

Docket: : R.13-12-010  
Exhibit Number :  
Commissioner : Michael Picker  
Admin. Law Judge : David Gamson  
ORA Witnesses : Robert M. Fagan  
: Tommy Vitolo



**OFFICE OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES  
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**REPLY TESTIMONY OF  
ROBERT M. FAGAN AND TOMMY VITOLO,  
SYNAPSE ENERGY ECONOMICS, ON BEHALF  
OF THE OFFICE OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES**

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Integrate  
and Refine Procurement Policies and  
Consider Long-Term Procurement Plans  
Phase 1a

**R.13-12-010**

San Francisco, California  
December 18, 2014

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**I. INTRODUCTION.....1**  
Q1. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS TESTIMONY?.....1

**II. SUMMARY .....1**  
Q2. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY. ....1

**III. NO PROCUREMENT AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED .....2**  
Q3. EXPLAIN WHY YOU SUPPORT NO ADDITIONAL PROCUREMENT AUTHORIZATION AT THIS TIME.....2

**IV. CAISO STOCHASTIC MODELING .....4**  
Q4. WHAT DOES THIS SUBSECTION OF TESTIMONY ADDRESS? .....4  
Q5. PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE KEY RESULT OF THE CAISO STOCHASTIC ANALYSIS. ....4  
Q6. DOES THE CAISO RECOMMEND ADDITIONAL PROCUREMENT BASED ON THE HIGHER CAPACITY SHORTFALL SEEN IN ITS STOCHASTIC ANALYSIS? .....4  
Q7. WHAT LOAD INPUTS DID THE CAISO USE? .....5  
Q8. PLEASE COMMENT ON THE LOAD INPUTS.....5  
Q9. WHAT ARE THE SUMMARY RESULTS FROM THE CAISO’S MODELING? .....6  
Q10. WHAT CAN ONE OBSERVE FROM THESE RESULTS?.....7  
Q11. PLEASE IDENTIFY AND DISCUSS LIMITATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CAISO STOCHASTIC MODELING APPROACH AND EXECUTION.....8  
Q12. IN WHAT WAY ARE THE UNCAPPED LOAD INPUTS A CONCERN? .....8  
Q13. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE COMPARATIVE LOAD FORECAST VALUES SEEN IN TABLE 2. ....9  
Q14. IN WHAT WAY DOES THE ESTIMATION PROCESS ITSELF PRESENT CONCERNS? .....10  
Q15. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR CONCERN WITH THE RANDOM WALK ERROR PROPAGATION TERM.....10

**V. ADJUSTMENT BY CAISO – 58,000 MW LOAD CAP.....11**

Q16.	IN WHAT WAY IS THE CAISO’S POST-PROCESSING LOAD CAPPING ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM DEFICIENT? .....	11
Q17.	PLEASE EXPLAIN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE VALUES IN TABLE 3.....	12
Q18.	PLEASE EXPLAIN WHAT TABLE 3 INDICATES.....	12
Q19.	CAN YOU SHOW THE INCIDENCE OF CAPACITY SHORTFALL IN TERMS OF NUMBER OF HOURS WITH SHORTFALL, AND WHEN THOSE HOURS OCCUR?.....	13
Q20.	DOES THIS RECALCULATION REPRESENT ORA’S OPINION ON THE LEVEL OF CAPACITY SHORTFALL?.....	14
<b>VI.</b>	<b>SCE TESTIMONIES – SALIENT POINTS AND CRITIQUES .....</b>	<b>15</b>
Q21.	PLEASE IDENTIFY THE MAJOR CONCERNS YOU HAVE WITH THE STOCHASTIC ANALYSES PUT FORWARD BY SCE. ....	15
<b>VII.</b>	<b>CONCLUSIONS / NEXT STEPS .....</b>	<b>15</b>
Q22.	PLEASE IDENTIFY THE ONGOING TECHNICAL ISSUES AND DESCRIBE ADDITIONAL ANALYTICAL NECESSARY TO ANSWER OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS CONCERNING PROCUREMENT NEED ISSUES FOR 2024. ....	15
Q23.	WHAT ARE ORA’S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROCUREMENT AUTHORIZATION AT THIS TIME?.....	16
Q24.	WHAT ARE ORA’S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A PROCESS TO ADDRESS THESE ONGOING TECHNICAL ISSUES? .....	16
Q25.	DOES THIS COMPLETE YOUR TESTIMONY?.....	16

1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 **Q1. What is the purpose of this testimony?**

3 A. The primary purpose of this testimony is to reply to certain aspects of the  
4 Stochastic Study Testimonies submitted by Dr. Shucheng Liu and Dr. Karl Meeusen of  
5 the California Independent System Operation Corporation (CAISO) on November 20,  
6 2014. This testimony also briefly replies to Phase 1a testimonies submitted on November  
7 20, 2014 by various witnesses on behalf of Southern California Edison Company (SCE).<sup>1</sup>

8 **II. SUMMARY**

9 **Q2. Please summarize your testimony.**

10 A. The Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) concurs with SCE that no additional  
11 procurement authorization is needed at this time. While ORA does not agree with all  
12 inputs, methodological aspects, or results of the stochastic studies undertaken by SCE,  
13 ORA does agree that even if future analysis indicates additional procurement is necessary  
14 for the 2024 timeframe,<sup>2</sup> there will be sufficient time available to arrange such  
15 procurement after, or pursuant to, the 2016 Long-Term Procurement Planning (LTPP)  
16 process.

17 The CAISO’s stochastic studies use a form of stochastic variable estimation not  
18 previously seen in the LTPP proceedings. The effect of this use of stochastic variable  
19 estimation for load is a set of modeling inputs with exceedingly high peak load values  
20 during peak summer hours for many of the 500 iterations considered by CAISO when  
21 estimating “capacity shortfall.” The maximum values seen in the variable estimation  
22 greatly exceed the coincident peak values from the 2013 California Energy  
23 Commission’s (CEC) Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) load forecasts for both the

---

<sup>1</sup> Second Revised Phase 1a Testimony of Southern California Edison Company on Resource Need, (Exhibit (Ex.) SCE-1); Third Revised Appendix A – Technical Appendix for 2014 Long Term Procurement Plan High Load Scenario, (Ex.SCE-2); Revised Reply Testimony of Southern California Edison Company In Phase 1a (Ex. SCE-3); Revised Phase 1a Testimony of Southern California Edison Company on Resource Need – 2014 Long Term Procurement Plan Trajectory Scenario (Ex. SCE-4); Revised Technical Appendix for 2014 Long Term Procurement Plan Trajectory Scenario (Ex. SCE-5), Track 2 Stochastic Study Of 2012 Long Term Procurement Plan Trajectory Scenario (Ex. SCE-6). Exhibits SCE 1-6 were all served on November 20, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> As noted by SCE at SCE-1, p. 4: 1-2.

1 Trajectory and High Load Scenarios.<sup>3</sup> However, the initial estimation process for  
2 stochastic variables and the resulting Plexos modeling process places too much emphasis  
3 on extreme events and dramatically overestimates any true capacity shortfalls that might  
4 occur by 2024 even if the “high load” forecast for peak demand comes to pass. The  
5 analysis that produced these inputs – the “mean reversion” parametric estimation process  
6 is an interesting and useful first attempt at capturing the stochastic quality of load (and  
7 wind and solar) inputs, but one that requires further study.

8 The CAISO also presents “adjusted shortfall” results<sup>4</sup> that purportedly show the  
9 effect of computed shortfall amounts when “capping” the peak load values at 58,000  
10 megawatts (MW), rather than using the 66,720 MW maximum for the CAISO region  
11 load<sup>5</sup> developed with the stochastic load estimation process. However, this post-  
12 processing<sup>6</sup> adjustment does not account for the time-differentiation between the hour of  
13 peak load, generally occurring at 3 – 5 p.m. on the summer peak day, and the load at the  
14 hours during which the CAISO computes and reports most occurrences of capacity  
15 shortfall, 5 – 9 p.m., when load is generally a few thousand MW lower than seen at 3 – 5  
16 p.m. This failure to correct for the timing of peak load occurrence underestimates the  
17 reduction in magnitude and incidence of capacity shortfall that would otherwise occur  
18 when correcting for a forecast peak load cap.

### 19 **III. NO PROCUREMENT AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED**

#### 20 **Q3. Explain why you support no additional procurement authorization at** 21 **this time.**

22 A. ORA concurs with SCE’s finding that no additional procurement authorization is  
23 required at this time. The basis for this concurrence includes the results of the CAISO’s

---

<sup>3</sup> As seen in Forms 1.5b and 1.5d, for various scenarios, as posted in final form by the CEC in April, 2014. Available at [http://www.energy.ca.gov/2013\\_energypolicy/documents/demand-forecast\\_CMF/LSE\\_and\\_Balancing\\_Authority\\_Forecasts/](http://www.energy.ca.gov/2013_energypolicy/documents/demand-forecast_CMF/LSE_and_Balancing_Authority_Forecasts/).

<sup>4</sup> See Phase I.A. Stochastic Study Testimony of Dr. Shucheng Liu on Behalf of the California Independent System Operator Corporation, November 20, 2014 (Dr. Liu Stochastic Testimony) Table in Appendix A, p. 26, Table 13, 14.

<sup>5</sup> Maximum value, CAISO load, July 22, 2014, Hour 16.

<sup>6</sup> The post processing adjustment occurs after the completion of the Plexos model capacity shortfall estimation.

1 deterministic modeling, and Synapse’s modeling of the Trajectory Scenario modified by  
2 the inclusion of additional resources representing a portion of the 2012 LTPP Track 1 /  
3 Track 4 authorized resources, which the standard planning assumptions (SPA) for the  
4 Trajectory Scenario did not include.

5 SCE and the CAISO’s stochastic modeling methodologies, inputs, and findings  
6 require additional review and refinement of approach. As presented, the “capacity  
7 shortfall” amounts, if added to existing and planned procurements, would result in an  
8 extraordinary level of planning reserve margin in the CAISO region in 2024: 133.5%  
9 using CAISO’s 8,292 MW shortfall, 126.3% using SCE’s Trajectory Scenario analysis  
10 findings (2,300 MW net shortfall after accounting for all Track 1 and Track 4 resources  
11 not considered part of the SPA) and 132.8% using SCE’s High Load Scenario findings  
12 (5,600 MW net shortfall after accounting for the Track 1 / Track 4 resources not  
13 modeled).

14 The CAISO’s stochastic modeling methodologies are new to the LTPP  
15 proceeding. As currently considered, the methodology is highly complex and the results  
16 are not reproducible. The CAISO’s testimony describes the parametric estimation  
17 process defining the stochastic variables, but includes no additional detail (including  
18 regression results for the parameter estimation). As explained in the following section,  
19 the nature of the CAISO’s stochastic inputs is such that extreme values are generated by  
20 the parametric estimation process. The CAISO adjusts its modeling results *ex post*, by  
21 using a simple load-capping method to modify the results, purportedly addressing how  
22 the results would change if loads no higher than the 90/10 (i.e., 1-in-10, Form 1.5d) CEC  
23 IEPR values for high load were used.<sup>7</sup> But that adjustment mechanism does not correctly  
24 reflect the nature of load patterns between the peak period of mid-afternoon, and the later  
25 hours in the day when the modeling reveals capacity shortfall.

---

<sup>7</sup> 90/10 IEPR values are the 1 in 10, extreme weather peak load forecasts.

1 SCE states that even if its results – i.e., capacity shortfall in the Trajectory and  
2 High Load Scenario – were determined to be accurate in the next LTPP, there is  
3 sufficient time to procure additional resources.

#### 4 **IV. CAISO STOCHASTIC MODELING**

##### 5 **Q4. What does this subsection of testimony address?**

6 A. This section addresses the CAISO’s stochastic process for developing load inputs<sup>8</sup>  
7 that are used in the 500 iterations of the Plexos production cost modeling. The CAISO’s  
8 stochastic modeling results are driven by a set of inputs that result from the CAISO’s  
9 parametric estimation process, which includes at its core a regression analysis on nine  
10 years of historical load data (2003 – 2012).<sup>9</sup> This section first presents some of those key  
11 inputs and then summarizes the results. Finally, this section examines and discusses  
12 certain aspects of the modeling methodology.

##### 13 **Q5. Please summarize the key result of the CAISO stochastic analysis.**

14 A. The CAISO’s stochastic results show considerably higher levels of capacity  
15 shortfall than its deterministic results. The stochastic shortfall total (8,292 MW) far  
16 exceeds the deterministic total (1,489 MW). Both of these totals exclude any effect that  
17 up to 2,315 MW of additional procurement from 2012 LTPP Track 1 / Track 4 resources  
18 will have on modeled capacity shortfall.<sup>10</sup> The difference in estimated shortfall between  
19 these results appears to flow in large part from a stochastic load profile that presumes the  
20 possibility of much higher levels of load, relative to the deterministic profile.

##### 21 **Q6. Does the CAISO recommend additional procurement based on the** 22 **higher capacity shortfall seen in its stochastic analysis?**

23 A. No. The CAISO states that additional deterministic analysis is needed to gauge  
24 possible flexibility need masked by the original deterministic analysis.<sup>11</sup> The CAISO

---

<sup>8</sup> The CAISO also developed wind and solar inputs using a similar parametric estimation process. I focus on the load inputs in this testimony.

<sup>9</sup> Dr. Liu Stochastic Testimony, Appendix A, pp. 8-13.

<sup>10</sup> The Standard Planning Assumptions exclude these resources.

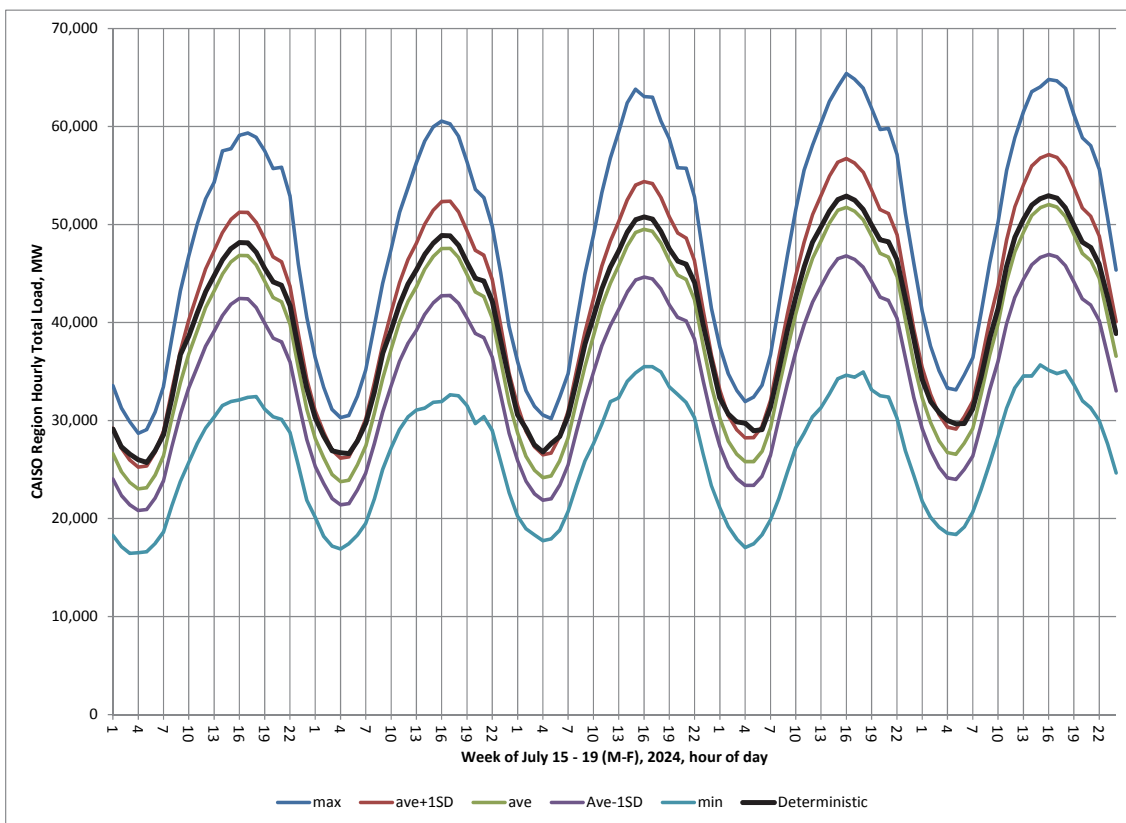
<sup>11</sup> Phase I.A. Stochastic Study Testimony of Dr. Karl Meeusen on Behalf of the California Independent System Operator Corporation, November 20, 2014 (Dr. Meeusen Stochastic Testimony), p. 9: 8-15.

1 states that the stochastic analysis provides “context and support”<sup>12</sup> for the deterministic  
2 results. The CAISO notes that its stochastic study can be used when “balancing costs of  
3 additional procurement against...service reliability.”<sup>13</sup>

4 **Q7. What load inputs did the CAISO use?**

5 A. Figure 1 below shows an example of the pattern of load used by the CAISO as inputs  
6 to its modeling process. It shows load during the highest peak load period of the  
7 year.

8 **Figure 1. CAISO Stochastic Load Parameters, and Deterministic Profile, Peak July Week**



9

10 **Q8. Please comment on the load inputs.**

11 A. The CAISO’s parametric estimation process that creates a stochastic load variable  
12 produces the load inputs. The graph shows the load inputs for the 500 iterations,  
13 including average (mean) load, the load levels that are plus/minus one standard deviation  
14 from the mean, and the maximum and minimum values. These are seen for each hour of

<sup>12</sup> Dr. Liu Stochastic Testimony, p. 14: 11-12; Dr. Meeseun Stochastic testimony, p. 10: 21-22.

<sup>13</sup> Dr. Liu Stochastic Testimony, p. 14: 15-18.



1 the period of Monday July 15<sup>th</sup> through Friday July 19<sup>th</sup> 2024. This period coincides with  
2 roughly half of all capacity shortfall hours seen during the entire year in CAISO’s  
3 stochastic modeling.<sup>14</sup> The weekday periods in July and August make up roughly 89% of  
4 the total hours with capacity shortfall seen during 2024, thus this graph is representative  
5 of the stochastic load input patterns seen for most hours with capacity shortfall.

6 **Q9. What are the summary results from the CAISO’s modeling?**

7 A. Table 1 below shows the results for capacity shortfall from the modeling.

8

9 ///

10 ///

11 ///

12

---

<sup>14</sup> Synapse, review of entirety of capacity shortfall results as posted in CAISO’s file, “ISO Stochastic Results\_20141125.xls”.

1

**Table 1. Results of CAISO Stochastic Modeling**

Hourly Incidence of Capacity Shortfall (MW) Greater than 0													
Month	Hour of Day (Hour ending)										Total	% by month	
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	Other hours 11-13, 23-24			
May					1			4			-	5	0.1%
June				13	24	49	17	17	9		-	129	1.3%
July	110	230	478	920	1,527	1,952	1,160	1,130	668		187	8,362	84.2%
August	2	7	30	131	379	324	167	171	37		7	1,255	12.6%
Sept			1	9	52	27	43	26			-	158	1.6%
Oct					2	2	9	1			-	14	0.1%
Nov					6	5	1				-	12	0.1%
Grand Total	112	237	509	1,073	1,991	2,359	1,397	1,349	714		194	9,935	100.0%
% of hours	1.1%	2.4%	5.1%	10.8%	20.0%	23.7%	14.1%	13.6%	7.2%		2.0%	100.0%	100.0%
yellow highlight total:											93.7%		
Total iteration-hours:											4,392,000		
% hours with shortfall:											0.23%		
Average of Capacity Shortfall (MW) in hours with Shortfall Greater than 0													
Month	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	Other hours 11-13, 23-24	Total		
May					0			0				0	
June				1,216	1,994	1,899	1,650	1,307	853			1,664	
July	1,238	1,923	2,299	2,658	3,082	3,206	2,763	2,732	2,332			2,771	
August	384	1,964	1,468	1,653	1,981	1,783	1,520	1,511	1,455			1,730	
Sept			948	718	1,565	1,620	1,448	1,288				1,445	
Oct					489	1,004	706	1,268				758	
Nov					468	577	781					539	
Grand Total	1,223	1,924	2,247	2,501	2,807	2,958	2,546	2,523	2,267			2,597	
Maximum of Capacity Shortfall (MW) in hours with Shortfall Greater than 0													
Month	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	Other hours 11-13, 23-24	Total		
May					0			0				0	
June				2,361	4,948	6,462	3,688	3,437	1,735			6,462	
July	7,584	10,182	13,317	15,297	16,408	15,879	13,419	13,037	10,759			16,408	
August	736	4,577	8,110	9,435	9,543	9,308	6,815	6,527	4,602			9,543	
Sept			948	2,550	5,164	3,868	3,996	3,574				5,164	
Oct					675	1,361	3,555	1,268				3,555	
Nov					1,058	1,460	781					1,460	
Grand Total	7,584	10,182	13,317	15,297	16,408	15,879	13,419	13,037	10,759			16,408	

2

3 Source: CAISO posting of full results, "ISO Stochastic Results\_20141125.xls" tabulation by Synapse.

4 **Q10. What can one observe from these results?**

5 A. Table 1 above illustrates a number of patterns. First, capacity shortfall occurs for  
 6 9,935 hours, or 0.23% of the total hours modeled (4.39 million hours, equal to 8,784  
 7 hours per year, times 500 iterations). On a normalized basis, this equates to 19.9 hours

1 per year of capacity shortfall, as noted by Dr. Liu.<sup>15</sup> Those hours are concentrated in July  
2 and August, during the hours ending 15 through 22 (93.7% of the total number of hours  
3 with any shortfall), with the highest portion during hour 19 in July. The table also shows  
4 that maximum shortfall amounts are concentrated in July during these hours.

5 **Q11. Please identify and discuss limitations associated with the CAISO**  
6 **stochastic modeling approach and execution.**

7 A. There are at least three aspects of the CAISO stochastic modeling that are of  
8 concern. Further study is required to determine if there are additional concerns; for  
9 example, the effect of forced outages on the results is not available from the CAISO.<sup>16</sup>

10 First, the load inputs are not capped in any way to account for the CEC IEPR  
11 forecast values. Second, the estimation process itself produces model inputs based on a  
12 regression analysis whose details are not provided, and which may produce biased  
13 estimates of the parameter, especially for later hours of the day. Additional examination  
14 and stakeholder vetting of this process should be instituted before using these modeling  
15 results for any procurement authorization.

16 Third, the CAISO's post-modeling adjustment to the capacity shortfall values,  
17 which attempts to correct for extremely high load values, is flawed as it does not account  
18 for the time period differences between when load is expected to peak (2 – 5 p.m.), and  
19 when capacity shortfalls are seen (1 p.m. to midnight, but concentrated in the hours of  
20 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.).

21 The first two of these concerns are addressed in this subsection and the last  
22 concern is addressed in the next subsection of this testimony.

23 **Q12. In what way are the uncapped load inputs a concern?**

24 A. The load inputs for many of the iterations include very high CAISO-region  
25 coincident peak forecast values, well beyond coincident peak values estimated by the  
26 CEC in the 2013 IEPR, even for “high load” scenarios. Table 2 below shows a

---

<sup>15</sup> Dr. Liu Stochastic Testimony, p. 11: 8.

<sup>16</sup> Response of Dr. Liu to question posed at the December 2, 2014. workshop on stochastic simulation results.

1 comparison between the CAISO’s stochastic parameters, parameters used in its  
 2 deterministic modeling, and the SPA values and a selection of CEC 2013 IEPR values.

3 **Table 2**  
 4 **Comparative Load Values – Stochastic and Deterministic Modeling,**  
 5 **SPA, CEC 2013 IEPR Peak Load**

Load Case	CAISO Coincident Peak, MW	Time of Peak	Comments
Stochastic Modeling, Maximum Peak Load	66,720	HR End 16, 7/22/2024	Iteration # 466
Stochastic Modeling, Load at Max Capacity Shortfall	62,609	HR End 19, 7/22/2024	Iteration # 466
Standardized Planning Assumption	Mid-load, Mid-AAEA. 51,003 MW from Scenario Tool.	Not specified	Deterministic modeling based on this assumption.
Deterministic Modeling, Maximum Peak Load	52,935	HR End 15, 7/19/2024	Adjusted for AAEA, small PV. Associated with SPA
IEPR 1 in 2, Mid Case, Mid AAEA	51,003	Not specified	Form 1.5b statewide
IEPR 1 in 10, Mid Case, Mid AAEA	55,361	Not specified	Form 1.5d statewide
IEPR 1 in 10, Mid Case, Low-Mid AAEA	57,412	Not specified	Form 1.5d statewide
IEPR 1 in 2, High Load Case, mid AAEA	53,964	Not specified	Form 1.5b statewide
IEPR 1 in 10, High Load Case, mid AAEA	58,589	Not specified	Form 1.5d statewide
IEPR 1 in 10, High Load Case, low AAEA	60,607	Not specified	Form 1.5d statewide

6 Source: IEPR load values: April 2014 posting of final load forecast data forms. Note: CAISO Adjusted non-coincident peak  
 7 load, Trajectory Scenario, reported as 53,349 MW (Dr. Liu, Direct Testimony Phase 1a, Table 7, page 23).

8 **Q13. Please explain the comparative load forecast values seen in Table 2.**

9 A. Table 2 illustrates the fundamental divergence of the CAISO’s stochastic load  
 10 input values from the CEC’s peak load forecast estimates for 2024. The CAISO’s  
 11 parametric estimation process does not correct, adjust, or otherwise account for the  
 12 differences in forecast peak values between its process, and that of the CEC, which also  
 13 used sophisticated regression analyses. The disparity between the values produced by

1 each forecast must be reconciled before giving any weight to the CAISO’s stochastic  
2 analysis results in making procurement authorization decisions.<sup>17</sup>

3 **Q14. In what way does the estimation process itself present concerns?**

4 A. Some of the problems associated with applying the mean reversion process can be  
5 seen in the load data presented in the CAISO’s testimony.<sup>18</sup> Figure 5 of Dr. Liu’s  
6 Appendix A data (page 12) is a histogram of the generated load data, compared with the  
7 historic data set. Although it is stated that “the two set of data match significantly” they  
8 differ in major ways at the low and high ends of the distribution, with those iteration  
9 values for load appearing with much higher probabilities. This indicates a potential  
10 methodological problem that needs to be addressed, through close examination of the  
11 parametric estimation results, and investigation of alternative forms of specifying the  
12 stochastic variable. This is especially important because the more extreme situations  
13 appear to be driving the results.

14 **Q15. Please describe your concern with the random walk error propagation**  
15 **term.**

16 A. The way that the stochastic random walk process is implemented magnifies the  
17 error term effects for higher values. This is because the stochastic variable is generated  
18 in a normalized form and then multiplies a reference value. Thus, the absolute error is  
19 greater with higher values. How reasonable this is depends on how the statistics were  
20 developed for the stochastic variable. If they were generated based on a normalized data  
21 series, then this would introduce a bias in the results. When using a normalized  
22 stochastic load variable, the absolute error term scales with load – e.g., it gets larger in  
23 the later afternoon hours of the summer. Further study is necessary to determine the  
24 proper stochastic formulation for representing the characteristics of the historic data  
25 series.

---

<sup>17</sup> ORA notes that “The CPUC has identified the *Integrated Energy Policy Report* (IEPR) process as “the appropriate venue for considering issues of load forecasting, resource assessment, and scenario analyses, to determine the appropriate level and ranges of resource needs for load serving entities in California,”” from page 9, Chapter 1 of the *California Energy Demand, 2014-2024 Final Forecast, Volume 1: Statewide Electricity Demand, End User Natural Gas Demand, and Energy Efficiency*. CEC-200-2013-004-SF-V1, December 2013.

<sup>18</sup> Dr. Liu Stochastic Testimony, Appendix A, p. 12.

1 **V. ADJUSTMENT BY THE CAISO – 58,000 MW LOAD CAP**

2 **Q16. In what way is the CAISO’s post-processing load capping adjustment**  
3 **mechanism deficient?**

4 A. The CAISO’s load capping adjustment mechanism fails to fully capture the effect  
5 of a lower peak load, one that would be considered capped at 58,000 MW for modeling  
6 purposes. A CAISO-region coincident peak load at 58,000 MW, occurring between 2  
7 and 4 p.m., implies lower hourly load values at later hours in the afternoon and early  
8 evening. The CAISO’s adjustment recalculates<sup>19</sup> the capacity shortfall only if the load  
9 exceeds 58,000 MW in the hour in which the shortfall is reported. However, it does not  
10 remove from the results any hours where the load is less than 58,000 MW, even though  
11 on that day, for that iteration, the load may have exceeded 58,000 MW at the peak hour,  
12 usually between 3 to 5 p.m.<sup>20</sup>

13 Table 3 below shows the results for an alternative load capping process, one with  
14 peak load values capped at 58,000 MW for peak load hours at 3 – 4 p.m. (these iterations  
15 will have loads less than 58,000 MW during the predominate shortfall hours of 6 – 9 p.m.).

16 ///

17 ///

18 ///

---

<sup>19</sup> The CAISO’s posted results for the stochastic modeling. The CAISO identifies hours with load greater than 58,000MW, and then reduces the “capacity shortfall” by the difference between the reported load, and 58,000 MW.

<sup>20</sup> The CAISO region historical peak (between 1998 and 2013) has occurred during summer months between roughly 2:30 and 5 p.m. (see, e.g., “California ISO Peak Load History, 1998 through 2013,” available at <https://www.aiso.com/Documents/CaliforniaISOPeakLoadHistory.pdf>). While forecasted net peak load (i.e., load net of wind and solar output) will be shifting to later hours, especially because of the presence of small-scale solar resources, LTPP deterministic modeling inputs for 2024 includes small-scale solar resources on the supply side, and thus summer peak load as represented in the CAISO’s stochastic modeling in Plexos still occurs during this earlier afternoon window. Figure 1 of this testimony illustrates the peak load periods for the week of July 15, 2024, with maximums occurring between 3 – 5 p.m.

1  
2  
3

**Table 3**  
**Recalculated Capacity Shortfall**

<b>Reliability Standard Considered: Hours per 1-Year</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>2.4</b>
<b>Top Down Iteration to Determine Shortfall</b>	<b>51st</b>	<b>351st</b>	<b>1201st</b>
Recalculated Capacity shortfall after removing iterations w/ Hour 15 or Hour 16 Peak Load > 58,000 MW	8,402	5,648	3,732
CAISO Original Result, MW Capacity Shortfall	11,822	8,292	5,414
Recalculated shortfall as % of CAISO Original Result	71%	68%	69%
CAISO Adjusted Results w/ 58,000 MW Load Cap	10,635	7,660	5,158
Recalculated shortfall as % of CAISO's adjusted results	79%	74%	72%

4 Source: Synapse filtering of CAISO results, based on removing iterations with hour 15 or hour 16 July 19<sup>th</sup> load  
5 greater than 58,000 MW.  
6

7 **Q17. Please explain the development of the values in Table 3.**

8 A. Table 3 uses the full set of posted CAISO results that listed the capacity shortfall  
9 incidence for 9,935 different hours across the 500 iterations. It also relies on the CAISO-  
10 posted load input data, which contained the hourly load for each of 500 iterations. First,  
11 ORA identified any iteration that contained an hour 15 or hour 16 (2 – 4 p.m.) load for  
12 July 19<sup>th</sup> that exceeded 58,000 MW. July 19<sup>th</sup> is the single day of the year with the  
13 highest peak load. This included 62 separate iterations, essentially representing the  
14 portion of the iterations with the highest load level. Next, ORA filtered the results to  
15 exclude these iterations, and then recalculated the capacity shortfall at the 51<sup>st</sup>, the 351<sup>st</sup>,  
16 and the 1201<sup>st</sup> level, in the same manner as the CAISO did with the original results.

17 **Q18. Please explain what Table 3 indicates.**

18 A. Table 3 indicates that when using the CAISO’s method for estimating capacity  
19 shortfall based on different reliability criteria, and using the CAISO’s stochastic analysis  
20 results, lower levels of capacity shortfall result if only the results of iterations with load  
21 capped at 58,000 MW are used. In this instance, the amount of shortfall is lower than the  
22 CAISO’s original results. Instead of 8,292 MW shortfall for the 0.7 hours-in-one-year  
23 “standard,” the results indicate 5,648 MW of shortfall. For the 2.4 hours-in-one-year

1 “standard,” the results show 3,732 MW shortfall, instead of the original result of 5,414  
2 MW. The table also shows that recalculated shortfall amounts are only 72 – 79% of what  
3 the CAISO indicated with its adjustment that was stated by the CAISO as accounting for  
4 a 58,000 MW load cap.<sup>21</sup>

5 **Q19. Can you show the incidence of capacity shortfall in terms of number of**  
6 **hours with shortfall, and when those hours occur?**

7 A. Yes. Table 4 shows the same information as provided in Table 1, but for the  
8 recalculated capacity shortfall dataset.

9

10 ///

11 ///

12 //

13

---

<sup>21</sup> Dr. Liu Stochastic Testimony, Appendix A, p. 25. “For hours with a capacity shortfall, if the stochastic load value was higher than the limit, the amount in excess of the limit was reduced from the shortfall.”



**Table 4**  
**Results of the CAISO's Stochastic Modeling with Synapse Recalculation**  
**of Capacity Shortfall Level**

Hourly Incidence of Capacity Shortfall (MW) Greater than 0													
	Hour of Day (Hour ending)												
Month	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Grand Total
May						1			4				5
June					10	19	38	16	16	8			107
July	3	26	93	256	588	1068	1434	765	748	381	33	2	5397
Aug	1	2	7	28	119	335	280	151	154	32	6		1115
Sept				1	8	43	22	36	21				131
Oct						2	2	8	1				13
Nov						5	5	1					11
Grand Total	4	28	100	285	725	1473	1781	977	944	421	39	2	6779
													0.18%
													15.5

Average of Capacity Shortfall (MW)													
Month	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Grand Total
May						0			0				0
June					1,151	1,950	1,970	1,529	1,174	793			1,617
July	69	306	868	1,377	1,872	2,449	2,614	2,135	2,085	1,631	418	64	2,174
Aug	61	384	1,964	1,527	1,681	2,029	1,845	1,558	1,539	1,590	190		1,774
Sept				948	757	1,562	1,667	1,394	1,344				1,445
Oct						489	1,004	688	1,268				750
Nov						561	577	781					588
Grand Total	67	311	945	1,390	1,819	2,310	2,460	1,996	1,954	1,612	383	64	2,079

Max of Capacity Shortfall (MW)													
Month	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Grand Total
May						0			0				0
June					2,361	4,801	6,462	3,688	3,063	1,735			6,462
July	141	2,260	4,226	6,420	9,167	11,319	11,822	9,437	10,077	7,342	1,939	109	11,822
Aug	61	736	4,577	8,110	9,435	9,543	9,308	6,815	6,527	4,602	993		9,543
Sept				948	2,550	5,164	3,868	3,996	3,574				5,164
Oct						675	1,361	3,555	1,268				3,555
Nov						1,058	1,460	781					1,460
Grand Total	141	2,260	4,577	8,110	9,435	11,319	11,822	9,437	10,077	7,342	1,939	109	11,822

Source: Synapse recalculation of capacity shortfall results.

**Q20. Does this recalculation represent ORA's opinion on the level of capacity shortfall?**

A. No. This recalculation only indicates that the results as presented by the CAISO do not adequately adjust for load capping concerns. As one example of the type of changes that could be considered, if a stochastic estimation process were to cap peak load at, say, 58,000 MW, then a full set of 500 iterations would involve many more iterations (e.g., 62 more, to make up for those higher-load iterations screened out in this recalculation) with peak load lower than 58,000 MW than is reflected in this recalculation of capacity shortfall incidence and magnitude.

1 **VI. SCE TESTIMONIES – SALIENT POINTS AND CRITIQUES**

2 **Q21. Please identify the major concerns you have with the stochastic**  
3 **analyses put forward by SCE.**

4 A. SCE’s method of “stratified sampling” requires additional development. It is  
5 unclear from SCE’s testimony exactly why SCE chose to stratify sampling in the way  
6 that it did. For example, in Figure IV-5 of Exhibit SCE-2 (Technical Appendix to the  
7 High Load Scenario analysis) SCE lists the “Number of Net Load Day Samples” from  
8 defined “Stratification” groups, but it does not support why they chose the number of  
9 samples presented in that table. Also, SCE does not support its contention that the “high  
10 load” forecast is better than the “trajectory” forecast for planning need requirements. As  
11 part of the ongoing assessment of stochastic methods, stakeholders must evaluate SCE’s  
12 input assumptions before the Commission can rely on this approach for future  
13 procurement authorization.

14 **VII. CONCLUSIONS / NEXT STEPS**

15 **Q22. Please identify the ongoing technical issues and describe additional**  
16 **analytical necessary to answer outstanding questions concerning**  
17 **procurement need issues for 2024.**

18 A. Additional exploration of stochastic modeling methods is required. Both the  
19 CAISO and SCE stochastic methods require further investigation to determine whether or  
20 not the modeling constructs reasonably predict 2024 patterns, and whether or not  
21 planning reserve margin (PRM) potentially on the order of 130% is truly necessary. A  
22 PRM equal to roughly 130% far exceeds the 115 - 117% margin that is the current  
23 guideline for LTPP processes.

24 Additional deterministic modeling is required to understand (1) how Track 1 /  
25 Track 4 authorizations not included in the SPA will affect procurement need, and (2) how  
26 renewable curtailment issues identified in the CAISO’s initial Phase 1a modeling can be  
27 resolved.

1 **Q23. What are ORA's recommendations for procurement authorization at**  
2 **this time?**

3 A. ORA recommends that the Commission find that no additional procurement  
4 authorization is required at this time.

5 **Q24. What are ORA's recommendations for a process to address these**  
6 **ongoing technical issues?**

7 A. ORA recommends that the Commission modify the scope of the Phase 1b  
8 proceedings to allow for further exploration of stochastic methods used to assess potential  
9 capacity need. ORA supports the nine-point plan set forth by Administrative Law Judge  
10 (ALJ) Gamson at the December 9<sup>th</sup> Status Conference meeting.

11 **Q25. Does this complete your testimony?**

12 A. Yes.

# **APPENDIX A**

## Witness Qualifications

**PREPARED TESTIMONY AND QUALIFICATIONS  
OF ROBERT M. FAGAN**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30

**Q. Please state your name, position and business address.**

A. My name is Robert M. Fagan. I am a Principal Associate with Synapse Energy Economics, Inc., 485 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139. I have been employed in that position since 2005.

**Q. Please state your qualifications.**

A. My full qualifications are listed in my resume, on the following pages. I am a mechanical engineer and energy economics analyst, and I have examined energy industry issues for more than 25 years. My activities focus on many aspects of the electric power industry, especially economic and technical analysis of electric supply and delivery systems, wholesale and retail electricity provision, energy and capacity market structures, renewable resource alternatives including on-shore and off-shore wind and solar PV, and assessment and implementation of energy efficiency and demand response alternatives. I hold an MA from Boston University in Energy and Environmental Studies and a BS from Clarkson University in Mechanical Engineering. I have completed additional course work in wind integration, solar engineering, regulatory and legal aspects of electric power systems, building controls, cogeneration, lighting design and mechanical and aerospace engineering.

**Q. Have you testified before the CPUC before?**

A. Yes. I testified in Track 1 and Track 4 of the R.12-03-014 proceeding, and in the A.11-05-023 SDG&E Resource Adequacy proceeding. I have been involved in California renewable energy integration and related resource adequacy issues as a consultant to the ORA since the late fall of 2010. I have also testified in numerous state and provincial jurisdictions, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), on various aspects of the electric power industry including renewable resource integration, transmission system planning, resource need, and the effects of demand-side resources on the electric power system.

1 **Q. On whose behalf are you testifying in this case?**

2 A. I am testifying on behalf of the California Public Utilities Commission's Office of  
3 Ratepayer Advocates (ORA).

4

**PREPARED TESTIMONY AND QUALIFICATIONS  
OF THOMAS VITOLO, PhD**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30

**Q1. Please state your name, position and business address.**

A1. My name is Tommy Vitolo. I am an Associate with Synapse Energy Economics, Inc., 485 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139. I have been employed in that position since 2011.

**Q2. Please state your qualifications.**

A2. My full qualifications are listed in my résumé, on the following pages. I am a mathematician and energy economics analyst. I have been employed in the energy industry for four years, and was employed as a mathematician with a focus on stochastic processes and graph theory for four years prior to that. My activities focus on many aspects of the electric power industry, especially economic and technical analysis of electric supply and delivery systems, energy and capacity market structures, the modeling of intermittent generating resources, renewable resources, and distributed energy resources.

I hold a PhD from Boston University in systems engineering; a MSc in financial and industrial mathematics from Dublin City University, Ireland; and bachelor of science degrees in applied mathematics, computer science, and economics from North Carolina State University.

**Q3. Have you testified before the CPUC before?**

A3. No. I have filed expert testimony before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina regarding the calculation of costs and benefits of distributed energy resources, and the Missouri Public Services Commission on an integrated resource planning matter. I have reviewed and critiqued the numerical analysis, modeling, and decision strategies of resource plans and certificate of public convenience and necessity applications submitted by utilities located in Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

1 **Q4. On whose behalf are you testifying in this case?**

2 A4. I am testifying on behalf of the California Public Utilities Commission's Office of  
3 Ratepayer Advocates (ORA).

4