

# Electricity Industry's Role toward a Decarbonized Future

Engineers for a Sustainable Future

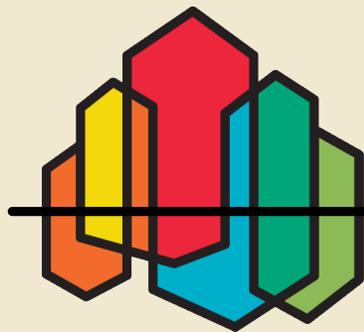
**John Fazio**

NW Power and Conservation Council

September 14, 2021

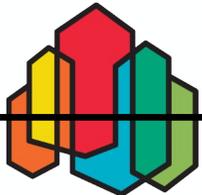
THE 2021  
**NORTHWEST  
POWER PLAN**

FOR A SECURE & AFFORDABLE  
ENERGY FUTURE



# Topics for Discussion

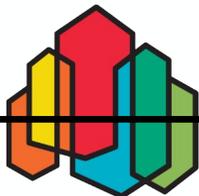
- What is the NW Power and Conservation Council?
- What jurisdiction does the Council have?
- How does it interact with other regional entities?
- How has the Council incorporated climate change into its planning process?
- What actions are being proposed by the Council to achieve a decarbonized future, in particular the president's goal of halving gas emissions by 2030?



# The Northwest Power and Conservation Council

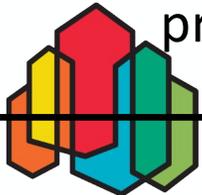
The 1980 [Northwest Power Act](#) authorized Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington to develop a regional power plan and fish and wildlife program to balance the Northwest's environment and energy needs.

- Each state legislature passed laws to form the NWPCC
- The governors of each state appoints two Council Members
- Predominantly funded by rates collected by Bonneville



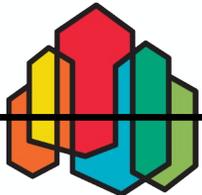
# Why Do We Have Regional Power Planning?

- Mistakes in power planning have cost the region billions of dollars, or thousands of dollars for the average regional consumer of electricity
  - Hydrothermal Power Project
  - Washington Public Power Supply Service
  - California Energy Crisis
- Bonneville Power Administration has significant influence on what the citizens of the region pay for power
  - Wholesale rates to preference customers
  - Residential exchange for customers of private utilities
- The Power Plan gives the states a voice in the costs Bonneville incurs for new resources providing independent analysis & forecasting vetted by a broad range of interests



# The Council's Power Plan

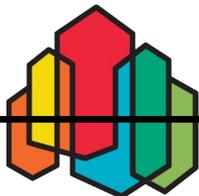
- Goal
  - Ensure an adequate, efficient and economic regional power system
- Major Components
  - Forecast of regional electricity demand over the next 20 years
  - A “least cost with acceptable risk” resource strategy
  - Regional action plan to implement resource strategy
- Use
  - By statute, plan guides Bonneville Power Administration's resource decisions
  - By tradition, plan serves as an independent reference for all of the region's utilities, regulatory commissions and policy-makers



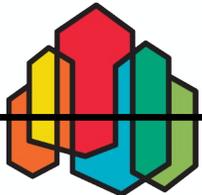
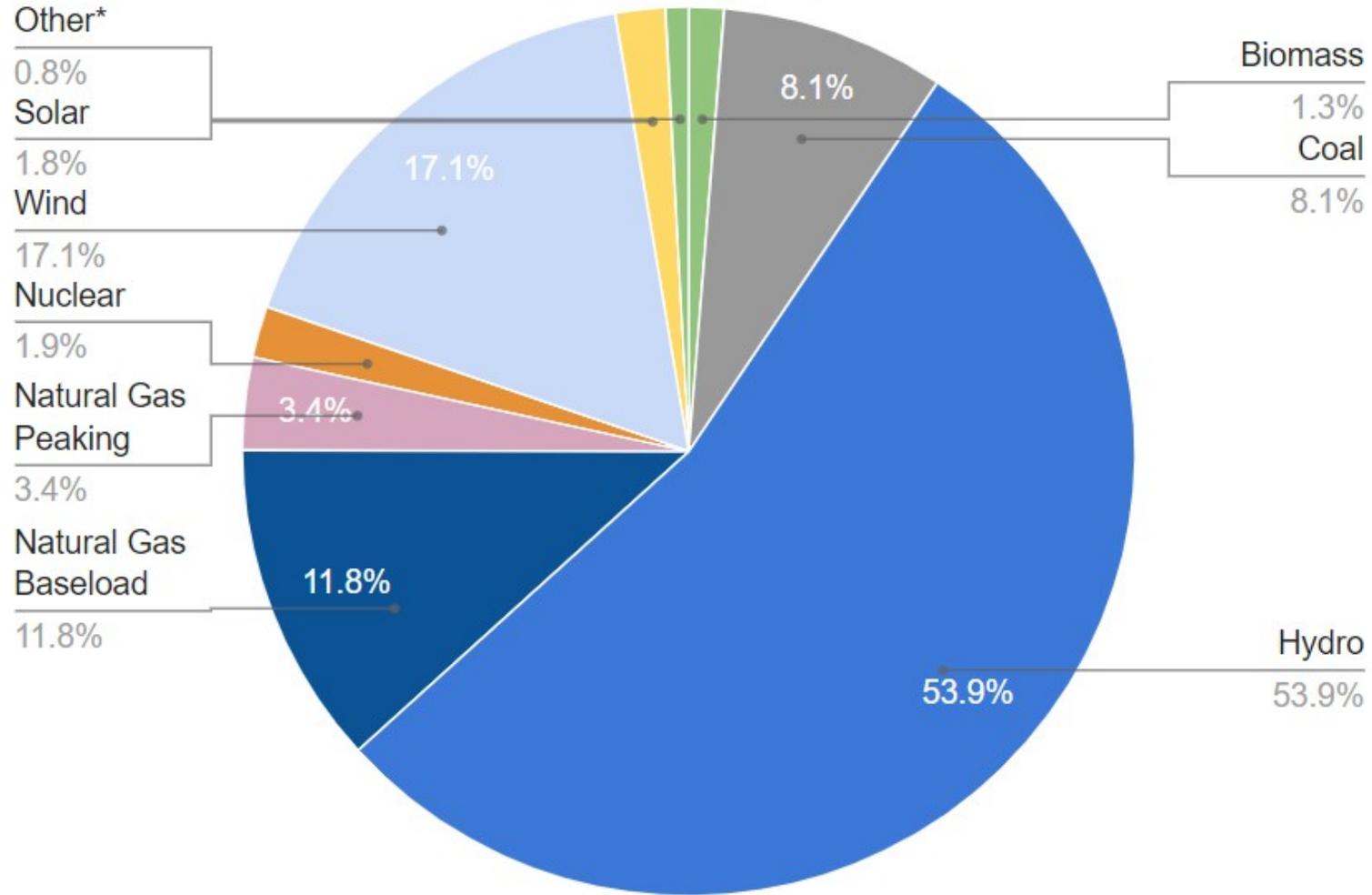
# Council's Interactions with other Entities

## All interactions are in public forums

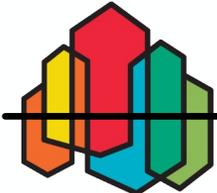
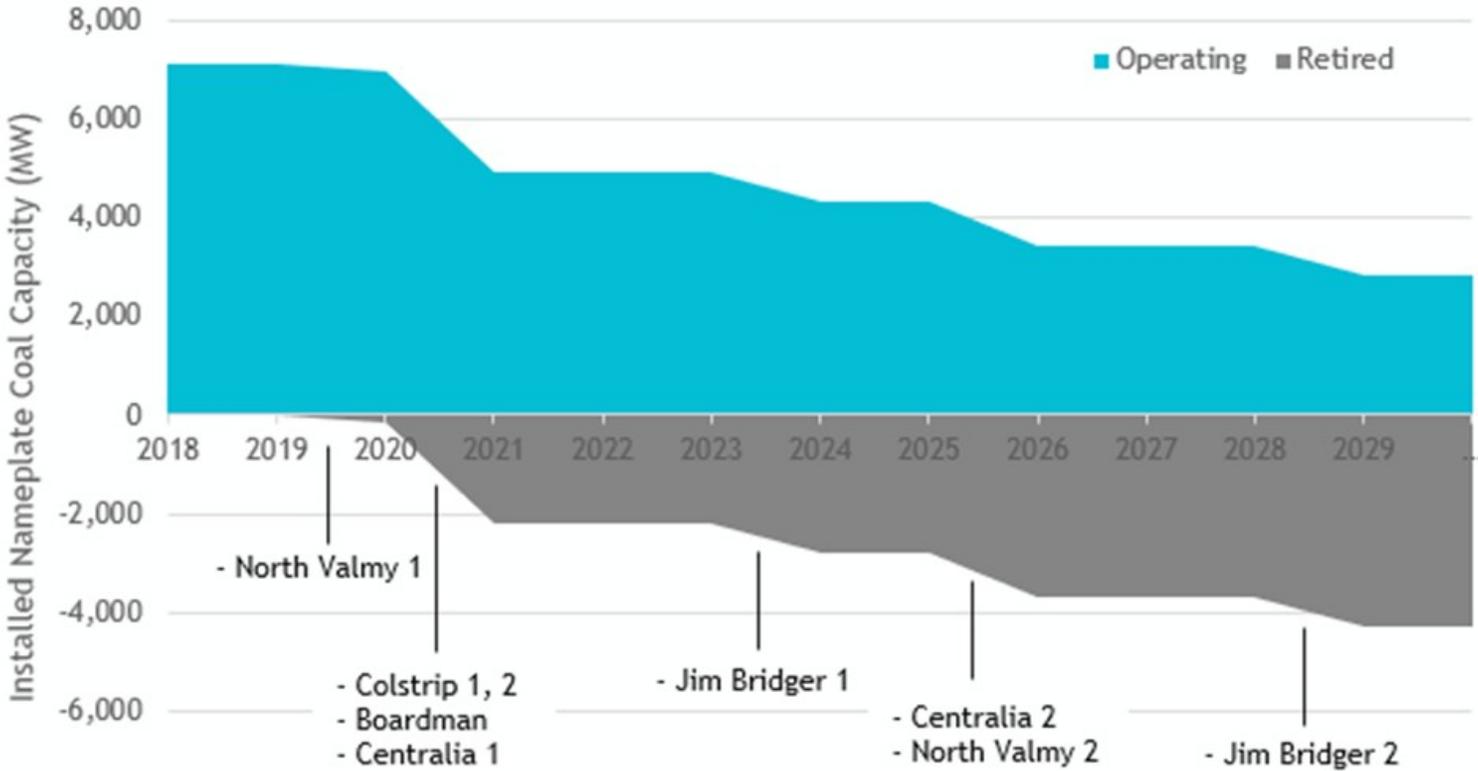
- Regularly scheduled public Council meetings throughout the region
- Public Advisory Committees  
System analysis, Resource adequacy, Load forecasting, Generating resources, Energy efficiency, Demand response, Natural gas, System integration
- Participation in other regional, national and international forums  
All stakeholders, Universities, Utilities, Utility commissions, NERC, IEEE, others



## Pacific Northwest Generating Capacity: 64,340 mw\*



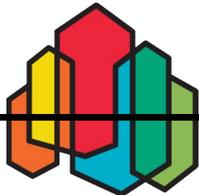
# Announced Coal Plant Retirements



# Transitioning from Historic to Climate Change Data

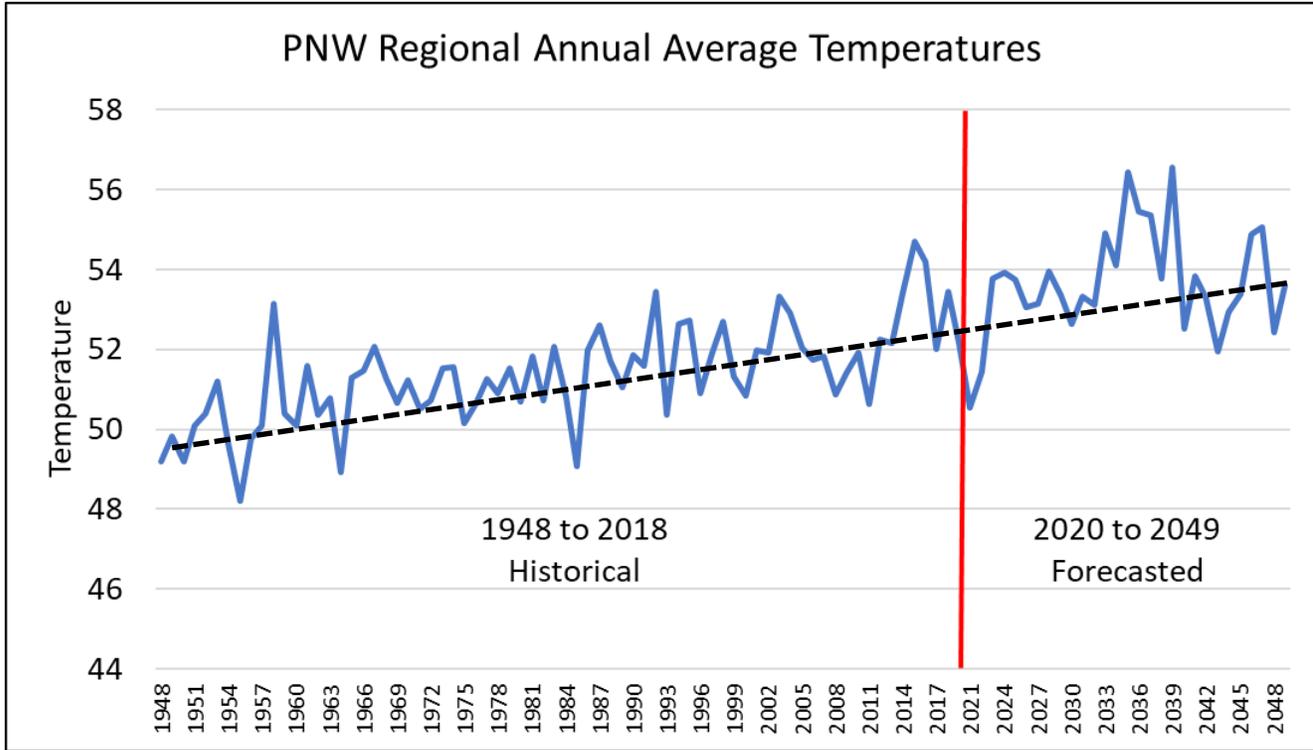
- Results from 10 GCM studies downscaled for the Pacific Northwest region
- Done by the River Management Joint Operating Committee (RMJOC):  
BPA, Corps, Bureau of Reclamation  
University of Washington and Oregon State University
- 2 downscaling methods and 4 hydrological models > 80 climate scenarios
- RMJOC chose 19 representative scenarios
- Council selected 3 of the 19 scenarios
- Link to the RMJOC report:

<https://www.bpa.gov/p/Generation/Hydro/hydro/cc/RMJOC-II-Report-Part-I.pdf>



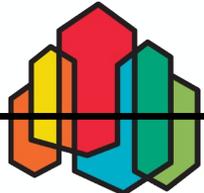
# Long-term Trends in Temperature 1949-2049

Historic (observed) 1949-2018 and Forecasted 2020-2049



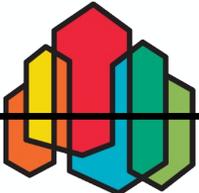
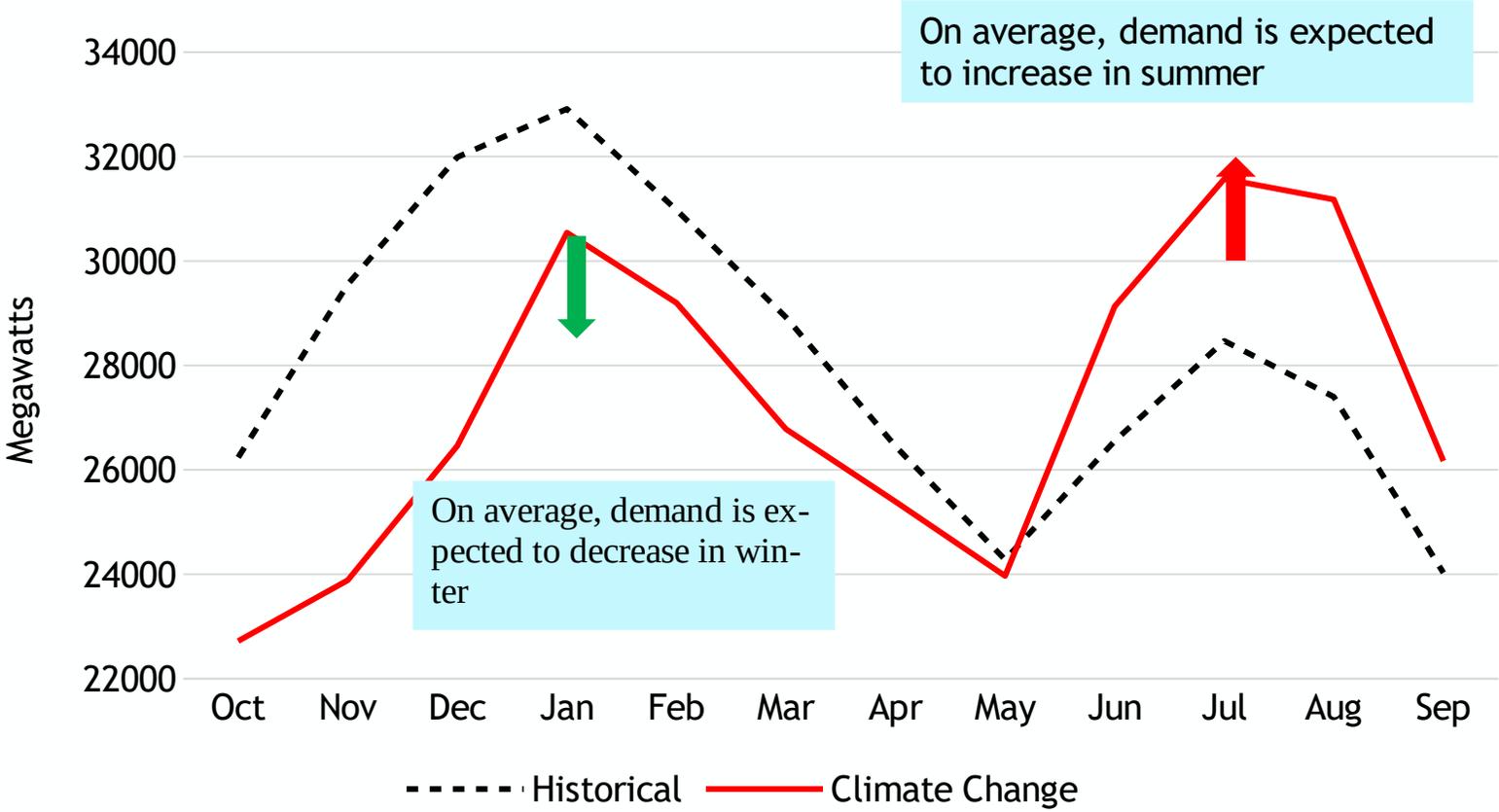
The data show a clear trend toward increasing annual temperatures without any indication of a discontinuity.

- Period Average Temp:**
- 1949-1978: 50.6 °F
  - 1979-2008: 51.7 °F
  - 2020-2029: 52.9 °F



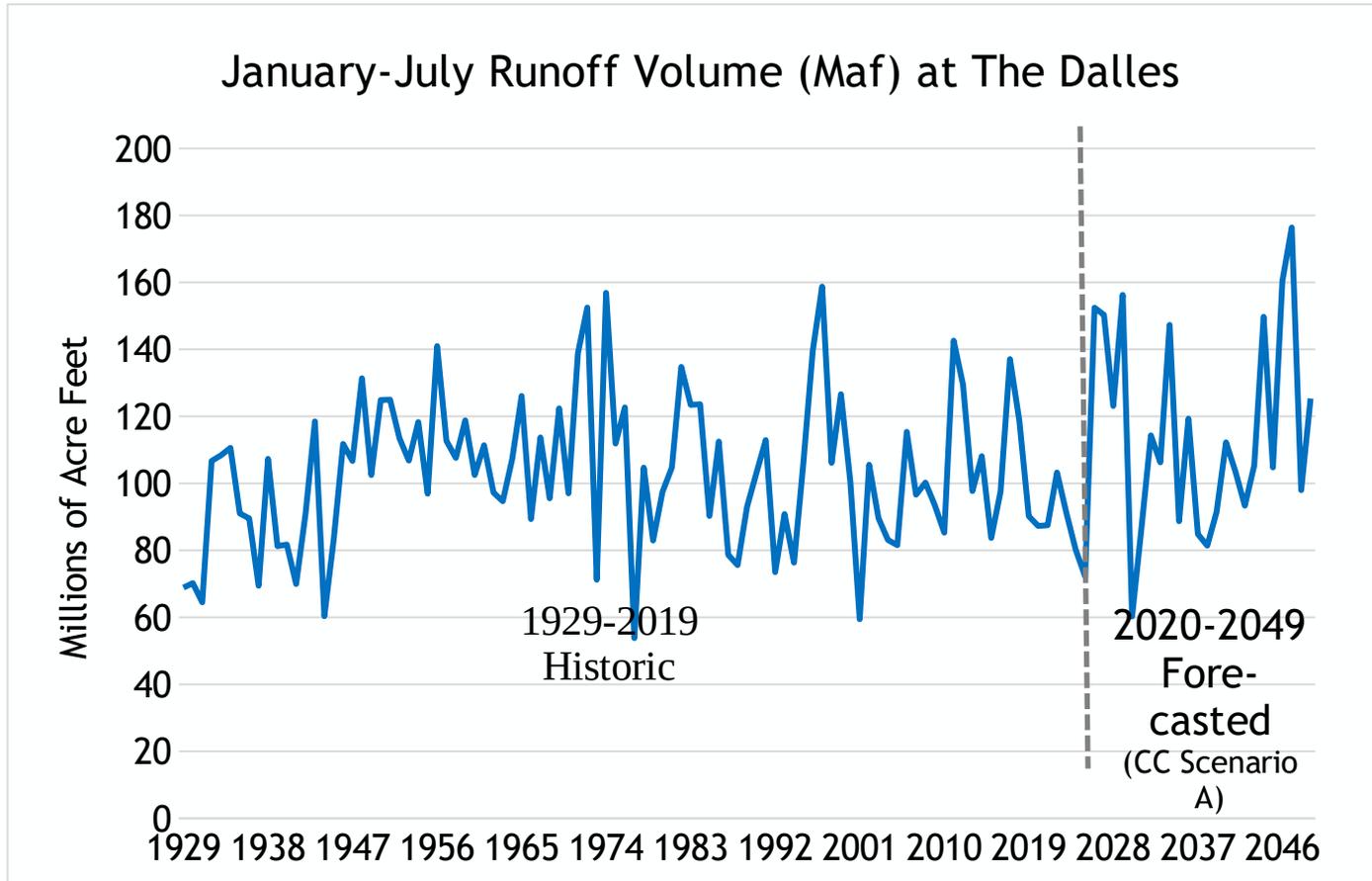
# Climate Change Shifts the Seasonality of Electricity Demand

Illustration of Climate Change Shift in Monthly Peak-Hour Demand



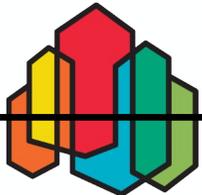
# Long-term Trends in Natural Flows

## January-to-July River Flow Volume (Maf)

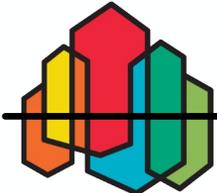
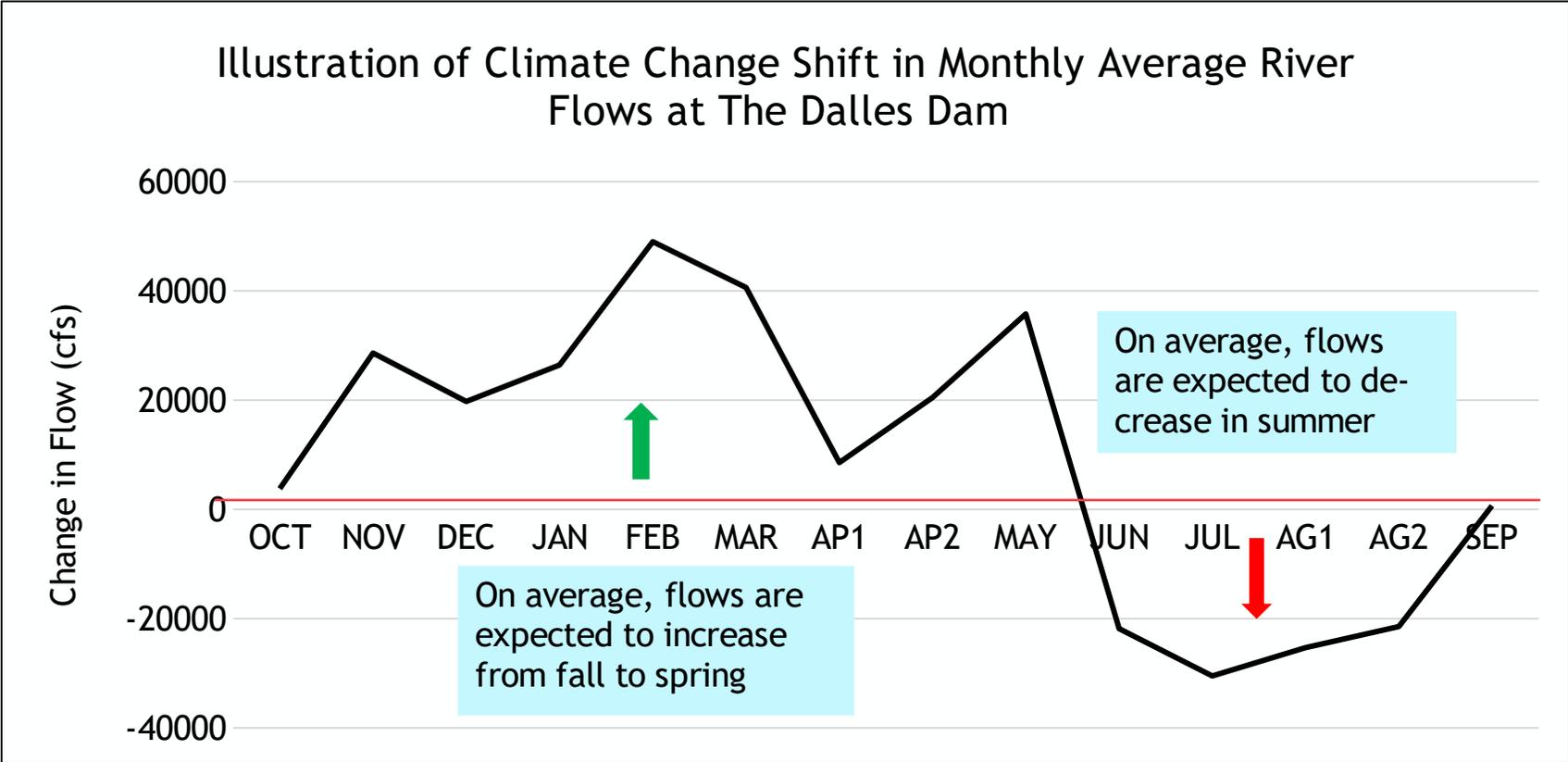


The data show no apparent trend in the January-to-July river flow volumes.

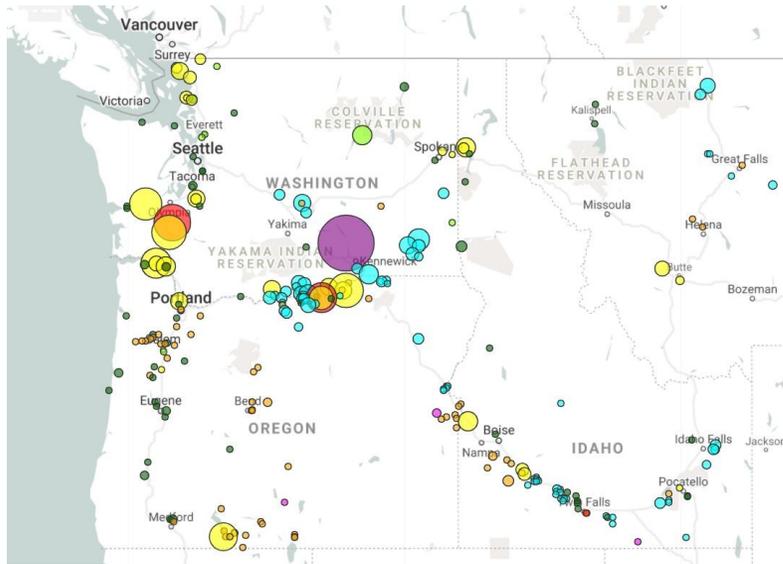
However, seasonal volumes shows a trend, with fall and winter volumes generally increasing and summer volumes decreasing (see next slide).



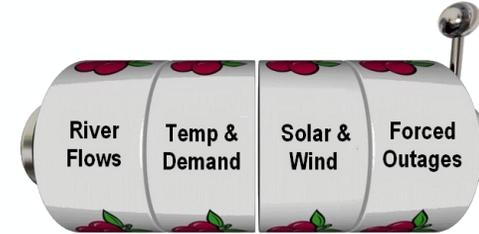
# Climate Change Shifts the Seasonality of River Flows



# Assessing Resource Adequacy for the PNW



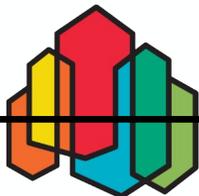
- **GENESYS**: Chronological hourly simulation of all PNW resources for one year
- Thousands of simulations with different combinations of future unknowns



The Council deems the power supply to be adequate if the likelihood of having one or more shortfalls in a future year is less than or equal to 5 percent (i.e.,  $LOLP \leq 5\%$ )

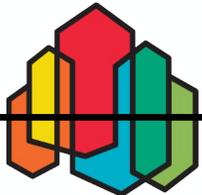
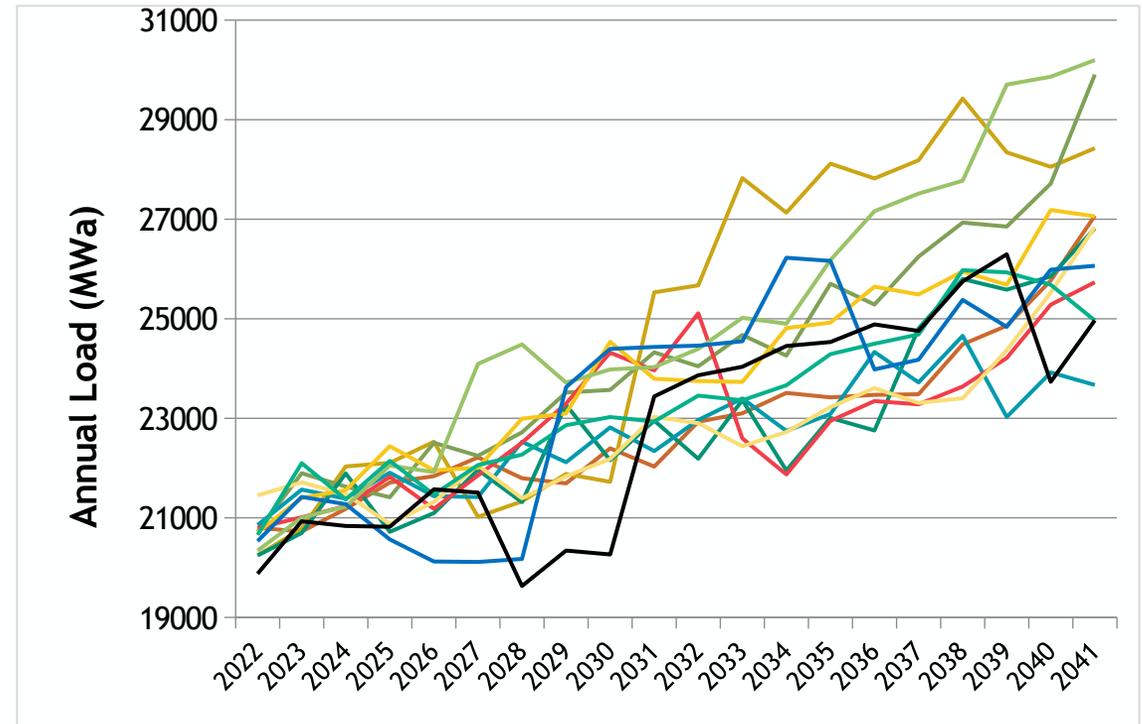
- Record all hours when load cannot be served
- Annual Loss of Load Probability:

$$LOLP = \frac{\text{Number of simulations with shortfalls}}{\text{Total number of simulations}}$$



# Adequacy and Resource Planning

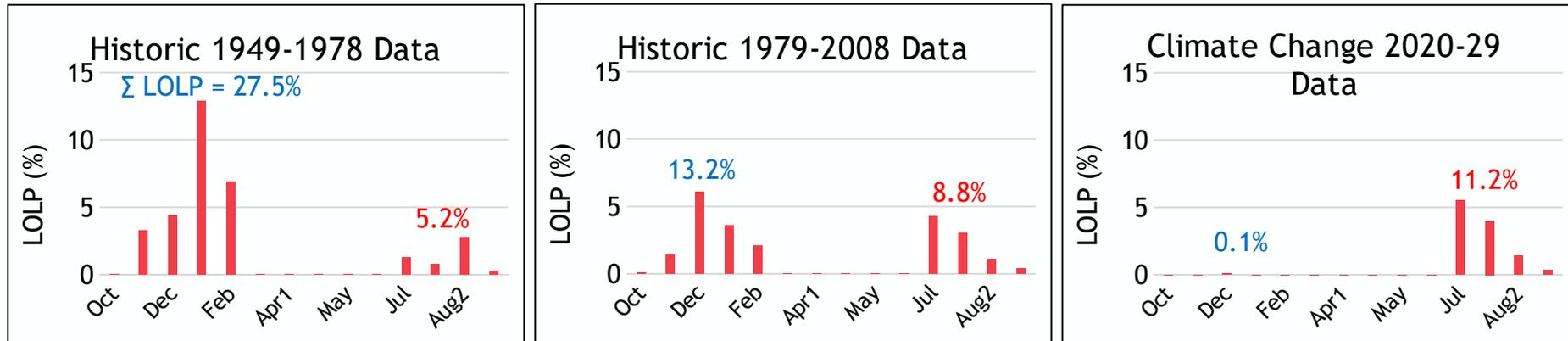
- The Council's resource expansion model (Regional Portfolio Model) uses a Monte-Carlo approach to develop the most economic resource buildout given uncertain future conditions
- The RPM uses an adequacy reserve margin (ARM), based on a 5% LOLP, to ensure that future power supplies are adequate
- Resources are acquired if they are:
  - required under clean-air laws
  - deemed to be profitable or
  - needed to meet the ARM threshold
- The effective capacity of every potential resource portfolio addition is estimated using an Effective Load Carrying Capacity array



# Effect of Climate Change on Resource Adequacy

## Seasonal Shift in Loss of Load Probability over Time

For illustration only - Not reflective of expected LOLP Values



For all studies, water year and temperature year (load) were in lockstep

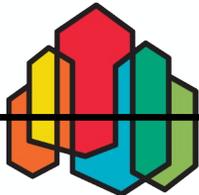
- Left chart uses historical data from 1949-1978 (30 years)
- Middle chart uses historical data from 1979 to 2008 (30 years)
- Right chart uses CC data from 2020-29 for three CC scenarios (30 years total)

Over time, total winter LOLP declines as total summer LOLP increases



# 2021 Power Plan Resource Strategy

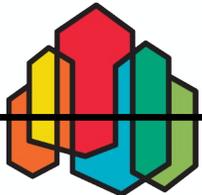
- The existing power supply should remain adequate through 2025 but with demand growth and coal plant retirements, the supply will become inadequate later in the decade
- 750 average megawatts of energy efficiency by 2027 and a minimum of 2,400 average megawatts by 2041
- 3,500 megawatts of renewable resources by 2027 (wind, solar, biomass, distributed generation, small hydro, etc.)
- Region should examine two demand response products
  - Residential Time-of-Use (TOU) rates and
  - Demand Voltage Regulation (DVR)
- Region should explore the potential costs and benefits of new market tools, such as capacity and reserves products, that contribute to system accessibility and efficiency



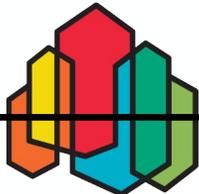
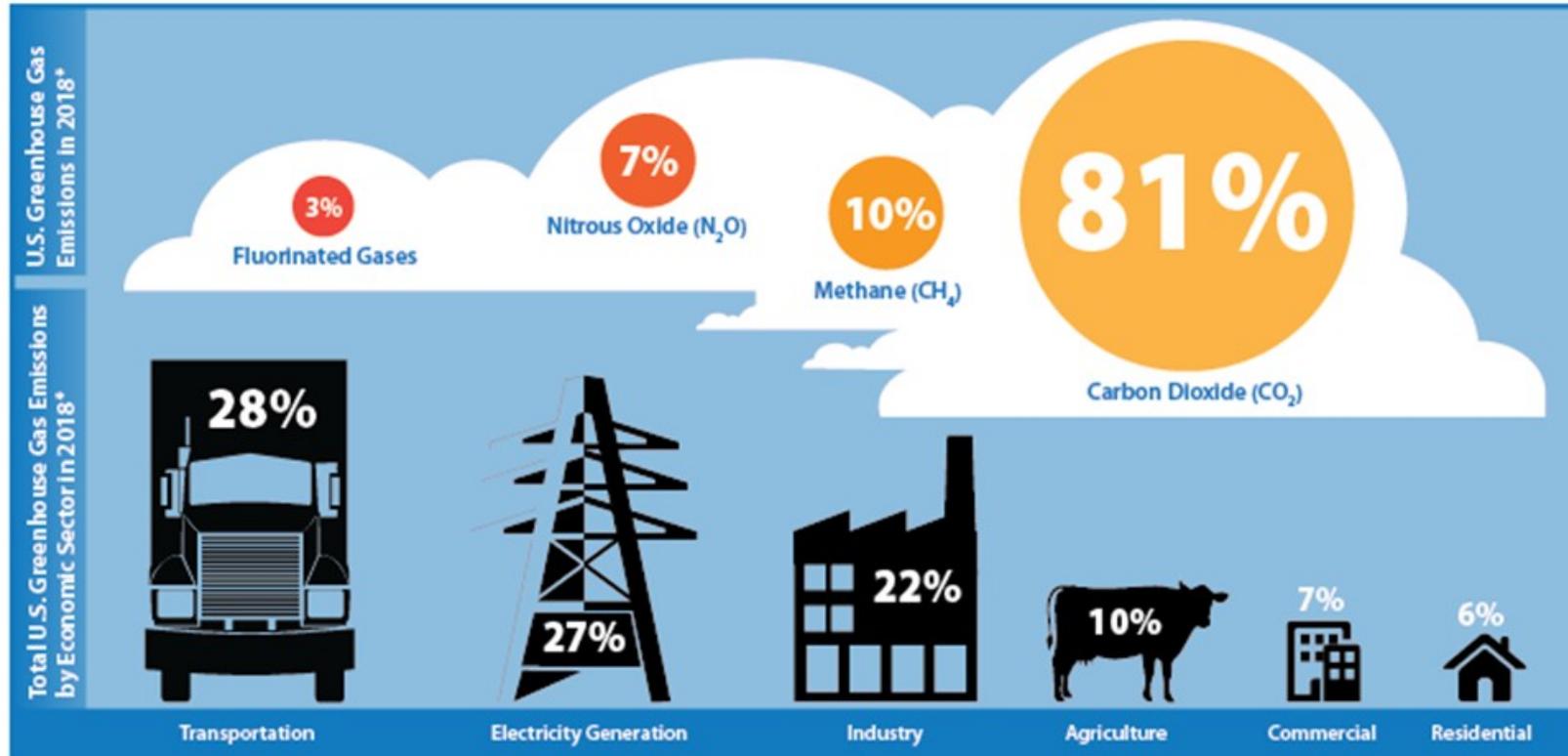
# Draft 2021 Power Plan

(Full available on line by Sep 14)

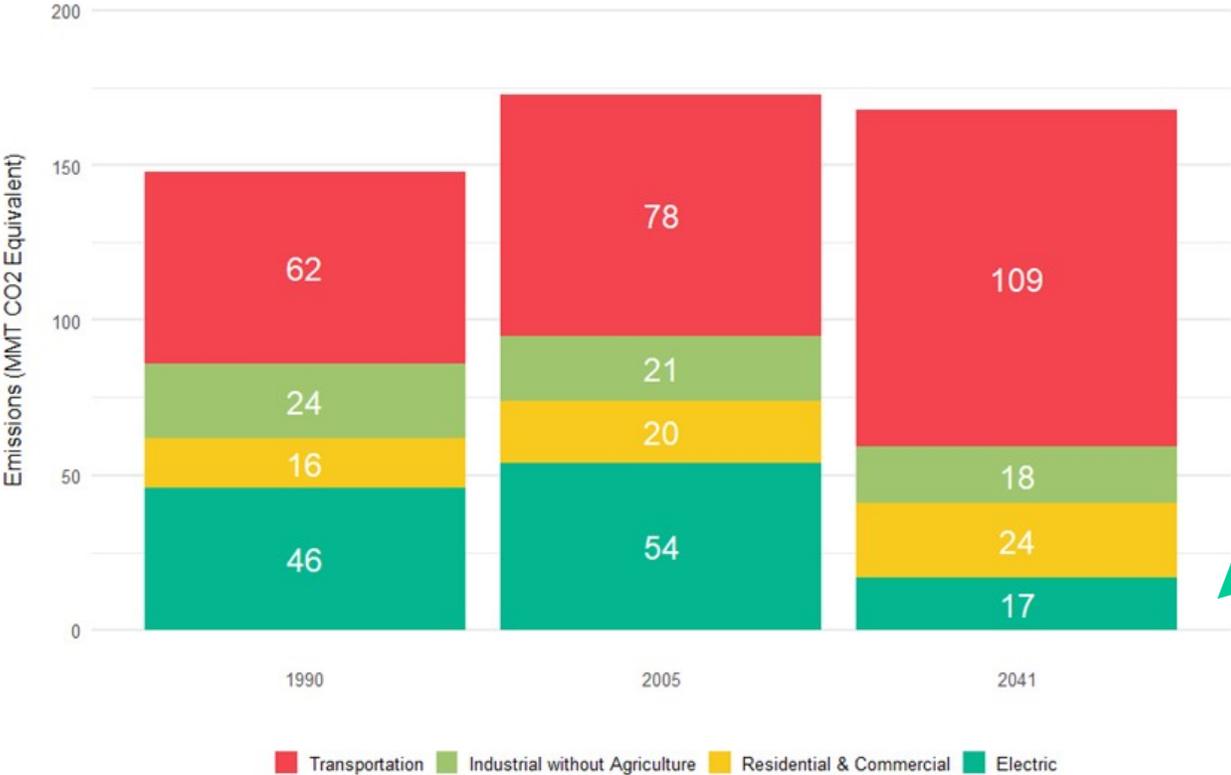
- 2021 Power Plan: <https://www.nwcouncil.org/2021-northwest-power-plan>
- Supporting material: [https://www.nwcouncil.org/2021powerplan\\_sitemap](https://www.nwcouncil.org/2021powerplan_sitemap)
- System Analysis section: TBA
  - Baseline
  - Early coal retirement
  - Pathways to decarbonization



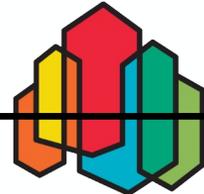
# Sources and Types of Greenhouse Gases (US)



# PNW Expected Sector Emissions (Baseline Conditions)

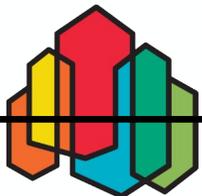


Even though emissions from the energy sector drop, those from transportation are expected to rise under baseline conditions.



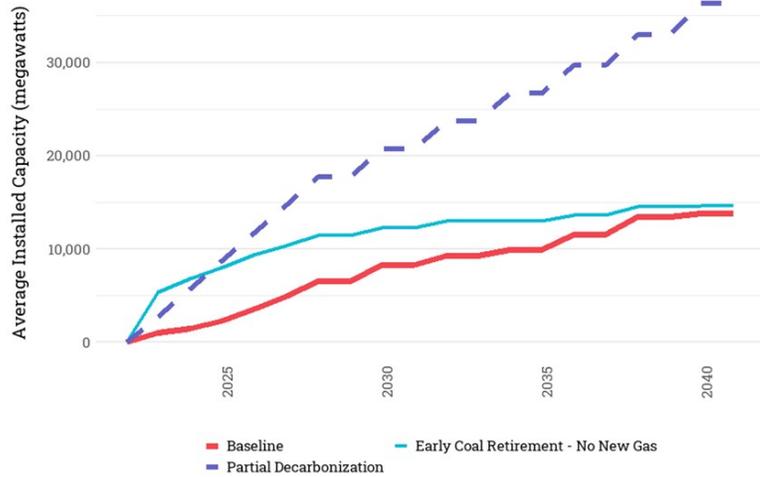
# 2021 Plan – Path to Decarbonization

- Electrification of transport and potentially the production of hydrogen through electrolysis yields a 27% emission reduction by 2040 but adds 12 GW of demand
- However, cannot get to the targeted reductions within the energy sectors using current technologies
- To test the impact on the resource strategy, the Council removed a substantial proportion of the demand associated with the production of hydrogen
- Policies the Council tested include replacing vehicles and appliances and equipment in homes, businesses, and manufacturing at an accelerated but possibly obtainable pace
- By 2040, this more moderate but still aggressive emission reduction increased the demand for electricity by just over 52 percent

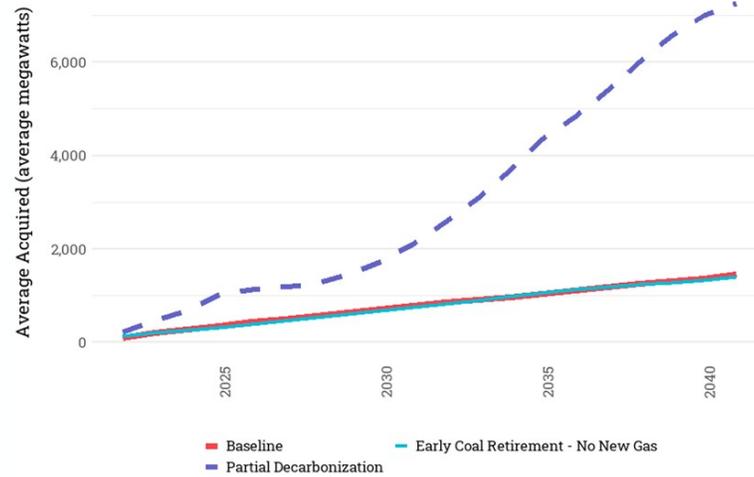


# Renewable, Energy Efficiency and Demand Response Buildout under the Path to Decarb scenario

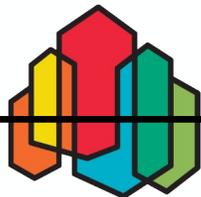
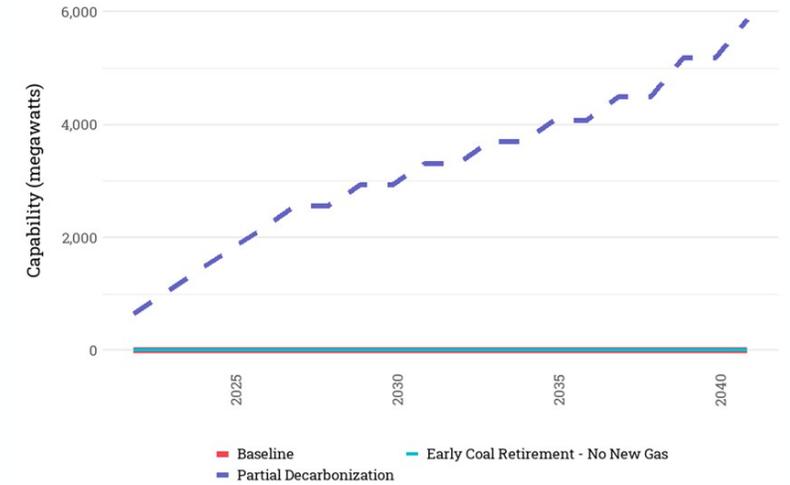
## Renewables



## Energy Efficiency

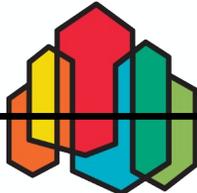


## Demand Response



# Pacific NW Emissions

Energy Used in Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Agriculture, and Electric Utilities



# Summary of Findings for the Decarb Scenario

- Without mitigation strategies, the region is projected to emit over 7 Billion metric tons of GHGs over the next 30 years, roughly same as what region emitted in the years between 1990-2021.
- Electrification could push loads to 300 percent of historic levels (from 20,000 aMW to about 67,000 aMW by 2050).
- The power sector alone, even under aggressive decarbonization strategies, cannot reach zero emissions by 2050.
- Improving efficiency of the power system post 2042 needs to occur to lower emissions further. This can further reduce loads by an estimated 30 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2050.
- Mitigation strategies in the non-energy sector allow for major reduction in emissions.
- With mitigation strategies, cumulative GHG emissions from 2022 to 2025 are lowered to 4 billion metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e.
- Freeing up agricultural, pastoral lands, and urban and rural forest can significantly reduce emissions up to 2.5 billion metric tons.
- Initiatives to return land to nature would help create natural carbon sinks, increase biological diversity above and below ground, increase water storage capability of land and reduce implication of drought.

