

# Ammonia: Opportunities for Grid Support

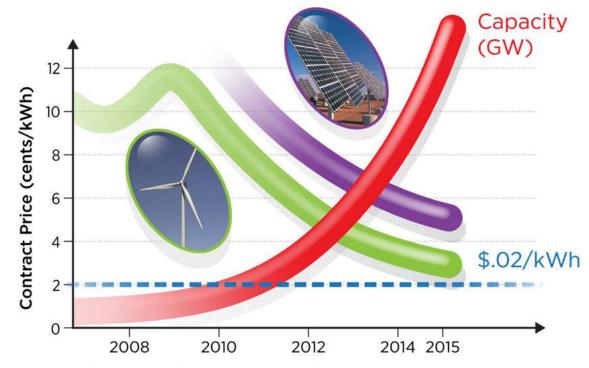
Mark Ruth

NH3 Energy Implementation Conference Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania November 1, 2018

NREL/PR-6A20-72635

## Technology Development is Impacting the Grid

- Cost of renewable electrons dropping dramatically
- Increased electrification
- Connectivity, autonomy, machine learning



Source: (Arun Majumdar) 1. DOE EERE Sunshot Q1'15 Report, 2. DOE EERE Wind Report, 2015

## Low Prices for Wind and Solar

## **Overall Summary and Pricing Received**

	Technology	# of Bids	Bid MW (ICAP)	# of Projects	Project MW	Average Bid Price	Pricing Units	Comments
Asset Sale or Option	Combine Cycle Gas (CCGT)	7	4,846	4	3,055	\$959.61	\$/kW	
	Combustion Turbine (CT)	1						
	Solar	9	1,374	5	669	\$1,151.01	\$/kW	
	Wind	8	1,807	7	1,607	\$1,457.07	\$/kW	
	Solar + Storage	4	705	3	465	\$1,182.79	\$/kW	
	Wind + Solar + Storage	1						
	Storage	1						
Purchase Power Agreement	Combine Cycle Gas (CCGT)	8	2,715	6	2,415	\$7.86	\$/kW-Mo	+ fuel and variable O&M
	Solar + Storage	7	1,055	5	755	\$5.90	\$/kW-Mo	+ \$35/MWh (Average)
	Storage	8	1,055	5	925	\$11.24	\$/kW-Mo	
	Solar	26	3,591	16	1,911	\$35.67	\$/MWh	
	Wind	6	788	4	603	\$26.97	\$/MWh	
	Fossil	3	1,494	2	772	N/A		Structure not amenable to price comparison
	Demand Response	1						
	Total	90	20,585	59	13,247			

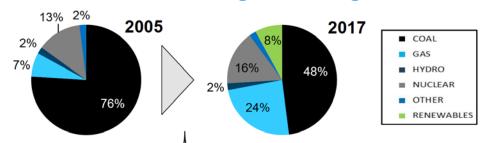
 Wind and solar power purchase agreements (PPAs) are key opportunities.

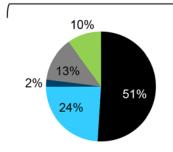
- Indiana IRP Averages:
  - Wind<\$27/MWh</li>
  - Solar<\$36/MWh</li>
- Expiring PPAs may have even lower prices

Indiana NIPSCO IRP Pricing

## Impacting Grid Mixes around the World

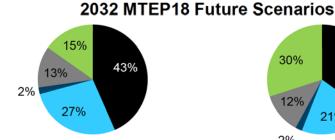
## The Midwest Independent System Operator (MISO) expects significant growth in renewable and gas-fired generation





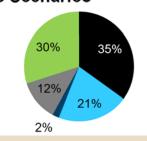
#### **Limited Fleet Change**

Stalled generation fleet changes. Limited renewables additions driven solely by existing RPS under limited demand growth.



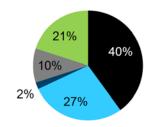
#### **Continued Fleet Change**

Continuation of the renewable addition and coal retirement trends of the past decade.



#### **Accelerated Fleet Change**

Renewables and demand side technologies added at a rate above historical trends. Fleet changes result in a 20% CO2 emission reduction1.



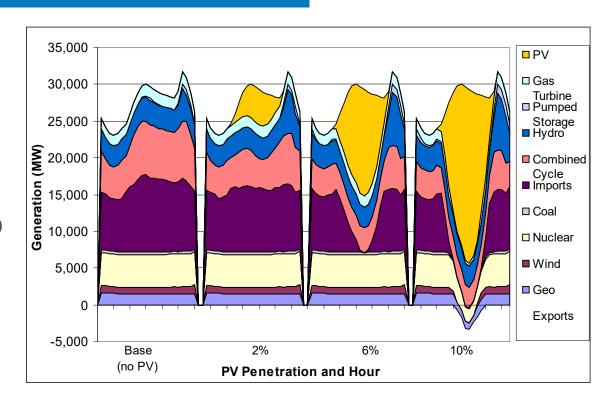
#### **Distributed & Emerging Tech**

New renewable additions largely distributed and storage resources colocated with largest sites.

## Need for Additional Grid Flexibility

Increased renewables penetration can lead to

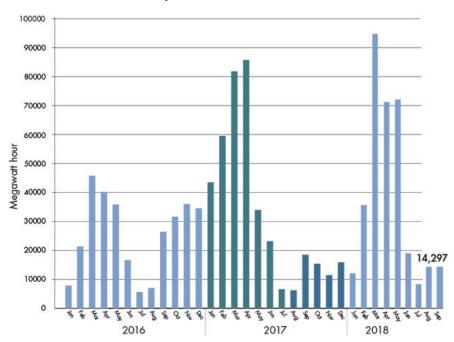
- 1) over generation / curtailment
- 2) unprecedented ramp rates for dispatchable generation



### Curtailment in California

- During January July 2018, California curtailed over 315,000 MWh
- If California meets its
   50% Renewable Portfolio
   Standard target, up to 5%
   of the renewable
   electricity generated
   could be curtailed

#### Monthly Curtailment in California



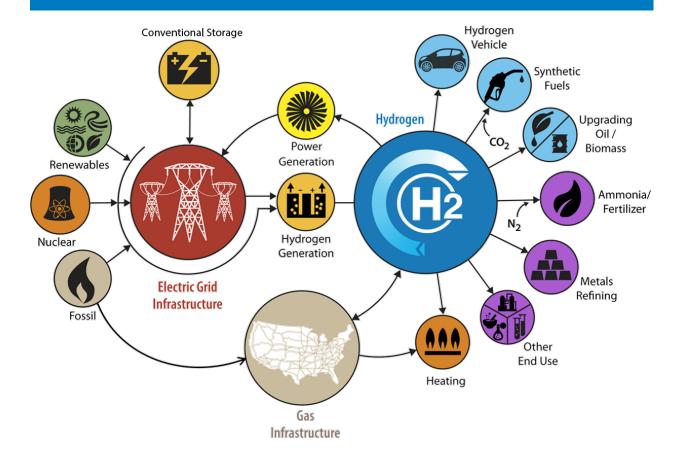
Sources: CAISO Data from <a href="http://www.caiso.com/informed/Pages/ManagingOversupply.aspx">http://www.caiso.com/informed/Pages/ManagingOversupply.aspx</a>. Accessed October 15, 2018 James Nelson & Laura Wisland. Achieving 50 Percent Renewable Energy in California.

## **Negative Electricity Prices**

Curtailment
often coincides
with negative
prices; negative
price times are
also increasing



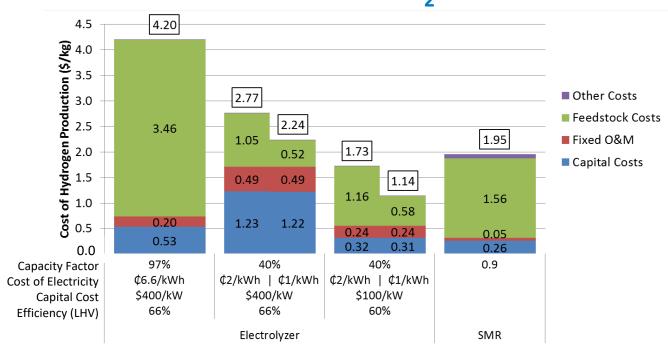
## H2@Scale Opportunity



- Interface opportunities
- Value propositions lie across the make, move, use, and store focus areas
- **Key drivers:** 
  - **Markets**
  - Linkages
  - **Partners**

## Technology Development: Electrolysis

## Potential Levelized Costs of H<sub>2</sub> Production

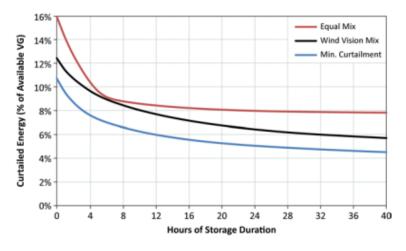


- **Electrolytic** hydrogen has the potential to be cost competitive
- Need H<sub>2</sub> market access
- **Business** opportunities:
  - H<sub>2</sub> production
  - **Electrolysis** equipment and supply chain

Source: Bryan Pivovar "Introduction to H2@Scale" Presentation at 2017 DOE Hydrogen and Fuel Cells Program Review. https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2017/06/f34/fcto\_june\_2017\_h2\_scale\_review\_pivovar.pdf (June 9, 2017)

## **Seasonal Storage Opportunity**

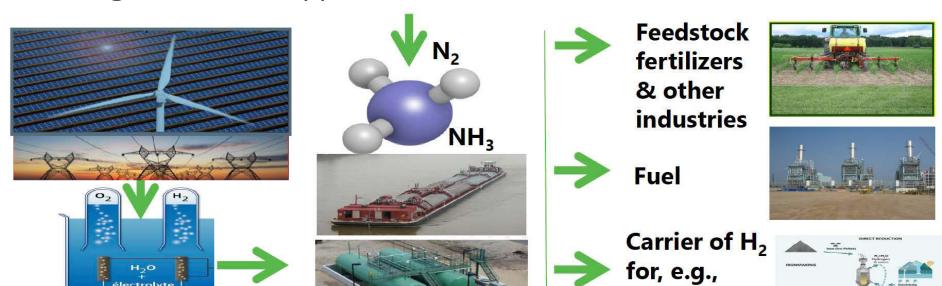
- Analysis at 55% penetration of wind and solar in ERCOT with 8.5 GW of storage capacity (¼ of peaking capacity)
- Over 4% of electricity generated by wind and solar is curtailed at at 40 hours of storage duration
- Seasonal storage can overcome that limitation



b) Fixed storage capacity (8.5 GW)

## **Growing Opportunities for Ammonia**

A large transport, storage, and distribution network exists & can leverage additional opportunities



Credit: Cedric Philibert "Green Hydrogen for the Chilean Energy Transition" (4 September 2018)

iron & steel

## Thank you

www.nrel.gov

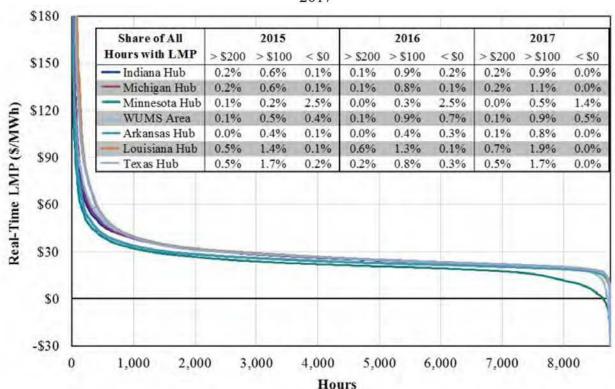
PR-6A20-72635

This work was authored by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, operated by Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC, for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) under Contract No. DE-AC36-08GO28308. Funding provided by U.S. Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fuel Cell Technologies Office. The views expressed in the article do not necessarily represent the views of the DOE or the U.S. Government. The U.S. Government retains and the publisher, by accepting the article for publication, acknowledges that the U.S. Government retains a nonexclusive, paid-up, irrevocable, worldwide license to publish or reproduce the published form of this work, or allow others to do so, for U.S. Government purposes.



# Electricity Prices are Getting More Volatile

Figure A2: Real-Time Energy Price-Duration Curve 2017



- Hours with
  energy at very
  low and very high
  prices are
  increasing
- other revenue streams (e.g., capacity, services) are becoming more critical
- Impacting generators' operations

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## Example of an Ammonia Opportunity



- BASF and Yara opened a low-carbon ammonia plant in April
- Freeport, TX
- Primary hydrogen supply:
  - By-product from Dow's ethylene cracking units
- Economic drivers:
  - Greener ammonia
- Linked to hydrogen pipeline and storage projects
- Reduction based on carbon credits