



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## REGION READY FOR HOT WEATHER POWER DEMAND

### *Voluntary Customer Usage Reductions Aid Reliability*

(Valley Forge, Pa. – May 6, 2009) – PJM Interconnection expects adequate resources to meet consumers' needs for electricity this summer in its region, which includes 13 states and the District of Columbia. Because of the recession, peak electricity use in the PJM region is forecast to be lower than the peak use last summer. As the economy recovers, summer peak usage is forecast to grow at an average annual rate of 1.7 percent.

The PJM region includes 51 million people and 20 percent of the U.S. economy.

“With additional resources available this year and a slower economy, power supplies should be adequate to meet consumers' demands,” said Michael J. Kormos, PJM senior vice president – Operations. “Transmission system upgrades and additions completed since last year also help us meet demand. However, in future years economic growth and rising demand for renewable energy will challenge us and our members to add necessary transmission lines and additional power supply resources to keep electricity reliable.”

PJM's projected peak use of electricity for the summer of 2009 is 1.4 percent lower than the weather-adjusted peak in 2008. The projected weather-adjusted peak usage for 2009 is 134,430 megawatts compared to a weather-adjusted 136,310 megawatts in 2008. A megawatt is enough electricity to power 800 to 1,000 homes.

PJM has 165,200 megawatts of power resources to meet the demand for electricity.

The available resources include a record amount of emergency load management, 5,925 megawatts. Consumers in load management programs typically receive either a special rate or payments for stopping or reducing their use of electricity under emergency conditions. The amount of emergency load management has grown about one-third since last year. It has grown five-fold since 2003.

This summer's actual peak use could be higher or lower than predicted if temperatures are higher or lower than normal. Because last summer was cooler than normal, the actual recorded peak use of electricity (130,100 megawatts) was lower than the weather-adjusted amount used for planning purposes.

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Peak electricity use in the PJM region is driven by high temperatures and economic conditions. PJM's forecast looks at a range of possible conditions to allow for variation in weather conditions. The forecast is based on typical peak weather conditions experienced over the past 35 years. Actual electricity demand will vary as temperatures vary from normal.

PJM's all-time record use of electricity of 144,644 MW occurred in 2006.

*PJM Interconnection ensures the reliability of the high-voltage electric power system serving 51 million people in all or parts of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. PJM coordinates and directs the operation of the region's transmission grid, which includes 6,038 substations and 56,350 miles of transmission lines; administers a competitive wholesale electricity market; and plans regional transmission expansion improvements to maintain grid reliability and relieve congestion. Visit PJM at [www.pjm.com](http://www.pjm.com).*

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