

Do we really want a toolbox full of Swiss army knives???





Smart Gas Investment: How Many Swiss Army Knives do We Need?

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Energy solutions for a changing world

Housekeeping



Overview

- Inexpensive gas could be a blessing or a curse
- Three low-carbon pathways often posited
- I don't own a tool box full of Swiss army knives, how about you?
- Stranded investment risk
- An algorithm for limiting stranded costs

Some people are really excited about gas

More than \$500 Billion investment in gas generation and midstream infrastructure needed by 2035

• EIA (2014) and INGAA (2014)

Inexpensive gas is a blessing, but may be a curse

- Current low gas prices are an economic boost
- Over-commitment to long-term gas investment can become a stranded investment curse

Consider three common low-carbon pathways

- Large-scale RE, much greater grid extension and integration
- Customer resources become very cost effective
- Nuclear and fossil with CCS

Under the first two pathways, large-scale gas investment will become stranded

- Marginal analysis based on incremental change from current conditions may indicate gas investment
- Transformational change of the path 1 or 2 variety will render those investments stranded well before end of life

Do you want to bank on incremental change or pathway 3?



So how much gas do we need?

- For baseload
- For flexibility

Less baseload



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Flexibility comes from many places



Penetration of VRE

Source: IEA Energy Technology Perspectives 2014

RE: more than just kWh





Larger balancing areas, "faster" markets



Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory (U.S.), 2013

Balance control authority over larger geographic footprints:

- Reduces variability of demand
- Reduces the impact of individual generator events
- Increases real-time access to balancing resources
- Among other benefits, reduced reserves requirements

So it is really unclear how much gas we will need



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Questions



Proposition: Some say, gas is perfect for a time of uncertainty because it's flexible

- I don't own a tool box of Swiss army knives, do you?
- We need to engage in the harder work of being selective on the capabilities that we need gas to fulfill.

Risk-Aware Resource Selection

- Explicit consideration of risk factors is necessary in evaluating portfolios, this is best done as a stakeholder process.
- Here is a sample **qualitative** assessment by Binz, Sedano, Furey, and Mullen (2014):



2014 UPDATE RANKING: RELATIVE COST VS. RELATIVE RISK OF NEW GENERATION RESOURCES

Risk-aware policies support smart gas investment and mitigates stranded cost

- 1. ICT investment will lay the foundation for DER engagement
- 2. Invest in system operation and cooperation improvements
- 3. Make system needs transparent through markets, procurement, and planning
- 4. Promote resource inclusivity
- 5. Procure and dispatch cleaner energy resources first
- 6. Effective permitting of beneficial resources

Questions



How much gas do we need?

- 1. Build an ICT infrastructure foundation
- 2. Make system needs transparent
- 3. Promote resource inclusivity
- 4. Procure and dispatch clean first
- 5. Facilitate permitting of infrastructure that improves operation and cooperation
- 6. Then ask the question, how much gas?

Resources

- What Lies Beyond Capacity Markets? (Hogan, Gottstein, (RAP)) <u>http://raponline.org/document/download/id/6041</u> <u>http://raponline.org/document/download/id/4854</u>
- More than Smart: A Framework to Make the Distribution Grid more Open, Efficient and Resilient (Resnick Institute, DeMartini)

http://morethansmart.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/More-Than-Smart-Report-by-GTLG-and-Caltech-08.11.14.pdf

• Demand Response as a Power System Resource (Hurley, et al. (Synapse for RAP))

www.raponline.org/document/download/id/6597

• CAISO DR/EE Roadmap: Maximizing Preferred Resources (CAISO)

http://www.caiso.com/Documents/DR-EERoadmap.pdf

More Resources

- Teaching the Duck to Fly (Lazar (RAP))
 - http://www.raponline.org/document/download/id/6977
- Integrating Renewables at Least Cost in the West http://www.raponline.org/document/download/id/5041
- Aligning Power Markets to Deliver Value (Hogan (RAP) for APP) <u>http://www.raponline.org/document/download/id/6932</u>
- Power Market Operations and System Reliability in the Transition to a Low Carbon Economy (RAP)

http://www.raponline.org/document/download/id/7600



About RAP

The Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP) is a global, non-profit team of experts that focuses on the long-term economic and environmental sustainability of the power and natural gas sectors. RAP has deep expertise in regulatory and market policies that:

- Promote economic efficiency
- Protect the environment
- Ensure system reliability
- Allocate system benefits fairly among all consumers

Learn more about RAP at www.raponline.org

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"How much?" depends on "what kind?"



Reliable, but costly & unstable, with investment based on:

- Single-product capacity mechanisms
- Inflated targets for generation adequacy
- No significant role for demand-side participation
- Flawed energy market implementation

"How much?" depends on "what kind?"



Reliable, low-cost & stable, with investment based on:

- Improved functioning of energy & balancing markets
- Transparent/objective/independent/regional RA assessment
- If desired, a simple multi-product CRM as a safety net
- Full demand-side participation in all markets