

Renewable Energy Technologies and Integrated Energy Systems

Energy Seminar Series, Colorado School of Mines

11 November 2020

Jill Engel-Cox, Director, Joint Institute for Strategic Energy Analysis



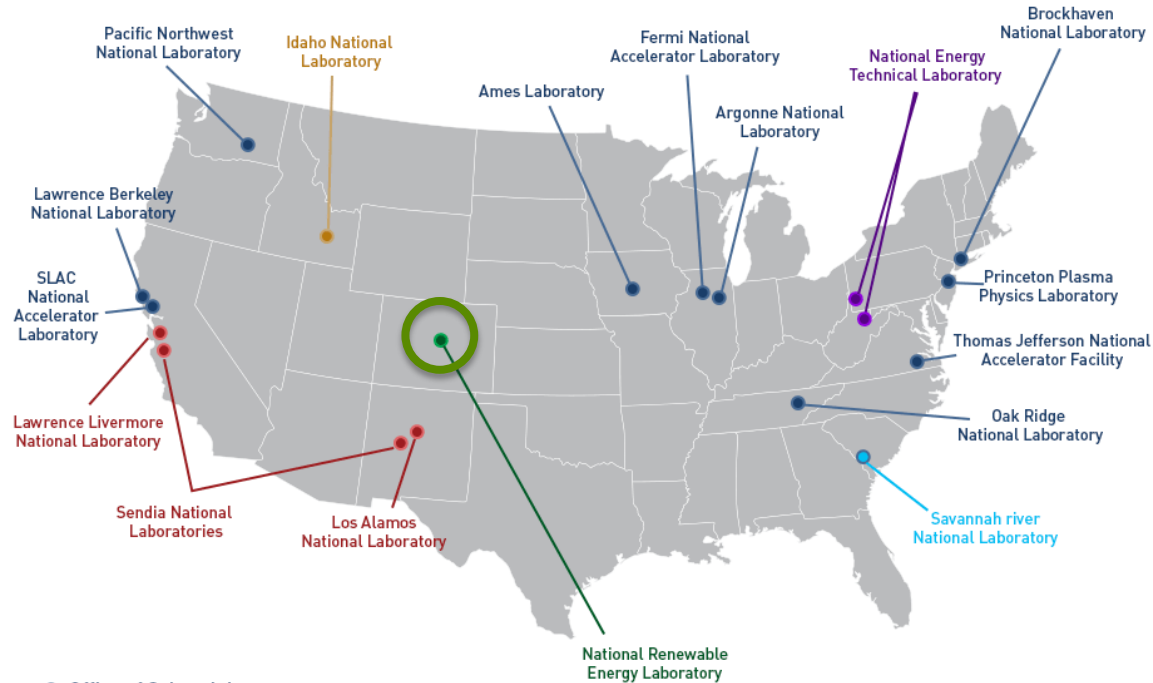
Outline

- About NREL and JISEA
- Energy Technology Markets and Trends
 - Example: Wind Turbines
- Renewable Energy and Nuclear Energy

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- **About NREL and JISEA**
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 - Example: Wind Turbines
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17 U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratories



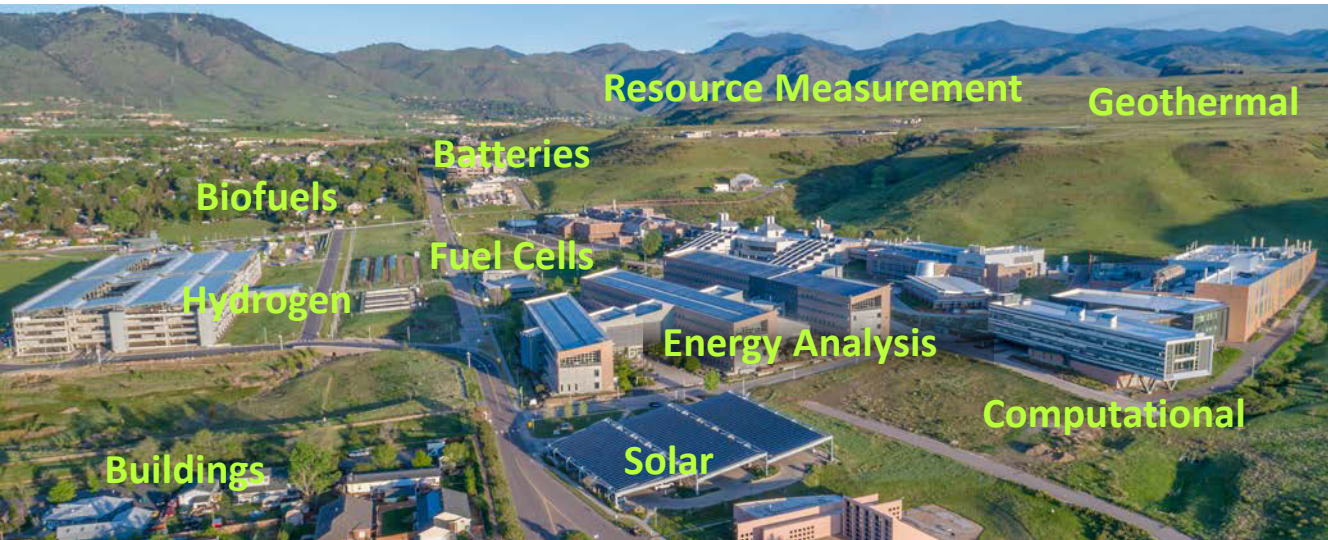
“Government owned, contractor operated”



Mission: NREL advances the science and engineering of energy efficiency, sustainable transportation, and renewable power technologies and provides the knowledge to integrate and optimize energy systems.

Example Technology Areas:

www.nrel.gov/about

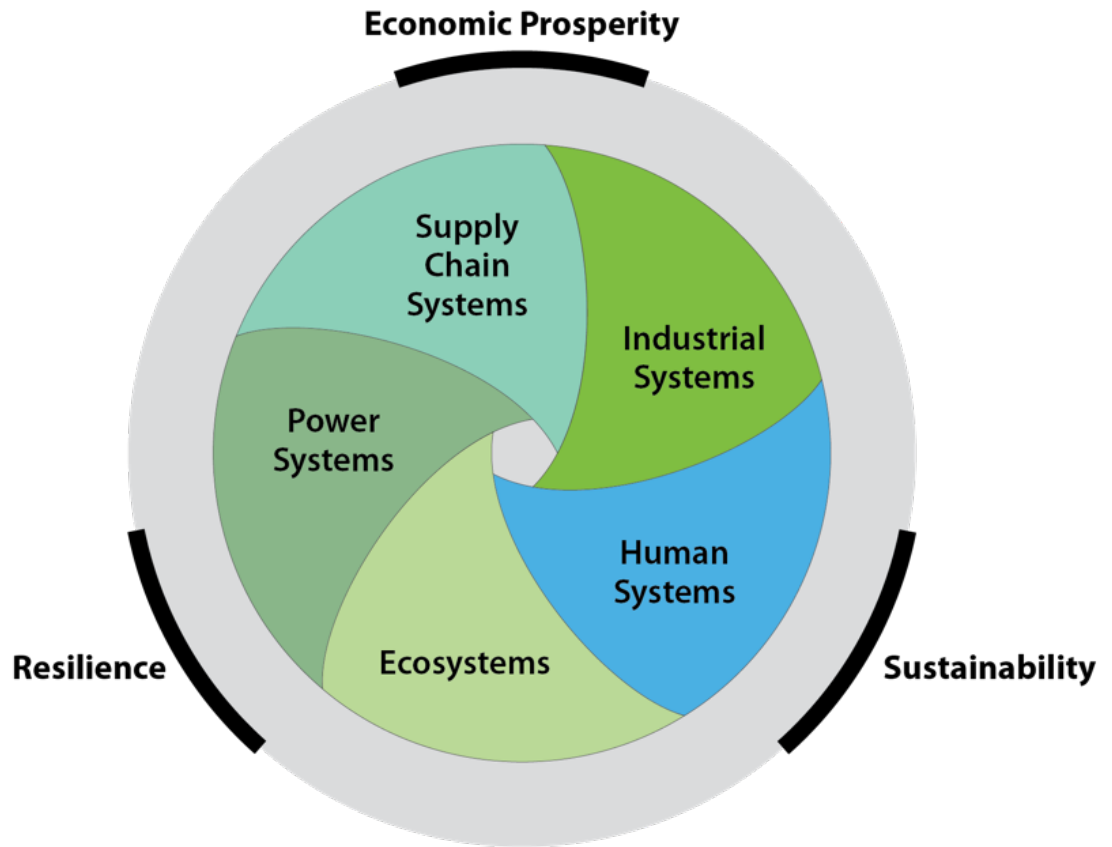


- 2,900 employees and postdoctoral researchers, interns, and visiting professionals
- 327-acre main campus in Golden & 305-acre Flatirons Campus with National Wind Technology Center 13 miles north
- 69 R&D 100 awards. More than 1,000 scientific and technical materials published annually

JISEA

Joint Institute for
Strategic Energy Analysis

*Connecting
technologies, economic
sectors, and continents
to catalyze the
transition to the 21st
century energy
economy.*



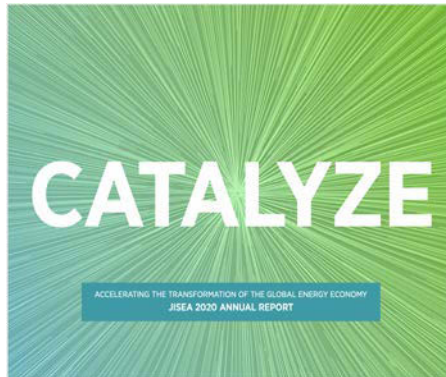
Founding Partners:



JISEA Research Portfolio

- Clean energy for **Industry & Agriculture**
- Energy **System Integration** and Transformation
- Advanced **Manufacturing** Analysis
- **International Collaboration** and Capacity Building

Learn more on our website and in the 2020 Annual Report.



@JISEA1

www.jisea.org

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Clean energy is diverse

WIND
Onshore



Offshore



GEOHERMAL



Images from <https://images.nrel.gov/>

SOLAR PV
Distributed & Micro Grids



Utility Grid Connected



CONCENTRATING SOLAR



HYDROPOWER
Large & Small



Wave & Tidal



BATTERIES & STORAGE



BIOMASS & WASTE



HYDROGEN & GAS

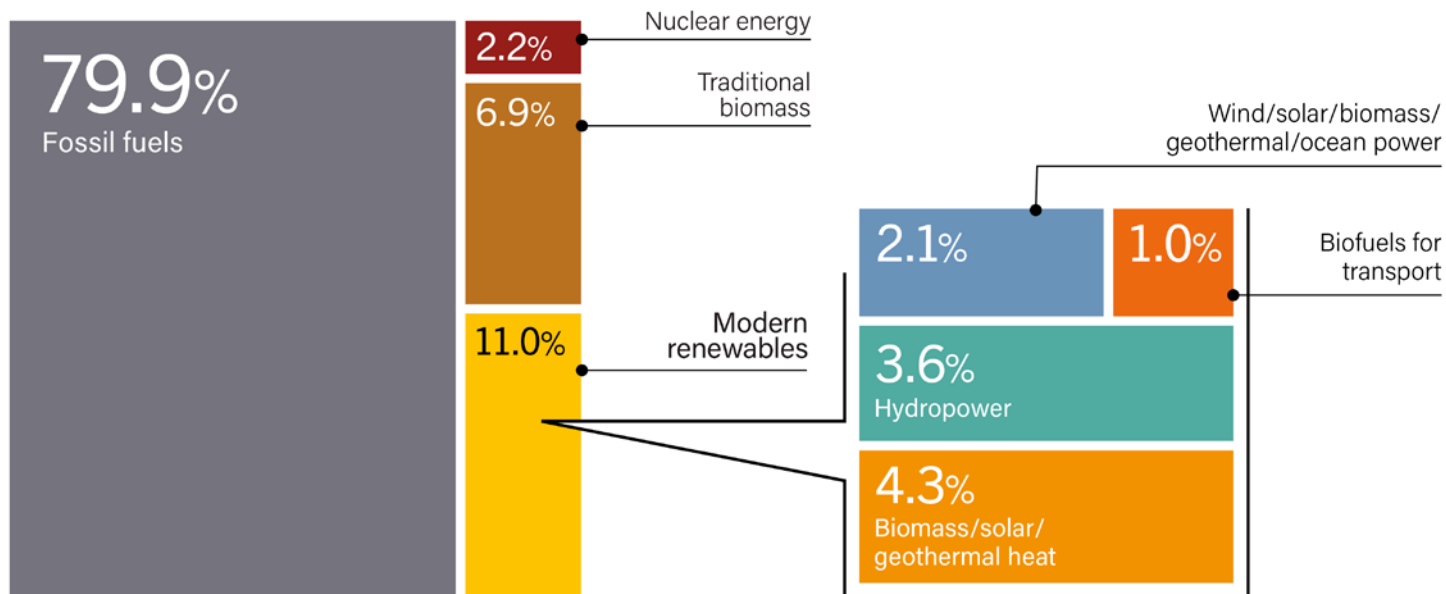


EFFICIENCY & HEAT USE



Global share of renewable energy

Estimated Renewable Share of Total Final Energy Consumption, 2018

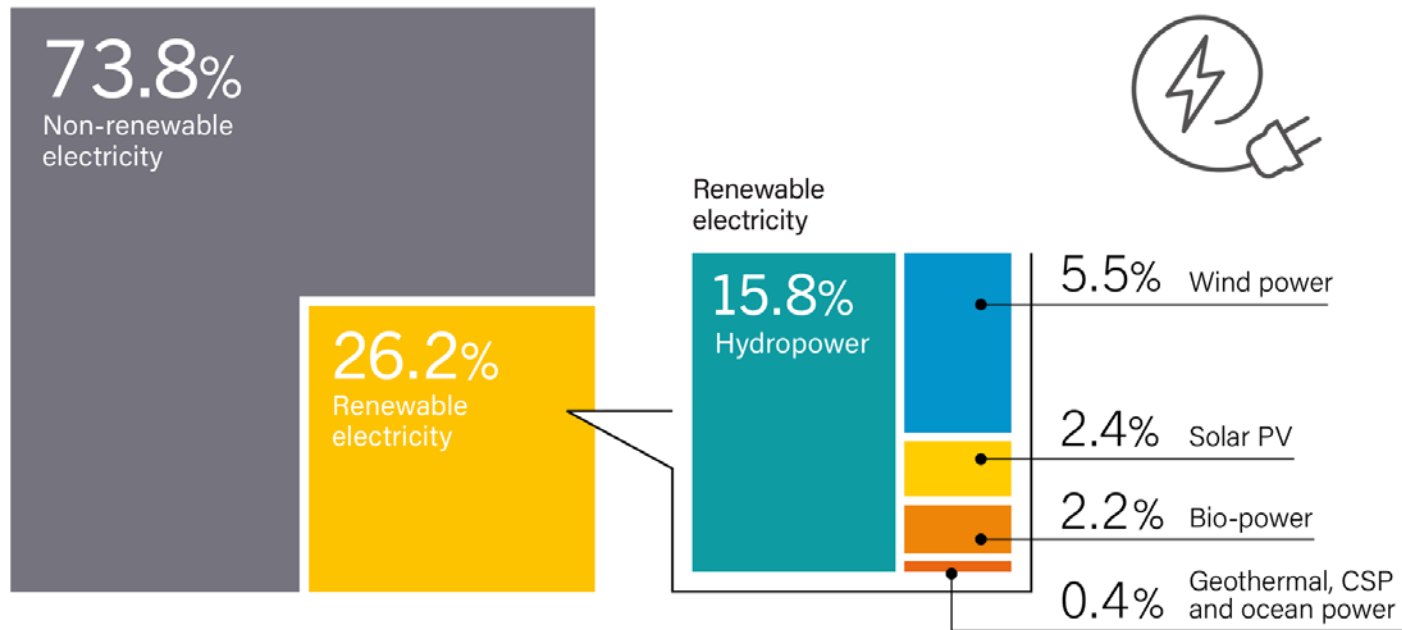


Note: Data should not be compared with previous years because of revisions due to improved or adjusted data or methodology. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Source: Based on IEA data.

Global share of renewable electricity

Estimated Renewable Energy Share of Global Electricity Production, End-2018



Note: Data should not be compared with previous version of this figure due to revisions in data and methodology.

U.S. Energy Supply is Shifting

In 2019, renewable energy—not including hydropower—generates 11% of the total U.S. electricity (~7% wind, 2% solar, 1.5% biomass, 0.5% geothermal)

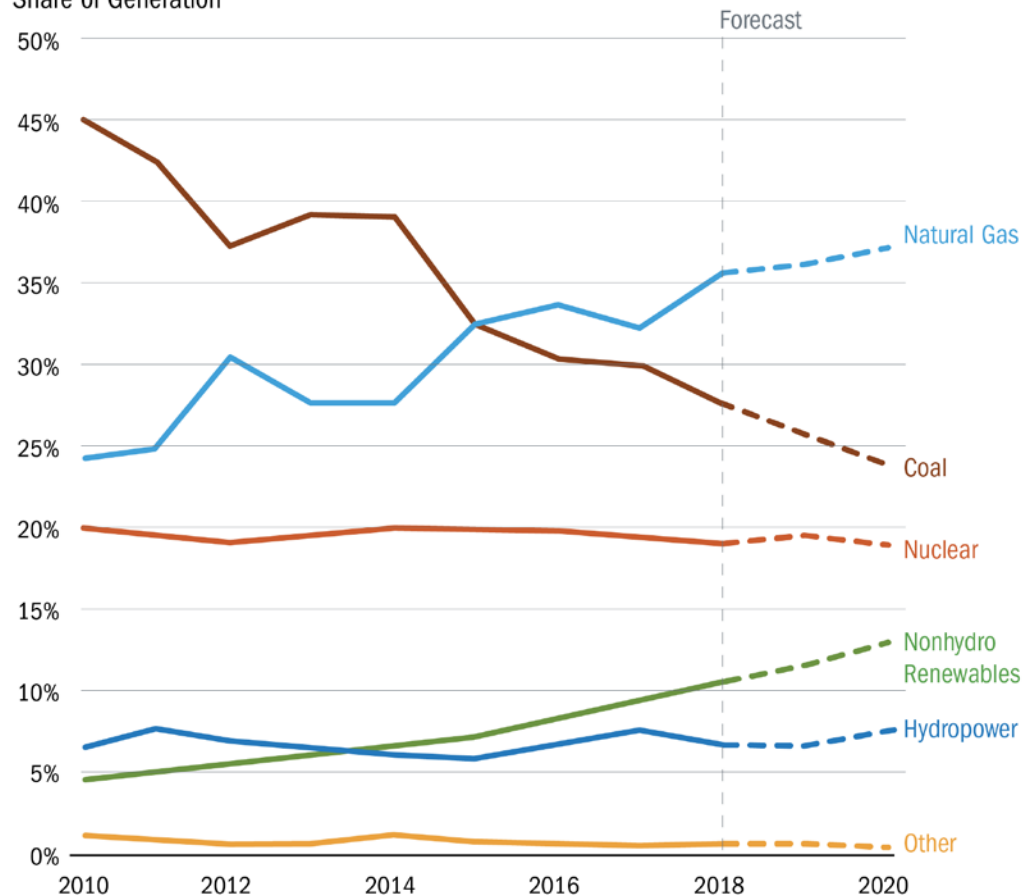
With hydropower, renewable electricity is ~18%

Natural gas power is ~38%

COVID Update: January-June 2020, renewable electricity = 22.2% (wind 9.1%, solar 3.4%) with natural gas = 39.2% and coal = 16.9%.

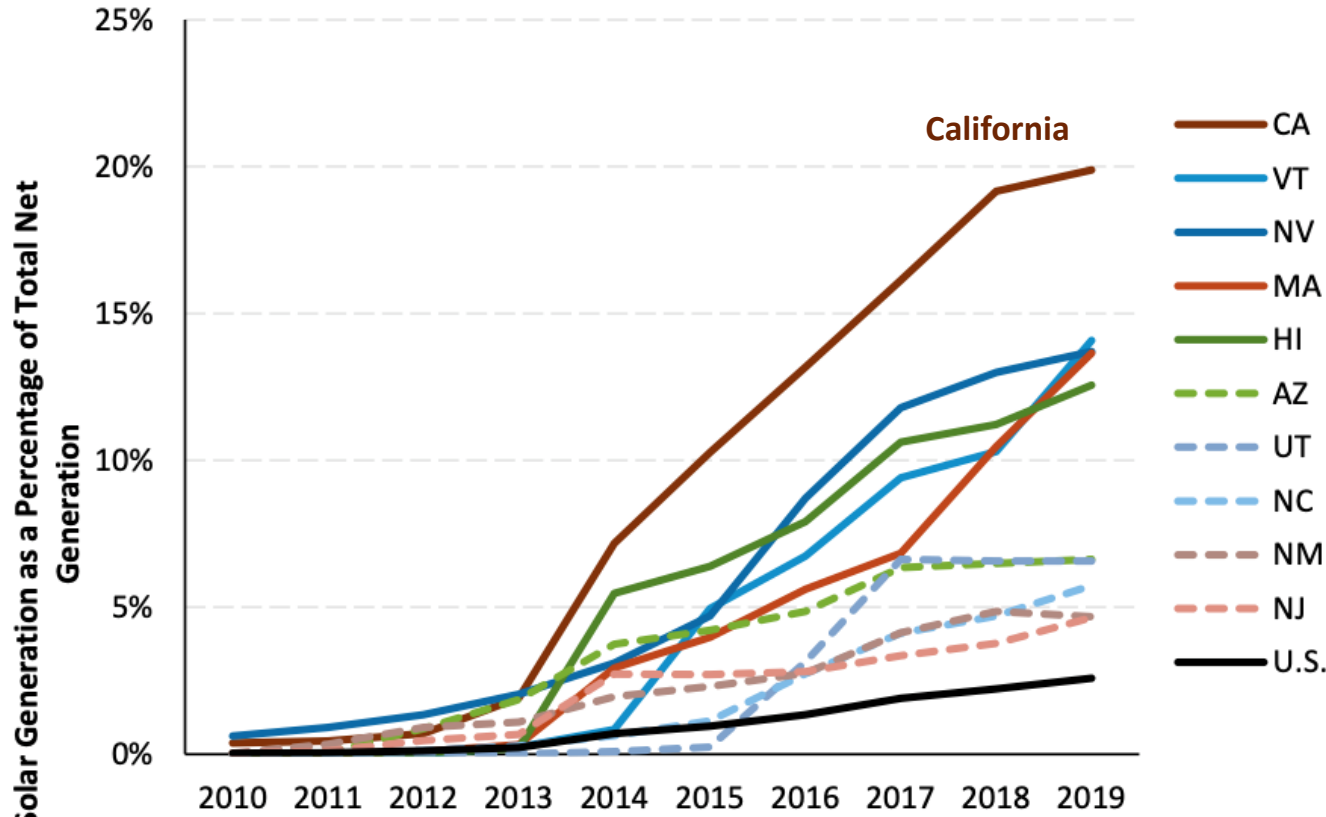
U.S. Electricity Generation by Energy Source (2010-2020)

Share of Generation



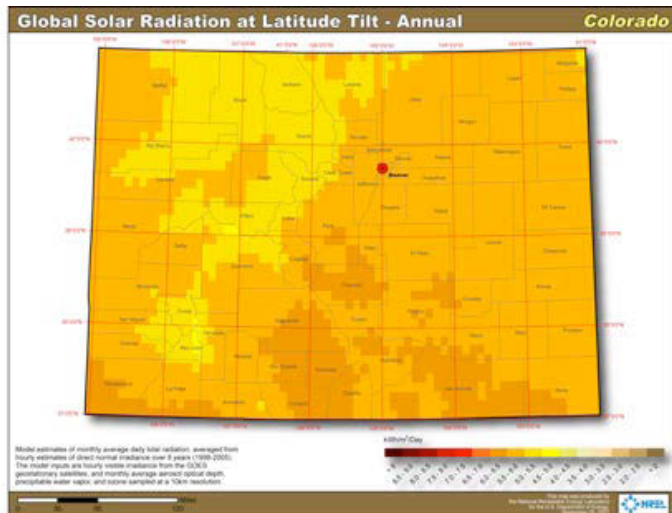
Source: United States Energy Information Agency, *Today in Energy*, 18 January 2019

Variation by Location: Solar Generation as a % of Total Generation, 2010-2019, by U.S. State



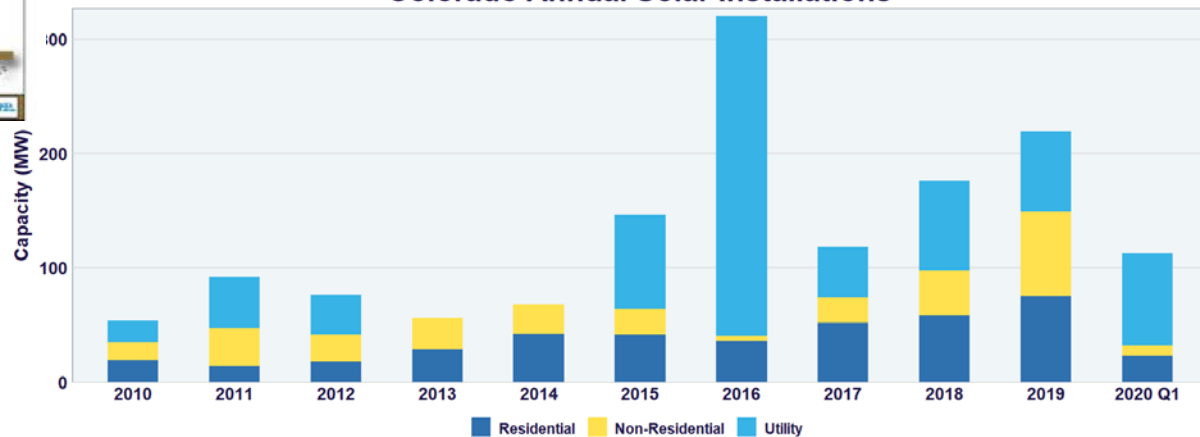
Source: NREL, Q4 2019/Q1 2020 Solar Industry Update, May 2020.

Colorado Solar Development



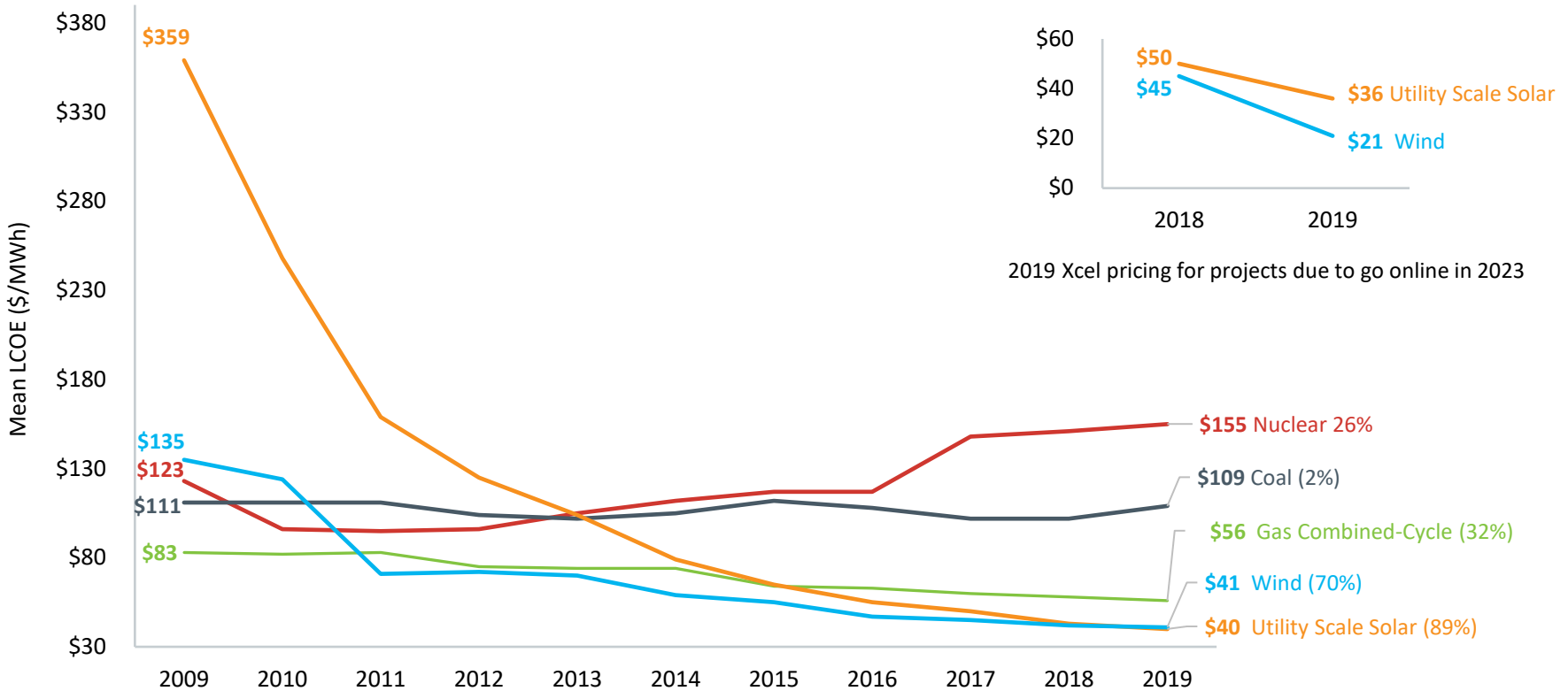
Colorado Rank – 12th
 Installed: 1,490 MW
 # of installations: 68,715
 Percentage of In-State Energy Production: 3.33%
 Equivalent U.S. Homes Powered: 301,000
 Manufacturers: 62 Installers: 191

Colorado Annual Solar Installations



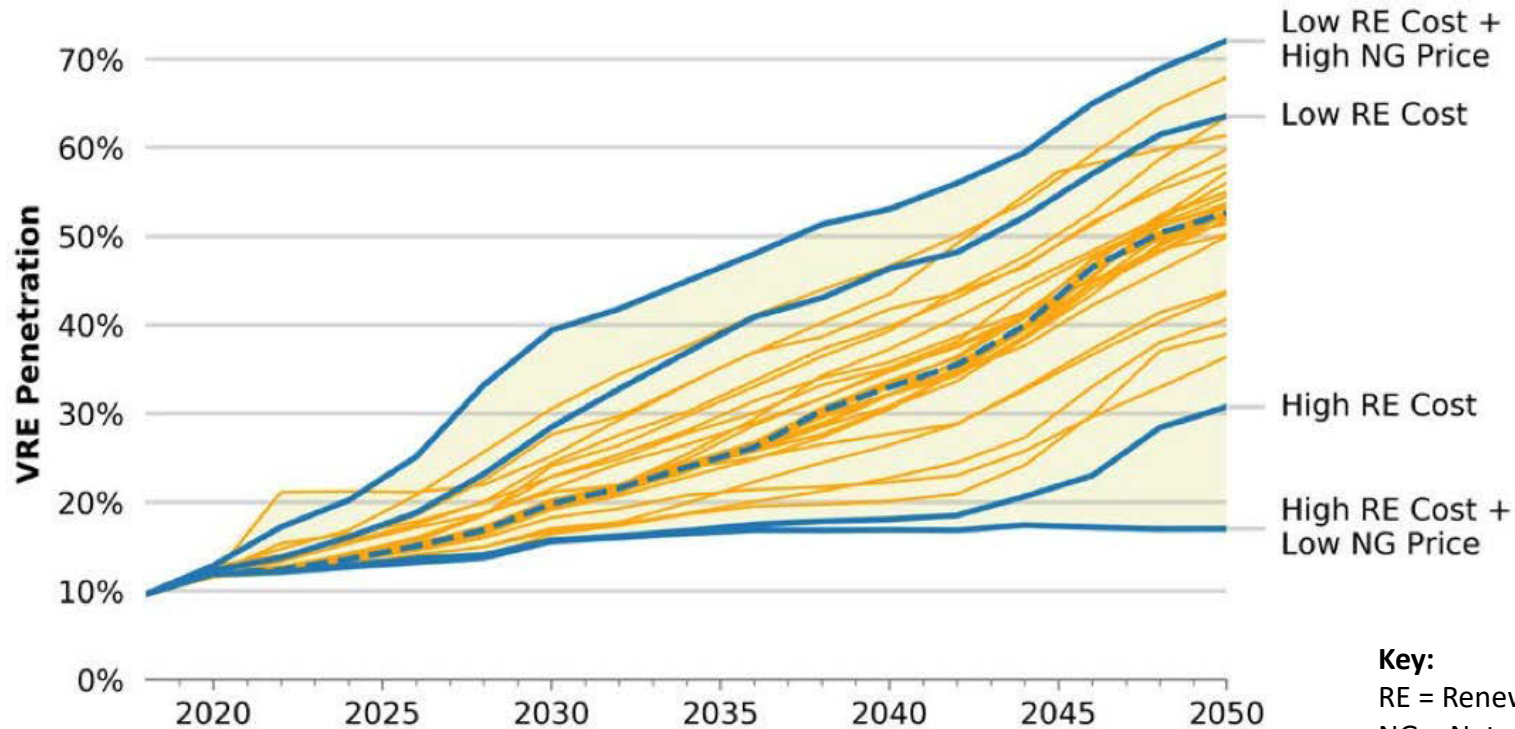
Sources: NREL and SEIA,
<https://www.seia.org/state-solar-policy/colorado-solar>

Costs for renewables are falling



Source: Lazard's 2019 Levelized Cost of Energy Analysis

NREL models scenarios of future electricity generation



Key:

RE = Renewable Energy

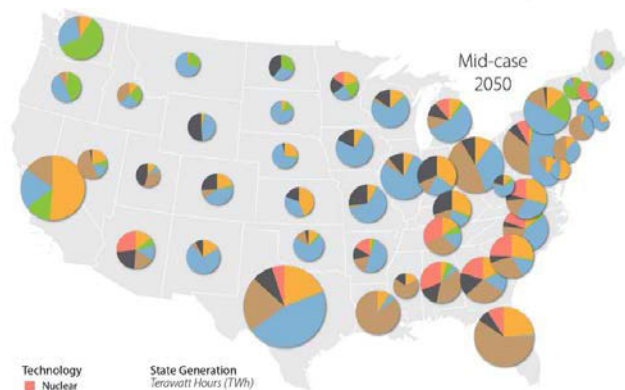
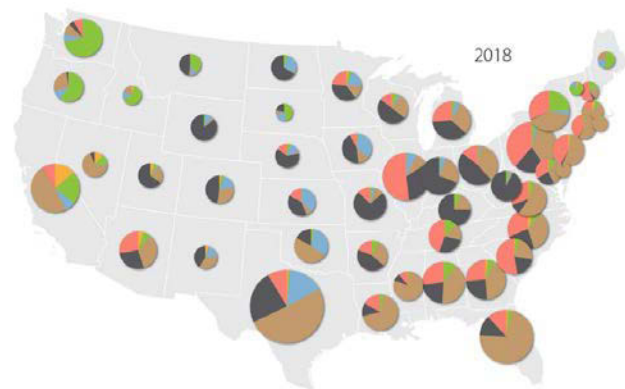
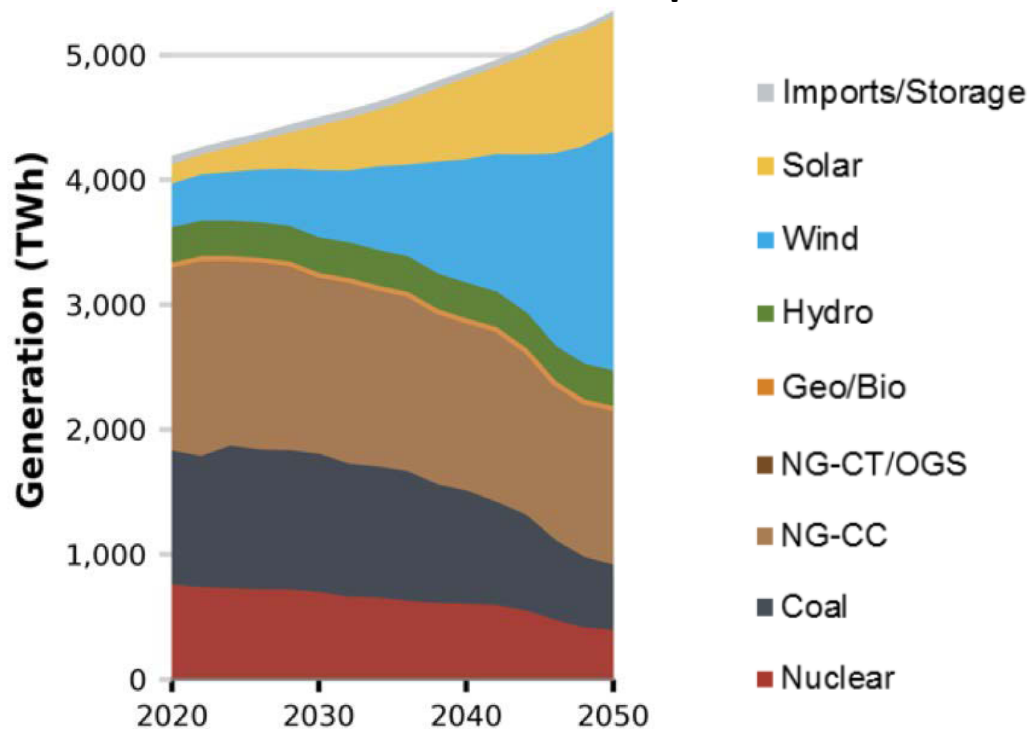
NG = Natural Gas

VRE – Variable Renewable Energy

Generation projections across 36 scenarios: NREL 2019 Standard Scenarios Report: A U.S. Electricity Sector Outlook, <https://www.nrel.gov/analysis/standard-scenarios.html>

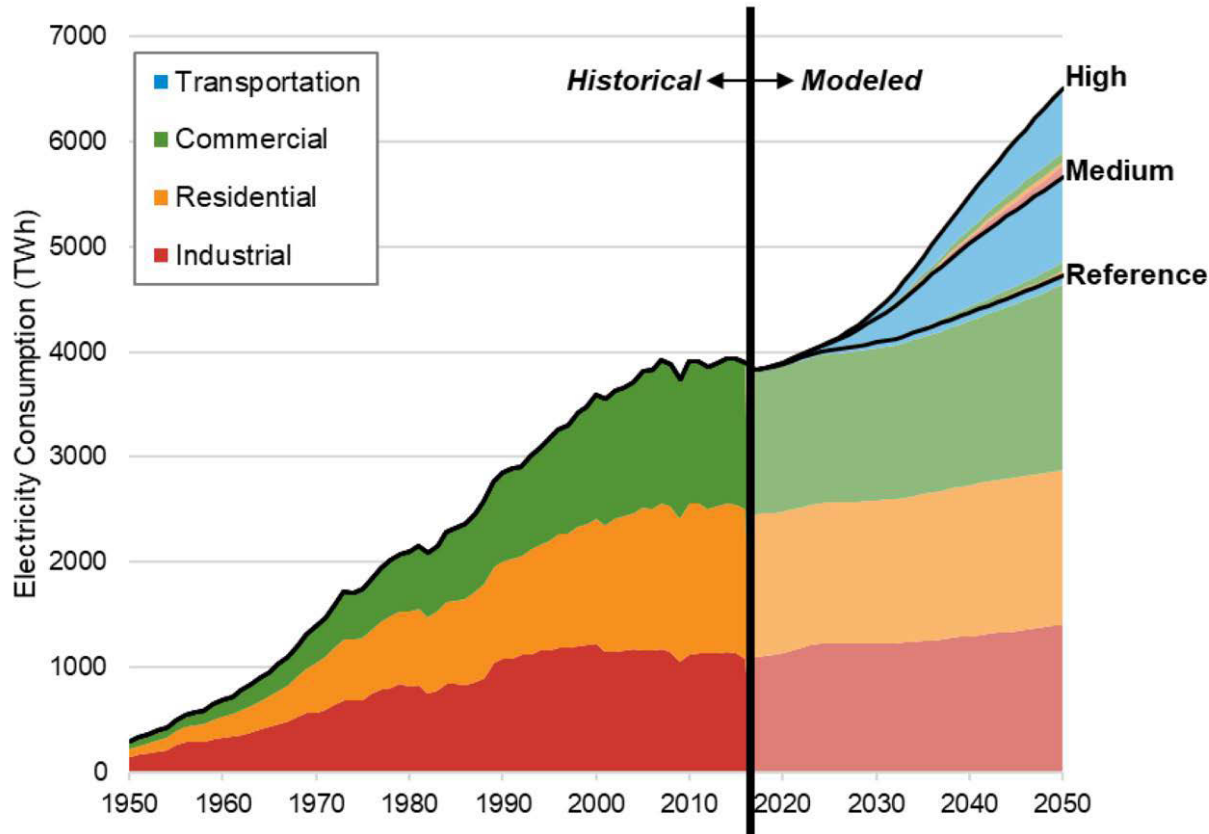
NREL models scenarios of future electricity generation

Example: Mid Case Scenario

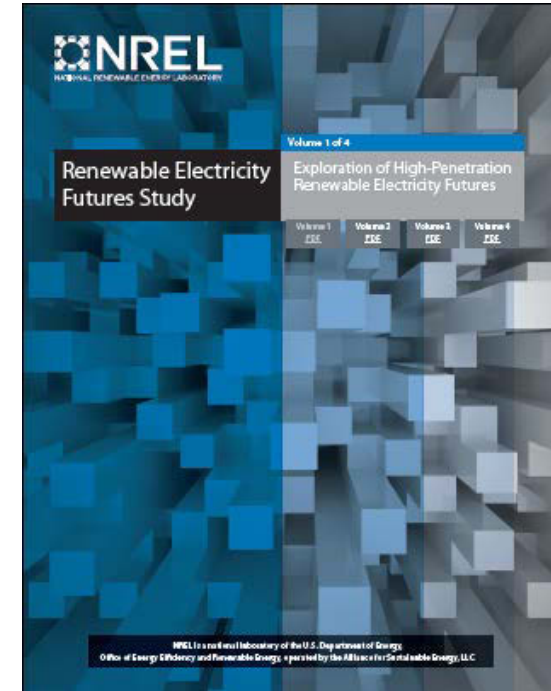


Generation projections across 36 scenarios: NREL 2019 Standard Scenarios Report: A U.S. Electricity Sector Outlook, <https://www.nrel.gov/analysis/standard-scenarios.html>

Electrification Futures Study



All Figures from NREL's Electrification Futures Study: www.nrel.gov/efs



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Wind Turbines – Onshore and Offshore



Peetz Table Wind Energy Center

- Peetz, Colorado
- 430 MW, 300 turbines
- Opened 2001, expanded 2007
- Capacity Factor 34.5%

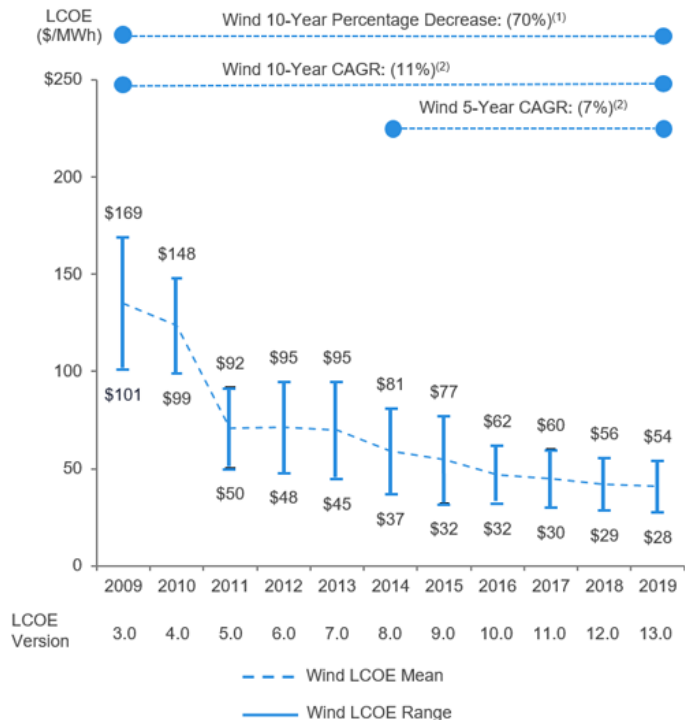
Block Island Wind Farm

- New Shoreham, Rhode Island
- 30 MW, 5 turbines
- 100 m hub height, 150 m diameter
- Opened 2016
- Capacity Factor 48% (projected)



Wind market growth driven by price declines

Unsubsidized Wind LCOE

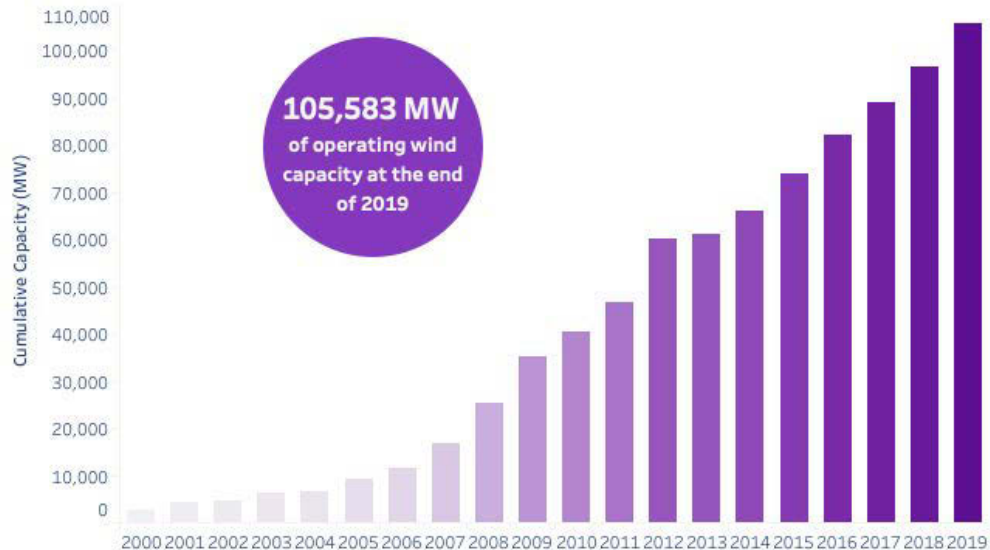


Source: Lazard estimates.

(1) Represents the average percentage decrease of the high end and low end of the LCOE range.

(2) Represents the average compounded annual rate of decline of the high end and low end of the LCOE range.

Cumulative U.S. Wind Capacity

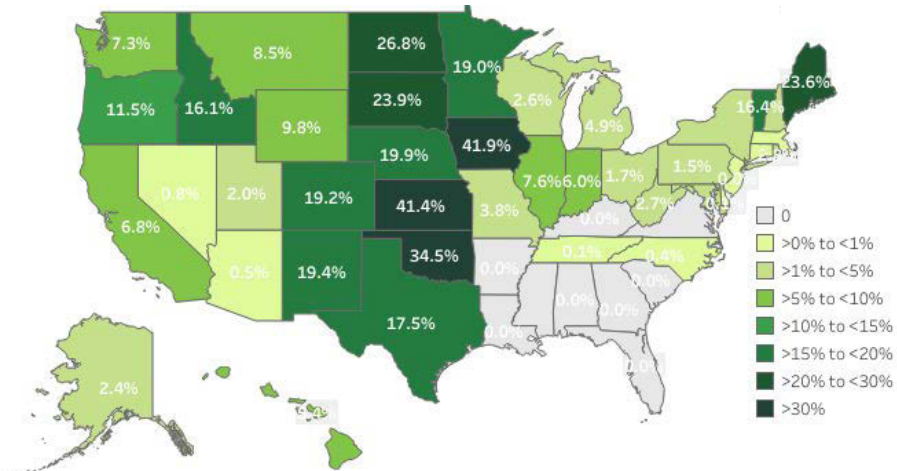


Source: Lazard, <https://www.lazard.com/perspective/lcoe2019/>; AWEA, <https://www.awea.org/wind-101/basics-of-wind-energy/wind-facts-at-a-glance>.

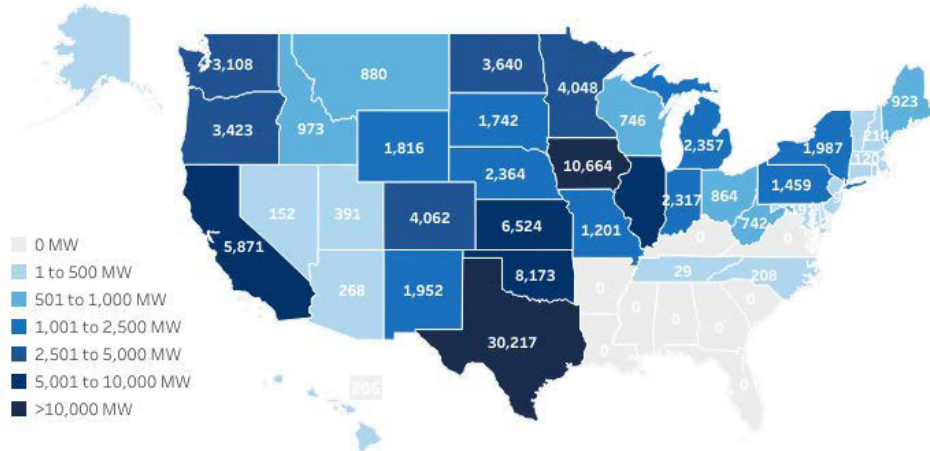
U.S. Wind Market (installed capacity, MW)

Wind capacity installed in Oklahoma, Iowa, and Kansas supplied >30% of all in-state electricity generation in 2019. 14 states were greater than 10%.

Wind Share of State Electricity Generation (2019)

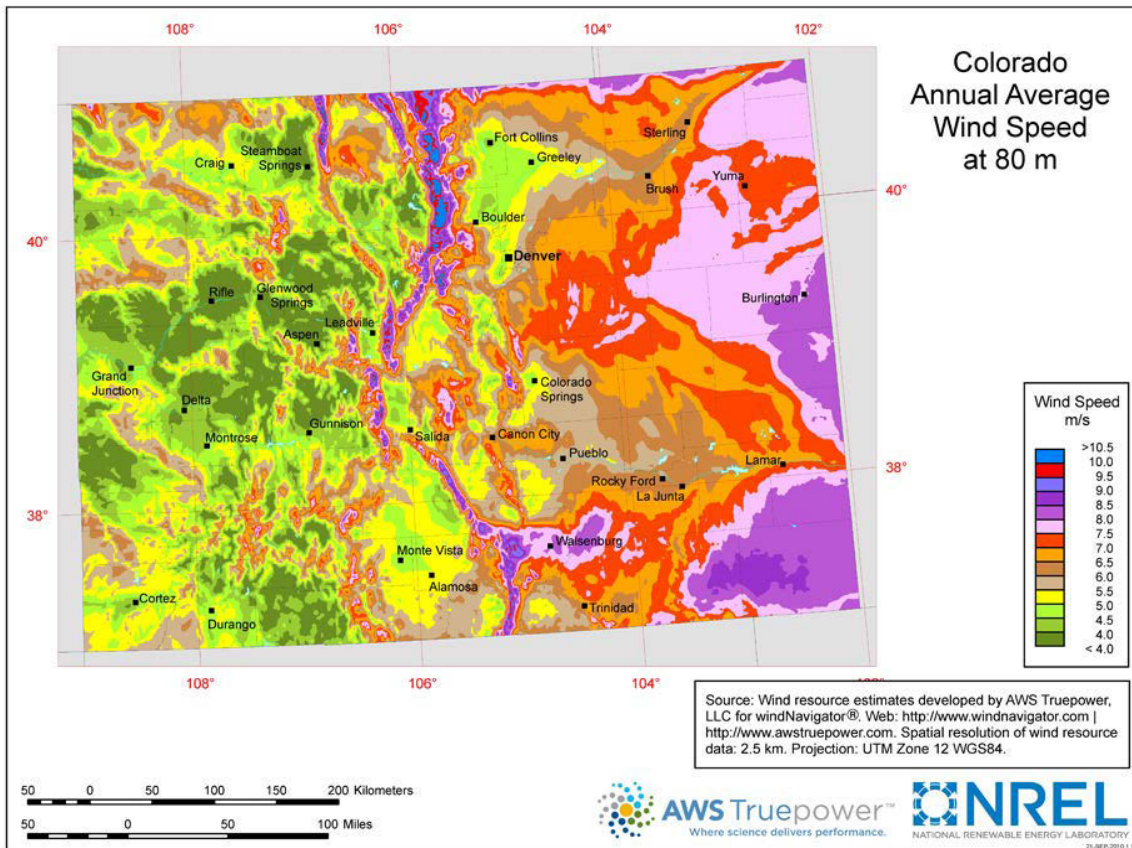


Wind Capacity by State



Source: American Wind Energy Association, <https://www.awea.org/wind-101/basics-of-wind-energy/wind-facts-at-a-glance>

Colorado wind energy



Colorado Rank – 7th
 Installed: 4,062 MW
 # of turbines: 2,383
 Percentage of In-State Energy Production: 19.2%
 Equivalent U.S. Homes Powered: 1,002,400
 Manufacturers: 62 Installers: 275

Data Source: AWEA,
<https://www.awea.org/Awea/media/Resources/StateFactSheets/Colorado.pdf>
 Map Source: <https://windexchange.energy.gov/maps-data/15>



Wind Machines – Scale, capacity factor Increasing, Manufacturing costs declining

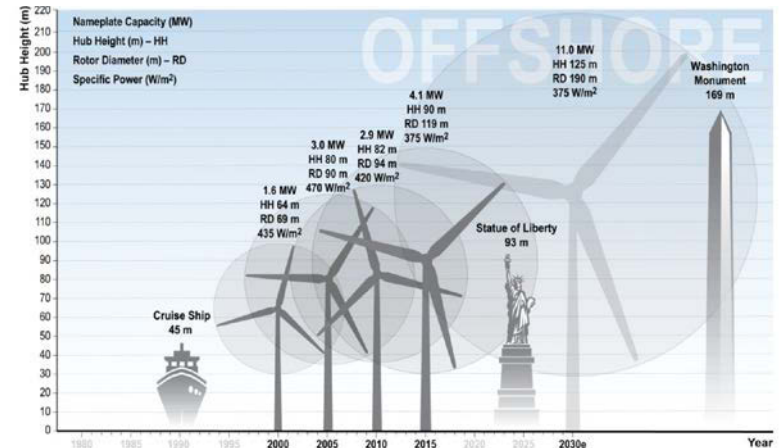
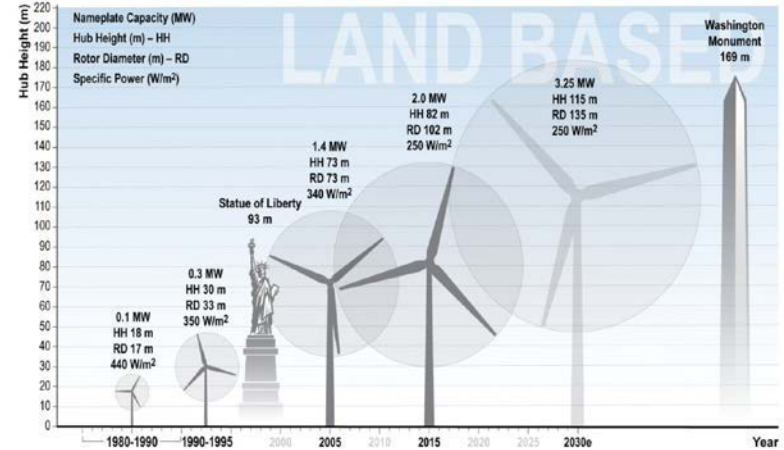


Onshore: 2-3 MW
50 m blade length

Avg. Wind Turbine Capacity Factors (% of capacity) by Build Year

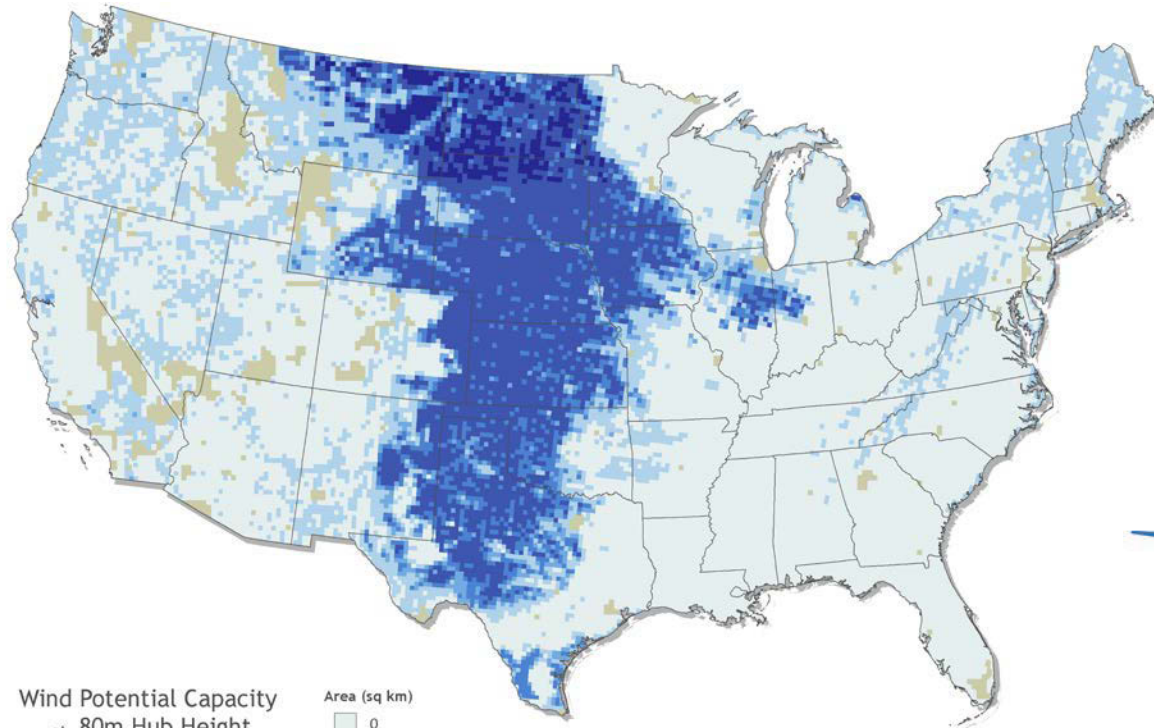
- 1998-2001: 24.5%
- 2004-2011: 32.1%
- 2014-2015: 42.6%

Compare: Natural Gas Plant: 56%;
Coal Fired Plant: 53%; Nuclear: 92%;
Solar Photovoltaic: 27%



Source: LBNL, https://emp.lbl.gov/sites/all/files/scaling_turbines.pdf

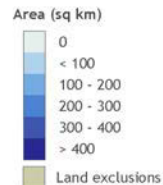
Wind energy potential capacity at 80m hub height



Wind Potential Capacity
at 80m Hub Height

35% or Higher
Gross Capacity Factor

2008 Turbine Technology



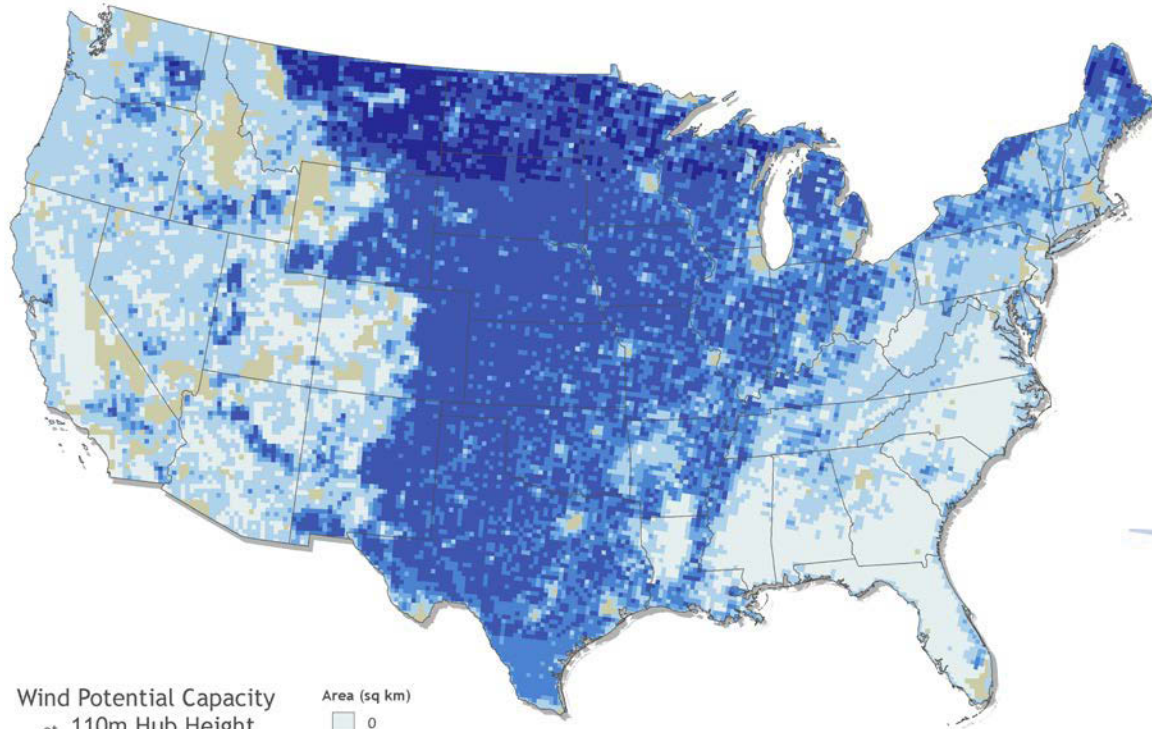
Data sources: AWS Truepower, National Renewable Energy Laboratory

*This map was produced by the
National Renewable Energy Laboratory
for the Department of Energy,
October 2014*



80m

Wind energy potential capacity at 110m hub height

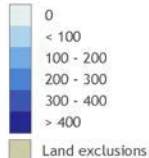


Wind Potential Capacity
at 110m Hub Height

35% or Higher
Gross Capacity Factor

2014 Turbine Technology

Area (sq km)



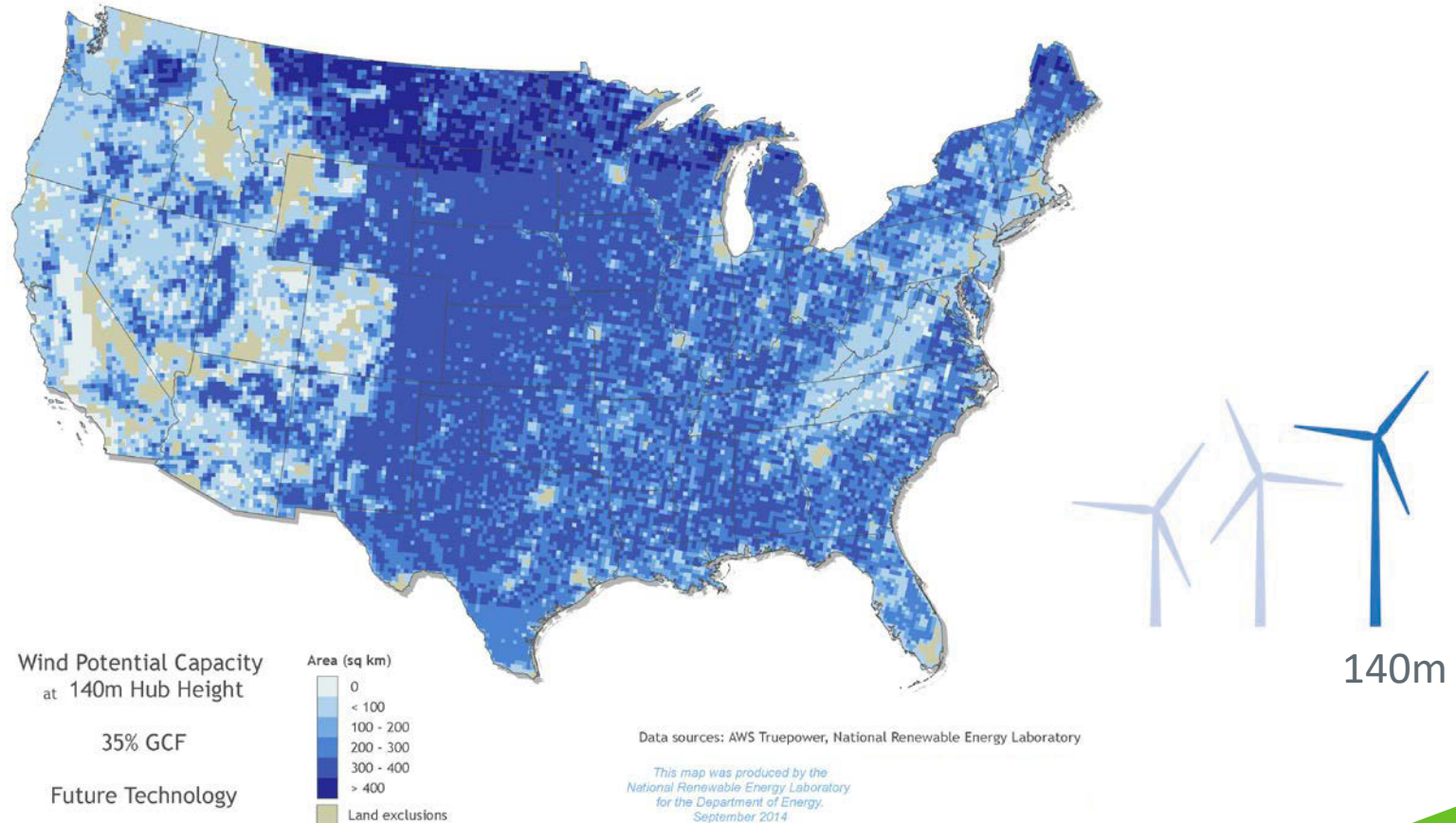
Data sources: AWS Truepower, National Renewable Energy Laboratory

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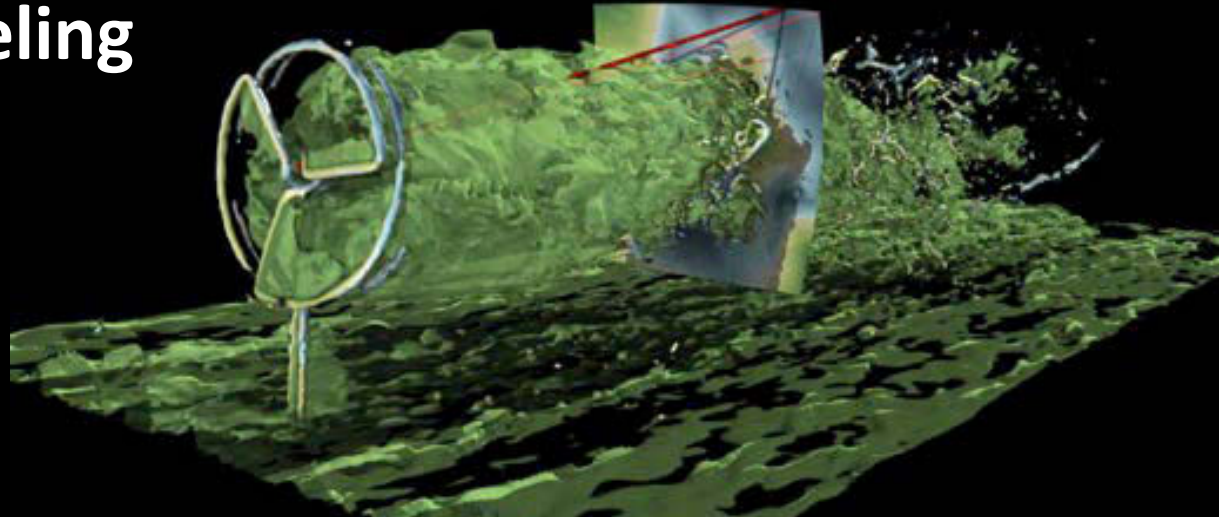
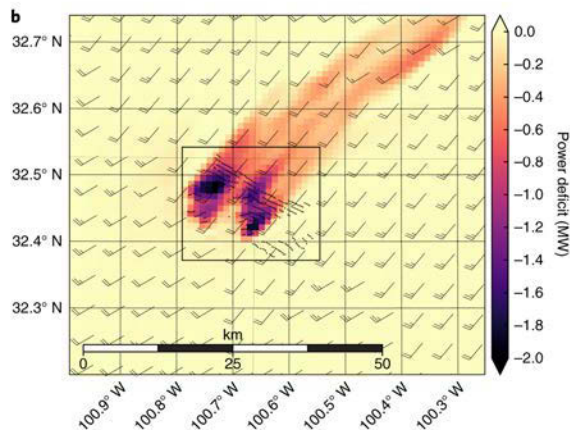
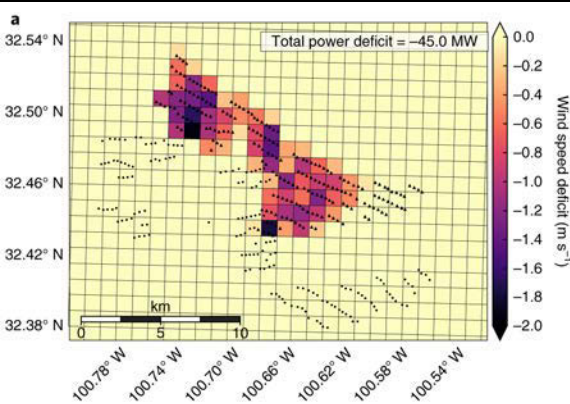


110m

Wind energy potential capacity at 140m hub height



Wind plant modeling



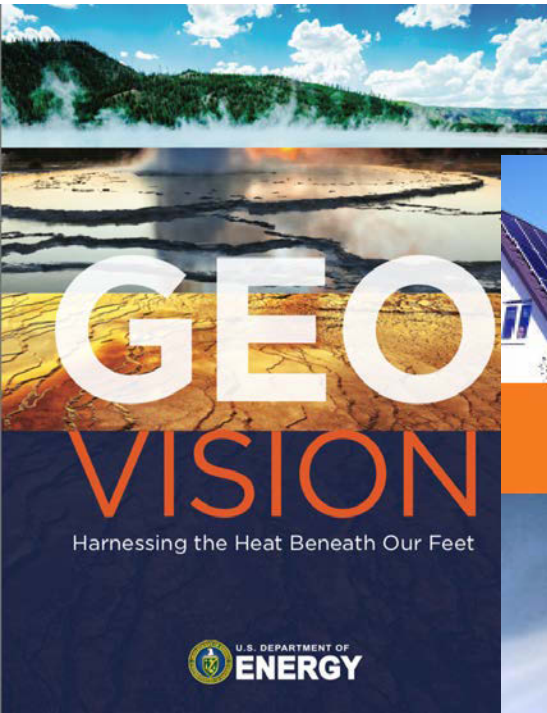
Blade-resolved simulations of whole wind plants

- Developing predictive capability to better understand complex fluid flow in wind plants with complex terrain, focus on turbine-turbine impacts, and address wind plant energy losses
- Growing fleet requires advanced sensors and simulation for improved reliability and energy security
- Inaccurate forecasts cost the industry \$300M+/yr
- Simulations of single blade-resolved turbine exceed current ESIF HPC capabilities

POTENTIAL IMPACT

Improve wind plant efficiency **4%** to generate **\$1 billion** in annual savings.

Technology vision studies



Wind Vision: A New Era for Wind Power in the United States



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Nuclear-Renewable Hybrid Energy Systems

NREL and Idaho National Lab (INL) lead innovative analysis on nuclear and renewable energy and how they work together to decarbonize energy systems, including:

- System configurations
- Operations
- Product options (heat, power, fuels)
- Value streams
- Economics & investment

Sources:

Ruth, Mark, et al, *The Economic Potential of Nuclear-Renewable Hybrid Energy Systems Producing Hydrogen*, 2017, NREL/TP-6A50-66764.

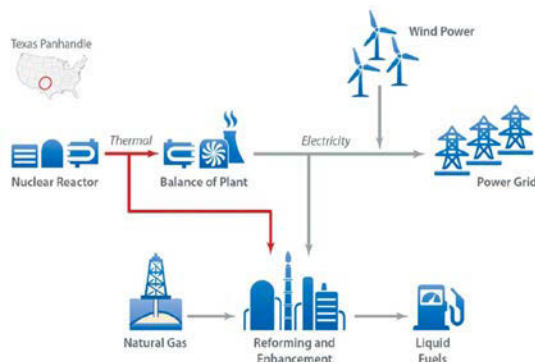
<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy17osti/66764.pdf>

The Economic Potential of Three Nuclear-Renewable Hybrid Energy Systems Providing Thermal Energy to Industry, 2016, NREL/TP-6A50-66745.

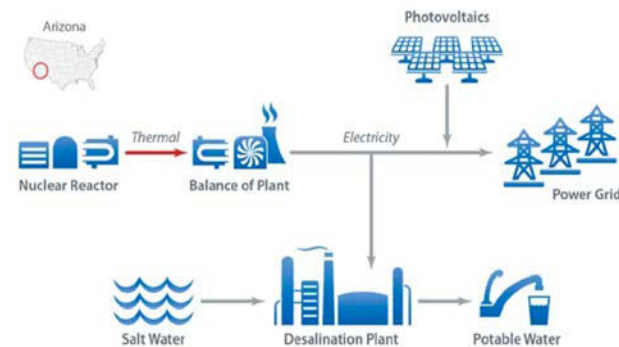
<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy17osti/66745.pdf>

The Economic Potential of Two Nuclear-Renewable Hybrid Energy Systems, 2016, NREL/TP-6A50-66073. <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy16osti/66073.pdf>

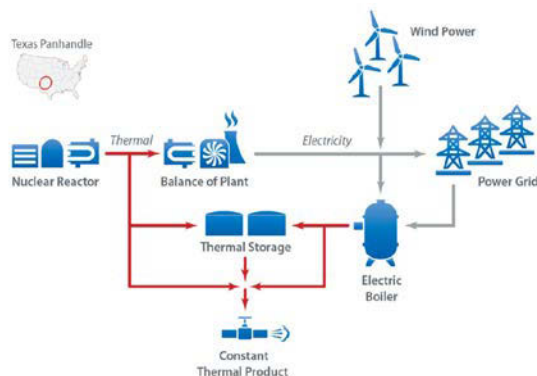
Liquid Transportation Fuels



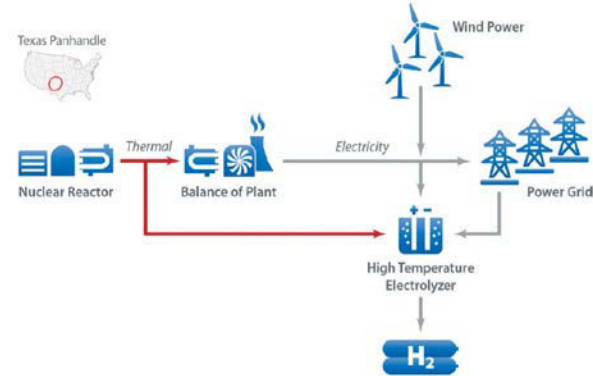
Reverse Osmosis Desalination



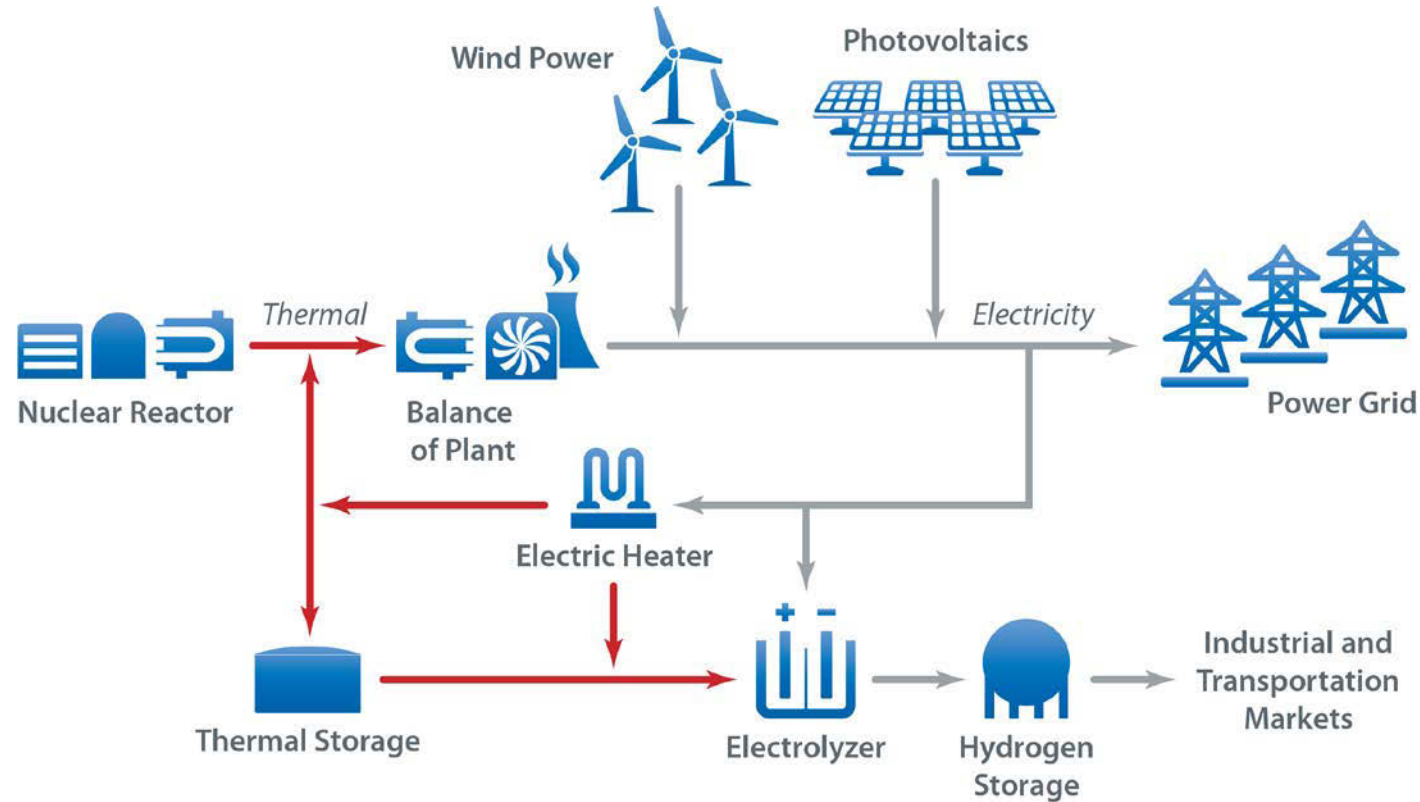
Thermal Energy in an Industrial Park



Hydrogen Production

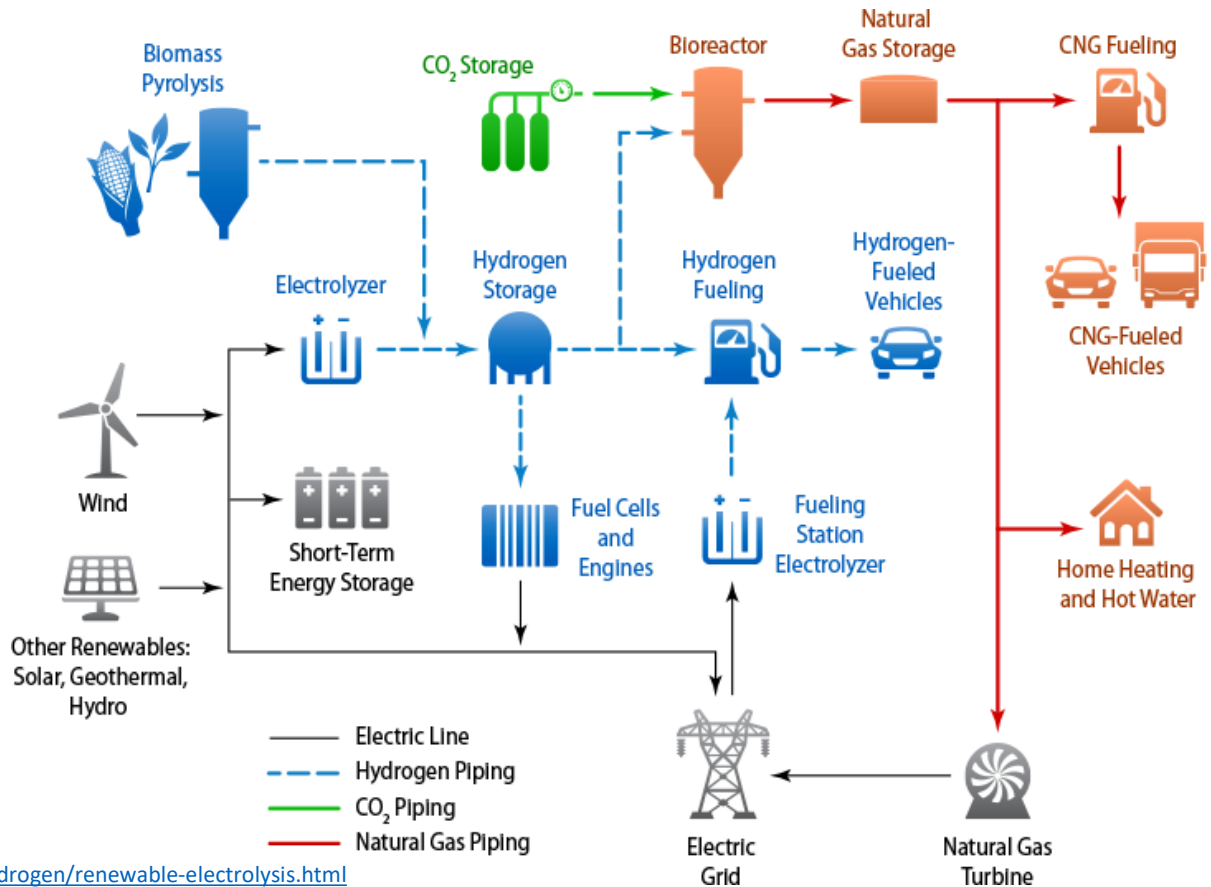


Renewable-nuclear hybrid energy solutions



Source: Ruth, Mark, et al, 2016. The Economic Potential of Two Nuclear-Renewable Hybrid Energy Systems, NREL/TP-6A50- 66073. <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy16osti/66073.pdf>

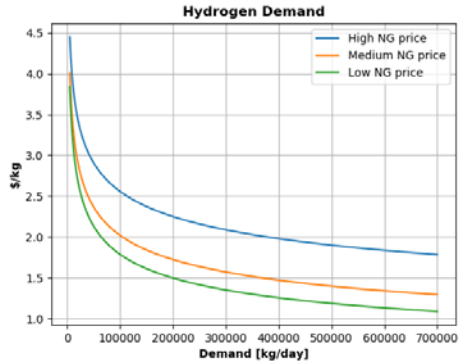
Integration of renewable & carbon capture systems



Source: <https://www.nrel.gov/hydrogen/renewable-electrolysis.html>

Nuclear-hydrogen System Cross-Sectoral Analysis

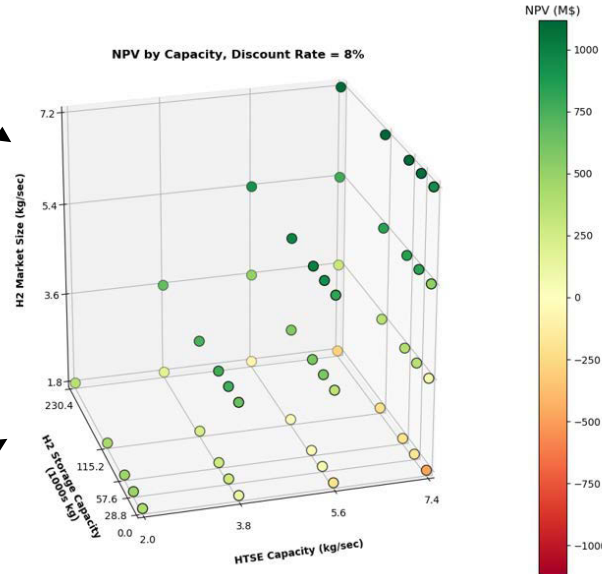
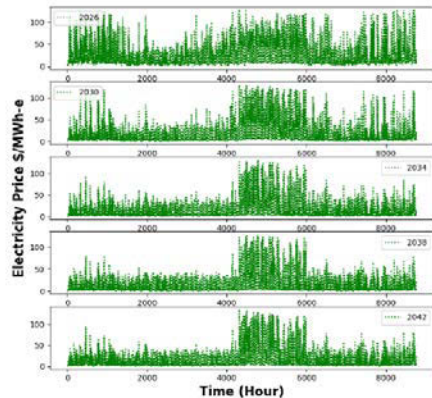
H₂ Market Assessment



Design and optimization (both capital and operating) for a hybrid nuclear-H₂ system to maximize profitability

Electricity Price Estimation

PJM Market Pricing



Findings (so far):

- 3 variables: H₂ market size, H₂ storage capacity, electrolyzer size
- Profitability depends on:
 - hydrogen vs. electricity market prices
 - Aligning electrolyzer size with H₂ demand
 - Proper sizing of H₂ storage
- Nuclear power plants have the *potential* to substantially increase current profit margins by hybridizing and producing H₂

Techno-economic Analysis and Net Present Value (NPV)

Source: Frick et al. "Evaluation of Hydrogen Production Feasibility for a Light Water Reactor in the Midwest" (2019). https://indigitalibrary.inl.gov/sites/sti/sti/Sort_18785.pdf

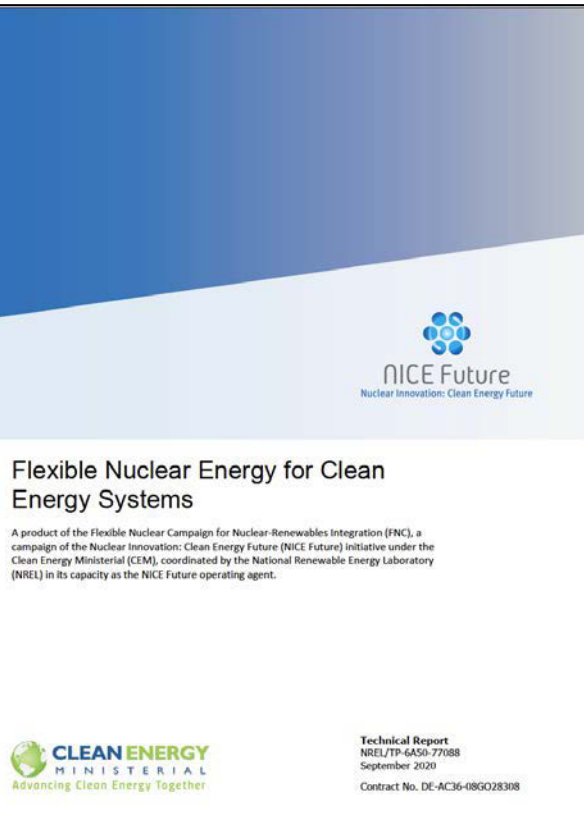
Flexible Nuclear Energy for Clean Energy Systems



- The purpose of the NICE Future initiative and Flexible Nuclear Campaign is to pool international experience with continued advancements in nuclear technologies and share this experience with the broader CEM community.
- The Flexible Nuclear Campaign is an exploration of the potential for nuclear to fit into an energy system to create a clean-energy future that will sustain the planet and allow its citizens to thrive.
- Development of a technical report engaged experts from nine ministries, five multi-governmental organizations, and 14 other organizations.



- Full report available at <https://www.nice-future.org/flexible-nuclear-energy-clean-energy-systems>



Key Findings: Flexible Nuclear Energy for Clean Energy Systems

Nuclear Energy Flexibility: *“The ability of nuclear energy generation to economically provide energy services at the time and location they are needed by end-users. These energy services can include both electric and non-electric applications utilizing both traditional and advanced nuclear power plants and integrated systems.”*

- **Operational flexibility:** There is an established body of knowledge surrounding current sources of flexible nuclear energy and its constraints.
- **Product flexibility:** Innovation can increase the flexibility of existing nuclear reactors to produce both clean electricity and beneficial non-electric products.
- **Deployment flexibility:** Advanced reactors will present even more opportunities for flexibility in nuclear systems at various scales.

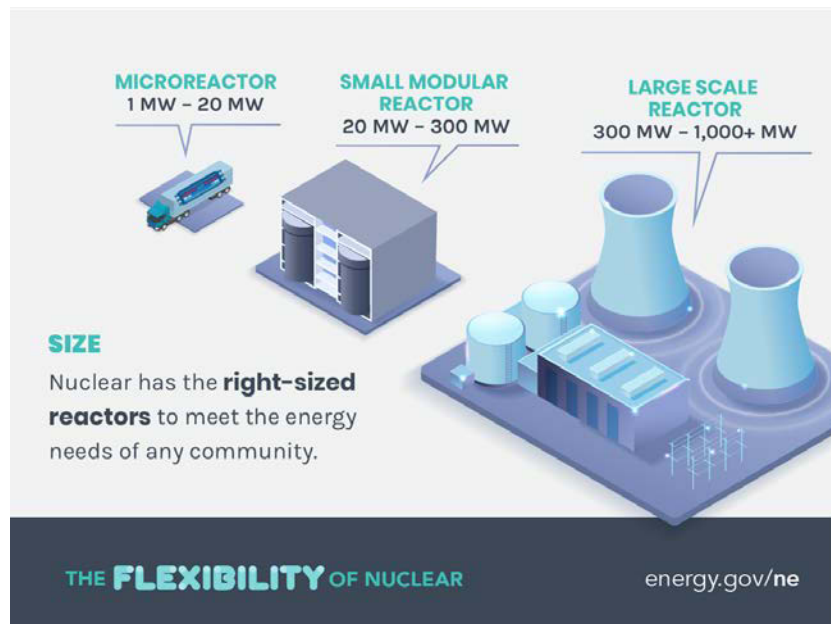
Nuclear flexibility can enable other clean energy generators.

<https://www.nice-future.org/flexible-nuclear-energy-clean-energy-systems>



FLEXIBLE NUCLEAR CAMPAIGN
FOR NUCLEAR-RENEWABLES INTEGRATION

A CAMPAIGN OF THE CLEAN ENERGY MINISTERIAL



Reimagining Nuclear-Renewable Systems with Innovation



Integrated
nuclear-
renewables

Desalination for
drinking water

Process heat

Flexible
electricity grids

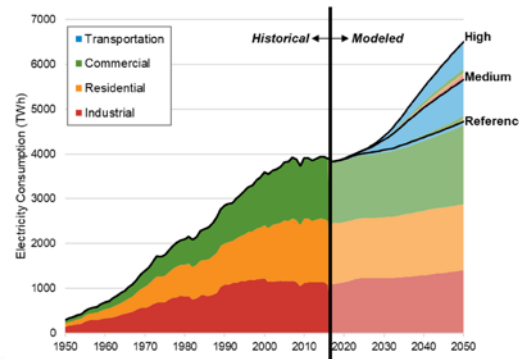
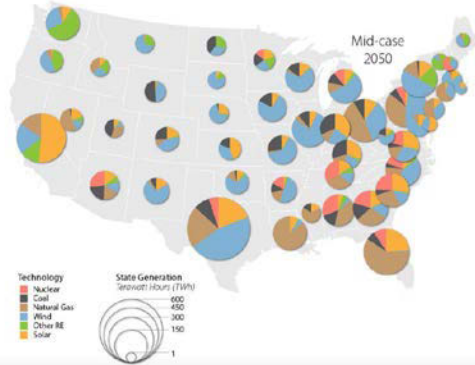
Hydrogen
production and
energy storage

Advanced smart
designs
(SMRs/Gen IV)

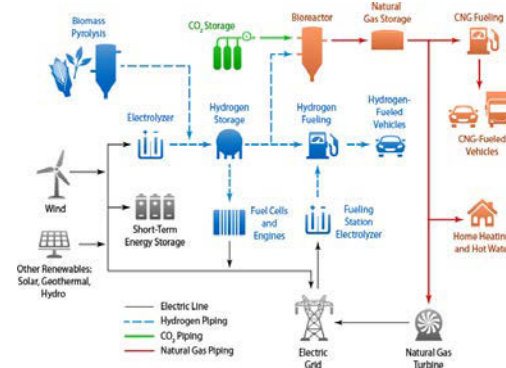
Nuclear waste
reduction

Images courtesy of GAIN and Third Way, inspired by the *Nuclear Energy Reimagined* concept led by INL. Source: thirdway.org/blog/nuclear-reimagined

Conclusions and Discussion



- Trend is toward cleaner and lower cost energy (renewables and gas) that is more distributed
- Potential for increased electrification resulting in higher demand for power
- Renewable and other clean energy technologies can be enhanced when considered as a system with power, heat, fuels
- Renewable and nuclear power hybrids could enable a low-emissions future, but need research and demonstration of flexible operations



Thank you! Questions?

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