



News Release

December 9, 2004

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Columbia (Missouri) Water & Light Partners with The Energy Authority to Prepare for MISO

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., —Columbia (Missouri) Water and Light has asked The Energy Authority (TEA) to provide bilateral energy trading and MISO Market Participant services in an agreement dated December 1. Columbia made the decision to join TEA after evaluating the level of resources required to prepare for the new Midwest ISO (MISO) market operations, said Dan Dasho, Columbia's Director. The first phase of the MISO market is expected to be operational and financially binding on March 1.

“The process of integrating our system into the MISO marketplace is extremely complicated,” Dasho said. “Without TEA, we would have had to hire more staff, add new software, install new hardware systems, and get up-to-speed on an entirely new market all within a very short timeframe.”

The challenges of the new market are substantial, especially for a transmission owner, Dasho said. “Our new relationship with TEA streamlines the integration process for us,” Dasho said. “TEA has the expertise we need to help manage the new financial instruments that the MISO market introduces,” he said.

“We're delighted with the opportunity to work with Columbia Water and Light,” said Bob Dyer, President and CEO of The Energy Authority. “Any utility that's preparing for MISO on its own--regardless of size--is facing an expensive and difficult challenge,” Dyer said. “Our services give public power utilities an opportunity to benefit from working together. That way, preparing for and operating in MISO isn't such a financial and operational burden on one utility.”

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Initially, TEA will refine Columbia's MISO registration and will participate in the market trials with the utility, reported Darrell DuBose, Business Development Manager for The Energy Authority.

When the market goes live, TEA will serve as the interface between MISO and Columbia, developing Columbia's bidding strategies for the Day-Ahead and Real-Time markets, making bids and offers to MISO on Columbia's behalf, receiving and scheduling awards from MISO and managing Columbia's Financial Transmission Rights (FTRs), DuBose said.

The Energy Authority will also provide all MISO settlement services for Columbia. This includes shadowing MISO settlement statements, verifying all charges, filing and managing disputes when necessary, managing invoices and payments, and managing credit limits, DuBose added.

Nearly half of The Energy Authority's Members and Resource Management Partners are in or near the MISO and SPP markets. As a result, TEA has followed the developing MISO market since its inception and has fully participated in all available market trials, said DuBose.

"We've dedicated significant time and resources to preparing for MISO market operations," DuBose said. "And we're prepared to hit the ground running when the market goes live. Our MISO Market Participant services give municipal utilities an opportunity to benefit from what we've learned."

For more information about The Energy Authority, visit <http://www.teainc.org> or call 800-423-4800 ext. 1317.

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