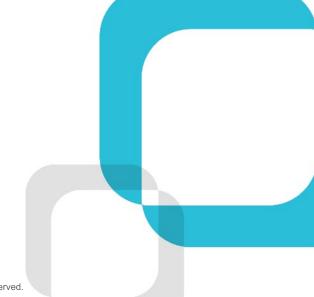




## **Energy: A Sector in Transformation**

**EUCI Leadership Conference for Women in Energy** 

June 28, 2023



## **Energy Is Who We Are**

ScottMadden is a management consulting firm with 40 years of deep, hands-on experience. We deliver a broad array of consulting services—from strategic planning through implementation—across the energy utility ecosystem.

Our energy practice covers the following areas:



**GENERATION** 



RATES & REGULATION



TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION



NATURAL GAS



**GRID EDGE** 



ENERGY CORPORATE SERVICES





# The Changing Electric System



## **Balancing Objectives**









## Resource Adequacy and Reliability Defined

#### **Defined**

Resource Adequacy: "The ability of the electricity system to supply the aggregate electric power and energy requirements of the electricity consumers at all times, taking into account scheduled and reasonably expected unscheduled outages of system components." (NERC)

Operating Reliability: "The ability of the Bulk-Power System to withstand sudden disturbances, such as electric short circuits or the unanticipated loss of system elements from credible contingencies, while avoiding uncontrolled cascading blackouts or damage to equipment" (NERC)

#### What's Changing

- Energy adequacy vs. capacity at peak
- Late summer duck-curve impacts
- Risks during shoulder months
- Pace of transition, higher penetration of variable resources
- More inverter-based and distributed resources
- Extreme weather events
- Gas-power interdependence (not changing but a continuing issue)



## What the Industry is Saying





...a significant portion of the U.S. faces risks of electricity supply shortfalls during periods of more extreme summer conditions.

- NERC 2023 Summer Reliability Assessment

While electricity demand continues to rise, more than 20% of PJM's generators (~40 GW) are expected to retire by 2030. At the same time, the new renewable generation resources expected to replace them are successfully completing the PJM interconnection process but are not being built.

- PJM, "Ensuring a Reliable Energy Transition"



The U.S. electric power system is headed for "potentially catastrophic consequences" as dispatchable generating resources are retiring "far too quickly" and in quantities that "threaten our ability to keep the lights on."

- FERC Commissioner Christie to the House Subcommittee on Energy, Climate and Grid Security



"New York's public policies are increasingly prioritizing clean energy production and a rapid transition away from fossil fuels....it is **imperative that during this time of rapid change we maintain adequate supply** necessary to meet a growing demand for electricity."

- Rich Dewey, CEO of NYISO



## **NERC Summer Reliability Assessment**



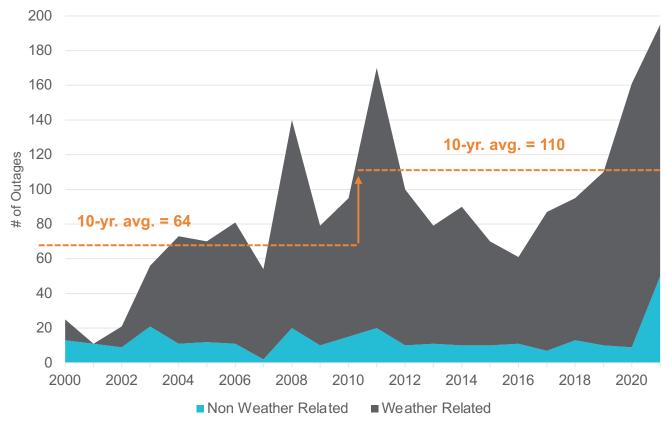
Seasonal Risk Assessment Summary				
HIGH	Potential for insufficient operating reserves in normal peak conditions			
ELEVATED	Potential for insufficient operating reserves in above-normal conditions			
LOW	Sufficient operating reserves expected			

According to NERC's Summer Reliability Assessment, around 2/3rds of the country is at elevated risk of having insufficient operating reserves this summer.



## **Driver of change – Severe Weather**





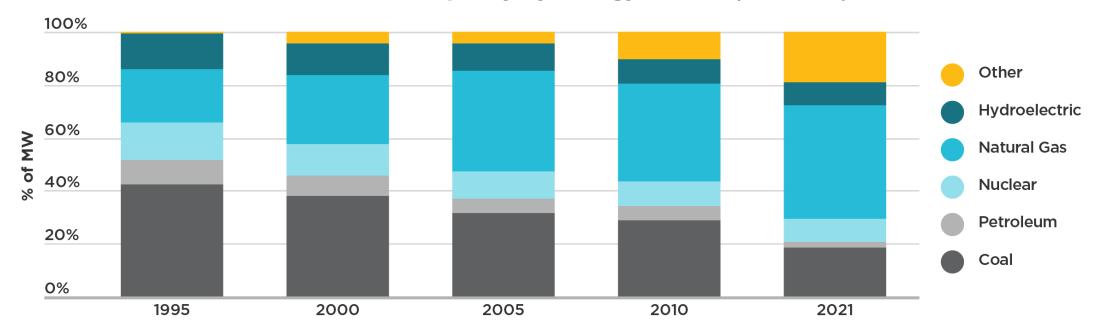
Average annual weather-related power outages increased by 78% during 2011-2021, compared to 2000-2010

Major power outage – Outage reported by an electric utility during which at least 50,000 customers lost power (FERC OE-417)



## **Changing Resource Mix**

**U.S. Net Summer Capacity by Energy Source (% of MW)** 

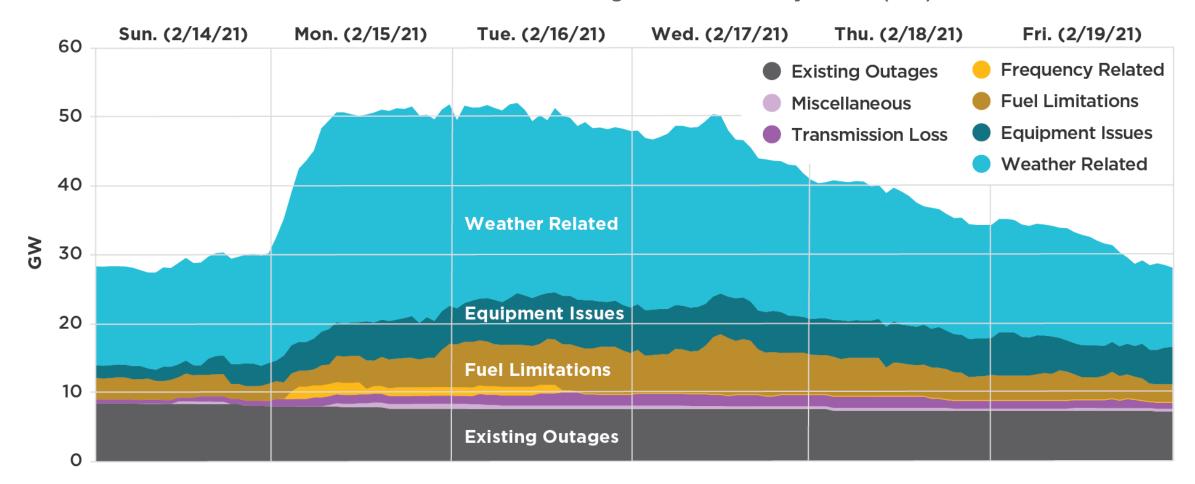


U.S. renewable, hydro, and natural gas generating capacity has gone from about 1/3 of total capacity in 1995 to more than 2/3 as of 2021.



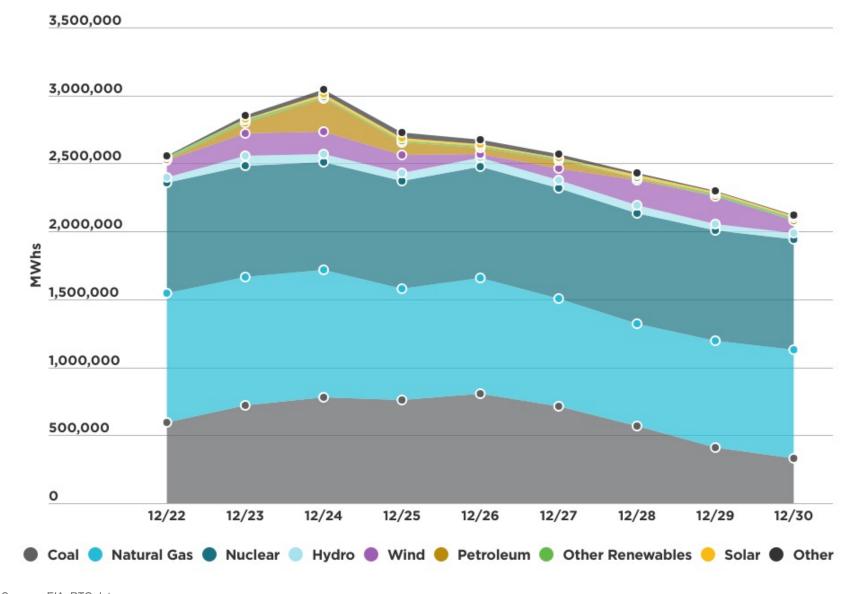
## Extreme Weather – February 2021 Winter Storm Uri

**ERCOT Net Generator Outages and Derates by Cause (GW)** 



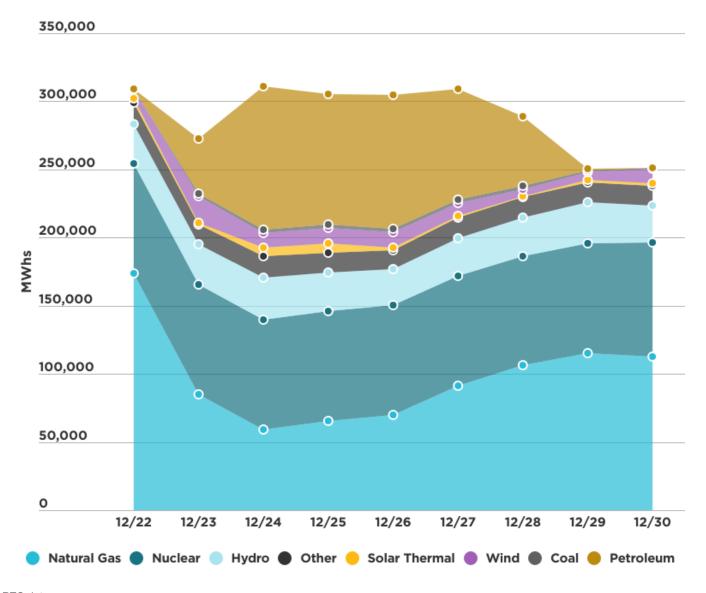


## Extreme Weather – December 2022 Winter Storm Elliott – PJM





## Extreme Weather – December 2022 Winter Storm Elliott – ISO NE





### **Electric/Gas Coordination**

	2011 EVENT	2014 EVENT	2015 EVENT	2016 EVENT	2017 EVENT
Significant levels of incremental unplanned electric generating unit losses with top causes found to be mechanical/electrical, freezing, and fuel issues					
Significant natural gas production decreases occurred, with some areas of the country more severely affected.					
Short-range forecasts of peak electricity demands were less than actual demands for some BAs in event area.					

Winter Storm Elliott highlighted the failings of current electric and gas coordination.



#### **Electric/Gas Coordination Cont'd**



#### 2011 Report

- Utilize pre-operational warming prior to severe cold weather
- Perform adequate/timely inspection of generating unit freeze protection measures; inspect / maintain heat trace and insulation
- Ensure winterization supplies/equipment are in place, and ensure adequate staffing for cold weather events



#### **2014 Polar Vortex Report**

 Review and update generating unit weatherization based on lessons learned, and conduct reviews of generating unit winter readiness



#### **2021 Winter Storm Uri Report**

- Add/modify Reliability Standards regarding generating unit freeze protection measures
- Require natural gas facilities to implement cold weather preparedness plans; implement measures to protect natural gas infrastructure from freezing; adopt minimum uniform standards for winterization of natural gas production and processing facilities
- Establish a forum to improve reliability of natural gas infrastructure to support the Bulk Electric System
- Protect critical natural gas infrastructure loads from demand response and load shedding



## **Key Takeaways**

<b>Industry Change</b>	Ind	lustry	Chan	ge
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The nature of bulk power resources has changed over the past decade.

#### **Need for New Measures**

Resource adequacy analysis is adapting to account for different supply composition and the needs for energy adequacy through multi-hour and multi-day events.

#### **Extreme Weather**

Recent summer and winter weather **events have tested power supply availability**—both
for renewable and gas-fired generation.

#### **Electric / Gas Interdependence**

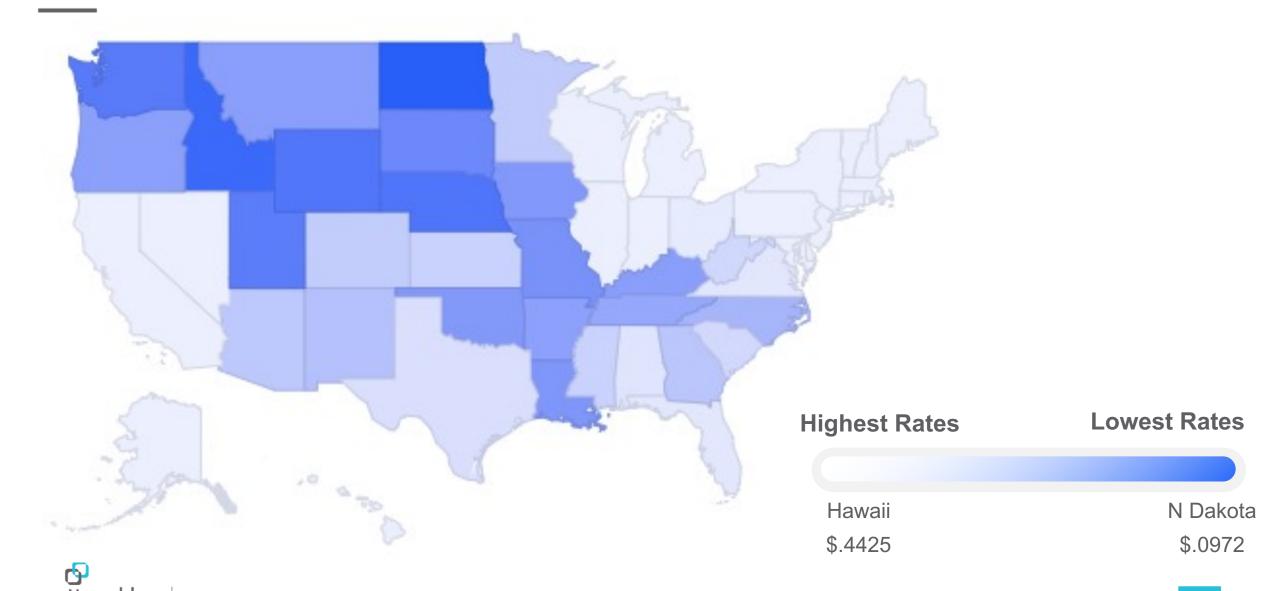
The interdependence of gas and power systems continues to be an area of vulnerability, particularly in winter. Gas demand for power is growing for heating demand and to back up renewables.



# **Affordability**

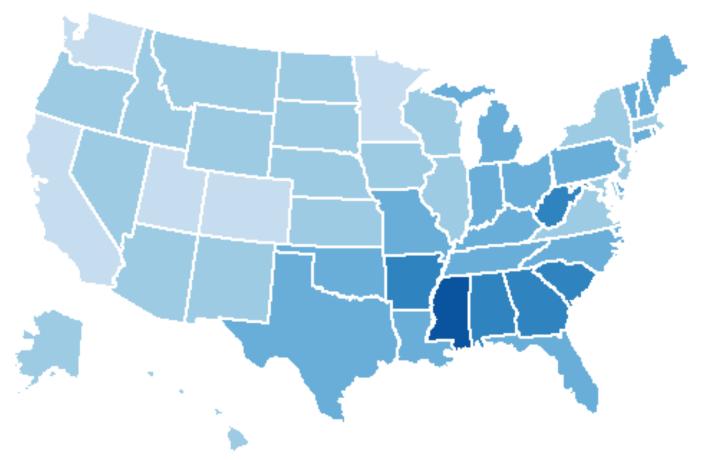


## Residential Electricity Cost per KWh by State



## Low-Income Energy Burden (% of Income)

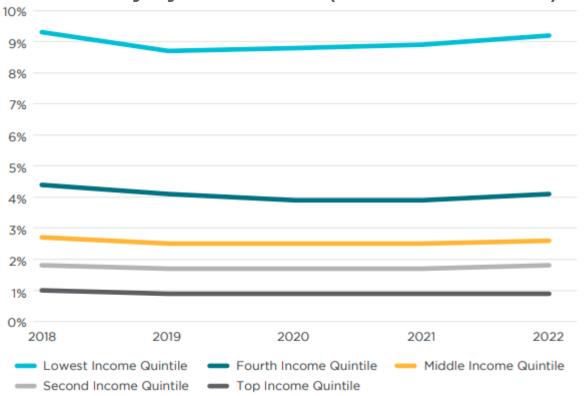




Average energy burden for low income customers is 8.6%; for non-low income is 3%

## **Affordability Metrics**

U.S. Household Percentage of Income Spent on Electricity by Income Tier (2021–22 Estimated)



# California's Recently Implemented Approach to Affordability Metrics





#### **Hours at Minimum Wage (HM)**

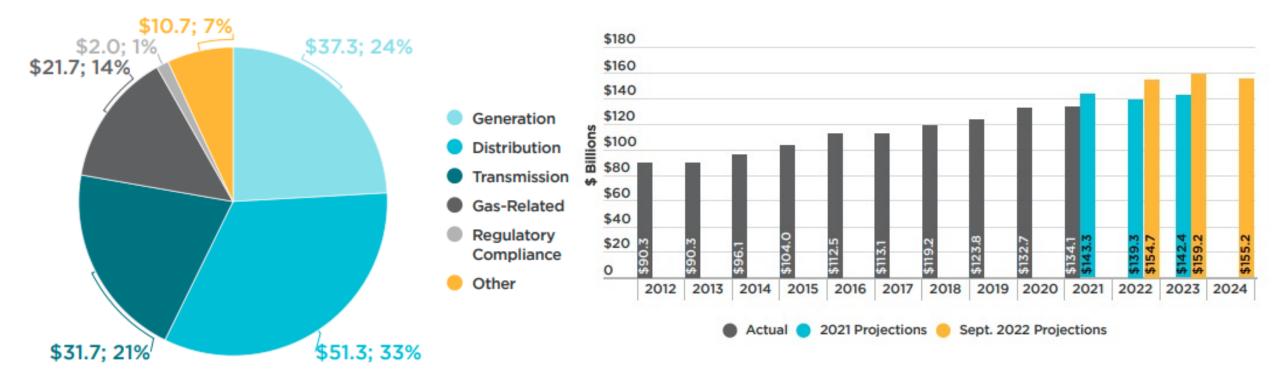
Hours of earned employment at the local minimum wage needed to pay for essential services



## **Utility Capex**

Investor-Owned Electric Utilities Estimated Functional Capital Expenditures (2022) (\$ Billions)

Actual and Projected Capital Expenditures for Investor-Owned Electric Utilities (2012–2024) (\$ Billions)

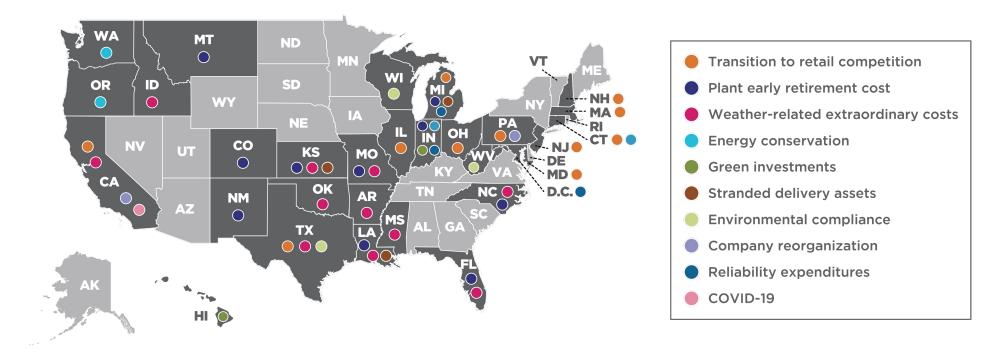


Utility spending is expected to continue to rise, putting additional upward pressure on electricity prices



## **Regulatory Assets**

#### 32 jurisdictions allow by statute or rule utilities to seek securitization of costs



Incremental regulatory assets may include storm costs, COVID costs, non-rate case asks (EE, single issue projects), riders and trackers



## **Key Takeaways**

#### **Customer Bills and Affordability**

Electricity rates will continue to rise, as will customer bills. Utilities and their regulators will be well served to consider ways to temper rate hikes and enhance programs that assist in ensuring energy affordability.

#### **Increasing Investment**

Aggregate power system investment is increasing as utilities modernize their grids, replace aging infrastructure, incorporate new resources, and accommodate increasing electrification.

#### **Amortizing Extraordinary Expenses**

System shocks – from pandemic-related costs, extraordinary weather events, potential stranded costs (early retirement of some assets) – remain concerns for utilities.

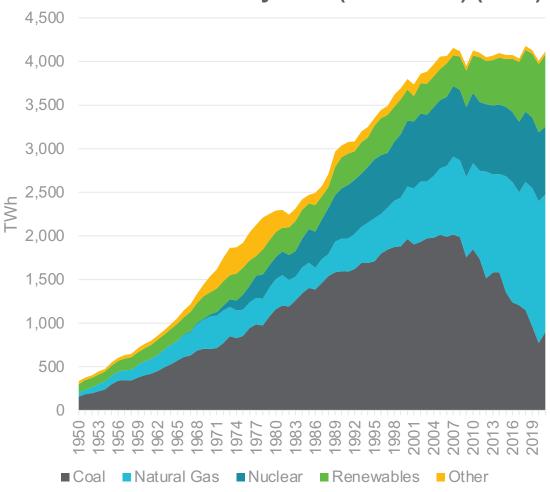




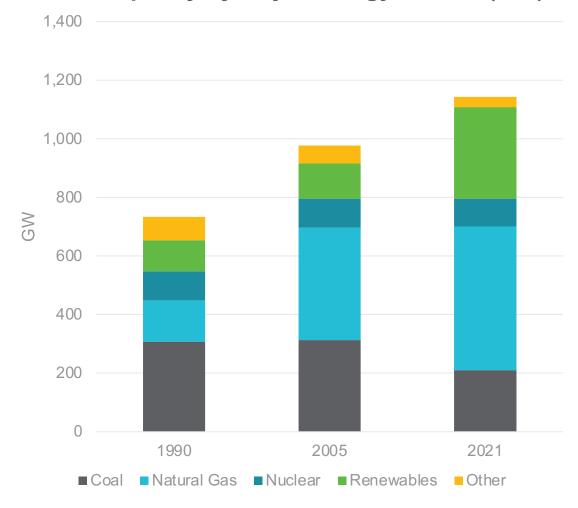


## **Changing Generation Mix**

U.S. Generation Mix by Year (1950-2021) (TWh)



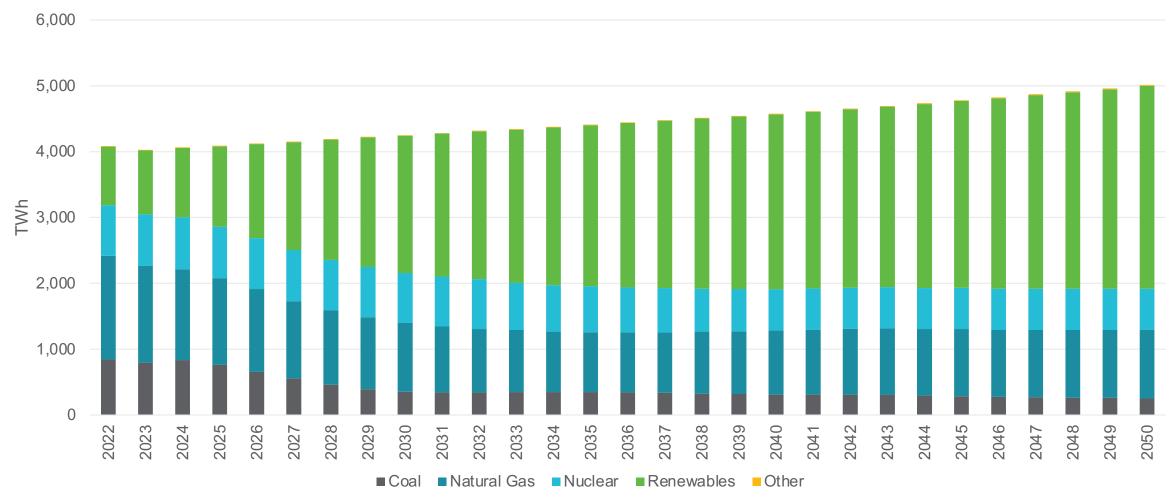
#### U.S. Capacity by Major Energy Source (GW)





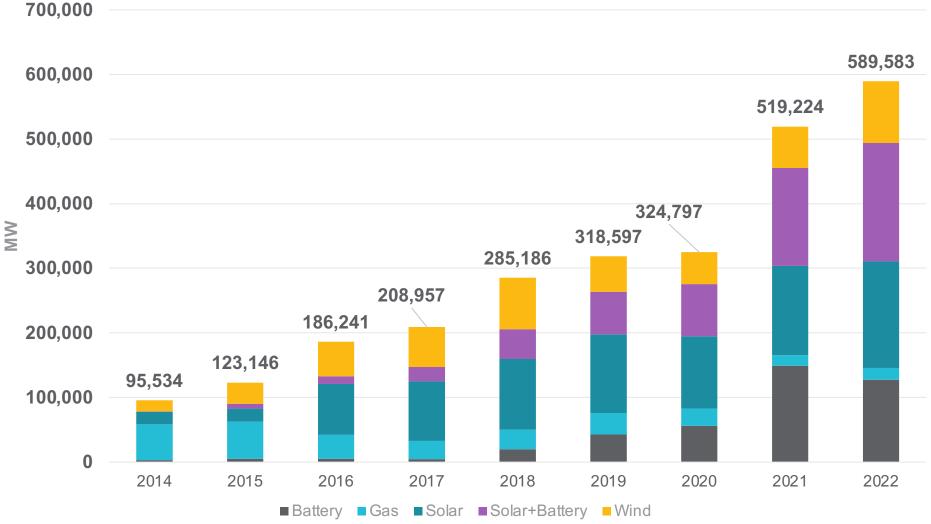
## A New Energy Landscape

#### Projected U.S. Electricity Generation by Fuel Type (2022-2050) (TWh)





## Interconnection Queues – Generation in Queue by Year and Capacity





## Interconnection Queues – Cumulative MW in Regional Queues





## **New Technologies as Potential Game Changers?**









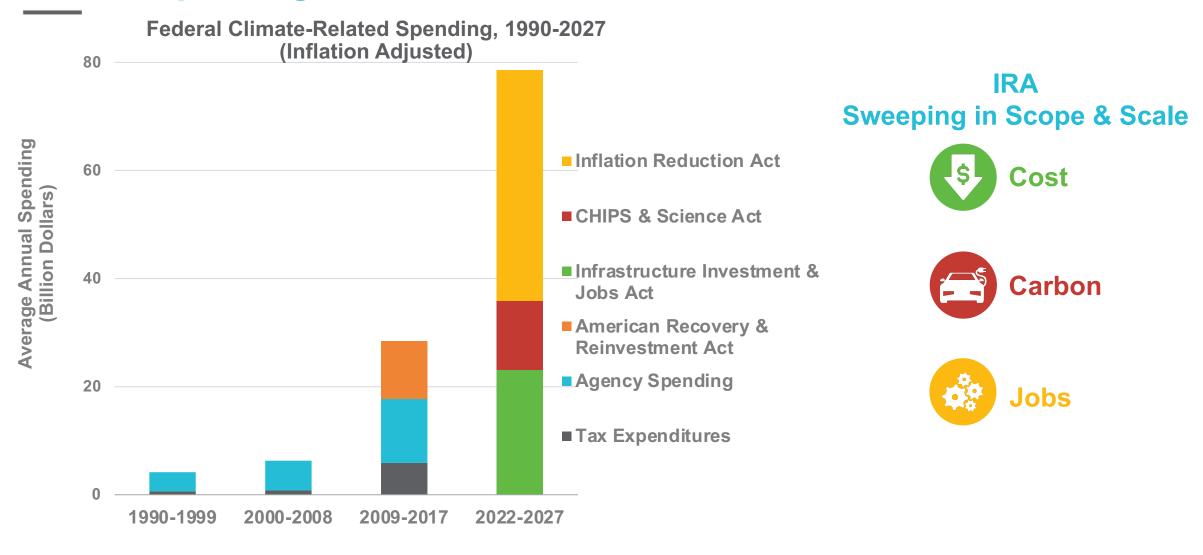




Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Long-Duration Storage



## **Federal Spending Bolsters Transition**



## **Key Takeaways**

#### **Pace of Change**

Policy mandates and federal subsidies are driving money into the sector and the generation mix is shifting rapidly.

#### **Nascent Technologies**

The industry is making **big bets on technologies** that are in relatively early stages
of development. Projections for some of these
resources may prove optimistic (both
deployment timelines and cost).

#### **Transmission and Interconnection**

There are significant resources awaiting interconnection across the US. There is increasing focus on transmission as an enabler of the clean energy transition.

#### **IRA Effects**

The IRA will help these nascent technologies come to market; however, it may also drive investment in **resources that don't contribute to reliability** in a meaningful way.



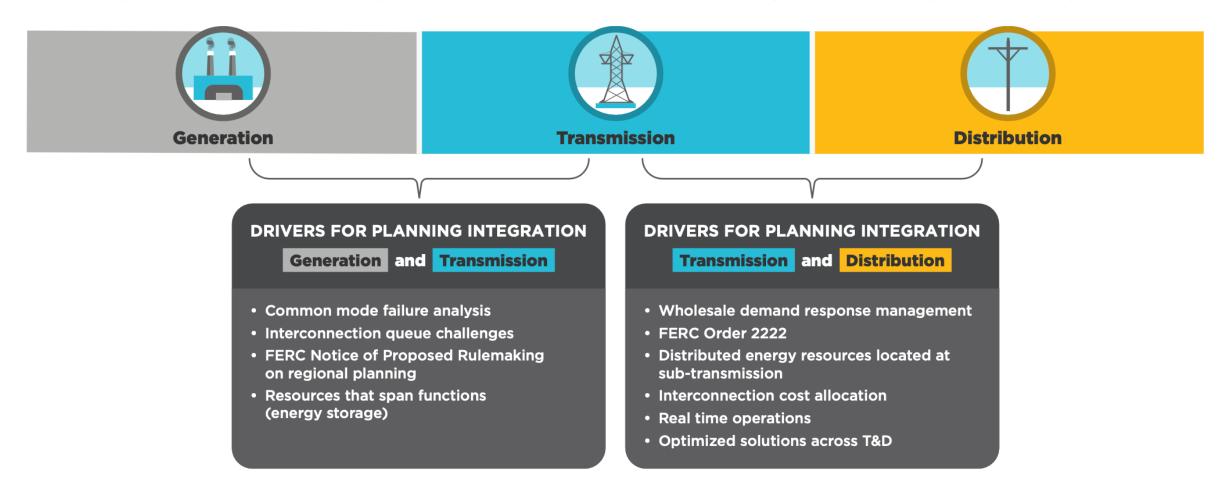


## What Can be Done?



## **Integrated System Planning**

The energy transition is creating additional complexity in operating and planning for utility systems.





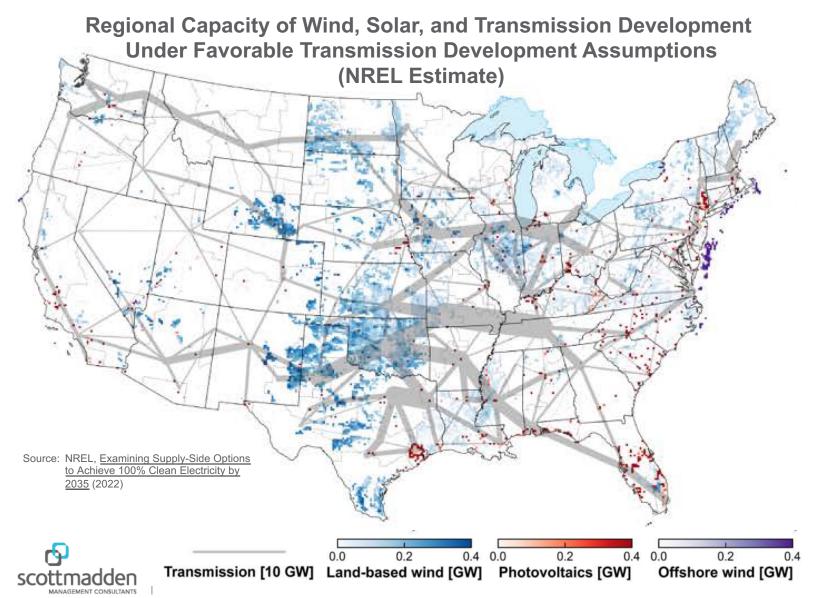
## **Integrated System Planning**

Integrating (or re-integrating) planning processes can help address growing complexity:

- Better management of increasing penetrations of DERs
- Achievement of aggressive net-zero/carbon-emission reduction targets
- Optimization of investments at the system level (for effectiveness and lowest cost)
- Fairly and accurately accounting for the full value of non-wires alternatives
- Sharing data required to transition from deterministic to probabilistic forecasting
- Better supporting system scenario planning



#### There is no Transition Without Transmission



- Transmission is a key to reduce cost and reliability issues while accessing renewable energy distant from load centers
- Permitting reform is critical to developing the transmission needed for transition (see chart at left)

#### **Education About Tradeoffs**



#### **Policymakers and Regulators**

- Required investment (T, D, G, and DR)
- Performance and cost profile of new mix
- Marginal cost of reliability
- Prudency and new technology
- Time to transition
- Alternative rate designs



#### **Stakeholders**

- Potential bill impacts to avoid rate shock
- Drivers of cost, especially reliability
- Focus on affordability
- Efficiency and other customer-side options and mitigation strategies



## **Balancing Objectives**

An informed conversation about the necessary trade offs across these objectives is critical to achieving all three









**Cristin Lyons** 

Partner and Energy Practice Leader

