Suggested fix to the Ercot Price Data Fetching procedure

## Current problem: Non-Retriable Real-Time Data Source

**How it currently works:**

* Script hits this page every 5 minutes:  
  [**https://www.ercot.com/content/cdr/html/hb\_lz.html**](https://www.ercot.com/content/cdr/html/hb_lz.html)
* That page **only shows the current 5-minute price**
* If:
  + The page wasn’t updated yet **at your fetch time**, or
  + Network fails (timeout, proxy, etc.)
* → That 5-minute record is **permanently lost**  
  (because you can't re-fetch past values from this source)

If we reduced the time interval to fetch data from this source, (lets say once per minute or two minutes), ERCOT could take action for suspicious activities for frequent Web Crawling activities. Even we could have a better chance to not missing data in doing so, we will not risk to seek attention from Ercot.

My plan is to switch to a more organized data source

### ****Option : Switch to ERCOT Historical API (Ideal)****

LINK—> [Data Product Details](https://www.ercot.com/mp/data-products/data-product-details?id=gen-526-ui)

ERCOT provides better-structured data via:

* CSV files from:
  + https://www.ercot.com/mp/data-products (especially “Real-Time Market LMPs by Settlement Point”)
* FTP downloads (with authentication)
* XML/CSV archives for hourly or 5-min LMP

✅ Benefit: You can fetch data for **any past timestamp**

**Since we would like a summary of average of 3 of 5 mins price interval for 15 mins average and show it in Dashboard, we could just get a more organized data from this new data source. Example**

  {

    "Oper Day": "06/27/2025",

    "Interval Ending": "0015",

    "LZ\_HOUSTON": "29.10",

    "LZ\_NORTH": "29.14",

    "LZ\_SOUTH": "29.26",

    "LZ\_WEST": "31.31"

  },

  {

    "Oper Day": "06/27/2025",

    "Interval Ending": "0030",

    "LZ\_HOUSTON": "27.23",

    "LZ\_NORTH": "27.25",

    "LZ\_SOUTH": "27.34",

    "LZ\_WEST": "28.82"

  },

This data sources keeps track of electricity price and keeps historical record of today and previous 5 day. So we do not have to worry about missing data due to network issue/data source posting late (in the previous data source the data acquisition time is pretty strict since the current data would only be available for 5 minutes, if we miss it we will lost the record)

In short, the new data source provides the official cleaned data for 15 mins interval average, just as we desired for our DB and Dashboard. Also the structure is clear and requires no certificate or license to access.

I have create a demo script which grab data from this source and saved desired daily info (time, date and 4 of the LZ) locally as JSON file.

The new data source is well organized and easy to access. We do not need to do more local calculation for 15 mins interval average and can push data straight to DB.

Here is the link to the electricity price average for 5 minutes interval

[Data Product Details](https://www.ercot.com/mp/data-products/data-product-details?id=NP6-788-CD)

Metadata link: [ercot.com/misapp/servlets/IceDocListJsonWS?reportTypeId=12300&\_=1751384397537](https://www.ercot.com/misapp/servlets/IceDocListJsonWS?reportTypeId=12300&_=1751384397537)

I also write a script to get the latest 5 mins electricity price average from this more stable data source. Please let me know if we also have any use of this data source. Also please let me know the function of your ERCOT electricity price dashboard.

In my idea, we can use the 15mins interval price for database and accurate history record, and 5 mins interval price just for real-time display and not necessary for long-term storage. Please let me know what is your idea about the price dashboard and what was Ming’s requirement.