

Planning for Large Loads in New England



2026 NECPUC Symposium

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ISO New England
has observed
three main
phases of large
load project
development



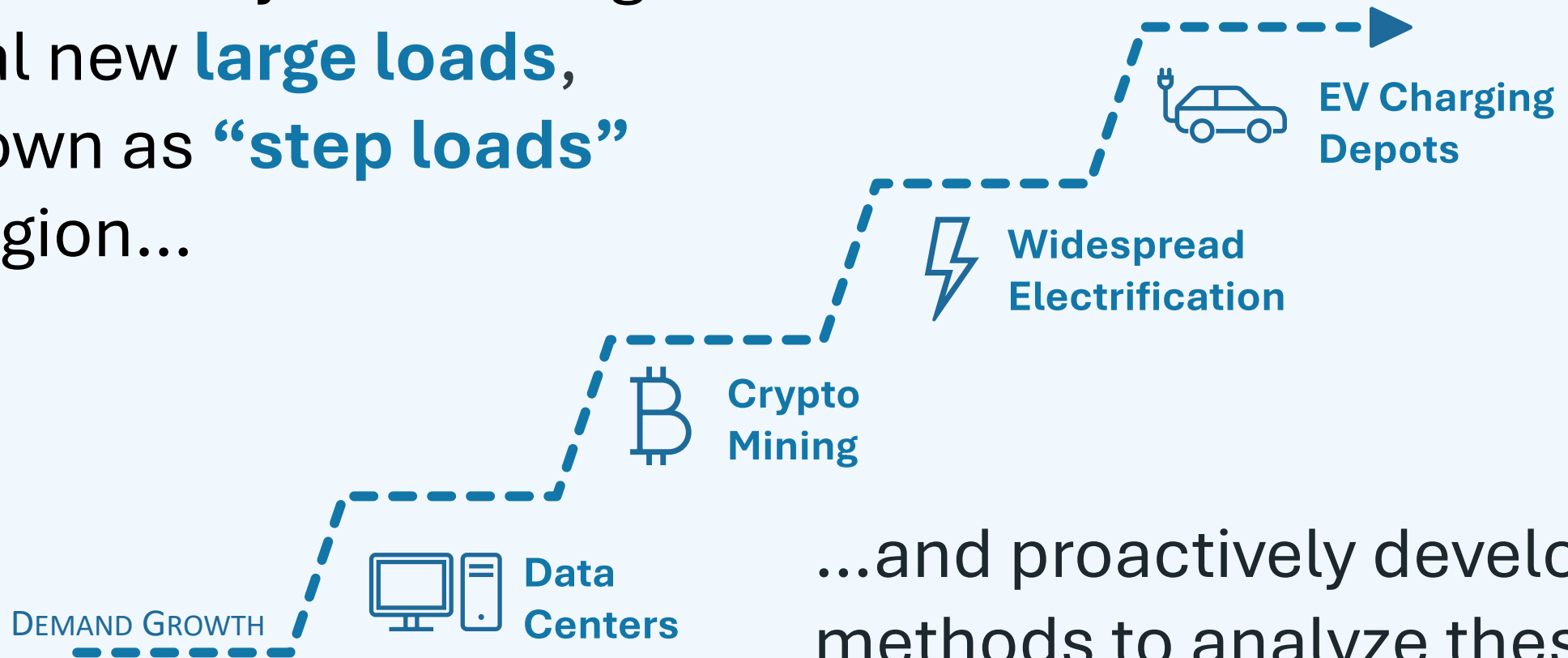
Initial contact with
Transmission Owner/
Distribution Company with
high level discussion of
feasibility

Formal Service application
and System Impact Study
Agreement



Commitment to proceeding
with construction with
associated contracts and
required construction
payments

ISO-NE is closely monitoring potential new **large loads**, also known as “**step loads**” in the region...



...and proactively developing methods to analyze these potential loads' impact on **future demand**

ISO-NE is preparing for the potential of large load additions, including through:



Engagement with **New England Transmission Owners** regarding potential large load interconnections

Communication with **state policymakers, legislators and regulators** to understand any potential policy incentives for data centers

Research of methods and data sources to understand the potential magnitude, timing, and likelihood of future impacts of step loads in New England



ISO-NE's 2026 CELT Includes Large Load Forecast



[2026-2035 Capacity, Energy,
Loads, and Transmission Report](#)

*Large load forecast includes
projects ≥ 20 MW with formal
transmission study agreements*

**Proactively gather information on prospective
large loads in coordination with TOs**



**Determine derate factors and develop effective
project nameplate values**



Develop nameplate forecast



**Develop hourly profiles based on high-level
usage patterns, reflecting daily demand and
calendar effects**

Other Actions that Will Influence Large Load Development



Federal guidance anticipated on:

- Interconnection process
- Interconnection cost allocation/transmission service
- Co-location with existing generation
- Curtailability



Ongoing national conversations:

- Incremental resources needed for new large loads and resource adequacy response
- Risks of emerging large loads (NERC Large Loads Working Group)
- State priorities for managing large loads