



Mar 04, 2019 -- [Shravan Bhat](#)

Oregon CCGT Refi Closes after Addition of Third Bookrunner

Ares-EIF and **I Squared Capital** have closed the refinancing of their 869 MW combined-cycle gas-fired Oregon Clean Energy Center in Ohio after a third bookrunner was added to the deal.

Industrial and Commercial Bank of China joined left lead **Credit Suisse** and **Barclays** on the \$580 million debt package, which closed on March 1.

Pricing came in at 375 basis points over Libor, with a 1% index floor, and investors received a 99% original issue discount.

The final margin was 25 bp inside initial price talk but 25 bp wider than a similar term loan B recently issued for **Advanced Power's** 700 MW Carroll County CCGT, also in Ohio ([PFR, 2/22](#)).

The Oregon Clean Energy Center deal was rated one notch lower than Carroll County by both **Moody's Investors Service** and **S&P Global Ratings**, at Ba3 and BB-.

The refinancing of Oregon Clean Energy, originally slated for last year but postponed amid deteriorating credit conditions in the fourth quarter, was launched early last month after the leveraged finance market rebounded ([PFR, 2/4](#)). The loan was allocated on Feb. 15.

The sponsors were able to upsize the seven-year term loan B component of the deal from an initially proposed \$500 million to \$530 million. The \$50 million five-year revolver remained unchanged.

The reason why ICBC was brought into the deal could not immediately be established. ICBC, the world's largest bank, is better known in the U.S. power sector as a term loan A arranger and lender, and for bringing Asian investors into deals, than as a bookrunner in the term loan B market. Spokespeople for the bookrunners in New York declined to comment.

The next **PJM Interconnection** CCGT deal to hit term loan B investors' screens could be a refinancing for **Caithness Energy** and **Moxie Energy's** 1,000 MW Moxie Freedom facility in Pennsylvania, which **Citi** is running.

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