

**CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY
RESPONSE TO ORAL DATA REQUEST NO. 3
DOCKET No. 2008-255**

December 2, 2008

ODR-03-33

Q. Please provide a comparison of the last five years of CMP's energy and peak forecast, ISO's forecast and actual load for Maine.

A. The requested comparison is attached. Attachments 1 and 2 provide CMP's forecasts for net energy for load and summer peak load since the fall of 2003. Attachments 3 and 4 provide graphs that compare CMP's forecast to actual results. Over the five year period examined, the mean absolute error (MAE) of CMP's net energy forecasts is approximately 1.3%. Over the five year period examined, the mean absolute error of CMP's summer peak load forecasts is approximately 4.2%; however, the MAE has been reduced to about 2.6% since CMP's peak forecast methodology recognized the fact that its summer peak load is growing faster than its growth in net energy for load.

Attachments 5 and 6 provide ISO-New England's forecasts for net energy for load and summer peak load since 2003. Attachments 7 and 8 provide graphs that compare ISO-NE's forecast to actual results for the State of Maine. Over the five year period examined, the mean absolute error of ISO-NE's net energy forecasts is approximately 2.4%. Please note that the ISO's 2003 forecast for net energy is not readily available. Over the five year period examined, the mean absolute error of ISO-NE's coincident summer peak load forecasts for Maine is approximately 3.5%.

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Attachment(s):

1. CMP Net Energy for Load Forecasts for CMP Service Territory
2. CMP Summer Peak Load Forecasts for CMP Service Territory
3. CMP Forecasts of Net Energy for Load, 2003-2007
4. CMP Forecasts of Summer Peak Load, 2003-2008
5. ISO-NE Net Energy for Load Forecasts for Maine
6. ISO-NE Summer Peak Load Forecasts for Maine
7. ISO-NE Forecasts of Net Energy for Load, Maine, 2003-2007
8. ISO-NE Forecasts of Summer Peak Load, Maine, 2003-2007