

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 12-0598

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

MICHAEL GOGGIN

SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF:

WIND ON THE WIRES

MARCH 29, 2013

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1 **1. Introduction**

2 **Q: Please state your name, job title, and business address.**

3 **A:** My name is Michael Goggin, and I am the Manager of Transmission
4 Policy for the American Wind Energy Association (“AWEA”). My business
5 address is 1501 M St NW, Suite 1000, Washington DC, 20005.

6 **Q: What is Wind on the Wires’ interest in this case?**

7 **A:** Wind on the Wires is a not for profit organization representing a broad
8 range of entities with a common interest in encouraging the development
9 of reliable and environmentally-friendly wind energy resources in the
10 United States. Wind on the Wires’ members include project developers,
11 owners and operators, wind turbine manufacturers, energy experts, and
12 tribal organizations. The construction of transmission projects that provide
13 greater access to underutilized wind energy resources, such as the Illinois
14 Rivers Project, further that interest by opening up those resources for
15 development.

16 **Q: What is the purpose of this testimony?**

17 **A:** I provide facts supporting the finding that the Illinois Rivers Project will
18 allow greater amounts of low-cost wind energy resources to reach Illinois
19 consumers, promoting the development of an effectively competitive
20 electricity market that operates efficiently and thereby lowering both the
21 costs for meeting Illinois consumers’ needs for electricity and Renewable
22 Energy Credits (RECs), and that these benefits will be allocated equitably
23 to all consumers.

24 **Q: Please outline your testimony.**

25 **A:** First, I discuss how the Illinois Rivers Project provides Illinois consumers
26 with greater access to wind energy resources, lowering consumers’
27 electricity costs by facilitating an effectively competitive electricity market

28 that operates efficiently. Next, I explain the benefit that such transmission
29 projects provide consumers by providing a larger supply of RECs for
30 complying with the Illinois Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), helping to
31 ensure that the REC market operates efficiently. Finally, I explain that the
32 benefits of high-voltage transmission projects such as Illinois Rivers are
33 inherently equitably allocated to consumers.

34

35 ***A. The role of the Illinois Rivers Project in delivering wind generation to***
36 ***Illinois consumers***

37 **Q: What is your understanding of the purpose of the Illinois Rivers**
38 **Project?**

39 **A:** As explained in the direct testimony of Ms. Maureen Borkowski, Mr.
40 Rodney Frame, Mr. Dennis Kramer, and Mr. Jeffrey Webb, and Ameren's
41 petition in this case, the Illinois Rivers Project will provide Illinois
42 consumers with significantly greater access to underutilized wind energy
43 resources both in Illinois and in other parts of the MISO (Midwest
44 Independent System Operator, Inc.) footprint, particularly areas to the
45 west of Illinois, in addition to improving reliability and alleviating other
46 congestion on the electric transmission system managed by MISO.

47 **Q: Can you quantify the amount of wind resources available in Illinois**
48 **and in the parts of MISO west of Illinois?**

49 **A:** As indicated in the wind resource map in WOW Exhibits 1.1 and 1.2,
50 Illinois and the parts of MISO to the west of Illinois have some of the best
51 wind energy resources in the United States. According to the United
52 States Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory's
53 ("NREL") wind resource assessment data, Illinois has 249,882 megawatts
54 ("MW") of developable wind energy resources, Iowa alone has 570,714
55 MW, and Missouri has 274,355 MW of developable wind energy
56 resources, which together are enough to meet the current electricity

57 needs of Illinois more than 10 times over.¹ That same analysis found that
58 North Dakota possesses 770,196 MW of developable wind energy
59 resources, South Dakota has 882,412 MW, and Minnesota has 489,271
60 MW.

61 NREL's data indicates that North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota,
62 Missouri, and Iowa combined have a wind energy potential of 2,838,000
63 MW, around 34 percent of the total onshore potential in the lower 48 U.S
64 states, or enough to meet the current electricity needs of the U.S. at least
65 two times over. Their combined wind resource potential is more than 10
66 times greater than the resource potential of Illinois, or enough to meet the
67 electricity needs of Illinois around 45 times over.

68 **Q: Are these wind resource assessments accurate?**

69 **A:** If anything these assessments are likely to be conservative, as they
70 assume the use of wind turbines with a hub height of 80 meters and do
71 not include the use of new low-wind-speed turbines. Many wind turbines
72 being installed today have hub heights of 100 meters or more, providing
73 them with access to significantly greater wind energy resources, and low-
74 wind-speed turbines are also making it economically viable to develop
75 wind resource areas that were not previously viable. Regardless, the data
76 is clear that Illinois and areas to its west have tremendous wind energy
77 resources that far exceed the electricity demands of the region.

78 Transmission lines are a major factor that determines how much of the
79 potential wind energy in these states can be used. To capitalize on these
80 wind-rich areas, wind plants need cost-effective access to transmission
81 lines. The Illinois Rivers Project is one of the transmission lines that is
82 needed, as it increases the area within Illinois in which wind plants have

¹ United States Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory's ("NREL") wind resource assessment data, *available at* http://www.windpoweringamerica.gov/docs/wind_potential_80m_30percent.xls

83 cost effective access of transmission and also allows a larger amount of
84 wind output from states adjacent to Illinois and elsewhere in MISO to
85 reach Illinois consumers.

86 **Q: Can you quantify the quality of wind resources in these areas?**

87 **A:** As indicated in WOW Exhibit 1.1, the quality of the wind resources is high
88 across the region, though it is highest in Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota,
89 and North Dakota. Importantly, the energy available for wind energy
90 production is proportional to the cube of wind speed, so the difference
91 between the orange and purple areas in the wind speed map in WOW
92 Exhibit 1.1 is actually quite significant. For example, the 8.0-8.5
93 meter/second area of the map, which is the medium-dark purple area that
94 covers significant parts of Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, and South
95 Dakota, has about 47% more energy available in the wind than the 7.0-7.5
96 meter/second dark orange area that covers parts of Northern Illinois.

97 **Q: How does this translate to the expected output of wind plants that**
98 **would be developed in these areas?**

99 **A:** Capacity factor, defined as the amount of electricity produced by a power
100 plant in a typical year divided by the amount of electricity that that power
101 plant could provide if it ran at 100% of its nameplate capacity for all 8,760
102 hours in that year, is a commonly used metric for the expected output of
103 wind plants. Capacity factor is strongly related to the average wind speed
104 of an area.

105

106 As indicated in the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) data²
107 presented in WOW Exhibit 1.3, the average capacity factor for wind
108 projects recently installed in the “Heartland” region, which as indicated in
109 WOW Exhibit 1.4 consists of Iowa, North and South Dakota, Minnesota,

110 plus Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Arkansas, was around
111 37% or 38%, versus just over 30% for the “Great Lakes” region that
112 includes Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan. According to this
113 same dataset, the national average wind capacity factor in 2011 was 33%.
114 MISO’s Multi Value Report (“MVP Report”) also provides estimates for
115 different zonal regions of MISO, with an estimated capacity factor of 28%
116 for most of Illinois, versus 38% for North and South Dakota and most of
117 Minnesota, 36% for Iowa and part of Minnesota, and 33% for parts of
118 Missouri.³

119 **Q: How does capacity factor affect the economics of wind generation?**

120 **A:** Capacity factor significantly affects the economics of wind generation. As
121 indicated in WOW Exhibit 1.5, wind Power Purchase Agreements
122 (“PPAs”) prices in the “Heartland” region have averaged around \$50 per
123 megawatt-hour (“MWh”), versus a figure of \$65-70/MWh for the “Great
124 Lakes” region. While differences in land and construction costs are likely a
125 partial factor, the higher capacity factors in the Heartland region are
126 almost certainly the major factor for the difference in PPA price between
127 these two regions. As documented in MISO’s Renewable Generation
128 Outlet Study (“RGOS”) analysis, building wind in a mix of high and low
129 capacity factor regions, relative to building in mostly lower capacity factor
130 regions to be closer to load, achieves the same level of wind energy
131 output with an 11% reduction in the nameplate capacity of wind that must
132 be deployed, with a corresponding 11% reduction in wind energy capital
133 costs.

² Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, 2011 Wind Technologies Market Report, at 46, Figure 29 (August 2012). The document can be found at: <http://eetd.lbl.gov/ea/emp/reports/lbnl-5559e.pdf>.

³ MISO Multi Value Project Portfolio: Results and Analyses (“MVP Report”), at 5 (January 10, 2012).

134 **Q: In addition to wind resource quantity and quality, are there other**
135 **indicators of where future wind development is likely to occur in**
136 **MISO?**

137 **A:** Yes. MISO's interconnection queue⁴ provides one indicator of wind project
138 developers' interest in developing wind resources in the future. The MISO
139 interconnection queue currently includes 18,353.2 MW of proposed wind
140 projects, including 2,224 MW of projects that are listed as "under
141 construction." Illinois currently accounts for 1,667.7 MW of the proposed
142 wind projects in the MISO interconnection queue, including 418 MW of
143 projects that are listed as under construction. Iowa currently has 3,507.2
144 MW in the queue, zero of which are listed as "under construction," while
145 Missouri has 400 MW in the MISO queue, although that interconnection
146 application is currently suspended. Farther to the west and north of
147 Illinois, Minnesota has 3,631.3 MW of proposed wind projects, North
148 Dakota has 1,758.5 MW of proposed wind projects, and South Dakota
149 has 989 MW of proposed wind projects.

150
151 Certain caveats apply when interpreting interconnection queue data. First,
152 many proposed projects in the interconnection queue are unlikely to
153 proceed to final development and be placed in service, as many projects
154 in the queue have not yet passed important project milestones such as
155 obtaining a power purchase agreement or project financing. Second,
156 interconnection applications are partially driven by current transmission
157 constraints, so the addition of new transmission can drive new
158 interconnection applications in regions that are currently transmission
159 constrained.

160

⁴<https://www.midwestiso.org/Planning/GeneratorInterconnection/Pages/InterconnectionQueue.aspx> (data downloaded on March 29, 2013, sorted to remove projects that have been withdrawn or placed in-service, and then sorted by state).

161 Nevertheless, the large quantity of proposed wind energy development in
162 Illinois, Iowa, and other parts of MISO indicates that the Illinois Rivers
163 Project will connect Illinois consumers with large quantities of
164 economically viable wind energy resources and significant developer
165 interest in utilizing those resources. This is further evidence that the
166 Illinois Rivers Project will enable the delivery of wind energy that will
167 reduce electricity prices in Illinois and also deliver low cost wind resources
168 from Illinois and adjacent states that can be used for compliance with the
169 Illinois RPS.

170 **Q: Does MISO develop estimates of where future wind development is**
171 **likely to occur?**

172 **A:** Yes, MISO's transmission planning processes identifies areas that are
173 likely to see future wind deployment in the region, based on wind resource
174 data, interconnection queue data, state policy requirements, and other
175 factors. As explained in the MISO MTEP and MVP reports MISO worked
176 with stakeholders in the RGOS process to identify zones where future
177 wind development is likely to occur and would most cost-effectively occur.
178 To identify the most cost-effective wind resource mix, the RGOS analysis
179 carefully balanced generation costs and transmission costs to arrive at the
180 optimal mix of wind resources.⁵ The resulting RGOS zones are identified
181 in WOW Exhibit 1.2. As explained in the MVP report, "Incremental wind
182 generation was added to the model to satisfy these mandated needs. The
183 amount of incremental generation for each zone was based on the
184 capacity factor, the planned and proposed generation, and existing wind

⁵MVP Report, page 4: "The goal of the RGOS analysis was to design transmission portfolios that would enable RPS mandates to be met at the lowest delivered wholesale energy cost. The cost calculation combined the expenses of the new transmission portfolios with the capital costs of the new renewable generation, balancing the trade offs of a lower transmission investment to deliver wind from low wind availability areas, typically closer to large load centers; against a larger transmission investment to deliver wind from higher wind availability areas, typically located further from load centers."

185 with power purchase agreements to serve non-MISO load ascribed to
186 each zone.”⁶

187 **Q: What estimates have MISO developed for Illinois renewable demand**
188 **and wind development?**

189 **A:** As documented in the MVP Report, Ameren Illinois was calculated to
190 have an incremental need for 3,072,047 MWh of renewable generation in
191 2021 and 4,274,713 MWh in 2026 to meet its Renewable Portfolio
192 Standard (“RPS”).⁷ In addition, Alternative Retail Energy Suppliers
193 (ARES) in Ameren Illinois were projected to have an incremental need for
194 2,016,516 MWh of generation in 2021 and 3,046,465 MWh in 2026 to
195 comply with the Illinois’ RPS.⁸ As far as Illinois’ wind supply, the RGOS
196 analysis estimated that by 2026, 415 MW of incremental wind would be
197 developed in zone Illinois F and 449 MW of incremental wind developed
198 in zone Illinois K, with all of that incremental supply except for 15 MW in
199 Illinois F being deployed by 2021.⁹

200 **Q: How does this quantity of Illinois wind generation compare to the**
201 **quantity needed to meet the state’s incremental need?**

202 **A:** Assuming a 30% capacity factor, consistent with the data for the Great
203 Lakes region described in the LBNL report, this 864 MW of incremental
204 Illinois wind capacity would provide around 2,270,000 MWh/year of
205 incremental generation, approximately 2,800,000 MWh less than MISO’S
206 estimated renewable energy Illinois’ total incremental need in 2021 and
207 around 5,050,000 MWh less than its incremental need in 2026. As a
208 result, MISO’s analysis indicates that, for the optimized wind and
209 transmission build-out it developed, Illinois’ incremental need will be most
210 efficiently met by a mix of in-state and out-of-state wind generation.

⁶ MVP Report, page 19.

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.*

211 MISO’s analysis indicates that such a mix would result in the lowest cost
212 for consumers, weighing the economic tradeoffs between lower capacity
213 factor wind that requires less transmission versus higher capacity factor
214 wind that requires more transmission. As the MISO MVP report explains,
215 “The goal of the RGOS analysis was to design transmission portfolios that
216 would enable RPS mandates to be met at the lowest delivered wholesale
217 energy cost.”¹⁰

218 **Q: Has AWEA done its own analysis of the likely incremental MWh of**
219 **wind needed to meet the Illinois RPS?**

220 **A:** Yes. AWEA’s analysis indicates that approximately 3,000-4,000 MW of
221 incremental wind capacity, beyond that installed as of the end of 2012, will
222 be needed to satisfy the requirements of the Illinois RPS through the year
223 2025. Per the requirements of the Illinois RPS, that capacity would be
224 installed in Illinois or adjacent states, unless the cost cap for the RPS is
225 exceeded.¹¹ The variables that affect the amount of capacity actually
226 needed include changes in future load growth, the capacity factors of
227 future wind deployments, as well as what percentage of the RPS will be
228 met by wind. Illinois requires utilities to use wind energy resources to
229 provide at least 75% of their RPS requirement. However, wind energy
230 resources could be used to meet as much as 93% of the RPS
231 requirement. Similarly, ARES are to use wind energy resources to
232 provide at least 60% of their RPS requirement, and could be used to meet
233 as much as 93% of their RPS requirement.¹²

¹⁰ MVP Report at 3.

¹¹ The cost cap and other provisions of the Illinois RPS are explained, with citations, by the Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency, *available at* http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=IL04R.

¹² The renewable portfolio standard requires the utilities and the ARES to meet their renewable portfolio standard with solar and distributed generation comprising at least 6% and 1%, respectively. See 20 ILCS 3855/1-75(c)(3) and 220 ILCS 5/16-115D(a)(3).

234 **Q: How do the areas where future wind development is expected to**
235 **occur correspond to the areas where wind development will be**
236 **facilitated by the Illinois Rivers Project?**

237 **A:** Because the MISO transmission planning process that produced plans for
238 the Illinois Rivers Project and the other MVP projects was heavily based
239 around facilitating wind energy development in the identified RGOS
240 zones, it is not surprising that the Illinois Rivers Project is positioned to
241 facilitate wind energy development both in Illinois and in MISO areas west
242 of Illinois, as that mix of resources was identified as being the optimal
243 solution for meeting the region’s public policy requirements. As explained
244 in the MVP Report, the component portions of the Illinois Rivers Project
245 “will provide an outlet for wind generation in the western region to move
246 toward the more densely populated load centers to the east.”¹³ In his
247 testimony, Mr. Webb also notes “the Illinois Rivers Project provides for the
248 integration of wind in both Illinois and in areas remote from Illinois with
249 better wind quality to support the satisfaction of the Illinois RPS.”¹⁴

250
251 As explained in more detail below, based on MISO’s analyses, the Illinois
252 Rivers Project will help cost-effectively fulfill the Illinois RPS by enabling
253 the delivery of wind energy from Illinois and adjacent states. These wind
254 resources, as well as wind resources that the Illinois Rivers Project will
255 allow to be delivered from other states in western MISO, will also
256 decrease electricity prices and benefit Illinois consumers by promoting the
257 development of an effectively competitive electricity market that operates
258 efficiently. As the MISO MVP Report indicates, the Illinois Rivers Project
259 and the broader MVP portfolio greatly reduce consumer energy costs, as
260 “Adjusted Production Cost savings are achieved through reduction of

¹³ MVP Report at 33 and 35.

¹⁴ MISO Exhibit 1.0 at 26.

261 transmission congestion costs and more efficient use of generation
262 resources across the system.”¹⁵

263

264 This is not surprising, as the Illinois Rivers Project was designed by MISO
265 as part of a portfolio to satisfy state RPS requirements at the lowest cost
266 for consumers. As the MISO MVP report explains, “The goal of the RGOS
267 analysis was to design transmission portfolios that would enable RPS
268 mandates to be met at the lowest delivered wholesale energy cost.”¹⁶

269 **Q: What role does transmission play in enabling the development of**
270 **these wind resources?**

271 **A:** Transmission is essential, both for allowing wind resources to be
272 developed and enabling already developed wind resources to not have
273 their wind energy output curtailed. In areas where transmission constraints
274 prevent wind energy from being delivered to customers, there is no cost-
275 effective substitute for increasing transmission capacity to alleviate those
276 constraints.

277 **Q: Are there other options for delivering these wind energy resources to**
278 **electricity demand?**

279 **A:** As the NREL data in WOW Exhibit 1.1 indicates, the states in western
280 MISO possess wind energy resources that are many times greater than
281 their total electricity needs, so making use of these wind energy resources
282 requires transmission to move that energy to load centers elsewhere.
283 North Dakota and South Dakota are on the western edge of the Eastern
284 Interconnection, and the only Eastern Interconnection state west of Iowa,
285 Nebraska, is in the Southwest Power Pool and also has wind energy
286 resources that greatly exceed its electricity demand. Areas to the south
287 also have wind energy resources that greatly exceed their electricity

¹⁵ MVP Report at 51.

¹⁶ Id. at 3.

288 demand. Given the large electricity demand in Illinois and the state's
289 geographic proximity to these high quality wind energy resources, building
290 transmission to deliver these wind energy resources to the state is an
291 ideal solution. As explained in detail in the MISO MVP Report and in the
292 testimony of Mr. Jeffrey Webb, MISO's analysis found that the Illinois
293 Rivers Project was the optimal solution for resolving a number of
294 economic, reliability, and public policy considerations such as state RPS
295 requirements, and was found to be superior to alternative solutions.¹⁷

296 **Q: What is wind energy curtailment?**

297 **A:** Wind energy curtailment occurs when the output of operating wind
298 projects exceeds the transmission capacity that is locally available to
299 deliver that energy to customers. When this occurs, wind plants receive a
300 market signal or grid operator instruction to reduce their output to the level
301 that can be carried on the transmission system. Wind turbines can rapidly
302 reduce their output on command by pitching their blades to an angle
303 where they capture less or zero of the energy available in the wind. Of
304 course, there is a significant economic cost, to wind owners, wind
305 purchasers, and consumers, to "throwing away" zero-emission, zero-fuel
306 cost energy that could have been used by consumers if sufficient
307 transmission capacity were available.

308 **Q: How extensive is wind energy curtailment in MISO currently?**

309 **A:** Data in the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory report¹⁸ indicates that
310 in 2011, 657,000 MWh of potential wind energy production in MISO was
311 curtailed, plus another 54,400 MWh of potential wind energy production
312 within MISO's Northern States Power Company's service territory. These
313 711,000 MWh of total curtailment correspond to about 3% of the total

¹⁷ MISO MVP Report at 33-35, and Jeffrey Webb testimony at 22-24.

¹⁸ Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories, 2011 Wind Technologies Report, at 43 (August 2012) <http://eetd.lbl.gov/ea/emp/reports/lbnl-5559e.pdf>.

314 potential wind production for MISO in 2011. A recent MISO presentation¹⁹
315 provides a slightly higher tally, showing 824,000 MWh of manual and
316 market-driven wind curtailment in 2010, around 850,000 MWh in 2011,
317 and 849,000 MWh in 2012. These curtailment figures correspond to the
318 annual production of 300 MW of wind capacity operating at 32% capacity
319 factor.

320 **Q: What do MISO's analyses indicate about how the Illinois Rivers**
321 **Project and other MVP projects will affect wind energy development**
322 **and curtailment in MISO?**

323 **A:** As indicated in the testimony of Mr. Jeffrey Webb, "Without the [Illinois
324 Rivers] Project, MISO identified that approximately 34% of the existing
325 and planned wind development within the MISO portion of Illinois would
326 need to be curtailed in addition to curtailment of baseload coal generation
327 in order to maintain reliably system loading levels."²⁰

328
329 The Illinois Rivers Project is an integral part of the MVP portfolio, as the
330 portfolio will not function without the Illinois Rivers Project. MISO's MVP
331 report found that the overall MVP portfolio of projects was essential for
332 reducing curtailment of planned wind development, stating: "The algorithm
333 found that 10,885 MW of dispatched wind would be curtailed. As a
334 connected capacity, this equates to 12,095 MW as the wind is modeled at
335 90% of its nameplate. A MISO-wide per-unit capacity factor was averaged
336 from the 2026 incremental wind zone capacities to 32.8%. The curtailed
337 energy was calculated to be 34,711,578 MWh from the connected
338 capacity times the capacity factor times 8,760 hours of the year.
339 Comparatively, the full 2026 RPS energy is 55,010,629 MWh. As a

¹⁹ MISO, Presentation at UVIG Forecasting Workshop, February 2013, *available at*
<http://www.uwig.org/slcforework/McMullen.pdf>.

²⁰ MISO Exhibit 1.0 at 26.

340 percentage of the 2026 full RPS energy, 63% would be curtailed in lieu of
341 the MVP portfolio.”²¹

342

343 The MVP report also examined the amount of wind energy, in excess of
344 the 2026 requirements, that would be enabled by the recommended MVP
345 portfolio. It found that 2,230 MW of additional wind could be enabled,
346 including 678.6 MW of wind in zone Illinois F. In total, “When the results
347 from the curtailment analyses and the wind enabled analyses are
348 combined, the recommended MVP portfolio enables a total of 41 million
349 MWhs of renewable energy to meet the renewable energy mandates.”²²

350 ***B. How wind and transmission lower consumer costs by promoting the***
351 ***development of an effectively competitive electricity market that operates***
352 ***efficiently.***

353 **Q: What will be the benefits of the Illinois Rivers Project for Illinois**
354 **consumers?**

355 **A:** In his testimony, Mr. Frame reports that “The results of my analysis
356 reported in ATXI Exhibit 9.4 show that the Project will lead to substantial
357 reductions in payments by customers in the MISO Illinois region. Under
358 the Business as Usual, Low Demand case, the present value of
359 reductions in wholesale electric energy payments from the Project is
360 \$324.7 million (at a discount rate of 8.2 percent.) The present value of
361 transmission payments for the Project is \$119.6 million, resulting in a net
362 reduction in energy payments by MISO Illinois region customers of \$205.1
363 million (*i.e.*, \$324.7 million minus \$119.6 million). Thus, there is roughly a
364 three to one ratio of reduction in wholesale energy payments to Project
365 payments.”²³

366

²¹ MVP Report, at 48.

²² *Id.* at 49.

²³ ATXI Exhibit 9.0, at 17-18.

367 **Q: What are the consumer benefits of the overall MVP projects?**

368 **A:** MISO's MVP Report concluded that "The recommended MVP portfolio
369 allows for a more efficient dispatch of generation resources, opening
370 markets to competition and spreading the benefits of low cost generation
371 throughout the MISO footprint."²⁴ As explained in the MVP Report, the
372 total package of MVP projects will "Provide an average annual value of
373 \$1,279 million over the first 40 years of service, at an average annual
374 revenue requirement of \$624 million."²⁵ The MVP Report explains that
375 benefits were found to exceed costs by a factor of 1.8 to 3.0. The MVP
376 report calculates that the MVP portfolio will produce total net present
377 value benefits of between \$15.5 billion and \$49.2 billion, and total benefits
378 net of cost of between \$6.8 billion and \$32.8 billion.²⁶

379 **Q: What is the benefit-to-cost ratio in Illinois?**

380 **A:** Benefits were found to exceed costs in a range of 1.8:1 to 2.8:1, as
381 explained in the MVP Report.²⁷

382 **Q: What categories of benefits were included in MISO's analysis, and
383 what range of net present value benefits were calculated for each?**

384 **A:** As explained in WOW Exhibit 1.6, the categories of benefits identified in
385 the MVP Report were as follows:²⁸

386 Congestion and fuel savings: \$12.4 billion to \$40.9 billion

387 Operating reserves: \$28 million to \$87 million

388 System planning reserve margins: \$1 billion to \$5.1 billion

389 Transmission line losses: \$111 million to \$396 million

390 Wind turbine investment: \$1.4 billion to \$2.5 billion

391 Future transmission investment: \$226 million to \$794 million

²⁴ MISO Report, page 50.

²⁵ *Id.* at page 1.

²⁶ *Id.* at page 50.

²⁷ *Id.* at page 7.

²⁸ *Id.* at Page 50.

392 **Q: What are congestion and fuel savings?**

393 **A:** This category captures the benefits of providing access to lower cost
394 energy resources. Due to its zero fuel cost, wind energy bids into
395 electricity markets at or near zero, driving the market clearing price down
396 by displacing the most expensive generator that is currently dispatched.
397 The benefit can be quite large, as many parts of the generation supply
398 curve are quite steep.²⁹

399 As explained in the MISO MVP Report, “These benefits were outlined
400 through a series of production cost analyses, which captured the
401 economic benefits of the recommended MVP transmission and the wind it
402 enables. These benefits reflect the savings achieved through the
403 reduction of transmission congestion costs and through more efficient use
404 of generation resources.... The recommended MVP portfolio will produce
405 an estimated \$12.4 to \$40.9 billion in 20 to 40 year present value adjusted
406 production cost benefits, depending on the timeframe, discounts and
407 growth rates of energy and demand.”³⁰

408 **Q: Have other Illinois analyses found similar savings resulting from**
409 **wind generation in the state?**

410 **A:** Yes. An Illinois Power Agency report from 2012 concluded that:
411 “Renewable resources, in particular wind, have played a dramatic role in
412 reducing electric energy prices in Illinois and the entire Eastern
413 Interconnection, as measured by the impact on Locational Marginal Prices
414 (LMPs). Modeling work commissioned by the IPA and corroborated by
415 similar findings in Massachusetts³¹ suggests that for 2011, the integration
416 of renewable resources into the power grid has lowered Illinois’ average

²⁹ PÖyry, *Wind Energy and Electricity Prices*, at pages 11 and 12
http://www.ewea.org/fileadmin/ewea_documents/documents/publications/reports/MeritOrder.pdf.

³⁰ MVP Report at 50.

³¹ Recent Electricity Market Reforms in Massachusetts: A Report of Benefits and Costs, at 27-28 (July 2011), available at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/doer/publications/electricity-report-jul12-2011.pdf>.

417 LMPs by \$1.30 per mega-watt hour (MWh), from \$36.40 to \$35.10 per
418 MWh. The aggregate result is a savings of \$176.85 million in total load
419 payment for generation in Illinois. While this does not directly translate to
420 dollar for dollar savings in consumer bills for the same time period, due to
421 the fact that utility consumers are served via a portfolio of resources of
422 different vintage, it points out the magnitude of the benefits accruing to all
423 consumers in lowered underlying electric energy cost drivers. Over time,
424 the effect of lower LMPs due to growing renewable capacity will be
425 reflected in procurement outcomes.”³²

426 **Q: What are the operating reserve savings that totaled \$28 million to**
427 **\$87 million?**

428 **A:** The MVP Report explains the operating reserve savings as: “The
429 recommended MVP portfolio decreases congestion on the system,
430 increasing the transfer capability into several key areas that would
431 otherwise have to hold additional operating reserves under certain system
432 conditions.... This creates the opportunity to locate an average of 690,000
433 MWh of operating reserves annually where it would be most economical
434 to do so, as opposed to holding these reserves in prescribed zones,
435 creating benefits of \$28 to \$87 million in 20 to 40 year present value
436 terms.”³³

437 **Q: What are the system planning reserve margin savings that totaled \$1**
438 **billion to \$5.1 billion?**

439 **A:** The MVP Report explains the system planning reserve margin savings as:
440 “The recommended MVP portfolio reduces transmission congestion
441 across MISO, thereby reducing the system PRM [planning reserve
442 margin] and decreasing the amount of generation required to meet the

³² Illinois Power Annual Report: The Costs and Benefits of Renewable Resource Procurement in Illinois Under the Illinois Power Agency and Illinois Public Utilities Acts, 2012 (“IPA Report”), at 3 (April 2012).

³³ MVP Report at 56.

443 PRM. By reducing the PRM, the recommended MVP portfolio defers new
444 generation...”³⁴

445 **Q: What are the transmission line loss savings that totaled \$111 million**
446 **to \$396 million?**

447 **A:** The MVP Report explains the transmission line loss savings as: “The
448 addition of the recommended MVP portfolio to the transmission network
449 reduces overall system losses, which also reduces the generation needed
450 to serve the combined load and transmission line losses. The energy
451 value of these loss reductions is considered in the congestion and fuel
452 savings benefits, but the loss reduction also helps to reduce future
453 generation capacity needs. Specifically, when installed generation
454 capacity is just sufficient to meet peak system load plus the planning
455 reserve margin, a reduction in transmission losses reduces the amount of
456 generation that must be built.”³⁵

457 **Q: What are the wind turbine investment savings that totaled \$1.4 billion**
458 **to \$2.5 billion?**

459 **A:** The MVP Report explains the wind turbine investment savings as: “In the
460 RGOS study, it was determined that 11 percent less wind would need to
461 be built to meet renewable energy mandates in a combination
462 local/regional methodology relative to a local only approach. This change
463 in generation was applied to energy required by the renewable energy
464 mandates, as well as the total wind energy enabled by the recommended
465 MVP portfolio. This resulted in a total of 2.9 GW of avoided wind
466 generation... The low cost wind siting methodology enabled by the
467 recommended MVP portfolio creates benefits ranging from a present

³⁴ MVP Report at 58.

³⁵ Id. at 62.

468 value of \$1.4 to \$2.5 billion in 2011 dollars, depending on which business
469 case assumptions are applied.”³⁶

470 **Q: What are the future transmission investment savings that totaled**
471 **\$226 million to \$794 million?**

472 **A:** The MVP Report explains the future transmission savings as: “The
473 recommended MVP portfolio eliminates the need for baseline reliability
474 upgrades on 23 lines between 2026 and 2031. This creates benefits
475 which have 20 and 40 year present values of \$268 and \$1,058 million,
476 respectively.”³⁷

477 **Q: Can factors change the value of these benefits?**

478 **A:** Yes, hence the ranges included in MISO’s estimates of the benefits of the
479 MVP portfolio and the Illinois Rivers Project. MISO analyzed future policy
480 scenarios and found that under policy scenarios other than “Business as
481 Usual,” the benefits of the MVP portfolio would be even larger. As noted in
482 the MVP Report, production cost benefits alone could total up to \$91.7
483 billion under other policy scenarios.³⁸ Under policy scenarios that include
484 new environmental regulations, such as potential greenhouse gas
485 emission regulations, consumers would see significant benefit from
486 transmission projects to connect wind plants because those projects
487 would reduce the cost of compliance.

488 **Q: Does transmission help to hedge against uncertainty and protect**
489 **consumer from risk?**

490 **A:** Yes. Transmission is an important mechanism to protect consumers
491 against unpredictable volatility in the price of fuels used to produce
492 electricity. Transmission can alleviate the negative impact of fuel price
493 fluctuations on consumers by making it possible to buy power from other

³⁶ MVP Report at 66.

³⁷ *Id.* at 68.

³⁸ MVP Report at 50.

494 regions and move it efficiently on the grid. This increased flexibility in itself
495 helps to modulate swings in fuel price, as it makes demand for fuels more
496 responsive to price as utilities are able to respond to price signals by
497 decreasing use an expensive fuel and instead importing cheaper power
498 made from other sources.

499

500 Wind generation itself also provides significant hedging value against fuel
501 prices fluctuations, so the hedging benefit of transmission is even larger
502 for transmission that connects new wind generation, such as the Illinois
503 Rivers Project. A recent Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory report
504 concluded that “Comparing the wind PPA sample to the range of long-
505 term gas price projections reveals that even in today’s low gas price
506 environment, and with the promise of shale gas having driven down future
507 gas price expectations, wind power can still provide long-term protection
508 against many of the higher-priced natural gas scenarios contemplated by
509 the EIA.”³⁹

510

511 Going forward, a robust transmission grid can provide valuable protection
512 against a variety of uncertainties in the electricity market. Fluctuations in
513 the price of fossil fuels are likely to continue, particularly if the electric
514 sector becomes more reliant on natural gas. Further price risk associated
515 with the potential enactment of environmental policies place a further
516 premium on the flexibility and choice provided by a robust transmission
517 grid. As a result, transmission should be viewed as a valuable hedge
518 against uncertainty and future price fluctuations for all consumers.

519

³⁹ Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Revisiting the Long-Term Hedge Value of Wind Power in an Era of Low Natural Gas Prices, March 2013, page i, at <http://emp.lbl.gov/sites/all/files/lbnl-6103e.pdf>

520 **Q: How does transmission ensure competitive electricity markets?**

521 **A:** Transmission infrastructure is also a powerful tool for increasing
522 competition in wholesale power markets and reducing the potential for
523 generators to harm consumers by exercising market power. Just as
524 consumers who have access to one local retailer and lack high quality
525 roads to easily access stores in other regions would be at the mercy of the
526 prices charged by that retailer, a weak grid makes it possible for
527 generation owners in constrained sections of the grid to exert market
528 power and charge excessive prices. In any market, the more supply
529 options that are available to an area, the less likely it is that any one of
530 those suppliers will be in a position to exert market power.

531

532 In Order 890, FERC explained how transmission constraints can restrict
533 electricity market competition, discussing how those with incumbent
534 generating assets “can have a disincentive to remedy transmission
535 congestion when doing so reduces the value of their generation or
536 otherwise stimulates new entry or greater competition in their area. For
537 example, a transmission provider does not have an incentive to relieve
538 local congestion that restricts the output of a competing merchant
539 generator if doing so will make the transmission provider’s own generation
540 less competitive.”⁴⁰

541 **Q: Have other studies documented the benefits of transmission?**

542 **A:** Several analyses by Charles River Associates (“CRA”), International
543 quantified the value of these broad-based benefits. One study looked at
544 an investment in a high-voltage transmission overlay to access wind
545 resources in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. It concluded the
546 transmission investment would provide economic benefits of around \$2

⁴⁰ FERC Order 890 at page 238, available at <http://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/comm-meet/2007/021507/E-1.pdf>

547 billion per year for the region, more than four times the \$400-500 million
548 annual cost of the transmission investment.⁴¹ \$900 million of these
549 benefits would be in the form of direct consumer savings on their electric
550 bills, with \$100 million of these savings coming from the significantly
551 higher efficiency of high-voltage transmission, which would reduce
552 electricity losses by 1,600 GWh each year. The remainder would stem
553 from reduced congestion on the grid allowing customers to obtain access
554 to cheaper power.

555
556 Similarly, CRA's analysis of the proposed Green Power Express, which
557 would connect 17 GW of wind to the grid in the MISO region, found that
558 the transmission plan would yield benefits of \$4.4 to \$6.5 billion per year
559 for the region (in 2008 dollars), well above the annualized cost of the
560 transmission, estimated to be between \$1.2 billion and \$1.44 billion.⁴² In
561 his affidavit, Mr. Stoddard with Charles River Associates noted that "I have
562 confirmed with Dr. Shavel that these energy cost savings are widely
563 dispersed through the study Region, but this conclusion is logically
564 necessary: considering the small amount of load located in the upper
565 Great Plains, savings of this order of magnitude could only be realized if
566 the combination of lowered energy prices in the major load centers to the
567 east."⁴³

568
569 In addition, a May 2012 report by Synapse Energy Economics found that
570 adding 20 to 40 GW of wind energy and the accompanying transmission

⁴¹ CRA International, First Two Loops of SPP EHV Overlay Transmission Expansion: Analysis of Benefits and Costs (September 26, 2008) *available at* http://www.crai.com/uploadedFiles/RELATING_MATERIALS/Publications/BC/Energy_and_Environment/files/Southwest%20Power%20Pool%20Extra-High-Voltage%20Transmission%20Study.pdf.

⁴² FERC Docket ER09-1431, Protest of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, Iberdrola Renewables, Inc., Mesa Power Group, LLC, Horizon Wind Energy LLC, Enxco, Inc., Acciona Wind Energy USA LLC, GE Energy, Vestas Americas and the National Resources Defense Council. Affidavit of Robert Stoddard, page 4, *available at* <http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/common/opennat.asp?fileID=12111601>

571 in the MISO region would save a typical household between \$63 and
572 \$200 per year.⁴⁴ As illustrated in WOW Exhibit 1.9, this report found that
573 electricity market prices decrease drastically as more wind capacity is
574 added to the MISO system. As the report explains, “Since wind energy
575 “fuel” is free, once built, wind power plants displace fossil-fueled
576 generation and lower the price of marginal supply—thus lowering the
577 energy market clearing price.”⁴⁵

578 **Q: In addition to the IPA report’s finding that wind has reduced Illinois**
579 **LMPs from \$36.40 to \$35.10/MWh, have other studies documented**
580 **the tendency of wind energy to reduce electricity market prices?**

581 **A:** Yes. A European literature review identified a number of studies that have
582 found wind energy tends to drive electricity market prices downward.⁴⁶ As
583 that report explains, “Wind power normally has a low marginal cost (zero
584 fuel costs) and therefore enters near the bottom of the supply curve.
585 Graphically, this shifts the supply curve to the right, resulting in a lower
586 power price, depending on the price elasticity of the power demand....
587 When wind power reduces the spot power price, it has a significant
588 influence on the price of power for consumers. When the spot price is
589 lowered, this is beneficial to all power consumers, since the reduction in
590 price applies to all electricity traded – not only to electricity generated by
591 wind power.” In addition, a 2009 analysis for the New York State Energy
592 Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) found that each MWh
593 of renewable energy produced in the state resulted in \$100 worth of

⁴³ Id.

⁴⁴ Synapse Energy Economics, Inc., The Potential Rate Effects of Wind Energy and Transmission in the Midwest ISO Region, at page 3 (May 22, 2012) <http://cleanenergytransmission.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Full-Report-The-Potential-Rate-Effects-of-Wind-Energy-and-Transmission-in-the-Midwest-ISO-Region.pdf>

⁴⁵ Id.

⁴⁶ Pöyry, Wind Energy and Electricity Prices, at pages 11 and 12 http://www.ewea.org/fileadmin/ewea_documents/documents/publications/reports/MeritOrder.pdf.

594 consumer savings on electric bills.⁴⁷ An analysis in Massachusetts found
595 that the benefits of the state's renewable initiatives "that accrue to electric
596 customers are nearly two and half times greater than \$1.1 billion cost of
597 implementing these initiatives."⁴⁸

598 **Q: Have other utilities and states noted the consumer benefits of wind**
599 **energy?**

600 **A:** Yes. In early 2012, American Electric Power subsidiary Southwestern
601 Electric Power Co. (SWEPCO) signed long-term power purchase
602 agreements for a total of 358.65 MW from wind projects in Texas,
603 Oklahoma and Kansas. SWEPCO said in a news release that it estimated
604 an average decrease in cost to its customers of about 0.1 cents per
605 kilowatt-hour over a 10-year period starting in 2013.⁴⁹

606
607 As another example, Alabama Power, a subsidiary of Southern Company,
608 has made several wind power purchase. John Kelley, Director of
609 Forecasting and Resource Planning, explained that "These agreements
610 are good for our customers for one very basic reason, and that is, they
611 save our customers money."⁵⁰

612

⁴⁷ New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, New York Renewable Portfolio standard Program Evaluation Report, 2009, at http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/Publications/Program-Planning-Status-and-Evaluation-Reports/~/_media/Files/EDPPP/Energy%20and%20Environmental%20Markets/RPS/RPS%20Documents/rps-performance-report-2009.ashx.

⁴⁸ Recent Electricity Market Reforms in Massachusetts: A Report of Benefits and Costs, at 29 (July 2011), available at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/doer/publications/electricity-report-jul12-2011.pdf>.

⁴⁹ AEP Southwestern Electric Power Company, AEP SWEPCO Signs Wind Power Purchase Agreements for 359 Megawatts, (1/25/2012). <https://www.swepco.com/info/news/ViewRelease.aspx?releaseID=1183>

⁵⁰ Alabama Power, Alabama Power among leaders in SE in wind power, October 2012, available at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6q6Q0_C1SX0 at 2:25

613 **3. Transmission lowers REC costs for Illinois consumers by facilitating an**
614 **effectively competitive electricity market that operates efficiently**

615

616 **Q: What are the requirements for a REC to satisfy Illinois' RPS?**

617 **A:** Renewable energy or a REC used for compliance with the Illinois RPS
618 must come from Illinois or an adjoining state, which would be Iowa,
619 Missouri, Wisconsin, Indiana, or Kentucky.

620 **Q: What happens if sufficient RECs are not available from those states?**

621 **A:** If the RPS requirement cannot be met with renewable energy or RECs
622 from those states, the price of compliance RECs will go up. If the price
623 increases to the point that the specified benchmark/cost cap set by the
624 Illinois Commerce Commission is reached,⁵¹ then renewable energy or
625 REC's bid from states that do not border Illinois can be used to meet the
626 RPS requirement. However, so far the cost of compliance RECs has been
627 well below the benchmark/cost cap, as documented when the Illinois
628 Power Agency report notes that "The purchases represent a low of 0.05%
629 to a high of 0.83% of the total rates paid for electricity."⁵²

630 **Q: What is the likely impact of the Illinois Rivers Project on the cost of**
631 **complying with the Illinois RPS?**

632 **A:** As explained in the MISO MVP Report, the Illinois Rivers Project "will
633 provide an outlet for wind generation in the western region to move toward

⁵¹ The cost cap is set according to the following rules, as explained on the Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency, *available at* http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=IL04R. "Renewable energy procurement is limited to "cost-effective" resources. There are two tests to determine cost-effectiveness. ... [After 2008] the cost is limited to the greater of 2.015% of the amount per kWh paid in 2007, or the incremental amount paid in 2011. The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is to review the cap in 2011 and report to the General Assembly if it "unduly constrains the procurement of cost-effective renewable energy resources." The second test of cost-effectiveness (established in the Public Act 095-1027) is that cost of procuring renewable resources must not exceed benchmarks based on market prices for renewable energy resources in the region, where the IPA procurement administrator will determine the benchmarks."

⁵² Illinois Power Annual Report: The Costs and Benefits of Renewable Resource Procurement in Illinois Under the Illinois Power Agency and Illinois Public Utilities Acts(April 2012), at 3.

634 the more densely populated load centers to the east.”⁵³ More specifically,
635 the project is designed to facilitate wind development in Illinois, Iowa, and
636 Missouri, and deliver that wind energy to load centers in Illinois. Because
637 wind energy generated in these three states is eligible for satisfying
638 compliance with the Illinois RPS, the additional supply will tend to lower
639 the price of renewable energy or RECs that vie for renewable energy
640 contracts with utilities or ARES in Illinois. Because the cost of RPS
641 compliance has remained well below the benchmark/cost cap, we will
642 assume that this trend continues. As a result, lower renewable energy and
643 REC prices will lower the cost of compliance with the Illinois RPS.

644 This is not surprising, as the Illinois Rivers Project was designed by MISO
645 as part of a portfolio to satisfy state RPS requirements at the lowest cost
646 for consumers. As the MISO MVP report explains, “The goal of the RGOS
647 analysis was to design transmission portfolios that would enable RPS
648 mandates to be met at the lowest delivered wholesale energy cost.”⁵⁴

649 **Q: Please describe the current status of the Illinois REC market,**
650 **including REC prices in recent years?**

651 **A:** As explained in the Illinois Power Agency report,⁵⁵ for the period June
652 2009-May 2012, the average cost of compliance RECs for the Ameren
653 territory was 0.623 cents/kwh, or \$6.23/MWh. Prices ranged from a high
654 of \$15.86/MWh in June 2009-May 2010, to a low of \$0.92/MWh in June
655 2011-May 2012. Similar data are reported for ComEd, with a three year
656 average of \$7.43/MWh and prices ranging from a high of \$19.27/MWh in
657 June 2009-May 2010, to a low of \$0.95/MWh in June 2011-May 2012.⁵⁶
658 By reducing these prices even further, the Illinois Rivers Project will lower
659 the cost of compliance with the Illinois RPS, benefiting Illinois consumers.

⁵³ MVP Report at 33 and 35.

⁵⁴ MVP Report at 3.

⁵⁵ Illinois Power Annual Report: The Costs and Benefits of Renewable Resource Procurement in Illinois Under the Illinois Power Agency and Illinois Public Utilities Acts(April 2012), at 15 and 16

660 **Q: What is the future demand for RECs in the states that border Illinois,**
661 **and how will this affect REC prices in Illinois?**

662 **A:** WOW Exhibit 1.10 displays AWEA's analysis of the incremental demand
663 for wind energy that is likely to be created by the RPS requirements for
664 states within the MISO and PJM footprint. These results indicate that
665 there is significant demand for RECs in the states that make up both the
666 MISO and PJM markets. Many PJM states, with the notable exception of
667 Ohio,⁵⁷ have RPS requirements that allow renewable energy delivered
668 anywhere within the PJM footprint to qualify. As a result, RPS
669 requirements in states distant from Illinois, not just states adjacent to
670 Illinois, can affect the market for RECs that are eligible for compliance
671 with the Illinois RPS. RPS requirements in Missouri and Wisconsin are
672 also likely to limit the quantity of RECs from those states that will be
673 available to meet the Illinois RPS. Given the amount that RPS demand
674 will exceed existing supply, the Illinois Rivers Project can play an
675 important role in increasing the supply of wind energy from Illinois and
676 adjacent states, helping to keep the cost of compliance with the Illinois
677 RPS low and facilitating an effectively competitive electricity market that
678 operates efficiently.

679 **4. The benefits of transmission are equitably allocated**

680 **Q: Is the equitable allocation of benefits a requirement for a**
681 **transmission project to be included in the MISO MVP portfolio?**

682 **A:** Yes. The MVP Report explains that "A key principle of the MISO planning
683 process is that the benefits from a given transmission project must be
684 spread commensurate with its costs. The MVP cost allocation
685 methodology distributes the costs of the portfolio on a load ratio share

⁵⁶ WOW Exhibits 1.7 and 1.8.

⁵⁷ Ohio's RPS requires that "At least 50% of the renewable energy requirement must be met by in-state facilities, and the remaining 50% with resources that can be shown to be deliverable into the state." Documented on the Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency at http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=OH14R.

686 across the MISO footprint, so the recommended MVP portfolio must be
687 shown to deliver a similar spread of benefits.”⁵⁸

688 **Q: MISO’s policy of broadly allocating MVP project costs was approved**
689 **by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”). Does FERC**
690 **have any conditions on how transmission costs should be**
691 **allocated?**

692 **A:** Yes. FERC requires costs to be allocated in a way that is reasonably
693 commensurate with the benefits of a transmission project. In approving
694 MISO’s MVP cost allocation proposal, FERC indicated that it views the
695 benefits of MVP transmission to be broadly and equitably distributed,
696 hence why it approved a cost allocation methodology that broadly and
697 evenly allocates the cost of MVP projects to all consumers in the MISO
698 footprint. Specifically, FERC noted in its Order that “We find that the MVP
699 methodology will identify projects that provide regional benefits and
700 allocate the costs of those projects accordingly,”⁵⁹ noting that “the process
701 allows Midwest ISO flexibility to move forward MVPs in appropriate
702 numbers, at appropriate times, in order to maximize regional benefits and
703 to ensure that the costs of each portfolio are widely and fairly
704 distributed.”⁶⁰

705 **Q: Has MISO conducted analysis to determine how equitably distributed**
706 **the benefits of MVP transmission will be?**

707 **A:** Yes. As explained in the MVP Report, “Each economic business case
708 metric calculated for the full recommended MVP portfolio was analyzed to
709 determine how it would accrue to stakeholders across the footprint. These
710 results were then rolled up to a zonal level, based on the proposed Local
711 Resource Zones for Resource Adequacy. This level of detail was chosen

⁵⁸ MVP Report at 84.

⁵⁹ Docket ER-10-1791-000, FERC Order at 5 (December 16, 2010), available at <http://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/comm-meet/2010/121610/E-1.pdf>.

⁶⁰ *Id.* at 74, available at <http://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/comm-meet/2010/121610/E-1.pdf>.

712 to provide stakeholders with an understanding of the benefits spread,
713 without getting into a detail level which may be falsely precise due to the
714 impact of individual stakeholder actions on actual benefit spreads.”⁶¹

715

716 Across the zones, the benefit-cost results are remarkably consistent,
717 further indicating that the benefits of MVP transmission are broadly and
718 equitably allocated.

719 **Q: Do higher-voltage, higher-capacity transmission lines tend to see**
720 **more equitable distribution of their benefits?**

721 **A:** Yes. This is inherent for high-capacity transmission lines due to the large
722 amount of energy they are carrying that will provide price-reducing
723 benefits across a large area, and the related fact that high-capacity lines
724 resolve transmission constraints across a large geographic area. FERC
725 noted this fact in approving MISO’s proposed cost allocation policies for
726 MVP projects and other lines, noting that “the 100 kV voltage criterion that
727 we are accepting, together with the three functional criteria and the \$20
728 million minimum project cost requirement associated with MVP facilities,
729 lends assurance that the facility’s benefits will be of sufficient size and
730 scope to be material to the Midwest ISO region as a whole.”⁶²

731 **Q: Has MISO examined the economic development benefits of the MVP**
732 **projects?**

733 **A:** Yes. MISO’s MVP Report estimates that “The recommended MVP
734 portfolio supports the creation of between 17,000 and 39,800 local jobs,⁶³
735 as well as \$1.1 to \$9.2 billion in local investment. This calculation is based

⁶¹ MVP Report at 84.

⁶² Commission Order, Docket No. ER10-1791, December 2010, at pages 83-84, *available at* <http://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/comm-meet/2010/121610/E-1.pdf> .

⁶³ MISO notes that its job creation estimates are derived from The Brattle Group, Employment and Economic Benefits of Transmission Infrastructure Investment in the U.S. and Canada, May

736 upon a creation of \$0.3 to \$1.9 million local investment and 3 to 7
737 employment years per million of transmission investment. It also assumes
738 that the capital investment for each MVP occurred equally over the 3
739 years prior to the project's in-service date."⁶⁴

740 **Q: How are the economic development benefits of transmission and**
741 **wind development typically distributed?**

742 **A:** Economic development benefits are typically broadly spread around the
743 project area, as indirect economic impacts spread the economic impact
744 beyond local areas and industries that are directly receiving. In addition,
745 the manufacturing jobs associated with building the components of the
746 transmission and wind infrastructure would be broadly distributed around
747 the state as well. The Department of Energy's 2008 report, "20% Wind
748 Energy by 2030," found that the manufacturing jobs associated with
749 deploying large amounts of wind would be broadly distributed across the
750 entire country.⁶⁵

751 **Q: Are there other benefits of building transmission, and how are they**
752 **distributed?**

753 **A:** The economic analyses discussed above did not even attempt to quantify
754 some of the most broadly distributed benefits of building the wind and
755 transmission. For example, using larger amounts of wind energy offsets
756 the use of natural gas for electricity production, reducing natural gas
757 prices for all natural gas consumers. DOE's analysis of a proposed 15%
758 federal RPS found that such a policy would reduce consumer natural gas
759 expenditures by a cumulative \$1 billion between 2005 and 2030, though

2011, page ii, available at http://www.wiresgroup.com/images/Brattle-WIRES_Jobs_Study_May2011.pdf.

⁶⁴ MVP Report at 78.

⁶⁵ U.S. Dep't of Energy, *20% Wind Energy by 2030: Increasing Wind Energy's Contribution to U.S. Electricity Supply* at Page 208 (Appendix C) (2008), available at <http://www.20percentwind.org/>.⁶⁶
U.S. Dep't of Energy, "Impacts of a 15-Percent Renewable Portfolio Standard," June 2007, available at <ftp://ftp.eia.doe.gov/service/sroiaf%282007%2903.pdf>, at page v.

760 notably that was working from higher natural gas prices so the savings at
761 today's gas prices would likely be somewhat lower.⁶⁶ These benefits
762 would accrue not just to electricity consumers who benefit from having
763 electricity produced from lower priced natural gas, but also to
764 homeowners using gas for heating, chemical factories using it as a
765 feedstock, and farmers buying fertilizer made from natural gas, just to
766 name a few.

767

768 Another benefit of wind that is broadly distributed is wind's role in
769 offsetting water consumption at other forms of electricity generation.
770 Because wind energy requires virtually zero water, while most
771 conventional forms of electricity generation consume hundreds of gallons
772 of water per MWh produced, the DOE report mentioned above found that
773 achieving 20% wind would save 4 trillion gallons through the year 2030.⁶⁷
774 These water savings would produce broadly spread benefits, as all people
775 consume water. These benefits would be particularly large in an
776 agricultural state like Illinois, and the benefit of reduced costs for
777 producing food and other agricultural products would benefit all
778 consumers.

779 **Q: Does this conclude your testimony?**

780 **A:** Yes.

781

⁶⁶ U.S. Dep't of Energy, "Impacts of a 15-Percent Renewable Portfolio Standard," June 2007, available at [ftp://ftp.eia.doe.gov/service/sroiaf%282007%2903.pdf](http://ftp.eia.doe.gov/service/sroiaf%282007%2903.pdf), at page v.

⁶⁷ U.S. Dep't of Energy, 20% Wind Energy by 2030: Increasing Wind Energy's Contribution to U.S. Electricity Supply at 16 (Executive Summary) (2008), available at <http://www.20percentwind.org/>.

Exhibits 1.1 through 1.10:

Exhibit 1.1: NREL wind resource assessment map of the U.S., *available at* http://www.nrel.gov/wind/resource_assessment.html as of March 26, 2013, downloaded by Michael S. Goggin.

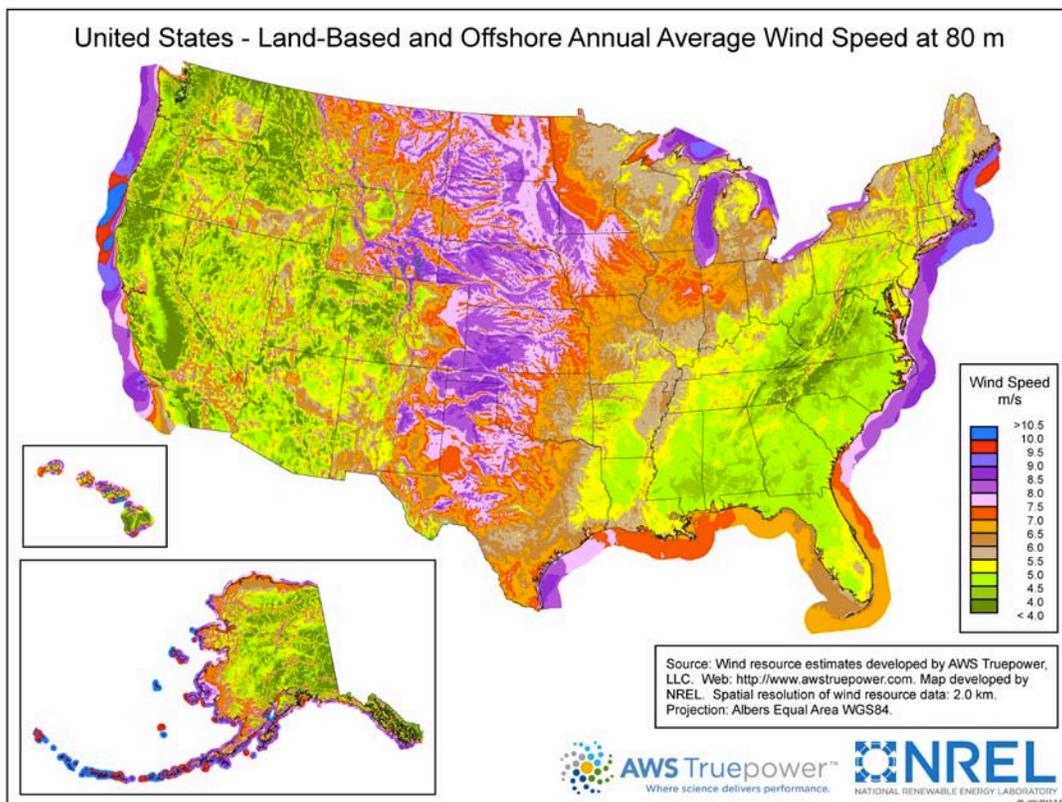
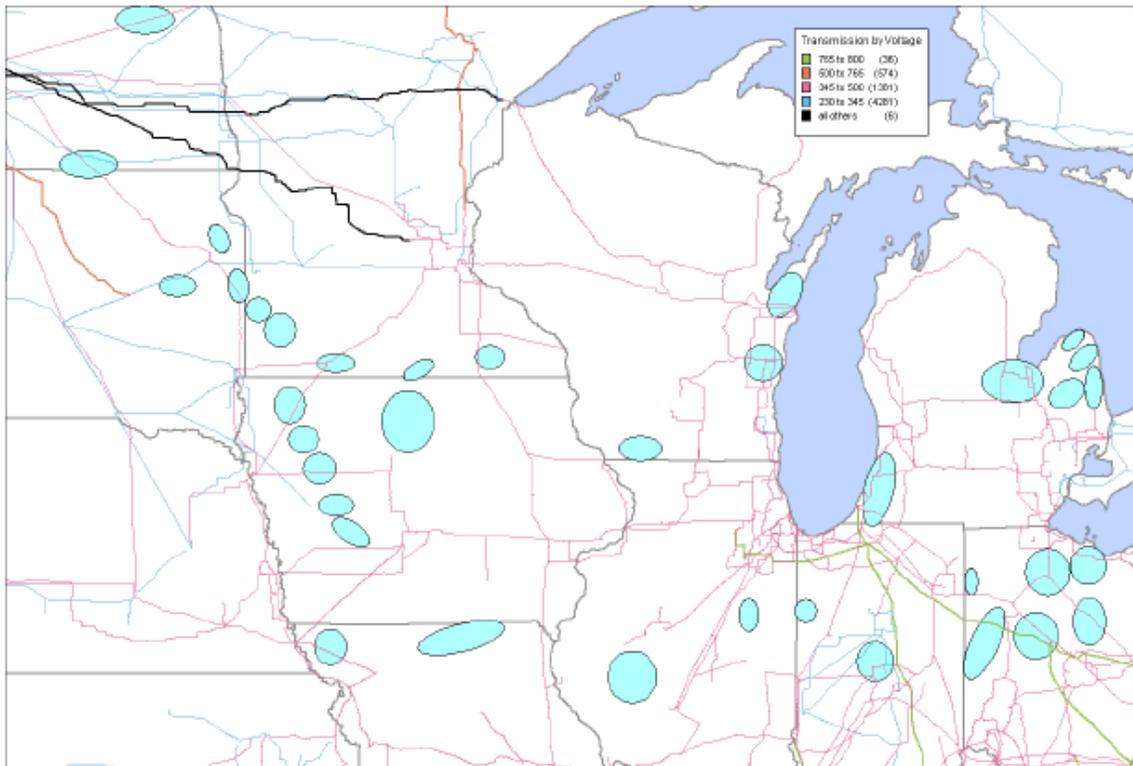
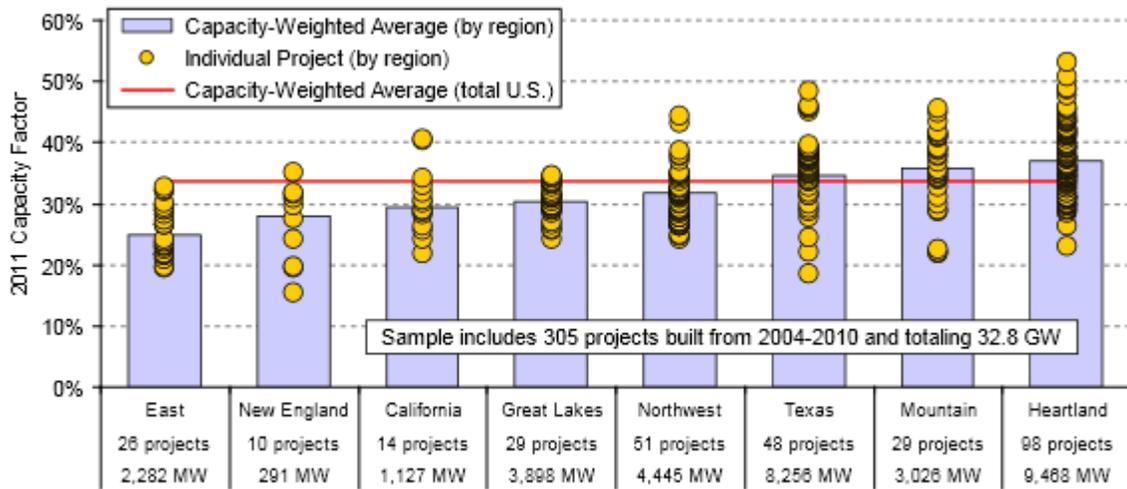


Exhibit 1.2: RGOS wind resources zones, overlaid on existing transmission system, from MVP report⁶⁸



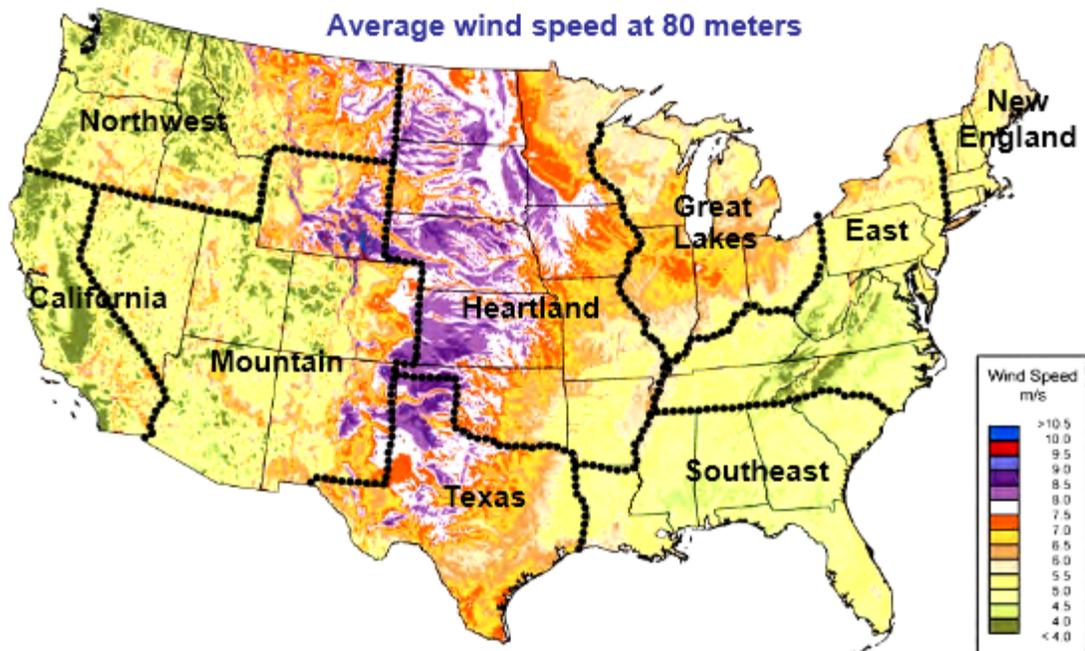
⁶⁸ MVP Report at 18.

Exhibit 1.3: Capacity factor by region, from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories, 2011 Wind Technologies Report, fig. 29 at 46 (August 2012) <http://eetd.lbl.gov/ea/emp/reports/lbnl-5559e.pdf>



Source: Berkeley Lab

Exhibit 1.4: Region breakdown overlaid on wind speed map, from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories, 2011 Wind Technologies Report, fig. 30 at 46 (August 2012) <http://eetd.lbl.gov/ea/emp/reports/lbnl-5559e.pdf>



Source: AWS Truepower, NREL

Exhibit 1.5: Wind PPA price by region, from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories, 2011 Wind Technologies Report, fig. 35 at 53 (August 2012) <http://eetd.lbl.gov/ea/emp/reports/lbnl-5559e.pdf>

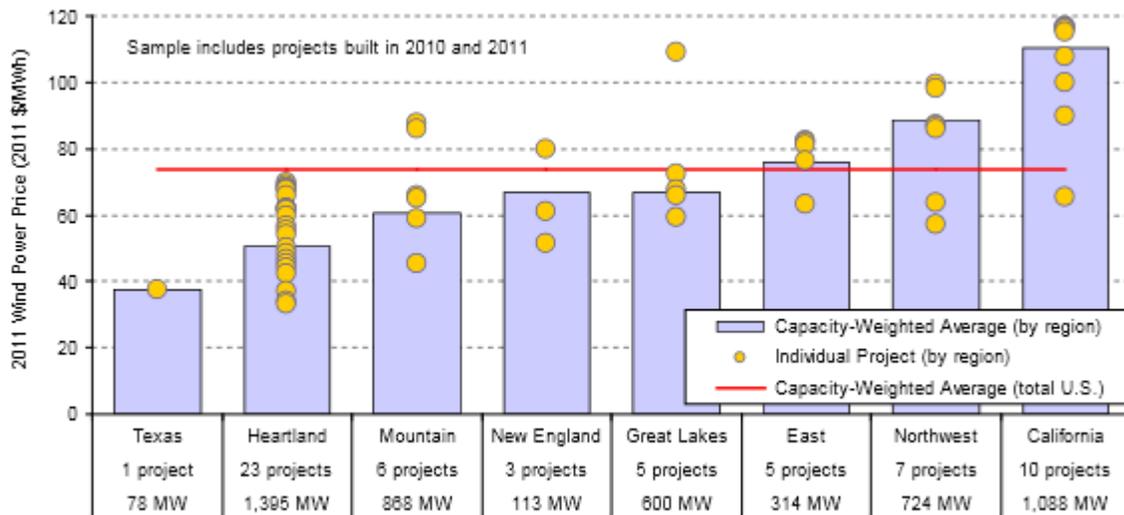


Exhibit 1.6: Cost and benefits of MVP portfolio, by category; from MISO Multi Value Project Portfolio: Results and Analyses (“MVP Report”), fig. 8.1 at 50 (January 10, 2012)

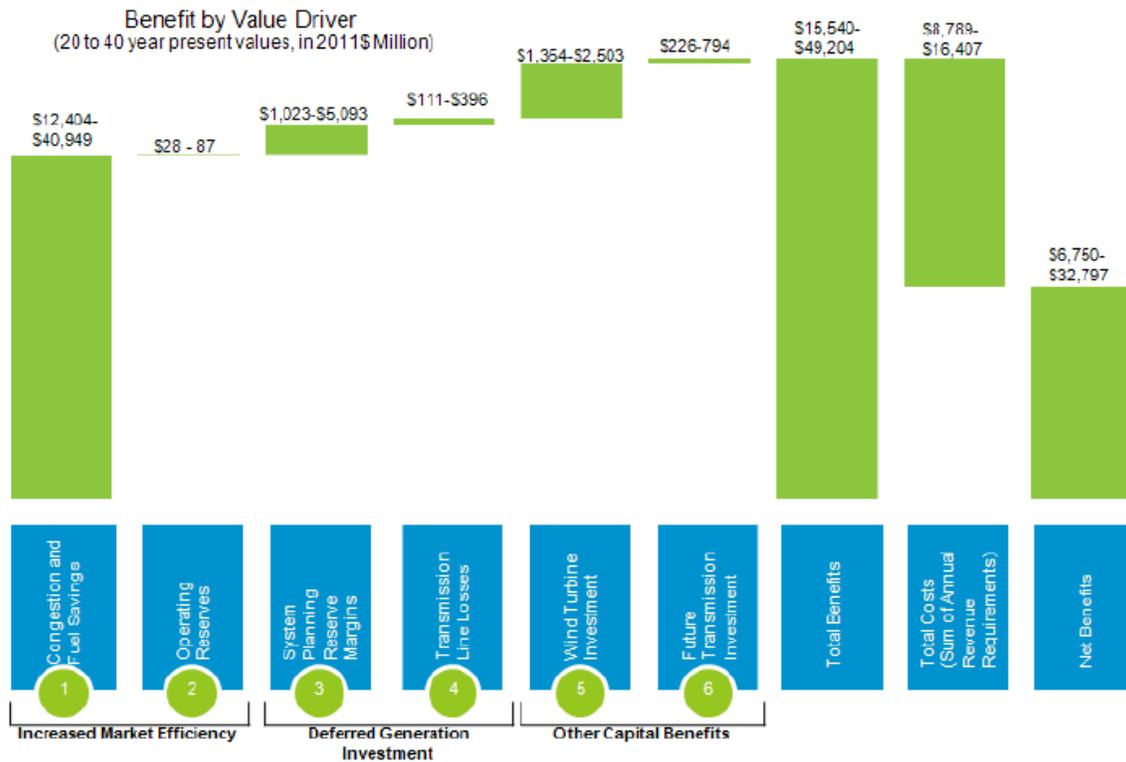


Exhibit 1.7: Cost of RECs for Ameren, from Illinois Power Agency report

Delivery Year	Avg. Cost of RECs Procured by IPA in the Delivery Year (¢/kWh)	Avg. Cost of Conventional Supply Procured by IPA in the Delivery Year⁴⁵ (¢/kWh)
June 2009 – May 2010	1.586	3.682
June 2010 – May 2011	0.405	3.114
June 2011 – May 2012	0.092	3.234
June 2009-May 2012⁴⁶	0.623	3.378
2010 LTPPA ⁴⁷	5.044	N/A
2012 Rate Stability ⁴⁸	0.343	2.951

Exhibit 1.8: Cost of RECs for ComEd, from Illinois Power Agency report

Delivery Year	Avg. Cost of RECs Procured by IPA in the Delivery Year (¢/kWh)	Avg. Cost of Conventional Supply Procured by IPA in the Delivery Year (¢/kWh)
June 2009 – May 2010	1.927	3.281
June 2010 – May 2011	0.488	3.344
June 2011 – May 2012	0.095	3.684
June 2009-May 2012⁴¹	0.743	3.412
2010 LTPPA ⁴²	5.518	N/A
2012 Rate Stability ⁴³	0.128	3.257

Exhibit 1.9: Electricity Market Prices Decline as Wind Capacity is Added, from Synapse Energy Economics, Inc., The Potential Rate Effects of Wind Energy and Transmission in the Midwest ISO Region, at 4 (May 22, 2012), available at <http://cleanenergytransmission.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Full-Report-The-Potential-Rate-Effects-of-Wind-Energy-and-Transmission-in-the-Midwest-ISO-Region.pdf>

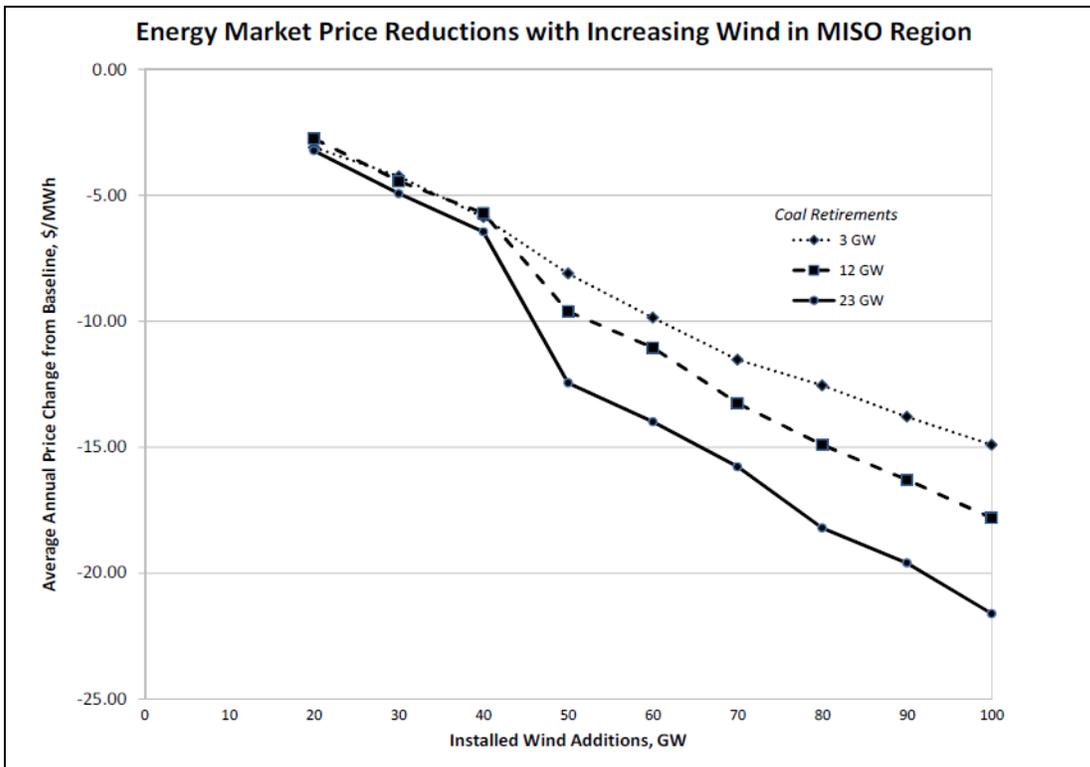


Exhibit 1.10: AWEA Estimates of Incremental Wind Capacity MW (beyond what is installed as of the end of 2012) that will be used to meet state RPS requirements in the year 2025, by state

State	Low Estimate	High Estimate
DC	300	400
DE	100	150
IL	3,000	4,000
MD	500	700
MI	500	1,000
MO	1,200	1,800
MN	1,000	1,500
NJ	1,400	1,800
OH	3,700	4,300
PA	500	700
WI	400	600