

Western Renewable Energy Zones (WREZ) results are now available for 25 utilities (*see below*) to help answer these questions:

- Which resources might be most economic for meeting renewable portfolio standard (RPS) targets in the West?
- What new transmission is needed to access those resources?
- Which utilities may be potential partners for coordinated resource procurement and transmission?
- How do local options compare to more distant resources?

The analysis supports discussions with utilities and state/provincial regulators on the potential value of coordinated procurement of high-quality renewable resources sufficient to justify new high-voltage transmission in the Western Interconnection.

The WREZ Generation and Transmission model was run independently for each utility, using the same potential resources. Utilities may compete or collaborate for these resources. To provide a consistent basis to compare utilities, the analysis makes simplifying assumptions, such as:

- 50% line utilization for all incremental transmission
- A target for renewable energy that is 33% of the utility's expected demand in 2030
- All resources required to meet the RPS are in WREZs
- On-peak capacity credit for each potential project is its average expected operation during the 10% of the hours in the year with the highest load

The model results may differ from the utilities' current resource priorities. In addition, the model does not reflect the utility's existing resources. A new version of the model later this year will account for existing resources and include other improvements.

For a full description of the model methodology and assumptions, see

<http://www.westgov.org/wga/initiatives/wrez/gtm/documents/GTM%20V%202.0%20Method%20Assumptions.pdf>.

Utility models:

Arizona Public Service	Northwestern Energy	San Diego Gas & Electric
Avista	Nevada Energy	Seattle City Light
BC Hydro	PacifiCorp	Sacramento Municipal Utility District
Colorado Springs	Pacific Gas & Electric	Tacoma Power
El Paso Electric	PNM	Tri-State
Eugene Water & Electric Board	Portland General Electric	Tucson Electric Power
Idaho Power	Puget Sound Energy	Xcel Energy
Imperial Irrigation District	Salt River Project	
Los Angeles Dept Water & Power	Southern California Edison	

[WREZ MAP](#) (*LSE service areas and existing, foundational and potential transmission lines added*)