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April 30, 2019

MEMORANDUM

- TO: Council Members
- FROM: Mike Starrett
- SUBJECT: Example resource dispatch in a centralized market

BACKGROUND:

- Presenter: Mike Starrett
- Summary: Utilities operating in the region primarily transact for energy and transmission through bilateral negotiations. This can limit the fleet of resources available for economic dispatch and can have an outsized impact on resource procurement decisions and transmission utilization.

In contrast to a bilateral market, a centralized market with a single market operator can create a security constrained economic dispatch of resources across a broad footprint and use congestion pricing as a lever to respect transmission constraints. The end result of congestion pricing is similar to the recently piloted South of Allston non-wires relief pilot where resources above the constraint were paid to turn down and resources below the constraint were paid to turn up during the small handful of hours where the flowgate is actually physically constrained. This presentation will review how resources are bid and subsequently dispatched in a centralized market. A comparison of merchant activity in a bilateral market will be provided. The presentation will conclude with a description of how additional transmission products could lead to better transmission utilization even without a centralized market.

Workplan: Prepare for 2021 Power Plan























