

8.19.10 Transcripts

1

1

2

3

4

5

6

NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

7

8

9

ENERGY MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER

10 CONFERENCE: DATA ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTIONS

11

12

13

AUGUST 19, 2010 NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

14

B E F O R E: LEE A. SOLOMON, President

15

JOSEPH FIORDALISO, Commissioner

16

NICHOLAS ASSELTA, Commissioner

17

18

19

J.H. BUEHRER & ASSOCIATES

20

2295 Big Enough Way

Toms River, New Jersey 08755

732)557-4755

21

22

23

24

25

2

1

I N D E X

2

SPEAKERS:

PAGE NO.

		8.19.10 Transcripts
3	JOSEPH SULLIVAN	4
4	FRANK FELDER	7
5	BRUCE BIEWALD	40
6	MAX HARDY (phonetic)	47
7	KEVIN LUKSLY (phonetic)	48
8	JOHN ASIDRO (phonetic)	49
9	EVAN VOGEL	51
10	FRANK STEVENS (phonetic)	53
11	DENNIS WILSON	54
12	TIM FAGAN	57
13	SCOTT YAFFIN (phonetic)	58
14	MEREDITH KNOLLS (phonetic)	60
15	CHRISTINE BOLTON (phonetic)	64
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

1 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Good morning,
2 everybody, and thank you all for coming.
3 There are just a couple of things I want
4 to say, and I probably should mention them when the
5 other Commissioners will get here, first thing,
6 there will be as you know from the notice that you
7 received a stakeholders meeting on September 22nd

8.19.10 Transcripts

8 and September 24th regarding some other issues.

9 At this stakeholders meeting we have
10 allotted two hours. It is not my intention and I
11 don't think it's the intention of any of the
12 Commissioners to take up your time to comment on the
13 Energy Master Plan.

14 It's our hope that we will listen and
15 digest what you are saying, there may be some
16 questions from time-to-time but this is your time.

17 Because of the number that are here and
18 the number that may want to comment, if we run
19 overtime we do expect to break about twelve, but
20 that's not a hard and fast time, we will, if there
21 are other people that wish to comment and they have
22 not been given an opportunity to do so we will
23 attempt to schedule a subsequent time when we can
24 hear the balance of the comments if there are things
25 that you need to say and you can't submit them in

4

1 writing and we need the extra time, we will attempt
2 to do so, we will do our best to squeeze the time in
3 for you.

4 Having said that, who will be the first
5 commenter? The first will be Joe Sullivan, one of
6 our Directors.

7 MR. SULLIVAN: Good morning. I would like
8 to thank everybody for being here.

9 This is a very important process that we
10 are working on.

11 What we are doing today is going over the

8.19.10 Transcripts

12 input and the process that we are going through,
13 looking at the Energy Master Plan.

14 This comes as a result of, I am sure you
15 have heard this before but I will repeat it, the
16 recession that followed the issuance of the 2008
17 Energy Master Plan and the dramatic changes in cost
18 for natural gas, oil and other energy inputs that
19 are used for planning purposes and evaluating
20 purposes that put us in the position that we now
21 need to go back and re-evaluate and look at this.

22 On top of that we understand today the
23 Governor will be signing offshore wind legislation
24 which will firm up some information, firm up the
25 process of where we are going to look at offshore

5

1 wind.

2 Inherent in that bill as it was developed
3 is that we are going to have to evaluate this and
4 show it has a major economic benefit for the State
5 which is a high standard for us to look at and it is
6 also a high hurdle for the developers to come
7 through. However, it is probably the most
8 responsible economic policy that could be laid at
9 our responsibility for evaluating and recommending.

10 That means that the original Energy Master
11 Plan which said that we are going to get a thousand
12 megawatts of offshore wind by 2012 is probably off,
13 the current legislation calls for eleven hundred
14 megawatts in the future but we will have to see how
15 that all works out.

16 The other things that happened to

8.19.10 Transcripts

17 dramatically influence things is that, and you will
18 see that in the presentation is that the cost of
19 solar and some of the other components that go into
20 this evaluation have come down significantly and we
21 have gotten input from a number of different sources
22 including people in this room, and we are certainly
23 open to that kind of input as to what the costs are
24 and what the projected costs are moving toward, so
25 we are certainly trying to be receptive to this, we

6

1 are not trying to completely renew the Energy Master
2 Plan.

3 What we are doing is we are looking at the
4 cost inputs and conclusions, recommendations. We
5 are going to have two more sessions, one on
6 September 22 where we will be meeting and talking
7 about the environmental and economic development
8 aspects of the Energy Master Plan, and the 24th
9 where we will talk about the proposed changes and
10 adjustments or changes in the Energy Master Plan.

11 You are certainly welcome and we would
12 hope to see a level of representation comparable to
13 this at those two meetings also.

14 I would like to turn this over to Frank
15 Felder from Rutgers. He has been crunching numbers
16 like mad, there are a few more things we will be
17 sending out.

18 One of the items we will talk about this
19 morning is that we have a couple of graphs in here
20 which include a estimated breakdown of electric and

8.19.10 Transcripts

21 gas, and we are trying to be as transparent and
22 honest about the costs that go into this bill as
23 humanly possible. Because I am both color blind and
24 don't have the best vision in the world I need to
25 bring out a list of all the component costs because

7

1 I can't follow the colors. Those will be made
2 available also. Try to bear with us, we are trying
3 to provide something that is easy to understand and
4 see, at the same time we do have additional
5 information that we will provide.

6 That being said, Frank?

7 MR. FELDER: Good morning, everyone. Just
8 for the record, I am Frank Felder with the Center
9 For Energy Economic Environmental Policy.

10 We have been working in conjunction with
11 BPU Staff to pull together and the keyword on this
12 document is draft, assumptions from a variety of
13 sources, publicly available sources.

14 At any time whether it is today or later
15 on, feel free to provide any comments or additional
16 sources or suggestions. I don't want anyone to
17 think that we are at the end of the process, we are
18 just at the beginning, in fact there are some
19 important pieces that aren't covered here. I will
20 talk about them as we go. The idea is this is a
21 work in progress, we want to be able to give folks a
22 chance to look at what we are thinking, be able to
23 respond and provide suggestions as we go through
24 those things.

25 What I would like to do is take about

1 forty minutes or so to walk through a presentation
2 and that way we will have about an hour or so for
3 comments.

4 If any of the Commissioners have questions
5 I will be happy to take comments as we go.

6 I would like to march through the
7 presentation in a way that people have plenty of
8 time to comment at the end.

9 So, what this presentation includes, it's
10 a quick summary of the energy master, the 2008
11 document. It also includes a breakdown of what Joe
12 alluded to, residential electric and gas rates. And
13 we put the word rates in quotes because we are just
14 trying to identify the pieces and putting in
15 estimates where we could for various pieces for a
16 residential "rate" in 2009 gas and electric, and
17 that was the piece that Joe was referring to and I
18 suspect later next week we will make publicly
19 available and much more detailed description of
20 exactly the components and how we got them because
21 when you are planning on a power point presentation
22 it is not as clear as it should be.

23 The third part of the presentation is to
24 review some long-term economic assumptions and
25 compare the 2008 assumptions with updated

1 assumptions choosing what we call the R/ECON model,
2 that Nancy Mentelli (phonetic), an economist at the

8.19.10 Transcripts

3 Blaustein School runs, unfortunately she couldn't be
4 here today to do the presentation but I will do that
5 instead.

6 And then finally on the generation side
7 developed a variety through looking at a variety of
8 documents, estimate of costs of different generation
9 technologies over time so it is a way to kind of
10 bound possible cost estimates moving forward.

11 Before we begin, my academic union card
12 requires me to quote myself. I would like to read
13 something that we wrote in 2004, which I still never
14 follow my own advice, projecting the future over a
15 fifteen year period is a difficult exercise, it
16 requires making assumptions regarding many key
17 parameters that are inherently uncertain.

18 In 2008 we wrote a modeling report that
19 accompanied the Energy Master Plan and we set a
20 cursory review of energy events over the last
21 several decades reveals that the unexpected is the
22 norm.

23 We weren't even thinking about what
24 happened between 2008 and 2010.

25 The other piece I want to emphasize as we

10

1 think through these various projections and their
2 implications is I think the best thing that these
3 data can help us do is kind of bound the problem,
4 provide kind of a field of play, so to speak, and
5 then the important policy decisions will be done
6 within that context.

7 So another statement we wrote back in 2007
Page 8

8.19.10 Transcripts

8 and 8 is that the purpose of a modeling is to be
9 informative, not dispositive. So I don't want
10 anyone to think that I am solving a calculus
11 problem, I get the answer and that's the answer.
12 That is the reverse. Hopefully we will set up the
13 data and the information in a way that asks
14 intelligent questions and then the process will work
15 its way to get to the EMP.

16 Okay, just a quick review, the EMP had a
17 variety of goals, if I think back to 2008, energy
18 prices were extremely high, oil was about one
19 hundred and forty dollars a barrel, natural gas was
20 fifteen dollars an MMBTU, gasoline prices were about
21 three fifty-four dollars a gallon, electricity
22 prices like natural gas were very high as well, and
23 you will see those.

24 So it was an area where there was very
25 high energy prices. The economy was humming long

11

1 although there were murmur about some problems, we
2 were actually in a recession in 2008, we just didn't
3 know it until later in that year.

4 But in any event that context is very
5 different than the context today.

6 So not surprising back in 2008 with high
7 energy prices we focused on energy efficiency,
8 reducing peak electric demand hours which had a
9 large contribution as to the cost, to consider
10 increasing the renewable portfolio standard, and to
11 improve the development of our infrastructure.

8.19.10 Transcripts

12 Okay, with that in mind the next four
13 slides are just a quick breakdown, I don't know if
14 these lights only the side can be turned off?
15 There is a whole range of lights.
16 So the next four slides, and like I said
17 we will provide a lot more detail hopefully next
18 week publicly, just break down a rate.
19 Just notice the quotes on every page of
20 the draft, a residential rate, and this started with
21 the commodity piece, both for electricity and
22 natural gas, so in the case of electricity it is
23 from PJM, in the case of natural gas it is the
24 commodity, the bulk is from Canada. We added in the
25 transmission and distribution components and added

12

1 in a variety of other charges that are on customers
2 bills, what we call state policy charges.
3 So they included the Societal Benefit
4 Charge or charges, not just stuff that funds the
5 Clean Energy Program.
6 We added in the regional greenhouse gas
7 initiative, and there are two pieces for electric on
8 the electric side. One is the actual allowances, so
9 the allowances cost money which raised the price of
10 electricity on the wholesale level, but there is
11 also the RGGI legislation that allows the utilities
12 subject to rules of approval to submit filings for
13 various programs, so it is kind of two pieces.
14 So much of this work is clearly
15 identifying the different components, defining them
16 well and then going through the various utility

8.19.10 Transcripts

17 tariffs.

18 The utilities, both electric and gas have
19 various charges and amounts, both the categories and
20 the amounts vary, just for historical reasons or for
21 reasons unique to the utility, so we kind of
22 aggregated them. In other words, if we saw a charge
23 on one electric utility but not on the other we
24 weighted it by the number of customers, so they
25 don't line up on the residential side, and I suspect

13

1 not on the commercial industrial side one for one.
2 There is a little bit of kind of making a generic
3 rate out of all this.

4 But as you go through this piece, probably
5 the slide that is a little more clearer is where we
6 categorize them, wholesale charges for electric,
7 distribution charges and State policy charges.

8 So as it is probably clearer on your
9 handouts what the components are, some of those the
10 State controls directly, some more indirectly, so
11 for example the wholesale electric piece is set by
12 PJM, national policies regarding sulphur and
13 emission allowances, the transmission piece which is
14 determined by the Federal Energy Regulatory
15 Commission, and so forth.

16 The top of it, kind of building up from
17 wholesale to retail, the distribution portion, the
18 recovery of the electric distribution, and then
19 there are a variety of categories in terms of State
20 policy charges including the sales and use tax,

8.19.10 Transcripts

21 various components, the Societal Benefits Charges,
22 and so forth.

23 Now, some of those charges overtime
24 disappear so we just started with 2009 and we are
25 working through the figure out in the future in

14

1 2020, let's say, which elements are here or there.

2 You will notice on this there is no piece
3 for the--there is an RPS portion, an SREC portion,
4 there is no piece for ORECs because in 2009 we don't
5 have offshore wind.

6 The next piece is the natural gas rate.
7 Again, I will just go through the one with the
8 percentages.

9 Probably one note before I leave the
10 electric piece is that in determining the wholesale
11 electric piece it depends if you use the BGS price
12 versus today's PJM spot prices, and we will see a
13 graph that compares them over time.

14 I just wanted to build up component by
15 component so we could see the location of marginal
16 prices, the retail of the reliability pricing model,
17 so I used today's spot prices which are a little
18 different than the BGS. But in any event, the idea
19 is to capture the wholesale piece, and technology,
20 depending on the assumptions you use, have some
21 differences.

22 On the natural gas side we have the
23 commodity piece, this is where you will see some
24 projections where the wholesale portion may be
25 coming down in the future, although projecting

1 natural gas price is dangerous.

2 The distribution, the wholesale cost of
3 transportation, the distribution and again the State
4 policy component.

5 So here the slide is not perfectly clear,
6 this RGGI is not the RGGI allowances, it is part
7 of the RGGI legislation combined with the energy and
8 economic stimulus program.

9 How you define these and what one should
10 group together will affect the percentages, but we
11 just wanted to give people a rough order of
12 magnitude, obviously any comments or suggestions as
13 we refine this we will be happy to hear those as
14 well.

15 The next major portion is talking about
16 the R/ECON model which as I mentioned has been
17 developed by Dr. Nancy Mentelli, an economist with
18 the Blaustein School, she runs the R/ECON Center.

19 This model has been used for the State in
20 a variety of contexts, not just energy. It is a
21 State level macro-economic model. It takes
22 assumptions from the national level from Global
23 insight that will provide national assumptions
24 regarding inflation, oil prices, natural gas prices,
25 it puts that into a model and extends the model over

1 time.

2 What the next set of slides do is compare

8.19.10 Transcripts

3 the output 2008 baseline, the 2008 EMP, Energy
4 Master Plan case, and the 2010 baseline case,
5 assuming no EMP. So it is updating, the following
6 slides are updating the economic projections from
7 2008.

8 In addition, where appropriate we added
9 other assumptions from publicly available sources.

10 I just want to note that we only relied on
11 publicly available sources although sometimes people
12 do provide me confidential data and the reason is
13 since everything has to be made publicly available
14 so different stakeholders and Staff can look at it I
15 have to limit what we can do to what is publicly
16 available.

17 Publicly available studies don't mean Bob
18 in his basement posting something on the website.
19 We need to be able to get behind the study, to see
20 the intermediate assumptions, the cost of capital,
21 the cost of labor, so that we have some sense of the
22 final number has been supported by a series of
23 assumptions, so we tend to look at studies that are
24 as complete or have enough so we can kind of delve
25 into the details to make sure we have at least some

17

1 understanding of how they get that number.

2 The results I am going to present today
3 for 2010 use the baseline middle of the road
4 assumptions. Global Insight which, as I mentioned,
5 provides the national, international assumptions
6 that feed into this model also have what they call
7 pessimistic case and optimistic case.

8.19.10 Transcripts

8 We ran the numbers, I haven't had a chance
9 to talk to Nancy about them, so they are not
10 presented here today, but I did want to present that
11 we are, we do consider things within a range of
12 estimates, we are just not looking at one set of
13 assumptions, and these two different cases kind of a
14 high and low case, pessimistic and optimistic, they
15 are national assumptions provided here.

16 So basically they are different
17 assumptions regarding future US economic growth and
18 associated energy prices.

19 At a later date when those slides have
20 been reviewed we can put them out just like we did
21 in 2007 and 2008 to give a range of estimates on the
22 different macro-economic information that was
23 supplied.

24 The next set of slides are actually the
25 result, most of the time it goes out to 2020, in

18

1 some cases we went out to 2025, just because we have
2 the projections available.

3 The first set are economic numbers
4 regarding jobs in New Jersey's gross state product.

5 As you will see here the recession, the
6 bottom line is the 2010 baseline, for example, does
7 not include the offshore wind legislation, because
8 at the time we were preparing it wasn't available.

9 It does not include the Solar Act, which
10 hardwired the amount of gigawatt hours, but in any
11 event it is just baseline.

8.19.10 Transcripts

12 Now, the vertical lines indicate when we
13 go from historic to projections. In 2008 we had
14 less data available to project the future than in
15 2010, that's why you will see a kind of a divergence
16 here because in 2008 we are using projection data
17 available through 2006 or 7, depending on the
18 source, and moving forward in 2010 we have another
19 year of true data, so that's why the piece here, we
20 pretty much drew this line at 2008.

21 Not surprisingly due to the recession, the
22 severe economic recession the projected growth rate
23 today is both flatter and lower than it was in 2008.

24 If you will notice the 2008 business as
25 usual case and in the 2008 EMP on this graph are

19

1 identical. The projections we made regarding the
2 2008 Energy Master Plan showed a slight increase in
3 jobs over the BAU, the business as usual, it is
4 probably worth spending a couple of minutes
5 explaining that.

6 When we did the projection for the 2008
7 Energy Master Plan versus the 2008 business as
8 usual, at that time the RPS was already policy, the
9 twenty percent RPS was adopted in 2004.

10 So the business as usual case referred to
11 what was existing at the time, and as a result the
12 RPS was part of the baseline case.

13 If you will recall from the previous slide
14 a major portion, not the only portion, but major
15 portion of the 2008 Energy Master Plan was energy
16 efficiency, demand-response, combined heat and

8.19.10 Transcripts

17 power.

18 Those technologies, particularly at very
19 high prices in 2008 are cost effective. In other
20 words, they don't raise the price of electricity or
21 the bills if they are implemented in a cost
22 effective way, they actually lower people's
23 expenditures on electricity which freeze up revenue
24 for them to spend on other things.

25 In the case of the renewable portfolios

20

1 standard back in 2004 it is the reverse. The
2 renewables for the most part are more expensive than
3 current at least in direct costs, putting aside
4 incremental pieces.

5 That is very important. Direct costs raise
6 electric rates, that higher energy costs when they
7 ripple through the State economy put a slow drag on
8 the economy.

9 So back in 2004 our analysis showed the
10 flip, showed there was a small economic hit to New
11 Jersey's State economy by adopting the renewable
12 portfolio standard. We did various cases back in
13 2004 and the magnitude of that small economic drag
14 depends of course on the price of renewables, the
15 cost of renewables, and whether or not the State was
16 able or it is able to attract jobs, particularly
17 manufacturing jobs to the State because
18 counterbalancing that increase in electric costs are
19 the jobs associated with the manufacturing assembly,
20 operations of whatever technology we are talking

8.19.10 Transcripts

21 about, offshore winds, solar, combined heat and
22 power, energy efficiency.

23 So with that context in mind, that is why
24 the 2008 BAU and EMP at this level where we have
25 gross state product is about the same, it is still a

21

1 small difference but it is this trade-off between
2 increasing electric or energy prices with some
3 technologies versus ability to attract the
4 operations, manufacturing and development jobs
5 within the State.

6 The same story applies for the next
7 picture, which is employment, non-agricultural
8 employment.

9 As you can see the BAU and the EMP,
10 business as usual, and the Energy Master Plan, cases
11 are near identical, although the EMP actually had
12 about eighteen to twenty thousand more jobs.

13 Another important distinction that needs
14 to be made with jobs is some jobs are one time jobs,
15 like the construction of new facility, other jobs
16 are ongoing jobs, the maintenance and operations and
17 so forth. So as we go through these different
18 analyses we should think about which ones are one
19 time jobs for a week or five years, and also which
20 ones are continual jobs which are operation and
21 maintenance.

22 Typically in a new construction project
23 there are a lot of one time jobs over the
24 construction period obviously, and then there are a
25 fewer number of jobs typically with respect to

1 operation and maintenance.

2 Just for fun the US government through the
3 Energy Information Agency also projected kind of
4 national US trends so on many of these slides we
5 have a little box here with this kind of reporting
6 of aggregate annual growth rate or numbers just so
7 you can compare the different sources.

8 Similarly with the consumer price index
9 with the recession there is downward pressure on
10 prices although that abates going out into the
11 future, and then just for contrast we reported the
12 Energy Information Agency's numbers, not
13 surprisingly the lower inflation is perhaps leading
14 to the higher economic growth in part, perhaps.

15 Now let's slow down a little bit and talk
16 about the various components, electricity, natural
17 gas and gasoline.

18 This slide is a -- let's start with the
19 2008 Energy Master Plan. By assumption EMP,
20 assuming it was implemented and successful,
21 basically flat-lined electricity growth and that is
22 evidenced here by that line here.

23 In 2008, BAU, within a growing economy and
24 increasing commodity prices went up to about over
25 here.

1 The 2010 baseline is in between the two
2 naturally because it doesn't reflect the Energy

8.19.10 Transcripts

3 Master Plan, but with the slower economy you see the
4 dip in electricity sales and increase, probably a
5 little bit lower, you can tell from the table, than
6 in 2008, so the baseline 2010 growth rate for
7 electricity is up 1.2 percent. The BAU in 2008 was
8 1.3 percent so that's just due to the economic
9 changes.

10 We also put up PJM's forecast in 2008 and
11 2010. They are a little bit higher in part due to
12 their growth rates, but also in part because they
13 are not accounting for distribution losses, so they
14 are not a pure apples to apples comparison.

15 But in any event, we picked off the PJM
16 piece for New Jersey for the electric utilities in
17 New Jersey, not PJM-wide, but they actually forecast
18 at the utility level.

19 This is the same chart we just
20 extrapolated out to 2025, the forecast in 2008 only
21 went out to not the whole time, again, just for
22 additional five years.

23 I should make one more comment about our
24 R/ECON model. The purpose of this model is not to
25 project a business cycle ten or five years from now,

24

1 it just projects long-term trends, it works through
2 the current business cycle which hopefully we are
3 coming out, of although that can be disputed, and
4 then it just projects pretty much a straight line
5 growth rate, not always out into the future.

6 Not trying to find if in 2018 there is
7 going to another recession or in 2020 there will an

8.19.10 Transcripts

8 upturn from the 2018 recession, it may give an
9 illusion of stability that it is not trying to do.

10 It is not trying to project where we are
11 going in a projected business cycle. If Nancy and I
12 could project business cycles we wouldn't be here,
13 we would be in Monterey or en route. If you know how
14 to project business cycles talk to me afterwards and
15 we can make some money.

16 I don't want to give the impression that
17 we don't think there is going to be a shock in
18 natural gas prices due to hurricanes or there can be
19 anything that could disrupt the economy into the
20 future, it is just given this modeling technology,
21 this is what it does.

22 Why stop at demand, we might as well
23 forecast prices as well.

24 As you can see, these charts are lined up
25 the same way.

25

1 Now we have kind of an outreach electric
2 rate weighted across commercial residential and
3 industrial. Again you will see that the 2010
4 baseline is lower. We have to make some out of
5 modeling adjustment, I don't think the model is
6 behaving properly but we are investigating that.

7 But in any event, the BAU reflecting
8 economic conditions in 2008 had a much higher growth
9 rate. We see that also in the chart for
10 electricity.

11 The R/ECON model is better at forecasting

8.19.10 Transcripts

12 aggregate things, total employment, total growth
13 state product, as opposed to individual components,
14 that's the way the model is set up, the way it
15 works. We also put, this is not a fair comparison
16 because it is not a retail number, the basic
17 generation service as well.

18 You will see a downward trend in prices
19 here both reflected in the EIA and baseline, EIA is
20 for the Mid-Atlantic, they don't provide a
21 projection for New Jersey, but you see basically a
22 reduction in electric rates in part due to the
23 economy, and weather plays a part as well.

24 Again, we made the same, we just extended
25 this out to 2025, just for informational purposes.

26

1 As the projections get further out into
2 the future there are uncertainty increases. As you
3 look at those lines you should see a plume of
4 uncertainty that is expanding over time, if I would
5 have drawn that for every line there would have been
6 one big mush.

7 The next slide is peak electric demand.
8 Again, the Energy Master Plan by assumption pretty
9 much wanted to flat-line the peak demand so that the
10 top one hundred or fifty hours in the electric
11 system had a lot of costs, you build the electric
12 power system for peak hours, just like you build the
13 football stadium for the Superbowl ,it is the peak
14 hours that are driving the capital cost which is a
15 major portion of costs.

16 The BAU up here, maybe twenty-five

8.19.10 Transcripts

17 thousand. Just by kind of projecting out through
18 PJM they have a demand projection for reliability
19 for 2010, about there. You can just kind of see
20 where our actual versus some projections.

21 This set of curve is low duration curves
22 for 2007 through 9. For those of you who have
23 better things in your life to do than to understand
24 those curves, all we did is we put demand in
25 megawatts hour by hour ranking it from highest to

27

1 lowest. Obviously demand fluctuates cronologically,
2 so the hottest day may be July 7, the second-hottest
3 June 25, but we ranked them, which is the standard,
4 from highest to lowest. It gives you a good idea of
5 peak and it gives you a good ideal how demand has
6 shifted, the kind of average demand, off peak demand
7 over time.

8 And you can see 2009 has been
9 substantially lower, partly due to weather, I think
10 it was a mild summer, but also the recession as
11 well, so it is a combination, so you should always
12 think about the weather piece as well.

13 You can do the same thing for wholesale
14 electricity prices, location and marginal prices, L
15 and Ps. We then did them, we ranked them for New
16 Jersey 2009, 7 and 8, you can see in the chart we
17 did the peak provision, the top fifty and the top
18 one hundred.

19 Again due to weather and the economy those
20 prices have been coming down at least through 2009

8.19.10 Transcripts

21 we can explain those by weather and economy.

22 So both the peak price and that top fifty
23 or a hundred is driving a good piece of the prices,
24 a lot of them are flat and kind of in the middle.

25 As Joe mentioned, the 2008 EMP did not

28

1 include the Solar Advancement and Fair Competition
2 Acts so we did want to have a slide and table going
3 out to 2025, this is the slide that we did in the
4 energy year just to confuse you, so we are forever
5 bouncing back between energy year and calendar year.

6 This is an energy year but you can think
7 about it as a calendar year, the true-up worked up.

8 Here is the solar requirement. It used to
9 be a percentage but now it is hard-wired in terms of
10 GWH hours, the actual numbers are provided on the
11 next table.

12 You can see over time kind of walking up
13 the solar curve there is substantial increase about
14 fifty percent from 2020 to 2025 in terms of solar.

15 Here we just, the legislation, I believe
16 just stipulates or the regulations for the RPS at a
17 percentage, a constant percentage through 2020. We
18 took that same percentage, multiplied it by expected
19 GWH hours to get the remainder, that's why it is
20 going up. It is not that the percentage is going
21 up, the percentage is being applied to a number that
22 is increasing.

23 That gives you kind of a picture going out
24 through there.

25 The next slide just provides the numbers

1 so we can make sure and check it and make sure we
2 got it right.

3 Let's transition into natural gas. The
4 same type of setup. We split out natural gas
5 including and with and without electric generation,
6 because it is a major piece. As you can see, you
7 will see in the next slide, the price of natural gas
8 has been forecasted to be lower than it was two
9 years ago, so that is causing the increase in
10 natural gas demands. Here, without electric
11 generation, again, you see the baseline is higher
12 because of lower prices, you will see in a moment
13 compared to the BAU and the EMP.

14 Again, we projected it out for 2025 for
15 your information.

16 We did average, weighted average rates
17 just like electricity, those are retail. We also
18 included, I'm not sure we can talk about a retail
19 rate when the generator is natural gas, getting it
20 from the transmission system as well.

21 In any event, we just compared them with
22 the OA EMP versus the BAU for rating with the retail
23 rate, so the lower rates are primarily due to the
24 lower commodity piece of natural gas.

25 Again, we plotted out with EIA Energy

1 Information Agency just to give a point of
2 comparison and it went out to 2025.

8.19.10 Transcripts

3 Now, one motivating, well, I will talk
4 about it when I get to it, here again we did the
5 rate out to 2025 retail level.

6 So as many of you know Henry Hub
7 (phonetic) is a major trading place in Louisiana for
8 natural gas, its indicator is a good good pricing
9 point for wholesale natural gas with the development
10 of the technology that allows producers to get at
11 shale gas, gas that we know existed but just
12 couldn't get at economically, many are forecasting
13 lower natural gas prices over time. Much of that
14 shale is available in the Northeast so it could also
15 affect transportation cost of natural gas.

16 There are some issues with that as many
17 people know in terms of water issues and other
18 environmental issues, but with the downturn in the
19 economy and the substantial increase in economic
20 reserves of natural gas which took I think almost
21 everyone by surprise, MIT released a natural gas
22 study rather recently and it acknowledged, it went
23 between 2008 to today, it was really kind of a
24 breakthrough, we really figured out that there was a
25 large economic resource of natural gas at least

31

1 potential, and once that is put into the various
2 models that shows a decrease in wholesale natural
3 gas prices.

4 So if you remember back in 2008,
5 wholesale, that is Global Insight that was fed into
6 the R/ECON model, now prices are much, much lower,
7 maybe fifty percent lower or even more.

8.19.10 Transcripts

8 Although the 2008 EMP did not address
9 transportation we put in the gasoline and oil just
10 for completeness, again predicting gasoline prices,
11 they are never volatile, you should put a very wavy
12 line on top of whatever trend line you think would
13 be appropriate.

14 With the lower oil prices, the decline in
15 the economy at least for oil, those projections are
16 lower today than they were in 2008. We put in some
17 different projections as well, EIA, as you can see
18 there is a very wide range of projections for
19 gasoline prices in the U.S.

20 And then the corresponding wholesale at
21 least one part, one point is in Western Texas, WTI,
22 Western Texas Intermediary , and you can see in this
23 case, Global Insight actually has in the out years a
24 higher oil price than they did in 2008 for whatever
25 reason.

32

1 But in the near-term we have the
2 substantial drop in oil prices due to the world-wide
3 recession.

4 Okay.

5 And in the last five or ten minutes I just
6 want to wrap up. I want to just briefly talk about
7 generation cost assumptions.

8 Many of you will notice there are some
9 pieces that are missing, we don't have any slides on
10 energy efficiency or demand-response, because when
11 pencils were down we didn't get to that part yet, we

8.19.10 Transcripts

12 are developing those as quickly as we can.

13 Feel free to anticipate what we are going
14 to do, we will take input on them, even if as of
15 today we haven't, this is just preliminary or draft
16 thinking. We don't have greenhouse gas emissions
17 and so forth. We are working through those as well.
18 We need to coordinate with other parts of State
19 government which we are hoping to do. So this
20 section here are generation cost assumptions for
21 the standard technologies, we organized them
22 alphabetically, why not?

23 And we tried to look at available studies,
24 publicly available credible studies that provided
25 not just the final answer but also the component

33

1 parts of the various assumptions.

2 One way to compare generation technologies
3 on a somewhat equal footing, although not perfect,
4 is the levelized cost of electricity.

5 It is not perfect for a variety of
6 reasons.

7 One reason is different generation
8 resources get different prices in the market. Solar
9 gets peak prices because on a hot sunny day that is
10 driving up electricity prices, wind tends to blow
11 during off peak hours so it would collect a lower
12 price in the market, lower revenue stream. So the
13 cost component doesn't make that comparison, you
14 then have to run a market model and figure out the
15 revenue and how it varies by the type of technology.

16 It doesn't usually account for

8.19.10 Transcripts

17 environmental issues unless those costs are
18 internalized in the fuel price, so, for example, the
19 emission of mercury is not accounted for in the
20 levelized cost of electricity from a coal plant,
21 unless that is internalized into the fuel price.

22 So in some cases you have to address the
23 environmental issues, in others differently.

24 Then account for intermittency, that's an
25 issue for some technologies, and also it doesn't

34

1 address perhaps cost changes over time so the
2 levelized cost of electricity is at a particular
3 point in time, the technology in some cases, that
4 technology, the cost is decreasing hopefully rapidly
5 over time.

6 In any event, comparing levelized cost of
7 electricity over studies is more challenging than we
8 thought, than one would think. Partly because you
9 really never get an apples to apples comparison,
10 they vary by time, by location, by the level of
11 detail.

12 But here we tried to provide a range from
13 publicly available studies recently, I put CEEP in
14 2004, I probably should not have done that, you can
15 laugh at me, but that's fine. The same thing with
16 2008, so we are more than willing to say where we
17 got it wrong. But things will change, perhaps in
18 the future we will be right after all, you never
19 know.

20 We also provide more details for the

8.19.10 Transcripts

21 various technologies individually.

22 We do it by major components, biomass is
23 very idiosyncratic because it depends on the
24 technology, availability of fuel, what type of
25 biomass, so it is really a range of technologies as

35

1 opposed to a standardized one.

2 Same thing with the fixed operation and
3 maintenance cost and variable costs, we looked at
4 combined cycle turbine gas programs, both gas
5 turbine GTs in combined cycles, typically from PJM
6 cost of new entry, various studies, even for well
7 established technologies, combustion turbine or
8 combined circle projections about cost vary over
9 time and by study. Even for technologies that are
10 relatively mature you get a variation in cost.

11 We made similar assumptions about combined
12 heat and power, like biomass it is very specific,
13 Joe is an expert in that area, we just note that ICF
14 is wrapping up a study for the BPU assessing
15 combined heat and power in New Jersey, so we will
16 feed those results into this as well.

17 To give you a graph over time we tried to
18 just show you the range of estimates on independent
19 studies for the different technologies, just to
20 drill home the range of cost assumptions.

21 The same thing with gas turbines, again,
22 to drive home the point gas turbines were projecting
23 in DOAs back in 2008 that the prices would go up.

24 Look at this, six hundred dollars versus
25 nine hundred dollars, six hundred versus eight

1 hundred dollars. There is a wide range of these
2 technologies even in something that is very well
3 defined a mature technology, a cost.

4 The good news about solar is we know the
5 price today, we know the cost today because there
6 are many solar panels, of course they vary by size,
7 with nuclear and offshore wind we don't even have
8 good data at least for the U.S. No one has built a
9 new nuclear power plant since one or two have been
10 completed in the last thirty years, projections of
11 dollars per kW, capital cost, which is obviously a
12 key part of nuclear, you know, there are numbers on
13 a piece of paper, you really have to treat these
14 with a grain of salt.

15 One would expect, at least I would
16 suspect, that the first nuclear power plant to be
17 built in the U.S, or the first couple, may be at a
18 much higher cost due to regulatory risk, but who
19 knows? This is dangerous, business projections
20 about nuclear power, but also the same applies to
21 offshore wind where we really don't have good data,
22 actual data, based on recent experience in the
23 United States.

24 Those projections I would treat them with
25 a much larger band width, these ranges, I don't

1 think are really accounting for potential regulatory
2 uncertainty.

8.19.10 Transcripts

3 That being said, the technology is
4 improving. There are different designs and so
5 forth.

6 Similarly with offshore wind, again, you
7 have a little bit of cost projections based on the
8 the submissions by developers in New Jersey and
9 elsewhere in the Northeast. Again, we don't have
10 five offshore wind facilities and the actual data
11 that have been built, at last in the United States.
12 We do have international data.

13 Those projections are varied again by data
14 source, so that's a big piece.

15 In the case of offshore wind other large
16 uncertainties besides capital cost are the capacity
17 factor, do we know the quality of the wind and when
18 that wind will blow, when will it generate the
19 revenue and along with any associated transmission
20 costs to deliver that power to market, so are a
21 variety of uncertainties surrounding offshore wind
22 along with other technologies.

23 Onshore wind, similar estimates. That we
24 have a lot more experience with in the United States
25 and through the class 1 REC which is really

38

1 reflecting the kind of marginal renewable portfolio
2 standard.

3 Solar, the story with solar is that prices
4 are coming down. Every time I hear solar I hear the
5 word grid parity, hopefully that occurs.

6 That being said, if you look at these
7 projections, even relatively recent projections,

8.19.10 Transcripts

8 this Navigant in 2008 was at the end of the year in
9 December '08, have wide ranges. In 2008 the
10 Department of Energy was forecasting, if I have the
11 numbers right, an increase in solar costs into the
12 future reflecting what they thought at the time
13 would be a kind of shortage and then a price
14 decrease.

15 That may have worked its way out with the
16 recession.

17 The cost of these facilities also vary by
18 size on the residential home, this could be more
19 expensive than at a solar farm, a large field, for
20 obvious reasons.

21 The next piece, again, shows the variation
22 over time where you are trying to capture the
23 downward trend, at least what is reflected in the
24 studies that we could access. Here I just wanted to
25 show the major components, solar like wind is pretty

39

1 much, much of the cost, most of the cost on the
2 capital piece, but along with that capital piece it
3 includes the installation cost of the capital and so
4 we just provided a breakdown based on a couple of
5 studies and based on several communications with
6 some of the developers to get an idea how much is
7 due to the panel, how much is due to the inverter
8 and how much to the installation.

9 And then just to annoy Joe we provided
10 every reference that we did, but I hope we didn't
11 miss any for your review.

8.19.10 Transcripts

12 With that I would like to take any
13 questions or comments.
14 Let's take five minutes.
15 Is there a sign-up sheet? How many people
16 are intending to speak?
17 We will take a short break and then we
18 will start.
19 (Short recess.)
20 PRESIDNET SOLOMON: At this time
21 Commission Asselta has joined the proceeding.
22 Commissioner Fiordaliso will be joining us shortly,
23 I know he wants to sit in.
24 What I'm going to ask you to do is if you
25 have a question or comment that you want to make

40

1 raise your hand and I will call you up.
2 Make sure you state your name and your
3 organization for the record so that we have it and
4 then you can begin to speak.
5 Stephanie, you are up first.
6 MS. BRAND: I am going to defer to Bruce.
7 MR. BIEWALD: Bruce Biewald, I'm
8 consultant to Rate Counsel.
9 I just have a few clarifying questions.
10 In general, this is really interesting, in
11 trying to understand the costs, the levelized cost
12 and then the capital cost, levelized costs and
13 megawatt hours, megawatt costs in terms of megawatt
14 dollars, capital costs in nominal dollars per
15 kilowatt, Frank explained that it's a little bit of
16 apples to oranges, that's what kind of where my

8.19.10 Transcripts

17 question is getting to.

18 How can I understand these and compare
19 them, say the nominal dollars per kilowatt, do they
20 include the transmission, interest on construction,
21 and so on, or are they just different across the
22 different numbers, the columns here, and we have to
23 go back to the original study?

24 You are nodding your head.

25 MR. FELDER: Yes.

41

1 MR. BIEWALD: Second, is there kind of a
2 philosophy that you are trying to compare to here,
3 or it a mixed bag?

4 MR. FELDER: No. The first step, as
5 always, is just to get together the information and
6 try to make those comparisons that have enough
7 detail and then let people take a look at that, see
8 if we missed any major studies.

9 At some point we may be asked to actually
10 project the levelized cost of electricity for
11 various technologies and we will be explicit when we
12 do that.

13 So our first step is just to collect as
14 much data as is publicly available and try to get it
15 out to people, and the format was useful.

16 MR. BIEWALD: And for the levelized costs,
17 so they could be over different time periods, they
18 might be 2008 dollars per megawatt hour?

19 MR. FELDER: That's right, the graph
20 released at the time of the studies, if they were

8.19.10 Transcripts

21 projecting a levelized cost five years from now we
22 would put that with 2015 as capital cost.

23 I have seen some studies where they would
24 use a certain lifetime for a particular technology
25 and another study would use a longer lifetime.

42

1 If you increase the lifetime of the
2 technology, the levelized cost, all else being
3 equal, is low because you are amortizing it over
4 forty years or sixty years versus twenty.

5 MR. BIEWALD: And things like cost of money
6 and inflation rate and things like that could vary?

7 MR. FELDER: That's right, they could
8 vary dramatically by studies and you try to least
9 for the major components identify those differences.

10 In some cases studies don't provide that.

11 MR. BIEWALD: And then specifically I am
12 looking at slide 50, the nuclear capital cost, I am
13 not certain, I am scratching my head about what
14 that is, the horizontal axis for particular years,
15 are those the years that the plants would be built,
16 the year of the studies?

17 MR. FELDER: No, it's the projection of
18 the cost of nuclear in that year, in 2025 or 2020.

19 The one study in 2050 hasn't occurred, so
20 it would be the capital cost for a nuclear plant
21 that was built in that time period.

22 MR. BIEWALD: But then in 2003, 2004, those
23 would be historical?

24 MR. FELDER: They were projections for
25 the cost of nuclear in the time period of 2003 if

1 that plant was built at the date of that study or
2 year, so they pretty much have doubled from this
3 time period up to here, even though we haven't built
4 a nuclear power plant for whatever reason.

5 MR. BIEWALD: So this is really in the
6 minds of the estimators since there weren't any
7 nuclear plants being built?

8 MR. FELDER: Right, those are numbers on a
9 piece of paper.

10 One of the questions is when you are
11 doing those estimates you are doing them with 2025
12 dollars or 2015 dollars or 2010 dollars, or mixed
13 dollars?

14 MR. FELDER: We tried to do those
15 nominally, so this would be in 2020 dollars, those
16 studies, whatever studies that were done for the
17 cost of building a nuclear power plant in 2020
18 dollars.

19 MR. BIEWALD: And so is the data here, is
20 the data in the chart exactly the data in the table?

21 MR. FELDER: Yes.

22 MR. BIEWALD: So, for example, if I wanted
23 to see like the 2004 study, it might be the one, the
24 University of Chicago over on the left-hand column?

25 MR. FELDER: Right.

1 MR. BIEWALD: That's helpful.

2 And the up and down and the ranges might

3 be more artifacts of how they did the study rather
4 than some trend?

5 MR. FELDER: That's correct.

6 MR. BIEWALD: I was wondering about, going
7 back earlier, I think it might be in the 20's in
8 the gas demand slide, maybe like 25 or 26, that
9 seems like a big difference in some of the near-
10 term years, for 2008, 420 and 460, the difference
11 between the lines.

12 And I really , if you could speak to what
13 is going on there in kind of the recent past and the
14 near-term and the future and kind of explain why
15 that might be; is it a data anomaly, or a price
16 effect? I am kind of confused.

17 MR. FELDER: Yes.

18 There was a price drop in that actual
19 time period, a large price drop, and in the
20 economic model it would decrease the price, so I
21 suspect that that is a major piece, but I would
22 like to double-check.

23 MR. BIEWALD: And my last question has to
24 do with the electricity which I think came just
25 before this, electricity demand, the energy-- there

45

1 you go.

2 And it has to do with whether the
3 base-line, whether and to what extent the base-line
4 includes policies, so for example, is there any
5 energy efficiency included in the BAU forecast, if
6 we look at the slide where it says the State is
7 spending money on energy efficiency and other things

8.19.10 Transcripts

8 and imagine that in 2008 the EMP line down at the
9 bottom includes the effect of all those energy
10 efficiencies and those policies, but for the other
11 BAU line and PJM forecast, can you speak to what
12 energy efficiency might be embedded in those?

13 MR. FELDER: For the 2008 BAU, that
14 included energy efficiency that the State was doing
15 at the level based on the historical data.

16 So if there was energy efficiency that
17 the State was doing, the EMP proposed an increase in
18 that level.

19 So what the model does is it looks at
20 past data over twenty years or so, depending on the
21 data set, and to the extent there were policies over
22 that historical time they are projected forward at
23 the current rate.

24 The 2010 base-line, that would include
25 energy efficiency that the State had been doing at

46

1 this level, it would include issues with the RPS
2 which was adopted in 2004, but it not include the
3 Off- Shore Wind Act which was signed today, I
4 apologize for missing that.

5 PRESIDNET SOLOMON: So do I.

6 MR. FELDER: I didn't want to presume.

7 And the same thing with the change in
8 solar, so to the extent that the policies indirectly
9 are affected parameters in the past, they are
10 projected forward basically at the past trend level.

11 MR. BIEWALD: And could you comment at all,

8.19.10 Transcripts

12 I think that the PJM is quite conservative about
13 what energy efficiencies they include in their
14 forecasts, can you comment at all on what might or
15 might not be contained as to that?

16 MR. FELDER: No, I mean I've looked at
17 the reports, we have been asked similar questions.

18 MR. BIEWALD: Thank you.

19 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Anyone else from Rate
20 Counsel?

21 (No response.)

22 PRESIDNET SOLOMON: Does Staff have any
23 questions?

24 Come on up, sir.

25 My name is Max Hardy (phonetic) from

47

1 Energy Maintenance Services.

2 I have a question. You mentioned about
3 shale gas suppliers.

4 Are you expecting the gas from the
5 Marcellus shale as being a contributing factor to
6 the plight of the Northeast? That's one question.

7 Do you take into account, for example,
8 when you levelize the costs, whatever costs you
9 measure, do you take into account inflation costs
10 and prevailing rates and things like that?

11 MR. FELDER: To answer your second
12 question, when we do look at costs over time we
13 account for inflation, we had a slide on inflation,
14 prevailing rates and that type of stuff. Those would
15 be escalated in order to get the right number.

16 MR. HARDY: What we are seeing is a lot of

8.19.10 Transcripts

17 the asset owners when they do project plans up
18 front, for example, solar, wind, et cetera,
19 biomass, a lot of the costs relate to O&M that
20 literally have to be addressed in pre-investment
21 studies that have to be done. That's how you arrive
22 at these revenues, if you are making an isolated
23 investment in solar or anything, operability is
24 very critical. My main concern was especially in
25 the Northeast.

48

1 PRESIDNET SOLOMON: Frank, you did say
2 that you did take into consideration the prevailing
3 wages?

4 MR. FELDER: Right, in the past for a
5 particular project we would account for that worker,
6 whether or not that project was union or required a
7 prevailing wage, yes, in the past we have done that.
8 You are right, someone mentioned it during the
9 break, whether we considered that.

10 MR. LUKSLY (phonetic): Kevin Luksly with
11 PSE&G.

12 Last time you assumed a national C02
13 policy, I believe a cap and trade based approach.

14 What are your assumptions or what are the
15 assumptions behind the national forecast for that,
16 are they included in the energy policy?

17 MR. FELDER: Yes. The last time we did a
18 variety of sensitivity cases at different cost of
19 carbons, so we did a RGGI case, just straight RGGI,
20 and then a Federal case for sensitivities. I don't

8.19.10 Transcripts

21 think we made different scenarios to address that.

22 In terms of, in the global insight I would
23 just have to double-check as to what is embedded in
24 terms of their particular assumptions regarding
25 future carbon policy, I don't know off the top of

49

1 my head.

2 PRESIDNET SOLOMON: Any other questions
3 or comments?

4 MR. ASIDRO (phonetic): My name is John
5 Asidro, I am with Power Ventures.

6 I have a question on the slide that's up
7 on the wall right now having to do with demand.

8 Historically, I think if you look at the
9 way demand is growing, any time there has been a
10 recession there has been a quick bounce-back
11 following the recession over a certain number of
12 years.

13 But I note whether it's the GDP slide or
14 the electricity demand chart, they all seem to have
15 a permanent structure component to them.

16 If you look at the difference between the
17 PJM projection and your projection, it's about a
18 10,000 megawatt difference out to 2010, which is
19 very substantial, so I think that issue needs to be
20 looked at carefully and thought through.

21 I am wondering how your models are done as
22 to that particular issue?

23 MR. FELDER: The PJM estimate was in
24 January 2010, so it was at the start of the year.

25 Ours is, Nancy's is in July.

1 Let me explain a little bit because there
2 has been a lot of talk about the double-dip
3 recession and so forth, so that may be a piece of
4 it.

5 Without being able to delve in deeply as
6 to what PJM is doing, it is hard to compare why
7 their assumptions are driving at a higher growth
8 rate than what our R/ECON is, but you are right, as
9 I mentioned there is that drop due to the recession
10 and then the incline is at a lower rate than what
11 PJM has forecast.,

12 MR. ASIDRO: I have one other question on
13 the levelized cost of electricity where your fixed
14 O&M component is expressed in dollars per kilowatt,
15 traditionally in the industry I've seen it expressed
16 as dollars per kilowatt month.

17 Can you explain how the dollars per
18 kilowatt was determined and why it's not a dollars
19 per kilowatt month?

20 MR. FELDER: I suspect it was a dollars
21 per kilowatt year, and I would just have to check.

22 PRESIDNET SOLOMON: Anyone else?

23 Please step up.

24 MR. VOGEL: Evan Vogel from Petro Solar.

25 We are the company if you drive around and

1 you see solar systems, our solar system is up on
2 utility poles around New Jersey, that's the company

8.19.10 Transcripts

3 that I work for.

4 Mr. Felder, it is always easy to ask
5 questions, it's much harder to put the first shot
6 up, so I applaud you for doing that.

7 Now I will ask you some questions.

8 This study is defined solely on costs and
9 I think it is a very good study on that basis.

10 There are some things on the first level
11 like decommissioning nuclear plants I think that
12 need to be taken into account when you look at the
13 cost of nuclear, for instance, and I resonate with
14 the previous speaker's comment about the cost of
15 carbon.

16 Moving ahead, I would hope that there is a
17 cost of carbon and that would significantly affect a
18 lot of technologies that we are talking about in this
19 study.

20 One question I do have, and it is just a
21 general question: The future of the electric
22 vehicles coming onto the grid and what will that do?

23 We think and I have seen studies that that
24 could be likened to the level shift of demand when
25 air-conditioning started to be widely adopted.

52

1 I am just wondering if that's part of what
2 looks like the 2010 baseline or there is an
3 additional effect coming on line in some period of
4 time when the electric vehicles do come onto the
5 grid?

6 MR. FELDER: The 2010 baseline does not
7 include electric vehicles because they haven't been

8.19.10 Transcripts

8 affected in the past, so it would not, so to the
9 extent that there was carbon policy or some other
10 policy that pushed electric vehicles or substantial
11 technological changes, that they were economic and
12 therefore had a large penetration rate, that would
13 not be captured by the 2010 baseline.

14 With respect to carbon, it's an open-ended
15 question as to what policies that the Federal
16 government, if any, adopts and how much that would
17 affect carbon, so I think that the way to address
18 that, I would suggest, like we did in the past is to
19 look at different scenarios.

20 MR. VOGEL: My last point.

21 As we look at the State in general and we
22 look at energy policy and the obvious investments
23 that we are going to need to make, I think that one
24 of the important things always is to look for, as
25 you mentioned right at the outset, Mr. Felder, the

53

1 local job creation.

2 And one of the things that we have done a
3 lot of research on is kind of looking at a six deck
4 multiplier, which means that if you use local
5 content in any of these technologies of the systems
6 that are installed that there are six dollars put
7 into the New Jersey State economy, and that's a
8 real important part of the process and we hope that
9 that is considered as the policy is fully evolved.

10 MR. FELDER: I have been working with
11 someone from Petro Solar and other solar companies

8.19.10 Transcripts

12 and anyone else in terms of providing actual New
13 Jersey data, and we have to respect confidentiality
14 and we can work through those issues, but to the
15 extent that we can pin those down based on
16 particular projects or kind of aggregated data so we
17 can compare it to publicly available studies, I
18 think that would be very helpful not just for solar
19 but for any technologies.

20 MR. VOGEL: Absolutely, we agree.

21 PRESIDNET SOLOMON: The gentlemen in the
22 back.

23 MR. STEVENS (phonetic) My name is Frank
24 Stevens, I am President of the New Jersey
25 Electrical Auto Association.

54

1 We have a lot of different people who
2 are going to start to adopt and take the opportunity
3 to convert their cars over to plug-in electrics,
4 which is a simple one day procedure which I can tell
5 you we are doing now.

6 So I think it probably is a good idea to
7 include it in the overall demand because the ones,
8 with what's coming out this year there probably will
9 be some Nissan market penetration initially. I do
10 expect most of the demand to come at night when most
11 people will charge them up at home and then they
12 will take it out and drive it the next day. That's
13 the only thing I would add.

14 MR. WILSON: Dennis Wilson, I'm the
15 Vice-President of New Jersey MC (phonetic), a
16 regional solar industry association that represents

8.19.10 Transcripts

17 over a hundred solar contractors.

18 I have a question regarding the value of
19 solar electricity. Do your models attribute a
20 higher value to solar produced electricity due to
21 its significant coincidence factor with electric
22 prices on the wholesale side?

23 MR. FELDER: Yes.

24 MR. WILSON: In comparing the technology
25 and the maturity of obviously a very wide range

55

1 with plants from fifty years old to the solar
2 industry that's rapidly growing and evolving, the
3 numbers on your costs are certainly higher than what
4 we see currently in the industry, so I'm hoping
5 that the industry and us will provide you with more
6 current data because I'm seeing costs of a thousand
7 to two thousand dollars below the numbers that we
8 have heard today, and with predictions from major
9 consulting firms doing research world-wide
10 indicating that those costs will continue to come
11 down pretty rapidly as the industry scales up
12 further.

13 In the area of energy efficiency, I really
14 didn't see much in terms of attributing potential
15 growth in energy efficiency by putting in place
16 long-term contracts to acquire that.

17 From my history, having run an energy
18 efficiency company in the nineteen-nineties, most
19 energy efficiency today can be acquired for about
20 five cents a kilowatt hour if amortized over a ten

21 year term, so I am hoping to get more information
22 about energy efficiency because that's an area
23 evolving rapidly, too.

24 Another area I want to ask you about is
25 whether you have looked at thermal storage and the

56

1 load shift, the capacity, as an acquisition tool?

2 MR. FELDER: Not in what I presented
3 today, although a couple of months ago with one of
4 the vendors I literally went through a cost-
5 benefit analysis of thermal storage in New Jersey so
6 I looked at some ,but not in the context of what is
7 presented today.

8 MR. WILSON: I know when the last Master
9 Energy Plan draft was being worked on I had some
10 discussions with some of the utility people doing
11 that, and they indicated that there was at least a
12 thousand megawatts that technically and economically
13 was achievable in thermal storage, so I'm hoping
14 that that will become part of it as well.

15 MR. FELDER: Another point that you made,
16 and thank you for making them, I would encourage you
17 to provide the data on your suggestions, and we
18 will be happy to take them down.

19 MR. WILSON: There are some reports that
20 you may not have had access to that we will get to
21 you.

22 MR. FELDER: Right.

23 If those reports are confidential and
24 other stakeholders can't see them and review them,
25 we will have to somehow address that issue.

1 MR. FAGAN: Tim Fagan from PSE&G.

2 On the bar graphs you showed in the
3 beginning reflecting the average bill, can you talk
4 a little bit more about how you are going to project
5 out to 2020? Because depending on the elements,
6 some of those things will be more or less capable of
7 being forecasted out.

8 And on the capital costs, just generally,
9 I think you started to answer it just a little bit,
10 but to what extent are you going to be able to
11 adjust those costs to make sure they are reflective
12 of New Jersey specific costs, labor and land
13 acquisition, permitting and things of that nature?

14 MR. FELDER: I'll answer the second
15 question first.

16 We have been asking industry to provide
17 data, again looking into the confidentiality of New
18 Jersey specifics.

19 Unlike what we had back in 2004, we have a
20 lot more experience, whether it's on cost or jobs we
21 should talk advantage of those six or so years of
22 experience in those areas.

23 We adjust them for base rates in New
24 Jersey, property rates and so forth.

25 That being said, we can't do a detailed

1 study of every possible type of technology because
2 it does vary by location and so forth, but those

8.19.10 Transcripts

3 are reflected as best we can in the work that we do.

4 Regarding your first question, can you
5 remind me of that?

6 MR. FAGAN: You indicated you were going to
7 try to project that same bar graph for 2020, so
8 could you talk about how you are going to project
9 certain elements of those pieces, having limited or
10 perhaps no information what they will really look
11 like in 2020?

12 MR. FELDER: That's what I forgot.

13 We are going to do the best we can and you
14 will tell us that we are wrong. That's all we can
15 do.

16 We will put uncertainty curves around
17 them, we will just have to do different scenarios
18 and be as transparent as we can, and for folks who
19 think there are other or better assumptions, they
20 will be able to adjust the numbers and then present
21 what they think is a better projection.

22 MR. YAFFIN (phonetic): I'm
23 Scott Yaffin. My interest is in combined heat and
24 power. I with like to ask a question about slide
25 45.

59

1 One of the things we do is audits and work
2 with clients who are looking to combine heat and
3 power and there are three things that become evident
4 economically. One is the cost of fuel.

5 I found that the slides you showed are
6 very interesting on natural gas going forward as far
7 as the spread and the difference with electricity.

8.19.10 Transcripts

8 Another cost is the O&M cost of the equipment and
9 also for this slide is the installed capital cost,
10 so I think it makes it very important to get this
11 slide accurate.

12 And the question.

13 I would just like to lend our support to
14 help you understand those because I certainly see my
15 experience both with reciprocated internal
16 combustion engines and gas turbines and solar that
17 the cost per kW probably could be on the low end of
18 what we are seeing there, so I would like to be of
19 some assistance there as we move forward.

20 The question is, I assume those are all
21 from publicly available reports.

22 MR. FELDER: Yes, but maybe Joe can add
23 to that.

24 MR. SULLIVAN: We will look at a variety
25 of things. Some of this information was

60

1 specifically from smaller systems, and the smaller
2 the system is the higher the cost per kW installed.

3 In larger systems as we look at this we
4 probably will lean more toward the price presented
5 on combined cycle gas turbines because those more
6 accurately represent the cost factor for
7 substantially larger plants.

8 We understand, and the tough part about
9 this, especially for this technology, these
10 companies refer to kW with little tiny things up to
11 a 50 megawatt power plant, so one size doesn't fit

8.19.10 Transcripts

12 all, so it is probably one of the items that has a
13 greater band of known price variations which makes
14 it more challenging.

15 MR. YAFIN: Certainly, but it is the
16 phenominal beauty of combining power with energy
17 efficiency in creating electricity with thermal
18 energy from one single source of energy in natural
19 gas or bio fuels.

20 MR. SULLIVAN: We appreciate your point.

21 PRESIDNET SOLOMON: The lady in the
22 front.

23 MS. KNOLLS (phonetic): Good morning.

24 My name is Meredith Knolls, my company is
25 American Efficient Lighting, and I have been

61

1 involved with energy efficiency since the 70's
2 actually, in the Carter years, if anyone remembers
3 that.

4 Even though we know that this report does
5 not include and doesn't focus on energy conservation
6 or efficiency measures and practices, I just would
7 like to point out the reality of that in a very
8 strong and real way. For instance, in this
9 particular room if you had multiple switching you
10 would be able to save two-thirds of your kW usage in
11 the lighting as opposed to having them all on or all
12 off.

13 So there are some very real practical ways
14 and very real hard numbers and bottom line numbers
15 that through all these years have worked and will be
16 able to really have a strong impact.

8.19.10 Transcripts

17 Even as I walked through this building
18 coming in, I hate to say how boring I am, but the
19 lighting kW just speaks to me as I walked down the
20 hallway.

21 Without that focus and without that
22 concept included, the impact of renewables can be
23 mitigated with simple conservation measures, proven
24 technology that's been around.

25 MR. SULLIVAN: That is probably very

62

1 consistent with what we have in the current Energy
2 Master Plan and all of the Energy Master Plans going
3 back for twenty years.

4 You should have been here about a year
5 and-a-half ago when we still had the old one inch
6 tubes, so we are making progress. We haven't got
7 the switching right yet, but there is also a plan
8 for the Board to relocate our offices in Trenton, so
9 we are not going to make any investments for the
10 next tenant here, but that is certainly something we
11 should consider always.

12 As we are looking at our offices in
13 another location that practice will increase and we
14 will utilize those technologies.

15 Obviously in all these plans energy
16 efficiency is always coming out as one of the best
17 investments for the best return, and we are going to
18 continue to emphasize that.

19 The less energy we use, the less we have
20 to make from whether it's from conventional

8.19.10 Transcripts

21 resources or renewable resources, and that is going
22 to be a continued focus.

23 MS. KNOLLS: I would also take a second to
24 add that i have been working with lighting quite a
25 bit and following the DOE, and the next step through

63

1 the DOE is education, which is a very strong
2 component that has really worked in addition to the
3 hardware and the shift in technology, public
4 education is a very strong key to having people
5 change, and also for the people that are going to be
6 taking this space, if you guys move out?

7 COMMISSIONER FIORDALISO: Just mention
8 where you're from.

9 MS. KNOLLS: Livingston.

10 PRESIDNET SOLOMON: When we leave, which
11 will be fairly soon, I will make sure that we leave
12 a note for the next next tenant, which will also be
13 a State institution.

14 MS. KNOLLS: I also wanted to say that they
15 saved almost a million dollars by switching over to
16 their own LED lighting.

17 PRESIDNET SOLOMON: Any other comments
18 or questions?

19 A GENTLEMAN: Frank, two questions.

20 At this point in the year I suspect we
21 have seen some pretty high detail on peak prices. Do
22 you have any sense for where that's coming in for
23 this year?

24 Regarding the CPI data, there has been an
25 awful lot of discussion about the impact of

1 electricity on energy prices in New Jersey and
2 impacting businesses staying or leaving.

3 We think it would be helpful if you have
4 the data to be able to show how the percentage,
5 electricity as a percentage of total cost may be
6 trending over time.

7 MR. FELDER: I think that they are both
8 good questions. I don't have anything off the top
9 of my head, so we will take a look and try to get
10 back on th/at.

11 MS. BOLTON (phonetic): I'm Christine
12 Bolton of the Sierra Club.

13 Particularly with respect to natural gas,
14 are you incorporating potential regulations for the
15 cost of natural gas, project the costs?

16 I guess also potential regulations for
17 emission related to coal.

18 MR. FELDER: On the second question, that
19 goes back to kind of a scenario analysis of carbon
20 pricing either directly or through cap and trade.

21 For the first one, implicit in any
22 projection of natural gas would be a repertory
23 regime, it may not be explicit, but I acknowledge
24 your point that the broader issues and other
25 environmental issues are concerned with natural gas,

1 and that does provide some uncertainty about the
2 timing and extent of development of shale or gas.

8.19.10 Transcripts
3 PRESIDNET SOLOMON: Anybody else?
4 Seeing no one, it's not even twelve
5 o'clock, okay, thank you all for coming.
6 The notice does have the date of the next
7 meeting, September 22nd.
8 Any information that you can provide to
9 Mr. Felder or us that might be of assistance, we
10 will take take it and digest it, if you have
11 additional written comments.
12 Thank you all for coming.
13 (Adjourned.
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

66

1 C E R T I F I C A T E
2

3 I, William Sokol, Certified Shorthand
4 Reporter of the State of New Jersey, License No.
5 30X100030700, and Notary Public of the State of New
6 Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a
7 verbatim record of the testimony provided under oath

8.19.10 Transcripts

8 before any Court, Referee, Commission or other body
9 created by statute of the State of New Jersey.

10 I am not related to any parties involved in
11 this action; I have no financial interest nor am I
12 related to an agent of or employed by anyone with a
13 financial interest in the outcome in which this
14 transcript was taken; and furthermore, that I am not
15 a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel
16 employed by the parties hereto or financially
17 interested in the action.

18

19

20

21

WILLIAM SOKOL

22

23

Certified Shorthand Reporter

24

and Notary Public

25