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WIRES Applauds FERC Decision on MISO Plan As Another Key Step in Updating Cost Allocation Approach

WASHINGTON, DC – WIRES applauds today’s Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approval of a Midwest Independent System Operator cost allocation plan as removing a critical barrier to the development of transmission that will maintain grid reliability and deliver cleaner, cheaper energy to Midwest consumers

“We applaud regional cost allocation approaches, as well as those that take into account the importance of public policy for transmission expansion,” said Jim Hoecker, former FERC Chairman and Counsel to WIRES. “This makes a lot of sense and encourages appropriate transmission expansion.

“The Commission’s order is another important step toward more rational allocation of the costs of interstate transmission. We urge the Commission to keep its focus on addressing the needs of the high-voltage transmission system.”

In 2009, WIRES petitioned the FERC to build upon its Order No. 890 reforms and develop transmission cost allocation principles that create a “clearer path to cost recovery” for America’s electric transmission investors, providers and customers. This year, WIRES welcomed FERC’s Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on cost allocation and planning as facilitating discussion of how to resolve some key obstacles to grid development.

WIRES (Working group for Investment in Reliable and Economic electric Systems) is a non-profit trade association of transmission providers, customers, and equipment and service companies formed to promote investment in electric transmission and progressive State and Federal policies that advance energy markets, economic efficiency, and consumer and environmental benefits through development of electric power infrastructure. For more information, visit www.wiresgroup.com or contact Jim Hoecker at 202-639-6500.