



# Hydrogen Production: Fundamentals and Case Study Summaries

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**Aaron Hoskin**  
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**World Hydrogen Energy  
Conference**

**Essen, Germany**

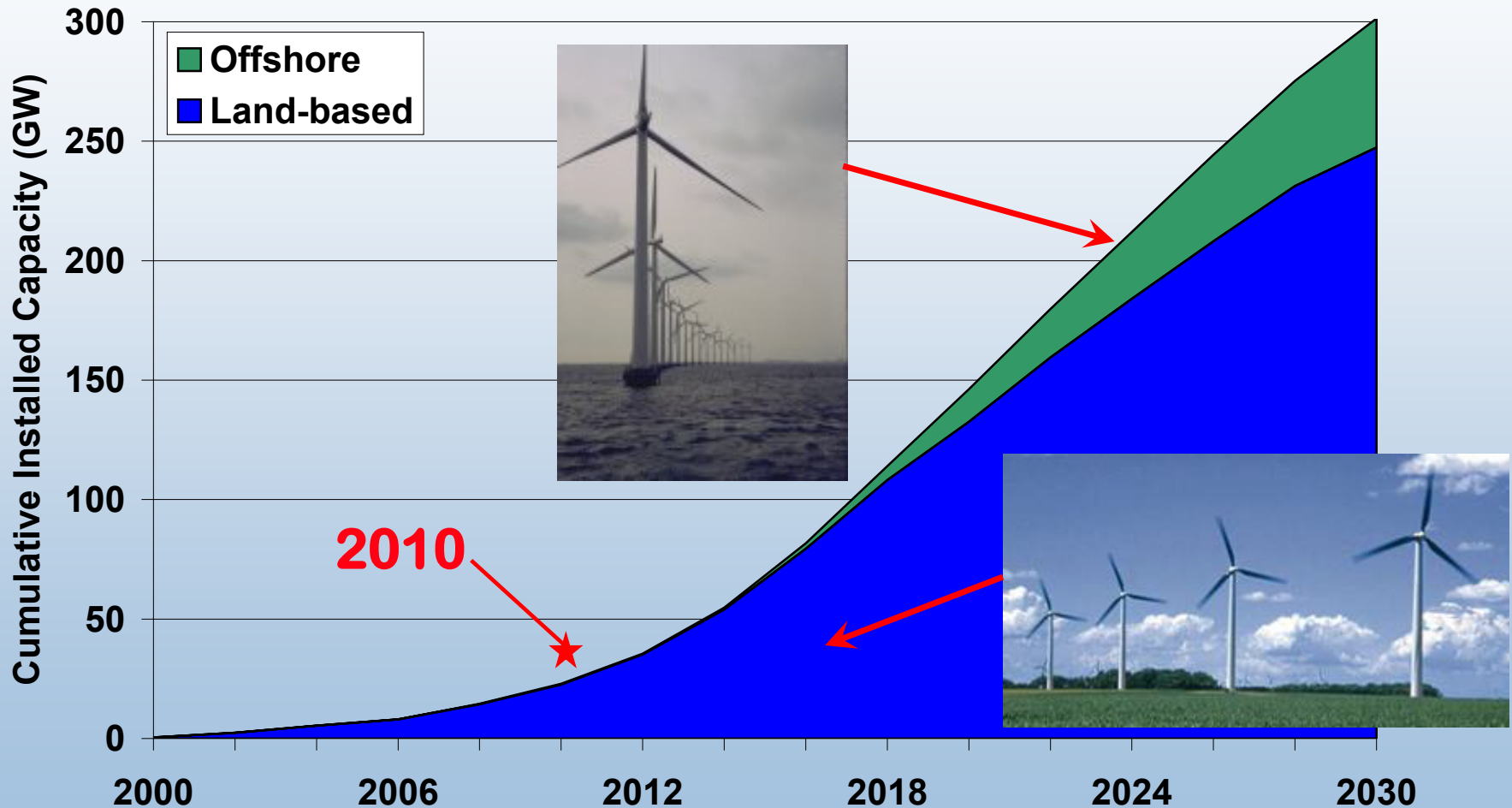
**May 19, 2010**



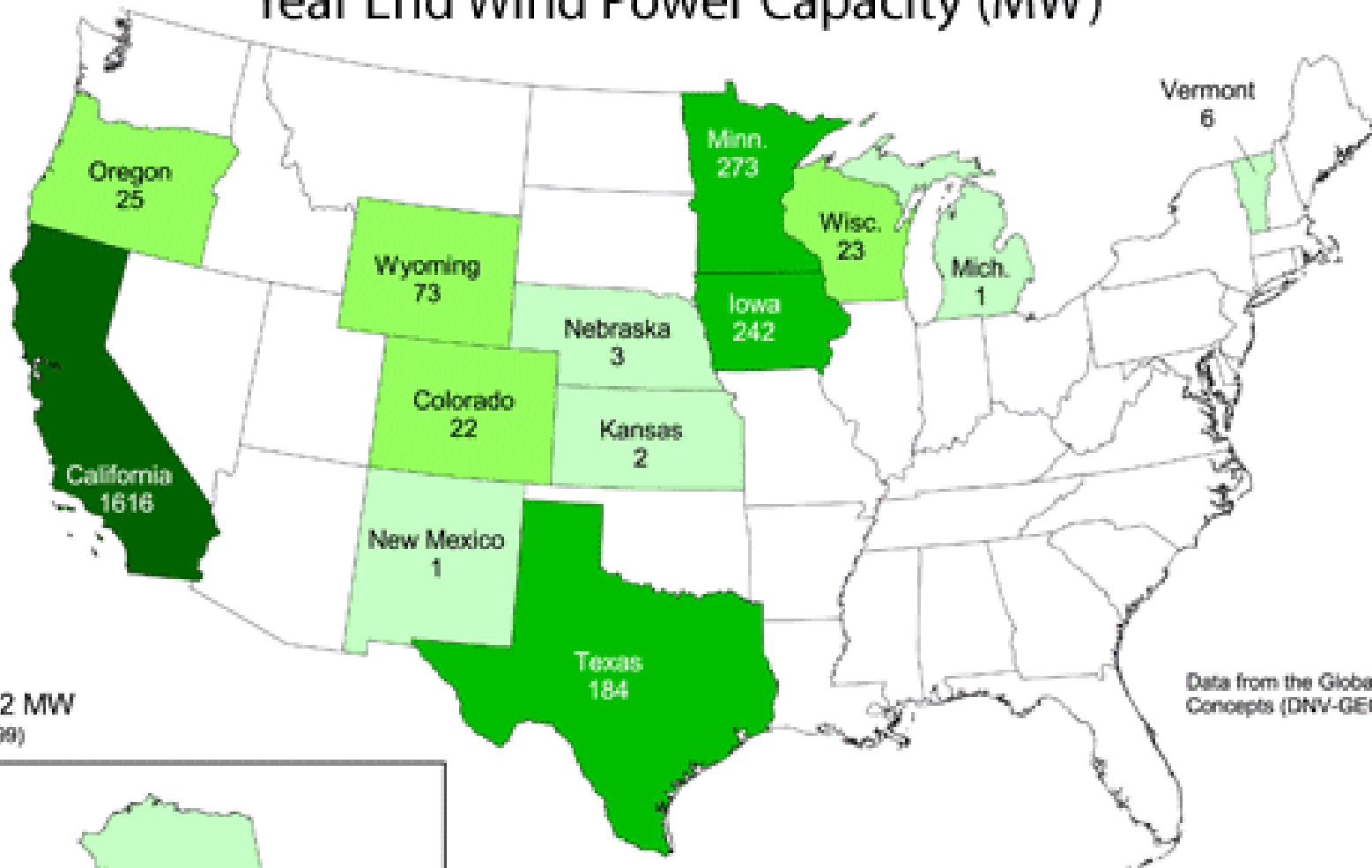
**NREL/PR-560-48269**

# 20% Wind by 2030 Scenario

As of December 31, 2009 - 34,863 MW of wind power have been installed across the United States.

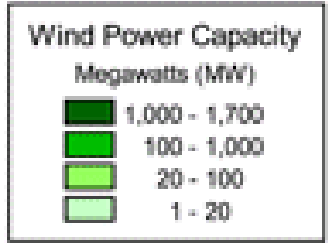


# 1999 Year End Wind Power Capacity (MW)



Data from the Global Energy Concepts (DNI-GEC) database.

Total: 2,472 MW  
(As of 12/31/1999)

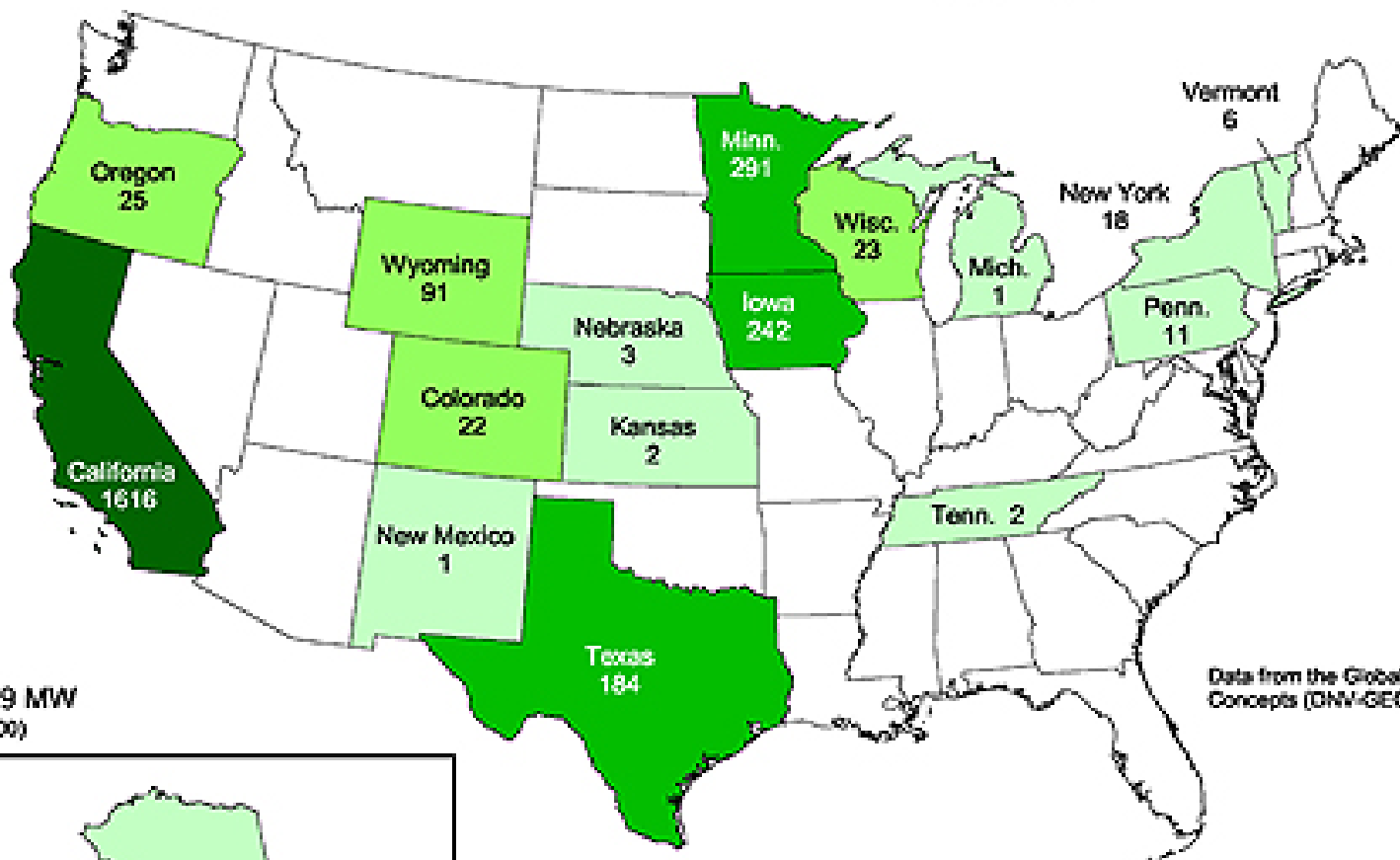


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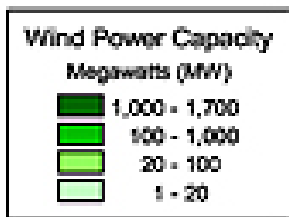
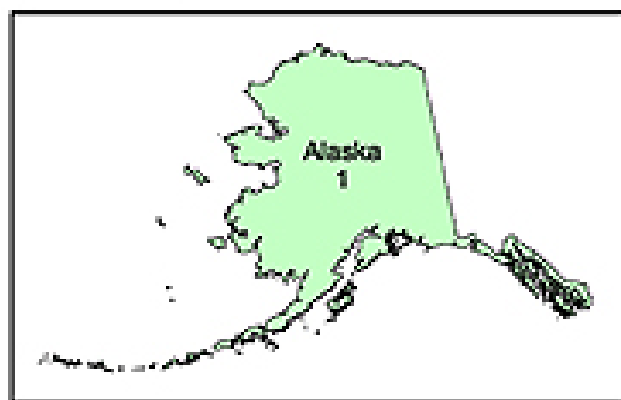
05-MAR-2009 1.1.18

## 2000 Year End Wind Power Capacity (MW)



Total: 2,539 MW  
(As of 12/31/2000)

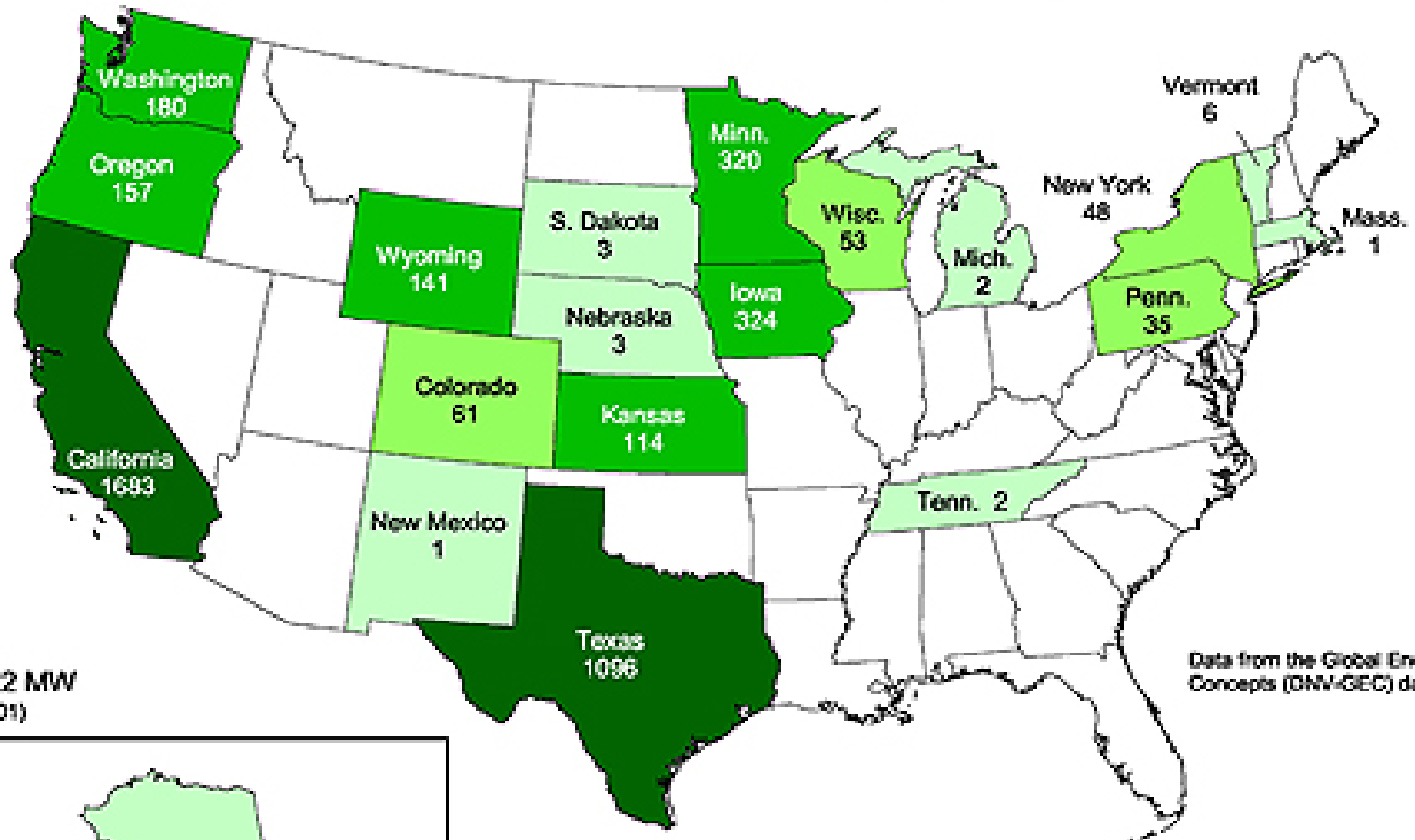
Data from the Global Energy Concepts (GEC) database.



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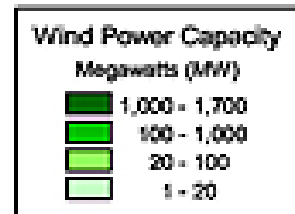


## 2001 Year End Wind Power Capacity (MW)



Total: 4,232 MW  
(As of 12/31/2001)

Data from the Global Energy Concepts (GEC) database.

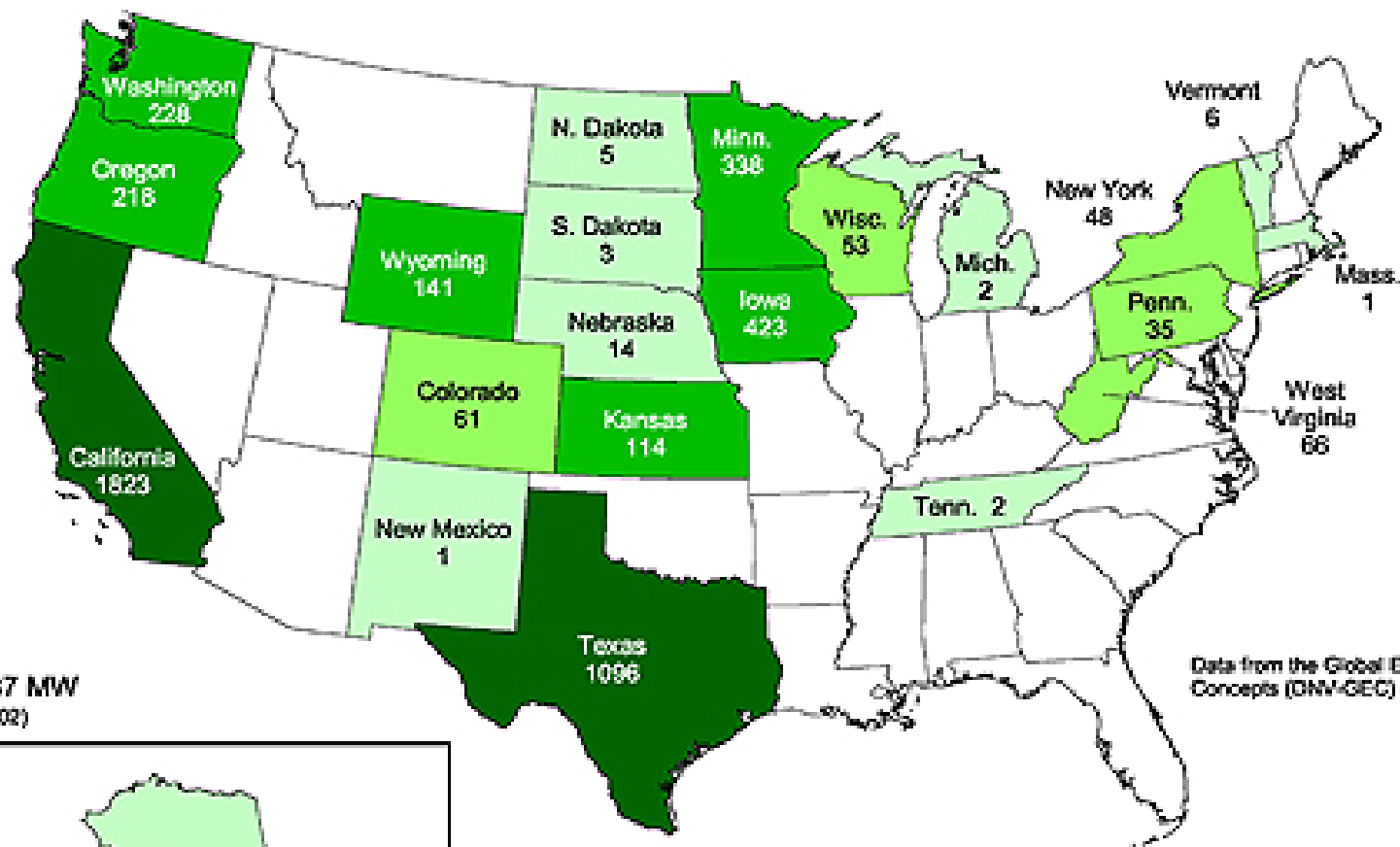


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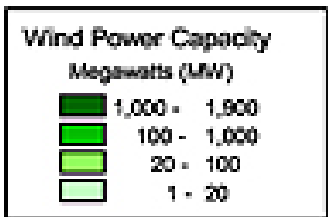
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## 2002 Year End Wind Power Capacity (MW)



**Total: 4,687 MW**  
(As of 12/31/2002)

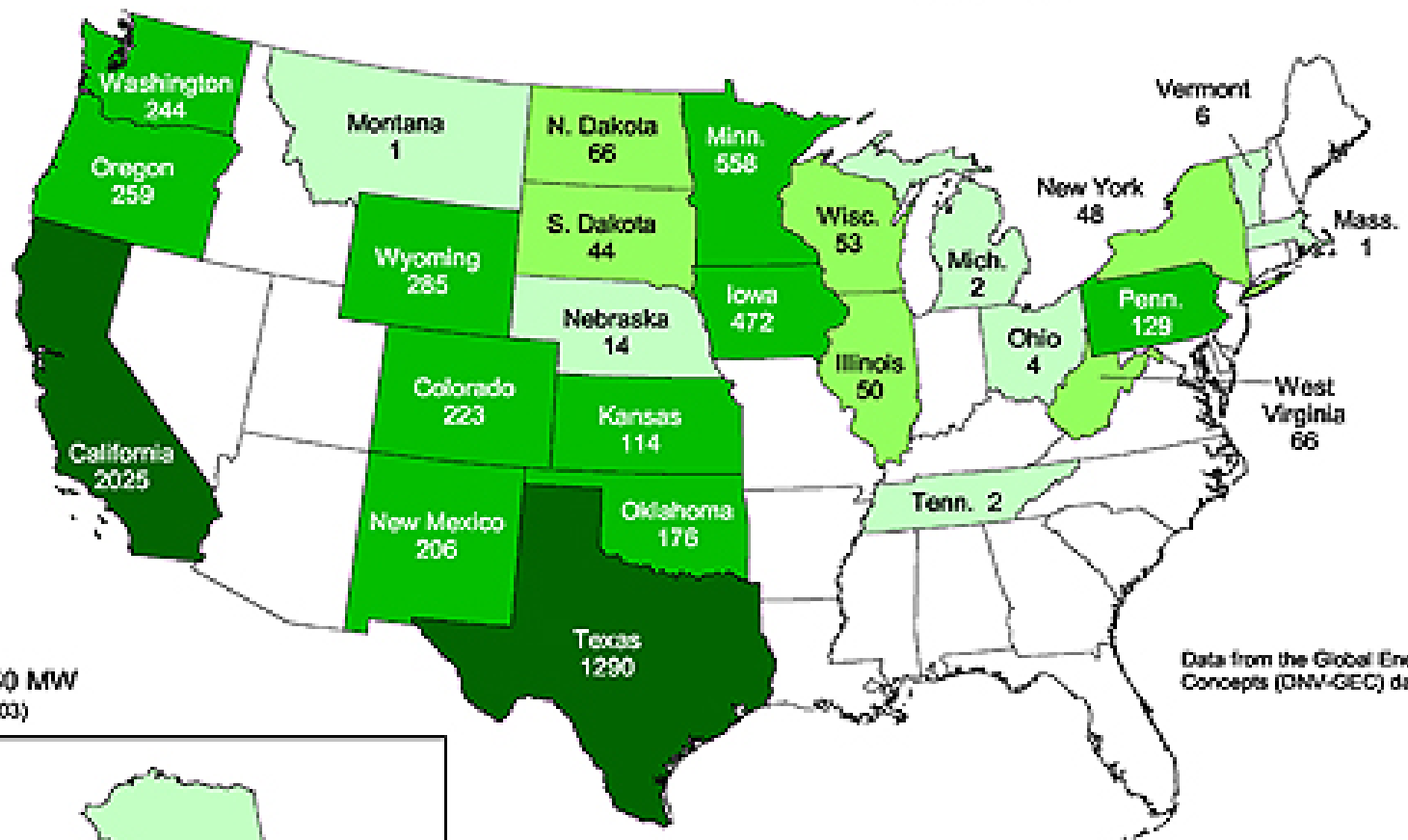
Data from the Global Energy Concepts (GEC) database.



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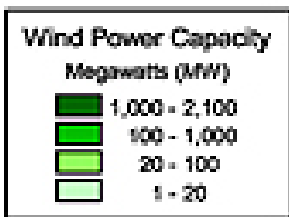


## 2003 Year End Wind Power Capacity (MW)



**Total: 6,350 MW**  
(As of 12/31/2003)

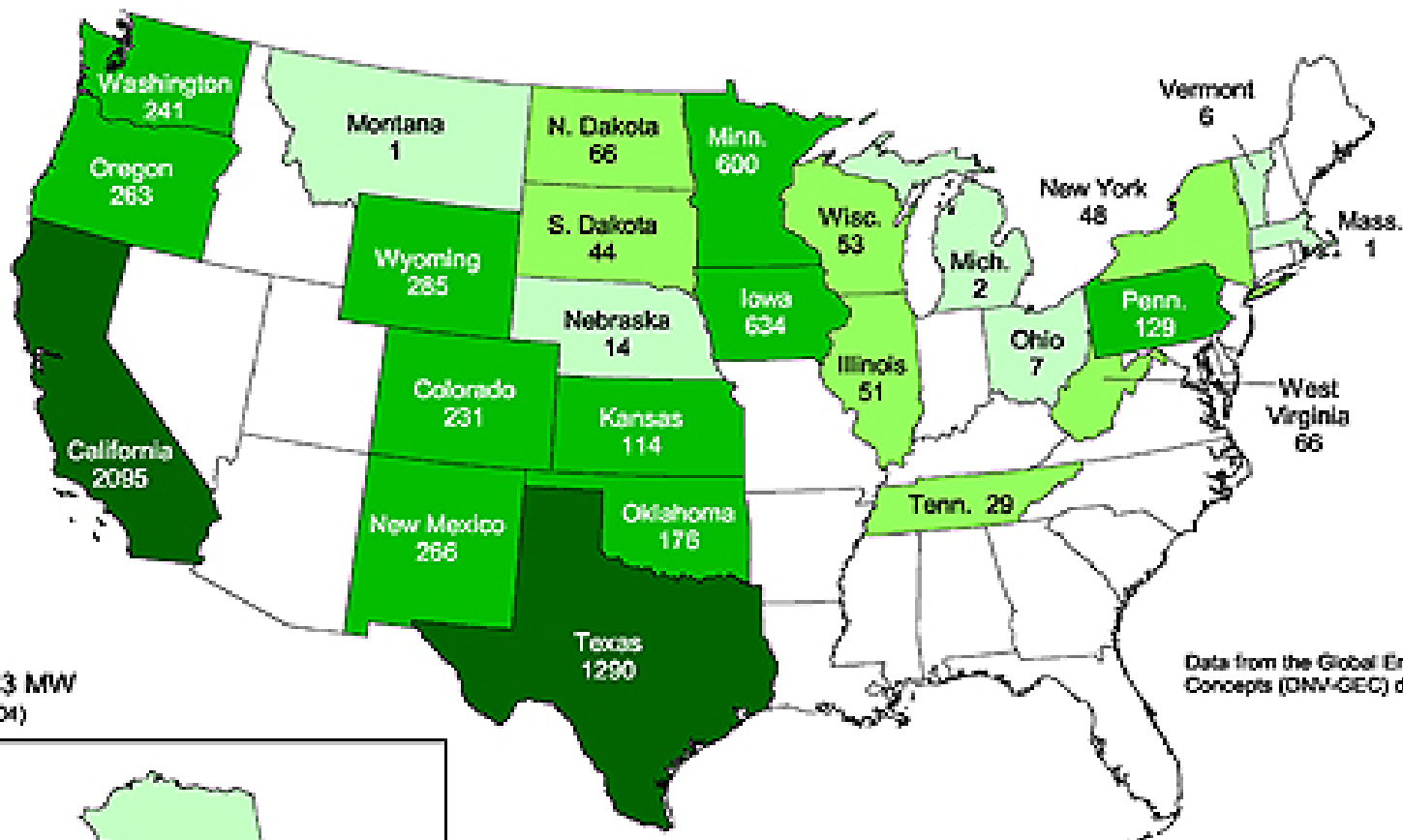
Data from the Global Energy Concepts (GEC) database.



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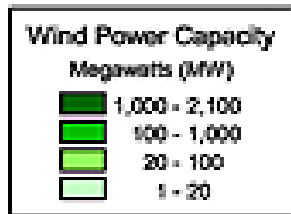


## 2004 Year End Wind Power Capacity (MW)



Total: 6,723 MW  
(As of 12/31/2004)

Data from the Global Energy Concepts (GEC) database.



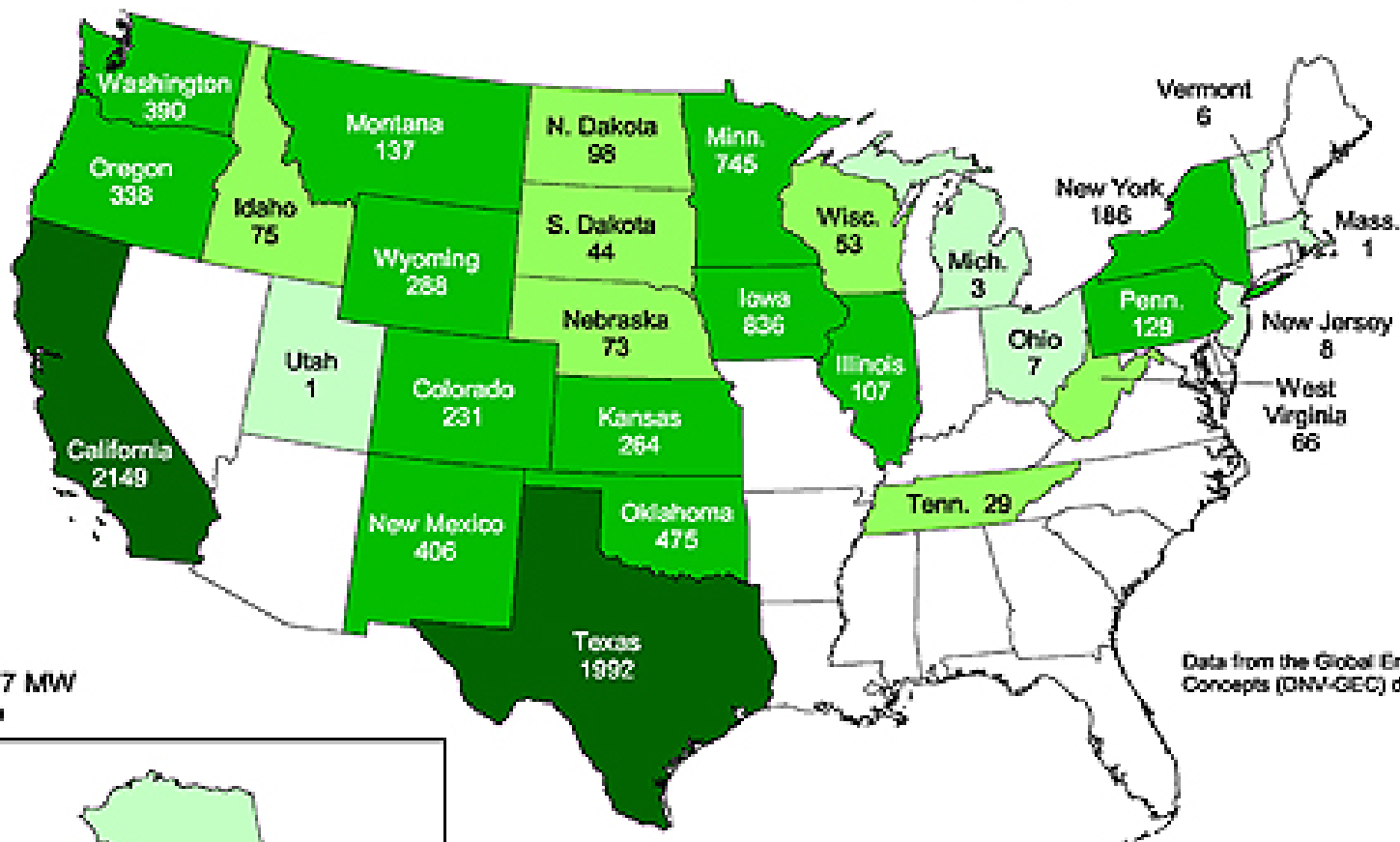
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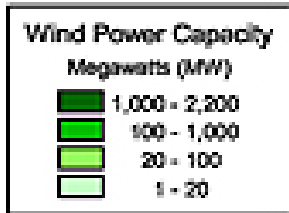


## 2005 Year End Wind Power Capacity (MW)



Total: 9,147 MW  
(As of 12/31/05)

Data from the Global Energy Concepts (DNV-GEC) database.

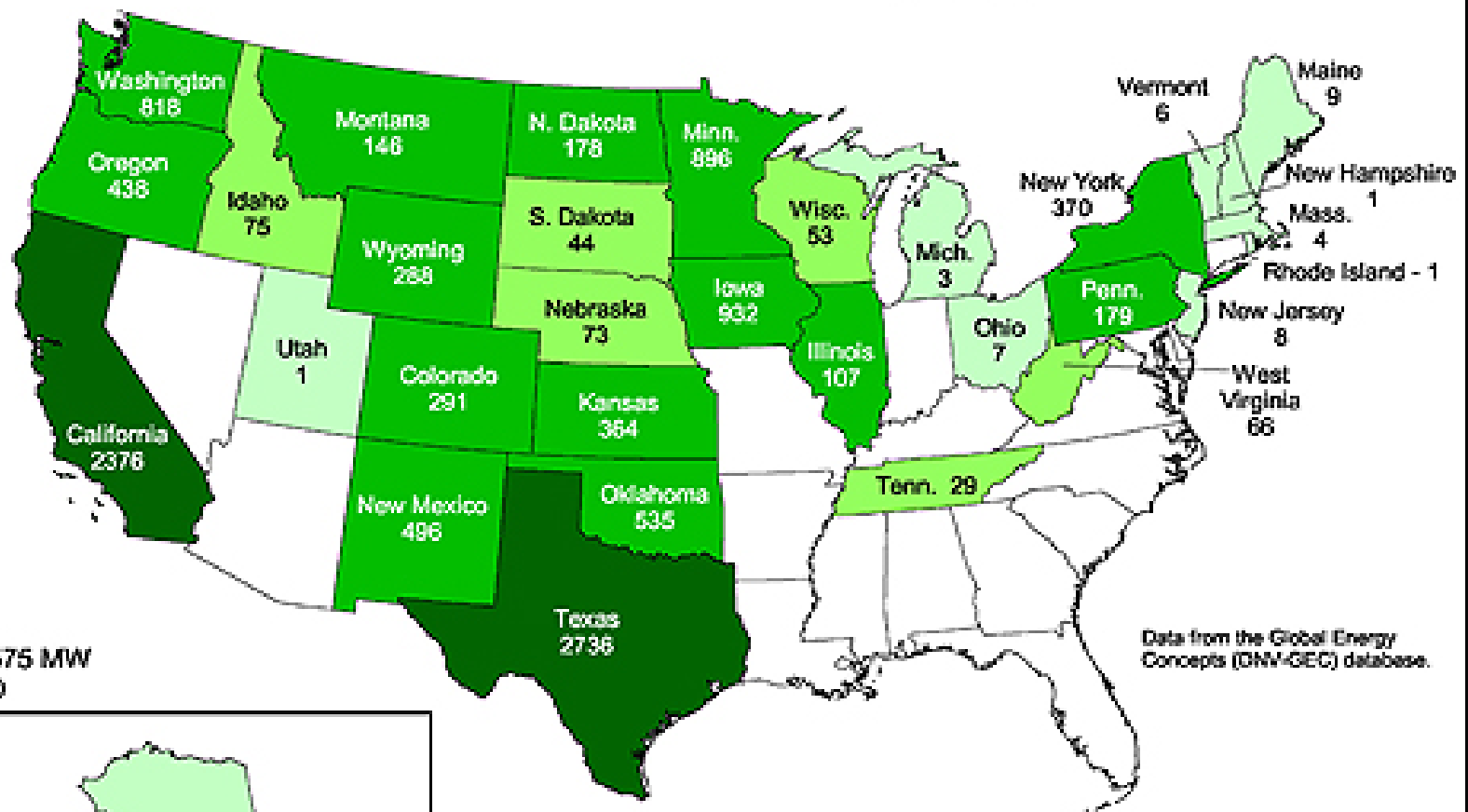


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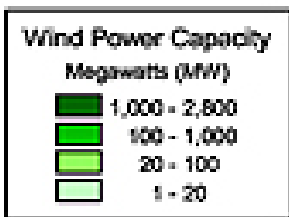
05-MAR-2006 1.1.20

## 2006 Year End Wind Power Capacity (MW)



**Total: 11,575 MW**  
(As of 12/31/06)

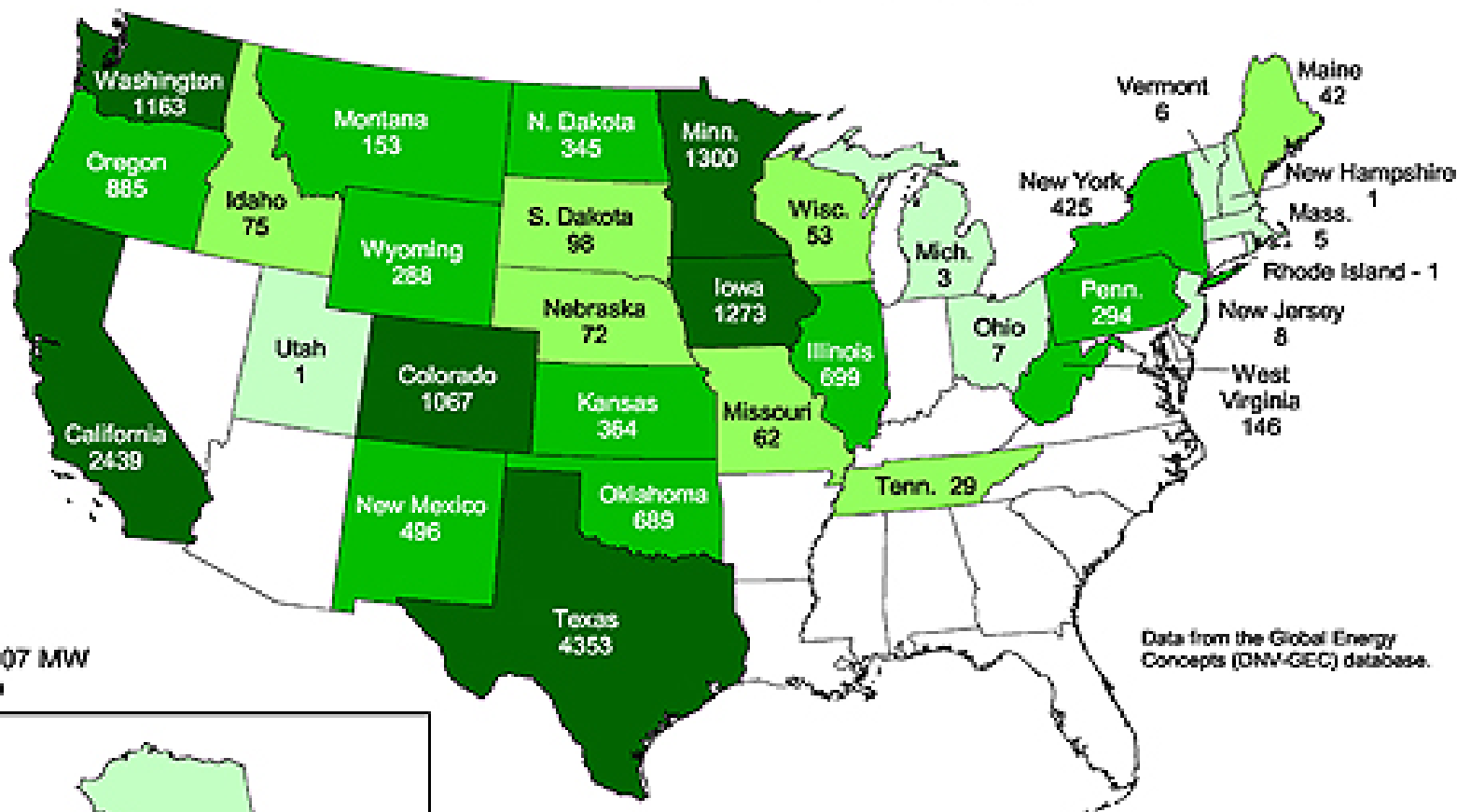
Data from the Global Energy Concepts (GEC) database.



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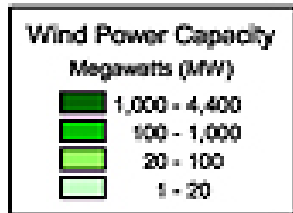


## 2007 Year End Wind Power Capacity (MW)



**Total: 16,907 MW**  
(As of 12/31/07)

Data from the Global Energy Concepts (GEC) database.

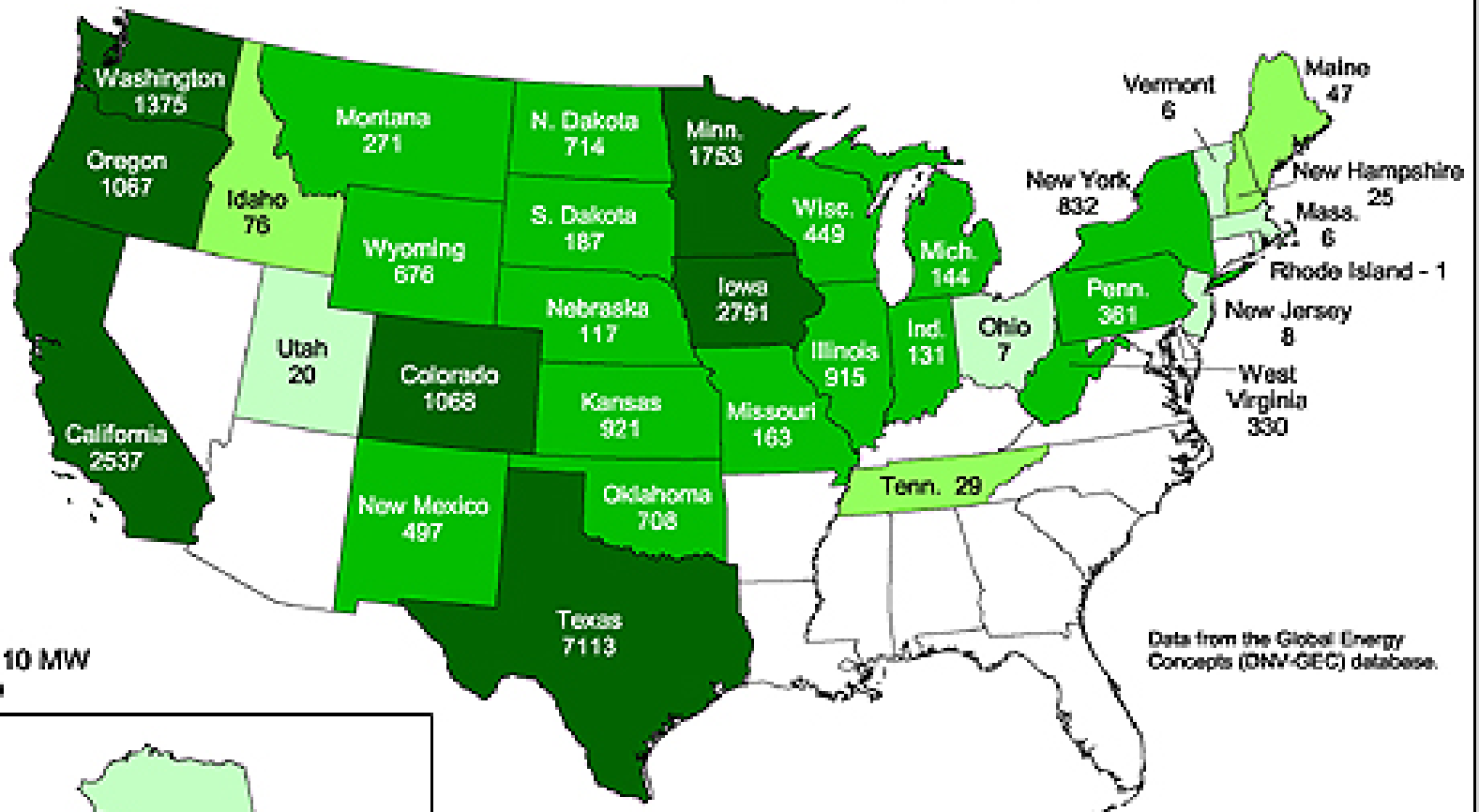


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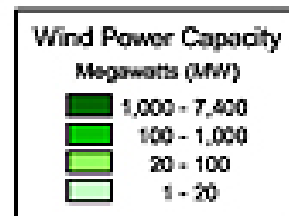
25-APR-2008 1.1.27

## 2008 Year End Wind Power Capacity (MW)



**Total: 25,410 MW**  
(As of 12/31/08)

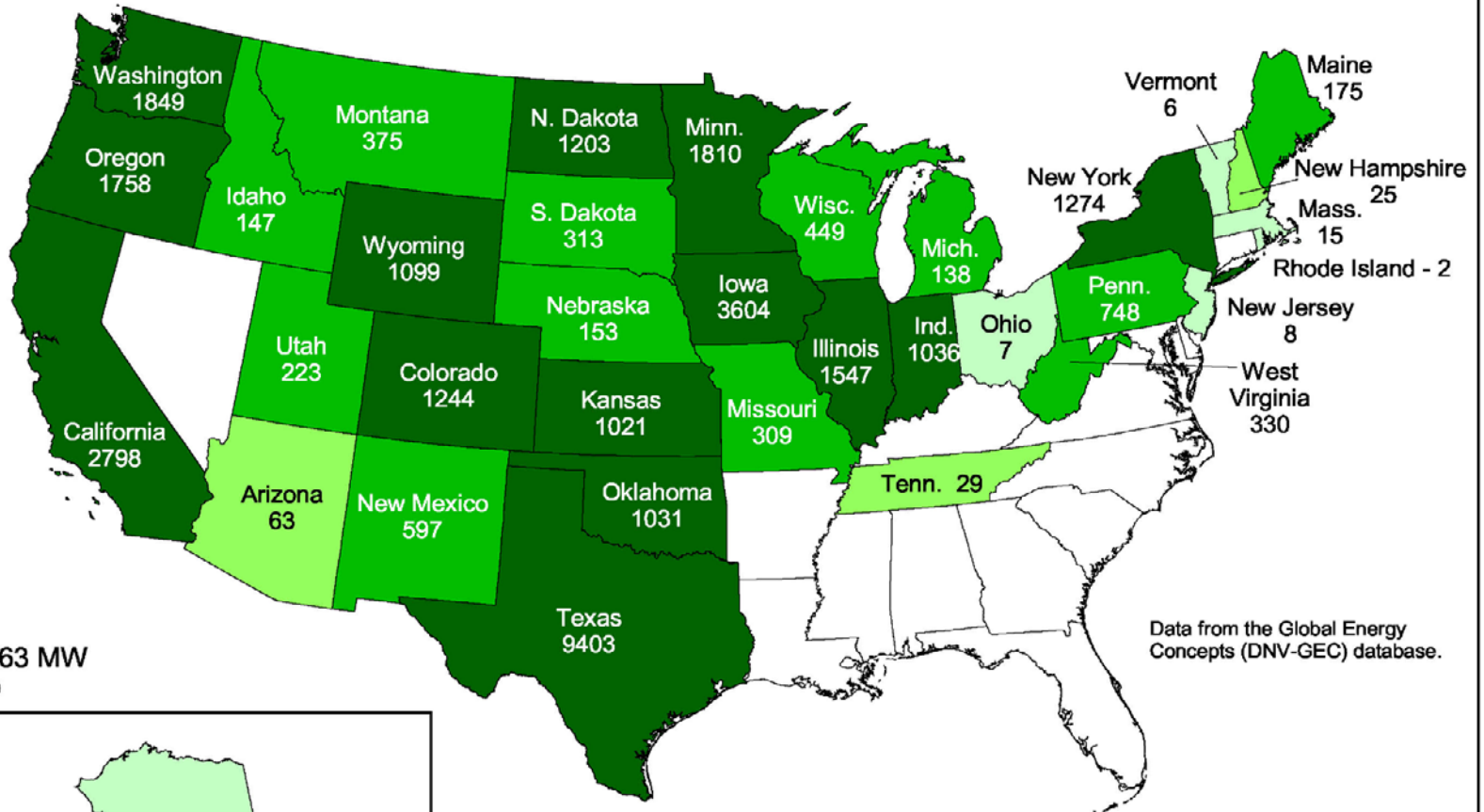
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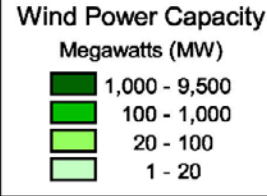
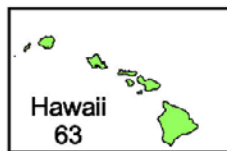


## 2009 Year End Wind Power Capacity (MW)



**Total: 34,863 MW**  
(As of 12/31/09)

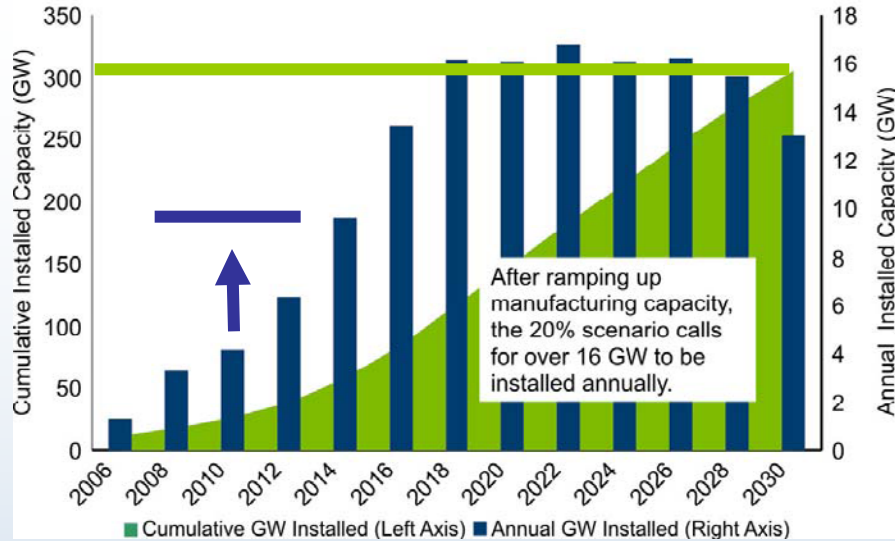
Data from the Global Energy Concepts (DNV-GEC) database.



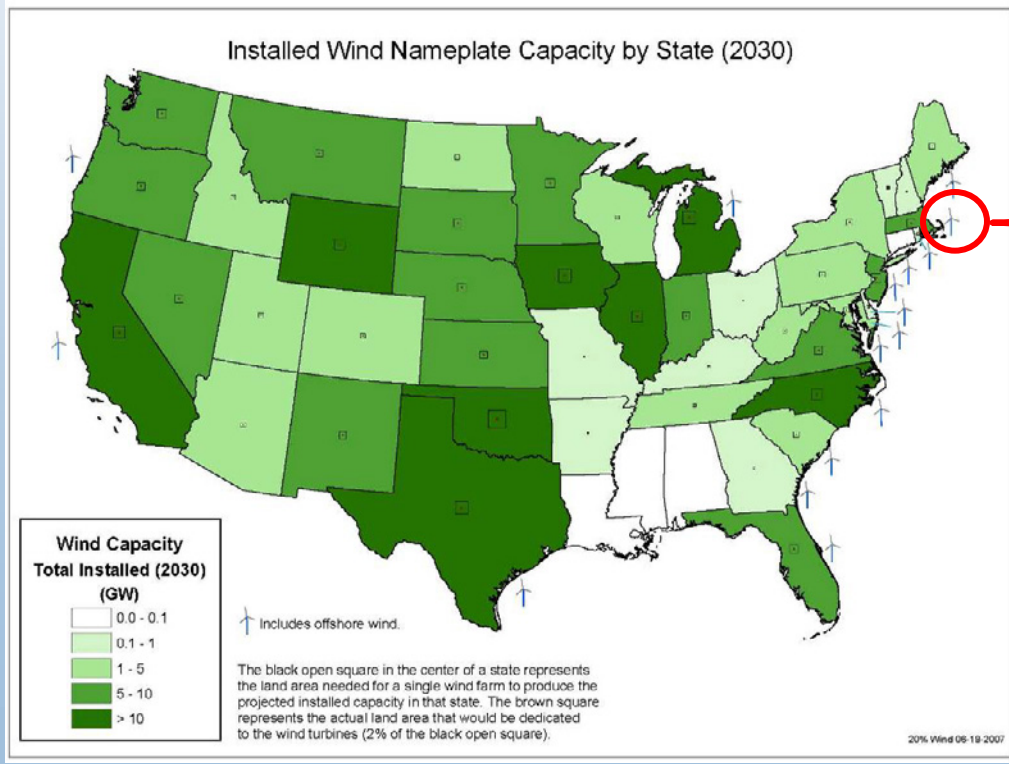
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# Challenges to 20%

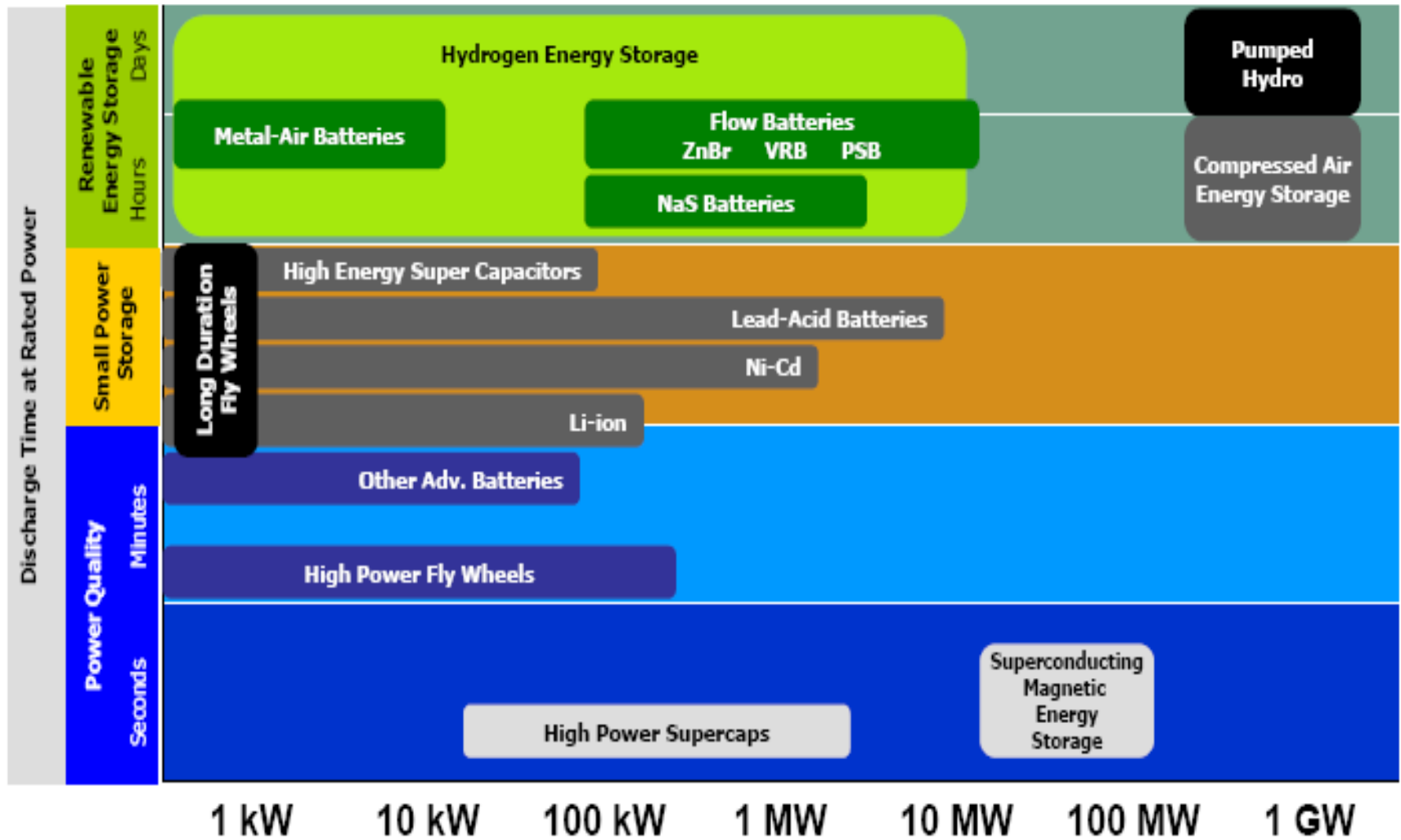


- **Growth in installations**
  - 8 GW installed in 2008
  - 9 GW installed in 2009
  - Total 34 GW 2009
- **50 GW offshore**
  - Cape Wind approved
  - 130 wind turbines
  - 420 MW
- **Performance is critical**
  - Gearbox reliability
  - Capital cost
  - Capacity Factor
  - O&M



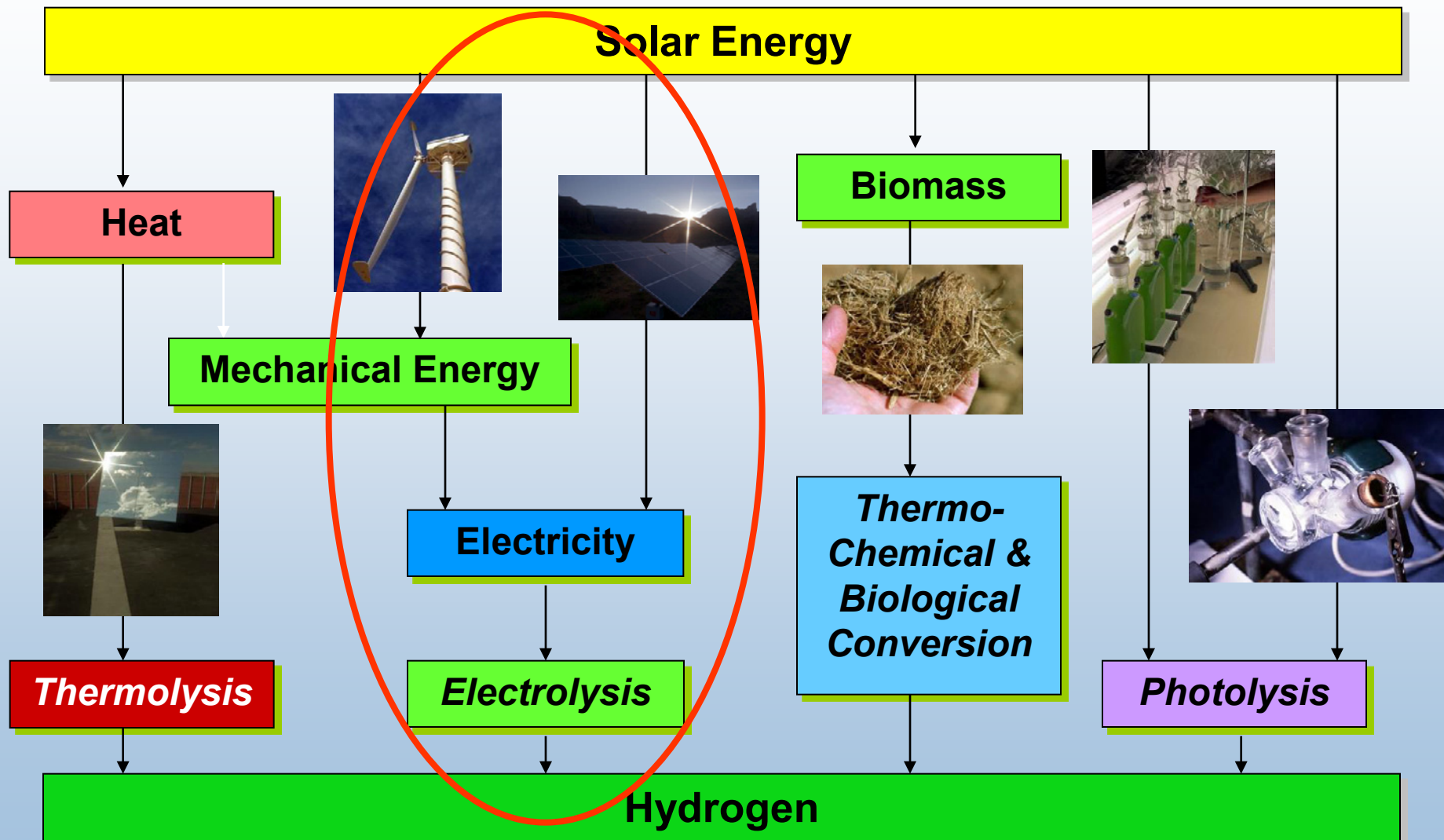
# Competitive Energy Storage Technologies

## System Power Ratings



Source: Energy Storage Association

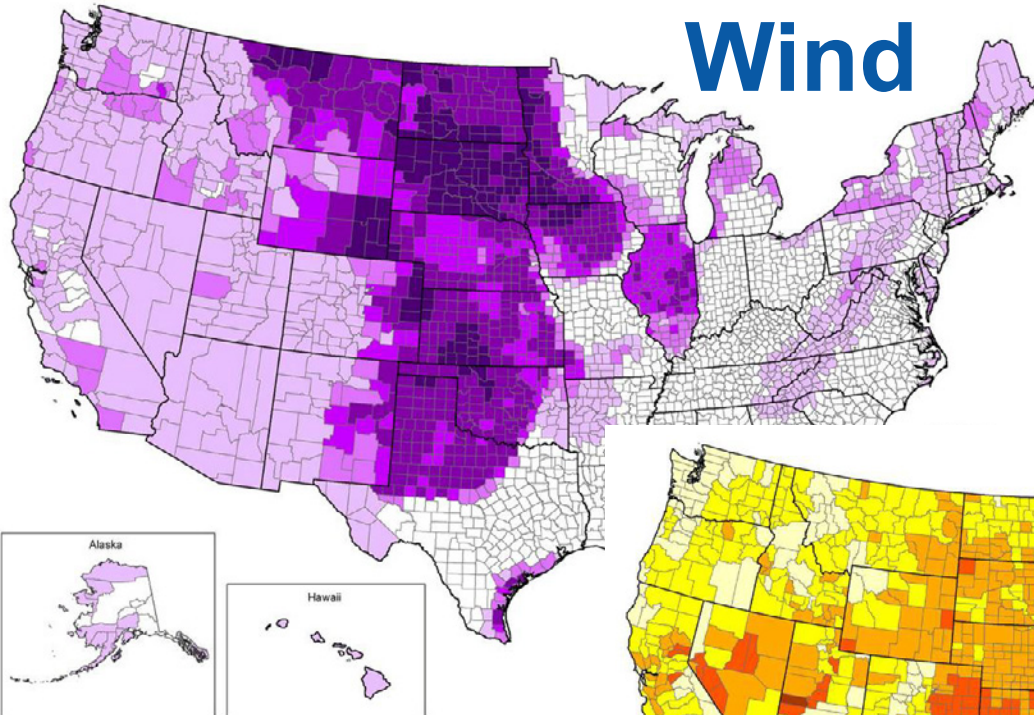
# Sustainable Paths to Hydrogen



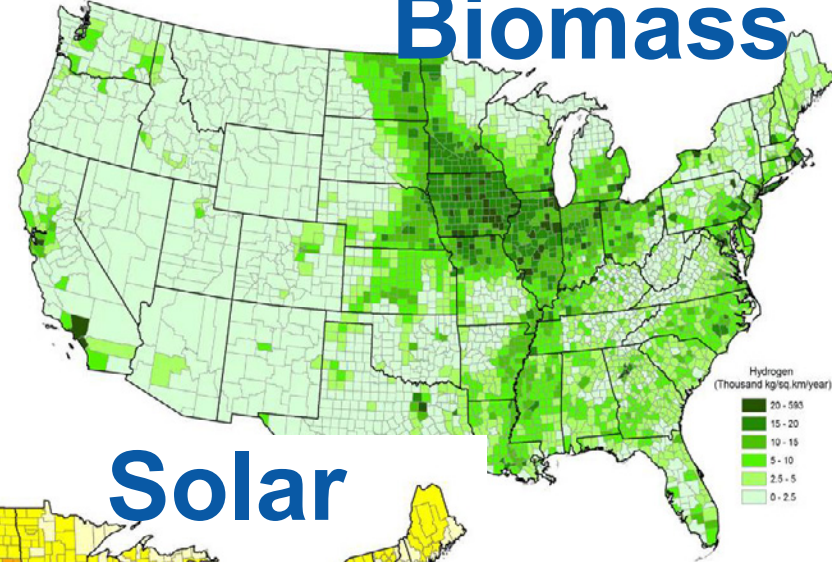


# Sustainable Hydrogen Potential

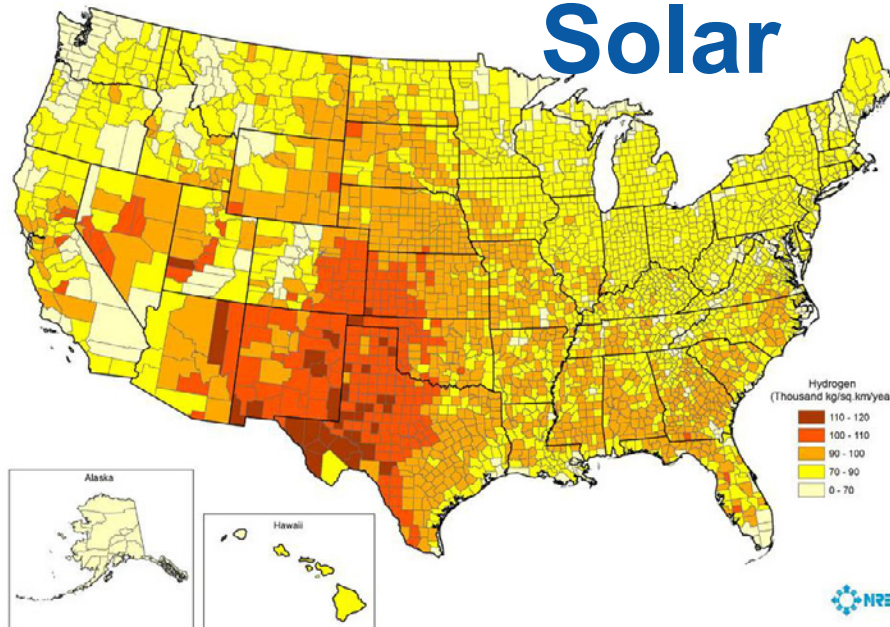
## Wind



## Biomass



## Solar



# NREL/Xcel Energy

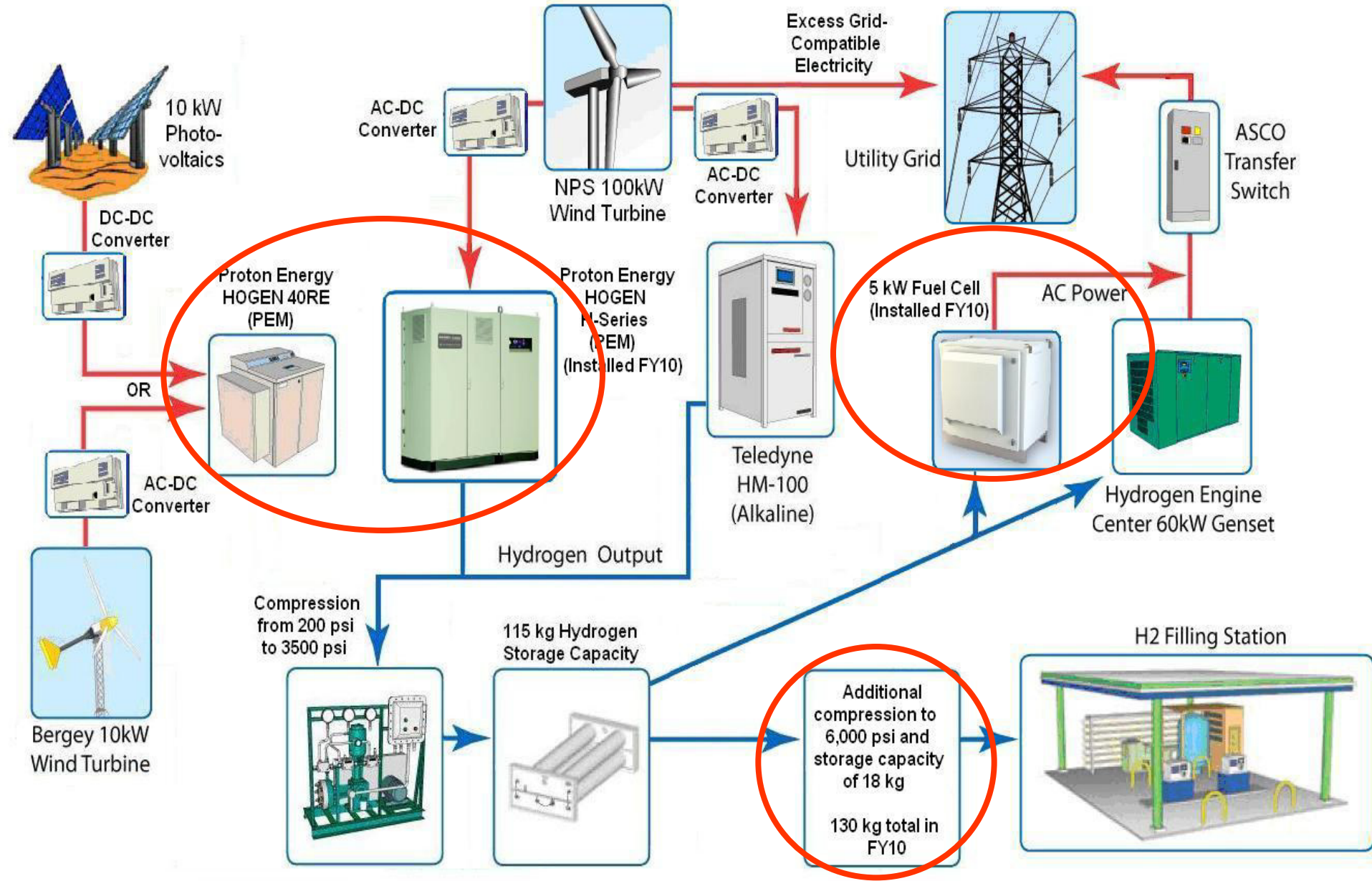
## Wind to Hydrogen - Objectives

- Examine benefit to utility by time shifting wind and PV energy with hydrogen production
- Research optimal wind/hydrogen through systems engineering and power electronics integration
- Characterize and control wind turbine/PV and H<sub>2</sub>-producing stack
- Evaluate synergies from co-production of electricity and hydrogen

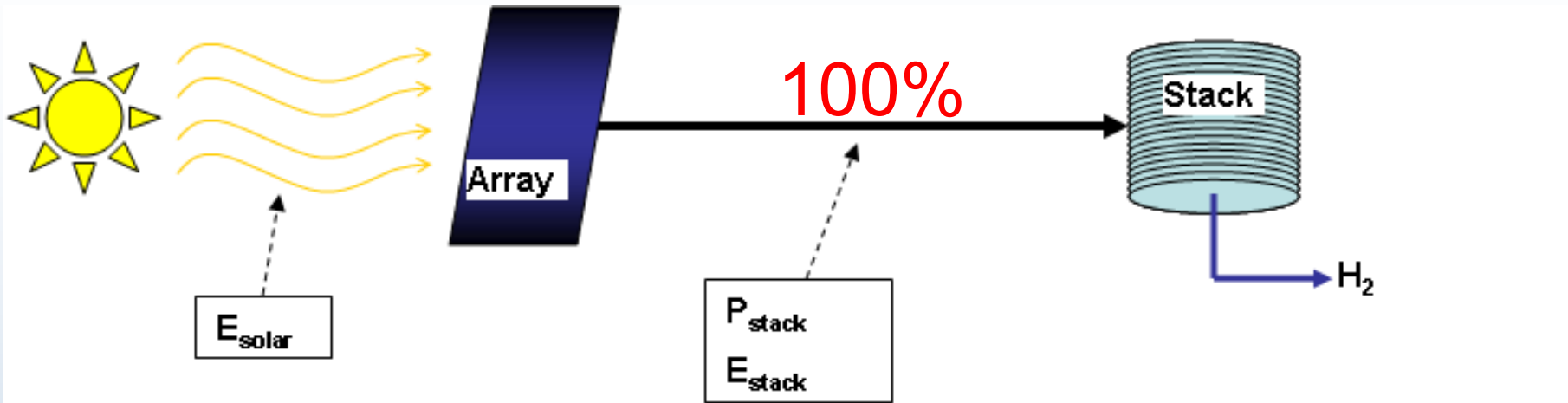




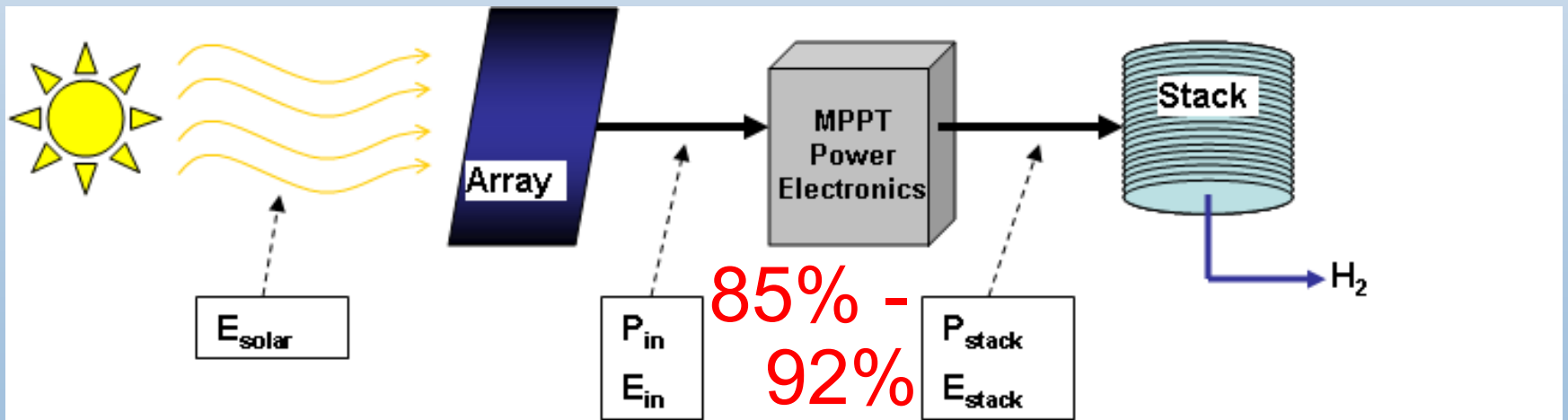
# New Wind2H2 Configuration



# PV Configuration Testing

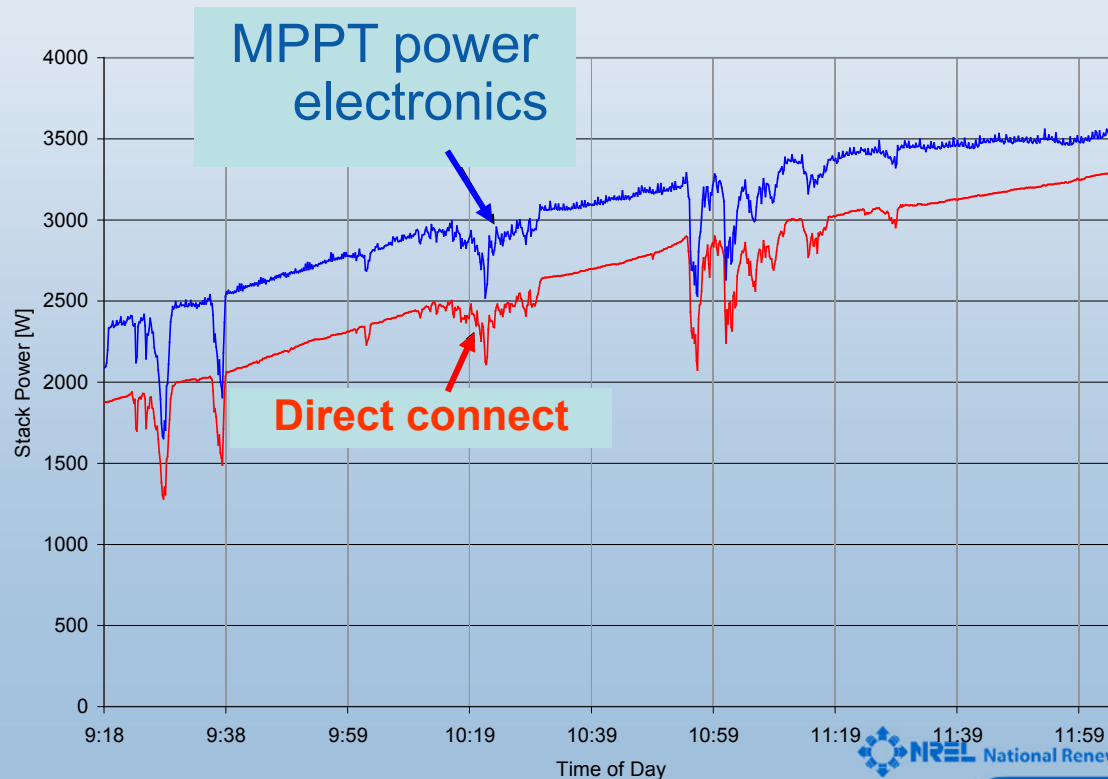


Direct connect versus various input voltages ( $E_{in}$ ) through power controller



# Round I - PV Powered Electrolysis

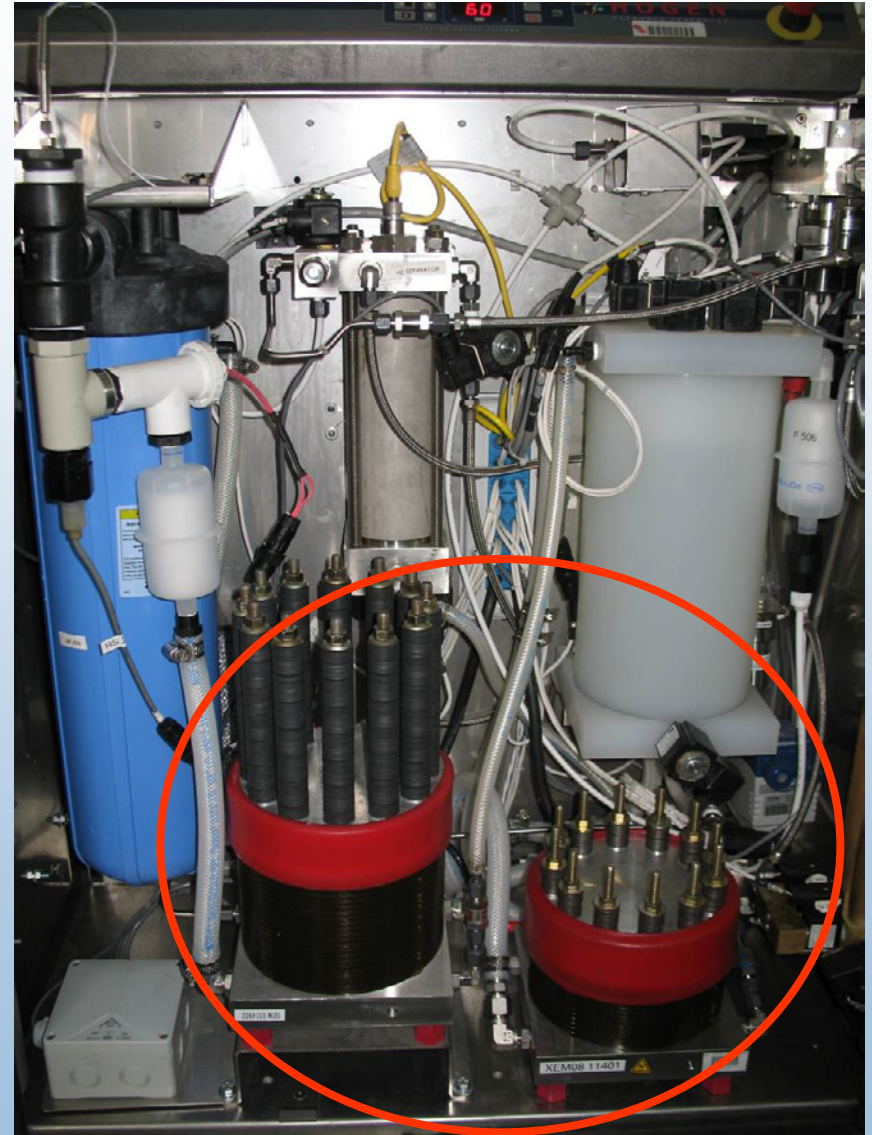
- Onboard power electronics account for 15 – 30% of the overall electrolyzer system cost
- The data illustrates improvement in energy capture to stack when using MPPT power electronics
- Testing showed a 10% – 20% increase in energy capture depending on input voltage to power electronics



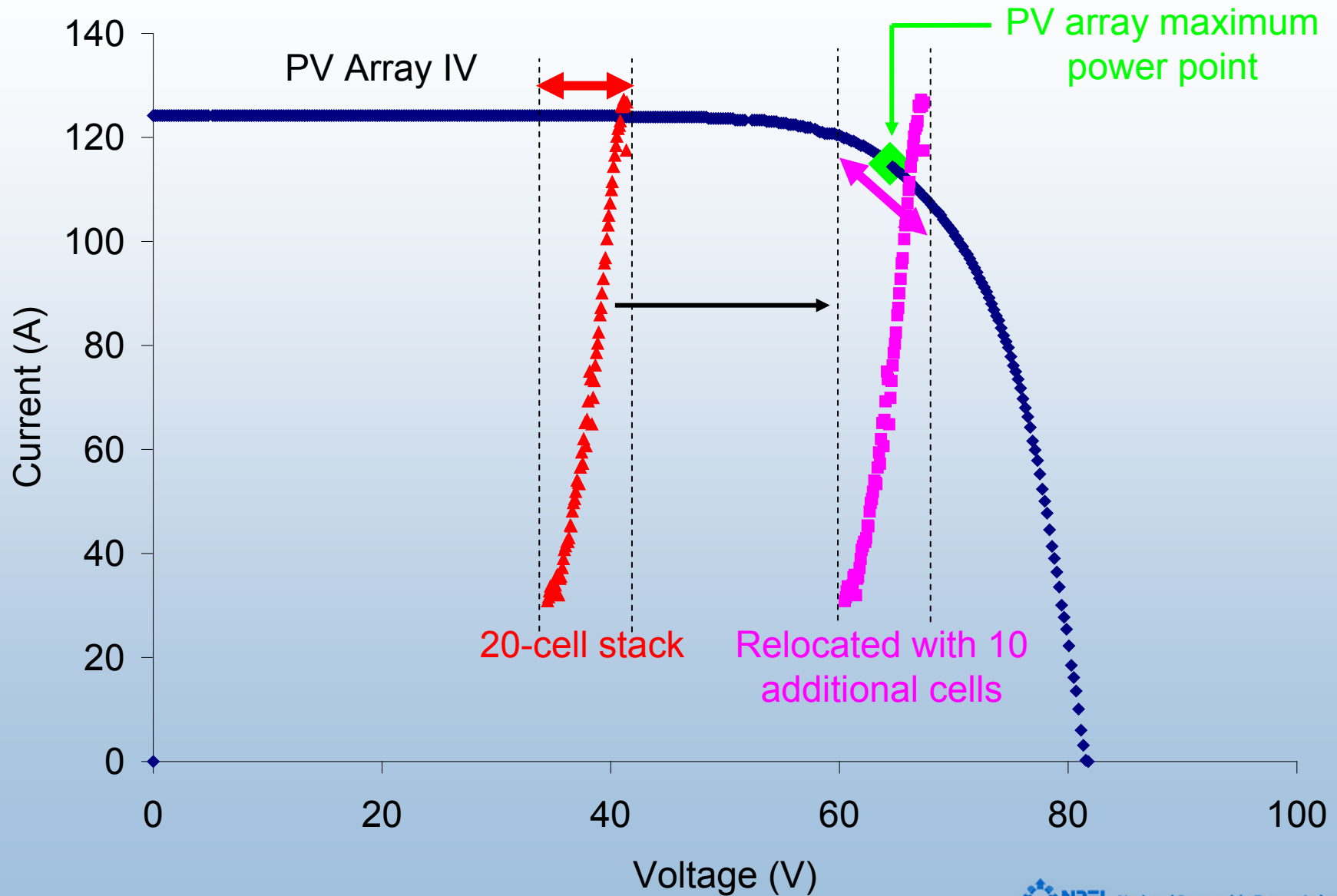


# PV-to-Stack Optimization

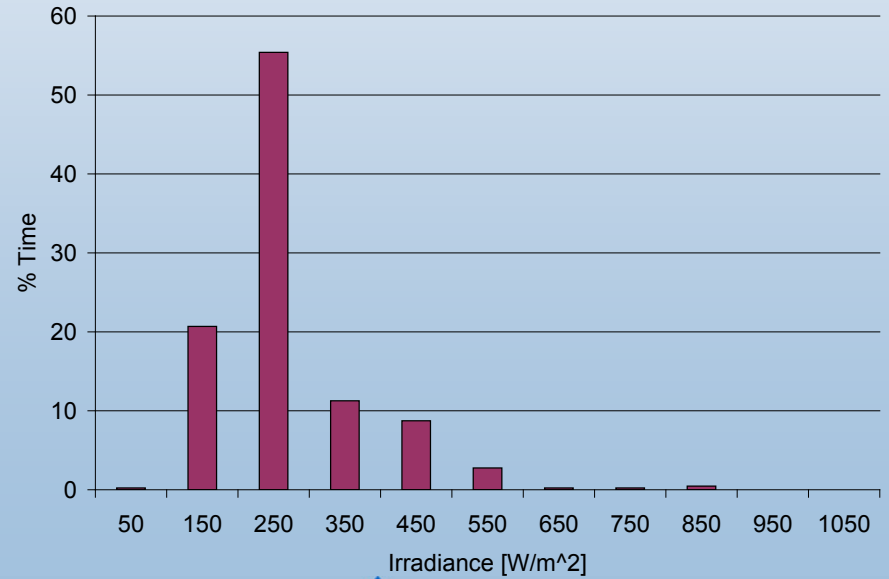
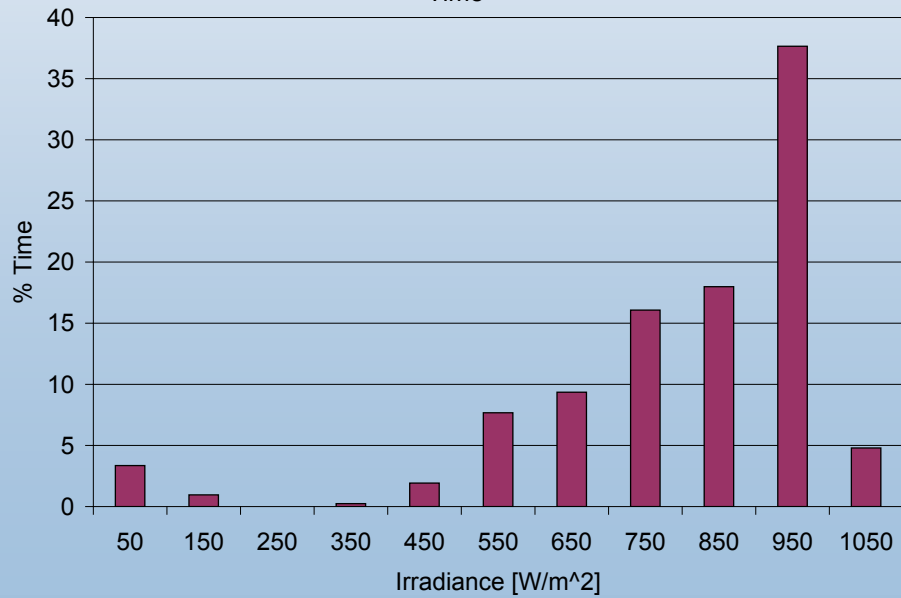
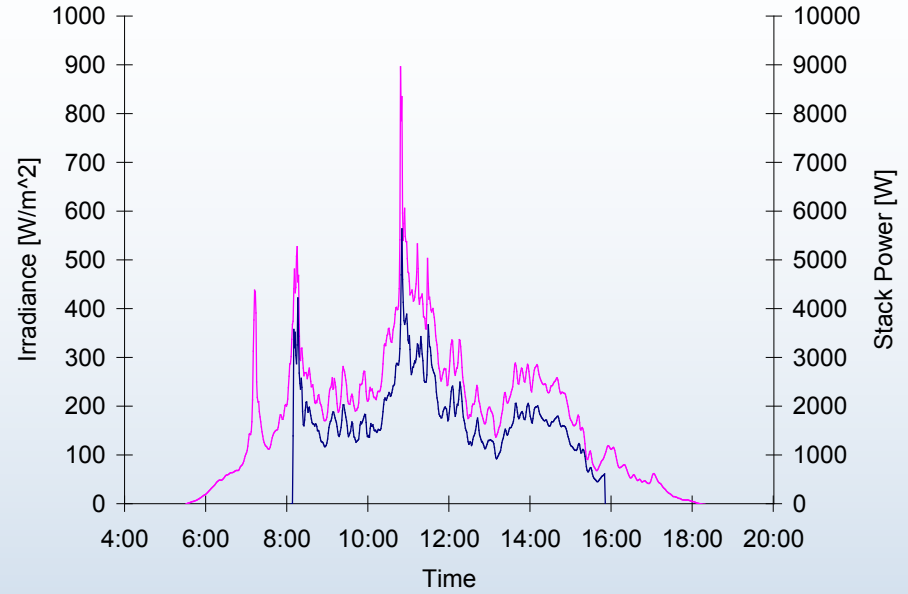
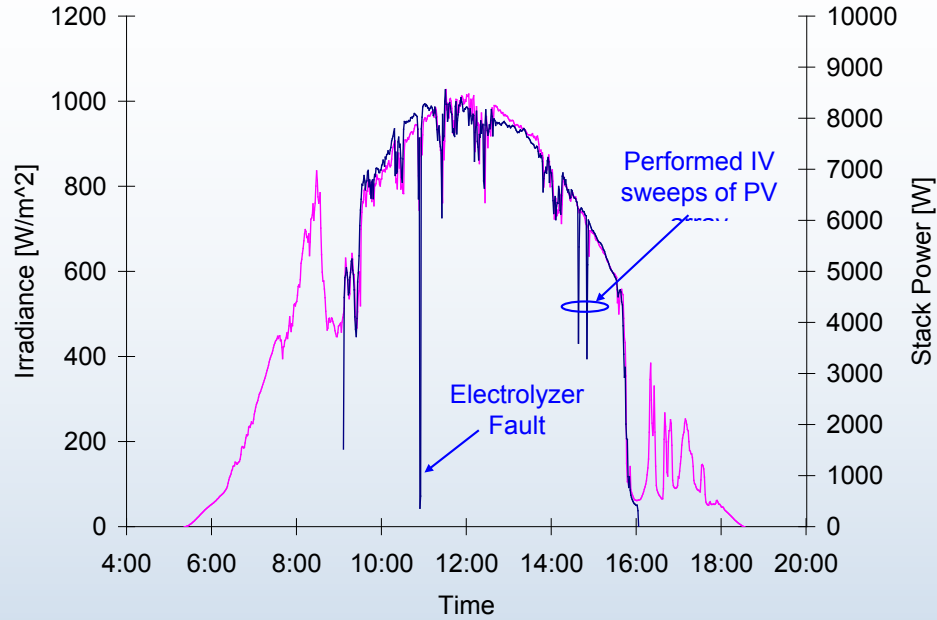
- Installed 10-cell stack in series with existing 20-cell stack to better align PV and stack operating points
- Improved PV-to-stack sizing enabled 2<sup>nd</sup> phase direct coupling versus MPPT power electronics



# Impact of Shifting Operating Point

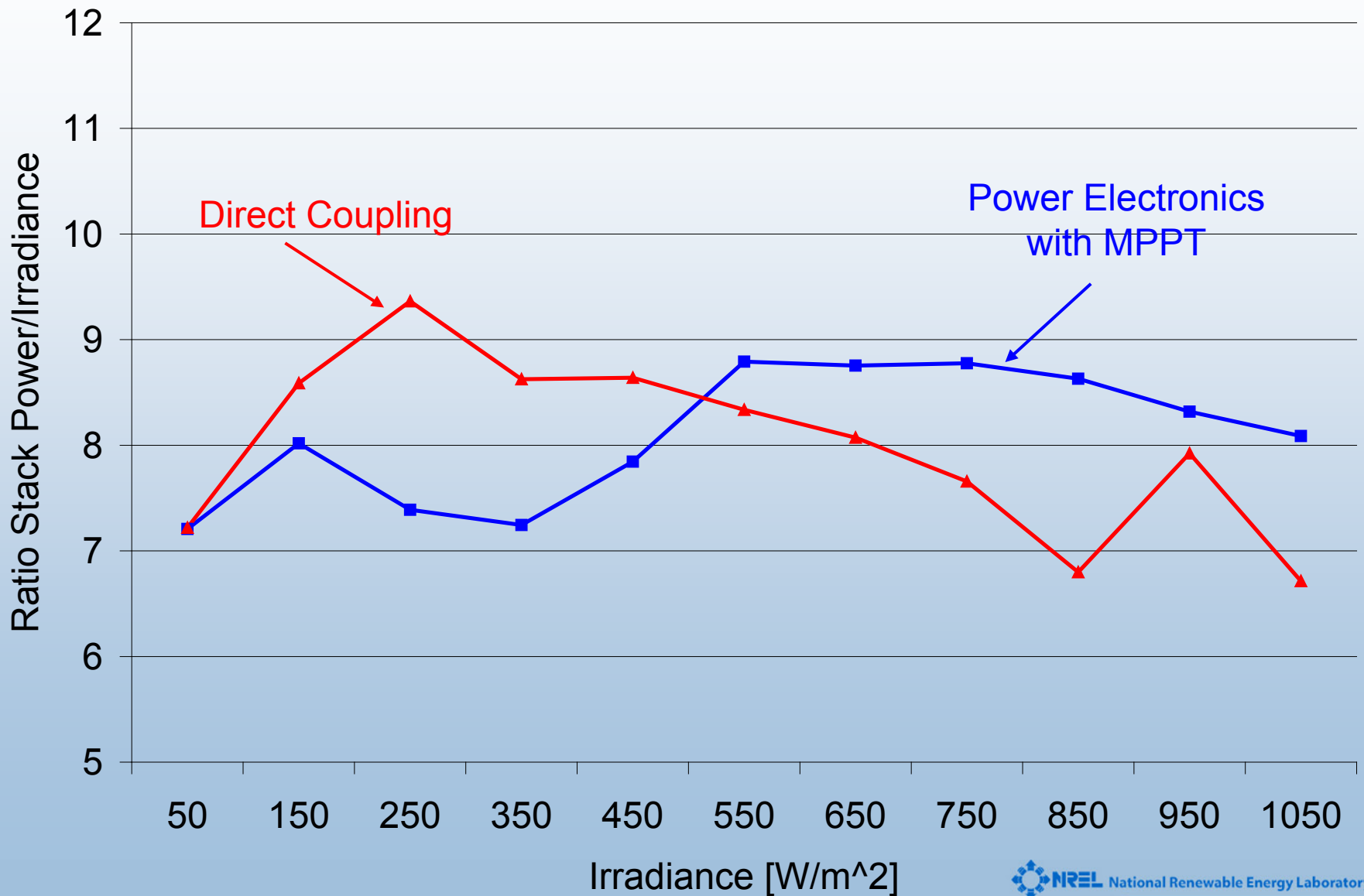


# Solar Irradiance

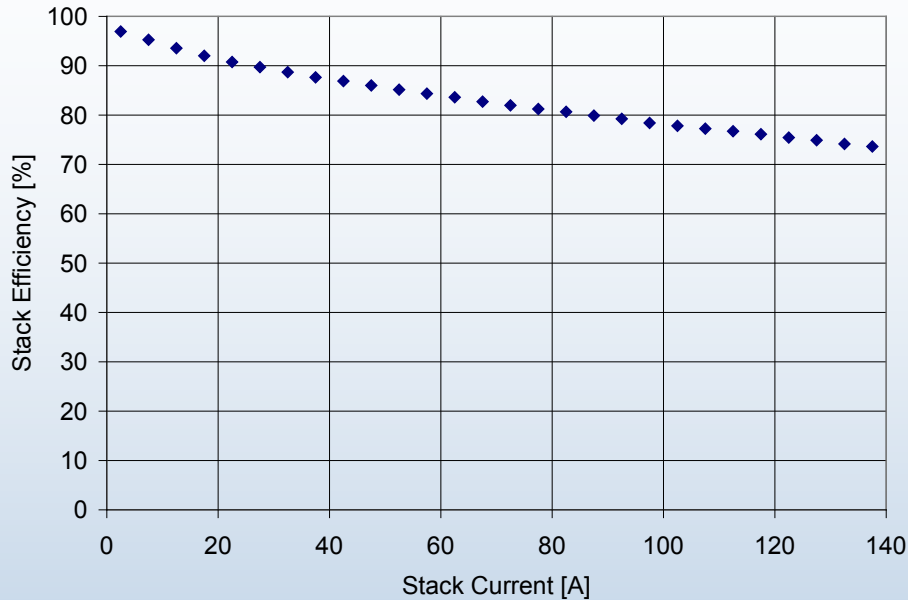




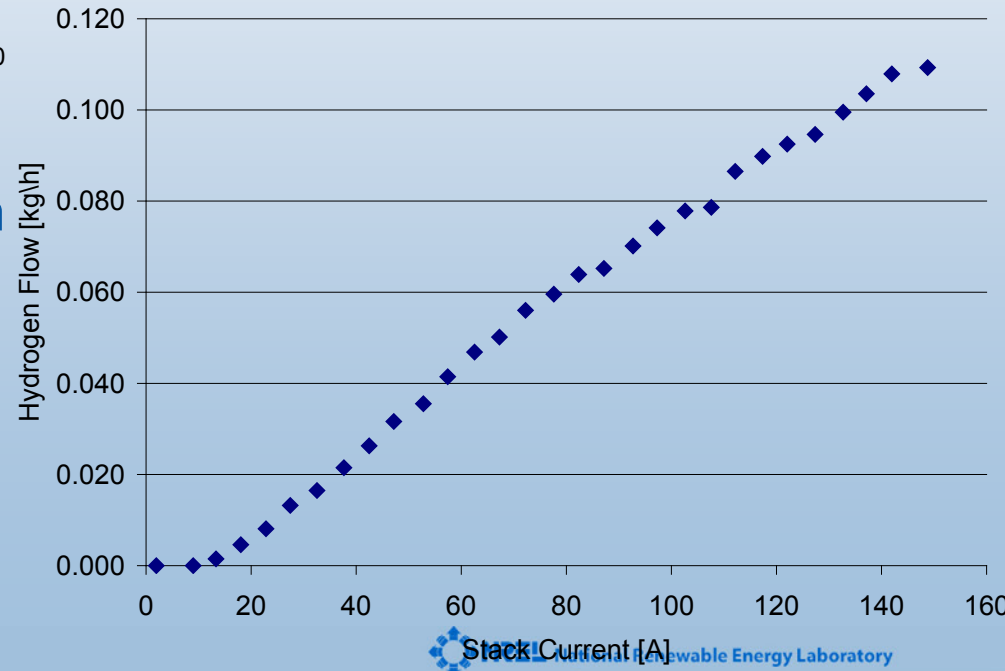
# Direct Coupling v. Power Electronics



# General Electrolyzer System Data



Although stack efficiency is higher at lower current the hydrogen flow (thus system efficiency) is zero at currents below 15 A



Electrolyzer consumes hydrogen to maintain the desiccant drying system

New techniques and incremental improvements in drying systems will improve system efficiency

Higher pressure electrolyzers will dissolve more hydrogen that is also wasted

# 350 bar Vehicle Fueling System

## New System Components

- Storage tank, compressor and dispenser
  - 18 kg @ 6000 psi
  - 120 kg @ 3500 psi
- June 2010
  - Additional 6000 psi storage
  - Cascade filling
  - Total 250 kg (including 3500 psi tanks)
- 9 months of refueling A-Class Mercedes (~2 kg, 110 miles)
- Proterra Fuel Cell Bus
  - March 2010, 20 kg
- Yesterday, Ford H2 ICE shuttle leased by NREL

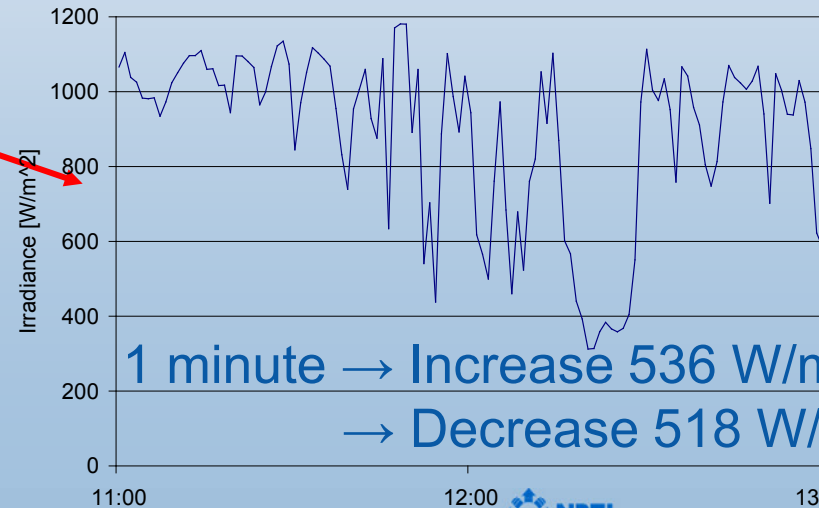
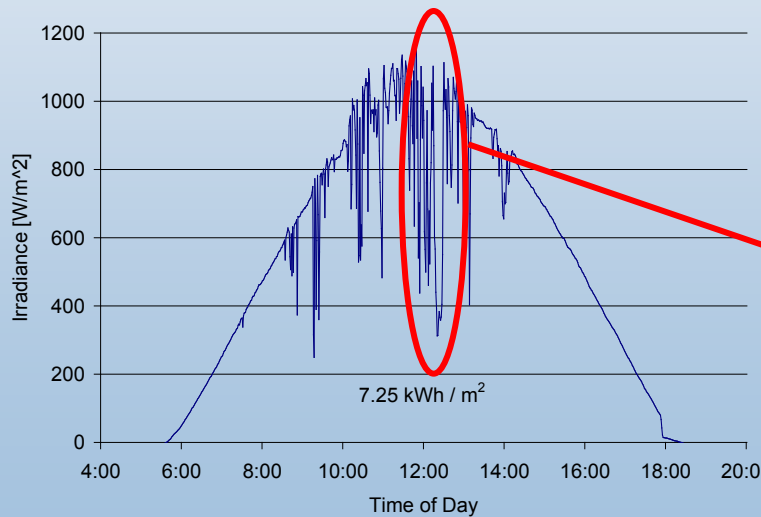


# Integrated Renewable Energy System

## Integrated Systems

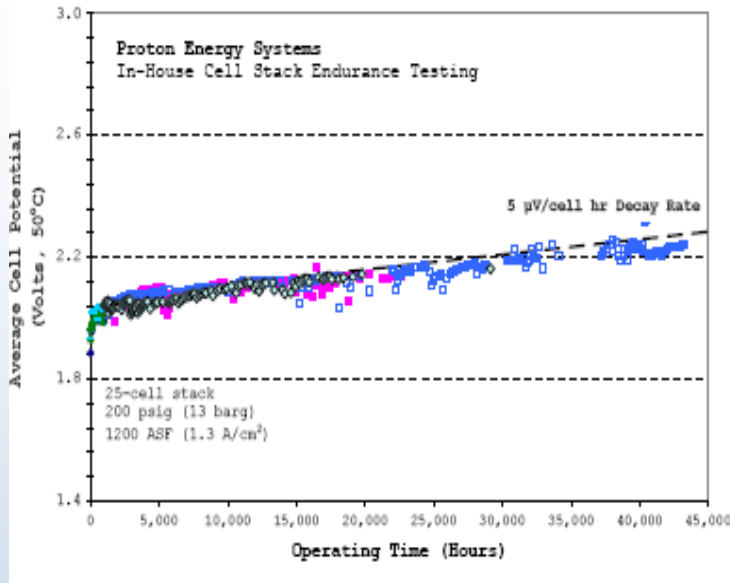
- 5 kW fuel cell (PEM)
- 5 kW to 10 kW PV array
- 10 kW wind turbine

TEST: Dynamic response (both DC and AC) of fuel cell with both PV and wind systems





# Variable Stack Current Testing



## Comparison Testing

PEM: 3-stack design with Individual power supplies

Alkaline: New stack installation

Test: Long duration testing of stacks with highly variable (wind profile) current

# WIND ENERGY & HYDROGEN INTEGRATION

## International Energy Agency, Hydrogen Implementing Agreement, Annex 24

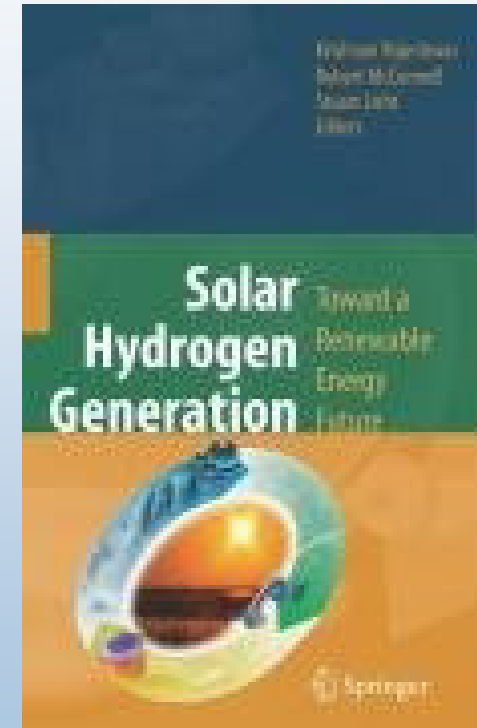
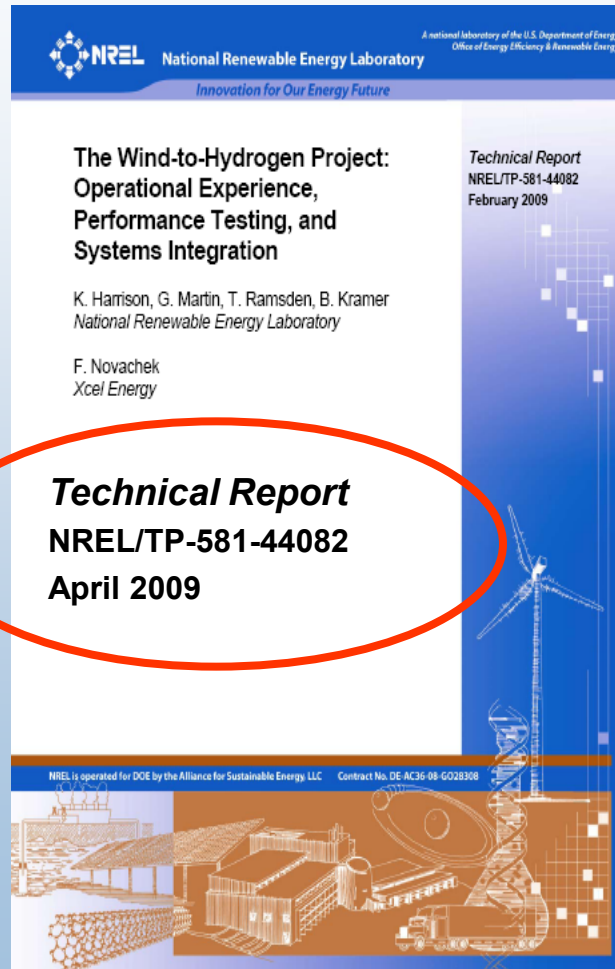
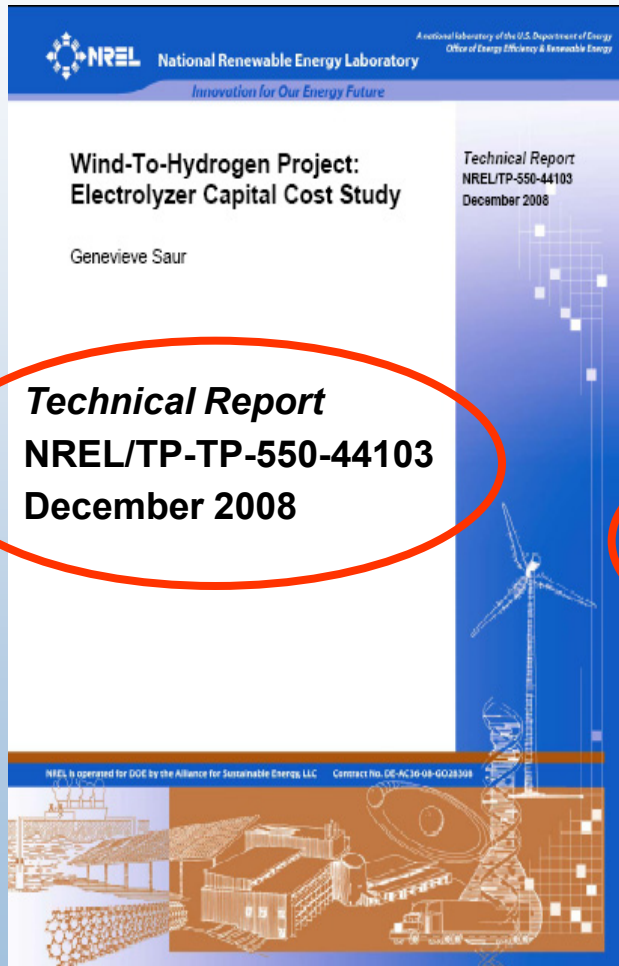


*To explore in detail all possible issues (technical, economical, social, environmental, market and legal) related to hydrogen production using electrolysis with wind energy.*



# Recent Publications

[http://www.nrel.gov/hydrogen/proj\\_wind\\_hydrogen.html](http://www.nrel.gov/hydrogen/proj_wind_hydrogen.html)





# Thank you for your attention!



Questions?