

Update on the 2020 Demand Response and All-Source RFPs

Puget Sound Energy ("PSE") filed draft Demand Response and All-Source RFPs with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("WUTC") in early May 2020 in dockets UE-200413 and UE-200414 respectively. Currently, the draft RFPs are scheduled for consideration at the Commission's open meeting on September 10, 2020; however, PSE intends to file an update in these dockets on or about September 8, 2020. To allow the Commission adequate time to review and consider the update, PSE is asking for a two week extension and requesting that the draft RFPs instead be considered at the Commission's open meeting on September 24, 2020.

Background

On May 4, 2020, PSE filed with the Commission draft Demand Response and All-Source RFPs demonstrating a need for new capacity resources within the next four to five years. In late July, PSE completed the process to update its load forecast (the F2020 load forecast), which reflects updated economic and demographic assumptions, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and increased conservation from the 2019 IRP process. PSE subsequently updated its electric-peak capacity need projection (as shown in Figure 1) to include the new F2020 load forecast, which had the overall effect of reducing the expected capacity need over the next 20 years. As Figure 1 demonstrates, PSE does not project a material need for new capacity resources until 2026.

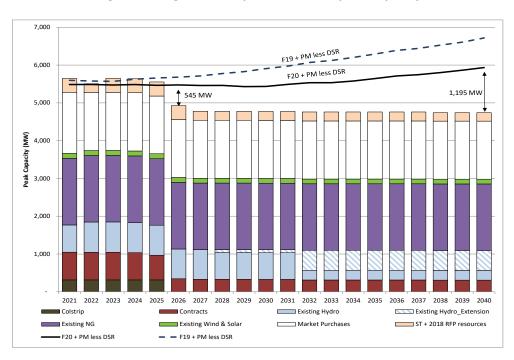


Figure 1. August 2020 updated electric-peak capacity need



On August 26, 2020 PSE filed an informational update in Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission dockets UE-200413 (Demand Response RFP) and UE-200414 (All-Source RFP), seeking comment from interested parties on the potential withdrawal of its draft RFPs. PSE is currently reviewing comments, and will continue to review and consider all comments submitted to the AllSourceRFPmailbox@pse.com by September 4, 2020.

Next steps

PSE intends to make a final decision on or about September 8 about whether to pursue approval of the RFPs or file a motion to withdraw the RFPs. If the requests are withdrawn, PSE intends to integrate targeted demand response into a separate Targeted Demand Side Management ("TDSM") RFP in September of this year.

Interested parties may submit comments for PSE to consider to AllSourceRFPmailbox@pse.com by September 4, 2020. PSE will file an update in the dockets and notify interested parties of its decision on or about September 8, 2020. Notifications will be sent by email to PSE's stakeholder notification list and will be posted to our RFP webpage (https://www.pse.com/RFP). Interested parties may opt in to receive stakeholder notifications by contacting AllSourceRFPmailbox@pse.com.

PSE's RFP Team