




# COMMISSION AGENDA ACTION FORM

|                                 |   |  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Meeting Date:</b>            | May 13, 2025  |  |
| <b>Subject:</b>                 | Resolution No. 2694 - 2025 Load Forecast for 2025-2035                                      |  |
| <b>Authored by:</b>             | Blake Scherer   | Staff Preparing Item                         |
| <b>Presenter:</b>               | Blake Scherer   | Staff Presenting Item (if applicable or N/A) |
| <b>Approved by:</b>             | Chris Johnson   | Dept. Director/Manager                       |
| <b>Approved for Commission:</b> | Rick Dunn  | General Manager/Asst GM                      |

| Type of Agenda Item:                                | Type of Action Needed: <i>(Multiple boxes can be checked, if necessary)</i> |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consent Agenda             | <input type="checkbox"/> Pass Motion  | <input type="checkbox"/> Decision / Direction             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business Agenda | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass Resolution                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Info Only                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing             | <input type="checkbox"/> Contract/Change Order                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Info Only/Possible Action        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Business             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign Letter / Document                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentation Included |

## Motion for Commission Consideration:

Motion adopting Resolution No. 2694, 2025 Load Forecast for 2025-2035.

## Background/Summary

The District's load forecast is revised annually and has been updated for the 2025-2035 planning period. The forecast utilizes historical energy, demand, and customer data to establish a forecasted trend for each customer class. The forecast incorporates the expected load reductions associated with the District's conservation program.

The forecast is a key input to the District's planning, including Cost-of-Service Analysis, the Resource Plan, the Power Supply Plan, the Five-Year Capital Plan, and the annual budget. The forecast supports Bonneville Power Administration planning and the regional load forecast prepared by Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee.

Staff will provide a presentation of the load forecast's executive summary.

## Recommendation

This Load Forecast update is recommended to support District and regional planning.

## Fiscal Impact

This Load Forecast is a key input to revenue forecasting and power supply costs for the 2026 budget.

# 2025 Load Forecast for 2025-2035

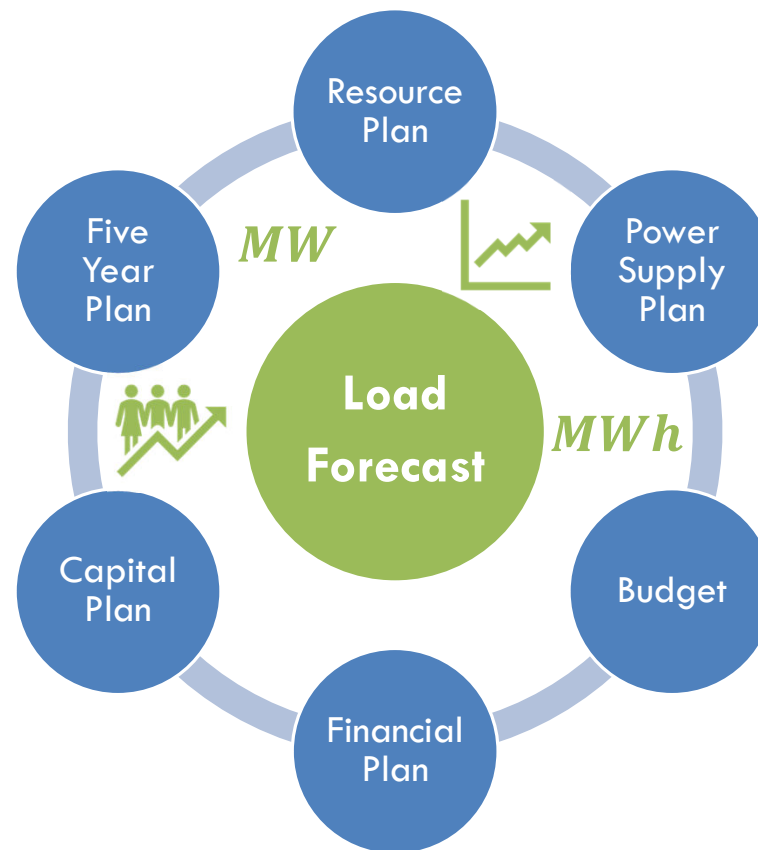


## Forecast is a critical input to District planning

### Forecast Estimates:

- 1) Energy (MWh)
- 2) Demand (MW)
- 3) Customer Count

by month,  
by revenue class,  
for next 10-years



Input to  
2026  
Budget

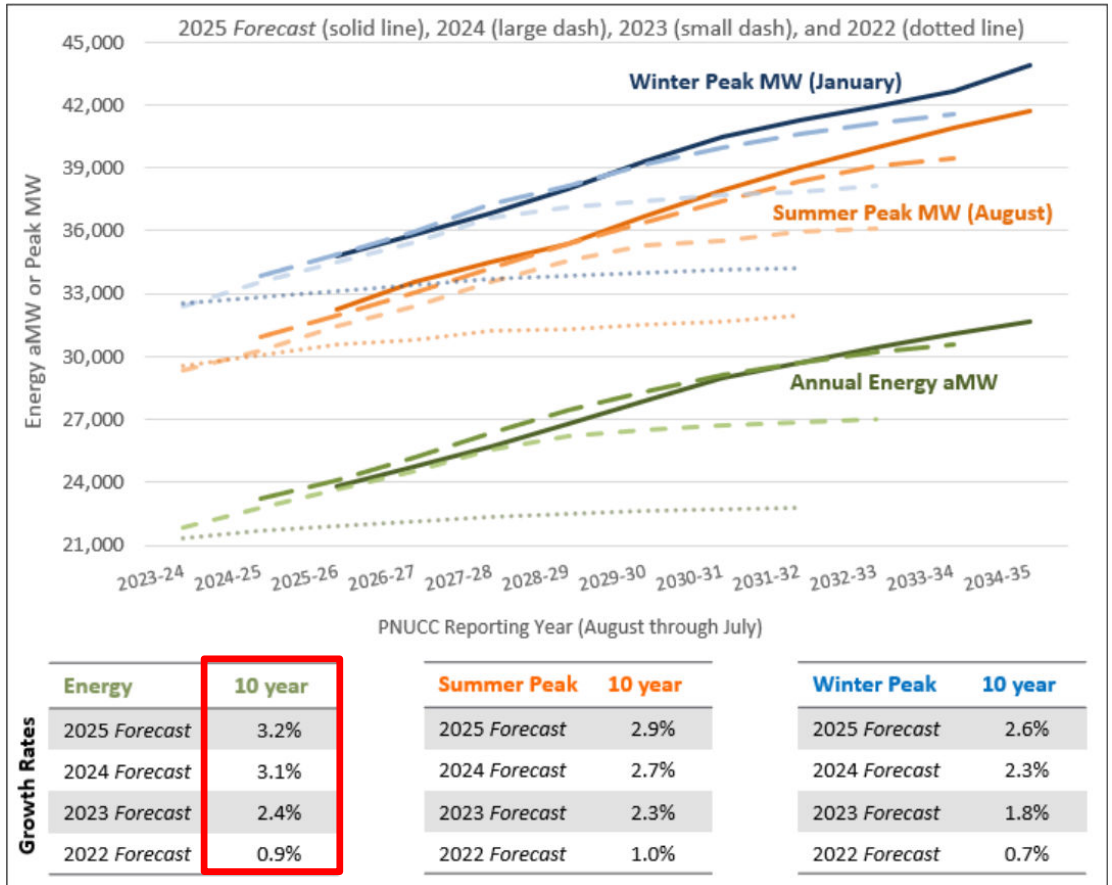
# Benton PUD load is growing much slower than regional load

## Northwest Regional Forecast

of Power Loads and Resources

August 2025 through July 2035

**PNUCC**  
April 2025



# What causes changes in Benton PUD's load?

## 1) Changing Customer Count

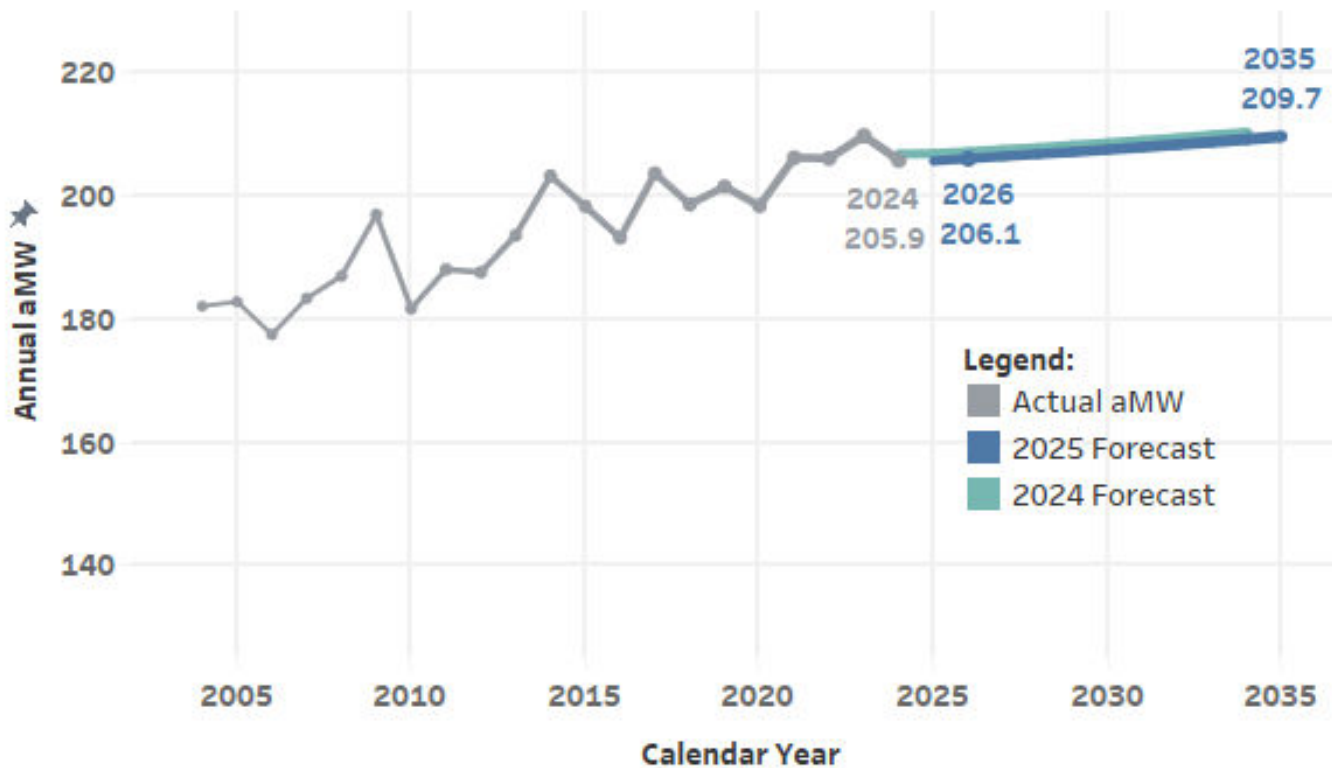
- **New Services (+)**
- **Connects (+)**
- **Disconnects (-)**
- **Utility Annexation (+/-)**

## 2) Changing Use per Customer

- **Weather (+/-)**
- **Conservation (-)**
- **Codes & Standards (-)**
- **Customer Generation (-)**
- **Outages (-)**
- **Electricity Intensive Load (EIL) (+)**
- **Electrification (+)**
- **Electric vs. Natural Gas (+/-)**
- **Appliances/Devices (+/-)**
- **Customer Behavior (+/-)**
- **Singe-Family vs. Multi-Family (+/-)**

## Forecast of annual Retail Load (Figure 1-1)

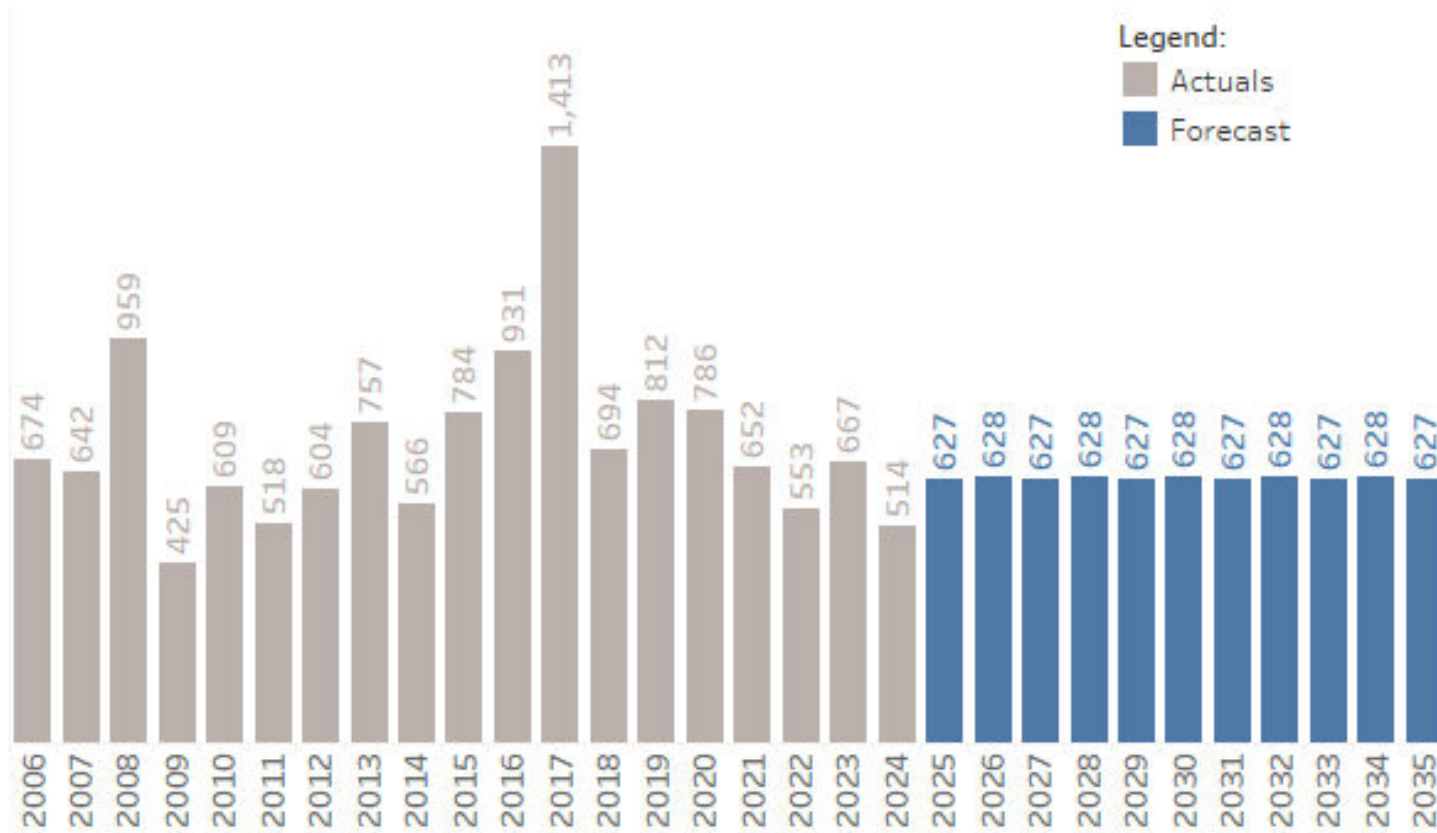
10-year net growth of 3.6 aMW



| Forecast Year | 10-Year AARG% |
|---------------|---------------|
| 2017          | 0.30          |
| 2018          | 0.21          |
| 2019          | 0.27          |
| 2020          | 0.17          |
| 2021          | 0.47          |
| 2022          | 0.29          |
| 2023          | 0.24          |
| 2024          | 0.16          |
| <b>2025</b>   | <b>0.19</b>   |

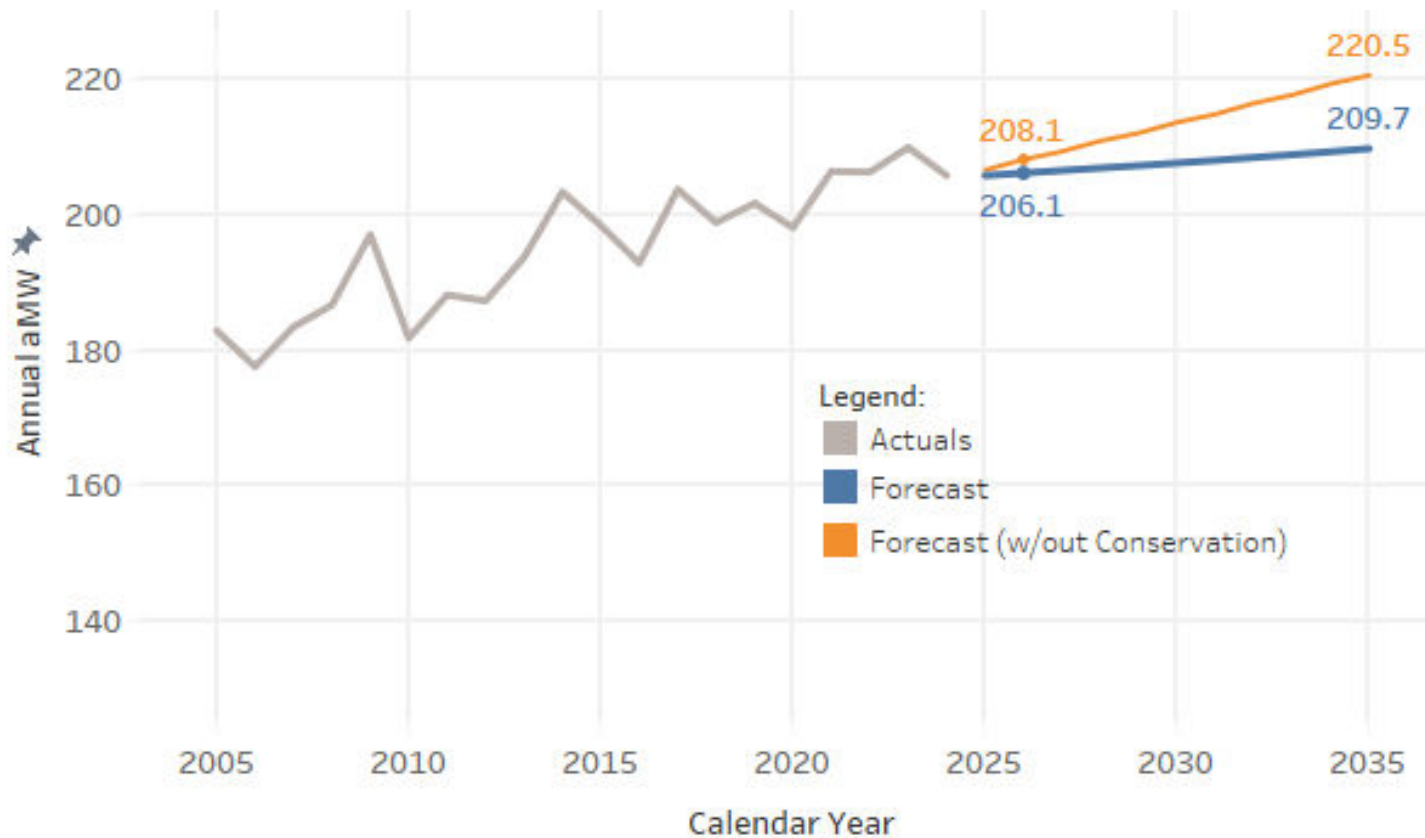
AARG% = Annual Average Rate of Growth Percentage

## Forecast of annual increase in Customers (Figure 1-2)



Adding  
~627 customers  
per year:  
**564 Residential,**  
**63 Non-Residential**

## Forecast includes **Conservation** (Figure 1-3)



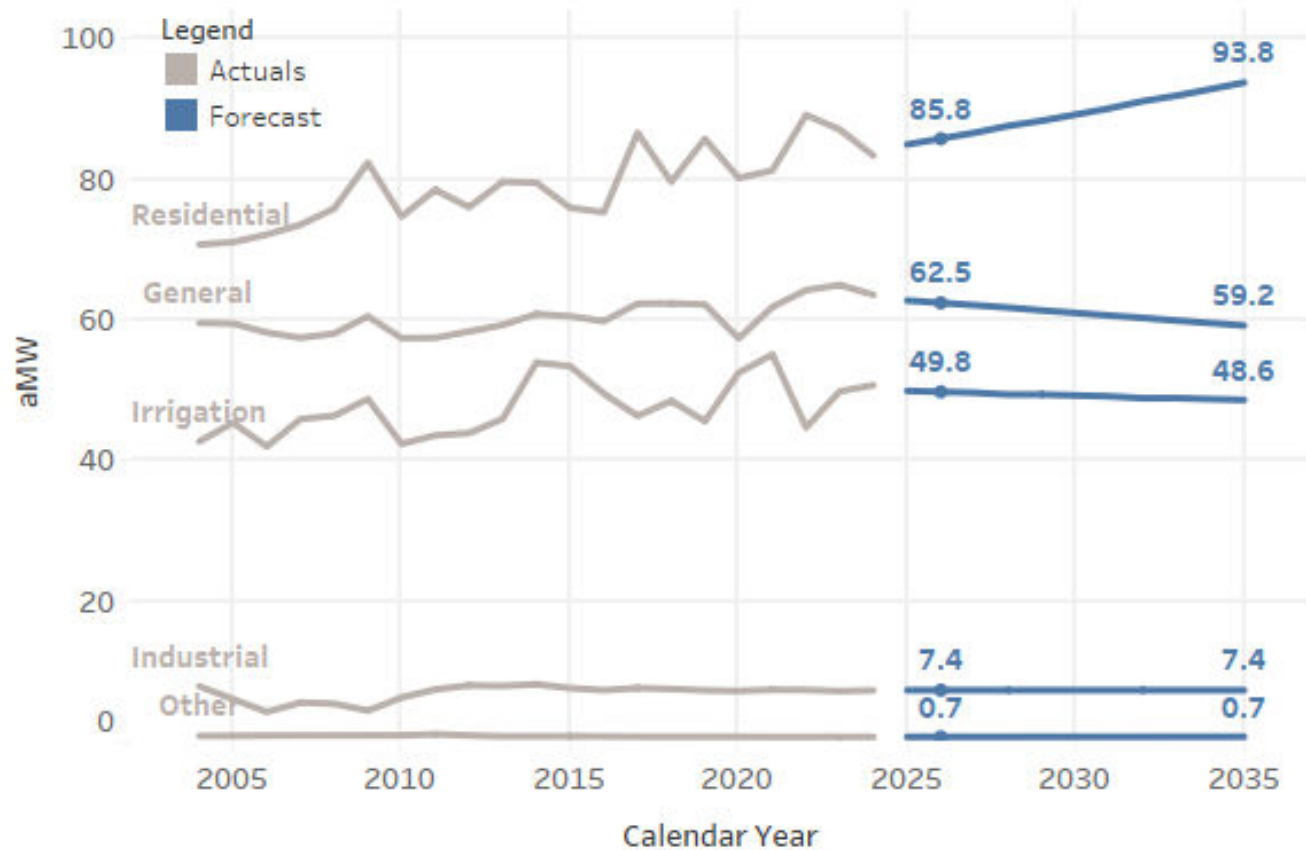
**10.8 aMW**  
**of Cumulative**  
**Conservation**  
**by 2035**

Residential = **1.8 aMW**

Non-Res. = **9.0 aMW**



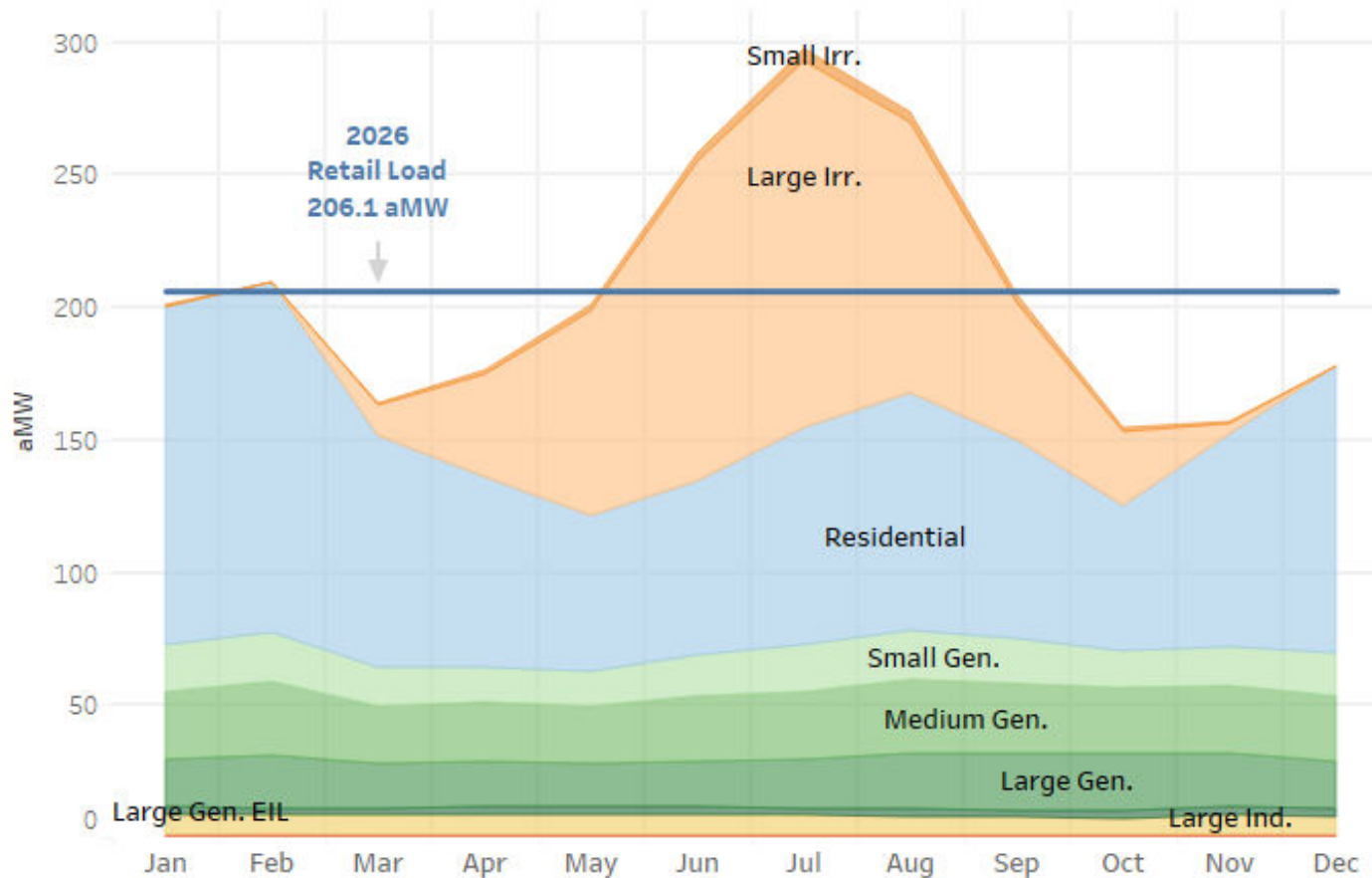
## Forecast of annual Retail Load by Revenue Class (Figure 1-4)



**Residential**  
is increasing, but  
usage per customer is  
still declining

**Non-Residential**  
is declining, primarily  
due to **conservation**

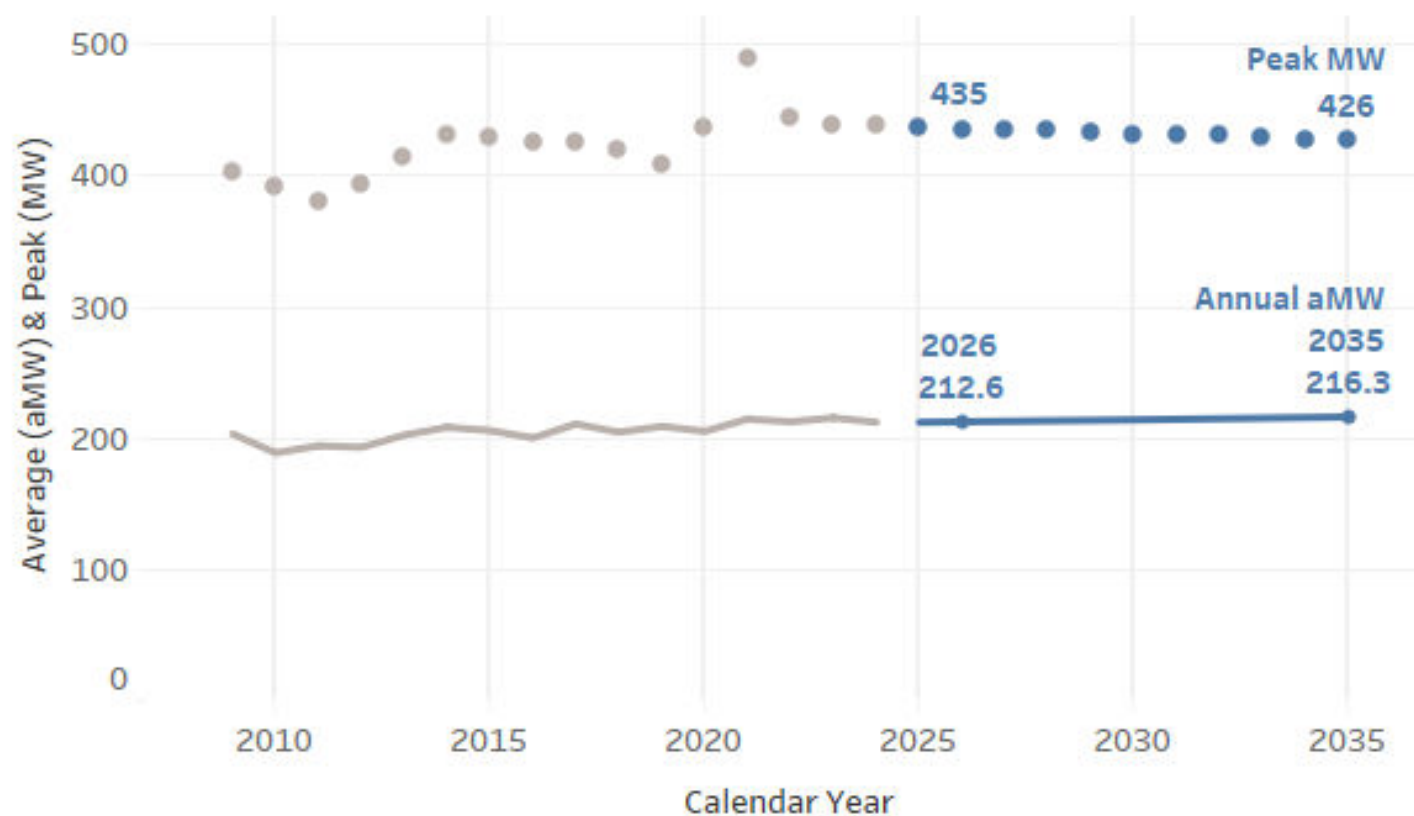
## Forecast of 2026 Retail Sales by Month, Revenue Class (Figure 1-5)



Input to  
**2026 Budget**

Monthly shape  
derived from  
**4 or 5-year  
average  
(Jan-2021 to  
Mar-2025)**

## Forecast of annual Wholesale Load (Figure 1-6)



Input to  
**2026 Power  
 Supply Plan**

**Wholesale Load =**  
 Retail Load +  
**BPUD Losses of 3.13%**