

July 16, 2020

## VERMONT PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT

RATE DESIGN INITIATIVE / DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCES STUDY STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MEETING #5



## PRESENTATION OUTLINE



- Introduction
  - Vermont's Energy Vision, Technology Adoption and Load Shapes
  - Load Control Programming
  - Quantitative Results
- Problem Statement
- Recommendations

# ELECTRICITY USAGE IS EVOLVING AS A FUNCTION OF TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION

- For the purposes of this Study, we have focused on:
  - Electrification Load:
    - Electric Vehicles (EV)
    - Cold Climate Heat Pumps (CCHP)
    - Heat Pump Water Heaters (WH)
  - Customer-Sited Generation (solar PV)
  - Energy Storage / Controllable Loads
- Focus here due to adoption rates, inherent load flexibility, and policy support
  - Comprehensive Energy Plan, and electrification as decarbonization



# INCREASING LOAD WILL DRIVE CAPACITY-RELATED COSTS

- Absent management, Emerging Technologies' load will likely be largely coincident
  - Increasing peak demand during times of existing peak demand
    - Weather impacts + behavioral patterns from 9-5 workday
- A "Status Quo" case is established estimating cost of "purchasing" capacity from the "market"
  - ISO-NE Forward Capacity Market
  - Regional Network (Transmission) Service (RNS)
  - Incremental Distribution Capacity

#### **Status Quo**



Status Quo with Emerging Technologies





# STRATEGIC LOAD CONTROL CAN AVOID OR DELAY INCREASED CAPACITY COST

- Strategic Load Control Programming can avoid or delay increased costs
- Load Control Programming can entail:
  - Indirect Load Control
    - Rate Design and customer response
  - Direct Load Control
    - Direct control of end-use electric consumption by utility and/or 3<sup>rd</sup> party

The purpose of this Study is to assess the potential for and implementation challenges of Load Control Programs

#### **Load Control**





The Value of Load Control Programs

## COMPARISON BETWEEN MODELED SCENARIOS

TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION FUTURE VS. TECH W/ RATES, AT-WORK EV - 2040



## LSAM MODELED RATE PRESSURE

#### BEFORE AND AFTER STRATEGIC RATE DESIGN

- Electric market evolution will exert upward rate pressure
  - CAGR of 4.8% vs. 2.8% (Base)
- Load Control Programs can manage load and costs
  - Modeled savings \$150M-\$200M
  - Upward rate pressure is nearly avoided in 2030
  - Nearly cut in half by 2040



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## LOAD CONTROL PROGRAM DESIGN

#### IMPLEMENTATION AND ENROLLMENT

- To improve efficacy in managing load shapes:
  - How do you increase enrollment to increase capacity under management; AND
  - How do you improve customer responsiveness or efficacy in managing load?
- Options include:
  - Program Structure (mandate, opt-out vs. opt-in, etc.)
  - Strategic targeting of loads
  - Marketing
  - New business models

"Time-differentiated rate design is not a new concept . . .

We've had a TOU rate for years and nobody's on it"

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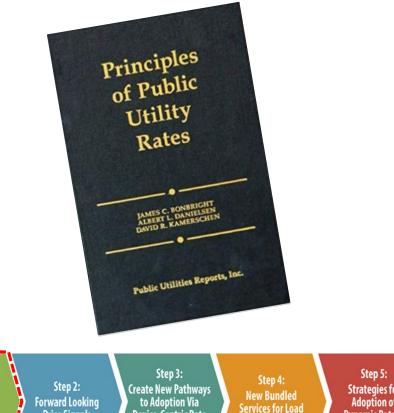


Recommendations

## INDIRECT LOAD CONTROL PRICING (RATE DESIGN)

#### HOURLY AND MARGINAL VS. EMBEDDED COST OF SERVICE

- Electric rates should promote stability, equity, and recover costs
- Allocated cost of service is important in aligning cost-drivers with cost recovery
- Data collection and management is paramount even in embedded COS



Device-Centric Rate

Design

Step 1:

**Base Rates** 

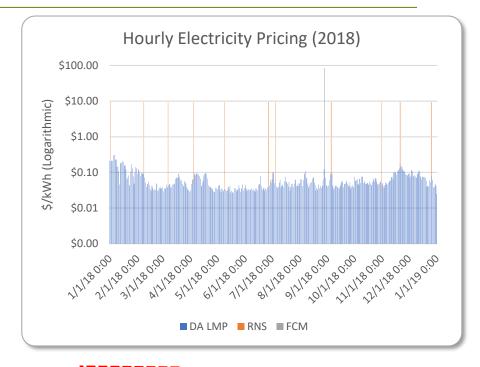
**Price Signals** 

Management

## INDIRECT LOAD CONTROL PRICING (RATE DESIGN)

#### HOURLY AND MARGINAL VS. EMBEDDED COST OF SERVICE

- Electric system costs are a function of electric consumption during all hours
  - But some hours are more costly than others
- Innovative rate design informed by marginal costs serves a dual purpose:
  - Improves equity in aligning with cost causation
  - Signals the customer to change usage patterns
- Marginal cost analyses can inform incentives for customer behavior change

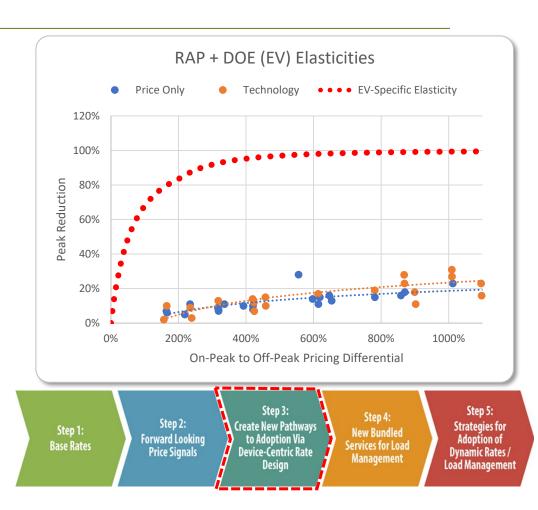




## INNOVATIVE ELECTRIC RATE DESIGN

#### END-USE DIFFERENTIATED ELECTRIC RATE DESIGN

- Certain loads can be "turned down"\*
   with minimal impact to customer
  - EV charging
  - Heat pump water heaters
  - Others (commercial opportunities?)
- Importance of "consumer comfort"
  - Will a targeted change to usage be "felt" by the customer?
    - Turning down heating/cooling during the coldest/hottest hours of the year



<sup>\*</sup> By the customer and/or directly by the utility

## LOAD CONTROL PROGRAM DESIGN

#### INNOVATION IN TECHNOLOGIES AND BUSINESS MODELS

- Technology innovation
  - Increased automation of existing devices
  - Newly connected devices
- Business model innovation
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> party offerings
  - Utility offerings
    - Fixed fee(s) for service with utility direct control of inefficient energy use

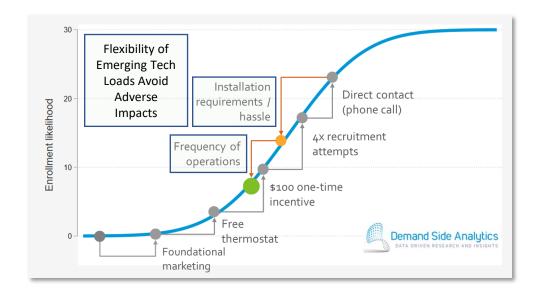
Recommendation: Continued innovation will spur additional opportunities both in automation technology, new flexible loads, and business models



## LOAD CONTROL PROGRAM DESIGN

#### IMPLEMENTATION AND ENROLLMENT CHALLENGES

- Program Structure (e.g., mandates, opt-out, opt-in)
- Program design and pricing to increase enrollment
  - Voluntary enrollment in Load Control Programs is deterred by
    - Increased frequency of behavior change; and/or
    - Risk of higher electric bills deter enrollment
  - Emerging Technology loads are flexible
    - Change electric usage patterns without frequent behavior change
    - Without sacrificing performance
- Proactive and increased marketing
  - Partnerships with device vendors offering programs that save the customer money
  - Incentives in exchange for enrollment
    - Mandatory or opt-out





### CONCLUSION

- Emerging Technologies will drive increased costs
  - Offset by decreased fossil fuel purchases
- Load Control Programs can manage costs
- Load Control Programs face implementation challenges, that can be mitigated based on some combination of:
  - Program enrollment structure
  - Program design and pricing based on targeted end-use
  - Increased marketing
  - Continued innovation of technology and business models



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### PROJECT WRAP-UP AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- The electric market is evolving at an unprecedented pace
  - Technology advances in communications, metering, and automation have expanded being provided to a more engaged customer
  - The future looks to continue to offer opportunities for Load Control Programs to bring value in avoiding future capacity costs
  - Billing, metering, data management, communications systems, etc. take time to build out
  - Transmission planning (in particular) has a long on-ramp

Now is the time to plan for a future with more electric sales and to develop programs to manage evolving load shapes

## PROJECT WRAP-UP AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- As part of the initial steps of this project, NewGen conducted a survey of innovative rates/programs
  - There are many long-running static TOU programs, largely with limited enrollment
  - There are not many direct load control programs
    - Specifically, Vermont is a leader in EV and BTM-storage Direct Load Control programming
  - Vermont should be commended for leading in this space
    - Continue to innovate, and share best practices internally between utilities that have implemented Load Control Programs and those that are in development

### PROJECT WRAP-UP AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

 NewGen thanks the diverse and well-informed stakeholders, provided below in alphabetical order

•	Aegis Renewables	•	Greenlots	•	Sun Run
-	Burlington Electric Dept. (BED)	•	JouleSmart	•	University of Vermont
•	DC Energy Innovations	•	MMR LLC	•	Vermont Electric Cooperative (VEC)
•	Demand-Side Analytics	•	Norwich Technologies	•	VEIC
•	Dynamic Organics	•	Oracle	•	Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO)
•	Energy Action Network, Vermont	•	Packetized Energy	•	Vera Renewables
•	Energy Futures Group	•	Peck Electric	•	Vote Solar
•	Efficiency Vermont	•	Public Service Department		Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (VPPSA)
•	Green Mountain Power (GMP)	•	Regulatory Assistance Project	•	Washington Electric Cooperative
-	Grassroots Solar	•	Renewable Energy Vermont		

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