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BWP prepares a load forecast annually as part of its budget process. Load is forecasted in aggregate for five years for the entire service area. A long-term, 20-year, load forecast is prepared periodically for long-term resource planning needs. The most-recent long-term forecast was completed in 2013 as part of BWP's integrated resources plan (IRP). Note that the five-year forecast and the long-term forecast do not always match due to the more-frequent updating of the five-year forecast.

Both the five-year forecast and the long-term forecast are based on a standard, ordinary least-squares (OLS) regression model. The unit of observation is months. The regression model includes the following independent variables, which are measured monthly.

1. Cooling Degree Days (CDD). CDD is collected from the Burbank Airport weather station.
2. Heating Degree Days (HDD). HDD is collected from the Burbank Airport weather station.
3. Number of Weekdays in Month
4. Number of Weekend Days in Month
5. Total Employment in LA Metropolitan Statistical Area. Employment is obtained from the California Employment Development Department (EDD). Employment is not seasonally adjusted.
6. BWP Rates Index. This index is based on the average BWP rate, which may increase annually.

The current model fails to account for energy efficiency and conservation due to lack of sufficient data. BWP is currently searching for an appropriate proxy for energy efficiency and conservation to incorporate into its model.

The five-year forecast is currently being held flat due to lower-than-forecasted sales. Both the five-year and long-term forecasts are monitored monthly to evaluate performance and to inform adjustments to future models' specifications. The existing model that is used for the long-term forecast appears to be biased upward. BWP is currently evaluating alternative load forecasting methodologies, which may differentiate between customer classes.