



California ISO

# Price Formation Enhancements

Working Group Session #9

12/11/2023

## Housekeeping reminders

- This call is being recorded for informational and convenience purposes only. Any related transcriptions should not be reprinted without ISO's permission.
- These collaborative working groups are intended to stimulate open dialogue and engage different perspectives.
- Please keep comments professional and respectful.
- Note: The ISO encourages any verbal or written agreements to comments made during this working group session.
- You may also send your question via chat to either Brenda Corona or to all panelists.

## Instructions for WebEx

- 👋 The “raise hand” icon is located in the lower tool bar. You will hear a beep tone when you are un-muted; at that time please state your name, and question. Attendees dialed in on the phone only press #2 will hear a notification when you are un-muted; at that time please state your name and question.

slido

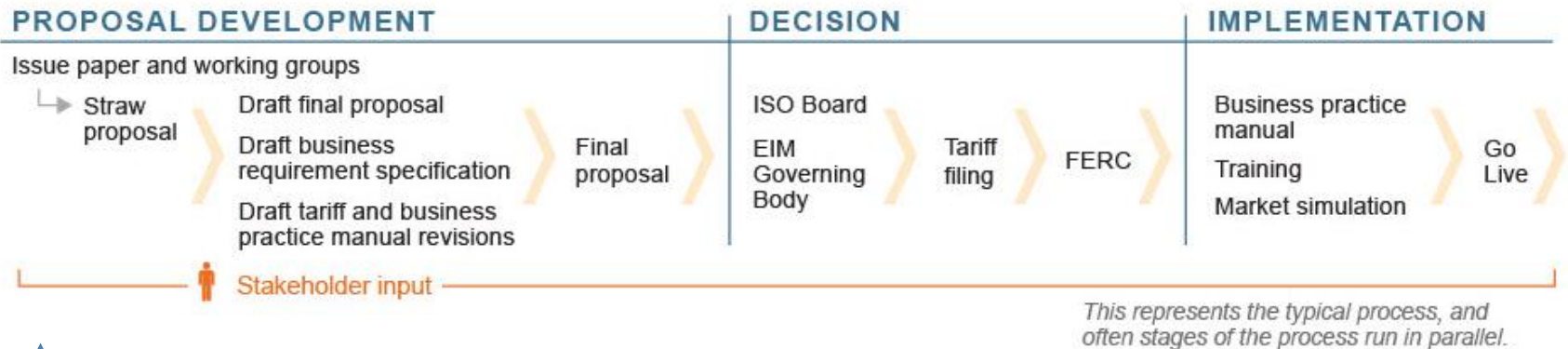
Polling App: *Slido* you can select the answer to the question.

- Virtual Attendees will see questions on right screen above the chat window.

# Today's Working Group Agenda

Time	Topic	Presenter
9:00 – 9:05	Welcome, Today's Agenda, Stakeholder Process Overview	Brenda Corona
9:05 – 9:15	Today's Goals / Next Session	Juan Buitrago
9:15 – 2:30	Initial Analysis on Fast-Start Pricing	Guillermo Bautista-Alderete
2:30 – 3:55	Open Discussion : Feedback on FSP Analysis	Juan Buitrago
3:55 – 4:00	Next Steps	Brenda Corona

# ISO Policy Initiative Stakeholder Process



Stakeholder meetings, working groups and workshops may occur throughout the stakeholder process.

We are here

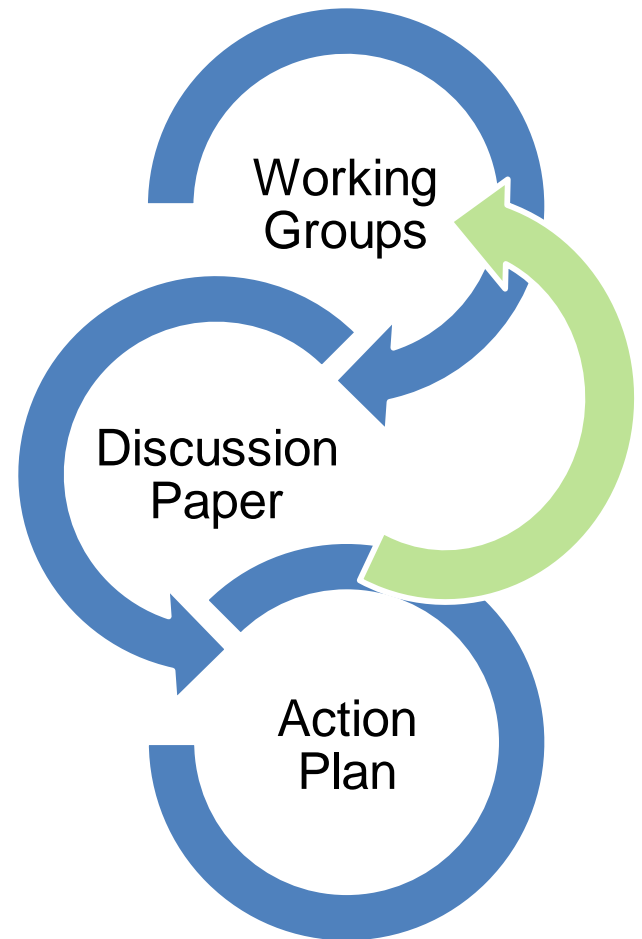
- Working groups will inform the Phase 1 straw proposal
- The ISO will take notes and produce reports of each of our working group meetings.

# Working Group Deliverables

**Fast Start Pricing Analysis:** seeking Stakeholder feedback in developing a scope for analysis on Fast Start Pricing to allow for robust discussion in subsequent phases on its inclusion to the ISO markets

**The FSP Analysis will take an iterative approach, coming back to stakeholders for multiple rounds of feedback and fine tuning**

You will have an opportunity to provide written comment on the scope of FSP Analysis via Survey



# Goals of Today's Working Group Session

The Working Group structure is meant to embrace flexibility to allow organic and robust conversation on the topics at hand – it is still key for us to drive towards solutions collaboratively

- **ISO Presentation of Initial FSP Analysis**
  - Presentation of initial analysis based off Stakeholder feedback in Working Group session #6
- **Stakeholder feedback to fine tune FSP Analysis**
  - Opportunity to provide additional feedback on FSP Analysis, to be incorporated in subsequent phases of analysis to be presented.



# Analysis on Fast Start Pricing for CAISO's real-time market

Zhu Liang, Ph.D.

Kun Zhao, Ph.D.

Guillermo Bautista Alderete, Ph.D.

Market Performance and Advanced Analytics

Price Formation Working Group

December 12, 2023



CAISO's analysis effort is to explore potential implications and benefits to price formation of FSP and help guiding subsequent FSP discussions

### First Stage. December 2023

- Statistics on generation fleet
- Foundational analysis of FSP
- Provide analysis and opportunity for discussion of the first stage of analysis

### Second Stage. March 2024

- Includes feedback for the final stage of analysis
- Expand it to all WEIM areas
- Define final scope of analysis
- Provide an opportunity for discussion of final analysis

# Scope of this preliminary round of analysis on FSP

- Analyzes the characteristics of the WEIM generation fleet relative to the definitions of FSP
- Analyzes the historical bid-cost recovery in the overall WEIM market based on attributes applicable to FSP
- Analyzes impacts of FSP for CAISO area only in real-time market
  - Analysis includes the effect of WEIM market in CAISO area by accounting for the economical displacement of transfers
- Includes the effect of flexible ramping product by capturing the economical displacement of capacity to set prices
- Assesses 4 sensitivity scenarios to calculate FSP
  - Constant adder
  - Minimum averaged-cost adder ( suggested by Michael Cadwalader)
  - 30- and 60-minute FSP for each type of adder
- Expands the application of FSP to transitions of multi-stage generator units
- Considers the impacts of minimum-online constraints (MOC)

# There are several design considerations to implement Fast Star Pricing

Day-ahead vs. Real time markets

Commitment time definition

Eligible resources

Type and extent of cost amortization

Type of participation

The generation fleet in the CAISO's market is diverse and some type of resources may naturally fit the definition of fast start units

### By technology type

- PDRs
- Storage
- Solar/Wind
- Hydro
- Gas-fired
- MSG
- Imports

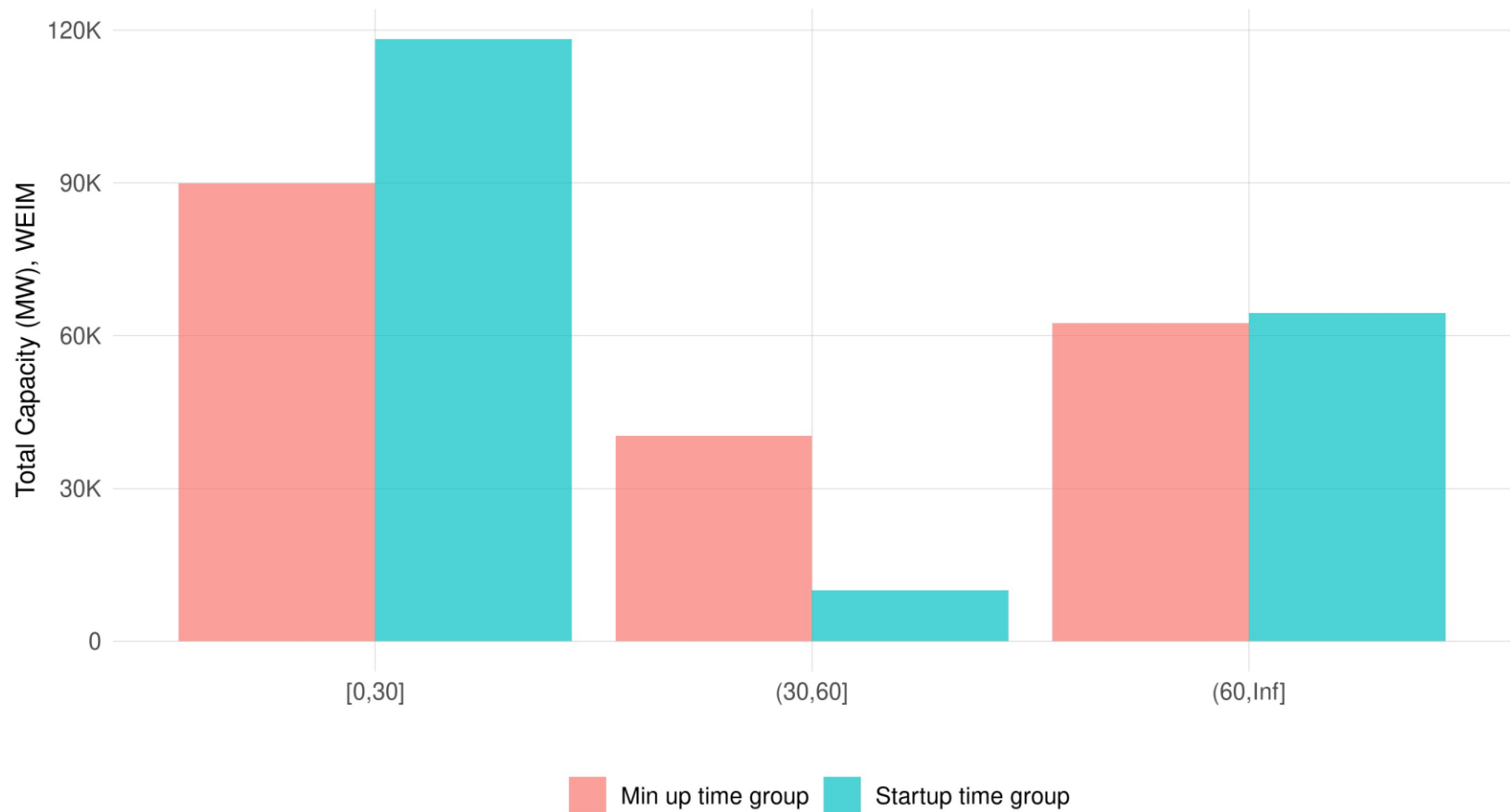
### By type of participation

- Economical participation
- No Self-Schedules
- CAISO market uses Minimum online constraints to secure commitments
- Resources with \$0 commitment costs

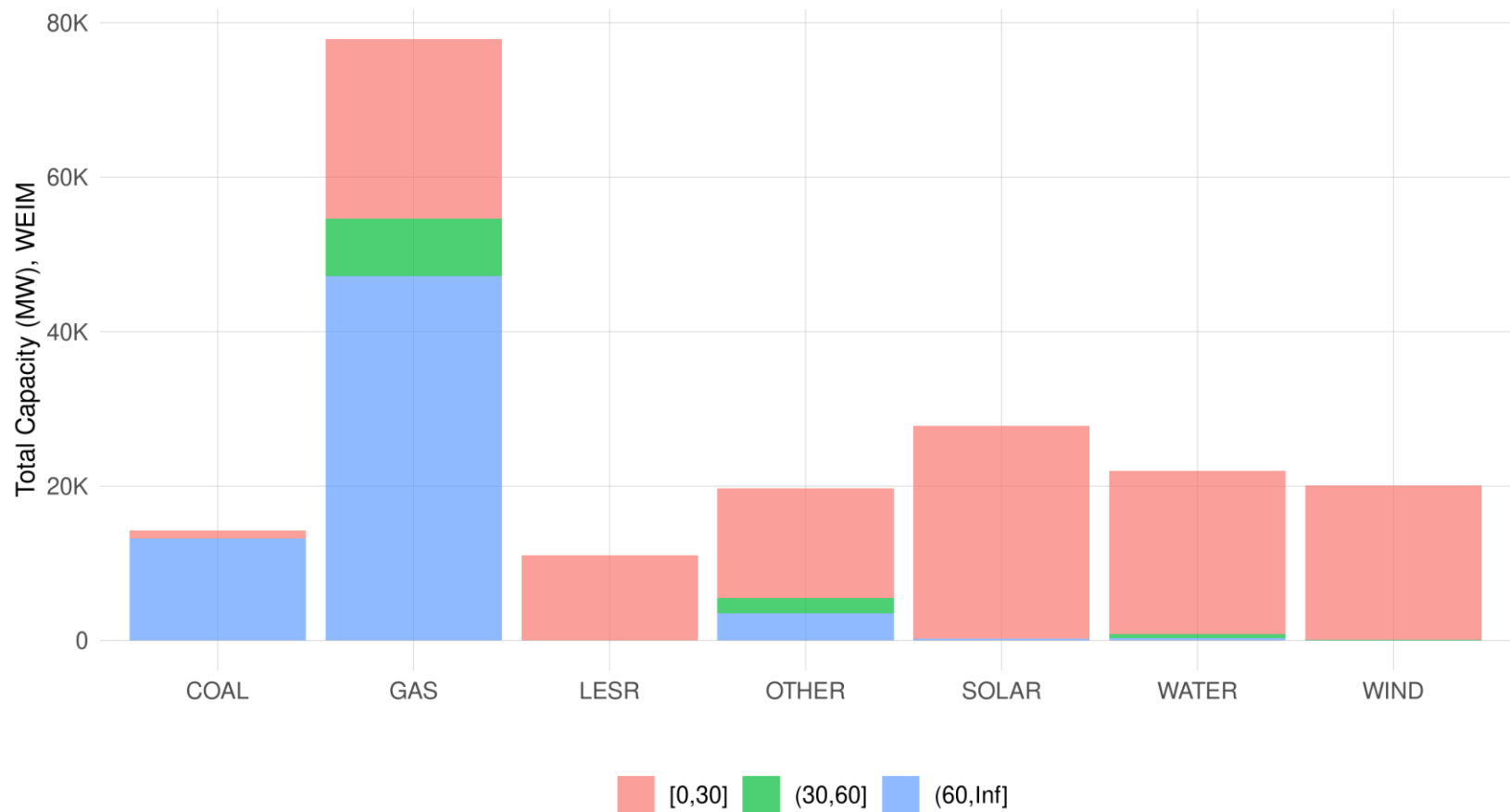
## Commitment time definition

- Resources are subject to temporal constraints, including:
  - Start-up time
  - Minimum-up time
  - Transition time for Multi-stage generators (MSG)
- What time definition should apply to CAISO's markets?
  - 30-minute, 60-minute or something else
  - Should the time threshold apply concurrently to MUT and STUP, and MUT and Transition time
- In this analysis we consider two scenarios: 30-minute and 60-minute concurrent thresholds

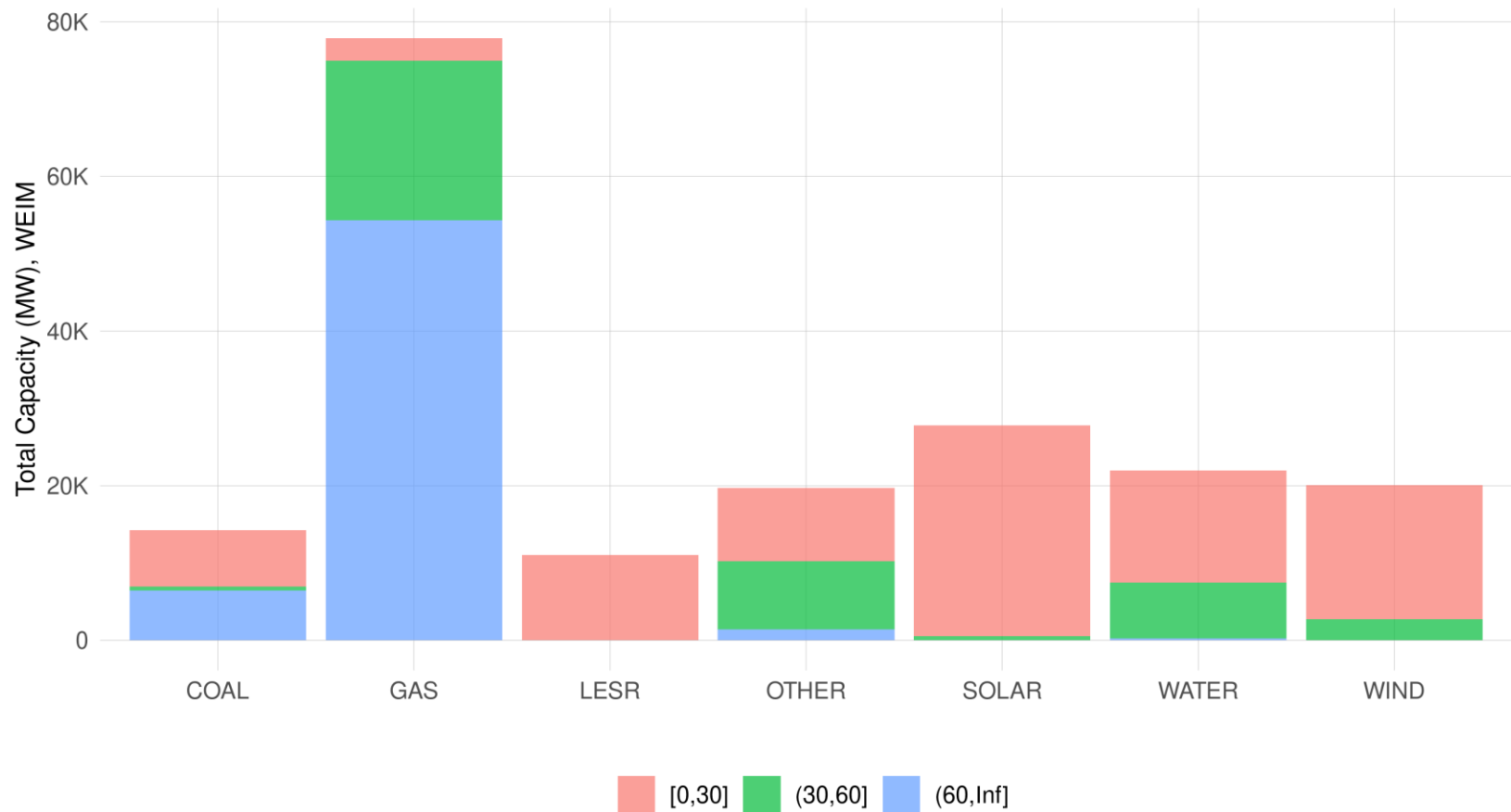
# There is a significant share of the generation fleet in the WEIM footprint with fast times that could meet different FSP definitions



# Units with fast-start times are spread across different technologies in the WEIM generation fleet



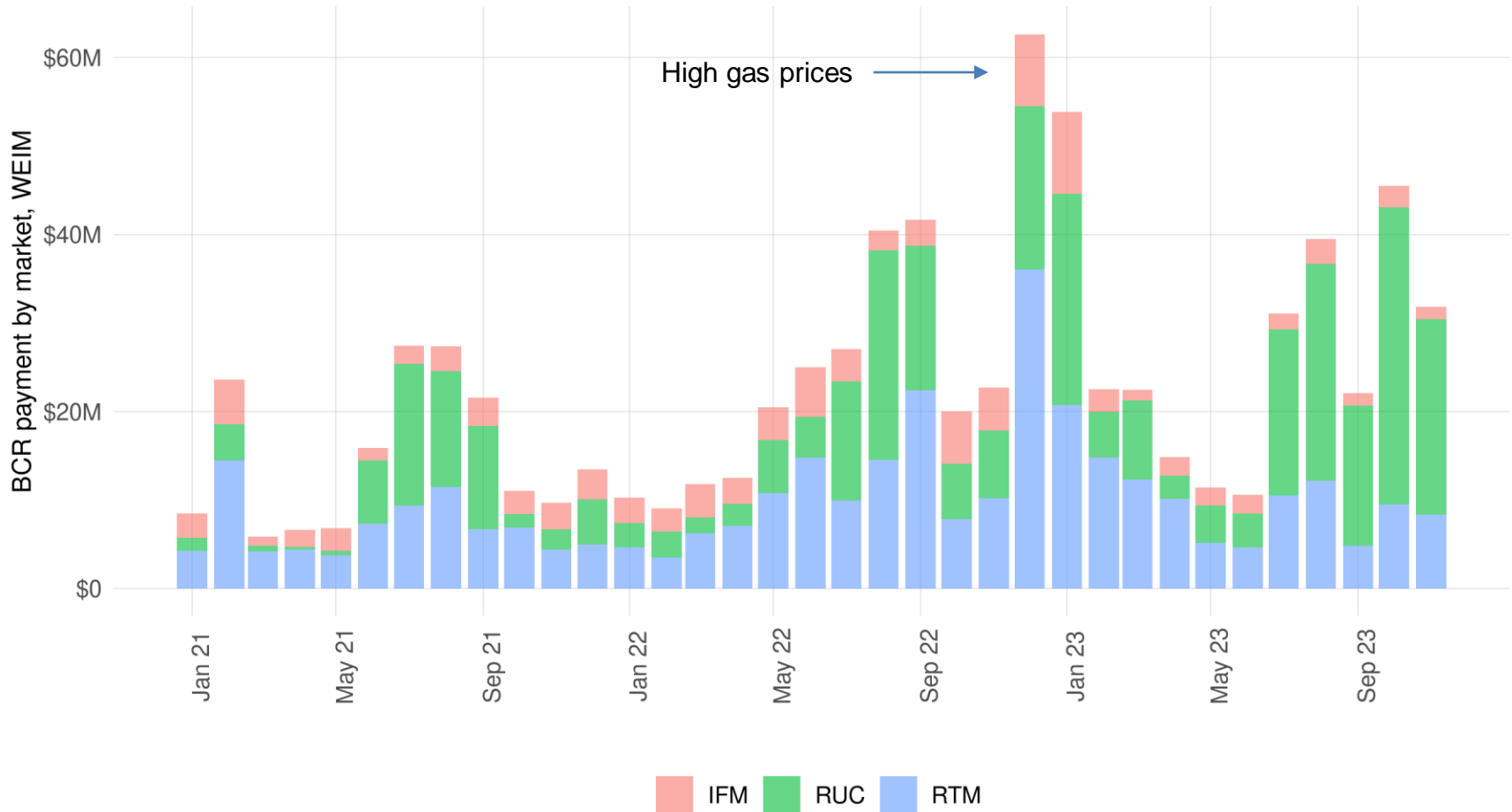
# Units with fast minimum-up times are spread across different technologies in the WEIM generation fleet



Although some resource type like solar could meet the FSP definition, there may be no material impact with them since they may generally have \$0 commitment costs

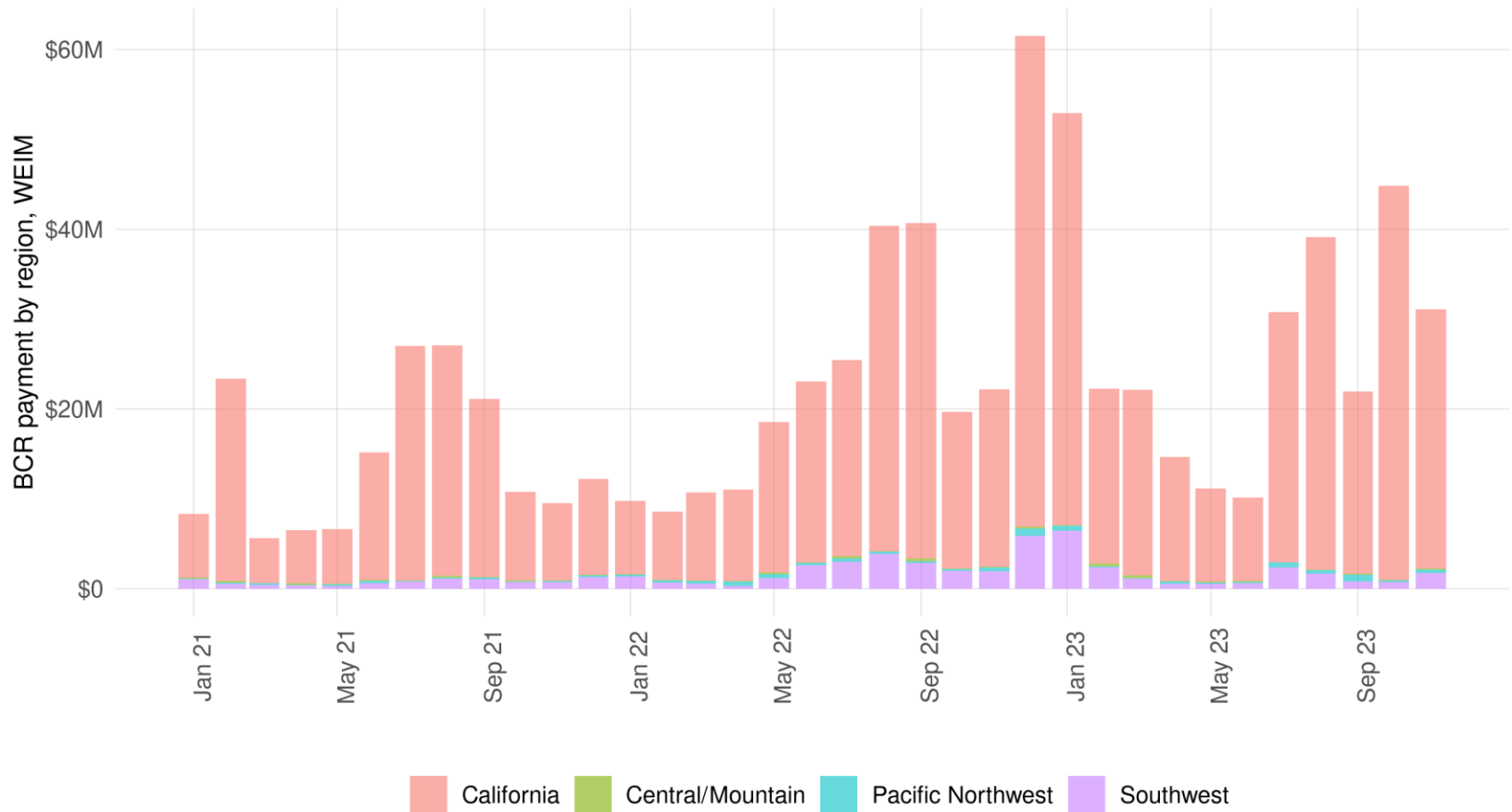


# Bid-cost recovery is a mechanism to make whole units dispatched uneconomically in the WEIM markets

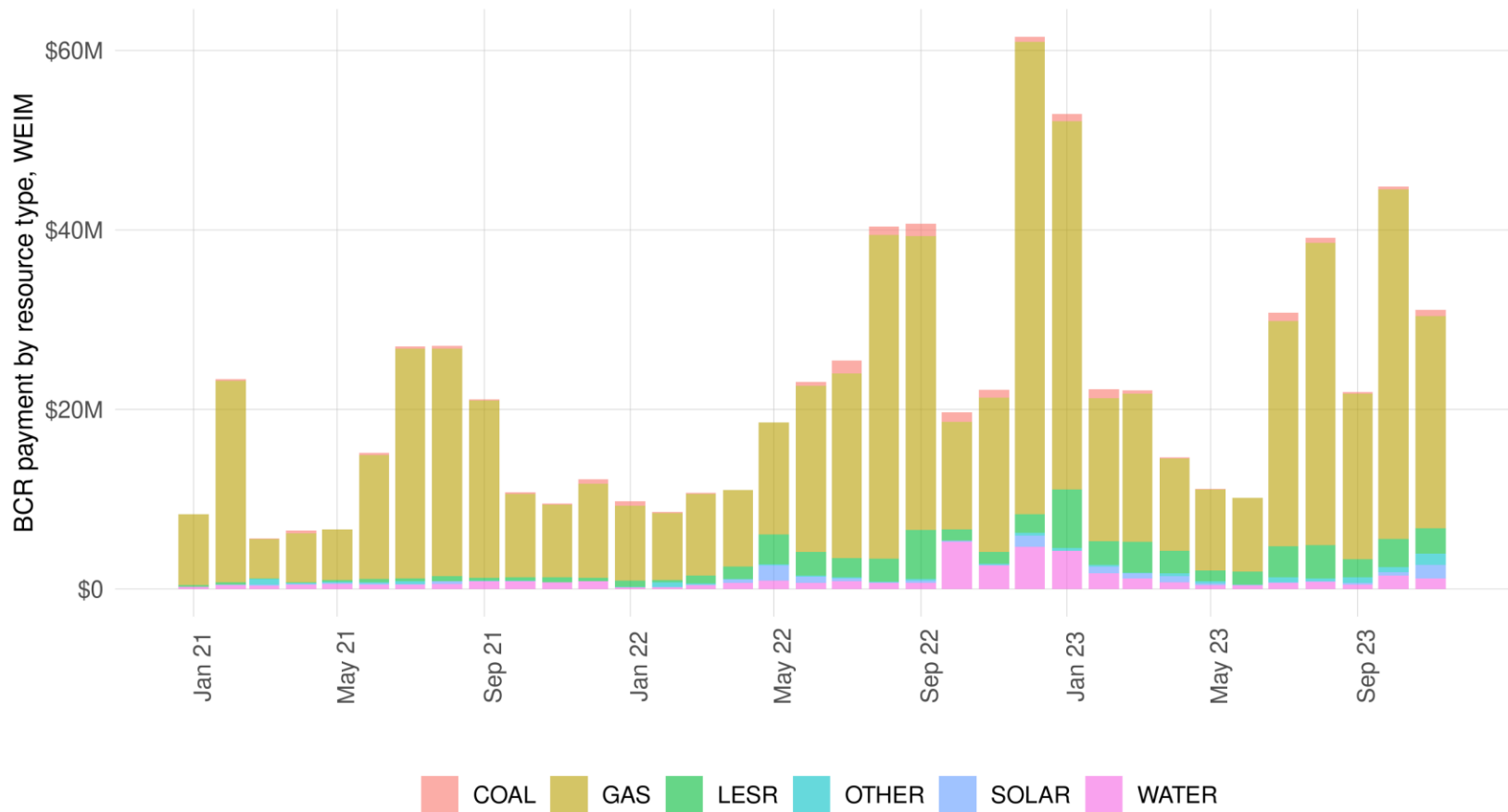


Bid cost recovery averages about \$21 million per month in this reported period.

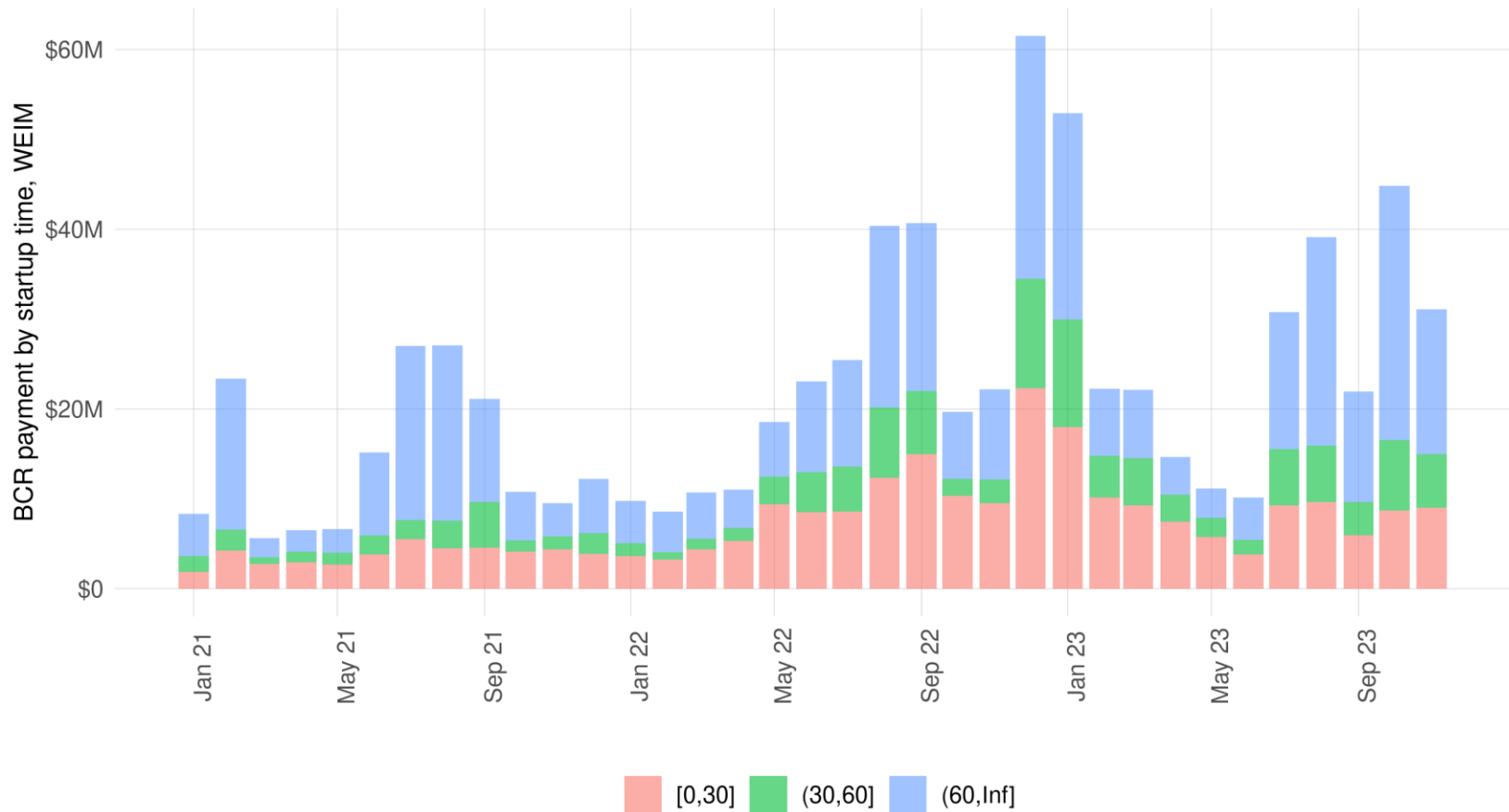
# The main share of BCR is accrued in the CAISO area and largely driven by RUC component of the day-ahead market



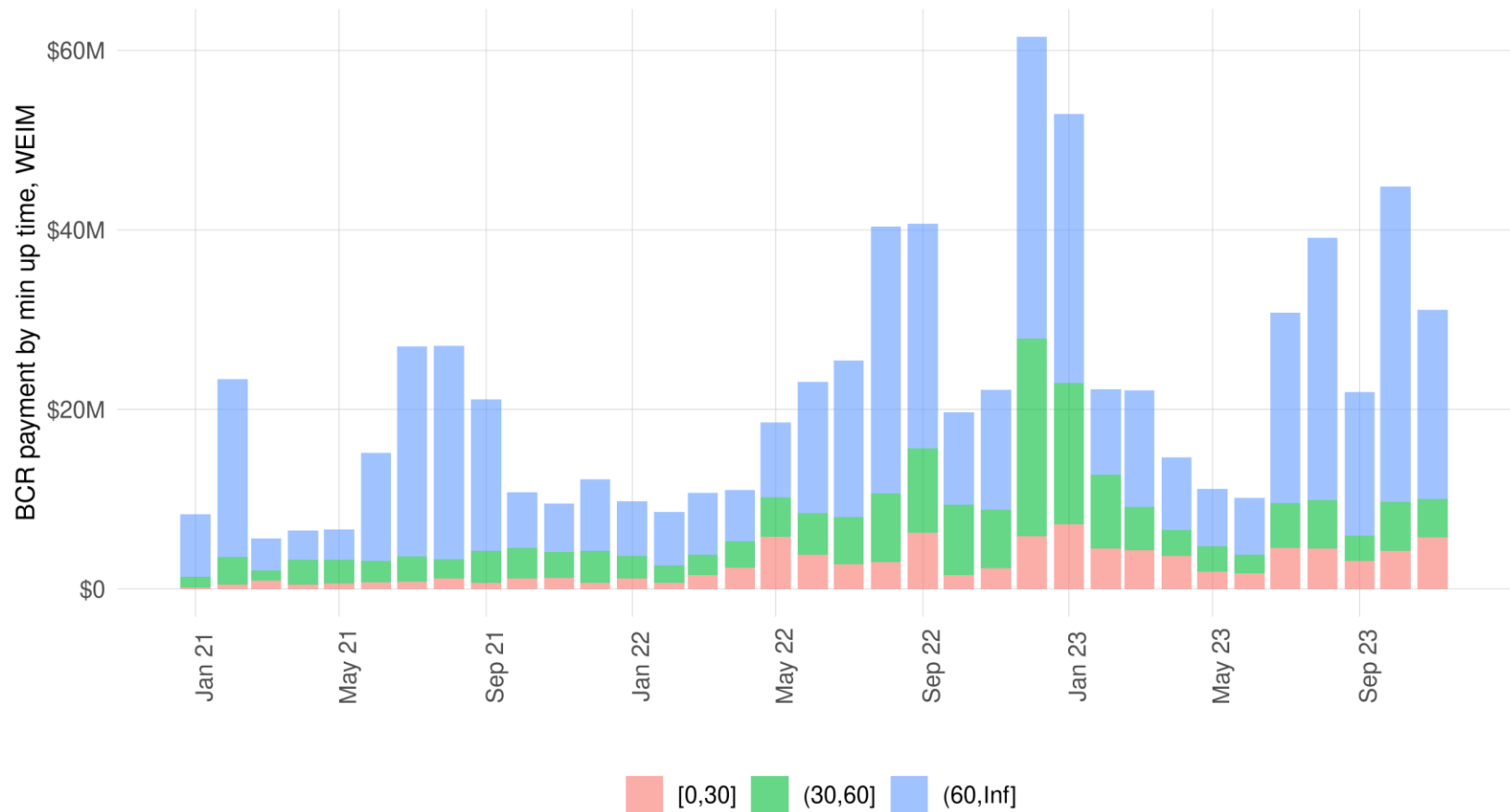
# Gas-fired units are largely the main recipient of bid cost recovery



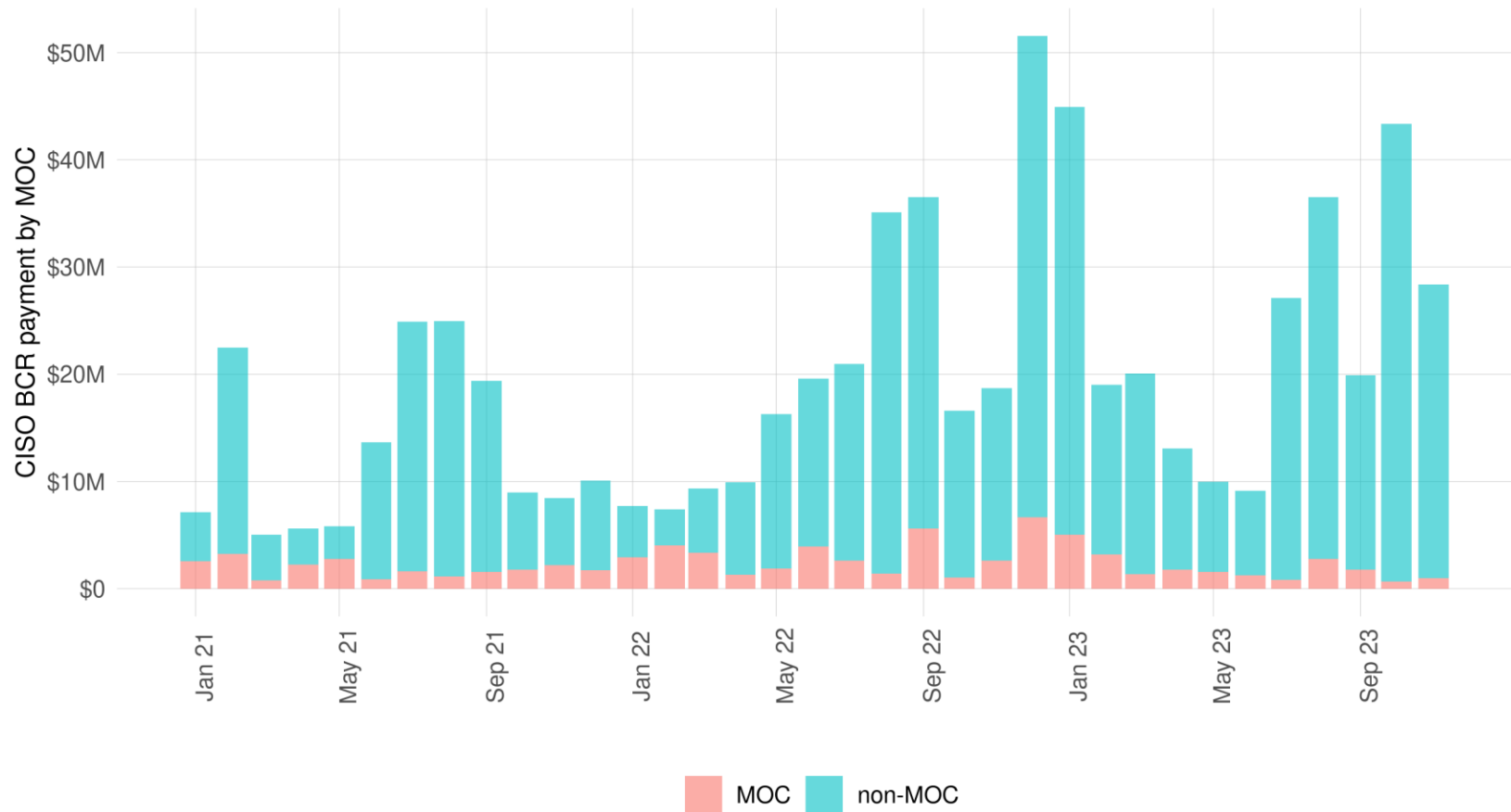
# When organized by startup times, the bid cost recovery is more balanced across the different time ranges



# The largest share of bid cost recovery is paid to units with minimum up times longer than an hour



# Units associated with minimum-online constraints represent a relatively small share of the whole bid cost recovery



# Fast Start pricing

- It incorporates in some fashion commitment costs into the variable-range bids
- Cleared, and higher, prices will reflect these commitment costs
- Higher-cleared prices will reduce bid cost recovery to some extent for units dispatched uneconomically
- Standard approach relies on the market clearing engine consisting of two market passes:
  - scheduling run determines optimal commitment and dispatches used scheduling parameter to guide priorities
  - Pricing run estimates clean market prices reflecting economical signals
- Fast start pricing applies only in pricing run. It does not change the optimal commitment and dispatches

# What are the basics to consider fast start pricing in the CAISO market?

- How to amortize the commitment cost into the variable cost? This analysis explores two options,
  - constant and
  - average amortization
- How long the amortization should apply for? Only through the MUT?
- Should MLC continue to be amortized beyond MUT for as long as the unit is online?
- This analysis amortizes commitment costs only through the MUT



# Scenario 1: Constant amortization derives a single adder that applies to each segment of the variable-cost bid

Given:

*MUT*: Minimum up time (minutes)

*STUC*: Startup cost in (\$ per start)

*MLC*: Minimum load cost (\$/MWh)

$\Delta t$ : Market interval; FMM=15 min

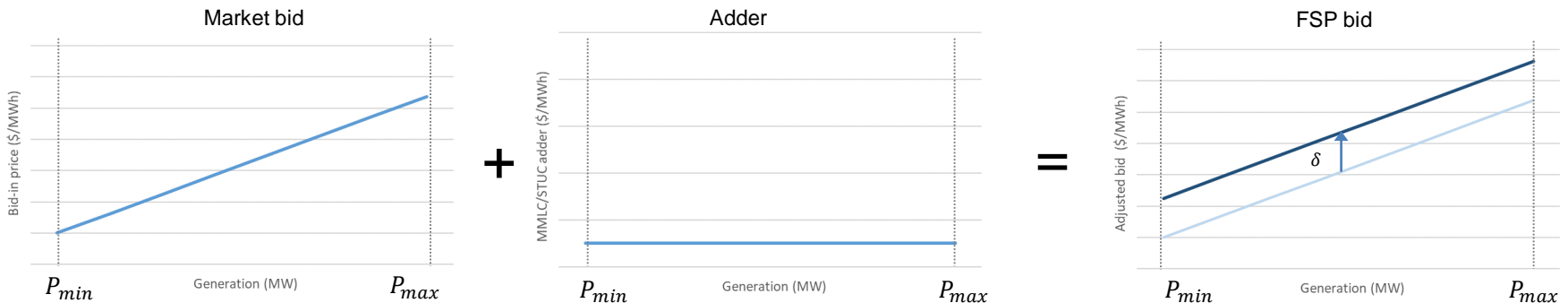
All elements are parameters and therefore the adder  $\delta$  is constant

MUT is rounded up to # of intervals

If MUT=0 then STUC is amortized in 1 interval

The FSP adder is

$$\delta = \frac{MLC}{P_{max}} + \frac{STUC}{\frac{\Delta t}{60} \max \left\{ 1, \left\lceil \frac{MUT}{\Delta t} \right\rceil \right\} P_{max}}$$



# Illustration: Simplest amortization approach is a constant adder through the variable range

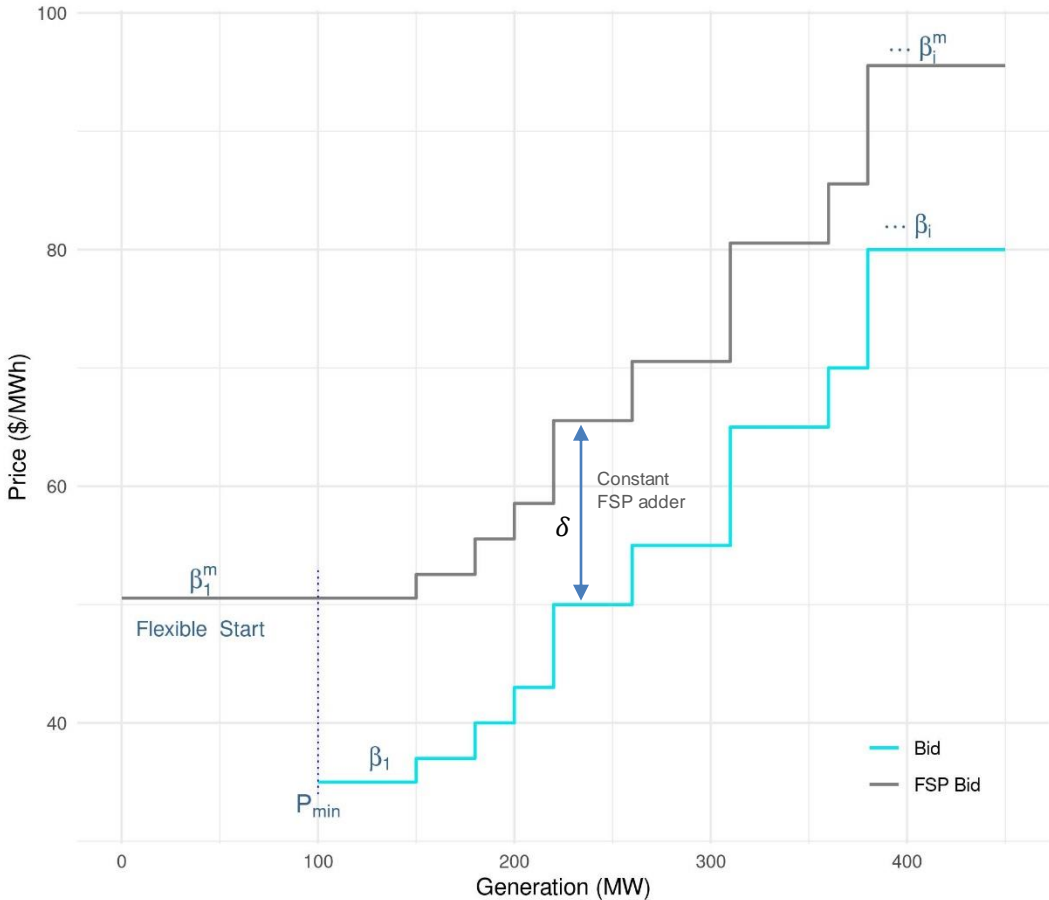
MLC=\$5,000/hr  
 STUC=\$2000 per start  
 MUT= 1 hr  
 Pmax=450 MW

A constant adder is estimated to reflect Both MLC and STUC

$$\delta^e = \frac{\$2000 + \$5000}{450 \text{ MW}} = \$15.55/\text{MWh}$$

This adder applies to each segment of the market bid

First segment is extended to 0 MW to model unit with flexible start



## Scenario II: Average amortization relies on the least average-cost across the variable range

Average cost at segment  $i$

$$\psi_i = STUC + \left\{ MLC + \sum_{k=1}^i (p_k - p_{k-1})\beta_k \right\} \frac{\Delta t}{60} \max \left\{ 1, \left\lceil \frac{MUT}{\Delta t} \right\rceil \right\}$$

where

$\beta_i$  is the bid-in price for segment  $i$

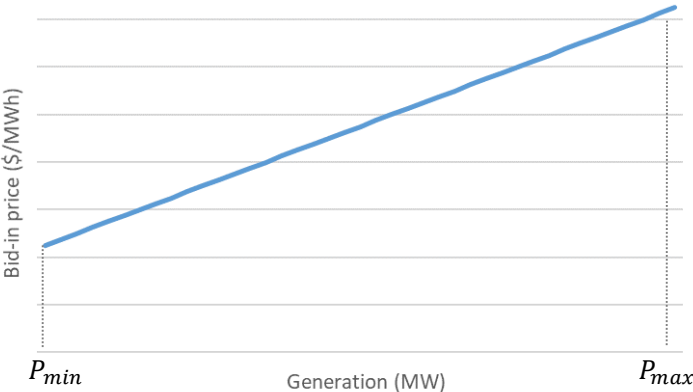
$p_i$  is the  $i$ -th generation break point of the step-wise bid

This yields the minimum average price as

$$\delta^m = \min_{p_i^*} \frac{\psi_i}{\frac{\Delta t}{60} \max \left\{ 1, \left\lceil \frac{MUT}{\Delta t} \right\rceil \right\} p_i}$$

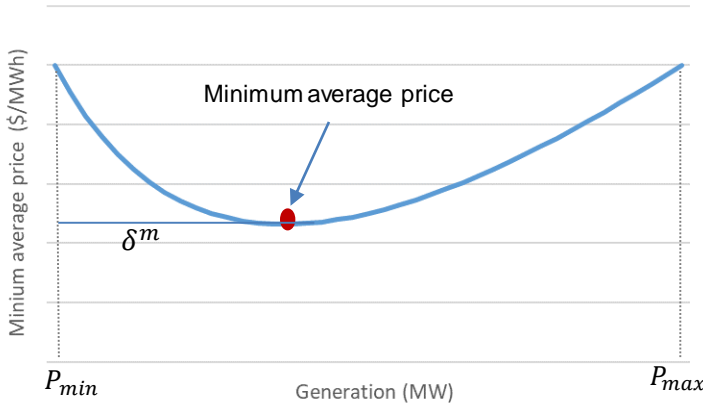
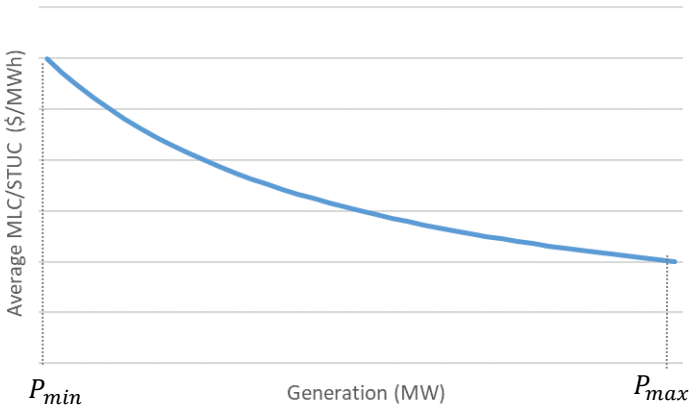
This cost is estimated at each generation segment rather than only at Pmax

# The minimum average price defines the breaking point for the adjusted bid



+

=



# Illustration: minimum averaged-cost is a different scheme to amortize commitment costs

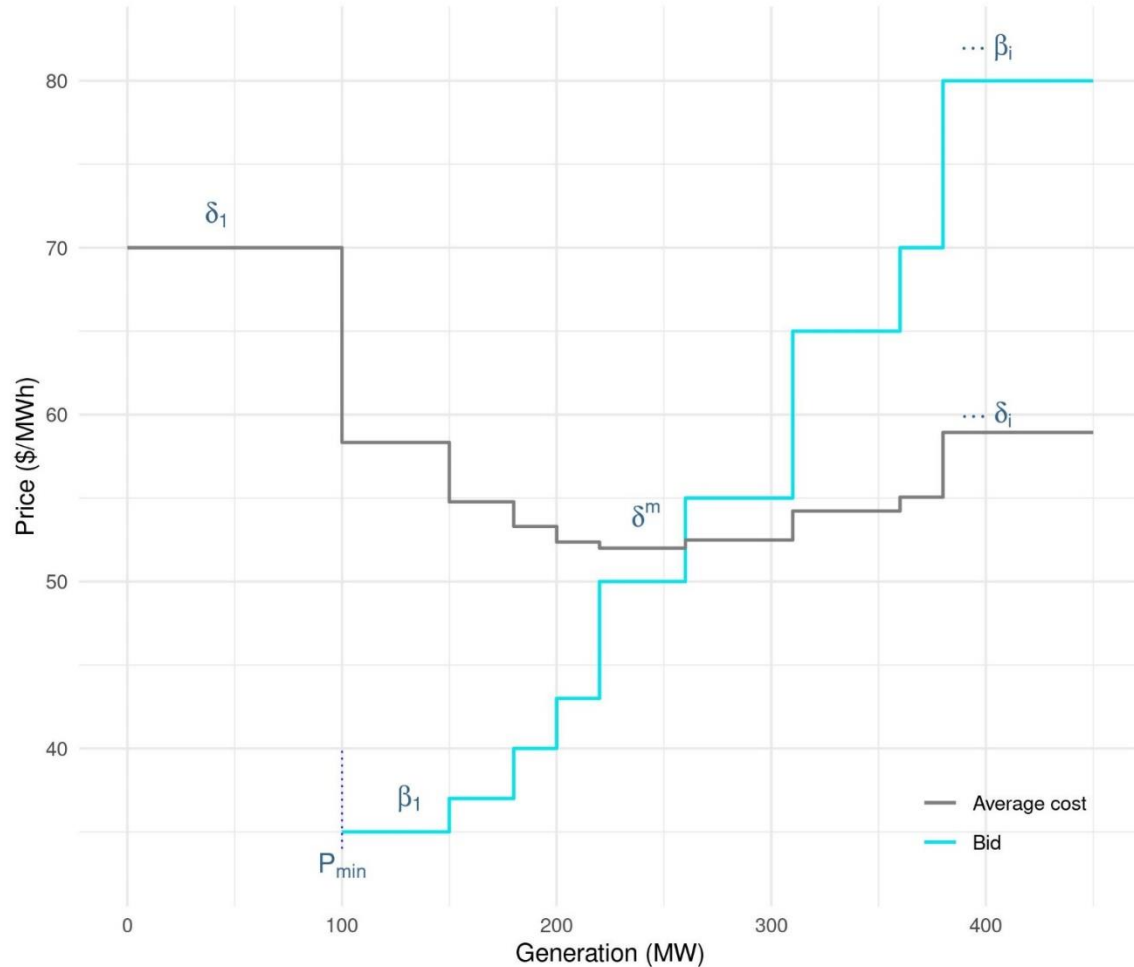
MLC=\$5,000/hr  
 STUC=\$2000 per start  
 MUT= 1 hr  
 Pmax=450 MW

Between 0 and 100 MW, MLC and STUC define the average cost at Pmin

$$\delta_0 = \frac{\$2000 + \$5000}{100 \text{ MW}} = \$70/\text{MWh}$$

Subsequent segments incorporate the cumulative variable cost

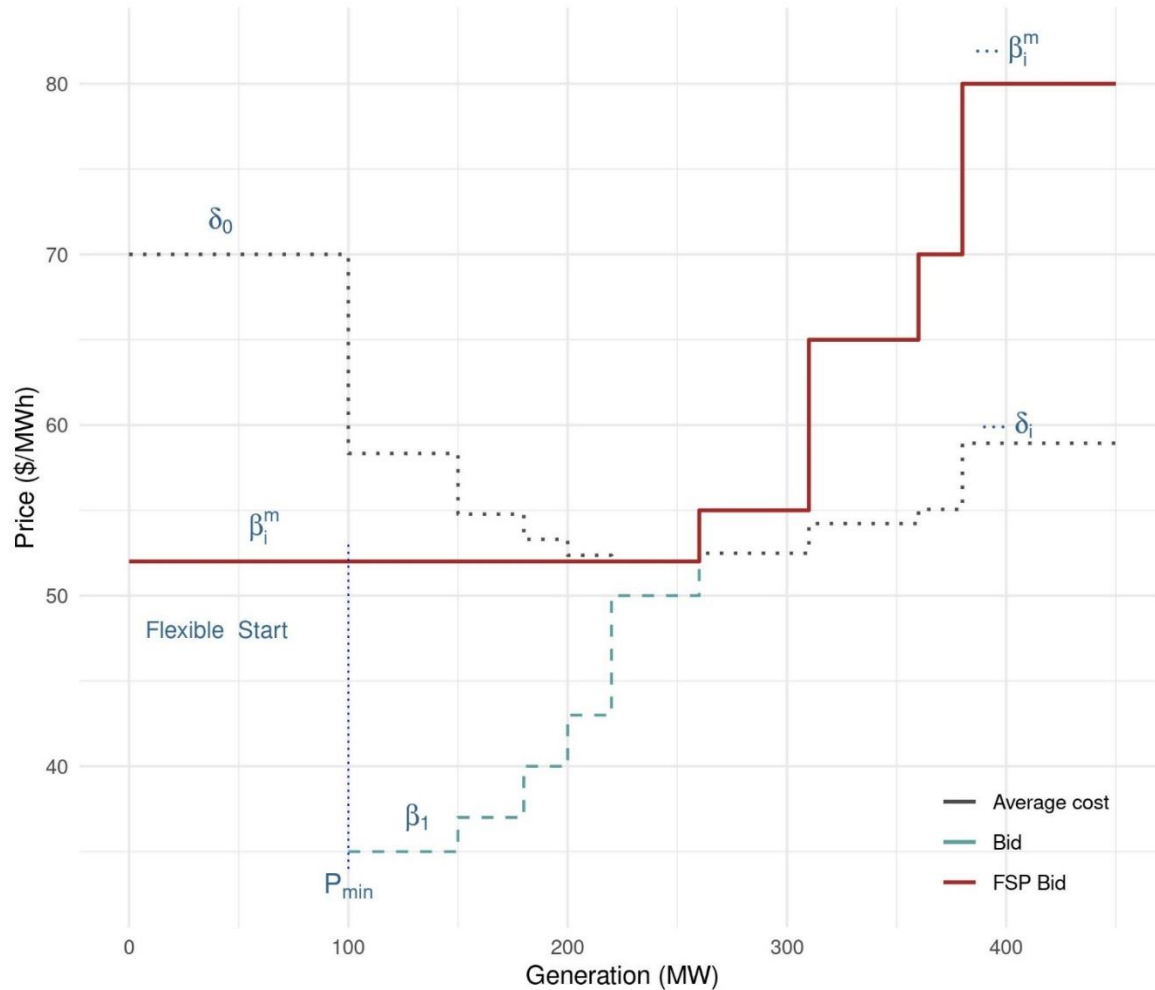
The resulting curve (in grey) will attain a minimum average cost



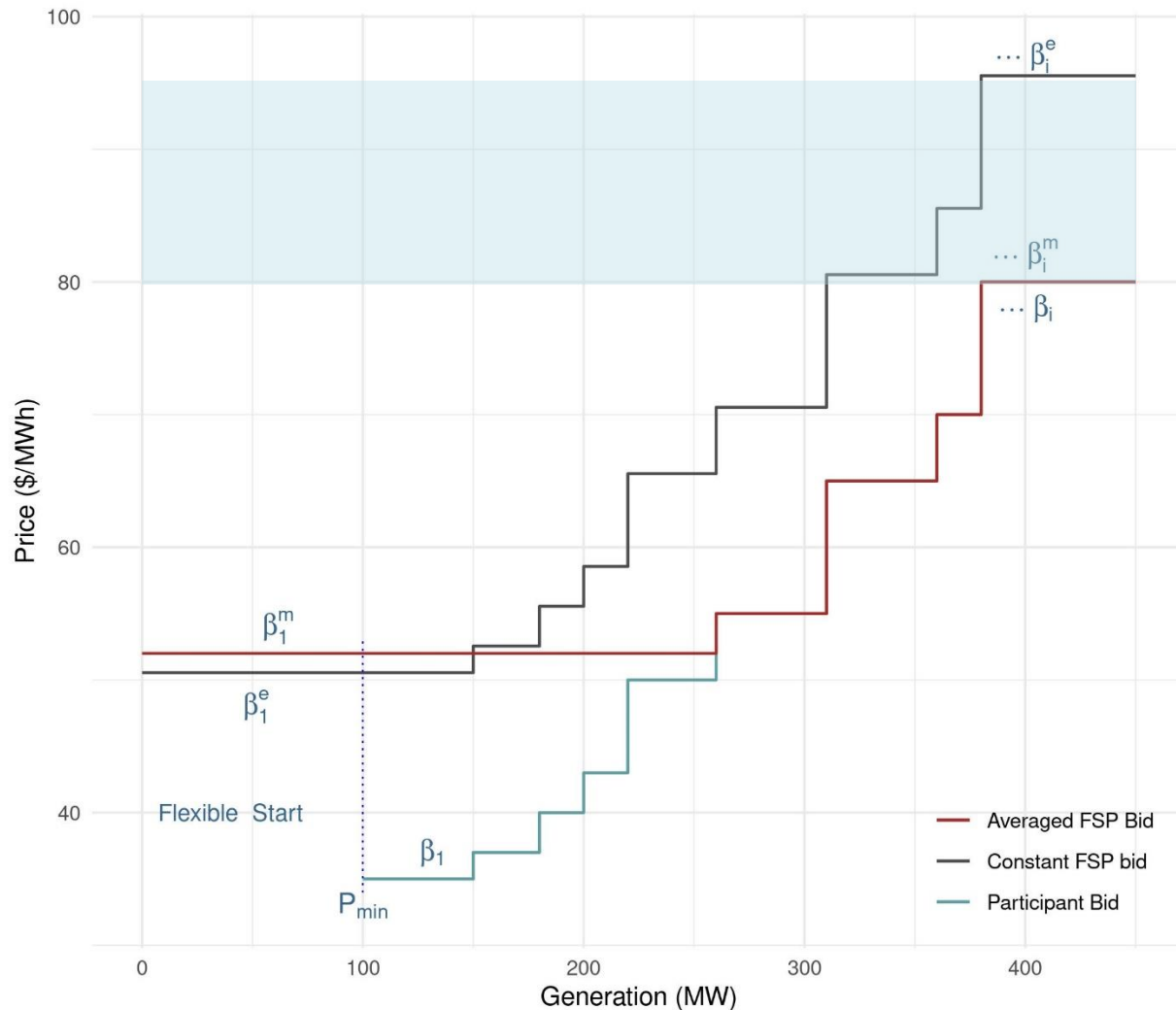
# The minimum average cost defines the first segment of the adjusted bid curve

The minimum average cost extends to the left up to 0 MW and covers the flexible startup range up to  $P_{min}$

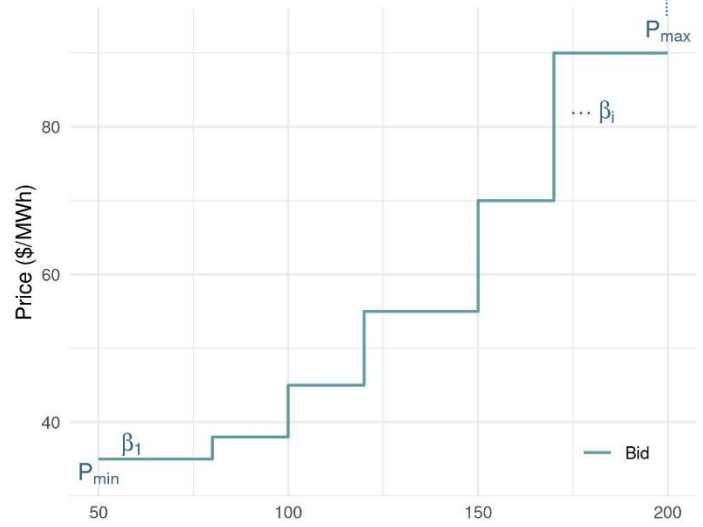
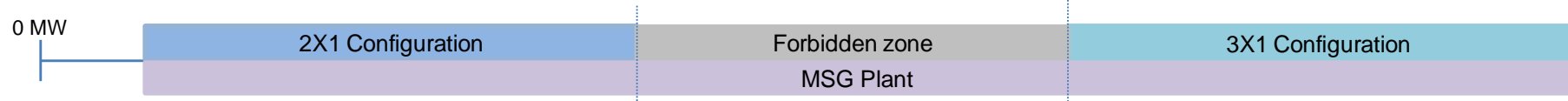
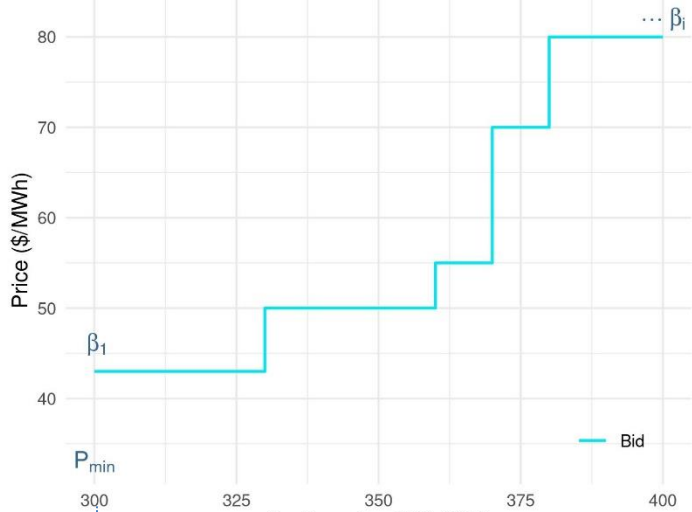
Segments to the right of the minimum-cost segment use the original bid curve



# Constant amortization may tend to have higher-priced segments towards the end of the range than averaged-cost amortization



CAISO's market has sophisticated multi-stage unit model for combined cycle plants, which involves transitions between configurations



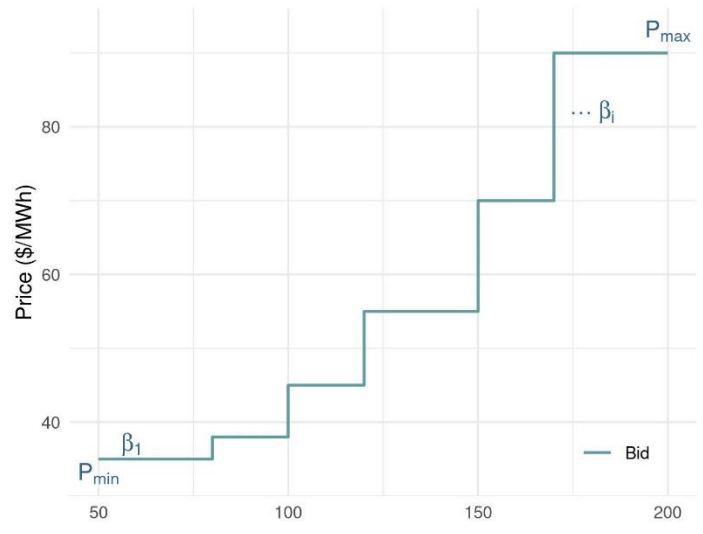
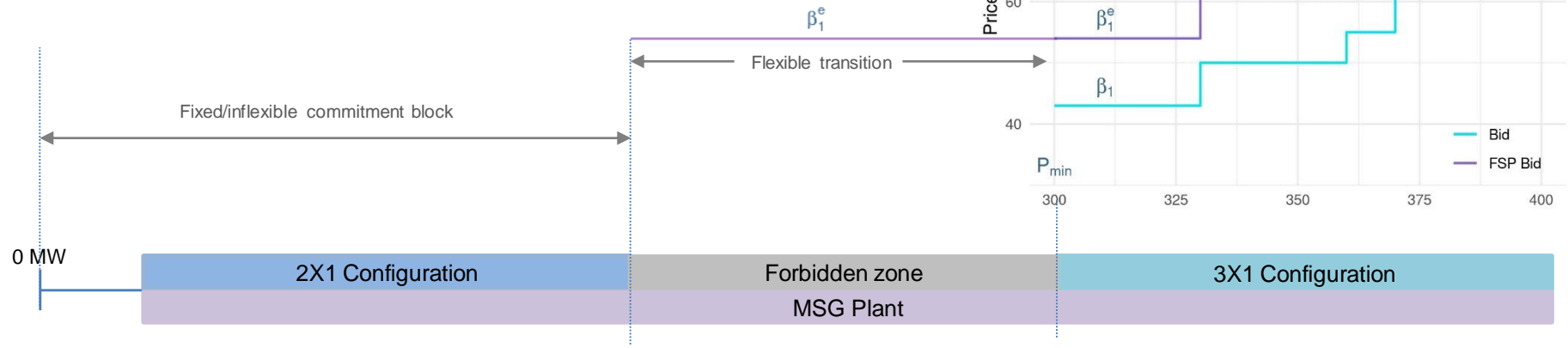
A transition involves the FROM and TO configurations

- A transition involves discrete costs:
- transition costs
  - change of MLC

Each configuration has its own MLC and MUT



# Similar to startups, FSP can be applied to transitions by modelling it as a flexible transition



The natural extension of FSP is to bridge configurations between the forbidden zone to have a continuous bid range

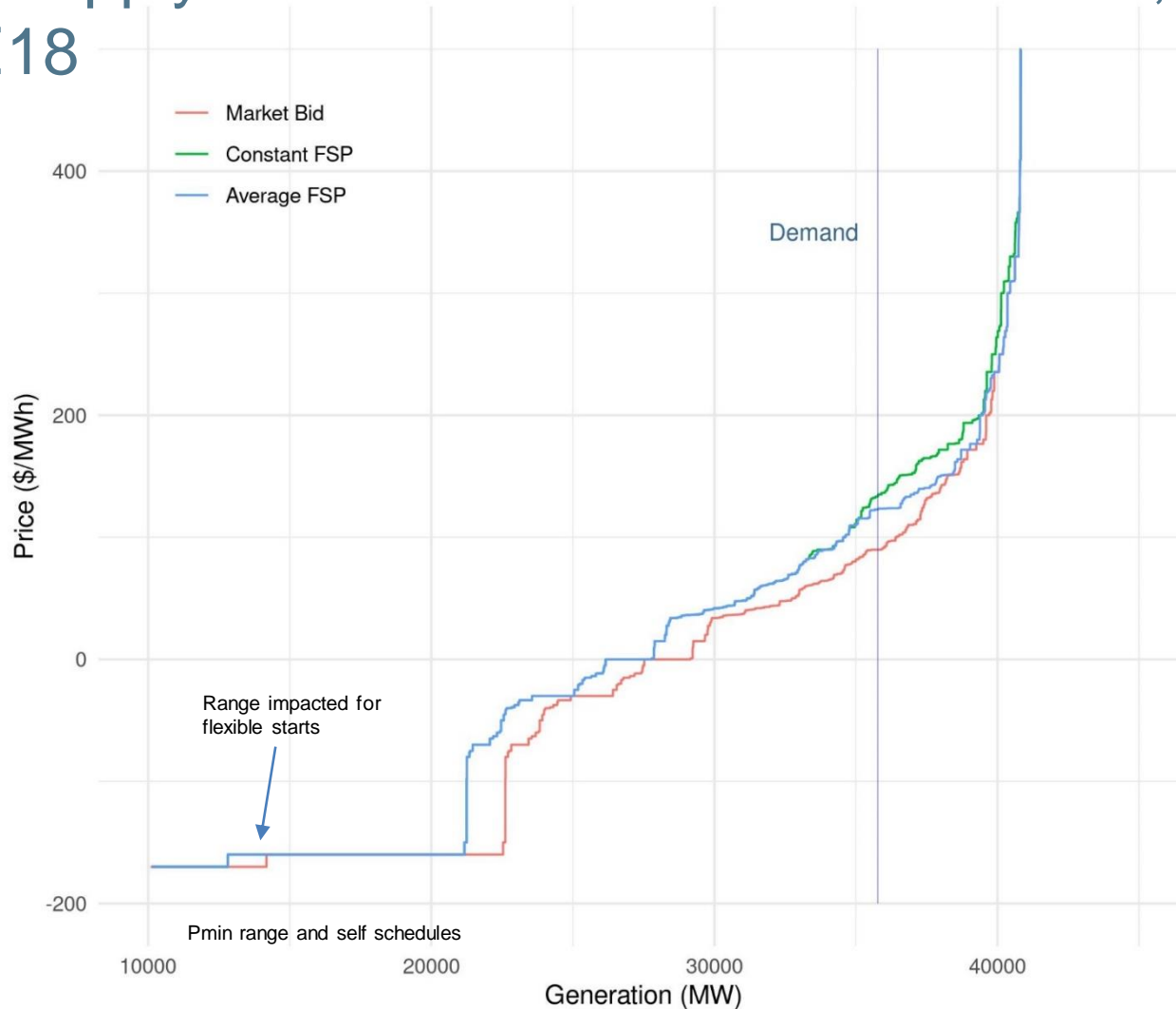
This requires to extend the first segment of the TO config down to the Pmax of the FROM config

The range from 0 MW to Pmax of the FROM config is modelled as fixed as it is not dispatchable

# There are more nuances when applying FSP to MSG units

- CAISO's model allows for overlapping configurations; in these scenarios, the analysis considers that there is no range for flexible transition
- Transition costs and MLC of the TO configuration are amortized in the variable-cost bid of the TO configuration
- The definition of Fast transition unit can be based on both the transition time and MUT
- Upward transitions are the natural extensions of fast startups;
  - downward transitions are not an obvious natural extension of FSP
  - Potentially, only MLC can be amortized in the TO configuration
  - This analysis did not apply any processing to downward transitions

# With bids adjusted for higher prices, the FSP logic shifts the supply stack. Illustration of October 19, 2023. HE18



The intersect of the vertical demand curve with each of the supply bids define the market clearing price for each scenario

# Supply and demand considerations

The FSP analysis uses the following power balance

$$G + I + X^I = D + E + PS + \zeta + X^E + \phi$$

where:

$G$  Internal supply

$I, E$  Imports and exports transactions

$X^I, X^E$  Transfers in and out of CAISO area

$PS$  Demand from pumps

$\zeta$  Transmission losses

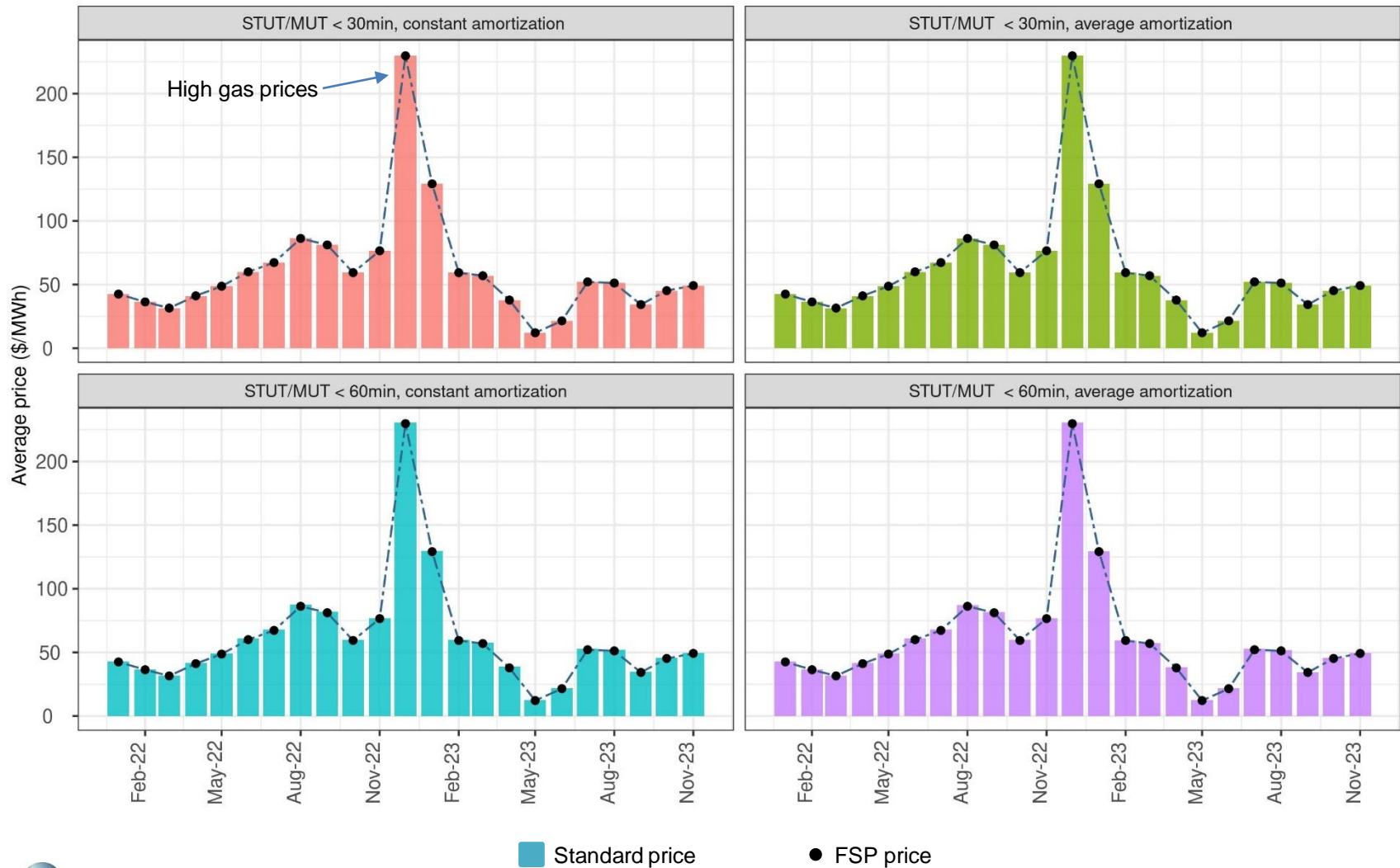
$\phi$  Load conformance

- In this way, the effect of WEIM is incorporated into each area by using the optimal transfers
- In FMM, hourly intertie transactions are not cleared nor priced; they were cleared in HASP

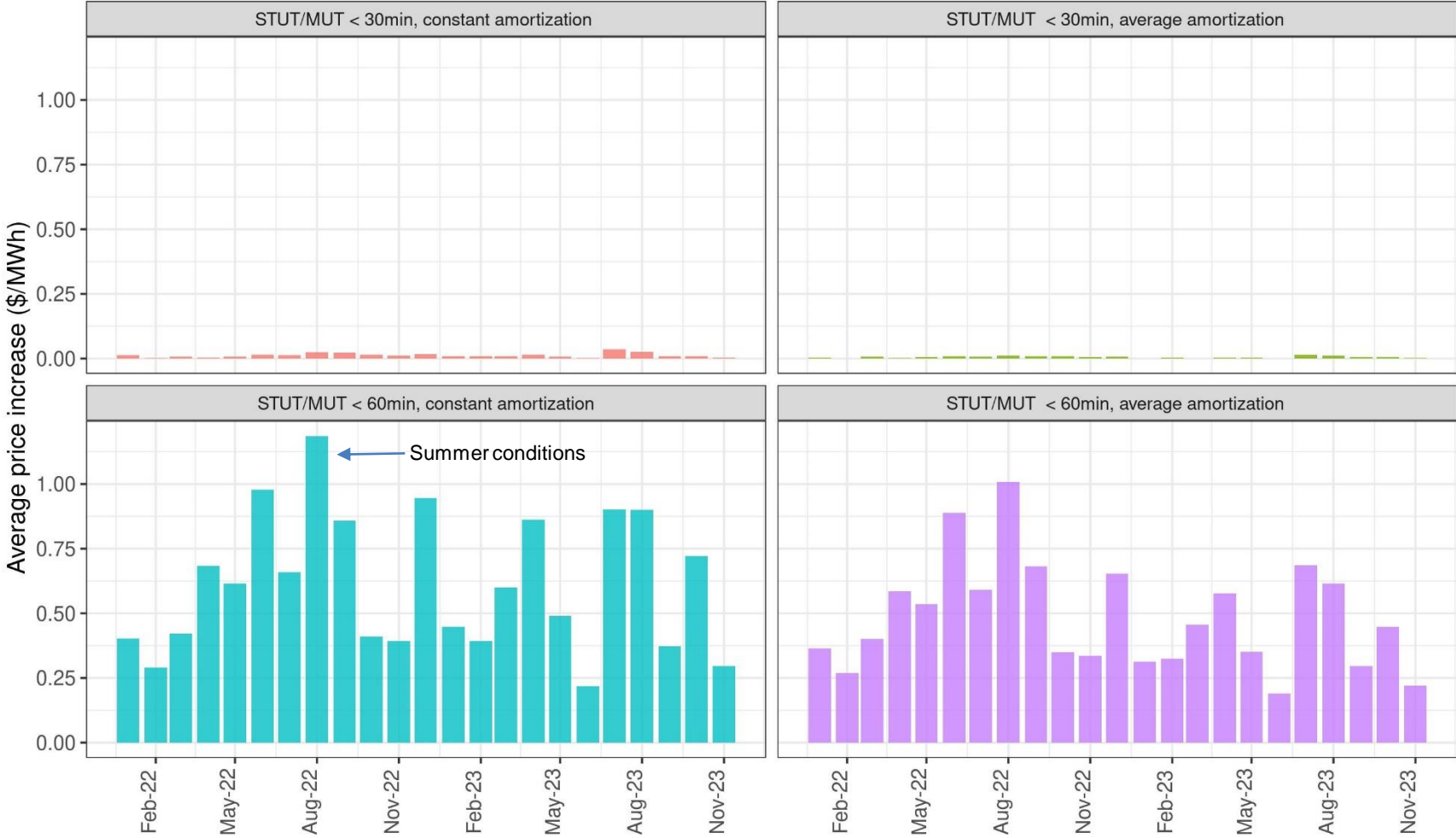
# Consideration of Minimum Online constraints

- Based on operating procedures, there may be requirements of minimum online capacity for a defined area
- In order to reduce manual exceptional dispatches, CAISO uses minimum online constraints
- These constraints are defined in terms of minimum online capacity based on the  $P_{max}$  of resources
- MOCs are currently enforced as needed in the day-ahead market; they are not enforced in real-time
- Even if fast start resources were used in the DAM constraint, they will be re-optimized in real-time
- Whether a unit is part of an MOC is not relevant in the real-time market and can therefore be considered for FSP

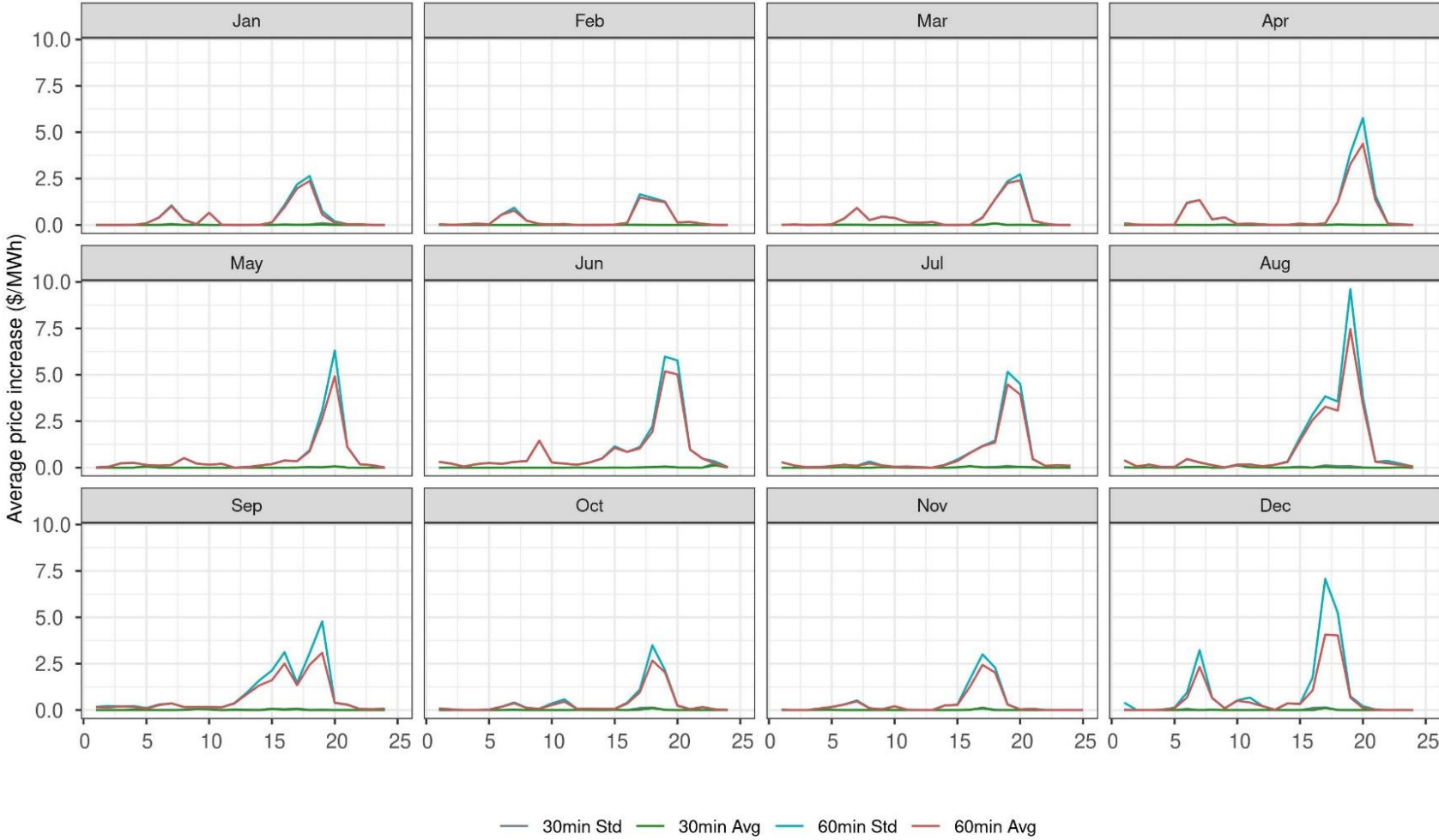
# Prices formed with fast start pricing exhibit on average minor increases relative to non-FSP prices



# On average, price increases with FSP are under 1\$/MWh when applicable to resources with up to 60 minutes

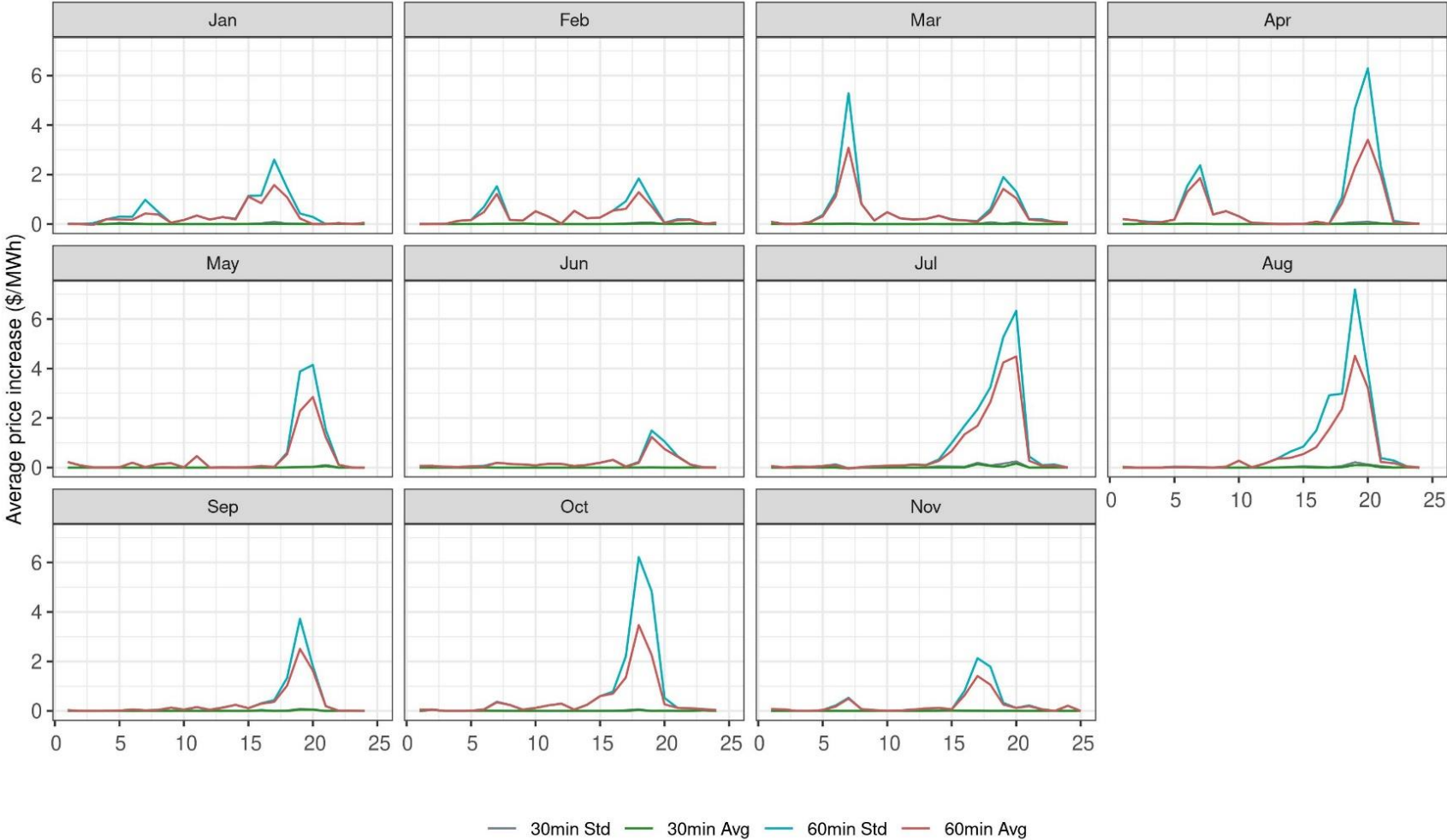


# FSP prices tend to increase during peak hours when resources are started or transitioned up. Year 2022





# FSP prices tend to increase during peak hours when resources are started or transitioned up. Year 2023



# Incremental costs when using FSP varies widely based on system conditions, and averages between \$13.5 and \$10.5 million per month



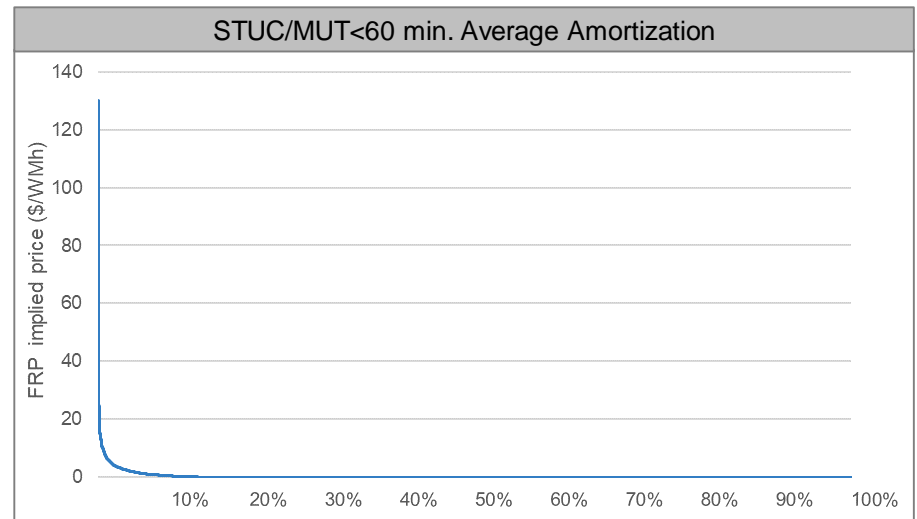
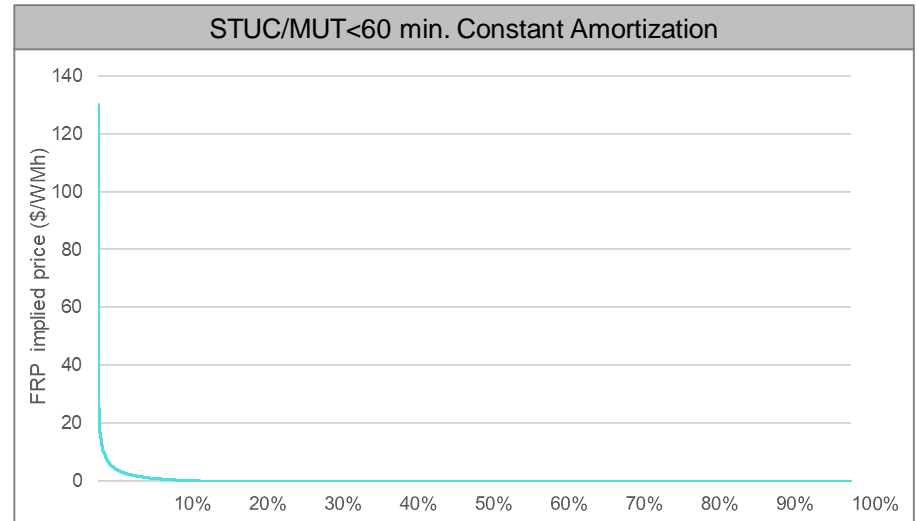
This metric is based on absolute costs (total demand times clearing price).

Actual settlements is based on two-step calculation using differences between DA and RTM

# Consideration of flexible ramp capacity yields non-zero prices in less than 10 percent of intervals

FRP product enhancements went into effect on February 1, 2023. This data covers Feb-Nov 2023

The flow frequency of non-zero prices in the FSP analysis aligns with actual production trends



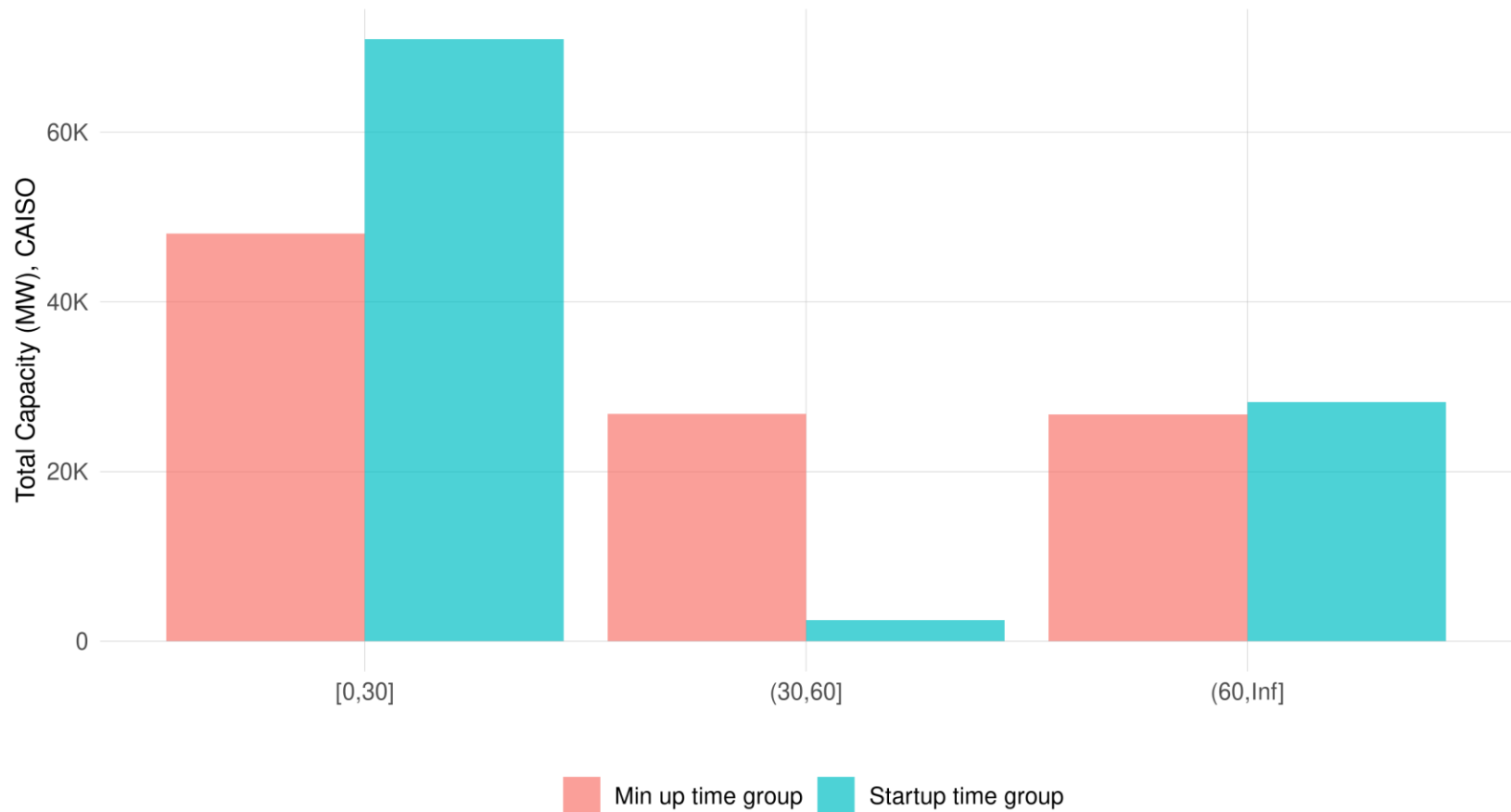
## Closing remarks

- First stage of analysis was mainly focused on building the foundational features of FSP
  - FSP attributes
  - Logic to amortize commitment costs
  - startups and transitions
  - WEIM interplay
  - FRP interplay
- Prices and costs are relatively low. This is relative to real-time only
- Next stage is to assess all WEIM areas and analyze further cost implications
- Next stage will incorporate participant's feedback

# Appendix

This contains additional metrics on the resource characteristics specific to CAISO area

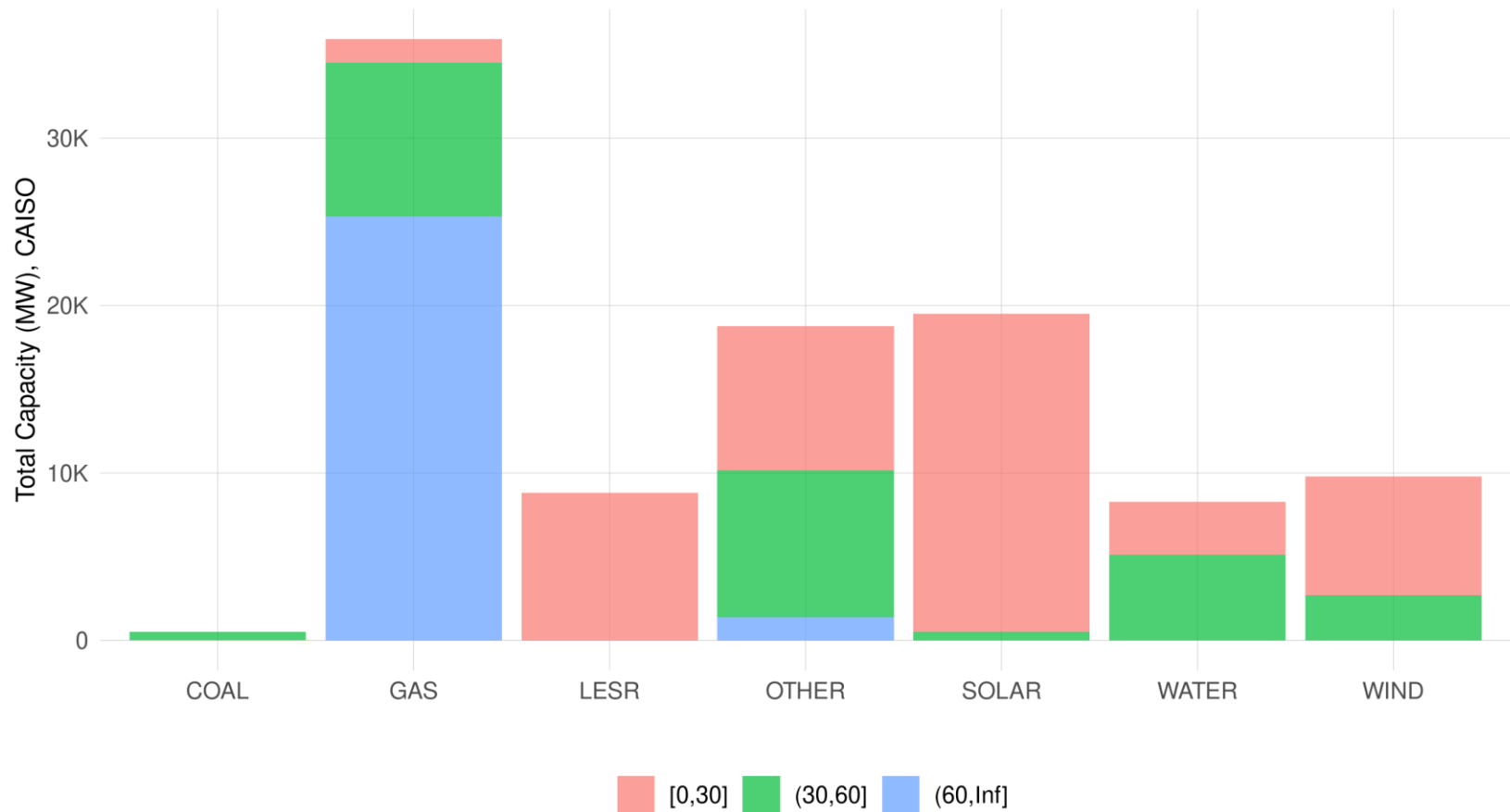
# Installed capacity by min up time, startup time for CAISO area (no imports)



# Installed capacity by startup time in CAISO area and organized by resource type

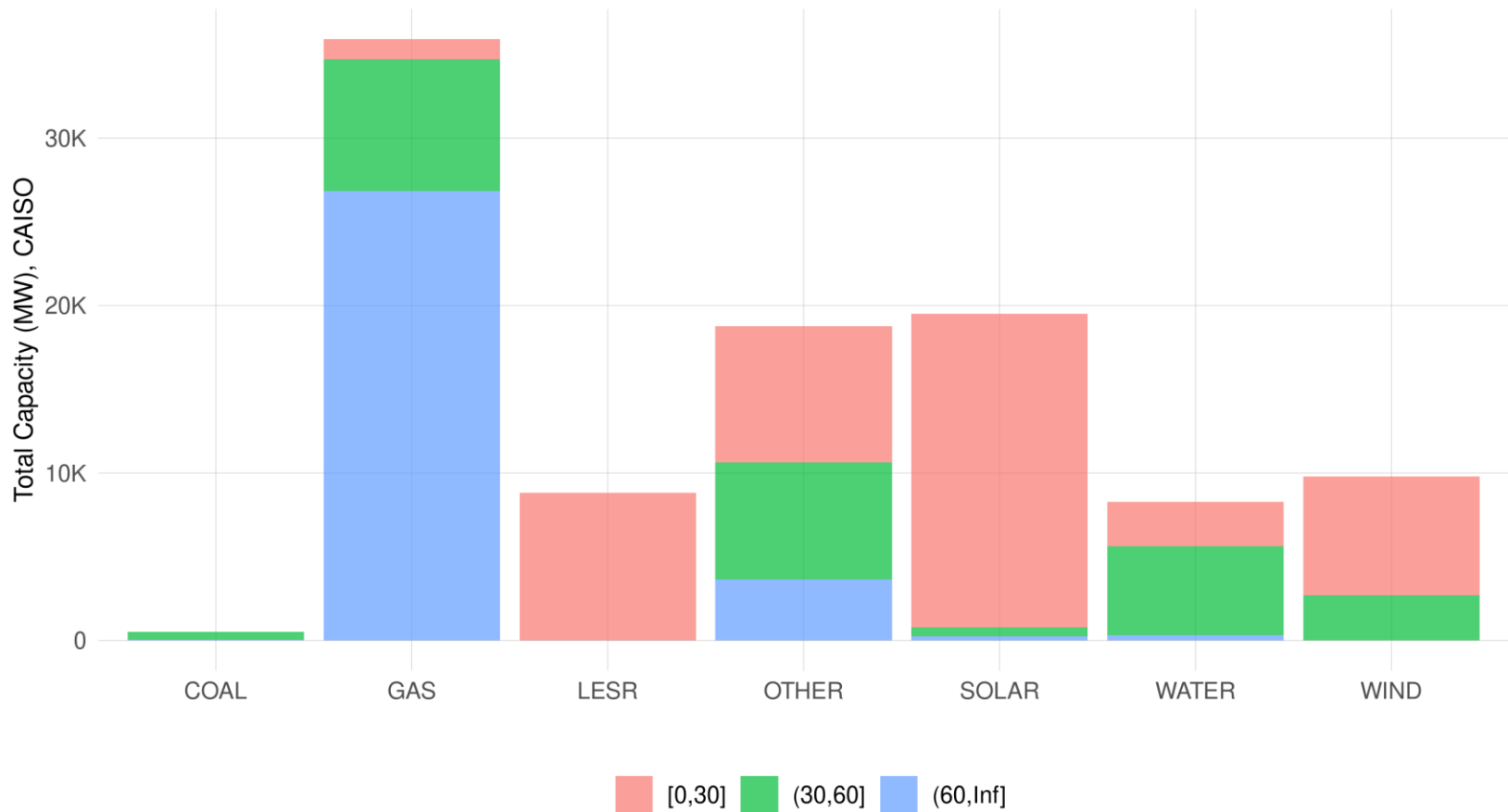


# Installed capacity by min up time in CAISO area and organized by resource type





# Installed capacity by both startup time and min up time CAISO Aggregated resource types



# Open Discussion : Scope for FSP Analysis



Please provide your feedback on the information needed in the initial analysis.

## For reference

- Visit initiative webpage for more information:  
<https://stakeholdercenter.caiso.com/StakeholderInitiatives/Price-formation-enhancements>
- If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Corona at [bcorona@caiso.com](mailto:bcorona@caiso.com) or [isostakeholderaffairs@caiso.com](mailto:isostakeholderaffairs@caiso.com)

# Tentative 2024 Schedule



Please note the working group date is tentative until confirmed through a notice in the ISO's daily briefing.

Meeting  
 Holiday

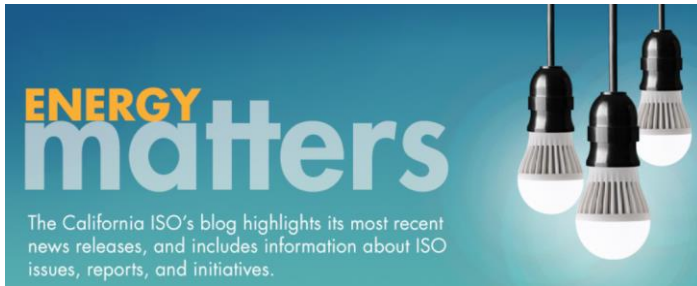
## Price Formation Enhancements Working Group Calendar 2024

January						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- Jan 10, 2024 – Working Group – Scarcity Pricing
- Jan 15, 2024 - Holiday Office Closed
- Jan 17, 2024 – Working Group – Scarcity Pricing
- Jan 24, 2024 – Working Group – Scarcity Pricing

February						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

- Feb 12, 2024 – Working Group – BAA Level MPM
- Feb 19, 2024 – Holiday Office Closed
- Feb 26, 2024 – Working Group – FSP Scope Review/Prioritization



- *Energy Matters* blog provides timely insights into ISO grid and market operations as well as other industry-related news <http://www.caiso.com/about/Pages/Blog/default.aspx>.

Read a recent article featured in the blog:



November 27, 2023  
*Markets*

### Enhancing resource adequacy

By Partha Malvadkar, Principal, Resource Adequacy and Market Policy Development

California, on its way to the reliable carbon-free electrical grid called for in state energy policy, has made notable strides related to resource adequacy in recent years.

[READ MORE](#)

The image shows a dark blue background with glowing green and white data visualizations, including bar charts and line graphs. The word "MARKET" is written in large, white, bold letters at the bottom left of the visualization. Various numerical values like "25.32", "24.25", "32.15", "56.26", and "01" are scattered throughout the data points.

- Subscribe to [Energy Matters blog monthly summary](#)

# Next PFE Working Group: Jan 10, 2024

