



STRATEGIC ENERGY GROWTH PLAN



JULY 2026

Indiana: Built to Power America



RELIABILITY



AFFORDABILITY



STABILITY



RESILIENCY



ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY

Executive Summary

Indiana is at an inflection point. After decades of flat electricity demand, the state is experiencing a surge in load growth driven by hyperscaler data center investments, the reshoring of manufacturing, and the continued expansion of the agricultural industry. This convergence represents a once-in-a-generation economic opportunity for Hoosiers; an opportunity not seen since the post-World War II economic boom from the 1940s to 1970s. To capitalize on this moment, Indiana must be prepared to deliver the power these industries need at the speed they require and at a price that remains affordable for all Hoosiers.

The Strategic Energy Growth Task Force, established by Governor Braun under Executive Order 25-66, spent nine months examining Indiana's electricity landscape and identifying the institutional, regulatory, and infrastructure barriers that stand between Indiana and the economic growth it seeks to capture.

The state's electric and regulatory systems are built to account for measured and incremental growth. So far, the frameworks governing how infrastructure gets planned, permitted, sited, and financed have struggled to keep pace with the speed and scale of today's demand. While frameworks are being updated to account for the new pace of developments, systems are still reactive. Tangible steps to improve the speed of the regulatory system while protecting ratepayers include the two new generation approval pathways established by House Enrolled Act 1007-2025, NIPSCO's "GenCo" regulatory structure, and Indiana Michigan Power's updated tariff to better account for impacts from large load customers (Tariff IP). The result is a state that is strategically modernizing its regulated and infrastructure planning processes to ensure utilities can continue to support economic development and meet the state's growing energy needs for the benefit of all customers.

This Plan, guided by Indiana's Five Pillars: Reliability, Affordability, Resiliency, Stability, and Environmental Sustainability, provides a five-year action roadmap and twenty-year strategic outlook organized around 10 key recommendations.

Among the highest priorities:

1. **Protect ratepayers while enabling growth.** This includes prioritizing full cost responsibility for large load customers and reaffirming existing cost of service ratemaking safeguards; providing an accelerated pathway for new generation facilities when large load customers fully cover project costs regardless of their time as a customer; and expanding opportunities for battery energy storage systems to be deployed responsibly.

2. **Prioritize public trust and accountability.** Focus on a local-first development strategy through the establishment of Energy Development Zones, where communities are encouraged to proactively identify the best places to host dispatchable, thermal generation resources or energy intensive industries in exchange for defined minimum community benefits; establish minimum payments from renewable project developers to local units that site these projects using the state's voluntary siting standards; and launch a coordinated public education effort to close the trust deficit.
3. **Build institutional capacity for speed.** Expedite critical infrastructure projects through the IURC; provide a mechanism for the IURC to provide policy suggestions to the General Assembly regarding additional performance incentive mechanisms; and empower OED to move at the speed of business for federal grant opportunities in the energy sector.

Indiana is the Crossroads of America, with significant water, fiber, electric, and gas transmission resources, a stable regulatory climate, a strong manufacturing and construction workforce, and a willingness to tackle tough problems; a combination that provides a competitive edge against its peer states.

These advantages are real, but the failure to deploy them in a thoughtful and comprehensive manner can lead to our ceding economic development to our peer states and risks our present and future prosperity. This State Energy Growth Plan (Plan) is designed to ensure Indiana captures this moment while keeping energy affordable, reliable, and increasingly clean for every Hoosier.

Summary of Task Force Work & Recommendations

During its meetings, the Task Force discussed a variety of hurdles that slow Indiana's response to the new growth in electricity demand. A common theme emerging from the Task Force's discussions is that Indiana's decision-making, permitting, and community engagement processes lack the uniformity, consistency, predictability, and pace that meeting current opportunities require. Indiana needs new electric infrastructure to serve this growing demand and a refreshed regulatory approach that protects ratepayers while allowing innovation and investment to flourish.

Indiana's electrical system, and the nation's as a whole, was designed and built for stable and incremental load growth. A dynamic change brought by the onshoring of manufacturing, increased rates of electrification, and new hyperscaler data centers has left the existing system and frameworks struggling to keep pace.

The Task Force identified several sources of tension which appear to be contributing to the placement of hurdles in the path of further development. The most discussed sources of tension are those between:

1. Speed versus stability;
2. Accommodating growth while maintaining affordability;
3. Local control versus new state infrastructure & economic development;
4. Long-term investments with only short-term vision;
5. Determining actual versus speculative load; and
6. Fostering innovation while addressing institutional inertia.

These tensions result in hurdles such as a patchwork of continually shifting siting controls which need to be addressed in order to continue advancing Indiana's economy.

The first hurdle is when there is a disconnect between the state and local communities. In some instances, the state approves a project, but the local unit rejects the same project. The state and local units have so far been unable to bridge this gap. The result is a set of contradictory signals to energy generation developers, industrial consumers, and investors, fueling a perception that Indiana cannot deliver results.

The Task Force's perception is that there is a lack of trusted information sources regarding energy generation projects and limited communication and public education efforts made prior to major electric generation projects seeking local permitting approval, causing hesitation among local residents regarding these projects.

This combination contributes to local units hitting “pause” on projects, reflected by which counties are perceived by renewable energy developers as having “restrictive” ordinances for solar, wind, and/or BESS projects.

Indiana Energy Project Ordinance Heat Map

Indiana (Last Updated Jan. 2026)

Known Restrictions on Wind, Solar, or Battery Storage

■ Moratorium/Restrictive Ordinance ■ Unzoned ■ Non-Restrictive Ordinance



Source: Clean Grid Alliance

This highlights the need for more proactive and coordinated efforts to explain future projects in order to avoid running into similar situations.

The second main hurdle discussed by the Task Force is the current utility model can struggle at times to match surging demand. Indiana’s regulated utility model is structured on meeting projected electric generation needs through a careful planning process (the IRPs). While this method works well to meet typical load growth, and shields ratepayers from speculative investments, it is not designed perfectly to meet periods of more significant load growth the

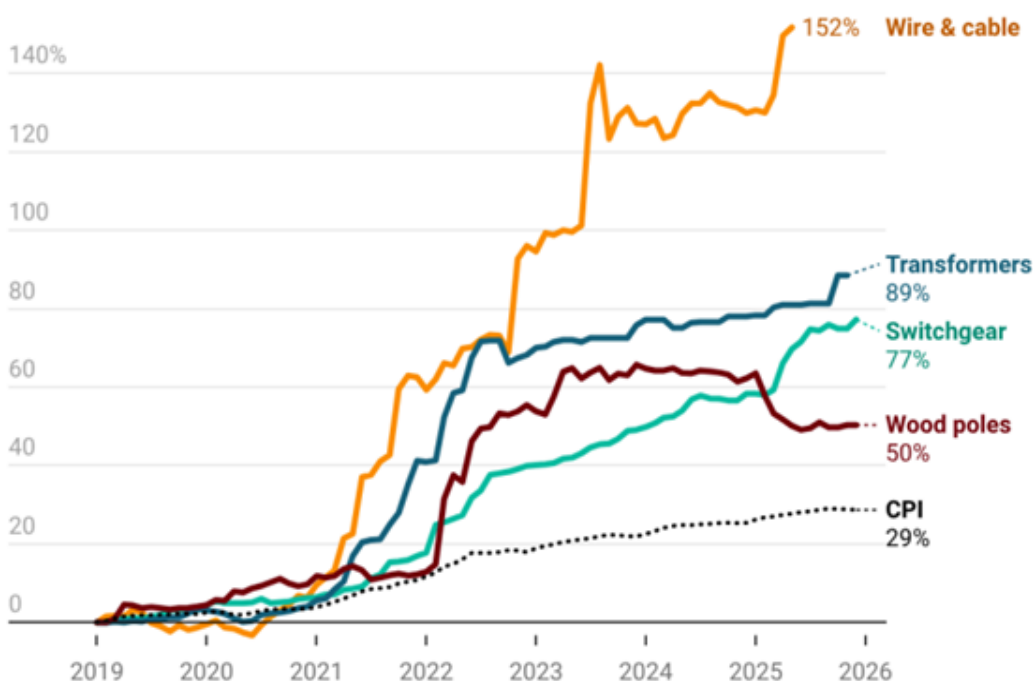
state is experiencing today. Although members of the Task Force agree with the sound regulatory policy we currently enjoy, a consequence is that Indiana retail electric utilities do not build capacity in advance of projected need.

In an environment where development expects “power-ready” sites on tightly compressed timelines, this system may position Indiana at a disadvantage compared to states that have found ways to pre-position generation capacity without socializing the risk. To address this hurdle, the state may want to consider models that allow for more expansive construction policies while still protecting existing ratepayers. Exploring mechanisms to add flexibility to the existing regulatory system in order to serve customers that did not previously exist, without sacrificing the core regulatory advantages of predictability and ratepayer protections, which shield customers from excessive risk should be a priority. Utilities and the state have already taken steps in this direction, such as the NIPSCO “GenCo” structure and new tariffs specific to large load customers.

A third hurdle identified by the Task Force is that supply chains are strained and real prices of grid infrastructure continue to increase. A recent Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory report on retail electricity price trends and drivers shows the change in costs for power system equipment rising much faster relative to CPI since 2019.

Producer Price Index for Power System Equipment

Shown as percentage change relative to January 1, 2019, also compared to CPI



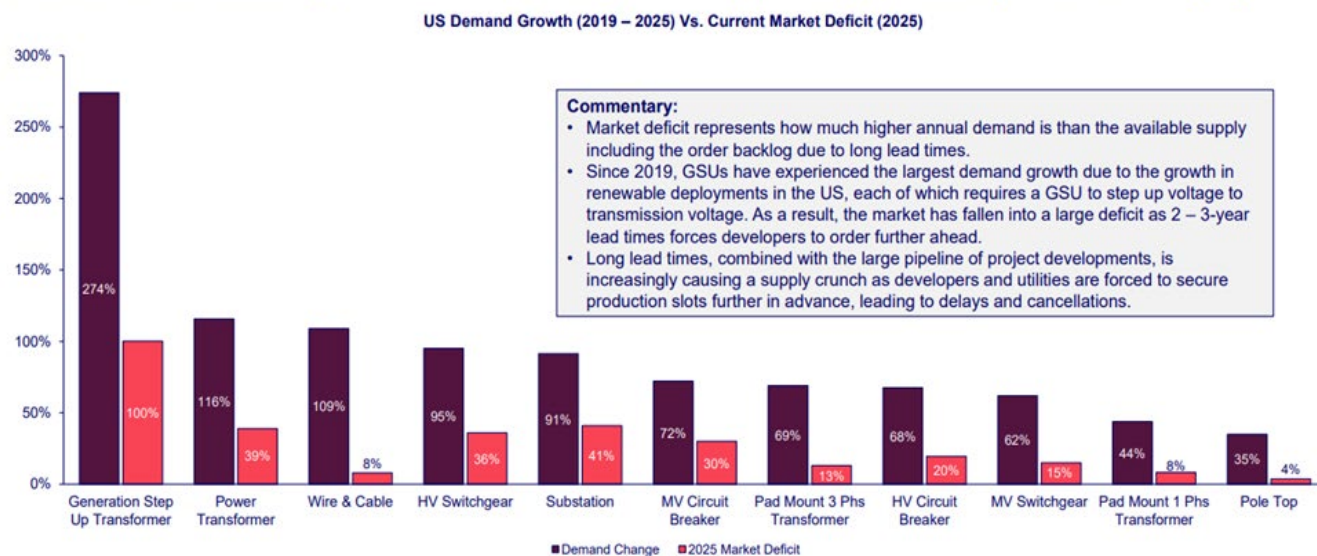
Source: BLS, FRED • Created with Datawrapper

Source: [Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory](#)

Additionally, a report from Wood Mackenzie shows how demand for electrical equipment has risen dramatically compared to 2019.

Electrical equipment demand has ballooned in recent years

Demand has increased by 35% to 274% depending on the equipment type, resulting in deficits emerging



Sources: Wood Mackenzie Supply Chain

Source: [Wood Mackenzie – Making the connection: meeting the electric T&D supply chain challenge](#)

Federal policies over the past 20 years have consistently “see-sawed” between two divergent positions, meaning investments with 20- or 40-year lives may be economical one year and have a completely different outlook the next. While Indiana cannot fix D.C., it should identify and pull policy levers to maintain flexibility for electric system stakeholders and take action to reduce financing costs for ratepayers. The changing dynamics in the federal government show the continued pragmatism of embracing an “all of the above” energy portfolio approach.

The through-line across all these tensions and hurdles is that Indiana’s greatest strength, institutional stability and regulatory predictability, can also produce undesirable outcomes. It slows the system’s ability to adapt. For the state to succeed and advance in the 21st Century, it must learn to be both stable and fast at the same time.

Task Force Recommendations

Through its work, the Task Force recognizes the difficult balancing act of making changes to Indiana's utility statutes and regulatory structure. The recommendations contained in this report represent a starting point and direction for future work with policymakers and stakeholders.

With feedback provided during the drafting process, the Task Force members unanimously support the following recommendations:

1. Provide an accelerated regulatory pathway for large load customers that commit to paying for 100% of project costs, insulating existing ratepayers from rate impacts.

In exchange for agreeing to cover 100% of the project costs associated with the construction or acquisition of a generation asset used to serve them, regardless of time as a customer, a faster regulatory approval process could be established for large load customers needing electric service. This new process protects existing residential, commercial, and industrial ratepayers from subsidizing speculative or single-purpose generation investments.

5-Year Action: Seek legislative additions to HEA 1007-2025 (IC 8-1-7.9) to create a new pathway for expedited consideration when a large load customer commits to paying 100% of the project costs.

20-Year Outlook: Indiana's cost-causation framework becomes a national model, demonstrating that a state can attract massive capital investment while holding firm on the principle that those who cause costs bear them, and residential ratepayers should not bear the risk of large load customers.

2. Reaffirm that large load customers pay for 100% of their costs during their time as a customer and must cover at least 80% of an expedited project's costs regardless of their time as a customer.

HEA 1007-2025 established a minimum cost responsibility threshold for large load customers seeking new generation in an expedited manner, regardless of their time as a customer. The legislation set this threshold at 80%, meaning that at this minimum, even if the large load customer was in operation for one year, they would pay for 80% of the incremental project costs incurred by the utility to serve them. Under normal cost-of-service ratemaking, if the large load customer stayed for the life of the new generation assets, it would still cover 100% of those costs.

5-Year Action: Advocate for a statutory clarification to HEA 1007-2025 (IC 8-1-7.9) that large load customers must pay for 100% of their allocated costs of service when they are a customer of the utility.

20-Year Outlook: Indiana ratepayers better understand that their utility costs are not inclusive of the costs associated with large load users.

3. Establish set guaranteed payment floors for local units from wind or solar project owners if the local unit adopts voluntary state standards for these siting energy projects.

Indiana communities that host renewable energy generation infrastructure are sometimes unable to easily quantify or demonstrate a direct financial return to local residents. At the same time, the absence of consistent statewide siting standards has led to a patchwork of local ordinances, creating uncertainty for developers and communities alike. Linking guaranteed payments from project owners to local units that have adopted the voluntary state siting standards helps provide regulatory clarity and provides local units with predictable, ongoing revenue for their constituents. These additional payments can help local officials fund core government services or reduce taxes on existing taxpayers. For example, a University of Michigan study ([source](#)) estimated that a 100 MW solar development would provide \$229,000 in additional property taxes for the county, helping reduce the property tax rate by 0.015%. In South Dakota, the renewable energy nameplate capacity tax and part of the renewable energy production tax is split between funding school districts, the county, and townships these projects are located in. Finally, a 2026 Ball State study ([source](#)) estimated that restrictions on renewable energy developments reduced state GDP by approximately \$200M and a net loss of about 9,000 jobs in rural counties. These examples demonstrate tangible benefits to local officials and their constituents and can inform discussions regarding adopting the state's voluntary siting standards.

5-Year Action: Support legislation establishing a standardized per-MW of nameplate capacity payment structure for wind and solar facilities to host counties conditioned on the local unit adopting voluntary state siting standards for setbacks, noise, and decommissioning. Ensure payments begin upon commercial operation and continue for the life of the facility.

20-Year Outlook: A majority of Indiana counties have adopted voluntary state standards and are receiving annual energy facility payments that meaningfully support local budgets, creating a self-reinforcing cycle where communities actively compete to host energy projects that make sense rather than resist them.

4. **Encourage counties to designate Energy Development Zones, which are defined areas where energy infrastructure deployment is pre-authorized to be developed.**

Proactive local planning helps communities respond quickly to economic development opportunities, helps residents better understand future plans for development, and can make communities thrive through informed decision-making. To that end, for many community members, renewable energy projects draw concerns for being disharmonious with surrounding properties. With that in mind, engaging in more proactive planning could help alleviate, in part, residents' concerns about potential energy projects in their community. To that end, Indiana counties should identify areas within their jurisdiction that are suitable for energy infrastructure development. Energy Development Zones would be geographically defined areas where generation, transmission, storage, and supporting industrial facilities are pre-authorized to be developed to the extent possible, reducing timelines and providing certainty to developers. The designation process should be locally driven, and informed by existing infrastructure, land use patterns, and community input as well as giving consideration to necessary needs of such facilities. These new zones could operate in a similar fashion to Energy Production Zones.

5-Year Action: Seek legislation encouraging counties to evaluate establishing Energy Development Zones (EDZ) within one year, with technical assistance from OED. Attach streamlined permitting and economic development incentives to zone designations. Require EDZ plans to include community benefit agreements addressing local revenue sharing, infrastructure improvements, and decommissioning commitments. EDZ evaluation should incorporate a process that empowers landowners to “raise their hand” for inclusion and the state could evaluate the possibility of setting minimum siting standards for EDZs. Furthermore, EDZs could be connected to the per-MW nameplate capacity payment, possibly allowing for larger payments for developments that occur within EDZs.

20-Year Outlook: Energy Development Zones are Indiana's signature approach to infrastructure siting that attract investment on compressed timelines, supported by communities that opted in and benefit directly from the development.

5. Expand Energy Production Zones to include Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

Senate Enrolled Act 425-2025 established Energy Production Zones to expedite generation projects on sites with existing electric facilities or former coal-mining land. However, the current statute does not clearly include BESS within the definition of eligible projects. Given that BESS is one of the fastest-growing resource categories in Indiana and is frequently co-located with existing generation or proposed for retired plant sites, this omission creates unnecessary ambiguity. Including BESS in Energy Production Zones aligns the statute with the reality of how modern generation projects are being developed. Providing more certainty for the development of these projects can provide tangible benefits to the electric grid. BESS can help reduce grid congestion costs and improve grid stability through voltage and frequency controls. Furthermore, BESS can help lower wholesale electric prices for utilities through energy arbitrage, the practice of charging the BESS when wholesale prices are low and discharging the BESS when prices are higher. Finally, BESS can help improve the reliability and resiliency of local electric grids by providing backup power for short periods of time, when necessary.

5-Year Action: Seek a legislative amendment to SEA 425-2025 (IC 8-1-8.2) to explicitly include BESS within the definition of eligible projects for Energy Production Zones. Ensure that standalone BESS facilities, as well as those paired with solar or other generation, qualify for the expedited local approval processes established by the statute.

20-Year Outlook: Battery storage is routinely deployed at former generation sites and within designated Energy Production Zones across Indiana, accelerating the state's ability to add dispatchable capacity to the grid without the siting delays that have historically slowed other resource types.

6. Advance on the findings identified in the Indiana Utility-Scale Battery Energy Storage Study.

OED commissioned Exeter Associates to conduct a study on BESS to better understand its role in the electric system and to collect key information from stakeholders to inform best practices for the deployment, operation, and regulation of BESS. Ultimately, the report was intended to help support informed policy, planning, and regulatory decisions in the state. The report had several key recommendations, including the creation of a state and local task force to develop model BESS safety and siting standards. The report stated taking these steps would help better inform and support local planning and zoning ordinances, direct BESS developments to better suited sites, like brownfields, ensure decommissioning and recycling requirements are more standardized and protect local communities and ensure safety considerations are evaluated fully.

5-Year Action: Establish a Working Group comprised of state and local stakeholders to develop Indiana-specific BESS model siting and safety ordinances for voluntary adoption by local units. Additionally, the Working Group should collaborate on ways to help educate and engage local communities on BESS projects.

20-Year Outlook: BESS projects are well understood and accepted in Indiana. Siting and safety standardization is present throughout much of the state and local emergency responders feel well-equipped and educated on how to address any issues that occur at a BESS site.

7. Evaluate the establishment of state-led financing mechanisms to help lower electric energy project costs and expedite project developments.

In 2023, Texas established the Texas Energy Fund to provide low-interest loans for electric energy infrastructure projects, such as new dispatchable generation facilities and modernizing the electric grid. In 2025, Alabama established the Alabama Energy Infrastructure Bank and Strategic Energy Infrastructure Development Fund to help fund new power infrastructure, make development sites power ready, and improve Alabama's ability to move at the speed of business. Indiana should evaluate taking similar steps to establish dedicated financing mechanisms to help reduce the financing costs of certain electricity infrastructure investments and to make more sites around the state development-ready. For example, a state energy development infrastructure bank could provide low-cost capital, credit enhancement, and co-investment for generation, transmission, and grid modernization projects that serve the state's economic development objectives.

5-Year Action: Commission a study to evaluate the effectiveness of other state-led financing approaches, such as Texas and Alabama, and understand the opportunities for Indiana to innovate and improve on those approaches. The study should also consider the establishment of an Indiana Energy Infrastructure Bank, including a possible legislative framework, the financial resources needed to fund the program, and potential funding sources. Furthermore, the study should continue to look for ways for Indiana to streamline the development of energy projects, including generation for designated energy development zones, transmission serving industrial corridors, and grid hardening for critical infrastructure.

20-Year Outlook: The infrastructure bank becomes a self-sustaining revolving fund that has catalyzed billions in energy infrastructure investment, reduced the cost of capital for critical projects, and positioned Indiana as the only Midwest state with a purpose-built energy finance institution.

8. Establish a regular cadence of IURC reporting on best practice modifications and new performance incentive mechanisms regarding PBR for the Indiana General Assembly's consideration.

Indiana has already taken the first step in implementing a performance-based ratemaking framework with the passage of HEA 1002-2026 and should continue evaluating PBR as a complement to the traditional cost-of-service model. Since PBR can align utility incentives with ratepayer outcomes by tying a portion of utility earnings to measurable outcomes rather than capital investment alone, it means the utility regulatory structure will pay for results, not only spending. The initial PBR framework implements multi-year rate plans and two performance incentive mechanisms – one based on reliability and the other on affordability. As Indiana goes down the pathway of implementing PBR, the IURC should carefully evaluate the implementation, looking for areas of refinement and possible expansion. The evaluation should be deliberate and evidence-based, drawing on experiences in other jurisdictions while respecting Indiana's regulatory culture. The goal is to build upon the recently enacted PBR framework and continue efforts to identify areas where performance incentives can drive better results for ratepayers and the grid, enhancing reliability and protecting affordability.

5-Year Action: Advocate for legislation that directs the IURC to open an investigatory docket on PBR mechanisms, with a focus on metrics relevant to Indiana's growth environment: interconnection timelines, generation project delivery, reliability

performance, and affordability benchmarks. Publish findings and a recommendation on whether to pilot PBR elements within three years.

20-Year Outlook: PBR will become a standard feature of Indiana rate cases, creating a regulatory framework that rewards utilities for delivering outcomes rather than simply deploying capital, aligning positive customer outcomes with positive shareholder outcomes. In the long run, these positive outcomes should result in a more affordable, reliable electric grid for Hoosiers when compared to Indiana's peer states.

9. **Ensure OED can move at the speed of business for federal grant opportunities.**

Federal infrastructure, energy, and technology programs represent billions of dollars in potential capital for Indiana, but grant windows are narrow, application requirements are complex, and competition from other states can be fierce. The OED must have the staffing, authority, and operational flexibility to identify, pursue, and secure federal funding in real time. Missed grant deadlines are missed opportunities that do not come back and can cause ratepayers to shoulder more costs than they would have otherwise had to. OED should also be positioned to coordinate with utilities, universities, and industry on joint applications that leverage Indiana's unique assets.

5-Year Action: Increase OED staffing dedicated to federal grant identification and application. Establish a standing interagency coordination team including OED, IEDC, IURC, OUCC, and the Governor's Office to align state energy plan priorities with federal funding opportunities.

20-Year Outlook: Indiana consistently captures a disproportionate share of federal energy investment relative to its size, because OED operates as a proactive, strategic partner to federal agencies and Indiana's private sector rather than a reactive applicant.

10. **Expedite critical infrastructure projects with clear, demonstrable ratepayer benefits by empowering the IURC to approve the siting of these projects.**

Certain generation, transmission, and grid modernization projects are so clearly tied to statewide energy reliability, economic development, or ratepayer benefit that they should move through regulatory review on an accelerated timeline. This could entail creating a defined fast-track pathway with clear eligibility criteria, economic benefits, and reliability impacts so that projects meeting a high threshold of demonstrated benefits are not delayed by processes designed for routine filings.

5-Year Action: Establish IURC criteria for “critical infrastructure” designation, with defined timelines for expedited review. Eligible projects should demonstrate quantifiable ratepayer benefits, alignment with the state energy plan, and support from affected stakeholders. Create an interagency coordination process to parallel state and local permitting where possible.

20-Year Outlook: Indiana’s permitting and regulatory timelines for critical energy infrastructure are among the fastest in the nation, which provides a competitive advantage that directly influences site selection decisions by major employers and developers.

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Creation of the Strategic Energy Growth Task Force

On June 17, 2025, Governor Braun issued Executive Order (EO) 25-66 establishing the Strategic Energy Growth Task Force. The EO recognized that reliable and affordable energy is critical to Indiana's economic growth and sustainable development and that Indiana's energy needs were increasingly significant due to data center deployments, reshoring of manufacturing, and greater consumer electrification. Given this significant and rapid increase in electric demand compared to previous decades, new considerations, grounded in Indiana's state energy policy, the Five Pillars (Reliability, Affordability, Resiliency, Stability, & Environmental Sustainability), would be needed to meet this demand while maintaining energy security and preserving Indiana's competitive edge in attracting industries and creating high-quality jobs.

The Strategic Energy Growth Task Force was tasked with developing an energy growth plan for the State of Indiana. The State Energy Growth Plan (Plan) must focus on:

1. Energy reliability and affordability to meet power needs and economic development opportunities now and into the future;
2. Making the State of Indiana an energy export state;
3. Maintaining existing energy generation and developing new generation; and
4. Deploying nuclear energy

The Plan must provide a short-term five-year vision and a twenty-year outlook focused on achieving four objectives:

1. Energy affordability for all Hoosiers;
2. Energy development to meet current and future demand;
3. Energy diversity through an "All-of-the-Above" approach to energy policy; and;
4. Energy collaboration and innovation between the state and industry to deploy technology to meet the unique opportunities that lie ahead with unprecedented demand and development.

Task Force Meetings

The Task Force met nine times:

1. October 6, 2025
2. November 17, 2025
3. December 15, 2025
4. December 29, 2025
5. February 18, 2026
6. February 23, 2026
7. March 23, 2026
8. April 20, 2026
9. July 7, 2026

On October 6, Indiana Secretary of Energy and Natural Resources Suzanne Jaworowski introduced the purpose of the Task Force and explained the need of the Task Force to create a State Energy Growth Plan. Chairman Soliday provided background on the work of the General Assembly's 21st Century Energy Policy Development Task Force and the enacted legislation based on the work of that Task Force. Most notably, Chairman Soliday discussed the state's statutory energy policy, commonly referred to as the Five Pillars, and the electric generation resource adequacy requirements and annual review, also known as the 1520 Report.

The Task Force also heard a variety of presentations outlining the current electric energy landscape in Indiana, including from the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC), State Utility Forecasting Group (SUFG), the state's transmission grid operators PJM Interconnection, LLC (PJM) and Mid-continent Independent System Operator (MISO), and the U.S. Department of Energy (through the Indiana Office of Energy Development (IOED)).

On November 17, the Task Force heard a summary of the Global Nuclear Energy Economic Summit held on November 5 and 6 at Purdue University. The Task Force also heard from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) regarding federal and state environmental regulatory reforms, how to track regulations, and recent agency comments on federal environmental matters. The IOED presented information on how regulations impact the cost of utility service and the resulting rates. Lastly, the Task Force heard from large load users, including Digital Crossroad (a data center developer), the Indiana Manufacturing Association, and Steel Dynamics, regarding their energy needs and challenges.

On December 15, the Task Force shifted to a workshop-based format facilitated by Strategic Doing, Inc. (Strategic Doing), to enable more in-depth conversations and collaborative discussions. As a part of this approach, three smaller workgroups were formed to support focused brainstorming. The workgroups individually examined barriers to energy growth and high-priority actions for Indiana's energy landscape. After the workgroup discussions, the full Task Force reconvened to review the collective ideas and vote on shared themes. Strategic Doing, Inc. will analyze the data and present results in a future meeting.

During the December 29 meeting, the Task Force voted on a draft report summarizing its work in 2025.

During the February 18 meeting, Strategic Doing continued to facilitate workshop-based conversations, which focused on an analysis of industrial competitiveness, systemic challenges, and emerging opportunities for Indiana's energy industry. The meeting also included discussions of high-level actions Indiana could take to improve its competitiveness in the energy sector.

At the February 23 meeting, Caterpillar presented to the Task Force regarding technological advances in energy storage and generators, and then Strategic Doing led additional workshop conversations. This time, those conversations focused on reviewing insights from the competitive analysis from the last meeting, identifying key players in the energy ecosystem and their needs and interests, and discussing four different future scenarios for the energy landscape.

The March 23 meeting featured group discussions centered on ideating potential solutions to specific "tensions" identified by previous meetings and how Indiana can work towards resolutions of those "tensions" through outlining specific steps to take in the short, medium, and long-term.

Prior to the March 23 meeting, Strategic Doing hosted a Community Input Workshop to solicit stakeholder feedback and to help synthesize that input for consideration by the Task Force. This feedback is summarized later in the report.

The April 20 meeting featured the introduction and initial Task Force discussions of a draft report, and a request for suggested edits to be sent in time for edits to be incorporated.

At the July 7 meeting, the edited draft final report was adopted by the Task Force by a vote of 15-0.

Name	Organization	Vote
Suzanne Jaworowski	Governor's Office	Y
Lindsay Jagger	Indiana Economic Development Corporation	Y
Jon Ford	Indiana Office of Energy Development	Y
Danielle McGrath	Indiana Energy Association	Abstained
Senator Koch	Indiana Senate	Excused
Representative Soliday	Indiana House of Representatives	Excused
Abby Gray	Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor	Y
Anthony Swinger	Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission	Y
Jill Gates	PJM	Y
Tony Samuel	Renewable Groups	Y
Alan Morrison	Indiana Department of Natural Resources	Y
Savannah Kerstiens	Reliable Energy	Y
Clint Woods	Indiana Department of Environmental Management	Y
Bob Kuzman	MISO	Abstained
Jim McGoff	Indiana Finance Authority	Y
Jack Alvey	Indiana Municipal Power Agency	Y
John Cassady	Indiana Electric Cooperatives	Y
Joe Rompala	Indiana Industrial Energy Consumers	Y
Danny Price	Indiana State Police	Y

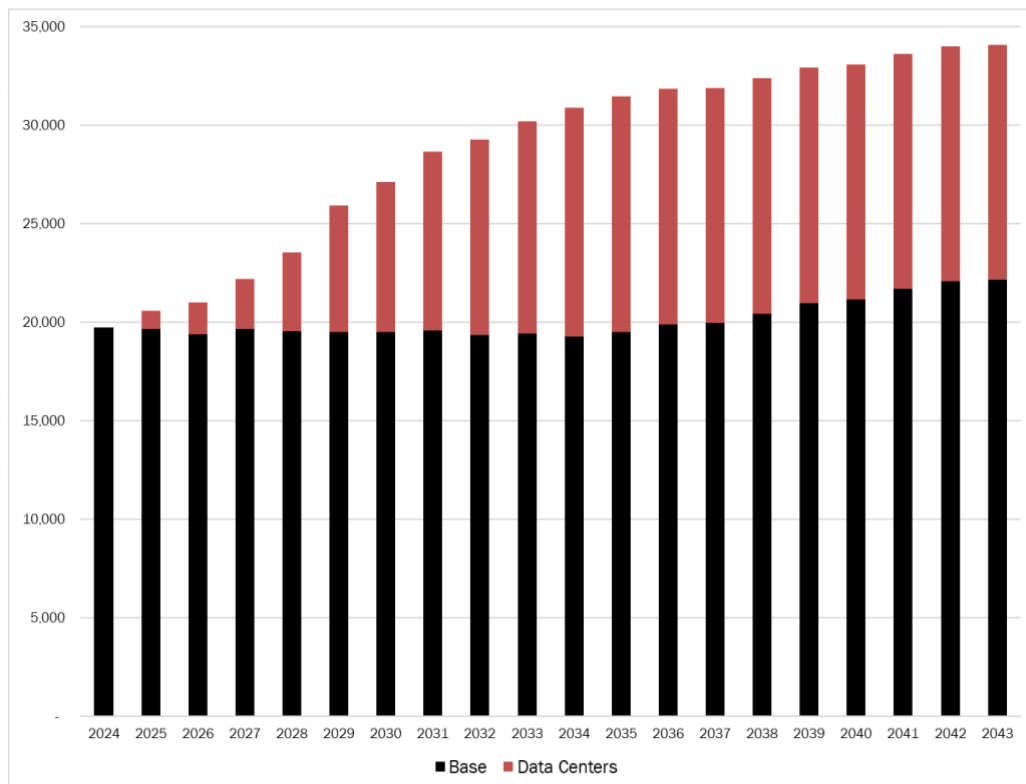
Where We Are: Indiana's Current Energy Position

The Strategic Context - Guiding Principles & Need for Strategic Energy Planning

The Task Force's guiding principles are the Five Pillars (Reliability, Affordability, Resiliency, Stability, and Environmental Sustainability), which serve as the existing cornerstone of the state's electric energy policy. In addition to this strong foundation, Indiana must continue to pursue innovation and economic competitiveness in the energy sector. Standing still is not an option.

Indiana is facing a once-in-a-generation convergence of demand drivers that is fundamentally reshaping the state's electricity needs. After almost two decades of flat or declining load growth, Indiana electric utilities are predicting levels of demand growth not experienced in decades. Unlike these previous periods of growth today's demand growth is arriving faster, at larger scale, and with increased expectations for reliability, affordability, and speed to power.

Figure 1-7. Indiana Peak Demand (Summer) (MW) Base Scenario vs. Data Center Scenario



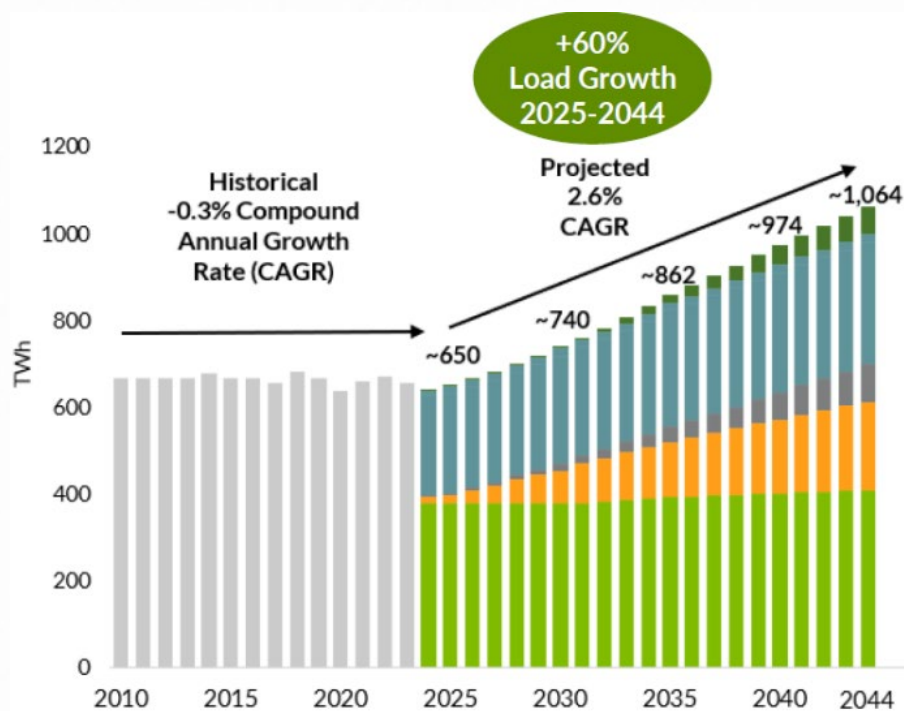
Source: SUFG 2025 Forecast

These demand drivers include hyperscaler data centers, onshoring of manufacturing, and the continued expansion of agricultural industry, such as ethanol production, throughout the state. These new large load customers present a once-in-a-generation opportunity for Indiana to grow its economy and workforce while also making electricity abundant and more affordable.

Accomplishing this will help position Indiana as a leader among its peer states and achieve independence in regards to its electricity needs.

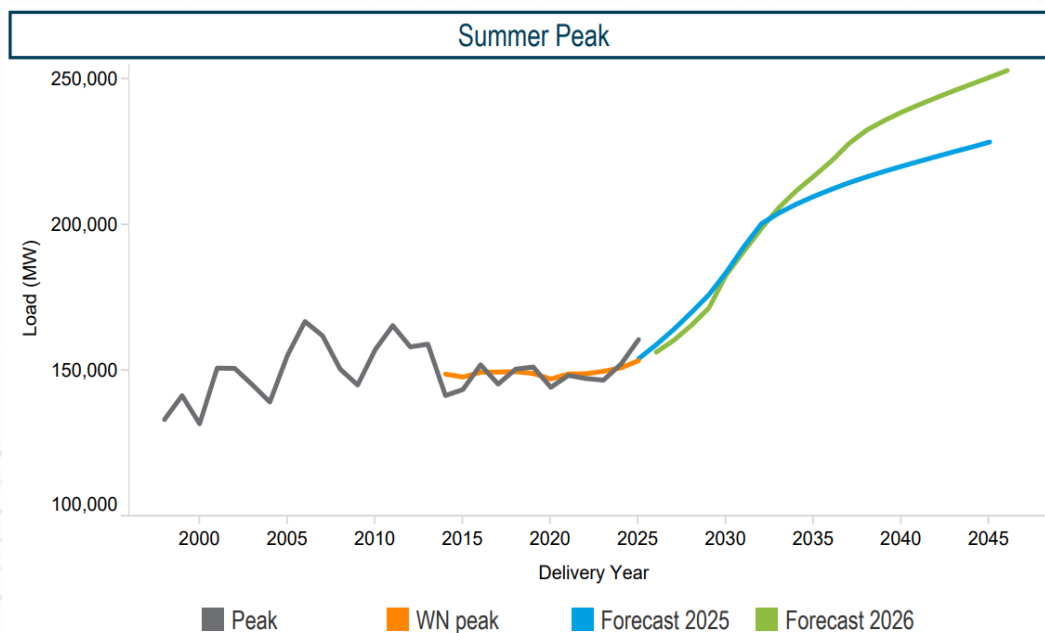
Significant electric demand increases are not limited to Indiana. Both regional transmission organizations (RTOs) that Indiana utilities participate in, MISO and PJM, are expecting massive load growth over the coming decades.

MISO Forecasted Load Growth



Source: MISO presentation to Energy Growth Task Force

PJM Forecasted Load Growth



Source: [PJM 2026 Load Forecast](#)

Furthermore, significant load growth is also not limited to just MISO and PJM. According to a study by Grid Strategies, the United States is expected to see 166 GW of load growth over the next five years. This load forecast has continued to increase over the past four years, rising from a projected 24 GW in 2022.

United States Forecasted Load Growth

Planning Area	2030 Peak Demand		Increase In Forecast (GW)	Forecast 5-year Growth (GW)	Forecast 5-year Growth (%)
	2022 Forecast (GW)	2025 Forecast (GW)			
ERCOT	85.2	138.9	53.7	53.2	62.0%
PJM	153.8	183.9	30.1	29.7	19.3%
SPP	57.6	82.0	24.5	24.2	41.8%
MISO	132.8	145.5	12.7	15.6	12.0%
Georgia Power	16.2	25.8	9.6	8.0	45.2%
CAISO	50.3	52.9	2.7	6.8	14.9%
Duke Energy Carolinas (DEC & DEP)	34.2	37.5	3.3	3.4	10.1%
Salt River Project	10.1	11.3	1.2	2.8	32.5%
PacifiCorp	14.1	16.3	2.2	2.0	13.8%
Florida Power & Light	30.4	27.9	-2.5	1.6	5.9%
All other planning areas	261.6	273.1	11.5	18.7	7.4%
Total	846.3	979.5	133.2	166.0	20.0%

GridStrategies 

Source: [Grid Strategies 2025 Load Growth Forecast Report](#)

This projected load growth provides an incredible opportunity for Indiana to capitalize on the moment and attract new industries, fostering economic opportunities for Hoosiers. Indiana has taken many steps over the last two decades to create an economic engine that attracts businesses who bring high-quality jobs to the state and help establish communities in which people from around the country want to raise families.

Indiana's competitive business climate has been recognized by multiple national publications, including the following rankings:

- Indiana ranks 1st in the Midwest and 6th in the nation in Chief Executive Magazine's annual 'Best & Worst States for Business' survey.
- Indiana ranks 9th overall in CNBC's America's Top States for Business 2025, including: 3rd for Cost of Doing Business, 2nd for Cost of Living, and 6th for Infrastructure.
- Indiana ranks 1st in the Midwest and 5th nationally in Area Development's Top States for Doing Business Survey for Overall Cost of Doing Business, 10th in Energy Cost, 1st in Climate Risk and Resilience, and 6th for Access to Qualified Labor.

In addition to demand growth, Indiana – as well as the electric grid at large – has experienced other substantial changes that have necessitated improving planning and policy actions. These include the ongoing retirement of dispatchable generation alongside the rapid growth of renewable energy resources, which introduces complexity into electric grid operations. Further, resource development constraints continue to have nationwide impact on getting new generation facilities online in a timely manner. This includes RTO interconnection delays, long waits for critical components due to overstretched supply chains and order books, and local resident concerned with electricity projects and opposing permits for such projects.

With this backdrop of national and regional demand growth and changing electric grid dynamics, understanding Indiana's previous legislative action can provide a valuable context for possible actions to be considered by the Task Force and how to interpret Indiana's current electric energy system.

The Statutory Foundation: The Five Pillars and Recent Legislative History

In 2019, the Indiana General Assembly established the 21st Century Energy Policy Development Task Force (21st Century Task Force), made up of state lawmakers and gubernatorial appointments with a range of backgrounds and viewpoints, to evaluate Indiana's energy policies, make legislative recommendations, and develop a long-term energy plan to guide Indiana's energy future through the start of the 21st Century. The 21st Century Task Force was constituted primarily to evaluate two subjects:

1. The impacts of the state's ongoing transition from thermal baseload generation to renewable, intermittent generation; and
2. Other states' growing reliance on the RTO capacity auctions to secure generation to meet resource adequacy requirements.

The 21st Century Task Force laid the groundwork for data-driven decisions that would keep Indiana competitive with other states on key energy attributes while ensuring flexibility to react to federal policy "whiplash." Notably, the 21st Century Task Force gave Indiana its guiding energy policy pillars – the Five Pillars.

The Five Pillars are:

1. Reliability
2. Affordability
3. Resiliency
4. Stability
5. Environmental Sustainability

Each of the Pillars represents an important attribute of Indiana's electric system that together serve as the foundation for every decision in the electric sector. The General Assembly used this foundational policy to guide legislative action for the next six years and enacted several key laws to help guide Indiana into a new energy landscape.

Senate Enrolled Act 386 (2021) – Cost Securitization for Electric Utility Assets (Sen. Koch)

As certain coal generation facilities approach retirement, some electric utilities face the prospect of retiring those assets before they are fully depreciated (i.e. fully paid off). This creates the potential for short-term affordability challenges, as utilities would otherwise need to recover remaining costs while simultaneously bringing new replacement generation assets into service and incorporating those construction costs into customer rates. In response, and during a period of historically low interest rates, the General Assembly established a pilot securitization program allowing CenterPoint Energy Indiana to securitize costs associated with the retirement of A.B. Brown Units 1 and 2. Through this approach, approximately \$359 million in costs were refinanced through securitization, generating an estimated \$53 million in savings for ratepayers.

House Enrolled Act 1520 (2021) – Electric Utility Reliability Adequacy Metrics (Rep. Soliday)

Amid growing concerns that electric utilities were relying too heavily on RTO capacity auctions to meet customer demand, the General Assembly enacted legislation requiring utilities to secure at least 70% of their forecasted demand through owned generation assets, bilateral contracts, or demand response programs. To ensure ongoing oversight, utilities must annually report these resource adequacy metrics to the IURC, which publishes a statewide summary as part of its annual report. If the IURC determines through this analysis that a utility may be unable to provide safe and reliable electric service, the Commission has the authority to order the utility to build or acquire additional generation resources. These annual resource adequacy filings are now commonly referred to as “1520 Reports.”

House Enrolled Act 1007 (2023) – Electric Utility Service (Rep. Soliday)

Following the adoption of the final report from the 21st Century Task Force, the General Assembly enacted legislation codifying the “Five Pillars” as Indiana’s official energy policy and requiring the IURC to consider those principles in every electric ratemaking case, petition for new electric generation, and review of Integrated Resource Plans (IRPs). The legislation also strengthened Indiana’s resource adequacy requirements by increasing the amount of projected demand utilities must secure through owned generation, bilateral contracts, or demand response resources from 70% to 85%, building upon the framework established under HEA 1520 (2021). In addition, the bill directed the IURC to study performance-based ratemaking and provide recommendations to the General Assembly by fall 2025.

House Enrolled Act 1007 (2025) – Energy Generation Resources (Rep. Soliday)

To address the rapid electric demand growth caused by hyperscaler data centers and other large load customers, the General Assembly created expedited pathways for utilities to build new generation resources while requiring those customers to provide financial assurances covering at least 80% of associated project costs, regardless of how long they remain

connected to the system. The legislation also expanded oversight of generation retirements and fuel conversions through the annual 1520 Reports, authorizing the IURC to require utilities to build or acquire new generation if resource adequacy standards are at risk. Additionally, the bill established tax credits to support small modular nuclear reactor (SMR) manufacturing in Indiana.

Senate Enrolled Act 422 (2025) – Advanced Transmission Technologies (ATTs) (Sen. Koch)

To help ensure Indiana utilities maximize the use of existing transmission infrastructure, SEA 422 directed the IURC to study the use of ATTs and include its findings in the Commission’s 2026 annual report. The legislation also requires utilities to evaluate the use of ATTs in their IRPs and, beginning in 2030, include detailed descriptions of their transmission and distribution systems in IRP filings as specified by the IURC.

Senate Enrolled Acts 423 & 424 (2025) – SMR Project Cost Recovery (Sen. Koch)

These companion bills established adjustable rate mechanisms allowing electric utilities to recover costs associated with the early development of SMR projects, including expenses such as early site permits and project planning. SEA 423 created a partnership framework enabling utilities to jointly develop SMR projects with large load customers, capital investors, SMR manufacturers, universities, and other stakeholders, while SEA 424 authorized individual electric utilities to seek recovery of project development costs independently without requiring specified project partners.

Senate Enrolled Act 425 (2025) – Energy Production Zones (Sen. Koch)

To expedite new electric generation projects, SEA 425 established “energy production zones” that streamline local zoning approvals for projects located on existing generation sites or former coal mining properties. The bill also imposed timelines for local zoning decisions, prohibited mid-process zoning changes, and limited project moratoriums to one year.

House Enrolled Act 1002 (2026) – Electric Utility Affordability (Rep. Shonkwiler)

Building on the two-year IURC study required under HEA 1007-2023, this legislation implemented performance-based ratemaking by requiring Indiana’s investor-owned electric utilities to file three-year multi-year rate plans (MYRPs) and establishing performance incentive mechanisms (PIMs) tied to affordability and reliability. The bill also expanded utility disconnection moratoriums during extreme summer heat, automatically enrolled LIHEAP-eligible households into predictable billing plans, and created additional utility-funded assistance programs for low-income ratepayers.

Senate Enrolled Act 240 (2026) – Surplus Interconnection Service (Sen. Koch)

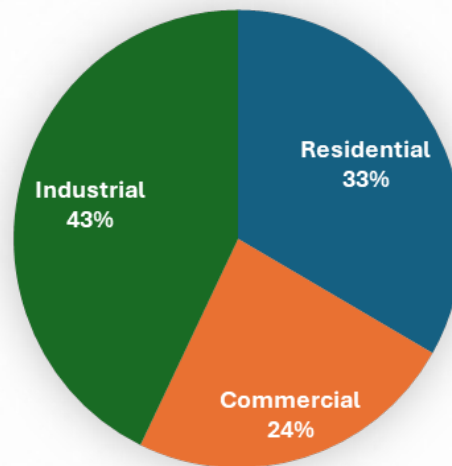
This legislation seeks to maximize the use of existing electric grid infrastructure by requiring utilities to study surplus interconnection capacity at their generation facilities by December 31, 2029. This study will help identify opportunities to bring additional generation online using existing transmission approvals and help reduce long-term costs for ratepayers. The legislation also directs the IURC to study the benefits of surplus interconnection service and include its findings in the Commission’s 2027 annual report.

With both the recent legislative history and a state- and national-level backdrop on load growth being discussed, it is important to examine Indiana’s energy system to understand the state’s current position through the lens of each of the Five Pillars. The following assessment provides the factual foundation for the Task Force’s recommendations.

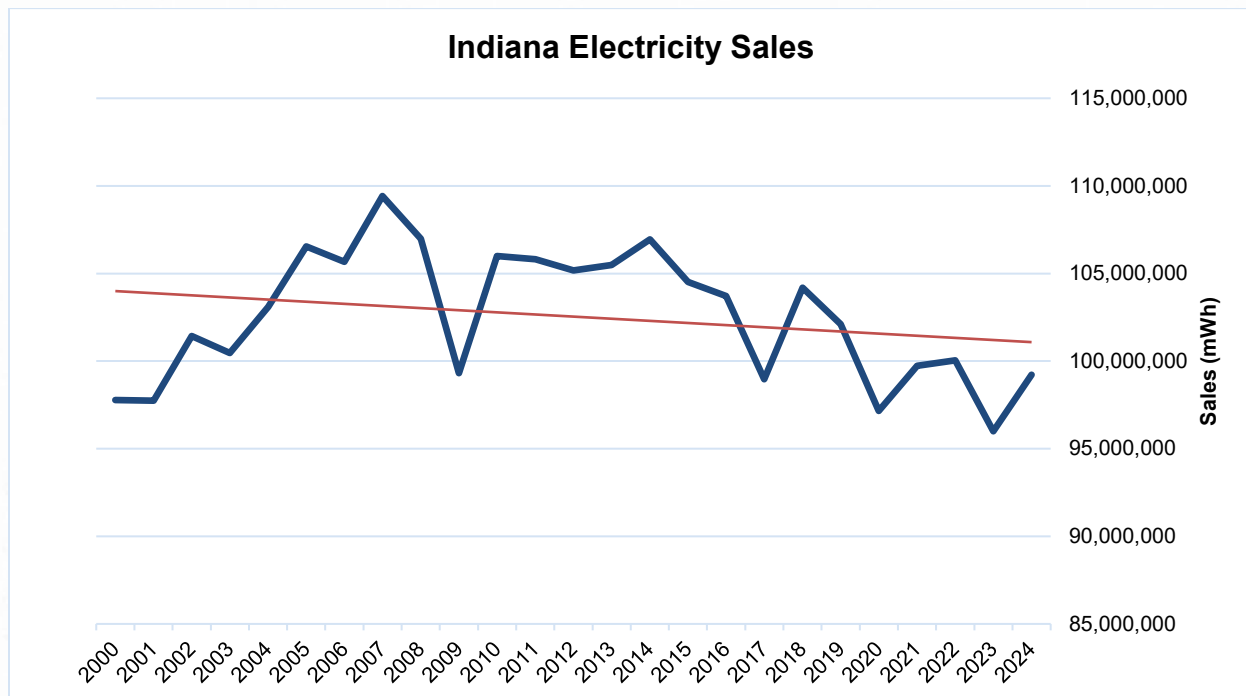
The Five Pillars: A Current-State Assessment

Electricity remains the cornerstone of the 21st-century economy and powers Indiana's robust manufacturing sector. In fact, manufacturing output comprises 26% of Indiana's gross domestic product (GDP), the highest proportion of any state ([U.S. BEA](#)). According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), industrial users accounted for the largest share of electricity consumption in Indiana in 2024.

2024 Electricity Sales

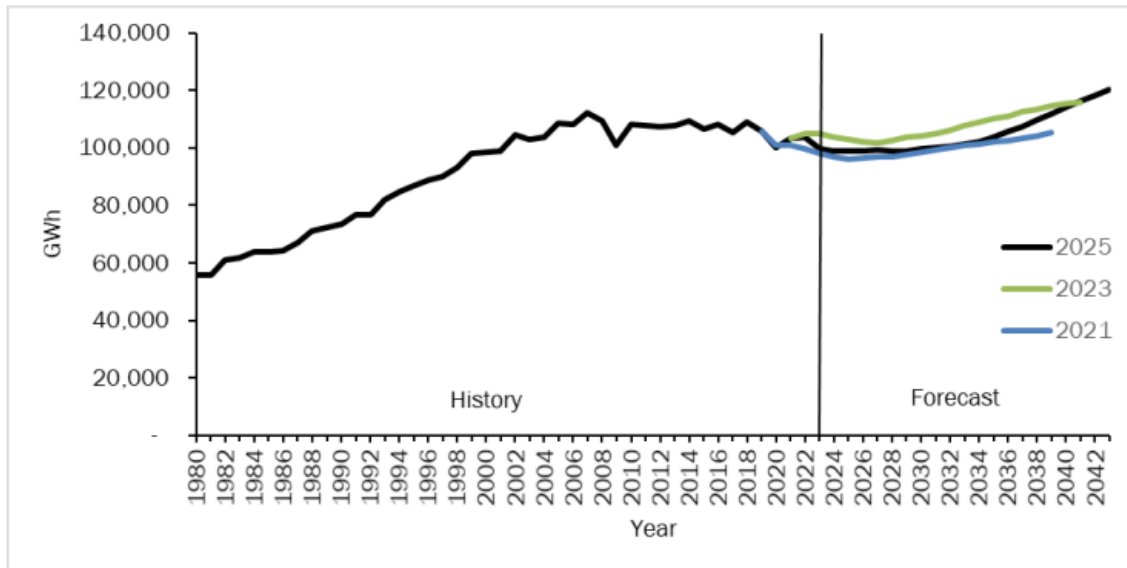


However, Indiana's total electric industry sales have been relatively flat when compared to 2000 and sales have decreased since their peak shortly prior to the Great Recession.



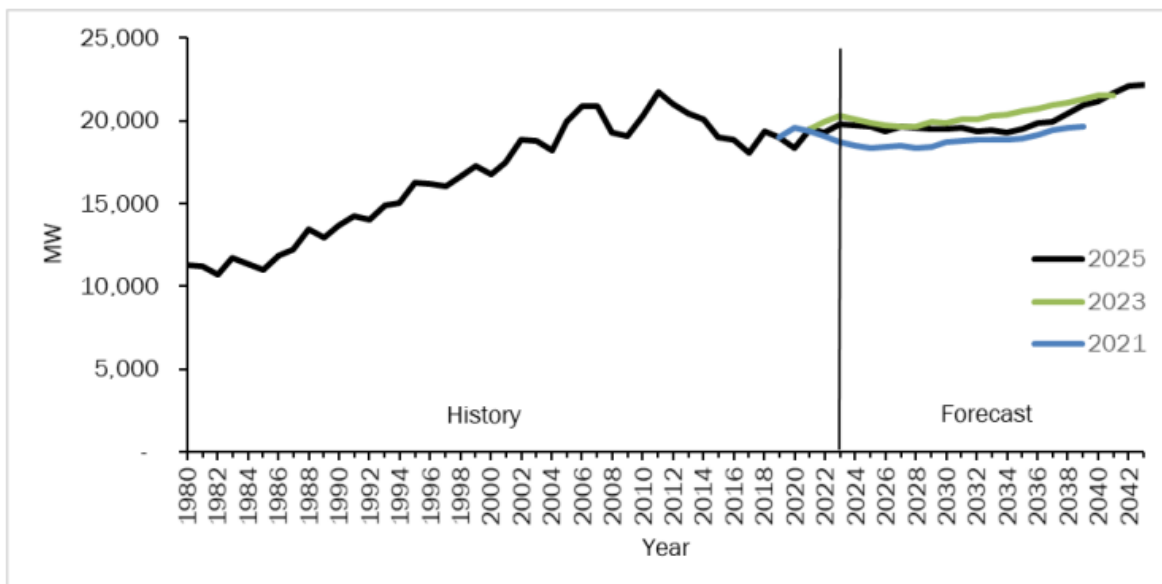
In contrast to the past decade of flat or declining aggregate statewide electricity sales, the SUFG predicts steady load growth of approximately 1.03% annually between 2024 and 2043. Residential load is projected to increase at a pace of 1.81% per year, with annual commercial load growth basically flat at 0.05%, and industrial loads are forecasted to increase by 0.85% annually.

Figure 1-1. Indiana Electricity Requirements in GWh (Historical, Current, and Previous Forecasts)



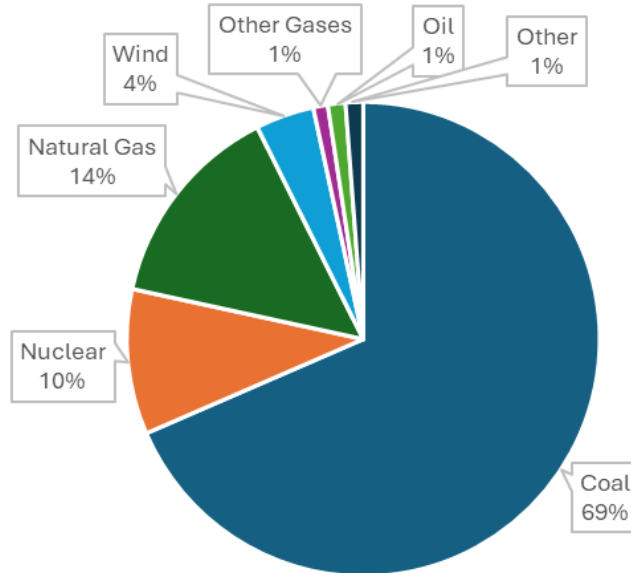
Additionally, the SUFG projects that Indiana's peak demand requirements will eventually reach a new high over the 20-year forecasting window (even without including data center load forecasts) with a compound annual growth rate of 0.61% between 2024 and 2043.

Figure 1-2. Indiana Peak Demand Requirements in MW (Historical, Current, and Previous Forecasts)

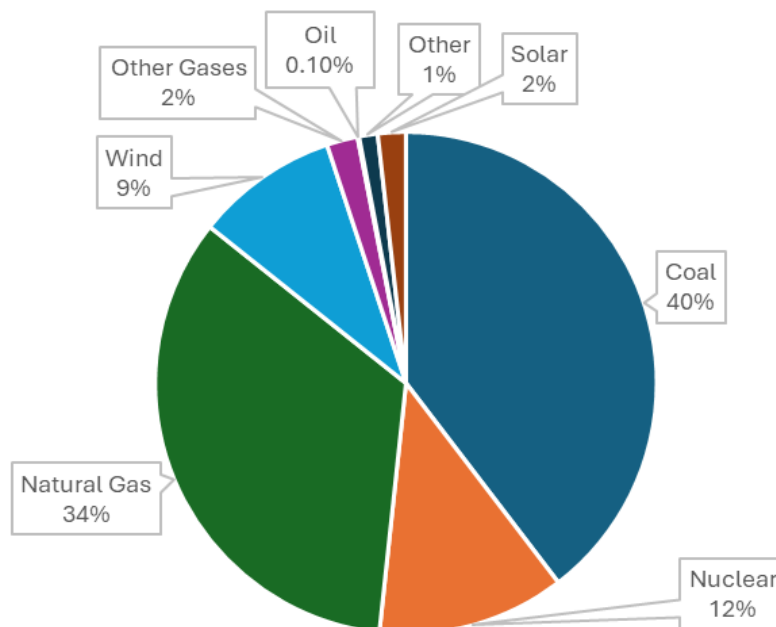


Indiana's generation fuel mix, measured by electricity produced by fuel source, has changed dramatically over the past ten years. Indiana went from 69% of its electricity generated from coal to just 40% while natural gas grew from 14% to 34%. Wind production more than doubled, going from approximately 4.5 million megawatt-hours (mWh) generated to 10.3 million mWh. Electricity generated from solar went from about 156,000 mWh to over 3 million mWh, growing by 1700% in terms of share of electricity produced for the state over the same period.

2015 Indiana Generation Fuel Mix



2024 Indiana Generation Fuel Mix



Further evaluation of Indiana's current electric system is best viewed through the lenses of the Five Pillars and each specific attribute.

Reliability

Reliability is at the cornerstone of any electric grid, especially as the modern economy is predicated on 24/7/365 access to electricity. The Five Pillars define reliability as the adequacy of the electric utility service to supply enough electricity to meet demand (i.e. resource adequacy) and the electric system being able to withstand sudden disturbances. As part of meeting their duty to serve customers reliably, electric utilities must secure enough generation resources to serve their projected peak demand, plus a reserve margin. The RTOs that retail electric utilities participate in establish the planning reserve margin requirements (PRMRs) utilities need to meet in order to support the reliability of the electric grid.

Utilities meet these resource requirements through a portfolio of resources, including utility-owned generation, bilateral contracts for generation capacity from facilities owned by other entities, demand response resources from customers to reduce electricity consumption when called upon by the utility, and capacity market resources offered by the RTO. As mentioned in the legislative history section, the General Assembly has set a policy allowing electric utilities to rely on the RTO capacity markets for up to 15% of their capacity needs, but no more. The IURC examines short-term three-year plans for utilities to meet their PRMRs for the state and publishes the overall results in the 1520 Report. The IURC also examines the utility's IRPs, which include short-term (3-5 years) and long-term (20-year) plans that model what generation resources are needed to meet projected demand in an economical and flexible way.

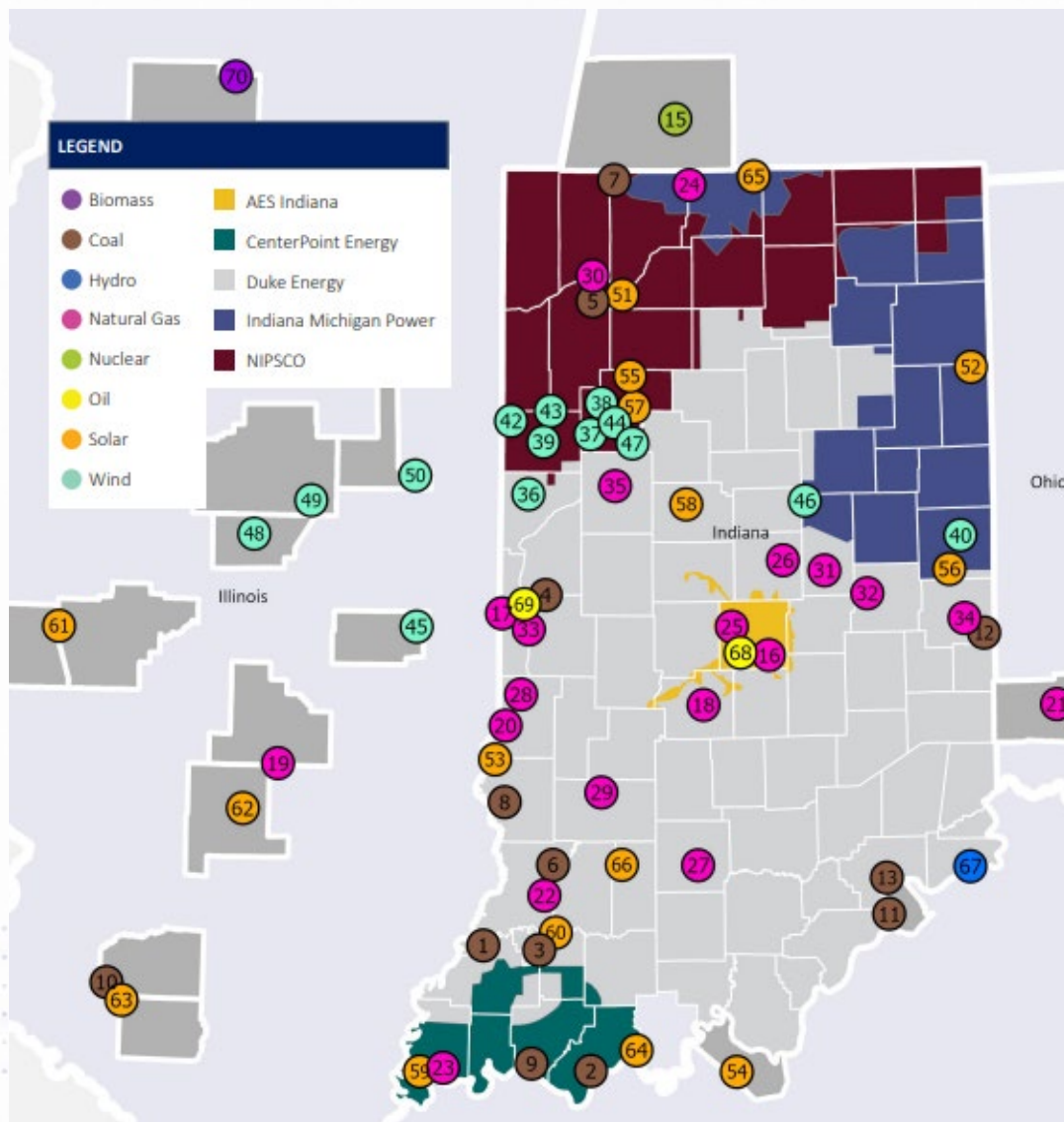
In its 2025 1520 Report, the IURC found that Indiana electric utilities, in aggregate, would exceed their PRMRs during the summer peak season for each of the upcoming three planning years. A negative value for the Resource Adequacy Metric means that Indiana utilities are exceeding their PRMR. In other words, collectively, Indiana utilities currently own or contract for more generation than is statutorily required.

2025 IURC Resource Adequacy Report (1520 Report)			
	Summer (share of PRMR)		
	Planning Year 2025/2026	Planning Year 2026/2027	Planning Year 2027/2028
Owned Generation	79%	77%	78%
Contracted Generation	20%	23%	22%
Demand Response	5%	4%	4%
Resource Adequacy Metric	-5%	-5%	-4%

The SUFG provides helpful data with its biennial forecast to understand Indiana's projected peak demand and the projected existing/approved resources to serve that demand.

Indiana Generation Resource Plan		
	Peak Demand	Existing/Approved Resources
2024	19,720 MW	22,586 MW
2025	19,666 MW	22,729 MW

While this forecast is based on historical data and does not account for new large-load customers, such as data centers, it provides helpful context for understanding what utilities need to serve their customers. The IURC reports on most of the generation resources Indiana retail electric utilities use to serve their customers in its annual report.



Through this report, generation resources larger than 10MW serving Hoosier customers add up to the following:

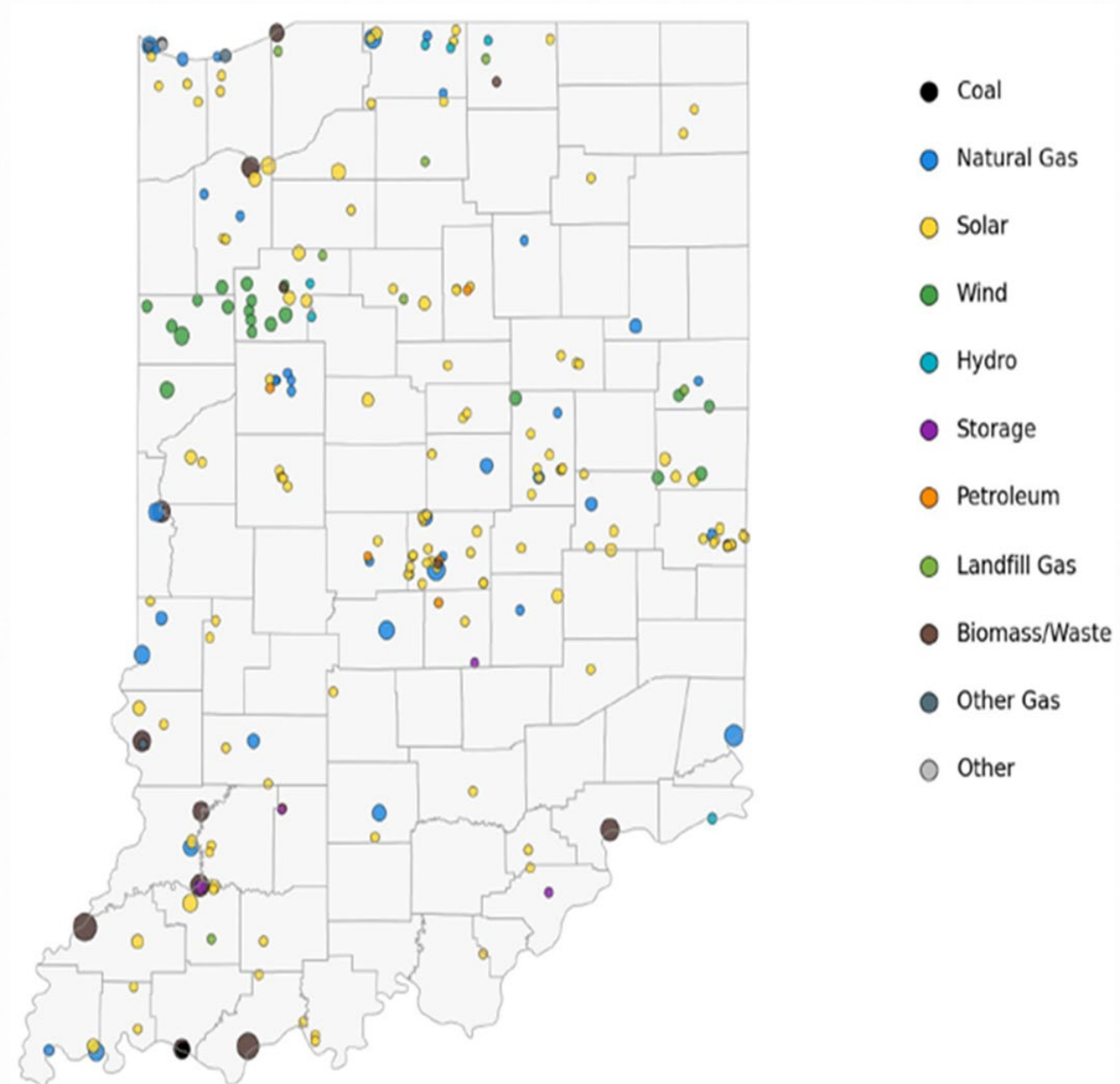
Generation Type	Summer Rated Capacity
Coal	10,290.6 MW
Natural Gas	7,801.7 MW
Nuclear	2,181 MW
Wind	2,254.9 MW
Solar	2,664.7 MW
Hydro	56 MW
Oil	48 MW
Biomass	17 MW
Total	25,313.9 MW

While this captures the facilities serving Hoosiers, whether located within or outside Indiana, it does not capture the full picture of electric generation resources within the state. Using information from the U.S. EIA, a more complete picture of generation capacity in Indiana can be provided as certain self-generators and independent power producers submit information to the federal agency.

Generation Type	Summer Rated Capacity
Coal	12,665.6 MW
Natural Gas	8,714 MW
Wind	3,851.8 MW
Solar	4,932.2 MW
Hydro	71.6 MW
Oil	84 MW
Biomass	48.6 MW
Other Gases	384.1 MW
All Other	88 MW
Total	30,839.9 MW

The two previous tables demonstrate Indiana's electricity portfolio and how the current system's operation and reliability are predicated on dispatchable thermal generation capacity, which comprises a significant majority of the Indiana's generation fleet and is essential for meeting current load needs and future load growth.

Indiana Electric Generation Facilities by Fuel Type

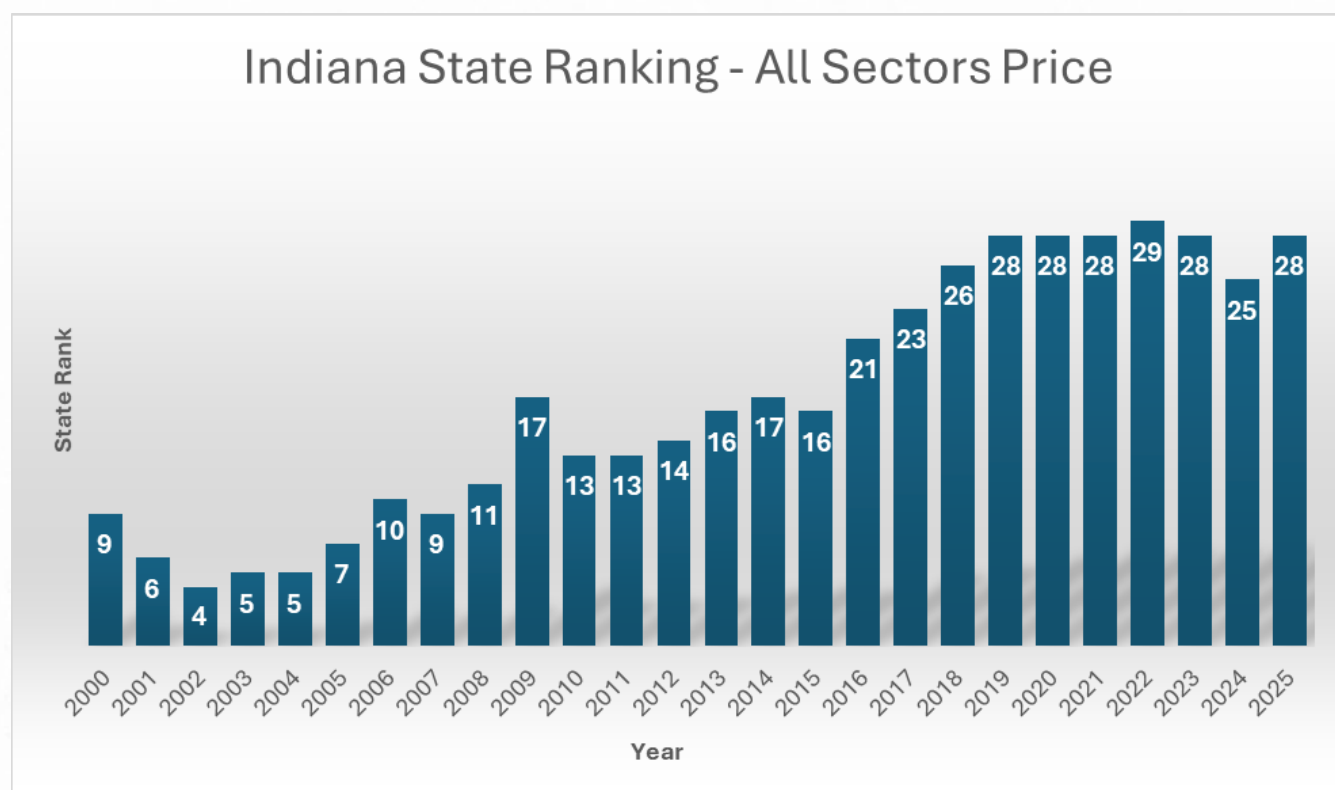


Source: U.S. EIA 860 February 2026 Facility Location Data

Affordability

For decades, Indiana relied on inexpensive, safe, and readily available coal to power its electric portfolio and benefited from reliance on this abundant resource. However, beginning in the mid-2000s, federal environmental mandates started requiring coal facilities to reduce their environmental impact. Mandates included the Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) & Nitrogen Oxides Standards, Clean Air Interstate Rule, Mercury & Air Toxics Standards, Cross-State Air Pollution Rule, and Coal Combustion Residuals Rule. Along with the associated environmental impacts, which are discussed in the next section, these mandates came with additional costs for ratepayers to maintain Indiana's coal fleet. At the same time, other forces, such as increasing supplies of natural gas, the expansion of natural gas pipelines, and the widespread adoption of renewable generation resources, have created a more diversified portfolio of electric generation facilities.

These collective forces eroded Indiana's competitiveness for the price of electricity. In the early-to-mid 2000s, Indiana was ranked in the top five lowest electric rates in the country. By the mid-2010s, Indiana had fallen to the teens and by the early 2020s, Indiana was ranked around 28th in the nation for lowest rates. Other structural drivers also contributed to Indiana's decline in rate competitiveness. For example, the capital costs associated with building new generation to replace retiring coal generation facilities, the increasing amount of transmission and distribution level spending at both the state and RTO level, price volatility for natural gas as a fuel for electricity generation, and federal subsidies distorting accurate market economics.



Indiana's current rankings across the three main customer classes – residential, commercial, and industrial – remain in the 30s. However, a key point to keep in mind is that U.S. EIA factors in every component that is on a bill when determining the average price paid by a customer. Therefore, Indiana's 7% sales tax has an impact on its state rankings. Assuming all electricity purchases were subject to the Indiana sales tax, if those purchases were exempted from the sales tax, Indiana's 'All Sectors' ranking would move from 28th to 26th.

	2025 Average Prices				2025 State Ranks			
	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	All Sectors	Res. Rank	Com. Rank	Ind. Rank	All Rank
North Dakota	11.81	7.4	7.5	8.2	1	1	13	1
Louisiana	12.57	11.2	6.23	9.5	4	18	3	2
Oklahoma	13.12	9.08	6.15	9.5	9	4	2	2
Nebraska	12.34	8.79	8	9.55	3	3	18	4
New Mexico	15.08	11.23	5.9	9.56	22	19	1	5
Idaho	11.82	9.25	7.98	9.74	2	5	17	6
Wyoming	13.38	9.54	8.66	9.75	13	7	28	7
Iowa	13.72	11.05	7.2	9.76	16	16	11	8
Arkansas	12.84	10.76	6.71	9.84	5	13	5	9
Texas	15.47	8.64	6.55	10.18	28	2	4	10
Nevada	13.15	9.36	8.08	10.31	10	6	20	11
Kentucky	13.24	11.88	6.96	10.55	12	25	8	12
Utah	13.07	10.04	8.43	10.67	7	9	25	13
Montana	12.98	11.88	7.02	10.9	6	25	9	14
Washington	13.11	10.95	6.88	11.06	8	15	7	15
South Dakota	13.38	10.89	8.68	11.35	13	14	29	16
West Virginia	15.41	11.75	8.11	11.4	27	24	22	17
Virginia	15.28	9.55	9.45	11.41	24	8	36	18
South Carolina	14.96	11.05	7.11	11.45	21	16	10	19
Oregon	15.37	10.56	8.28	11.51	26	11	23	20
Kansas	14.56	11.35	8.03	11.52	19	20	19	21
North Carolina	14.02	10.25	7.8	11.53	17	10	15	22
Missouri	13.49	10.63	8.38	11.57	15	12	24	23
Mississippi	14.03	13.03	7.38	11.57	18	33	12	23
Tennessee	13.18	12.87	6.74	11.57	11	32	6	23
Georgia	14.73	11.5	7.81	12.03	20	22	16	26
Ohio	16.96	11.6	8.52	12.43	33	23	26	27
Indiana	16.23	13.88	8.89	12.57	32	36	31	28
Alabama	16.1	14.52	7.73	12.62	31	38	14	29
Minnesota	15.82	12.27	9.32	12.67	29	27	34	30
Colorado	15.85	12.47	9.07	12.77	30	29	33	31
Arizona	15.32	12.47	8.1	12.97	25	29	21	32
Florida	15.24	11.47	8.84	13.34	23	21	30	33
Wisconsin	18.16	13.06	8.92	13.35	36	34	32	34

Illinois	17.69	13.07	10.14	13.74	35	35	39	35
Pennsylvania	19.3	12.44	9.36	14.11	37	28	35	36
Delaware	17.13	12.64	9.64	14.19	34	31	38	37
Michigan	20.01	14.48	8.59	14.73	39	37	27	38
Maryland	19.48	14.74	12.5	16.83	38	39	41	39
New Jersey	22.63	16.63	13.9	18.84	41	40	42	40
Vermont	22.92	19.92	12.39	19.39	42	41	40	41
D.C.	21.94	20.41	14.78	20.34	40	43	43	42
New Hampshire	24.56	20.16	16.88	21.59	43	42	45	43
New York	26.39	21.07	9.55	21.62	45	45	37	44
Maine	27.78	20.96	15.5	22.81	46	44	44	45
Alaska	26.09	22.32	20.03	23.05	44	46	48	46
Massachusetts	30.48	23.08	19.35	25.56	49	47	47	47
Connecticut	29.38	23.11	18.35	25.68	47	48	46	48
Rhode Island	29.46	23.46	21.74	25.86	48	49	50	49
California	32.54	26.36	21.62	27.63	50	50	49	50
Hawaii	40.59	36.37	31.46	35.72	51	51	51	51

Using data compiled by HEATMAP, the table below lists the percentage increase in average prices for Indiana's five investor-owned utilities.

	Avg. Price (\$/kWh)	Percentage Change (Dec. 2020 to Dec. 2025)
AES Indiana	\$0.16	32.1%
CenterPoint Energy	\$0.22	29.3%
Duke Energy Indiana	\$0.15	29.4%
Indiana Michigan Power	\$0.17	16.8%
NIPSCO	\$0.24	40.0%
National Average	\$0.182	33.3%
CPI (12/2020 to 12/2025)		24.41%

Source: [HEATMAP NEWS](#); [BLS](#)

Another statistic to consider when evaluating Indiana's five investor-owned electric utilities is equalizing usage and comparing a customer's bill for each utility, including the amount for base rates and variable (tracker) rates, which can fluctuate based on the timing of the utility's most recent base rate case.

	July 1, 2010		
	1000 kWh Monthly Usage		
	Base	Variable	Total
AES Indiana	\$66.5	\$19.25	\$85.75
CenterPoint Energy	\$118.9	\$13.75	\$132.65
Duke Energy Indiana	\$74.59	\$21.74	\$96.33
Indiana Michigan Power	\$74.3	\$7.15	\$81.45
NIPSCO	\$97.31	\$8.24	\$105.55

	July 1, 2018		
	1000 kWh Monthly Usage		
	Base	Variable	Total
AES Indiana	\$97.42	\$19.65	\$117.07
CenterPoint Energy	\$146.24	\$7.3	\$153.54
Duke Energy Indiana	\$75.2	\$47.64	\$122.84
Indiana Michigan Power	\$115.08	\$17.06	\$132.14
NIPSCO	\$120.76	\$11.66	\$132.43

	July 1, 2025		
	1000 kWh Monthly Usage		
	Base	Variable	Total
AES Indiana	\$136.62	\$21.64	\$158.26
CenterPoint Energy	\$198.64	\$22.08	\$220.72
Duke Energy Indiana	\$164.71	\$(6.73)	\$157.98
Indiana Michigan Power	\$132.90	\$33.66	\$166.56
NIPSCO	\$212.61	\$21.01	\$233.62

Resiliency

Resiliency manifests itself when damage from weather-related events creates sudden impacts on the system, such as customer power outages. A utility's ability to adapt to rapidly developing situations, prevent outages, and restore service quickly when they occur, protects the health and safety of Hoosiers and keeps businesses operating.

Indiana electric utilities have invested tremendous amounts of capital in their transmission and distribution infrastructure over the past 11 years, especially through the Transmission, Distribution, Storage System Improvement Charge, commonly referred to as TDSIC. These investments include projects related to safety, system modernization, and reliability. Between 2016 and 2025, four of Indiana's five investor-owned utilities utilized TDSIC to invest over \$4.6 billion in system reliability and resiliency upgrades and these utilities are slated to make an additional \$3.8 billion over the next 4 years.

APPROVED TDSIC UTILITY PLANS

Utility Name	TDSIC Cause No.	Year Approved	7-year Plan Approved Investment Amount	7-year Plan Approved Investments to Date	Percent of Approved Amount in Rates
AES Indiana	45264	2020	\$1,208,683,701	\$448,056,000	37.1%
CenterPoint Energy Indiana	45894	2023	\$454,000,000	\$33,588,277	7.4%
Duke Energy Indiana	45647	2021	\$2,140,185,171	\$32,785,422	1.5%
NIPSCO	45557	2021	\$1,488,936,834	\$938,475,530	63.0%
TOTAL			\$5,291,805,706	\$1,452,905,229	27.5%

PREVIOUSLY APPROVED TDSIC PLANS

Utility Name	Cause No.	Year Approved	Plan Expenditures
Duke Energy Indiana	44720	2015	\$1.408 billion
NIPSCO	44733	2015	\$1.33 billion
CenterPoint Energy Indiana	44910	2017	\$446.5 million

Source: IURC 2025 Annual Report

In addition to capital investments, utilities spend significantly on operational and maintenance costs related to reliability, such as vegetation management. Proactive trimming and clearing of vegetation reduces outages by minimizing the likelihood of vegetation taking out utility distribution equipment and can lower long-term costs by preventing emergency repairs and service interruptions.

Tracking reliability metrics can provide insight into how each utility's distribution system is performing. However, each utility's system experiences different circumstances (e.g., some serve areas more densely populated, more heavily forested, and experience different impacts from weather and storms). These different impacts mean care should be taken when

comparing utility metrics; but examining an individual utility performance over time to itself and to national averages can provide useful information to policymakers, regulators, and stakeholders.

Key reliability metrics that are reported by the electric utilities include the following:

- **System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI):** The average number of interruptions per customer. It is calculated by dividing the total number of customer interruptions by the total number of customers.
- **System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI):** The average minutes of interruption per customer. It is calculated by dividing the sum of all customer interruption durations (in minutes) by the total number of customers.
- **Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI):** The average duration of interruptions or the time to restore service to interrupted customers. It is calculated by dividing SAIDI by SAIFI.

These statistics are reported to include and exclude Major Event Days (MEDs), which are weather events like ice storms, tornados, derechos, severe thunderstorms, or other extreme events where a certain threshold of customers are without power, which is set by a calculation approved by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Standard 1366.

Lower numbers indicate a more reliable system.

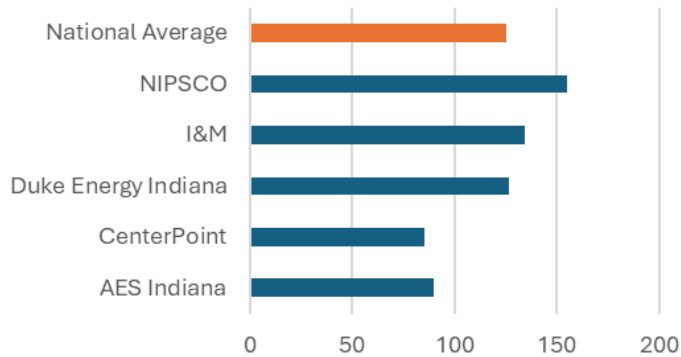
2024 Indiana Investor-Owned Utility Reliability Metrics						
	All Events (With Major Event Days)			Without Major Event Days		
	SAIDI	SAIFI	CAIDI	SAIDI	SAIFI	CAIDI
AES Indiana	247	1.25	197	87.3	1.06	82.07
CenterPoint	458	1.43	320	81.2	0.79	103.20
Duke Energy Indiana	296	1.18	250	112.9	0.937	120.5
I&M	157	0.84	187	97.5	0.73	134.4
NIPSCO	534	1.34	399	169.0	0.96	175.0
National Average	662.6	1.531	432.7	131.6	1.065	123.6
State Average	310.0	1.276	242.9	123.3	1.008	122.4

Source: [EIA Table 11.1](#), EIA Table 17, [IURC](#)

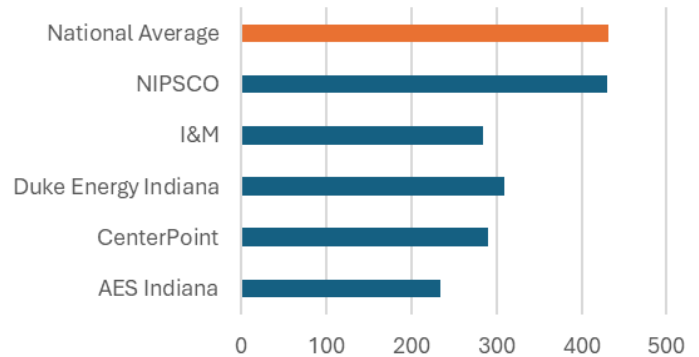
Six Year Average Reliability Metrics (2019-2024)						
	All Events (With Major Event Days)			Without Major Event Days		
	SAIDI	SAIFI	CAIDI	SAIDI	SAIFI	CAIDI
AES Indiana	234.17	1.36	175.00	89.92	1.09	82.77
CenterPoint	289.67	1.34	199.00	85.42	0.90	95.17
Duke Energy Indiana	310.00	1.29	235.67	126.63	0.99	127.25
I&M	284.83	1.06	265.17	134.12	0.87	154.10
NIPSCO	430.83	1.39	313.17	154.83	0.97	159.83
National Average	431.60	1.41	312.67	125.08	1.04	119.67
State Average	330.2	1.363	241.9	127.9	1.034	123.6

Source: [EIA Table 11.1](#), EIA Table 17, [IURC](#)

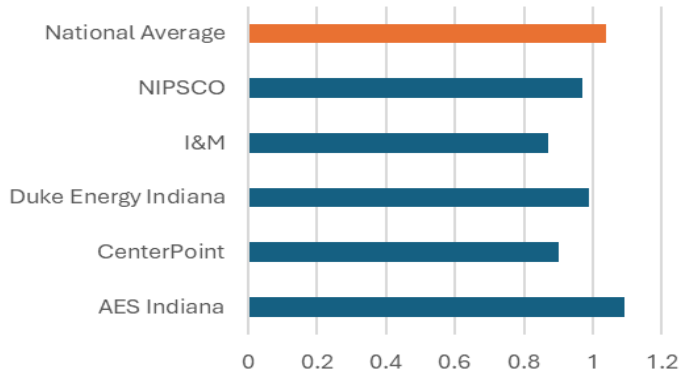
SAIDI (w/o MEDS) - 6 Year Average



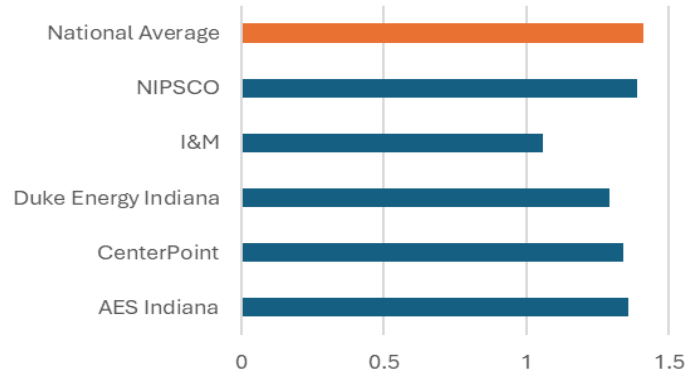
SAIDI (w/ MEDS) - 6 Year Average



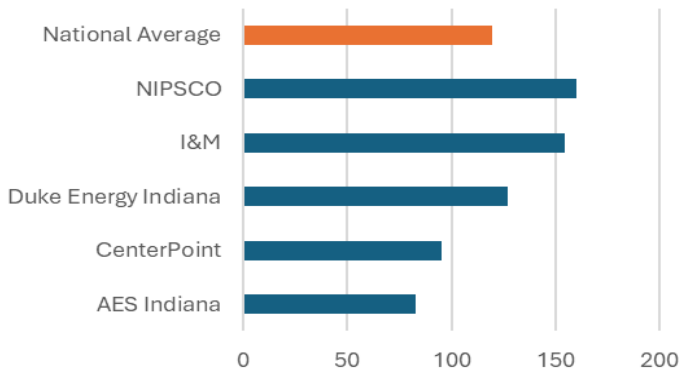
SAIFI (w/o MEDS) - 6 Year Average



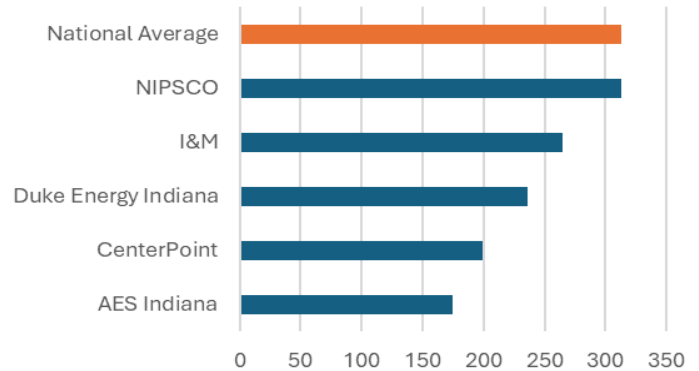
SAIFI (w/ MEDS) - 6 Year Average



CAIDI (w/o MEDS) - 6 Year Average



CAIDI (w/ MEDS) - 6 Year Average



Lower numbers indicate better performance

Stability

Stability refers to the ability of the electric power system to maintain consistent voltage and frequency within tightly defined parameters. Electric grid stability means power that has minimal fluctuations or sags in voltage or frequency that can damage sensitive equipment, halt production lines, or corrupt intricate manufacturing processes. Grid instability can lead to cascading outages and even blackouts.

A stable electric grid is vital for Indiana. The state has the second highest concentration of manufacturing employment in the nation ([Visual Capitalist & U.S. BEA](#)) and ranks first in the country for percentage of GDP comprised of manufacturing ([Visual Capitalist & U.S. BEA](#)). Manufacturing industries already operating in the state and those that Indiana wants to attract require stable electricity.

For example, when brief voltage deviations happen during electric arc furnace steelmaking, the melts can be significantly disrupted. Pharmaceutical manufacturing relies on stable electricity while producing advanced components and entire batches of product can be destroyed due to a momentary interruption. Semiconductor and advanced electronics manufacturing also demand exacting power quality specifications.

Furthermore, hyperscaler data centers can pose additional challenges for maintaining the stability of the electric grid as rapid drops in electric demand or quick, oscillating changes in demand can cause voltage or frequency changes that result in grid instability. In fact, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) recently released a Level 3 alert to “ensure Essential Actions are taken by entities to address [grid] risks to posed by existing and new computational loads...” ([NERC](#)). Similar grid instability risks are also posed by inverter-based resources, such as solar and wind generation resources, which NERC also released a Level 3 alert about in 2025. ([NERC](#))

With these issues in mind, it is important for the electric grid to have a portfolio of generation resources that offer the necessary characteristics to maintain stable operations.

This is where nuclear energy plays a distinctive role in Indiana’s generation portfolio. Nuclear plants produce baseload, dispatchable power, operating 24/7/365 and are able to be counted on to provide electricity regardless of weather or time of day. Furthermore, nuclear energy provides carbon-free electricity, which is increasingly sought after by manufacturers looking to differentiate their products in global markets. Nuclear generation, along with other turbine-based generation, also contributes to grid stability by providing mechanical inertia to the grid, helping the grid “ride through” and resist sudden frequency changes, and preventing the grid from cascading into broader instability.

Indiana already benefits from nuclear energy through the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant, operated by Indiana Michigan Power. Cook's two pressurized water reactors provide more than 2,100 MW of electricity, two-thirds of which is assigned to Hoosier customers. Indiana's nuclear energy portfolio is growing with Hoosier Energy's 30-year power purchase agreement for approximately 370 MW from the recently restarted Palisades Nuclear Generation Station, also in Michigan.

Indiana's coal-fired fleet has also long played an essential role in supporting grid stability. Like nuclear plants, coal-fired units turbines provide kinetic energy that offer a nearly instantaneous response to sudden imbalances between generation and load. When a large generator unexpectedly trips offline or a customer with significant electrical demands suddenly switches on, the rotating mass of turbines across the system, such as those from coal-fired generators, naturally resists the resulting frequency change, releasing or absorbing kinetic energy in milliseconds and slowing the rate of change of frequency long enough for control systems and other resources to respond. Other steam and gas turbines also contribute this same stability attribute.

As inverter-based resources such as solar and battery storage continue to grow as a share of the resource mix, the synchronous generation that remains on the system, including Indiana's coal fleet, becomes increasingly valuable for the stability services that the grid has historically taken for granted. This is one reason that decisions about coal unit retirements and fuel conversions should not be evaluated solely on the basis of energy or capacity contribution.

While inverter-based resources can pose challenges to the stability of the grid, they can also help support the grid in their own way. Battery energy storage systems can complement stability in a different but equally important way. For example, batteries can respond to frequency deviations in milliseconds and can inject or absorb power almost instantaneously to smooth out short-duration fluctuations, manage ramp rates, and provide critical backup during the seconds between a disturbance and the response of conventional generators. Indiana utilities have recognized this value proposition for a stable electric grid. As of July 2025, approximately 1,282 MW of battery energy storage were either operating or being constructed in Indiana.

Together, these resources help support a stable grid. They underpin the kind of power quality that Indiana's advanced manufacturers, pharmaceutical producers, steelmakers, and current and future data center operators require and are key to attracting future growth.

Environmental Sustainability

Indiana's environmental record in the electricity sector is a story of significant, measurable progress since the turn of the century. Since 2000, the state's power sector has reduced total SO₂ emissions by 97%, total nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions by 87%, and total carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by more than 50%.

These improvements are also demonstrable when looking at emissions on an intensity basis, which measures emissions released from a specified amount of an activity or output. SO₂ emission rates have fallen 96.5%, NO_x rates have dropped 84% on a pounds of emissions per megawatt-hour basis, and CO₂ intensity has declined 35%.

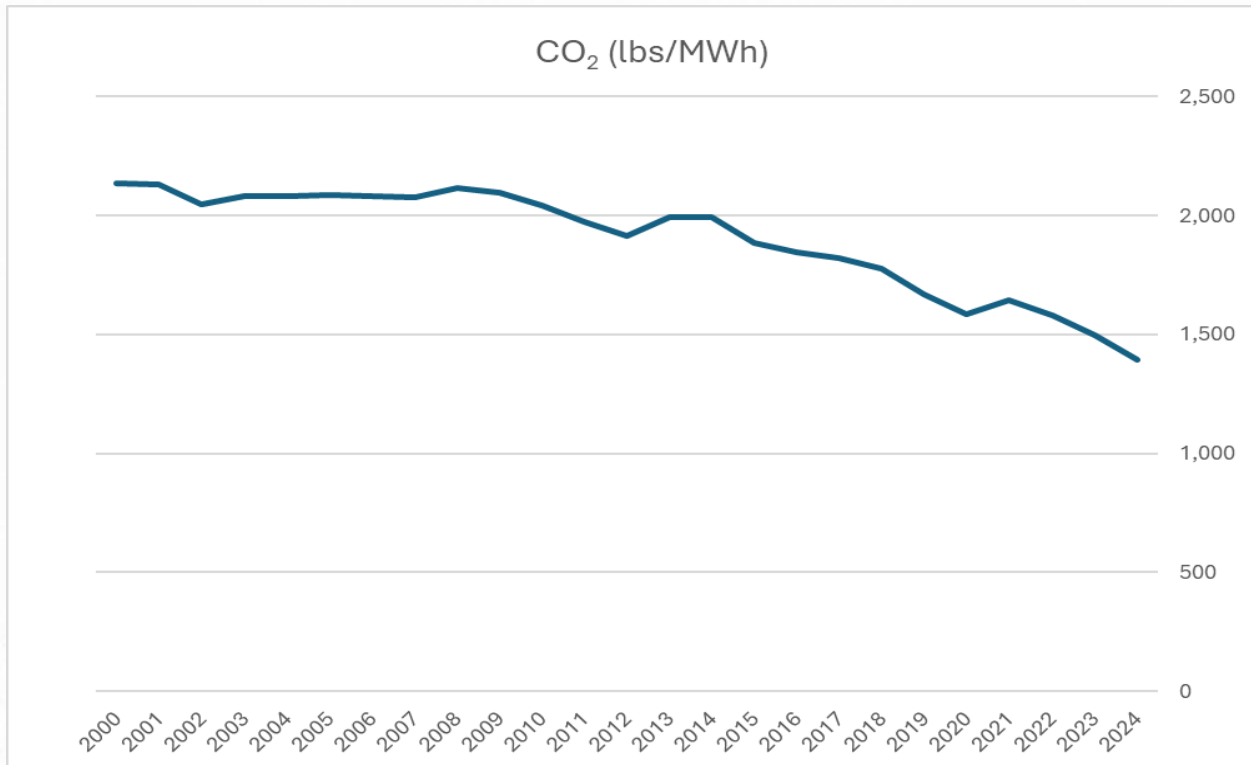
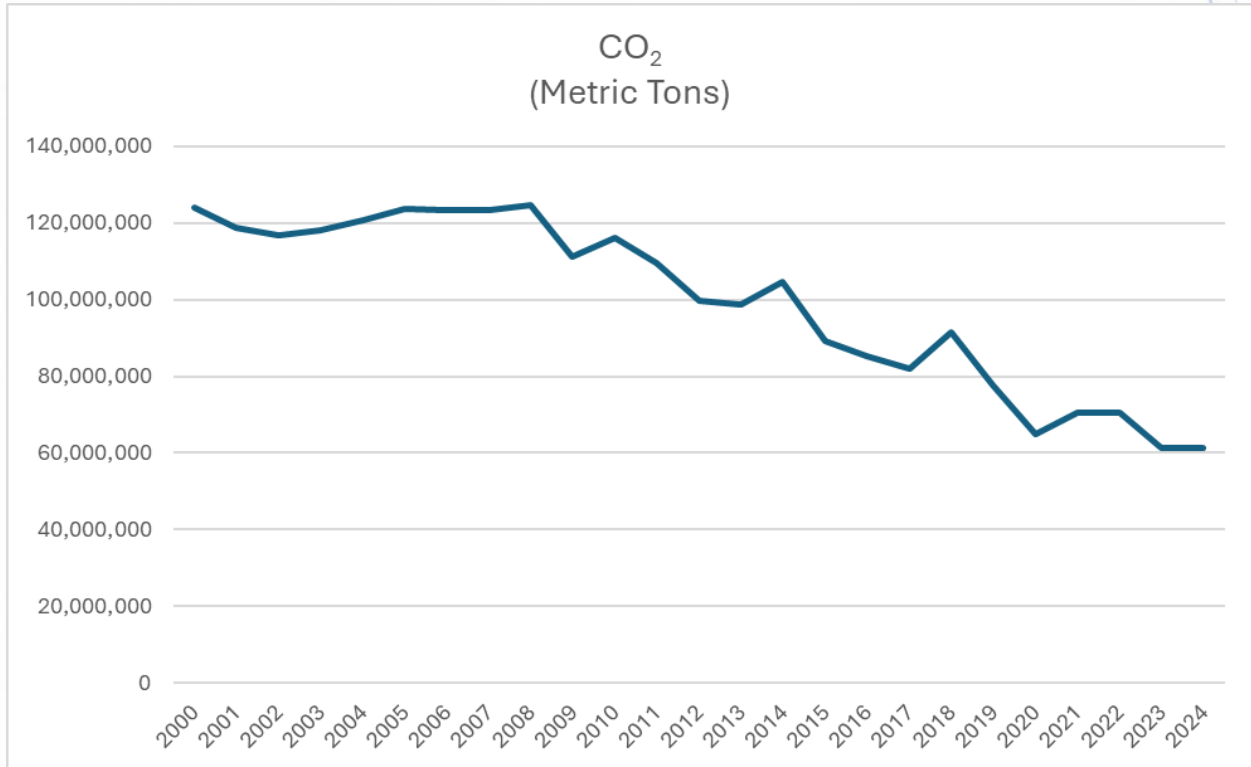
These reductions in air pollution have been achieved while maintaining one of the most manufacturing-intensive economies in the nation and are important for the state overall. Cleaner air means healthier communities and a better quality of life for Hoosiers, which is increasingly essential for economic competitiveness. The companies Indiana is working hardest to keep and attract want to increase the share of their power needs that are sourced from clean energy.

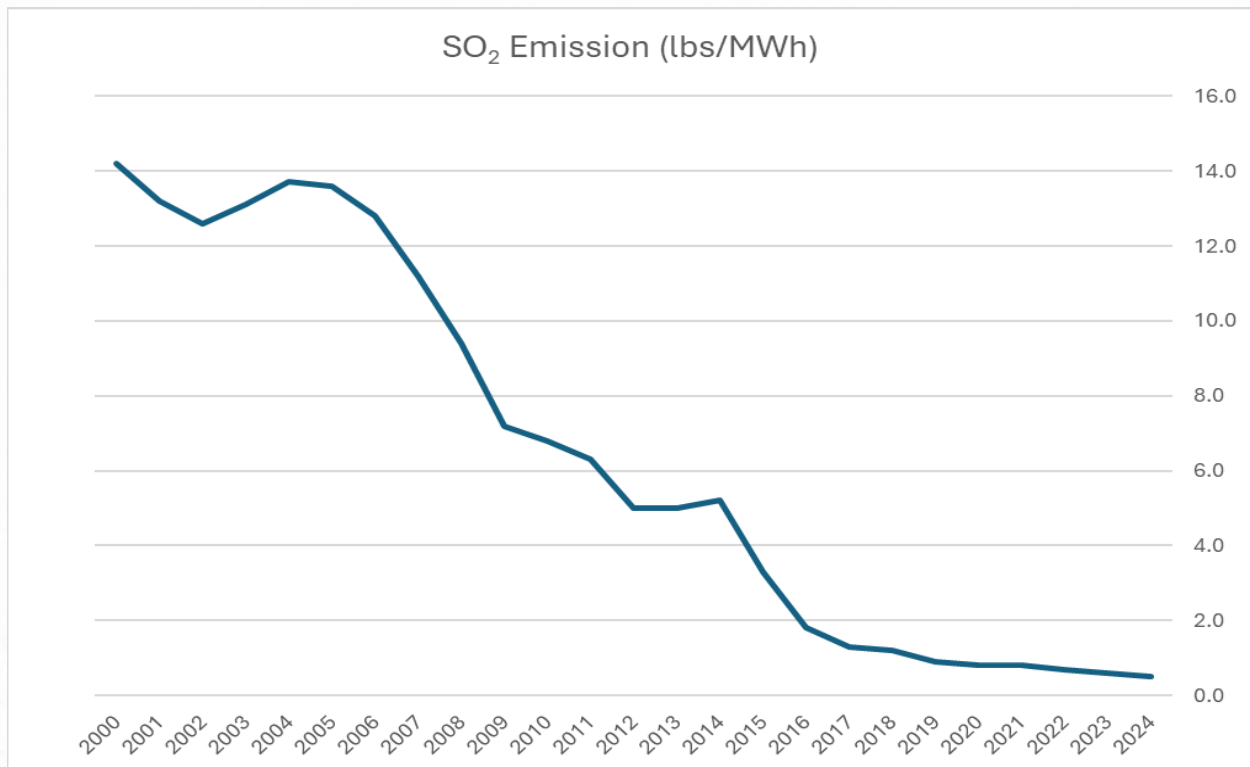
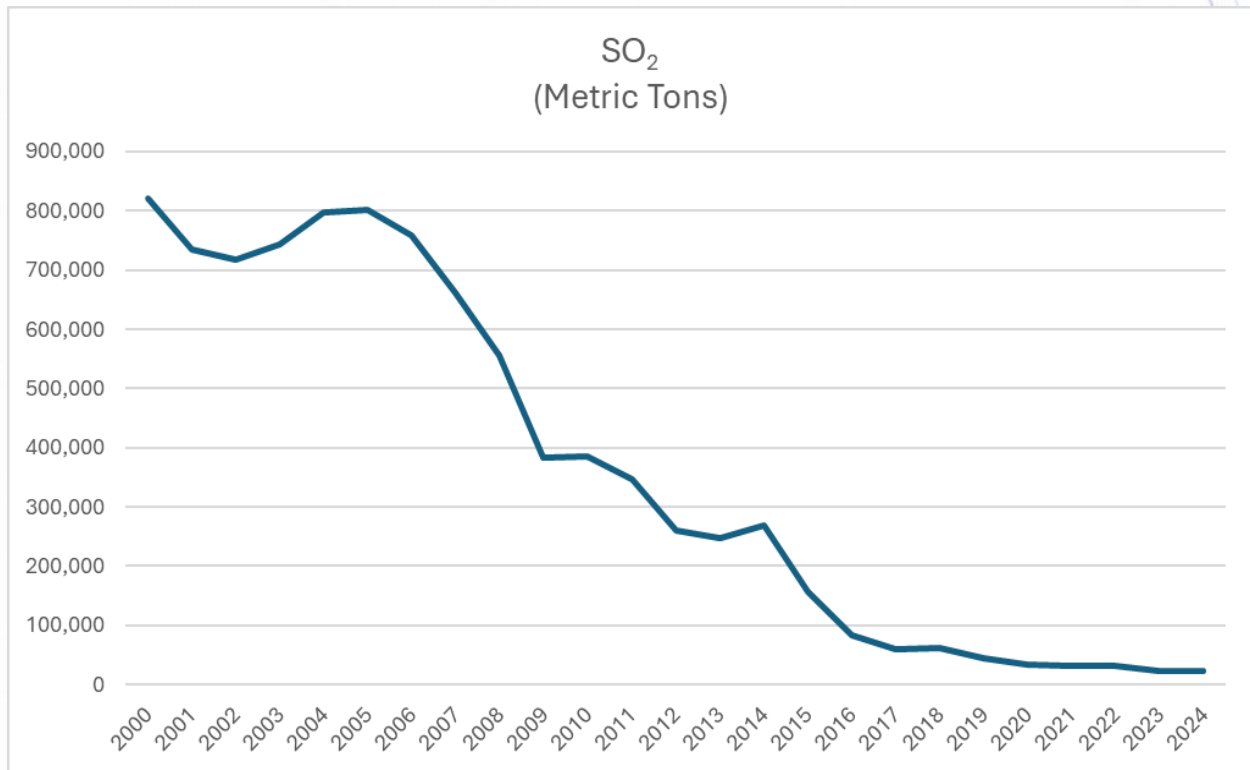
Indiana's all-of-the-above energy strategy positions the state to meet these demands. The growth of solar and wind over the past 10 years has been tremendous. Indiana ranked 3rd in the country for most solar generation added in 2025, 13th in solar electricity production, had the 2nd most wind capacity east of the Mississippi River, and ranked 13th in wind capacity nationally.

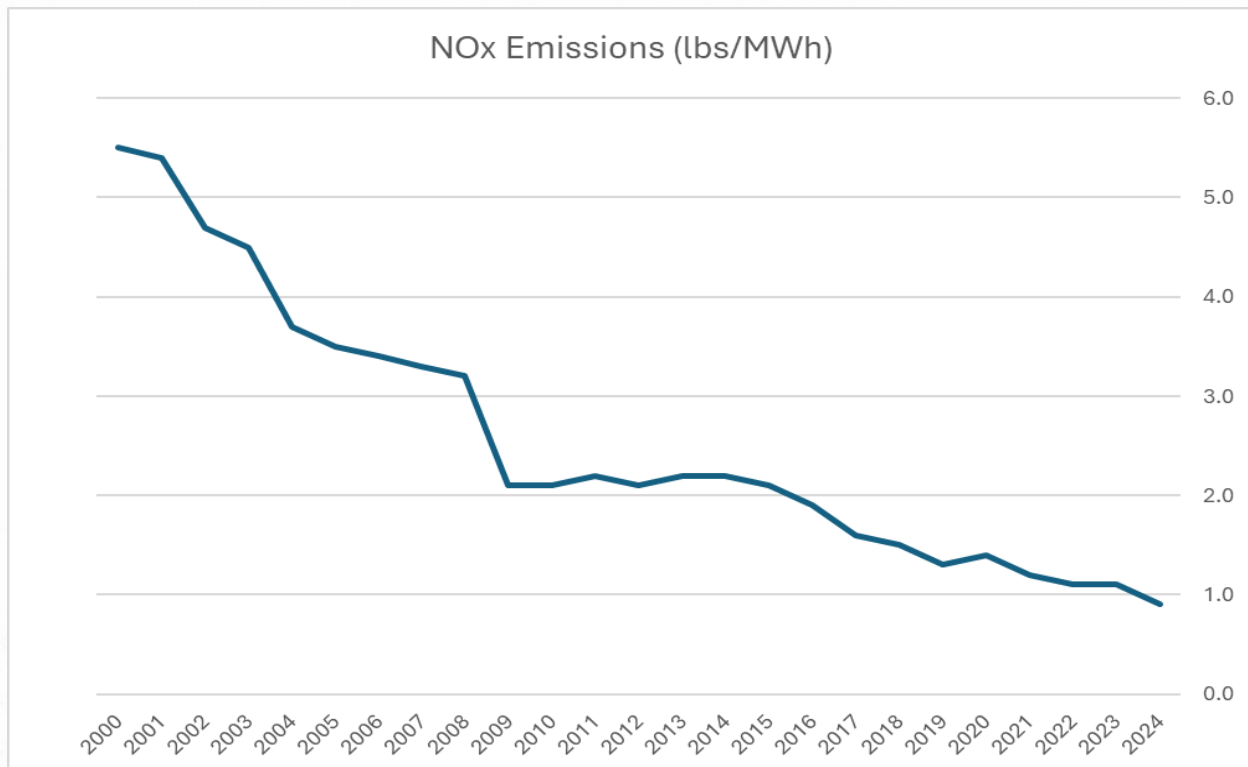
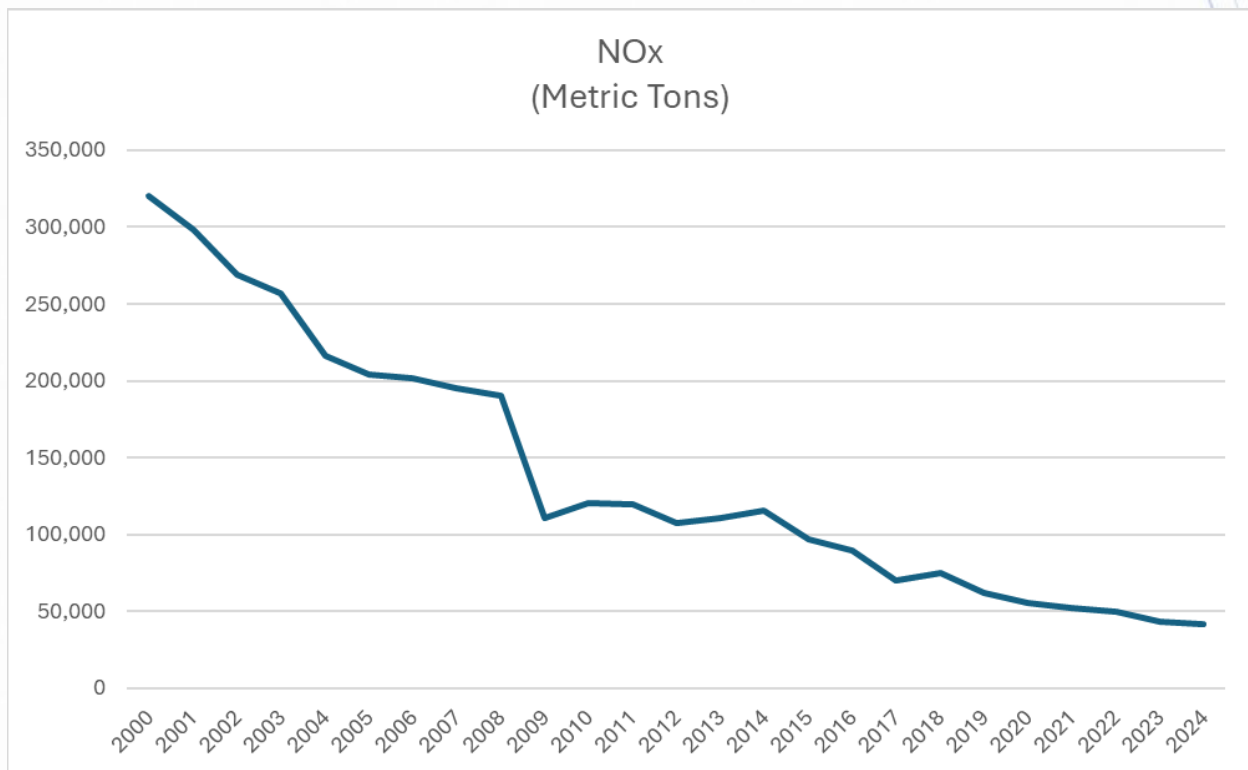
These statistics, combined with Indiana's continued operation and expansion of nuclear generation, continued research into carbon capture and sequestration, and the pursuit of hydrogen energy demonstrate Indiana's continued emphasis on maintaining a reliable and affordable electric grid while making meaningful progress to a cleaner grid.

INDIANA'S GENERATION FUEL MIX

Technology	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Coal	68.5%	64.6%	65.3%	61.6%	53.7%	47.3%	50.9%	47.0%	39.6%	39.6%
Nuclear	9.9%	9.3%	10.8%	9.7%	9.7%	11.1%	11.7%	10.6%	12.0%	12.1%
Natural Gas	14.2%	17.8%	16.2%	21.3%	27.9%	31.7%	26.1%	29.2%	34.0%	34.0%
Wind	4.0%	4.4%	4.6%	4.3%	5.5%	6.5%	7.4%	8.9%	9.2%	9.2%
Other Gases	1.0%	2.0%	1.8%	1.9%	2.0%	1.8%	2.1%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Oil	1.2%	0.5%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Hydro	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%
Solar	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.6%	1.1%	1.8%	1.8%
Biomass	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
Other	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%





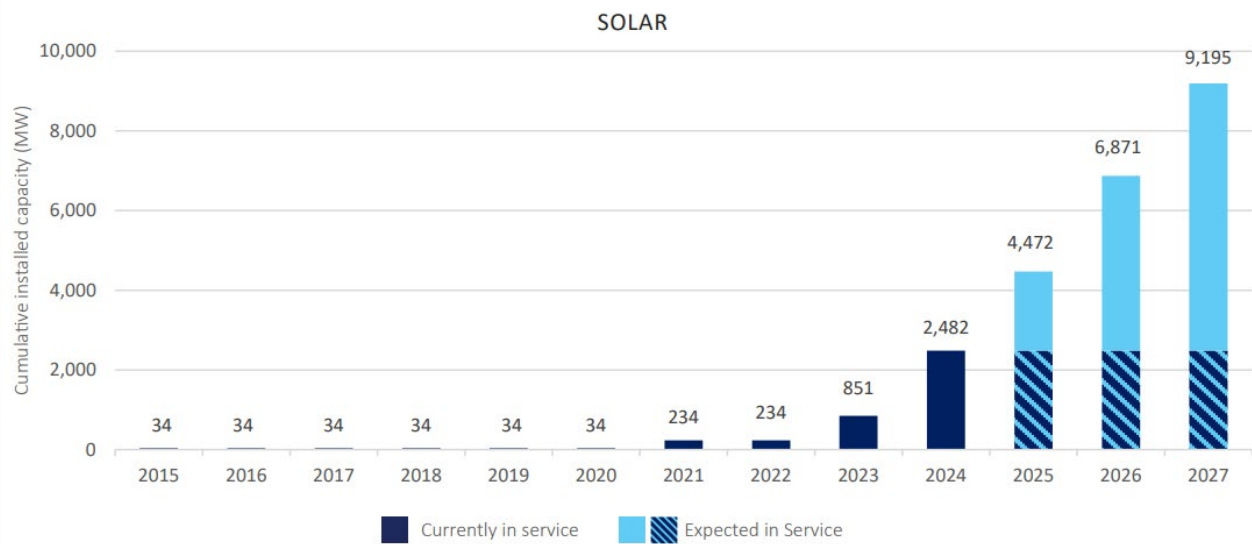


Indiana’s ability to meet rising demand while achieving its environmental and economic goals depends on the diversity and depth of its generation portfolio – highlighting the benefits of an “all of the above” approach. The following section profiles some of the emerging generation resource types in Indiana.

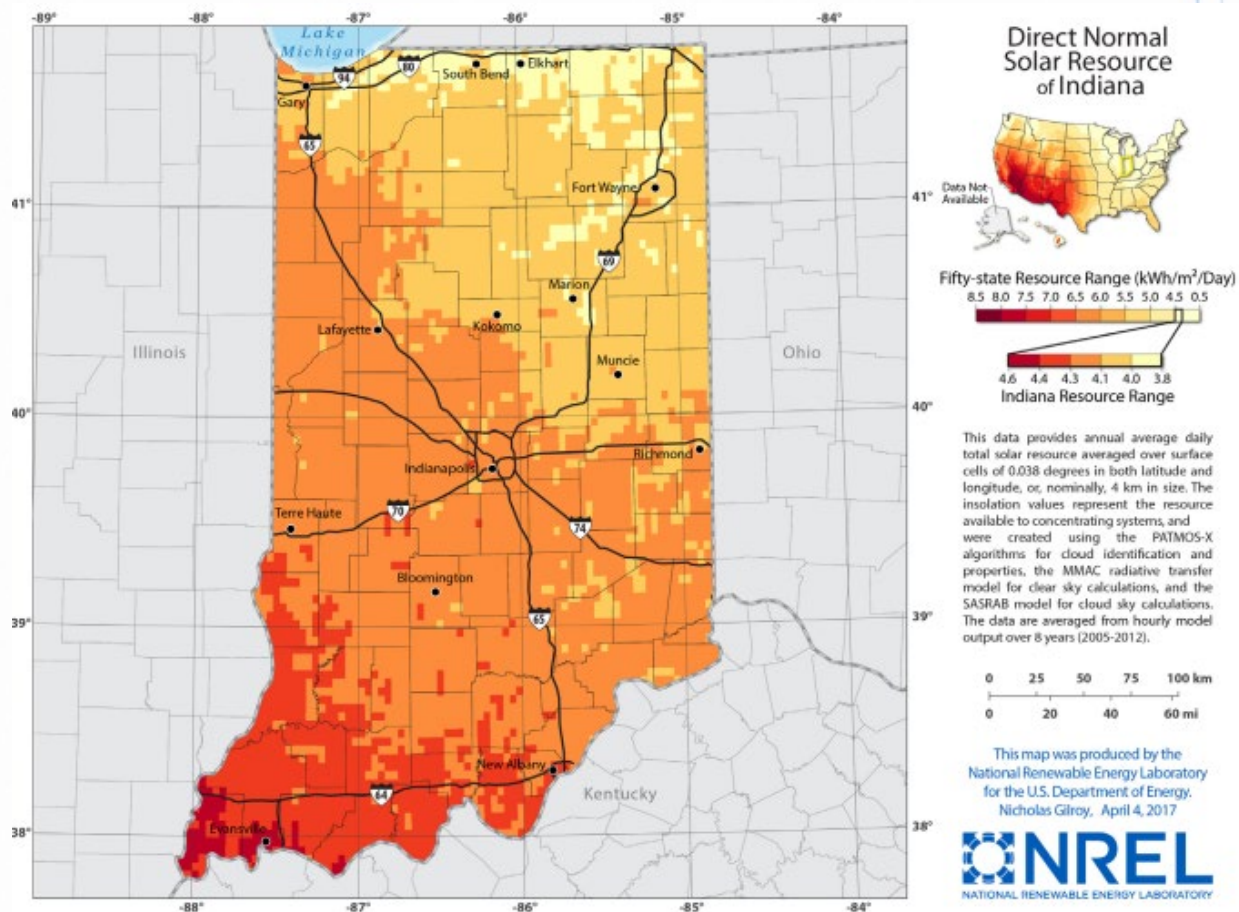
Generation Resources

Utility-Scale Solar

Solar energy is Indiana’s fastest-growing generation resource by number of installations and clearly demonstrates the state's broader energy diversification story. The state currently has over 100 solar facilities with a combined summer capacity of almost 5,000 MW, making it the third-largest resource category behind coal and natural gas. Indiana ranked third in the country for solar capacity additions in 2025 — behind only Texas and California and the IURC estimates that solar capacity for utility-scale merchant facilities will almost double by the end of 2027. Northern Indiana is also home to one of the largest solar installations in the United States at over 1.3 GW.



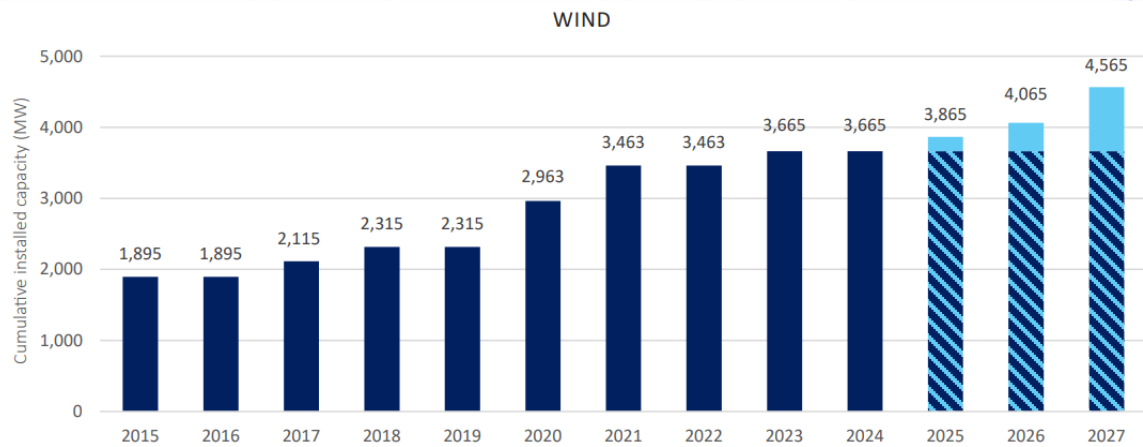
Many of Indiana’s new solar installations are being paired with battery storage, creating hybrid facilities that can deliver power after the sun sets and provide dispatchable capacity to the grid. While solar generation’s declining capital costs and relatively fast construction timelines have made it an attractive option for meeting new demand, Indiana communities are growing increasingly weary of these developments’ environmental impacts and their encroachment on prime farmland. These concerns, combined with delays at the RTO level, have slowed down the rate of development for solar generation projects.



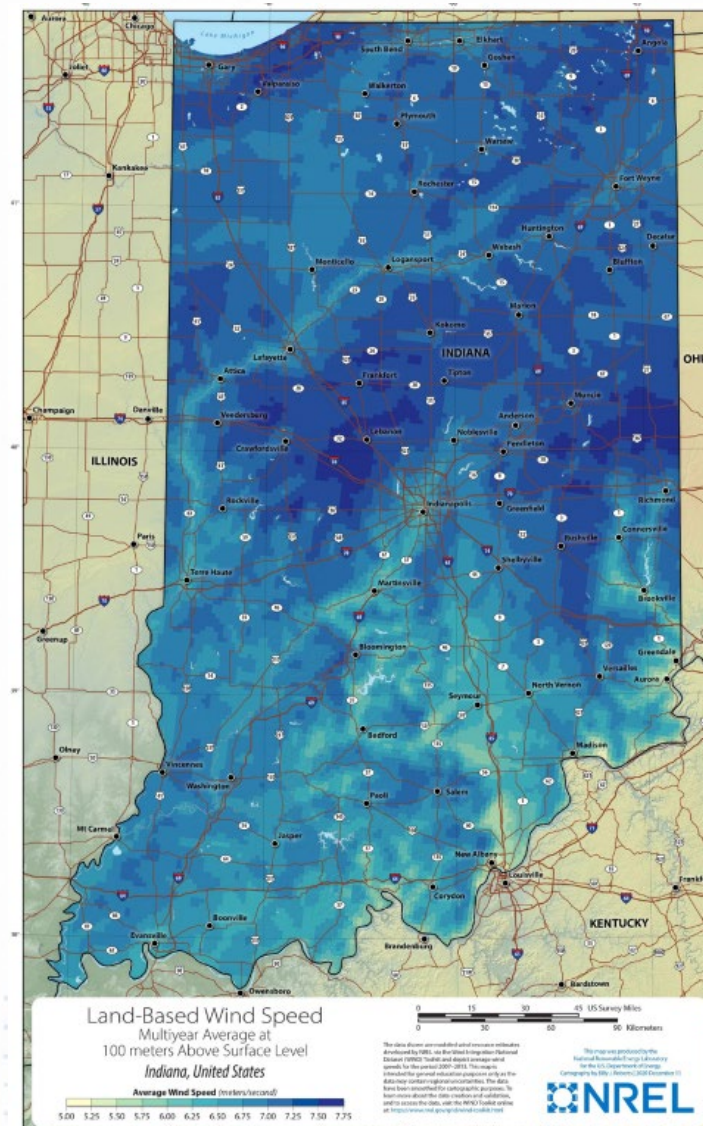
Wind

Indiana's wind generation is concentrated in a productive corridor across the west-central part of the state and has about 20 wind facilities totaling approximately 3,800 MW of summer capacity spread across nine counties: Benton, White, Jasper, Warren, Tipton, Randolph, Jay, Tippecanoe, and Madison.

Wind energy typically delivers strong electricity production during winter months and overnight hours when solar output is minimal or nonexistent, making it a natural complement to solar in a diversified portfolio. Similar to solar energy projects, local opposition to wind developments has been a recurring challenge now for over a decade, resulting in a significant slowdown in growth in this energy resource. Additionally, as wind facilities have been built, it is more difficult to find undeveloped locations with ready access to transmission facilities.



Indiana still has plenty of land that would be conducive to additional wind energy resources, especially along the eastern side of the state.



Hydroelectric

Hydroelectric power is a small and durable component of Indiana's generation mix, providing carbon-free electric generation for decades. Indiana has six facilities totaling approximately 108 MW of nameplate capacity and 71.6 MW of net summer capacity. The largest is Duke Energy Indiana's Markland facility in Switzerland County, located on the Ohio River, with a nameplate capacity of 77.7 MW and a net summer capacity of 53.7 MW. NIPSCO operates two smaller hydro facilities, one in Carroll County and the other in White County, representing 19.1 MW in nameplate capacity and 7 MW in net summer capacity. Indiana Michigan Power runs the Twin Branch and Elkhart facilities in northern Indiana which offer 8.2 MW in nameplate capacity and 5.4 MW in summer net capacity. Also, the University of Notre Dame operates a 2.5 MW hydroelectric installation.

While Indiana's topography limits opportunities for new large-scale hydro development, existing facilities provide reliable, zero-emission, long-lived generation assets with operating lives that can extend 50 to 100 years. While there are limited options for Indiana to expand its hydroelectric capabilities, SUFG cites a U.S. DOE report that Indiana has potential capacity to add 454 MW in already existing hydroelectric non-powered dams. A further study by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shows that Indiana has a total hydropower potential of over 789 MW.

Dam Name	County	City	River	Hydro-power Potential (MW)
John T. Myers locks & dams	Posey	Mt. Vernon	Ohio River	395
Newburgh locks and dams	Henderson	Newburgh	Ohio River	319
Mississinewa Lake dam	Miami	Peru	Mississinewa River	14
J. Edward Roush Lake dam	Huntington	Huntington	Wabash River	9
Salamonie Lake dam	Wabash	Lagro	Salamonie River	9
Brookville Lake dam	Franklin	Brookville	White Water River (East fork)	8
Monroe Lake dam	Monroe	Guthrie	Salt Creek	8
White River dam	Marion	Indianapolis	White River	3
Patoka Lake dam	Dubois	Jasper	Patoka River	3
Cagles Mill Lake dam	Putman	Bowling Green	Mill Creek	2
Cecil M. Harden Lake dam	Parke	Mansfield	Raccoon Creek	2
Ball Band dam	St. Joseph	Mishawaka	St. Joseph River	2
Seymour Water Co. dam	Jackson	Seymour	White Water River (East fork)	2
Eagles Creek Reservoir dam	Marion	Clermont	Eagle Creek	2
West fork White River dam	Morgan	Martinsville	White River	2
Harding St. power plant dam	Marion	Indianapolis	White River	2
Versailles State Park dam	Ripley	Versailles	Laughery Creek	1.4
Emerichsville dam	Marion	Indianapolis	White River	1.3
Broad Ripple dam	Marion	Indianapolis	White River	1.3
Geist Reservoir dam	Marion	Indianapolis	Fall Creek	1.3
Cedarville dam	Allen	Cedarville	St. Joseph River	1.3
Hosey (Maumee River) dam	Allen	Fort Wayne	Maumee River	1.2

Biomass and Biogas

Indiana has 17 operational landfill gas facilities with a combined capacity of approximately 64.3 MW ([SUFG 2025 Renewable Energy Resources Report](#)). Landfill gas-to-energy projects — operated largely by Wabash Valley Power Association at sites in Marshall, Elkhart, Cass, Jay, and Pike counties — capture methane from decomposing waste and convert it to electricity, simultaneously reducing greenhouse gas emissions and generating power. Covanta's Indianapolis facility processes municipal solid waste, and BioTown Ag in White County and Green Cow Power in Elkhart County generate electricity from agricultural waste, reflecting Indiana's strong agricultural base. While small in aggregate, these projects serve an important dual purpose: they address waste management challenges while producing renewable generation, and they demonstrate that Indiana's agricultural and waste sectors can contribute meaningfully to the state's energy portfolio.

Landfill Name	Project Developer	County	Rated Capacity (MW)	End User
Liberty Landfill	WVPA	White	6.4	WVPA
National Serv-All LF		Allen	6.4	General Motors
County Line LF	Aria Energy, LLC; Republic Services, Inc.	Fulton	5.9	NIPSCO
Earthmovers LF	WVPA	Elkhart	4.8	WVPA
Deercroft RDF	WVPA	LaPorte	4	WVPA
Blackfoot Landfill	Energy Systems Group	Pike	3.2	CenterPoint
Jay County LF	WVPA	Jay	3.2	WVPA
Liberty Landfill	WVPA	White	3.2	WVPA
Liberty Landfill	WVPA	White	3.2	WVPA
Oak Ridge RDF	WVPA	Cass	3.2	WVPA
Prairie View RDF	WVPA	St. Joseph	3.2	WVPA
Prairie View RDF	WVPA	St. Joseph	3.2	WVPA
Twin Bridges RDF	WVPA	Hendricks	3.2	WVPA
Twin Bridges RDF	WVPA	Hendricks	3.2	WVPA
Twin Bridges RDF	WVPA; WM Renewable Energy	Hendricks	3.2	WVPA
Twin Bridges RDF	WVPA	Hendricks	3.2	WVPA
County Line LF	Aria Energy	Fulton	1.6	WVPA

Old estimates from 2013 show Indiana could support an additional 16.9 MW of capacity from 10 other landfills in the state.

Facility Name	Amount of garbage disposed on landfill (tons)	Potential electricity generation capacity (kW)
Clinton County	1,170,254	560
New Paris Pike	1,900,000	870
Decatur Hills	1,363,442	900
Hoosier 2	2,143,024	1,030
Bartholomew County 2	1,468,927	1,170
Medora Sanitary	2,509,000	1,200
Wabash Valley	4,488,770	2,290
County Line	4,694,835	2,400
United Refuse	7,125,327	2,440
Sycamore Ridge	4,579,067	4,060

Additionally, concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) could support 20 MW of new capacity.

Operation type (size in head)	Number of candidate farms	Potential electrical generation capacity per farm (kW)	Potential electrical generation capacity per category (kW)
Dairy (500-999)	17	175	2,975
Dairy (1000-2499)	12	365	4,380
Dairy (2500 or more)	3	1,204	3,612
Hog farrow-to-wean (1000-1999)	4	22	88
Hog farrow-to-wean (2000-4999)	2	53	106
Hog farrow-to-wean (5000 or more)	2	184	368
Hog farrow-to-finish (1000-1999)	14	20	280
Hog farrow-to-finish (2000-4999)	14	43	602
Hog farrow-to-finish (5000 or more)	16	194	3,104
Hog finish only (1000-1999)	18	28	504
Hog finish only (2000-4999)	22	68	1,496
Hog finish only (5000 or more)	14	181	2,534
Hog nursery (1000-1999)	2	12	24
Hog nursery (2000-4999)	3	18	54
Hog nursery (5000 or more)	1	38	38
Total	144		20,165

Finally, estimates show that Indiana wastewater treatment plants have the potential to generate over 10 MW of electricity capacity as well.

Facility name	Average flow (MGD)	Potential electricity generation capacity (kW)
Noblesville WWTP	5.0	130
Speedway WWTP	5.5	143
Shelbyville WWTP	6.8	177
Elkhart WWTP	8.3	216
J.B. Gifford WWTP	8.5	221
William Edwin Ross WWTP	9.0	234
Anderson WWTP	12.0	312
Mishawaka WWTP	12.0	312
Evansville Eastside WWTP	18.0	468
Muncie WWTP	19.0	494
Lafayette WWTP	20.7	537
Terre Haute WWTP	24.0	624
Hammond WWTP	27.0	702
City of South Bend WWTP	36.0	936
Gary Sanitary District	50.0	1,300
Fort Wayne WPCP	62.0	1,612
Carmel South WWTP	95.0	2,470
Total		10,888

Energy Storage

Battery energy storage is emerging as a critical grid resource in Indiana. As of July 2025, approximately 1,282 MW of battery storage capacity was either operating or planned to be in service by 2029. Currently operating projects include the 200 MW Pike County Energy Storage facility (AES Indiana), the 20 MW Harding Street system (AES Indiana), NIPSCO's Cavalry Energy Center (60 MW) and Dunns Bridge Solar/Storage Phase II (75 MW), and Duke Energy's smaller installations at Camp Atterbury, Nabb, and Naval Support Activity Crane.

The pipeline of planned projects is substantial: the 200 MW Brickyard Solar project in Boone County, the 150 MW Williams Battery Storage Project in Jefferson County, the 118 MW Fletcher Battery Storage in Decatur County, the 100 MW Dunns Bridge Solar II expansion in Starke County, and several additional projects in LaPorte, LaGrange, Lake, and Delaware counties are all expected to reach commercial operation between 2026 and 2029. Both lithium ion and lithium iron phosphate chemistries are being deployed. Battery storage complements every other resource on Indiana's grid: it can improve the accredited capacity of solar and wind generation resources when paired together, provides fast frequency response that enhances grid stability, manages peak demand, and can defer costly transmission upgrades. As Indiana's generation mix diversifies, storage will become increasingly essential to maintaining the power quality and dispatchability that the state's economy requires.

INDIANA BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS
(as of July 1, 2025)

Project	Current Owner	County	Battery Type	Battery Capacity	Status
Harding Street	AES Indiana	Marion	Lithium Ion	20	Operating
Pike County Energy Storage Project	AES Indiana	Pike	Lithium Ion	200 MW	Operating
Highway 41 Facility	CenterPoint	Vanderburgh	Lithium Ion	4 MW _{AC}	Operating
NSA Crane	Duke	Martin	Lithium Ion	5	Operating
Camp Atterbury	Duke	Johnson	Lithium Ion	5	Operating
Nabb	Duke	Clark	Lithium Ion	5	Operating
Calvary Energy Center	NIPSCO	White	Lithium Ion	60 MW _{DC}	Operating
Dunns Bridge Solar/Storage Phase II	NIPSCO	Jasper	Lithium Ion	75 MW _{DC}	Operating
Petersburg Energy Center	AES Indiana	Pike	Lithium Ion	60 MW _{DC}	Est. in-service date December 2025
Brickyard Solar	Independent Power Producer	Boone	-	200	Est. in-service date December 2026
Dunns Bridge Solar II	Independent Power Producer	Starke	-	100 MW (AC-coupled)	Est. in-service date December 2026
Williams Battery Storage Project	Independent Power Producer	Jefferson	Lithium Iron Phosphate	150 MW _{AC}	Est. in-service date December 2026
Crossvine Solar Project	Independent Power Producer	Dubois	-	50 MW	Est. in-service date June 2027
Bluestem Solar	Independent Power Producer	LaPorte	Lithium Ion	55 MW	Est. in-service date December 2027
Cherry Hill Battery Storage Project	Independent Power Producer	LaGrange	Lithium Iron Phosphate	25 MW	Est. in-service date December 2027
Fletcher Battery Storage Project	Independent Power Producer	Decatur	Lithium Iron Phosphate	118 MW _{AC}	Est. in-service date January 2027
Merrillville Solar Project	Independent Power Producer	Lake	-	100 MW	Est. in-service date Q4 2028
Royerton Solar	Independent Power Producer	Delaware	-	50 MW (AC-coupled)	Est. in-service date May 2029

Note: The hyphen (-) indicates information that was not disclosed.

Geothermal

Indiana's geothermal potential is defined by two distinct realities. For high-temperature power generation, the state faces significant limitations: the first comprehensive assessment conducted by the Indiana Geological and Water Survey found that temperatures sufficient for electricity generation (above 150°C) exist only at depths exceeding 7.5 km, which have never been drilled in Indiana.

However, shallow low-temperature geothermal systems for heating and cooling represent a near-term opportunity that Indiana is already capturing. The University of Notre Dame has installed over 2,400 geothermal wells serving approximately half of the campus peak cooling demand, which is one of the largest institutional geothermal deployments in the Midwest. Another possible use for geothermal systems is aquifer thermal energy storage for industrial waste heat recovery and industrial cooling.

Advanced Nuclear

While Indiana does not host any electric generation facilities powered by nuclear energy, Hoosiers in Indiana Michigan Power's service territory have long enjoyed electricity from the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant, located on the Lake Michigan shoreline in Bridgman, Michigan. The Cook Plant produces a combined 2,360 MW of electricity and provides 24/7 dispatchable, carbon-free power to customers across northern and central Indiana.

Indiana's nuclear portfolio is expanding through Hoosier Energy's 30-year power purchase agreement for approximately 370 MW from the recently restarted Palisades Nuclear Generating Station, also in Michigan.

Looking ahead, small modular reactors, or SMRs, represent Indiana's opportunity to bring nuclear generation within the state. SMRs are compact nuclear reactors with generating capacity typically under 500 MW that employ modular construction techniques, use advanced passive safety systems that operate without active controls or human intervention, and can be integrated with existing energy infrastructure. A comprehensive study conducted by Purdue University concluded that SMRs present a viable pathway for Indiana to transition to a cleaner, more resilient, and diversified energy future. The study reviewed nineteen SMR designs and found that the technology is well-suited to Indiana's needs, particularly as a 24/7 dispatchable source of carbon-free electricity with capacity factors exceeding 92%. This dispatchable, high-quality power meets the needs of Indiana's advanced manufacturers, pharmaceutical producers, and data center operators.

In terms of economic benefits, the Purdue study estimates that building a 500 MW SMR could create approximately 2,000 direct jobs during a four-year construction phase, injecting over \$500 million annually into the state's economy. Once operational, the plant would employ roughly 140 full-time workers. The long-term annual economic impact of an operating SMR is estimated at \$352 million.

For site selection, Indiana's retired and retiring coal plants offer particularly promising sites for SMR deployment. The U.S. Department of Energy found that Indiana has the second-most coal plant sites suitable for conversion to nuclear in the country, trailing only Texas. The Purdue study identified eight coal sites suitable for further investigation, noting that repurposing these locations could reduce SMR project costs by 7 to 26% by leveraging existing transmission interconnections, water access, road infrastructure, and site improvements. A coal-to-nuclear transition also directly replaces baseload generation with baseload generation and preserves jobs and tax revenue in energy communities that would otherwise face economic disruption from plant retirements.

There are challenges to deploying advanced nuclear reactors in Indiana though. Construction costs for first-of-a-kind reactors remain high. Workforce readiness is another critical factor as there will need to be sustained investment to have a workforce pipeline capable of producing enough workers necessary to work on SMRs. Finally, careful attention needs to be paid to earning and keeping community acceptance. The Purdue study conducted a statewide survey of over 1,000 Indiana residents and found that 61% of Hoosiers had not heard about SMRs. When asked their opinion about SMRs, 46% of the respondents favored or strongly favored using SMR technology for electricity generation, and 65% considered SMRs to be very or moderately safe. The most-cited concerns by the survey respondents were accident risk and radioactive waste. Scientists were rated the most trustworthy source of information on nuclear technology by 83% of respondents, while elected officials at the federal, state, and local levels ranked lowest. These findings underscore the need for transparent, science-based public engagement led by trusted institutions in order to build community acceptance and support for advanced nuclear projects in the state.

Energy Efficiency & Distributed Energy Resources

Energy efficiency is often called the cheapest generation resource available because every kilowatt-hour that is never consumed is a kilowatt-hour that never needs to be generated, transmitted, or distributed. By reducing peak demand, energy efficiency can save ratepayer dollars by reducing the need for new generation investment. Indiana's electric utilities offer a range of demand-side management (DSM) programs including weatherization assistance, lighting and HVAC rebates, industrial process optimization, and demand response programs that compensate customers for reducing consumption during peak periods. As Indiana's electricity demand grows and generation resources tighten across both MISO and PJM, maximizing the value of demand-side resources and programs becomes increasingly important to maintaining affordability.

Furthermore, demand response is an integral component of the electric system. Demand response is when an electric utility customer agrees to reduce their electricity consumption (i.e. demand) at a specific time for the utility or RTO, such as during peak hours or during times of elevated electric grid stress. By agreeing to reduce demand during these times, the amount of generation needed to serve the entire grid is lowered and significant investments in additional generation, transmission, and distribution facilities can be avoided or deferred. In exchange for participating in demand response programs, customers will usually receive a financial incentive, such as lower rates or capacity payments.

Distributed generation resources complement energy efficiency by placing generation closer to the point of consumption providing localized resilience. Since 2010, Indiana has seen steady growth in customer-sited solar installations. Looking ahead, emerging technologies like plug-in solar, which are standardized, modular solar panel systems designed for simplified residential installation without complex permitting, could allow for enhanced access to distributed generation resources and provide Hoosiers with enhanced energy security and affordability.

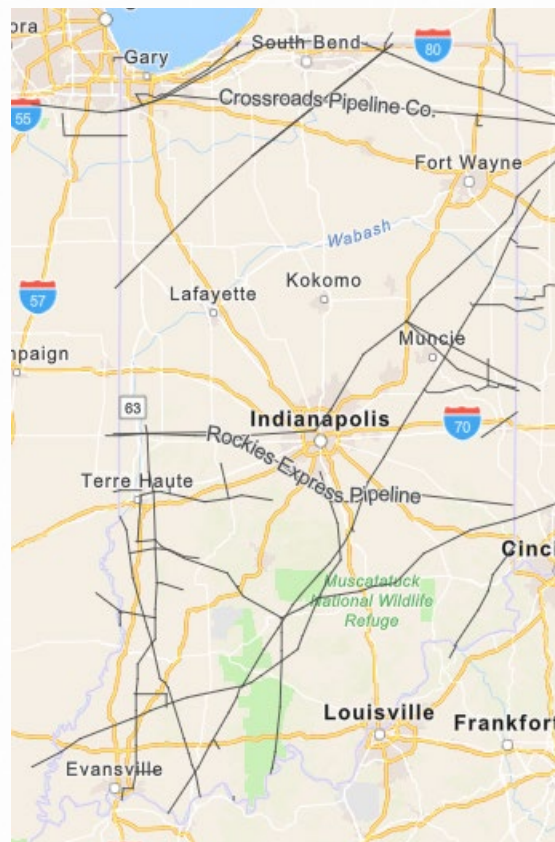
Natural Gas

Natural gas is now one of the foundational resources in Indiana's energy economy. Over the past two decades, it has grown from a secondary generation fuel into one of the state's dominant sources of dispatchable power. It is positioned to play an even larger role as electric demand increases from data centers, manufacturing expansion, and other large-load development. Natural gas is also deeply embedded in Indiana's broader economy beyond electricity generation.

According to the Executive Order 25-50 December 2025 Report from OED, Indiana consumed approximately 875 Bcf of natural gas in 2023, making it one of the nation's larger gas-consuming states. The industrial sector is the largest end user, accounting for roughly 45% of statewide consumption. Electric generation is the second-largest use, representing roughly one-third of total statewide natural gas consumption.

Indiana's natural gas infrastructure gives the state a significant strategic advantage, but it also highlights the need for continued growth and investment into this infrastructure. Indiana is fortunate to be home to many interstate transmission natural gas pipelines, giving it robust access to additional supply.

Map of Natural Gas Interstate Transmission Pipelines in Indiana

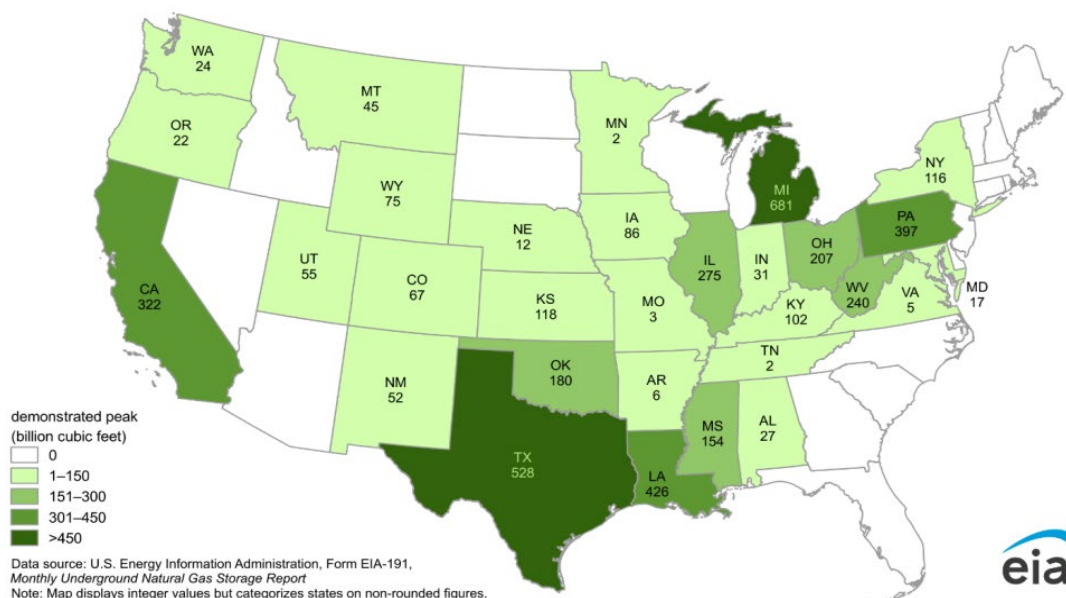


Source: [Indiana Geographic Information Office](#)

In 2023, more than 2.1 Tcf of natural gas entered Indiana through interstate pipelines, although only about 30% of that gas was ultimately consumed or stored in the state. The balance continued onward to neighboring states, underscoring Indiana's role as an important transportation corridor in the Midwest natural gas network. Major interstate pipelines crossing Indiana include the Rockies Express Pipeline, the ANR Pipeline, Texas Eastern Pipeline, and Texas Gas Pipeline.

As the EO 25-50 report notes, the relationship between gas supply and electric reliability is becoming more pronounced: as more gas-fired generation is added, pipeline access, storage, procurement, and deliverability matter more to the electric grid than they did in prior decades. Based on announced projects and estimated operating assumptions, the report found that demand from power producers under the current project pipeline could roughly double by 2031. Indiana's underground storage system is an important part of that picture.

Maximum demonstrated working natural gas capacity by state, November 2024



Source: [EIA Underground Natural Gas Working Storage Capacity Report](#)

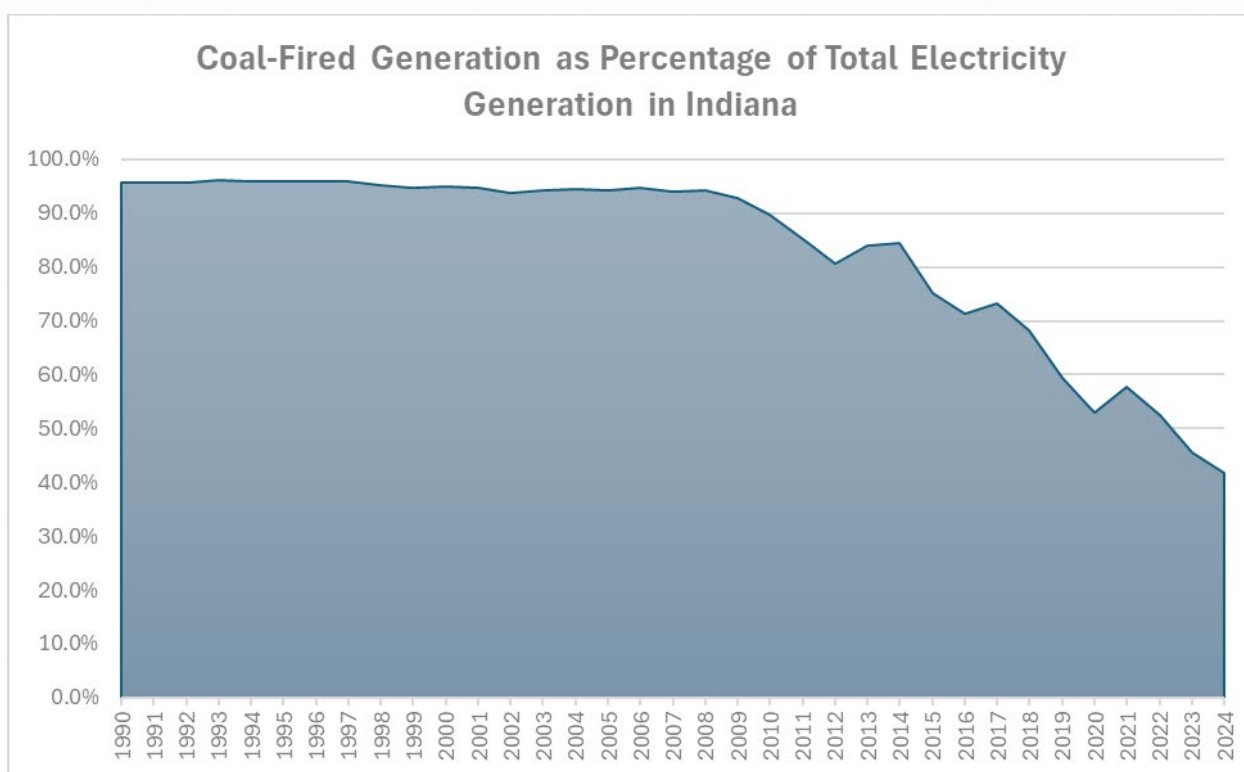
As of November 2024, Indiana had 31 Bcf in demonstrated peak capacity within its underground storage fields with a total storage capacity of approximately 113 Bcf. Storage provides an added layer of resilience when pipeline conditions tighten or when weather-related disruptions affect supply or transportation. As natural gas demand grows, however, the adequacy of storage and deliverability becomes more significant.

In sum, natural gas occupies an important place in Indiana's "all of the above" energy strategy. It is a dispatchable resource that complements intermittent generation, supports reliability during peak periods, and provides a practical pathway for serving major new loads at speed.

Coal

Coal-fired electric generation facilities have been the cornerstone of Indiana's electricity sector for more than a century and remain the single largest source of electricity generated within the state today. In total, coal accounts for 12,665 MW of summer-rated generation capacity in Indiana while retail electric utilities utilize 10,290 MW of summer-rated capacity to serve Hoosier customers throughout the state.

The IURC's 2025 annual report showed that coal-fired electric generation comprised almost 40% of Indiana's fuel mix, which is down from 68.5% in 2015.



While Indiana has been shifting away from its reliance on coal-fired generation as its predominant electricity generation source, coal-fired generation remains a great dispatchable generation resource for Hoosiers. According to the U.S. EIA, in 2024, Indiana coal facilities operated at 34.5% capacity factor, which measures actual energy output from a plant to its maximum potential output. That compares to 18.2% for a natural gas turbine, 55.7% for a natural gas-fired boiler with steam turbine, 83.1% for a natural gas combined cycle, 32.4% for wind resources, and 20.2% for solar resources. However, Indiana's coal fleet lags behind its neighbors in capacity factors, with Illinois' coal fleet running 45.8% of the time, Kentucky's being at 57.4%, Michigan's at 53.9%, and Ohio at 52.0%.

In addition to capacity factor, coal-fired generation earns high marks from RTOs on their capacity accreditation ratings, which is essentially the percentage of nameplate capacity that is used to determine a utility's contribution to meeting its planning reserve margin requirement (PRMR). In PJM, coal-fired generation resources have a fleet accreditation rating of 83% for the 2026/2027 Delivery Year while in MISO, coal-fired resources averaged 89% for the summer season and 76% for the winter season, which is when the yearly peak demand usually occurs.

As mentioned earlier in the report, Indiana's coal-fired generation has been presented with a number of different challenges that have impacted its capabilities and economic life. According to the IURC's 2025 annual report, between 2012 and 2025, 31 coal-fired generation plants retired in Indiana. Furthermore, additional coal-fired generation is expected to retire in the coming years or convert to using natural gas fuel; however, some expected retirements in 2025 have been delayed due to the U.S. Department of Energy declaring energy emergencies and ordering coal-fired plants to continue operations in the short-term in order to ensure the resource adequacy of the electric grid.

PROJECTED COAL-FIRED UNIT RETIREMENTS

Generating Unit	Owner	Summer Rating (MW)	Retire Date	Age at Retire Date
Culley Unit 2 (1966)	CenterPoint	90	12-31-25	52
Schahfer 17 (1983)	NIPSCO	361	12-31-25	42
Schahfer 18 (1986)	NIPSCO	361	12-31-25	39
Michigan City Unit 12 (1974)	NIPSCO	469	12-31-28	54
Rockport Unit 1 (1984)	I&M	1300	12-31-28	44
Rockport Unit 2 (1989)	I&M	1300	12-31-28	39
Whitewater Valley Unit 1 (1955)	IMPA	30	12-31-28	73
Whitewater Valley Unit 2 (1973)	IMPA	60	12-31-28	55
Gibson Unit 5 (1982)	Duke	620	1-01-30	48
Cayuga Unit 1 (1970)	Duke	500	1-01-30	60
Cayuga Unit 2 (1972)	Duke	495	1-01-31	59
Gibson Unit 4 (1979)	Duke	622	1-01-32	53
Gibson Unit 3 (1978)	Duke	630	1-01-32	54
Gibson Unit 1 (1976)	Duke	630	12-31-38	62
Gibson Unit 2 (1975)	Duke	630	12-31-38	63

Note: Projected dates are subject to change and are based on the most recent IRPs and current requirements under CAA, Section 111(d).

PROJECTED COAL-FIRED UNIT CONVERSION TO NATURAL GAS

Generating Unit	Owner	Summer Rating (MW)	Retire Date	Age at Retire Date
Petersburg Unit 3 (1977)	AES Indiana	481	12-31-26	49
Petersburg Unit 4 (1986)	AES Indiana	511	12-31-26	40
Culley Unit 3 (1973)	CenterPoint	270	12-31-27	54
Edwardsport (2013)	Duke	798	1-01-30	17

With all of this in mind, Indiana's electric generation portfolio is substantial and increasingly diverse. But having resources on paper and getting them built, connected, and operating at the pace the market demands are two different challenges. Through nine months of meetings, workshops, and stakeholder engagement, the Task Force discussed what factors make Indiana competitive among other jurisdictions and also identified a set of interconnected institutional hurdles that, if left unaddressed, risk preventing Indiana from capturing economic development opportunities.

Task Force Work & Recommendations

During its meetings, the Task Force discussed a variety of hurdles that slow Indiana's response to the new growth in electricity demand. A common theme emerging from the Task Force's discussions is that Indiana's decision-making, permitting, and community engagement processes lack the uniformity, consistency, predictability, and pace that meeting current opportunities require. Indiana needs new electric infrastructure to serve this growing demand and a refreshed regulatory approach that protects ratepayers while allowing innovation and investment to flourish.

Indiana's electrical system, and the nation's as a whole, was designed and built for stable and incremental load growth. A dynamic change brought by the onshoring of manufacturing, increased rates of electrification, and new hyperscaler data centers has left the existing system and frameworks struggling to keep pace.

The Task Force identified several sources of tension which appear to be contributing to the placement of hurdles in the path of further development. The most discussed sources of tension are those between:

1. Speed versus stability;
2. Accommodating growth while maintaining affordability;
3. Local control versus new state infrastructure & economic development;
4. Long-term investments with only short-term vision;
5. Determining actual versus speculative load; and
6. Fostering innovation while addressing institutional inertia.

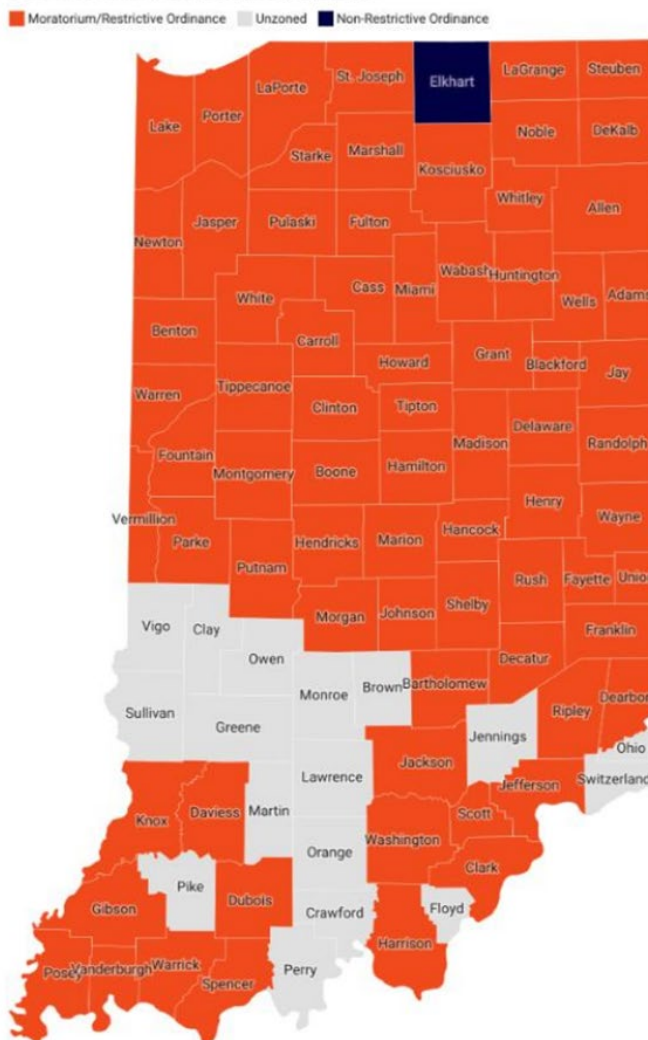
These tensions result in hurdles such as a patchwork of continually shifting siting controls which need to be addressed in order to continue advancing Indiana's economy.

The first hurdle is when there is a disconnect between the state and local communities. In some instances, the state approves a project, but the local unit rejects the same project. The state and local units have so far been unable to bridge this gap. The result is a set of contradictory signals to energy generation developers, industrial consumers, and investors, fueling a perception that Indiana cannot deliver results.

The Task Force's perception is that there is a lack of trusted information sources regarding energy generation projects and limited communication and public education efforts made prior to major electric generation projects seeking local permitting approval, causing hesitation among local residents regarding these projects.

Indiana (Last Updated Jan. 2026)

■ Moratorium/Restrictive Ordinance
 ■ Unzoned
 ■ Non-Restrictive Ordinance



Source: Clean Grid Alliance

This highlights the need for more proactive and coordinated efforts to explain future projects in order to avoid running into similar situations.

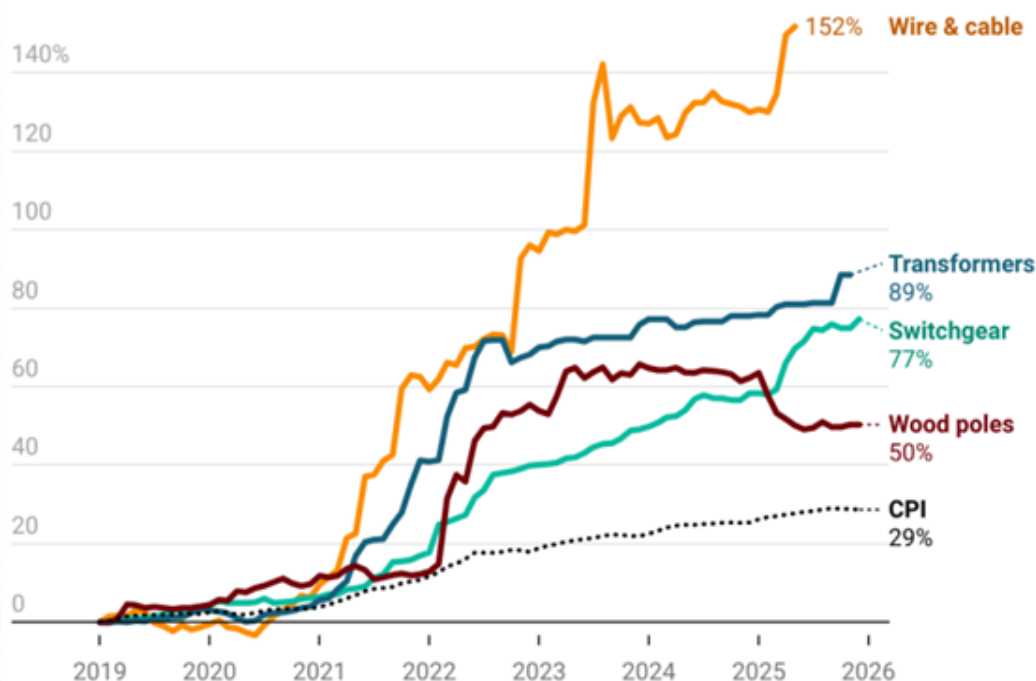
state is experiencing today. Although members of the Task Force agree with the sound regulatory policy we currently enjoy, a consequence is that Indiana retail electric utilities do not build capacity in advance of projected need.

In an environment where development expects “power-ready” sites on tightly compressed timelines, this system may position Indiana at a disadvantage compared to states that have found ways to pre-position generation capacity without socializing the risk. To address this hurdle, the state may want to consider models that allow for more expansive construction policies while still protecting existing ratepayers. Exploring mechanisms to add flexibility to the existing regulatory system in order to serve customers that did not previously exist, without sacrificing the core regulatory advantages of predictability and ratepayer protections which shield customers from excessive risk should be a priority. Utilities, and the state, have already taken steps in this direction, such as the NIPSCO “GenCo” structure and new tariffs specific to large load customers.

A third hurdle identified by the Task Force is that supply chains are strained and real prices of grid infrastructure continue to increase. A recent Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory report on retail electricity price trends and drivers shows the change in costs for power system equipment rising much faster relative to CPI since 2019.

Producer Price Index for Power System Equipment

Shown as percentage change relative to January 1, 2019, also compared to CPI



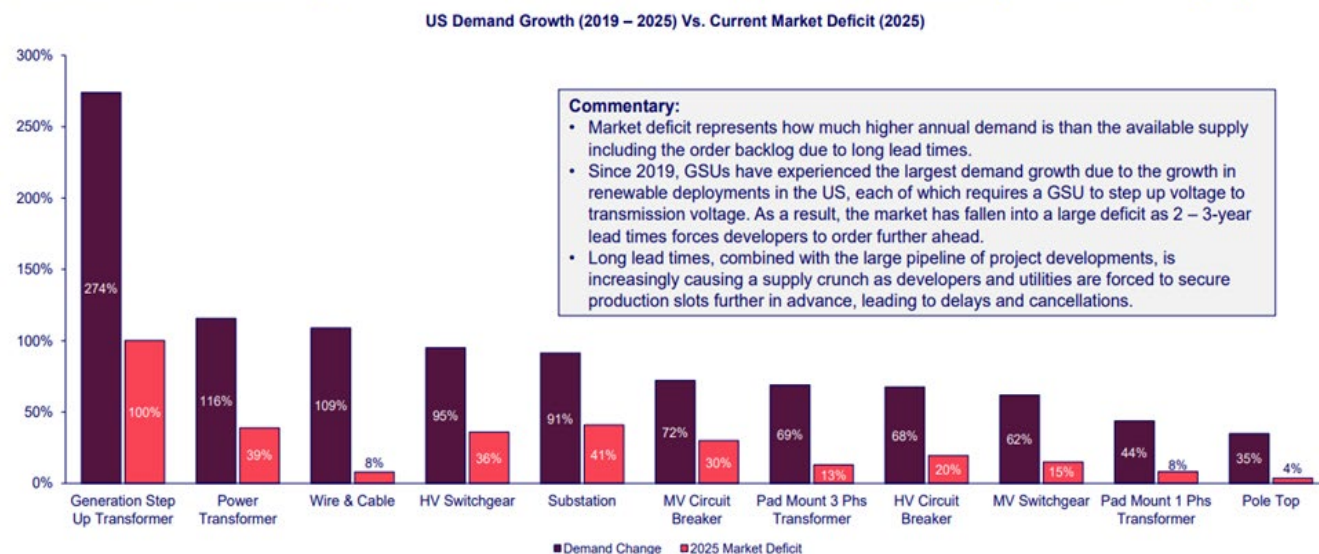
Source: BLS, FRED • Created with Datawrapper

Source: [Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory](#)

Additionally, a report from Wood Mackenzie shows how demand for electrical equipment has risen dramatically compared to 2019.

Electrical equipment demand has ballooned in recent years

Demand has increased by 35% to 274% depending on the equipment type, resulting in deficits emerging



Sources: Wood Mackenzie Supply Chain

Source: [Wood Mackenzie – Making the connection: meeting the electric T&D supply chain challenge](#)

Federal policies over the past 20 years have consistently “see-sawed” between two divergent positions, meaning investments with 20- or 40-year lives may be economical one year and have a completely different outlook the next. While Indiana cannot fix D.C., it should identify and pull policy levers to maintain flexibility for electric system stakeholders and take action to reduce financing costs for ratepayers. The changing dynamics in the federal government show the continued pragmatism of embracing an “all of the above” energy portfolio approach.

The through-line across all these tensions and hurdles is that Indiana’s greatest strength, institutional stability and regulatory predictability, can also produce undesirable outcomes. It slows the system’s ability to adapt. For the state to succeed and advance in the 21st Century, it must learn to be both stable and fast at the same time.

Task Force Recommendations

Through its work, the Task Force recognizes the difficult balancing act of making changes to Indiana's utility statutes and regulatory structure. The recommendations contained in this report represent a starting point and direction for future work with policymakers and stakeholders.

With feedback provided during the drafting process, the Task Force members unanimously support the following recommendations:

- 1. Provide an accelerated regulatory pathway for large load customers that commit to paying for 100% of project costs, insulating existing ratepayers from rate impacts.**

In exchange for agreeing to cover 100% of the project costs associated with the construction or acquisition of a generation asset used to serve them, regardless of time as a customer, a faster regulatory approval process could be established for large load customers needing electric service. This new process protects existing residential, commercial, and industrial ratepayers from subsidizing speculative or single-purpose generation investments.

5-Year Action: Seek legislative additions to HEA 1007-2025 (IC 8-1-7.9) to create a new pathway for expedited consideration when a large load customer commits to paying 100% of the project costs.

20-Year Outlook: Indiana's cost-causation framework becomes a national model, demonstrating that a state can attract massive capital investment while holding firm on the principle that those who cause costs bear them, and residential ratepayers should not bear the risk of large load customers.

- 2. Reaffirm that large load customers pay for 100% of their costs during their time as a customer and must cover at least 80% of an expedited project's costs regardless of their time as a customer.**

HEA 1007-2025 established a minimum cost responsibility threshold for large load customers seeking new generation in an expedited manner, regardless of their time as a customer. The legislation set this threshold at 80%, meaning that at this minimum, even if the large load customer was in operation for one year, they would pay for 80% of the incremental project costs incurred by the utility to serve them. Under normal cost-of-service ratemaking, if the large load customer stayed for the life of the new generation assets, it would still cover 100% of those costs.

5-Year Action: Advocate for a statutory clarification to HEA 1007-2025 (IC 8-1-7.9) that large load customers must pay for 100% of their allocated costs of service when they are a customer of the utility.

20-Year Outlook: Indiana ratepayers better understand their utility costs are not inclusive of the costs associated with large load users.

3. **Establish set guaranteed payment floors for local units from wind or solar project owners if the local unit adopts voluntary state standards for these siting energy projects.**

Indiana communities that host renewable energy generation infrastructure are sometimes unable to easily quantify or demonstrate a direct financial return to local residents. At the same time, the absence of consistent statewide siting standards has led to a patchwork of local ordinances, creating uncertainty for developers and communities alike. Linking guaranteed payments from project owners to local units that have adopted the voluntary state siting standards helps provide regulatory clarity and provides local units with predictable, ongoing revenue for their constituents. These additional payments can help local officials fund core government services or reduce taxes on existing taxpayers. For example, a University of Michigan study ([source](#)) estimated that a 100 MW solar development would provide \$229,000 in additional property taxes for the county, helping reduce the property tax rate by 0.015%. In South Dakota, the renewable energy nameplate capacity tax and part of the renewable energy production tax is split between funding school districts, the county, and townships these projects are located in. Finally, a 2026 Ball State study ([source](#)) estimated that restrictions on renewable energy developments reduced state GDP by approximately \$200M and a net loss of about 9,000 jobs in rural counties. These examples demonstrate tangible benefits to local officials and their constituents and can inform discussions regarding adopting the state's voluntary siting standards.

5-Year Action: Support legislation establishing a standardized per-MW of nameplate capacity payment structure for wind and solar facilities to host counties conditioned on the local unit adopting voluntary state siting standards for setbacks, noise, and decommissioning. Ensure payments begin upon commercial operation and continue for the life of the facility.

20-Year Outlook: A majority of Indiana counties have adopted voluntary state standards and are receiving annual energy facility payments that meaningfully support local budgets, creating a self-reinforcing cycle where communities actively compete to host energy projects that make sense rather than resist them.

4. **Encourage counties to designate Energy Development Zones, which are defined areas where energy infrastructure deployment is pre-authorized to be developed.**

Proactive local planning helps communities respond quickly to economic development opportunities, helps residents better understand future plans for development, and can make communities thrive through informed decision-making. Furthermore, for many community members, renewable energy projects draw concerns for being disharmonious with surrounding properties. With that in mind, engaging in more proactive planning could help alleviate, in part, residents' concerns about potential energy projects in their community. To that end, Indiana counties should identify areas within their jurisdiction that are suitable for energy infrastructure development. Energy Development Zones would be geographically defined areas where generation, transmission, storage, and supporting industrial facilities are pre-authorized to be developed to the extent possible, reducing timelines and providing certainty to developers. The designation process should be locally driven, and informed by existing infrastructure, land use patterns, and community input as well as giving consideration to necessary needs of such facilities. These new zones could operate in a similar fashion to Energy Production Zones.

5-Year Action: Seek legislation encouraging counties to evaluate establishing Energy Development Zones (EDZ) within one year, with technical assistance from OED. Attach streamlined permitting and economic development incentives to zone designations. Require EDZ plans to include community benefit agreements addressing local revenue sharing, infrastructure improvements, and decommissioning commitments. EDZ evaluation should incorporate a process that empowers landowners to “raise their hand” for inclusion and the state could evaluate the possibility of setting minimum siting standards for EDZs. Furthermore, EDZs could be connected to the per-MW nameplate capacity payment, possibly allowing for larger payments for developments that occur within EDZs.

20-Year Outlook: Energy Development Zones are Indiana's signature approach to infrastructure siting that attract investment on compressed timelines, supported by communities that opted in and benefit directly from the development.

5. Expand Energy Production Zones to include Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

Senate Enrolled Act 425-2025 established Energy Production Zones to expedite generation projects on sites with existing electric facilities or former coal-mining land. However, the current statute does not clearly include BESS within the definition of eligible projects. Given that BESS is one of the fastest-growing resource categories in Indiana and is frequently co-located with existing generation or proposed for retired plant sites, this omission creates unnecessary ambiguity. Including BESS in Energy Production Zones aligns the statute with the reality of how modern generation projects are being developed. Providing more certainty for the development of these projects can provide tangible benefits to the electric grid. BESS can help reduce grid congestion costs and improve grid stability through voltage and frequency controls. Furthermore, BESS can help lower wholesale electric prices for utilities through energy arbitrage, the practice of charging the BESS when wholesale prices are low and discharging the BESS when prices are higher. Finally, BESS can help improve the reliability and resiliency of local electric grids by providing backup power for short periods of time, when necessary.

5-Year Action: Seek a legislative amendment to SEA 425-2025 (IC 8-1-8.2) to explicitly include BESS within the definition of eligible projects for Energy Production Zones. Ensure that standalone BESS facilities, as well as those paired with solar or other generation, qualify for the expedited local approval processes established by the statute.

20-Year Outlook: Battery storage is routinely deployed at former generation sites and within designated Energy Production Zones across Indiana, accelerating the state's ability to add dispatchable capacity to the grid without the siting delays that have historically slowed other resource types.

6. Advance on the findings identified in the Indiana Utility-Scale Battery Energy Storage Study.

OED commissioned Exeter Associates to conduct a study on BESS to better understand its role in the electric system and to collect key information from stakeholders to inform best practices for the deployment, operation, and regulation of BESS. Ultimately, the report was intended to help support informed policy, planning, and regulatory decisions in the state. The report had several key recommendations, including the creation of a state and local task force to develop model BESS safety and siting standards. The report stated taking these steps would help better inform and support local planning and zoning ordinances, direct BESS developments to better suited sites, like brownfields, ensure decommissioning and recycling requirements are more standardized and protect local communities and ensure safety considerations are evaluated fully.

5-Year Action: Establish a Working Group comprised of state and local stakeholders to develop Indiana-specific BESS model siting and safety ordinances for voluntary adoption by local units. Additionally, the Working Group should collaborate on ways to help educate and engage local communities on BESS projects.

20-Year Outlook: BESS projects are well understood and accepted in Indiana. Siting and safety standardization is present throughout much of the state and local emergency responders feel well-equipped and educated on how to address any issues that occur at a BESS site.

7. Evaluate the establishment of state-led financing mechanisms to help lower electric energy project costs and expedite project developments.

In 2023, Texas established the Texas Energy Fund to provide low-interest loans for electric energy infrastructure projects, such as new dispatchable generation facilities and modernizing the electric grid. In 2025, Alabama established the Alabama Energy Infrastructure Bank and Strategic Energy Infrastructure Development Fund to help fund new power infrastructure, make development sites power ready, and improve Alabama's ability to move at the speed of business. Indiana should evaluate taking similar steps to establish dedicated financing mechanisms to help reduce the financing costs of certain electricity infrastructure investments and to make more sites around the state development-ready. For example, a state energy development infrastructure bank could provide low-cost capital, credit enhancement, and co-investment for generation, transmission, and grid modernization projects that serve the state's economic development objectives.

5-Year Action: Commission a study to evaluate the effectiveness of other state-led financing approaches, such as Texas and Alabama, and understand the opportunities for Indiana to innovate and improve on those approaches. The study should also consider the establishment of an Indiana Energy Infrastructure Bank, including a possible legislative framework, the financial resources needed to fund the program, and potential funding sources. Furthermore, the study should continue to look for ways for Indiana to streamline the development of energy projects, including generation for designated energy development zones, transmission serving industrial corridors, and grid hardening for critical infrastructure.

20-Year Outlook: The infrastructure bank becomes a self-sustaining revolving fund that has catalyzed billions in energy infrastructure investment, reduced the cost of capital for critical projects, and positioned Indiana as the only Midwest state with a purpose-built energy finance institution.

8. Establish a regular cadence of IURC reporting on best practice modifications and new performance incentive mechanisms regarding PBR for the Indiana General Assembly's consideration.

Indiana has already taken the first step in implementing a performance-based ratemaking framework with the passage of HEA 1002-2026 and should continue evaluating PBR as a complement to the traditional cost-of-service model. Since PBR can align utility incentives with ratepayer outcomes by tying a portion of utility earnings to measurable outcomes rather than capital investment alone, it means the utility regulatory structure will pay for results, not only spending. The initial PBR framework implements multi-year rate plans and two performance incentive mechanisms – one based on reliability and the other on affordability. As Indiana goes down the pathway of implementing PBR, the IURC should carefully evaluate the implementation, looking for areas of refinement and possible expansion. The evaluation should be deliberate and evidence-based, drawing on experiences in other jurisdictions while respecting Indiana's regulatory culture. The goal is to build upon the recently enacted PBR framework and continue efforts to identify areas where performance incentives can drive better results for ratepayers and the grid, enhancing reliability and protecting affordability.

5-Year Action: Advocate for legislation that directs the IURC to open an investigatory docket on PBR mechanisms, with a focus on metrics relevant to Indiana's growth environment: interconnection timelines, generation project delivery, reliability

performance, and affordability benchmarks. Publish findings and a recommendation on whether to pilot PBR elements within three years.

20-Year Outlook: PBR will become a standard feature of Indiana rate cases, creating a regulatory framework that rewards utilities for delivering outcomes rather than simply deploying capital, aligning positive customer outcomes with positive shareholder outcomes. In the long run, these positive outcomes should result in a more affordable, reliable electric grid for Hoosiers when compared to Indiana's peer states.

9. **Ensure OED can move at the speed of business for federal grant opportunities.**

Federal infrastructure, energy, and technology programs represent billions of dollars in potential capital for Indiana, but grant windows are narrow, application requirements are complex, and competition from other states can be fierce. The OED must have the staffing, authority, and operational flexibility to identify, pursue, and secure federal funding in real time. Missed grant deadlines are missed opportunities that do not come back and can cause ratepayers to shoulder more costs than they would have otherwise had to. OED should also be positioned to coordinate with utilities, universities, and industry on joint applications that leverage Indiana's unique assets.

5-Year Action: Increase OED staffing dedicated to federal grant identification and application. Establish a standing interagency coordination team including OED, IEDC, IURC, OUCC, and the Governor's Office to align state energy plan priorities with federal funding opportunities.

20-Year Outlook: Indiana consistently captures a disproportionate share of federal energy investment relative to its size, because OED operates as a proactive, strategic partner to federal agencies and Indiana's private sector rather than a reactive applicant.

10. **Expedite critical infrastructure projects with clear, demonstrable ratepayer benefits by empowering the IURC to approve the siting of these projects.**

Certain generation, transmission, and grid modernization projects are so clearly tied to statewide energy reliability, economic development, or ratepayer benefit that they should move through regulatory review on an accelerated timeline. This could entail creating a defined fast-track pathway with clear eligibility criteria, economic benefits, and reliability impacts so that projects meeting a high threshold of demonstrated benefits are not delayed by processes designed for routine filings.

5-Year Action: Establish IURC criteria for “critical infrastructure” designation, with defined timelines for expedited review. Eligible projects should demonstrate quantifiable ratepayer benefits, alignment with the state energy plan, and support from affected stakeholders. Create an interagency coordination process to parallel state and local permitting where possible.

20-Year Outlook: Indiana’s permitting and regulatory timelines for critical energy infrastructure are among the fastest in the nation, which provides a competitive advantage that directly influences site selection decisions by major employers and developers.