

#### Energy Evolution in ERCOT

US Department of Energy 2016 Quadrennial Energy Review

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## North American ISOs and RTOs

Independent
System
Operators and
Regional
Transmission
Organizations
are the 'air traffic
controllers' of the
bulk electric
power grids
(69kV and up)



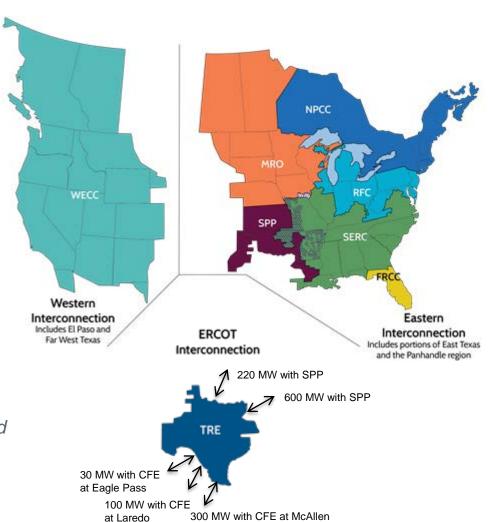


# The ERCOT Region

# The interconnected electrical system serving most of Texas, with limited external connections

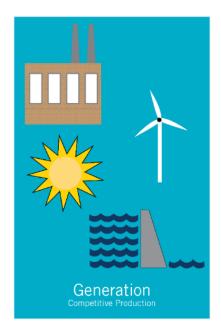
- 90% of Texas electric load;
   75% of Texas land
- 69,877 MW peak demand (set August 10, 2015)
- More than 46,500 miles of transmission lines
- 550+ generation units

ERCOT connections to other grids are limited to ~1,250 MW of direct current (DC) ties, which allow control over flow of electricity.

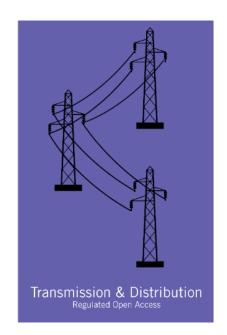




# **ERCOT Competitive Model**



- ERCOT schedules and dispatches power on the electric grid.
- Generators compete at resource node to serve load.
- ERCOT performs financial settlement.



- ERCOT manages flow of power to 24 million Texas consumers.
- Transmission and distribution lines and related facilities are owned and operated by regulated utilities.



- ERCOT administer retail switching for 7 million premises in competitive choice areas.
- Retailers compete to serve consumers, except in muni/co-op areas.



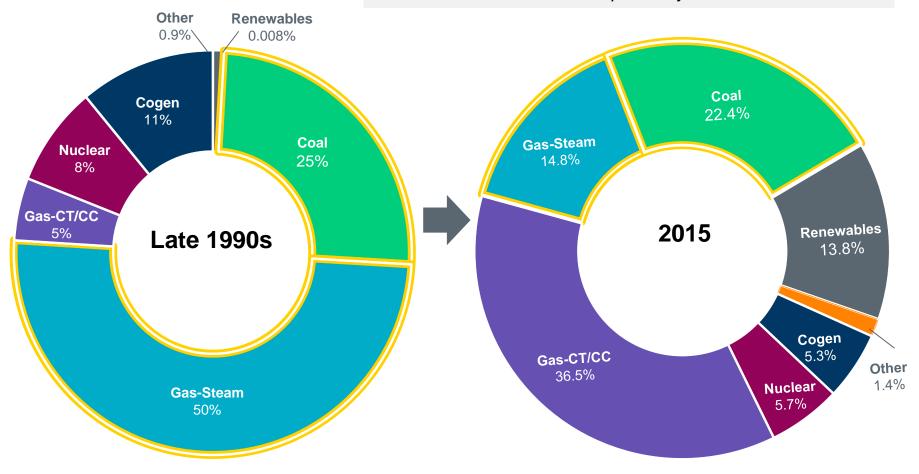
### **Challenges and Initiatives**

- 1. Strategically adapting to changing resource mix:
  - Generation Resources
  - Demand Response
  - Distribution Level Resources
- 2. Providing thought leadership in support of continued improvements to operational reliability and markets
- 3. Continue to analyze potential impacts of environmental regulations on resource adequacy
- 4. Continually enhancing our cyber and physical security posture

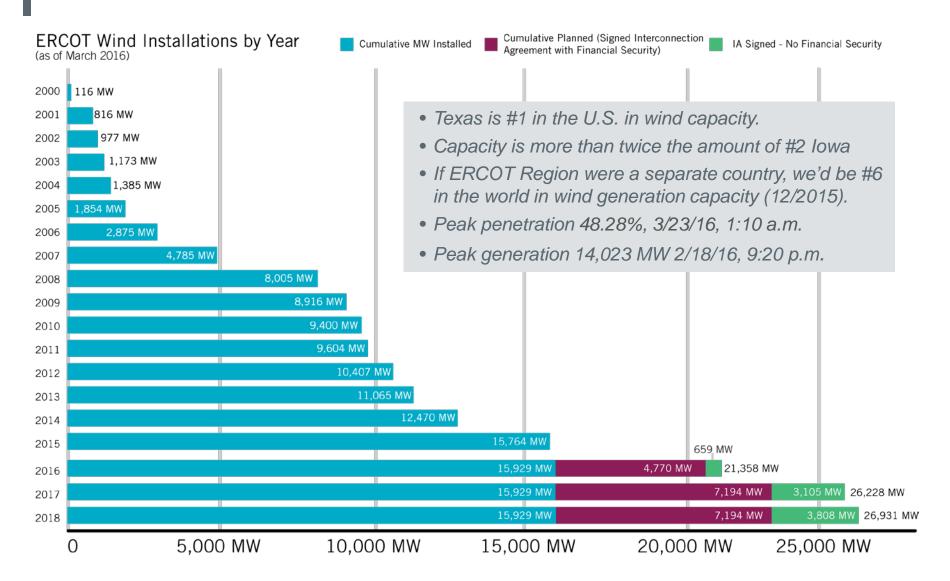


# **Changing Resource Mix**

Since Dec. 2015 - 990 MW of wind and solar capacity approved for commercial operations, equivalent to a summer peak capacity contribution of about 254 MW. Natural Gas investments continue but outpaced by renewables.

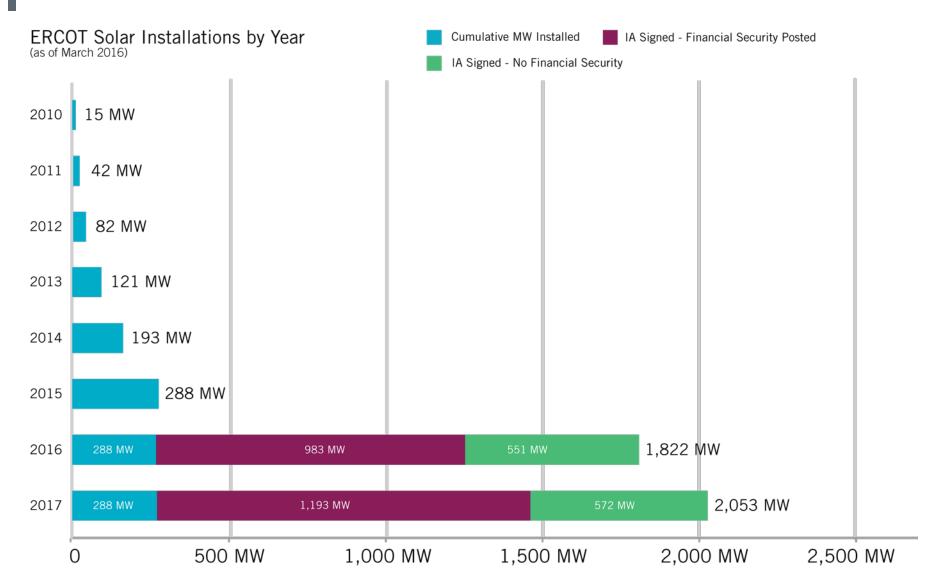


#### Wind - March 2016





#### **Utility Scale Solar Generation – March 2016**



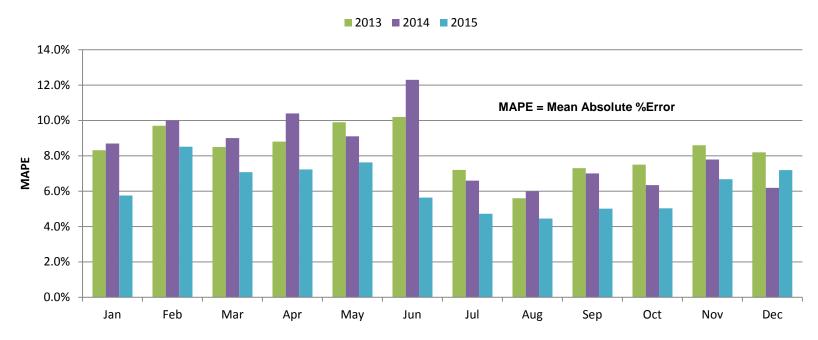


**PUBLIC** 

#### **Integrating and Managing Renewables**

- Added 7-day wind forecast and improved performance of wind forecast
- Inclement weather preparation
  - Added new capability to manually overwrite wind forecast for icing events
  - Hosted 2015 Texas RE and ERCOT Wind Generation and Winter Preparation Webinar
- Recently implemented a utility-scale solar forecast

#### **Day-ahead Wind Forecast Performance**





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#### **Proposed Future Ancillary Services (FAS)**

Current

**Proposed** 

Regulation Up
Fast-Responding Regulation Up

Regulation Down
Fast-Responding Regulation Down

Regulation Up

Fast-Responding Regulation Up

Regulation Down

Fast-Responding Regulation Down

Mostly unchanged

Responsive

Non-Spin

Fast Frequency Response 1

59.8 Hz, Limited duration

Fast Frequency Response 2

59.7 Hz, Longer duration

Primary Frequency Response

Contingency Reserves 1

SCED-dispatched

Contingency Reserves 2

Manually dispatched

Supplemental Reserves 1

SCED-dispatched

Supplemental Reserves 2

Manually dispatched

Synchronous Inertial Response

Ongoing development



# Distribution and Customer Activity

 New technologies becoming available at competitive costs encourage customer participation in load management and distributed resources



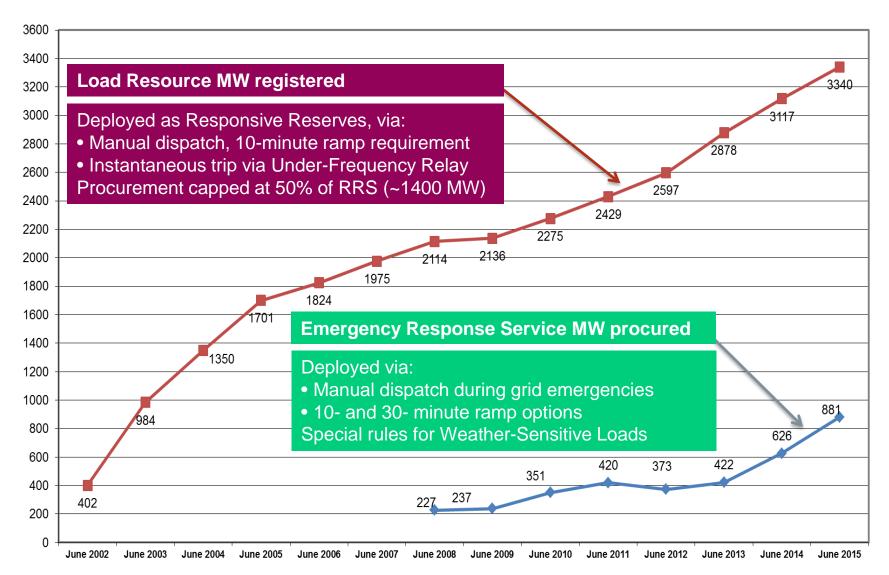
Leveraging smart grid initiatives







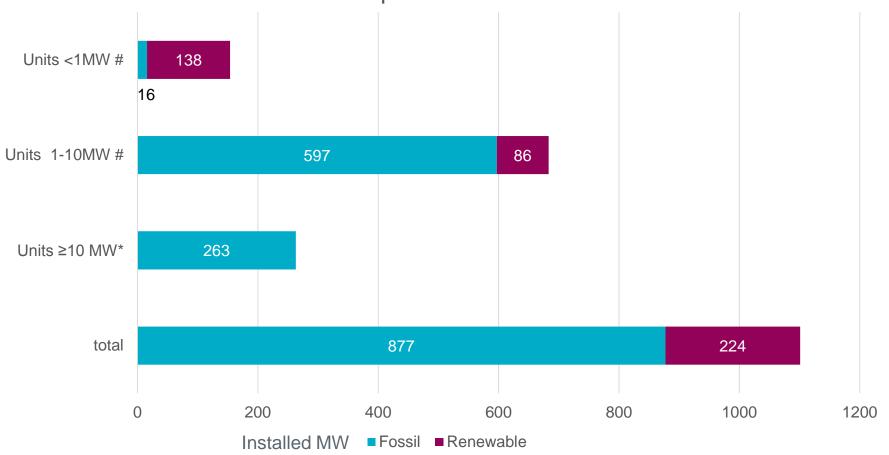
#### **Operational Demand Response**





#### **Distributed generation**



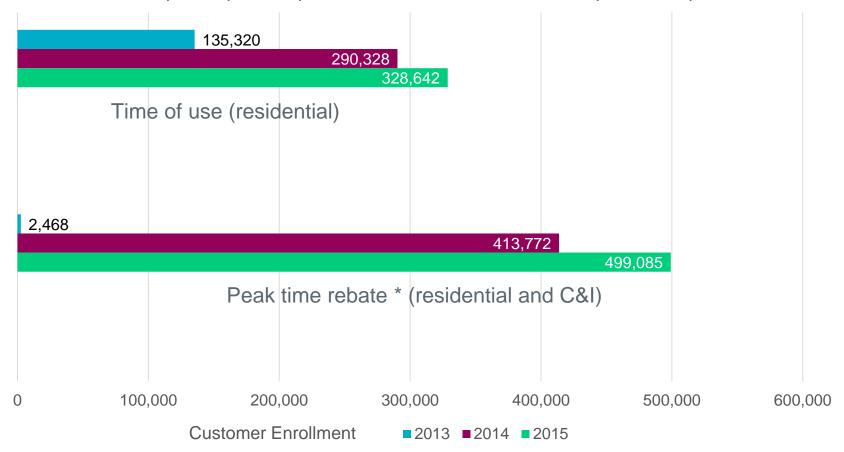


\* An unknown number of these units may be among the 77 units registered with PUC as Self-Generators. # Anecdotal as reported by Austin Energy & CPS Energy only. NOIEs are not required to report unregistered DG to ERCOT unless >50kW and injects to grid.



#### Retail Dynamic Price Offerings & DR

Enabled by advanced metering, a significant percentage of the retail market now has some kind of incentive for demand response, price response, or a behavioral shift from on-peak to off-peak



<sup>\*</sup> Events not necessarily called, rebates not necessarily issued. Numbers are based on 9/30/15 snapshots submitted by

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**REPs to ERCOT**