

## **Restructuring of the Midwest** Wholesale Electricity Markets

Michael D. Smith Constellation Power Source December 10, 2003

### **Current Status**

- Transmission service in most of MISO footprint is under MISO OATT
  - ComEd, AEP, DP&L and Ameren are still not part of an RTO
- MISO energy markets delayed until at least December 1, 2004
  - Stakeholder bickering over filed tariff
  - 8/14 reliability concerns
- Status of several key utilities in question
  - ComEd
  - IP
  - AEP and DP&L
  - Ameren
- Situation has been very fluid over past 6 months

## **Recent Key Events**

- MISO energy market delay
- Blackout report
  - First Energy and MISO
- Energy Bill
  - Delayed, if not dead
- FERC RTOR order
- FERC order re AEP/PJM
- First Energy (OH) market development period filing
  - Retail issue with significant wholesale implications for region

# **Domino Effect**

- Currently at a critical junction
  - Poised either to continue with wholesale energy market development in a constructive manner or retreat completely
- The standing dominos
  - AEP/ComEd RTO integration
  - MISO feasibility and sustainability
    - What form?
  - Joint operating agreement--MISO/PJM
    - Other "non-markets"
  - Ohio retail market
  - Illinois retail market
  - Federal legislation
  - FERC jurisdiction and authority
- Question now is, "Which way will the dominos fall?"

#### **Best Case**

- MISO sticks to current timetable
  - Energy market by 12/01/04
  - Potential for geographic phase-in
- FERC's authority to order AEP into PJM withstands challenge
  - AEP joins PJM 10/01/04
  - DP&L follows soon thereafter
- ComEd joins PJM
  - IP?

### **Best Case--continued**

- FERC's RTOR orders withstand challenge
  RTORs eliminated 4/01/04
- Ameren finalizes integration into MISO
  - Coming soon?
- Joint Operating agreement(s) finalized between MISO and PJM and any remaining "non-markets"
- Ohio and Illinois don't mess up their respective retail markets
- Federal energy legislation doesn't get in the way
  - Fails next year or
  - Passes in current form

## The Other Side of the Coin

- MISO bogs down in further bickering and delay
- "Non-market" utilities' integration into RTOs is further delayed
- FERC's AEP and RTOR orders are overturned or mired in litigation
- JOAs not completed
- Ohio permits FE to extend market development period, hindering retail market development
- Illinois' move to post-transition period market is delayed or derailed
- Unfriendly version of energy bill passes in '04
- FERC is hamstrung or gets cold feet

### **Crystal Ball**

- Chance of robust wholesale energy market for Midwest east of the Mississippi is as good now as it ever has been
  - Uncertainty of pending blackout report gone
  - Uncertainty of pending energy bill gone . . . for now
  - FERC appears to have renewed vigor
  - MISO stakeholders looking for creative solutions to maintain 12/1/04 launch
  - Real potential for Ohio retail market to take positive steps forward
  - Illinois post transition period specifics still to be addressed, but interested parties are starting to consider alternatives now
  - The pro-market movement appears to have gained some lost momentum
- Advocacy by interested parties needed at all levels