SRPC secretariat comments on Shortening the scheduling Timeline for Real Time Markets in India

a) PROPOSED FRAMEWORK

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i. It is good initiative to bring the RTM window from 75 minutes to 50 minutes. It will ease all the entities to manage their surpluses and deficits and adjust their positions in more structured manner.

ii. 5 Min. window for bidding in the RTM appears short, however the automated systems/sufficient capacity systems to be implemented by the exchanges. Power Exchanges may implement automated Pre-bid/Advance Market Order (AMO) functionalities, API to facilitate faster bid placement.

iii. The proposed 45-minute timeline for RTM-AS price discovery, execution of SCUC and SCED, incorporation of RTM & AS schedules in WBES, and Ancillary Services (AS) dispatch may be further optimized. Many of these activities are not entirely sequential and can be executed in parallel through integrated automated platforms. With further enhancement of computational infrastructure, server capacities, and workflow automation, the overall processing and scheduling timelines can potentially be reduced further while maintaining system security and operational reliability. However, the system may first move to 50 minutes to gain some experience.

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b) Need for Balancing Market

i. Even the present framework, 50 minutes is a significant time frame considering the variability and intermittency of RE, load variability, forced outages, forecast errors, weather impacts on RE generation and on loads. There may be need to develop a Balancing Market much closer to real time for dispatch by RE entities and System Operators.

ii. After 5 minutes of SCUC/SCED/TRAS schedule finalistion and upto 5 minutes before delivery the Balancing Market can be considered. The bids can be cleared on first come first serve basis for System Operators and RE entities. ATC available and congestion details need to be communicated to the Balancing Market Operator. This may require lot of automation.