Northwest **Power** and **Conservation** Council

September 3, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: **Council Members**

FROM: **Laura Thomas, RTF Manager**

SUBJECT: **2024 Regional Conservation Progress Report**

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Laura Thomas

Summary: The Regional Technical Forum, on behalf of the Council, annually conducts data collection of the region's energy efficiency programs to understand the savings from conservation and associated expenditures from the prior year. This process of collecting and reporting regional savings data is known as the Regional Conservation Progress (RCP) survey and report. The purpose of the RCP is to track and report on the region's progress relative to the Council's Power Plan goals.

The 2021 Power Plan included a Conservation Program for Bonneville and the Region. This included an established a goal range of 750 aMW to 1,000 aMW of cost-effective conservation acquisition by the end of the six-year action plan period (2022-2027), as well as additional actions in support of a robust energy efficiency program. At this meeting, staff will present the 2024 RCP report, which provides an update on the third year, or halfway point, of the region's progress relative to the energy efficiency goals in the Council's 2021 Power Plan. The report comprises data from all the efficiency programs in the region, including Bonneville and its customers, Energy Trust of Oregon, and the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA). These data provide an understanding of the cost-effective energy efficiency savings acquired in the region and related expenditures for 2024, as well

as savings acquired that support other goals of the 2021 Plan's conservation program.

Relevance: The Power Act requires that the Council's power plan include an energy conservation program to be implemented. This report provides an annual update to the Council on the region's progress towards achieving the goals set out by the Council's power plan.

Workplan: A. 1. 1. Tracking and reporting on energy efficiency accomplishments relative to the 2021 Power Plan Conservation Program.

Background: The Council is required to put forth a "general scheme for implementing conservation measures and developing resources…to reduce or meet the Administrator's [Bonneville's] obligations." The Power Act also requires that the Council's power plan include specific elements, specifically, an energy conservation program including model conservation standards.

In the 2021 Power Plan, the Council included the following elements in the energy conservation program:

- Conservation Targets: The Council recommended that the region acquire between 750 and 1,000 average megawatts of cost-effective energy efficiency savings by the end of 2027. In this plan, the cost-effective energy efficiency is represented by those measures with a levelized cost at or below $30-40 per megawatt hour. The Plan also set conservation targets for Bonneville between 270 and 360 average megawatts of cost-effective energy efficiency by 2027, with a minimum of 243 average megawatts from programmatic savings. Bonneville's target represents 36 percent of the regional goal and was derived based on the portion of cost-effective energy efficiency potential in Bonneville customers' service territories.
- Weatherization: The Plan recommended that the region continue to invest in weatherization programs, specifically targeting those homes that have little to no insulation or are leaky and in need of duct or air sealing. Weatherization has historically been a cost-effective resource, and the region has made significant strides in this area since the early days of the Power Act. The Council recognized that while many of the weatherization measures were no longer considered cost-effective under the 2021 Power Plan, addressing the remaining homes with little to no insulation was important for livability of Northwest residents.
- Ensuring a robust program for utilities with a rural customer base: In the 2021 Plan, residential and agricultural sectors saw a large shift in the amount of available cost-effective efficiency. The Council recognized that it was important to have options in support of all customers and recommended that Bonneville and the region provide territory-wide programmatic opportunities for efficiency.

- Support jurisdictions with decarbonization goals: In the Model Conservation Standards, the Plan recognized that some jurisdictions in the region may be required under their local or state government to pursue decarbonization. The 2021 Plan included a model conservation standard requiring that any electrification pursued in these jurisdictions be done so efficiently. While many of the measures that would support efficient electrification were not cost-effective under the 2021 Power Plan target; however, based on scenario analysis the Council recognized that those same measures would likely be cost-effective for those jurisdictions with decarbonization goals.

The Regional Technical Forum per its charter is responsible for tracking the region's progress against the conservation program, including the plan's conservation targets, and additional actions to ensure a robust energy efficiency program.

More info: The final report for the 2023 Regional Conservation Progress report can be found here https://rtf.nwcouncil.org/about-rtf/conservation-achievements/2023/.

2024 Regional Conservation Progress Survey Results

September 9, 2025

Council Meeting

Laura Thomas

Northwest **Power** and **Conservation** Council

What is the Regional Conservation Progress (RCP) Survey?

Power Plan

Sets program targets for the region to achieve.

Congressional Direction

Tasked the RTF with “ensuring the region continues to meet the…Council’s targets for securing cost-effective conservation”

RCP

Survey that serves as an annual progress report against the Plan targets.

Power Act's Definition of a Resource

*Electric **power**, including the actual or planned electric power capability of **generating** facilities, **or** actual or planned load reduction resulting from direct application of a renewable energy resource by a consumer or from a **conservation measure**. (3(19))*

- Under the Power Act, Conservation (i.e., Energy Efficiency) is defined as a resource and valued and evaluated along side of other generating resources.
- In this region, energy efficiency is the 2nd largest resource when compared to the average generation of all resources.

Conservation Program Elements

BPA Programmatic Target

243 aMW of programmatic savings represents 90% of total Bonneville target

Plan Conservation Target

Total regional cost-effective conservation target 750-1,000 aMW

Completion of the Conservation Program is Completing All of these Elements

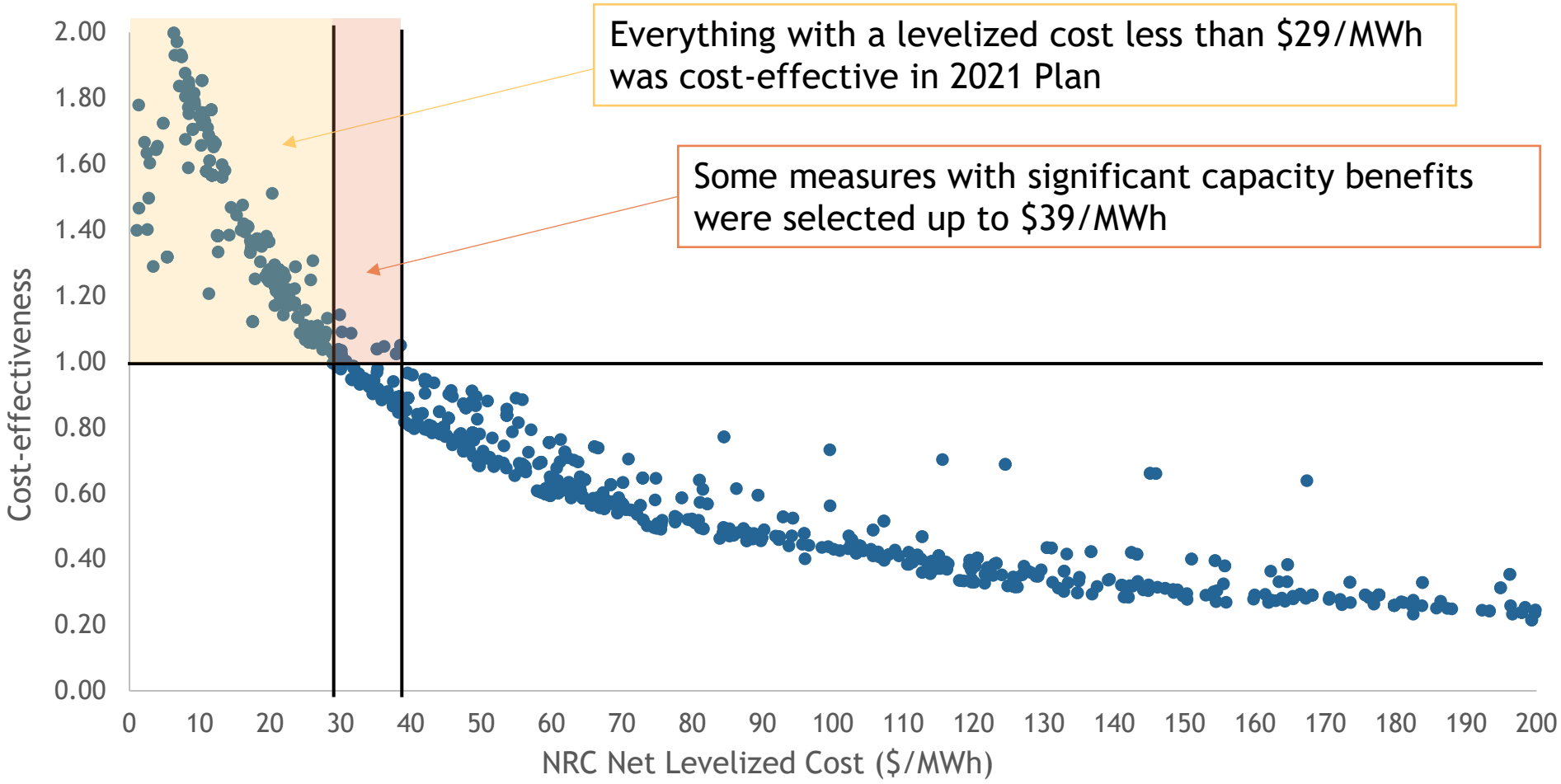
Total BPA Target

270-360 aMW of all savings including programmatic and market savings

Recommendations and MCS Program Elements

Recommendations (ex. weatherize homes missed by previous programs) and Model Conservation Standard (MCS).

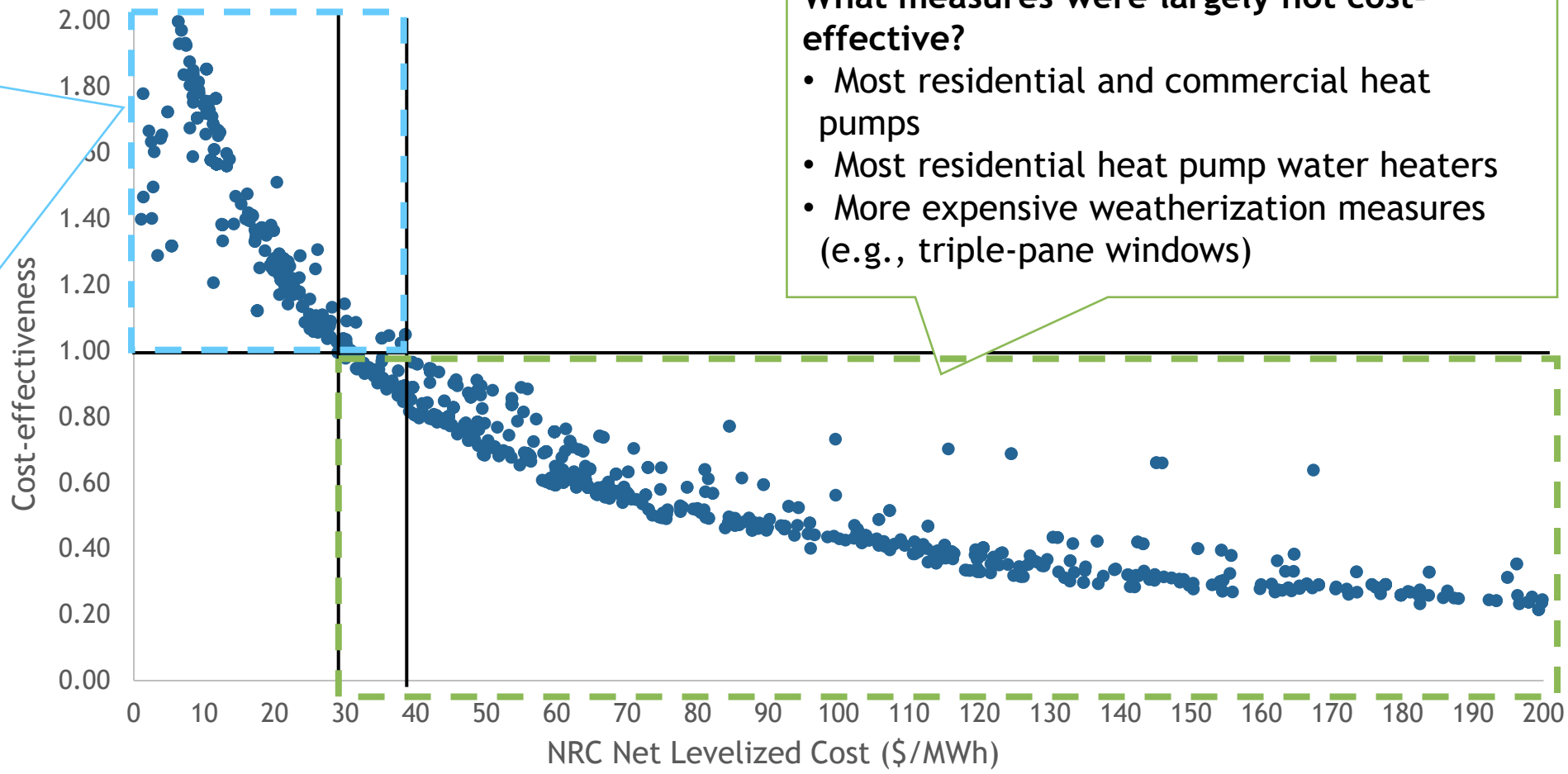
Cost-effectiveness Threshold from 2021 Plan



Cost-effectiveness Threshold from 2021 Plan

What measures were cost-effective?

- Most lighting
- Commercial AC, fans and pumps
- Residential ENERGY STAR washers and dryers, efficient vehicle chargers, limited weatherization
- Industrial SEM, compressed air
- Ag fans and pumps, dairy measures



What measures were largely not cost-effective?

- Most residential and commercial heat pumps
- Most residential heat pump water heaters
- More expensive weatherization measures (e.g., triple-pane windows)

Types of Conservation Savings in the 2024 RCP

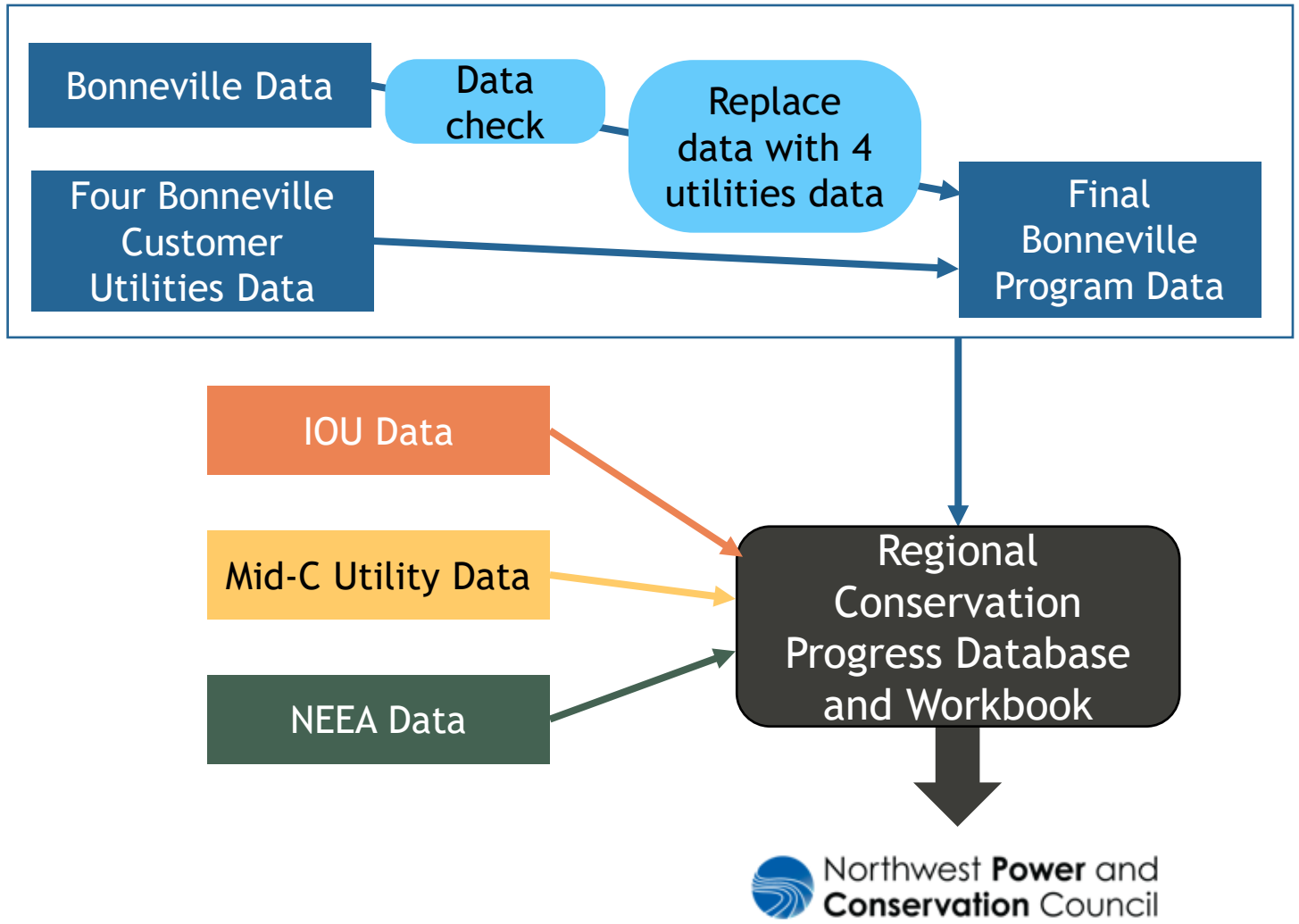
Program Savings

NEEA Initiative Savings

Codes and Standards

RCP Data Collection

- 2024 Savings
  - As much detail as possible
- 2024 Expenditures
  - Aiming for total expenditures
- 2025-2026 Projections
  - Forecasted savings and expenditures where available
- 2022-2023 Savings and Expenditures
  - Corrections from previous data submissions



Acknowledgements

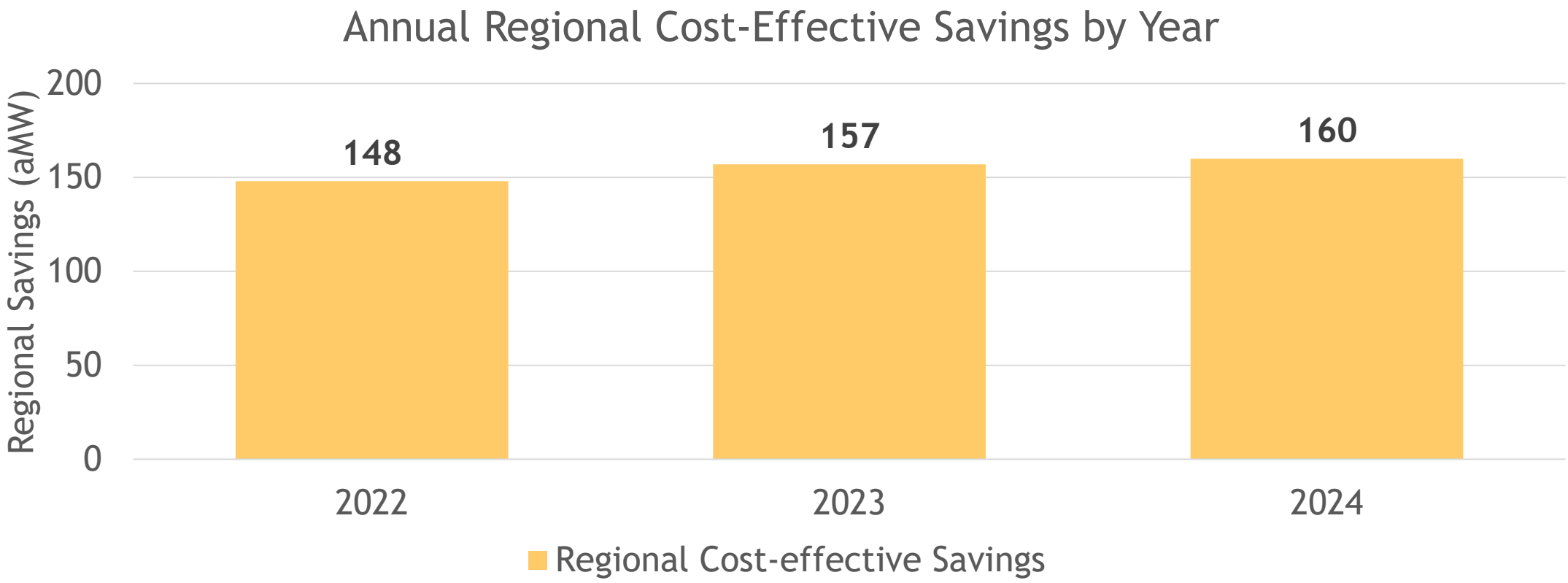
- Jennifer Light
- Christian Douglass
- Kevin Smit
- Consultants (BrightLine Group and Nauvoo Solutions)
- Responding Utilities

Thank you to the Regional Utilities who provided data:

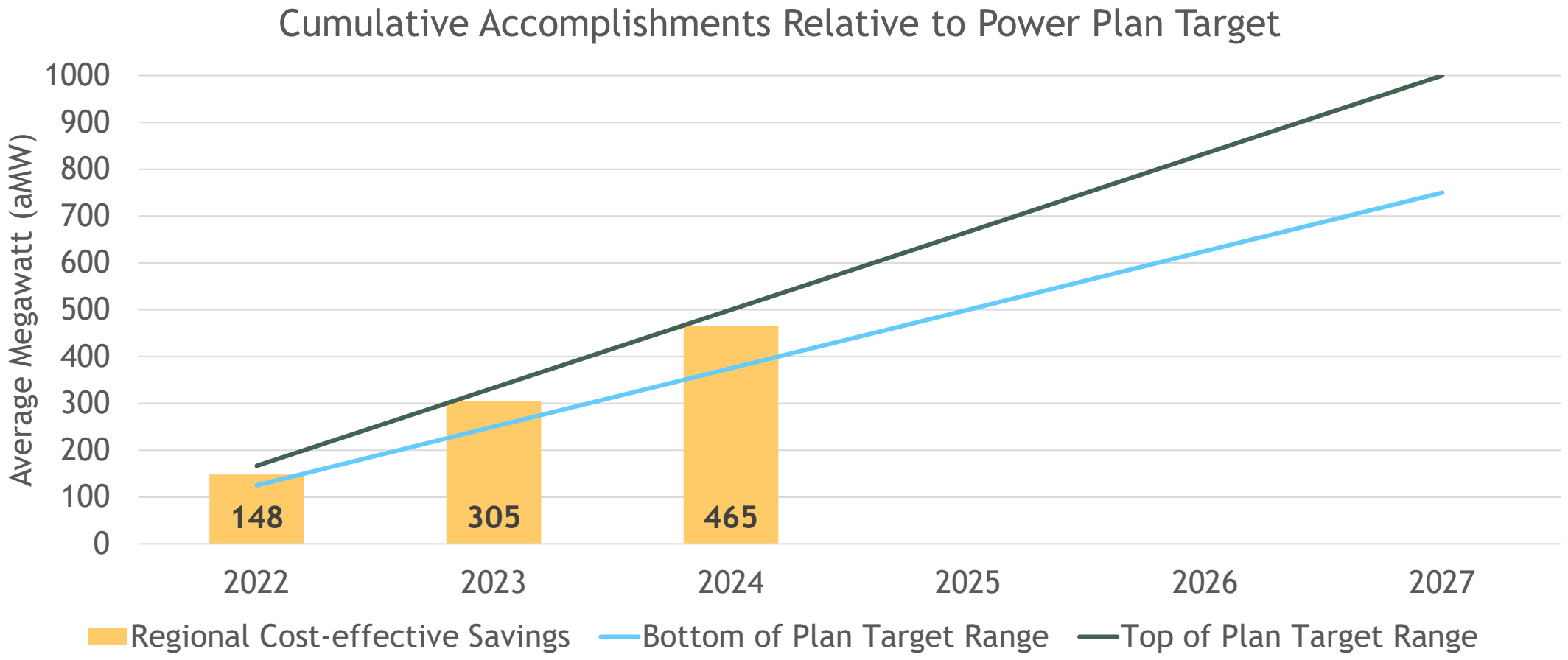
- Bonneville Power Administration
- Puget Sound Energy
- NorthWestern Energy
- Avista
- Idaho Power
- Energy Trust of Oregon
- PacifiCorp
- Chelan County PUD
- Grant County PUD
- Douglas County PUD
- Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
- BPA Utilities:
  - Seattle City Light
  - Snohomish County PUD
  - Tacoma Power
  - Cowlitz PUD
  - Clark PUD
  - Lewis County PUD
  - Tillamook PUD
  - Eugene Water & Electric Board
  - Benton REA
  - Franklin PUD
  - Grays Harbor PUD
  - Idaho Falls

2024 RCP Results

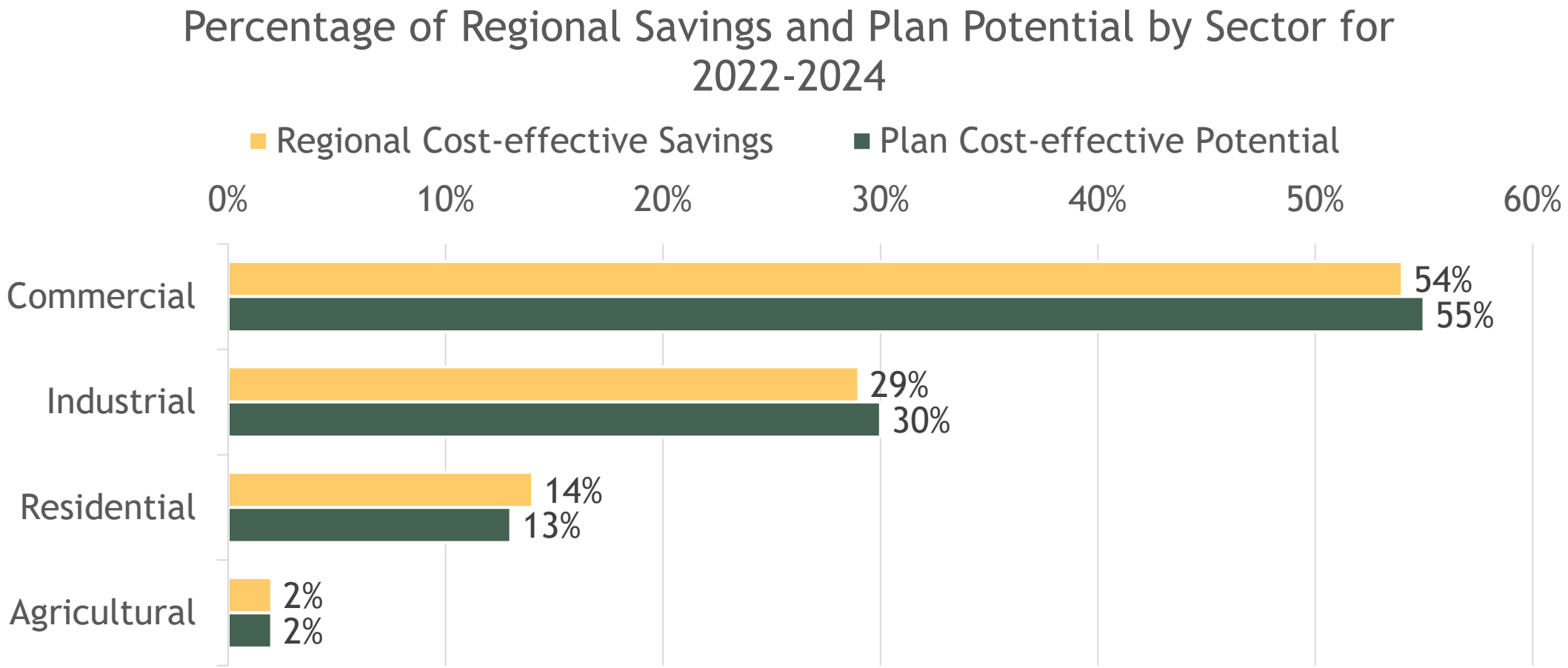
The Region Achieved 160 aMW of Cost-Effective Savings in 2024



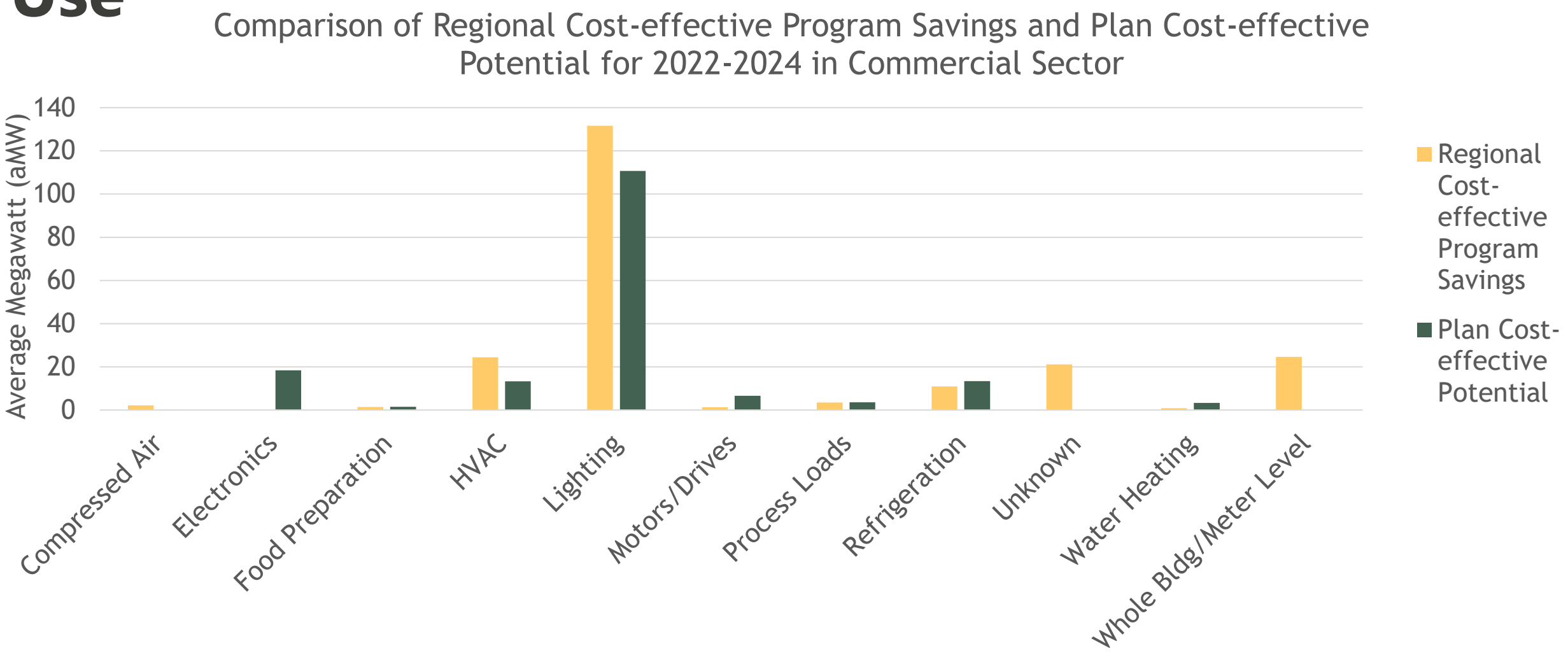
Region is on Track Relative to 2021 Power Plan Target



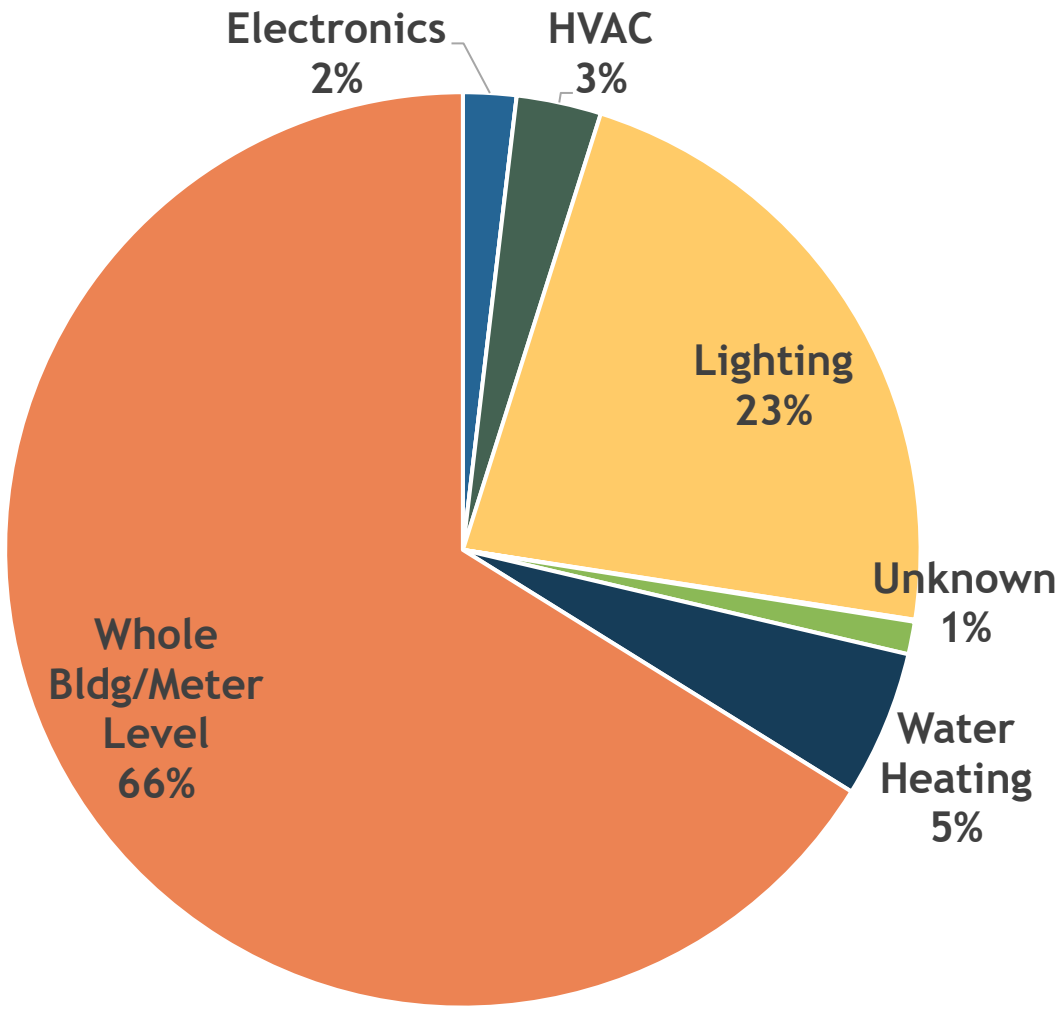
Regional Cost-effective Program Savings by Sector from 2022-2024

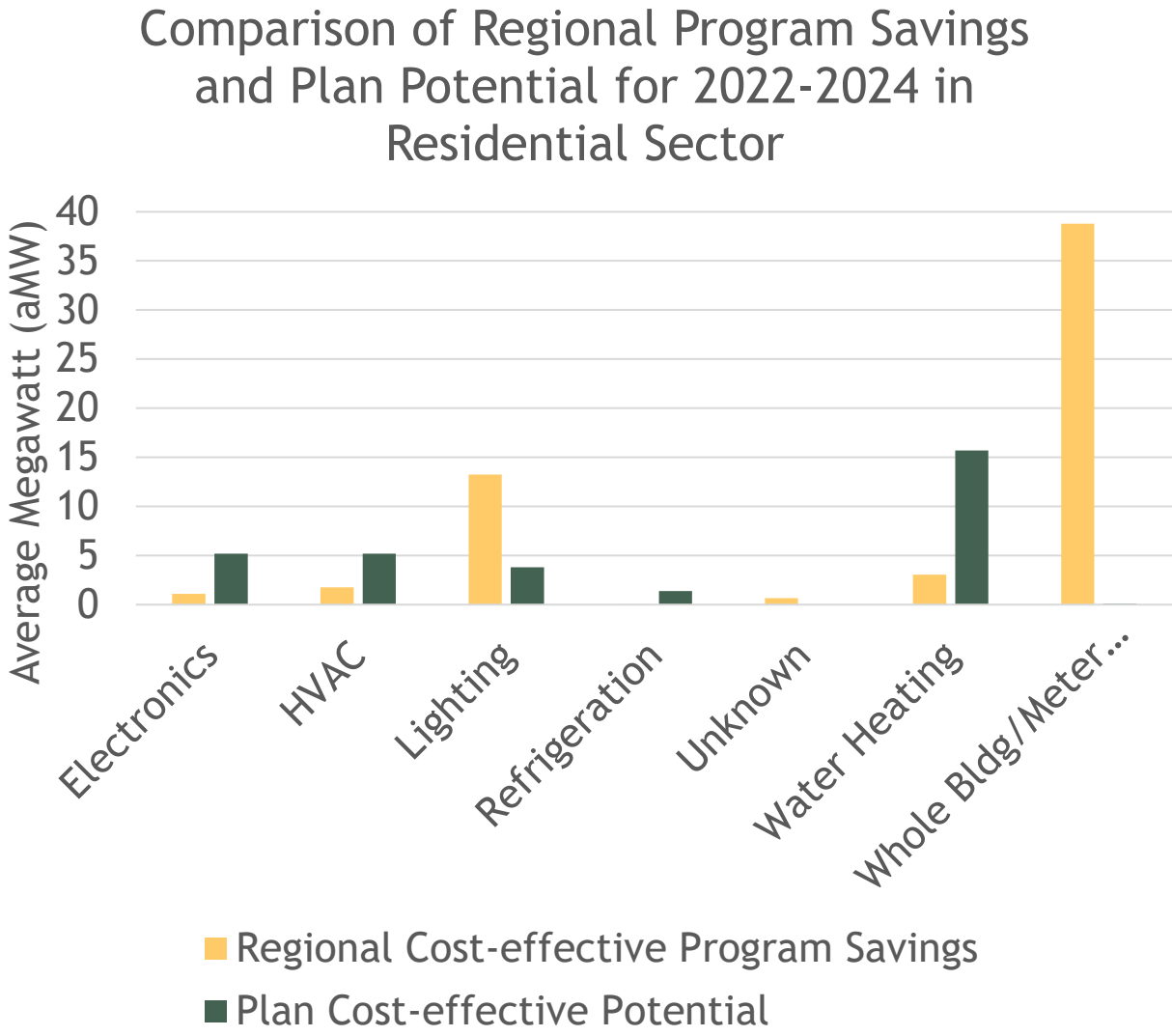


Commercial Sector Program Savings by End Use



Residential Sector Program Savings by End Use 2022-2024

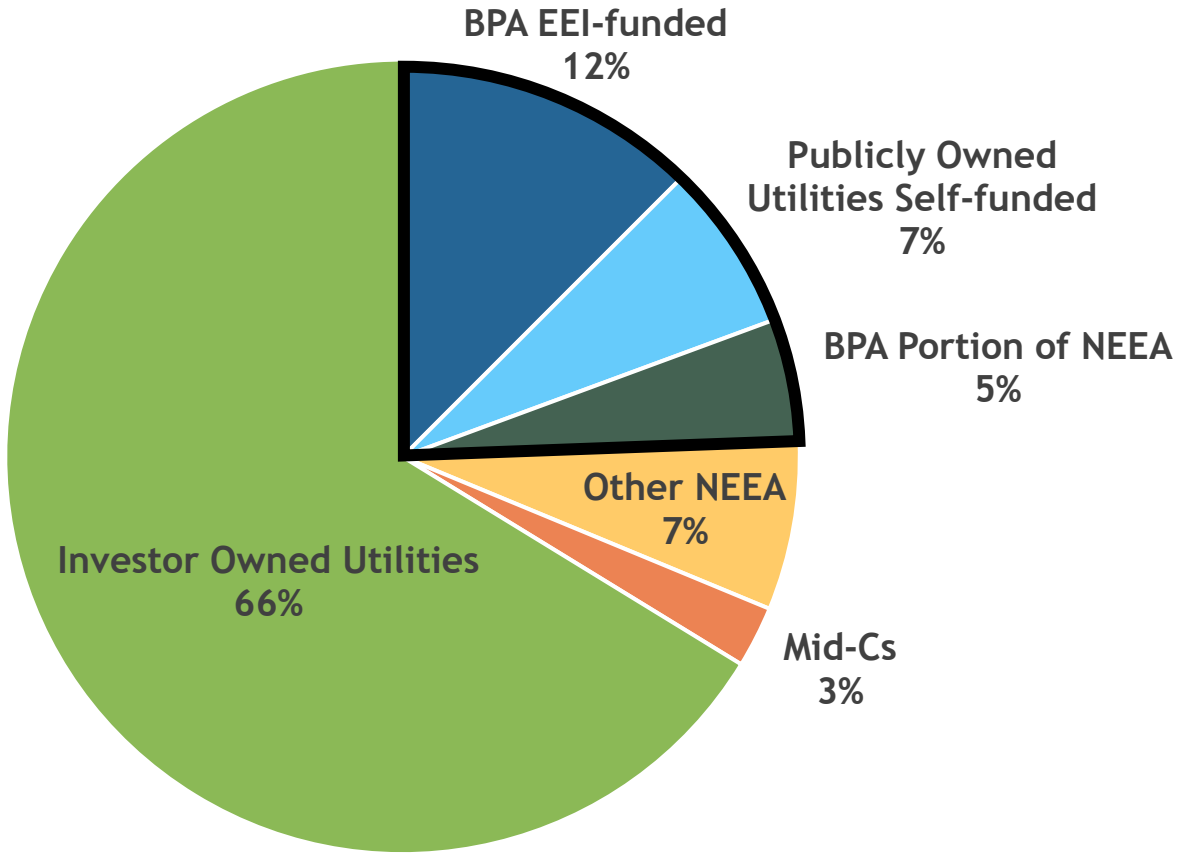




NEEA Continuing to Provide Savings to the Region

Regional Savings Across Funding Mechanisms

2024 Cost-effective Savings by Funding Mechanism



Funding Mechanisms	Total Regional Savings 2022-2024 (aMW)
BPA EEI Funded	67
POU Self-Funded	34
NEEA Savings	53
Mid-C	12
IOUs	299


Bonneville Savings

Determining BPA's Savings for 2024 RCP

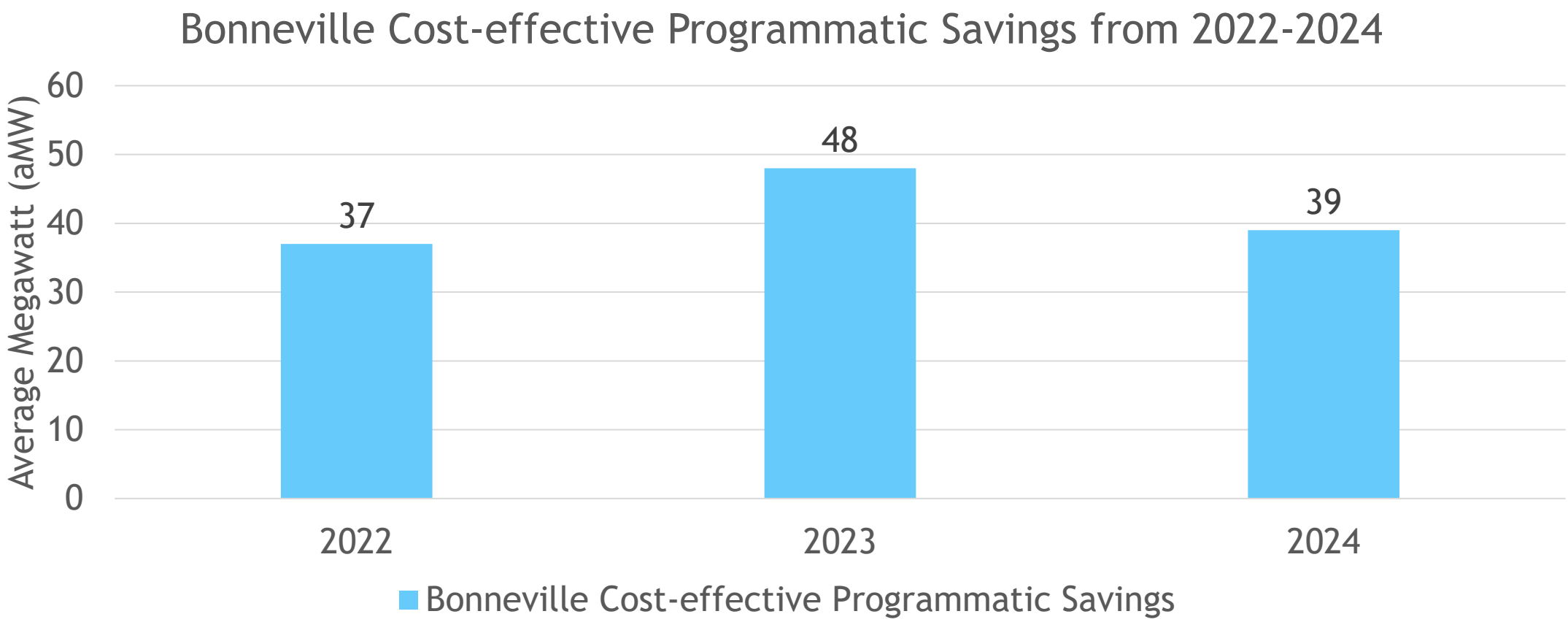
BPA's savings represent:

- Program Savings

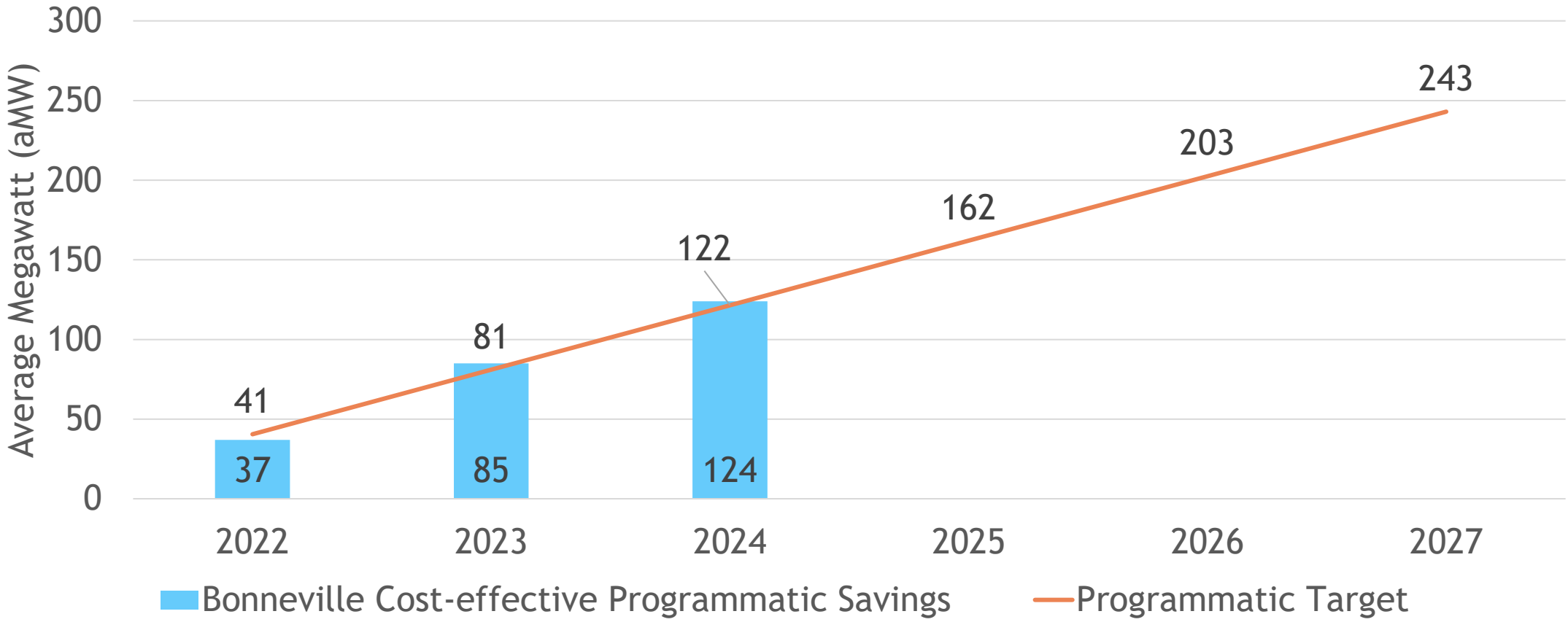
Note, this includes all EEI and Self-funded efficiency

- Proportional accomplishments from regional mechanisms

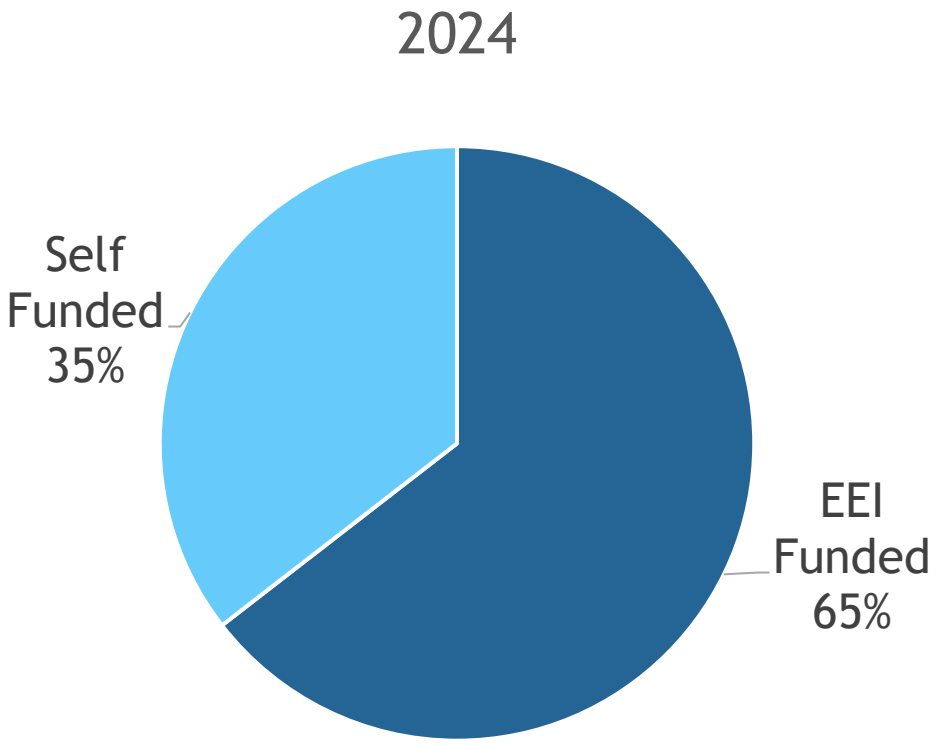
Bonneville Achieved 39 aMW in Programmatic Cost-effective Savings in 2024



Bonneville's Cumulative Savings Compared to the Plan's Programmatic Target

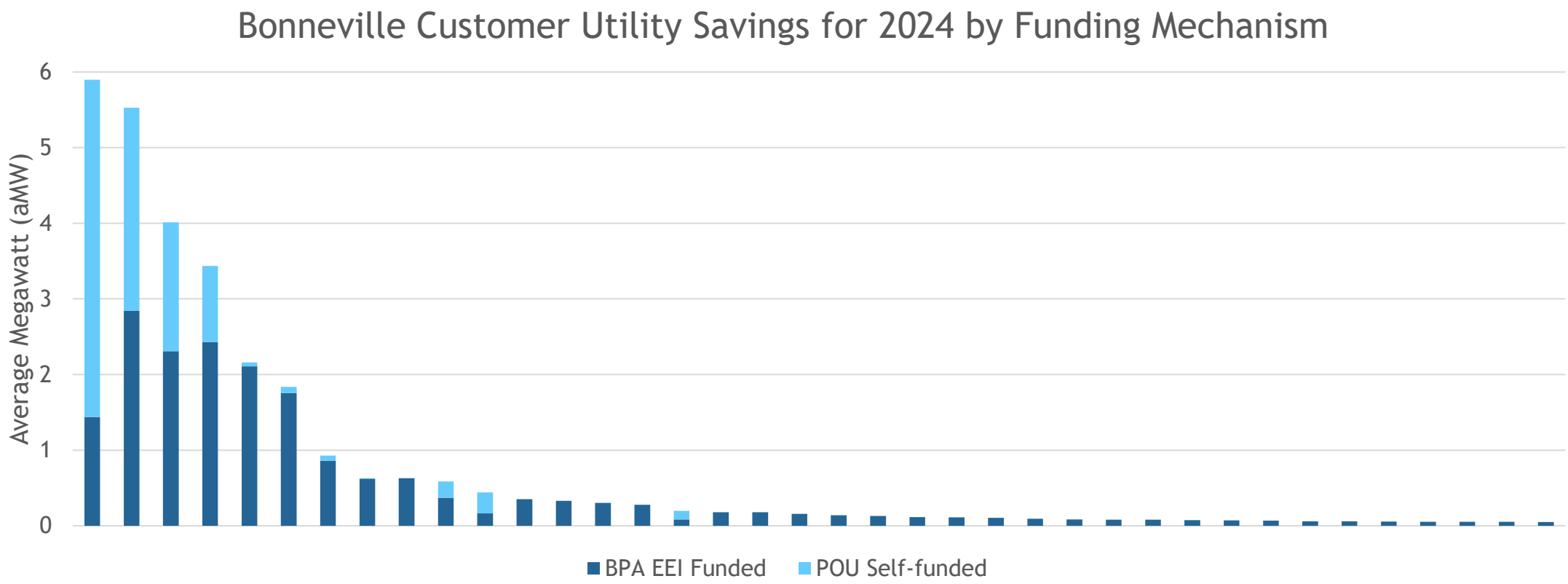


Bonneville Cost-effective Program Savings by Funding Type



RCP Year	Number of Bonneville Customers Self-funding	Total Self-fund Savings
2022	8	6 aMW
2023	11	18 aMW
2024	10	11 aMW

10 Bonneville Utilities Provide Additional Funding through Self-Fund Mechanism in 2024



* This excludes utilities that achieved <0.1 aMW of savings. These utilities relied solely on their EEI dollars for their achievements.

Additional Program Savings

Additional Program Elements

Weatherization

- Plan recommended that the region continue to invest in weatherization programs, specifically targeting those homes that have little to no insulation or are leaky and in need of duct or air sealing.

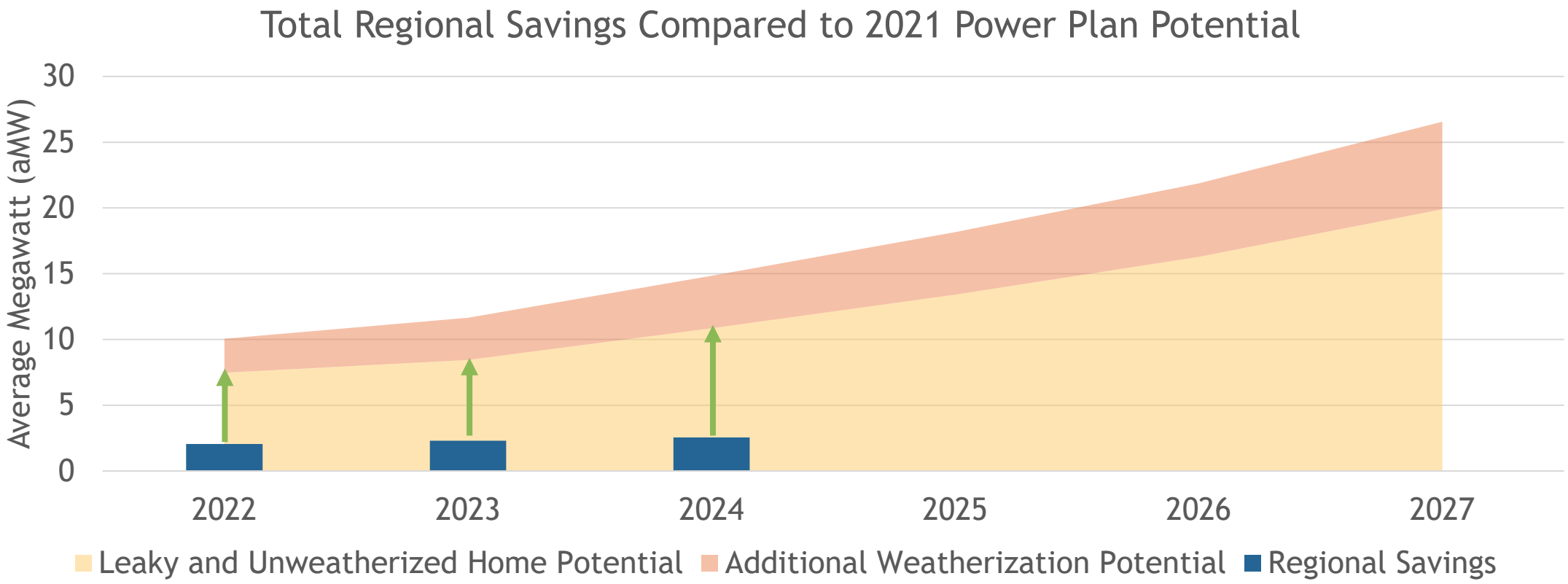
Rural Markets

- In the 2021 Plan, residential and agricultural sectors saw reductions in the amount of available cost-effective efficiency, which are primary sectors for rural markets and measures would need to ensure comprehensive programs.

Decarbonization

- Plan recommended that jurisdictions pursuing decarbonization goals do so efficiently.

Significant Weatherization Potential in Leaky and Uninsulated Homes Remains

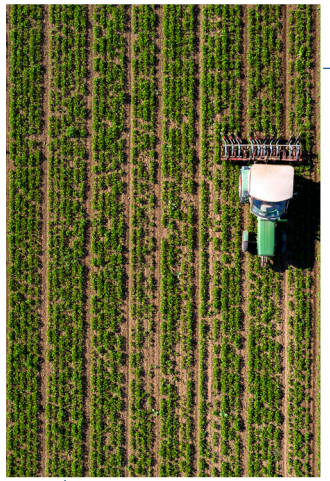


Rural Markets

- Key customer bases for energy efficiency programs in rural communities are primarily residential and agricultural. Both of these sectors saw a reduction in the available cost-effective measures in the 2021 Plan. The additional savings achievements in these sectors from 2022-2024 include:

Residential

- 37 aMW of savings of which 96% is from heat pumps. Electronics and water heating making up the remaining savings.



Agricultural

- 8.5 aMW of savings of which 70% is from irrigation and the remaining from HVAC.

Decarbonization

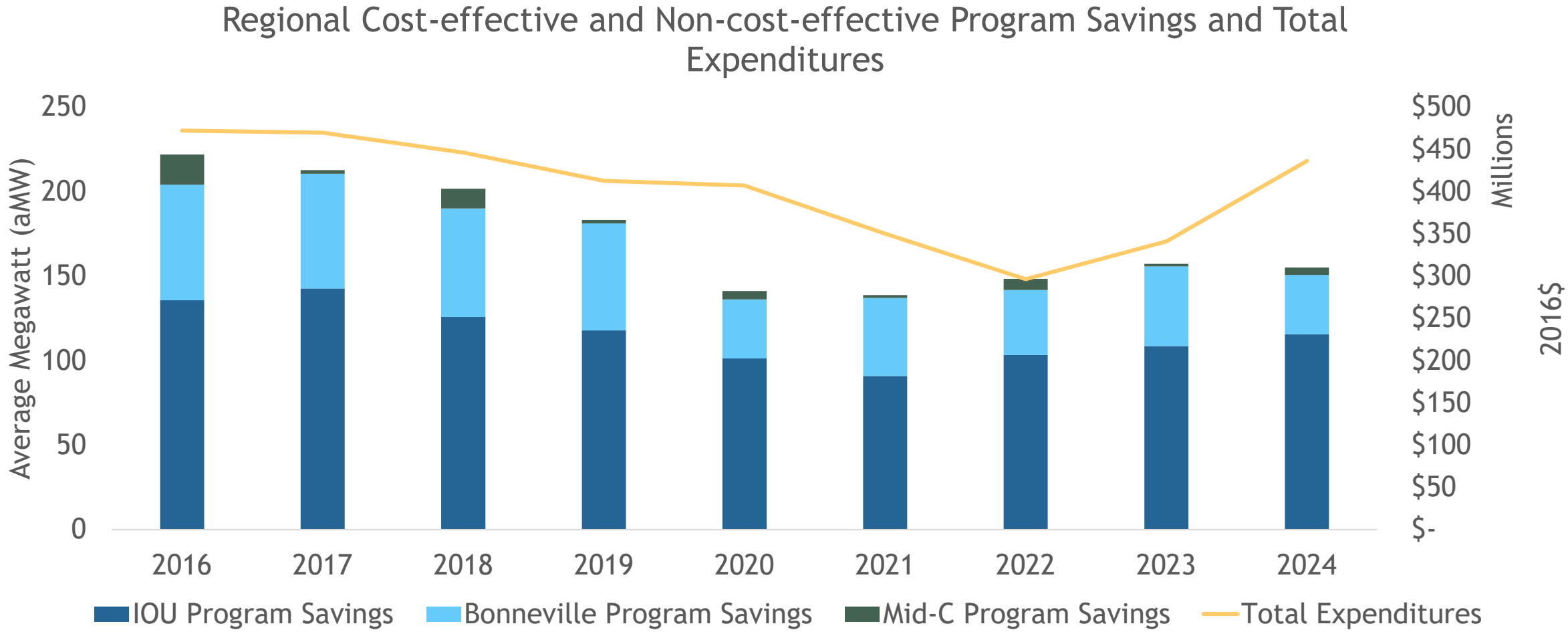
- Two important technologies for jurisdictions with decarbonization goals include:

Air Source Heat Pumps

Heat Pump Water Heaters

Total Regional Accomplishments

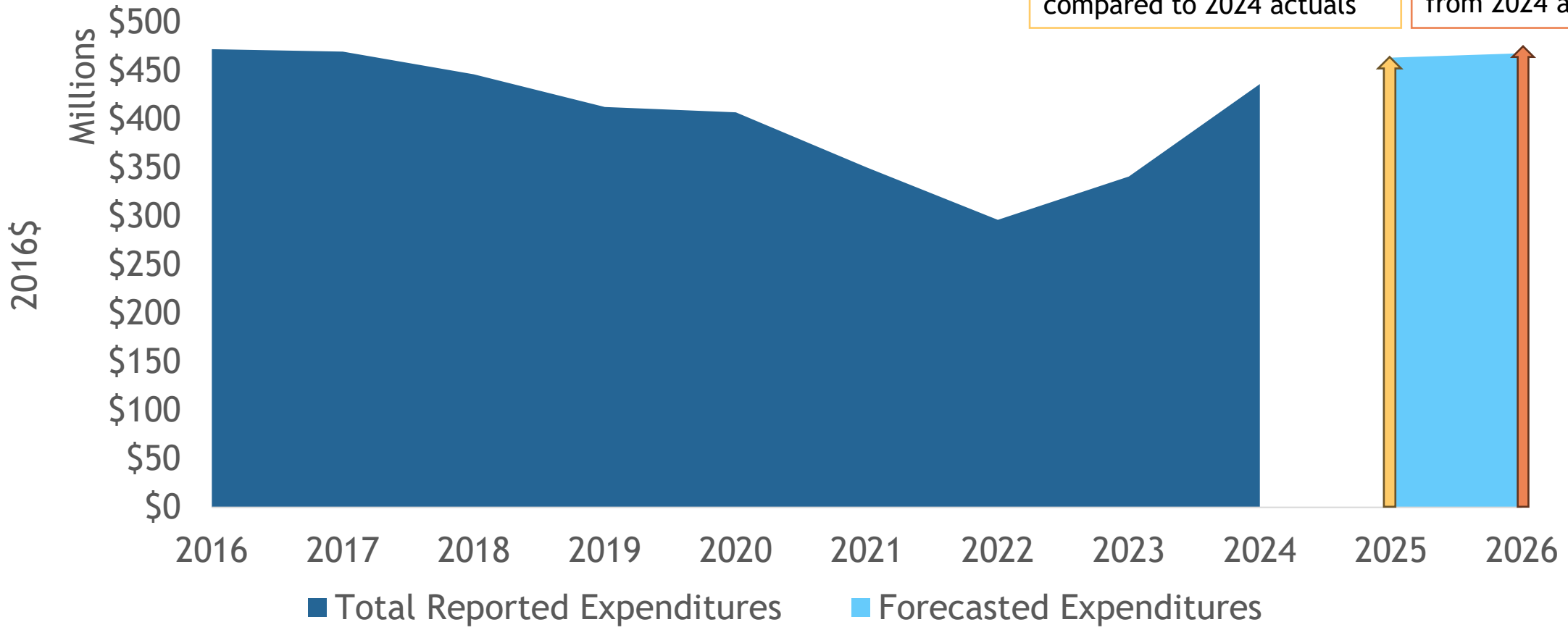
Total Program Savings and Expenditures



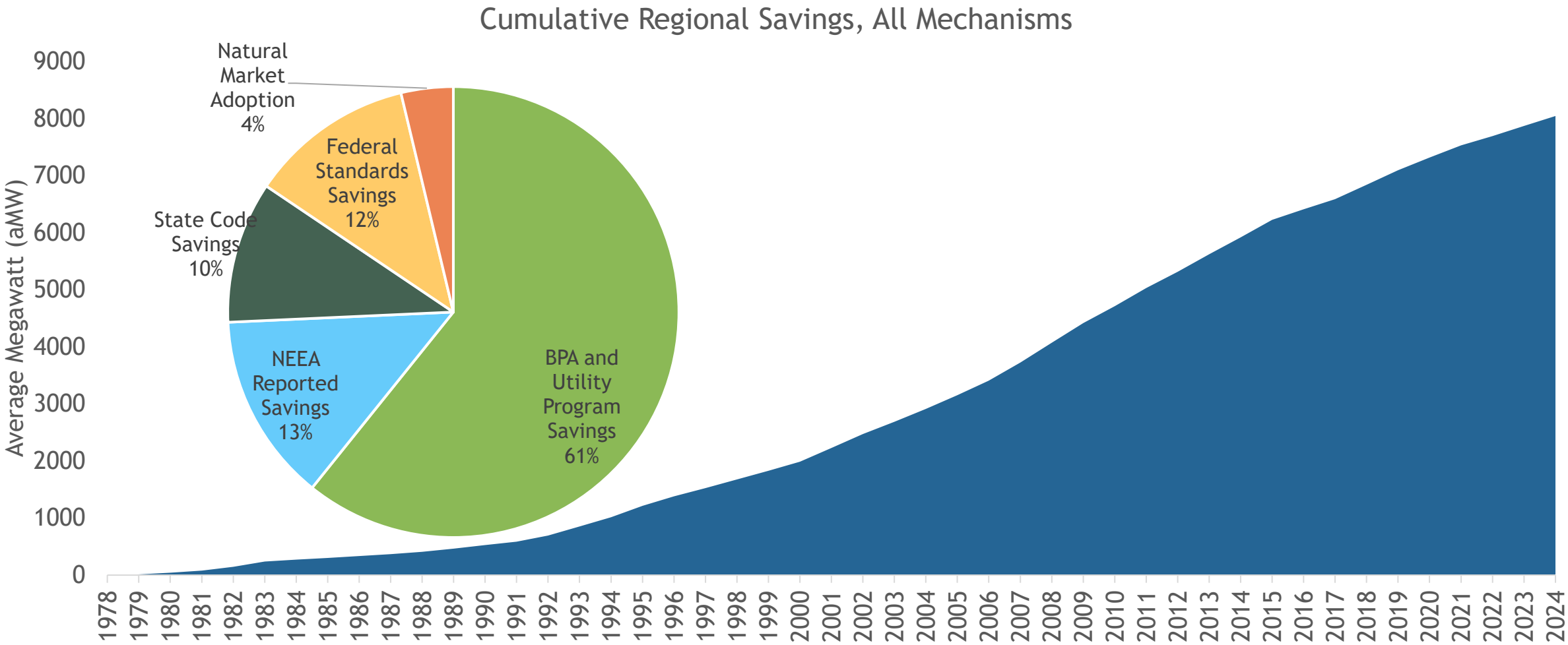
Expenditures Forecasted to Continue to Increase During Plan Period

Forecasts for 2025 are on average 12% increase compared to 2024 actuals

Current 2026 expenditure forecasts are an average 1% increase compared to 2025 forecast and 22% from 2024 actuals

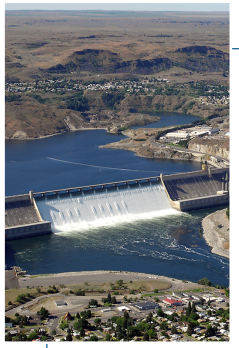


Region has Achieved 8,042 aMW

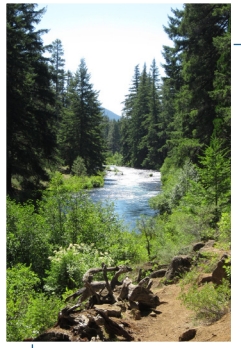


Fun Facts: What does 8,042 aMW represent?

Enough energy to provide continuous power to 7 Seattle's



Almost 3x the generation of Grand Coulee



Avoided more than 25.5 million metric tons of CO2 or the amount of CO2 sequestered by all the national forest lands in Oregon and Washington

Questions?

Northwest **Power** and **Conservation** Council