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# Northwest **Power** and Conservation Council

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May 6, 2025

## MEMORANDUM

**TO: Council Members**

**FROM: Joe Walderman, Energy Resource Analyst**

**SUBJECT: Proposed Demand Response Potential (Part 1)**

## BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Joe Walderman

Summary: This presentation is the first of a two-part series that describes the Demand Response (DR) potential being developed for the Ninth Power Plan. Staff are in the process of developing demand response supply curves, representing 28 demand response products for the Ninth Power Plan. Demand response products are represented in the supply curves by levelized cost (dollars per kilowatt-year) and total potential savings (megawatts). This presentation will provide background on how demand response has been considered in previous power plans, review the state of demand response in the region, summarize the demand response that will be considered in the Ninth Power Plan, and discuss the different parameters that staff use to define the demand response products. Demand response products will be discussed primarily by the end uses that they impact, those being space heating and cooling, water heating, irrigation, and electric vehicle charging. Certain demand response products impact the entirety of a customer's load, and these will be discussed separately. By next month staff will be finalizing all the DR supply curves that will be used as inputs into the OptGen model to compete alongside other generating and demand side resources for the Power Plan.

Relevance: Over the past year staff has been conducting research, improving assessment models, and conferring with the Demand Response Advisory Committee to build out the spreadsheets and assumptions that define our DR products. These product definitions are important for accurately comparing the suite of resource options available to the region when conducting the optimization modeling for the Ninth Power Plan.

Workplan: B.4. Develop demand side supply curves and related assumptions for plan analysis.

More info: Staff presented a Primer on DR for the Ninth Plan in September of last year:

- [Primer on DR for the Ninth Plan](#) (September 2024)

# Proposed Demand Response Potential (Part 1)

May 2025 Council Meeting  
Joe Walderman



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## Agenda

- Demand Response in the 2021 Plan
- Demand Response in the Region
- Demand Response Products Modeled
- Progress and Next Steps



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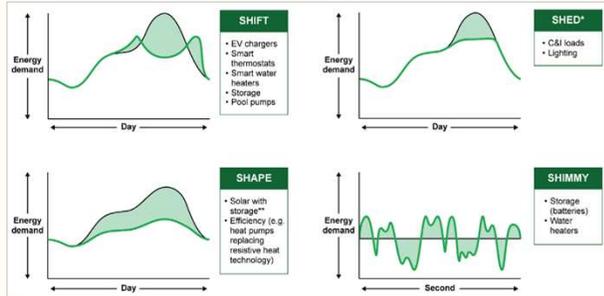
The 9th Northwest Regional Power Plan

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# What is Demand Response?

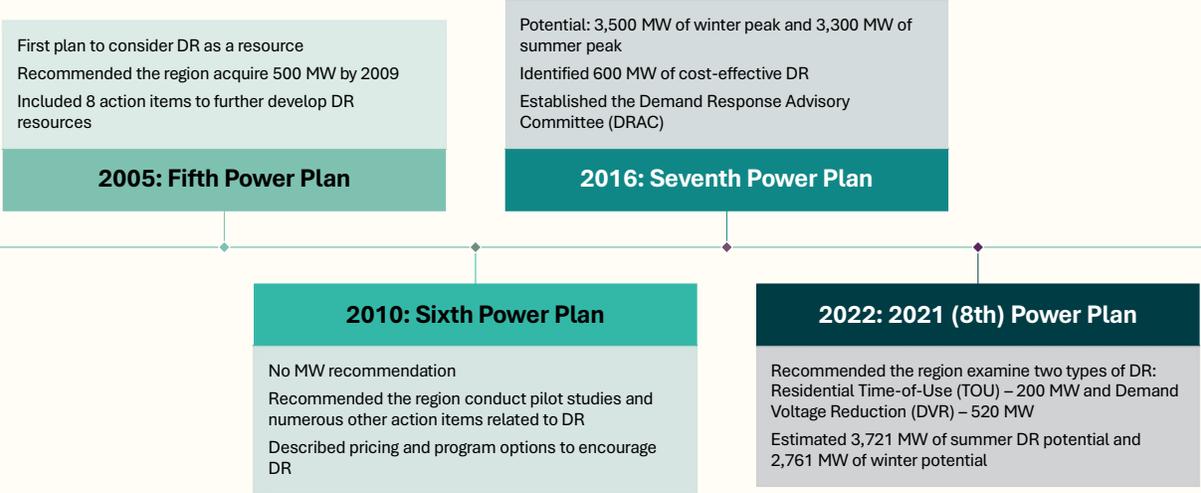
“Demand response is a non-persistent intentional change in net electricity usage by end-use customers from normal consumptive patterns in response to a request on behalf of, or by, a power and/or distribution/transmission system operator. This change is driven by an agreement, potentially financial, or tariff between two or more participating parties.”

Most commonly used to reduce or shift load at times of peak demand or hours of greatest need



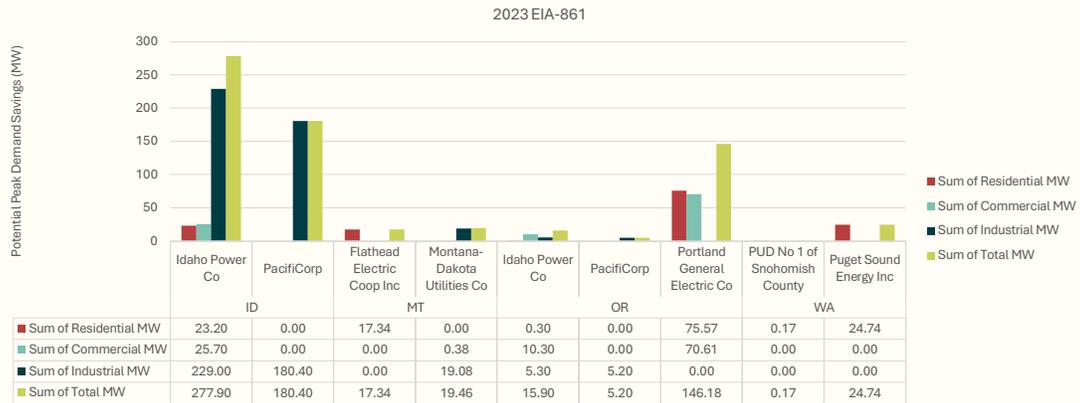
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# How Have We Treated DR in Past Power Plans?



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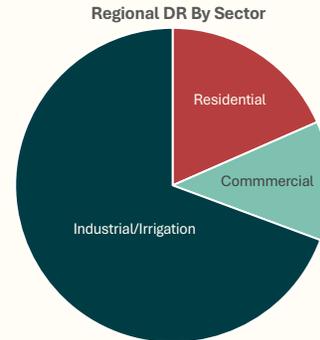
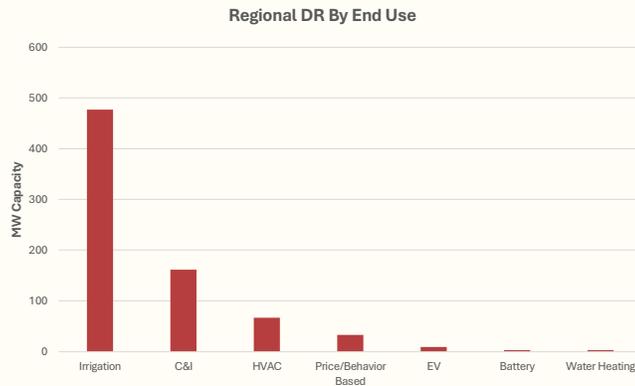
# Reported DR for the Region – 2023 EIA-861



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# Existing DR in the Region

- Region appears to be implementing 725 MW of DR capacity
- Many pilots are being developed and transitioned to full programs



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## DR Needs and Opportunities

### Increased Need

- More intermittent resources on the grid
- Greater constraints around transmission and distribution infrastructure
- 2021 plan identified flexibility as a significant need going forward

### Expanded Opportunity

- Greater grid communication at the load level enabling more DR
  - More smart appliances
  - CTA 2045 heat pump water heater standard
- More flexibility at the load level through EVs and BTM batteries
- Greater saturation of advanced metering infrastructure

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## Demand Response Products

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## Electric Vehicle Charging

- Active Managed Charging
  - EV charging times are shifted to off-peak hours through WiFi-enabled charger controls or vehicle telematics
- EV TOU 
  - Time-varying rates targeted to EV owners and designed to encourage shifting charging to off-peak hours

DRAC supported splitting to two EV products and representing EV DR as a frequently deployable resource



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## HVAC

- AC and Heat Switch
  - Directly curtails central AC or heat load through a load control switch placed on a customer's air conditioning or heating unit.
- Bring your own Thermostat (BYOT)
  - Uses existing WiFi-enabled thermostats to automatically change the setpoint temperature on heating or cooling systems to preheat/precool and then adjust during peak events to lower energy demand

\* Products for residential and commercial



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## Water Heating

Products for Electric Resistance (ERWH) and Heat Pump Water Heaters (HPWH)

- Load Switch
  - A load switch installed on the water heater completely turns off water heating during the DR event period
- Grid-Interactive
  - A communication module is installed through an existing CTA-2045 standard port, enabling more precise control of the water heater and allowing preheating to help ride out events

Oregon and Washington require all new electric water heaters to include a CTA-2045 communications port



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## Irrigation

- Remotely curtails agricultural irrigation pumps during the summer season
  - Products for small/medium and large farms
- Vast majority of potential is east of the Cascades
  - Larger amount of irrigated acres
  - Greater load from irrigation due to well pumping (most farms west of the Cascades use canals)
- Final potential will be derated by the 477 MW capacity of Idaho Power and PacifiCorp programs since the maturity of these programs mean they were baked into the load forecast



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## C&I Demand Curtailment

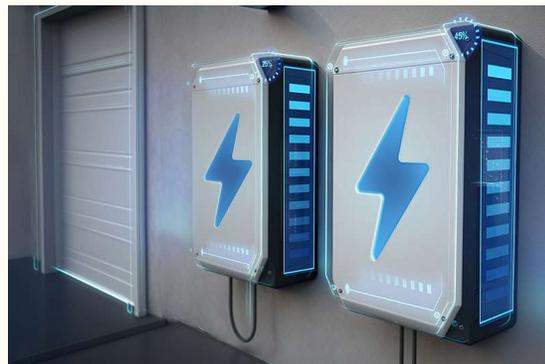
- Targets large commercial and industrial customers, providing incentives for custom load curtailment strategies and event-based energy shifts. The offering is technology agnostic and flexible, with a mix of behavioral/manual participants and other customers who opt for direct load control
- Products for commercial as well as industrial



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## Battery Demand Response

- Bring Your Own Battery <sup>NEW</sup>
  - Customers with existing batteries are paid incentive to allow utility to discharge battery during peak hours
- Utility-Financed Battery <sup>NEW</sup>
  - Utility pays for most of battery cost in exchange for more frequent and less restrictive control of battery charge and discharge



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# Price-Based and System Demand Response



**Time of Use (Residential and Commercial)**

A residential time-varying rate offering designed to encourage customers to shift their energy use to off-peak times, reducing overall demand during peak periods



**Critical Peak Pricing (Residential, Commercial, and Industrial)**

Higher prices during peak events (called), lower prices during other times



**Real Time Pricing (Industrial)**

Hourly (generally) electricity prices set day-ahead (or less)



**Demand Voltage Regulation (All)**

DVR is a technique that uses voltage regulation to reduce demand and manage voltages in power systems during peaks

# DR Supply Curve Assumptions

## Cost Parameters

<p><b>Setup Costs</b></p> <p>\$</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A one-time cost associated with setting up the demand response program in its first year</li> </ul>	<p><b>O&amp;M Costs</b></p> <p>\$/ participant or \$/ year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An ongoing cost, either a \$ per year or \$ per participant per year basis. This represents the ongoing operations and maintenance cost for the DR program, including labor and materials, and administrative overhead</li> </ul>	<p><b>Equipment Cost</b></p> <p>\$/ new participant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An estimate of the incremental cost of any equipment required to enable DR connectivity with an end use</li> </ul>	<p><b>Marketing Cost</b></p> <p>\$/ new participant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An estimate of the cost required to spread awareness, adoption, and satisfaction with a DR program</li> </ul>	<p><b>Value of Lost Service (Derived from incentive)</b></p> <p>\$/ new participant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Service or utility lost from participation in the demand response program</li> <li>Derived as percentage of incentive, the cost of one-time enrollment and ongoing annual compensation paid to host load for participation in the demand response program</li> </ul>
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## Impact Parameters

<p><b>Eligibility</b></p> <p>% of customer count or % of end use load</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percent of customers in the region that are eligible for a given demand response program based on load class or equipment saturation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Program Participation</b></p> <p>% of eligible customers or eligible end use load</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estimate of the percentage of eligible customers that will be enrolled in a given program when fully ramped</li> </ul>	<p><b>Event Participation</b></p> <p>% success rate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estimate of the percentage of enrolled and participating customers in the program that will be participating in a given demand response event (eg customer override, switch failure, connectivity issues)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Peak Load Impact</b></p> <p>kW per participant or % of end use load</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Average kW of demand reduction per participant observed at the meter for a given demand response event</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ramp Period</b></p> <p>Years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of years to reach maximum achievable potential</li> </ul>	<p><b>Attrition</b></p> <p>% of existing participants per year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estimated percentage of existing participants dropped from the program per year</li> </ul>
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# Demand Response Assumptions for Capital Expansion Modeling

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## Dispatch Parameters

 <p>Hours per Season – Max hours called per season</p>	 <p>Average Event Duration – Number of hours called</p>
 <p>Events per Season – How many times events are called</p>	 <p>Hourly availability – When during the day events can be called (Contracting work through RTF to develop certain DR shapes)</p>

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# Dispatch Assumptions

## Event-Based

10-15 events per season lasting 3-8 hours in duration

- HVAC
- Irrigation
- BYO Battery
- Critical Peak Pricing



## Frequently Deployable

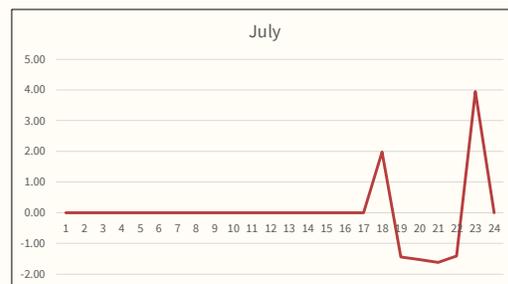
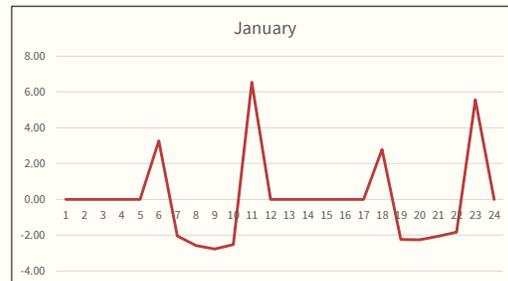
Utilized almost every day for energy shifting

- Water Heating
- EV Charging
- Time of Use
- DVR
- Real Time Pricing

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## Dispatch Example: Grid Connected Water Heating

- Assumed frequent deployment, treated as daily load modifier
- Grid-connected module allows preheating in advance of DR load shedding events
- Achievable potential assigned to highest average hour and scaled down based on load shape

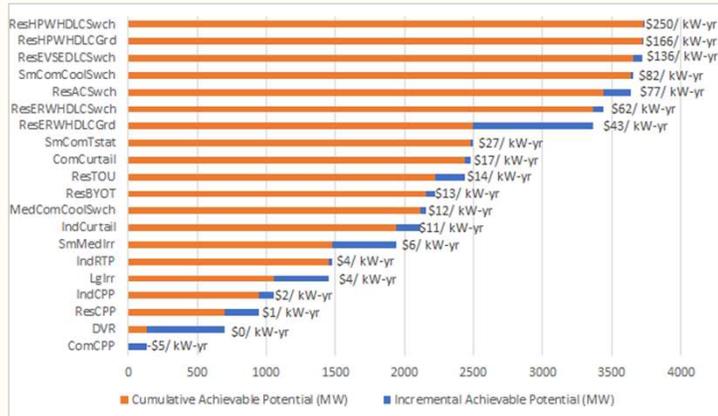


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## Progress and Next Steps

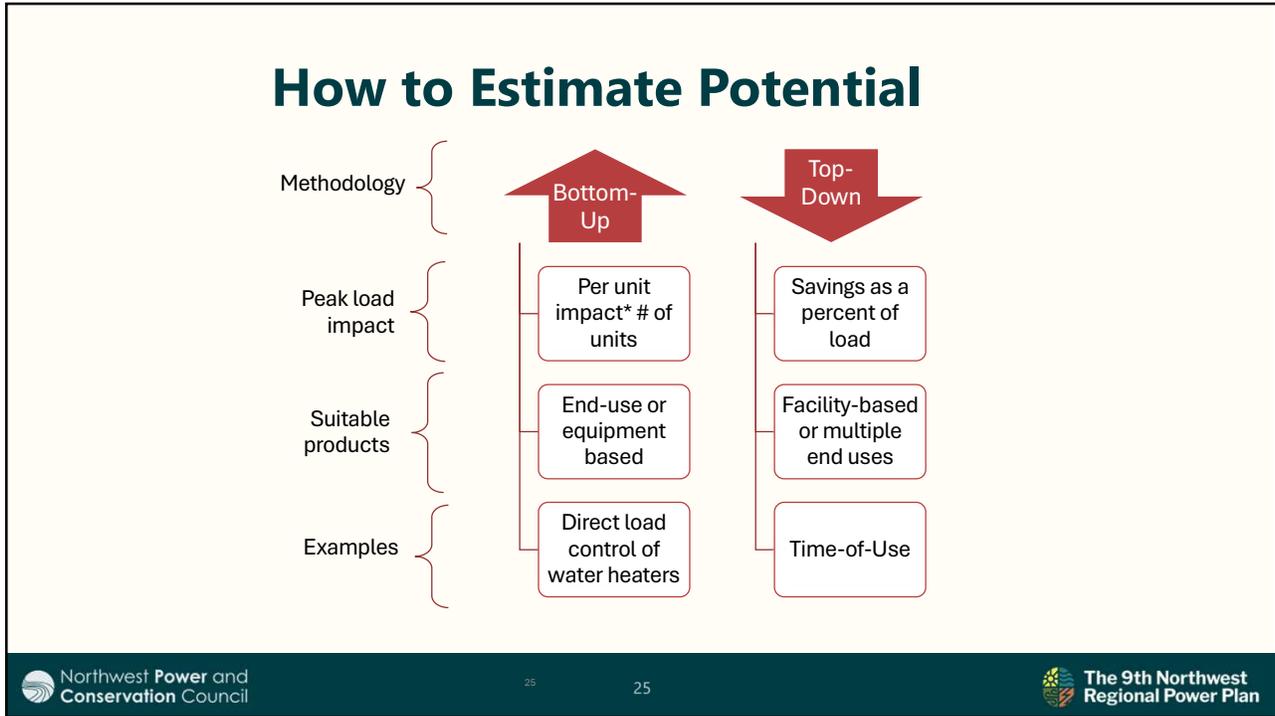
- DRAC meetings reviewing input assumptions for all DR products
- DR product assumptions out for review
- Finalizing DR model with updated assumptions
- Will present final supply curve for Ninth Plan next month

Example: 2021 Plan DR Supply Curve

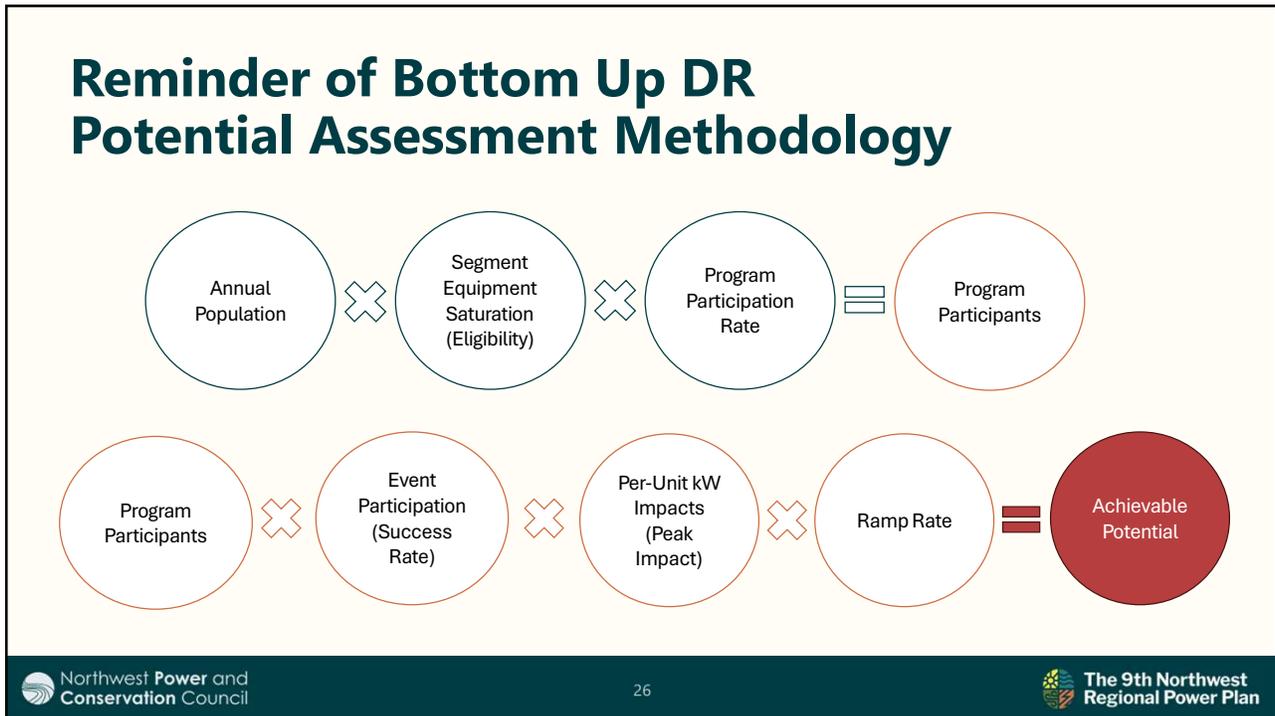


## Questions/Comments?

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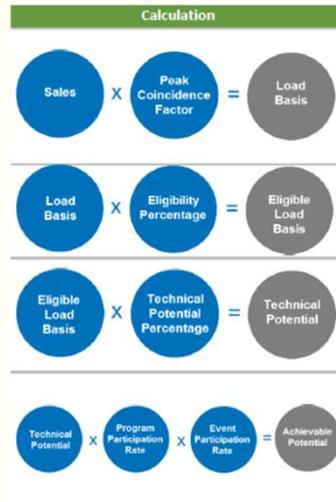
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# Illustration of Top-Down Methodology to Estimate Potential

- Top-down is more granular, using end use load shapes
- Peak coincidence factor represents % of load that is coincident with peak flagged hours in system shape
- Impact is estimated from % of peak load reduction of eligible load basis

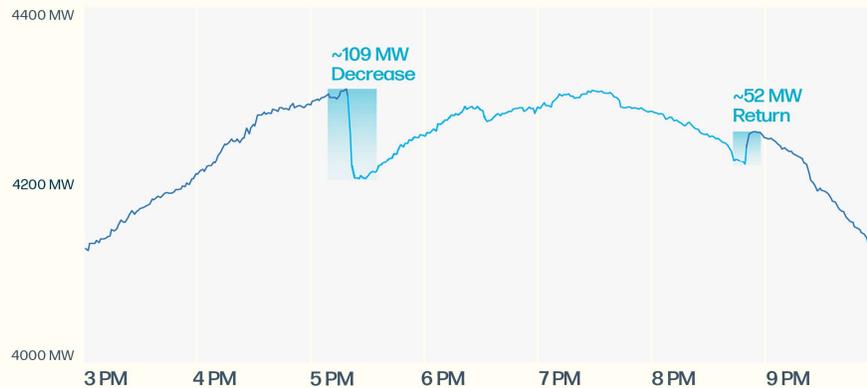


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# DR in Action

## Customer Actions - July 8, 2024

PGE customers are making a big difference by shifting or reducing their energy use



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