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Pioneer Community Energy ("Pioneer") utilizes its load forecasting model/methodology for three primary purposes: (1) for portfolio management and procurement; (2) for the development of financial projections; and (3) for Resource Adequacy compliance with the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") and the California Independent System Operator ("CAISO"). The adopted load forecasting methodology focuses primarily on the projected customer counts within the Pioneer service territory and incorporates historical per capita usage data to derive the load forecast. At present, the Pioneer service territory includes Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, Placerville, Nevada City, Grass Valley, Unincorporated areas of Placer County, and Unincorporated areas of El Dorado County, with planned service expansion into Chico, Live Oak, Oroville, Paradise, Sonora, Yuba City, Orland, Willows, Unincorporated areas of Butte County, Unincorporated areas of Nevada County, Unincorporated areas of Sutter County, Unincorporated areas of Tuolumne County, and Unincorporated areas of Glenn County in October 2027.

The load forecast is developed for each of the thirteen major customer classes served by Pioneer. These classifications correspond with the customer categories for which statistical hourly class load profiles are published by Pacific Gas & Electric ("PG&E"). These include the following customer classes:

Load Profile Group	**Internal Forecasting Classification**	**2025 IEPR Forecast Classification**
E-1/E-TOU	Residential	Residential
A-1/B-1	Small Commercial	Commercial
A-6/B-6	Small Commercial	Commercial
A-10/B-10	Medium Commercial	Commercial
E-19-S/B-19-S	Large Commercial – Secondary Voltage	Commercial
E-19-P/B-19-P	Large Commercial – Primary Voltage	Commercial
E-19-T/B-19-T	Large Commercial – Transmission Voltage	Commercial
E-20-S/B-20-S	Industrial – Secondary Voltage	Industrial
E-20-P/B-20-P	Industrial – Primary Voltage	Industrial
E-20-T/B-20-T	Industrial – Transmission Voltage	Industrial
Ag	Agricultural and Pumping	Other
TC	Traffic Control	Other
SL	Street Lighting	Other

Pioneer's load forecasting process starts with a baseline-forecast of current customers by end-use classification (residential, commercial, etc.), utilizing historical usage data and customer counts. Pioneer uses historical weather data from Auburn Municipal Airport (KAUN) as a proxy for its current service territory, and linear regression models to estimate relationships between weather variables (heating degree days, cooling degree days, and solar insolation) and customer consumption patterns. The resulting coefficients are then applied to normalized weather conditions, over a 5-year observation period, and current customer counts to derive a forecast for the existing customer base. Potential impacts of climate change are captured by utilizing the most recent 5-years of observed weather data as the benchmark for normal weather conditions.

For the new territory expansion in 2027, PG&E provided Pioneer with monthly historical usage data for every eligible customer (Item 16), which is adjusted for assumed customer opt-outs and utilized for Pioneer's load forecast until Pioneer has twelve months of historical information on the new group of customers. Pioneer applies an assumed opt-out rate to the eligible customer accounts (and associated electric loads) that are offered service. Pioneer is assuming a 10% opt-out rate for the currently eligible expansion related customers. Monthly energy consumption estimates, derived from historical data, are applied to the expected customer enrollments, which yields a monthly energy forecast by customer class for the new customer groups.

For load projections beyond the current year, Pioneer has adopted an annual load growth rate of 2.07%, aligning with average PG&E TAC area growth (2025-2030) as specified in the 2023 CEC IEPR Energy Demand Planning Forecast, to address net effects of broader prospective incremental load modifiers and growth in distributed energy resources in the 2026 forecast and beyond.

For Pioneer's peak demand forecast, statistical analyses are utilized to determine historical relationships between recorded monthly peaks and energy consumption for its service territory. The peak demand forecast is then estimated as a function of forecasted consumption under normalized weather conditions, based on the observed historical relationships. Class-level peak demands are estimated based on the hourly class load profiles and are scaled to Pioneer's monthly non-coincident peak forecast. A 6% distribution loss factor is also applied, which reflects the overall recorded historical average over the past four years.

Pioneer utilizes historical consumption data to calibrate and adjust its load forecast. The calibration process is run monthly and compares the most recent monthly kWh and peak kW usage data to the forecast values. The forecast is tracked relative to both the initial usage estimates (T+9) reported to the CAISO as well as the final reported usage (T+70). To the extent that the monthly forecast error exceeds a 5% threshold, Pioneer evaluates the potential causes of the variance and, if such error is deemed likely to persist, adjusts the forecast going forward.