

WECC

Reliability Considerations in Gas – Electric Integration

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Topics

- Some fundamentals about electric system planning and the Western Interconnection
- Renewable Integration challenges
- Gas implications

Key Electric Planning Concepts

- Electric Grid is designed *primarily* for reliability; few “economic” projects have proceeded
- Not all generation is created equal; key characteristics include:
 - Production of real power (MW)
 - Production of reactive power (MVars)
 - Intermittency
 - Location relative to load
 - Provision on essential reliability services (inertia, frequency response, ramping, etc.)

Key Electric Planning Concepts (continued)

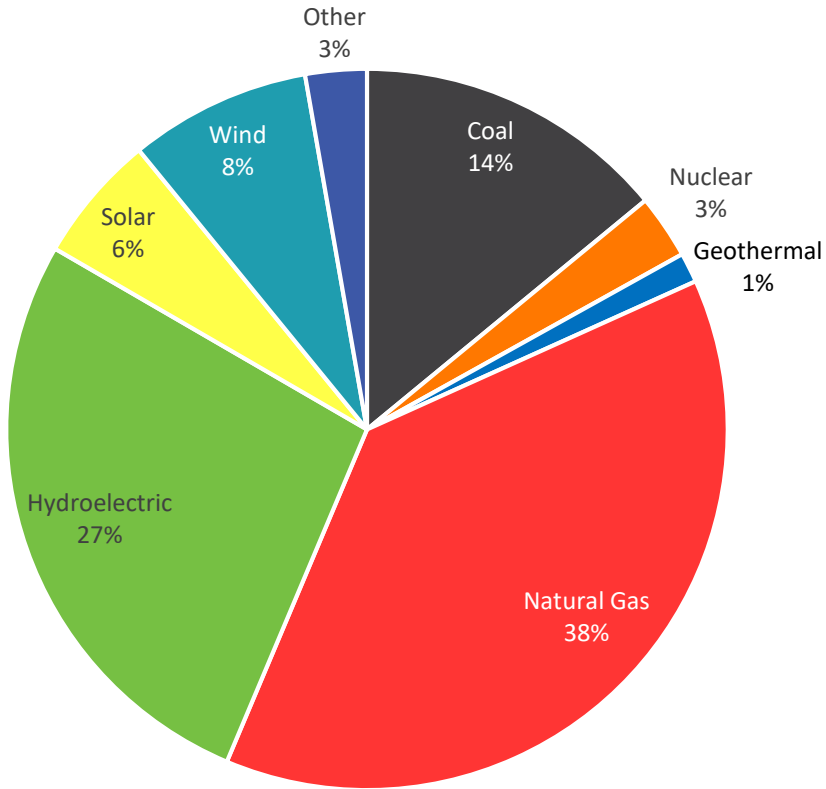
- AC grid is heavily networked; not point to point service
- Generation and load must be balanced in real time
- System designed to survive (at least) N-1 conditions (loss of any single element) without load loss
- Storage is limited and typically provides only momentary support

Key Electric Planning Concepts (continued)

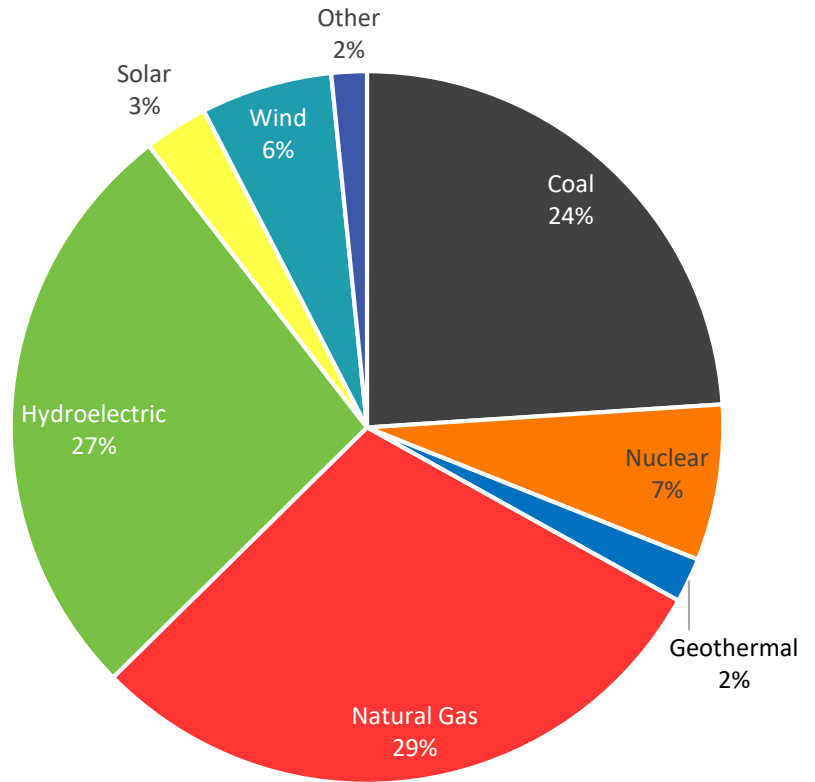
- Reliability is the result of
 - Adequate transmission and generation (plus a reserve margin) to meet *instantaneous* load; plus
 - Adequate provision of essential reliability services to keep transmission grid operating *stably* during system disturbances

Western Interconnection – Some Statistics

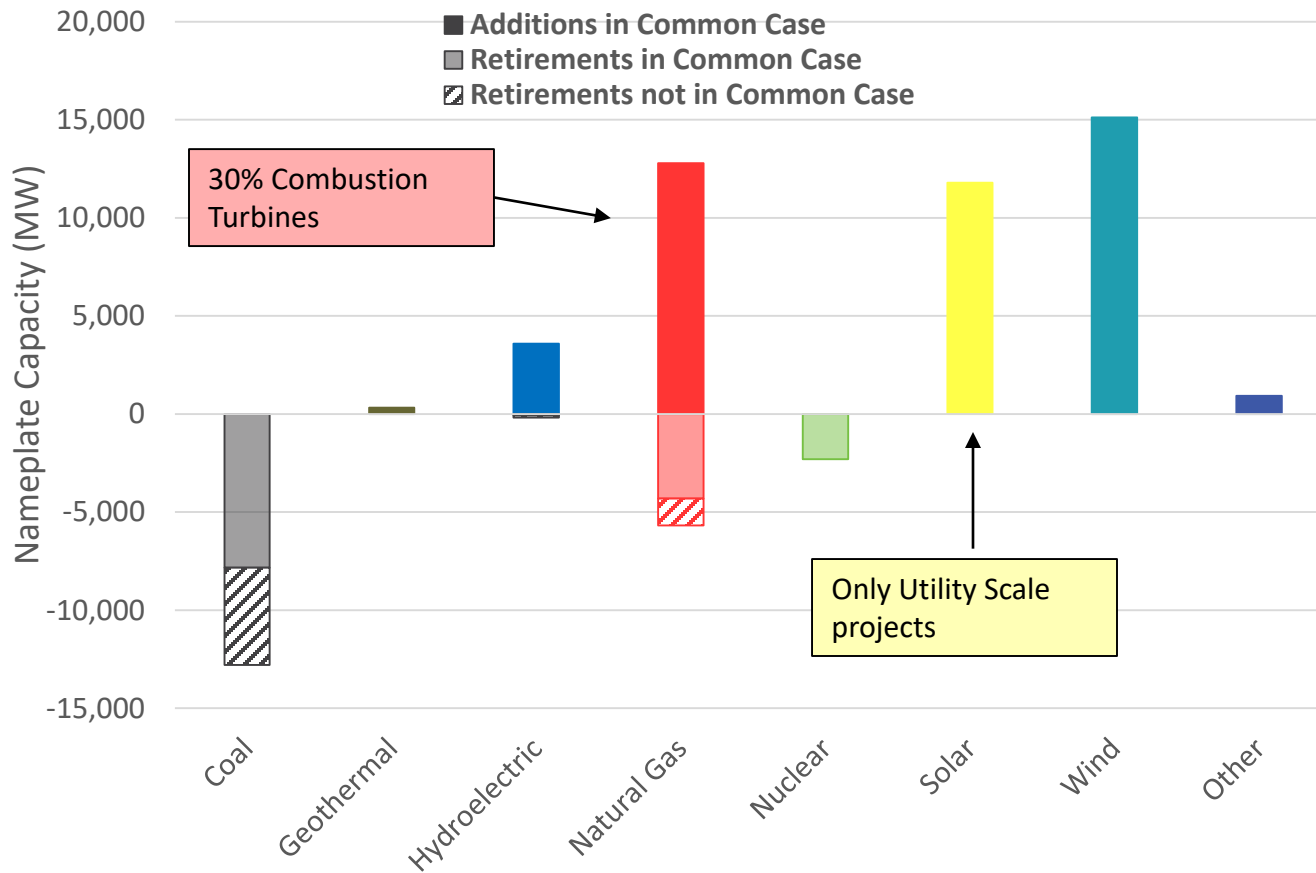
2016 Nameplate Capacity (MW)



2016 Net Generation (GWh)



Resource Additions and Retirements



30% increase in gas consumption for generation anticipated 2016-2026

Solar Challenges for Reliability

Solar peak and electric peak don't match



Other system resources (typically gas) need to ramp up or down quickly to match load

Solar currently doesn't provide much voltage support



Other sources (typically gas) are required to maintain transmission system stability

Inverters tend to act in concert and are optimized to protect the panels



Solar interruptions can be very large (~1200 MW in Blue Cut fire incident)

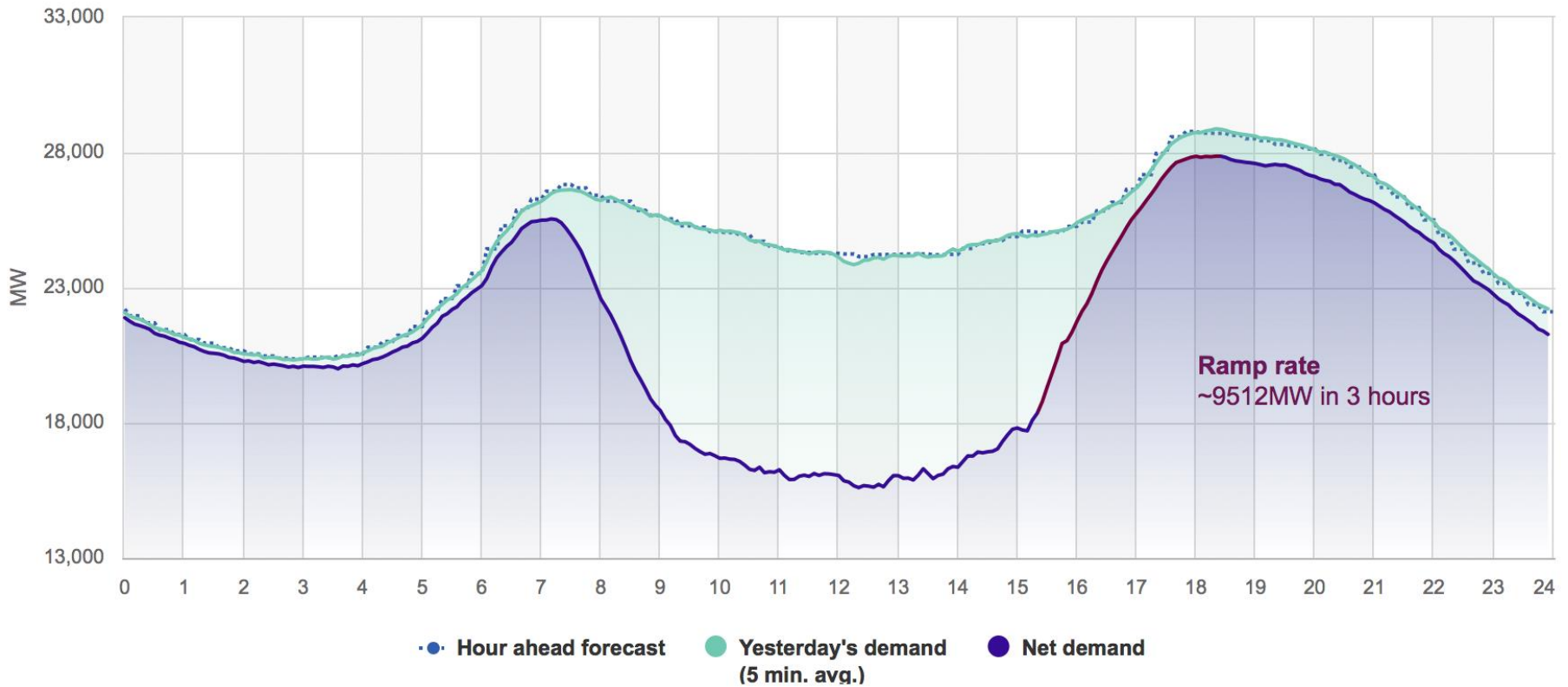
Rooftop solar is invisible to system operators and planners



More volatile loads to manage
New control paradigms required
Reserve calculations more challenging

Challenges Integrating Solar

**CAISO Net Demand
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Gas Implications

Dimension	Implications
Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volumes for power generations are increasing (~30% increase across Western Interconnection anticipated by 2026) • Flexibility requirements are only going to increase <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market area storage • Pack and draft
Scheduling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electric market moving to 15 minute (and maybe 5 minute) scheduling and gas scheduling/imbalance protocols need to harmonize with that reality • Nominating gas over weekends will be increasingly problematic (gas burn for power generation increasing volatile and unpredictable)
Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pipelines and electric operators will need to adopt new situation awareness and visualization protocols