

Future Transmission Planning





Richard P O'Neill Distinguished Senior Fellow ARPA-E ESIG Spring Meeting April 2020





the views expressed are not necessarily those of ARPA-E or the DOE

ISOs Dominate US Power Market and Continue to Grow



Background and future

Today generators offer and load is forecasted.. Prices are more unpredictable and have higher variance More higher prices The lower prices TOU prices are no longer efficient. "It is not just peak shaving where is the peak? It's to take advantage of lower prices Need price-responsive demand First century of electric power, generation followed load. Second century of electric power, load follows generation. New Technologies New Issues (2000s)

- ⇒ Solar and wind
- ⇒ Batteries
- ⇒ Electric cars
- ⇒ 'net load' = load-renewables
- ⇒ need
- ⇒ flexible generators
 ⇒ Greater range [min, max]
 ⇒ Faster ramp rate
 ⇒ Price-responsive demand
 ⇒ Smart controllable devices



Old Stochastics

- ⇒ Binary generator failure
 ⇒ Demand = f(temperature)
- ⇒ Peak is a hot afternoon in August
 ⇒ Could see it coming.
 ⇒ Off peak 'peaks', e.g., polar vortex
- ⇒ For dominant hydro systems (Brazil 75%),
 ⇒ Need energy for N-year drought
 ⇒ Need opportunity cost pricing
 ⇒ Forward energy (not capacity) markets





Weather Stochastics



"And now the 7-day forecast..."

- Bad/unexpected weather forecast is the largest contingency
- ⇒ Weather contingencies
 - ⇒ 70% of generator failures due in part to weather
 - ⇒ Transmission capability due in part to weather

⇒ new stochastics

- generator = f(temperature, operation, maintenance)
- Demand = f(temperature, humidity)
- ⇒ Solar = f(sunshine)
- ⇒ wind = f(wind, shutdowns at -20°F or max wind)
- ⇒ Hydro = f(rain, snow)
- Where and when is the peak?
 Cloudy and windless day
 Sunny and windy day



New Stochastics

⇒ For dominant renewables systems
 ⇒ Need energy not capacity
 ⇒ opportunity cost offers
 ⇒ Forward energy markets

⇒ Flexibility

- ⇒ Fast ramp and output range
- ⇒ Price-responsive demand
- ⇒ Hydro
- ⇒ Batteries
- Transmission topology

⇒ Better pricing

- ⇒ AIC pricing
- ⇒ Price-responsive demand with Ramsay-Bouteux



Old model of transmission planning Ttility decides to build a generator [©] names it after the current CEO State commission does IRP and approves the generator Tutility designs transmission to deliver it to native load ^{CE}Uses state eminent domain Cost overruns > 2x Rate base everything: socialize costs and risks Send out flat price bills once a month to consumers Reliability model : 'keep the lights on' ^(S) 'one in ten' plus ask or pay consumers to 'turn the lights off'

Transmission Planning Halfway House

Market participant decides to build a generator

- Interconnection (Order 2003) designed for in a vertically integrated utility
 - Interconnection is not transmission, but we build transmission
 - Similar to hostage negotiation
 - Interconnector pays

Design transmission to maximize expected market surplus?
 Order 1000 competition has many loopholes
 Utilities build most transmission with little oversight
 Old software from the utility era
 Consumers pay for transmission not beneficiaries
 Transmission rights ??

Competitive transmission in ISOs

- the most controversial aspect of FERC Order 1000
- potential for significant customer savings:
 - limited to only 2% of. transmission investments in the last 5 years,
- competitive processes led to innovations in proposed solutions, low bids, cost caps, cost control measures, and innovative financial structuring
- Brattle study sponsored by LS Power
 - Winning bids average 40% below initial cost estimates
 - Non-competitive projects completed at 34% above initial estimates

Rethinking economic efficiency and regulation

Plenty of legislation for increasing economic efficiency Transmission expansion and "interconnection". designed using the old model needs retooling Different pricing for transmission in interconnection process than transmission expansion. Makes no sense Order 1000 has significant loopholes to competition. term '1 in 10' it is almost vacuous The value of load is based on the cost of a combustion turbine not the value of load ^{Cer}let load express its value

SPP topology optimization

- reconfigurations route flows around breached elements meeting reliability standards.
- 70% of constraints analyzed: single-action solutions on facilities below 345 kV led to an average 26% flow relief
- 95% of constraints analyzed: solutions led to 31% relief,
- SPP created an Op. Guide based on this analysis (Tupelo overloads, OK).
- @ estimated that topology optimization would reduce frequency of breached intervals from 34% (current) to 8%
- Annual RT market efficiency gains of \$18-44 million



Price-Responsive Demand



Price-responsive demand in day-ahead and real-time market
 Supply ancillary services

- \Rightarrow Entry when \triangle Consumer Surplus > Incremental Cost
 - ⇒LMP is the 'convex' margin
- ⇒ No capacity charges
- Price Signals are ex-post not a signal to change in the current market dispatch
- price-responsive demand and reserves pricing reduces the missing money and need for capacity markets

Long-term Planning Uncertainty

Epistemology: what do we know about the future?
 All forecasts are wrong; some are useful (George Box)
 No facts about the future (Lincoln Moses)

Representation of uncertainty
 How good are the scenarios and probabilities
 Weather interactions: wind, sun, temperature, humidity

All generator capacity 'failures' are a function of
 Weather
 Maintenance

Is weather the new common mode failure?

Transmission Expansion Planning Process



- ⇒ Economically efficient plan (EPAct2005)
- ⇒ legacy rules need a tune up
 - ⇒ All projects should pass a benefit-cost test
 - stop peanut-buttered (broad cost allocation) rates
- ⇒ Cost allocation in proportion to benefits
- ⇒ How do you choose potential projects
- ⇒ How do they fit together
- ⇒ Iterative stakeholder process
 - Larger voting role for 'beneficiaries'
- models and solution times need improvement
- More competition for new transmission



Software for ISO Market Efficiency



⇒ 1999 FERC on Unit Commitment. Try MILP you will like it. \Rightarrow 2005 PJM first to use MILP \Rightarrow 2015 SPP last to use MILP ⇒ MILP replaces Lagrangian relaxation (saves ~ \$5 billion +/yr) ⇒ The holy grail: mixed integer ACOPF \Rightarrow Transmission switching testing indicate ~\$5 billion +/yr savings ⇒Efficient software often has a Benefit/Cost > 100



ARPA-E OPF Competition



⇒ The holy grail: fast mixed integer SCACOPF

⇒ State of testing

- ⇒ Piecemeal approach
- ⇒ Hard to validate results
- ⇒ Small test problems

⇒ New issues

- ⇒ Renewables and uncertain weather
- ⇒ Price-responsive demand
- Distribution optimization

⇒the ARPA-E GO (OPF) over \$10 million in prizes

Second competition coming soon



Thank you

