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Monthly Member Newsletter

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Letter from the AESP Chair

How To Get “In”

by John Hargrove

By “in” I mean “involved” with AESP. For those of you who think otherwise, I want to say that there is no “by invitation only,” or needing to know someone or be someone, to become an active member of AESP. It really is as simple as taking the first step yourself and taking advantage of the many opportunities available to volunteer, lead, present, write, organize, attend...the ways one can get involved are numerous and cover the spectrum from passive involvement to active.

I urge you, our members, to become more active in AESP. Through active involvement, you can realize the full benefit of your membership, as well as have the opportunity to expand to leadership roles in AESP chapters, topic committees and the board.

To help you along, I am going to demystify some of the ways to get “in” from an ordinary member’s perspective. Really, no secret password needed!

How can I be a speaker at a conference?

Three times a year, AESP announces a “Call for Abstracts” through emails, What’s New, Strategies and other media — so *read* your AESP emails! Another tip: Read the “How to Write a Winning Abstract” article attached in the emails for tips on what reviewers are looking for.

I can’t attend conferences so how can I get involved?

In truth, not all members can attend conferences. So, many members are involved in their local AESP Chapter. You can enjoy networking and learning opportunities (guest speakers, tours, regional conferences) that are catered specially for your region. How to start? Check out your local chapter ([click here](#)) for upcoming events and go! Also contact your local chapter leader to be added to their mailing list.

How do I write articles for What’s New or present a Brown Bag Webinar?

Here’s why topic committees are so important in AESP. Eight committees form a gathering of experts in DSM Business Issues; Implementation; Market Research, Evaluation & Greenhouse Gas; Marketing; Pricing & Demand Response; Tools & Technology. Members contribute articles, help organize webinars, rate conference abstracts, etc.-- another great way to get involved that does not require traveling. [Find out more about topic committees today.](#)



John Hargrove
NV Energy

AUGUST 2013

Upcoming Events

Chapter Events

Wisconsin Chapter
August 27 — [Happy Hour](#)

Wisconsin Chapter
Sept. 24 — [Happy Hour](#)

Southeast Chapter
Sept. 25 — [Discussion on TRMs](#)

Rocky Mountain Chapter
Oct. 29 — [Switch 3](#)

Brown Bags

August 8
[Catching the Big Fish — How to Get the large C&I customers in the Boat?](#)

August 29
[The Better Buildings Challenge: Opportunities for Energy Services Professionals](#)

If you would like to organize a Brown Bag, please contact Kisha Gresham at kisha@aesp.org.

AESP Training Courses

[Finding Customer Opportunities for Demand Response](#)
Sept. 30, Seattle

[Overview of EM&V for Behavior-based and Smart Grid Programs](#)
Sept. 30, Seattle

If you would like to schedule an onsite training please contact Suzanne Jones at (480) 704-5900 or suzanne@aesp.org. For more information about the AESP Institute, [click here](#).

How does one get on the Board of Directors?

In June, we send out a call for nominations. Here's your chance to nominate yourself or someone for a board position. Candidates are shortlisted then voting is held in August. Naturally a track record of involvement with AESP counts here. All members in good standing can vote. In fact, inside this issue, we will be featuring the candidates in their own words. Read more about them, then vote before August 22!

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Industry News

"SMUD Sees Early Success with Dynamic Pricing Pilot"
"Power Down: DOE Poised to Order All Computers, Servers Use Less Electricity"
"Gas Industry Push to Repeal Carbon-Zero Building Law Splits Green Community"
"EPA Strengthens ENERGY STAR® Requirements"
"New York: The Nation's Most Energy Efficient City?"
"White House Seeks Carbon Curbs Through Energy Efficiency Gains"
"Reducing Data Centers' Carbon Footprint: IT Efficiency Is King"
"Colorado's ZNE Goose Lays Golden Eggs"

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Picking a Discount Rate for DSM: Whose Business is This Anyway? Emerging Options for Portfolio Diversity

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Industry News

The following executive summaries of current news items were written for Strategies after being compiled from various news sources.

SMUD Sees Early Success with Dynamic Pricing Pilot

Electric Light & Power (07/13)

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) says its dynamic rates pilot is being received well by participating customers and is showing positive results for the utility in terms of reducing load. The Smart Pricing Options (SPO) project is designed to engage customers to partner with SMUD to reduce peak demand and keep rates stable. To encourage customers to conserve during peak periods, special time-based prices were designed that provide a clear high price signal during summer peak periods and reward customers by reducing prices during non-peak periods. The experimental pricing is in effect June through September 2012 and 2013. The pilot includes seven treatment groups, and three control groups of residential customers. Rate offers are combined with feedback tools and educational materials. Using \$127.5 million in U.S. Department of Energy funding, SMUD launched SmartSacramento, a \$308 million public-private partnership that uses a suite of programs based on two-way digital interaction. The digital platform allows SMUD to set retail prices closer to the cost of delivering energy based on time of use and other factors. Utilizing about \$11 million of the Smart Grid Investment Grant funding, SMUD developed SPO. SPO's objective is to study customers' adoption and success with three different dynamic rates. Some customers were put on the rate by default while others were proactively recruited. SMUD expected to recruit 7,800 customers for the time-based rates and successfully recruited more than 8,800 customers in seven months. SPO set out to achieve a goal of 15 percent enrollment for the voluntary rates and exceeded the goal with close to 20 percent acceptance. Of those put on the rate by default, only 10 percent opted out. Of those who opted to enroll, fewer than two percent chose to leave the selected rate over the summer of 2012.

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Power Down: DOE Poised to Order All Computers, Servers Use Less Electricity

Conferences

August 20, 2013
[Online Conference](#)
["CSI Online: Codes, Standards & Improvements"](#)

September 30-October 2, 2013
[AESP Fall Conference](#)
Seattle

January 27-30, 2014
[24th National Conference](#)
San Diego

May 12-14, 2014
[Spring Conference](#)
Baltimore

August 4-6, 2014
[Summer Conference](#)
San Francisco

WELCOME & THANK YOU to our New and Renewing Members!

New Individual Members

Adam Stadnik, Southern California Edison
Allison Asplin, Cadmus
Amy Olson, Southern California Edison
Anthony Hernandez, Southern California Edison
April Currey, Powerstream
Arlene Gallegos, Southern California Edison
Bryn Samuel, ERS
Calvin On, Southern California Edison
Carol Manson, SDG&E
Cecilia Casillas, Southern California Edison
Christine Evans, Southern California Edison
Cynthia Davis, Southern California Edison
Cynthia Martin, Southern California Edison
Dan Tunnick, Southern California Edison
Dana Robertson, Southern California Edison
Danielle Schofield, Southern California Edison
Danny Susanto, Southern California Edison
David Lotspeich, Southern California Edison
David MacDonald, DNV KEMA
Derrick Beeler, SEEL, INC
Doug Campbell, Southern California Edison
Elizabeth Freeman, PEI
Ellen Carter, CB&I
Eric Gertsman, Cascadia Consulting
Erin Tanaka, Southern California Edison
Ernesto Valle, Southern California Edison
Eugene Ayuyao, Southern California Edison
Gabriel Scheer, EnergySavvy
Jamie Peters, EnergySavvy
Janet Hanneman, CLEARresult

The Hill (07/15/13) Colman, Zack

The U.S. Department of Energy on July 12 signaled it intends to order new efficiency standards for all the nation's computers and servers. A pair of documents published in the Federal Register said DOE has "tentatively" ruled that a federal law designed to curtail consumer energy use, created in the wake of the 1973 oil crisis, also covers computer and servers. The department is expected to begin drafting the new rules in mid-August if it decides to proceed with a final determination, a likely outcome given the pace of rules emerging on the heels of the climate change plan President Obama announced last month. The president's plan calls for stronger carbon emission regulations, stricter energy efficiency standards, and more renewable energy on federal land. In its July 12 filings, the agency said the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA) permits it to impose compulsory performance standards for computers and a labeling program for servers so that they use less electricity. Setting new mandatory standards is only possible if average household consumption tops 150 kilowatt-hours per year, total energy use exceeds 4.2 billion kilowatt-hours annually and if a labeling rule wouldn't be enough to sway manufacturers to make or consumers to buy more energy efficient products. The math on computer energy use appears to open that option for DOE. In its filing, the department assumed residential computer use accounted for 30.3 billion kilowatt-hours of energy consumption annually spread among an estimated 104 million homes with at least one computer. That works out to 291 kilowatt-hours of electricity use from computers each year, nearly twice the amount that would trigger a new federal standard.

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Gas Industry Push to Repeal Carbon-Zero Building Law Splits Green Community

Inside Climate News (07/11/2013) Galluci, Maria

With support from mainstream energy efficiency advocacy groups, the fossil fuels industry and its congressional allies are working to repeal Section 433 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, which forces the federal government to use renewable energy instead of coal or gas in its buildings. Environmental organizations and green building activists have been angered by the support of the Alliance to Save Energy and the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy in the efforts to repeal the law. The gas industry and these organizations argue that the law would stigmatize cleaner-than-coal natural gas in green buildings, during a major U.S. gas boom, and are working to replace the law with one that increases building efficiency requirements without stipulating where the energy comes from. Section 433 has never been implemented.

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EPA Strengthens ENERGY STAR® Requirements

Cheraw Chronicle (SC) (07/10/13)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has strengthened the requirements for appliances to receive the ENERGY STAR label. Under the new standards, ENERGY STAR certified refrigerators and freezers will use at least 10 percent less energy than models meeting 2014 federal minimum efficiency standards. Certain ENERGY STAR refrigerators and freezers with connected features will provide consumers new convenience and energy-saving opportunities. These products will allow consumers to view real-time energy use, receive energy-related messages, such as an alert when the door has been left open, and manage appliance settings remotely. Refrigerators and freezers with connected functionality will also be "smart grid" ready, meaning that with consumer permission, they will be able to respond to utility signals, including curtailing operations during more expensive peak demand times. To earn the ENERGY STAR label, product performance must be certified by an EPA-recognized third party, based on testing in an EPA-recognized laboratory. The updated ENERGY STAR refrigerator and freezer specification will go into effect on September 15, 2014.

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New York: The Nation's Most Energy Efficient City?

GreenBiz.com (06/18/13) Wood, Elisa

Under Mayor Michael Bloomberg, New York City has become one of the U.S.'s most energy efficient cities. With its heavily used mass transit, and extreme density of 1 million buildings in 300 square miles, Bloomberg has instituted a host of green

Janet Zavala, Southern California Edison
John Langston, Duke Energy
Jonathan Budner, Southern California Edison
Jonathon Steiner, NYSERDA
Juan Shishido, EnerNOC
Kenny Jackson, Southern California Edison
Linda Razor, SEEL, INC
Lisa Hannaman, Southern California Edison
Mark Michalski, Cadmus
Matthew Plante, Bidgely, Inc
Mauro Dresti, Southern California Edison
Michael Anthony, Southern California Edison
Michael Williams, Southern California Edison
Michelle King, EarthTronics
Mike Kernan, AEP-OK
Mikhail Haramati, Opinion Dynamics
Molly Rowan, ARCA
Nancy Jenkins, Southern California Edison
Paul Higgins, Navigant
Peggy Davidson, NYSERDA
Phil Consiglio, Southern California Edison
Ray Maese, Southern California Edison
Rita Chavez, Southern California Edison
Robert Kniss, Southern California Edison
Rod Vickers, Southern California Edison
Ronald Johnston, SEEL, INC
Shannon Morrow, SEEL, INC
Tom Knox, SNC Lavalin O&M Inc
Troy Whiteman, Niagara Conservation
Valarie Hernandez, Southern California Edison

New Group Members

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SEEL, LLC
Techniart

Renewing Group Members

Ameren
Apogee
GoodCents
Honeywell
Integral Analytics
NYSERDA
SWEPSCO
Tetra Tech

Have a Question...Ask AESP!

Do you need advice from your peers on your latest project or program? If so, submit your questions on AESP's listserv. Or, do you have the answer or advice for this recent post?

"Is there a list of Energy Efficiency and Demand Response Advocacy Organizations? I'm wanting to develop a list of national, regional and state organizations that support and advance

incentives. Some examples: Large private building owners are required to publicly report energy and water use, model commercial leases incentivize energy savings for both owners and renters, and large building owners must phase out their use of soot-producing low-grade heating oil. Urban Green, a coalition of real estate and environmental interests, created the Green Building Roadmap for NYC's Next Mayor to keep up the momentum started by Bloomberg after he leaves office in January. The group will only support candidates that sign onto the plan. The plan calls for creating healthier indoor environments in the city's schools, encouraging the construction of high-performance buildings by streamlining permit procedures, and requiring both small and large buildings to report on energy and water use. If the green campaign successfully influences the mayoral race in NYC, green agendas could become a political factor in other U.S. cities.

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White House Seeks Carbon Curbs Through Energy Efficiency Gains

The Hill (07/18/13) Geman, Ben

The Obama administration took several steps on July 18 that officials say will advance the energy efficiency portion of the White House climate change plan unveiled in late June. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced new efforts to help businesses cut energy use. The Federal Housing Administration (FHA) hosted a single-family "green mortgage roundtable" at the White House to "identify strategies for better incorporating energy efficiency considerations in the underwriting and appraisal process" for FHA-insured mortgages. Boosting home energy efficiency can be a hurdle because there are upfront costs to achieve longer-term savings, and the discussion will focus on ways to overcome existing barriers and promote greater appreciation of energy efficiency. Senior State Department and White House aides, meanwhile, emphasized efficiency during a July 18 meeting in Krakow, Poland of the multilateral Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate. Energy use in commercial and residential buildings accounts for an estimated one-third of global greenhouse gas emissions. The steps, while incremental, are a piece of what officials call wide-ranging efforts to help double U.S. energy "productivity" – that is, energy use relative to economic output – by 2030, while working with other nations to boost efficiency too. "This is a really aggressive campaign across the federal government and something that is a priority not only for the president, but a number of agencies, and we are looking at opportunities domestically and internationally," a senior administration official said.

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Reducing Data Centers' Carbon Footprint: IT Efficiency Is King

DatacenterDynamics (07/05/13) Sverdluk, Yevgeniy

Companies that operate data centers are beginning to use clean energy to power them. While companies are eager to utilize clean energy to further their efficiency goals, a report published in Nature Climate Change says using clean energy for data centers may not be an effective strategy. "Just switching an inefficient data center to low-carbon electricity is not necessarily a good choice, as it uses up scarce low-carbon electricity that could otherwise be used elsewhere," says one of the report's authors Jonathan Koomey. The authors instead recommend encouraging first and foremost efficient use of information technology (IT) devices. "All existing data centers should maximize IT-device efficiency, especially as these devices can turn over quickly and thereby deliver rapid improvements," one of the conclusions reads. IT efficiency includes increasing utilization rates, high-performance, and energy efficient IT gear. Maximizing efficiency of the IT equipment is also the most immediate opportunity to reduce carbon emissions associated with data centers because these devices turn over much more often than other data center components, such as electrical and mechanical infrastructure. Other policy priorities the paper recommends include locating new data centers in places where they can use free cooling. Lowering Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) becomes a priority in data centers where maximizing IT efficiency is not feasible. In places where lowering PUE is difficult – where climate does not permit the use of free cooling, for example – buying low-carbon electricity "becomes the next chief lever after energy efficiency has reached its practical limit," Koomey and his co-authors write.

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Colorado's ZNE Goose Lays Golden Eggs

Architecture 2030 (06/13/13)

EE and DR initiatives through their membership, education, and state legislative and regulatory activities. Please send me any information you might have on these types of organizations."

- George Phillips

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AESP is a member-based association dedicated to improving the delivery and implementation of energy efficiency, energy management and distributed renewable resources. AESP provides professional development programs, a network of energy practitioners, and promotes the transfer of knowledge and experience.

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Efforts in three states to support moving the housing market toward zero net energy (ZNE) are poised to create more construction jobs and generate state and local tax revenue, while also creating a market for affordable high-performance homes. ZNE homes are those that produce as much energy onsite as they consume, and rate a 0 on the Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Index. In Colorado, Gov. John Hickenlooper recently signed into law the Colorado Energy Saving Mortgage Program, under which a home buyer purchasing a new or renovated home with a HERS rating of 0 is eligible for an \$8,000 mortgage incentive. Meanwhile, New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez recently signed the Sustainability Tax Credit bill, which offers personal and corporate income tax credits for new and renovated high-performance commercial and residential buildings. In New York, assemblywoman Barbara Lifton introduced legislation that would offer \$5,000 to \$10,000 in income tax credit to home buyers purchasing new or renovated properties rated HERS 50 to 0. Architecture 2030 estimates that the Colorado plan will generate more than \$32 million in spending and nearly \$2 million in tax revenue for every \$1 million in incentives, while the New York bill could generate \$27 million in spending and \$3 million in tax revenue for every \$1 million in tax credits.

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Featured Articles

Picking a Discount Rate for DSM: Whose Business is This Anyway?

by Jonathan Kleinman and Melissa Culbertson

As DSM program planners start gearing up for their 2014 program filings, you can hear their cries of dismay. It usually starts when they look at the U.S. Energy Information Administration's (EIA) 2013 Annual Energy Outlook for the first time. It's particularly challenging for gas program planners — EIA starts with a Henry Hub price of \$3.25 per MMBtu, which then drops to \$3.12 per MMBtu for 2014 and 2015 before rising again, depending upon the case (see figure below).



Jonathan Kleinman

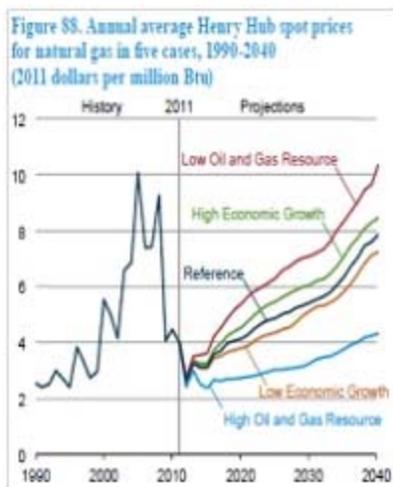


Melissa Culbertson

Low gas prices decrease the calculated benefits of DSM programs, reducing program cost-effectiveness. This has especially impacted programs that must pass the total resource cost (TRC) test. While the use of the TRC test is now being questioned for a number of reasons, low gas prices add urgency to that discussion.

The Business of Discount Rates

Cost tests use discount rates to translate future savings into present day savings. Every cost-effectiveness test must incorporate a discount rate because DSM investments, like most investments, require an up-front cost to generate long-term benefits. Energy savings five or fifteen years from now aren't equal to present-day savings due to inflation, a short-term focus or preference, and risk.



If you look up how to calculate discount rates, you'll find lots and lots of sites and

references for different approaches. You'll also find that calculating discount rates depends upon the specific costs and savings that you're comparing. DSM programs can use different discount rates depending upon the cost-effectiveness test you're using (e.g., the TRC, participant test, non-participant test, utility cost test, program administrator cost test, or societal cost test). In a very real sense, picking a discount rate depends upon whose business it is to capture the energy and/or demand savings.

Discount Rates for TRC Tests

Picking the discount rate for the TRC test has not been a straightforward task. The California Standard Practice Manual defines total resource costs as "costs paid by both the utility and the participants, plus the increase in supply costs for the periods in which the load is increased. Thus, all equipment costs, installation, operation and maintenance, cost of removal (less salvage value), and administration costs, no matter who pays for them, are included in this test."

In 2008, the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency's "Understanding Cost-Effectiveness of Energy Efficiency Programs" recommended the use of the utility's weighted average cost of capital (WACC) — the average cost for financing across debt and equity sources — as the discount rate for the TRC. But, the TRC doesn't focus on utility costs alone — it focuses on the costs of all ratepayers (the California Standard Practice Manual notes that the TRC was once called the All Ratepayers Test).

So whose business is DSM, taking into account all ratepayers? It could be the appropriate commission that regulates DSM, or perhaps the legislative body that creates the laws to call for DSM. The Cadmus Group's "Picking a Standard: Implications of Differing TRC Requirements" found TRC discount rates ranging from 3.66 percent up to 7.88 percent. The lower rates were based upon "societal" rates, meaning that they take the perspective of a more policy-oriented body such as a regulatory commission. The higher rates were based upon the utility WACC.

WACC Alternatives

DSM planners looking to help their programs pass the TRC test should look to alternatives to the WACC as a discount rate. Here are recent discussions from a few jurisdictions:

- **Maine:** Maine's governing rule calls for the use of the current yield of long-term (10 years or longer) U.S. Treasury securities, adjusted for inflation. Efficiency Maine recently opened a discussion of alternatives, including trying to factor in the participant discount rate (because participant costs are part of TRC) and utility WACC. The result was a TRC analysis conducted separately at discount rates of 7 percent and 10 percent.
- **Massachusetts:** Massachusetts' current guidelines call for the use of the current yield of 30-year United States Treasury bonds. Recent discussions in a Department of Public Utilities docket reflected a range of opinions, from the use of the WACC to selecting a Treasury Bond term closer to the effective useful life of most energy efficiency measures (e.g., 10 to 20 years). The department was open to the use of shorter bond terms, and rejected the use of the WACC as a discount rate.
- **Arkansas:** Recently-filed testimony identified the variations in WACC from utility to utility, and pointed to the use of societal discount rates for TRC analysis in other jurisdictions (e.g., Massachusetts, Oklahoma, New Mexico).
- **Indiana:** Some Indiana utilities are now considering the Weighted Average Cost of Debt as an appropriate alternative to the WACC, with the key difference in removing the (higher) cost of equity financing from the WACC.
- **California:** The Commission has approved the use of the "after-tax" WACC as the discount rate for TRC.

Conclusion

As the DSM industry considers increasing the size and scope of DSM programs, and technological advances (e.g., Smart Meters, Intelligent Efficiency) start to embed DSM in utility markets and operations, the answer to "whose business is DSM?" may not be "all ratepayers." As that answer changes from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, we have to revisit whether the TRC is the best platform for assessing the performance of DSM programs, or whether we should be adopting the utility cost test or program administrator cost test, to reflect where DSM business is going.

Jonathan Kleinman is the vice president for policy, sectors, and evaluation at *CLEARresult*. Melissa Culbertson is a senior consultant in *CLEARresult*'s national planning and evaluation department.

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Emerging Options for Portfolio Diversity

by Jeremy Laundergan



Jeremy Laundergan

The key to a successful portfolio is diversity. This is true for investment as well as supply chain management. At any point in time, disruptions can cause challenges for supply chains. In the case of produce, an early frost in Florida can reduce the yield of oranges and drive up the price of orange juice. In the case of electricity supply and generation, an unforeseen issue with transmission or distribution or a generator going off-line can cause price spikes in electricity markets.

When these events happen, a diverse portfolio can mitigate the impact of disruption. For example, for produce the procurement of oranges from both Florida and California can mitigate the risk of an early frost in Florida. Similarly, incorporating distributed resources such as Demand Response (DR), Distributed Generation (DG), Combined Heat & Power (CHP) and energy storage into load serving entity and utility energy supply portfolios can reduce exposure to electricity market price spikes. In fact, these resources can help mitigate the magnitude of the price spikes.

Historically, additional generation and distribution were built to meet load growth and replace aging infrastructure. However, the cost for this approach has continued to increase, and regulatory approval has become more difficult due to increasing cost and environmental impact concerns. Furthermore, applications to deploy or replace infrastructure are meeting increasing resistance from both customers and other interest groups. All of these factors are dampening market responses to load growth and infrastructure aging, and alternative supply chain strategies need to be sought.

Distributed resources can be more expensive than large bulk generation when viewed from a price per kilowatt perspective. However, attributes such as the location of the distributed resource can make up for the higher cost per kilowatt. For example, in an area experiencing load growth, the distribution infrastructure may need to be upgraded to deliver power to the load center. This results in higher cost to serve through infrastructure investment, higher Locational Marginal Pricing (LMP) to procure power through wholesale electricity markets and/or customer impacts or penalties from reduced reliability. Therefore, strategically targeting higher cost LMP zones for distributed resources can be effective cost mitigation strategies.

In Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) [Orders 719 and 745](#), FERC is fundamentally recognizing the value of a diverse portfolio. Independent System Operators (ISOs) and Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs) are working to design, build and evolve their DR market products as a result.

- ISO New England: http://www.iso-ne.com/genrtion_resrcs/dr/
- PJM Interconnection: <http://www.pjm.com/markets-and-operations/demand-response.aspx>
- ISO New York: http://www.nyiso.com/public/markets_operations/market_data/demand_response/index.jsp
- Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT): <http://www.ercot.com/services/programs/load/>
- California ISO: <http://www.caiso.com/1893/1893e350393b0.html>
- Southwest Power Pool (SPP): <http://www.spp.org/section.asp?pageID=83>

Texas has multiple initiatives underway including incorporation of a significant amount of [wind generation resources](#), deployment of [Smart Meter Texas](#) and expanding [Demand Response programs](#). Each of these initiatives is complementary in adding diversity to the Texas portfolio. Wind power takes advantage of the prevailing winds in Texas for a renewable electric energy source. DR helps mitigate the intermittency of the wind resource. And Smart Meter Texas is one component of enabling the DR programs in the state.

In another example utilizing portfolio diversification, Southern California experienced a significant base generation interruption with the San Onofre Nuclear Generation Station (SONGS) going off-line and [subsequent decommissioning](#). In response, Southern California Edison (SCE) continued their energy efficiency and DR efforts and is working to leverage their [Edison SmartConnect](#) meters which completed deployment in 2012 .

Each electric utility and load serving entity's situation is unique based on the customers and areas they serve, as well as the infrastructure and market challenges for that area. However, thinking beyond Power Purchase Agreements and wholesale electricity market strategies to incorporate distributed resources will begin the process of developing a diverse electricity supply and procurement portfolio.

Jeremy Laundergan is director of Utility Services Consulting at [EnerNeX](#), an electric power engineering and consulting firm.

Board Election Special Candidates in their own "140 characters"

With elections taking place this month, we thought it would be a great idea for the candidates to introduce themselves to you, the voter, in their own words. And to make it short and tweet (er, we mean sweet), we limited them to 140 characters. We encourage you to read their full profiles, including the candidates' background in energy, involvement in AESP and goals as a board member, by logging in to the election website. You will have received an email on Monday containing your unique voter ID, password and instructions. Then hurry and cast your vote before August 22!



John Augustino

Residential Sales Solution Manager, Honeywell Smart Grid Solutions

I am an experienced yet energetic optimist who is committed to making a positive difference AND give people a reason to smile.



Charmaine Cigliano

Section Manager, Customer Energy Services, Orange & Rockland Utilities

Driven, fun-loving, passionate drummer who loves everything Disney, her fur -kid Mickey, and is often referred to as the Best Aunt Ever.



Bob Collins

Manager, Market Strategy, Ontario Power Authority

Married with children, a dog and a cat (who hates me) and proud to be leading a balanced life: half for the OPA, half for my wife & kids.



Lark Lee

Director, Tetra Tech

I am a leading energy professional committed to maximizing AESP's value for its members!



Danielle Marquis

Marketing Director, SmartWatt Energy

Strategic, creative thinker with strong work ethic, passion and the brains to back up ideas and convert them to accomplishments.



Vicki Nichols

Program Manager, Georgia Power

EE Pro, aspiring foodie & just hired a trainer. Love sports, adventure, family & working with friends on behalf of an unprecedented AESP!



Stuart Schare

Director, Navigant Consulting

I take both business and energy efficiency seriously; in this utility industry context, I view myself as someone to bridge the divide.



Michael Volker

Director of Regulatory and Energy Services, Midwest Energy

Hard working and passionate about AESP! I'm about reaching underserved markets. A workout monster. Most fun board member ever!

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AESP News

Online Conference — Coming Soon!

We are so excited to present AESP's first online conference August 20, designed in response to members' request for low cost, practical and convenient learning opportunities. "CSI Online: Codes, Standards and Improvements" fits the bill. Be sure to register before Aug. 16. For members, it's only \$189, or one point for group members. [Click here for more details, to see the agenda, and register.](#)

Fall Conference Scholarships

In addition to registering to attend AESP's Fall Conference on Sept. 30-Oct. 2, be sure to encourage junior professionals you know to apply for AESP scholarships. They are designed to allow those new to the industry to attend their first AESP conference. Hurry application deadline is August 14. [Click here for more details.](#)

Exercise your right to vote

On Monday (yesterday), all AESP members will have received a special AESP election email with your unique voter ID and instructions to vote for 2014's Board of Directors. This is your chance to vote for the people you want to see in AESP's board. Be sure to cast your vote before August 22.

You spoke, we listened

Thank you to all AESP members who gave your input on Strategies in our recent survey. We received many great ideas and will be implementing some of them soon. For example, you said you wanted to see the articles shortened (truncated) and having more interactive activities. A survey respondent was picked at random to win a \$50 gift card and the winner is member Jessica Creighton from NMR Group. Thank you again to all who participated.

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