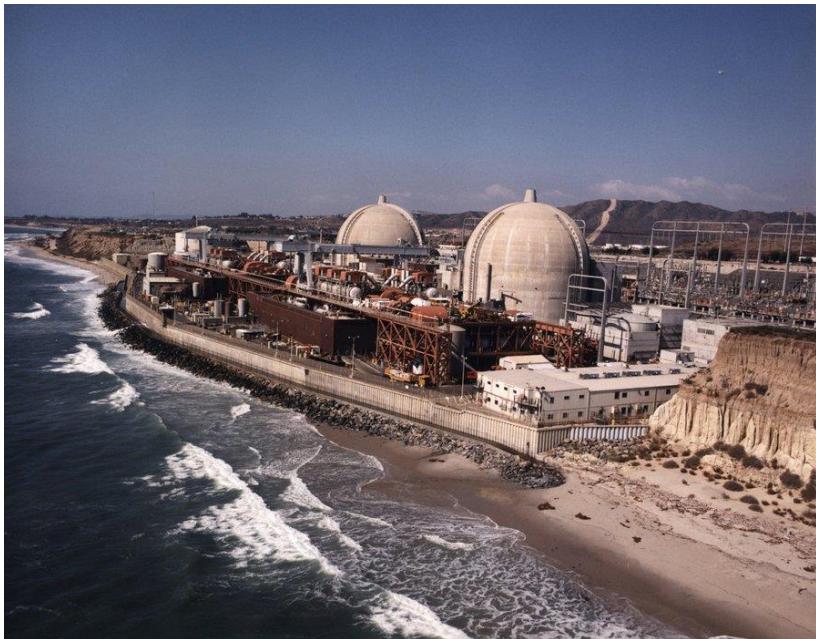


Economies of scale vs societal interest in small autonomous systems

James McCalley

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Electrical & Computer Engineering
Iowa State University



San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant,
Southern California

Energy Systems Integration 102
National Renewable Energy Laboratory
Golden, Colorado, August 3-7, 2015



A neighborhood in Sacramento, CA, 2014

Overview

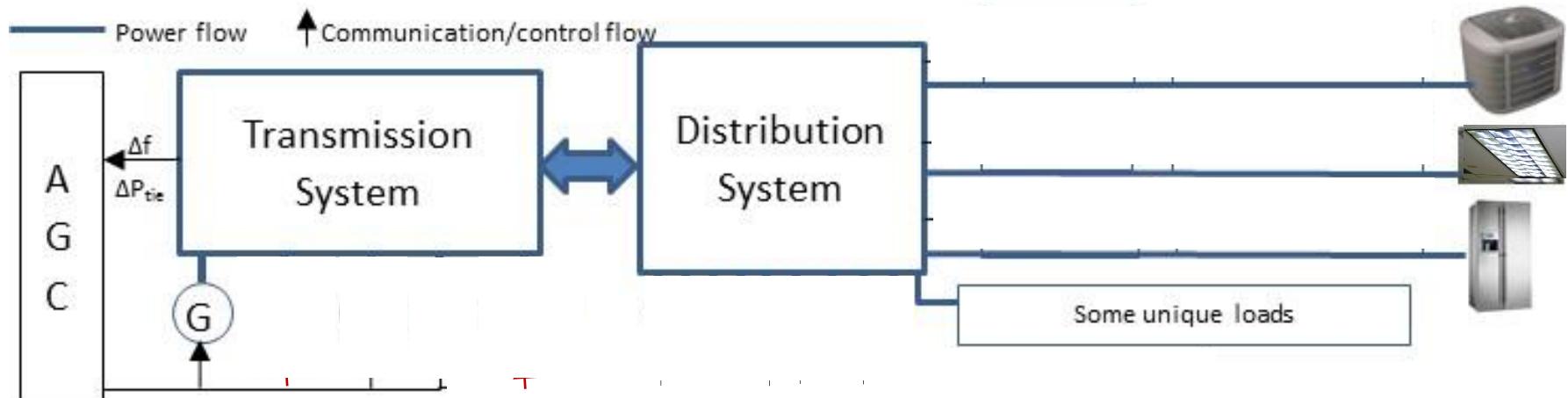
- 1. Assignment**
- 2. Vision diversity**
- 3. Flex-fuel polygeneration power plants**
- 4. Design objectives**
 - **Flexibility**
 - **Reliability**
 - **Resilience**
 - **Adaptability**
 - **Economics:**
 - **Economies of scale**
 - **Other influences**
 - **What do investors think about technologies?**
- 5. Paths forward**
- 6. Concluding comment**

Assignment

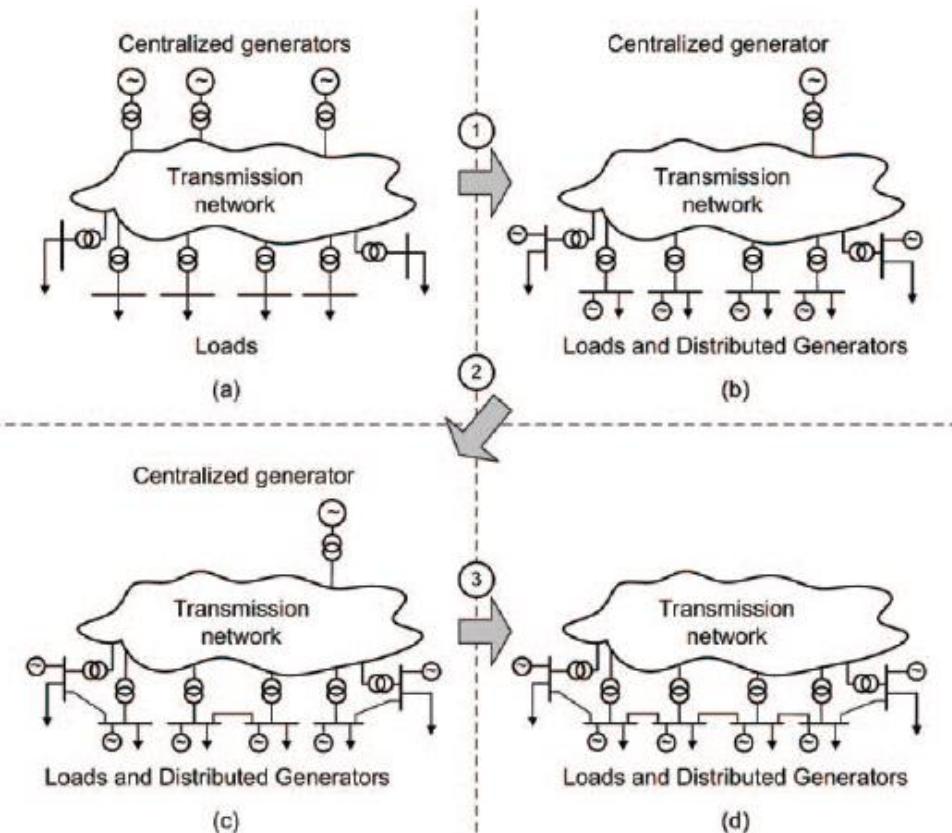
- Form groups of three-four, meet from 10:00-10:45.
- Your group is charged with answering the following questions:
 1. What technologies *should* provide the highest percentage of _____ electrical energy production in 2035?
Insert name of continent, country, interconnection, region, state, city, or community.
 2. What is the main weakness of each option?
- The continent, country, interconnection, etc., chosen for this exercise should be the same one chosen for the course project.
- To facilitate your group's discussion, fill the chart on the next page, giving each technology, for each attribute, one of the following grades:
 - A: the technology performs “very well” in this attribute
 - C: the technology performs “fair” in this attribute
 - F: the technology performs “very poor” in this attribute
- You may add technologies & attributes as you deem appropriate
- Each group will provide a 10 min report from 10:45-12:00.

Additional technologies

Vision Diversity



Vision Diversity

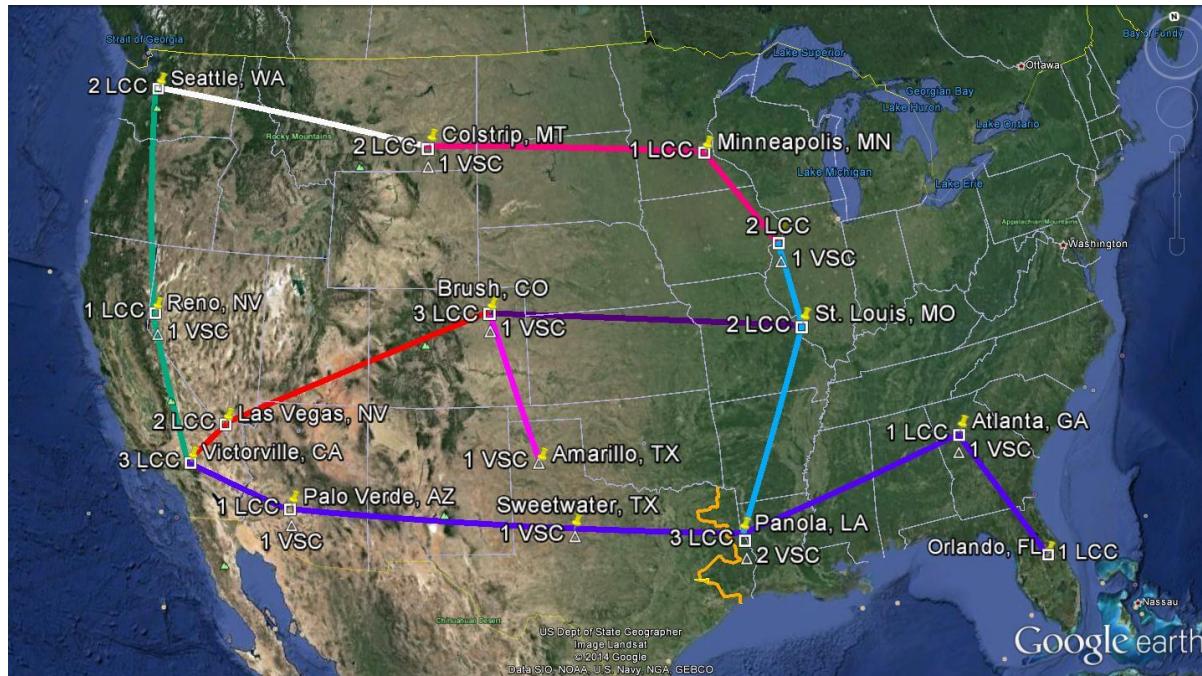


“...as DG becomes ubiquitous the need for a classical power transmission system disappears; there is no need for long-distance bulk-power transfer if power sources are distributed within close proximity.”

- S. Bush, “Distributed generation and transmission,” in “Smart Grid: Communication-Enabled Intelligence for the Electric Power Grid,” First Edition. 2014 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

M. Reza, “Stability analysis of transmission systems with high penetration of distributed generation,” Ph.D. dissertation, Delft University of Technology, Delft, the Netherlands, 2006.

Vision Diversity



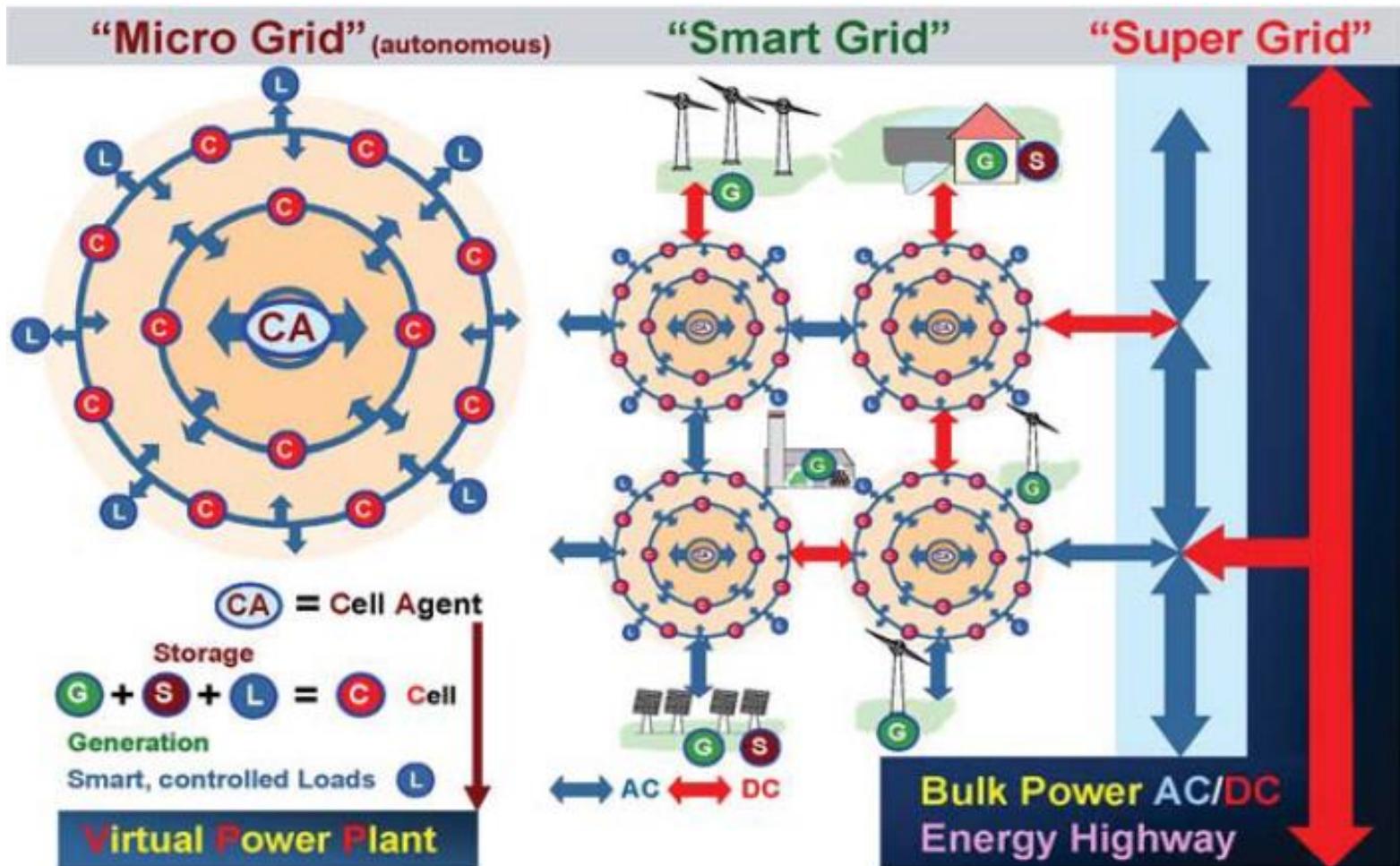
Benefit	Total	
Load Diversity	\$ 21.0 Billion	46%
Frequency Response	\$ 9.8 Billion	22%
Wind Diversity	\$ 2.2 Billion	5%
Other Energy Based Benefits	\$ 12.2 Billion	27%
Grand Total	\$45.3 Billion	

Courtesy of Dale Osborn, Mid-Continent Independent System Operator (MISO), 2015.

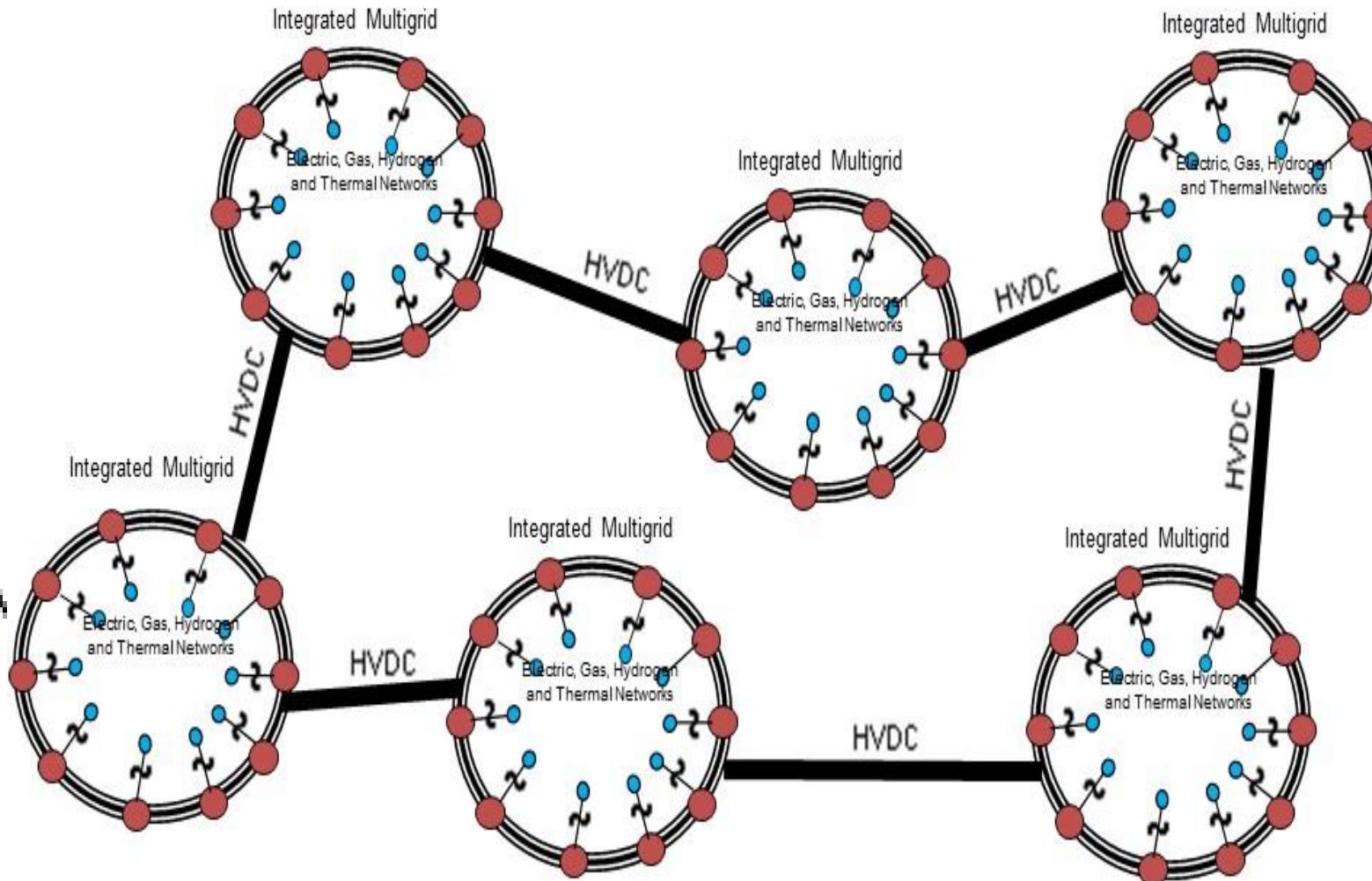
Vision Diversity

“Distributed Generation (DG) is generally considered as an alternative to bulk power transport. The basic idea is that the presence of electricity generation inside the distribution systems leads to a reduction of the local electricity needs, which consequently leads to a reduced need for power transmission capacity and thus a deferral of investments in transmission lines. However, due to the different operational characteristics of the plethora of types of distributed generation, this hypothesis may prove invalid. Controllable distributed generation, defined as local generation of which the power output can be regulated by the system operator (e.g. stand-alone gas-fired combustion units) will certainly have a positive impact on this direction.”

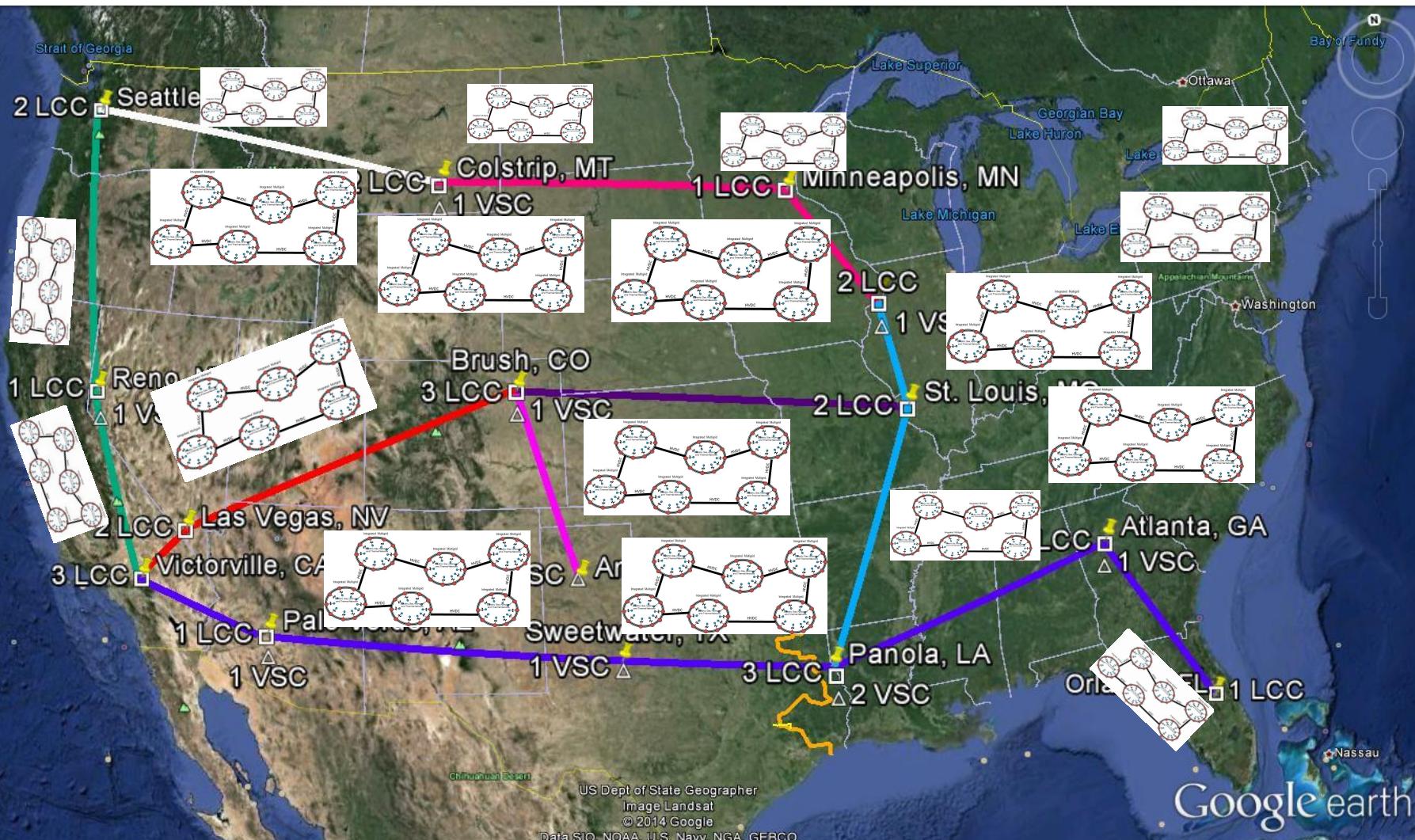
Vision Diversity



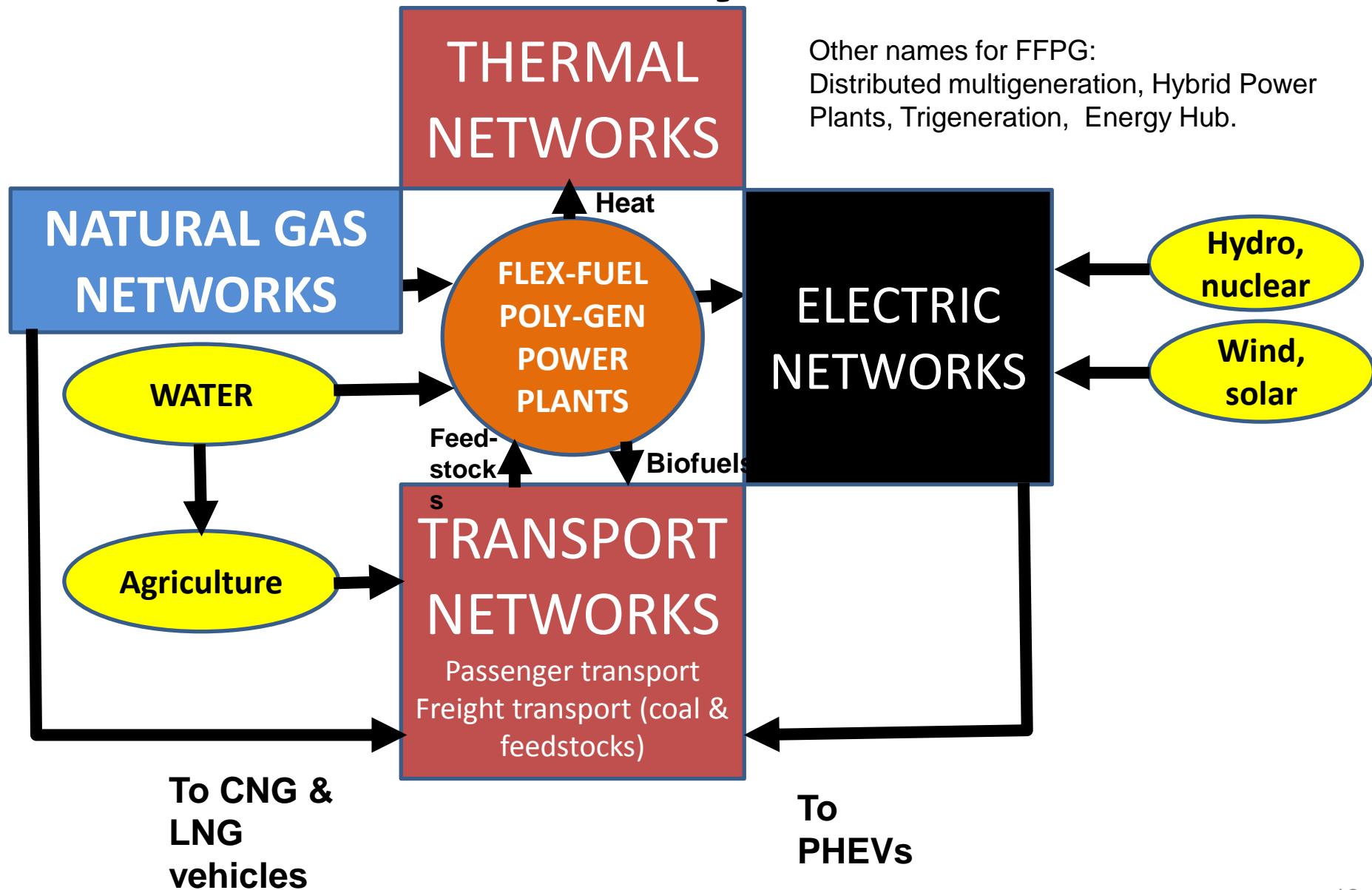
Vision Diversity



Vision Diversity

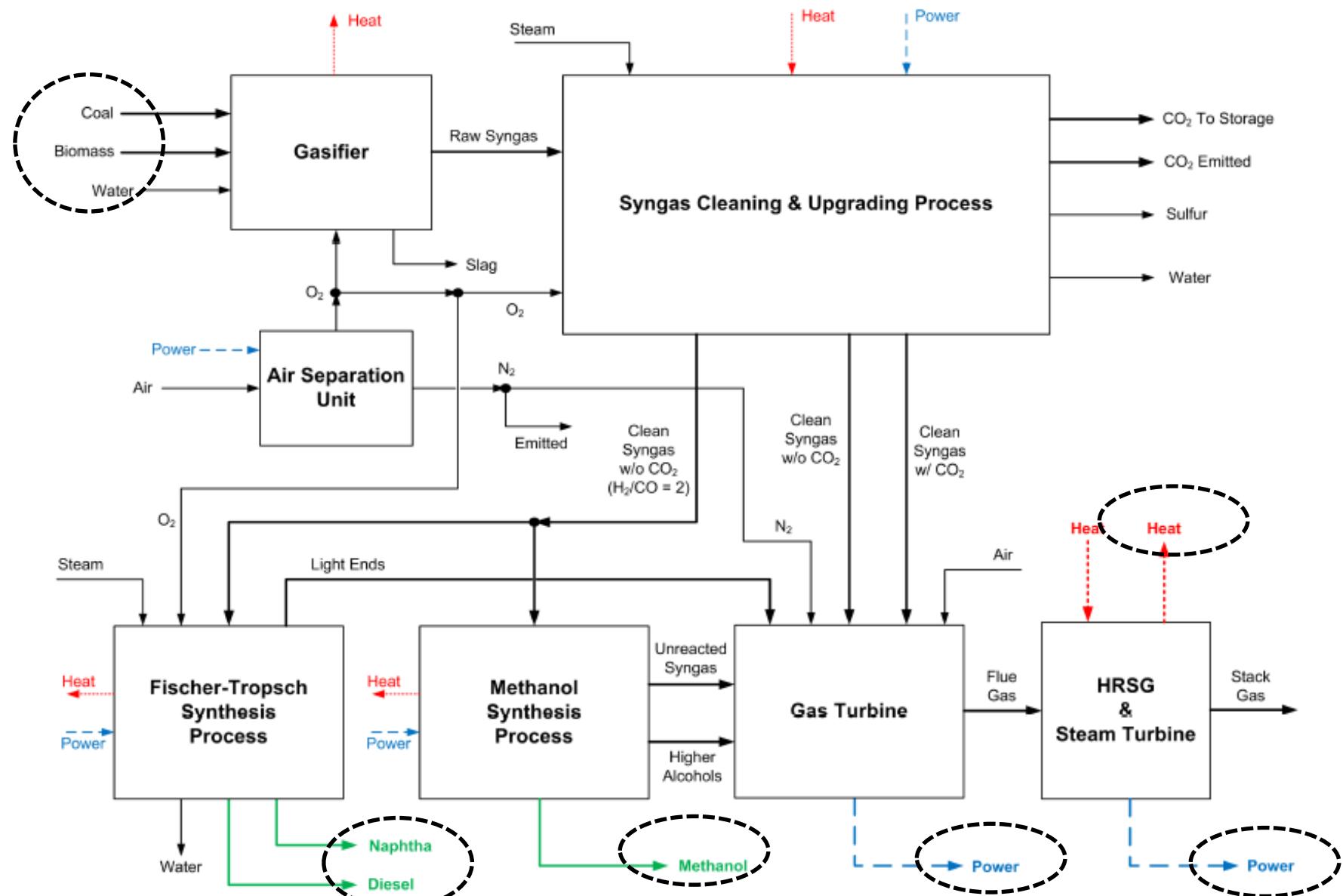


Vision Diversity: MultiGrids

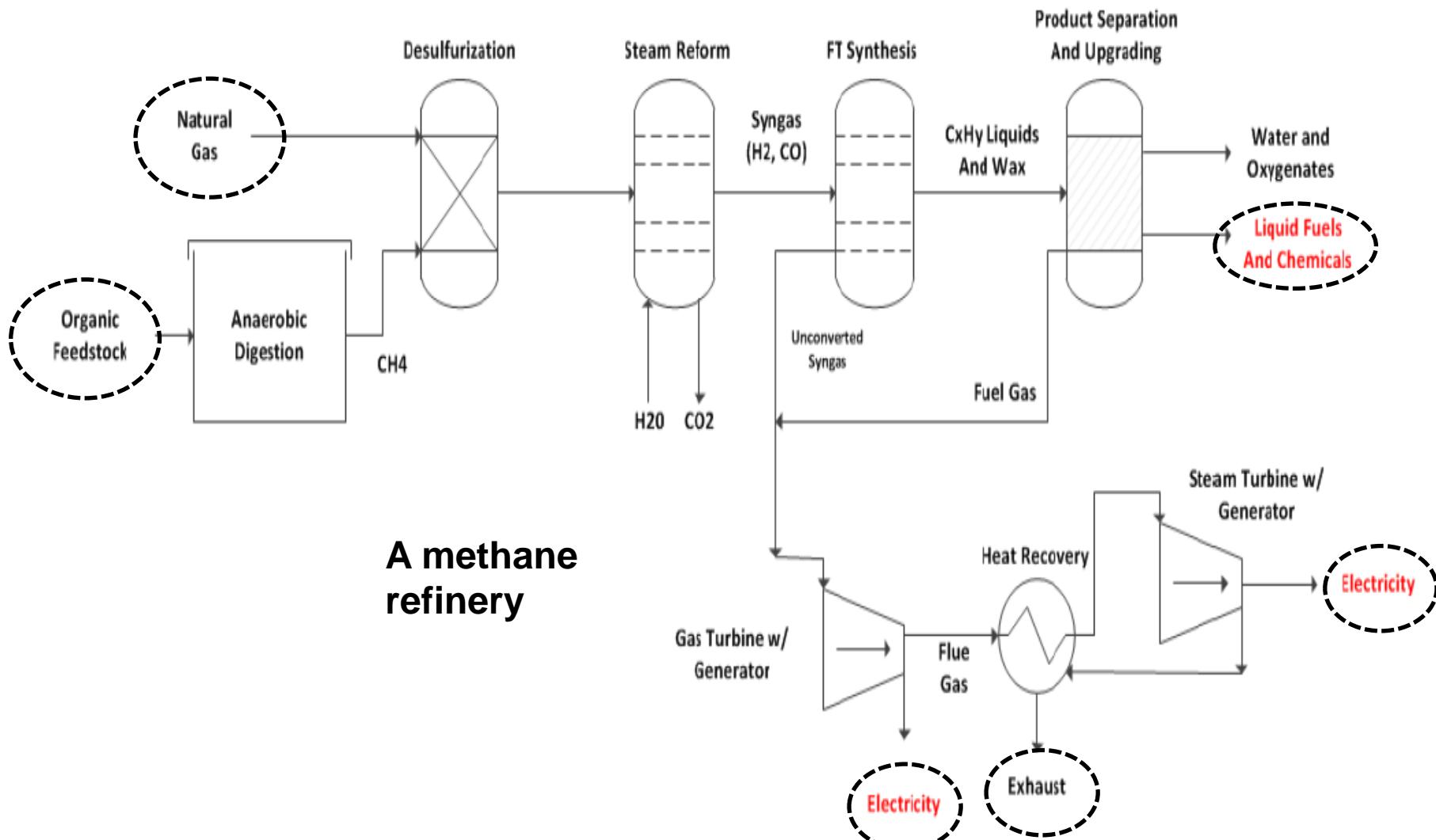


Other names for FFPG:
Distributed multigeneration, Hybrid Power Plants, Trigeneration, Energy Hub.

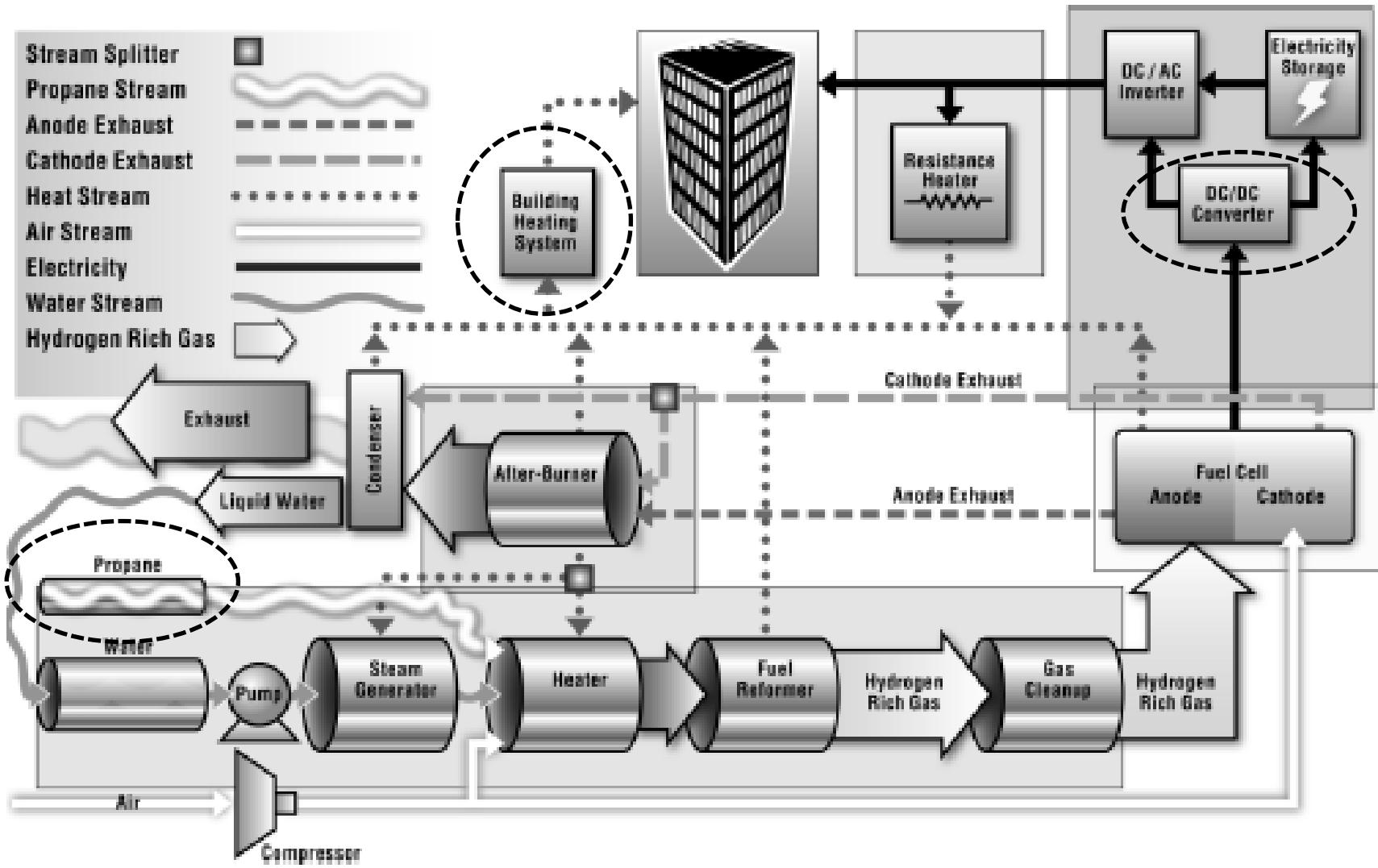
Combustion-based FFPG: Flex Fuel (Coal/Biomass) Poly-Generation (power/heat/biofuels/methanol)



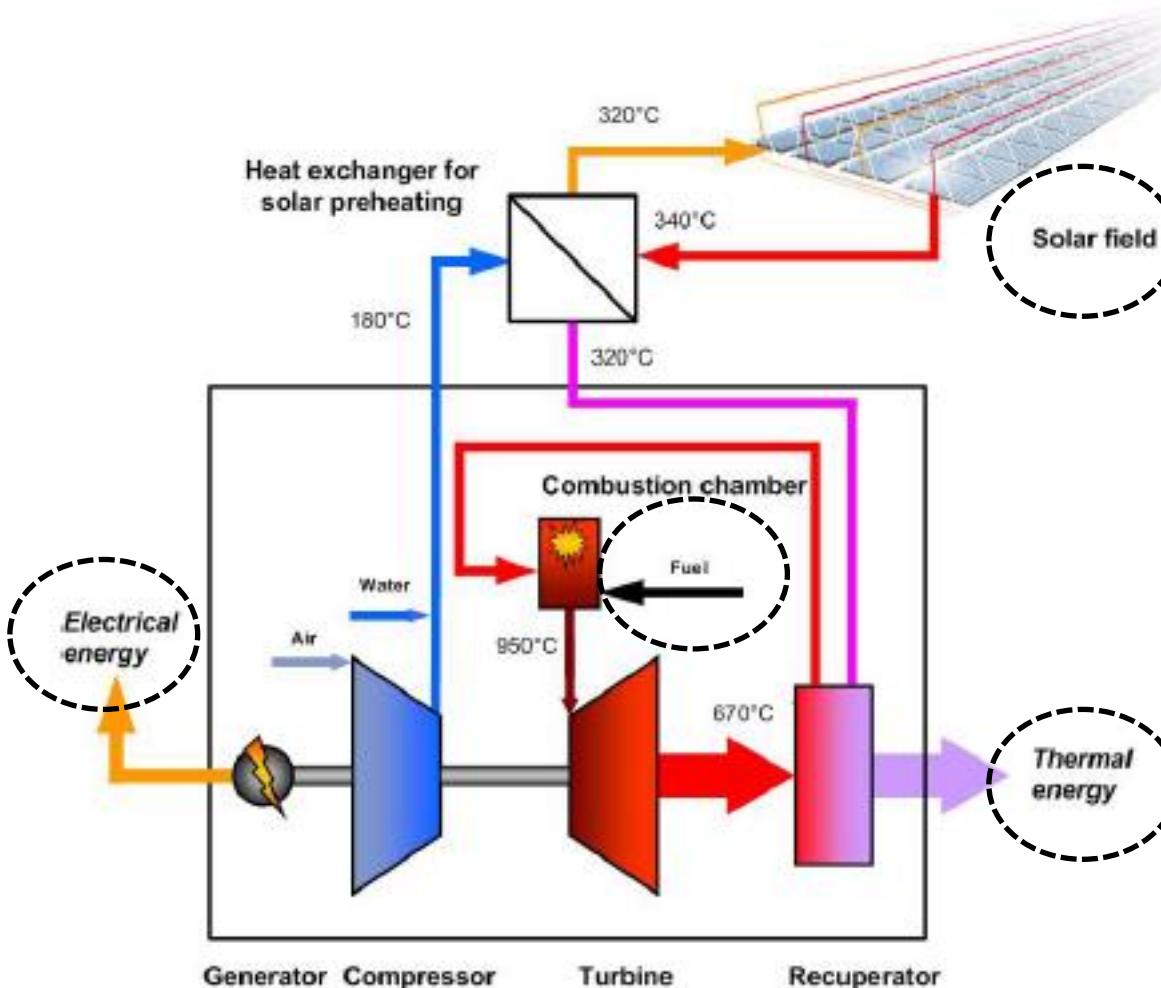
Combustion-based FFPG: Flex Fuel (Gas/Biomass) Poly-Generation (power/heat/biofuels)



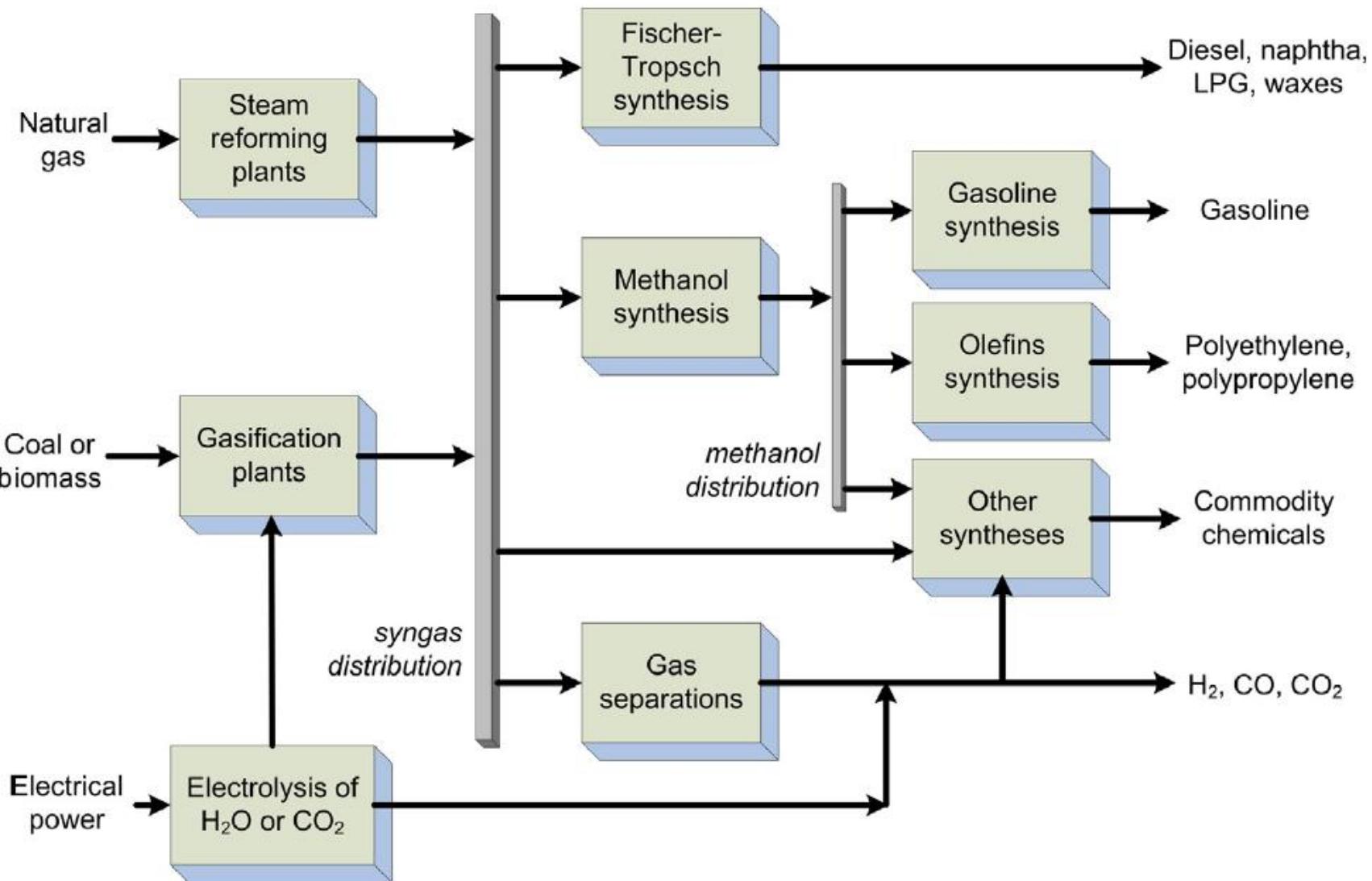
Fuel-cell based FFPG: Flex Fuel (Gas to H₂) Poly-Generation (power/heat)



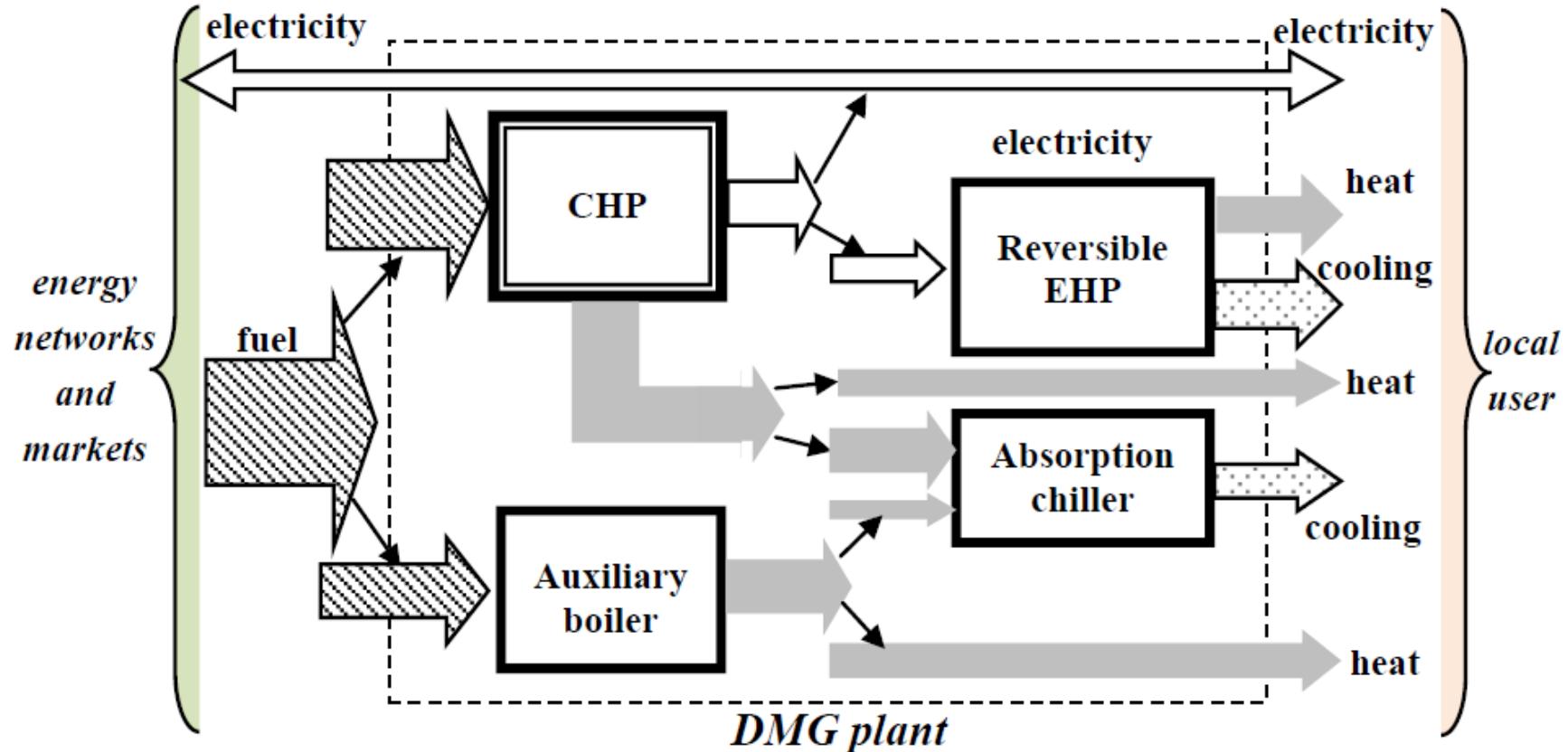
Solar-based FFPG: Flex Fuel (Solar) Poly-Generation (power/heat)



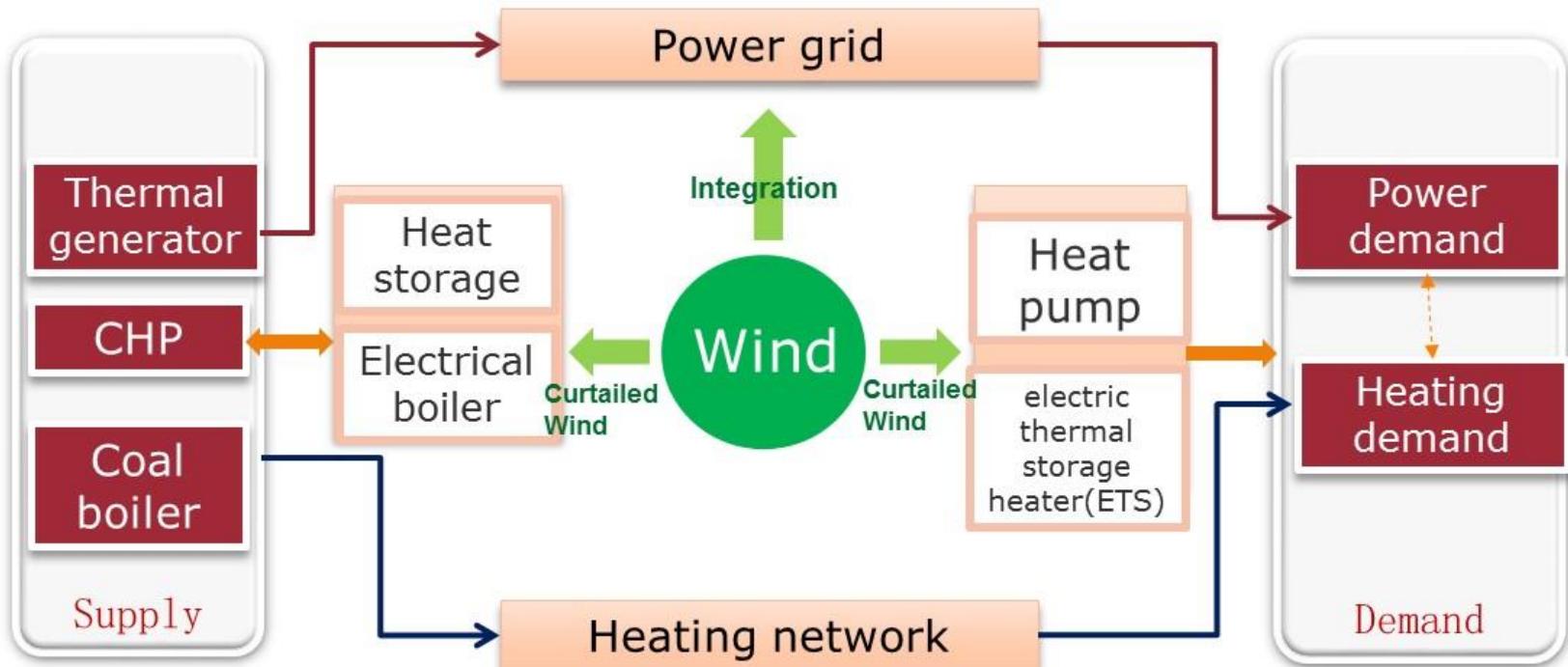
Syngas-based FFPG: Flex Fuel (Natural Gas/Coal/Biomass/Power) Poly-Generation (Biofuels, Gasoline, H₂, Chemicals)



FFPG: Flex Fuel (Natural Gas/Coal/Biomass/Power) Poly-Generation (Power, Heat, Cooling)



FFPG: Flex Fuel (Natural Gas/Coal/Biomass/Power) Poly-Generation (Power, Heat)



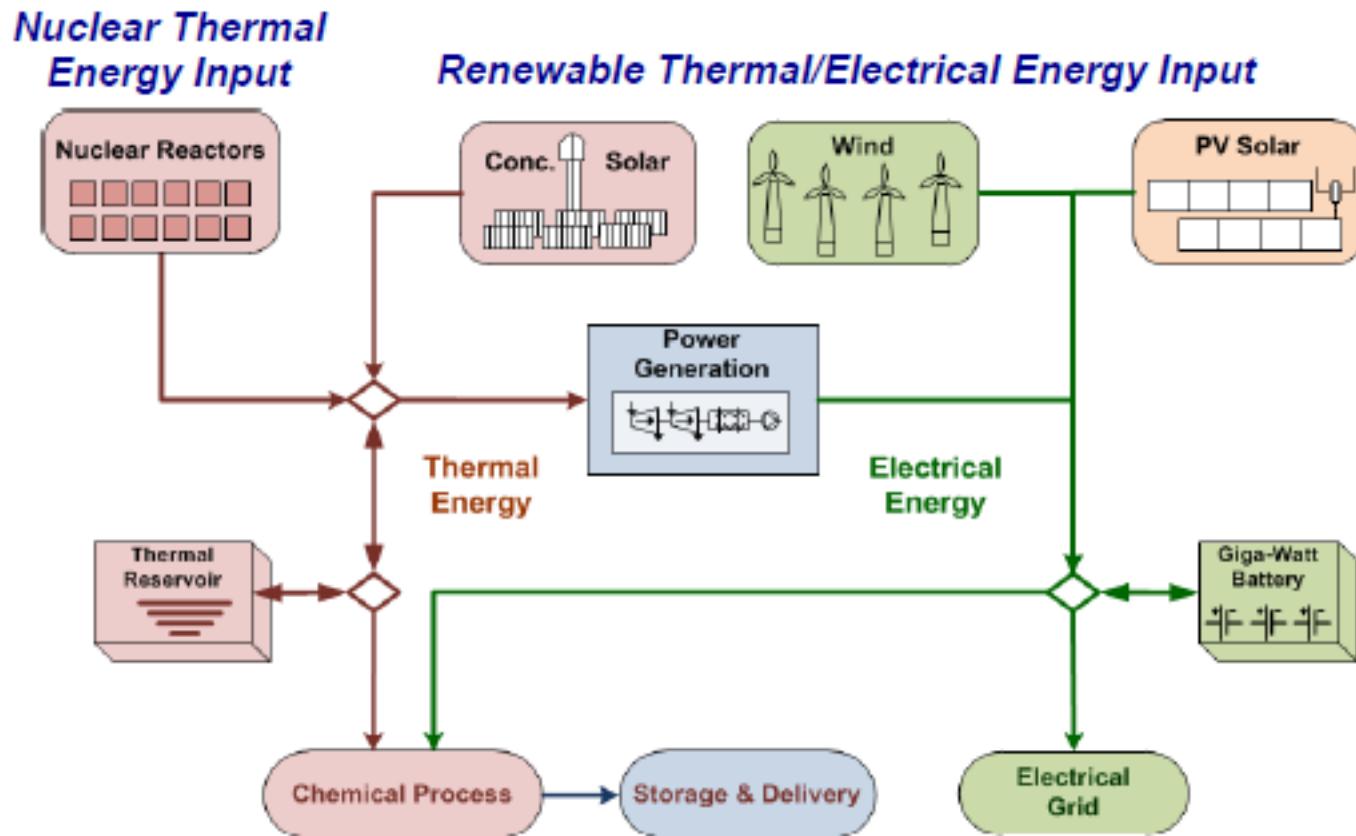
1. Supply side:

Increasing the flexibility of CHP by interacting with heat storage, electrical boiler and wind power

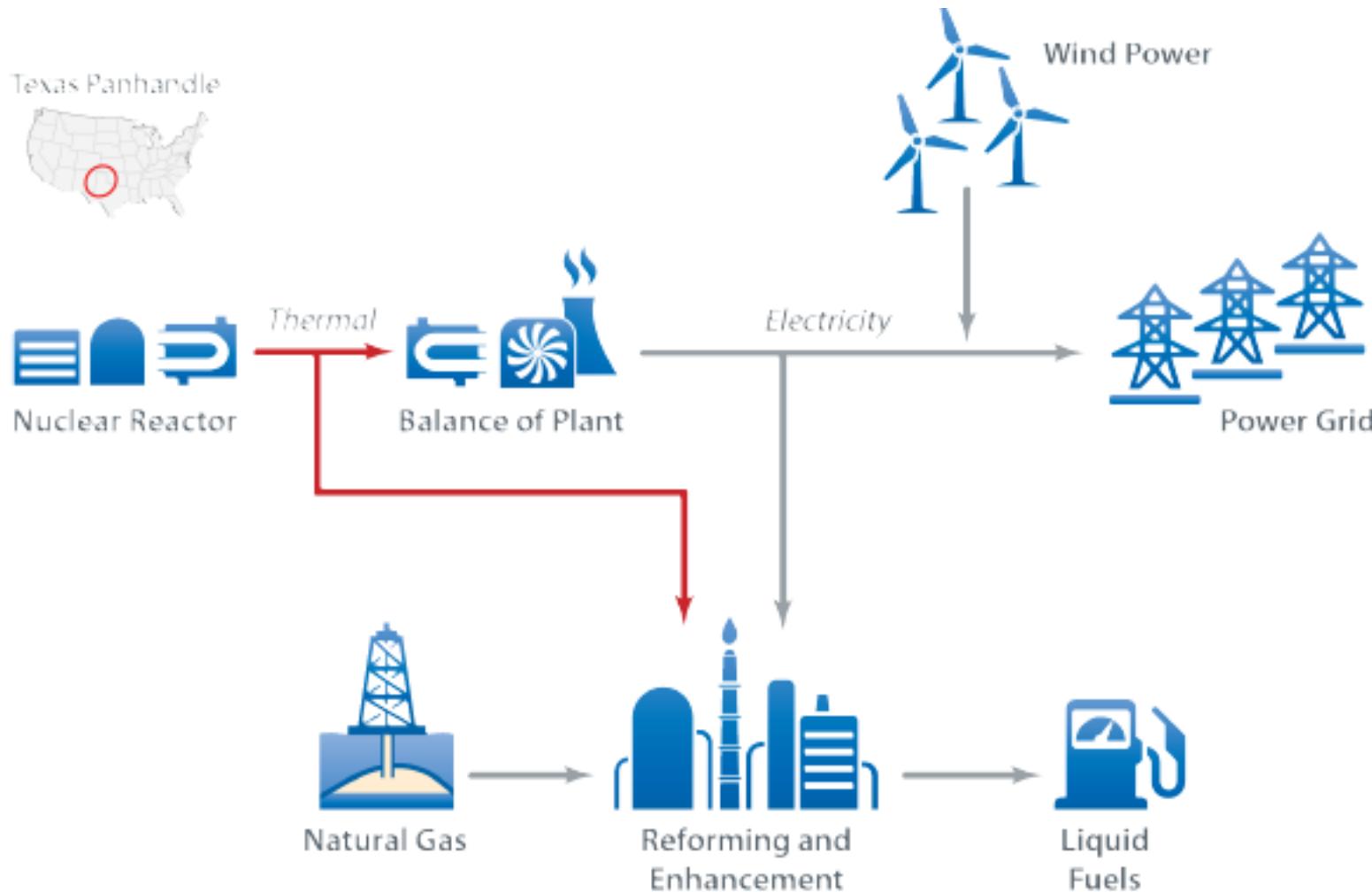
2. Demand side:

Synergize the wind power and space heating demand, using thermal inertia to mitigate the fluctuation from wind power

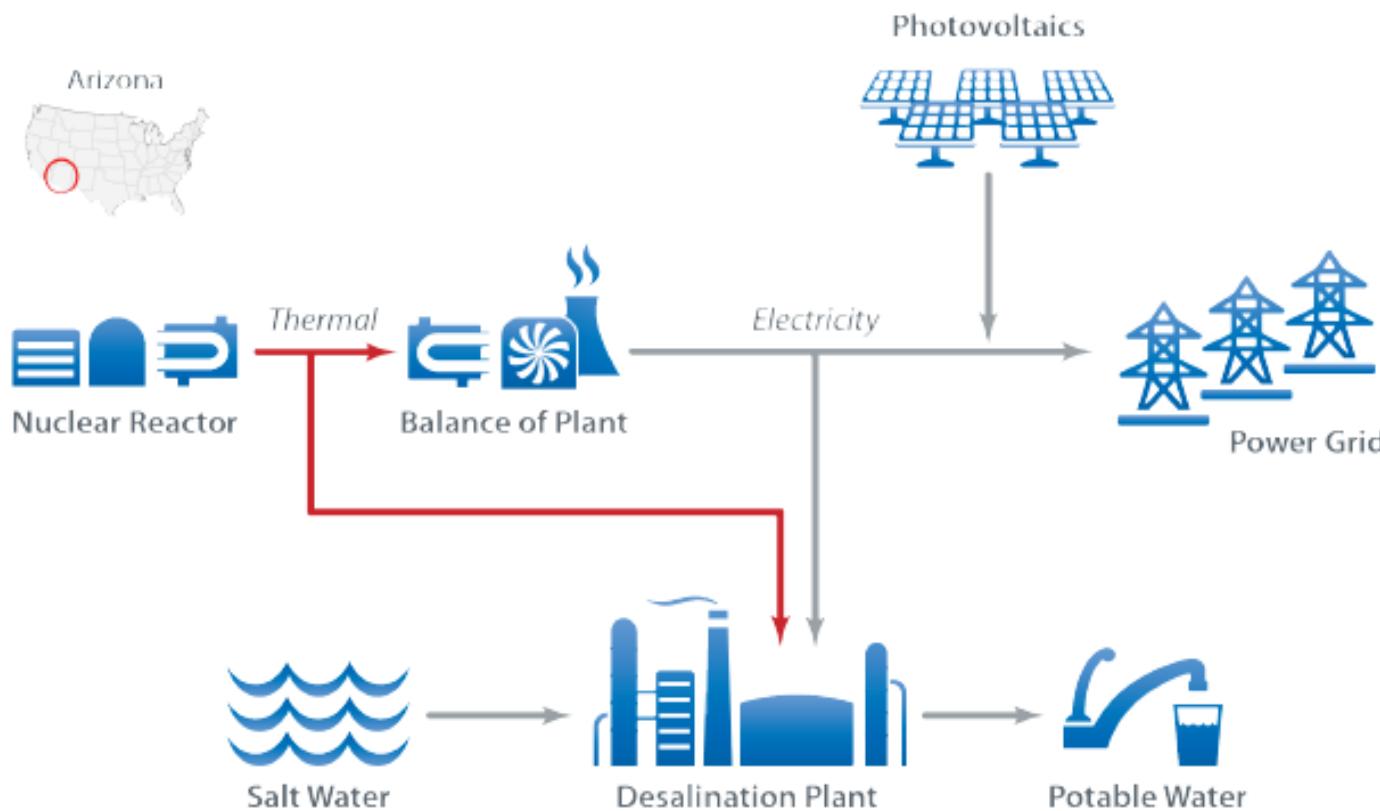
FFPG: Flex Fuel (Nuclear thermal/Power) Poly-Generation (Power, Chemical)



FFPG: Flex Fuel (Nuclear thermal, Power, Gas) Poly-Generation (Power, Liquid fuels)



FFPG: Flex Fuel (Nuclear thermal/Power) Poly-Generation (Power, Water)



Design objectives: EES-S/FRRA

- E: Environmental sustainability;
- E: Economic sustainability;
- S: Social sustainability;
- FRRA:
 - Flexibility: operational speed of response;
 - Reliability: service availability (SAIDI, SAIFI);
 - Resilience: economic service availability – ability to minimize & recover from price-consequences of extreme events;
 - Adaptability: A long-term version of resilience – ability to economically adapt infrastructure to adverse and permanent changes in technology/fuel availability or cost.

Enforcing Flexibility in Expansion Planning

When wind / solar are preferred investments,

- Wind and/or solar will be overbuilt
- Fast ramping units will be underbuilt

unless reserve constraints are modeled:

REGULATING RESERVES

$CpbItyRegUpRsrvs > k_1 [1\text{min netload } 3\text{*standard deviation}]$

$CpbItyRegDownRsrvs > k_2 [1\text{min netload } 3\text{*standard deviation}]$

10-MIN LOAD FOLLOWING

$CpbItyLF,UpRsrvs > k_3 [10\text{min netload } 3\text{*standard deviation}]$

$CpbItyLF,DownRsrvs > k_4 [10\text{min netload } 3\text{*standard deviation}]$

10-MIN CONTINGENCY RESERVES

$CpbIty10MRsrvs > k_5 [10\text{min contingency reserve requirement}]$

30-MIN SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVES

$CpbIty30MRsrvs > k_6 [30\text{min contingency reserve requirement}]$

Enforcing Flexibility in Expansion Planning

TECHNOLOGY	WITHOUT OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS (GW)	WITH OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS (GW)
NUCLEAR	491.1	491.3
NG COMBINED CYCLE	246.6	253.3
NG COMBUSTION TURBINE	13.2	106.4
SOLAR PV	7.5	7.5
SOLAR THERMAL	3.0	3.5
WIND	375	368.4
GEOTHERMAL	173.6	175.5
OTEC	5.0	5.0
TIDAL	3.0	3.0

Reliability

Reliability of a power system refers to the probability of its satisfactory operation over the long run. It denotes the ability to supply adequate electric service on a nearly continuous basis, with few interruptions over an extended time period.

- IEEE Paper on Terms & Definitions, 2004

Reliability is about avoiding interruptions.

“90% of customer outage minutes due to distribution system, in small local events” 1.

→Transmission is not a significant cause of interruptions.

It is commonly thought that DG helps reliability, but...

- **Does DG become a common-mode failure?**
 - The problem with Sandy was loss of D, not loss of G or T.
 - What if NE had 20% rooftop solar during Sandy?
- **What does DG do to maintenance requirements?**

→One centrally maintained 1000 MW plant or
a thousand individually maintained 1 MW plants?

1. Alison Silverstein, Transmission 101, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, April 20, 2011, p. 30,
www.naruc.org/grants/Documents/Silverstein%20NCEP%20T-101%200420111.pdf

Another View: Severin Borenstein

www.nrel.gov/docs/fy14osti http://www.pputruba.ru/nor New materials and designs National Renewable Energy Efficiency of Natural Gas Tra https://www.google.com/se Google Is the Future of Electricity G

<https://energyathaas.wordpress.com/2015/05/04/is-the-future-of-electricity-generation-really-distributed/>

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← Air Conditioning and Global Energy Demand Subsidizing renewables for the damage not done →

Is the Future of Electricity Generation Really Distributed?

Posted on May 4, 2015 by [Severin Borenstein](#)

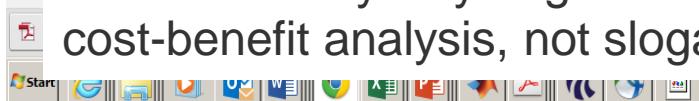
Renewable energy technologies have made outstanding progress in the last decade. The cost of solar panels has plummeted. Wind turbines have become massively more efficient. In many places some forms of renewable energy are cost competitive. And yet...just as these exciting changes are taking place, the renewables movement seems to be shifting its focus to something that has little or no connection to the fundamental environmental goals: distributed generation, particularly at the residential level. In

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Research that Informs Business and Public Policy

- [What We Can Learn from Germany's Windy, Sunny Electric Grid Andrew Campbell](#)
- [Membership has its Co-benefits Meredith Fowlie](#)

“That’s not to say that distributed generation couldn’t be the best way for some people at some locations to adopt renewables, but simply that DG should not be the goal in itself. We desperately need to reduce greenhouse gases from the electricity sector, not just in the U.S., but around the world, including some very poor countries where affordability is a real barrier and electricity access is life-changing. If DG is the least costly way to get that done, I’m in, but the choice should be driven by real cost-benefit analysis, not slogans about energy freedom.”



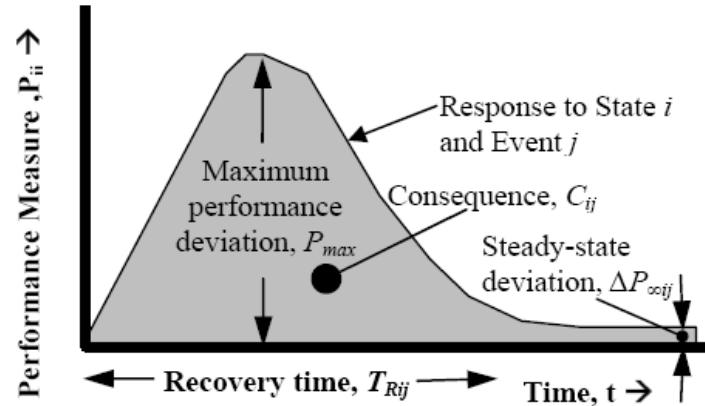
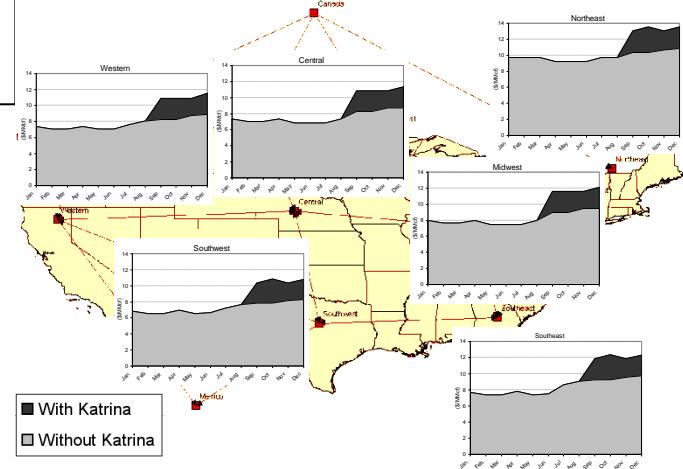
Resilience

Resilience: Ability to minimize & recover from price-consequences of extreme events [1]

Other examples:

- 6 mnth loss of rail access to Powder River Basin coal;
- 1 yr interruption of 90% of Middle East oil;
- 6 mnth interruption of Canadian gas supply;
- 1 yr loss of US hydro due to extreme drought;
- Sustained flooding in Midwest destroying crops, reducing biofuels, interrupting E-W rail system.

EXAMPLE: KATRINA/RITA [2]



Resilience metric for an event & state

[1] E. Ibanez, V. Krishnan, S. Lavrenz, D. Mejia, K. Gkritza, J. McCalley, & A. Soman, "Resilience and robustness in long-term planning of the national energy and transportation system," to appear in *International Journal of Critical Infrastructures*, 2014.

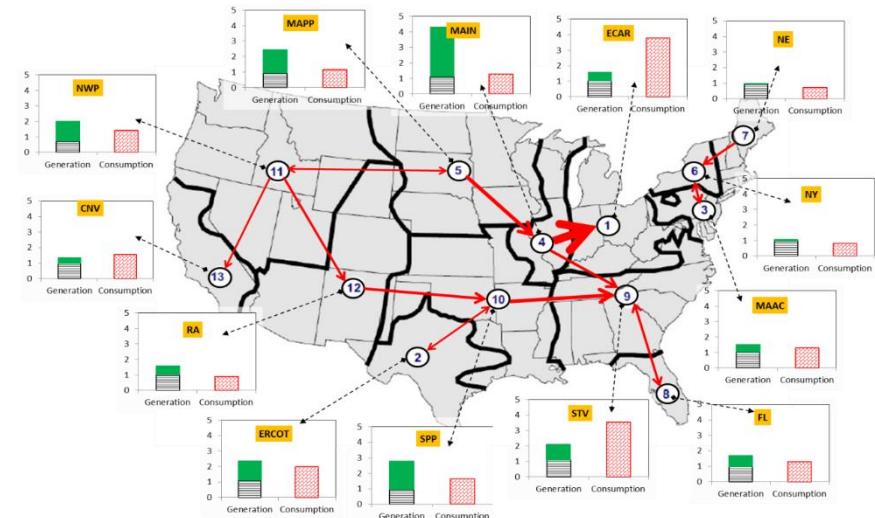
[2] E. Gil and J. McCalley, "A US Energy System Model for Disruption Analysis: Evaluating the Effects of 2005 Hurricanes," *IEEE Transactions on Power Systems*, Volume: 26 , Issue: 3, 2011, pp. 1040 – 1049.

Resilience

Experiment: For a 40 year investment strategy, simulate total failure of each of 14 generation technologies at year 25.

Did this with national transmission expansion and without.

Resilience metric: Averaged the 1 year operational cost increase across 14 events with respect to the no-event case.

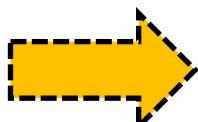


Societal consequence

=\$5B without trans expansion

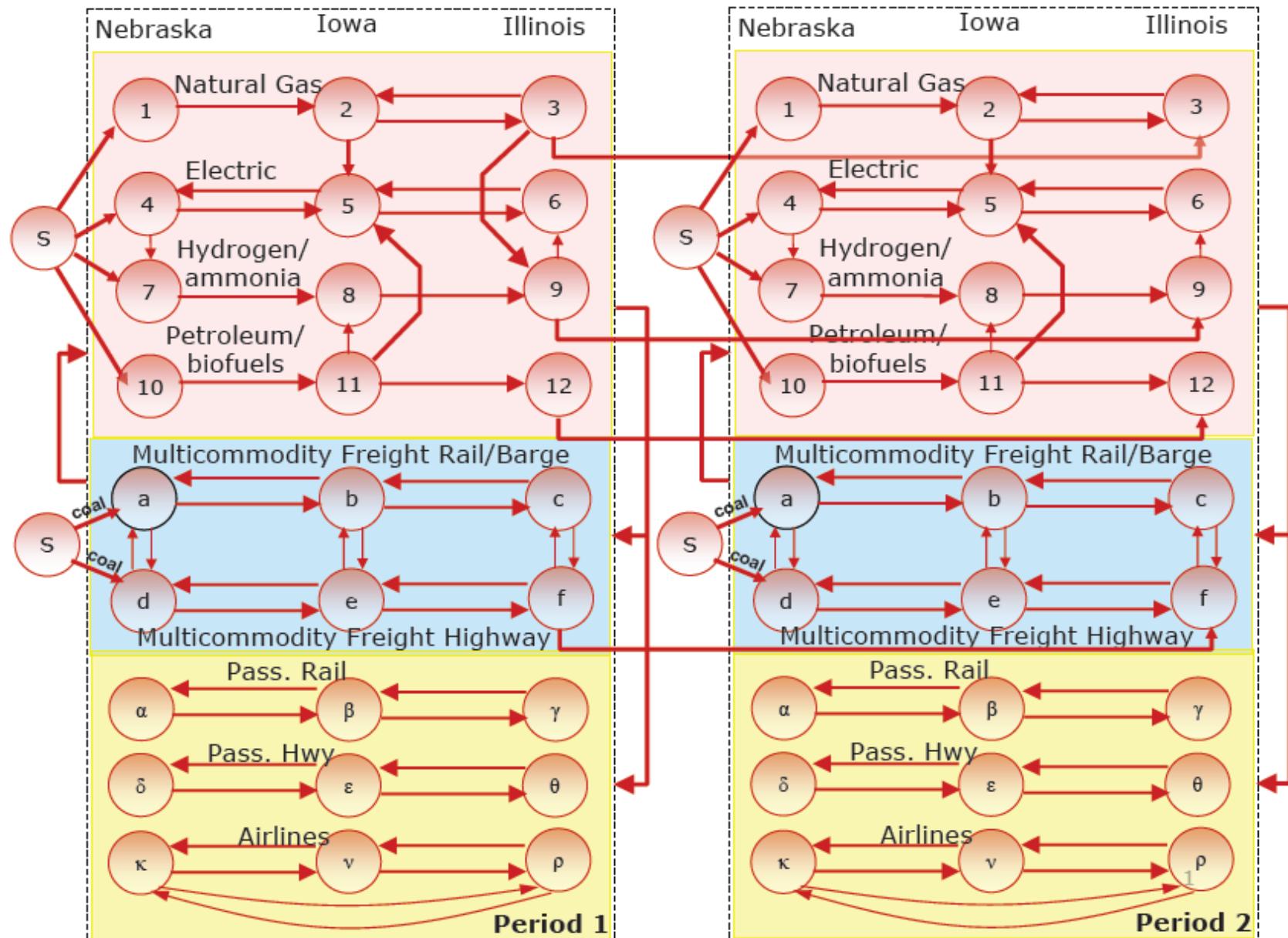
=\$450M with trans expansion

WHY?

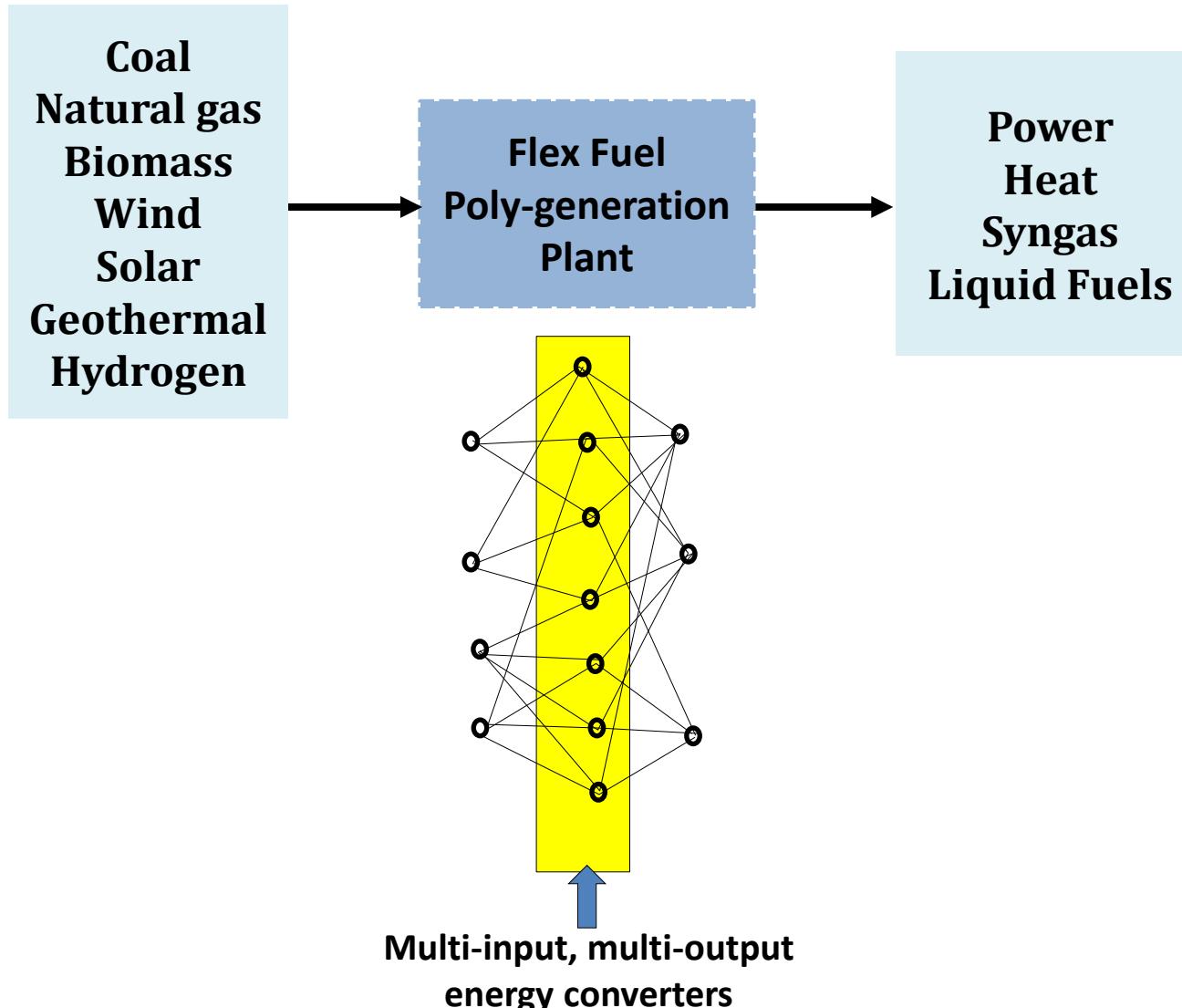


RESILIENCE (AND ADAPTABILITY) IMPROVES WITH
• INTERCONNECTEDNESS
• DIVERSIFICATION

The Integrated Energy System



The Flex Fuel Poly-Generation (FFPG) Power Plant



FFPG power plants are multiple input, multiple output energy converters; in the multi-grid network, they are nodes with multiple connections, increasing the density of the multigrid network; thus enhancing resilience.

Adaptability

Adaptability: Ability to economically adapt infrastructure to adverse & permanent changes in technology/fuel availability or cost.
→ A “long-term” version of resilience.

Examples:

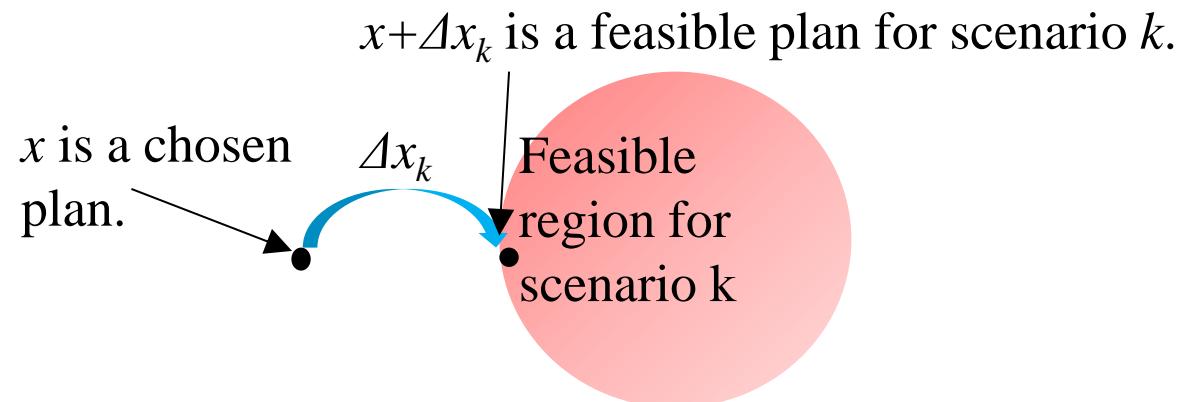
- Permanent loss of U.S. nuclear supply, like Fukushima
- Permanent loss of shale gas supply;
- Government-imposed elimination of all GHG-emitting electric resources

Adaptation is the additional investment necessary for plan x to acceptably perform under scenario k :

- the adaptation cost of additional investment is $AC(\Delta x_k)$
- $\Delta x_k = 0$ if plan x is designed under scenario k

The adaptation cost of x to scenario k is the minimum cost to move x to a feasible design in scenario k .

It measures the additional cost of our plan x if scenario k happens.



What is adaptation? (Single-period)

β determines the dependency on adaptation:

Small $\beta \rightarrow$ high adaptation costs

High $\beta \rightarrow$ low adaptation costs

Minimize:

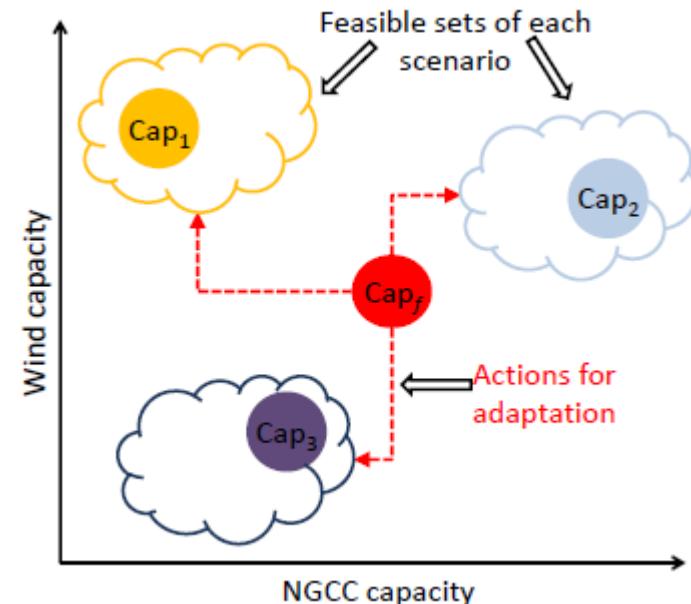
$$\text{CoreCosts}(\underline{x}) + \beta [\sum_k \text{AdaptationCost}(\Delta \underline{x}_k)]$$

Subject to:

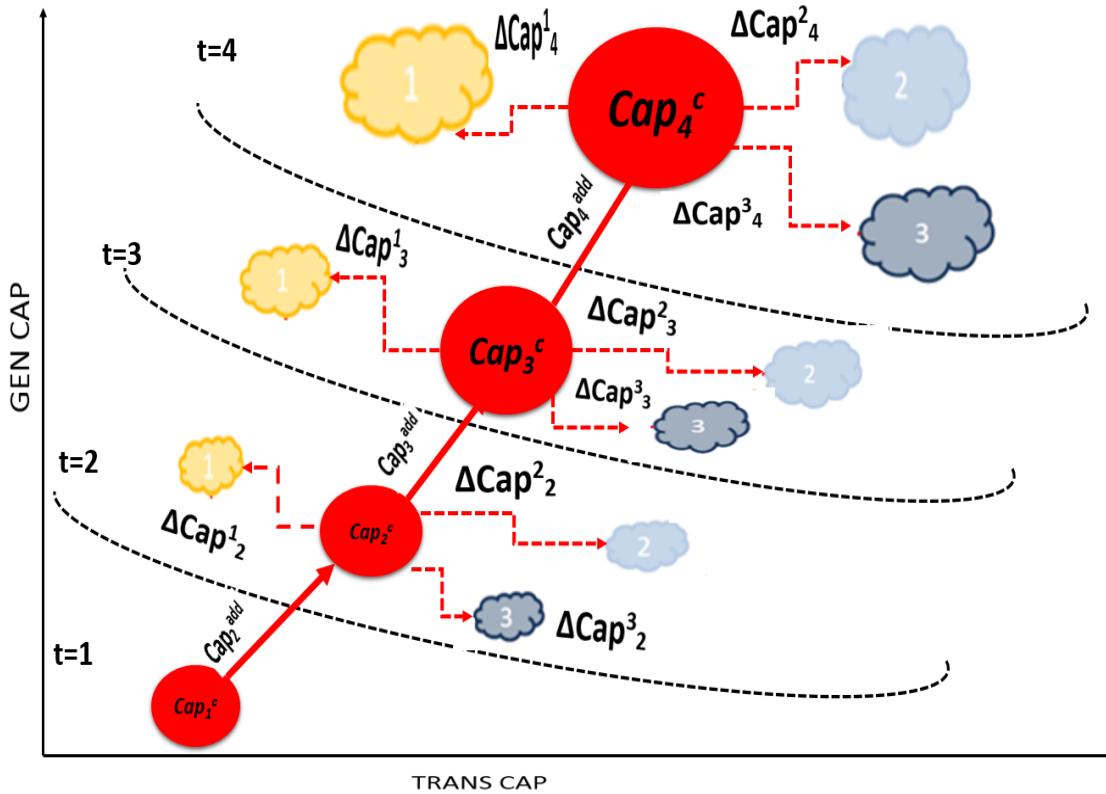
$$\text{Constraints for scenario } k=1, \dots, N: g_k(\underline{x} + \Delta \underline{x}_k) \leq b_k$$

\underline{x} : Core investments, to be used by all scenarios k

$\Delta \underline{x}_k$: Additional investments needed to adapt to scenario k



What is adaptation? (Multi-period)



$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Minimize} \sum_t \text{Core Investment cost} \\
 & + \sum_s P^s \sum_t \text{Operating cost} \\
 & + \beta \sum_s P^s \sum_t \text{Investment adaptation cost}
 \end{aligned}$$

subject to

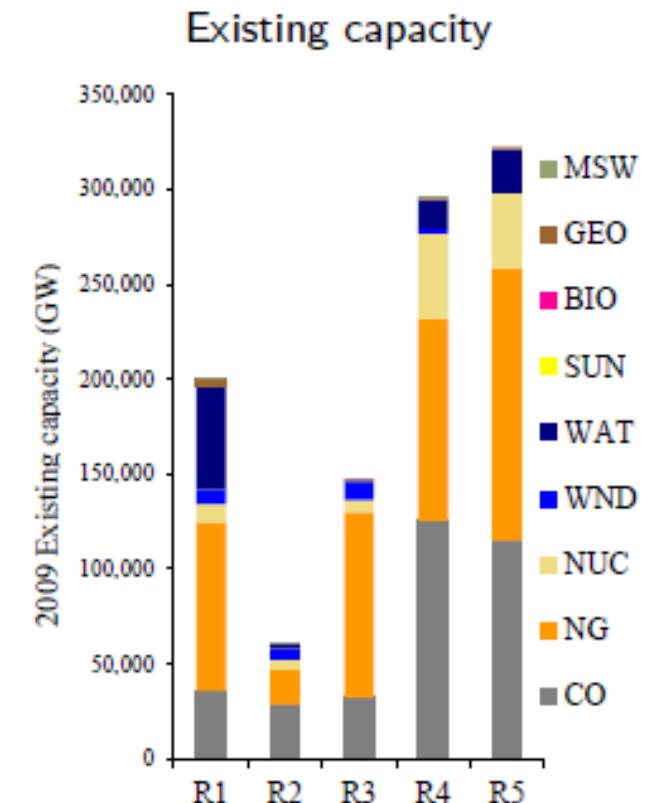
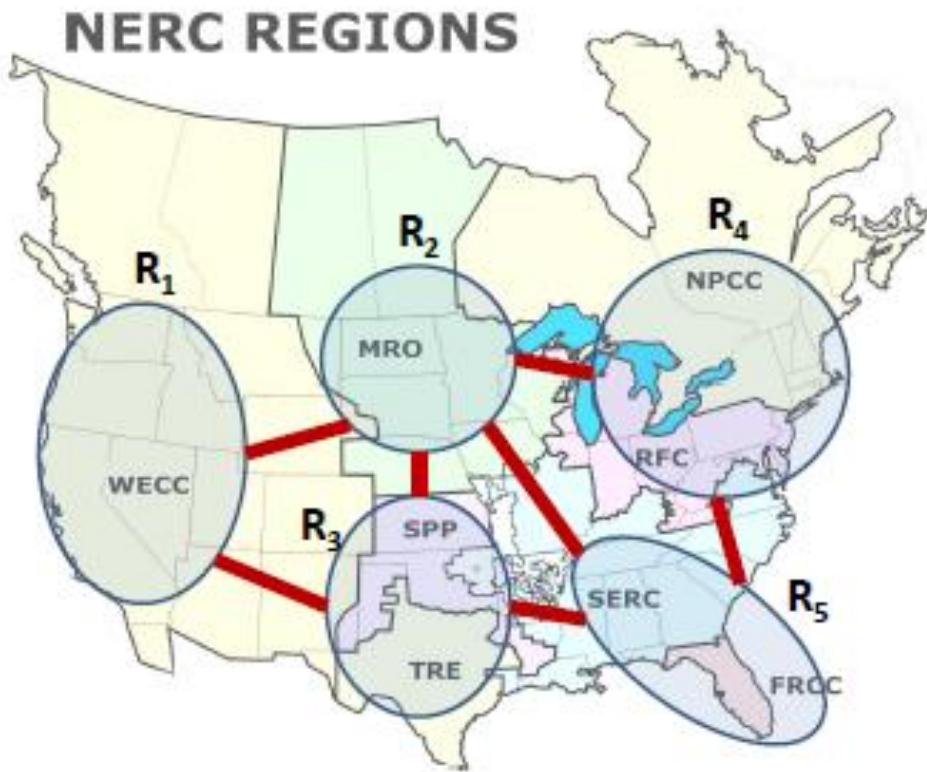
Operational constraints for each scenario s .

“Futures” through time must be designed in terms of the uncertainties. Then we minimize core plus adaptation costs to identify the core investment.

[1] D. Mejia-Giraldo and James McCalley, “Adjustable decisions for reducing the price of robustness of capacity expansion planning,” *IEEE Transactions on Power Systems*, Vol. 29, Issue 4, 2014, pp. 1573-1582.

[2] D. Mejia-Giraldo and J. McCalley, “Maximizing future flexibility in electric generation portfolios,” *IEEE Transactions on Power Systems*, Vol. 29, Issue 1, 2014, pp. 279-288.

Illustration



Identify flexible generation expansion plan over 40-year planning horizon.

Futures

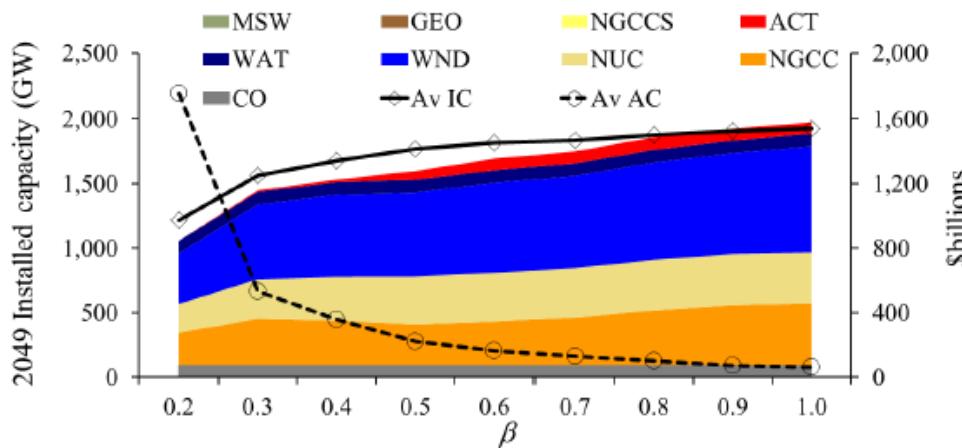
Cluster	GP	Gas production limits			Wind investment cost	
		GPL	D	RPS	CO ₂ ^{cap}	WC
Benchmark	L	No	L	No	No	H
1	L	No	L	No	No	L
2	L	No	L	Yes	No	H
3	L	No	L	Yes	Yes	L
4	L	No	H	No	Yes	H
5	L	Yes	L	Yes	Yes	H
6	H	No	L	Yes	Yes	L
7	H	No	H	No	Yes	L
8	H	Yes	L	No	No	L
9	H	Yes	L	Yes	Yes	H
10	H	Yes	H	Yes	No	H

GEP Solution

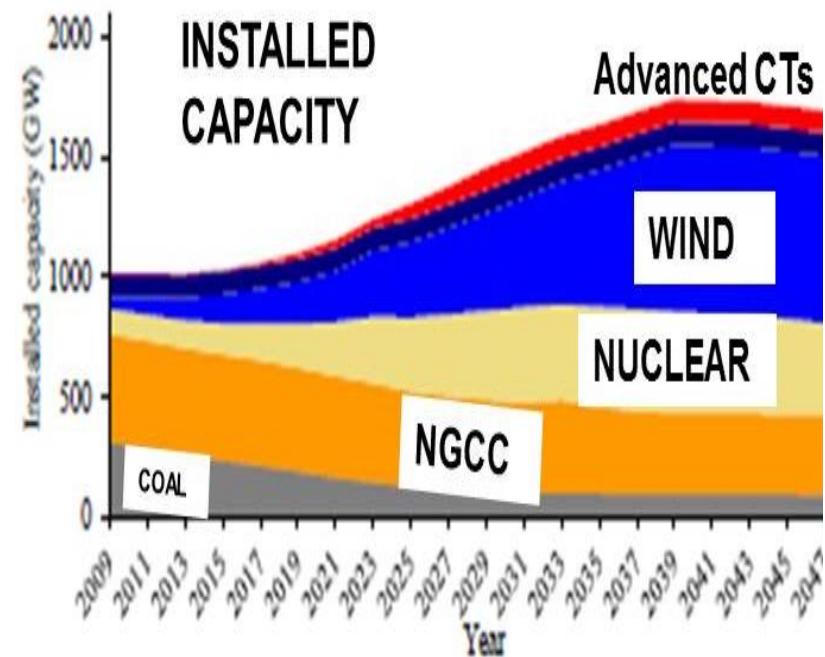
$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Minimize} \sum_t \text{Core Investment cost} \\
 & + \sum_s P^s \sum_t \text{Operating cost} \\
 & + \beta \sum_s P^s \sum_t \text{Investment adaptation cost}
 \end{aligned}$$

subject to

Operational constraints for each scenario s.



For $\beta=0.6$



- Adaptability means, in this particular design:
- Increase combustion turbines, wind, nuclear
 - Maintain NGCC
 - Retire Coal

Adaptability

Electric system expansion plans can be:

- **Highly robust**: Performs well under all of the different scenarios (but not very economic ☹);
- **Highly economic**: Very good for a single “most likely” future (but not very robust ☹);
- **Adaptable**: Something in between, economic, while using adaptability to achieve robustness ☺.

Economies of Scale

1903 Samuel Insull understanding economies of scale (generators when scaled up produce power at a lower average \$/kWhr) installs 5 MW generator in Chicago and manages load to increase his load factor (avg load/max load) to increase profits.

1907 Insull realizes that profitability from managing economies of scale and load factor grows with corporate size, and so forms Commonwealth Edison, Chicago, by buying all of his competitors.

Economies of scale are economic efficiencies that result from carrying out a process (such as power generation) on an increasingly larger scale. They arise when an increase in output reduces average costs. For power plants, they can occur from

- Decreasing average fixed O&M cost with size (labor cost per MW for maintenance is lower for a 100 MW wind plant than for a 10 MW wind plant).
- Decreasing average investment cost with size (installation cost per MW is lower for a 100 MW wind plant than for a 10 MW wind plant).
- Decreasing average fuel cost with size (see next slide)

Economies of Scale

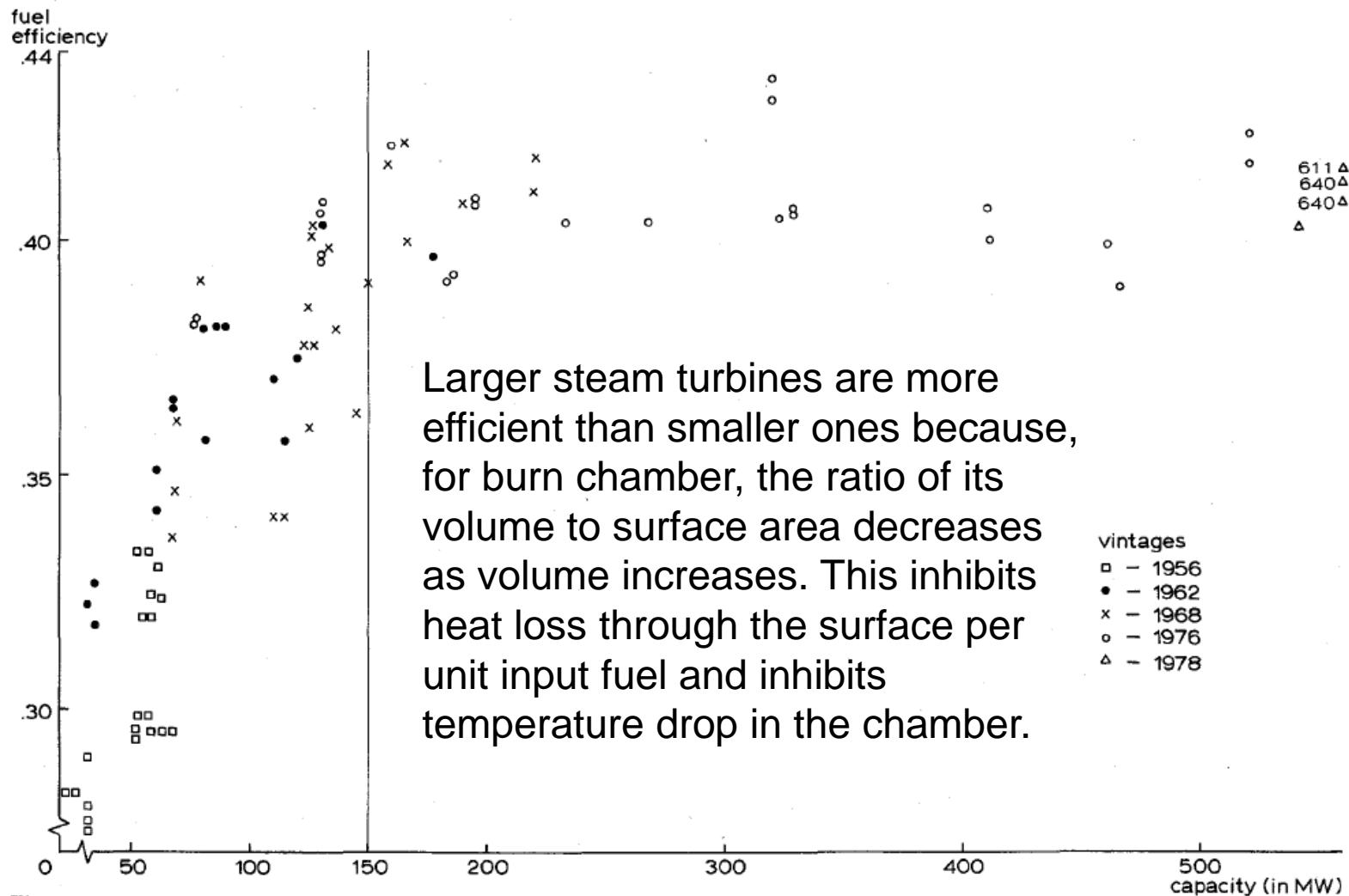
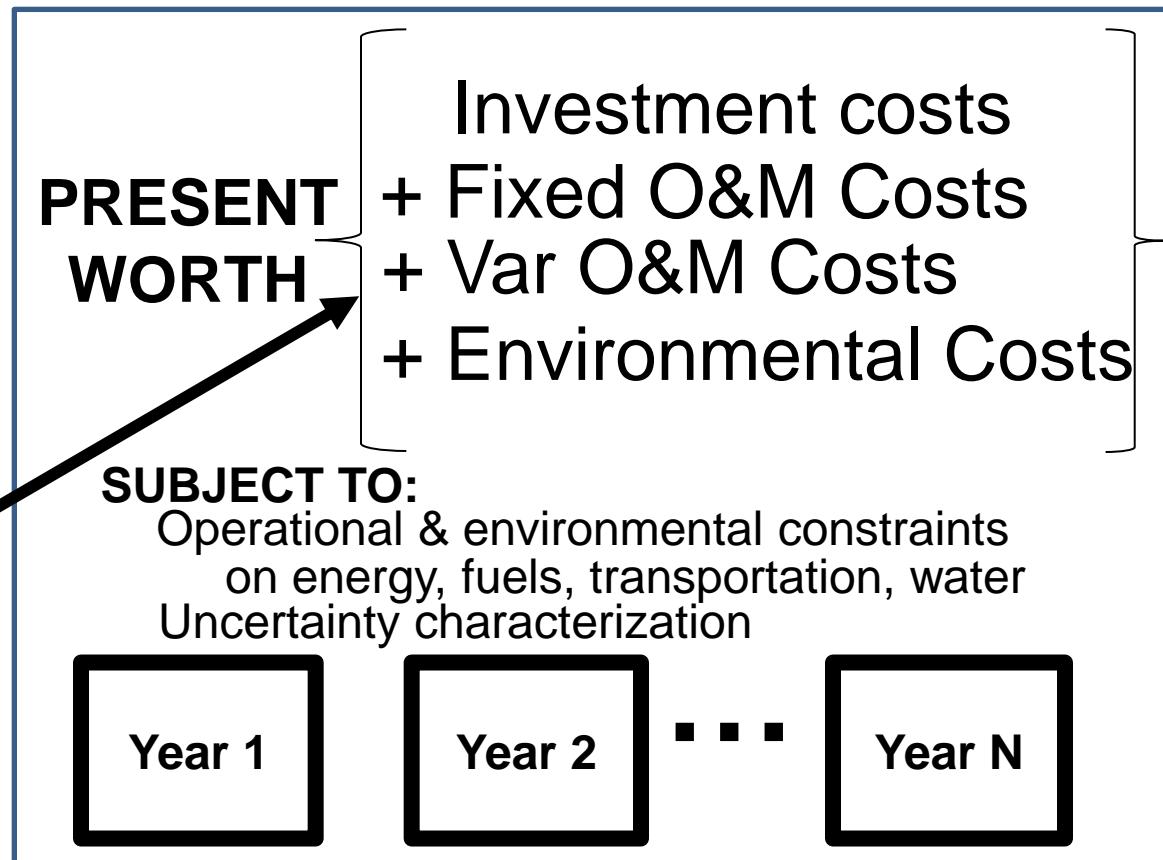


Figure 2 – The relationship between capacity and fuel efficiency for different vintage groups.

Economies of Scale

Make investment & retirement decisions to MINIMIZE...

MAKE THESE A
FUNCTION OF SIZE,
WHERE SIZE IS A
DECISION VARIABLE



A Scaling Model

$$C_{js} = c_j \times (CAP_{js})^{\alpha_j}$$

Investment cost coefficient of technology j of capacity s, \$/MW.

Reference investment cost coefficient of technology j, \$/MW, i.e., it is investment cost coefficient for $\alpha_j=0$.

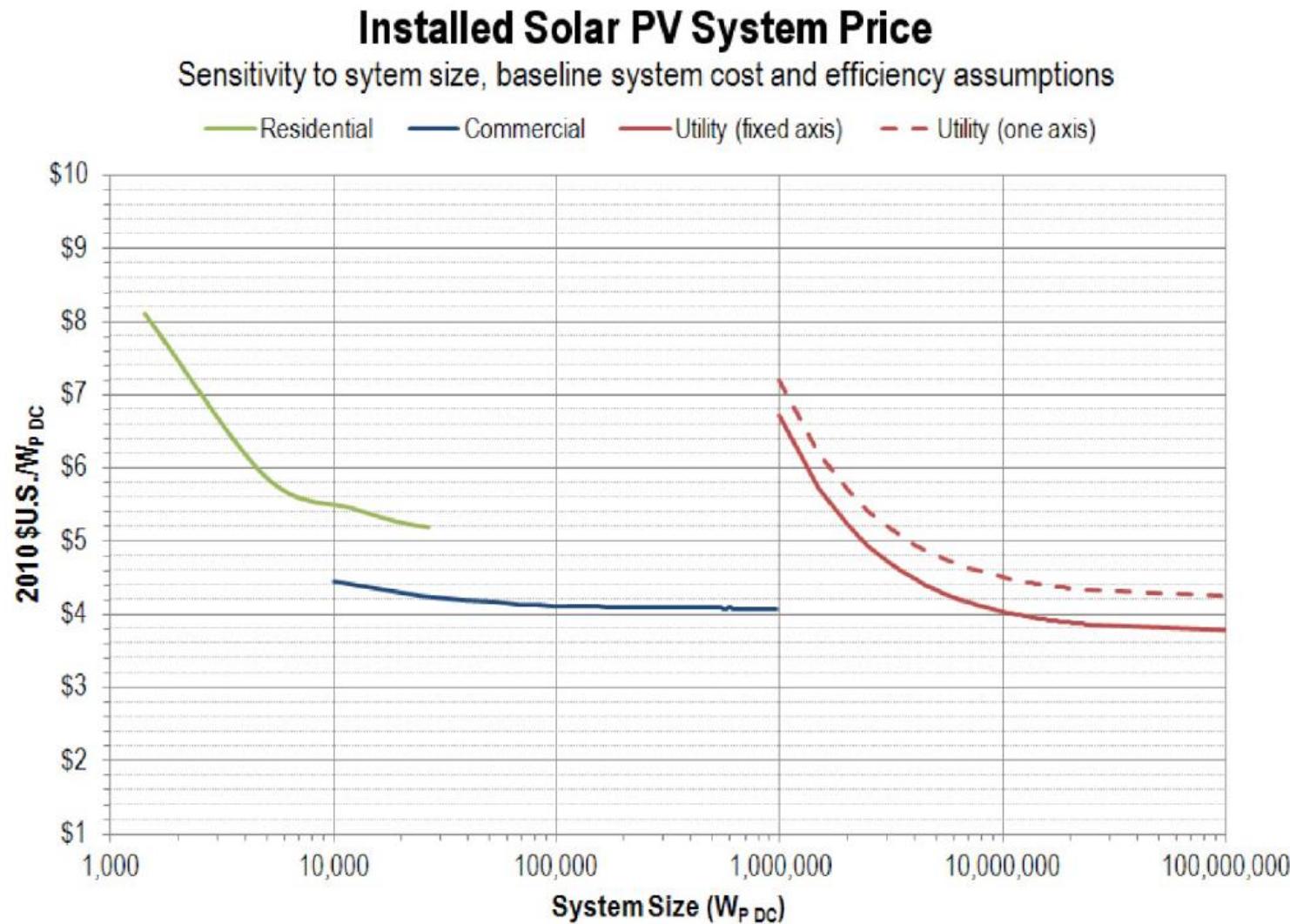
Capacity of technology j at size s.

Scaling parameter for technology j.

$\alpha_j=0$ gives constant investment regardless of size.
 $\alpha_j<0$ gives economies of scale.

$$\log C_{js} = \log c_j + \alpha_j \log CAP_{js}$$

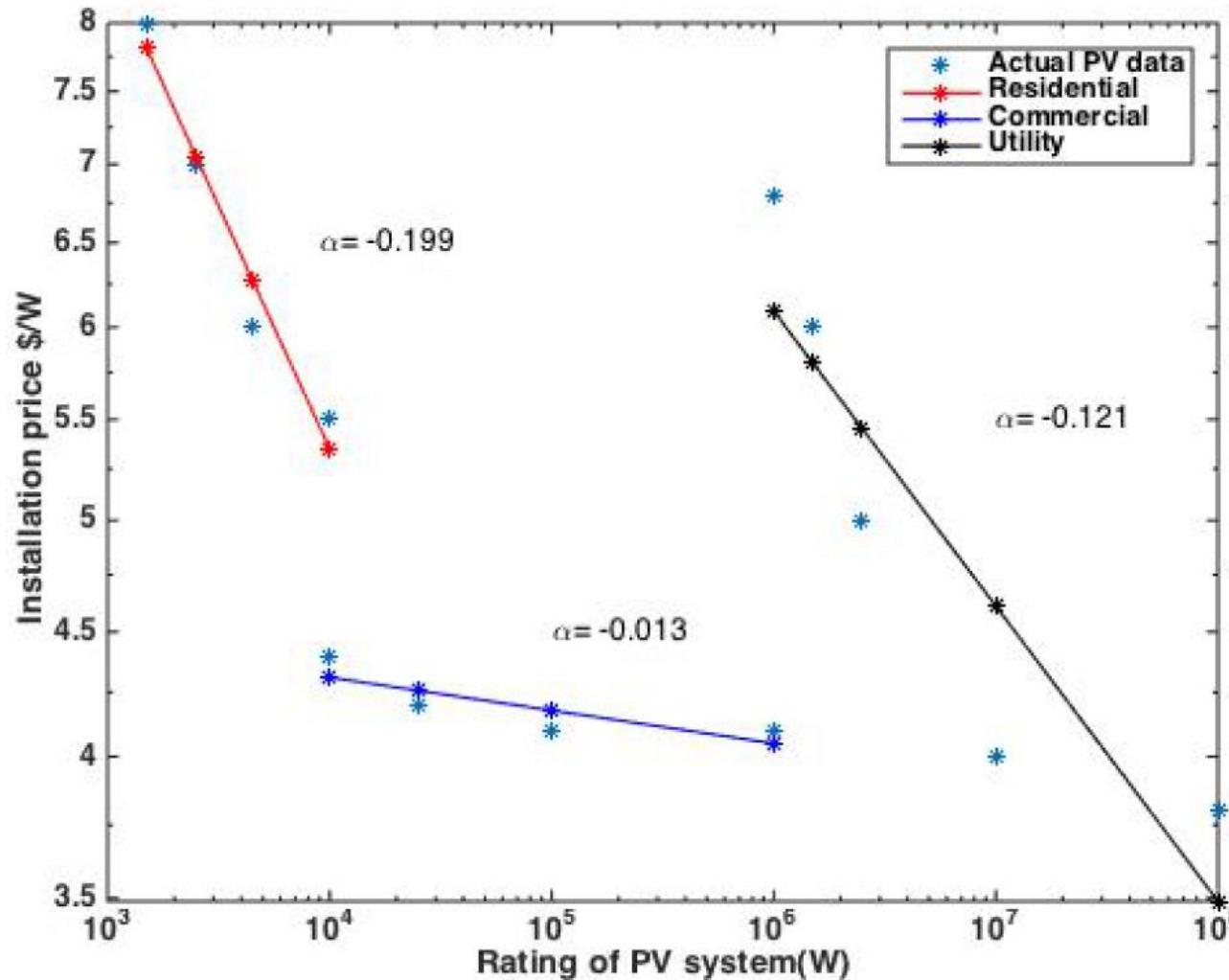
A Scaling Model



A. Goodrich, T. James, and M. Woodhouse, "Residential, Commercial, and Utility-Scale Photovoltaic (PV) System Prices in the United States: Current Drivers and Cost-Reduction Opportunities," NREL/TP=6A20-53347, Feb., 2012, available at <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy12osti/53347.pdf>.

A Scaling Model

$$\log C_{js} = \log c_j + \alpha_j \log CAP_{js}$$



A Generation Expansion Problem

$$\min \sum_{\substack{\text{node} \\ n}} \sum_{\substack{\text{tech} \\ j}} \sum_{\substack{\text{size} \\ s}} \sum_{\substack{\text{time} \\ t}} u_{njst} C_{js} CAP_{js}$$

Subject to

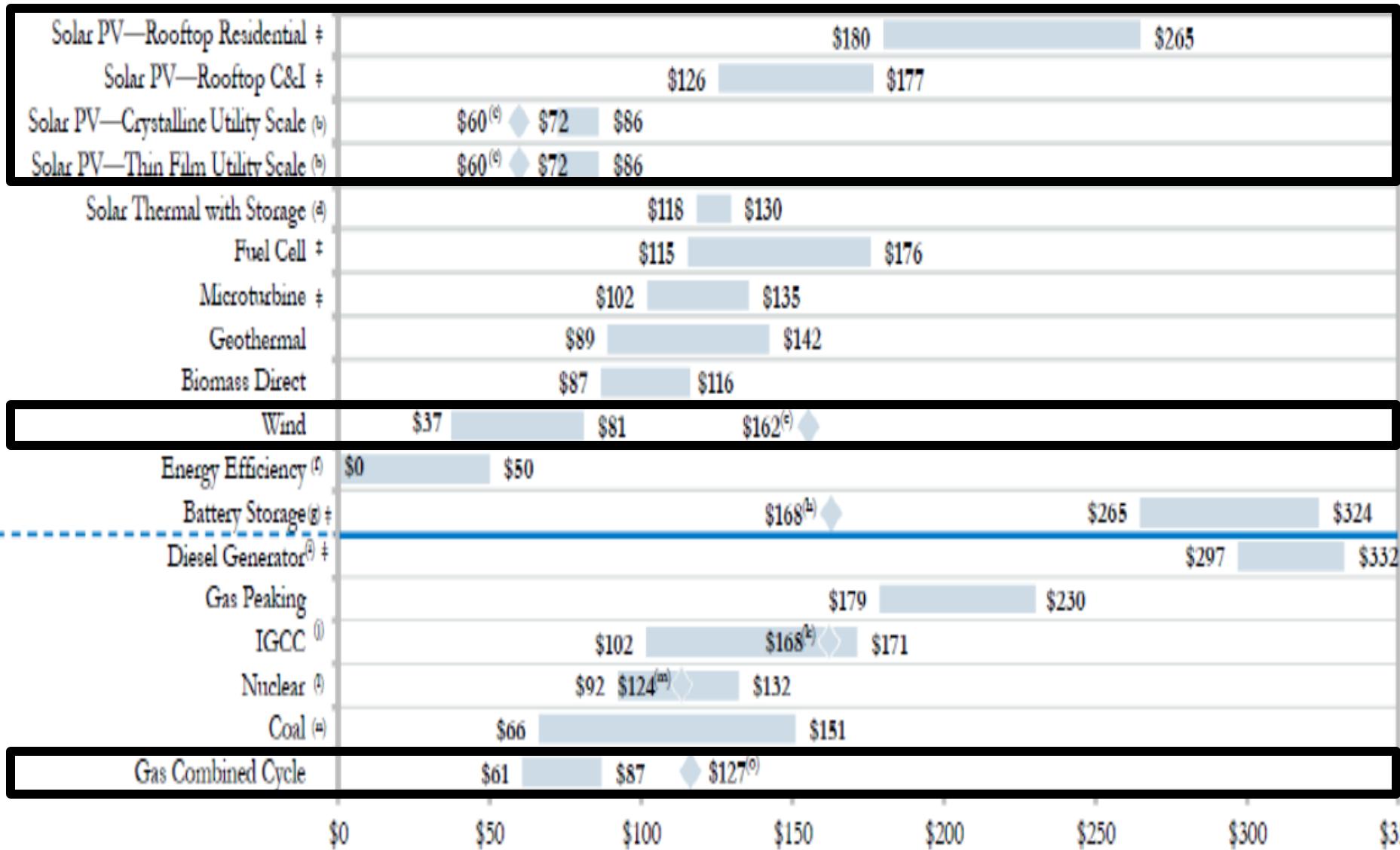
- u_{njst} is integer
- DC power flow network constraints
- Flow limits
- This problem will not only compete different technologies (as is usual in GEP) but also different technologies at different sizes, e.g., very small solar against very large NGCC plants.
- We need to extend the problem to co-optimize G, T, D in order to see the effect of different generation sizes on the network.

C_{js} , CAP_{js} are discrete points of various size taken from functions on previous slide. The product gives the cost in \$ of choosing technology j at size s .

Other influences

1. **Economies of number:** DG may increase innovation because of the need for producers and operators to specialize, the necessity to find solutions tailored to local contexts and the opportunity of mutual learning, and cost reductions gained via the ability to enhance manufacturing processes based on high volume production (economies of number).
2. **Influence on technology maturation:** The cost of any technology can be driven down by investing in that technology through (a) research and (b) usage subsidies, but such cost reductions in some technologies may be more readily achieved than others.
3. **Consumer preferences:** Is there preference for being “small”? Is there preference for autonomy? How to account for this in our designs.
4. **Market-based?** Can we “do” de-carbonization in the market? Is it a public good? Can cap and trade work?

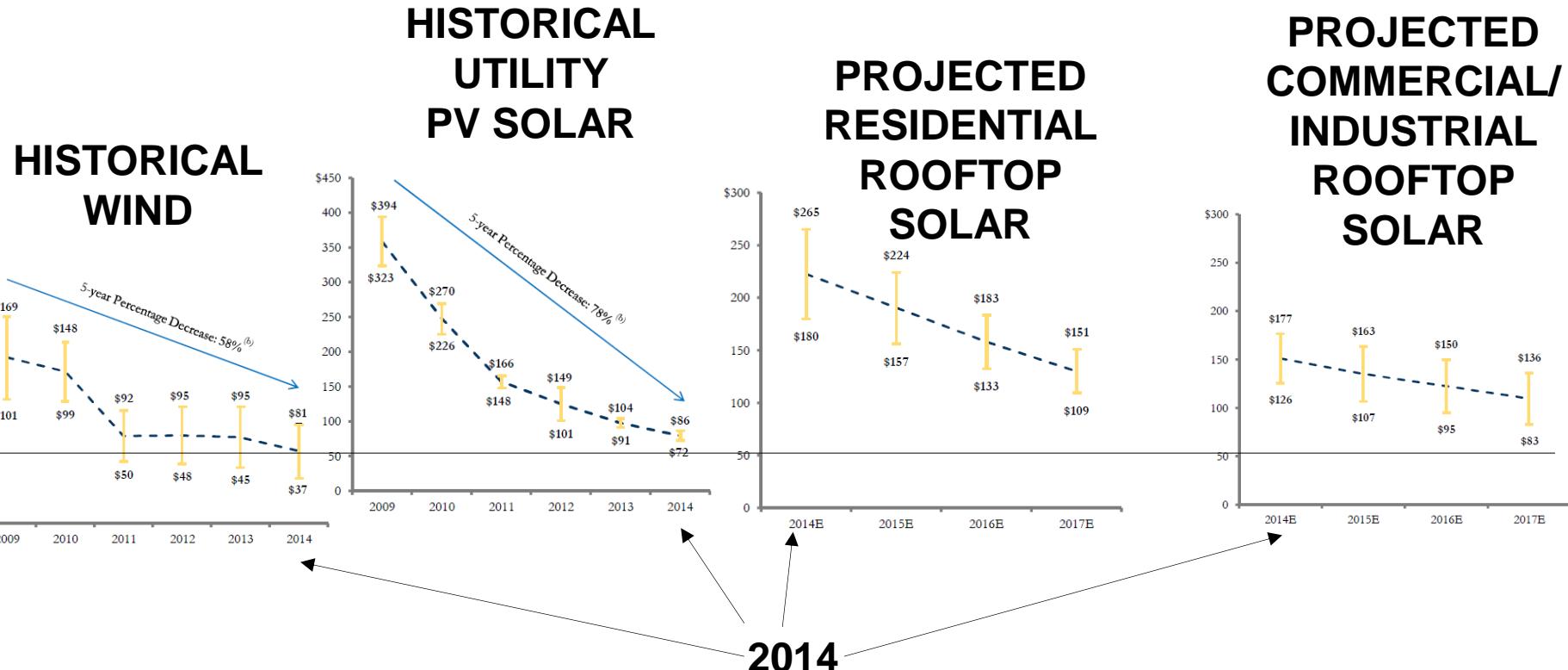
What do investors think about technologies



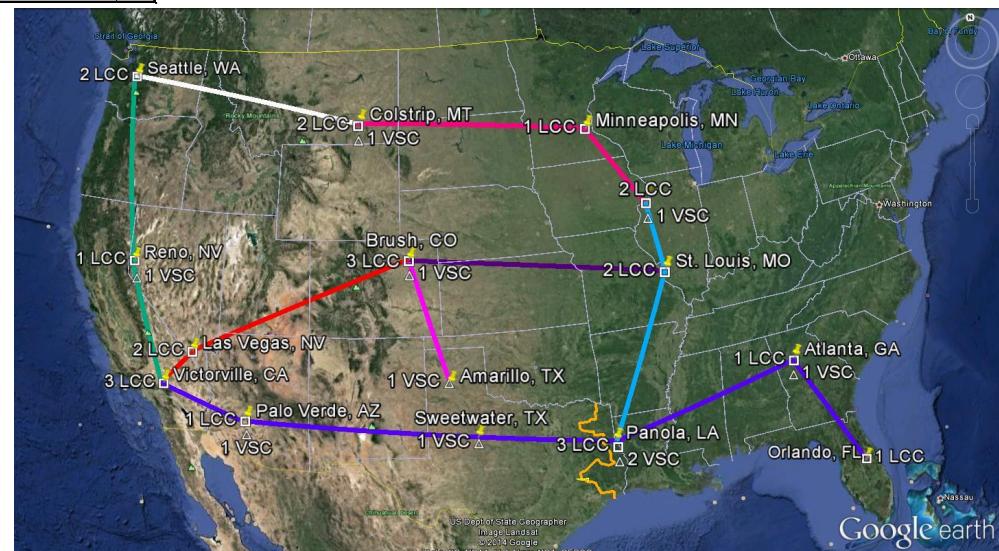
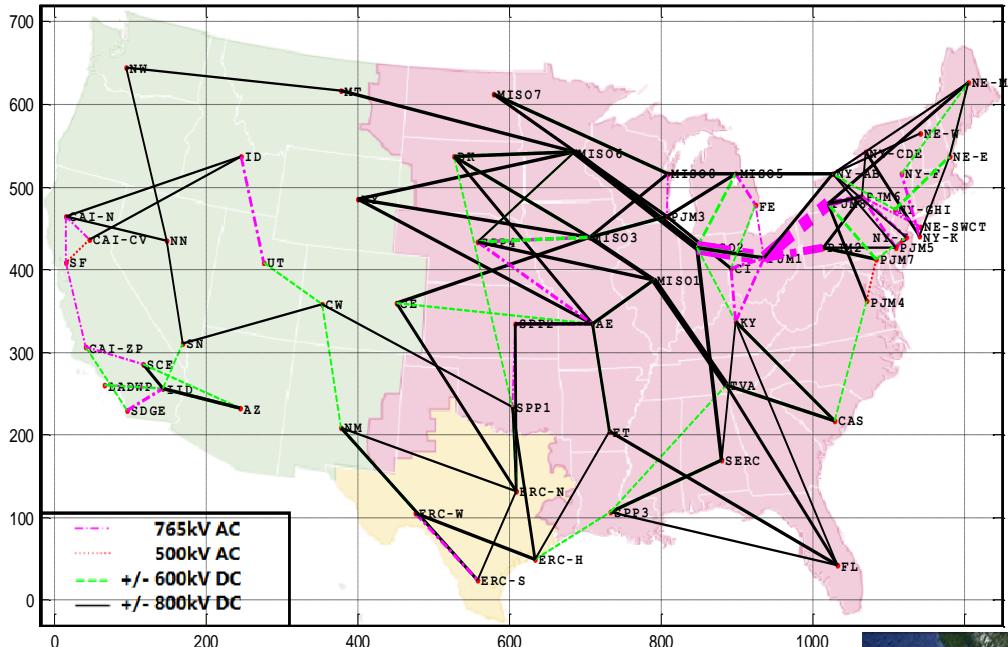
Lazard's leveled cost of energy analysis- Version 8.0, September 2014, available
<http://www.lazard.com/PDF/Levelized%20Cost%20of%20Energy%20-%20Version%208.0.pdf>

What do investors think about technologies

- Historical utility PV has tracking; rooftop has tracking at hi end, fixed tilt at low end
- Each yr range of LOCEs reflect CFs for wind; CF/tracking (hi) fixed tilt (lo) for solar
- Lower range comparison indicates best we can do:
 - Midwestern wind: \$37 in 2014
 - PV solar in southwest w/tracking: \$72 in 2014
 - Residential rooftop solar in southwest w/tracking: \$109 in 2017
 - Commercial/industrial rooftop solar in southwest w/tracking: \$83 in 2017



Solutions at/above the regional level?



Paths forward: frameworks

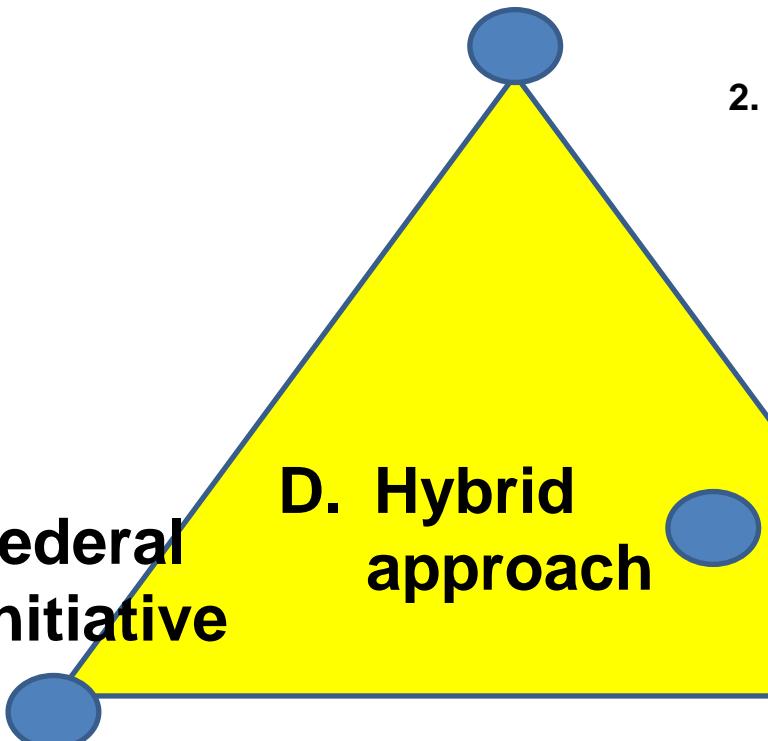
A. Market-driven investment

1. Market (merchant)-driven investment: no rate-base recovery, costs recovered through “negotiated rates.”
2. Size of the groups to form for overlay projects may need to be very large and difficult to develop/manage.

B. Federal initiative

D. Hybrid approach

C. Multiregional coordination



1. Similar to interstate highway system, where Feds paid 90% via gasoline tax, states 10%. States managed program for location, design, ROW acquisition, construction, O&M.
2. Differences: (a) Transmission “pass-through” feature is not shared with interstate highway system; (b) Economic development more at sending end.

1. Establish permanent multiregional stakeholder group consisting of industry, state governments, advocacy groups to address:
2. States need to see benefit for taking multiregional view.
3. The above is evolving.

Paths forward: Frameworks

D. Hybrid approach

1. Design it using multiregional collaborative stakeholder group of industry, states, advocacy, DOE, supported by Governors Associations. Impasses addressed by federally-appointed arbiters. Compensate losers.
2. Incentivize merchant transmission developers to build consistent with design → A “transmission market”?
3. Federalize what merchant developers will not or cannot build, but with careful Fed-State coordination and cooperation.

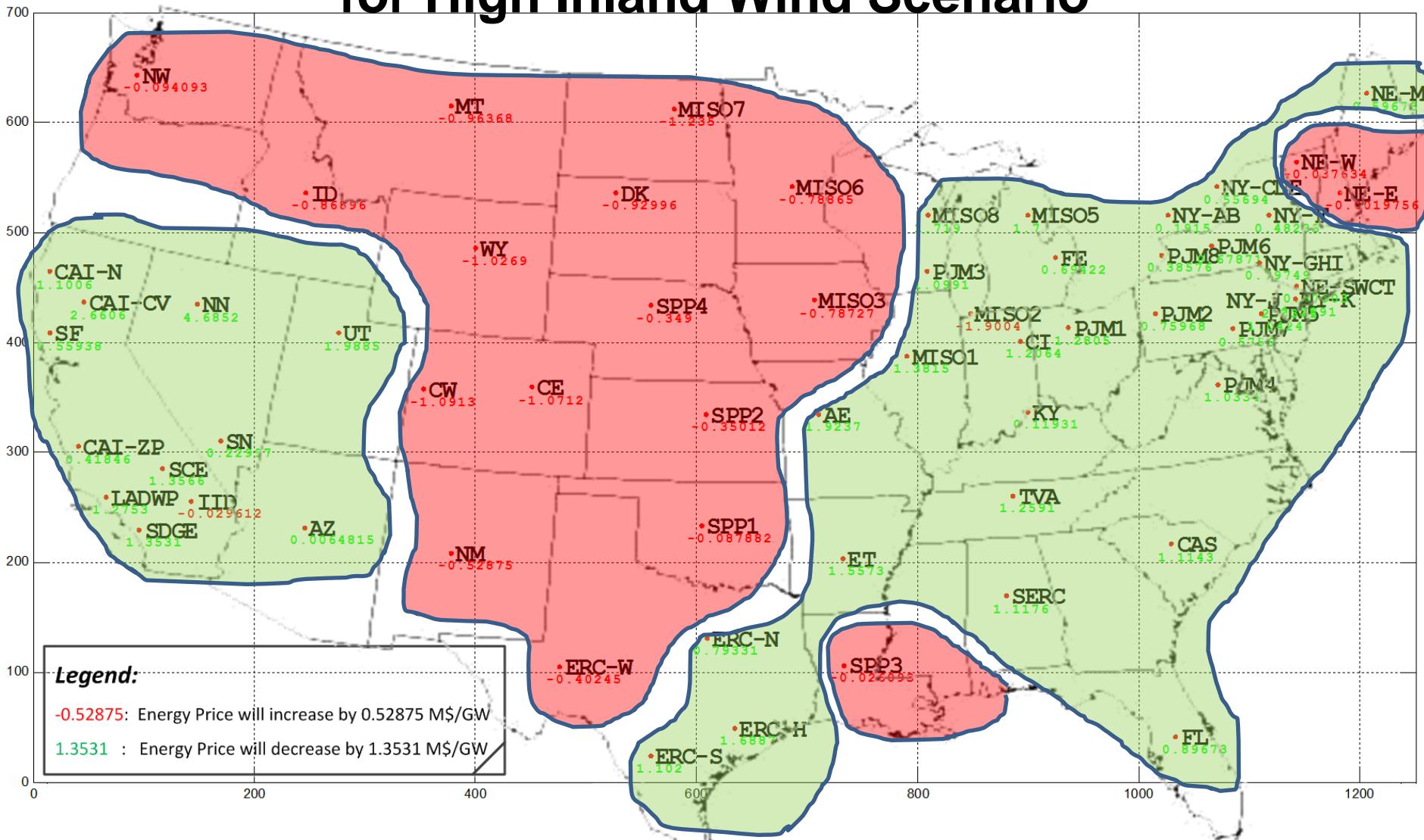
Resource Parochialism?

“One problem,” he said, is “resource nationalism,” in which individual states want to use local resources, whether they are coal or yet-to-be-built offshore wind, rather than importing from neighbors in a way that could be more economical.

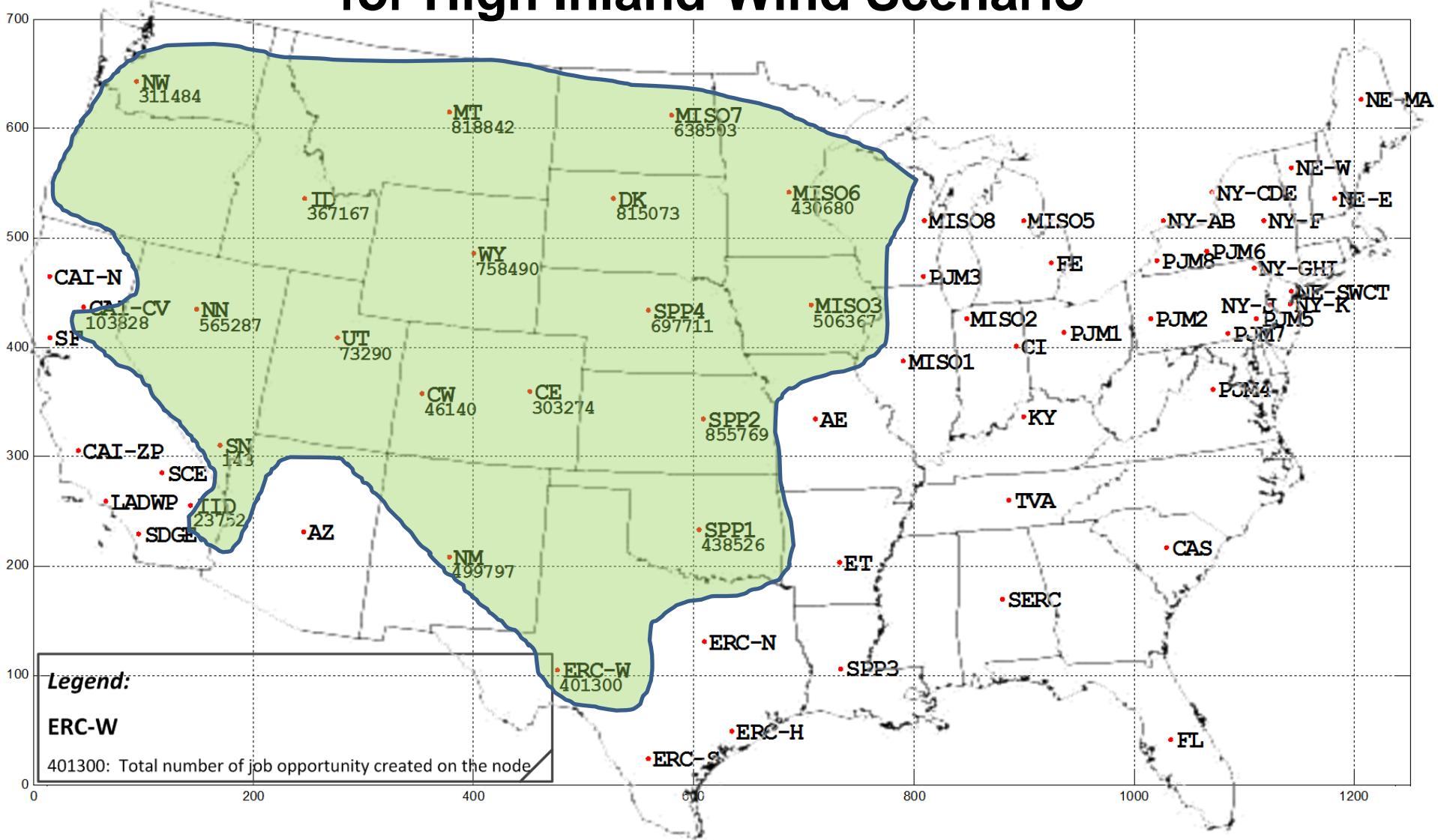
James Hoecker,
FERC Commissioner 1993-2001,
FERC Chair 1997-2001

in Matthew L. Wald, “Ideas to Bolster Power Grid Run Up Against the System’s Many Owners,” NY Times, July 12, 2013, www.nytimes.com/2013/07/13/us/ideas-to-bolster-power-grid-run-up-against-the-systems-many-owners.html?emc=eta1&_r=1&

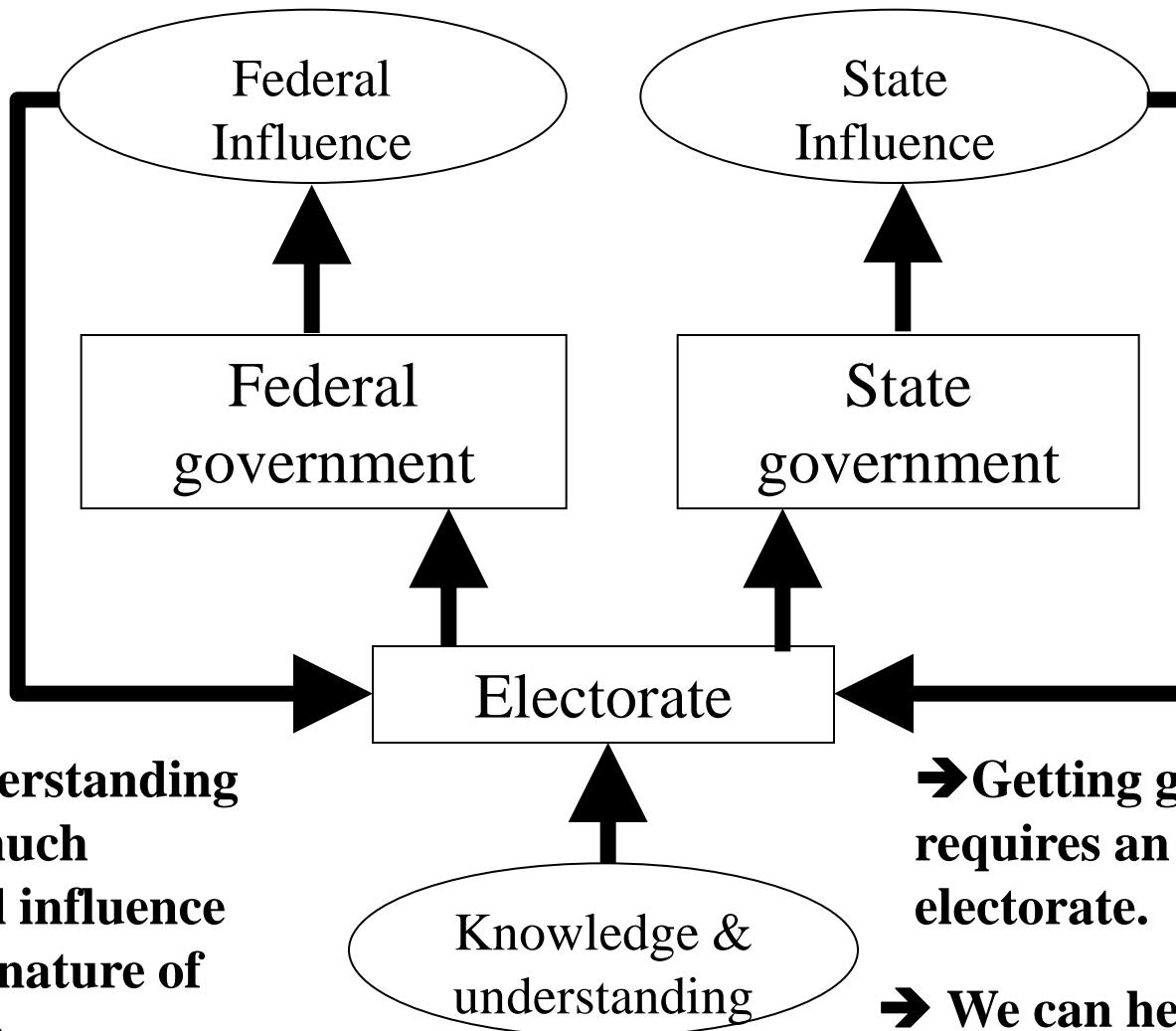
Impact of Transmission Expansion on Average LMPs for High Inland Wind Scenario



Impact of Generation Expansion on Job Creation for High Inland-Wind Scenario



Public Education and Policy



→ Public understanding affects how much governmental influence occurs & the nature of that influence.

→ Getting good policy requires an informed electorate.
→ We can help electorate (& policy-makers) see the impact on their lives of various infrastructure designs.

Where infrastructure is very different

