

Discussion around IRP – Call – March 19 @ 2pm

Attendees:

Ken Ross – Manager, IRP and EEC Reporting, Fortis BC (Ken looks after IRP and long term DSM Planning)

Dana Wong – Manager, IRP – Fortis BC

Fiona Oliver-Glasford and Hilary Thompson – EGD

Notes:

- IRP is very time intensive process, strategic and analytic
- Gas not the same thing
- Submit every 2 -3 years
- Working on the last 3 iteration
- Planning process never stops
- Take our snapshot at a given time
- Have IRP planning guidelines....Dana will send them over
- Everyone thinks electric
- Difference is resource options – upstream generation.....build or buy electricity.
- Don't allow much gas generation in BC
- Participate in the IRP technical committees for some of the jurisdictions around (mostly in US)
- Gas IRPs in other jurisdictions primarily about gas purchases.....pipeline and storage resources.
- Start with Demand forecast – 20 year planning horizon at Fortis BC
 - End-use model used from Marbek
- Show what demand side measures could impact
 - Marbek also done DSM planning work
- Account for 95% of the gas supply in BC
- Not impacting build as the DSM found not to impact peak at this point
- 4 years in on DSM
- Not being asked by commission to look at interruptible customers as a solution in IRP
- Only considering firm customers
- A few large Industrial customers coming on line as firm customers
- Been conservative as they “have to serve load on coldest day”
- Annual demand is dropping
- Little analysis of demand side measures on peak to-date – embarking on this now
- Considerations – everyone is going to use a different model for forecasting peak. Everyone has different customer characteristics. Peak demand is mostly residential.

- Launching a Conservation Potential Report (CPR) – both electric and gas – splitting costs with BCHydro (between two orgs cover 99% of energy needs) – starting shortly.
- 3 people in department – Ken, Dana, Tom – used to be 1.5 people but wasn't enough. Needed analytical power.
- Need to pull together a lot of departments and information....
- Project management is primarily the work – system (design) planning, dsm
- Long term planning for DSM also with Ken (EEC) – 5 year planning...
- They see others doing IRP having a mixed bag of approach to org planning, but seem to always have an IRP person or group
- Avista – have an IRP person for gas side and electric side....
- Puget Sound Energy – electric gas combined IRP – small team (5 -6 people doing IRP). Much more prescriptive process....
- In some places it's just about energy purchases versus dsm, in other places it is about build of infrastructure