## WESTERN ENERGY IMBALANCE MARKET



# News Release

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Media Hotline | 888.516.6397

For more information, contact:

Vonette Fontaine | vfontaine@caiso.com Anne Gonzales | agonzales@caiso.com

## California ISO welcomes BPA's plan to enter the Western EIM

Folsom, Calif. - The California Independent System Operator (ISO) is pleased with the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) decision to sign an implementation agreement for the Western Energy Imbalance Market (EIM), a move the agency says positions it to join the Western EIM in 2022.

"We see BPA's participation in the Western EIM as the natural next step in a collaborative partnership that began many years ago to optimize transmission connections and boost reliability throughout the West," said ISO President and CEO Steve Berberich. "BPA will provide exceptional benefits to the real-time energy market, as it leverages its robust and regionally strategic transmission system and energy resources."

BPA signed the implementation agreement at its headquarters in Portland, OR yesterday following more than a year of study and stakeholder engagement to evaluate the benefits of joining the Western EIM. BPA announced its intent to explore joining earlier this year, as part of a strategy to control energy costs and give the utility a competitive edge in the electric industry.

The Western EIM uses state-of-the-art technology to find and deliver low-cost energy to meet real-time energy demand across eight western states while providing regional environmental benefits by integrating increasing amounts of renewable energy.

Since its launch in 2014, the Western EIM has enhanced grid reliability while generating \$736 million in gross benefits to its nine participating entities, and reducing 403,546 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions in the region.

Current Western EIM participants include the ISO and PacifiCorp (2014), NV Energy (2015), Arizona Public Service (2016), Puget Sound Energy (2016), Portland General Electric (2017), Idaho Power (2018) and Powerex (2018), and BANC Phase 1 (2019).

The Western EIM is slated to expand with the participation of Salt River Project, and Seattle City Light in 2020; Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, NorthWestern

Energy, Turlock Irrigation District, Public Service Company of New Mexico and BANC Phase 2 in 2021; and Tucson Electric Power, Avista, and Tacoma Power in 2022. Visit the Western EIM website for more information on the market.

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#### California ISO Media Hotline | 888.516.6397

250 Outcropping Way | Folsom, California 95630 | www.caiso.com

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The California ISO provides open and non-discriminatory access to one of the largest power grids in the world. The vast network of high-voltage transmission power lines is supported by a competitive energy market and comprehensive grid planning. Partnering with about a hundred clients, the nonprofit public benefit corporation is dedicated to the continual development and reliable operation of a modern grid that operates for the benefit of consumers. Recognizing the importance of the global climate challenge, the ISO is at the forefront of integrating renewable power and advanced technologies that will help meet a sustainable energy future efficiently and cleanly.