



**A Renewable  
Energy Future: Innovation and Beyond**  
Dr. Dan E. Arvizu  
Director, National Renewable Energy Laboratory

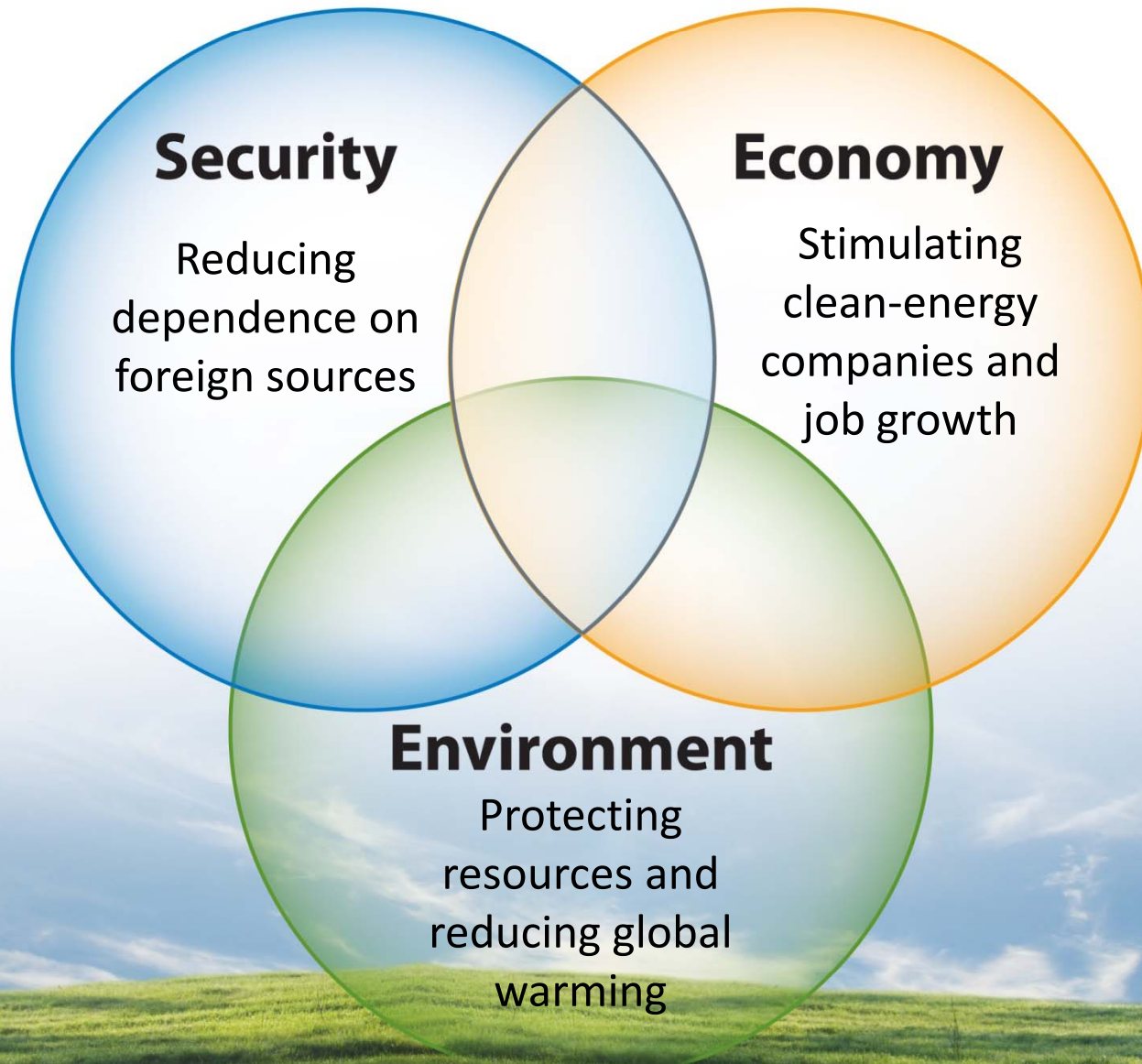
**SUNSHOT GRAND CHALLENGE**  
Summit and Technology Forum



Energy Sector

**TRANSFORMATION  
IS REQUIRED**

# National Energy Imperatives



# A Profound Transformation is Required

## Today's Energy System

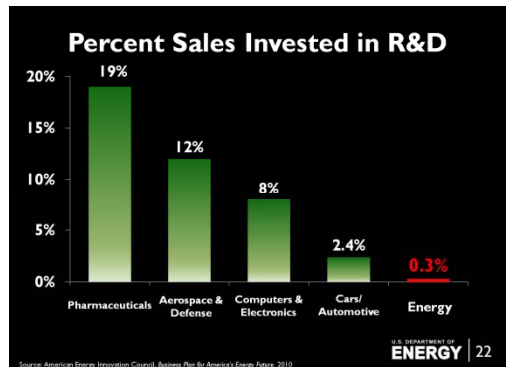
## Sustainable Energy System

### TRANSFORMATION

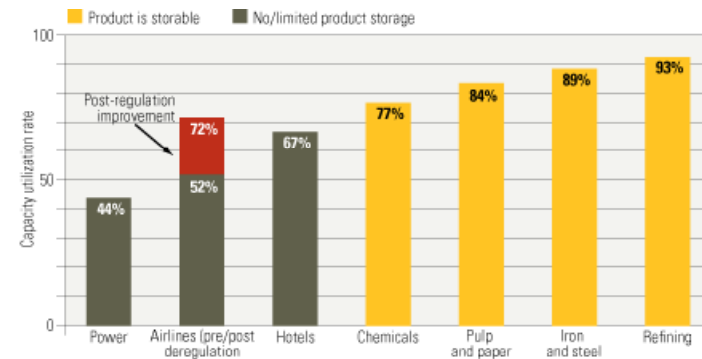
- Dependent on non-domestic sources
- Subject to price volatility
- Increasingly vulnerable energy delivery systems
- 2/3 of source energy is wasted
- Significant carbon emissions
- Role of electricity increasing

- Carbon neutral
- Efficient
- Diverse supply options
- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Creates economic development
- Accessible, affordable and secure

# Energy Sector Challenges



R&D Investment Drives Innovation



Asset Utilization

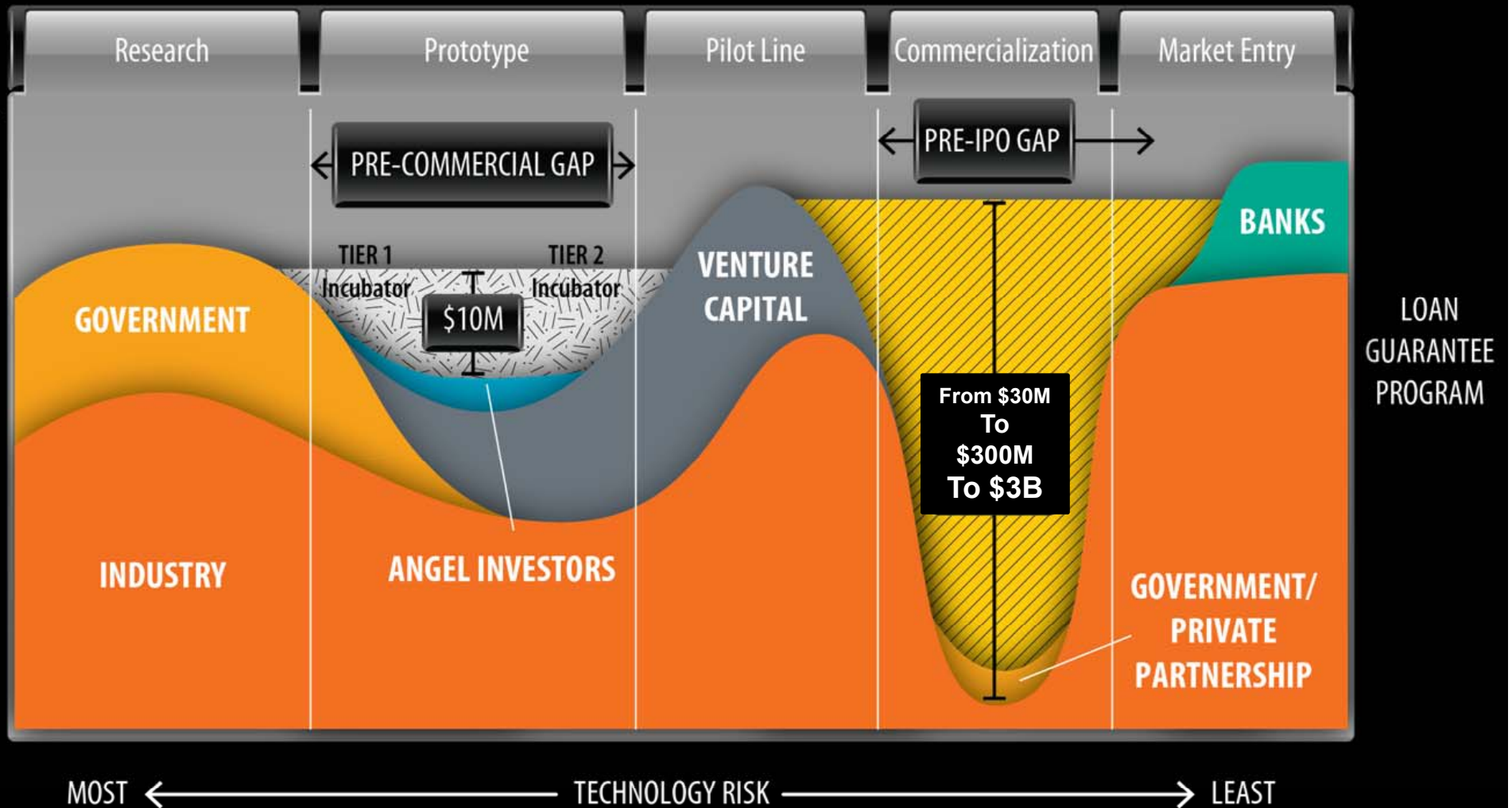
Capital Intensive with Long Life Cycles



National Strategies Driving Energy Market



# Investment Pipeline











# Innovation, Integration, & Adoption

## Reducing Investment Risk

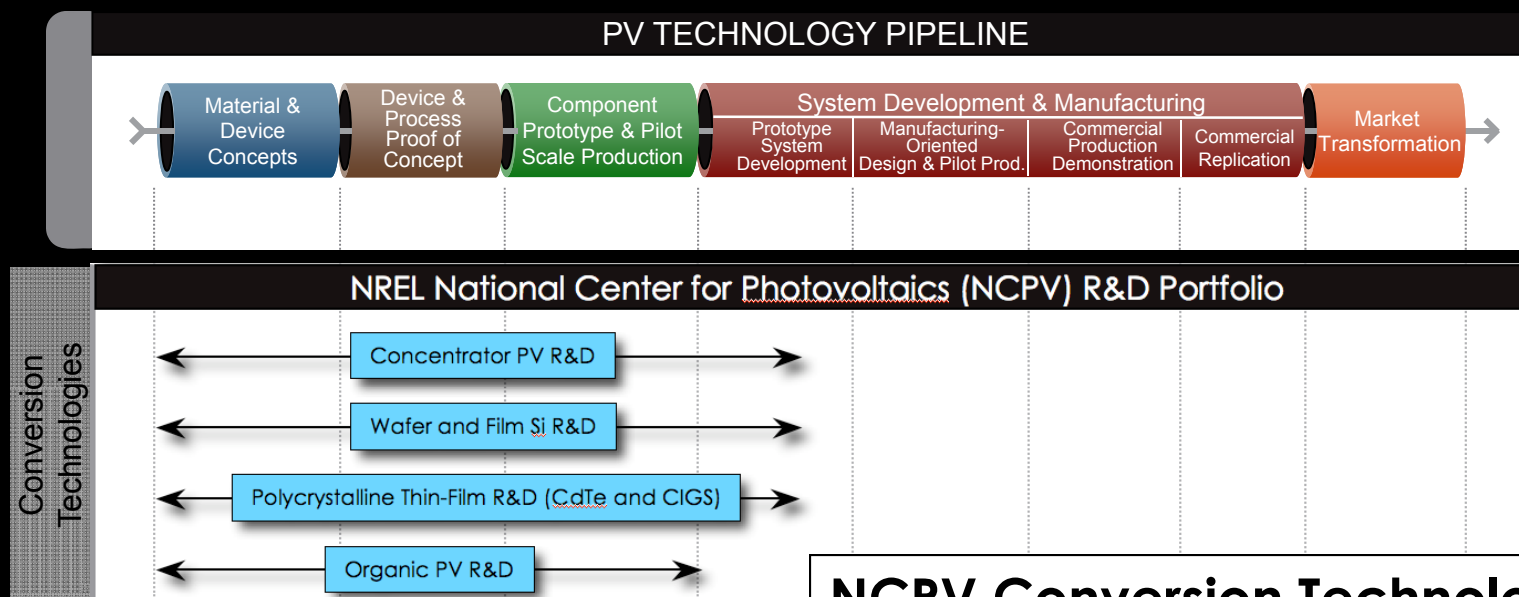
- Enable basic and applied clean energy technology innovation
- Accelerate technology market introduction and adoption
- Integrate technology at scale
- Encourage collaboration in unique research and testing “partnering” facilities
- Provide analysis and expertise to inform decisions



How do we get there?

**IT WILL TAKE INNOVATION**

# NCPV Conversion Technology R&D

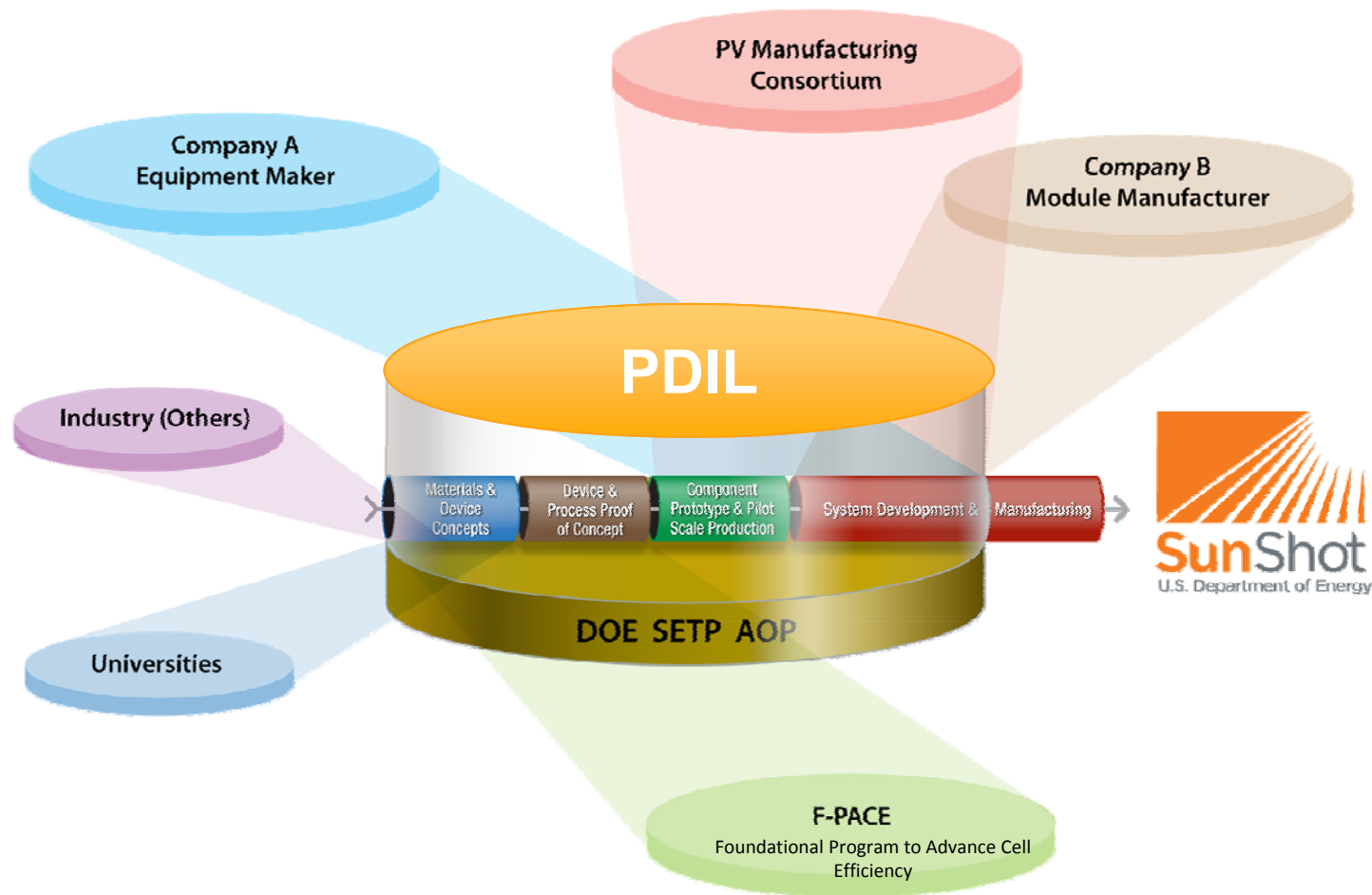


## NCPV Conversion Technology R&D:


- ➔ CIGS
- ➔ CdTe
- ➔ Next Gen Si
- ➔ III-V
- ➔ Organic PV (OPV)


# Conversion Technologies

## Strategically Focused Portfolio



## SunShot Targets:

CIGS/CZTS	Cell Efficiency	Commercial Module Efficiency	Cost	Reliability	
	Current Status	20.3%	11-13%	<\$1.50/Watt (estimate)	0.5-5% annual degradation in pilot arrays
	2015 Targets	23%	13-16%	<\$0.70/Watt	<1% annual degradation

CdTe	Cell Efficiency	Module Efficiency	Cost	Module Reliability	
	Current Status	17.3%	11-12%	0.75-0.80/W	0.6-1.2 %/year
	2015 Targets	19-20%	14.0%	0.60/W	0.5-1.0 %/year

Wafer-Si	Cell Efficiency	Module Efficiency	Cost	
	Current Status	25%	14-20%	\$1.0/W
	2015 Targets	27%	16-23%	\$0.6/W

## SunShot Targets:

### Film-Si



	Cell Efficiency	Module Efficiency	Cost	Comment
Current Status	12.7%	7-11%	\$0.70-1.50/W	a-Si/nc-Si tandem or triple junction
2015 Targets	15%	12%	\$0.6/W	likely early commercialization of film c-Si

### III-V



	Multijunction Cell Efficiency	Module Efficiency	Cost
Current Status	41.6%-lab 40%-commercial	28%	>30¢/kWh
2015 Targets	48%-lab 44%-commercial	30%-36%	<7¢/kWh

### OPV

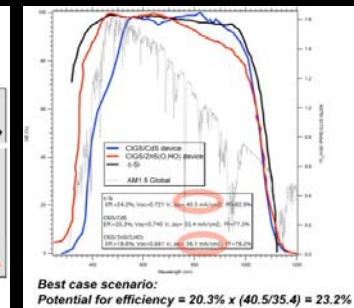
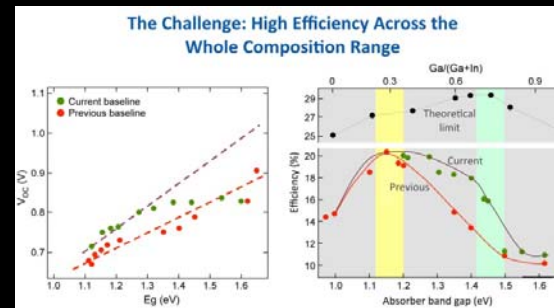


	Cell Efficiency	Module Efficiency	Cost	Reliability
Current Status	10.6%	5.2%	?	Stability beyond 10,000 hours
2015 Targets	>13.5%	10% 100 cm <sup>2</sup>	<1\$/W	>30,000 hours

# Needs/Challenges

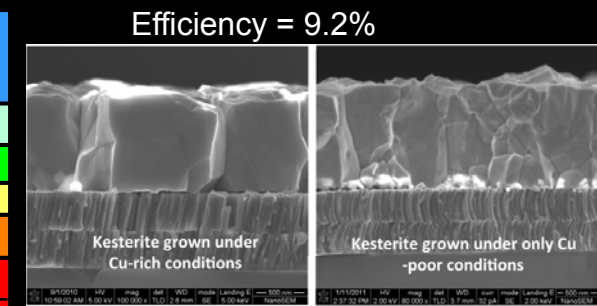
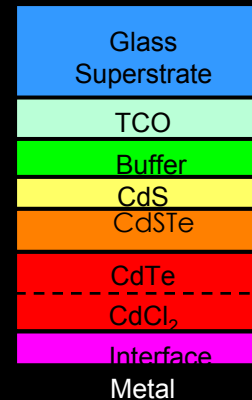
## CIGS/CZTS

- Higher photovoltage
- Higher photocurrent
- Rapid growth rate
- Minimize electrical defects in PV quality



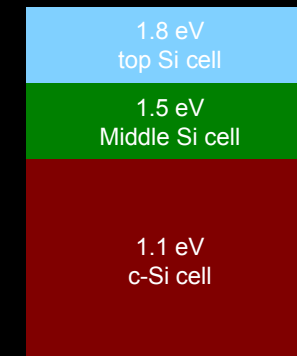
## CdTe

- Minority carrier lifetime
- Grain boundary structure and charge transport
- Correlation between TRPL lifetime and device performance
- Synthesize an effective set of samples



## Wafer-Si

- Multijunction device modeling
- Engineered (tailored material) for middle and top cell
- High quality middle Si cell around 1.5 eV
- High performance and understand the tunneling junction
- Surface and bulk passivation of c-Si
- Improved light management for component cell





# Needs/Challenges

## Film-Si

- Improved thin-film silicon cells at high growth rate
- Develop low-cost oriented crystal seeds for film c-Si
- Improve epitaxy quality and rates at low T
- Develop light-trapping for thin c-Si

## III-V

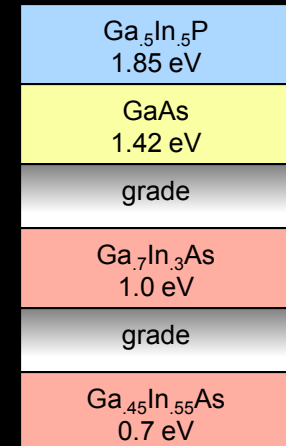
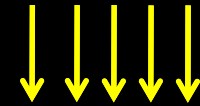
- Next-generation cells to increase power/lower LCOE
- Deeper reliability heritage for cells and systems
- Design cells for operation in real-time systems

## OPV

- Lower band gap absorbers with appropriate HOMO/LUMO
- Stability >30,000 hours (intrinsic and extrinsic)
- Scalability of lab scale efficiencies to >100 cm<sup>2</sup> modules
- International coordination and standardization



48% by FY14



handle



Konarka



## Spectrum of Innovation

### From Science through Deployment

- Comprehensive approach to innovation
- Collaboration with private industry
- Connects science to the marketplace
- Delivers market-relevant technologies and competitive clean-energy products

# innovation Impact



ABENGOA SOLAR

ALSTOM



JOHNSON  
MATTHEY



PHOTON SOLAR POWER  
*The Art of The Sun*



FedEx

JCPenney



Walmart  
Save money. Live better.



1366  
TECHNOLOGIES

SkyFuel



SIEMENS

OPTONY  
Solar for Life™

novozymes

Ascent  
SOLAR



SPECTROLAB

LOCKHEED MARTIN



labsphere

DELPHI

Xcel Energy

KONARKA



ORION

OPTIMA  
BATTERIES  
THE ULTIMATE POWER SOURCE™

regencycenters  
www.regencycenters.com

Clipper

RAYOVAC

PLANAR

QUANTUM SPHERE



GENENCOR  
A Danisco Division

CALPINE

DAIMLERCHRYSLER



CATERPILLAR

MiaSolé  
Thin-film solar

Pardee Homes  
Where smart solutions live.

AWS Truewind

SUNSHOT GRAND CHALLENGE

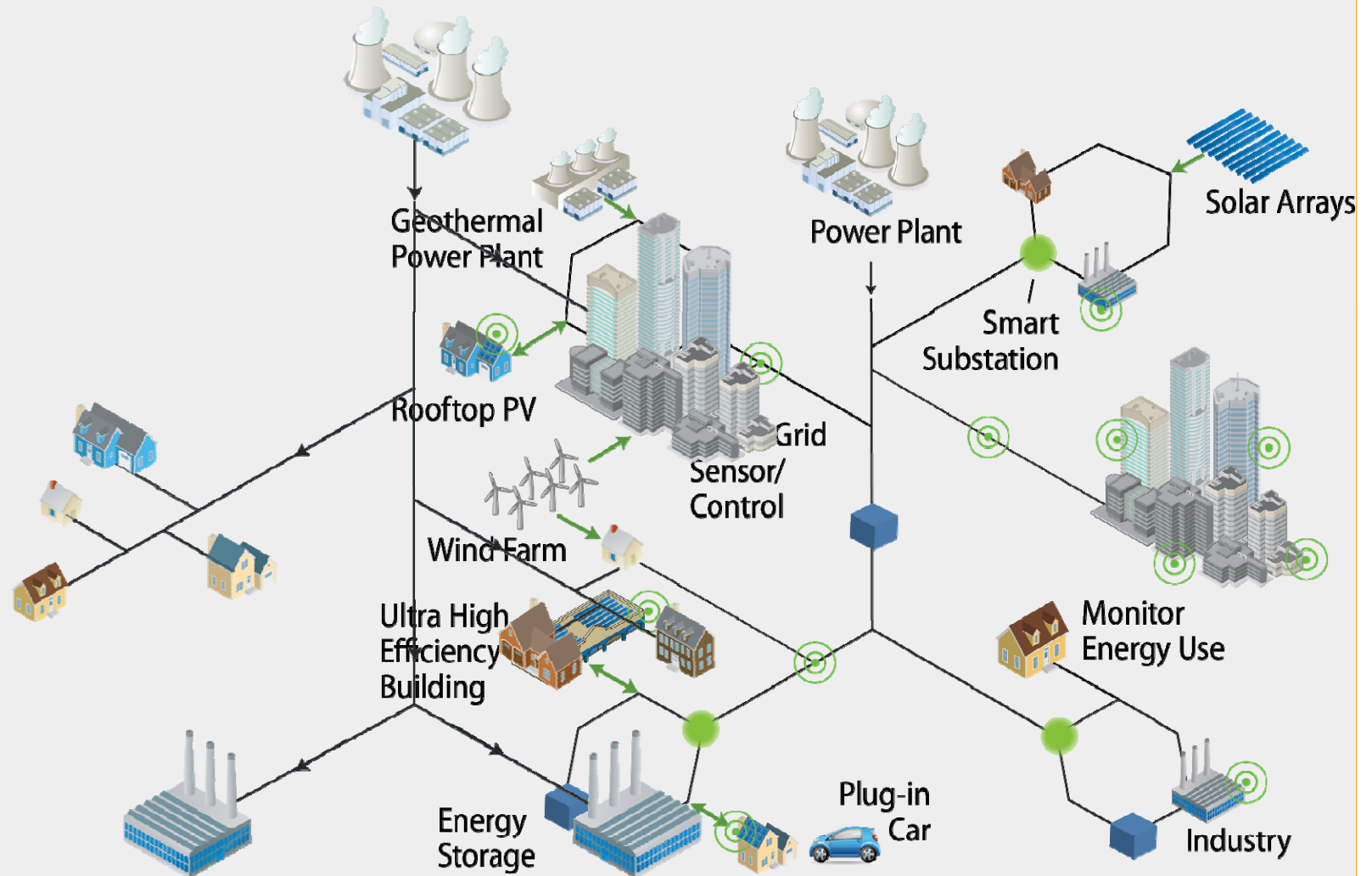
Transformation

**INTEGRATION IS KEY**

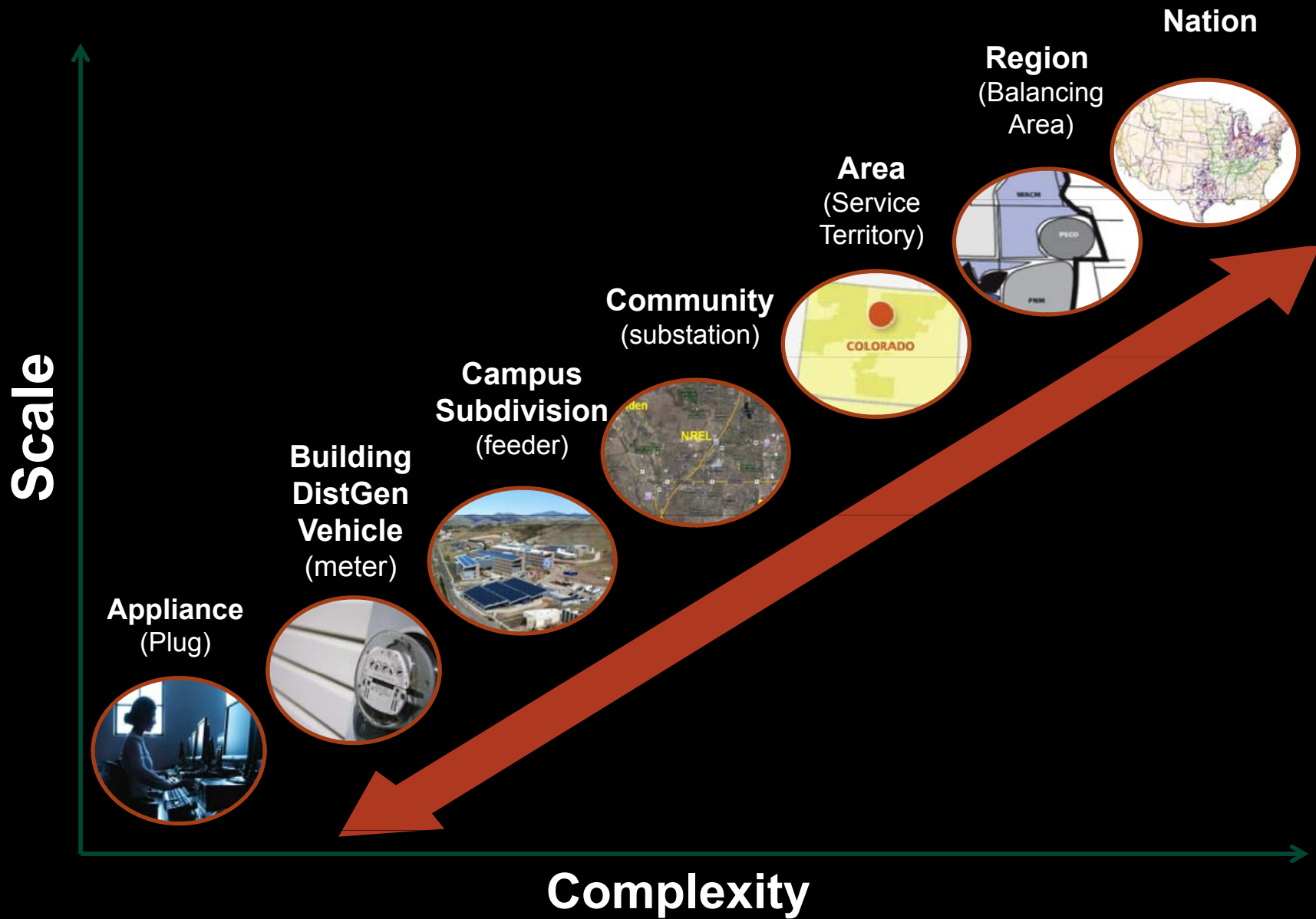
# Transforming Our Electricity Infrastructure

Current Energy Systems

Future Energy Systems



# Requires Integration Across All Scales



# Energy Systems Integration

## Key Challenges

- Increase overall energy system efficiency
- Integrating new technologies in existing infrastructure
- Engagement of consumers in energy use – increases complexity but also increases system flexibility

## Gaps in the ability to address these questions

- Difficult to test large-scale deployments of new technologies
- Difficult to obtain information on actual performance
- Energy systems cuts across a variety of pathways so it requires an interdisciplinary approach

## Opportunities for science-based approach

- Linking hardware and control testing to system simulation environment
- Using actual operations data to develop evidence based solutions – mining massive new data sets
- Complex systems analysis and control – scalable synergistic operations of large interconnected systems

# NREL Energy Systems Integration Facility

Solving the challenges of large-scale integration of clean energy technologies onto the energy systems infrastructure





# ESIF – A Unique Technology User Facility

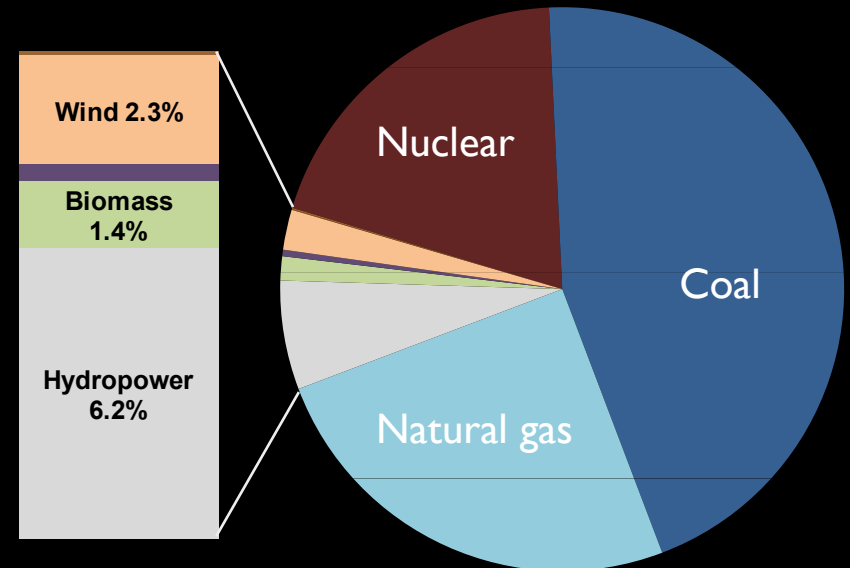
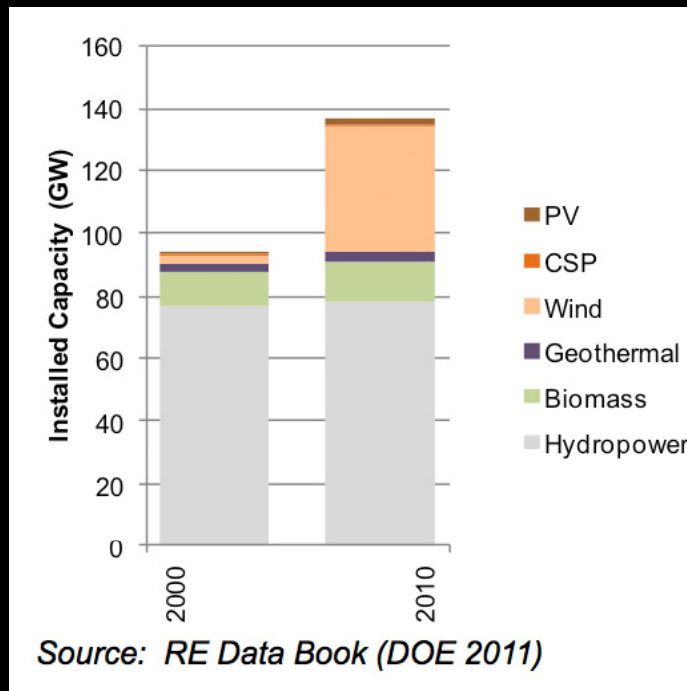
- A unique national asset for energy systems integration R&D, testing, and analysis
- Designed for conducting research and development of renewable energy technologies in a systems context at deployment scale



80% Renewable Electricity

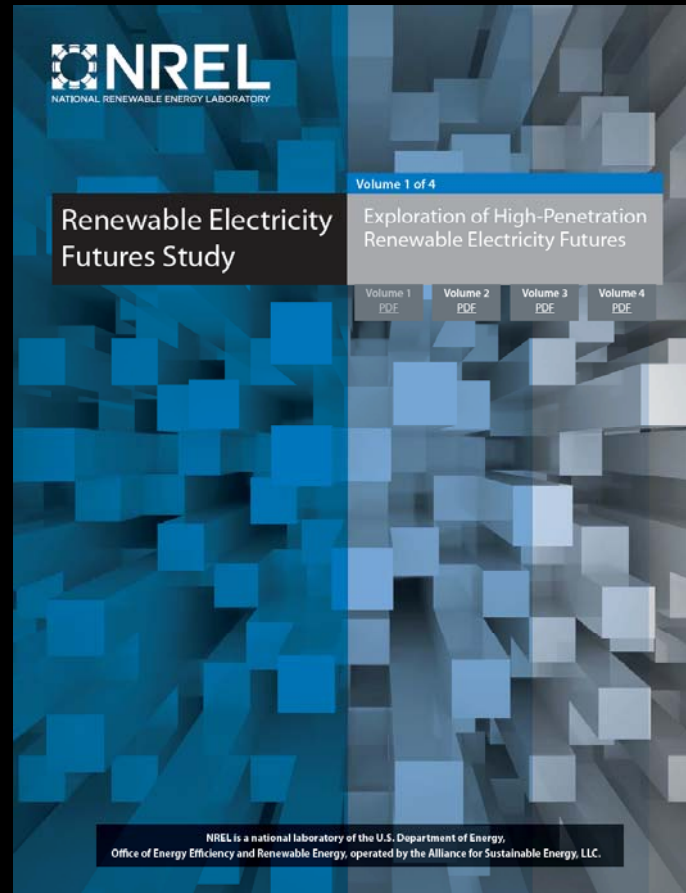
**TRANSFORMED BY 2050**

# Renewable Electricity Futures Motivation



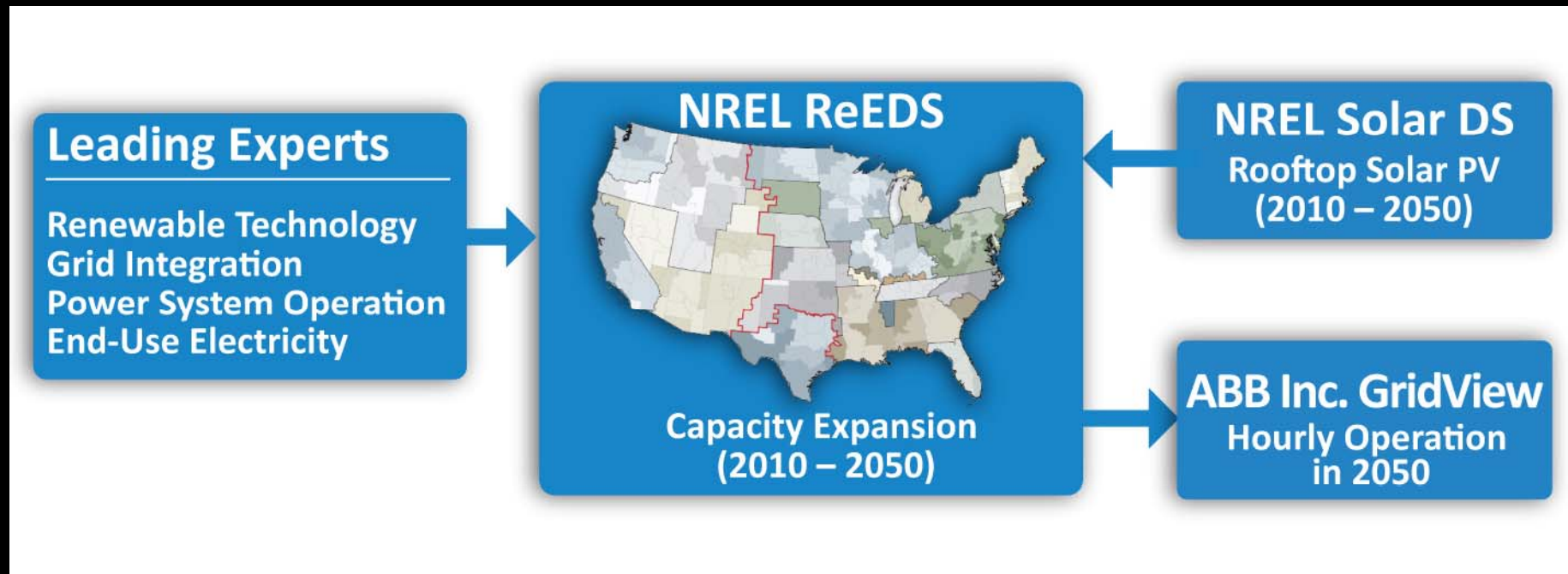
- RE is a low carbon, low air pollutant, low fuel use, low water use, domestic, sustainable electricity source.
- To what extent can renewable energy technologies commercially available today meet the U.S. electricity demand over the next several decades?

# Renewable Electricity Futures Study



**U.S. DOE-sponsored collaboration with over 110 contributors from about 35 organizations including national laboratories, industry, universities, and NGOs**

# State of the Art Electric System Models

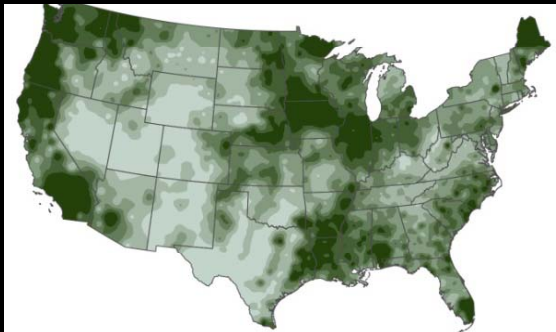


- Unprecedented geographic and time resolution for the contiguous United States
- Over two dozen scenarios of RE generation focused on 2050

# Abundant Renewable Energy Resources

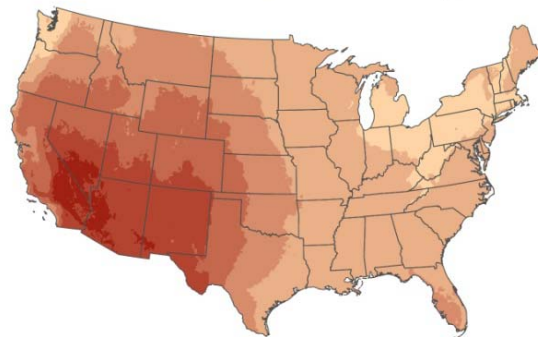
## Biopower ~100 GW

- Stand-alone
- Cofired with coal



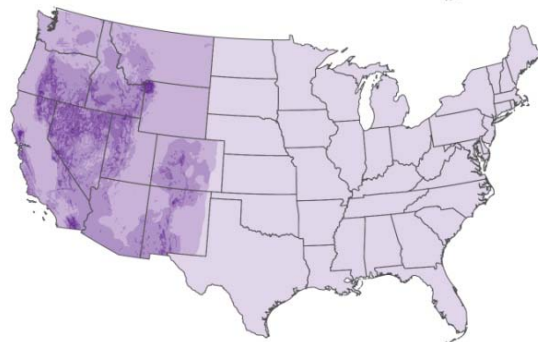
## Solar CSP ~37,000 GW

- Trough With thermal storage
- Tower storage



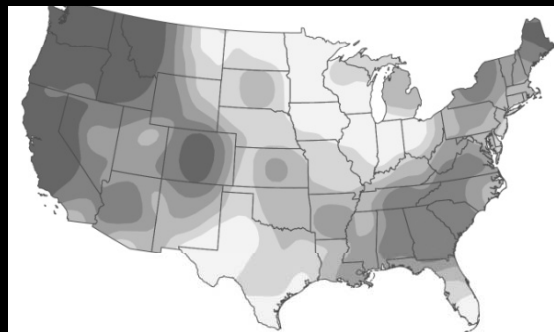
## Geothermal ~36 GW

- Hydrothermal



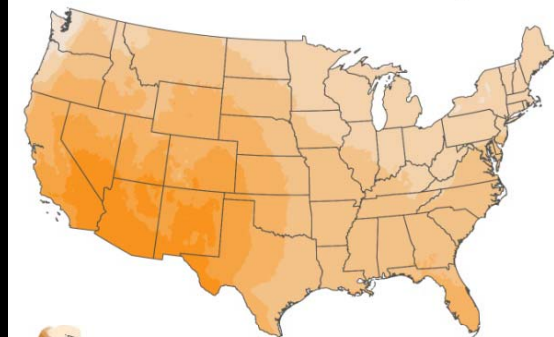
## Hydropower ~200 GW

- Run-of-river



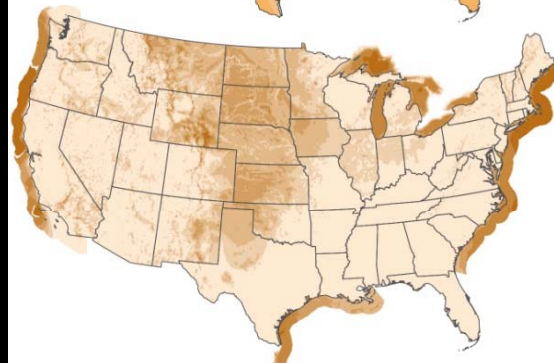
## Solar PV ~80,000 GW (rooftop PV ~700 GW)

- Residential
- Commercial
- Utility-scale



## Wind ~10,000 GW

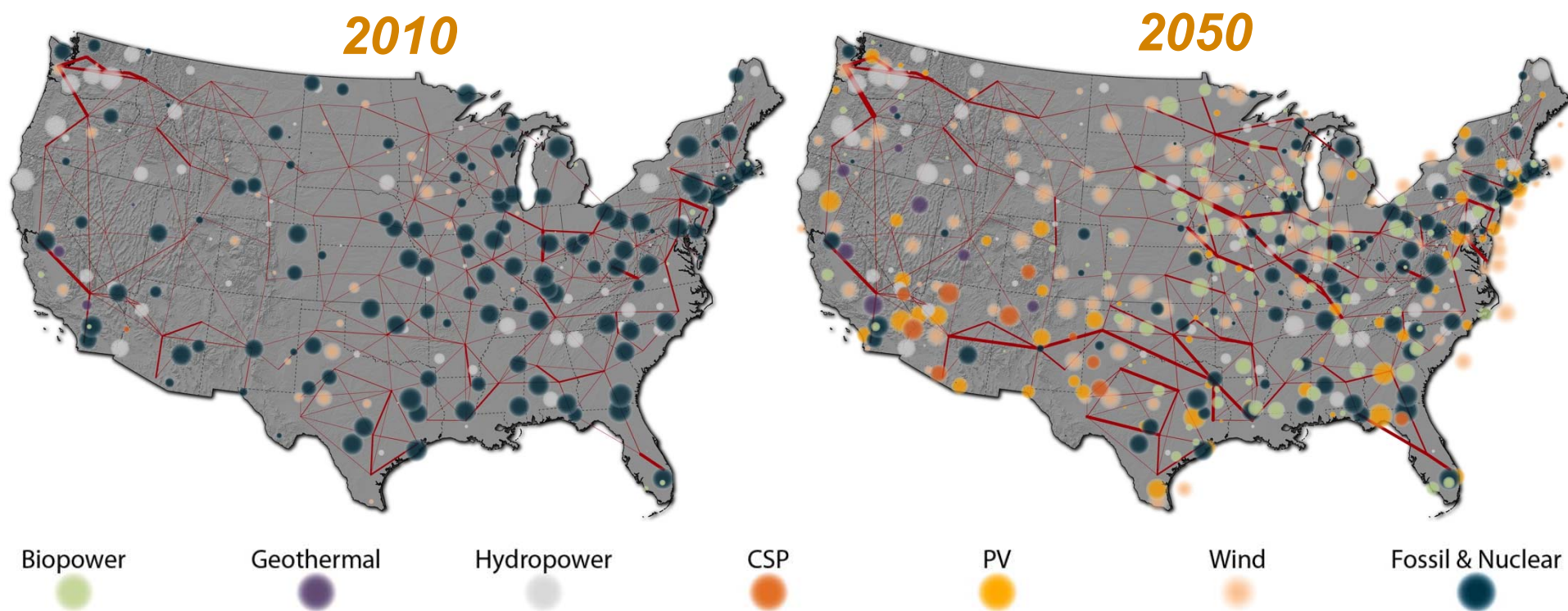
- Onshore
- Offshore fixed-bottom



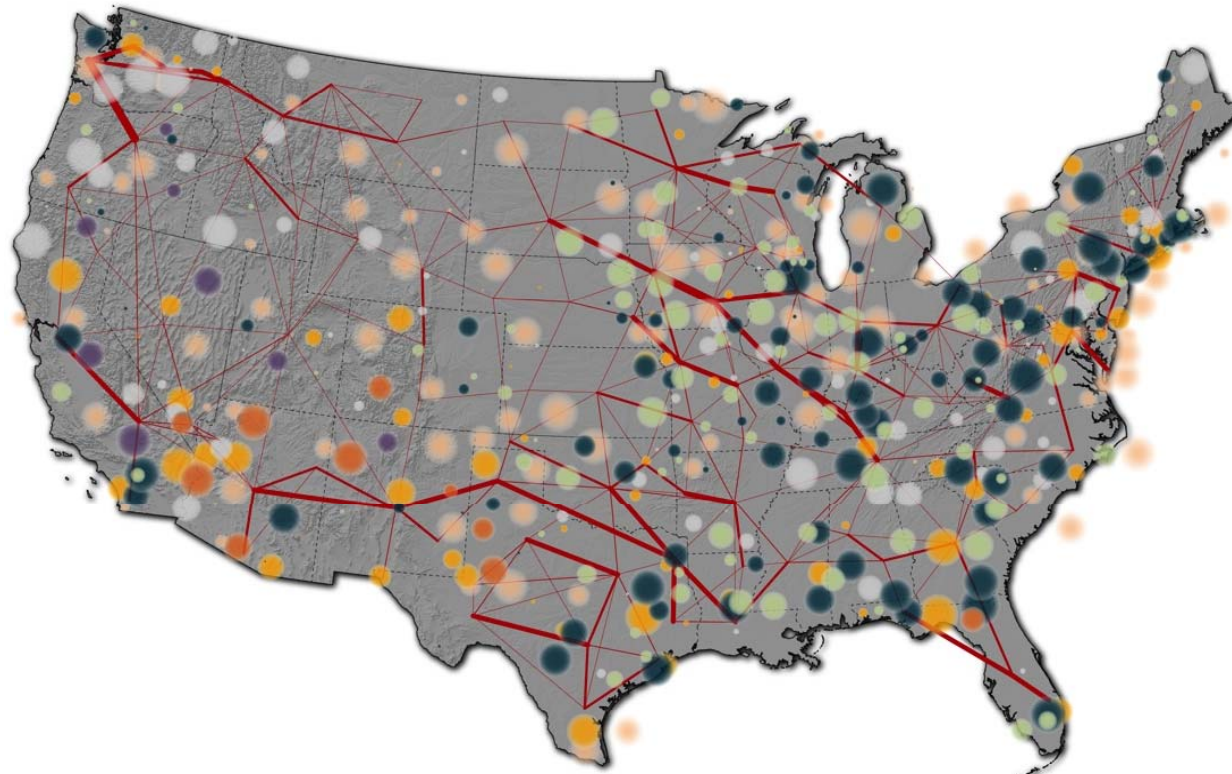
Darker Colors = Higher Resource

**Geographic location, technical resource potential, and output characteristics are unique to each RE generation technology.**

# A Transformation of the U.S. Electricity System



RE generation from technologies that are commercially available today, in combination with a more flexible electric system, is more than adequate to supply 80% of total U.S. electricity generation in 2050 while meeting electricity demand on an hourly basis in every region of the country



Biopower

Geothermal

Hydropower

CSP

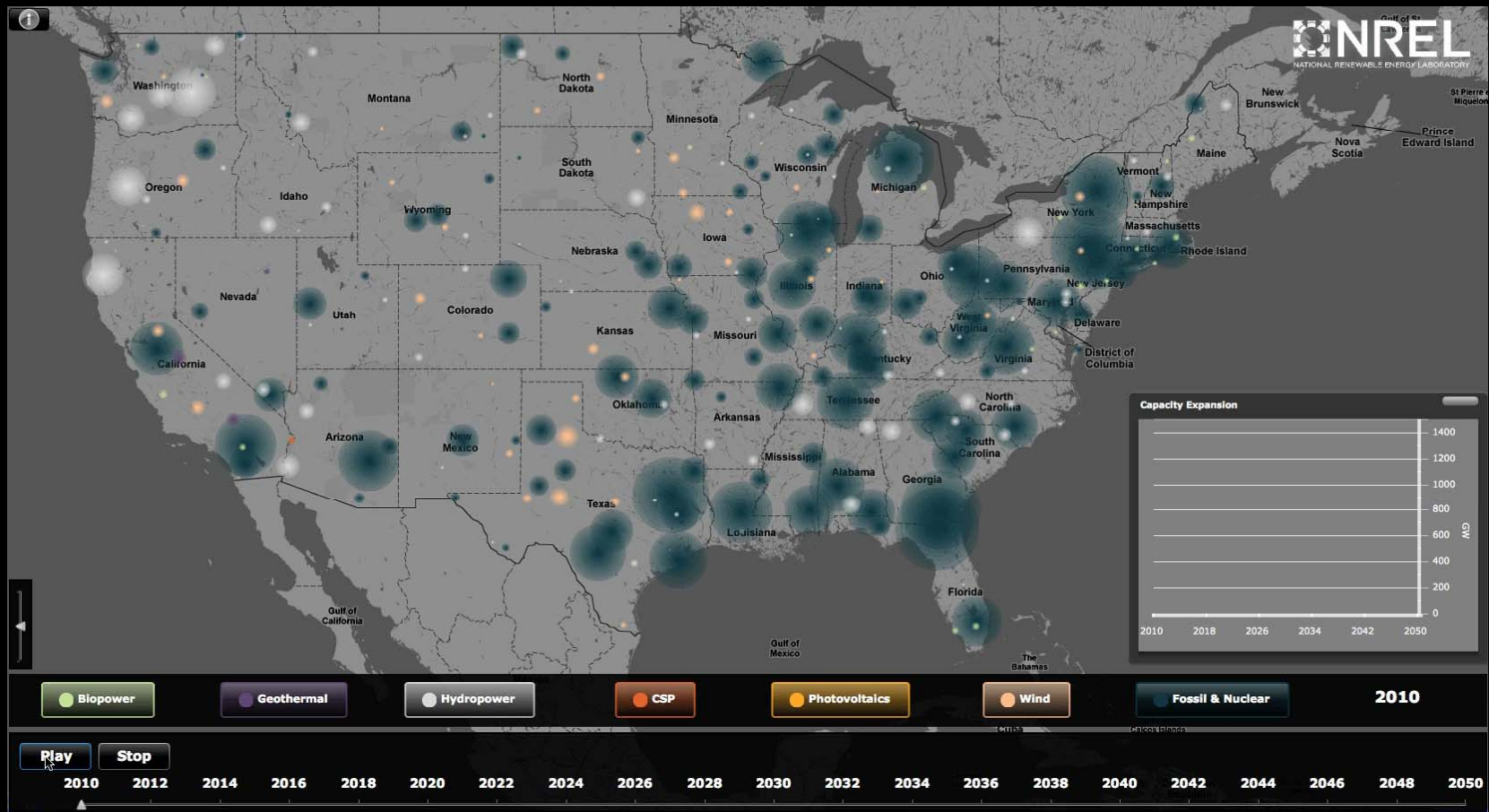
PV

Wind

Fossil & Nuclear

**A future U.S. electricity system that is largely powered by renewable sources is possible, and further work is warranted to investigate this clean generation pathway.**





# To achieve a clean energy vision, we must...

- Invest in innovation
- Invent the future we desire
- Improve access to capital
- Partner on a global scale

# NREL

NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY

Visit us online at [www.nrel.gov](http://www.nrel.gov)

