



Appendix E: New York Renewable Profiles and Variability

2023-2042 System &
Resource Outlook

**A Report from the New York
Independent System Operator**

DRAFT for June 7, 2024, ESPWG

Appendix E: New York Renewable Production Profiles

Overview

The NYISO contracted with DNV to produce long-term hourly simulated weather and generation profiles for representative offshore wind (OSW), land-based wind (LBW), and utility-scale solar (UPV) generators. Information about these databases and their production methods were presented to and discussed with stakeholders.¹ DNV provided data for seven OSW locations and nearly 80 LBW and UPV locations throughout the state. The locations were aggregated to the county or zonal level to be put into a format consistent with the capacity expansion modeling framework for use in this Outlook. Capacity weighted aggregation of the site-level net capacity factor (NCF) shapes by technology type in each region was performed in each hour to determine the zonal or county aggregate NCF profiles that the NYISO used as inputs for this Outlook.² To align with the weather representation inherent in the demand forecasts used in this Outlook, the renewable generation profiles from 2018 were leveraged from the 20-plus-year database to represent the production from renewable generators in every year of the 20-year study.

Renewable Technologies

While most of the renewable energy generation in the state today is produced by hydroelectric generators, the expected growth of LBW, OSW, and solar—both UPV and behind the meter (BTM) PV—are key factors in achieving the requirements of the CLCPA. The production amounts of each type of generation are considered when determining the representative days selected for the capacity expansion model and are used as hourly generation shapes in the production cost model for this Outlook.

The NYISO acknowledges that advances in technology are continuously occurring and can lead to improved performance among generators built in the later years of the Study Period. Offsetting this effect, however, is that better sites may be utilized before less favorable resource sites leading to older technology on more favorable sites. Moreover, once installed, equipment performance can degrade over time. While these impacts are known, the exact magnitude of the impacts is hard to quantify. Accordingly, this Outlook does not make any assumptions about improved performance of renewable generators built in the later years of the Study Period or performance degradation of

¹ The [Offshore Wind Profile Details & Methodology](#) was shared and discussed at the February 7, 2023 ICAP/MIWG/PRLWG meeting, and the [Solar and Land-Based Wind Profile Details & Methodology](#) was shared by DNV and discussed at the November 21, 2024 ESPWG/TPAS meeting.

² [Simulated hourly production profiles](#) for renewable resources for years 2000 through 2022.

generators once in operation.

Data

For this Outlook, the NYISO is employing a multi-year database containing OSW, LBW, and UPV production profiles based on a single weather model run and resource projections. The NYISO contracted with DNV to produce retrospective databases spanning from 2000 to the present of hourly generation output, represented as net capacity factors (NCF), for hypothetical projects sited throughout the state and in the New York Bight on the Outer Continental Shelf.³ The full suite of site-level shapes across the OSW, LBW, and UPV database were derived from a single weather model run, and the production values in the simulated database are representative of actual historical weather conditions. The increasing weather dependent supply resources and electrified load will necessitate more attention be paid to spatiotemporally correlated renewable generation and loads are models in long-term planning studies.

Offshore Wind Generation Profiles

The OSW database was developed as part of the ICAP market process to provide estimates for OSW capacity values.⁴ Hourly NCF values from 2000 to 2021 were provided for seven locations representative of awarded and anticipated lease areas for OSW development by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.⁵

Land-Based Wind and Utility PV Generation Profiles

DNV developed LBW and UPV profiles for approximately 160 sites throughout New York that included existing and expected project sites and other locations to capture potential resource variations throughout the state.⁶ The database provides hourly NCF values from 2000 to 2022 for each LBW and UPV site under various assumptions about the performance and technology of the individual projects modeled.

Benefits of New Data

With a new catalog of correlated LBW, OSW, and UPV profiles now available for use in the NYISO's planning and other studies, better characterization of the impacts of electrification and renewable energy integration is possible as large structural system changes make the grid more

³ These profiles can be used to not only simulate production from potential hypothetical projects in the NYISO's long-term planning studies but also for the addition firm resources that will be included in the planning database.

⁴ https://www.nyiso.com/documents/20142/36079056/4%2023_02_07_ICAPWG_OffshoreWindProfileDevelopment.pdf

⁵ https://www.nyiso.com/documents/20142/36079056/4%20NYISO_OffshoreWind_Hourly_NetCapacityFactor.xlsx/

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https://www.nyiso.com/documents/20142/41314645/06_10430908%20DNV%20LBW%20and%20Solar%20Presentation%20for%20NYISO.pdf

weather dependent. Correlating the renewable profiles with load for the same weather year leads to improved representation of potential renewable generation production relative to the expected system demand. In addition, a large catalog of smaller site-level shapes allows for more accurate representation in nodal models where differences in renewable resource production across each of the individual sites will be aggregated to develop representations for larger regions (*e.g.*, county or zone). More granular representation in nodal models will reduce the potential of overestimating the inter-hourly ramps that may become a key constraint in high renewable energy systems.

Renewable Resource Characterization

Resource production profiles can be characterized in various ways to describe interannual variability in, for example, resource output, hourly ramps, variability, and duration of low output. In order to understand the consequences of selecting a single weather year for modeling all future years' system operations and renewable profiles, the NYISO performed a comparison of 2018 statistics to those across the 20-plus-year period.

Based on the granular site-level DNV data, the NYISO developed hourly zonal NCF profiles for integration into the capacity expansion model to represent the output of candidate generators. The NYISO used aggregated zonal profiles to represent OSW, LBW, and UPV generators in the capacity expansion model and site-level and aggregated county-level profiles for existing and new renewable resources modeled in the production cost model, respectively.

The aggregate zonal NCF profiles and the UPV, LBW, and OSW zonal capacities in several cases were used to model the input renewable generation seen by the model for use in this Outlook. Each technology was aggregated to the NYCA level. However, instead of only reviewing 2018, all years (*e.g.*, 2000-2021) are included in the comparison. In addition, the modeled load shape is used in each case in order to examine details of net load (for purposes of this calculation, net load = load – UPV – LBW – OSW) assuming different weather but the same load shape.

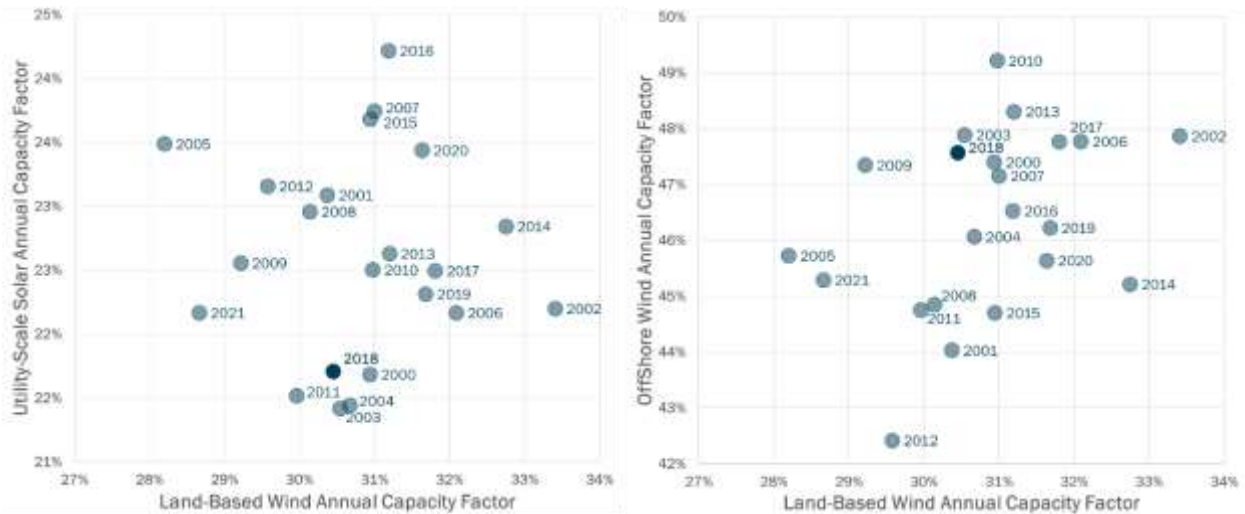
Cases from the study examined in this fashion include the 2030 Contract Case and 2035 Lower and Higher Demand scenarios in the Policy Case. In addition, the NYISO used a baseline case with the actual 2018 load and zonal capacity mix as input to the methodology utilized in the analysis performed for this appendix.

Metrics for Characterizing Renewable Production

Given the variability of the wind and solar resources, characterization of their respective output over the hours and seasons of a single- or multi-year period is challenging. At a macro level,

understanding the variation in production over the years by comparing the annual capacity factors by technology type provides an initial indication of the energy impact of the choice of 2018 relative to other years in the DNV database. Relative to the 2000-2021 DNV database, 2018 had low UPV production, slightly below average LBW production, and above average OSW output, as shown below. In addition, LBW and OSW production are more correlated than the LBW and UPV production, as is expected.

Figure xx: Annual Capacity Factor of UPV, LBW, and OSW: 2030 Contract Case



Renewable production profiles can be characterized on a more granular level by examining statistics within individual month and hour bins. Commonly referred to as “twelve by twenty-fours” (12x24), this calculation allows the diurnal and seasonal contributions of different renewable generation types to be accessed from the hourly timeseries. Further comparison of the net load provides insight on when and how much other supply resources are needed across the year and when there is a potential for renewable oversupply (i.e., negative net loads).

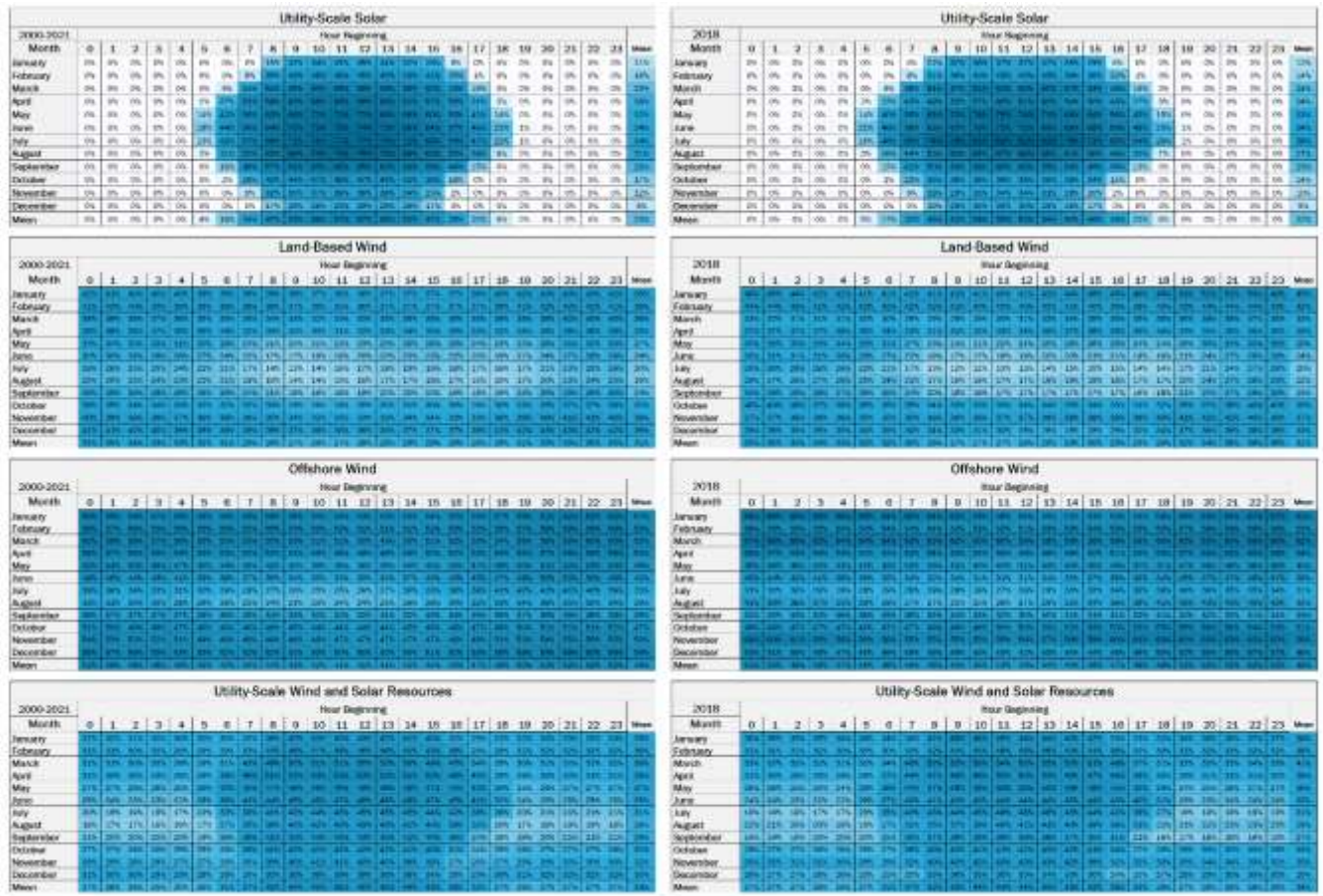
The graphics below present the hourly and monthly average NCF by technology type and present the NCF of the capacity weighted aggregation of UPV, LBW, and OSW. The figures on the left hand of the page show the averages over the 22-year period (2000-2021), while the right-hand figures display the averages based on only the 2018 shapes.

A number of salient features of the input data can be observed using this methodology. The concentration of solar generation in the summer and mid-day hours is clearly observed, as well as comparably lower solar generation in the winter months due to shorter daytime periods. In the shoulder months, solar production is slightly higher in the spring relative to the fall. On the other hand, production of both LBW and OSW is concentrated on average to the winter evening hours,

with this impact more pronounced for OSW than LBW. Across the board, OSW produces at higher NCF levels than LBW. The combined impact of the wind and solar display clear features of each of the technologies with the highest overall renewable production during the summer mid-day. The lowest production persists during the evening hours in the summer and early fall with fleet capacity factors under 20% on average. Comparison of the 22-year average results to those for 2018 show that the general behavior of these resources is relatively consistent from year to year.

Figure xx: “12x24” Average Net Capacity Factors for UPV, LBW, OSW, and Combined: 2030 Contract

Case

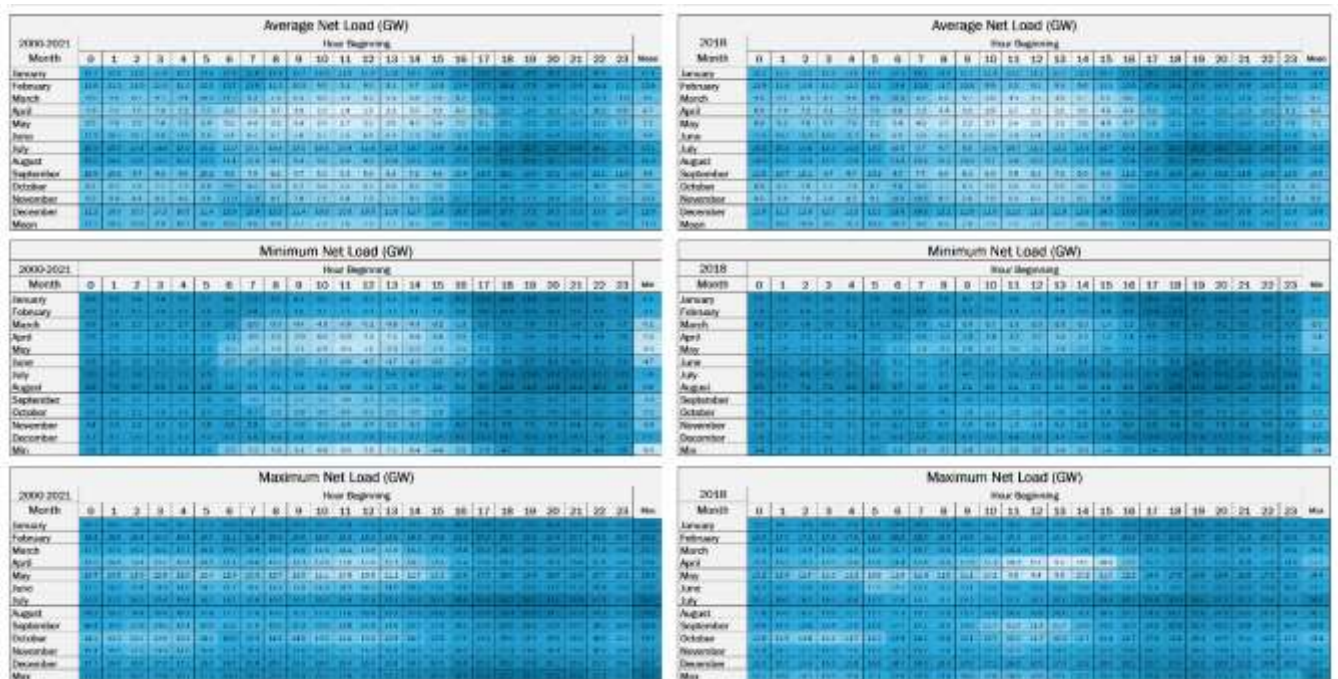


Renewable energy supply is better characterized from a timing perspective. By comparing renewable energy supply to the timing of the expected load, the remaining supply resources needed to serve demand (e.g., hydro, nuclear, imports, fossil fuel-fired and other generation, storage, and DEFRs) can be better understood. Using a similar framework to simplify the comparison, the figure below displays the variability in net load by displaying 12x24 charts for average, minimum, and maximum net load in GW. The left-hand figure displays net load over the 22-year period (assuming the same load in each year but varying the renewable energy shapes). The right-hand figure shows

net load for only the 2018 renewable data.

Average net loads are highest in the summer and winter evening hours after sunset. This indicates the need for additional supply beyond the assumed wind and solar resources to meet expected demand. Net loads are lowest during the mid-day spring and fall months when loads are lower and renewable energy production is generally high. The minimum net loads, which may be negative, provide an indication of the minimum generation levels needed from the remaining fleet when loads are lowest and renewable output is high. Negative net loads indicate intervals where the renewable energy supplied by wind and solar resources exceeds the demand on the NYCA and coincides with times of low average net load during the shoulder mid-day periods, primarily due to the concentration of solar output. Storage resources would potentially be able to shift a significant amount of this excess mid-day renewable output during the day or across a few days. However, storage resources may not be fully capable of economically addressing the seasonal mismatch between times of low and negative net loads in the shoulder seasons and high positive net loads during peak season after the sun goes down. This impact is only exacerbated as weather-dependent electrified load (e.g., building heating) increases the potential peak load sensitivity of the system during temperature or weather extremes. This results in the requirement for even further supply resources to meet the larger net load peak without significant efforts to mitigate the potential peak load growth impacts.

Figure xx: “12x24” Average, Minimum, and Maximum Net Loads (GW): 2030 Contract Case



An additional feature of the variability of wind and solar output and their relation to load relates to the ramping requirements presented to the remaining (dispatchable) fleet to serve hour to hour changes in net load. Because each renewable generation type has a different hourly profile, they also have different levels of changes of output during different hours across the year. Some may help mitigate hourly changes in load, while others can exacerbate the impact of changes in load creating even larger ramp demands upon the fleet of dispatchable generators.

The following figures compute the average and maximum (extreme) ramp for each renewable technology, the combination of renewable technologies, load, and net load for each hour and month bin over the 22-years of renewable profile data. The ramps are presented for all the renewable profiles and are the negative of the actual production ramps to directly compare their impact to the resultant net load ramps. As shown earlier for the relative timing of net load, several important features are observed from visualizing the separate up and down ramp statistics in this fashion. Displayed here are the capacity mix and hourly loads from the 2030 Contract Case.

Overall, the coherence of the UPV results in significant contribution to upward ramp in the late evening as the sun is setting and downward ramp in the early morning as the sun rises. The timing of the average and extreme ramps changes throughout the course of the year as the days become longer and shorter. The average and extreme ramps for LBW and OSW are more evenly distributed due to the more random nature of the variations in the winds and generally smaller due to the lower geographic and temporal correlation of the wind shapes than the solar shapes. When combined, the renewable energy production contains characteristics of each of LBW, OSW, and UPV; however, the ramps are dominated by the UPV ramp impact.

Changes in load on the other hand are largely driven by the behavior of the many end users of the electricity system. In general, the largest upward ramp intervals occur in the early morning hours of the winter months and the early afternoon hours across the year. The largest downward ramp intervals occur overnight throughout the year and in the mid-morning hours during the winter months.

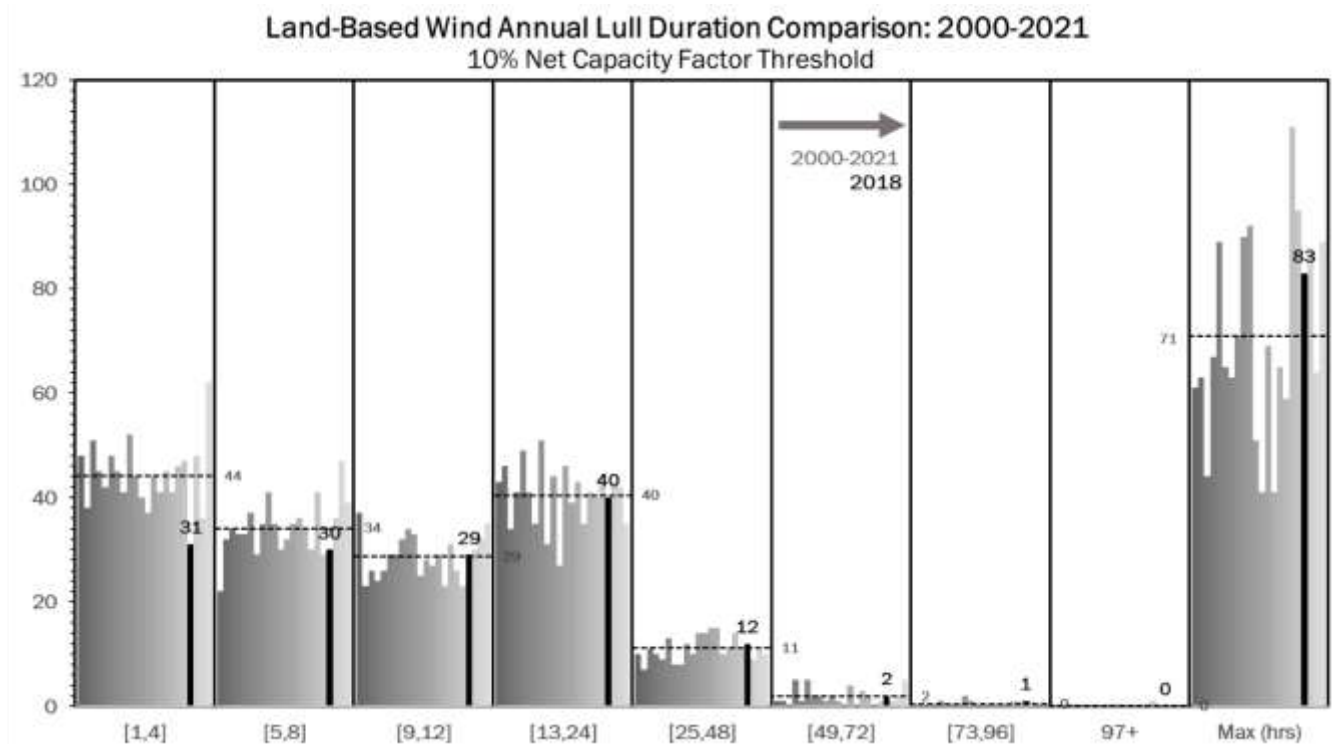
Figure xx: Contribution to Average Net Load Ramp Binned by Month and Hour: 2030 Contract Case

combination of LBW, OSW, and UPV to examine the impact of the combined assumed renewable fleet on the number of lulls of a given set of duration bins.

Figure xx presents the results of reviewing the LBW profiles over the 2000-2021 period on an annual basis assuming a 10% hourly NCF threshold (i.e., lull hours are defined as those with a NCF greater than 0.1). The x-axis displays the event duration bins (e.g., “[1,4]” collect all one-to-four-hour events while “97+” collects all events that are 97 hours or longer) except for the last bin that displays the longest duration event in hours during the year. Each bar within a bin going from left to right represents the number of events in each duration bin for one year from 2000-2021, with 2018 labeled with black bars and the corresponding number of events. The dashed line across each bin shows the average value of the number of lulls (and maximum duration) across the 23-year period. The analysis shows that, in 2018, the longest event where LBW output stayed below 10% of capacity across New York was 83 hours long and there were 12 events between 25 and 48 hours long. The chart also shows that there were less short duration LBW lull events in 2018 relative to the 23-year average but that there were in general more lulls longer than on day in duration than in a typical year.

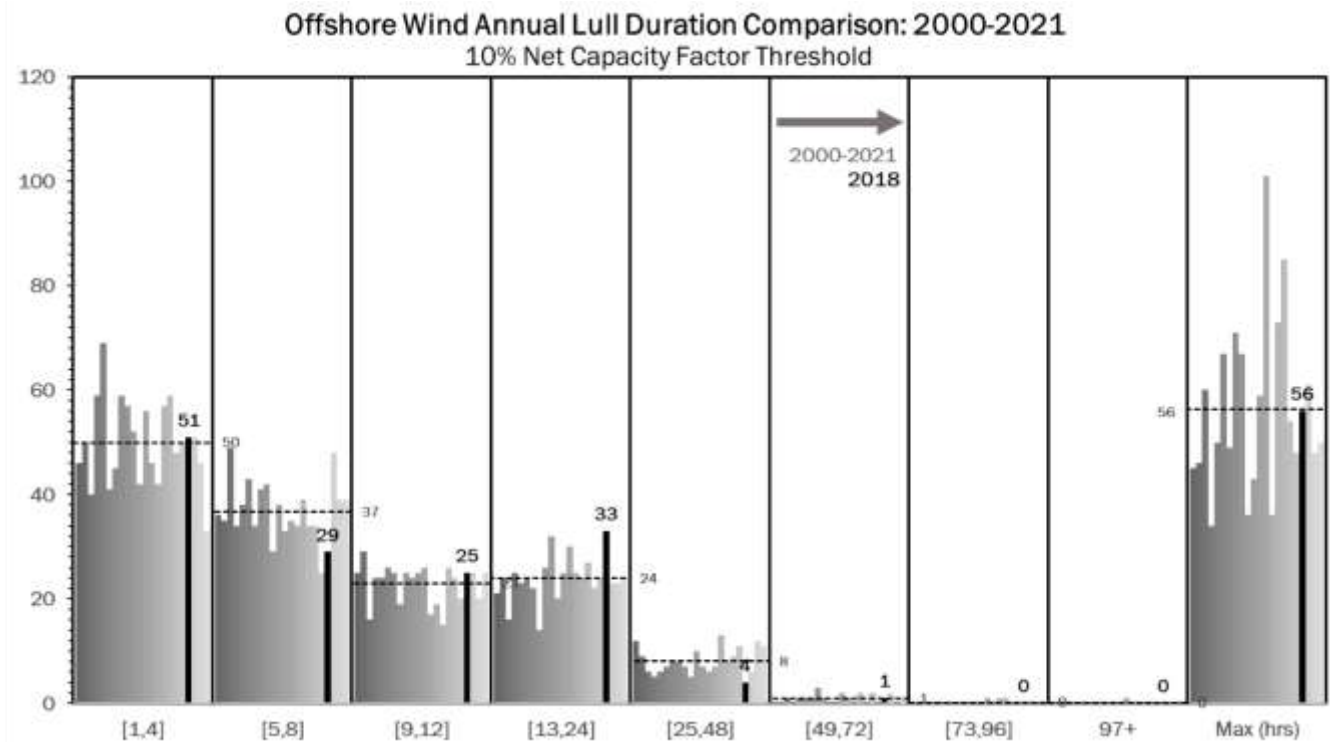
Figure xx: Land-Based Wind Lull Event Duration Statistics assuming 10% NCF threshold: 2030

Contract Case



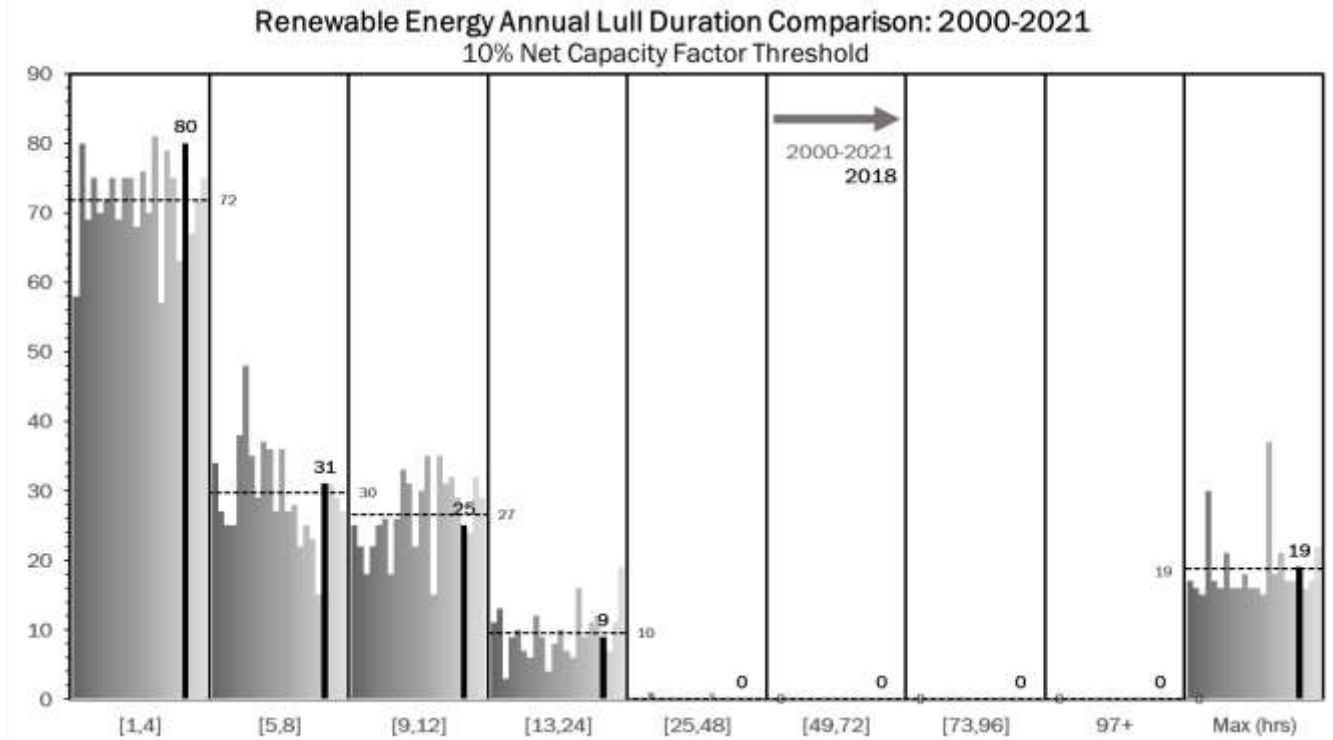
Comparison of the DNV renewable production shapes shows that LBW has more and longer wind lulls than the OSW shapes. This is expected, in part, as OSW has higher average capacity factors as shown in the monthly-hourly analysis earlier in this section.

Figure xx: Offshore Wind Lull Event Duration Statistics assuming 10% NCF threshold: 2030 Contract Case



Combining the LBW, OSW, and UPV shapes on a capacity weighted basis and performing the same analysis results in less lulls of all durations because the diversity in timing of production from the different generation types has the effect removing or splitting longer lulls into more shorter events.

Figure xx: Combined Renewable Generation Lull Event Duration Statistics assuming 10% NCF threshold: 2030 Contract Case



Conclusions

Analysis of the input renewable and load shapes over the course of a single year can provide significant information about when additional resources will most likely be needed to provide additional supply to the system. Using the 22-years of simulated renewable NCF profiles applied to the zonal capacity mix in the 2030 Contract Case provides significant insight into general system characteristics and potential needs for additional supply resources. Comparative review of these metrics for the 2035 Lower and Higher Demand scenarios in the Policy Case shows largely similar features across all of the discussed metrics but with larger impacts due to the higher loads and slightly larger renewable builds present in the 2035 Policy Case relative to the 2030 Contract Case.