

**Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department  
Integrated Resource Plan  
2015 - 2034**

***Part 1 – Utility Overview***

**Presented to the Vermont Public Service Board**

**July 17, 2015**

**Submitted by:  
Vermont Public Power Supply Authority**

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# 1. Overview

The Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department serves the Village of Ludlow as well as portions of four of the surrounding towns; Ludlow, Proctorsville, Plymouth, and Mount Holly. Ludlow has been serving customers as a distribution utility since 1900. The largest and most dominant segment of economic activity in Ludlow's service territory relates to the ski facility that operates as Okemo Mountain ski resort. This facility includes lifts, a base lodge, associated commercial support activities, operations and maintenance facilities, and significant production of cultured snow. In addition to the direct loads placed on the system, there are indirect loads associated with lodging, restaurants, and other commercial activity operating in support of the alpine skiing industry in Ludlow.

Ludlow served 3,689 customers in 2013; the system is a fairly balanced mix of residential, commercial, and industrial loads. The breakdown of 2013 sales by class is as follows:

**Table 1-1: 2013 Retail Sales by Class**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Annual kWh</b>	<b>%</b>
Residential sales (440)	16,666,431	33.9%
Small commercial and industrial sales (442) 1000 Kw or less	20,491,384	41.7%
Large commercial and industrial sales (442) above 1,000 Kw	11,531,436	23.5%
Public street and highway lighting (444)	347,378	0.7%
Interdepartmental sales (448)	57,594	0.1%
Total	49,094,223	100%

In 2013, Ludlow's system Real-Time Load Obligation (RTLO) totaled 52,361,741 kWh; it has decreased from an annual RTLO of 53,648,650 kWh in 2004. Ludlow's historic system peak RTLO of 13,502 kW occurred in December 2005. The system had a peak RTLO in 2013 of 12,405 kW and an annual system load factor of 48.2%.

## 2. Load Forecast

The Ludlow load forecast is prepared by Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (“VPPSA”), and VPPSA’s methodology is described in detail in the Model section of the IRP. The results of the Ludlow annual load forecast for peaks and energy are as follows:

**Table 2-1: Load Forecast**

<i>Utility's Name:</i>	<b>Ludlow</b>			
<i>Utility ID (1):</i>	LUD	Sub-	On-Peak	
<i>VPPSA Member?</i>	VPPSA	transmission	Energy	
<b>PEAK DEMAND</b>	<b>ENERGY</b>	<b>LOSSES</b>	<b>Utilization</b>	
(kW)	(kWh)	(%)	(%)	
<b>2015</b>	12,187.0	51,925,581	3.01%	49.19%
<b>2016</b>	11,910.0	51,784,864	3.01%	50.63%
<b>2017</b>	11,890.0	51,727,593	3.01%	51.18%
<b>2018</b>	12,008.0	51,645,085	3.01%	50.99%
<b>2019</b>	12,114.0	51,937,444	3.01%	50.90%
<b>2020</b>	12,087.0	51,914,095	3.01%	51.98%
<b>2021</b>	11,804.0	51,804,699	3.01%	52.12%
<b>2022</b>	11,782.0	51,951,452	3.01%	54.07%
<b>2023</b>	11,773.0	51,748,297	3.01%	54.66%
<b>2024</b>	11,937.0	51,921,896	3.01%	55.17%
<b>2025</b>	12,019.0	51,938,628	3.01%	55.03%
<b>2026</b>	11,996.0	52,066,745	3.01%	55.66%
<b>2027</b>	11,786.0	52,212,514	3.01%	56.25%
<b>2028</b>	11,764.0	52,227,324	3.01%	55.99%
<b>2029</b>	11,948.0	52,309,322	3.01%	56.65%
<b>2030</b>	12,054.0	52,412,489	3.01%	56.29%
<b>2031</b>	12,032.0	52,495,690	3.01%	56.37%
<b>2032</b>	12,009.0	52,753,118	3.01%	55.71%
<b>2033</b>	11,775.0	52,709,467	3.01%	54.40%
<b>2034</b>	11,797.0	52,736,463	3.01%	54.89%

Currently, Ludlow has a 1% net metering penetration rate.

### **3. Supply Resources**

#### VPPSA

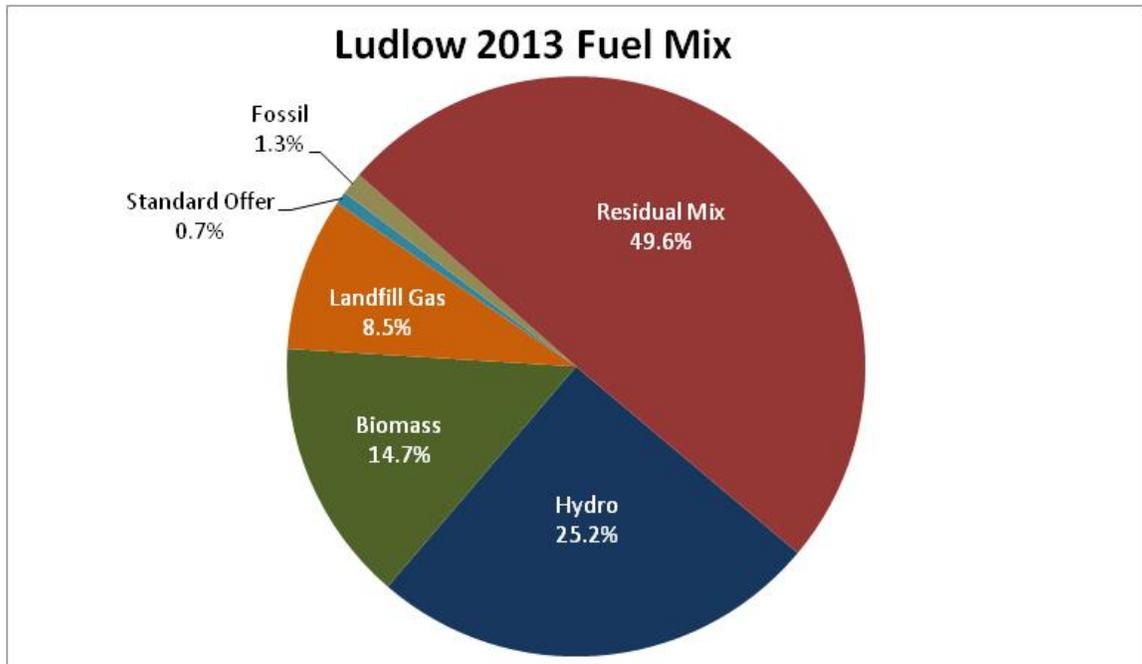
VPPSA is a private authority (and body politic and corporate) of the State of Vermont empowered under 30 VSA, Chapter 84 with broad authority to contract to buy and sell wholesale power and other market products within Vermont and wholesale and retail power outside Vermont, as well as to issue tax-free debt on behalf of municipal and cooperative electric utilities within Vermont. VPPSA presently has twelve Vermont municipal electric utility members, and each member system holds a seat on VPPSA's Board of Directors in accordance with the VPPSA statute. VPPSA has broad authority to provide such services as may be required in support of the activities of its member municipal utilities. As part of these activities VPPSA provides the following portfolio management services to Ludlow.

Ludlow is a signatory to a broad Master Supply Agreement with VPPSA. Under this Agreement and the broad statutory authority of VPPSA, Ludlow's assets are pooled with the assets of other VPPSA members under VPPSA's Independent System Operator – New England ("ISO-NE") identification number. This allows VPPSA to administer Ludlow's loads in the New England power markets operated by ISO-NE, rather than requiring Ludlow to devote the staff and time to do so itself. Under the relevant VPPSA agreements and protocols, Ludlow has given VPPSA the authority to make short term (generally daily to several month but in all cases no longer than one year) purchases on Ludlow's behalf.

#### **3.1. Current Resources**

Ludlow's power supply portfolio is made up of generation resources, long-term contracts, and short-term contracts. The diversified portfolio acts as a means to financially hedge the cost of serving load at the Vermont Zone in the ISO-NE market system. Ludlow's 2013 fuel mix is summarized in the following chart. Additional information is provided in the table that follows. A brief description of each resource concludes this section.

**Figure 3-1: Ludlow 2013 Portfolio\***



\* Prior to sale of any renewable attributes. Residual Mix are market contracts without a known fuel source.

**Table 3-1: Ludlow 2013 Power Supply Resource Summary**

Resource	2013 Max Qualified Capacity	2013 kWh	Type	Description	Fuel	Location	Expiration
J.C. McNeil	1,080	6,399,640	On Peak	Wood Unit	Wood	Essex Node	Life of Unit
NYPA	484	2,901,717	ATC	Block Power	Hydro	Roseton Interface	Varies
VEPPI	136	1,174,564	Varies	PURPA Units	Wood/Hydro	Various VT nodes	Varies
Stonybrook	1,870	594,818	Peaker	Dispatched	Natural Gas or Fuel Oil	Stonybrk115	Life of Unit
Hydro Quebec	1,618	9,114,150	Dispatchable	Dispatched	Hydro	HQHighgate120	2012 - 2038
Fitchburg Landfill	614	4,478,112	ATC	Landfill Gas	Landfill Gas	Ashbrnm115	2026 (extendable to 2031)
P10	4,779	60,870	Peaker	Dispatched	Fuel Oil	UN.HIGHGAT E13.8SWC1	Life of Unit
Standard Offer	8	69,283	Varies	In-State Renewable	Various Renewable	Varies	Varies
Market Contracts	N/A	18,599,214	Daily	ISO-NE bilateral	System Mix	Mass Hub	Varies from 2009-2017

### J. C. McNeil

The McNeil wood-fired generating facility is located in Burlington, Vermont. The facility has a maximum generating capability of 54 MW. Ludlow's entitlement to McNeil for energy, capacity, and renewable energy credits is provided through an agreement with the Vermont Public Power Supply Authority for the life of the plant. Ludlow expects the generation to be mostly composed of wood, but natural gas is used periodically as an alternate fuel source and for startup. Oil is also available and is used primarily as a startup fuel.

### New York Power Authority (NYPA)

The New York Power Authority provides hydroelectric energy and capacity to the utilities in Vermont under two contracts. The first contract is a 1 MW entitlement to the Robert Moses Project (a.k.a. "St. Lawrence") located in Massena, New York. The second contract, known as the "Niagara Contract," is for a 14.3 MW entitlement to the Niagara Project located at Niagara Falls, New York. The contract for St. Lawrence has been extended through April 30, 2017. The Niagara Contract has been extended through September 1, 2025.

### Vermont Electric Power Producers (VEPP Inc.)

Ludlow receives power from several independent power projects (IPP) through a state mandated arrangement administered by the Rule 4.100 appointed purchasing agent. All current IPP generation resources in Vermont are hydroelectric. Vermont Electric Power Producers (VEPP Inc.) assigns energy and capacity to all Vermont utilities under Vermont Public Service Board (PSB) Rule 4.100 based on a pro-rata share of electric sales which is updated annually. Contracts between VEPP Inc. and its constituent power producers began to terminate in 2008. The last VEPP Inc. contract is scheduled to end in 2021.

### Stony Brook Combined Cycle Facility

Ludlow holds an energy and capacity entitlement to Stony Brook. The Stony Brook facility is a dual-fuel facility located in Massachusetts which is comprised of three generating units. While this facility has the capability of generating electricity from fuel oil, natural gas is the primary source of fuel. The Stony Brook owners completed construction of a gas pipeline extension which enables the facility to operate multiple units on natural gas. During winter the facility's generation is a mix of natural gas and oil due to the inability to fully procure natural gas for peak periods.

### Hydro-Quebec/Vermont Joint Owners' (HQ/VJO) Contract

Ludlow’s existing energy and capacity entitlement in the HQ/VJO contract is 1,618 kW. Ludlow’s entitlements are broken into multiple schedules and are summarized as follows:

HQ Schedule	Entitlement (kW)	End Date
B	1,284	2015

During the term of the contract the VJO were permitted to reduce or increase the annual capacity factor between 70% and 80% on five occasions. Hydro-Quebec was allowed to implement three reductions. The VJO and HQ have utilized all options to increase or decrease allowances of the HQ contract. HQ’s permanent annual energy deliveries were set at 75% capacity factor starting with the contract year beginning November 1, 2007, and will stay at that level for the remainder of the contract. Under the terms of the contract monthly capacity factors can range from 25% to 95%. However, in order to comply with ISO-NE’s Standard Market Design rules the monthly capacity factor cannot be less than 47%, on average.

In 2010 a new statewide Hydro Quebec contract for energy only was negotiated and executed. Energy deliveries are scheduled to phase in slowly as existing schedules expire. Ludlow’s entitlements under the new contract are as follows:

Time Period	Entitlement (kW)
Nov 1, 2012 – Oct 31, 2015	30
Nov 1, 2015 – Oct 31, 2016	367
Nov 1, 2016 – Oct 31, 2020	434
Nov 1, 2020 – Oct 31, 2030	434
Nov 1, 2030 – Oct 31, 2035	448
Nov 1, 2035 – Oct 31, 2038	110

*Fitchburg Landfill*

Ludlow holds an allotment of 17.04% in a contract for the output of a landfill gas-fired generation facility at Fitchburg Landfill in Westminister, MA. Beginning in 2012 the 15 year contract provides nine VPPSA members with 3 MW of firm energy, capacity and renewable attributes for years 1-5, 3MW of firm energy, capacity and renewable attributes plus 1.5MW of unit contingent energy, capacity and renewable attributes for years 6-10, and 4.5MW of unit contingent energy, capacity and renewable attributes for years 11-15. The contract includes an option to extend deliveries for 4.5MW of unit contingent energy for an additional five years (years 16-20).

### Ryegate

Ryegate is a 21-MW woodchip-fired generator located in Ryegate, VT. A new 10-year contract between Ryegate Associates and VEPP Inc. began in November 2012. Each Vermont utility receives a portion of the energy and capacity from the plant, along with renewable energy credits as described below. The expected annual plant output is about 160,000 MWh. In 2015 Ryegate became a qualified Class I renewable energy source in Connecticut. A REC sharing agreement between Ryegate and the Vermont utilities was reached such that through September 2016 VPPSA utilities receive 10% of the Class I RECs, the next four years VPPSA utilities receive 50% of the RECs, and starting in October 2021 VPPSA utilities receive 90% of the RECs.

### Project 10

Ludlow held a municipal vote to authorize the execution of a Power Sales Agreement (PSA) with the VPPSA for 10.00% of a 40 MW peaking facility constructed in Swanton, Vermont. Eleven municipal utilities and one Vermont cooperative have signed Purchase Sales Agreements for the project which is 100% owned by VPPSA and which came online in 2010.

The project constructed 46 MW of fast-start generation capacity designed to provide reliability services (in addition to capacity) to the participating municipal utilities at prices below projected New England market prices over the life of the facility. Additionally, the facility runs during peak price times to mitigate price spikes that occur when New England loads reach peak levels in the summer and winter.

### Standard Offer

Ludlow receives power from several independent power producers according to the state mandate set forth in the Vermont Energy Act of 2009 (i.e. Act 45) which is administered by the Sustainably Priced Energy Enterprise Development (SPEED) facilitator. The prices paid to developers under Act 45 were initially standardized based on the type of renewable energy technology; however, in April 2013 the SPEED facilitator implemented a price-based Request for Proposals for developers of Standard Offers projects. Ludlow receives a share of all Standard Offer contracts based on its pro rata share of Vermont's prior-year kWh retail sales. The duration of standard offer contracts is permitted to be between 10 and 20 years with the exception of solar, which is permitted to contract for 25 years.

In July 2015, VPPSA was awarded two Standard Offer contracts for two solar projects to be located in Lyndonville, VT. The projects, 475 kW and 500 kW in size, will be included in the Standard Offer provider block. They are expected to come online prior to January 2017 and the generation from these projects will be distributed to the state's utilities in the same manner as the generation from developer projects.

### Seabrook

Ludlow participated in a recent transaction to purchase energy from the Seabrook Nuclear generating station in New Hampshire in the years 2018-2022. The contract provides energy at flat, fixed pricing for the five-year term. This purchase will help maintain stable, predictable power supply costs through 2022. This resource does not provide capacity benefit.

### Market Purchases

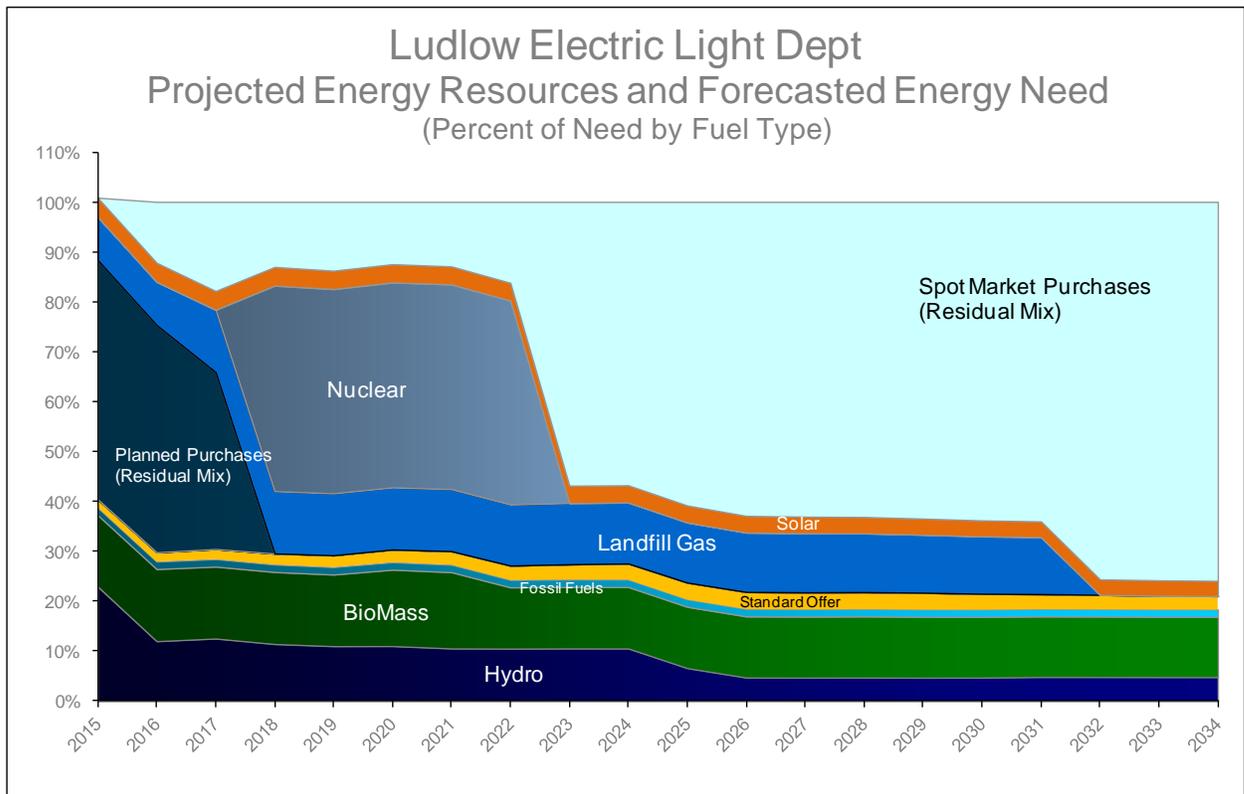
Ludlow meets the remainder of its load obligations through ISO-NE's day-ahead and real-time energy markets, physical bilateral transactions, and financial transactions. Ludlow participates in the wholesale markets based on its forecasted energy requirements. Short-term transactions are made periodically to adjust the portfolio in an effort to match resources to Ludlow's load obligations. Market purchases range in size, duration, and by provider and can be transacted in small amounts. It should be noted that market purchases longer than five years in duration or above certain quantities of historic peak load require Vermont Public Service Board approval.

## **3.2. Supply Outlook**

### Energy

Presented below is a graph of projected energy available from existing contracts and resources from 2015 through 2034 as compared with Ludlow's projected energy needs. Energy is the largest component of utility costs at this time. The resources included on the graph are those committed resources as of the time of this report. As supply falls below load, Ludlow will acquire new resources that meet the utility's decision making criteria. It should be noted that a growing gap between these two lines is a normal part of the utility business with expirations of existing contracts occurring over time and a continuing search for economical ways to provide energy.

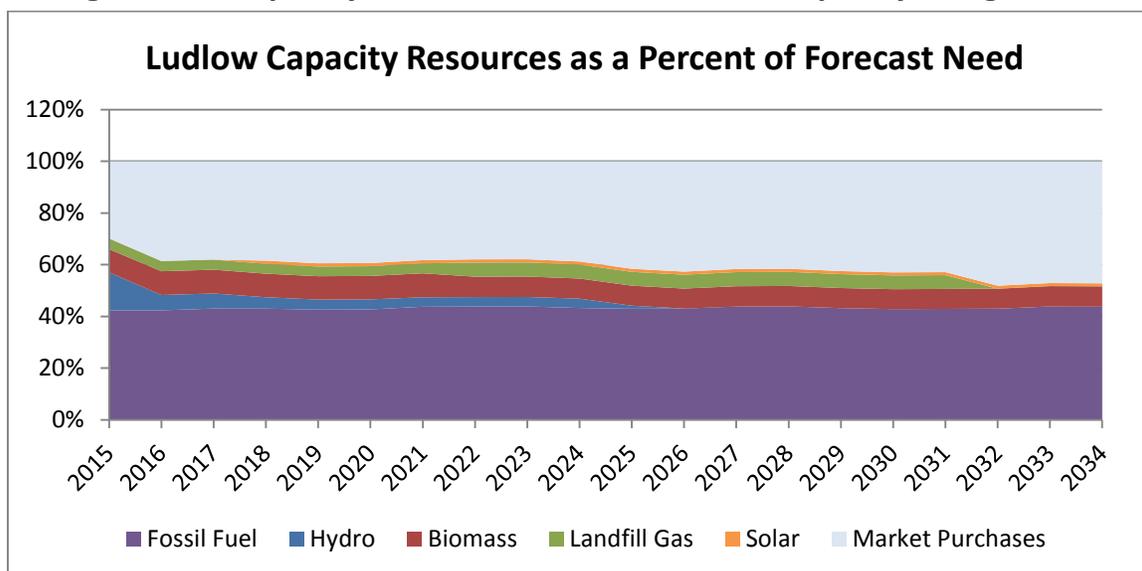
**Figure 3-2: Projected Energy Resources and Forecasted Energy Need**



Capacity

Also presented is a graph of the forecast of market capacity available from existing resources and a forecast of the utility’s capacity obligations. Capacity is the second largest dimension in utility power costs, and represents the ability to generate electricity when needed (as opposed to energy which is the actual energy generated). In broad terms, capacity is important in providing reliability and avoiding prices spikes during peak demand. The graph below shows the utility’s capacity available from existing resources as compared to its projected capacity need. Because Ludlow’s current capacity resources exceed its projected need for capacity, the utility will be able to sell its excess capacity in future years.

**Figure 3-2: Capacity Resources and Forecasted Capacity Obligations**



### 3.3. *Supply Options Inventory*

As one of twelve municipal members of VPPSA, Ludlow is afforded ongoing opportunities for inter-utility coordination, coordinated procurement and power pooling.

#### Near-Term Resource Adequacy – 0-6 Months:

On a regular basis, each VPPSA member’s resources are evaluated against its load individually to determine the need for balancing transactions. VPPSA operates an internal power pool to the extent possible, allowing members to match needs with each other before transacting with the open market. Transactions between members occur at market prices, ensuring that each system is treated equitably, but allowing for the elimination of market-making spreads to which each utility would otherwise be exposed if they acted independently.

#### Mid-Term Resource Adequacy – 6 Months to 5 Years:

VPPSA employs a planned purchasing program which evaluates members’ resource coverage incrementally every six months. While each evaluation does not necessarily result in a recommendation to transact, the periodic nature provides the opportunity for evaluation of conditions impacting each system, and the wider market. Forward transactions made in this manner complement long-term resources already in the portfolio.

#### Long-Term Resource Adequacy – Greater than 5 Years:

VPPSA maintains an active inventory of long-term resources which includes both existing generation and projects proposed for development. Each resource is evaluated for its economic impact to VPPSA's portfolio, including potential volatility and risks associated with the generation technology and counterparty. Resources meeting VPPSA's goals are offered to members on a pro-rata basis. VPPSA targets resources that diversify Ludlow's exposure and include predictable pricing mechanisms that are not indexed.

Using these procurement methods, VPPSA has secured a significant portion of Ludlow's resource needs over the coming years. Due to the stable pricing mechanisms targeted, Ludlow's exposure to volatility has been minimized. By executing balancing trades among VPPSA's members Ludlow can eliminate some of the associated costs charged by market makers.

At this time VPPSA is targeting the development of approximately 10MW of solar generation within a member territory. As a VPPSA member, Ludlow will be offered a share of any VPPSA generation project. It is anticipated that Ludlow would not initially own any of the facility, instead employing an ownership strategy which maximizes available incentives to reduce total cost to Ludlow's ratepayers. Further, Ludlow anticipates that solar energy is attainable for costs within existing rate structure.

Additional resources with a variety of technology types have historically approached VPPSA and its members seeking long-term purchase-power-agreements. From those interactions it seems most likely that generation developed in the future will be in the form of solar, wind and natural gas. Existing resources employing biomass and natural gas technologies appear to be abundantly available in the future; however, price volatility makes them less suitable for VPPSA's stability goals.

**Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department**  
**Integrated Resource Plan**  
**2015 - 2034**

***Part 2 – Transmission and Distribution***

**Presented to the Vermont Public Service Board**

**April 15, 2016**

**Submitted by:**

**Vermont Public Power Supply Authority**

**Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department**  
**2015 Integrated Resource Plan**

**Transmission and Distribution Section**

**INTRODUCTION**

This component of the Integrated Resource Plan (“IRP”) of the Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department (“Ludlow”) addresses the transmission and distribution components of Ludlow’s electric system. Consistent with collaboration between Ludlow, Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (“VPPSA”) and the Vermont Public Service Department (“PSD”), the format of this Transmission and Distribution (“T&D”) section of the IRP follows the key topics contained within the addendum to the PSD’s 2011 Vermont Electric Plan.

Ludlow has operated an electric utility system since 1900. Like most of Vermont’s smaller municipal utilities, many of its utility functions, such as office staffing, are carried out by employees who also have responsibilities in other aspects of village municipal operations. Ludlow remains guided by the Vermont Public Service Board (“PSB”) rules as well as by the American Public Power Association’s (“APPA”) safety manual. Well-established practices keep Ludlow operating efficiently.

Ludlow’s service territory is located in the south central part of Vermont, in an area where weather events- especially in recent years- have been both challenging and at times highly localized. Its service territory can be seen on the Vermont Utility Service Territory map found on the next page, and it encompasses the Village of Ludlow, parts of the towns of Ludlow, Plymouth, Proctorsville and Mt. Holly.

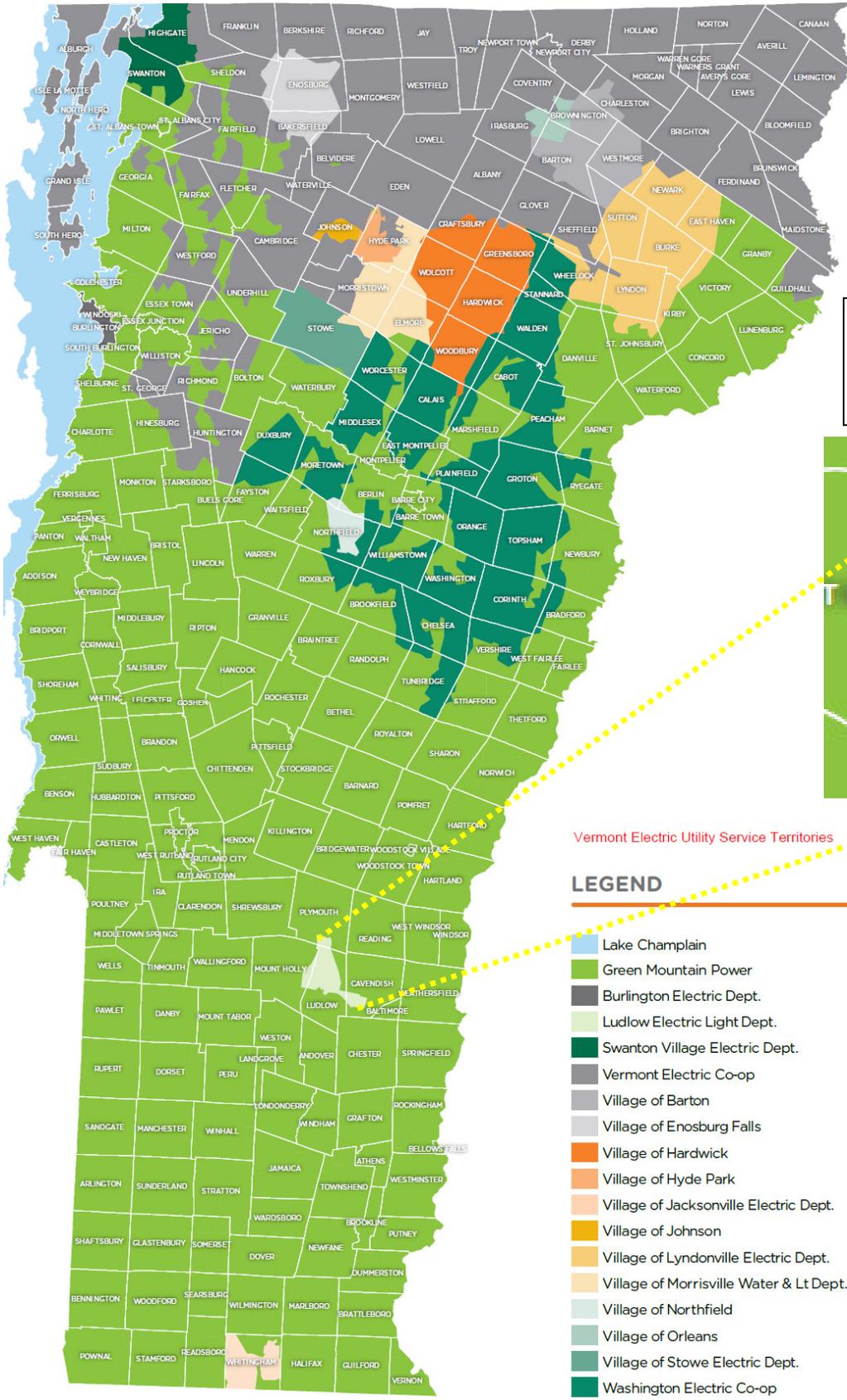
Okemo Mountain Ski Resort is the largest driver of Ludlow's service load. In 2014 Ludlow's peak demand in the winter months was 12,200 KW and 6,200 KW during the off season months. As would be expected, due to the ski resort's snowmaking loads, Ludlow is a winter peaking utility. Annual energy sales for 2014 were 49,396,251 kWh (pulse load at system boundary) and its annual load factor for 2014 was 46%. The historical peak in the summer was 7,048 KW in August of 2006 and the historic peak in the winter was 12,871 in December of 2006. Ludlow is connected to Green Mountain Power's ("GMP") 46 KV transmission system.

**Transmission System:**

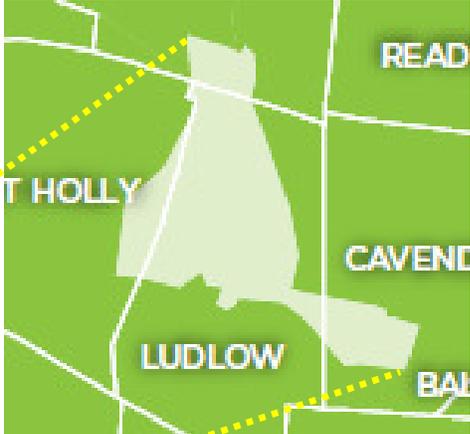
Ludlow receives transmission service from GMP (previously owned by Central Vermont Public Service). Ludlow owns approximately 1,800 feet of 46KV transmission line that connects from the GMP transmission to the Rt. 103 Substation, Commonwealth Avenue Substation and the Smithville Substation. The Commonwealth Avenue transmission is #1 copper stranded conductor, Rt. 103 transmission is 4/0 ACSR conductor and the Smithville transmission is .477 mcm ACSR conductor. All three transmission lines have gang operated air breaks to isolate from the GMP transmission line. The GMP 46 KV transmission is a loop feed system, so Ludlow's substations can be fed from Mt. Holly to the north or from Cavendish to the south.

# SERVICE TERRITORY

## VILLAGE OF LUDLOW ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT



*Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department Service Territory*



Vermont Electric Utility Service Territories

### LEGEND

- Lake Champlain
- Green Mountain Power
- Burlington Electric Dept.
- Ludlow Electric Light Dept.
- Swanton Village Electric Dept.
- Vermont Electric Co-op
- Village of Barton
- Village of Enosburg Falls
- Village of Hardwick
- Village of Hyde Park
- Village of Jacksonville Electric Dept.
- Village of Johnson
- Village of Lyndonville Electric Dept.
- Village of Morrisville Water & Lt Dept.
- Village of Northfield
- Village of Orleans
- Village of Stowe Electric Dept.
- Washington Electric Co-op

## SYSTEM OVERVIEW

	Number of Retail Customers				Retail Sales (kWh)			
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2011	2012	2013	2014
Residential sales (440)	3,002	2,968	2,996	3,041	15,878,554	15,365,543	16,666,431	16,679,120
Rural sales	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Small commercial and industrial sales (442) 1000 Kw or less	693	639	685	709	19,426,535	19,092,469	20,491,384	17,231,761
Large commercial and industrial sales (442) above 1,000 Kw	4	4	4	4	10,142,820	10,834,044	11,531,436	13,206,060
Public street and highway lighting (444)	3	3	3	3	366,693	367,499	347,378	342,512
Other sales to public authorities (445)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interdepartmental sales (448)	1	1	1	1	63,033	56,123	57,594	60,016
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,703</b>	<b>3,615</b>	<b>3,689</b>	<b>3,758</b>	<b>45,877,635</b>	<b>45,715,678</b>	<b>49,094,223</b>	<b>47,519,469</b>
<b>Y/Y</b>		-2%	2%	2%		0%	7%	-3%

	Annual System Peak Demand			
	2011	2012	2013	2014
Peak Demand kW	12,245	12,086	12,063	12,200
Peak Demand Date	12/20/11	01/18/12	01/18/13	12/30/14
Peak Demand Hour	17	21	11	18

### Ludlow-owned Generation:

Ludlow does not own any generation within its service territory.

### Distribution System General:

Ludlow has approximately 65 miles of distribution lines operating at 12.5 KV located in the Village of Ludlow, towns of Ludlow, Plymouth and Proctorsville.

### Substation name and description:

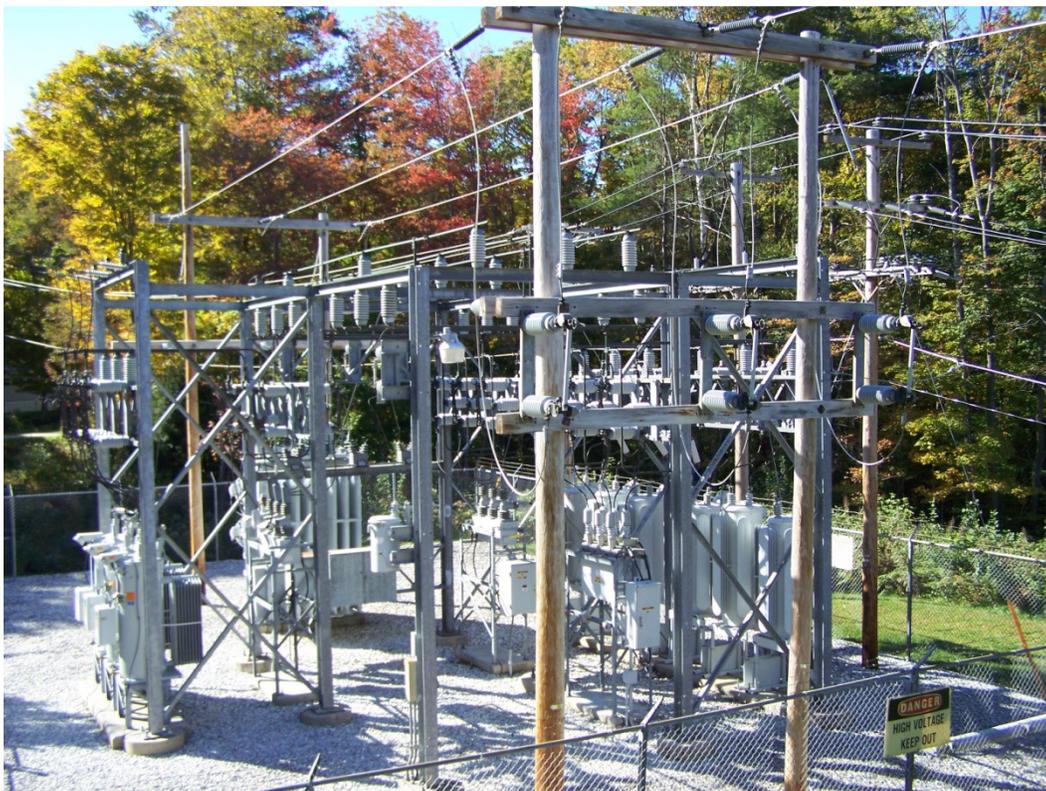
Ludlow owns and operates three substations. Each substation is briefly described below.

## **LUDLOW SUBSTATIONS**

### **Rt. 103 Substation**

The Rt. 103 Substation is located in the Town of Ludlow on Mega Watt Lane just north of the Village of Ludlow. It consists of a 14 MVA transformer with the high side voltage of 46 KV and the low side voltage of 12,470/7200 grounded wye. There are three 4/0 circuits feeding out of the substation with each one protected by an ABB vacuum type recloser. All 3 circuits can be tied together or tied to a different substation to conduct maintenance on the substation transformer or any other work to be conducted. All three reclosers have the ability to download information to see what the loads are on each phase and when any outages have occurred. The voltage regulators on the Jackson Gore circuit are electronic type that also provide information such as loads and power factor on all 3 phases.

### **Rt. 103 Substation**



## **Commonwealth Avenue Substation**

The Commonwealth Avenue substation is located in the Village of Ludlow on Commonwealth Avenue. It consists of a 15 MVA transformer with the high side voltage of 46 KV and the low side voltage of 12,470/7200 grounded wye. There are two 4/0 circuits feeding out of the substation with each one protected by a Cooper oil circuit type recloser. Both circuits can be tied together or tied to a different substation to conduct maintenance on the substation transformer or any other work to be conducted. Both reclosers have the ability to download information to see what the loads are on each phase and when any outages or faults have occurred. The voltage regulators on the both circuit are electronic type that also provide information such as loads and power factor on all 3 phases.

### **Commonwealth Avenue Substation**



## **Smithville Substation**

The Smithville substation is located in the Town of Ludlow on DeRoo Lane just south of the village of Ludlow. It consists of a 14 MVA transformer with the high side voltage of 46 KV and the low side voltage of 12,470/7200 grounded wye. There is only one 4/0 circuit feeding out of the substation which is protected by a breaker. The one circuit can be tied to another feeder from the Commonwealth Substation to conduct maintenance on the substation transformer or any other work to be conducted.

### **Smithville Substation**



**Circuit Description:**

Circuit Name	Description	Length (Miles)	# Customers by Circuit	Outages by Circuit 2014
Lake Area	A 4/0 circuit protected by ABB vacuum type recloser, feeding out of the Rt. 103 substation.		676	14
Solitude	A 4/0 circuit protected by ABB vacuum type recloser, feeding out of the Rt. 103 substation.		150	0
Jackson Gore	A 4/0 circuit protected by ABB vacuum type recloser, feeding out of the Rt. 103 substation.		15	0
High St.	A 4/0 circuit protected by a Cooper oil circuit type recloser, feeding out of the Commonwealth Avenue substation.		1,006	3
Main St.	A 4/0 circuit protected by a Cooper oil circuit type recloser, feeding out of the Commonwealth Avenue substation.		1,258	5
Smithville	A 4/0 circuit protected by a breaker, feeding out of the Smithville substation.		598	6

For additional details about each circuit, please see the **“LUDLOW SUBSTATIONS”** section (above).

In 2014, there were 14 outages on the Lake Area circuit. The outages were in many different locations. The Lake Area circuit covers a large area with many lines coming off of the main feeder. The area is very dense with large pine trees. The majority of the outages occurred during 2 major storms that affected many utilities in the state. All tree-related outages were caused by trees that were outside the right-of-way. There were 3 outages caused by animal contact, even though wildlife protection had been installed on the equipment. One outage was from an equipment failure. The equipment that caused the failure has since been replaced. Construction on the Lake Area circuit is very well up to date, with new poles, insulators, conductors, etc. having recently been installed. 2014 was the only year that Lake Area circuit experienced this many outages. The outages were very short in duration. Ludlow does use the Rule 4.900 Outage Report to evaluate the cause, number, and length of outages.

**A One-Line Diagram of Utility System:**

The following one line diagram of the system was updated on 7/16/07.



**The IRP should contain a detailed description of how and when the utility evaluates individual T&D circuits to identify the optimum economic and engineering configuration for each circuit, while meeting appropriate reliability and safety criteria.**

System reliability is important to its customers and Ludlow has a number of initiatives underway to improve reliability. Each of these initiatives is summarized below.

A coordination study was completed by PLM in 2009 for all substation feeder reclosers and line reclosers. Any recommendations were addressed and completed in 2010. A fuse coordination study is in process at this time. The information is being tabulated and sent to engineering. Ludlow anticipates the study to be completed in late summer 2016.

Ludlow tracks all outage statistics as part of its Service Quality Reliability Plan (“SQRP”). As noted above, Ludlow also uses the Rule 4.900 Outage Report to evaluate the cause, number, and length of outages in order to correct any problems and prevent any issues that may materialize in the future. These outage statistics allow Ludlow to examine causes by circuit and develop plans for the most cost effective reliability improvements. The baseline targets are met by a good maintenance program, tree clearing and the installation of fault locators on overhead feeders.

Currently, Ludlow has feeder back up capabilities on all main circuits. The circuits can be fed from either substation with some manual switching involved.

Animal guards are installed on all new transformers and other equipment that can accommodate them. Guards are also installed on existing transformers and equipment during routine maintenance and as soon as possible after an outage occurs.

Ludlow uses fault locators on all primary underground lines and uses overhead fault locators on all feeds out of the substations and various places on the system. They fault locators help in determining the location and phase that had experienced a fault.

## Page A-10 T&D System Evaluation

### 1) **The current power factor of the system, and any plans for power factor correction;**

During November of 2007 Ludlow conducted a power factor study of its system which was done by PLM Engineering. The study looked at capacitors currently used on line and where new ones need to be placed. Some of the units are fixed banks and others are switched banks. Ludlow completed the installation of the new capacitors in August 2011 which have helped Ludlow achieve a power factor of just over 99%.

### 2) **Distribution circuit configuration, phase balancing, voltage upgrades where appropriate, and opportunities for feeder back-up;**

In 1999, Ludlow converted its entire system voltage to 12,470/7,200 grounded wye. Ludlow installs low loss distribution transformers that are evaluated and uses tree wire on primary overhead lines. Ludlow is currently doing circuit configuration, phase balancing along with a fuse coordination study. All main feeders have backups with other feeders with circuits from the same substation or from other substations. All circuits feeding from the substation are protected by electronic reclosers. Information is obtained on phase loading. During peak loads amperage recorders are installed in various locations to identify peak loads and average loads per phase, which also helps on fuse sizing for engineering. Phases that are unbalanced are addressed by identifying locations and scheduling an outage to move transformer taps or line taps to the appropriate phase for engineering.

### 3) **Sub transmission and distribution system protection practices and methodologies;**

Ludlow has system protection practices that cover transmission, substation and distribution. Each protection methodology is discussed briefly below.

#### *Transmission System protection:*

The transmission system is protected by GMP and VELCO.

*Substation protection:*

The substation equipment is protected by high side fuses.

*Distribution protection:*

The distribution system protection involves circuit reclosers and fuses. All side taps off the main line distribution feed are fused.

**4) The utility's planned or existing "smart grid" initiatives such as advanced metering infrastructure or distribution automation;**

Currently there are not any plans to install SCADA on the distribution side. On the transmission side, Ludlow worked with GMP to install SCADA controlled switches for the transmission that feeds from the Cold River Tap to the Rt. 103 Substation from the north of Ludlow and from the south at the Smithville Substation tap which feeds from Ascutney. Fiber has been installed at the Smithville Substation but has not been installed at Rt.103 or the Commonwealth substations at this time.

In 2013, Ludlow did a cost analysis study on the benefits of Advanced Metering Infrastructure ("AMI") to see if it would be a good fit in Ludlow's system. The study concluded that AMI is not cost-effective for Ludlow at this time. Elster Solutions estimated the cost of AMI cost estimate to be approximately 1.5 million dollars. The terrain in Ludlow's territory is one of the obstacles for cost-effectiveness; with its various mountain peaks and valleys it requires more infrastructure than a flat terrain. Although AMI saves on meter reading expenses, having a person physically visit each meter is very valuable for Ludlow and its customers. Ludlow's meter readers only spend about 60 to 70 hours per month on reading meters, and the physical observations made by the meter reader during that time help gain knowledge of the system as well as an awareness of specific reliability and safety issues. With AMI, those issues may go unnoticed and prevention and protection measures may not necessarily be taken. Having meter readers get to know customers on a personal level is another added mutual benefit. Ludlow is in the process of installing new reclosers on its system that can provide it with important data on loads, faults and other important information. This information is obtained with networking from Ludlow's service center along with operating the reclosers.

Like the other VPPSA member electric utility systems, Ludlow is part of the docket 7307 collaborative process that continues in both formal and informal ways. The ongoing participation of Ludlow and other VPPSA members in various facets of “smart grid” explorations has underscored both the challenges and the opportunities that lie ahead. On the challenge side, the cost effectiveness of AMI infrastructure is significantly less clear in small utilities like Ludlow, where relatively limited savings around meter reading and other labor costs are combined with a terrain that challenges the efficacy of many wireless AMI systems. On the positive side, participation by VPPSA and member systems in municipal smart grid summits and other events has shown that prospective electric-water-sewer AMI applications may have efficiencies and synergies not available in electric only installations, though cost allocation in such situations must be done carefully to avoid subsidization issues. As we continue to collaborate with our Vermont utility colleagues regarding “lessons learned” from their experiences, Ludlow will be in a good position to make technically and financially sound decisions regarding the timing and specifics of the smart grid applications that will be coming.

Ludlow is of course mindful of the many facets of the evolving grid, such as rapidly expanding net metering development, heat pump installations, and the advent of electric vehicles. Working with VPPSA, Efficiency Vermont, and other stakeholders, Ludlow stays abreast of these developments and the strategies needed to maintain a safe, reliable, and economically viable distribution system.

While definitions of “smart grid” vary even within the industry, Ludlow is also mindful of the increasing importance of cybersecurity concerns, and the relationship of those concerns to technology selection and protection. While Ludlow is not presently required to undertake NERC or NPCC registration, VPPSA is a registered entity, and the presence of Ludlow Electric’s Controller on the VPPSA Board of Directors provides Ludlow with knowledge and insight regarding ongoing cybersecurity developments and risks. On a more local level, Ludlow endeavors to purchase and protect its IT systems (with assistance from VPPSA as needed), in a manner intended to minimize security risks to the system and its ratepayers. Ludlow remains mindful of the balance between the levels of cyber security risk protection and the associated costs to its ratepayers.

##### **5) Re-conductor lines with lower loss conductors;**

When rebuilding an area, Ludlow re-conductors lines with lower loss conductors. The majority of Ludlow's lines already have low loss conductors. The average total line losses are around 3.64%

**6) Replacement of conventional transformers with higher efficiency transformers;**

Ludlow evaluates the life-cycle cost when replacing transformers. Ludlow bids out to a minimum of three to four manufacturers for low loss transformers (amorphous core) and evaluates them over the 20-year time period. Ludlow does not purchase rebuilt transformers.

**7) Conservation voltage regulation;**

Ludlow's voltage setting is done with voltage regulators in substations only; voltage is set between 120 and 121.5 volts to provide proper voltage to the first and last customers. Ludlow does not have voltage regulators outside the substations due to the short distance to last customers.

Ludlow participates in the ISO-New England voltage reduction tests twice a year, in the Spring and Fall. Ludlow monitors customer voltage on last customers of a circuit being fed from each substation to make sure proper voltage is supplied. Ludlow does this by installing a voltage recorder at the meter and down load the information to review.

**8) Implementation of a distribution transformer load management (DTLM) or similar program (See Equipment Selection and Utilization Standards below);**

As previously mentioned, Ludlow evaluates the life-cycle cost when replacing transformers. Ludlow bids out to a minimum of three to four manufacturers for low loss transformers (amorphous core) and evaluates them over the 20-year time period. Ludlow does not purchase rebuilt transformers. Ludlow does not currently have an official DTLM program. Every transformer that is worked on is thoroughly checked.

**9) A list of the locations of all substations that fall within the 100 and 500 year flood plains, and a plan for protection or relocation of these facilities.**

None of Ludlow's substations fall within the 100 and 500 year flood plains.

**10) A current copy of the utility underground Damage Protection Plan (DPP) (or provide a plan to develop and implement a DPP; if none exists).**

All of Ludlow's primary underground facilities are owned by Ludlow while all of its secondary underground facilities are customer-owned. The company standard for minimum depth required for the laying of facilities during the 2013 calendar year was 36 inches. The facilities are located by sensor. The facilities documented with drawings are sufficient to find and mark their location upon a notice of planned excavation in the area. Ludlow does not currently have a Damage Prevention Plan in place. Ludlow will collaborate with other VPPSA utilities to develop a more formal Damage Protection Plan.

**Discuss the utility's process for selecting transmission and distribution equipment (i.e., net present value of life cycle cost, evaluated on both a societal and utility/ratepayer basis).**

Ludlow purchases standard certified transmission and distribution equipment from established trusted vendors. The majority of Ludlow's equipment is purchased from Westco and Irby. Ludlow prioritizes quality equipment over low purchase prices.

**Set out program to maintain optimal T&D efficiency. Report program progress.**

System maintenance includes a number of components. Each is discussed below.

*Substation maintenance:*

Ludlow inspects each of the substations monthly. Transformer oil test are done annually. Reclosers and regulators are tested every two years by TSI and UPG. The internal battery at the reclosers has an internal test that is done once per month. Any failure will be displayed and picked up during monthly inspections. In addition to the visual inspections an infrared inspection is done every year in December when we are experiencing our heaviest load. Any problems are addressed as soon as

possible. The following form (below) is used when performing substation inspections.

Substation: \_\_\_\_\_ Month/Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Description	OK	Needs Attention	Description	OK	Needs Attention
<b>Transformer</b>			<b>Air Breaks &amp; Disconnects</b>		
Oil Levels Correct					
Gauges in Good Condition					
Any Oil Leaks					
Bushings HV / LV					
Fans Tested			<b>Other Equipment</b>		
Pressure Gage + or -			Fence		
Heaters			Gate		
<b>Reclosers</b>			Signs		
Bushings			Ground Straps on fence, etc.		
Battery			Trees		
Disconnects			Hard Hat		
			First Aid Kit		
<b>Regulators</b>			Phone		
Bushings			Switch Sticks		
Any Oil Leaks			Tags		
Oil Level Correct			Rubber Gloves		
Switches & By Passes			Lock		
Control Power On					
Test Reg. 3 to 5 Steps					
Set Into Auto Position					
Reset Drag Hand					
Test Output Voltage					

Checked By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date and Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

*Pole Inspection:*

Currently, Ludlow does not have a formal pole inspection program in place. Ludlow's system is very condensed, so it is able to inspect the system on a regular basis for problems with poles, crossarms, etc. This also ties in with the capital plan of rebuilding lines before problems arise.

Ludlow has never had a pole fail on its own. Ludlow does have a complete GPS with inventory of all poles which it can obtain the date of the pole as long as the date was legible at the time of gathering the information. Ludlow replaces poles as needed, on an ongoing basis. Last year Ludlow replaced nearly 200 poles, and it considers its pole inventory to be in good shape. Many poles are changed for make-ready work. Recently, Ludlow changed out 40 poles in less than two months' time. Also, Ludlow visually inspects poles during the regular line of work. Ludlow intends to retain an outside firm to conduct pole inspections and maintain a data base in the near future.

*Equipment maintenance:*

Ludlow has replaced all of its porcelain disconnects on its system, these disconnects have been a cause of several outages over the years. A program was developed to replace them back in 2006 and was completed in 2008. Any time work is being performed on a pole and any insulators and connectors that need to be replaced is done.

*Energy Losses and System Efficiency:*

Ludlow has a standard conductor size of 1/0 and 4/0 AAA conductor for overhead lines which provides lower inventory cost. The standard conductor size for primary underground is 1/0, 4/0 and 500 mcm aluminum 220 mill which also helps in lower inventory cost. To provide system efficiency for underground, Ludlow has been installing loop feeds into all developments with underground feeds and has loop feeds on all major underground feeders. Ludlow has 11.91 miles of primary underground lines. To provide system wide efficiency all substations are phased with each other and with manual switching any substation can pick up the load of another substation whether it is scheduled maintenance or an unplanned outage.

Ludlow monitors system energy losses by tracking metered system load at its interconnections to GMP and comparing it to metered energy sales to our customers. Also Ludlow takes into account for street lighting using standard lighting cycles and average consumption data on the different lighting fixtures used within the system. This calculation is done annually. Ludlow tries to meter as much as possible, as it is important to Ludlow to maintain an accurate measure of load. Even the SCADA system is metered. Ludlow's total line losses in 2014 were 3.64%.

In efforts to reduce losses, Ludlow has converted its entire system voltage to 12,470/7200 grounded wye. This was completed in 1999. Ludlow installs amorphous core distribution transformers, and uses tree wire on primary overhead lines.

**Does the utility use the NJUNS database to track transfer of utilities and dual pole removal?**

Ludlow does not currently use NJUNS, but it does send pole information to TDS and Comcast and they respond very well for pole transfers. Ludlow does not currently have any dual poles on its system so this system is working sufficiently.

**What is the utility's philosophy regarding relocating cross-country lines to road-side?**

Ludlow relocates cross-country lines to road-side when such relocation can be done consistent with cost consideration and customer concerns in terms of rights-of-way. Some customers do not want to see the lines in front of their houses. This has not been overly problematic so far. There have been a few issues with easements. If it is determined to be problematic to relocate a cross-country line to road-side, Ludlow rebuilds the line where it is currently located.

**Describe vegetation management plan, per page A-13, and complete the table on page A-14.**

**Explain why it's a "least cost program" including details on tree species , annual growth rates of these species, and vegetation techniques, including when, where, and how herbicides are used.**

Ludlow has a 7 year average tree clearing and trimming cycle on its distribution lines. The sub-transmission lines are mowed with a tractor every 2 years to keep the brush from growing so the only tree work necessary is side trimming trees on the edge of the right-of-way. This is why the sub-transmission lines can go for an average of 10 years before needing to be trimmed.

Tree trimming is tracked in a database and inspection of the lines dictates if an area might need attention before its regular schedule.

Depending on the weather pattern and the type of trees some areas will last longer than others and trimming might not have to be done as often as others. Some areas might not have to be trimmed for several years while others might have a few sections of line that need to be trimmed sooner than the scheduled time. All lines are trimmed to the edge of the right-of-way. The tree trimming width is 15 feet on either side of the line for 3 phase line and 10 feet on either side of the line for single phase lines.

Ludlow uses contract tree crews and also uses in-house crews to do the work. Ludlow routinely reviews the tree trimming program, utilizing inspections and feedback from its outage reports, to assure that the program maintains the vegetation and brush within its right-of-way appropriately and to make modifications to the management program in the event that the program is not maintaining adequate clearances of brush from the lines. In addition to its vegetative and brush management program, Ludlow has a program to identify danger trees. Danger trees are identified by all of our utility personnel while patrolling the lines or inspecting the system. Once a danger tree is identified, it is promptly removed if it is within Ludlow's right-of-way. For danger trees outside of the right-of-way, Ludlow contacts the property owner, explains the hazard, and with the owner's permission removes them. Where permission is not granted, Ludlow will periodically follow up with the property owner to attempt to obtain permission. Again, the success of this program is measured by whether danger trees are a root cause of system outages.

Ludlow serves 65 miles of T&D line and has approximately 45 miles of line that requires vegetative management. It has budgeted \$40,000 per year for the last 10 years and will budget the same for the next 3 years. The number of miles trimmed varies due to the trimming of three phase lines vs. single phase lines, which are not as time consuming due to the size of the right-of-way, or if the line is off road less area is trimmed in a year. Also, some of the lines require more tree removals than others which contribute to fewer miles trimmed in a year.

The majority of tree species in our service territory are pine, oak and maple. Most of our tree-related outages are due to severe storms

with trees outside of the right-of-way coming in contact with the power lines. Ludlow does not use herbicides on its system.

	Total Miles	Miles Needing Trimming	Trimming Cycle
Transmission	0.5 Miles	0.5 Miles	10 Years
Distribution	65	45	7

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Amount Budgeted	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Amount Spent	\$42,278.86	\$44,622.84	\$38,549.11	x	x	x
Miles Trimmed	7	6	5	6	6	6

**Utilities should monitor the # of tree-related outages as compared to the total number of outages, and provide this information**

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Tree Related Outages	5	3	12	6
Total Outages	20	20	14	28
Tree-related outages as % of total outages	25%	15%	85%	21%

The 2013 tree related outages, shown in the above table, were all due to high wind events which brought down large trees that were all located outside of the right-of-way.

Ludlow’s Public Service Board Rule 4.900 Electricity Outage Reports, reflecting the last three years (2012-2014) in their entirety, can be found at the end of this document.

**Describe storm/emergency procedures, such as securing contract crews, dispatch center, participating in utility conference calls, updating vtoutages.com.**

Like other Vermont municipal electric utilities, Ludlow is an active participant in the Northeast Public Power Association (“NEPPA”) mutual aid system, which allows Ludlow to coordinate not only with public power systems in Vermont, but with those throughout New England. Representatives of Ludlow are also on the state emergency preparedness conference calls, which facilitates in-state coordination between utilities, state regulators and other interested parties. Ludlow uses the [www.vtoutages.com](http://www.vtoutages.com) site during major storms especially if it experiences a large outage that is expected to have a long duration. Ludlow believes it is beneficial to inform the Public Service Department if it is experiencing these types of outages.

**Discuss last T&D studies, and plans for future studies.**

The following is a copy of the recommendations of the PLM report that was done in 1993.

**VILLAGE OF LUDLOW ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT  
LUDLOW, VERMONT**

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**SYSTEM PLANNING STUDY**

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**1.0 OVERVIEW OF STUDY**

A Distribution System Planning Study was performed for the Village of Ludlow Electric Department (LED). The major focus of the study was to:

1. Determine the long term distribution system requirements of the LED through the year 2013 which are necessary to continue to provide reliable electrical service to its customers.
2. Develop and review alternatives to meet expected load conditions in a least cost manner utilizing proven loss savings techniques including, but not limited to those items specifically referenced in the Vermont DPS Twenty Year Plan criteria.

Alternatives were selected or rejected based on Net Present Value of Revenue Requirement calculations. A recommended long-term action plan was then developed by scheduling the selected alternatives at the appropriate time.

## 2.0 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The LED system consists of three (3) 12.47 kV distribution feeders and four (4) 4.16 kV distribution feeders, which combined, serve a total winter peak demand of 10.2 MW. The system has 28 MVA of installed 44/12/47 kV substation transformer capacity and 4.0 MVA of 44/3.16 kV substation capacity.

The annual load forecast used for this study predicts a system peak demand of 12.7 MW in the year 2013. A circuit by circuit load forecast was developed and is included as Table 4.3 of this report.

A review of the LED system indicates, that, overall, the system is in good physical condition, operating efficiently, and able to provide reliable power to all customers in the service territory now and throughout the study period. No overloaded substation equipment or distribution primary conductors were found. Some additional reactive support may be required during the later years of the study period, although this will depend on LED's ability to improve the power factor of individual customer loads. No additional distribution capacitors can be firmly recommended at this time.

Primary voltage levels within range A of ANSI C84.1-1982 were found to exist at all system locations except one throughout the study period. It is recommended that LED install a recording voltmeter on a service supplied by Scott and Scott transformer 12-16 or 12-17 on the High Street feeder to determine whether a low voltage condition actually exists. This voltmeter should be installed during the 1993-1194 winter peak load period. If necessary, the voltage level on this circuit could be raised by adjusting the load tap changer voltage controls on the number one transformer at Commonwealth Avenue substation.

A variety of loss savings techniques were applied to the system model, including those items listed in the Vermont DPS Twenty Year Plan criteria. The reduced kW and kWh equivalent dollar savings associated with each option were compared to the implementation cost using Net Present Value of Revenue Requirement calculations to determine the break even year. It is recommended that LED immediately undertake all measures found to break even within ten years. The first year combined energy and demand savings would be approximately \$8000. A summary of action items is included at Table 2.1 of this section.

TABLE 2.1

LUDLOW ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

VERMONT DPS 20-YEAR PLAN CRITERIA ANALYSIS SUMMARY

DPS Criteria No.	ACTION ITEM	System Losses Before	System Losses After	Loss Reduction (kW)	1993 Savings (\$)	1993 Cost (\$)	Break Even Year	Status
7.1	Transfer all Okemo Mountain Load to Okemo Feeder	242.4	207.2	35.2	6159	300	1	Complete
7.1	Transfer all Okemo Mountain load to Okemo Feeder, install auto transfer	242.4	207.2	35.2	6159	2500	1	Complete
7.2	Network Smithville and Okemo Feeders	207.2	205.5	1.7	297	1500	20+	Complete
7.1	High Street Feeder transferred to Okemo Feeder Stepdown	207.2	223.8	(16.6)	-	-	-	Complete
7.1	Balance Phase Loading – Smithville Feeder	207.2	205.0	2.2	385	300	1	Complete
7.1	Balance Phase Loading – Rt.103 N Feeder	205.0	200.5	4.5	787	300	1	Complete
7.1	Remove Voltage Regulator – Rt. 103 N Feeder	200.5	200.2	0.3	100	300	4	Complete
7.1	Balance Phase Loading – High Street, Mill Street Feeders	200.2	199.1	1.1	192	300	2	Complete
7.2	Network Main Street and High Street	199.1	198.3	0.8	140	12500	20+	Complete
7.5	Reconductor Smithville Feeder – Substation to Main Street	199.1	183.6	15.5	2712	48000	15	Complete

DPS Criteria No.	ACTION ITEM	System Losses Before	System Losses After	Loss Reduction (kW)	1993 Savings (\$)	1993 Cost (\$)	Break Even Year	Status
7.8	Reduce operating voltage to 100% of nominal (see comments section 7.8)	199.1	197.6	1.5	262	0	1	Complete
7.6	Convert Main Street Feeder to Smithville 12.47 kV	199.1	205.2	(6.1)	-	-	-	Complete
7.6	Convert High Street Feeder to Smithville 12.47 kV	199.1	209.8	(10.7)	-	-	-	Complete
7.6	Covert all 12.47 kV to 34.5 kV (two 34.5 kV feeders)	199.1	49.4	149.7	26195	1450000	20+	Will not be doing
7.6	Convert all feeders to 34.5 kV	199.1	35.9	163.2	28558	1550000	20+	Will not be doing
7.4	Activate existing capacitor switching, off peak	28.4	26.2	2.2	123	0	1	Complete
7.4	Add additional capacitor switching, off peak	26.2	23.2	3.0	167	4500	19	Complete

In addition to the distribution system planning, explained above, Ludlow has completed planned work on the transmission system. Ludlow rebuilt the Commonwealth Avenue transmission line in 2011. That line is 1,200 feet in length and consists of new poles, crossarms, anchors and insulators.

At this time, there are no plans for future system studies.

**Has a fuse coordination study been conducted, and has it been implemented?**

As previously mentioned, Ludlow’s fuse coordination is in the process at this time. The information is being tabulated and sent to engineering. It should be completed in late summer. In the event of an outage, Ludlow has the capability to manually switch 100% of its customers to a backup feeder.

**Historical Capital Projects over last 3 years (2012-2014):**

<b>Historical Capital Projects</b>		
2012		
2013	Rebuilt portions of approximately 5,100 feet of three phase overhead line from Smithville to Proctorsville.	\$65,729
2014	Rebuilt approximately 2,000 feet of three phase overhead line from junction of Rt. 103 and Rt. 131 in Proctorsville to Depot St.	All \$100,000 of the project was make-ready work and was paid by a customer.

**Future Capital Projects for next 3 years (2015-2017):**

<b>Future Capital Projects</b>		
2015	Rebuild 3,900 feet of three phase feed from Smithville substation to East Hill Rd.	\$312,000
2016	Rebuild 2,700 feet of single phase line Kingdom Rd.	\$90,000
2017	Rebuild 1,500 feet of single phase line Andover St.	\$60,000

**Record of Outages -- PSB Rule 4.900**

Company: Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department  
 Calendar year: 2012  
 Contact person: Howard R. Barton, Superintendent  
 Phone number: 802-228-3721  
 Customers served: 3,764

**Codes for type of outage:**

- 1 Trees
- 2 Weather
- 3 Company initiated outage
- 4 Equipment failure
- 5 Operator error
- 6 Accidents
- 7 Animals
- 8 Power supplier
- 9 Non-utility power supplier
- 10 Other
- 11 Unknown

Outage Start		Outage end		If indicated, Illegal date or time Please reenter data	System (if system outage) Substation ID (if substation outage) Circuit ID (if circuit outage)	Outage Code	Customers Out	Calculated columns	
Day-month	Hour:minute	Day-month	Hour:minute					Outage Duration	Customer Hours Out
27-Jan	13:55	27-Jan	14:14		Line 2 Pole 96-2	3	18	0.3	6
19-Feb	0:30	19-Feb	3:05		Line 222 Pole 4	6	9	2.6	23
22-Apr	3:12	22-Apr	4:35		Line 3 Pole 28	4	124	1.4	172
10-May	3:40	10-May	4:10		Line 222 Pole 4	7	9	0.5	4
15-May	22:08	15-May	22:42		Line 9 Pole 1	4	527	0.6	299
09-Jun	8:10	09-Jun	8:25		Line 22 Pole 2	2	2	0.2	0
16-Jun	6:05	16-Jun	6:30		Line 27 Pole 1	7	4	0.4	2
25-Jun	13:24	25-Jun	15:08		Line 6 Pole 18	2	125	1.7	217
17-Jul	7:02	17-Jul	7:28		Line 9 Pole 15-3	7	1	0.4	0
23-Jul	8:47	23-Jul	9:01		Line 27 Pole 1	7	4	0.2	1
24-Jul	13:12	24-Jul	13:25		Line 23 Pole 1	7	28	0.2	6
30-Jul	13:03	30-Jul	13:30		Line 7 Pole 43	1	3	0.5	1
03-Sep	23:14	03-Sep	23:39		Line 21 Pole 3	7	5	0.4	2
04-Sep	14:45	04-Sep	15:55		Line 2 Pole 59	7	28	1.2	33
08-Sep	11:21	08-Sep	11:50		Line 9 Pole 1	1	527	0.5	255
27-Oct	10:38	27-Oct	11:00		Line 851 Pole 2	7	12	0.4	4
29-Oct	15:22	29-Oct	15:58		Line 3 Pole 54-1	1	1	0.6	1
18-Nov	16:40	18-Nov	17:28		Line 9 Pole 1	4	527	0.8	422
18-Nov	16:40	18-Nov	17:14		Line 7 Pole 1	4	317	0.6	180
18-Nov	16:40	18-Nov	16:50		Transmission	8	2,897	0.2	483

# Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department 2012

This report is pursuant to PSB Rule 4.903B. It is to be submitted to the Public Service Board and the Department of Public Service no later than 30 days after the end of the calendar year.

## Electricity Outage Report -- PSB Rule 4.900

Name of company Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department  
 Calendar year report covers 2012  
 Contact person Howard R. Barton, Superintendent  
 Phone number 802-228-3721  
 Number of customers 3,764

<b>System average interruption frequency index (SAIFI) =</b>	<b>1.4</b>
Customers Out / Customers Served	
<b>Customer average interruption duration index (CAIDI) =</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Customer Hours Out / Customers Out	

Outage cause	Number of Outages	Total customer hours out
1 Trees	3	257
2 Weather	2	217
3 Company initiated outage	1	6
4 Equipment failure	4	1,071
5 Operator error	0	0
6 Accidents	1	23
7 Animals	8	53
8 Power supplier	1	483
9 Non-utility power supplier	0	0
10 Other	0	0
11 Unknown	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2,110</b>

Note: Per PSB Rule 4.903(B)(3), this report must be accompanied by an overall assessment of system reliability that addresses the areas where most outages occur and the causes underlying most outages. Based on this assessment, the utility should describe, for both the long and the short terms, appropriate and necessary activities, action plans, and implementation schedules for correcting any problems identified in the above assessment.

### Record of Outages -- PSB Rule 4.900

Company Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department  
 Calendar year 2013  
 Contact person Howard R. Barton, Superintendent  
 Phone number 802-228-3721  
 Customers served 3,678

### Codes for type of outage:

- 1 Trees
- 2 Weather
- 3 Company initiated outage
- 4 Equipment failure
- 5 Operator error
- 6 Accidents
- 7 Animals
- 8 Power supplier
- 9 Non-utility power supplier
- 10 Other
- 11 Unknown

Outage Start		Outage end		If indicated, Illegal date or time Please reenter data	System (if system outage) Substation ID (if substation outage) Circuit ID (if circuit outage)	Outage Code	Customers Out	Calculated columns	
Day-month	Hour:minute	Day-month	e					Outage Duration	Customer Hours Out
31-Jan	10:41	31-Jan	11:43		Line 32 Pole 1	1	34	1.0	35
31-Jan	13:53	31-Jan	14:20		Line 952 Pole 1	1	3	0.4	1
02-May	13:27	02-May	13:48		Line 2 Pole 2	1	3	0.3	1
02-Jun	14:27	02-Jun	15:10		Line 21 Pole 3	1	8	0.7	6
02-Jun	15:09	02-Jun	15:40		Line 39 Pole 1	1	14	0.5	7
14-Jun	23:55	15-Jun	0:12		Line 21 Pole 6	1	3	0.3	1
20-Jul	22:52	21-Jul	0:15		Line 3 pole 30 "A" Phase	1	52	1.4	72
20-Jul	23:26	21-Jul	0:15		Line 3 Pole 3 "B&C" Phases	1	125	0.8	102
21-Jul	0:18	21-Jul	3:20		Line 32 Pole 25	1	130	3.0	394
27-Aug	18:20	27-Aug	18:40		Line 61 Pole 3	4	8	0.3	3
11-Sep	20:00	11-Sep	21:08		Line 71 Pole 1	1	15	1.1	17
12-Sep	12:05	12-Sep	12:12		Line 9 Pole 1	4	400	0.1	47
01-Nov	11:25	01-Nov	12:11		Line 94 Pole 1	1	10	0.8	8
01-Nov	11:25	01-Nov	14:09		Line 941 Pole 7	1	6	2.7	16

# Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department 2013

This report is pursuant to PSB Rule 4.903B. It is to be submitted to the Public Service Board and the Department of Public Service no later than 30 days after the end of the calendar year.

## Electricity Outage Report -- PSB Rule 4.900

Name of company Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department  
 Calendar year report covers 2013  
 Contact person Howard R. Barton, Superintendent  
 Phone number 802-228-3721  
 Number of customers 3,678

<b>System average interruption frequency index (SAIFI) =</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Customers Out / Customers Served	
<b>Customer average interruption duration index (CAIDI) =</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Customer Hours Out / Customers Out	

Outage cause	Number of Outages	Total customer hours out	Note: Per PSB Rule 4.903(B)(3), this report must be accompanied by an overall assessment of system reliability that addresses the areas where most outages occur and the causes underlying most outages. Based on this assessment, the utility should describe, for both the long and the short terms, appropriate and necessary activities, action plans, and implementation schedules for correcting any problems identified in the above assessment.
1 Trees	12	661	
2 Weather	0	0	
3 Company initiated outage	0	0	
4 Equipment failure	2	49	
5 Operator error	0	0	
6 Accidents	0	0	
7 Animals	0	0	
8 Power supplier	0	0	
9 Non-utility power supplier	0	0	
10 Other	0	0	
11 Unknown	0	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>710</b>	

**Record of Outages -- PSB Rule 4.900**

Company: Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department  
 Calendar year: 2014  
 Contact person: Howard R. Barton, Superintendent  
 Phone number: 802-228-3721  
 Customers served: 3,703

**Codes for type of outage:**

- 1 Trees
- 2 Weather
- 3 Company initiated outage
- 4 Equipment failure
- 5 Operator error
- 6 Accidents
- 7 Animals
- 8 Power supplier
- 9 Non-utility power supplier
- 10 Other
- 11 Unknown

Outage Start		Outage end		If indicated, Illegal date or time Please reenter data	System (if system outage) Substation ID (if substation outage) Circuit ID (if circuit outage)	Outage Code	Customers Out	Calculated columns	
Day-month Hour:minute	Day-month e	Day-month	e					Outage Duration	Customer Hours Out
30-Jan	13:44	30-Jan	14:05		Line 32 Pole 1	7	38	0.3	13
08-Feb	15:00	08-Feb	16:05		Line 721 Pole 17	7	9	1.1	10
10-Mar	12:19	10-Mar	13:15		Line 2 Pole 57	7	74	0.9	69
10-Mar	12:19	10-Mar	13:15		Line 2 Pole 83	7C	32	0.9	30
13-Mar	13:10	13-Mar	14:05		Line 321 Pole 6	1	4	0.9	4
26-Mar	18:44	26-Mar	19:12		Line 851 Pole 3	1	12	0.5	6
17-May	9:21	17-May	10:19		Line 7 pole 45-1	7	2	1.0	2
01-Jun	8:01	01-Jun	8:15		Line 32 Pole 3	7	38	0.2	9
28-Jun	8:06	28-Jun	8:25		Line 32 Pole 43	1	4	0.3	1
02-Jul	7:18	02-Jul	7:40		Line 7 Pole 14-1	7	2	0.4	1
02-Jul	9:30	02-Jul	10:35		Line 74 Pole 2	4	1	1.1	1
03-Jul	19:30	03-Jul	20:32		System (if system outage)	2	3,678	1.0	3,801
03-Jul	20:32	03-Jul	22:05		Line 9 Pole 1	2	292	1.5	453
03-Jul	20:32	04-Jul	4:25		Line 71 Pole 1	2	22	7.9	173
03-Jul	20:32	04-Jul	13:15		Line 251 Pole 1	2	15	16.7	251
03-Jul	20:32	04-Jul	14:30		Line 25 Pole 3	2	6	18.0	108
03-Jul	20:32	05-Jul	11:23		Line 892 Pole 2	2	5	38.9	194
03-Jul	20:32	05-Jul	17:15		Line 222 Pole 1	2	3	44.7	134
03-Jul	20:32	06-Jul	11:18		Line 222 Pole 8	2	1	62.8	63
03-Jul	20:32	06-Jul	21:45		Line 5 Pole 16-2	2	1	73.2	73
16-Oct	9:15	16-Oct	10:10		Line 32 Pole 1	1	28	0.9	26
16-Oct	10:00	16-Oct	11:05		Line 33 Pole 1	1	4	1.1	4
19-Nov	8:02	19-Nov	8:25		Line 381 Pole 24-1	7	1	0.4	0
09-Dec	18:45	09-Dec	19:58		Line 3 Pole 30	2	62	1.2	75
09-Dec	20:02	09-Dec	22:00		Line 38 Pole 1	2	20	2.0	39
10-Dec	0:05	10-Dec	1:50		Line 32 Pole 44	2	1	1.8	2
10-Dec	0:05	10-Dec	3:57		Line 327 Pole 1	2	21	3.9	81
16-Dec	9:28	16-Dec	10:00		Line 381 pole 5	1	15	0.5	8
16-Dec	9:28	16-Dec	12:50		Line 381 Pole 17	1C	2	3.4	7
31-Dec	23:00	31-Dec	23:36		Line 3 Pole 30	4	62	0.6	37

# Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department 2014

This report is pursuant to PSB Rule 4.903B. It is to be submitted to the Public Service Board and the Department of Public Service no later than 30 days after the end of the calendar year.

## Electricity Outage Report -- PSB Rule 4.900

Name of company Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department  
 Calendar year report covers 2014  
 Contact person Howard R. Barton, Superintendent  
 Phone number 802-228-3721  
 Number of customers 3,703

**System average interruption frequency index (SAIFI) = 1.2**  
 Customers Out / Customers Served

**Customer average interruption duration index (CAIDI) = 1.3**  
 Customer Hours Out / Customers Out

Outage cause	Number of Outages	Total customer hours out	Note: Per PSB Rule 4.903(B)(3), this report must be accompanied by an overall assessment of system reliability that addresses the areas where most outages occur and the causes underlying most outages. Based on this assessment, the utility should describe, for both the long and the short terms, appropriate and necessary activities, action plans, and implementation schedules for correcting any problems identified in the above assessment.
1 Trees	6	55	
2 Weather	13	5,447	
3 Company initiated outage	0	0	
4 Equipment failure	2	38	
5 Operator error	0	0	
6 Accidents	0	0	
7 Animals	7	134	
8 Power supplier	0	0	
9 Non-utility power supplier	0	0	
10 Other	0	0	
11 Unknown	0	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5,675</b>	

## **Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department Overall Assessment of System Reliability**

In accordance with PSB Rule 4.903(B)(3) the following is the overall assessment of system reliability for power outages that had occurred in the year of 2014, for The Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department.

### **Outage Code #1 Trees**

Ludlow Electric experienced six tree related outages during 2014. All six events occurred with trees outside the right-of-way. We continue to identify any danger trees and make arrangements with the property owner so we can remove them. Ludlow Electric still continues with its tree trimming program which greatly reduces the number of outages.

### **Outage Code #2 Weather**

Ludlow Electric experienced thirteen weather related outages during 2014. Nine events occurred on July 3<sup>rd</sup> during a high wind event which broke or damaged 39 poles throughout our service territory. The longer outages were located at seasonal homes with no residents there so they were restored last. Ludlow Electric only experienced four outages during the December 9<sup>th</sup> heavy snow event.

### **Outage Code #4 Equipment Failure**

Ludlow Electric experienced two equipment failures during 2014. One event was an older transformer feeding one customer that had an internal fault and the second event occurred from a fuse overload.

### **Outage Code #7 Animals**

Ludlow Electric experienced seven outages in 2014 due to animal contacts. All transformers on our system have animal guards installed on them to help prevent contacts and outages.

# **12 Municipals' Integrated Resource Plan**

**Barton Village Inc. Electric Department;  
Village of Enosburg Falls Water & Light Department;  
Town of Hardwick Electric Department;  
Village of Hyde Park Electric Department;  
Village of Jacksonville Electric Company;  
Village of Johnson Water and Light Department;  
Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department;  
Village of Lyndonville Electric Department;  
Village of Morrisville Water & Light Department;  
Northfield Electric Department;  
Village of Orleans Electric Department;  
Swanton Village, Inc. Electric Department;**

## **Integrated Resource Plan 2015-2034**

### ***Part 3 - Resource Model & Results***

**Presented to the Vermont Public Service Board  
July 17, 2015**

**Submitted by:  
Vermont Public Power Supply Authority**

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# 1. Introduction and Approach

This section of the Integrated Resource Plan (“IRP”) describes the municipal systems’ resource analytical process that is used to evaluate and assess power portfolios. While the municipal systems seek approval of the IRP, the approval is not being sought for the actual results contained herein or for any explicit resource decision at this time. Rather, the Municipals seek approval of the analytic framework rather than approval of a particular power project or portfolio. The Municipals’ IRP results in a plan for meeting future resource needs, but it does not map out with precision what exact action the 12 municipal systems will ultimately take or what single resource mix is best over the course of the next 20 years.

The objective of the integrated resource planning process is to assure consumers are provided with safe and reliable service balanced with the costs and benefits of providing this service. This Integrated Resource Plan outlines the process by which VPPSA equitably considers supply options (electric generation plants or wholesale contracts) when developing strategies to meet its customers’ long-term energy and capacity needs. VPPSA’s intent is to develop a flexible, cost-effective strategy to serve future power needs for its municipal systems and their customers, recognizing the complex interaction among total resource costs, revenue requirements, reliability, electric rate and environmental impacts, flexibility, diversity and industry restructuring.

To this end, the IRP is a combination of analytics and policy level considerations. For example, the IRP model will produce some specific quantitative numbers, but it does not intend to resolve all resource procurement questions mathematically. Judgment and policy level influences will lead to decisions that are aligned with the consumers of the individual municipal utility systems’ desires to the greatest extent possible.

For purposes of this IRP analysis and consistent with past IRPs, all 12 systems were aggregated and treated as one system. It is important to note that the analysis and model, when used in aggregate, does not represent any individual systems’ future resource mix. Instead, the IRP provides information on how power supply portfolios will be evaluated and compared in aggregate. Individual resource decisions will be made at the local system level as resource options are presented to the municipal systems. The IRP analysis and associated files have the capability to analyze resources at the individual system level and this will be done as specific power projects are reviewed and assessed. In this way, each utility will have specific information on the impact a project and resource mix will have on their individual system. It provides information that facilitates each utility’s determination whether or not a project or resource mix fits with the municipal’s goals and customers’ preferences.

As part of the IRP process communication and review has been ongoing with the municipal systems. VPPSA staff worked with its member systems to describe the process, seek input, survey utility groups, and develop a power supply tool. VPPSA and the municipal utilities have held substantive discussions on numerous occasions to consider resource options and potential future supply scenarios to meet consumers' needs. VPPSA held regular meetings on future resources at the VPPSA Board level. Resource discussions have been, and will continue to be, an agenda item at all VPPSA Board meetings. Based on direction from the VPPSA Board, resources and combinations of resources are evaluated based their mix of attributes desirable to the members, including diversity, duration, achievability, reliability, credit risk, flexibility, and volatility. These attributes are discussed further in Section 5.1 of Part 3.

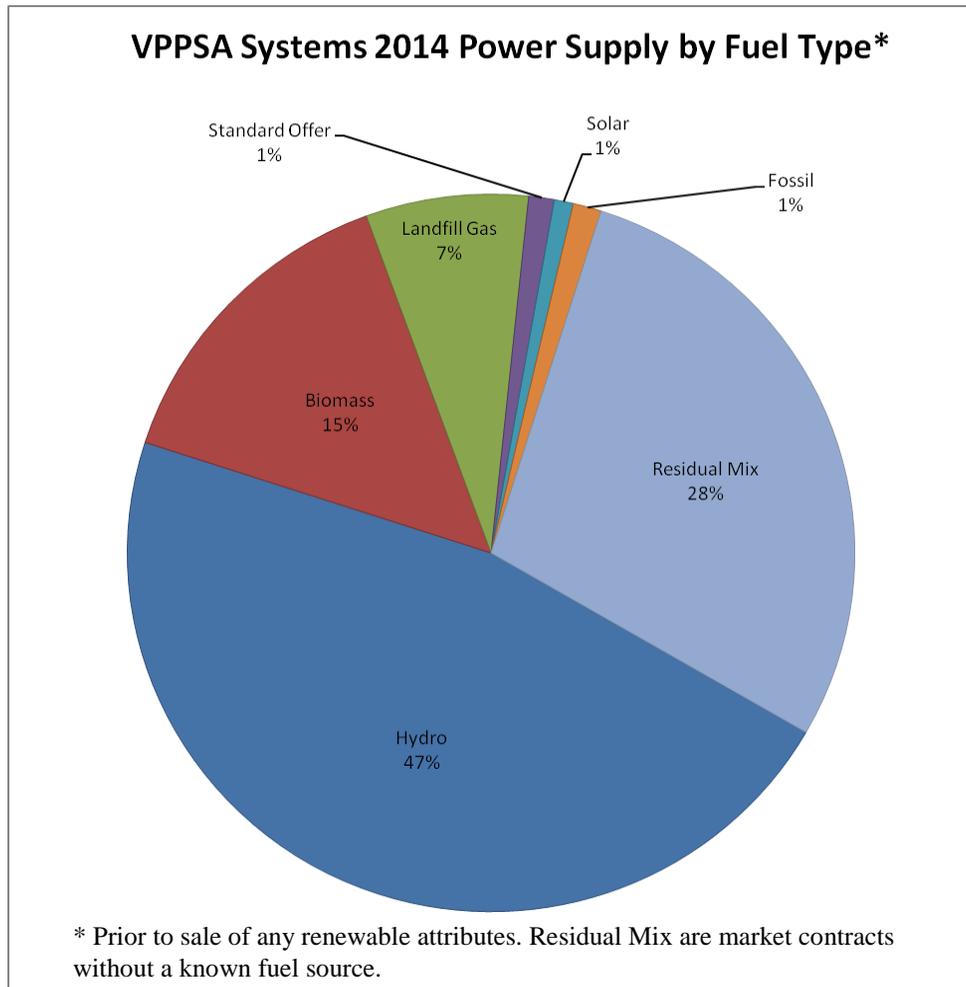
The municipal systems and VPPSA view the IRP planning process as dynamic rather than static; conditions change and planning projections must be updated as necessary to reflect important developments. Therefore, the municipal systems' IRP is just that; a plan that will require continual evolution and further analysis of investment decision paths. This model is the engine driving the analytic framework and is used on a regular basis to help assess and evaluate power project opportunities.

The IRP is written with the goal of ensuring the decision making framework described is understandable and accessible. The IRP model described is provided with the IRP to allow the reader the ability to have an in depth understanding of the impact of key variables on the resource mix. The remainder of this section of the IRP describes VPPSA's existing resources (Section 2), provides an overview of the model (Section 3) and describes key inputs (Section 4) and outputs (Section 5). Section 6 and 7 wrap up with an Action Plan and Conclusion. Appendices include resource and variable assumptions, a detailed description of the operation of the model, and results of the model.

## **2. Existing Resources**

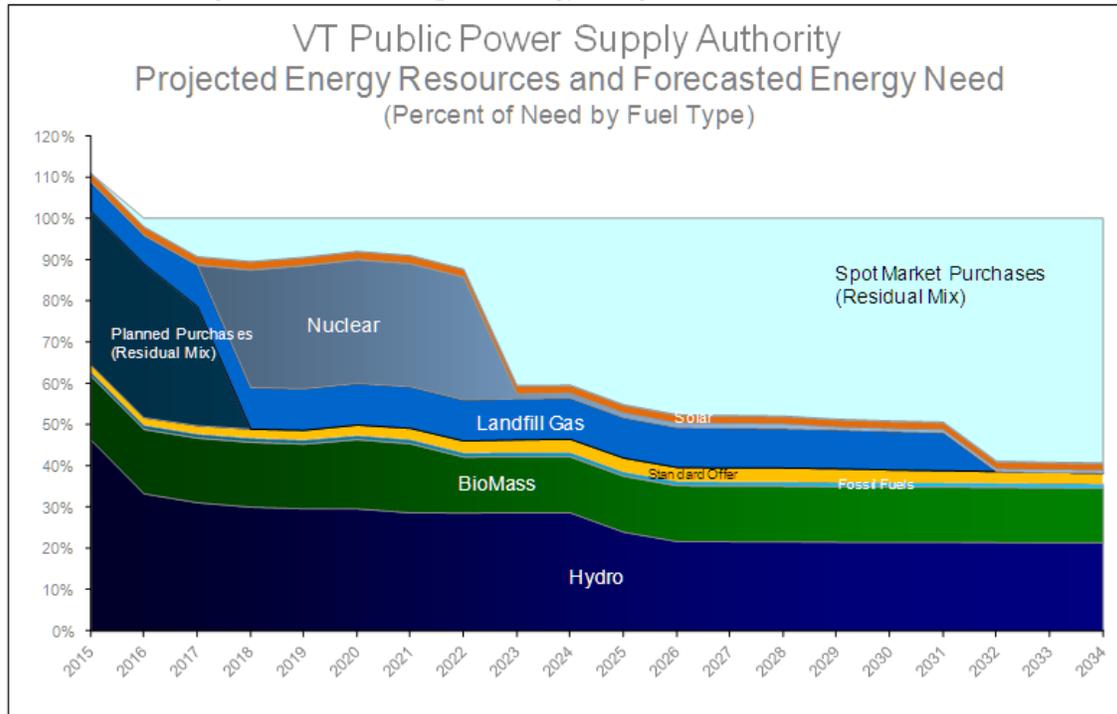
The municipal systems' current power supply portfolio is a combination of long-term contracts, short-term contracts, and generation. The portfolio acts as a diversified means to financially hedge the cost of serving load at the Vermont Zone. The VPPSA systems' current supply mix meets existing energy and demand needs. Figure 2.1 displays the VPPSA utility mix, in aggregate, by fuel type, prior to the sale of any renewable energy attributes. The figure illustrates the diversity of existing fuel sources.

**Figure 2-1: VPPSA Systems' 2014 Power Supply by Fuel Type**

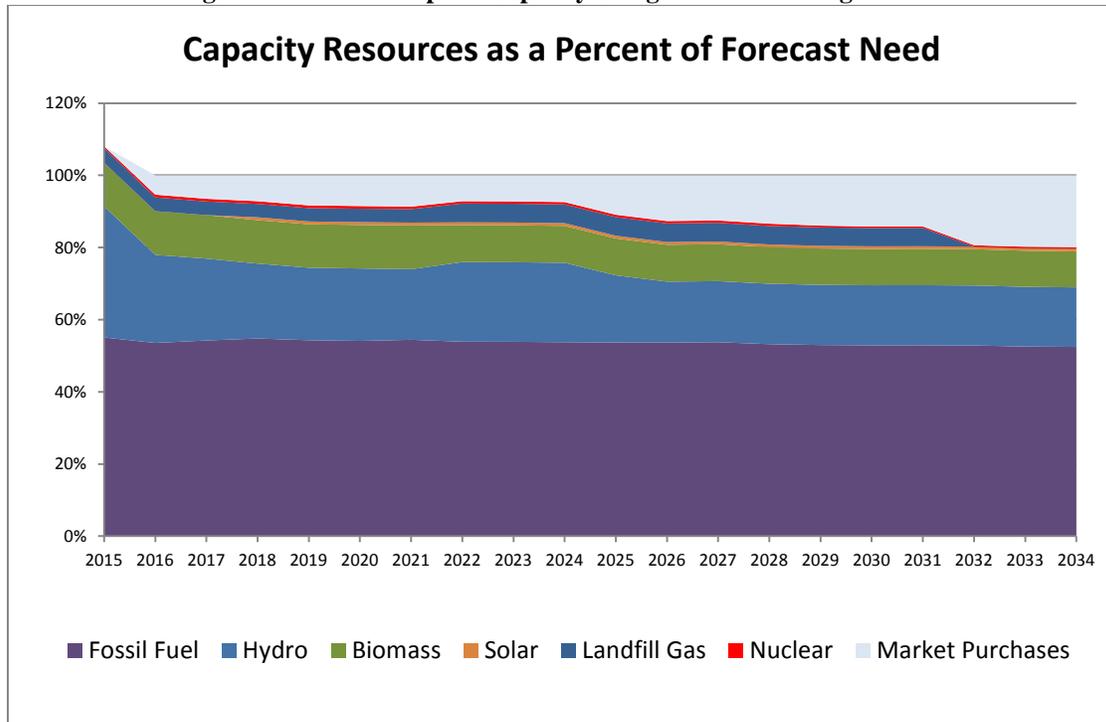


While current market obligations are being met by existing resources, significant changes to the mix are expected to occur in the near future. Figures 2-2 and 2-3 summarize the position of VPPSA systems (in aggregate) on an energy and capacity basis contrasted to a base-case load forecast for energy and peak demand over a 20-year horizon. It provides an assessment of secured resources as contrasted to load requirements. As shown in the charts, a growing gap in both energy and capacity supply occurs in the near future, especially after 2022.

**Figure 2-2: 12 Municipals' Energy Obligation vs. Current Resources**



**Figure 2-3: 12 Municipals' Capacity Obligation vs. Existing Resources**



Major milestones for the supply mix can be summarized as follows:

- Energy Market Contracts expiring in the first one to five years
- Current HQ Contract expirations 2012 through 2016 – 16.4 MW
- Substantial five year energy only contract beginning in 2018
- Capacity resources are expected to be level through 2024 after an initial drop in 2016
- Utility owned hydro facilities will need to undergo FERC relicensing

Facility Name	Utility Owner	FERC License Expiration Date
Barton Village Hydro	Barton Village	10/1/2043
Enosburg Falls Hydro	Village of Enosburg	04/30/2023
Great Falls Hydro	Village of Lyndonville	5/31/2019
Highgate Falls Hydro	Village of Swanton	04/30/2024
Morrisville Hydro	Village of Morrisville	04/30/2015
Vail Hydro	Village of Lyndonville	02/28/2034

Detail on each municipal system’s existing power portfolio and detail on each resource is described in Appendix 1 and included in the individual systems' portions of the IRP.

### 3. Model Overview

The analytic model that provides the framework for resource decisions is Microsoft Excel based. It consists of three Excel workbooks and a required Microsoft Excel “Add-In”. The list below summarizes the primary source files, which are provided with the IRP.

1. “CapEgyCalc5.xlsm”
2. “IRPResults4.xls”
3. “IRP\_Run\_Assumptions.xlsm”
4. “Sens131s.xla”

“CapEgyCalc5.xlsm” is an input file. All resources in the current supply mix are entered into this file as well as the assumptions of how the resource is to be modeled (costs, capacity factor, on-peak, etc.). Each resource is able to be assigned to member system utilities in full or partial units, in order to model impacts to individuals. The loads that need to be served by multiple utilities are also characterized. Results are generated based upon the chosen inputs in the file and limitations on each resource. Resource and key variable inputs are discussed further in Section 4.

“IRPResults4.xls” captures the output from “CapEgyCalc5.xlsm” and calculates the results, including sensitivity analysis. Variables used to stress test and calculate portfolio Net Present Values (NPV) are included in the “IRPResults4.xls” file and are easily adjusted by the user. This file provides annual summaries, by resource, for the projected

output of those resources in capacity, energy, REC, and ancillary product terms as well as projected total power costs and market revenues for resources by year.

“IRP\_Run\_Assumptions.xlsm” allows for multiple iterations of the model to take place automatically. Up to 25 separate user-defined resource mixes to be run through the model are identified; the file is intended to be the primary user interface for deriving output from the IRP model after all user inputs have been finalized in “CapEgyCalc5.xlsm” and “IRPResults4.xls.” The user can define purchase years, capacity factors, and resource lifetimes that will flow into the model. As currently designed, this file allows combinations of hypothetical/generic resources that will meet future load needs to be characterized and makes final modifications to the CapEgyCalc5.xlsm spreadsheet before generating a results file for the case.

“Sens131s.xla” is a required “Add In” for Excel. It needs to be installed as an available “Add In” in order for the model to run correctly. This portion of the model stresses the high, low, and base case of all variables. The file enables the model to produce “tornado” charts outputs after stressing low, base and high case variables and their affects on NPV.

Detailed directions on how to utilize the files above to collectively run the model are provided in Appendix 2.

#### 4. Model Input Description (Resources and Variables)

The model aggregates all 12 VPPSA utility systems’ load and resources and treats them as one in order to produce one supply-side resource mix for all 12 systems in aggregate. All resources and supply assumptions are input into the model on a resource-by-resource basis.

Existing generation and contract resources were input into the model including costs, capacity value, energy allotment, and end dates. Figure 4-1 is a list of all resources currently modeled in the IRP analysis and included in the current version of the file “CapEgyCalc5.xlsm”. A detailed description of the current supply resources, including the "planned purchase" program (signified below by "PP") is found in each individual member systems' resource inventory.

Figure 4-1: Supply Resources

<b>67 Resources Defined in Spreadsheet's Database</b>		
<i>Supplier ID</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Type Code</i>
NYPA	<b>NYPA Niagara Project</b>	Contract Hydro
NYPA	<b>NYPA St. Lawrence Project</b>	Contract Hydro
VEPP	<b>VEPP Inc: Ryegate</b>	BioMass
VEPP	<b>Vt Elect Pow Prod Inc: Hydro</b>	Contract Hydro
MUNI	<b>Enosburg Falls Hydroelectric</b>	Internal Hydro

MUNI	<b>Wolcott Hydro</b>	Internal Hydro
MUNI	<b>Vail &amp; Great Falls</b>	Internal Hydro
MUNI	<b>Barton Hydroelectric</b>	Internal Hydro
MUNI	<b>Morrisville Plant #2</b>	Internal Hydro
MUNI	<b>Cadys Falls</b>	Internal Hydro
MUNI	<b>H.K. Sanders</b>	Internal Hydro
MUNI	<b>Highgate Falls</b>	Internal Hydro
MUNI	<b>Unit 5</b>	Internal Hydro
HQUEB	<b>Hydro-Quebec Sch. B</b>	Contract Hydro
HQUEB	<b>Hydro-Quebec Sch. C3</b>	Contract Hydro
HQUEB	<b>Hydro-Quebec Sch. C4A</b>	Contract Hydro
HQUEB	<b>Hydro-Quebec Sch. C4B</b>	Contract Hydro
HQUEB	<b>Hydro-Quebec ICC</b>	Contract Hydro
MUNI	<b>Stonybrook CC Unit 1A</b>	OIL/GAS
MUNI	<b>Stonybrook CC Unit 1B</b>	OIL/GAS
MUNI	<b>Stonybrook CC Unit 1C</b>	OIL/GAS
MUNI	<b>J.C. McNeil</b>	BioMass
MUNI	<b>Yarmouth (Wyman) Unit 4</b>	OIL/GAS
MUNI	<b>Barton Diesel</b>	OIL/GAS
VPPSA	<b>Project 10</b>	OIL/GAS
VPPSA	<b>Fitchburg Landfill Gas</b>	Landfill Gas
SO	<b>Standard Offer</b>	Standard Offer
HQUS	<b>HQUS1</b>	Contract Hydro
HQUS	<b>HQUS2</b>	Contract Hydro
HQUS	<b>HQUS3</b>	Contract Hydro
HQUS	<b>HQUS4</b>	Contract Hydro
HQUS	<b>HQUS5</b>	Contract Hydro
HQUS	<b>HQUS6</b>	Contract Hydro
VPPSA	<b>Seabrook_1</b>	Nuclear
VPPSA	<b>Chester Solar</b>	Solar
VPPSA	<b>Hardwick Solar</b>	Solar
VPPSA	<b>PP6-OnPeak-2015</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP6-OffPeak-2015</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP6-OnPeak-15Q4</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP6-OffPeak-15Q4</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP7OnPeak2015</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP7OffPeak2015</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>Merr2016OnPeak</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>Merr2016OffPeak</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP8OnPeak2015</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP8OffPeak2015</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP8OnPeak2016</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP8OffPeak2016</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP8OnPeak2017</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP8OffPeak2017</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>2018-2022 Peak</b>	Nuclear
VPPSA	<b>2018-2022 Off Peak</b>	Nuclear
VPPSA	<b>Orleans 2014-2016 Peak</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>Orleans 2014-2016 Off Peak</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP10 Peak</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>PP10 Off Peak</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>Generic OutState Solar</b>	Solar

VPPSA	<b>Generic OutState Solar2</b>	Solar
VPPSA	<b>Generic InState Solar</b>	Solar
VPPSA	<b>Generic InState Solar2</b>	Solar
VPPSA	<b>Generic Fixed Price Contract</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>Generic Fixed Price Contract2</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>Generic Variable Priced Contract</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>Generic Variable Priced Contract2</b>	Firm System Contract
VPPSA	<b>Generic Wind</b>	Wind
VPPSA	<b>Generic Wind2</b>	Wind
VPPSA	<b>CT Hydro</b>	Contract Hydro

Three other resources are also considered in resource planning: Energy Efficiency, Net Metering, and Rate Design. While not explicitly modeled, these policy and/or structural mechanisms fundamentally alter the remaining resource mix necessary to meet consumer's needs. The treatment of each is briefly described in the following sections; the first two are also addressed in the load forecast discussion in section 4.5.

### **4.1 Energy Efficiency**

Efficiency Vermont (EVT) has been delivering energy efficiency services to most utilities in Vermont, including the 12 municipal systems, since 2000. Originally a short-term contract, the Public Service Board has appointed Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) to provide services for up to 11 years. This long-term commitment to energy efficiency helps to ensure that all reasonably available cost-effective efficiency resources are procured in the member systems territory, encouraging VEIC's commitment to long-term savings for customers rather than simply first-year MWh savings acquisition. The "Order of Appointment", however, does not relieve utilities of their obligation to conduct least cost distributed utility planning, including the consideration of distributed generation, targeted energy efficiency, and demand response.

VPPSA values its relationship with Efficiency Vermont on behalf of its members. It has, and plans to continue to, increased participation in efficiency related Public Service Board dockets to ensure that the framework under which VEIC operates continues to be beneficial to VPPSA members. In addition, VPPSA has and will continue to participate actively in the Vermont System Planning Committee, coordinating forecasting and geographic targeting of efficiency with other Vermont utilities and stakeholders to ensure robust consideration of this indispensable resource.

As discussed in detail below, expected energy efficiency investments over the course of this IRP's timeframe has a significant impact on forecasted demand. The treatment of energy efficiency in the load forecast is discussed in Section 4.5.

## 4.2 Net Metering

Act 99 of 2014 revised Vermont's net metering program in a number of important ways. Perhaps most significantly, it increased the cumulative capacity cap on net metering from 4% to 15%. This combined with favorable financing and policy incentives, have led to a rapid pace of deployment of net metering systems, particularly solar PV.

At the time the forecast was developed for this IRP, Act 99 had not yet been passed. The forecast used in this model assumes net metering penetration to 4% of the cap, then held constant. VPPSA considered updating the forecast in the IRP document to reflect the 15% cap, however for a number of reasons ultimately determined that this IRP which models net metering penetration at 4% and stresses the forecast in two ways along with other key variables as described below, provided a range of outcomes that demonstrates effective long-term planning methodologies that are employed by VPPSA. The table below shows the current net metering penetration rates by system for each of VPPSA's members. There are large differences in the level of NM penetration across systems, which may be due to a variety of factors that have not yet been studied in detail.

<b>Net Metering</b>			
<b>SYSTEM</b>	<b>Total Capacity (kw)</b>	<b>PEAK</b>	<b>% PEAK</b>
Barton	85	3,040	2.81%
Enosburg	174	5,740	3.03%
Hardwick	1,166	6,930	16.82%
Hyde Park	341	2,530	13.46%
Jacksonville	26	1,180	2.23%
Johnson	252	2,800	8.99%
Ludlow	150	12,400	1.21%
Lyndonville	749	13,480	5.56%
Morrisville	887	9,170	9.67%
Northfield	137	5,330	2.56%
Orleans	21	3,570	0.59%
Swanton	1,109	10,430	10.63%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,097</b>	<b>76,600</b>	<b>6.65%</b>

Act 99 called for the Public Service Board to re-design the net metering program, taking into account a number of broad policy goals including consistency with state renewable energy and greenhouse gas goals and notably a focus on cost - both limiting cross-subsidization and ensuring that rates for net metering customers take into account the actual cost to construct those systems. Draft rule revisions are still being finalized, with wide variations between drafts that create significant uncertainty with regard to Net Metering compensation and penetration rates. This IRP models addresses this uncertainty through the load forecast and forecast error variables described in Sections

4.5 and 4.6. Resource decisions will use best available and most current information to estimate Net Metering generation and costs, and continue to stress those variables to understand the impacts of variances from the base case. Future IRP's will take into account known Net Metering rules at the time of development for this rapidly evolving State program.

VPPSA supports the continued development of net metering consistent with Vermont statute and Public Service Board rules, and will continue to reflect current understanding of net metering and impacts on its systems in resource planning decisions.

### **4.3 Vermont Renewable Energy Standard**

Act 56 of 2015 established a Renewable Energy Standard (RES) that requires VPPSA utilities to:

- Meet 55% of its retail sales with renewable resource in 2017, increasing to 75% by 2032;
- Meet 1% of its retail sales with in-State "distributed generation" in 2017, increasing to 10% by 2032;
- Meet 2% of its retail sales with as-yet undefined "Energy Transformation Projects" in 2019, increasing to 10.67% by 2032.

Notably, Act 56 gave VPPSA utilities the option of complying with the statute in aggregate or meeting the requirements individually. At the time of filing of this IRP, the RES had just been passed, and proceedings had not yet started to define the parameters within which the goals would need to be met. Given uncertainty surrounding RES, the Vermont Renewable Energy Standard was included as a key variable to be stressed. This variable was stressed at three levels - the base case assuming that resources were acquired that meet the requirements above, at 0%, assuming a political removal of the RES requirements, and at 175%, representing RES requirements 75% above base case.

VPPSA plans to meet the obligations of the RES, and has modeled each scenario as meeting the requirements of RES. Given the timing of Act 56's passage, this modeling was done on an economic basis only -- estimating the cost of compliance through the use of estimated Renewable Energy Credit (REC) value. These varied between Tier I and Tiers II/III. Tier I compliance is based on the cost associated with out-of-state existing facility RECs. Tier II and III compliance rates were based on an estimate of future Massachusetts Class I REC prices. This was used as a proxy under the assumption that in-state developers could have the option of either selling RECs to Vermont utilities and/or selling them out-of-state, effectively making their market price the same. Tier III compliance costs are set to the same as Tier II, because Tier II resources are eligible to meet those requirements, and because of the significant uncertainty around the Tier III design at the time of writing. The values are then stressed in two ways, both with regard to the price estimate and with regard to the amount of requirement as described above --

eliminating the compliance costs if there is no longer a Renewable Energy Standard, and increasing the costs 75% to account for more stringent requirements.

VPPSA then examines each supply resource based on cost and benefits, with consideration given to whether it reduces exposure relative to the requirements that a VPPSA member may have. The resulting environmental implications are discussed in Section 5.

#### ***4.4 Rate Design and Advanced Metering Infrastructure***

Due largely to the small size of the systems, the economies of scale necessary to facilitate a successful business case for Advanced Metering Infrastructure is elusive. That said, VPPSA and its members continue to evaluate its benefits and costs. Billing system upgrades, to handle the data associated with AMI, continue to be evaluated regularly.

AMI has the potential to facilitate more sophisticated rate design. However, this can also be done without AMI. For example, time and value differentiated rate structures could better send signals to customers that increase efficiency and lower costs. Rate structures ranging from Time-of-Use rates to distribution fees that better reflect the costs to serve customers are two possible visions of the future. VPPSA continues to work with its member systems to understand each particular system and their customers, and to recommend effective rate structures for each utility.

#### ***4.5 Key Variables***

In addition to the existing resource information, key variables and assumptions regarding the expected ranges of those variables are inputs into the model (in the file “IRPResults4.xls”).

Figure 4-2 summarizes the key variables VPPSA used in the model. These variables were selected based on power supply staff expertise and judgment following review of a wider range of possible variables, including those modeled in previous iterations of the IRP.

**Figure 4-2: Key Variable Ranges**

<b>Input Variables</b>	<b>Low NPV \$</b>	<b>Base NPV \$</b>	<b>High NPV \$</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	35.4%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	18.5%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	1.1%
VT Renewable Energy Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	8.9%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	5.2%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	
FCA Clearing Prices	25.9%	100.0%	211.2%	37.1%
FRM Clearing Prices	42.2%	100.0%	157.8%	28.9%
Renewable Energy Credits	10.0%	100.0%	120.0%	
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	50.7%
Discount rate	84.6%	100.0%	115.4%	0.50%

Each variable has a base-case value which represents current market conditions or the best information available for that variable today. Each variable also has corresponding high and low values which are used to provide sensitivity analysis related to that variable, based on one or two standard deviations away from the base case, depending on the variable. The determination of the standard deviation is based on an examination of fit within the confines of historical data taking into account changes that are not reflected in that data. This allows the cost for the resource mix to be stress tested for the low to high ranges of each variable, providing a range of potential results. The above table shows the degree to which the high and low cases vary from the base case. A complete description of inputs and key variables is provided in the Appendix. Figure 4-3 depicts the first year values of each variable.

**Figure 4-3: Key Variable Values in 2017**

<b>Input Variables</b>	<b>Low NPV \$</b>	<b>Base NPV \$</b>	<b>High NPV \$</b>
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$ 1.67	\$ 5.73	\$ 9.79
Implied Heat Rate	5.26	8.34	11.43
LMP Basis to HUB	-1.18%	-1.20%	-1.23%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	\$ -	\$ 34.04	\$ 59.56
Electric Vehicles	56	111	156
Regional Network Service Rates	\$ 7.54	\$ 9.17	\$ 10.79
Capacity Load Obligation	76,808	81,062	89,572
Monthly Peak (Trans)	56,507	62,785	69,064
FCA Clearing Prices	\$ 2.14	\$ 8.29	\$ 17.50
FRM Clearing Prices	\$ 1.49	\$3.54	\$ 5.58
Renewable Energy Credits	\$ 5.39	\$ 53.89	\$ 64.66
Load Forecast	364,637	378,647	392,657
Load Forecast Error Percentage	367,287	378,647	390,006
Inflation	1.06%	2.14%	3.23%
Discount rate	2.8%	3.3%	3.8%

As can be seen in the above figure, the base case estimation for natural gas fuel price is estimated to be \$5.73/MMBtu in 2017. The low case is calculated by taking 29.2% (two standard deviations) of the base case, or \$1.67/MMBtu. The high case is calculated by taking 170.8% of the base case value (two standard deviations), for a value of \$9.79/MMBtu. Each variable is adjusted up and down around the base case value using the percentages identified in figure 4-2. In this way sensitivity to each variable can be calculated in the analysis.

A detailed list of all variables and resource inputs are summarized in the appendix.

## **4.6 Load Forecast**

A critical component of ongoing evaluation of resources relative to need is the load forecast. VPPSA maintains long term energy (monthly resolution) and peak (daily resolution) regression models as an integral part of its strategy of continually reviewing its member system's position, facilitating effective procurement of energy resources to fit projected requirements. These models, originally based on logic from the previously filed IRP, have been substantially revamped in the past few years to better account for emerging trends and fundamental changes to system load. Due to significant progress from statewide energy programs as Energy Efficiency implementation through Efficiency Vermont, Net Metering, and the Standard Offer program, as well as the changing economic climate across Vermont (and nationwide), the models are limited to the use of historical data from the last 10 years. While many member systems are experiencing

relatively little annual load variation, a few have seen more significant changes. For these systems, the historical data was limited to a shorter window than 10 years.

Key Drivers: Part of the strategy to develop a set of sustainable, effective models has been to keep them as simple as possible while still including all measures that significantly impact, or are expected to significantly impact load. This involves evaluating a number of potential key drivers and only including those that produce the most significance in a sensible manner. VPPSA has classified three types of variables included in the models to better distinguish their usefulness in this report. **Default variables** that can be found in all models, **system specific long term drivers** and **system specific fundamental change variables**. Each type of variable is discussed, in turn, below.

**Default variables** include weather drivers (heating and cooling degree days) as well as variables to allow the model to decipher from month to month and, in the case of the peak model, variables to enable the model identify holidays. In the case of weather, a ten year average of normal weather is used moving forward in the energy models and the rank-and-average method<sup>1</sup> has been used in the demand model to better capture the extreme weather conditions that often induce peak demand. These weather variables are transformed to degree days before being utilized in the regression. While these default variables carry significant weight and are able provide a shape to the projected load on a monthly (daily for demand) basis, they do nothing to account for any overall upward or downward trend looking forward. System specific long term drivers are utilized to accomplish this goal.

**System specific long term drivers** are used to drive the model's long term trend, and are based on economic and legislative energy initiatives. VPPSA uses a pool of variables from various sources as described in the table below to provide the model with this long-term vision. Among many systems, the most notable driver of long term load tends to be energy efficiency. The second most significant is generally some type of economic indicator such as unemployment or construction earnings. Energy efficiency appears to be the most significant because loads have historically been fairly flat across member systems, regardless of the health of the economy. Meanwhile, efficiency measures appear to continue to result in a sustained meaningful effect on load. A projection of the impacts of net metering was initially included in the load forecasts, however it had, at best, a minimal impact on the forecast and in many cases the models were unable to latch onto it as a driver. It is believed this is due to the relatively recent uptick in net metering and as more time goes by, the models will find this information increasingly more significant.

**System specific fundamental change variables** are used to indicate to the model when a fundamental change occurred in a specific utility's energy usage. They are used to indicate an exception to the general trend. This is often due to the addition or removal of

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<sup>1</sup> A description of the rank-and-average method can be found at <https://www.itron.com/PublishedContent/Defining%20Normal%20Weather%20for%20Energy%20and%20Peak%20Normalization.pdf>

a major customer, such as a manufacturing plant, but can also be due to a variety of other reasons including distribution system upgrades/changes. A handful of these exceptions can be found throughout VPPSA member territories. Even after these variables are included, there may still be a reduction to the model's accuracy as a result of the fundamental change; however these variables significantly reduce this impact.

All variables added to the model are tested for their effectiveness. We evaluate the t-stat and coefficient that the model assigns to variables to determine: 1) if the variable is significant/useful and 2) if the variable is significant, is it acting appropriately (e.g. as energy efficiency increases, a reduction in load would be expected. A modeled increase in load would indicate that the variable is not acting appropriately and is not useful). In the case of heating and cooling degree days, the relationship between load and temperature is evaluated to choose the threshold heating/cooling values that capture each individual system's unique relationship to weather. This means that while the model of one system may use, for example, 60°F as a starting point for heating degree days, another may use 50°F. The same goes for cooling degree days.

**Data sources:** VPPSA uses a several different suppliers to provide much of the data that is ingested by the models and used to predict load. On the next page is a table outlining our main data sources. System specific drivers are then described in more detail.

**Figure 4-4: Load Forecast Data Sources**

Data Type	Variable(s)	Source	How We Handle Future
Historical Loads	Historical Load – increased by Standard Offer allotment	VELCO	Model Predicted
Net Metering	Net Metering Certificate of Public Good approval MWs	Public Service Department	Set to increase to 4% in 2014 then hold steady.
Electric Cars	Electric Car Saturation Forecasts	Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (Drive Electric Vermont) – VTrans EV Charging Plan (7/11/2013)	Carry trend forward
Weather	Temperature	National Weather Service	Energy Models: 10-year average Demand Models: Rank-and-Average
Energy Efficiency	Accumulated Efficiency Vermont Savings Claims*	Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (Efficiency Vermont)	Use forecast through 2031 then hold savings steady. Accumulated savings used*
Economic Indicators	Construction Earnings Wealth Index Population	Woods and Poole Economics Inc.	Woods and Poole forecast
Economic Indicators	Vermont Unemployment	Modeled from a blend Woods and Poole and Forecast.org data	Regression model using Bureau of Labor Statistics for historical national and Vermont data. Forecasts.org for National Unemployment forecast. Beyond Forecasts.org forecast, national unemployment gradually reverts to the last 10 year average over the following 10 years. Woods and Poole forecast for Vermont Employment (historical and future)

\*Note: EVT Savings claims in the models are not allowed to decrease if savings expirations result in a year-over-year decrease in cumulative savings.

## System Specific Drivers

ConstructionEarnings: Data for this variable is derived from the 2013 Woods and Poole State Profile dataset for Vermont. It represents total statewide construction earnings historically and forecasted forward. This had been used as a long term driver, where it fits, for many of the VPPSA utilities as it is a good indicator of both economic activity and population.

WealthIndex: Data for this variable is derived from the 2013 Woods and Poole State Profile dataset for Vermont. It represents statewide wealth in relation to the remainder of the country. This had been used as a long term driver, where it fits, as it can be used to show how Vermont's economy is performing relative to the rest of the country. The logic is that if Vermont's economy is thriving faster than the rest of the country, it would spur more rapid development. The contrary is a true as well.

VermontUnemployment: Data for this variable is derived from the 2013 Woods and Poole State Profile dataset for Vermont as well as a national unemployment rate. The Woods and Poole dataset used is the statewide employment per person determined by dividing total unemployment by population. This, along with a national unemployment rate is placed into a regression model to come up with a predicted Vermont unemployment rate, which is then used in some load models. The Vermont unemployment rate is considered a reasonable indicator of economic activity in the state.

Population: Data for this variable is derived from the 2013 Woods and Poole State Profile dataset for Vermont. It represents statewide wealth in relation to the remainder of the country. This had been used as a long term driver, where it fits, as it can be used to show how Vermont's population has fluctuated over time and how it is forecast to change in the future.

While nearly all of the forecast models use one of the drivers discussed above, they also almost nearly all use an Energy Efficiency variable called EVT filled. This variable is intended to describe energy efficiency contributions to load reduction and is explained further in the next section. Due to the rapid adoption of energy efficient measures over the years, in some cases this variable in itself becomes the sole long term driver of load for an individual utility. In these instances, drivers mentioned above become insignificant and are not included in the final model.

**Energy Efficiency**: As energy efficiency (EE) efforts continue to impact the load of utilities across the state, VPPSA revamped the method it uses to incorporate EE into its load forecast. Historically, a simple trending variable was used to "capture" general load trends, including those due to EE programs. VPPSA now examines EE savings data provided by Efficiency Vermont and incorporates both past and expected future savings into nearly all of its energy models. The method involves first looking at claimed EVT savings, per system. This number is divided out by the expected lifetime savings to get a "lifetime" of the savings (typically around 10 or 11 years, but this varies).

**Further considerations:** While some emerging technologies, such as net metering systems, have historical data to feed into the regression models, there are some where this data is scarce or not yet available due to the newness of the technology. In these cases, the effects of these technologies are not captured directly in the regression models. Forecasts, where available, are used to adjust the modeled load looking forward. VPPSA has recently considered two of these technologies that have the potential to significantly impact energy requirements looking forward: cold climate heat pumps and electric cars.

It is expected that over the next 10-20 years, heat pumps will continue to be installed offsetting the need for resistance and fossil area heat sources. Efficiency Vermont provided information about what it expects to be able to claim as savings for this measure, but this data does not provide a clear picture as to what the total effect on load would be. We have been unable to discover a source for forecast information that we feel comfortable with, however it appears any significant impact to load is still years away. VPPSA expects to include more on this in the future IRP filings. In addition, VPPSA will be watching for further information on the conversion of domestic water heaters, and clothes dryers to heat pump technology as well.

Electric vehicle and plug-in/plug-in hybrid electric (collectively referred to as “EV”) vehicle saturation forecasts are starting to become more widely available. VPPSA has obtained some of these forecasts and some information regarding the average impact each electric vehicle has on load.

When predicting the effects electric cars would have on load, VPPSA considered three saturation forecasts, all provided in the VTrans EV Charging Plan (7/1/13), one adjusted for Vermont specific conditions from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), another from the Center for Automotive Research (CAR) and one from the Vermont Air Pollution Control Division. The EIA forecast appears inappropriate in this context as the derivation was substantially underestimating EV ownership in 2013 thus VPPSA focused on the CAR and Vermont Air Pollution Control Division forecasts.. The CAR forecast is an annual forecast that predicts saturation from 2013-2015 and a simple trend was used to continue forward. The Air Pollution Control Division forecast provided a range of ownership projections of 10,000-23,000 by 2023. This is based on legislative regulations requiring manufacturers to produce additional Zero-Emission Vehicles in the future. VPPSA split this forecast into a low forecast (10,000) and high forecast (23,000) case and interpolated each backwards based on the expected ownership counts for 2013 in the CAR forecast. This was done because the CAR projection for the year looks reasonable based on current 2013 trends. This trend was then carried forward for each the high and low cases beyond 2023. These three forecasts were then examined annually through 2034 and averaged to get a saturation that is used in the load forecast.

After the saturation was developed, VPPSA determined the weighted average battery size based on current EV registrations to be 12.5 kWh. It was assumed that each car would be charged fully once per day and that 80% of the battery is available to the user, meaning

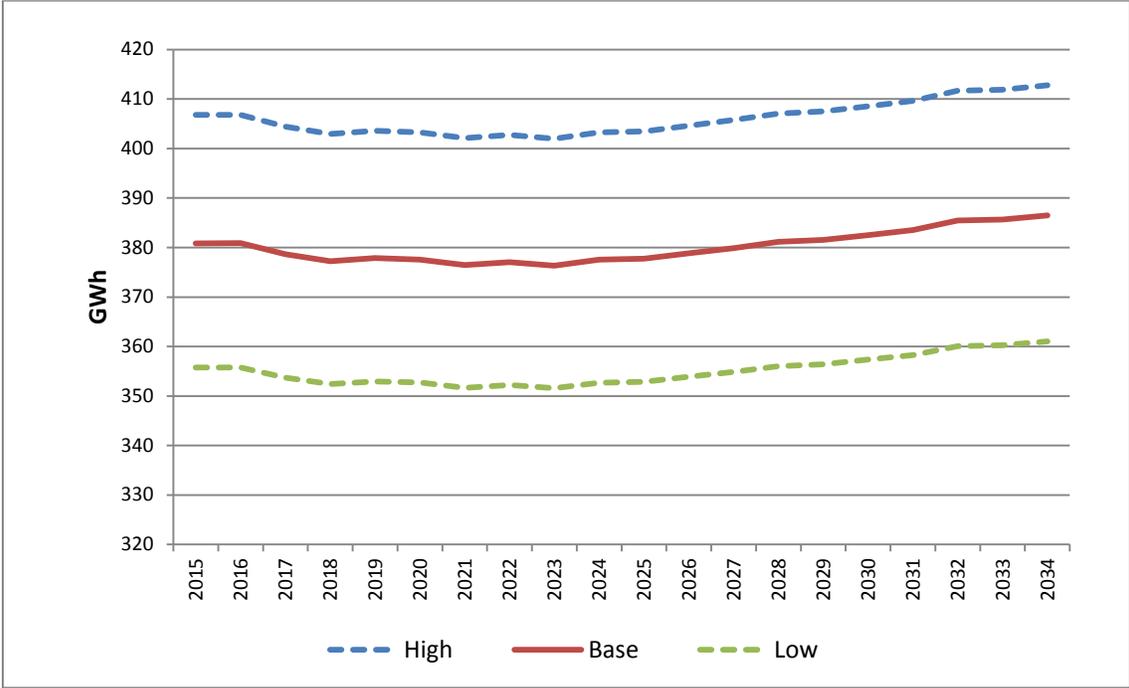
the battery is not allowed to drop below a 20% charge by the manufacturer due to decreased service life at full discharges. With these assumptions, the average load for each car, on an annual basis, is  $365 \times 0.8 \times 12.5$  or 3650kWh/year. It can be reasonably expected that battery capacity will increase over time as well as their ability to be depleted lower than 20%, increasing the impact each car will have and thus assuming a 12.5kWh battery is likely a conservative projection of load from electric vehicles. In addition, the forecasts used were trended forward beyond their last forecast year. As with all successful new technologies, adoption is expected to be more exponential in nature and thus more aggressive than we are assuming in this forecast. At the same time, we assumed each EV would be charged daily, a potentially optimistic assumption in the forecast. Considering all of these caveats, we believe the effect on load portrayed by our analysis are likely more conservative than what will actually occur and will need to be reexamined for the 2018 filing as more accurate longer range forecasts hopefully become available. It should also be noted that the impacts of rate design were not considered for this analysis - while rate designs may not affect overall annual consumption appropriately designed rates could impact the shape of the load.

It is important to note that while electric vehicles, net metering, and energy efficiency will continue to have significant impacts on consumption, the framework under which the forecast is developed -- its treatment as a key variable -- allows VPPSA to stress the impacts of changes in load on the resource needs. This stressing (discussed further in the Appendix) ensures that VPPSA and its member utilities will be prepared in the event that any of its forecasts for these emerging technologies are incorrect.

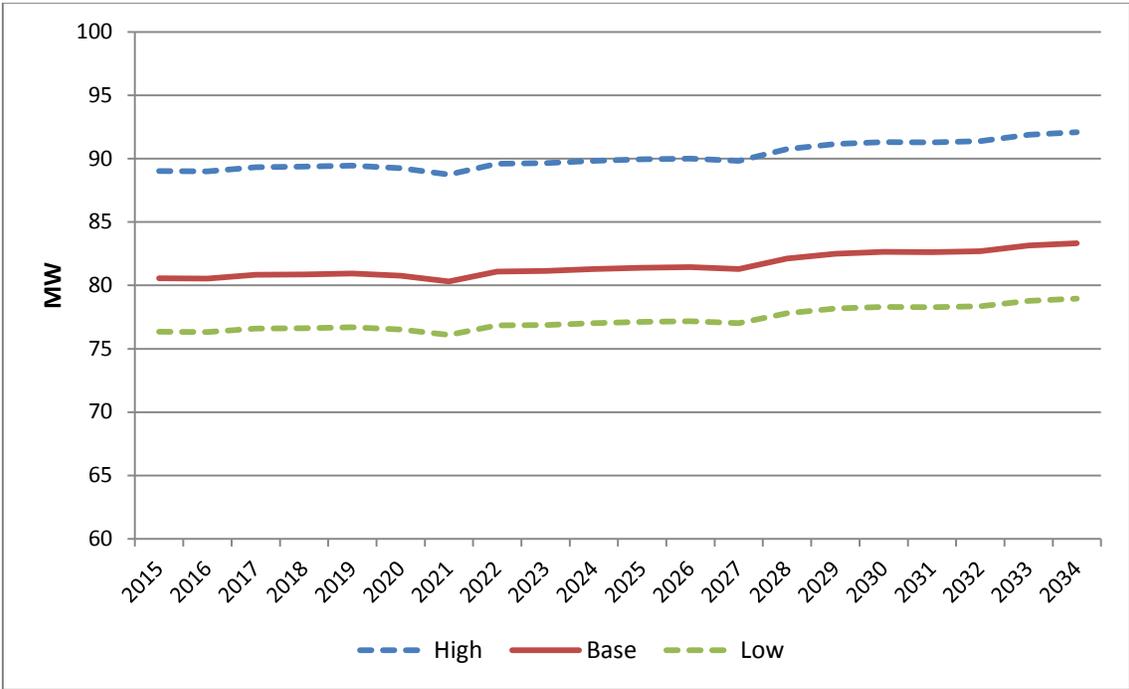
As noted in Figure 4-4, 10 year average historical weather is used to predict energy consumption, while a rank and average method is used for peak demand models. Historical and predicted weather patterns are a key data source in developing the energy forecast. It is important to stress the forecast for this key variable to ensure that the analysis of resources is based upon a robust forecast that encompasses a range of possible futures. The variable range for the Load Forecast is presented in Figure 4-2, while the methodology used to develop this range is presented in Appendix 1. The demand forecast (Capacity Load Obligation or "CLO") is stressed by two standard deviations of the average historical CLO, representing a reasonably wide range of potential outcomes given that the CLO in a given year is based on the utility's load in one hour of the year - a value that could vary widely depending on particular circumstances of the hour.

Figure 4-5 shows the base, high, and low energy forecast. The high and low forecasts are the result of the combination of the Load Forecast and Load Forecast Error key variable ranges. Figure 4-6 presents the high, low, and base forecasts for VPPSA's Capacity Load Obligation.

**Figure 4-5: Base, High, and Low Energy Forecast at VT Zone**



**Figure 4-6: Base, High, and Low Capacity Load Obligation**



## **5. Model Output Description**

The resource model calculates power costs over a long-term (25-year) future planning period, summarizing results on a net present value ("NPV") basis for each resource mix. The NPV calculation represents the costs or value associated with each resource mix over the 25 year period taking into account inflation and the utility's Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC), applied as a discount rate. The lower the NPV value the lower the cost of the portfolio. If all other aspects of an evaluated portfolio (flexibility, diversity, etc.) are equal to alternative resource mixes, then the lower the cost of the portfolio, the more desirable it is.

It is important to note that for VPPSA member municipal utilities, the WACC is low, relative to an investor owned utility. At approximately 3.25%, the WACC is commensurate with that of a societal discount rate of 3% - the general benchmark utilized in Vermont at this time (based on an estimate of the rate long-term federal Treasury bonds). This reflects that the time value of money for municipal utilities is approximately equal to that of society's. Thus, it is not necessary to analyze results from both a societal time value of money perspective and a ratepayer time value of money perspective, as they are effectively the same. The discount rate (the WACC) is still stressed as a key variable and as shown below, and it has a relatively high impact on results.

### **5.1. Scenarios and Portfolio Attributes**

VPPSA prepared 25 hypothetical supply scenarios as a reasonable set of options to serve future load needs. By evaluating these various power supply mixes using the IRP model, VPPSA was able to calculate a dollar net present value ("NPV") for the various scenarios. Figure 5-1 describes the scenarios evaluated in this IRP.

**Figure 5-1: Supply Scenarios**

Supply Scenarios	
All Out-of-State Solar ("SolarOut")	All Variable Contracts ("MktCon")
All In-State Solar ("SolarIn")	All Wind ("Wind")
All Fixed Contracts ("FixCon")	All Spot Market ("Spot")
Combinations of the Above (19 additional sets)	
SolarIn/FixCon	SolarOut/SolarIn/MktCon
SolarOut/SolarIn	SolarOut/SolarIn/Wind
SolarIn/MktCon	SolarIn/MktCon/Wind
SolarIn/Wind	SolarOut/FixCon/MktCon
SolarOut/FixCon	FixCon/MktCon/Wind
FixCon/MktCon	SolarOut/MktCon/Wind
FixCon/Wind	SolarOut/SolarIn/FixCon/MktCon
SolarOut/SolarIn/FixCon	SolarOut/SolarIn/MktCon/Wind
SolarIn/FixCon/MktCon	SolarOut/SolarIn/FixCon/MktCon/Wind
SolarIn/FixCon/Wind	

The list of resources was constructed with a number of resource attributes in mind. Direction from the VPPSA Board of Directors influences greatly the attributes that impact policy selection. Portfolios were designed to evaluate the following attributes (not necessarily listed in order of importance):

**Diversity.** Increasing fuel diversity, resource diversity, and supplier diversity is considered desirable in a power supply mix, as it reduces risk of being over-reliant on one power source or counterparty. Diversity is especially important given the continued dominance of natural gas a fuel source in New England. In 2013, natural gas accounted for 43% percent of the total electric capacity in the region (and a greater amount of electric energy consumed) in New England. The result of this dependence on natural gas is that wholesale prices are volatile and reliability concerns have developed, especially in winter months when natural gas electric generators compete with space heating for limited natural gas supplies. Diversity in a resource mix mitigates concerns that arise when over-reliant on one fuel source.

**Duration.** The municipal systems' power portfolio has historically provided stable cost power through long-term contracts and resource decisions. As resources expire, acquiring new resources with staggered end dates is an important priority. The goal is to have smaller blocks of resources expiring at regular intervals, rather than large blocks of power ending all at the same time. Duration can also be thought of as diversity in terms of timing of replacement of resources.

**Achievability.** The resource mix must be considered likely or able to be developed. For example, building a coal power plant was not considered in the analysis due to low likelihood of that option being pursued in Vermont or New England. There may also be practical maximum amounts of some resources if it is determined that those resources should be located in Vermont. This has been done for the solar resources with the annual utility-scale build for VPPSA systems limited to 10 MW.

**Reliability.** Reliability refers to delivery and availability of the resource. A number of municipal systems have hydro-based power that is considered intermittent. It is important to value how the intermittent source of power delivers energy in relation to consumer energy needs (monthly shapes in particular). Power contracts, even when they have known delivery times and quantities, can be unreliable in the event of default or lack of delivery (see below under Credit Risk). Reliability can also impact owned units in the form of forced outages or fuel availability problems.

**Credit Risk.** Counterparty credit risk is a very important aspect of doing business in today's power markets. With bankruptcies of major entities such as Enron, Mirant, PGET, and Calpine, understanding credit risk is an essential function in any utility power planning group. The amounts of power provided by any one entity in the power portfolio should be balanced in order to protect against the event of a credit default or bankruptcy. Price alone cannot be used to judge the value of a contract. If the counterparty to a contract does not deliver due to a credit issue, utilities can be left with an unplanned purchase event and be at the mercy of prevailing market conditions. In those cases, the certainty and stability that was sought through contracts may not be realized.

**Flexibility.** Flexibility in a power portfolio is important in order to take advantage of favorable changes in market conditions. As an example, generation that is dispatchable can be turned off to take advantage of times when the spot market is cheaper. Conversely, by having generation or contracts that are able to turn on when power prices spike, the power portfolio is insulated from significant market price volatility. VPPSA's Peaker Project is a good example of a resource that can insulate a utility against high cost market conditions. In the event of extreme hot or cold temperatures, load levels generally increase dramatically. A peaking unit can ramp up quickly to cover those comparatively few hours of load and insulate a utility from extreme energy price spikes. At the same time, it provides flexibility to the region as reserve capacity available at times of need, in return for this availability the region compensates the facility even when it isn't running.

Another dimension of flexibility to be considered is the flexibility of physical generating assets to respond to market changes. In the example of capacity

requirements, VPPSA's Peaker Project can be contrasted to a market contract for the purchase of capacity. A contract for capacity is limited to the product selected and does not adapt readily to changing market rules, and would have little to no additional value in the hypothetical scenario with prevailing high energy prices. However, a generator like the Peaker Project is available if market rules change to realize these high energy values (offsetting charges for consumption).

**Volatility** – Understanding and mitigating volatility is an important attribute for any power resource portfolio, and a primary focus of VPPSA's member systems. Absent action to remove volatility, the municipal systems' power portfolios are primarily exposed to natural gas and resulting power price volatility due to changing conditions in the wholesale markets. This exposure will increase as existing resources whose price is not natural gas or oil based expire. Future power resources are evaluated for their potential to dampen the effect of volatility.

## 5.2. *SensIt*

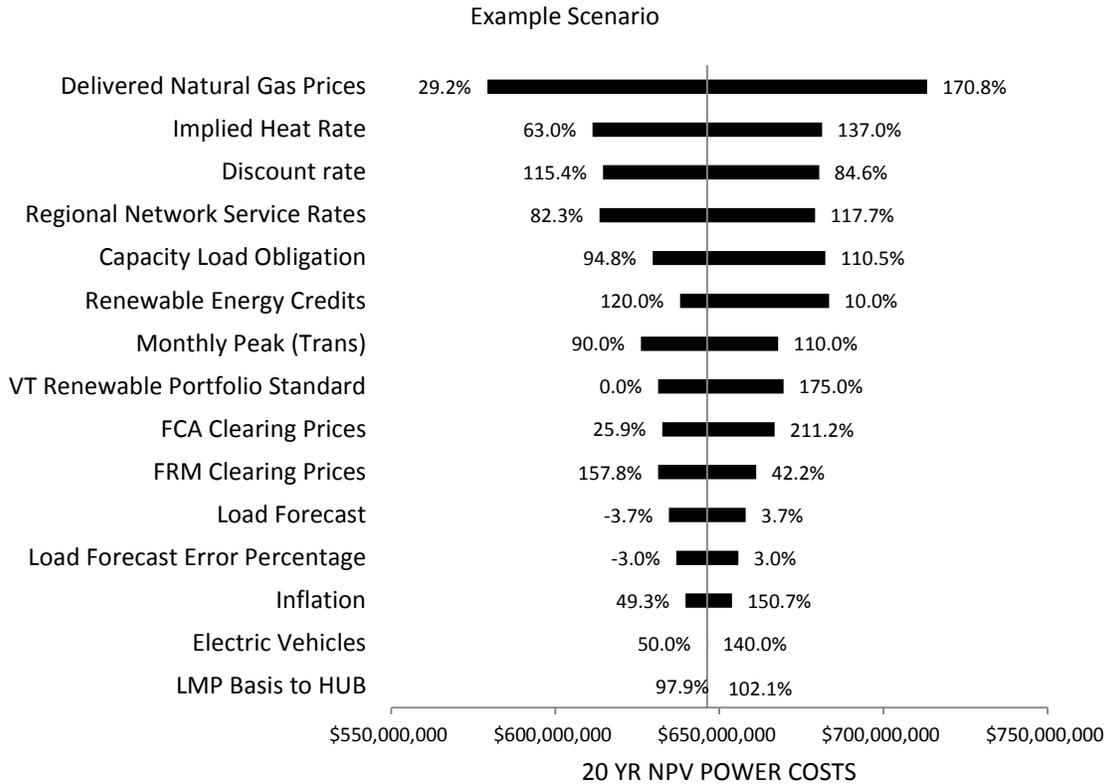
Rather than rely on a simple dollar NPV calculation of base, high, and low forecasts of variable impacts to draw conclusions, the IRP model conducts a sensitivity analysis, using a software package known as "*SensIt*", a sensitivity analysis add-in for Microsoft Excel. It performs sensitivity analysis on a worksheet based on changes in certain inputs and a specified output value (i.e. many inputs – one output) and allows VPPSA to perform "what-if" modeling.

Sensitivity analysis allows VPPSA to determine which inputs or variables are significant (or even critical) cost drivers, thereby leading to a more thorough analysis of scenarios or resource options. This allows VPPSA to identify critical sources of uncertainty and risk associated with a power portfolio, which ultimately become risks to the 12 member utilities and their consumers. Understanding cost drivers allows for a deeper understanding of the amount of volatility or variation they impart to the portfolio. As described above this is an important factor in determining whether or not the portfolio is desirable. For example, assume portfolio A has a 1% lower NPV cost value than portfolio B. On the surface, both portfolios are perceived as roughly equal, with portfolio A being preferred because of its lower price. However, a the sensitivity analysis shows that portfolio A is more likely to fluctuate with changes in the price for natural gas than portfolio B. A risk averse decision maker would opt for portfolio B over A due to portfolio B being less volatile, despite its higher price

*SensIt* creates "tornado charts" which allow visual identification of the swing or impact a variable has on the end result. For a decision maker trying to understand risk this is a very helpful tool. A tornado chart displays the results of single-factor sensitivity analysis for a specified end result. The chart technique shows how much a variable can change the specified results and therefore provides a measurement of uncertainty for each variable

tested. The larger the black rectangle the more sensitive the outcome is to the particular variable (the percentage values for each variable indicate the variable range relative to baseline while the bars indicate the impact on the NPV power supply cost of service).

**Figure 5-2: Tornado Chart Example**



In the above tornado chart the cost of power over 20 years is most sensitive to changes to the price of natural gas. The largest black rectangle represents the largest dollar change from the low case to high case. In this example, natural gas caused the NPV of the cost of power to be as low as \$579 million and as high as \$713 million - a potential swing of \$134 million. The next largest swing in this example was the variable associated with the value of the implied heat rate of the portfolio. This variable caused the NPV power supply cost to be as low as \$611 million and as high as \$681 million, a potential swing of \$70 million. The smaller the delta between the low case and high case, the smaller the black rectangle area is. Therefore, in this scenario it can be seen that variables such as penetration of electric vehicles and LMP Basis to Hub had very little financial impact on the cost of power.

### **5.3. *Expected Value Calculations***

VPPSA has included a process in its IRP that gives probability weightings to variables and calculates an expected NPV value. This aspect of the analysis allows decision makers to see the predicted change in costs assuming various probabilities of the variables. This tests the cost conclusions for each scenario by factoring in probability assignments. The probability weightings were used to calculate the expected NPV value of each resource mix. They were developed by the VPPSA power supply team. Each team member individually, without other's knowledge, assigned a probability weighting to the base, high, and low cases based on their individual expertise and projections of the future. Each of these probability weightings were then averaged to determine the probability weighting actually applied to each input variable. For example, collectively, the power supply team believed there would be only a 5% likelihood that the low electric vehicle penetration forecast would occur, with a 60% chance the base case projection was correct, and a 35% chance the high penetration coming to fruition. Figure 5-3 lists the final probability weightings used for each Sensit adjusted input variable used in preparing this filing.

**Figure 5-3: Probability Weightings Used for Expected Value Calculation**

	Probability of Low	Probability of Base	Probability of High
<b>Delivered Natural Gas Prices</b>	25.00%	55.00%	20.00%
<b>Implied Heat Rate</b>	30.00%	50.00%	20.00%
<b>LMP Basis to HUB</b>	20.00%	40.00%	40.00%
<b>VT Renewable Portfolio Standard</b>	27.50%	55.00%	17.50%
<b>Electric Vehicles</b>	5.00%	60.00%	35.00%
<b>Regional Network Service Rates</b>	10.00%	45.00%	45.00%
<b>Capacity Load Obligation</b>	10.00%	75.00%	15.00%
<b>Monthly Peak (Trans)</b>	15.00%	57.50%	27.50%
<b>FCA Clearing Prices</b>	5.00%	70.00%	25.00%
<b>FRM Clearing Prices</b>	40.00%	41.67%	18.33%
<b>Renewable Energy Credits</b>	36.67%	48.33%	15.00%
<b>Load Forecast</b>	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%
<b>Load Forecast Error Percentage</b>	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%
<b>Inflation</b>	25.00%	35.00%	40.00%
<b>Discount rate</b>	25.00%	35.00%	40.00%

Comparing both NPV and Expected NPV numbers to similar results for other scenarios gives a picture of the variability (around the simple NPV) for all scenarios based on the same key variables and key variable probabilities. As shown in the results, the Expected NPV of every scenario was higher than the NPV - this shows that the power supply team at the time believed there was a greater likelihood of higher costs relative to the base case than lower costs. In this instance, the Expected NPV and NPV differed by roughly the same across scenarios. However, if a scenario's largest variable swing was related to FRM prices (where the VPPSA power supply team expected a higher likelihood of low prices than high), this may have shown a greater difference between Expected NPV and NPV between scenarios. This allows the decision maker to pick a resource portfolio based on more information than would be possible based on just a simple NPV calculation.

#### **5.4. Results**

By using sensitivity techniques the output of each resource scenario is compared to other scenarios. This allows VPPSA to narrow in on the least cost scenario, and will also allow VPPSA to assess other resource characteristics such as volatility and uncertainty.

Once all of the variables and resources input into the model, all 25 scenarios are characterized, and the model is run. The output from all 25 runs is summarized in Figure 5-4:

**Figure 5-4: Summary of Results**

Scenario	Scenario	Expected NPV		Largest Variable	Largest Variable	Largest Variable	Second Largest Variable	Second Largest	Second Largest	Probabilistic Departure
		NPV (\$)	Value (\$)		Swing (\$)	Swing (%)		Variable Swing (\$)	Variable Swing (%)	
1	Spot	\$646,302,451	\$675,381,657	Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$133,966,938	42%	Implied Heat Rate	\$69,949,222	11%	\$29,079,207
2	SolarOut	\$637,875,357	\$668,388,045	Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$113,727,870	36%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	12%	\$30,512,689
3	SolarIn	\$622,557,113	\$654,132,624	Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$100,698,133	31%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	13%	\$31,575,512
4	FixCon	\$651,829,603	\$680,451,996	Discount rate	\$66,376,732	21%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	20%	\$28,622,393
5	Mkt Cont	\$634,800,132	\$661,056,589	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	23%	Discount rate	\$64,185,668	22%	\$26,256,457
6	Wind	\$644,672,738	\$677,677,374	Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$100,322,738	30%	Discount rate	\$65,778,281	13%	\$33,004,636
7	SolarIn/FixCon	\$625,091,159	\$657,321,596	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	19%	Discount rate	\$63,280,848	17%	\$32,230,437
8	SolarOut/SolarIn	\$614,130,019	\$643,661,791	Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$80,459,065	23%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	15%	\$29,531,773
9	SolarIn/Mkt Cont	\$617,088,712	\$646,956,630	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	19%	Discount rate	\$62,253,297	17%	\$29,867,917
10	SolarIn/Wind	\$620,927,400	\$652,211,465	Renewable Energy Credits	\$77,201,347	21%	Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$67,053,933	16%	\$31,284,066
11	SolarOut/FixCon	\$640,409,403	\$668,069,305	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	18%	Discount rate	\$65,066,175	17%	\$27,659,902
12	FixCon/Mkt Cont	\$643,368,097	\$671,690,221	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	22%	Discount rate	\$65,295,611	22%	\$28,322,124
13	FixCon/Wind	\$647,206,784	\$681,302,906	Discount rate	\$66,041,716	18%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	18%	\$34,096,121
14	SolarOut/SolarIn/FixCon	\$615,819,383	\$646,735,844	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	19%	Discount rate	\$62,199,484	17%	\$30,916,461
15	SolarIn/FixCon/Mkt Cont	\$620,600,877	\$650,945,325	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	20%	Discount rate	\$62,683,625	19%	\$30,344,448
16	SolarIn/FixCon/Wind	\$622,616,764	\$653,312,075	Renewable Energy Credits	\$77,201,347	25%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	18%	\$30,695,311
17	SolarOut/SolarIn/Mkt Cont	\$610,484,419	\$640,031,835	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	19%	Discount rate	\$61,514,451	17%	\$29,547,416
18	SolarOut/SolarIn/Wind	\$612,500,306	\$642,397,153	Renewable Energy Credits	\$77,201,347	23%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	17%	\$29,896,847
19	SolarIn/Mkt Cont/Wind	\$617,281,799	\$647,614,439	Renewable Energy Credits	\$77,201,347	25%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	18%	\$30,332,640
20	SolarOut/FixCon/Mkt Cont	\$635,919,121	\$663,210,801	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	21%	Discount rate	\$64,468,953	20%	\$27,291,680
21	FixCon/Mkt Cont/Wind	\$642,716,502	\$675,764,863	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	20%	Discount rate	\$65,444,494	20%	\$33,048,361
22	SolarOut/Mkt Cont/Wind	\$632,600,044	\$663,951,190	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	19%	Discount rate	\$64,275,319	18%	\$31,351,146
23	SolarOut/SolarIn/FixCon/Mkt Cont	\$612,280,241	\$642,293,914	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	21%	Discount rate	\$61,718,896	18%	\$30,013,672
24	SolarOut/SolarIn/Mkt Cont/Wind	\$609,420,223	\$638,052,989	Renewable Energy Credits	\$77,201,347	25%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	18%	\$28,632,766
25	SolarOut/SolarIn/FixCon/Mkt Cont/Wind	\$611,415,730	\$642,206,625	Renewable Energy Credits	\$77,201,347	25%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	18%	\$30,790,896

Figure 5-4 does not rank in order of preference at this stage. In the appendix section, details of cost and each scenario's tornado chart are provided for a more detailed review of each resource mix.

In interpreting these results, the key values used to evaluate the resource scenarios were:

- NPV Calculation
- Expected NPV Calculation
- Largest Variable Swing (in terms of \$)
- Second Largest Variable Swing (in terms of \$)

To allow a comparison of multiple variable results, weightings were assigned to each the values as follows:

**Figure 5-5: Weighting Values for Ranking Purposes**

Value	Weighting
NPV	40%
Expected NPV	45%
Largest Variable Swing (\$)	10%
Second Largest Variable Swing (\$)	5%

The expected value was given the highest ranking of 45%, followed by the NPV calculation which was given a ranking of 40%. Consistent with least cost planning, these two attributes were weighted the highest as they drive the actual costs for the scenario. The Expected NPV value is weighted slightly more because as described above, it takes into account the expertise of the power supply team, allowing for a more nuanced estimate of cost. The difference, however, is kept minor, recognizing that unpredictable events could change the course of projections. Volatility and variability are important considerations as well, as they affect the likelihood of achieving the anticipated results. Providing weight to this volatility accounts for each portfolio's risk associated with swings in any one or two variables. These values were given a combined 15% rating in the ranking calculation. While volatility is important, selecting the lowest expected cost resource mix is deemed a higher priority for the municipal systems customers. Figure 5-6 shows the scenarios ranked in order of the weighting values.

**Figure 5-6: Scenarios ranked on the basis of NPV, Expected NPV, and Largest Two Variable Swings**

Please note that the default sort option for this sheet is on the "Expected NPV (\$)" column. When the sheet is opened all values have been sorted by the "Expected NPV (\$)."											
Scenario	Scenario	NPV Sort	E-NPV Sort	Largest Variable	LVS Sort	LVS% Sort	Second Largest Variable	SLVS Sort	SLVS% Sort	PDFB Sort	Ranking Sort
		NPV (\$)	Expected NPV (\$)		Largest Variable Swing (\$)	Largest Variable Swing (%)		Second Largest Variable Swing (\$)	Second Largest Variable Swing (%)	Probabilistic Departure From Base (\$)	Ranking Value
24	SolarOut/SolarIn/Mkt Cont/Wind	\$609,420,223	\$638,052,989	Renewable Energy Credits	\$77,201,347	25%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	18%	\$28,632,766	\$541,893,861
17	SolarOut/SolarIn/Mkt Cont	\$610,484,419	\$640,031,835	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	19%	Discount rate	\$61,514,451	17%	\$29,547,416	\$541,847,400
25	SolarOut/SolarIn/FixCon/Mkt Cont/Wind	\$611,415,730	\$642,206,625	Renewable Energy Credits	\$77,201,347	25%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	18%	\$30,790,896	\$544,561,200
23	SolarOut/SolarIn/FixCon/Mkt Cont	\$612,280,241	\$642,293,914	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	21%	Discount rate	\$61,718,896	18%	\$30,013,672	\$543,593,887
18	SolarOut/SolarIn/Wind	\$612,500,306	\$642,397,153	Renewable Energy Credits	\$77,201,347	23%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	17%	\$29,896,847	\$545,080,768
8	SolarOut/SolarIn	\$614,130,019	\$643,661,791	Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$80,459,065	23%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	15%	\$29,531,773	\$546,627,512
14	SolarOut/SolarIn/FixCon	\$615,819,383	\$646,735,844	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	19%	Discount rate	\$62,199,484	17%	\$30,916,461	\$547,032,442
9	SolarIn/Mkt Cont	\$617,088,712	\$646,956,630	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	19%	Discount rate	\$62,253,297	17%	\$29,867,917	\$547,642,218
19	SolarIn/Mkt Cont/Wind	\$617,281,799	\$647,614,439	Renewable Energy Credits	\$77,201,347	25%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	18%	\$30,332,640	\$549,341,144
15	SolarIn/FixCon/Mkt Cont	\$620,600,877	\$650,945,325	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	20%	Discount rate	\$62,683,625	19%	\$30,344,448	\$550,863,513
10	SolarIn/Wind	\$620,927,400	\$652,211,465	Renewable Energy Credits	\$77,201,347	21%	Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$67,053,933	16%	\$31,284,066	\$552,938,951
16	SolarIn/FixCon/Wind	\$622,616,764	\$653,312,075	Renewable Energy Credits	\$77,201,347	25%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	18%	\$30,695,311	\$554,039,066
3	SolarIn	\$622,557,113	\$654,132,624	Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$100,698,133	31%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	13%	\$31,575,512	\$556,734,132
7	SolarIn/FixCon	\$625,091,159	\$657,321,596	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	19%	Discount rate	\$63,280,848	17%	\$32,230,437	\$555,558,809
5	Mkt Cont	\$634,800,132	\$661,056,589	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	23%	Discount rate	\$64,185,668	22%	\$26,256,457	\$561,168,386
20	SolarOut/FixCon/Mkt Cont	\$635,919,121	\$663,210,801	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	21%	Discount rate	\$64,468,953	20%	\$27,291,680	\$562,599,541
22	SolarOut/Mkt Cont/Wind	\$632,600,044	\$663,951,190	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	19%	Discount rate	\$64,275,319	18%	\$31,351,146	\$561,595,403
11	SolarOut/FixCon	\$640,409,403	\$668,069,305	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	18%	Discount rate	\$65,066,175	17%	\$27,659,902	\$566,611,842
2	SolarOut	\$637,875,357	\$668,388,045	Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$113,727,870	36%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	12%	\$30,512,689	\$570,579,342
12	FixCon/Mkt Cont	\$643,368,097	\$671,690,221	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	22%	Discount rate	\$65,295,611	22%	\$28,322,124	\$569,436,203
1	Spot	\$646,302,451	\$675,381,657	Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$133,966,938	42%	Implied Heat Rate	\$69,949,222	11%	\$29,079,207	\$579,336,881
21	FixCon/Mkt Cont/Wind	\$642,716,502	\$675,764,863	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	20%	Discount rate	\$65,444,494	20%	\$33,048,361	\$571,016,598
6	Wind	\$644,672,738	\$677,677,374	Delivered Natural Gas Prices	\$100,322,738	30%	Discount rate	\$65,778,281	13%	\$33,004,636	\$576,145,101
4	FixCon	\$651,829,603	\$680,451,996	Discount rate	\$66,376,732	21%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	20%	\$28,622,393	\$576,854,705
13	FixCon/Wind	\$647,206,784	\$681,302,906	Discount rate	\$66,041,716	18%	Regional Network Service Rates	\$65,635,847	18%	\$34,096,121	\$575,354,985
	Weighted Value	40%	45%	NA	10%	NA	NA	5%	NA	0%	100%

As shown in Figure 5-6, portfolios with combinations of solar (both in and out of state) along with market contracts rise to the top of the list with the lowest NPV costs and the least amount of variability. A number of observations are worth noting:

- The six lowest cost scenarios differ on a net present value by less than one percent over twenty years, however the volatility of the largest variables differs between these scenarios.
- Each of the seven lowest cost scenarios have a combination of in- and out-of-state utility scale solar as major components of the portfolio going forward. In addition, the next seven lowest cost scenarios also had in-state solar.
- The value of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) was the variable with the largest amount of uncertainty for 6 out of the first 12 lowest cost options. Regional Network Service (RNS) charges was the variable with the largest amount of uncertainty for 5 of the first 12 lowest cost options. It was the variable with the first or second largest amount of uncertainty for 22 of the 25 scenarios.
- The addition of wind to the portfolio increased the amount of volatility associated with the portfolio significantly. For example, Scenario 17 with in and out of state solar and Market contracts resulted in RNS rates creating a potential \$65 million swing as the largest variable, while Scenario 24 with the same resources plus wind generation created a potential \$77 million swing in RECs as the largest variable.
- The Spot Market scenario (not locking in any resource and instead riding prevailing market conditions) was the most expensive resource option and had the largest variability (based on potential natural gas price volatility) of all 25 cases.
- Significantly modifying the weighting described in Figure 5-5 would emphasize a need for stability over lowest NPV by reducing the desirability of portfolios with large swings. For example, in this IRP placing a combined 85% weight on the variable swings and 15% combined weight on NPV rather than the original opposite ratios lowers the ranking of those scenarios that rely on wind resources. This highlights that portfolios that depend on the sale of Renewable Energy Credits have the largest first and second variable swings out of all portfolios, and indicates a volatility risk that must be carefully considered.

It is important to evaluate all of the possible scenarios going forward, but more emphasis should be placed on those scenarios that have the characteristics that are desirable to the member systems. It should also be noted that the results above are not dispositive -- updated market, resource cost, capital, and other information is crucial to evaluating resources at the time of availability. With that in mind, figure 5-7 and 5-8 present the results from the second lowest cost scenario (by 0.175%), Scenario 17 - in and out of state solar with market contracts. Scenario 17 also has relatively low key resource variability.

Figure 5-7 is a detailed summary of the resulting NPV calculations for Scenario 17. It shows how much each variable fluctuated relative the base case of \$555 million. As described above, The assumed Renewable Energy Credit value is the most significant variable. This variable has a range of \$60 million from the low cost case to the high cost case based on the assumptions used in model. The next most significant variable was

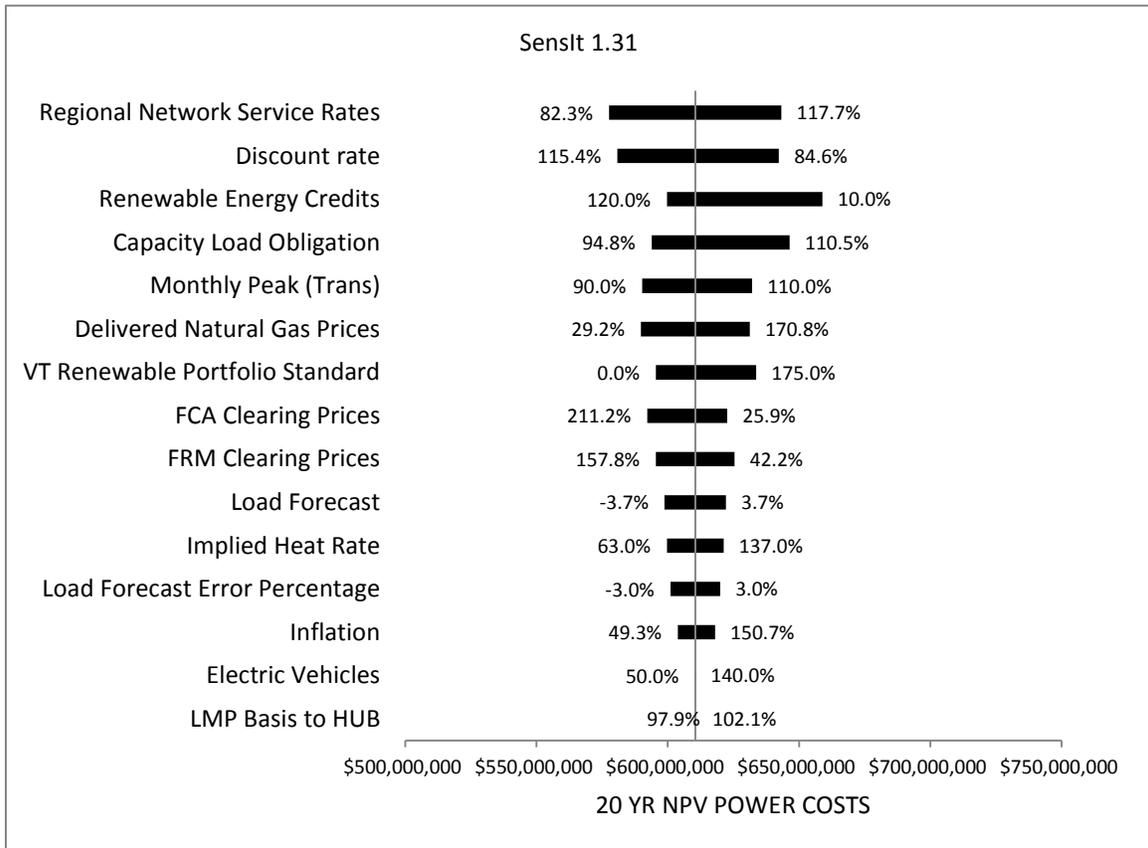
changes to the expected Regional Network Service rates, followed by changes to the assumed discount rate.

Figure 5-8 provides a summary of the key variables in order of relative importance in the form of a “tornado” chart to show the effect of variables on the cost of power for the scenario.

Figure 5-7: Scenario 17- In-State Solar, Out-of-State Solar, and Market Contract Results

Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Percent Swing <sup>2</sup>
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High		
	Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$577,666,499	\$610,484,419		
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$580,822,128	\$610,484,419	\$642,336,579	\$61,514,451	16.7%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$599,717,873	\$610,484,419	\$658,933,872	\$59,215,998	15.5%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$593,845,256	\$610,484,419	\$646,453,367	\$52,608,111	12.2%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$590,293,087	\$610,484,419	\$632,126,785	\$41,833,698	7.7%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$589,756,749	\$610,484,419	\$631,212,088	\$41,455,339	7.6%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$595,506,447	\$610,484,419	\$633,728,911	\$38,222,464	6.4%
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$592,205,484	\$610,484,419	\$622,670,375	\$30,464,892	4.1%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$595,529,874	\$610,484,419	\$625,438,963	\$29,909,088	3.9%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$598,785,835	\$610,484,419	\$622,183,002	\$23,397,166	2.4%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$599,661,716	\$610,484,419	\$621,307,121	\$21,645,406	2.1%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$600,999,081	\$610,484,419	\$619,969,756	\$18,970,675	1.6%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$603,871,860	\$610,484,419	\$618,035,758	\$14,163,897	0.9%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$610,381,777	\$610,484,419	\$610,566,531	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$610,484,419	\$610,484,419	\$610,484,419	\$0	0.0%

Figure 5-8: Scenario 17- In-State Solar, Out-of-State Solar, and Market Contract Tornado Chart



30 V.S.A. §218c requires a least cost integrated plan to include “environmental” costs when calculating a “lowest present value life cycle cost.” The statute is not clear on how to address these costs. VPPSA has indirectly included costs associated with compliance of certain emissions in the region such as CO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> and costs associated with noise pollution, aesthetics, and other quality of life elements are met through the IRP process in a more qualitative way during discussion of the benefits of a particular resource mix.

Direct costs associated with CO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide) emissions are incorporated into forecasts of electricity prices because emissions of the pollutant are regulated by the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). RGGI is a cooperative effort to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions among nine eastern states, with the state of Vermont a founding member. Most electric generators in the RGGI region with a nameplate capacity greater than 25MW are subject to RGGI compliance, which places an annual cap on the amount of collective carbon emissions from these power plants. As such, when the demand for allowances exceeds the supply, carbon emissions from the RGGI states are unlikely to reduce unless the RGGI cap (amount of pollution) is lowered or the CO<sub>2</sub> allowances (right to pollute) are not offered into the auction (retired). VPPSA assumes that those plants that are required to purchase the right to emit CO<sub>2</sub> pollution have included those costs into their energy supply offers to the market, influencing the expected costs of energy in the future and is reflected in the forward energy price curve. VPPSA has not assumed an additional cost for carbon should the cost of compliance with RGGI not be reflective of the overall cost to society for the same amount of pollution emitted in the region. Similarly, VPPSA has not included a variable for additional societal costs of carbon for resources that do not use renewable fuels. The net effect of regional carbon emissions from resources that generate electricity from renewable fuel sources and those that generate electricity from fossil fuels is expected to be equal as the total amount of pollution that the region will emit is capped by RGGI. If a renewable resource were to be built in the region, the same amount of carbon allowances would be sold in auctions as would have been sold had a fossil fuel generator been built. The costs for compliance with other regulated emissions such as NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> are addressed in a similar way.

The costs associated with compliance of the newly passed Vermont Renewable Energy Standard (Act 56, RES) is also not considered a carbon emissions cost in this Integrated Resource Plan given that such emissions are regulated through RGGI. As discussed in Section 4.3, much of the compliance will be or can be met through the retirement of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs.) VPPSA’s understanding is that the RECs associated with the generation used to comply with the VT RES should not be directly associated with carbon reduction for the state of Vermont. It is expected that in the future, the collective efforts of states with an RPS or RES will make it easier for the Governors of

the RGGI states to agree to reduce the annual emissions cap as the demand for emissions allowances is expected to be lower as RPS and RES compliance amounts increase.<sup>2</sup>

## 6. Action Plan

The optimal resource choice from a least cost basis on the current data set was scenario 24 (In-State Solar, Out-of-State Solar, Market Contract, Wind), closely followed by Scenario 17 (In-State Solar, Out-of-State Solar, Market Contract). A number of scenarios containing both In- and Out-of-State solar had similar overall resource costs and volatility. The municipal systems' current portfolio is a mix of long-term contracts, generation, and short-term contracts. VPPSA's overarching strategy, as directed by its members, is to maintain diversity in the municipal systems' power supply portfolios while securing stably priced resources in a cost-effective and environmentally conscious manner. Scenario 17 and Scenario 24 both fit well with the strategy, but as with any resource choice, it is important to use reasonable judgment, updated data, and consider the need to mitigate risk.

From a financial standpoint, understanding risks and potential cost variables is critical. The IRP model, as illustrated in the preceding Sections, is a rigorous planning tool that allows for least cost integrated planning through a robust decision making framework. The analysis undergone for this IRP and for every resource choice provides valuable insight into the impacts of future resource decisions. In particular, the analysis has led us to the following next steps:

- Identify possible solar plant opportunities for partnership and/or development, both In-State and Out-of-State;
- Monitor and pursue regulatory efforts to retire necessary RECs and/or take other necessary actions to meet state targets in the Renewable Energy Standard while preserving the value of REC credits for member systems.
- Keep existing portfolio strengths in mind (diversity, flexibility, stability) when undertaking new purchases
- Pursue resources and actions that lower exposure to Regional Network Service charge rates.
- In the short term, continue to implement the Planned Purchase program. In order to make its members' power costs more predictable, VPPSA implemented a plan to purchase power for future periods using a systematic price hedging technique. The municipal systems participate in planned purchasing in order to avoid uncertainty and volatile swings of spot market purchases. Under this Planned Purchase concept, VPPSA reviews future market exposure (defined as forecasted

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<sup>2</sup> This view is not unique. In a discussion about RECs and emissions, Richard Sedano for the Regulatory Assistance Project stated that "Vermont is part of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and that determines how much carbon the whole region, including Vermont, is going to actually produce. You can only produce a carbon unit if you buy an allowance to do that." Electric Utility Regulation 101, Sedano, Richard, Lindholm, Jane January 21, 2015 (at minute 29:00) <http://digital.vpr.net/post/electric-utility-regulation-101#stream/0>

need for power, less amounts available through previously secured long-term contracts and generation) every six months.

Twice a year, in the spring and fall, utilities have the opportunity to purchase one quarter of future market energy needs for a two year period. For example, in the spring of 2007, utilities purchased approximately one-fourth of their projected need for market energy for the period January 2009 to December 2010. In the fall of 2007, approximately another one-fourth of the need for the period July 2009 to June 2011 was purchased. By staggering the purchases, at any given time the market needs of a utility are met by contracts purchased at four different price points resulting in less volatile power market prices. This is very similar to the concept of dollar cost averaging which is used in financial investing. The implementation of Planned Purchasing is structured and systematic, but it does not remove the need for continual market monitoring and judgment.

The goal is to use market monitoring and judgment to give the municipal systems the benefit of more favorable resource prices. In the event that market prices are below prices that will cause rates to be stable, additional or longer purchase may be made instead of the normal two year duration. In the event that unusually high prices prevail at the time of a planned purchase, that purchase may be delayed. In general the intent is to avoid trying to “time the market” and so the pre-disposition will be to make each bi-annual purchase unless the prices depart noticeably from expected ranges.

In addition to the above specific actions, VPPSA intends to continue to monitor the penetration of electric vehicles, heat pumps, battery storage, and net metering to understand impacts on energy consumption, load shapes, and rates. VPPSA and its member systems will seek to actively and creatively meet the targets of Vermont's new Renewable Energy Standard.

Finally, VPPSA will continue to monitor and consider the impacts of rate design options on resource planning.

## **7. Conclusion**

The municipal systems' IRP is intended to act as a plan for meeting future power needs, but it does not map out with precision what action will be taken or an explicit outcome. VPPSA continually updates data and re-evaluates supply alternatives (particularly when considering investment in or contracting for a specific long-term resource). The results of this IRP indicate to VPPSA and its members the areas in which there is more work to be done and what critical paths are necessary to reach a least-cost outcome. The IRP is a planning process and is a dynamic, rather than a static, one. As conditions change, planning assumptions, and even the model itself, will need to be updated to reflect important developments.

Any specific resource option will generally be evaluated in the same way as the planning or generic resources in the IRP model. When considering a specific proposed resource, updating all assumptions and probability estimates with the best available information at that time will be necessary. Also, if a specific proposal is of the same type as a planning or generic resource (e.g. an in-state solar resource) it will be important to consider differences between the characteristics of the specific proposal and the generic assumptions for that resource type in order to insure that the planning assumptions are still relevant (e.g. the tilt and azimuth of a solar resource could affect its value).

As indicated earlier, the decision-making framework illustrated by this IRP is applied at the individual system level; this is done as specific power projects are reviewed and assessed in the future. In this way each utility has specific information on the impact a project and resource mix will have on their individual system. Each utility can then determine if a project or resource mix fits with the municipal's goals and customers' preferences.

## Appendix 1: Resource and Variable Assumptions

### RESOURCES

<b>Resource Name</b>	<b>NYPA - Niagara</b>
<b>Expiration:</b>	The Niagara contract is modeled as being renewed for the duration of the IRP analysis.
<b>Dispatch:</b>	Cap+Niag. The percent of energy on and off peak was determined based on average values. The contract provides market capacity.
<b>EforD:</b>	No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules
<b>Type:</b>	NH000. NYPA hydro with no REC properties.
<b>Black Start?</b>	No
<b>Forward Reserve?</b>	No
<b>Nominal kW:</b>	4,050 kW. The historical Niagara entitlement was used
<b>Capacity Cost:</b>	The contract is subject to cost-of-service treatment and so changes are not known. For IRP modeling purposes historical capacity costs (and related cost net of NYPA re-bills) were escalated by inflation to derive forecasted capacity costs.
<b>Market Cap kW:</b>	The nominal kW are adjusted by the ISO-NE Pool Reserve Margin rate to arrive at UCAP kW for the contract. The historical monthly reserve margins were used as a proxy for future years and combined with the nominal kW assumptions to arrive at market capacity kW.
<b>Capacity Factor:</b>	A historical average monthly capacity factor was used for future months.
<b>Energy Price:</b>	The contract is subject to cost-of-service treatment and so changes are not known. For IRP modeling purposes assumed energy costs were escalated by inflation to derive forecasted energy costs per MWh.

Resource Name **NYPA – St Lawrence**

**Expiration:** The St Lawrence contract is modeled as being renewed for the duration of the IRP analysis.

**Dispatch:** Cap+StLa. The percent of energy on and off peak was determined based on average values. The contract provides market capacity.

**EforD:** No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:** NH000. NYPA hydro with no REC properties.

**Black Start?** No

**Forward Reserve?** No

**Nominal kW:** **87 kW** The historical St Lawrence entitlement was used.

**Capacity Cost:** The contract is subject to cost-of-service treatment and so changes are not known. For IRP modeling purposes historical capacity costs (and related cost net of NYPA re-bills) were escalated by inflation to derive forecasted capacity costs.

**Market Cap kW:** No change from historical market capacity values was assumed.

**Capacity Factor:** A historical average monthly capacity factor was used for future months.

**Energy Price:** The contract is subject to cost-of-service treatment and so changes are not known. For IRP modeling purposes historical energy costs were escalated by inflation to derive forecasted energy costs per MWh.

**Resource Name**    **Hydro Quebec ICC**

**Expiration:**            VPPSA’s members have an ownership (life of asset) interest in the Phase I / II transmission path. For the purposes of this draft of the IRP model, and given the long lifespan of such assets, this resource has not been treated as expiring.

**Dispatch:**                Not applicable

**EforD:**                    No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:**                    HQ000

**Black Start?**             No

**Forward Reserve?**    No

**Nominal kW:**            Based on market capacity value given the nature of the use of the asset.

**Capacity Cost:**        Currently included in the IRP model is a two year average actual average cost per market kW, escalated by inflation.

**Market Cap kW:**        The asset generally receives a market capacity credit during the months of March to November.

**Capacity Factor:**      Not applicable

**Energy Price:**         Not applicable

**Resource Name** VEPP Inc. BIOMASS (RYEGATE)

**Expiration:** October 2021

**Dispatch:** Cap+7x24. The unit operates as base load. The unit provides market capacity.

**EforD:** No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:** VB000

**Black Start?** No

**Forward Reserve?** No

**Nominal kW:** The unit is rated at 20,500 kW and the current allocation for the utilities included in VPPSA's ISO-NE asset ID is 8.08% for an entitlement of 1,6579 kW.

**Capacity Cost:** The unit is modeled with no capacity cost.

**Market Cap kW:** An average of 17,686 kW was used based on FCM obligations.

**Capacity Factor:** The monthly CF% in the model is based on assumptions from Engie

**Energy Price:** Energy price assumptions (by year) are from the statewide contract document.

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**Resource Name**    **VEPP Inc. Hydro Units**

**Expiration:**                Varies. Unit contract expirations are calculated via a schedule and reflected in declining VEPP Inc. hydro nominal kW.

**Dispatch:**                 Cap+MorHyd Morrisville’s multiple hydros were used as a proxy for the on and off peak hour proportions for the VEPP Inc. units. The units all provide market capacity.

**EforD:**                      No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:**                        VH000

**Black Start?**                No

**Forward Reserve?**        No

**Nominal kW:**              VPPSA has used the nominal ratings for the VEPP Inc. hydro ratings posted on the VEPP inc. web site. VPPSA’s current share is 7.59%. VPPSA entitlement share of 40,652 kW is assumed as continuing and decreases as contracts retire.

**Capacity Cost:**            The VEPP Inc. hydro units are not modeled as having a capacity cost.

**Market Cap kW:**         The market capacity provided by the VEPP Inc. hydro units is based the intermittent hydro ratings registered for the VEPP Inc. hydro units in the Forward Capacity Market. All market capacity has been calculated through the use of a table to reflect VEPP Inc. contract expirations over time.

**Capacity Factor:**        The monthly VEPP Inc. capacity factor was provided by the VEPP Inc

**Energy Price:**            The energy price by month was calculated based on information provided by VEPP Inc.

<b>Resource Name</b>	<b>McNeil</b>
<b>Expiration:</b>	Life of unit
<b>Dispatch:</b>	Monthly capacity factor based on past 3 year average actual run pattern for plant by month. Assumed dispatch would model historic run pattern. Dispatch tied to variable energy costs (wood, ash, rail, etc) and compared to projected LMP. McNeil also provides market capacity.
<b>EforD:</b>	No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules
<b>Type:</b>	BM100 – 100% of REC values due to CT Class I qualification.
<b>Black Start?</b>	No
<b>Forward Reserve?</b>	No
<b>Nominal kW:</b>	50,000 kW VPPSA's 16% entitlement is 8,000 kW
<b>Capacity Cost:</b>	Demand value consists of debt service schedule and fixed demand charges for the plant. Debt service ends June 2015. Fixed costs based on 5 year budget of operations, maintenance, transmission, A&G, insurance, taxes, and other fixed costs.
<b>Market Cap kW:</b>	The McNeil plant has a summer claimed capability of 52,000 kW and a winter rating of 54,000 kW. VPPSA has an entitlement of 16% or 8,640 kW.
<b>Capacity Factor:</b>	<p>Monthly average capacity factors are based on a 3 year monthly average.</p> <p>If sensitivity to assumption changes are being tested, McNeil's capacity factor is adjusted by the same adjustment as is used for natural gas (up to a maximum capacity factor of 75%). This adjustment is made under the assumptions that natural gas (vs. heat rate) changes have the largest effect on market prices and McNeil's fuel is not equally volatile. Significant changes in market energy prices should result in increase in McNeil operations up to limitations imposed by fuel delivery restrictions.</p>
<b>Energy Price:</b>	Assumed based on existing variable costs.

**Resource Name Hydro Quebec**

**Expiration:** By Schedule:  
Schedule B October 31, 2015  
Schedule C3 December 31, 2015  
Schedule C4a October 31, 2016  
Schedule C4b October 31, 2020

**Dispatch:** Special (Cap+HyQu) – assumed to be present in all on peak hours of specified months with residual energy up to scheduled CF occurring in off-peak hours. Resource provides market capacity.

**EforD:** No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:** HQ000 – Unique (HQ) with no REC properties

**Black Start?** No

**Forward Reserve?** No

**Nominal kW:** Per contract / schedule

**Capacity Cost:** Assumed constant at current contract levels. The capacity for each contract schedule can be adjusted every five years (on a staggered schedule – i.e. all contracts do not change on the same years). History has shown that upward and downward adjustments are possible under the adjustment formula so no change has been assumed.

**Market Cap kW:** The HQ schedules are assumed to provide their full entitlement as market capacity under the current and proposed rules.

**Capacity Factor:** The most recent submitted monthly CF% schedule has been used and assumed to continue.

**Energy Price:** Contract rates are subject to adjustment annually. HQ energy rates for the IRP have been assumed to inflate from current contract rates by the inflation rate every contract year (November to October).

<b>Resource Name</b>	<b>Stony Brook Intermediate Units 1A, 1B, 1C</b>
<b>Expiration:</b>	The contracts are life of unit.
<b>Dispatch:</b>	Cap+5x16. Stony Brook is assumed to generate energy only during on-peak periods. Stony Brook provides market capacity.
<b>EforD:</b>	No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules
<b>Type:</b>	OG000
<b>Black Start?</b>	Yes
<b>Forward Reserve?</b>	No
<b>Nominal kW:</b>	The combined rating of the three identical units is approximately 350 MW nominal. VPPSA's members hold entitlement to 2.201% of each unit through a combination of purchase power agreements and ownership interest. Accordingly a nominal kW (VPPSA) of approximately 2,600 kW per unit was used in the IRP model.
<b>Capacity Cost:</b>	VPPSA has used an average (post bond retirement) capacity cost increased annually for inflation from MMWEC's most recent budget for the IRP model.
<b>Market Cap kW:</b>	The average claimed capability for each of the three units has been normalized to average monthly values.
<b>Capacity Factor:</b>	A historical average capacity factor for the units was used. The period selected for the average was all monthly values after March 2003. The extreme minimum and maximum values for each month were excluded from the averages.
<b>Energy Price:</b>	The energy price included in the IRP model for Stony Brook is that used in the 2015-19 VPPSA budget. It was derived using the CME Groups natural gas price forecast and Stony Brook's planning heat rate of 8,800. These monthly price forecasts for natural gas were multiplied by the assumed heat rate of 8,800 to derive a base case energy price forecast (monthly) for Stony Brook.

**Resource Name**    **Yarmouth (Wyman)**

**Expiration:**            The contract is life of unit.

**Dispatch:**              Cap+5x16. Yarmouth is assumed to generate energy only during on-peak periods. Yarmouth provides market capacity.

**EforD:**                    No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:**                     OG000

**Black Start?**             No

**Forward Reserve?**    No

**Nominal kW:**            618 MW. VPPSA's entitlement of the total capacity is 0.033%.

**Capacity Cost:**        No capacity costs were assumed. Unit is modeled on its energy rate due to limited information contained in FPL invoices detailing variable vs. non-variable costs. This information is being researched to obtain greater detail on this resource.

**Market Cap kW:**        The Claimed Capability for the unit runs very close to its nominal rating so the same value is used

**Capacity Factor:**      The unit was modeled as having a similar capacity factor to the Stony Brook unit due to limited information and its similar nature as a marginal unit in the pool. The capacity factor for Stony Brook is very similar to planning capacity factors for Yarmouth.

**Energy Price:**         Historical pricing was used inflated each year by the inflation rate in the model.

**Resource Name: Swanton Hydro (Highgate)**

<b>Expiration:</b>	Life of unit
<b>Dispatch:</b>	Cap+SwaH The percent of energy on and off peak was determined based on average values. The units provide market capacity.
<b>EforD:</b>	No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules
<b>Type:</b>	IH100 – 100% of Hydro Class II REC value. Note: At this time, VPPSA is assigning low-value Class II REC's to all existing hydros. In the event that a new hydro became available, or an existing unit needed to model increased output that would qualify for Class I REC status, the forecast price for REC's would be set to Class I values and the amount of output qualifying for REC treatment from existing resources would be modeled in a manner similar to that used in McNeil.
<b>FERC licence Expiration:</b>	4/30/2024
<b>Black Start?</b>	No
<b>Forward Reserve?</b>	No
<b>Nominal kW:</b>	11,392 kW
<b>Capacity Cost:</b>	Not modeled in IRP
<b>Market Cap kW:</b>	Under the Forward Capacity Market, the unit's winter and summer FCM intermittent values are used.
<b>Capacity Factor:</b>	Monthly average capacity factors based on 10 year average monthly generation and the nominal unit kW.
<b>Energy Price:</b>	Not modeled in IRP

**Resource Name** **Morrisville Hydro Units**  
 HK Sanders (Green River)  
 Cady's Falls  
 Morrisville Plant #2

**Expiration:** Life of units

**Dispatch:** Cap+MorH The percent of energy on and off peak was determined based on average values for the units. The units provide market capacity.

**EforD:** No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:** IH100

**FERC licence Expiration:**

**Black Start?** No

**Forward Reserve?** No

**Nominal kW:**

HK Sanders	1,800 kW
Cady's Falls	1,400 kW
Morrisville Plant #2	1,800 kW

**Capacity Cost:** Not modeled in IRP

**Market Cap kW:** The units' value is based on their Forward Capacity Market obligation through 2018. The June 2017-May2018 values are carried forward into the future.

**Capacity Factor:** Monthly average capacity factors based on 5-10 year averages, depending on plant, of monthly generation and the nominal unit kW.

**Energy Price:** Not modeled in IRP

**Resource Name: Barton Hydro**

**Expiration:** Life of unit

**Dispatch:** Cap+BarH The percent of energy on and off peak was based on average values for the unit. The units provide market capacity.

**EforD:** No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:** IH100

**FERC licence  
Expiration:** 10/1/2043

**Black Start?** No

**Forward Reserve?** No

**Nominal kW:** 1,400 kW

**Capacity Cost:** Not modeled in IRP

**Market Cap kW:** The unit's winter and summer FCM intermittent values are based on FCM obligation through 2018, carried forward throughout the life of the unit.

**Capacity Factor:** Monthly average capacity factors based on 10 year average monthly generation and the nominal unit kW.

**Energy Price:** Not modeled in IRP

**Resource Name: Lyndonville Hydro (Vail & Great Falls)**

**Expiration:** Life of unit

**Dispatch:** Cap+LynH The percent of energy on and off peak was determined based on average values for the unit. The unit provides market capacity.

**EforD:** No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:** IH100

**FERC licence Expiration:** 02/28/2034 and 05/31/2019

**Black Start?** No

**Forward Reserve?** No

**Nominal kW:** 2,400 kW

**Capacity Cost:** Not modeled in IRP

**Market Cap kW:** The unit's winter and summer FCM intermittent values are based on FCM obligation through 2018, carried forward throughout the life of the unit.

**Capacity Factor:** Monthly average capacity factors based on 10 year average monthly generation and the nominal unit kW.

**Energy Price:** Not modeled in IRP

**Resource Name: Wolcott Hydro (Hardwick)**

<b>Expiration:</b>	Life of unit
<b>Dispatch:</b>	Cap+HarH The percent of energy on and off peak was determined based on average values for the units. The units provide market capacity.
<b>EforD:</b>	No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules
<b>Type:</b>	IH100
<b>Black Start?</b>	No
<b>Forward Reserve?</b>	No
<b>Nominal kW:</b>	815 kW
<b>Capacity Cost:</b>	Not modeled in IRP
<b>Market Cap kW:</b>	The unit's winter and summer FCM intermittent values are based on FCM obligation through 2018, carried forward throughout the life of the unit.
<b>Capacity Factor:</b>	Monthly average capacity factors based on 10 year average monthly generation and the nominal unit kW.
<b>Energy Price:</b>	Not modeled in IRP

**Resource Name**    **Barton Diesels**

**Expiration:**            These units are no longer operational. However, the unit continues to receive capacity benefits as they retain a forward capacity obligation through the 2018-19 capacity year.

**Dispatch:**              Cap+5x16. The resource only receives capacity benefits.

**EforD:**                    No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:**                     OG000

**Black Start?**            No

**Forward Reserve?**    No

**Nominal kW:**            The two units were rated at 350 kW each (700 kW combined).

**Capacity Cost:**        Not modeled in IRP

**Market Cap kW:**        FCA Obligation through 2018-2019.

**Capacity Factor:**      The capacity factor is set to zero because the units are no longer operational.

**Energy Price:**         The energy price is set to zero because the units are no longer operational.

**Resource Name: Enosburg Falls Hydro**

<b>Expiration:</b>	Life of unit
<b>Dispatch:</b>	Cap+EnoH The percent of energy on and off peak was determined based on average values for the unit. The units provide market capacity.
<b>EforD:</b>	No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules
<b>Type:</b>	IH100
<b>FERC licence Expiration:</b>	04/30/2023
<b>Black Start?</b>	No
<b>Forward Reserve?</b>	No
<b>Nominal kW:</b>	975 kW (600 kW Village Plant#1, 375 kW Kendall)
<b>Capacity Cost:</b>	Not modeled in IRP
<b>Market Cap kW:</b>	The unit's winter and summer FCM intermittent values are based on FCM obligation through 2018, carried forward throughout the life of the unit.
<b>Capacity Factor:</b>	Monthly average capacity factors based on 10 year average monthly generation and the nominal unit kW.
<b>Energy Price:</b>	Not modeled in IRP

**Resource Name MARKET ENERGY CONTRACTS**

**Expiration:** By contract terms.

**Dispatch:** By contract terms.

**EforD:** No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:** FS000

**Black Start?** No

**Forward Reserve?** No

**Nominal kW:** By contract terms.

**Capacity Cost:** By contract terms.

**Market Cap kW:** Market energy contracts do not provide market capacity.

**Capacity Factor:** By contract terms.

**Energy Price:** By contract terms.

**Resource Name**    **Project 10**

**Expiration:**            Life of unit and runs through the modeling period.

**Dispatch:**            Cap+5x16 The unit is assumed to operate only during on peak hours. The unit provides market capacity.

**EforD:**                No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:**                 OG000

**Black Start?**         Yes

**Forward Reserve?**    Yes

**Nominal kW:**        40,000 kW.

**Capacity Cost:**      \$7.00 kW-mo beginning in 2015.

**Market Cap kW:**    39,163 kW, based on FCM obligation through 2017-18, then held constant.

**Capacity Factor:**    Assumed nearly zero CF thereby limiting contribution to energy outlook.

**Energy Price:**        Limited dispatch, only at very high energy prices.

**Resource Name** HQUS

**Expiration:** 6 different MW expirations. Contract runs from November 1, 2012 – October 31, 2018. Total contract (prior to VPPSA allocation model as):

- 25,000 kW from November 1, 2012 to October 31, 2015
- 187,000 kW from November 1, 2015 to October 31, 2016
- 212,000 kW from November 1, 2016 to October 31, 2020
- 218,000 kW from November 1, 2020 to October 31, 2030
- 218,000 kW from November 1, 2030 to October 31, 2035
- 56,000 kW from November 1, 2035 to October 31, 2038

**Dispatch:** 7X16. The contract does not provide market capacity.

**EforD:** No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:** FS000

**Black Start?** Yes

**Forward Reserve?** Yes

**Nominal kW:** Variable.

**Capacity Cost:** Not applicable.

**Market Cap kW:** Not Applicable

**Capacity Factor:** 66.67%.

**Energy Price:** This is a market following contract with a variable energy price.

**Resource Name**    **Chester Solar**

**Expiration:**            This contract is life of unit (2039)

**Dispatch:**              Cap+Solar.

**EforD:**                  No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:**                  SL000

**Black Start?**            No

**Forward Reserve?**    No

**Nominal kW:**          4.408

**Capacity Cost:**        Not applicable.

**Market Cap kW:**      Beginning in 2018, 1,904 kW based on FCA obligation, summer only. Declines by .5% per year for assumed panel degradation.

**Capacity Factor:**     Varies by month based on estimated production.

**Energy Price:**        Beginning in 2015, \$76.66/MWh, declining in 2024 to \$72.62/MWh

**Resource Name**    **Seabrook 1**

**Expiration:**            2034.

**Dispatch:**              Cap+7X24

**EforD:**                  No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:**                  NU000

**Black Start?**            No

**Forward Reserve?**    No

**Nominal kW:**            600kW 2019-2020;  
520 kW 2021-2028;  
320kW 2029-2034

**Capacity Cost:**        Starts at \$3.24 in 2015, increasing by inflation.

**Market Cap kW:**       Same as Nominal.

**Capacity Factor:**      100%

**Energy Price:**        Market price forecast with applicable shaping factors as set forth in the PPA.

**Resource Name** Fitchburg Landfill Gas

**Expiration:** 2031

**Dispatch:** Cap+7x24

**EforD:** No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules

**Type:** LG000

**Black Start?** No

**Forward Reserve?** No

**Nominal kW:** 3,000kW through 2016, then 4.5MW

**Capacity Cost:** Not applicable.

**Market Cap kW:** Uses FCA obligation through CP 2017-18, then holds capacity value constant through the 10th year of the contract (2021). Starting 2022 this value reflects the most recent Qualified Capacity

**Capacity Factor:** Declines starting in 2017 on assumption of reduced output.

**Energy Price:** \$90/MWh through 2021, \$85/MWh 2022-2026, \$95/MWh 2027-2031

**Resource Name    Standard Offer**

<b>Expiration:</b>	Varies. This is the aggregation of the state standard offer projects.
<b>Dispatch:</b>	7x24
<b>EforD:</b>	No longer used with new Forward Capacity Market rules
<b>Type:</b>	SO000
<b>Black Start?</b>	No
<b>Forward Reserve?</b>	No
<b>Nominal kW:</b>	Varies, starting at 46,435 kW in 2015 rising to 124,486 by 2030 before beginning to decline as projects reach the end of their useful life.
<b>Capacity Cost:</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Market Cap kW:</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Capacity Factor:</b>	Varies due to timing of unit end of life and degradation of generation.
<b>Energy Price:</b>	Varies.

## **KEY VARIABLE ASSUMPTIONS**

This section describes the base case sources for key variables examined, along with the assumed value, description of the justification for sensitivity parameters, and provides any appropriate discussion. The method for estimating the probability of a sensitivity occurring was described in Section 5.3.

**Variable Name:** Natural Gas – New England

**Base Case Source:** CME Group NYMEX market published market prices.

**Assumed Value:** Ranging from \$4.22 per MMBtu in 2015 to \$6.69 per MMBtu in 2024. After 2024 the forecast of natural gas was held constant (in terms of 2014 dollars). VPPSA has inflated the nominal gas prices for 2022 on by the inflation index in use in the IRP model to mirror this treatment.

**Entry Area:** “Price Forecast” Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** Assumed  $\pm$  two standard deviations.

**Discussion:** The relationship between spot market electricity prices in New England and wholesale natural gas prices is strong. In addition price volatility has been a major concern in the wholesale power markets as well. Therefore, relying on wholesale power markets to replace significant portions of expiring resources can be seen as problematic.

**Variable Name:** Pool Implied Heat Rate

**Base Case Source:** Calculated from JP Morgan historical Mass hub energy prices and historical Algonquin City-gates energy prices

**Assumed Value:** Ranging from 8.68 in 2015 to 6.67 in 2024

**Entry Area:** “Price Forecast” Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** Assumed  $\pm$  two standard deviations.

**Variable Name:** VT Renewable Energy Standard

**Base Case Source:** Vermont Renewable Energy Standard Total Energy, Distributed Generation, and Energy Transformation requirements (referred to in the model as Class I, II, and III) have a base case equivalent to that included in Act 56 of 2015.

**Assumed Value:** Class I assumes 55% in 2017 increasing to 75% requirement in 2032. Class II assumes 1% in 2017 increasing to 10% in 2032, with Class II being a subset of Class I. Class III assumes 2% in 2019 increasing to 12% in 2034.

**Entry Area:** “Load Forecast” Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

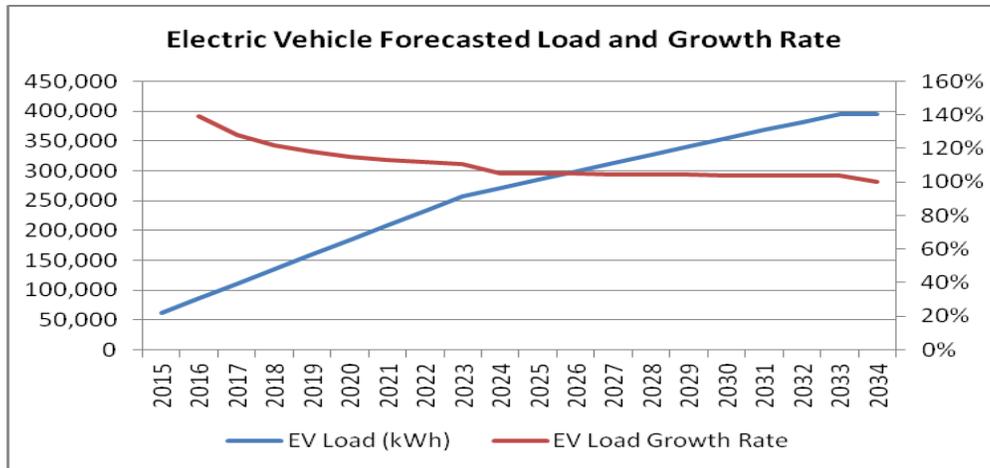
**Sensitivity:** The sensitivity applied was a political removal of the Renewable Energy Standard (0% requirement) and a stiffening of the requirement by 75%.

**Discussion:** Given the political nature of a Renewable Energy Standard, it is prudent to examine a wide range of potential changes to the requirements.

**Variable Name:** Electric Vehicles

**Base Case Source:** Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (Drive Electric Vermont) - VTrans EV Charging Plan (7/11/2013)

**Assumed Value:** Forecast load begins at 63MWh in 2015, increasing dramatically for the first 10 years as electric vehicle penetration increases. The load from electric vehicles levels off as the market becomes more saturated and battery technology is assumed to improve.



**Entry Area:** “Load Forecast” Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** Low sensitivity set to 50% of expected load, high set at 140% of expected load from electric vehicles.

**Variable Name:** RNS Rates

**Base Case Source:** Published ISO-NE estimated RNS rates from 2015-18, escalated by the average rate of increase from 2015-2018. (5.84%)

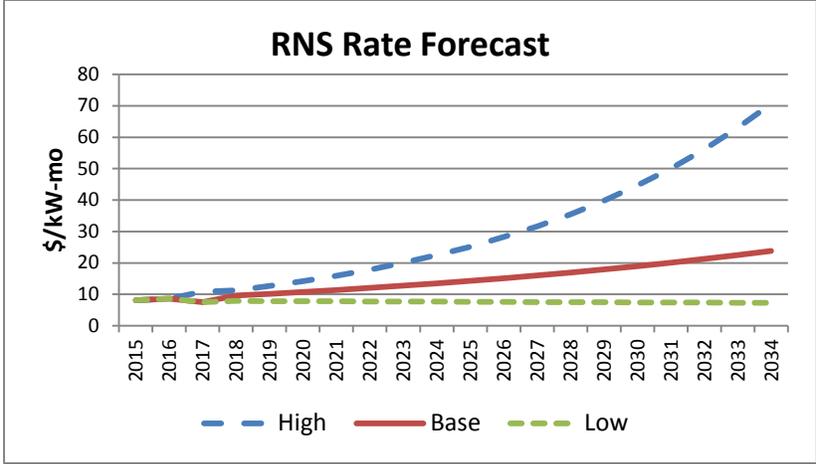
**Assumed Value:** \$8.08 per kW-month increasing to \$23.77 per kW-month in 2034.

**Entry Area:** “Price Forecast” Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** +/- 2 standard deviations from historical 2000-2014 RNS Rates linear line of best fit.

**Discussion:** The past 5-10 years have seen significant regional investments in transmission infrastructure in New England. According to the ISO-NE 2014 Regional System Plan, there was \$6 billion of transmission investment since 2002, with another \$4.5 billion planned in the near future, a near doubling of in-service value of regional transmission. Instead of having a significant jump in rate followed by a small increase, the forecast smoothed the increase in RNS charges based on the average annual rate of increase over a number of years.

In order to determine the high and low cases, RNS rates were graphed relative to a linear line of best fit. The standard deviation was calculated based on the annual difference between this line of best fits and the actual RNS rate. The below chart shows the resulting base, high, and low cases. While the high case appears to be extreme in this analysis, it was determined that it was a reasonable outcome considering that the RNS rate has increased by a multiple of 7 since 2000. With the potential for RNS rate to cover non-electric infrastructure (such as gas pipelines) and/or "public policy" transmission along with traditional load growth and asset condition related investments, another 7x increase within 20 years is within the realm of possibility.



**Variable Name:** Capacity Load Obligation

**Base Case Source:** Load forecast (see forecast description for details on its creation) increased by the objective capability adjustment of 29.11%. This is the basis on which ISO-NE issues capacity charges for load.

**Assumed Value:** Just over 80MW increasing to 82.5MW in 2034.

**Entry Area:** “Load Forecast” Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** +/- 2 standard deviations

**Variable Name:** Monthly Peak (Trans.)

**Base Case Source:** The monthly peak value is developed in the forecast as described in Section 4.5. This value is multiplied by the assumed Transmission, Regional Network Service Charge, and other appropriate rates to create a value for these Non-Energy Charges.

**Assumed Value:** Varies by month.

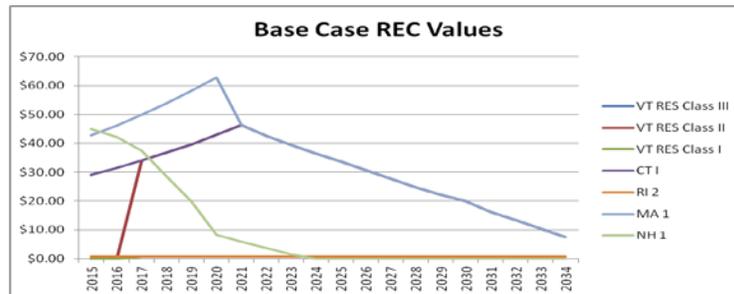
**Entry Area:** “Load Forecast” Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** +/- 10%

**Variable Name:** Renewable Energy Credits

**Base Case Source:** Bloomberg New Energy Finance H1 2015 US REC Market Outlook for CT and MA REC prices. Vermont "Class II" (Distributed Generation Requirement) and "Class III" were assumed to be equivalent to Connecticut Tier I Renewable Energy Credits. Vermont Class I ("Total Energy") Tier assumed to be consistent with Rhode Island Tier 2.

**Assumed Value:** The chart below illustrates the assumed base case values for REC prices.



**Entry Area:** "Price Fcsts Pre Sensit" tab of IRPResults4 spreadsheet

**Sensitivity:** The low sensitivity is set at 10% of the base case price. It is prudent to consider the possibility of REC prices dropping significantly either through market mechanics or political operation. This possibility was illustrated by Maine Class 1 prices. In 2014, Bloomberg New Energy Finance predicted that Maine Class 1 prices would be \$16.20/MWh. Less than one year later, they were trading at \$1.50, a 90% reduction relative to the forecast.

The high sensitivity was set recognizing that REC prices are unlikely to rise materially above the Alternative Compliance Payment.

**Discussion:** In general, REC market prices are intended to settle at the difference between the levelized cost of new entry for a qualifying resource and the energy and capacity market payments that the resource could get from participating in regional marketplace. As technology costs continue to decline (particularly for solar PV) while energy prices stay constant or rise, the REC value should decline over time. However, the IRP model fixes the base case price as political change and market imperfections are expected to continue.

**Variable Name:** LMP Basis to Hub

**Base Case Source:** Jan 2010-May 2015 historical Hub price data relative to relevant nodes, by month.

**Assumed Value:** Varies by node.

**Entry Area:** “Basis Variance” Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** +/- two standard deviations of the difference between the Hub (4000) and VT zones (4003).

**Discussion:** Rates associated with energy resources adjusted depending on appropriate node where unit is located.

**Variable Name:** FCM Clearing Prices

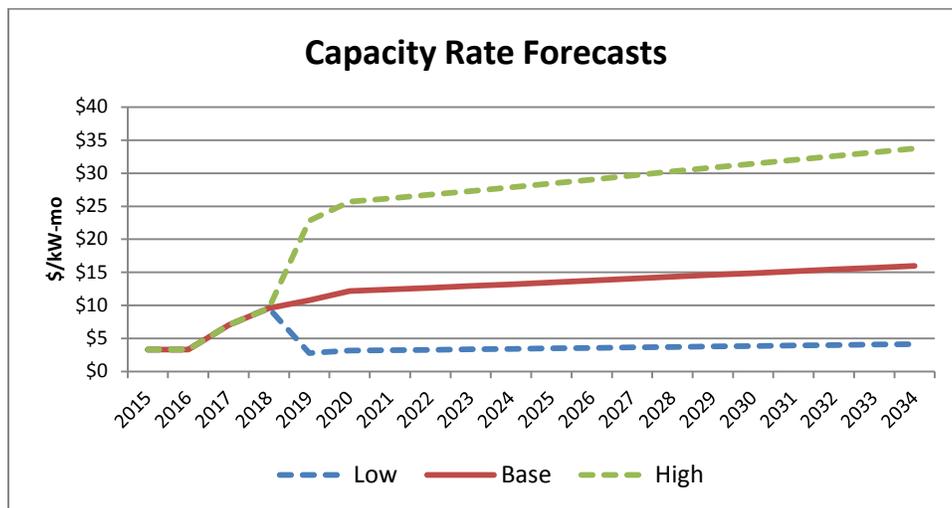
**Base Case Source:** Price set by auction through May 2019 according to the below table. The base price beyond 2019 was set consistent with the Avoided Costs approved by the Public Service Board in Docket 8010.

**Assumed Value:**

Auction Year	Capacity Rate (\$/kW-mo.)
2015-16	\$3.43
2016-17	\$3.15
2017-18	\$7.03
2018-19	\$9.55

**Entry Area:** “Price Forecasts Pre Sensit” Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** + Three standard deviations, - two standard deviations. Calculated by historical deviation as percentage of the mean for the first 8 forward capacity auctions. This sensitivity represents a very wide variance from the base forecast, capturing on the upside the possibility of significant retirements from fossil units combined with higher than expected costs for new capacity, and capturing on the downside the extreme oversupply of capacity that could result from annual over purchase of capacity by ISO-NE. Notably, even with this significant variance, capacity rate forecasts were not the variable that caused the first or second largest swing in NPV for any scenario.



**Variable Name:** Forward Reserve Market Projection

**Base Case Source:** Expected FRM prices for 2015 and 2016, increased by inflation.

**Assumed Value:** \$4.34/kW-month declining to \$3.39/kW-month in 2016, then increasing by inflation.

**Entry Area:** “Price Fcsts Pre Sensit” Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** +/- two standard deviations, using historic standard deviation as a percentage of the mean for FRM auction clearing prices starting winter of 2006-7.

**Variable Name:** Load Forecast

**Base Case Source:** Base case forecasts are prepared by VPPSA.

**Assumed Value:** See Load Forecast section of this IRP.

**Entry Area:** “Load Forecast” Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** The Load Forecast variable is structured to stress the reaction of the load forecast to extreme weather conditions that may result from Climate Change. This variable is independent from the "Load Forecast Error" variable, which is distinguished in that the latter is intended to address structural changes in load due to the changing nature of customer's relationship with electricity and energy choices in general.

To develop the high Load Forecast case, the base case forecast models were modified by increasing the temperature 5° during the warmer 6 months of the year and decreasing the temperature 5° during the cooler 6 months of the year. We then determined the average annual percent increase in load that this resulted in among all systems (currently 3.7%). Because the model treats increases in CDDs/HDDs the same as decreases in CDDs/HDDs, theoretically a low case should have nearly the same percent departure as the high case, just in the opposite direction. Therefore we used that same percentage to stress the model to a low case as well (currently -3.7%).

**Variable Name:** Load Forecast Error

**Base Case Source:** Base case forecasts are prepared by VPPSA.

**Assumed Value:** See Load Forecast section of this IRP.

**Entry Area:** "Load Forecast" Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** A variance of 3% on both sides of the base case values were used for variance / sensitivity testing.

**Discussion:** The Load Forecast Error variable is intended to stress the forecast due to possible changes in the fundamental drivers in demand. As described in Section 4.6, continued energy efficiency programs, rapid net metering deployment, and the standard offer program have significantly changed the trajectory of consumption. As those transformations continue to materialize, other near term technologies and load management tools such as heat pumps or advanced rate design could further change the fundamental drivers of the load forecast. The load forecast is stressed to account for these potential changes that would affect load. See system descriptions for discussions on individual load forecasts.

**Variable Name:** Discount Rate

**Base Case Source:** Current cost of capital for VPPSA members.

**Assumed Value:** 3.25%

**Entry Area:** “Sensit Input Table” of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** +/- .5%. This is within the expected range that VPPSA members may pay for capital.

**Discussion:** Testing variance on discount rate is intended to reveal if any potential resource configurations are more sensitive to discount rate assumptions (due to timing of benefits and costs) than others. The theory is that a large variance would indicate a plan where resource configuration’s benefits (or costs) are heavily front end weighted.

**Variable Name:** Inflation

**Base Case Source:** Fifteen year average from January 2000 to Dec 2014.

**Assumed Value:** 2.145%

**Entry Area:** “Inflation” Sheet of IRPResults4 spreadsheet.

**Sensitivity:** The sensitivity was developed by using the standard deviation of inflation 1983 to 2014, divided by the mean. The range is set such that the low case assumes 1.06% inflation, while the high case assumes 3.23% inflation.

**Discussion:** Inflation is generally used in the VPPSA IRP model to provide future forecasts of variables that do not have specific projections but are expected to increase over time.

## Appendix 2: Model Directions

### CapEgyCalc5.xlsm – INPUT TEMPLATE

#### Preliminary Steps / Setup

1. Save the CapEgyCalc5.xlsm Spreadsheet and the IRPResults4.xls Spreadsheet into the same directory as each other.

#### Global Information (Sheet “Initial”)

1. Select the Utility to be evaluated using the command button labeled “Select Utility”. The model’s default value is “VT Public Power Supply Authority.”
2. Define the first and last years to be evaluated. 2015 is currently being used as the lead year.
3. Enter allowable types (generally fuel based) into the types table in cells J20:L30 of the “Initial” sheet.
4. Enter allowable suppliers into the suppliers table in cells J59:P89 of the “Initial” sheet. A supplier may provide multiple resources but totals by supplier will be provided in the output spreadsheet.

#### Resource Data Inputs (Sheets “ResDef1” and “ResDef2”)

**Supplier:** Textual – must match a choice entered into the supplier list on cells J59:P89 of the “Initial” sheet.

**Resource Name:** Textual / Descriptive

**ID(#):** A short *unique* textual identifier for each resource.

**Dispatch:** Resource output must be characterized in terms of whether or not the resource provides capacity deliveries and how its energy deliveries are distributed on to off peak. This is done by selecting one (or a combination of) the following identifiers:

**Cap:** For capacity only  
**5x16** Energy deliveries weekdays HE8-HE23  
**7x16** Energy deliveries all days HE8-HE23  
**7x24** Energy delivery all days – all hours  
**OfPk** Energy deliveries not included in 5x16

**7x08** Energy deliveries all days HE1-HE7 and HE23  
**2x16** Energy deliveries weekends HE8-HE23  
**5x08** Energy deliveries weekdays HE1-HE7 and HE23  
**6733** Energy deliveries 2/3 on peak – balance off peak  
**6040** Energy deliveries 60% on peak – balance off peak  
**7030** Energy deliveries 70% on peak – balance off peak  
**BarH** Energy deliveries based on historical Barton hydro data  
**EnoH** Energy deliveries based on historical Enosburg hydro data  
**HarH** Energy deliveries based on historical Hardwick hydro data  
**LynH** Energy deliveries based on historical Lyndonville hydro data  
**MorH** Energy deliveries based on historical Morrisville hydro data  
**SwaH** Energy deliveries based on historical Swanton hydro data  
**HyQu** Maximizes on peak deliveries – balance (to contract CF) to off peak  
**McNe** Maximizes on peak deliveries – balance (to normal CF) to off peak  
**Niag** Energy deliveries based on historical Niagara hydro data  
**StLa** Energy deliveries based on historical St Lawrence hydro data  
**Pkr** Energy deliveries weekdays HE8-HE23  
**Sola** Energy deliveries based on a solar profile using PV watts  
**Wind** Energy deliveries based on a past wind project contemplated for East Mountain

For units providing both capacity and energy the identifier would be combined as shown in the following example:

**Cap+5x16** For a unit providing capacity and energy during the ISO-NE peak period

**EforD:** The Equivalent Forced Outage Rate “EforD” is used to de-rate the market capacity value for a unit. This is no longer used.

**Type:** Textual – must match a choice entered into the types listed in cells J20:L30 of the “Initial” sheet. As part of the type a three numeral designation indicating the percent of Renewable Energy Credits “RECS” should be indicated. For example:

**BM050** Would indicate a biomass facility with 50% of its output qualifying for REC treatment.

**Black Start?** Yes/No depending on whether or not the unit is expected to be accepted into, to receive payments from, the ISO-NE system restoration tariff.

**Forward Reserve?** Yes/No depending on whether or not the unit is expected to participate in and receive payments from the ISO-NE Forward Reserve auction process.

**Nominal kW:** The nominal capacity by month/year should be entered. It is this capacity that will be used in combination with the capacity charge per kW to determine capacity costs by resource, and in combination with the capacity factor by month to determine energy deliveries.

**Capacity Cost:** Should be in nominal dollars by year (as opposed to constant year costs) and is used in combination with the Nominal kW to determine annual capacity costs.

**Market Cap kW:** The units market capacity value. Under the Forward Capacity Market “FCM”, the ratings are the summer and winter qualified capacity by month.

**Capacity Factor:** The expected monthly capacity factor the unit will provide in terms of energy delivered in proportion to its Nominal kW rating and the hours in the month.

**Energy Price:** Should be in nominal dollars by year (as opposed to constant year costs) and is used in combination with the Nominal kW and Capacity Factor to determine annual energy costs.

### **Resource Data Inputs (Sheet “UAP”)**

This table allows the aggregate results for any scenario to be recreated for a specific utility as long as all resources have been allocated to utilities. For each resource enter the following information:

**ID(#)** Must match (exactly) the same information for one of the resources on either sheets ResDef1 or ResDef2.

**Utility Identifier:** A unique 3 letter code for each utility

**Utility Name:** A detailed name for each utility. At this time, generic (or planning) resources are treated as belonging to a fictional VPPSA utility (PLA) with this fictional utility possessing 100% of the entitlement to these resources. This allows planning resources to be quickly “turned on” or “turned off” by entering 0% allocation to PLA.

**Utility Number:** A unique numeric identifier for each utility. Currently these are set to the VELCO utility ID’s.

**VPPSA:** Each utility can be identified as belonging to VPPSA or not. In the block below the utility name, enter “VPPSA” or leave the field blank.

**Allocation percent:** For each resource – utility – month combination an entitlement (in percent) should be entered. Allocations should total to 100% on the rows labeled “All” (Rows 10-21). The combined VPPSA entitlement (Rows 22-33) need not total to 100% if there are non-VPPSA utilities entered in the model as there are now.

### **Energy Delivery / Dispatch (Sheet “OnOffHr”)**

Seven standard dispatch shapes (allocations of energy to on and off peak hours) are provided and fifteen more custom shapes may be defined. Each dispatch shape must have a unique identifier that is entered on the ResDef1 and ResDef2 sheets for appropriate resources.

### **Other Purchased Power Expenses (Sheet “NonEgyChgs”)**

In order to provide as complete a picture as possible of purchase power expenses and the relative effects of decisions, costs for non-modeled items such as:

Ancillary Markets  
Transmission Charges  
Other Charges

The projected costs for these items are entered from VPPSA’s most recent detailed budgets. This information will be exported to the results spreadsheet where it is converted into average costs per kWh of load and increased by inflation to extend it into the future.

### **Load Forecasts (Sheet “Load”)**

For each utility the following information is entered:

**Utility Name:** Must match a utility name from the “UAP” sheet.

**Utility ID:** Must match a 3 letter code from the “UAP” sheet.

**Demand:** Annual peak demand at the system inlet.

**Energy:** Annual total system load at the system inlet (this includes loads served by generating resources internal to the system).

**Sub-transmission Losses:** Losses between the system inlet and the VELCO transmission system in percent. Generally defined in the transmission providers applicable tariff. Sub-transmission losses are utility specific.

**On Pk Energy:** The percent of the forecast load expected to occur in the ISO-NE defined on peak hours. Percent of load on peak is utility specific.

**VELCO Losses:** VELCO transmission losses (TNL) are entered as a percent. Due to somewhat unusual accounting for low voltage PTF losses these can be negative. These losses are applied to all utilities.

**Other Losses:** Two other entry areas are allowed for transmission losses but are not currently in use. These losses would be applied to all utilities.

**Objective Capability Adjustment:** This is used to convert forecast system peak to UCAP obligation. .

### **Exporting Data To The Results Spreadsheet**

1. Check that all of the user input data (shown in blue) on the Initial Worksheet as well as the other worksheets is as you wish. Make any necessary changes.
2. Select the desired utility (or group) you wish to calculate. Use the command button at Cell "I7" to provide a list of candidates for selection. The utility identification information is entered via the user's selection from this list.
3. Push the "Resources Defined" command button to populate the list and the "Get Resource Data" command button on the Initial Worksheet to initiate the calculation of the IRP Results Spreadsheet. The results, based on the data in the CapEgyCalc5 Spreadsheet, the user's selections, and the minimal data recorded on the blue tab worksheets of the IRP Results Spreadsheet, will be automatically presented to the user for review.

### **REMINDERS:**

- a. The IRPResults4.xls Spreadsheet must be an existing file. The CapEgyCalc5.xlsm Spreadsheet will not create, from scratch, a results spreadsheet. Make the information changes you require on the blue tab worksheets of the IRPResults4.xls Spreadsheet, which is of a generic nature (i.e., REC values, inflation information, projected market capacity and energy prices), before you run the CapEgyCalc5 Spreadsheet. Note, all of the results contained on the IRPResults4.xls Spreadsheet are calculated from the user defined data/choices selected on the CapEgyCalc5.xlsm Spreadsheet each time the spreadsheet is run. An existing IRPResults4.xls Spreadsheet is required as it is used in formatting the results and certain calculations are based on spreadsheet formulas rather than code calculations. (An expedient to keep programming costs down.)

- b. Before running the CapEgyCalc5.xlsm Spreadsheet (i.e., "pushing" the "Get Resource Data" button), make sure that the IRPResults4.xls Spreadsheet that will be calculated (i.e., that indicated in Cell "E10") is closed. An error will occur otherwise.

## IRPRESULTS4.xls- OUTPUT TEMPLATE

This spreadsheet does not possess macros. Once the data is input from the CapEgyCalc5 spreadsheet, the base case results are available. Performing Sensitivity analysis requires an inexpensive add-in called ***SensIt*** that tests the base case results for sensitivity to changes in identified key variables.

### **General Notes:**

***SensIt*** (an inexpensive Excel add-in) is required to perform sensitivity analysis but is not required for interim results and base case power costs by year.

#### **1. Table of Contents Sheet**

This sheet lists the sheets (tabs) of the IRPResults4 spreadsheet in the order that they appear. Command buttons allowing quick navigation to important sheets (and sheets “buried” deep in the workbook) are provided and if clicked will take the user directly to the sheet in question.

#### **2. Inflation Estimate (Based on Consumer Price Index)**

This sheet only requires periodic update. Currently inflation is set at 2.145% and based on the average change annually between January 2000 and January 2014.

#### **2. SensIt Variable Ranges**

If *SensIt* (an Excel add-in) is installed, this table allows the user to input sensitivity ranges around the base case for each variable and to output the “swings” or changes in base case results from increasing and decreasing the key variable from base case to each extreme.

#### **3. Price Forecasts Pre SensIt Adjustment**

This page contains the inputs prior to any adjustments from the *SensIt* add-in and requires extensive data entry in the form of forecasts for:

- Natural Gas Prices
- New England Effective Heat Rates
- Forecasts of market capacity prices,
- Forecasts of Forward Reserves auction values
- Forecasts of Transmission Benefit payments (Blackstart)
- REC credit values by type
- Forecasts of Regional Network Service rates

**4. Price Forecasts**

This page is in an identical format to the Price Forecasts Pre *SensIt* Adjustment but incorporates any *SensIt* driven changes to the cells highlighted in olive green.

**5. Load Forecast**

Imports (and *SensIt* adjusts) the energy forecast for the system identified in the CapEgyCalc5 spreadsheet. Also converts the peak demand forecast to a UCAP obligation forecast using the Objective Capability Adjustment. This tab also includes the new Vermont Renewable Energy Standard Assumptions

**6. Basis Variance**

This sheet shows the average difference in prices between nodes where resources are credited and the Massachusetts Hub price. This allows for different pricing for resources while using a single forecasted price provided by CME Group and modified by VPPSA for outer years.

**7. Resource Entitlements (kW)**

This sheet shows, by resource and year, the entitlement in each resource for energy purposes only. This is used in combination with the CF% to arrive at energy by resource and year. The kW entitlements shown here do NOT represent market capacity. For example, an energy-only market contract would show a nominal entitlement on this spreadsheet while a market capacity-only contract would not.

**8. Annual Energy Availability/Capacity Factor (%)**

This sheet is used to derive annual energy from each resource.

**9. Energy Availability Adjustments**

Allows wholesale changes to the availability of a resource by turning it off (0%). The default is 100%.

**10. Energy Rates (\$/MWh )**

This sheet is used to derive annual energy costs by resource by year.

**11. Energy Rate Adjustments**

Identifies and incorporates any *SensIt* based adjustments to Energy Charges. Cells currently subject to such changes are shaded in olive green. A value of 100% represents no change from base case assumptions.

**12. Capacity Rates (\$/kW-Year)**

This sheet is used to derive annual capacity costs by resource by year.

**13. Capacity Rate Adjustments**

Identifies and incorporates any *SensIt* based adjustments to Energy Charges. Cells currently subject to such changes are shaded in olive green. A value of 100% represents no change from base case assumptions.

**14. Market Capacity (kW)**

This sheet shows the gross (before EforD) market capacity entitlement for the peak month (currently August) by resource by year.

**15. Capacity eFOR'D UCAP Value Factor (%)**

This sheet summarizes the EforD (which serves to reduce available capacity from resources) for each resource and is no longer relevant

**16. Capacity Entitlement/UCAP (kW)**

This sheet shows the market capacity entitlement by resource by year as reduced to account for EforD.

**17. Forward Reserve Entitlement (kW)**

This sheet shows the kW value of any resource identified as providing Forward Reserve service.

**18. Black Start Entitlement (kW)**

This sheet shows the kW value of any resource identified as providing System Restoration (Black Start) service.

**19. Energy Entitlements (kWh)**

This sheet shows the summary of the on and off peak deliveries from the next sheet

**20. Allocation of Energy Entitlements to On/Off-Peak Periods (kWh)**

This sheet shows the deliveries by resource and year into the on and off peak periods (based on the ISO-NE definition of these periods).

**21. Energy Charges (\$)**

This sheet shows the cost for energy by resource and year.

**22. Energy Credits (\$)**

This sheet shows the payments for energy deliveries (at LMP) by resource by year.

**23. Capacity Charges (\$)**

This sheet shows the cost for capacity by resource and year.

**24. Capacity Credits (\$)**

This sheet shows the payments for deliveries of capacity (at the forecast market capacity price) by resource by year.

**25. Forward Reserve Credits (\$)**

This sheet shows any forecasted resource payments for participation in the Forward Reserve markets.

**26. Trans Credits) (\$)**

This sheet shows any projected payments for resources providing system restoration service.

**27. Renewable Credits by Category (REC )**

This sheet shows any projected resource revenues for sales of REC's.

**28. Non-Energy Costs (\$ or \$/kWh)**

This sheet shows the estimated non-resource purchase power costs (such as transmission, ancillary markets etc.)

**29. Power Costs (\$)**

This is the main output for the model and provides total forecast of Purchase Power costs.  
Note that costs for units owned and operated by the VPPSA utilities do not appear in the Purchase Power FERC account and are not modeled here.

**30. Energy t by Category (kWh & %)**

This sheet provides an annual summary of energy by type (generally fuel) and assumed spot market energy purchases. This sheet is useful for monitoring fuel diversity.

**31. Energy by Supplier (kWh & %)**

This sheet provides an annual summary of energy by supplier and is useful for monitoring supplier diversity.

**32. Resources by Category**

Chart of this data.

**33. UCAP by Source / Capacity Obligations vs. Resources**

Chart of this data.

**34. SensIt 1.31 Probabilistic Results**

This is an output of the *SensIt* analysis and a conversion of that output to probabilistic results.

## **IRP\_Run\_Assumptions.xlsm – OUTPUT AUTOMATION TEMPLATE**

This workbook was created to allow for the user to perform multiple iterations of resource mixes with summarization worksheets created to quickly view the results. This workbook is intended to be the starting point for a user wishing to obtain output from the IRP model once all adjustments have been made to the source files “CapEgyCalc5.xlsm” and “IRPResults4.xls.” The details of the workbook are described below on a sheet by sheet basis.

### **General Notes:**

- This workbook requires that the locations of the files “CapEgyCalc5.xlsm” and “IRPResults4.xls” are in the same directory as IRP\_Run\_Assumptions.xlsm.

### **1. Assumptions**

This worksheet is the main worksheet for this workbook. The large button titled “Run Scenarios and Summarize” is what is used to create up to 25 different scenarios. The user must change only the box directly to the left of the button (Cell “H18”) with the desired number of scenarios. The routine will create a file titled “IRP\_Run\_Assumptions\_MM\_DD\_YYYY.xls” in the scenarios output folder. This file will contain summary information on all the runs as well as their corresponding tornado charts. In addition to this summary file, A full scenario detail file will be saved in the same “Scenarios” directory as “IRPResults4\_Scenario\_MM\_DD\_YYYY\_X.xls” for every scenario, where “X” stands for the Scenario number. This process will take on average 1 - 2 minutes for every scenario chosen, so for large runs of 25 scenarios be prepared to wait while the routine chugs along. The following descriptions explain the worksheet in more detail. Cell ranges that do not require user input have been put in italics.

- a. CapEgyCalc5 and IRPResults4 must be in the same folder as this file
- b. The output will be in a Scenarios folder within the folder this file is in. This folder will be created if it does not exist.
- c. Cell range “A3:U12” are values that are the current forecasted resource needs for VPPSA. These values come from cell range “C68:AZ68” in the “Energy by Category” tab of “IRPResults4.xls.” The values are titled “Market energy Purchases.”
- d. If the user changes the capacity factors for each resource in the cell range “C16:C21” then the required megawatts needed to fulfill the chosen years resource shortage will change accordingly and update the resource definition located on tab “ResDef1” and “ResDef2” in “CapEgyCalc5.xls.”
- e. Cell range “D16:D21” can be adjusted to represent the assumed lifetime of a particular resource type. These cells are linked to "CapEgyCalc5.xls", under the "ResDef1" and "ResDef2" tab.

- f. Cell range “C24:AA29” can be adjusted to represent the “mix” of resources listed in cell range “B24:B29”, “Resources”. The total resources percentages must add up to 100% on line 20.
- g. Two separate years have been set up as “Purchase Years.” These years can be changed in cells “A33” and “A40.” Formulas will fill in the required amounts of each resource based on its percentage to fill the entire need for the chosen year.
- h. Cells “C33:AA45” are calculation cells that determine the necessary Megawatts needed to fulfill the chosen purchase years Megawatt requirement, based on the percentage of resources chosen in cell range “C24:AA29.”
- i. Cells below row 46 are used as the linking cells to “CapEgyCalc5.xls” and should not be altered.

## 2. Summary:

This worksheet summarizes the scenario outputs. The worksheet will be populated and saved in a new workbook titled “IRP\_Run\_Assumptions\_MM\_DD\_YYYY.xls.” in the directory chosen for “Scenarios” on the “Assumption” worksheet.

- a. Cell range “B2:G26” contains the text identification for the scenarios corresponding to their resource mix percentage shown in cell range “M2:R26.”
- b. Column “C” summarizes the Net Present Value (NPV) dollar amount for each scenario.
- c. Column “D” summarizes the Expected Net Present Value dollar amount based on the probabilities chosen in “IRPResults4.xls.”
- d. Column “E” Identifies the Largest Swing variable for the scenario’s resource mix.
- e. Column “F” Identifies the Largest Swing variable dollar amount for the scenario’s resource mix.
- f. Column “G” Identifies the Largest Swing variable percentage for the scenario’s resource mix.
- g. Column “H” Identifies the Second Largest Swing variable for the scenario’s resource mix.
- h. Column “I” Identifies the Second Largest Swing variable dollar amount for the scenario’s resource mix.
- i. Column “J” Identifies the Second Largest Swing variable percentage for the scenario’s resource mix.
- j. Column “K” Identifies the Probabilistic departure from the base case scenario dollar amount for the scenario’s resource mix based on the probabilities chosen in “IRPResults4.xls.”
- k. Cell range “A29:N39” (“Lowest Values” heading) identifies the scenarios with the lowest values from the above summaries.
- l. Cell range “A42:N50” (“Highest Values” heading) contain the highest values from the above summaries.

### **3. Summary Sorted:**

This worksheet has the exact same format as the “Summary” worksheet with the exception of an additional column titled “Ranking Value.”. The main difference is that the summarized data from the “Summary” worksheet is sorted by default on the “Expected NPV (\$)” from lowest value to highest value. The user can press any of the buttons above the various column headings to resort the data based on the chosen column. For example if the button “LVS Sort” was pressed the information would be re-sorted from lowest to highest value based on the “Largest Variable Swing (\$)”. In addition to the “Summary” worksheet a “Ranking Value” column has been added to aid in “weighting” the outputs to help identify top performing scenarios. The ranking percentage for each output is located within row 27 and can be changed by the user. A “Ranking Sort” button allows for a sort from lowest to highest value and will need to be activated if ranking values are altered.

### **4. Generation**

This tab is used for data manipulation only. The purpose is to format resource generation needs into monthly values.

### **5. Expiration 1**

This tab is used for data manipulation only. The purpose is to calculate the length in months of a resources lifetime and to stop the benefit of that resource once the lifetime has been met. This worksheet is concerned with the first year of purchases.

### **6. Expiration 2**

This tab is used for data manipulation only. The purpose is to calculate the length in months of a resources lifetime and to stop the benefit of that resource once the lifetime has been met. This worksheet is concerned with the second year of purchases.

### **7. Expiration 3**

This tab is used for data manipulation only. The purpose is to calculate the length in months of a resources lifetime and to stop the benefit of that resource once the lifetime has been met. This worksheet is concerned with the third year of purchases if applicable.

### **8. Resource Total**

This tab is used for data manipulation only. The purpose is to calculate the length in months of a resources lifetime and to stop the benefit of that resource once the lifetime has been met. This worksheet is concerned with the total value for all purchase years.

## **9. LMP**

This tab is used for data manipulation only. The purpose is to format LMP information into monthly values. The result was used to forecast LMP's monthly for the "GenCont" and "Generic VY" resources formerly in the "ResDef2" worksheet in "CapEgyCalc5.xls"

### **Sens131s.xla – *SensIt* 1.31 Sensitivity Analysis ADD IN REQUIREMENT**

The "VPPSA IRP Model" requires the inclusion of the "*SensIt* 1.31 Sensitivity Analysis" add-in in order to function properly. This add-in has been included in the portable model files, but the user must still install the add-in so that Microsoft Excel knows where to find the module when called in the automation routine if the add-in has not already installed. The step by step instructions on how to do this are below.

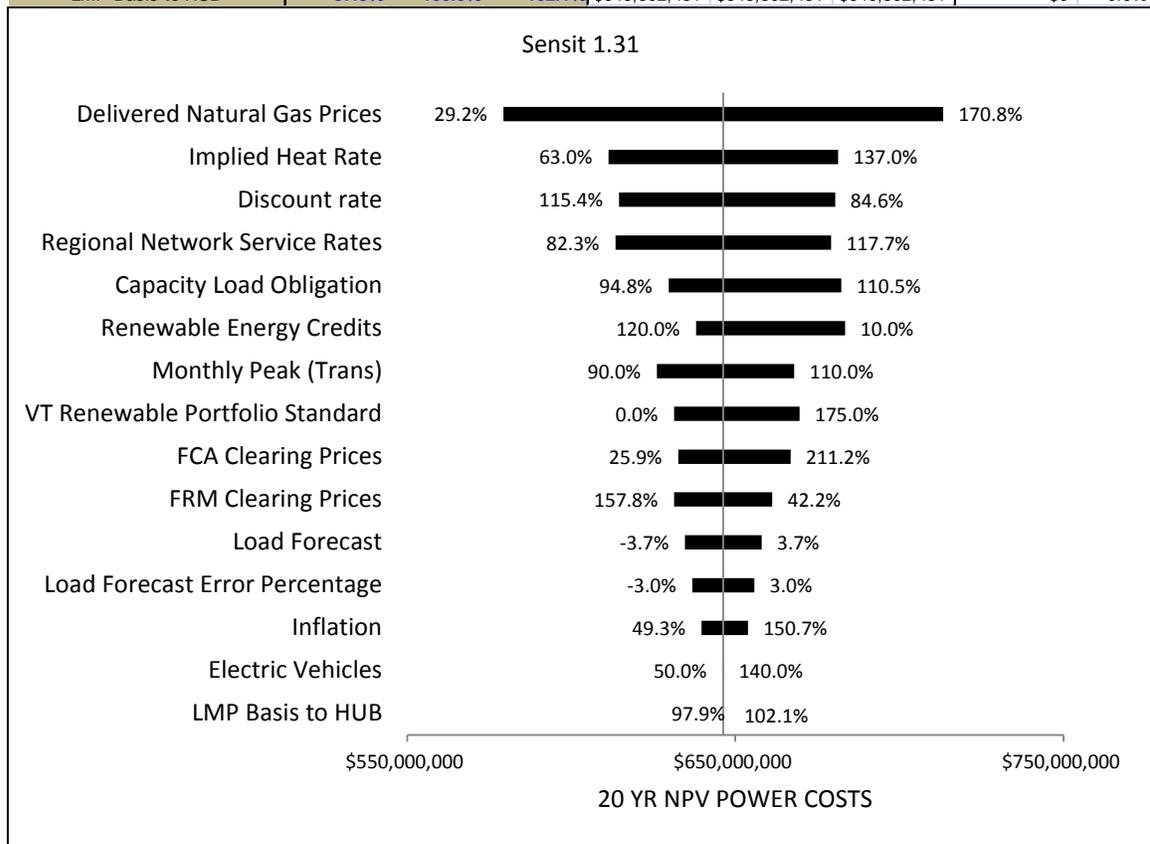
#### **How To**

1. Open up the file "IRP\_Run\_Assumptions.xls"
2. Select File/Options
3. Click Add-Ins
4. Click the Go button next to Manage Add-Ins
5. Browse the file finder to the directory where "Sens131s.xla" is located. By default, it is in the same directory as this document.
6. All Done! The user should notice that the "*SensIt* 1.31 Sensitivity Analysis" add-in is now listed in the "Add-Ins available" list box with a check mark next to it. If it is not checked then be sure to place a check mark next to it.

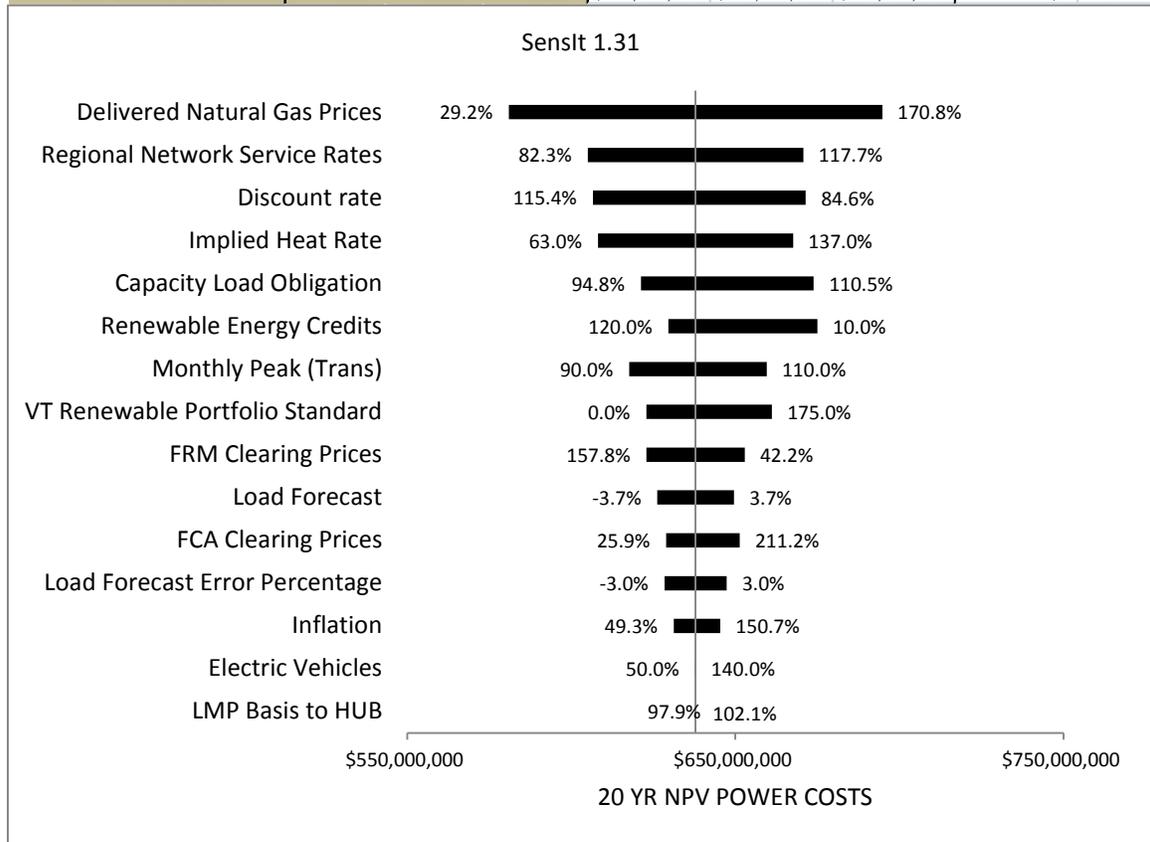
## **Appendix 3: Resource Scenario Results**

The following tables and charts illustrate the results of each of the 25 scenarios examined.

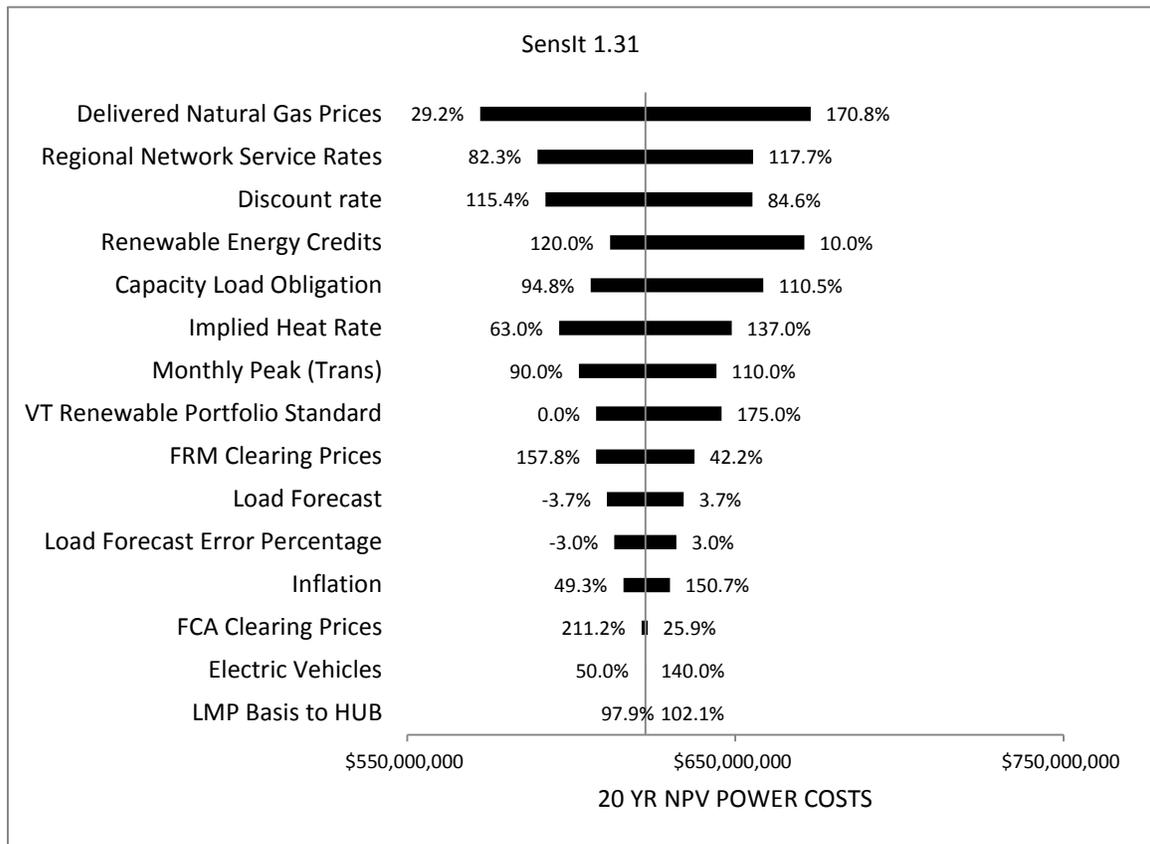
Sensit 1.31		Scenario 1: Spot							
Many Inputs, One Output									
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis									
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls				
Time	5:08 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table!\$C\$25				
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS									
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent		
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing*2	
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$579,318,982	\$646,302,451	\$713,285,919	\$133,966,938	42.0%	
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$611,327,840	\$646,302,451	\$681,277,061	\$69,949,222	11.5%	
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$614,577,736	\$646,302,451	\$680,374,027	\$65,796,292	10.1%	
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$613,484,531	\$646,302,451	\$679,120,377	\$65,635,847	10.1%	
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$629,663,288	\$646,302,451	\$682,271,399	\$52,608,111	6.5%	
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$638,054,906	\$646,302,451	\$683,416,401	\$45,361,495	4.8%	
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$626,111,119	\$646,302,451	\$667,944,817	\$41,833,698	4.1%	
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$631,324,479	\$646,302,451	\$669,546,943	\$38,222,464	3.4%	
FCA Clearing Prices	25.9%	100.0%	211.2%	\$632,608,759	\$646,302,451	\$666,842,988	\$34,234,229	2.7%	
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$631,347,906	\$646,302,451	\$661,256,995	\$29,909,088	2.1%	
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$634,603,867	\$646,302,451	\$658,001,034	\$23,397,166	1.3%	
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$636,817,113	\$646,302,451	\$655,787,788	\$18,970,675	0.8%	
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$639,689,892	\$646,302,451	\$653,853,789	\$14,163,897	0.5%	
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$646,199,809	\$646,302,451	\$646,384,563	\$184,754	0.0%	
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$646,302,451	\$646,302,451	\$646,302,451	\$0	0.0%	



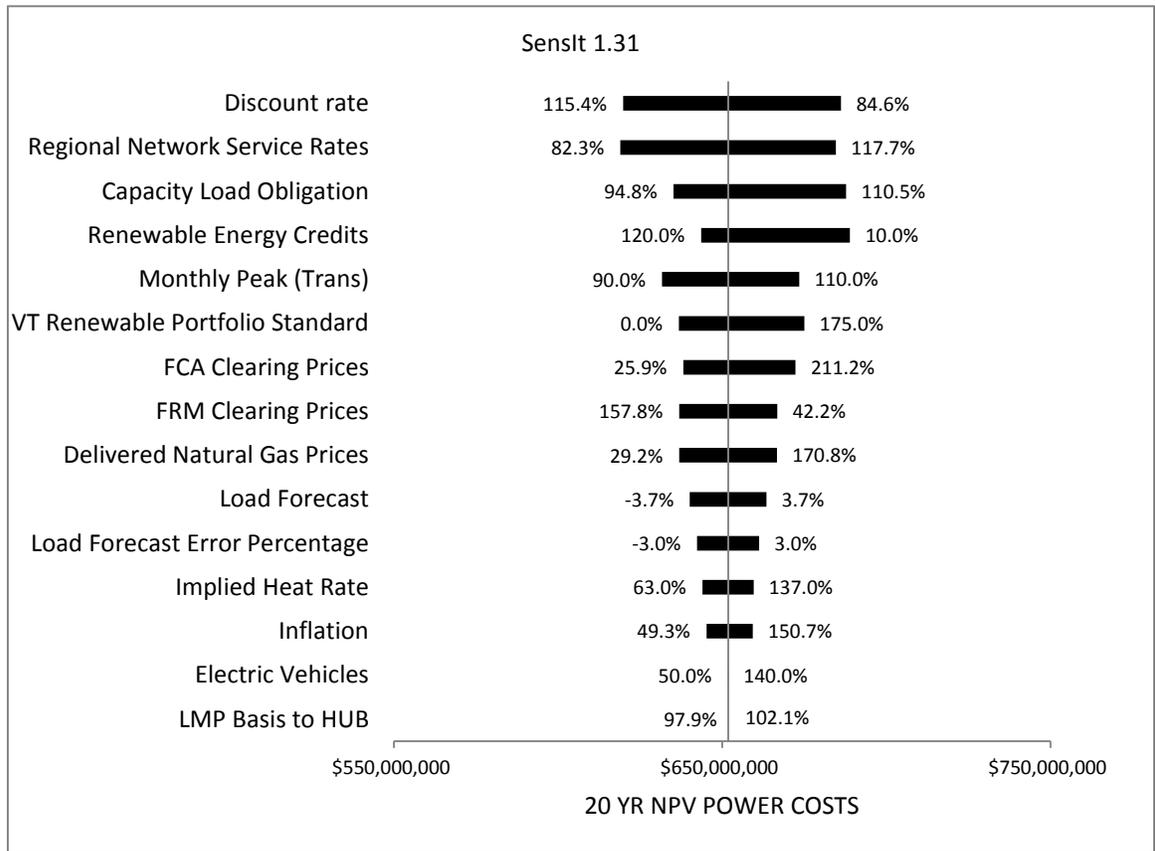
Senslt 1.31		Scenario 2: SolarOut						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	5:11 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent	
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing*2
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$581,011,422	\$637,875,357	\$694,739,292	\$113,727,870	36.4%
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$605,057,437	\$637,875,357	\$670,693,283	\$65,635,847	12.1%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$606,629,167	\$637,875,357	\$671,431,908	\$64,802,740	11.8%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$608,184,539	\$637,875,357	\$667,566,175	\$59,381,636	9.9%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$621,236,194	\$637,875,357	\$673,844,305	\$52,608,111	7.8%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$629,627,812	\$637,875,357	\$674,989,307	\$45,361,495	5.8%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$617,684,025	\$637,875,357	\$659,517,724	\$41,833,698	4.9%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$622,897,385	\$637,875,357	\$661,119,849	\$38,222,464	4.1%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$622,920,813	\$637,875,357	\$652,829,901	\$29,909,088	2.5%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$626,176,774	\$637,875,357	\$649,573,940	\$23,397,166	1.5%
FCA Clearing Prices	25.9%	100.0%	211.2%	\$628,902,328	\$637,875,357	\$651,334,900	\$22,432,572	1.4%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$628,390,019	\$637,875,357	\$647,360,694	\$18,970,675	1.0%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$631,262,799	\$637,875,357	\$645,426,696	\$14,163,897	0.6%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$637,772,716	\$637,875,357	\$637,957,470	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$637,875,357	\$637,875,357	\$637,875,357	\$0	0.0%



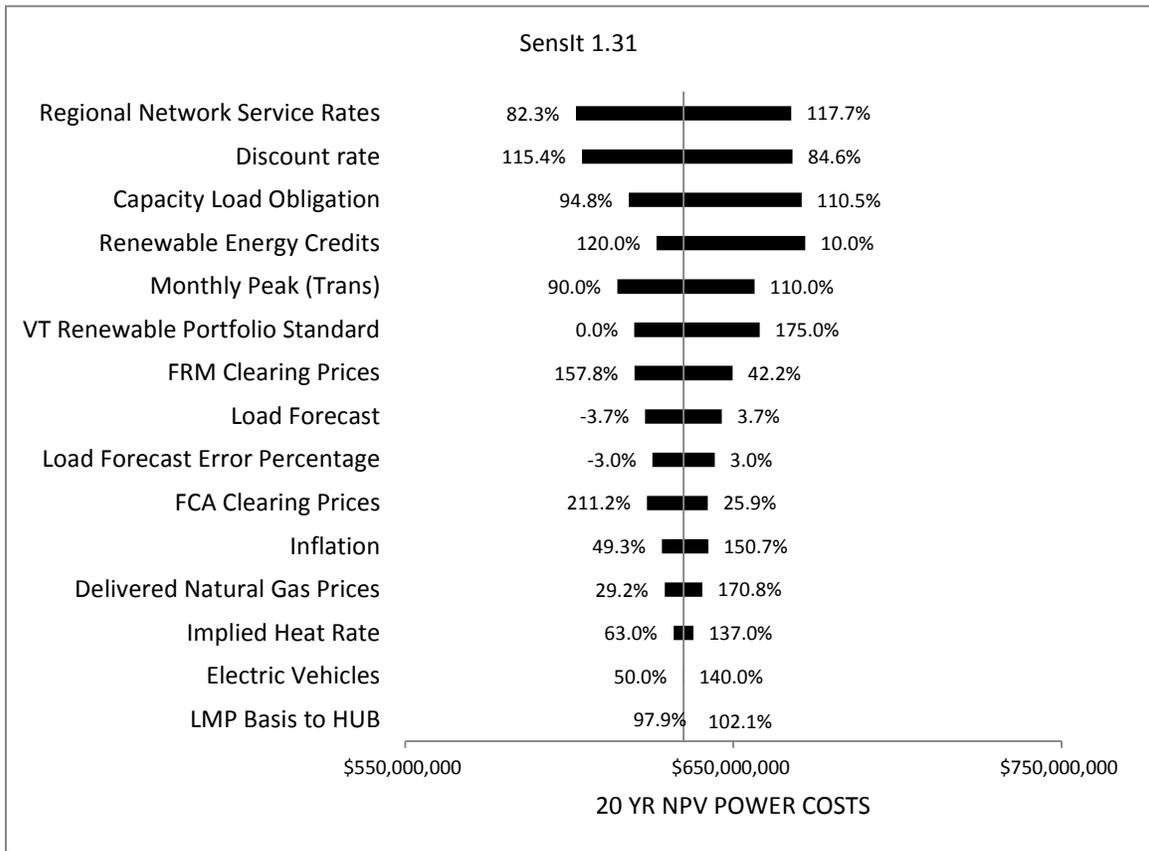
Senslt 1.31		Scenario 3: SolarIn							
Many Inputs, One Output									
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis									
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls				
Time	5:13 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table!\$C\$25				
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS									
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent		
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing*2	
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$572,208,046	\$622,557,113	\$672,906,179	\$100,698,133	31.0%	
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$589,739,193	\$622,557,113	\$655,375,039	\$65,635,847	13.2%	
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$592,171,769	\$622,557,113	\$655,189,181	\$63,017,412	12.2%	
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$611,790,567	\$622,557,113	\$671,006,566	\$59,215,998	10.7%	
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$605,917,950	\$622,557,113	\$658,526,061	\$52,608,111	8.5%	
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$596,267,954	\$622,557,113	\$648,846,271	\$52,578,316	8.5%	
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$602,365,781	\$622,557,113	\$644,199,479	\$41,833,698	5.4%	
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$607,579,141	\$622,557,113	\$645,801,605	\$38,222,464	4.5%	
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$607,602,568	\$622,557,113	\$637,511,657	\$29,909,088	2.7%	
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$610,858,529	\$622,557,113	\$634,255,696	\$23,397,166	1.7%	
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$613,071,775	\$622,557,113	\$632,042,450	\$18,970,675	1.1%	
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$615,944,554	\$622,557,113	\$630,108,452	\$14,163,897	0.6%	
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$621,441,865	\$622,557,113	\$623,300,611	\$1,858,746	0.0%	
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$622,454,471	\$622,557,113	\$622,639,225	\$184,754	0.0%	
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$622,557,113	\$622,557,113	\$622,557,113	\$0	0.0%	



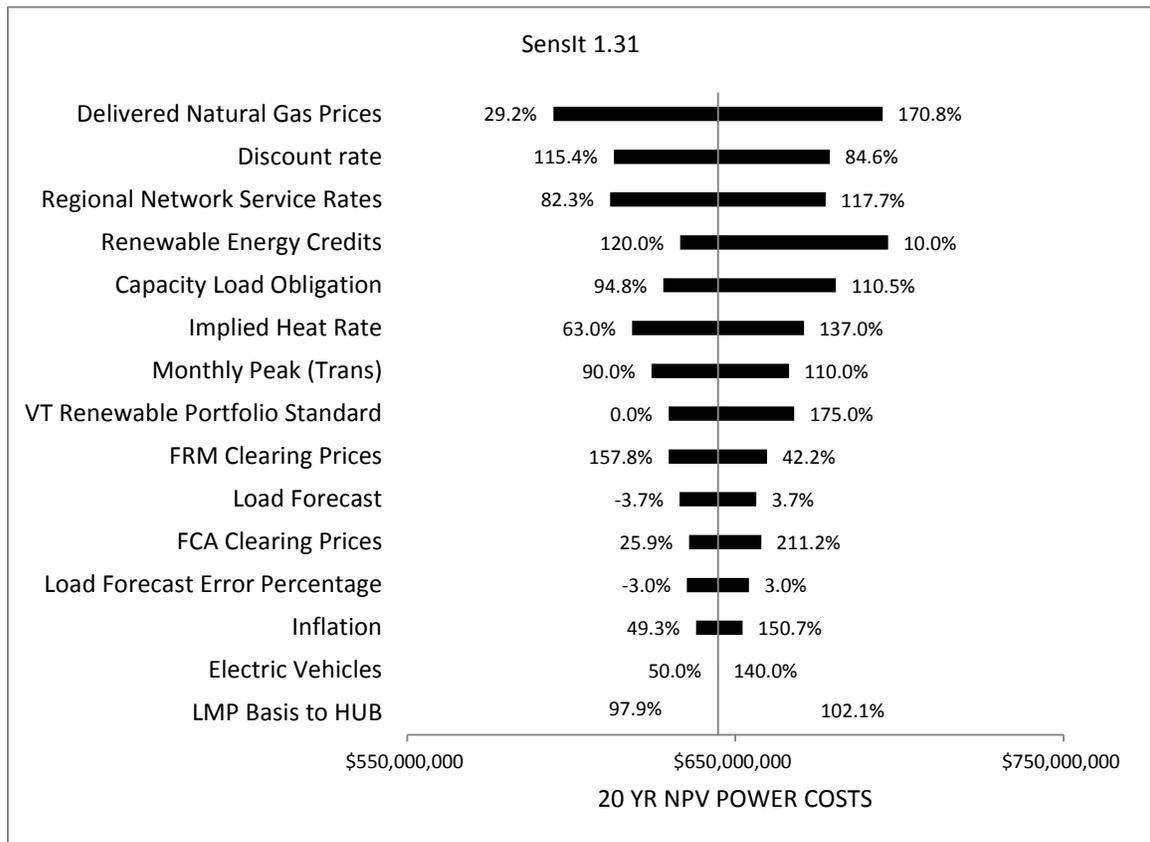
Senslt 1.31		Scenario 4: FixCon						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15	Workbook	IRPResults4.xls					
Time	5:16 PM	Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25					
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Swing*2
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High		
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$619,822,908	\$651,829,603	\$686,199,640	\$66,376,732	20.9%
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$619,011,683	\$651,829,603	\$684,647,529	\$65,635,847	20.5%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$635,190,440	\$651,829,603	\$687,798,551	\$52,608,111	13.1%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$643,582,058	\$651,829,603	\$688,943,553	\$45,361,495	9.8%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$631,638,271	\$651,829,603	\$673,471,970	\$41,833,698	8.3%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$636,851,631	\$651,829,603	\$675,074,095	\$38,222,464	6.9%
FCA Clearing Prices	25.9%	100.0%	211.2%	\$638,135,911	\$651,829,603	\$672,370,140	\$34,234,229	5.6%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$636,875,059	\$651,829,603	\$666,784,147	\$29,909,088	4.2%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$636,906,149	\$651,829,603	\$666,753,056	\$29,846,907	4.2%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$640,131,020	\$651,829,603	\$663,528,186	\$23,397,166	2.6%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$642,344,265	\$651,829,603	\$661,314,940	\$18,970,675	1.7%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$644,037,501	\$651,829,603	\$659,621,704	\$15,584,203	1.2%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$645,217,044	\$651,829,603	\$659,380,942	\$14,163,897	1.0%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$651,726,962	\$651,829,603	\$651,911,716	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$651,829,603	\$651,829,603	\$651,829,603	\$0	0.0%



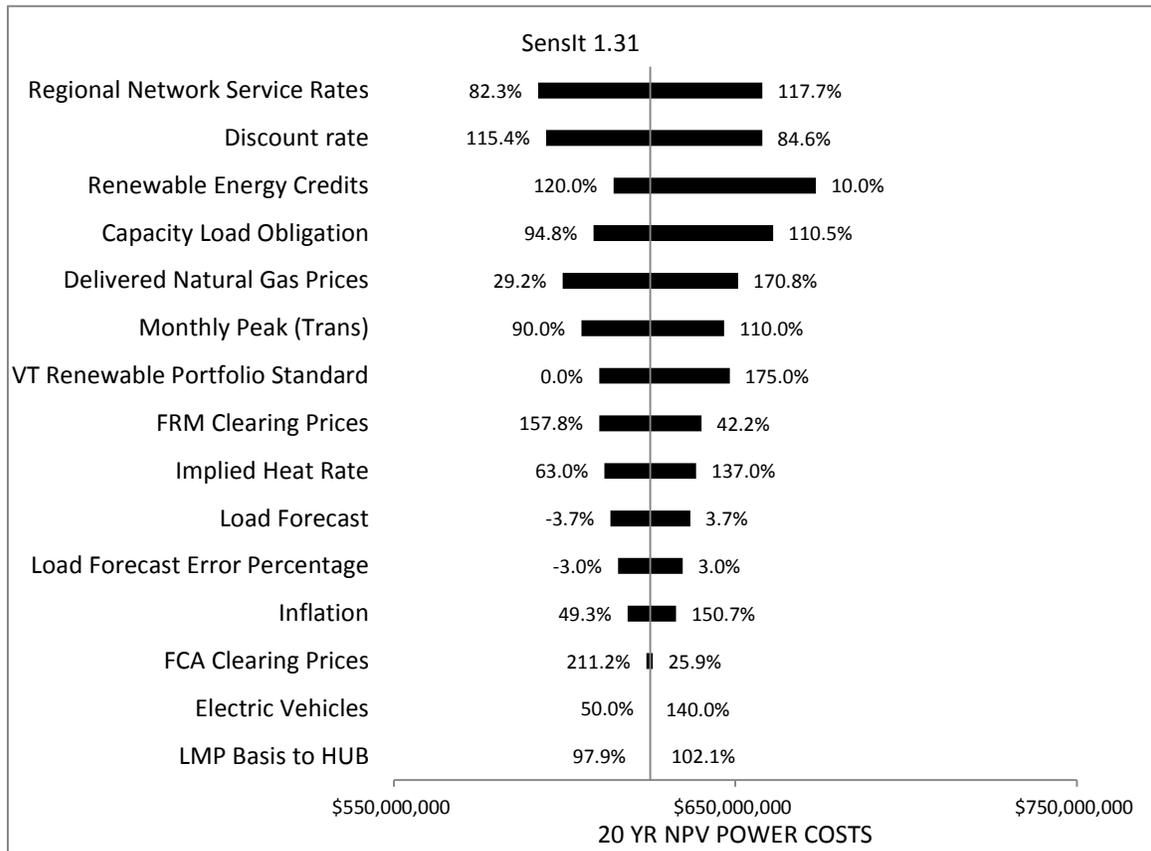
Senslt 1.31		Scenario 5: Mkt Cont						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	5:19 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Swing*2
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High		
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$601,982,212	\$634,800,132	\$667,618,059	\$65,635,847	22.7%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$603,848,526	\$634,800,132	\$668,034,194	\$64,185,668	21.7%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$618,160,970	\$634,800,132	\$670,769,080	\$52,608,111	14.6%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$626,552,588	\$634,800,132	\$671,914,083	\$45,361,495	10.8%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$614,608,801	\$634,800,132	\$656,442,499	\$41,833,698	9.2%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$619,822,161	\$634,800,132	\$658,044,625	\$38,222,464	7.7%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$619,845,588	\$634,800,132	\$649,754,676	\$29,909,088	4.7%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$623,101,549	\$634,800,132	\$646,498,715	\$23,397,166	2.9%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$625,314,795	\$634,800,132	\$644,285,470	\$18,970,675	1.9%
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$623,638,416	\$634,800,132	\$642,241,277	\$18,602,861	1.8%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$628,187,574	\$634,800,132	\$642,351,471	\$14,163,897	1.1%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$629,062,253	\$634,800,132	\$640,538,012	\$11,475,759	0.7%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$631,804,168	\$634,800,132	\$637,796,097	\$5,991,929	0.2%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$634,697,491	\$634,800,132	\$634,882,245	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$634,800,132	\$634,800,132	\$634,800,132	\$0	0.0%



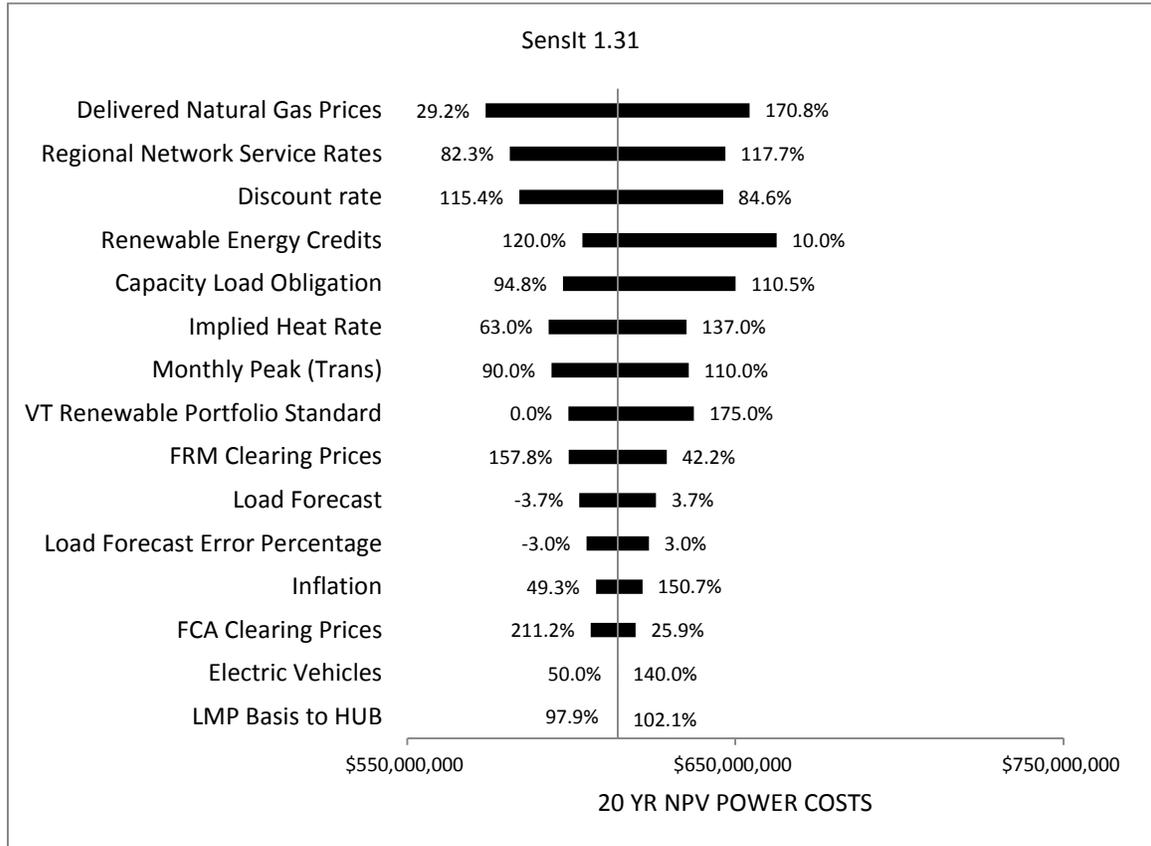
Senslt 1.31		Scenario 6: Wind							
Many Inputs, One Output									
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis									
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls				
Time	5:22 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table!\$C\$25				
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS									
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent		
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing <sup>2</sup>	
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$594,511,369	\$644,672,738	\$694,834,107	\$100,322,738	29.7%	
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$612,958,816	\$644,672,738	\$678,737,097	\$65,778,281	12.8%	
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$611,854,818	\$644,672,738	\$677,490,664	\$65,635,847	12.7%	
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$633,155,130	\$644,672,738	\$696,501,973	\$63,346,844	11.8%	
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$628,033,575	\$644,672,738	\$680,641,686	\$52,608,111	8.2%	
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$618,481,584	\$644,672,738	\$670,863,892	\$52,382,308	8.1%	
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$624,481,406	\$644,672,738	\$666,315,105	\$41,833,698	5.2%	
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$629,694,766	\$644,672,738	\$667,917,230	\$38,222,464	4.3%	
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$629,718,194	\$644,672,738	\$659,627,282	\$29,909,088	2.6%	
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$632,974,155	\$644,672,738	\$656,371,321	\$23,397,166	1.6%	
FCA Clearing Prices	25.9%	100.0%	211.2%	\$635,868,361	\$644,672,738	\$657,879,303	\$22,010,942	1.4%	
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$635,187,400	\$644,672,738	\$654,158,075	\$18,970,675	1.1%	
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$638,060,180	\$644,672,738	\$652,224,077	\$14,163,897	0.6%	
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$644,570,097	\$644,672,738	\$644,754,851	\$184,754	0.0%	
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$644,672,738	\$644,672,738	\$644,672,738	\$0	0.0%	



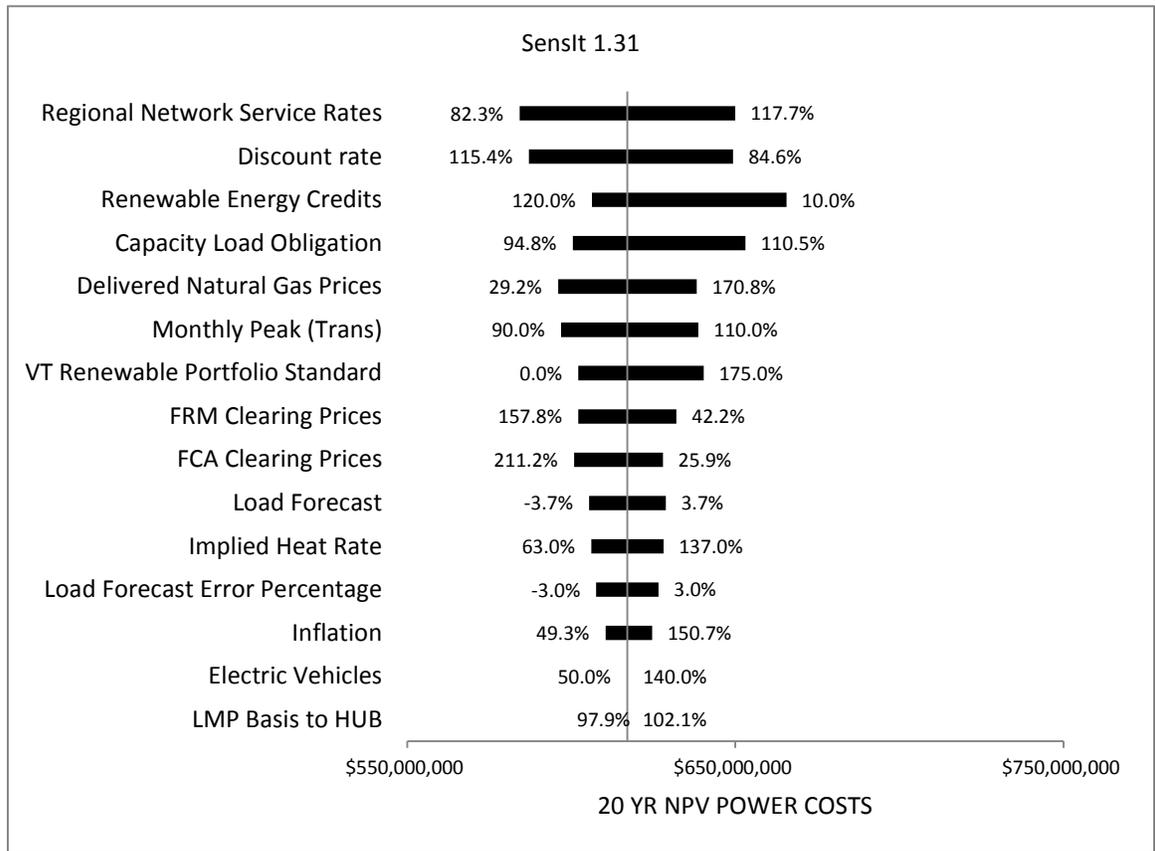
Sensit 1.31		Scenario 7: SolarIn/FixCon						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15	Workbook	IRPResults4.xls					
Time	5:25 PM	Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25					
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Percent Swing*2
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High		
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$592,273,239	\$625,091,159	\$657,909,086	\$65,635,847	18.6%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$594,577,779	\$625,091,159	\$657,858,626	\$63,280,848	17.3%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$614,324,614	\$625,091,159	\$673,540,612	\$59,215,998	15.1%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$608,451,997	\$625,091,159	\$661,060,107	\$52,608,111	11.9%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$599,402,100	\$625,091,159	\$650,780,218	\$51,378,119	11.4%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$604,899,828	\$625,091,159	\$646,733,526	\$41,833,698	7.6%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$610,113,188	\$625,091,159	\$648,335,652	\$38,222,464	6.3%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$610,136,615	\$625,091,159	\$640,045,703	\$29,909,088	3.9%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$611,677,927	\$625,091,159	\$638,504,392	\$26,826,465	3.1%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$613,392,576	\$625,091,159	\$636,789,742	\$23,397,166	2.4%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$615,605,822	\$625,091,159	\$634,576,497	\$18,970,675	1.6%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$618,478,601	\$625,091,159	\$632,642,498	\$14,163,897	0.9%
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$623,975,912	\$625,091,159	\$625,834,657	\$1,858,746	0.0%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$624,988,518	\$625,091,159	\$625,173,272	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$625,091,159	\$625,091,159	\$625,091,159	\$0	0.0%



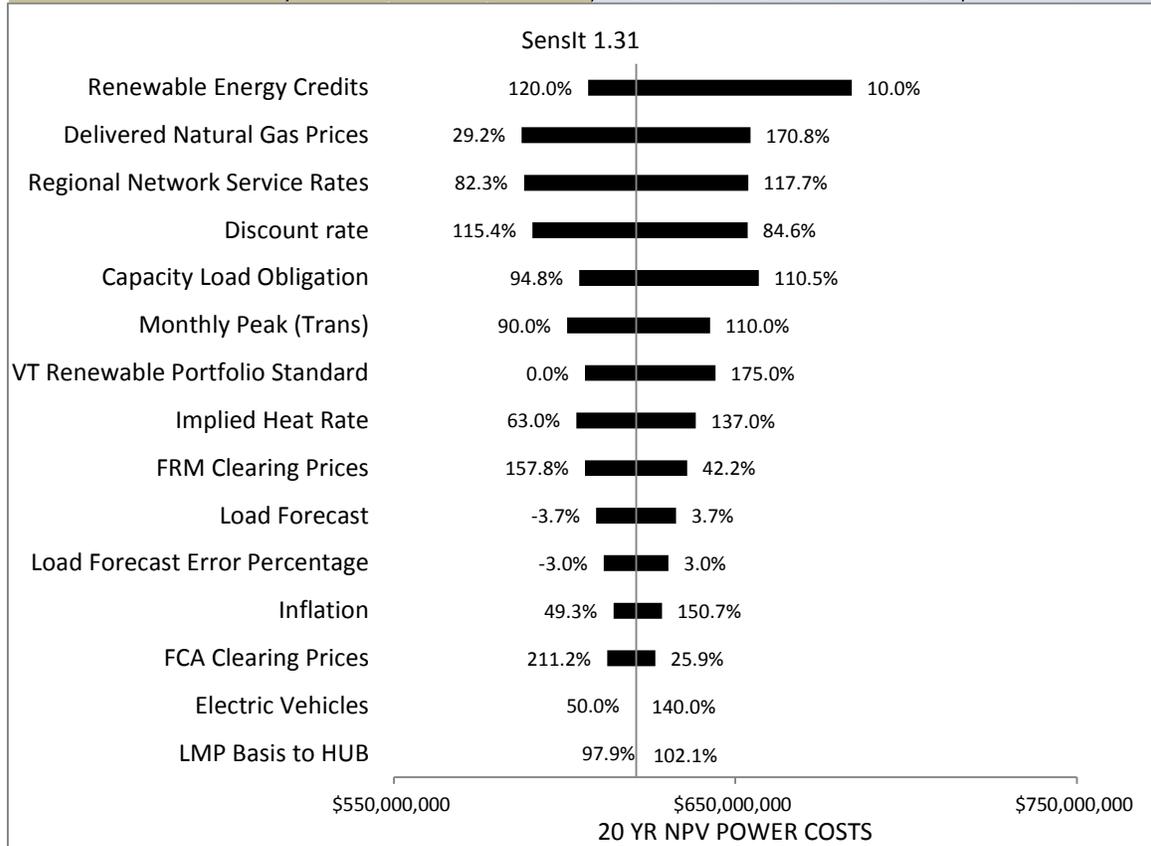
<b>Sensit 1.31</b>		<b>Scenario 8: SolarOut/SolarIn</b>						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	5:28 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent	
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing*2
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$573,900,486	\$614,130,019	\$654,359,551	\$80,459,065	23.1%
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$581,312,099	\$614,130,019	\$646,947,945	\$65,635,847	15.3%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$584,223,200	\$614,130,019	\$646,247,061	\$62,023,861	13.7%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$603,363,474	\$614,130,019	\$662,579,472	\$59,215,998	12.5%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$597,490,856	\$614,130,019	\$650,098,967	\$52,608,111	9.9%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$593,124,653	\$614,130,019	\$635,135,384	\$42,010,731	6.3%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$593,938,688	\$614,130,019	\$635,772,386	\$41,833,698	6.2%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$599,152,047	\$614,130,019	\$637,374,511	\$38,222,464	5.2%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$599,175,475	\$614,130,019	\$629,084,563	\$29,909,088	3.2%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$602,431,436	\$614,130,019	\$625,828,602	\$23,397,166	2.0%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$604,644,681	\$614,130,019	\$623,615,356	\$18,970,675	1.3%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$607,517,461	\$614,130,019	\$621,681,358	\$14,163,897	0.7%
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$605,933,777	\$614,130,019	\$619,594,180	\$13,660,403	0.7%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$614,027,378	\$614,130,019	\$614,212,132	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$614,130,019	\$614,130,019	\$614,130,019	\$0	0.0%



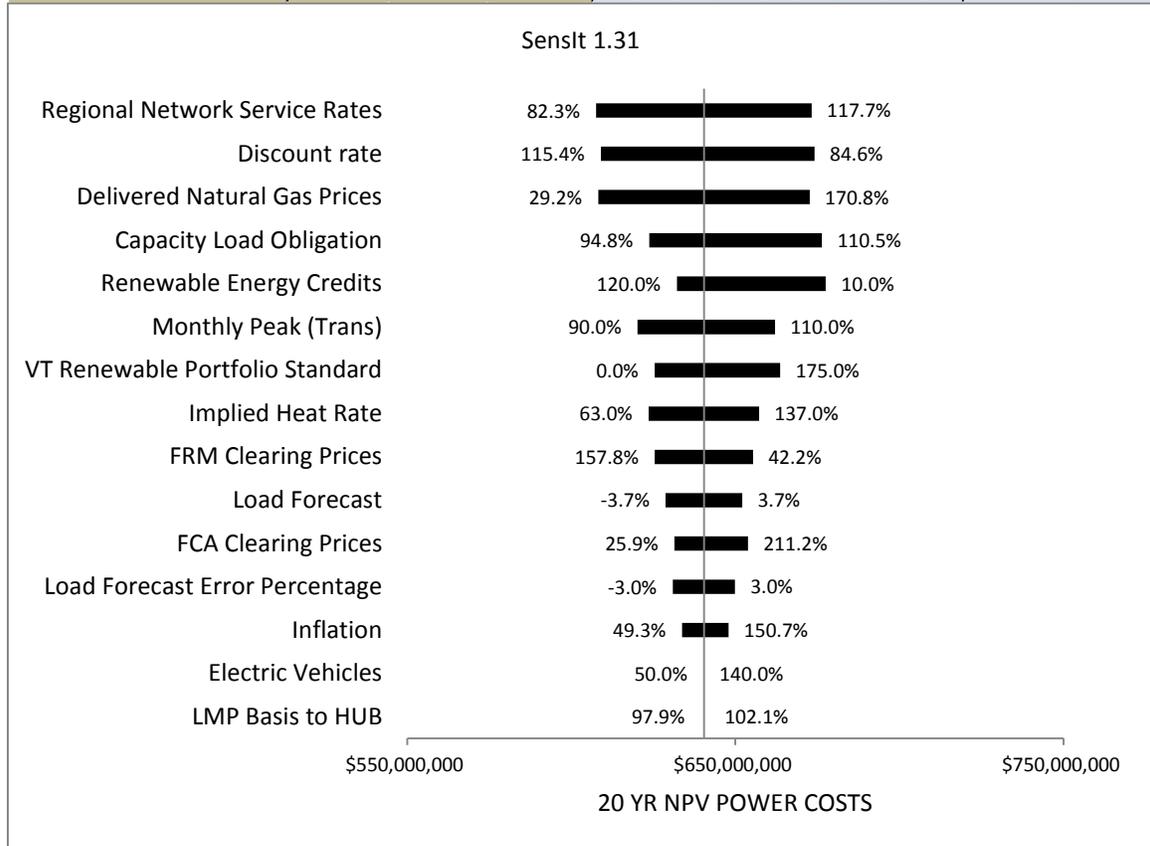
Sensit 1.31		Scenario 9: SolarIn/Mkt Cont									
Many Inputs, One Output											
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis											
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls						
Time	5:31 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25						
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS											
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent				
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing*2			
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$584,270,792	\$617,088,712	\$649,906,639	\$65,635,847	19.0%			
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$587,070,161	\$617,088,712	\$649,323,457	\$62,253,297	17.1%			
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$606,322,167	\$617,088,712	\$665,538,165	\$59,215,998	15.5%			
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$600,449,550	\$617,088,712	\$653,057,660	\$52,608,111	12.2%			
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$595,992,440	\$617,088,712	\$638,184,984	\$42,192,544	7.9%			
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$596,897,381	\$617,088,712	\$638,731,079	\$41,833,698	7.7%			
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$602,110,741	\$617,088,712	\$640,333,205	\$38,222,464	6.4%			
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$602,134,168	\$617,088,712	\$632,043,256	\$29,909,088	3.9%			
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$600,849,425	\$617,088,712	\$627,914,903	\$27,065,478	3.2%			
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$605,390,129	\$617,088,712	\$628,787,295	\$23,397,166	2.4%			
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$606,073,548	\$617,088,712	\$628,103,876	\$22,030,328	2.1%			
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$607,603,374	\$617,088,712	\$626,574,050	\$18,970,675	1.6%			
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$610,476,154	\$617,088,712	\$624,640,051	\$14,163,897	0.9%			
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$616,986,071	\$617,088,712	\$617,170,825	\$184,754	0.0%			
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$617,088,712	\$617,088,712	\$617,088,712	\$0	0.0%			



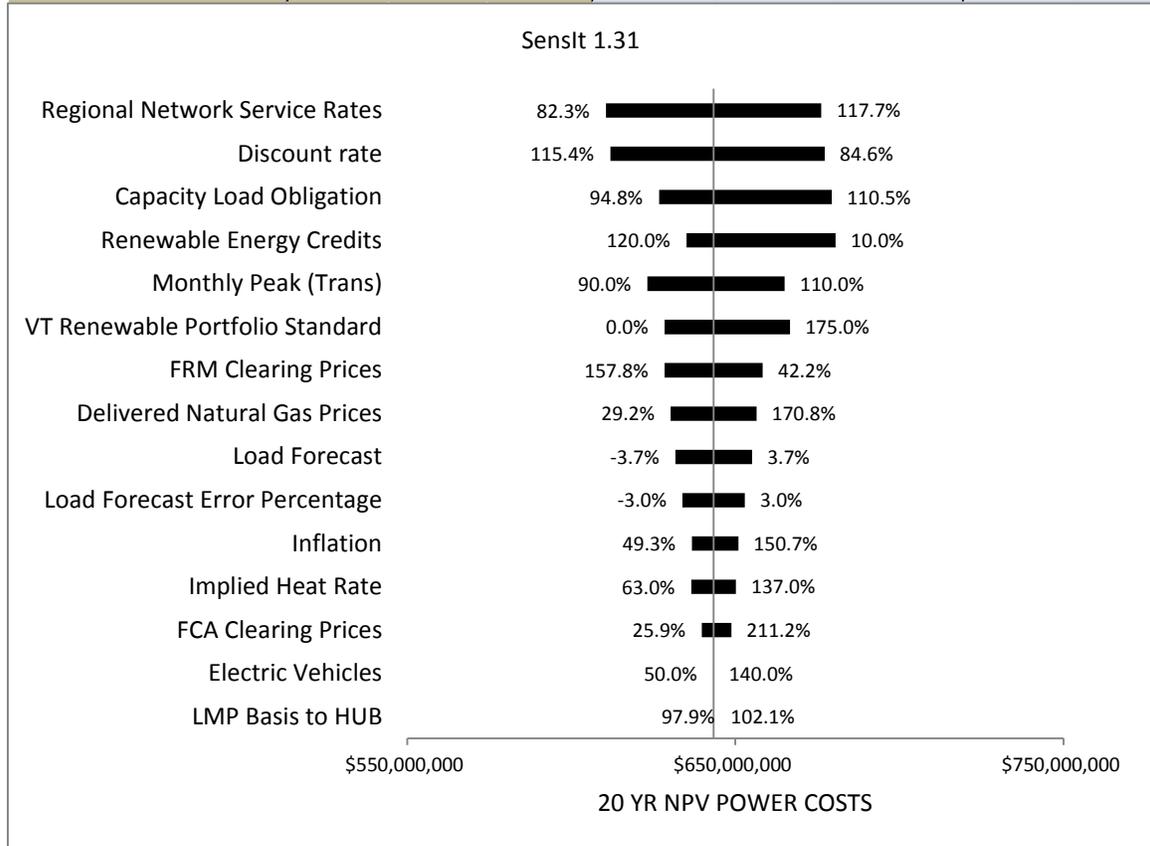
Sensit 1.31		Scenario 10: SolarIn/Wind						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	5:34 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent	
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing*2
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$606,890,791	\$620,927,400	\$684,092,138	\$77,201,347	21.2%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$587,400,433	\$620,927,400	\$654,454,366	\$67,053,933	16.0%
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$588,109,480	\$620,927,400	\$653,745,326	\$65,635,847	15.3%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$590,552,848	\$620,927,400	\$653,552,250	\$62,999,402	14.1%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$604,288,237	\$620,927,400	\$656,896,348	\$52,608,111	9.8%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$600,736,068	\$620,927,400	\$642,569,767	\$41,833,698	6.2%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$605,949,428	\$620,927,400	\$644,171,892	\$38,222,464	5.2%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$603,421,698	\$620,927,400	\$638,433,101	\$35,011,403	4.4%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$605,972,856	\$620,927,400	\$635,881,944	\$29,909,088	3.2%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$609,228,817	\$620,927,400	\$632,625,983	\$23,397,166	1.9%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$611,442,062	\$620,927,400	\$630,412,737	\$18,970,675	1.3%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$614,314,842	\$620,927,400	\$628,478,739	\$14,163,897	0.7%
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$612,478,180	\$620,927,400	\$626,560,213	\$14,082,033	0.7%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$620,824,759	\$620,927,400	\$621,009,513	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$620,927,400	\$620,927,400	\$620,927,400	\$0	0.0%



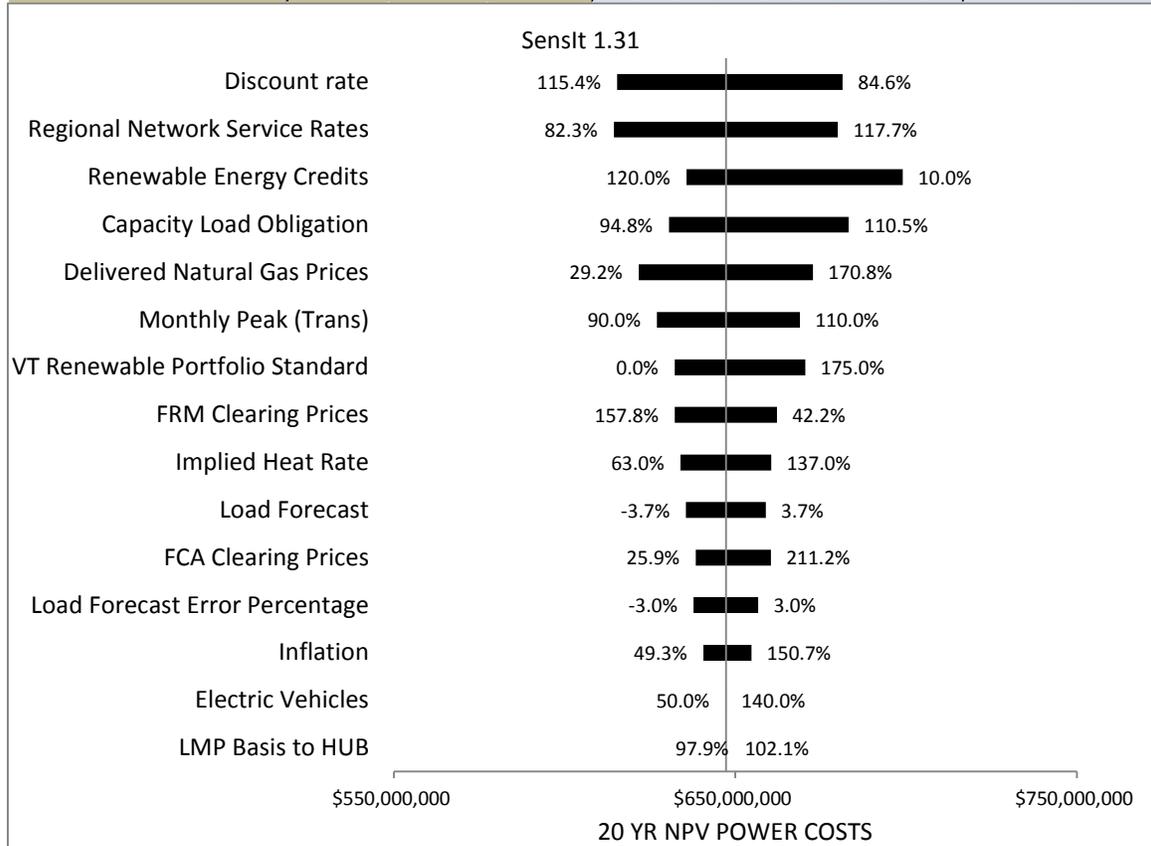
Senslt 1.31		Scenario 11: SolarOut/FixCon						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	5:36 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent	
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing*2
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$607,591,483	\$640,409,403	\$673,227,330	\$65,635,847	17.7%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$609,035,177	\$640,409,403	\$674,101,353	\$65,066,175	17.4%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$608,205,476	\$640,409,403	\$672,613,331	\$64,407,855	17.0%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$623,770,241	\$640,409,403	\$676,378,351	\$52,608,111	11.4%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$632,161,859	\$640,409,403	\$677,523,354	\$45,361,495	8.4%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$620,218,072	\$640,409,403	\$662,051,770	\$41,833,698	7.2%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$625,431,432	\$640,409,403	\$663,653,896	\$38,222,464	6.0%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$623,594,511	\$640,409,403	\$657,224,296	\$33,629,785	4.6%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$625,454,859	\$640,409,403	\$655,363,948	\$29,909,088	3.7%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$628,710,820	\$640,409,403	\$652,107,987	\$23,397,166	2.2%
FCA Clearing Prices	25.9%	100.0%	211.2%	\$631,436,375	\$640,409,403	\$653,868,946	\$22,432,572	2.1%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$630,924,066	\$640,409,403	\$649,894,741	\$18,970,675	1.5%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$633,796,845	\$640,409,403	\$647,960,742	\$14,163,897	0.8%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$640,306,762	\$640,409,403	\$640,491,516	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$640,409,403	\$640,409,403	\$640,409,403	\$0	0.0%



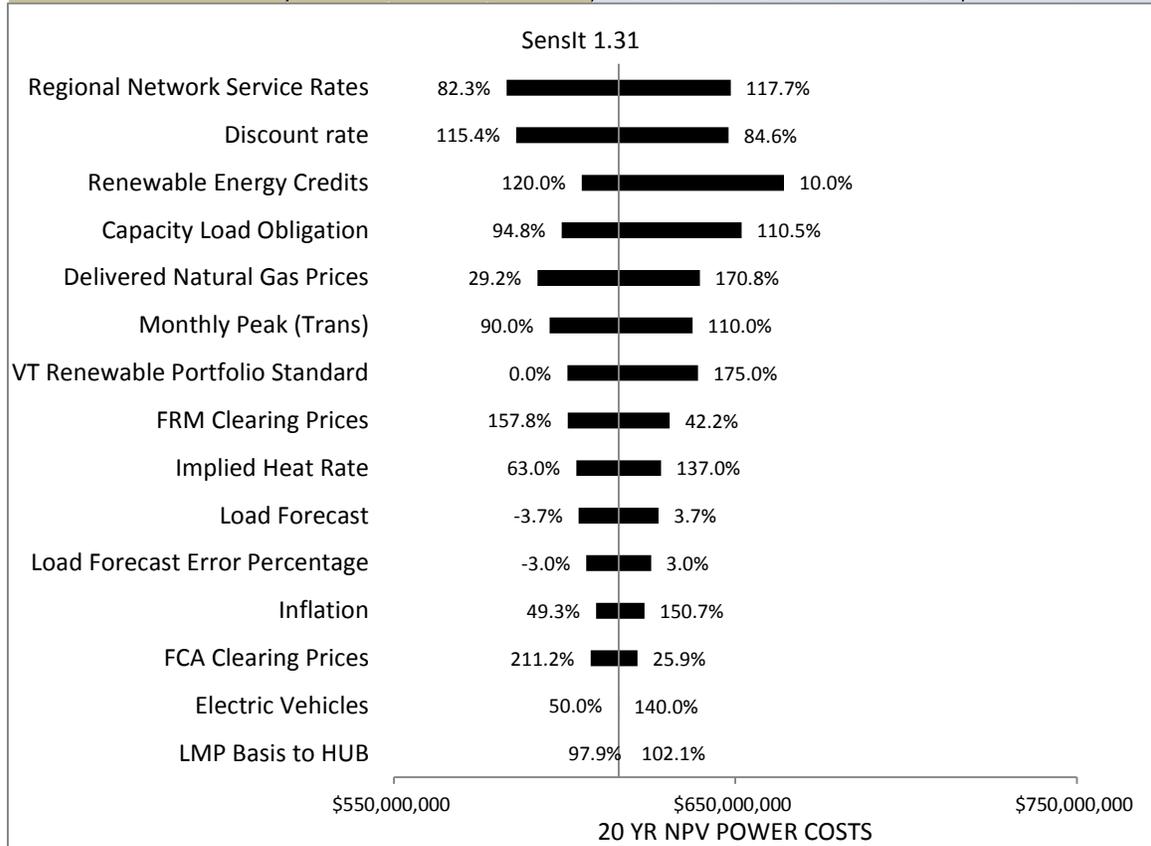
Senslt 1.31		Scenario 12: FixCon/Mkt Cont						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	5:39 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Swing*2
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High		
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$610,550,177	\$643,368,097	\$676,186,023	\$65,635,847	22.0%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$611,882,138	\$643,368,097	\$677,177,749	\$65,295,611	21.8%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$626,728,934	\$643,368,097	\$679,337,045	\$52,608,111	14.1%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$635,120,552	\$643,368,097	\$680,482,047	\$45,361,495	10.5%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$623,176,765	\$643,368,097	\$665,010,464	\$41,833,698	8.9%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$628,390,125	\$643,368,097	\$666,612,589	\$38,222,464	7.5%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$628,413,553	\$643,368,097	\$658,322,641	\$29,909,088	4.6%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$630,297,429	\$643,368,097	\$656,438,764	\$26,141,335	3.5%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$631,669,514	\$643,368,097	\$655,066,680	\$23,397,166	2.8%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$633,882,759	\$643,368,097	\$652,853,434	\$18,970,675	1.8%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$636,755,539	\$643,368,097	\$650,919,436	\$14,163,897	1.0%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$636,543,405	\$643,368,097	\$650,192,788	\$13,649,383	1.0%
FCA Clearing Prices	25.9%	100.0%	211.2%	\$639,757,098	\$643,368,097	\$648,784,595	\$9,027,497	0.4%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$643,265,456	\$643,368,097	\$643,450,210	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$643,368,097	\$643,368,097	\$643,368,097	\$0	0.0%



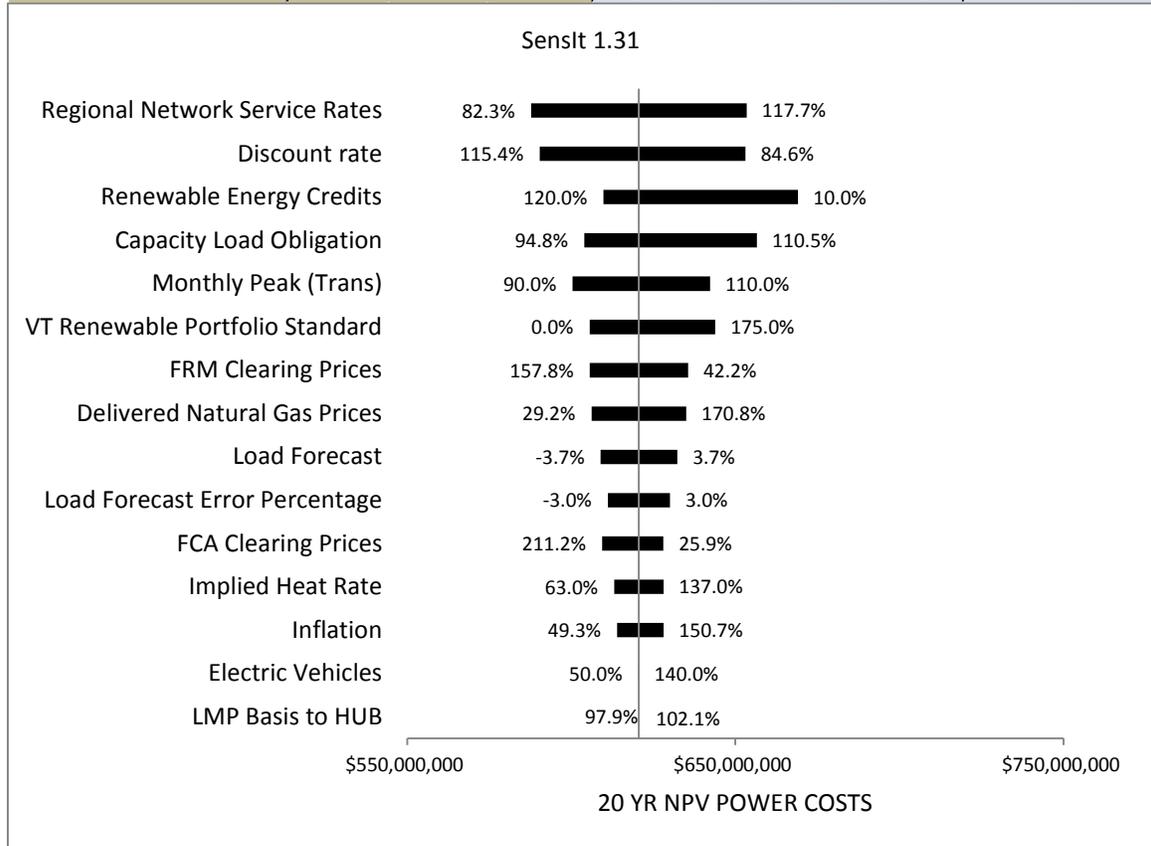
Senslt 1.31		Scenario 13: FixCon/Wind						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15	Workbook	IRPResults4.xls					
Time	5:42 PM	Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25					
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Swing*2
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High		
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$615,364,826	\$647,206,784	\$681,406,542	\$66,041,716	17.8%
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$614,388,864	\$647,206,784	\$680,024,711	\$65,635,847	17.6%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$635,689,176	\$647,206,784	\$699,036,020	\$63,346,844	16.4%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$630,567,622	\$647,206,784	\$683,175,732	\$52,608,111	11.3%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$621,705,423	\$647,206,784	\$672,708,146	\$51,002,724	10.6%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$627,015,453	\$647,206,784	\$668,849,151	\$41,833,698	7.2%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$632,228,813	\$647,206,784	\$670,451,277	\$38,222,464	6.0%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$632,252,240	\$647,206,784	\$662,161,329	\$29,909,088	3.7%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$633,891,556	\$647,206,784	\$660,522,013	\$26,630,457	2.9%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$635,508,201	\$647,206,784	\$658,905,368	\$23,397,166	2.2%
FCA Clearing Prices	25.9%	100.0%	211.2%	\$638,402,408	\$647,206,784	\$660,413,350	\$22,010,942	2.0%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$637,721,447	\$647,206,784	\$656,692,122	\$18,970,675	1.5%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$640,594,226	\$647,206,784	\$654,758,123	\$14,163,897	0.8%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$647,104,143	\$647,206,784	\$647,288,897	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$647,206,784	\$647,206,784	\$647,206,784	\$0	0.0%



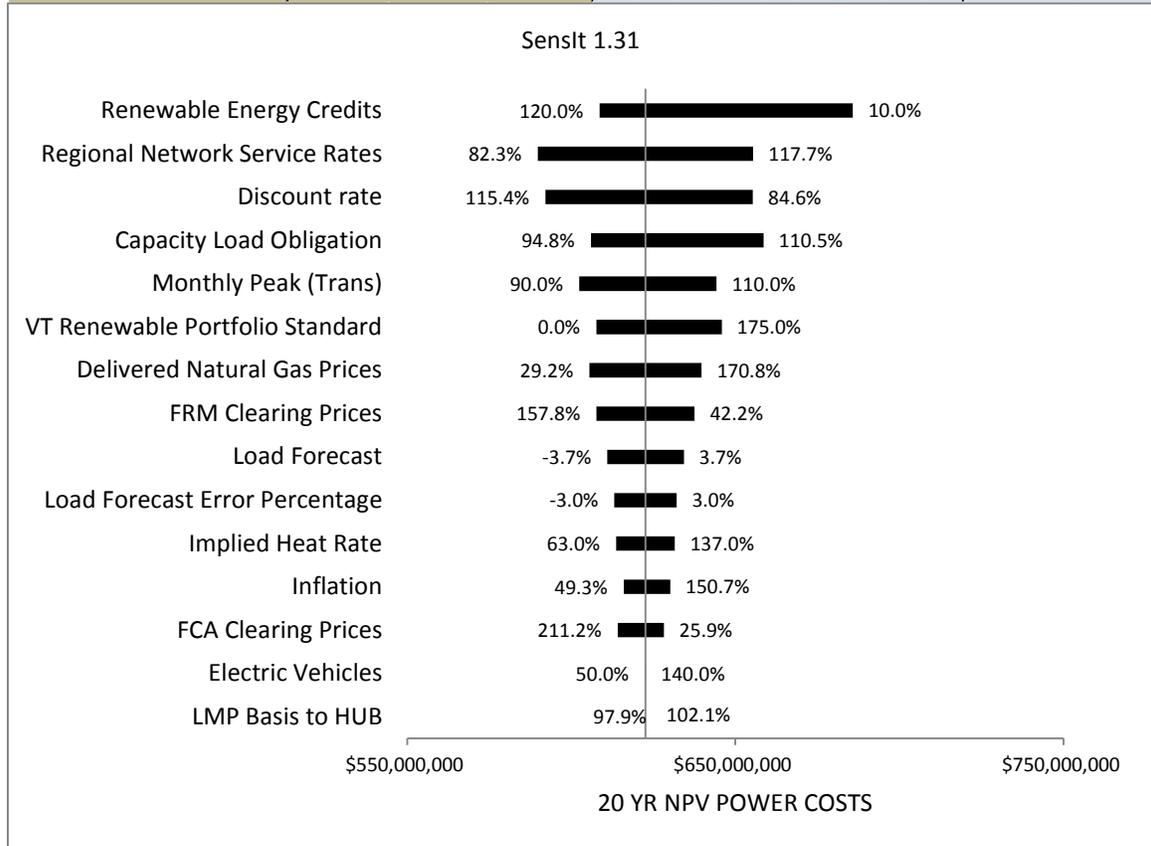
Sensit 1.31		Scenario 14: SolarOut/SolarIn/FixCon						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15	Workbook	IRPResults4.xls					
Time	5:45 PM	Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25					
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Swing*2
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High		
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$583,001,463	\$615,819,383	\$648,637,310	\$65,635,847	19.0%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$585,827,207	\$615,819,383	\$648,026,691	\$62,199,484	17.0%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$605,052,838	\$615,819,383	\$664,268,836	\$59,215,998	15.4%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$599,180,221	\$615,819,383	\$651,788,331	\$52,608,111	12.2%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$592,029,856	\$615,819,383	\$639,608,911	\$47,579,055	10.0%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$595,628,052	\$615,819,383	\$637,461,750	\$41,833,698	7.7%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$600,841,412	\$615,819,383	\$639,063,876	\$38,222,464	6.4%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$600,864,839	\$615,819,383	\$630,773,927	\$29,909,088	3.9%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$603,397,968	\$615,819,383	\$628,240,798	\$24,842,830	2.7%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$604,120,800	\$615,819,383	\$627,517,966	\$23,397,166	2.4%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$606,334,046	\$615,819,383	\$625,304,721	\$18,970,675	1.6%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$609,206,825	\$615,819,383	\$623,370,722	\$14,163,897	0.9%
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$607,623,141	\$615,819,383	\$621,283,545	\$13,660,403	0.8%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$615,716,742	\$615,819,383	\$615,901,496	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$615,819,383	\$615,819,383	\$615,819,383	\$0	0.0%



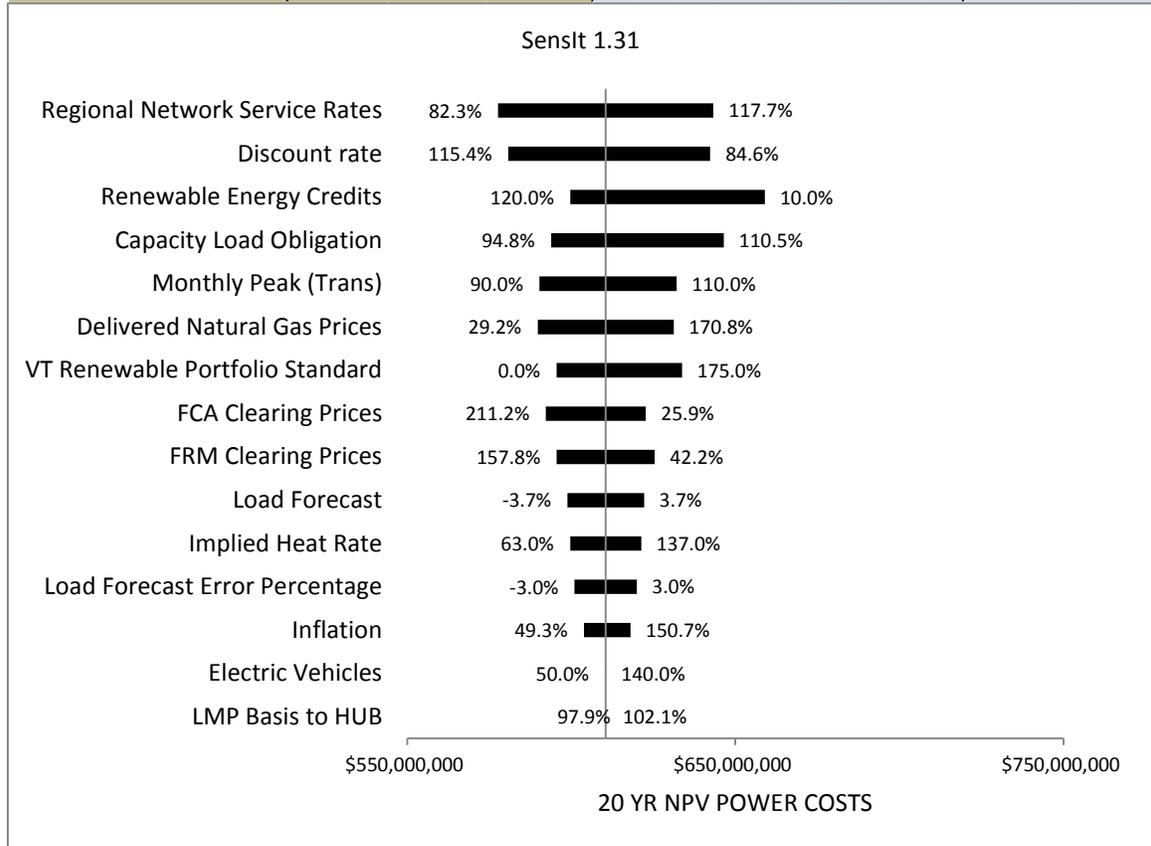
<b>Senslt 1.31</b>		<b>Scenario 15: SolarIn/FixCon/Mkt Cont</b>						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	5:48 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Swing*2
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High		
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$587,782,957	\$620,600,877	\$653,418,803	\$65,635,847	20.4%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$590,374,703	\$620,600,877	\$653,058,329	\$62,683,625	18.6%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$609,834,332	\$620,600,877	\$669,050,330	\$59,215,998	16.6%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$603,961,714	\$620,600,877	\$656,569,825	\$52,608,111	13.1%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$600,409,545	\$620,600,877	\$642,243,244	\$41,833,698	8.3%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$605,622,905	\$620,600,877	\$643,845,369	\$38,222,464	6.9%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$605,646,333	\$620,600,877	\$635,555,421	\$29,909,088	4.2%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$606,193,678	\$620,600,877	\$635,008,076	\$28,814,398	3.9%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$608,902,294	\$620,600,877	\$632,299,460	\$23,397,166	2.6%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$611,115,539	\$620,600,877	\$630,086,214	\$18,970,675	1.7%
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$609,402,936	\$620,600,877	\$628,066,170	\$18,663,234	1.6%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$613,078,331	\$620,600,877	\$628,123,422	\$15,045,090	1.1%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$613,988,318	\$620,600,877	\$628,152,216	\$14,163,897	0.9%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$620,498,236	\$620,600,877	\$620,682,990	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$620,600,877	\$620,600,877	\$620,600,877	\$0	0.0%



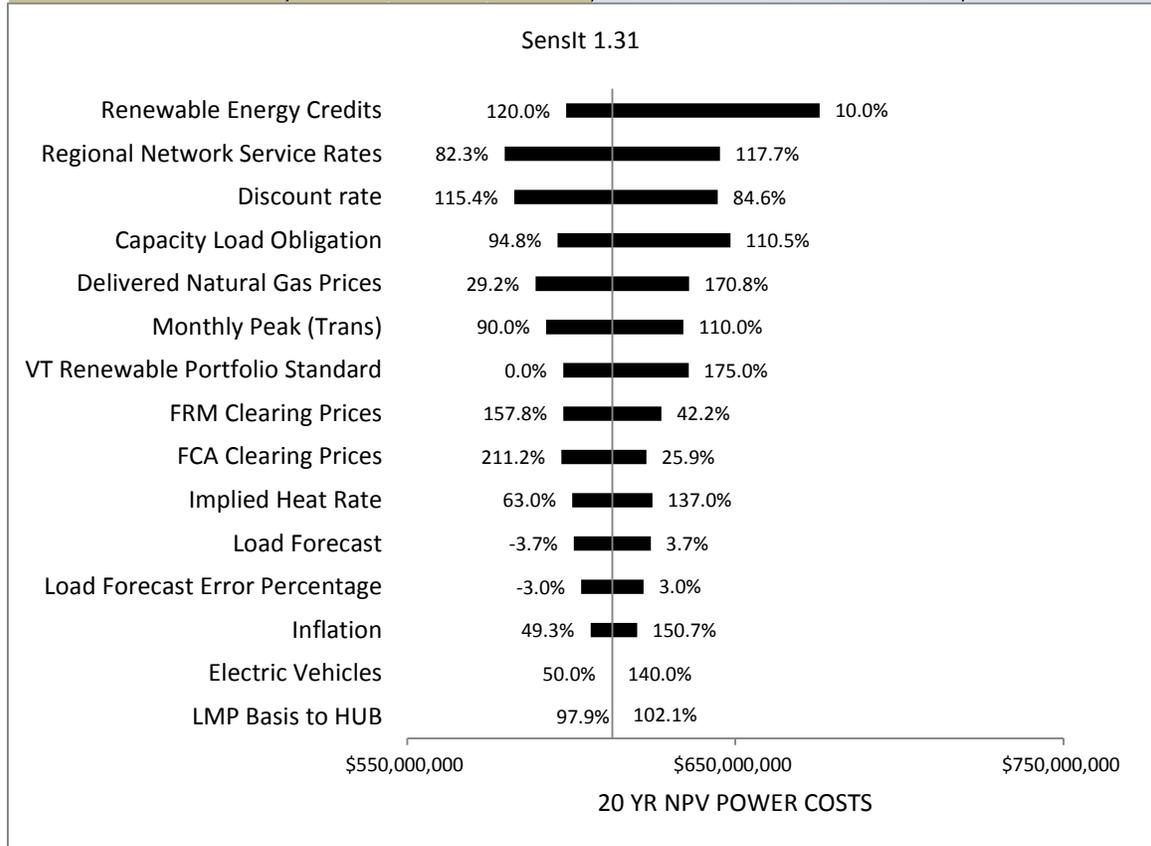
Sensit 1.31		Scenario 16: SolarIn/FixCon/Wind						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	5:51 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Swing*2
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High		
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$608,580,156	\$622,616,764	\$685,781,503	\$77,201,347	24.9%
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$589,798,844	\$622,616,764	\$655,434,691	\$65,635,847	18.0%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$592,156,855	\$622,616,764	\$655,331,880	\$63,175,025	16.7%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$605,977,602	\$622,616,764	\$658,585,712	\$52,608,111	11.6%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$602,425,433	\$622,616,764	\$644,259,131	\$41,833,698	7.3%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$607,638,793	\$622,616,764	\$645,861,257	\$38,222,464	6.1%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$605,529,802	\$622,616,764	\$639,703,726	\$34,173,924	4.9%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$607,662,220	\$622,616,764	\$637,571,308	\$29,909,088	3.7%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$610,918,181	\$622,616,764	\$634,315,347	\$23,397,166	2.3%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$613,131,427	\$622,616,764	\$632,102,102	\$18,970,675	1.5%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$613,695,013	\$622,616,764	\$631,538,515	\$17,843,502	1.3%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$616,004,206	\$622,616,764	\$630,168,103	\$14,163,897	0.8%
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$614,167,545	\$622,616,764	\$628,249,577	\$14,082,033	0.8%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$622,514,123	\$622,616,764	\$622,698,877	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$622,616,764	\$622,616,764	\$622,616,764	\$0	0.0%



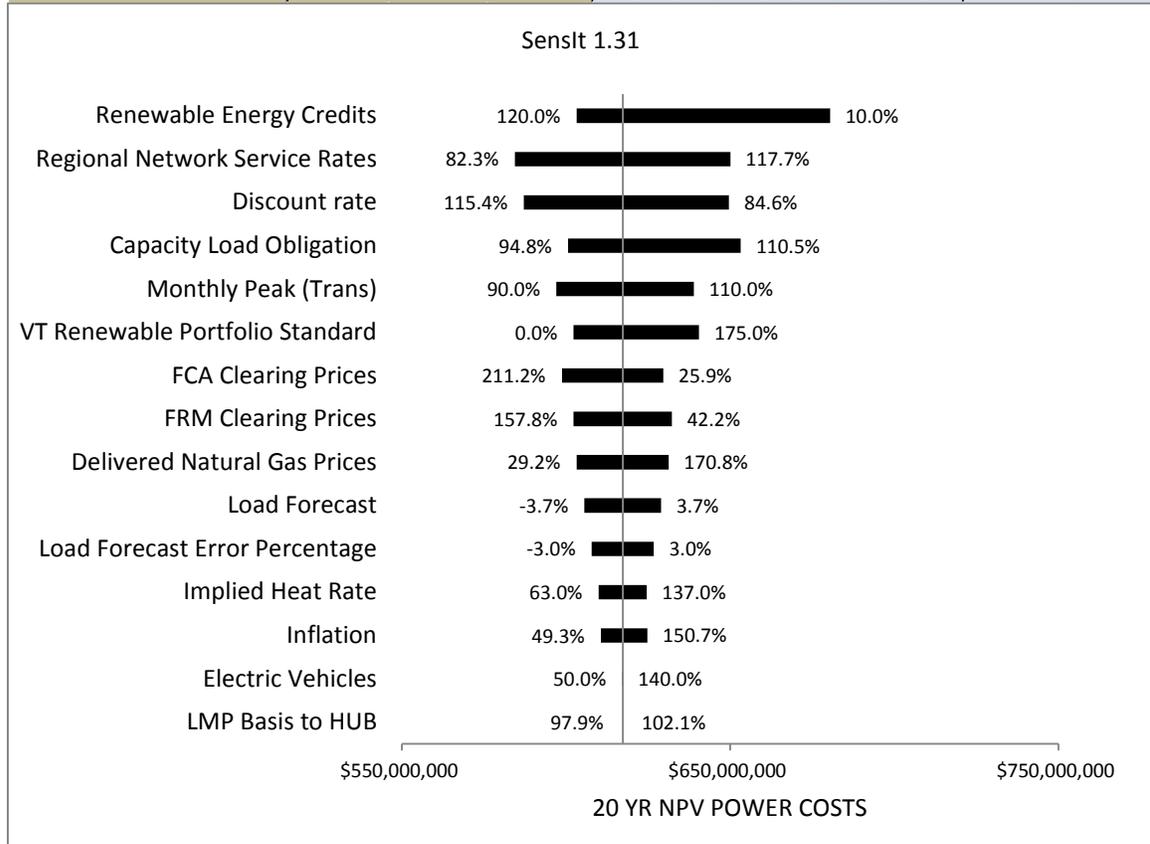
<b>Senslt 1.31</b>		<b>Scenario 17: SolarOut/SolarIn/Mkt Cont</b>							
Many Inputs, One Output									
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis									
Date	15-Jul-15	Workbook	IRPResults4.xls						
Time	5:53 PM	Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25						
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS									
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Swing*2	Percent
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High			
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$577,666,499	\$610,484,419	\$643,302,345	\$65,635,847	19.0%	
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$580,822,128	\$610,484,419	\$642,336,579	\$61,514,451	16.7%	
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$599,717,873	\$610,484,419	\$658,933,872	\$59,215,998	15.5%	
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$593,845,256	\$610,484,419	\$646,453,367	\$52,608,111	12.2%	
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$590,293,087	\$610,484,419	\$632,126,785	\$41,833,698	7.7%	
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$589,756,749	\$610,484,419	\$631,212,088	\$41,455,339	7.6%	
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$595,506,447	\$610,484,419	\$633,728,911	\$38,222,464	6.4%	
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$592,205,484	\$610,484,419	\$622,670,375	\$30,464,892	4.1%	
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$595,529,874	\$610,484,419	\$625,438,963	\$29,909,088	3.9%	
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$598,785,835	\$610,484,419	\$622,183,002	\$23,397,166	2.4%	
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$599,661,716	\$610,484,419	\$621,307,121	\$21,645,406	2.1%	
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$600,999,081	\$610,484,419	\$619,969,756	\$18,970,675	1.6%	
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$603,871,860	\$610,484,419	\$618,035,758	\$14,163,897	0.9%	
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$610,381,777	\$610,484,419	\$610,566,531	\$184,754	0.0%	
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$610,484,419	\$610,484,419	\$610,484,419	\$0	0.0%	



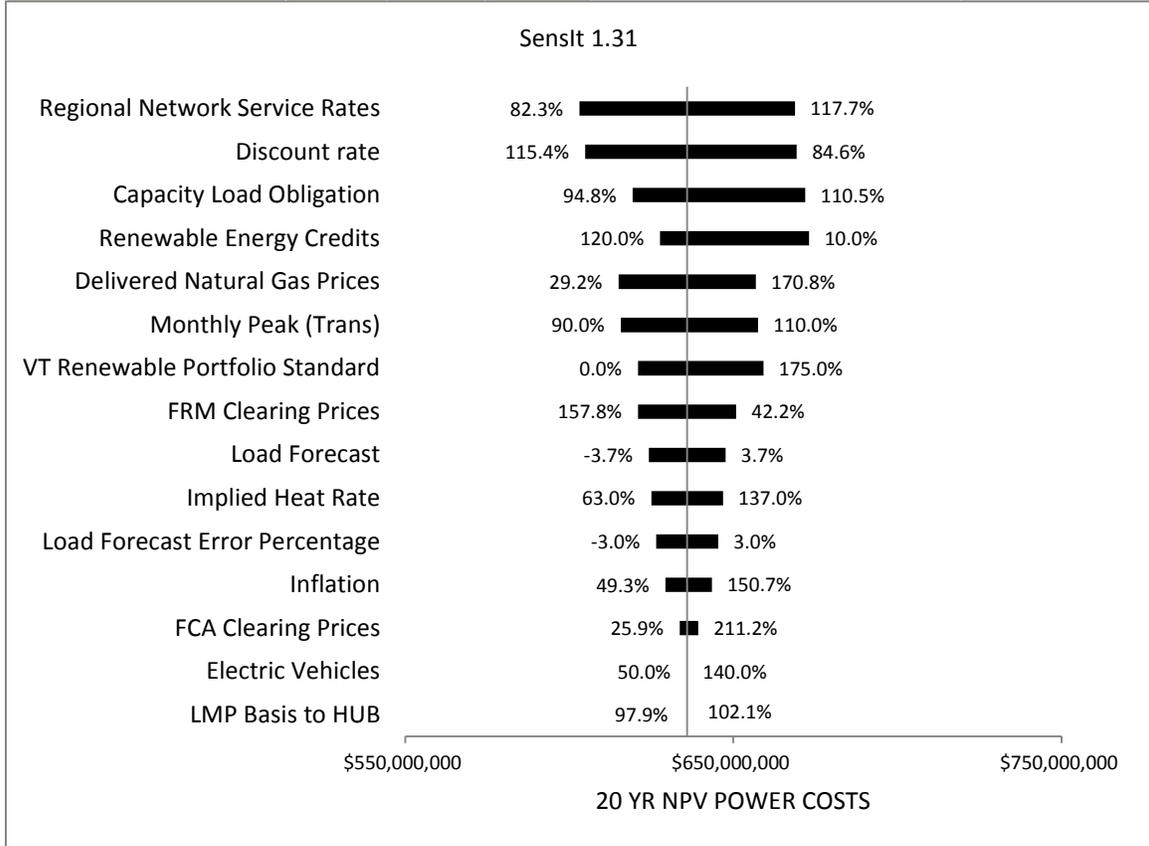
Sensit 1.31		Scenario 18: SolarOut/SolarIn/Wind							
Many Inputs, One Output									
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis									
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls				
Time	5:56 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25				
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS									
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent		
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing*2	
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$598,463,697	\$612,500,306	\$675,665,045	\$77,201,347	23.3%	
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$579,682,386	\$612,500,306	\$645,318,233	\$65,635,847	16.9%	
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$582,604,280	\$612,500,306	\$644,610,130	\$62,005,850	15.0%	
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$595,861,143	\$612,500,306	\$648,469,254	\$52,608,111	10.8%	
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$589,092,873	\$612,500,306	\$635,907,739	\$46,814,865	8.6%	
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$592,308,975	\$612,500,306	\$634,142,673	\$41,833,698	6.8%	
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$597,522,335	\$612,500,306	\$635,744,798	\$38,222,464	5.7%	
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$597,545,762	\$612,500,306	\$627,454,850	\$29,909,088	3.5%	
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$596,970,092	\$612,500,306	\$622,853,782	\$25,883,690	2.6%	
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$600,278,397	\$612,500,306	\$624,722,215	\$24,443,818	2.3%	
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$600,801,723	\$612,500,306	\$624,198,889	\$23,397,166	2.1%	
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$603,014,968	\$612,500,306	\$621,985,644	\$18,970,675	1.4%	
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$605,887,748	\$612,500,306	\$620,051,645	\$14,163,897	0.8%	
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$612,397,665	\$612,500,306	\$612,582,419	\$184,754	0.0%	
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$612,500,306	\$612,500,306	\$612,500,306	\$0	0.0%	



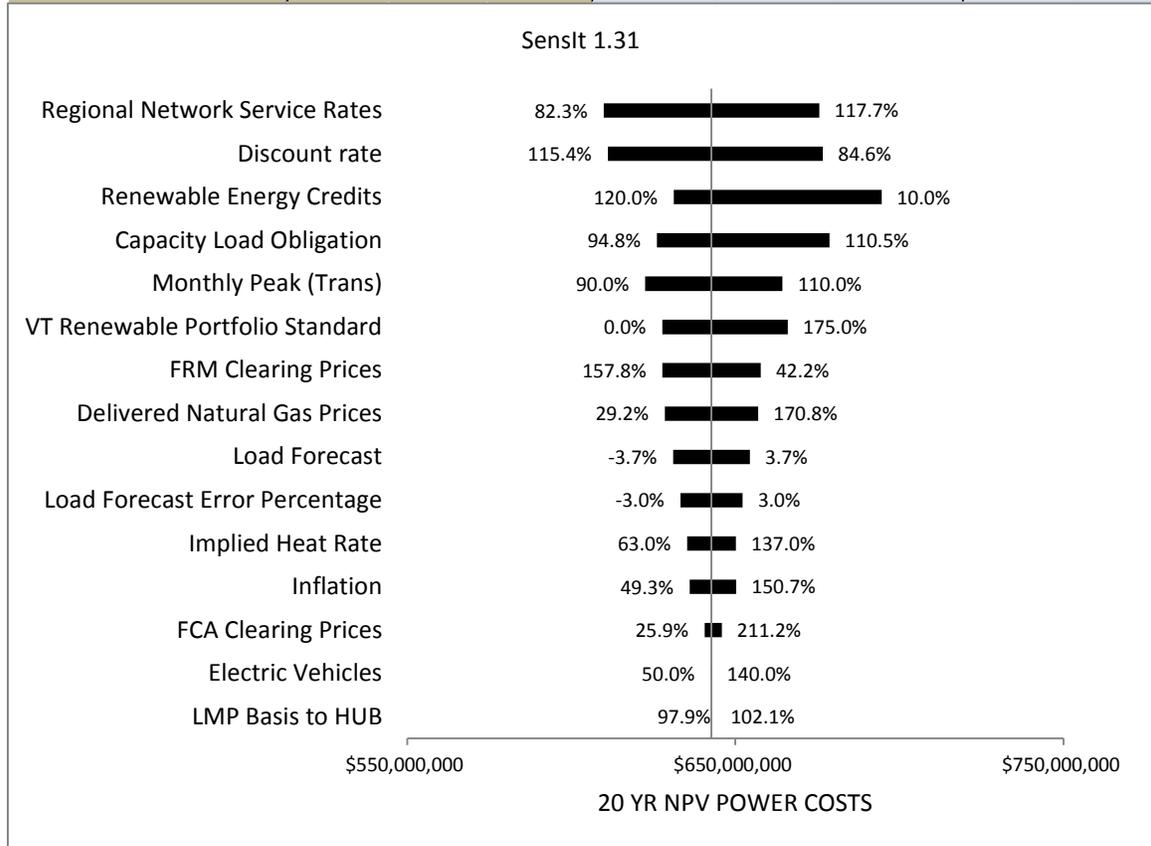
<b>Sensit 1.31</b>		<b>Scenario 19: Solarin/Mkt Cont/Wind</b>						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	5:59 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Swing*2
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High		
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$603,245,191	\$617,281,799	\$680,446,538	\$77,201,347	24.7%
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$584,463,880	\$617,281,799	\$650,099,726	\$65,635,847	17.9%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$587,151,777	\$617,281,799	\$649,641,768	\$62,489,991	16.2%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$600,642,637	\$617,281,799	\$653,250,748	\$52,608,111	11.5%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$597,090,468	\$617,281,799	\$638,924,166	\$41,833,698	7.3%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$602,303,828	\$617,281,799	\$640,526,292	\$38,222,464	6.1%
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$598,749,887	\$617,281,799	\$629,636,408	\$30,886,521	4.0%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$602,327,255	\$617,281,799	\$632,236,344	\$29,909,088	3.7%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$603,256,696	\$617,281,799	\$631,306,903	\$28,050,208	3.3%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$605,583,216	\$617,281,799	\$628,980,383	\$23,397,166	2.3%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$607,796,462	\$617,281,799	\$626,767,137	\$18,970,675	1.5%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$609,958,761	\$617,281,799	\$624,604,838	\$14,646,078	0.9%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$610,669,241	\$617,281,799	\$624,833,138	\$14,163,897	0.8%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$617,179,158	\$617,281,799	\$617,363,912	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$617,281,799	\$617,281,799	\$617,281,799	\$0	0.0%



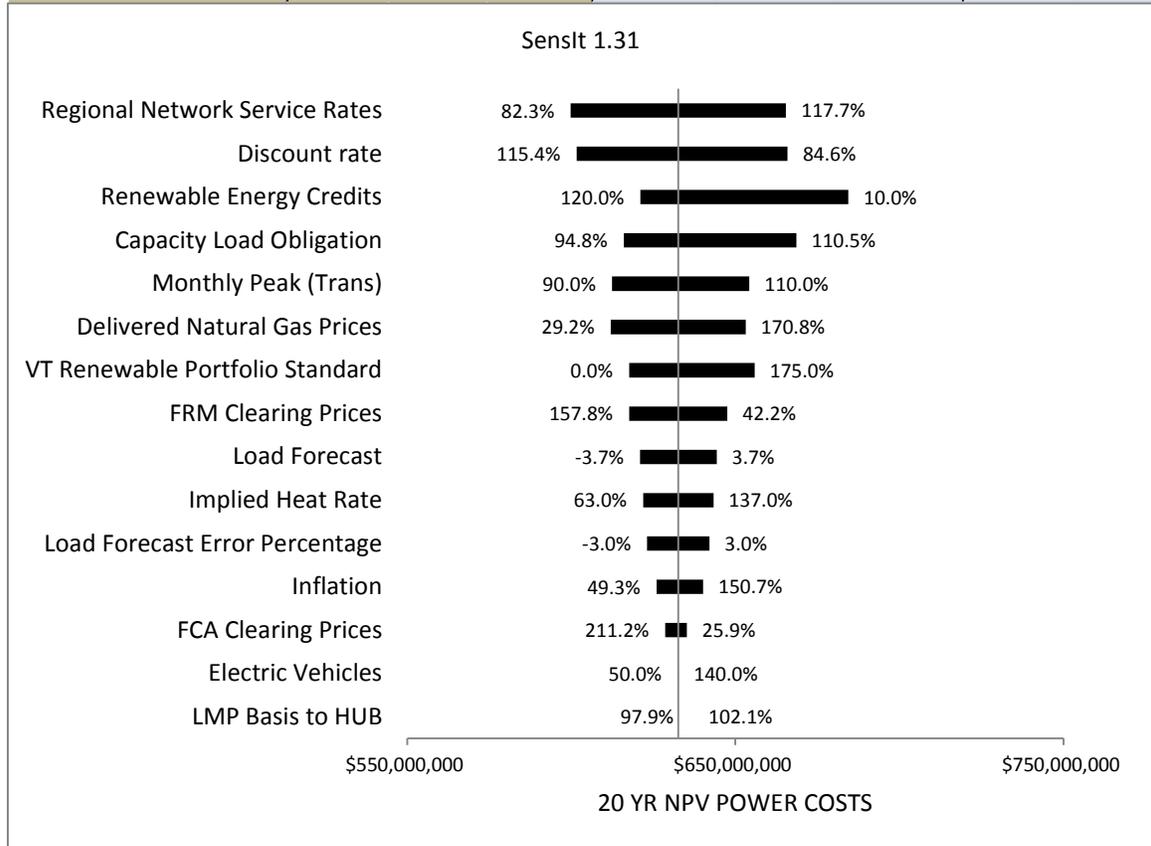
Senslt 1.31		Scenario 20: SolarOut/FixCon/Mkt Cont						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	6:02 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent	
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing*2
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$603,101,201	\$635,919,121	\$668,737,048	\$65,635,847	20.7%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$604,832,102	\$635,919,121	\$669,301,055	\$64,468,953	20.0%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$619,279,958	\$635,919,121	\$671,888,069	\$52,608,111	13.3%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$627,671,576	\$635,919,121	\$673,033,071	\$45,361,495	9.9%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$614,997,054	\$635,919,121	\$656,841,188	\$41,844,134	8.4%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$615,727,790	\$635,919,121	\$657,561,488	\$41,833,698	8.4%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$620,941,150	\$635,919,121	\$659,163,613	\$38,222,464	7.0%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$620,964,577	\$635,919,121	\$650,873,665	\$29,909,088	4.3%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$624,220,538	\$635,919,121	\$647,617,704	\$23,397,166	2.6%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$624,994,916	\$635,919,121	\$646,843,326	\$21,848,410	2.3%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$626,433,783	\$635,919,121	\$645,404,459	\$18,970,675	1.7%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$629,306,563	\$635,919,121	\$643,470,460	\$14,163,897	1.0%
FCA Clearing Prices	25.9%	100.0%	211.2%	\$633,667,888	\$635,919,121	\$639,295,971	\$5,628,083	0.2%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$635,816,480	\$635,919,121	\$636,001,234	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$635,919,121	\$635,919,121	\$635,919,121	\$0	0.0%



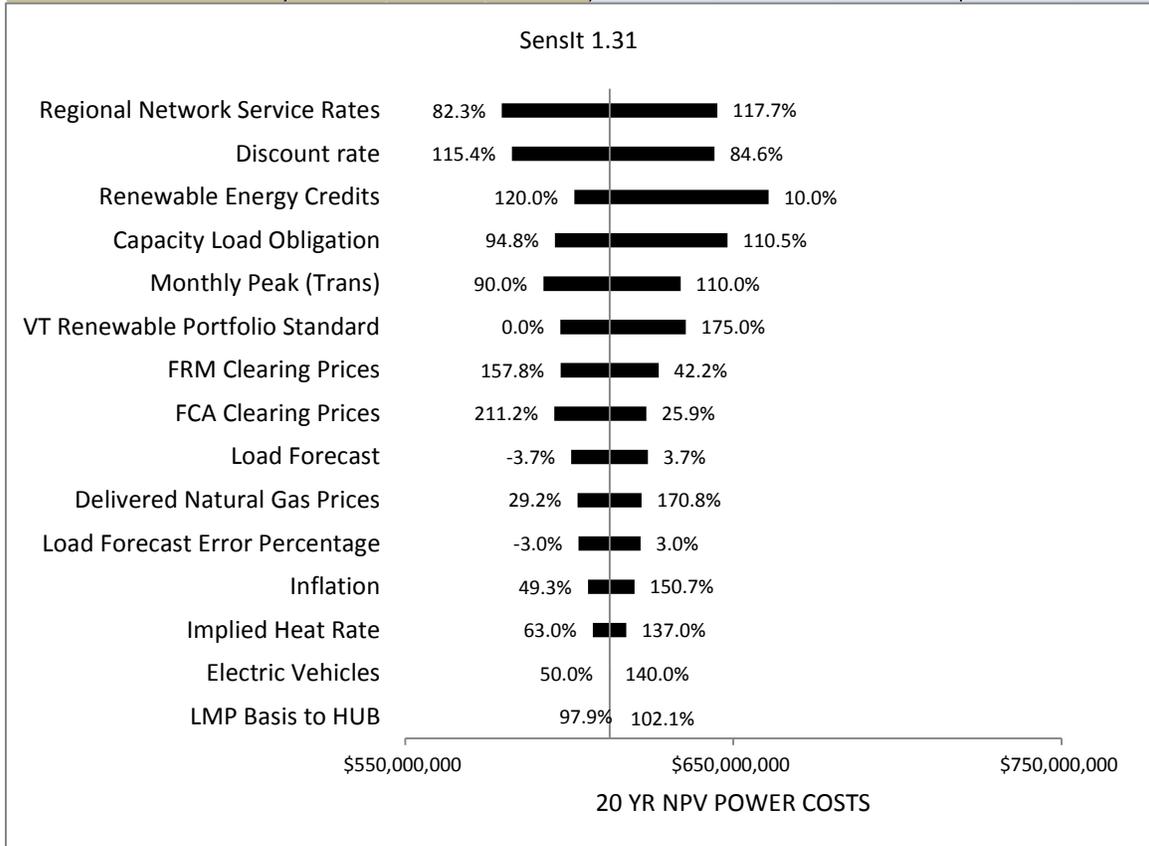
Senslt 1.31		Scenario 21: FixCon/Mkt Cont/Wind						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15	Workbook	IRPResults4.xls					
Time	6:05 PM	Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25					
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Swing*2
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High		
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$609,898,582	\$642,716,502	\$675,534,429	\$65,635,847	19.9%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$611,161,750	\$642,716,502	\$676,606,245	\$65,444,494	19.8%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$631,198,894	\$642,716,502	\$694,545,738	\$63,346,844	18.5%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$626,077,339	\$642,716,502	\$678,685,450	\$52,608,111	12.8%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$622,525,171	\$642,716,502	\$664,358,869	\$41,833,698	8.1%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$627,738,531	\$642,716,502	\$665,960,994	\$38,222,464	6.8%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$627,761,958	\$642,716,502	\$657,671,046	\$29,909,088	4.1%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$628,497,001	\$642,716,502	\$656,936,003	\$28,439,003	3.7%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$631,017,919	\$642,716,502	\$654,415,085	\$23,397,166	2.5%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$633,231,164	\$642,716,502	\$652,201,840	\$18,970,675	1.7%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$635,291,961	\$642,716,502	\$650,141,043	\$14,849,083	1.0%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$636,103,944	\$642,716,502	\$650,267,841	\$14,163,897	0.9%
FCA Clearing Prices	25.9%	100.0%	211.2%	\$640,633,920	\$642,716,502	\$645,840,374	\$5,206,454	0.1%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$642,613,861	\$642,716,502	\$642,798,615	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$642,716,502	\$642,716,502	\$642,716,502	\$0	0.0%



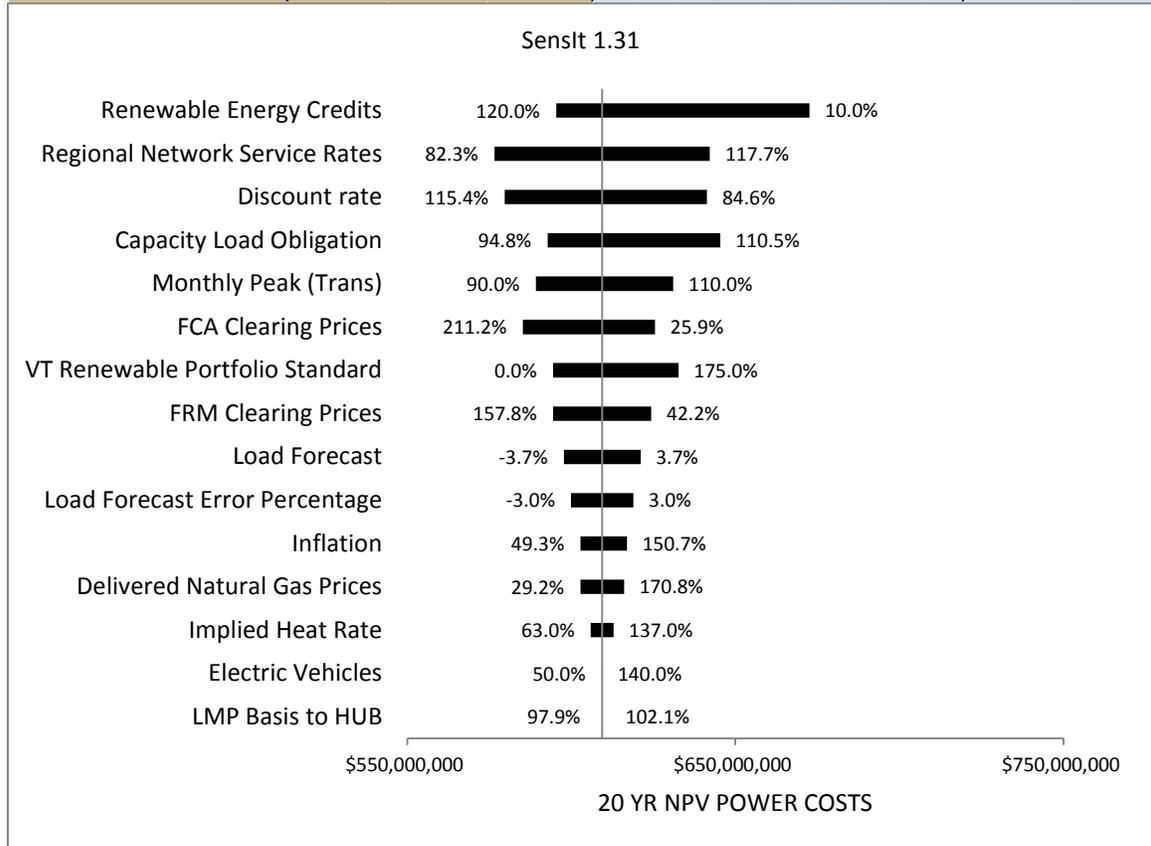
Sensit 1.31		Scenario 22: SolarOut/Mkt Cont/Wind							
Many Inputs, One Output									
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis									
Date	15-Jul-15	Workbook	IRPResults4.xls						
Time	6:08 PM	Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25						
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS									
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Swing	Swing*2	Percent
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High			
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$599,782,124	\$632,600,044	\$665,417,970	\$65,635,847	19.0%	
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$601,609,175	\$632,600,044	\$665,884,495	\$64,275,319	18.3%	
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$621,082,436	\$632,600,044	\$684,429,279	\$63,346,844	17.7%	
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$615,960,881	\$632,600,044	\$668,568,992	\$52,608,111	12.2%	
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$612,408,712	\$632,600,044	\$654,242,411	\$41,833,698	7.7%	
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$612,060,072	\$632,600,044	\$653,140,016	\$41,079,944	7.5%	
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$617,622,072	\$632,600,044	\$655,844,536	\$38,222,464	6.5%	
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$617,645,500	\$632,600,044	\$647,554,588	\$29,909,088	4.0%	
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$620,901,461	\$632,600,044	\$644,298,627	\$23,397,166	2.4%	
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$621,875,345	\$632,600,044	\$643,324,743	\$21,449,398	2.0%	
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$623,114,706	\$632,600,044	\$642,085,381	\$18,970,675	1.6%	
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$625,987,486	\$632,600,044	\$640,151,383	\$14,163,897	0.9%	
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$628,642,922	\$632,600,044	\$635,238,125	\$6,595,204	0.2%	
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$632,497,403	\$632,600,044	\$632,682,157	\$184,754	0.0%	
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$632,600,044	\$632,600,044	\$632,600,044	\$0	0.0%	



Senslt 1.31		Scenario 23: SolarOut/SolarIn/FixCon/Mkt Cont						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	6:11 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent	
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing*2
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$579,462,322	\$612,280,241	\$645,098,168	\$65,635,847	20.6%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$582,518,977	\$612,280,241	\$644,237,874	\$61,718,896	18.2%
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$601,513,696	\$612,280,241	\$660,729,695	\$59,215,998	16.8%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$595,641,079	\$612,280,241	\$648,249,190	\$52,608,111	13.3%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$592,088,910	\$612,280,241	\$633,922,608	\$41,833,698	8.4%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$597,302,270	\$612,280,241	\$635,524,734	\$38,222,464	7.0%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$597,325,697	\$612,280,241	\$627,234,786	\$29,909,088	4.3%
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$595,455,482	\$612,280,241	\$623,496,748	\$28,041,267	3.8%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$600,581,658	\$612,280,241	\$623,978,825	\$23,397,166	2.6%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$602,512,575	\$612,280,241	\$622,047,908	\$19,535,333	1.8%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$602,794,904	\$612,280,241	\$621,765,579	\$18,970,675	1.7%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$605,667,683	\$612,280,241	\$619,831,580	\$14,163,897	1.0%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$607,180,172	\$612,280,241	\$617,380,311	\$10,200,138	0.5%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$612,177,600	\$612,280,241	\$612,362,354	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$612,280,242	\$612,280,241	\$612,280,242	\$0	0.0%



Sensit 1.31		Scenario 24: SolarOut/SolarIn/Mkt Cont/Wind						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	6:14 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent	
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing*2
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$595,383,615	\$609,420,223	\$672,584,962	\$77,201,347	25.0%
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$576,602,303	\$609,420,223	\$642,238,150	\$65,635,847	18.0%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$579,729,202	\$609,420,223	\$641,308,035	\$61,578,833	15.9%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$592,781,061	\$609,420,223	\$645,389,171	\$52,608,111	11.6%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$589,228,892	\$609,420,223	\$631,062,590	\$41,833,698	7.3%
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$585,261,491	\$609,420,223	\$625,526,045	\$40,264,554	6.8%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$594,442,252	\$609,420,223	\$632,664,716	\$38,222,464	6.1%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$594,465,679	\$609,420,223	\$624,374,767	\$29,909,088	3.7%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$597,721,640	\$609,420,223	\$621,118,806	\$23,397,166	2.3%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$599,934,886	\$609,420,223	\$618,905,561	\$18,970,675	1.5%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$602,807,665	\$609,420,223	\$616,971,562	\$14,163,897	0.8%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	29.2%	100.0%	170.8%	\$602,774,653	\$609,420,223	\$616,065,794	\$13,291,141	0.7%
Implied Heat Rate	63.0%	100.0%	137.0%	\$605,950,319	\$609,420,223	\$612,890,128	\$6,939,809	0.2%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$609,317,582	\$609,420,223	\$609,502,336	\$184,754	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$609,420,223	\$609,420,223	\$609,420,223	\$0	0.0%



Senslt 1.31		Scenario 25: SolarOut/SolarIn/FixCon/Mkt Cont/Wind						
Many Inputs, One Output								
Single-Factor Sensitivity Analysis								
Date	15-Jul-15			Workbook	IRPResults4.xls			
Time	6:17 PM			Output Cell	'Sensit Input Table'!\$C\$25			
20 YR NPV POWER COSTS								
Input Variable	Corresponding Input Value			Output Value			Percent	
	Low Output	Base Case	High Output	Low	Base	High	Swing	Swing*2
Renewable Energy Credits	120.0%	100.0%	10.0%	\$597,379,121	\$611,415,730	\$674,580,468	\$77,201,347	25.5%
Regional Network Service Rates	82.3%	100.0%	117.7%	\$578,597,810	\$611,415,730	\$644,233,656	\$65,635,847	18.4%
Discount rate	115.4%	100.0%	84.6%	\$581,612,905	\$611,415,730	\$643,423,039	\$61,810,135	16.3%
Capacity Load Obligation	94.8%	100.0%	110.5%	\$594,776,567	\$611,415,730	\$647,384,678	\$52,608,111	11.8%
Monthly Peak (Trans)	90.0%	100.0%	110.0%	\$591,224,398	\$611,415,730	\$633,058,096	\$41,833,698	7.5%
VT Renewable Portfolio Standard	0.0%	100.0%	175.0%	\$596,437,758	\$611,415,730	\$634,660,222	\$38,222,464	6.2%
FCA Clearing Prices	211.2%	100.0%	25.9%	\$589,389,994	\$611,415,730	\$626,099,553	\$36,709,559	5.8%
FRM Clearing Prices	157.8%	100.0%	42.2%	\$596,461,185	\$611,415,730	\$626,370,274	\$29,909,088	3.8%
Load Forecast	-3.7%	0.0%	3.7%	\$599,717,146	\$611,415,730	\$623,114,313	\$23,397,166	2.3%
Load Forecast Error Percentage	-3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	\$601,930,392	\$611,415,730	\$620,901,067	\$18,970,675	1.5%
Inflation	49.3%	100.0%	150.7%	\$604,803,171	\$611,415,730	\$618,967,069	\$14,163,897	0.9%
Electric Vehicles	50.0%	100.0%	140.0%	\$611,313,088	\$611,415,730	\$611,497,842	\$184,754	0.0%
Delivered Natural Gas Prices	170.8%	100.0%	29.2%	\$611,372,227	\$611,415,730	\$611,459,232	\$87,006	0.0%
Implied Heat Rate	137.0%	100.0%	63.0%	\$611,393,015	\$611,415,730	\$611,438,444	\$45,429	0.0%
LMP Basis to HUB	97.9%	100.0%	102.1%	\$611,415,730	\$611,415,730	\$611,415,730	\$0	0.0%

