

Oregon Department of **ENERGY**

Ways & Means Natural Resources Subcommittee

U.S DOE Funding Opportunity Collaborations Advancing Rapid Load Additions (CARLA)

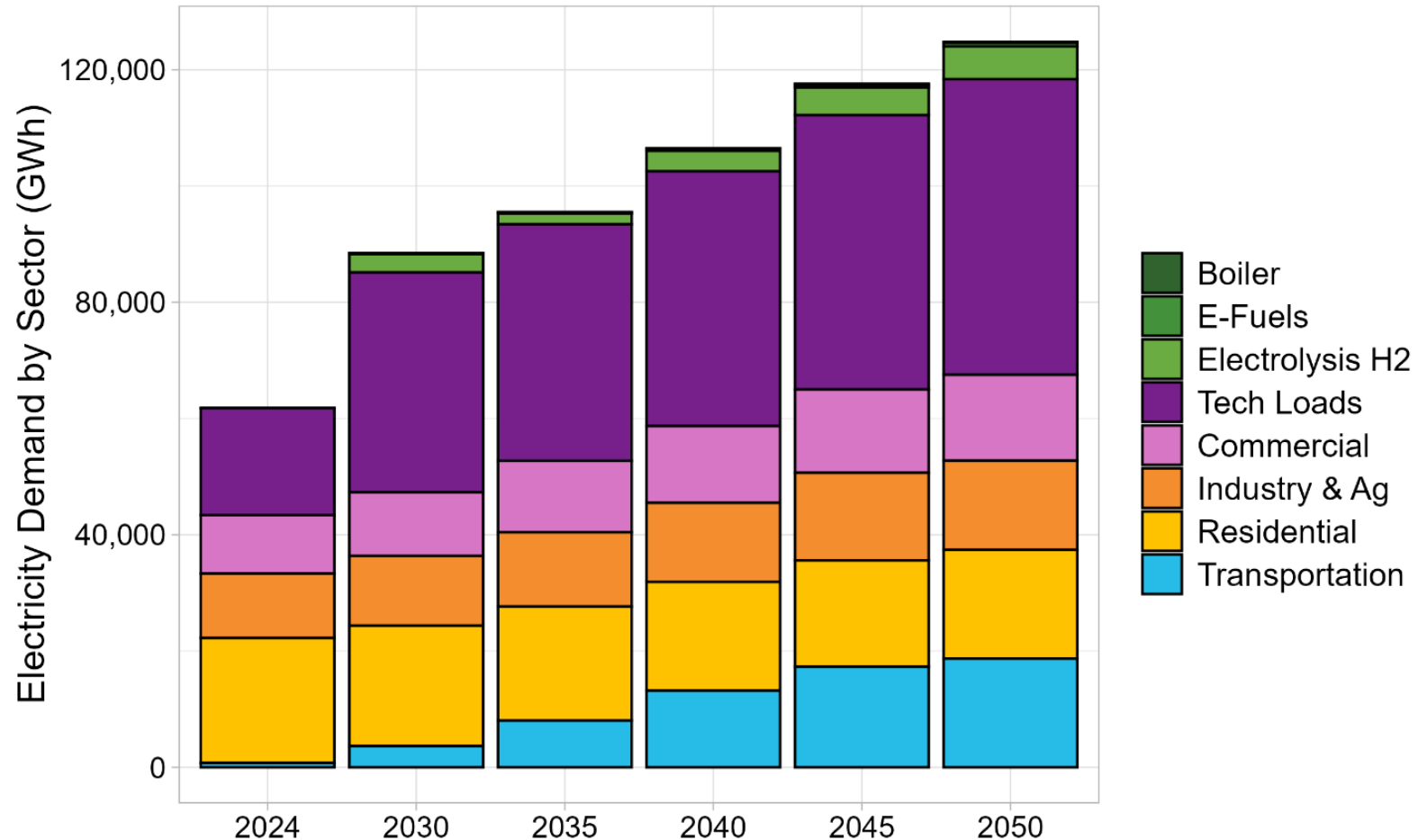
Janine Benner, Director

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February 9, 2026



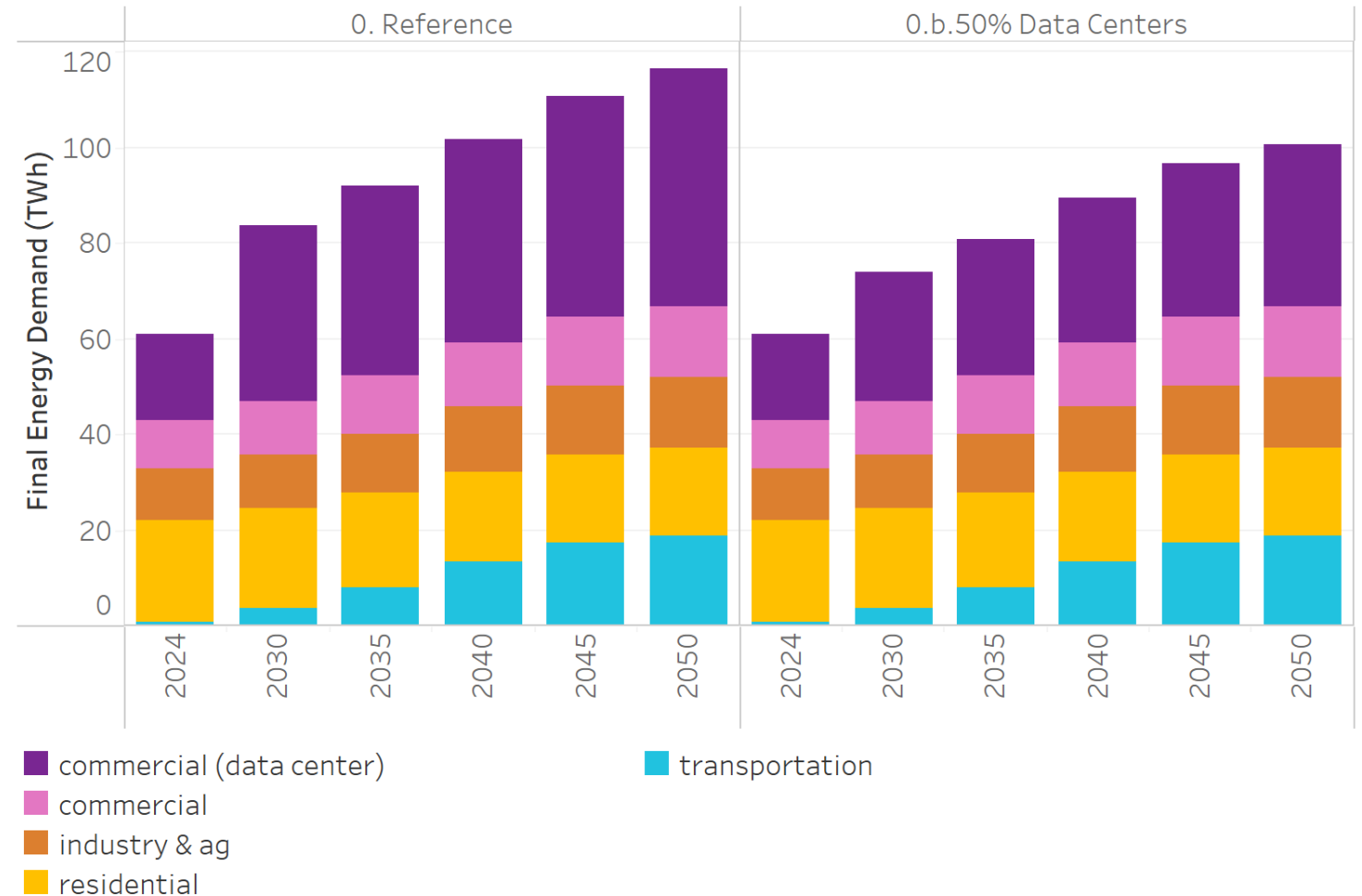
Oregon Energy Strategy Modeling: Tech Loads in Context



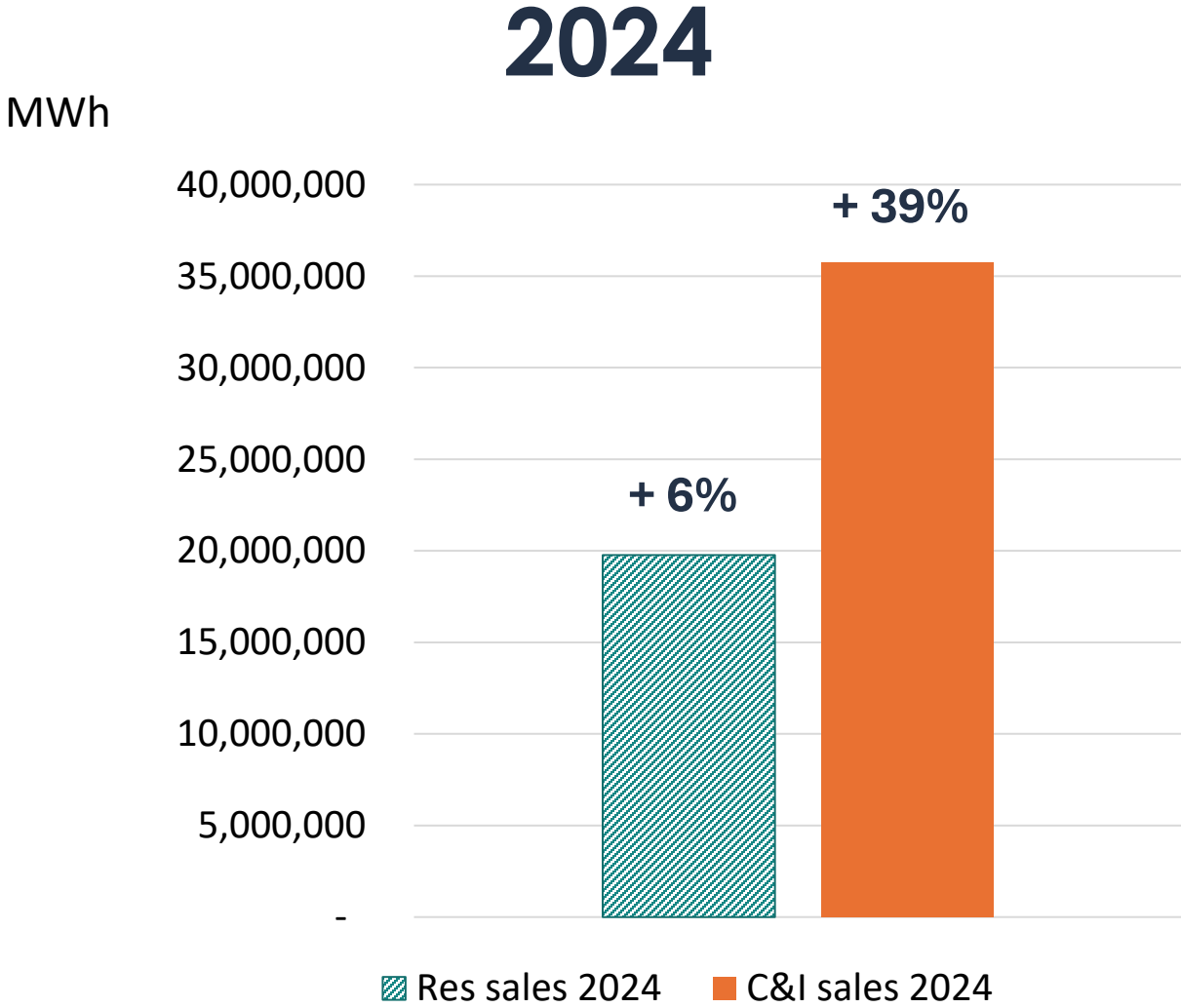
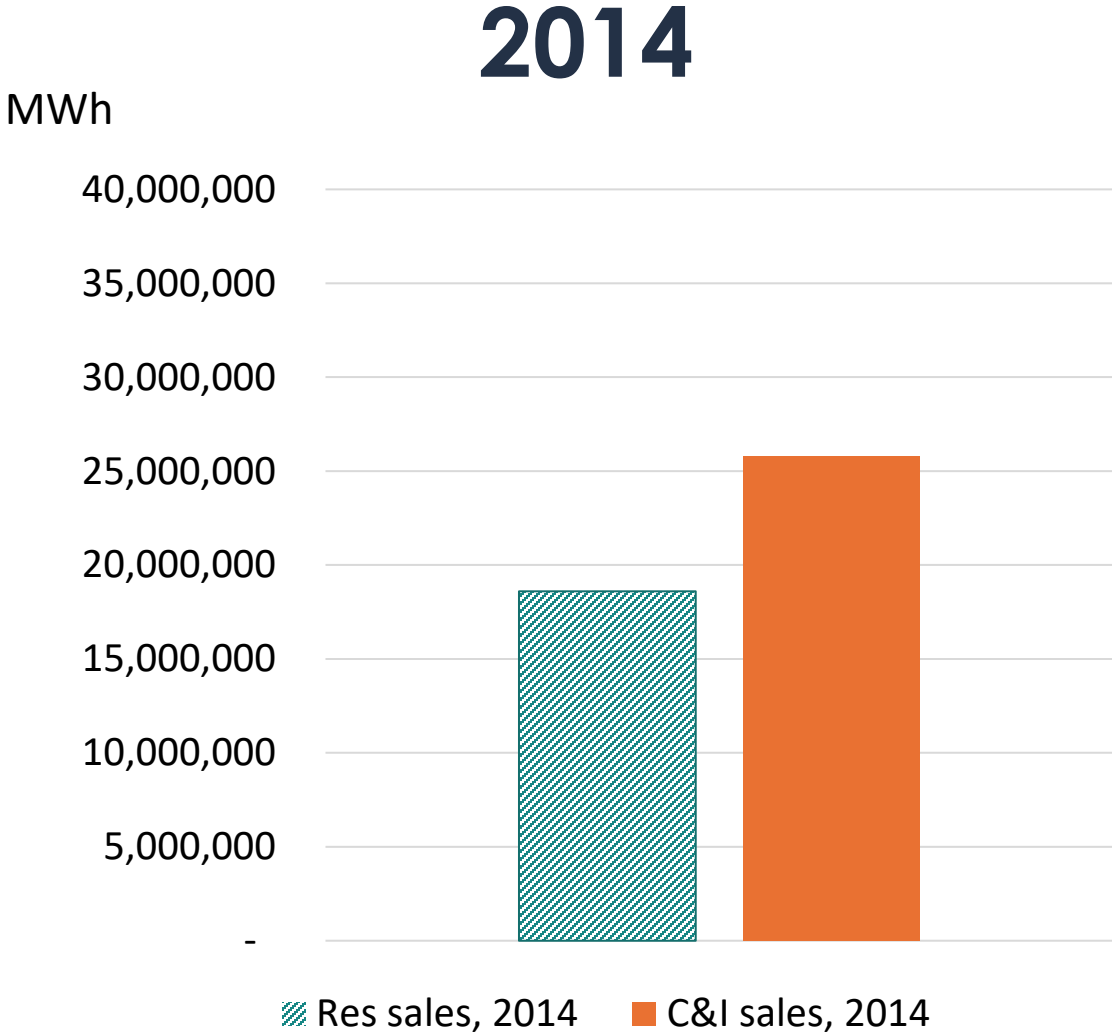
What if Data Center Growth is 50% Lower?

- Tech load growth is uncertain.
- If 50% lower than Reference Scenario:
 - Electric loads are 11% lower by 2030 and 14% by 2050 compared to the Reference
 - Electricity demand from tech loads and other sectors still increases overall load by over 25% by 2030

Electricity Demand by Sector



Growth in Residential vs. Commercial/Industrial Sales 2014 - 2024



Source: Oregon Utility Statistics Book, 2014 and 2024

CARLA – Collaborations Advancing Rapid Load Additions



- U.S. Department of Energy technical assistance funding opportunity
- Funding supports collaboratives to develop new approaches and frameworks for electric system planning, cost recovery, and risk allocation related to electricity demand growth due to data centers.
- An Oregon-based collaborative is requesting \$4.3 million through US DOE.
- A state entity must be the applicant but is not required to be the contracting agent.

CARLA in Oregon

PROJECT PARTNERS

STATE ENERGY OFFICE



UTILITY



DATA CENTER



TECHNICAL ADVISORS



A 12-month program to deliver faster, fairer, and scalable pathways for Oregon's rapidly growing data center load

**OPTIMIZE
SUPPLY**

**ACCELERATE
INTERCONNECTION**

**OPTIMIZE
SITING**

**FAIR COST
ALLOCATION**

Multi-factor, optimized siting
Accelerated interconnection
Innovative rate structures
Stakeholder engagement



20+ sites screened & prioritized
30–50% faster interconnection
Protect existing customers
Nationwide extensibility



OREGON
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Questions?

CARLA Funding Opportunity Announcement

<https://www.connectwerx.org/portfolio-items/ppo-cwx-018-gdo-collaborations-advancing-rapid-load-additions-carla/>

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