

# Technical Study Report

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## **New York Control Area Installed Capacity Requirement**



**For the Period May 2021  
to April 2022**

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December 4, 2020

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New York State Reliability Council, LLC Installed Capacity  
Subcommittee

## **About the New York State Reliability Council**

The New York State Reliability Council (NYSRC) is a not-for-profit corporation responsible for promoting and preserving the reliability of the New York State power system by developing, maintaining and, from time to time, updating the reliability rules which must be complied with by the New York Independent System Operator and all entities engaging in electric power transactions on the New York State power system. One of the responsibilities of the NYSRC is the establishment of the annual statewide Installed Capacity Requirement for the New York Control Area.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A New York Control Area (NYCA) Installed Reserve Margin (IRM) Study is conducted annually by the New York State Reliability Council (NYSRC) Installed Capacity Subcommittee (ICS). ICS has the overall responsibility of managing studies for establishing NYCA IRM requirements for the following Capability Year<sup>1</sup> including the development and approval of all modeling and database assumptions to be used in the reliability calculation process. This year's report covers the period May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022 (2021 Capability Year). The IRM study described in this report for 2021 Capability Year is referred to as the "2021 IRM Study."

**Results of the NYSRC technical study show that the required NYCA IRM for the 2021 Capability Year is 20.1% under base case conditions.** This IRM satisfies the NYSRC and Northeast Power Coordinating Council (NPCC) reliability criteria of a Loss of Load Expectation (LOLE) of no greater than 0.1 days per year. The base case, along with other relevant factors, will be considered by the NYSRC Executive Committee on December 4, 2020 for its adoption of the Final NYCA IRM requirement for the 2021 Capability Year.

The NYSRC study procedure used to establish the NYCA IRM<sup>2</sup> also produces corresponding "initial" New York City and Long Island locational capacity requirements (LCRs) necessary to satisfy the NYCA resource adequacy criterion. The 2021 IRM Study determined initial LCRs of xx.x% and yy.y% for the New York City and Long Island localities, respectively. The NYISO reported that the initial LCR for the G-J superzone is zz.z%. In accordance with its responsibility of setting the LCRs, the New York Independent System Operator, Inc. (NYISO) will calculate and approve *final LCRs* for all NYCA localities using a separate process which utilizes the NYSRC approved Final IRM and adheres to NYSRC Reliability Rules and policies.

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<sup>1</sup> A Capability Year begins on May 1 and ends on April 30 of the following year.

<sup>2</sup> This procedure is described in Section 3, IRM Study Procedures. This procedure for calculating IRM requirements and initial LCRs is sometimes referred in this report to as the "Tan-45 process."

The cc.% IRM base case value for the 2021 Capability Year represents a *e.e% increase* from the 2020 base case IRM of 18.9%. Table 6-1 shows the IRM impacts of individual updated study parameters that result in this change. In summary:

- ✦ There are *five parameter drivers* that in combination *increased* the 2021 IRM from the 2020 base case IRM by 2.0%. Of these five drivers, the most significant are an updated load forecast uncertainty model which increased the IRM by 0.8% and the retirement of the second Indian Point Energy Center unit (IP3) which increased the IRM by 0.6%.
- ✦ Five parameter drivers in combination decreased the IRM from the 2019 base case by 0.8%. Of these five drivers, the most significant are a reduction in SCR registrations with coupled with improved performance, higher amounts of emergency operating procedure values, and improved cable forced outage rates, especially surrounding Long Island. Each of these three parameters contributed 0.2% to the overall reduction.

The complete parametric analysis showing the above and other results can be found in Section 6 in this report.

This study also evaluated IRM impacts of several sensitivity cases. The results of these sensitivity cases are discussed in Section 7 and summarized in Table 7-1.

The base case IRM and sensitivity case results, along with other relevant factors, will be considered by the NYSRC Executive Committee in adopting the Final NYCA IRM requirement for 2021. NYSRC Policy 5-15 describes the Executive Committee process for establishing the Final IRM.

In addition, a confidence interval analysis was conducted to demonstrate that there is a high confidence that the base case 18.9% IRM will fully meet NYSRC and NPCC resource adequacy criteria that require a Loss of Load Expectation (LOLE) of no greater than 0.1 days per year.

The 2021 IRM Study also evaluated Unforced Capacity (UCAP) trends. The NYISO values capacity sold and purchased in the market in a manner that considers the forced outage ratings of individual units, whereby generating unit capacity is derated to an unforced capacity basis recognizing the impact of forced outages. This derated capacity is referred to as “UCAP.” This analysis shows that required UCAP margins, which steadily decreased over the 2006-2012 period to about 5%, have remained fairly steady since then (see Table 8-1).

## 1. Introduction

This report describes a technical study, conducted by the NYSRC Installed Capacity Subcommittee (ICS), for establishing the NYCA Installed Reserve Margin (IRM) for the period of May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022 (2021 Capability Year). This study is conducted each year in compliance with Section 3.03 of the NYSRC Agreement, which states that the NYSRC shall establish the annual statewide Installed Capacity Requirement (ICR) for the NYCA. The ICR relates to the IRM through the following equation:

$$\text{ICR} = \left( 1 + \frac{\text{IRM Requirement (\%)}}{100} \right) * \text{Forecasted NYCA Peak Load}$$

The base case and sensitivity case study results, along with other relevant factors, will be considered by the NYSRC Executive Committee for its adoption of the Final NYCA IRM requirement for the 2020 Capability Year.

The NYISO will implement the Final NYCA IRM as determined by the NYSRC, in accordance with the NYSRC Reliability Rules, NYSRC Policy 5-15, *Procedure for Establishing New York Control Area Installed Capacity Requirement and the Installed Reserve Margin (IRM)*,<sup>3</sup> the NYISO Market Administration and Control Area Services Tariff; and the NYISO Installed Capacity (ICAP) Manual.<sup>4</sup> The NYISO translates the required IRM to a UCAP basis. These values are also used in a Spot Market Auction based on FERC-approved Demand Curves. The schedule for conducting the 2021 IRM Study was based on meeting the NYISO's timetable for conducting this auction.

The study criteria, procedures, and types of assumptions used for the study for establishing the NYCA IRM for the 2020 Capability Year (2021 IRM Study) are set forth in NYSRC Policy 5-15. The primary reliability criterion used in the IRM study requires a Loss of Load Expectation (LOLE) of no greater than 0.1 days per year for the NYCA. This NYSRC resource adequacy criterion is consistent with the Northeast Power Coordinating Council (NPCC) resource adequacy criterion. IRM study procedures include the use of two reliability study methodologies: the *Unified Methodology* and the *IRM Anchoring Methodology*. NYSRC reliability criteria and IRM study methodologies and models are described in Policy 5-15 and discussed in detail later in this report.

The NYSRC procedure for determining the IRM also identifies "initial" corresponding locational capacity requirements (LCRs) for the New York City and Long Island localities<sup>2</sup>. The NYISO, using a separate process – in accordance with the NYISO tariffs and procedures, while adhering to

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.nysrc.org/policies.asp>

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.nyiso.com/public/markets\\_operations/market\\_data/icap/index.jsp](http://www.nyiso.com/public/markets_operations/market_data/icap/index.jsp)

NYSRC Reliability Rules and NYSRC Sections 3.2 and 3.5 of Policy 5-15 – is responsible for setting *final* LCRs.

For its determination of LCRs for the 2020 Capability Year, the NYISO will continue utilizing an approved economic optimization methodology.

The 2021 IRM Study was managed and conducted by the NYSRC Installed Capacity Subcommittee (ICS) and supported by technical assistance from NYISO staff.

Previous IRM Study reports, from year 2000 to year 2020, can be found on the NYSRC website.<sup>5</sup> Appendix C, Table C.1 provides a record of previous NYCA base case and final IRMs for the 2000 through 2020 Capability Years. Figure 8-1 and Appendix C, Table C.2, show UCAP reserve margin trends over previous years. Definitions of certain terms in this report can be found in the Glossary (Appendix D).

A different analysis, separate from the IRM study process covered in this report, assesses “resource adequacy” of the NYCA for several years into the future. This assessment determines whether the NYSRC resource adequacy reliability criterion, as defined in Section 2 below, is maintained over the study period; and if not, identifies reliability needs or compensatory MW of capacity requirements.

## 2. NYSRC Resource Adequacy Reliability Criterion

The required reliability level used for establishing NYCA IRM Requirements is dictated by Requirement 1.1 of NYSRC Reliability Rule A.1, *Establishing NYCA Statewide Installed Reserve Margin Requirements*, which states:

*Probabilistically establish the IRM requirement for the NYCA such that the loss of load expectation (LOLE) of disconnecting firm load due to resource deficiencies shall be, on average, no more than 0.1 day per year. This evaluation shall make due allowances for demand uncertainty, scheduled outages and de-ratings, forced outages and de-ratings, assistance over interconnections with neighboring control areas, NYS Transmission System emergency transfer capability, and capacity and/or load relief from available operating procedures.*

The above NYSRC Reliability Rule is consistent with NPCC’s Resource Adequacy criterion in NPCC Directory 1, *Design and Operation of the Bulk Power System*. This criterion is interpreted to mean that planning reserve margins, or the IRM, needs to be high enough that involuntary load shedding due to inadequate resources would be limited to only one day in ten years or 0.1 day per year. This criterion has been widely accepted by most electric power systems in North

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.nysrc.org/reports3.asp>

America for reserve capacity planning. In New York, use of the LOLE criterion of 0.1 day per year has provided an acceptable level of reliability for many years.

[The NYSRC Executive Committee formed the Resource Adequacy \(RA\) Working Group in December 2019 with the following objective: “Ensure that Executive Committee members are aware of current practices and proposals for resource adequacy metrics”.](#)

[An initial response to that objective was to write a report on the available metrics used to measure resource adequacy reliability<sup>6</sup>.](#)

[That report states: “As a result of our review we concluded that consideration should be given to studying LOLH and EUE, in addition to the LOLE metric, in future IRM and resource adequacy assessments. This would provide the NYISO and NYSRC with a better understanding of the frequency, duration, and magnitude of potential future power supply shortfalls particularly as NYCA evolves to a system with more intermittent energy-limited resources.”](#)

[A table showing these metrics for the 2021 and 2020 IRM studies appears in Appendix A section X.XX.X.](#)

In accordance with NYSRC Reliability Rule A.2, *Establishing Load Serving Entity (LSE) Installed Capacity Requirements*, the NYISO is required to establish LSE installed capacity requirements, including LCRs, for meeting the statewide IRM requirement established by the NYSRC for complying with NYSRC Reliability Rule A.1 above.

### 3. IRM Study Procedures

The study procedures used for the 2021 IRM Study are described in detail in NYSRC Policy 5-15, *Procedure for Establishing New York Control Area Installed Capacity Requirements and the Installed Reserve Margin (IRM)*. Policy 5-15 also describes the computer program used for reliability calculations and the types of input data and models used for the IRM Study.

This study utilizes a *probabilistic approach* for determining NYCA IRM requirements. This technique calculates the probabilities of generator unit outages, in conjunction with load and transmission representations, to determine the days per year of expected resource capacity shortages.

General Electric’s Multi-Area Reliability Simulation (GE-MARS) is the primary computer program used for this probabilistic analysis. This program includes detailed load, generation, and

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<sup>6</sup> [RESOURCE ADEQUACY METRICS AND THEIR APPLICATIONS, NYSRC Resource Adequacy Working Group, April 20, 2020.](#)

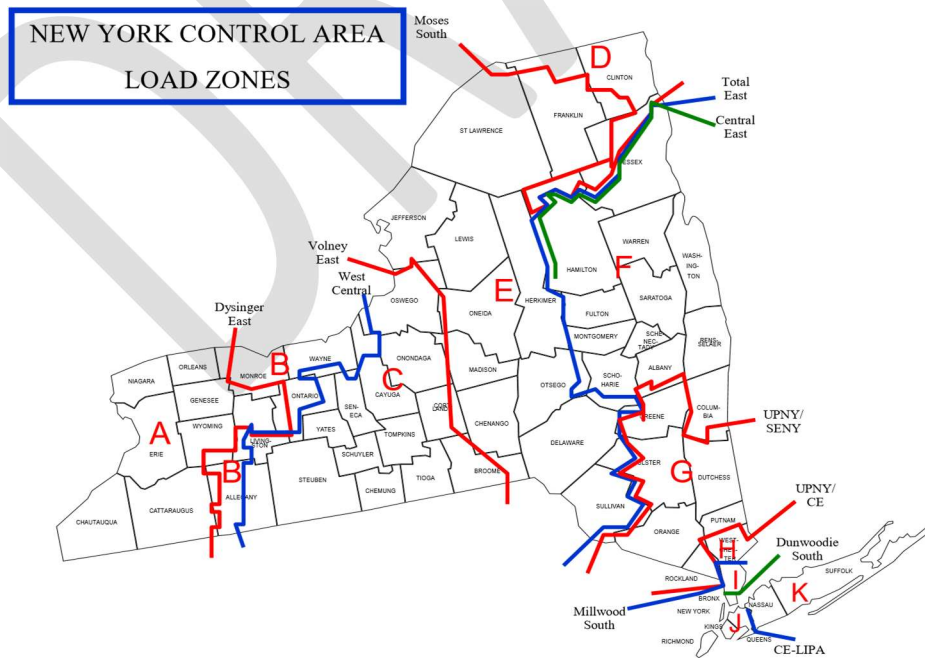


transmission representation for eleven NYCA load zones — plus four Outside World Control Areas (Outside World Areas) directly interconnected to the NYCA. The Outside World Areas are as follows: Ontario, New England, Quebec, and the PJM Interconnection. The eleven NYCA zones are depicted in Figure 3-1. GE-MARS calculates LOLE, expressed in days per year, to provide a consistent measure of system reliability. The GE-MARS program is described in detail in Appendix A, Section A.1.

Prior to the 2016 IRM Study, the IRM base case and sensitivity analyses were simulated using only weekday peak loads rather than evaluating all 8,760 hours per year in order to reduce computational run times. However, the 2016 IRM Study determined that the difference between study results using the daily peak hour versus the 8,760-hour methodologies would be significant. Therefore, the base case and sensitivity cases in the 2016 IRM Study and all later studies, including this 2020 IRM Study, were simulated using all hours in the year.

Using the GE-MARS program, a procedure is utilized for establishing NYCA IRM requirements (termed the *Unified Methodology*) which establishes a relationship between NYCA IRM and corresponding initial LCRs, as illustrated in Figure 3-2. All points on these curves meet the NYSRC 0.1 days/year LOLE reliability criterion described in Section 2. Note that the area above the curve is more reliable than the criterion, and the area below the curve is less reliable. This methodology develops a pair of curves for two zones with locational capacity requirements, New York City (NYC), Zone J; and Long Island (LI), Zone K. Appendix A of NYSRC Policy 5-15 provides a more detailed description of the Unified Methodology.

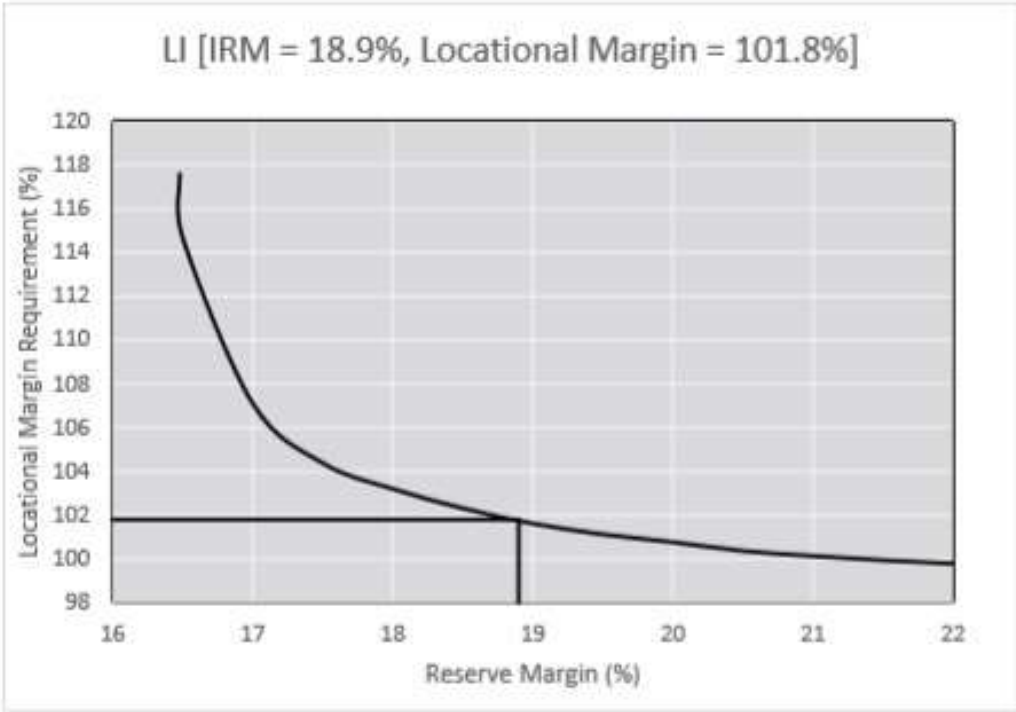
Figure 3-1 NYCA Load Zones



Base case NYCA IRM requirements and related corresponding Locality reserve margins for Zones J and K are established by a supplemental procedure (termed the *IRM Anchoring Methodology*), which is used to define an *inflection point* on each of these curves. These inflection points are selected by applying a tangent of 45 degrees (Tan 45) analysis at the bend (or “knee”) of each curve. Mathematically, each curve is fitted using a second order polynomial regression analysis. Setting the derivative of the resulting set of equations to minus one yields the points at which the curves achieve the Tan 45-degree inflection point. Appendix B of NYSRC Policy 5-14 provides a more detailed description of the methodology for computing the Tan 45 inflection point.

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Figure 3-2 Relationship Between NYCA IRM and Corresponding Initial Locational Capacity Requirements (needs updating)



## 4. Study Results – Base Case

**Results of the NYSRC technical study show that the required NYCA IRM is \_\_\_% for the 2021 Capability Year under base case conditions.** Figure 3-2 on page 8 depicts the relationship between NYCA IRM requirements and corresponding initial LCRs for NYC and LI.

The tangent points on these curves were evaluated using the Tan 45 analysis described in Section 3. Accordingly, maintaining a NYCA IRM of \_\_\_% for the 2021 Capability Year, together with corresponding initial LCRs of \_\_\_% and \_\_\_% for NYC and LI, respectively, will achieve applicable NYSRC and NPCC reliability criteria for the base case study assumptions shown in Appendix A.3.

Comparing the corresponding initial LCRs in this 2021 IRM Study to 2020 IRM Study results (NYC LCR= \_\_\_%, LI LCR= \_\_\_%), the corresponding 2021 NYC initial LCR increased by \_\_\_%, while the corresponding LI LCR decreased by \_\_\_%.

In accordance with NYSRC Reliability Rule A.2, *Load Serving Entity ICAP Requirements*, the NYISO is responsible for separately calculating and establishing the final LCRs. The most recent NYISO LCR study,<sup>7</sup> dated January 8, 2020, determined that for the 2020 Capability Year, the final LCRs for NYC and LI were 86.6% and 103.4%, respectively. An LCR Study for the 2021 Capability Year is scheduled to be completed by the NYISO in January 2021. The NYISO utilizes an economic optimization algorithm for calculating LCRs that minimizes the total cost of NYCA capacity. This study utilizes the same base case database used by the NYSRC for calculating the NYCA IRM<sup>8</sup>, while respecting the NYSRC-approved IRM and NYSRC's 0.1 days/year LOLE reliability criterion and required study procedures in NYSRC Policy 5-15.

A Monte Carlo simulation error analysis shows that there is a 95% probability that the above base case result is within a range of \_\_\_% and \_\_\_% (see Appendix A.1.1) when obtaining a standard error of 0.025 per unit or less at 2,750 simulated years. This analysis demonstrates that there is a high level of confidence that the base case IRM value of \_\_\_% is in full compliance with the one day in 10 years LOLE criterion in NYSRC Reliability Rule A.1.

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<sup>7</sup> See *Locational Installed Capacity Requirements Study*, [http://www.nyiso.com/public/markets\\_operations/services/planning/planning\\_studies](http://www.nyiso.com/public/markets_operations/services/planning/planning_studies)

<sup>8</sup> This database may be updated for base case assumption changes that occur after the IRM study is completed.

## 5. Models and Key Input Assumptions

This section describes the models and related base case input assumptions for the 2021 IRM Study. The models represented in the GE-MARS analysis include a *Load Model*, *Capacity Model*, *Transmission Model*, and *Outside World Model*. A *Database Quality Assurance Review* of the 2021 base case assumptions is also addressed in this section. The input assumptions for the final base case were approved by the Executive Committee on October 8, 2020. Appendix A, Section A.3 provides more details of these models and assumptions and comparisons of several key assumptions with those used for this 2021 IRM Study.

### 5.1 The Load Model

#### 5.1.1 Peak Load Forecast

The NYCA peak load forecast is based upon a model that incorporates forecasts of economic drivers, end use and technology trends, and normal weather conditions. A 2021 NYCA summer peak load forecast of 32,243 MW was assumed in the 2021 IRM Study, an increase of 73 MW from the forecast used in the 2020 IRM Study. This “Fall 2021 Summer Load Forecast” was prepared for the 2021 IRM Study by the NYISO staff in collaboration with the NYISO Load Forecasting Task Force and presented to the ICS on October 2, 2020. The 2021 forecast considered actual 2020 summer load conditions.

The “normalized” peak loads<sup>9</sup> shown on Table 5-1 below, indicate a reduction in peak loads in the heavily loaded zones (Zones J and K) while the peak loads for upstate zones (zones A-I) continue to grow. (with heavy for additional details.) The decrease in Zones J and K are most likely the result of the COVID-19 pandemic’s impact.

**Table 5-1: Comparison of 2020 and 2021 Actual and Forecast Coincident Peak Summer Loads (MW)**

	Fall 2020 Forecast	2020 Actual	2020 Normalized	Fall 2021 Forecast	Forecast Change
Zones A-I	15,683	15,416	16,030	16,008	+325
Zones J&K	16,487	15,034	15,562	16,235	-252
NYCA	32,170	30,450	31,592	32,243	+73

<sup>9</sup> The “normalized” 2020 peak load reflects an adjustment of the actual 2020 peak load to account for the load impact of actual weather conditions, demand response programs, and muni self-generation.

Use of the Fall 2021 Load Forecast and an updated load shape in the 2020 IRM Study resulted in an IRM decrease of 0.1% compared to the 2020 IRM Study (Table 6-1). The NYISO will prepare a Final 2021 summer load forecast at the end of 2020 that will be used for the NYISO's calculation of Locality LCRs for the 2021-22 Capability Year.

### **5.1.2 Load Forecast Uncertainty**

Some uncertainty exists relative to forecasting NYCA loads for any given year. This uncertainty is incorporated in the base case model by using a load forecast probability distribution that is sensitive to different weather conditions. Recognizing the unique load forecast uncertainty (LFU) of individual NYCA areas, separate LFU models are prepared for five areas: New York City (Zone J), Long Island (Zone K), Westchester (Zones H and I), and two rest of New York State areas (Zones A-E and Zones F-G).

These LFU models are meant to measure the load response to weather at high peak producing temperatures, as well as other factors, such as the economy. However, economic uncertainty is relatively small compared to temperature uncertainty one year ahead. Thus, the LFU is largely based on the slope of load vs. temperature, or the weather response of load. If the weather response of load increases, the slope of load vs. temperature will increase, and the upper-bin LFU multipliers (Bins 1-3) will increase. The new LFU multipliers included summer 2020 data, which was not included in prior LFU models. In general, the load response to weather in 2020 was greater in magnitude than it was in previous hot summers.

The summer 2020 weekday base load in most areas declined relative to earlier years. This decline was larger than the decline in summer peak load over the same time period. Thus, the slope of load vs. weather has recently increased, resulting in larger LFU multipliers in the upper bins. This has resulted in higher LFU impacts on the IRM than in previous years. This is demonstrated by a sensitivity case that shows that the modeling of LFU in the 2021 IRM Study has an effect of increasing IRM requirements by 9.7% (Table 7-1, Case 3), as compared to a range of 7.2% to 9.1% in the previous four IRM studies.

### **5.1.3 Load Shape Model**

The GE-MARS model allows for the representation of multiple load shapes. This feature has been utilized since the 2014 IRM study and was again utilized for the 2021 IRM Study. This multiple load shape feature enables a different load shape to be assigned to each of seven load forecast uncertainty bins. ICS has established criteria for selecting the appropriate historical load shapes to use for each of these load forecast uncertainty bins.

For this purpose, a combination of load shape years 2002, 2006, and 2007 were selected by ICS as representative years for the 2021 IRM Study. The load shape for the year 2007 was selected to represent a typical system load shape over the 1999 to 2017 period. The load shape for 2002 represents a flatter load shape, *i.e.*, a shape that has numerous daily peaks that are close to the annual peak. The load shape for 2006 represents a load shape with a small number of days with peaks that are significantly above the remaining daily peak loads. The combination of these load shapes on a weighted basis represents an expected probabilistic LOLE result.

The load duration curves were reviewed as part of the 2021 IRM Study. These curves were examined for the period 2002 through 2019. It was observed that the year 2012 was similar to the year 2007, the year 2013 was similar to 2006, and the year 2018 was similar to the year 2002. As a result of this review, the ICS decided to continue the use of the current three load shapes.

## **5.2 The Capacity Model**

### **5.2.1 Conventional Resources: Planned New Capacity, Retirements, Deactivations, and Behind the Meter Generation**

Planned conventional generation facilities that are represented in the 2021 IRM Study are shown in Appendix A, Section A.3.2. The rating for each existing and planned resource facility in the capacity model is based on its Dependable Maximum Net Capability (DMNC). In circumstances where the ability to deliver power to the grid is restricted, the value of the resource is limited to its Capacity Resource Interconnection Service (CRIS) value. The source of DMNC ratings for existing facilities is seasonal tests required by procedures in the NYISO Installed Capacity Manual.

While there are no new conventional units planned, an existing generator, Sithe Independence, plans to increase its output by 56.6 MW. Also included are the retirements of the West Babylon 4 unit (49 MW), Glenwood GT Unit 1 (15 MW), and the deactivation of the Indian Point Unit No. 3 nuclear facility (1,040 MW).

A behind-the-meter-net-generation (“BTM:NG”) program resource, for the purpose of this study contributes its full capacity, while its entire host load is exposed to the electric system. Three BTM:NG resources with a total resource capacity of 147.6 MW and a total host load of 76.7 MW, are included in this 2021 IRM study. The resource capacity of these BTM:NG facilities is included in the NYCA capacity model, while their host loads are included in the NYCA 2020 summer peak load forecast used for this study.

The NYISO has identified several state and federal environmental regulatory programs that could potentially impact operation of NYS Bulk Power System. The NYISO analysis concluded that these environmental initiatives would not result in NYCA capacity reductions or retirements that would impact IRM requirements during the summer of 2021. The analysis further identified those regulations that could potentially act in the future to limit the use of existing resources, and those that will require the addition of new non-emitting resources. For more details, see Appendix A, Section B.2.

## 5.2.2 Renewable Resources

Intermittent types of renewable resources, including wind and solar resources, are becoming an increasing component of the NYCA generation mix. These intermittent resources are included in the MARS capacity model as described below. These resources, plus the existing 4,253 MW of hydro facilities, will account for a total of 6,197 MW of NYCA renewable resources represented in the 2021 IRM Study.

It is projected that during the 2021 summer period there will be a total wind capacity of 1,859 MW participating in the capacity market in New York State. This represents a decrease in available wind resources of 32 MW and reflects the addition of the Cassadaga Wind Unit (126 MW) and the removal of 158 MW of wind units participating in the capacity market since the 2020 summer Capability Period. All wind farms are presently located in upstate New York in Zones A-E.

GE-MARS allows the input of multiple years of wind data. This multiple wind shape model randomly draws wind shapes from historical wind production data. The 2021 IRM Study used available wind production data covering the years 2015 through 2019. For any new wind facilities, zonal hourly wind shape averages or the wind shapes of nearby wind units will be modeled.

Overall, inclusion of the projected 1,859 MW of wind capacity in the 2021 IRM Study accounts for 4.9% of the 2021 IRM requirement (Table 7-1, Case 4). This relatively high IRM impact is a direct result of the relatively low capacity factor of wind facilities during the summer peak period. The impact of wind capacity on unforced capacity is discussed in Appendix C.3, "Wind Resource Impact on the NYCA IRM and UCAP Markets." A detailed summary of existing and planned wind resources is shown in Appendix A, Table A.7.

For the 2021 study, the newly operational Riverhead Solar plant (20 MW) has been removed as it does not participate in the ICAP market on the NYS Bulk Power System (BPS). The total BPS solar capacity in NYCA remains at 31.5 MW. Actual hourly solar



plant output over the 2015-19 period is used to represent the solar shape for existing units, while new solar units are represented by zonal hourly averages or nearby units.

### **5.2.3 Energy Limited Resources**

The GE-MARs program has been expanded in 2020 to allow a more detailed modeling of Energy Limited Resources (ELRs). Due to insufficient time for testing of the new functionality, previously developed simplified representations of these resources has been utilized for the 2021 IRM Study.

### **5.2.4 Generating Unit Availability**

Generating unit forced and partial outages are modeled in GE-MARS by inputting a multistate outage model that represents an equivalent forced outage rate during demand periods (EFORd) for each unit represented. Outage data used to determine the EFORd is received by the NYISO from generator owners based on outage data reporting requirements established by the NYISO. Capacity unavailability is modeled by considering the average forced and partial outages for each generating unit that have occurred over the most recent five-year time period. The time span considered for the 2021 IRM Study covered the 2015-2019 period.

The weighted average five-year EFORd for NYCA thermal and large hydro generating units calculated for the 2015-19 period is slightly lower than the 2014-18 average value used for the 2020 IRM Study. This decrease in average forced outage rates decreased the 2021 IRM by \_\_\_% compared to the 2020 IRM Study (Table 6-1). Appendix A, Figure A.4 depicts NYCA EFORd trends from 2005 to 2019.

### **5.2.5 Emergency Operating Procedures (EOPs)**

#### **(1) Special Case Resources (SCRs)**

SCRs are loads capable of being interrupted and distributed generators that are rated at 100 kW or higher. SCRs are ICAP resources that provide load curtailment only when activated when as needed in accordance with NYISO emergency operating procedures. GE-MARS represents SCRs as an EOP step, which is activated to avoid or to minimize expected loss of load. SCRs are modeled with monthly values based on July 2020 registration. For the month of July, the forecast SCR value for the 2021 IRM Study base case assumes that 1,195 MW will be registered, with varying amounts during other months based on historical experience. This is 87 MW lower than that assumed for the 2020 IRM Study.

The number of SCR calls in the 2021 Capability Year for the 2021 IRM base case was limited, as in previous studies, to fifteen calls per year.

The SCR performance model is based on discounting registered SCR values to reflect historical availability. The SCR model used for the 2021 IRM Study is based on a recent analysis of performance data for the 2012-19 period. This analysis determined a SCR overall performance factor of 68.8%. This is 0.6 % higher than the performance factor used the 2020 IRM Study (refer to Appendix A, Section A.3.7 for more details). The increased SCR performance factor along with the lowered registrations than assumed in the 2020 Study resulted in a net IRM decrease of 0.2% compared to last year's study (Table 6-1).

Incorporation of SCRs in the NYCA capacity model has the effect of increasing the IRM by 2.4% (Table 7-1, Case 5). This increase is because the overall availability of SCRs is lower than the average statewide resource fleet availability. The 2021 IRM Study also determined that for the base case, approximately \_\_\_ SCR calls per year would be expected during the 2021 Capability Period.

## (2) Other Emergency Operating Procedures

In addition to SCRs, the NYISO will implement several other types of EOPs, such as voltage reductions, as required, to avoid or minimize customer disconnections. Projected 2021 EOP capacity values are based on recent actual data and NYISO forecasts. Refer to Appendix B, Table B.2 for projected EOP frequencies for the 2021 Capability Year assuming the \_\_\_% base case IRM.

### **5.2.6 Unforced Capacity Deliverability Rights (UDRs)**

The capacity model includes UDRs, which are capacity rights that allow the owner of an incremental controllable transmission project to provide locational capacity benefits. Non-locational capacity, when coupled with a UDR to deliver capacity to a Locality, can be used to satisfy locational capacity requirements. The owners of the UDRs elect whether they will utilize their capacity deliverability rights. This decision determines how this transfer capability will be represented in the MARS model. The IRM modeling accounts for both the availability of the resource that is identified for each UDR line as well as the availability of the UDR facility itself.

LIPA's 330 MW High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Cross Sound Cable, LIPA's 660 MW HVDC Neptune Cable, Hudson Transmission Partners 660 MW HVDC Cable, and the 315 MW Linden Variable Frequency Transformer are facilities that are represented in the 2021 IRM Study as having UDR capacity rights. The owners of these facilities have the option, on an annual basis, of selecting the MW quantity of UDRs they plan on utilizing for capacity contracts over these facilities. Any remaining capability on the cable can be used to support emergency assistance, which may reduce locational and IRM

requirements. The 2021 IRM Study incorporates the confidential elections that these facility owners made for the 2021 Capability Year.

### **5.3 The Transmission Model (section needs review)**

A detailed NYCA transmission system model is represented in the GE-MARS topology. The transmission system topology, which includes eleven NYCA zones and four Outside World Areas, along with transfer limits, is shown in Appendix A, Figure A.12. The transfer limits employed for the 2021 IRM Study were developed from emergency transfer limit analysis included in various studies performed by the NYISO, and from input from Transmission Owners and neighboring regions. The transfer limits are further refined by additional assessments conducted specifically for this cycle of the development of the topology.

The transmission model assumptions included in the 2021 IRM Study are listed in Table A.8 in the Appendix which reflects changes from the model used for the 2020 IRM Study. These topology changes are as follows:

#### ***Indian Point Deactivation Topology Changes***

- UPNY-Con Ed (Zone G to H) limit increased to 7,000 MW (+1,000 MW) from 6,000 MW
- Dunwoodie South (Zone I to Zone J) limit reduced to 4,350 MW (-50 MW)

#### ***UPNY-SENY Model Simplification***

- Athens (F), Cricket Valley (G), CPV Valley (G) removed from their own zones and placed in indicated zones
- UPNY-SENY, UPNY-SENY1, and CPV+MARCY interface groups combined into one interface group

#### ***PJM-SENY Group Interface Removal (no longer limiting during peak times)***

#### ***Updates to Zone K Topology***

- Export improvements from Zone K
- Additional East Garden City – Valley Stream 138 kV circuit
- J\_TO\_K (Jamaica ties) limit is no longer dependent on Barrett availability

Forced transmission outages based on historic performance are represented in the GE-MARS model for the underground cables that connect New York City and Long Island to surrounding zones. The GE-MARS model uses transition rates between operating states for each interface, which were calculated based on the probability of occurrence from the historic failure rates and the time to repair. Transition rates into the different operating states for each interface were calculated based on the circuits comprising each

interface, including failure rates and repair times for the individual cables, and for any transformer and/or phase angle regulator associated with that cable.

The TOs provided updated transition rates for their associated cable interfaces. Updated cable outage rates assumed in the 2021 IRM Study had a 0.2% reduction in the IRM compared with the 2020 IRM Study (Table 6-1).

As in all previous IRM studies, forced outage rates for overhead transmission lines were not represented in the 2021 IRM Study. Historical overhead transmission availability was evaluated in a study conducted by ICS in 2015, *Evaluation of the Representation of Overhead Transmission Outages in IRM Studies*, which concluded that representing overhead transmission outages in IRM studies would have no material impact on the IRM (see [www.nysrc.org/reports](http://www.nysrc.org/reports)).

The impact of NYCA transmission constraints on NYCA IRM requirements depends on the level of resource capacity in any of the downstream zones from a constraining interface, especially in the NYC and LI Zones J and K. To illustrate the impact of transmission constraints on IRM, if internal NYCA transmission constraints were eliminated, the required 2021 IRM could decrease by 1.9% (Table 7-1, Case 2).

#### **5.4 The Outside World Model**

The Outside World Model consists of four interconnected Outside World Areas contiguous with NYCA: Ontario, Quebec, New England, and the PJM Interconnection (PJM). NYCA reliability is improved and IRM requirements can be reduced by recognizing available emergency capacity assistance support from these neighboring interconnected control areas, in accordance with control area agreements governing emergency operating conditions.

For the 2021 IRM Study, two Outside World Areas, New England and PJM, are each represented as multi-area models—*i.e.*, 13 zones for New England and five zones for the PJM Interconnection. Another consideration for developing models for the four Outside World Areas is to recognize internal transmission constraints within those Areas that may limit emergency assistance (EA) into the NYCA. This recognition is explicitly considered through direct multi-area modeling of well-defined Outside World Area “bubbles” and their internal interface constraints. The model’s representation explicitly requires adequate data in order to accurately model transmission interfaces, load areas, resource and demand balances, load shapes, and coincidence of peaks, among the load zones within these Outside World Areas.

Representing Outside World Area interconnection support in IRM studies significantly reduces IRM requirements. For the previous six IRM studies, EA has reduced IRM requirements in the range of 6.9 to 8.7%.<sup>10</sup>

In 2019, the ICS conducted an analysis of the IRM study's Outside Area Model to review its compliance with a NYSRC Policy 5 objective that "interconnected Outside World Areas shall be modeled to avoid NYCA's overdependence on Outside World Areas for emergency assistance." This analysis resulted in a change in the methodology to scale loads proportional to excess capacities in each load zone of each Outside World Area to meet the LOLE criterion and the Control Area's minimum IRM requirement. The ICS used this new model in the current study (2021) as well as the 2020 IRM Study.<sup>11</sup>

During the 2021 Capability Year, Hydro-Quebec is expected to wheel 300 MW of capacity through NYCA to New England. In addition, the 2021 IRM study continues to limit the EA assistance to a maximum of 3,500 MW as applied in the previous three IRM Studies<sup>12</sup>.

Utilizing the improved Outside Area Model, while including the Hydro-Quebec wheel to New England and continuing to represent the 3,500 MW EA limit described above, reduces the NYCA IRM by 6.9% (Table 7-1, Case 1). This is 0.6% less than that determined in the 2020 IRM Study.

## 5.5 Database Quality Assurance Review [\(needs update\)](#)

It is critical that the database used for IRM studies undergo sufficient review in order to verify its accuracy. The NYISO, General Electric (GE), and two New York Transmission Owners (TOs) conducted independent data quality assurance reviews after the preliminary base case assumptions were developed and prior to preparation of the final base case. Masked and encrypted input data was provided by the NYISO to the two TOs for their review. Also, certain confidential data are reviewed by two independent NYSRC consultants as required.

The NYISO, GE, and TO reviews found a few minor data errors, none of which affected IRM requirements in the preliminary base case. The data found to be in error by these reviews were corrected before being used in the final base case studies. A summary of these quality assurance reviews for the 2021 IRM Study input data is shown in Appendix A, Section A.4.

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<sup>10</sup> See 2015 to 2020 IRM Study reports at [www.nysrc.org/reports3.html](http://www.nysrc.org/reports3.html).

<sup>11</sup> See *Evaluation of External Area Modeling in NYCA IRM Studies*, for a description of this analysis, at <http://www.nysrc.org/reports3.html>

<sup>12</sup> The 2018 IRM Study report, pages 17-18, describes this EA limit and its derivation. See [www.nysrc.org/reports3.html](http://www.nysrc.org/reports3.html).

## 6. Parametric Comparison with 2019 IRM Study Results

The results of this 2021 IRM Study show that the base case IRM result represents a \_\_\_% increase from the 2020 IRM Study base case value. Table 6-1 compares the estimated IRM impacts of updating several key study assumptions and revising models from those used in last year's study. The estimated percent IRM change for each parameter was calculated from the results of a parametric analysis in which a series of IRM studies were conducted to test the IRM impact of individual parameters. The IRM impact of each parameter in this analysis was normalized such that the net sum of the +/- % parameter changes total the \_\_\_% IRM increase from the 2020 IRM Study. Table 6-1 also provides the reason for the IRM change for each study parameter from the 2020 IRM Study.

There are five parameter drivers that in combination increased the 2021 IRM from the 2020 base case by 2.0%. Of these five drivers, the most significant are an updated load forecast uncertainty model which increased the IRM by 0.8% and the retirement of the second Indian Point Energy Center unit (IP3) which increased the IRM by 0.6%. Section 5.1.2 describes the reasons for this increase in the IRM.

Five parameter drivers in combination decreased the IRM from the 2019 base case by 0.8%. Of these five drivers, the most significant are a reduction in SCR registrations with coupled with improved performance, higher amounts of emergency operating procedure values, and improved cable forced outage rates, especially surrounding Long Island. Each of these three parameters contributed 0.2% to the overall reduction.

The parameters in Table 6-1 are discussed under *Models and Key Input Assumptions*.

**Table 6-1: Parametric IRM Impact Comparison – 2020 IRM Study vs. 2021 IRM Study**

Parameter	Estimated IRM Change (%)	IRM (%)	Reasons for IRM Changes
<b>2020 IRM Study – Final Base Case</b>		<b>18.9</b>	
<b>2021 IRM Study Parameters that increased the IRM</b>			
Load Forecast Uncertainty	0.8		Higher weather uncertainty (see section 5.1.2)
Indian Point Unit 3 retirement and Topology	0.6		Most of the IRM increase is due to the loss of the Indian Point unit.
Wind Shapes (2014 year data replaced with 2019)	0.3		Five-year average lost a windy year (2014) and added a less windy year (2019)
Capacity Additions & Rerates	0.2		Upstate additions and downstate retirements increase IRM
Run of River Hydro Shapes (2014 year data replaced with 2019)	0.1		Five-year average dropped a wet year (2014) and added a dryer year (2019)
<b>Total IRM Increase</b>	<b>2.0</b>		
<b>2021 IRM Study Parameters that decreased the IRM</b>			
SCRs	-0.2		Less SCRs than last year with slightly better performance
Outside World Areas	-0.1		Less EA overall, but more directly into NY load pockets
Non-SCR EOPs	-0.2		Higher voltage reduction and voluntary curtailment values
Cable Transition Rates	-0.2		Better cable performance especially in the Long Island territory
Load Forecast	-0.1		Relatively less demand in higher load zones potentially due to covid-19
<b>Total IRM Decrease</b>	<b>-0.8</b>		
<b>2021 IRM Study Parameters that did not change the IRM</b>			
Transition Rates	0		
Gold Book DMNC Generator Ratings	0		
2021 Maintenance	0		
<b>Net Change from 2020 Study</b>		<b>1.2</b>	
<b>2021 IRM Study – Final Base Case</b>		<b>20.1</b>	

## 7. Sensitivity Case Study

In addition to calculating the IRM using base case assumptions, sensitivity analyses are run as part of an IRM study to determine IRM outcomes using different assumptions than in the base case. Sensitivity studies provide a mechanism for illustrating “cause and effect” of how some performance and/or operating parameters and study assumptions can impact reliability. Certain sensitivity studies, termed “IRM impacts of base case assumption changes”, serve to inform the NYSRC Executive Committee when determining the Final IRM of how the IRM may be affected by reasonable deviations from selected base cases assumptions. The methodology used to conduct sensitivity cases starts with the base case IRM results and adds or removes capacity from all NYCA zones until the NYCA LOLE approaches 0.1 days/year.

Table 7-1 shows the IRM requirements for 8 sensitivity cases. Because of the lengthy computer run time and manpower needed to perform a full Tan 45 analysis in IRM studies<sup>13</sup>, this method was applied for only select cases as noted in the table. It should be recognized that some accuracy is sacrificed when a Tan 45 analysis is not utilized.

Sensitivity Cases 1 through 5 in Table 7-1 are annually performed and illustrate how the IRM would be impacted if certain major IRM study parameters were not represented in the IRM base case. Four of these cases show reasonable results when compared to past results. The fifth, ‘*No Load Forecast Uncertainty*’, shows a continued rising trend each time the data is renewed. Because of this, the ICS has initiated a white paper study to identify the causes of this trend. These parameters and their IRM impacts are discussed in Sections 5.1.2 and 5.4, respectively.

The next two cases, Cases 6 and 7, illustrate the IRM impacts of changing certain base case assumptions. Case 6 shows the impact of using newly developed techniques to model Special Case Resources. It illustrates the impact of incorporating Energy Limited Resources (ELRs), which is discussed in Section 5.2.3. Case 7 shows the impact of not representing the limitation of ELRs on Non-SCR resources. The resources were modeled in the base case using a simplified representation of the limitations. This allowed a desired representation while a more detailed representation of the ELR limitations are studied over the course of the next six months.

The remaining case, Case 8, was an informational analysis that was performed as a result of concerns regarding the influence on the IRM by Long Island parameter updates from the 2020 IRM Study that were manifested by large decreases in the Long Island’s initial locational reserve margin.

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<sup>13</sup> The Tan 45 method is described in Section 3.



Case 9 shows the results from a white paper commonly called the High Renewable Study<sup>14</sup> conducted earlier in the year. The paper indicated that with continued addition of renewable resources, the IRM would climb. When 12,000 MW of solar, on-shore wind, and off-shore wind were added, the IRM rose to 42.9%.

Appendix B, Table B-1 includes a more detailed description and explanation of each sensitivity case.

**Table 7-1: Sensitivity Cases – 2021 IRM Study**

Case	Description	IRM (%)	% Change from Base Case
0	<b>2020 Preliminary Base Case</b>	20.1	-
<b><i>IRM Impacts of Key MARS Study Parameters</i></b>			
1	<b>NYCA Isolated</b> (no emergency assistance)	27.0	6.9
2	<b>No Internal NYCA Transmission Constraints</b> (Free Flow System)	18.2	-1.9
3	<b>No Load Forecast Uncertainty</b>	11.0	-9.1
4	<b>Remove all wind generation</b>	15.2	-4.9
5	<b>No SCRs</b>	17.7	-2.4
<b><i>IRM Impacts of Base Case Assumption Changes</i></b>			
6	<b>SCR Modeling method update – Energy and Duration Limitations [Tan 45]</b>	20.8	0.7
7	<b>Energy Limited Resources modeled with simplified representations.</b>		
<b><i>Informational Assessment</i></b>			
8	<b>LI LCR Analysis (all three with Tan 45)</b>	<b>IRM impacts:</b>	<b>LI LCR impacts:</b> LI LFU (-0.9%), LI unit deactivations (-0.4%), LI cable outage rates (-2.3%)
9	<b>The Impacts of High Intermittent Renewable Resources (12,000 MW of renewables added to 2020 IRM base case of 18.6%)</b>	42.9	24.3

<sup>14</sup> “The Impacts of High Intermittent Renewable Resources - On the Installed Reserve Margin for New York” available on the NSYRC.org website under Executive Meeting Materials for meeting 252, April 9<sup>th</sup>, agenda item 4.2a

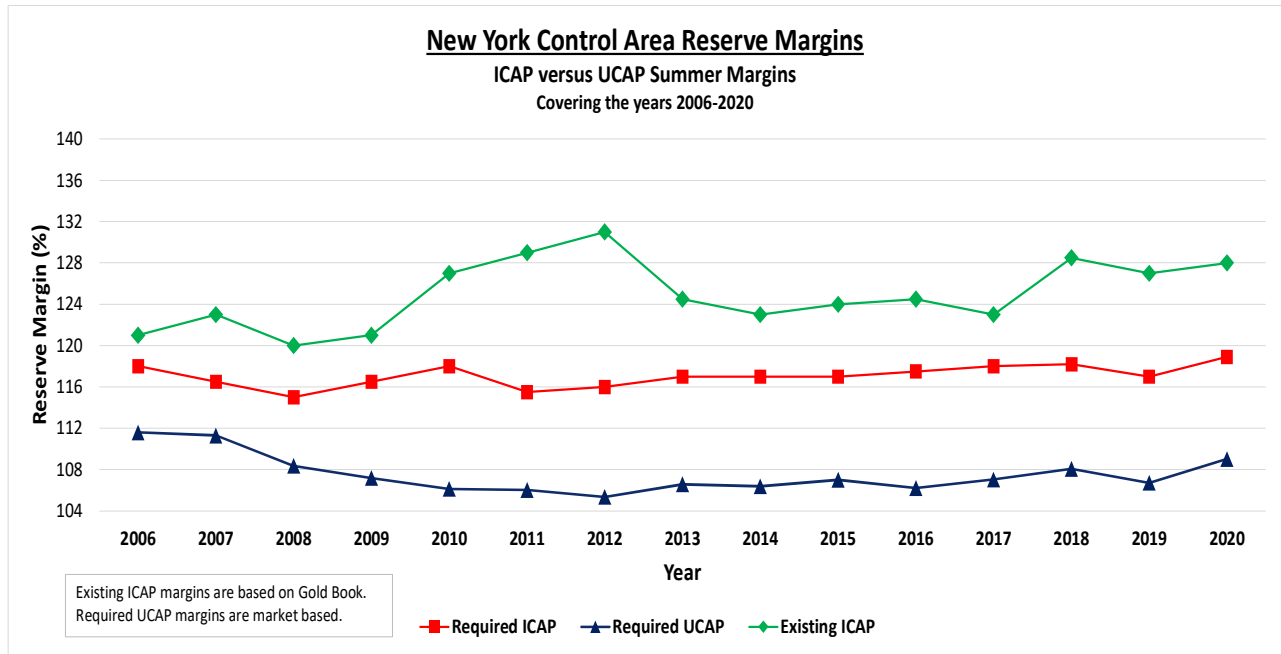
## 8. NYISO Implementation of the NYCA Capacity Requirement

The NYISO values capacity sold and purchased in the market in a manner that considers the forced outage ratings of individual units, whereby generating unit capacity is derated to an unforced capacity basis recognizing the impact of forced outages. This derated capacity is referred to as “UCAP.” In the NYCA, these translations occur twice during the course of each capability year, prior to the start of the summer and winter capability periods.

Additionally, any LCRs in place are also translated to equivalent UCAP values during these periods. The conversion to UCAP essentially translates from one index to another; it is not a reduction of actual installed resources. Therefore, no degradation in reliability is expected. The NYISO employs a translation methodology that converts ICAP requirements to UCAP in a manner that ensures compliance with NYSRC Resource Adequacy Rule A.1: R1. The conversion to UCAP provides financial incentives to decrease the forced outage rates while improving reliability.

The increase in wind resources raises the IRM because wind capacity has a relatively lower peak period capacity factor than traditional resources. On the other hand, there is a negligible impact on the need for UCAP. Figure 8-1 below illustrates that required UCAP margins, which steadily decreased over the 2006-2012 period to about 5%, and then have remained fairly steady since. Appendix C provides details of the ICAP to UCAP conversion process used for this analysis.

Figure 8-1 NYCA Reserve Margins



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