



Working to Perfect the Flow of Energy

PJM Manual 15:

Cost Development Guidelines

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Cost Development Subcommittee

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1.7.3 No Load Cost

No-load cost – has been defined as the calculated cost per hour to run at zero net output. However, the calculated no-load cost may have to be adjusted higher to ensure that the slope of the Generator Offer Curve is monotonically increasing. Therefore, the No-Load cost is the cost needed to create the starting point of a monotonically increasing incremental cost curve.

~~– is the calculated cost per hour to run at zero net output.~~

2.5 No-Load

2.5.1 No-Load Definitions

No-load cost is the hourly fixed cost, expressed in \$/hr, needed to create the starting point of a monotonically increasing incremental cost curve. It has been defined as the cost to run the generating unit at zero MW output.

2.5.2 No-Load Fuel

All PJM members shall use no-load fuel to develop no-load costs for their units. Since generating units cannot normally be run stable at zero net output, the the no-load heat input may be determined by collecting heat input values as a function of output and performing a regression analysis extrapolating the total heat input-output curve to zero net output. The heat input values as a function of output may be either created from empirical data or be the initial design heat input curve for an immature unit.

[Insert example heat input curve with trend line equation here.](#)

~~Therefore, No-load fuel consumed shall be the theoretical value of fuel consumed at zero net output from test data or through extrapolation of the theoretical regression analysis of the input-output curve. The minimum number of points to develop a heat input curve shall be 2 points for a dispatchable unit with a variable output and 1 point for a unit with a fixed output. All PJM Members shall use no-load fuel consumed to develop no-load costs for their units.~~

~~No-load fuel value shall be the value used to develop no-load costs. The fuel associated with unit no-load may be a theoretical value extrapolated from other unit operating data, or may be the result of a specific test performed to document the no-load fuel consumed.~~

~~Sufficient documentation for each generating unit's no-load point in MBTUs (or fuel) per hour shall consist of a single contact person and/or document to serve as a consistent basis for scheduling, operating and accounting applications. The MMU can verify calculation methods used subject to the Cost Methodology and Approval Process.~~

As unit types are added to M15, no load will be addressed in the appropriate sections.

2.5.2-3 No Load Calculation

The initial estimate of a unit's No-Load Cost (\$/Hr) is the No-Load fuel Cost multiplied by the performance factor, multiplied by the (Total Fuel-Related Cost (TFRC))

$$\text{No Load Cost} (\$/\text{Hour}) = \\ (\text{No Load Fuel} * \text{Performance Factor} * \text{TFRC})$$

The calculated no-load cost can be adjusted higher to allow for the first incremental point of the unit's generator offer curve to comply with PJM's monotonically increasing curve requirement. No-Load Fuel (MBTU/hour) is the total fuel to sustain zero net output MW at synchronous generator speed.

6.5 No Load Cost Calculation for CTs

Note: The information in Section 2.5 contains basic Start Cost information relevant for all unit types. The following additional information only pertains to CT and diesel engine units.

Note: CT Maintenance Adder is included directly in start, no-load and peak segment components.

7.5 No Load

Hydro Units have do not have No Load costs.