

# Power Systems Fundamentals

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**New York Market Orientation Course (NYMOC)**

June 3-5, 2025

Remote Learning

# Session Objectives

- At the end of this session attendees will be able to
  - Understand the Fundamentals of the New York Control Area (NYCA) Power System
  - Identify the Physical Components of the New York Control Area (NYCA) Power System
  - Explain the Purpose behind Operational Ancillary Services

# Fundamentals

# NYCA Power System

- Fundamentals
  - Bulk Power vs. Retail Load Distribution
  - NYCA Zones
  - Neighboring Control Areas

# Bulk Power vs. Load Distribution

## ■ Bulk Power Transmission

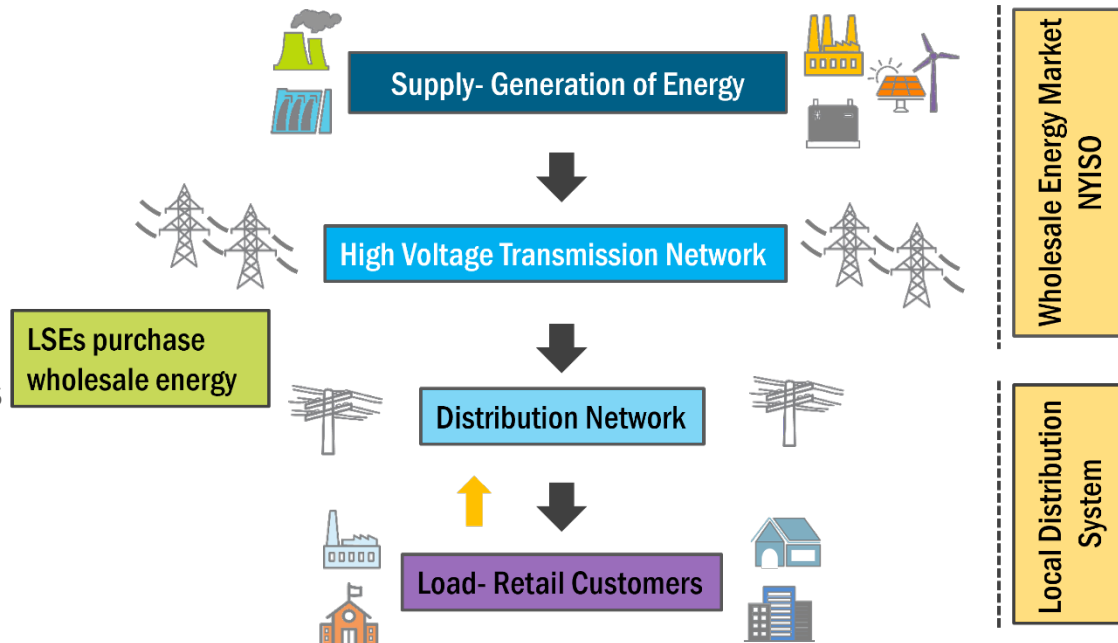
- NYISO is responsible for controlling the transmission of power across the high-voltage transmission network, which is maintained by the Transmission Owners

## ■ Distribution System

- Transmission Owners are responsible for distributing power across the lower voltage transmission network to consumers

## ■ Management of Retail Load Consumption

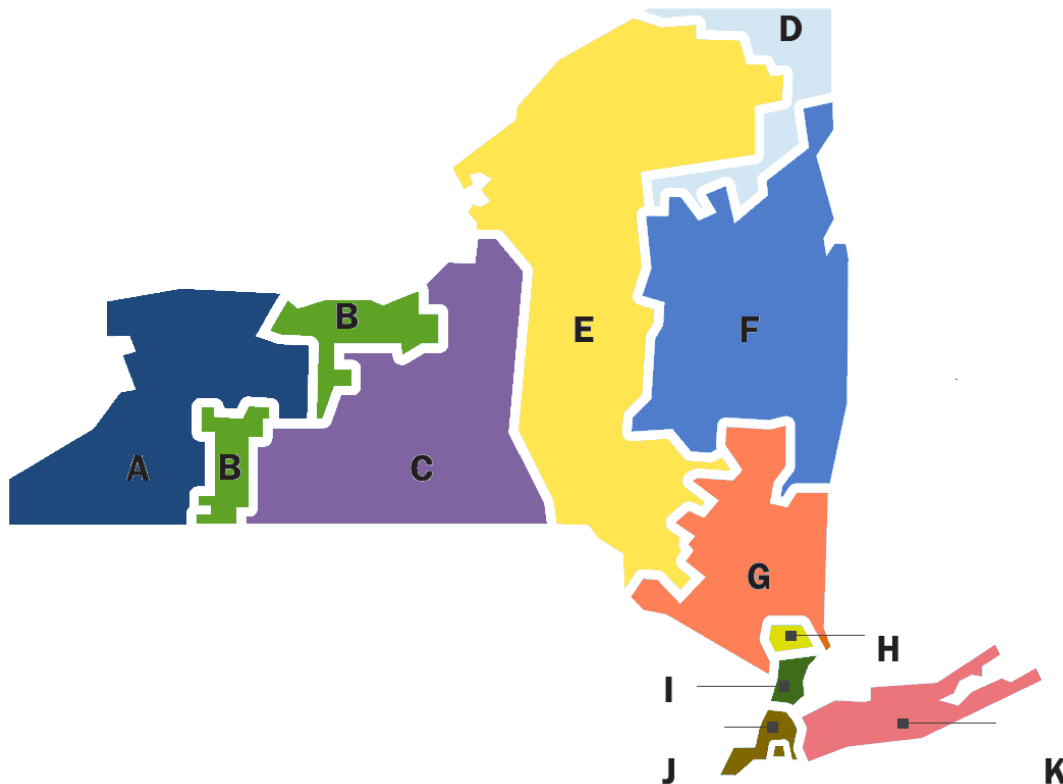
- Load Serving Entities (LSEs) buy power at the wholesale level to sell to consumers at the retail level



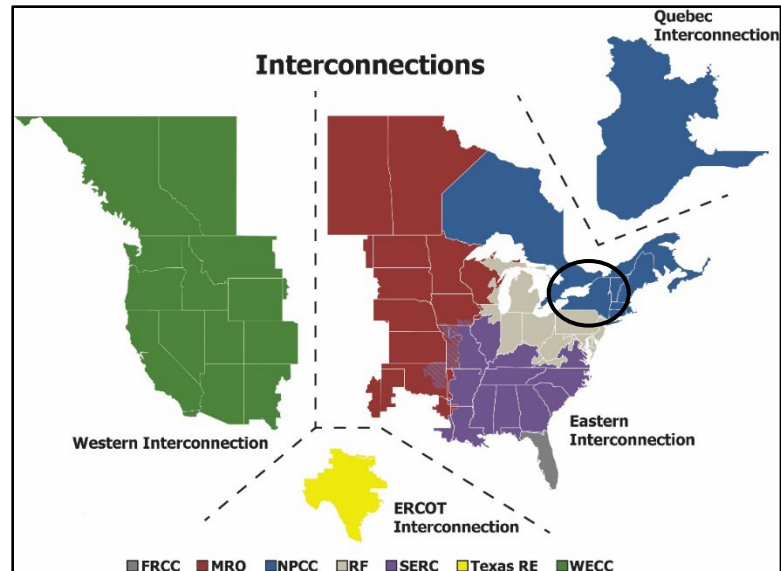
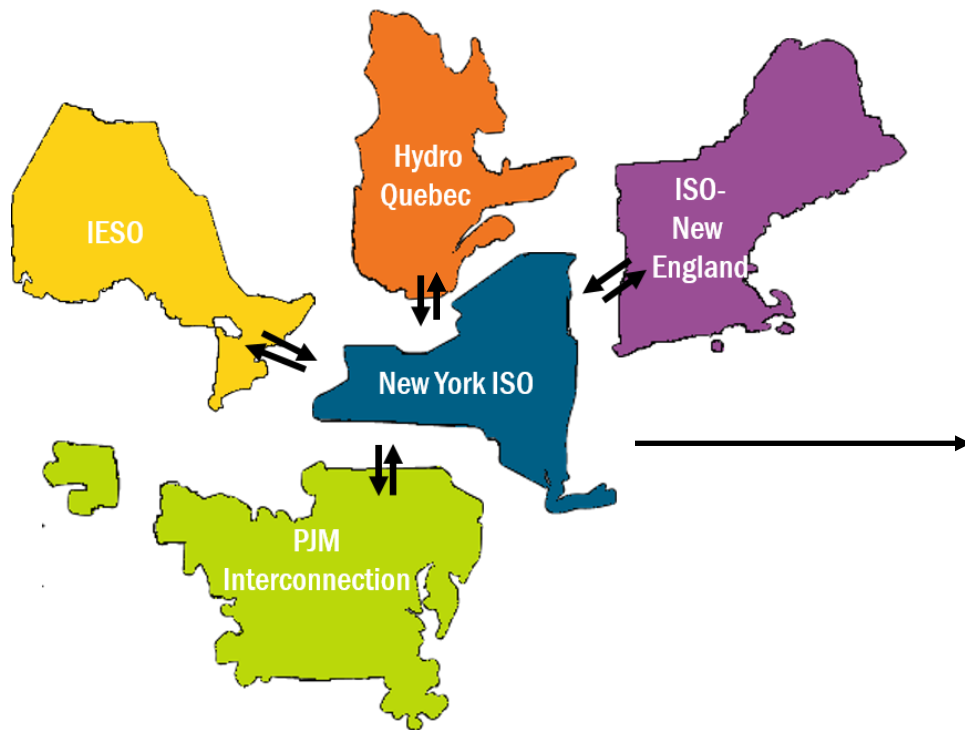
# New York Control Area Load Zones

## NY Load Zones

- A- West
- B- Genesee
- C- Central
- D- North
- E- Mohawk Valley
- F- Capital
- G- Hudson Valley
- H- Millwood
- I- Dunwoodie
- J- NYC
- K- Long Island



# Neighboring Control Areas

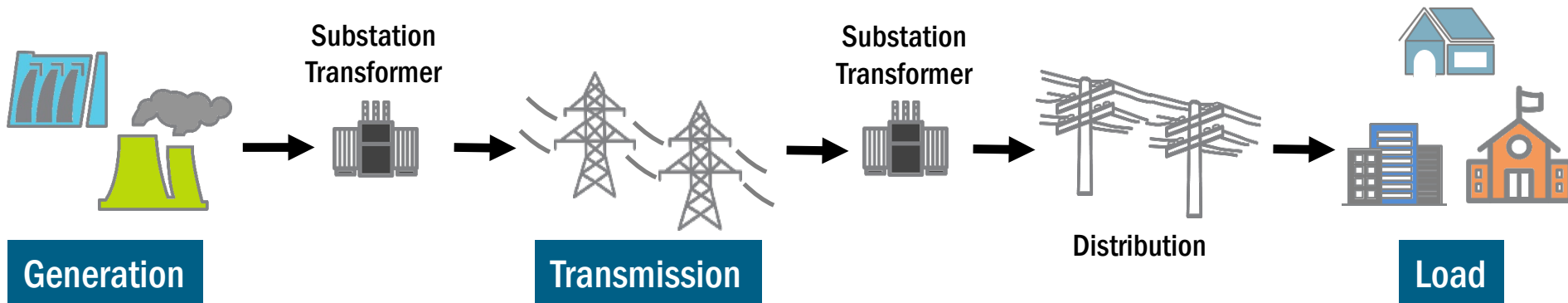


# Physical Components of the NYCA Power System



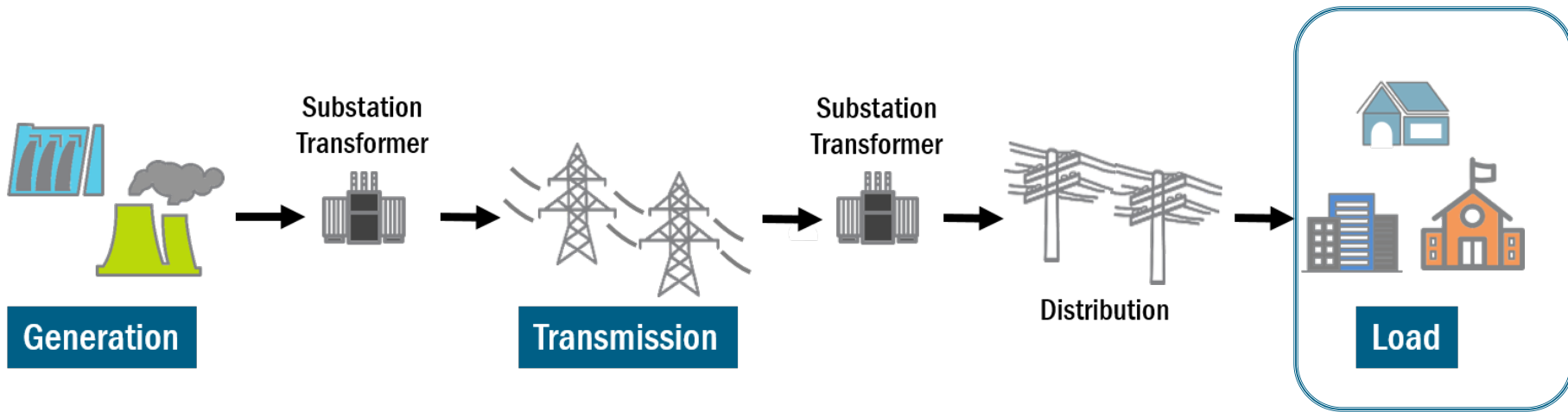
# Physical Components of NYCA Power System

- Load
- Generation
- Transmission

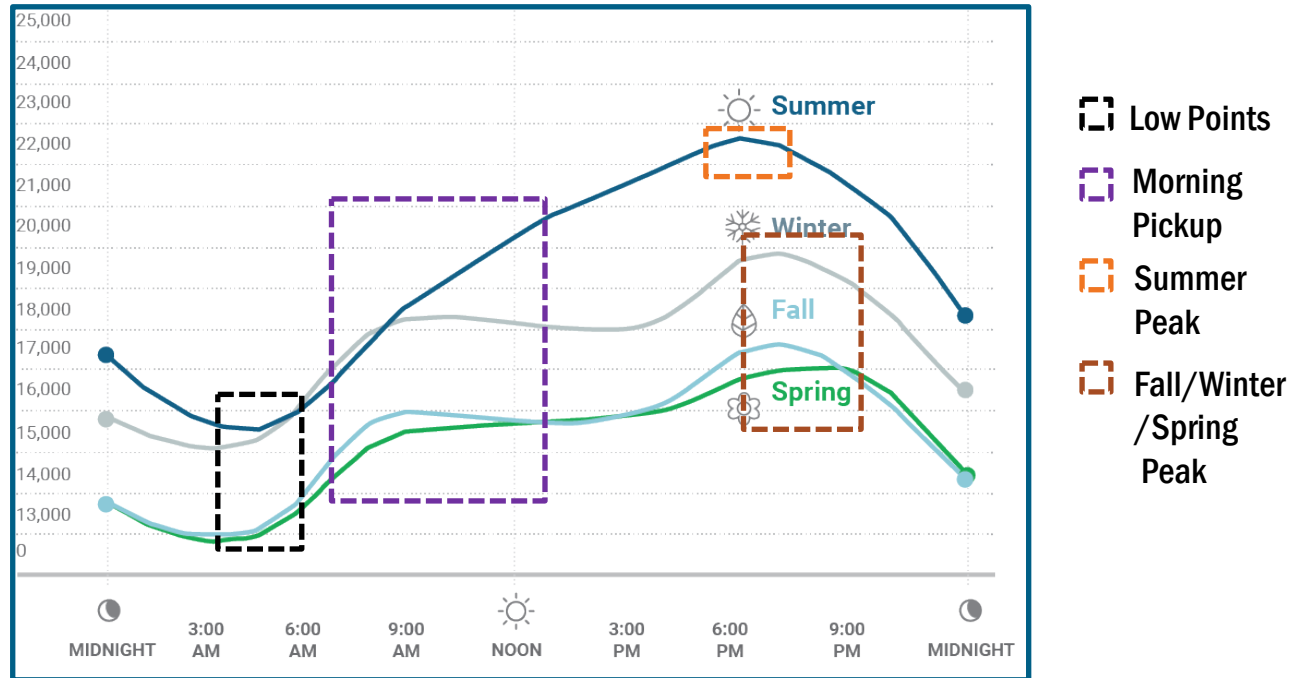


# Load

- Power Consumed off NYCA Grid

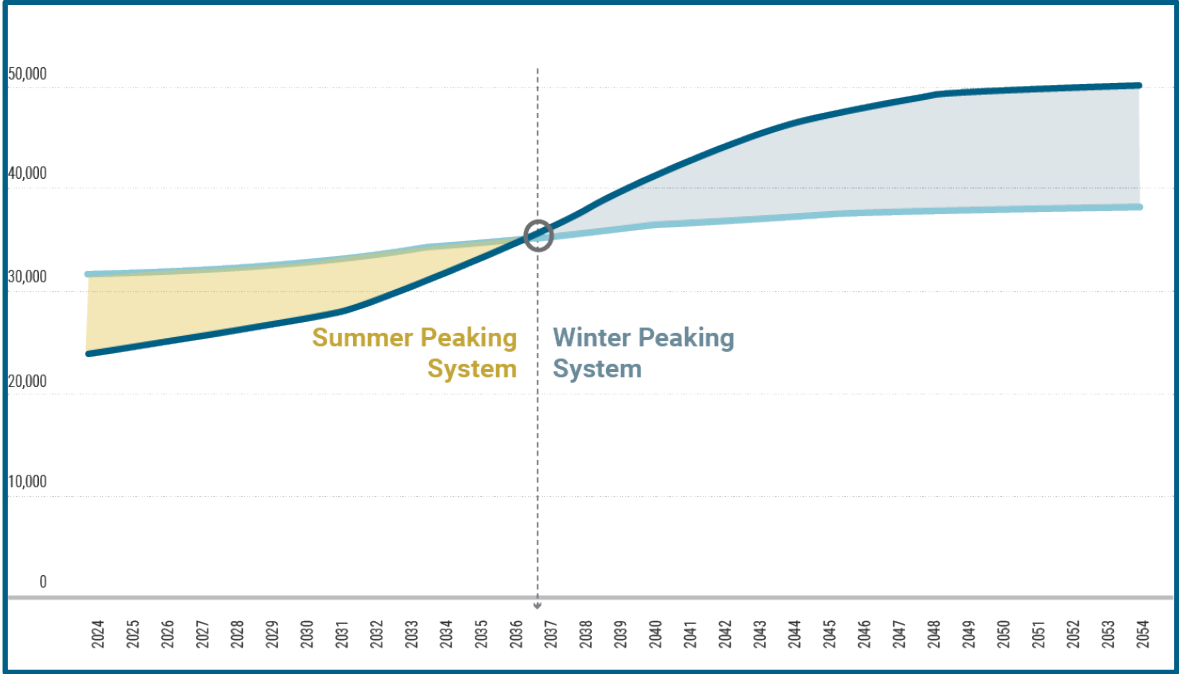


# Illustrative NYCA Load Profile – Seasonal and Hourly



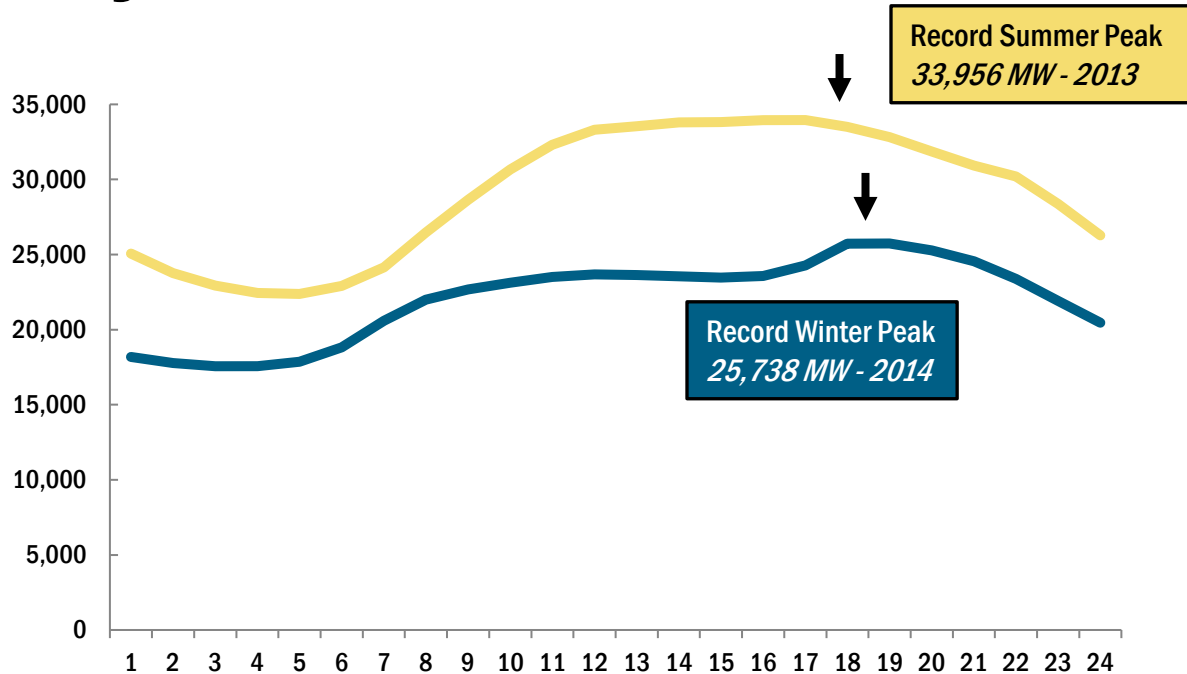
\*\*\*Seasonal Hourly Demand Patterns, Power Trends 2022

# NYCA Load Profile: Projections



# NYCA Load Profile – Historical Record

## Peak Days



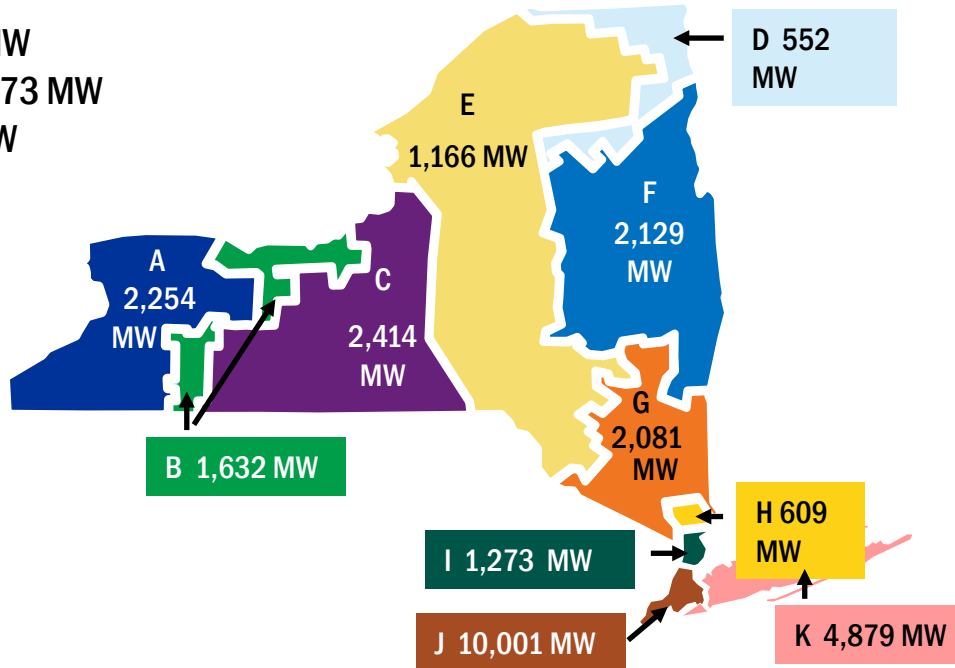
# Load Profile by NYCA Zones

Total Load = 28,990 MW

Upstate Zones (A-E) = 8017 MW

Downstate Zones (F-K) = 20,973 MW

NYC and LI (J+K) = 14,881 MW



Example Hour:  
July 8, 2024  
HB 17:00

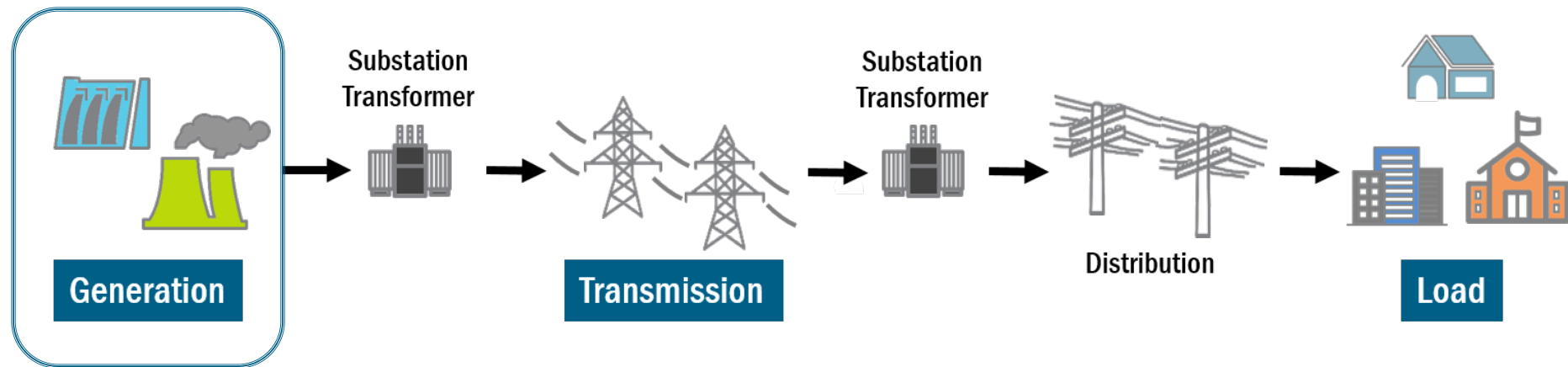
## Important Facts

- ~70% of the Load was in Downstate Zones (F-K)
- ~50% of the load located in NYC & LI

\* Data from the Actual Load Report from the NYISO website

# Generation

- Electrical energy for load consumption



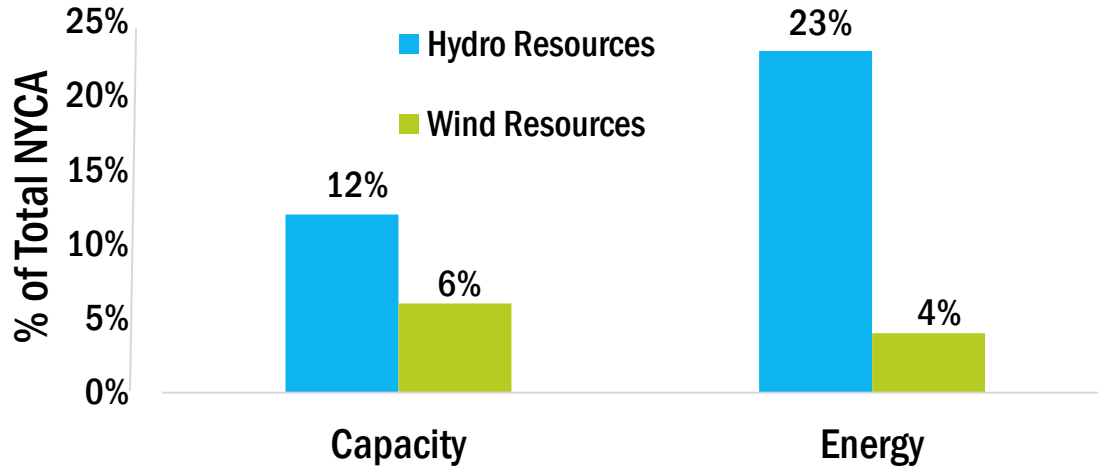
# Capacity vs. Energy

- Two very different commodities
- Capacity – *measured in MW*
  - Refers to the electric power output for which a generating system, plant, or unit is rated
- Energy – *measured in MWh*
  - Is the amount of energy produced (from capacity) over time



# Generating Capacity versus Energy

## Generating Capacity versus Energy Production- 2023

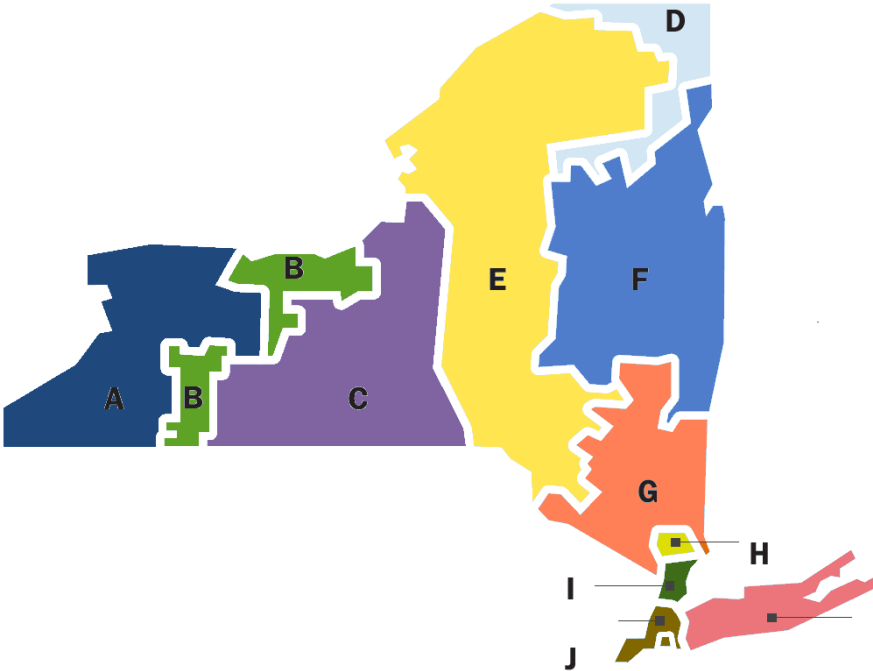


The conversion of maximum generation potential (Capacity) to actual generation (Energy) differs from one Resource type to another

# NYS Major Generation

## Nameplate Capacity for Summer, 2022 Load and Capacity Data Report

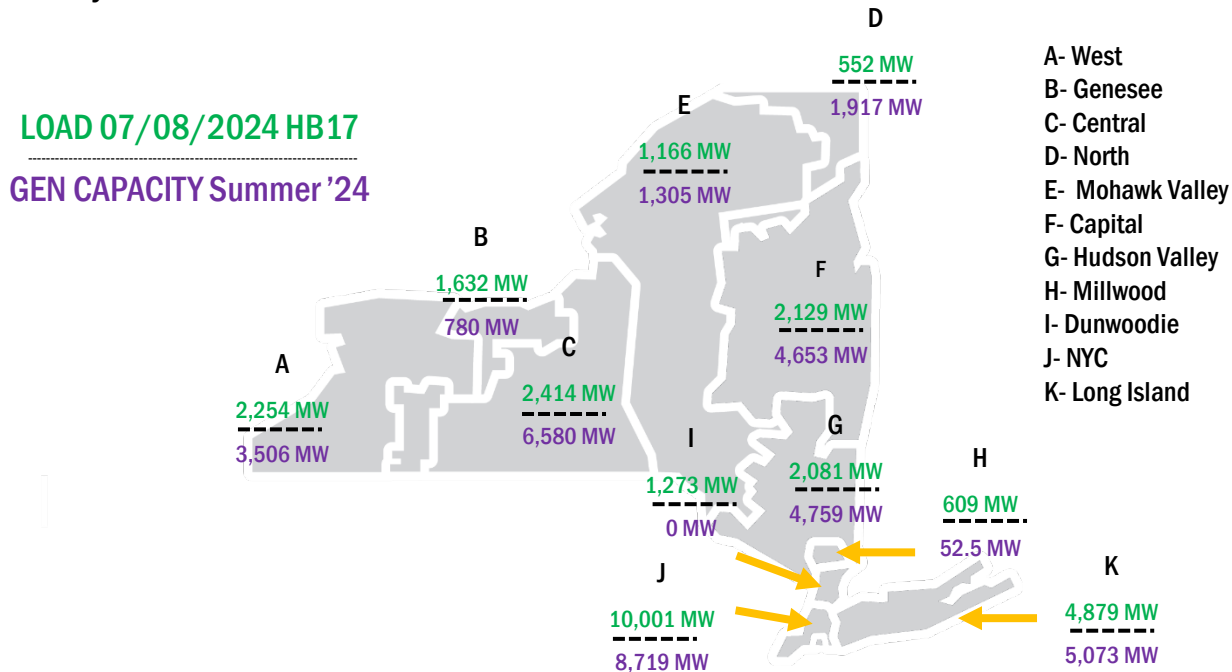
Zones	Major Generation Capacity Examples
Zone A - West	Dual Fuel, Hydro, Wind
Zone B - Genesee	Nuclear
Zone C - Central	Dual Fuel, Nuclear, Wind
Zone D - North	Hydro, Wind
Zone E – Mohawk Valley	Hydro, Wind
Zone F – Capital	Dual Fuel, Pumped Storage, Hydro
Zone G – Hudson Valley	Dual Fuel, Gas
Zone H – Millwood Valley*	Steam Turbine
Zone I - Dunwoodie	No generation
Zone J - NYC	Dual Fuel, Gas, Oil
Zone K – Long Island	Dual Fuel, Oil



\*Nuclear deactivated April 2022

# NYCA Load vs. Generation

Representative day

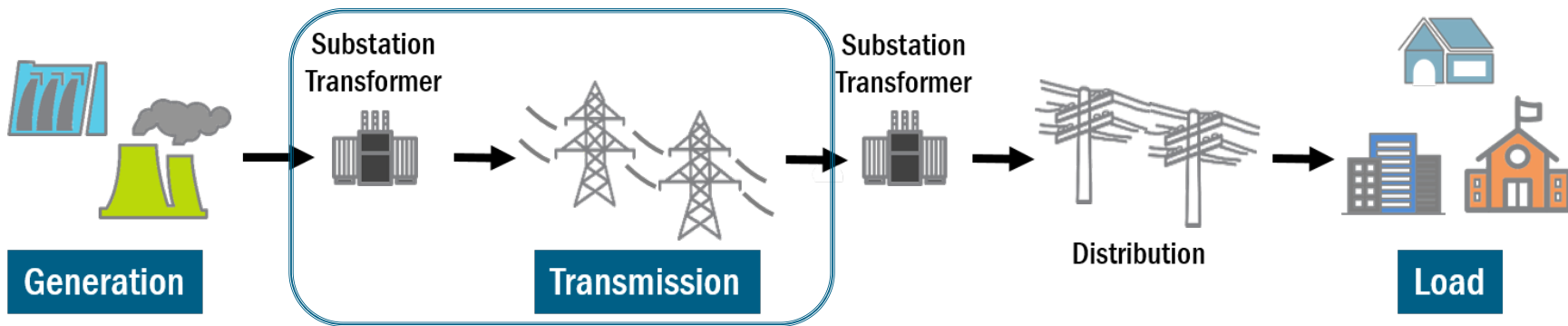


**Total Generation Capacity for Summer 2024: 37,375 MW**

\*Load data from the Actual Load Report from the NYISO website  
 Gen Capacity data from the Load and Capacity data Report 2024

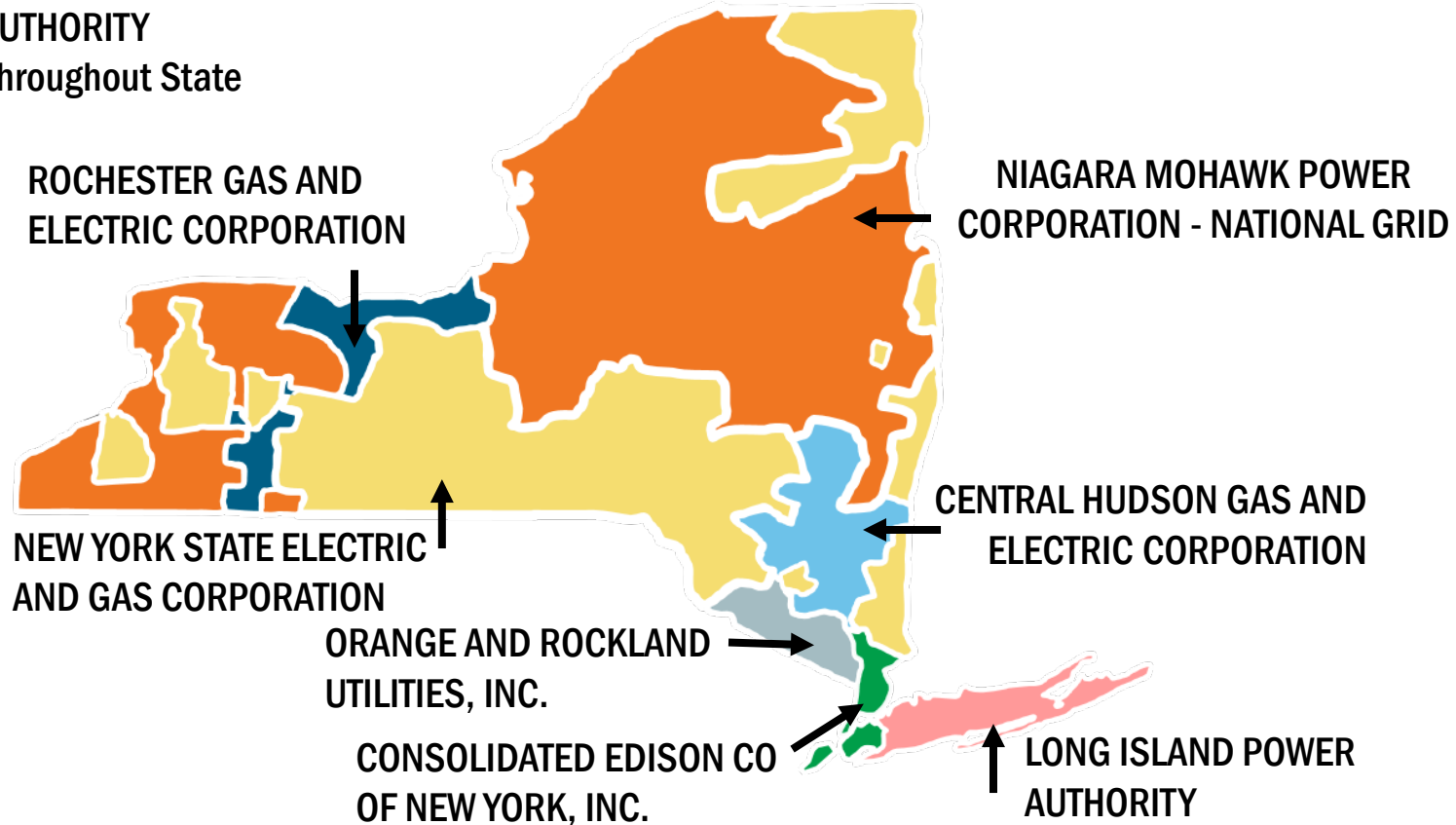
# Transmission

- Bulk transfer of electrical energy



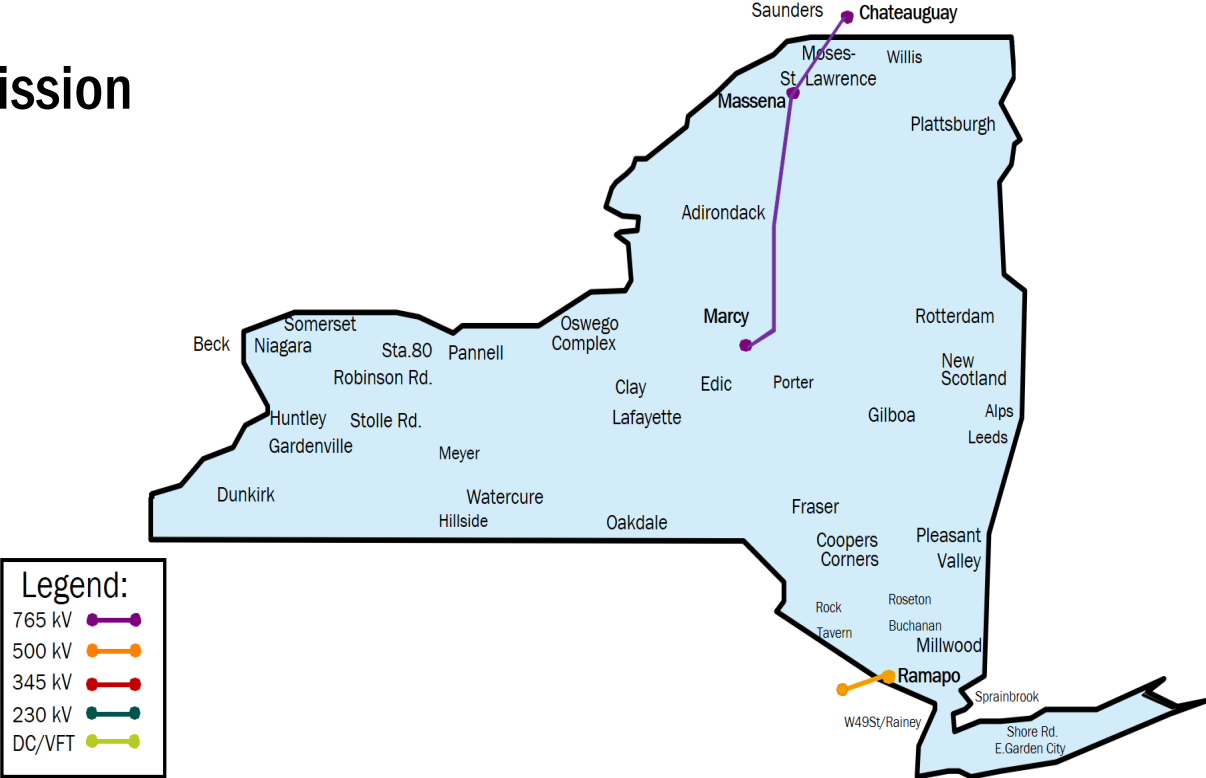
# NYCA Transmission Owners

**NEW YORK POWER AUTHORITY**  
Transmission Lines Throughout State



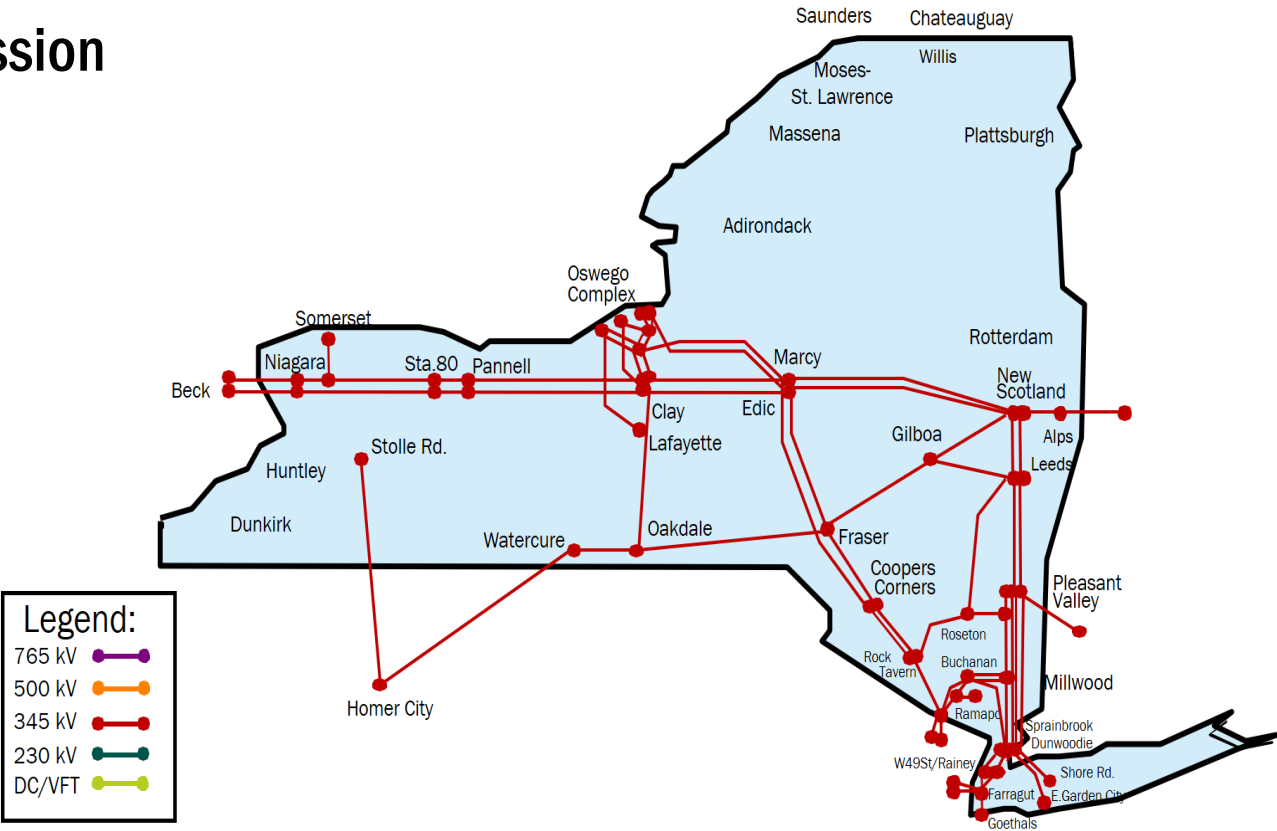
# NYCA Transmission System

## 765/500 kV Transmission



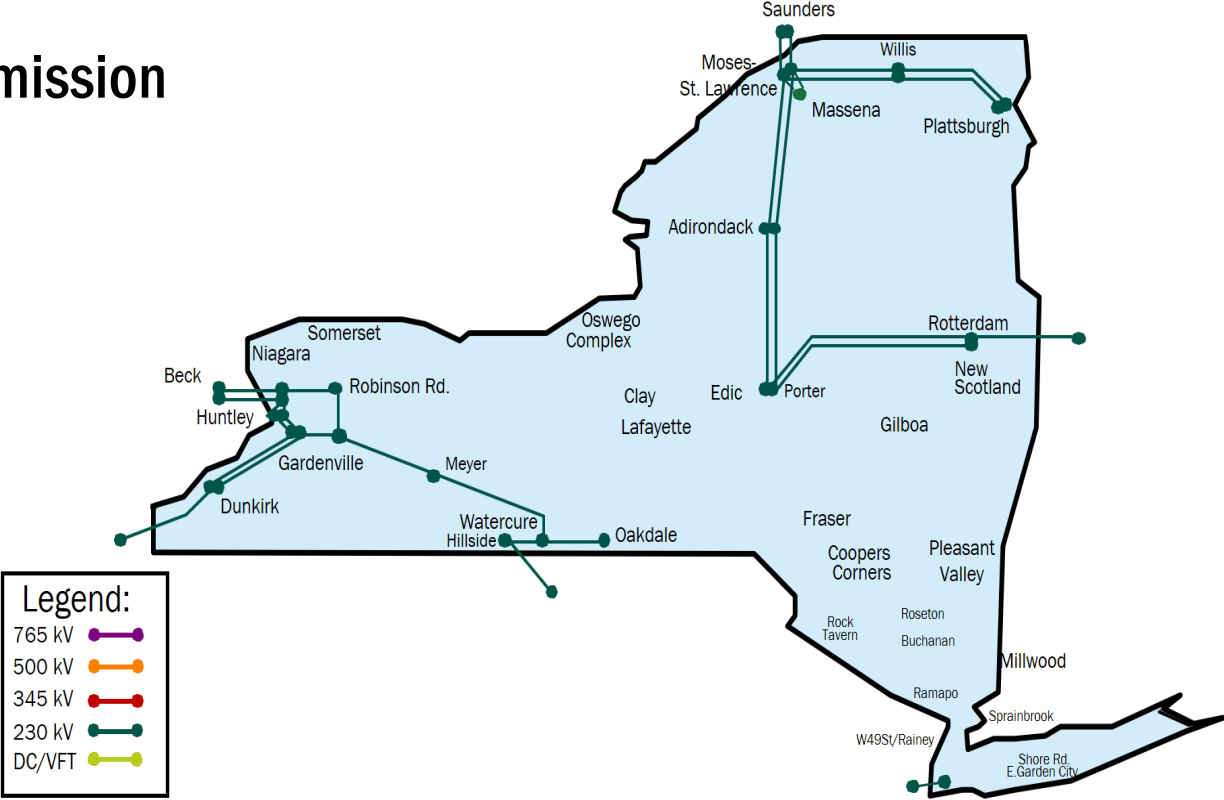
# NYCA Transmission System

## 345 kV Transmission



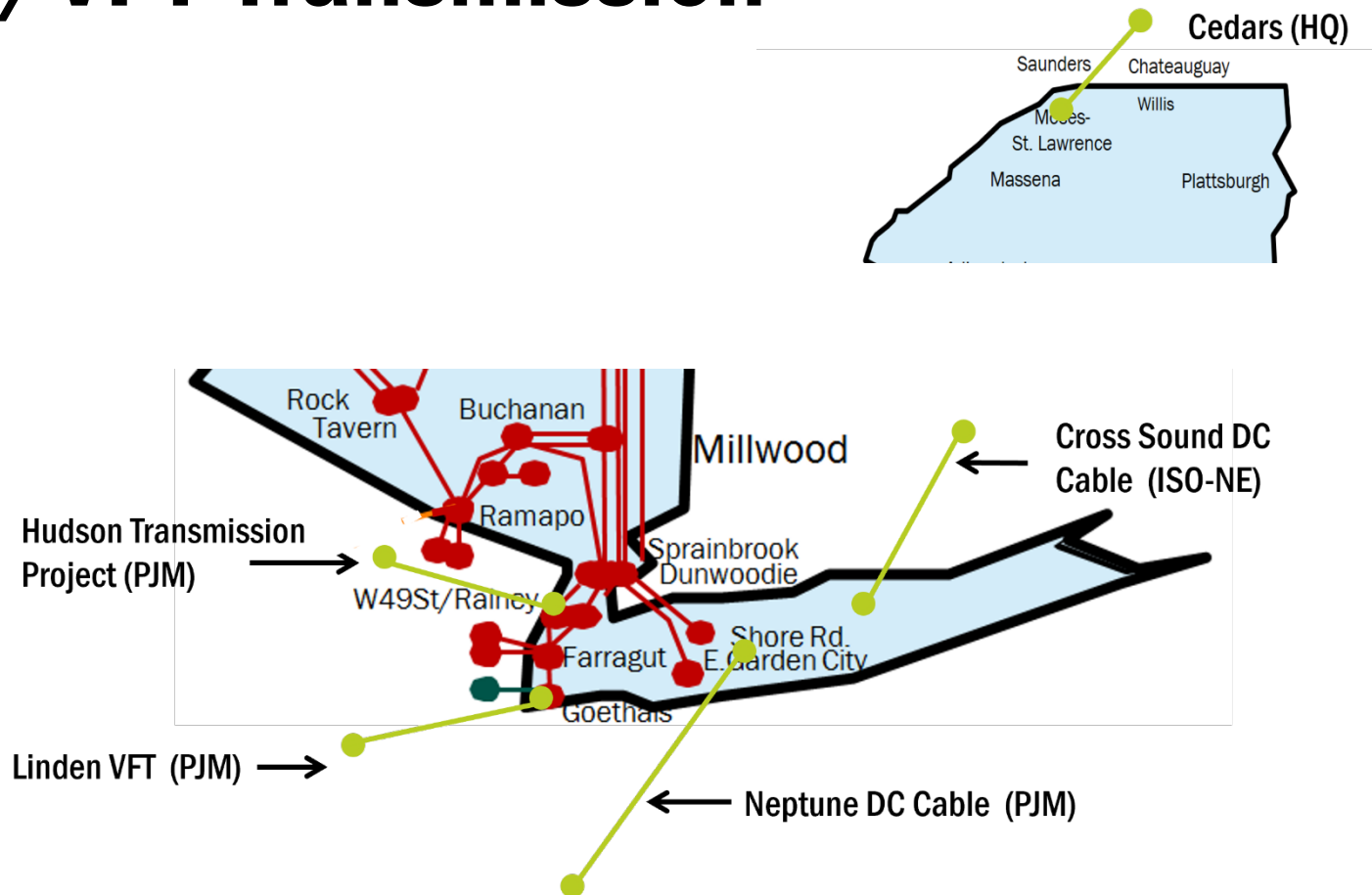
# NYCA Transmission System

## 230 kV Transmission





# DC/VFT Transmission



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# Transmission Interfaces

## ■ Definition of Interface

- A defined set of transmission facilities that separate Load Zones and that separate the NYCA from the adjacent Control Areas

## ■ Internal Interface

- Obey transfer limitations across the internal interface to deliver generation to load within NYCA

## ■ External Interface

- Comply with transfer limitations across the external interface to import or export scheduled power transactions between RTO/ISOs

- Multiple transmission lines make up an interface
- Interface limits can create constraints on the flow of power
- Some interfaces are more impacting on the flow of power



# Interface Transfer Limits

- Transfer limits create constraints on the flow of energy
- Types of Transfer Limits
  - Thermal Limits – Summer and Winter Ratings
  - Voltage Limits – Varies on equipment in-service
  - Stability Limits – Varies on lines in-service or load on selected lines

# Interface Transfer Limits

- Transfer limits create constraints on the flow of energy
- Types of Transfer Limits
  - Thermal Limits – Summer and Winter Ratings
  - Voltage Limits – Varies on equipment in-service
  - Stability Limits – Varies on lines in-service or load on selected lines

**Total Transfer Capability = Min(Thermal Limit, Voltage Limit, Stability Limit)**

- Real time transfer limits vary with system conditions and are posted at the 5-minute level, both positive and negative limits

# Operational Ancillary Services

# Operational Ancillary Services

- Purpose Behind
- Voltage Support Service
  - Regulation & Frequency Control
  - Operating Reserves
  - Black Start Service



# Voltage Support Service

Garden Hose: Transmission cable

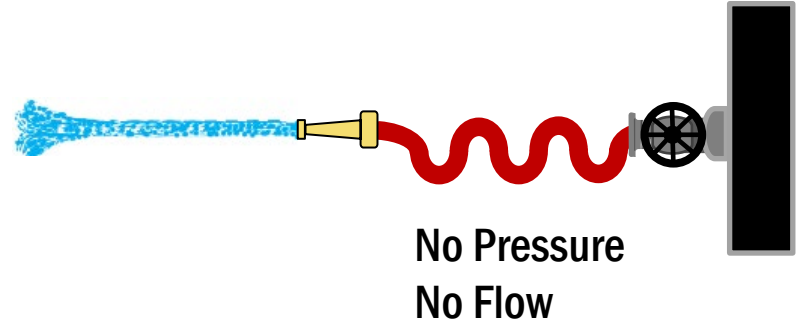
Water flowing through hose: Electrical current flow

Water pressure: Voltage

↓ Water Pressure → ↓ Water flow

↓ Voltage → ↓ Electrical current flow

## Water Pressure Analogy



- Voltage Support is needed to:
  - Transfer power from the generation to the load
  - Prevent equipment damage from high voltages
  - Prevent voltage collapse during high load periods

# Voltage Support Service

## ■ Voltage and Reactive Power

- VAR = Volt-Amperes Reactive = Reactive Power
- Reactive Power supports the Voltage that must be controlled within limits for System Reliability
  - Too few VARs, Voltage goes Down
  - Too many VARs, Voltage goes Up
- Not load; but cannot move WATTS without VARs

# Voltage Support Service

- **System Voltage Control**
  - Voltage Control is a continuous process
  - System Voltage Control provided by the Voltage Support Service is an Optional program in which Generators can participate
    - Generator monitors local voltage
    - Must utilize Automatic Voltage Regulator (AVR)
  - Transmission Owners are responsible for local control within their Network

# Voltage Support Service

## Voltage Support Service Suppliers:

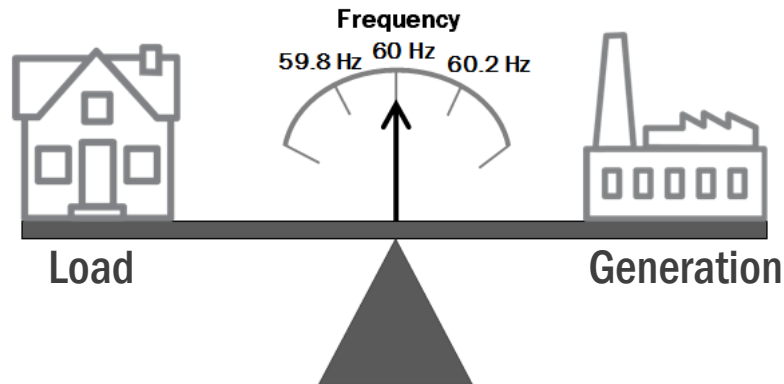
Generators	VAR production and absorption
Synchronous Condenser	VAR production and absorption
Static VAR Compensator	VAR production and absorption
Static Compensators	VAR production and absorption
Shunt Capacitor Banks	VAR production
Shunt Reactor	VAR absorption

**Note: Non-Generator VSS suppliers, spread throughout the state as Reactive Power does not travel**

# Regulation and Frequency Control

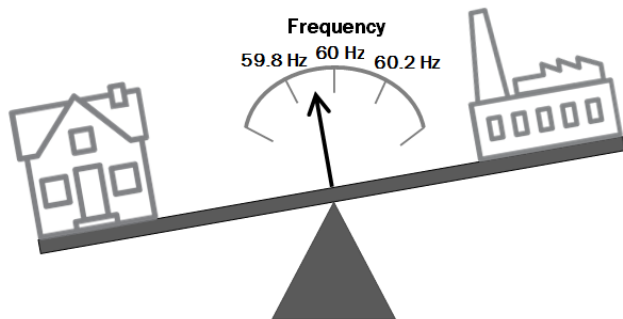
## ■ Control Area Operation

- Criteria is set forth to instantaneously Balance Load and Generation throughout the Eastern interconnection
  - In order to sustain a 60 Hz Frequency

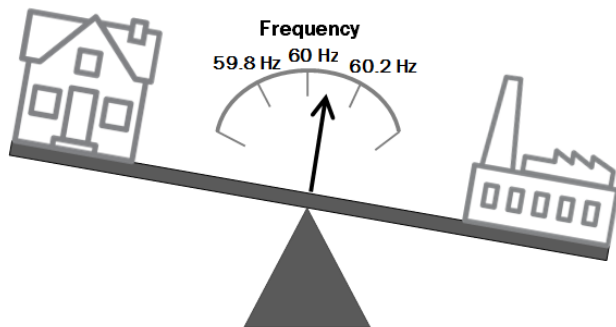
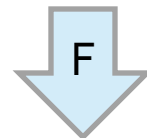


# Regulation and Frequency Control

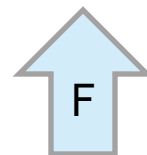
## ■ System Frequency Changes



Load Increases without Generation Increase



Generation Increases without Load Increase



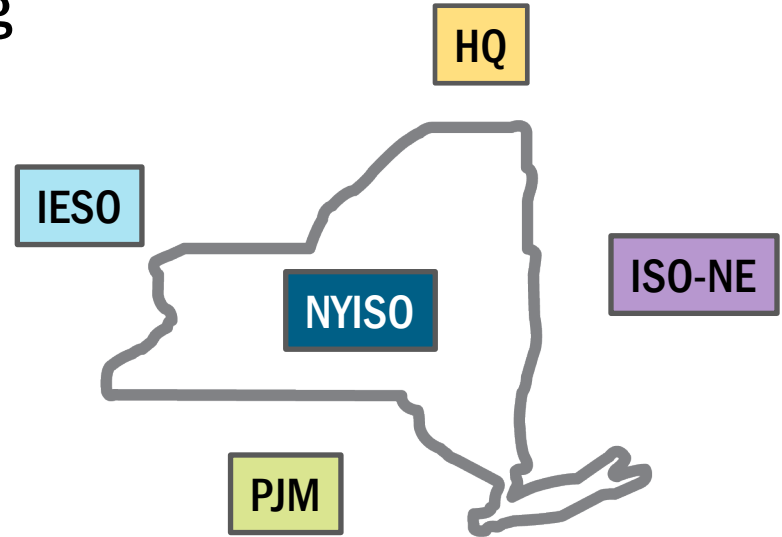
# Regulation and Frequency Control

- **System Frequency Impacts**

- Industrial & Commercial Equipment Operating at 60 Hz will be impacted
  - Industrial Motors, Refrigerators, Laundry Machines, Clocks, etc.
- Generator's Rotational Speed is tied to the Frequency of the System
- Cascading effect to Generation
  - Load continually increasing, Generation trips off-line

# Regulation and Frequency Control

- Areas are controlled by Functional Entities defined by NERC as Balancing Authorities (BA)
- The NYISO is a Balancing Authority

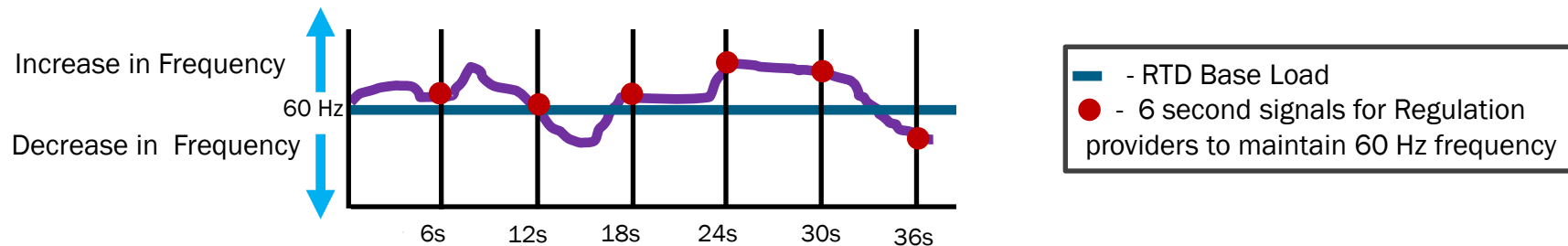




# Regulation and Frequency Control

## ■ Area Control Error (ACE)

- ACE is an error signal related to frequency regulation and interchange scheduling
- A negative ACE means that the control area is under generating
- A positive ACE means that the control area is over generating
- The ACE signal is used to move the regulating units up or down



# Regulation and Frequency Control

- Automatic Generation Control (AGC)
  - Compensates for Over or Under Generation
  - NYISO measurements are gathered every 6 Seconds
  - Automatic control provided by Regulating units (Regulation Service)
    - Regulating units are dispatched every 6 Seconds based on ACE

# Operating Reserves

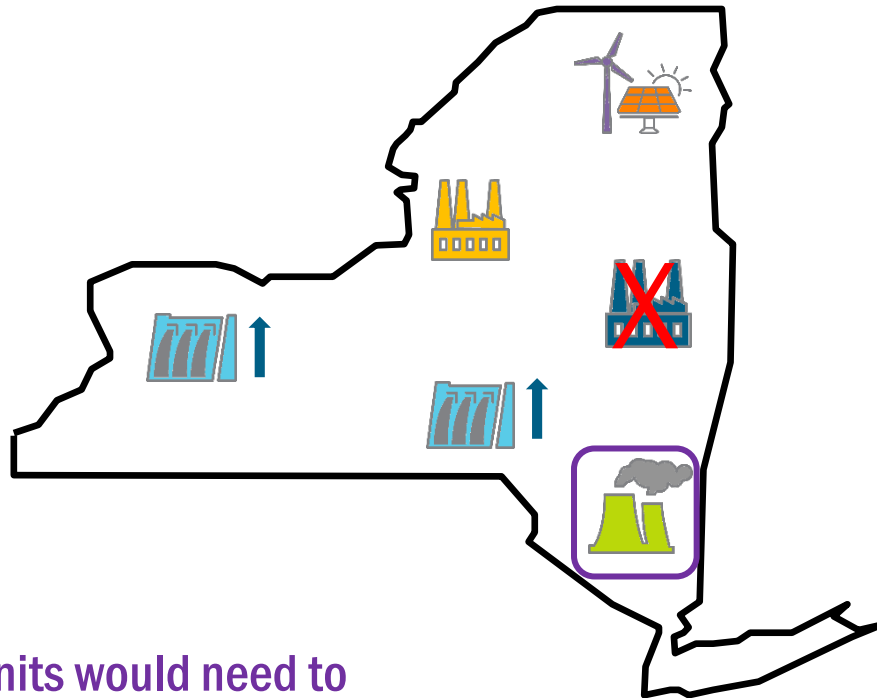
- **Backup Generation in the event of a System Contingency**
  - **NYSRC Total Operating Reserve Requirement:**
    - **Must Procure  $\geq$  to 1.5 x times the Largest Single Contingency (in MW)**
      - Largest Single Contingency is 1310 MWs
- **NYISO Procures 2 x Largest Single Contingency**
  - **2 x 1310 = 2,620 MWs of Total Reserves each Market Day**
    - **Regional/Locational Requirements**
    - **Time/Product Type Requirements**

# Example: Operating Reserve Pickup

1. If there is a large and sudden loss of generation

2. The Operating Reserves being held for the Market Day would be dispatched to make up the shortfall

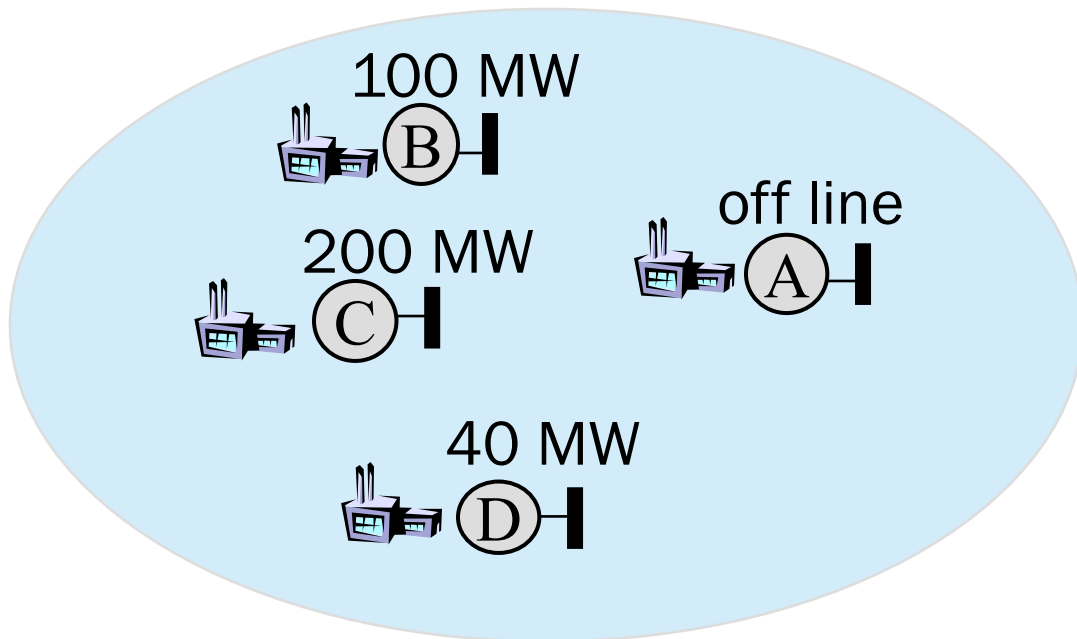
3. New reserve units would need to be selected to maintain Operating Reserves



# Operating Reserves

## Largest Single Contingency

Q: What is the largest single generation contingency for this system?

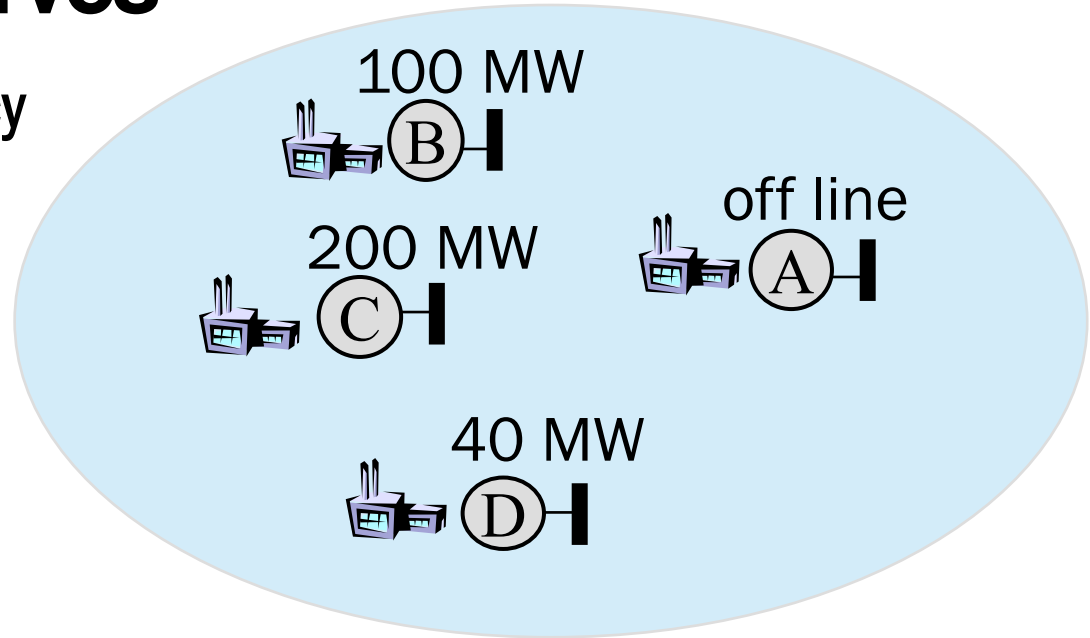


# Operating Reserves

## Largest Single Contingency

Q: What is the largest single generation contingency for this system?

Q: According to NYISO's Reserves scheduling process, how much in Operating Reserves would be scheduled in this example?



# Black Start Service

- Generators capable of starting without an outside electric supply, following a system-wide blackout
- Purpose: System Wide Restoration
- Last time Black Start Service was used:
  - 14 August 2003 – Northeast Blackout



# Let's Review



## Learner Activity

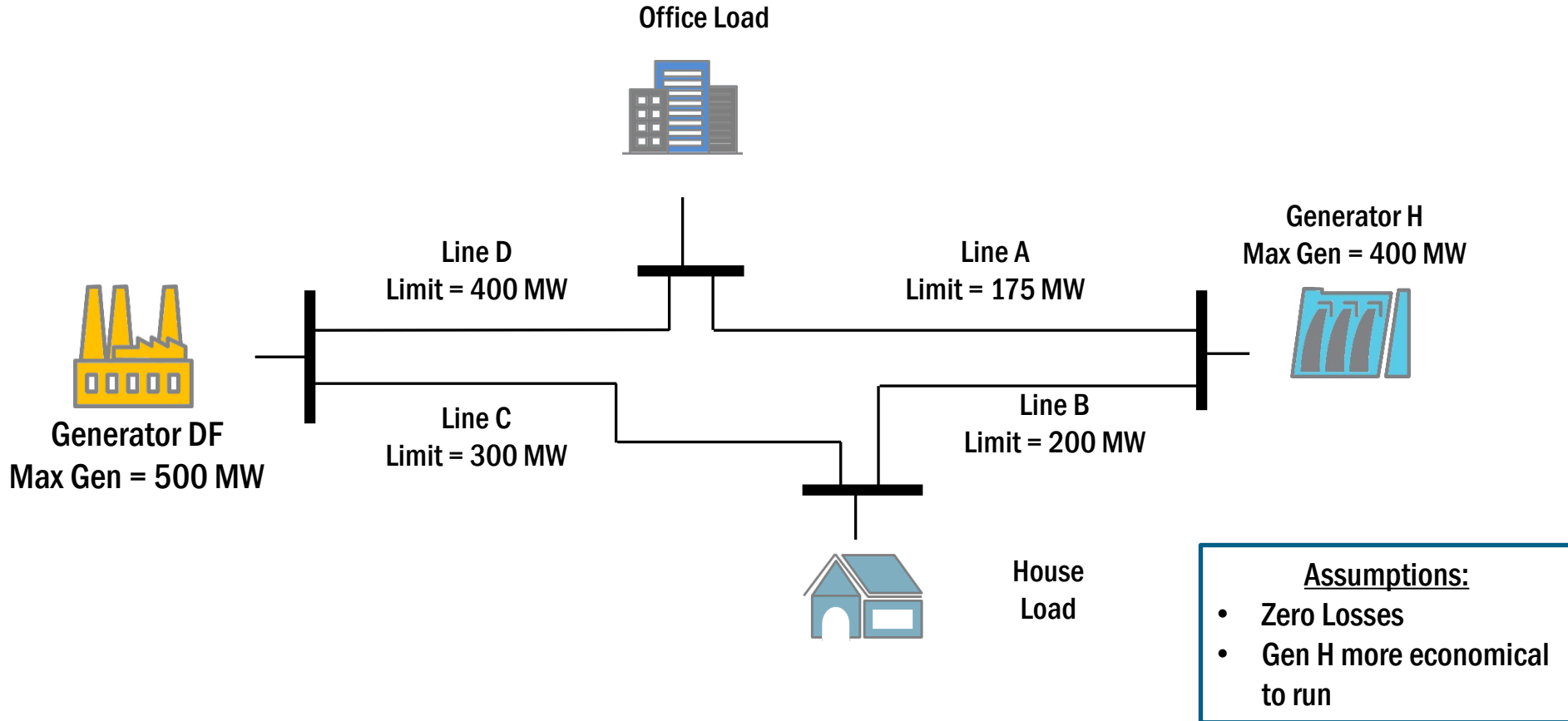
Image provided by 'The Extend Activity Bank'  
<https://extend-bank.ecampusontario.ca/>



# ‘Putting it all Together’

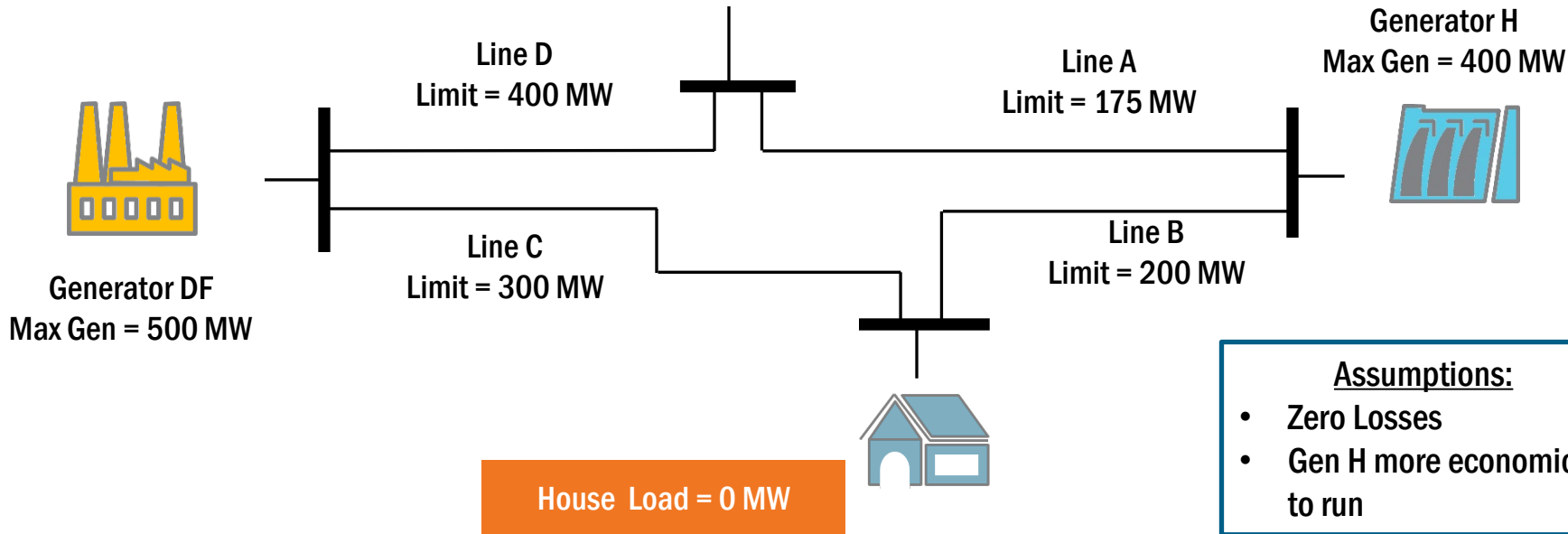
- The following is an *Exercise* in Maintaining Reliable Operations of a Simplified NYCA Power System
- It Highlights:
  - The Principles Driving Generation Dispatch
  - Factors Affecting Transmission System Limitations
  - The Criteria for a Reliable Operating Scenario
  - The Impact of Contingencies

# Simple Power System Analysis



# 1. Scenario: Generation Load Balance

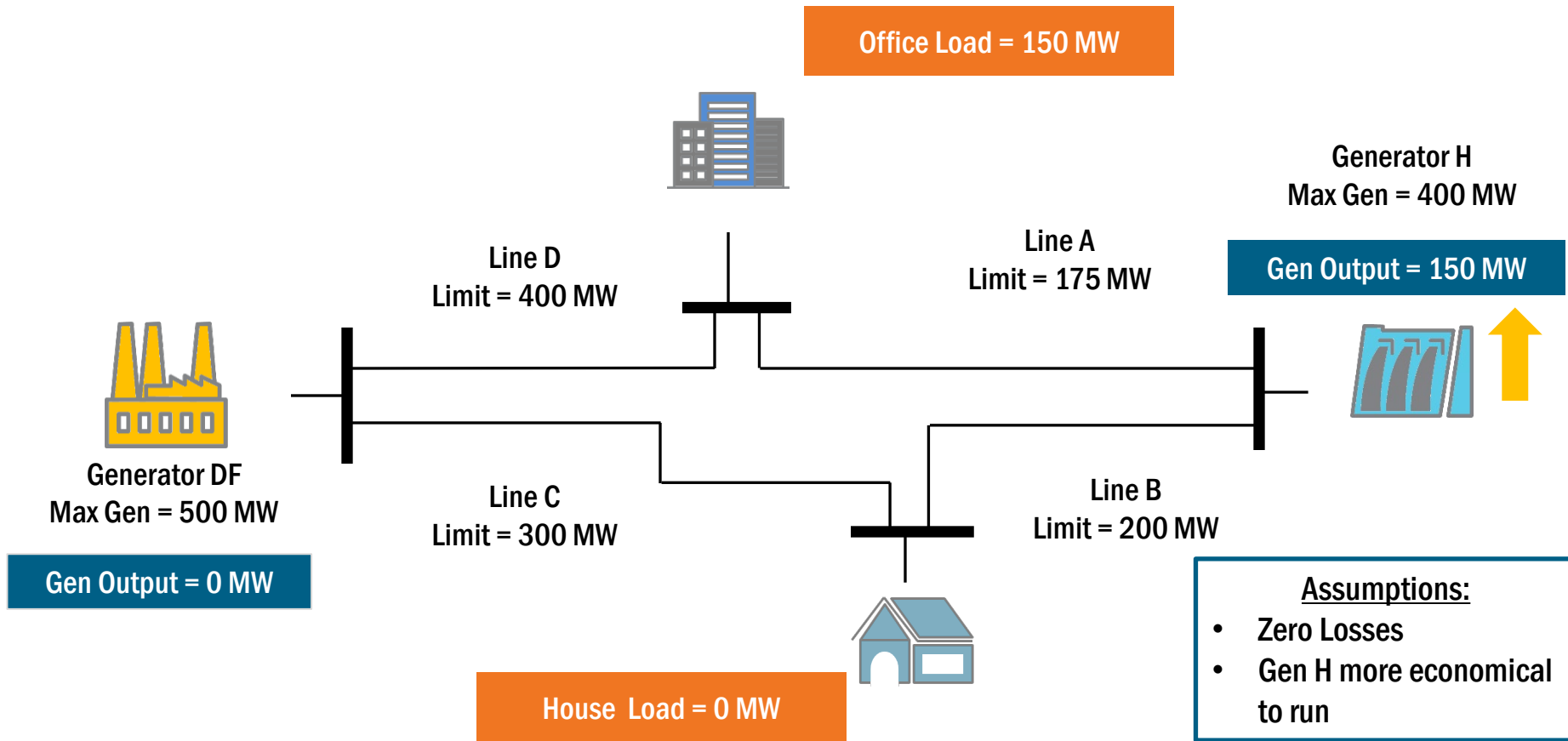
Office Load = 150 MW



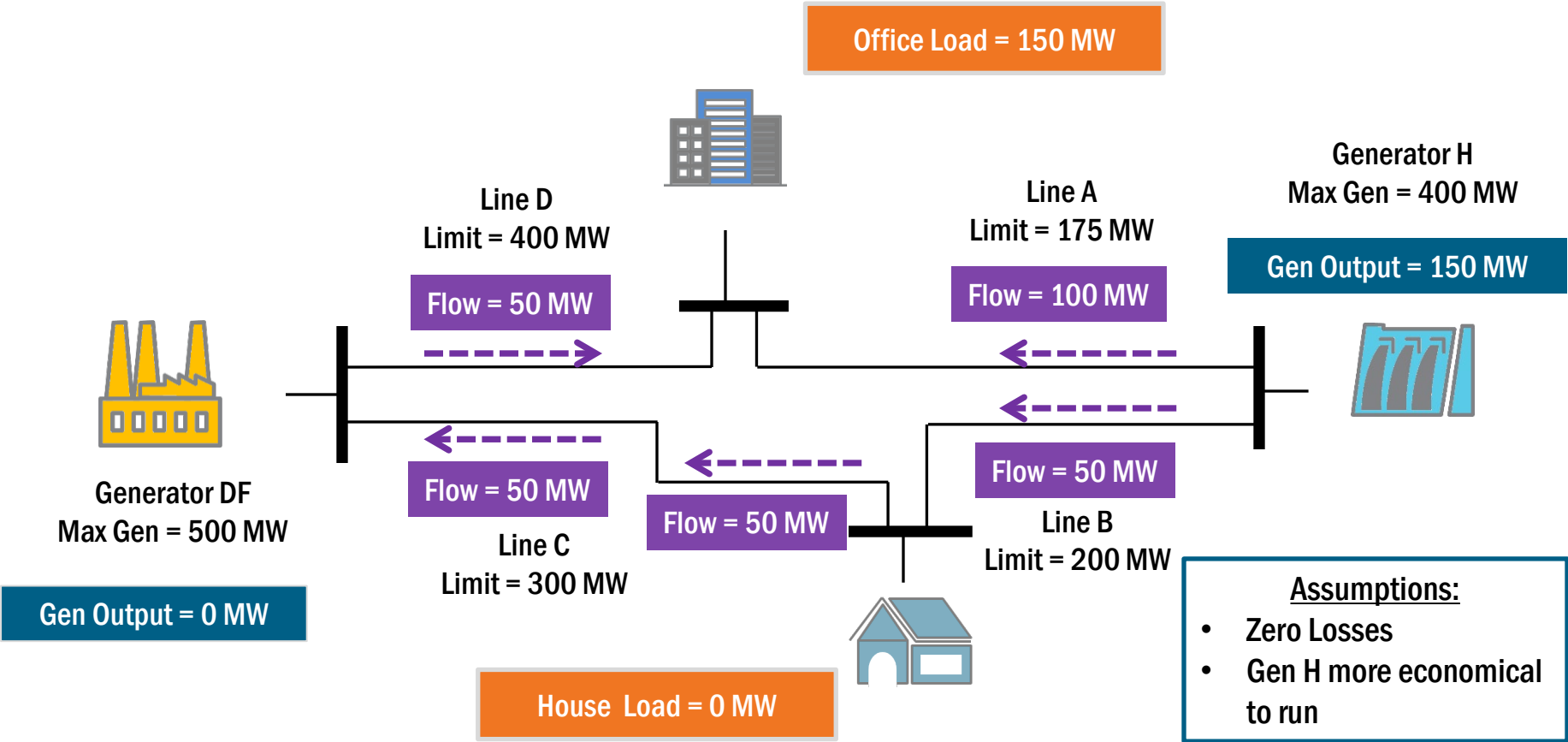
## Assumptions:

- Zero Losses
- Gen H more economical to run

# 1. Solution: Generation Load Balance



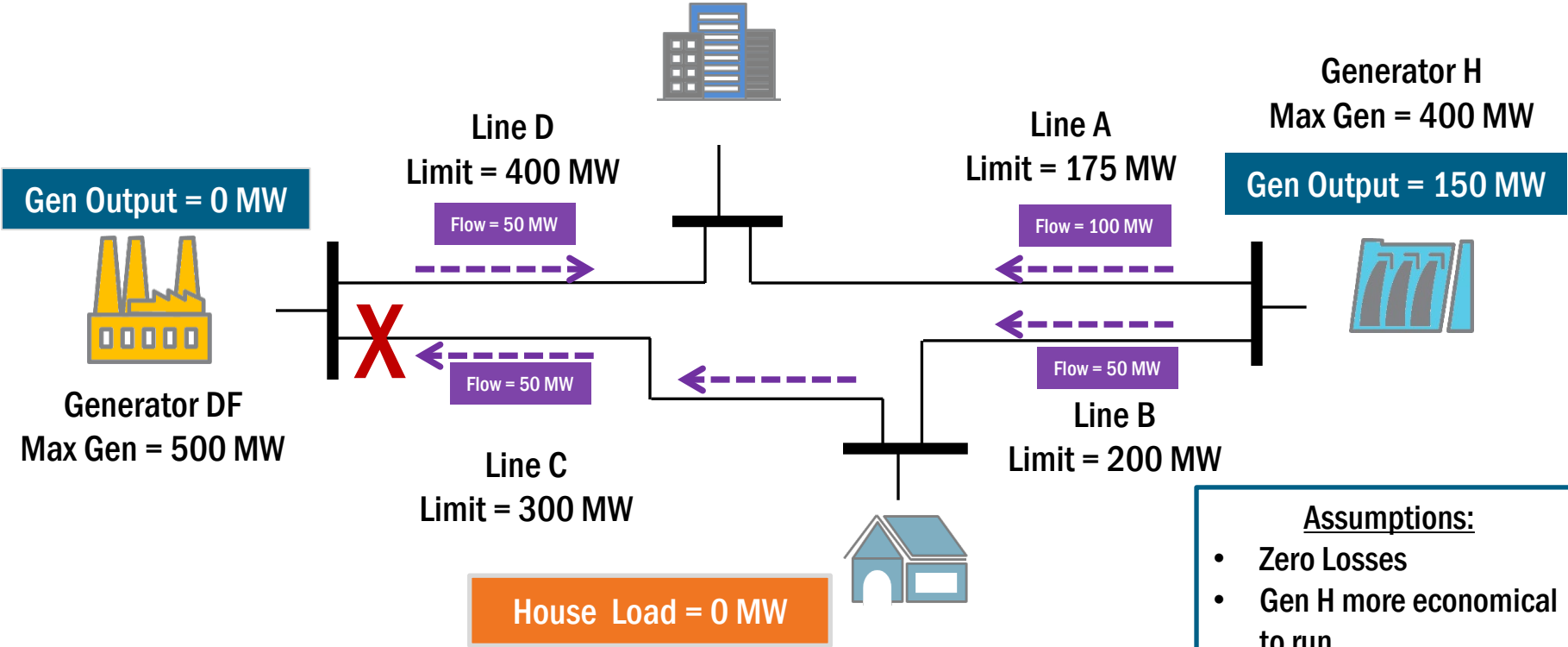
# 1. Solution: Generation Load Balance



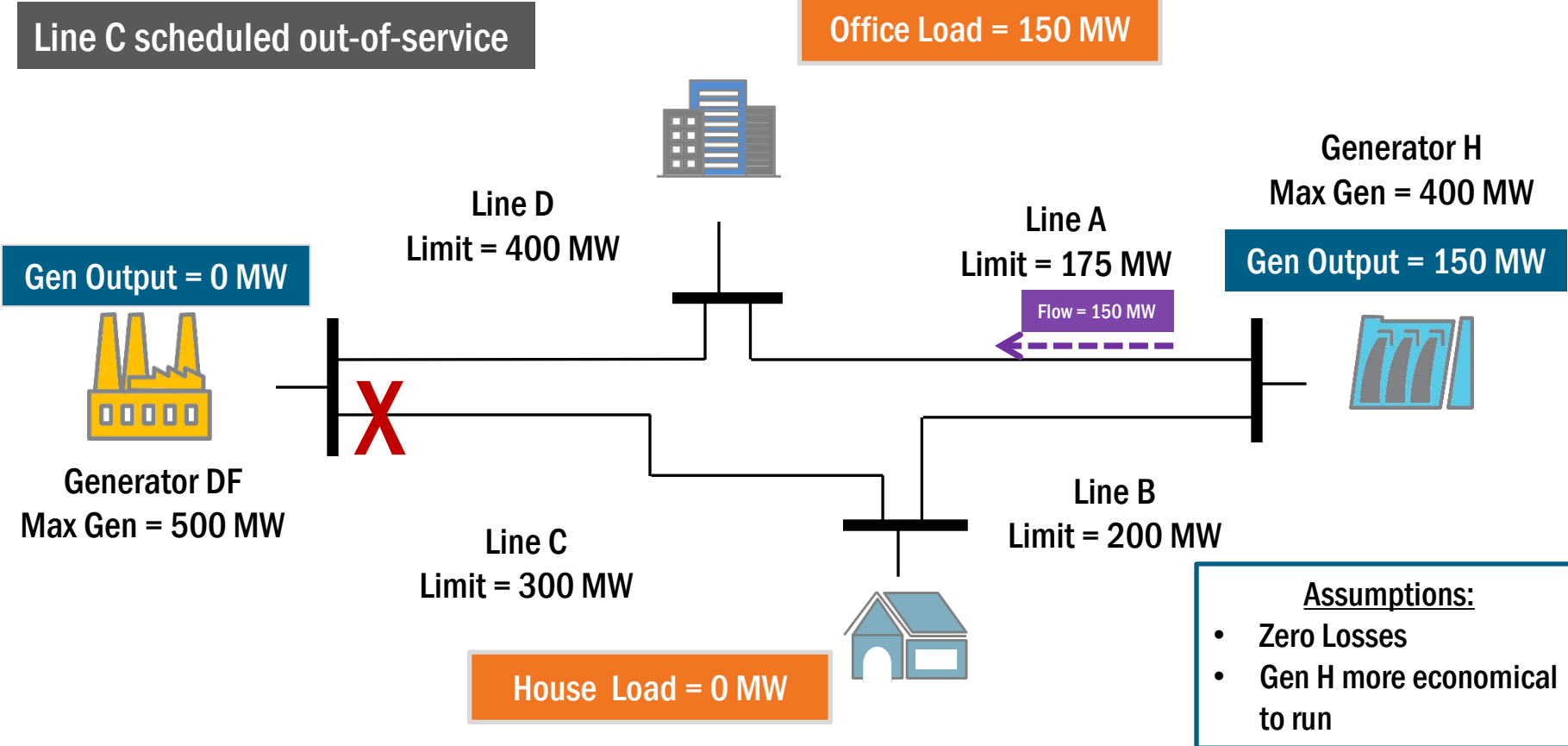
# 2. Scenario: Transmission Line Constraint

Line C scheduled out-of-service

Office Load = 150 MW



# 2. Solution: Transmission Line Constraint

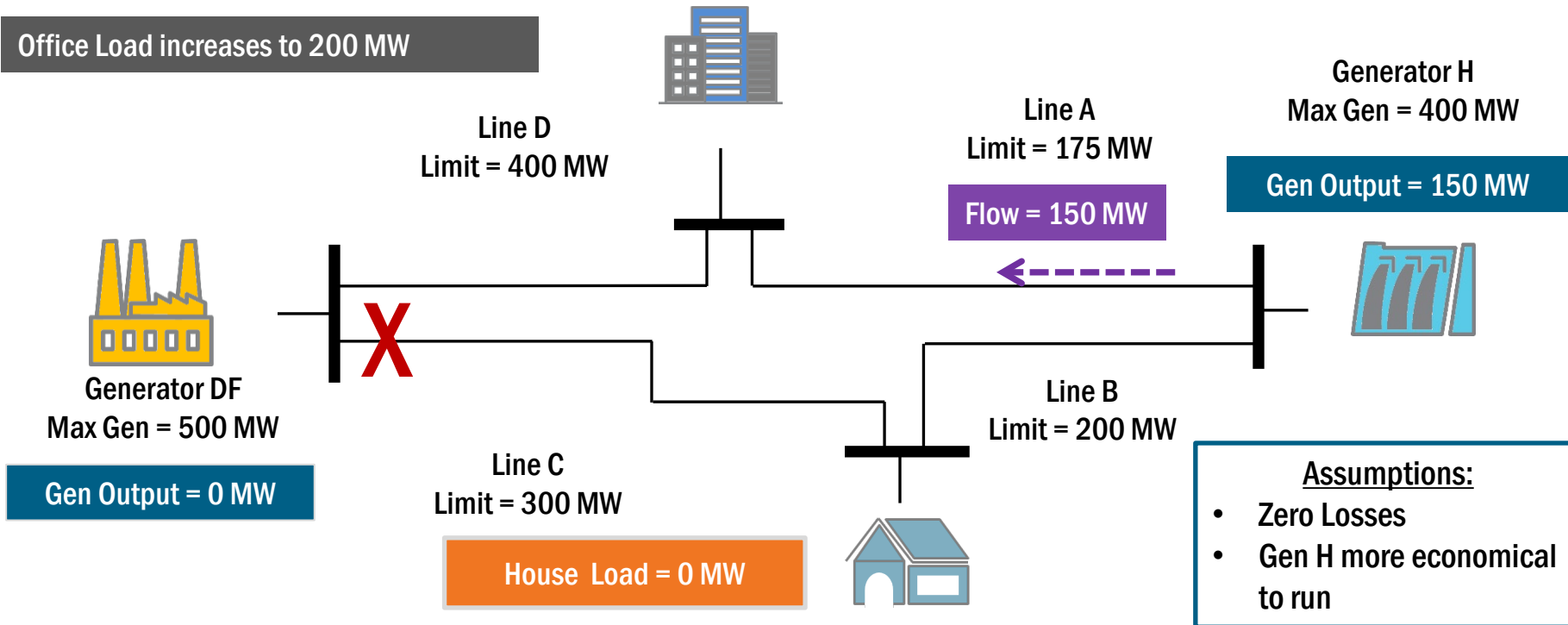


# 3. Scenario: Transmission Line Constraint and Increase in Load

Line C scheduled out-of-service

Office Load increases to 200 MW

Office Load = 200 MW



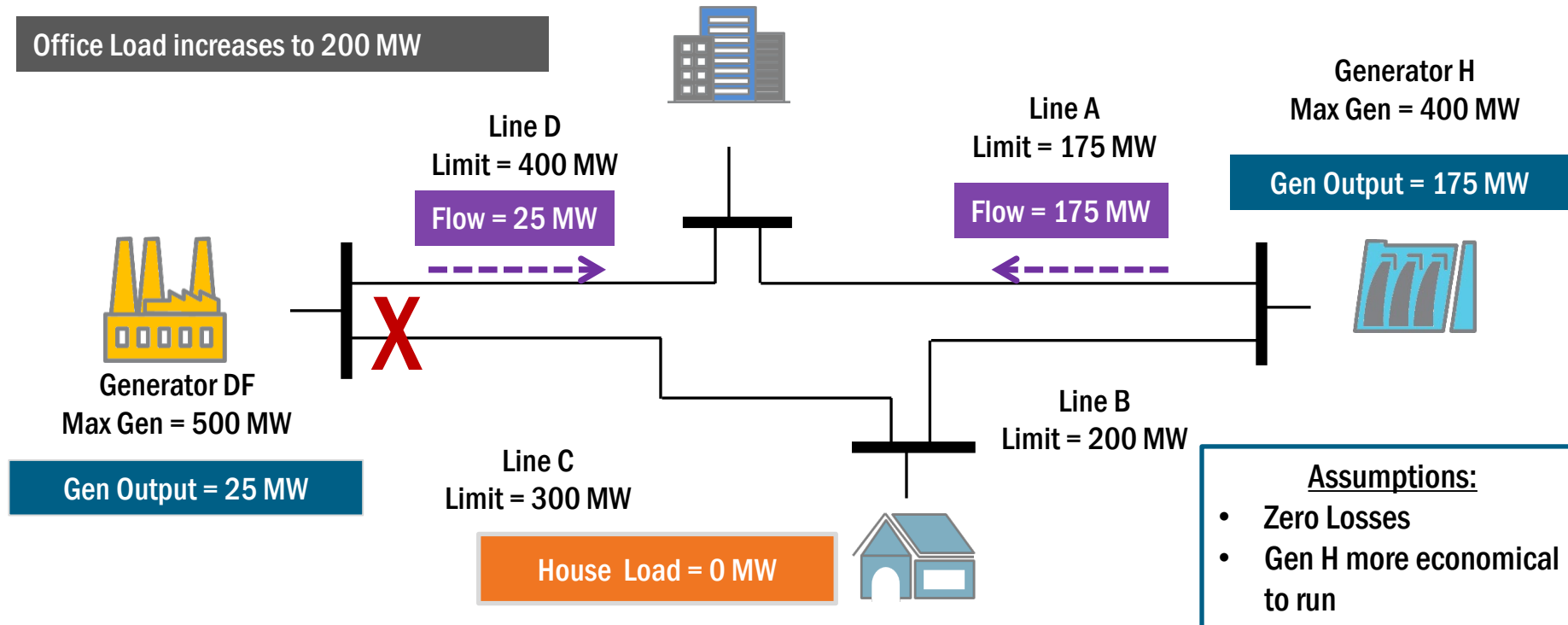


# 3. Solution: Transmission Line Constraint and Increase in Load

Line C scheduled out-of-service

Office Load increases to 200 MW

Office Load = 200 MW




# 4. Scenario: Transmission Line Forced Outage

Line C back in service

Transmission Line A forced outage

Office Load = 200 MW

  
Generator DF  
Max Gen = 500 MW

Gen Output = 25 MW

Line D  
Limit = 400 MW  
Flow = 25 MW

Line C  
Limit = 300 MW

House Load = 0 MW



Line A  
Limit = 175 MW  
Flow = 175 MW

Line B  
Limit = 200 MW



Generator H  
Max Gen = 400 MW

Gen Output = 175 MW



## Assumptions:

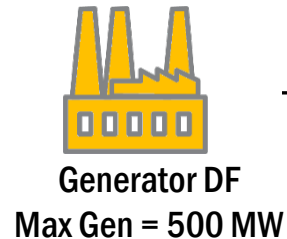
- Zero Losses
- Gen H more economical to run

# 4. Solution: Transmission Line Forced Outage

Line C back in service

Transmission Line A forced outage

Office Load = 200 MW



Gen Output = 25 MW

Line D  
Limit = 400 MW

Flow = 200 MW

Flow = 175 MW

Line C  
Limit = 300 MW

Flow = 175 MW

House Load = 0 MW

Line A  
Limit = 175 MW



Generator H  
Max Gen = 400 MW

Gen Output = 175 MW



Flow = 175 MW

Line B  
Limit = 200 MW

## Assumptions:

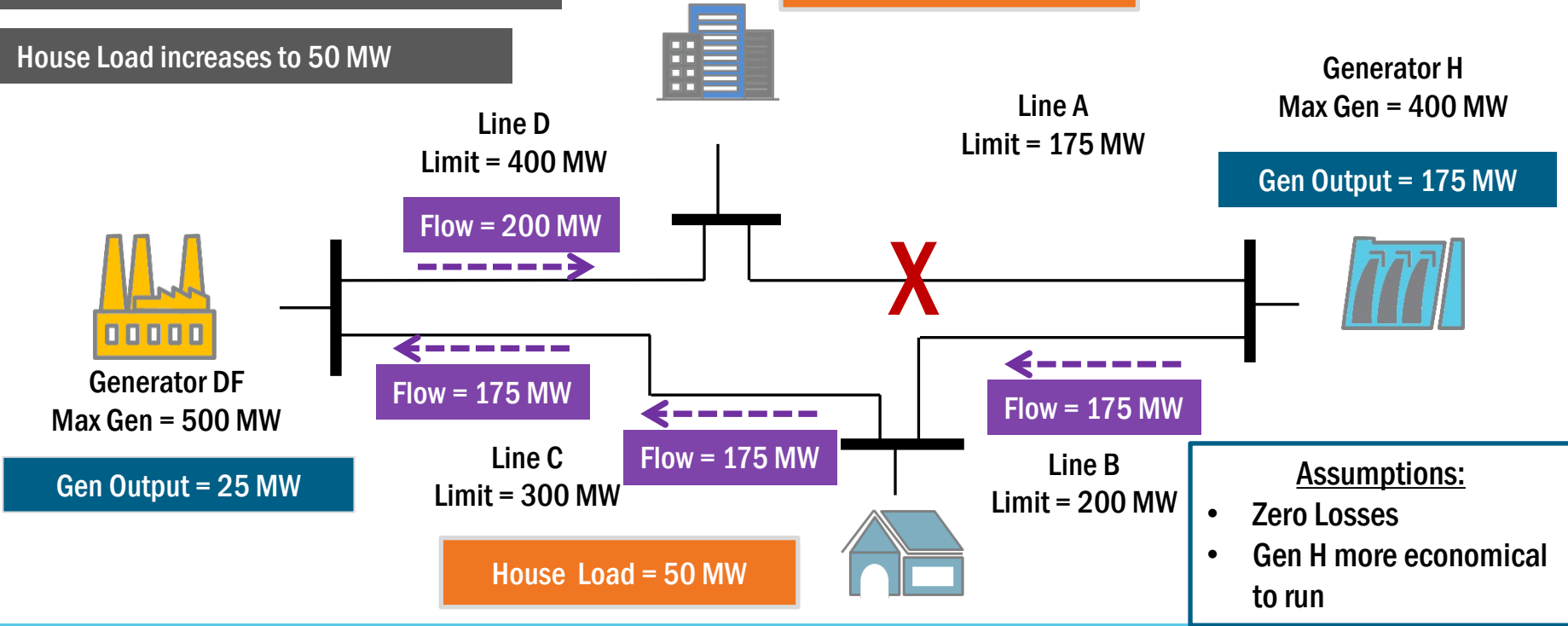
- Zero Losses
- Gen H more economical to run

# 5. Scenario: Transmission Line Forced Outage and Increase in Load

Transmission Line A forced outage

House Load increases to 50 MW

Office Load = 200 MW

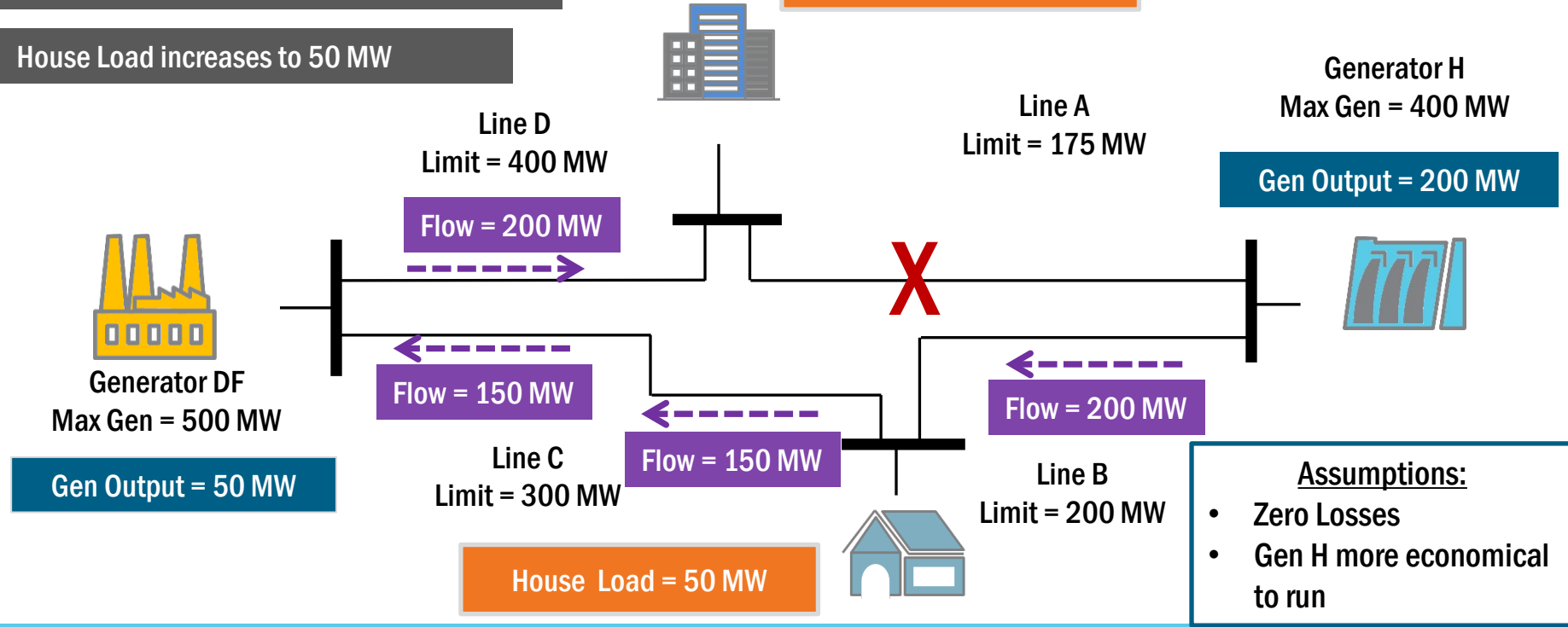


# 5. Solution: Transmission Line Forced Outage and Increase in Load

Transmission Line A forced outage

House Load increases to 50 MW

Office Load = 200 MW



# 6. Scenario: Transmission Line Forced Outage, Increase in Load and Generation Loss

Transmission Line A forced outage


House Load increases to 50 MW

Loss of Generator H

Office Load = 200 MW

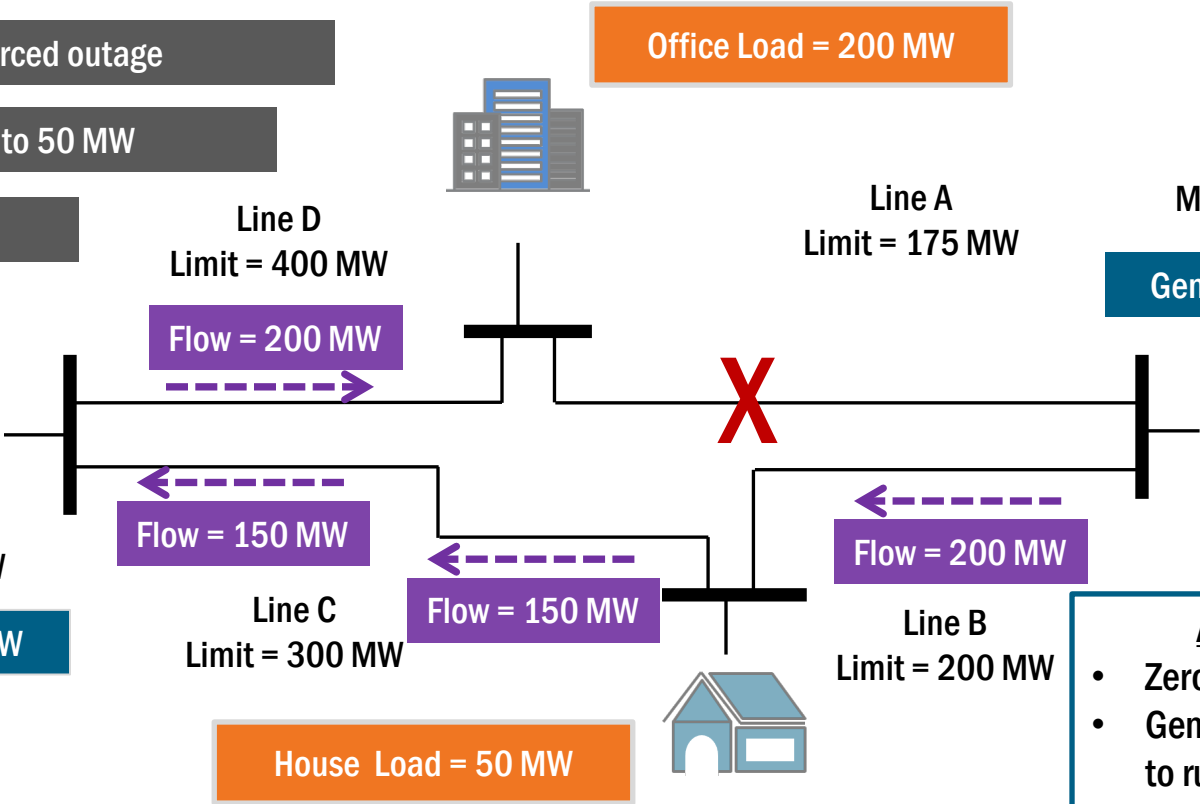
Generator H  
Max Gen = 400 MW

Gen Output = 200 MW



Generator DF  
Max Gen = 500 MW

Gen Output = 50 MW



- Assumptions:**
- Zero Losses
  - Gen H more economical to run

# 6. Solution: Transmission Line Forced Outage, Increase in Load and Generation Loss

Transmission Line A forced outage


House Load increases to 50 MW

Loss of Generator H

Office Load = 200 MW

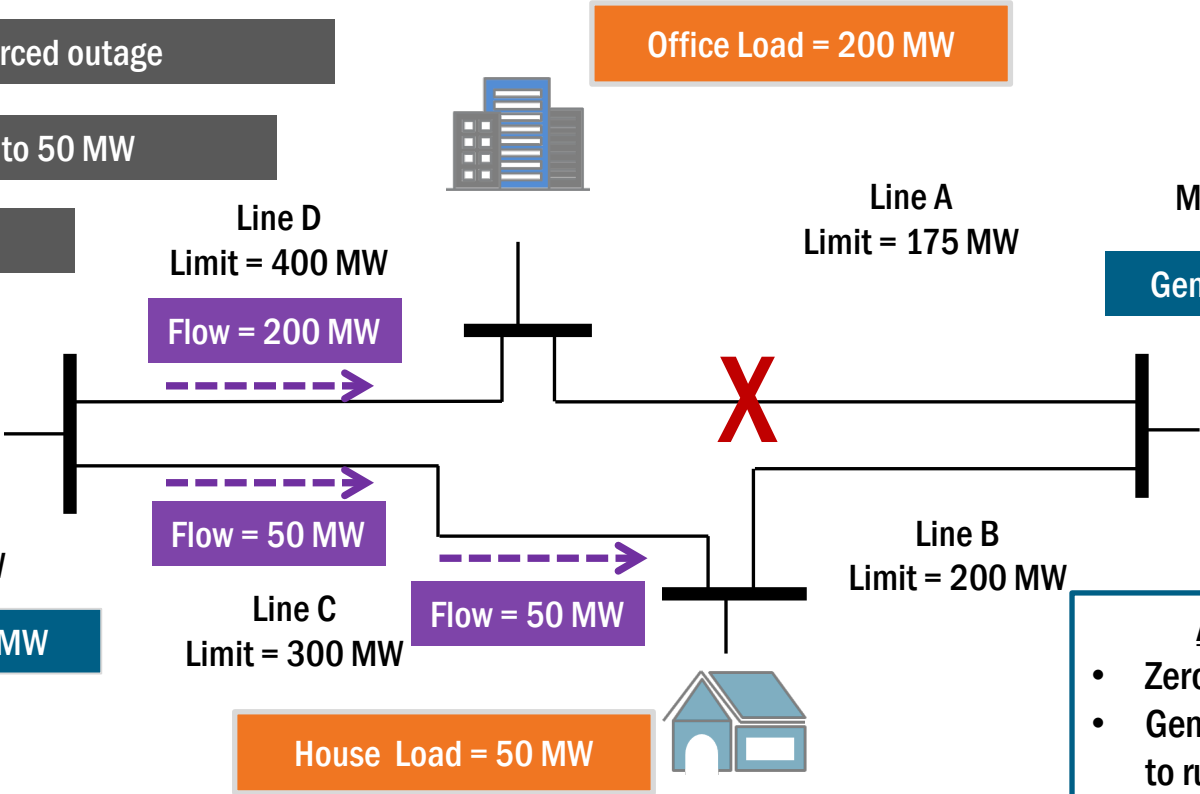
Generator H  
Max Gen = 400 MW

Gen Output = 200 MW



Generator DF  
Max Gen = 500 MW

Gen Output = 250 MW

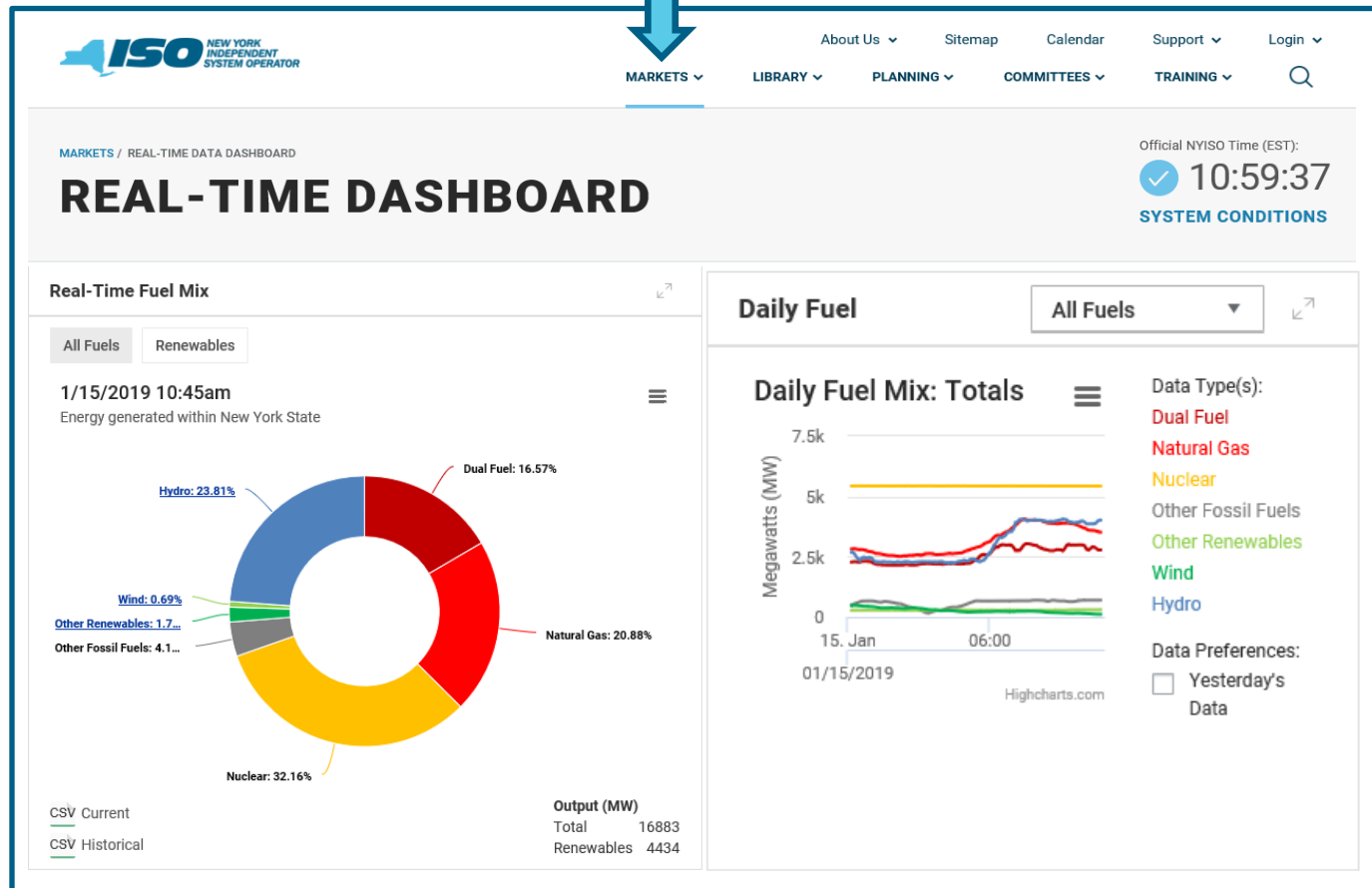


- Assumptions:
- Zero Losses
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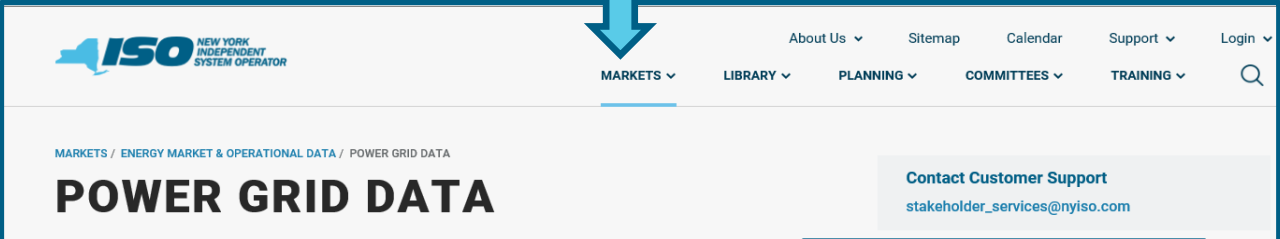
# Power System Fundamentals– NYISO Website Data



# Real Time System Conditions



# Power Grid Data



**NEW YORK INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR**

MARKETS ▾ LIBRARY ▾ PLANNING ▾ COMMITTEES ▾ TRAINING ▾

MARKETS / ENERGY MARKET & OPERATIONAL DATA / POWER GRID DATA

## POWER GRID DATA

Contact Customer Support  
stakeholder\_services@nyiso.com

Markets

- Real-Time Dashboard
- Interactive Energy Pricing Map
- System Conditions
- Energy Market & Operational Data ▾
  - Pricing Data
  - Power Grid Data**
  - Load Data
  - Reports & Info
  - Postings by Date
  - Custom Reports
  - Ancillary Services
- Installed Capacity Market (ICAP)
- Transmission Congestion Contracts (TCC)
- Distributed Energy Resources (DER) ▾
- Market Access Login

### Constraints

- Limiting Constraints
- Day-Ahead Limiting Constraints

### Outages

- Day-Ahead Scheduled
- Real-Time Scheduled
- Real-Time Actual
- Outage Schedule

### PARs

- PAR Schedules
- PAR Flows

### Interface Flows

- Interface Limits and Flows
- Lake Erie Circulation RT
- Lake Erie Circulation Day-Ahead

### Links

- Generation Maintenance Report
- Realtime Commitment Constraints

### ATC-TTC

- ATC-TTC
- Long Term ATC-TTC
- Transfer Limitations

### Power Grid Info

Name	Published	Type
ATC-TTC		
Constraints		
Interface Flows		
PARs		

# System Planning at NYISO



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MARKETSLIBRARY**PLANNING**COMMITTEESTRAINING

PLANNING / COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM PLANNING PROCESS (C...

## COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM PLANNING PROCESS (CSPP)

The NYISO executes its CSPP to prepare for the impact of expected changes in supply and demand of power on the reliable operation of the New York transmission system over a ten-year period.

### Useful Links

- Planning Document Library
- CEII Request Form
- Tariffs, FERC Filings & Orders
- ISO/RTO Council
- EIPC

#### Planning

Comprehensive System Planning Process (CSPP) ^

- CSPP Flowchart
- Interconnection Process
- Planning - Reliability Compliance
- NY Power System Information and Outlook
- Developer Qualification Process

**Reliability Planning Studies:** These studies are used to identify and address the reliability needs of the system. View current and past year [Reliability Planning Studies](#).

**Economic Planning Studies:** Studies and evaluations of the current and future state of congestion on the bulk power grid and the economic impact of projects to reduce that congestion. View current and past year [CARIS Study Reports](#).

**Public Policy Planning:** These documents are used in the Public Policy Transmission Planning Process, which studies transmission needs driven by federal or state laws or regulations.

**Resource Adequacy Studies:** These studies are used to analyze what resources are being used and what resources will be needed in the future.

## Planning Reports



2018 Load & Capacity Data (Gold Book)



2018 Reliability Needs Assessment (RNA)



2017 CARIS Report



2016 Comprehensive Reliability Plan

Planning Studies Supporting Documentation		
Name	Published	Type
▼ Economic Planning Studies (CARIS)		
▼ Planning Data and Reference Docs		
▼ Public Policy Documents		
▼ Qualified-Developers		
▼ Reliability Planning Studies		
▼ Special Studies		

# Summary

- **Power Systems Fundamentals**
  - NYISO Responsible for NYCA Bulk Power Operations
  - Three Primary Components to Power System
    - Load, Generation, & Transmission
  - Operational Ancillary Services in place to meet the following System Requirements:
    - Maintaining power transfer capability of the transmission system (Voltage Support)
    - Maintaining balance between Generation and Load (Regulation and Frequency Support)
    - Securing System for Contingencies & Constraints (Reserves)
    - System Restoration (Black Start Service)

# Additional Resources

- **Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT)**
- **Market Services Tariff (MST)**
- **Ancillary Services Manual**
- **NYISO Power Trends**
- **NYISO Load and Capacity Data Report**