**Innovation for Our Energy Future** 

# Lessons Learned from the U.S. Photovoltaics Industry: Implications for Distributed Wind

Trudy Forsyth and Carol Tombari
National Renewable Energy Laboratory

#### Mike Nelson

Washington State University/Northwest Solar Center

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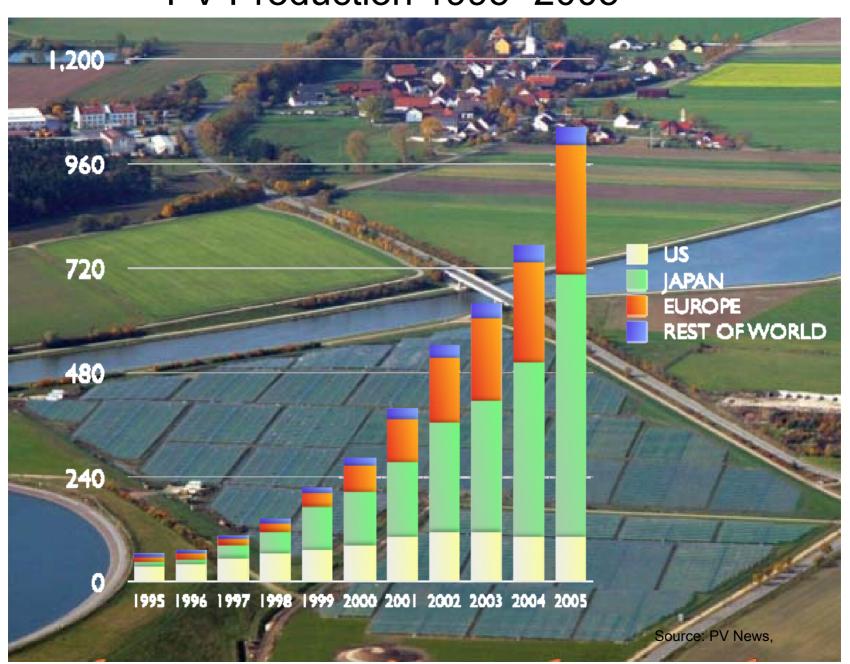


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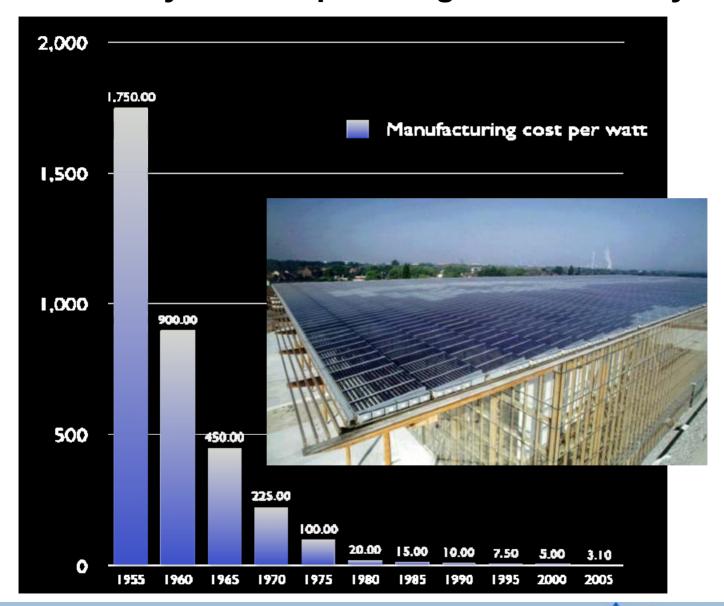
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#### **PV Production 1995 -2005**



## From "Our Solar Power Future: The U.S. Photovoltaics Industry Roadmap Through 2030 and Beyond"



#### **PV** in American Markets

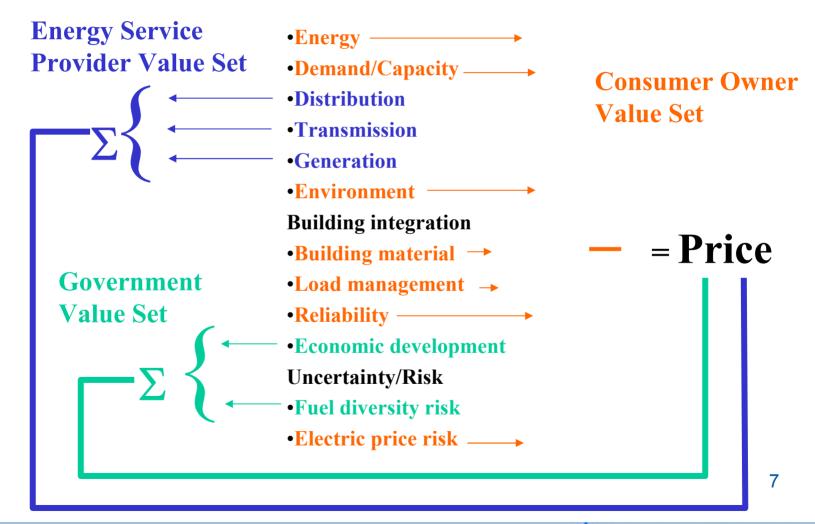
- More than 2000 solar installations (REPiS, 2003)
  - 36% Residential
    - Mostly CA, CO, and AZ\*
    - High BTC in NY, IL, HI, NC, CA, NJ, MD, PA, VA, CO
  - 56% Non-residential (schools and government buildings)
  - 8% Commercial
    - Mostly CA, TX, HI, and IL\*
    - High BTC in NY, MA, NC, CA, NJ, HI, MT, AZ, OR, RI
- Global nature of PV manufacturing
  - Historical U.S. dominance gone forever
  - U.S. Wind holds the dominant part of world market
- PV dealer/distributors often deal in small wind: natural synergy at distribution level

\* - Commercial Solar Energy Market Potential Study ECONorthwest Feb 2004

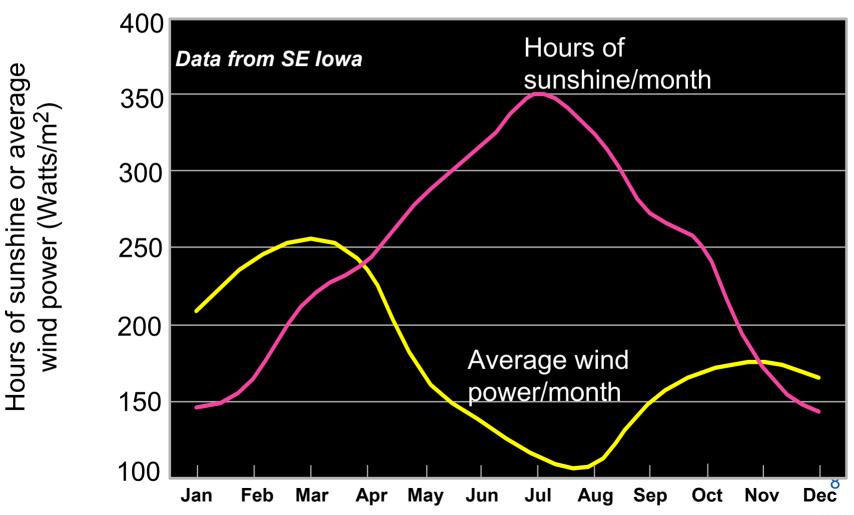
## How Has PV Grown Market Share Despite Relatively High Costs?

- Grassroots advocacy to influence state and local policy
- Communication networks
  - Early links to electric utility industry, State Energy Offices through IREC
  - "NCPV Hotline": link to industry, NGOs, govt. decision-makers
- "Schools Going Solar" program
- Strategies to work with, create other government programs
  - State Energy Offices
  - CSTRR
- Consumer appeal of personal control of electricity
  - Comparative ease of PV installation
  - On retail side of meter

#### Stakeholders Invest When Sum of Values Exceeds Price of PV



## PV and Wind Resources are Complementary – seasonally and daily



### **DOE's PV Initiatives**

- Goal: Increased deployment of PV technologies
- Approach
  - PV4U: electric utility integration issues
  - Million Solar Roofs: grassroots approach to elimination, mitigation of market barriers to rooftop solar technologies
    - More than 930 partners nationwide at program conclusion
  - Solar America Initiative (proposed, 2006)
    - Two parts: R&D and "Technology Acceptance" (deployment)
    - Proposed 9-year duration
    - Focus: urban infrastructure
    - Goal: cost competitive with conventional grid electricity by 2015
    - Focused on commercial PV
- Opportunities for Small Wind
  - Link with existing MSR partner network
    - Expand existing pilot work started with Northeast MSR partners 9
    - Develop wind version of NCPV Hotline



#### PV in Schools: 2.7 MW installed (REPiS 2003)

• **Goals:** Capitalize on multiple opportunities of school settings: (1) Education mission: educate students and, by extension, their parents; (2) Technology visibility (schools as community hub); (3) Energy security (schools as emergency shelters)

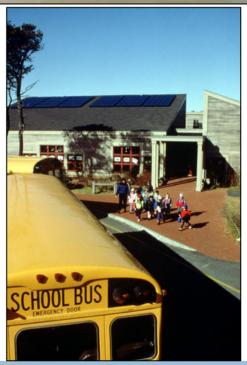
#### Approaches

- "Schools Going Solar" www.irecusa.org/schools/
- New York's School Power Naturally www.powernaturally.org/Programs/SchoolPowerNaturally
- Florida's SunSmart Schools Progam benefits

#### Opportunity for Small Wind

- Comparative "sexiness" of small wind
  - "Watching PV is just as exciting as watching toast brown"
- Low cost using commercial micro-turbines





## **PV Zoning**

• Goal: Reduce "hassle factor" of PV installation

#### Approach

- PV in Seattle ruled "outright use"
- Place articles about zoning issues in trade journals
- Work with Homeowner's Associations for PV acceptance
  - MSR project

#### Opportunities for Small Wind

- Develop articles for variety of trade and professional journals
- Work with SEPA
  - Communicate with utilities interested in distributed generation

### PV Approach to Net Metering

• Goal: Reduce hassle factor

#### Approach

- Drop net metering requirement for systems 10 kW and less
  - Excess capacity unlikely in smaller systems
- Use net metering policy as step toward standardized interconnection

#### Opportunity for Small Wind

- Work with PV industry to develop standardized interconnection standards
- Acquire larger cap limits for net metering
- Link with biomass

## **PV Certification/Training**

• Goal: Establish credibility with consumers

#### Approaches

- NABCEP installer certification:
  - Voluntary
  - Too soon to assess market impacts
  - All states do not recognize NABCEP certification as legitimate alternative to their own process
- IREC Workforce Training efforts
- No PV hardware certification program yet

#### Opportunities for Small Wind

- Wind has IEC standard and draft AWEA standard need SWT standard
- NABCEP Wind Installer Certification in development
  - Integrate manufacturers training with NABCEP certification
- Workforce training through community colleges

### Different PV Policy Incentives

• Goal: Grow market share

#### Approaches

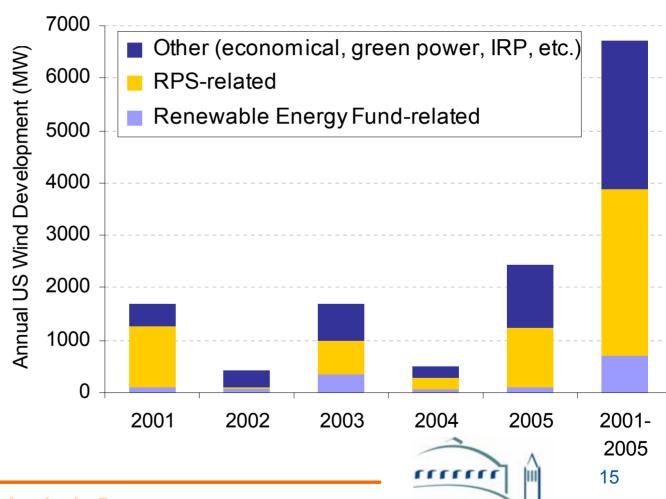
- Federal Investment Tax Credit combined incentives increase economic benefits
- Production Incentive:
  - Market-driven
  - Works well for organizations with fiduciary responsibilities
  - Consumer function as utility and then become advocates for properly aligned incentives
- New RPS policy with solar set-aside or increased credit for solar
  - DG technologies sometimes shut out by utility-scale wind

#### Opportunity for Small Wind

- Partner with DG advocates to adopt all DG technologies on inclusive federal and state policies
  - FITC, RPS, and PI

## Current Renewable Energy Market Drivers in the United States

- RenewablesPortfolioStandards
- Renewable Energy Funds
- Federal and State Tax Incentives
- Green Power Markets
- Integrated Resource Planning

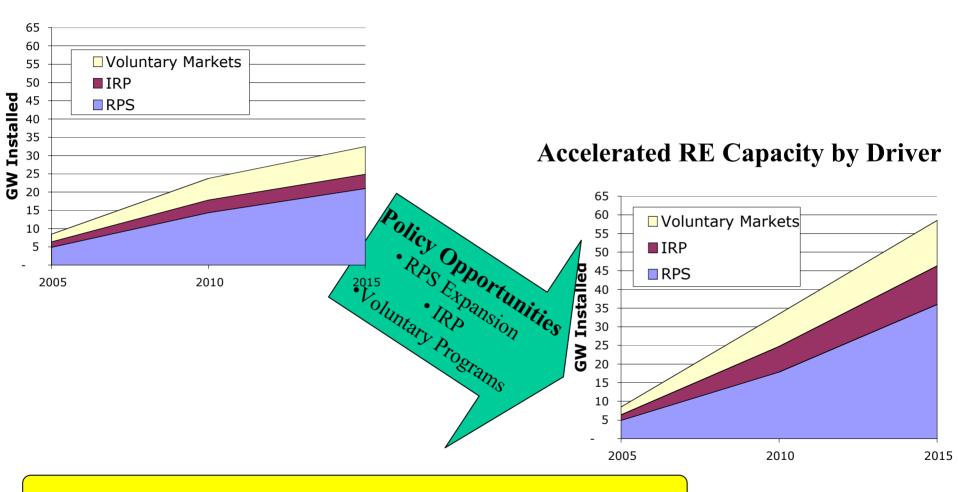


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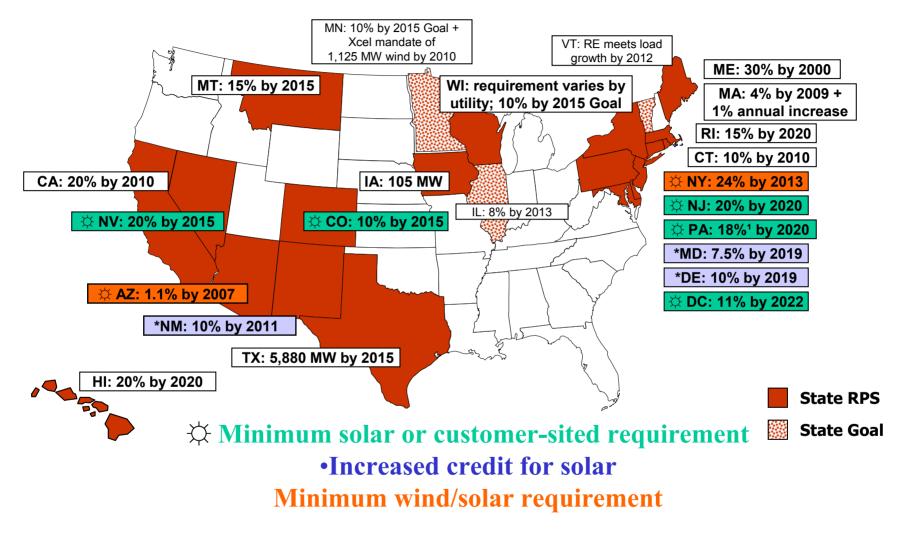
## RE Electricity Opportunities

#### **Expected RE Capacity by Driver**



Achieving up to \$50B of Additional RE Investment in 2015

#### **Renewables Portfolio Standards**





## Messaging

- Aggregate DG to include small wind, solar thermal, PV, others
  - May facilitate coalition-building
- Categorize small wind as energy efficiency
  - Systems under 10 kW do not meet total needs of household
  - Unlike EE, small DG has measurable results
  - Either define as conservation measures or supply-side resource
  - Consider defining DG by scale and ownership instead of technology

## **Future Opportunities**

#### Industry

- Develop package products for consumers that are simple and use multiple technologies
- Work for mutually beneficial DG inclusive policy
  - Federal Investment Tax Credit
  - RPS set-asides and extra credit for DG
  - Productivity incentives
  - Standardized national interconnection

## **Future Opportunities - 2**

#### Government

- Economic tools across DG (wind, PV, solar thermal, biomass, etc.)
- Federal role help communicate about what's happening with DG across state boundaries
- Write articles NACO journals to get information out about zoning
- Develop "value" proposition for distributed wind
- Wind for Schools program (see poster on NREL pilot project M. Kelly)
- Working with state utility regulators to incorporate DG as part of IRP
- Continue to work market barriers such as zoning defined guidelines in place – help minimize consumer hassle factors
- Facilitate small wind on government procurement lists

## **Future Opportunities - 3**

#### Advocacy

- Develop new consumer group conversant on DG
  - SEIA unable to support small wind in Colorado
  - Need a new group without history of supporting one DG technology
  - Operate with foundation funds
- Build constituency by developing production incentives (PI) that turn consumers into political interest group by making them the utility
  - PI are beneficial since they are market-driven, ensure long-term production, and lessen probability that U.S. incentives will add a roller-coaster effect to the market like the '80s
  - PI works well for organizations with fiduciary responsibilities
- Once regional/state advocacy groups matured work on reducing hassle factor; e.g., zoning policies

## Future Opportunities - 4

#### **Joint**

- DG industries need to work together
- Bring robustness to the DG industry through hardware performance certification
  - Develop standards and certification protocol
  - Form a Distributed Generation Certification Corporation
- Need side-by-side strategies to develop utility sector and educate consumers on energy
  - Can't rely on one-on-one communication; need to develop information through various channels

