CASE STUDY

Idaho Power Company

Learn how Idaho Power deployed the PowerCore™ software platform to optimize numerous back-office processes to maximize its returns from participating in the California ISO Western Energy Imbalance Market (WEIM).

THE CLIENT

Idaho Power Company (IPC) serves over 640,000 customers in Idaho and surrounding areas, and operates a portfolio of generating assets including 17 hydroelectric facilities, three natural gas plants, two coal plants, and multiple energy storage facilities. In 2018, IPC became the sixth utility to join the CAISO Western Energy Imbalance Market (WEIM), and after participating for four years, realized it needed a better software solution to help it more efficiently manage and perform numerous back-office tasks and workflows.

CHALLENGES

IPC encountered several operational challenges with managing and validating settlement data from the Western EIM. With a high volume of bilateral schedules involving energy imports and exports, IPC found it difficult to validate the accuracy and efficiency of incoming data. Key pain points included:

Complex data validation was needed to efficiently verify extensive tag data. IPC's prior system did not offer the flexibility required to streamline data handling or allow its staff verify the accuracy of complex transactions.

Limitations in data analysis and visualization created struggles to access, rationalize and assess the accuracy of IPC's customer billing data. The previous system lacked the ability to effectively identify trends, anomalies, and changes across datasets, which affected decision-making. IPC staff needed to access, evaluate and interpret the data however they wanted to.

Streamlining workflows and efficiency became a necessity since IPC and its customer base were growing so quickly. IPC staff were burdened by increasingly time-intensive tasks making it difficult to allocate time and resources effectively, especially given the need to work on more strategic initiatives.

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" Since the Power Settlements/Yes Energy staff had proven to be knowledgeable on CAISO/WEIM market rules and provided us with a high level of user support, we recently added the WEIM Shadow Settlement, Sub-Allocation, and Customer Invoicing modules to our existing PowerCore system to enhance our current processes and create efficiencies as we review and validate market data results.

Jennifer Gerard
Operations Settlement Leader
Idaho Power Company

RESULTS

To address its needs, IPC decided to transition to the PowerCore platform's SettleCore module, which offers powerful data management capabilities, real-time insights, and operational efficiencies that IPC's previous system could not provide.

BENEFITS

After deploying the SettleCore solution, IPC has experienced substantial benefits that include:

1 Increased Efficiency & Time Savings

- SettleCore's intuitive interfaces, automation capabilities, and integration tools enable IPC's team to process and validate data more efficiently, freeing up time for analysts to focus on higher-level projects.
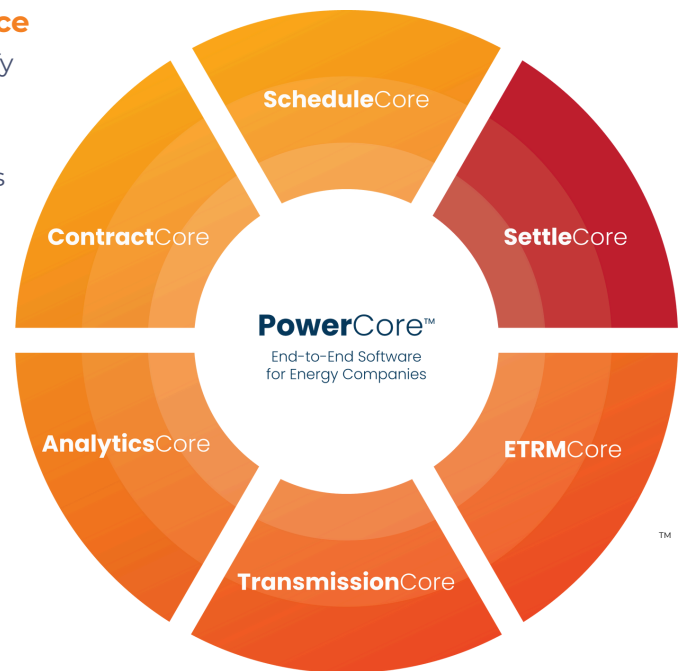
2 Enhanced Data Accuracy & Validation Confidence

- IPC can dig into data, compare statements, and identify variances to improve settlements and allocations. SettleCore shadow settlements provide real-time accuracy checks so settlement practices meet rigorous standards and provide a reliable basis for audits.

3 Enhanced Customer Experience

- IPC now issues weekly statements rather than monthly invoices, giving customers real-time insight into charges while aligning with IPC requirements. SettleCore's customized statement terminology improves customer communications and the overall customer experience.

4 Improved Audit Readiness & Compliance

- SettleCore facilitates IPC's Sarbanes-Oxley compliance with robust shadowing features and reporting for audit verification. IPC can track settlement cycles, view comparisons, and maintain detailed data for regulatory audits.

PowerCore™
End-to-End Software
for Energy Companies

ScheduleCore · SettleCore · ETRMCore · TransmissionCore · AnalyticsCore · ContractCore

SettleCore is the most advanced back-office solution incorporating meter data management, settlements, shadow settlements, and "what-if" shadow analytics.

Our Mission

The PowerCore team at Yes Energy builds, deploys, and supports software to help energy suppliers thrive while navigating complex markets incorporating volatility, 24/7 operations, and ever-changing rules.

Who We Are

We believe in a team-first, collaborative workplace that ensures our solutions elevate the user experience, productivity, and enterprise insight to capture all available benefits in competitive markets.