

Elliot E. Mainzer  
President & Chief Executive Officer

**Transmitted Electronically**

January 12, 2024

Pam Sporborg and Kathleen Staks  
Co-Chairs, Launch Committee  
West-Wide Governance Pathways Initiative  
[Comments@WestWidePathwaysInitiative.org](mailto:Comments@WestWidePathwaysInitiative.org)

**RE: PATHWAYS INITIATIVE – Initial Evaluation Framework for Pathways Options**

Dear Ms. Sporborg and Ms. Staks,

The California Independent System Operator (CAISO) offers these comments in response to the Launch Committee's request for stakeholder feedback to the *Initial Evaluation Framework for Pathways Options* whitepaper by January 12, 2024.

We appreciate the work of the Launch Committee to find a pathway to achieve the full benefits of a West-wide wholesale energy market. As stated in our previous comments submitted to this initiative in September 2023, we are encouraged by the significant stakeholder interest across the West in the continued progress on the evolution of Western energy markets.

It is evident that the Launch Committee and Western stakeholders have undertaken an immense amount of work to develop and publish the *Initial Evaluation Framework for Pathways Options* whitepaper. We look forward to continued engagement with the Launch Committee and, where appropriate, to serve as a technical resource for the Committee. In particular, we can offer our perspective on the operational considerations and technical implications of different scenarios that the Committee and stakeholders evaluate. We stand ready to assist where we can.

Thank you again for your willingness to lead this Initiative.

Sincerely,



Elliot Mainzer  
President and Chief Executive Officer