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Northwest **Power** and Conservation Council

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February 3, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Jennifer Light, Director of Power Planning

SUBJECT: Power Plan Update

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Jennifer Light

Summary: The Power Division is preparing the Council's Ninth Regional Power Plan. Since this is a long process with many interconnected components, staff plan a standing item at Council meetings to provide members with an update on the status of work to date and highlight the next steps. At the February meeting, staff will update on the status of scenario modeling and walk through upcoming meeting topics.

Relevance: Under the Northwest Power Act, the Council is required to review its power plan no less frequently than once every five years. The Council initiated its review of the power plan in February 2025, with a goal of developing a final power plan by November 2026.

Workplan: B. Development of Ninth Power Plan

Power Plan Update

Jennifer Light
February 10, 2026



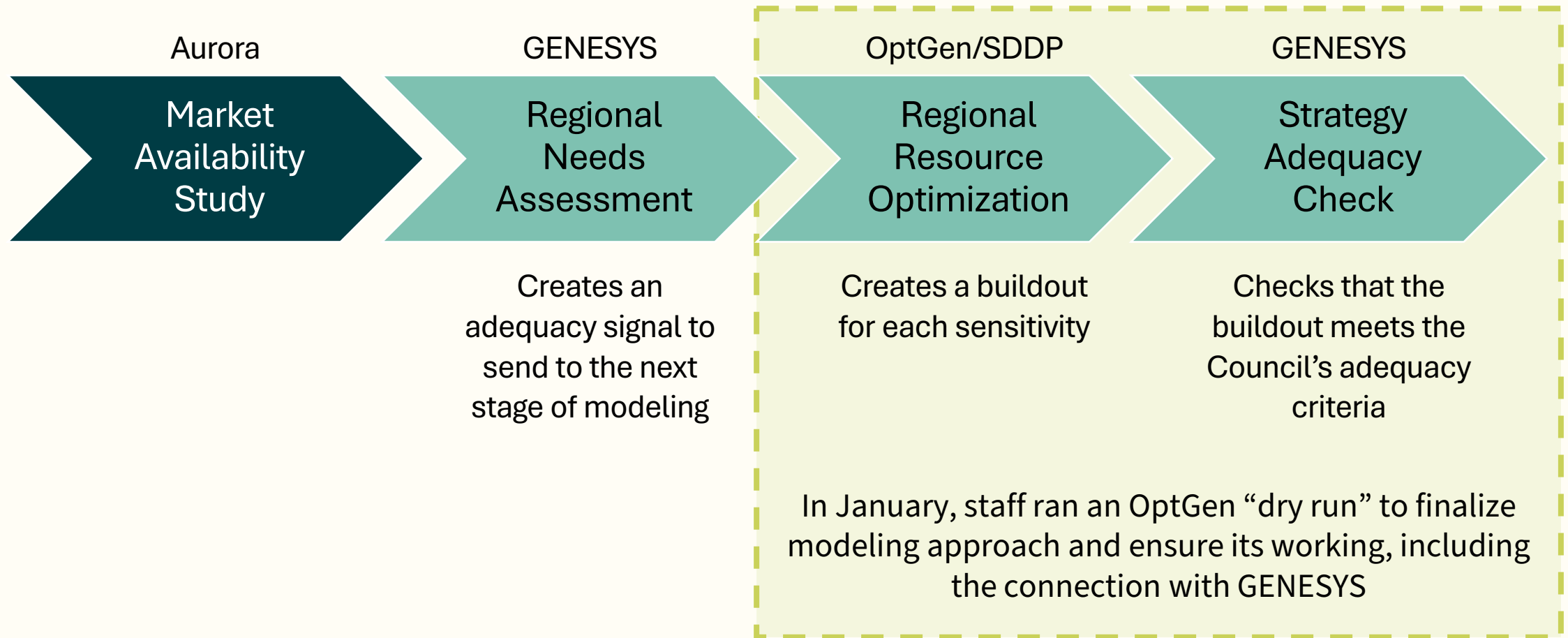
Northwest **Power** and
Conservation Council

Today's Topics

- Updates on scenario modeling
- Revisit Power Plan Table of Contents
- Looking ahead to Upcoming Council Meetings

Updates on Scenario Modeling

Update on Scenario Modeling



What We Learned from the Dry Run

- Approach to OptGen seems to be working as expected
 - *More on this approach later today during the Primer on Scenario Modeling Results discussion*
- The check of the strategy back through GENESYS identified an area of misalignment in the representation of reserves that we need to correct
 - GENESYS was holding all the reserves for the entire west in the Northwest footprint
 - Correcting this will require a re-run of the needs assessment to more accurately pass the adequacy signal onto OptGen
 - Staff took time to go through other key assumptions to check of any other potential issues before initiating the studies
- Given this needed update, staff are now planning to bring scenario modeling results to the Council at the April meeting

Updated Timeline for Results

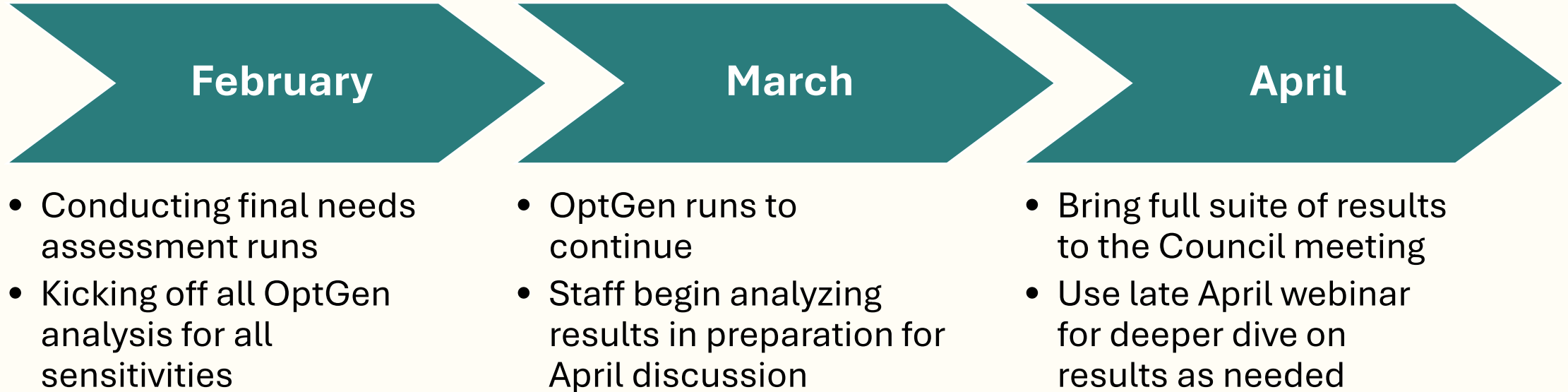


Table of Content

Table of Contents

- **Executive Summary/Introduction**
- **Ch 1: Power Act Requirements**
 - Purposes of the Power Act
 - Power Plan Provisions in the Power Act
 - Public Engagement in the Power Plan Development
 - Relationship of the Power Plan to Bonneville and the Region
 - Relationship to the Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program
- **Ch 2: Existing Northwest Power System**
 - Existing Resource Base
 - Historic loads
 - Demand-side resources and impacts on load
 - Supply side resources
 - Transmission system
 - WECC wide resources
- **Ch 2: (continued)**
 - Current Issues Impacting the Northwest Power System
 - Bonneville’s post-2028 contracts
 - Recent drivers of load growth
 - Market prices
 - Natural gas prices
 - State of power markets
 - Existing policies
 - Extreme weather events
 - The Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program
 - Connection of the F&W Program to the Power Plan
 - Evolution of the Council’s Fish and Wildlife program over the years
 - Objectives of the 2026 Program
 - Impacts of the F&W Program on the Power System
 - AEERPS Findings

Table of Contents

- **Ch 3: Future Electricity Needs and New Resource Potential**
 - Electricity demand forecasts
 - Drivers of demand
 - Developing forecast range to inform planning
 - Final forecast of demand
 - New Resource Needs
 - Approach to assessing needs
 - Needs assessment results
 - New Resource Potential
 - Approach to assessing new resource potential
 - Methodology for determining directly attributable quantifiable environmental costs and benefits
 - New supply side resources
 - New demand side resources
 - Market availability
 - Transmission

- **Ch 4: Action Plan – Recommended Resource Strategy for Region and Bonneville**
 - Scenario modeling informing regional recommendations
 - Recommendations for regional resource acquisition and cost-effective reserves, including use of existing system to support integration of new resources
 - Recommendations for Bonneville’s resource acquisitions
 - Recommendations for research and development
- **Ch 5: Conservation Program**

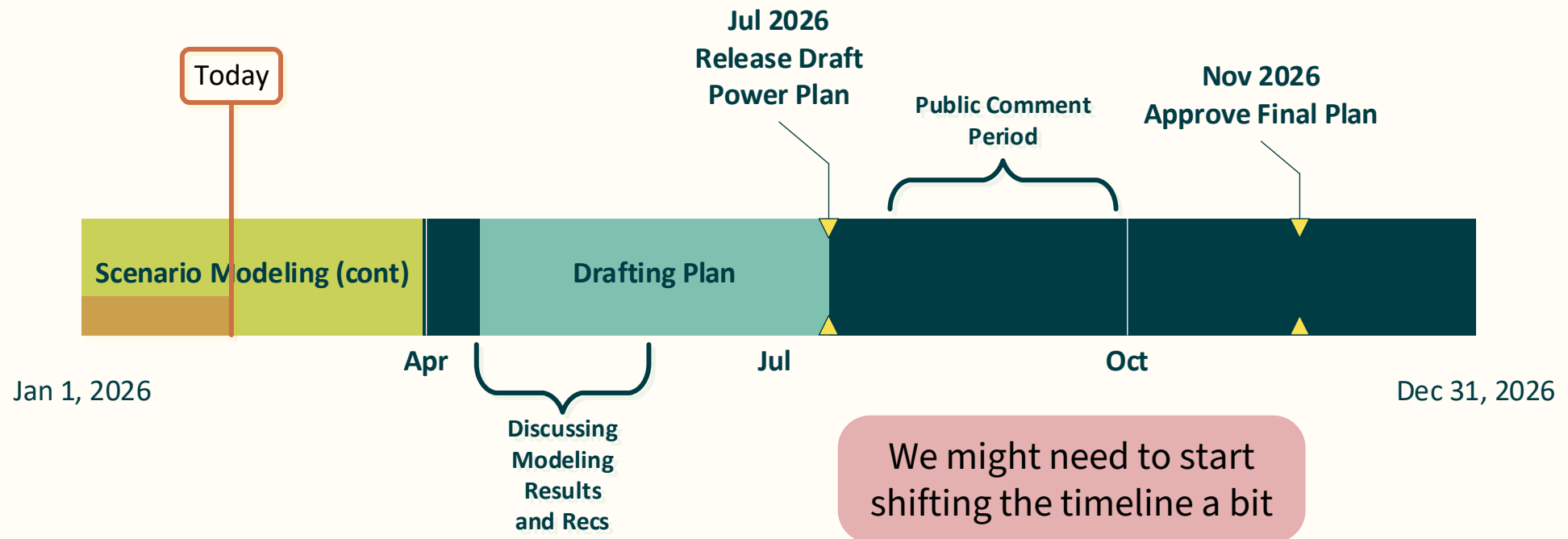
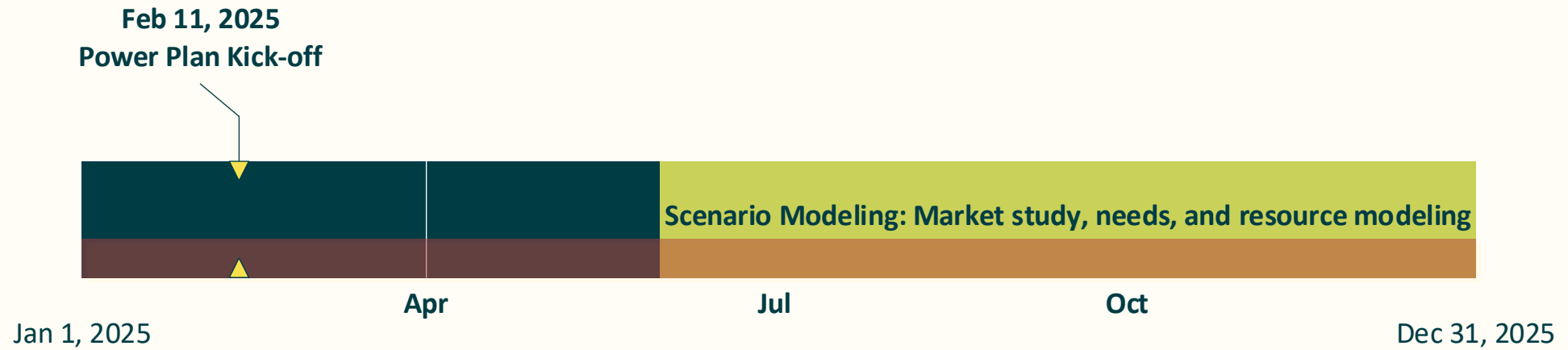
More details on these chapters
to come as we get closer to
having recommendations

Technical Appendices

- A. Global Assumptions
- B. Existing System Parameters and Policies
- C. Environmental Methodology
- D. Climate Change Data and Assumptions
- E. Fuels Forecasts
- F. Electricity Demand Forecast
- G. New Generating Resources
- H. Conservation Methodology and Potential
- I. Demand Response Methodology and Potential
- J. Rooftop Solar Methodology and Potential
- K. Modeling Framework
- L. Wholesale Market Availability
- M. Needs Assessment and Resource Adequacy
- N. Scenario Modeling Results
- O. Cost-Effective Reserves Methodology
- P. Cost-Effective Conservation Methodology
- Q. Model Conservation Standards
- R. Glossary

What's Coming Up Next

Power Plan Timeline

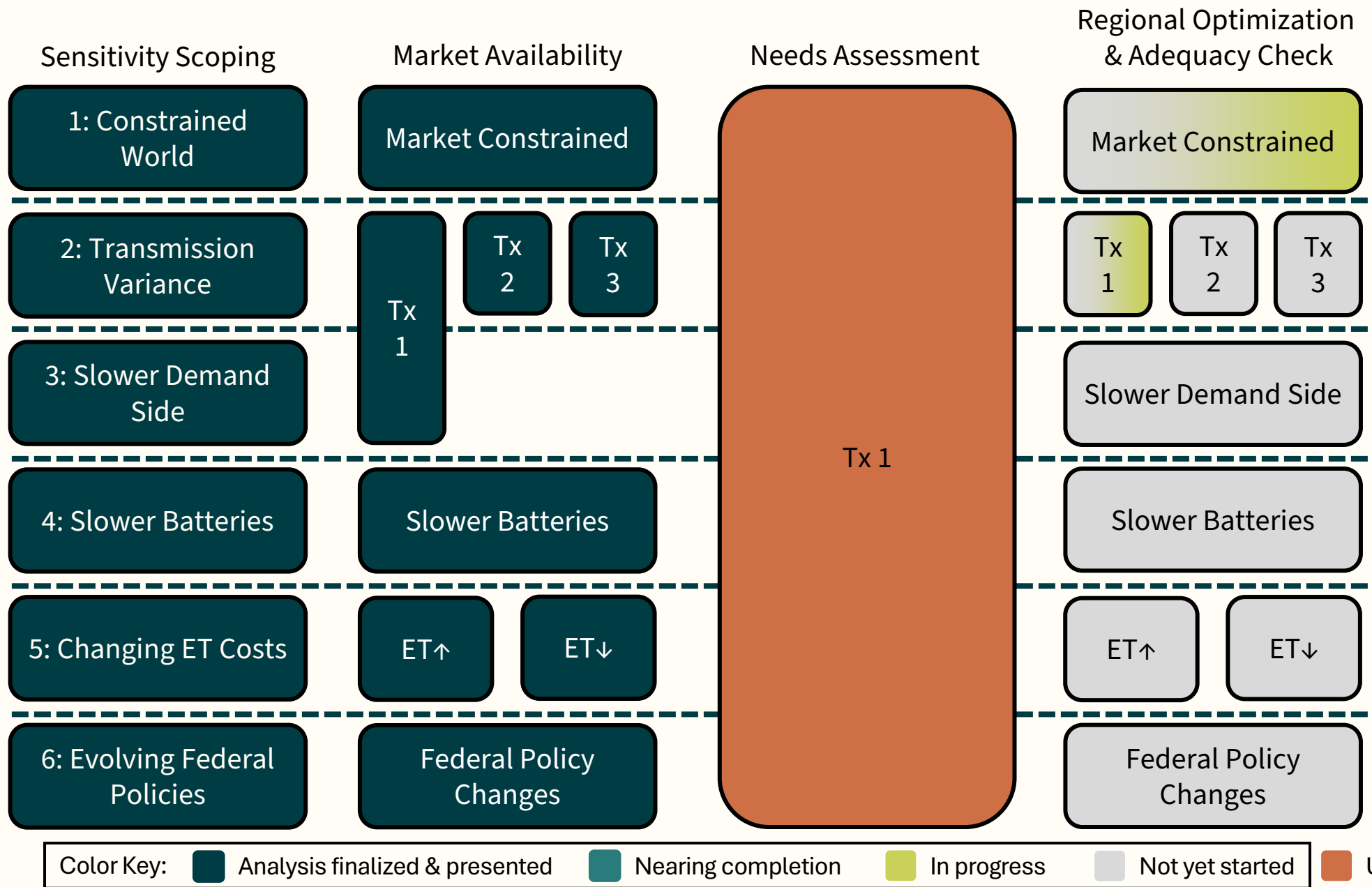


Month	Council Agenda Item (Option 1)	Council Agenda Item (Option 2)
February 10-11 (Portland)		Primer on modeling results
March 10-12 (Portland)		Power Plan update and final needs assessment
April 14-16 (White Fish, MT)	Present results First look at Ch 1-3	Present results
April 28-29 (webinar)	Deeper dive into results Second look at Ch 1-3	Deeper dive into results
May 12-14 (Pendleton, OR)	Start discussing recommendations Third look at Ch 1-3 (if needed)	Start discussing recommendations First look at Ch 1-3
May 27-29 (webinar)	Continue discussing recommendations	Continue discussing recommendations Second look at Ch 1-3
June 16-18 (Portland)	First look at Ch 4 and 5	Continue discussing recommendations Third look at Ch 1-3 (if needed)
June 30-July 1 (webinar)	Second look at Ch 4 and 5 First look at Intro	First look at Ch 4 and 5
July 14-15 (Portland)	Adopt draft plan (additional review of chapters if needed)	Second look at Ch 4 and 5 First look at Intro
Late July (webinar)		Third look at Ch 4 and 5 (if needed) Second look at Intro
August 11-12 (Seattle)		Adopt draft plan

Work sessions

Questions?

Resource and Tx Risk



Changing Hydro Ops

