



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
OCTOBER 5, 2011

CONTACT: Steven Carter
Office: (601) 397-6667
E-mail: carter@advancemississippi.com

LATEST ADVANCE MISSISSIPPI REPORT OUTLINES REGIONAL TRANSMISSION ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND, BENEFITS

Issue brief released as Entergy Mississippi moves to join Midwest RTO

Jackson, Miss. – Advance Mississippi today continued its efforts to develop educational resources to highlight key state energy issues by releasing its latest issue brief, which examines regional transmission organizations. The subject is timely for Mississippians as Entergy Mississippi, Inc., an Advance Mississippi member, takes steps toward joining the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator (MISO), an RTO which oversees more than \$17 billion in transmission assets and nearly 135-thousand Megawatts of generation capacity in 12 states and one Canadian province.

Regional transmission organizations were also the topic of Advance Mississippi's latest "Power Lunch", energy-focused events for policy makers and interested citizens. The event featured Aldie Warnock, MISO Vice President of Government and Regulatory Affairs, who estimated \$524 million in annual benefits and savings if Entergy Corporation joins the organization. "This is one of the biggest business stories in Mississippi you won't hear much about. It involves billions of dollars," Warnock said. "This is going to mean more reliable power and cheaper prices for people and businesses in Mississippi."

"Before Entergy Mississippi can bring the benefits of an RTO membership to its customers, and bring the opportunity of more reliable and less expensive electricity to Mississippi, we need to examine exactly what that membership means to our state," said Advance Mississippi Chairman Glenn McCullough, Jr. "We need to provide a greater understanding of what an RTO is and what impact it could have on our state's energy future. Our latest issue brief seeks to provide those answers in a way that the public can understand."

To read the brief, please visit <http://www.advancemississippi.com/documents/RTOib.pdf>.

Advance Mississippi publishes issue briefs and fact sheets on a regular basis to educate Mississippians on important energy issues. Past topics include renewable energy, nuclear energy, smart grid and net metering. All of these briefs are available at www.advancemississippi.com.

Advance Mississippi's mission is to advocate for sensible energy policy that will fuel economic opportunity in Mississippi, and educate policy makers, business and community leaders, and the general public about superior energy policies that will foster economic growth. For additional information visit: www.advancemississippi.com.

#