

6. How can reliability costs and benefits be assessed and incorporated into an analysis of renewables costs? Has any jurisdiction tried to do so, and if so, how?

Renewable energy sources, primarily wind and solar, can increase reliability due to the distributed nature of the technologies. A large catastrophic weather event is less likely to affect distributed generation as it could with centralized generation. The capacity factor projections of wind have increased since the passage of Act 295 from an estimated 28% to over 40% for newer projects. Advances in storage technologies are working to improve grid integration and reliability and take advantage of the strengths of renewable generation such as its distributed nature and increased generation portfolio diversity. Michigan has a unique advantage in the Ludington Pumped Storage Facility that can store over 1,800 MW of capacity, charged by renewable energy produced during off peak hours and used during on peak hours.

Source: [http://www.ucsusa.org/clean\\_energy/our-energy-choices/renewable-energy/public-benefits-of-renewable.html#stableprices](http://www.ucsusa.org/clean_energy/our-energy-choices/renewable-energy/public-benefits-of-renewable.html#stableprices)