

Hourly Carbon Free Energy Matching in CAPSTF Modeling Constellation April 25, 2023

# Hourly CFE Scores Provide Critical Insights into PJM CAPSTF Modeling

- Hourly matching of carbon free energy and load supports the diverse portfolio of resources needed to decarbonize the grid reliably and affordably
- PJM has provided a wealth of hourly data as part of the CAPSTF modeling; we use this information to demonstrate how the resources procured under each mechanism align with hourly demand

#### 24/7 Hourly CFE Match





# **Calculating Hourly Carbon Free Energy (CFE) Scores**

- Central question: How do procured renewable resources align with hourly load?
- To measure alignment, we calculate the Carbon Free Energy (CFE) score
  - In each hour, CFE Score = Carbon-Free Generation ÷ Demand
    - Carbon-free generation includes LFG, biomass, nuclear, wind, solar (including BTM), and conventional hydro. All other resource types are excluded
  - Here, we use ISO demand as the denominator
    - Individual customers would use the hourly CFE in their portfolio and their hourly load to calculate their hourly CFE score
- Using hourly data, we examine:
  - Timing of high and low periods of CFE
  - Duration of low-CFE periods
  - Marginal emissions rates
- We also use annual summary metrics
  - Annual min CFE
  - Low-CFE periods (defined as annual min + 10 percentage points)
  - Average CFE: load-weighted annual average where hourly CFE limited to 100%





#### PJM CFE Duration Curves



# **Scenario Groupings**

Scenario	Group	2030 Total Wind/Solar Generation (GWh)	
Status Quo (CPAWG; 1)	Status Quo	174	Where multiple scenarios are mapped to the same group, results are calculated as an average across the group These (2D) scenarios include substantially higher procurement targets
Status Quo (WEE)	Status Quo	182	
FCEM, states' RECs (2A)	2A	178	
ICCM, states' RECs (2B)	2B	181	
FCEM, states' RECs, rational (2A)	2A	181	
FCEM, regional REC (2C)	2C	173	
ICCM, regional REC	Not included	177	
FCEM, regional REC, rational (2C)	2C	177	
RPM followed by FCEM, states' RECs (IMM)	IMM	186	
RPM followed by FCEM, states' RECs, rational (IMM)	IMM	183	
FCEM, 10% voluntary REC demand (2D)	2D 10	275	
FCEM, 20% voluntary REC demand (2D)	2D 20	353	
FCEM, 30% voluntary REC demand (2D)	2D 30	423	
FCEM, 10% voluntary CEAC demand (2E)	2E 10	176	
FCEM, 20% voluntary CEAC demand (2E)	2E 20	176	
FCEM, 30% voluntary CEAC demand (2E)	2E 30	187	
Status Quo, low clean capacity targets (3)	Clean Capacity Low	171	
Status Quo, mid clean capacity targets (3)	Clean Capacity Mid	172	
Status Quo, high clean capacity targets (3)	Clean Capacity High	180	
FCEM+RPM, low clean capacity targets (4)	Clean Capacity Low	176	
FCEM+RPM, mid clean capacity targets (4)	Clean Capacity Mid	173	



#### **Annual Average CFE Scores**

- At the ISO level, the various procurement methods produce only minor differences in annual average CFE through 2030
  - Most scenarios cluster at roughly 55% by 2030
- The annual average CFE does increase in scenarios that include additional voluntary demand
  - The highest CFE scores occur in FCEM, 30% voluntary demand scenario (2D), reaching 81% by 2030
  - We expect that CFE scores the CEAC scenarios (2E) would have been equivalent to the 2D scenarios if initial demand levels had been set at a level commensurate with total existing clean gen
- Nuclear generation constitutes the largest proportion of the CFE match: in 2023, the renewable-only CFE score is 10 percent





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### **Minimum CFE Scores and Low-CFE Periods**

- Annual minimum CFE scores are roughly 26%; again, without substantial differentiation among scenarios, except in those where procurement targets are increased
  - Further, the minimum CFE increases only marginally from 2023 to 2030
  - The tight clustering of minimum CFE scores indicates that there are persistent time periods of low CFE across all scenarios
- We define "low-CFE" periods as those in which the CFE score is within 10 percentage points of the annual minimum
- Across most of the scenarios, under 10% of the hours are low-CFE in 2023
  - By 2030, low-CFE hours constitute less than 5% of total hours
  - In 2022 nearly 1,500 hours were low-CFE (17% of total hours)







# **Low-CFE Event Frequency and Duration**

- A "low-CFE event" is a discrete period of 1-hour or more during which the average CFE score is within 10 percentage points of the annual minimum CFE
  - The longest low-CFE event across all scenarios and years is 15 hours
  - 25-30% of low-CFE events are 4 hours or less
- Scenarios exhibit roughly similar patterns on low-CFE event duration, with most events lasting 5-10 hours
- Over the forecast period, the frequency of the longest duration low-CFE events drops, but middle-duration low-CFE event frequency increases
- In the 30% 2D scenario, the long-duration events attenuate more quickly, but shorterduration events persist



Low-CFE Events by Event Duration, Scenario, and Year





# **Marginal Emissions Rates**

- The annual average marginal emissions rates\* decline over time in all scenarios, though generally modestly
- In most scenarios, the rate falls roughly 11% from 2023 by 2030, while the rate in 2D 30% scenario drops 40% over the same time period
- As expected, the rate declines the most in the 2D scenarios, though results in these scenarios only separate from the others towards the end of the forecast period
- Note that in the 2D 30% scenario, there are roughly 2,600 hours where the marginal emissions rate is either zero or data are missing in 2030
  - From the available data, we can see that PJM is a net exporter of carbon free generation in at least 500 hours

\*To calculate the PJM marginal emission rate, we use the loadweighted average of the zonal marginal emissions rates.





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