Agenda Item 4.1: ICS Report to NYSRC Executive Committee (EC)
January 7, 2026, ICS Meeting #312
Prepared for: January 14, 2026, EC Meeting #321
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4.1.1 Draft IRM Milestone Schedule

ICS reviewed the draft IRM milestone schedule for 2026-2027. The overall study cadence is largely unchanged, and the schedule will return to ICS for approval in February (and the EC for approval thereafter). Minor revisions from last year focus on the August/September timeframe.

W. Gunther suggested moving the alignment study milestone to January from December to align with past practice and logistical feasibility. This comment is incorporated in the attached copy of the milestone schedule for review.

4.1.2 RA 2026 Strategic Plan Proposed Update and Initial Whitepaper Scopes

NYISO reviewed scopes for upcoming white papers with some schedule updates from the RA Modeling Improvement Strategic Plan presented last October. Whitepaper scopes are an ICS approval item in February, and an initial version is attached to solicit EC input and feedback early in the process. Major topics include:

- Parametric Process Improvements: Identify potential improvements to the parametric assessment process to provide for better alignment with expected Tan45 outcomes. Recommendations and development of a whitepaper to occur in Q3/Q4 2026.
- Winter Fuel Availability Constraints Modeling Review: Introduce additional information from the NYISO's 2025 Fuel Constraints Study and generator "firm fuel" elections, and consider potential modeling refinements to fuel availability constraints for future IRM studies. Review of new data and modeling improvements expected to occur on a rolling basis between Q1 2026 and Q3 2027.
- Seasonal Topology: Identify potential updates to IRM study topology to capture winter interface limits. Recommendations and development of a whitepaper to occur in Q3/Q4 2026.
- Maintenance Modeling & Output Factor Curves: Introduce planned maintenance derates and outages into the IRM study. Recommendations and development of a whitepaper to occur in Q3/Q4 2026 with extended implementation runway stretching to Q2 2027.

In addition to the above whitepaper scopes, the NYISO emphasized a strategic focus on coordination with the NYSRC Reliability Resource Evaluation working group on TSL floor impact as a priority under the LCR Optimizer/Tan45 Methodology modeling theme.

Due to staffing constraints on the Resource Adequacy team and the complexity of research needed for the near term, NYISO recommended modifying the whitepaper schedule for Tan45 Methodology Review and ELR Modeling Improvement to occur next year. With recent developments causing slower than expected resource portfolio transition, the Tan45 methodology is not expected to break down in the immediate future. Additionally, due to the relatively low penetration of ELR units at present, NYISO does not anticipate that deferring this effort is likely the adversely impact study outcomes in the near-term. Tan45 methodology review is part of NYSRC ICS 2026 goal A1.5 so ICS will need to consider modifying or replacing this goal.

Stakeholder discussion occurred throughout the presentation. Stakeholders widely emphasized the importance of working to understand and fix the Resource Adequacy/Transmission Security gap and expressed interest in the format and priorities of the Reliability Resource Evaluation working group.

ICS at large identified several areas of interest around the whitepaper scopes:

- Importance of being able to rely on parametric results to inform decision making and impact analysis (both magnitude and direction)
- Need to compare fuel availability model assumptions with elections (i.e. action item EC 312-1), a need for additional data before expanding the fuel constraints model, and a process for incorporating infrastructure change over time (ex: Northeast Supply Enhancement Project and other gas LTP items)
- Managing conservatism if basing future maintenance projections on historical data from a system without significant winter risk
- Need for more granular look at internal/external resource availability if maintenance modeling drives new shoulder month risk.

4.1.3 2026-2027 IRM Study Database Alignment Report

As required by NYSRC Policy 5, NYISO provided a report outlining how the IRM database was adjusted from the technical study result of 25.6% to the EC voted IRM of 24.5%. The adjustment process is required when the accepted IRM differs from the results of the technical study which was the case for the 2026-2027 IRM study. The report is attached for informational purposes.