

# **A Neural Network-Based Algorithm for Monitoring the Wholesale Power Prices around Ohio**

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**National  
Association of  
Regulatory  
Utility  
Commissioners**

**Ohio**

**Public Utilities  
Commission**

## Preamble

- Ohio Statute requires the PUCO to carry out the following policy element:  
O.R.C. 4928.02 (l) - *Ensure retail electric service consumers protection against unreasonable sales practices, market deficiencies, and market power.*
- In an ESP or an MRO, retail electricity prices may be tied to a wholesale index price such as the price at the Cinergy Hub or the PJM West Hub.
- Market power abuses are a concern to the PUCO, who is charged with developing competition in the state's retail electricity market.

## Monitoring Tool

- An algorithm employing a neural network-based model has been developed by the PUCO staff to monitor the reasonableness of prices in wholesale electricity markets at two of the major hubs surrounding Ohio.
- The model builds a relationship between a day-ahead published index price (Cinergy or PJM West) and several independent variables (temperature, power plant production, type of day, historical wholesale prices of electricity and natural gas).
- The current monitoring accuracy is about 6% to 8% for the MAE% at both Cinergy (since 3/21/05) and PJM West (12/20/04) hubs.

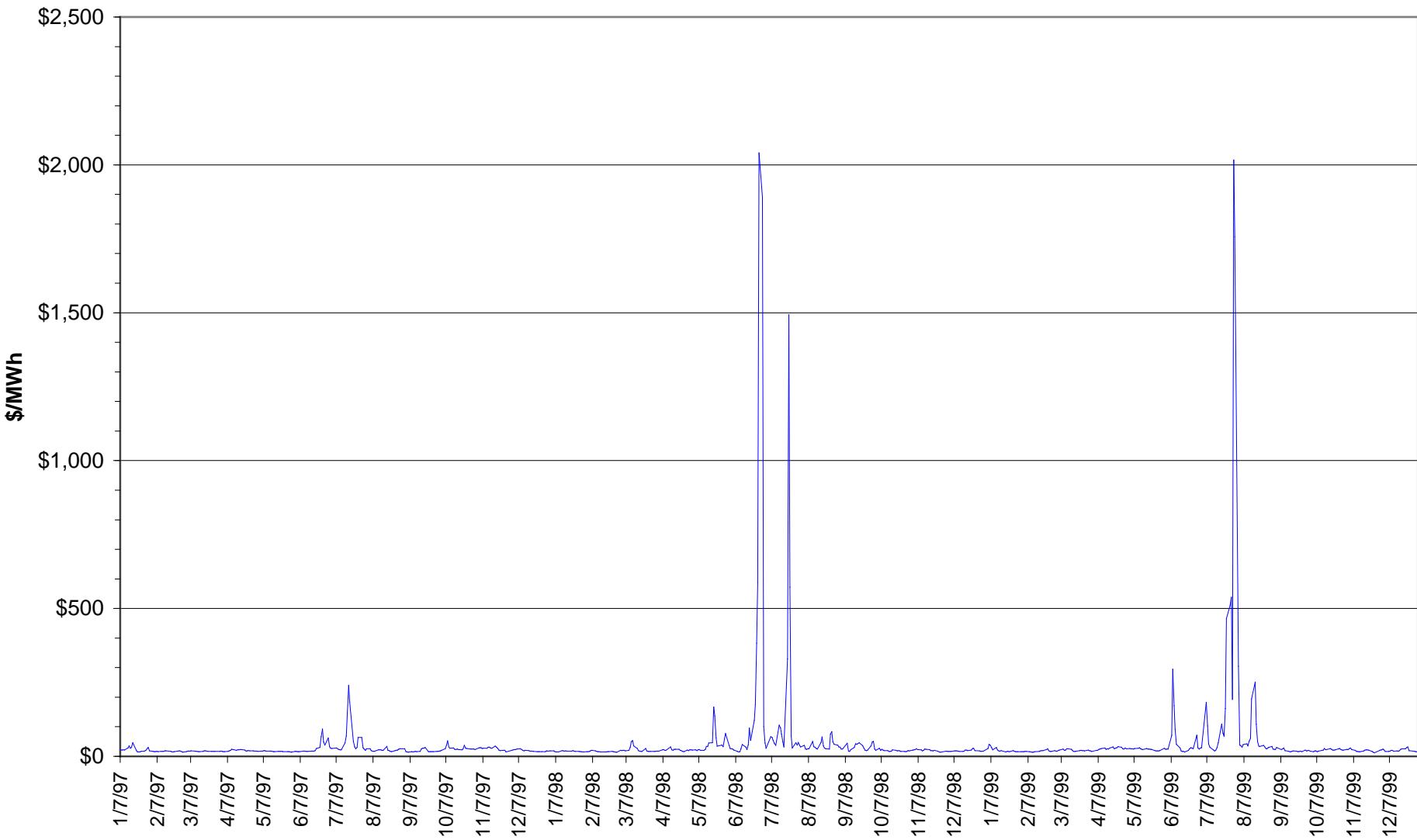
## Application

- If day-ahead wholesale prices at either hub diverge “significantly” from the in-house model results → staff examines market conditions to determine whether the divergence can be reasonably explained by exogenous factors (e.g. an unplanned outage) → the PUCO decides whether or not to pursue an inquiry on this divergence with the market monitor of the Independent System Operator (ISO).

## Motivation

- The significant impact of the wholesale power market on the retail power market (The California example).
- The price volatility in the wholesale power market in the late 1990s (The Cinergy Hub prices: \$20/MWh to \$2,000/MWh).
- The importance (cost) of short-term forecast accuracy in the power industry.
- The success of using neural network-based models in short-term energy demand/load forecasting (both natural gas and electric utility industries).

## Day-Ahead Wholesale Power Prices at the Cinergy Hub (1/7/97 - 12/30/99)



Source: Platts.

# Previous Work

## ➤ Model Development/Calibration

- Choueiki, M. H., and Mount-Campbell, C. A., "Training Data Development with the D-optimality Criterion", *IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks*, Vol. 10, No. 1, pp. 56-63, 1999.
- Choueiki, M. H., Mount-Campbell, C. A., and Ahalt, S. C., "Building a Quasi Optimal Neural Network to Solve the Short-Term Load Forecasting Problem", *IEEE Transactions on Power Systems*, Vol. 12, No. 4, pp. 1432-1439, 1997.
- Choueiki, M. H., Mount-Campbell, C. A., and Ahalt, S. C., "Implementing the Weighted Least Squares Procedure in Training a Neural Network to Solve the Short-Term Load Forecasting Problem", *IEEE Transactions on Power Systems*, Vol. 12, No. 4, pp. 1689-1694, 1997.

## ➤ Model Applications

- Choueiki, M. H., and Wang, D. L., "On the Robustness of Neural Nets for Predicting Price Abnormalities in Wholesale Power Markets", presented at the 2004 INFORMS Meeting, Denver, Colorado, October 24-27, 2004.
- Choueiki, M. H., "Forecasting Bulk Power Market Prices Using Simple Recurrent Neural Nets", presented at the 2003 INFORMS Meeting, Georgia, Atlanta, October 19-22, 2003.
- Choueiki, M. H., and Wang, D. L., "Forecast Competition Results in Predicting Monthly Natural Gas Sales in Ohio", presented at the 2000 INFORMS Meeting, San Antonio, Texas, November 5-8, 2000.
- Choueiki, M. H., "A Weighted Least Squares Training Procedure for Forecasting the Monthly Natural Gas Consumption in Ohio Using Neural Networks", presented at the 1999 INFORMS Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 7-10, 1999.
- Choueiki, M. H., "Forecasting the Monthly Natural Gas Consumption in Ohio Using Neural Networks", presented at the 1999 INFORMS Meeting, Cincinnati, Ohio, May 2-5, 1999.

## The Current in-house Monitoring Model

### ➤ Model Input

- Today's identifier (1-of-5 node coding)
- Today's high and low temperatures ( $^{\circ} F$ )
- Today's percent power plant production @ peak hour – 2:00pm (expensive, proprietary, and limited)
- Yesterday's spot market price of natural gas at the Henry Hub (in \$/MMBtu)
- Yesterday's wholesale price of electricity in the day-ahead market at the Cinergy or PJM West Hub (in \$/MWh)

### ➤ Model Output

- Today's wholesale power price at the Cinergy or PJM West Hub in the day-ahead market

### ➤ Historical Data

- December 30, 2002 – Present
- Training – 80%
- Cross validation – 20%

## Definitions

- $d_i$  is a binary variable that identifies the day type on day  $i$   
(1-of-5 node coding) --- (  $d_i = 10000$  for Monday,  $d_i = 01000$  for Tuesday, ...,  $d_i = 00001$  for Friday)
- $t_{ij}^{\max}$  is the maximum daily temperature on day  $i$  in region  $j, j = 1,2,3$
- $t_{ij}^{\min}$  is the minimum daily temperature on day  $i$  in region  $j, j = 1,2,3$

$j=1$  represents the Columbus region  
 $j=2$  represents the Cleveland region  
 $j=3$  represents the Cincinnati region

## Definitions (continued)

- $p_{ik}$  is the percent production on day  $i$  for power plant  $k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, 23$ , at 2:00 pm.

$$p_{ik} = \frac{\text{Plant } k \text{ generation on day } i}{\text{Plant } k \text{ capacity}} \times 100$$

**Note: The 23 power plants that we collect daily data on constitute about 70% of Ohio's generation.**

- $g_i$  is the daily spot market price of natural gas (\$/MMBtu) at the Henry delivery hub on day  $i$
- $e_i$  is the day-ahead wholesale price of electricity (\$/MWh) at the Cinergy or PJM West hub on day  $i$



http://puccodev/maap/genscapecsvtosql.aspx?firstname=Dave



Yahoo! Search



GenscapeCSVtoSQL



Tools &gt;

Gas

Electric

Temperature

Final Data

Edit Data

Add/Remove Plants to Display

View Data

## Genscape CSV to SQL

Good Morning Dave

Year:

2007

Last Date for Data Entered:

5/28/2007

Month:

June

File to Open 1:

File to Open 6:

File to Open 2:

File to Open 7:

File to Open 3:

File to Open 8:

File to Open 4:

File to Open 9:

File to Open 5:

Table to Update:

PlantInfo



2 Microsoft Offic...

GenscapeCSVtoSQ...

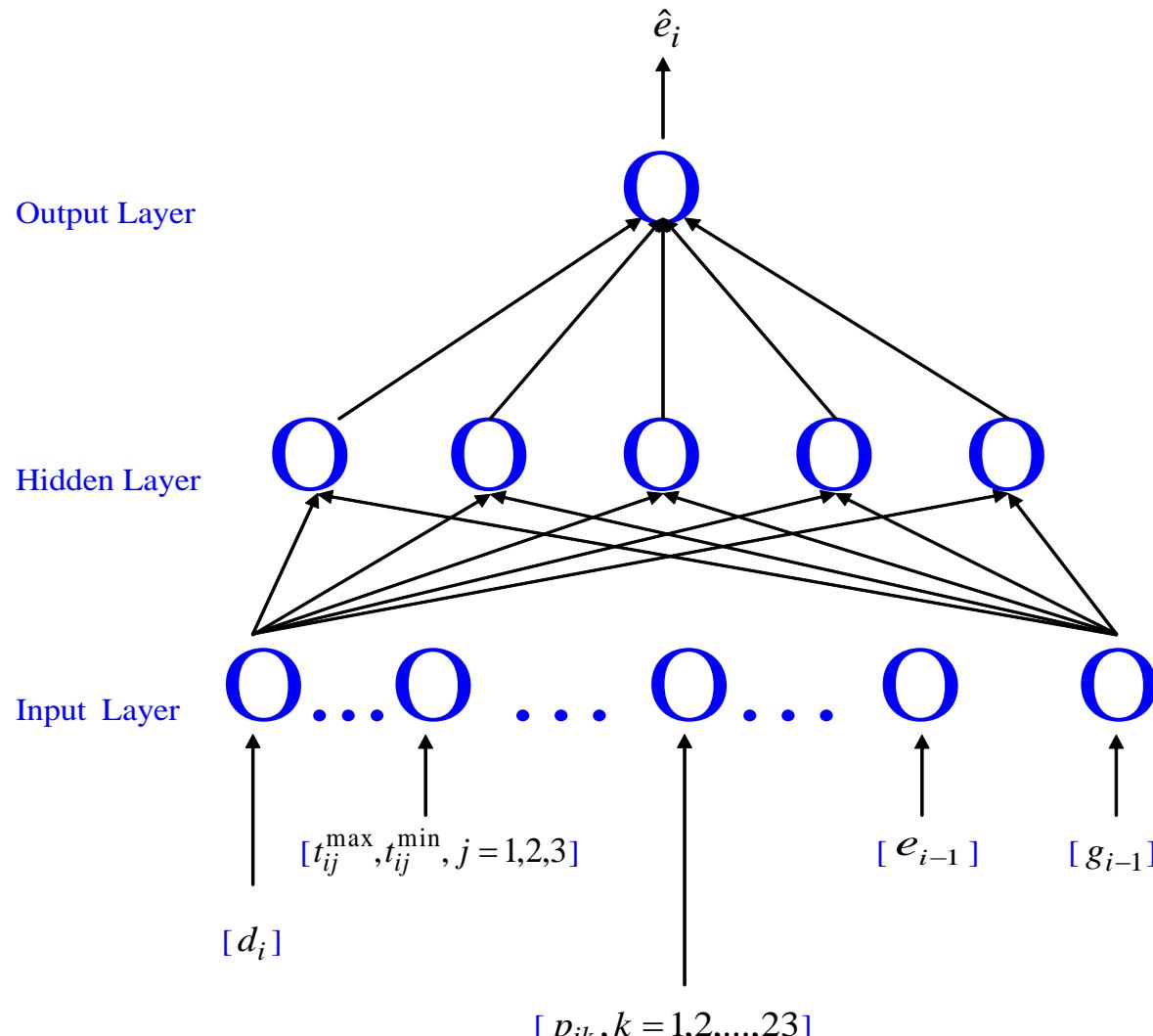
070327 Genscape

Microsoft PowerPoi...

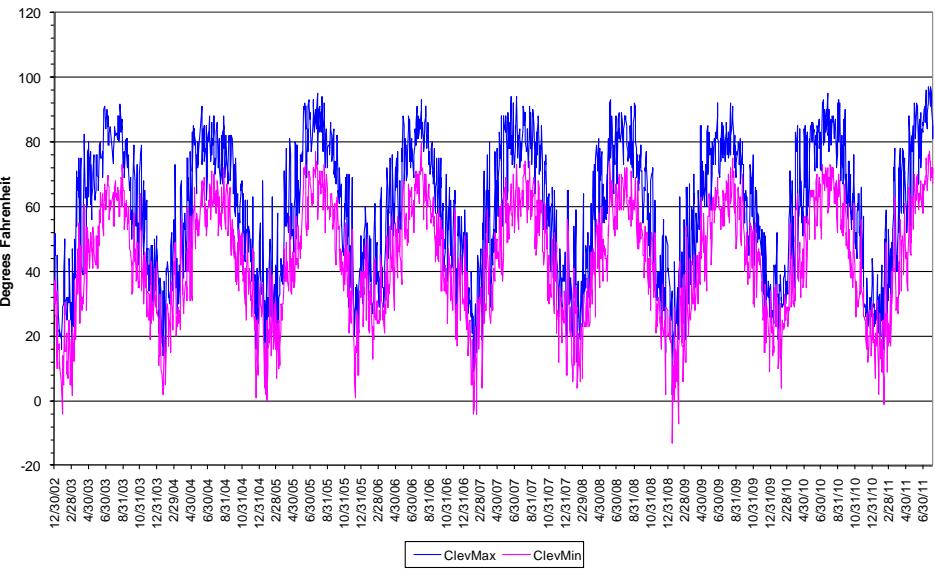
7:53 AM

# Model Architecture

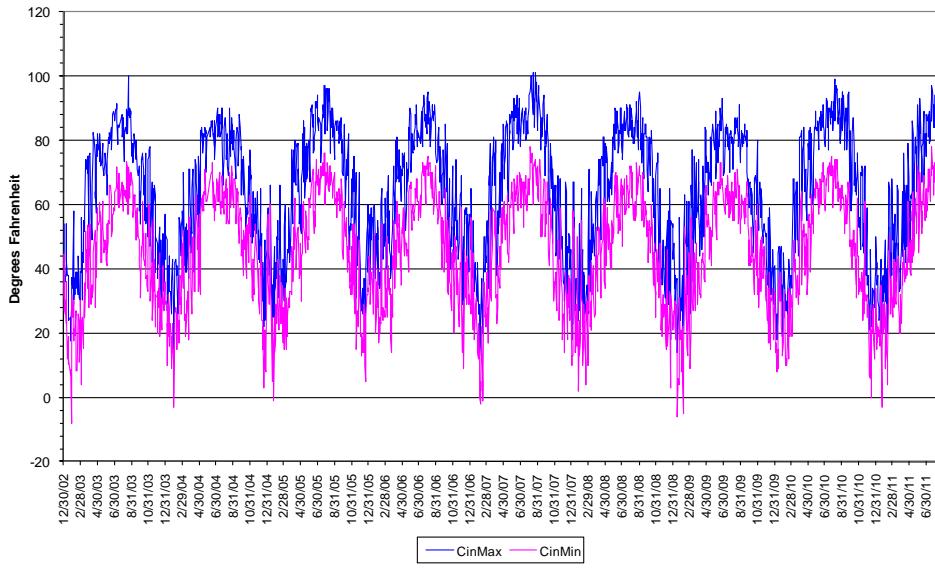
36x5x1 Architecture



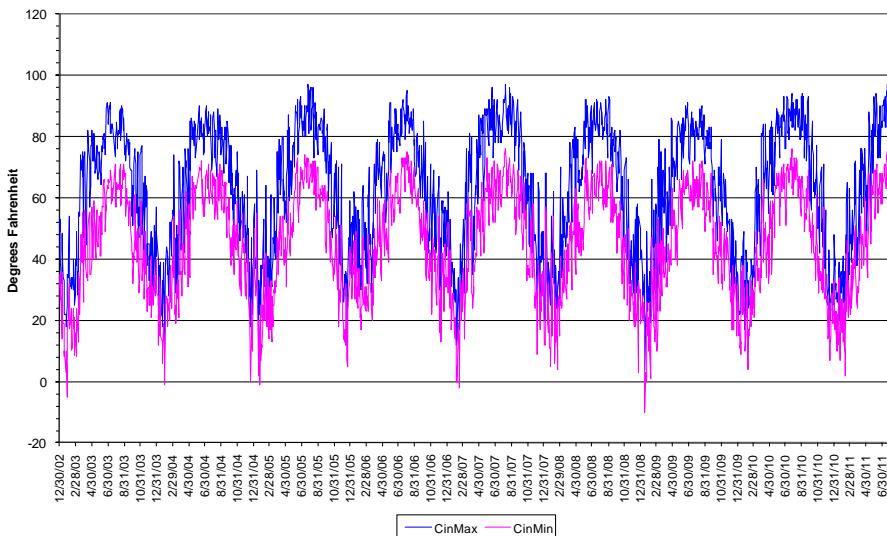
**Daily Temperature in Cleveland**  
(12/30/02 - 08/05/11)



**Daily Temperature in Cincinnati**  
(12/30/02 - 08/05/11)



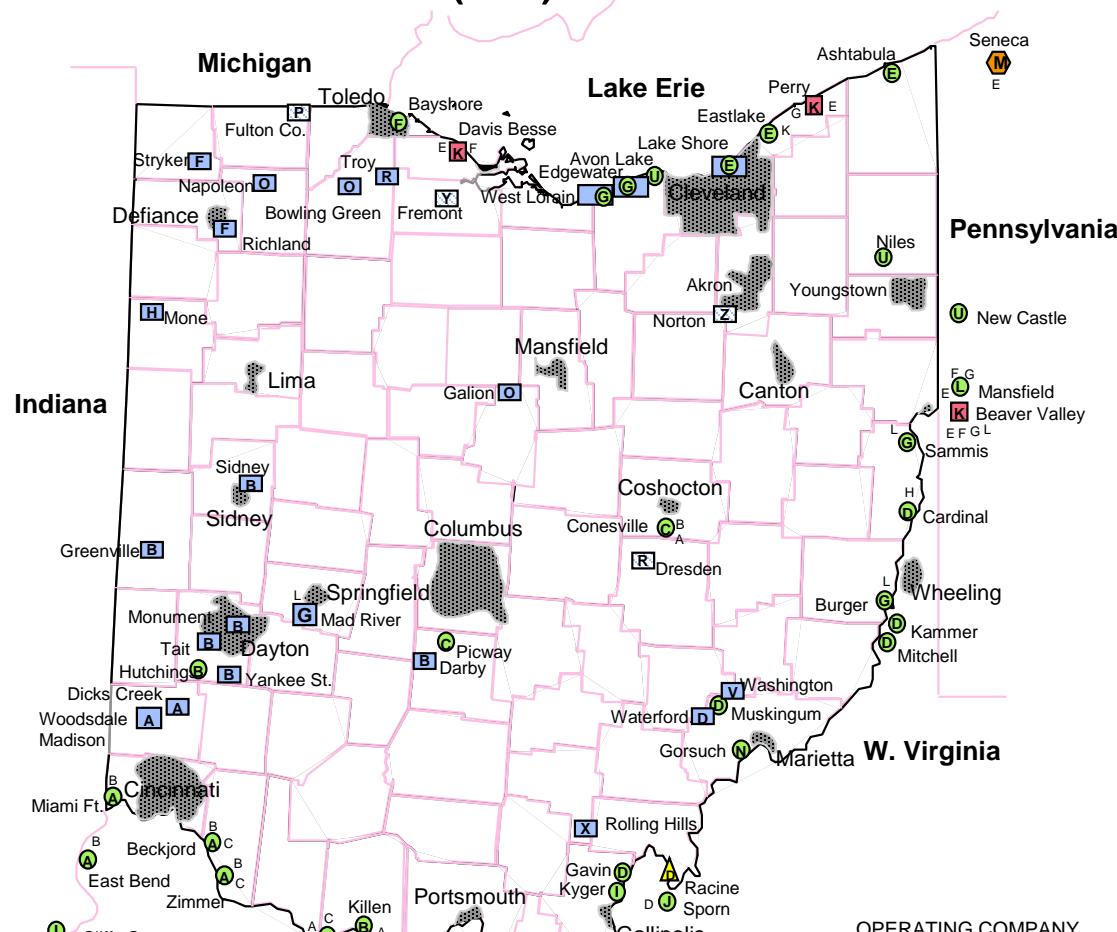
**Daily Temperature in Columbus**  
(12/30/02 - 08/05/11)



# OHIO ELECTRIC UTILITIES

## Generating Facilities

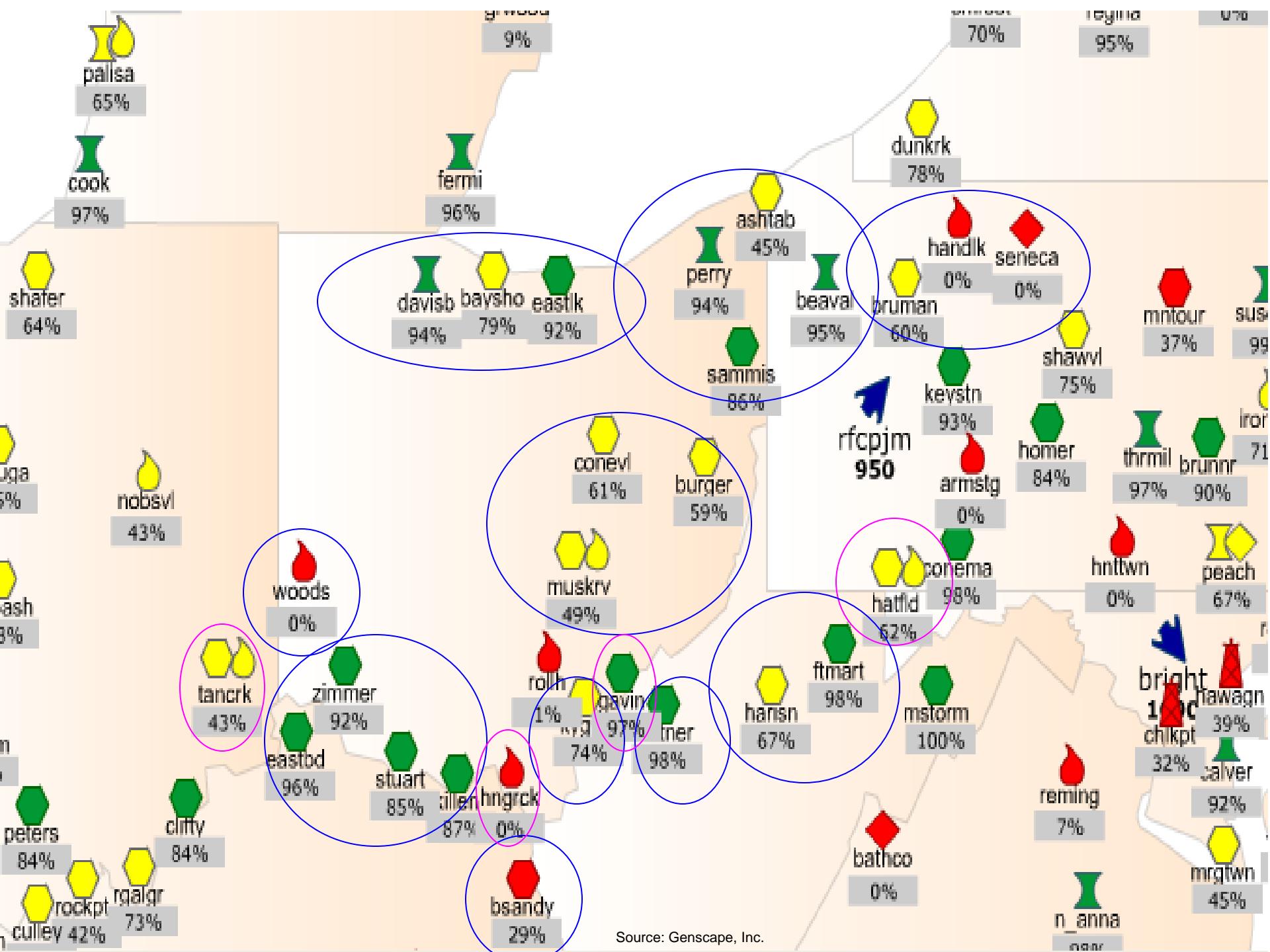
(2005)



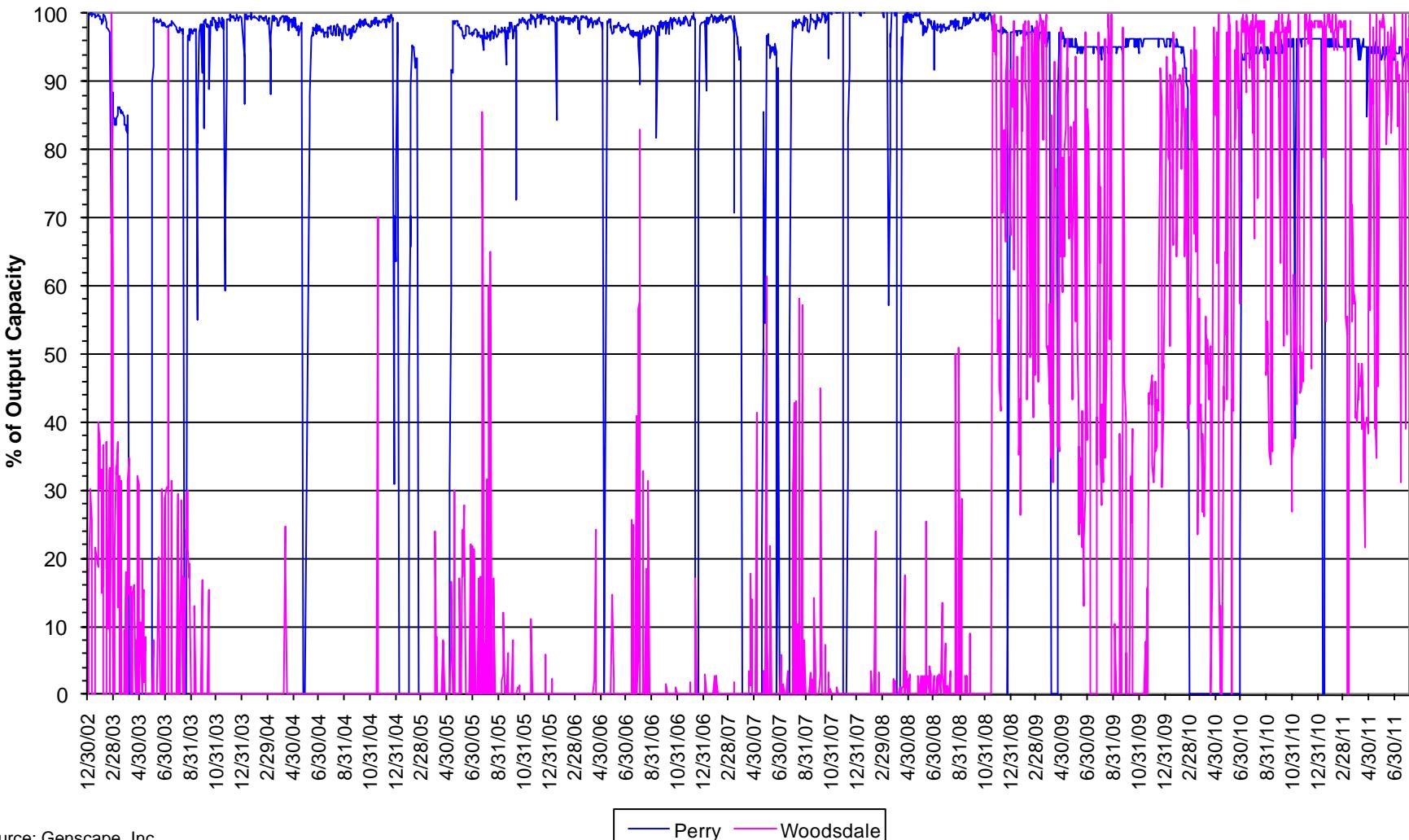
Source: Long-term Forecasting Reports of the Ohio Electric Utilities and PUCO, Division of Facilities, Siting and Environmental Analysis.

# Ohio Power Plants

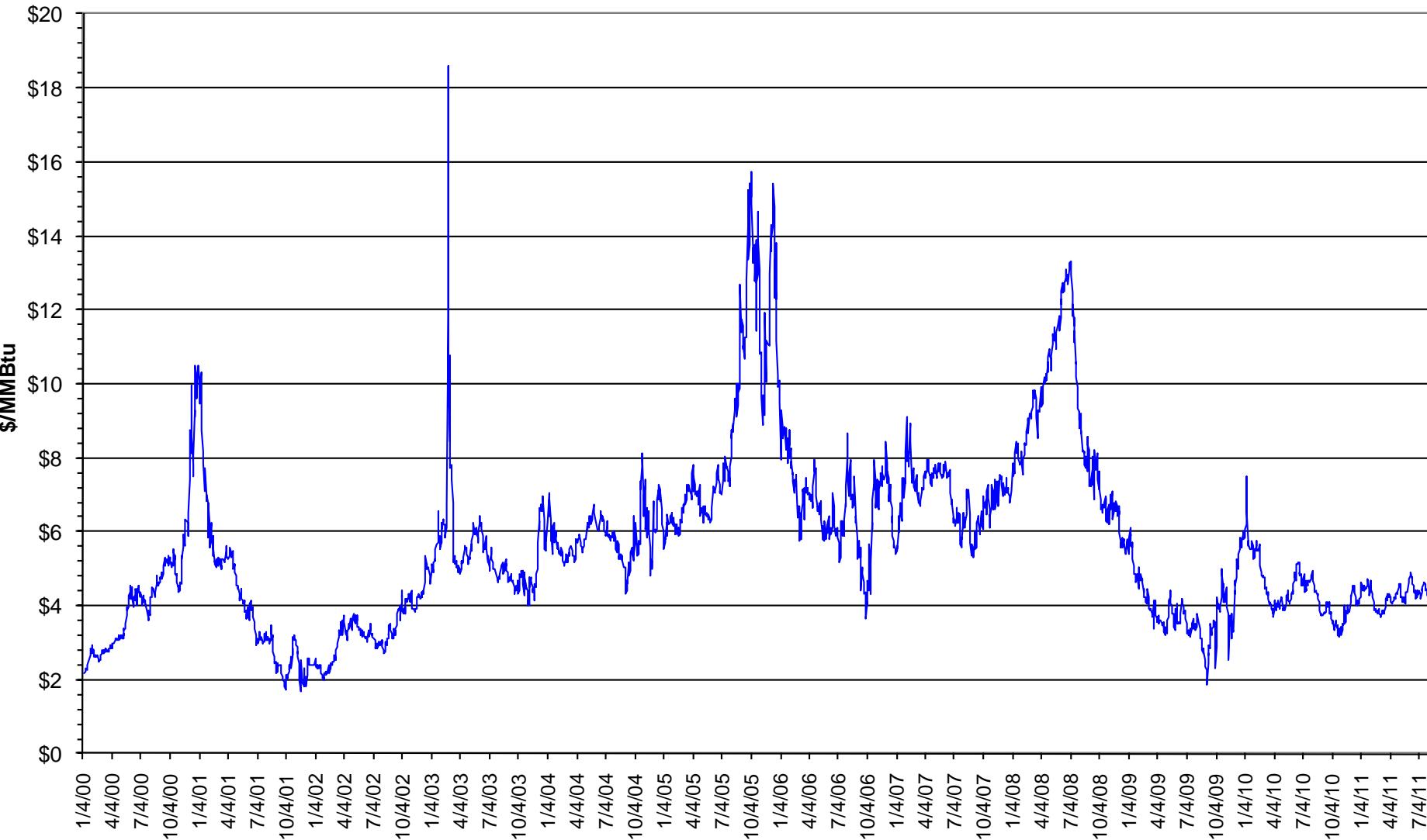
Plant Name	Fuel Type	Total Capacity MW
Ashtabula	Coal	440
Bayshore	Coal	655
Beaver Valley	Nuclear	1847
Big Sandy - Riverside	Coal/Gas	2246
Bruce Mansfield	Coal	2741
Clifty Creek	Coal	1304
Conesville	Coal	2176
Davis Besse	Nuclear	946
EastBend	Coal	648
Eastlake	Coal	1289
Fort Martin	Coal	1152
Harrison	Coal	2052
J M Stuart	Coal	2451
Killen Station	Coal	686
Kyger Creek	Coal	1085
Mountaineer	Coal	1300
Muskingum River - Washington Energy	Coal/Gas	2149
Perry	Nuclear	1272
R E Burger	Coal	423
Seneca	Hydro	466
W H Sammis	Coal	2468
W H Zimmer	Coal	1425
Woodsdale	Gas	489



**Daily % of Output Capacity at Two Power Plants in Ohio (@2:00 pm)**  
**(12/30/02 - 08/05/11)**

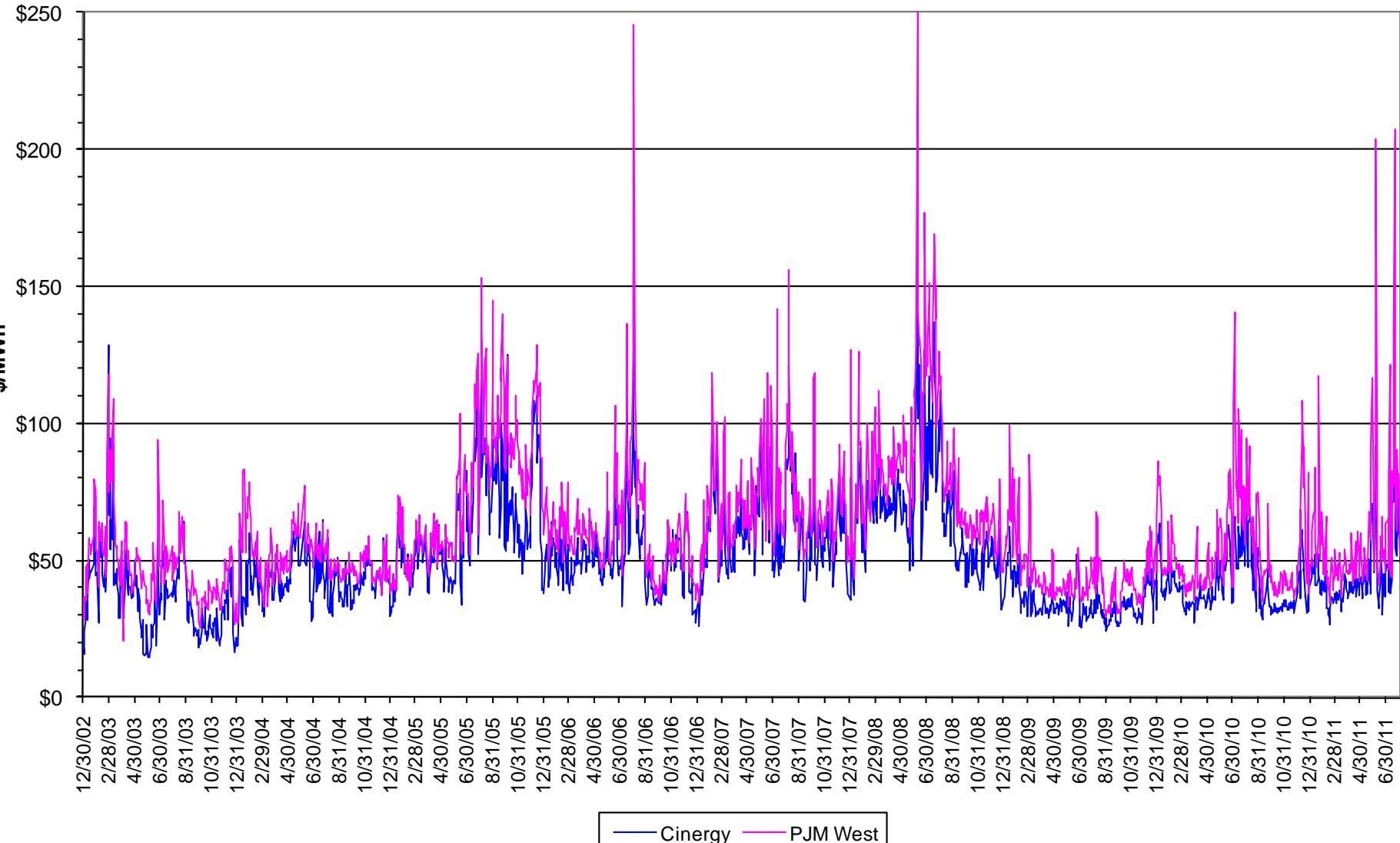


## Daily Spot Gas Prices at the Henry Hub (1/4/00 - 08/05/11)



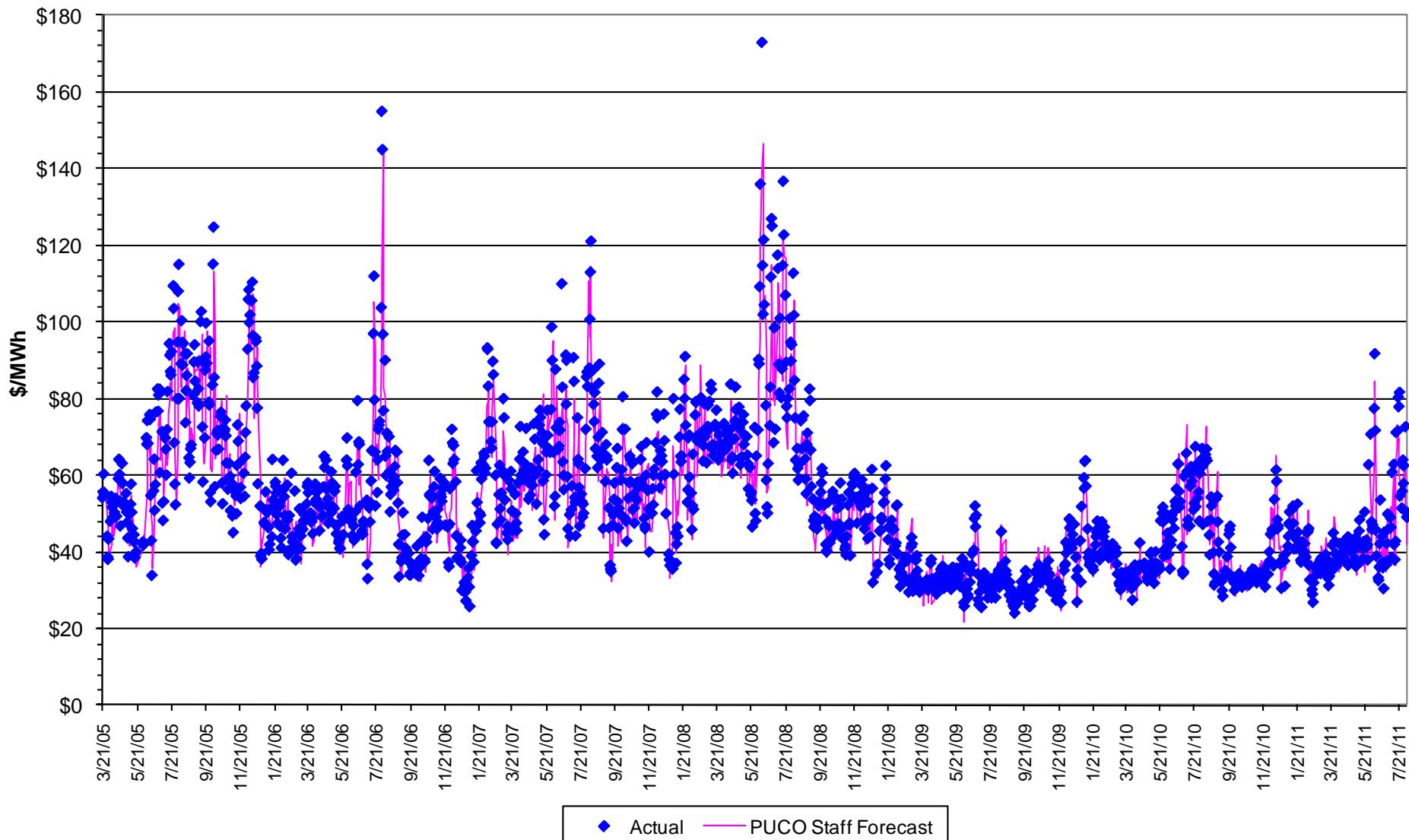
Source: Platts & IntercontinentalExchange.

## Day-Ahead Wholesale Power Prices at the Cinergy and PJM West Hubs (12/30/02 - 08/05/11)



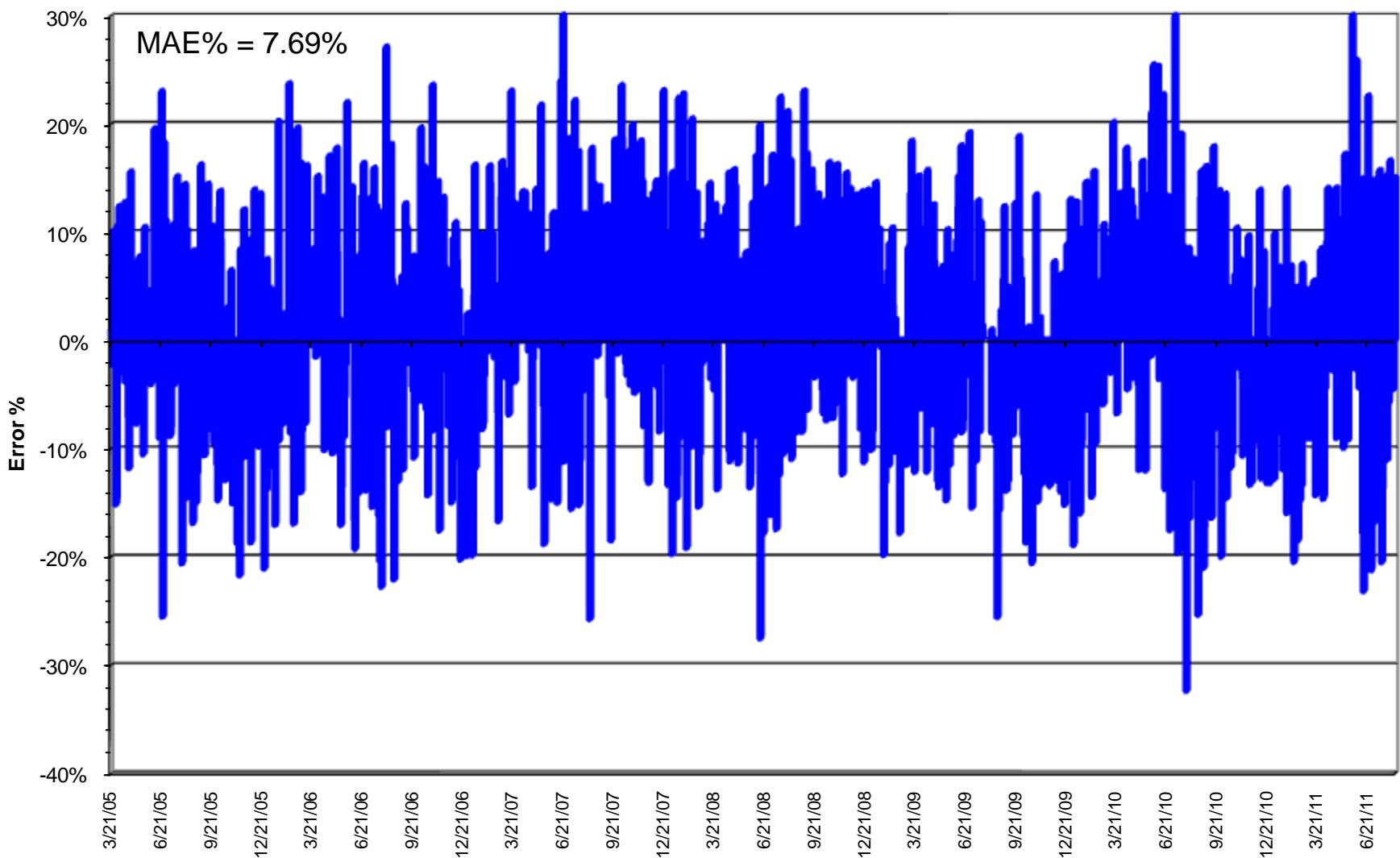
Source: Platts & IntercontinentalExchange.

## Day-Ahead Wholesale Power Prices at the Cinergy Hub (03/21/05 - 08/05/11)



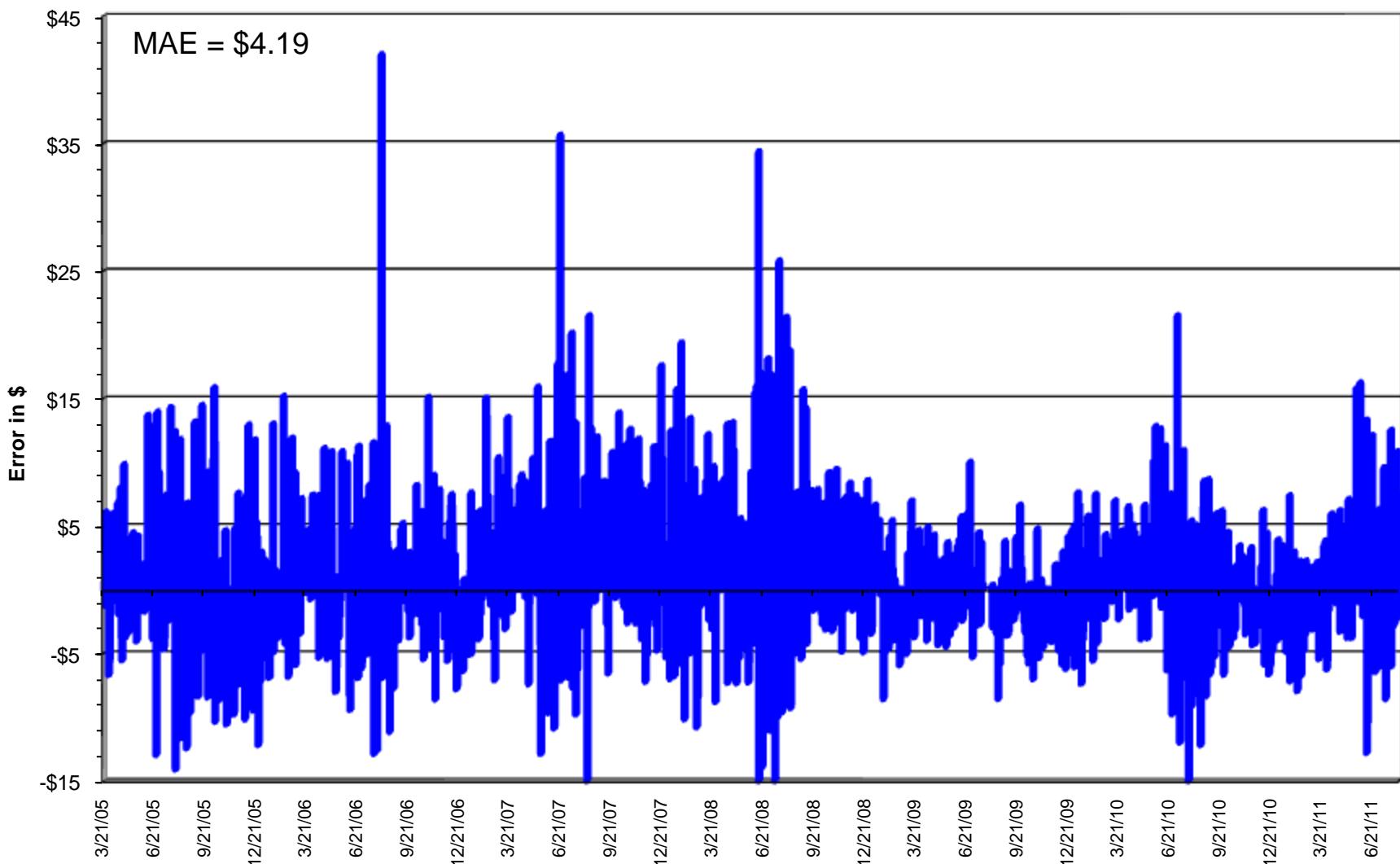
Source: Platts, IntercontinentalExchange and PUCO, Division of Planning & Market Analysis.

## Daily Forecast Error Percent (Cinergy Hub) (03/21/05 - 08/05/11)



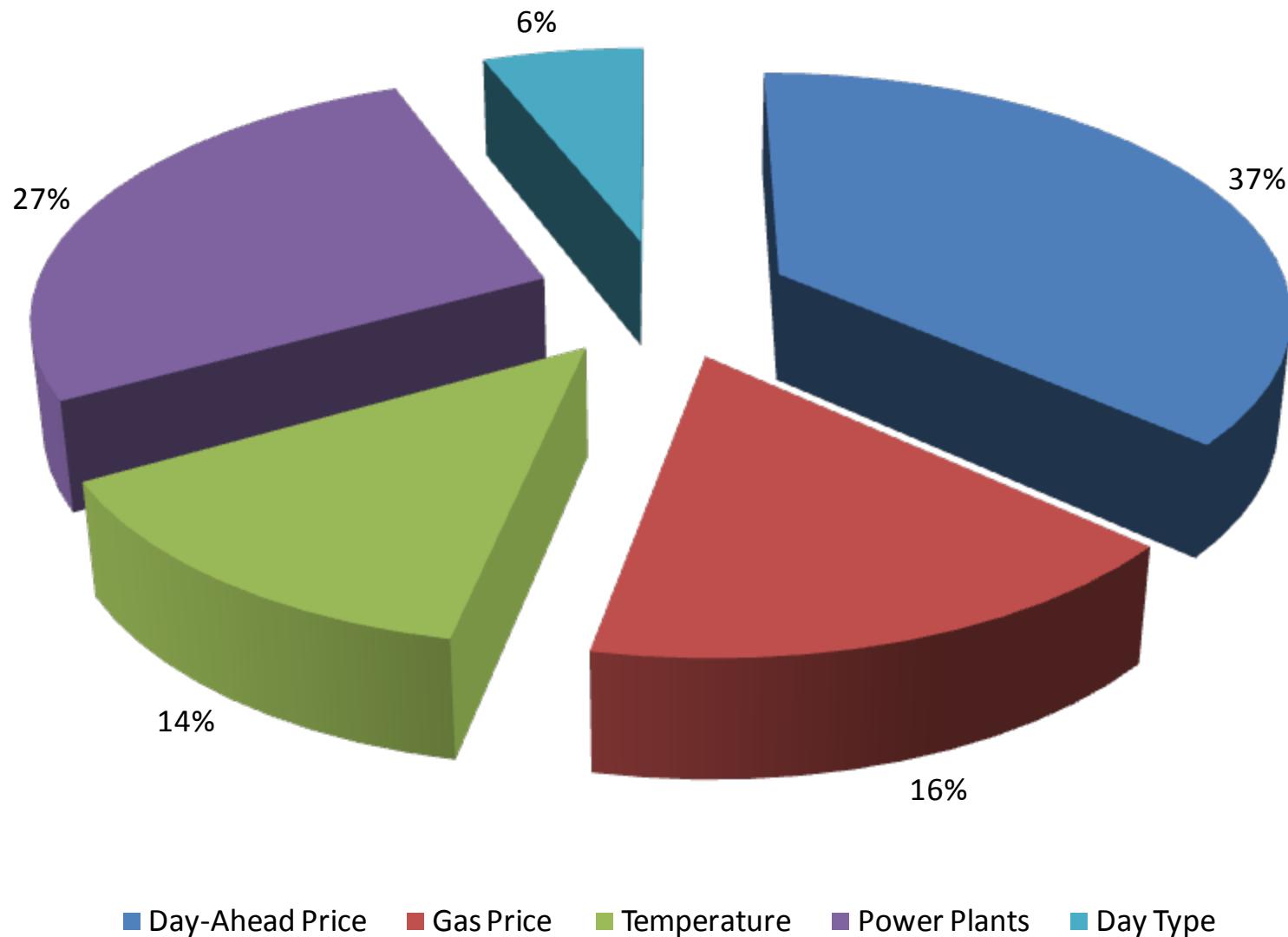
Source: PUCO, Division of Planning & Market Analysis.

## Daily Forecast Error in Dollars (Cinergy Hub) (03/21/05 - 08/05/11)

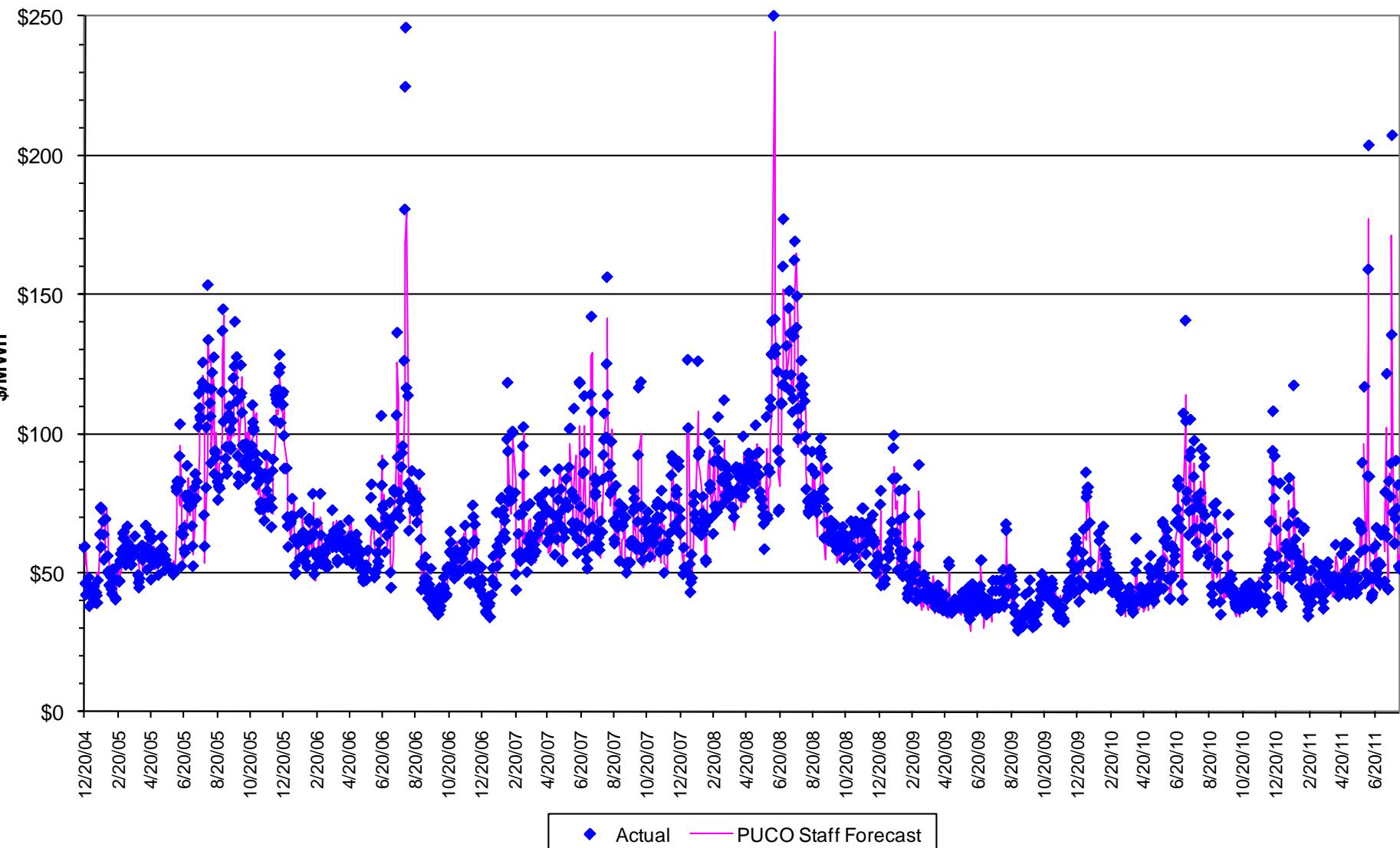


Source: PUCO, Division of Planning & Market Analysis.

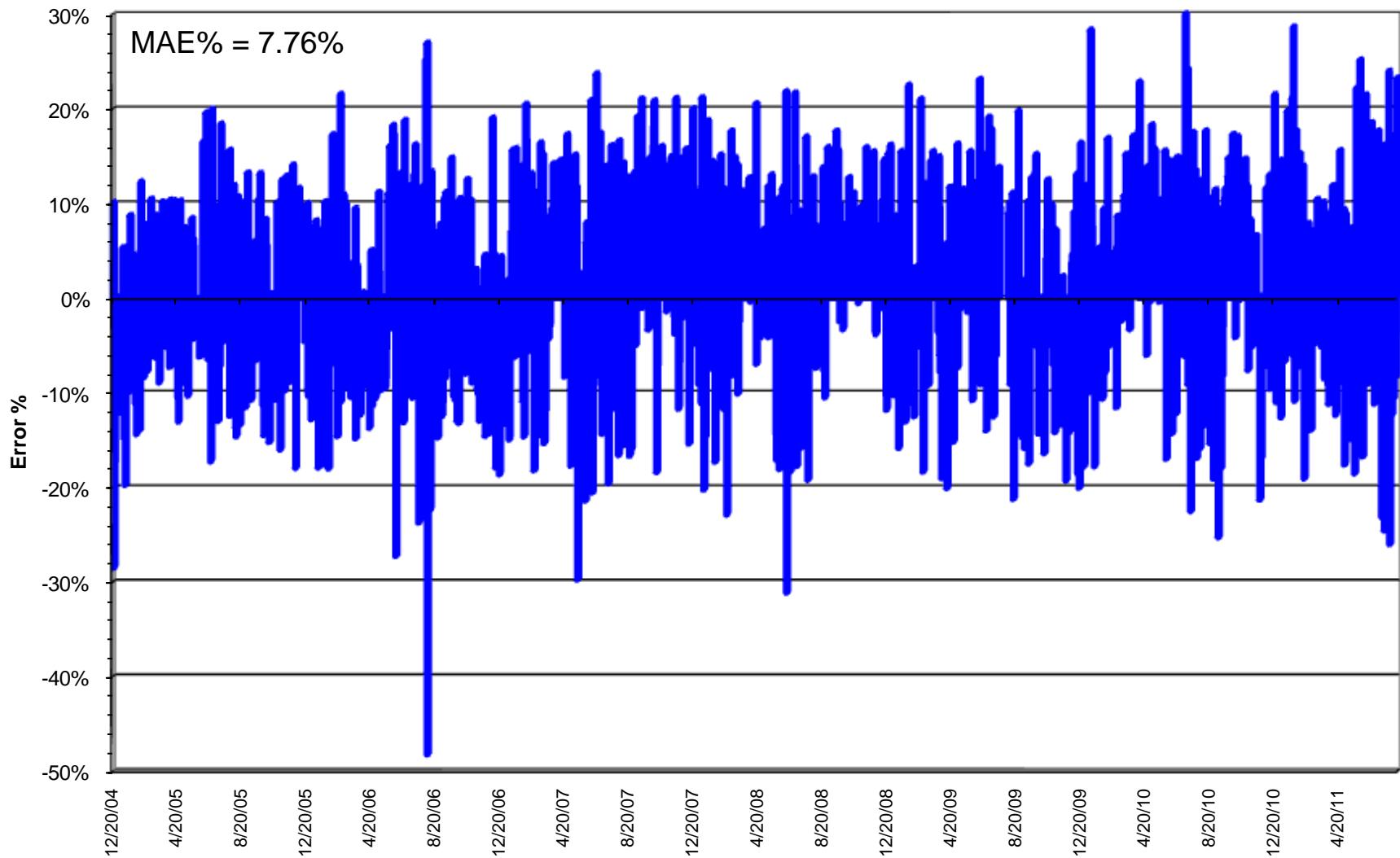
## Impact Analysis of Neural Network Model Input Into Cinergy Hub



## Day-Ahead Wholesale Power Prices at the PJM West Hub (12/20/04 - 08/05/11)

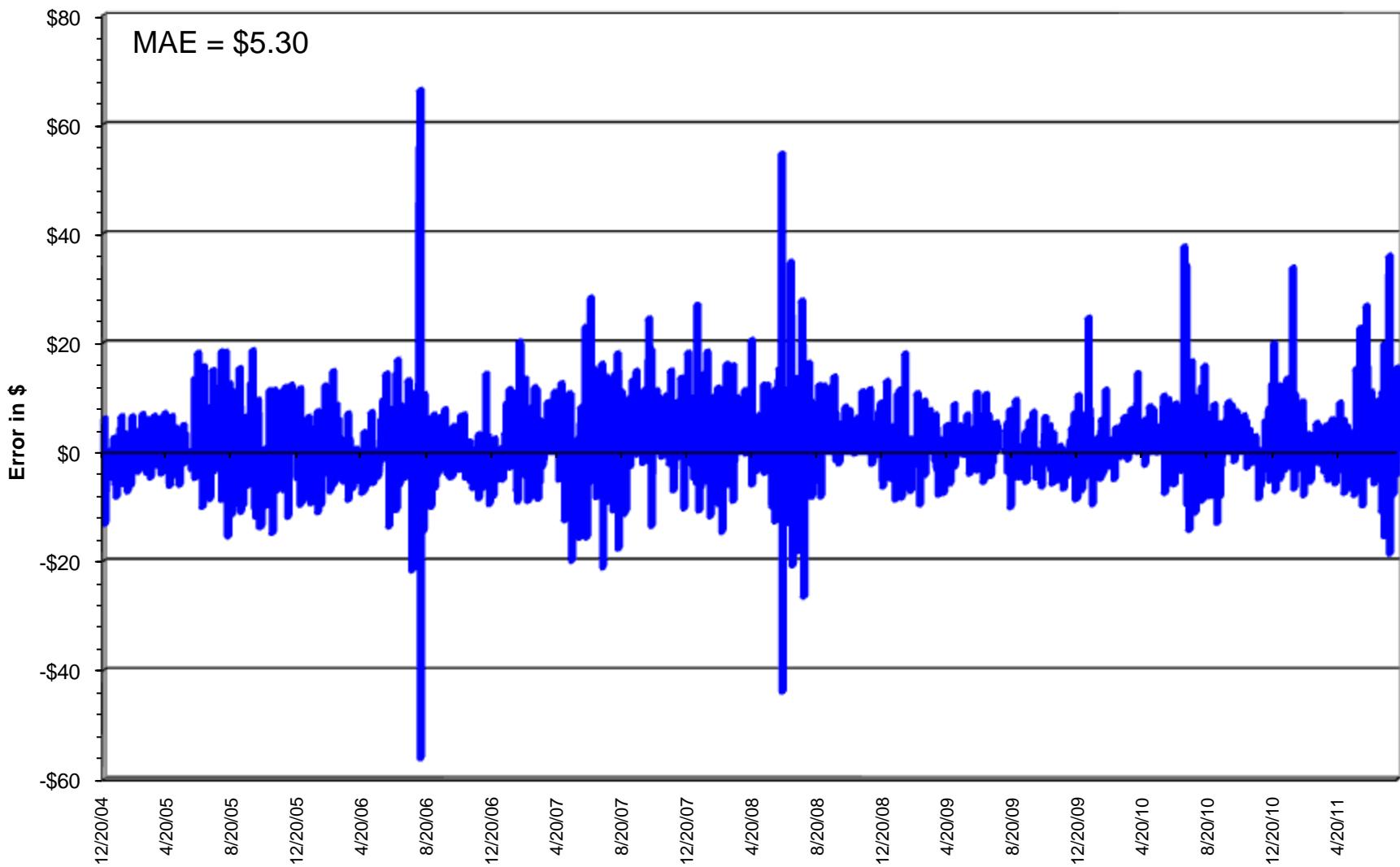


**Daily Forecast Error Percent (PJM West Hub)**  
**(12/20/04 - 08/05/11)**



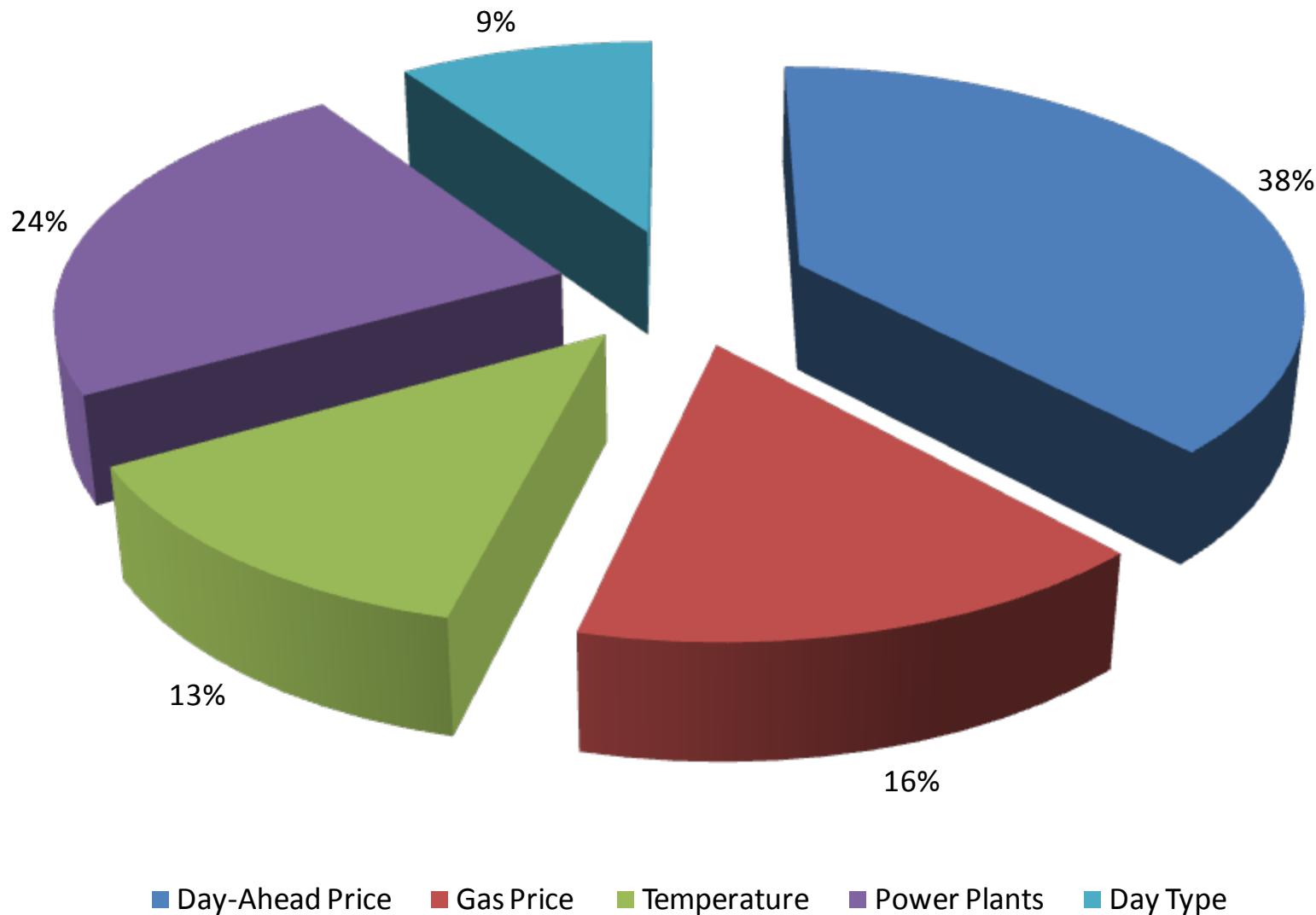
Source: PUCO, Division of Planning & Market Analysis.

## Daily Forecast Error in Dollars (PJM West Hub) (12/20/04 - 08/05/11)



Source: PUCO, Division of Planning & Market Analysis.

## Impact Analysis of Neural Network Model Input PJM West Hub



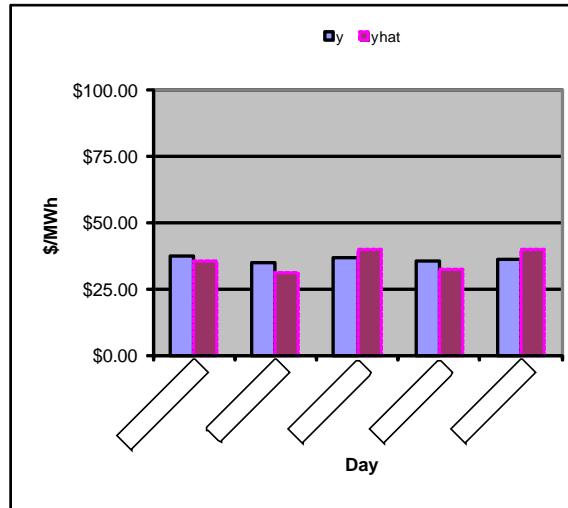
### Day-Ahead Wholesale Prices at Cinergy

Forecast Data: week of 10/31/2011

<u>obs.</u>	<u>y</u>	<u>yhat</u>	<u> error </u>	<u> error% </u>	<u>error</u>	<u>error%</u>
10/31/2011	\$37.42	\$35.38	\$2.04	5.44%	\$2.04	5.44%
11/1/2011	\$34.83	\$31.36	\$3.47	9.95%	\$3.47	9.95%
11/2/2011	\$36.49	\$39.58	\$3.09	8.46%	-\$3.09	-8.46%
11/3/2011	\$35.60	\$32.18	\$3.42	9.61%	\$3.42	9.61%
11/4/2011	\$36.09	\$39.72	\$3.63	10.05%	-\$3.63	-10.05%

**|Error| |Error%|**

\$3.13 8.70%



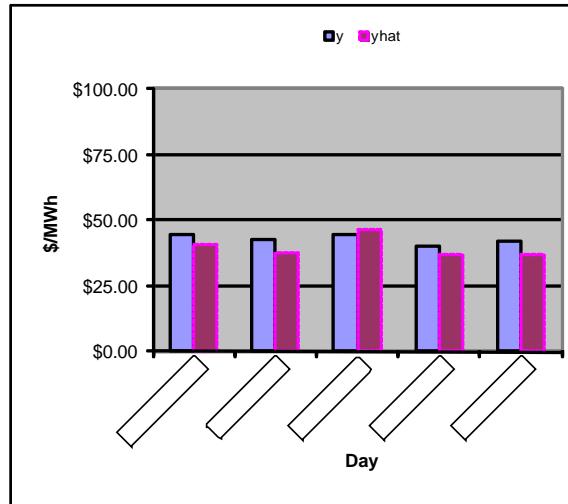
### Day-Ahead Wholesale Prices at PJM West

Forecast Data: week of 10/31/2011

<u>obs.</u>	<u>y</u>	<u>yhat</u>	<u> error </u>	<u> error% </u>	<u>error</u>	<u>error%</u>
10/31/2011	\$44.43	\$41.13	\$3.30	7.43%	\$3.30	7.43%
11/1/2011	\$42.98	\$37.90	\$5.08	11.82%	\$5.08	11.82%
11/2/2011	\$44.82	\$46.33	\$1.51	3.37%	-\$1.51	-3.37%
11/3/2011	\$39.93	\$36.78	\$3.15	7.88%	\$3.15	7.88%
11/4/2011	\$41.79	\$37.33	\$4.46	10.68%	\$4.46	10.68%

**|Error| |Error%|**

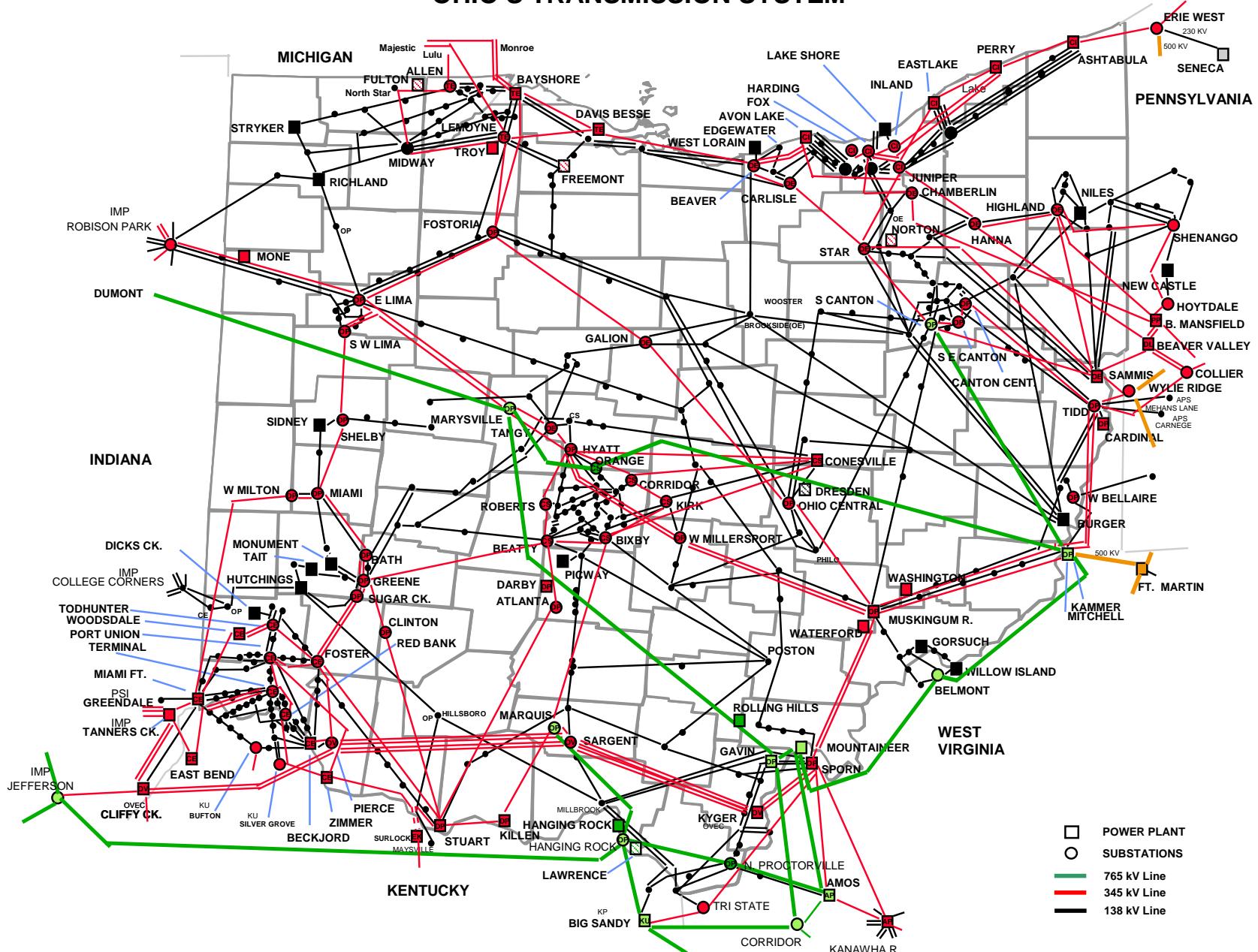
\$3.50 8.24%



## Current Research

- We are currently researching the impact of transmission constraints on the behavior of the wholesale electricity market.
- In specific, we are in the process of mining for two or three transmission line bottlenecks in and around Ohio that are impacting wholesale electricity prices in the day-ahead market.
- Our objective is to explicitly represent transmission line congestion in the neural network model.

# OHIO'S TRANSMISSION SYSTEM



Source: Long-term Forecasting Reports of the Ohio Electric Utilities and PUCO, Division of Facilities, Siting and Environmental Analysis.