

4.5 Code of Conduct - Participants, the Media, and Public - Information from PJM Member Stakeholder Meetings

The stakeholders recognize the unique role of the [PJM Consensus Based Issue Resolution](#) stakeholder process in exploring, solving, ~~and~~ negotiating regional solutions [and seeking consensus](#) for the RTO and [for ensuring system reliability and](#) the [betterment of](#) wholesale power markets. Additionally, the stakeholders recognize the importance of transparency of the stakeholder process to all those affected by it. All participants understand that documents, reports, slide shows, and other written material used at all stakeholder meetings until final Member Committee and/or PJM Board approval are intended to be works in progress and to encourage dialogue, discussion, debate, and, preferably, movement toward consensus. Therefore, such work products should be treated in the spirit to which they are intended, that is, not as final or complete documents nor the final position or view of a participant. Recognizing that the stakeholder process is most productive when participants can freely discuss the wide range of complex issues that are before them, meeting participants and observers are asked to take great care in reporting the proceedings accurately and to take all comments in their intended context.

Relatedly, the stakeholder process has been designed intentionally so that the decision-making authority is exclusively vested with the Senior Standing Committees consistent with Operating Agreement, section 8.4. Votes at the “lower” Standing Committees (e.g. the Operating Committee, Planning Committee, Market Implementation Committee, and Risk Management Committee) and their subordinate subcommittees and task forces have no such weight or finality in their votes. Votes at the lower level Standing Committees merely set the order of voting on various proposals that were considered in the lower Committee for consideration at the Senior Standing Committees and afford Members an opportunity to understand general stakeholder sentiment helpful in fostering further consensus building activities. See generally, Section 3: Purpose of the Stakeholder Process as well as Section 8: Consensus Based Issue Resolution at the Standing Committee Level. A PJM Members Committee vote is singularly the vote that fulfills their Operating Agreement responsibilities. All other stakeholder votes and polls are only indicative of a Members preference or interest as solutions are explored. Consistent with this consensus-based approach, PJM produces comprehensive voting reports on all votes taken at the PJM Members Committee only and not at other forums.

Public Meetings/Media Participation: Unless otherwise noted, PJM stakeholder meetings are open to the public and to members of the media. Members of the media are required to announce their attendance at all PJM stakeholder meetings at the beginning of the meeting or at the point they join a meeting already in progress. Media members are not permitted to take part in discussions and should direct questions to PJM Media Relations.

Any individual or organization that disseminates information on a public platform from a PJM stakeholder meeting that includes direct quotation and attribution of any comments, and/or images, is subject to the rules pertaining to media regarding the quoting of individuals and/or their companies and photographing meeting participants. “Public platform” includes but is not limited to publicly accessible social media, website, blogs, audio, video, or electronic and hard copy print media.

To address both transparency and openness of discussion, the stakeholders have resolved the following expectations for PJM stakeholder process meeting participants (including the media):

- Before speaking in any PJM proceeding, all participants must identify themselves and the organization(s) that they are employed by, representing, or participating on behalf of, so all participants are aware of their presence and on whose behalf they are participating;
 - in the case of consultants or agents, the speaker should identify the clients or supporting entities if one or a few, and if the clients have not specifically requested anonymity, else characterizing the clients or supporting entities in some manner, e.g. industrial customers or wind developers.
- PJM, the MMU, OPSI and its members, Members, or consultants/agents of any of the foregoing may keep detailed notes of proceedings and distribute those within their own organizations or to those they represent; (i.e., private communications between consultants, agents, and the members);
- To encourage engaged, open dialogue, PJM, the MMU, OPSI and its members, Members, or consultants/agents of any of the foregoing and other participants (including the media)
 - Shall not disseminate (to the general public) detailed transcriptional meeting notes nor notes prepared from brainstorming sessions including white board notes;
 - Shall not create audio, video, or online recording or transcription of meetings (this requirement shall not preclude PJM from recording stakeholder meetings for internal and training purposes);
 - Broadcast of meetings for participant access by PJM is permissible; o For all subcommittees, task forces, and committees other than the MC and MRC, it is understood that participants shall not be quoted by the media by name or organization, unless permission is given to the media by the speaker; and o For all senior committees, the MRC and MC, it is understood that members' comments may be attributed by name and organization and may be quoted by the media or others but such comments should not be quoted without the subject of attribution being consulted for clarification and accuracy.
 - All photographs must be approved by the subject(s) of the photo for use in print, newsletters, advertisements, marketing materials, electronic and social media. Photographers must obtain a written release from the subject(s) prior to taking their picture.
- Notwithstanding the above, nothing shall preclude a stakeholder from speaking to the media about its positions; and
- All participants in the stakeholder process shall have the following responsibilities:
 - Attend stakeholder process meetings and be prepared for the meetings
 - Speak one at a time and be concise;
 - Stay on track with the agenda;
 - Share time including with those on the phone;
 - Not engage in personal attacks;
 - Minimize electronic distractions at meetings.