

Regional Engagement Committee Meeting

February 26, 2026

Agenda

- » Welcome and Opening Remarks
- » REC Leadership for 2026
- » Tribal Engagement Updates
- » Review of Upcoming Topics for this Year
- » Review of 20-Yr Analysis WATT slides for discussion
- » Next Steps
- » Public comment

New REC Co-Chair

- » Robb Davis has stepped down as REC co-chair for 2026 and we welcome Sibyl Geiselman at PGP (Public Generating Pool) as our new co-chair alongside Vijay.
- » Seeking more open dialogue/engagement in 2026 – assist and inform E Strategies + E3 where feedback is needed



WESTTEC REC

TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT UPDATES

- February 2nd - 5th, 2026 at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) Winter Convention WestTEC's Sara Edmonds, WestTEC leadership, WPP CEO/President was in attendance and presented to the ATNI Energy Committee on Feb. 2nd at the Monday session. The event was held at the Hilton Downtown in Portland, Oregon. There was great attendance, and a presentation on the WestTEC 10 Year Study. It was well received by the attendees.
- April 28th - 29th, 2026 at the Las Vegas Palms in Las Vegas, NV. Western Resource Advocates will be hosting a Tribal engagement and Western Energy Markets and Transmission workshop: Western Resource Advocates (WRA) convenes an invite-only workshop series for Tribes and Tribal-serving partners to build a shared understanding of how Western energy markets and transmission planning are changing—and to support stronger Tribal influence in the policy decisions happening across the West. Link: <https://westernresourceadvocates.org/rsvp-workshop-series/>



Review of 20-Yr Analysis WATT Slides for Discussion

System Reliability Assessment

Hour Selection Criteria for SRA Cases

- **System Reliability Assessment (SRA)** is a holistic system analysis that focuses on four system conditions that address unique load & resource conditions:
 - » Heavy Summer conditions with low solar generation
 - » Heavy Winter conditions with low renewable generation
 - » High Wind conditions
 - » High Solar conditions
- Ensures that the Western transmission system has reliable transmission to ensure the grid is robust and flexible enough to manage stressed conditions
 - Focusses on the most severe and credible conditions that could impact the Western region
- SRA focuses on steady-state contingency analysis with monitoring for thermal and voltage limit violations subject to NERC Transmission Planning standards

System Reliability Assessment Dispatch Assumptions

» Heavy Summer Dispatch Assumptions

- » Peak Summer Net Load
- » Low Renewable generation
- » Batteries, Pumped Storage and Natural Gas generation at 50-70% of their maximum capacity
- » Coal, Nuclear and Geothermal generation is set close to their maximum capacity
- » Summer seasonal Pacific Northwest Hydro Dispatch

» Heavy Winter Dispatch Assumptions

- » Peak Winter Net Load
- » Low Renewable generation
- » Low to moderate dispatch of Batteries, Pumped Storage and Natural Gas generation.
- » Coal, Nuclear and Geothermal generation is set close to their maximum capacity
- » Winter seasonal Northwest Hydro Dispatch

» High Solar Dispatch Assumptions

- » Summer mid-day Load
- » Peak Solar and Low Wind generation
- » Batteries and Pumped Storage are in charging mode.
- » Low Natural Gas generation
- » Coal and Geothermal generation are dispatched at around 60-70% of their maximum capacity. Nuclear generation is set close to maximum capacity.

» High Wind Dispatch Assumptions

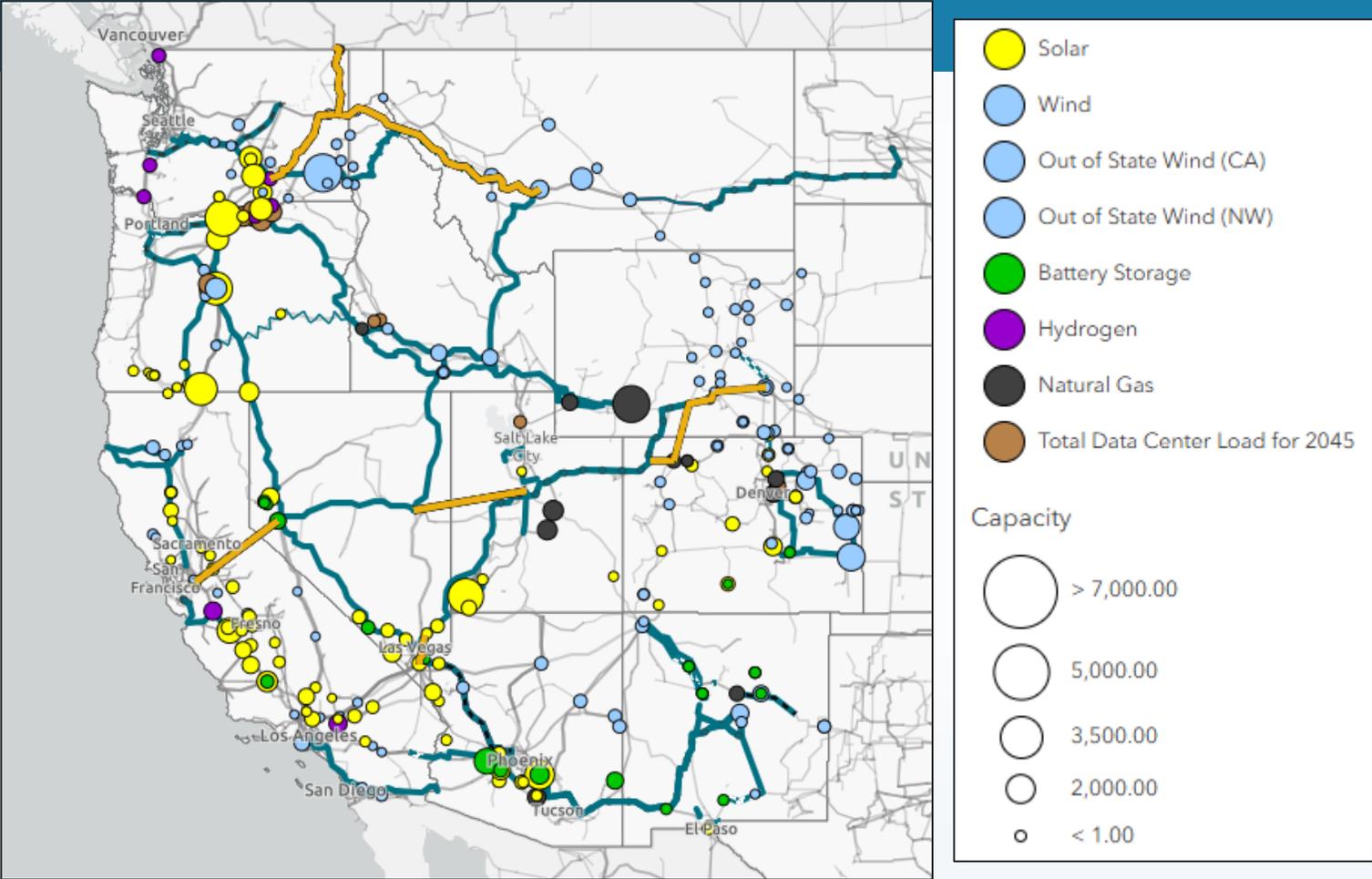
- » Off-peak Load conditions
- » Peak Wind and Low Solar generation
- » Batteries and Pumped Storage are either in charging mode or at low generation levels.
- » Low Natural Gas generation
- » Coal and Geothermal generation are dispatched at around 60-70% of their maximum capacity
- » Winter seasonal Northwest Hydro Dispatch

Resources & Busbar Mapping Update

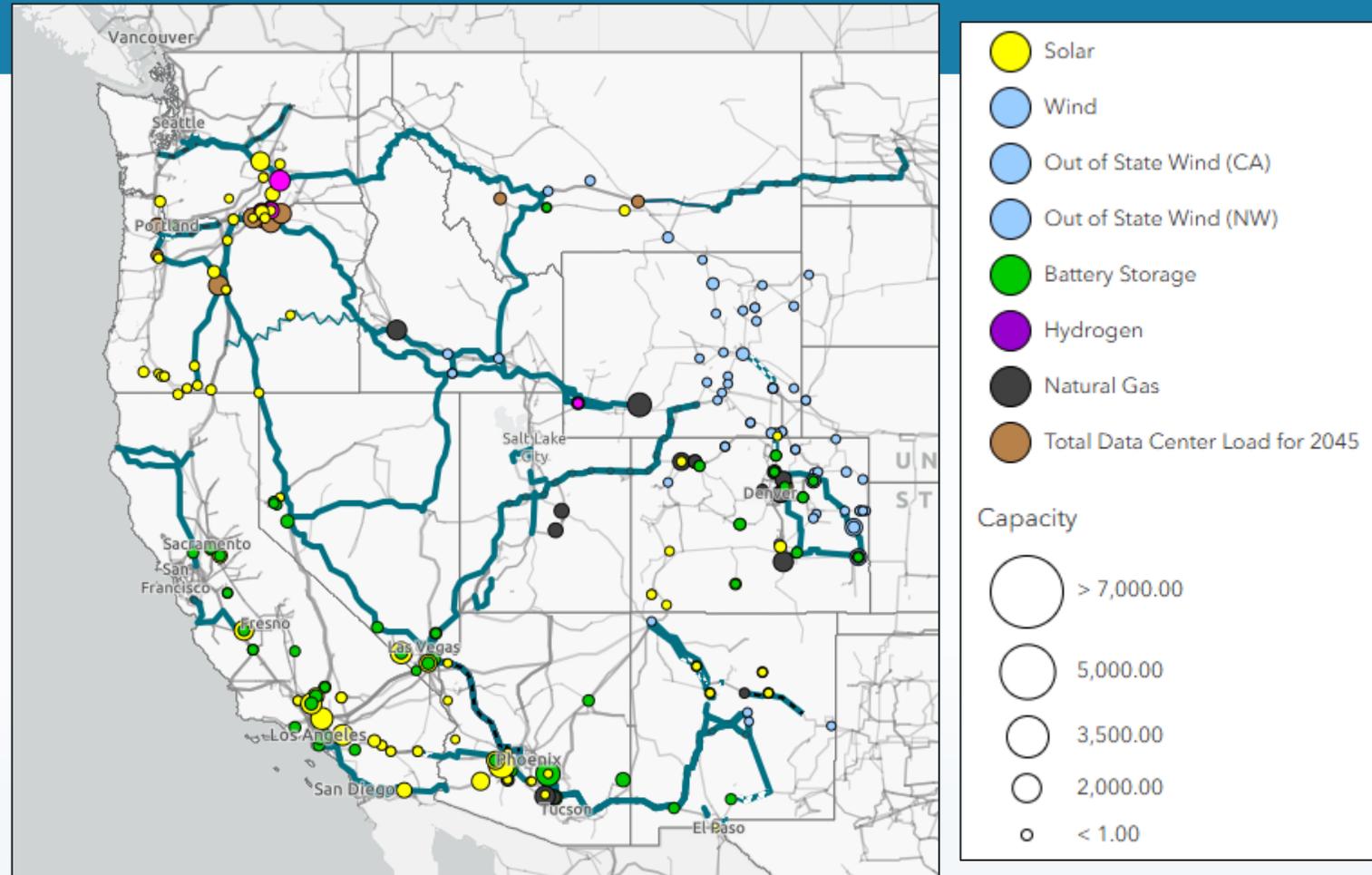
Busbar Mapping Process

- » ES facilitated a review session from December 23rd through the Jan 21st All-Committees meeting
 - » Energy Strategies implemented feedback received from the All-Committees Meeting and notified WATT members of a “v3” workbook reflecting those assumptions on February 3rd
 - » At stakeholder request, an additional session was held for the NW to review busbar mapping decisions
- » **Scenario busbar mapping is complete (v4.2) pending any red flags from WATT members**
 - » **ES will proceed to next steps: Hypothesis Mapping and Case Development**

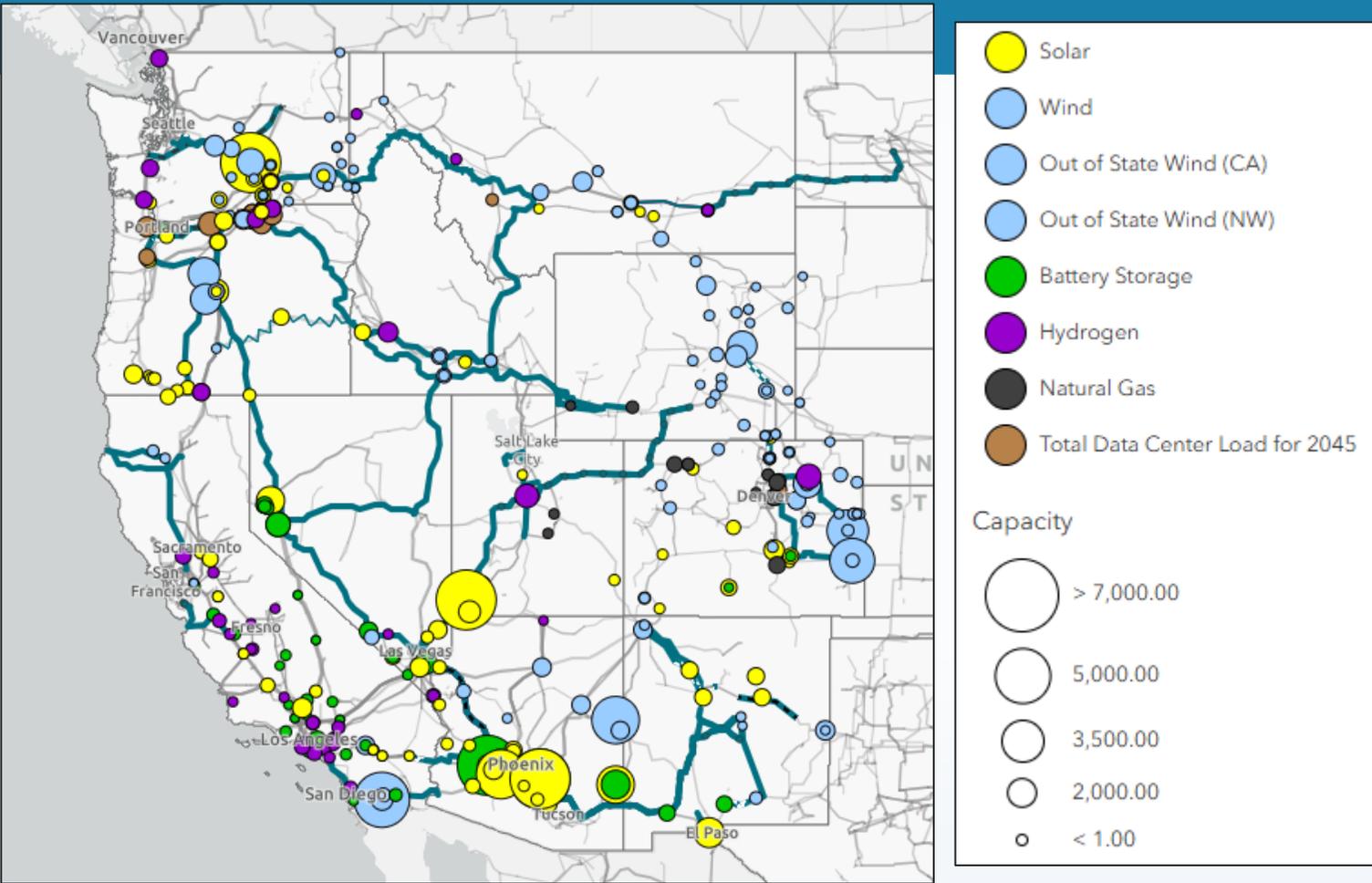
Reference Scenario Busbar Mapping



Core Scenario Busbar Mapping



Flux Scenario Busbar Mapping



Benefits Assessment

Benefits Assessment

- » A large part of making the 20-Year study “actionable” is quantifying transmission benefits
 - » WestTEC study plan proposed 7 benefits
- » Plan is to propose a preliminary benefits methodology today
 - » Benefits methodology will be finalized in Q2 2026
- » Key questions:
 - » Benefits relative to what?
 - » What type of benefits calculation best aligns with study objectives?
 - » Can we include benefits of the 10-year portfolio?
 - » Is it helpful to calculate benefits for different portfolios in different futures?
 - » Can we calculate benefits sub-system-wide?

Benefits Outlined in WestTEC Study Plan

Benefit	Description (Similar to WestTEC Study Plan)
Operational & Congestion Efficiencies	Change in annual adjusted production cost (APC), capturing reductions in short-run generation production costs to serve load due to reduced congestion and/or curtailment (including reduced transmission energy losses; can be enhanced to reflect outage-related impacts if modeled).
Improved Resource Adequacy (reduced loss of load probability)	Load diversity savings from greater inter-area transfer capability, enabling balancing areas to share resources that could otherwise be constrained and potentially avoid construction of capacity resources.
Capacity Savings from Reduced Peak Energy Losses	Savings in capacity costs from reduced peak energy losses, lowering the total generation capacity required to meet peak demand.
Extreme Event Mitigation (resilience benefits)	Change in cost of unserved load and/or production under tail-event stressed conditions (high loads, generation unavailability, transmission outages, weather and other factors); valued using VOLL for avoided load curtailments.
Increased Resource Access	Savings from accessing higher-value resources due to transmission expansion; estimated via counterfactual scenarios and reflected as reductions in capital costs of the resource portfolio.
Avoided Emissions	GHG emission reductions due to transmission expansion and enabled resources, quantified using carbon cost and discount rate analysis.
Avoided or Deferred Reliability Upgrades	Avoided cost of reliability upgrades that would otherwise be needed; identified via powerflow results comparing facility loading (near/over thermal limits) with and without the transmission portfolio and estimating upgrade/replacement costs.

Next Steps

- » Next REC meeting will be held March 19th
- » Next All-Committee meeting will be April 23, 2026
- » Any feedback or questions, please email GDS:
 - » gillian.mccullough@gdsassociates.com
 - » kyra.green@gdsassociates.com
 - » annie.capper@gdsassociates.com

Public Comment