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# **Biggest Bang for the Buck**

**Evaluating Transmission Projects in an LMP Market**

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# Introduction

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- American Transmission Company (ATC)
  - First, multi-state, transmission only company
  - Serve most of Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan
  - Approximately \$700 million in transmission assets
  - Approximately 9,000 miles of transmission lines
  - Peak demand of approx. 13,000 MW in 2004
  - Largest load centers: Milwaukee, Madison and Green Bay



# Introduction

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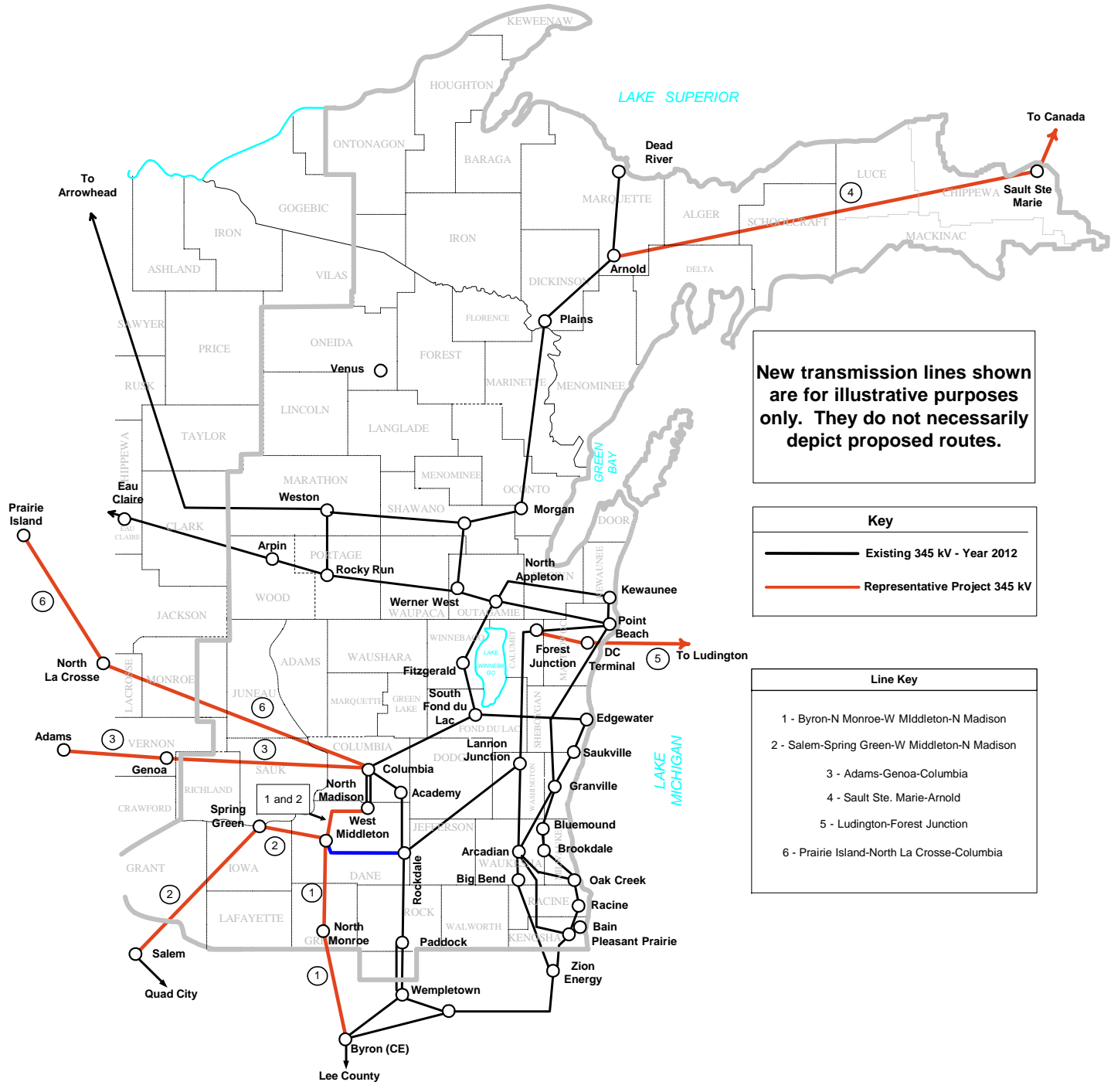
- Which transmission projects provide the biggest bang for the buck in an LMP market?
- Explore some key drivers and principles using ATC's "Access Initiative" PROMOD analysis
- Questions evaluated with PROMOD:
  - What is the best transmission alternative/direction for increasing the import capability into ATC?
  - What is the optimal level of import capability
- Transmission/Generation background





# Introduction

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- Alternatives studied with PROMOD:
  - Base Case
  - Base Case Plus Two Fixes (to relieve the 2 most limiting constraints).
  - South: Byron-North Madison
  - Southwest: Salem-North Madison
  - West: Adams-Columbia
  - West: Prairie Island-Columbia
  - Northeast: Sault Saint Marie-Arnold
  - East: Ludington-Forest Junction



**New transmission lines shown are for illustrative purposes only. They do not necessarily depict proposed routes.**

Key	
	Existing 345 kV - Year 2012
	Representative Project 345 kV

Line Key	
1	Byron-N Monroe-W Middleton-N Madison
2	Salem-Spring Green-W Middleton-N Madison
3	Adams-Genoa-Columbia
4	Sault Ste. Marie-Arnold
5	Ludington-Forest Junction
6	Prairie Island-North La Crosse-Columbia



# Analysis Mechanics

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- Economic analysis mechanics
  - Run the Base Case for a given year (2012) using ATC's planned transmission topology
  - Add a transmission expansion alternative, like the Byron to North Madison (NMA) 345 kV line, and see how much the production costs decrease relative to the Base Case
  - Compare the “production cost” savings to the capital cost for the project to determine which alternative provides the biggest bang for buck



# Cost Differences

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- Calculating the production cost difference from PROMOD between the Base Case and the alternatives
- Using the cost difference tends to reduce the impact of inaccuracies in forecasts and other input data. Example
- Still should be diligent in reviewing input data and assumptions, such as:
  - Flowgate ratings
  - Generator mapping
  - Load forecasts (including interruptibles & DSM)
  - Nuclear plant relicensing



# Cost Comparison

- Compare the carrying costs for each alternative to the “production cost” savings from PROMOD

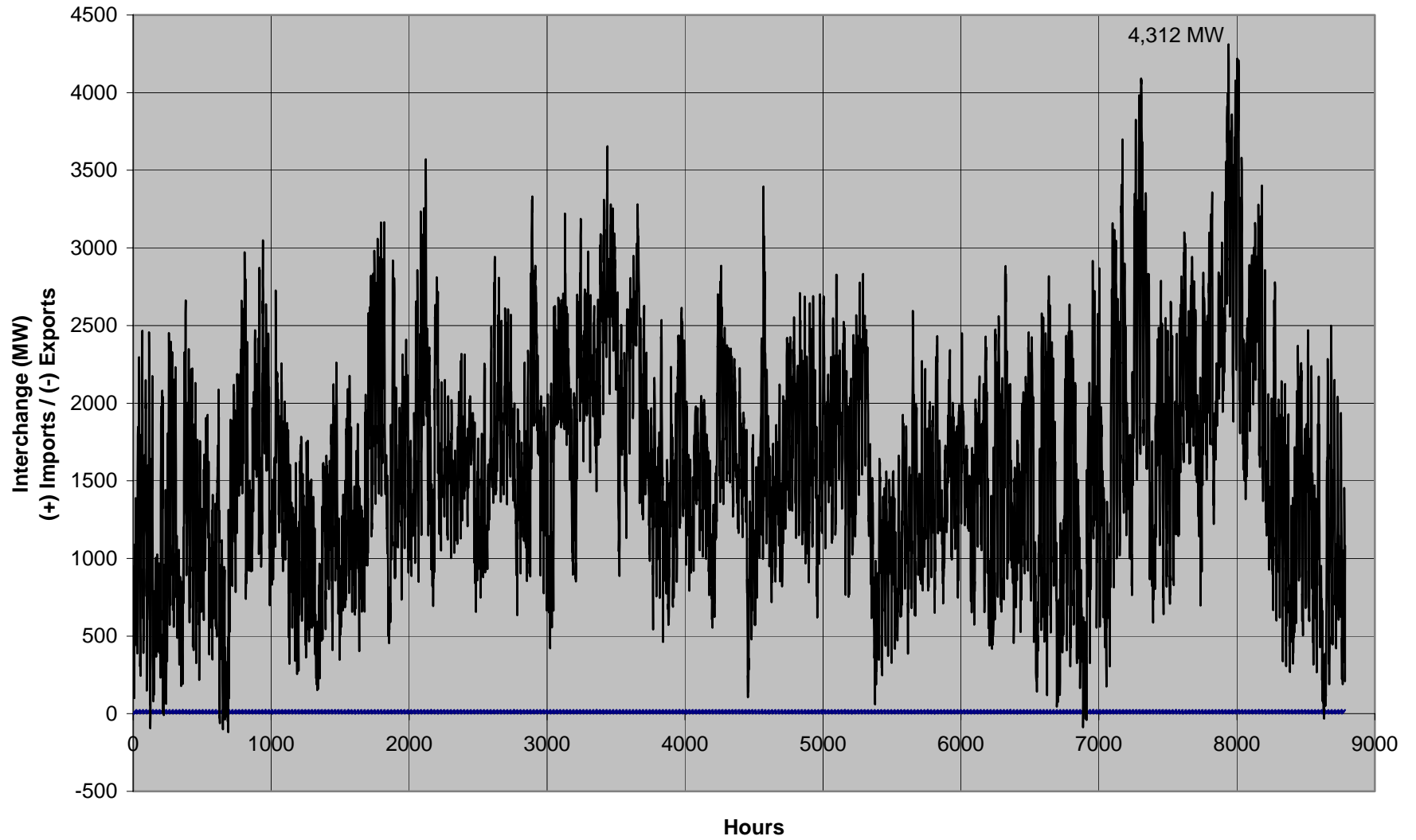
**Capital Costs Versus “Production Cost” Savings**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Total Capital Costs (2003\$ Mil.)</b>	<b>Approximate Annual Carrying Cost (2003\$ Mil.)</b>	<b>“Production Cost” Savings<sup>1</sup> Relative to the Base Case (2003\$ Mil.)</b>	<b>Net Imports Relative to the Base Case (GWH)</b>
Base Case	\$0	N/A	0	0
South: Byron–NMA	\$143	\$12.9	\$37.1	4,107

<sup>1</sup> The “Production Costs” are calculated by adding the production costs plus purchased power costs minus the revenue from sales (at ATC’s load weighted and generator weighted LMP values, respectively).

- **PROMOD economic analysis:**
  - Still being refined
  - Does not factor in other benefits like enhanced transmission system reliability and security--treated separately
  - Assumes that ATC bears all of the costs

**Total Tie Line Flows Into ATC for the Byron-NMA Case - Baseline Scenario**





# Flowgates

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- The transmission system is planned and operated such that it can withstand the outage of the most critical component--the “N-1” criterion
- Started with the MISO’s transmission flowgate list
- Made many changes to the MISO’s flowgate list to reflect the the transmission topology changes anticipated by 2012
  - Iterative process--each successive model run provides information to help refine the flowgate list



# Shadow Price Case Study

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- Shadow price--cost savings associated with increasing the flow capability (rating) on a constrained transmission facility (such as a line, transformer, etc.) by one MW
- The cost savings associated with relieving constraints (flowgates) with high shadow prices can be dramatic
- Case Study: Flowgate with a relatively high shadow price for the Byron-NMA alternative



# Shadow Price Case Study

## Sum of the Shadow Prices Across the Limiting Element for the Year for Byron-NMA<sup>1</sup>

Limiting Element	Byron	Byron-NOM Fix
North Monroe 138/69 kV Transformer	\$967,300	
Hilltop to Sherman St-115 kV	\$91,960	\$90,320
Tecumseh Rd 138/69 kV Transformer	\$66,780	\$80,420
West Middleton to Blackhawk-69 kV	\$44,840	\$56,830
South Fond du Lac 138/69 Transformer	\$36,630	\$23,630
Cassville to Nelson Dewey-161 kV	\$13,640	\$16,110
Rocky Run to Plover-115 kV	\$10,350	\$8,630
Cordova to Nelson-345 kV	\$7,830	\$9,210
Lakefield to Fox Lake-161 kV	\$7,120	\$8,120
Bain to Spring Valley-138 kV	\$5,530	\$8,830
Ramsey to Kansas-138 kV	\$2,020	\$4,810

<sup>1</sup> Values from the "FLOWGATE ANNUAL REPORT" table in the PROMOD "Report" file.

- What does the \$967,300 shadow price sum on the North Monroe 138/69 kV transformer mean?
  - Increasing the flow capability (rating) on the transformer by a single MW would generate savings of almost \$1 million










# Shadow Price Case Study

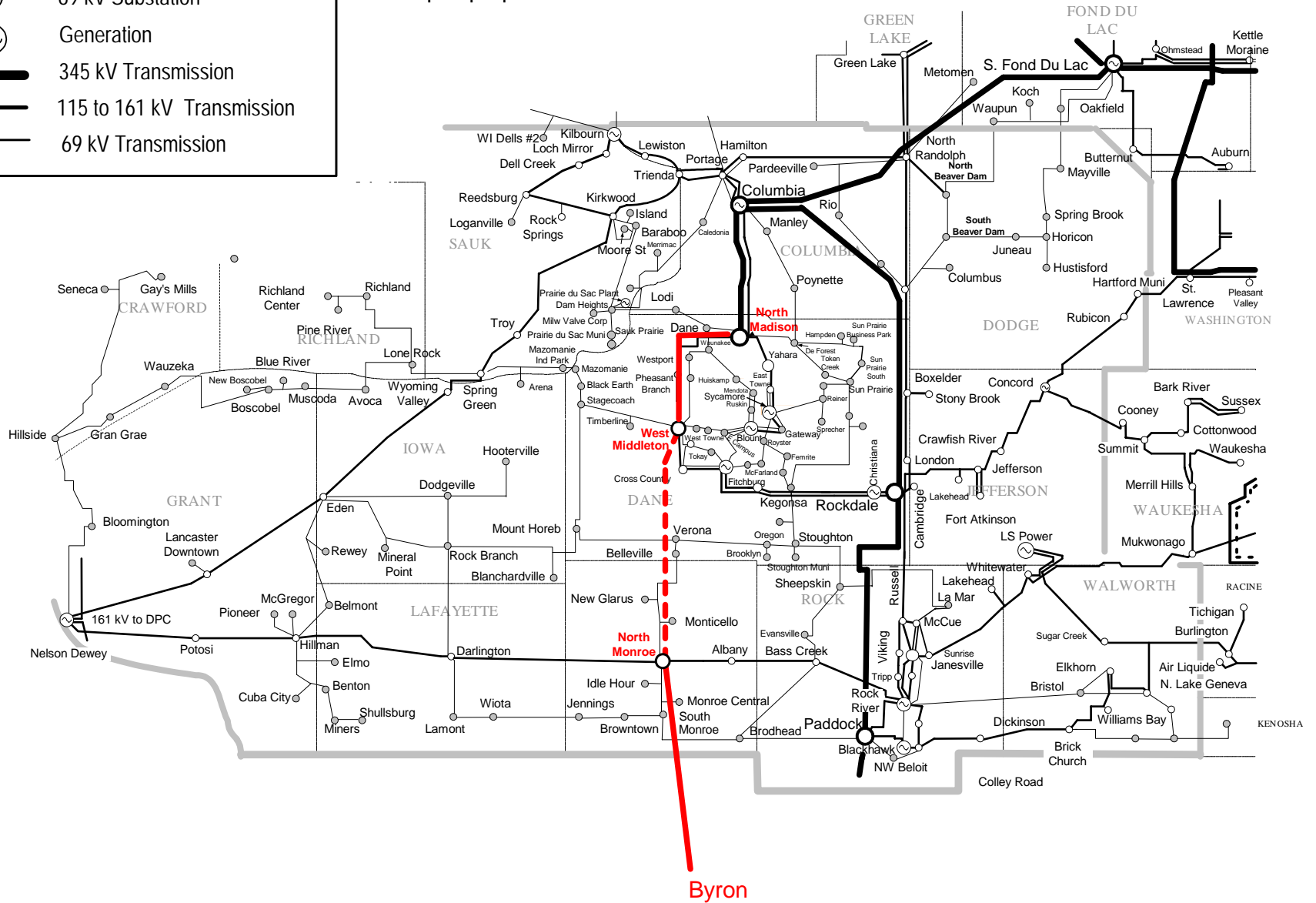
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- The rating on the existing North Monroe 138/69 kV transformer is 93 MW
  - If relieving this limiting element/constraint by 1 MW (to 94 MW) would save \$967,300, how much would a 5, 10, 30 or 50 MW increase save?
  - What is the maximum amount of power that wants to flow across the transformer in PROMOD?
  - Under what conditions do we see the maximum flow?
    - The North Monroe 138/69 kV transformer (limiting element) tends to overload for the loss of the North Monroe to West Middleton 345 kV line (single worst contingency) Flowgate

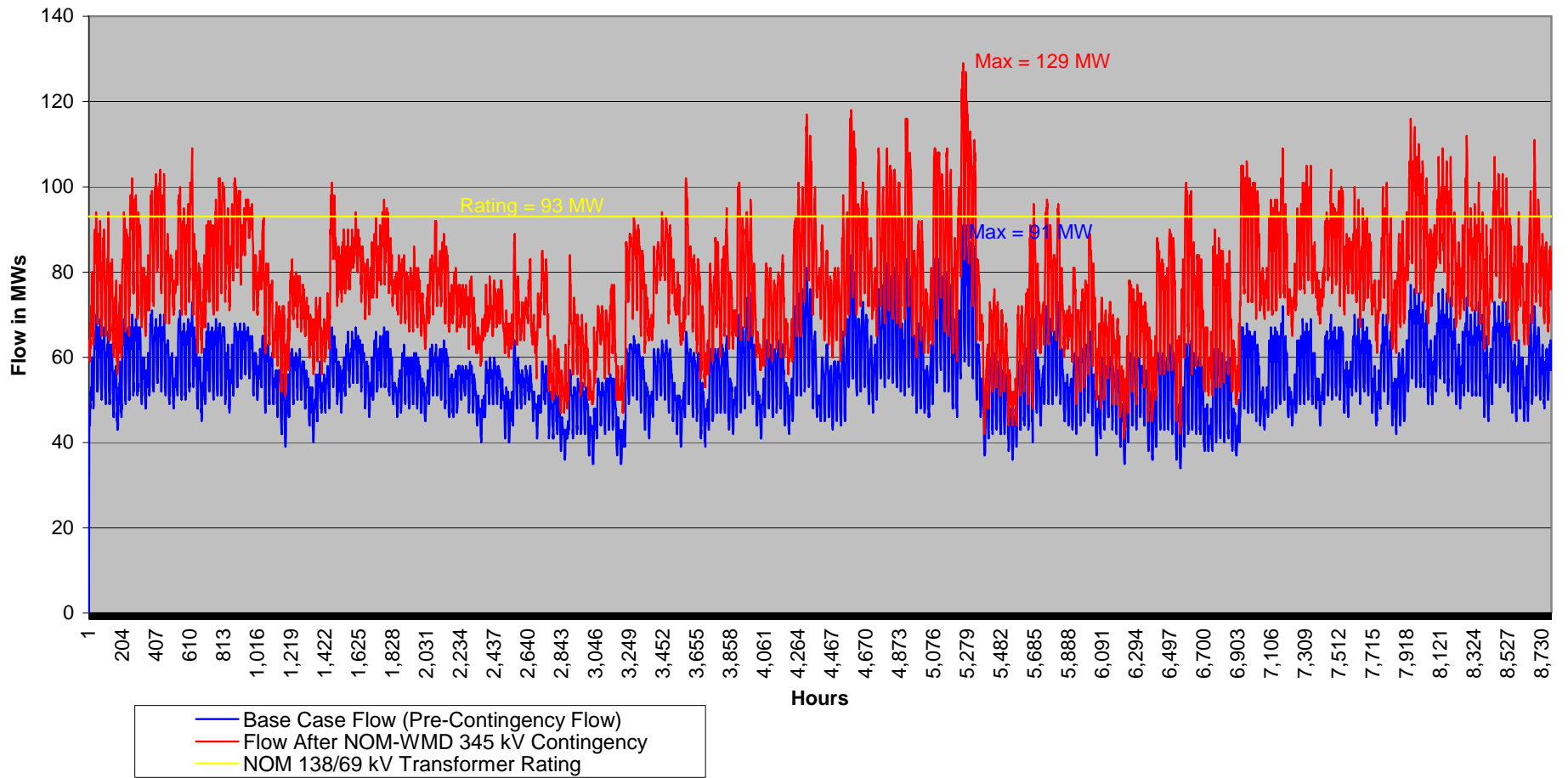
**KEY**

-  345 kV Substation
-  138 kV Substation
-  69 kV Substation
-  Generation
-  345 kV Transmission
-  115 to 161 kV Transmission
-  69 kV Transmission

New transmission lines shown are for illustrative purposes only. They do not necessarily depict proposed routes.



Flow on the 138/69 kV North Monroe Transformer (Limiting Element) in the Base Case and Under Contingency (Loss of the North Monroe-West Middleton 345 kV Line)





# Shadow Price Case Study

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- The North Monroe 138/69 kV transformer “flowgate” rating only needs to be increased by 36 MW (from 93 to 129 MW) for it to no longer be an active constraint
- Because of increasing load growth in the area a second North Monroe transformer (~\$1 million) has already been proposed
- Rating of the two transformers combined would roughly double to 186 MW



## S.P. Case Study Conclusions

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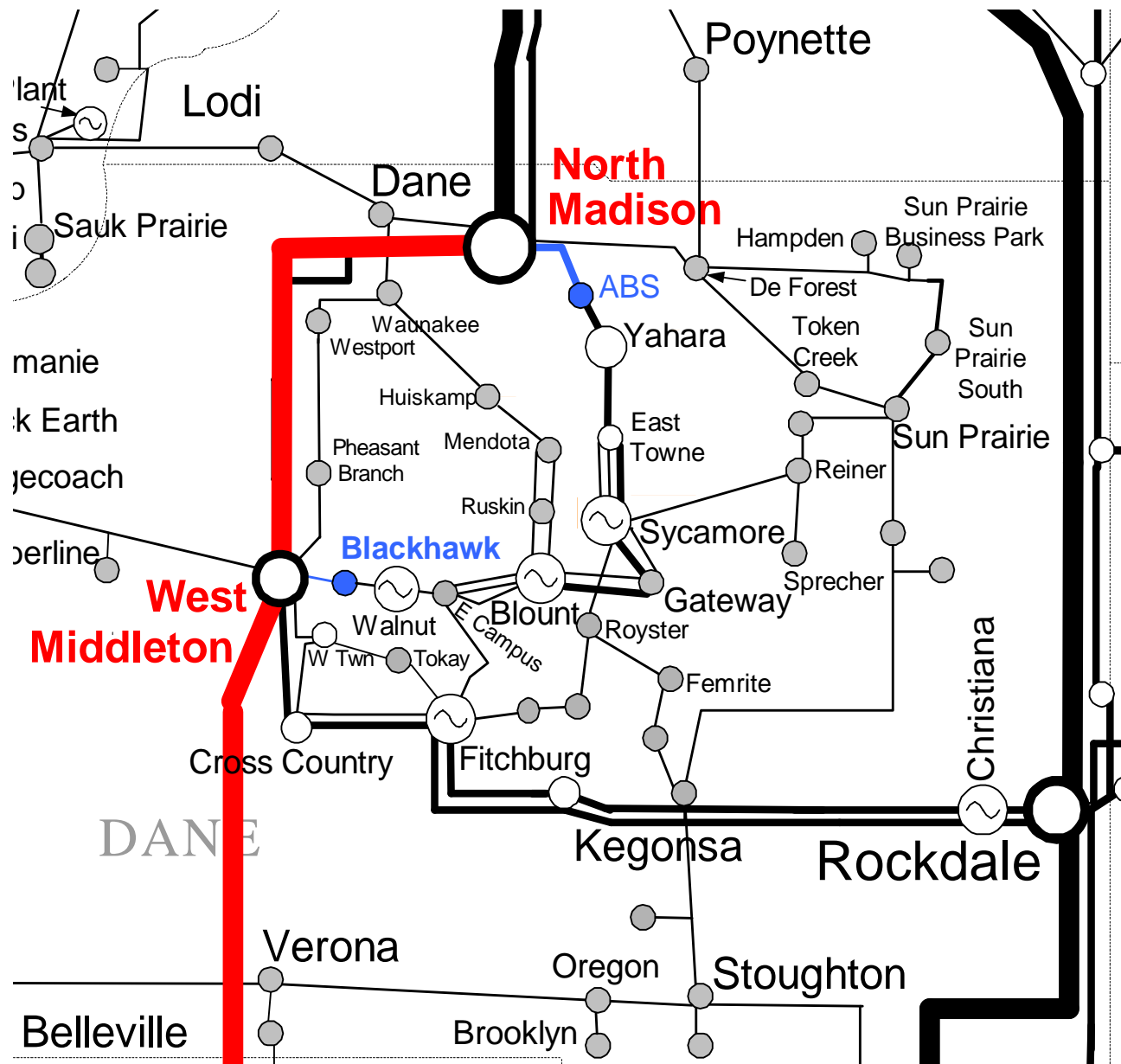
- A 1 MW increase in the flow on the North Monroe transformer would save \$967,300
- Relieving the constraint completely, by adding a second transformer (~\$1 million), saves around \$10 million per year for Byron-NMA
- Other “downstream” lower voltage facilities might have to be upgraded
- Particularly important to have a complete set of flowgates and analyze their impact on the analysis—can have a major impact



# Alternate Fixes Case Study

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- There were other constraints/flowgates, with reasonably high shadow prices, that could also be “fixed”
  - Example: The West Middleton to Blackhawk 69 kV line tends to overload for the loss of the North Madison to ABS 138 kV line
- Would it be cost-effective to apply a fix for this constraint?





# Alternate Fixes Case Study

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- West Middleton (WMD) to Blackhawk is a 69 kV underground cable and as a consequence is difficult and relatively expensive to upgrade
- How else could we relieve this constraint?



# Alternate Fixes Case Study

- Options for relieving the WMD-Blackhawk constraint:
  - Dispatch the lower-cost Blount units and the new University Plant more to “push back against the constraint”
  - The capacity factors show this occurring in PROMOD:

## Capacity Factors for Select MGE Generators

Unit Description	Base Case Capacity Factor (%)	Byron-NMA Capacity Factor (%)
Blount:6	38.1	43.1
Blount:7	37.9	40.7
University Of Wisconsin Plant:GT	2.3	4.7

- Increase in capacity factors initially seems to be counter-intuitive



# Alternate Fixes Case Study

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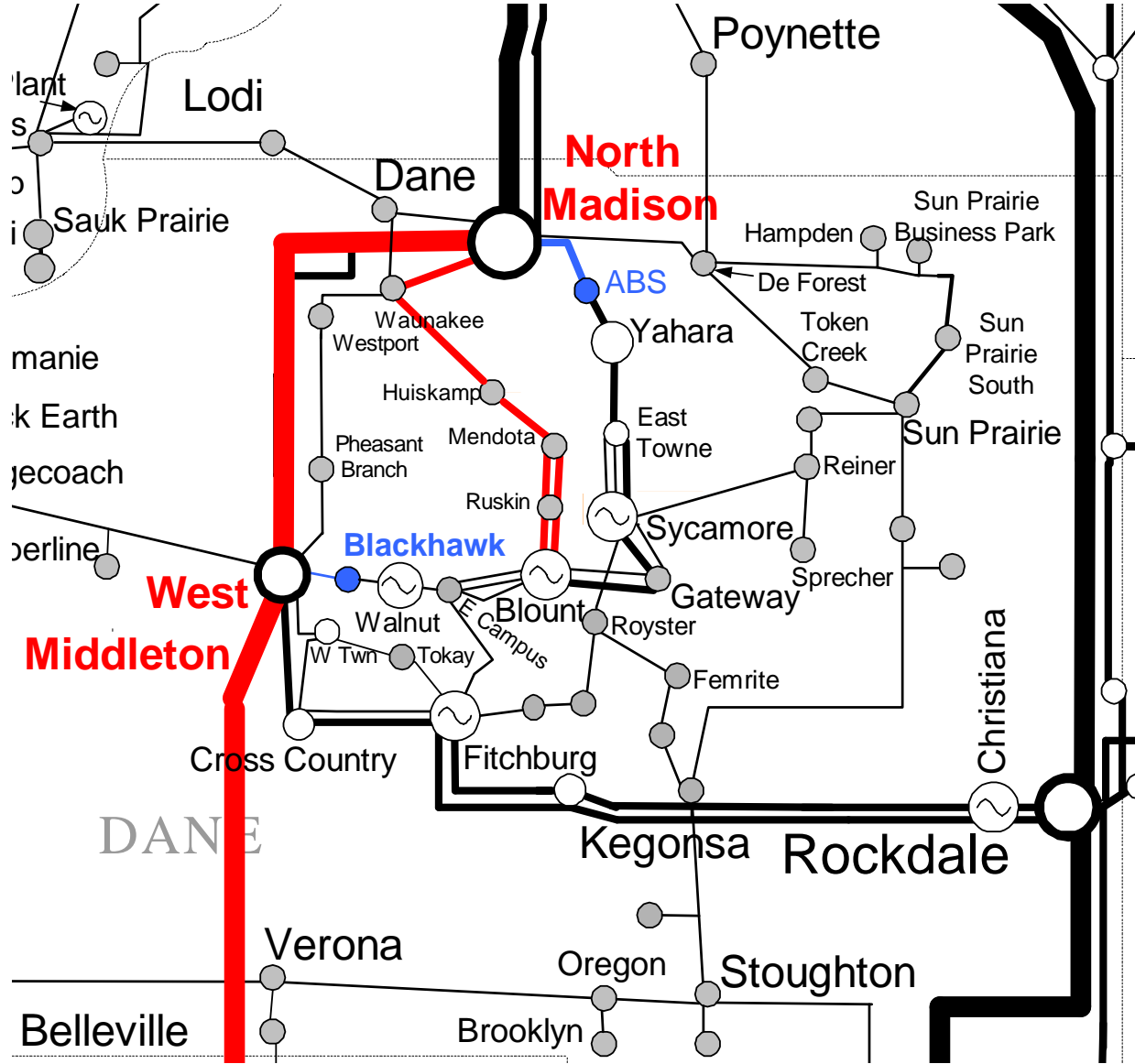
- If it would be relatively difficult and expensive to “fix” WMD-Blackhawk, is there another transmission fix that could work?
- Instead of pushing back against a constraint with a power plant, could we “push back” by “fixing”/upgrading another transmission line?



# Alternate Fixes Case Study

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- ATC is planning to upgrade North Madison (NMA) to Blount from 69 kV to 138 kV to address low voltages, voltage stability and thermal overload problems in Madison
- Most of this line is overhead—less expensive and easier to upgrade
- Could this “reliability project” provide an additional benefit by “pushing back” on the WMD to Blackhawk constraint?





# Alternate Fixes Case Study

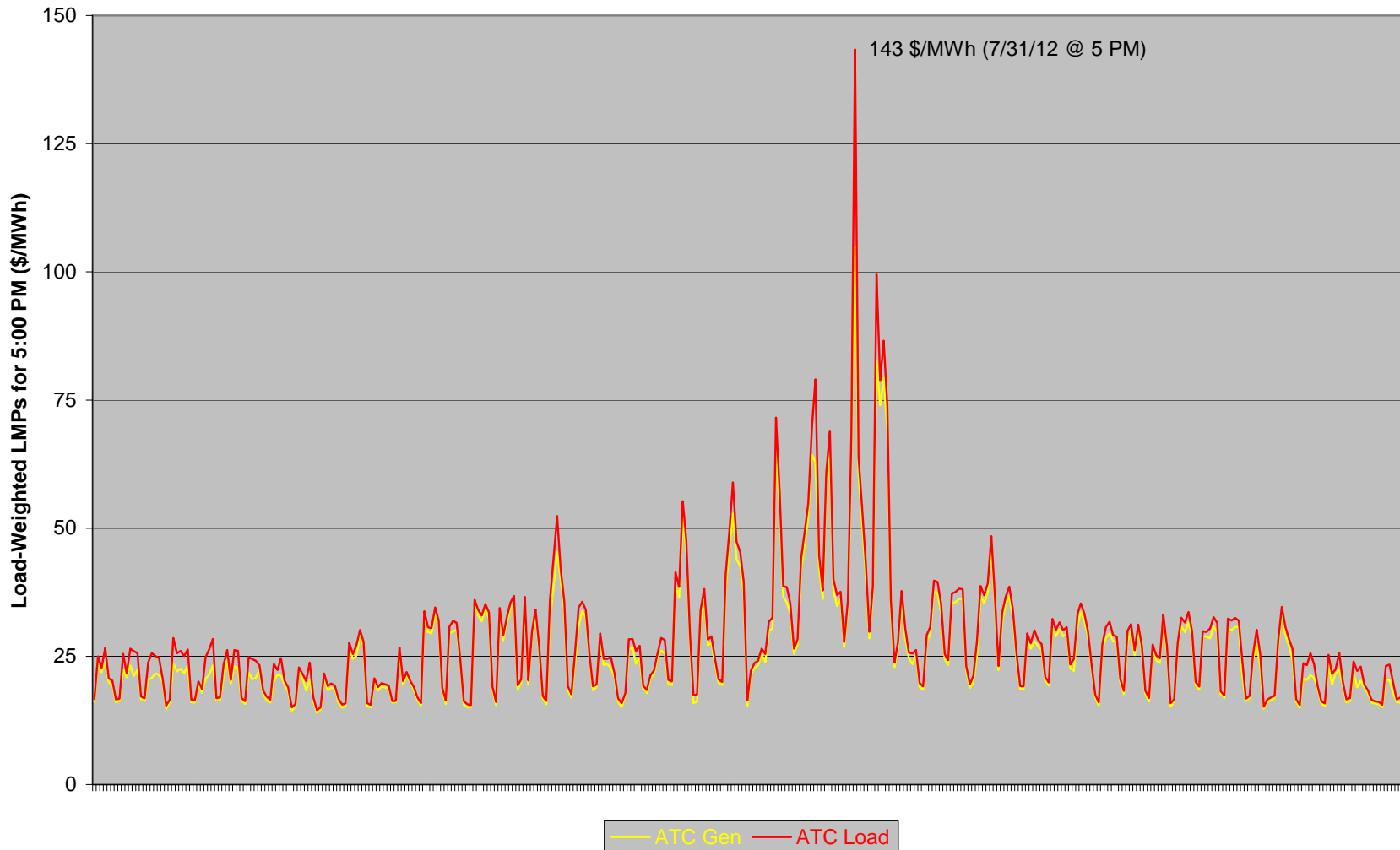
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- Desired effect—WMD to Blackhawk is no longer a significant constraint:
  - Relieving it helped increase the production cost savings for Byron-NMA
- Upgrading NMA to Blount may also have the additional benefit of lowering LMPs in downtown Madison—an area that could experience higher LMPs (and customer costs) due to transmission system congestion
- Conclusion: Fixing reliability issues may have other benefits like relieving constraints and lowering LMPs



# LMP Case Study

BaseCase Load-Weighted and Generator-Weighted LMPs for ATC for 5:00 PM for 2012





# LMP Case Study

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- Observations:
  - Load-weighted LMPs greater than generator-weighted LMPs
  - Differ by congestion and loss components of the LMP
  - Nearly identical values during low load periods
- What is causing the load-weighted LMP values for to spike on 7/31/12 at 5 PM?
  - Is the load high?
  - Are there key generator outages?
  - Are there transmission outages?



# LMP Case Study

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- July 31, 2012 at 5:00 PM
  - ATC system is very close to its peak
  - ~ 800 MW of generation within the ATC footprint forced off-line (based on gen. forced outage rates)



# Conclusions

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- Flowgates are a major driver in PROMOD
- Constrained flowgates can be relieved in multiple ways
- Some output may initially seem counter-intuitive (capacity factor example)
- Useful to do sanity checks on capacity factors, line flows, shadow prices, etc.
- Generation and transmission background
- Access Initiative presentations and results:
  - [http://www.atcllc.com/oasis/Customer\\_Notices/Access.html](http://www.atcllc.com/oasis/Customer_Notices/Access.html)