

Electric Reliability and Resource Adequacy Update

Joint Hearing of the Committee on Regulated Industries and Committee on Energy Resources Texas House of Representatives

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North American Interconnected Grids



ERCOT connections to other grids are limited to direct current (DC) ties, which allow control over flow of electricity

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• The ERCOT grid:

- Covers 75% of Texas land
- Serves 85% of Texas load
- 38,000 miles of transmission lines
- ->550 generation units
- Physical assets are owned by transmission providers and generators, including municipal utilities and cooperatives
- -62,429 Megawatts peak demand (set 8/17/06)

Electric Grid Operations

- Independent System Operator
 - ERCOT is one of 9 North American ISOs
 - ISOs serve 67% of U.S. population



• ERCOT 'directs traffic' on the grid to maintain reliability

- 'Air traffic controller' of the electricity supply
 - Coordinates scheduling of power by market participants
 - Analyzes grid conditions continuously in real-time
 - Dispatches generation to ensure power production matches load at all times
 -- Electricity cannot be stored --
 - Secures available generation capacity to meet reliability requirements
 - Coordinates planned outages of generators and transmission lines
 - Relieves transmission system congestion
 - Coordinates emergency actions & recovery
 - Operates markets to meet regional energy & capacity requirements not met thru bilateral arrangements



Reserve Margins: Projecting Adequacy of Supply

- Reserve margin is a forecast, revised annually
- Minimum reserve margin target for the ERCOT Region is 12.5%
- Defined as:
 - Percentage difference between available generating capacity and forecasted peak system load
- Ensures (but does not guarantee) adequate electric supply will be available in case of contingency need
 - Unexpected weather extremes or loss of major generation units

• Available capacity includes:

- Available generation (wind is adjusted for availability during peaks)
- Interruptible loads (typically large customers under contract to curtail if needed)
- Load forecasting is based on an econometric model
 - Long-term economic trends for Texas (income and population)
 - Highly weather-sensitive





Percentage difference between projections for peak demand and available generation/resources

*1,100 MW of mothballed units have been returned to service

Note: Reserve margins are calculated using 2.6% of wind generation capacity, based on historical performance during peak hours and probability analysis.

Fuel Mix and Peak Demand in the ERCOT Region



Regional Growth: Electric Energy Consumption



Electric Energy Consumption in the ERCOT Region 1994-2005 (Actual)



20-Year Load & Generation Maturity Scenarios

ERCOT GENERATION CAPACITY AND DEMAND PROJECTIONS



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Future Generation Needs Based on Maturity Scenarios

POSSIBLE ERCOT GENERATION CAPACITY NEEDED



NEW Planned Generation in the ERCOT Region

2007-2011

Capacity in MW (data as of August, 2006)

Fuel Source	Under Development
Natural Gas	550
Coal	750
Wind	1,576
Other	0
TOTALS	2,876

Publicly Announced	Not Publicly Announced	Total
2,300	4,445	6,745
11,709	4,652	16,361
2,944	13,578	16,523
12	1,112	1,124
16,965	23,788	40,753

COMMITTED

For these projects, signed interconnection <u>agreements</u> (contracts between generators and transmission owners) have been completed.

UNCOMMITTED

These are projects for which ERCOT has received transmission interconnection <u>requests:</u>

- · Projects are under consideration or in planning, and may or may not be built
- Excludes some announced projects, such as nuclear and offshore wind, which do not yet have interconnection requests on file

Current resource availability in the ERCOT Region: 70,756 MW



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Winter Day Load Shape with Fuel Mix



Spring Day Load Shape with Fuel Mix



Summer Day Load Shape with Fuel Mix



Fuel Diversity: System Capacity vs. Energy Production



Summary: Long-Term Reliability Outlook

- ERCOT projects reserve margins to be <u>near or below minimum</u> <u>levels</u> beginning in 2007
- Significant additional generation has been publicly announced but not yet committed with interconnection agreements
 - Available no earlier than 2009

• New resources are essential to system reliability

- To accommodate load growth and offset probable retirements of older units
- Region also needs additional fuel diversity
 - To mitigate high dependence on single fuel type (natural gas)
 - Reduces vulnerability to supply disruption & volatile pricing
- Also critical: additional load response (customers with ability and incentives to reduce load during peaks)
 - ERCOT especially supports having additional voluntary load response tools available for emergency conditions









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