

Making Utility Hosting Capacity Maps Publicly Available

Electric utilities use hosting capacity maps to provide an overview of a distribution system's ability to host additional electrical capacity (either generation or load) at specific grid locations. Hosting capacity maps provide greater transparency into the ability of a grid to host new loads such as EV charging. Utilities, developers, and other stakeholders can use hosting capacity maps for better planning and siting, and they can help businesses such as EV charging companies identify where there is available capacity on the electric grid to connect new loads.

Policy Applicability

☒ Passenger Cars ☒ Medium- and Heavy Duty

What jurisdictions have made hosting capacity maps available to the public?

Some state regulators have required that utilities make capacity maps and data publicly available: CA, CO, CT, DC, HI, IL, MA, MI, MN, NV, NJ, and NY. Even if not required, at least one utility hosting capacity map has been [published](#) in 26 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, DC.

Example policies to consider

Many state utility regulators have opened dockets, either on their own motion or at the direction of their legislature, to weigh the risks and benefits of making hosting capacity maps public, and ultimately to make certain data available to the public.

The Colorado Public Utilities Commission adopted new [rules](#) in 2021 that require utilities, as part of their distribution system planning, to develop a hosting capacity analysis and make the analysis and associated data available on a web-based portal.

In 2020, the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities [ordered](#) all distribution utilities to make hosting capacity maps publicly available and to provide a specific set of information for each location, circuit, or substation.

Other resources

Atlas EV Hub: [Hosting Capacity Maps for EV Charging](#)