PLANNING FOR FUEL SECURITY: DEFINING THE RELIABILITY STANDARD

Maine Public Utility Commission Chairman Philip Bartlett;

New England Energy Security Solutions

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Public Meeting, July 15, 2019

Overview

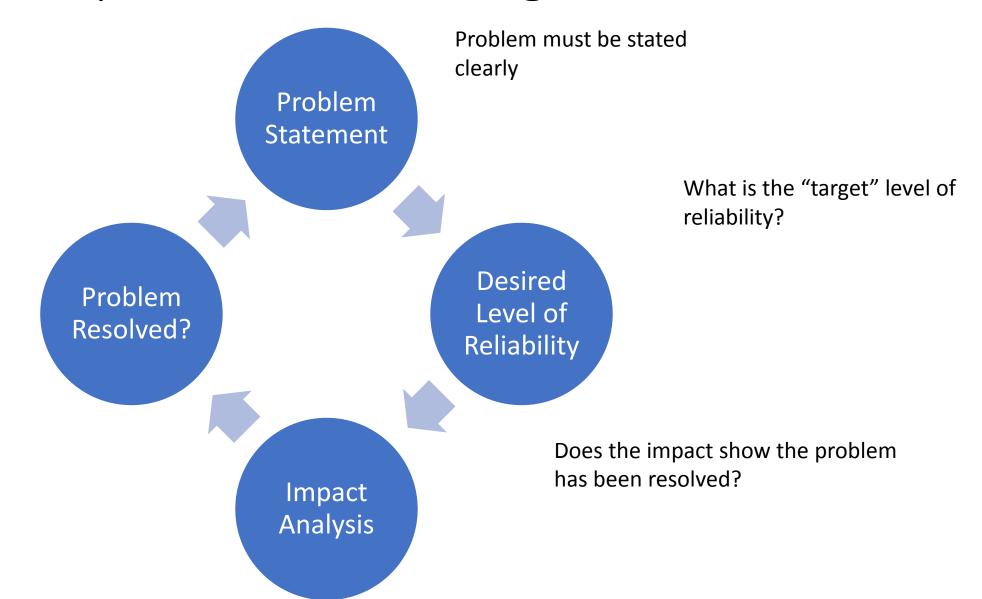
- Opinions on the Proposed market changes
- Need for guiding principles

Opinion: ISO's Proposed Rule

- Theoretical appeal
 - Well reasoned, addresses issues highlighted by EMM for years
- Reasons for caution
 - Novel design untried elsewhere
 - Complicated
 - Apprehensions expressed by market participants should be respected.
 - It is being rushed through in an overly aggressive timeframe
- It's a three part rule and we've really only discussed two parts.
- The Impact Analysis as designed will provide little useful information

Guiding Principles of Design

Principles to Guide Design



Problem Statement is Not Specific

- P1. Market participants whose resources face production uncertainty may have inefficiently low incentives to invest in additional energy supply arrangements, even though such arrangements would be cost-effective from society's standpoint as a means to reduce reliability risks.
 - What does ISO mean when it says "cost effective"?
 - How has "risk" been quantified?
- P2. There may be insufficient energy available to the power system to withstand an unexpected, extended (multi-hour to multi-day) large generation or supply loss, particularly during cold weather conditions.
 - How "extended" specifically
 - How "large" specifically, and
 - How "cold" specifically
- P3. The power system may experience premature (inefficient) depletion of energy inventories for electric generation, absent a mechanism to coordinate and reward efficient preservation of limited-energy supplies over multiple days.
 - What does "premature depletion" mean?

Problem Statement is Not Specific

Subjective terms

- "Cost-effective"
- "Reliability risks"
- "(multi-hour to multi-day)"
- "Large generation"
- "Cold weather conditions"
- Premature depletion of energy inventories
- Preservation of limited-energy supplies over multiple days.

Design Considerations

- Define cost effective
- Quantify reliability risk (1 in 10?)
- Event duration
- MW quantity
- Degree day, Design year, Other?
- What does "premature depletion" mean?
- Reconcile "preservation" with "depletion"

What Design Standard – How Reliable?

- Planning for Fuel Security is New and requires a reliability standard
 - "One-day-in-ten-years" has been accepted as a planning standard in New England.
 - ISOs EMM advocated a probabilistic approach to energy/fuel security planning along with the one-day-in-ten-years standard.
 - LDCs in New England generally plan their gas procurement to meet the one-in-thirty cold weather winter.

ISOs Impact Analysis will not answer whether the region is more reliable

- Impact analysis is scenario analysis and not appropriate
 - Potentially thousands of scenarios which should be chosen? Who chooses?
 - Scenario analysis may provide insight into the cost and fuel procured under particular scenarios, but will not provide expected values or reliability assessments.
- Probabilistic analysis is needed
 - Provides a one-in-something value
 - Involves greater stakeholder discussions on inputs
 - Recognizes the possibility of outages
 - Enables a discussion about costs vs. benefits
 - Recommended by EMM
 - Requested by NESCOE
- ISOs impact analysis will not tell us: how much we will buy, how reliable we will be, or how much we will pay (but we know it will be more).

Conclusions

- This problem is about reliability, but
 - ISO problem statement is not specific.
 - ISO is not trying to reach a 'target level of reliability."
 - The Impact Analysis (as we understand it) will not respond to the problem statement Will ISOs market design "cost effectively" "Withstand multi-hour to multi-day ", supply losses and "cold weather events"?
- The Commission should direct ISO-NE to adopt a reliability standard.
- The standard should be based on a probabilistic one-day in ten level or some other specified level.
- The impact analysis should be conducted using probabilistic not scenario analysis.