

Getting it Done: How Can Better Planning Deliver the Grid We Need

New England Clean Energy Transmission Summit

January 23, 2012

Cynthia Arcate

President & CEO

PowerOptions, Inc.



Leveraging the power of non-profits

What Is PowerOptions?

- A nonprofit energy purchasing consortium formed in 1996 for all nonprofits, cities/towns and state governmental entities in Massachusetts. Currently over 500 members.
- Nonprofits join PowerOptions as members and receive access to pre-negotiated electricity, natural gas and demand response contracts.
- Total annual electric and gas commodity sales of \$160-200M
- 220 MW load and 1 billion kWhs of electricity
- 12 million dekatherms of natural gas
- Funded through nominal membership fees and supplier administrative fees

Perspective: A wholesale market that results in reliable supply at stable, predictable and reasonable cost

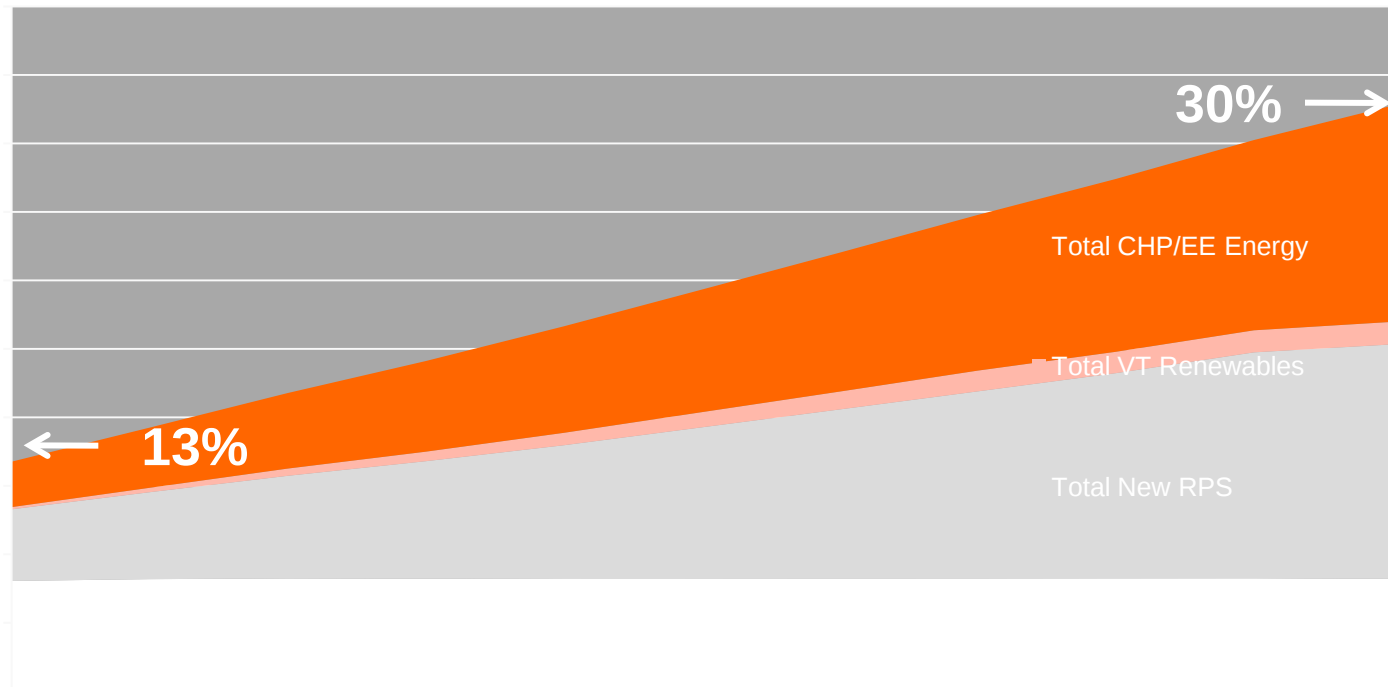
- Recognition of state mandates
- Escalating transmission rates
- Potential impacts of generation retirements
- Preservation of competition (FCM redesign)

Better Planning Means Different Planning

- Legacy system designed for a pre-restructuring regime
- State mandates outside scope of regional planning process
- Large scale renewables treated like any other generation
- Impacts of small scale renewables dealt with incrementally at distribution level
- No effort to target alternatives to avoid infrastructure upgrades
- Result: need to change planning process and market rules

ISO Projection of New England's Renewable Portfolio Standards and Targets for Energy Efficiency to 2020

Total RPS/Renewable/EE/CHP Energy Targets By Type

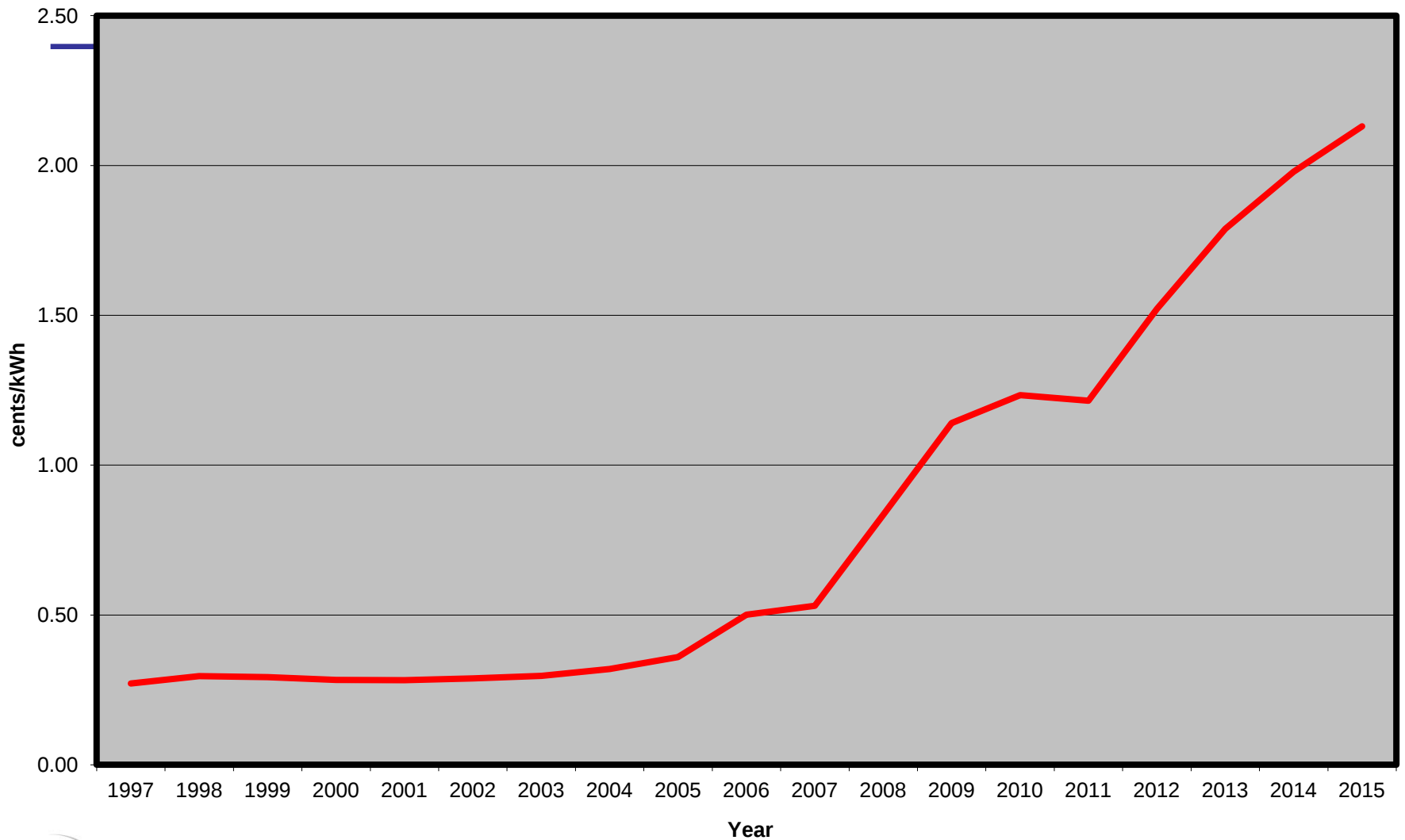


- RPS energy and energy efficiency as a percent of total electric energy

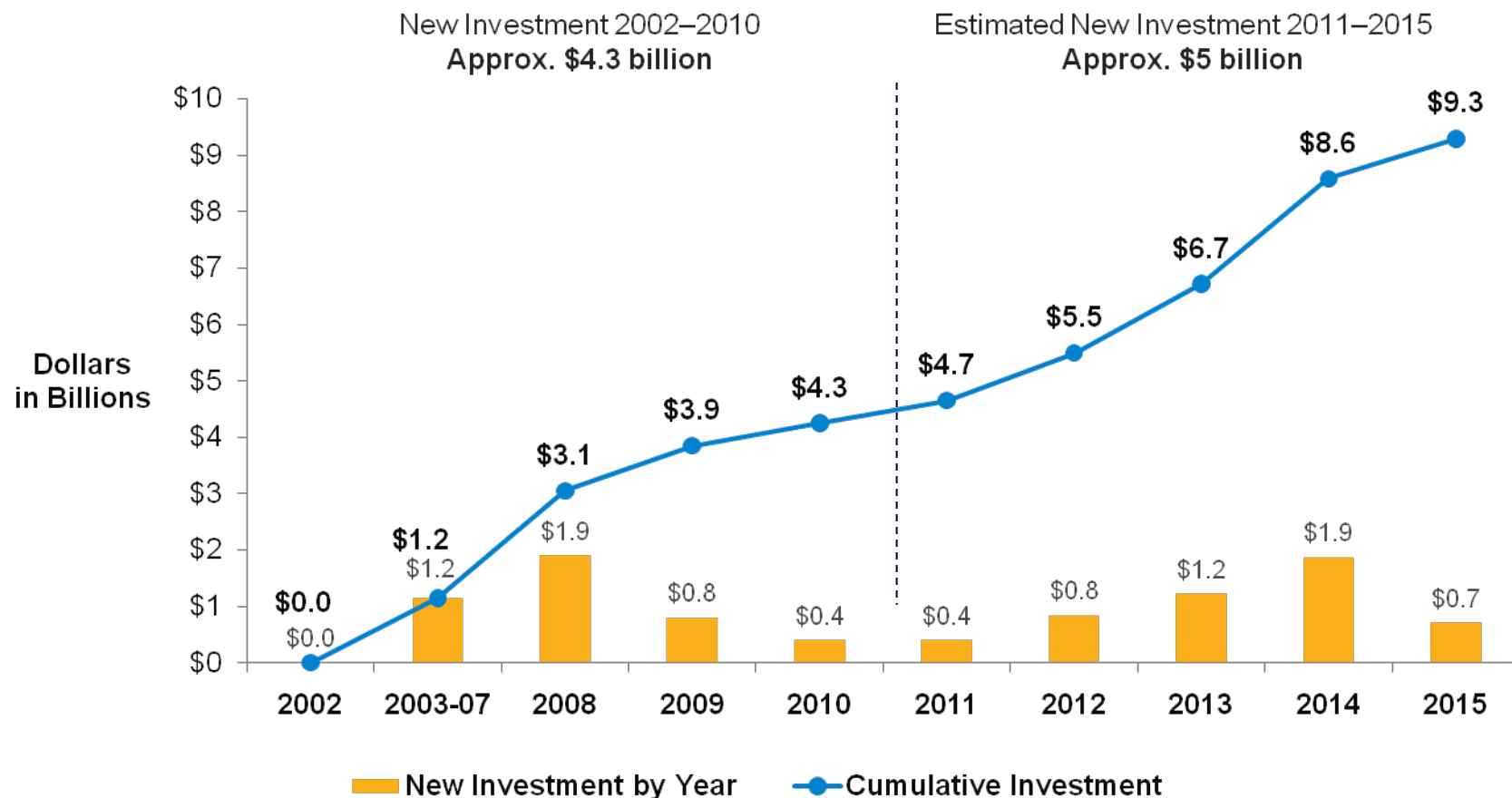
Transmission No Longer Small Portion of Total Bill

- Regional Network Service rate has doubled and will double again
- Planning process does not allow enough time for meaningful consideration of non-transmission alternatives
- Revisit planning assumptions?
- Are infrastructure upgrades really needed?

New England Transmission Rate @ 60% Load Factor



Transmission Investment in New England



How to Reduce Cost Impact to Consumers

- **Reduce ROE to transmission companies to current market conditions**
- **Eliminate unneeded incentives**
- **Target energy efficiency and distributed generation to eliminate or defer infrastructure upgrades**
- **Guard against merchant generation proposals than are disguised as needed transmission**