

Engineering Courses

Power Economics

Training objectives:

This course will focus on the economic forces that drive utility decisions. We will explore the structure of the utility and power generation businesses and focus on profitable utility operations, for both ratepayers and shareholders. This course will describe how utility management makes economic decisions in order to optimize power systems. Participants will obtain a basic knowledge of power economics to meet power system demand and will learn the impact of transmission and security constrained dispatch. This course will provide a general overview of operational costs including fuel, the physics of electricity generation and how these costs impact utility economics within the grid.

The course is intended for:

Engineers, managers, planners and analysts who work for electric utilities or power supply companies who make decisions that require an understanding of how the power system impacts the economics of generation and utility planning and operations.

Main features:

- Basic economic concepts, including application to electric utilities such as discounting, carrying charges, cost-benefit analysis, rates & pricing, and integrated resource planning
- Tools and techniques for economic studies including benefit/cost ratio determinations, comparing financial data and differences in future alternatives
- Understanding power market structures (regulated and restructured), including energy, capacity and ancillary services markets and their interaction with production costs.
- Relating the goals of an ISO/RTO to the operation of an ISO/RTO
- How generators costs are modeled for commitment & dispatch purposes
- How to minimize balancing area electricity production costs
- How generator features & functions can impact system dispatch including security constraints
- Relationship of generators costs of operation and their physics of operation. Fuel to electricity conversion rates (efficiencies) for most generation types are introduced.
- Simulation “game” to learn least cost commitment & dispatch decision criteria, using a portfolio of generation within a context similar to regulated utilities; simulation “game” to learn bidding behavior/revenue maximizing decisions, within a context of an IPP competing in a wholesale market ,including negotiation of fuel contracts versus spot market supply

Recommended prior knowledge:

Basic knowledge and familiarity with the electric power industry. The course is held in English.

Note: The course is held in English. Class subject to change. Class times are 8-4.

For more information visit: www.geenergyconsulting.com



Power Systems & Energy Course | PSEC