



NEWS RELEASE

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ISO/RTO Council to Convene Demand Response Technical Conference

WASHINGTON —The ISO/RTO Council (IRC) will hold a technical conference on demand response in the wholesale electricity markets. The purpose of the one-day conference is to solicit industry input on two initiatives to advance the participation of demand response in wholesale electricity markets.

FERC Commissioner Jon Wellinghoff will give the keynote address to open the conference, which will feature two sessions addressing important issues. The first session will discuss the joint IRC/North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) initiative to meet national standards for measurement and verification of demand response programs and resources. The second session will focus on the development of standardized communication protocols and possible North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards to make it easier for small demand resources to participate in the energy and ancillary services markets.

Members from the ISO/RTO Council's Working Group on Demand Response will discuss initial ideas and plans for addressing these issues. The group includes a cross-section from the demand response industry, including groups such as load aggregators, end-use customers, and technology providers. Formal presentations will be followed by open discussions to collect industry feedback on existing ideas, and obtain feedback on areas that warrant further discussion and development.

The conference will be held in at the Hilton Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia, on April 21, 2008. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.; sessions run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Event registration is \$75 and includes lunch and refreshments during the day.

Registration is available on-line at <http://www.iso-ne.com/calendar/>

The ISO/RTO Council (IRC) is an industry organization consisting of representatives of North American ISO/RTOs. The IRC works collaboratively to develop effective processes, tools, and standard methods for improving competitive electricity markets across North America. The IRC's goal is to balance reliability considerations with market practices, resulting in efficient, robust markets that provide competitive and reliable service to electricity users. More information may be found at www.isorto.org.

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*Note: A limited number of rooms are available at the Hilton Crystal City. To stay either the night before or the night after the event, please call the toll-free number **1-800-HILTONS** to book your room using the **IRC-DR Technical Meeting** rate of \$205.00 per night. The hotel offers complimentary shuttle service from Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA) and the Crystal City Metro station is available.*