

Minnesota Department of Commerce
Division of Energy Resources
Information Request

Docket Number: ET-6133/RP-25-302 Nonpublic Public
Requested From: MMPA, Oncu Er Date of Request: 8/26/2025
Type of Inquiry: General Response Due: 9/5/2025

Requested by: Taryn Waite
Email Address(es): Taryn.Waite@state.mn.us
Phone Number(s): 651-539-2746

Request Number: 1
Topic: Load Forecast
Reference(s): Load Projection Methodology

Request: On page A1 of its 2025-2039 Integrated Resource Plan, MMPA states that four separate linear regressions were used to project energy usage in (1) East Grand Forks, (2) Buffalo, (3) Elk River, and (4) the remaining nine MMPA member cities. Projections from these regressions were then combined to derive MMPA's total projected energy usage. Please explain the justification for modeling East Grand Forks, Buffalo, and Elk River separately from the remaining nine member cities rather than either modeling all member cities together or each member city individually.

Response: East Grand Forks was modeled separately because it is a winter-peaking city with a relatively low air-conditioning load. As a result, Cooling Degree Days are not a significant predictor of its energy usage. In contrast, the remaining MMPA member cities are summer-peaking, and for them Cooling Degree Days are an important predictor of load.

Buffalo and Elk River joined MMPA later than the other member cities and were modeled separately due to the shorter period of historical load data available. Consistent with this approach, Buffalo and Elk River were also modeled separately in MMPA's 2018 Integrated Resource Plan, which was approved by the PUC.

To be completed by responder

Response Date: 9/5/2025
Response by: Oncu Er
Email Address: Oncu.Er@avantenergy.com
Phone Number: (612) 252-6542

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Request Number: 2
Topic: Load Forecast
Reference(s): Load Projection Methodology

Request: On pages 19 and A-2 of its 2025-2039 Integrated Resource Plan, MMPA states that large customers (<10 MW), such as data centers, were estimated to add 2 MW of incremental demand in each year of the study period. Please explain the justification for this estimate.

Response: MMPA assumed that approximately 30 MW of new load from large customers would be added across its service territory by 2040. To reflect this growth in the load forecast, the total was distributed evenly across the study period in increments of 2 MW per year. This approach smooths the additions over time and provides a reasonable planning assumption in the absence of specific information on the timing of individual large-customer projects.

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Request Number: 3
Topic: Load Forecast
Reference(s): Load Projection Methodology

Request: On page A2 of its 2025-2039 Integrated Resource Plan, MMPA states that EV adoption was projected to increase over the study period with EV penetration reaching 25% by 2040. Please explain the justification for this projection, including the assumption of 25% penetration by 2040 as well as the trajectory that EV penetration was projected to follow over the study period.

Response: The U.S. Energy Information Administration's (EIA) *Annual Energy Outlook 2025* (AEO 2025) projects the share of light-duty vehicles that will be electric in 2040. The EIA's Reference case projects 33.4% of light-duty vehicles will be electric by 2040, while the Alternative Transportation case projects 15.8%. MMPA used the midpoint of the two cases with an assumed 25% EV penetration in 2040.

The assumed trajectory of EV penetration is consistent with EIA projections, with increasing growth across the planning period, reaching the assumed 25% EV penetration in 2040.

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