**Context and Background:**

Laura K. Beauchamp, Director of Resource Planning and Market Operations at Entergy Louisiana, LLC, presents testimony supporting ELL's application for constructing and operating significant generation and transmission resources in response to a substantial new customer load proposed in Richland Parish, North Louisiana.

**Key Topics Discussed:**

**1. Customer Load and Project Overview:**

* The industrial customer project, a major facility in Richland Parish, necessitates substantial and continuous electricity supply.
* The project represents significant economic development potential, with employment of 300-500 full-time jobs at competitive wages, positively impacting the regional economy.

**2. Generation Requirements:**

* The project requires approximately 2,262 MW of new baseload generation.
* ELL plans to construct three new Combined Cycle Combustion Turbine (CCCT) generators, each with a capacity of about 754 MW:
  + Two units adjacent to the customer's site in Richland Parish.
  + One unit located within the Southeast Louisiana Planning Area (SELPA), exact location pending determination.

**3. Transmission Infrastructure:**

To support this significant new load, major transmission upgrades include:

* Construction of six new substations on the customer’s property.
* New 500 kV transmission lines and upgrades:
  + Sterlington 500 kV substation upgrades.
  + New 500 kV line from Sarepta to Mount Olive substations ("Mount Olive to Sarepta Transmission Facilities").
  + Additional substations including the Car Gas and Smalling substations and related transmission lines.

**4. Cost Allocation and Financial Arrangements:**

* The customer is substantially funding the required infrastructure through:
  + Contribution in Aid of Construction (CIAC) Agreement, financing substations and transmission facilities directly serving its project.
  + Electric Service Agreement (ESA), including a minimum monthly charge under standard rate schedules, ensuring cost recovery from the customer and protecting existing ratepayers from undue cost burdens.

**5. Corporate Sustainability Rider (CSR):**

* The CSR enables procurement of 1,500 MW of solar and/or hybrid renewable resources, surpassing previously approved renewable procurement levels.
* CSR includes commitments for Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) technologies at the Lake Charles Power Station (LCPS), enhancing environmental stewardship objectives.
* Supports customer and ELL sustainability goals, significantly reducing the carbon footprint of the new generation facilities.

**6. Resource Planning Objectives:**

ELL emphasizes balancing three core objectives in resource planning:

* **Reliability:** Ensuring adequate capacity and system stability.
* **Affordability:** Minimizing costs to customers and leveraging economies of scale.
* **Environmental Stewardship:** Committing to clean and renewable energy integration alongside sustainable operation practices.

**7. Resource Adequacy and MISO Compliance:**

* The proposed resources will help meet MISO's Seasonal Accredited Capacity (SAC) requirements, addressing tightening market conditions and supporting grid reliability.
* ELL aims to mitigate risks associated with short-term market reliance, emphasizing the necessity of long-term capacity planning.

**8. Project Alternatives:**

Several alternatives were evaluated and dismissed, including:

* Renewable-only solutions (insufficient reliability and high costs).
* Transmission-only options (insufficient available capacity).
* Smaller generation configurations (insufficient reliability and operational flexibility).
* No-action scenario (negative economic impacts and failure to meet customer and state objectives).

**9. Economic and Community Benefits:**

* The project is expected to provide significant economic and employment benefits to the region.
* Customer commitments include financial contributions to community-support programs, notably matching Entergy's "Power to Care" donations, benefiting vulnerable local residents.

**Conclusion:**

Beauchamp’s testimony supports the comprehensive strategy outlined by ELL, asserting that the proposed generation and transmission projects represent the most reliable, affordable, and sustainable solution to meet the customer’s substantial new energy demand while providing broader economic and environmental benefits for the state and local communities.