

May 1, 2002

NEW ELECTRICITY ERA IN ONTARIO HAS SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH

The Independent Electricity Market Operator (IMO) said this morning that Ontario's new competitive electricity marketplace was successfully opened at midnight, Eastern Standard Time (1 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time).

In the new wholesale electricity market, which is run by the IMO, generators and other suppliers compete to supply the electricity needs of the Ontario market. The IMO accepts offers from these suppliers and calculates a new "on the spot" market price (the market clearing price) every five minutes – by balancing the supply of electricity with demand at that particular time.

At market opening, the first five-minute price for electricity was \$25.43/MWh, or 2.54¢/kWh. The Hourly Ontario Energy Price for the first hour of the live market was \$22.97/MWh, or 2.3¢/kWh. The hourly price represents an average of the 12 five-minute intervals in that hour.

Ontario's new market has 239 participants:

- 93 Local Distribution Companies
- 89 Industrial Consumers
- 19 Generators
- 34 Wholesale Buyers/Sellers
- 4 Transmitters

The IMO will provide an update on market activity later today. Market highlights are available on the IMO Web site at <http://www.theimo.com/imoweb/marketdata/marketToday.asp>

Note to editors: The IMO uses Eastern Standard Time for its operations.

The Independent Electricity Market Operator is an independent non-profit corporation established by Ontario's Electricity Act of 1998 and is responsible for operating Ontario's electricity system and new wholesale electricity marketplace – linking buyers and sellers while directing the flow of electricity on Ontario's transmission system from generators and suppliers to local distribution companies and wholesale buyers.

-30-

Media contact: Kevin Dove
Manager, Corporate Communications
The Independent Electricity Market Operator
Tel: (416) 506-2823
e-mail: media@theIMO.com