



Overview of NREL's Regional Energy Deployment System (ReEDS) Planning Model

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MCCC Energy Resilience & Efficiency WG
June 18, 2024



National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

One of 17 national laboratories. Dedicated to renewable energy research and analysis.

Outline

1 Background

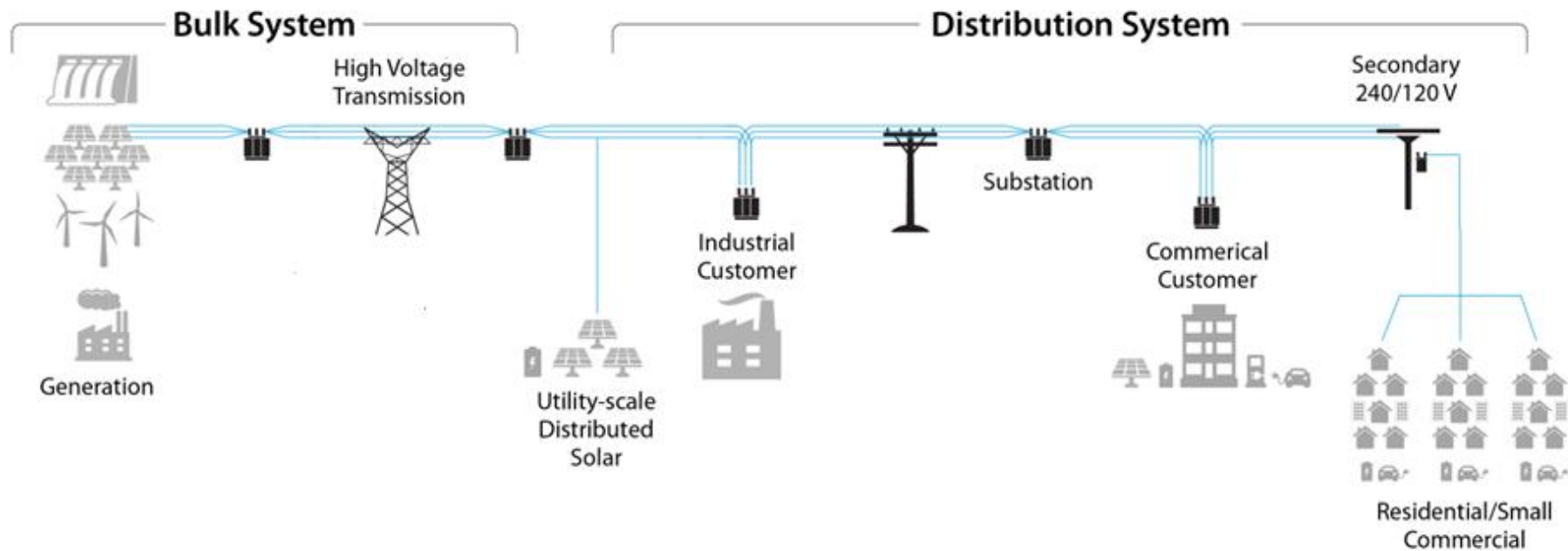
2 Regional Energy Deployment System (ReEDS)

3 The Electrification Futures Study

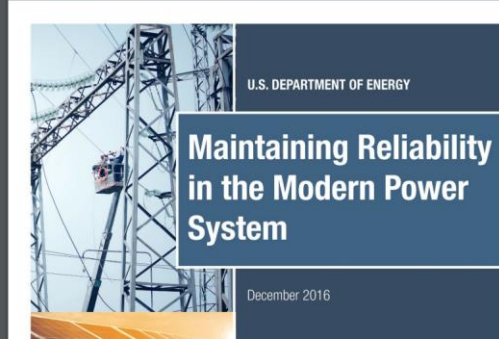
4 Q&A

Background

Focus: “Bulk” transmission and generation system

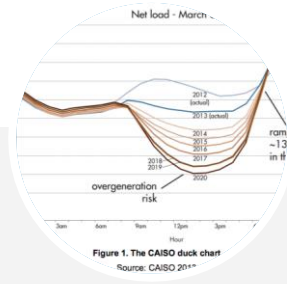


Four Pillars of Power System Reliability



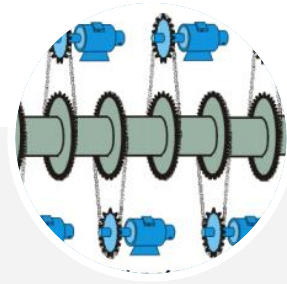
Capacity

Power generation and transmission capacity must be sufficient to meet peak demand for electricity.



Flexibility

Power systems must have adequate flexibility to address variability and uncertainty in demand (load) and generation resources.



Frequency

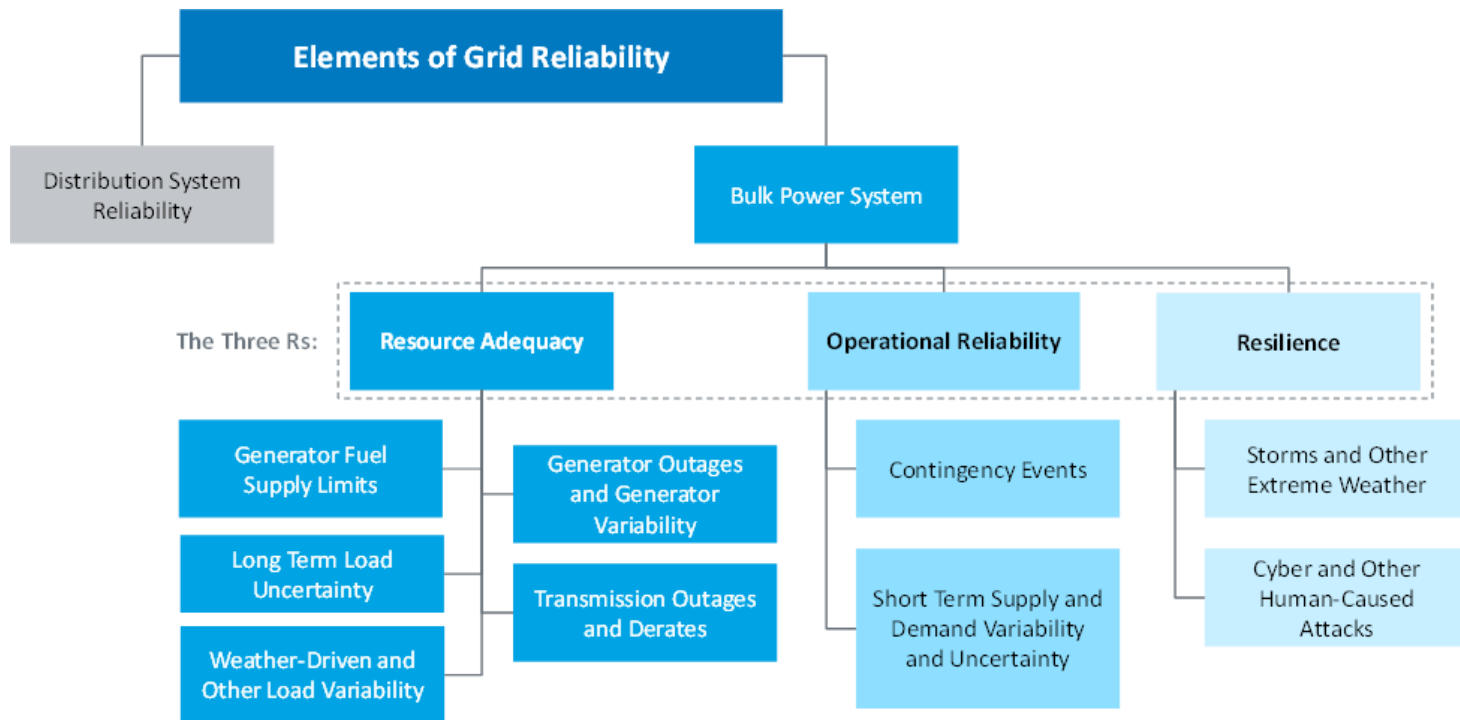
Power systems must be able to maintain steady frequency.



Voltage

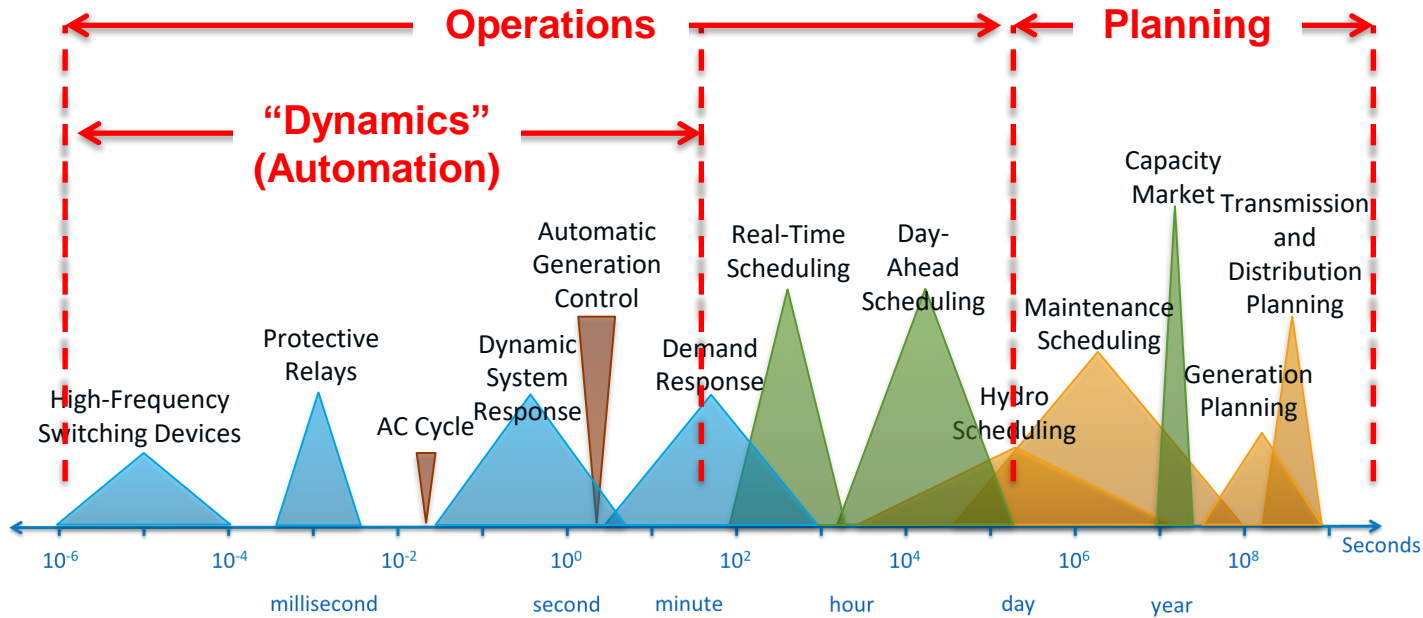
Power systems must be able to maintain voltage within an acceptable range.

Many elements of grid reliability



Relevant grid decision timescales

span 15 orders of magnitude



Adapted from A. Von Meier

This presentation focuses on resource planning

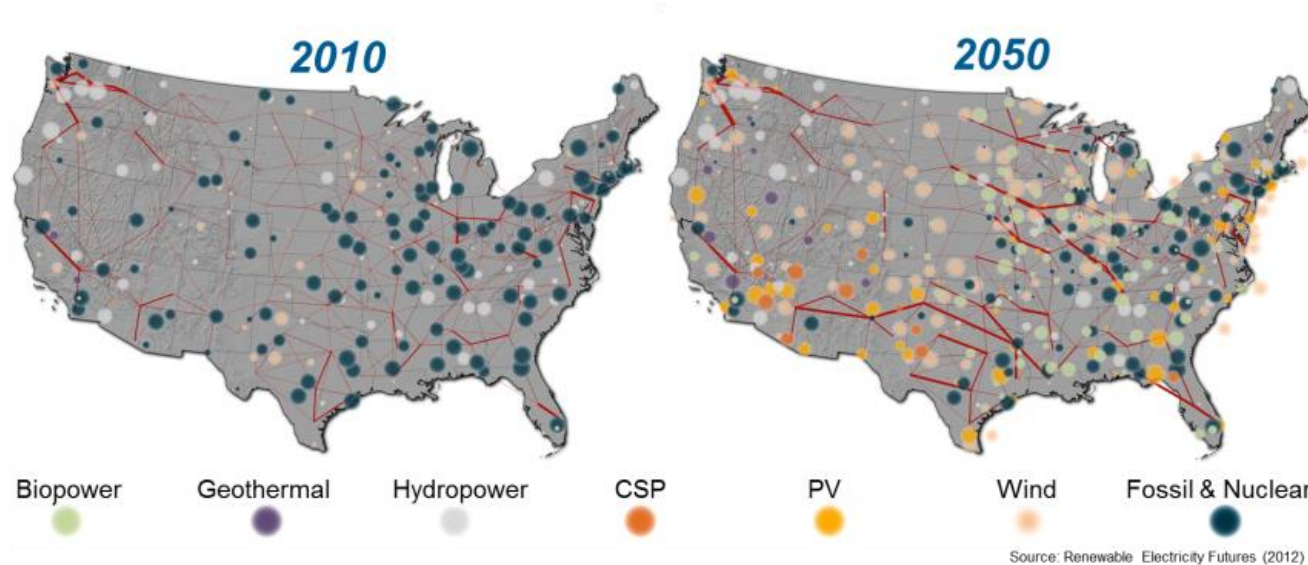
Regional Energy Deployment System

www.nrel.gov/analysis/reeds



ReEDS

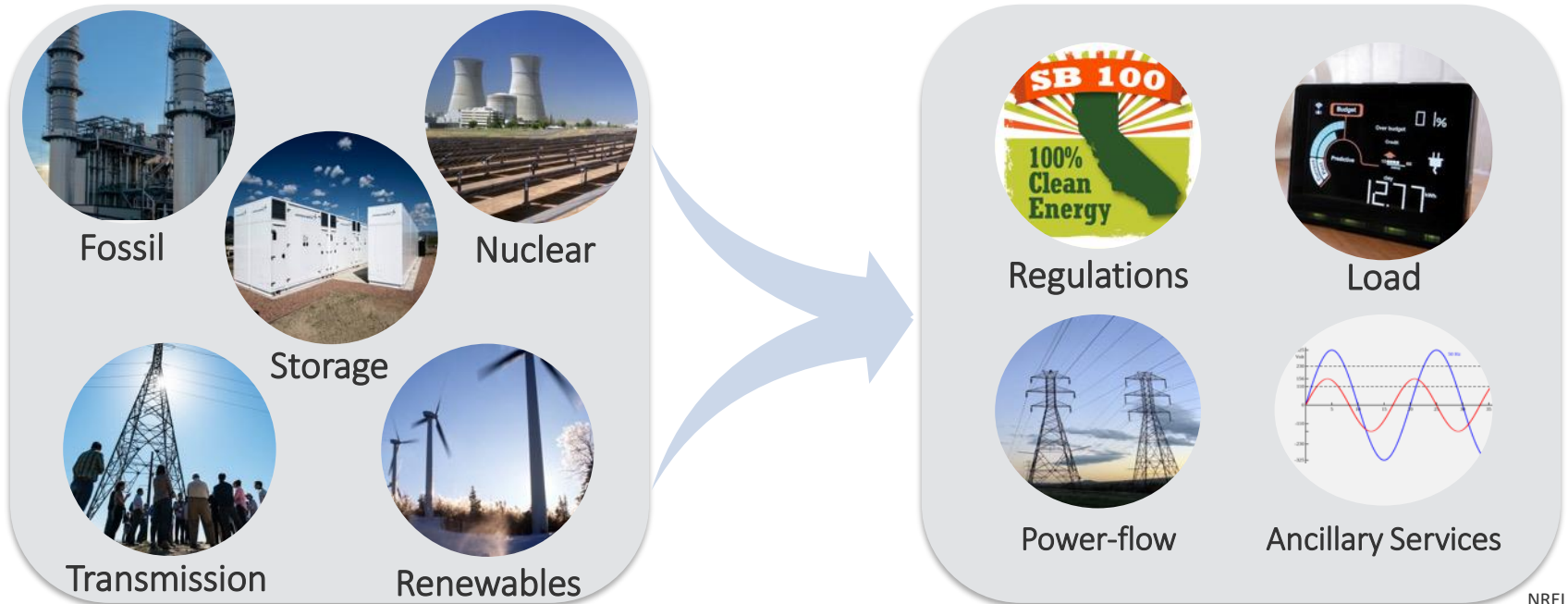
What does ReEDS do?



Given a set of input assumptions, ReEDS simulates the evolution and operation of US generation, storage, transmission, and some carbon mitigation technologies

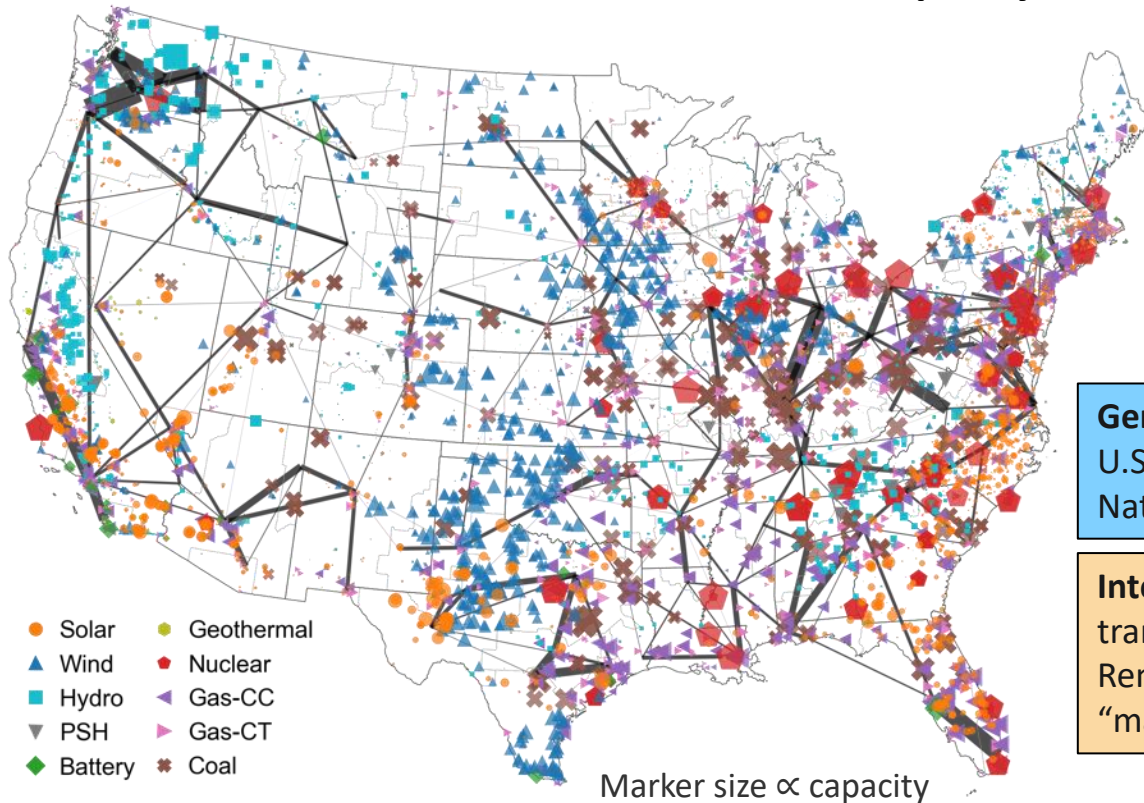
How does ReEDS work?

ReEDS uses **optimization** to identify the **least cost investment and operation** of grid assets that simultaneously meets load, all other electricity service requirements, and other physical, environmental, or policy constraints.



The starting point: Existing and Planned Capacity

2022 Generation and Transmission Capacity



eia U.S. Energy Information Administration

<https://www.eia.gov/outlooks/aeo/>

Generation capacity based on data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) National Energy Modeling System (NEMS)

Interface transmission limits derived from transmission data from The North American Renewable Integration Study (NARIS) using a “maximum potential flow” optimization

ReEDS: Nationwide capacity expansion modeling

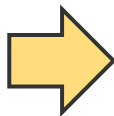
ReEDS co-optimizes generation, transmission, and storage capacity & operations to meet demand at least possible cost under many policy and physical constraints

Inputs

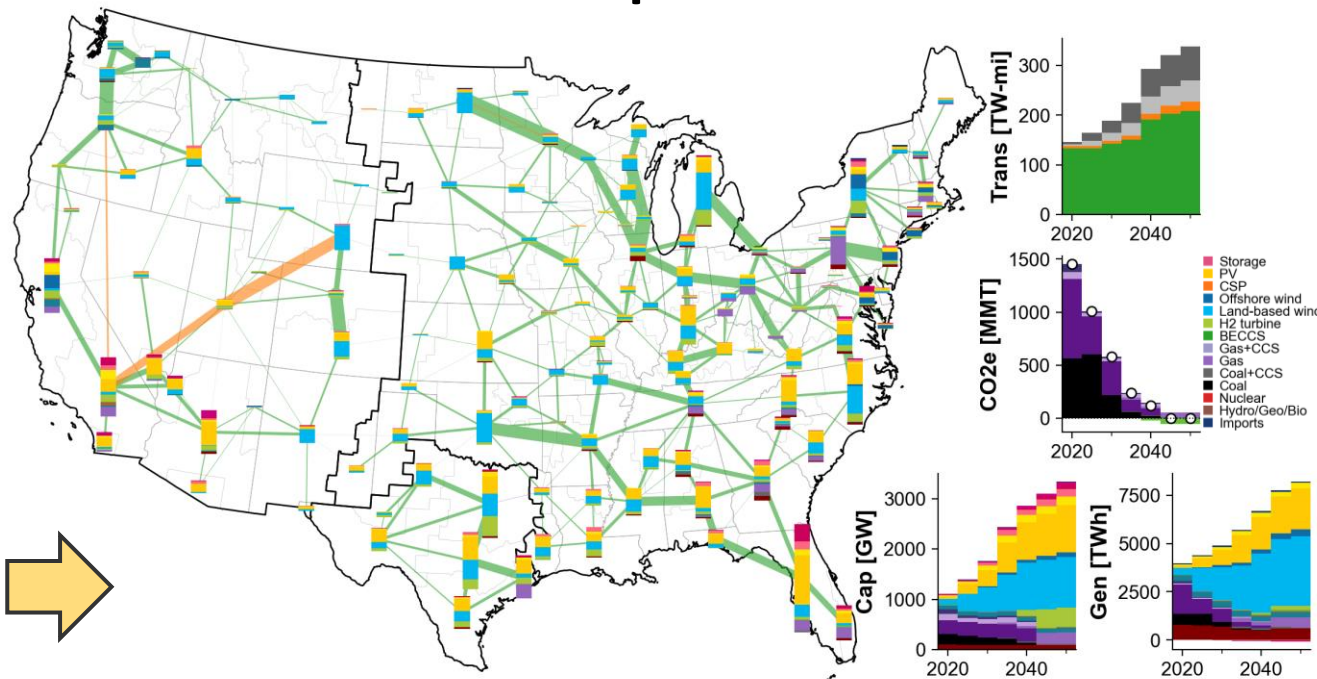
- RE resource and land availability
- Demand (hourly) projections
- Technology availability
- Cost projections
- Federal and state policies
- Transmission representation



ReEDS



Outputs

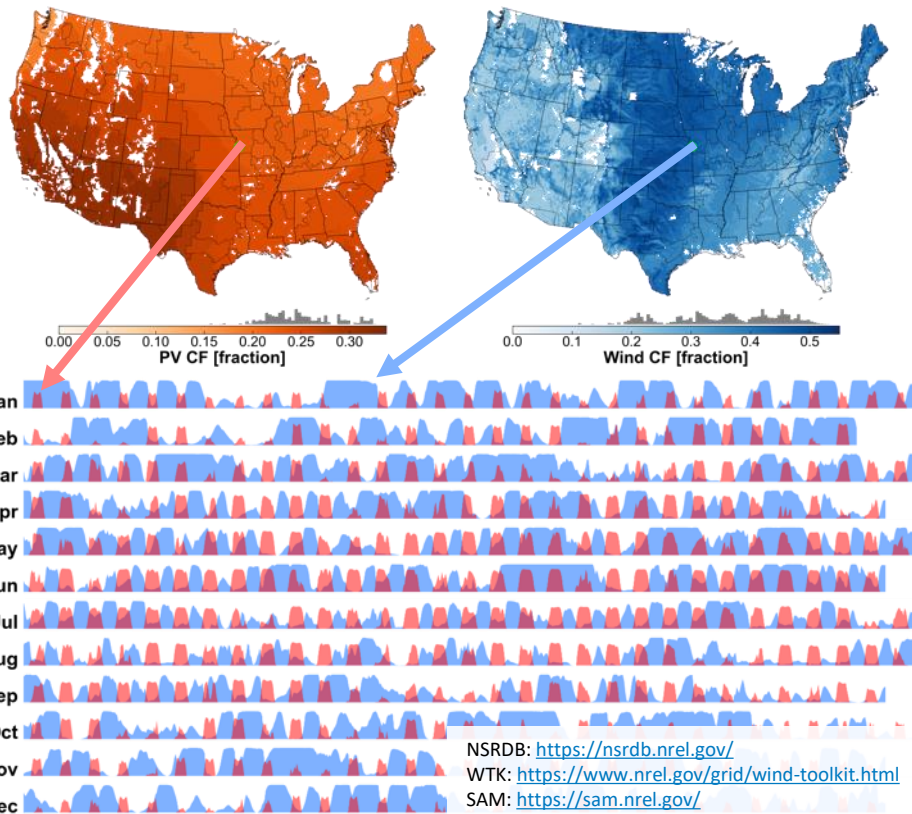


Key inputs: Renewable Resource Availability

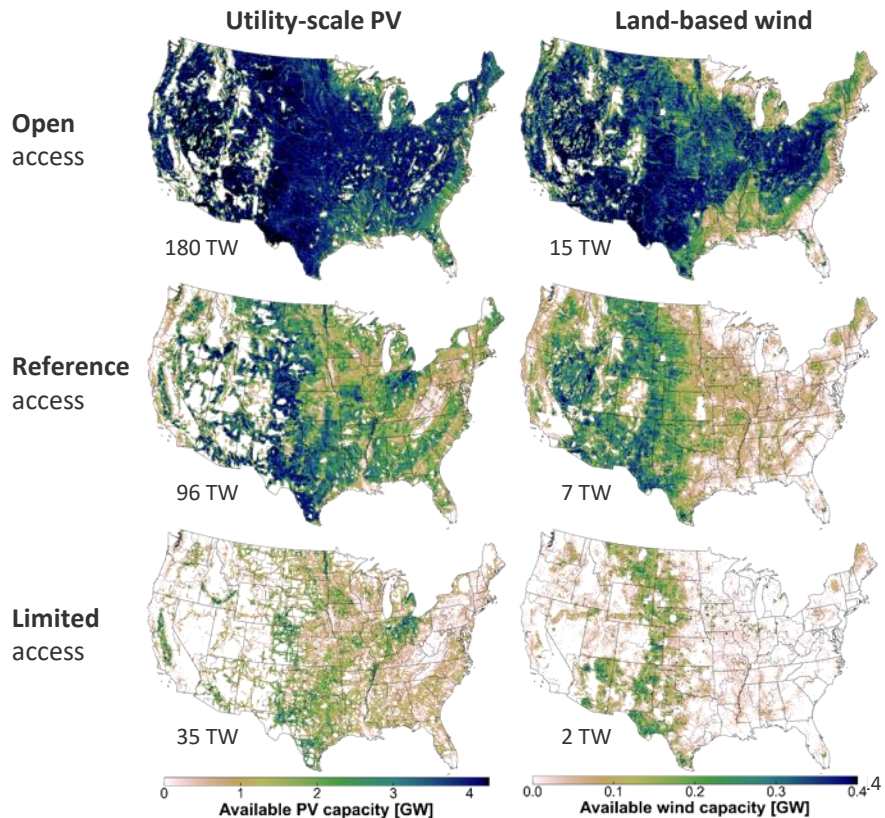


<https://github.com/NREL/rev>

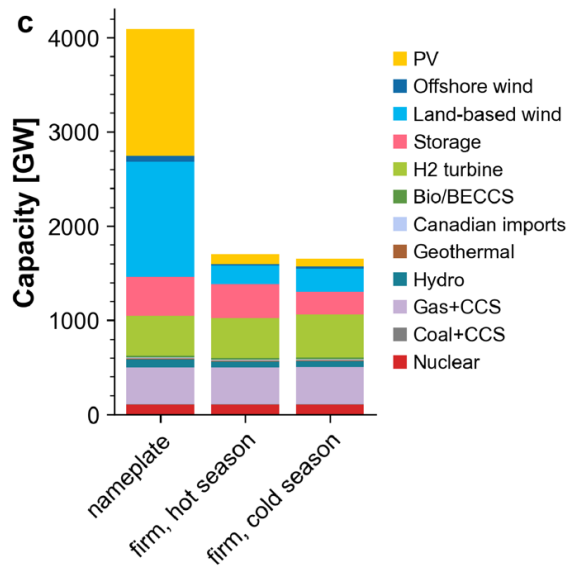
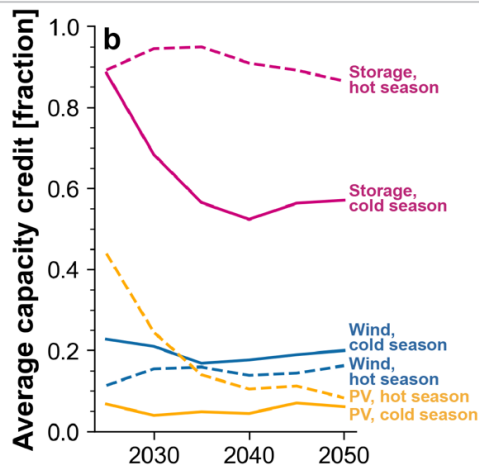
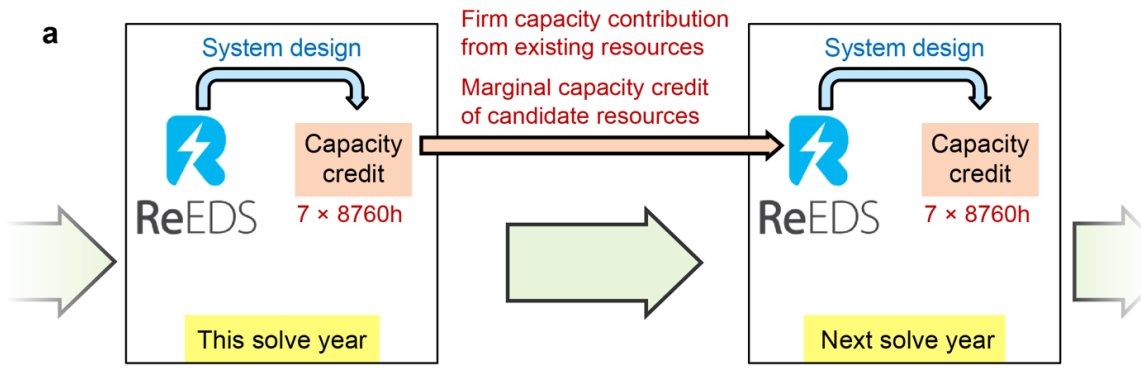
Temporal availability



Spatial availability

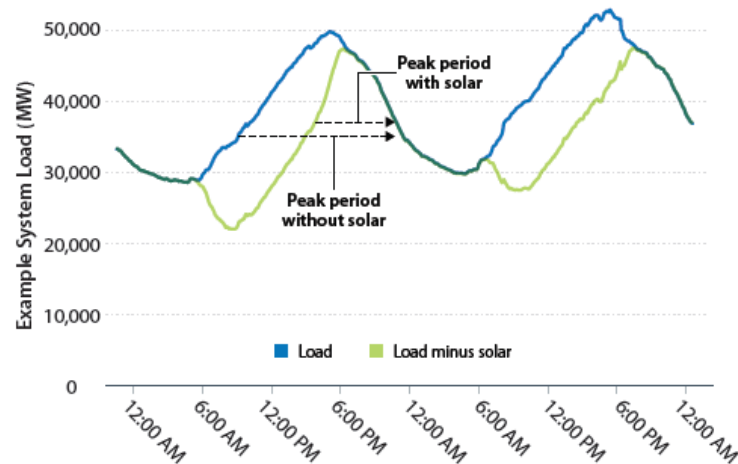
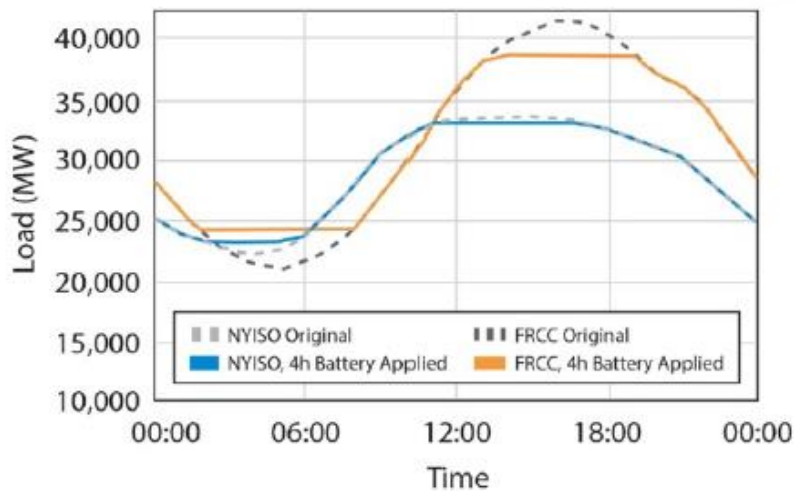


Extra attention to Resource Adequacy



+ integration with
[Probabilistic Resource Adequacy Suite \(PRAS\)](#)

Account for dynamically changing and complex relationships between technologies and demand

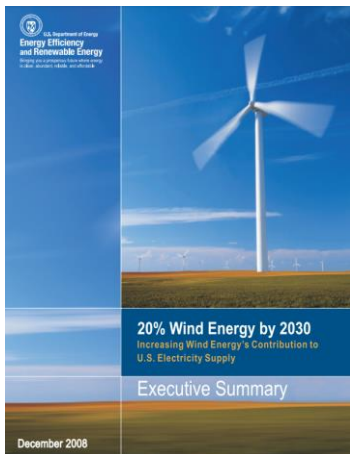


NREL 2024, <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy24osti/87298.pdf>

Denholm et al. 2019, <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy19osti/74184.pdf>

Identifying decarbonization pathways for the electric sector

**20% wind
by 2030**

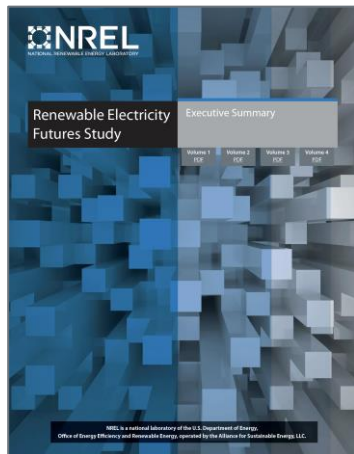


**20% Wind Study
(2008)**

<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy08osti/41869.pdf>



**80% renewable
by 2050**

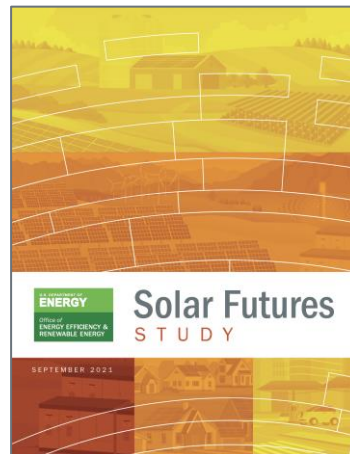


**Renewable Electricity
Futures Study (2012)**

<https://www.osti.gov/servlets/purl/1338443/>



**Zero-carbon
by 2050**

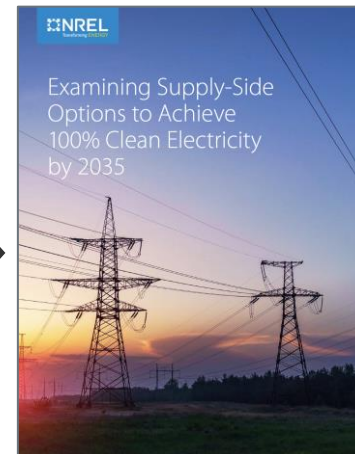


**Solar Futures Study
(2021)**

<https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2021-09/Solar%20Futures%20Study.pdf>



**Zero-carbon
by 2035**



**100% Clean Energy by
2035 Study (2022)**

<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy22osti/81644.pdf>

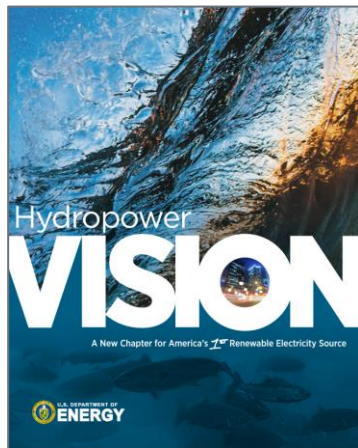
Exploring impacts of technology innovation

Wind Vision (2015)



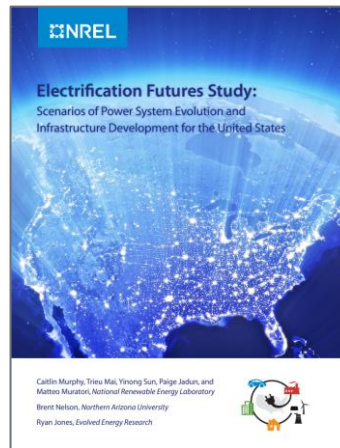
https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/wv_executive_summary_overview_and_key_chapter_findings_final.pdf

Hydropower Vision (2016)



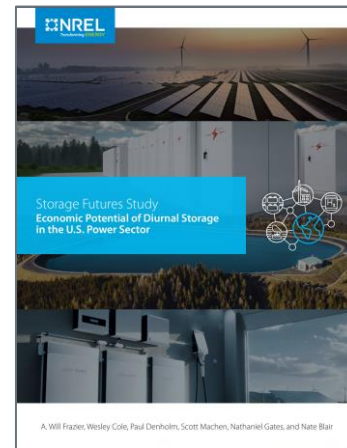
<https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2018/02/f49/Hydropower-Vision-021518.pdf>

Electrification Futures (2021)



<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy21osti/72330.pdf>

Storage Futures (2021)



<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy21osti/77449.pdf>

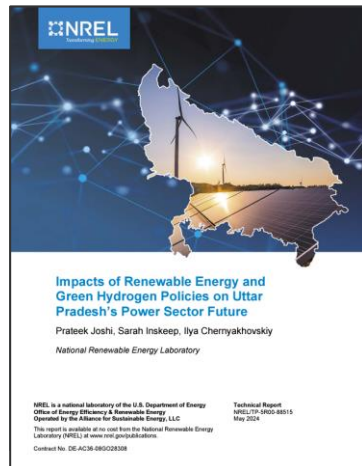
Informing utility and regional planning

Duke Energy (2022)



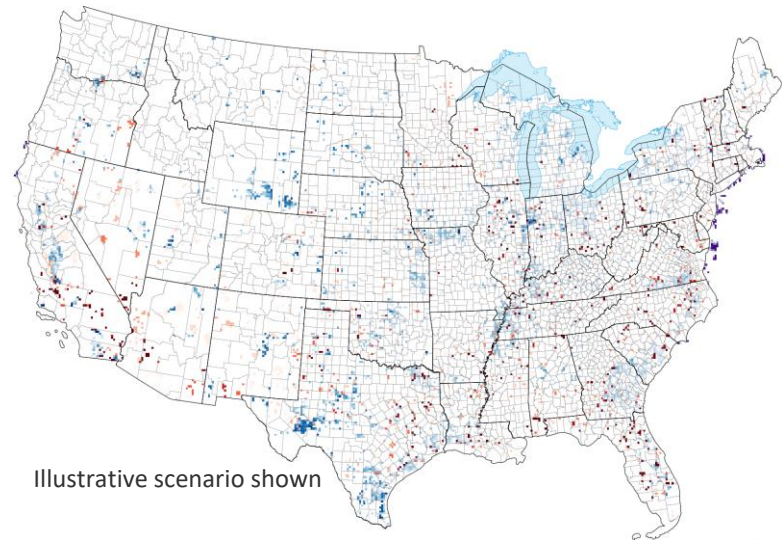
<https://www.nrel.gov/grid/carbon-free-integration-study.html>

India State Analysis (2024)

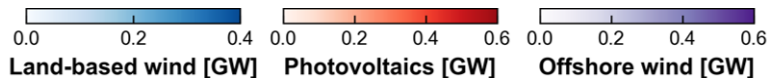


<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy24osti/88515.pdf>

Newly enabled county-level resolution



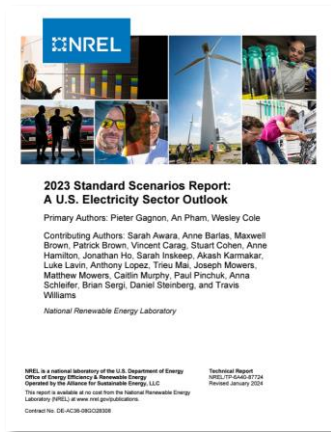
Illustrative scenario shown



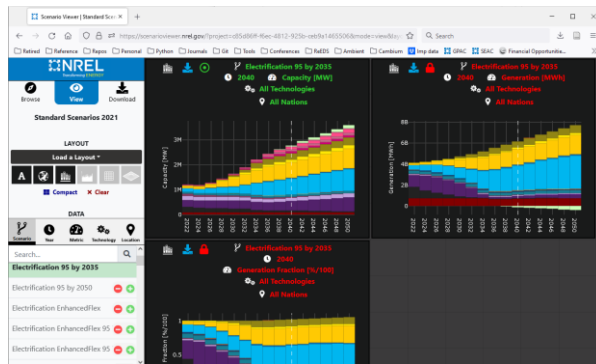
+ several other examples (ERCOT, ISO-NE, CAISO, BLM land)

2023 marks the 9th edition of a report on a wide range of possible futures for the U.S. electric sector

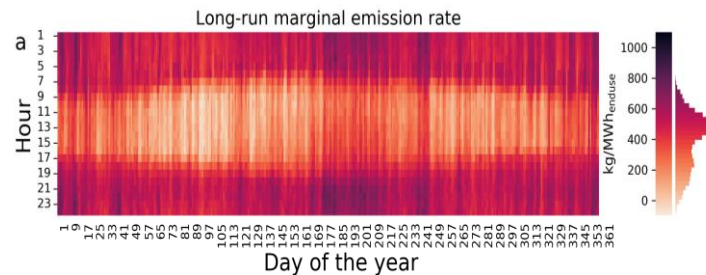
Report



Scenario Viewer and Downloader



Cambium Database
(hourly metrics for a subset of scenarios)



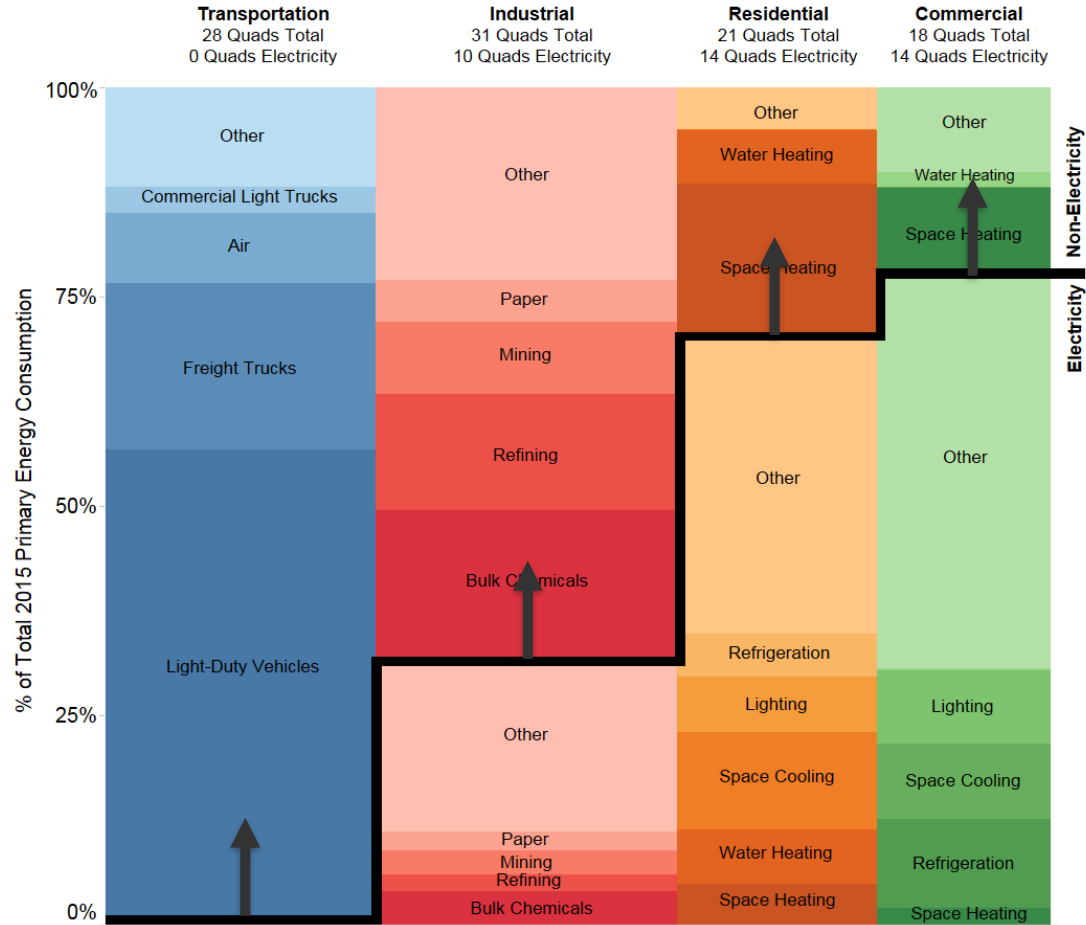
Electrification Futures Study

www.nrel.gov/efs

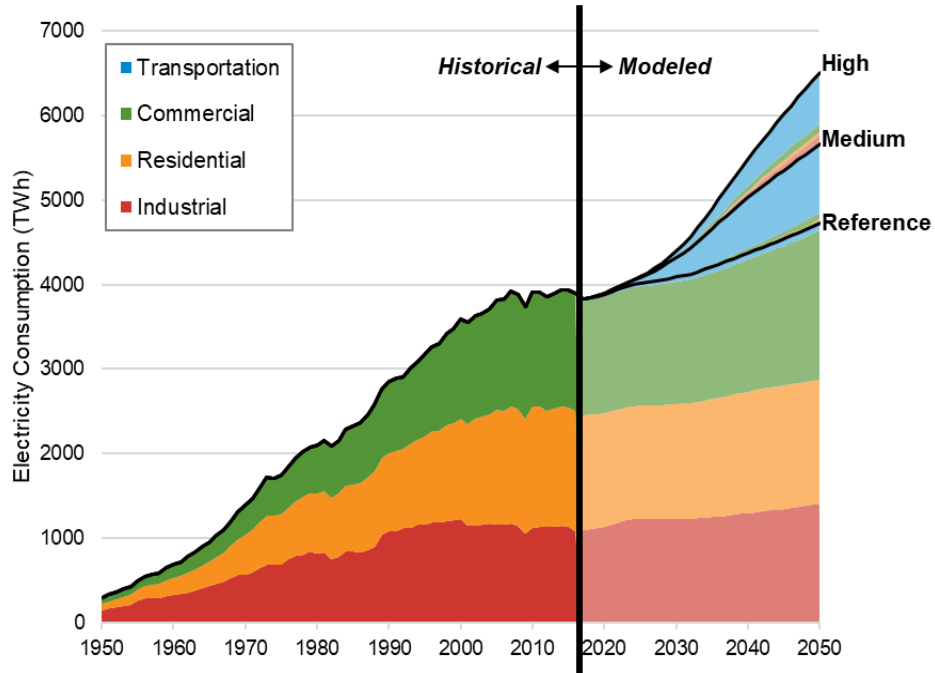


The Potential for Electrification

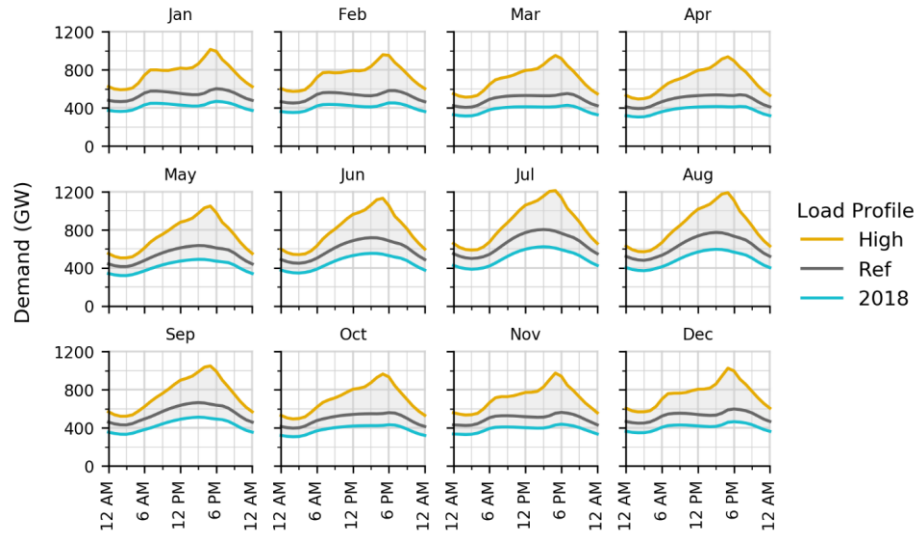
- **Electrification:** the shift from any non-electric source of energy to electricity at the point of final consumption
 - Direct electric technologies only
 - Not exploring new sources of demand
- **Contiguous U.S. energy system,** including transportation, residential and commercial buildings, industry
 - Sectors cover **74% of primary energy in 2015**
 - Did not consider electrification of air transport, petroleum refining and mining, CHP, outdoor cooking



Vehicle electrification dominates incremental growth in *annual* electricity demand

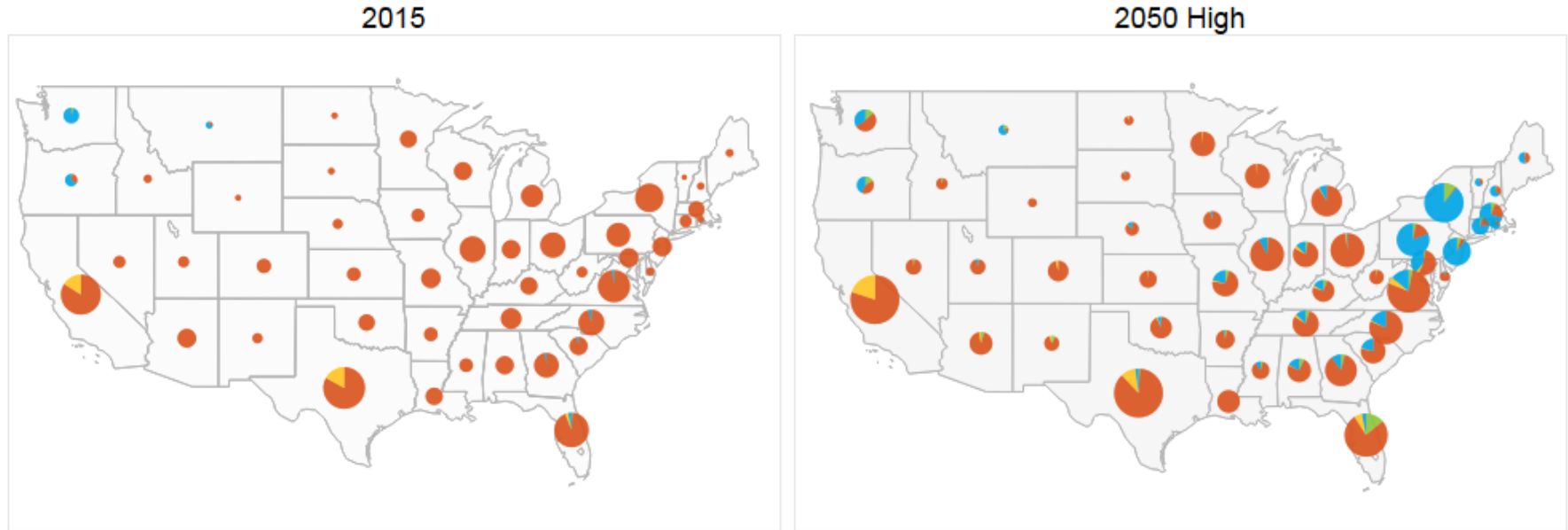


Greater electricity consumption

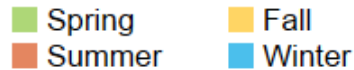


Possibly higher, sharper,
and more frequent peaks in 2050
(in the absence of demand flexibility)

Electric space heating has the most pronounced impact on the timing and magnitude of peak demand



Season



Peak Load (GW)

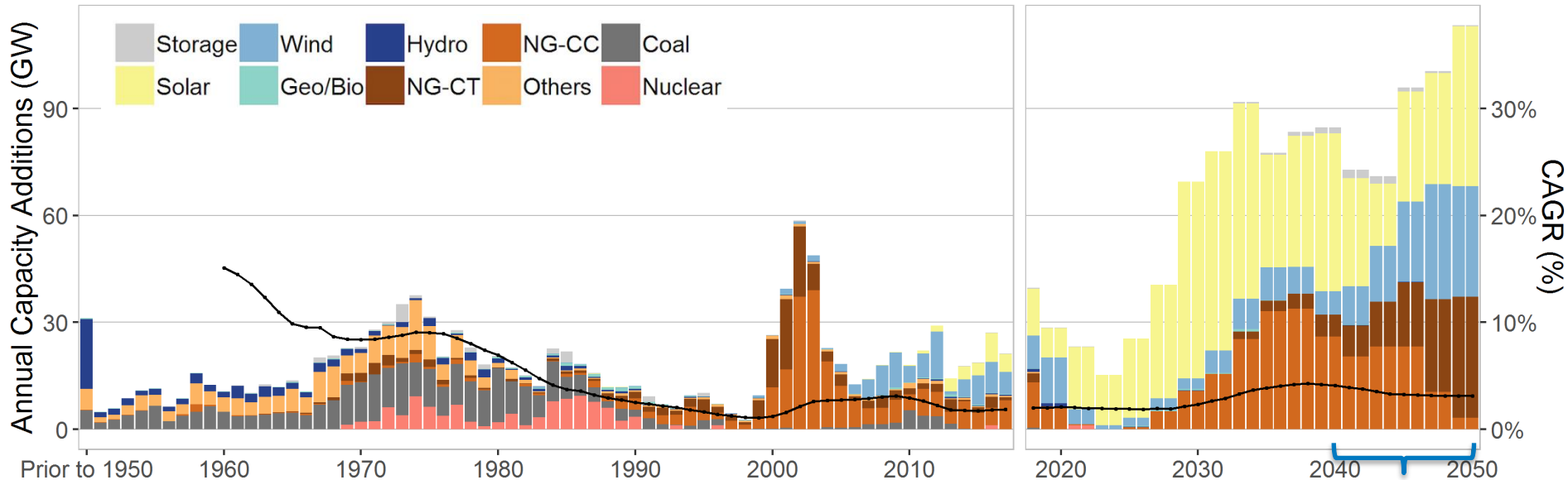


Note: Summer = June-August, Fall = September-November, Winter = December-February, Spring = March-May

Capacity: Electrification drives total installed capacity in 2050 to be 58% greater than 2018 levels

Historical

Modeled Data:
Base Case Scenario with High Electrification



Solar: ~30-45 GW/yr
 Natural Gas: ~35 GW/yr
 Wind: ~20 GW/yr
 even higher rates in some scenarios

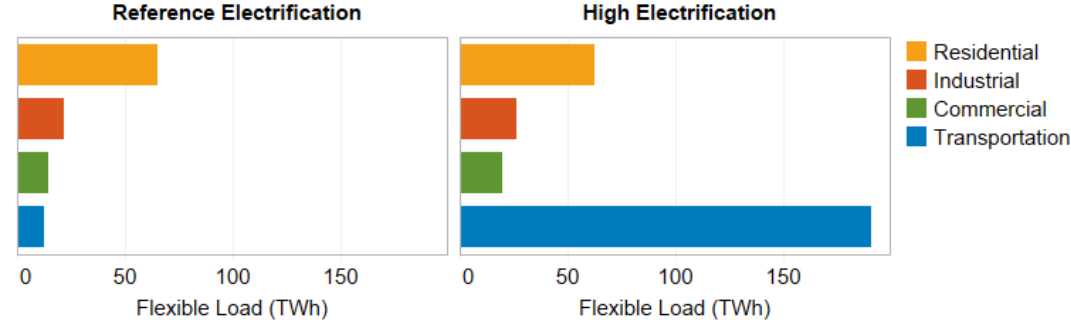
Modeling demand-side flexibility (DSF)

- 14 types of shiftable DSF across commercial, residential buildings, industrial, and transportation sectors are modeled for each modeled BA
- Parameterized by **timing, duration, participation, and capacity to increase and decrease**
- Amount and nature of flexibility depends on electrification, with greater potential for flexibility primarily from **optimized EV charging** but also managed **building and industrial** loads

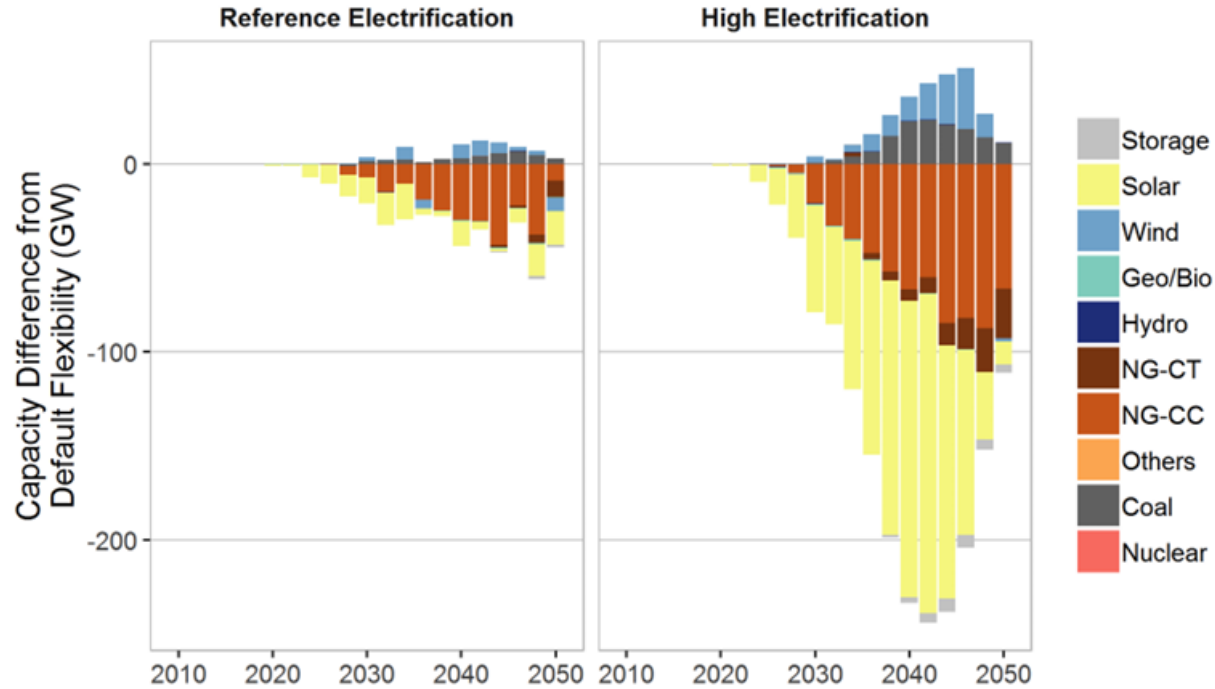
% of total 2050 load that is flexible:

0% Ref-NoFlex
2% Ref-LoFlex
7% Ref-HiFlex

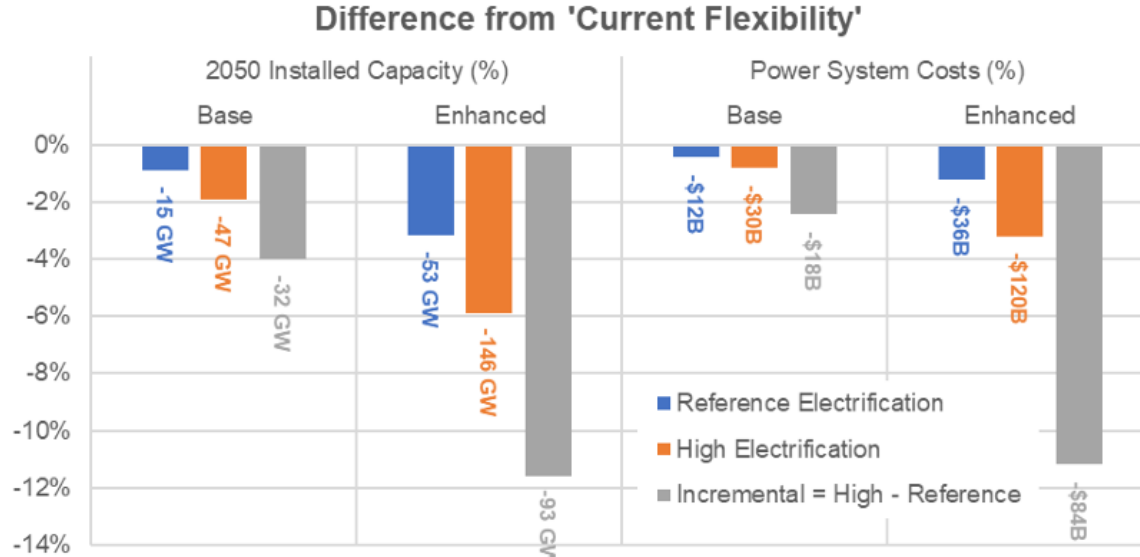
0% High-NoFlex | High-HiRE-NoFlex
4% High-LoFlex | High-HiRE-LoFlex
17% High-HiFlex | High-HiRE-HiFlex



Value of demand flexibility includes reducing future capacity needs (along with operating expenditures)

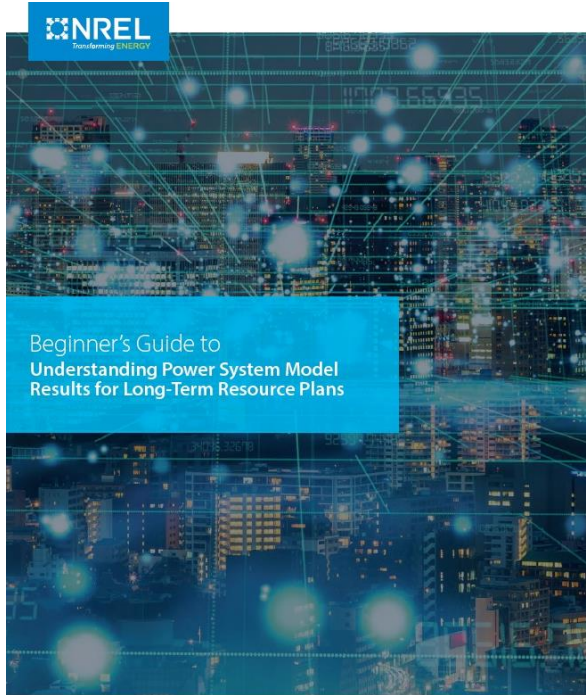


Value of demand flexibility includes reducing future capacity needs (along with operating expenditures)



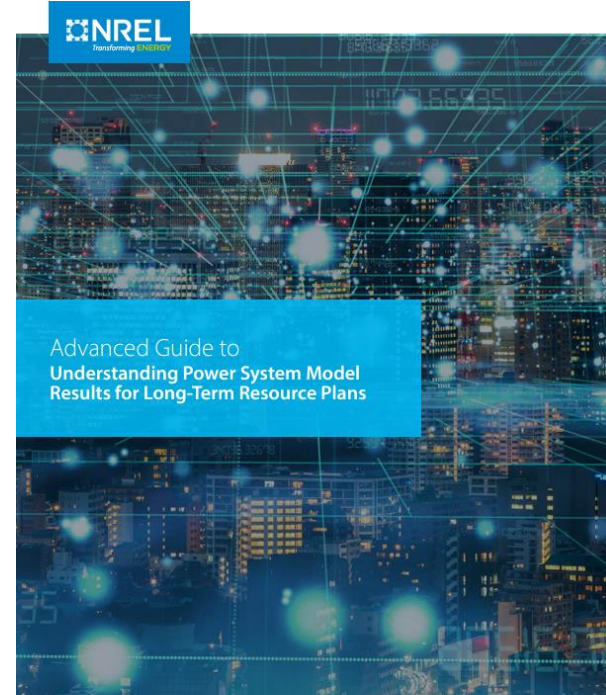
Levelized value of demand side flexibility estimated to be \$11-19/MWh

New resources to help improve decision-making in the electricity planning process by strengthening dialogue between system planners and relevant stakeholders



Wesley Cole, Caitlin Murphy, and Akash Karmakar
National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Golden, Colorado USA

<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy24osti/87105.pdf>



Wesley Cole, Caitlin Murphy, Luke Lavin, and Evan Savage
National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Golden, Colorado USA

<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy24osti/88337.pdf>

Thank you.

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www.nrel.gov

NREL is a national laboratory of the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, operated by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC.



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 - Mai et al. Forthcoming. “Incorporating Stressful Grid Conditions for Reliable and Cost-Effective Electricity System Planning”