

# NREL Overview



**Dr. Dan E. Arvizu**

**Laboratory Director**

**March 23, 2010**

# Energy Challenges

## Security

- Secure supply
- Reliable Infrastructure

## Economy

- Economic Development
- Energy price volatility
- Affordability

**All three imperatives  
must be  
simultaneously  
addressed**

## Environment

- Carbon mitigation
- Land and water use



# Achieving a Sustainable Energy Economy

## *Requires a National Energy Grand Challenge\**



Lead Coordinated  
RD3E Strategy in  
Sustainable Energy



Boost R&D  
Investment



Construct  
Essential Policies  
& Market  
Conditions



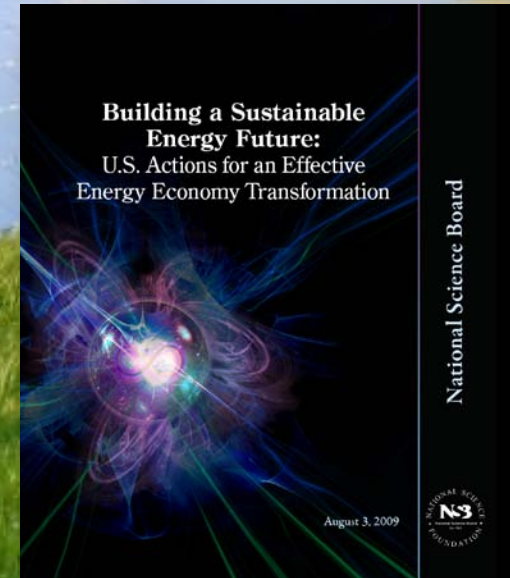
Support Education &  
Workforce  
Development



Lead Globally



Promote Public  
Awareness &  
Action



\* Recommendations of the National Science Board Task Force on Sustainable Energy

# Our Energy System

## Supply & Conversion



Oil 40%

Coal 23%

Natural Gas 23%

100 Quads



Nuclear 8%



Hydro  
Wind  
Solar 6%  
Biomass  
Geothermal

## Transmission & Distribution



61%



39%

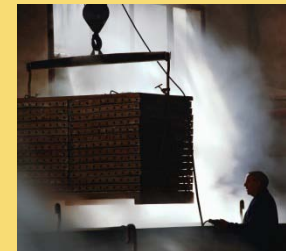
## Utilization



27%



40%



33%

Lost energy as inefficiencies – 62%





# New National Priorities

**Creating new Jobs in the Clean Energy Economy.** Drive the development of new, green jobs that pay well and cannot be outsourced.

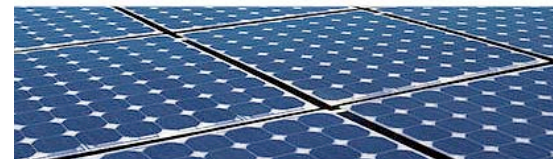
**Investing in the Next Generation of Energy Technologies.** Invest \$150 billion over ten years in energy research and development to transition to a clean energy economy.

**Breaking Dependence on Oil.** Promote the next generation of cars and trucks and the fuels they run on.

**Producing More Energy at Home.** Enhance U.S. energy supplies through responsible development of domestic renewable energy, fossil fuels, advanced biofuels and nuclear energy.

**Promoting Energy Efficiency.** Promote investments in the transportation, electricity, industrial, building and agricultural sectors that reduce energy bills.

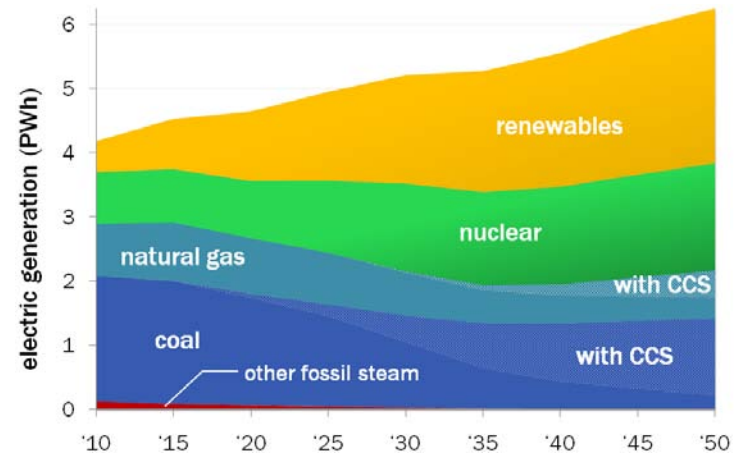
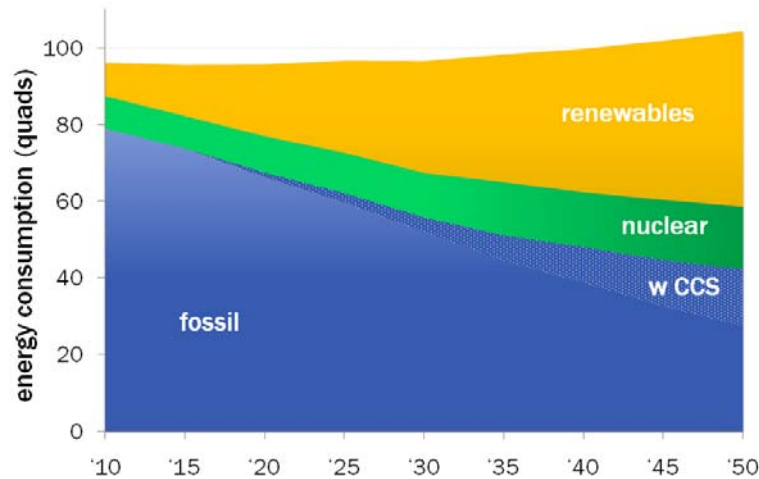
**Closing the Carbon Loophole.** By stemming carbon pollution through a market-based cap, we can address in a systematic way all the energy challenges that we face: curbing our dependence on foreign oil, reducing our use of fossil fuels, and promoting new industries right here in America.



G8Website/ANSA Photo: Alessandro Di Meo

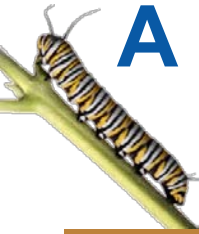
# Strategic Technology for Energy Plan (STEP) to Frame FY12 Budget

Minimal Case: (a) total US energy consumption, and (b) electric generation (hydropower counted in renewables)



**Business Sensitive – Do Not Cite**

# A Profound Transformation is Required



## Today's Energy System

- Dependent on foreign sources
- Subject to price volatility
- Increasingly vulnerable energy delivery systems
- 2/3 of source energy is wasted
- Produces 25% of the world's carbon emissions
- Role of electricity increasing



## Sustainable Energy System

- Carbon neutral
- Highly efficient
- Diverse supply options
- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Creates American jobs
- Accessible, affordable and secure

# A Profound Transformation Requires...

## Light, heat, power



## Mobility and access



- Continuing advances in science and technology to reduce cost and enable impact at scale
- A much stronger *systems focus*
  - Recognize the energy system is a energy ‘system of systems’
  - Focus on efficiently delivering future energy services
  - Make optimal use of all energy resources
  - Adapt existing infrastructure
  - Holistically design new infrastructure
- Concerted and coordinated efforts between government and private sector
- Greater understanding of options and their implications to guide decisions

***NREL's impact will be delivered through commercialization and deployment of innovations designed to be integrated in five key systems***



# Focused on Sustainable Systems

Today's Energy System



Sustainable Energy System

## Community & Industrial Systems

Electricity Generation & Delivery Systems



Fuel Production Systems



Integrated Systems Sustainable Design



Distributed & Utility-Scale Renewable Power

Renewable Fuels



Highly Efficient • Integrated Renewables

Highly Efficient • Fuel Flexible

The Built Environment

Transportation Systems

# Aligned with System Outcomes

# 2050

## Reduce oil use to <15% of current levels and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by >80%

System of Systems

2030 System Outcomes

Electricity Generation & Delivery Systems



Community & Industrial Systems



Fuel Production Systems



The Built Environment



Transportation Systems

Building fleet is 50% more efficient

30% of US generation comes from renewable resources

Sustainable communities are the standard for new development

30% road fuels derived from renewable fuels

50% of light duty vehicle are electric vehicles (EVs), Plug-in Hybrid Vehicles (PHEVs), or Fuel Cell Vehicles

# The Revised Strategy Construct

*National Context*

**2050** Reduce oil use to <15% of current levels and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by >80%



*NREL Mission Focus*

**NREL Strategy for Impact**

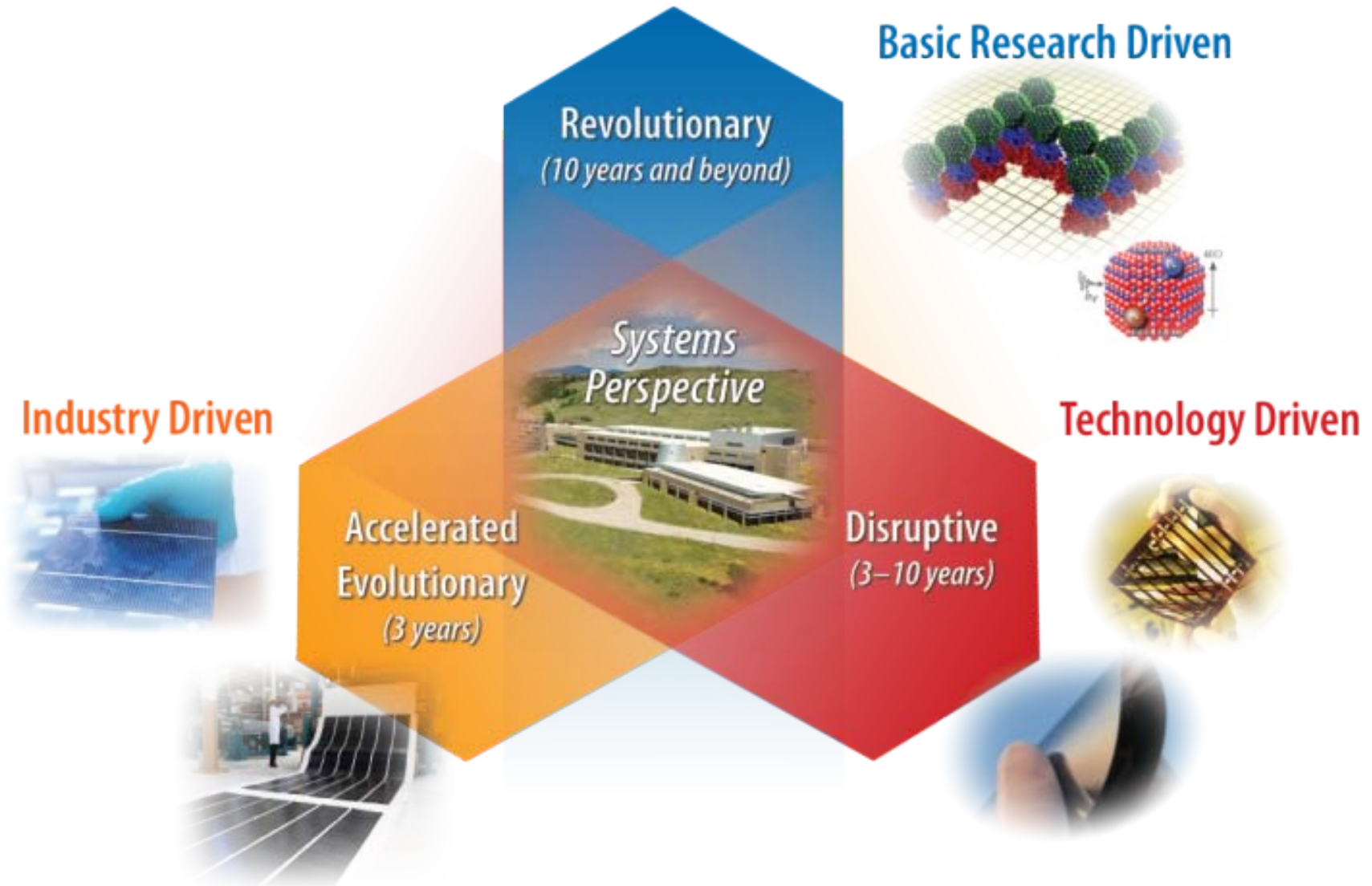
*Intended Strategic Approach*

- Focused on the What it Takes to Transform Each System*
- An Integrated Strategy Across S&T, C&D, Analysis (Focus & Accomplishments)*
- Distinctive Competencies: Building on Technology-Specific Strengths to Address Integrated Systems of All Scales and Across Disciplines and Institutions*

**Enabling Environment: Lab of the Future**



# Achieving the Potential Requires A Balanced Portfolio



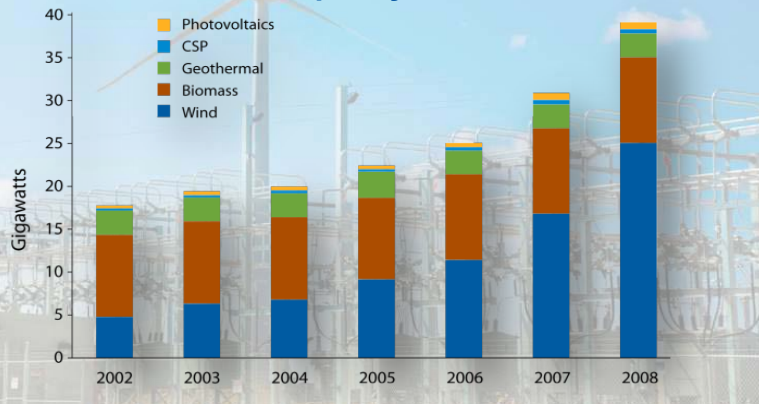
# Near-Term Impact: Harvest Past R&D Energy Investments

## Remove Barriers to Broad Deployment

- Fuels Economic Recovery
- Creates Jobs



## U.S. Renewable Electricity Installed Nameplate Capacity



Source: EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2009 Early Release

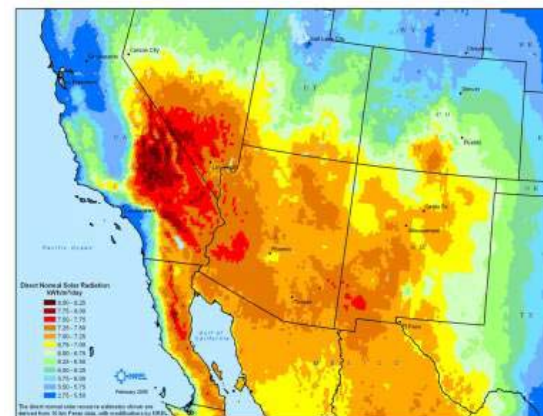
## NREL Provides Data, Tools and Technical Assistance to:

Educate and inform

Develop codes and standards

Inform policy options, program design, and investment choices

- Resource Assessment
- Technology Analysis
- Policy Analysis



# Mid-Term Impact: Accelerate Next-Generation Technology to Market

NREL Focus on Technology and Systems Development  
Unique Partnering Facilities  
Testing and Validation Capabilities



**Integrated Biorefinery  
Research Facility**

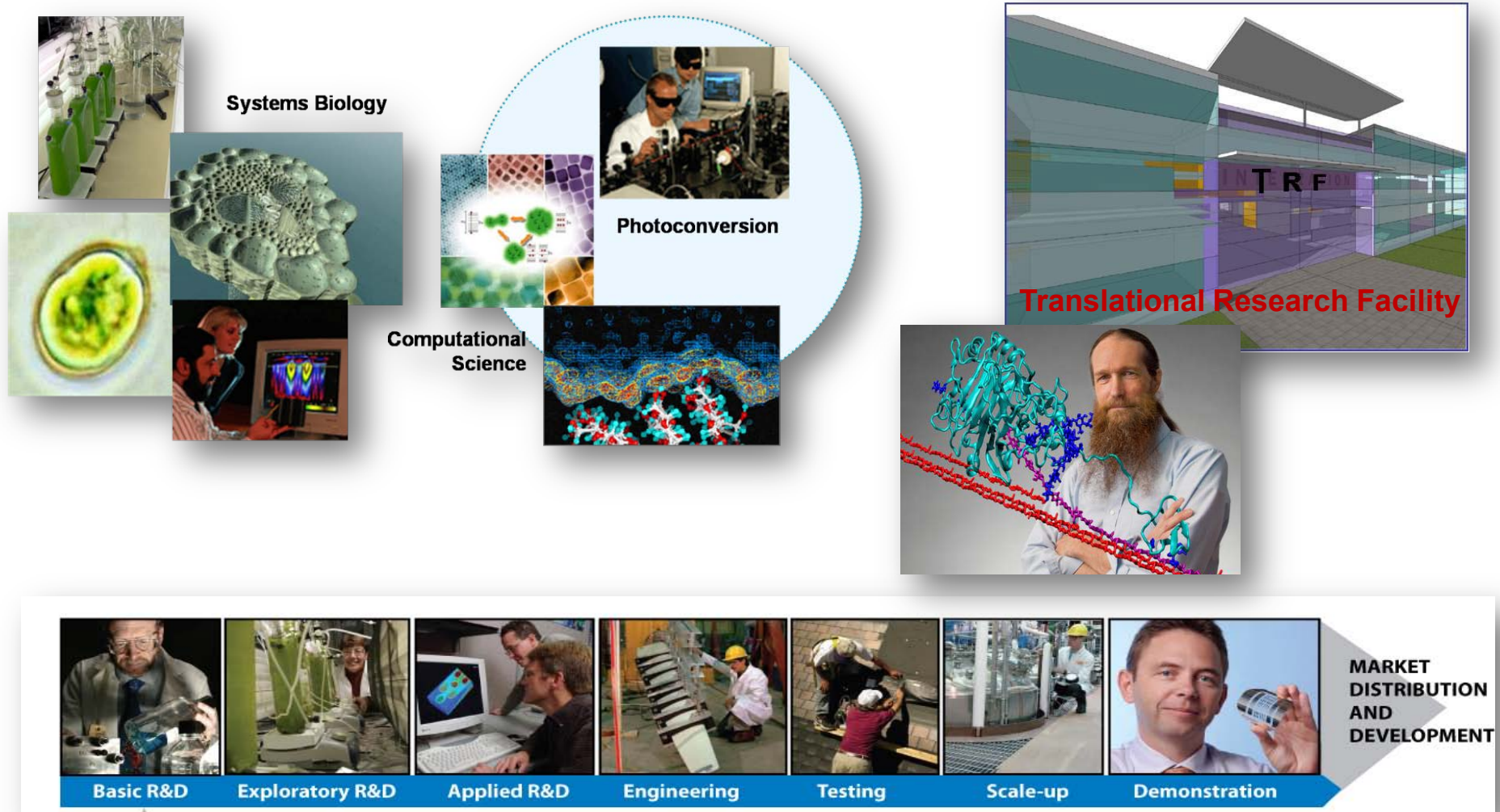


**Energy Systems  
Integration Facility**



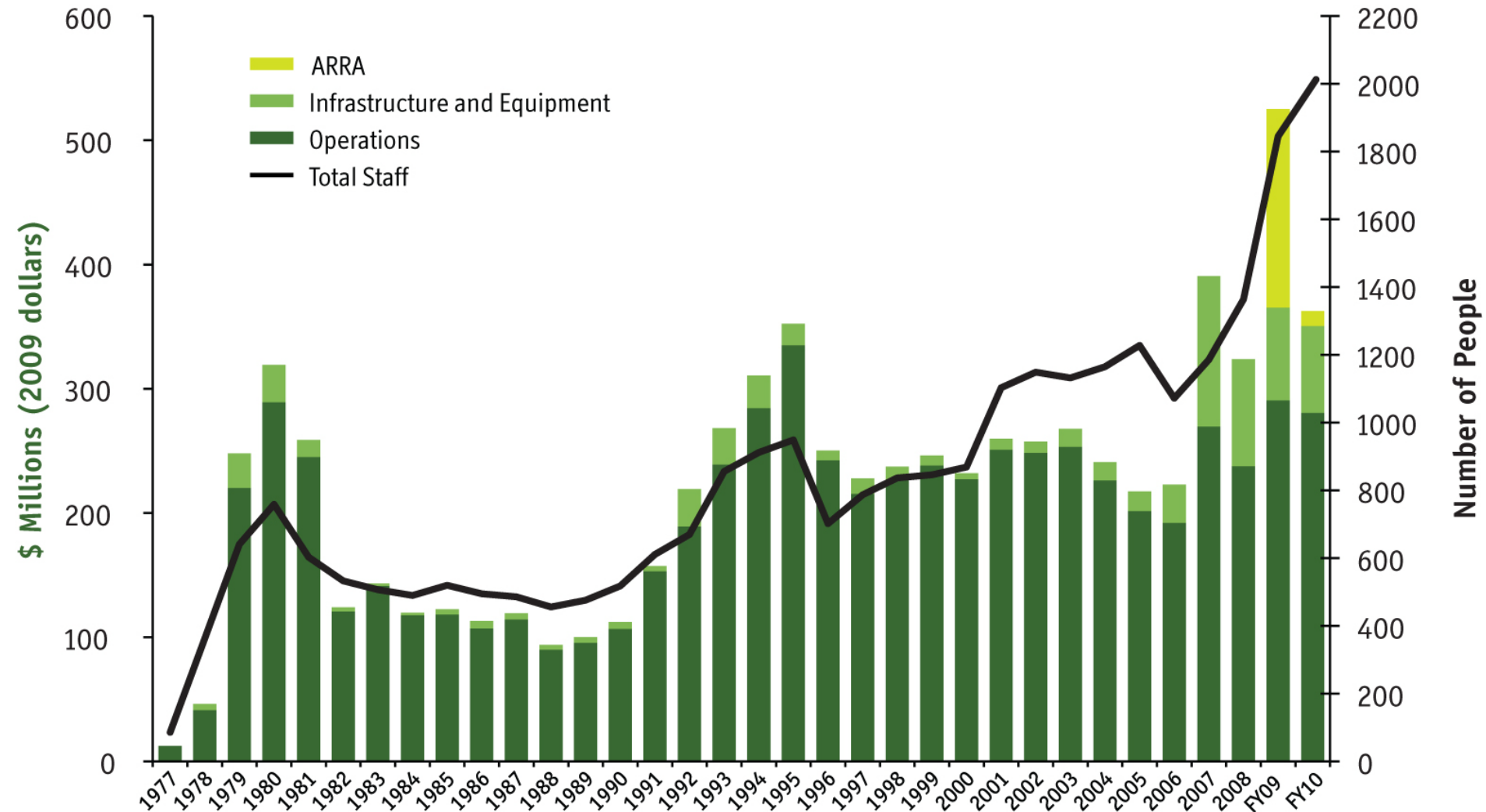


# Long-Term Impact: Requires Breakthrough/Translational Science



***Managing the science-to-technology interface***

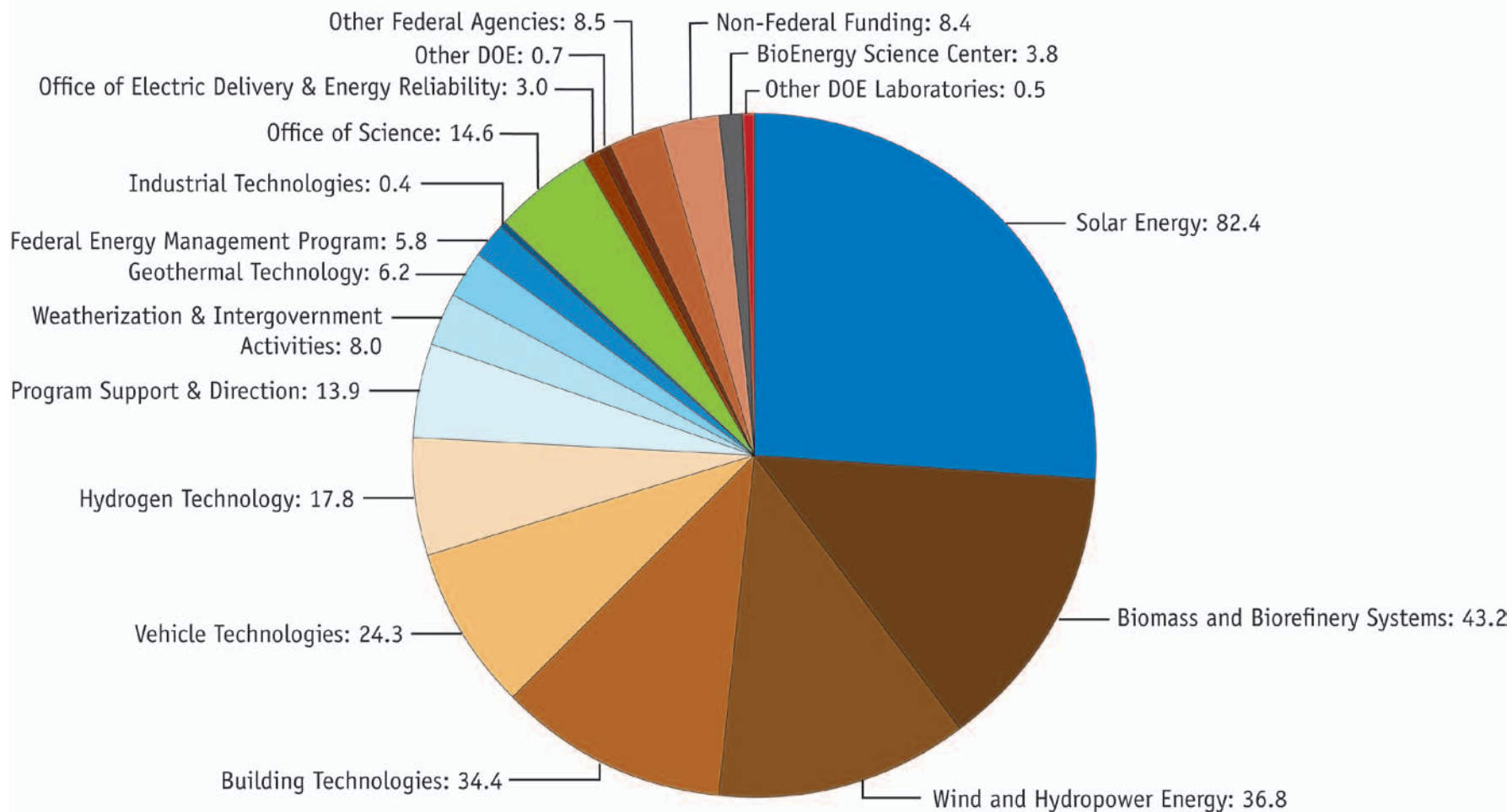
# NREL Funding and Staffing



Updated March 2010

# NREL FY2010 Program Portfolio \$312.7M\*

(Est)



Recovery Act Funds Included above:	2010
<i>EERE Research Programs</i>	\$ 16.0
<i>Office of Science</i>	0.0
<i>Other Federal Agencies</i>	0.0

\*Does not include Construction & Infrastructure = \$63.7M



# Energy Efficiency



# Buildings

## Status U.S. Buildings:

- 39% of primary energy
- 71% of electricity
- 38% of carbon emissions

## DOE Goal:

- Cost effective, marketable zero energy buildings by 2025
- Value of energy savings exceeds cost of energy features on a cash flow basis

## NREL Research Thrusts

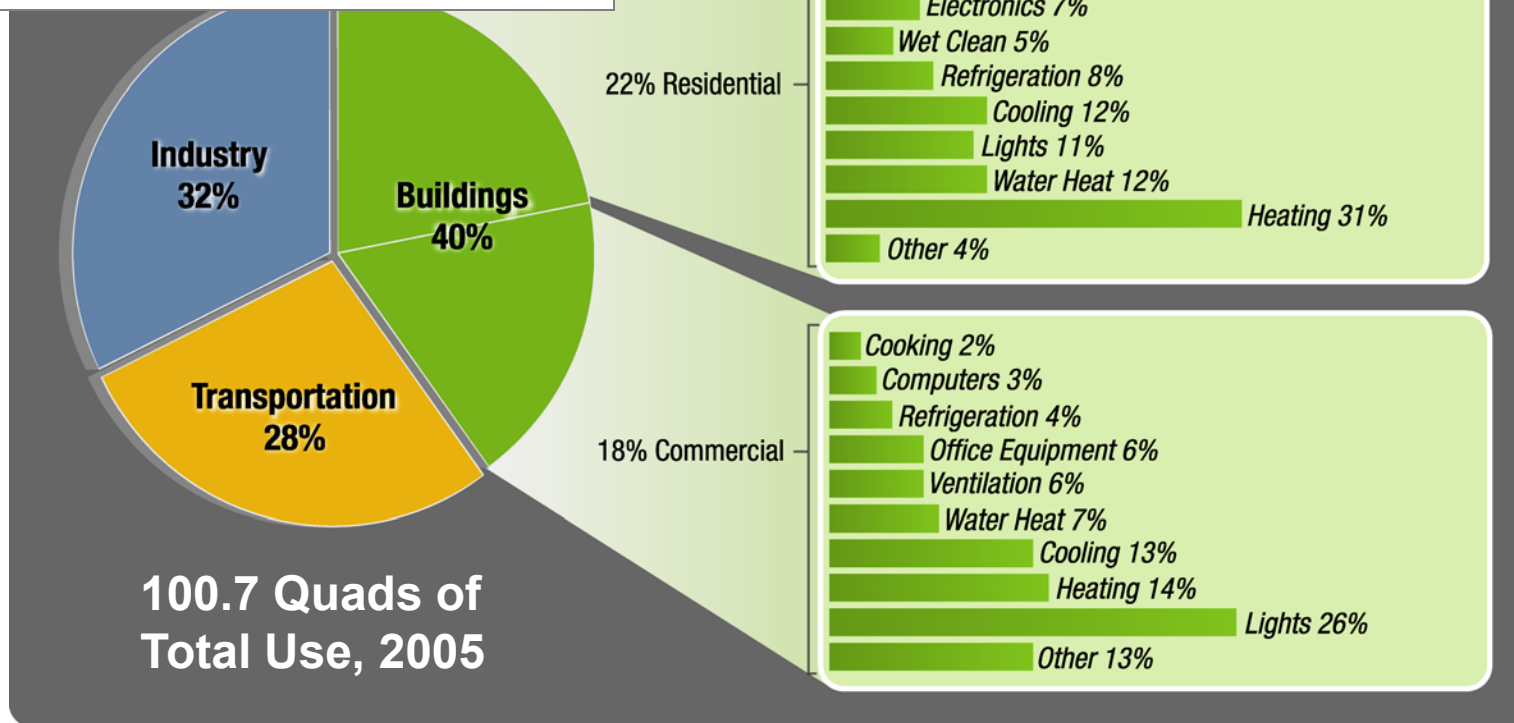
- Whole building systems integration of efficiency and renewable features
- Computerized building energy optimization tools
- Building integrated PV

April 10, 2008



# Energy Used in Buildings

Buildings use 72% of nation's electricity and 55% of its natural gas.



Buildings use 72% of the nation's electricity and 55% of its natural gas.

Source: *Buildings Energy Data Book 2007*



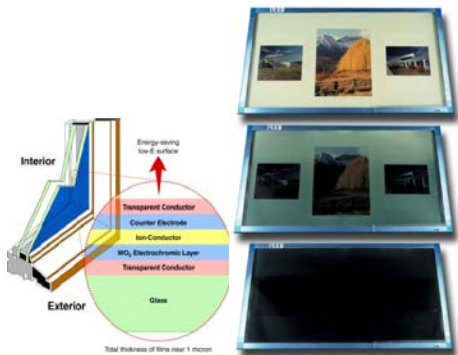
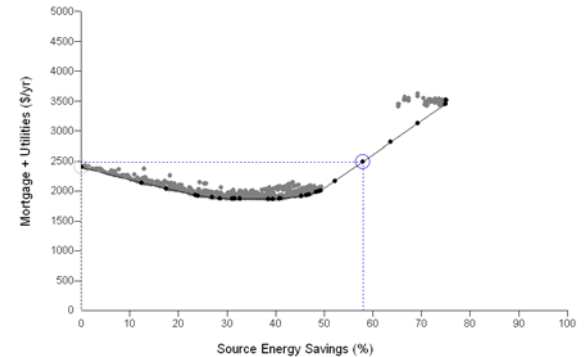
# Technology for Cost Effective Zero Energy Buildings

## NREL Zero Energy Habitat House



## BIPV Products & PV-T Array

## Compressorless Cooling



## Electrochromic Windows



## Polymer Solar Water Heaters



## Computerized optimization & simulation Tools

# Renewable Electricity Supply



# Wind

## Today's Status in U.S.

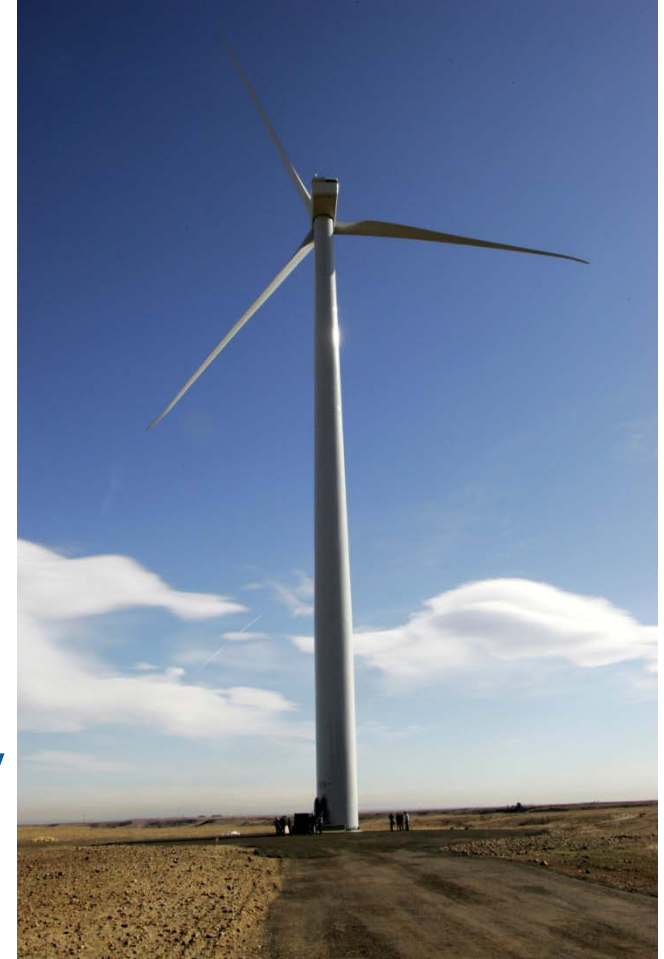
- 35,000 MW installed capacity
- Cost 6-9¢/kWh at good wind sites\*

## DOE Cost Goals

- 3.6¢/kWh, onshore at low wind sites by 2012
- 7¢/kWh, offshore in shallow water by 2014

## Long Term Potential

At least 20% of the nation's electricity supply



The Siemens 2.3 MW turbine is among the largest land-based turbines deployed in the United States and is the largest at the NWTC site.

\*With no Production Tax Credit

Source: U.S. Department of Energy, American Wind Energy Association

Updated 1/10



# The “20% Wind Report” Informs Our RD&D

## The 20% Wind Energy by 2030 Scenario

### How it began:

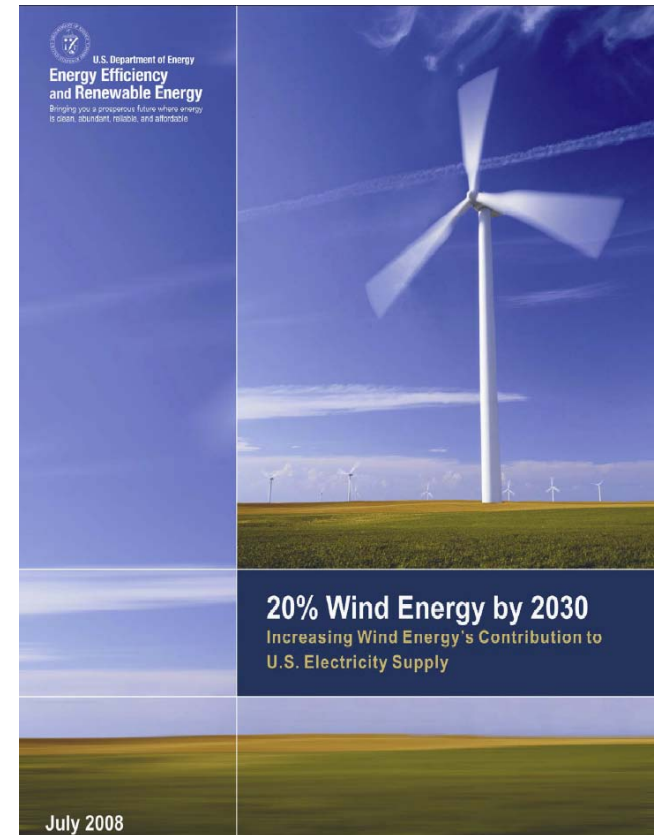
- 2006 State of the Union and Advanced Energy Initiative
- Collaborative effort of government and industry (DOE, NREL, AWEA) to explore modeled energy scenario where wind provides 20% of U.S. electricity by 2030

### Primary Assumptions:

- U.S. electricity consumption grows 39% from 2005 to 2030—to 5.8 billion MWh (Source: EIA)
- Wind turbine energy production (capacity factor) increases 15% by 2030
- Wind turbine costs decrease 10% by 2030
- No major breakthroughs in wind technology

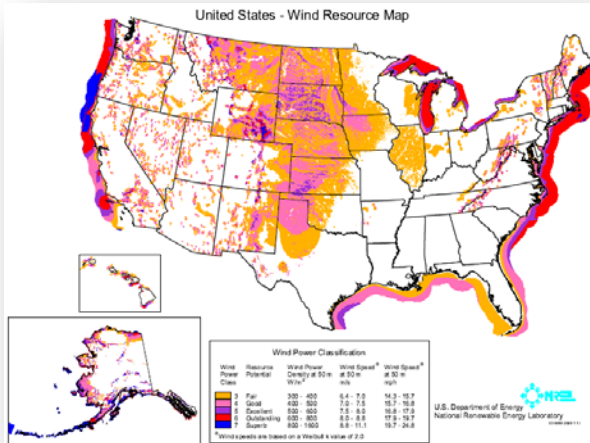
### Primary Findings:

- 20% wind electricity would require about 300 GW (300,000 MW) wind generation
- Affordable, accessible wind resources available across nation
- Cost to integrate wind modest
- Emissions reductions and water savings
- Transmission a challenge



[www.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro](http://www.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro)

# Wind Energy Technology



**US Wind Resource Exceeds Total Electrical Demand**



**Offshore Wind**



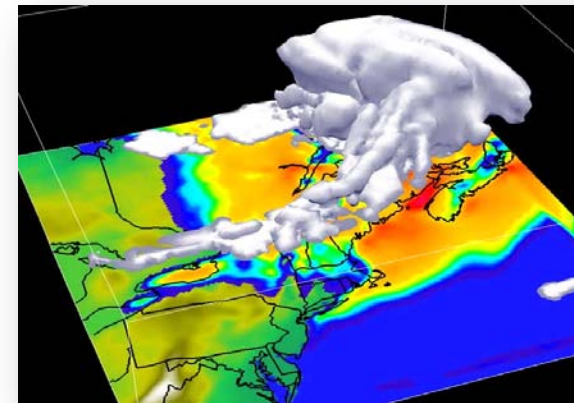
**Advanced Blades**



**Innovative Tall Towers**



**Giant Multi-megawatt Turbines**



Courtesy: WindLogics, Inc. St. Paul, MN

**Wind Forecasting**

## NREL Research Thrusts

- Improved performance and reliability
- Advanced rotor development
- Utility grid integration



# Solar – Photovoltaics and CSP

## Status in U.S.

### PV

- 1,106 MW installed capacity
- Cost 16-32¢/kWh\*

### CSP

- 419 MW installed capacity
- Cost 10-14¢/kWh\*

## Potential:

### PV

- 6-13 ¢/kWh by 2015\*
- 6-15 ¢/kWh by 2030\*\*

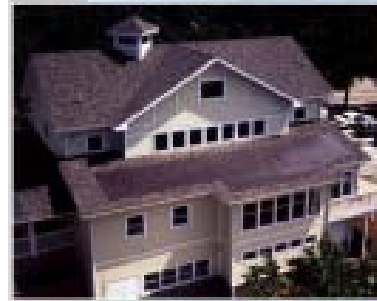
### CSP

- 8-11 ¢/kWh by 2015\*
- 7-11 ¢/kWh by 2030\*\*

\* With 30% ITC

\*\* With 10% ITC

Source: DOE/NREL 2010 program targets (currently under revision).



# Solar Research Thrusts

## Photovoltaics

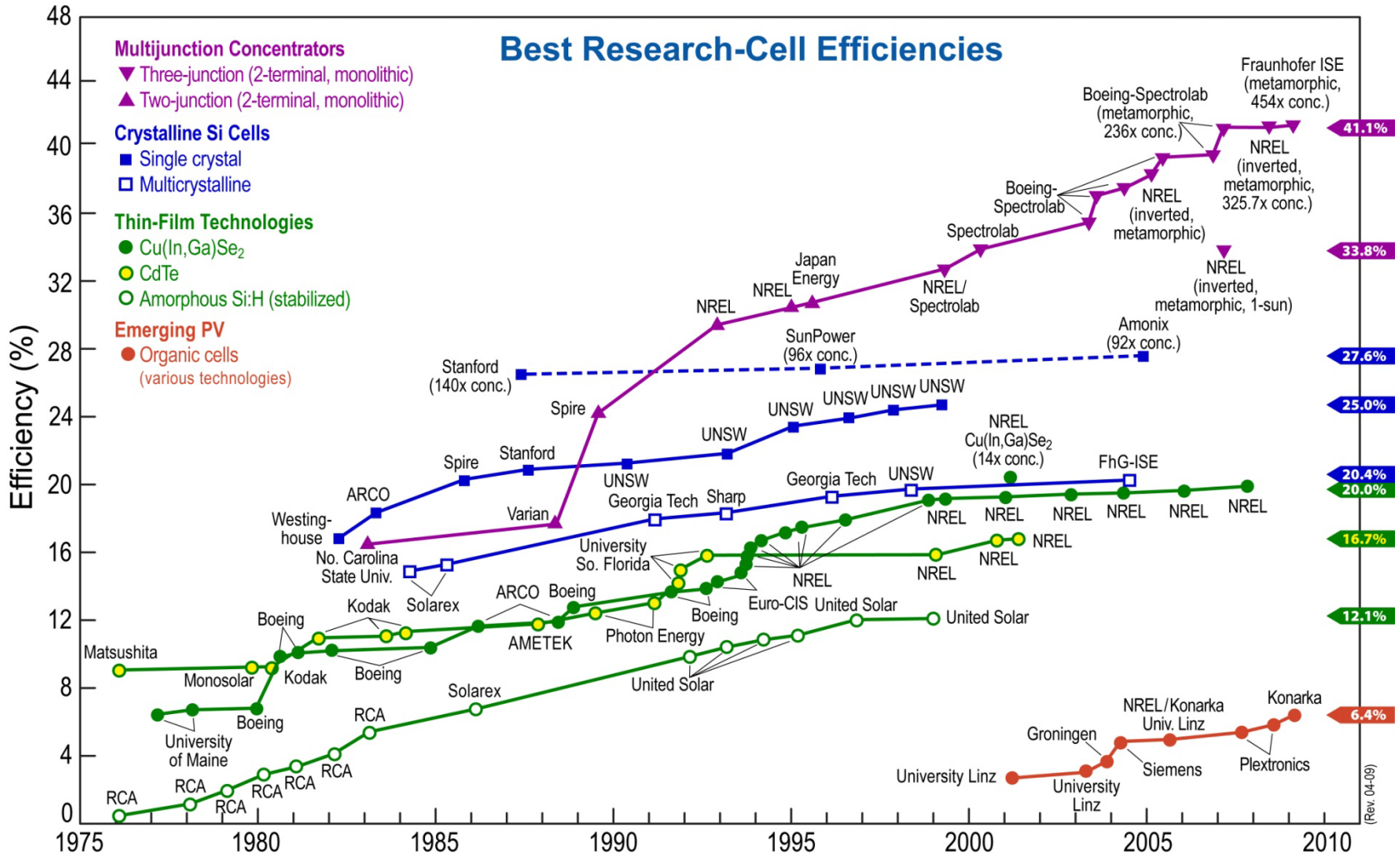
- Higher performance cells/modules
- New nanomaterials enabled technologies
- Advanced manufacturing techniques
- Improved reliability

## Concentrating Solar Power

- Low cost high performance storage for baseload markets
- Advanced absorbers, reflectors, and heat transfer fluids
- Next generation solar concentrators

8.22-megawatt Alamosa, Colo.,  
PV solar plant

# PV Conversion Technologies—Decades of NREL Leadership





# Geothermal

## Today's Status in U.S.

- 3,153 MWe installed, 6443 MWe under development
- Cost 5-8¢/kWh with no PTC
- Capacity factor typically > 90%, base load power

## Future Energy Cost

- Near term: Hydrothermal sites at 5¢/kWh
- Longer term: Enhanced geothermal systems, huge resource at 5-10¢/kWh with mature technology

## Long Term Potential

- Recent MIT Analysis shows potential for 100,000 MW installed Enhanced Geothermal Power systems by 2050, cost-competitive with coal-powered generation

## NREL Research Thrusts

- DOE lead for Low Temperature R&D
  - Oil/gas coproduction of electricity, direct use, geothermal heat pumps
- Analysis to define pathways for broad commercial impact of geothermal systems
- R&D in advanced power conversion systems
- Systems engineering/integration



Drilling rig on South Table Mountain, testing for installation of geothermal heat pump showcase system at NREL.

# Biomass Power

## Biopower status in U.S.

- 2007 capacity – 10.5 GWe
  - 5 GW Pulp and Paper
  - 2 GW Dedicated Biomass
  - 3 GW MSW and Landfill Gas
  - 0.5 GW Cofiring
- 2004 Generation – 68.5 TWh
- Cost – 8-10¢/kWh

## Potential

- Cost – 4-6¢/kWh (integrated gasification combined cycle)
- 2030 – 160 TWh (net electricity exported to grid from integrated 60 billion gal/yr biorefinery industry)



# Biofuels





# Biofuels

## Current Biofuels Status in U.S.

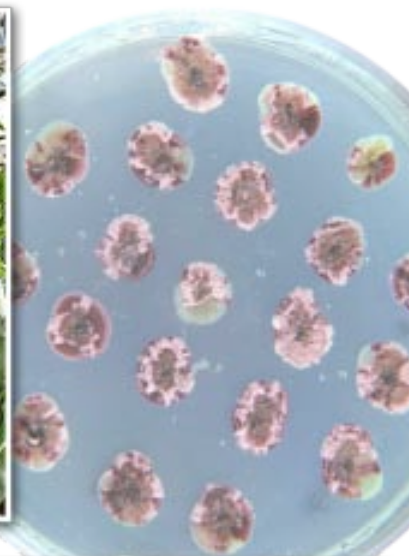
- Biodiesel
  - 175 companies; 2.7 billion gallons/yr capacity<sup>1</sup>
  - 0.5 billion gallons produced in 2009
- Corn ethanol
  - 200 commercial plants<sup>2</sup>
  - 13.0 billion gal/yr capacity<sup>2</sup> (+1.4 billion gal/yr planned)
  - 10.5 billion gal produced in 2009
- Cellulosic ethanol
  - 30 demonstration plants funded and under construction

## Key DOE Goals

- 2012 goal: cellulosic ethanol \$1.49/gallon or ~\$2.22/gge
- 2022 goal: 36B gal Renewable Fuel; 21B gal “Advanced Renewable Fuel,” 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act RFS

## NREL Research Thrusts

- Cellulosic biomass conversion to cellulosic ethanol
- Advanced biofuels
- Algal biofuels
- Biofuels sustainability and technoeconomic analysis



Updated January 2010

Sources: 1- National Biodiesel Board

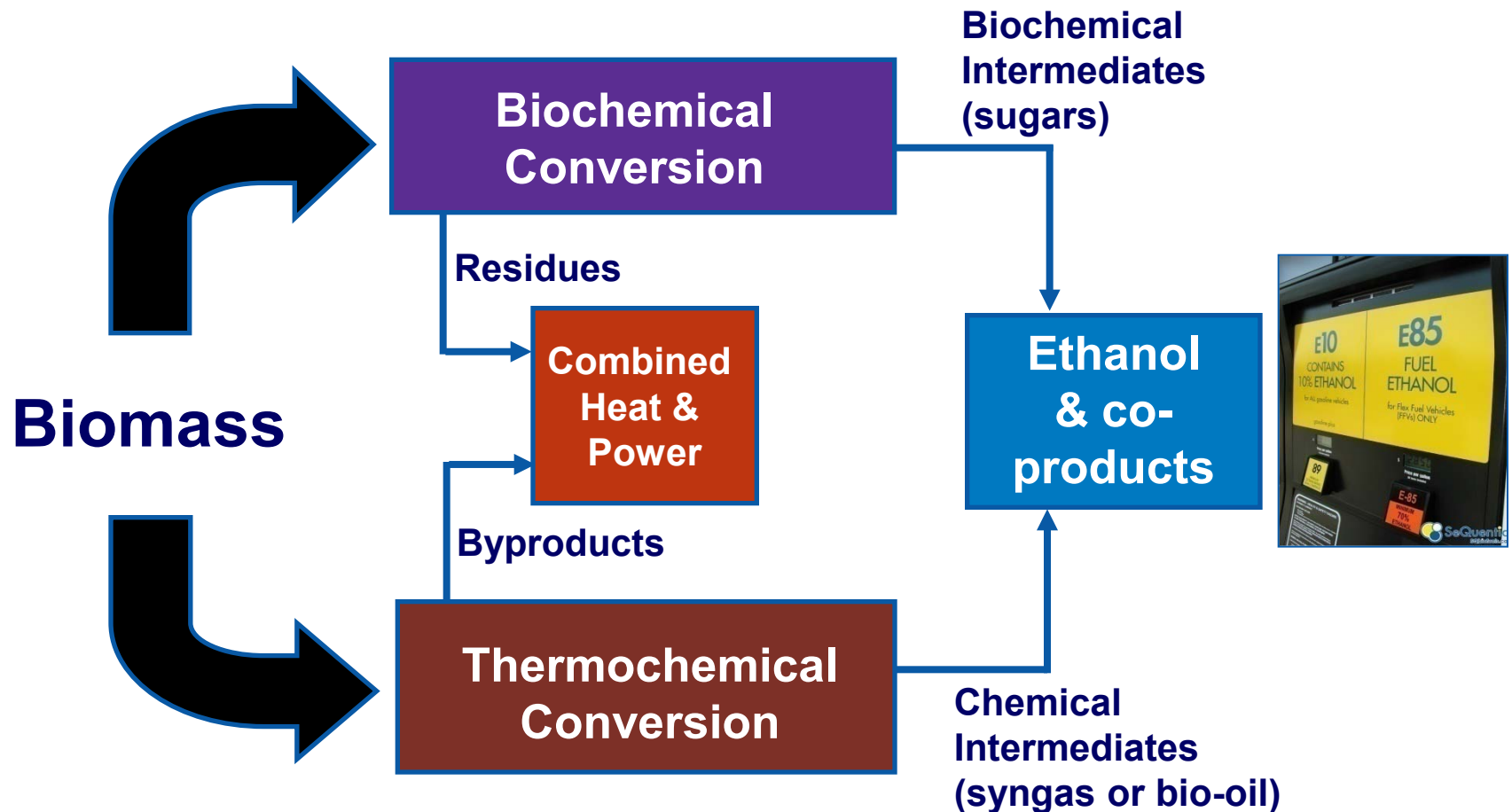
2 - Renewable Fuels Association,

all other information based on DOE and USDA sources

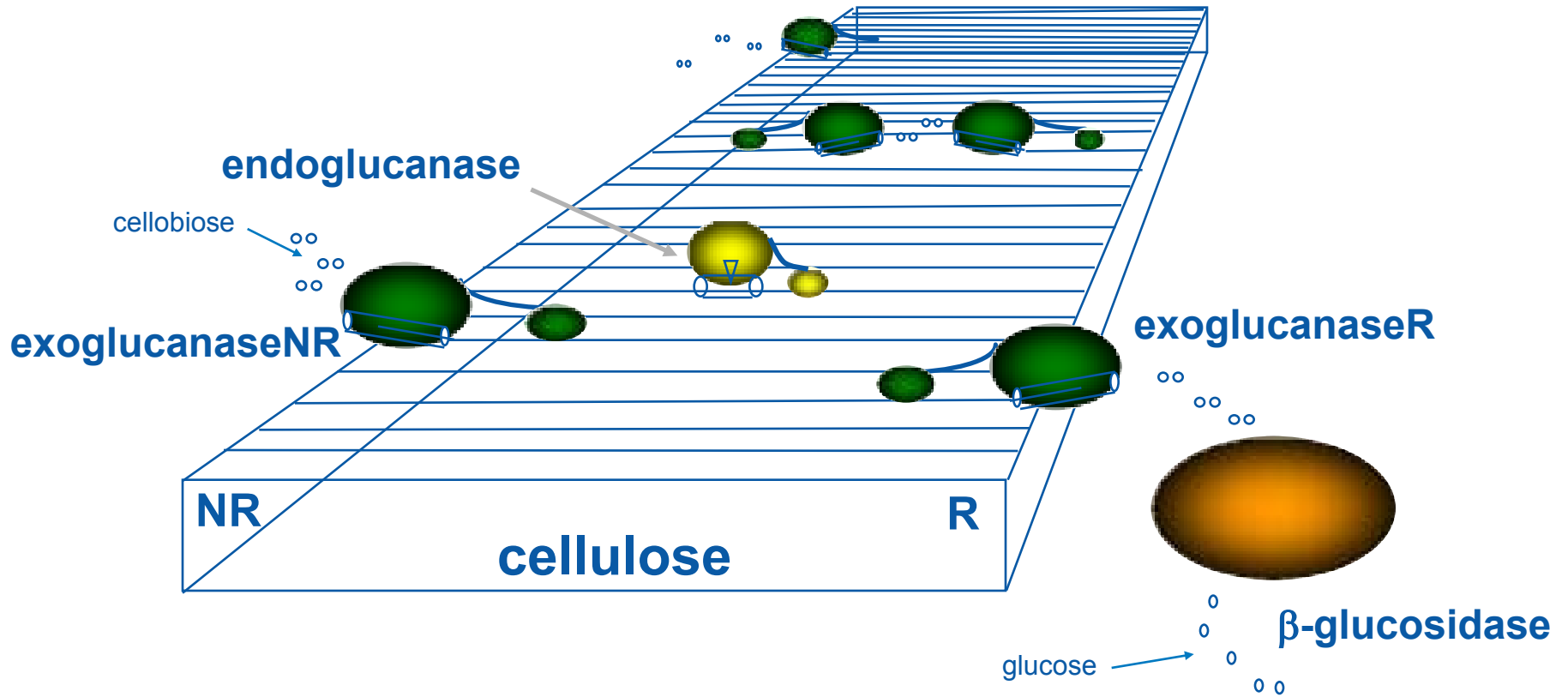


# Generation 2—Cellulosic Ethanol

**2nd generation**—from lignocellulosic biomass materials, primarily producing ethanol via biochemical or thermochemical conversion



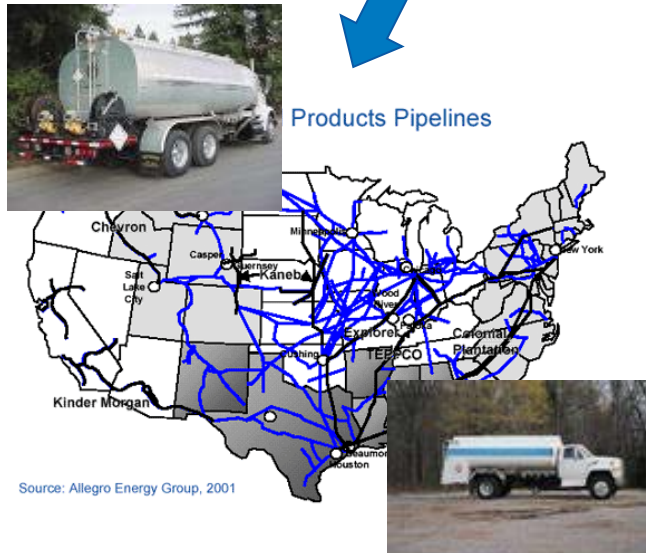
# Action of Fungal Cellulases



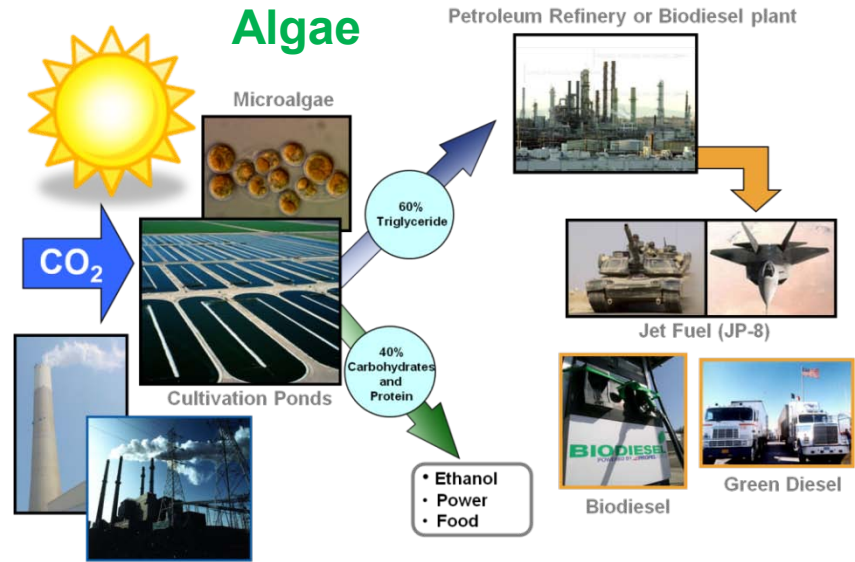
# Why Follow-On Generations?

## Advanced Biofuels – “beyond ethanol”

- Higher energy density/suitability
- Better temp and cold start ability
- Energy and tailored feedstocks
- Infrastructure compatibility



Products Pipelines



# Sustainable Transportation





# Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEV)

## Status:

- PHEV-only conversion vehicles available
- OEMs building prototypes, and several about to come to showrooms
- NREL PHEV Test Bed

## NREL Research Thrusts

- Energy storage
- Advanced power electronics
- Vehicle ancillary loads reduction
- Vehicle thermal management
- Utility interconnection
- Vehicle-to-grid

## Key Challenges

- Energy storage – life and cost
- Utility impacts
- Vehicle cost
- Recharging locations
- Tailpipe emissions/cold starts
- Cabin heating/cooling
- ~33% put cars in garage

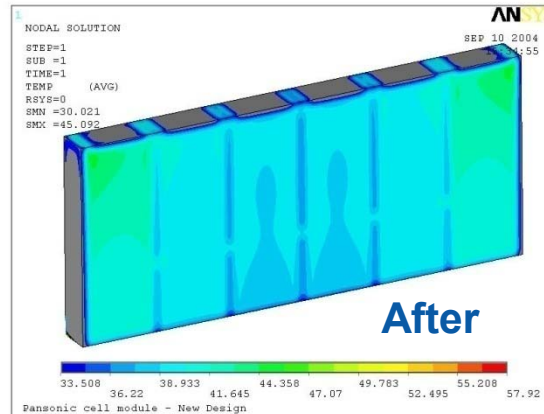
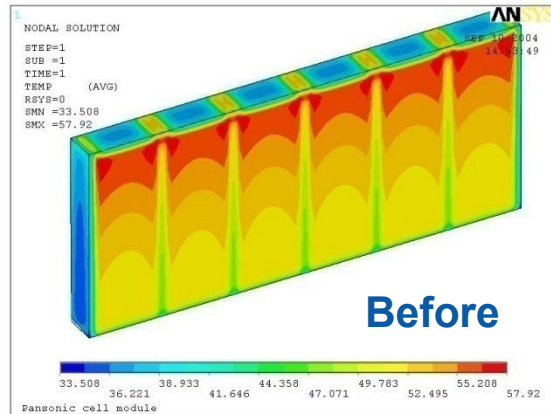


# Advanced Vehicle Technologies

## Energy Storage



Batteries & UltraCaps



## Advanced Power Electronics



## Vehicle Ancillary Loads Reduction



# Hydrogen and Fuel Cells



# Fuel Cells and Hydrogen

## U.S. Status

- 400+ fuel cell vehicles on the road
- > 60 hydrogen fueling stations

## 2015 Goals

### Hydrogen Production

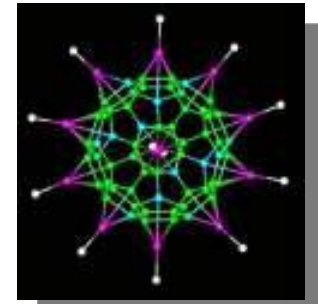
- \$2-3/Kg for all pathways
- Renewables in \$5-10/Kg range

### Fuel Cells

- \$30/kW for transportation fuel cells
- 5,000 hour stack life

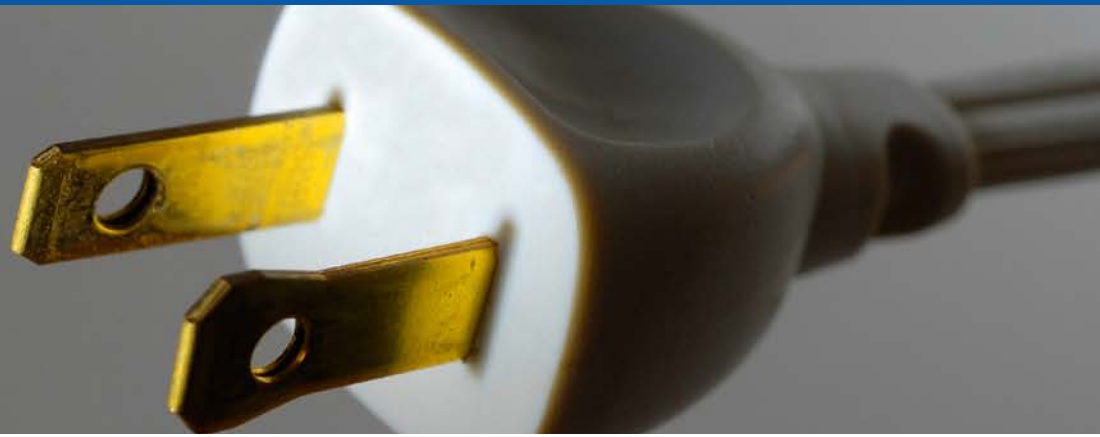
## NREL Research Thrusts

- Renewable H<sub>2</sub> production
- Fuel Cell
- Safety/codes/standards
- Early market introduction



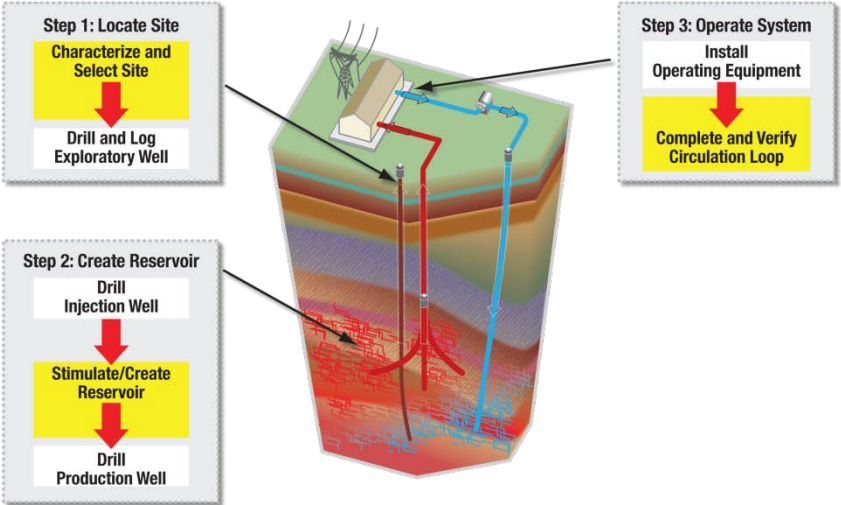
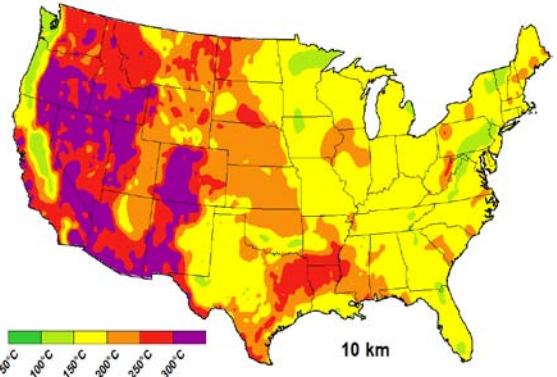


# New Directions



# Evaluating Potential New Directions

## Enhanced Geothermal Systems



## Ocean Kinetic Energy



Tidal

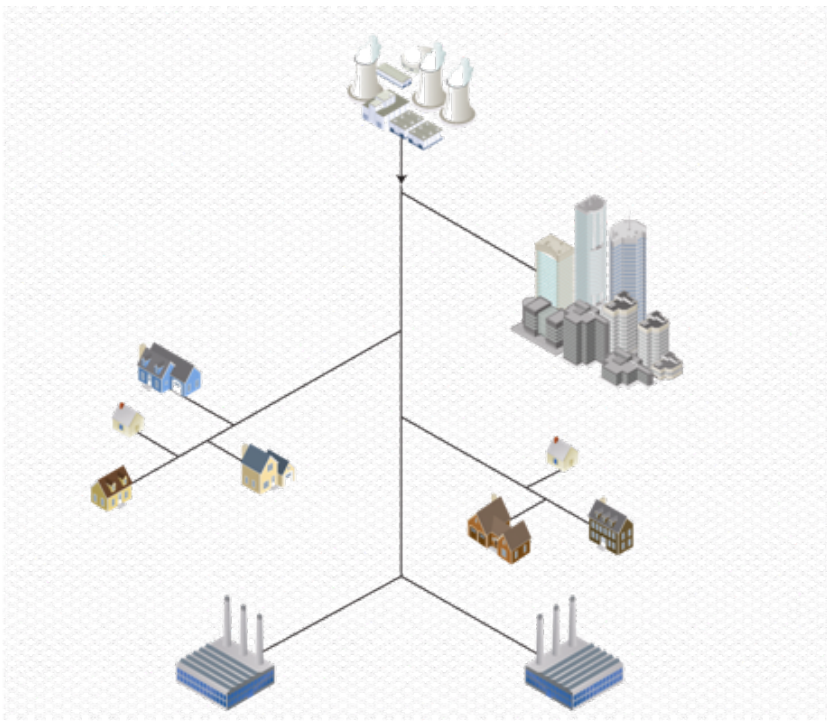


Pelamis—Ocean Power Delivery

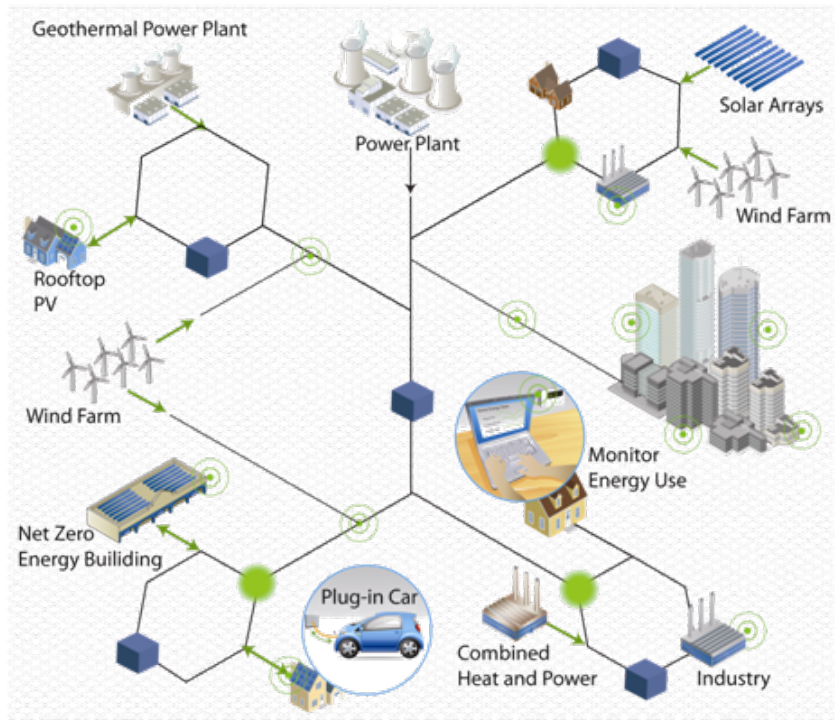
Verdant—Power RITE Turbine

# Smart Grid – Renewable Energy Integration in Systems at All Scales

## Today



## Future



- Smart Grid Energy Sensors
- Smart Substation
- Energy Pulled From or Added to the Grid
- Energy Storage

# An Integrated Approach is Required





# Making Transformational Change



The opportunity for making renewable energy transformational change is now before us as a solution to a global crisis.

**We must seize the moment.**

2009 IN REVIEW

# Laboratory of the Future – Research Support Facility

