

Long-Term Resource Planning Process in Missouri

Since October 1999 Empire has been meeting with the Missouri Commission Staff (Staff), Missouri Office of Public Counsel (OPC) and Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) twice each year as an alternative to electric utility resource plan filings. Empire hired Black and Veatch to perform a generation expansion plan in September 2003 which was presented at a semiannual meeting. As part of the stipulation and agreement (S&A) in the experimental regulatory plan Case No. EO-2005-0263, Empire is required to file a new resource plan in Missouri in July 2006. The details of this filing can be found in the S&A. The S&A states that Empire will continue to hold Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) presentations semiannually, and invite all interested non-IOU Signatory Parties (Parties). Empire issued a request for proposal (RFP) for baseload capacity and energy for the 2010 timeframe. In accordance with the S&A, the proposals were evaluated with the MIDAS capacity expansion module and the MIDAS Gold integrated resource planning tool. Empire hired the consulting firm that developed and maintains the models—Global Energy Decisions—to assist with the evaluation. The results of this RFP evaluation were presented to the Parties in September 2005. Empire has recently issued an additional RFP for electric generation resources that would be put in service after June 2014. The evaluation of these RFP responses will be included in the July 2006 resource plan filing. The S&A also established the Empire Customer Programs Collaborative (CPC). This group comprised of the Parties, will serve as a collaborative that will make decisions pertaining to the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Empire's Affordability, Energy Efficiency and Demand Response Programs.