# Optimizing Interconnection Costs for California's Future Grid

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#### I. Introduction

California faces a surge in electricity demand driven by two major trends: widespread electrification and the proliferation of data centers. The California Energy Commission forecasts that electricity demand within CAISO's service territory—which covers most of the state—will rise by 40.8

Projects are being proposed at record rates to meet this load increase, yet many face long delays in getting approval due to an overwhelmed interconnection queue. More capacity (nearly 2600 gigawatts (GW) sits in the interconnection queue than in grid operating capacity (1,189 GW) [1] [2].

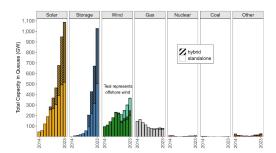


Fig. 1: Capacity in interconnection queues at the end of 2023. The capacity in the queue has rapidly grown since 2014. [1]

This project develops a copper plate interconnection model to accelerate interconnection queue decision-making. We evaluated the cost and feasibility of adding new solar, wind, gas, and batteries to the grid to match the CPUC's 10-year load increase projections. Our model accounts for bus-level capacity availability, transmission upgrade costs, system-wide generation constraints, and includes a least-cost-path analysis for constructing transmission lines from each project to the closest substation. By optimizing project selection under realistic transmission constraints, the model provides a transparent and data-driven framework to support efficient and equitable grid expansion.

#### II. METHODS

We created a mixed-integer linear program that minimizes project interconnection cost while expanding capacity on lines or substations and, dispatching resources to meet load requirements. We formulated the model from the grid operator and CPUC perspective, so costs include grid upgrades and emissions costs, but do not include costs to dispatch a particular source or build a project. It answers the question "What is the least-cost way to accommodate new generation from a system-wide perspective?"

This is a copper plate model, which means we do not model transmission between projects and load. However, we account for the cost of upgrading the capacity at a substation and the line cost to that substation for each project.

The model dispatches the projects built to meet the projected load increase by 2035 (the difference between the projected 2035 load and the 2026 load). The 2035 load profile is constructed by applying 2035 demand levels to historical weather patterns from 2000-2022, then using k-means time series clustering to identify a representative centroid year from these 23 years.

What follows is the mathematical formulation for our model.

Decision Variable	Description
$\overline{x_i^{\rm sol}} \in \{0, 1\}$	Binary build decision for solar project $i$ (1 = build, 0 = do not build).
$x_i^{\text{win}} \in \{0, 1\}$	Binary build decision for wind project $i$ .
$x_i^{\rm gas} \in \{0, 1\}$	Binary build decision for gas-fired generator $i$ .
$x_i^{\mathrm{bat}} \in \{0, 1\}$	Binary build decision for battery system $i$ .
$S_b^{\mathrm{add}} \ge 0$	Total new capacity (MW) added at bus $\boldsymbol{b}$ from all projects located there.
$S_b^{\mathrm{inc}} \ge 0$	Additional headroom (MW) created at bus $\boldsymbol{b}$ by local station upgrades.
$y_c \in \{0, 1\}$	Binary indicator that network upgrade/constraint relief option $\boldsymbol{c}$ is taken.
$P_t^{\text{in}} \geq 0$	Battery charging power (MW) at time step $t$ .
$P_t^{\text{out}} \ge 0$	Battery discharging power (MW) at time step $t$ .
$E_t \ge 0$	Energy stored in the battery fleet (MWh) at time step $t$ .
$P_t^{\text{sol}} \geq 0$	Dispatched solar generation (MW) at time step $t$ .
$P_t^{\text{win}} \ge 0$	Dispatched wind generation (MW) at time step $t$ .
$P_t^{\mathrm{gas}} \stackrel{-}{\geq} 0$	Dispatched gas generation (MW) at time step $t$ .
$C_t \ge 0$	Renewable curtailment (MW) at time step $t$ (unused available output).
$s_t \ge 0$	Slack variable capturing "depth-of-cycle" excursions that exceed the allowed swing, used to approximate battery wear at time step $t$ (defined for $t \geq 2$ ).

Sets, found after compiling and cleaning data, include:

S: solar projects $i$	$( \mathcal{S}  = N_{\mathrm{solar}})$
$\mathcal{W}$ : wind projects $i$	$( \mathcal{W}  = N_{ ext{wind}})$
$\mathcal{G}$ : gas projects $i$	$( \mathcal{G}  = N_{\mathrm{gas}})$
$\mathcal{B}$ : battery projects $i$	$( \mathcal{B}  = N_{\mathrm{batt}})$
$\mathcal{T}$ : time steps $t$	$( \mathcal{T}  = 8760)$
$\mathcal{N}$ : network buses $b$	$( \mathcal{N}  = N_{\mathrm{bus}})$
$\mathcal{C}$ : upgrade constraints $c$	$( \mathcal{C}  = N_{\text{const}})$
$\mathcal{C}$ : upgrade constraints $c$	$( \mathcal{C}  = N_{\text{const}})$

#### Constants used include:

Constant	Description	Source
$\bar{P}_i^{\mathrm{bat}}$	Battery power capacity (MW) of project i	[3]
$\bar{E}_i^{ ext{bat}}$	Battery energy capacity (MWh) of project i	[3]
$ar{P}_i^{ ext{sol}} \ ar{P}_i^{ ext{win}} \ ar{P}_i^{ ext{gas}} \  ext{CF}_t^{ ext{sol}} \ .$	Solar project i nameplate capacity (MW)	[4]
$\bar{P}_i^{\mathrm{win}}$	Wind project i nameplate capacity (MW)	[4]
$\bar{P}_i^{\mathrm{gas}}$	Gas project i nameplate capacity (MW)	[4]
$\mathrm{CF}_t^{\mathrm{sol}}$	Solar capacity factor at time t	[5]
$CF_t^{win}$	Wind capacity factor at time t	[5]
$A_b$	Pre-existing available headroom (MW) at bus $b$	[6]
$\Gamma_c$	Additional headroom (MW) unlocked by constraint $c$	[7]
$L_t$	Load demand (MW) at time t	[5]
$\eta^{\mathrm{ch}}$	Battery charging efficiency: 0.93 %	[8]
$\eta^{ m dis}$	Battery discharging efficiency: 0.93 %	[8]
$SOC^{init}$	Initial state-of-charge (SOC) as fraction of max capacity: 0.5	
$SOC^{fin}$	Final state-of-charge (SOC) as fraction of max capacity: 0.5	
$e^{\mathrm{gas}}$	Emissions factor of gas: 0.20196 tCO <sub>2</sub> /MWh	[9]
$c_i^{\mathrm{sol}}$	Transmission cost path from project to bus for solar project $i$	[10]
$c_i^{\rm win}$	Transmission cost path from project to bus for solar project $i$	[10]
$c_i^{\rm gas}$	Transmission cost path from project to bus for solar project <i>i</i>	[10]
$c_i^{\mathrm{bat}}$	Transmission cost path from project to bus for solar project $i$	[10]
$c^{\mathrm{curt}}$	Cost of curtailed renewable energy estimated from PTC: 20 per MWh	[11]
$c^{\mathrm{CO}_2}$	Current California cap and trade carbon price: 55 \$/tCO <sub>2</sub>	[12]
$c^{\mathrm{wear}}$	Battery wear cost to prevent unrealistic model results: 20 \$ per MWh	
$k_c^{\mathrm{up}}$	Cost of network upgrade for constraint c	[7]

TABLE I: Table of constants and their descriptions.

Equations (1) and (2) show how the maximum power charged and discharged, as well as the energy storage for the battery resource, are found.

$$P^{\text{bat,max}} = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}} x_i^{\text{bat}} \,\bar{P}_i^{\text{bat}} \tag{1}$$

$$E^{\text{bat,max}} = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}} x_i^{\text{bat}} \,\bar{E}_i^{\text{bat}} \tag{2}$$

Each line constraint connects to multiple buses. To build a project, there must be enough capacity at the substation and on the associated transmission line to accommodate the new project. If there is not enough capacity, the model can choose to increase the line and substation capacity to accommodate the new project. Each line constraint is associated with multiple substations, so when a line constraint is increased, the substations must also be increased by an amount such that the aggregate substation increase is equal to the line constraint increase.

Equation (3) shows how the additional capacity needed on the bus is found. Equation (4) is a model constraint on how much capacity can be added to each bus. Equation (5) is a model constraint that sets the sum of the increased capacity addition at each bus that connects to the line constraint to the increased line capacity addition if the model chooses to upgrade that line.

$$S_{b}^{\text{add}} = \sum_{\substack{i \in \mathcal{S} \\ \text{bus}(i) = b}} x_{i}^{\text{sol}} \bar{P}_{i}^{\text{sol}} + \sum_{\substack{i \in \mathcal{W} \\ \text{bus}(i) = b}} x_{i}^{\text{win}} \bar{P}_{i}^{\text{win}}$$

$$+ \sum_{\substack{i \in \mathcal{G} \\ \text{bus}(i) = b}} x_{i}^{\text{gas}} \bar{P}_{i}^{\text{gas}} + \sum_{\substack{i \in \mathcal{B} \\ \text{bus}(i) = b}} x_{i}^{\text{bat}} \bar{P}_{i}^{\text{bat}},$$

$$\forall b \in \mathcal{N}$$

$$(3)$$

$$S_b^{\text{add}} \le A_b + S_b^{\text{inc}}, \qquad \forall b \in \mathcal{N}$$
 (4)

$$y_c \Gamma_c = \sum_{b \in \mathcal{N}_c} S_b^{\text{inc}}, \quad \forall c \in \mathcal{C}$$
 (5)

Equations (6)–(8) are model expressions that calculate, for each hour t, the maximum power that can be delivered by the solar, wind, and gas plants if they were fully dispatched. They multiply the binary build decision for every candidate project by its nameplate capacity and (for the variable renewables) the exogenous hourly capacity-factor profile. The resulting quantities  $P_t^{\rm sol,avail}$ ,  $P_t^{\rm win,avail}$ , and  $P_t^{\rm gas,avail}$ , represent the upper bound on how much of each resource is able to dispatch in hour t.

$$P_t^{\text{sol,avail}} = \sum_{i \in S} x_i^{\text{sol}} \bar{P}_i^{\text{sol}} \operatorname{CF}_t^{\text{sol}}, \qquad \forall t \in \mathcal{T}$$
 (6)

$$P_t^{\text{win,avail}} = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{W}} x_i^{\text{win}} \bar{P}_i^{\text{win}} \operatorname{CF}_t^{\text{win}}, \qquad \forall t \in \mathcal{T}$$
 (7)

$$P_t^{\text{gas,avail}} = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{G}} x_i^{\text{gas}} \bar{P}_i^{\text{gas}}, \qquad \forall t \in \mathcal{T}$$
 (8)

Inequalities (9) and (10) are model constraints. The first block in (9) caps actual solar, wind, and gas dispatch at the availability levels just defined, while permitting curtailment. The second block in (10) restricts battery charging and discharging power to the fleet-wide rating  $P^{\rm bat, max}$  and prevents the battery from releasing more energy than is currently stored.

$$0 \leq P_t^{\text{sol}} \leq P_t^{\text{sol,avail}}, \forall t \in \mathcal{T}$$

$$0 \leq P_t^{\text{win}} \leq P_t^{\text{win,avail}}, \forall t \in \mathcal{T}$$

$$0 \leq P_t^{\text{gas}} \leq P_t^{\text{gas,avail}}, \forall t \in \mathcal{T}$$

$$(9)$$

$$0 \leq P_t^{\text{in}} \leq P^{\text{bat,max}}, \forall t \in \mathcal{T}$$

$$0 \leq P_t^{\text{out}} \leq P^{\text{bat,max}}, \forall t \in \mathcal{T}$$

$$P_t^{\text{out}} \leq E_t, \forall t \in \mathcal{T}$$
(10)

Equations (11)–(14) form the battery state-of-charge (SOC) tracking constraints. (11) fixes the initial SOC to a fraction of the total energy capacity, (12) propagates the SOC hour-to-hour, accounting for round-trip efficiencies, (13) forces the battery to finish the year at its starting SOC, and (14) keeps the SOC within physical limits.

$$E_1 = E^{\text{bat,max}} \text{SOC}^{\text{init}},$$
 (11)

$$E_t = E_{t-1} + \eta^{\text{ch}} P_t^{\text{in}} - \frac{1}{\eta^{\text{dis}}} P_t^{\text{out}}, \forall t = 2, \dots, |\mathcal{T}|$$
 (12)

$$E_{|\mathcal{T}|} = E^{\text{bat,max}} \text{SOC}^{\text{fin}},$$
 (13)

$$0 \le E_t \le E^{\text{bat,max}}, \quad \forall t \in \mathcal{T}$$
 (14)

The first line of (15) is an expression that defines the difference between the battery SOC in two time periods. The second line of (15) sets a depth trigger D. The two inequalities that follow are constraints introducing slack  $s_t$ . The inequalities that follow are model constraints introducing slack  $s_t$ . Whenever the hour-to-hour swing  $\Delta_t$  exceeds the  $\pm D$  threshold,  $s_t$  captures the excess. This penalized term in the objective discourages unrealistically fast battery cycling in which the battery charges and discharges completely in just a few hours, to prolong battery lifespans.

$$\Delta_{t} \equiv E_{t} - E_{t-1},$$

$$D = 0.1 E^{\text{bat,max}},$$

$$s_{t} \geq \Delta_{t} - D,$$

$$s_{t} \geq -\Delta_{t} - D,$$

$$\forall t = 2, \dots, |\mathcal{T}|$$

$$(15)$$

Equation (16) is the energy-balance constraint. In every hour, dispatched generation plus net discharging, minus efficiency-adjusted charging, must equal the projected load increase  $L_t$ .

$$L_{t} = P_{t}^{\text{sol}} + P_{t}^{\text{win}} + P_{t}^{\text{gas}}$$
$$-\frac{1}{\eta^{\text{ch}}} P_{t}^{\text{in}} + \eta^{\text{dis}} P_{t}^{\text{out}},$$
$$\forall t \in \mathcal{T}$$
 (16)

Inequality (17) is a model constraint that limits battery charging to the instantaneous excess of generation over load, accounting for simultaneous battery discharge. This prevents infeasible behavior where the model charges the battery while relying on the same electricity to meet load.

$$P_t^{\text{in}} \le P_t^{\text{sol}} + P_t^{\text{win}} + P_t^{\text{gas}} - L_t + \eta^{\text{dis}} P_t^{\text{out}}, \forall t \in \mathcal{T} \quad (17)$$

The first line of (18) defines curtailment  $C_t$  as a model expression: the unused renewable energy after meeting load and charging. The second line is a constraint enforcing that curtailment must be non-negative  $(C_t \ge 0)$ .

$$C_{t} = P_{t}^{\text{sol,avail}} + P_{t}^{\text{win,avail}} - P_{t}^{\text{sol}} - P_{t}^{\text{win}} - \frac{1}{\eta^{\text{ch}}} P_{t}^{\text{in}},$$

$$C_{t} \ge 0,$$

$$\forall t \in \mathcal{T}$$

$$(18)$$

Equation (19) is a model expression that calculates total  $CO_2$  emissions by multiplying hourly gas dispatch by a fixed emissions factor.

$$E^{\text{CO}_2} = \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} e^{\text{gas}} P_t^{\text{gas}}$$
 (19)

The objective function in (20) minimizes total system costs:

- The first four summations represent the cost of interconnecting new electricity projects to the grid.
- $c^{\mathrm{curt}} \sum_t C_t$  penalizes renewable energy curtailment, representing the loss of tax credits or generation incentives.

- $c^{\text{CO}_2}E^{\text{CO}_2}$  applies a cost to  $\text{CO}_2$  emissions at the current California cap-and-trade carbon price.
- $\sum_c y_c k_c^{\rm up}$  represents the infrastructure cost of upgrading lines and substations.
- $10^{12}P_1^{\rm out}$  is a numerical deterrent to prevent the battery from fully discharging in the first hour of the representative year, which would otherwise appear optimal in a static annual model but is physically unrealistic.
- $c^{\text{wear}} \sum_{t \geq 2} s_t$  penalizes excessive battery depth-of-cycle excursions, using the slack variables  $s_t$  introduced in (15), to discourage behavior that would result in battery degradation.

$$\min \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} c_i^{\text{sol}} x_i^{\text{sol}} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{W}} c_i^{\text{win}} x_i^{\text{win}} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{G}} c_i^{\text{gas}} x_i^{\text{gas}}$$

$$+ \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}} c_i^{\text{bat}} x_i^{\text{bat}} + c^{\text{curt}} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} C_t + c^{\text{CO}_2} E^{\text{CO}_2}$$

$$+ \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} y_c k_c^{\text{up}} + 10^{12} P_1^{\text{out}} + c^{\text{wear}} \sum_{t=2}^{|\mathcal{T}|} s_t$$

$$(20)$$

III. DATA

Data	Source
Solar Projects Proposed or Built (Since 2020)	EIA, 2025 [4]
Wind Projects Proposed or Built (Since 2020)	EIA, 2025
Gas Projects Built (Since 2016)	EIA, 2025 [4]
Planned Storage Projects	Internal CEC Dataset [3]
Bus Capacity Availability	CAISO Points of Interconnection Website [6]
Transmission Cost Raster	Emily Leslie [10]
Substation Locations	Southern California Association of Governments [13]
Bus Upgrade Amounts and Costs	2024 CPUC TPP Data Dashboard [7]
Solar & Wind Capacity Factors	CPUC System Reliability Modeling Datasets [5]
Demand Profile Changes	CPUC System Reliability Modeling Datasets [5]

TABLE II: Data Sources and their Respective Providers

Before we ran our model, we combined data points from different locations. CAISO's point of interconnection website had bus names, but no location information to match energy projects to their interconnected substation.

We copied bus names and capacities from the CAISO website. The website displays information in a table that can be copied into a CSV. We then extracted coordinates from a shapefile with substations and their names and ran a string matching algorithm to match the names in the shapefile to the CAISO data. About 20% of CAISO substations did not receive a match due to name formatting differences and substations of the same name in different utilities and territories. The missing information was manually cleaned. Then, these substations and names were matched using the Python library 'Rapid Fuzz' to the names and limiting constraints in the CPUC TPP Data Dashboard 'Sub\_Constraint\_Matrix' sheet. This data was then matched to the Binding Constraint Name in the 'TXCriteria\_by\_Sub\_2034' sheet. We then re-ran our Rapid

Fuzz string matching algorithm to add the cost and capacity amounts of upgrades to the bus data.

Using the transmission cost raster, we conducted a least-cost-path analysis in ArcGIS to estimate interconnection costs from proposed energy projects to buses. Our analysis included natural gas projects built since 2016 (as no new gas projects are planned in CAISO), planned and recently built solar and wind projects (excluding Wyoming Wind), and planned battery storage projects based on an internal CEC dataset.

To determine capacity factors for our representative year, we performed k-means clustering on CPUC's backcasted single-axis tracking solar and wind generation profiles from 2000–2022. We identified a centroid year based on normalized profiles, calculated as generation divided by total renewable capacity for each year.

Our estimated load growth was calculated using a similar approach. We subtracted forecasted 2026 and 2035 loads using CPUC's weather assumptions from 2000 to 2022, then identified the centroid year through clustering.

### IV. RESULTS

Our model selects 11 GW of solar, 4 GW of batteries, 1.3 GW of gas, and 0.8 GW of wind for construction (specific projects are listed in the appendix). The dominance of solar and battery capacity reflects the composition of CAISO's interconnection queue. The model builds nearly all available gas and wind projects—11 of 12 gas projects and 18 of 20 wind projects—but is more selective with solar and batteries, choosing 102 of 245 solar projects and 31 of 103 battery projects.

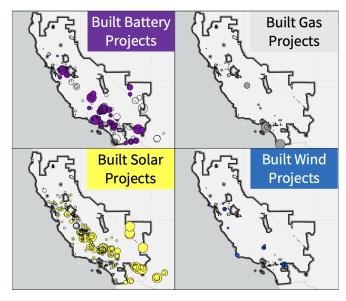


Fig. 2: Geographical Location of projects. Filled in circles are build projects; size of circle indicates project size.

In order to build these projects, the model chooses to upgrade 53 substations and 18 transmission lines. This costs \$11.4

billion. The cost for transmission lines from the projects to the substation is \$2.3 billion.

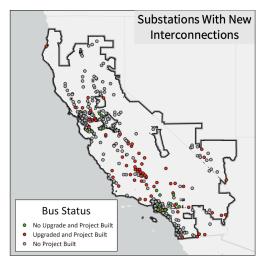


Fig. 3: Substations

Due to emissions and curtailment costs, the model follows a dispatch order of renewables first (solar and wind), then batteries, and finally gas. Battery dispatch exhibits smooth behavior most of the time due to degradation costs, while gas plants frequently ramp between 0% and 100% output within an hour. When solar generation approaches its capacity limit, the model curtails wind rather than solar.

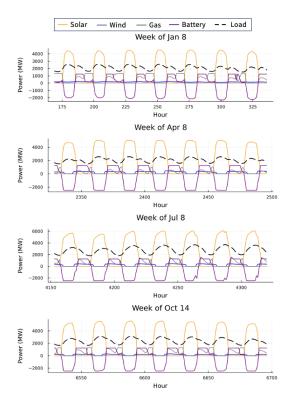


Fig. 4: Built Generation Dispatch to meet New Load

More detailed results from our model can be found in the appendix.

# V. SENSITIVITY

Overall, different assumptions for emissions cost, wear cost, and curtailment costs significantly affected project dispatch.

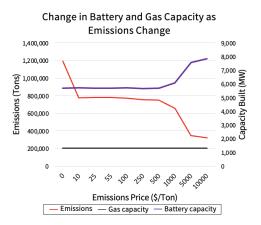


Fig. 5: Sensitivity Analysis on Emissions Cost

The figure above shows how gas capacity is constant even as emission prices increase. This illustrates the need for gas capacity on the grid to meet the load. However, as emission costs rise, it is cheaper to upgrade transmission and build more battery capacity so that batteries get dispatched instead of gas.

Furthermore, upgrade costs range from \$11.4 billion to \$18.8 billion, depending on emission cost and curtailment cost assumptions.

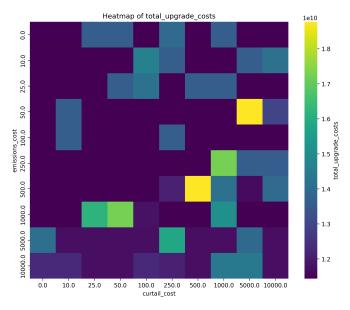


Fig. 6: Sensitivity Analysis on Upgrade Costs

As illustrated by the graph, lower curtailment and emissions costs tend to result in lower upgrade costs but lead to higher

emissions. Other values from our sensitivity analysis can be found in the appendix.

### VI. DISCUSSION

The results of this model provide a potential pathway for California to meet growing electricity demand. It is a simplistic, but quick, alternative approach to determine what projects should be built given a load increase. Utilizing this model would be able to decrease project approval time and grid costs, keeping costs low while helping California meet its growing electricity needs.

In the sensitivity analysis, we see the importance of gas capacity. Even with a high emissions cost, the model still builds dispatchable natural gas. California needs clean, firm electricity resources to meet load increases. It would be expensive to power the grid with just wind, solar, and storage.

When collecting data, we made several assumptions that future models can improve upon. First, we assumed that solar and storage co-located projects were not co-located. The model could build either storage or solar, and the projects would have two different interconnection costs. Similarly, projects located near each other cannot share lines to reduce interconnection costs. Once these projects were interconnected, we assumed they were injecting at the closest substation and the highest voltage possible. Certain line increase constraints were only applied to lower or higher voltage interconnections. If different line limits were mentioned on the CAISO points of interconnection website, we chose the voltage with the lowest remaining capacity.

When selecting our projects, we also made several key assumptions. We did not have enough energy projects to solve for our 10-year load increase time-horizon, as projects in the interconnection queue may only take a few years to build. So, we also considered projects that were recently constructed or under construction. We also removed the Chokecherry and Sierra Madre Wind Project, a 3 GW wind project in Wyoming that will interconnect into CAISO at the end of 2026. Wyoming wind has a different generation profile than California wind, and there was not enough capacity to interconnect this wind project into our model. This is likely because the capacity associated with this project has already been removed from the CAISO points of interconnection website.

Finally, our model makes several simplifying assumptions about power flow and transmission constraints. We ignore reactive power compensation and detailed power flow mechanics, assuming that generation injected at any substation can serve load increases anywhere in the system. We also consider only the single most binding transmission constraint at each bus, assuming that relieving this constraint would increase the bus capacity by the full calculated amount. In reality, once the primary constraint is relaxed, secondary constraints may limit the actual capacity increase. We lacked data on these secondary binding constraints, which may cause our model to overestimate the benefits of transmission upgrades.

Future iterations of this model expand the project scope in several ways. First, we could incorporate full construction costs rather than just interconnection costs, enabling true system-wide cost minimization and better assessment of electricity price impacts. Second, given the variability in load growth forecasts, we could conduct sensitivity analyses across different demand projections. Finally, the model could adopt a priority-based approach to interconnection queue management, ranking projects by their system value to help policymakers prioritize approvals and streamline the interconnection process.

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## APPENDIX

# A. Model Output

Objective value (total cost): \$2.50e14 Max modeled load (MW): 3963

Total Emissions (tons CO<sub>2</sub>): 770298.75

Total Curtailment (MWh): 1.01e6 Total Upgrade Costs (\$): 1.14e10 Total Emissions Cost (\$): 4.24e7 Total Curtailment Cost (\$): 2.03e7

Total Load (MWh): 2.04e7

Total (minus storage in) Generation (MWh): 2.04e7

Total Solar Project Path Cost: \$1.77e10 Total Wind Project Path Cost: \$2.66e9 Total Gas Project Path Cost: \$1.02e8 Total Battery Project Path Cost: \$2.06e8

Total Solar Capacity Added (MW): 11606.6 Total Wind Capacity Added (MW): 842.8 Total Battery Power Added (MW): 4426.0 Total Battery Storage Added (MWh): 14652.0 Total Gas Capacity Added (MW): 1299.31

Total Solar Generation (MWh): 1.89e7 Total Wind Generation (MWh): 1.58e6 Total Gas Generation (MWh): 3.81e6 Total Battery Charge (MWh): 1.38e7 Total Battery Discharge (MWh): 1.18e7

## **Selected Solar Projects:**

- Northern Orchard Solar PV, LLC at bus 87 Capacity: 150.0 MW
- BCE Seal Beach at bus 286 Capacity: 12.0 MW
- Rosamond South 1 at bus 283 Capacity: 140.0 MW
- Bellefield Solar and Energy Storage Farm at bus 210 Capacity: 500.0 MW
- Pastoria Solar at bus 143 Capacity: 105.2 MW
- Aratina Solar Center 1B at bus 86 Capacity: 200.0 MW
- Solar Star 3 at bus 283 Capacity: 24.0 MW
- Angela Solar Project at bus 1 Capacity: 40.0 MW
- Windhub Solar B, LLC at bus 210 Capacity: 20.0 MW
- Desert Breeze Solar, LLC at bus 167 Capacity: 125.0 MW
- Lockhart Solar PV IV, LLC at bus 167 Capacity: 80.0 MW
- Bellefield 2 Solar Energy Storage Farm at bus 210 Capacity: 500.0 MW
- Aramis I Solar Project at bus 21 Capacity: 100.0 MW
- Easley Solar at bus 157 Capacity: 290.0 MW
- JVR Energy Park LLC at bus 48 Capacity: 90.0 MW

- Portal Ridge Solar A, LLC at bus 285 Capacity: 19.0 MW
- Purple Sage Energy Center at bus 196 Capacity: 400.0 MW
- Chalan at bus 3 Capacity: 64.9 MW
- Sand Luis West at bus 60 Capacity: 125.0 MW
- Pelicans Jaw Hybrid Solar at bus 3 Capacity: 440.0 MW
- Bellefield 3 Solar and Battery Storage at bus 210 Capacity: 150.0 MW
- Dynamo Solar LLC at bus 197 Capacity: 24.5 MW
- Zeta Solar Storage at bus 279 Capacity: 75.0 MW
- Elisabeth Solar at bus 251 Capacity: 350.0 MW
- Syracuse and Tours Renewable Energy at bus 210 Capacity: 40.0 MW
- Rough Hat at bus 196 Capacity: 400.0 MW
- Kingsley Solar Farm at bus 75 Capacity: 225.0 MW
- Lycan Solar Project at bus 157 Capacity: 400.0 MW
- Bonanza Solar and Storage Project at bus 205 Capacity:  $300.0 \ MW$
- Gibson Solar Project Hybrid at bus 102 Capacity: 13.0 MW
- Sienna Solar Farm at bus 272 Capacity: 200.0 MW
- Rexford 2 Solar Farm at bus 203 Capacity: 200.0 MW
- Sienna 2 Solar and Storage Project at bus 272 Capacity: 55.0 MW
- Lockhart Solar PV, LLC at bus 167 Capacity: 100.4 MW
- Desert Quartzite at bus 29 Capacity: 300.0 MW
- White Wing Solar at bus 251 Capacity: 175.0 MW
- RE Gaskell West 2 LLC at bus 283 Capacity: 45.0 MW
- RE Gaskell West 4 LLC at bus 283 Capacity: 20.0 MW
- Antelope Expansion 1B at bus 285 Capacity: 17.0 MW
- Antelope Expansion 3A at bus 285 Capacity: 15.0 MW
- Antelope Expansion 3B at bus 285 Capacity: 5.0 MW
- Drew Solar LLC at bus 75 Capacity: 100.0 MW
- Athos Solar Project at bus 157 Capacity: 250.0 MW
- Sun Streams 2 at bus 251 Capacity: 150.0 MW
- Camino Solar Hybrid at bus 283 Capacity: 44.0 MW
- Central 40 at bus 280 Capacity: 40.0 MW
- San Diego EMDF at San Diego at bus 134 Capacity: 2.9 MW
- Maverick Solar 6, LLC at bus 157 Capacity: 100.0 MW
- Fifth Standard Solar PV, LLC (Hybrid) at bus 60 Capacity: 150.0 MW
- EMWD Perris Valley RWRF at bus 261 Capacity: 3.4 MW
- Byron Highway Solar at bus 82 Capacity: 5.0 MW
- Arlington Energy Center II at bus 29 Capacity: 100.0 MW
- Resurgence Solar at bus 86 Capacity: 90.0 MW
- Hudson High Desert Hybrid at bus 263 Capacity: 100.0 MW
- Rabbitbrush Solar, LLC at bus 283 Capacity: 100.0 MW
- Rexford Solar Farm at bus 203 Capacity: 300.0 MW
- Daggett 2 at bus 32 Capacity: 182.0 MW
- Chaparral Springs at bus 283 Capacity: 102.0 MW
- Edwards Sanborn E3 at bus 210 Capacity: 27.1 MW

- Edwards Sanborn E1A at bus 210 Capacity: 149.3 MW
- Edwards Sanborn E2 at bus 210 Capacity: 137.8 MW
- Luciana at bus 203 Capacity: 55.8 MW
- Edwards Sanborn S3 at bus 210 Capacity: 37.7 MW
- Edwards Sanborn S1 at bus 210 Capacity: 44.6 MW
- BigBeau Solar, LLC at bus 283 Capacity: 70.0 MW
- Blythe Mesa Solar II at bus 251 Capacity: 223.6 MW
- IGS KSBD at bus 252 Capacity: 4.3 MW
- University of the Pacific at bus 284 Capacity: 4.5 MW
- Wonderful Lost Hills at bus 3 Capacity: 17.1 MW
- Amazon Bakersfield 1 Solar Project at bus 83 Capacity: 4.3 MW
- West Valley Mission CCD Solar Project at bus 249 Capacity: 2.7 MW
- Orange Coast College PH2 Solar Project at bus 304 Capacity: 3.1 MW
- Sandrini Solar 200 at bus 87 Capacity: 200.0 MW
- Sandrini Solar 100 at bus 87 Capacity: 100.0 MW
- Edwards Sanborn E1B at bus 210 Capacity: 154.4 MW
- Edwards Sanborn E4 at bus 210 Capacity: 148.9 MW
- Edwards Sanborn E5 at bus 210 Capacity: 68.0 MW
- Edwards Sanborn S4 at bus 210 Capacity: 41.2 MW
- Oberon Solar Project at bus 157 Capacity: 250.0 MW
- Victory Pass at bus 157 Capacity: 200.0 MW
- Ocotillo Wells at bus 130 Capacity: 50.0 MW
- Proxima at bus 277 Capacity: 190.0 MW
- CA Jurupa Valley 3251 De Forest Circle at bus 314 Capacity: 4.5 MW
- BCE Los Alamitos 2 at bus 286 Capacity: 10.0 MW
- BCE Los Alamitos 1 at bus 286 Capacity: 10.0 MW
- Baldy Mesa Solar Storage at bus 263 Capacity: 150.0 MW
- McFarland A Solar and Storage at bus 251 Capacity: 200.0 MW
- McFarland B Solar and Storage at bus 251 Capacity:  $300.0 \; \text{MW}$
- Visalia CSG LLC at bus 156 Capacity: 3.0 MW
- Tulare CSG LLC at bus 1 Capacity: 3.0 MW
- Lockhart Solar PV II at bus 167 Capacity: 84.4 MW
- Fresno Community Solar at bus 206 Capacity: 10.0 MW
- Estrella Solar Storage at bus 283 Capacity: 56.0 MW
- Raceway Solar Storage at bus 283 Capacity: 125.0 MW
- Baldy Mesa 2 Silver Peak Hybrid at bus 263 Capacity: 50.0 MW
- IPC 25 Solar at bus 239 Capacity: 2.4 MW
- Paulsell at bus 277 Capacity: 20.0 MW
- Amazon SAN3 Solar Project at bus 134 Capacity: 4.6  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MW}}$
- Highway 43 1887-WD at bus 176 Capacity: 2.3 MW
- Terry 1818-WD at bus 22 Capacity: 4.6 MW
- North Kern 3 at bus 56 Capacity: 5.0 MW
- Avalon Dairy at bus 181 Capacity: 3.1 MW
- Lockheed Martin Palmdale Solar PV at bus 308 Capacity: 20.0 MW

# **Selected Wind Projects:**

- Tehachapi Wind Resource II at bus 210 Capacity: 15.5 MW
- Rooney Ranch at bus 273 Capacity: 21.0 MW
- Sand Hill A at bus 273 Capacity: 13.5 MW
- Sand Hill B at bus 82 Capacity: 17.0 MW
- Sand Hill C at bus 82 Capacity: 80.0 MW
- Solano Wind at bus 215 Capacity: 108.0 MW
- Painted Hills Wind Park at bus 266 Capacity: 46.8 MW
- Sky River Wind Energy Center at bus 210 Capacity: 60.2 MW
- 85 A at bus 210 Capacity: 21.3 MW
- 85 B at bus 210 Capacity: 25.2 MW
- Mountain View I II at bus 266 Capacity: 70.9 MW
- Strauss Wind Farm at bus 179 Capacity: 95.3 MW
- Point Wind at bus 210 Capacity: 64.5 MW
- Oasis Alta at bus 210 Capacity: 14.4 MW
- Coachella Hills Wind at bus 266 Capacity: 61.2 MW
- Summit Winds at bus 21 Capacity: 47.5 MW
- AM Wind Repower LLC at bus 266 Capacity: 27.0 MW
- Mesa Wind Repower at bus 266 Capacity: 30.0 MW
- CalPorlland Company Mojave Wind at bus 210 Capacity: 23.5 MW

# **Selected Gas Projects:**

- Santa Rita Jail Fuel Cell (Now F0002) at bus 126 Capacity: 1.4 MW
- CEFF II Tehachapi Property, LLC (formerly SunSelect 1) at bus 67 Capacity: 6.86 MW
- Kaiser Permanente at bus 312 Capacity: 2.2 MW
- AT and T Services Inc at bus 301 Capacity: 1.25 MW
- Procter and Gamble Oxnard I (duplicate of G0468) at bus 170 Capacity: 19.9 MW
- Santa Rita Jail Fuel Cell at bus 126 Capacity: 1.4 MW
- Acid (CAISO) at bus 206 Capacity: 110.6 MW
- Berry Cogen Pan Fee at bus 90 Capacity: 5.7 MW
- Pio Pico Energy Center at bus 134 Capacity: 336.0 MW
- Alamitos Energy Center at bus 286 Capacity: 693.0 MW
- Stanton Energy Reliability Center at bus 309 Capacity: 121.0 MW

# **Selected Battery Projects:**

- Aramis I Solar Project at bus 21 Capacity: 100.0 MW
- Buena Vista Energy LLC at bus 82 Capacity: 100.0 MW
- Kingsley Solar Farm at bus 75 Capacity: 74.0 MW
- Big Rock Solar Farm at bus 75 Capacity: 200.0 MW
- Bellefield 3 Solar and Battery Storage at bus 210 Capacity: 150.0 MW
- Sagebrush Solar 2 ESS 40 at bus 210 Capacity: 40.0 MW
- Golden Field Solar III, LLC at bus 283 Capacity: 147.0 MW
- AVEP BESS at bus 283 Capacity: 126.0 MW
- Rosamond South 1 at bus 283 Capacity: 117.0 MW
- Northern Orchard Solar PV, LLC at bus 87 Capacity: 92.0 MW
- Raceway Solar Storage at bus 283 Capacity: 80.0 MW

- Cathode (Hinson) BESS at bus 292 Capacity: 100.0 MW
- Cald BESS at bus 307 Capacity: 100.0 MW
- Humidor Storage I at bus 119 Capacity: 300.0 MW
- Beaumont BESS at bus 256 Capacity: 100.0 MW
- Desert Quartzite at bus 29 Capacity: 150.0 MW
- Victory Pass at bus 157 Capacity: 50.0 MW
- Menifee Power Bank at bus 261 Capacity: 230.0 MW
- Trestles Grid LLC at bus 261 Capacity: 150.0 MW
- Lycan Solar Project at bus 157 Capacity: 400.0 MW
- Aratina Solar Center 1 Hybrid at bus 86 Capacity: 125.0 MW
- Condor Energy Storage LLC at bus 258 Capacity: 200.0 MW
- Separator (Etiwanda) BESS at bus 311 Capacity: 112.5 MW
- Cascade Energy Storage, LLC at bus 233 Capacity: 25.0 MW
- Kola Energy Center at bus 273 Capacity: 400.0 MW
- Hummingbird Energy Storage LLC at bus 248 Capacity: 75.0 MW
- Proxima at bus 277 Capacity: 162.0 MW
- Paulsell at bus 277 Capacity: 15.0 MW
- Anode 1 (Springville) BESS at bus 184 Capacity: 112.5 MW
- Rexford Solar Farm at bus 203 Capacity: 300.0 MW
- Bottleneck Energy Storage at bus 203 Capacity: 80.0 MW
- Gibson Solar Project Hybrid at bus 102 Capacity: 13.0 MW

## **Selected Constraints Increased:**

- Constraint: Midway-Q2005 230kV Line Cost: \$9.4e8 Increase Amount: 16891
- Constraint: Birds Landing-Contra Costa 230kV Line Cost: \$7.0e8 Increase Amount: 1766
- Constraint: Antelope-Neenach Constraint Cost: \$1.0e8 Increase Amount: 2000
- Constraint: VEA 138kV area constraint Cost: \$3.791300305e8 Increase Amount: 1367
- Constraint: Windmaster-Delta pumps 230 kV line Cost: \$4.17332e8 Increase Amount: 6034
- Constraint: Midway 230/115kV TB 3 Cost: \$1.5e8 Increase Amount: 784
- Constraint: Semitropic-Midway 115kV Line Cost: \$7.6e8 Increase Amount: 637
- Constraint: GLW 230kV area constraint Cost: \$3.563877756e8 Increase Amount: 1285
- Constraint: Devers-Red Bluff Constraint Cost: \$1.386722862e9 Increase Amount: 5000
- Constraint: Kramer to Victor Area Constraint Cost: \$3.344775543e8 Increase Amount: 1206
- Constraint: Lakeville-Ignacio 230 kV line Cost: \$0.01 Increase Amount: 861
- Constraint: East of Miguel constraint Cost: \$7.82943728e8 Increase Amount: 2823
- Constraint: South of Magunden Constraint Cost: Bus 184 Name: SPRINGVILLE Increased by: 112.5

- \$4.358e9 Increase Amount: 2000
- Constraint: Silvergate Bay Blvd 230 kV constraint Cost: \$2.9971e7 Increase Amount: 4754
- Constraint: Windhub Constraint Cost: \$6.12e8 Increase Amount: 2500
- Constraint: Etiwanda-Rancho Vista Constraint Cost: \$8.9e7 Increase Amount: 3350
- Constraint: Newark-Newark Distribution 115 kV line Cost: \$0.01 Increase Amount: 831
- Constraint: Antelope-Vincent Constraint Cost: \$1.32e7
   Increase Amount: 1500
- Constraint: Hinson Del Amo Constraint Cost: \$2.8e7 Increase Amount: 800

## **Buses Increased:**

- Bus 1 Name: ALPAUGH Increased by: 43.0
- Bus 3 Name: ARCO (PGE) Increased by: 522.0
- Bus 6 Name: BAHIA Increased by: 1632.0
- Bus 8 Name: BAKERSFIELD Increased by: 15377.3
- Bus 13 Name: BRENT Increased by: 5581.7
- Bus 15 Name: CABRILLO (PGE) Increased by: 688.7
- Bus 21 Name: CAYETANO Increased by: 247.5
- Bus 22 Name: CHARCA Increased by: 4.6
- Bus 23 Name: CHARLESTON PARK Increased by: 485.0
- Bus 29 Name: COLORADO RIVER Increased by: 550.0
- Bus 32 Name: COOL WATER Increased by: 182.0
- Bus 48 Name: EAST COUNTY Increased by: 90.0
- Bus 56 Name: FAMOSO Increased by: 5.0
- Bus 60 Name: GATES Increased by: 275.0
- Bus 67 Name: GRIMMWAY-MALAGA Increased by: 6.86
- Bus 75 Name: IMPERIAL VALLEY Increased by: 599.0
- Bus 82 Name: KELSO Increased by: 202.0
- Bus 83 Name: KERN OIL Increased by: 4.3
- Bus 86 Name: KRAMER Increased by: 415.0
- Bus 87 Name: LAKEVIEW Increased by: 542.0
- Bus 88 Name: LAKEVILLE Increased by: 836.5
- Bus 90 Name: LAMONT Increased by: 5.7
- Bus 102 Name: MADISON (PGE) Increased by: 26.0
- Bus 119 Name: MOORPARK Increased by: 300.0
- Bus 126 Name: NORTH DUBLIN Increased by: 2.8
- Bus 130 Name: OCOTILLO Increased by: 50.0
- Bus 134 Name: OTAY MESA Increased by: 4754.0
- Bus 143 Name: PASTORIA Increased by: 2000.0
- Bus 156 Name: RECTOR Increased by: 3.0
- Bus 157 Name: RED BLUFF Increased by: 1940.0
- Bus 167 Name: SANDLOT Increased by: 389.8
- Bus 170 Name: SANTA CLARA Increased by: 19.9
- Bus 176 Name: SHAFTER Increased by: 2.3
- Bus 179 Name: SISQUOC Increased by: 95.3
- Bus 181 Name: SMYRNA Increased by: 3.1

- Bus 196 Name: CRAZY EYES Increased by: 800.0
- Bus 197 Name: TULUCAY Increased by: 24.5
- Bus 203 Name: VESTAL Increased by: 935.8
- Bus 205 Name: VISTA (VEA) Increased by: 1367.0
- Bus 206 Name: WEST FRESNO Increased by: 120.6
- Bus 207 Name: WEST PARK Increased by: 616.24
- Bus 210 Name: WINDHUB Increased by: 2500.0
- Bus 214 Name: BIG CREEK 1 Increased by: 628.8
- Bus 215 Name: BIRDS LANDING Increased by: 108.0
- Bus 219 Name: ELDORADO Increased by: 2510.0
- Bus 251 Name: BLYTHE Increased by: 2084.0
- Bus 258 Name: VISTA (SCE) Increased by: 85.34000000000002
- Bus 261 Name: VALLEY (SCE) Increased by: 199.5600000000003
- Bus 263 Name: ROADWAY Increased by: 219.2
- Bus 266 Name: DEVERS Increased by: 3065.1
- Bus 273 Name: TESLA Increased by: 831.0
- Bus 283 Name: WHIRLWIND Increased by: 1500.0
- Bus 286 Name: ALAMITOS Increased by: 800.0

# B. Further Sensitivity Analysis

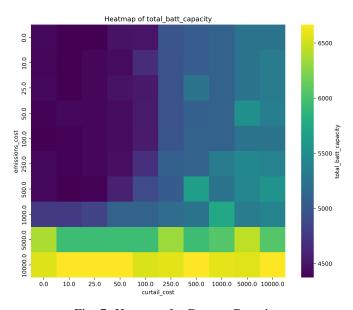


Fig. 7: Heatmap for Battery Capacity

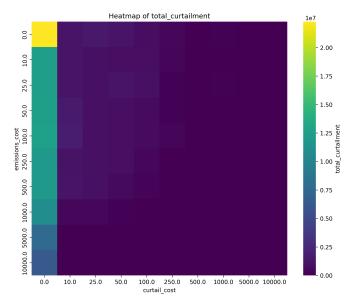


Fig. 8: Heat map for Curtailment

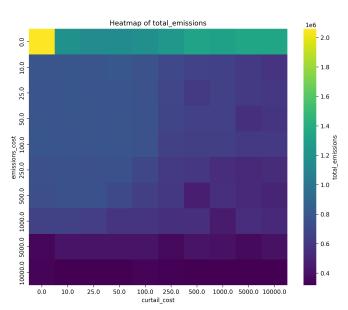


Fig. 9: Heat map for Emissions

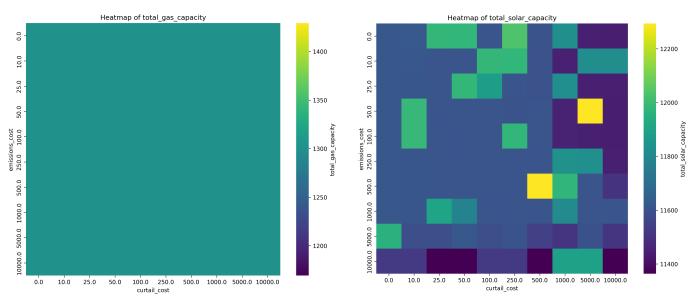


Fig. 10: Heat Map for Gas Capacity

Fig. 12: Heat Map for Solar Capacity

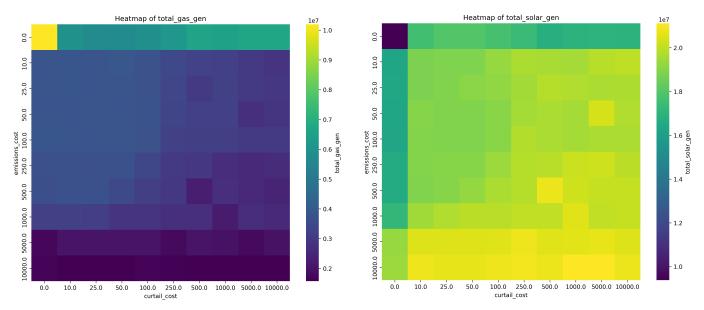


Fig. 11: Heat Map for Gas Capacity

Fig. 13: Heat Map for Solar Generation

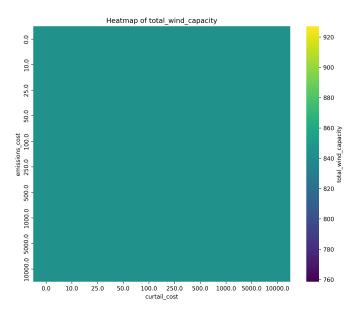


Fig. 14: Heat Map for Wind Capacity

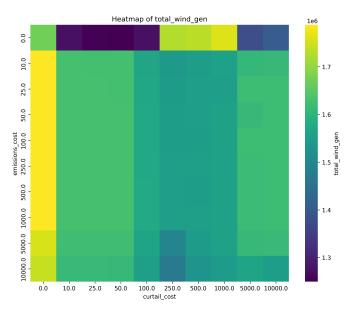


Fig. 15: Heat Map for Wind Generation