

Exhibit No.  
Issue: Weather Normalization  
Witness: Mr. Mark Quan  
Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony  
Sponsoring Party: Empire District Electric.  
Docket No.  
Date Testimony Prepared: October 2009

**Before the Kansas Corporation Commission**

**Direct Testimony**

**of**

**Mark Quan**

**October 2009**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY  
OF  
MR. MARK QUAN  
ON BEHALF OF  
THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY  
BEFORE THE  
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION**

1 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, TITLE, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS FOR**  
2 **THE RECORD.**

3 A. My name is Mark Quan. I am a Principal Consultant for Itron's Forecasting  
4 Solutions group. My business address is 11236 El Camino Real, San Diego,  
5 California 92130

6 **Q. WOULD YOU PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**  
7 **AND PRIOR ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE?**

8 A. I graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles with a Bachelor's  
9 Degree in Applied Mathematics with a specialization in Computer Studies. I  
10 graduated from Stanford University with a Master's Degree in Operations  
11 Research.

12 From 1989 to 1997, I was employed by Pacific Gas & Electric in San  
13 Francisco, California. My responsibilities at PG&E were in the areas of  
14 resource planning, gas supply planning, power contracts, and revenue  
15 requirements.

16 In 1997, I joined the consulting staff of Regional Economic Research  
17 ("RER"). RER was acquired by Itron in 2002. My responsibilities at

1 RER/Itron include performing and managing statistical analysis of client loads  
2 for the purpose of long-term forecasting and short-term forecasting. The  
3 analysis includes developing time series, multivariate regression, and neural  
4 network models for use in short term system dispatch forecasts and long-term  
5 budget, planning, and rate setting forecasts. In addition to performing  
6 analysis for clients, I am responsible for portions of Itron's forecasting training  
7 curriculum teaching introduction to forecasting, load modeling, and statistical  
8 software training classes.

9 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

10 A. The purpose of my testimony is to support work I conducted to develop  
11 weather-normalized sales estimates for Empire. Using a statistical-based  
12 modeling approach, I developed weather-normalized sales for the historical  
13 test year. The test year is from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.  
14 Weather-normalized sales are estimated for the following five classes:  
15 Residential, Commercial, General Power, Small Heating, and Total Electric  
16 Building.

17 **Q. WHAT ARE THE RESULTS FROM THE WEATHER NORMALIZATION?**

18 A. Applying the method described in my testimony, the normal values I  
19 calculated are show in Table 1 to Table 5 for each class.

**Table 1: Residential Normal Values**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Actual Billed Sales (kWh)</b>	<b>Normal Billed Sales (kWh)</b>	<b>Normal Calendar Sales (kWh)</b>
Jul 2008	10,573,022	10,719,832	12,455,740
Aug 2008	12,922,885	13,357,537	12,879,282
Sep 2008	9,646,477	10,373,902	8,389,197
Oct 2008	6,248,206	6,630,443	6,131,890
Nov 2008	6,226,370	6,131,951	7,389,414
Dec 2008	10,633,143	10,222,443	11,535,951
Jan 2009	13,669,220	13,140,532	12,654,614
Feb 2009	11,669,423	11,680,440	10,788,215
Mar 2009	8,887,574	9,183,266	8,732,841
Apr 2009	7,803,972	7,888,860	6,562,597
May 2009	6,458,995	6,428,645	7,153,464
Jun 2009	7,612,255	7,515,719	9,036,469

**Table 2: Commercial Normal Values**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Actual Billed Sales (kWh)</b>	<b>Normal Billed Sales (kWh)</b>	<b>Normal Calendar Sales (kWh)</b>
Jul 2008	1,803,178	1,812,025	2,012,662
Aug 2008	2,182,049	2,223,038	2,161,960
Sep 2008	1,828,762	1,904,719	1,661,104
Oct 2008	1,494,424	1,545,973	1,437,723
Nov 2008	1,175,303	1,171,998	1,230,891
Dec 2008	1,526,826	1,502,350	1,615,091
Jan 2009	1,767,899	1,737,855	1,636,104
Feb 2009	1,624,204	1,624,821	1,544,949
Mar 2009	1,414,563	1,430,695	1,441,950
Apr 2009	1,357,700	1,362,127	1,270,879
May 2009	1,275,786	1,276,710	1,416,671
Jun 2009	1,426,270	1,417,419	1,629,210

**Table 3: GP Normal Values**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Actual Billed Sales (kWh)</b>	<b>Normal Billed Sales (kWh)</b>	<b>Normal Calendar Sales (kWh)</b>
Jul 2008	4,568,457	4,579,464	4,804,990
Aug 2008	4,849,822	4,883,100	4,942,364
Sep 2008	4,665,617	4,719,911	4,348,346
Oct 2008	4,165,420	4,198,213	4,213,206
Nov 2008	3,402,295	3,399,606	3,240,812
Dec 2008	3,801,906	3,783,002	4,087,733
Jan 2009	4,003,729	3,979,280	3,801,891
Feb 2009	3,746,389	3,742,564	3,685,821
Mar 2009	3,613,107	3,618,141	3,703,457
Apr 2009	3,382,686	3,385,844	3,262,372
May 2009	3,456,454	3,466,721	3,625,158
Jun 2009	3,661,167	3,656,290	3,887,372

**Table 4: SH Normal Values**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Actual Billed Sales (kWh)</b>	<b>Normal Billed Sales (kWh)</b>	<b>Normal Calendar Sales (kWh)</b>
Jul 2008	229,653	230,576	246,354
Aug 2008	285,283	289,308	286,039
Sep 2008	238,335	244,754	221,189
Oct 2008	195,426	199,201	191,614
Nov 2008	193,486	192,285	203,746
Dec 2008	264,361	258,612	292,401
Jan 2009	431,618	417,586	396,262
Feb 2009	400,944	399,304	373,955
Mar 2009	281,115	284,757	280,906
Apr 2009	233,469	234,584	218,874
May 2009	186,818	187,260	202,020
Jun 2009	200,296	199,546	216,865

**Table 5: TEB Normal Values**

Month	Actual Billed Sales (kWh)	Normal Billed Sales (kWh)	Normal Calendar Sales (kWh)
Jul 2008	592,265	594,273	642,918
Aug 2008	724,617	733,985	719,163
Sep 2008	752,408	771,726	705,145
Oct 2008	634,683	646,764	617,913
Nov 2008	591,181	587,602	650,179
Dec 2008	849,927	833,163	884,798
Jan 2009	1,083,839	1,054,616	985,400
Feb 2009	971,972	969,978	927,904
Mar 2009	750,118	761,107	753,772
Apr 2009	626,403	630,368	587,694
May 2009	554,184	554,770	604,186
Jun 2009	537,046	535,193	578,943

1 Q. **WHAT IS WEATHER NORMALIZATION?**

2 A. Weather Normalization is the process of determining what historical  
3 consumption would have been if normal weather conditions existed. The  
4 process is a mathematical method to adjust the existing monthly sales for a  
5 class based on a statistical model and normal weather conditions.

6 Q. **CAN YOU DESCRIBE THE WEATHER NORMALIZATION PROCESS?**

7 A. The weather-normalization process entails adjusting actual sales based on  
8 the difference between what would have happened under normal weather  
9 conditions versus what happened under actual weather conditions. The  
10 fundamental equation used in the process is shown below.



1 
$$NormalSales_{month} = \frac{ModelNormalSales_{month}}{ModelActualSales_{month}} \times ActualSales_{month}$$

2 In this equation, actual monthly sales are multiplied by the ratio of modeled  
3 sales under normal conditions to modeled sales under actual conditions. For  
4 example, if the ratio of the  $ModelNormalSales_{month}$  to  $ModelActualSales_{month}$  is  
5 0.90, then the  $ActualSales_{month}$  should be multiplied by 0.90 because the  
6 model estimates that sales under normal conditions are lower than sales  
7 under actual weather conditions by approximately 10%. The method is more  
8 fully described in Schedule MQ-2.

9 **Q. HOW DO YOU OBTAIN THE MODELED SALES UNDER ACTUAL**  
10 **CONDITIONS?**

11 A. To obtain modeled sales under actual conditions, I developed a multivariate  
12 regression model for each class and used the model to estimate sales for  
13 using actual weather data over the test period. The regression model  
14 predicts daily load as a function of actual daily weather. The regression  
15 model is developed using customer class load research data. The  
16 independent variables include weather splines for heating and cooling  
17 responses, daytype and holiday variables for seasonal variations, and  
18 sunlight variables for lighting effects. These variables capture the changing  
19 customer consumption patterns throughout the year. The weather spline  
20 variables capture the nonlinear interaction between load and weather. I have  
21 included the regression model specifications and results for the five classes in  
22 Schedule MQ-1.

1 Q. HOW DO YOU OBTAIN THE MODELED SALES UNDER NORMAL  
2 CONDITIONS?

3 A. To obtain modeled sales under normal conditions, I used the same  
4 multivariate regression model mentioned above and forecast the sales using  
5 normal weather data through the test period.

6 Q. IN THE MODELS, WHAT ARE THE kWh PER DEGREE CHANGE  
7 IMPACTS?

8 A. Because the load-weather relationship is non-linear, a single kWh/degree  
9 number is not applicable for any class. Instead, the kWh/degree change  
10 depends on the degree at which the value is calculated. Embedded in the  
11 regression model for each class are heating and cooling degree day variables  
12 that describe the kWh/degree change at different temperature points.

13 In the Residential Class model, I use CDD65 and CDD70 temperature  
14 splines for cooling impacts. Associated with these variables are model  
15 coefficients that describe the kWh/degree change when temperature  
16 increases above 65 degrees. Between 66 and 70 degrees, a one degree  
17 change results in a 1.04958 kWh increase. The 1.04958 is the coefficient on  
18 the CDD65 variable. Above 70 degrees, a one degree change results in a  
19 1.66793 (1.04958 + 0.61835) kWh increase. The 1.66793 is the sum of the  
20 coefficients on the CDD65 and CDD70 variables.

21 In the Residential Class, I use HDD55, HDD60, and HDD55Trend  
22 temperature splines for heating impacts. Excluding the HDD55Trend  
23 variable, a one degree change between 56 and 60 degrees results in a

1 0.51805 kWh increase and a one degree change below 60 degrees, a one  
2 degree change results in a 0.54727 (0.51805 + 0.02922) kWh increase.  
3 When accounting for the HDD55\_Trend variable, the impact increases below  
4 55 degrees by 0.03480 kWh multiplied by a trend factor (Year-2002 + days in  
5 year/366) based on 2002. For example, on January 1, 2008, the impact is  
6 6.00273 (2008-2002 + 1/366) multiplied with 0.03480 kWh, or 0.20890 kWh.

7 For the other Classes, the model coefficients are interpreted the same  
8 way. These coefficients are shown in Schedule MQ-1.

9 **Q. HOW DID YOU DEVELOP NORMAL WEATHER CONDITIONS FOR THE**  
10 **SALES MODEL?**

11 A. Normal weather conditions are developed using a 30-year average of  
12 historical weather from 1979 through 2008. The averages are obtained by a  
13 Rank and Average method. In this method, historical daily average  
14 temperatures are ranked from the highest value to the lowest value in each  
15 month. For each historical day, the corresponding heating degree day (HDD)  
16 and cooling degree day (CDD) values are calculated for multiple temperature  
17 reference points. Next, the normal HDD and CDD values are calculated as  
18 the average across the 30 historical years within a month. This defines the  
19 normal hottest day of each month as the average across the hottest days in  
20 the past 30 historical years in the same month. The final step in this method  
21 is to map the ranked averages to the test year actual weather. The final  
22 result maps the normal hottest day of the month to the hottest historical day in  
23 the corresponding test year month.

1 Q. **WHAT ADJUSTMENT DID YOU MAKE FOR BILLING CYCLES?**

2 A. The fundamental equation includes billing cycle variations in the calculation.  
3 The variation is implicit in the "month" subscript. To calculate billed normal  
4 sales, I forecast the daily consumption under normal and actual conditions  
5 and aggregated the consumption based on monthly billing cycle dates. To  
6 calculate calendar normal sales, I aggregated consumption under normal  
7 conditions based on the calendar dates. However, the ratio denominator of  
8 ModelActualSales remains calculated over billing cycle dates. This ratio  
9 embeds the conversion from billing cycle sales to calendar sales as well as  
10 the conversion to normal sales.

11 Q. **DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

12 A. Yes, it does.

## REGRESSION MODEL SPECIFICATIONS AND RESULTS

### RESIDENTIAL MODEL

#### Model fit statistics

■ R-Squared	0.964
■ Adjusted R-Squared	0.963
■ Mean Abs. Dev. (MAD)	1.60
■ Mean Abs. % Err. (MAPE)	4.63%
■ Durbin-Watson Statistic	2.073

#### Variable Statistics

Variable	Coefficient	T-Stat
CONST	27.06959	33.547
DailyAverageTemperature.HDD60	0.02922	0.658
DailyAverageTemperature.HDD55	0.51805	10.42
WeatherTransforms.HDD55_Trend	0.0348	6.598
DailyAverageTemperature.CDD65	1.04958	19.743
DailyAverageTemperature.CDD70	0.61835	9.127
MonthlyBinary.Jan	5.30198	8.286
MonthlyBinary.Feb	4.93771	9.672
MonthlyBinary.Mar	2.75547	5.817
MonthlyBinary.May	0.95295	2.036
MonthlyBinary.Jun	4.32128	8.371
MonthlyBinary.Jul	6.9458	12.804
MonthlyBinary.Aug	7.06532	13.03
MonthlyBinary.Sep	2.99283	5.989
MonthlyBinary.Oct	0.08486	0.163
MonthlyBinary.Nov	1.48822	2.286
MonthlyBinary.Dec	4.1413	4.775
DOWBinary.Monday	-1.39497	-9.443
DOWBinary.Tuesday	-1.61436	-9.154
DOWBinary.Wednesday	-1.58461	-8.417
DOWBinary.Thursday	-1.6996	-8.989
DOWBinary.Friday	-2.01884	-11.37
DOWBinary.Saturday	-0.40541	-2.807

SunTimes.FracDark17	6.14008	2.606
SunTimes.FracDark8	1.427	0.919
US_Holidays.NYHol	0.57733	0.707
US_Holidays.MLKing	0.4613	0.559
US_Holidays.PresidentDay	1.17494	1.555
US_Holidays.MemorialDay	3.09446	3.738
US_Holidays.July4thHol	1.421	1.735
US_Holidays.LaborDay	3.97419	4.416
US_Holidays.Thanksgiving	0.4875	0.532
US_Holidays.FriAftThanks	0.87403	0.954
US_Holidays.XMasHol	1.17186	1.429
MonthlyBinary.Year2006	-2.05118	-2.864
MonthlyBinary.Year2005	-2.38873	-3.282
MonthlyBinary.Year2004	-2.83854	-3.823
MonthlyBinary.Year2003	-2.70576	-3.56
MonthlyBinary.Year2002	-2.79349	-3.59
AR(1)	0.53902	27.235

**COMMERCIAL MODEL**

Model fit statistics

- R-Squared 0.958
- Adjusted R-Squared 0.957
- Mean Abs. Dev. (MAD) 1.88
- Mean Abs. % Err. (MAPE) 3.93%
- Durbin-Watson Statistic 2.072

Variable Statistics

Variable	Coefficient	T-Stat
CONST	29.3746	25.046
DailyAverageTemperature.HDD55	0.35782	31.027
DailyAverageTemperature.CDD65	0.98347	14.273
DailyAverageTemperature.CDD60	0.28477	5.103
MonthlyBinary.Jan	3.80909	4.875
MonthlyBinary.Feb	2.97765	3.917

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MonthlyBinary.Mar	0.8844	1.275
MonthlyBinary.May	2.51247	3.637
MonthlyBinary.Jun	6.34948	8.229
MonthlyBinary.Jul	8.88684	11.099
MonthlyBinary.Aug	8.86773	11.026
MonthlyBinary.Sep	5.70427	7.441
MonthlyBinary.Oct	2.50012	3.335
MonthlyBinary.Nov	2.29713	2.445
MonthlyBinary.Dec	3.34735	3.063
DOWBinary.Monday	11.72026	71.591
DOWBinary.Tuesday	12.42913	61.708
DOWBinary.Wednesday	12.72496	58.369
DOWBinary.Thursday	12.43354	56.812
DOWBinary.Friday	11.99073	59.176
DOWBinary.Saturday	3.34102	20.838
SunTimes.FracDark17	4.90751	1.494
US_Holidays.NYHol	-7.83879	-8.727
US_Holidays.MLKing	-2.12486	-2.491
US_Holidays.PresidentDay	-0.67173	-0.809
US_Holidays.MemorialDay	-11.9097	-13.075
US_Holidays.July4thHol	-14.5499	-16.169
US_Holidays.LaborDay	-12.3772	-13.586
US_Holidays.Thanksgiving	-14.2561	-13.881
US_Holidays.FriAftThanks	-5.26901	-5.128
US_Holidays.XMasHol	-8.97082	-9.956
MonthlyBinary.Year2006	0.7224	0.672
MonthlyBinary.Year2005	-1.3445	-1.233
MonthlyBinary.Year2004	-3.46917	-3.191
MonthlyBinary.Year2003	-1.84833	-1.697
MonthlyBinary.Year2002	0.51661	0.471
AR(1)	0.67937	39.112

**GENERAL POWER MODEL**

Model fit statistics

- R-Squared 0.968
- Adjusted R-Squared 0.965
- Mean Abs. Dev. (MAD) 215.16
- Mean Abs. % Err. (MAPE) 2.75%
- Durbin-Watson Statistic 2.076

Variable Statistics

Variable	Coefficient	T-Stat
CONST	4992.98853	36.363
DailyAverageTemperature.HDD50	22.49200	6.858
DailyAverageTemperature.CDD70	28.62724	2.546
DailyAverageTemperature.CDD55	34.35936	5.685
MonthlyBinary.Jan	328.47564	1.939
MonthlyBinary.Feb	483.49800	2.883
MonthlyBinary.Mar	-27.88954	-0.163
MonthlyBinary.May	43.76640	0.256
MonthlyBinary.Jun	322.27457	1.718
MonthlyBinary.Jul	395.71891	1.987
MonthlyBinary.Aug	897.24985	4.56
MonthlyBinary.Sep	294.72798	1.621
MonthlyBinary.Oct	297.89237	1.659
MonthlyBinary.Nov	-121.45020	-0.648
MonthlyBinary.Dec	229.96350	1.15
DOWBinary.Monday	3219.42390	71.04
DOWBinary.Tuesday	3606.86919	66.402
DOWBinary.Wednesday	3693.74723	63.178
DOWBinary.Thursday	3707.34409	63.008



DOWBinary.Friday	3380.34001	61.311
DOWBinary.Saturday	1105.57628	25.05
US_Holidays.NYHol	-2648.81910	-13.93
US_Holidays.MLKing	-727.69327	-3.643
US_Holidays.PresidentDay	-448.70797	-2.429
US_Holidays.MemorialDay	-3133.79174	-12.1
US_Holidays.July4thHol	-2900.47786	-10.04
US_Holidays.LaborDay	-2833.05410	-10.94
US_Holidays.Thanksgiving	-3845.45498	-12.83
US_Holidays.FriAftThanks	-2932.75898	-8.732
US_Holidays.SatAftThanks	-828.74718	-2.765
US_Holidays.XMasHol	-3117.82976	-10.97
US_Holidays.XMASAft	-1845.91375	-7.268
US_Holidays.July4thMonFri	-2236.14065	-7.733
AR(1)	0.61467	15.256

### SMALL HEATING MODEL

#### Model fit statistics

- R-Squared 0.937
- Adjusted R-Squared 0.935
- Mean Abs. Dev. (MAD) 3.44
- Mean Abs. % Err. (MAPE) 3.75%
- Durbin-Watson Statistic 1.866

#### Variable Statistics

Variable	Coefficient	T-Stat
CONST	70.46335	31.605
DailyAverageTemperature.HDD40	1.00446	8.986
DailyAverageTemperature.HDD50	0.85452	11.455

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DailyAverageTemperature.CDD55	0.43562	4.514
DailyAverageTemperature.CDD65	1.01158	5.665
DailyAverageTemperature.CDD75	0.23868	1.181
MonthlyBinary.Jan	6.10703	3.306
MonthlyBinary.Feb	5.3342	2.876
MonthlyBinary.Mar	1.47144	0.837
MonthlyBinary.May	1.13053	0.641
MonthlyBinary.Jun	4.74225	2.391
MonthlyBinary.Jul	5.54922	2.679
MonthlyBinary.Aug	7.22274	3.486
MonthlyBinary.Sep	2.92826	1.56
MonthlyBinary.Oct	0.07514	0.042
MonthlyBinary.Nov	0.91909	0.498
MonthlyBinary.Dec	9.23013	4.881
DOWBinary.Monday	17.99493	33.963
DOWBinary.Tuesday	18.09031	28.611
DOWBinary.Wednesday	18.66931	27.635
DOWBinary.Thursday	18.06553	26.482
DOWBinary.Friday	17.72768	27.768
DOWBinary.Saturday	8.66486	16.627
US_Holidays.NYHol	-14.33675	-4.768
US_Holidays.MLKing	-1.53982	-0.519
US_Holidays.PresidentDay	-4.65574	-1.905
US_Holidays.July4thHol	-17.08476	-5.796
US_Holidays.MemorialDay	-14.08384	-4.754
US_Holidays.LaborDay	-17.68261	-5.949
US_Holidays.Thanksgiving	-23.50372	-5.281
US_Holidays.FriAftThanks	-4.76621	-1.355
US_Holidays.XMasHol	-10.44897	-3.524
MonthlyBinary.Year2005	-10.0629	-5.683
MonthlyBinary.Year2006	-10.31014	-5.863
AR(1)	0.55519	18.591

**TOTAL ELECTRIC MODEL**

**Model fit statistics**

- R-Squared 0.938
- Adjusted R-Squared 0.936
- Mean Abs. Dev. (MAD) 37.91
- Mean Abs. % Err. (MAPE) 3.16%
- Durbin-Watson Statistic 1.914

**Variable Statistics**

Variable	Coefficient	T-Stat
CONST	889.58488	38.711
DailyAverageTemperature.HDD55	5.84107	9.548
DailyAverageTemperature.HDD45	10.53311	13.313
DailyAverageTemperature.CDD60	8.38791	6.193
DailyAverageTemperature.CDD65	8.69391	4.547
DailyAverageTemperature.CDD75	2.14015	1.299
MonthlyBinary.Jan	62.17141	3.167
MonthlyBinary.Feb	58.69167	3.602
MonthlyBinary.Mar	13.47397	0.901
MonthlyBinary.May	36.89043	2.475
MonthlyBinary.Jun	79.04523	4.803
MonthlyBinary.Jul	131.03695	7.678
MonthlyBinary.Aug	122.29715	7.147
MonthlyBinary.Sep	88.57696	5.482
MonthlyBinary.Oct	56.44813	3.361
MonthlyBinary.Nov	81.01401	3.945
MonthlyBinary.Dec	93.87024	3.633
DOWBinary.Monday	156.31077	40.43
DOWBinary.Tuesday	162.88448	34.694

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Schedule MQ-1

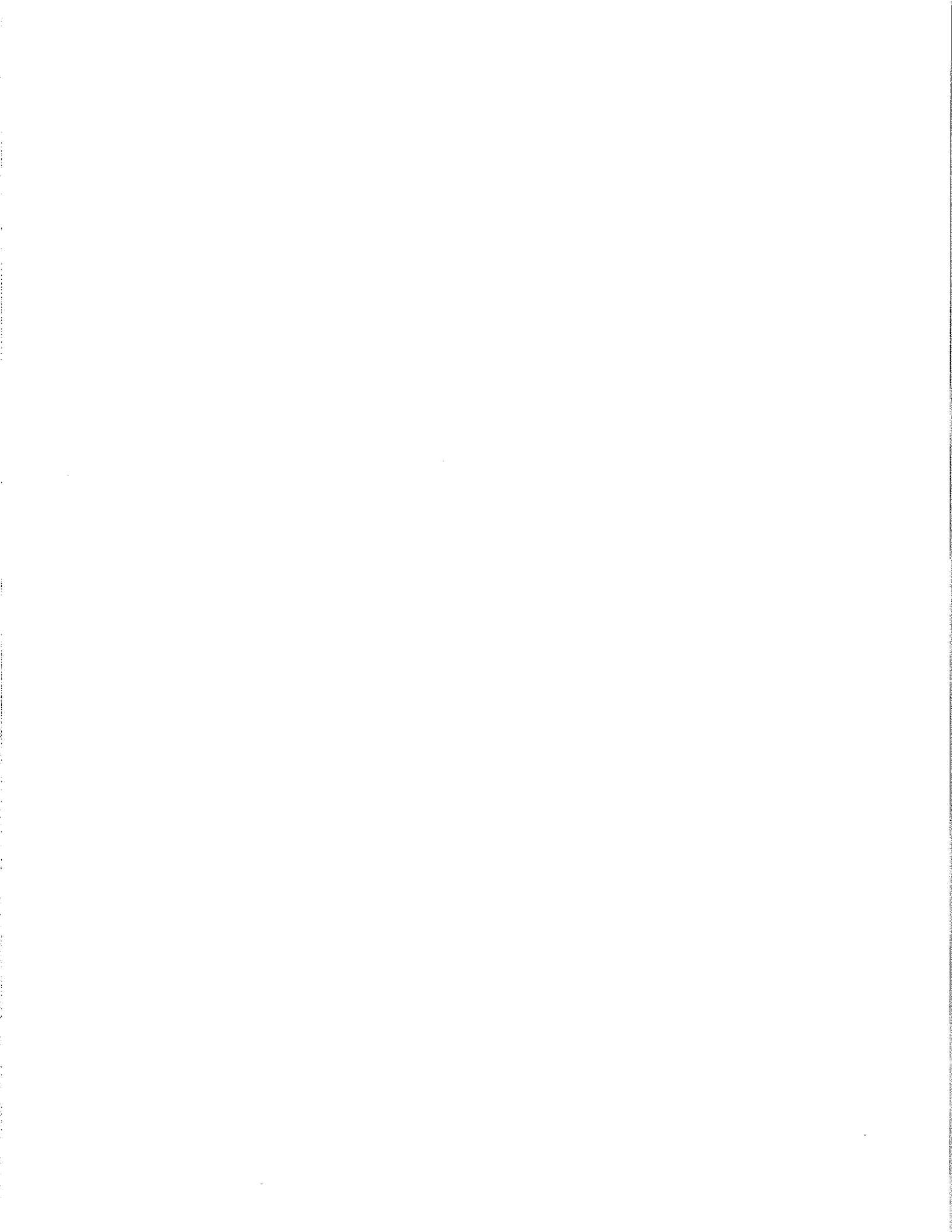
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DOWBinary.Thursday	177.22321	34.76
DOWBinary.Friday	188.44942	39.752
DOWBinary.Saturday	70.40244	18.664
SunTimes.FracDark17	114.81395	1.576
SunTimes.FracDark8	-124.38005	-2.737
US_Holidays.NYHol	-136.16071	-6.511
US_Holidays.MLKing	-6.16519	-0.297
US_Holidays.PresidentDay	-22.20004	-1.153
US_Holidays.MemorialDay	-128.21783	-5.931
US_Holidays.July4thHol	-126.34881	-5.935
US_Holidays.LaborDay	-168.14571	-7.793
US_Holidays.Thanksgiving	-220.59886	-9.116
US_Holidays.FriAftThanks	-30.98892	-1.279
US_Holidays.XMasHol	-102.76309	-4.814
MonthlyBinary.Year2006	-45.39835	-2.226
MonthlyBinary.Year2005	-10.08161	-0.488
MonthlyBinary.Year2004	-33.27005	-1.62
MonthlyBinary.Year2003	0.43624	0.021
AR(1)	0.63663	32.2

**Weather Normalization  
Method  
For Empire District Electric Company**

Itron, Inc.  
11236 El Camino Real  
San Diego, California 92130  
(858) 724-2620



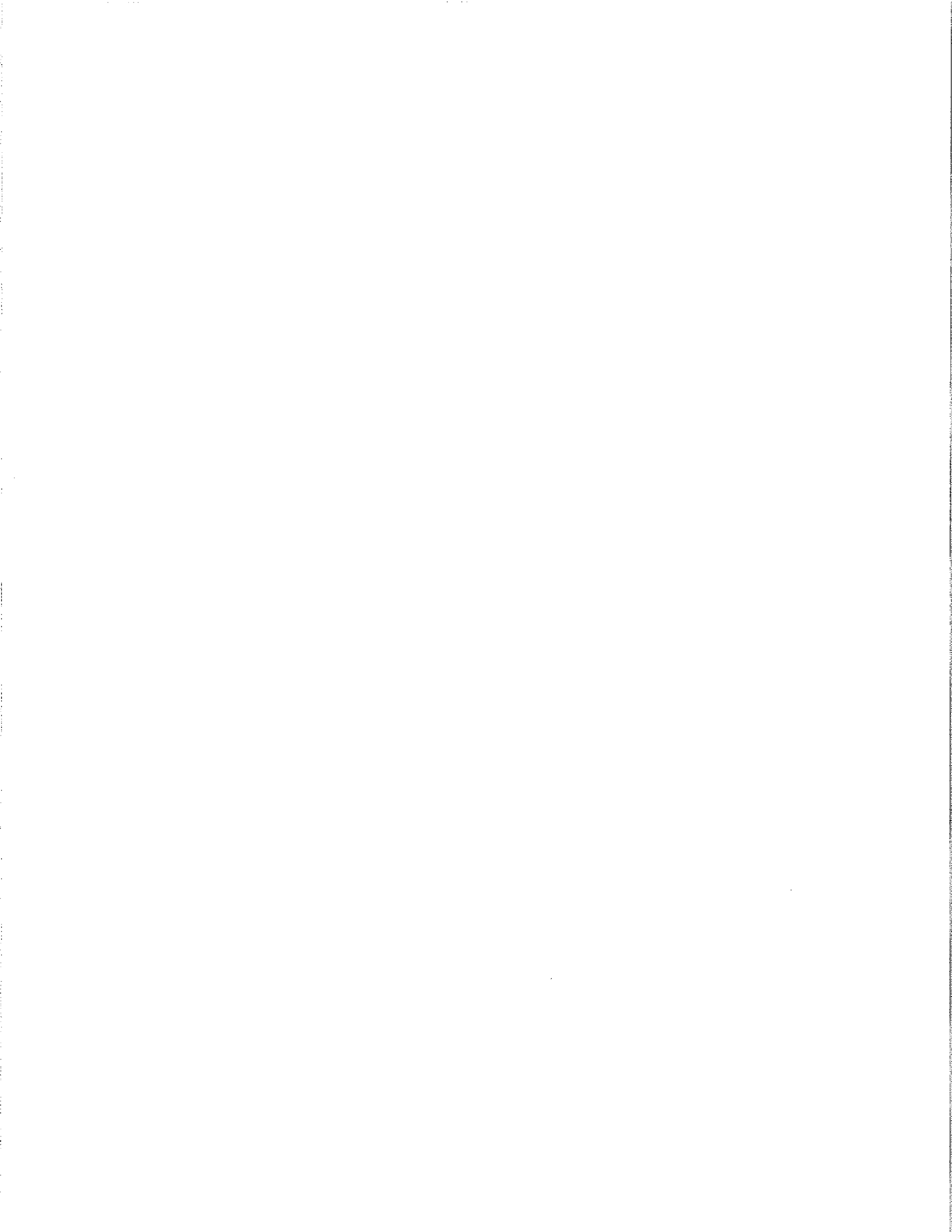
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# 1

## Project Summary

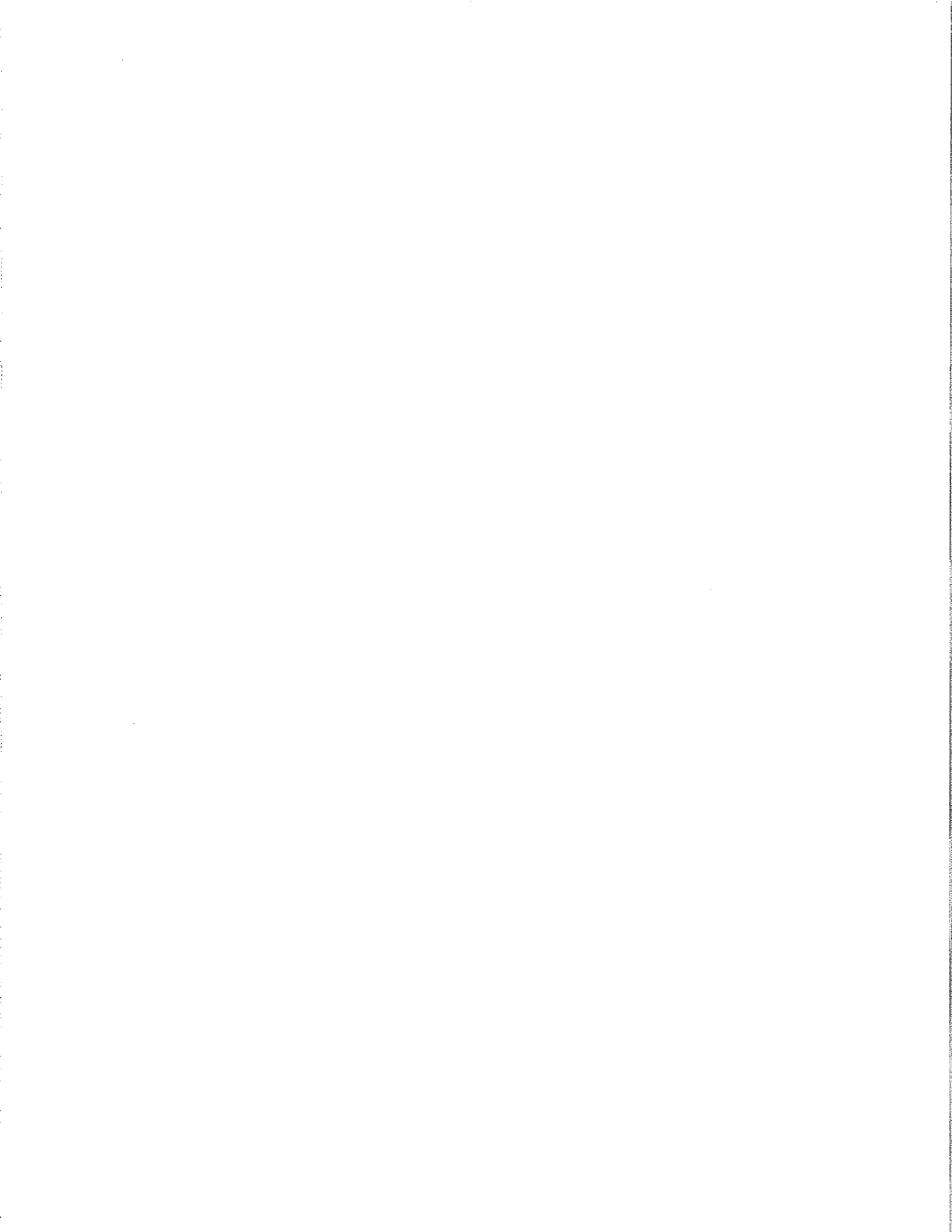
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In 2007, the Empire District Electric Company (Empire) engaged Itron's forecast consulting services to develop a weather normalized forecast for July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007. The weather normalized forecast was developed for the following five Empire classes.

- Residential (Res)
- Commercial (Com)
- Small Heating (SH)
- General Power (GP)
- Total Electric (TEB)

The weather normalization method and forecast was submitted to the Missouri Public Service Commission in 2007.

In 2009, Empire engaged Itron's forecast consulting services to update the weather normalization forecast for July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 using the same method as in 2007. This report summarizes the method developed in 2007 and modified for the 2009 project. The weather normalization process employed by Itron uses load research data provided by Empire and is described in Section 2. This method includes the development of daily statistical models (Section 3) and daily normal weather (Section 4).



# 2

## Normalization Method

---

Weather normalization is the process of mathematically adjusting actual energy sales so that it represents energy typically used under a normal year condition. This process accounts for weather differences from between actual conditions and normal conditions.

Because the process is mathematical, two key assumptions are necessary to account for the differences between actual and normal sales. First, energy consumption is modeled based on historical relationships between actual consumption and historical weather. The model incorporates a set of descriptive variables to capture a statistical correlation between the variables and consumption. Second, normal conditions are assumed based on historical weather data. In this section, Itron describes the steps used to normalize historical sales based on the models and the normal weather developed by Itron in Sections 3 and 4. This method was employed in 2007.

**Step 1. Daily Sales Models.** In this step, Itron developed five regression models to capture the relationship between actual consumption and historical weather. The regression models were developed for the following classes.

- Residential (Res)
- Commercial (Com)
- General Power (GP)
- Small Heating (SH)
- Total Electric (TEB)

The models utilize Empire's Load Research data to articulate the models in Section 3.

**Step 2. Simulate Daily Sales With Actual Weather.** In this step, Itron used the five regression models developed in Step 1 to forecast the historical daily sales using actual weather. This step results in the model prediction of sales under actual weather conditions.

**Step 3. Simulate Daily Sales With Normal Weather.** In this step, Itron used the five regression models developed in Step 1 to forecast the historical daily sales using normal weather. This step results in the model prediction of sales under normal weather conditions.

**Step 4. Calculate the Normal Revenue Cycle Month Sales.** In this step, Itron adjusts the historical monthly revenue cycle sales provided by Empire for normal weather conditions. The result of this step is a monthly series of revenue cycle sales under normal conditions.

To calculate the normal revenue cycle sales, the following steps were taken.

1. Calculate the model sales with actual weather over the revenue cycle (**Model Actual Sales**). This step estimates the model predicted monthly revenue sales with actual weather.
2. Calculate the model sales with normal weather over the revenue cycle (**Model Normal Sales**). This step estimates the model predicted monthly revenue sales with normal weather.
3. Calculate the **Normal Revenue Cycle Sales** by adjusting the actual revenue sales over the revenue cycle (**Actual Revenue Cycle Sales**) using the ratio of the (1) and (2)

$$NormalRevenueCycleSales_{month} = \frac{ModelNormalSales_{month}}{ModelActualSales_{month}} \times ActualRevenueCycleSales_{month}$$

In calculating **Normal Revenue Cycle Sales**, **Model Actual Sales**, and **Model Normal Sales** are summed over the historic **billing cycle month** provided by Empire. Because the meter read schedule does not contain fixed read dates, the “**Last Read Date**” is used to define the meter read schedule for the purposes of calculating the **Normal Revenue Cycle Sales**.

In this approach, the use of the ratio of **Model Actual Sales** to **Model Normal Sales** removes the model bias from the normal calculation and directly adjusts the **Actual Revenue Cycle Sales** using normalization models developed with load research data.

**Step 5. Calculate the Normal Calendar Month Sales.** In this step, Itron uses the same adjustment in Step 4 to adjust the **Actual Revenue Cycle Sales** to calendar month sales. The calculation is identical except that the **Model Normal Sales** is summed over the **calendar month** instead of the billing cycle month. This approach embeds into the **Model Actual Sales** (summed over the revenue month) and **Model Normal Sales** (summed over the calendar month) ratio the adjustment from revenue cycle sales to calendar month sales.

The final products of the weather normalization method are monthly normal sales based on both billing (revenue) cycles and calendar months.

# 3

## Models

---

The energy consumption models capture the load response to weather and other conditions. In developing these models, historical load research data were examined and used to estimate linear regression models using daily data. This section discusses the regression models.

### 3.1 Residential Model

The Residential Daily Sales model was developed to articulate the relationship between the Residential class consumption and actual weather patterns. Hourly load research data (load research means) were provided by Empire from January 1, 1995 through February 28, 2007. These hourly data are shown in Figure 1. The hourly data aggregated to daily energy data are shown in Figure 2. Upon inspecting these data, data from January 2002 through February 2007 are used in the residential model.

**Figure 1: Residential Hourly Load Research Data**

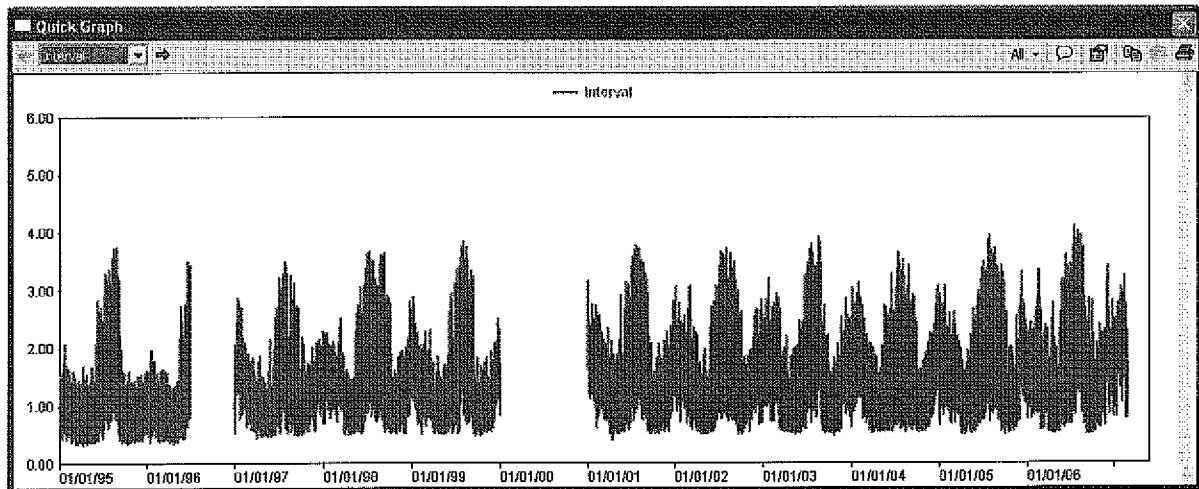
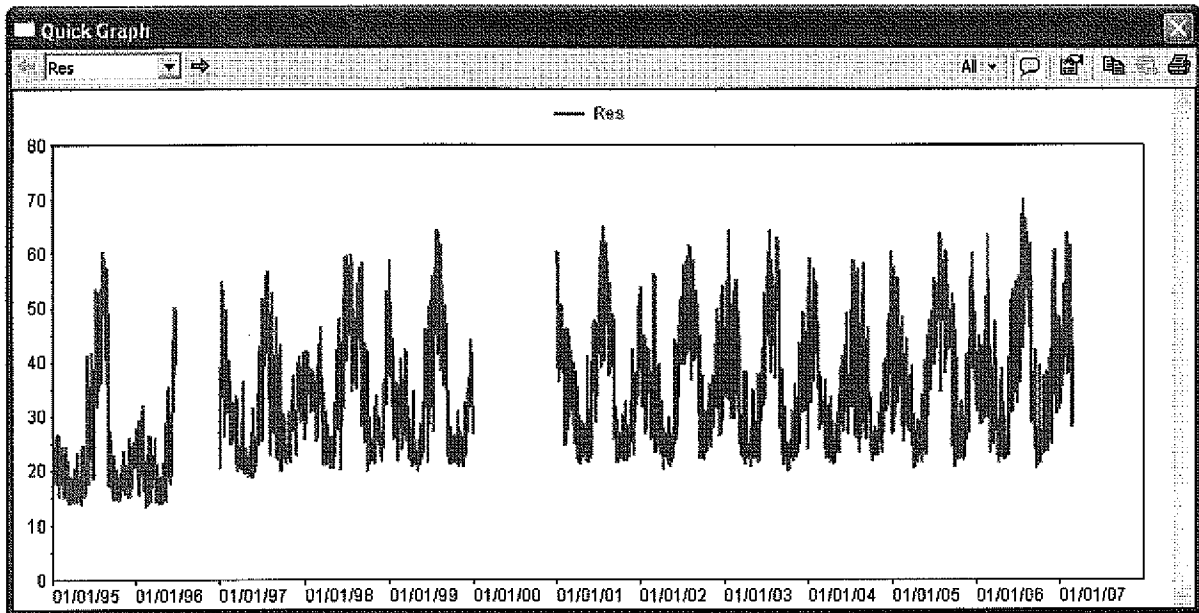


Figure 2: Residential Daily Energy



The load-weather relationship is best viewed using the scatter plots shown in Figure 3 and Figure 4. In these figures, daily energy is shown in the Y-axis and daily average temperature is shown on the X-axis. These figures demonstrate the non-linear load response to actual weather. Two main observations are seen in these figures. In Figure 3, data outside the general load-weather relationship are shown in red triangles. These data points are removed from model estimation. In Figure 4, the heating response is seen as changing between 2002 (brown squares) and 2006 (green triangles). The model is constructed to account for this changing heating response.

Figure 3: Residential Bad Data (Red Triangles)

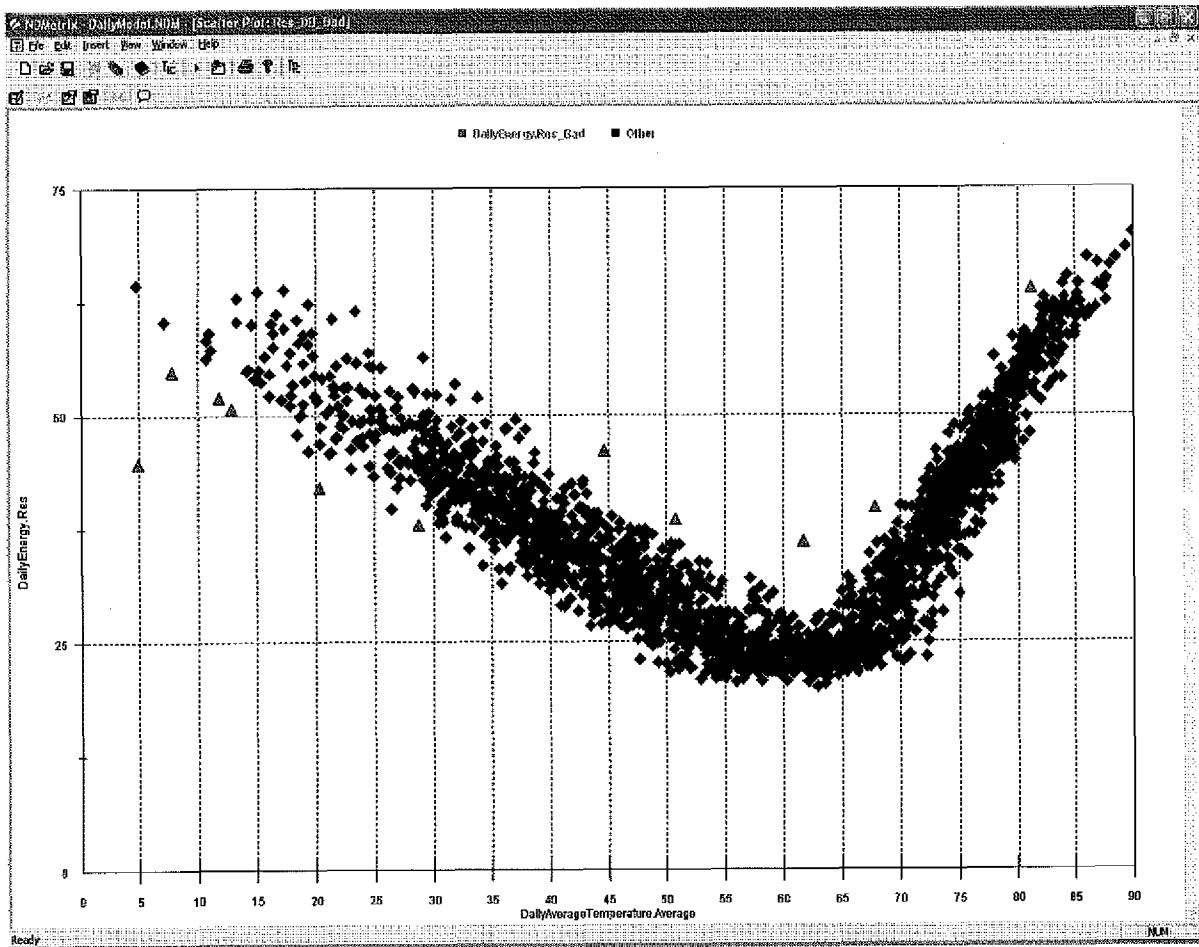
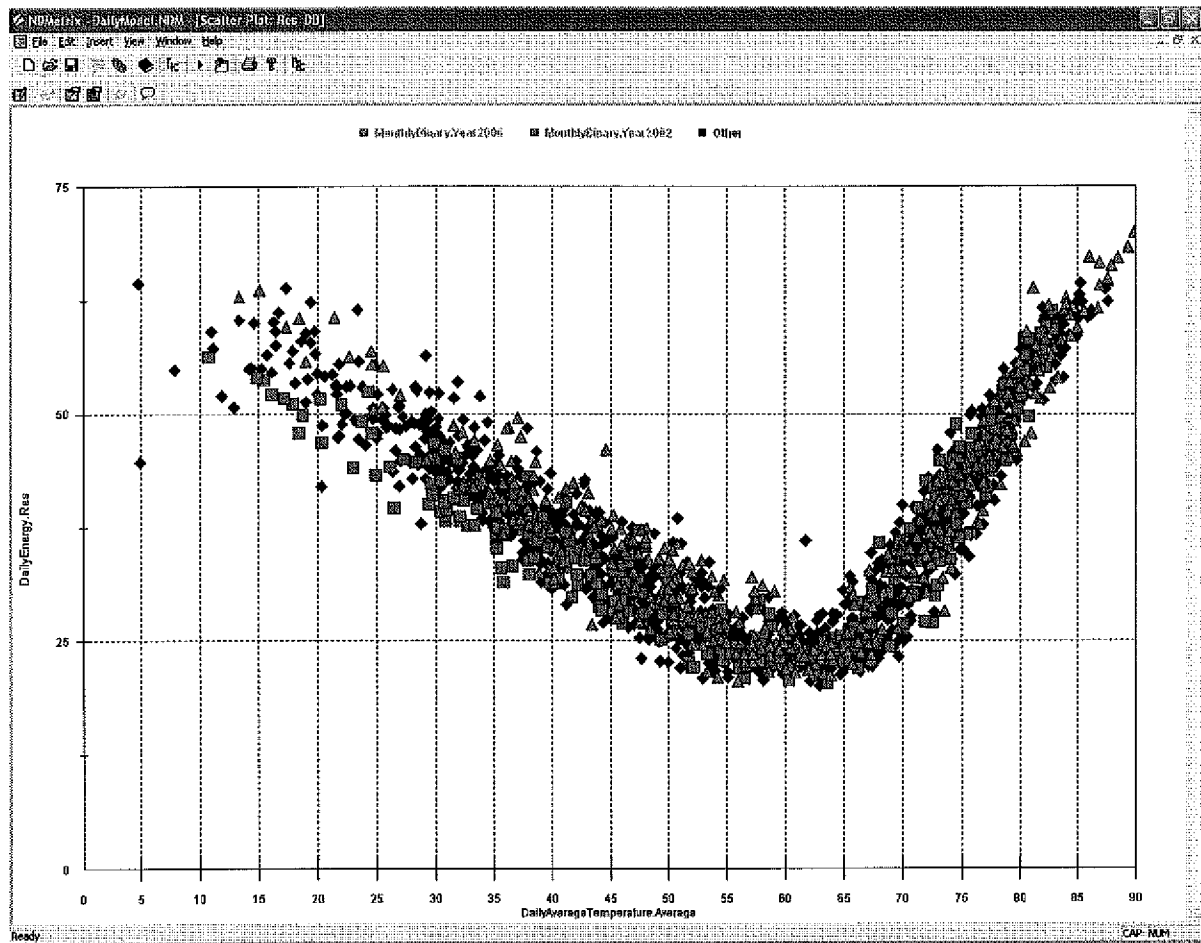


Figure 4: Residential Energy Temperature Scatter Plot



**Residential Model.** A linear regression model is used to articulate the load-weather relationship. This model contains the following classes of variables and their function in the model context (Table 1). A full description of the model can be viewed in the *MetrixND* project file.



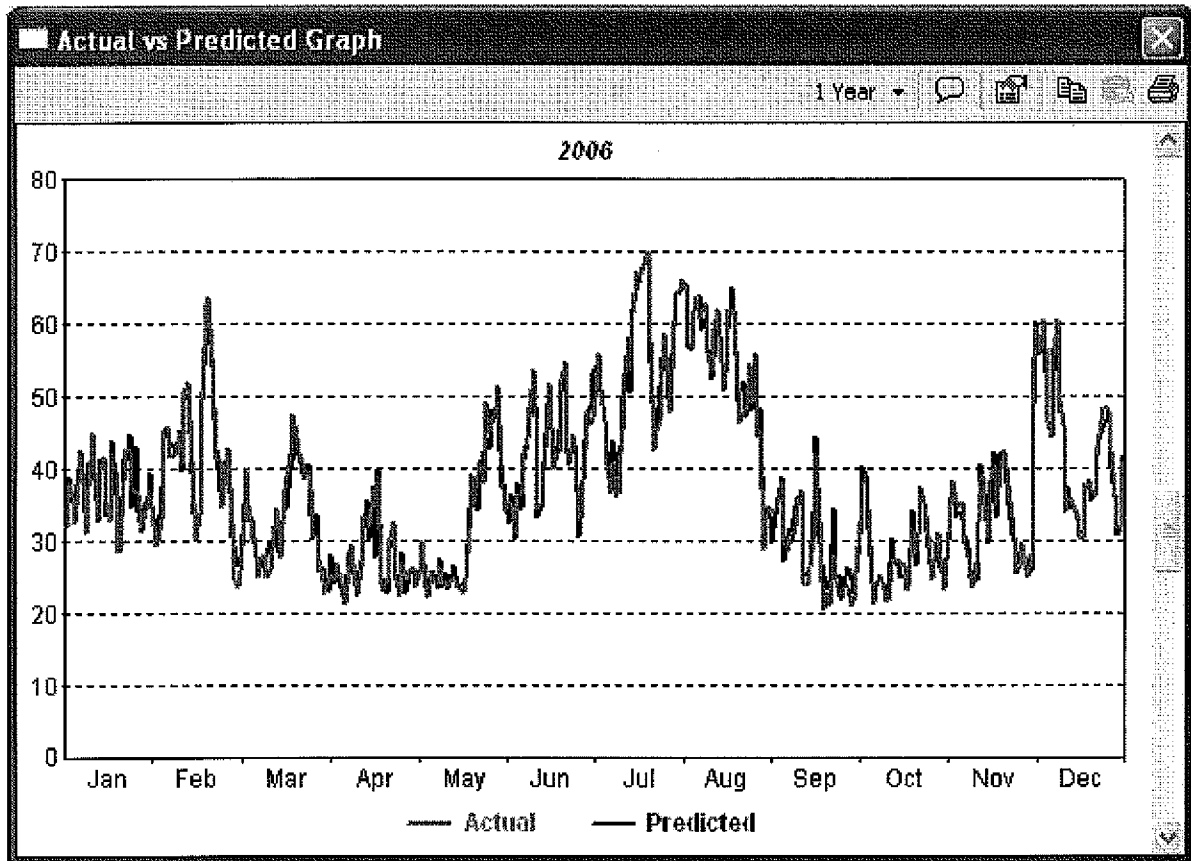
**Table 1: Residential Model Variables**

Variable Class	Purpose
Monthly Binaries	These variables account for changing seasonal consumption pattern for year.
Day of Week Binaries	These variables account for changing consumption pattern for each day of the week.
Sunlight	These variables account for the changing time of sunrise and sunset.
Holidays	These variables account for changes in consumption as a result of national holidays.
Annual Binaries	These variables account for changes in the load research samples and load growth over the estimation period.
Temperature Splines	These variables account for the nonlinear load response to weather and the changing heating response.
AR Term	This term removes the remaining serial correlation and clarifies the remaining model coefficients.

The overall fit of the regression model can be seen graphically in Figure 5 and numerically in the statistics below.

- R-Squared 0.964
- Adjusted R-Squared 0.963
- Mean Abs. Dev. (MAD) 1.60
- Mean Abs. % Err. (MAPE) 4.63%
- Durbin-Watson Statistic 2.073

Figure 5: Residential Model Fit – Actual Versus Predicted Values



### 3.2 Commercial

The Commercial Daily Sales model was developed to articulate the relationship between the commercial class consumption and actual weather patterns. Hourly load research data (load research means) were provided by Empire from January 1, 1995 through February 28, 2007. These hourly data are shown in Figure 6. The hourly data aggregated to daily energy data are shown in Figure 7. Upon inspecting these data, data from January 2002 through February 2007 are used in the commercial model.

Figure 6: Commercial Hourly Load Research Data

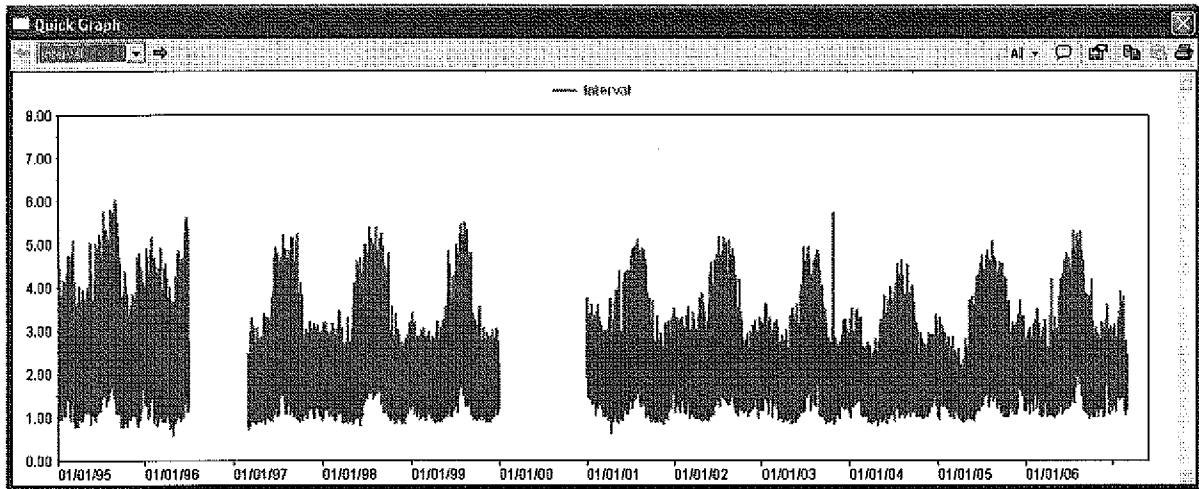
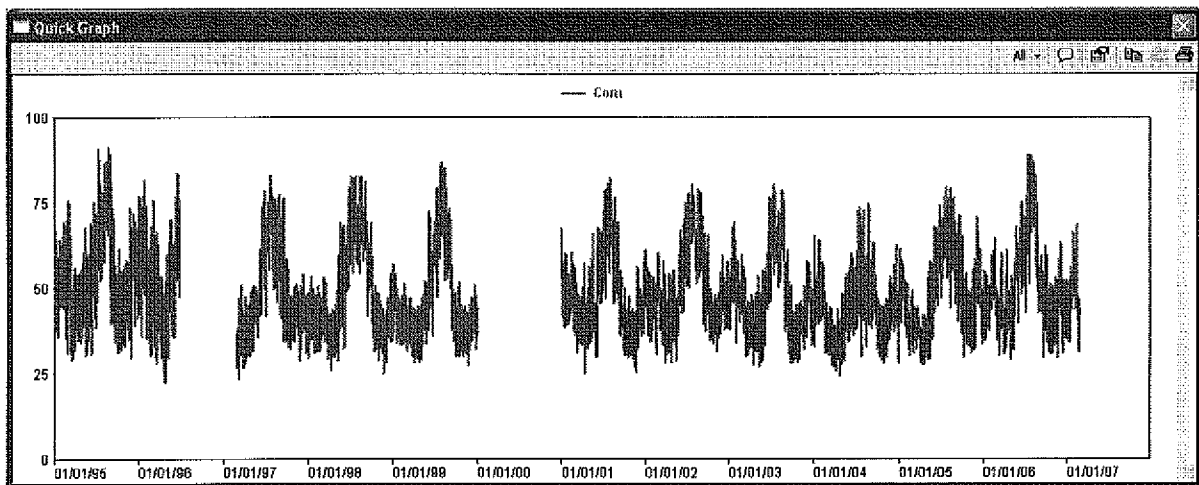


Figure 7: Commercial Daily Energy



The load-weather relationship is best viewed using the scatter plots shown in Figure 8 and Figure 9. In these figures, daily energy is shown in the Y-axis and daily average temperature is shown on the X-axis. These figures demonstrate the non-linear load response to actual weather. Two main observations are seen in these figures. In Figure 8, data outside the general load-weather relationship are shown in red triangles. These data points are removed from model estimation. In Figure 9, the weekend response (green triangles) is clearly lower than the weekday response (blue diamonds).

Figure 8: Commercial Bad Data

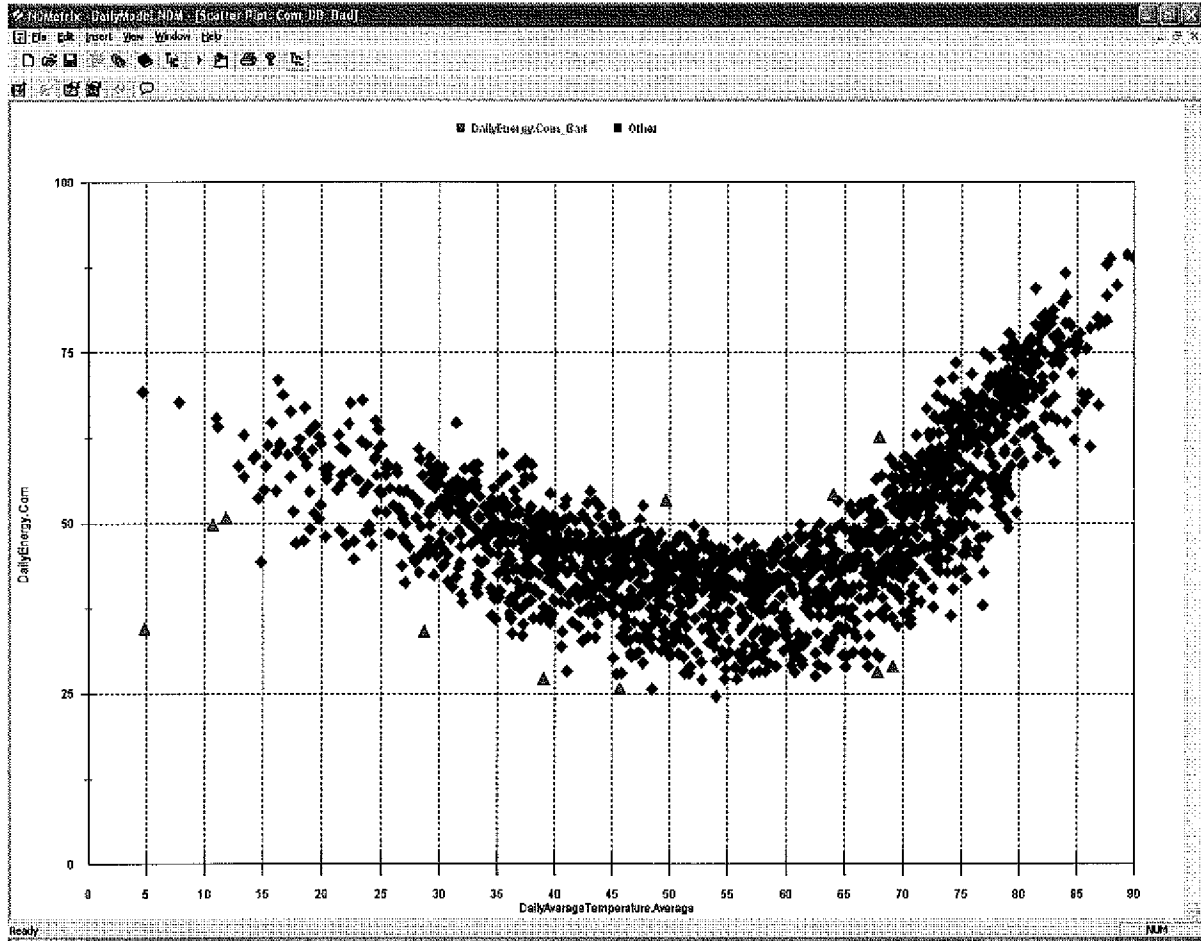
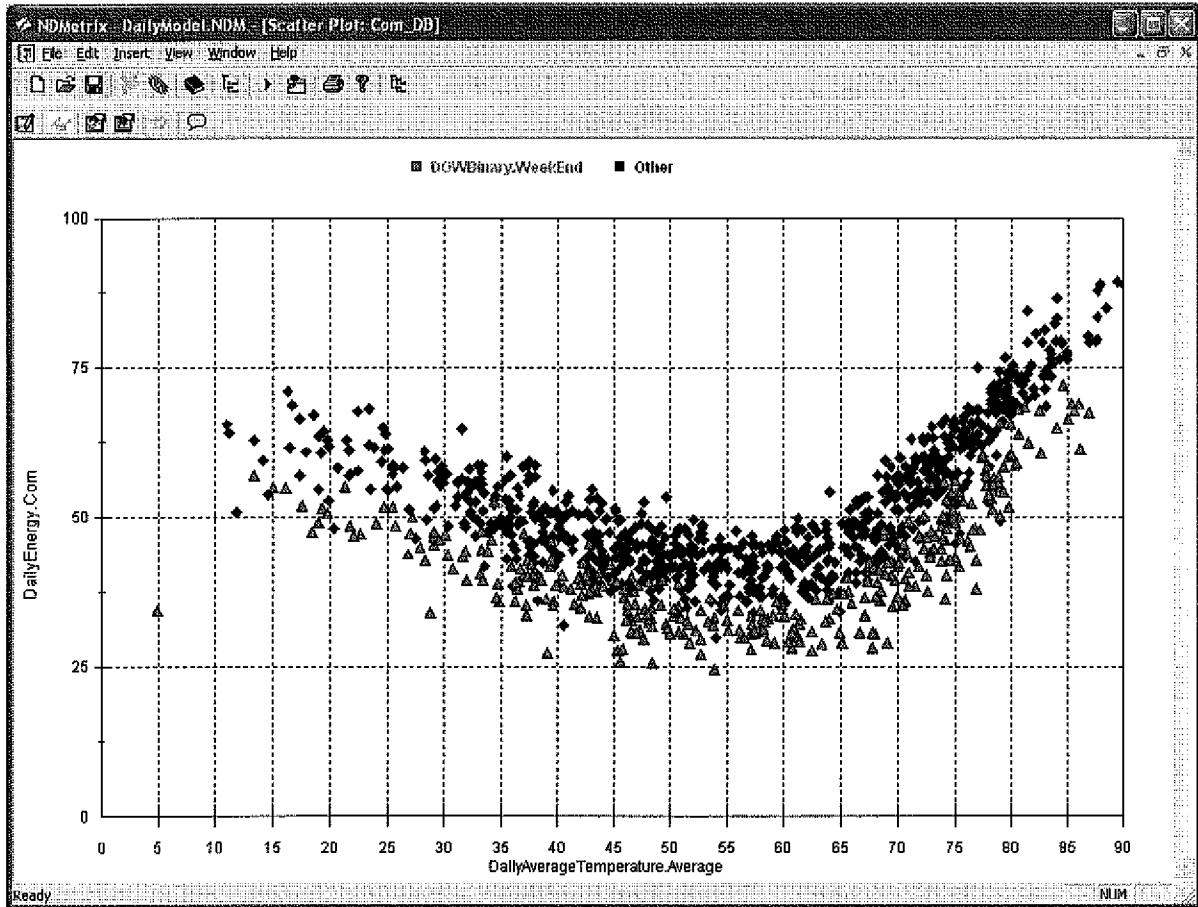


Figure 9: Commercial Energy Temperature Scatter Plot

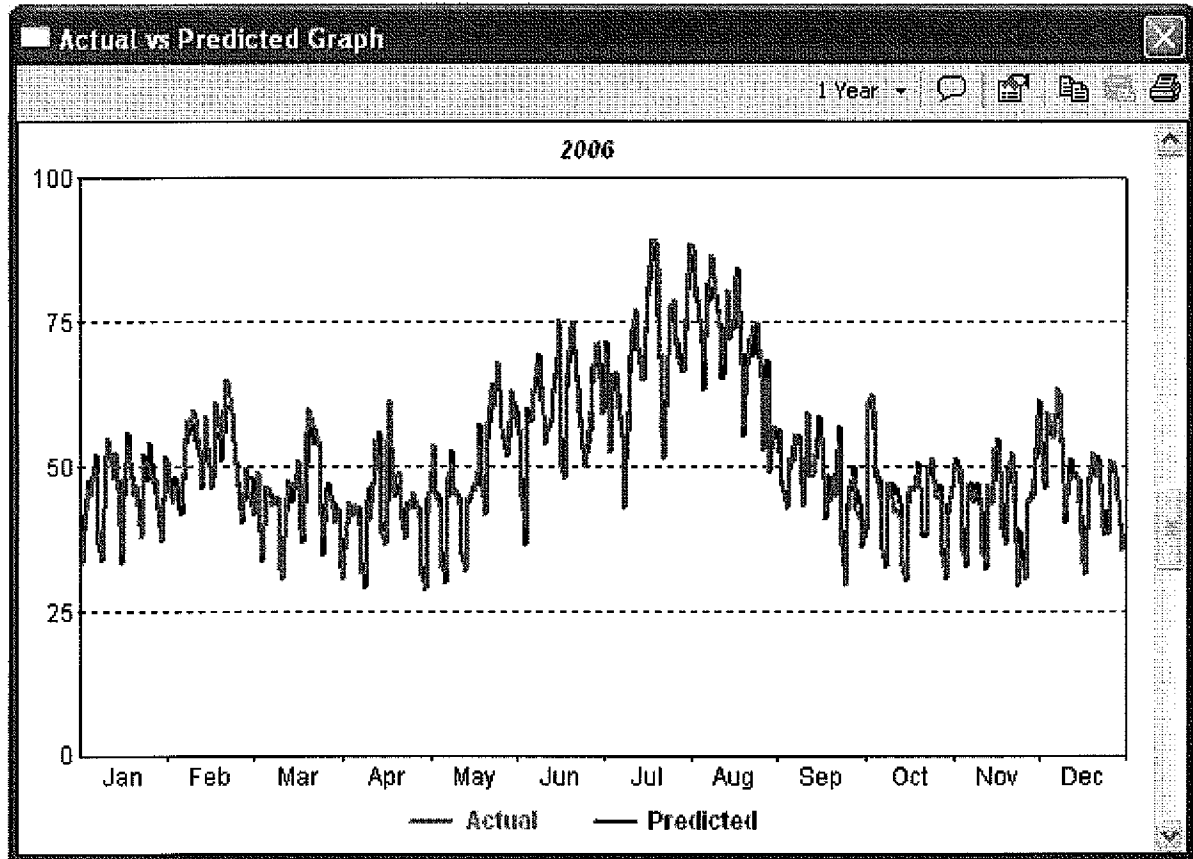


**Commercial Model.** The commercial model is built with the same classes of variables used in the residential model (Table 1). However, temperature splines have been adjusted for the commercial weather response and no changing weather response is modeled.

The overall fit of the regression model can be seen graphically in Figure 10 and numerically in the statistics below. A full description of the model and the associated model statistics can be viewed in the *MetrixND* project file.

- R-Squared 0.958
- Adjusted R-Squared 0.957
- Mean Abs. Dev. (MAD) 1.88
- Mean Abs. % Err. (MAPE) 3.93%
- Durbin-Watson Statistic 2.072

Figure 10: Commercial Model Fit – Actual Versus Predicted Values



### 3.3 General Power

The General Power (GP) Daily Sales model was developed to articulate the relationship between the GP class consumption and actual weather patterns. Hourly load research data (load research means) were provided by Empire from January 1, 1995 through February 28, 2007. These hourly data are shown in Figure 11. The hourly data aggregated to daily energy data are shown in Figure 12. Upon inspecting these data, data from January 2006 through February 2007 are used. The shortened historical series accounts for the significant drop in consumption beginning in 2006.

Figure 11: General Power Hourly Load Research

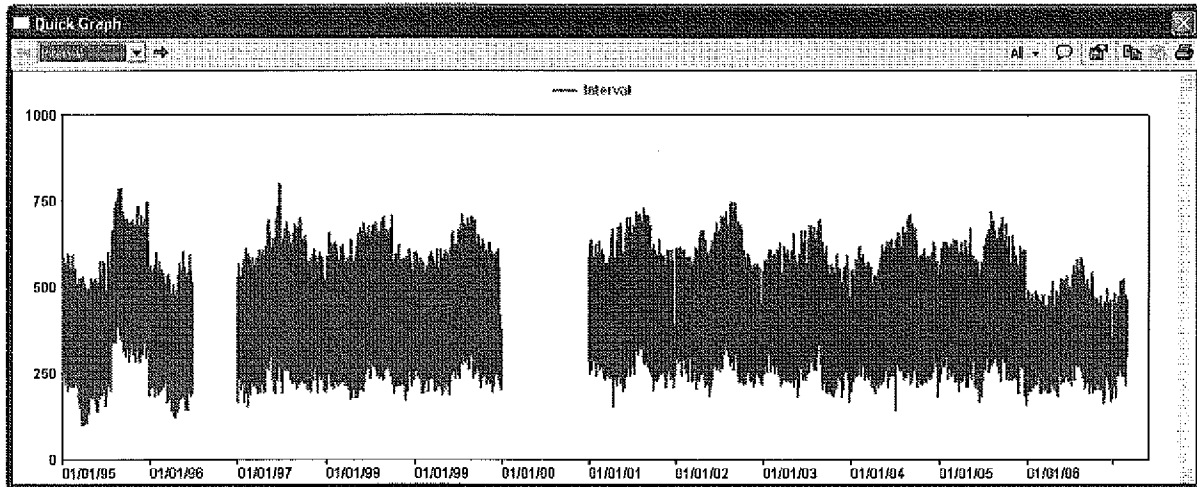
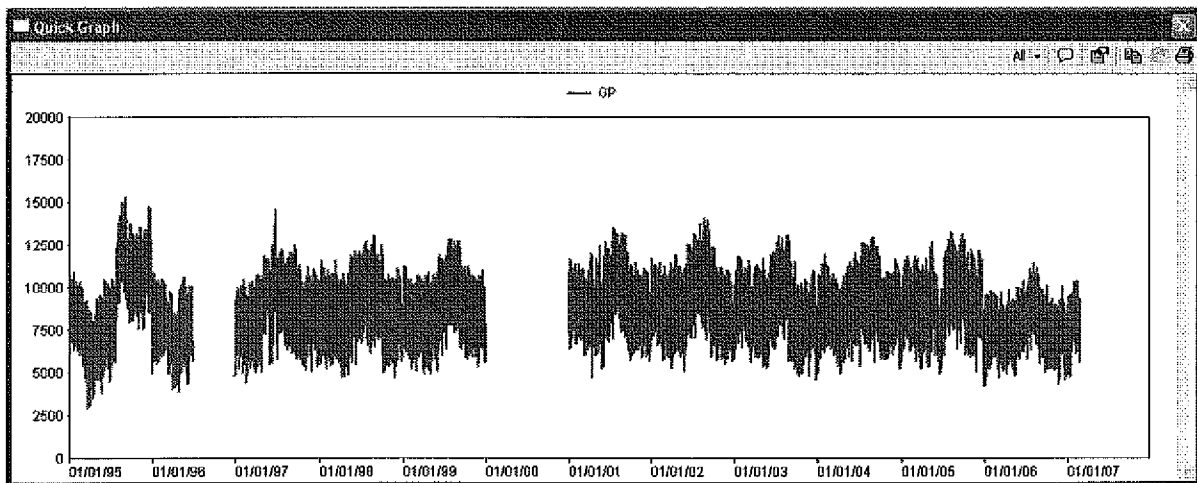


Figure 12: General Power Daily Energy



The load-weather relationship is best viewed using the scatter plots shown in Figure 13 and Figure 14. In these figures, daily energy is shown in the Y-axis and daily average temperature is shown on the X-axis. These figures demonstrate the non-linear load response to actual weather. Two main observations are seen in these figures. In Figure 13, data outside the general load-weather relationship are shown in red triangles. These data points are removed from model estimation. In Figure 14, the 2005 data points (red triangles) and the 2006 data points (green squares) are highlighted. Based on visual inspection, the cooling response between 2005 and 2006 clearly changed further demonstrating the need to remove pre-2006 data.

Figure 13: General Power Bad

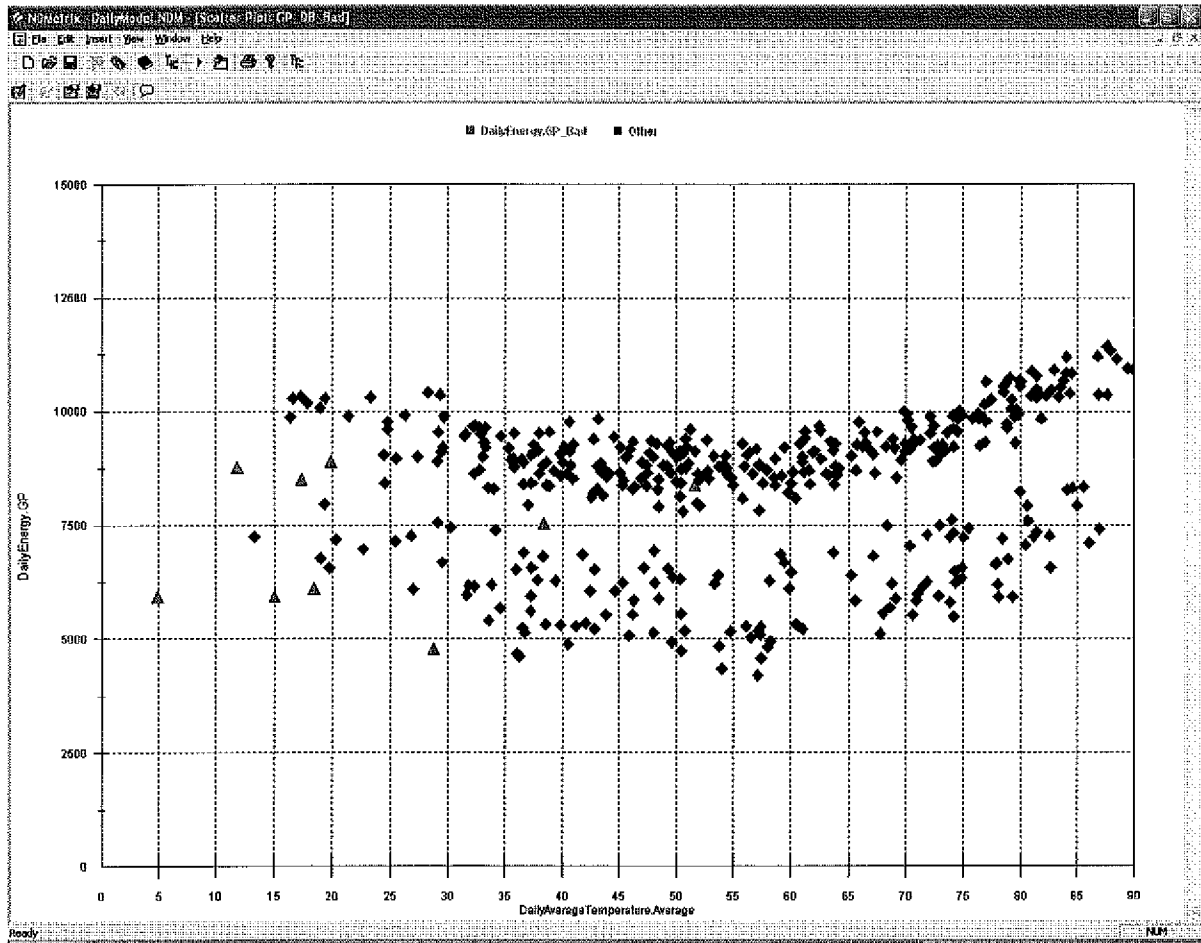
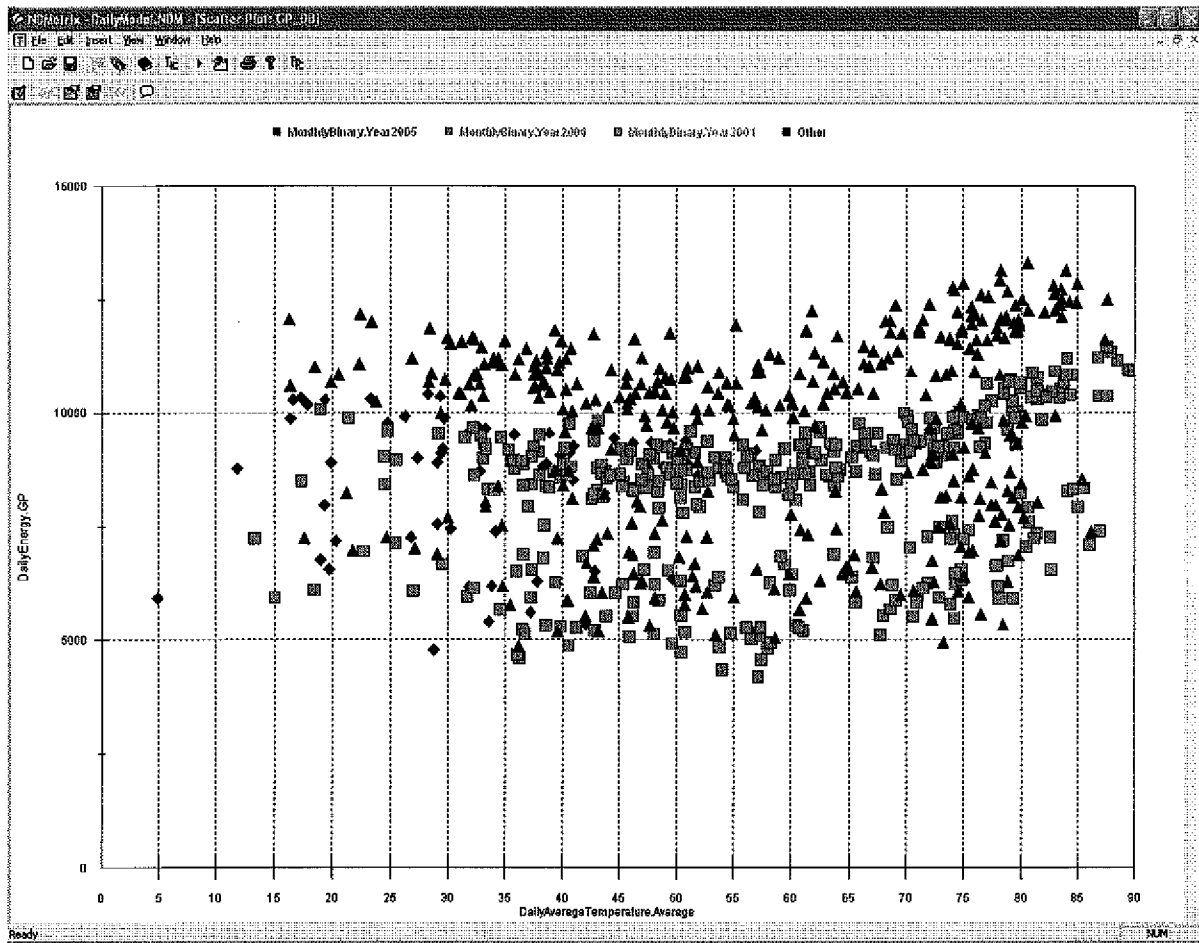




Figure 14: General Power Energy Temperature Scatter Plot

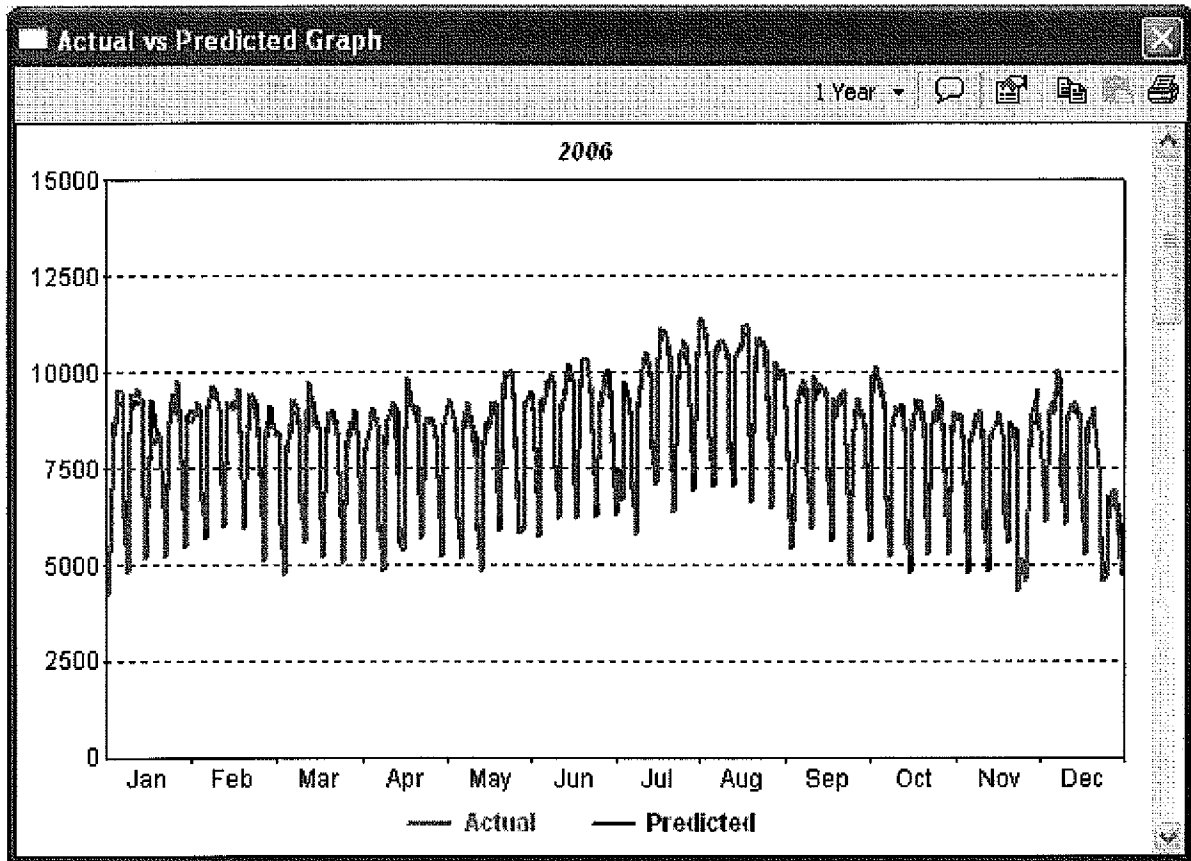


**GP Model.** The GP model is built with the same classes of variables used in the residential model (Table 1). However, temperature splines have been adjusted for the GP weather response and no changing weather response is modeled.

The overall fit of the regression model can be seen graphically in Figure 15 and numerically in the statistics below. A full description of the model and the associated model statistics can be viewed in the *MetrixND* project file.

■ R-Squared	0.968
■ Adjusted R-Squared	0.965
■ Mean Abs. Dev. (MAD)	215.16
■ Mean Abs. % Err. (MAPE)	2.75%
■ Durbin-Watson Statistic	2.076

Figure 15: GP Model Fit – Actual Versus Predicted Values



### 3.4 Small Heating

The Small Heating (SH) Daily Sales model was developed to articulate the relationship between the SH class consumption and actual weather patterns. Hourly load research data (load research means) were provided by Empire from January 1, 1995 through February 28, 2007. These hourly data are shown in Figure 16. The hourly data aggregated to daily energy data are shown in Figure 17. Upon inspecting these data, data from January 2005 through February 2007 are used. The shortened historical series removes the downward sloping trend that begins in 2001 and stabilizes in 2005.

Figure 16: Small Heating Hourly Load Research

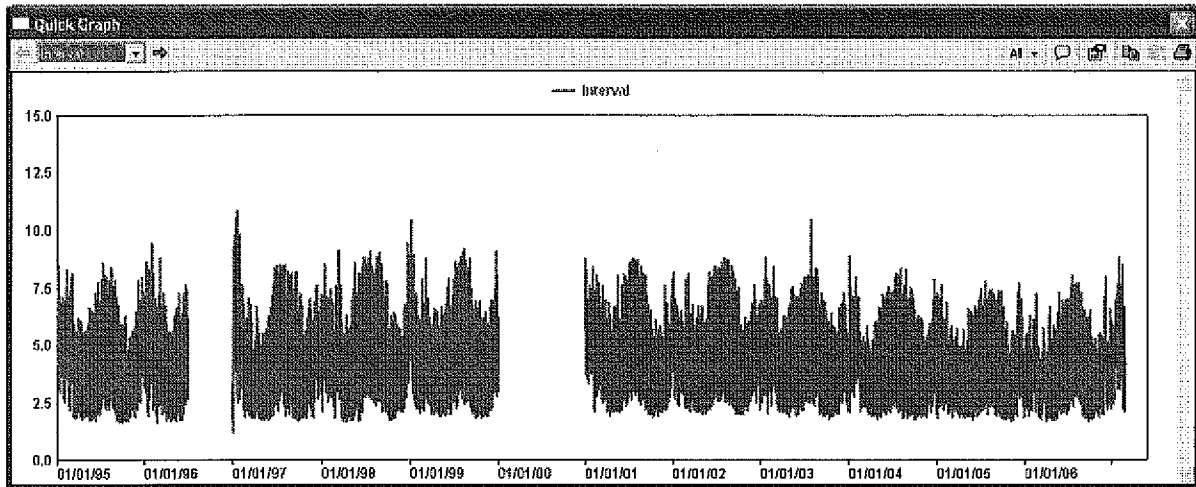
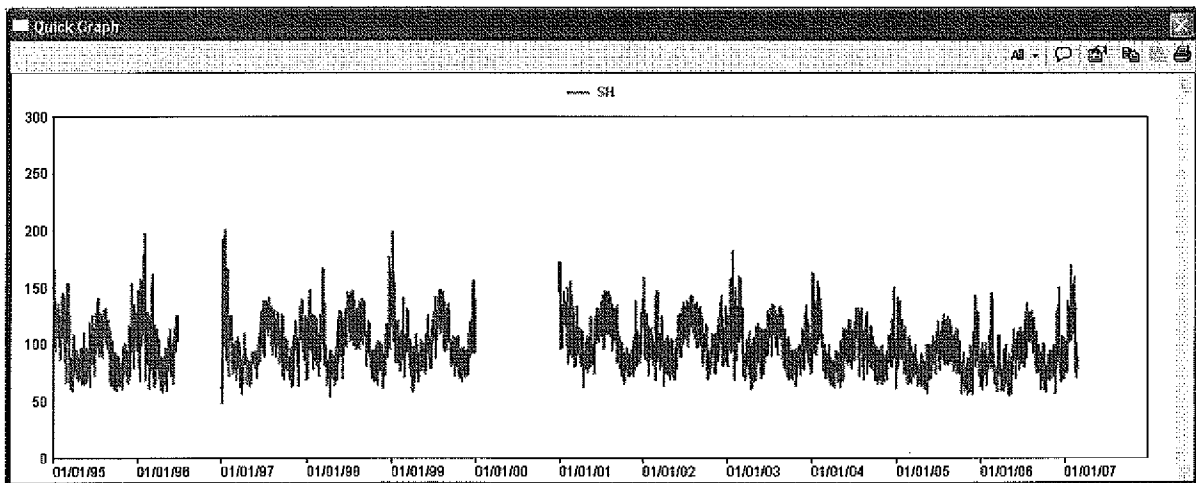


Figure 17: Small Heating Daily Energy



The load-weather relationship is best viewed using the scatter plots shown in Figure 18 and Figure 19. In these figures, daily energy is shown in the Y-axis and daily average temperature is shown on the X-axis. These figures demonstrate the non-linear load response to actual weather. Two main observations are seen in these figures. In Figure 18, data outside the general load-weather relationship are shown in red triangles. These data points are removed from model estimation. In Figure 19, the 2004 data points (purple triangles) clearly have a different temperature responses than 2005 (red squares) and 2006 (green circles). The different temperature response demonstrates the need to remove the pre-2005 data.

Figure 18: Small Heating Bad

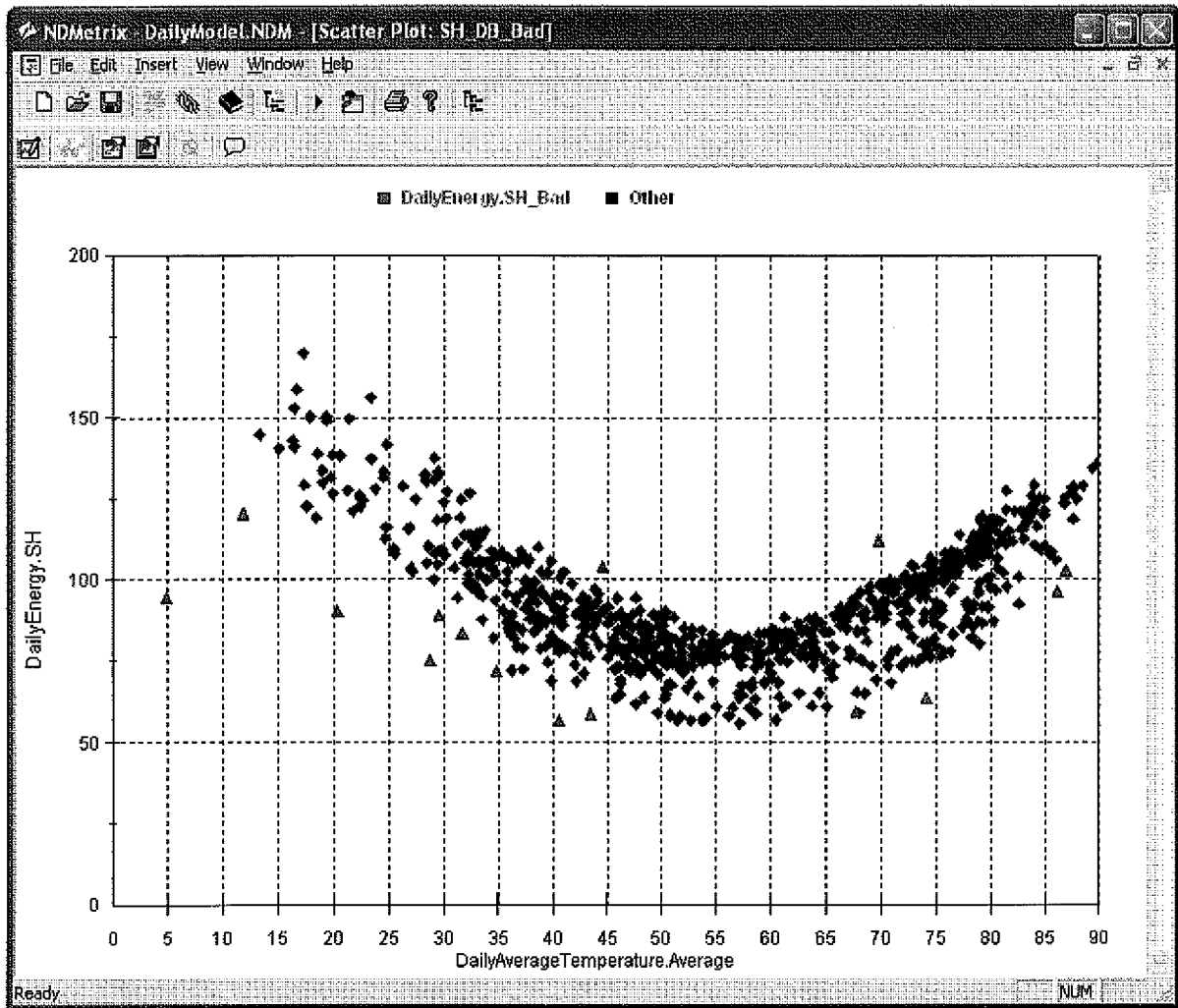
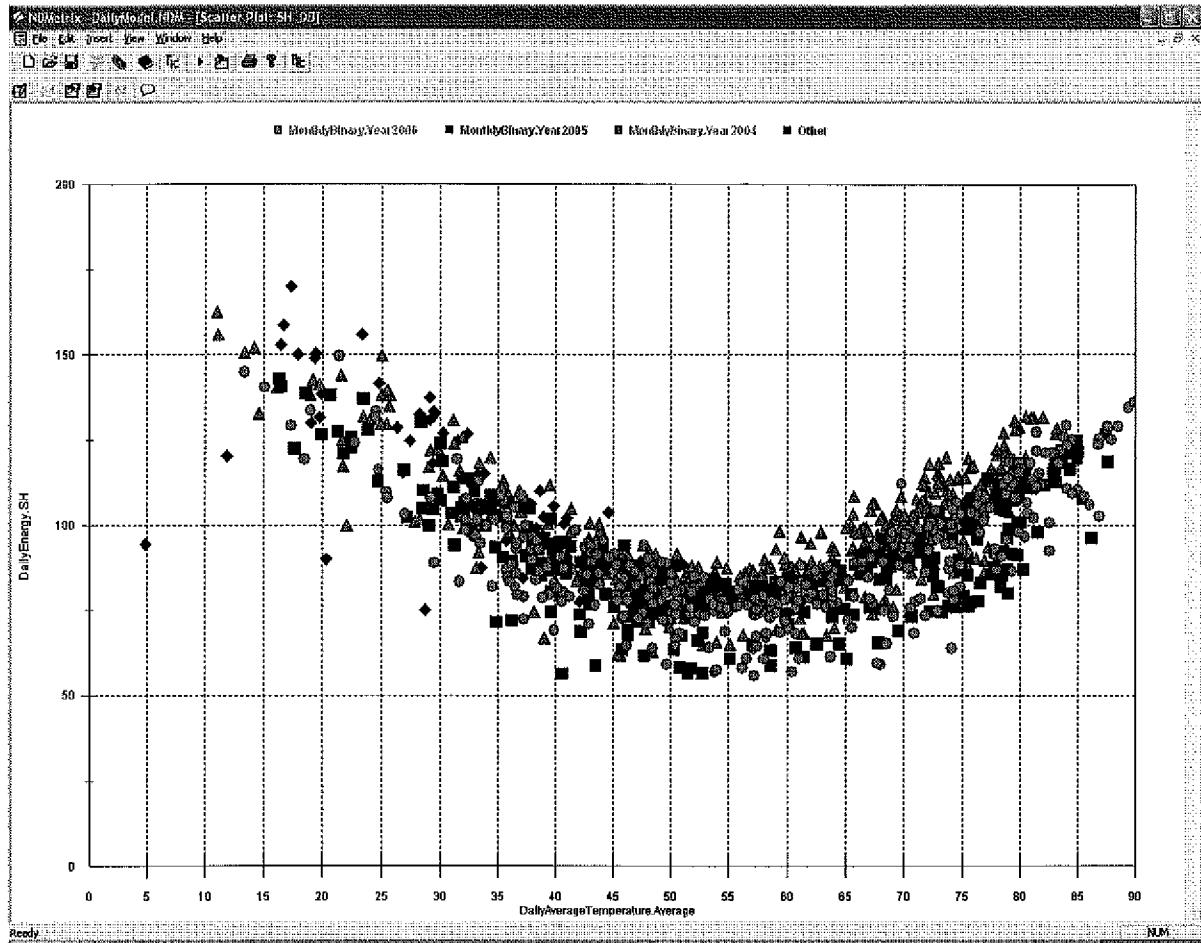


Figure 19: Small Heating Energy Temperature Scatter Plot

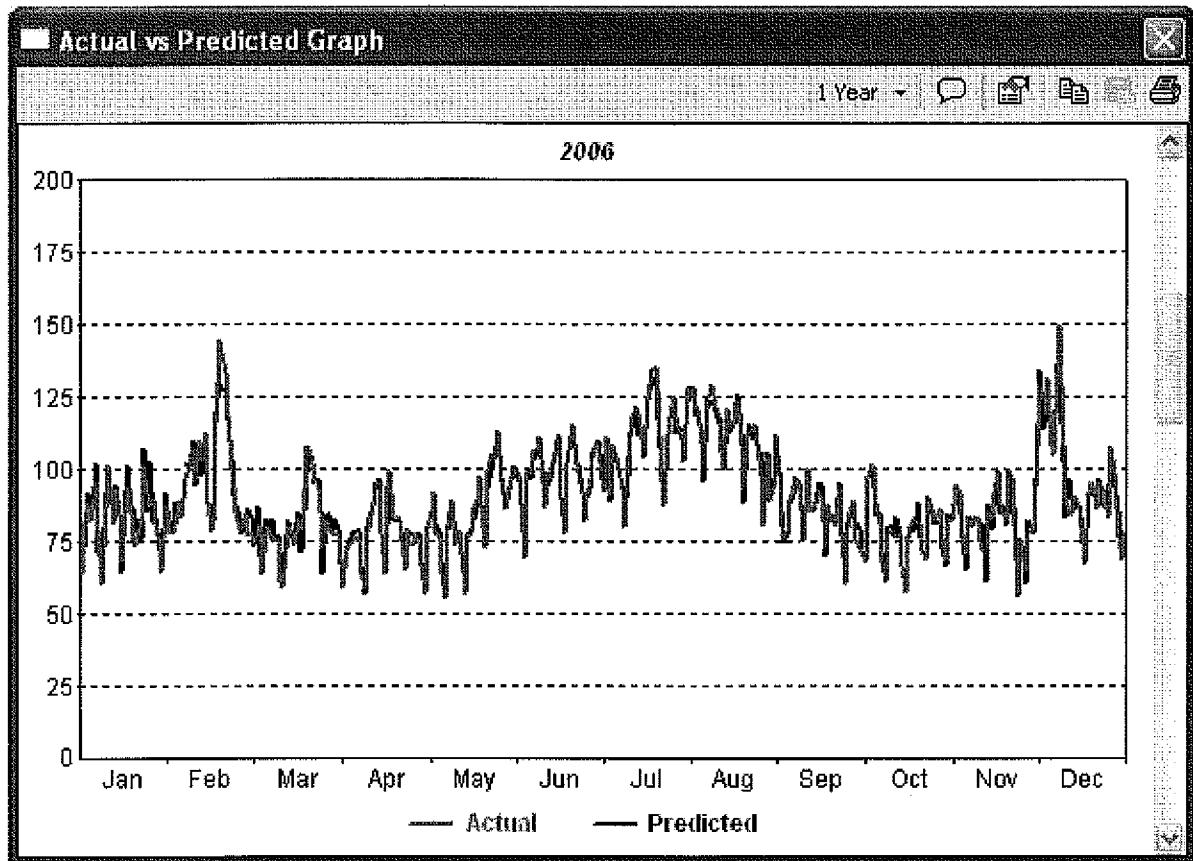


**SH Model.** The SH model is built with the same classes of variables used in the residential model (Table 1). However, temperature splines have been adjusted for the SH weather response and no changing weather response is modeled.

The overall fit of the regression model can be seen graphically in Figure 20 and numerically in the statistics below. A full description of the model and the associated model statistics can be viewed in the *MetrixND* project file.

■ R-Squared	0.937
■ Adjusted R-Squared	0.935
■ Mean Abs. Dev. (MAD)	3.44
■ Mean Abs. % Err. (MAPE)	3.75%
■ Durbin-Watson Statistic	1.866

Figure 20: SH Model Fit – Actual Versus Predicted Values



### 3.5 Total Electric

The Total Electric (TEB) Daily Sales model was developed to articulate the relationship between the TEB class consumption and actual weather patterns. Hourly load research data (load research means) were provided by Empire from January 1, 1995 through February 28, 2007. These hourly data are shown in Figure 21. The hourly data aggregated to daily energy data are shown in Figure 22. Upon inspecting these data, data from January 2003 through February 2007 are used. The shortened historical series captures the stable level of loads that appears after the beginning of 2003.

Figure 21: Total Electric Hourly Load Research

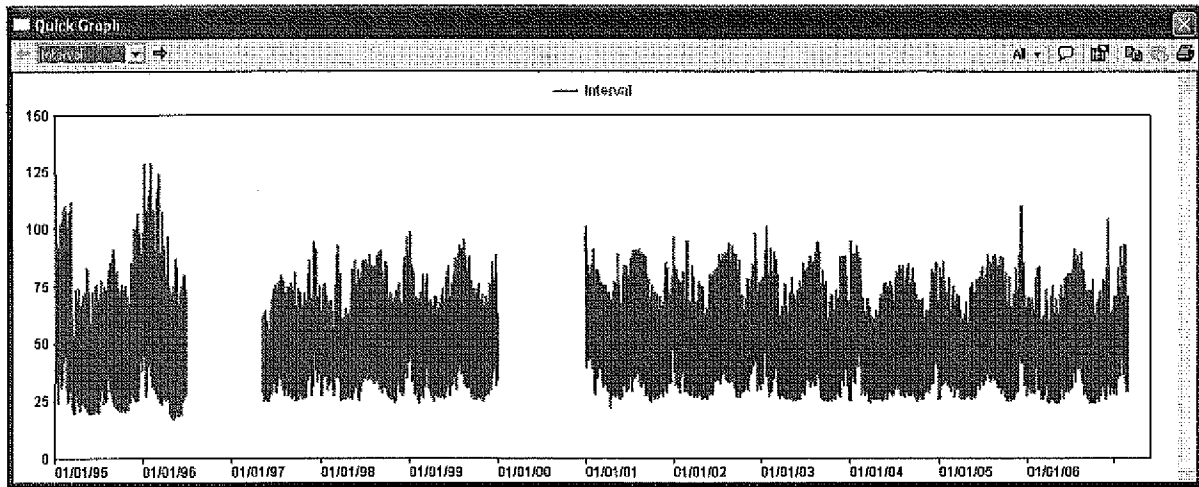
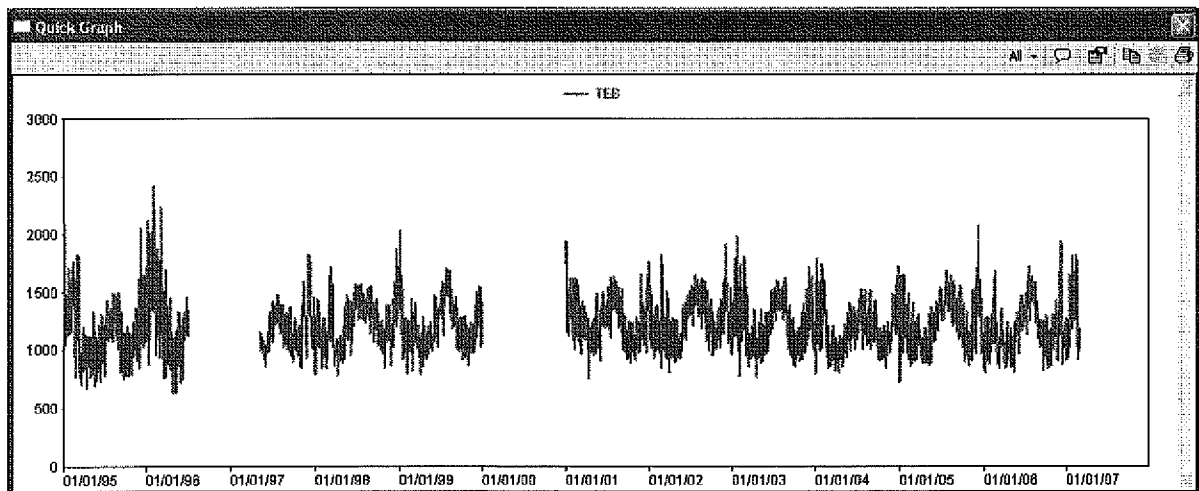


Figure 22: Total Electric Daily Energy



The load-weather relationship is best viewed using the scatter plots shown in Figure 23 and Figure 24. In these figures, daily energy is shown in the Y-axis and daily average temperature is shown on the X-axis. These figures demonstrate the non-linear load response to actual weather. Two main observations are seen in these figures. In Figure 23, data outside the general load-weather relationship are shown in red triangles. These data points are removed from model estimation. In Figure 24, the 2002 data points (red triangles) are shown against the 2003 through 2007 data (blue diamonds). This view shows the 2002 data with a higher load and higher cooling weather response, which results in the data being excluded from the model.

Figure 23: TEB Bad

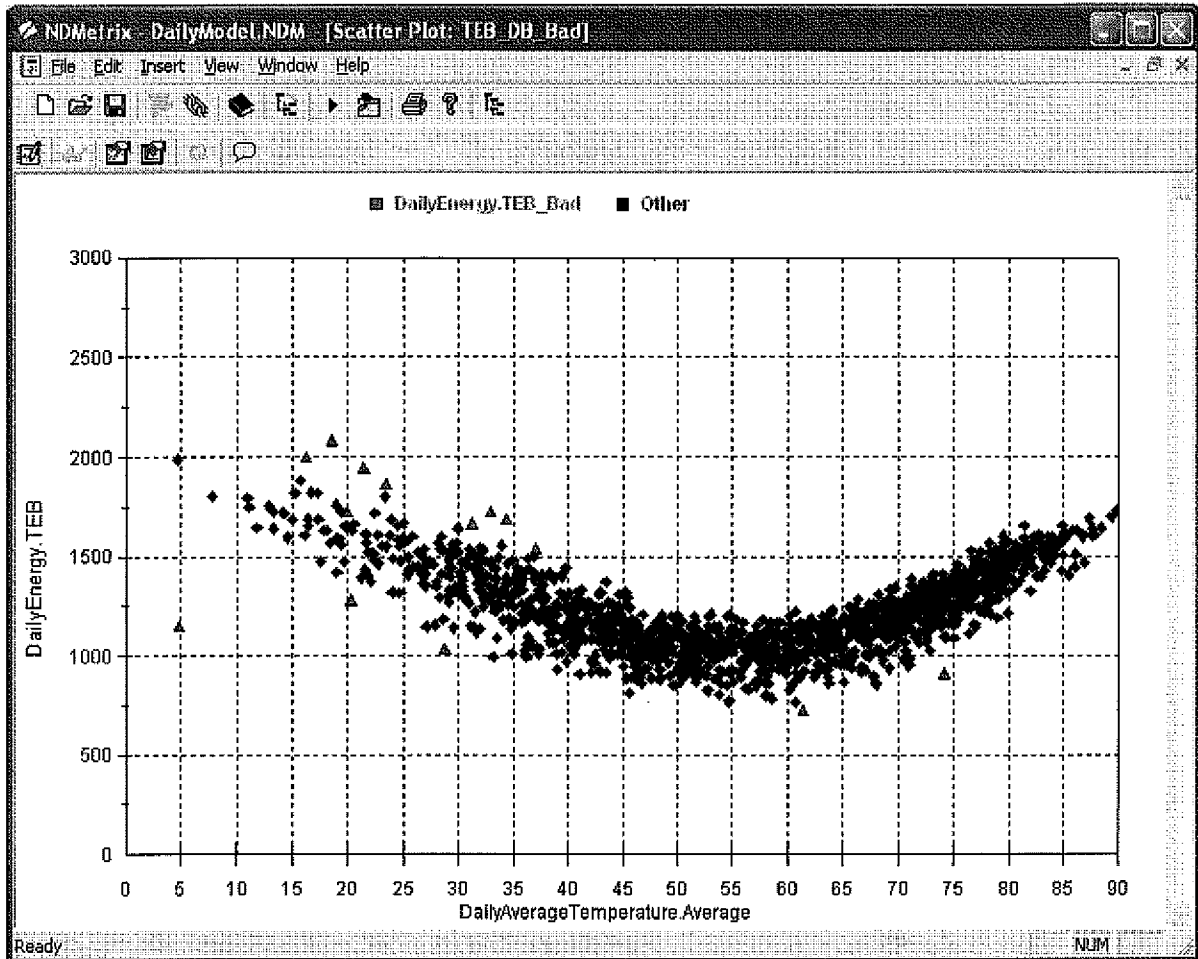
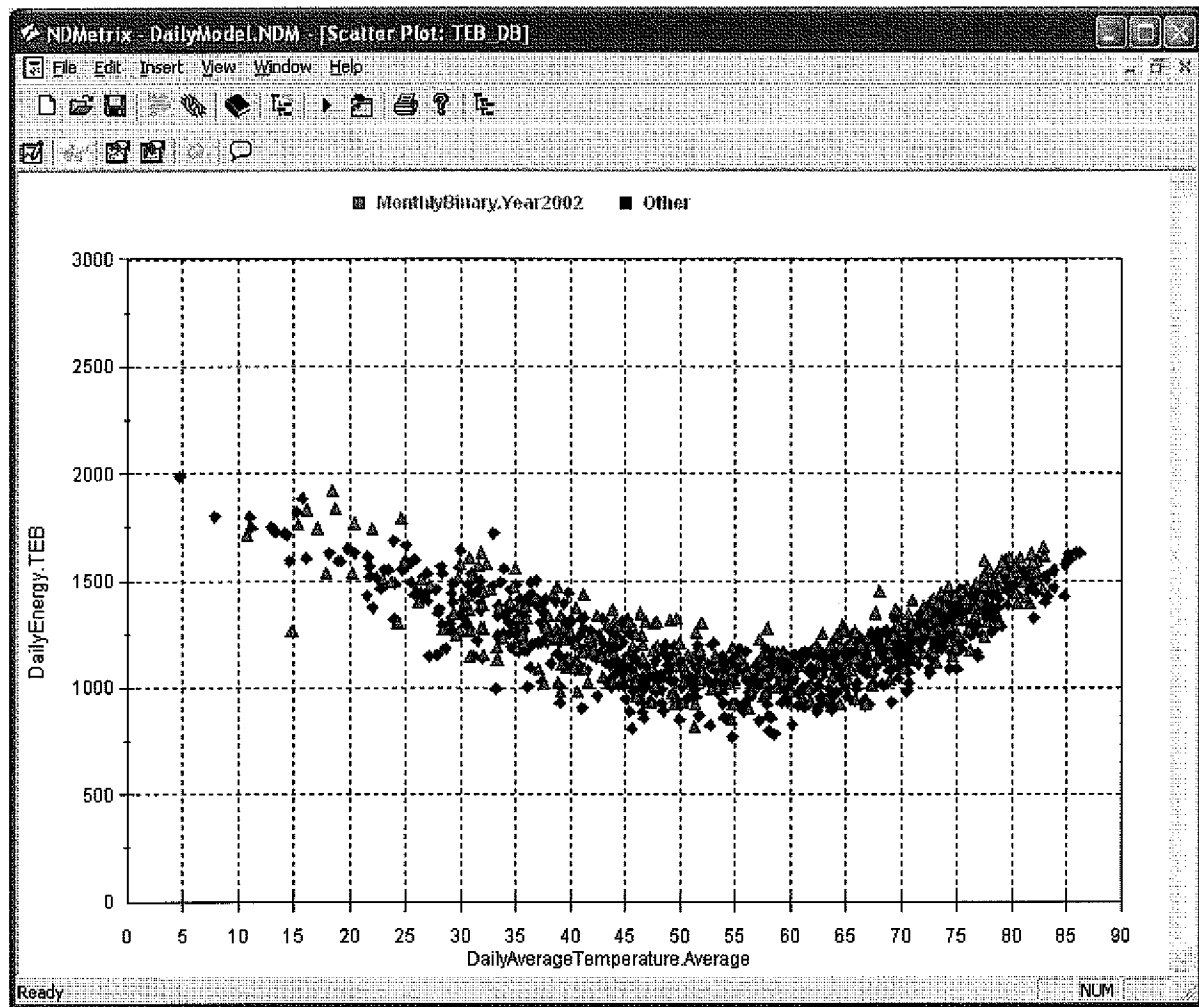




Figure 24: TEB Energy Temperature Scatter Plot

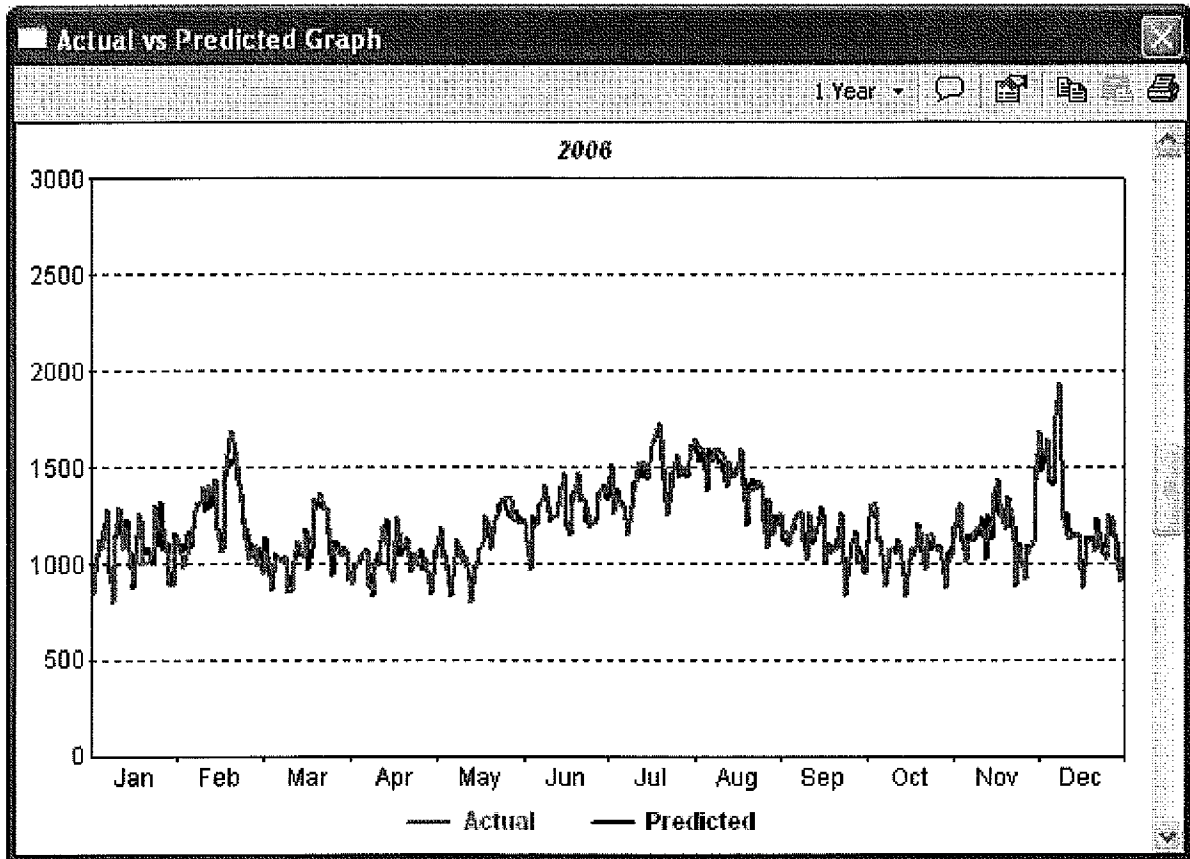


**TEB Model.** The TEB model is built with the same classes of variables used in the Residential model (Table 1). However, temperature splines have been adjusted for the TEB weather response and no changing weather response is modeled.

The overall fit of the regression model can be seen graphically in Figure 25 and numerically in the statistics below. A full description of the model and the associated model statistics can be viewed in the *MetrixND* project file.

- R-Squared 0.938
- Adjusted R-Squared 0.936
- Mean Abs. Dev. (MAD) 37.91
- Mean Abs. % Err. (MAPE) 3.16%
- Durbin-Watson Statistic 1.914

Figure 25: TEB Model Fit – Actual Versus Predicted Values



# 4

## Weather Data

---

Normal weather conditions are a key component in the weather normalization process. In this section, the method to calculate the normal weather is discussed.

**Data.** Historical hourly weather data from 1979 through 2008 for Springfield, Missouri were provided by Empire. These data were used to develop the daily normal weather used in the weather normalization process.

**Method.** A rank and average method is used to develop daily normal weather. In this method, the historical data are ranked from the highest to lowest daily temperature value in each month<sup>1</sup>. For each historical day, corresponding heating degree days (HDD) and cooling degree days (CDD) are calculated. The normal HDD and CDD values are calculated by averaging the HDD and CDD values after they have ranked based on average daily temperature. In this method, the hottest days in the month are averaged across the 30-years of data. Similarly, the second hottest days in the month are averaged across the 30-years of data. The normal HDD and CDD values are then mapped back to the historical test year based on average temperature rankings in each month. Four steps are used to develop the daily normal HDD and CDD values.

**Step 1. Calculate Daily Values.** The historical hourly values for each data were used to create the daily average temperatures.

$$AverageTemperature_{day} = \frac{\sum_{hour} Temperature_{hour}}{24}$$

**Step 2. Calculate HDD and CDD Values.** For each historical day, the HDD and CDD were calculated based on the Average Temperature in Step 1. CDD values were calculated based on temperature reference points of 60, 65, 70, 75, and 80 degrees. HDD values were calculated based on temperature reference points of 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, and 65 degrees.

**Step 3. Calculate Rank and Average based on Average Temperature.** For each historical month, temperatures were ranked from highest to lowest value.

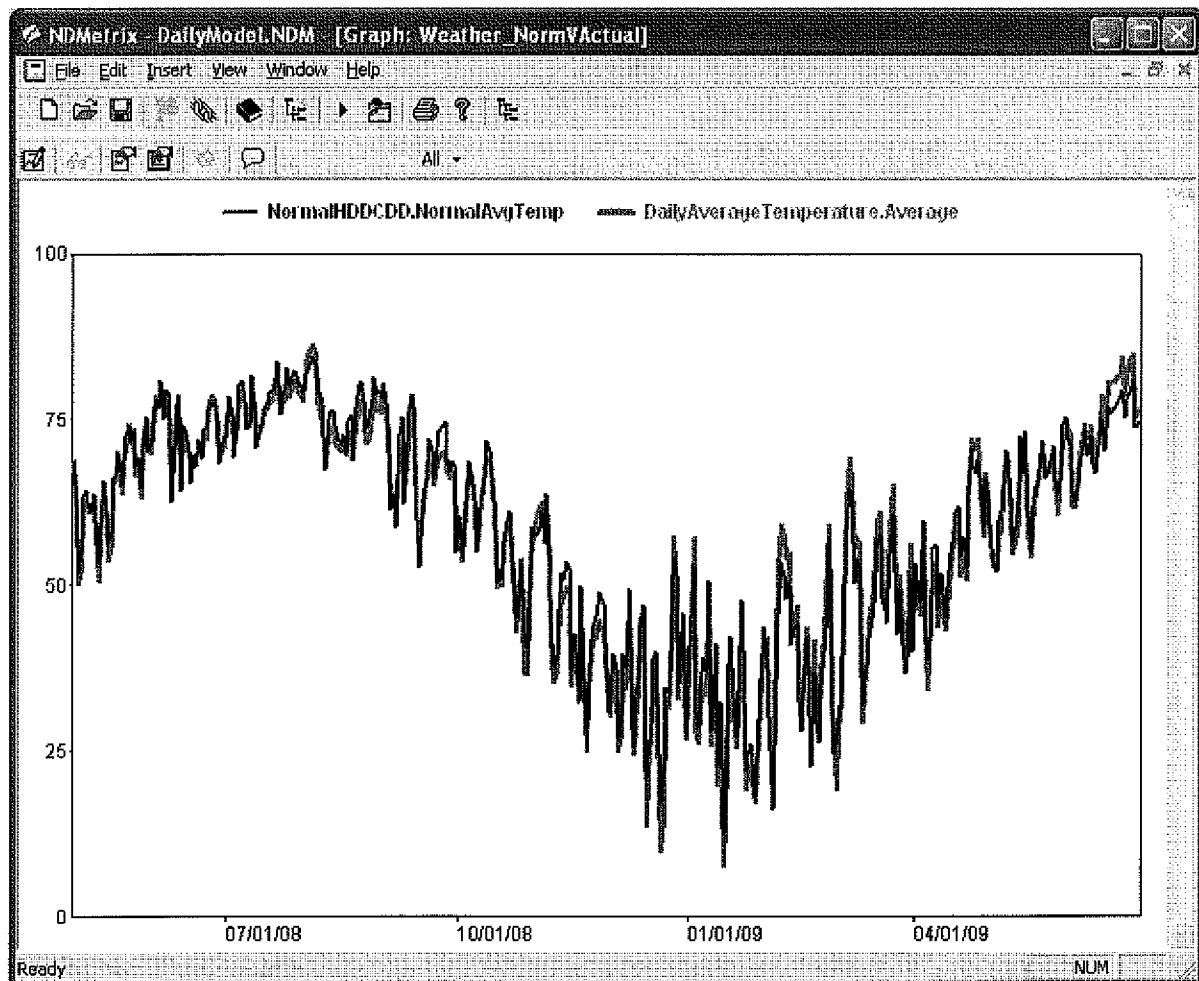
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<sup>1</sup> In the Rank and Average calculation, February 29<sup>th</sup> values are excluded.

The corresponding HDD and CDD values on each day were averaged to calculate the normal HDD and CDD values.

**Step 4. Map Normal HDD and CDD to Calendar Year.** In this step, the Normal HDD and CDD values calculated (Step 3) are mapped to the test year period based on rank in the test year month. The result is shown for average temperatures in Figure 26. In this figure, the bold blue line is the normal temperatures.

Figure 26: Normal Average Temperatures



**AFFIDAVIT OF MARK QUAN**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA    )  
  ) ss  
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO    )

On the 22 day of October, 2009, before me appeared Mark Quan, to me personally known, who, being by me first duly sworn, states that he is a Principle Consultant for Itron's Forecasting Solution Group and acknowledges that he has read the above and foregoing document and believes that the statements therein are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.

Mark Quan  
Mark Quan

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

State of California, County of SAN DIEGO  
Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me  
on this 22 day of OCTOBER, 2009,  
by MARK KENDALL QUAN  
proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence  
to be the person(s) who appeared before me.

Signature: Barbara R. Linker

