THANK YOU REV2026 SPONSORS

REV Conference

Rates and Resilience

October 2026

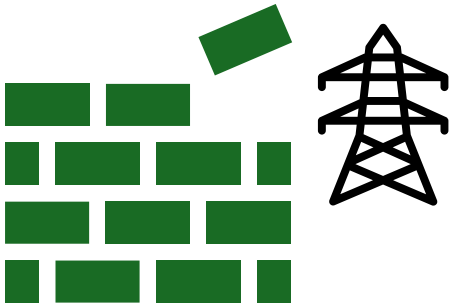
Commissioner J. Riley Allen

The value of and our dependence on electricity is increasing

- Heat Pumps / Buildings
- EVs / Transport
- Data centers / Computing (national)

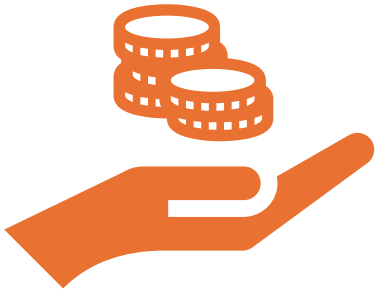
At the same time, we face increasing new challenges…

The opportunities and challenges bring renewed focus on…



Resilience/

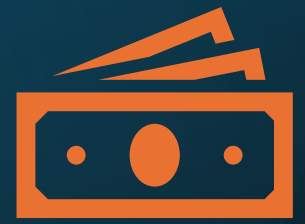
Reliability



Rates/

Affordability

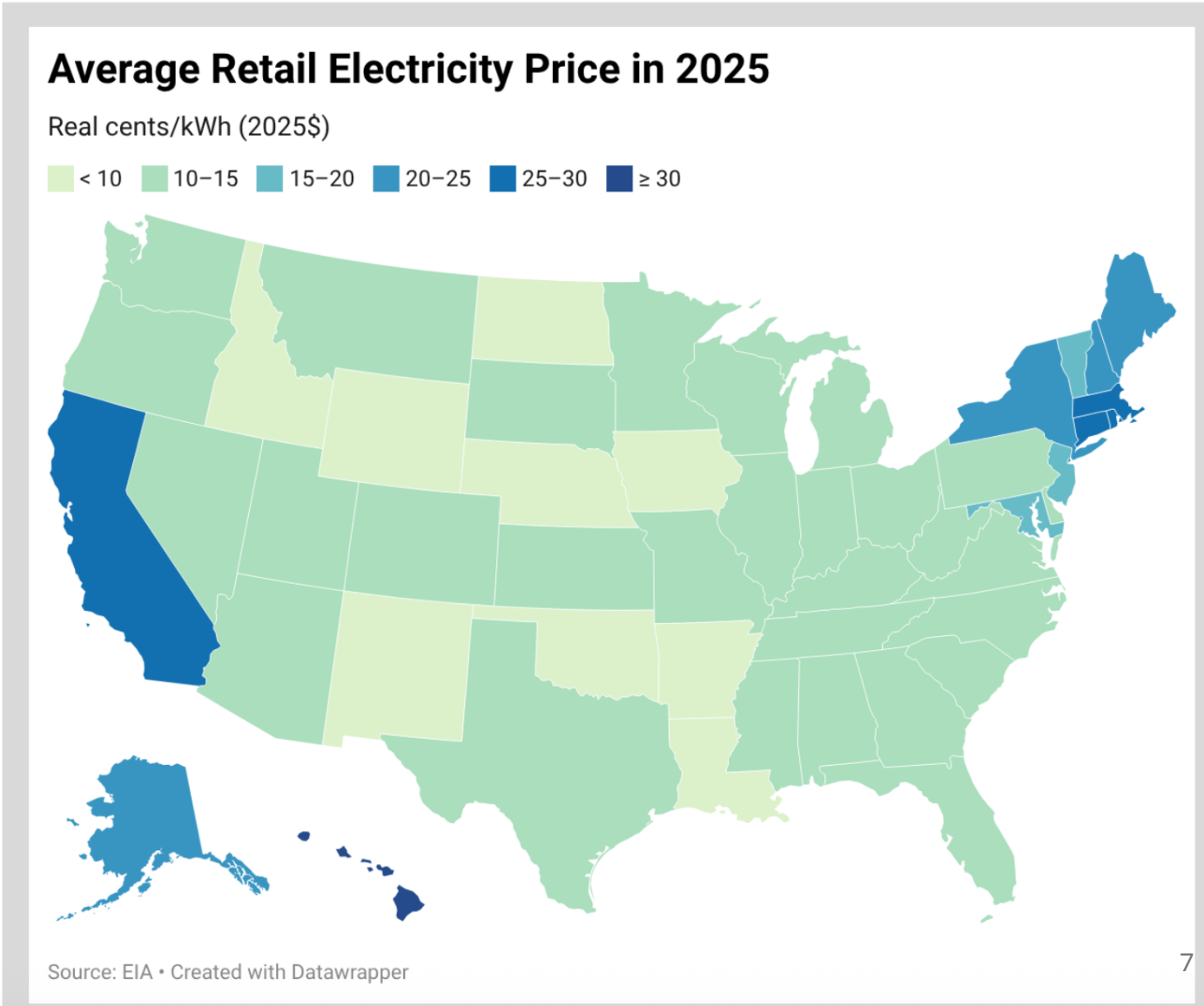
Rates



National trends mask stark differences in state-level all-sector average retail electricity prices in 2025

- Map depicts all-sector average retail electricity prices, in 2025
- Highest prices were in Hawaii, California, the Northeast, Alaska, some states in the Mid Atlantic
- Around 90% of the lower-48 landmass and ~75% of the population are located in states with all-sector average prices below 15 cents/kWh
- As shown earlier: residential electricity prices are higher than all-sector averages

Source: LBNL, Wiser et al., March 2026

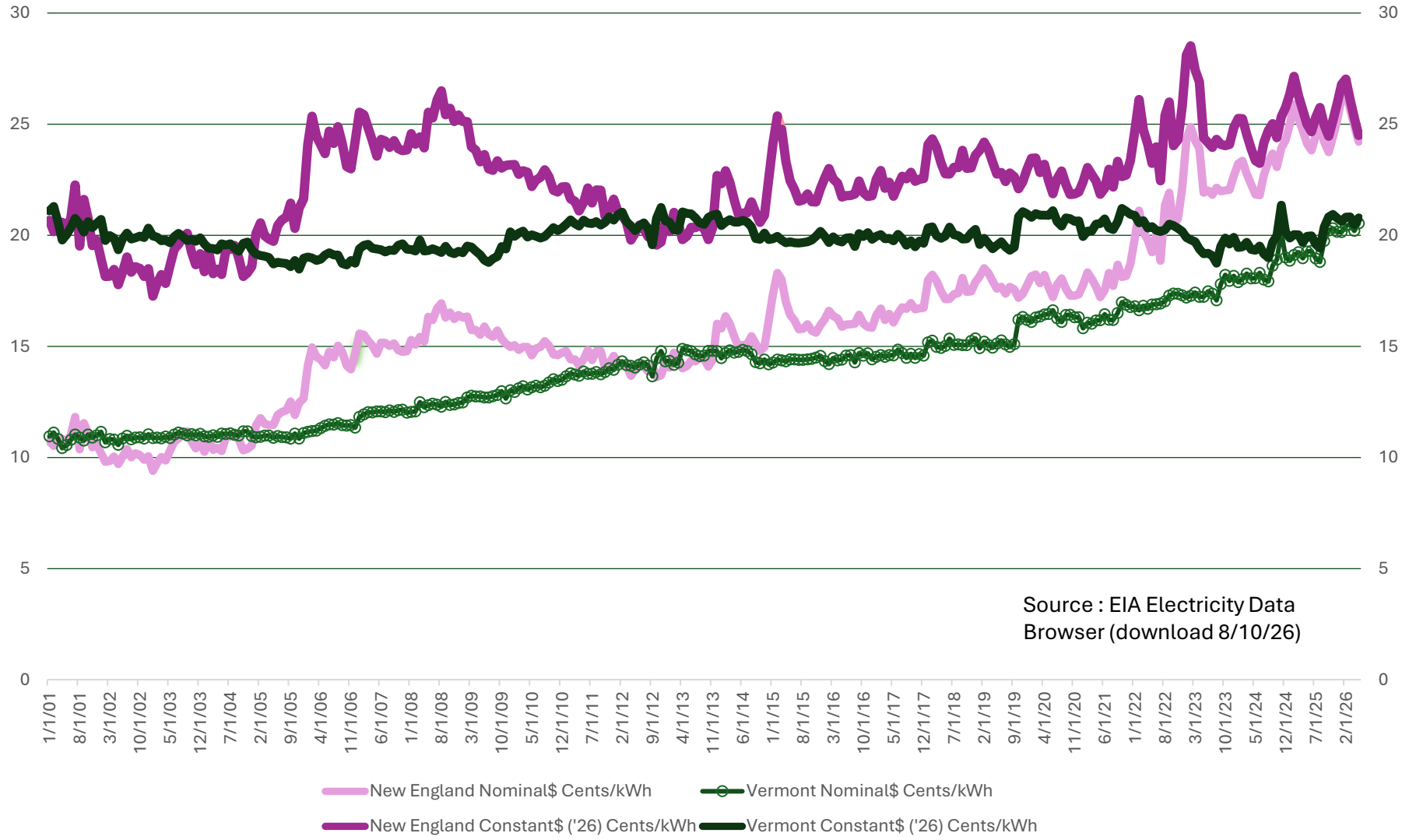


18 Year Rate Case History

Year	Barton	BED	Enosburg	GMP	Hardwick	Hyde Park	Jacksonville	Johnson	Ludlow	Lyndon	Morrisville	Northfield	Orleans	Stowe	Swanton	VEC	WEC	Filings/Year
2008							15.8%											1
2009		11.3%			7.8%													2
2010	8.9%		6.1%			14.5%		18.0%	9.5%	4.0%	6.8%		9.4%		16.3%	1.9%		10
2011												4.0%				2.1%	19.4%	3
2012																	2.3%	1
2013															1.0%			1
2014				0.4%											6.1%	2.9%	3.8%	4
2015	16.2%			2.0%														2
2016				-1.5%											2.1%			2
2017				0.7%													6.0%	2
2018				0.9%										5.4%			3.7%	3
2019				8.4%		7.8%											5.5%	3
2020			4.9%	0.0%												3.3%	6.0%	4
2021		7.5%		4.7%														2
2022		4.0%	2.0%	2.2%										13.0%		2.0%	12.8%	6
2023	10.8%	5.5%	11.7%	5.3%	5.6%	2.0%		7.3%	1.9%	9.7%	5.2%			8.0%		8.2%		12
2024		5.5%		5.3%	2.0%	3.0%	25.0%		2.0%	7.3%	14.3%		14.4%			8.3%		10
2025	4.1%	4.3%	6.6%	7.4%	6.8%		12.5%	10.9%	21.5%	11.8%		15.6%			3.0%	4.8%	2.9%	13
2026	14.7%	3.0%		7.5%		35.0%	17.7%		7.2%		11.2%		3.0%	14.6%	30.3%	3.0%		11
Total Filings	5	7	5	13	4	5	4	3	5	4	4	2	3	4	6	9	9	92

VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Retail Electricity Prices
Vermont vs New England
2001-2026 (through May 1,2026)



Current and Future Drivers

- Natural Gas/Fossil Fuel
- Transmission
- Weather-Related/Major Storms/Polar Vortex

Current	Future
↑	?
↑	↑
↑	↑

Reliability / Changing Weather

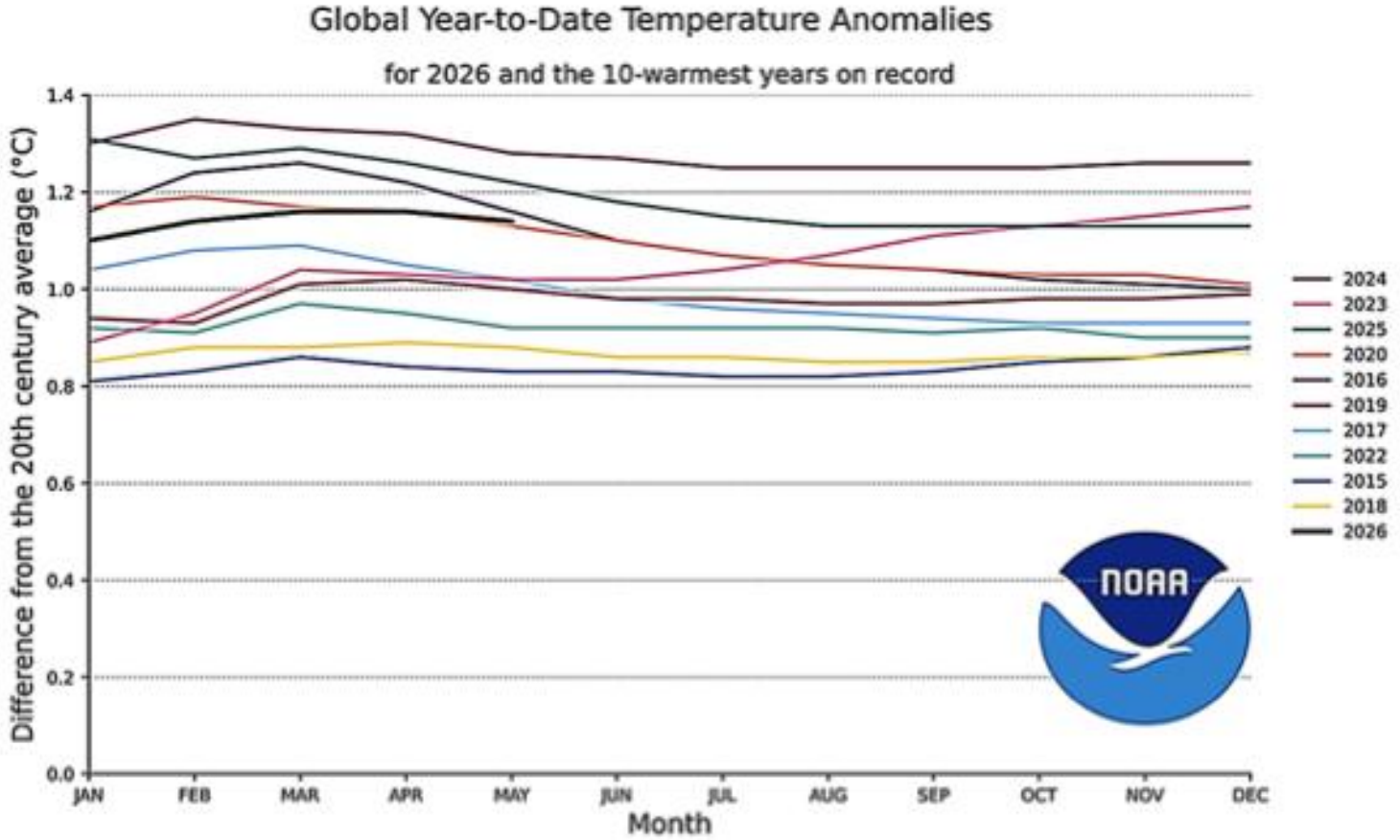
Adaptation

We need to be adapt.

Sunny Wescott, **Chief Meteorologist** for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

Low and Behold: Barometric Extremes Amplifying Weather Hazards Impacts to Sites, Staff, Security, and Supply Chain

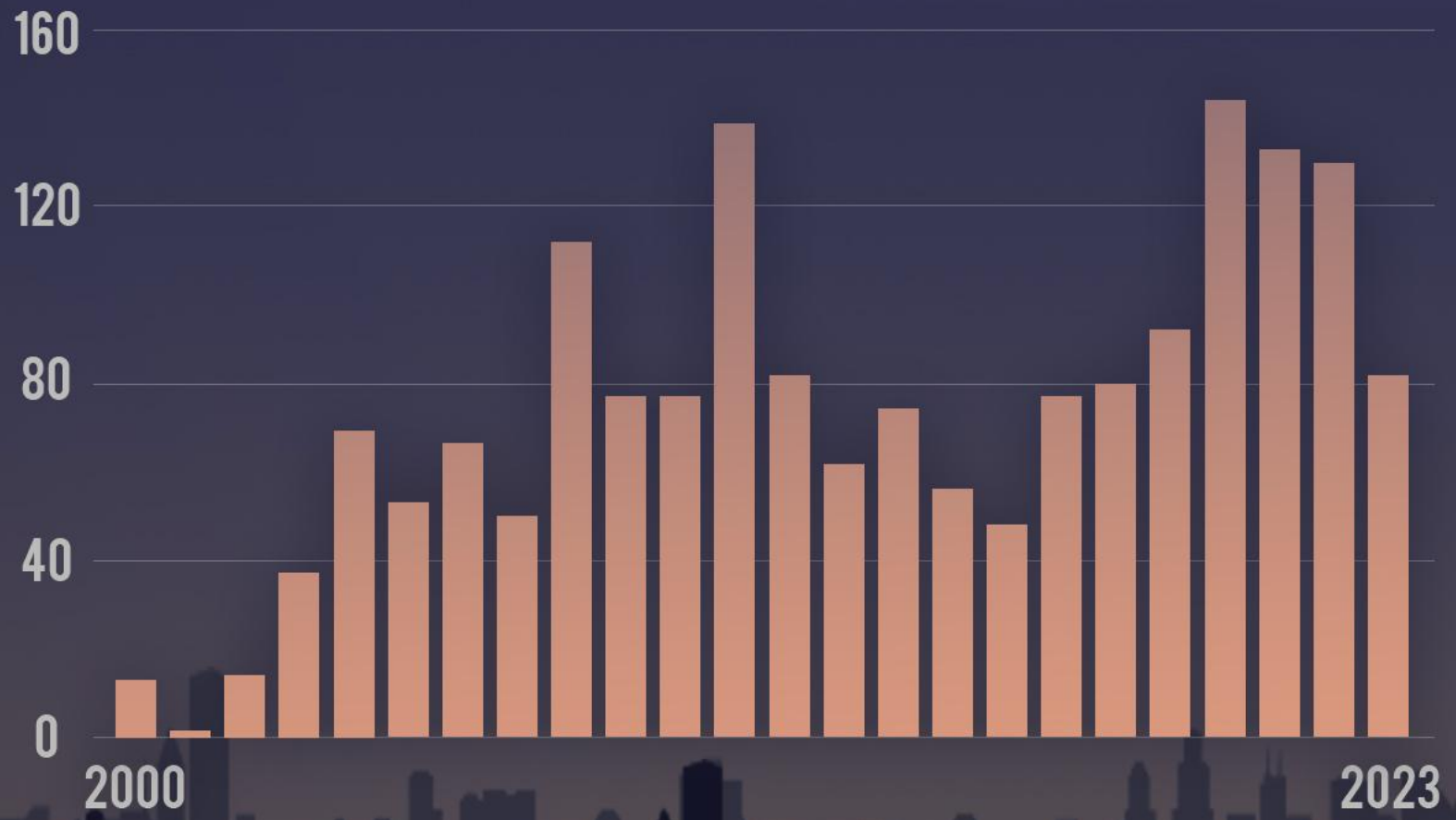
*"The 10 warmest years in the 143-year record have all occurred **since 2015**. The 2024 January–December 2024 global surface temperature ranked warmest in the 175-year record at 1.29°C (2.32°F) above the 20th century average" (NOAA).*



Chief Meteorologist Ms. Sunny Wescott
Critical Infrastructure and Emergency Response Operations

WEATHER-RELATED

MAJOR U.S. POWER OUTAGES



Annual number of weather-related major power outages.
Number of outages affecting more than 50k customers or service of 300 megawatts
Source: US Department of Energy Form OE-417

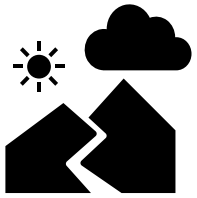
CLIMATE CENTRAL

ChatGPT Image

Severe Weather

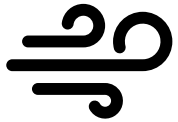
US

- Wildfires
- Hail (frequency/ size)
- Tornado Activity
- Drought
- Seismic Activity



New England

- High Winds
- Wet Snow and Icing.
- Polar Vortex
- Severe Thunderstorms/Flooding



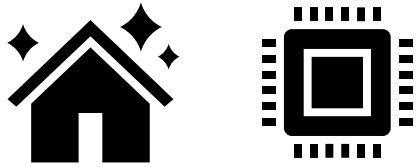
What are the pathways forward?

Promising Pathways

System Hardening

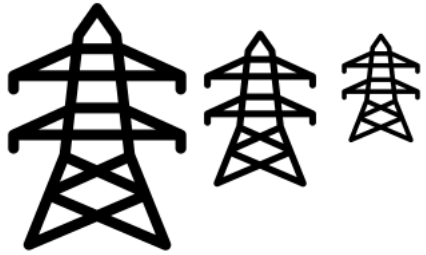
...invest deliberately, ... make steady progress

Smart and Distributed



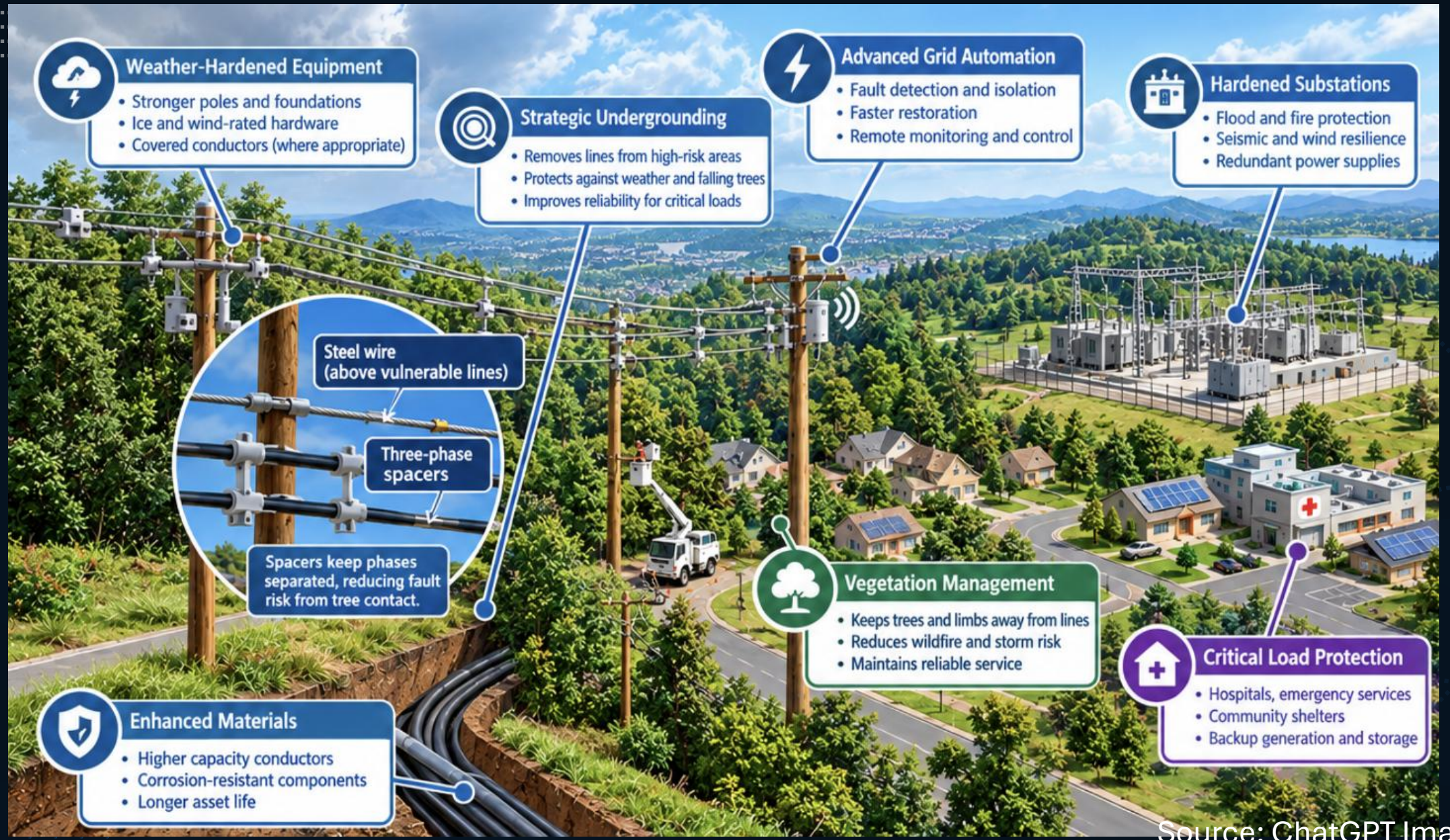
... value needs to be both customer-facing and grid facing

Improve connectivity

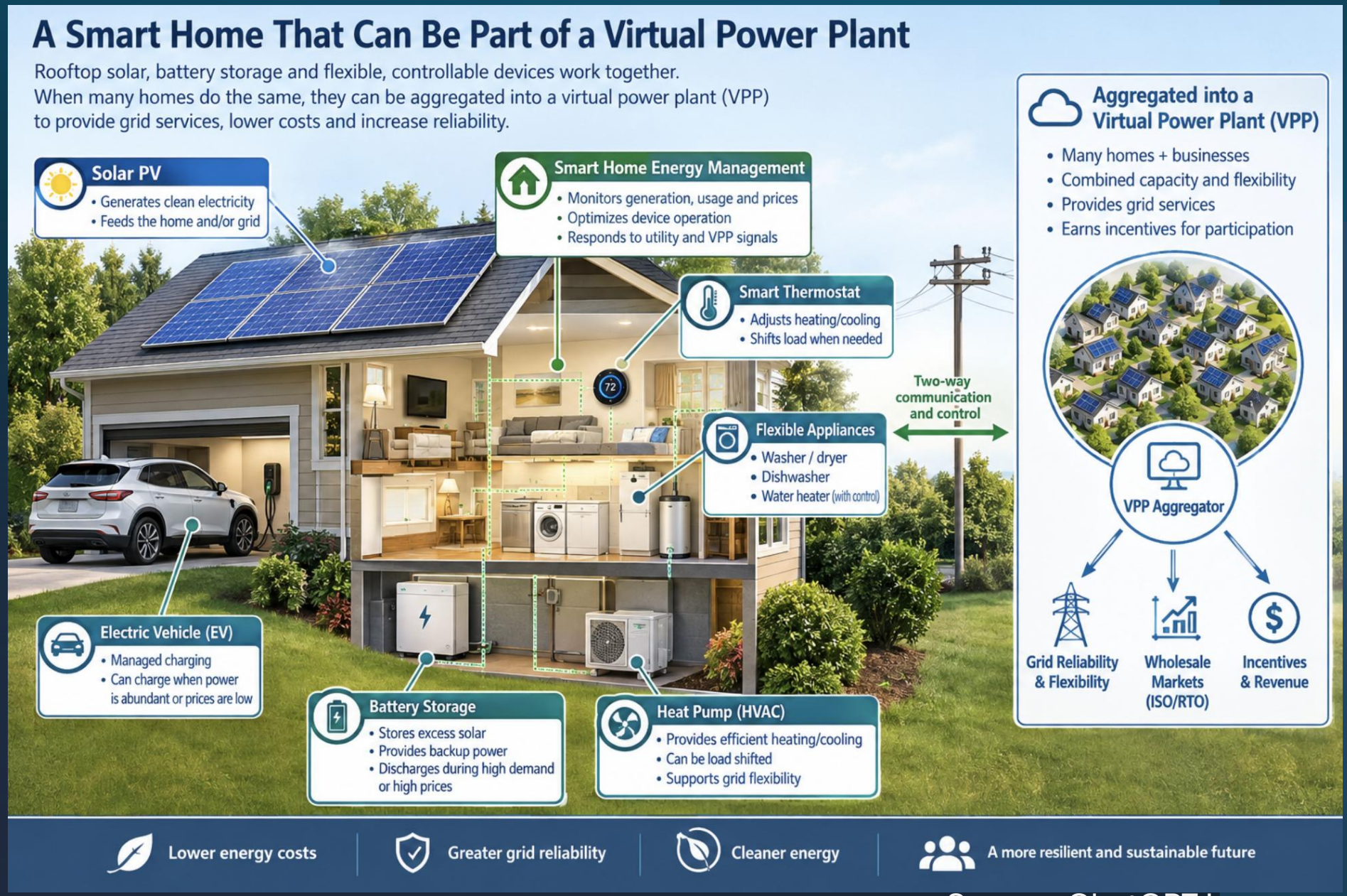


... interregional, interconnection and comprehensive long-term planning

GRID HARDENING SOLUTIONS



Source: ChatGPT Image



Source: ChatGPT Image

Well-formed long-range regional and interregional transmission

- The New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) transmission line consists of a new 145-mile-high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line from the Quebec-Maine border to the Merrill Road converter substation began service on January 16, 2026

- Source: Avantgrid.com
- https://www.avangrid.com/w/avangrid-s-new-england-clean-energy-connect-project-is-complete-and-energized

1,200 MW of low-cost, baseload power is now connected to New England

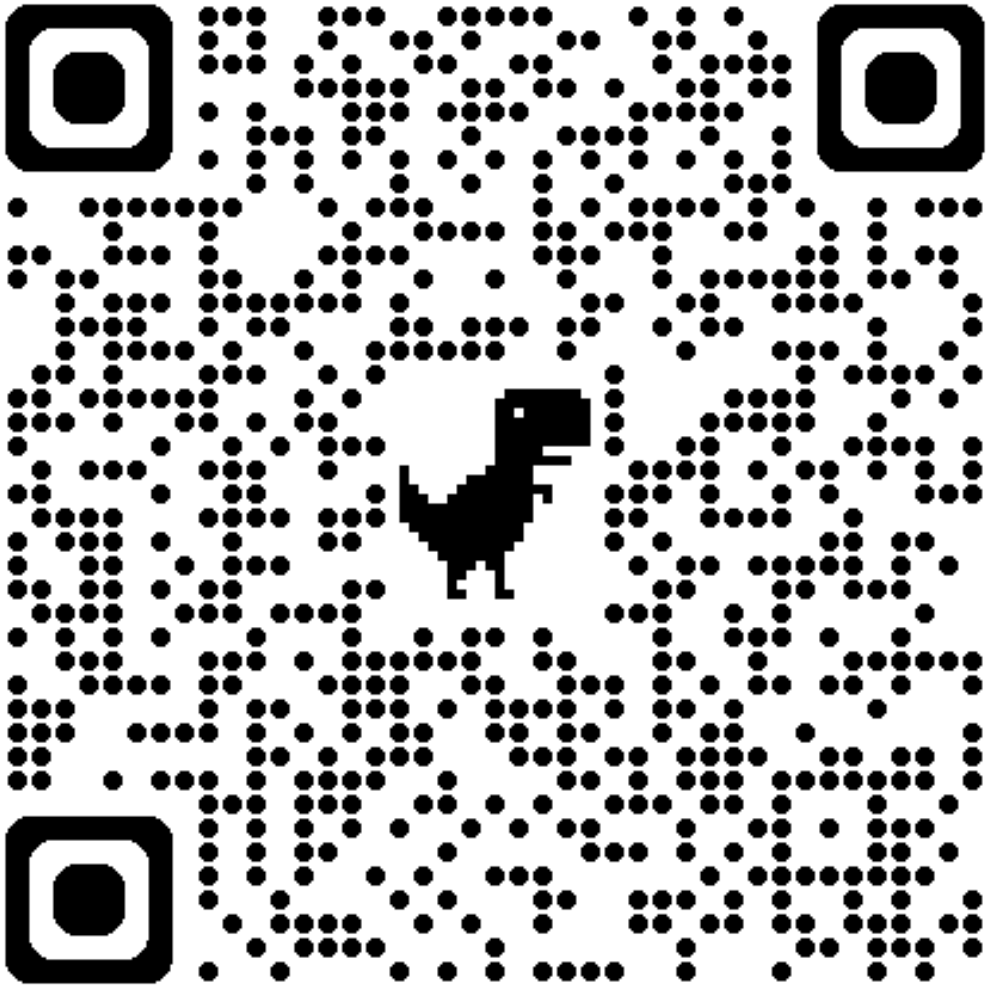
Put another way…

- We need to **strategically harden** our distribution (and Tx) networks.
- We need to foster more **system–focused** intelligent loads and DERs.
- We need to be **better connected** neighboring regions and within region.

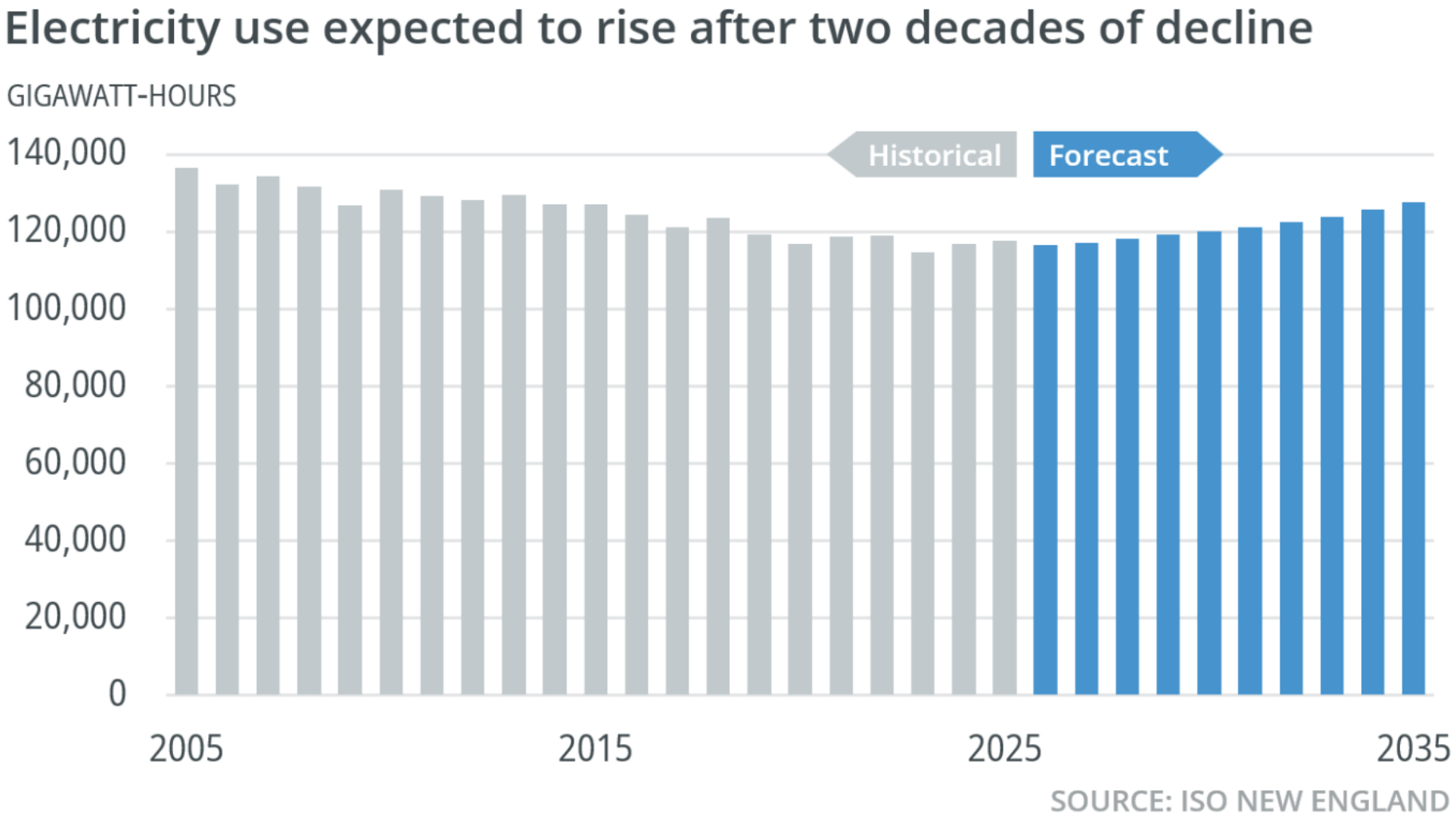
Enabling regulatory imperatives include encouraging…

1. **Better Planning** -- Better and more holistic long-term planning (e.g., Tx plans, IRPs with better distribution system plans)
   - Better metrics, and expectations of success based on planned outcomes.
2. **Better Analytics** -- New and better frameworks for understanding the economic case for these investments (B/C analysis with compelling values)
3. **Well-formed visibility and incentives** -- Improve the visibility and send appropriate price and market signals to retail customers, developers and aggregators (and anyone that can provide system support).

Submit a Question:

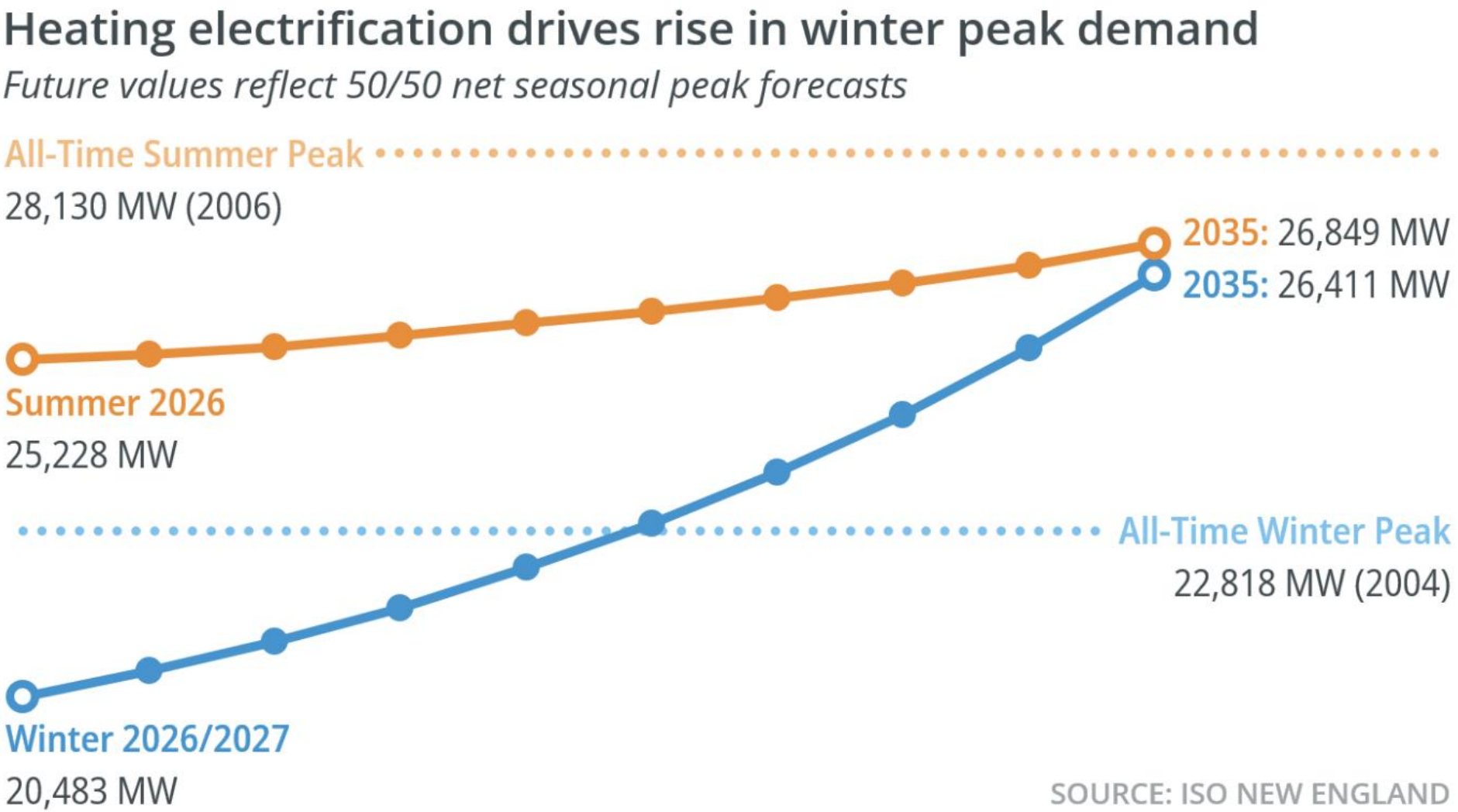


bit.ly/REV2026Questions



Electric vehicles are expected to increase energy use by 7,074 GWh in 2035, while heating electrification increases use by 7,165 GWh that year.

Source: ISO-NE; https://isonewswire.com/2026/05/01/iso-ne-forecast-shows-steady-increase-in-regional-electricity-use-through-2035/



Source: ISO-NE; https://isonewswire.com/2026/05/01/iso-ne-forecast-shows-steady-increase-in-regional-electricity-use-through-2035/

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