

# Clean Energy Transition: Reflections on the Past Decade



NREL Industry Growth Forum  
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Laboratory Director

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# Energy Market Fundamentals

Globally interconnected

Driven regionally

Shaped by public policy

Technology enabled

Investment, infrastructure and  
finance guide development



***Energy is the “life blood” for economic growth, prosperity, and societal advancement.***

9/25/2015

# Energy Market Dynamics

Energy mix is changing

Global renewable industry growing, but faces challenges

Public policy evolving—mostly local

Unconventional gas a growing focus with geographic disparities

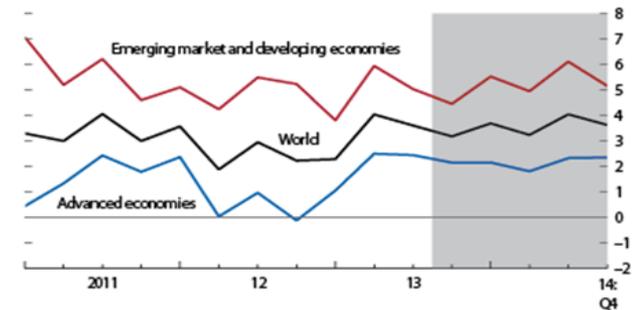
Infrastructure investments will be made, requirements are changing

Technology is creating a platform for disruptive change

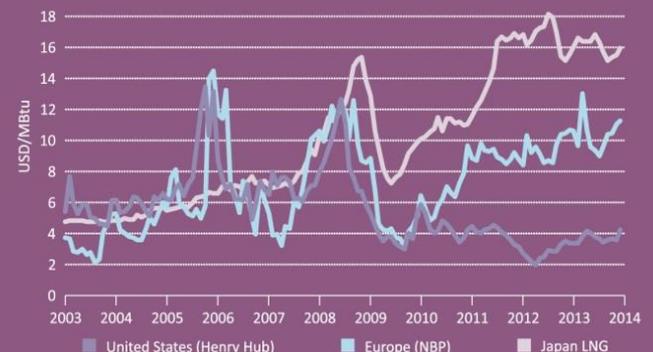
Updated 3/13/2015



Figure 2. Global GDP Growth (Percent; quarter over quarter, annualized)



1.12 Natural gas spot prices



# A Profound Transformation is Required

## Today's Unsustainable Energy System

- Limited fuel diversity
- Subject to price volatility
- Inefficient and rigid
- Significant carbon emissions
- Delivery systems vulnerable
- Aging infrastructure

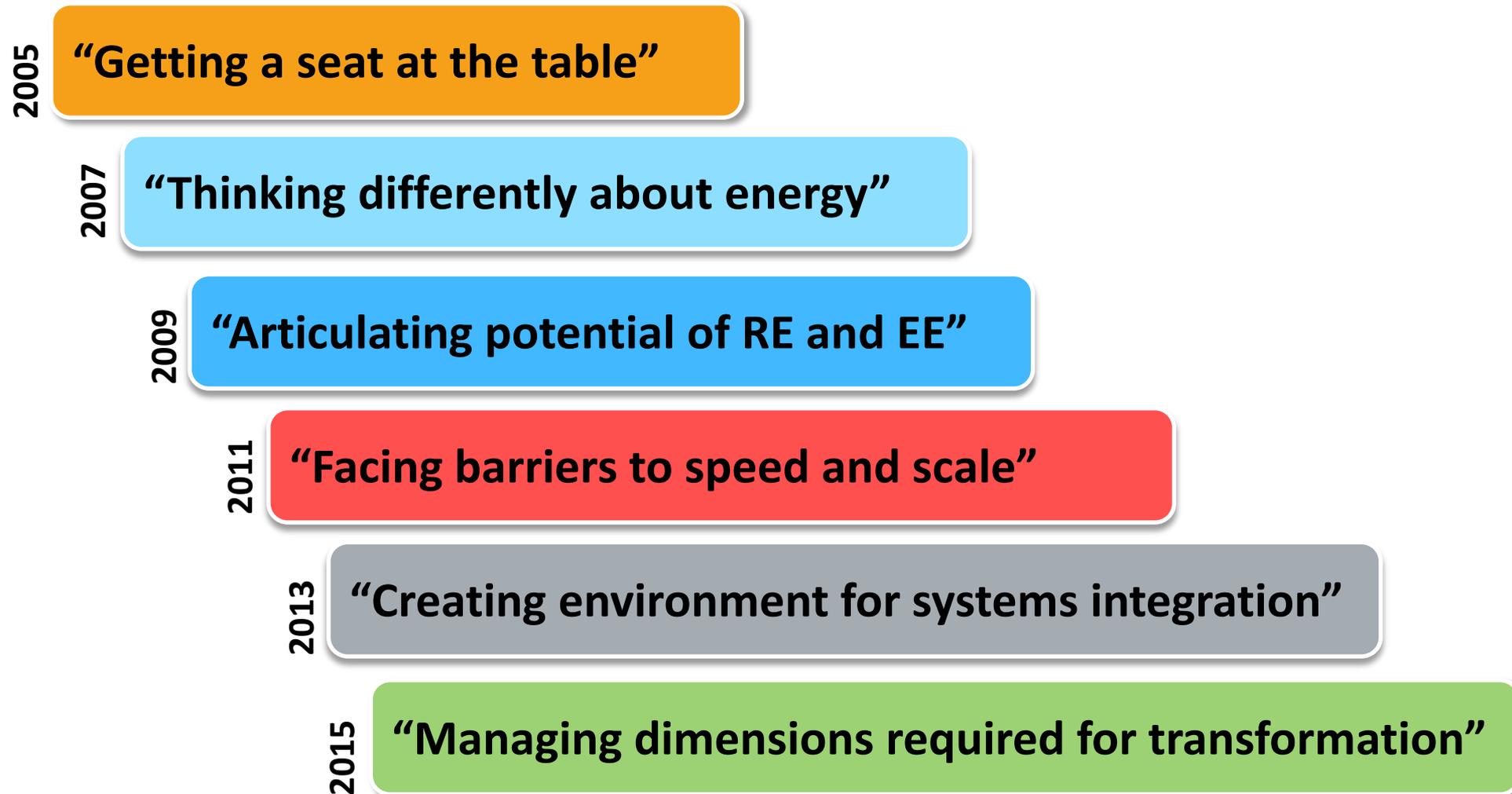
## TRANSFORMATION

## Future Sustainable Energy System

- Diverse supply options
- Affordable, stable and reliable
- Efficient and flexible
- Carbon neutral
- Secure and resilient
- More consumer driven

Updated 3/10/2015

# The Past Decade: An Evolving Focus



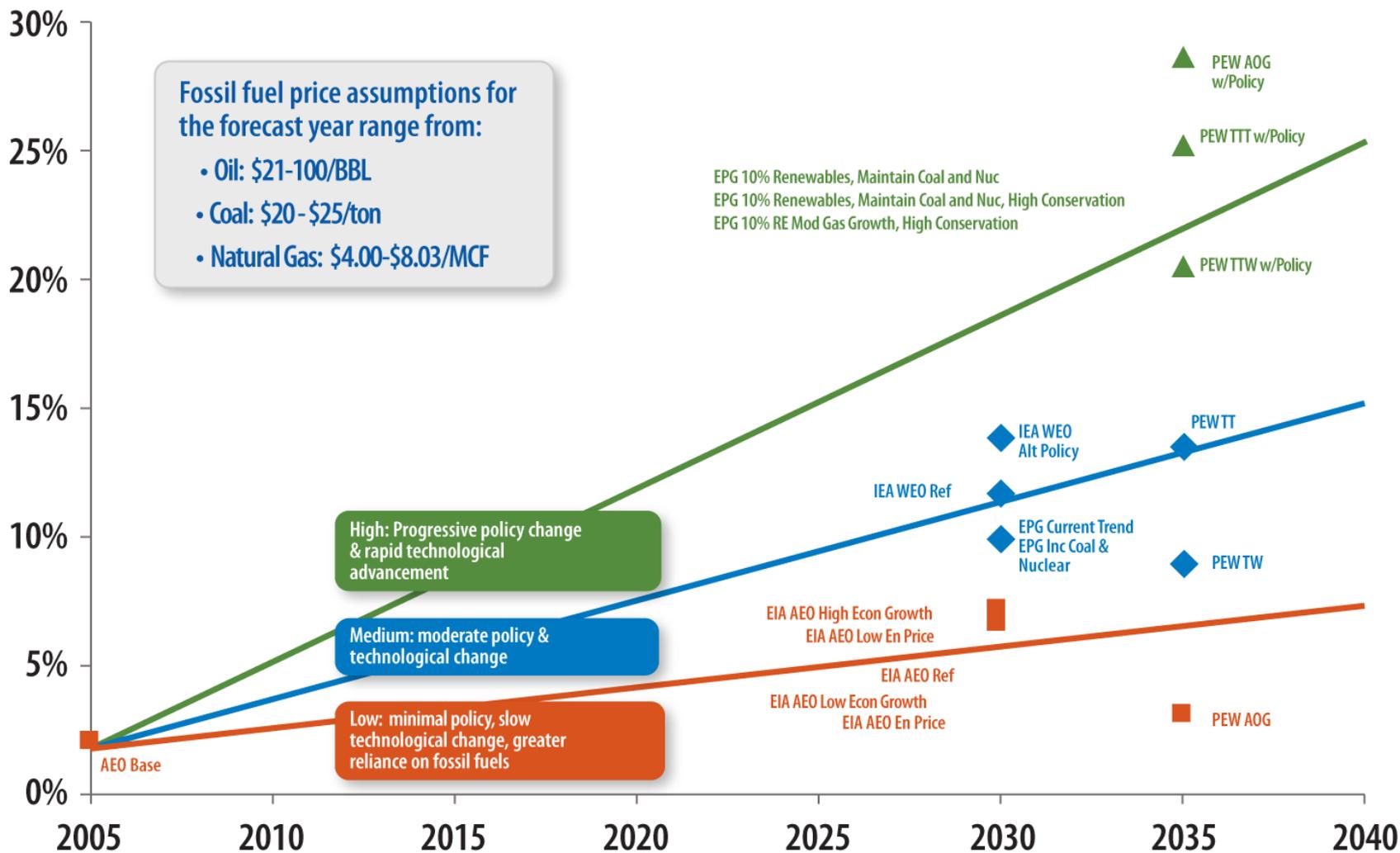
# 2005/2006—Getting a Seat at the Table

- The **Colorado Renewable Energy Requirement Initiative**, also known as **Initiative 37**, was approved in November 2004 with 53.6% of the vote
- Required a percentage of retail electricity sales be derived from renewable sources, beginning with 3% in the year 2007 and increasing to 10% by 2015
- Local utilities opposed the amendment



# U.S. Renewable Energy Contributions

## Percent of Total Non-Hydro Electric Generating Capacity



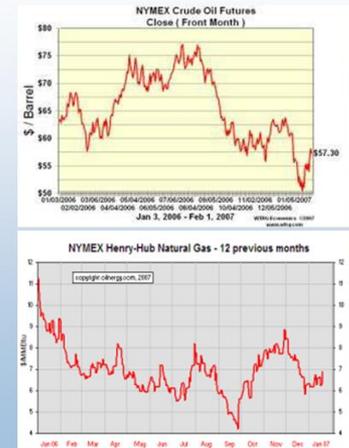
# 2007/2008—Thinking Differently

- Convened experts at the Santa Fe Institute
- Recast the issue
- Take a systems perspective
- Not what we produce but how it's used

## Thinking Differently: Account for Externalities

Today's energy marketplace does not appropriately "value" certain public objectives or social goods, instead we have:

- Price volatility
- Serious environmental impacts
- Underinvestment in energy innovation



## Energy is a means to an end, not an end in itself

Heat and power for where we live and work



Sustainable Electricity System

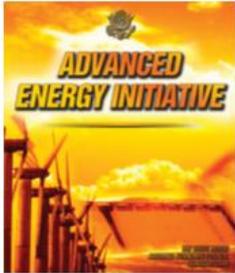
Fuel and power for mobility and access



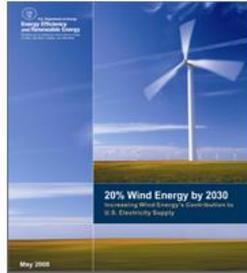
Sustainable Transportation System

# 2009/2010—Articulating the Potential

## Setting the Bar Higher – Gigawatt-Scale Renewables



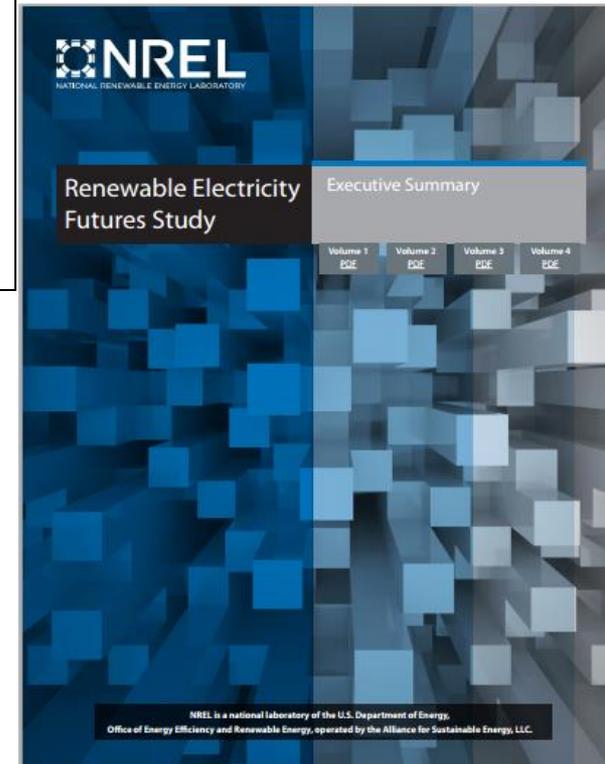
**Solar Vision**  
*10% U.S. electricity by 2025*

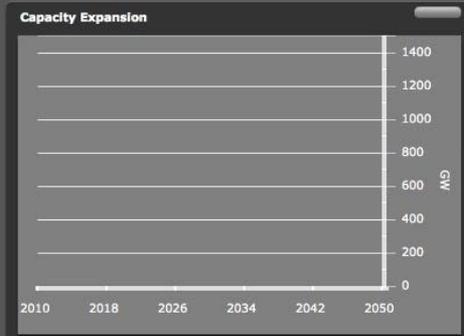
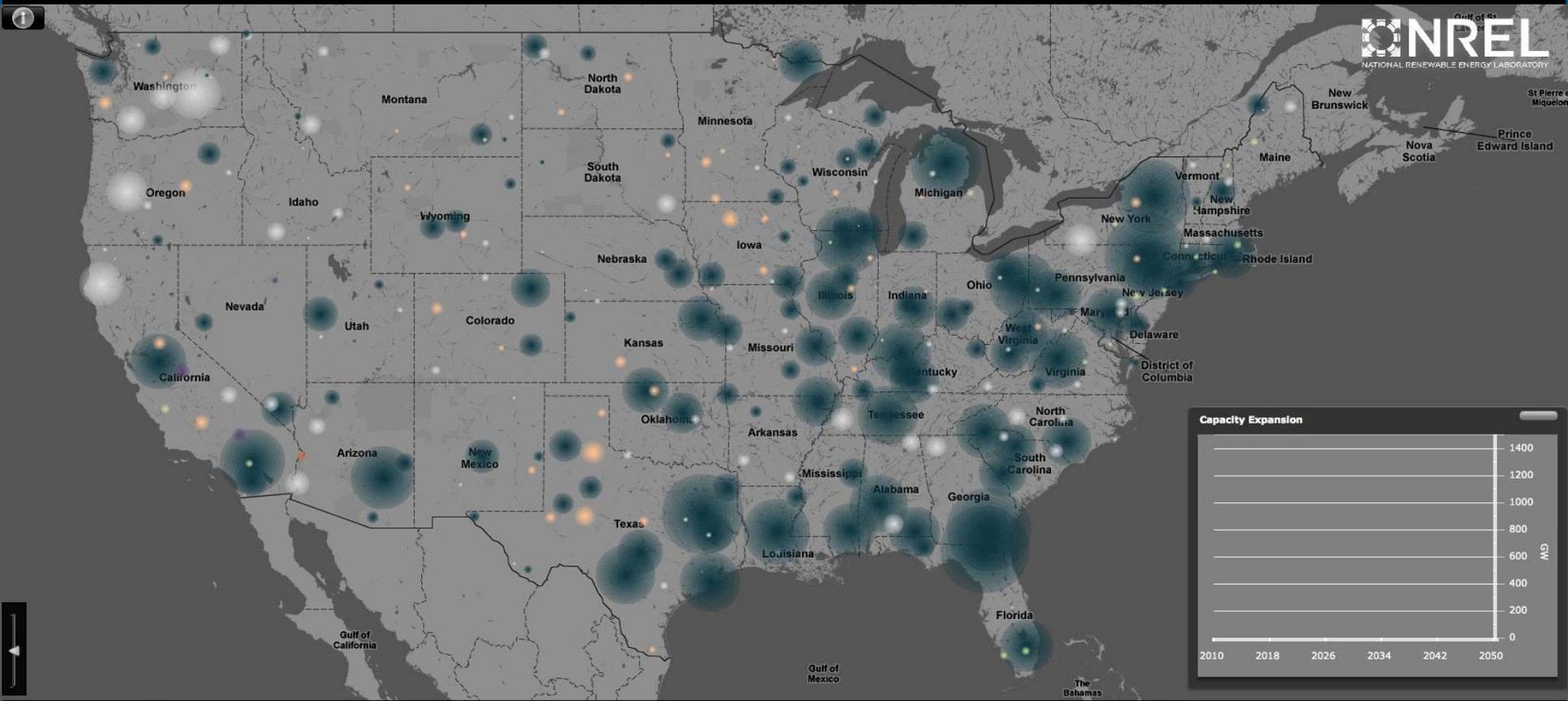


**Wind Vision**  
*20% U.S. electricity by 2030*



**Energy Independence & Security Act 2007**  
*36 billion gallons of renewable fuels by 2022*





- Biopower
- Geothermal
- Hydropower
- CSP
- Photovoltaics
- Wind
- Fossil & Nuclear

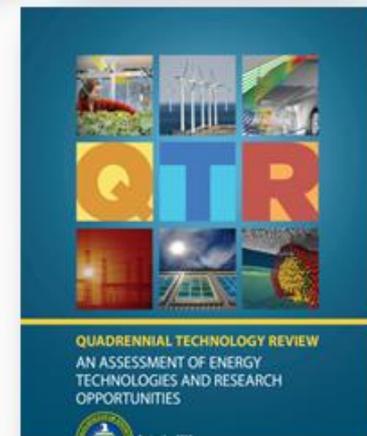
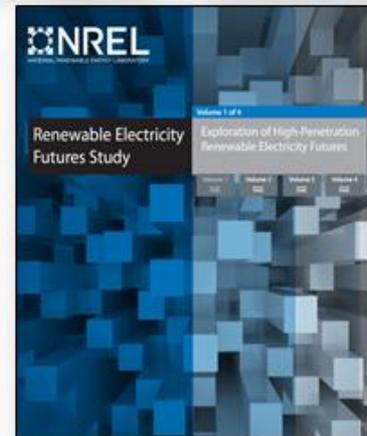
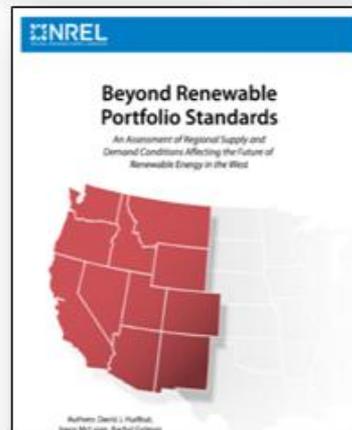
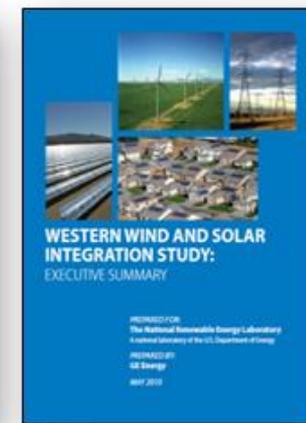
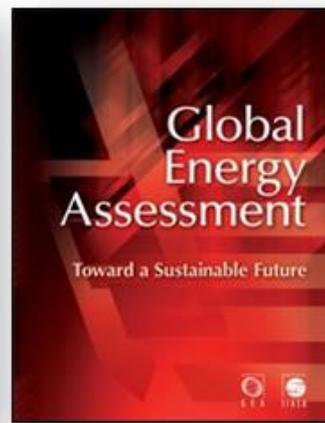
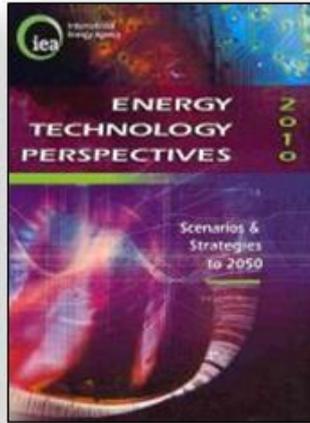
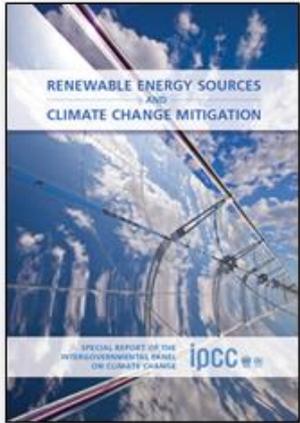
2010

Play Stop

2010 2012 2014 2016 2018 2020 2022 2024 2026 2028 2030 2032 2034 2036 2038 2040 2042 2044 2046 2048 2050

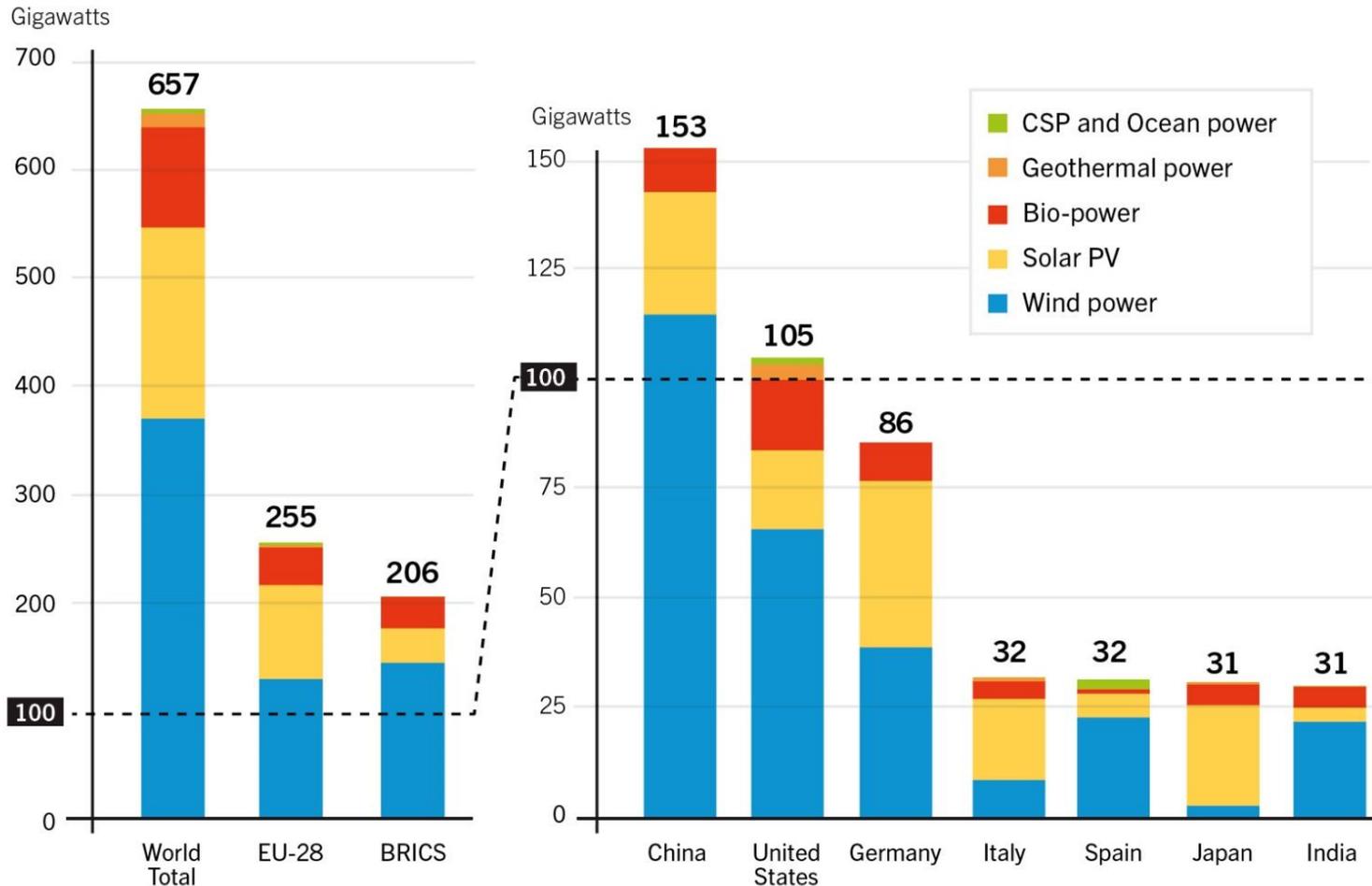
# 2011/2012— Facing Barriers to Speed and Scale

## *Focus on the How*



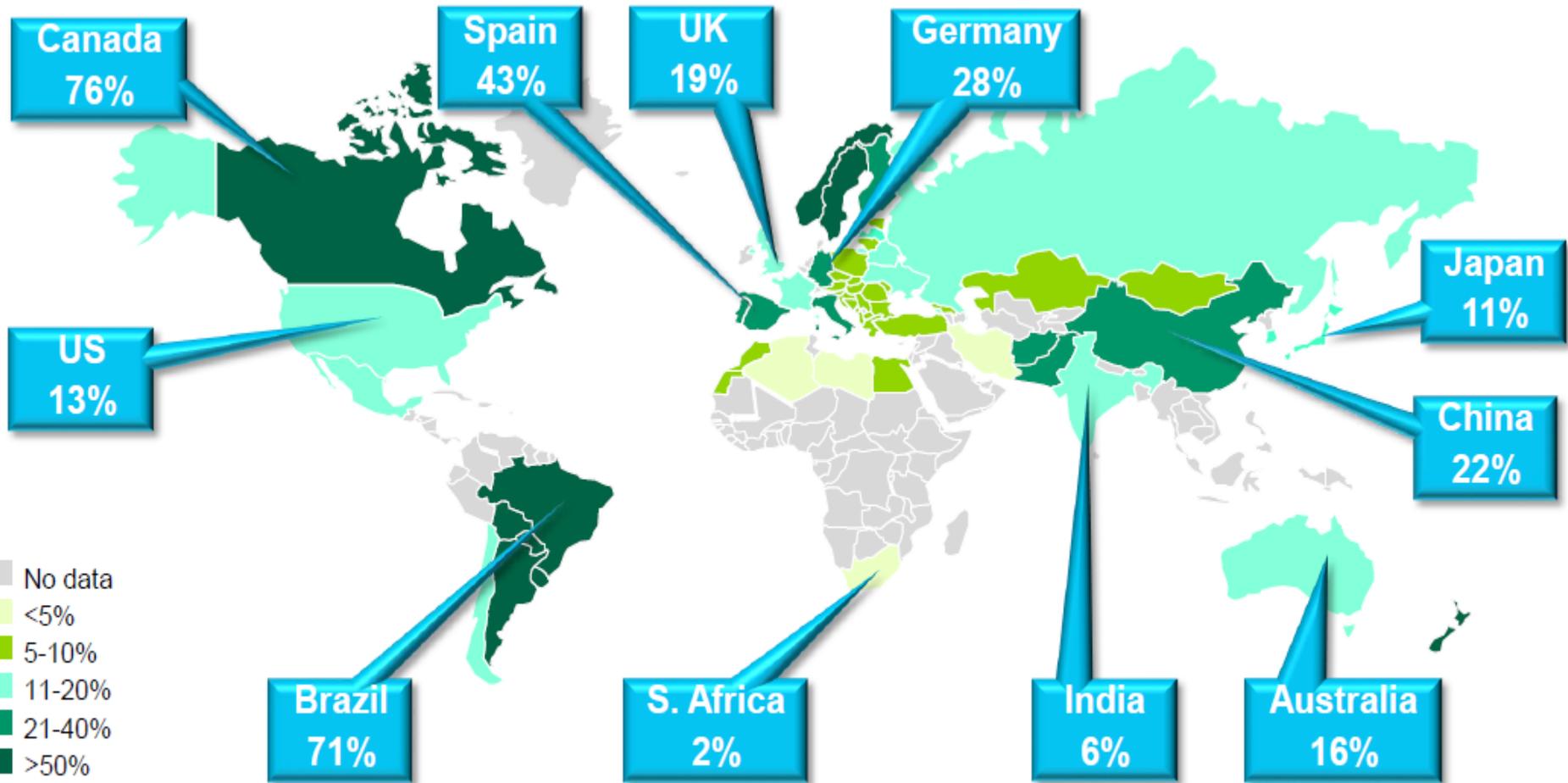
*The technical potential for renewables is enormous.*

# Renewable Power Capacities in World, EU-28, BRICS, and Top Seven Countries, 2015



\*not including hydropower

# Global Renewable Energy Proportion of Power Generation



Source: Oxford Energy, China Electricity Council, BDEW, UK Govt, REE, NRCAN, EIA, USEA, Bloomberg New Energy Finance

Michael Liebreich, New York, 14 April 2015

@MLiebreich

#BNEFSummit

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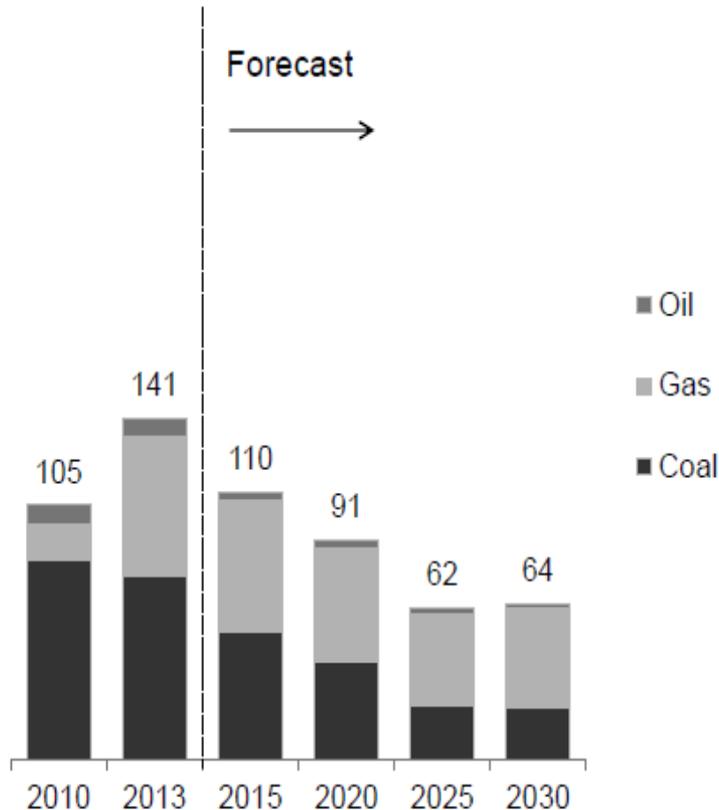
# 2013/2014—Creating the Environment for Systems Integration



*Analyzing, validating, partnering to reduce risk*

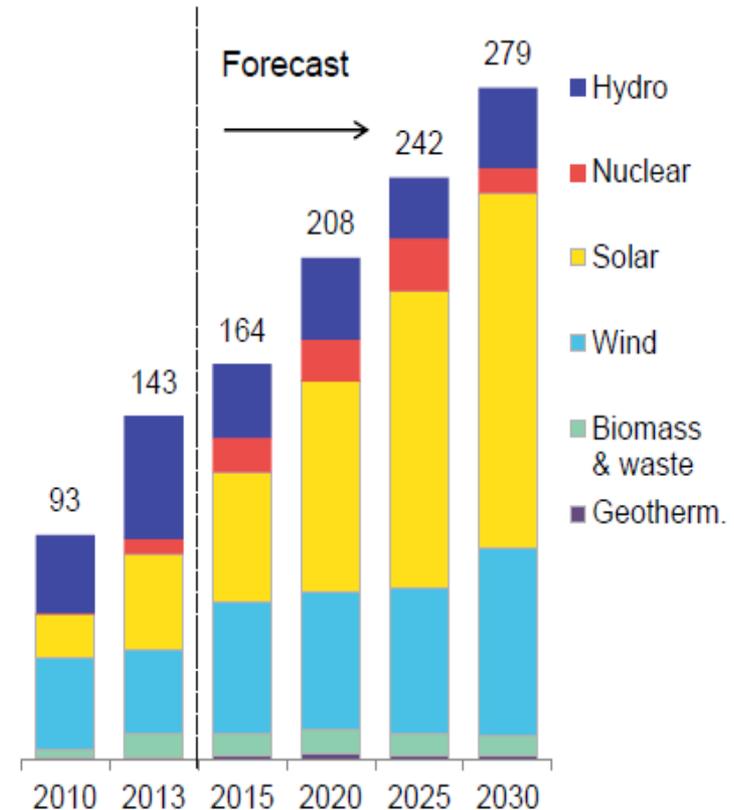
# Global Gross Power Generation Capacity Additions 2010-2013 (GW)

## FOSSIL FUEL



Note: Underlying data is from GREMO 2014

## CLEAN ENERGY



Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance

Michael Liebreich, New York, 14 April 2015

@MLiebreich

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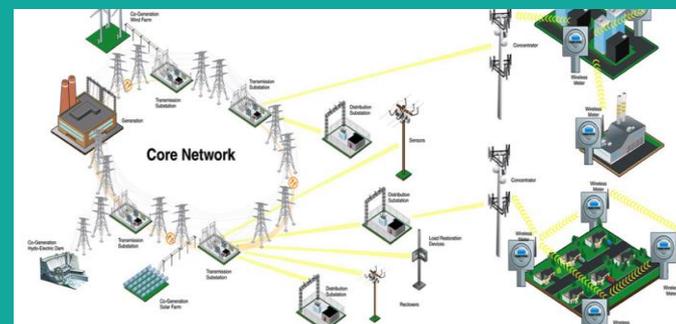
# 2015—Managing Dimensions Required for Transformation

- **Disruptive technologies**
- **Differentiated energy services**
- **Disintermediation of the value chain**
- **Distributed resources**

Updated 6/18/2015



## Six Services

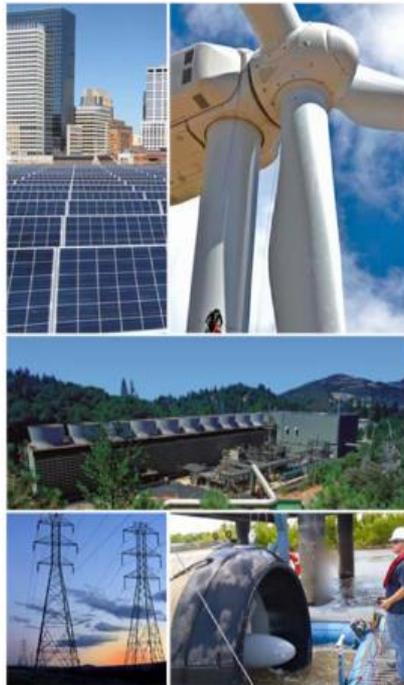


# Disruptive Technologies

## Sustainable TRANSPORTATION



## Renewable ELECTRICITY GENERATION

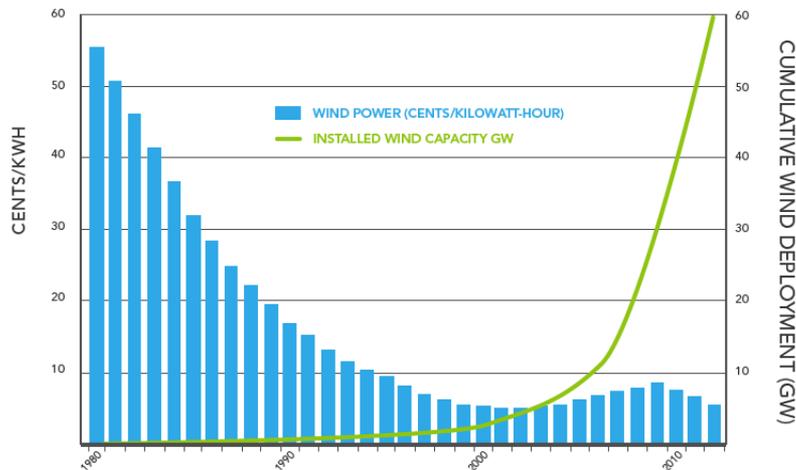


## Energy Saving HOMES, BUILDINGS, & MANUFACTURING

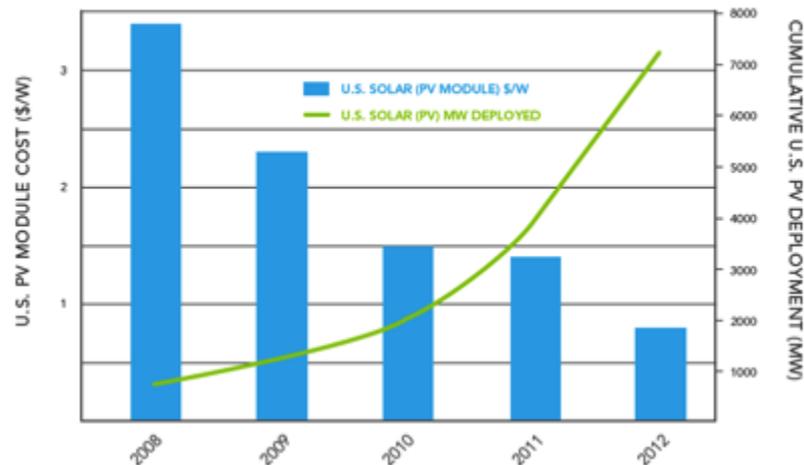


# Disruptive Technologies

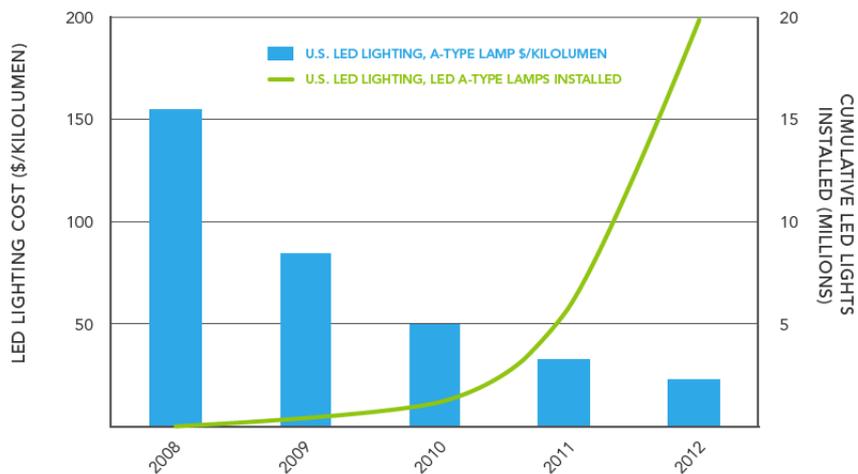
Deployment and Cost for U.S. Land-Based Wind  
1980-2012



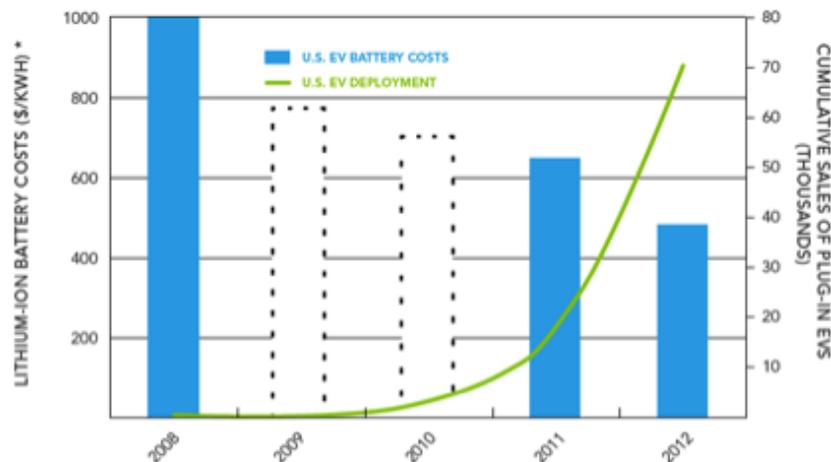
U.S. Deployment and Cost for Solar PV Modules  
2008-2012



Deployment and Cost for A-Type LED Lights  
2008-2012



Deployment and Cost for Electric Vehicles and Batteries\*  
2008-2012



Source: "Revolution Now: The Future Arrives for Four Clean Energy Technologies", DOE, 2013

# Differentiated Energy Services

## Six Services

Shelter and Comfort



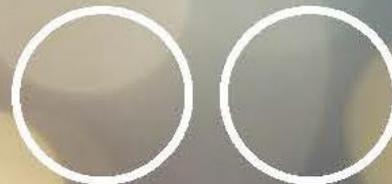
Safety and Security

Durable Goods



Feedstocks, Fuels,  
and Chemicals

Information and  
Access

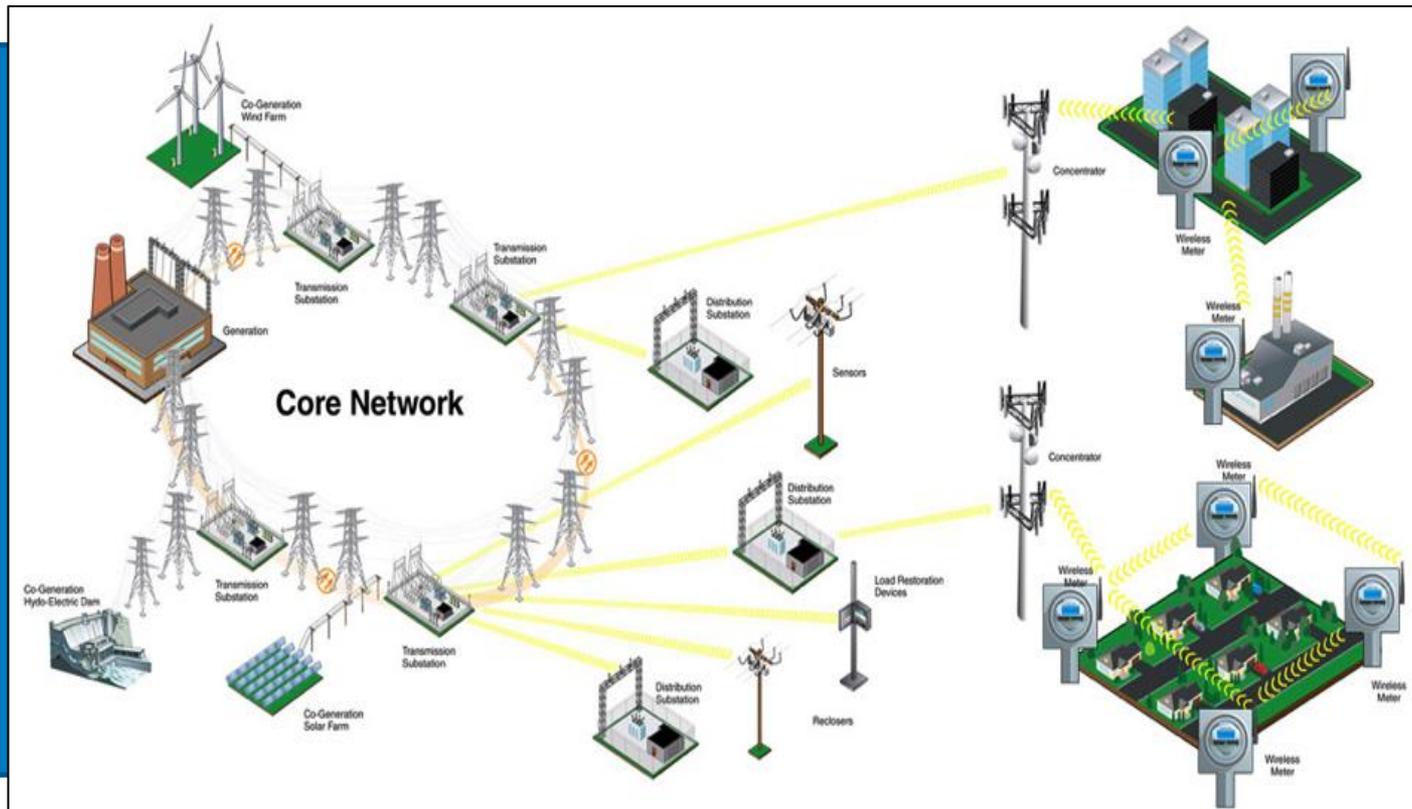


Mobility

# Technologies Enabling Energy Services

<p><b>Shelter &amp; Comfort</b> Low-cost storage Design control and sensors Microgrids and management Discretionary load efficiency Off-site construction and disaster Rebuilding/recovery</p>	<p><b>Durable Goods</b> Bio manufacturing High value roll-to-roll processing Sustainable advanced composites Advanced energy materials Kerfless Si wafering PV manufacturing</p>	<p><b>Feedstocks, Fuels and Chemicals</b> Biomass catalytic conversion to specialty and commodity chemicals Synthetic biology conversion to specialty and commodity chemicals Process intensification/integration</p>
<p><b>Information &amp; Access</b> Intelligent, scalable energy systems and tools Networked grids/microgrids Intelligent energy agents and devices Energy enabled personal services</p>	<p><b>Mobility</b> Next gen electric vehicles Low-cost RE H2 techs Data; Management, connectivity &amp; security Fuels/engine optimization Bio-based materials</p>	<p><b>Safe Secure &amp; Reliable Power Systems</b> Secure and reliable microgrids Rapid response microgrids Reliable personal “nano-grids”</p>

# Distributed Resources



# Disintermediation of the Value Chain



# Invent the Future We Desire



## TECHNOLOGY

- Cyber-attacks with long/widespread outages
- Physical disruptions with long/widespread outages (e.g. weather, attacks)
- Improved flexibility management (technical aspects)
- Electrification of the transportation sector



## POLICY AND REGULATORY

- Final EPA Section 111 (d) rules
- National carbon market or carbon tax (policy)
- Policies to accelerate prevention of/recovery from cyber attacks
- Improved flexibility management (policies and regulations)
- Evolved regulations and policies focused on value of services
- Inability to, or high cost of interconnection
- Improved bulk system interconnections and sub-hourly markets



## MARKET

- National carbon market or carbon tax (market)
- Improved flexibility management (market aspects)
- Evolved market rules focused on value of services
- Improved bulk system interconnections and sub-hourly markets



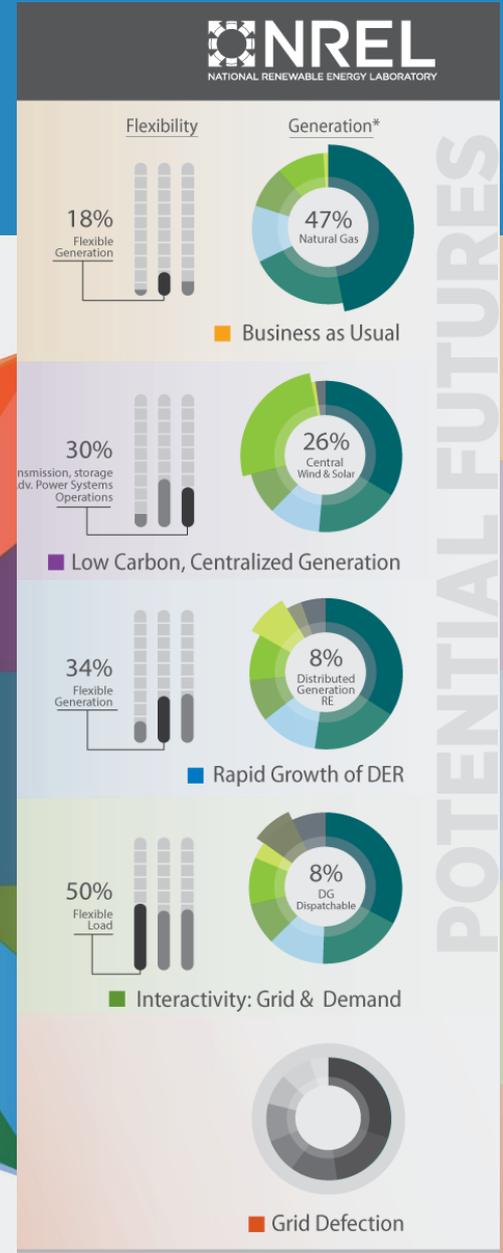
## FINANCING

- Reduce capital uncertainties for clean generation (VRE, clean coal, nuclear), DG, bulk and distributed storage, value of services (flexibility, interactivity), and cyber-attack and physical disruption prevention
- Increased capital and financing for consumer-purchased resources
- Natural gas (NG) pipeline expansion limits, and NG fracking environmental restrictions



## UTILITY BUSINESS MODELS

- Evolved business models focused on value of services
- Improved flexibility management (business aspects)
- Involvement of non-utilities (including third-party owners, customers) with different interests/business cases



DISRUPTIONS

POTENTIAL FUTURES

# Partnerships More Important Than Ever

wyle

ABENGOA SOLAR

ALSTOM

RF  
MICRO-DEVICES

JM  
JOHNSON  
MATTHEY

SolarCity

CSIRO

AMPULSE

FedEx

JCPenney

1366  
TECHNOLOGIES

ADVANCED  
ENERGY

Google

SIEMENS

Walmart  
Save money. Live better.

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PHOTON SOLAR POWER  
The Art of The Sun

Ascent  
SOLAR

OPTONY  
Solar for Life™

novozymes

GE

TOYOTA

bp

Bank of America

DOW

labsphere

BERGEY  
WINDPOWER

Eskom

SkyFuel

LOCKHEED MARTIN

Xcel Energy

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BEST BUY

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

CATERPILLAR

HelioVolt

MiaSolé  
Thin-film solar

Pardee Homes  
Where smart solutions live.

Southern  
California  
Gas Company

A Sempra Energy company





**To achieve a  
clean energy  
vision, we must...**

**Invest in innovation**

**Invent the future we desire**

**Improve access to capital**

**Partner on a global scale**



For more than 35 years, NREL has delivered innovation impact enabling the emergence of the U.S. clean energy industry.



For more information, please visit our website at [www.nrel.gov](http://www.nrel.gov)