

The DOE wants the customers who drive new power plant costs to be the ones who pay for them.

The DOE weighed in on PJM's large load costs

The Department of Energy filed at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. It pressed PJM, the grid operator, on protecting ratepayers from the costs of large new power users. The agency rarely files in this way.

The core idea: track each project

The DOE says grid operators need a way to continuously track whether a project enters service or is delayed, reduced, or cancelled.

Why tracking matters for who pays

In the DOE's words, tracking can help assign the cost of new generation to the customers responsible for those investments. Without it, costs could land on other customers.

Why it matters for a US audience

Large loads such as data centers are asking grids for more power. How their costs are assigned will shape what other customers pay. PJM and FERC have yet to settle this.

Sources

- utilitydive.com/news/doe-pjm-ferc-ratepayer-protection-large-load-data-center/832479/