



NUREG-1937, Vol. 2

**Draft Environmental Impact
Statement for Combined Licenses
(COLs) for South Texas Project
Electric Generating Station
Units 3 and 4**

Draft Report for Comment

**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of New Reactors
Washington, DC 20555-0001**

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Army Engineer District, Galveston
Galveston, TX 77553-1229**



US Army Corps

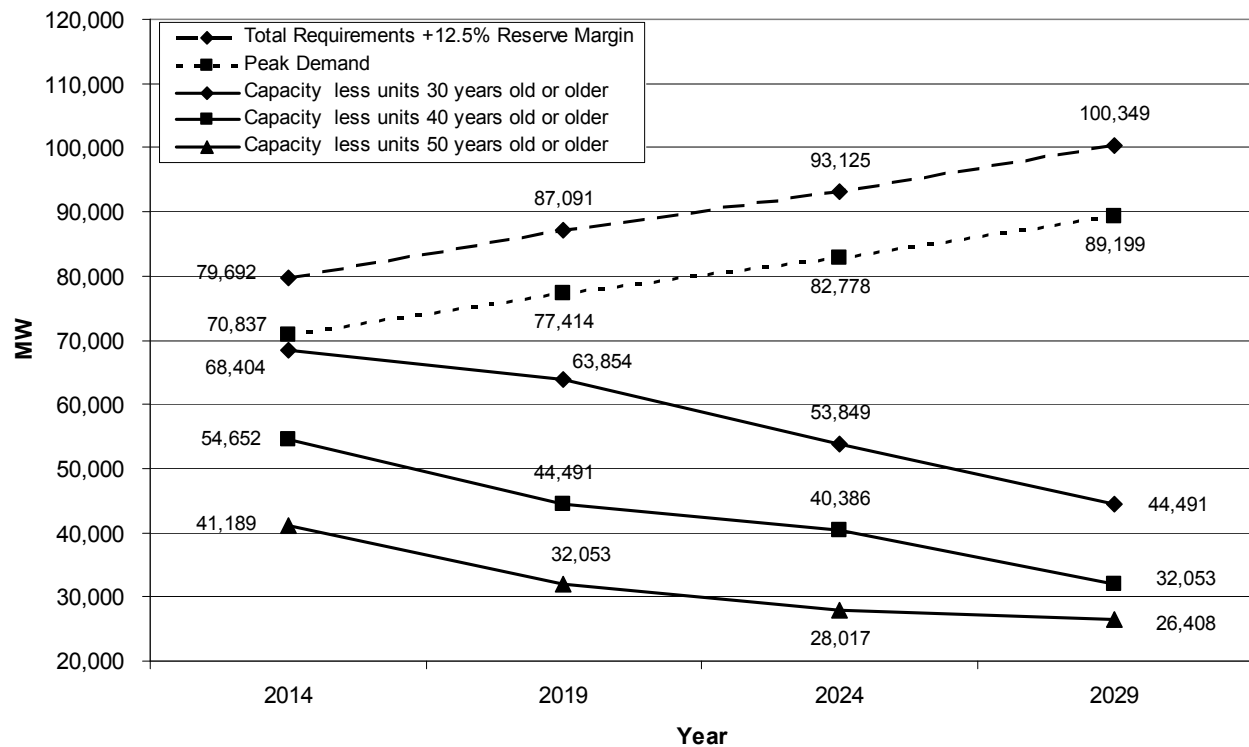


Figure 8-10. Alternative ERCOT Generation Capacity Reduction Scenarios vs. Projected Demand (ERCOT 2009b)

In Table 8-3, the ERCOT forecast shows that by 2014, the amount of summer resources would be about 79,100 MW and 80,500 MW by 2019. Reserve requirements would be met in 2014, but not by 2019. The reserve margin would fall from 13.9 percent in 2014 to 5.9 percent in 2019. With retirements of older power plants after 2014, the demand and supply would be further out of balance, because the resources needed just to meet firm load would be 76,100 MW. The resources available, accounting for wind generation and retirements, would be only 71,200 MW if only power plants older than 50 years old were retired — an absolute shortage of 5000 MW and a shortage of 15,900 MW relative to the amount needed to cover the reserve margin. The reserve margin would be below zero. If retirements of power plants increase, the prospective shortage of generation in the 2014-2019 period would grow still larger

STPNOC concluded in its ER (STPNOC 2009), based on the ERCOT 2007 forecasts and before the 2008-2009 economic recession, which the generation shortage in 2016 could be between 20,000 and 50,000 MW. The shortage in Table 8-3 is 15,900 MW, still substantial.