

2026 PJM Gross Avoidable Costs for Existing Generation

Draft Avoidable Costs

PREPARED BY

The Brattle Group

Samuel Newell

Andrew W. Thompson

James Herrigel

Sargent & Lundy

Joshua Junge

Kelley McGough

Neil Kern

PREPARED FOR

PJM

JULY 28, 2026



Agenda

1. Overview of Resource Types and Changes from 2022
2. 2026 Analysis of Existing Generation and Draft Avoidable Costs
3. Next Steps

Proposed Resource Types for Existing Generation

Proposed types cover ~95% of the entire PJM fleet (in ICAP terms)

Technology Type	Total MW (Summer ICAP)	Percent of PJM Fleet Capacity	Recommendation
Natural gas CC	59,829	29%	Include
Coal	34,986	17%	Include
Single-unit nuclear	32,556	16%	Include
Multi-unit nuclear			
Simple-cycle CT	27,702	13%	Include
Large-scale solar PV	19,672	10%	Include
Onshore wind	11,395	6%	Include
Steam oil & gas	8,100	4%	Include
Pumped storage	5,232	3%	Unit Specific
Hydro	3,275	2%	Unit Specific
Other	2,478	1%	Unit Specific

2026 Representative Plant Characteristics Compared to 2022

Technology Type	Year	Age	Capacity	Configuration	State	Note
Natural gas CC	2022	11	750	2x F-Class, 1xST, SCR installed, firm gas	PA	Median stable despite additions and retirements
	2026	11	750	No change	No change	
Coal	2022	52	1,500	2x 750 MW units, Appalachian coal, wet limestone FGD unit	PA	Despite retirements most capacity still in large plants
	2026	56	1,500	No change	WV	
Single-unit nuclear	2022	38	1,200	1x BWR unit	OH	No change in fleet, age updated by 4 years
	2026	42	1,200	No change	No change	
Multi-unit nuclear	2022	44	2,400	2x 1,200 BWR unit	IL	No change in fleet, age updated by 4 years
	2026	48	2,400	No change	No change	
Simple-cycle CT	2022	20	320	2x 160 MW F-class turbines, no firm gas	IL	No major changes in fleet, age updated by 4 years
	2026	24	320	No change	No change	
Large-scale solar PV	2022	5	10	Crystalline silicon, single-axis tracking	NJ	Significant amount of large, new builds in VA.
	2026	5	20	No change	VA	
Onshore wind	2022	12	200	-	IL	No major changes in fleet, age updated by 4 years
	2026	16	200	No change	No change	
Steam oil & gas	2022	47	900	No firm gas	PA	Retirements of ~1 GW, large, aging fleet remaining.
	2026	51	1,200	No change	No change	
4hr BESS*	2026	2	200	4-hour duration (200 MW / 800 MWh)	NJ	Based on Fast Lane Queue

*4hr BESS is a new resource type that was not included in the 2022 study.

2026 Representative Plant Characteristics Compared to 2022

Technology type	2026 draft (\$/MW-day)	2022 value (\$/MW-day)	2026 % change vs 2022	Observations
Natural Gas CC	\$133	\$113	+18%	Cost increases above inflation but in line with PPI
Coal	\$135	\$94	+44%	Costs have outstripped inflation due to representative plant aging
Single-Unit Nuclear	\$654	\$591	+11%	Cost increases mostly in line with inflation
Multi-Unit Nuclear	\$580	\$537	+8%	Cost increases mostly in line with inflation
Simple-Cycle CT	\$64	\$52	+23%	Costs have outstripped inflation and PPI due to representative plant aging
Solar PV	\$35	\$70	-50%	Cost reduction mostly due to economies of scale from 2x larger plant
Onshore Wind	\$190	\$147	+29%	Costs increasing more than inflation and PPI due to representative plant aging
ST/O&G	\$72	\$64	+13%	Cost increases mostly in line with inflation
BESS	\$187	N/A	N/A	New resource type in 2026

Existing Natural Gas CC Plants

Population characteristics

- ☞ Mostly built 6-8 or 20-30 years ago
- ☞ Most capacity comes from 500-1,500 MW plants
- ☞ SCRs are common on CCs. Mostly F-class turbines
- ☞ Most capacity in PA, followed by OH, VA, & NJ

Primary drivers of cost variability

- ☞ Capacity, configuration, and turbine type
- ☞ Operating years
- ☞ Capacity factor
- ☞ Location

Natural Gas CC Characteristics and Costs in 2026

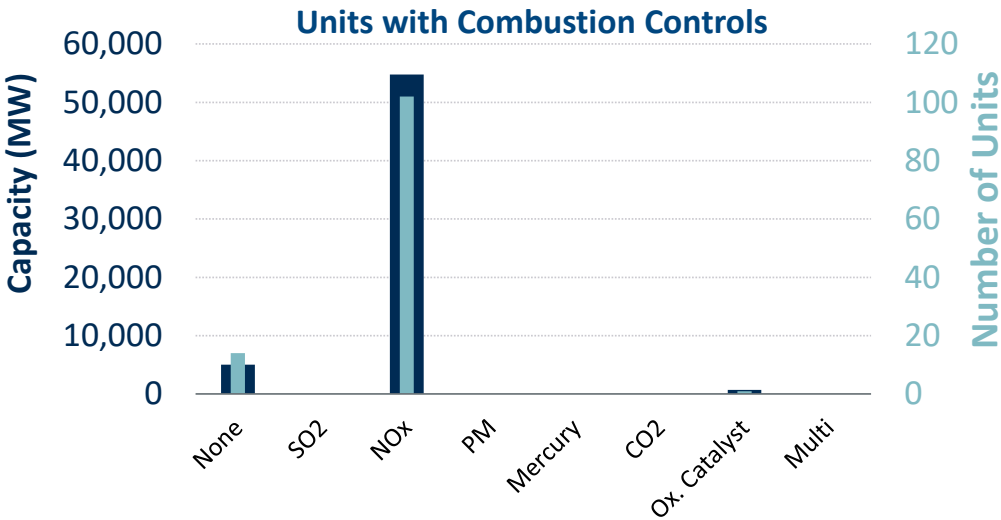
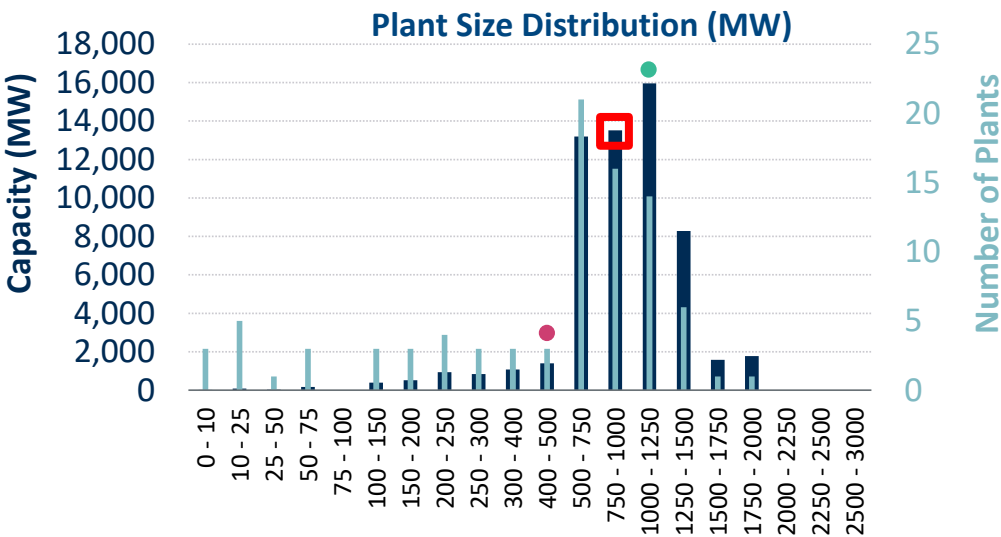
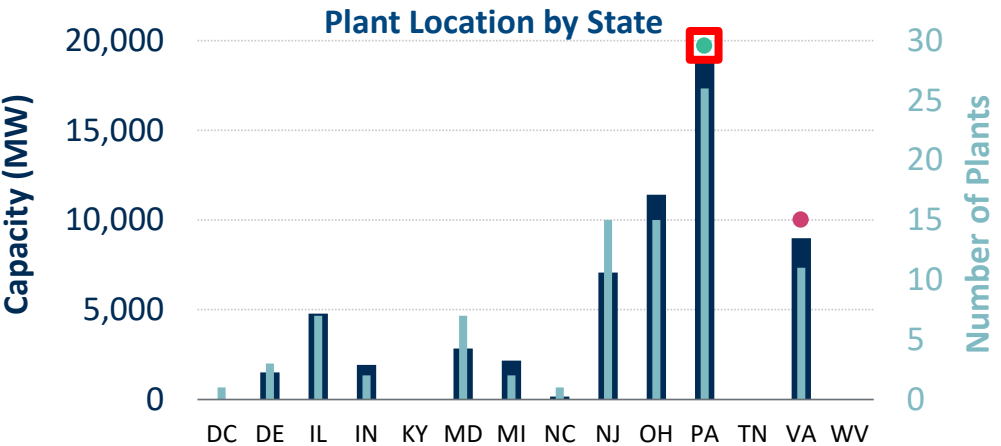
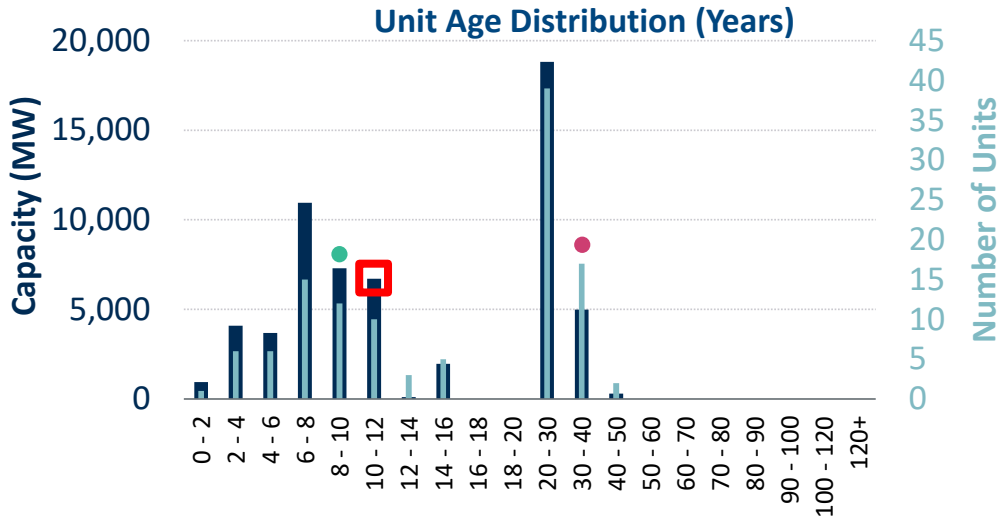
Low-Cost Representative Plant	Representative Plant \$133/MW-day <i>\$113/MW-day in 2022</i>	High-Cost Representative Plant
• 1,100 MW (2 x 550 MW) • H-class turbines (2x1x1) • SCR • Pennsylvania • 9 yrs old (+4 yrs from 2022)	• 750 MW (2x 375 MW) • F-class turbines (2x1) • SCR • Pennsylvania • 11 yrs old	• 400 MW (1x 400 MW) • F-class turbines (1x1) • SCR • Virginia • 34 yrs old (+4 yrs for 2022)

Existing Natural Gas CC Fleet

■ Representative Plant

● Low-cost Plant

● High-cost Plant



Existing Coal Plants

Population characteristics

- Most capacity is from plants in 1,500-1,750 MW and 2,500-3,000 MW ranges
- Nearly all plants have flue-gas desulfurization (FGD)
- Most capacity in WV, PA, OH
- More than 50% of coal units are 50+ years old

Primary drivers of cost variability

- Range of capacity, configuration, and boiler type
- Operating years
- Capacity factor
- Location

Coal Characteristics and Costs in 2026

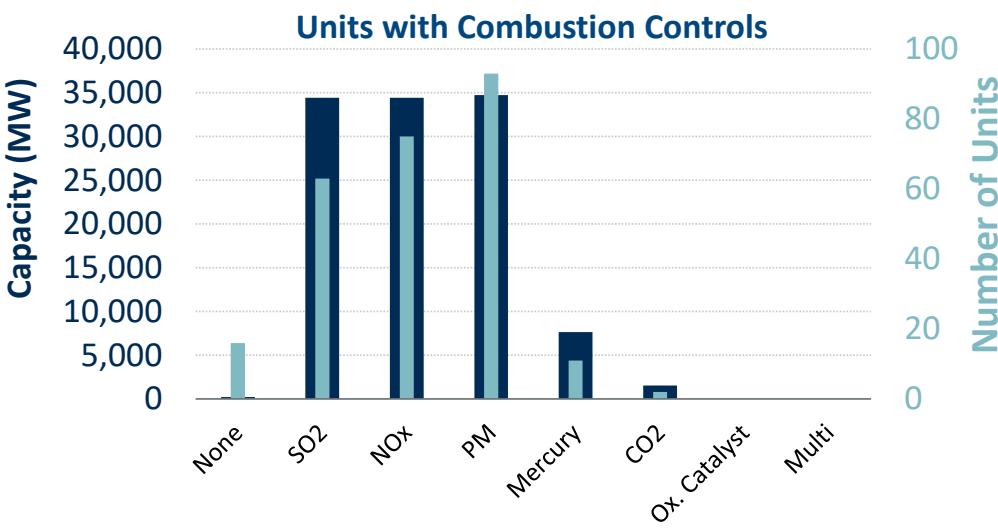
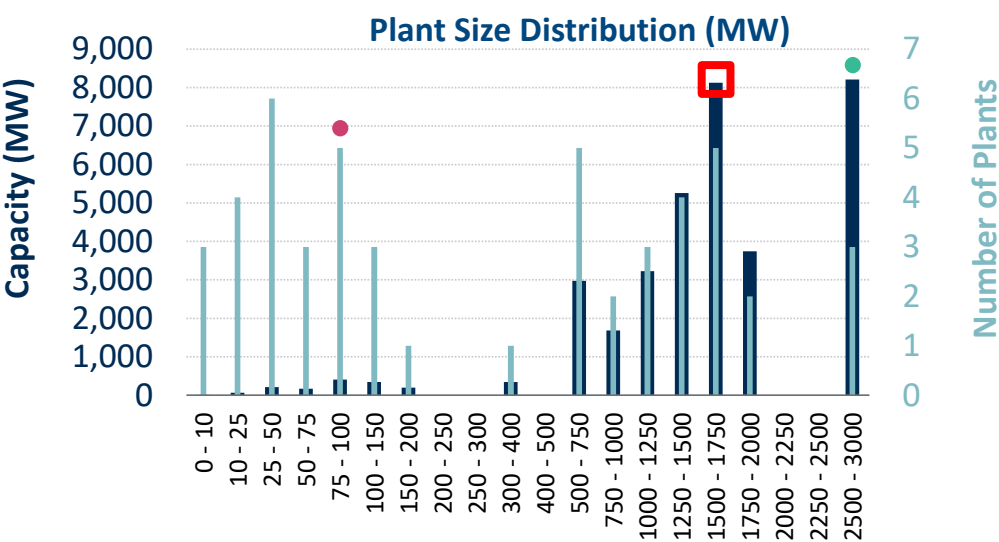
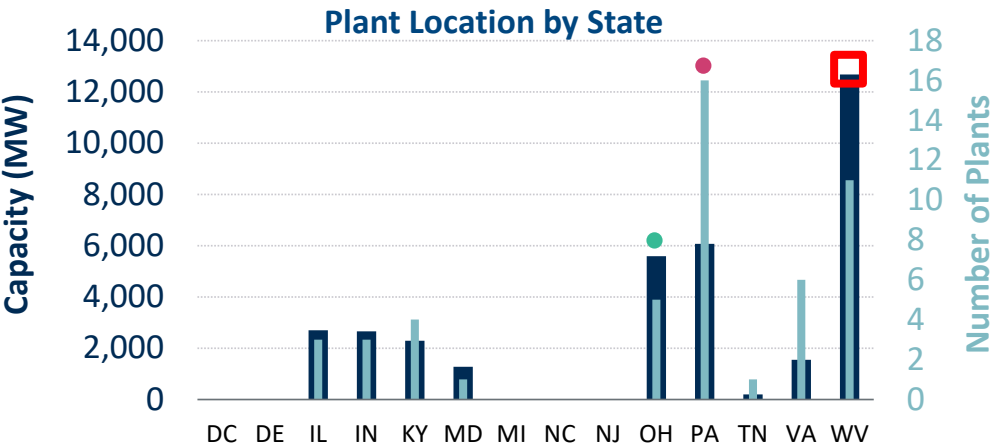
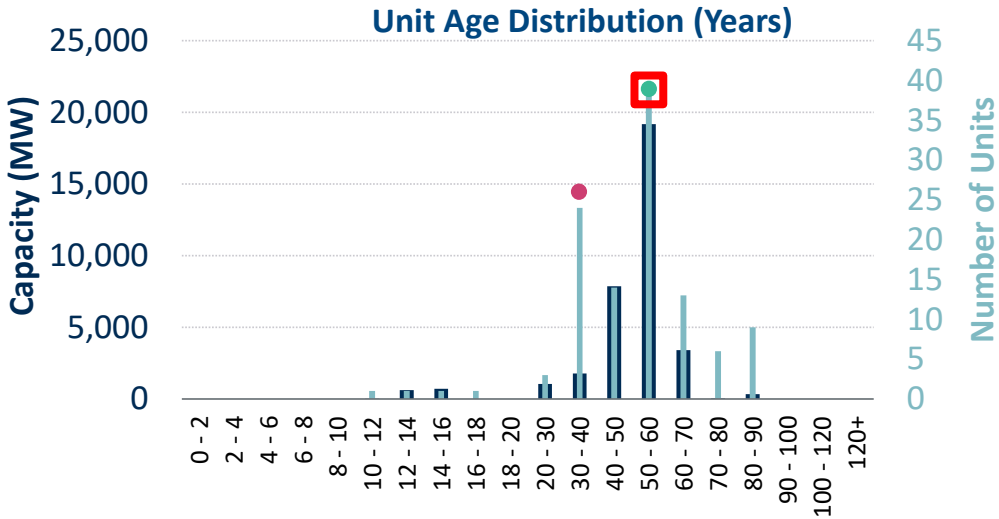
Low-Cost Representative Plant	Representative Plant \$135/MW-day <i>compare to \$94/MW-day in 2022</i>	High-Cost Representative Plant
•2,700 MW (3 x 900 MW) •Appalachian coal (high sulfur) •Wet limestone FGD •Ohio (PA in '22) •51 yrs old (52 yrs old in '22)	•1,500 MW (2 x 750 MW) •Appalachian coal (high sulfur) •Wet limestone FGD •West Virginia (PA in '22) •56 yrs old (52 yrs old in '22)	•80 MW (1 x 80 MW) •Appalachian coal (high sulfur) •Wet limestone FGD •Pennsylvania (WV in '22) •35 yrs old (30 yrs old in '22)

Existing Coal Fleet

■ Representative Plant

● Low-cost Plant

● High-cost Plant



Existing Single-Unit Nuclear Plants

Population characteristics

- Only 2 in PJM, both in Ohio
- Plants have capacity of 900 and 1,200 MW, respectively
- 48 and 38 years of operations, respectively

Primary drivers of cost variability

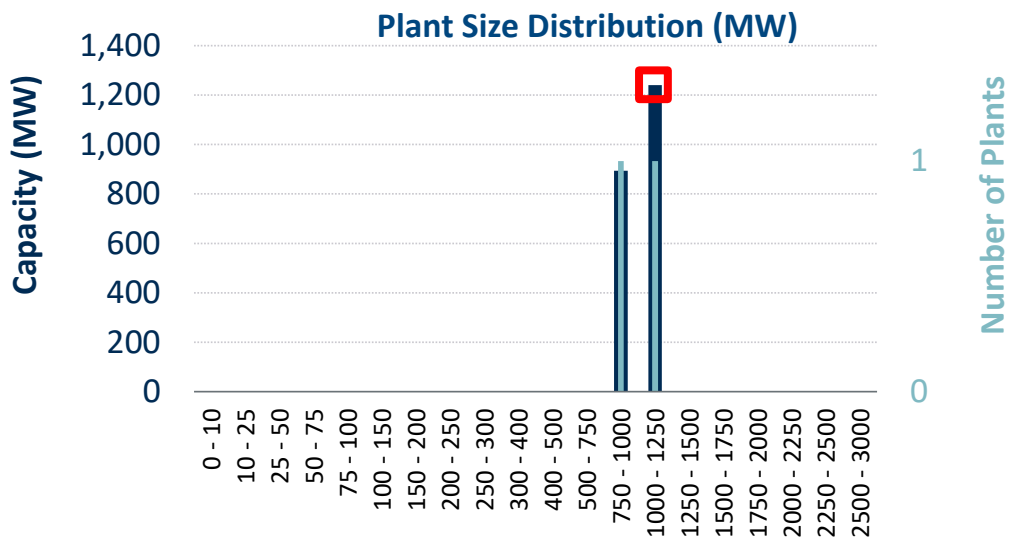
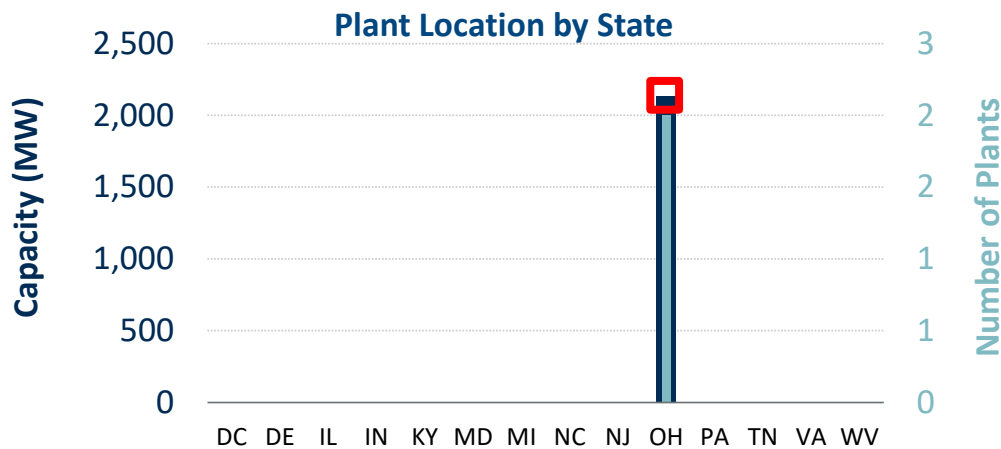
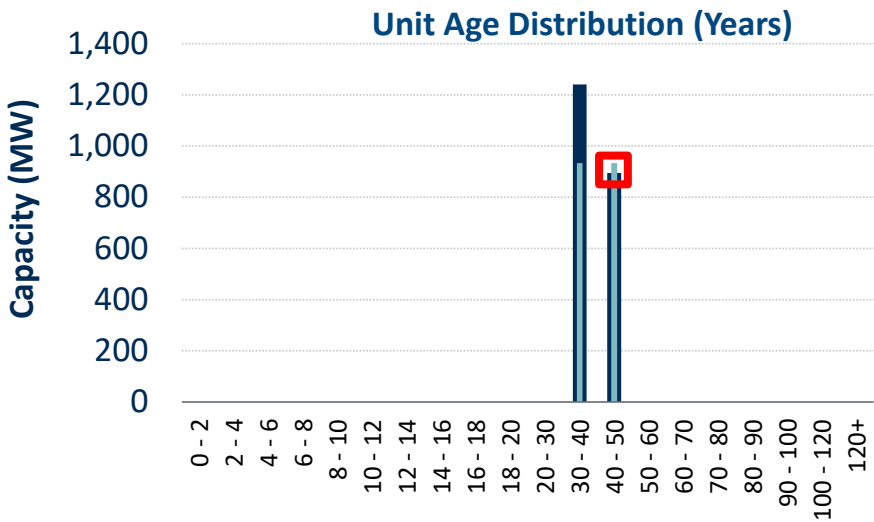
- Market revenue structure: wholesale vs cost of service
- Reactor type: pressurized water or boiling water
- Operator’s fleet size: single or multiple plants

Single-Unit Nuclear Characteristics and Costs in 2026

Low-Cost Representative Plant	Representative Plant \$654/MW-day <i>compare to \$591/MW-day in 2022</i>	High-Cost Representative Plant
- Only 2 plants in PJM - Too few units to estimate a range	1,200 MW - Boiling Water Reactor - Ohio 42 yrs old (+4 yrs from 2022)	- Only 2 plants in PJM - Too few units to estimate a range

■ Representative Plant

Existing Single-Unit Nuclear Fleet



Existing Multi-Unit Nuclear Plants

Population characteristics

- Most capacity comes from 2,250 – 2,500 MW plants
- Most capacity in IL and PA
- Most plants have been operating for 40-60 years

Primary drivers of cost variability

- Market revenue structure: wholesale vs cost of service
- Reactor type: pressurized water or boiling water
- Operator’s fleet size: single or multiple plants

Multi-Unit Nuclear Characteristics and Costs in 2026

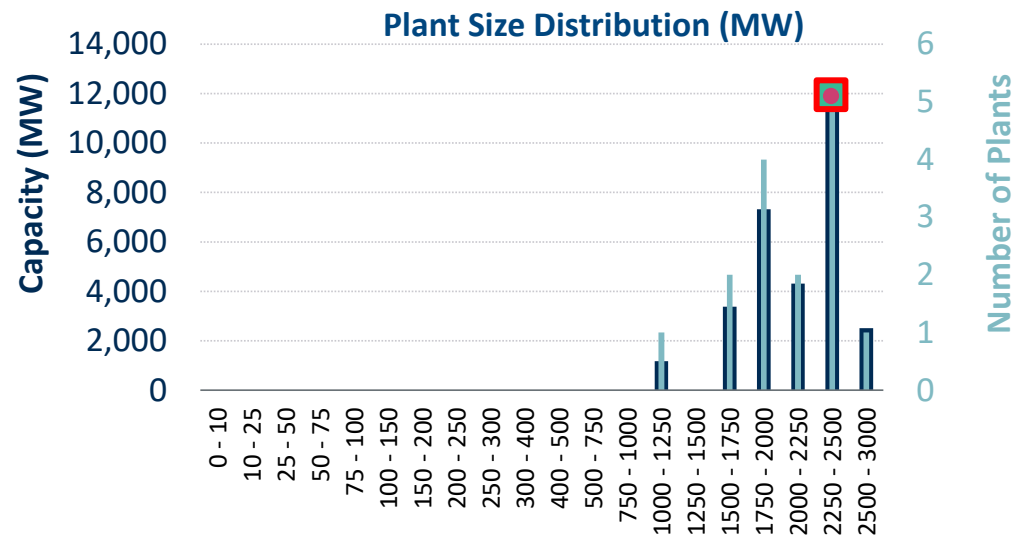
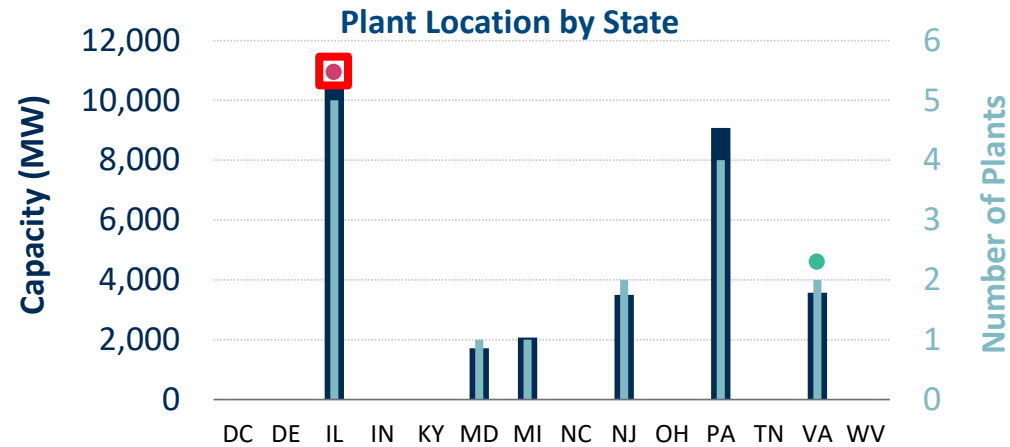
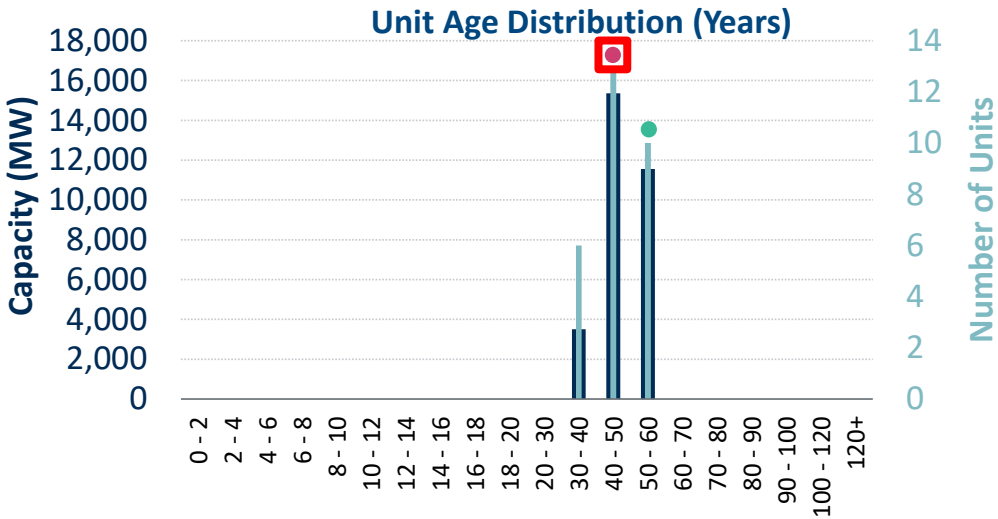
Low-Cost Representative Plant	Representative Plant \$580/MW-day <i>compare to \$537/MW-day in 2022</i>	High-Cost Representative Plant
•2,400 MW (2 x 1,200 MW) •Pressurized Water Reactor •Virginia •51 yrs old (+4 yrs from 2022) •Operator with multiple plants	•2,400 MW (2 x 1,200 MW) •Boiling Water Reactor •Illinois •48 yrs old (+4 yrs from 2022) •Operator with multiple plants	•2,400 MW (2 x 1,200 MW) •Boiling Water Reactor •Illinois •48 yrs old (+4 yrs from 2022) •Operator with single plant

Existing Multi-Unit Nuclear Fleet

■ Representative Plant

● Low-cost Plant

● High-cost Plant



Existing Simple-Cycle CT Plants

Population characteristics

- Most capacity from large plants (300-1000 MW)
- SCR not common on CTs
- Primarily built 20 to 30 years ago
- Most capacity in IL, OH, VA

Primary drivers of cost variability

- Capacity, co-located quantity, and turbine type
- Operating years
- Capacity factor
- Location

Simple-Cycle CT Characteristics and Costs in 2026

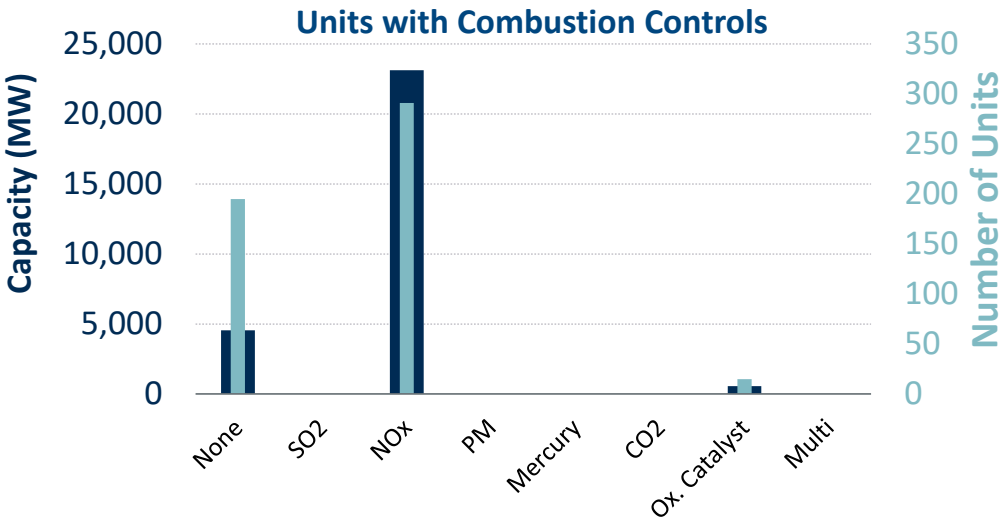
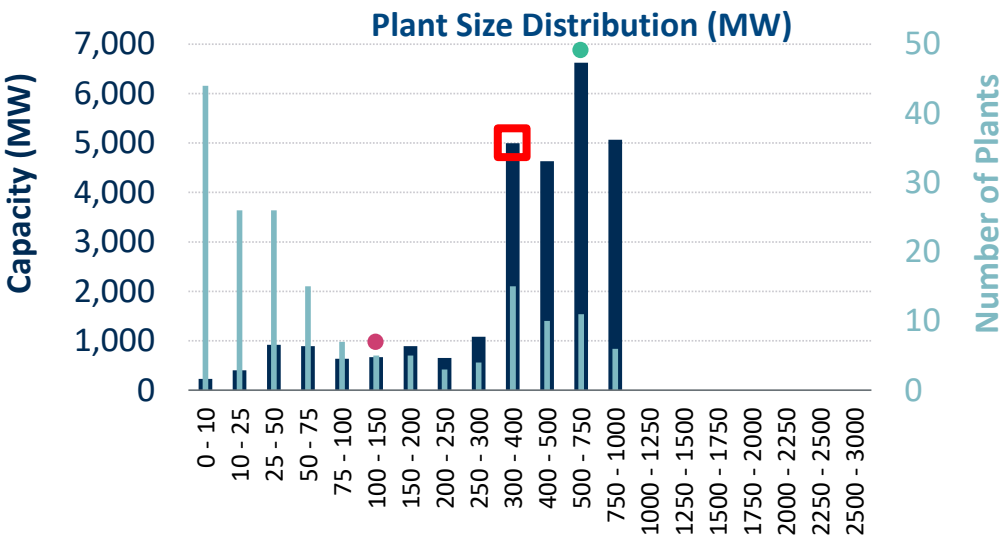
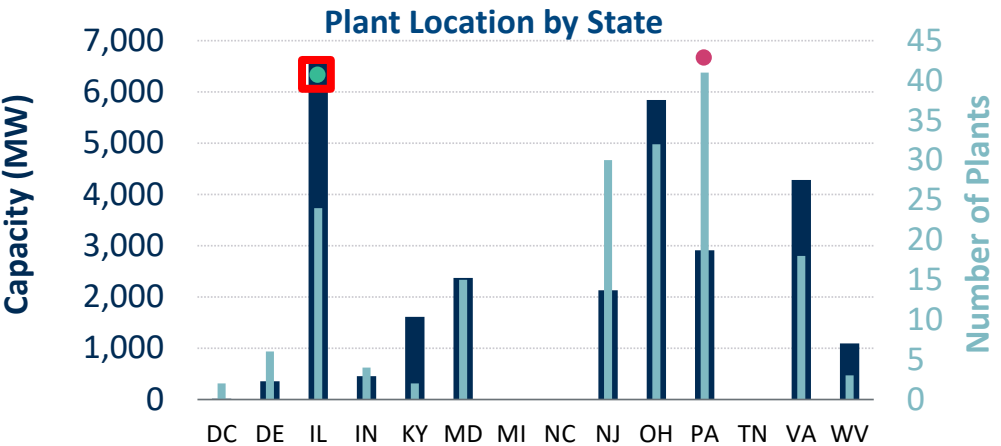
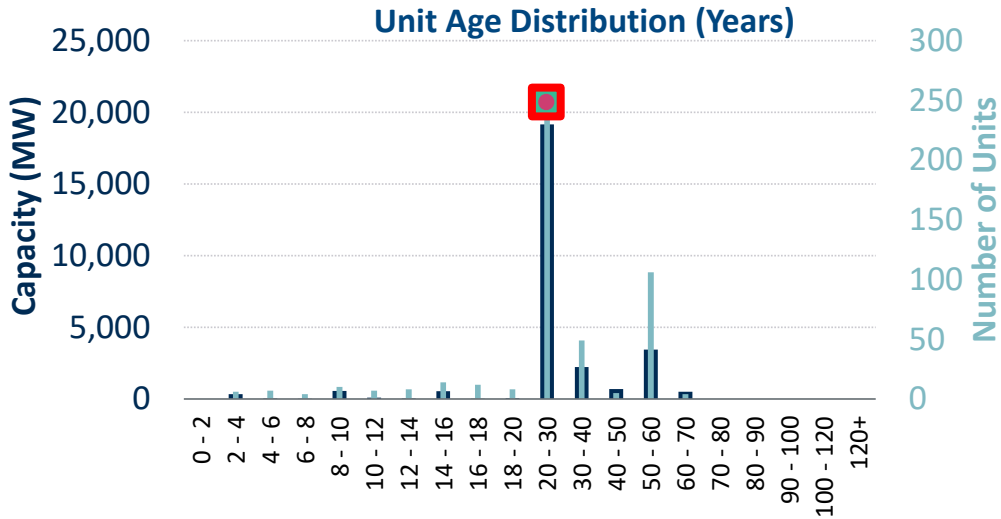
Low-Cost Representative Plant	Representative Plant \$64/MW-day <i>compare to \$52/MW-day in 2022</i>	High-Cost Representative Plant
• 640 MW (8 x 80 MW) • E-class turbines • No SCR • Illinois • 24 yrs old (+4 yrs from 2022)	• 320 MW (2 x 160 MW) • F-class turbines • No SCR • Illinois • 24 yrs old (+4 yrs from 2022)	• 100 MW (2 x 50 MW) • LM6000 • No SCR • Pennsylvania • 24 yrs old (+4 yrs from 2022)

Existing Simple-Cycle CT Fleet

■ Representative Plant

● Low-cost Plant

● High-cost Plant



Existing Solar PV Plants

Population characteristics

- Most capacity is from 1-10 and 100-150 MW plants
- Most capacity in VA and OH, but mostly from large plants. Smaller plants are concentrated in NJ, IL, & MD
- Most capacity comes from plants that are 0-4 years old

Primary drivers of cost variability

- Capacity, co-located quantity
- Location

Solar PV Plant Characteristics and Costs in 2026

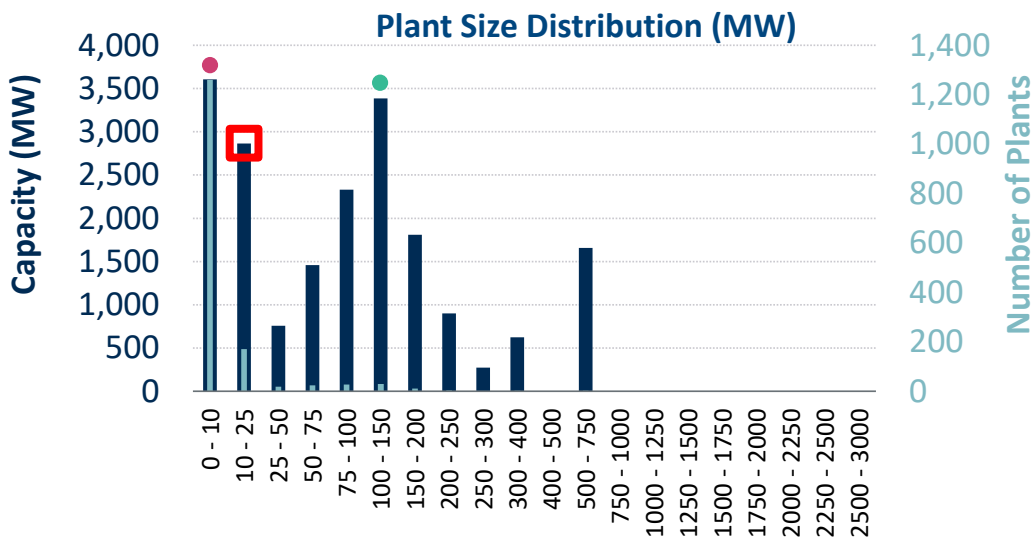
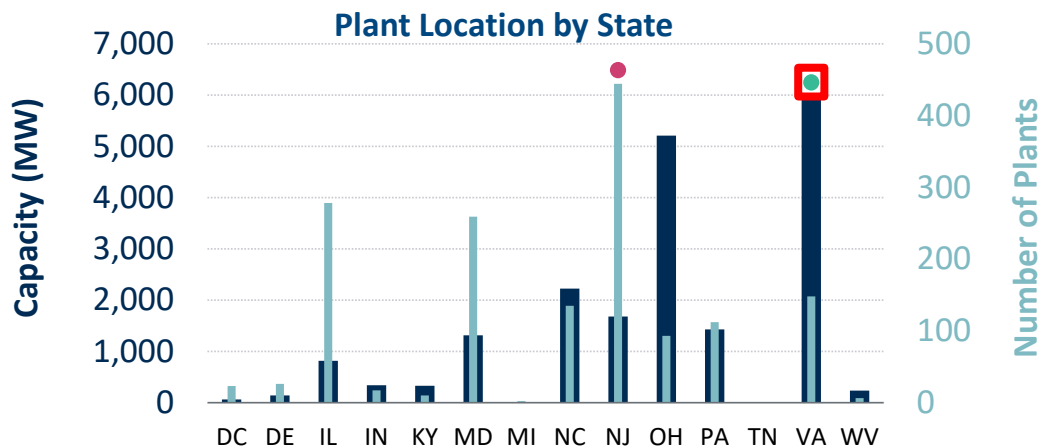
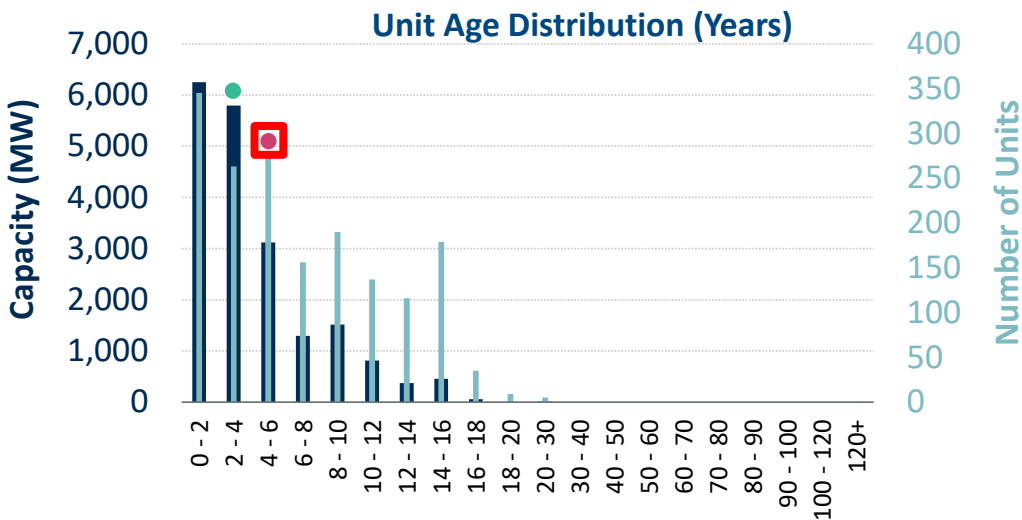
Low-Cost Representative Plant	Representative Plant \$35/MW-day <i>compare to \$70/MW-day in 2022</i>	High-Cost Representative Plant
• 120 MW (+40 MW from '22) • Polysilicon • Single-axis tracking • Virginia (NC in '22) • 2 yrs old (5 yrs old in '22)	• 20 MW (+10 MW from '22) • Crystalline silicon • Single-axis tracking • Virginia (NJ in '22) • 5 yrs old	• 2 MW • Crystalline silicon • Single-axis tracking • New Jersey • 5 yrs old (7 yrs old in '22)

Existing Solar PV Fleet

■ Representative Plant

● Low-cost Plant

● High-cost Plant



Existing Onshore Wind Plants

Population characteristics

- Most capacity comes from 150-250 MW plants. Average (100 MW) is skewed by a few large plants (750-1000 MW)
- Most capacity in IL and IN, but mainly larger plants; smaller plants mostly in OH and PA
- Most plants have been operating for 14 – 18 years

Primary drivers of cost variability

- Capacity, co-located quantity
- Location
- Age

Onshore Wind Characteristics and Costs in 2026

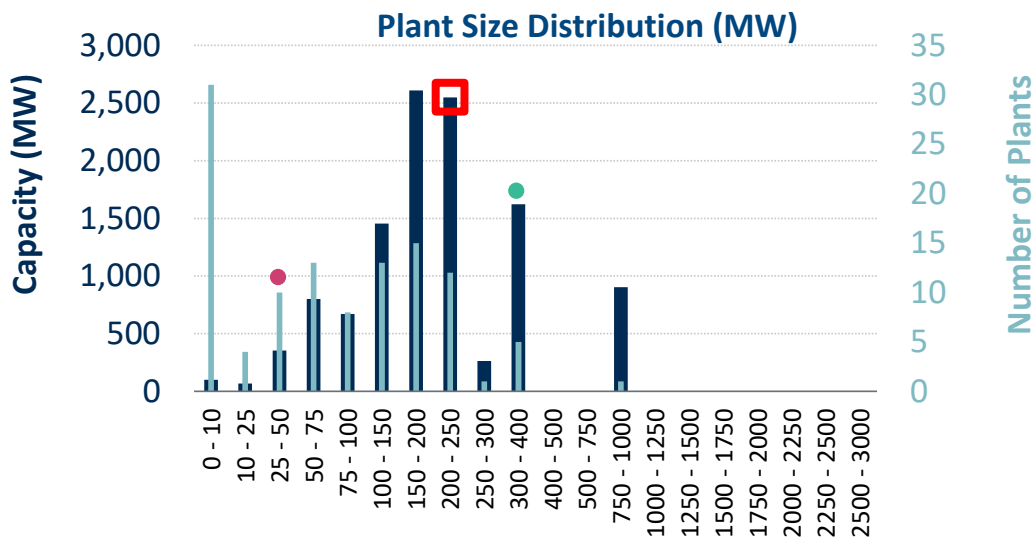
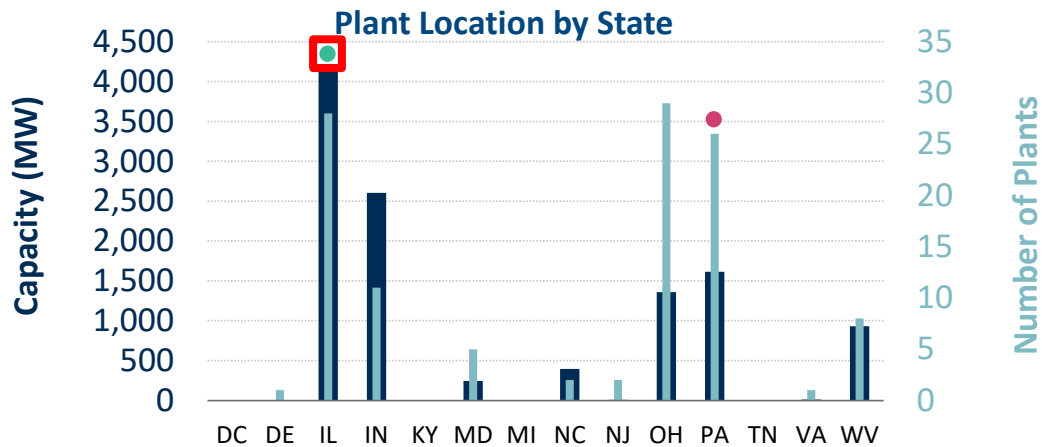
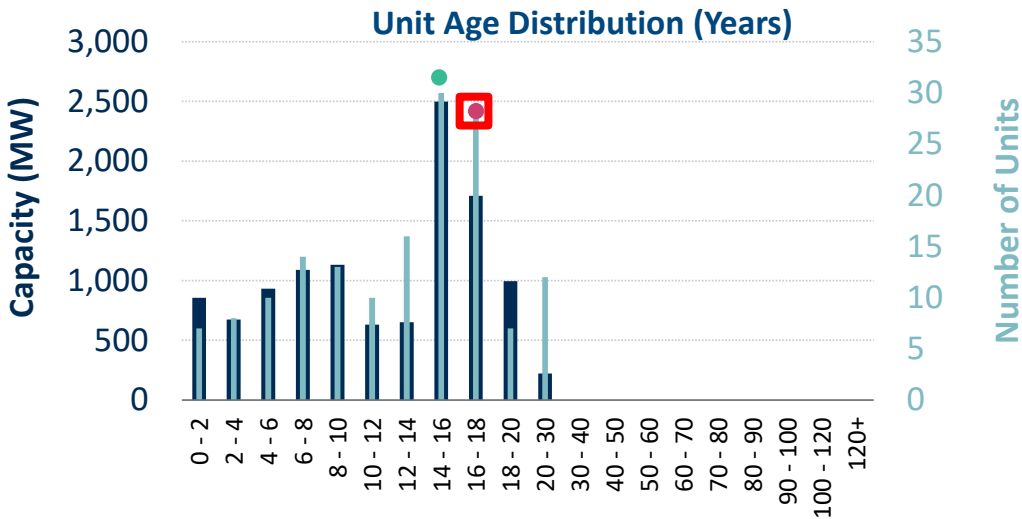
Low-Cost Representative Plant	Representative Plant \$190/MW-day <i>compare to \$147/MW-day in 2022</i>	High-Cost Representative Plant
•300 MW •Illinois •14 yrs old (+4 yrs from 2022)	•200 MW •Illinois •16 yrs old (+4 yrs from 2022)	•30 MW •Pennsylvania •16 yrs old (+4 yrs from 2022)

Existing Onshore Wind Fleet

■ Representative Plant

● Low-cost Plant

● High-cost Plant



Existing ST/O&G Plants

Population characteristics

- Most plants are <10 MW, but capacity comes mainly from large plants (1,500-1,750 MW)
- Most capacity and plants are in PA
- Plants contributing the most capacity have been operating for 50 – 60 years

Primary drivers of cost variability

- Age
- Capacity
- Location
- Plant configuration

ST/O&G Characteristics and Costs in 2026

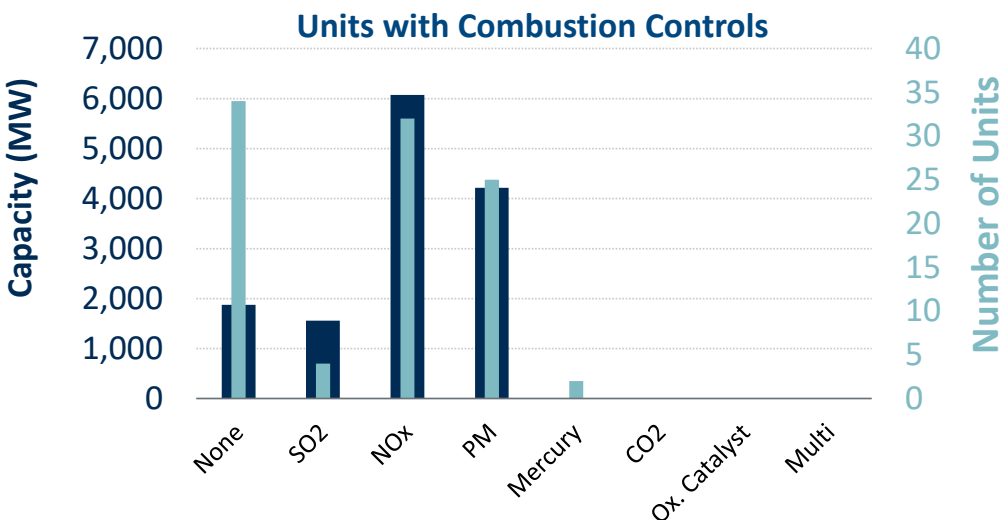
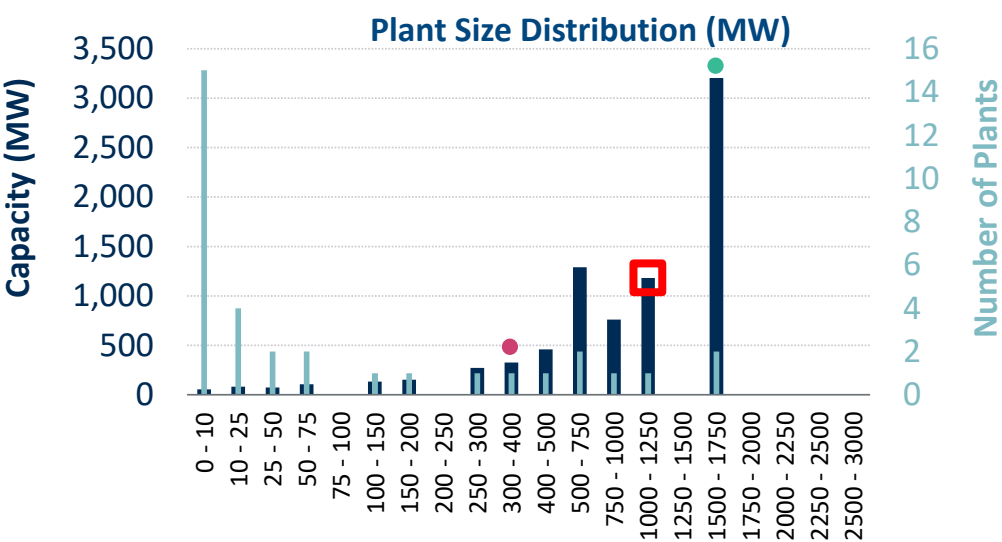
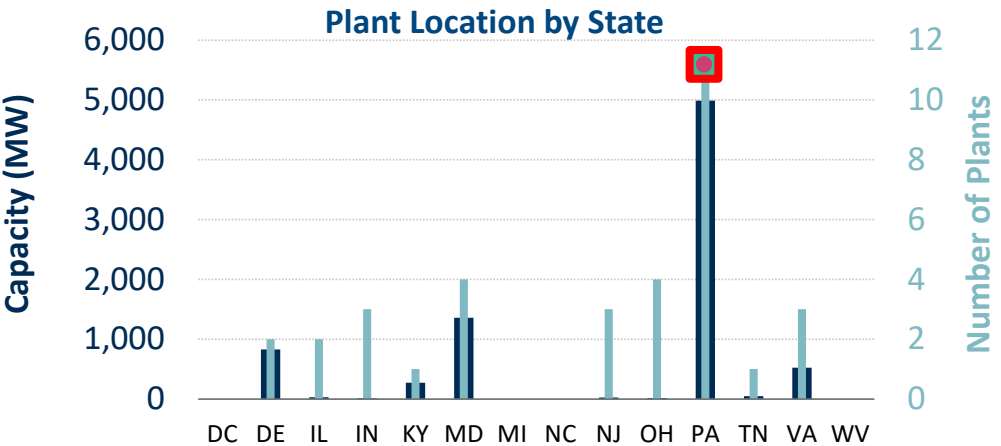
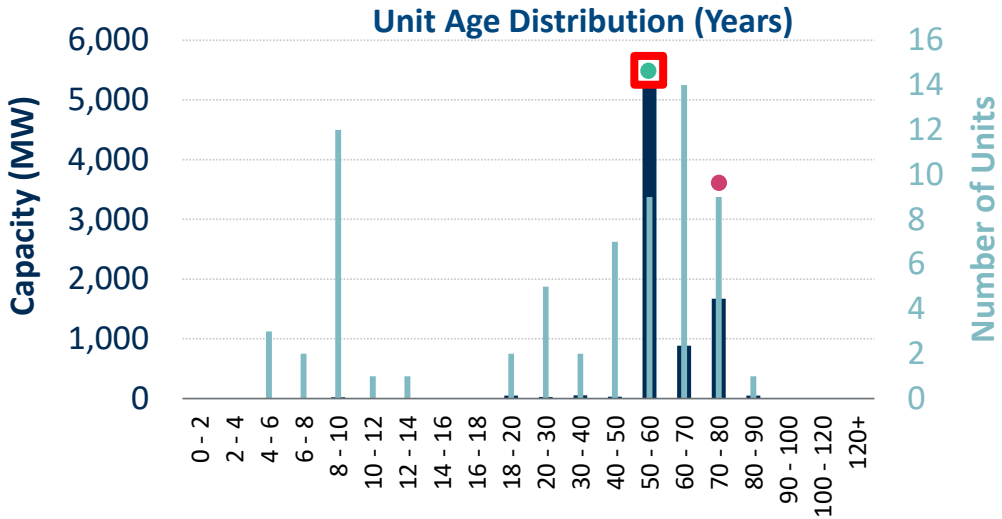
Low-Cost Representative Plant	Representative Plant \$72/MW-day <i>compare to \$64/MW-day in 2022</i>	High-Cost Representative Plant
• 1,700 MW (1,300 MW in '22) • Pennsylvania • 50 yrs old (47 yrs old in '22)	• 1,200 MW (+300 MW from '22) • Pennsylvania • 51 yrs old (47 yrs old in '22)	• 350 MW • Pennsylvania • 73 yrs old (65 yrs old in '22)

Existing ST/O&G Fleet

■ Representative Plant

● Low-cost Plant

● High-cost Plant



Projected BESS Plants Based on PJM Fast Lane IX Queue

Population characteristics

- 40 standalone BESS projects in PJM Fast Lane IX queue
- 22 plants report duration. Of these plants, 63% of capacity (68% of plants) have 4-hour duration.

Primary drivers of cost variability

- Size
- Duration
- Overbuild and augmentation approach
- Location

Projected **BESS** Characteristics and Costs by 2030/31

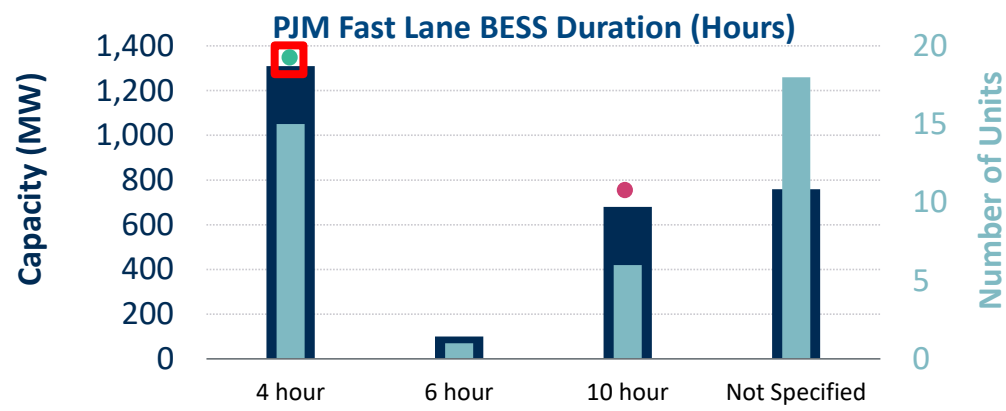
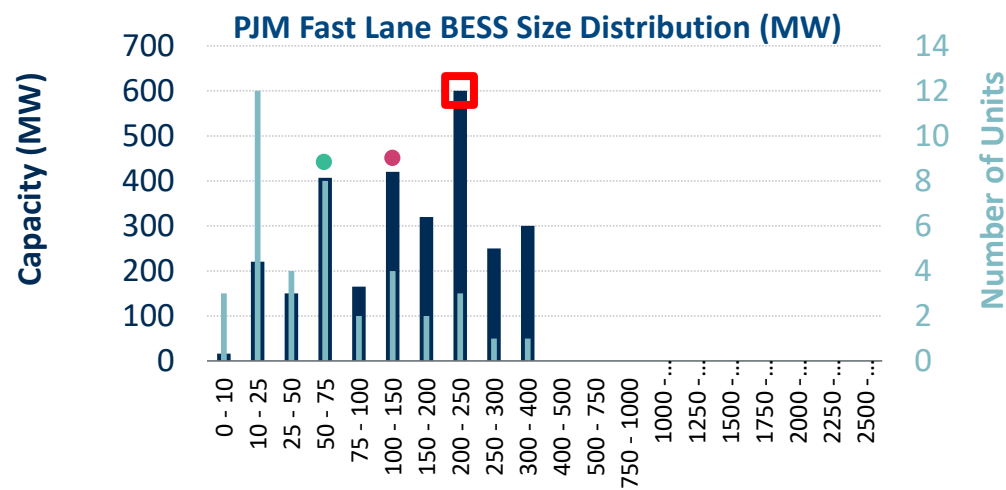
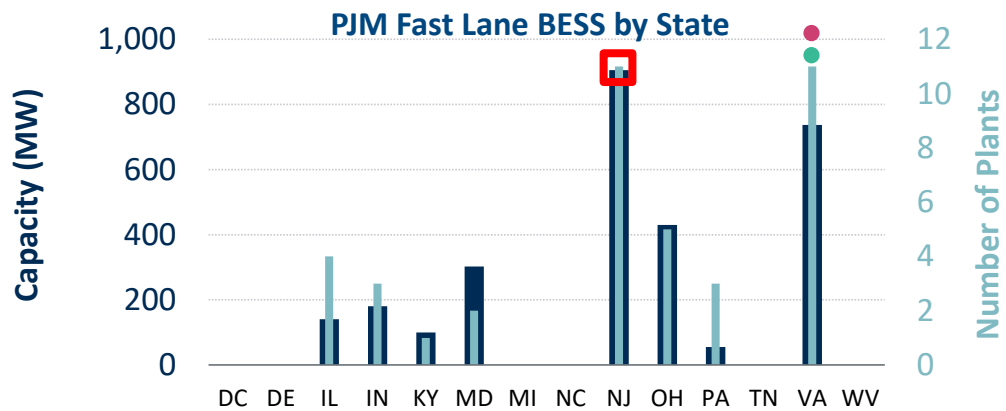
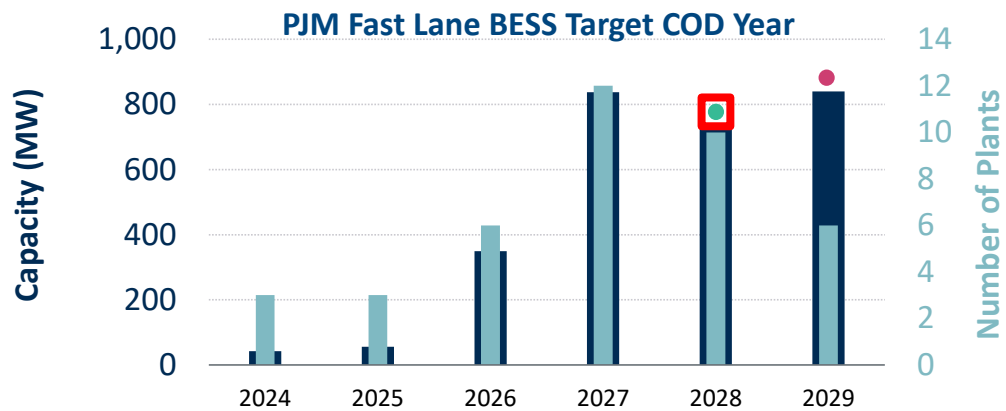
Low-Cost Representative Plant	Representative Plant \$187/MW-day	High-Cost Representative Plant
•4-hour duration •50 MW / 200 MWh capacity •2028 COD •Virginia	•4-hour duration •200 MW / 800 MWh capacity •2028 COD •New Jersey	•10-hour duration •100 MW / 1,000 MWh capacity •2029 COD •Virginia

PJM Fast Lane BESS Fleet

■ Representative Plant

● Low-cost Plant

● High-cost Plant



Next steps

Next steps to refine draft avoidable costs

- ∞ Consolidate stakeholder feedback
- ∞ Finalize avoidable costs

Plan for MC/MRC Meeting August 19, 2026

- ∞ Present final avoidable costs

Contact Information



Dr. Sam Newell

BRATTLE

PRINCIPAL | BOSTON

Sam.Newell@brattle.com

+1 (781) 801-2652



Dr. Andrew W. Thompson

BRATTLE

ENERGY ASSOCIATE |
BOSTON/MADRID

Andrew.Thompson@brattle.com

+34 666 639 197



Joshua Junge

SARGENT & LUNDY

PRINCIPAL ENERGY
CONSULTANT | CHICAGO

joshua.c.junge@sargentlundy.com

+1 (312) 269 2129

THE POWER OF ECONOMICS

BRATTLE.COM

