


# Generating Resources Assessment Methodology

Power Committee  
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Northwest Power and Conservation Council 1 nwcouncil.org

## Outline

- **Generating Resources Assessment Methodology**
  - Analysis
  - Models
  - Generating Resources Advisory Committee
- **Categorization of Resources for the Draft Seventh Power Plan**
- **Where we are at, what is coming next**

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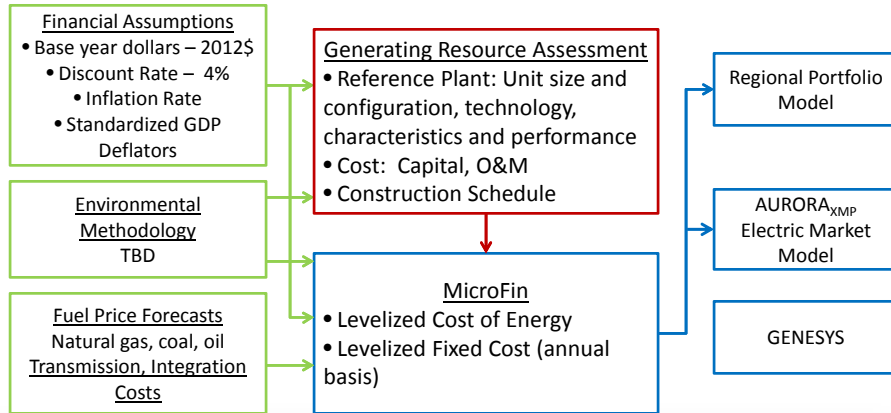
## Purpose

- Council's mission – assure the region of an **A**dequate, **E**fficient, **E**conomical, and **R**eliable **P**ower **S**upply (**AEERPS**) by selecting the least cost, least risk resource strategy over the 20 year planning horizon
- Generating resource assessment informs the resource strategy
  - Resource types and technologies
  - Assumptions – Cost, Construction Schedule, Operating Characteristics and Performance, Developable Potential

## Generating Resource Assessment Process

- Staff develops preliminary resource assumptions
- Review preliminary resource assumptions with the Generating Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC)
  - Incorporate feedback and information
- Review draft plan resource assumptions with the Power Committee/Council for approval to use in draft Seventh Plan analysis

# Generating Resources Assessment Methodology



## Reference Plant Key Attributes (1)

**Reference Plant** – a representative resource with a plausible configuration for development in the PNW; used in the Power Plan as possible new resource options

**Configuration** – Technology, number of units, air emission controls, cooling (wet vs. dry), specifications

**Price Year** – The vintage of the technology, overnight capital cost, and operating cost

**Year Dollars** – Reference year for setting dollar value; used consistently throughout power plan assumptions

**Capacity (MW)** - The maximum power that a machine or system can produce continuously under specified conditions

- International Standards Organization (ISO) – rating at 59°F, 1 atmosphere air pressure, 60% relative humidity; way of setting a standard condition for performance comparison
- Site – adjusts for elevation at specific sites (which effects atmospheric pressure)
- Lifecycle – adjusts for effects of wear and tear on the equipment and restorative maintenance

**Availability** – the maximum expected potential resource operation; expressed as a percentage of full capacity.

**Capacity Factor** – the ratio of actual/expected output over a period of time, to potential output if operating at full capacity; expressed as a percentage of full capacity. Capped by availability.

- Dispatchable resources (combined cycle, single cycle, coal) – determined by economics
- Non-dispatchable resources (wind, solar PV, landfill gas) – determined by environmental conditions, supply of primary energy resource

## Reference Plant Key Attributes (2)

**Heat Rate (Btu/kWh)** – the amount of fuel required to produce 1 kilowatt hour of electrical output; denotes fuel conversion efficiency. Can be expressed as heat rate (energy input vs kilowatt hour out) or as conversion efficiency (percentage)

Example: GE LMS 100 intercooled single cycle turbine

- The heat rate is 8540 Btu/kWh
- The fuel conversion efficiency is 40%

The lower the heat rate, the more efficient the plant is at converting fuel to electricity

**Construction Lead Time (months)** - amount of time it takes from conception to commissioning; Two phases for purposes of current Regional Portfolio Model (RPM):

- Planning and Development – Identification of need (e.g. IRP) to establishment of EPC contract (includes all siting and licensing, environmental assessments, preliminary engineering)
- Construction – From Notice to Proceed to complete construction and commissioning

**Economic Life** – assumed useful operating life (in years)

- Btu – British Thermal Unit – standard measure of energy content; 3413 Btu per kilowatt hour.
- EPC – Engineering, Procurement, and Construction contractor (final engineering, procurement of materials and equipment, and construction and commissioning)

## Draft 7<sup>th</sup> Plan Example: Aeroderivative Gas Turbine Reference Plant (1)

Year Dollars	2012 \$
Price Year	2015
<b>Technology &amp; Configuration base</b>	<b>(4) GE LM6000 PF SPRINT</b>
Capacity Plant Total (MW)	180 MW lifecycle capacity
Fuel	Natural Gas
Heat Rate (btu/kWh)	9050
Availability (annual)	91%
Economic Life (Years)	30
Construction Lead Time (Months)	18 planning & development 15 construction (33 total)

## Reference Plant Key Cost Estimates

**Overnight Capital Cost (\$/kW)** – Sum of engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) costs plus owner’s cost (costs incurred by the project developer – permits, licenses, land, project development costs, infrastructure, taxes, regulatory compliance costs, etc.)

- Will include a high/low cost band to capture uncertainty around estimates

**Fixed Operation and Maintenance (O&M)** - Costs that include operating and maintenance, labor and materials, and administrative overhead. For purposes of the Council’s modeling, major maintenance, capital replacement, and decommissioning costs are also included. Expressed in \$/kW-Yr.

**Variable O&M** – Costs that are a function of the amount of power produced; Includes consumables such as water, chemicals, lubricants, and catalysts, waste disposal, regulatory compliance costs (emission allowances/offsets, CO2 costs); expressed in \$/MWh.

**Levelized Cost of Energy** – the estimated cost of energy for a specific resource over it’s productive life, expressed in \$/MWh

## Estimating Capital Cost Assumptions and Normalizations

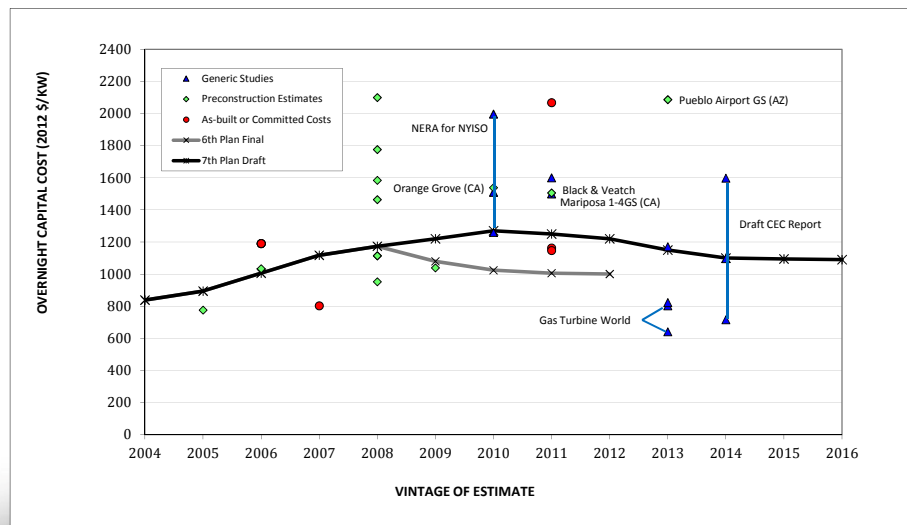
**Normalization** – Establishing comparable estimates by adjusting source data to common year dollars, vintage/price years, plant configuration, etc.

1. Reference sources – reported plant data, generic reports
2. Objective - normalize to draft Seventh Plan reference plant design
  - Overnight capital costs in \$2012
  - Site-specific adjustments to capacity and heat rate
  - Site-specific labor costs
  - Typical configuration for PNW
3. Look for outliers, trends; forecast future 20 year trend line

## List of Reference Sources

- Project-specific publically available reported info
- Technical data from manufacturer
- Regional utility IRPs
- Gas Turbine World (2013 Handbook)
- Black & Veatch analysis
- NERA analysis for NYISO
- EIA Capital Cost, EIA Annual Energy Outlook
- National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL)
- National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)
- California Energy Commission
- Generating Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC)
- Department of Energy annual market reports, technology-specific reports

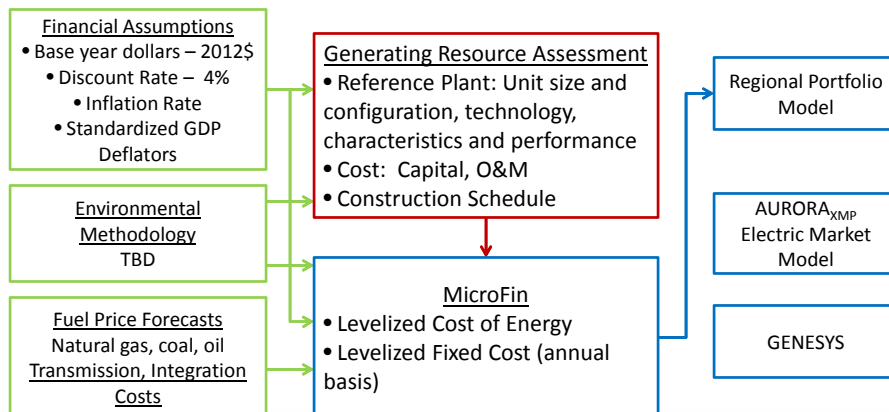
## Preliminary Draft 7<sup>th</sup> Plan Capital Cost Estimate for Aeroderivative



## Draft 7<sup>th</sup> Plan Example: Aeroderivative Gas Turbine Reference Plant (2)

Year Dollars	2012 \$
Price Year	2015
Overnight Capital Cost (\$/kW)	\$1,095
Capital Cost Band (Hi/Low %)	TBD
Fixed O&M (\$/kW-Yr)	\$12.00
Variable O&M (\$/MWh)	\$4.50
Levelized Cost of Energy	TBD

## Generating Resources Assessment Methodology



# MicroFin – How it Works

Excel-based, revenue requirements financial model

1. Calculates annual cash flows over the plant lifetime that satisfy revenue requirements
2. Annual cash flows are compressed into a single year dollar value – Net Present Value (NPV)
3. NPV is converted into an even, annualized payment (like a mortgage payment) – Levelized Cost. When divided by annual energy production – it becomes the Levelized Cost of Energy \$/MWh
4. Levelized Cost of Energy can be used to compare the average lifecycle costs of different types of resources

- Three financial sponsor options
1. Muni/PUD
  2. IOU
  3. IPP

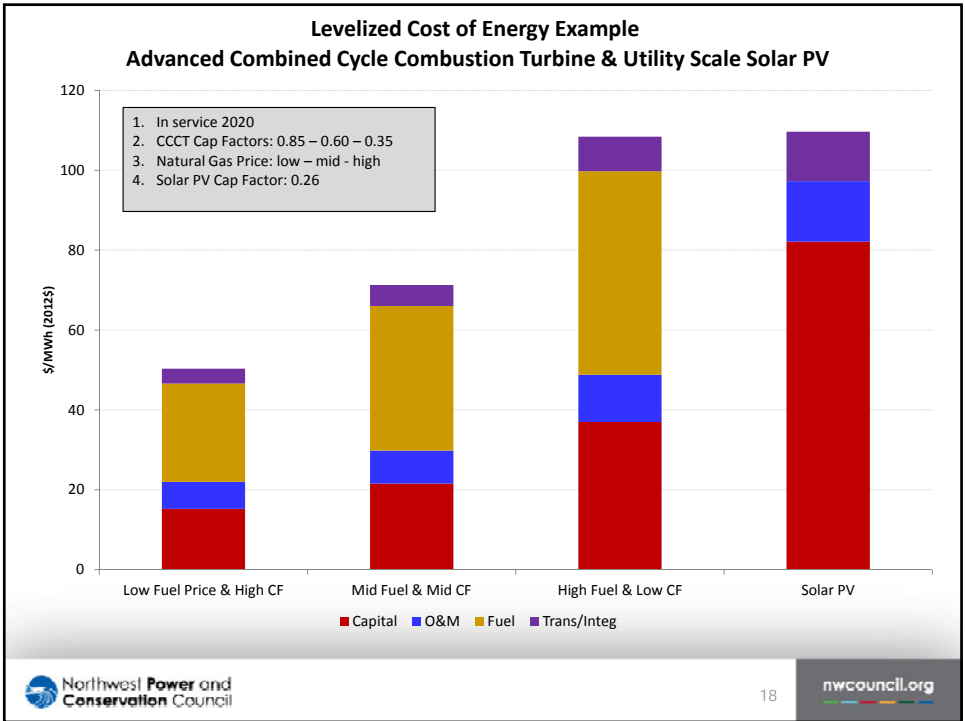
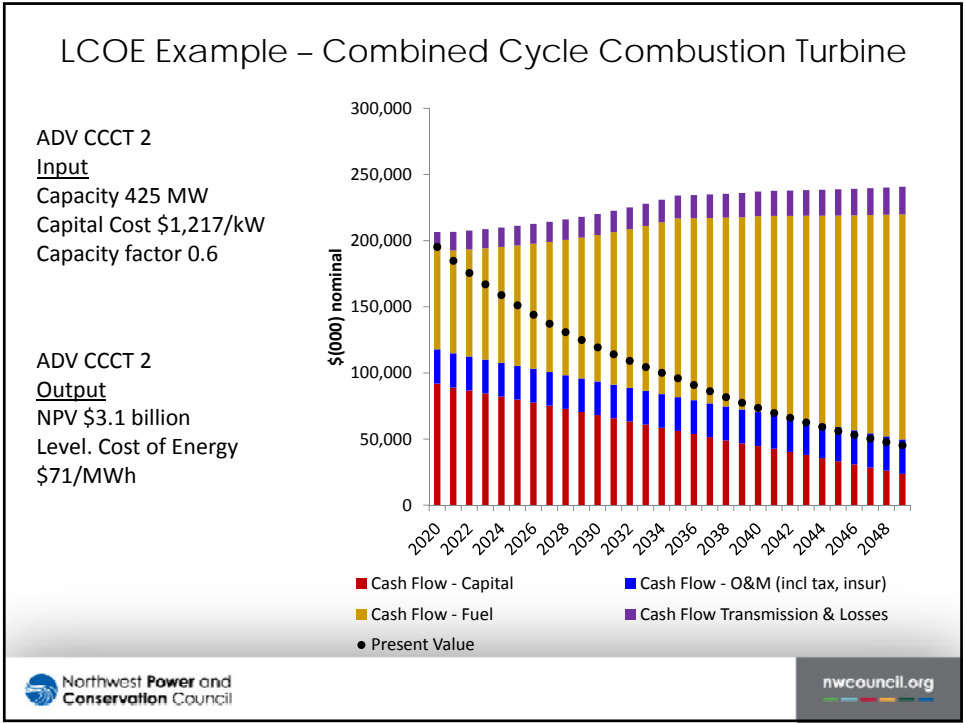
- Key assumption differences among the sponsor types
1. Tax rates
  2. Debt rates and service periods
  3. Equity return rates and service periods

MicroFin Financials Key Assumptions	Municipal/PUD	Investor Owned Utility	Indep. Power Producer
Federal Tax - %	0	35	35
State Tax - %	0	5	5
Fed Tax Inv Credit - %	0	30/10 <sup>1</sup>	30/10 <sup>1</sup>
Property Tax - %	0	1.4	1.4
Insurance - %	0.25	0.25	0.25
Debt Fraction - %	100	50	60
Debt Interest Rate (not tax adjusted)	5.24	6.69	6.69
Debt payment Period	25 <sup>2</sup>	25 <sup>2</sup>	20 <sup>2</sup>
Return on Equity	0	10	13.7
Equity Payment Period	25 <sup>2</sup>	25 <sup>2</sup>	20 <sup>2</sup>
Discount Rate	4	4	4
Inflation Rate	1.64	1.64	1.64

<sup>1</sup>Solar only – Fed ITC 30% thru 2016, 10% following

<sup>2</sup> Gas 30/30/15





## In Addition to Resource Assessment...

- **Wholesale Electric Price Forecast**
- **Renewable Portfolio Standards – WECC-wide forecast of future need**
- **Generating Resources Database – existing and planned projects in the PNW**

## Generating Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC)

- **One of several advisory committees to the Council to assist in the development of the power plan**
- **Serves in advisory capacity only**
  - No votes are taken
  - Role is to review information, vet assumptions, provide feedback
- **Members from IOUs, public utilities, BPA, state commissions, public interest groups, national labs, independent contractors**

## Progress so far...

- Staff has reviewed the following preliminary resource assumptions with the GRAC:
  - Utility-scale Solar PV
  - Combined Cycle Combustion Turbine technologies
  - Single Cycle Combustion Turbine Technologies (gas peakers)
  - Reciprocating Engine Technologies (gas peaker)
  - Utility-scale Wind
- Staff is supervising the Council's Regional Hydropower Potential Scoping Study

## Categorization of Resources for the Draft Seventh Power Plan (1)

Prioritization based on a resource's commercial availability, constructability, cost-effectiveness, and quantity of developable resource.

**Primary; Significant:** Resources that look to play a major role in the future PNW power system

Assessment : In-depth, quantitative characterization to support system integration and risk analysis modeling. Will be modeled in RPM

**Secondary; Commercial w/ Limited Availability:** Resources that are fully commercial but that don't have a lot of developmental potential in the PNW

Assessment : Quantitative characterization sufficient to estimate levelized costs. Will not be modeled in RPM.

**Long-term Potential:** Resources that have long term potential in the PNW but may not be commercially available yet

Assessment: Qualitative discussion of status & PNW potential, quantify key numbers as available. Will not be modeled in RPM.

## Categorization of Resources for the Draft Seventh Power Plan (2)

Primary; Significant	Secondary; Commercial w/ Limited Availability	Long-Term Potential
Natural Gas Combined Cycle	Biogas Technologies (landfill, wastewater treatment, animal waste, etc.)	Engineered Geothermal
Wind	Biomass - Woody residues	Offshore Wind
Solar PV	Conventional hydrothermal Geothermal	Modular Nuclear Units
Natural Gas Simple Cycle, Reciprocating Engine	New Hydropower	Wave Energy
Hydropower Upgrades*	Waste heat recovery and CHP	Tidal Energy
	Hydropower Upgrades*	Coal Technologies w/ CO <sub>2</sub> Separation
	Storage Technologies**	CO <sub>2</sub> Sequestration
		Storage Technologies**

## Tentative Schedule

- **Now → February: Finalize draft resource assessments on primary resources for input into the RPM**
  - Presentations to GRAC, Power Committee
- **March → July: Perform resource assessment for secondary resources for inclusion in the draft Power Plan**
  - Presentations to GRAC, Power Committee
- **July → September: Discuss long-term potential resources for inclusion in draft Power Plan, Action Plan**

## What's coming to you over the next few months?\*

### November

- Rooftop Solar, Utility-scale Solar PV – draft 7P resource assessments
- Combined Cycle Combustion Turbine – draft 7P resource assessment
- Hydropower potential scoping study – results, analysis, next steps
- Wholesale Electricity Price Forecast

### December

- Environmental Methodology

### January

- Single Cycle and Reciprocating Engine Technologies, Utility-scale Wind – draft 7P resource assessment

## Questions?



Photo Credits: Slide 1. Bonneville Dam (NWPPCC), Langley Gulch (NWPPCC), Outback Solar (Obsidian Renewables), Lower Snake River Wind Farm (Puget Sound Energy), Boardman (OPB), Reciprocating Engines (Wärtsilä)  
Slide 26: Lower Granite (NWPPCC)