Black Start Minimum Tank Suction Level

Operating Committee

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Minimum Tank Suction Level. Stand Alone

- Some units that participate in the PJM energy market have oil tanks.
- All oil tanks at generating units have minimum tank suction levels (MTSL). (Unless they use direct current pumps.)
- MTSL is not a result of black start capability.





Minimum Tank Suction Level. Black Start Only





Minimum Tank Suction Level. Black Start Only

- Black Start MTSL = MTSL
 - Where:
 - Black Start Tank Ratio = 100 Percent



Minimum Tank Suction Level. Black Start Only

- Example:
 - Tank Capacity: 240,000 gals
 - MTSL: 48,000 gals
 - Unit Fuel Burn Rate: 12,000 gals per hour
 - Minimum Run Hours: 16 hours
 - Total Black Start Fuel Burn: 192,000 gals
 - Black Start Tank Ratio = 100 %
 - Black Start MTSL = 48,000 gals
 - Tank Capacity = Black Start Fuel Burn + MTSL



5

Minimum Tank Suction Level. Shared Tank

 Many Black Start units use fuel tanks that are shared with generating units that participate in the PJM energy and capacity markets.

Minimum Tank Suction Level. Before Black Start



7

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Minimum Tank Suction Level. Shared Tank

- Black Start MTSL = Black Start Tank Ratio × MTSL
 - Where:
 - Black Start Tank Ratio = $\frac{\text{Unit Fuel Burn Rate} \times \text{Minimum Run Hours}}{\text{Tank Capacity} \text{MTSL}}$
 - (Share of usable fuel capacity.)

Minimum Tank Suction Level. Shared Tank

- Example:
 - Tank Capacity: 4,000,000 gals
 - MTSL: 800,000 gals
 - Unit Fuel Burn Rate: 12,000 gals per hour
 - Minimum Run Hours: 16 hours
 - Total Black Start Fuel Burn: 192,000 gals
 - Black Start Tank Ratio = $\frac{12,000\frac{\text{gals}}{\text{hr}} \times 16 \text{ hrs}}{4,000,000 \text{ gls} 800,000 \text{ gals}} = 6.0\%$
 - Black Start MTSL = 6.0% x 800,000 gals = 48,000 gals





PJM Method vs. IMM Method

- PJM's method would allow recovery of carrying cost on 800,000 gals of fuel.
- The IMM's method would allow recovery of carrying costs on 48,000 gals of fuel.
- The actual incremental amount of MTSL that results from the addition of black start capability is zero.
 - When black start capability is added at a generating unit, the oil tank size remains the same and the MTSL remains the same.



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