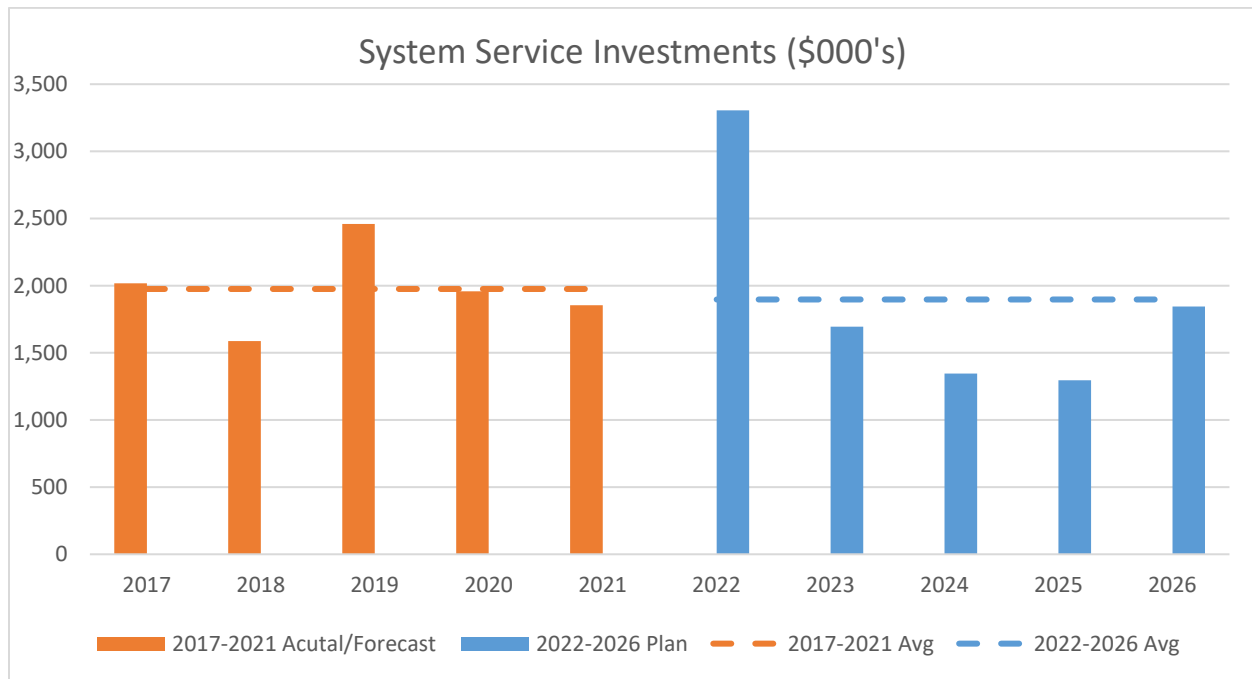


4.4.1.3 SYSTEM SERVICE

Figure 26 compares annual System Service investments over the historical and forecast periods:

Figure 26: 2017-2026 System Service Investments



Planned **System Service** investments over the forecast period are approximately 4% lower than the historical period average. Aside from a new substation in 2022 that fit the criteria for System Service rather than System Renewal, the trend in System Service investments is generally declining over the forecast period. The 2026 increase relates to a placeholder project to increase redundancy at Killaly DS, pending further assessment of voltage conversion alternatives.

CNPI expects to monitor reliability trends and reprioritize System Service investments over the forecast period if required.

System Service investments generally result in downward pressure on O&M and other costs through:

- Reducing the costs associated with system losses that are ultimately paid by customers
- Automating restoration to avoid mobilizing crews
- Increasing efficiency of restoration efforts by better directing crews to the cause of sustained outages