



**RAP**

Energy solutions  
for a changing world

# Capacity Markets 101: Understanding Options for Alberta

Webinar  
Pembina Institute

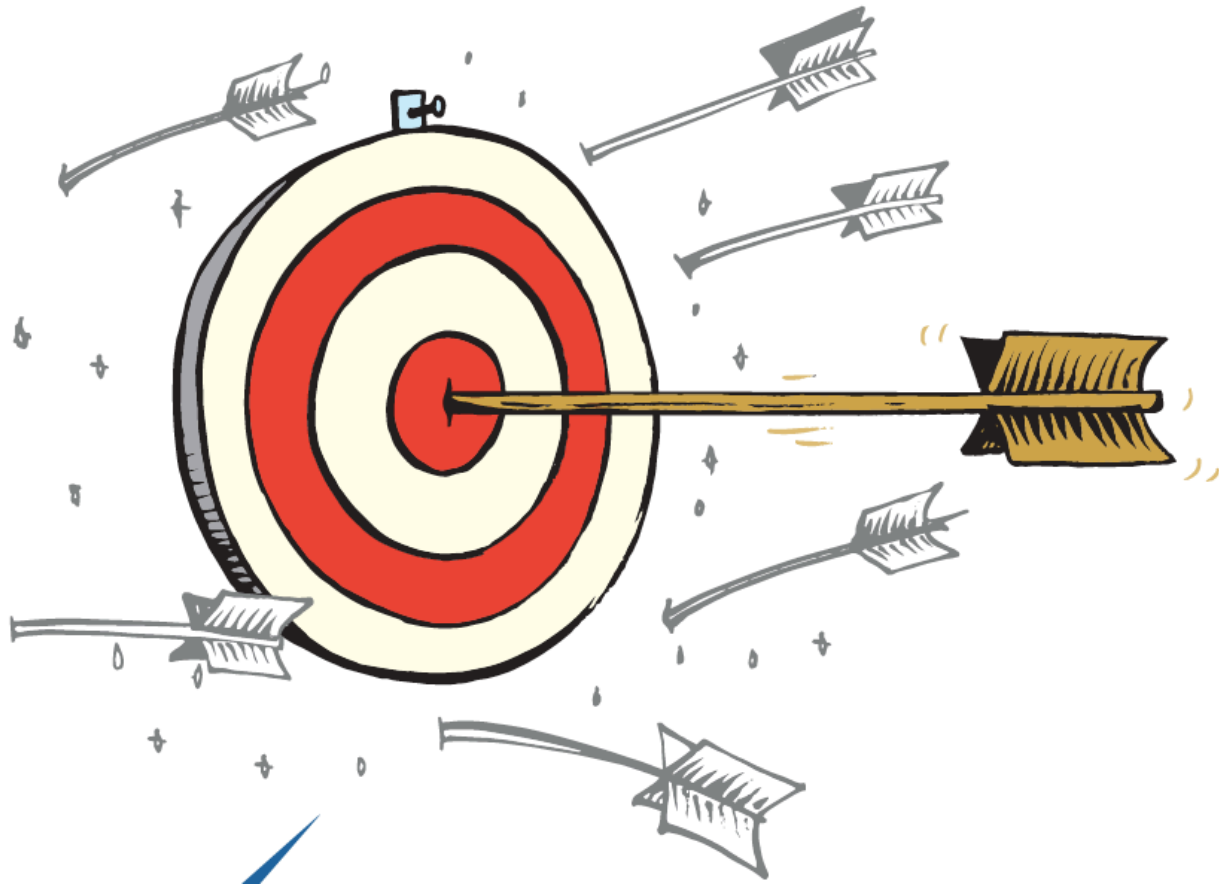
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February 1, 2017

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- Lots of ways to **ensure** resource adequacy...
- ...but how to do so at least cost to consumers?
- Especially in the low-carbon power system?

# AESO's stated objective is laudable

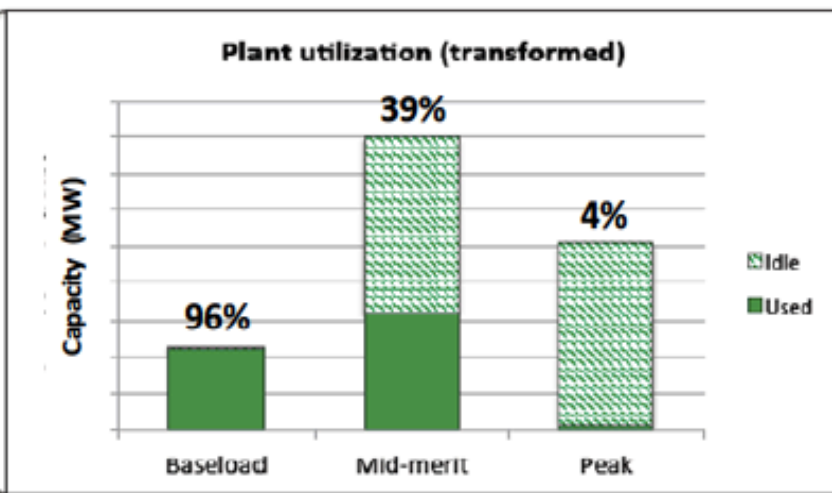
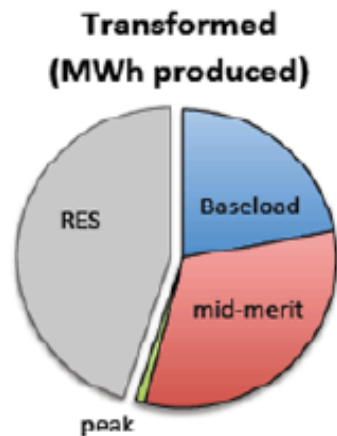
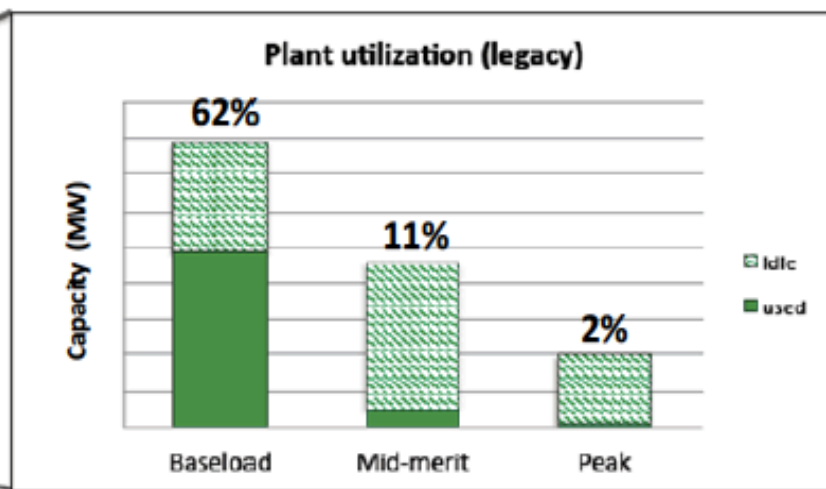
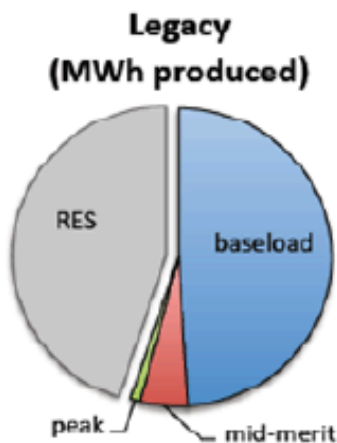
*“The desired end state is to develop a capacity market that...*

*ensures continued supply adequacy and reliability...*

***at a reasonable cost [to consumers].”***

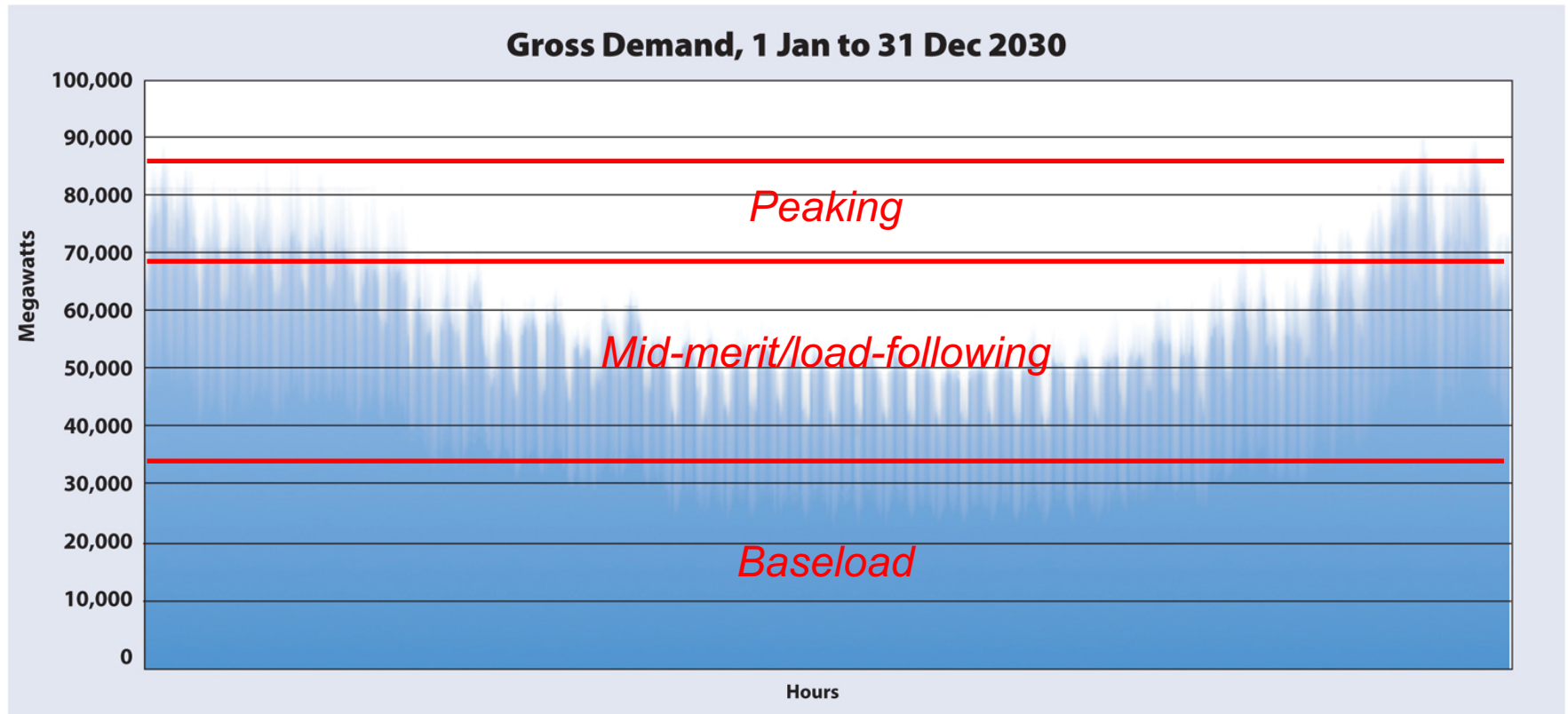
*...but will the proposal deliver in a low-carbon power system?*

# “How much?” depends on “what kind?”



# “How much?” depends on “what kind?”

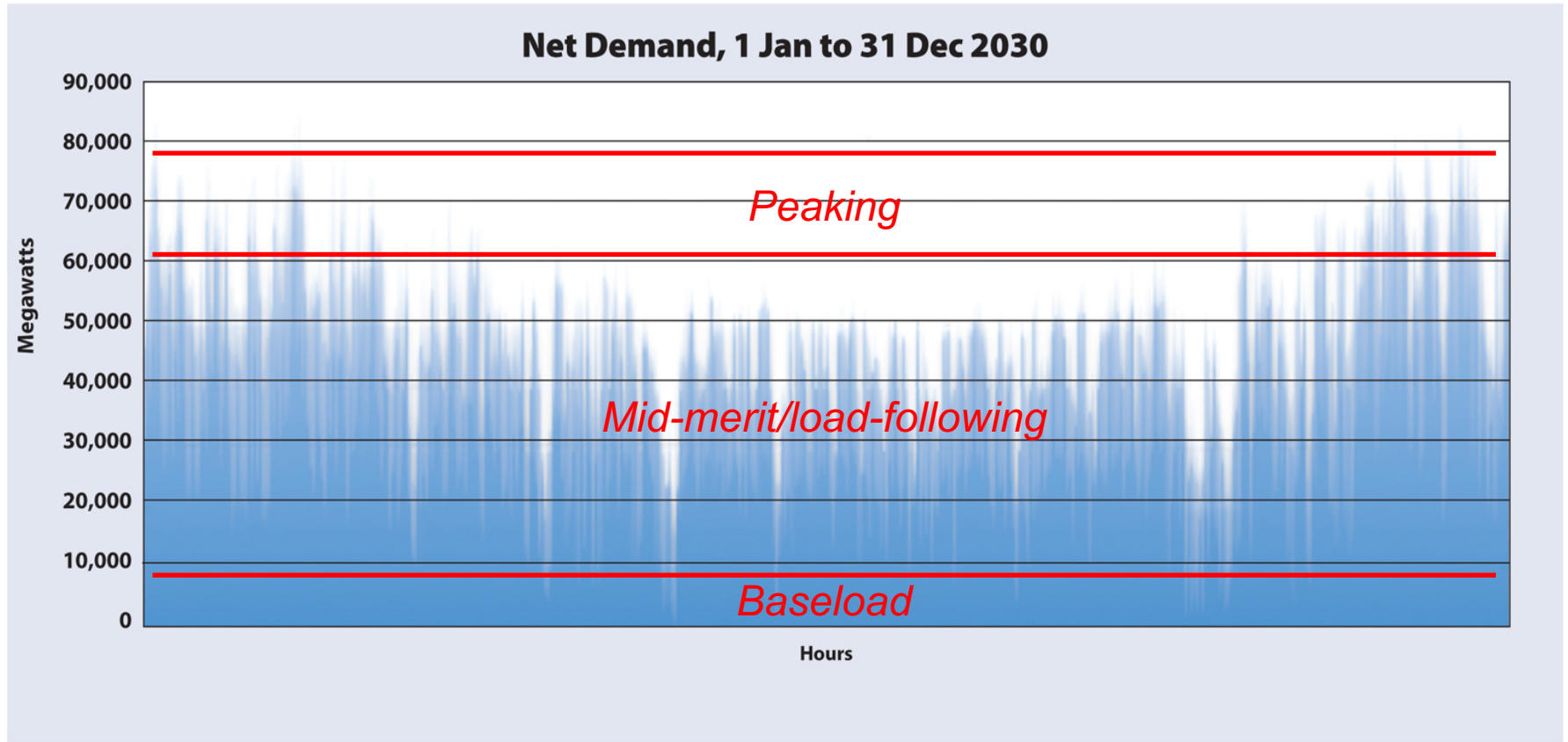
Figure 3



Gross load (2030), Southern UK, 28% variable RES

# “How much?” depends on “what kind?”

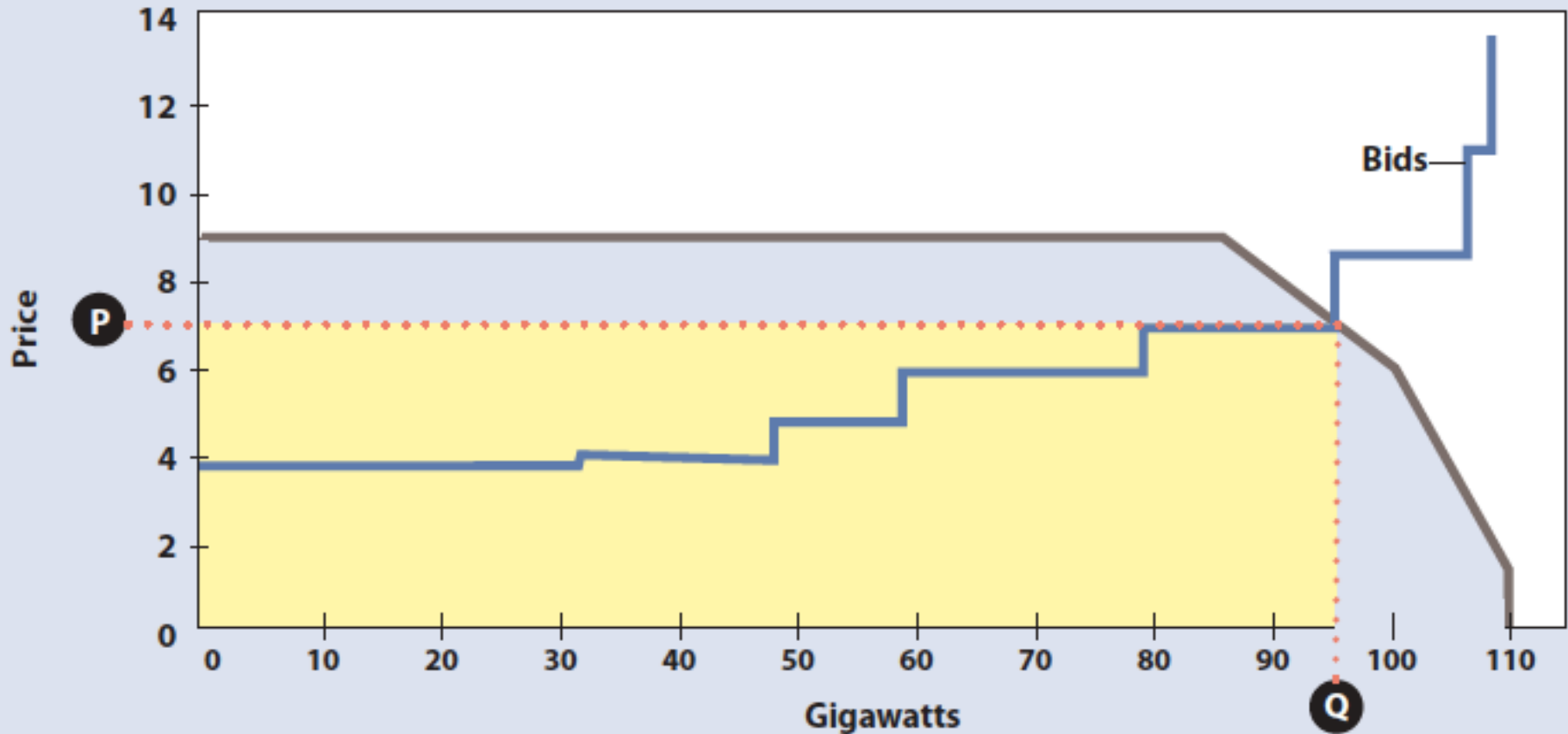
Figure 4



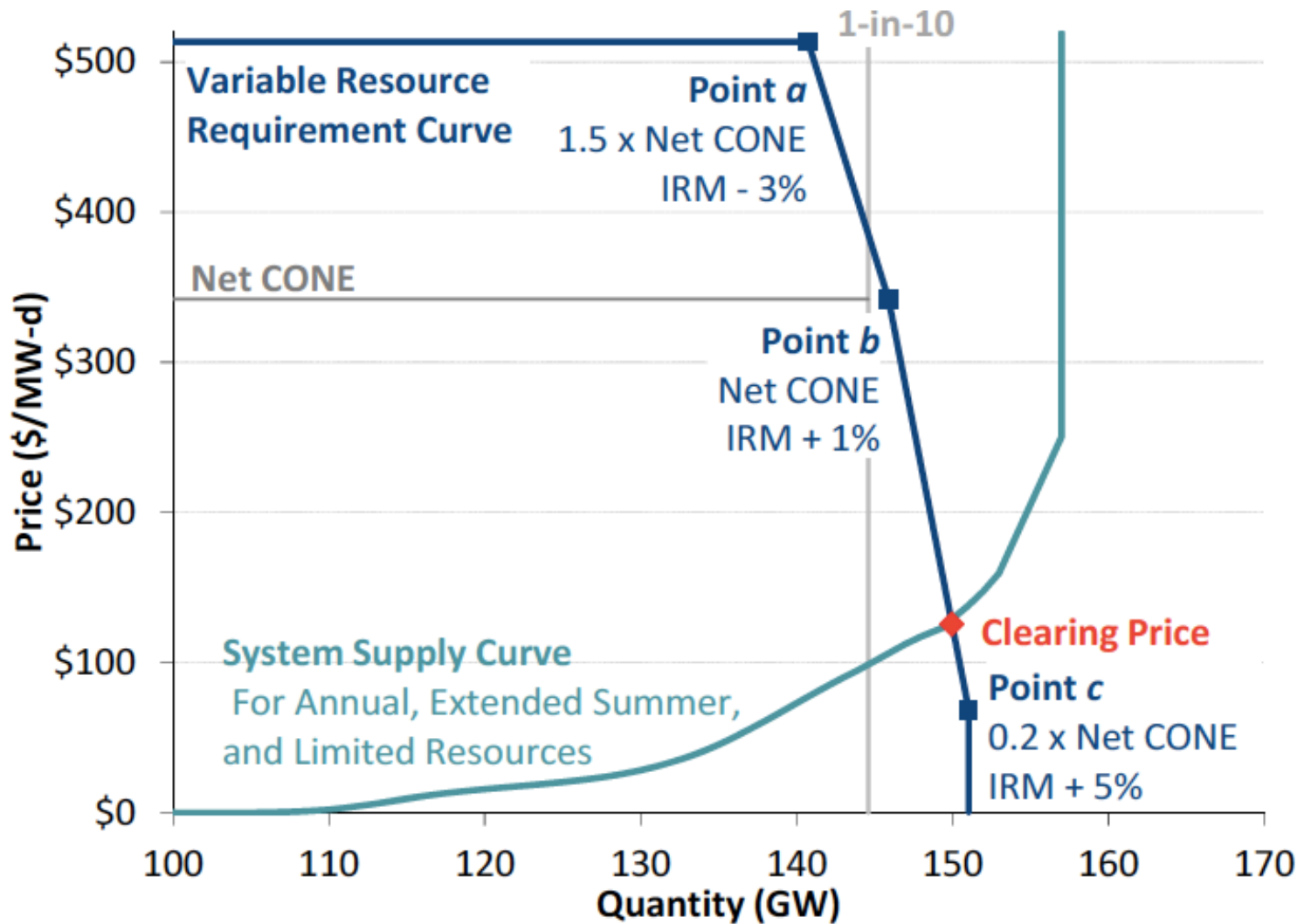
Net load (2030), Southern UK, 28% variable RES

# Capacity market

## Single Clearing Price Auction



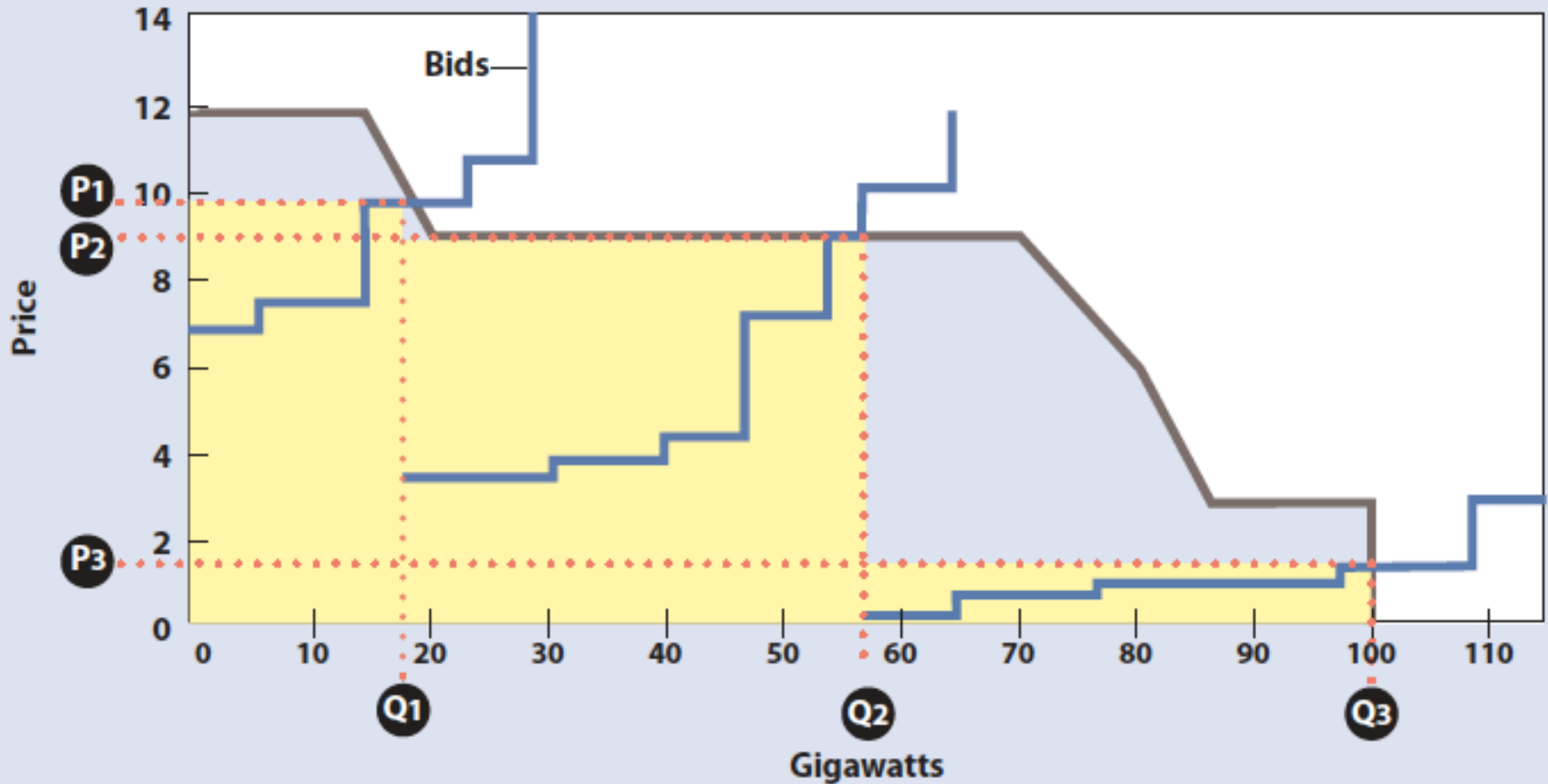
# Capacity market





# Capability market

## Multiple Clearing Price Auction (b)



# Capability market

2005: PJM proposed three capacity tranches (baseload, load-following and supplemental reserves):

*“[T]he intent...is to...ensure ongoing system reliability through operational diversity. In order to encourage long-term operational diversity, the long-term investment signals must include operational reliability constraints to clearly value the diversity from an investment signal perspective.”*

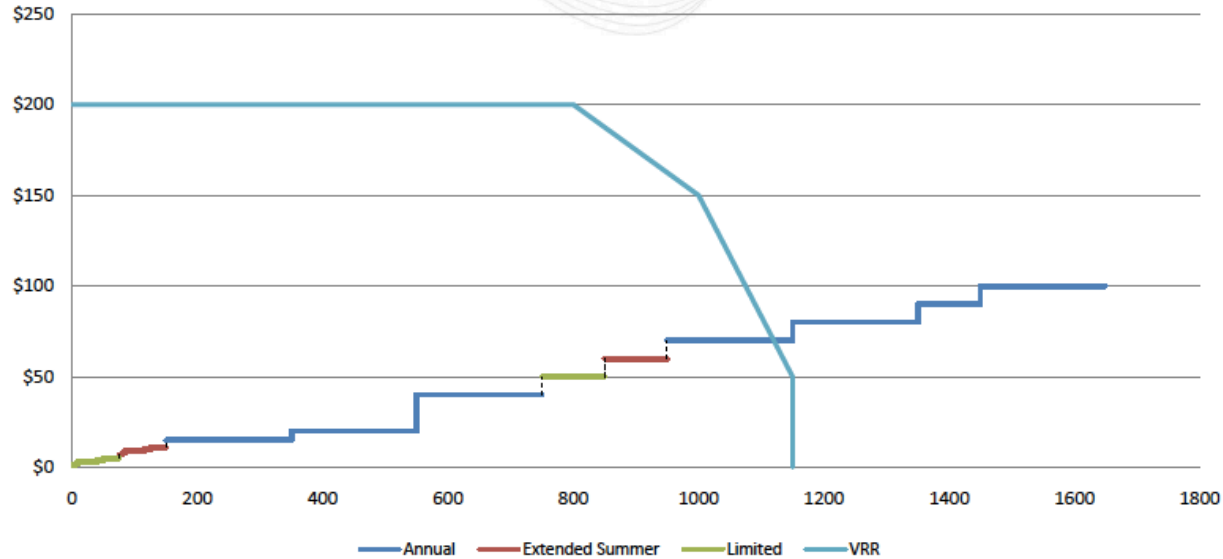
...and FERC concurred:

*“ We agree with PJM that the region must have at least a minimum amount of these capabilities...we conclude that quick-start and load-following capabilities are characteristics of capacity, just as location is a characteristic of capacity.”*

# Capability market in practice



Clearing Example 1  
No Minimum Resource Requirements



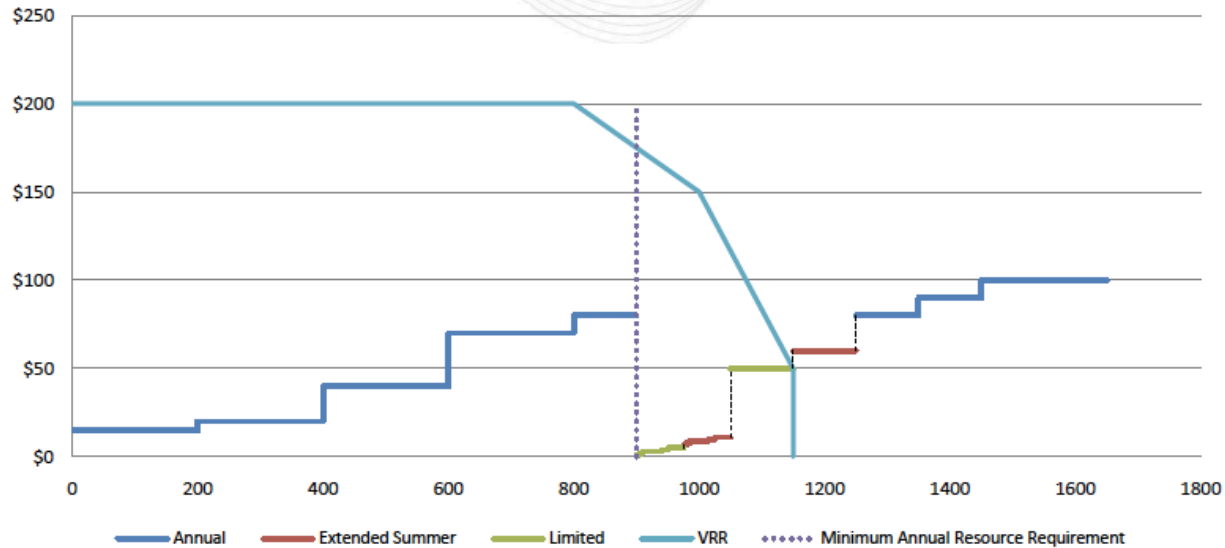
Marginal Value Of System Capacity = \$70  
Annual Resource Price Adder = \$0  
Extended Summer Price Adder = \$0

# Capability market in practice



Clearing Example 2

Minimum Annual Resource Requirement Only

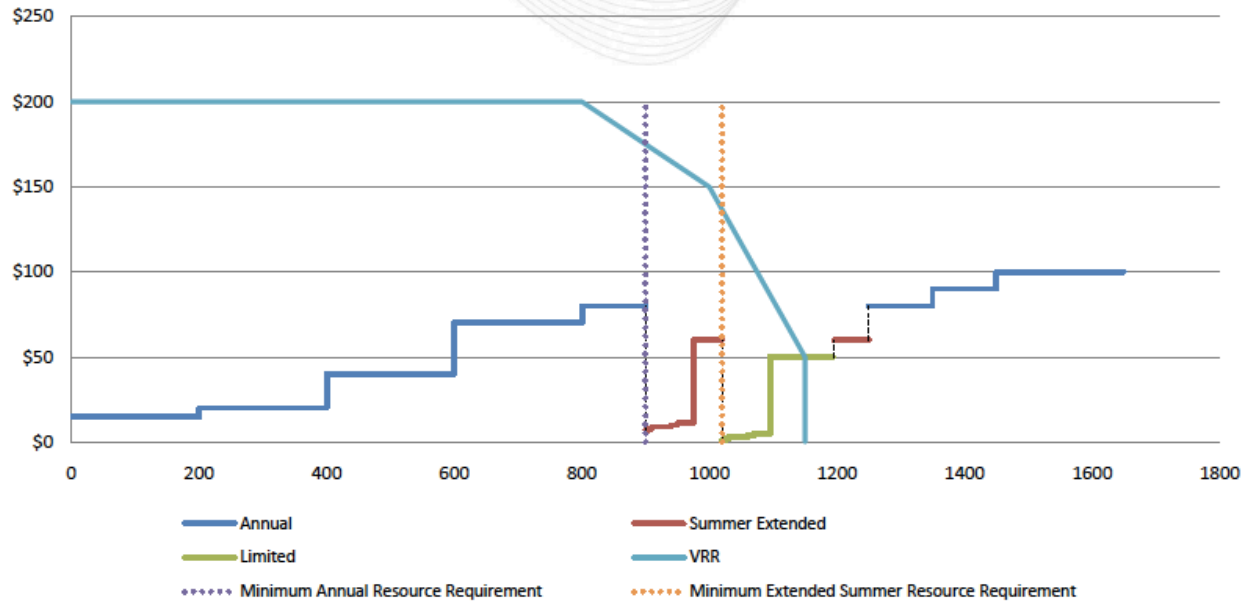


Marginal Value Of System Capacity = \$50  
Annual Resource Price Adder = \$30  
Extended Summer Price Adder = \$0

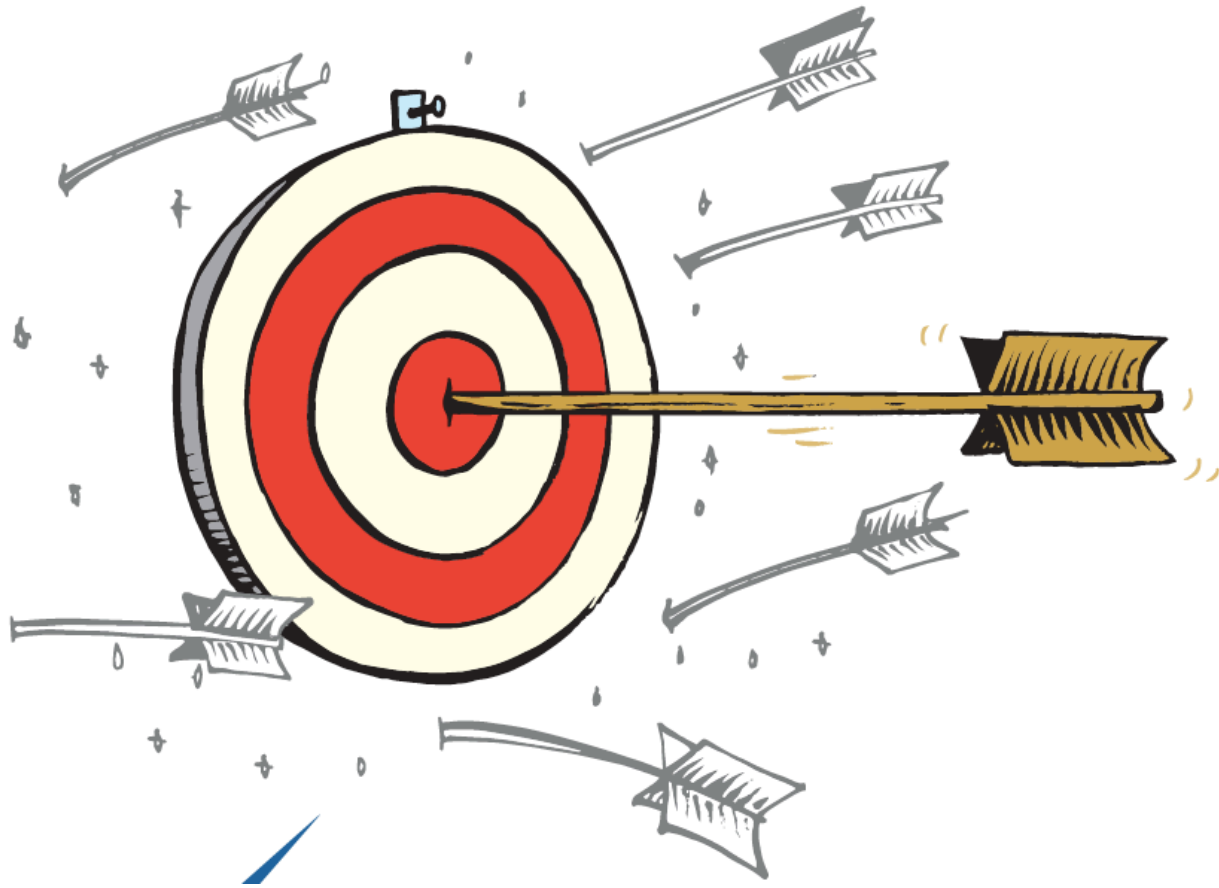
# Capability market in practice



## Clearing Example 3 Minimum Annual and Extended Summer Resource Requirements



Marginal Value Of System Capacity = \$50  
 Annual Resource Price Adder = \$20  
 Extended Summer Price Adder = \$10



- Lots of ways to **pay for** resource adequacy...
- ...but how to do so at least cost to consumers?
- Especially in the low-carbon power system?

# The capacity market & the energy market

*Capacity and energy are NOT separate products*

*How do we know this?*

*Because the demand curve is not based on  
Gross CONE, it's based on Net CONE*

*Net CONE = CONE – (E + AS margins)*

*That is, CMs are designed assuming capacity  
is remunerated by energy & AS margins*

# The capacity market & the energy market

*“Capacity” (actually, fixed costs) is simply a component of the energy value chain*

*A CM should be a belts-and-braces backstop to the energy & AS markets*

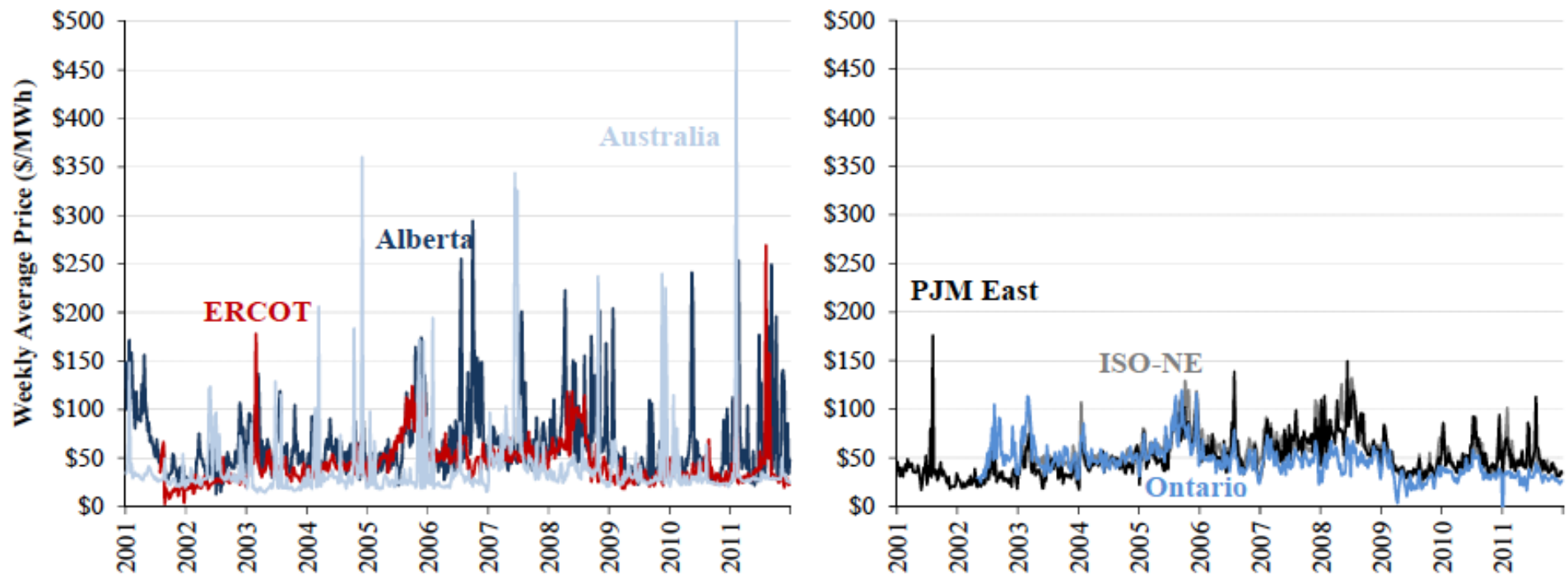
*The better you do on energy price formation, the less you need to rely on a capacity market...*

*...and the more transparent the value of investments in resource flexibility*



# The capacity market & the energy market

## Prices in Energy Only Markets (Left) and Markets with a Reliability Requirement (Right)



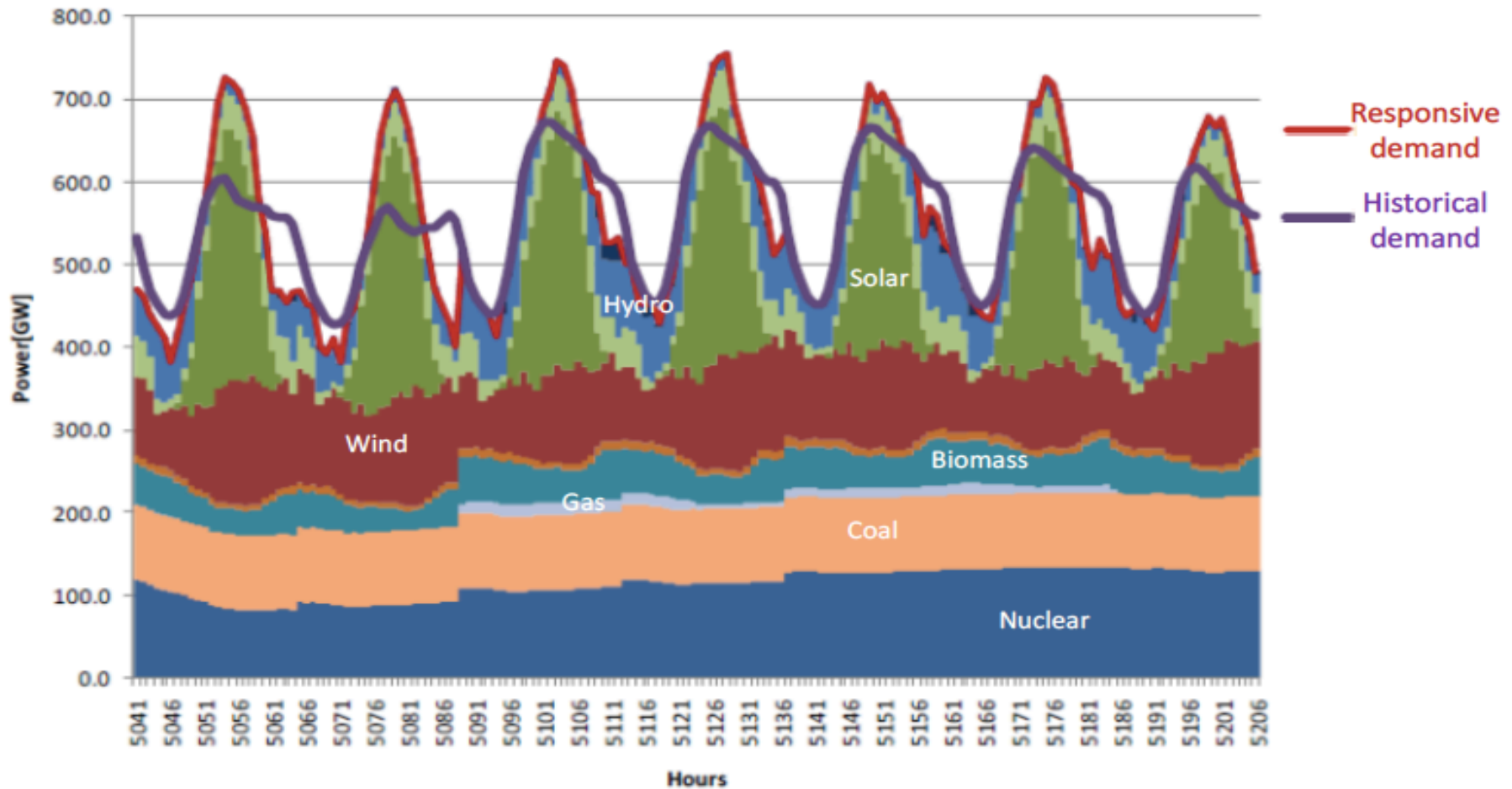
### Sources and Notes:

Weekly average prices from Ventyx (2012); Weekly average prices for Australia from AEMO (2012).

Historical prices shown for ERCOT are at the North Hub; Australia prices are at New South Wales; PJM prices are at the Eastern Hub; and ISO-NE prices are at the System Hub.

Source: Brattle Group, "ERCOT Investment Incentives and Resource Adequacy"

# Energy prices & flexibility in a low-carbon system



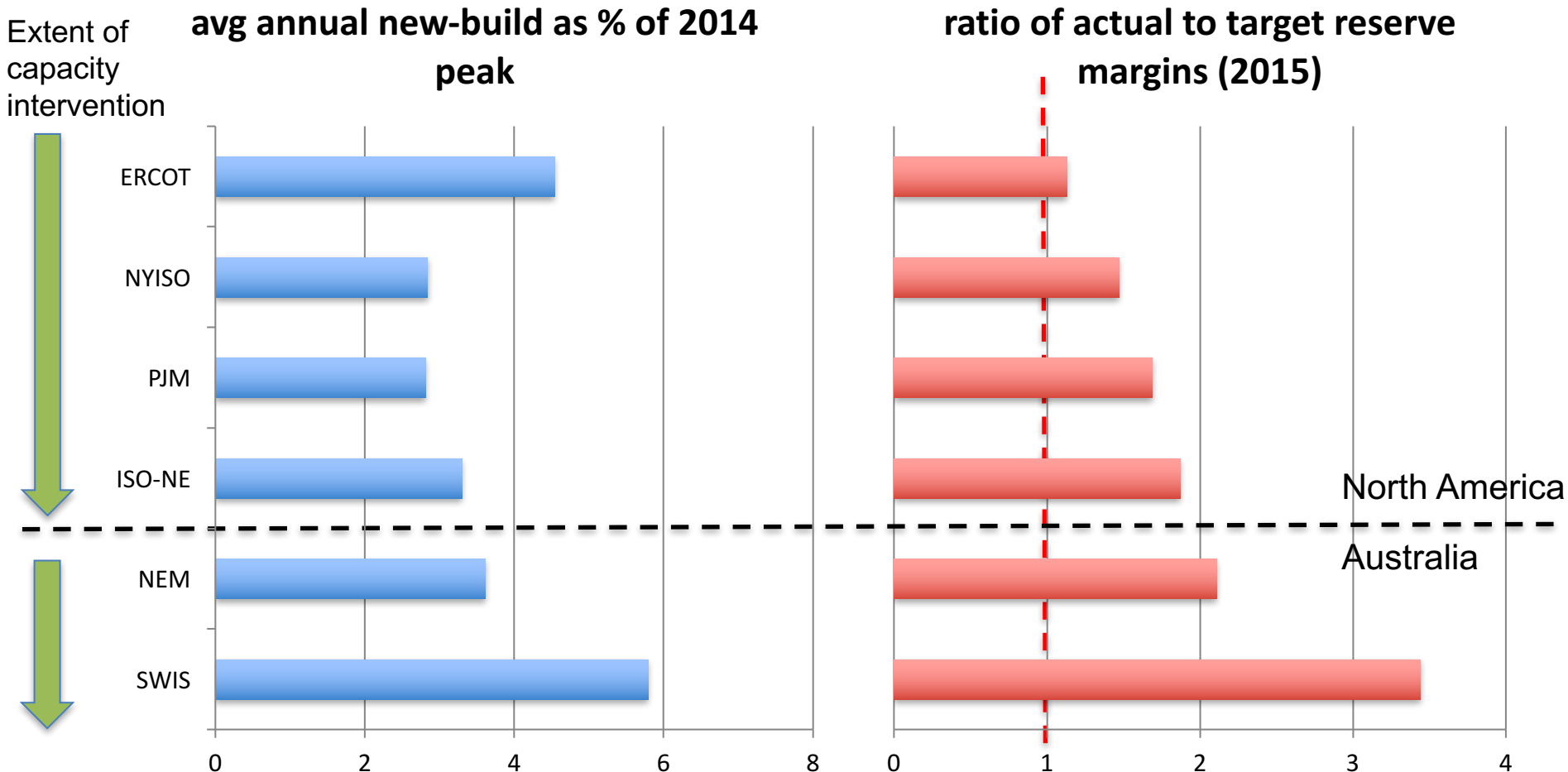
# The term is the term...and it should be short

*AESO: “Long-term investment risks should continue to be largely borne [or rather managed] by investors rather than by consumers.”*

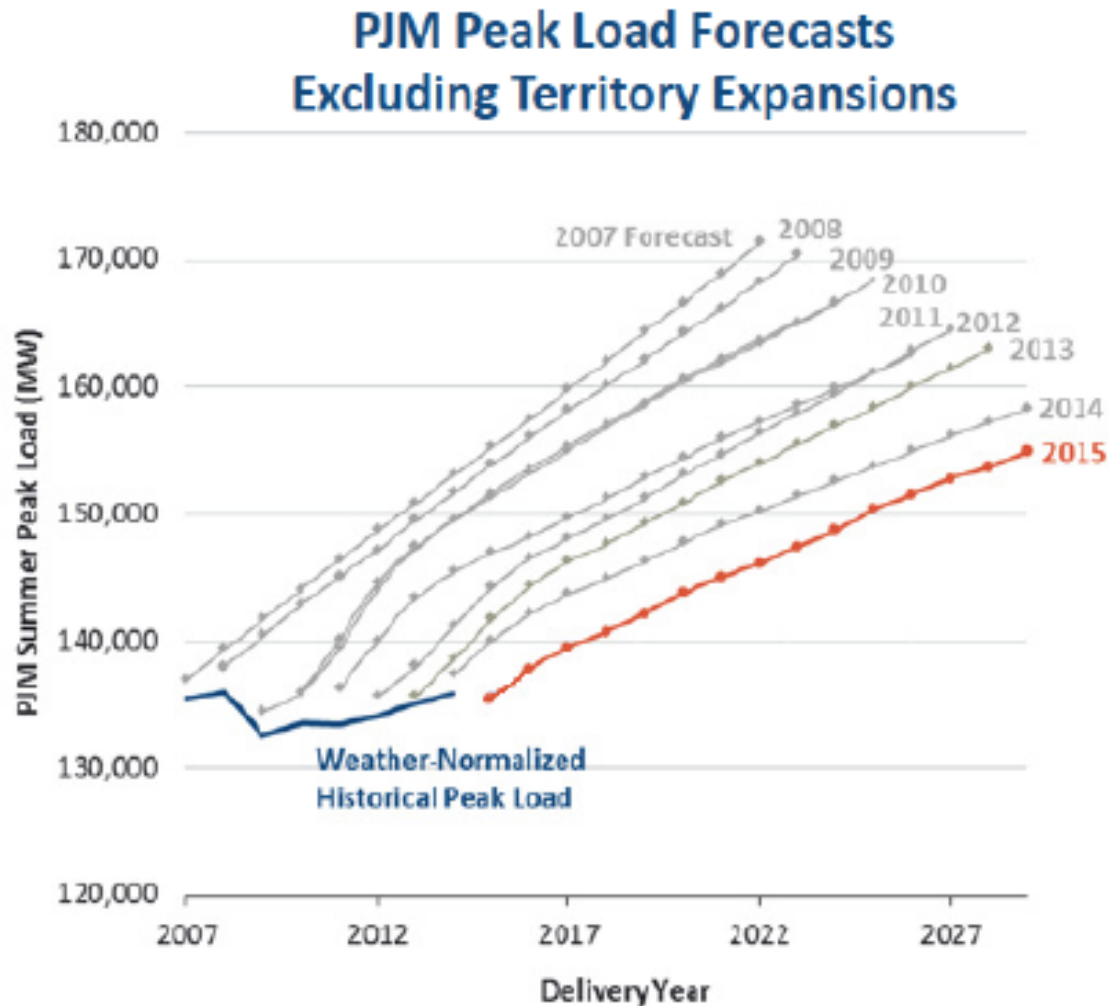
*Bilateral contracts and financial hedging remain the principle basis for investment...*

*...even where there are capacity markets*

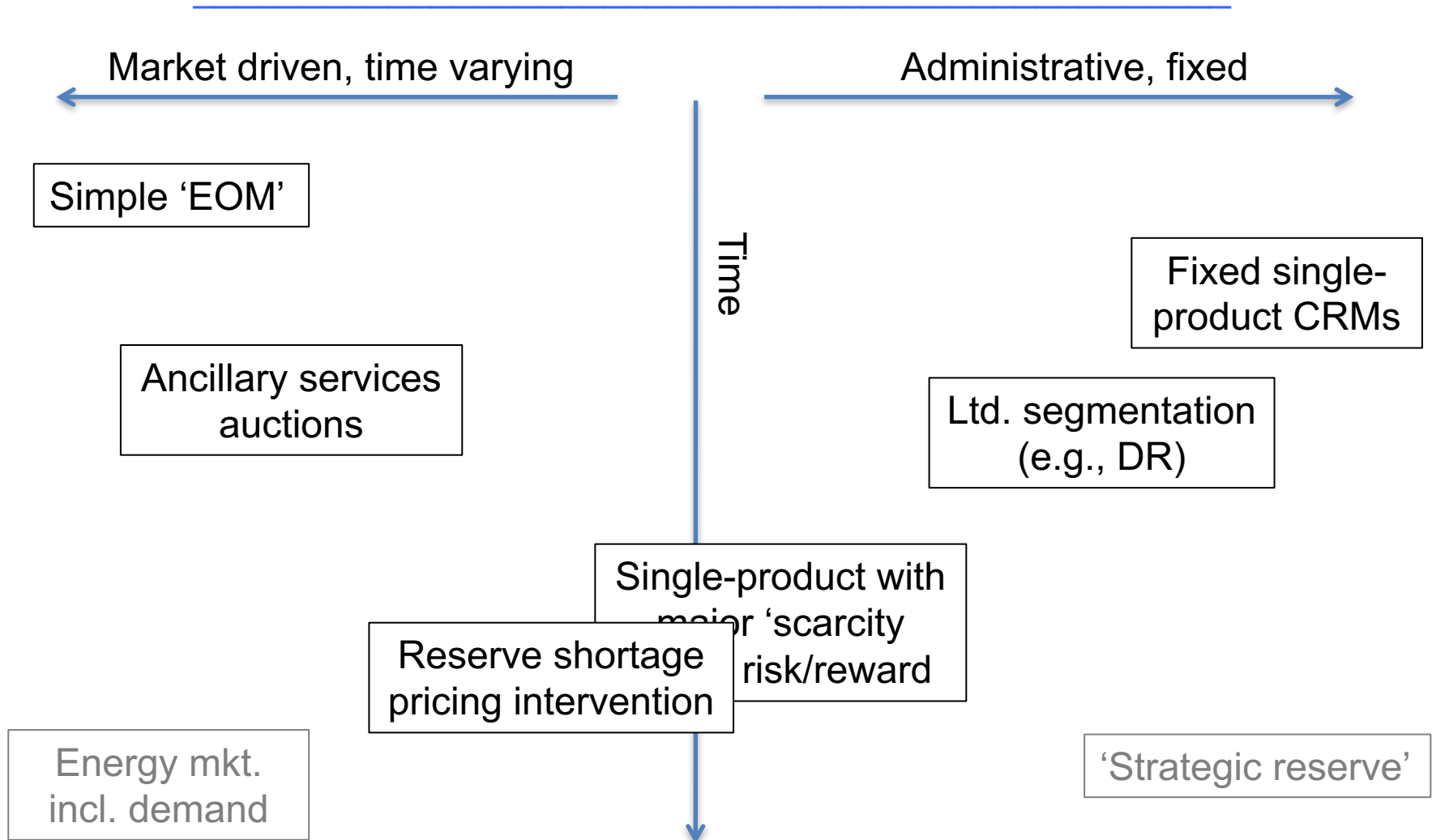
# Capacity markets & adequacy: empirical data



# Capacity markets & adequacy: empirical data



# Evolution of CR away from binary model



# Parting thoughts (1): How much depends on what kind

*The objective of any resource adequacy mechanism is reliability at the lowest reasonable cost; that has important implications for the design of a capacity market and its proper role.*

## Parting thoughts (2): Energy and capacity are not separate products

*Effective energy and balancing markets are essential to value investments in flexibility and spur innovation; administrative remedies should target them rather than simply pay for capacity*



## Parting thoughts (3): Capacity markets are not PPA markets, nor are they “new investment” markets

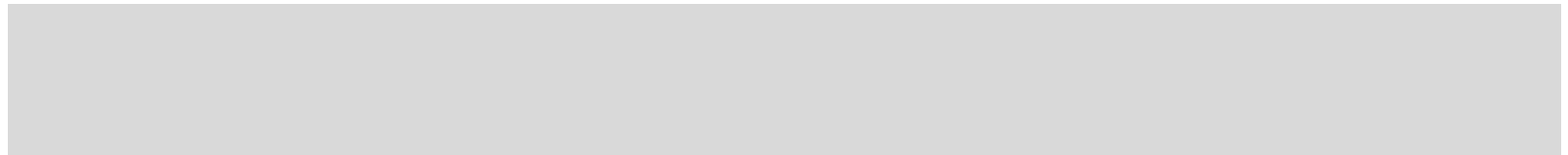
*No evidence CMs offering multi-year terms to new investment are more effective; doing so heavily distorts the market and contravenes the risk allocation for which markets were adopted.*

## 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](http://www.raponline.org)



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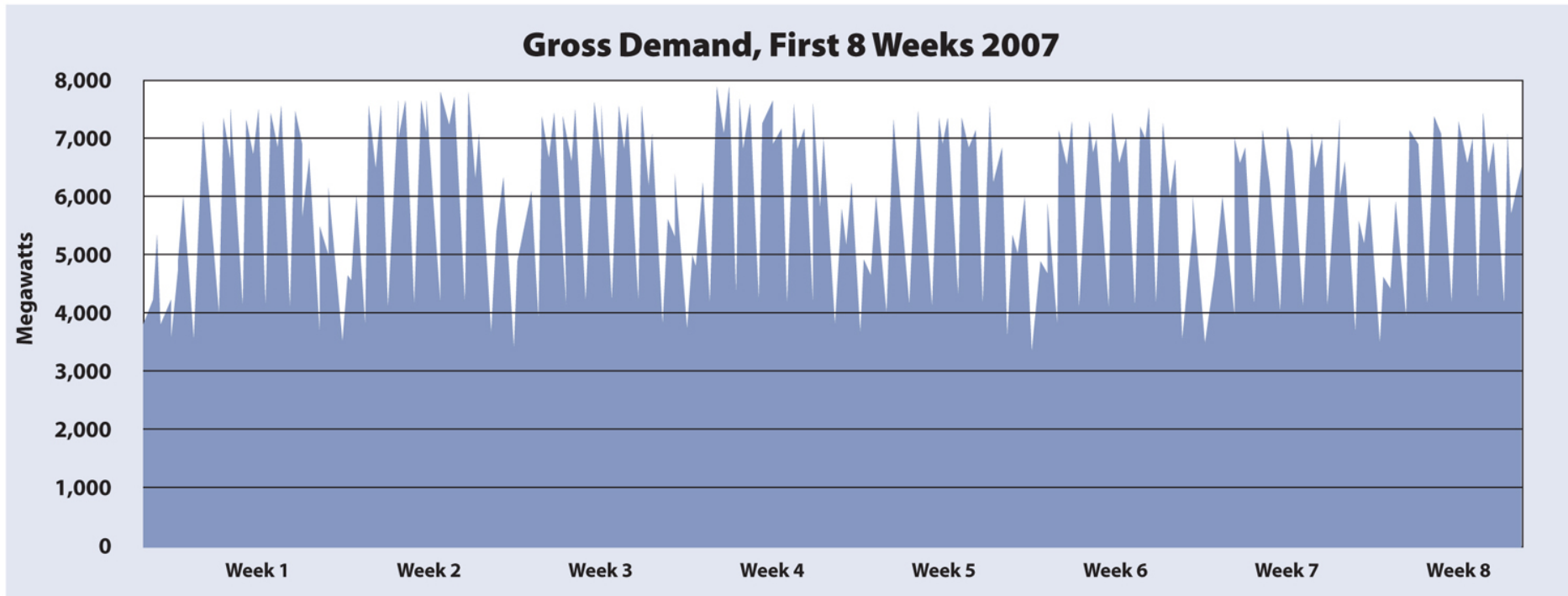
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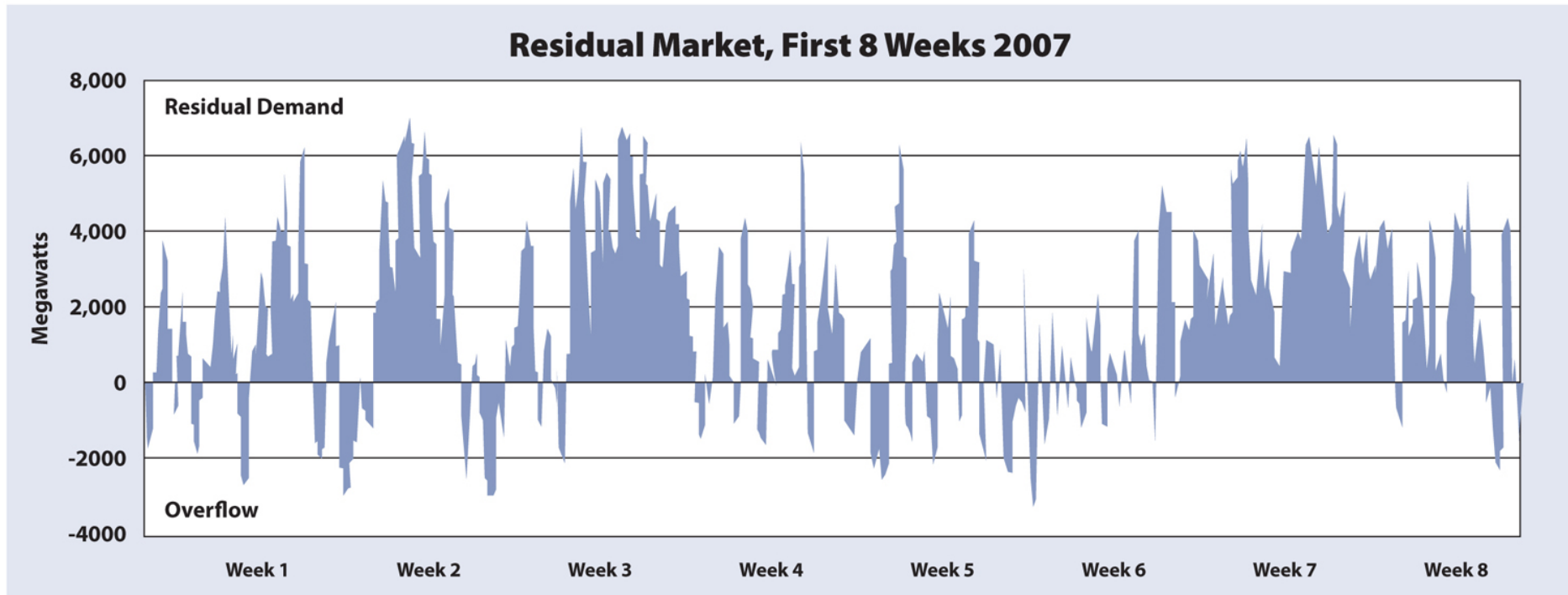
Figure 1



Gross load, West Denmark, January-February 2007

# “How much?” depends on “what kind?”

Figure 2



Net load, West Denmark, January-February 2007