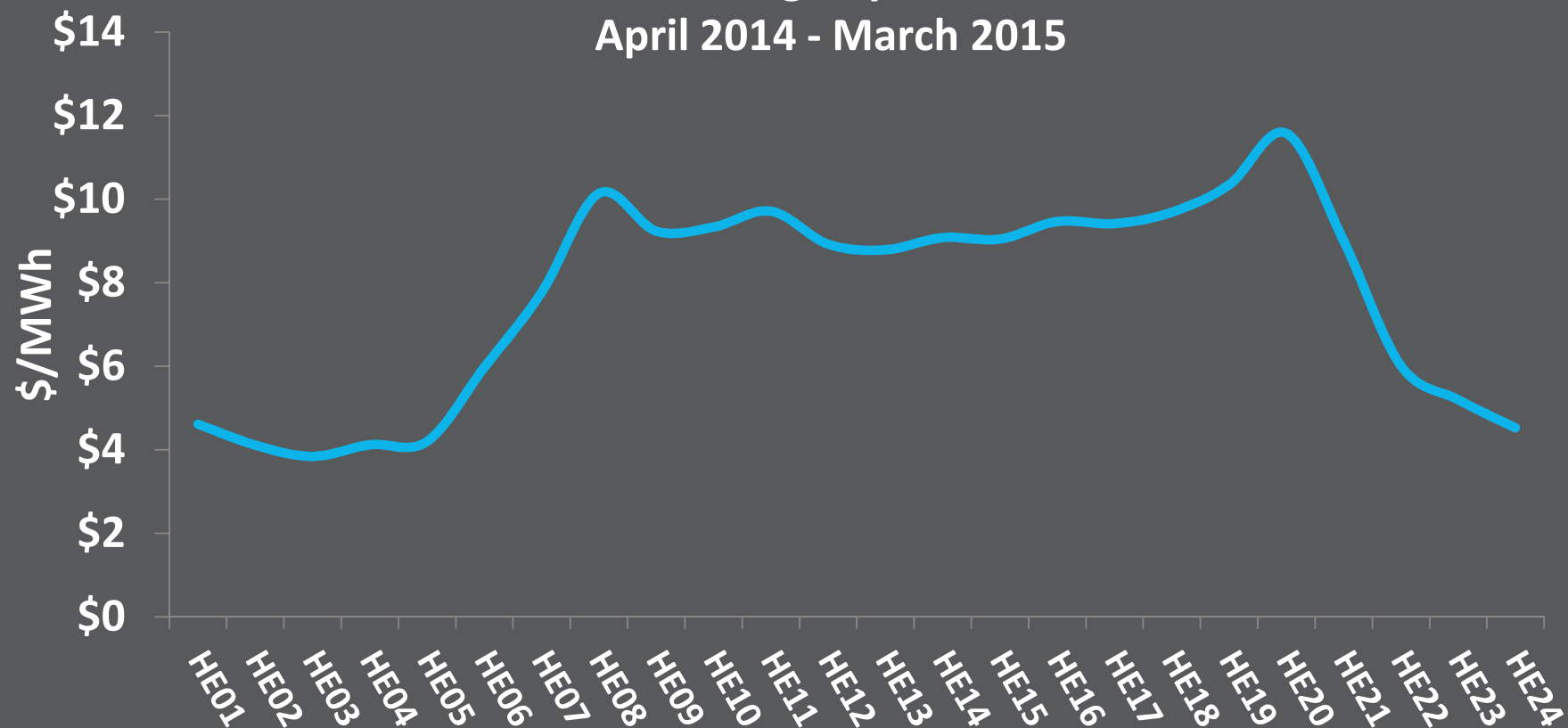
**Average Absolute Difference - \$7.67/MWh**

Average DA Price - \$31.85/MWh; Average RT Price \$31.31/MWh

# Review of DA & RT Deviation: MISO



DA/RT Absolute Difference  
Average By Hour  
April 2014 - March 2015



Source: MISO

# Modified Objective Function



- INCREMENTAL COST X OUTPUT
  - LESS (RESOURCE ECON MAX – OUTPUT) X CALL PREMIUM
  - LESS (OUTPUT – RESOURCE ECON MIN) X PUT PREMIUM

# Example Flex DA/RT: Assumptions



- Resource Operating Range
  - 40 MW to 160 MW at \$35 Cost
- Assume Ramp Rate Very Fast
- Resource Does Not Qualify For Ancillaries
- RT LMP Pattern Resembles the Role of a Dice X \$5 + \$15
  - Equal Chance of \$20, \$25, \$30, \$35, \$40, and \$45
- Assume DA LMP Clears at \$32.50
  - E.g., DA and Average RT Converge at \$32.50
  - DA and RT LMPs Similar to MISO Averages of \$31.85 and \$31.31
  - Average Absolute DA/RT Deviation = \$7.50, Similar to MISO Average of \$7.67

**Question: Should the Resource Clear DA?**

# Example Flex DA/RT – Assume 100 MWs “Flex” Clear



Resource Owner Perspective – DA Portion of Market	
Econ Max (MW)	160
Econ Min (MW)	40
Cost \$/MWh	\$35
DA LMP	\$32.50
“Flex” Cleared MW DA	100
DA Revenue	\$3,250
DA Cost	\$3,500
DA Gain/(Loss)	(\$250)



# Example Flex DA/RT – Assume 100 MWs “Flex” Clear



RT LMP \$/MWh	Initial DA Position MW	Δ RT MW Dispatch Increase/ (Decrease)	Final MW Position	RTO Charge /(Credit) to Resource @ RT LMP	Resource Incremental Savings/(Cost) @ \$35/MWh	RT Δ Operating Margin to Resource
\$20	100	(60)	40	\$1,200	\$2,100	\$900
\$25	100	(60)	40	\$1,500	\$2,100	\$600
\$30	100	(60)	40	\$1,800	\$2,100	\$300
\$35	100	0	100	\$0	\$0	0
\$40	100	60	160	(\$2,400)	(\$2,100)	\$300
\$45	100	60	160	(\$2,700)	(\$2,100)	\$600
<b>Average</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>(10)</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>(\$100)</b>	<b>\$350</b>	<b>\$450</b>
DA Gain/(Loss)						<b>\$(250)</b>
Expected RT Gain/(Loss)						<b>\$450</b>
Expected Net Gain/(Loss)						<b>\$200</b>

# Example Flex DA/RT

Call and Put Value - \$35 Resource		
RT LMP	Call Value	Put Value
\$20.00	\$0.00	\$15.00
\$25.00	\$0.00	\$10.00
\$30.00	\$0.00	\$5.00
\$35.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$40.00	\$5.00	\$0.00
\$45.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
<b>Average</b>	<b>\$2.50</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>

## Modified Objective Function:

$$\text{\$35} \times \text{DA Output} - (160 - \text{DA Output}) \times \text{\$2.50} - (\text{DA Output} - 40) \times \text{\$5.00}$$

# Benefits of Flex DA/RT



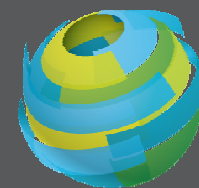
- Promotes the Use of Efficient Resources
- Promotes Stable and Predictable Prices
- Promotes the Efficient Use of Resources
- Promotes Fairness:
  - Likes Treated Like
  - Unlikes Treated Differently
- Reflects Present and Future Costs
- Promotes Innovation/Response to Change
- Feasible to Implement
- Easy to Understand

# Summary

- Expected Value of Resource Flexibility
  - Significant and Overlooked in Most of Today's Unit Commitment Methodology
  - Can Be Monetized Through Determining a Resource's "Call" and "Put" Value, and Incorporated Directly Into the Objective Function
- The Flex DA/RT Method
  - Easy to Understand and Explain
  - Feasible, Economic, and Fair



Questions?



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