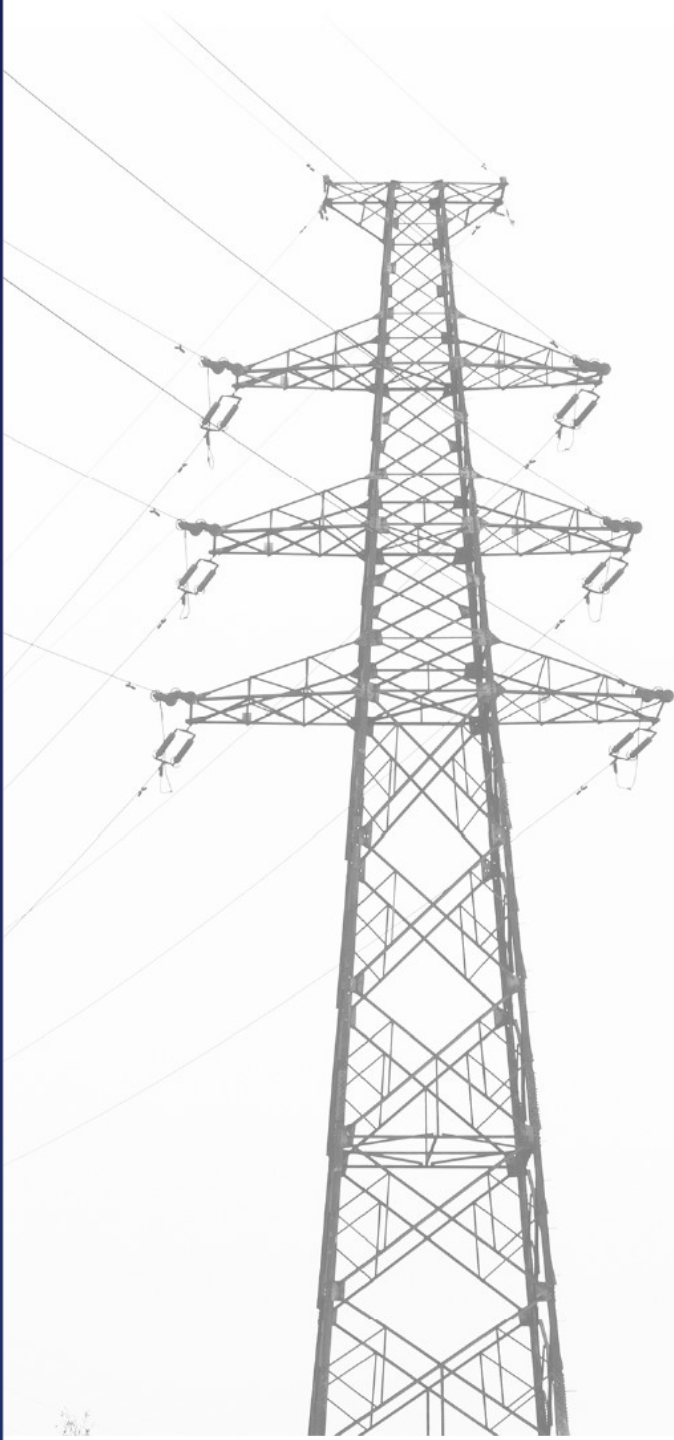




# Reliable, Efficient and Low-Carbon Resource Portfolios

A PROJECT OF





**Future Power Markets Forum investigates proposals for market designs that maintain system efficiency and reliability with a high penetration of variable generation.**

---

Future Power Markets Forum began in May 2020 as a joint project of the Columbia University SIPA Center for Global Energy Policy and Johns Hopkins University Whiting School of Engineering.

The Future Power Markets Forum website hosts materials on proposals for electricity market structure and design and a research library of relevant papers.

Forum contributors, representing a balanced group of the sector's practitioners, researchers and regulators, offer commentary on the issues and proposals.



## Topic 1: Resource Portfolios

Mr. Arne Olson

E3 - Energy and Environmental  
Economics





Energy+Environmental Economics

# Decarbonizing the Power System: Summary of Lessons Learned

Columbia University – Johns Hopkins University  
Future Power Markets Forum Session 1

June 2, 2020

Remote Webinar

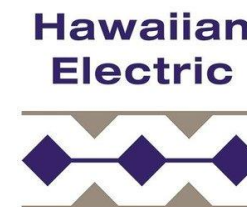
Arne Olson, Senior Partner



# Key Commonalities Across E3 Studies

- 1) **Sensible near-term strategy for carbon reduction is to develop a least-cost combination of energy efficiency, renewables and natural gas generation**
- 2) **Achieving zero carbon emissions requires a form of clean firm generation capacity**
  - Candidate resources are fossil generation with CCS, nuclear, very long duration storage, zero-carbon gas, hydrogen
- 3) **“Flexibility” is critical for reliable operations but is not a significant driver of portfolio configuration**
  - Inverter-based resources can provide most essential grid services
- 4) **Clean generation technologies are very capital-intensive**
  - A stable, long-term price signal is required to provide the returns necessary to induce investment

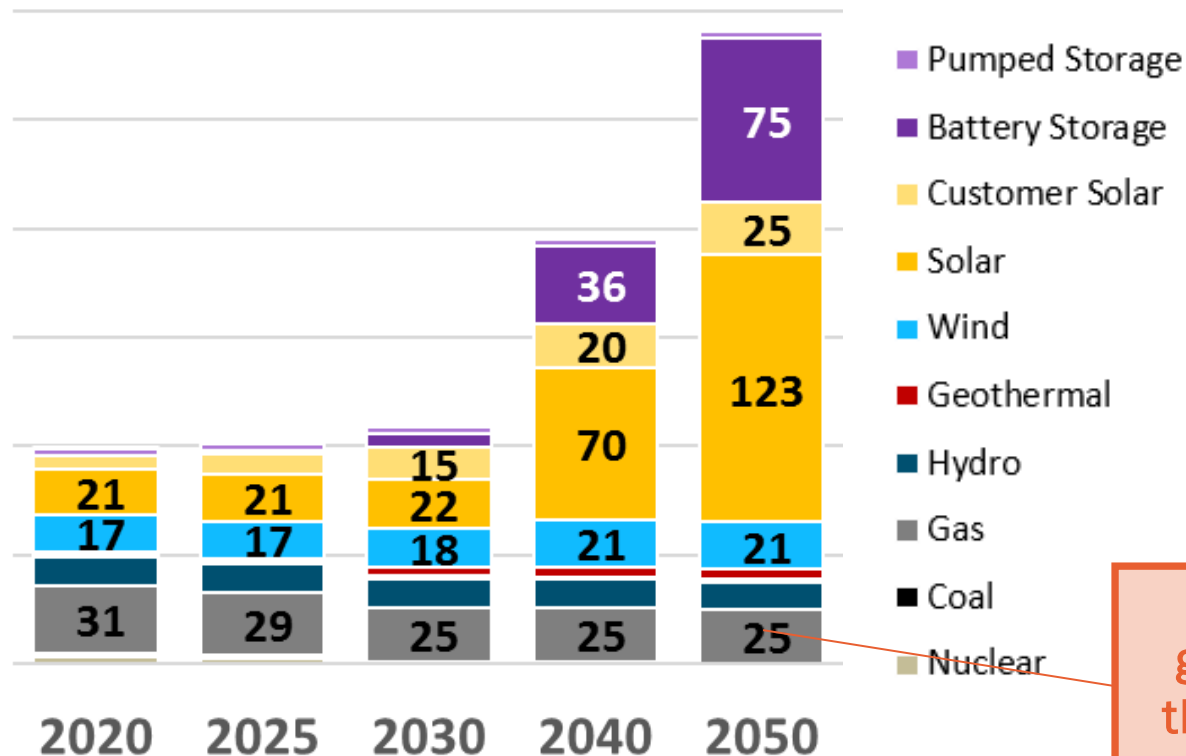
Some Key Sponsors of E3’s Clean Energy Work





# California can achieve 90%+ reductions with 150 GW of solar and 75 GW of storage

## 2050 Portfolio Achieving 92% CO2 reductions in California



Achieves “100% Renewables” on a net basis (complies with SB 100)

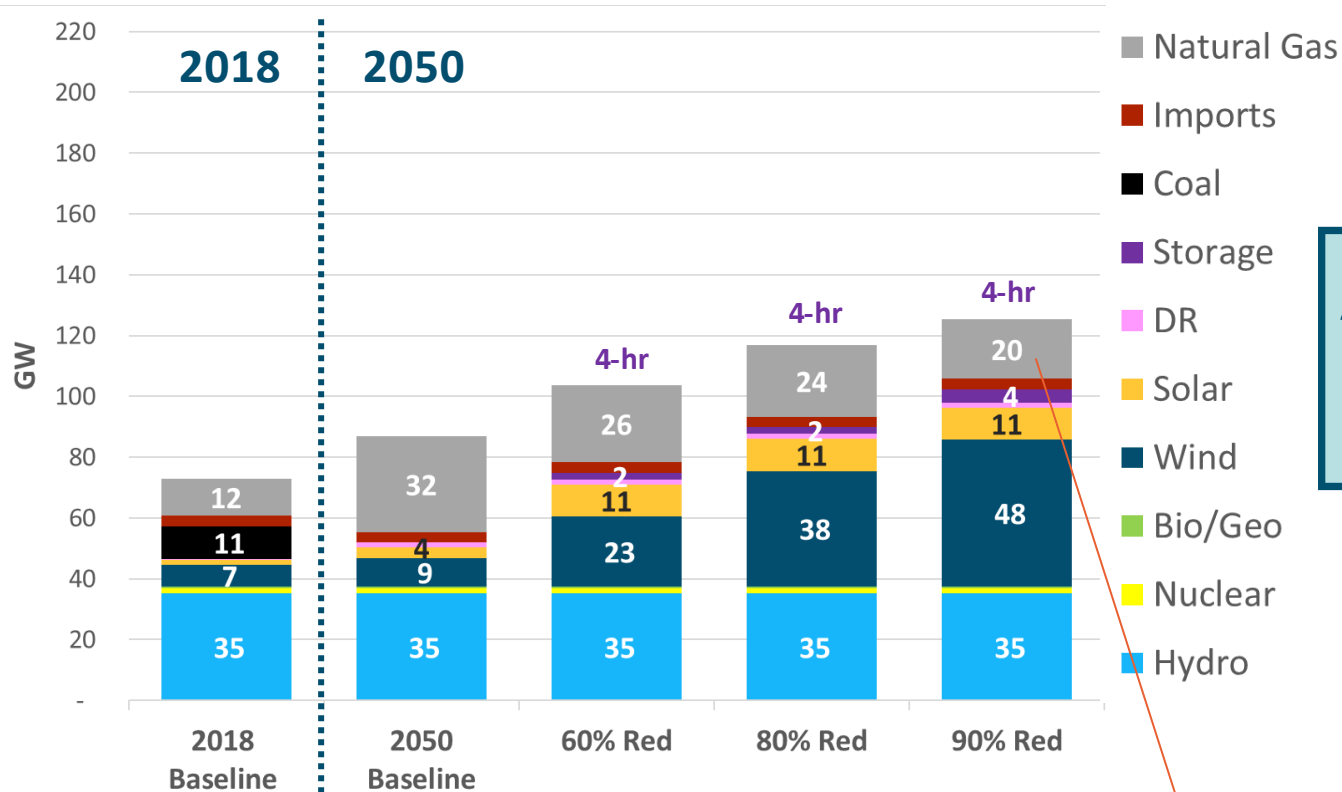
Land area equivalent to 2% of California devoted to solar and wind production

25 GW of gas generation retained through 2050 (<10% capacity factor)

Source: E3, Long-Run Resource Adequacy under Deep Decarbonization in California: [https://www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/E3\\_Long\\_Run\\_Resource\\_Adequacy\\_CA\\_Deep-Decarbonization\\_Final.pdf](https://www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/E3_Long_Run_Resource_Adequacy_CA_Deep-Decarbonization_Final.pdf)



# Pacific Northwest 90% reduction case selects wind and solar but little storage



Achieves "108% Renewables" on a net basis

	2018 Baseline	2050 Baseline	60% Red	80% Red	90% Red
% GHG Reduction from 1990		16%	60%	80%	90%
Clean Energy Share (%)		63%	86%	100%	108%
Gas Capacity Factor (%)		46%	27%	16%	9%
Additional Cost (\$/MWh)		Base	\$0 - \$7	\$3 - \$14	\$5 - \$18

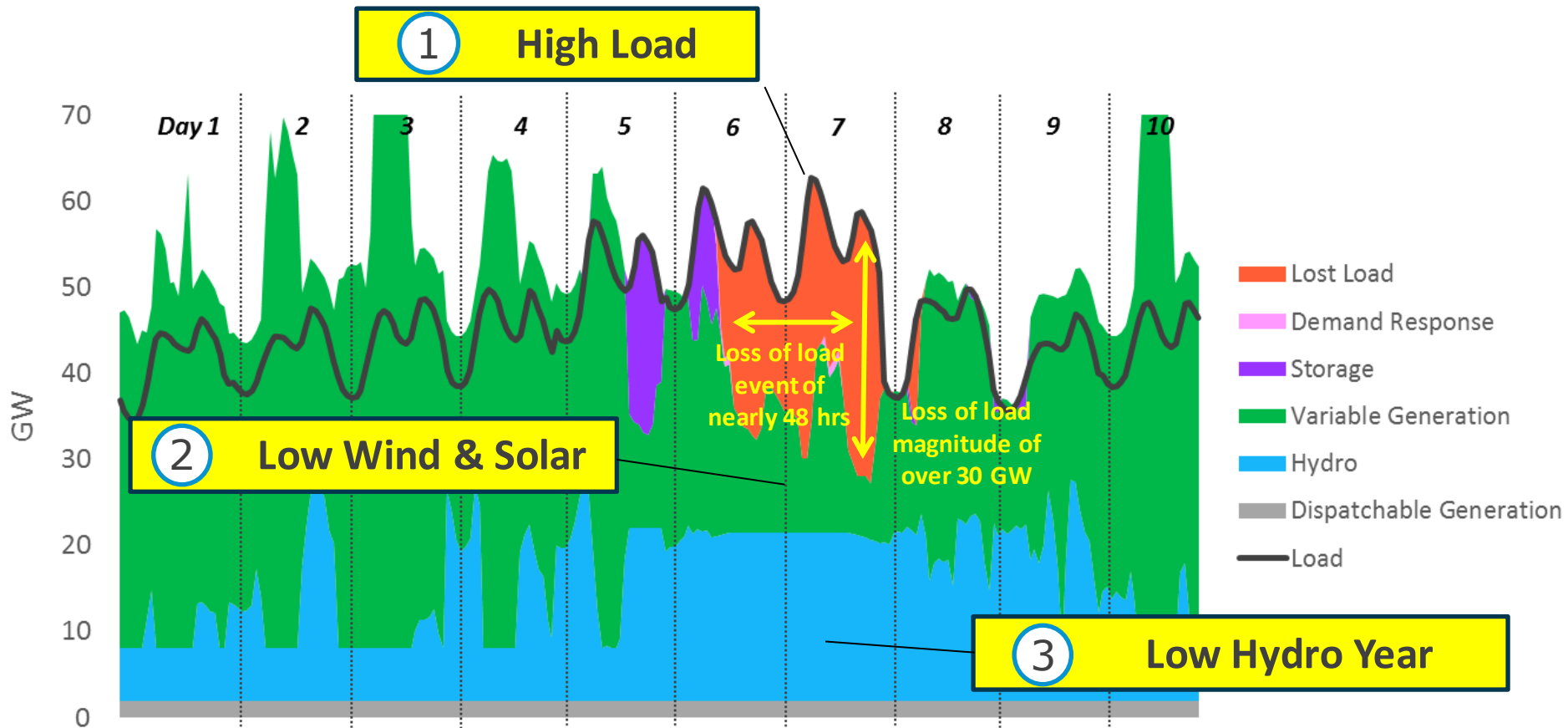
Requires 8-12 GW of \*new\* gas for resource adequacy

Source: E3, Resource Adequacy in the Pacific Northwest:  
[https://www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/E3\\_Resource\\_Adequacy\\_in\\_the\\_Pacific-Northwest\\_March\\_2019.pdf](https://www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/E3_Resource_Adequacy_in_the_Pacific-Northwest_March_2019.pdf)



# Firm generation is needed even on a system that is massively overbuilt with renewables

- + The most challenging conditions in a deeply-decarbonized Pacific Northwest grid is when a multi-day cold snap occurs during a low-water year

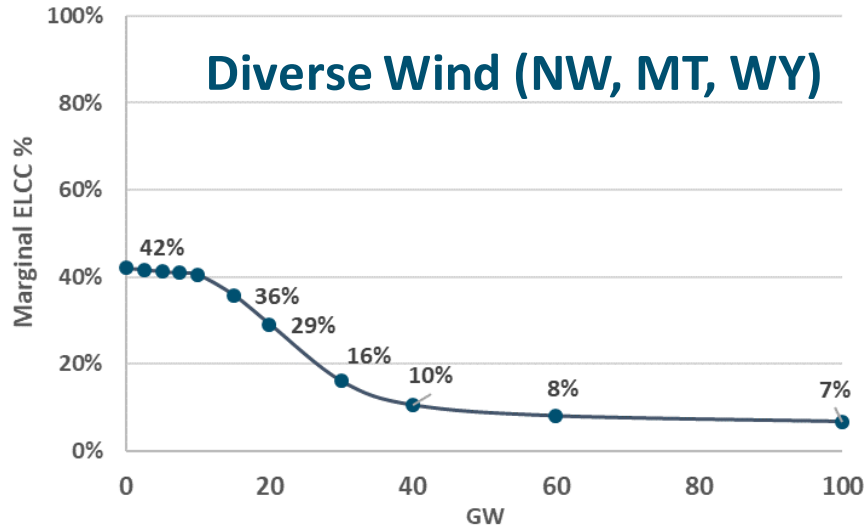




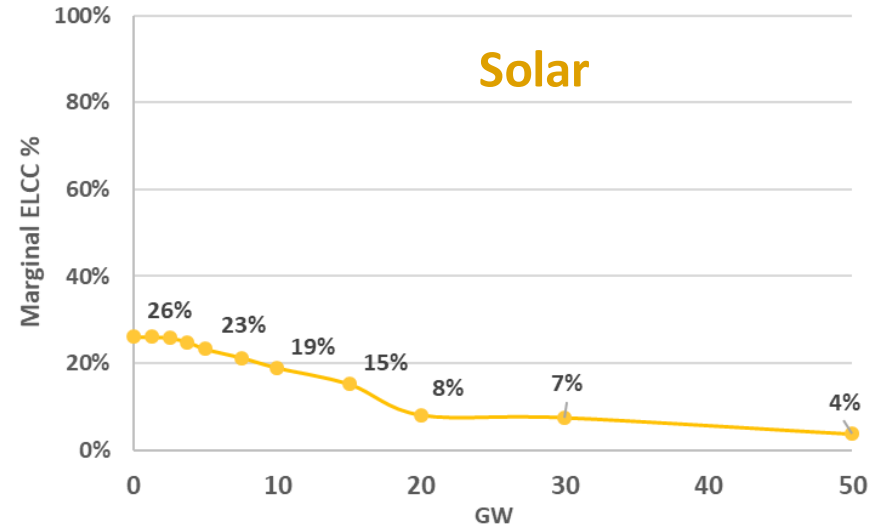


# Wind, solar and storage all exhibit diminishing ELCC values as more capacity is added

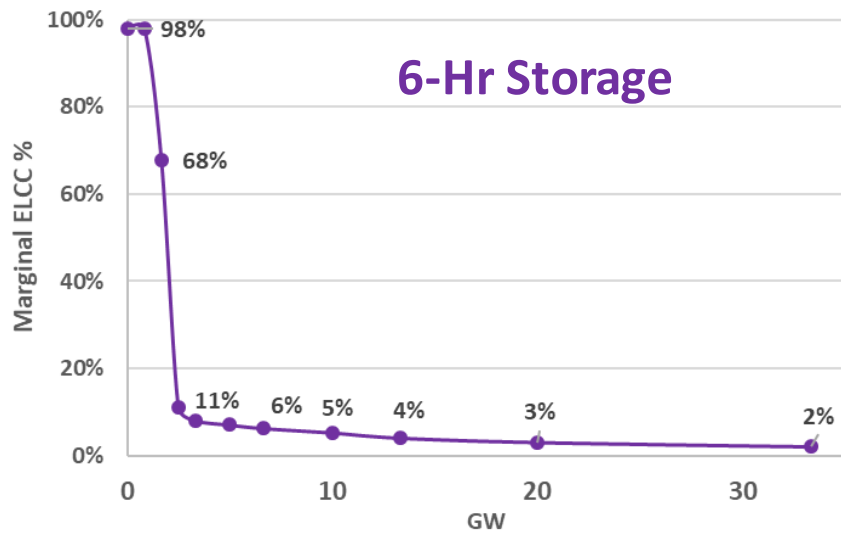
### Diverse Wind (NW, MT, WY)



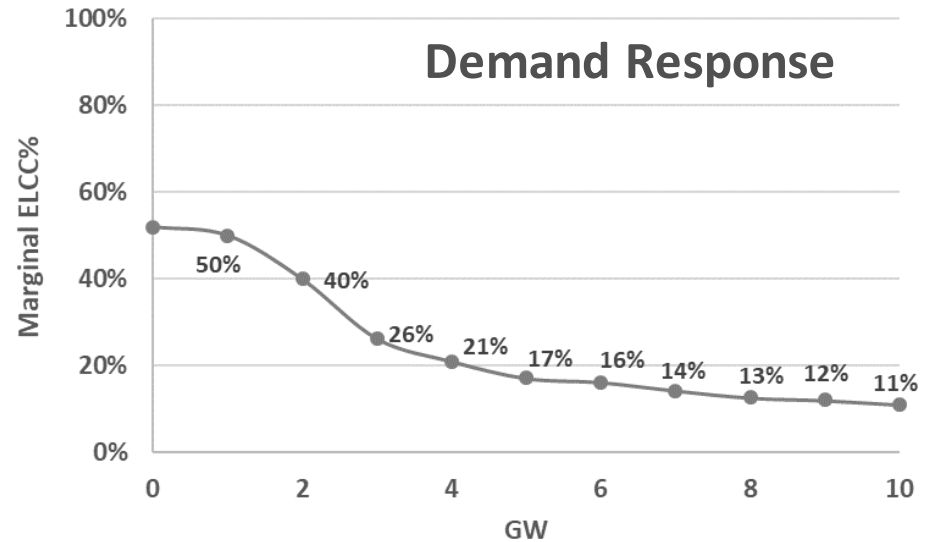
### Solar



### 6-Hr Storage



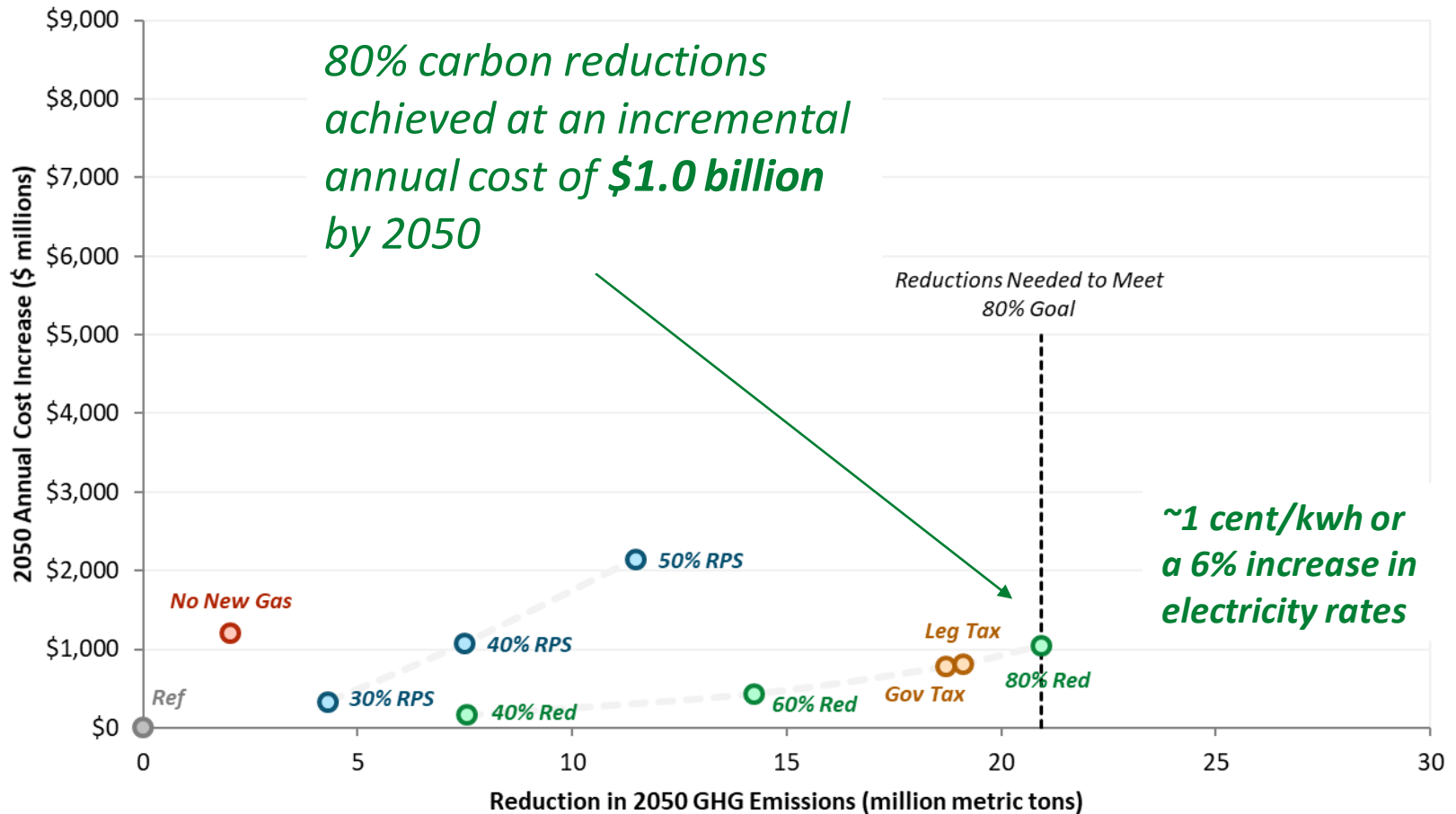
### Demand Response





# 80% carbon reductions can be achieved at a reasonable cost in most markets

## Annual Cost of Carbon Reductions in the Northwest



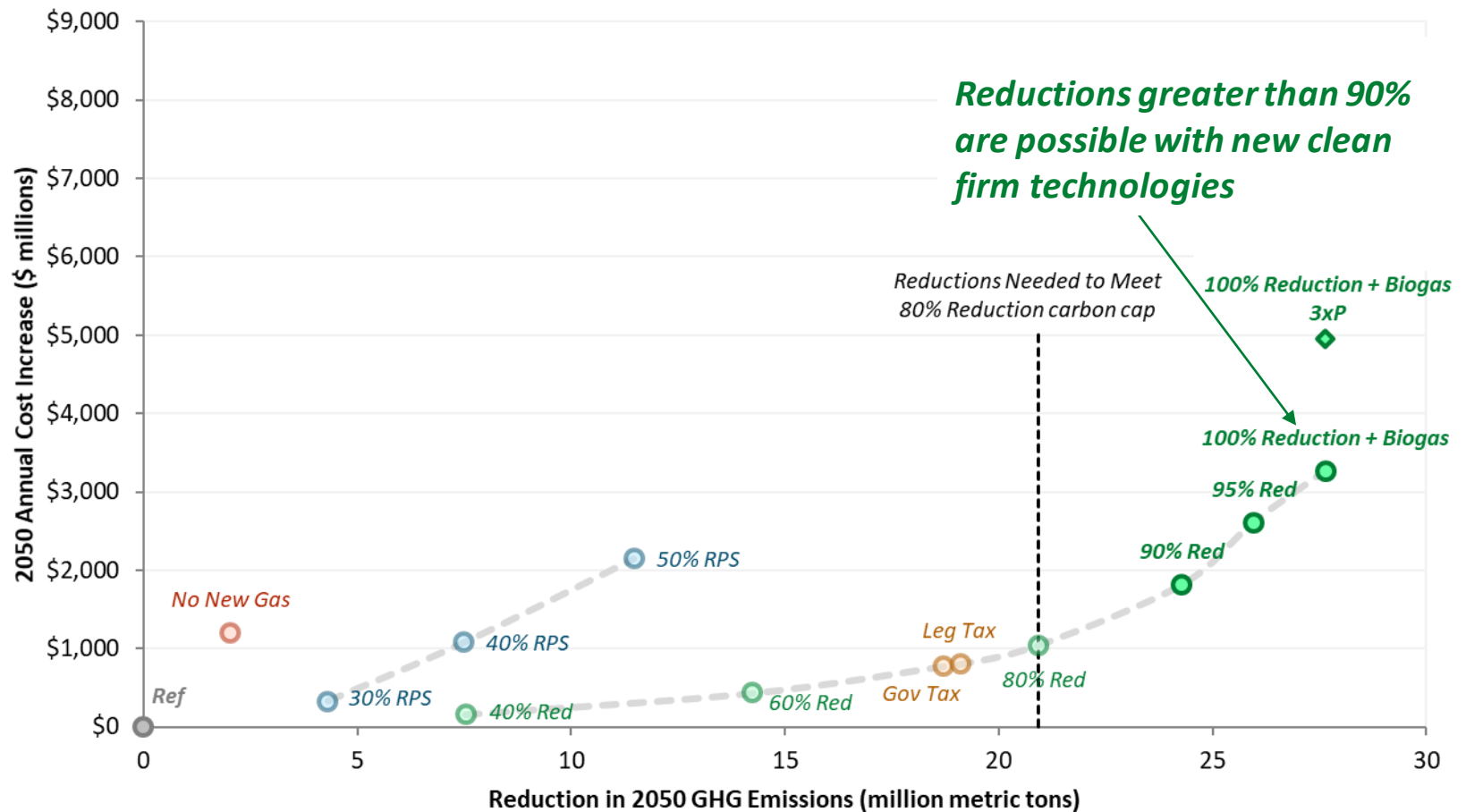
Source: E3, Pacific Northwest Low-Carbon Scenario Analysis:

[https://www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/E3\\_PGP\\_GHGReductionStudy\\_2017-12-15\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/E3_PGP_GHGReductionStudy_2017-12-15_FINAL.pdf)



# Clean firm generation options enable additional reductions

## Annual Cost of Carbon Reductions in the Northwest



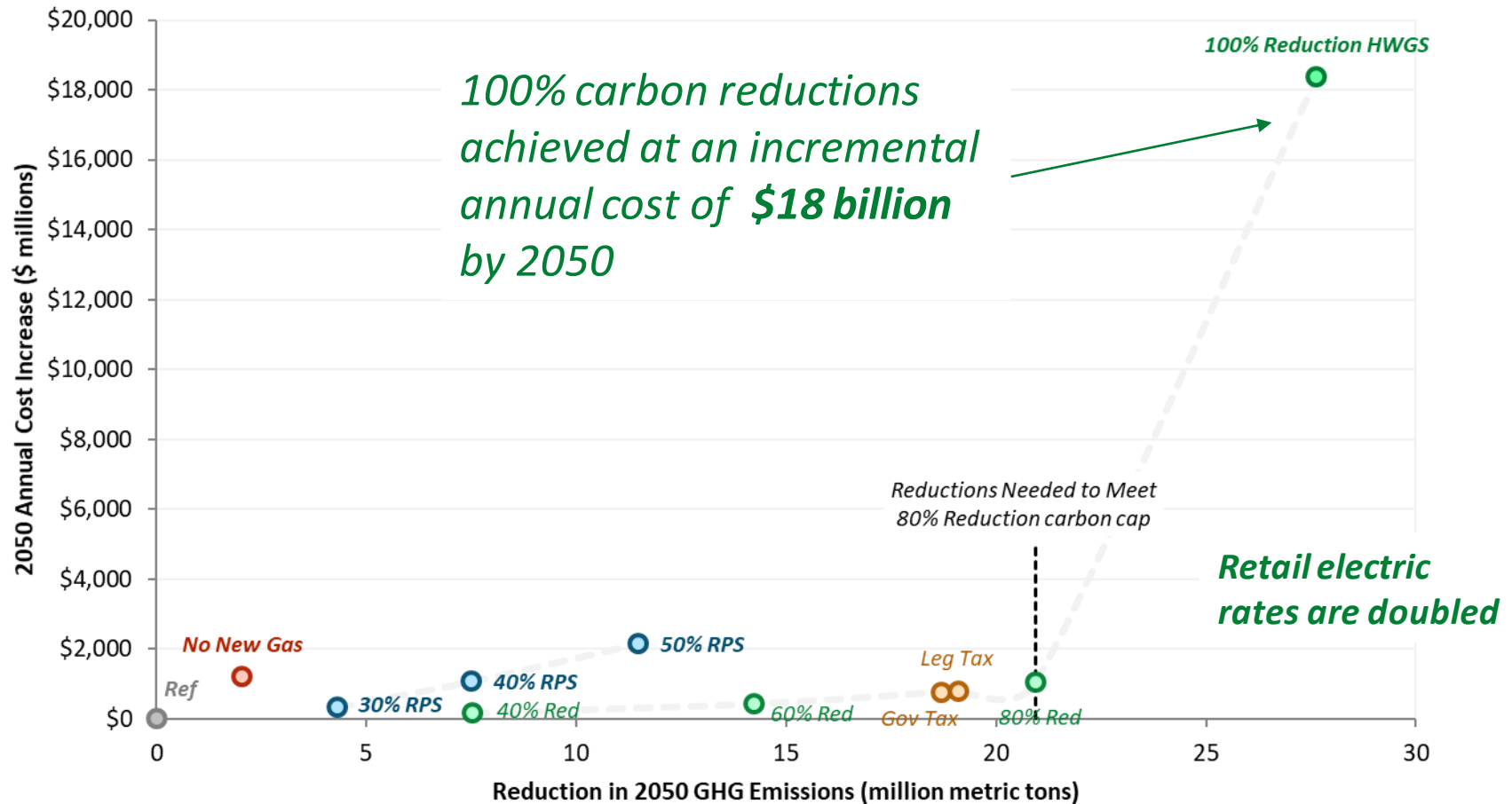
Source: E3, Pacific Northwest Low-Carbon Scenario Analysis:

[https://www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/E3\\_PGP\\_GHGReductionStudy\\_2017-12-15\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/E3_PGP_GHGReductionStudy_2017-12-15_FINAL.pdf)



# 100% carbon reductions is cost-prohibitive with only wind, solar and batteries

## Annual Cost of Carbon Reductions in the Northwest



Source: E3, Pacific Northwest Low-Carbon Scenario Analysis:

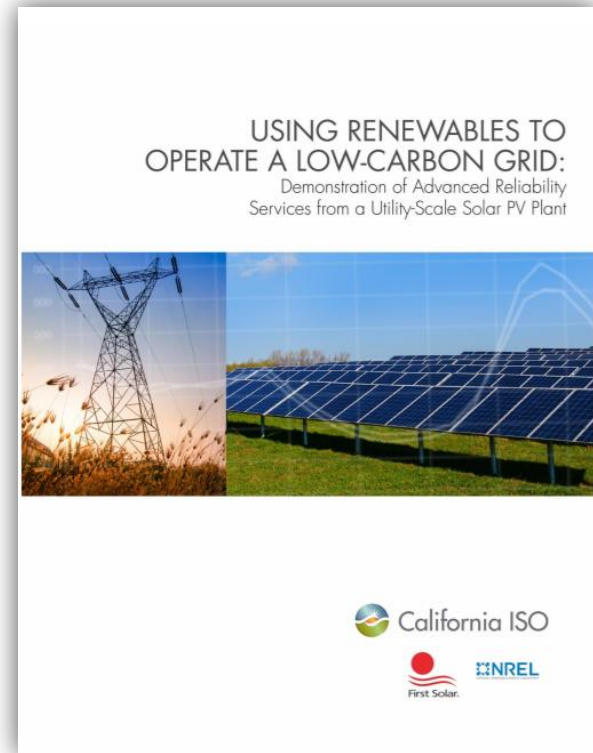
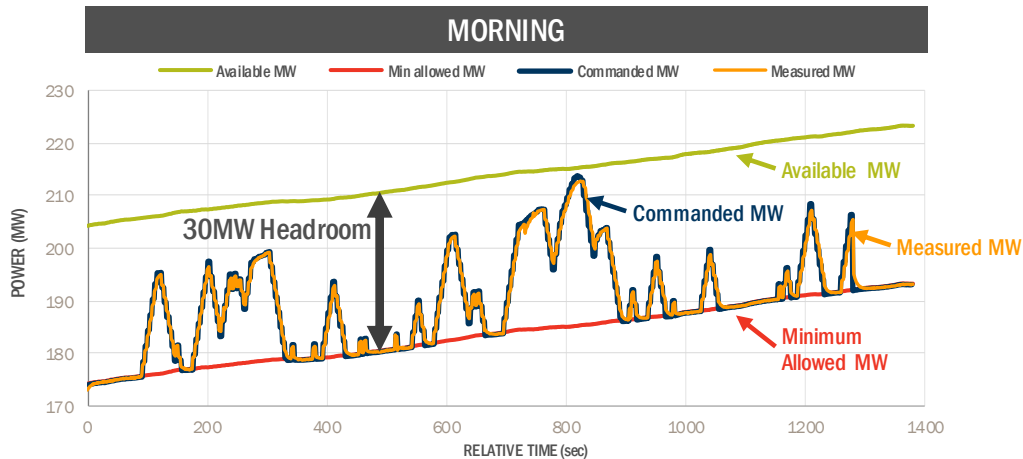
[https://www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/E3\\_PGP\\_GHGReductionStudy\\_2017-12-15\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/E3_PGP_GHGReductionStudy_2017-12-15_FINAL.pdf)



# First Solar/NREL/CAISO demonstration of using solar for essential grid services

Inverter-based resources such as utility-scale solar can provide NERC essential reliability services with greater precision than comparable conventional alternatives

- Example: regulation service / following AGC signal

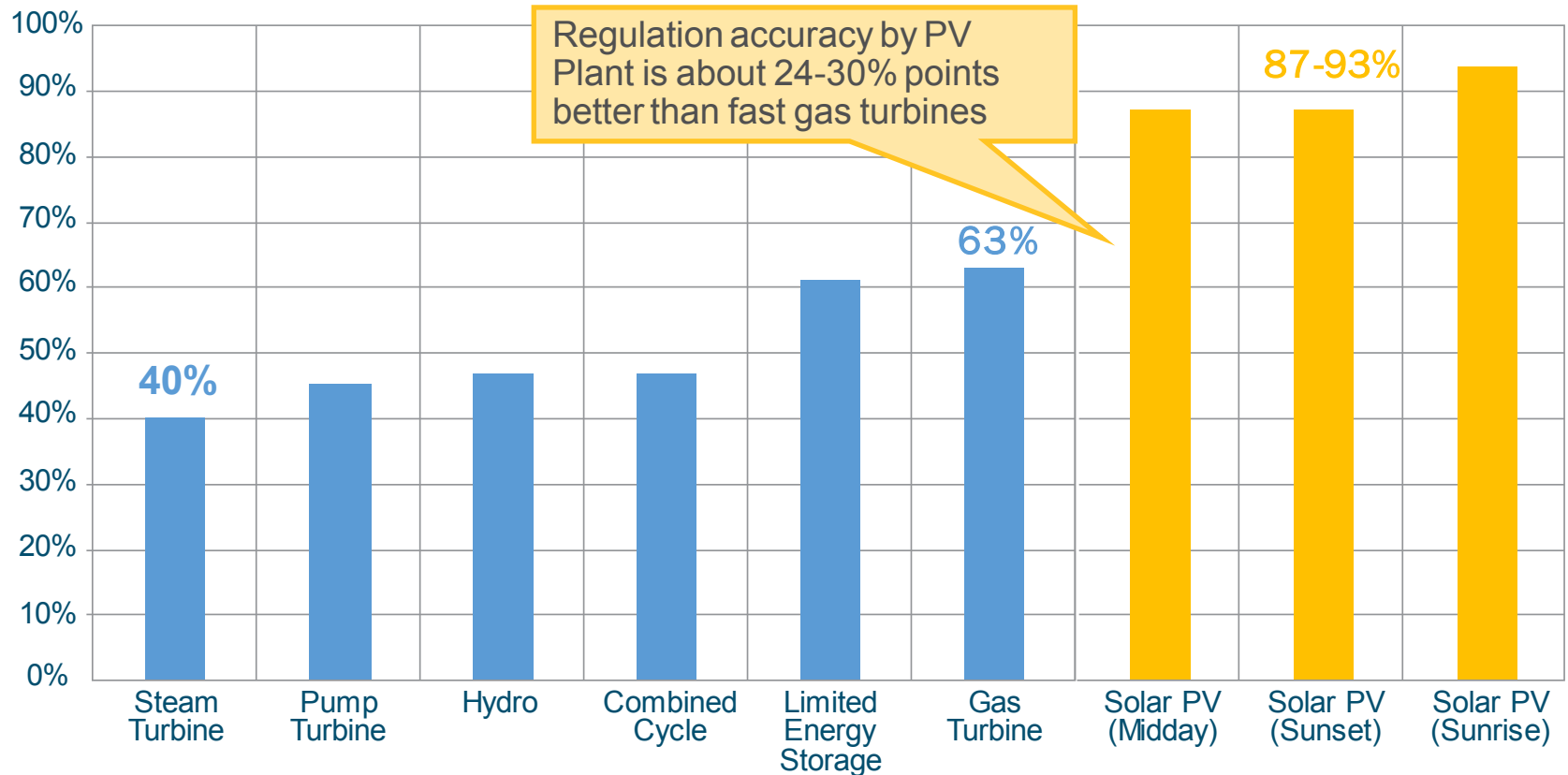


2017 NARUC Award Winner  
Utility Industry Innovative Pilots or  
Demonstration Projects

<http://www.caiso.com/Documents/TestsShowRenewablePlantsCanBalanceLow-CarbonGrid.pdf>



# PV Plants Outperform Conventional Resources in Frequency Regulation



California ISO

Blue bars taken from the ISO's informational submittal to FERC on the performance of resources providing regulation services between January 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016

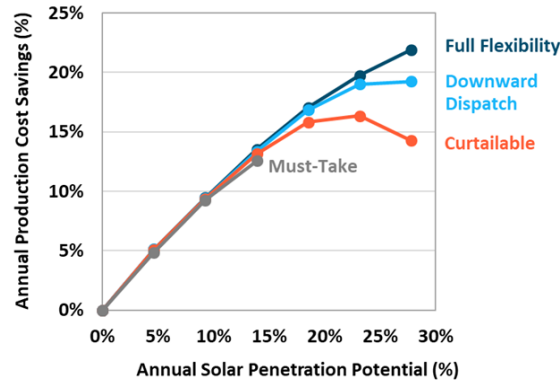
<http://www.caiso.com/Documents/TestsShowRenewablePlantsCanBalanceLow-CarbonGrid.pdf>



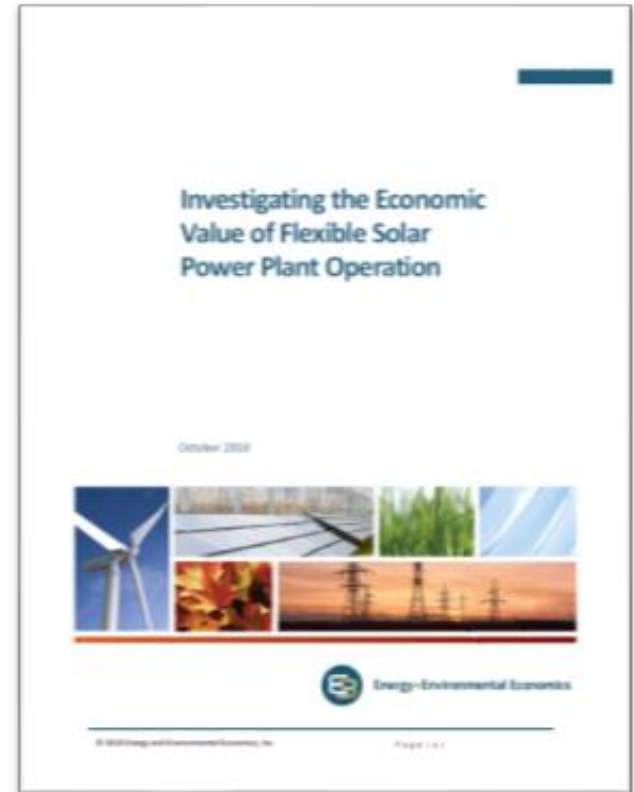
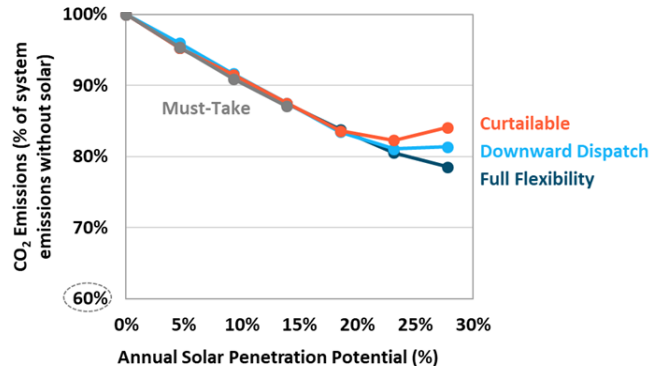
# E3/First Solar/TECO study demonstrates the value of flexible solar power plants

- + Detailed study of operations under high solar penetration (up to 28% of annual energy supply)
- + Dispatchable solar is key to retaining value of solar at penetrations in excess of 20%

### Production Cost Savings



### Emissions



2018 Top Innovators  
Public Utilities Fortnightly

Source: E3, *Investigating the Economic Value of Flexible Solar Power Plant Operation*.

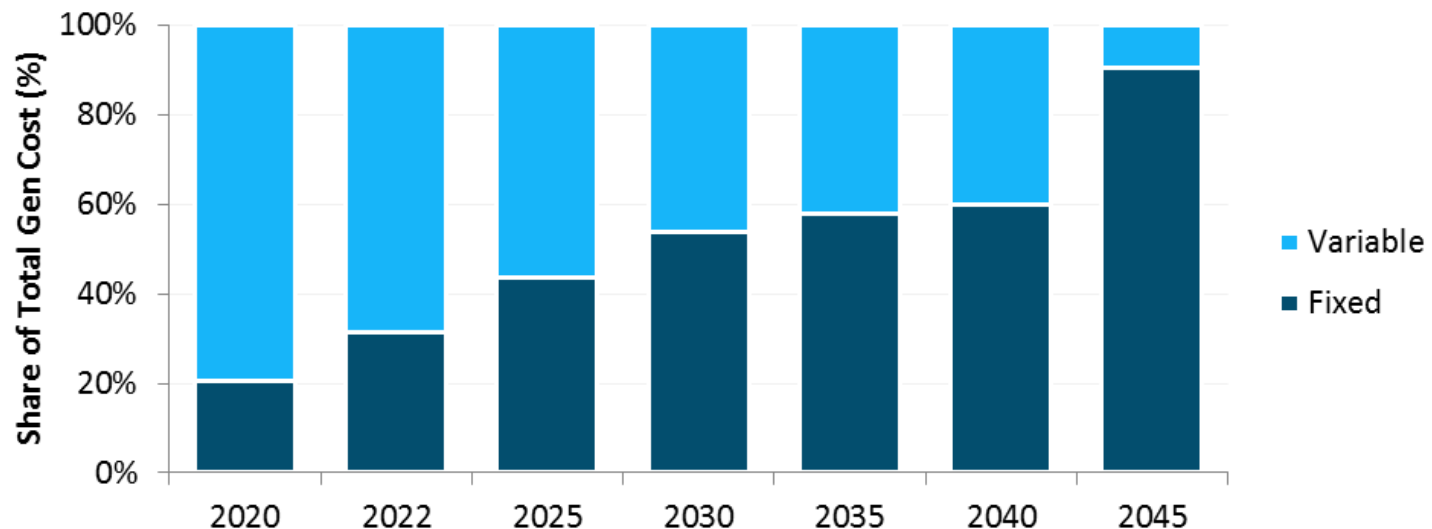
<https://www.ethree.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Investigating-the-Economic-Value-of-Flexible-Solar-Power-Plant-Operation.pdf>



# Efficient allocation of capital is the key to achieving decarbonization at a reasonable cost

- + Power system is transitioning from one with significant fuel costs to one that consists almost entirely of capital investments
- + New market mechanisms for clean energy attributes may be needed to facilitate the long-term financial commitments required for highly capital-intensive investments

### Hawaii Case Study

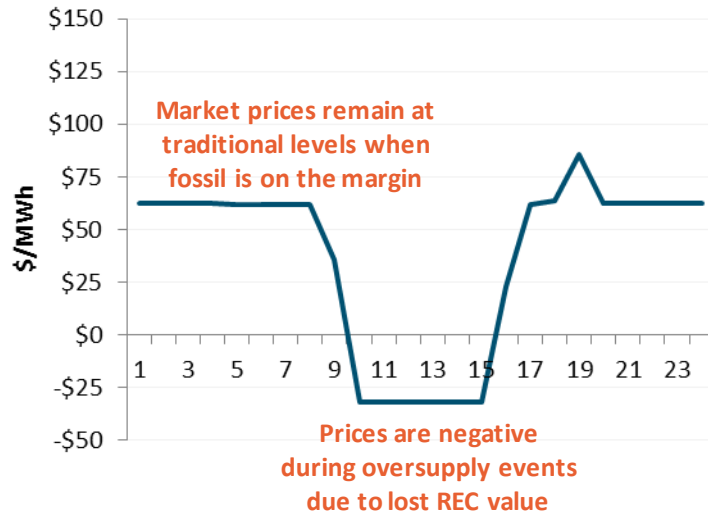




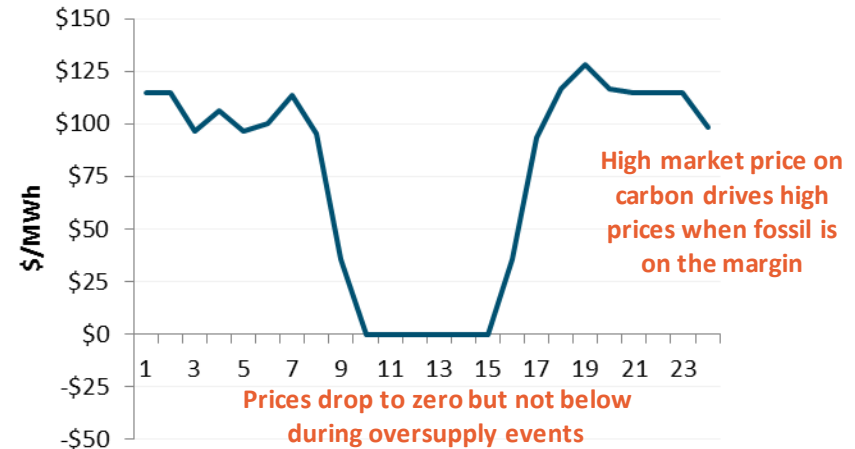


# The policy mechanism for clean energy attributes can affect market performance

## Daily Energy Price Profile under High RPS – California



## Daily Energy Price Profile under low GHG Cap – California



- + Clean energy “attribute” markets (RECs, ZECs) have many hours with negative pricing
- + Challenge is to design a market mechanism that is stable until broader GHG regulation is in place



# Key Findings

- 1) Sensible near-term strategy for carbon reduction is to develop a least-cost combination of energy efficiency, renewables and natural gas generation**
- 2) Achieving zero carbon emissions requires at least one form of clean firm generation capacity**
- 3) “Flexibility” is critical for reliable operations but is not a significant driver of portfolio configuration**
- 4) Clean generation technologies are very capital-intensive, requiring stable, long-term price signal**



Energy+Environmental Economics

# Thank you!

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## Topic 1: Resource Portfolios

Dr. Jesse D. Jenkins

Princeton University





# Decarbonizing Electricity

## The Critical Role of Firm Low-Carbon Resources

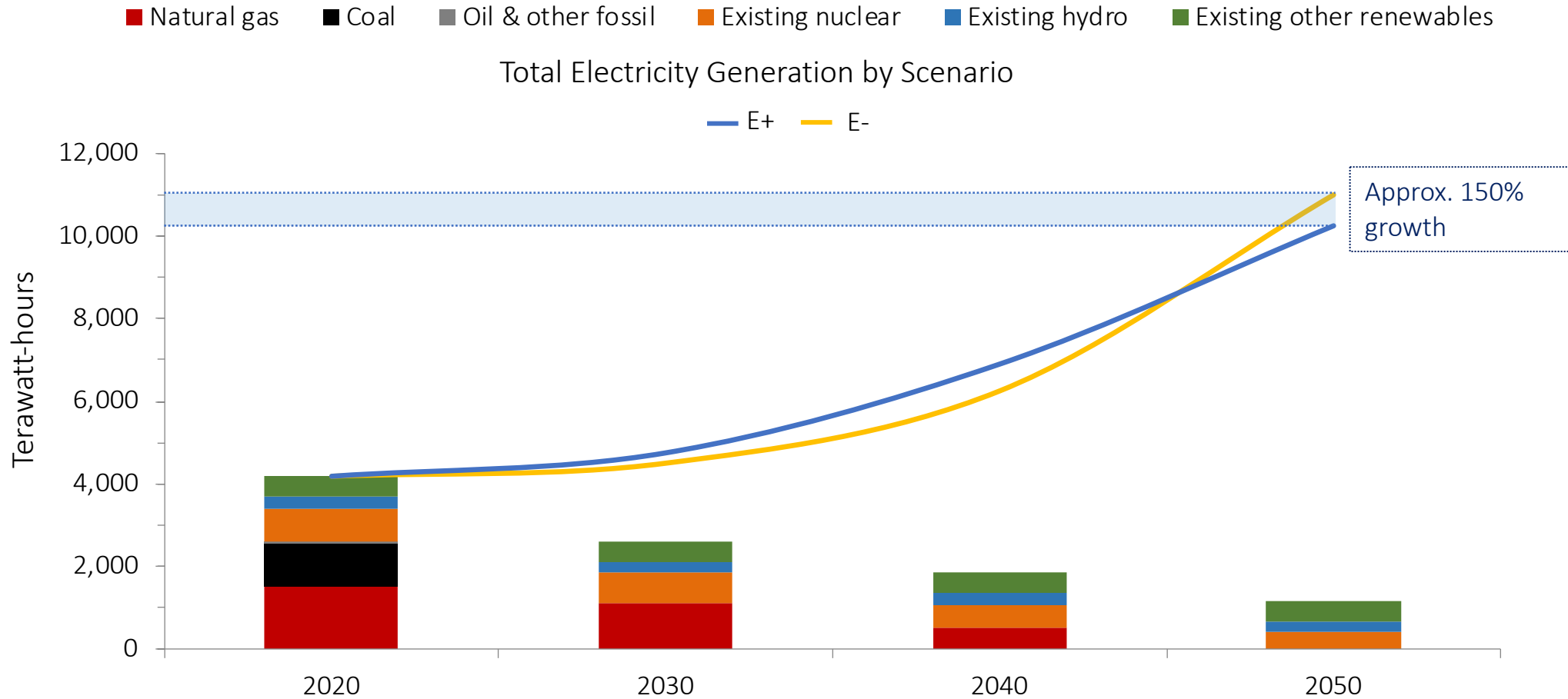
Jesse D. Jenkins, PhD

Assistant Professor | Princeton University

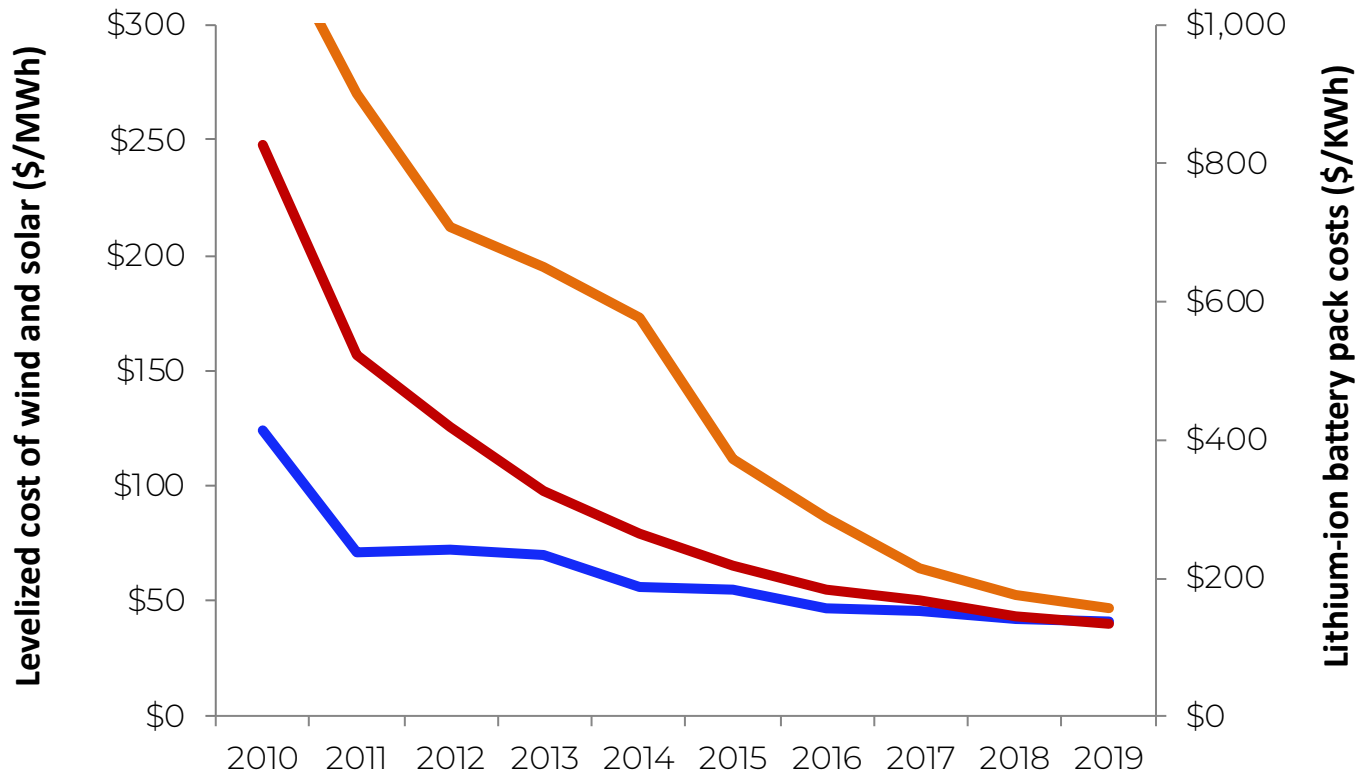
Dept. of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering | Andlinger Center for Energy & Environment

JHU-Columbia Future Energy Markets Forum | June 2, 2020

# CLEAN ELECTRICITY: THE LINCHPIN



# THE GOOD NEWS: WIND, SOLAR, BATTERY COSTS PLUMMET



Total cost declines  
(2010-2019)

Solar \$/MWh -84%

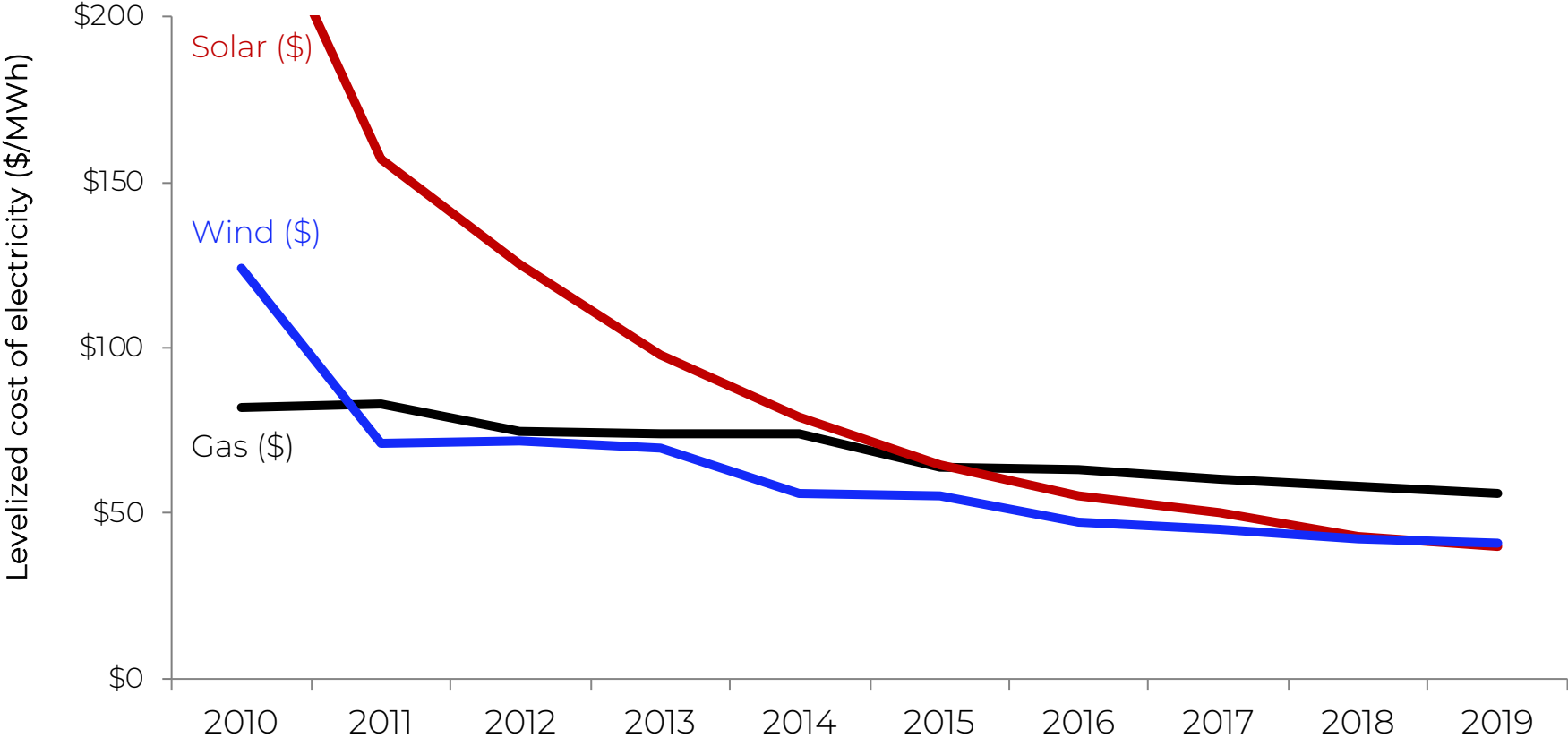
Li-ion packs \$/kWh -87%

Wind \$/MWh -67%

Data Sources: Wind & solar costs from Lazard (2019), Lazard's Levelized Cost of Energy Analysis – Version 13.0.  
Battery pack costs from Bloomberg New Energy Finance (2019), Battery Price Survey.

# THE LEVELIZED COST MENTAL MODEL

A race to beat fossil fuels on cost...



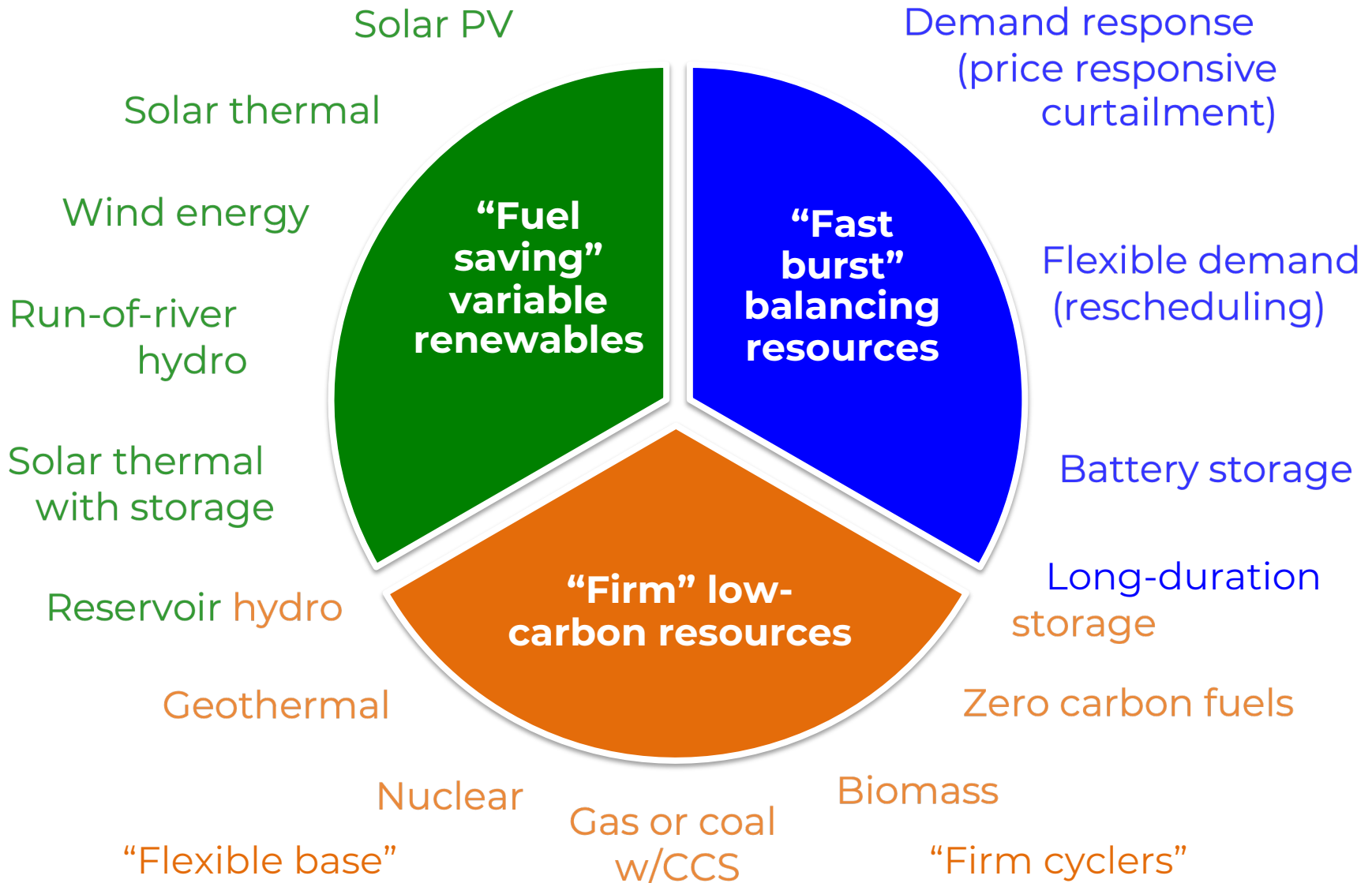
Data Sources: Costs from Lazard (2019), Lazard's Levelized Cost of Energy Analysis – Version 13.0





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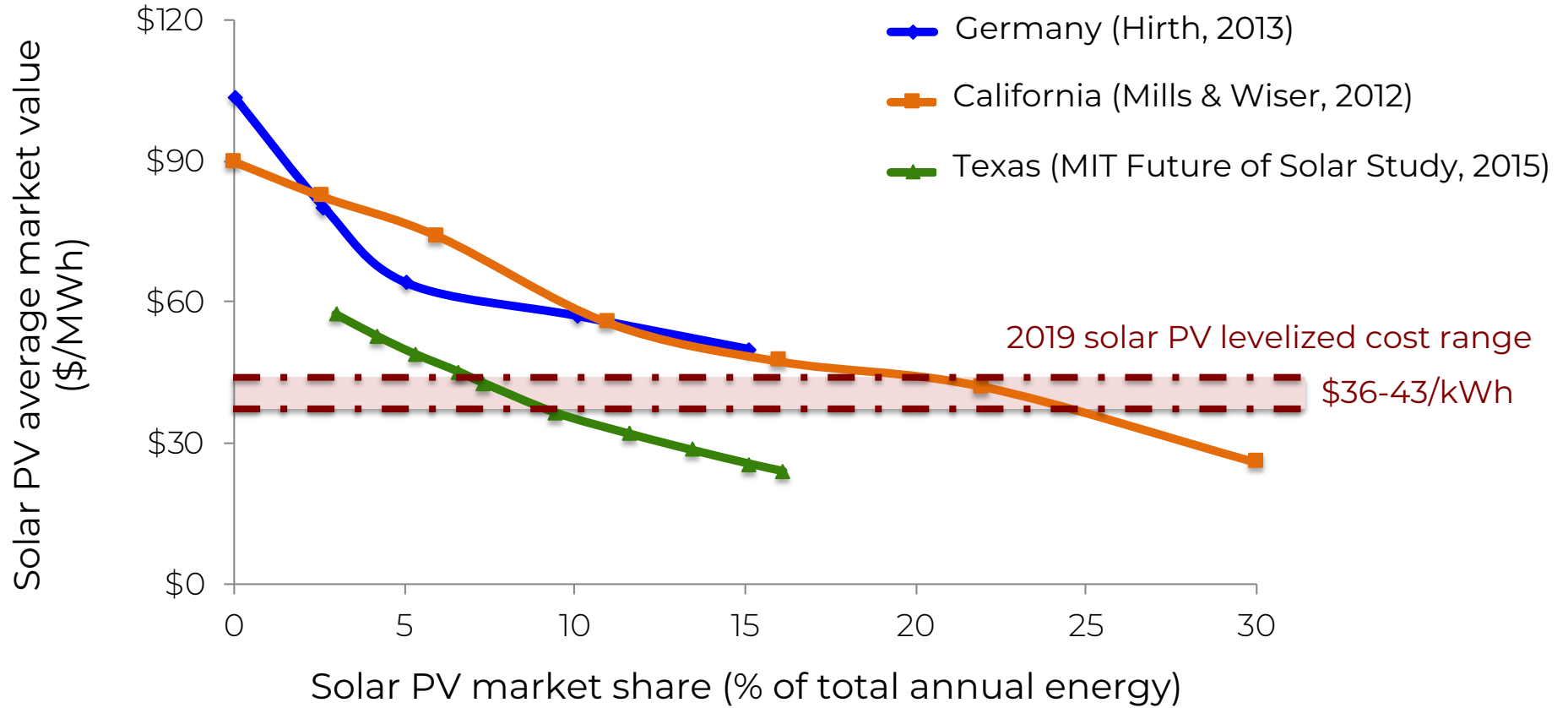






Win the Race Between Declining Cost & Value

# A RACE AGAINST DECLINING VALUE (SOLAR PV)



Data Source: Sivaram & Kann (2016), Solar needs a more ambitious cost target, *Nature Energy* Vol. 1 (April 2016).  
Solar cost estimate for 2018 from Lazard (2018) op. cit. above.

# WIND/SOLAR VALUE DECLINE: KEY MECHANISMS

1. Declining “fuel-saving” value (energy substitution)
2. Decreasing “capacity value” (capacity substitution)
3. Increasing “over-generation” (energy that must be stored or wasted when supply exceeds demand)

Additional factors (aka “integration costs”):

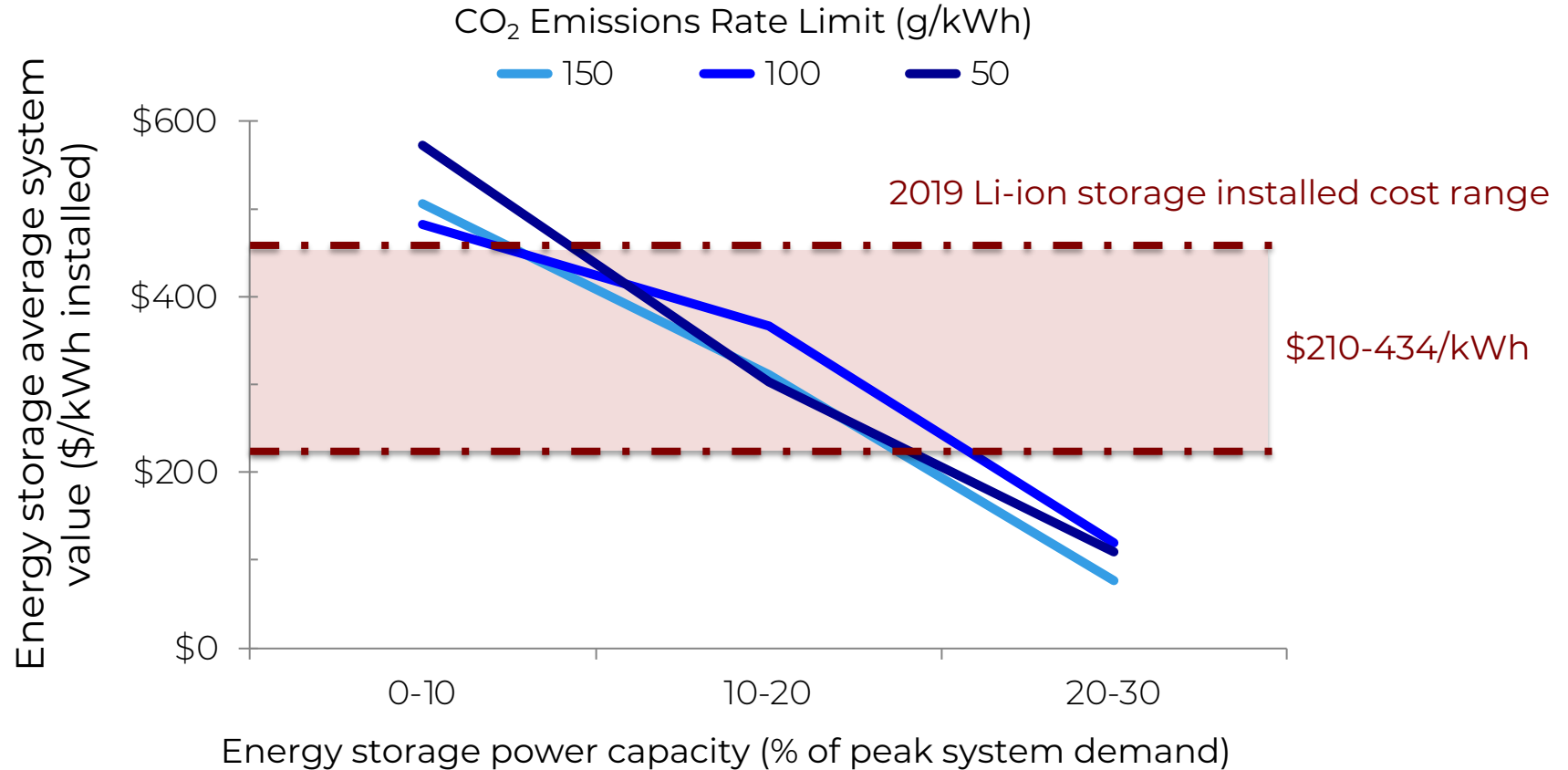
Increasing flexibility, ramping and reserve requirements; thermal plant cycling costs; transmission network costs

# WIND/SOLAR VALUE DECLINE: MITIGATION MECHANISMS

1. Energy storage
2. Demand shifting
3. Demand 'sinks'

All help push back, but not stop decline in marginal value of wind and solar.

# A RACE AGAINST DECLINING VALUE (ENERGY STORAGE)

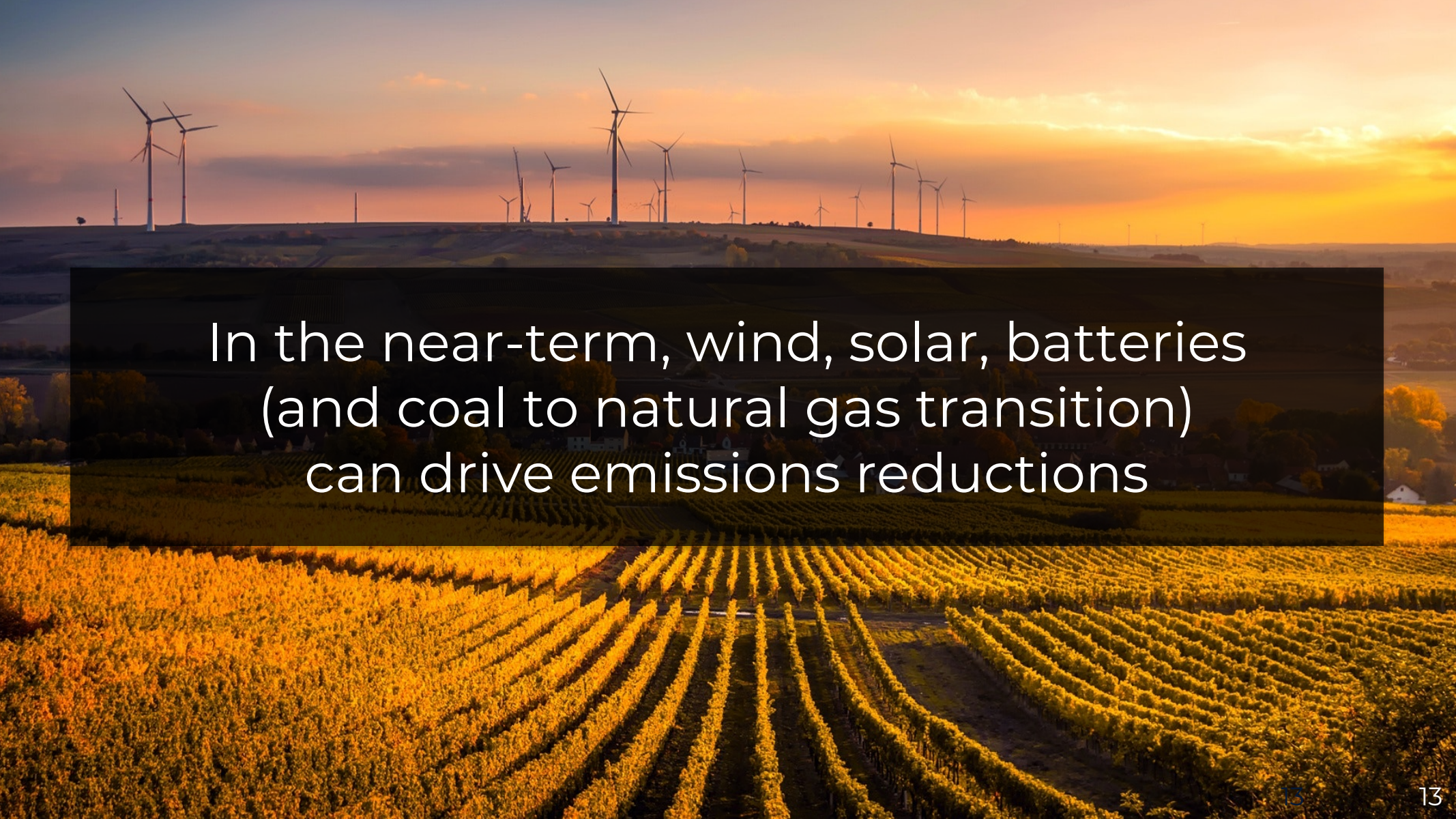


Graphic is author's own created with data from: de Sisternes, Jenkins & Botterud (2016), "The value of energy storage in decarbonizing the electricity sector," *Applied Energy* 175: 368-379. Assumes Li-ion storage system with 2 hours storage duration and 10 year asset life. Estimated 2019 Li-ion storage cost per kWh from Lazard (2019), Lazard's Levelized Cost of Storage Analysis – Version 5.0 for 100 MW / 200 MWh system.

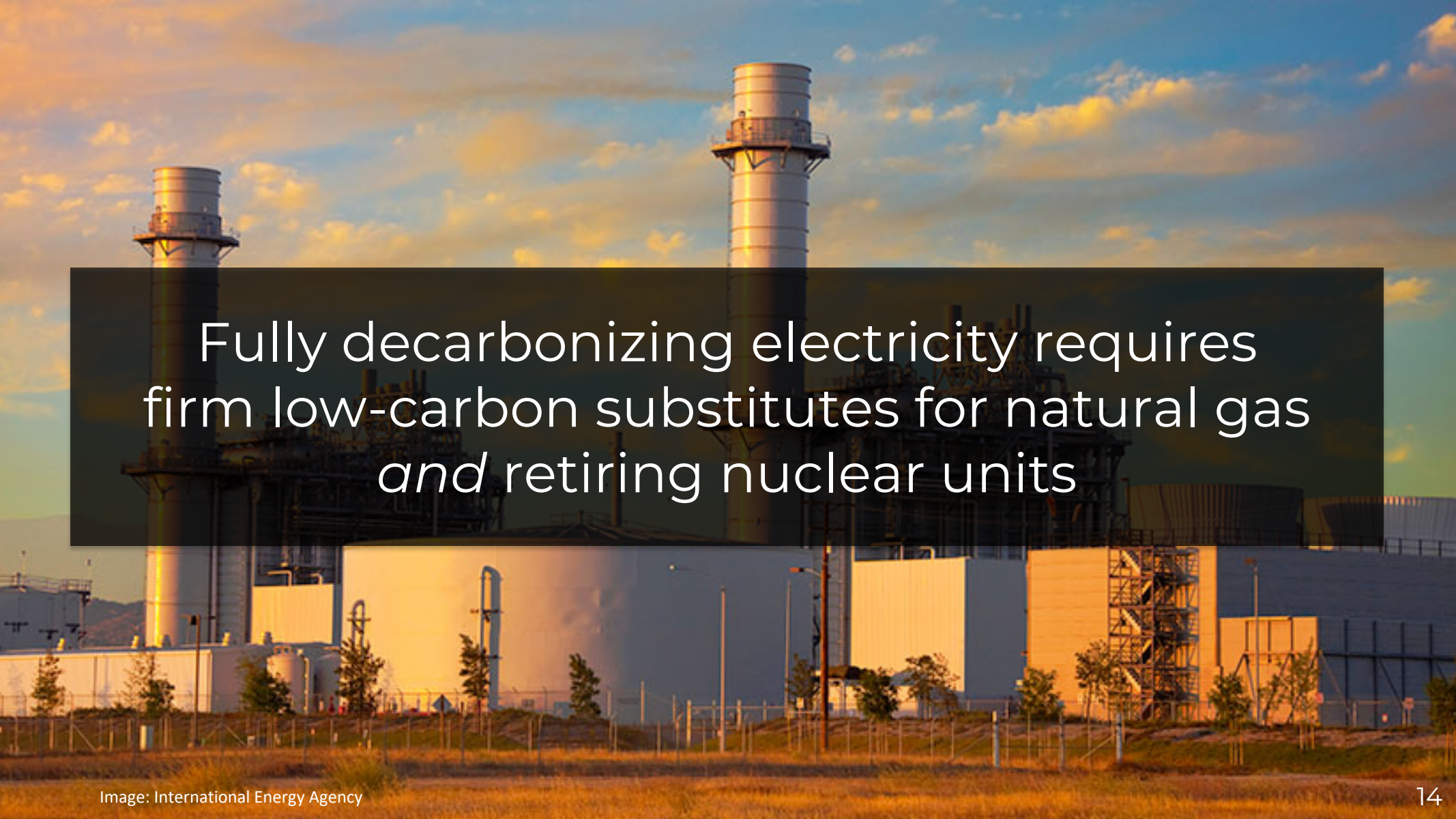
# STORAGE VALUE DECLINE: KEY MECHANISMS

1. “Niche” markets fill quickly for regulation & reserves
2. Increasing energy storage (longer duration) needed to maintain capacity substitution value
3. Reduced energy arbitrage (buy-sell) spread
4. Declining utilization rate



A landscape photograph showing a row of wind turbines on a hill under a sunset sky. In the foreground, there is a vineyard with rows of grapevines. The text is overlaid on a dark semi-transparent rectangle in the center of the image.

In the near-term, wind, solar, batteries  
(and coal to natural gas transition)  
can drive emissions reductions



Fully decarbonizing electricity requires  
firm low-carbon substitutes for natural gas  
*and* retiring nuclear units

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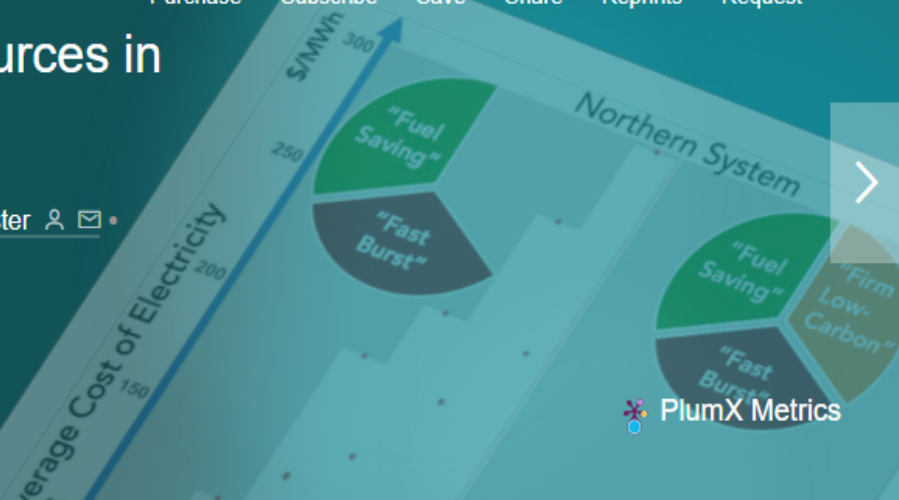
# The Role of Firm Low-Carbon Electricity Resources in Deep Decarbonization of Power Generation

Nestor A. Sepulveda <sup>4</sup> • Jesse D. Jenkins • Fernando J. de Sisternes • Richard K. Lester

[Show footnotes](#)

Published: September 06, 2018 • DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.joule.2018.08.006>

[https://www.cell.com/joule/fulltext/S2542-4351\(18\)30386-6](https://www.cell.com/joule/fulltext/S2542-4351(18)30386-6)



Highlights

Summary

Graphical Abstract

Keywords

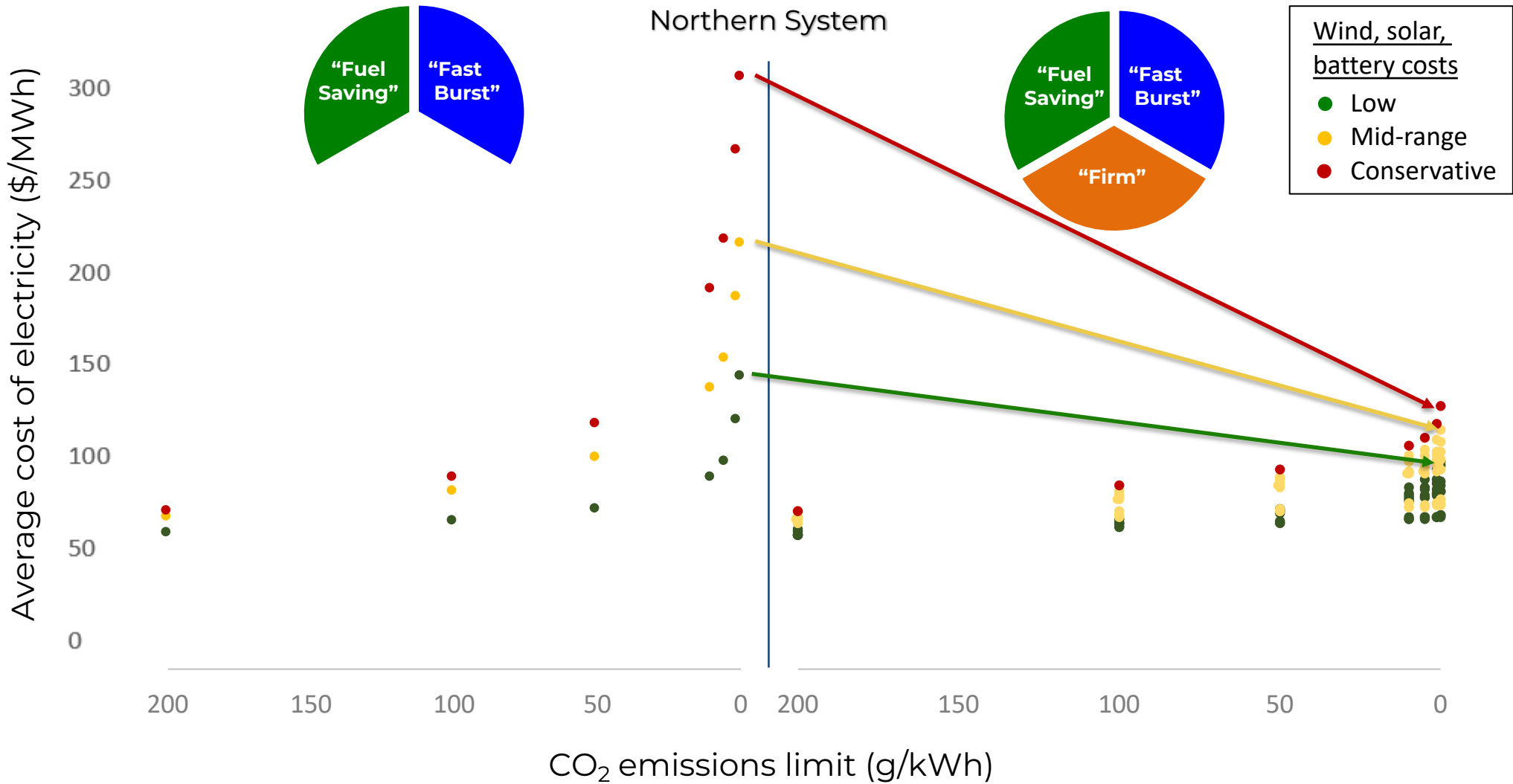
References

Article Info

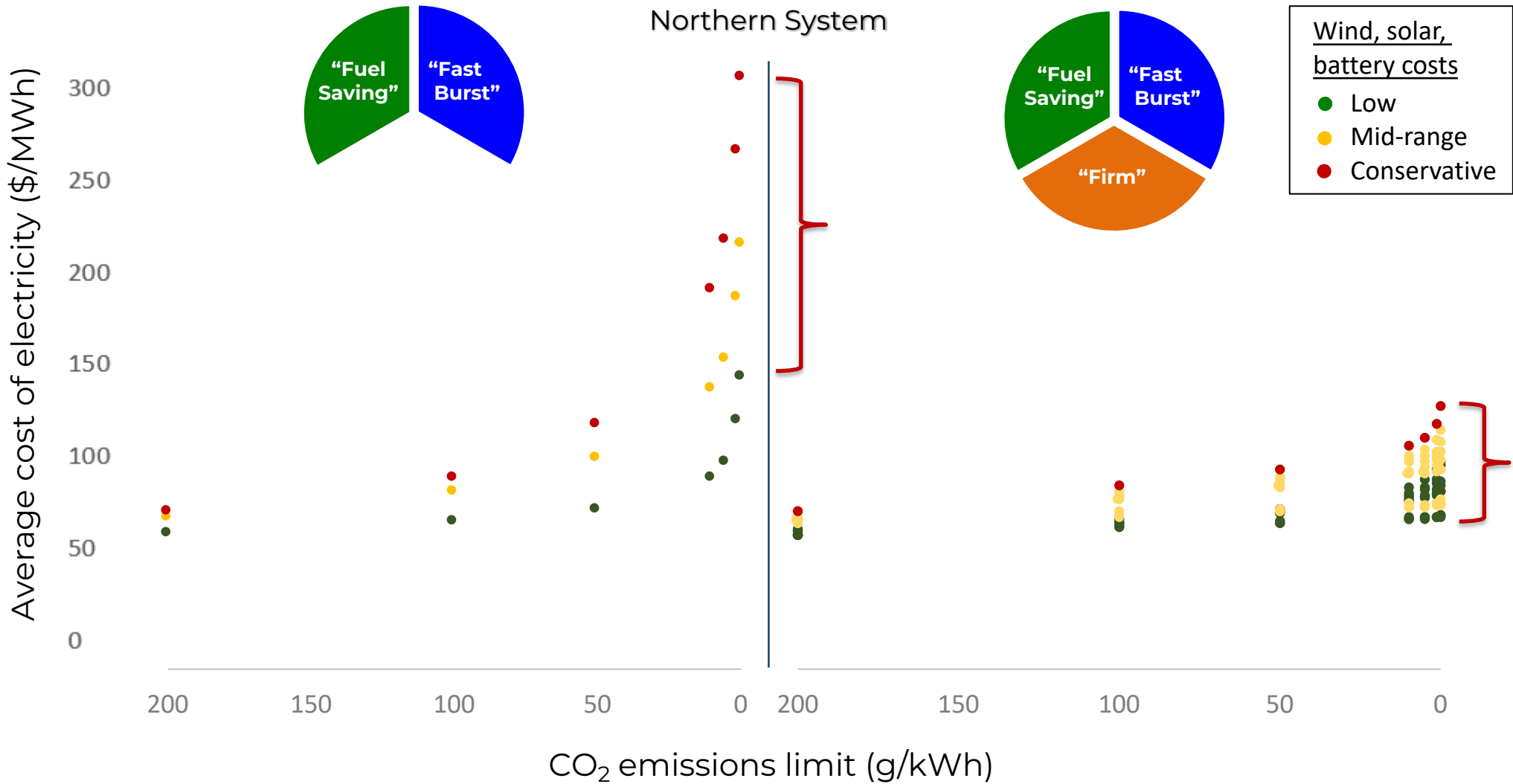
## Highlights

- Firm low-carbon resources consistently lower decarbonized electricity system costs
- Availability of firm low-carbon resources reduces costs 10%–62% in zero-CO<sub>2</sub> cases
- Without these resources, electricity costs rise rapidly as CO<sub>2</sub> limits near zero

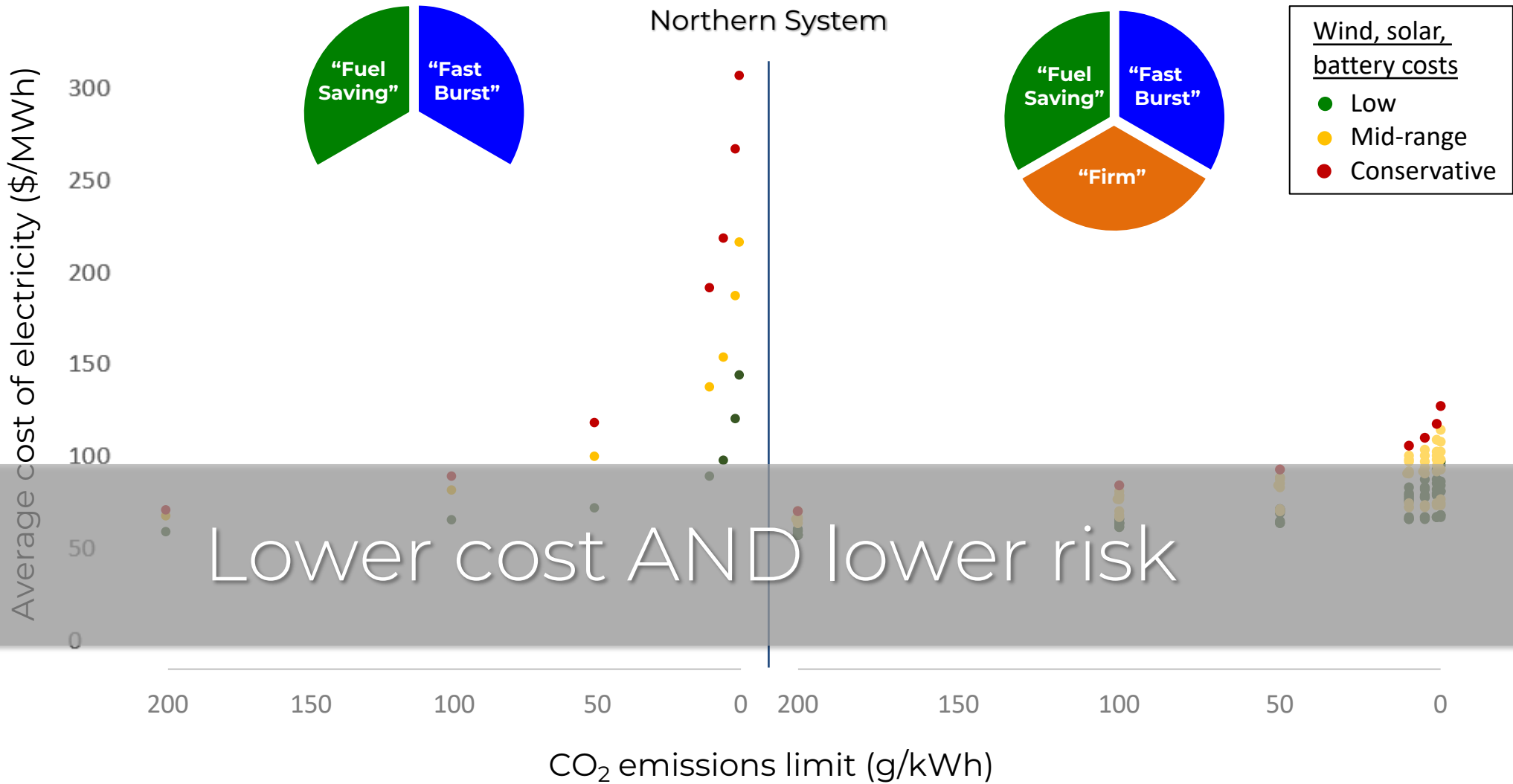
Recommend *Joule*  
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Data source: Sepulveda, N., Jenkins, J.D., et al. (2018), “The role of firm low-carbon resources in deep decarbonization of electric power systems,” *Joule* 2(11).

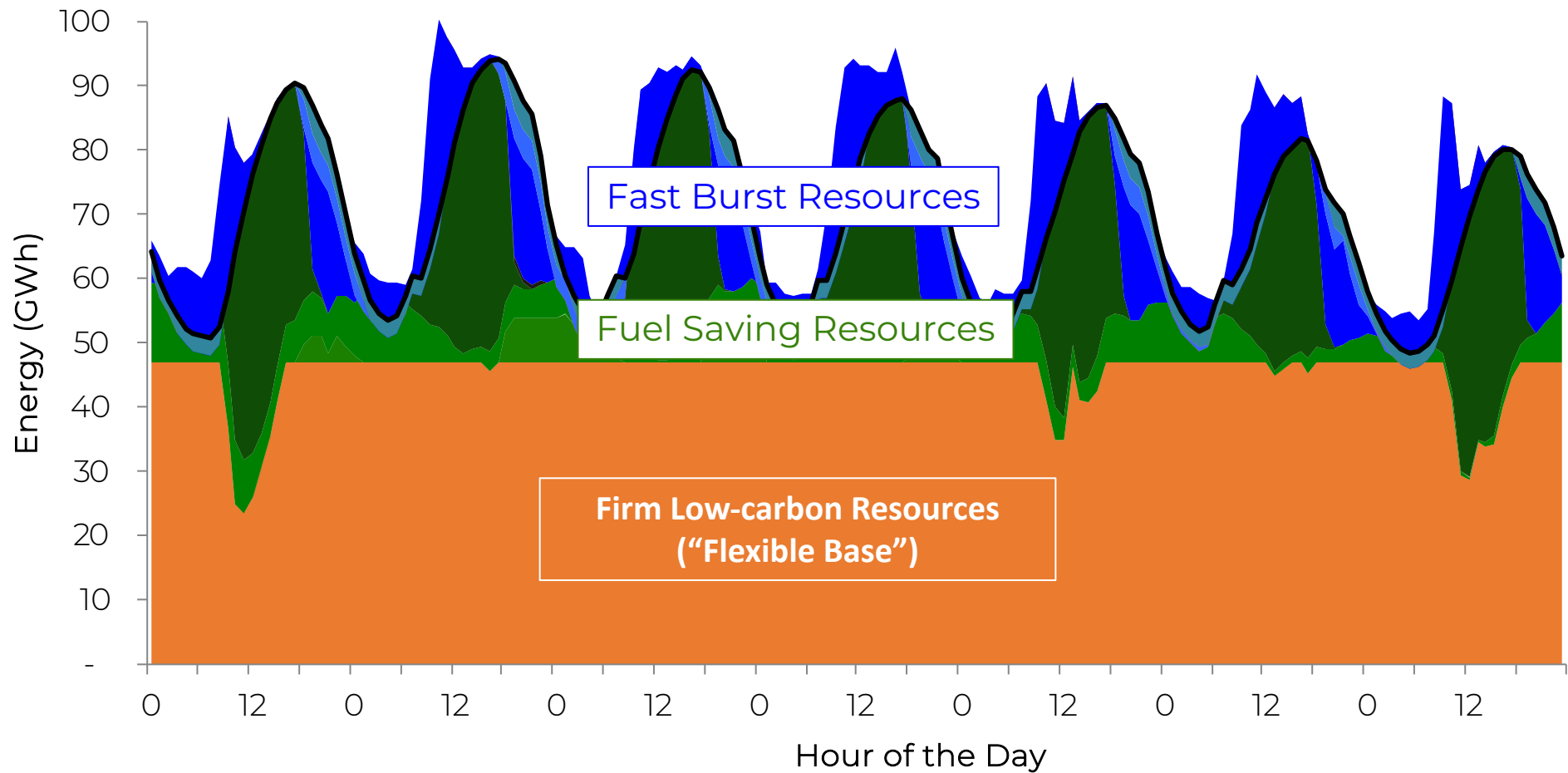


Data source: Sepulveda, N., Jenkins, J.D., et al. (2018), “The role of firm low-carbon resources in deep decarbonization of electric power systems,” *Joule* 2(11).

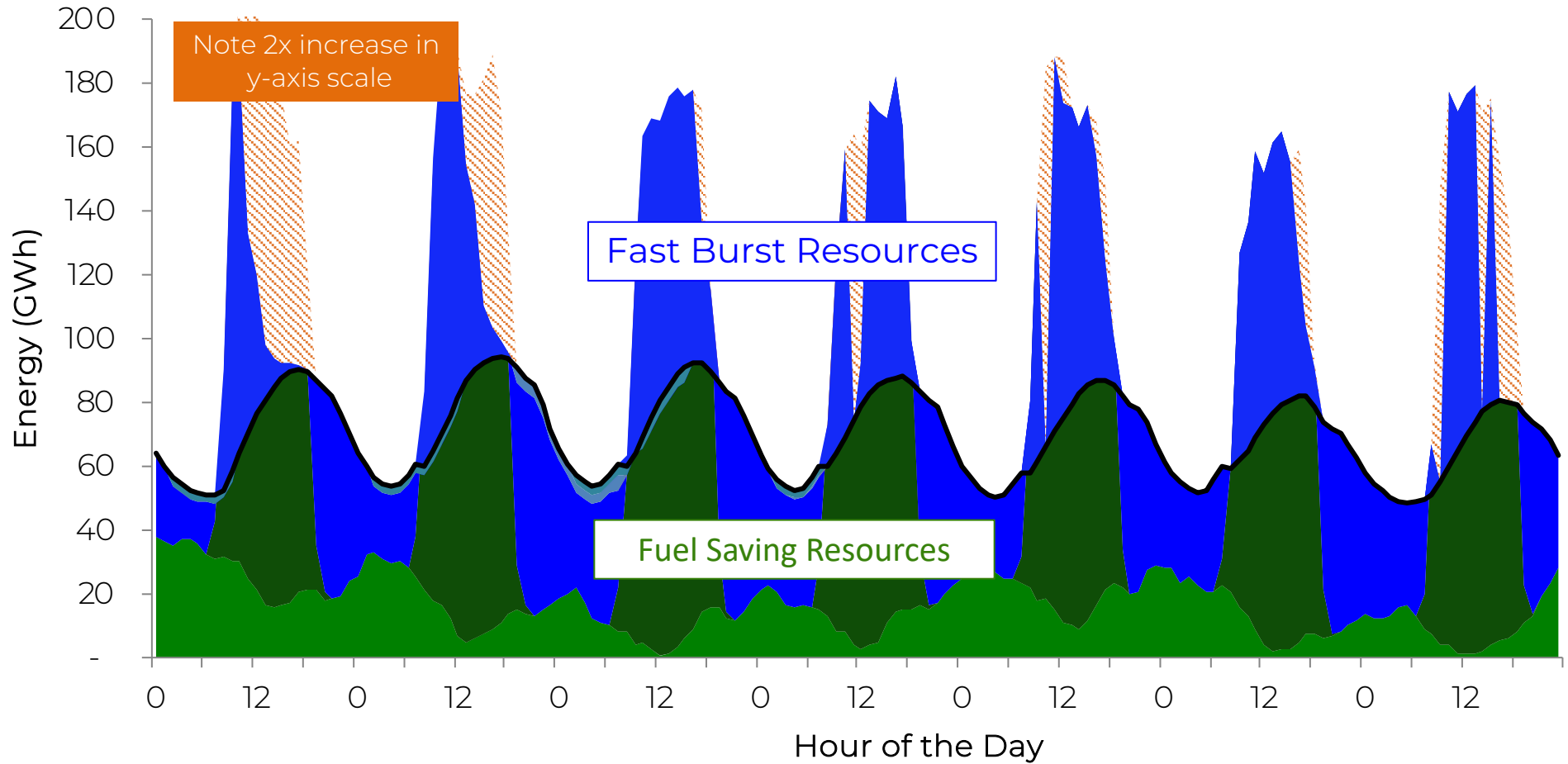


Data source: Sepulveda, N., Jenkins, J.D., et al. (2018), “The role of firm low-carbon resources in deep decarbonization of electric power systems,” *Joule* 2(11).

# One Possible Balanced Portfolio



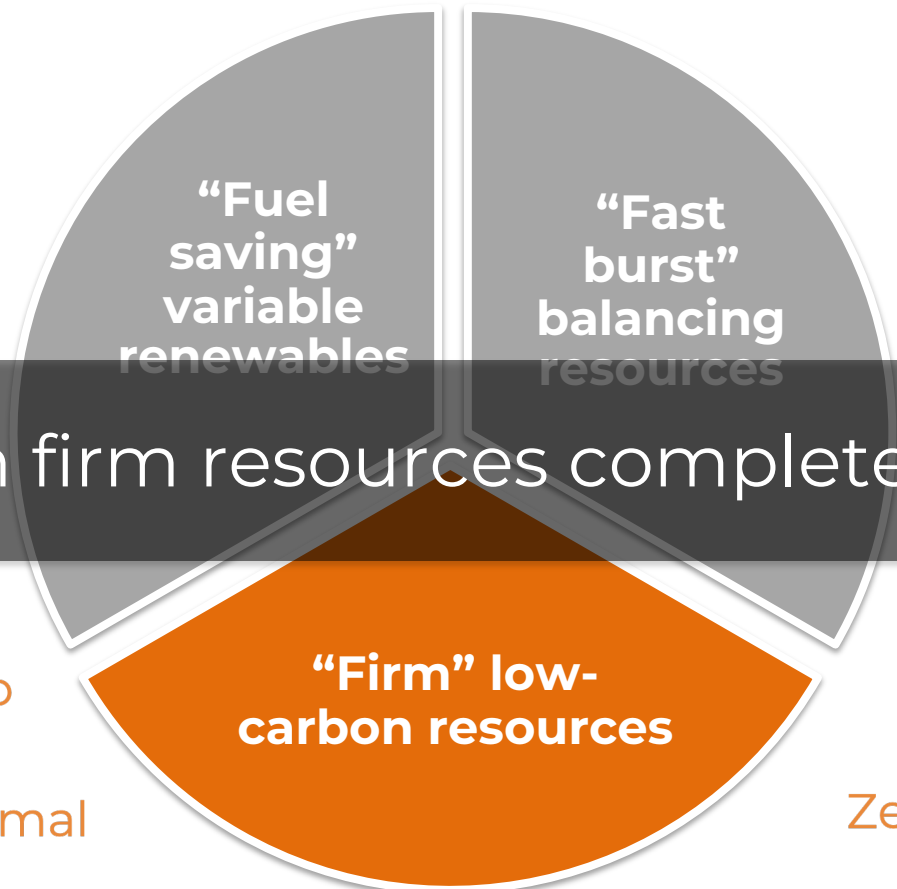
# Without Firm Low-Carbon Resources







Solar, wind & batteries will be stars...



...but clean firm resources complete the team

Large reservoir hydro

Geothermal

Nuclear

Gas or coal  
w/CCS

Biomass

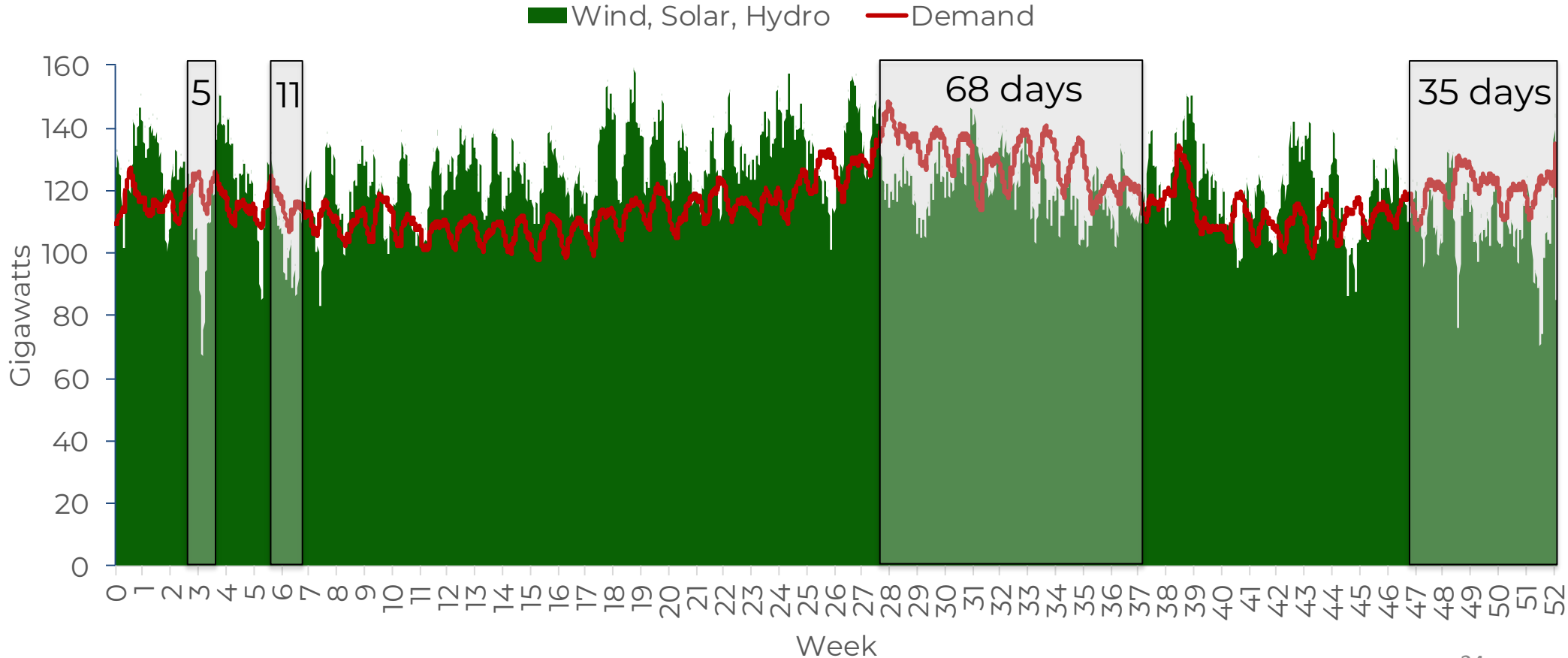
Firm storage

Zero carbon fuels

# What about storage?

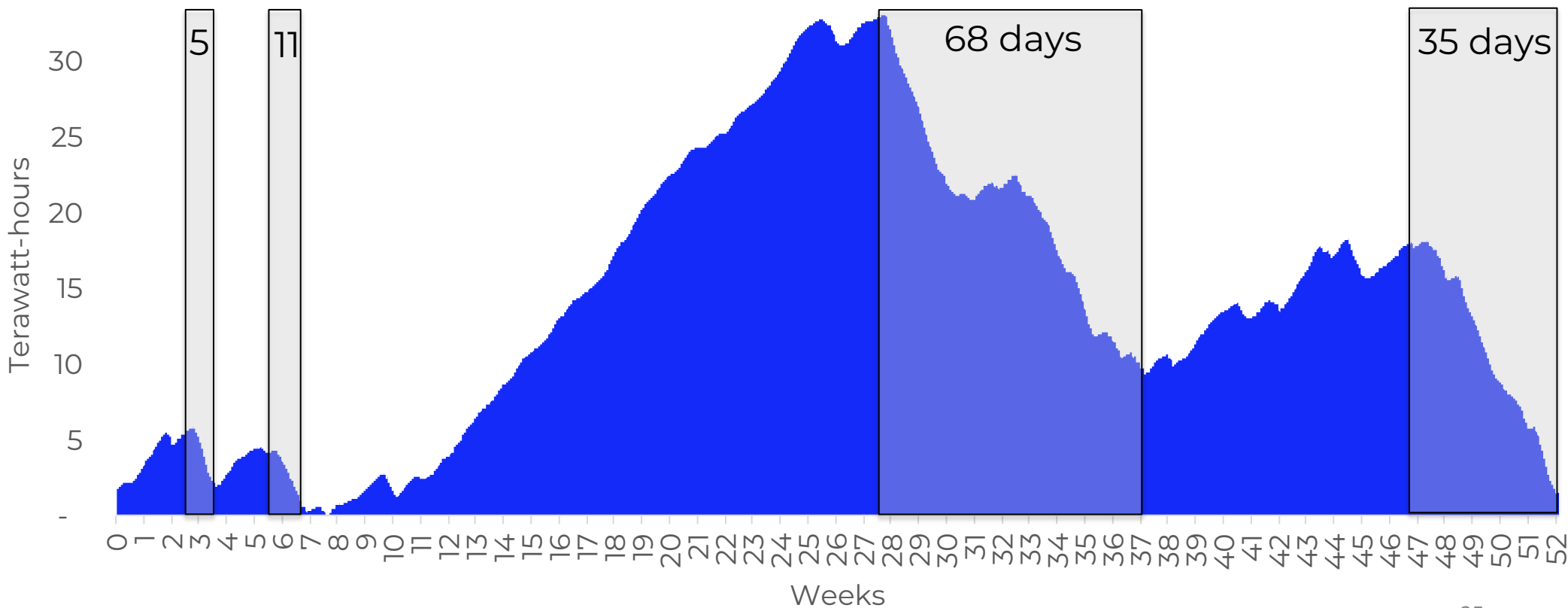


# The *Dunkelflaute* (“Dark Doldrums”) Western Interconnection, Renewables + Storage Only (24 hour rolling average power)



# Long Duration Storage Needed for Renewables + Storage Only Western Interconnection, 0 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions limit (24 hour rolling average power)

■ H2 Storage State of Charge

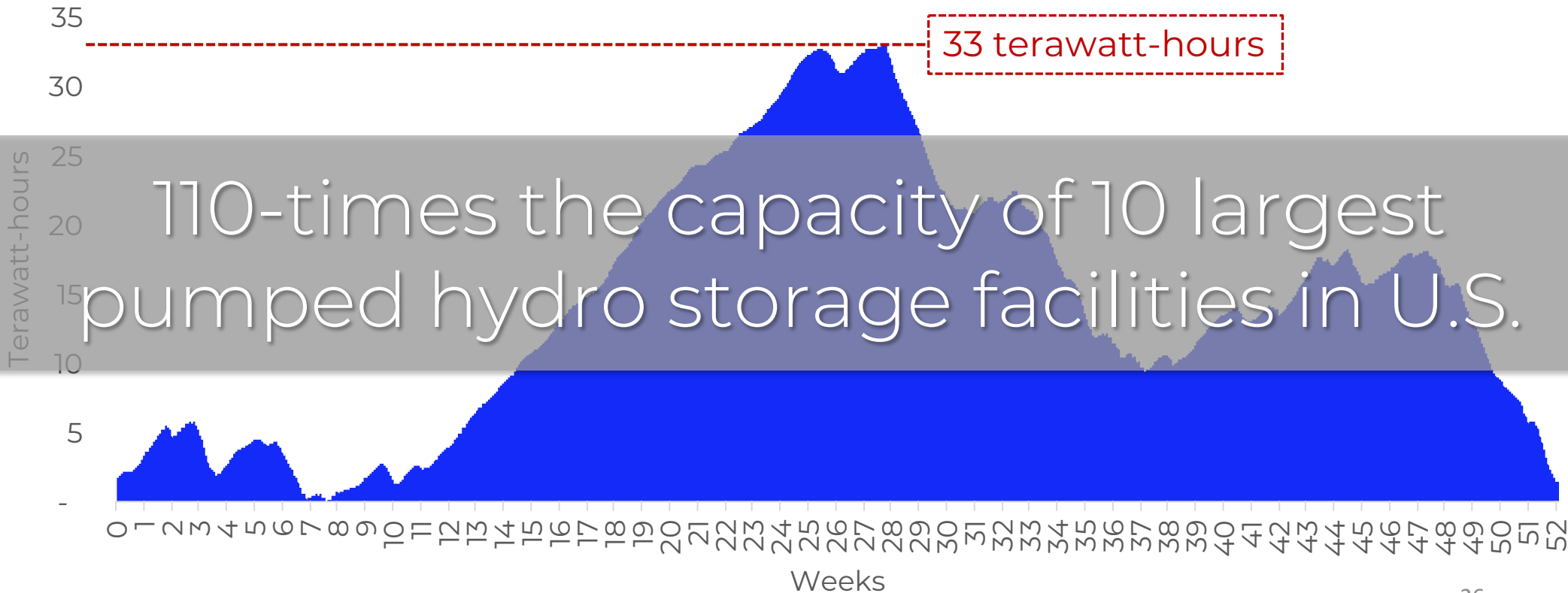


# Long Duration Storage Needed

Western Interconnection, Renewables + Storage Only

(24 hour rolling average power)

■ H2 Storage State of Charge



# A very different kind of storage...

ENERGY STORAGE

## **Long Duration Breakthrough? Form Energy's First Project Tries Pushing Storage to 150 Hours**

Minnesota utility Great River Energy will use new storage technology from the Bill Gates-backed startup to replace coal power with dispatchable wind.

JULIAN SPECTOR | MAY 07, 2020

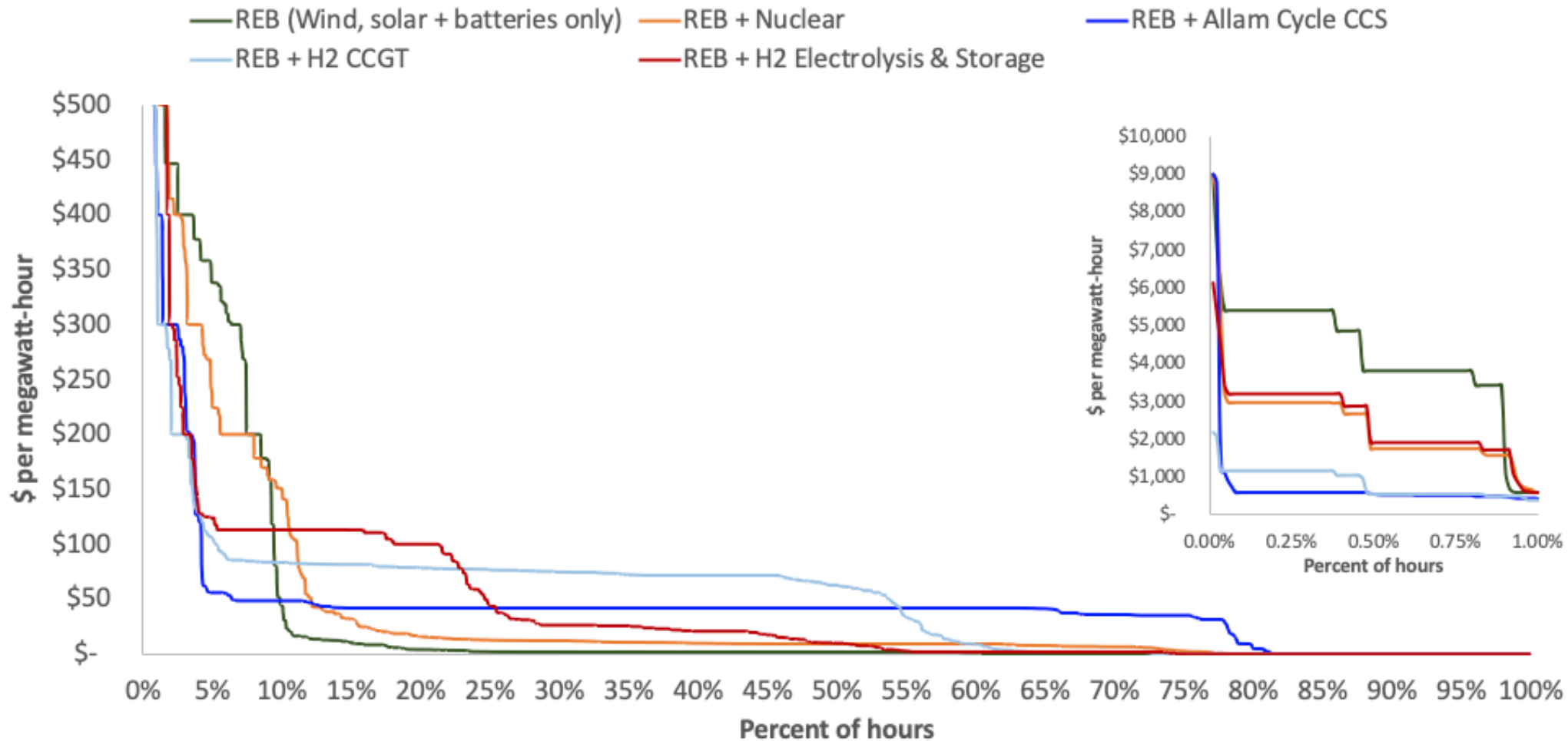
ENERGY STORAGE

## **Utah Aims to Shatter Records With 1,000MW Energy Storage Plant**

The one-of-a-kind facility would combine compressed air storage in salt caverns with hydrogen storage, large flow batteries and solid-oxide fuel cells.

JULIAN SPECTOR | MAY 30, 2019

# PRICES IN A ZERO CARBON SYSTEMS (CA + WECC EXAMPLES)





# PRICES IN A ZERO CARBON SYSTEMS (CA + WECC EXAMPLES)

	REB	REB+H2 Electrol.	REB+Nuclear	REB+H2 CCGT	REB+Allam
<b>Average</b>	\$ <b>70.3</b>	\$ <b>64.4</b>	\$ <b>63.3</b>	\$ <b>58.5</b>	\$ <b>56.1</b>
<b>p1</b>	\$ 600.0	\$ 636.4	\$ 734.1	\$ 455.0	\$ 446.4
<b>p5</b>	\$ 338.1	\$ 124.0	\$ 243.0	\$ 106.4	\$ 56.0
<b>p25</b>	\$ 2.1	\$ 44.7	\$ 12.7	\$ 76.5	\$ 42.0
<b>p50</b>	\$ 1.9	\$ 10.0	\$ 9.3	\$ 62.8	\$ 42.0
<b>p75</b>	\$ -	\$ 0.1	\$ 2.8	\$ -	\$ 35.2
<b>p95</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>% hours &lt;= \$0</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>19%</b>

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[Linkedin.com/in/jessedjenkins](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jessedjenkins)

Google scholar: <http://bit.ly/ScholarJenkins>

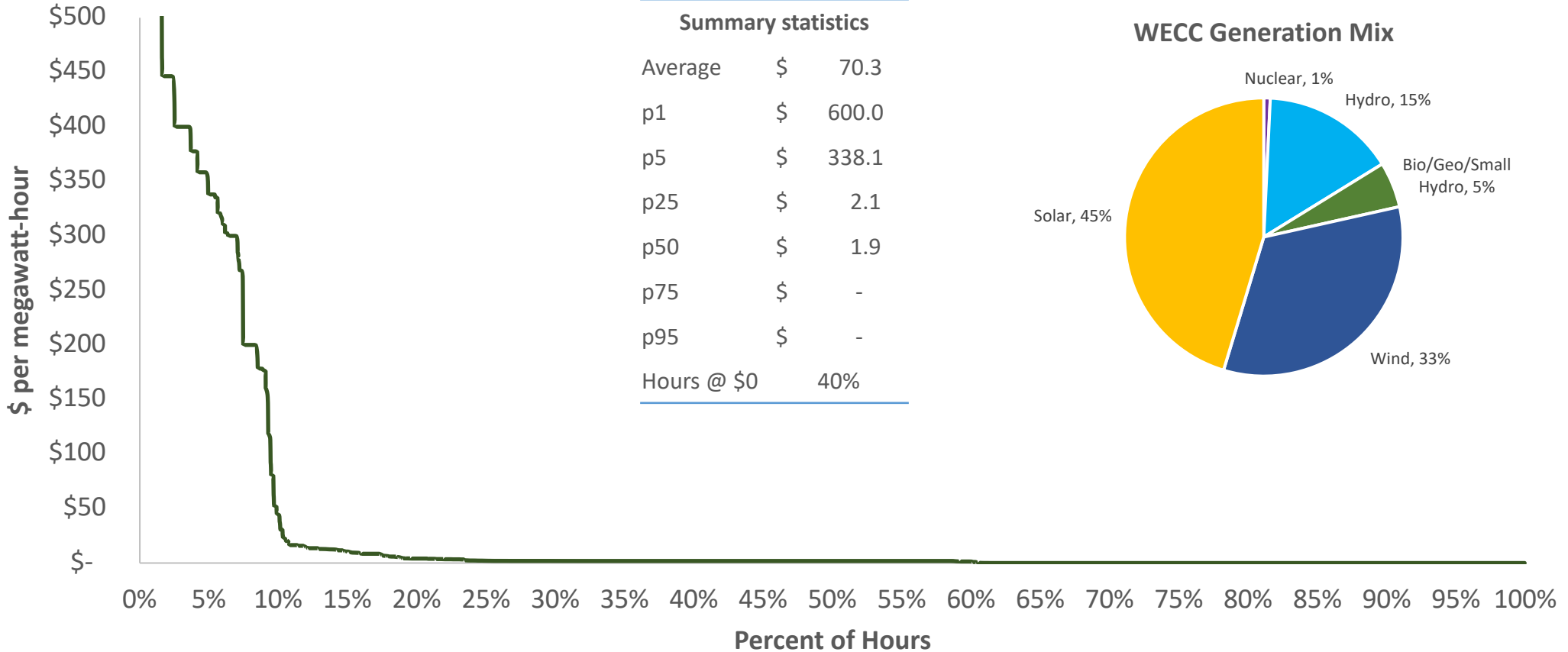
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# RESOURCES

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- Sepulveda, Jenkins et al. (2018), “The role of firm low-carbon resources in deep decarbonization of power generation,” *Joule* 2(11). Download: [https://www.cell.com/joule/fulltext/S2542-4351\(18\)30386-6](https://www.cell.com/joule/fulltext/S2542-4351(18)30386-6)
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- UT Austin Energy Symposium Lecture, “Getting to Zero: What will it take to decarbonize electricity?” February 21, 2019. Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3YMIzK8d0o>
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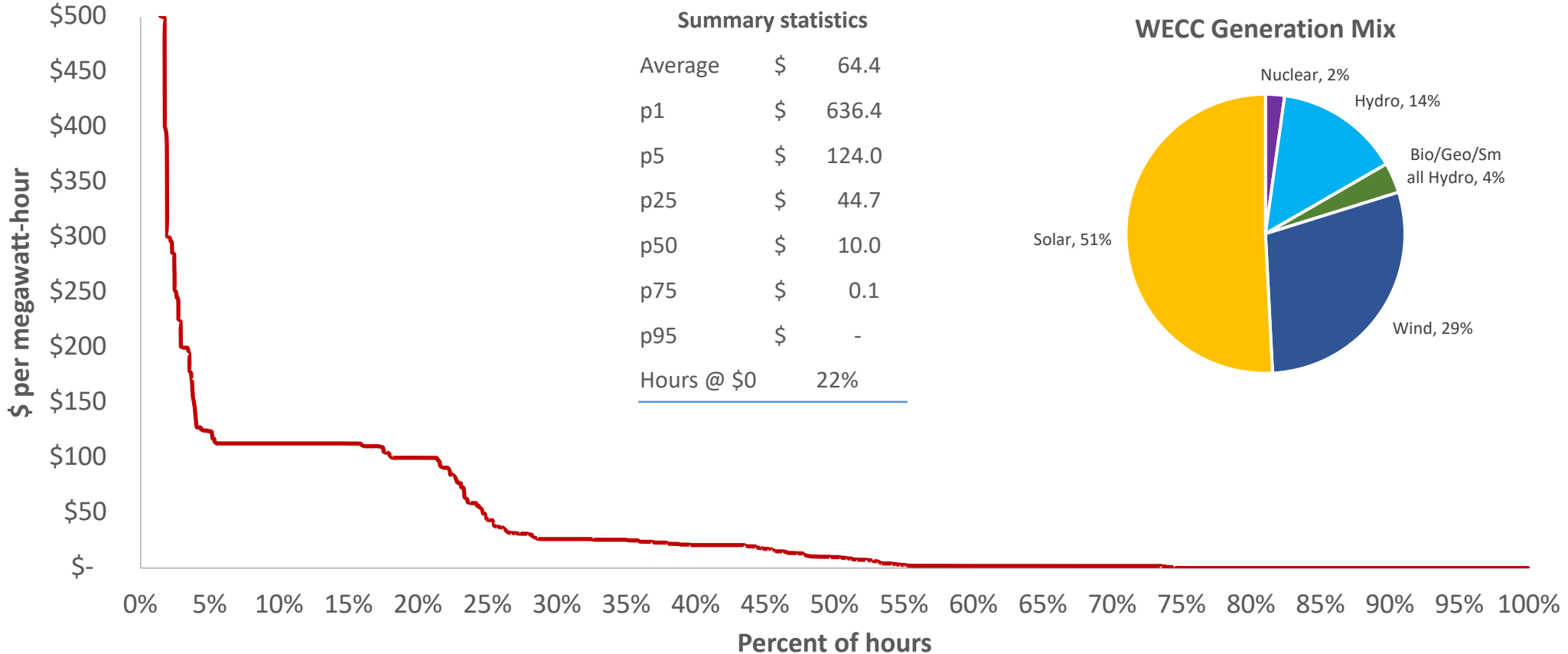
# PRICE DURATION CURVES – ZERO CARBON SYSTEMS, CA + WECC

## Renewables + Batteries Only



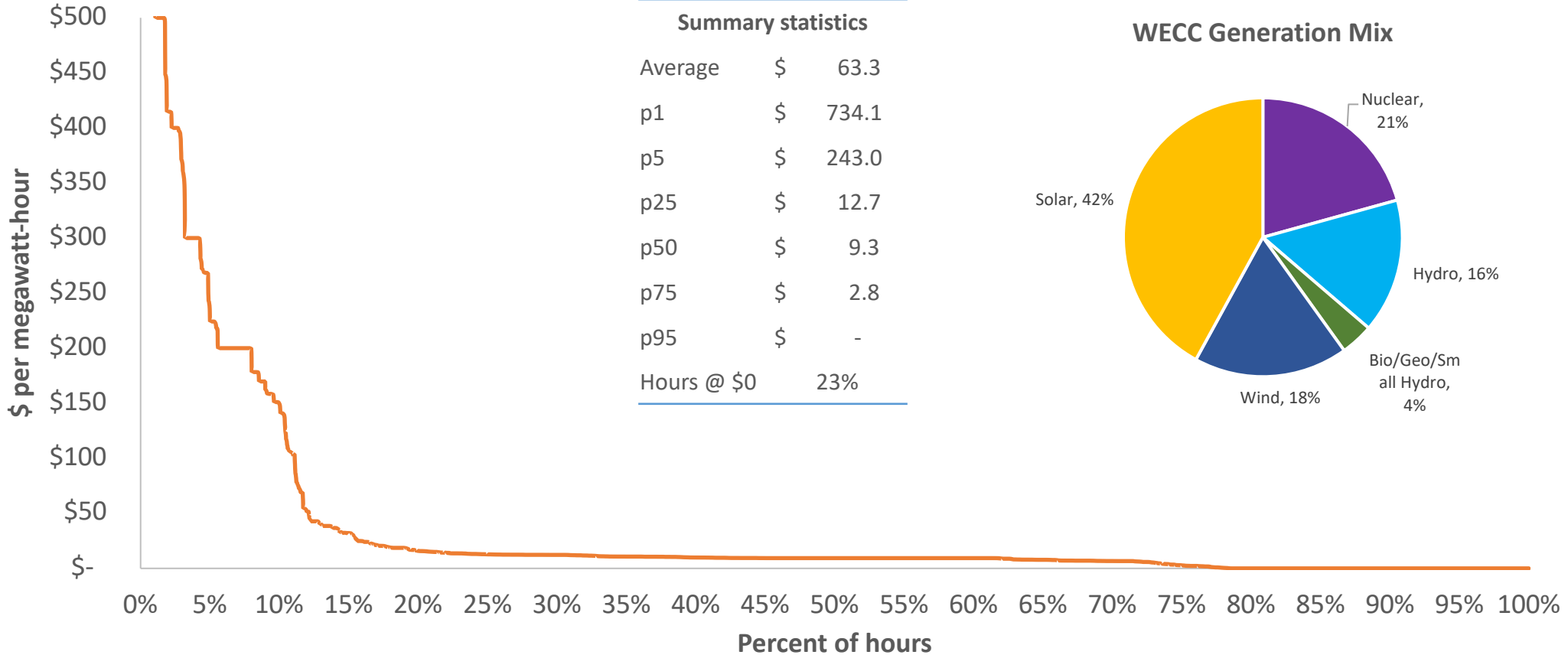
# PRICE DURATION CURVES – ZERO CARBON SYSTEMS, CA + WECC

## Renewables + Batteries + H2 Electrolysis w/Storage



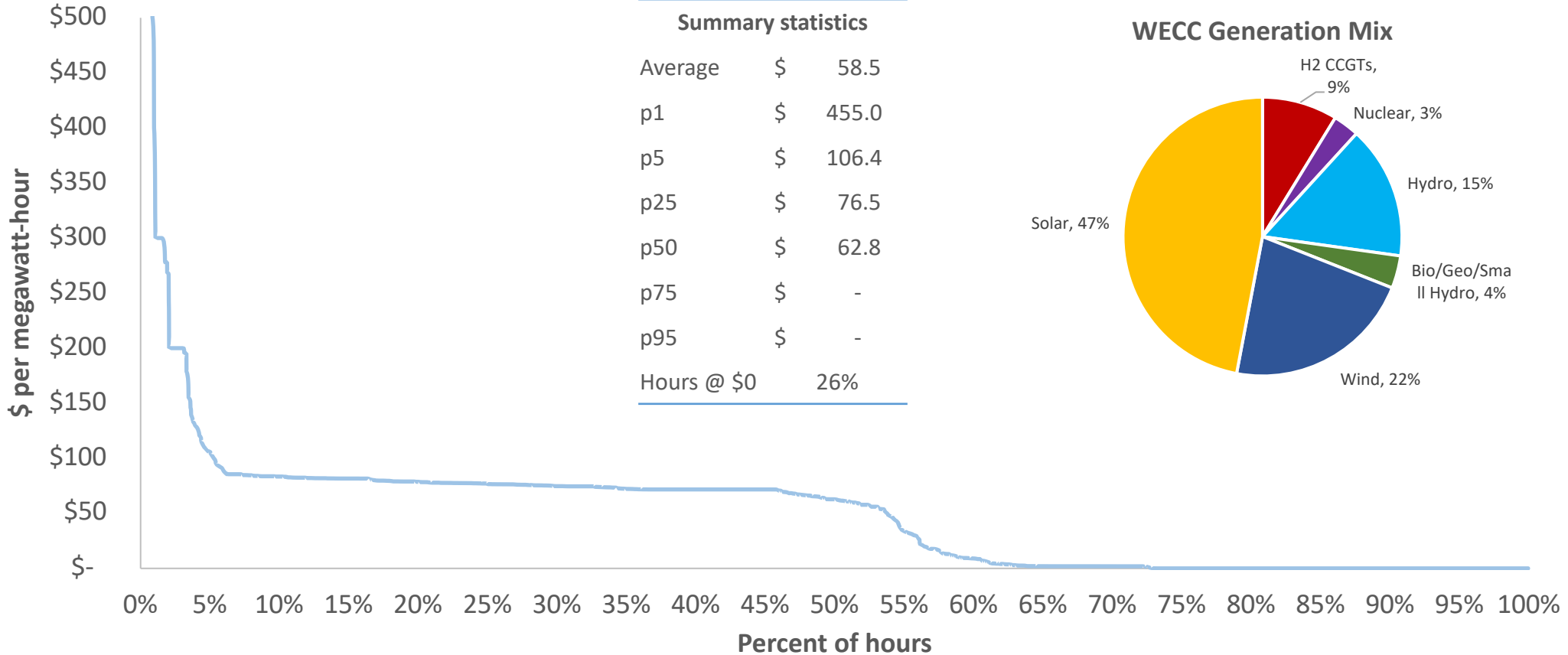
# PRICE DURATION CURVES – ZERO CARBON SYSTEMS, CA + WECC

## Renewables + Batteries + Nuclear



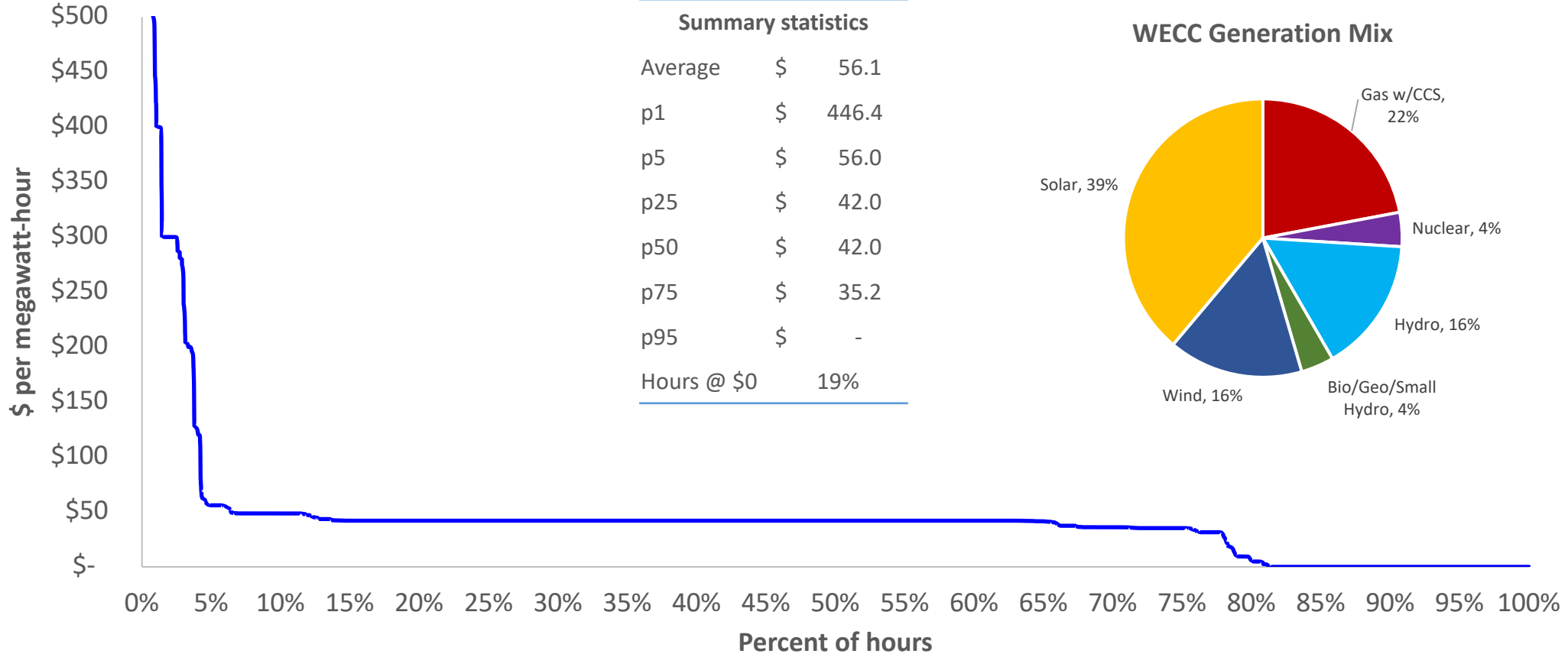
# PRICE DURATION CURVES – ZERO CARBON SYSTEMS, CA + WECC

## Renewables + Batteries + Hydrogen CCGTs



# PRICE DURATION CURVES – ZERO CARBON SYSTEMS, CA + WECC

Renewables + Batteries + Allam Cycle Natural Gas w/CCS







Topic 1: Resource Portfolios

Dr. Christopher Clack  
Vibrant Clean Energy



# Reliable, Efficient & Low-Carbon Resource Portfolios: *Insights from WIS:dom<sup>®</sup> Modeling*

Prepared By:

**Vibrant Clean Energy, LLC**  
*Dr Christopher T M Clack*

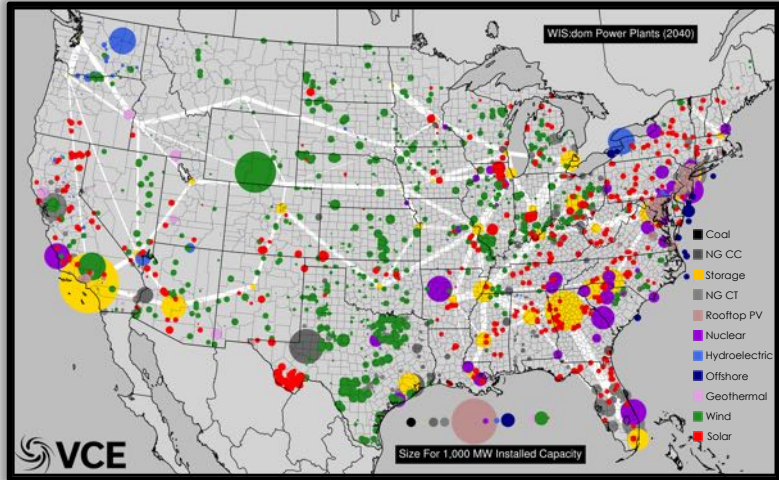
Prepared For:

**Future Power Markets Forum**  
*Online*  
*June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020*

Disclaimer:

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# Vibrant Clean Energy



## Purpose of Vibrant Clean Energy, LLC:

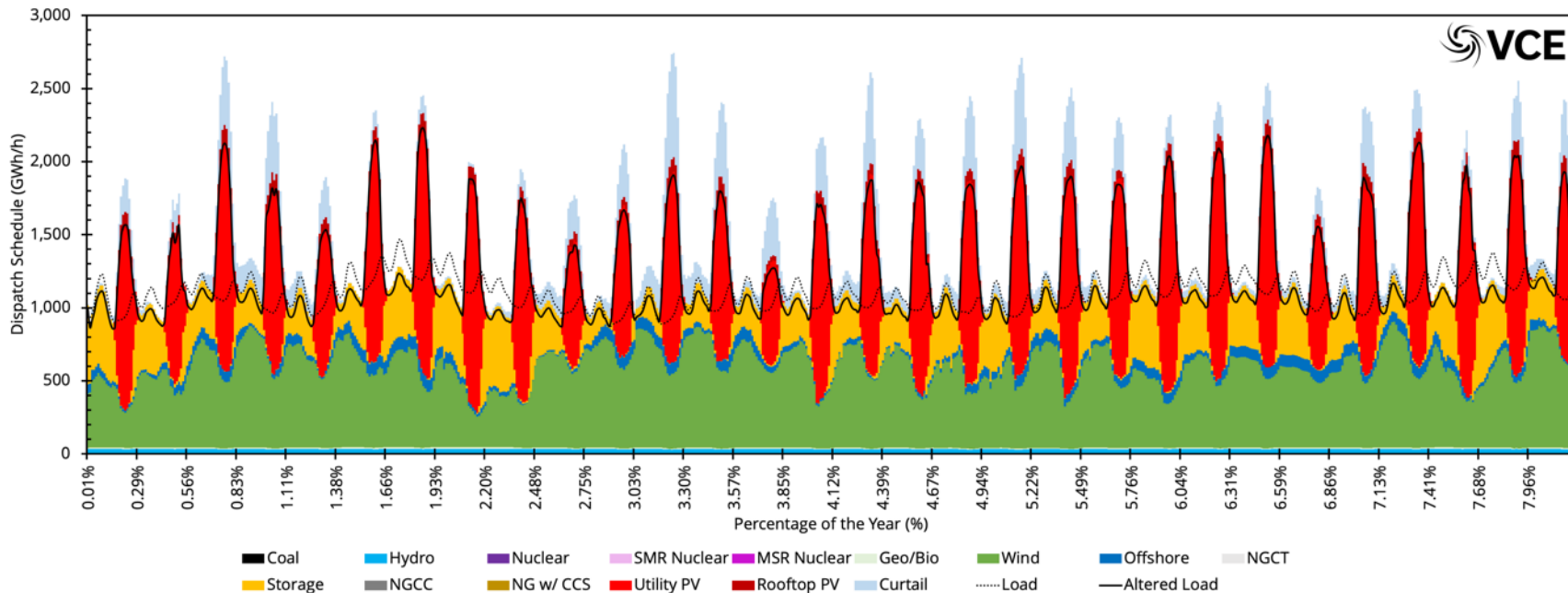
- **Reduce the cost of electricity** & help evolve economies to near zero emissions;
- **Co-optimize** transmission, generation, storage, & distributed resources;
- Increase the understanding of **how Variable Generation impacts & alters the electricity grid** and model it more accurately;
- **Agnostically determine the least-cost portfolio** of generation that will remove emissions from the economy;
- Model the **electrification** of industry, heating & transportation;
- License WIS:dom<sup>®</sup> optimization model and/or perform studies using the model;
- Assist clients **unlock and understand the potential** of high VRE scenarios, as well as zero emission pathways.



# Technologies Do Work Together (Clean Energy)

*With limited generation technologies, the system will need more flexibility from other assets*

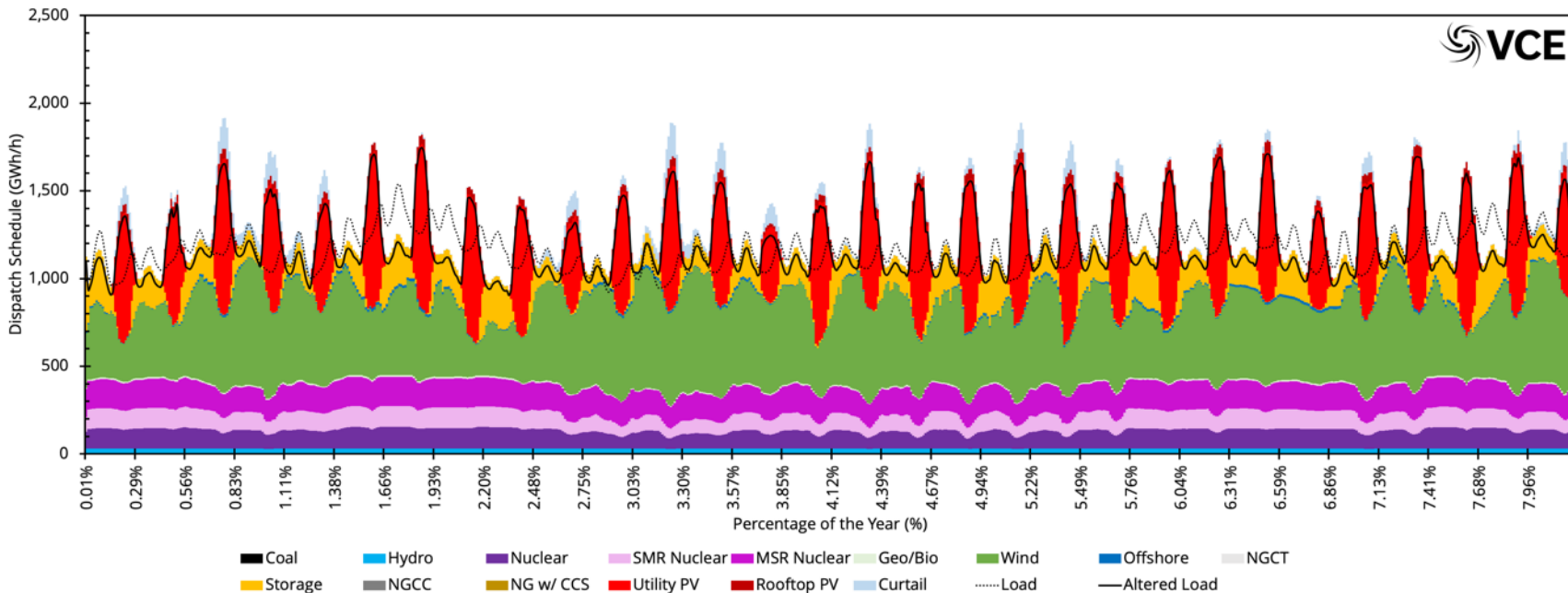
Example US Winter Economic Dispatch (2050)



# Technologies Do Work Together (Clean Energy)

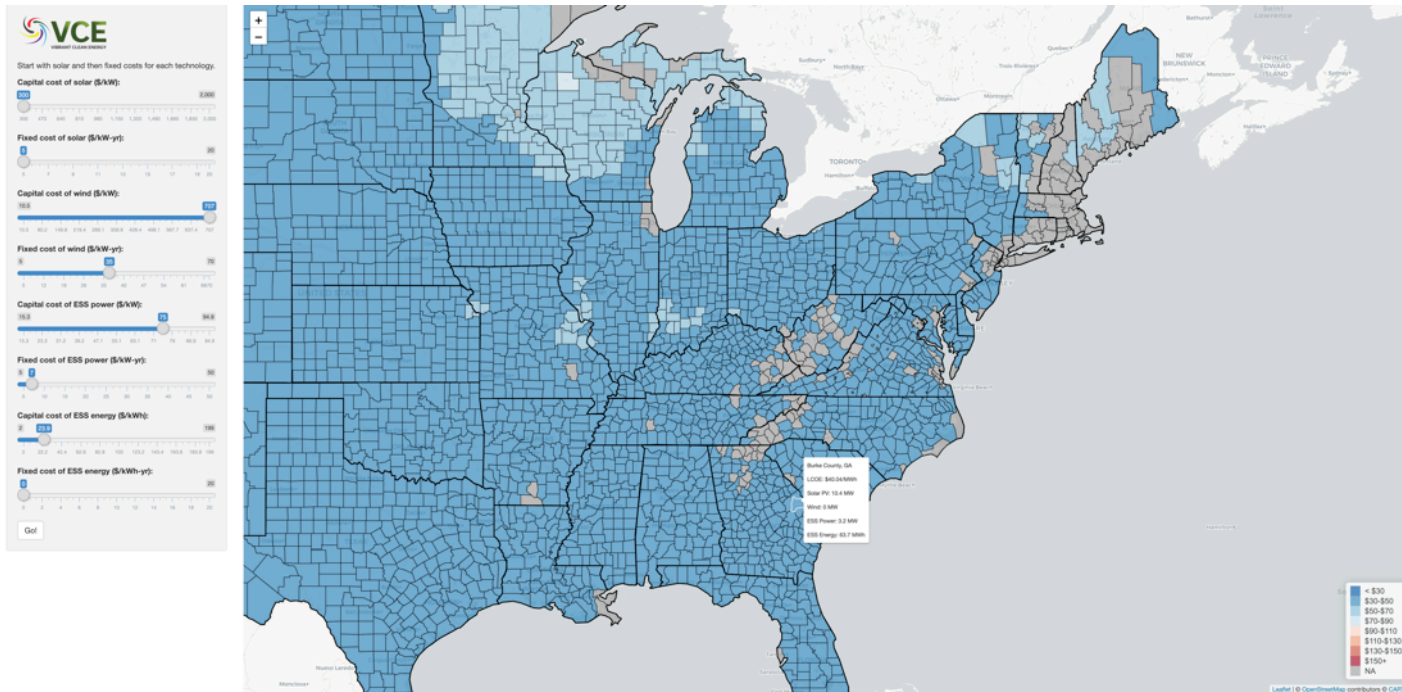
*Even with all generation technology types, the system still relies on them all to provide flexibility*

Example US Winter Economic Dispatch (2050)



# Local VREs Can Work Together to Provide Energy & Capacity

*Combining wind, solar and storage (and possible synthetic fuels) allows for cheap, clean electricity & flexibility to ensure reliability*



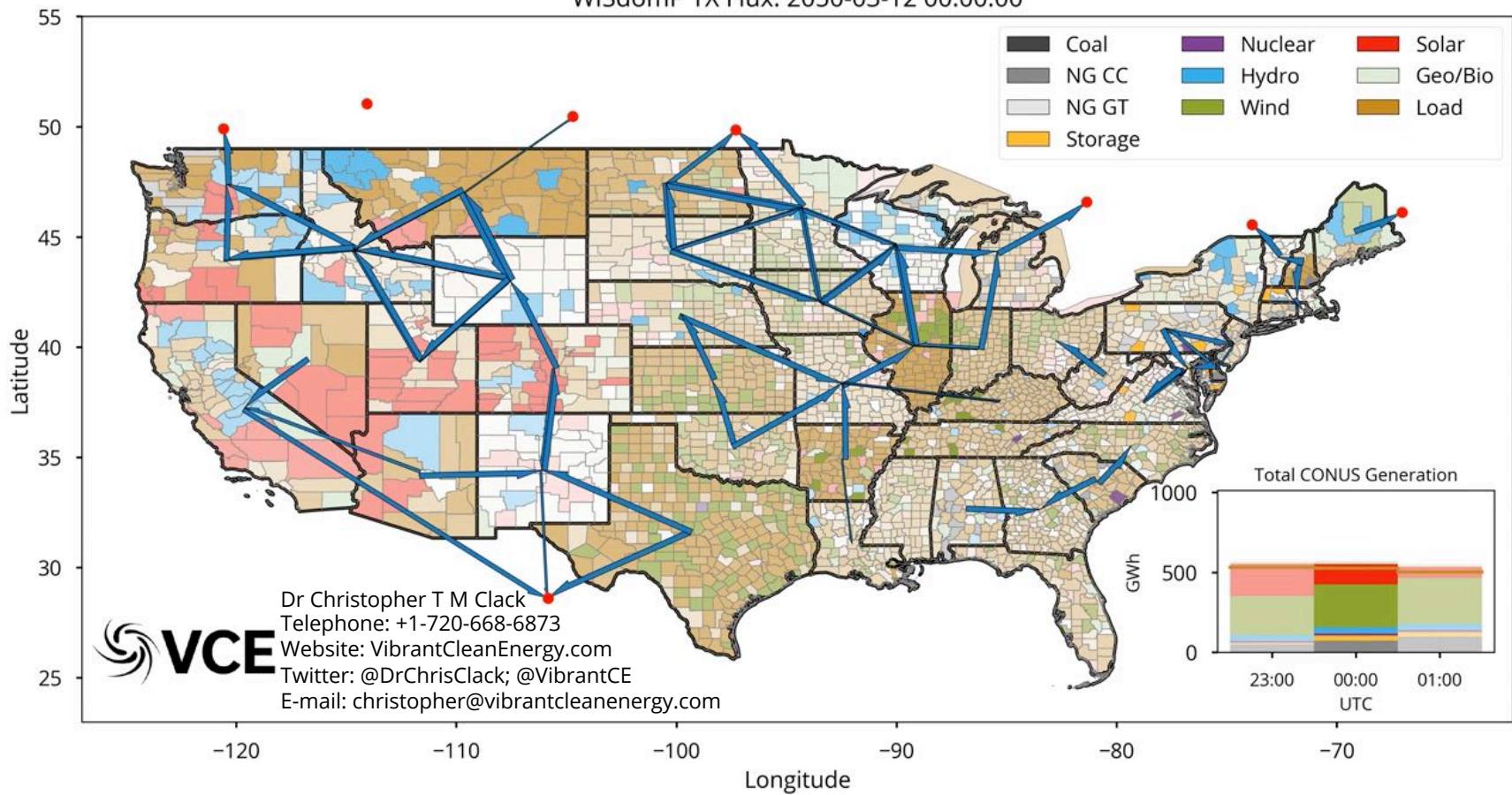
# There are Only Two Key Portfolio Components

## Low-marginal Cost Electricity Production Resources (kWh)

- *Wind*
- *Solar*
- *Geothermal*
- *Nuclear*
- *Hydroelectric*

## Flexibility Resources (kWh → kW → kWh)

- *Transmission*
- *Hybrid Resources (wind+solar+storage)*
  - *Storage (electricity+heat)*
  - *Electrification*
  - *Direct Air Capture*
  - *Demand-side management*
- *Dispatchable Generation (SMR, EGS, H<sub>2</sub> CC, NGCC+CCS)*
- *Synthetic Fuel/Chemical Production (H<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>)*
  - *Peaking Generation (H<sub>2</sub> CT)*



**Thank You!**





## Topic 1: Resource Portfolios

Mr. Ric O'Connell

GridLab



# 2035 Report

*Plummeting Solar, Wind, and  
Battery Costs Can Accelerate  
Our Clean Energy Future*

GridLAB



**GOLDMAN SCHOOL  
OF  
PUBLIC POLICY**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY

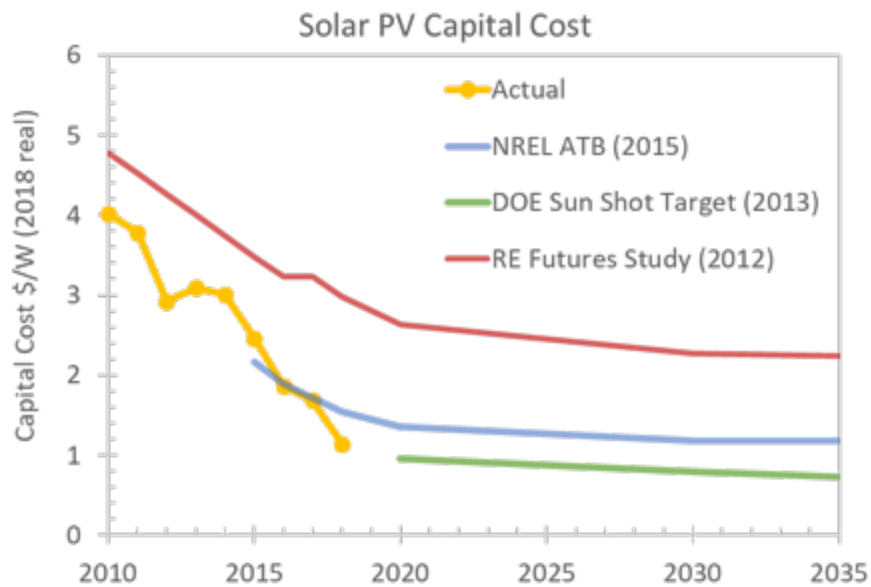
# Why 90% clean by 2035?

- We know getting to 100% Carbon Free is difficult.
- How far can we get in the near term to decarbonize the power sector using the technologies available?
- Recent cost declines have happened much faster than anyone anticipated, how does that drive future power systems?
- What are the cost impacts of a 90% Clean system?
- Project team from UC Berkeley
  - ReEDS for Capacity Expansion
  - PLEXOS for system operability in 2035, 7 weather years
  - NREL Annual Technology Baseline 2019 for costs



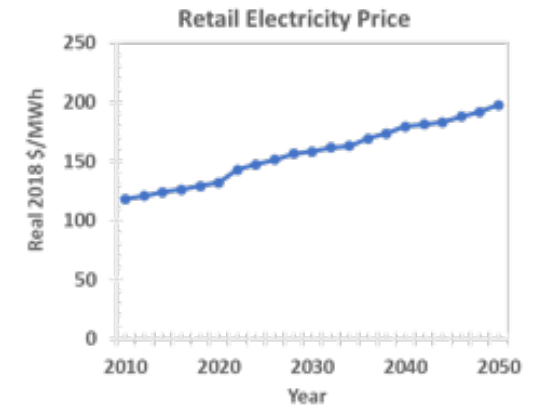
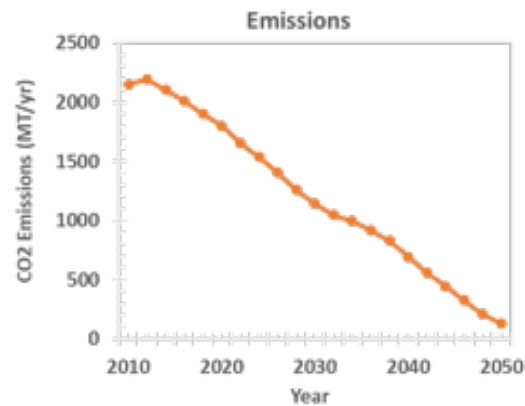
# Dramatic cost declines have arrived sooner than anticipated

**2017-18 actual costs are lower than 2030-35 projected costs**



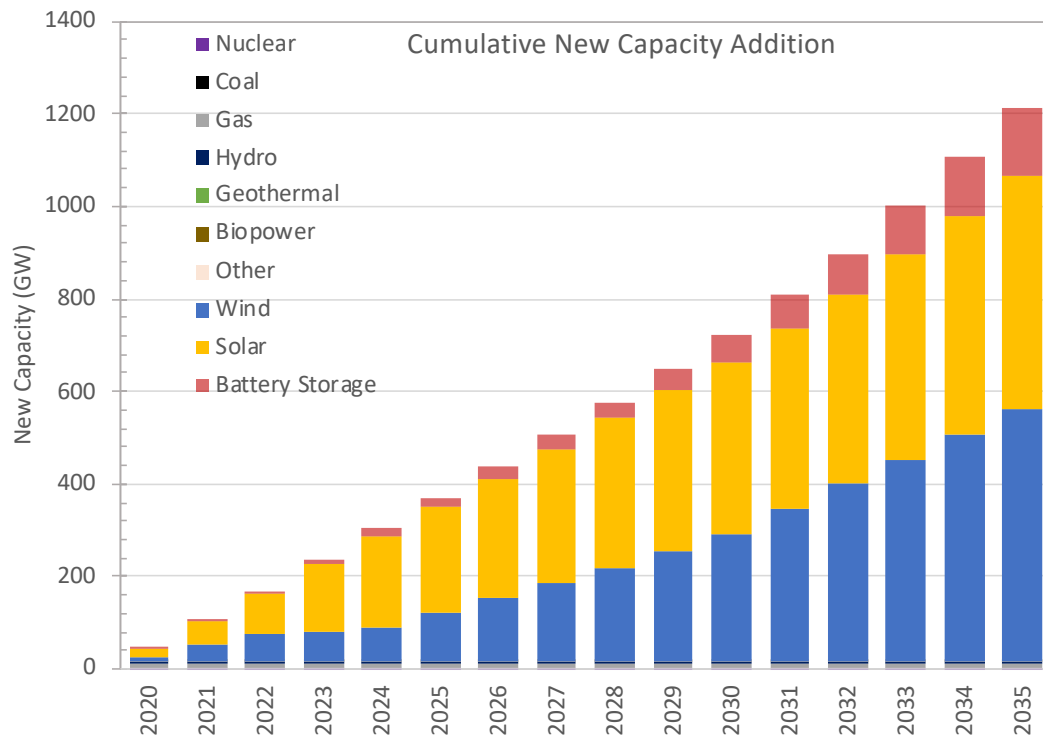
**Most previous studies show that power sector decarbonization is possible by 2050, but prices will go up substantially**

e.g. NREL RE Futures Study (2012-14) found that for RE penetration of 90% by 2050, retail prices may increase by ~42-67% relative to 2010



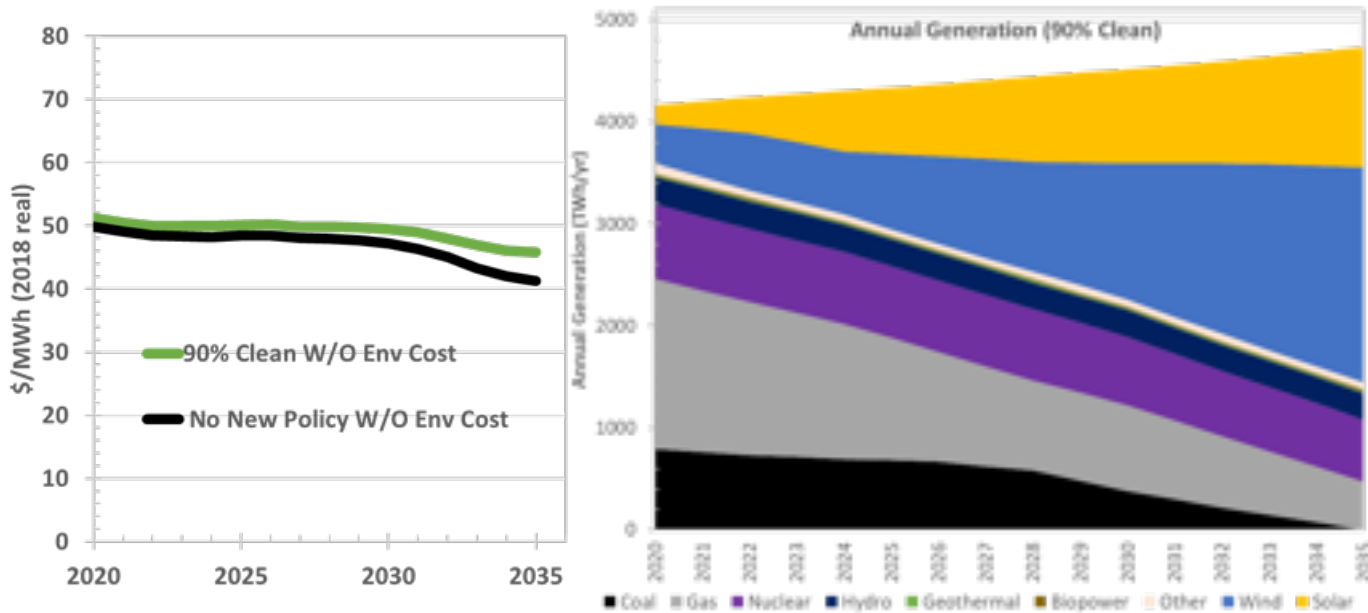
Charts show results for 90% RE ITI case  
Total clean ~94%

# A 90% Clean by 2035 System.



- System on an Energy Basis in 2035:
  - 70% VRE (Wind/Solar)
  - 20% Firm Low Carbon (Nuclear, hydro)
  - 10% Gas
- Capacity Basis:
  - VRE: 1,200 GW
  - Firm Low Carbon: 200 GW
  - 400 GW Gas
  - Storage: 150 GW (10% Peak)
  - No Coal

# Electricity Costs from the 90% Clean Grid Are Lower than Today's Costs

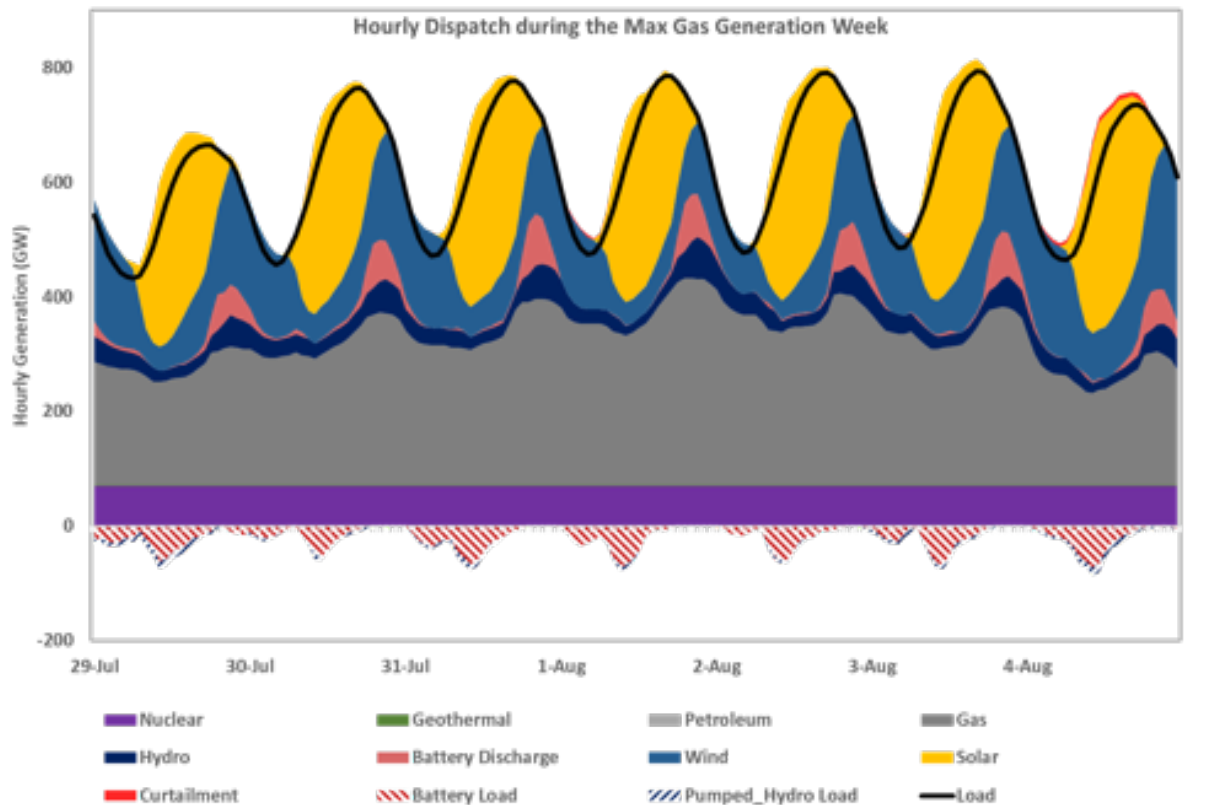


## How do we get low costs?

1. Ubiquitous Low Cost RE
2. Existing gas along with low cost battery storage provide capacity
3. Existing low carbon (Nuclear, hydro, bio/geo) provide energy/capacity.
4. 2035 target year gives enough time for most undepreciated fossil assets to fully recover their fixed costs

# Supporting Slides

# 90% Clean Grid Is Dependable without Coal or New Gas

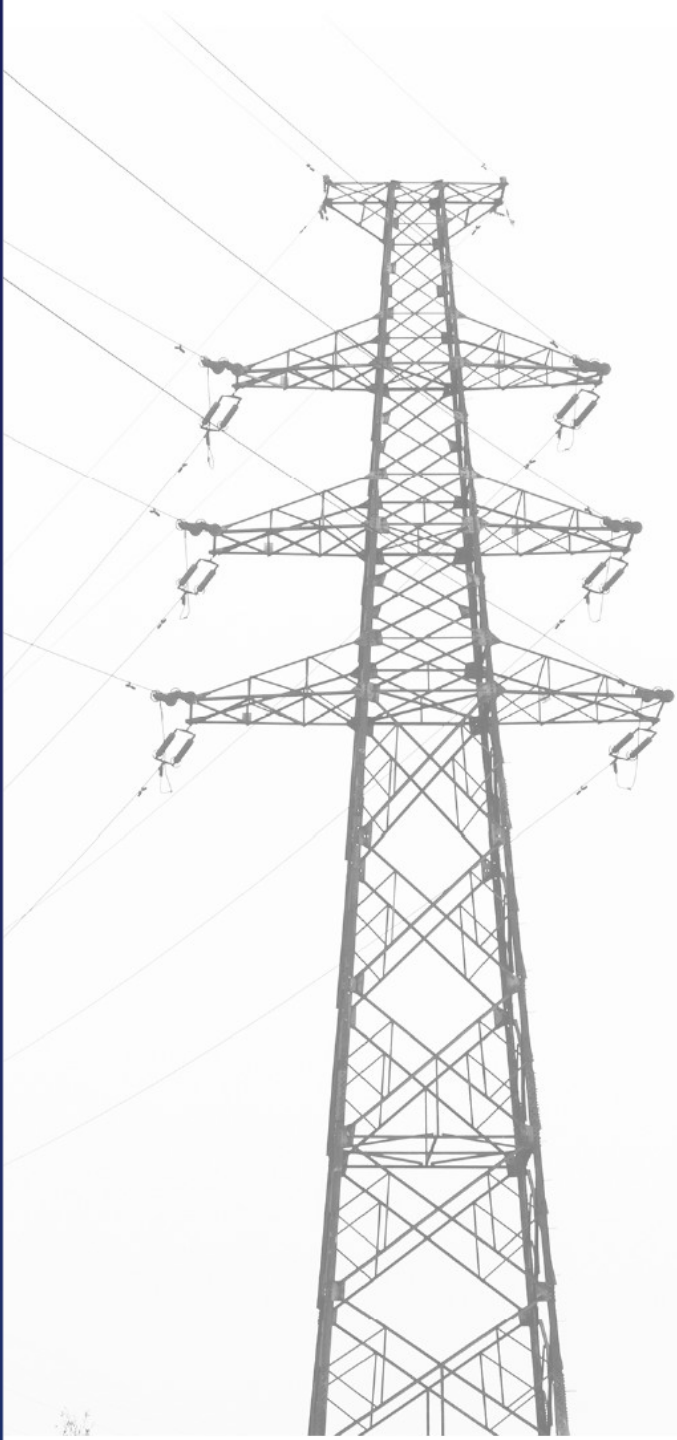


The chart shows dispatch during the highest gas generation period (Jul 29 – Aug 4, 2035) in the 90% clean case

~360 GW of already built natural gas assets are dispatched to meet demand on August 1, while RE generation drops significantly.

Even when wind and solar generation drops to low levels, existing hydropower, nuclear power, and natural gas capacity, as well as new battery storage, are found to be sufficient to maintain system operations.





## Thank You

Advanced Energy Economy

American Public Power Association

American Wind Energy Association

Calpine

ClearPath

Clearway Energy

Electric Power Supply Association

Electricity Consumers  
Resource Council

Enel Foundation

Energy Foundation

Exelon

Google

Gridlab

ISO New England

Microsoft

Midcontinent Independent  
System Operator

National Hydropower Association

New York Independent  
System Operator

NextEra

NRG Energy

National Hydropower Association

Nuclear Energy Institute

PJM Interconnection

Renewable Energy Buyers Alliance

Sustainable FERC

Tenaska

Vistra



# Connect

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