

**Making sure resources are there to serve customer load**  
**Robinson shares resource planning insight with Forum attendees**  
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Evaluating the company's load and energy growth, and developing both near- and long-term resource plans is what the company's Resource Planning organization does.

"The objective is to develop the best long-term plans while also meeting the company's short-term needs," **Don Robinson**, Senior Vice President, Planning and Administration, told the Leadership Forum attendees.

This includes taking into consideration things such as cost to customers – both the long-term economics and near-term prices. Other things the resource planner takes into consideration include system reliability, environmental impacts and risks such as price stability, future legislation and development costs.

"Then there are the external drivers that must be taken into account," Robinson said. "Some examples would be the national energy policy, fuel price volatility, global forces and available merchant generation," Robinson said.

When it comes to energy sources, he explained there are four options to consider – coal, nuclear, renewables and gas. The Resource Planning team looks at the benefits and risks of each.

Looking ahead, Robinson noted significant resource additions will be required.

"Flexibility is essential for APS," he said. "All energy options will be evaluated so we have the best plan in place to meet our customers' needs."