



Questions from Rate Advisory Committee Meetings

Consolidated Working Groups

Question asked by: Anita Ledbetter

Date question asked: September 23, 2021

Date question answered: October 20, 2021

Question: Have we recalculated the value of conservation as an avoidance strategy combined with renewables on the grid?

Answer: Yes, we recognize the value that both conservation and renewables bring to the grid. In all our long-term forecasts, including generation planning, budgeting, and projected emissions reductions, we account for the benefits from each.

The value of conservation (and energy efficiency) as a strategy for avoidance/reduction of energy demand on the grid has been the foundation of our Save for Tomorrow Energy (**STEP**) program. We have often referred to conservation as the “Fifth Fuel” in our generation portfolio because of its critical role in meeting the community’s energy needs.

We have likewise been committed for many years to renewables as a supply side strategy. In fact, the combination of supply side and demand side approaches are the foundation of our **Flexible Path** approach. Through **FlexSTEP** and the **FlexPOWER Bundle**, we are actively identifying opportunities to do more of both – promote conservation and integrate additional renewables on the grid. We believe this combination offers our customers the best balance between **Affordability, Environmental Responsibility** and **Reliability**.