

**State of Minnesota**  
**OFFICE OF ENERGY SECURITY**

**Utility Information Request Response**

Requested By: Citizens Energy Task Force

Date of Response: May 22, 2008

Person Requesting Information: Paula Maccabee

Response submitted by: Steve Rakow  
Title: Rates Analyst  
Division/Unit: Office of Energy Security  
Telephone: 651-215-1793

| Request No. |   |
|-------------|---|
| 1.          | <p>Please provide electronic copies of all information requests and all responses made by the Minnesota Department of Commerce and/or its offices, including the Office of Energy Security (“DOC”) to parties or participants other than Citizens Energy Task Force (“CETF”) to date and in the future throughout this entire proceeding.</p> <p><b><u>OES Response:</u></b></p> <p>The Minnesota Office of Energy Security (OES) has sent information requests in Docket No. E002, ET2/CN-06-1115 to parties other than Citizens Energy Task Force (CETF). Those information requests are included as Attachment 1.</p> <p>Upon receiving this set of information requests, the OES added <a href="mailto:pmaccabee@visi.com">pmaccabee@visi.com</a> to our service list for information request responses in Docket No. E002, ET2/CN-06-1115. This addition occurred prior to OES sending any information request responses. Therefore, CETF has been provided an electronic copy of all OES information request responses. The OES will continue to provide electronic copies of all OES information request responses in this docket.</p> <p>No other office within the Minnesota Department of Commerce have sent or responded to information requests in Docket No. E002, ET2/CN-06-1115.</p> |

**State of Minnesota**  
**OFFICE OF ENERGY SECURITY**

**Utility Information Request Response**

Docket Number: E002,ET2/CN-06-1115

Date Request Received: \*

Requested By: Citizens Energy Task Force

Date of Response: May 22, 2008

Person Requesting Information: Paula Maccabee

Response submitted by: Steve Rakow

Title: Rates Analyst

Division/Unit: Office of Energy Security

Telephone: 651-215-1793

---

---

Request  
No.

2.

Please state whether the Minnesota Department of Commerce and/or any of its offices (“DOC”) has access to the STRATEGIST software package or other modeling system to evaluate energy generation, load forecast, transmission alternatives, system reliability and costs under various energy scenarios:

- A. Identify the software package or modeling system to which the DOC has access.
- B. Summarize the capacities of the system identified in Part A. If the DOC has prepared presentation materials summarizing these capacities, please provide copies.
- C. State the nature of the DOC’s access, explaining whether the DOC has purchased the system identified in Part A or made other arrangements for its use.
- D. State whether the DOC has employees on staff or has retained consultants who have the training necessary to use the system identified in Part A, stating for each such individual, that person’s name, qualifications, experience in energy modeling and providing a curriculum vitae for that individual
- E. If the DOC has a specific budget allocated for the purpose of analyzing energy generation, transmission or load scenarios using the system identified in Part A, please itemize and describe in narrative form any applicable budget.
- F. State whether the DOC has used the system identified in Part A to analyze the CapX 2020 projects or alternatives to the CapX 2020 projects proposed in this docket. If any such analysis has been done, please state:
  - 1) The input assumptions for load growth forecasted, load management, conservation, generation sizes, types and locations;
  - 2) Which CapX 2020 projects or alternatives to CapX 2020 projects were analyzed, stating specifically whether any of the alternatives discussed in the Environmental Report section 4.0 System Alternatives were analyzed using the system identified in Part A.
  - 3) What conclusions, if any, were reached as a result of this analysis.
  - 4) A summary of any costs incurred to conduct the analysis described in this Part.
  - 5) Please also provide copies of all documentation pertaining to the analysis and itemize any costs incurred in conducting the analysis.

- G. State whether the DOC plans to use the system identified in Part A to do any future analysis the CapX 2020 projects or alternatives to the CapX 2020 projects either prior to or after a decision is made on whether the projects are needed. If so, please state:
- 1) The proposed input assumptions for load growth, load management, conservation, generation sizes, types and locations.
  - 2) Which CapX 2020 projects or alternatives to CapX 2020 projects are proposed to be analyzed.
  - 3) The dates on which any such analysis is planned to be conducted.
  - 4) Please also provide copies of any documents reflecting the plans for this analysis.

**OES Response**

Subpart A. The OES has access to Strategist. The OES does not have access to any other modeling system to evaluate energy generation, load forecast, transmission alternatives, system reliability and costs under various energy scenarios.

Subpart B. Please refer to Strategist's website ([www1.ventyx.com/analytics/strategist.asp](http://www1.ventyx.com/analytics/strategist.asp)) for the capabilities of Strategist. A presentation to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission summarizing Strategist's capabilities is included as Attachment 2.

Subpart C. The OES has a three-year license agreement with Strategist's vendor, New Energy Associates, LLC, A Ventyx Company. Under the license agreement with the vendor, OES is not able to run Strategist scenarios for third parties.

Subpart D. The OES has five employees on staff with the training necessary to use Strategist. The resumes of Mr. Christopher Davis, Mr. Hwikwon Ham, Dr. Stephen Rakow, and Mr. Christopher Shaw are included in their direct testimony. The resume of Mr. Adam Heinen is included as Attachment 3.

Subpart E. The OES does not have a specific budget allocated for the purpose of analyzing energy generation, transmission or load scenarios using Strategist.

Subpart F. The OES has not used Strategist to analyze the CapX 2020 projects or alternatives to the CapX 2020 projects proposed in this docket. Further details of the OES's analysis of the CapX 2020 projects and the alternatives is available in the OES's direct testimony.

Subpart G. The OES has no plans to use Strategist to do any analysis of the CapX 2020 projects or alternatives to the CapX 2020 projects either prior to or after a decision is made on whether the CapX 2020 projects are needed.