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TECHNOLOGY

# Real-Options Approach to Transmission Planning Using Non-Wire Solutions in Support of Net-Zero Futures

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# Introductions

## ▪ Dr. Hisham Othman

- *VICE PRESIDENT, TRANSMISSION & REGULATORY*
- Areas of expertise include power system dynamics and control, grid integration of renewables and storage, non-wire solutions, reliability of high IBR portfolios, economic analysis, and business strategy.
- PhD, Electrical Engineering, University of Illinois, Urbana
- Over 30 years of technical and managerial experience in the electric power industry



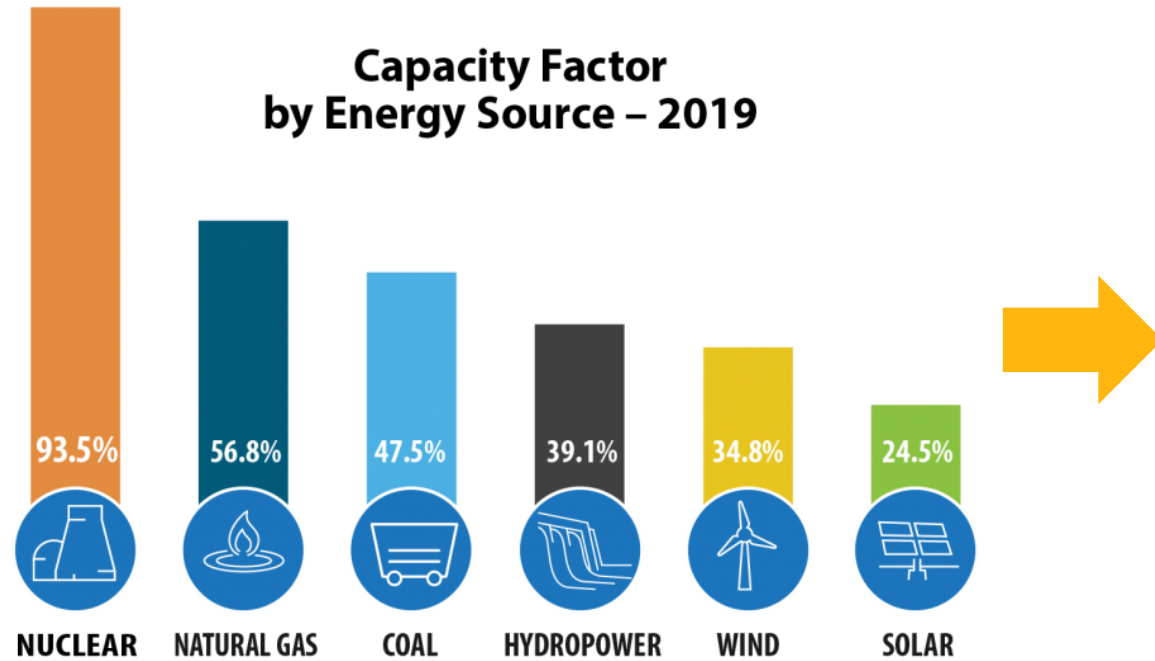
# Carbon Reduction Plans (NetZero)

|      | Dominion | Duke | Southern Co | Xcel | SDGE | WEC | EverSource | PSEG | ConEd | DTE | Entergy | Ameren | SCE | PG&E | CMS | Avangrid | FirstEnergy | AES Corp | Vistra Corp | Pinnacle West | NRG | NationalGrid | Nextera | AEP | Exelon | PPL | Alliant Energy | Atmos Energy | Energy, Inc. | Center Point | NiSource | PREPA |
|------|----------|------|-------------|------|------|-----|------------|------|-------|-----|---------|--------|-----|------|-----|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|---------------|-----|--------------|---------|-----|--------|-----|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------|-------|
| 2025 |          |      |             |      |      | 55  |            |      |       |     |         |        |     |      |     | 35       |             | 50       |             |               | 50  |              | 67      |     | 15     |     |                |              |              |              |          | 40    |
| 2030 |          | 50   |             | 80   |      | 70  | 100        |      |       | 50  | 50      | 50     | 40  | 40   |     |          | 30          | 70       | 60          | 65            |     | 20           |         | 70  |        |     | 50             |              |              |              | 90       |       |
| 2035 |          |      |             |      |      |     |            |      |       |     |         |        |     |      |     | 100      |             |          |             |               |     |              |         |     |        |     |                | 30           |              | 70           |          |       |
| 2040 |          |      |             |      |      |     |            |      | 100   | 80  | 85      | 85     |     |      | 100 |          |             |          |             |               |     |              |         |     | 70     |     |                |              |              |              |          | 60    |
| 2045 |          |      |             |      | 100  |     |            | 80   |       |     |         |        | 100 | 100  |     |          |             |          |             |               |     |              |         |     |        |     |                |              |              |              |          |       |
| 2050 | 100      | 100  | 100         | 100  |      | 100 |            | 100  |       | 100 |         | 100    |     |      |     |          | 100         | 100      | 100         | 100           | 100 | 100          |         | 80  |        | 80  | 100            |              | 80           |              |          | 100   |

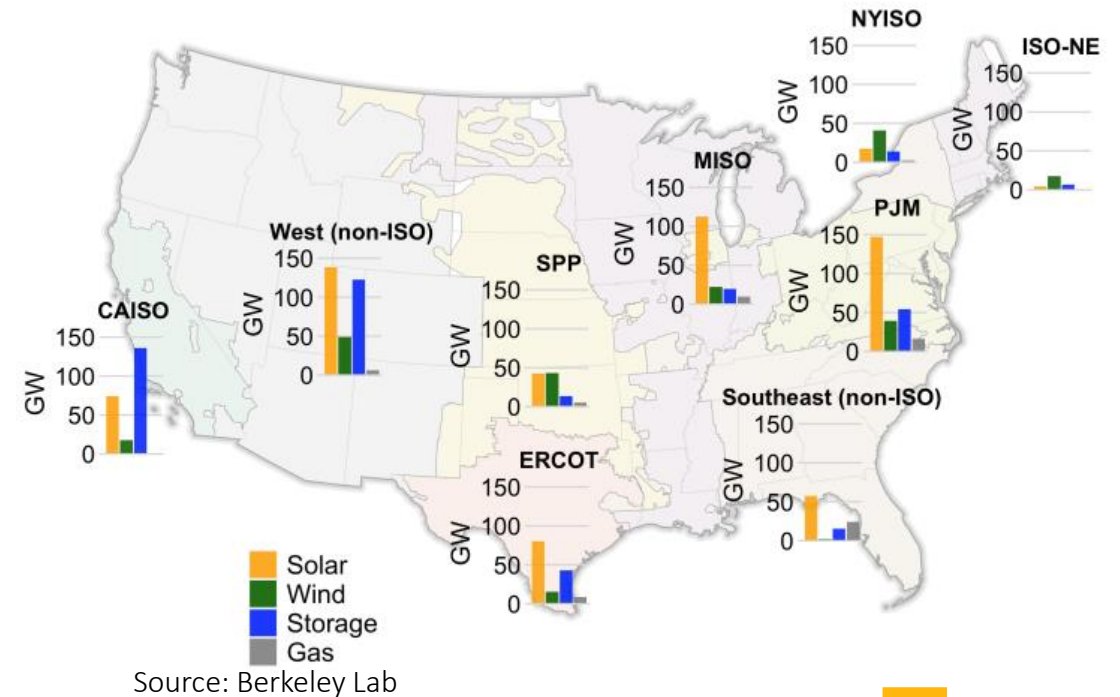
- NetZero decarbonization goals set at most major utilities and corporations over next 10-30 years
- This is prompting a profound change in the energy resource mix towards inverter-based resources (IBRs) in the form of solar, wind, and energy storage, in addition to clean dispatchable sources (e.g., hydrogen).



# The Pressure is Mounting on The Electric Grid to Interconnect Renewables



≈ 1,000 GW in the Interconnection Queues



Supply Uncertainty (Amount, Timing, Locations, Technology)

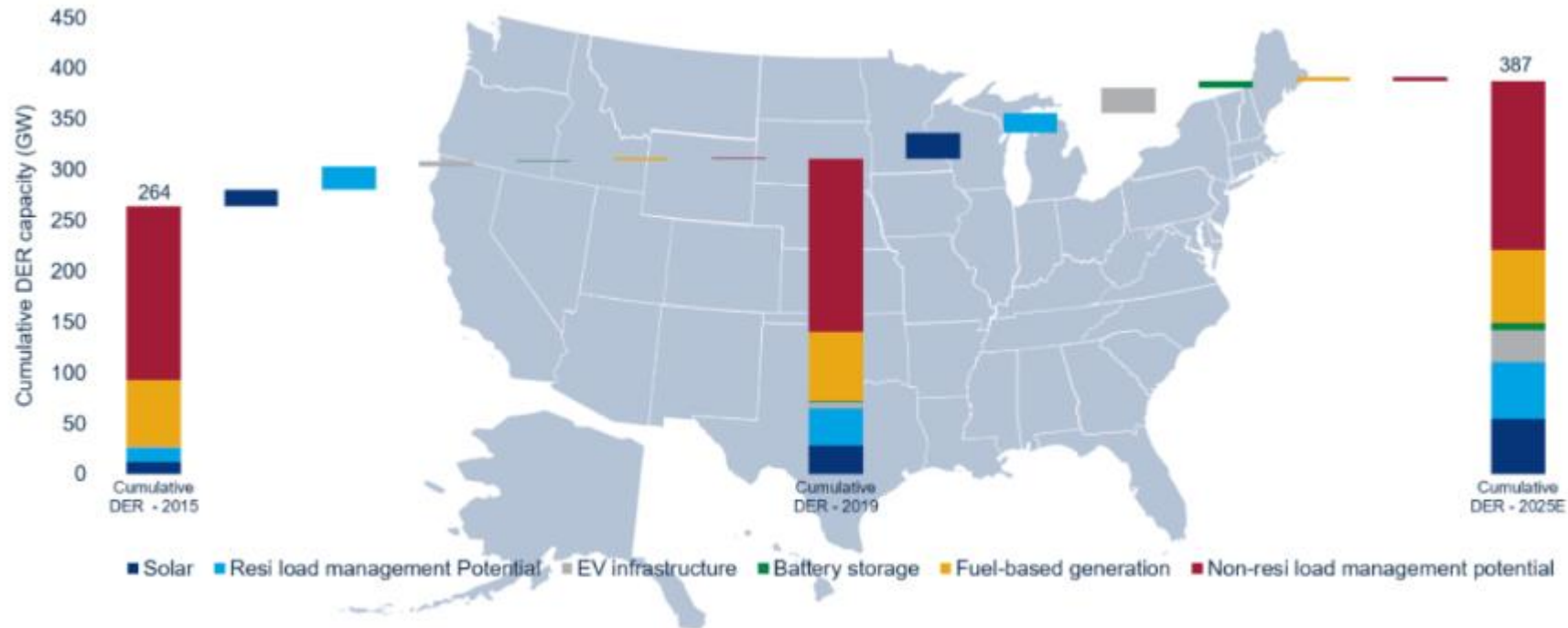
Queue Withdrawals

Rising Grid Upgrade Costs

Transmission Security Violations

# Electric Demand is Increasingly Uncertain

Cumulative DER capacity additions by resource and customer type (2016-2025E)



Source: Wood Mackenzie Energy Storage, Grid Edge Service, U.S. Distributed Solar Service; U.S. Department of Energy

Note: Cumulative fuel-based generation capacity figures are the sum of Wood Mackenzie's comprehensive resource database accounting for projects commissioned after 2000 and the Department of Energy's tally of customer-sited CHP sites commissioned between 1980 and 2000.



DERs impact the Demand Served by the Grid ..  
Uncertainty about Location, Timing, Amounts, and Technology Mix have Profound Implications on  
Load Forecast and Grid Planning



# Transmission Planning Under Uncertainty from Demand and Supply

Integrated Supply and  
Grid (G&T) Planning to  
Meet Demand Forecast

1980s



Grid Planning  
To Meet Demand and  
Supply Forecasts &  
Passive Grid Controls

Now



Grid Planning with  
Non-Wire Solutions &  
Active Grid Controls

Emerging

- Coordinated Grid and Resource Planning

- Limited Demand Uncertainty

- Deterministic Grid Planning Criteria

- Probabilistic Criteria for generation

- Conventional solutions

- Independent Grid Planning

- Increasing uncertainty (supply & demand)

- Deterministic Planning Criteria

- Mainly Conventional Grid Solutions

- Emerging Non-Wire Solutions

- No reliance on time-limited solutions (e.g., storage)

- No active controls (Passive Grid)

- Participative Grid Planning

- Integrated T&D planning

- Increasing uncertainty (Electrification)

- Probabilistic & Scenario Planning

- Beyond Reliability, Resilience Metrics

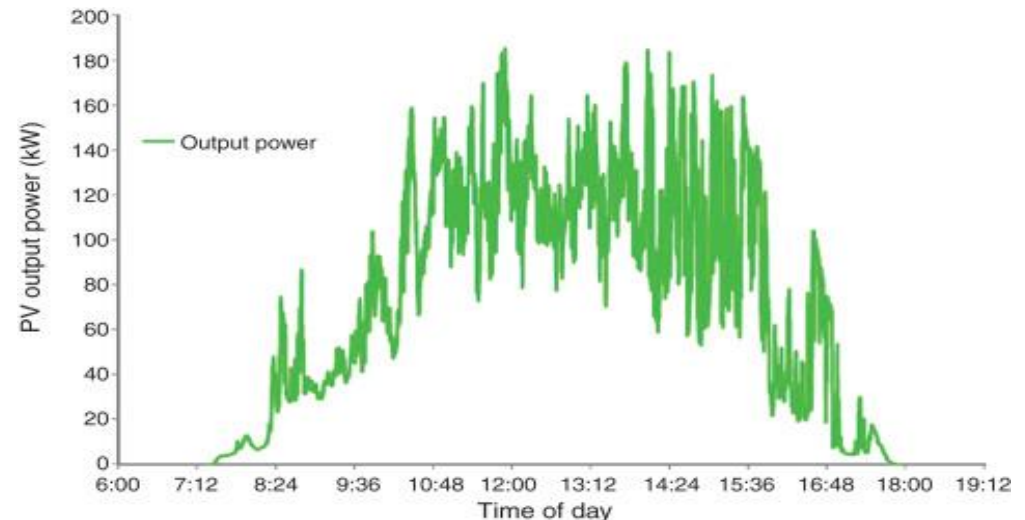
- Hybrid Solutions (Wires and Non-Wires)

- Acceptance of time-limited solutions

- Active inverter controls

# Use of Probabilistic Techniques in Grid Planning

- Climate Change and Grid Resilience:
  - Asset fragility curves
  - Weather progression
  - Cascading tree analysis, Value@Risk analysis
  - Probability and consequence of cascading outages
- Renewable Profile Variability:
  - Affects transmission flows and security
  - Requires stochastic models and time-series analysis
- Scenario Analysis:
  - How to assign a probability to a scenario
  - What is an acceptable hedge (e.g., 99% mitigation?)



# Grid Solution Types

Long-Life Assets  
- 40-100 years



Medium-Life, Expandable Assets  
- 10-20 years

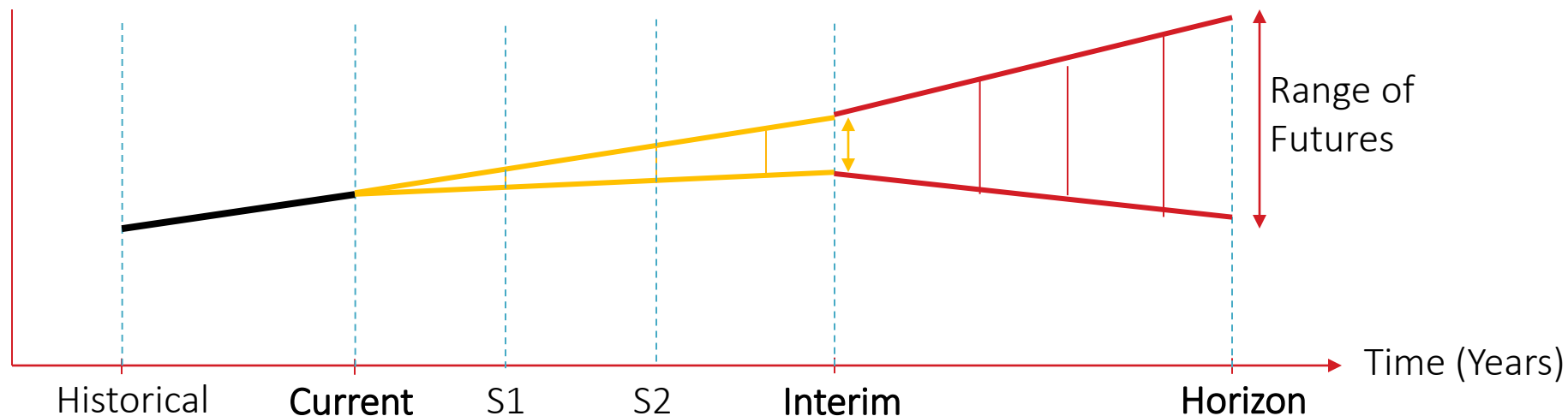


Short-Life Assets  
- 1-3 years contract

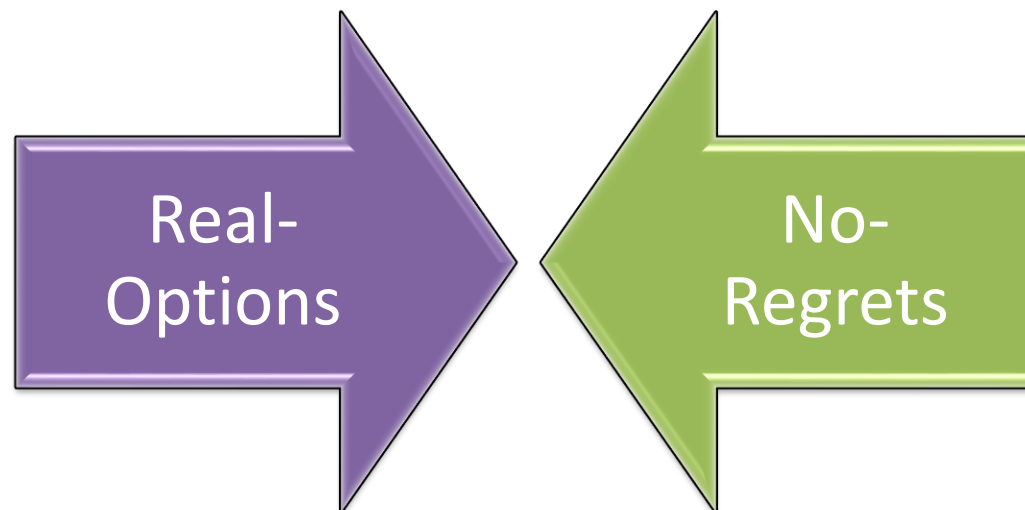




# Approaches to Grid Planning



- Start from the Current year, and design solutions for S1.
- Before reaching S1, re-assess future demands, and expand solution to S2.
- Suitable for short-life assets (e.g., DR), and medium-life expandable assets (e.g., storage)



- Start with the Horizon Year to determine the range of grid solutions.
- Walk backward to the Interim planning year and select elements from amongst the horizon year solutions.
- Suitable for long-life assets (e.g., wire solutions)

# Case Study 1: Use of Hybrid (Solar plus Storage) for Grid Reliability

## ▪ Motivation

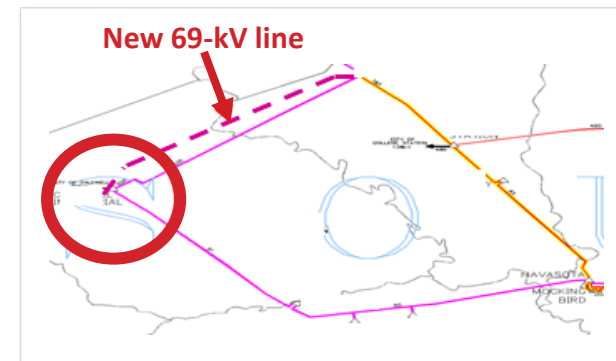
- Uncertain load development
- Long (costly) conventional lines
- Two Line overloads under P1-3 contingencies

## ▪ Planning Considerations

- Peak Load Forecast
- Allowable grid operating limits, thermal and voltage
- Hourly load profile (not just a few snap shots)
  - 8760 time-series vs 4 snapshots
- Charging limits during consecutive daily peaks
- Battery lifecycle analysis
- Storage or Hybrid Solutions
- Solar+Storage requires probabilistic analysis

## ▪ Case Study in MISO Region

- 69 kV network serving 25 MW load
- Thermal and voltage violations during peak summer and winter
- Conventional solution: \$33M
- Battery: 2.5 MW/24 MWh, \$12M
- Lifetime battery cost is 65% of conventional solution

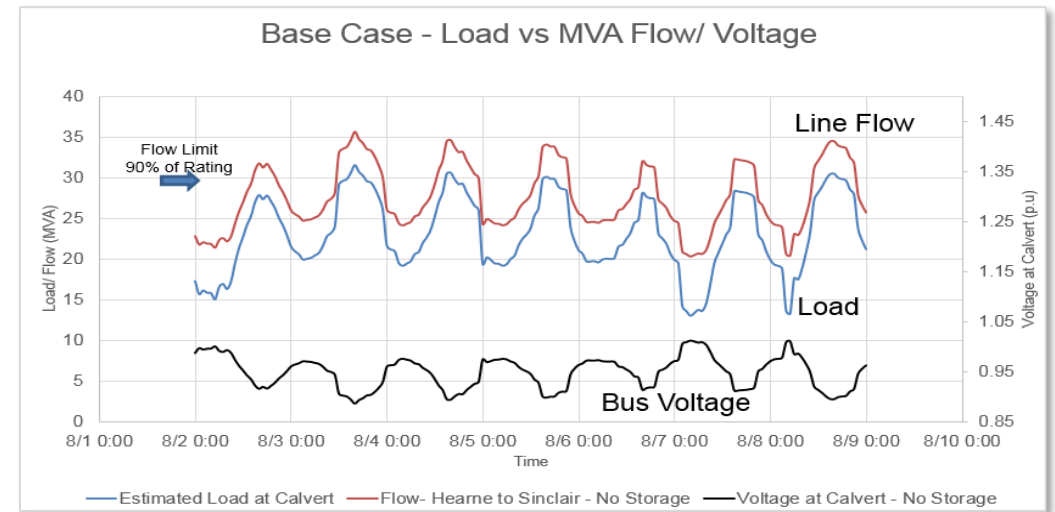
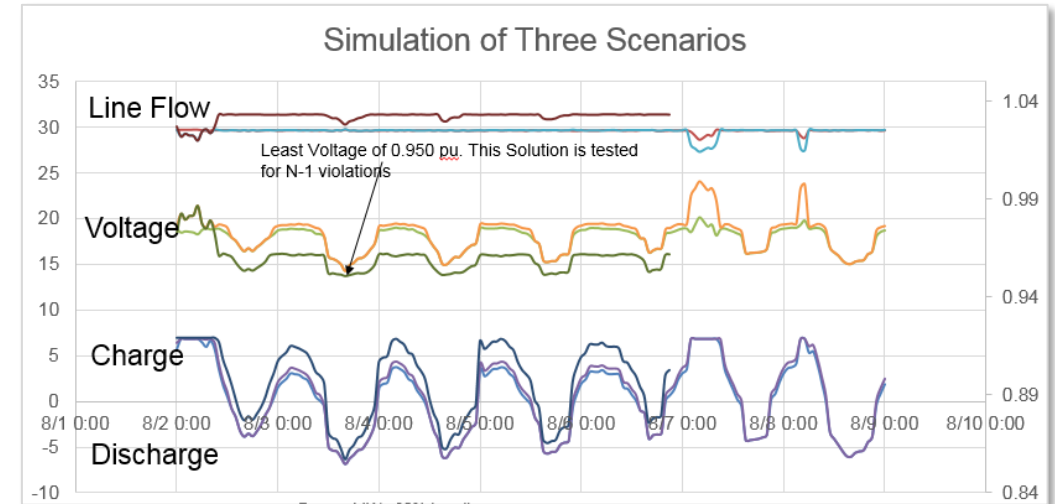
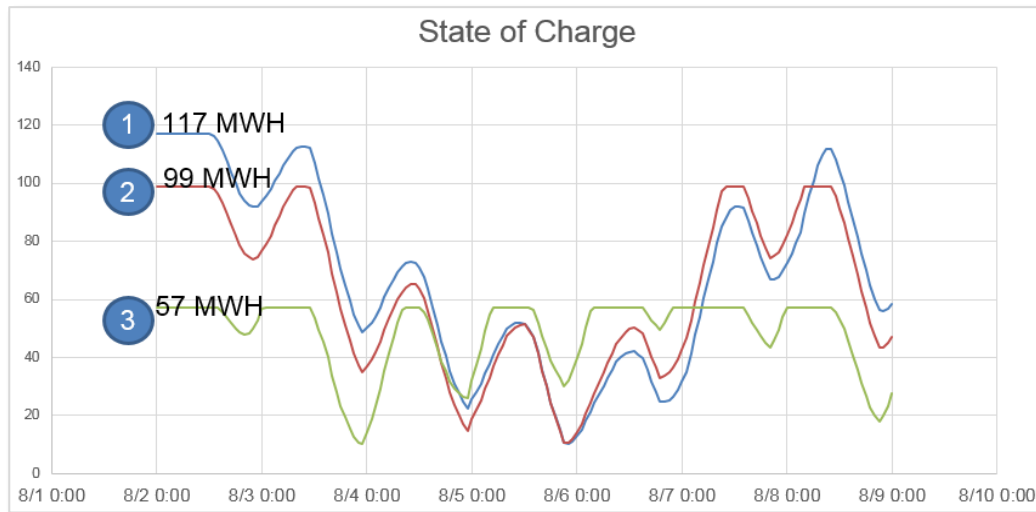


*Siting & Sizing  
Storage to Address  
Grid Security  
(Thermal or Voltage  
Violations)*

Proper Siting and Sizing of hybrid solutions are critical to Storage Technical and Economic Feasibility

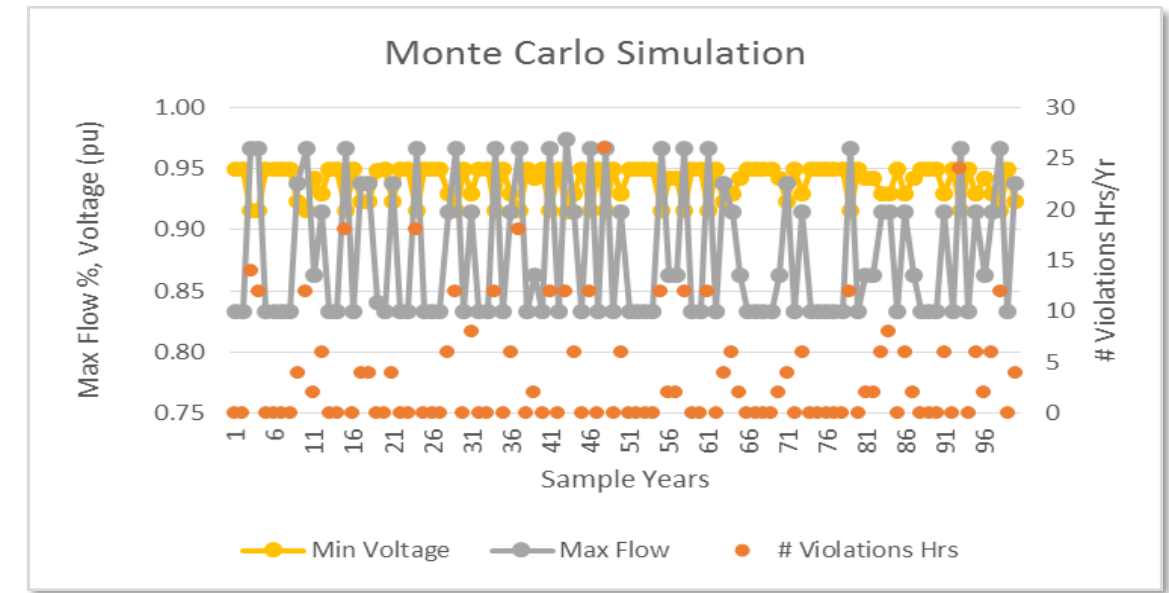
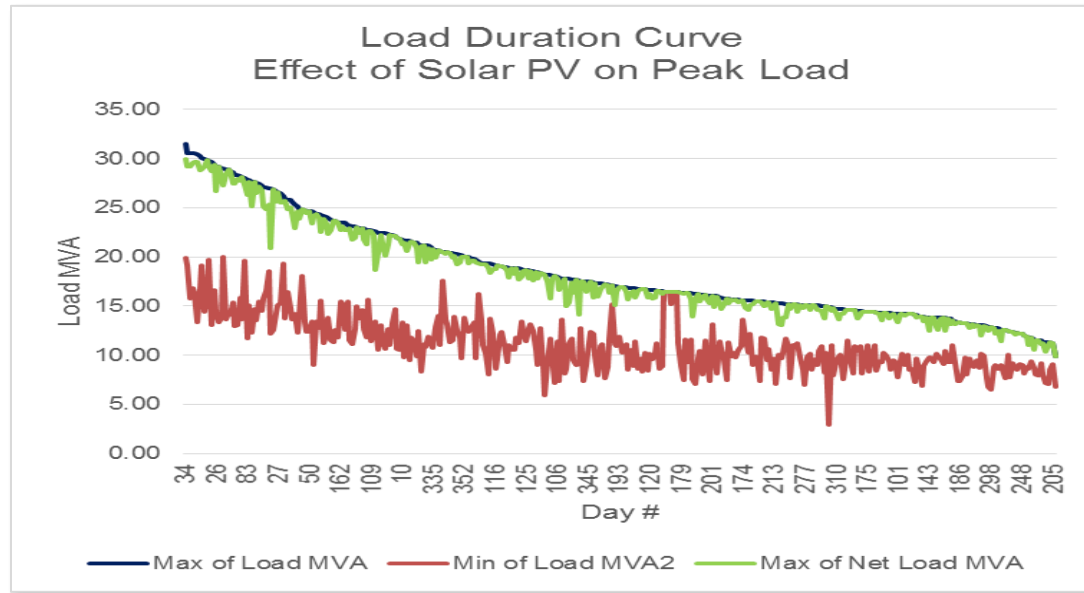
# Case Study 1: Time-Series Security Analysis (8760)

- Siting index based on power and outage transfer factors
- Sizing influenced by grid thermal and voltage, in addition to load hourly profile
- Detailed system optimization and simulations under N-0, N-1 conditions are necessary to assure solution efficacy



Careful Time-Series Analysis (8760 hours) is required to optimize storage capacity

# Case Study 1: Mote-Carlo Analysis



- Using 100 Monte-Carlo Analysis, each representing one-year of 8760 simulations to assess the range and frequency of voltage and line loading violations.

| All hours in a Year | # Violations | Max Line Flow | Min Bus Voltage |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| MEAN                | 0            | 83.7%         | 0.95            |
| Low                 | 0            | 83.4%         | 0.92            |
| High                | 24           | 96.7%         | 0.95            |

Hybrid Solar+Storage solutions can further optimize the solution economics, but require additional probabilistic studies to assure grid security

# Optimizing Transmission Planning Using Energy Storage – A Real Option Approach



## ■ Variables affecting Investment and Operational Decisions:

- Net Load Growth Rates
- Equipment Cost Roadmap
- Technology Breakthroughs
- Permitting/Interconnection
- Regulatory Environment
- Financial Environment
- Energy and Ancillary Prices

## ■ Managerial Flexibility:

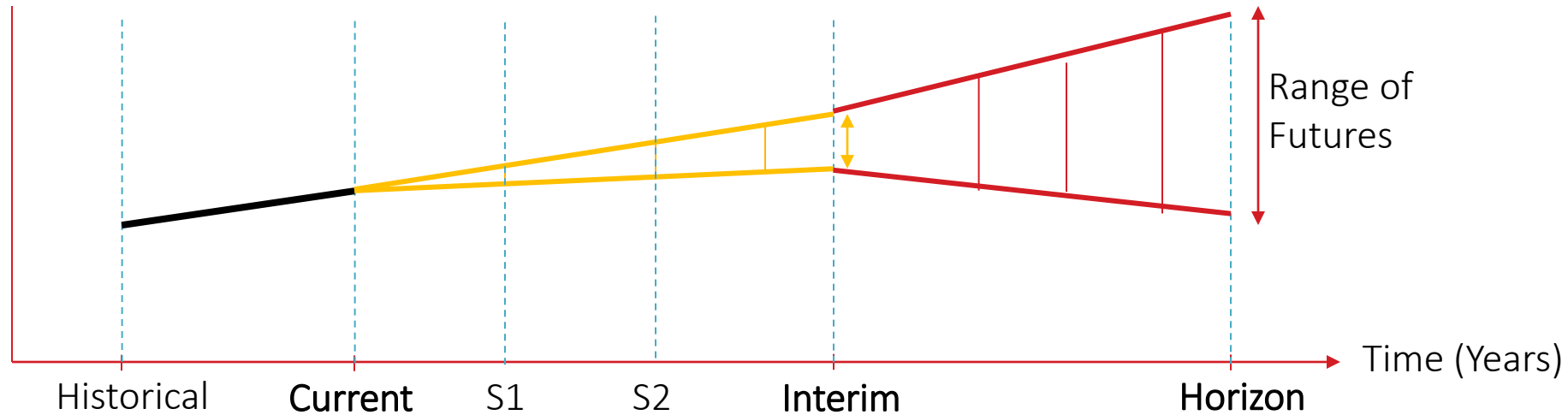
- When to Install
- Where to Locate
- What technology
- How Much MW/MWh
- Expand/Replace/Retire
- Asset Management
- Revenue Stacking

## ■ Financial Outcome:

- Rates
- IRRs
- NPV
- Volatility

**Monte Carlo Simulation -  
Option Value and Greeks**

# Incremental Planning using Real Options and Flexible Solutions

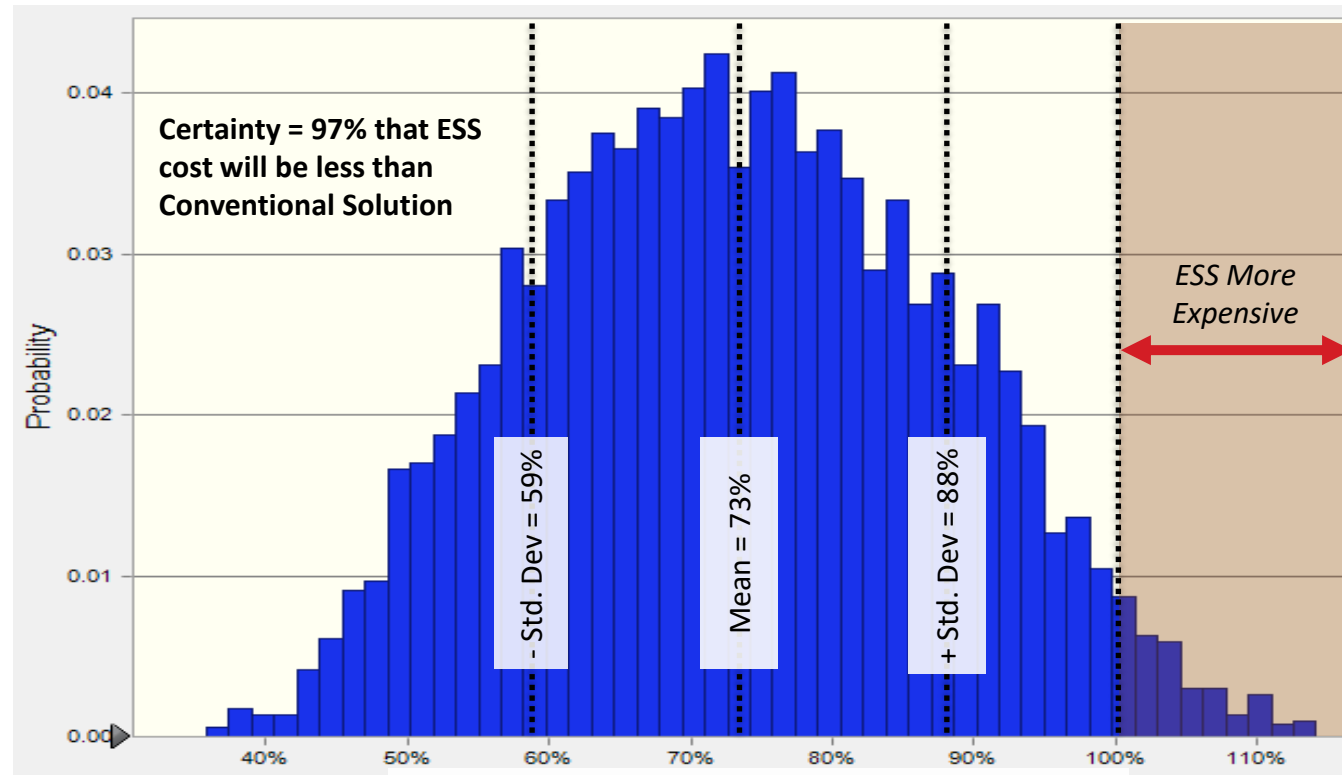


- Using a flexible and expandable solution set such as energy storage, size the solution to address forecasted system needs at S1 (e.g., 5 years).
- As time approaches S1, Reassess system needs at S2 and expand the flexible solution to address them.
- Compare the present value of the incremental investments versus a solution designed to address the highly uncertain system needs at the Interim year.
- Use Monte-Carlo analysis to assess the envelope of all potential outcomes.



# Case Study 2: Real Option Analysis to Optimize Transmission Planning Under Uncertainty

- Load Forecast Uncertainty
- LMP and Ancillary Price Uncertainty



## ▪ Case Study in CAISO

- Conventional Solution \$60M
- ESS w/o Markets \$70M
- ESS w/ Markets \$50M

## ▪ Option Valuation

- ESS cost ranges from 30% to 120%, with a mean value of 70% of conventional solution value

## ▪ Real Option Analysis

- Rank Projects Internally
- Optimize Asset Decisions
- Balance Customer Risk and Cost

Phased planning in uncertain environments can reduce customer cost and risk

# Conclusions

- Uncertainty is growing for grid planners from the supply and the demand sides.
- New supply resources (solar and wind) tend to have low-capacity factors and thus increase the need for grid interconnections and upgrades.
- Deterministic planning methods using conventional wire solutions are increasingly expensive and impede economic clean energy futures.
- Probabilistic analysis is starting to appear in grid planning, especially for climate-change induced resilience solutions, scenario planning driven by planning uncertainty, and the use of non-wire intermittent solutions.
- Industry acceptance and utilization of time-limited solutions (e.g., energy storage) and active grid controls (e.g., renewable inverters) will be paramount to the economic expansion of grid capability to interconnect resources.
- Tools, Processes, and Training are required for grid planning under uncertainty.
- Coordinated G-T-D planning is increasingly required for optimal outcomes.



# *Thank you!*

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