



# Scenario Development for the Long Term Study

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**Scenarios are a way to examine different thoughts about the future. They provide context to resource and assumptions development.**

- A process to identify, discuss and prepare for an uncertain future
- Helps take a long view in a world of uncertainty
- It is meant to stretch the imagination
- Results in better decisions about the future

**They are not:**

- About predicting the future
- A science

## Some Key Drivers

- **Economy** – GDP growth, consumer spending, employment levels, etc
- **Regulation** – What is the state of state/federal policies
- **Environmental** – What will be the policies as they relate to GHG, NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>, etc
- **Technology** – What technologies will be available, what will they cost, are there tax or other incentives
- **Public Perception** – What is the public's attitude toward the environment, economy, markets, regulation, etc

## **Initial thoughts on the development of future scenarios for potential use in the long-term study...**

- **Attempt to capture a broad range of possible futures**
- **Given specific forecasts of market drivers scenarios developed will create an internally consistent view of the future**
- **Each future scenario contains a view of the world markets and developments, as well as a specific focus on the impacts to/for Texas**
- **The futures attempt to describe potential impacts over the next 20 years for:**
  - Interest and inflation rates
  - Non-farm employment in Texas
  - Environmental costs
  - Fuel costs
  - Capital costs for generation expansion
  - Other market drivers

# "Green Power" Scenario

- **US / World Impact**

- Concerns about the environment are beginning to take center stage
- "Kyoto 2" has been signed by all countries
- Strong CO<sub>2</sub> legislation and EE / renewable requirements have been set at high levels worldwide
- General pace of economic growth is strong

- **Texas Impact**

- Texas continues to lead wind development
- Renewable build out rate increases
- Demand response and energy efficiency programs see significant growth
- Increase in combined cycle and combustion turbine activity as production from coal plants decreases and reliability issues mount

# “Long-Term Recession” Scenario

- **US / World Impact**

- The world economy is in decline
- Environmental regulations are eased as economic issues are paramount
- Fuel prices are low as demand for energy declines
- Inflation rates are low and interest rates are held at historically low levels to support fragile economies

- **Texas Impact**

- Texas is the boom town in this future. Even so, there is no economic growth which results in no load growth
- Actual load growth turns negative as industries continue to close
- Public funded solar PV programs are in place for job creation
- Generation build out is generally based on economics
  - Some wind and renewables but new technologies mature at a slower pace
  - Coal and NG resources are primary choice
  - Potential for substantial retirements for older units

# “High Carbon Price” Scenario

- **US / World Impact**

- Environmental concerns mount worldwide
- World wide droughts grow or persist in generally dry regions and crops failing in some regions
- Reduction of GHG emissions by any means possible is becoming the norm
  - Carbon prices climb causing fossil fuel use to decline and fuel prices to drop
  - Nuclear and solar is subsidized to encourage its development
  - Natural gas demand grows as a substitute for coal
- Economic disparities become pronounced between countries based on reliance on fossil fuels

- **Texas Impact**

- Availability of water begins to tighten
- Water is at premium and some areas consider rationing
- Desalination projects are being built
- All low water usage technologies are being built
  - More wind and solar
  - Energy efficiency and demand response being implemented quickly
  - Dry cooled combined cycles and combustion turbines being built

# “Low CO<sub>2</sub> Concerns” Scenario

- **US / World Impact**

- World concern for the environment declines
- No or limited national CO<sub>2</sub> program
- Coal prices increase due to demand both internally and externally
- US exports of coal increase significantly

- **Texas Impact**

- Texas continues building wind but also adds more coal generation.
- Development of all renewables slows down
- Demand growth continues at recent historic levels
- Future mix of resources will look like today
  - Coal and natural gas resources will be primary



# “High Economic Growth” Scenario

- **US / World Impact**

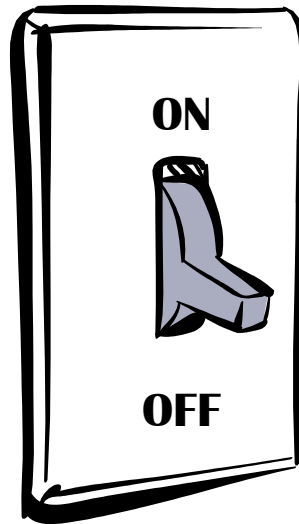
- World economy is booming
- This will be marked by high GDP in the US for 4 to 5 years then returning to 3% to 4% range thereafter
- All fuel prices will rise due to demand
- Development of renewable energy as well as conventional resources will be strong to meet demand growth

- **Texas Impact**

- Texas growth is strong on all fronts
- Continued reduction in prices for all renewables
- Growth in demand for all generating types due to load growth
- Increase in quick start capability or other reliability measures due to increase intermittent generation
  - Batteries
  - Flywheels
  - Other storage technologies

# Questions

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## For additional information:

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