



**Xcel Energy/SPS's 2026 Integrated Resource Plan
Model Results, Continued
Workshop #6B, Aug. 5, Summary
Virtual**

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Representatives from 15 organizations met with the SPS Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) team to continue discussing modeling results. 24 stakeholders participated and had the opportunity to ask questions and comment on the model results. The list of participating organizations (excluding SPS, its consultants, and Gridworks) is attached.

MATERIALS

- [Gridworks slide deck](#)
- [SPS slide deck](#) (updated)
- [Recording](#)
- [Statement of Need and Action Plan Background Reading](#)
- [Website for all materials](#)

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

This workshop had the following objectives:

1. Present model results to date and answer stakeholder questions;
2. Discuss key takeaways that will impact the statement of need; and
3. Prepare stakeholders for review of the draft statement of need and action plan.

Gridworks staff introduced the concepts of the statement of need and action plan and shared [additional details](#) for those interested.

Statement of Need and Action Plan	
Statement of Need • What new resources (by type and amount) SPS needs to reliably meet customer demand and state policies • Key technical characteristics those resources need to provide (by energy or capacity) • Take a broad view of the evolving needs of the system, beyond simply meeting peak demand	Action Plan • Specific steps over the next 4 years (proposed) to implement the resource plan • Specific actions for resource solicitation or contracting activities • Status report on items from last action plan

For rule language and examples, see [Background Reading](#)


GRIDWORKS



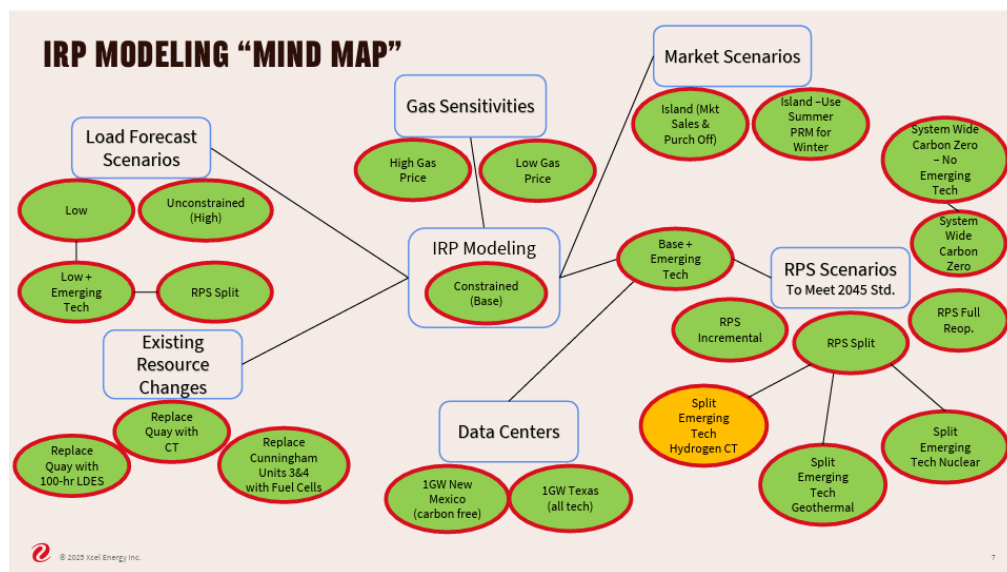
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REFRESH OF MODELING “MIND MAP” AND UPDATES

The SPS team shared an updated mind map illustrating all modeling runs (shown below), noting that all but one scenario have completed capacity expansion modeling and production cost evaluation. In response to stakeholder requests, the SPS team added the following scenarios and reported on results at this workshop:

- Low-load forecast with emerging technologies
- Islanded-system scenario, applying the summer planning reserve margin to winter
- Systemwide carbon-free scenarios with and without emerging technologies



Other updates included:

- Addressed outstanding questions on load forecasting assumptions
- Announced that SPS intends to request a four-year window for the Action Plan, rather than the three-year period called for in the IRP rule. This is to return SPS to the staggered three-year schedule originally called for in the IRP rule.

MODEL RESULTS TO DATE

The SPS team continued the discussion of modeling activities, summarizing the results of each scenario by key metrics (nameplate capacity additions, net present value amounts, expected unserved energy, and curtailment risk). The team observed that across the core planning scenarios, the model generally selected a diverse resource mix that included wind, solar, storage, combustion turbines, and combined-cycle resources. The team also observed that modeling results indicated a continuing need for firm, dispatchable capacity, along with growing needs for renewable generation and grid-balancing resources such as long-duration storage.



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Stakeholder questions centered on:

- How large new data center loads would be served—and who would pay for the associated resources and system upgrades.
- Whether 6- or 8-hour storage could reduce the need for large renewable buildouts.
- How future transmission expansion could reduce curtailment and change modeled resource needs.
- Why carbon-free scenarios produced significant curtailment and unserved energy.
- What the results mean for near-term “least-regrets” resource decisions.

OPEN ITEMS

- Share modeling results for the remaining scenario (split emerging tech hydrogen CT)
- Follow up on requested clarifications:
 - In the systemwide carbon-free scenarios, are 6- and 8-hr batteries available?
 - In the Quay resource replacement scenario, is the base-case replacement a 4-hr battery?
 - Are SPP’s proposed 765kV transmission projects incorporated into SPS’s transmission topology into the 2030s?
 - In the fully carbon-zero, no emerging tech scenario, were all build limits removed?

NEXT STEPS

- [Aug. 17, Draft Statement of Need and Action Plan expected from SPS.](#)
- Aug. 26-27, Workshop #7, Carlsbad & Zoom. Return to big picture discussions with the draft Statement of Need and Action Plan.
- [Sept. 4, 5 PM MDT, Stakeholder written comments on Statement of Need and Action Plan due.](#)
- Sept. 22, Workshop #8, 2-5 PM MDT, via Zoom. Courtesy review of final IRP elements and stakeholder feedback on the facilitation process.

A summary of this workshop is available at [Gridworks’ website](#). Questions, concerns, and suggestions are welcome and can be directed to Linda Hudgins (linda.l.hudgins@xcelenergy.com) and Deborah Shields (dshields@gridworks.org).



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WORKSHOP #6B PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS **(Excluding SPS, its consultants, and facilitators)**

Coalition for Clean Affordable Energy
Energy Futures Group
Energy Transfer
Enterprise Products Company
ExxonMobil
Gridlab
Interwest Energy Alliance
New Mexico Junior College
New Mexico Large Customer Group
NM PRC
NRDC
OPL
Single Space
Targa Resources
TransAlta