



# Residential Customer Response to Electric Vehicle Time-of-Use Rates

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# Presentation Outline

- ❑ Introduction
- ❑ SDG&E Time-of-Use (TOU) Rate Overview
- ❑ Challenge in estimating EV customer demand response
- ❑ Method of identifying EV adopters
- ❑ Estimated EV-TOU load impacts

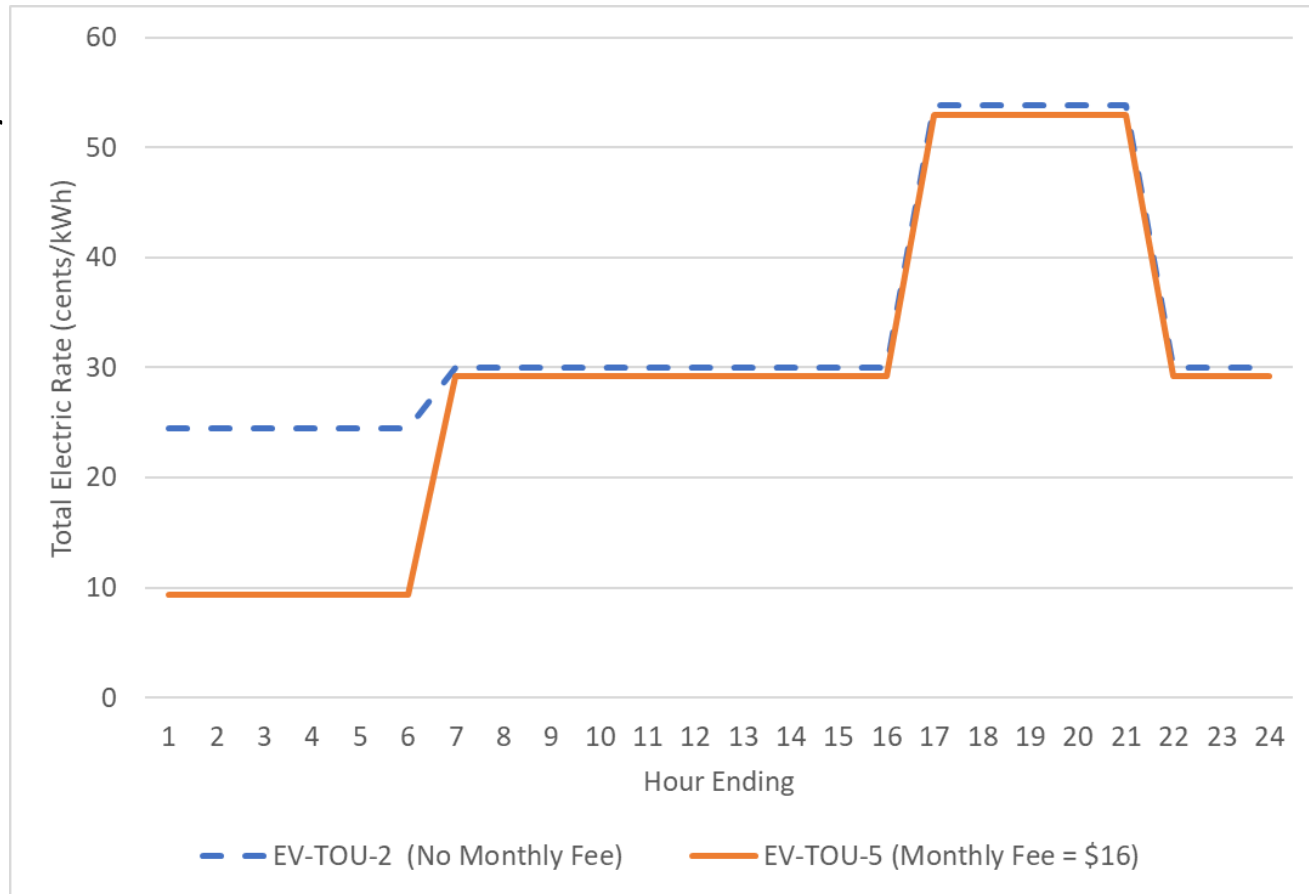
# SDG&E's Residential and EV Rates

Rate	Need an EV	TOU	Tiered	Whole House	Super Off-peak	Monthly Fee	CPP
DR			X	X			
TOU-DR-2		X	X	X			
TOU-DR-1		X	X	X	X		
TOU-DR-P		X	X	X	X		X
EV-TOU	X	X			X		
EV-TOU-2	X	X		X	X		
EV-TOU-5	X	X		X	X	X	

- ❑ EV-TOU: EV-only rate that requires a separate meter
- ❑ Focus on EV-TOU-2 and EV-TOU-5 (both whole-house rates)
  - Key difference: EV-TOU-5 has a lower super off-peak rate (~15 cents/kWh lower than EV-TOU-2) in exchange for a \$16/month Basic Service Fee
  - On-peak period from 4 to 9 p.m. every day
  - Super off-peak period from midnight to 6 a.m. on non-holiday weekdays; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on March and April non-holiday weekdays; midnight to 2 p.m. on weekends and holidays
  - Rates are seasonally differentiated

# Focus on EV-TOU-2 and EV-TOU-5

- ❑ EV-TOU-5 opened later (in 2018)
- ❑ Same pricing periods, both are whole-house rates
- ❑ EV-TOU-5 rates are lower, but it includes a \$16/month Basic Service Fee
- ❑ 9 cents/kWh from midnight to 6 a.m. on EV-TOU-5



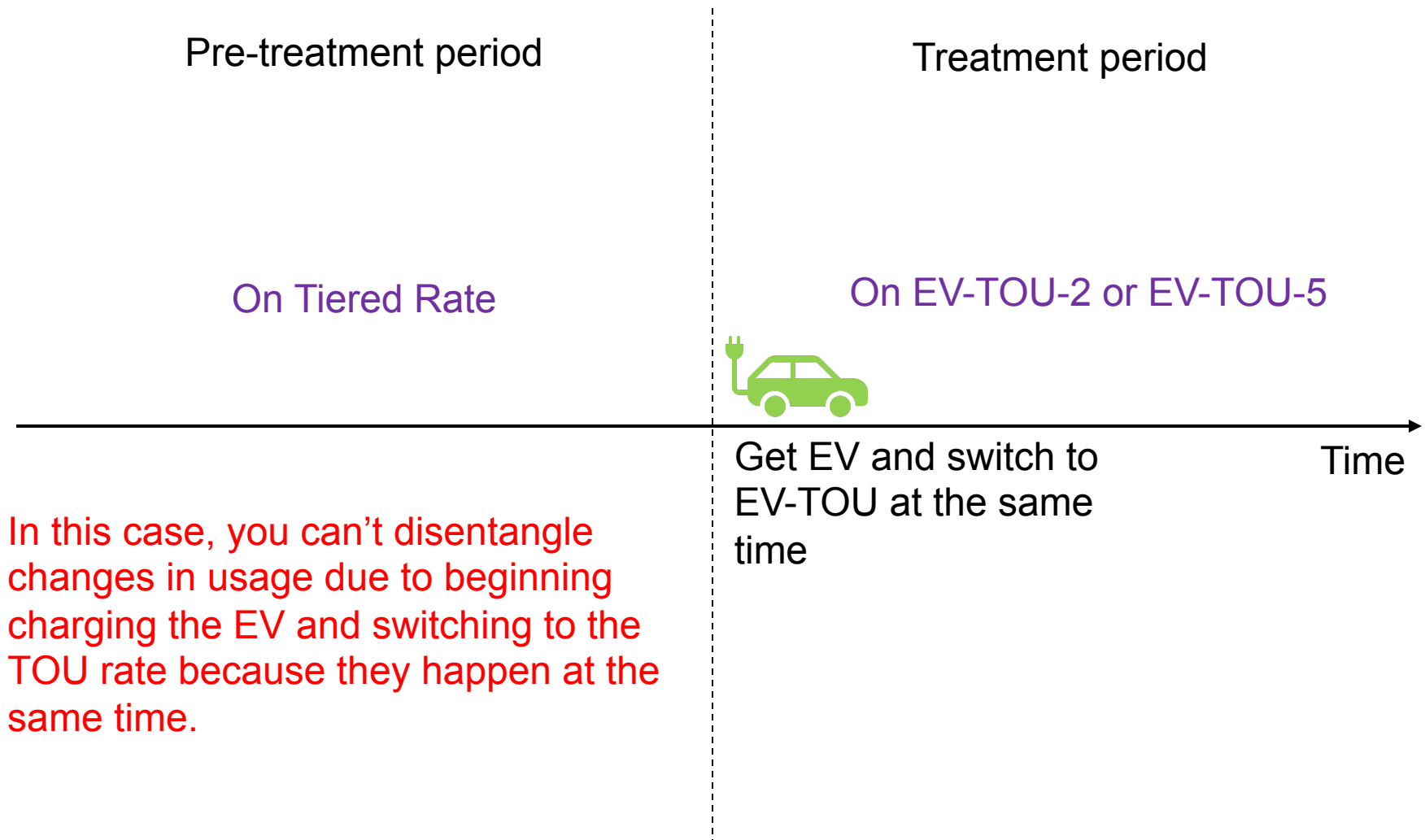
# EV Customer Response to TOU Pricing

- ❑ Two types of demand response may be of interest
- ❑ Do EV customers change their usage behavior when they change from EV-TOU-2 to EV-TOU-5?
  - Will EV-TOU-5 customers tend to shift charging into the Super Off-Peak period?
  - Will lower overall rates affect total usage?
- ❑ Do EV customers change their usage behavior when they change from the standard tiered rate (Schedule DR) to EV-TOU-2 or EV-TOU-5?
  - Do customers shift usage from high- to low-cost pricing periods?
  - Does the absence of tiered rates affect the overall usage level?

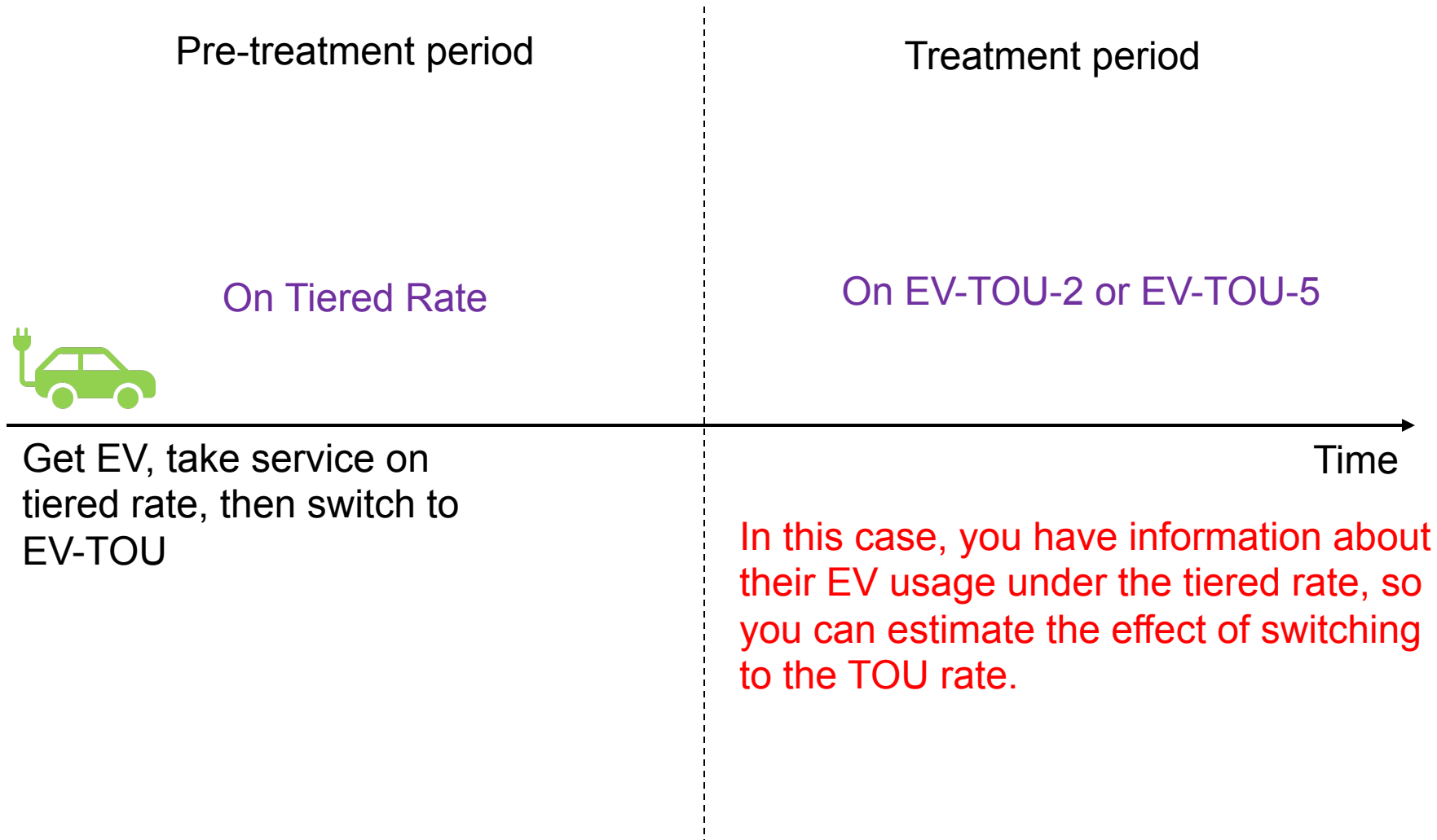
# Challenge of Estimating EV Customer Response to TOU Pricing

- ❑ Want to estimate how an EV customer changes behavior in response to a rate change
- ❑ This can be done via a differences-in-differences analysis, for example:
  - Obtain data before and after EV customers switched from the tiered rate to a TOU rate (the “treatment” customers)
  - Match the treatment customers to “control-group” EV customers, who remain on the tiered rate for the entire analysis period
  - Estimate EV-TOU load impacts as the difference between treatment and control-group customer loads during the treatment period, adjusting for the difference in their loads during the pre-treatment period
- ❑ Problem: SDG&E does not know when a customer acquires and begins charging an EV

# Need to Know When EV Charging Begins: Get EV and adopt TOU at the same time

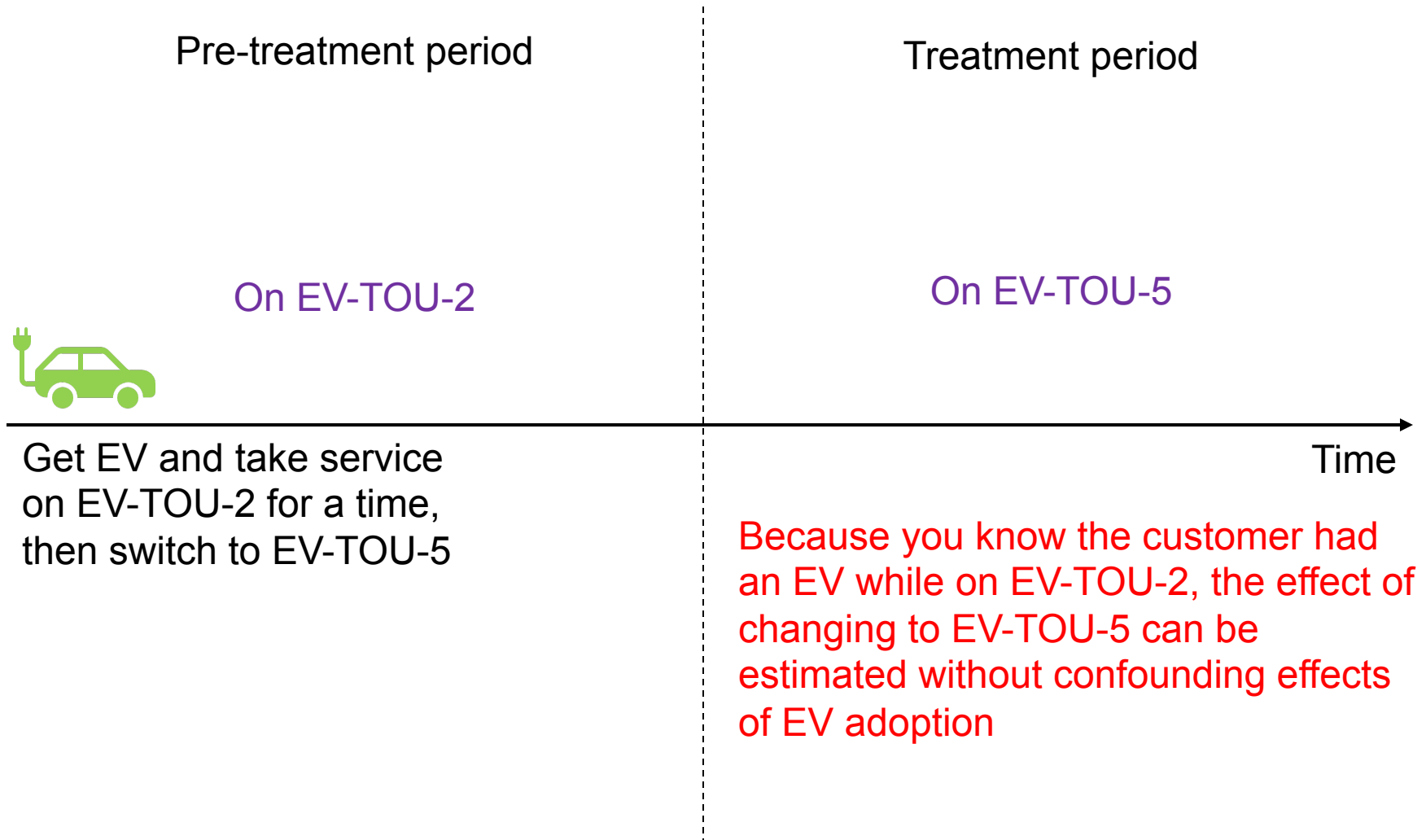


# Need to Know When EV Charging Begins: Adopt TOU after owning EV for some time

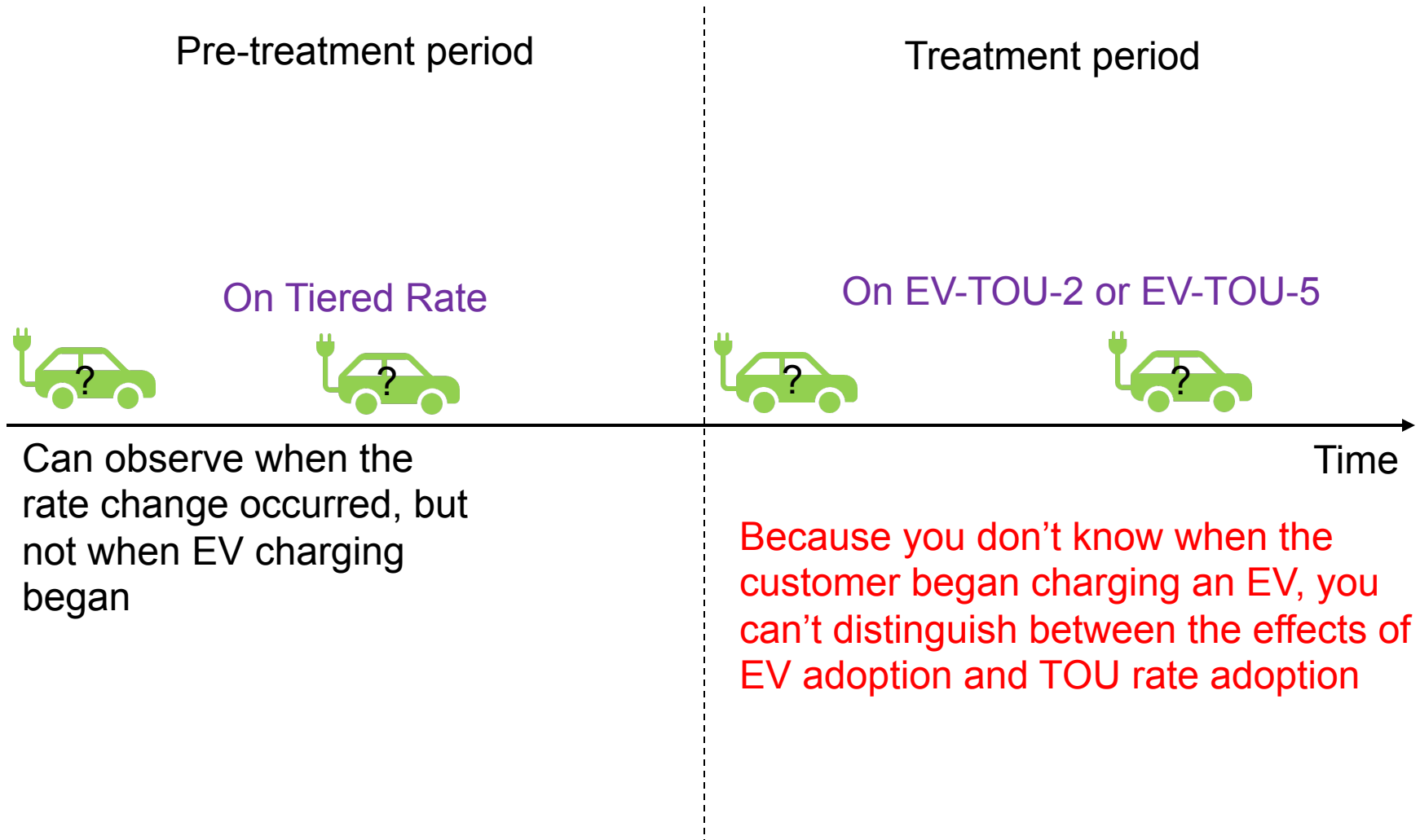




# No Problem for EV-TOU-2 to EV-TOU-5 Switchers



# But Tiered Rate to EV-TOU Switchers Could Have Had an EV at Any Point



# EV-TOU Analysis Issues Summary

- ❑ Time period definitions
  - Pre-treatment year = October 2017 through September 2018
  - Treatment year = October 2018 through September 2019
- ❑ EV-TOU-2 to EV-TOU-5 switchers
  - Treatment group consists of customers who switched from EV-TOU-2 to EV-TOU-5 during the treatment year, who were enrolled in EV-TOU-2 during the entire pre-treatment year
  - Control group consists of customers who were enrolled in EV-TOU-2 for the entire pre-treatment and treatment years
  - Load impacts are estimated using difference-in-differences:  
Load Impact =  $(T_1 - C_1) - (T_0 - C_0)$

# EV-TOU Analysis Issues Summary

## (2)

- ❑ Tiered rate to EV-TOU-2 or EV-TOU-5
  - Separate analyses for EV-TOU-2 and EV-TOU-5
  - Treatment group consists of customers who switched from the tiered rate to EV-TOU-2 or EV-TOU-5 during the treatment year, who were enrolled in the tiered rate during the entire pre-treatment year
  - There is no control group, as we don't have information about EV ownership for customers on non-EV rates
  - Load impacts are estimated as before vs. after within treatment group, controlling for weather effects
    - Load Impact =  $(T_1 - T_0)$
  - **Hard part: all treatment customers must have an EV during the entire analysis period**

# How to Identify EV Ownership?

- ❑ As mentioned earlier, SDG&E does not comprehensively track EV ownership of its customers
- ❑ However, SDG&E restricts its EV-TOU rates to customers with a plug-in EV
- ❑ So we know that a customer served on EV-TOU-2 or EV-TOU-5 had an EV during that time, we just need to confirm they had one while they were on the tiered rate during the pre-treatment period
- ❑ We do this via statistical tests for a **structural break** in the customer's usage data

# Testing for a Structural Break

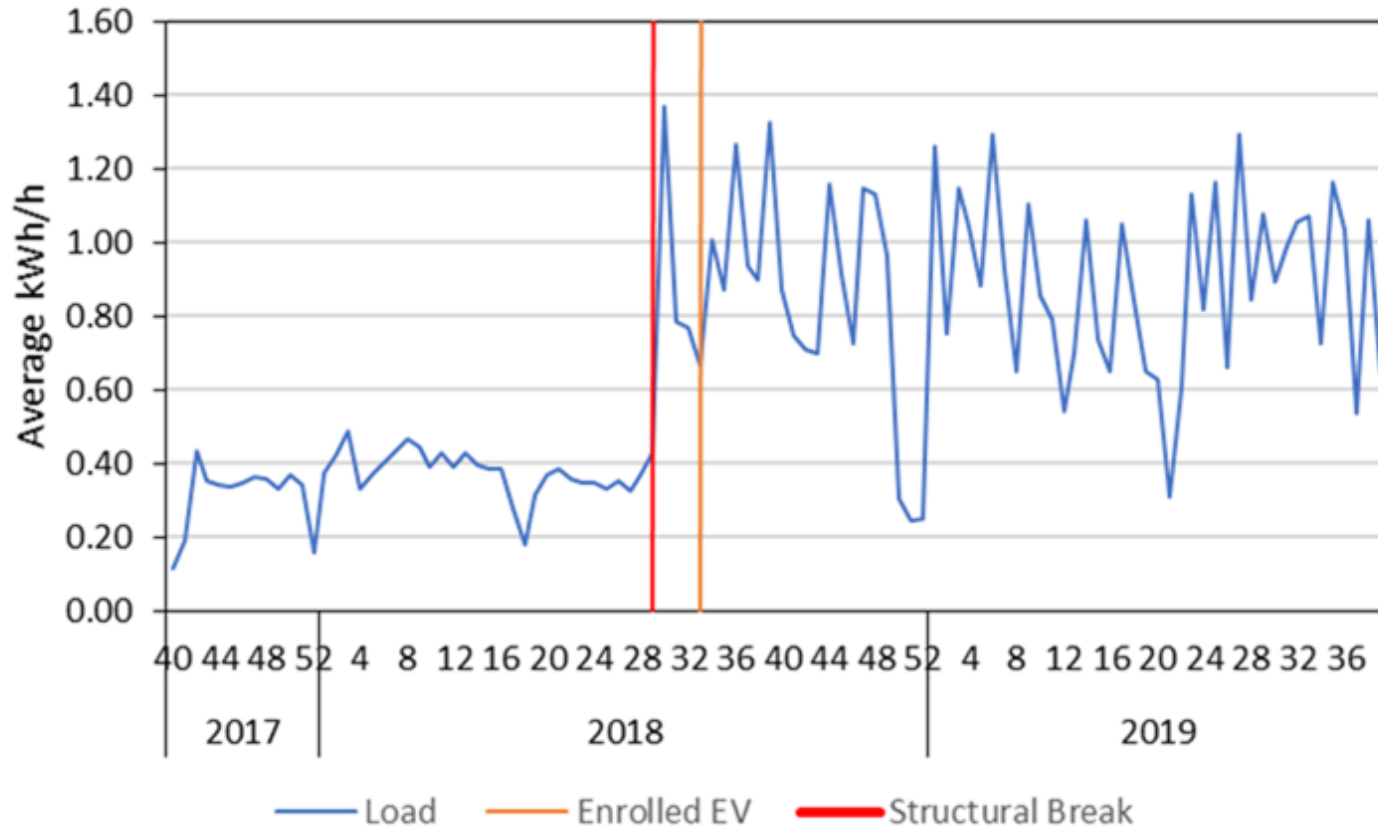
- ❑ Develop customer-specific data consisting of weekly total usage
- ❑ Estimate customer-specific models of weekly usage as a function of cooling and heating degree days and month indicator variables
- ❑ Conduct a Wald test for every possible structural break date (the weeks in the model) using the model's residuals
- ❑ That is, the model is trying to find the date where there's the biggest before/after difference in what the model *can't* explain
- ❑ Record the date with the most likely structural break (i.e., largest Wald value) and retain the test statistic

# Which Customers are Retained for the Analysis?

- ❑ The model keeps customers for whom we **cannot** identify a statistically significant structural break in their usage data
- ❑ That is, we'd expect an EV adopter to see a significant increase in total usage due to charging
- ❑ If that occurs during our sample timeframe, our method should be able to identify a statistically significant structural break in the usage data
- ❑ When we can't identify such a break and we know the customer had an EV at some point (because they were on an EV-TOU rate), we infer they had an EV during the entire analysis period

# Example Customer, Screened Out Due to EV Adoption

This customer was rejected from the EV-TOU load impact study because the model identifies a statistically significant structural break in their usage data





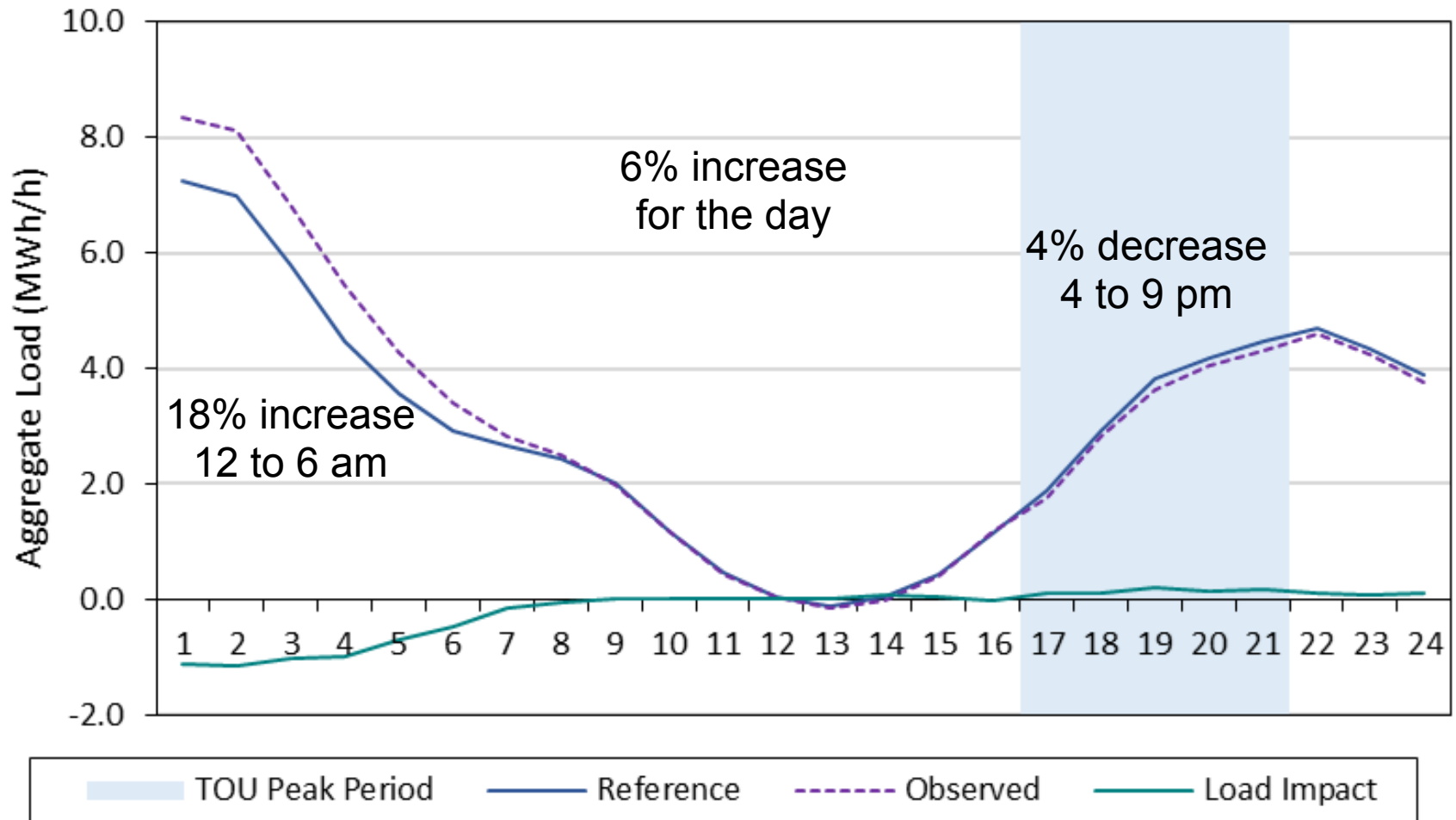


# Estimated Load Impacts

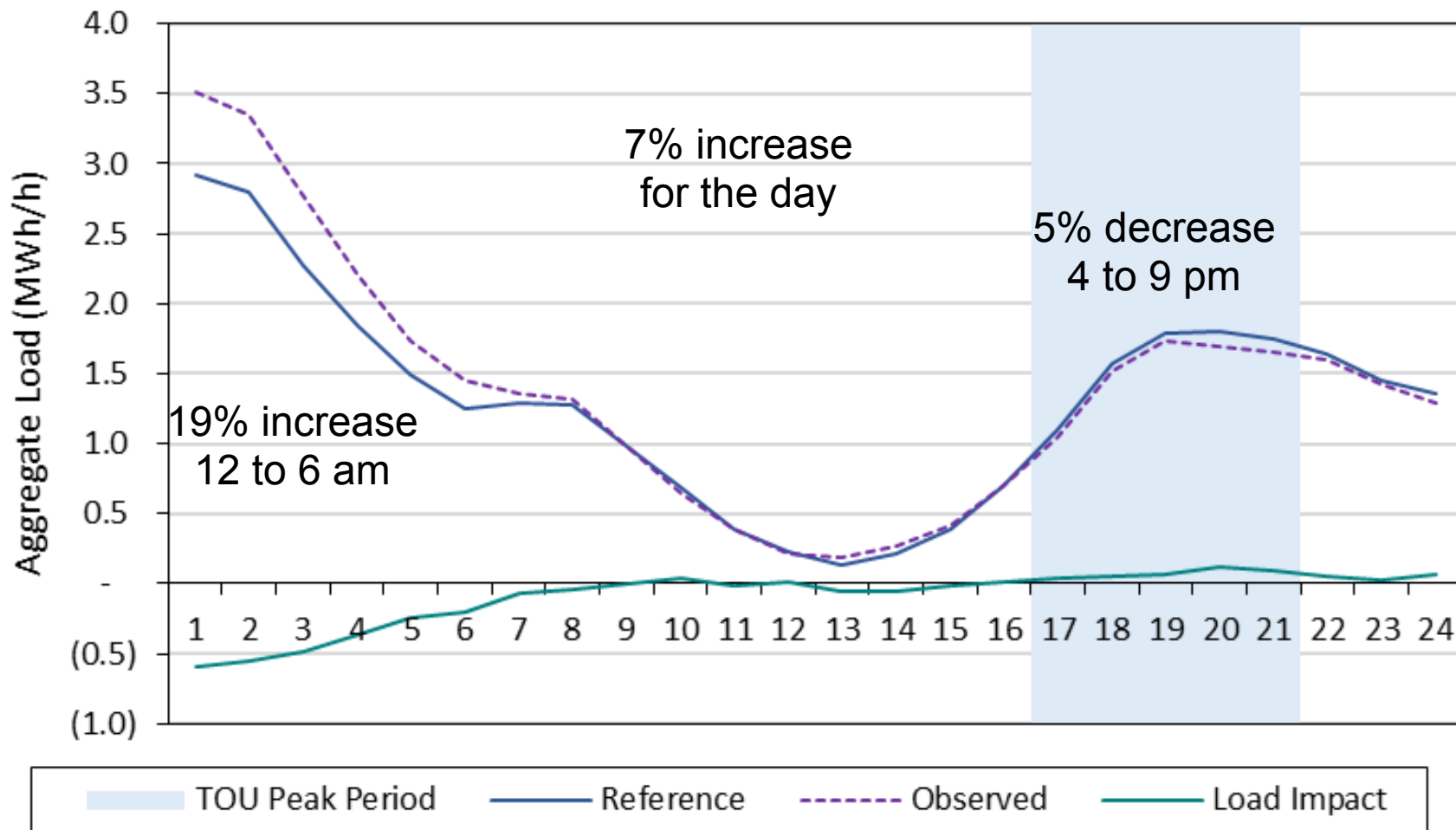
# EV-TOU-2 to EV-TOU-5 Switchers

- ❑ Recall that EV-TOU-5 has somewhat lower energy rates overall and a much lower rate during the Super Off-Peak period (midnight to 6 a.m.)
- ❑ Estimates show that after switching to EV-TOU-5, customers
  - Use much more in the Super Off-Peak period
  - Use somewhat less during the On-Peak period
  - Increase total daily usage

# EV-TOU-2 to EV-TOU-5 Switchers: August 2019 Average Weekday



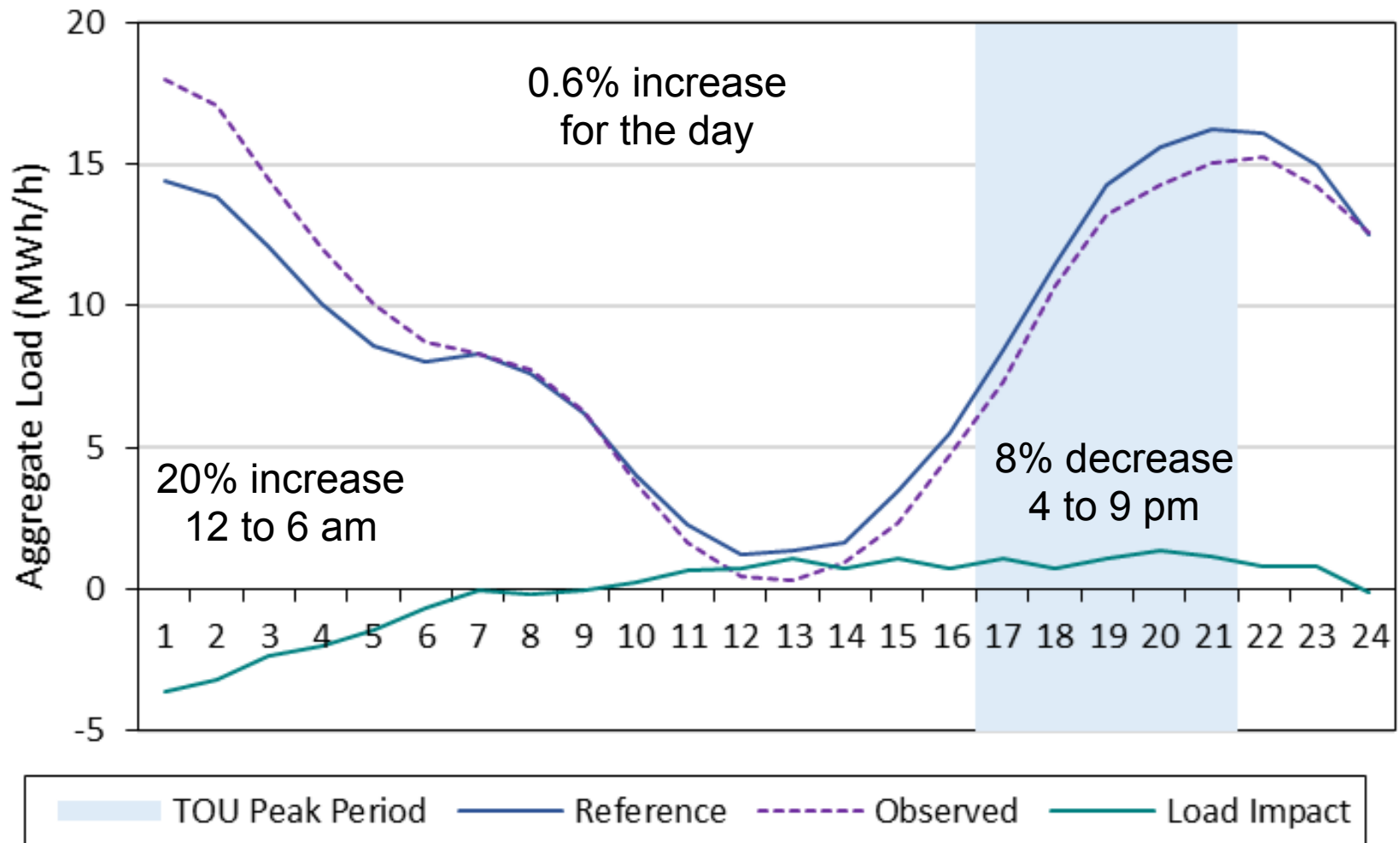
# EV-TOU-2 to EV-TOU-5 Switchers: January 2019 Average Weekday



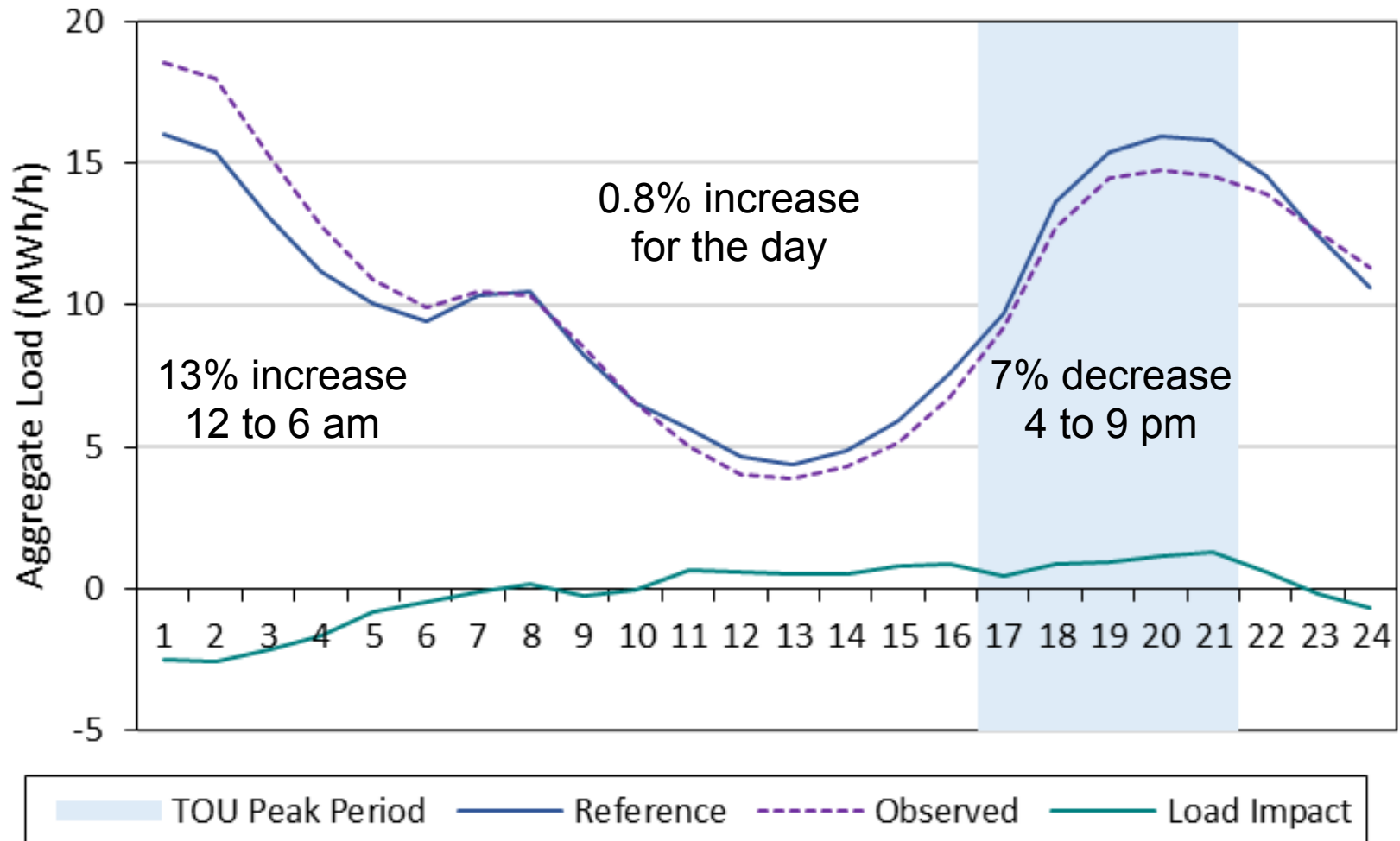
# Tiered Rate to EV-TOU-2

- ❑ Relative to the standard tiered rate, EV-TOU-2:
  - Has no tiered component (rate does not vary with total billing-month sales)
  - Has prices that vary by time of day (versus the same all day)
- ❑ Estimates show that after switching to EV-TOU-2, customers
  - Use much more in the Super Off-Peak period
  - Use somewhat less during the On-Peak period
  - Display minimal change in total daily usage

# Tiered Rate to EV-TOU-2: August 2019 Average Weekday



# Tiered Rate to EV-TOU-2: January 2019 Average Weekday

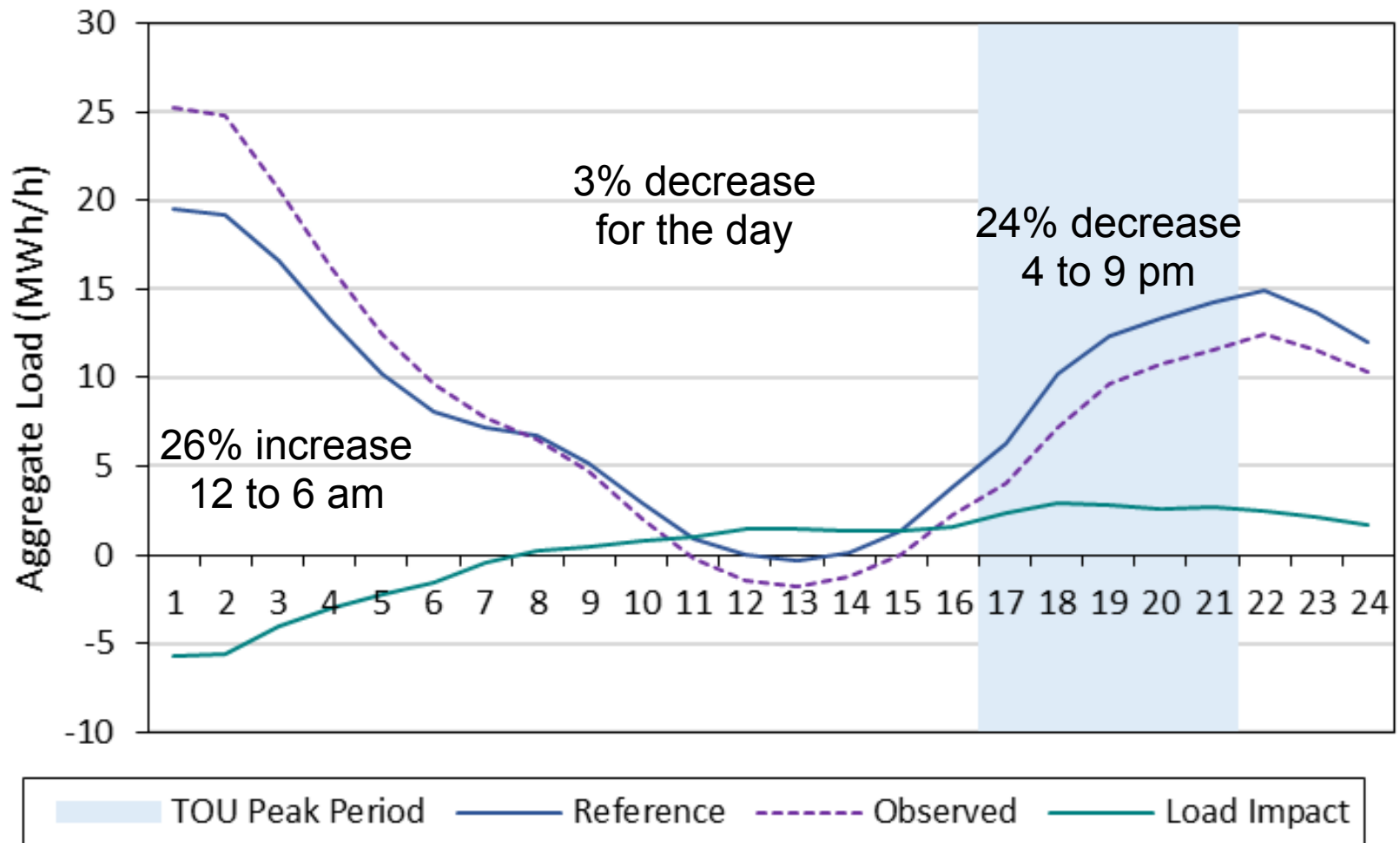


# Tiered Rate to EV-TOU-5

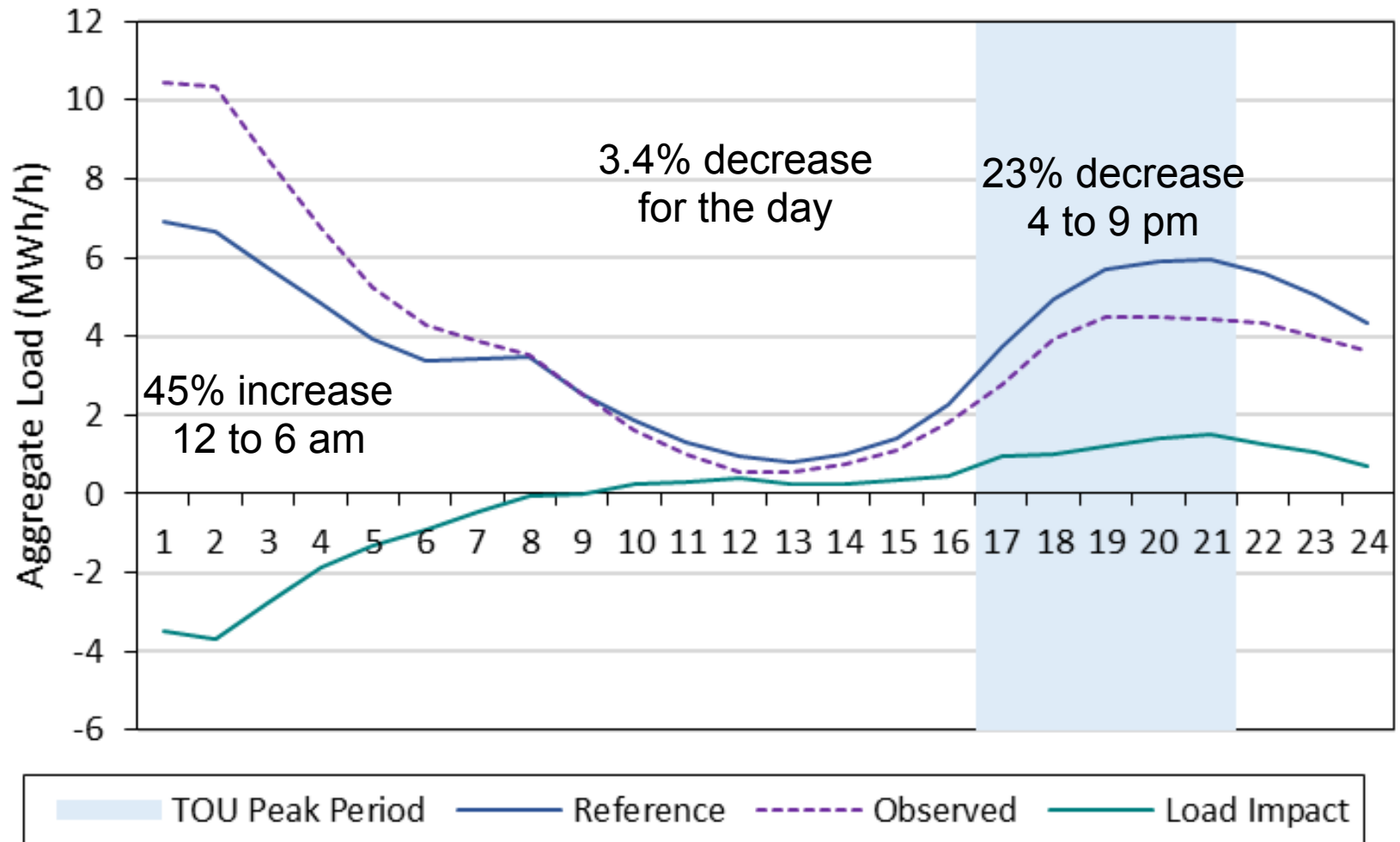
- ❑ Relative to the standard tiered rate, EV-TOU-5:
  - Has no tiered component (rate does not vary with total billing-month sales)
  - Has prices that vary by time of day (versus the same all day)
  - Introduces a monthly Basic Service Fee of \$16
  - Reduces energy prices relative to EV-TOU-2 in exchange for Basic Service Fee
- ❑ Estimates show that after switching to EV-TOU-5, customers
  - Use much more in the Super Off-Peak period
  - Use less during the On-Peak period
  - Display mixed results regarding the change in total daily usage



# Tiered Rate to EV-TOU-5: August 2019 Average Weekday



# Tiered Rate to EV-TOU-5: January 2019 Average Weekday



# Comparison Across Rates

- The table below summarizes per-customer reference loads and load impacts by rate and pricing period for August 2019
  - Positive load impact = load reduction
  - Negative load impact = load increase

Group	On-Peak Period			Super Off-Peak Period		
	Reference Load (kWh/hr)	Load Impact (kWh/hr)	% Impact	Reference Load (kWh/hr)	Load Impact (kWh/hr)	% Impact
EV-TOU-2 to EV-TOU-5	1.53	0.06	4.2%	2.29	-0.40	-17.5%
Tiered to EV-TOU-2	1.62	0.13	8.2%	1.38	-0.27	-19.9%
Tiered to EV-TOU5	1.56	0.37	23.6%	2.00	-0.51	-25.7%

# Summary

- ❑ The results appear to reflect success in identifying EV adopters vs. those who had an EV during the entire analysis timeframe
- ❑ Time-of-use pricing appears to be very effective at moving EV charging into overnight hours (midnight to 6 a.m.)
- ❑ The magnitude of customer response increased with the TOU price differential

# Questions?

## Contacts

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