



## Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration  
P.O. Box 3621  
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT/PRIVACY PROGRAM

September 30, 2024

In reply refer to: BPA-2024-02015-F

**SENT VIA EMAIL ONLY TO: Possible PII Removed**

Tony Schick  
**Possible PII Removed**

Dear Mr. Schick,

This communication is the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) formal response to your FOIA request BPA-2024-02013-F. The agency received your request for records made under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (FOIA) on May 31, 2024, BPA formally acknowledged your request via letter and email on June 26, 2024.

### **Request**

You seek, "...any risk, revenue, or overall financial analyses [dated] since 2017, [which analyses] model growth in wind and solar generation and/or major transmission capacity increases."

### **Response**

Knowledgeable Public Utilities Specialist Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) in the agency's Power Services organization have assembled the following information to share with you in response to your FOIA request.

Knowledgeable SMEs report that all Power Services mid-to-long range fundamental price forecasts include modeling growth of wind and solar—with more limited changes on the transmission capacity side—suggesting that all risk, revenue, and financial analyses done using those price forecasts could be responsive to your request. That said, our Power Services SMEs assembled the most responsive information you seek. That information follows.

The most recent BPA (Power Services) analysis of growth in wind and solar generation is for the 2024 Resource Program. Materials for that study, as well as all prior Resource Programs, are publicly available at:

<https://www.bpa.gov/energy-and-services/power/resource-planning>

The 2024 Resource Program PowerPoint for the [June 10, 2024 Workshop Materials](#) shows forecasts of resource additions by fuel type on slides 93 to 95, as well as Mid-C market price impacts:

<https://www.bpa.gov/-/media/Aep/power/resource-program/20240610-resource-program-workshop.pdf>

The 2024 Resource Program includes both a Base ('RP2024') and Fast Transition scenario ('RP2024\_FT'). The Fast Transition scenario represents future build-out needs to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, and thus has a larger and earlier renewable resource build out. The Fast Transition scenario, called the "High Policy" scenario for the 2022 Resource Program, represents a 'plausibly high' case, not intended to be a rigorous study of how or if the WECC achieves zero/net zero emissions, or how quickly it could do so.

Note that BPA Power does not model any scenarios without wind and solar growth.

The BP-24 Rate Proceeding Final Proposal Power Market Price Study from July 2023, *Section 2.3.7 Generation Additions and Retirements* on page 20, describes BPA's methodology used for the BP-24 Rate Case to evaluate additions and retirements:

<https://www.bpa.gov/-/media/Aep/rates-tariff/bp-24/Final-Proposal/BP-24-FS-BPA-04-Power-Market-Price-Study.pdf>

The following publicly available document describes how the resulting price forecasts are used for risk scenarios, rate proceedings, and financial assessments. Additional publicly available materials related to the BP-24 Rate Case is available at BP-24 Rate Case - Bonneville Power Administration:

<https://www.bpa.gov/energy-and-services/rate-and-tariff-proceedings/bp-24-rate-case>

Rate cases produced back to 2017 included similar methodologies (with different assumptions about the amounts of growth) and can be found at:

<https://www.bpa.gov/energy-and-services/rate-and-tariff-proceedings/historical-rate-cases>

Additional specifically responsive agency records include the following:

- June 10, 2024, Resource Program Workshop Materials:
  - <https://www.bpa.gov/-/media/Aep/power/resource-program/20240610-resource-program-workshop.pdf>
- October 2022, Resource Program:

- <https://www.bpa.gov/-/media/Aep/power/resource-program/2022-resource-program.pdf>
- August 9, 2022, BPA Resource Program High Policy Scenario:
  - <https://www.bpa.gov/-/media/Aep/power/resource-program/20220809-resource-program-workshop.pdf>
- July 2023, BP-24 Rate Proceeding Final Proposal Power Market Price Study:
  - <https://www.bpa.gov/-/media/Aep/rates-tariff/bp-24/Final-Proposal/BP-24-FS-BPA-04-Power-Market-Price-Study.pdf>

Lastly responsive to your request, the Columbia River System Operations (CRSO) evaluations that were informed by similar assumptions around growth in solar and wind are:

<https://www.bpa.gov/learn-and-participate/public-involvement-decisions/project-reviews/crso>

### **Fees**

There are no fees associated with processing your FOIA request.

### **Certification**

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.7, I am the individual responsible for the search and information release determination described above. Your FOIA request BPA-2024-02015-F is now closed with the responsive information provided.

### **Appeal**

Note that the records and data release certified above is final. Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.8, you may appeal the adequacy of the records search, and the completeness of this final records release, within 90 calendar days from the date of this communication. Appeals should be addressed to:

Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals  
HG-1, L'Enfant Plaza  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585-1615

The written appeal, including the envelope, must clearly indicate that a FOIA appeal is being made. You may also submit your appeal by e-mail to [OHA.filings@hq.doe.gov](mailto:OHA.filings@hq.doe.gov), including the phrase "Freedom of Information Appeal" in the subject line. (The Office of Hearings and Appeals prefers to receive appeals by email.) The appeal must contain all the elements required by 10 C.F.R. § 1004.8, including a copy of the determination letter. Thereafter, judicial review will be available to you in the Federal District Court either (1) in the district where you reside, (2) where you have your principal place of business, (3) where DOE's records are situated, or (4) in the District of Columbia.

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS  
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001  
E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Phone: 202-741-5770  
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448  
Fax: 202-741-5769

Questions about this communication may be directed to James King, FOIA Public Liaison, at [jjking@bpa.gov](mailto:jjking@bpa.gov) or 503-230-7621.

Sincerely,

**/ Signature on File /**

Candice D. Palen  
Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Officer