



U.S. Department of Energy
**2012 National Electric Transmission
Congestion Study
Eastern Regional Workshops**

December 6, 2011 – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Hilton Philadelphia Airport
4509 Island Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19153
Tel: 215-937-4507

December 8, 2011 – St. Louis, Missouri

Hilton St. Louis Airport
10330 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63134
Tel: 314-426-5500

Each workshop will begin at 9:00 am and end at 12:30 pm. Each workshop will have two panels, one of regulators and one of industry members. Panelists will be asked to address the following questions with emphasis as each panelist deems appropriate:

- 1) In its 2009 Congestion Study, DOE found that the entire Mid-Atlantic region remained a Critical Congestion Area and that there were large portions of the East with rich renewable resource development potential that merited recognition as Conditional Congestion Areas. The Study also found that the New England area no longer merited recognition as a Congestion Area of Concern. Do you think that the 2009 study came to the appropriate conclusions regarding congestion in this region in 2009-10? Based on current conditions, analyses and recent developments in your region, do you think your area has become more or less congested, and why?
- 2) What factors should DOE look at when evaluating congestion and identifying congestion areas in this region? How might each factor affect future congestion in this region?

- 3) Is there current or conditional congestion in your area or region today? What evidence -- quantitative or qualitative -- supports your conclusions regarding current or conditional congestion in your area or region today? (Please provide such evidence, or direct us to appropriate source materials.) To the extent that you believe your region has conditional congestion of national significance, what are the factors or conditions upon which that conclusion rests and how likely are these conditions likely to materialize?
- 4) If current or conditional congestion exists in your area, what are its consequences in terms of reliability, resource options, wholesale competition and market power, cost of electricity to consumers, environmental quality, or other? Are these consequences so significant that this congestion should be mitigated?
- 5) Assuming that it would not be economic or practical to mitigate all congestion, what is the range of options for mitigating severe congestion?
- 6) Are there particular data sources, analyses and organizations that DOE should look at for expertise and source material in preparing the 2012 congestion study? In particular, how should DOE best use the expertise and insight offered by the Eastern Interconnection States Planning Council (EISPC) and the Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative (EIPC)?