

# **Dogwood Energy**

#### Missouri's Transmission Grid: At the Intersection of RTO Planning and Policy



August 31, 2011

### **Overview**



#### Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) Primer

- Southwest Power Pool (SPP)
- Midwest Independent System Operator (MISO)

#### Missouri – Split Among Major RTO and Non-RTO Utilities

- ► Kansas City Power & Light (and subsidiaries) SPP Members
- AmerenUE MISO Member
- Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AECI) Unaffiliated with RTOs
- Difficulties Planning and Building Regional Transmission Networks Across RTO and Non-RTO Utility Seams
- Missouri Regulators and Utilities Taking the Lead
- Concluding Observations

## **RTO Primer**



 Regional Transmission Organizations formed as a result of FERC's Order 2000



Seven RTOs / ISOs Currently Operating in United States

## **RTO Primer (cont'd)**



- Utilities Form or Join RTOs on a Voluntary Basis
- Even Though Voluntary, two-thirds of Americans live in regions covered by RTOs / ISOs
- RTOs Perform Specific, Standard Functions, Including
  - Reliability Coordination
  - Regional Transmission Tariff
  - Regional Energy Market Operation
  - Regional Transmission Planning
- RTOs Enable Regional Transmission Cost Allocation
  - SPP Has Integrated Transmission Planning Process (ITP)
  - MISO Has Multi-Value Project Portfolio (MVP)
- Regional Transmission Approved Based on Positive Cost / Benefit

## **Missouri's Split Grid**



Missouri – Split Among Major RTO and Non-RTO Utilities

- ▶ Kansas City Power & Light (and subsidiaries) SPP Members
- ► AmerenUE MISO Member
- Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AECI) Unaffiliated with RTOs
- Result is Multiple RTO / Non-RTO "Seams" In Missouri



## Regional Transmission Difficulties $\frac{1}{2}$



- Coordination of Certain RTO and Non-RTO Functions Across Seams Can Be Difficult
- Seams Agreements Among RTOs and Non-RTO Utilities Solve Many Potential Problems
- Regional Transmission Facility Construction and Cost Allocation Can Be Particularly Difficult to Resolve Across A Seam
  - Justification of New Regional Transmission Facilities Can Be Difficult When Benefits "Bleed" Over A Seam And Don't Match The Costs Incurred
  - Failure to Appropriately Allocate Costs for New Facilities Needed For Granting Transmission Service Can Lead to Higher Costs
- Regional Transmission Connections Across Historical Seams Are Usually The Least Robust – Missouri Is No Exception
- Robust Transmission System Needed To Facilitate Next Generation of Resources and Keep Costs Competitive

### Missouri PSC Taking Lead Role



- Difficult to Fix Without Interested Parties Taking the Lead; No Forcing Function At FERC On These Issues
- Fortunately, Missouri PSC And Regulated Utilities Having Been Stepping Up to Take a Leading Role
  - Missouri PSC Held A "Missouri Transmission Priorities" Workshop Last Year
  - Missouri Utilities Actively Participating In SPP Stakeholder Groups, Such As Seams Steering Committee
  - Missouri Commissioners Have Been Active on SPP's Regional State Committee (RSC), Which Is Responsible for Cost Allocation Within SPP
  - Missouri PSC and Staff Are Probably The Most Active Regulators in SPP of Any "Seam" State In The RTO
- Primary Solution Is Known: Need For Enhanced Seams Agreements Between SPP, MISO and AECI To Positively Resolve Issues For Missouri's Benefit

#### **Concluding Observations**



- Progress Has Been Slow, But Awareness of Issue Is Increasing
- However, Critical Mass Not Yet Reached To Get A Solution Approved In The Near Future
- An Appropriate Goal Could Be The Development of a Proposed Seams Cost Allocation Methodology and a Portfolio of Missouri Transmission Projects For Endorsement By SPP, MISO and AECI
  - Proposal Could Be Limited In Scope to Just Missouri to Obtain Approval More Quickly, Or Limited to a Certain Set of Transmission Projects on an "Experimental" Basis
  - Attempting To Resolve All Parties' Concerns Across All Seams of an RTO Is Likely to be More Difficult Than Solving the Concerns of Parties in Missouri
  - If Missouri Can Reach A Consensus on How To Proceed for Missouri Transmission Projects, Why Wait to Bring Home The Benefits For Its Citizens?