ERCOT Monthly Operational Overview
(December 2025)

ERCOT Public
January 15, 2026

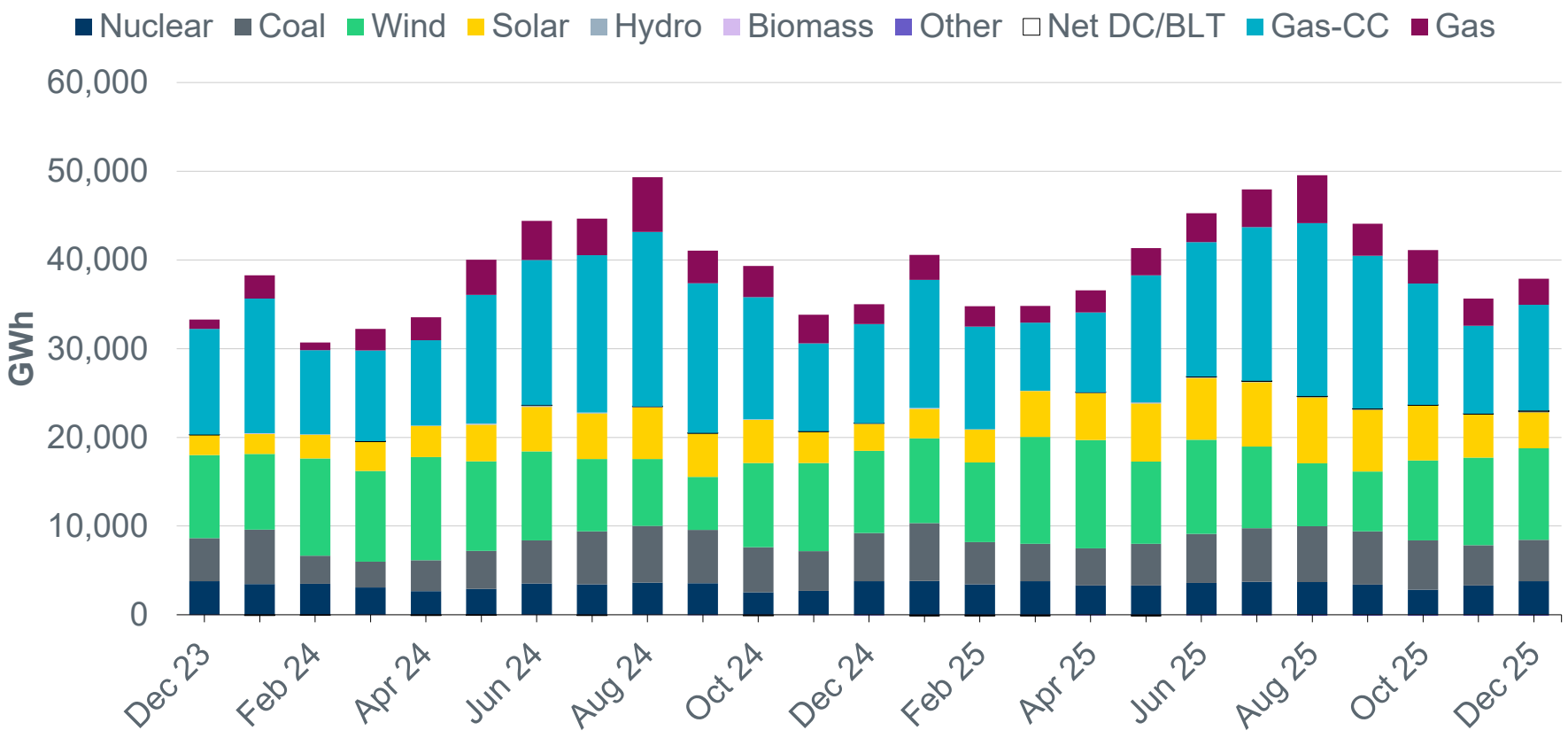
Highlights, Records and Notifications

- ERCOT's maximum peak demand for the month of December was 63,131 MW on 12/15/25; this is 2,886 MW more than the December 2024 peak demand of 60,245 MW on 12/11/24.

- ERCOT issued 1 notification:
  - 1 Advisory – Due to Geomagnetic Disturbance (GMD) Warning.
    - ERCOT issued an advisory for a GMD Warning from 12/03/2025 at 15:05 until 12/03/2025 at 20:00.

* Preliminary value from January Demand and Energy 2026 report.

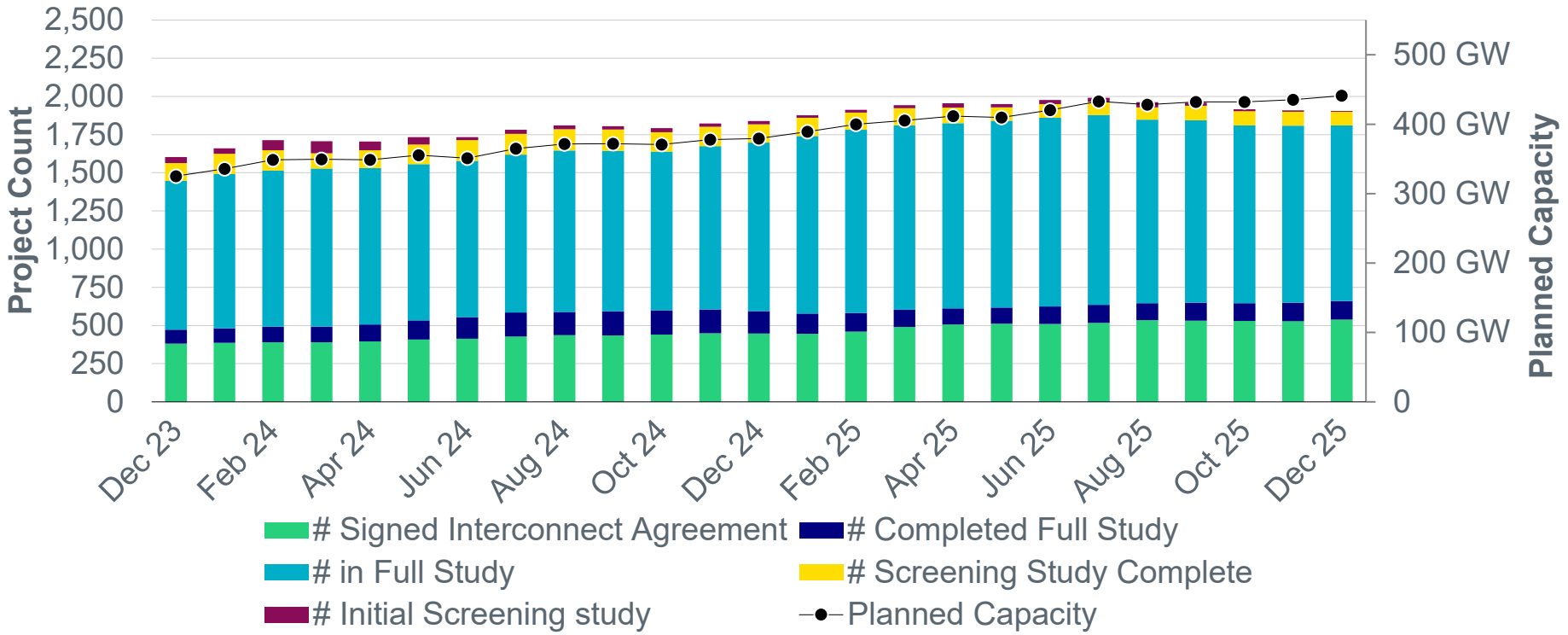
Monthly energy generation increased by 8.2% year-over-year to 37,772 GWh in December 2025, compared to 34,918 GWh in December 2024



Data for latest two months are based on preliminary settlements.

Generation Interconnection activity by project phase

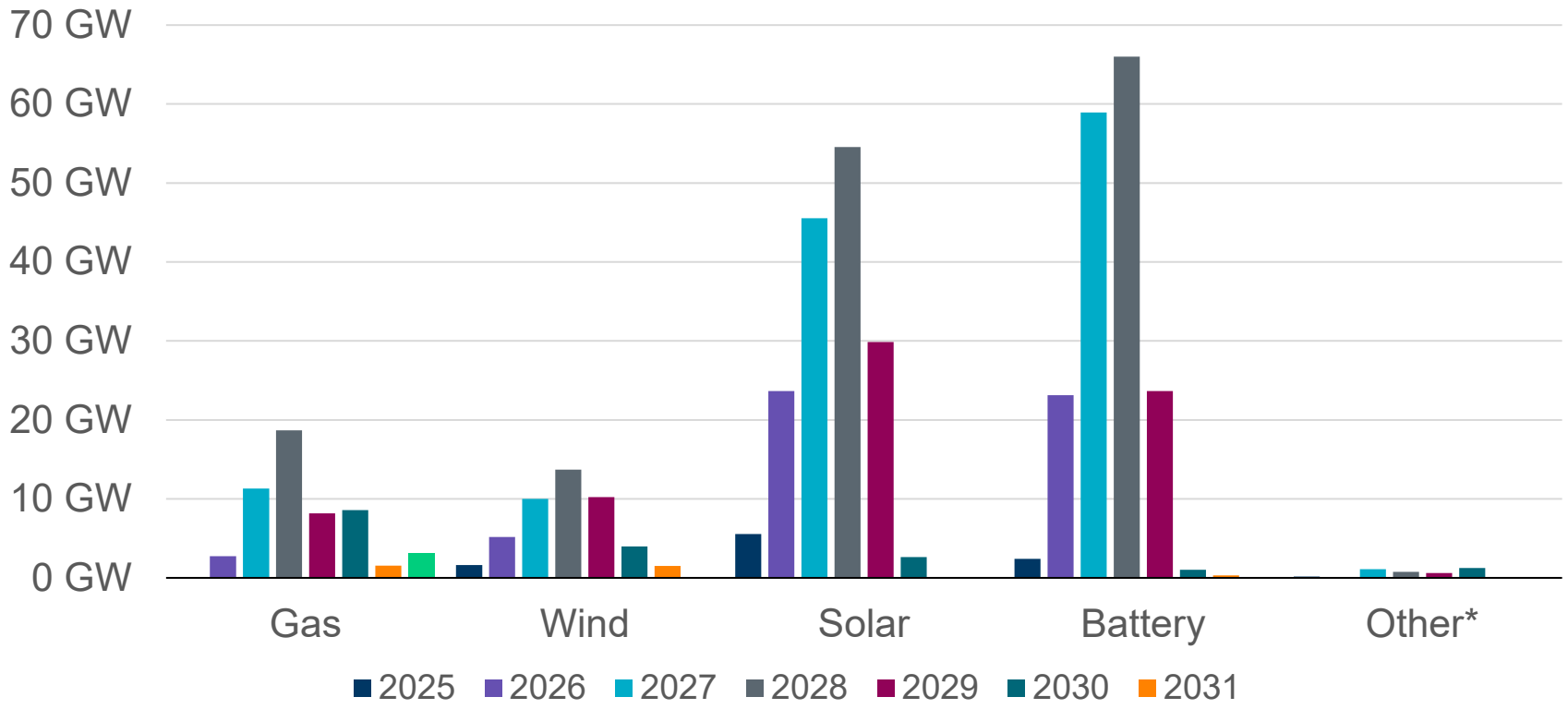
(Excludes capacity associated with projects designated as Inactive per Planning Guide Section 5.2.5)



- There are an additional 54 “Small Generator” projects totaling 506 MW that are going through the simplified interconnection process.
- A break-out by fuel type can be found in the monthly Generator Interconnection Status (GIS) reports available on the ERCOT Resource Adequacy Page: http://www.ercot.com/gridinfo/resource

Interconnection Queue Capacity by Fuel Type

Totals: Solar 162 GW (36.7%), Wind 46 GW (10.5%), Gas 54 GW (12.3%), Battery 175 GW / 368 GWh (39.7%), Other 4 GW (0.9%)
(Excludes capacity associated with projects designated as Inactive per Planning Guide Section 5.2.5)



A break-out by zone can be found in the monthly Generator Interconnection Status (GIS) reports available on the ERCOT Resource Adequacy Page: http://www.ercot.com/gridinfo/resource

- Other includes petroleum coke (pet coke), hydroelectric, fuel oil, nuclear, geothermal energy, other miscellaneous fuels reported by developers, and fuel cells that use fuels other than natural gas.
- The GWh cited for active planned battery storage projects is an estimate of the aggregate nameplate energy rating based on data provided through Request for Information (RFI) submissions for projects with signed interconnection agreements. Using the RFI data, an average design duration for these projects is calculated and then multiplied by the nameplate capacity for all active projects to derive the total energy rating.

Planning Summary

- ERCOT is tracking 1,984 active generation interconnection requests totaling 441,031 MW as of December 31. This includes 161,807 MW of solar, 46,191 MW of wind, 175,459 MW of battery, and 53,716 MW of gas projects; 153 projects were categorized as inactive, up from 149 inactive projects in December 2025.

- ERCOT is currently reviewing proposed transmission improvements with a total estimated cost of $8.879 billion as of December 31, 2025.

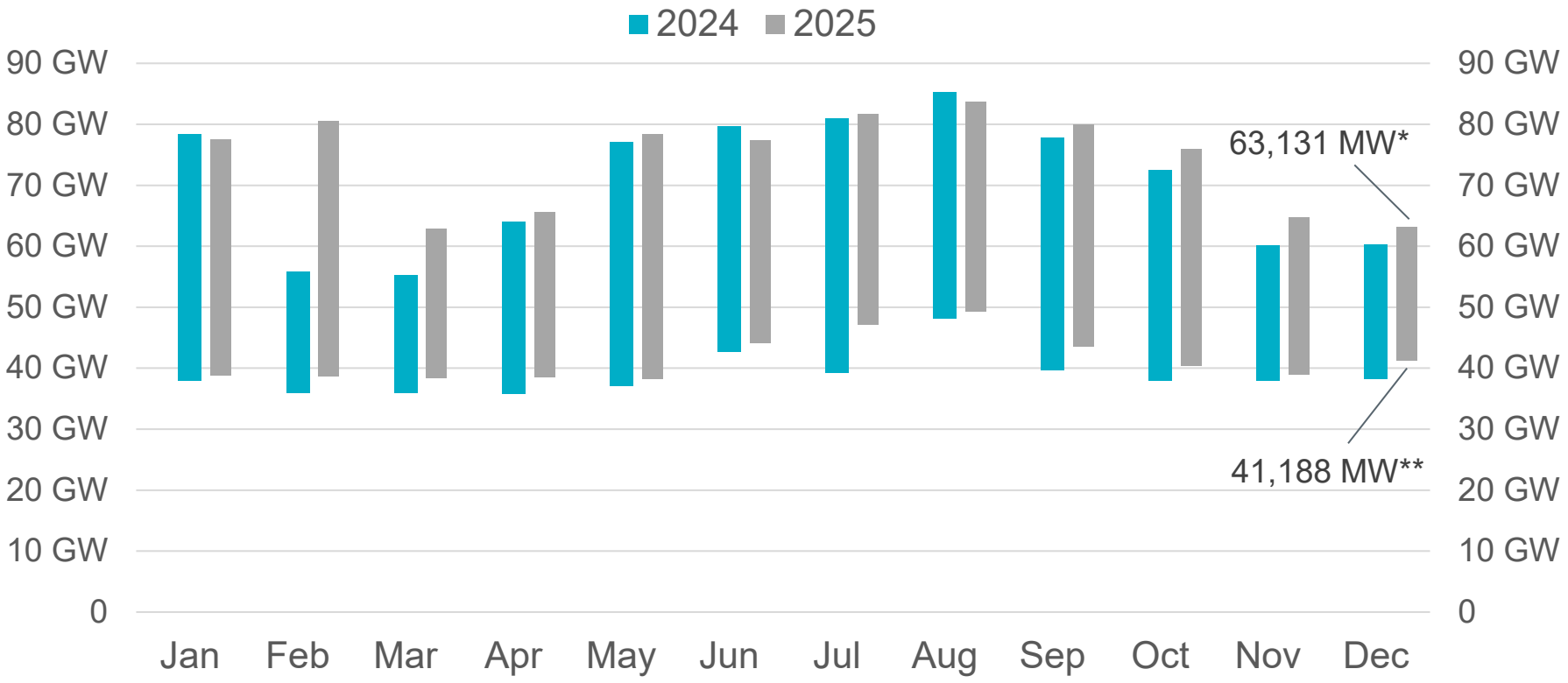
- Transmission Projects endorsed in 2025 total $14.036 billion as of December 31, 2025.

- All projects (in engineering, routing, licensing and construction) total approximately $33.345 billion as of October 1, 2025.

- Transmission Projects energized in 2025 total approximately $1.677 billion as of October 1, 2025.

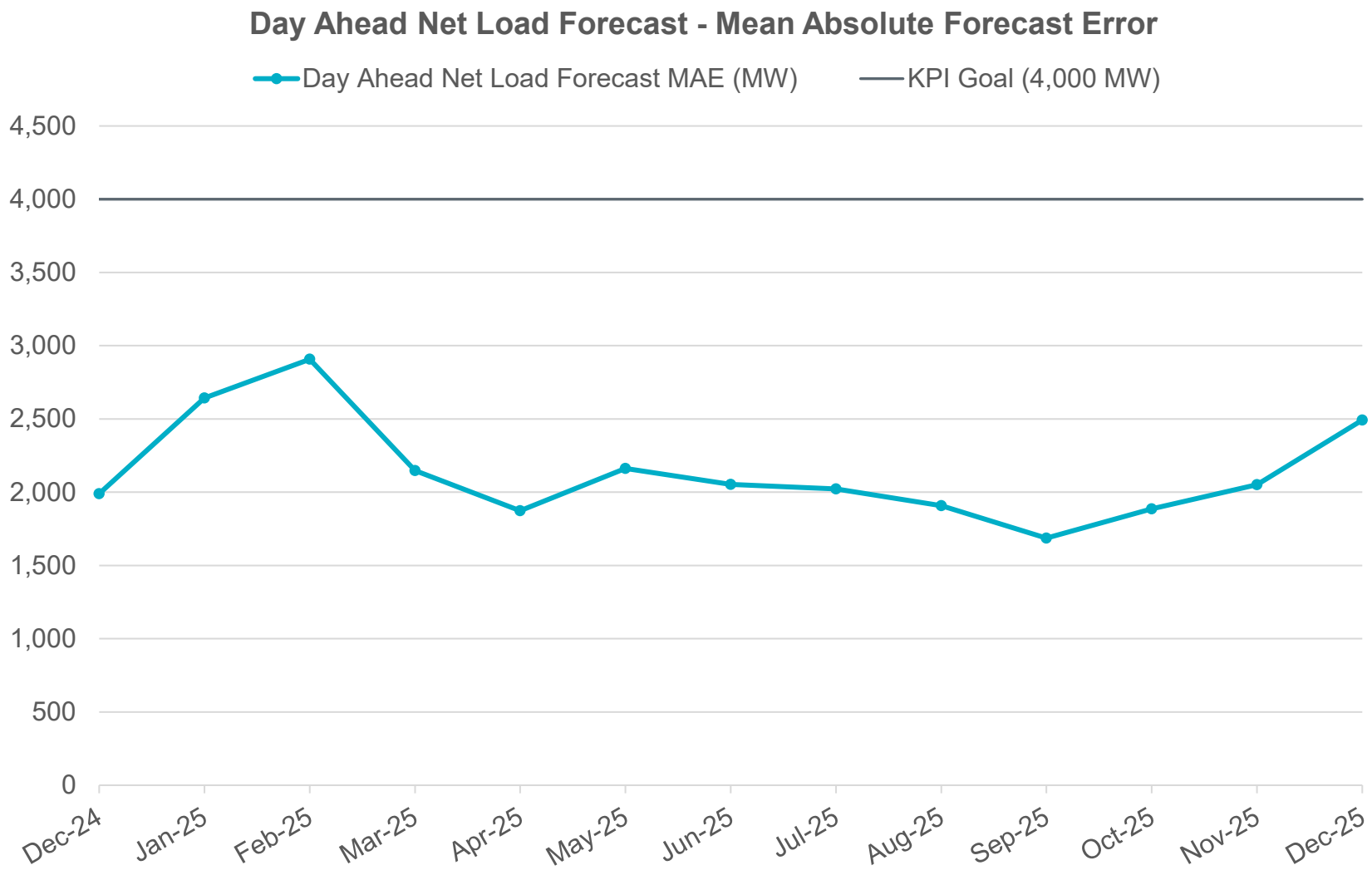
- Transmission Projects planned to energize during the remainder of 2025 total approximately $2.299 billion as of October 1, 2025.

ERCOT's maximum peak demand for the month of December was 63,131 MW* on 12/15/25; this is 2,886 MW more than the December 2024 peak demand of 60,245 MW on 12/11/24.

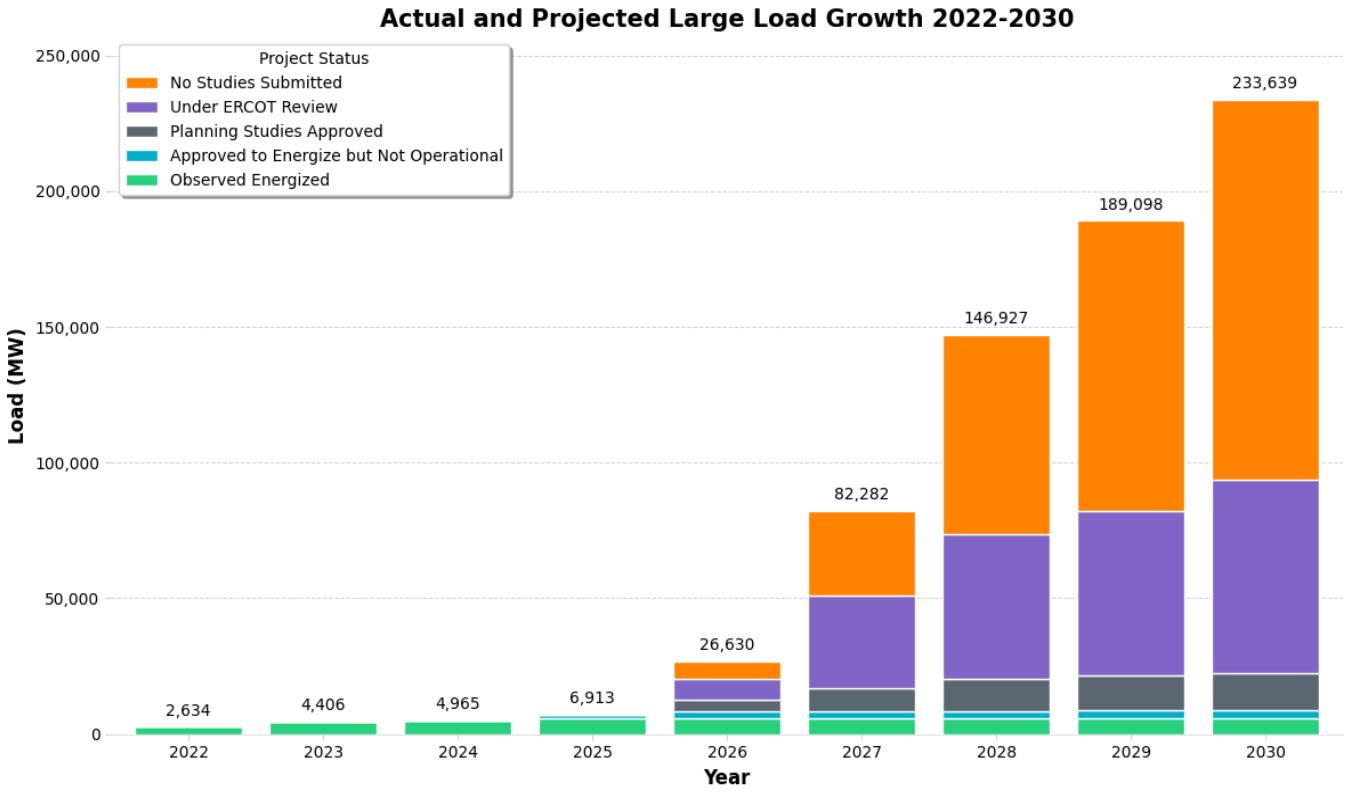


*Based on the maximum net system hourly value from the December 2025 Demand and Energy report.
**Based on the minimum net system 15-minute interval value from the December 2025 Demand and Energy report.
Data for latest two months are based on preliminary settlements.

Net Load Forecast Performance



Current Large Load Interconnection Queue



Project Status	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
No Studies Submitted	0	0	0	0	6,100	31,301	73,401	106,867	140,127
Under ERCOT Review	0	0	0	0	7,792	34,174	53,348	60,575	70,954
Planning Studies Approved	0	0	0	0	4,253	8,322	11,693	12,871	13,773
Approved to Energize but Not Operational	0	40	94	1,189	2,761	2,761	2,761	3,061	3,061
Observed Energized	2,634	4,366	4,871	5,724	5,724	5,724	5,724	5,724	5,724
Total (MW)	**2,634**	**4,406**	**4,965**	**6,913**	**26,630**	**82,282**	**146,927**	**189,098**	**233,639**

Observed Energized – Projects that have received Approval to Energize from ERCOT Operations and are fully operational. Represented by all time non-simultaneous peak load consumption.

Approved to Energize but Not Operational – Projects that have received Approval to Energize from ERCOT Operations but are not observed to be operational.

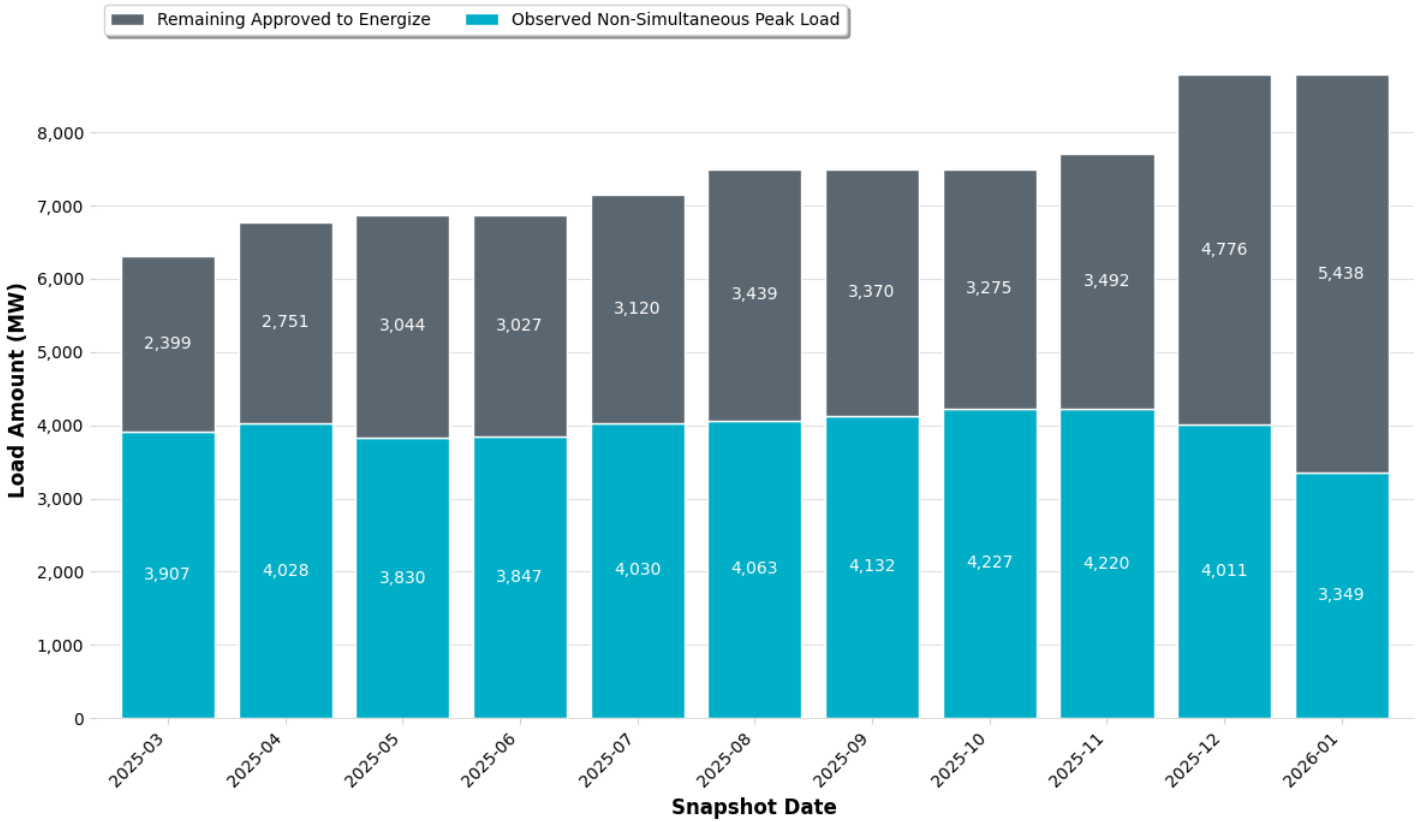
Planning Studies Approved – Projects that have received ERCOT approval of required interconnection studies. Any MWs that were not approved are reclassified as No Studies Submitted.

Under ERCOT Review – Projects that have studies under review by ERCOT.

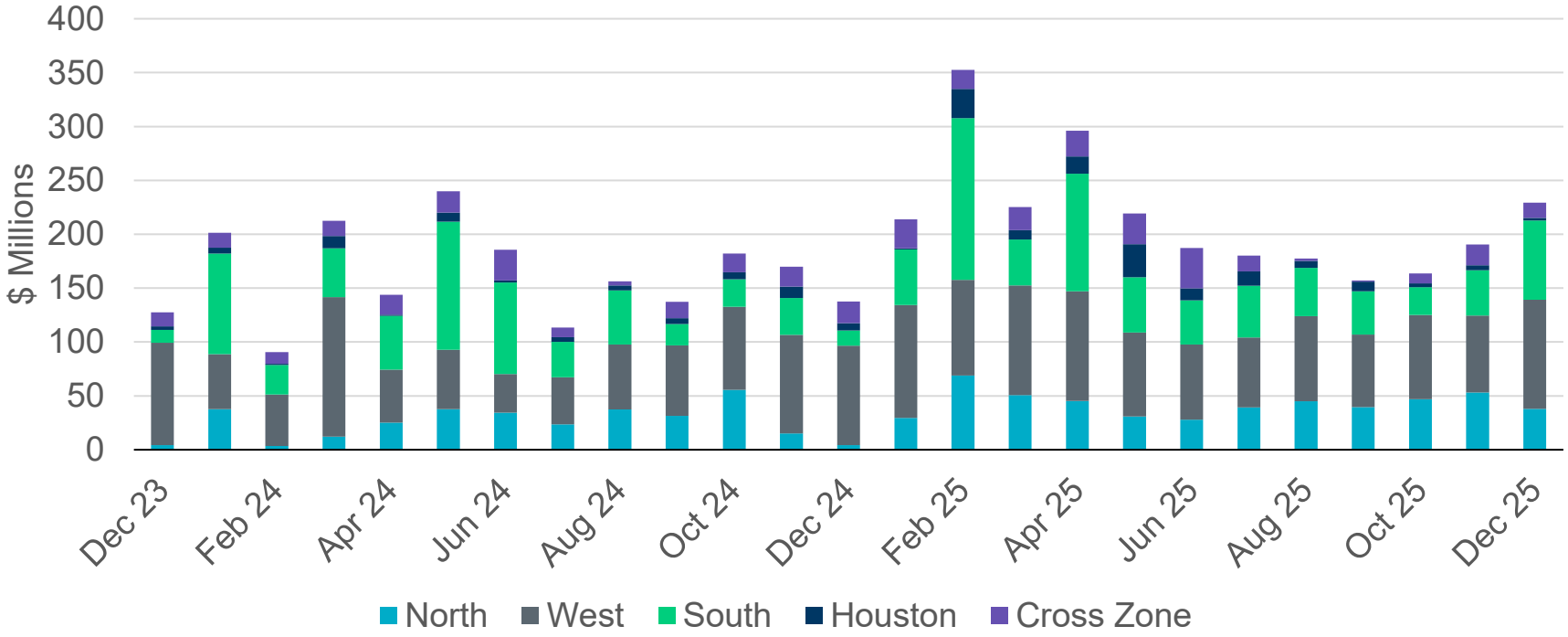
No Studies Submitted – Projects that are tracked by ERCOT but that have not yet provided sufficient information for ERCOT to begin review. Additionally, MWs that were not approved by ERCOT after review of planning studies are included in this category until a path to interconnect these MWs is identified, or the customer cancels the interconnection request.

Loads Approved to Energize – Observations

- Of the 8787 MW that have received Approval to Energize, ERCOT has observed a **non-simultaneous** monthly peak consumption of 3349 MW in January 2026 which is a slight decrease since December 2025.
  - This is calculated as the sum of the maximum value for each individual load per month
  - This value represents how much approved load ERCOT believes is now operational



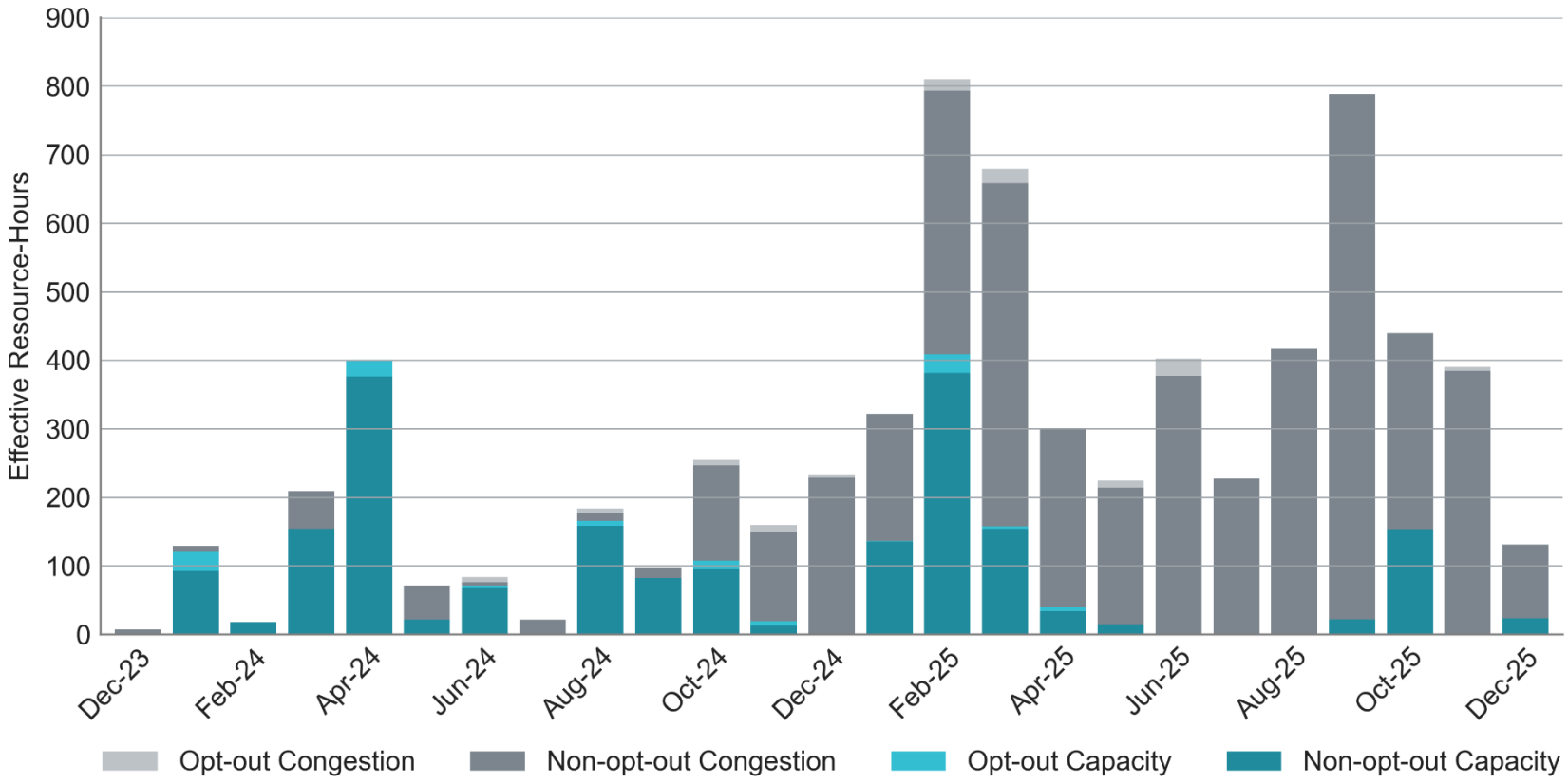
Real-Time Congestion Rent increased in December to its highest level since April 2025



- Total Real-Time congestion rent increased in December compared to November, with the highest congestion rent in the West and South Zones.
  - Congestion rent in the West Zone was driven primarily by the constraint representing the loss of 345kV line from Blackwater Draw to Double Mountain overloading the 115kV transmission line from MacKenzie to Northeast Substation.
  - Congestion rent in the South Zone was driven primarily by the constraint representing the loss of the 345kV line from South Texas Project (STP) to Elm Creek

Notes:
1) Congestion rent is determined using the shadow prices and MW flows for individual constraints in SCED as well as the length in time of SCED intervals.
2) The "Cross Zone" category consists of cases in which the substations on either end of the constraint are in different zones.

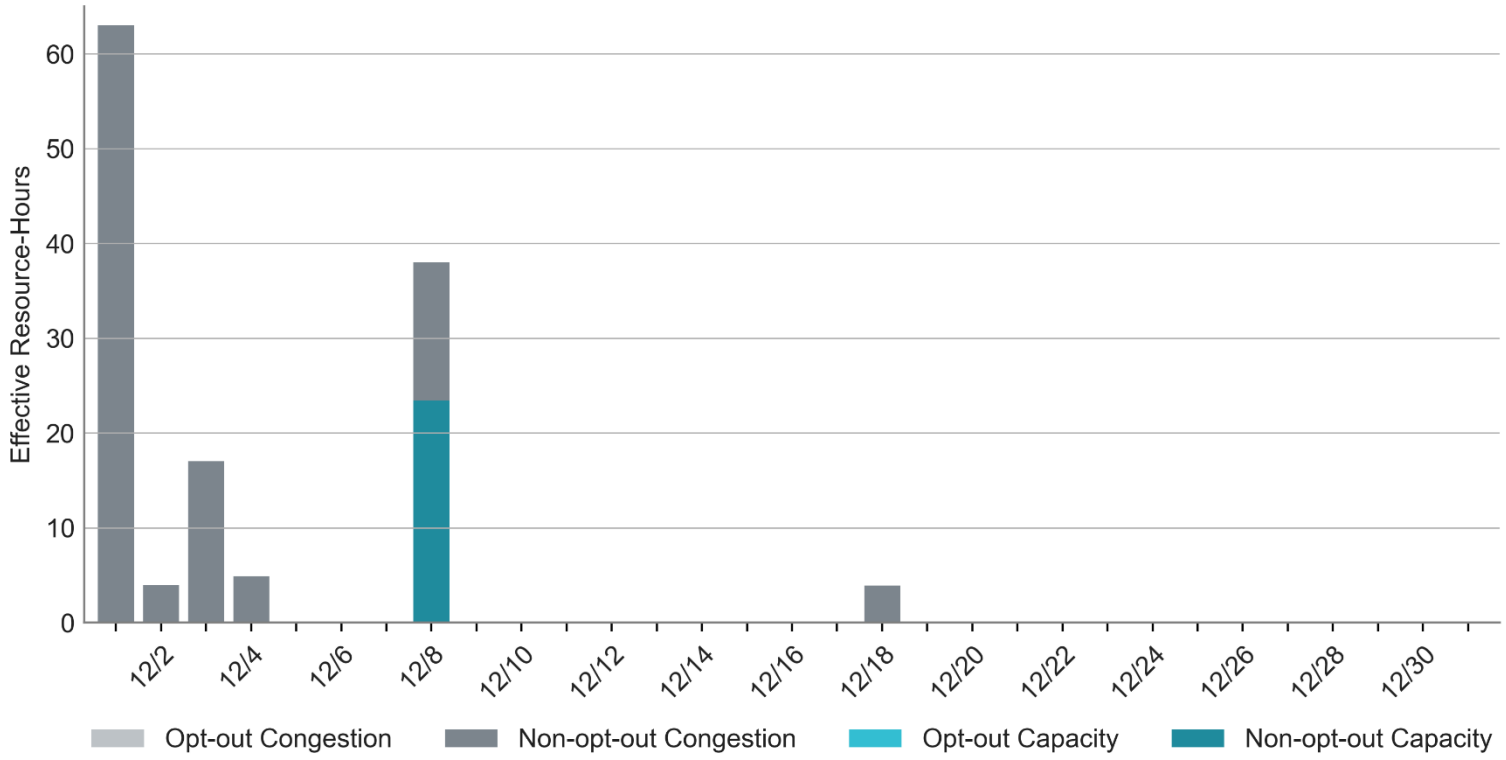
RUC Activity decreased significantly from November to December, particularly following the launch of Real-Time Co-optimization plus Batteries (RTC+B) program



Notes:
1) "Effective Resource-Hours" excludes any period during a Reliability Unit Commitment hour when the RUC-committed Resource was starting up, shutting down, off-line, or otherwise not available for dispatch by SCED.

Most RUC instructions (82%) in December were to alleviate congestion

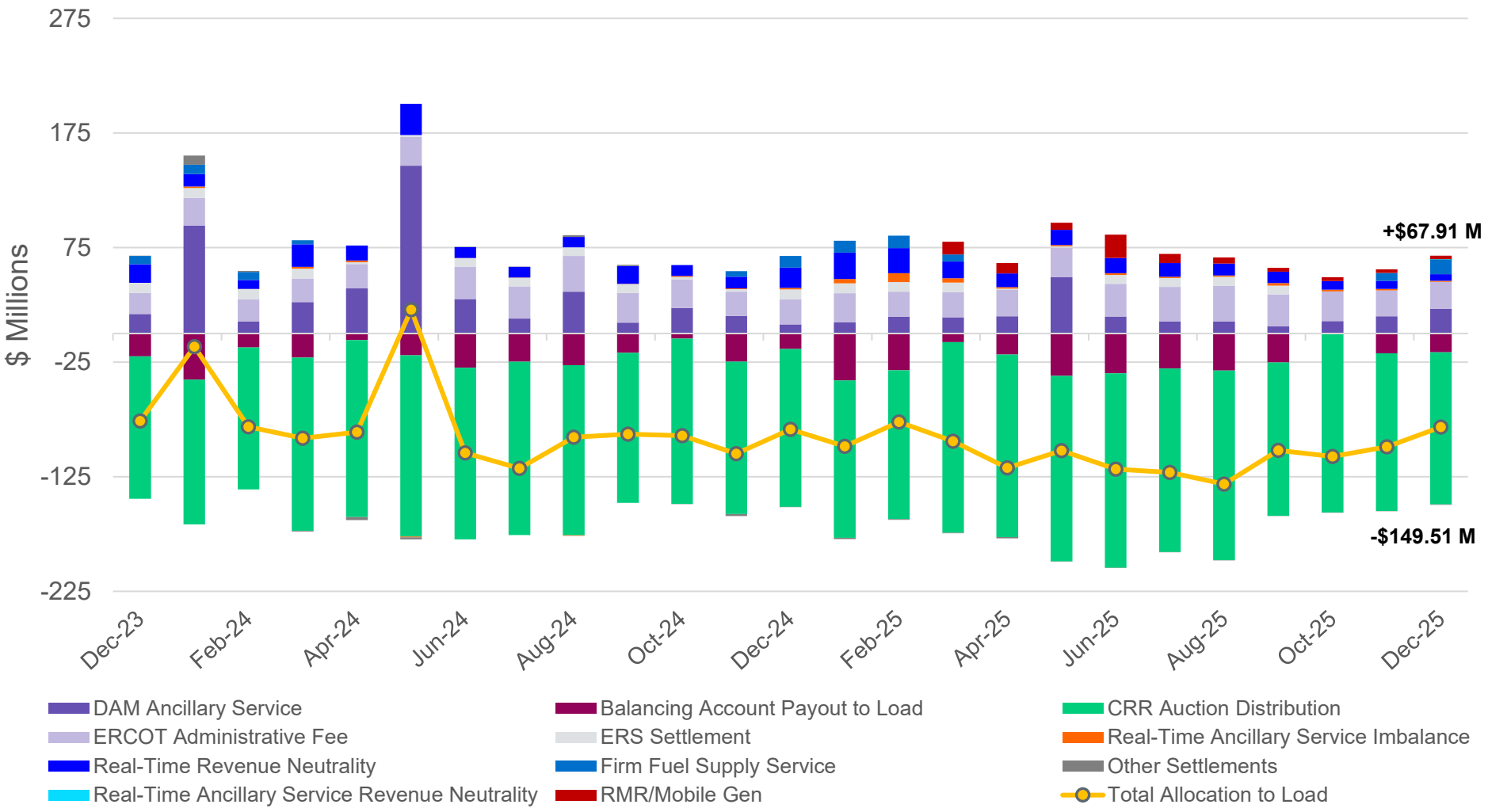
- There were 129.9 RUC total effective Resource-hours in December.
  - 106.7 hours (82%) were to alleviate congestion.



Seventeen Resources were committed in December, primarily to manage congestion

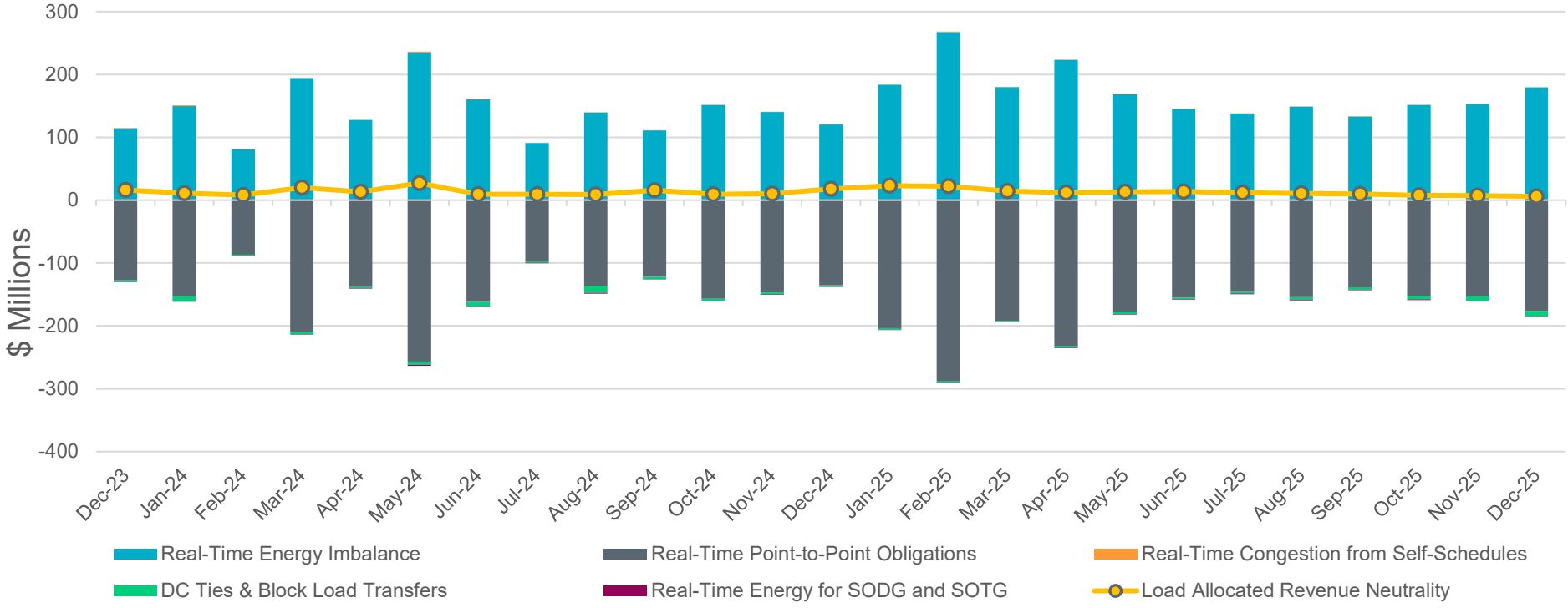
Resource #	Effective Resource-hours	For Congestion		For Capacity	
		Opt-Out	Non-Opt-Out	Opt-Out	Non-Opt-Out
1	18.9	0.0	18.9	0.0	0.0
2	14.9	0.0	14.9	0.0	0.0
3	27.9	0.0	23.9	0.0	4.0
4	10.6	0.0	10.6	0.0	0.0
5	8.8	0.0	8.8	0.0	0.0
6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
7	7.9	0.0	7.9	0.0	0.0
8	8.9	0.0	8.9	0.0	0.0
9	11.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.2
10	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
11	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
12	7.9	0.0	7.9	0.0	0.0
13	4.9	0.0	4.9	0.0	0.0
14	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
15	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
16	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
17	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	**129.9**	**0.0**	**106.7**	**0.0**	**23.2**

Net Allocation to Load in December 2025 was ($81.60) Million



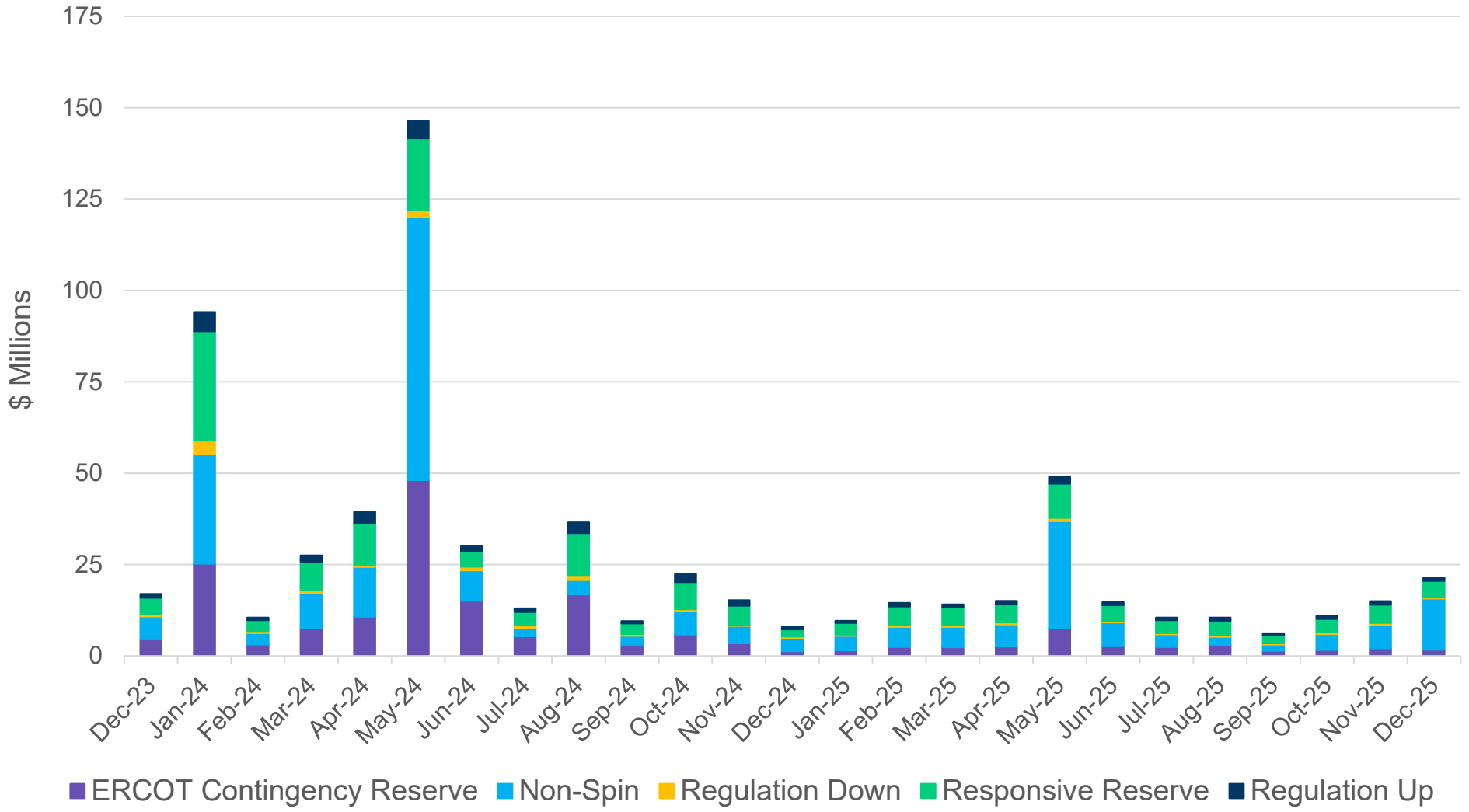
This information is available in tabular form in the Settlement Stability Report presented quarterly to the [Wholesale Market Subcommittee]

Real-Time Revenue Neutrality Allocated to Load was $5.89M for December 2025

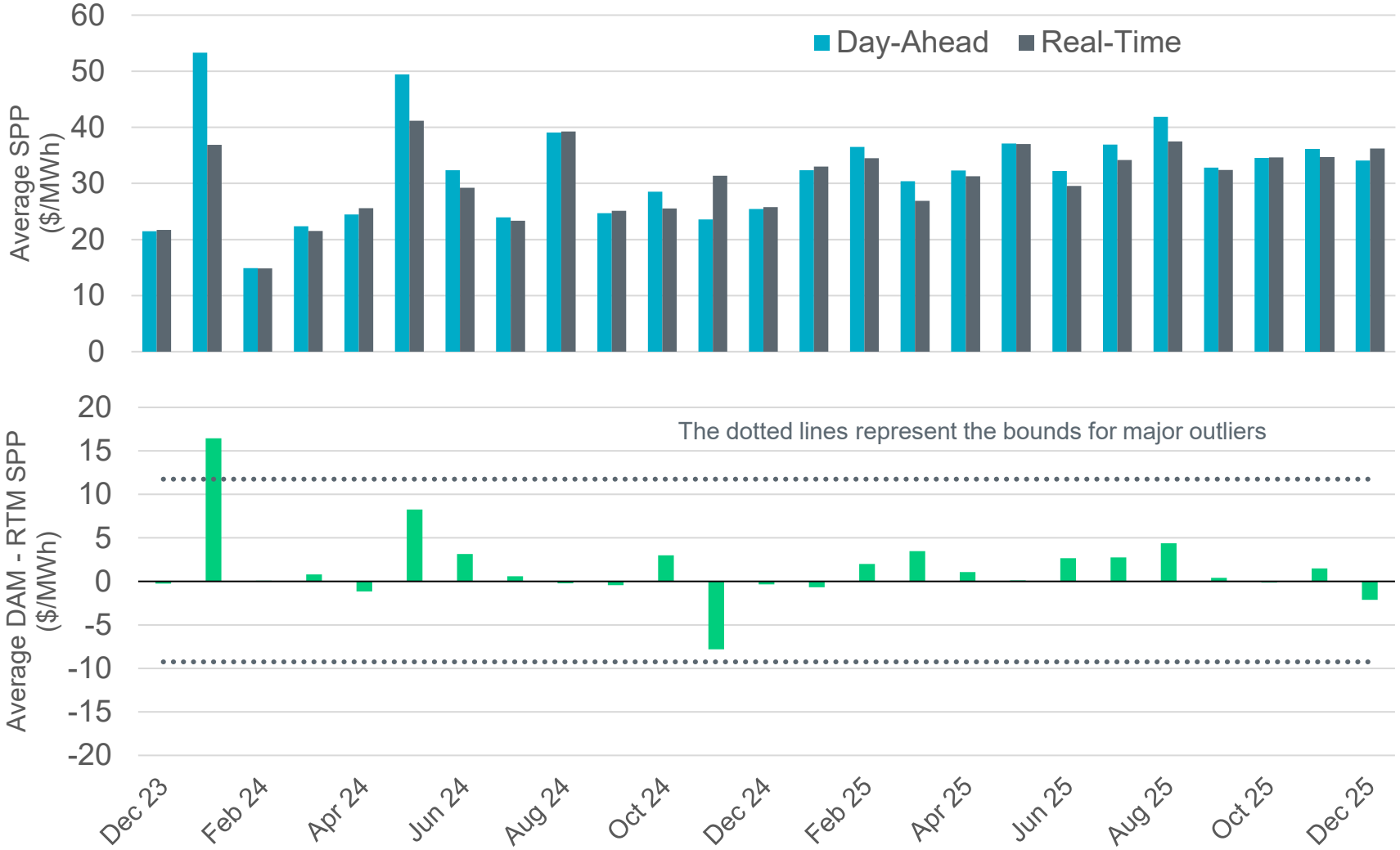


	December 2025 ($M)
Real-Time Energy Imbalance	$179.39
Real-Time Point-to-Point Obligation	($175.88)
Real-Time Congestion from Self-Schedules	$0.43
DC Tie & Block Load Transfer	($9.20)
Real-Time Energy for SODG and SOTG	($0.63)
Load Allocated Revenue Neutrality	**$5.89**

DAM Ancillary Services Allocated to Load for December 2025 totaled $21.37M



Real-Time prices were slightly higher than Day-Ahead prices in December



Notes:
1) The dotted lines represent the bounds for major outliers.
2) Averages are weighted by Real-Time Market Load.

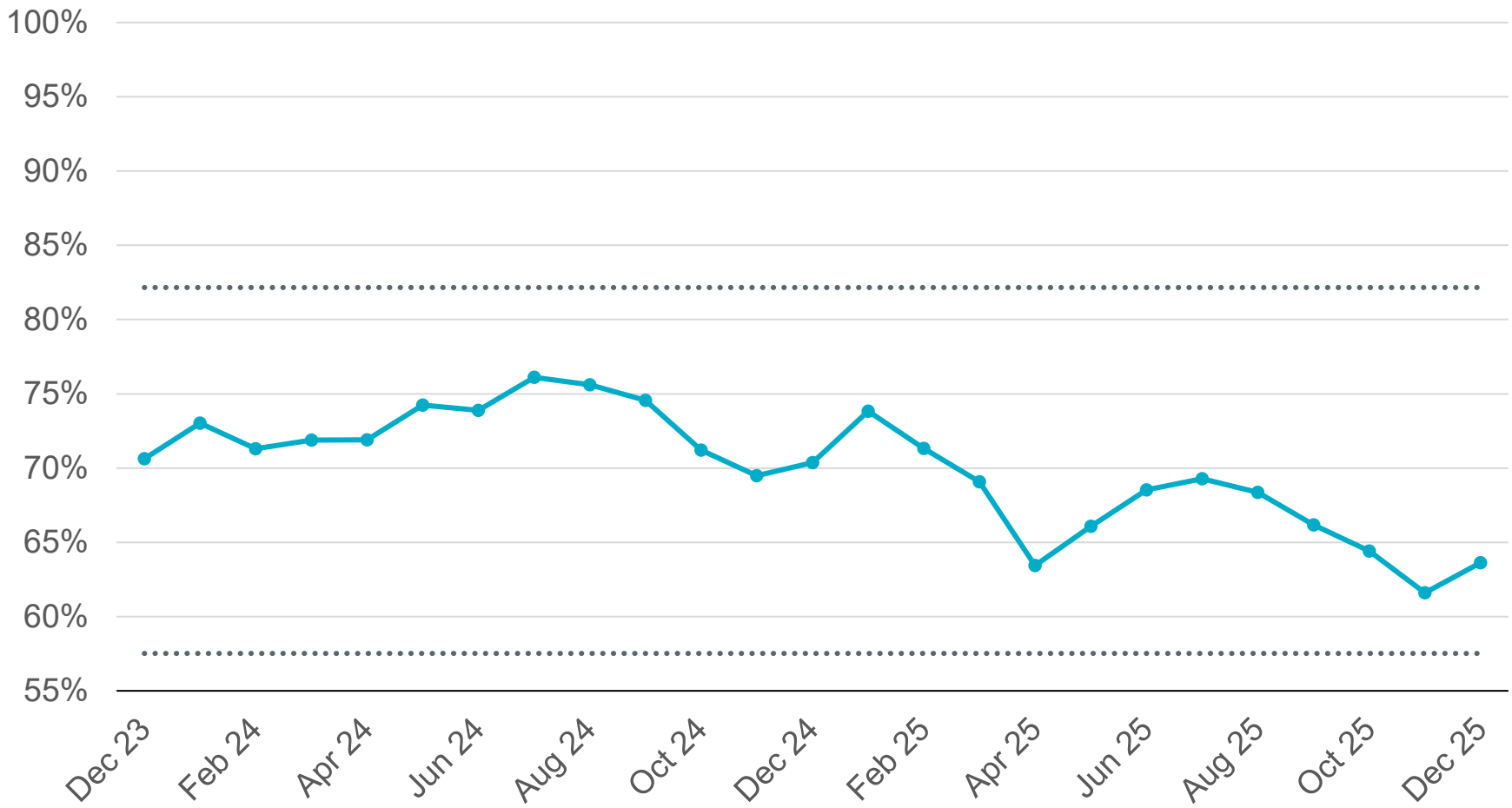
Average Ancillary Service (AS) Market Clearing Prices for Capacity (MCPC) for December

Starting with the introduction of the RTC+B program in December 2025, there are now MCPCs for all Ancillary Services in the Real-Time Market (RTM). The table below compares RTM MCPCs to DAM MCPCs.

Ancillary Service	Average DAM MCPC ($/MWh)	Average RTM MCPC ($/MWh)
Regulation Up (Reg-Up)	2.23	0.33
Regulation Down (Reg-Down)	1.86	0.60
Responsive Reserve Service (RRS)	1.72	0.24
ERCOT Contingency Reserve Service (ECRS)	1.72	0.34
Non-Spinning Reserves (Non-Spin)	3.75	1.04

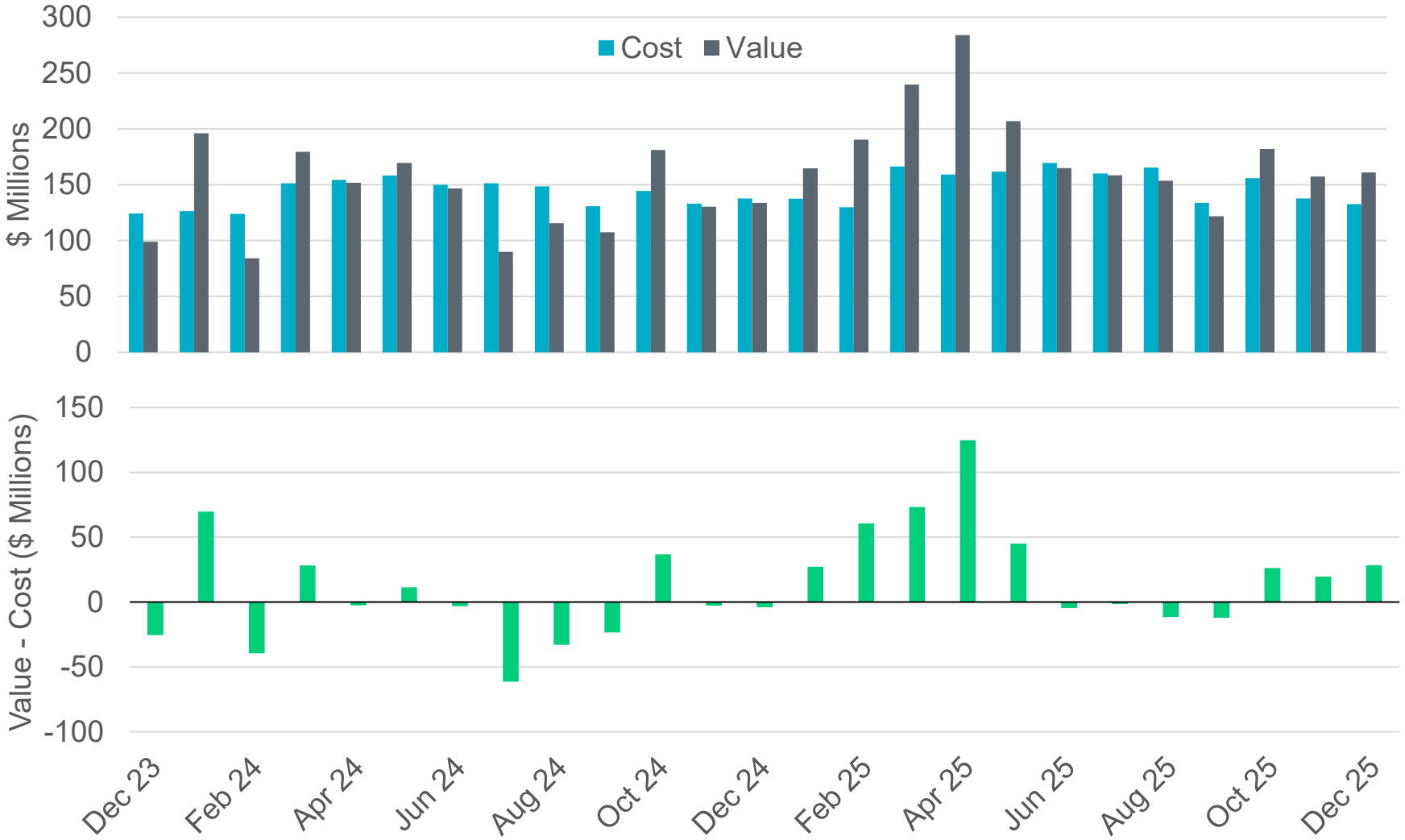
Notes:
1) The data range for Real-Time Market MCPC Average is from December 5, 2025, when the RTC+B program went into service, through the end of 2025.
2) Monthly MCPCs are calculated as energy- and time-weighted average values, using the total AS awards of each interval for each AS type.

The percentage of Real-Time load transacted in the Day-Ahead Market increased slightly in December compared to November, reversing the trend since July

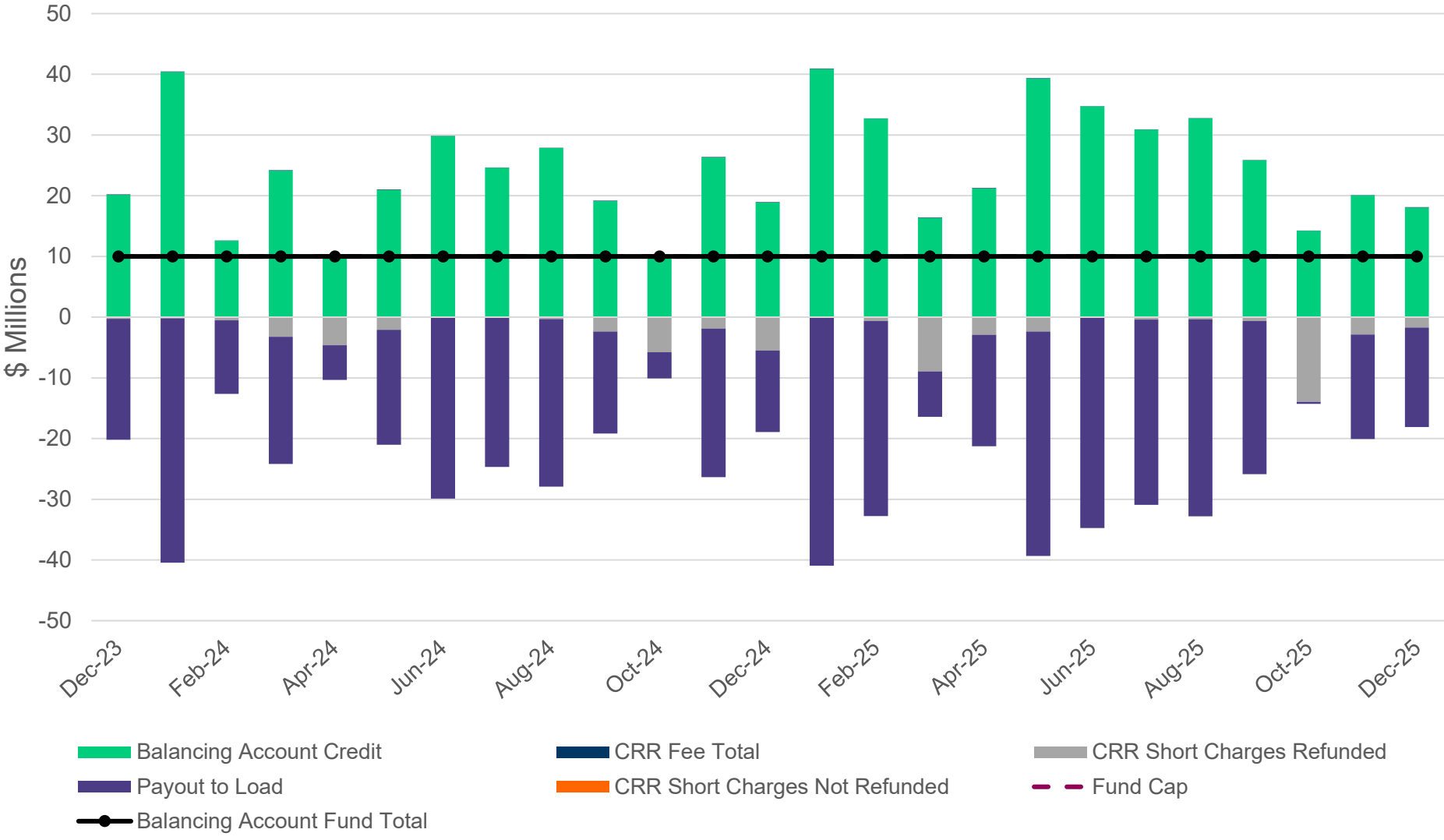


Notes:
1) The dotted lines represent the bounds for major outliers.

Congestion Revenue Right (CRR) value exceeded costs for the third consecutive month



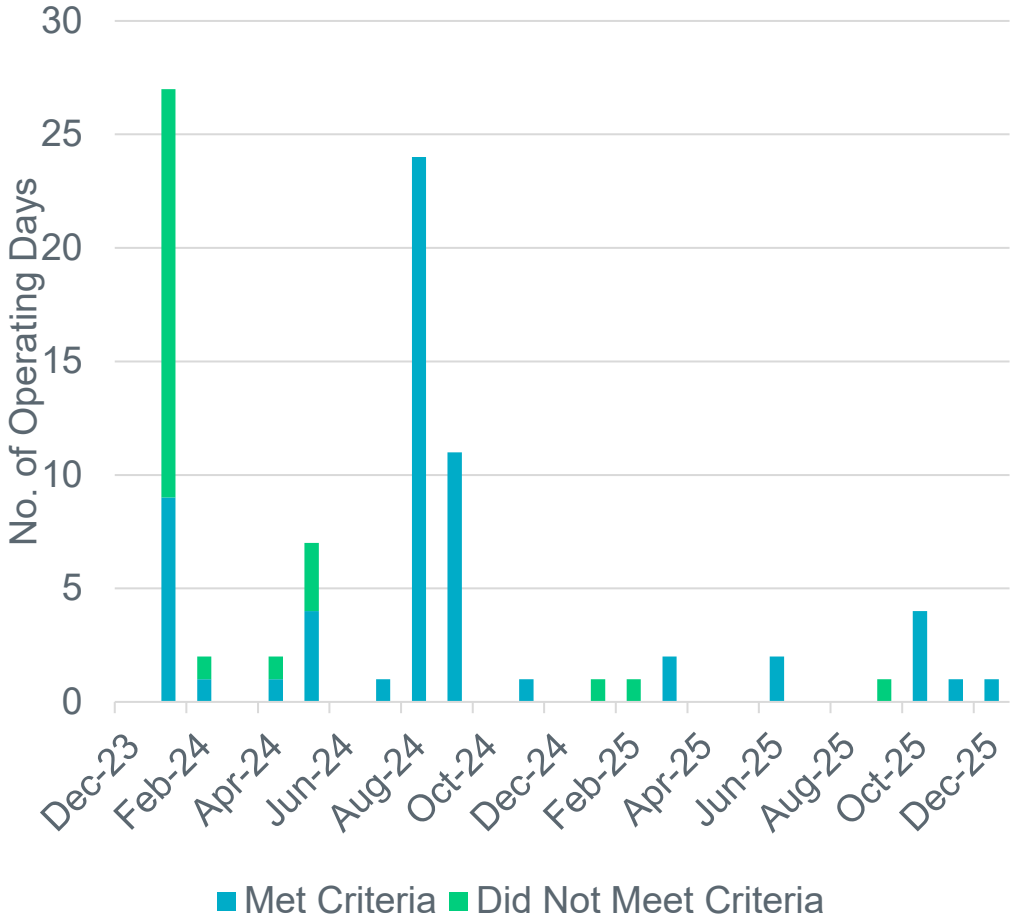
The CRR Balancing Account was fully-funded and excess amounts were allocated to Load



Price Issues and the Impact of Nodal Protocol Revision Request (NPRR) 1024 on Price Corrections

This graph looks at the recent history of price issues in the RTM or DAM and breaks the impacted Operating Days into three categories:

- Days that met the criteria for “significance” under NPRR1024 and were corrected;
- Days that were not corrected because they did not meet the criteria for “significance” under NPRR1024; and
- Days that are currently undergoing analysis to determine if criteria for “significance” under NPRR1024 is met.



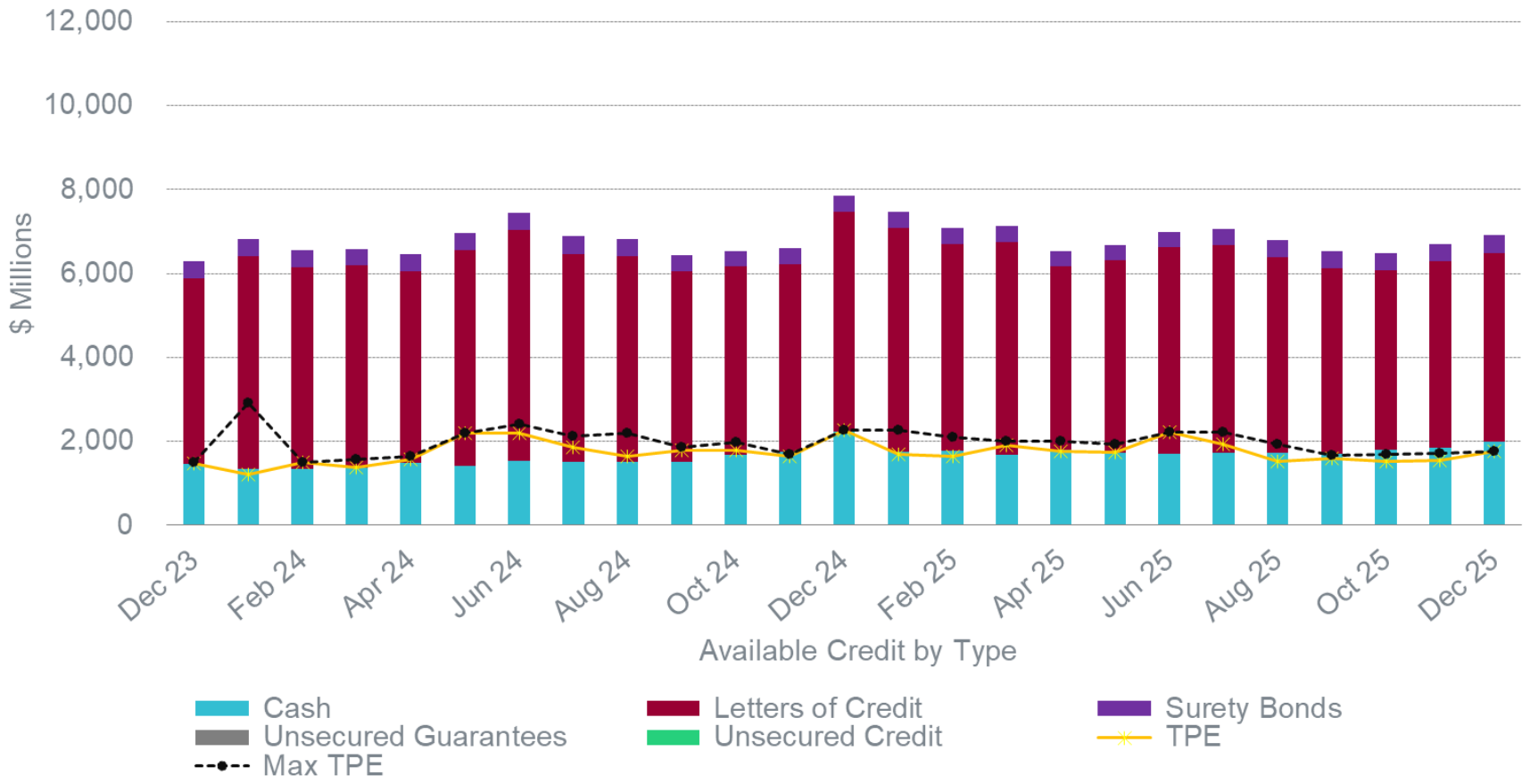
Details for Price Corrections Review

Two software issues were identified following the launch of the RTC+B program:

- On Operating Day December 6, 2025, a software issue in the Day-Ahead Market resulted in price impacts to Energy Storage Resources. The software issue was fixed before the next Operating Day. An impact analysis showed the event met the criteria for a price correction. Prices were corrected before prices became final on December 8, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

- ERCOT also found a software issue in the Real-Time Market. The problem stopped some Ancillary Service trades from being recorded for downstream use. The software issue was fixed around 10:00 AM on December 10, 2025. Because accurate prices couldn't be calculated, no price correction was made. See Market Notices M-A121225-01 and M-A121225-02.

Available Credit by Type Compared to Total Potential Exposure (TPE)



*Numbers are as of month end except for Max TPE

Retail Transaction Volumes – Summary – December 2025

	Year-To-Date		Transactions Received	
Transaction Type	December 2025	December 2024	December 2025	December 2024
Switches	1,445,332	1,203,316	90,526	82,578
Acquisitions	0	0	0	0
Move - Ins	2,943,000	3,127,818	212,729	213,001
Move - Outs	1,441,273	1,437,057	106,994	106,972
Continuous Service Agreements (CSA)	726,626	424,793	27,472	22,363
Mass Transitions	0	0	0	0
Total	6,556,231	6,192,984	437,721	424,914