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Answering Questions about Transmission Expansion in PJM (with some modeling)

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Energy at
Hopkins

DOE LIGHTS

TLDR: We're here to help PJM States with GETs; we're driven by States-need

Goal 1 – System Impact Assessment

- Evaluate ATT/GET to meet state transmission needs within the PJM footprint:
 - Cost reduction and ratepayer benefits
 - Deployment speed and implement ability
 - Avoided or minimized need for new greenfield rights-of-way
 - All ATT/GET technologies are game – but deployment speed is *key*.

Goal 2 – Framework Development & Application

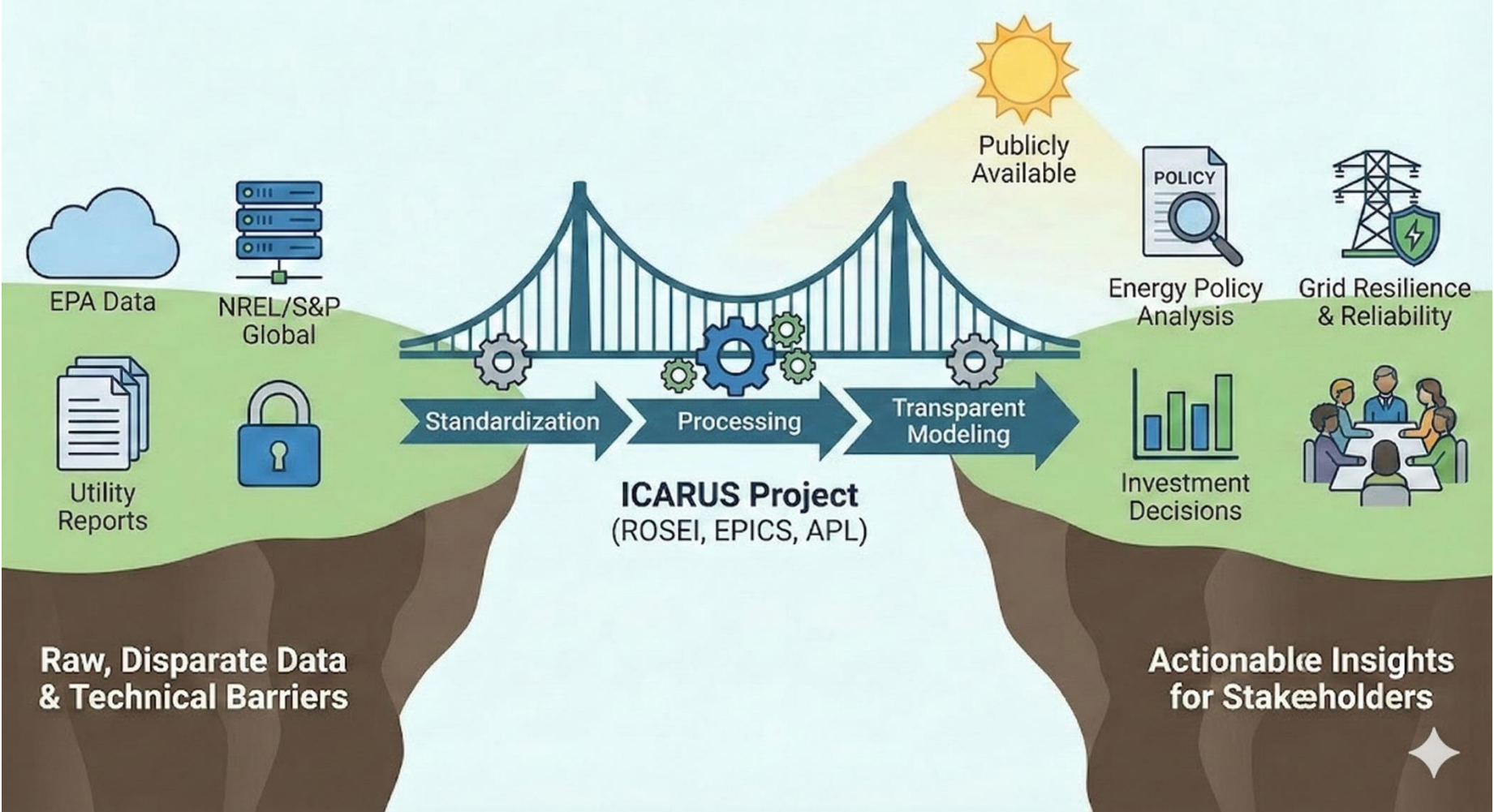
- Integrates ROW availability, production cost modeling, and least-regret analysis to identify **ATT/GET candidate projects** suitable for transmission planning processes.

Goal 3 – State-Driven Project Advancement

- Support interested states in pursuing ATT/GET projects through PJM venues
 - RTEP
 - FERC 1920

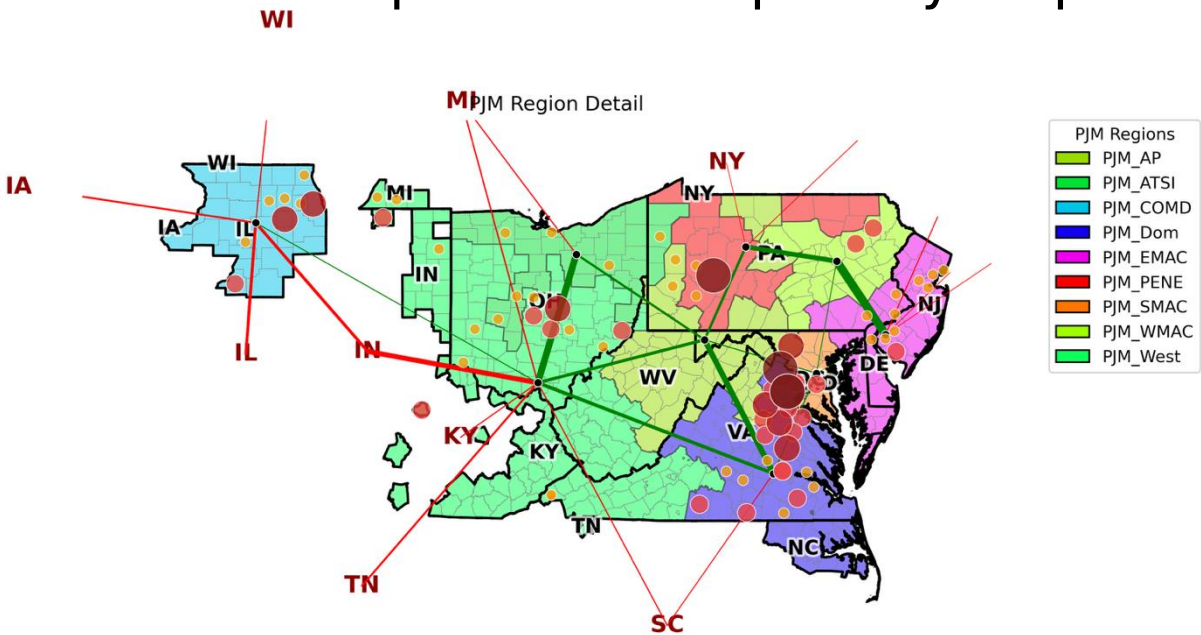
ICARUS: Modeling in the Energy Policy Loop

Goal: Bridging the modeling capabilities to run sophisticated energy policy analysis and the stakeholders that do not have data, models or expertise



ICARUS: PJM Data Democratization

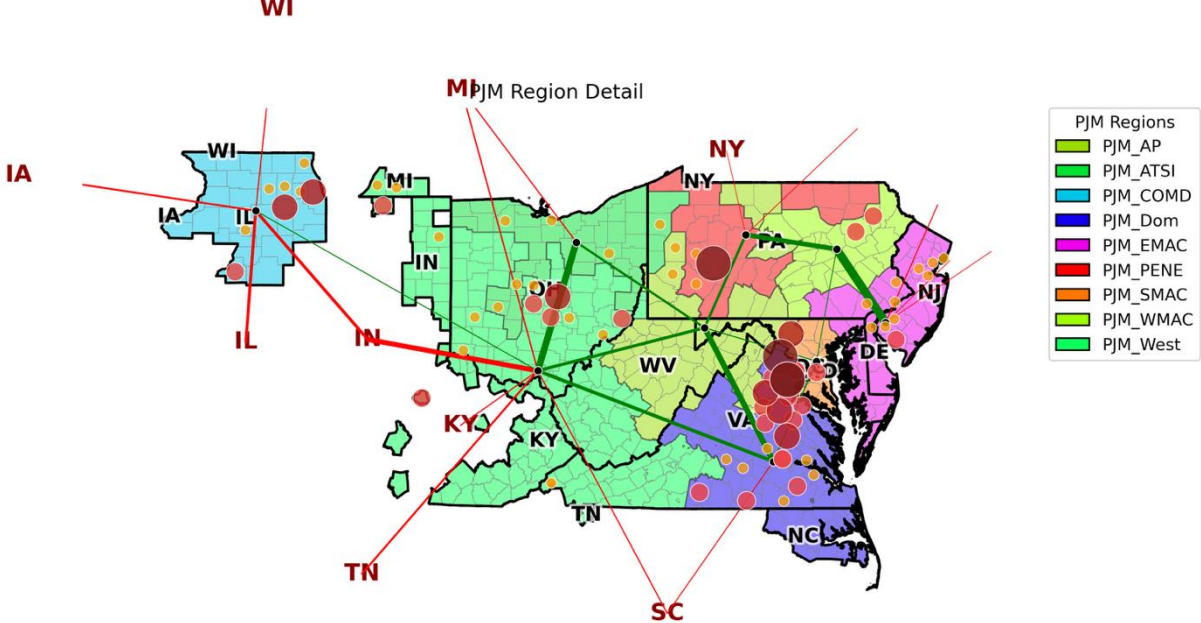
Goal: Build operational capability for parallel PJM market and system analysis



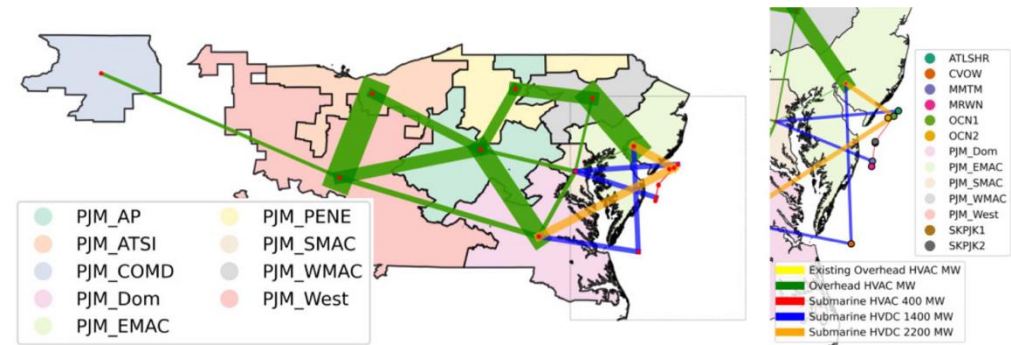
Feature Area	Description	Target
Data Center Capacity	Incorporate state-, zonal- and regional-level projections for data center demand.	Available as of Oct, 2025 , Updated as of Nov, 2025
Downscaled Atmospheric Data	Integrate other weather (year) data to model (extreme) weather impacts.	Soon
FERC Order 1920 Compliance	Model transmission expansion scenarios based on the new FERC rule.	Soon
State/Utility representation	Enhanced resolution spatially resolved upto PJM's 21 Zones and 9 IPM Regions for PJM, useful state/utility-level studies.	Available as of Nov, 2025
Nodal representation	Enhanced resolution to consider more detailed transmission network.	Soon

ICARUS: PJM Data Democratization

Goal: Build operational capability for parallel PJM market and system analysis



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One-Click Downloads

For convenience, pre-processed datasets for common regions are available for direct download.

- [Download PJM Dataset \(Base\)](#): 21 PJM zones over 9 IPM regions (with transfer limits)
- PJM Dataset in [GenX](#) format[†]
 - [Download GenX_PJM_9zones_Base](#): 9 IPM regions (with transfer limits)
 - [Download GenX_PJM_9zones_DataCenters](#): 9 IPM regions (with transfer limits)
- [Download PJM Data Center Dataset](#): 21 PJM zones over 9 IPM regions (with transfer limits)

[†] These versions are simplified, hard-coded conversions of the [PJM Dataset \(Base\)](#) into the [GenX](#) format, following examples from the official [GenX repository](#), where the corresponding licenses and attribution requirements are provided.



Example #1: How to Cope with Data Centers?

ANALYSIS & BRIEF

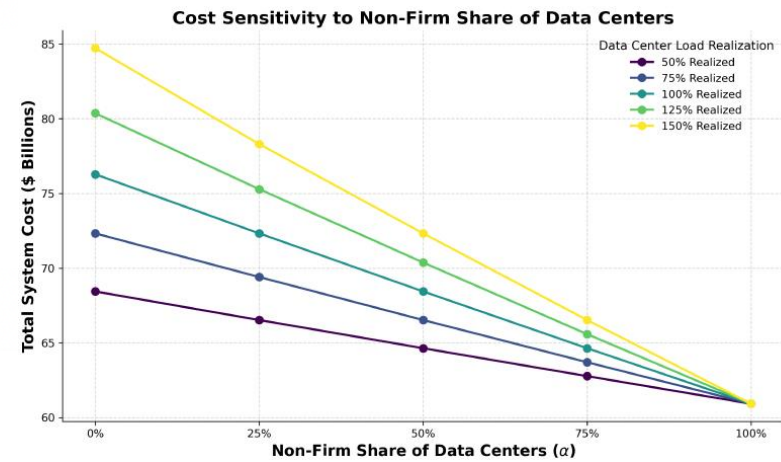
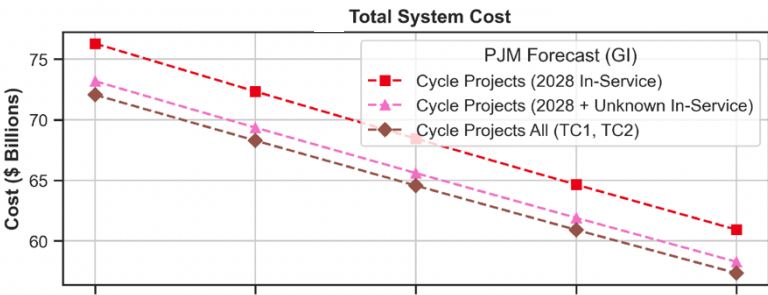
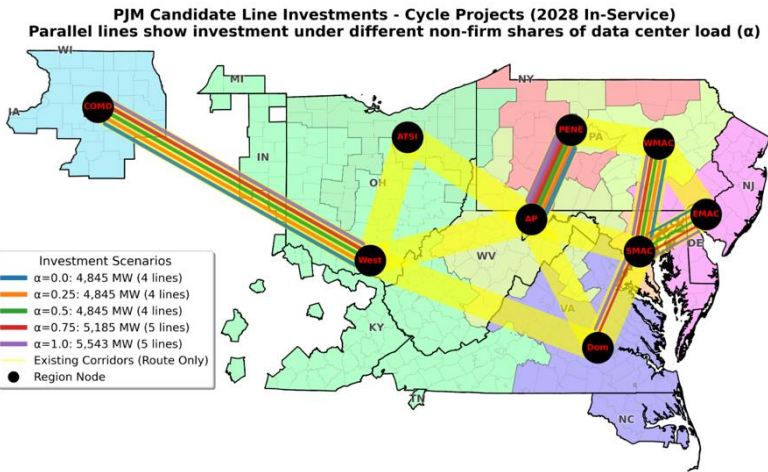
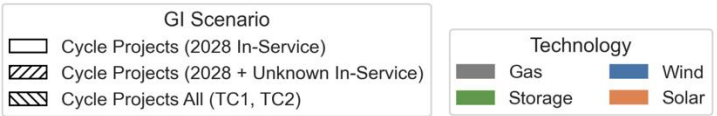
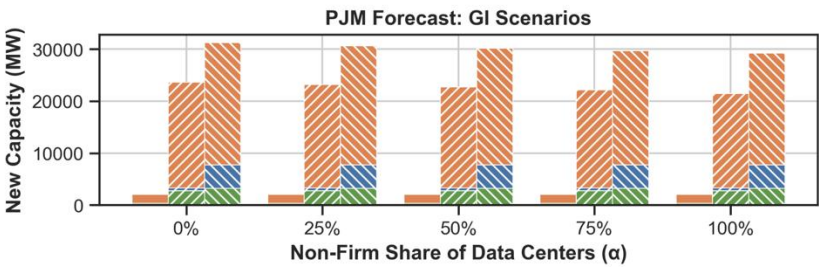
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Data Center Flexibility and Grid Infrastructure Needs in PJM:

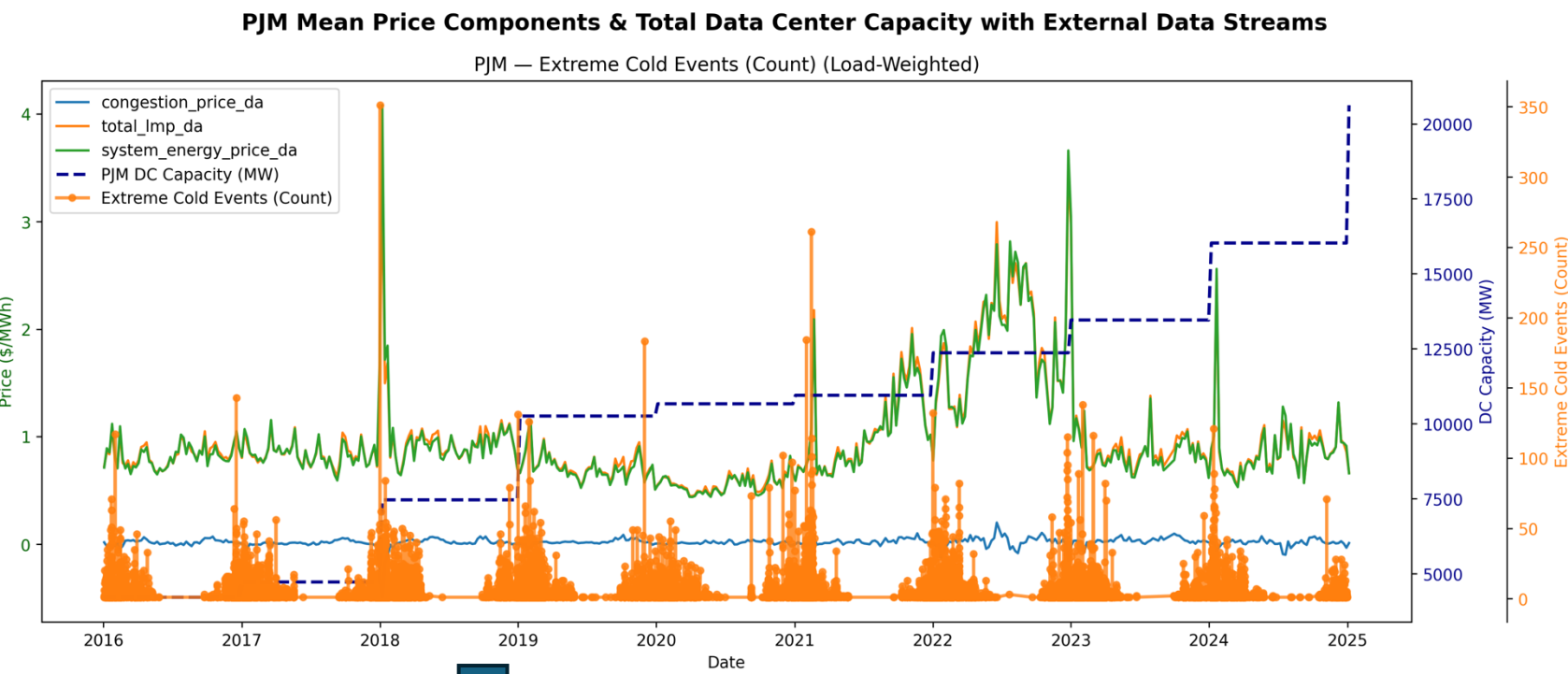
Data Center Flexibility Policies Can Substantially Reduce Energy Infrastructure Investments Necessary to Keep the PJM Grid Reliable.

For questions, please reach out to Dr. Yury Dvorkin (ydvorki1@jhu.edu) or Abraham Silverman, J.D. (asilve39@jhu.edu)
— March 2026

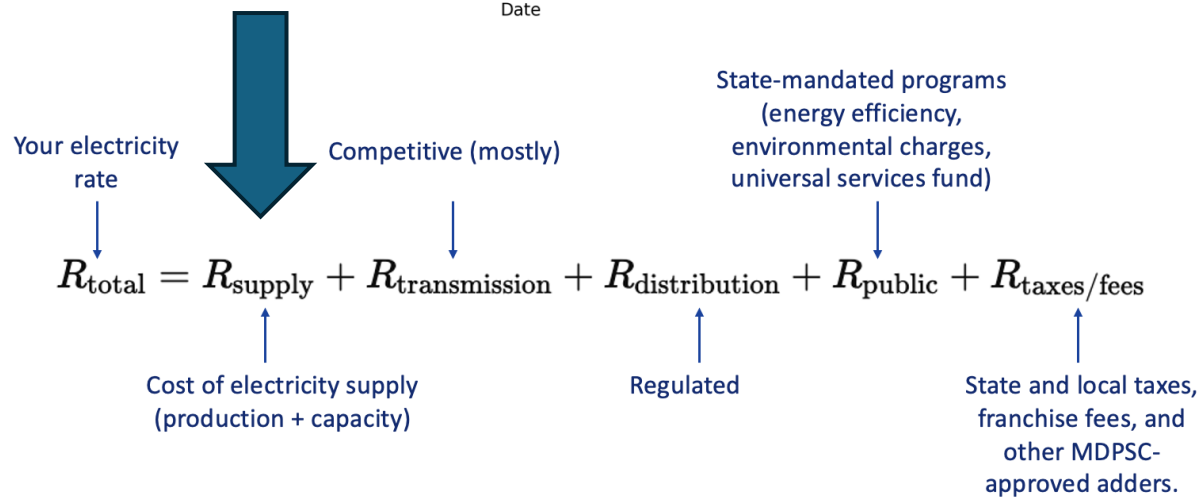
“\$15B+/year in PJM savings from flexible data centers — about \$200 per person, \$1,000 per household”.



Example #2: Causative Attribution of Price Increases to Data Centers



“Wholesale electricity prices have one major driver: cold weather patterns, up to 35% of the residential rate...”.



Example #3: Looking into the Future

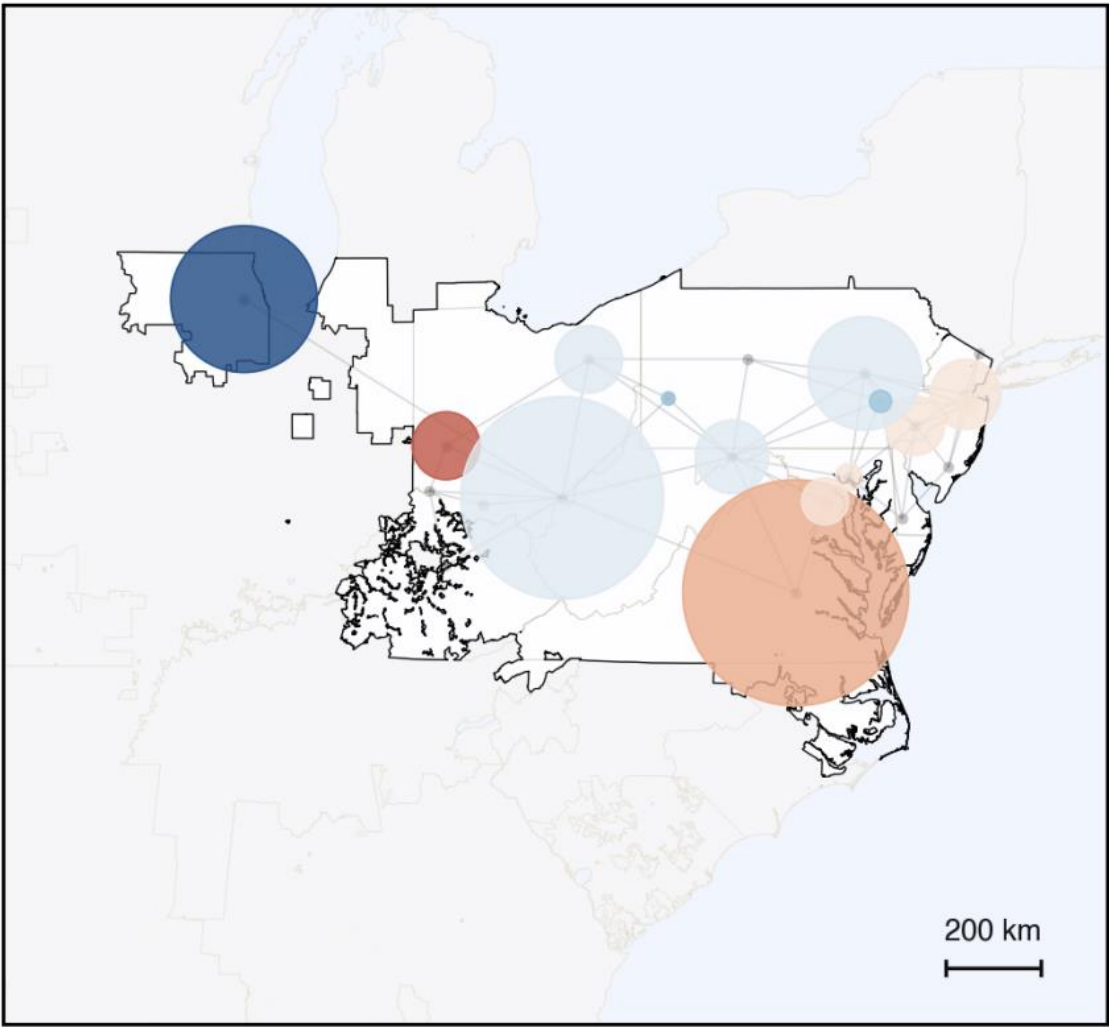
#	Mechanism	Captures	Type
1	Annual energy budget	SLA / availability target	LP
2	Curtailement depth cap	Throttling, not blackout	LP
3	Load shifting (deferral)	AI training workloads	LP
4	Time-of-day restriction	Peak-only curtailment tariffs	LP
5	Tiered flexibility classes	Workload heterogeneity	LP
6	Max consecutive hours	Event-duration limits	MIP
7	Minimum recovery time	Event-frequency limits	MIP
8	Notification / ramp	Physical response constraints	LP



Different modes of flexibility lead to different planning and cost outcomes, which lead to different impacts on consumers

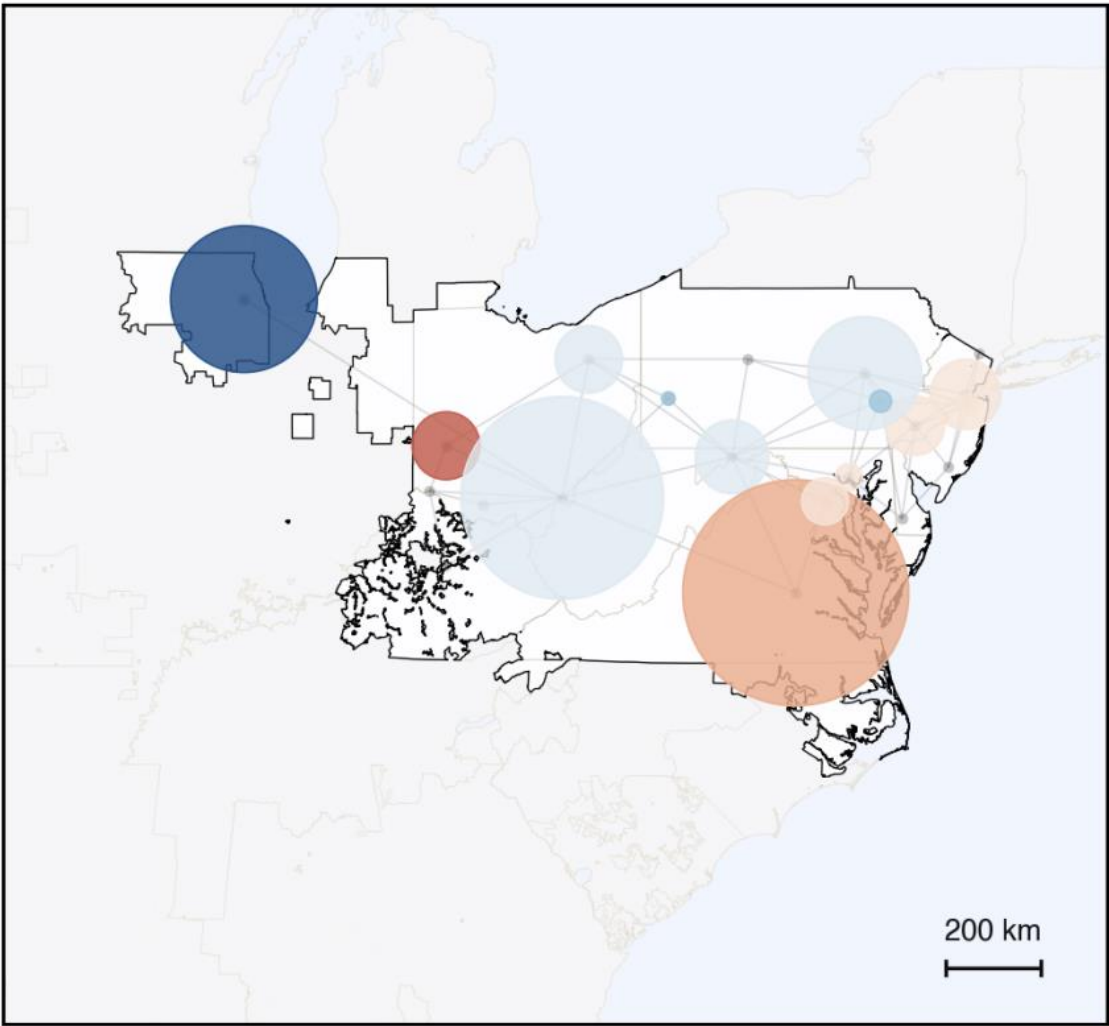
Example #3: Looking into the Future

PJM 2038
DC capacity 74.82 GW; shifted 11.83 TWh yr⁻¹

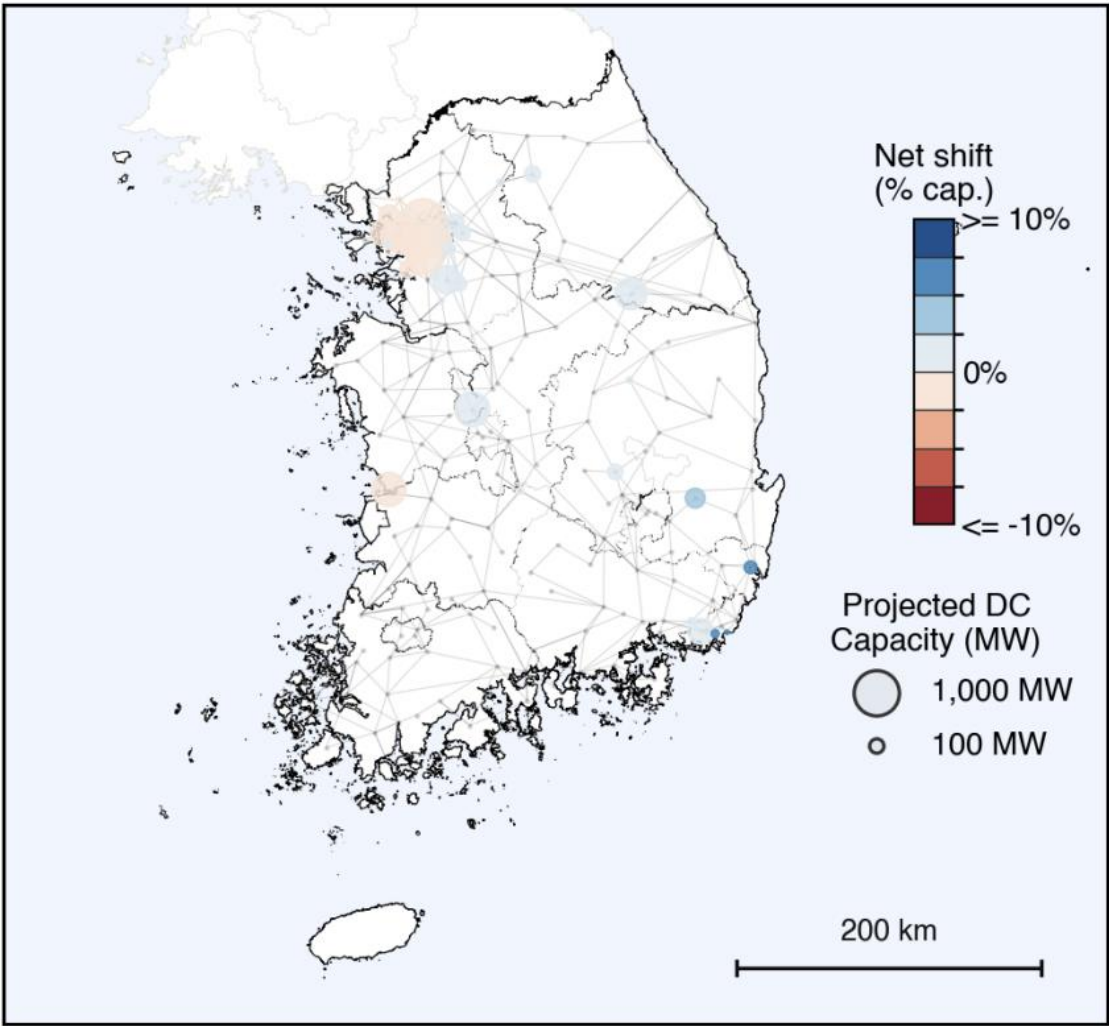


Example #3: Looking into the Future

PJM 2038
DC capacity 74.82 GW; shifted 11.83 TWh yr⁻¹



Korea 2038
DC capacity 8.90 GW; shifted 0.25 TWh yr⁻¹



Example #3: Looking into the Future

Metric	PJM (S2, 2038)				Korea (S2, 2038)			
	Firm	Flex	Inter	Real.	Firm	Flex	Inter	Real.
Total cost (\$B)	96.15	-25.49%	-49.70%	-19.43%	30.00	-5.20%	-21.30%	-3.31%
Investment (\$B)	15.62	-37.51%	-60.44%	-53.10%	13.59	-7.90%	-17.27%	-5.41%
Operation (\$B)	37.14	+3.91%	-51.47%	+5.83%	16.41	-4.39%	-24.63%	-2.34%
Non-Compliance (\$B)	43.39	-46.59%	-44.32%	-29.23%	~0	~0	~0	~0
Deferred (TWh)	~0	7.70	~0	10.35	~0	23.33	~0	12.47
Spatial shift (TWh)	~0	18.56	~0	11.83	~0	0.54	~0	0.25
Interrupted (TWh)	~0	~0	655.40	6.55	~0	~0	77.69	0.78

- Flexibility cuts cost in both systems, but in PJM it is fundamentally driven by space shift
- The PJM binding constraint, not its size or growth rate, decides which mechanism creates value
- Flexibility policy and accreditation must be system-specific - there is no universal "demand-response" archetype.

Efficient, Reliable, Resilient and Clean Grid is Bigger than Modeling



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- ROSEI was established in 2021
- EPICS, Earthshot started in 2023
- ARROW started in 2024

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