



Session 3
**EXPLORING
TECHNOLOGICAL
SOLUTIONS**

EXISTING TOOLS IN THE TOOLBOX



Nick Evans

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MPSC
Technical Conference
Day 2

Session Three
*Exploring Technological
Solutions*

Speaker Topic:
*Existing Tools in the
Toolbox*

November 5, 2021
11:00 a.m.



Michigan
Public Service
Commission



Tree Trimming



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- Tree interference is the leading cause of customer outages.
- Tree trimming is considered to be the most cost-effective way to reduce the frequency and duration of outages.
- Numerous Michigan utilities are on tree trimming cycles of seven years or less.
- Highlights the tension between capital and O&M spending.

Tree Trimming– 2021-2025 Spending



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Consumers Energy

- 2021: \$84,000,000
- 2022: \$94,400,000
- 2023: \$100,000,000
- 2024: \$117,600,000
- 2025: \$120,400,000

DTE Electric

- 2021: \$191,000,000
- 2022: \$195,000,000
- 2023: \$188,000,000
- 2024: \$152,000,000
- 2025: \$109,000,000

Sources: Consumers Energy Company's Final Electric Distribution Infrastructure Investment Plan ("EDIIP") 2021-25, filed 6/30/2021; DTE Electric Company's 2021 Distribution Grid Plan Final Report filed 9/30/2021.

(Cont.) Tree Trimming– 2021-2025 Spending



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Indiana Michigan Power Company

- 2021: \$13,200,000
- 2022: \$13,200,000
- 2023: \$13,200,000
- 2024: \$13,200,000
- 2025: \$13,200,000

Source: Indiana Michigan Power Company's Michigan Five-Year Distribution Plan 2021-2025, filed 9/30/2021

The Right Tree In The Right Place



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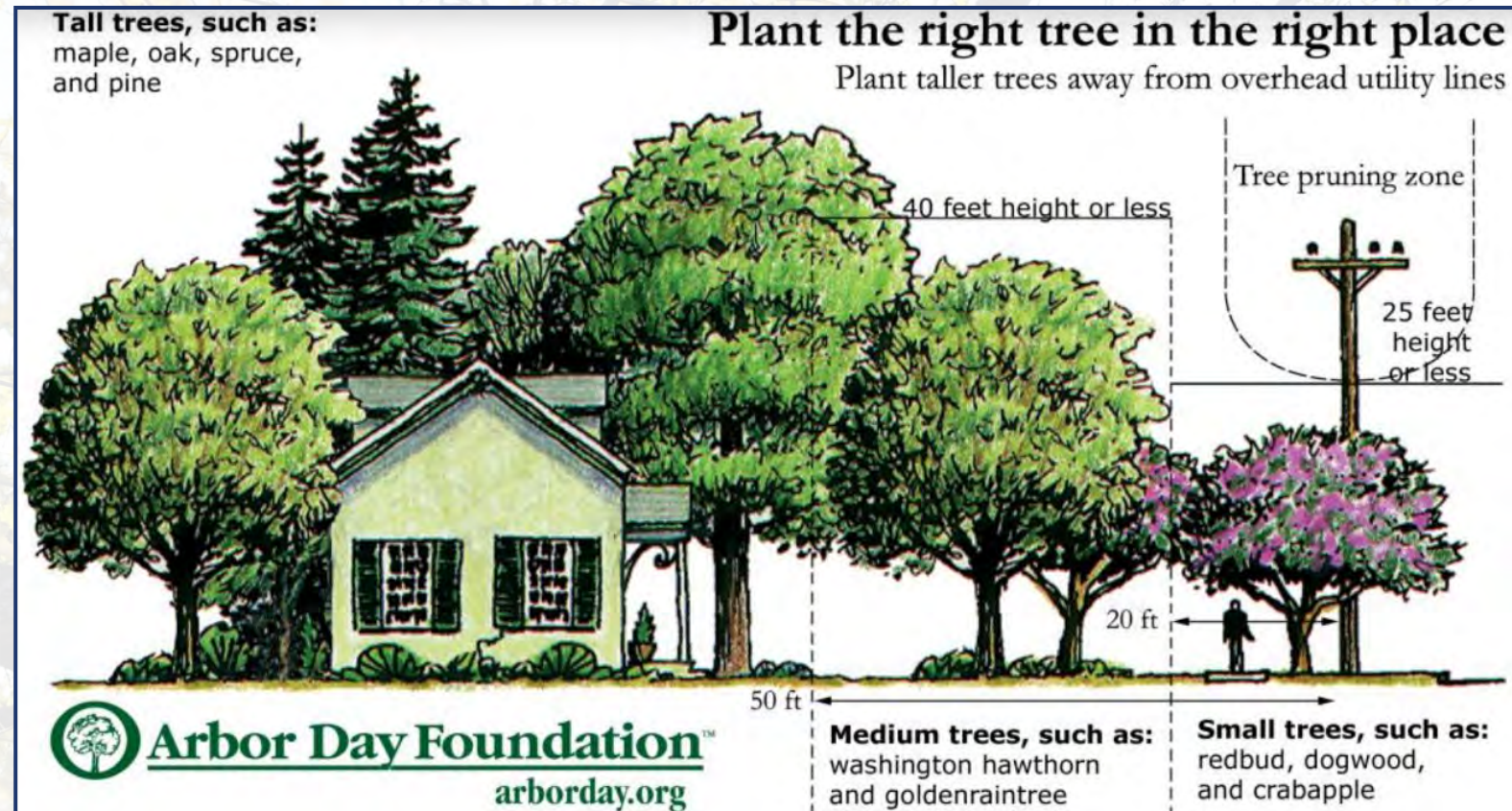
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- Plant low-growing trees near power lines.
- Other applications.



Source: <https://www.berkeleyelectric.coop/right-tree-right-place>

DTE Electric Infrastructure Resiliency & Hardening



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Consists of:

- Capital replacement programs
- Substation risk
- 4.8 kV Hardening Program
- Frequent Outage Program
- 4.8 kV relay improvements
- Mobile fleet

Consumers Energy Reliability Program



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- Aims to reduce system outages and harden the system.
- Install, upgrade, and rehabilitate:
 - ✓ Low voltage distribution (LVD) lines
 - ✓ High voltage distribution (HVD) lines
 - ✓ LVD and HVD substations
 - ✓ Metro underground equipment
 - ✓ Protective relay equipment
- Includes capital expenditures to modernize the electric grid.

I&M's Reliability And Asset Renewal Projects



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- Aim to replace aging infrastructure and harden the system.
- Four main projects:
 - ✓ Overhead line rebuild
 - ✓ Underground replacement project
 - ✓ Pole replacement project
 - ✓ Distribution feeder breaker replacement

Pole Inspection And Replacement Programs



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Consumers Energy:

- HVD Pole Inspection Program
- HVD Overhead Line Inspection Program
- LVD Overhead Line inspection program
- LVD Pole Inspection Program

DTE Electric:

- Pole-top maintenance program
- Prior to allowing joint use attachment
- Trouble
 - ✓ Day-to-day
 - ✓ Storm

Pole Inspection Reports



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- DTE and Consumers are required to file a report every year.
- On November 20, 2009, MPSC Staff filed a report titled “Utility Pole Inspection Program Investigation Staff Report.”
- Among other recommendations, Staff recommended both companies:
 - ✓ Achieve a 10-12 year pole inspection cycle frequency to correlate with the standard recommended by the USDA Rural Utility Service for Michigan’s decay zone.
 - ✓ Provide a brief Pole Inspection Report to Staff each year by September 1st.

Upgrading Overhead Lines - Grade C To B



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NESC: Grade B from Grade C.

- Grade B construction allows utility lines to withstand more severe weather conditions.
- The NESC currently requires Grade B for crossings over:
 - ✓ Railroad tracks
 - ✓ Limited access highways
 - ✓ Navigable waterways requiring waterway crossing permits
- Some Michigan utilities are constructing all new overhead circuits to the Grade B standard.
- Downside: Grade B is more expensive than Grade C.

Upgrading Lines From 4.8 To 13.2 Kv (DTE Electric)



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DTE is implementing a 4.8 kV Conversion and Consolidation program

- Aimed at upgrading the 4.8 kV system to 13.2 kV by building new substations and upgrading circuits.
- Load from multiple 4.8 kV substations can be transferred to a single 13.2 kV substation.
- Should improve reliability and have lower maintenance costs.
- This conversion is expected to take several decades.

Non-standard Voltage Reduction (CE)



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- Part of the LVD Lines Reliability targeted circuit improvements.
- Conversion of circuits at non-standard voltages to the three standard operating voltages.
- Benefits:
 - ✓ Grounded wye systems are safer than delta.
 - ✓ Reduced losses and increased system line capacity.
 - ✓ Reduced number of interruptions for single phase failure.
 - ✓ Increased system transfer capability.

Undergrounding



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- Placing of overhead transmission and distribution lines underground.
- Found in subdivisions and in downtown areas of larger cities.
- Underground lines have advantages and disadvantages compared to overhead lines.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin



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Speaker Topic:
*Wisconsin Reliability and
Resilience Perspective*

November 5, 2021
11:10 a.m.



The PSC of Wisconsin ensures **safe, reliable,** affordable, and environmentally responsible utility services and equitable access to telecommunications and broadband services.





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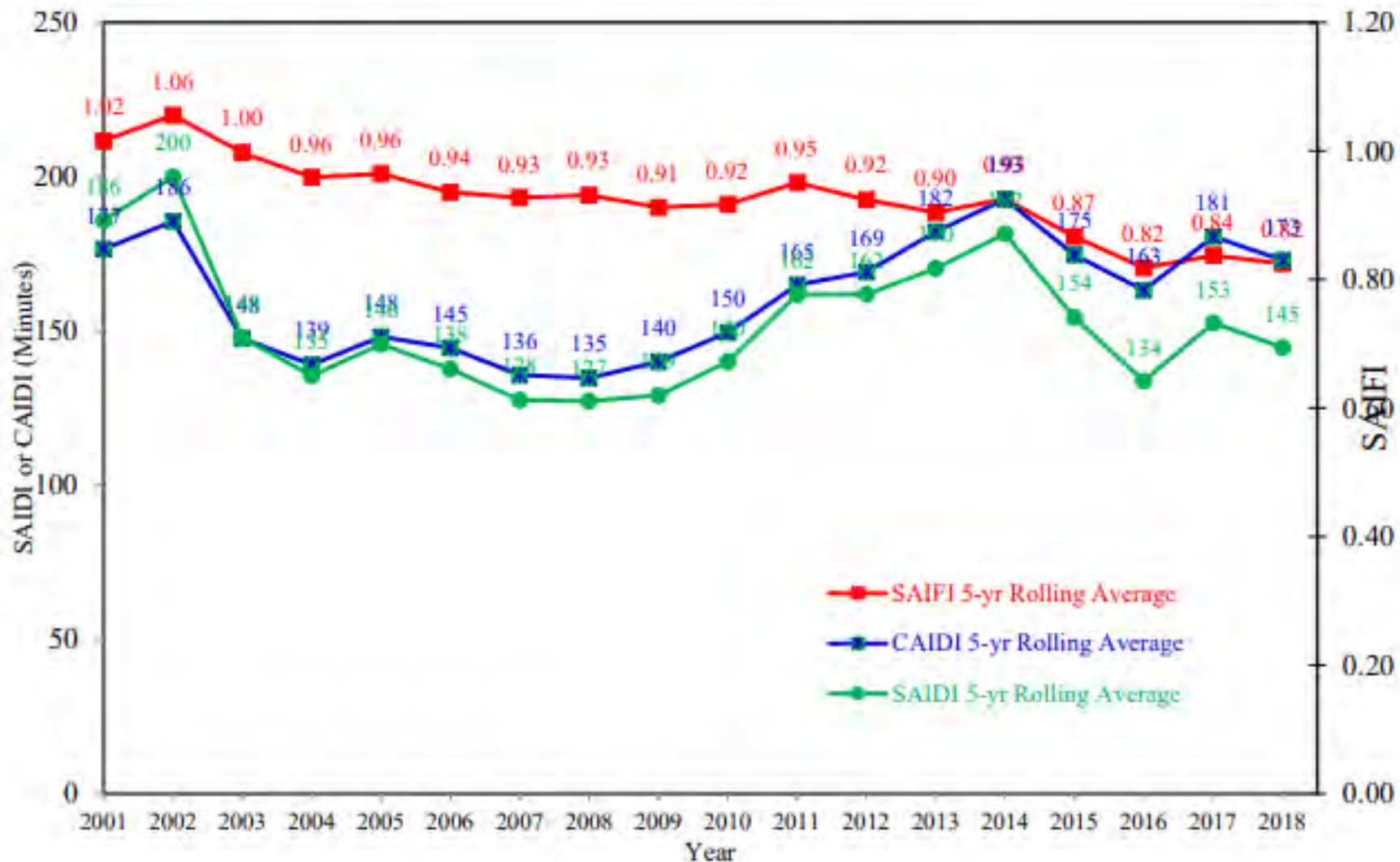
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Statewide Average SAIFI, SAIDI, and CAIDI Values for Major IOUs³⁵



August 2021 Storms



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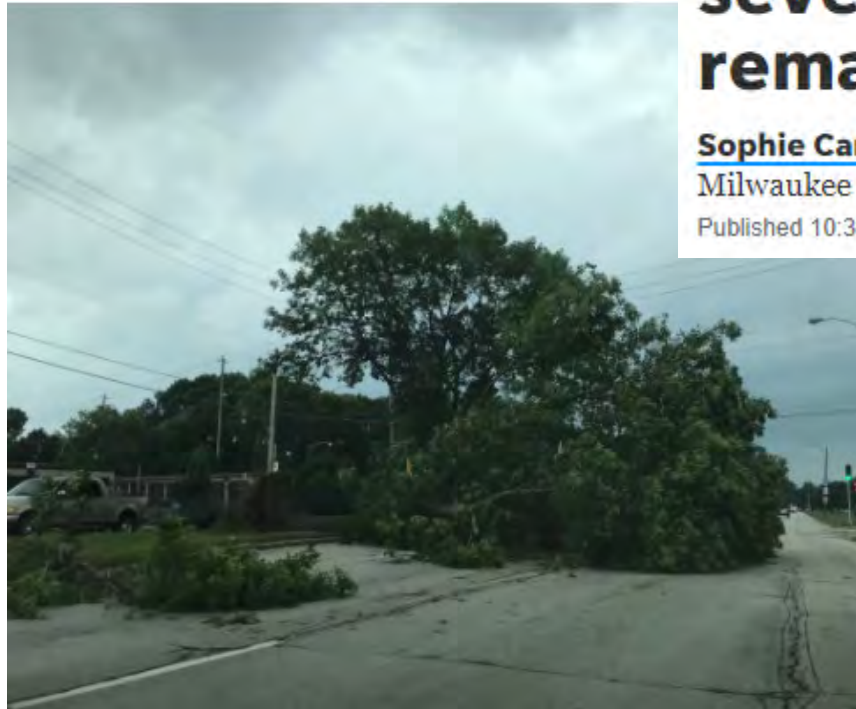
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WEATHER

As Wisconsin cleans up damage from severe storms, about 85,000 people remain without power

[Sophie Carson](#), [Elliot Hughes](#), [Grace McDermott](#) and [Hannah Kirby](#)
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Published 10:35 a.m. CT Aug. 11, 2021 | Updated 12:19 p.m. CT Aug. 12, 2021



Survey – 5 Major IOUs



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1. Report the year-to-date condition of the System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI), System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI), and Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI) reliability indices. Provide an impact analysis of the aforementioned weather events and other notable severe storm events on the reliability indices.
2. Provide the annual goals related to these reliability metrics. Provide a description of how these goals were established.
3. Describe the measures you have taken over the past two years to achieve these goals and the results of those measures.



System Modernization Reliability Project



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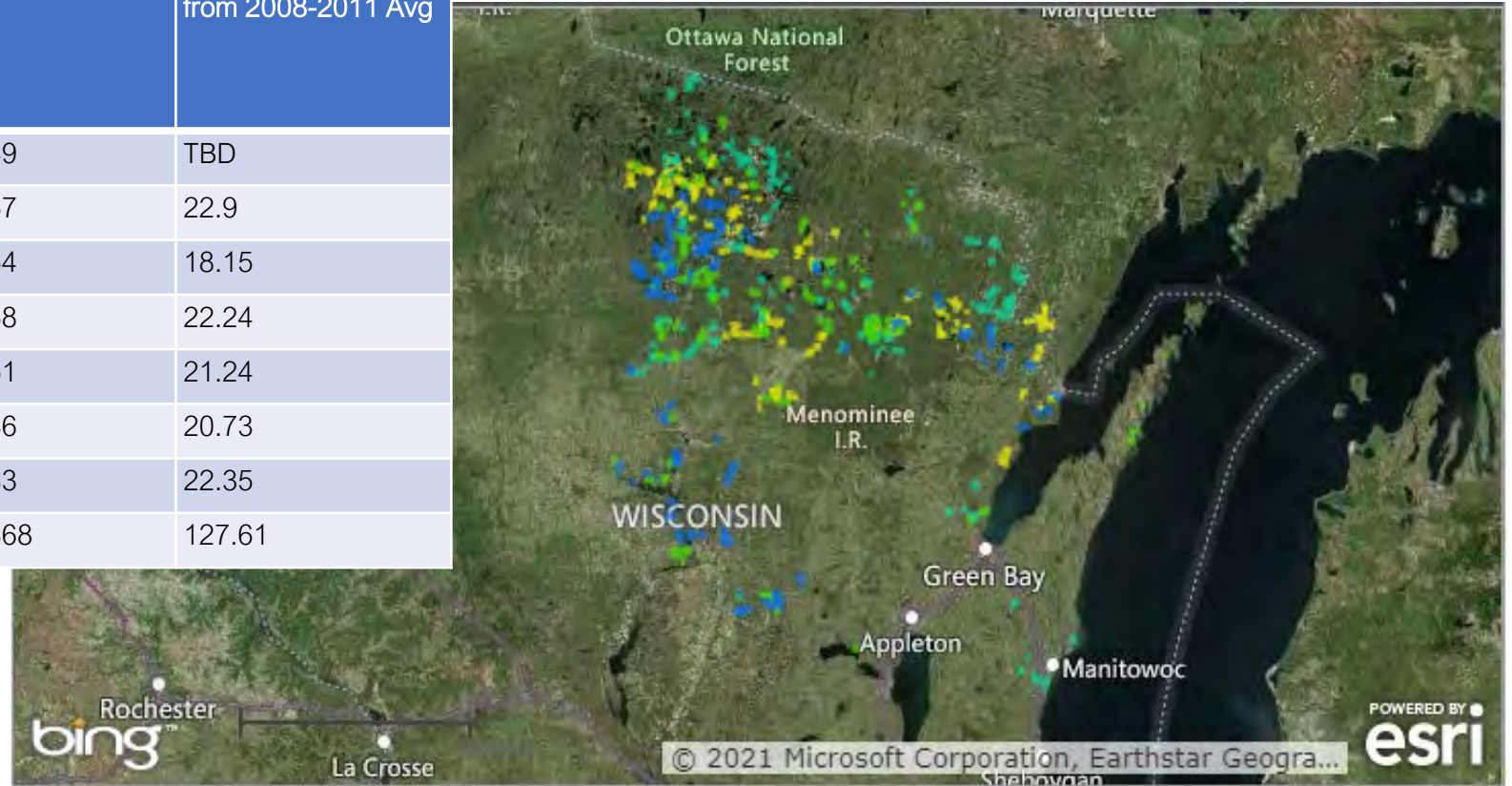
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Year	Primary Circuit Miles	Actuals, Millions	SAIDI Improvement from 2008-2011 Avg
2020	247	\$49	TBD
2019	344	\$67	22.9
2018	313	\$64	18.15
2017	348	\$68	22.24
2016	211	\$51	21.24
2015	210	\$36	20.73
2014	185	\$33	22.35
Total	1858	\$368	127.61



■ 2018 project
 ■ 2019 project
 ■ 2020 project
 ■ 2021 project

For additional project information, single-click on the highlighted project areas on the map.



Reliability Improvement Efforts



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Undergrounding



Tree trimming



Voltage conversion



AMI and outage
management systems



Distributed
automation



Fault locating devices



NEW TECHNOLOGIES & GRID MODERNIZATION FOR RELIABILITY



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Joy Wang**

*Engineer,
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Section*



**Amy
Heart**

*Senior Director of
Public Policy*



**Paul
De Martini**

Managing Partner



**Jeremy
Twitchell**

Senior Energy Analyst



**Kiera
Zitelman**

*Center for Partnerships
& Innovation*

