

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Report Quantifies Value of PJM's Transmission System

Sophisticated, Integrated Transmission Assets Play Critical Role in a Shifting Energy Landscape

(Valley Forge, Pa.– April 16, 2019) – PJM Interconnection today released a report, "[The Benefits of the PJM Transmission System](#)," which explores the value of new and existing transmission equipment, lines and other assets.

PJM's competitive markets, the largest in the world, are enabled by more than 84,200 miles of high-voltage transmission facilities. The paper quantifies the benefits of the transmission system, extending well beyond simply delivering power. These benefits include:

- **Ensuring reliability** – Transmission helps maintain reliability across the PJM footprint, and between regions, during periods of extreme weather and equipment failures.
- **Keeping costs low** – Transmission enhancements in PJM are expected to reduce costs to customers by more than \$280 million per year by alleviating congestion, defined as transmission constraints that require the dispatch of more expensive power.
- **Supporting public policy** – Robust transmission continues to enable a generation shift from older, less efficient, higher-emission units to mostly natural gas-fired and utility-scale renewable-powered generation, helping reduce carbon emissions by 30 percent over the past 10 years.

Electricity demand growth is no longer the primary driver of transmission investment. Instead, this development is spurred by factors that include shifting generation resources to new gas and renewables; repair and replacement of aging infrastructure; enabling public policy goals; and mitigating congestion to ensure the flow of lower-cost energy. Transmission has played a critical role in allowing these changes to occur without compromising reliability.

A robust transmission system allows new technologies, like wind and solar, to find sites for facilities and operate them reliably. New transmission assets permit older generators to retire without causing transmission disruptions. New generation, powered by natural gas and renewable fuels, relies on PJM's transmission assets to sell and move reliable, economic power into the markets.

Recent reports indicate that the need for sophisticated, integrated transmission assets will grow quickly over the next decade. As this need plays out, PJM will continue to embrace its role of planning for the future of the grid to keep power flowing, wherever and whenever it's needed.

[PJM Interconnection](#), founded in 1927, ensures the reliability of the high-voltage electric power system serving 65 million people in all or parts of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. PJM coordinates and directs the operation of the region's transmission grid, which includes over 84,236 miles of transmission lines; administers a competitive wholesale electricity market; and plans regional transmission expansion improvements to maintain grid reliability and relieve congestion. PJM's regional grid and market operations produce annual savings of \$2.8 billion to \$3.1 billion. For the latest news about PJM, visit PJM Inside Lines at insidelines.pjm.com.

