Marginal Fuel Postings Data Description

The files contain data on the fuel types of marginal units in the PJM Real-time Energy Market. Marginal units are the units that set the LMP in each five minute interval. When there is congestion, there can be more than one marginal unit during a five-minute period. The data are at the hourly level. The share of each fuel in each hour is calculated based on the number of five minute intervals that a unit burning each fuel type is marginal or jointly marginal.

Example

During the first half of one hour, a coal unit is on the margin. In the second half of the hour, there are two units on the margin; one is a coal unit, the other a natural gas unit. Coal and gas are jointly marginal for the second half-hour. Coal is marginal for six five-minute intervals and jointly marginal for six five-minute intervals. Gas is jointly marginal for six five-minute intervals. Coal has a weight of 1.0 for the first six intervals and coal and gas each have a weight of 0.5 for the second six intervals. In this example, coal would be marginal for 75% of the hour and natural gas would be marginal for 25% of the hour.

Field Descriptions

- Hour Date: The date/time of the data. Times are in hour-beginning format. An hour will appear more than once if there are multiple fuels on the margin for that hour.

- Time zone: The time zone for the data point. This is of significance during the Fall daylight-savings-time crossover, where the "extra" hour will be EST instead of EDT.

- Fuel Type: The primary type of fuel used by the marginal unit(s). The type "Interface" is used when imports through an external interface to PJM are on the margin. "Misc" covers any fuel not explicitly named.

- Marginal Percentage: The time-weighted percentage for that fuel.

- Run Date: The date the data file was processed.

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