

NERC

NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

Reliability Impacts of Inverter Based Technology

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December 8, 2025

RELIABILITY | RESILIENCE | SECURITY



Rapidly Changing Resource Mix

- Retirements of traditional generation
- Natural gas interdependencies
- Inverter-Based Resource (IBR) integration
- DER performance and visibility



Extreme Weather Complexities

- Extreme not infrequent
- Broader deeper longer



Energy & Environmental Policy

- Electrification
- Emissions
- Transmission

2



Rapidly Evolving Threat Landscape

- S/W vulnerabilities
- Supply chain
- Ransomware
- Physical attacks



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Fuel assurance/uncertainties

- Natural gas
- Renewables

Loss of key “essential reliability services” with retirements

- Inertia/frequency response
- Reactive Power/voltage support
- Dispatchability

Appropriate level of investment in infrastructure for hardening & resilience

- Extreme weather
- Coordinated Physical attack
- Insufficient transfers

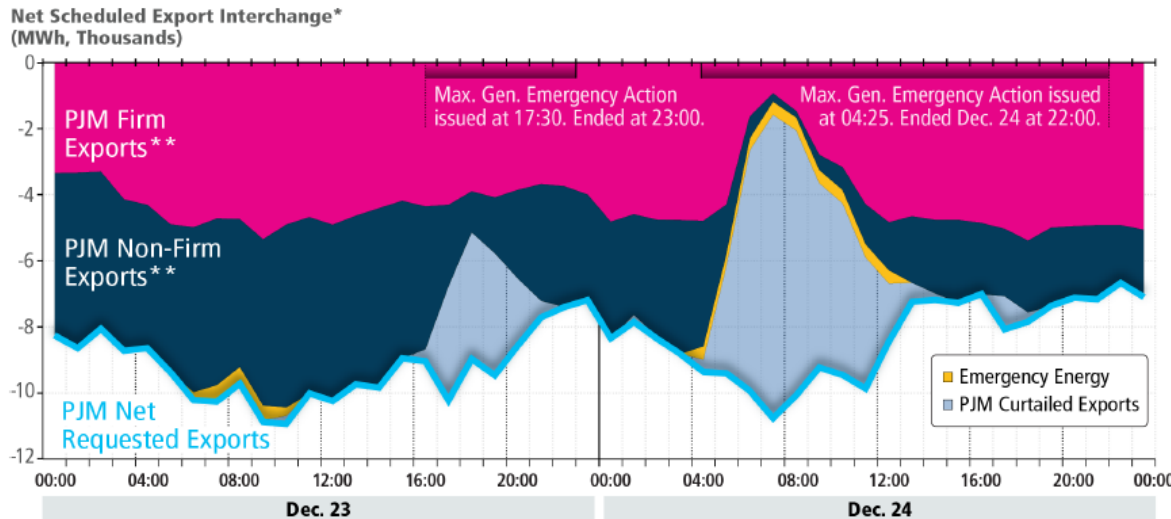
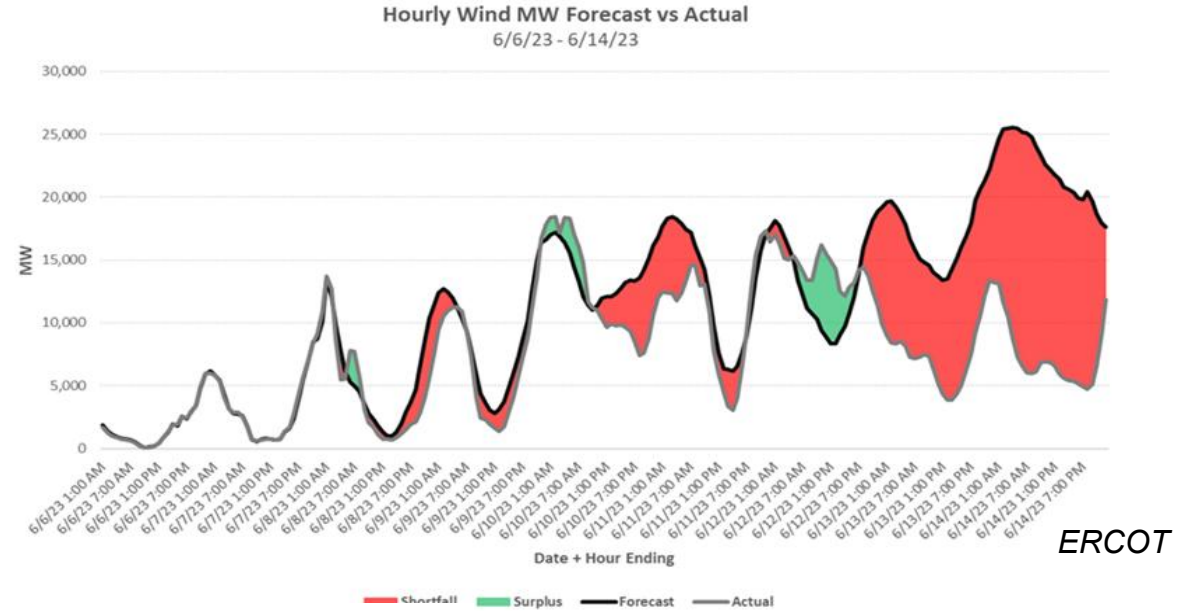
Expanding cyber attack surface

- Industry Control Systems (ICSs)
- IBRs/DERs/EV Charging

Sophistication of recent cyber attacks

- SolarWinds (one to many)
- Pipedream, Industroyer malware

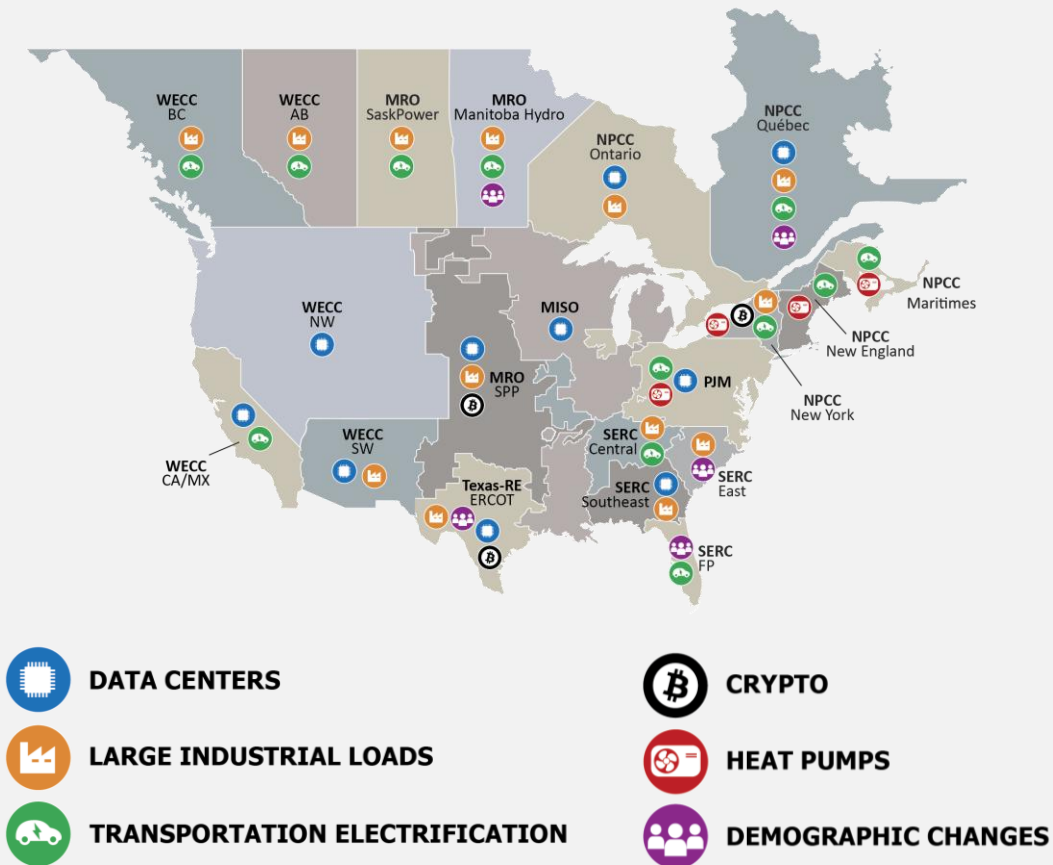
ERCOT, SPP, MISO: A “wind drought” caused 60 GW of installed wind capacity to generate 300 MW



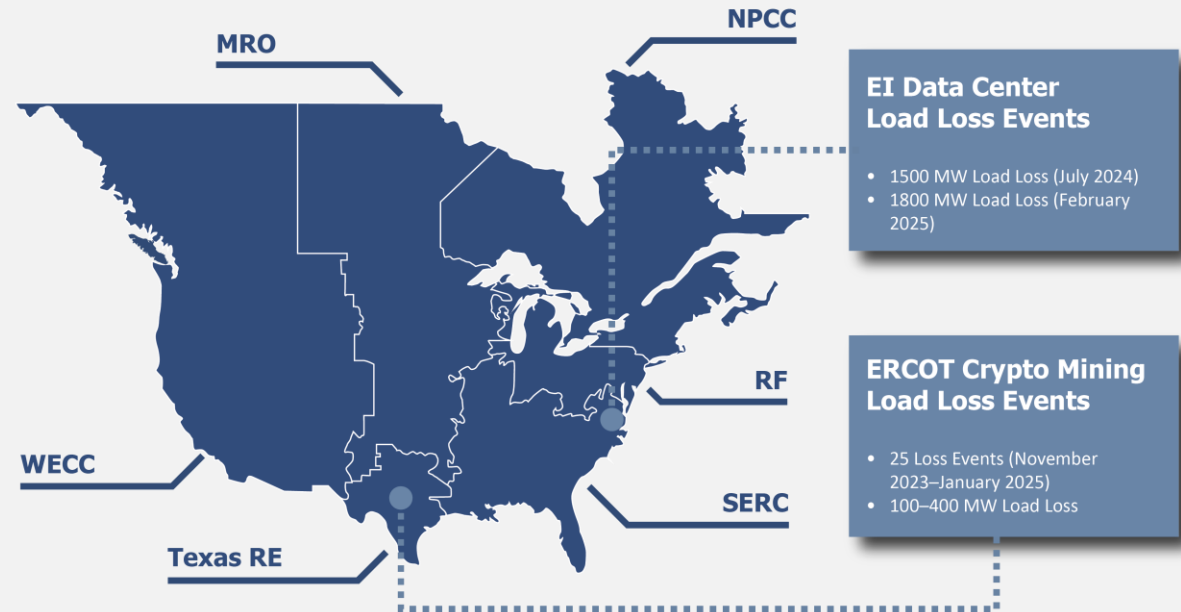
PJM: Transmission system during extreme cold weather limited the ability to export to support southern neighbors



Rapid Growth



System Events



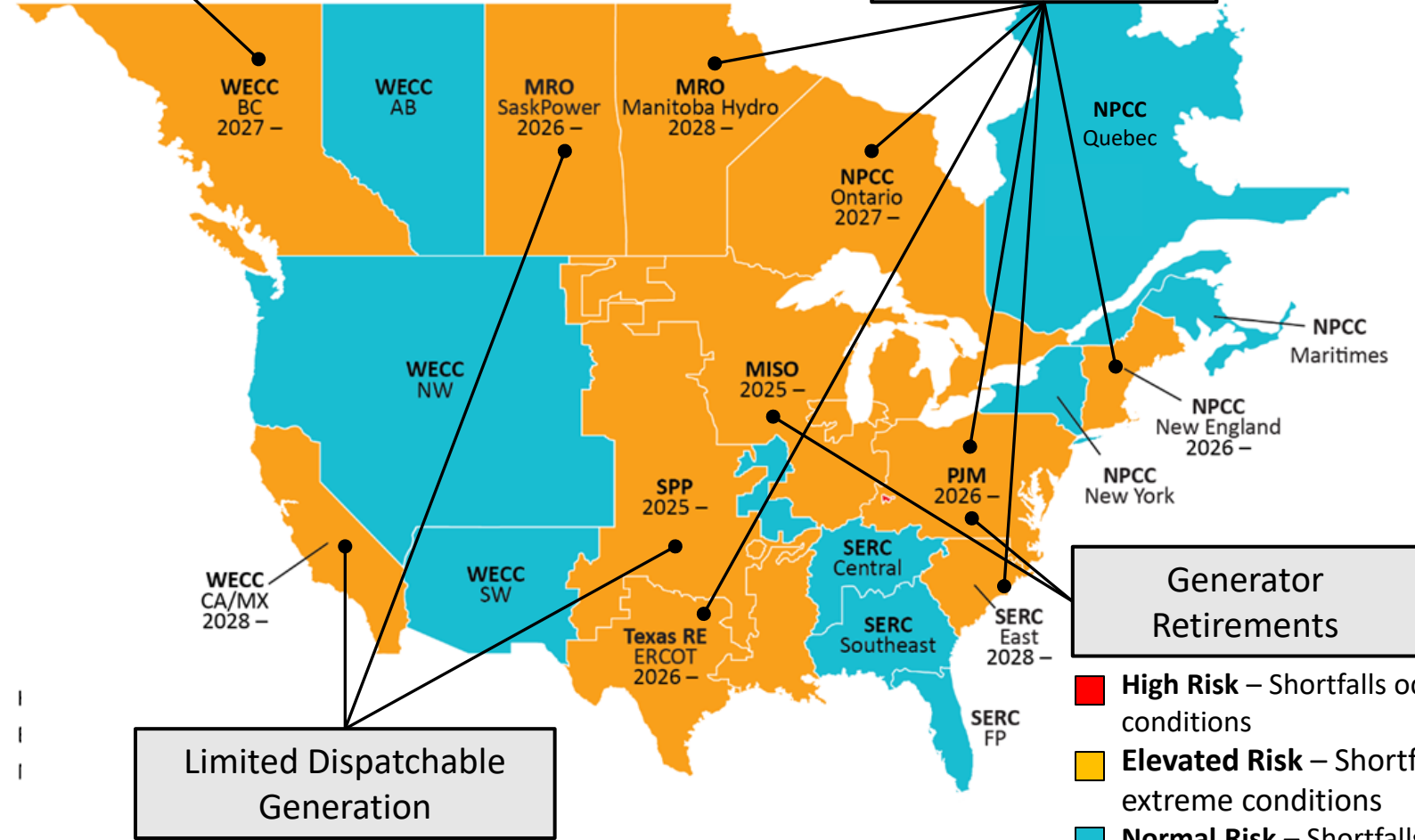
Imports at risk in Extreme Cold Weather

Demand Growth

Assessment Inputs:

- Probabilistic Assessment (Studied Years 2026 and 2028)
- Planning Reserve Margins (2025 through 2029)

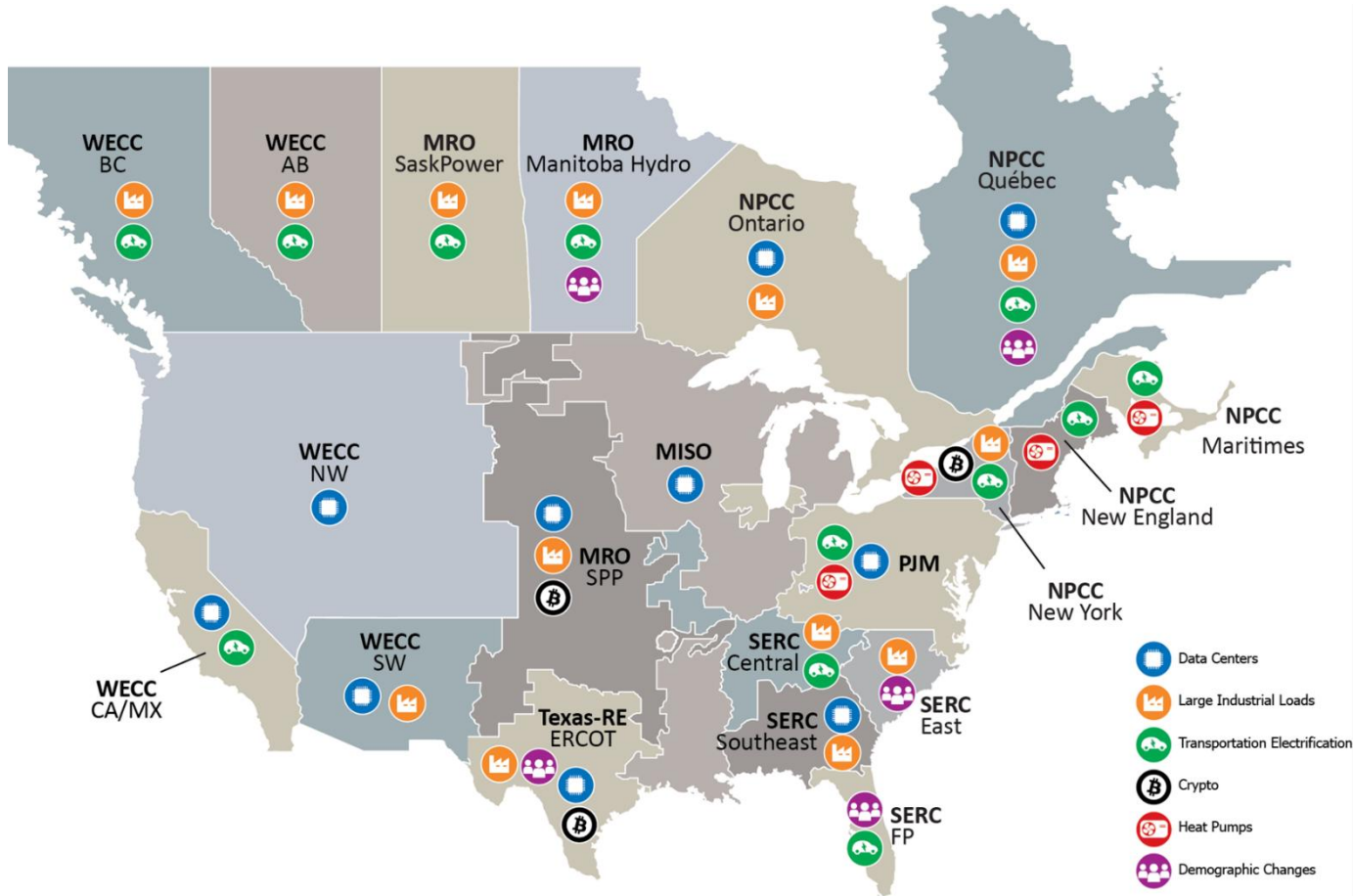
Risk determination based on established resource adequacy criteria (1-day-in-10 years) and [NERC-National Academy of Engineering Workshop Report](#) criteria for load-loss and unserved energy



Generator Retirements

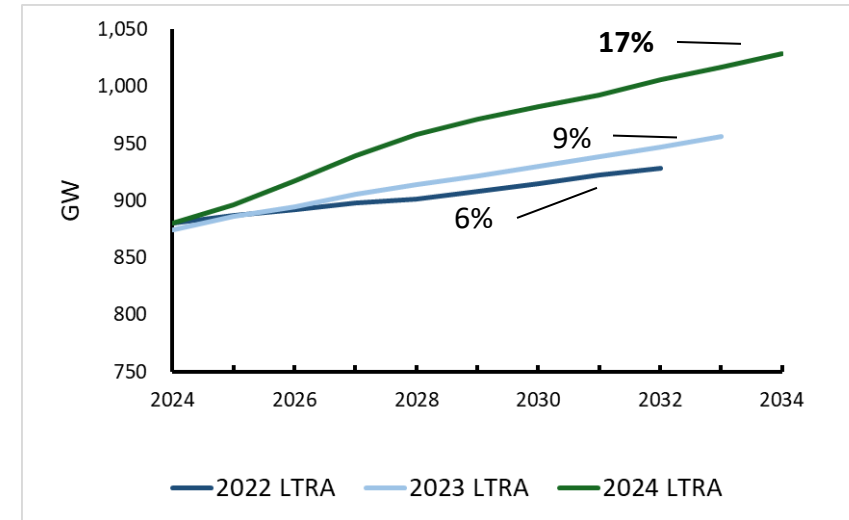
- **High Risk** – Shortfalls occurring in normal peak conditions
- **Elevated Risk** – Shortfalls occurring in extreme conditions
- **Normal Risk** – Shortfalls not expected under studied conditions

Risk Map | with Primary Driver and Initial Shortfall Year



Demand Growth Drivers

Reported by planners in each assessment area



10-year BPS Summer Peak Demand Growth

With 10-year Growth From Previous LTRA

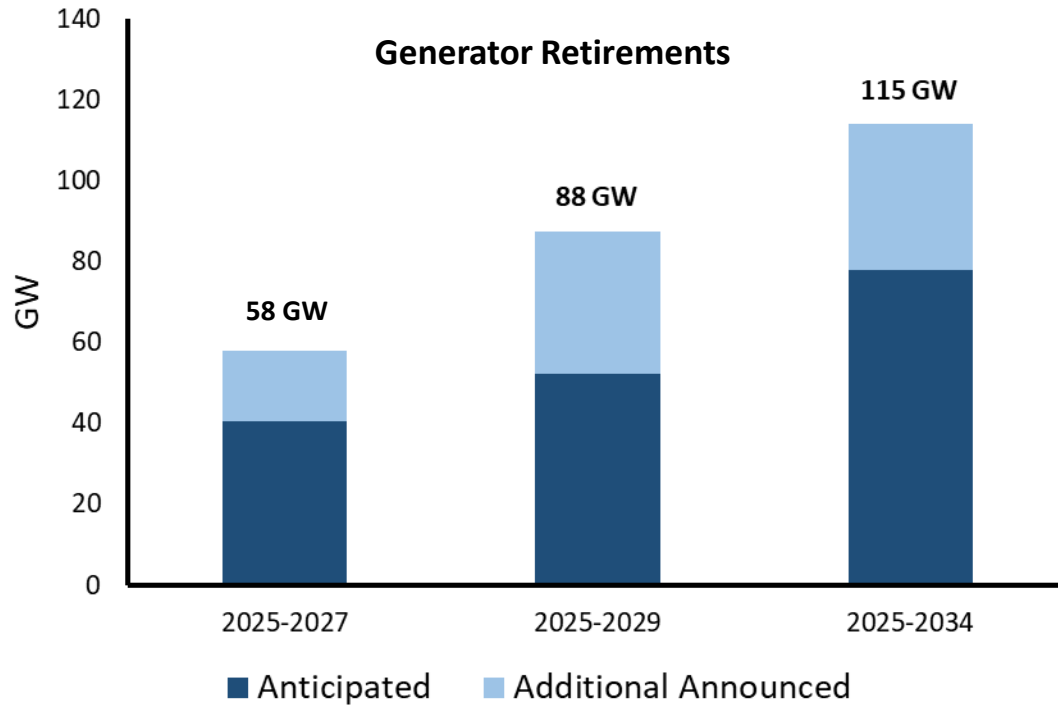
Winter BPS demand growth is outpacing Summer

- 149 GW (18%) increase over current peak in the next 10 years
- Driven by electrification and increasing solar PV that reduces summer demand during daytime

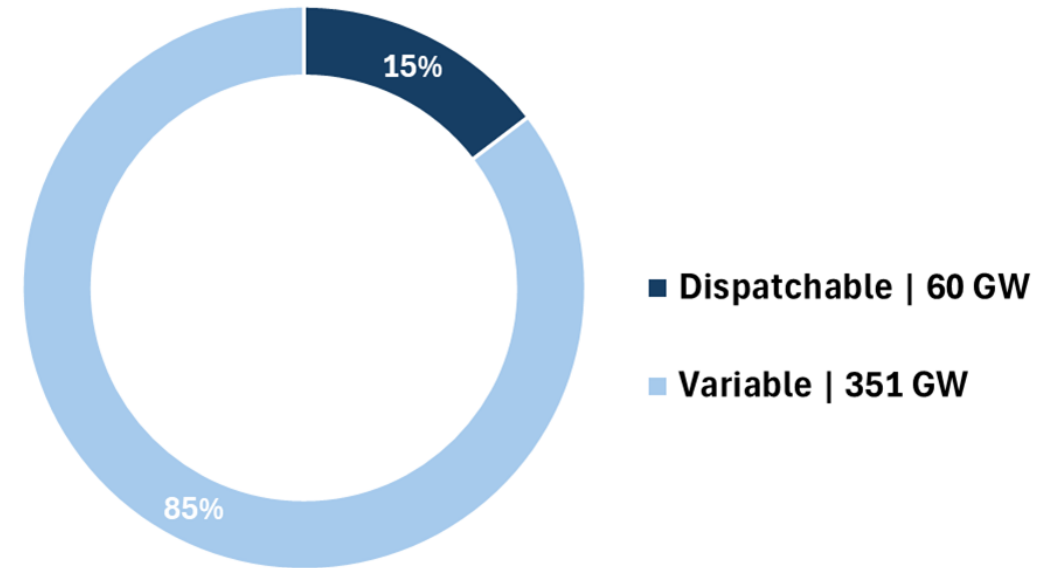
2024 LTRA Finding | Generator Retirements and Fewer Dispatchable Resources Threaten Future Adequacy



Accelerating Retirements: Resource needs to meet escalating demand growth are threatened by the current pace of generator retirements.



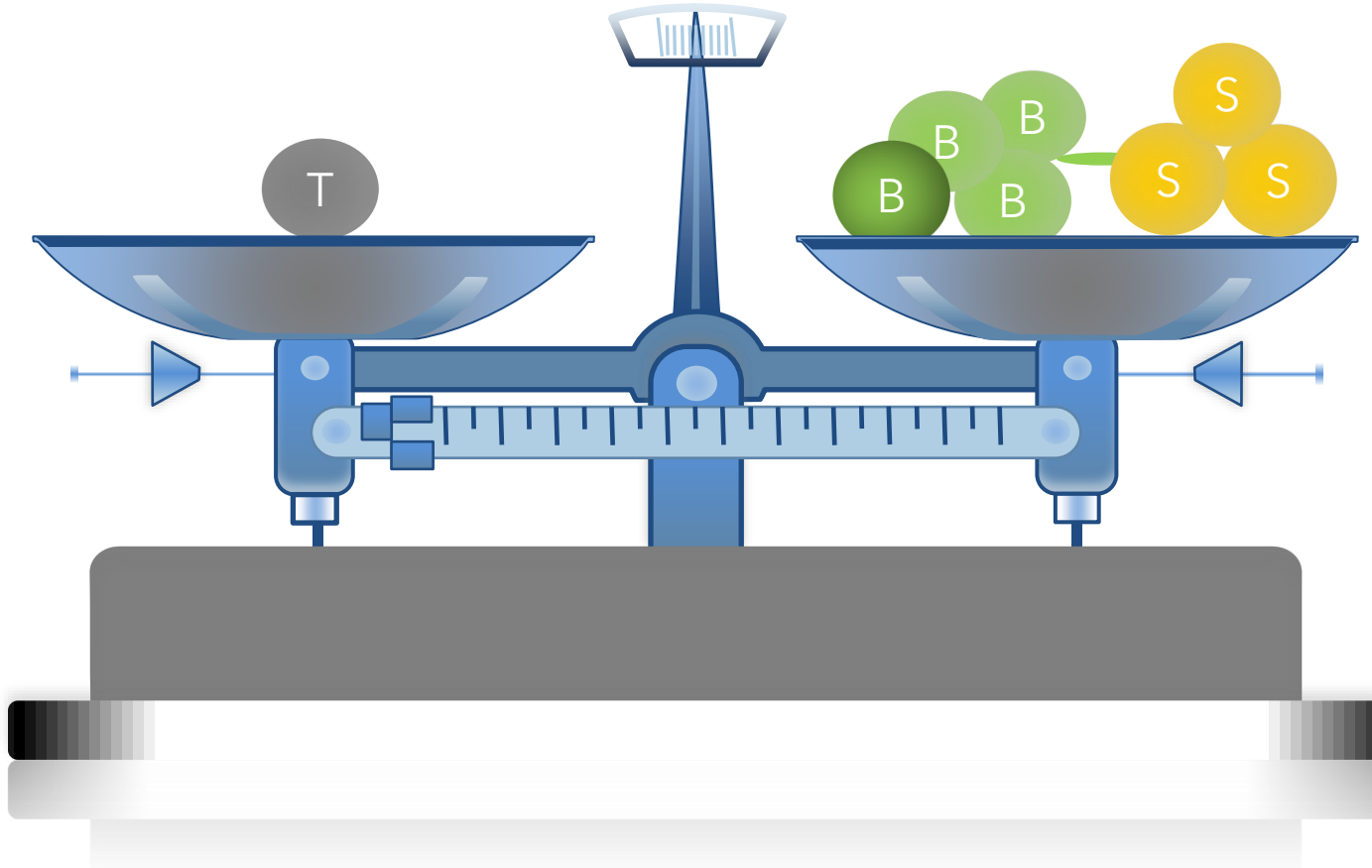
Declining Dispatchable Resources: Replacement resources projected over the next decade are more weather dependent and lack key reliability attributes.



Current Interconnection Queue Resources

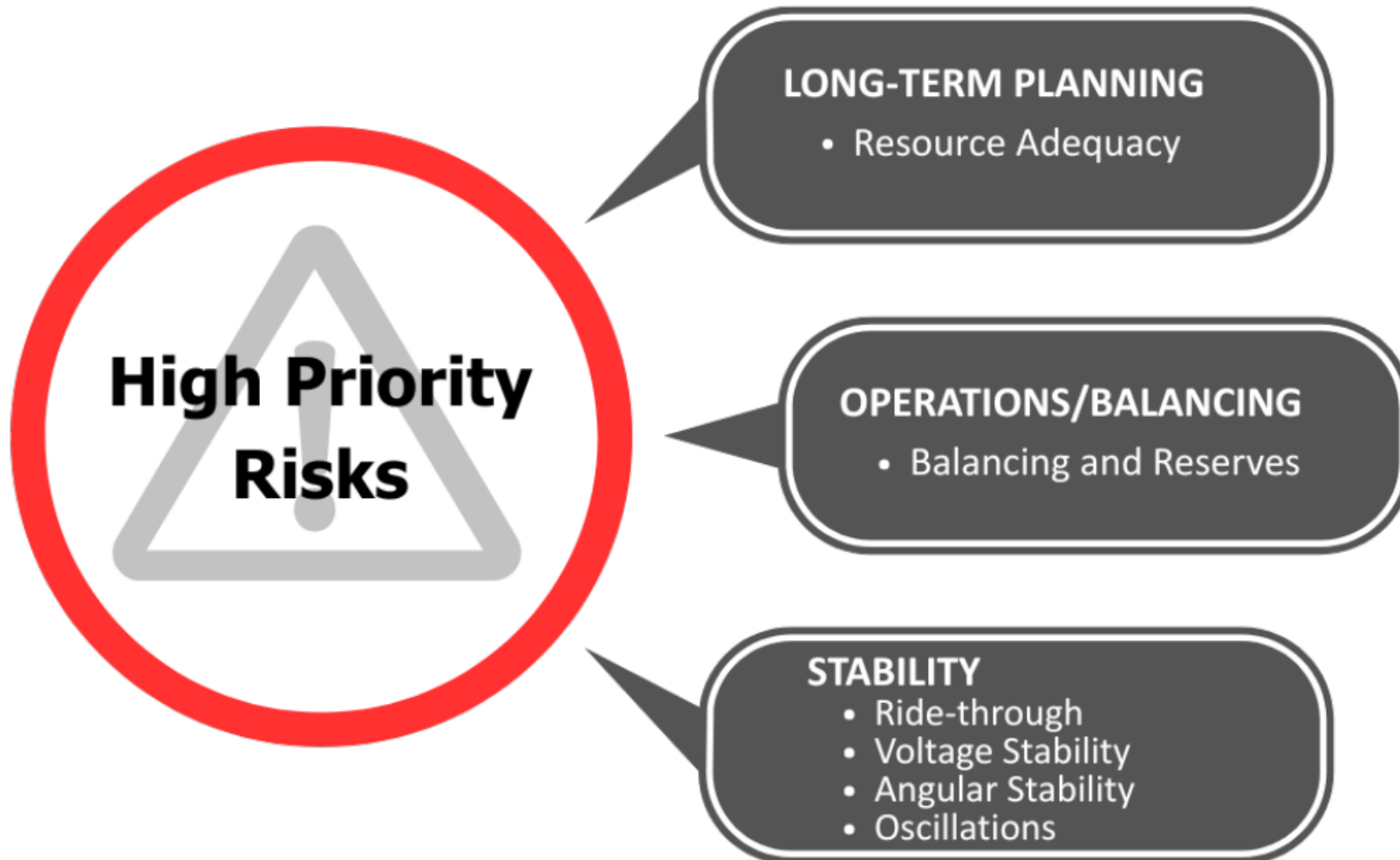
Retire 100 MW Base Load Generation

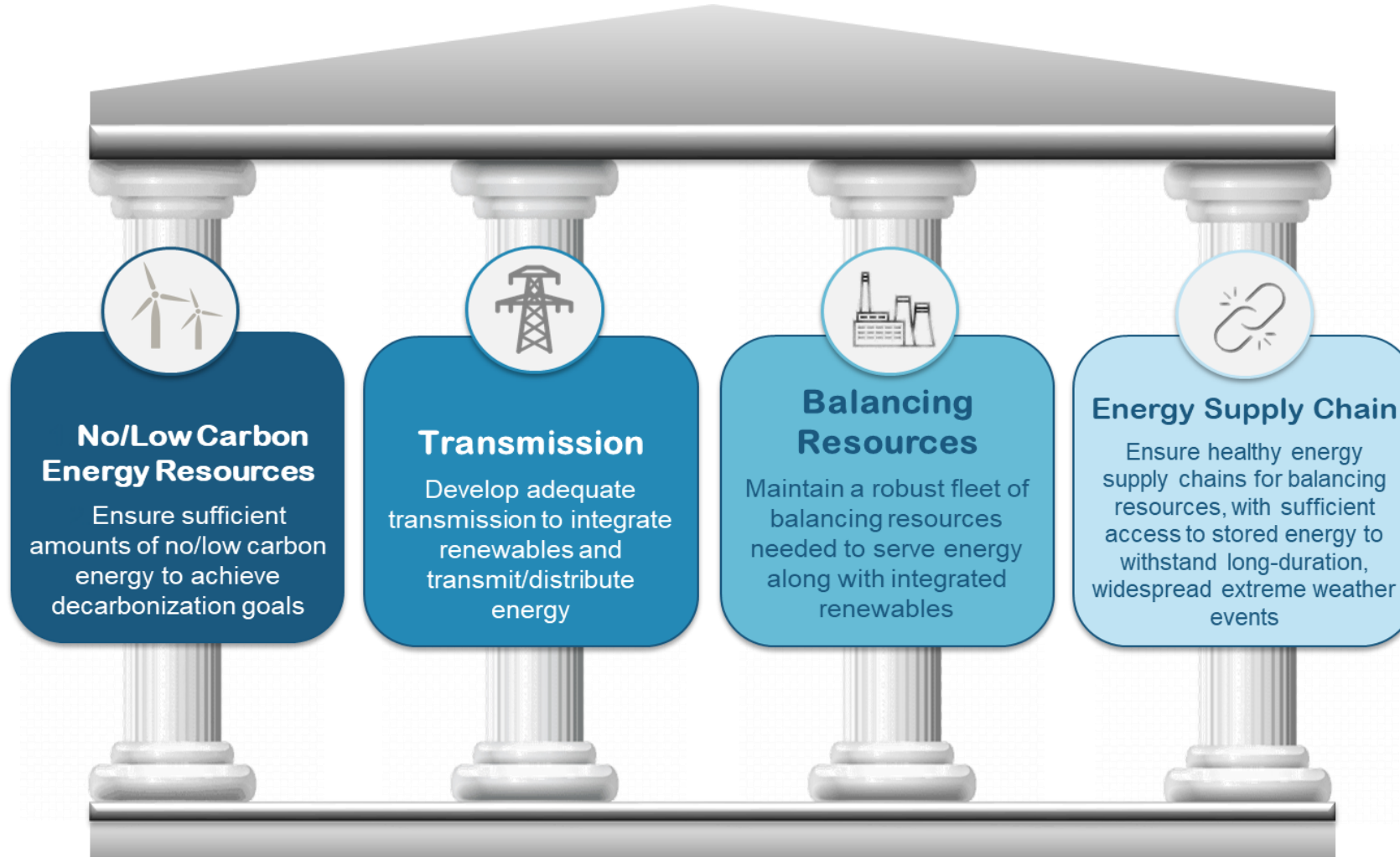
- 100 MW Traditional Base Load generates 2400 MWh

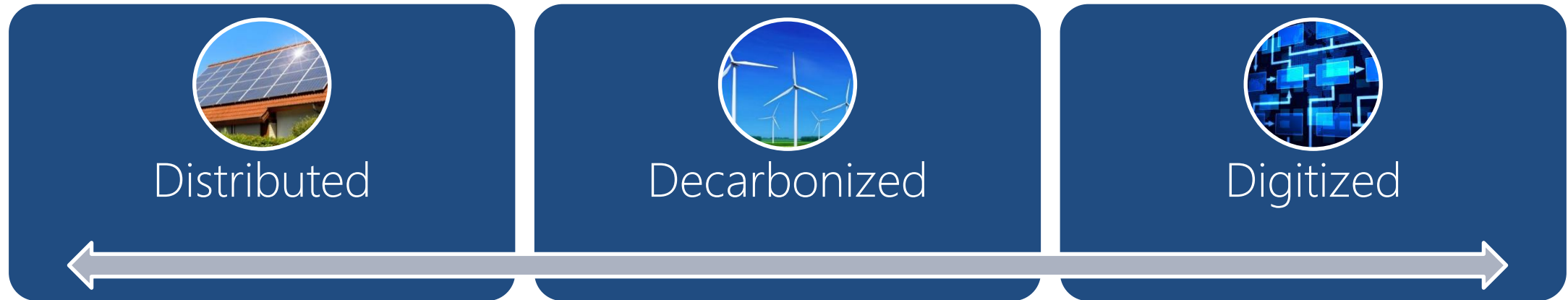


300 MW Solar + 400 MW Batteries

- Assume 8 hours of sunlight
 - Assume no losses in conversion
- Usage
- 100 MW **solar** for 8 hours (800 MWh)
 - 400 MW **storage** for 4 hour discharge (1600 MWh)
- Storage
- 200 MW **solar** to charge storage 8 hours (1600 MWh)







Must Wins:

1. **Manage the pace of transformation** through market mechanisms and inter-agency coordination on policies that impact generation
2. Develop sufficient **transmission**, to integrate renewables and distribute them, make the system more resilient
3. Maintain a robust fleet of **balancing resources**, with an ability to provide **Essential Reliability Services**
4. Ensure a robust **energy supply chain** for the balancing resources, with sufficient access to fuel and stored energy to withstand long-duration, wide-spread extreme weather events
5. **STATES:** Refine resource adequacy requirements that preserves energy assurance

- Most Inverter-based Resources (IBRs) and large loads have remote connectivity
- Many not subject to current CIP standards
- Many “controlled” outside North America
- Common cyber vulnerability can take out multiple MW (both generation and load)

- Continue developing IBR standards
- Determine registration impacts for new large loads
- Based on Large Load Task Force work, begin developing appropriate standards
- Evaluate CIP standards for applicability



Questions and Answers