

# Public Utility Commission of Texas

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**Thursday, March 1, 2018**

## **Statement of the Public Utility Commission of Texas Regarding the Seasonal Assessment of Resource Adequacy**

### **For Immediate Release**

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The Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) continues to closely monitor the forecast for electricity supply and demand for this coming summer. As expected, the decisions of generation owners to retire several large coal-fired power plants has significantly reduced the excess supply of electricity that the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) power region has enjoyed over the past five years.

While this summer will be tighter than the past few years, it is important to note that the ERCOT market is designed with a number of mechanisms and tools to incentivize increases in supply or temporary reductions in demand to maintain the reliability of the system. These tools include programs operated by ERCOT, retail electric providers, and distribution utilities that compensate customers who can temporarily reduce their demand or operate their own generation if outages of large power plants occur during extreme weather conditions. Additionally, the ERCOT market structure provides powerful incentives for customers to reduce their consumption in response to prices. ERCOT reports continue to show continued investment and development of natural gas, solar, and wind power plants, and the PUC remains dedicated to ensuring that market rules support the investment needed for our growing state.

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