



# Clean Energy Regulatory Forum IV

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## *Paying for System Flexibility*

Jonathan Lowell

PRINCIPAL ANALYST | MARKET DEVELOPMENT



# The State of Wind Power in New England

- 525 MW of wind power on system
- Abundant wind energy potential
  - Predominantly in northern areas and offshore
- Region well positioned for large-scale wind growth
  - States have adopted renewable energy policies and fossil fuel emissions limitations
  - Over 2,400 MW of wind power in the interconnection queue

# New England Wind Integration Study (NEWIS)

*New England-focused wind integration analysis*

Final Report:  
**New England Wind Integration Study**

Prepared for:  
ISO New England

Prepared by:  
GE Energy Applications and Systems Engineering  
EnerNex Corporation  
AWS Truepower




**Project Leaders:**

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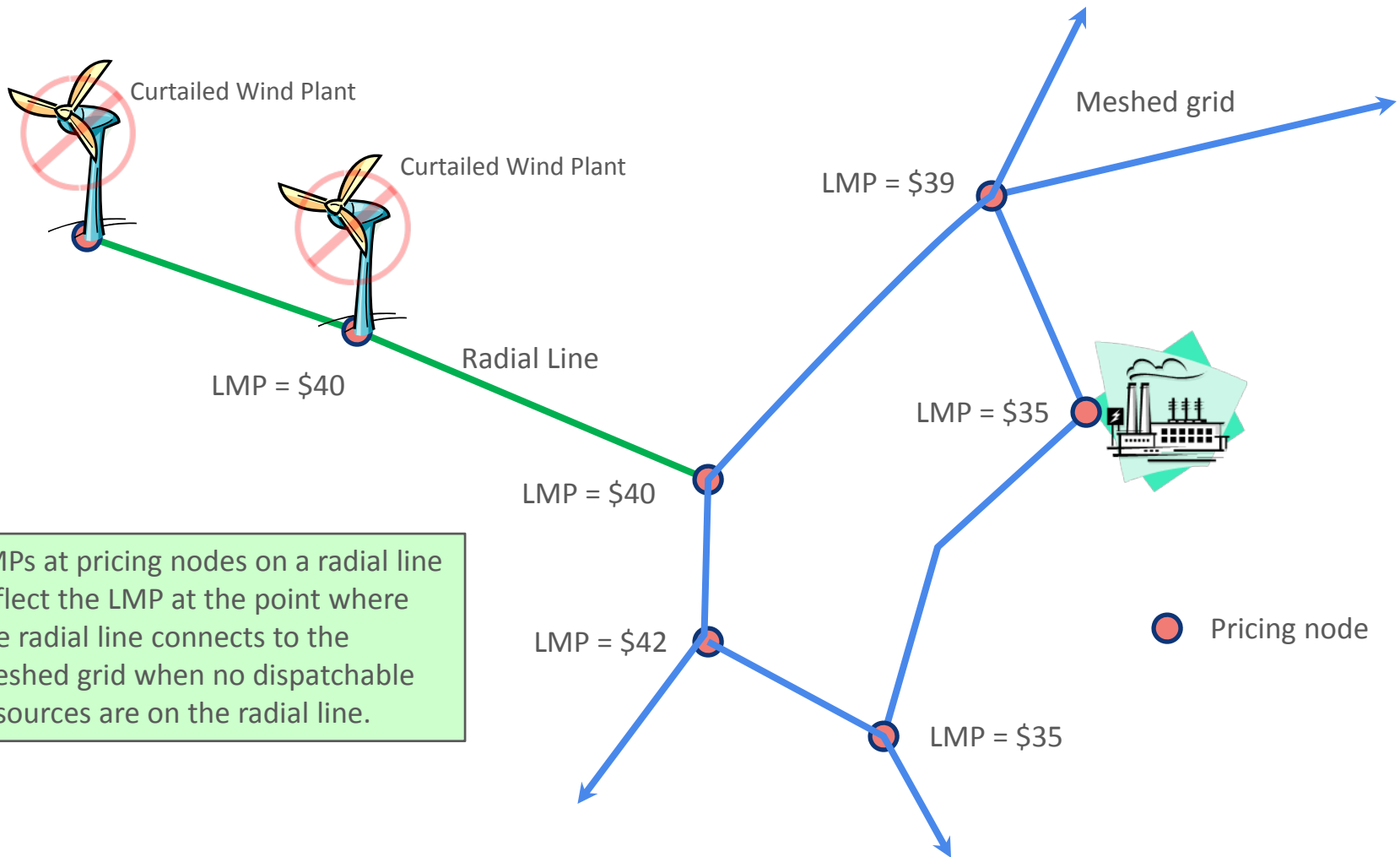
- Large-scale wind integration in New England is technically feasible
- Regional requirements:
  - Maintaining flexible resources to manage variability
  - Transmission upgrades
  - Increasing regulation service and operating reserves
  - Developing wind forecasting tools

# Challenges of Wind Integration

- The ISO is unable to dispatch wind resources today.
  - Unit dispatch software is unable to send dispatch instructions.
  - Non-dispatchable resources (which includes wind) are ineligible to set price.
  - Market/operations protocol used to determine curtailment priority generally results in wind being curtailed before other resources.
  - Inability to submit negative energy offers gives competing resources little incentive to reduce output when congestion occurs.
  - System operators must rely on manual actions to ensure reliability.
- Improved short, medium, and long-term forecasting tools are needed.
- Full integration of wind resources into automated market and dispatch systems is needed.



# Lack of Price Separation When Nondispatchable Wind Plants Are Manually Curtailed



LMPs at pricing nodes on a radial line reflect the LMP at the point where the radial line connects to the meshed grid when no dispatchable resources are on the radial line.

# Addressing the Challenges of Wind Integration

- The ISO is developing market and infrastructure improvements:
  - Allow negative energy offers
  - Make wind resources dispatchable and eligible to set price
  - Calculate and send out a do-not-exceed (DNE) limit to each wind plant on dispatch
- The DNE limits will reflect several characteristics of each plant:
  - Economic offer curve
  - Maximum output under ideal weather conditions
  - Short-term wind output forecast
  - Transmission constraints
  - Telemetered physical status for the next dispatch interval
- A wind plant will be free to operate anywhere between 0 MW and the DNE limit



# Addressing the Challenges of Wind Integration

*cont.*

- A centralized, regional wind power forecasting system is scheduled to be in service in early 2013.
- All wind resources will be required to provide real-time telemetry indicating current output and weather conditions.
  - Improves system operator's situational awareness
  - Enable ISO's real-time automated communication of dispatch instructions
  - Enhances the quality of the centralized forecast
- More flexible structure for hourly day-ahead energy offers and intraday reoffers is being developed.
  - Reduces the desire to self-schedule, giving system operators more flexibility to integrate renewable energy resources
  - Increases the percentage of resources dispatched economically
  - Better for efficient system operation as a whole

# Addressing the Challenges of Wind Integration

*cont.*

- Potential increase in regulation requirements as more wind resources interconnect to the grid
  - Current hourly requirement averages ~60 MW
  - Could increase to ~300 MW if wind penetration increases to 20% of annual energy
  - New England currently has 800+ MW of regulation capable resources
- Forward Capacity Market issues under consideration
  - Pay-for-performance incentives
  - Identification of operational needs of resources to be acquired in the capacity auction





# SPI

STRATEGIC  
PLANNING  
INITIATIVE

## Five Challenges for Region Identified

1. Resource performance and flexibility
2. Increased reliance on natural-gas-fired capacity
3. Retirement of generators
4. **Integration of a greater level of variable resources**
5. Alignment of markets and planning needs improvement

Ongoing Strategic  
Transmission  
Analysis  
will support



# Questions

