

# **Utah's Strategic Energy Plan: Consumer First Policies**

*Energy Council Conference*



# **The Power of Energy**

"The bottom 2% of Americans ALL live better than John D. Rockefeller was living when I was 6 years old. John D. Rockefeller was the richest man in the world, and today you can get better medicine, better education, better entertainment, better transportation–you can do everything better than he could."



## – Warren Buffett



# **Resource Focus**

### EIA 2022 Utah Installed Capacity (% total) WECC 2032 Predicted Utah Installed Capacity (% total)



# **Consumer Demand & Capacity Values**





\*The gains in intermittent and firming resources do not cover the losses in baseload

### WECC 2032 Predicted Utah Installed Capacity (MW, %)



# **Systematic Value**

### EIA 2022 Utah Installed Capacity (MW, %)

Other 69 1% Intermittent Intermittent 20% 34% 1929 **Baseload** 67% **Firming** 1132 12% 6482 **Firming** 17%

\*The design of a resource decides how it acts within the system





# **Resource Design and System Value**



### **Areas of consideration:**

- Misleading capacity values
- Time of need value
- Resource intensity to get a MW to a consumer



## **Not All "Megawatts" are the same** Is it possible to double nameplate "capacity" but produce less power?





# **Levelized Costs**

Levelized cost of energy (LCOE) is a financial tool for comparisons between diverse resources

LCOE is used to:

- o Average total costs of building and operating an asset per unit of electricity over a specific period
- o Primarily financial metric, not operation or system focused
- o However, it is being used to drive decisions when cost is only one factor
	- Demand not accounted for
	- Integration not accounted for
	- Systemic Operation not accounted for

\*Building the cheapest option does not necessarily translate into savings



# **Levelized Costs - Where are the**



# **Levelized Costs**







## Energy Cost/MWh vs Systemic Costs



\*Energy needs to be looked at holistically to account for the systemic costs

# **Systemic Costs - Complexity in the Grid**



- o As intermittent generation reaches greater penetrations, huge complexity arises
- o This necessitates entirely new management and infrastructure needs
- o Considering only LCOE, in 2027 solar should be primarily built
- o Instead natural gas is being predicted, because it fits the systemic needs



# **Drivers of Systemic Costs**

Considering the system-wide picture of energy is complex o Many parameters impact each other in unpredictable ways

## Factors that impact the system:

- o Weather
- o Storage
- o Infrastructure
- o Materials
- o Load Profiles



## \*The larger an area the grid takes up, the more susceptible to weather



# **Drivers of Systemic Costs - Extreme Weather**



Source: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Millstein, et al. 2023).

Note: Transmission value is measured in cumulative daily million USD of a hypothetical 1000 MW transmission link between two nodes. Darker blue background colors reflect colder surface temperatures.

\*Less extreme weather patterns are an issue as intermittent energy share increases ○ Requires building extra capacity, storage, or transmission



# **Drivers of Systemic Costs - Mild Weather**



\*The type of storage used matters as well

o Of the 15.8 GW of storage in the USA (2023), 10.5 GW, 66%, was primarily used for arbitrage



Figure 5. Cost projections for 2-, 4-, and 6-hour duration batteries using the mid cost projection. Left shows the values in \$/kWh, while right shows the costs in \$/kW.



# **Drivers of Systemic Costs - Storage**

## \*Energy density of resources also equates to land use and transmission



# **Drivers of Systemic Costs - Infrastructure**



## \*The various generators have vastly different material requirements

- o Not limited to critical elements, base material costs vary substantially
- o Increasing variable penetration also requires grid components ○ Cascading system costs arise that the generators typically don't own



Figure UC-11: Dynamic stability solutions heatmap of thermal mitigation at renewable milestones and installed units of technology



# **Drivers of Systemic Costs - Materials**

### Materials throughput by type of energy source



# \*Mismatch between demand and generation is the heart







# **Drivers of Systemic Costs - Load Profiles**

# **Drivers of Systemic Costs - Load Profiles with Consumer**







# **Principle vs Preference Strategies**







# **Starting with the correct foundation is critical**



# **Energy the Utah Way: Consumer-First Policies**

"Utah will develop its energy resources and plan its energy future with a focus on human well-being and quality of life, recognizing that reliable access to energy is vital for human health, adaptation, economic growth, and prosperity" - Utah State Code 79-6-301 (1)(a)(i)

Seven attributes (in priority order)

- o Adequate
- o Reliable
- Dispatchable
- o Affordable
- o Sustainable
- o Secure
- o Clean



# **Truing Market and Consumer Impact**

### **Market Truing:**

Correcting Market signals to align with impact and value to the consumers. e.g. move from energy only market to a capacity type of market.

**Enhance System Reliability:** Set performance standards and require resources to meet the standard. Ensuring that any changes to the utility's asset portfolio do not compromise the reliability and affordability of the electric service, especially during times of peak demand. Maximizing value not necessarily production.

**Promote Accountability:** Hold utilities accountable for their investment decisions by requiring evidence demonstrating the efficacy and reliability of new asset designs and how they systematically meet consumers' needs in a reliable and affordable manner. Strengthen the front end by enhancing the Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) review process, giving it as much emphasis as we do rate cases.

**Facilitate Transparent Decision-Making:** Mandate detailed disclosures and evaluations in rate adjustment applications based on metrics that align with consumer value and impact, enabling better regulatory oversight and informed decision-making by the commission.





# **The Water–Energy Nexus**

## **Robert B. Sowby, Ph.D., P.E., ENV SP**

**Brigham Young University**

The Energy Council 2024 Global Energy and Environmental Issues Conference Dec. 6, 2024 | Salt Lake City

> **BYU Civil & Construction Engineering IRA A. FULTON COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

### **1986 and 2022**



**Pumping Pacific Ocean Water to Great Salt Lake**

400 MW 11% of UT elec. \$300M/yr 1 MMT  $CO<sub>2</sub>$ e/yr 200,000 cars





### **The Nexus**

**BYU Civil & Construction Engineering** 

Energy for Water (pumping, treatment, water heating, wastewater)

WATER ENERG

Y

Water for Energy (thermoelectric cooling, steam, hydropower)

## **Water for Energy**

Thermoelectric power: 41% of all U.S. water withdrawals (Dieter et al. 2018)























- U.S.: 13% of total energy (Sanders and Webber 2012)
- Utah: 7% of total energy (DWRe 2012)
- California: 19% of electricity and 30% of natural gas (CEC 2005)
- Idaho: 34%-49% of electricity (Tidwell et al. 2014)



## **Energy for Water**



## **Energy for Water: Irrigation**

### 1% of all U.S. energy

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Sowby and Dicataldo 2022

**Energy for Water: Drinking Water**

1% –2% of all U.S. energy

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Sowby and Burian 2017

**Optimized Water System**

CascadeEnergy<sup>®</sup>



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

OPTIMIZED SYSTEM

PRMANCE

THE RAULIC TELEVISION CONTROL CONTROL

**BYU Civil & Construction Engineering** 

Jones and Sowby 2014

### **BYU Civil & Construction Engineering**

### JORDAN VALLEY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT Salt Lake City, UT | 700,000 people

# 19% reduction from baseline





ROBERT B. SOWBY, STEVEN C. JONES, ALAN E. PACKARD. AND TODD R. SCHULTZ

### Jordan Valley Water Redefines Sustainable Water Supply Through Energy Management

A MAJOR LITAH WATER DISTRICT REDUCED ITS ENERGY FOOTPRINT BY 19% AFTER FOLLOWING A TWO-YEAR ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, IMPLEMENTING BOTH TECHNICAL AND **CRGANIZATIONAL CHANGE IN** PURSUIT OF IT'S VISION TO PROVIDE A MORE SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY

erving the greater Salt Lake City area, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVWCD) is one of Utah's largest public water suppliers. Primarily a wholesaler of water to cities and improvement districts, JVWCD serves a population of approximately 680,000. About 75% of its water comes from surface water sources in the Provo River watershed or from local streams of the Wasatch Mountains' east bench. The remaining 25% comes from groundwater deep beneath the Salt Lake Valley

Sourcing, treating, and delivering high-quality water requires significant energy, which is one of the district's largest operating costs averaging \$4 million/year. To improve its sustainability through efficiency, JVWCD realized it needed to optimize its energy use.

### **MOTIVATION**

A water utility's energy footprint plays a role in its financial, environmental, and social impacts. With increasing population, stricter water quality standards, and rising energy costs, energy efficiency in the water sector is emerging as a primary

38 IOWEY ET AL. | OCTOBER 2017 - 199.18 | JOURNAL AWWA

2017 @ American Water Works Association



### **BYU Civil & Construction Engineering**

### CITY OF NORTH SALT LAKE, UTAH 21,000 people

# 25% reduction from baseline



### **Energy Management**

The city of North Salt Lake, Utah, recently reduced its water system's energy use by 25 percent. Distribution system pressures and water quality also improved as the water system. staff embraced energy-efficient operations. OT WINNER & ANAREL STEVEN R. ANNOU, SAN COMPENSATION, AND MATT IDENTIC

### **ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM LEADS TO OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS**

Start's Salt Take, Thair, "magaze-level water tests. Wasseage exhalt water system serving. subor 04000 and 11 years matters. The chaimore than 7,000 possible and letter. Beige in that the rest's four with and wholesale tree connections. With a population - museus are located at the house zone, request of about 31,990, the city how a drivene base ing pumping to all icons above. of water contributes, including generi pits, sol. This operation consumer significant energy, rebories, mondateurs, golf counts, and "cottig the city more than \$400,000 per year. and commercial businesses, and maint- and . The wave system's power bills to judy-ransity maple-lamity homes. The connections range: the month of inglust water me-encore what from a N.H. yembertal service to a 19.01 some other water system speed to an entire industrial connection that constitues about your Thirdon presented challenge to conduct 25 percent of the city's potable water demand. Water domain and maintaining five protection The most striking framer of the usual city's while keeping costs low Seasonal water resoluwater stream-with implications for energy additionfor complexers as North NO Lake can you -- in its 1,300 ft alevation difference across 10 were everything from a bot, shy manner to set mountainable pressure power. This condigension - year feet of name in the minimal

In rates No.D.





## Pumping in Circles BEFORE

### Low elevation



## Pumping in Circles AFTER

### Low elevation



### **BYU Civil & Construction Engineering**

### **LOGAN CITY, UTAH** 50,000 people 32% energy cost reduction from baseline





STEVEN C. JONES, PAUL W. LINDHARDT, AND ROBERT B. SOWBY

### Logan, Utah: A Case Study in Water and Energy Efficiency

LOGAN CITY, UTAH **EXPERIENCED FIRSTHAND** THE WATER-ENERGY NEXUS WHEN IT UNDERTOOK A **COMPREHENSIVE WATER** AND ENERGY AUDIT TO DETERMINE ITS BEST PATH FORWARD.

ome to 50,000 residents, dozens of industries, and Utah State<br>University, Logan City is the hub of a growing metropolitan area in northern Utah's Cache Valley. In 2013, after encountering several problems, Logan City began to optimize its water system for water and energy efficiency (Figure 1). Addressing both issues simultaneously is the essence of the water-energy nexus, an emerging field that studies the complex relationships between water and energy resources. Although conventional engineering attempts to balance perceived tradeoffs between water and energy, optimization exploits the benefits at their intersection (Jones & Sowby 2014). Reducing energy does not necessarily mean sacrificing system performance, just as improving service does not always mean a higher power bill. In an optimized system, water and energy solutions can become synergistic rather than antagonistic, as Logan discovered.

72 AUGUST 2015 | JOURNAL AWWA + 187-8 | JONES ET AL.

2015 & American Water Works Association

The savings and operational efficiency have continued each year since 2013. … If the current savings continue, the payback period for this project will be shorter than projected.

—Paul Lindhardt, W/WW Manager



### **The Nexus**

**BYU Civil & Construction Engineering** 

Energy for Water (pumping, treatment, water heating, wastewater)

WATER ENERG

Y

Water for Energy (thermoelectric cooling, steam, hydropower)

# " **Water conservation is energy conservation**