

WESTERN ENERGY MARKETS

Q1 2026 Report on Market Issues and Performance

Ryan Kurlinski

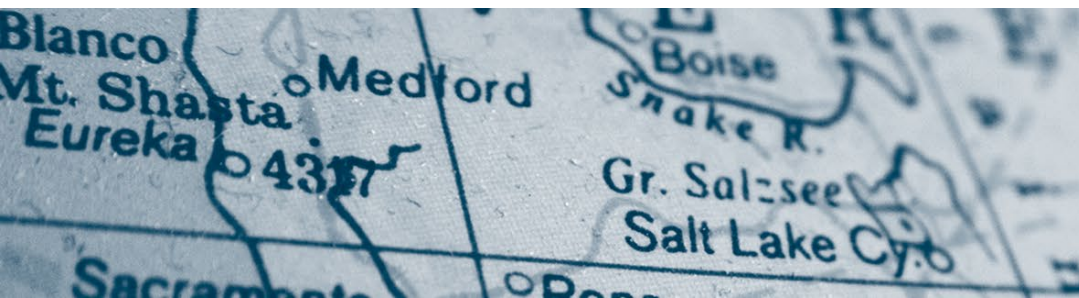
Senior Manager, Monitoring and Reporting

Department of Market Monitoring

September 17, 2026

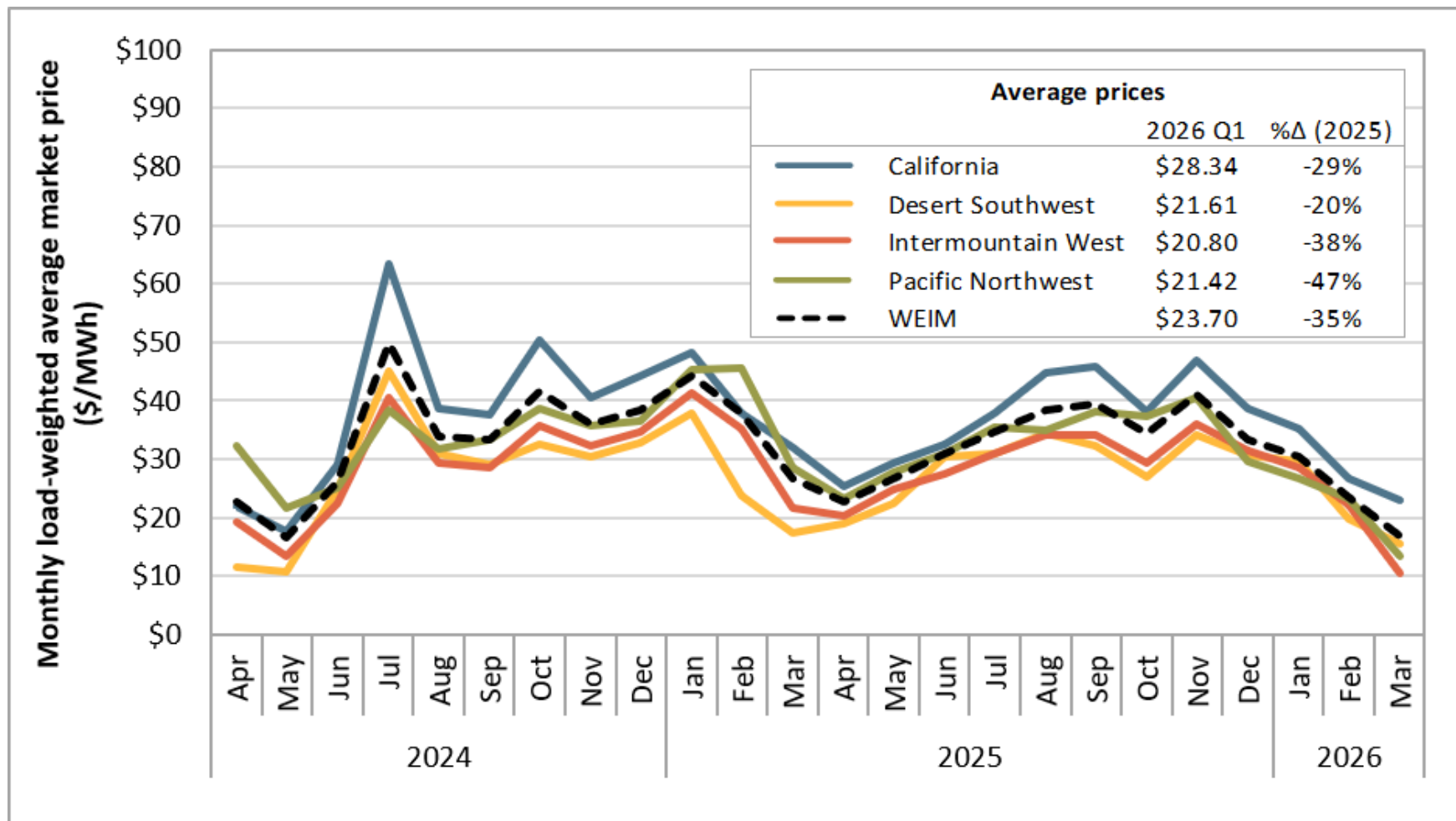
ISO Public

<https://www.caiso.com/documents/2026-first-quarter-report-on-market-issues-and-performance.pdf>



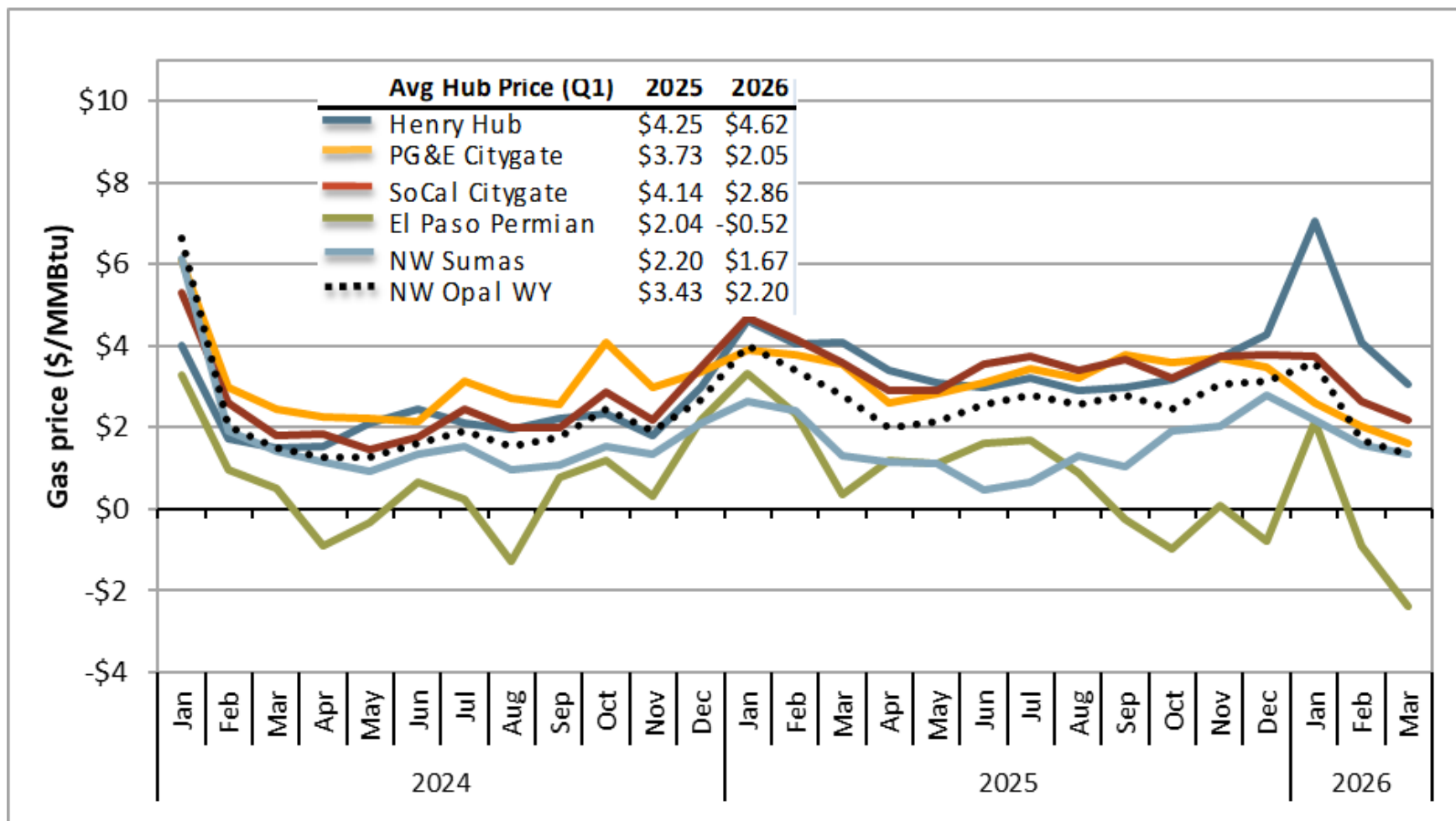
Electricity prices in West down 35% compared to Q1 2025

Weighted average monthly 15-minute market prices by region



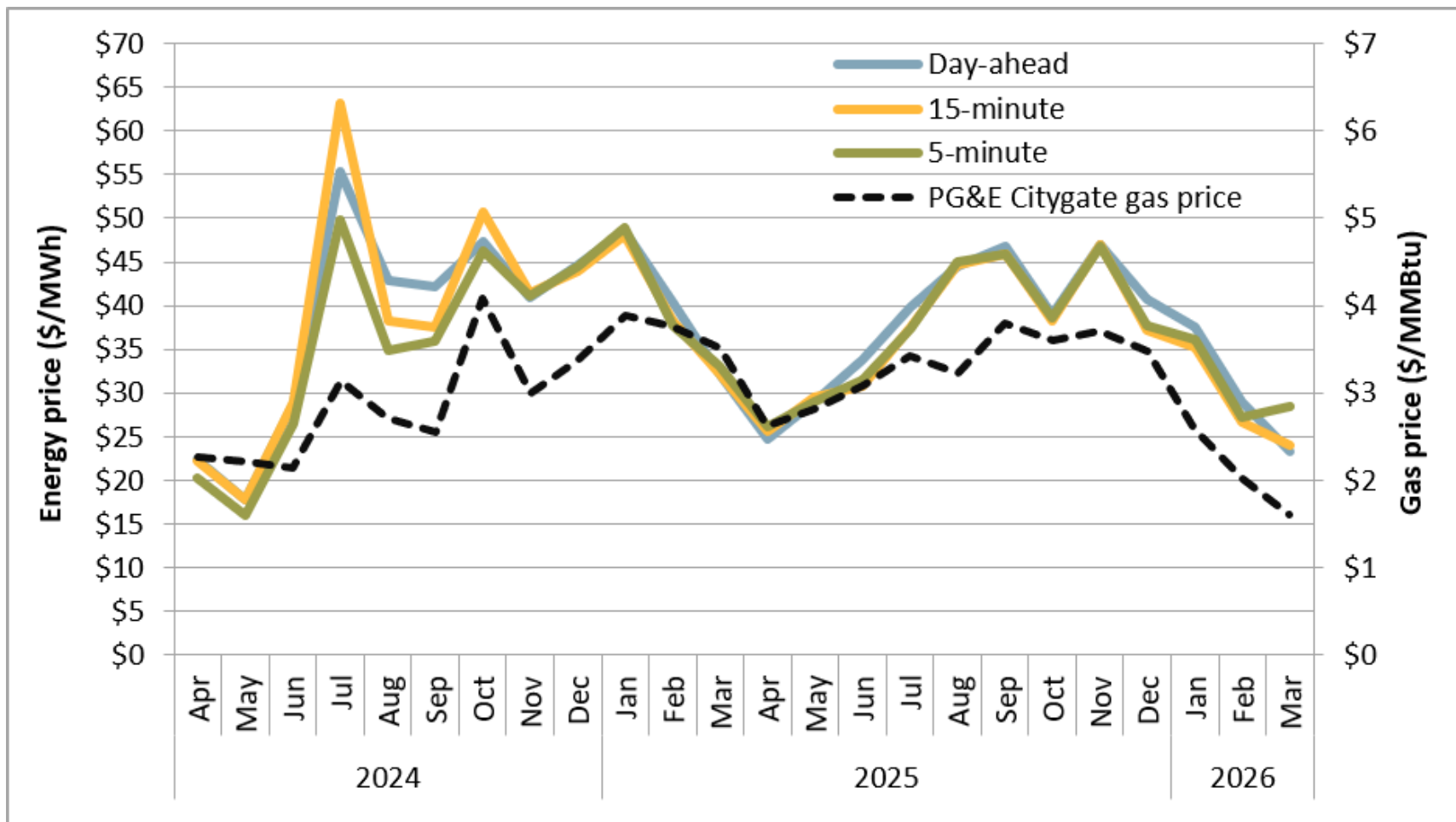
Gas prices down significantly at Western hubs compared to Q1 2025

Average monthly natural gas prices by hub



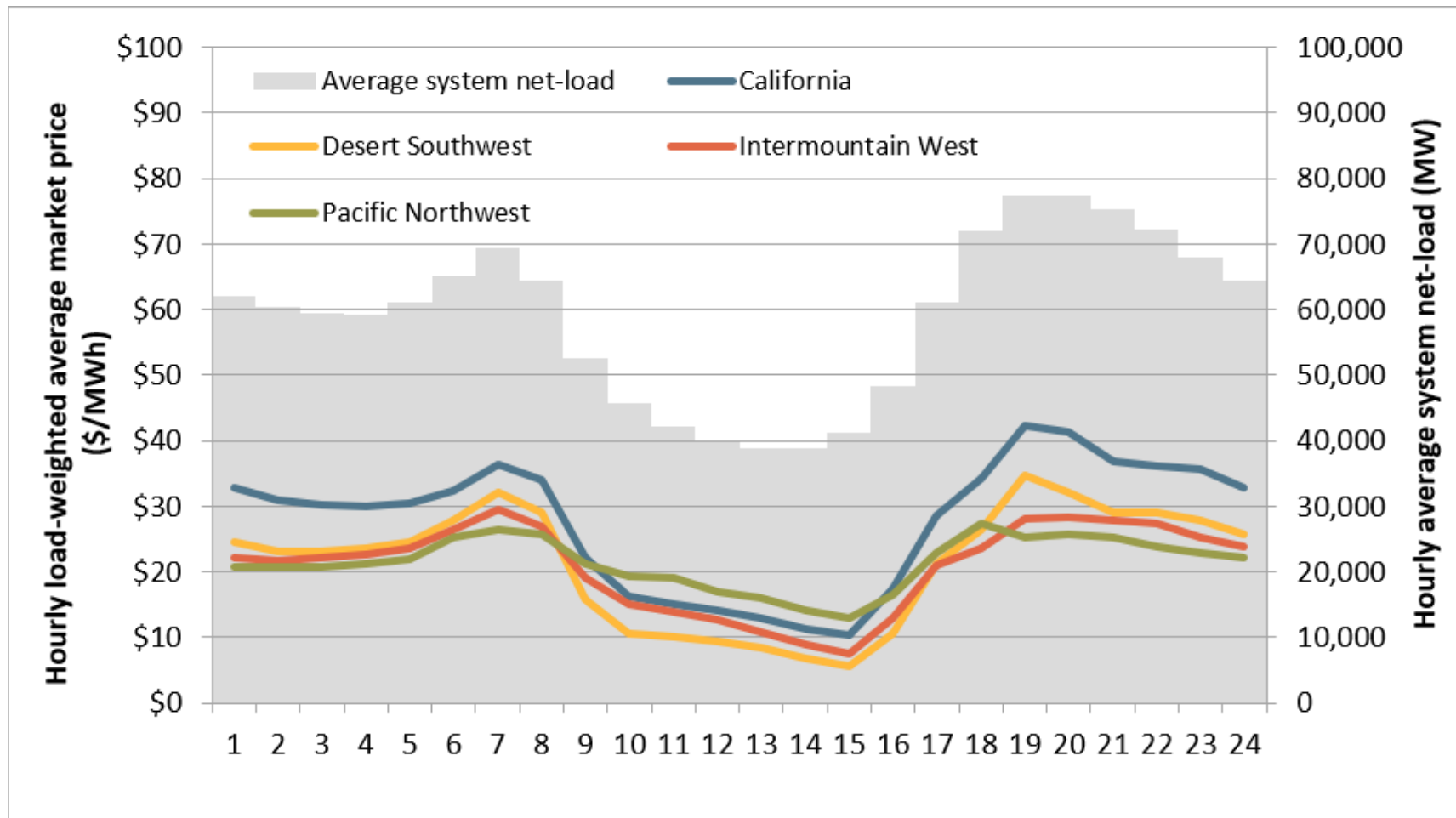
Continued correlation between natural gas prices and electricity prices

Monthly average PG&E Citygate gas price and load-weighted average electricity prices for balancing areas in day-ahead market



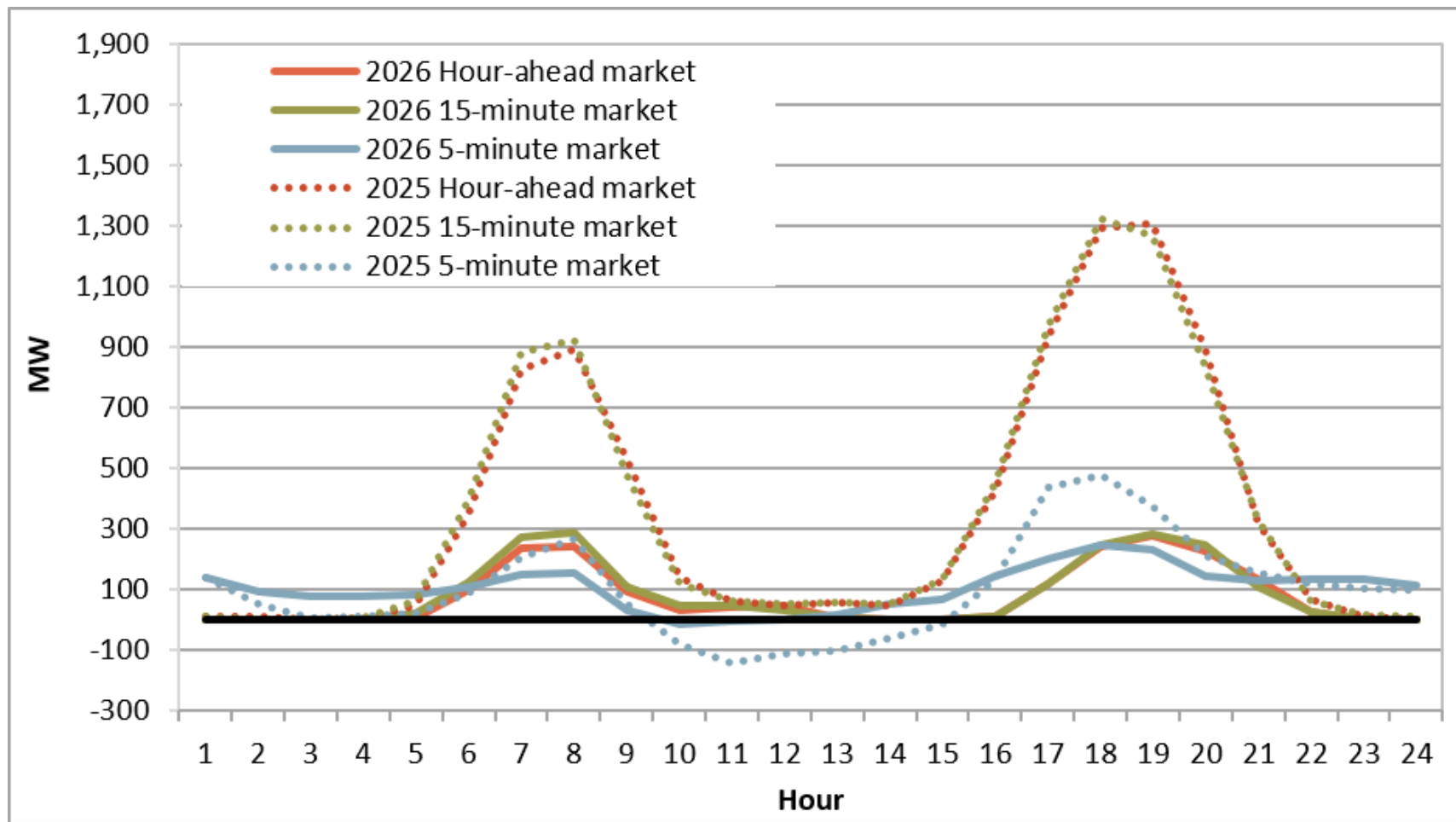
Higher prices in California for non-solar hours, Northwest for solar hours

Weighted average hourly 15-minute market prices by region (January – March 2026)



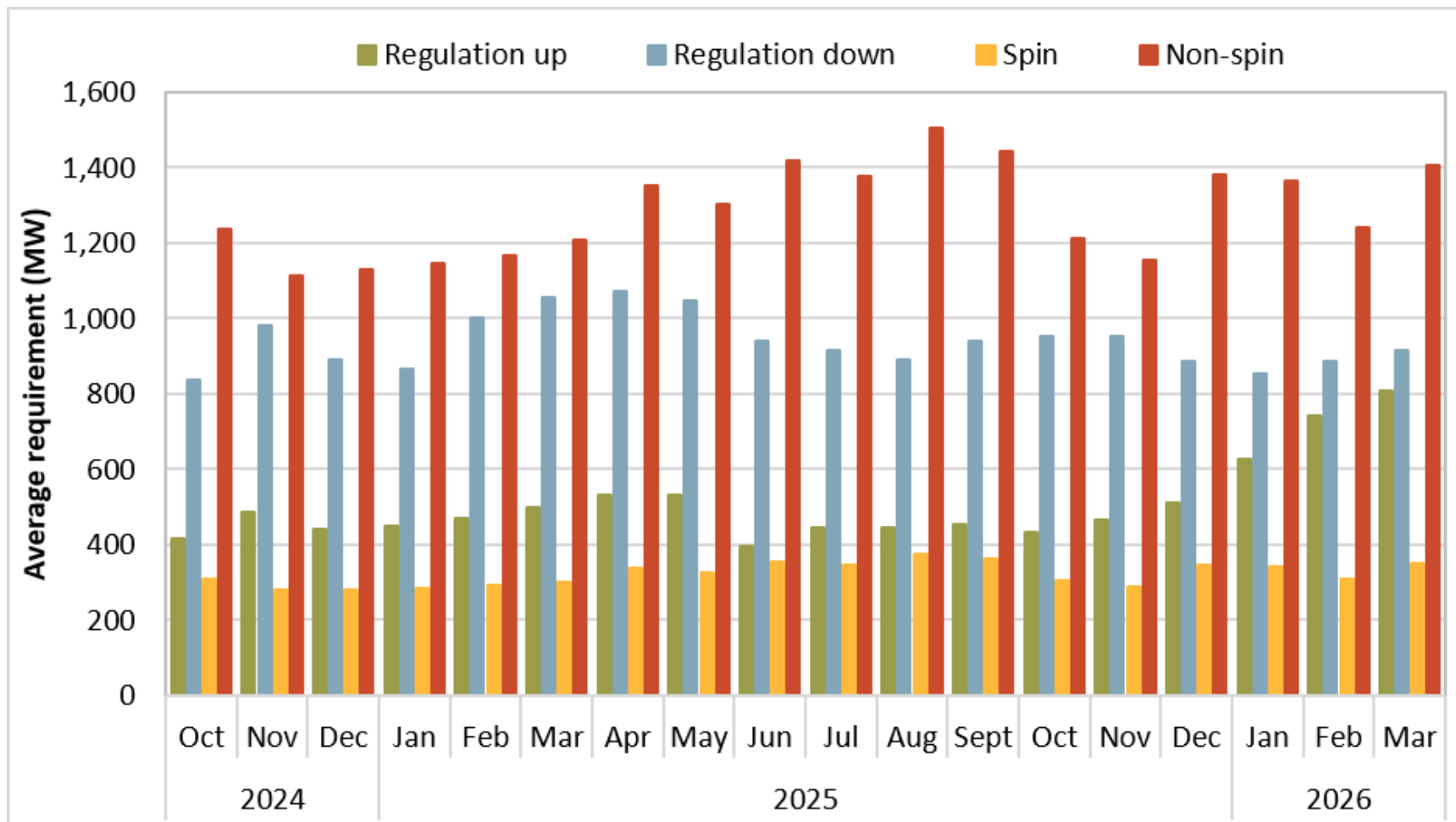
Large decrease in FMM load bias in CAISO BA over net load peak

Average CAISO balancing area hourly imbalance conformance adjustment
(Q1 2025 and Q1 2026)



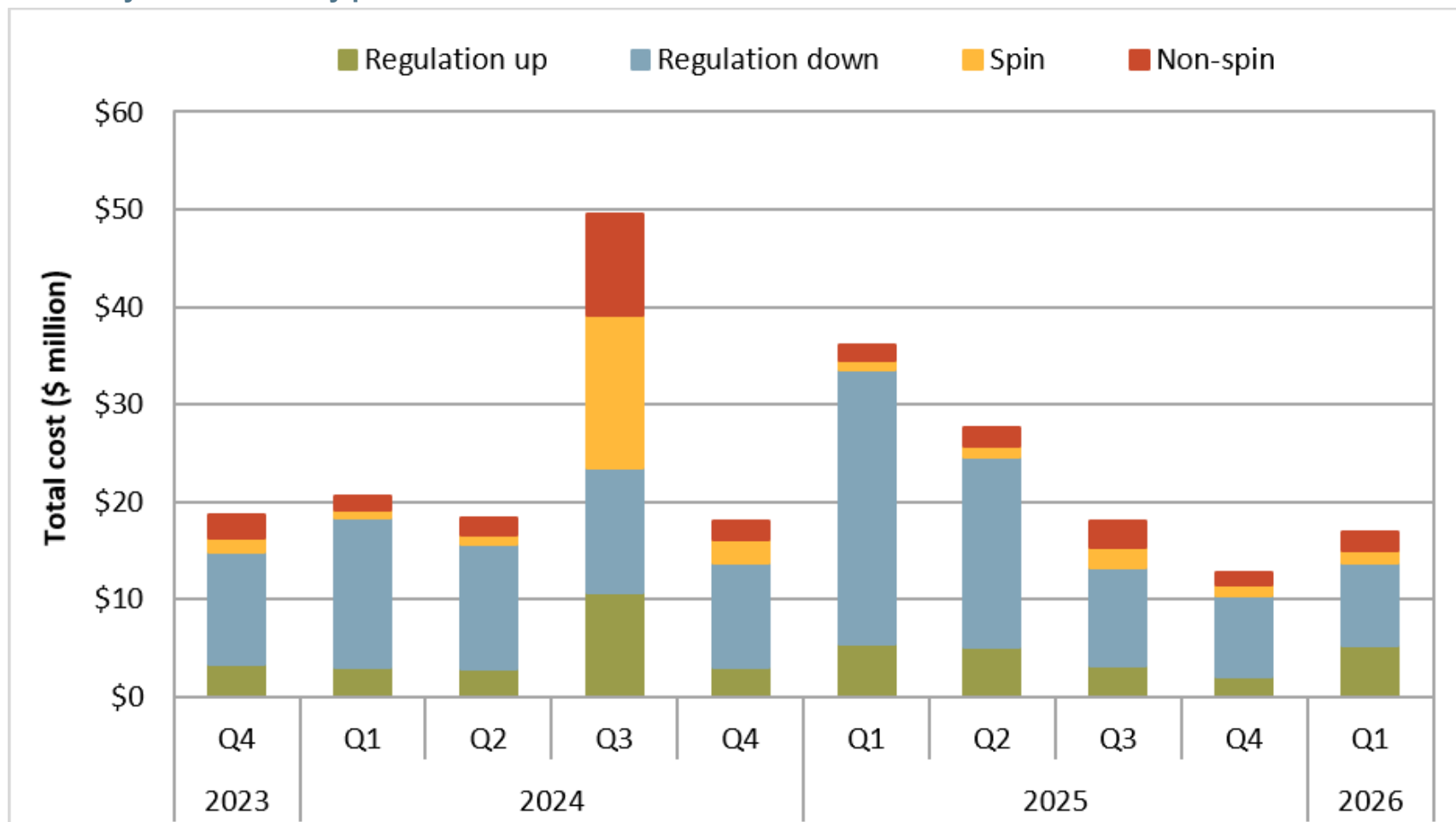
Increased regulation up requirements offsets decreased load bias

Average monthly day-ahead ancillary service requirements



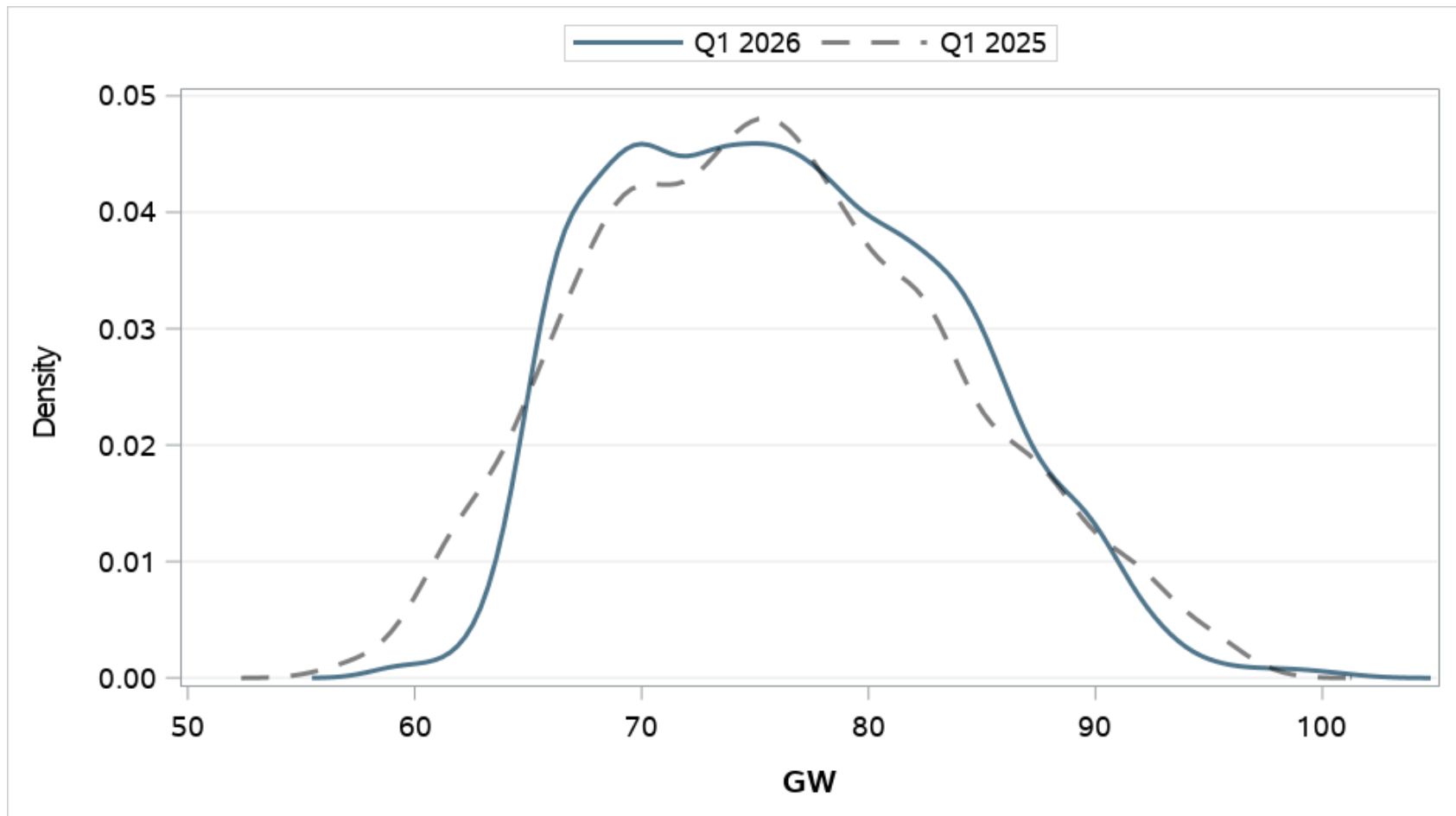
Regulation up costs steady as increased requirements offset lower natural gas prices

Ancillary service cost by product



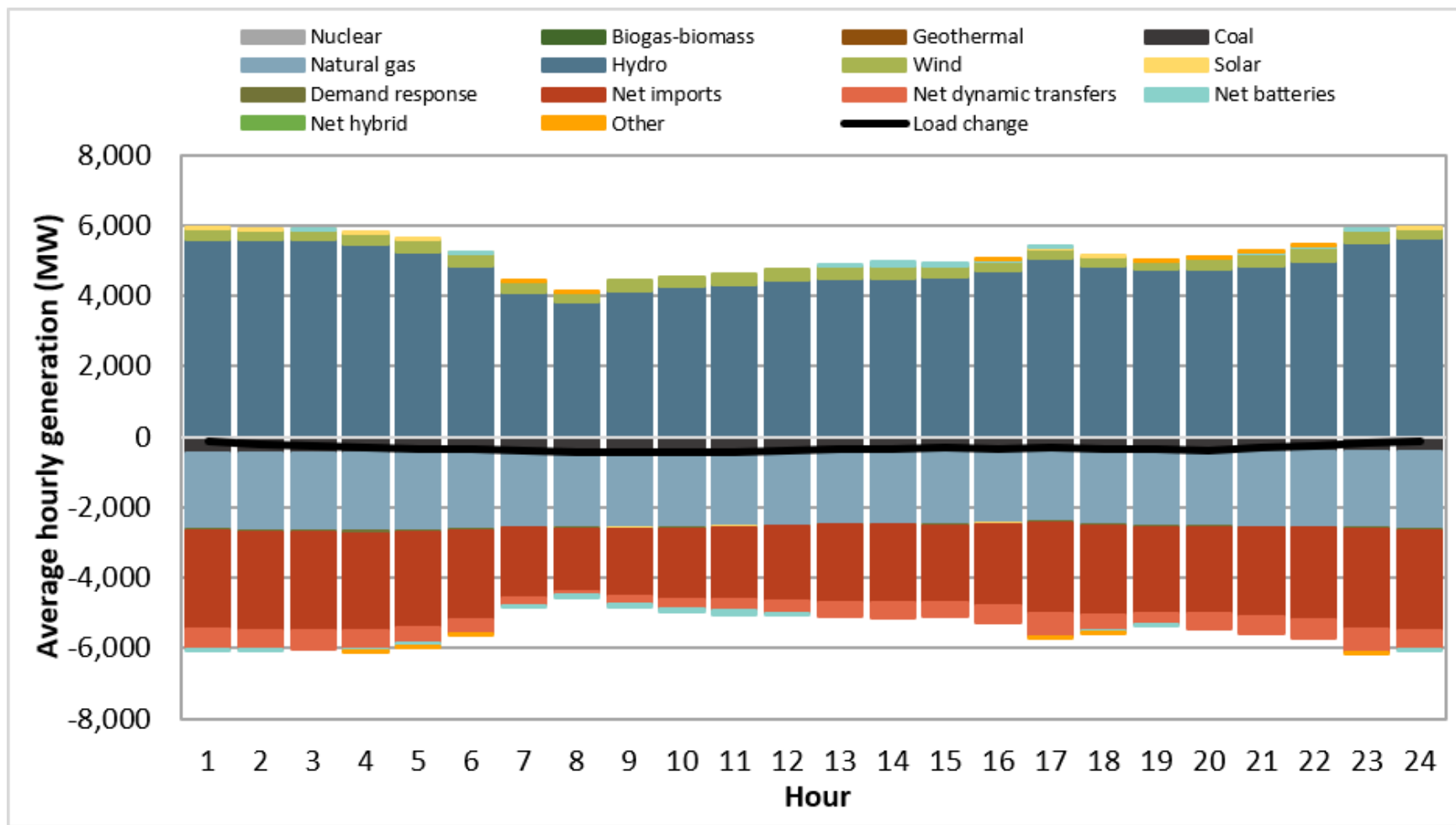
Similar load distributions in Q1 2026 and Q1 2025

Quarterly 5-minute market system load distribution



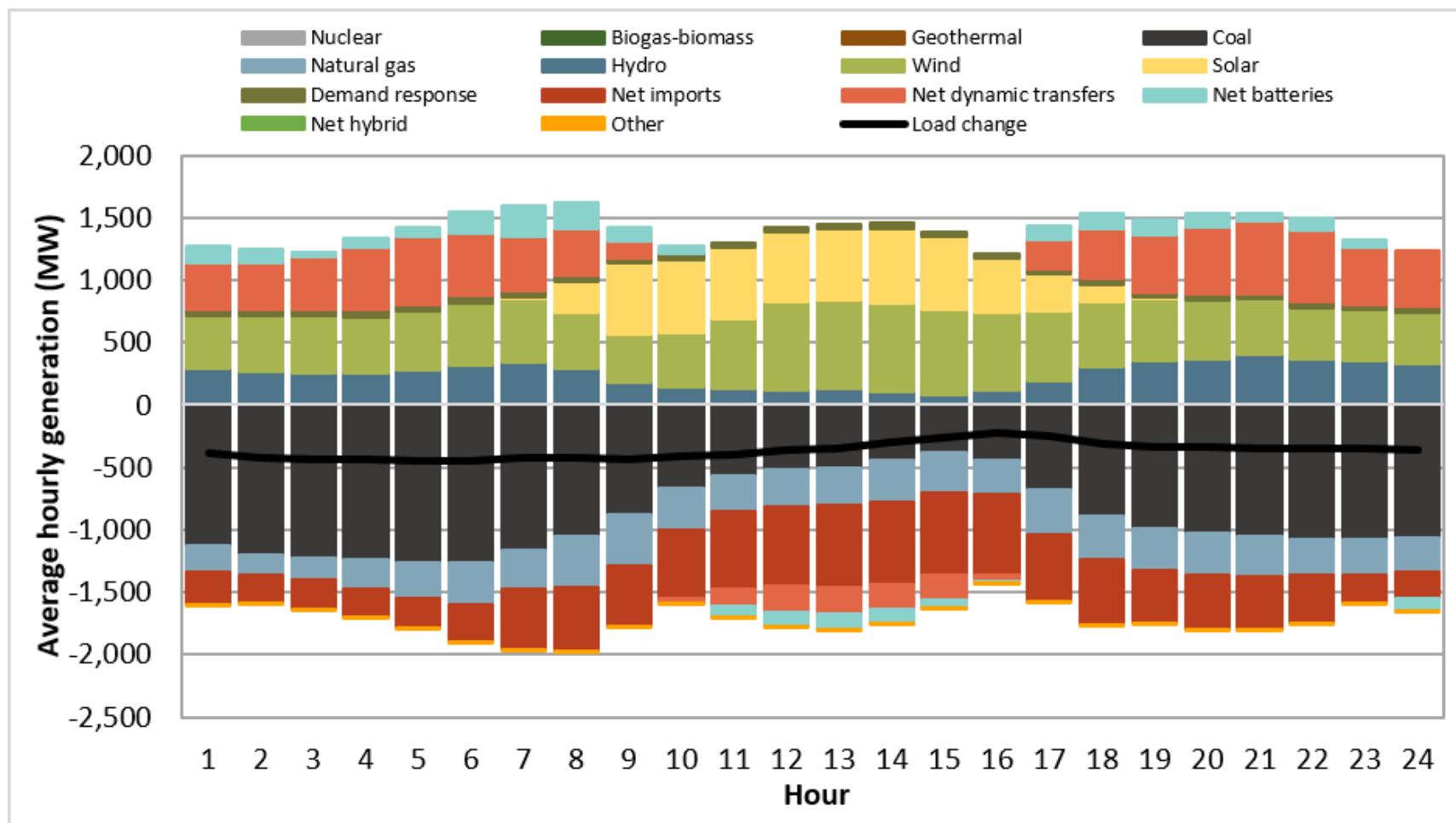
Change in average hourly generation by fuel type in the Pacific Northwest region

Q1 2026 vs. Q1 2025



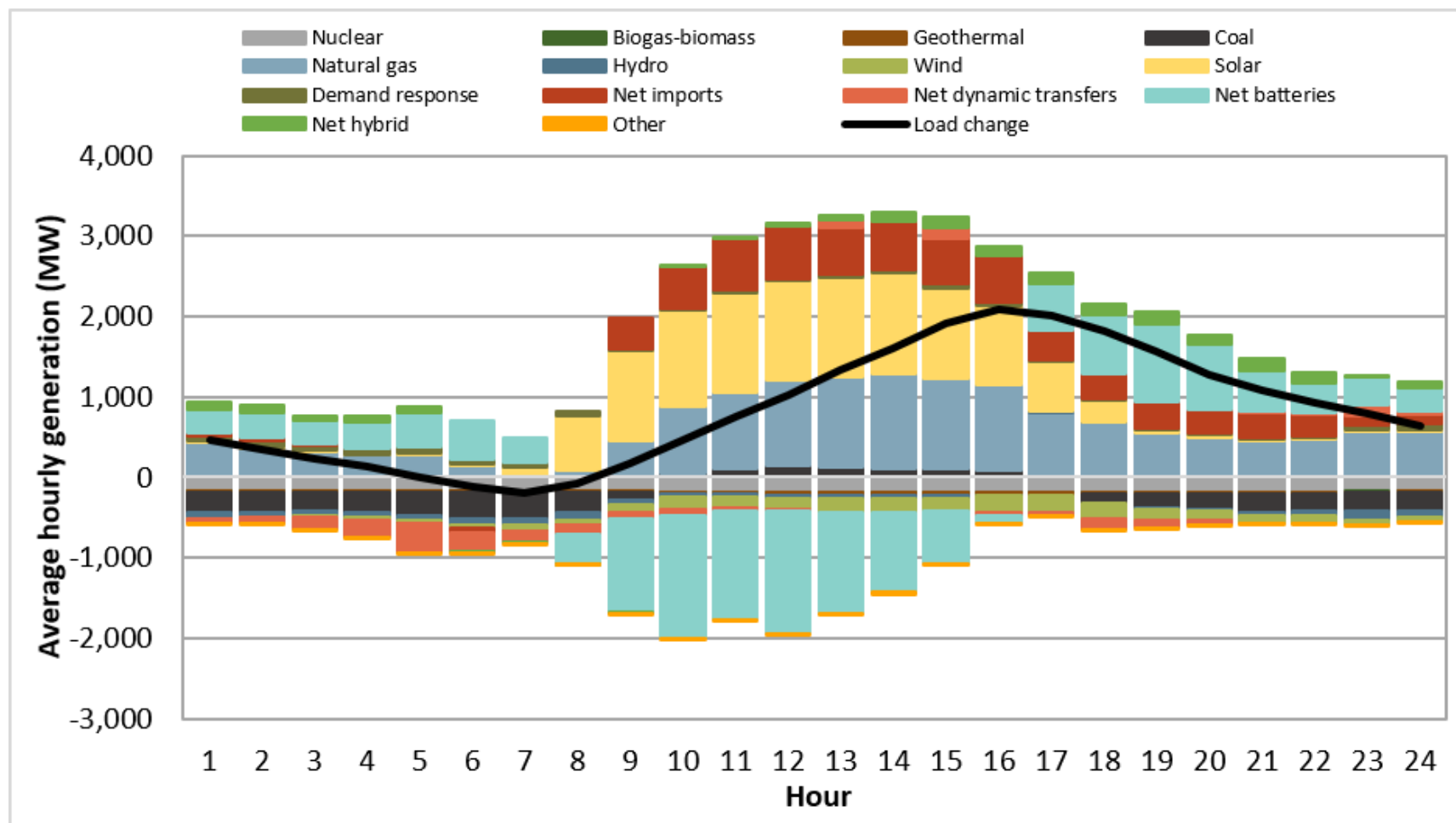
Change in average hourly generation by fuel type in the Intermountain West Region

Q1 2026 vs. Q1 2025



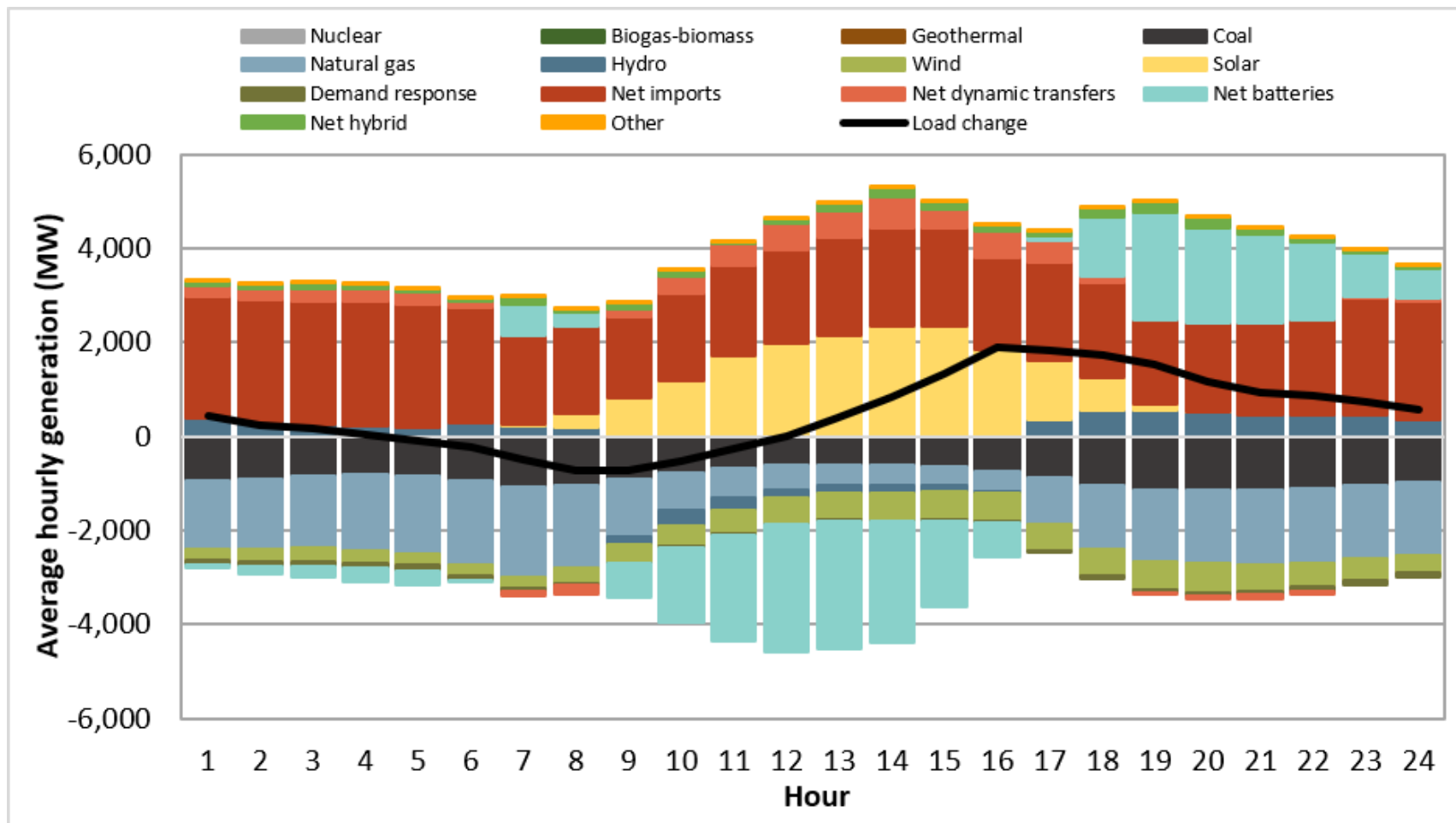
Change in average hourly generation by fuel type in the Desert Southwest Region

Q1 2026 vs. Q1 2025



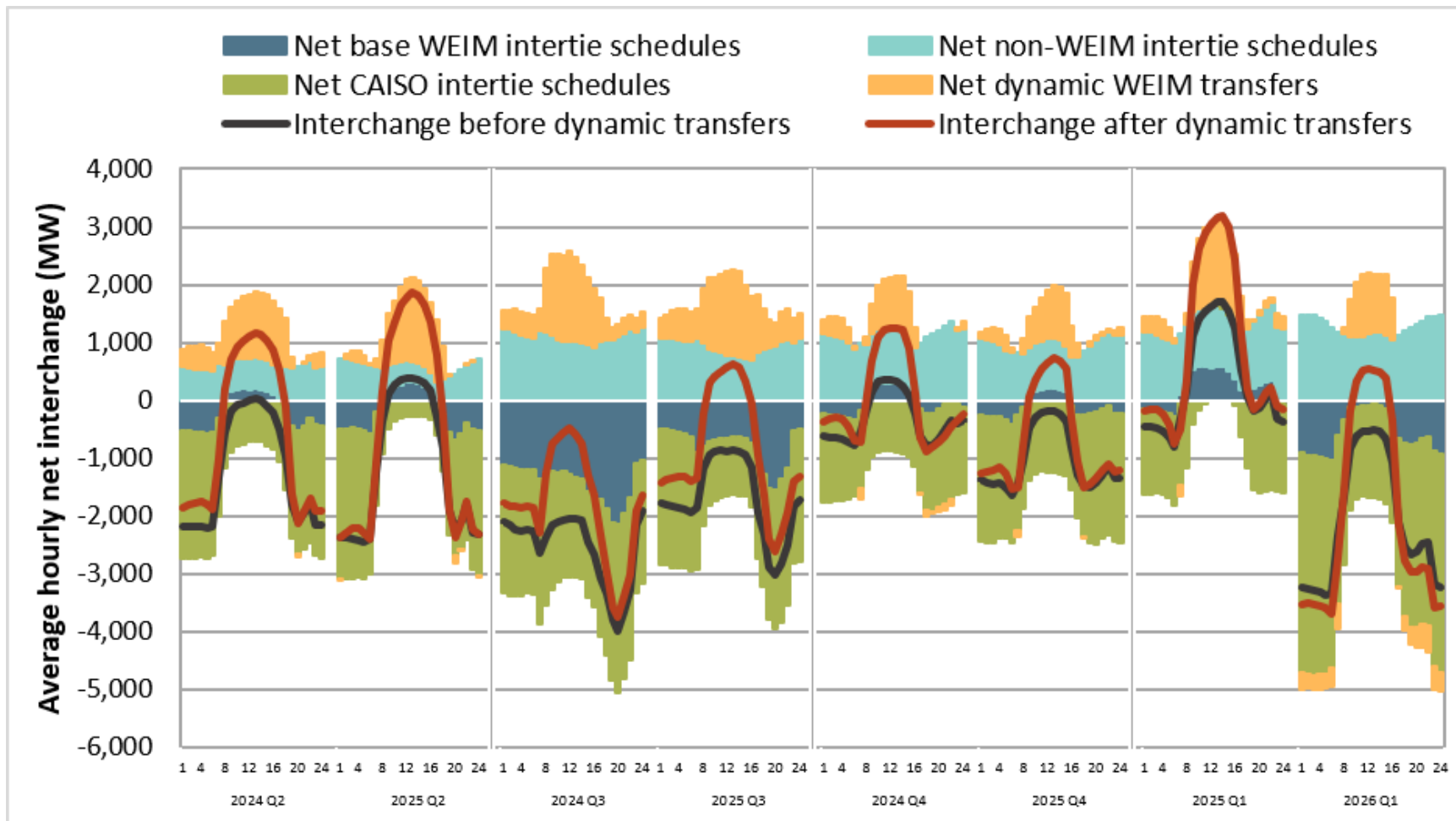
Change in average hourly generation by fuel type in the California Region

Q1 2026 vs. Q1 2025



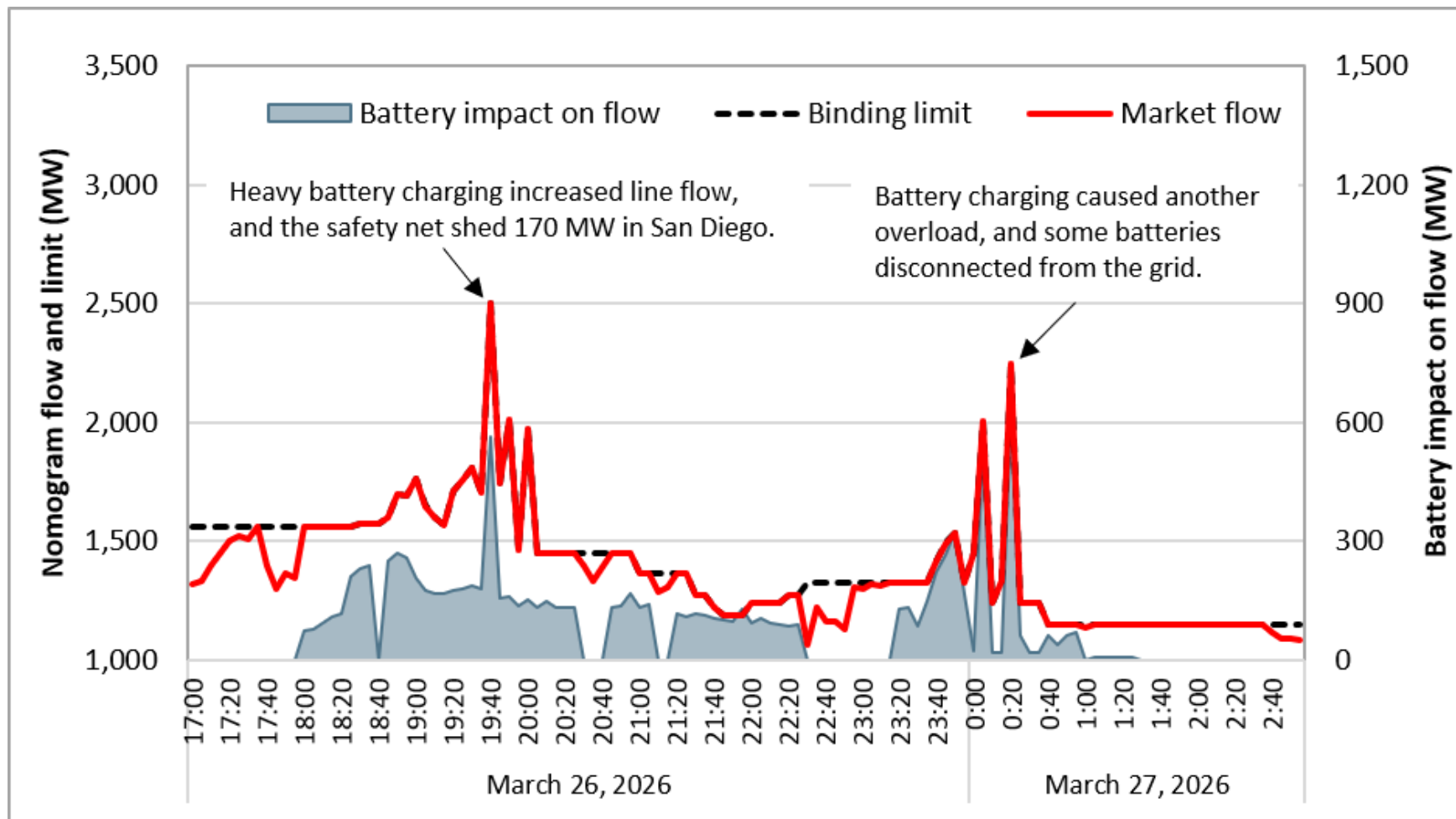
Large increase in net interchange out of PNW across all hours

Pacific Northwest - Average hourly net interchange by quarter



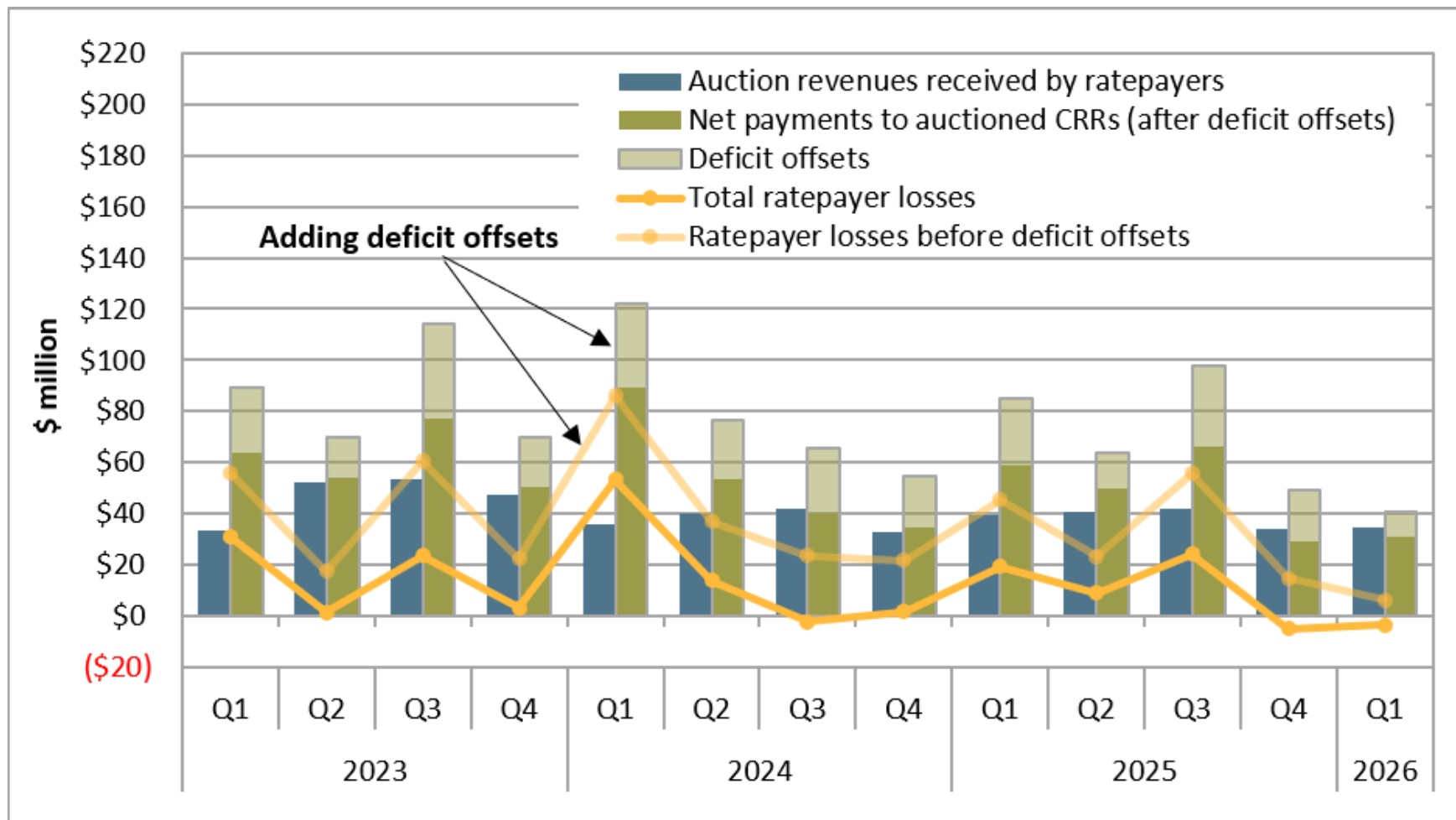
Large swing from batteries discharging to charging contributed to SDG&E load shed on March 26

Transmission overloads on the 7820 CP4 nomogram and storage impact on flow (March 26–27, 2026)



Transmission ratepayers made about \$3.4 million from auctioned CRRs in Q1 2026

Auction revenues and payments to non-load serving entities



Available balancing capacity scheduled in 1% of intervals in NV Energy

Frequency of available balancing capacity offered and scheduled (Q1 2026)

		ABC Up				ABC Down			
		Offered		Scheduled		Offered		Scheduled	
		Percent of hours	Average MW	Percent of intervals (15-min.)	Percent of intervals (5-min.)	Percent of hours	Average MW	Percent of intervals (15-min.)	Percent of intervals (5-min.)
California	BANC	100.0%	85	.0%	.0%	100.0%	111	.0%	.0%
	LADWP	34.0%	50	.0%	.0%	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%
	Turlock Irrigation District	100.0%	14	.0%	.0%	100.0%	5	.0%	.0%
Desert Southwest	Arizona Public Service	100.0%	83	.0%	.0%	100.0%	82	.0%	.0%
	El Paso Electric	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%
	NV Energy	99.0%	70	1.0%	1.0%	85.0%	66	1.0%	1.0%
	PSC New Mexico	.0%	50	.0%	.0%	31.0%	48	.0%	.0%
	Salt River Project	100.0%	99	.0%	.0%	88.0%	49	.0%	.0%
	Tucson Electric	100.0%	29	.0%	.0%	100.0%	30	.0%	.0%
	WAPA - Desert Southwest	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%
Intermountain West	Avista Utilities	100.0%	10	.0%	.0%	100.0%	10	.0%	.0%
	Idaho Power	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%
	NorthWestern Energy	100.0%	5	.0%	.0%	100.0%	5	.0%	.0%
	PacifiCorp East	98.0%	82	.0%	.0%	100.0%	177	.0%	.0%
Pacific Northwest	Avangrid	100.0%	42	.0%	.0%	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%
	Powerex	100.0%	1,068	.0%	.0%	100.0%	600	.0%	.0%
	Bonneville Power Admin.	100.0%	325	.0%	.0%	100.0%	332	.0%	.0%
	PacifiCorp West	51.0%	21	.0%	.0%	98.0%	63	.0%	.0%
	Portland General Electric	99.0%	30	.0%	.0%	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%
	Puget Sound Energy	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%
	Seattle City Light	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%	.0%	N/A	.0%	.0%
	Tacoma Power	63.0%	3	.0%	.0%	91.0%	4	.0%	.0%

For more information

- Q1 2026 report on market issues and performance
 - <https://www.caiso.com/documents/2026-first-quarter-report-on-market-issues-and-performance.pdf>
- Department of Market Monitoring webpage
 - <http://https://www.caiso.com/market-operations/market-monitoring>
- CAISO Tariff, Appendix P
 - <https://www.caiso.com/documents/appendix-p-california-iso-department-of-market-monitoring-as-of-jan-6-2025.pdf>
- Email questions to:
 - Ryan Kurlinski, rkurlinski@caiso.com
 - DMM, DMM@caiso.com