

Case Study: Resilience Benefits of Distributed Wind Against Fuel and Weather Hazards in Alaska

July 2022

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Prepared for the U.S. Department of Energy Under DOE Idaho Operations Office Contract DE-AC07-05ID14517

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INTRODUCTION

- Resilience for electric energy delivery systems is not well defined or standardized.
- All-hazards approach to resilience allows for consideration of characteristics and hazards unique to a system
- Identification of resilience benefits allows estimations of resilience value, which is not typically captured in cost-benefit analysis.

RESILIENCE FRAMEWORK

- INL developed a resilience framework for EEDS to cover entire system lifecycle and evaluate resilience using specific steps [1].
- Model-informed consideration of resilience hazards, including the risk of cyber effects, weather, or intentional physical damage.
- 3-tiered approach: lifecycle stages, resilience core functions, and process steps.
- Case study focuses on nested bow-tie process of planning stage.

Plan and Evaluate

ST. MARY'S, AK CASE STUDY

System Description

- 900 kW wind turbine installed in 2019 [2].
- Over 2000 kW diesel generation capacity.
- Transmission intertie between St. Mary's and Mt. Village came online in 2020 [3].
- Peak load (combined system): 1072 kW [4].

Hazards

Operate

2-day fuel shortage

- Pipe rupture, tank failure, delayed shipment.
- Assume all diesel generation unavailable.

Extreme cold temperatures

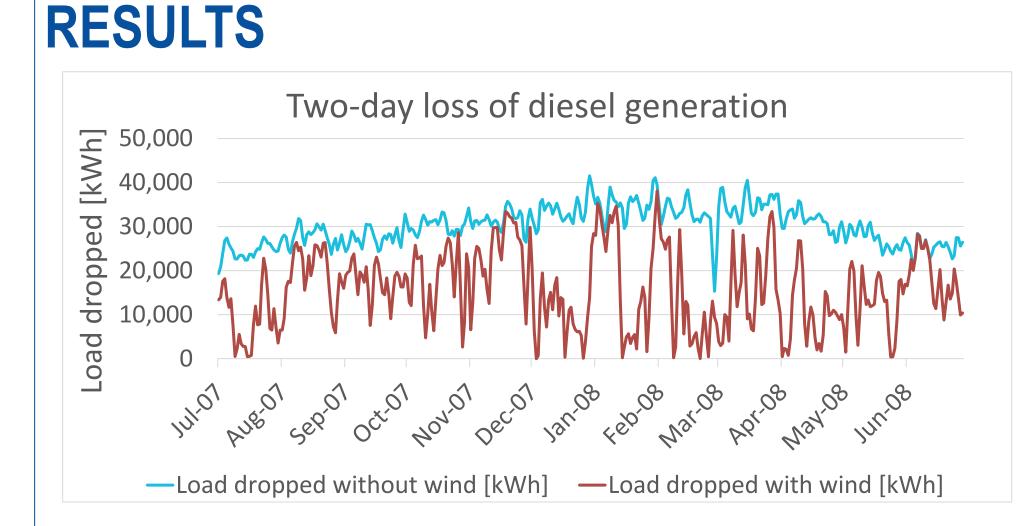
- Varying severity: drops of 1°C to 20°C.
- Varying duration: 1 week to 12 weeks.

Future

 Load increases with drops in temperature.

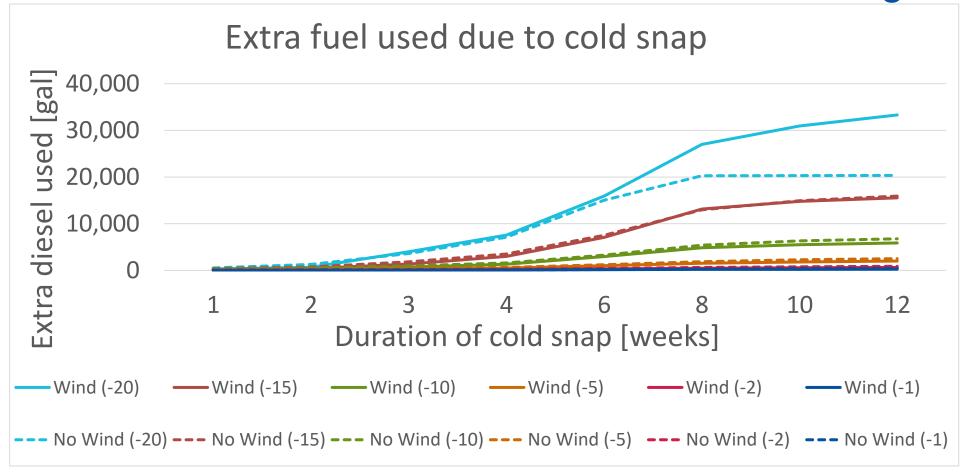
Simulations

- Wind speed and temperature data collected at airport, wind speeds adjusted for height and location [5].
- Manufacturer's wind production curve [6].
- 3 diesel generators dispatched for load and spinning reserves, fuel use calculated.
- Synthetic load data generated with HOMER using characteristics profiled in 2009-2011 [4].



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- The presence of the wind turbine decreases the diesel use, and the severity of outages, if any.
- Customers see losses of \$447,592, on average.
- Utilities see lost revenue of \$4,240 on average.



- Wind that was curtailed in base case instead used to help serve excess load.
- Exception: extreme cold dropped temperature below turbine's operating point.
- Savings from having wind installed are maximized for temperature drops of 5-10° below normal.

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This research was sponsored by the Department of Energy (DOE) Wind Energy Technologies Office (WETO) under DOE Idaho Operations Office Contract DE-AC07-05ID14517 and under DOE contract DE-AC05-76RL01830 (the contract under which Pacific Northwest National Laboratory is operated by Battelle). The views and opinions of the authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Government of any agency thereof.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors thank their national laboratory partners on the Microgrids, Infrastructure Resilience, and Advanced Controls Launchpad (MIRACL) project. Special thanks to Brian Naughton (Sandia National Laboratories) for help with data collection and HOMER modeling and to Patrick Gilman and Bret Barker at the DOE Wind Energy Technologies Office (WETO) for their support of MIRACL

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