

WESTERN ENERGY MARKETS

Briefing on spotlight policy initiative - gas resource management

Danny Johnson

Manager, Market Policy – Market Design

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Gas resource management initiative - background

- The initiative is considering market rule changes to ensure all regional entities can successfully participate in ISO administered markets.
 - Market wide unit commitment creates uncertainty as compared to a market participant procuring fuel to meet its own needs.
 - Differences in gas providers and gas infrastructure in the regional market footprint introduces new challenges in accurately representing fuel costs.

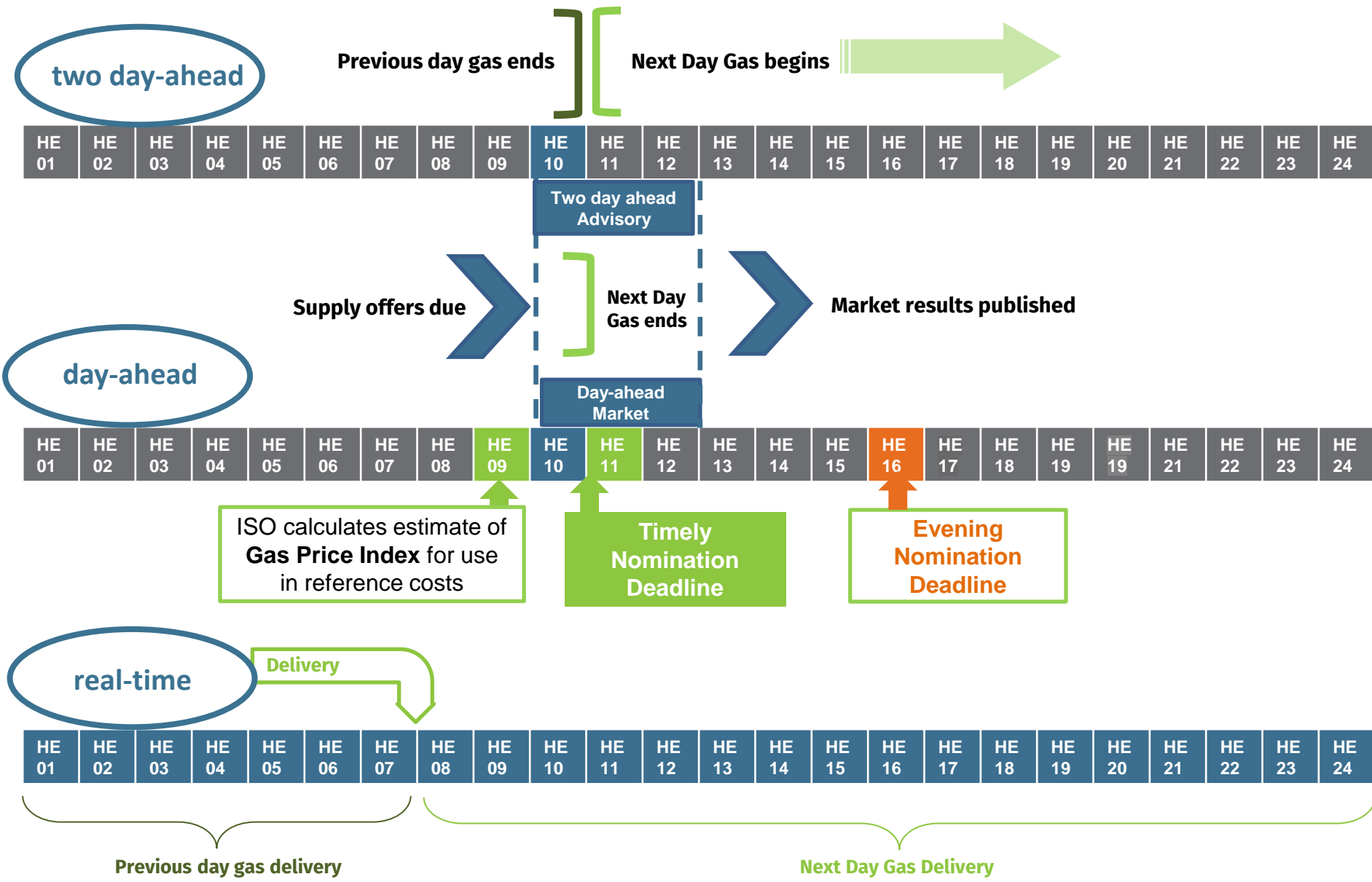
Electric and gas market timelines are not aligned; this creates challenges for resource operators

Quantity uncertainty: When day-ahead market energy schedules are published, the first cycle for nominating gas quantities to flow on pipelines has closed.

- Suppliers may not have purchased enough fuel to cover their binding day-ahead commitments.

Price uncertainty: The electric market dispatches based on resource bids that may represent the cost of gas already procured or expectations of real-time gas cost.

- Suppliers do not have certainty about the cost of revising their gas positions.
- Suppliers can account for this uncertainty in their offers.
- The ISO estimates the resource costs to use in lieu of supply offers if the ISO determines a resource has market power.



Direction is shaped by input from stakeholders and the market surveillance committee

- Market surveillance committee emphasized need for additional bidding flexibility for gas resources in the west, to reduce unnecessary mitigation of gas resources.
- ISO has identified potential reforms for which it is requesting stakeholder feedback.
- ISO sharing additional analysis on how well existing thresholds capture regional volatility of gas costs.
- ISO invites stakeholder feedback on these results and whether the proposed reforms strike the right balance, which may lead to additional proposed reforms.

Propose to update the two day-ahead market processes to provide advisory estimates of resource schedules

- Utilizing the latest forecast data and supply offers will improve the accuracy of market results
- The ISO has conducted analysis showing that two day-ahead schedules are on average within 5% of day-ahead schedules, so these schedules should be able to inform fuel procurement.

Propose to provide additional flexibility in representing costs during conditions of elevated uncertainty

- Increase bidding flexibility during periods of elevated uncertainty, to allow hedging of procurement risks.
- Allow negotiated commitment costs or a blended fuel region to better capture volatile or non-traditional fuel arrangements.
- Create a new parameter that addresses fuel costs at hubs where generators consistently experience volatile and illiquid conditions.

Propose to standardize and extend existing reliability tools to the entire market footprint

- In the past FERC has stipulated that scheduling coordinators are responsible for their fuel procurement and that risks associated with procurement should be represented through supply offers.
- FERC has previously limited expanded use of gas nomograms absent a clear demonstration of need and channels of coordination between the ISO as a balancing authority and gas-pipeline operators.
- The ISO is proposing to standardize this coordination and make reliability-based usage of this functionality available across the regional market footprint.