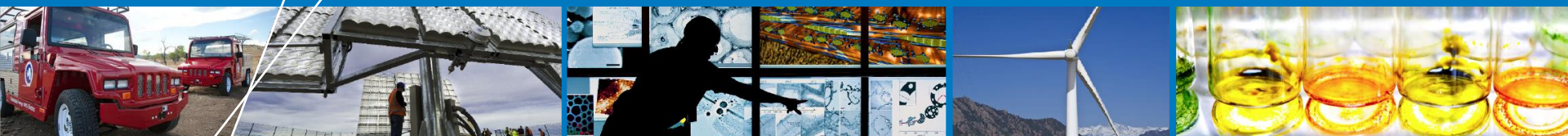


# U.S. Perspectives on Energy Systems Integration



**iiESI European Workshop (DTU) 2014**

**May 27, 2014**

**Dana Christensen**  
**Deputy Laboratory Director,**  
**Science & Technology**  
**National Renewable Energy Laboratory**

# Energy Market Dynamics

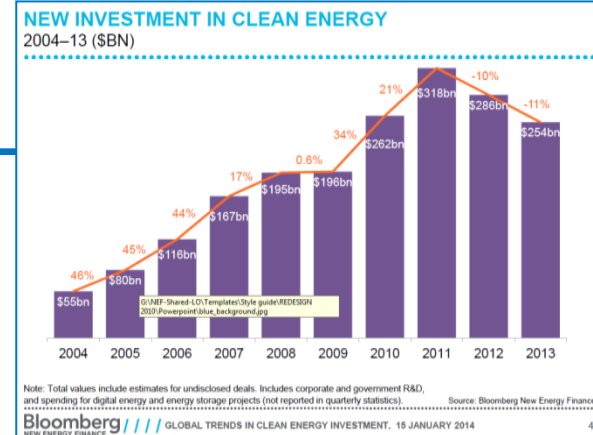
Global renewable industry growing,  
but facing challenges

Public policy evolving

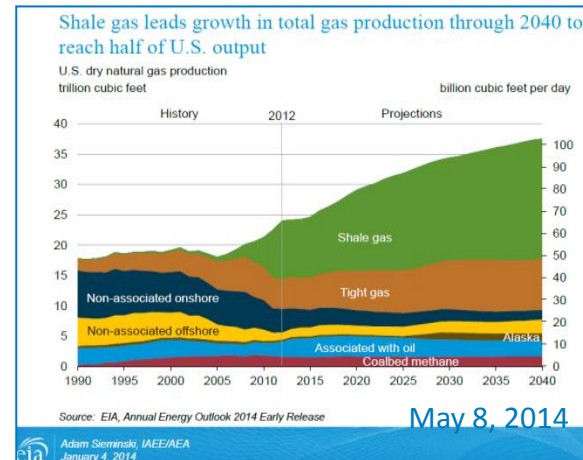
Effects of Great Recession still evident

Shale gas a growing focus in U.S. and  
elsewhere

Infrastructure  
investments will  
be made, focus  
on flexibility

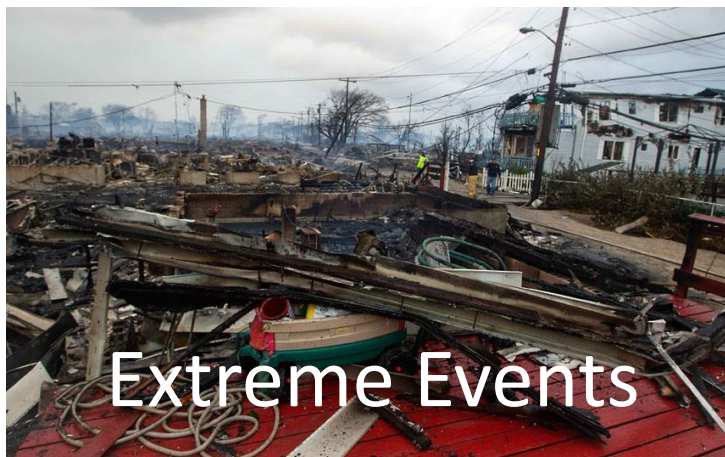


<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2014/update/01/index.htm>



# Why Grid Modernization?

The existing electrical grid has served us well...  
**but a clean energy future needs a modernized grid.**





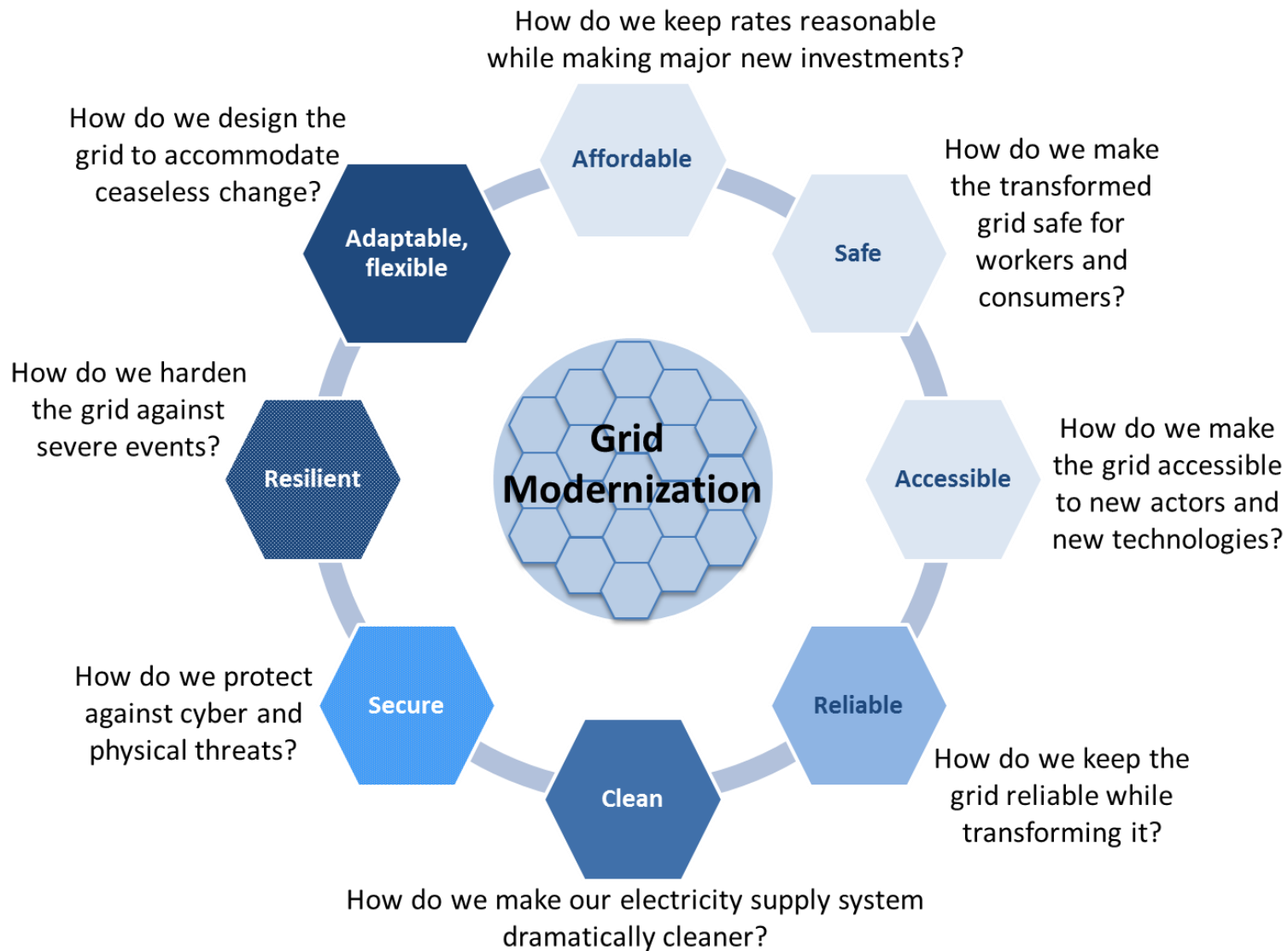
# National Renewable Energy Laboratory Snapshot

## Dedicated Solely to Advancing Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Research toward Enabling Deployment onto a Modernized Grid

- Physical Assets Owned by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
- Operated by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy under Contract to DOE
- 2400 staff and world-class facilities
- More than 350 active partnerships annually
- Campus is a living model of sustainable energy



# Key Aspects of Grid Modernization



# U.S. DOE Grid Modernization Initiative

## Grid Modernization

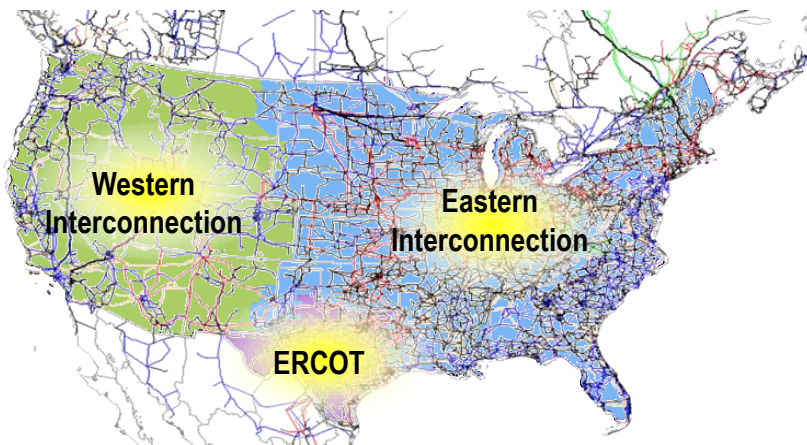
**Architecture and  
System Control**

**Design and  
Planning Tools**

**Sensing and  
Measurements**

**Devices and Integrated  
System Testing**

**Institutional Support and Regional Partnerships**



### Challenges

- Aging infrastructure
- Increased asset stress
- Fuel mix changes
- Increase variability and uncertainty
- More information and potential control points

### Goals

- Maintain reliability, safety, affordability
- Increase security and resilience
- Double installed renewables by 2020
- 80% clean electricity by 2035

# NREL's Energy Systems Integration Facility (ESIF)

- Focus is to conduct R&D of integrated energy systems (electricity, fuels, transportation, and buildings and campus systems)
  - Grid integration / battery lifetime impacts
  - Hydrogen production and fueling; fuel cell R&D
  - Integration of vehicles (electric drive, fuel cells) with renewable electricity generation

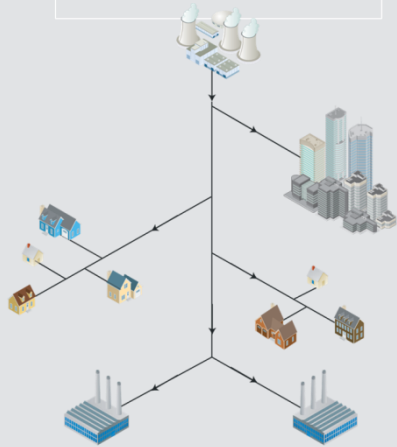


Addressing the challenges of large-scale integration of clean energy technologies into the energy systems infrastructure

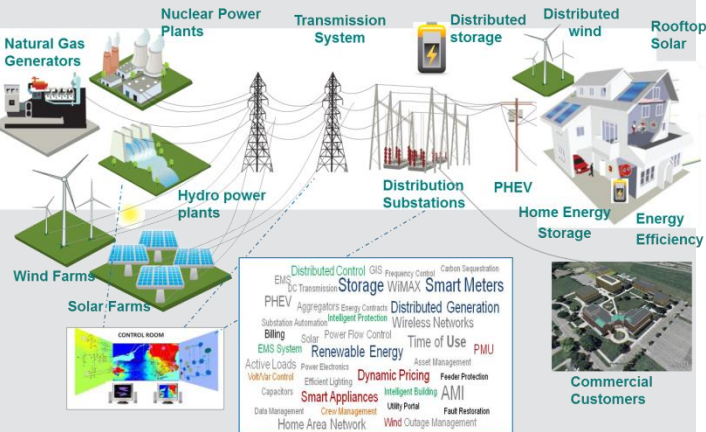
[www.nrel.gov/eis/facilities\\_esif.html](http://www.nrel.gov/eis/facilities_esif.html)



## Traditional Energy Systems



## Future Systems



## "Plug and Play Components"

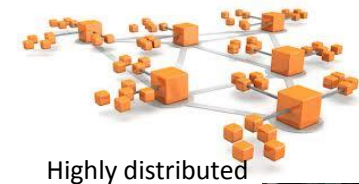


Advanced Inverter

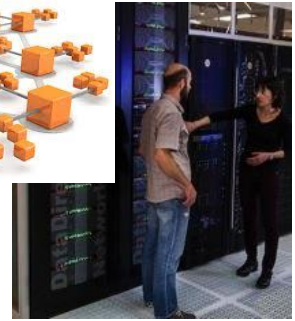


Hybrid Systems

## Dynamic Simulation Models



Highly distributed generation & distribution models



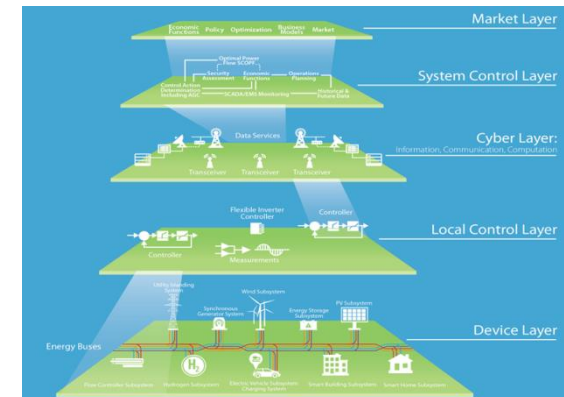
Resource Forecasting

## Improvements in design tools and operational tools

## "Big Data" Integration and Visualization

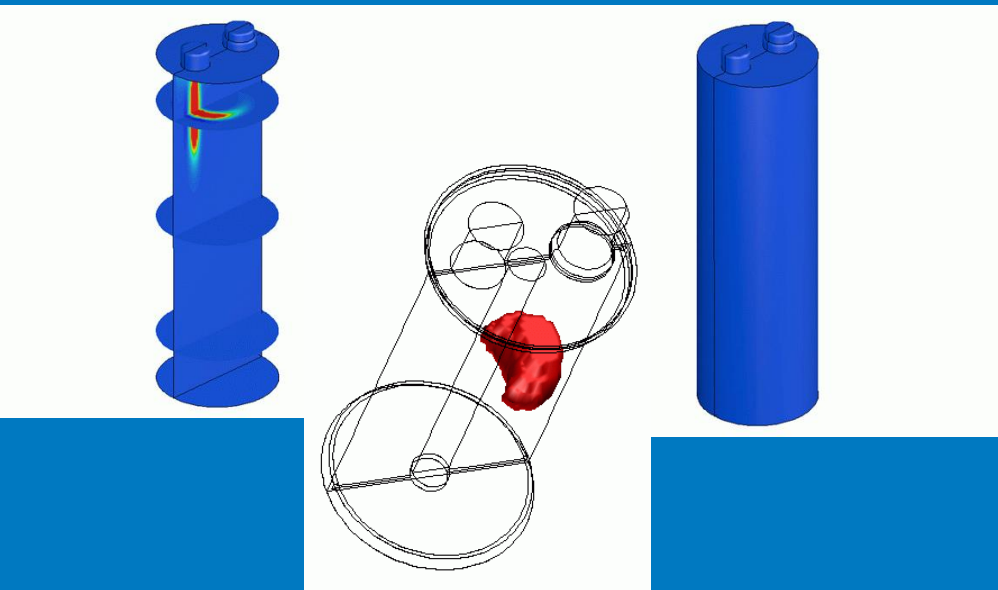
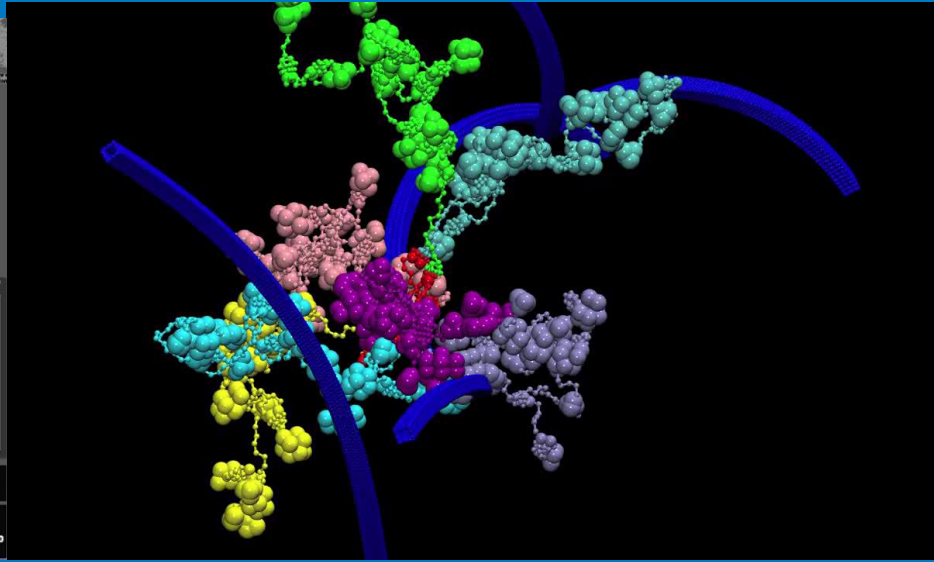
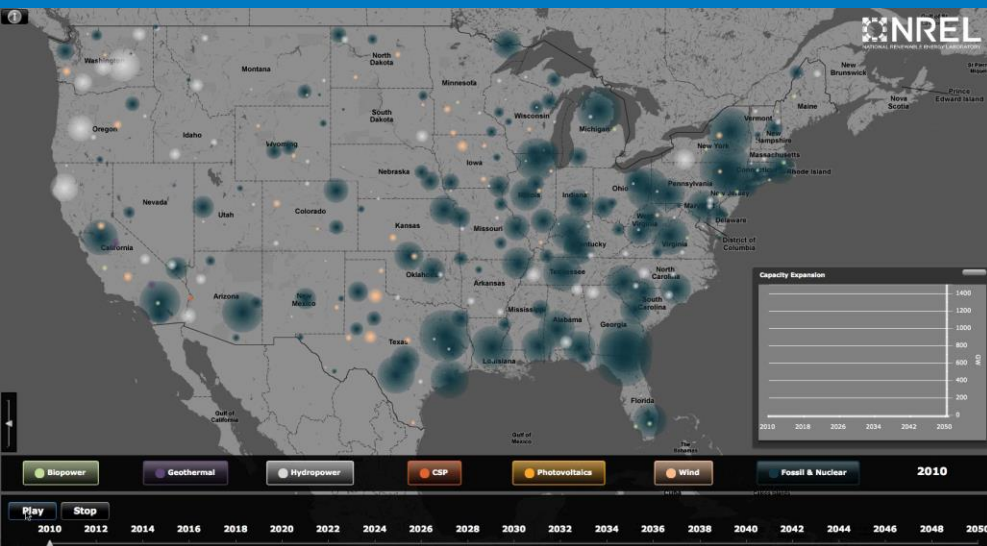


## Communication and Control Architectures





# Applying High Performance Computing to Solve Vexing Challenges



## Computational Modeling of Turbine Wake Effects



# High Performance Computing

- “Peregrine” HPC - 1.2 Petaflops
- Put into production use Jan 1, 2014
- Over 90% utilized to date
- Already 3x over-subscribed for FY14
- Supports numerous DOE program milestones in Wind, Solar, and Bioenergy
- Most Energy Efficient HPC in the World.



# Comprehensive Studies Validate Opportunity



*Dialogue Shifts from “Can it be done” to “How to do it”*

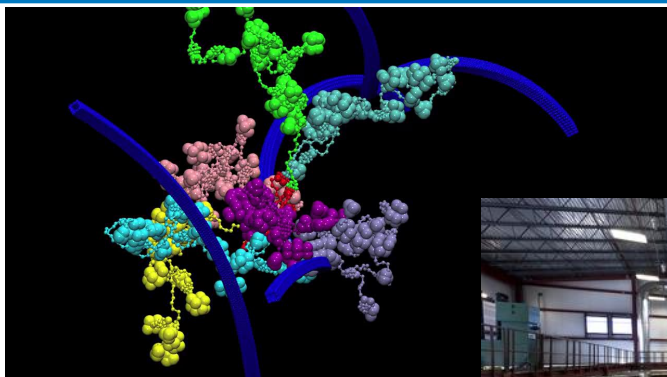


# The New Frontiers: Integration and Scale

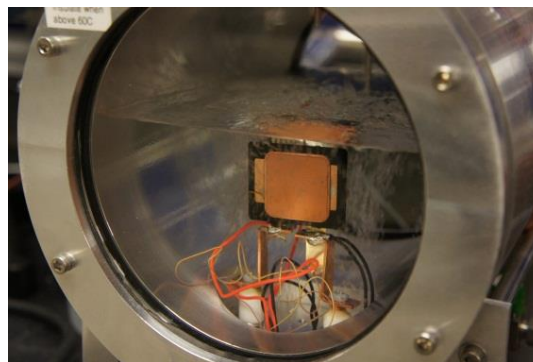
- Integration of high-penetration renewables requires enhanced system-wide flexibility and new operating paradigm
  - Variable supply and variable load
  - Increased distributed resources
  - Enhanced energy imbalance market cooperation
  - Changing roles of consumers, utilities, investors, independent power providers, technology vendors, and regulators
- Regional considerations will continue to drive progress
- Production scale and supply chain critically important to lower manufacturing costs
- Investment in technology R&D is critical
  - Better monitoring and measurements
  - Advanced analytics processing and control
  - Demand-shifting and load profile shaping techniques
  - Two way power flow control electronics



# Sustainable Mobility



**Advanced Fuels –  
Biofuels and Hydrogen**



**Vehicle Electrification**



# Timing: Deployment of Connected and Automated Vehicles

## Today



Image by NREL

### Safety Benefits

*Appealing consumer amenities  
commercially available now*

- Collision aversion
- Park assist
- Limited drive-cycle smoothing
- GPS route mapping

## Near-Term



Image courtesy of Ford

### Fuel Economy Benefits

*Additional amenities + savings  
Low barriers to deployment*

- Efficient driving route selection
- Improved drive-cycle smoothing
- Traffic signal timing coordination
- Vehicle "platooning"
- Parking space location
- Stationary wireless power transfer
- Charging station location

## Long-Term



Image Courtesy of GM

### System-Wide Benefits

*Dramatic innovations  
Deployment challenges*

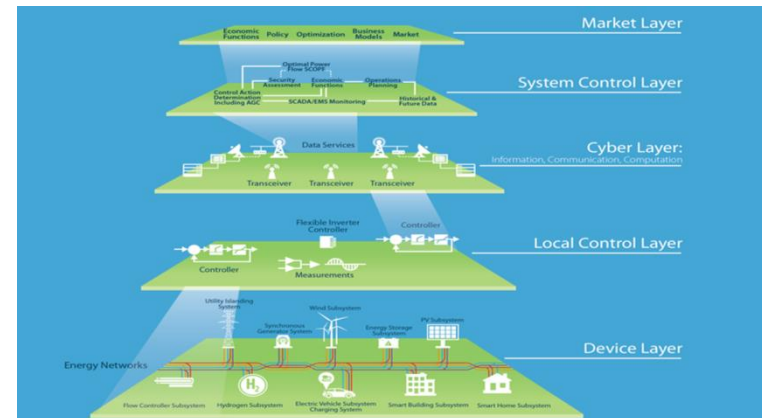
- Fully automated hands-free driving
- Automated vehicle "valet" parking and retrieval
- In-motion wireless power transfer



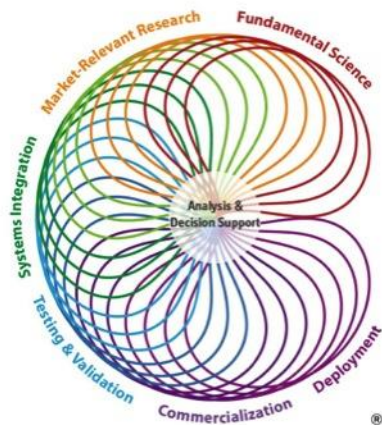
# Moving Forward: Opportunities

## Technologies

- Globally, more efficient transportation alone can realize projected savings of \$70 trillion over the next 40 years<sup>1</sup>.
- Next-generation technology solutions can reduce total energy consumption in all sectors and provide more choices to consumers. They can also have unintended consequences if not identified early on.
- Substantial RD&D is needed to meet the President's goal of reducing oil use by 1/3 by 2025.
- Analysis at all levels is needed.



## Partnerships



The National Labs can serve as a resource to

- Leverage existing technology work portfolios and partnerships
- Provide access to world-class test facilities and capabilities
- Serve as a third-party for technology validation, market acceptance, analysis, and data dissemination
- Provide systems-level energy analysis

1. International Energy Agency: *A Tale of Renewed Cities*. July 2013



