



# PJM Reliability Pricing Model:

## Analysis in Support of The Appropriate Reference Unit

Presented to PJM

On behalf of the P3 Group

11 February 2022

## Contents

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**Objective:** Provide an overview of the research and report regarding the appropriate reference unit and considerations for adjustments to the VRR Curve for the Reliability Pricing Model (“RPM”) Quadrennial Review

### Report Overview:

- **Generation Mix:** State policies and new technologies should inform PJM’s reference unit now and going forward
- **Cost and Uncertainty:** The estimated costs and Net CONE for a combined cycle is more uncertain than for a combustion turbine
- **VRR Curve:** Should not be steepened given uncertainty and lack of foundation
- **Conclusion:** The combustion turbine, for now, reflects a pure capacity unit and sends the right signal

**In setting the reference unit, consistency and common sense should prevail**

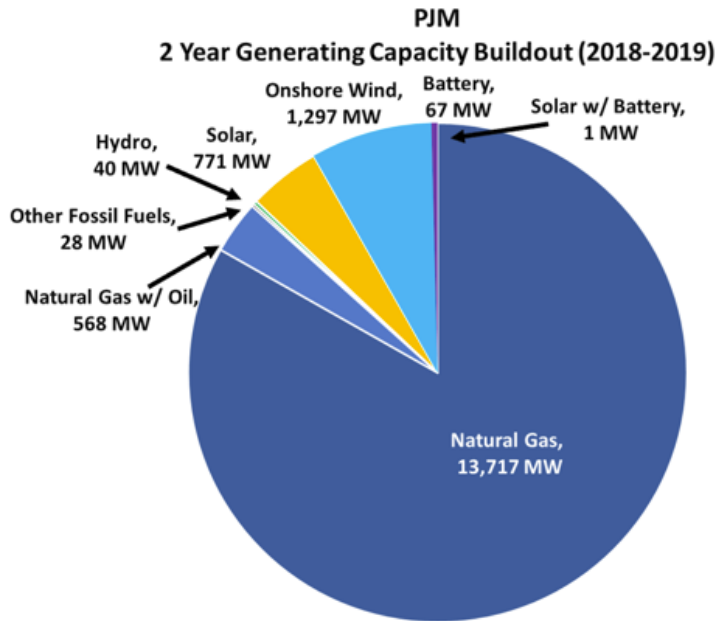
Analysis in Support of the Appropriate Reference Unit

# **GENERATION MIX**

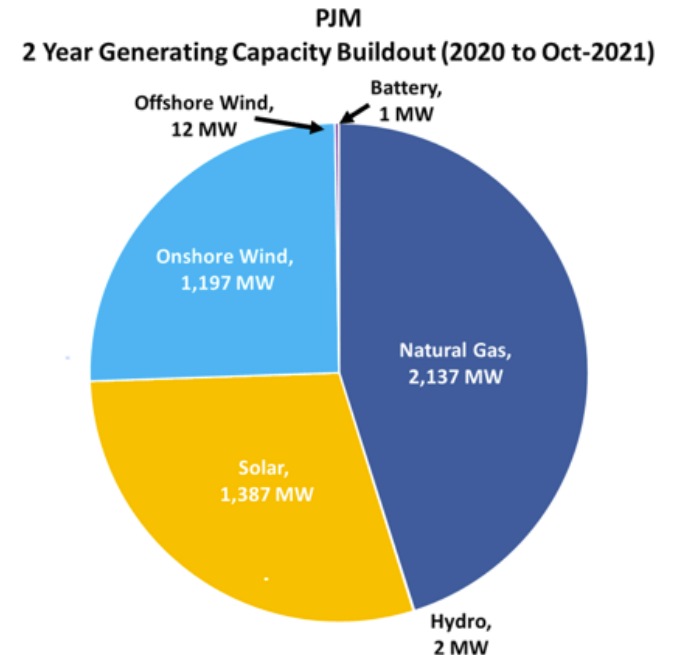
## Generation Mix

# Recent buildout in PJM indicates a shift toward clean energy

### 3 Year Existing Generating Capacity Buildout (2018 to Current)



### 1 Year Existing Generating Capacity Buildout (2020 to Current)



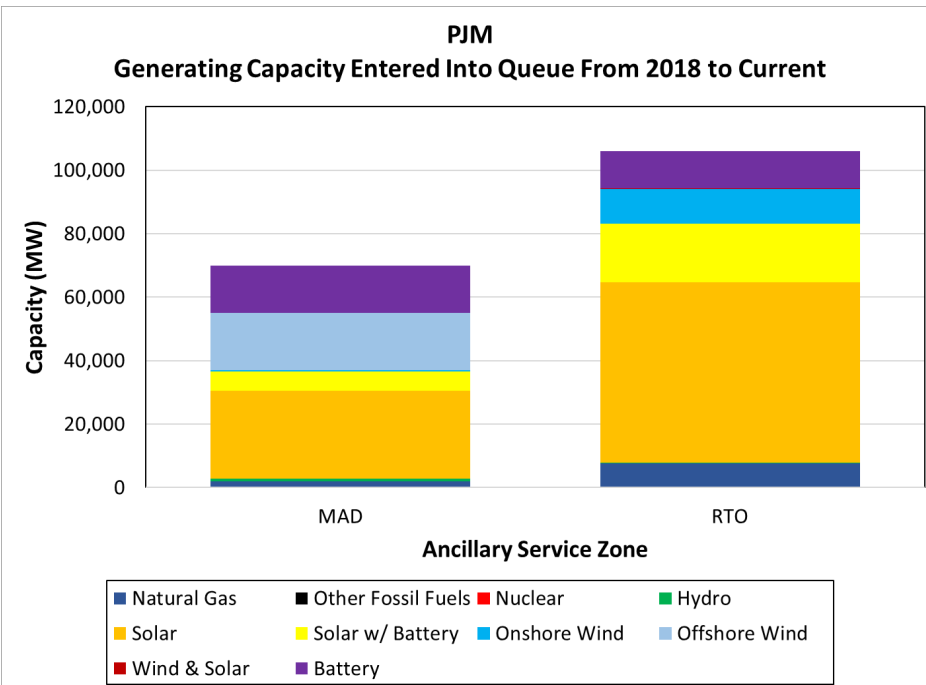
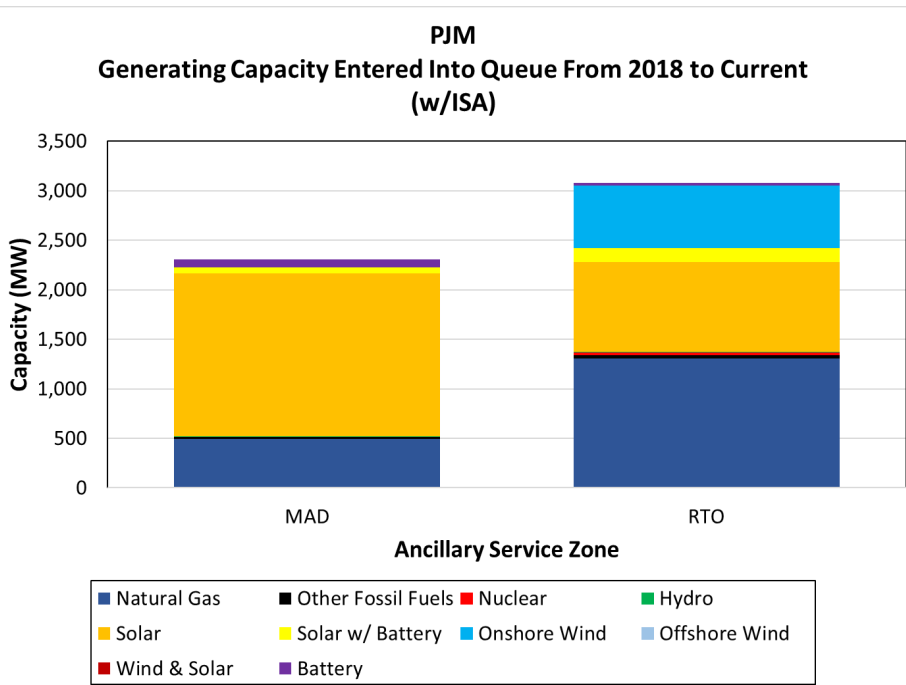
Source: Energyzt analysis of PJM Queue data.

The past two years have seen a shift in build-out away from natural gas

## Generation Mix

# PJM has a queue that is filled with solar and wind

### Generating Capacity in Queue with and without an ISA (2018 to Current Entry Year)



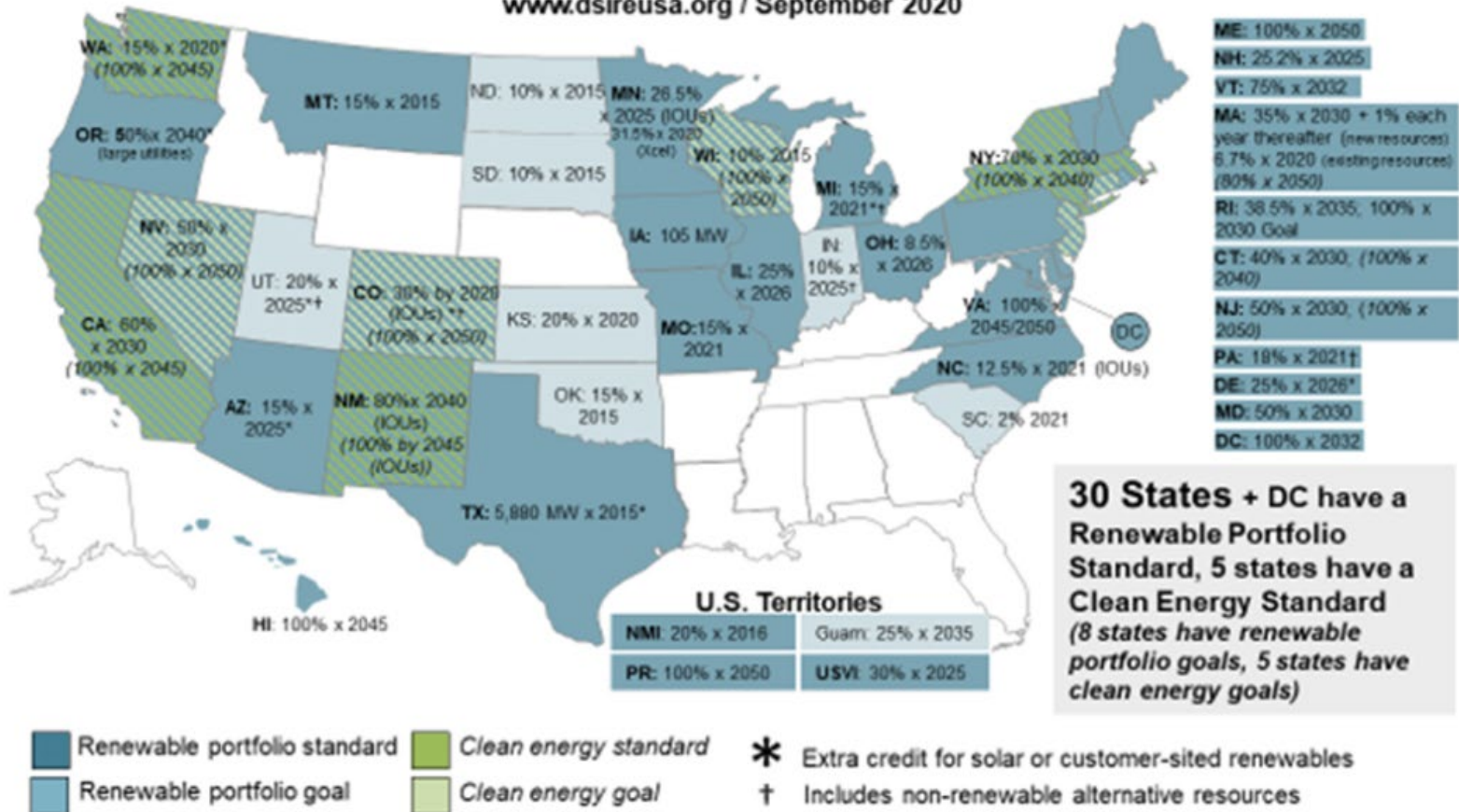
PJM has been approving renewable projects at a rate comparable to natural gas

## Generation Mix

# Nearly all PJM states have some level of clean energy goals

## Renewable & Clean Energy Standards

www.dsireusa.org / September 2020



Illinois, New Jersey and Virginia have announced 100% renewable goals

## Generation Mix

**Although the state requirements vary, some have near-term targets**

### PJM States

#### Summary of Renewable and Carbon Emission Reduction Goals

State	RPS Targets	Economy-wide Carbon Emissions Targets <sup>7</sup>
Delaware	40% by 2026	30% below 2008 levels by 2030
Illinois	45% by 2026, 100% by 2050	26-28% below 2005 levels by 2025
Indiana	10% by 2025	-
Kentucky	-	-
Maryland	50% by 2030, 100% by 2040	50% below 2006 levels by 2030, carbon neutral by 2050
Michigan	15% by 2021	28% reduction by 2025, carbon neutral by 2050
North Carolina	12.5% by 2021	70% below 2005 levels by 2030, carbon neutral by 2050 (power sector specific)
New Jersey	50% by 2030, 100% by 2050	80% below 2006 levels by 2050
Ohio	8.5% by 2026	-
Pennsylvania	18% by 2021	26% below 2005 levels by 2025, 80% by 2050
Tennessee	-	-
Virginia	100% by 2045 (Dominion) 100% by 2050 (AEP)	Net zero by 2045
Washington, DC	100% by 2032	50% below 2006 levels by 2032, 80% by 2050
West Virginia	-	-

**Long-term targets also will impact resource choice, siting and retirements**

## Generation Mix

### **Mandates are not needed to prevent fossil generation build-out**

**Illinois:** On September 15, 2021, Illinois Governor J. B. Pritzker signed the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act into law which, among other things, requires all private coal-fired and oil-fired electric generating units to reach zero emissions by January 1, 2030. All privately-owned natural gas-fired units must reach zero emissions by 2045, subject to several interim targets that are designed to force closures prior to those dates.

**New Jersey:** On November 15, 2021, the New Jersey Senate passed Senate Resolution 17 which urges the Governor to impose an immediate moratorium on fossil fuel project until, “. . . the State adopts rules regulating CO2 and other climate pollutants adequate to achieve the 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2006 levels by 2050 as required under the Global Warming Response Act.”

**Virginia:** On April 11, 2020, Virginia Governor Ralph Northam signed the Virginia Clean Economy Act into law which, among other things, creates a “schedule by which Dominion Energy Virginia and American Electric Power are required to retire electric generating units located in the Commonwealth that emit carbon as a by-product of combusting fuel to generate electricity.” Specifically, by December 31, 2045, all electric generating units located in Virginia that “emit carbon as a by-product of combusting fuel to generate electricity” would be required to retire . . .

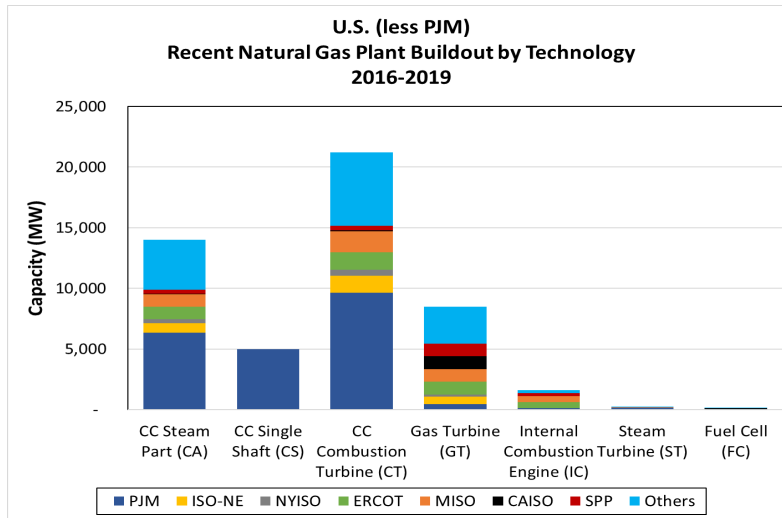
**PJM should assume the states will meet their goals and plan accordingly**



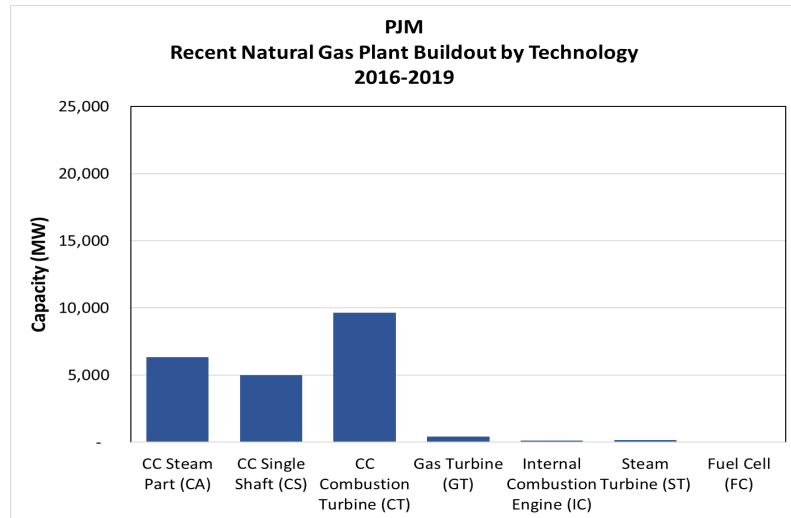
## Generation Mix

# PJM's has a much more limited set of new entry technologies

### U.S. RTO/ISO Build-out



### PJM Build-out



**Natural Gas Recent Buildout 2016-2019**

Location	CC Combustion			Internal Combustion			Fuel Cell (FC)	Total
	CC Steam Part (CA)	CC Single Shaft (CS)	Turbine (CT)	Gas Turbine (GT)	Engine (IC)	Steam Turbine (ST)		
PJM	6,347	4,988	9,630	439	127	161	10	21,701
ISO-NE	801	-	1,418	644	5	-	23	2,890
NYISO	300	-	470	140	-	-	8	917
ERCOT	1,020	-	1,442	1,069	502	-	-	4,032
MISO	1,056	-	1,742	1,028	478	33	-	4,336
CAISO	16	-	71	1,109	7	-	85	1,288
SPP	350	-	369	993	265	-	-	1,976
Others	4,123	-	6,053	3,072	212	1	3	13,464
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,012</b>	<b>4,988</b>	<b>21,195</b>	<b>8,492</b>	<b>1,594</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>50,604</b>
% of Total (PJM)	29%	23%	44%	2%	1%	1%	0%	100%
% of Total (Less PJM)	27%	0%	40%	28%	5%	0%	0%	100%
PJM % of Total for Technology	45%	100%	45%	5%	8%	83%	8%	43%

Other markets have reciprocating engines and aeros to integrate renewables

## Generation Mix

# PJM's RPM parameters create barriers to entry for new technologies



July 21, 2021

- CONE construct does not reflect market realities
- System does not distinguish or monetize valuable capacity characteristics
- Financing is difficult to obtain for anything other than CCs and CTs
- New technologies are locked out



WÄRTSILÄ

July 26, 2021

- Aeros are being built in areas with highly integrated renewables
- PJM market is challenging to enter
- Complex energy and capacity market variability make it difficult to obtain financing
- Market niche has been utilities, COOPs, munis

**PJM's market structure and market conditions challenge new entry**

## Generation Mix

### **The reference unit should reflect each state's policy requirements**

- A Reference Unit should be a technology that can be developed in a region
- In areas with environmental goals, reference units should reflect those goals:
  - For example, Illinois, New Jersey and Virginia 100% Renewable Portfolio Standards make it difficult to site new fossil fuel units in those state
  - States with less restrictive near-term targets that have not yet been met also would argue for a renewable hybrid as the Reference Unit
- Renewable resource reference units also should include storage capability to meet consistent reliability standards with alternatives
- A potential exception could be reliability units that support increasing integration of renewable resources (e.g., ramping, fast-start capability)
  - Such interim resources would need to reflect reliability needs with implementation of environmental goals
  - Any fossil fuel reliability units would need to be retired in a timeframe consistent with policy goals (e.g., by 2045 for Virginia)
- Fossil fuel units in the region should be compensated using parameters based on the net CONE of the unit that would be built if an existing unit retired

**A renewable/battery hybrid is required to equate capacity capability**

Analysis in Support of the Appropriate Reference Unit

# **COST AND ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY**

## Cost and Estimation Uncertainty

### **The reference unit should reflect the changing generation mix**

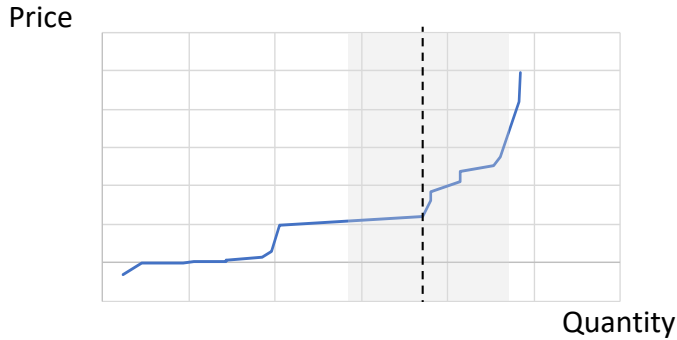
- There is no doubt that PJM and the rest of the Eastern Interconnect will experience a significant change in generation mix over the next 10 years
  - New England, New York and states within PJM are procuring renewable resources
  - PJM states have significant renewable resource goals to be achieved by 2045
- As renewables come online, the energy supply curve shifts
  - Lower energy prices
  - Changes in price volatility tied to supply curve impacts and intermittent generation
- Natural gas-fired generation will have lower capacity factors as they are displaced by renewables
  - Lower dispatch
  - Lower demand for natural gas
- Natural gas prices will become more volatile
  - Impacts Henry Hub prices
  - Impacts basis differentials

**This creates significantly more uncertainty – why change the reference unit now?**

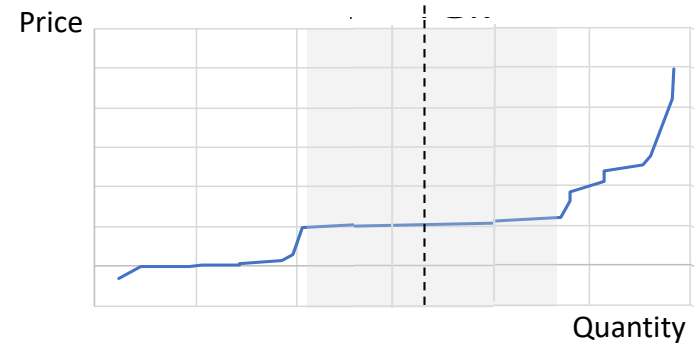
## Cost and Estimation Uncertainty

# As renewables come online, the supply curve shifts

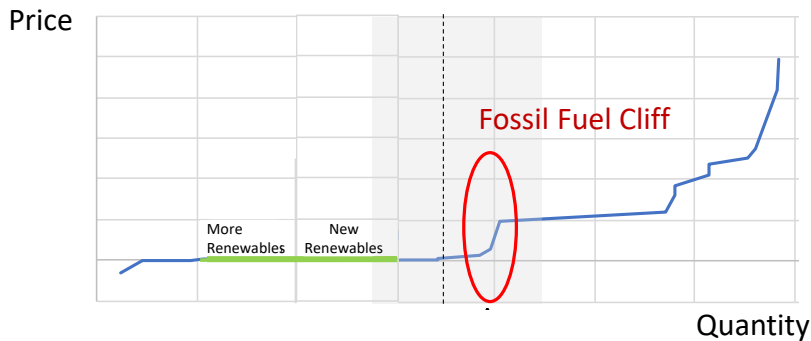
**Positive Energy Market Value  
Due to Scarcity**



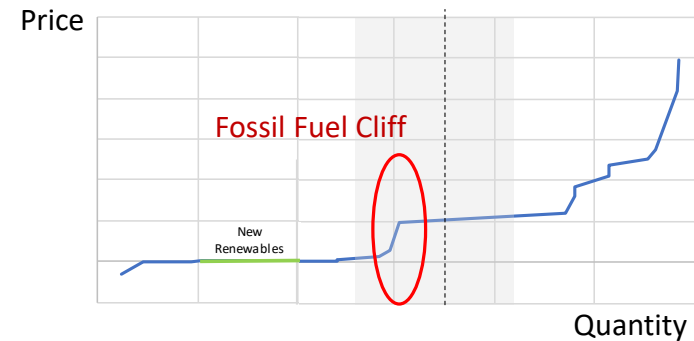
**Minimal Energy Market Value  
Due to Excess Supply and "Flat Part of the Curve"**



**Even the Most Efficient Fossil Fuel Units  
Rarely Operate**



**Reduced Dispatch of Fossil Fuel Units  
and Retirements Due to Renewables**



Source: Energyzt

**Renewable integration creates a significant amount of market uncertainty**

## Cost and Estimation Uncertainty

# The combined cycle Net CONE has greater uncertainty

### Reasons Why the Combined Cycle Creates More Risk

#### Gross CONE

- Wider variation across estimates
- Impacted by assumed location
- Higher capital costs more likely to be impacted by inflation and supply chain challenges
- Brattle chose the low end of the range

#### E&AS

- Higher portion of revenues come from E&AS
- Market conditions have a greater impact on E&AS and associated Net CONE
- Highly uncertain market evolution translates into higher uncertainty in E&AS estimation and therefore Net CONE

#### Operations

- Greater variability in operating costs
- Less able to support renewable integration compared to other technologies
- Dispatch dependent on spark spread, which can swing capacity factors across a wide range

**PJM's own calculation of Net CONE across the region can measure uncertainty**

## Cost and Estimation Uncertainty

# Both NYISO and ISO-NE use combustion turbines as reference units

### NYISO Net CONE Capital Cost Estimates (\$2020/kW)

	C - Central	F - Capital	G - Dutchess	G - Rockland	J - NYC	K - Long Island
<b>Simple Cycle Peaking Plant Technologies</b>						
3x0 Siemens SGT-A65	\$1,928	\$1,945	\$2,099	\$2,161	\$2,680	\$2,211
1x0 GE 7F.05 (with Dual Fuel and SCR)	\$1,315	\$1,324	\$1,342	\$1,403	\$1,817	\$1,488
1x0 GE 7F.05 (Gas Only, without SCR)	\$1,072	\$1,082	-	-	-	-
1x0 GE 7HA.02 (with Dual Fuel and SCR)	\$1,050	\$1,054	\$1,065	\$1,100	\$1,353	\$1,170
1x0 GE 7HA.02 (Gas Only, without SCR)	\$831	\$837	-	-	-	-
<b>Informational Combined Cycle Plants</b>						
1x1 GE 7HA.02 (with SCR)	\$1,401	\$1,421	\$1,547	\$1,649	\$1,961	\$1,832
<b>Energy Storage</b>						
BESS 4-hour	\$1,539	\$1,552	\$1,565	\$1,620	\$1,910	\$1,649
BESS 6-hour	\$2,146	\$2,166	\$2,184	\$2,263	\$2,592	\$2,326
BESS 8-hour	\$2,753	\$2,778	\$2,802	\$2,906	\$3,273	\$3,004

Note:

[1] Estimates for the Siemens SGT-A65 and informational 1x1 GE 7HA.02 combined cycle units are specified with dual fuel in Load Zone G (Dutchess County), Load Zone G (Rockland County), NYC, and LI, and are specified as a gas-only design in Load Zone C and Load Zone F.

[2] All estimates include construction financing costs.

Source: Analysis Group and Burns & McDonnell, "Independent Consultant Study to Establish New York ICAP Demand Curve Parameters for the 2021/2022 through 2024/2025 Capability Years – Interim Final Draft Report," August 5, 2020, Table 24, p. 47, [214567fb-b960-233f-bcda-4b919678bce4](https://www.nyiso.com/documents/2014567fb-b960-233f-bcda-4b919678bce4) ([nyiso.com](https://www.nyiso.com))

**Brattle's estimates are well below the estimated costs from NYISO**



## Cost and Estimation Uncertainty

# PJM's estimates illustrate the CC's sensitivity to market conditions

Default Zonal Net CONE							
All quantities are in \$/MW-Day (Nameplate) and Default Net CONE is in \$/ICAP-MW-Day							
Combustion Turbine				Combined Cycle			
Gross CONE		\$294	Gross CONE		\$320		
Net Reactive Service Revenue Offset		\$6.02	Net Reactive Service Revenue Offset		\$9.18		
Capacity Value (% Nameplate MW)		NA	Capacity Value (% Nameplate MW)		NA		
Zone	Net E&AS* Revenue Offset	Net CONE	Default Net CONE (\$/ICAP MW-Day)	Zone	Net E&AS* Revenue Offset	Net CONE	Default Net CONE (\$/ICAP MW-Day)
AECO	\$36.72	\$251	\$251	AECO	\$142.70	\$168	\$168
AEP	\$66.47	\$222	\$222	AEP	\$214.72	\$96	\$96
APS	\$86.40	\$202	\$202	APS	\$241.90	\$69	\$69
ATSI	\$72.95	\$215	\$215	ATSI	\$219.98	\$91	\$91
BGE	\$78.23	\$210	\$210	BGE	\$237.39	\$73	\$73
COMED	\$48.17	\$240	\$240	COMED	\$170.74	\$140	\$140
DAYTON	\$71.04	\$217	\$217	DAYTON	\$221.05	\$90	\$90
DEOK	\$77.93	\$210	\$210	DEOK	\$217.30	\$94	\$94
DOM	\$55.57	\$232	\$232	DOM	\$184.01	\$127	\$127
DPL	\$67.10	\$221	\$221	DPL	\$199.12	\$112	\$112
DUQ	\$71.15	\$217	\$217	DUQ	\$212.69	\$98	\$98
EKPC	\$71.00	\$217	\$217	EKPC	\$222.55	\$88	\$88
JCPL	\$36.44	\$252	\$252	JCPL	\$142.05	\$169	\$169
METED	\$58.75	\$229	\$229	METED	\$194.20	\$117	\$117
PECO	\$43.96	\$244	\$244	PECO	\$165.61	\$145	\$145
PENELEC	\$118.00	\$170	\$170	PENELEC	\$270.68	\$40	\$40
PEPCO	\$53.17	\$235	\$235	PEPCO	\$193.41	\$117	\$117
PPL	\$45.01	\$243	\$243	PPL	\$165.97	\$145	\$145
PSEG	\$35.07	\$253	\$253	PSEG	\$140.55	\$170	\$170
RECO	\$38.53	\$249	\$249	RECO	\$144.76	\$166	\$166
<b>Average</b>	<b>\$62</b>	<b>\$226</b>	<b>\$226</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>\$195</b>	<b>\$116</b>	<b>\$116</b>
<b>Std Dev</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>	<b>\$36</b>	<b>\$36</b>	<b>\$36</b>
<b>Std Dev / Average</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>Std Dev / Average</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>31%</b>

\* Net E&AS Revenue Offset value in tables above does not include reactive services. Reactive services constant is added to Net E&AS to determine Net CONE.

- PJM's Net CONE estimates by zone illustrate impact of market conditions
- Gross CONE is the same across zones, isolating variability to E&AS estimate
- CC has higher absolute value of variability
- Coefficient of Variation (i.e., ratio of standard deviation to average) is higher for the CC Net CONE
- E&AS offset has a smaller impact on the CT Net CONE because it is a relatively smaller than Gross CONE

[Based on the Net CONE calculations presented by PJM on August 2020, 20200814-net-cone-values-and-indicative-eas-offset-workbook-supplemental.xls](#)

**By this measure, accuracy of Net CONE is higher for the CT versus the CC**

## Cost and Estimation Uncertainty

### Ancillary services is another area that tends to be overestimated

#### Percentage of Ancillary Services Provided by Unit/Fuel Type in 2020

Generation Technology	Tier 2 Synchronized Reserve		Nonsynchronized Reserve		Scheduled DASR	
	% by MW	% by Credits	% by MW	% by Credits	% by MW	% by Credits
CT – Natural Gas	37.0%	42.1%	50.6%	58.9%	61.7%	51.7%
CT – Oil	12.3%	16.7%	34.6%	31.1%	18.9%	18.2%
DSR	27.8%	11.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Combined Cycle	11.7%	21.3%	0.0%	0.0%	2.8%	13.0%
Hydro-Run of River	6.4%	3.2%	14.6%	9.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Hydro – Pumped Storage	0.7%	0.6%	0.1%	0.1%	10.3%	3.6%
CT – Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Steam - Coal	3.6%	4.2%	0.0%	0.0%	5.6%	9.0%
RICE – Natural Gas/Other	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	1.4%
Steam – Natural Gas	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	1.0%
Battery	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Fuel Cell	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Nuclear	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Solar	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Wind	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: Market Monitor Reports

**Batteries coming in as hybrid or stand-alone can address much of PJM's needs**

## Cost and Estimation Uncertainty

# State goals and mandates can and will result in early retirements

### Factors Impacting Reference Unit Lifespan

#### Technical

- Technical life depends on operations and degradation rates
- Combined Cycles are more expensive to operate than Combustion Turbines
- Batteries are particularly sensitive to number of charge/discharge cycles
- Changes in volatility could adversely impact maintenance costs and technical viability

#### Economic

- Transition to higher renewable integration suppresses natural gas and energy prices
- New renewables could adversely impact scarcity pricing and volatility
- Batteries will suppress volatility, challenging their arbitrage opportunities
- Fossil fuel units may have to retire early

#### Policy

- Federal and state policies impact build-out and follow-on impacts
- States with Net-Zero goals and 100% RPS requirements may mandate retirement or prevent fossil fuel units from remaining online
- Project lifespans should not extend beyond policy directives/mandates

**Projected operations should reflect factors impacting lifespan**

## Cost and Estimation Uncertainty

### **Key questions to consider in the life extension assumption**

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- **Is it realistic to assume a plant can operate 30 years without:**
  - Significant capital investment
  - Major upgrades and maintenance to extend life
  - Refinancing with associated financing costs
- **Are there other factors that need to be considered:**
  - Technical constraints tied to physical limitations
  - Economic uncertainty tied to market transformation
  - Policy trends
- **How does this correspond to state policies that would limit**
  - Repowering
  - Permits
  - Emissions
  - Continued operations

**The reality is that many of these plants are stranded before they are even built**

## Cost and Estimation Uncertainty

### The energy offset is uncertain and should not dictate parameters

As noted by the U.S. Court of Appeals:

**“Combined cycle plants are more reliant on energy market revenues to justify construction. Those energy market revenues—included in the EAS Revenue Estimate—are often considered more difficult to estimate than the construction costs that also factor into the net CONE. Accordingly, any mis-estimation of energy market revenues has a larger impact on the accuracy of a combined cycle plant’s net CONE than on a combustion turbine plant’s.”**

- United States Court of Appeals FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT, Argued April 6, 2021, Decided July 9, 2021, No. 20-1212 DELAWARE DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC ADVOCATE, ET AL., PETITIONERS v. FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION, RESPONDENT PJM INTERCONNECTION, L.L.C., INTERVENOR On Petition for Review of Orders of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, p. 10.

**Energy revenues are even more difficult to estimate due to market transition**

Analysis in Support of the Appropriate Reference Unit

# VRR CURVE

## VRR Curve

# Brattle is looking to steepen the VRR Curve

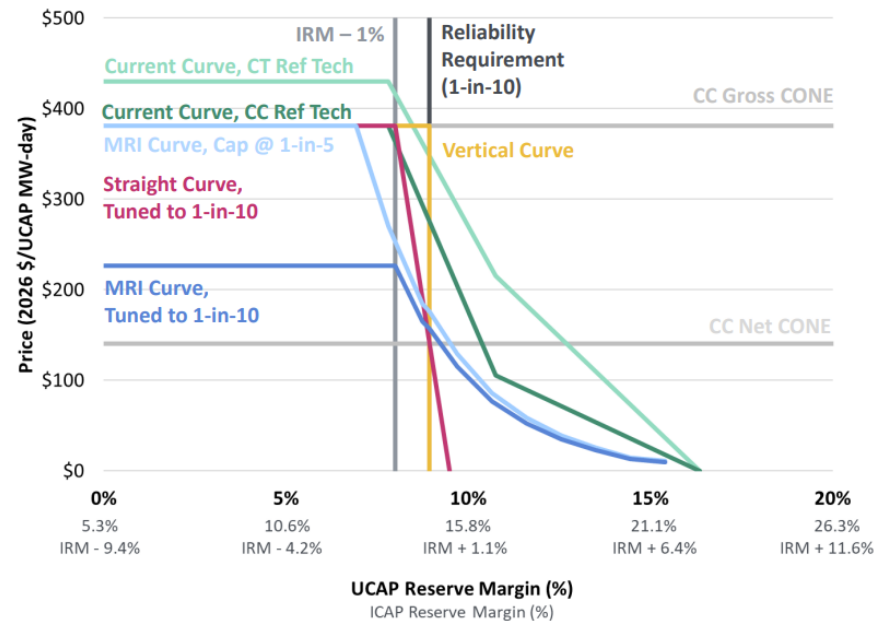
### OVERVIEW

## Initial range of assessed VRR parameters

We have not yet developed a specific VRR curve recommendation

Directionally, we recommend to adopt a CC-based Net CONE and a steeper VRR curve shape

### Illustrative Range of Curves Evaluated



Note: Current Curve, CT has price cap at 1.5 x Net CONE; Current Curve, CC has cap at CC Gross CONE (greater than 1.5 x CC Net CONE); Straight curve, tuned to 1-in-10 BRA LOLE, passes through (Reliability Requirement, CC Net CONE); MRI Curve, tuned to 1-in-10 LOLE is calculated as the avoided expected unserved energy (EUE) per UCAP MW of capacity added, inflated by a \$/MWh multiplier to translate into units of capacity price. Multiplier chosen to achieve 1-in-10 BRA LOLE. Gross and Net CONE values are from [2023-2024 BRA Default MOPR](#), converted to \$2026 using a 2.7% inflation rate. brattle.com | 6

Source: The Brattle Group, Fifth Review of the Variable Resource Requirement Curve Presented by Samuel Newell Michael Hagerty Travis Carless, Preliminary Assessment of the VRR Curve Shape Presented to PJM Market Implementation Committee, December 8, 2021, p. 6.

The rationale seems to be based on historical procurement levels

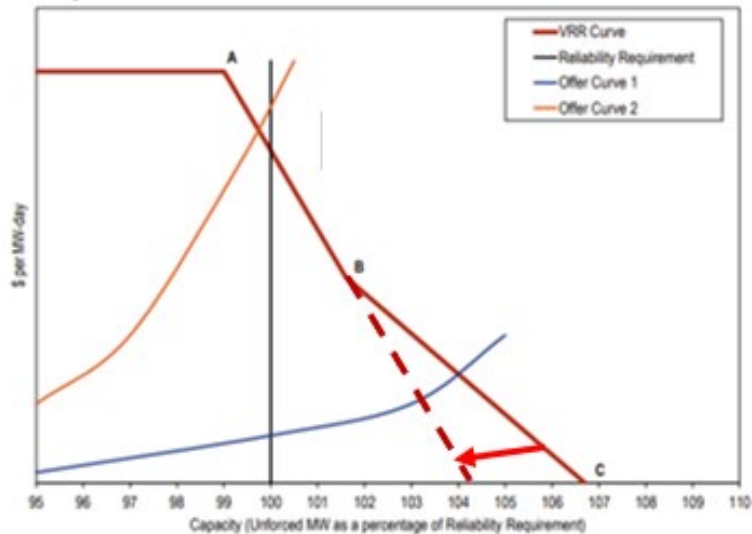
## VRR Curve

Uncertainty would justify extending the curve out to the right

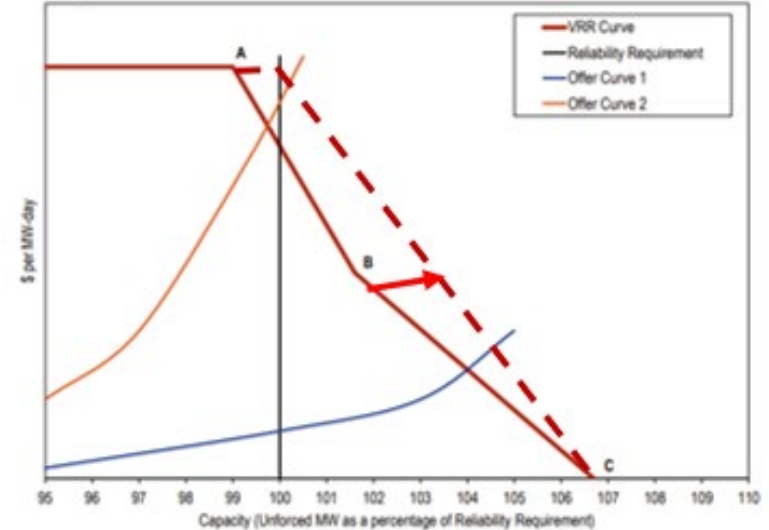
### PJM

## Alternative Ways to Steepen the VRR Curve

### Alternative 1



### Alternative 2



Regardless, a clear rationale for changing the parameters is needed



## VRR Curve

# The Reference Unit does not need to have the lowest Net CONE

As the U.S. Court of Appeals:

**“The Commission reasonably determined that an oversupplying combustion turbine plant-based VRR Curve, at a modest cost increase, was compatible with consumer interests because it ensured reliability more consistently than a combined cycle plant-based VRR Curve.”**

- United States Court of Appeals FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT, Argued April 6, 2021, Decided July 9, 2021, No. 20-1212 DELAWARE DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC ADVOCATE, ET AL., PETITIONERS v. FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION, RESPONDENT PJM INTERCONNECTION, L.L.C., INTERVENOR On Petition for Review of Orders of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, p. 12, Footnote 6.

**The Court supported FERC determination of an outcome that is just and reasonable**

Analysis in Support of the Appropriate Reference Unit

# CONCLUSION

## Conclusion

### **A lower Net CONE does not ensure reliability**

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- Choosing the resource solely based on the “lowest” *estimated* Net CONE is not prudent
  - Focuses on cost as the only characteristic versus operational capability
  - Gives undue emphasis to estimated and uncertain E&AS offsets
  - Could create needless barriers to entry for other technologies
- FERC and the U.S. Court of Appeals found a number of reasons why a *higher cost* combustion turbine can be the Reference Unit:
  - Combustion Turbine is reflective of resource adequacy and reliability
    - Less costly up-front capital
    - Quicker to market
    - Rapidly meets changes in demand
    - Satisfies the Reliability Requirement
  - Combined cycle was more uncertain
    - More dependent on estimated E&AS offsets
    - Negative impacts from shifting plant from year to year

**Transition to a new energy economy should allow new technologies to compete**

## Conclusion

### **Why add another change to the market?**

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- Markets already are facing significant uncertainty
  - Policy pressures to change the generation mix
  - Transformation to a decarbonized grid
  - Implementation of new technologies
  - Volatile natural gas prices
- RPM market rules are changing dramatically
  - Elimination of the MOPR
  - ELCC
  - MSOC Uncertainty
  - 10% adder removed for the first time in PJM history
  - EAS based on backward-looking (6/2022) or forward-looking (12/2022)?
- Higher levels of estimation errors
  - Gross CONE estimates
  - E&AS Estimates
  - Inflation
- Any justification and support for changing the VRR Curve should be forward-looking and account for uncertainty, and not try to correct for historical results

**Tightening the VRR Curve and choosing a different technology would be a mistake**