



EPRI

ELECTRIC POWER
RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Making Renewable Energy Work: Future R&D Needs

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Tulane Engineering Forum

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Our History ...

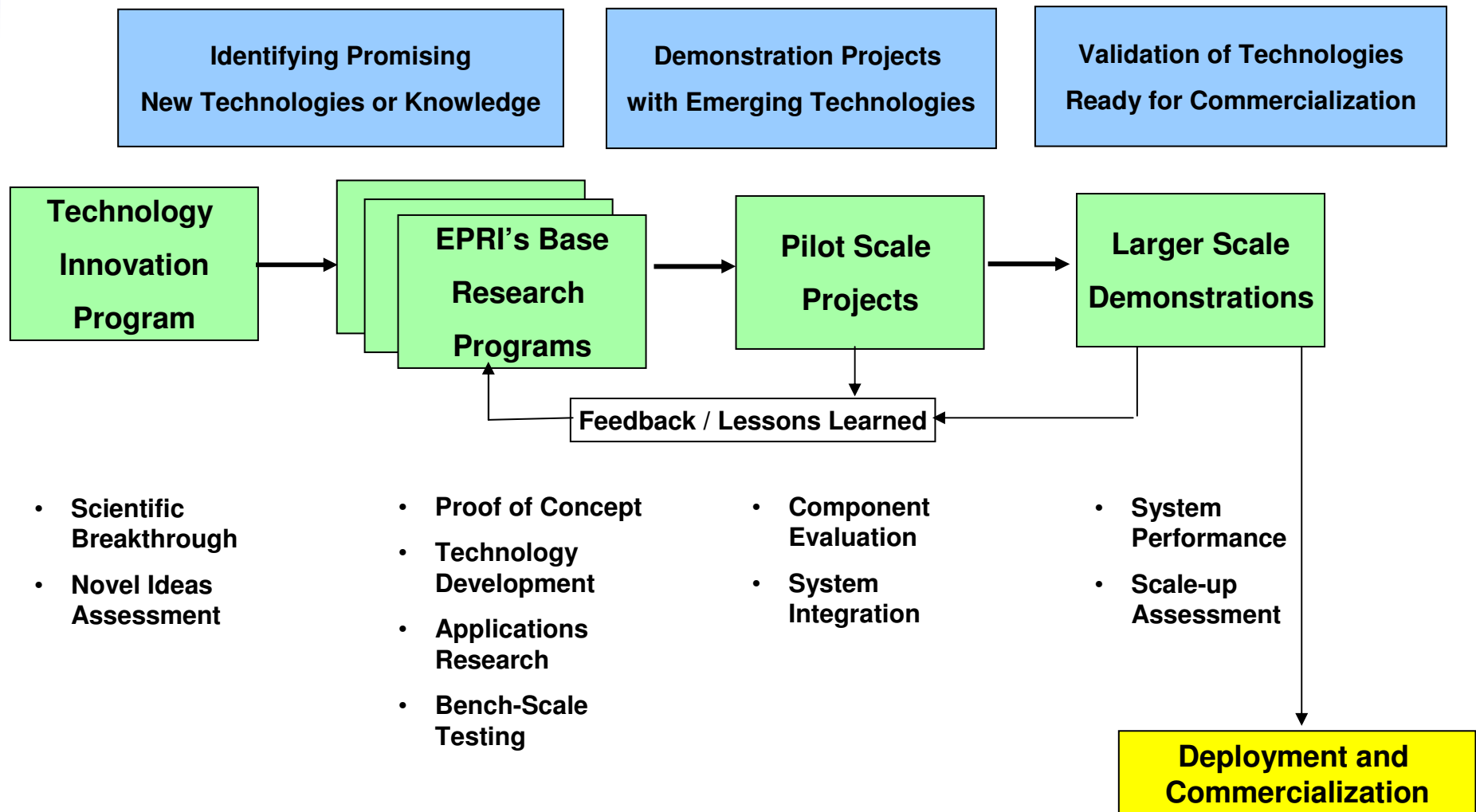
- Founded in 1973
- Independent, nonprofit center for public interest energy and environmental research
- 450+ collaborative participants in more than 40 countries
 - EPRI members generate more than 90% of U.S electricity
- Major offices in Palo Alto, CA; Charlotte, NC; Knoxville, TN
 - Laboratories in Knoxville, Charlotte and Lenox, MA



**EPRI's Founder
Chauncey Starr**



Our Value ...



EPRI's Research Portfolio



Generation

Fossil Operations & Maintenance
Environmental Controls
Generation Planning
Advanced Coal
Combustion Turbines
Renewables



Nuclear Power

Equipment Reliability
Nuclear Operations & Asset Management
High Performance Fuel
Nondestructive Evaluation
High Performance Workforce
Risk/Safety Mgt



Environment

Air Quality
Global Climate Change
Land & Groundwater
Water & Ecosystems
Electromagnetic Fields (EMF)
Occupational Health & Safety



Power Delivery & Utilization

Transmission
Substations
Grid Reliability
Power Markets
Distribution
IntelliGrid
Energy Utilization

Prism / MERGE Analysis...

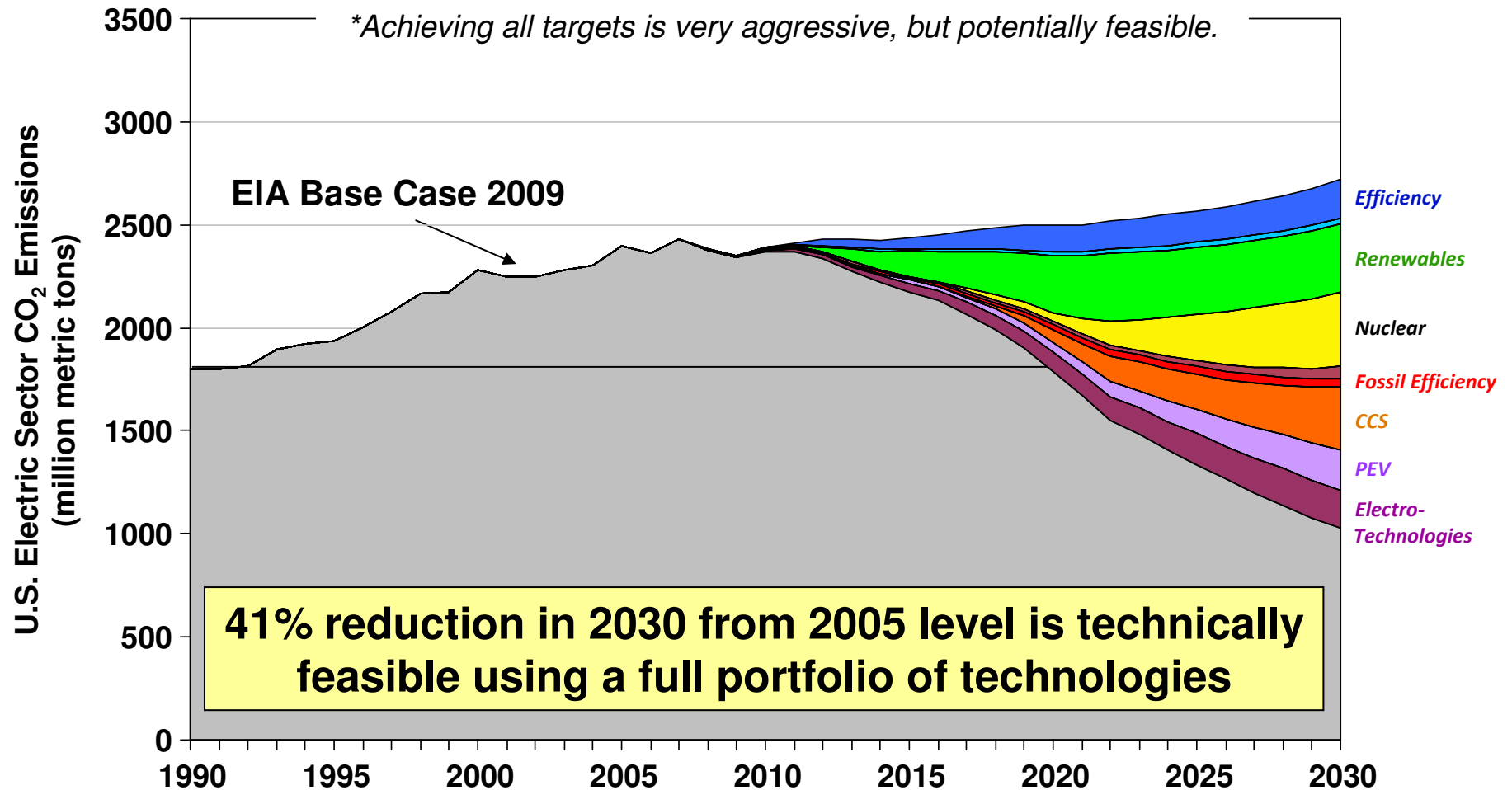
Roadmap for a low-carbon future...

- Detailed analysis of the pathway to reducing CO₂ emissions across the electricity sector
- Provides guidance on the needed generation mix to slow, start and reverse global CO₂ emissions
- Cited in numerous national and international publications

2010 Update In Progress



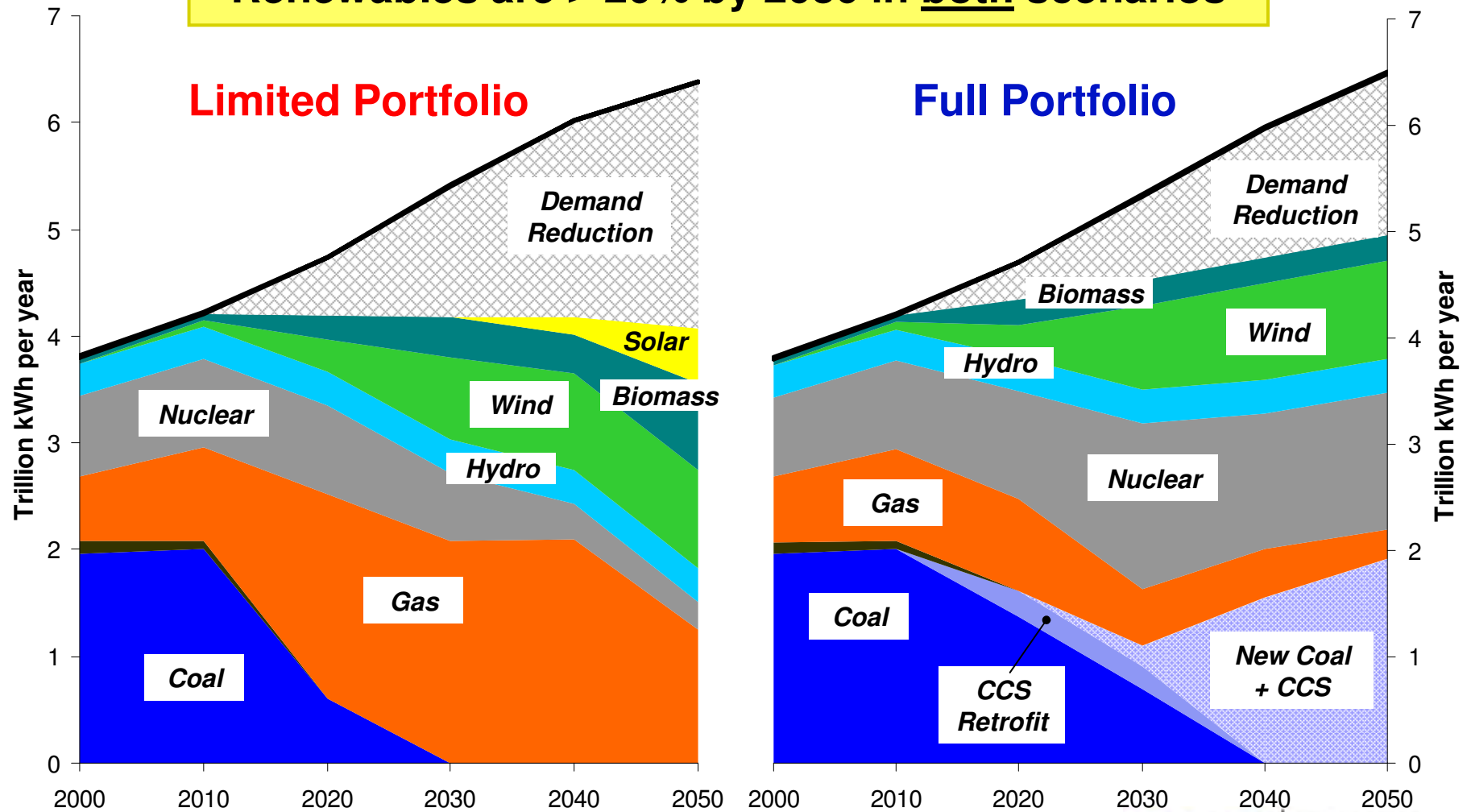
EPRI PRISM—Potential for CO₂ Reductions



*Energy Information Administration (EIA) Annual Energy Outlook (AEO)

EPRI MERGE – Two Possible Future Mixes

Renewables are > 20% by 2030 in both scenarios



Renewable Energy R&D Needs

- Reduce Cost of Generation Technology Options
- Integrate Variable Generation with Transmission and Distribution
- Optimize Energy Storage Capability
- Understand and Minimize Environmental Impacts

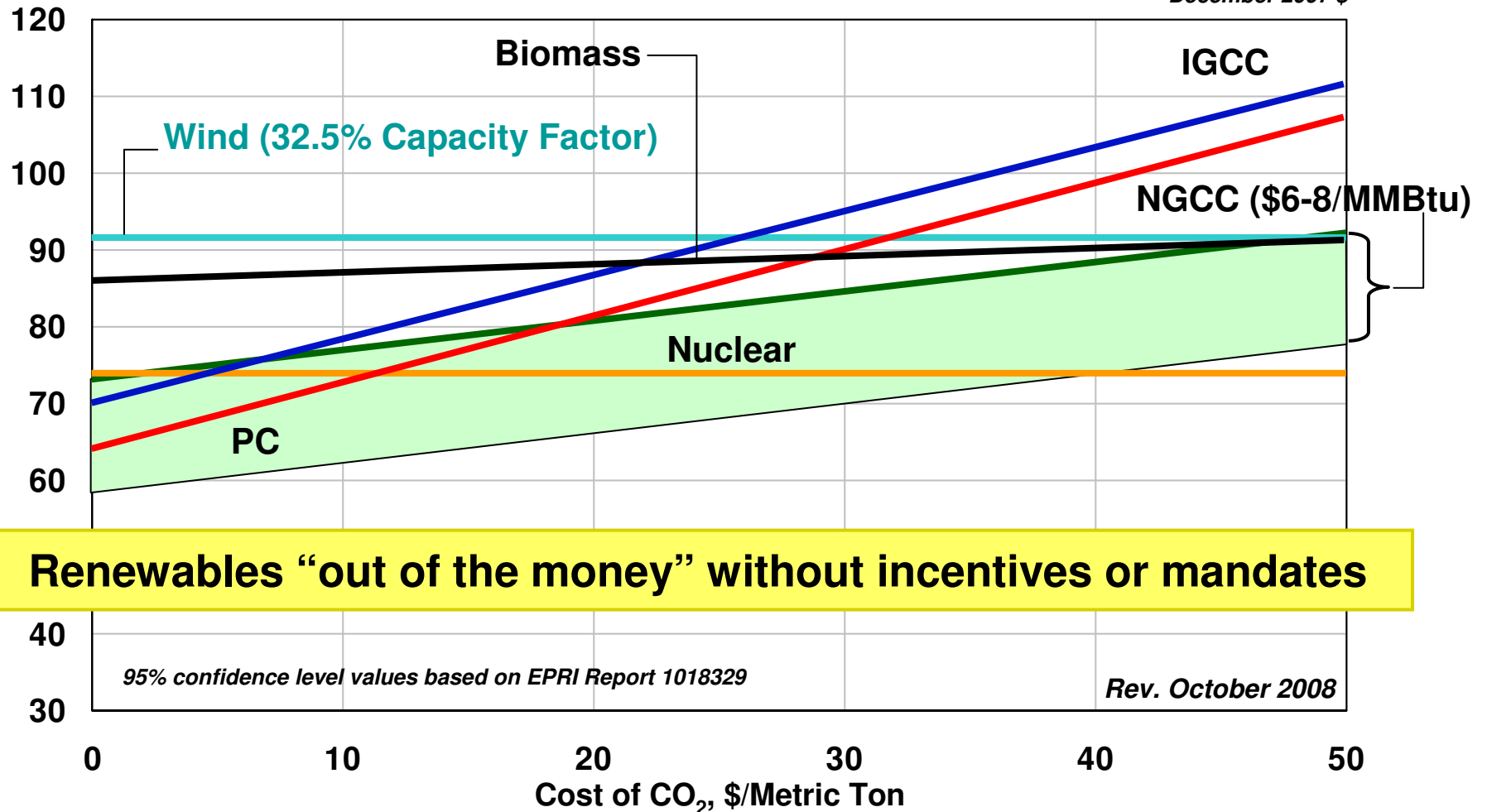


Cuts Across Traditional Business Lines

Renewables: The Generation Challenge

Levelized Cost of Electricity, \$/MWh

All costs are in
December 2007 \$



Economics & Technology Status

- Renewable Energy Technology Guide
 - Status and potential of renewable technologies
 - Industry trends
- Engineering and Economic Evaluations
- Analysis and Strategy
 - Role of renewables in future generation portfolios
 - Policy scenarios



Biomass

- Biomass Supply Management
 - Long-term supply security
 - Development of multiple supply chains
 - Assessment of energy plantations
- Power Generation from Biomass
 - Impact on environmental equipment
 - Biomass plant cost database
 - Ash utilization
 - Torrefied wood full-scale tests
 - Methods to increase co-firing fraction
- Life Cycle Analysis of Biomass-Based Power
 - Updated biomass-to-power carbon footprint
 - Land, water implications of biomass supply
 - Broad deployment of biomass power plants: environmental implications



Solar

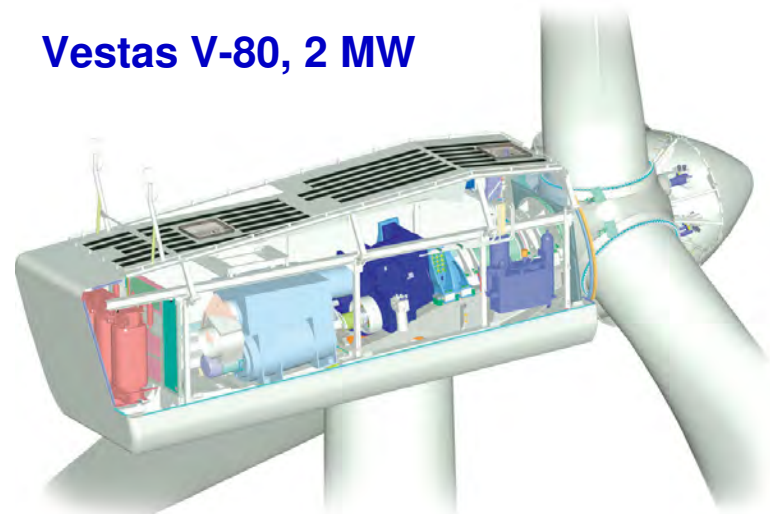
- Solar Augmented Steam Cycle Applications Analysis
 - Analyze new applications
 - Greenfield
 - Integration with biomass or geothermal
- Solar Technology Acceleration Center (SolarTAC)
 - Benchmark PV/CPV technologies
 - SolarTAC demo projects
- Solar Thermal Storage Technology Assessment
 - Field data for installations
 - Identify hosts for collaborative evaluations of thermal storage performance



Wind

- Wind Power Technology Assessment
 - Drive train, generators, blades, towers, sensors and controls
 - Engineering and economic assessment
- Wind Power Asset Management
 - Status of O&M and asset management technologies
 - Condition Monitoring and NDE
 - O&M procedures
 - Wind turbine asset management guidebook

Vestas V-80, 2 MW



Geothermal

- Geothermal Operations and Maintenance
 - Plant evaluations and assessments
 - O&M handbook
 - Training and technology transfer
- Assessment of Geothermal Power Technologies
 - Engineering and economic analysis of low- and moderate-temperature geothermal resources and technologies
 - Identify demonstration projects for advanced geothermal or EGS



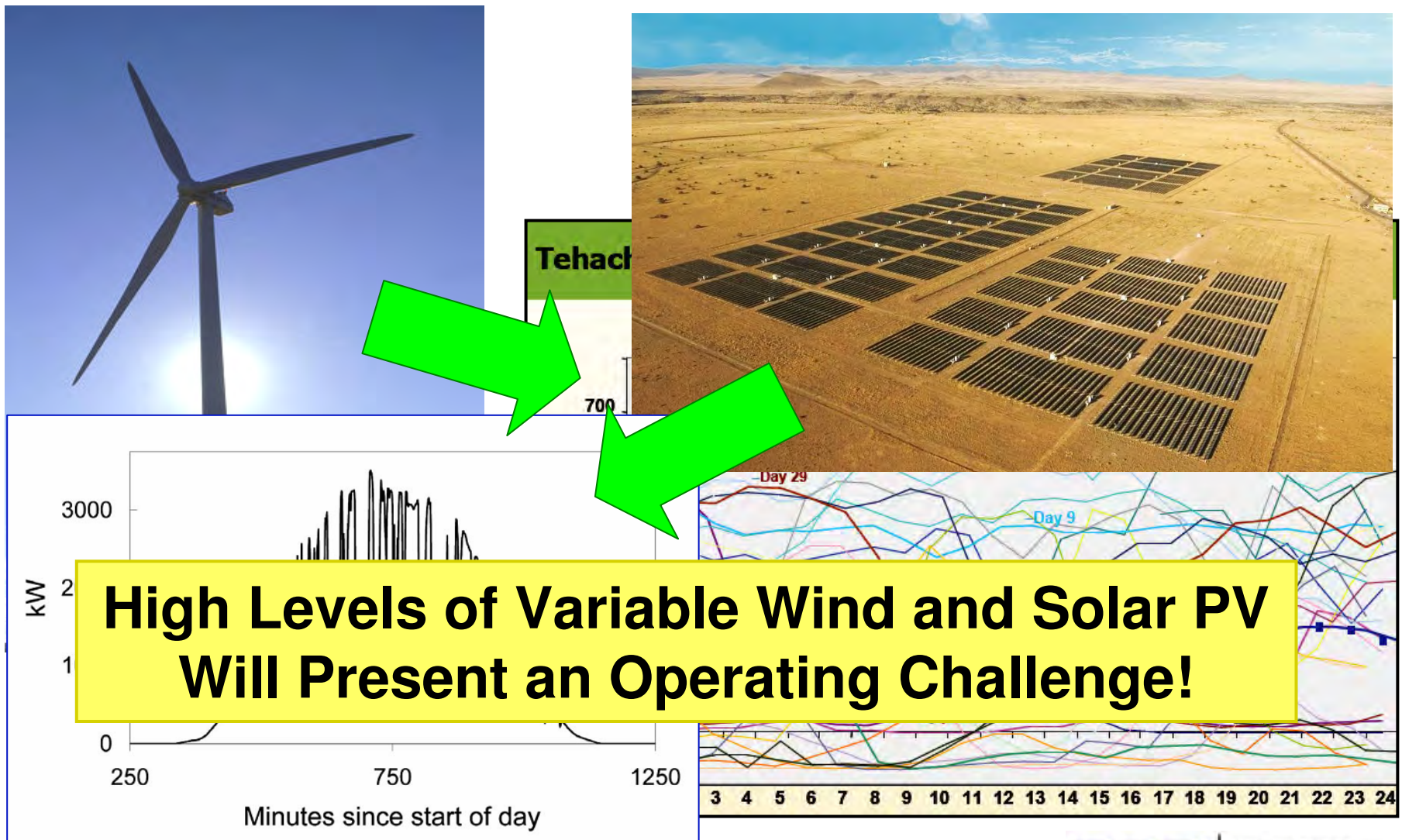
Waterpower

Conventional hydro, ocean, and hydrokinetics

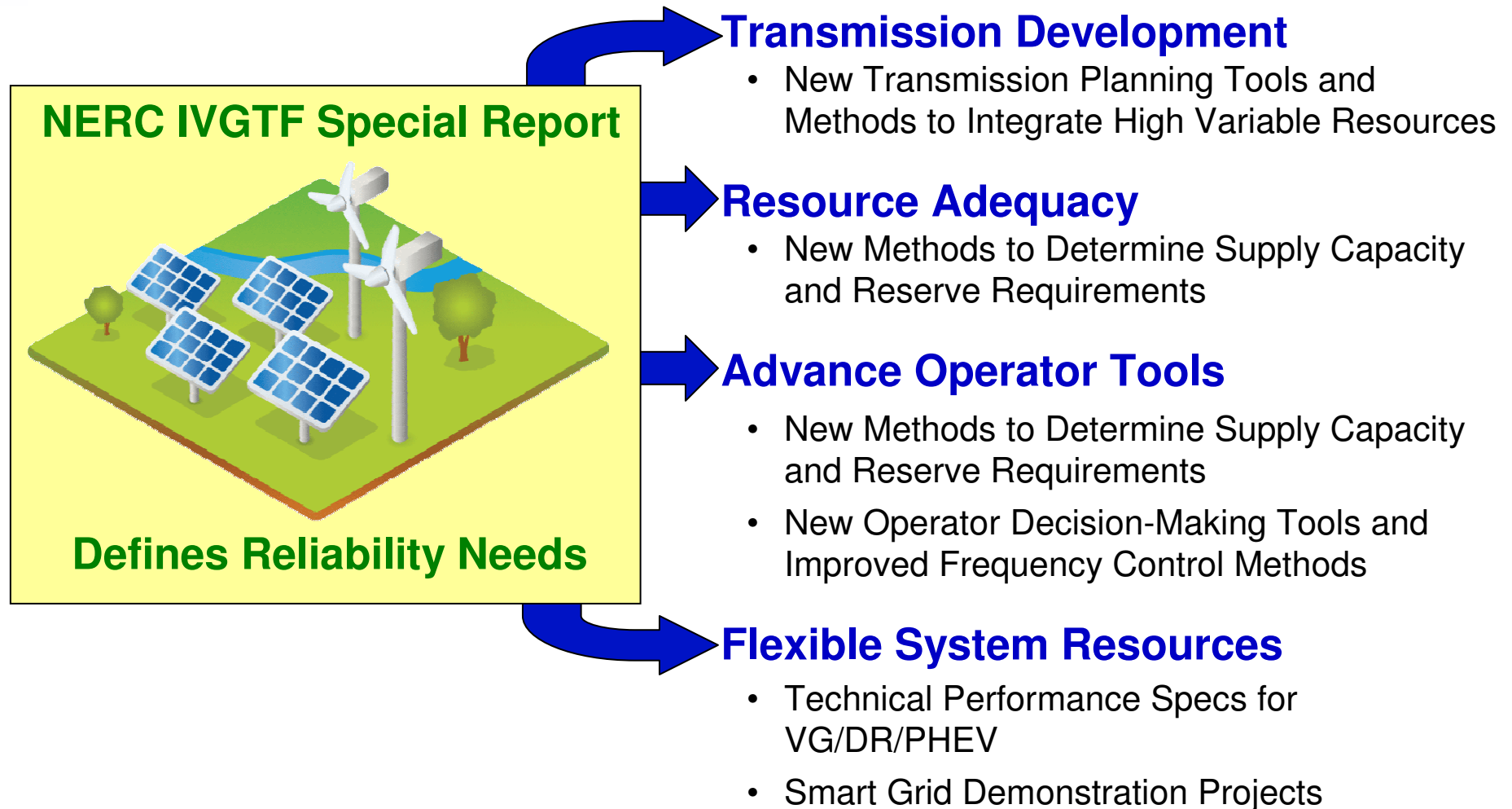
- Waterpower resource assessment
- Generation Issues
 - Technology development
 - Optimization & maintenance
 - Revenue opportunities
- Environmental Issues
 - Advanced turbine development
 - Greenhouse gas research
 - Fish passage & protection
- Ocean & Hydrokinetic Energy Research (Supplemental)



Renewables: The Integration Challenge

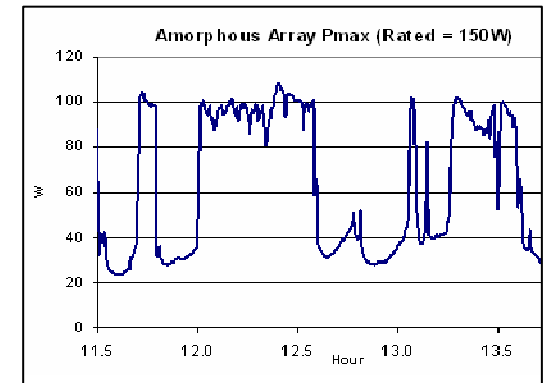


Integration of Large Scale Renewables



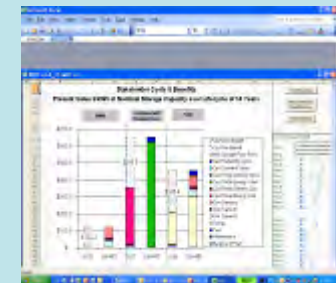
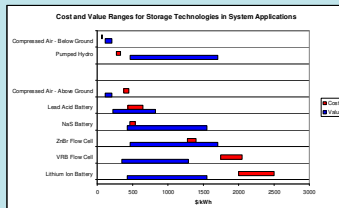
Integration of Distributed Renewables

- High Penetration PV Impact on Circuits
 - Model development and system impact evaluation
 - Economic Assessment
 - Demonstration on selected feeders
- Distribution PV Monitoring
 - Understand the performance characteristics under various environmental and climatic conditions
 - Large population of units
 - Monitoring protocol and package
- Operations and Maintenance Needs
 - Assess maintenance practice
 - Develop needs, gap analysis
 - Identify opportunities for improvement



Energy Storage

Technology Watch and Strategic Intelligence



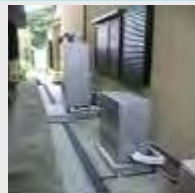
Market Analysis

Strategic Intelligence

On-line Assessment Guide

Evaluation Tools

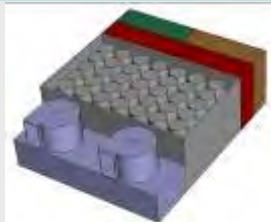
Technology Assessment & Evaluation



Fuel Cells and Flow Batteries



Compressed Air Cycles



Li-ion Batteries



Thermal Storage Systems

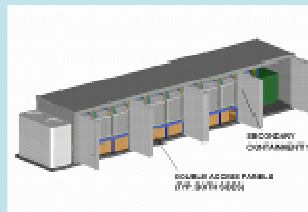


Micro-generation

Testing, Validation and Demonstration



NaS Battery



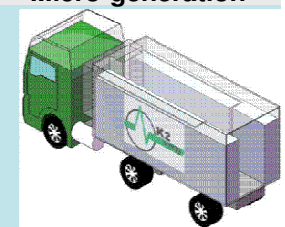
ZnBr Battery



Large CAES



Li-ion Battery



Mobile Storage Systems

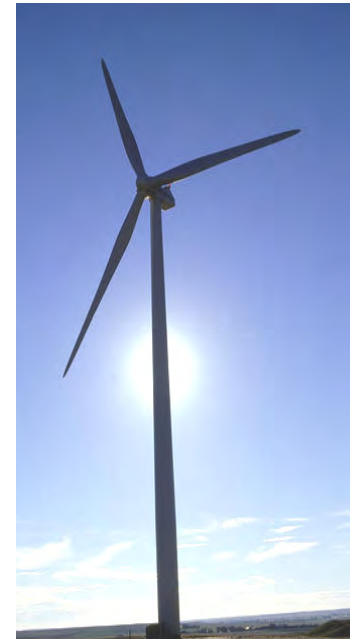
Short-Term



Long-Term

Renewables: The Environmental Challenge

- **Understanding the interaction between the environment and renewable energy technologies**
 - Characterizing the resource
 - Interactions with species and habitat
 - Life cycle analysis
 - Human health and safety
- **Advancing improved approaches**
 - Siting methodologies
 - Technology and operational improvements
 - Mitigation strategies
- **Large scale impacts and limitations**
 - Assess the impacts on harvesting energy at large scales



Working Collaboratively: Solar PV Example

3 Year Strategy
Compile solid data on O&M, Validate and demonstrate value,
Determine realistic cost, & Inform key stakeholders



Federal/State/Labs

U.S. DOE
EIA
National Labs
State Demonstrations



EPRI

Renewables ELT
PDU Sector Council
Distributed Solar ELT
Program Advisory (P174)
Demonstrations
Coordination with DOE/Labs/
Industry



Solar Industry

SEPA
SEIA
SolarTAC
PV/Inverter Manufacturers

IEEE



IEC



NIST



Standards Organizations



FERC

NERC

NARUC

Key Insights from Recent EPRI Work

- The technical potential exists for the U.S. electricity sector to significantly reduce its CO₂ emissions over the next several decades.
- A low-cost, low-carbon portfolio of electricity technologies can significantly reduce the costs of climate policy.
- No one technology will be a silver bullet – a portfolio of technologies will be needed.
- Renewables must overcome barriers related to cost and performance, integration, and environmental sustainability
- Much of the needed technology isn't available yet – substantial R&D, demonstration is required.

For More Information

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Together...Shaping the Future of Electricity