

# A Modern Electric Grid for Meeting Renewable Energy Goals

***Energy Security: Keeping the Power On***  
**AEE SoCal ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2011**

**September 22, 2011**

**Southern California Gas Company Energy Resource Center**

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***University of California***

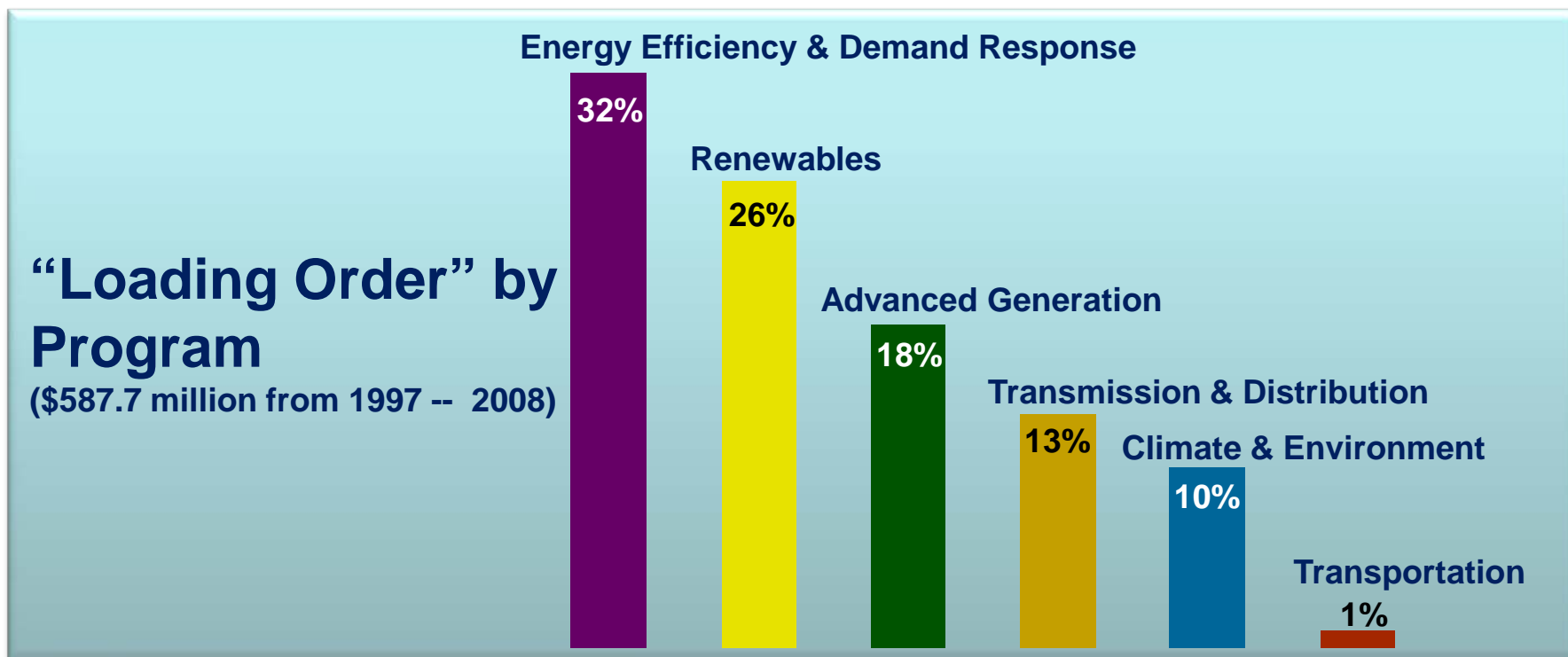


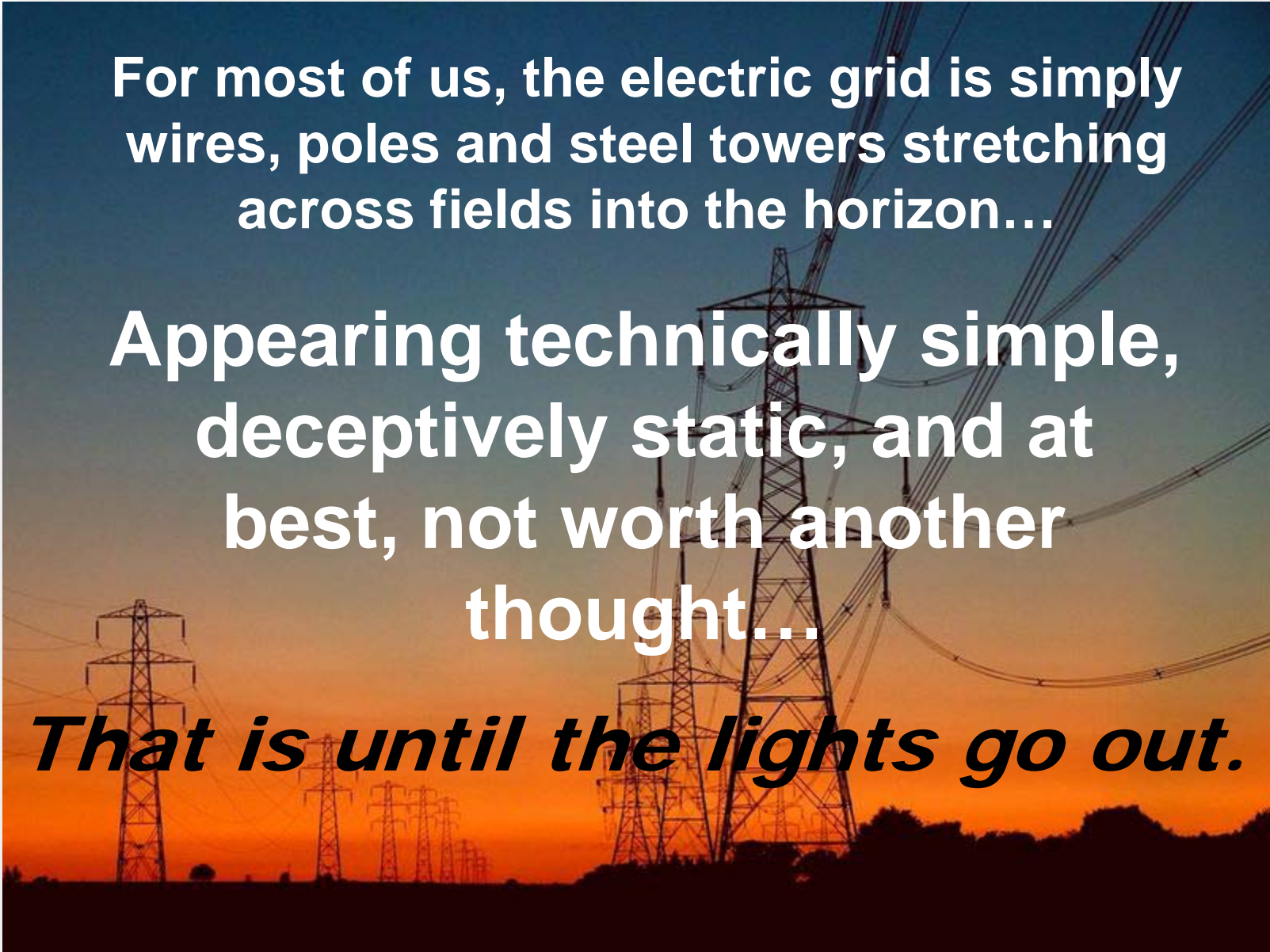
*This presentation is based in part on work sponsored by the California Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) program administered by the California Energy Commission; it does not necessarily represent the views of, nor has it been approved or disapproved by, the Energy Commission.*

# PIER Program Overview & Investment Strategy



- IOU Ratepayer Funded Program, launched 1997, AB1890
- \$86.5 Million FY 10/11 (\$62.5 million electric; \$24 million natural gas)





For most of us, the electric grid is simply wires, poles and steel towers stretching across fields into the horizon...

Appearing technically simple, deceptively static, and at best, not worth another thought...

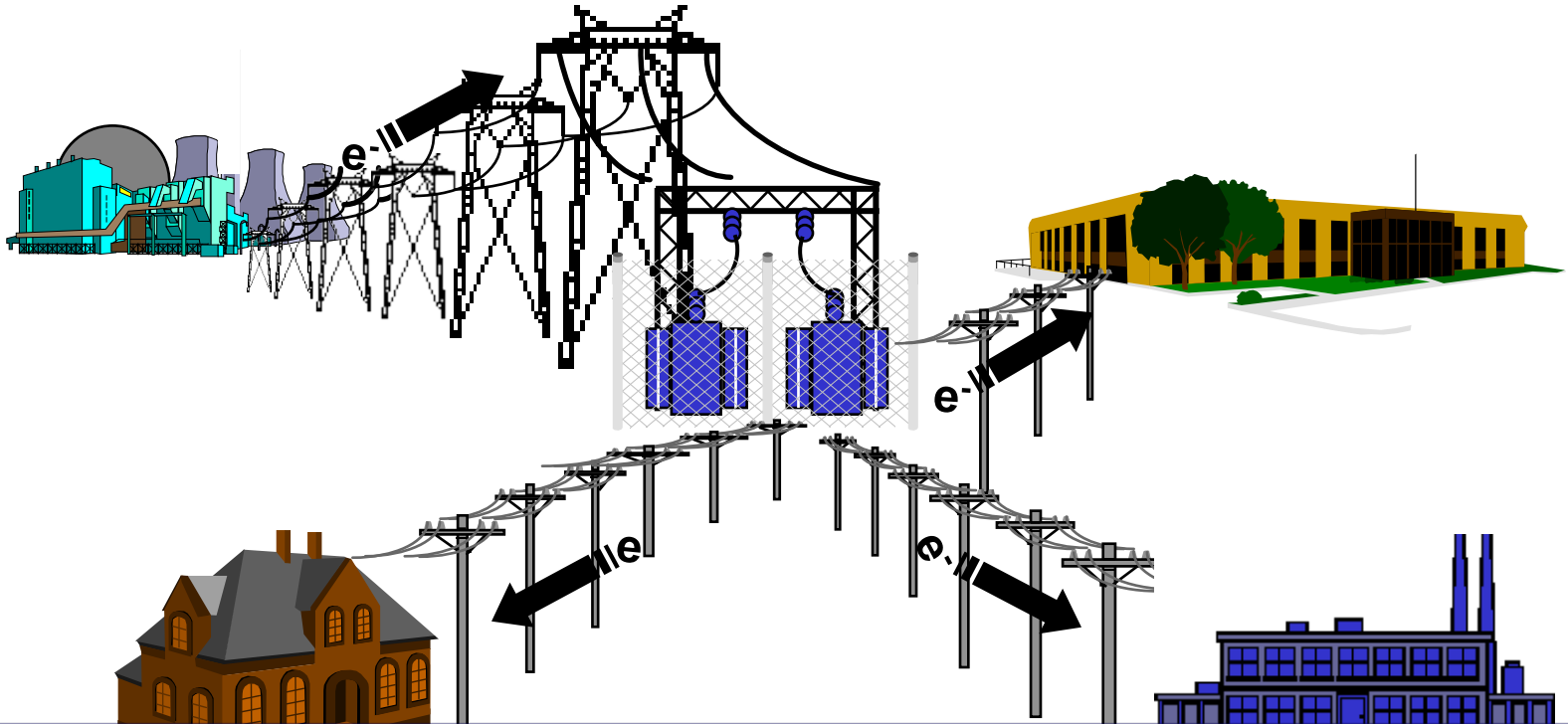
*That is until the lights go out.*

**Power outages are expensive, a threat to human health, safety, and welfare, and to national security, and just plain inconvenient.**



**The 21<sup>st</sup> Century grid faces new, unprecedented challenges that threaten to increase the risk of power outages or higher costs, unless it is modernized.**

*For most of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the electric grid had a relatively simple role: moving electricity from central power plants to the consumers.*



*Its behavior was predictable, and under the close control of an operator - much like conducting an orchestra. ♪ ♪ ♪*

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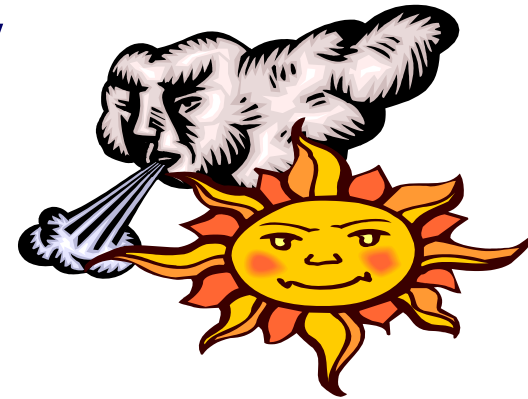
# But conducting the 21<sup>st</sup> Century electric grid is becoming hair raising:



- One of the world's largest machines, i.e., a multi-state, multi-country, brittle power delivery network
- Accommodating competitive power markets
- Serving growing and changing electric customer base that is becoming part of the “orchestra”
- Dealing with economic and public policy pressures

***Being instrumental for meeting aggressive renewable energy goals***

# California's Renewable Energy Goals



- **Renewable generation to equal:**
  - 20% of retail sales Dec. 31, 2013
  - 25% by Dec. 31, 2016
  - 33% by Dec. 31, 2020
- **20,000 MW of new renewable capacity by 2020**
  - 8,000 MW utility-scale renewables
  - 12,000 MW of renewable distributed generation

***California's Renewables Portfolio Standard is one of the most aggressive in the US.***

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Source: 2011. *Staff Draft Report on Renewable Power in California: Status and Issues*. California Energy Commission, August 2011, Publication No. CEC-150-2011-002.

# Why Such “Ambitious” Renewable Energy Goals?

When signing the California Renewable Energy Resources Act, Senate Bill (SB 2), April 2011, Governor Brown noted:

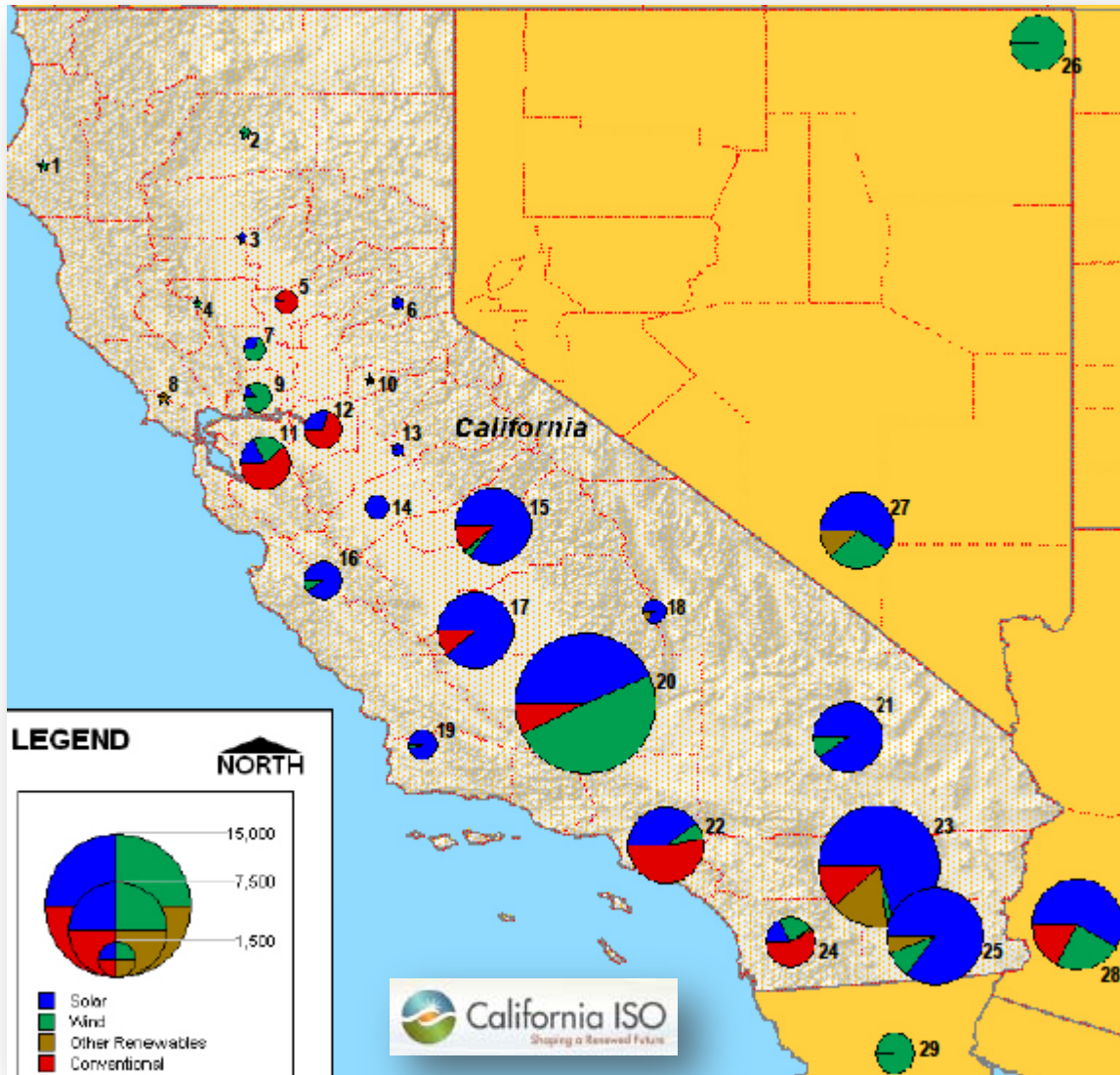
*"This bill will bring many important benefits to California, including stimulating **investment in green technologies** in the state, creating tens of thousands of **new jobs**, improving **local air quality**, promoting **energy independence**, and **reducing greenhouse gas emissions**."*

Source: California Energy Commission website, <http://www.energy.ca.gov/renewables/history.html>

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# Renewable Projects in the CAISO Queue



*Made up mostly of variable wind and solar resources.*

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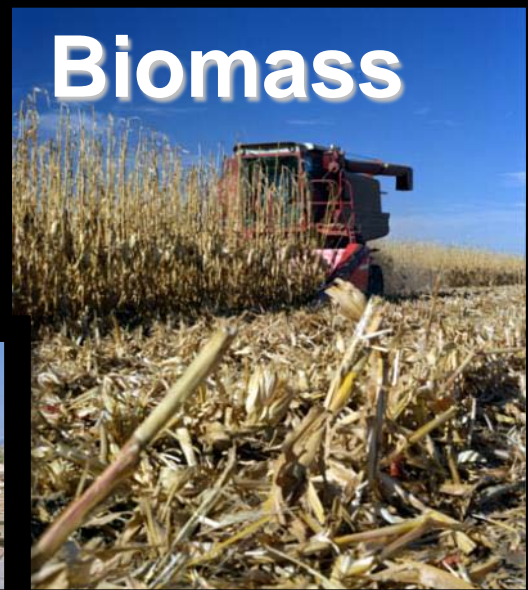
Source: CAISO, *Briefing on Generation Interconnection Trends*, June 13-14, 2011 <http://www.caiso.com/2bba/2bba799624040.pdf>

# By 2020 the public might see this...

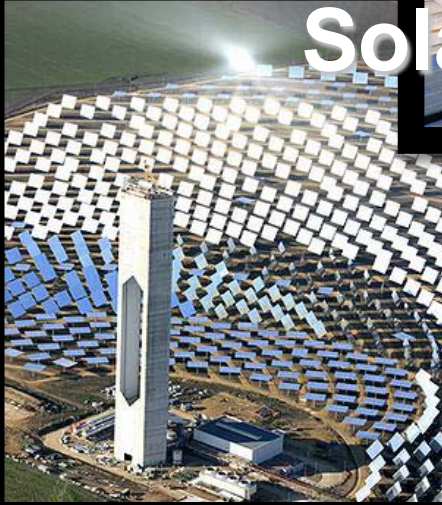
Wind



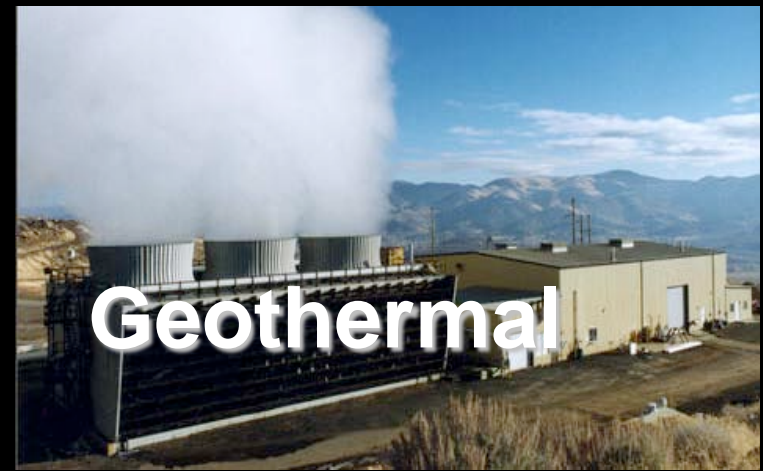
Biomass



Solar



Geothermal



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**But to grid operators, 33% renewables  
looks more like this...**



**To better understand, let's explore...**

***The Saga of Renewable Generation  
and Grid Integration.***

# *The Saga of Renewable Generation and Grid Integration*

**Most central station renewable generation will be located remote from customers.**

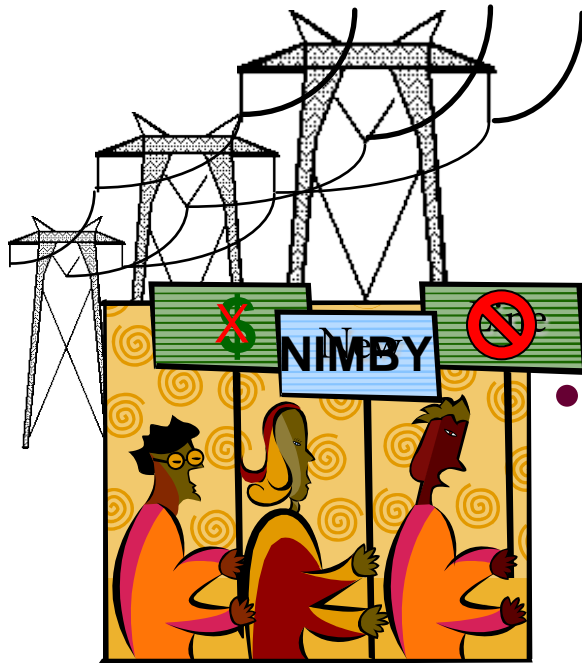
**Grid must provide access.**

***Line extensions must be built to the power plants, but siting and permitting new transmission lines are becoming difficult.***



**HIGH WINDS**

# Environmental impacts and financial concerns are biggest barriers to new transmission lines



- **Permitting and Siting**
  - Aesthetic impacts
  - Environmental and land use impacts
  - Getting approval from multiple agencies and jurisdictions
- **Planning and Cost Recovery**
  - Proving need and value
  - Identifying benefits & allocating costs

*Delays can reduce reliability and economic efficiencies, and create barriers to meeting renewable generation policy goals.*

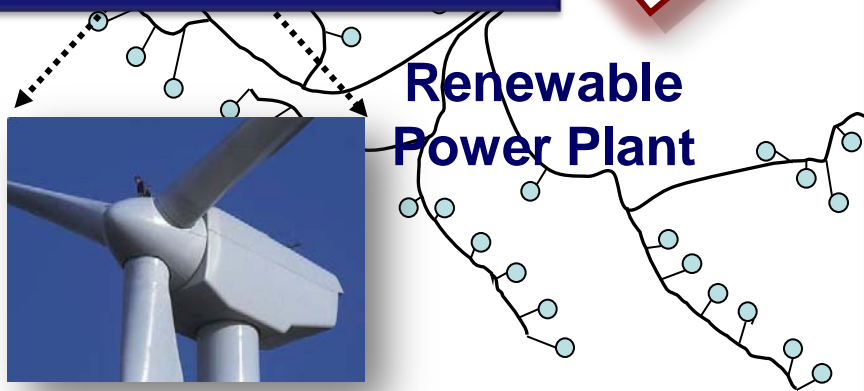
# Continuing *The Saga of Renewable Generation and Grid Integration*

Some renewables exhibit unique behaviors, for which the grid was not designed and the operator is ill equipped.

**Grid must accommodate.**

*Some unique behaviors are:*

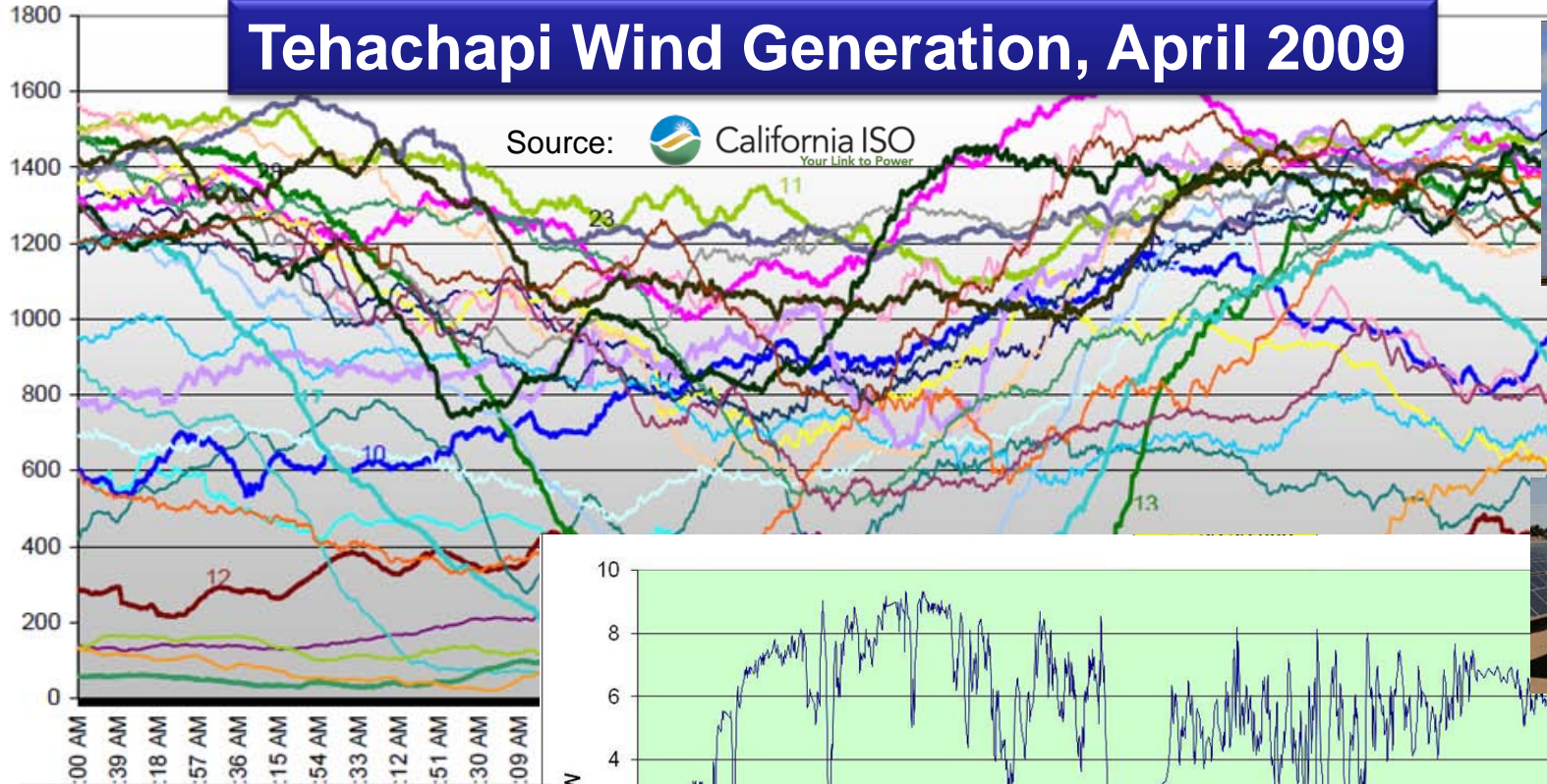
- *Variability & Unpredictability*
- *Fast Ramp-Rates*
- *Over Supply*
- *Low Inertia*



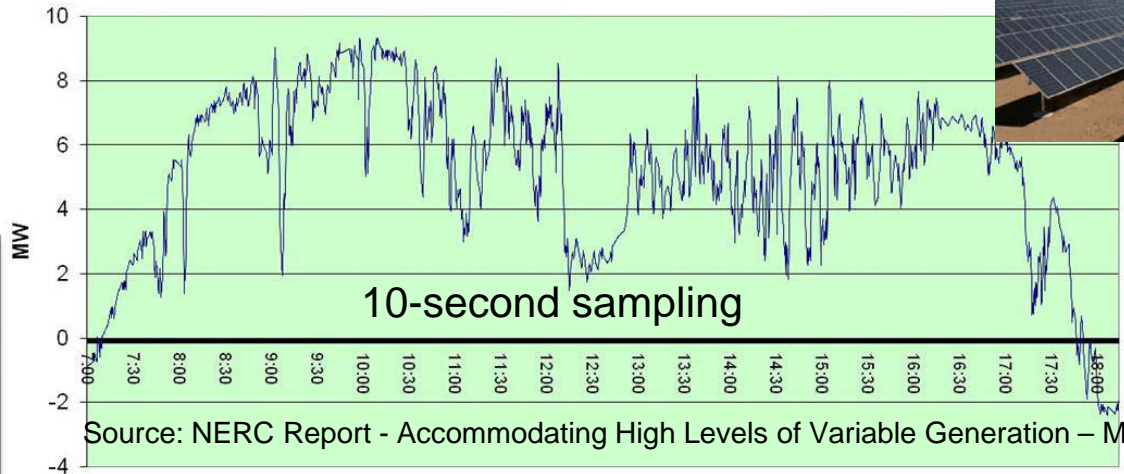
# Wind and Solar can vary widely by the hour, and be a challenge to predict day to day.

## Tehachapi Wind Generation, April 2009

Source:  California ISO  
Your Link to Power

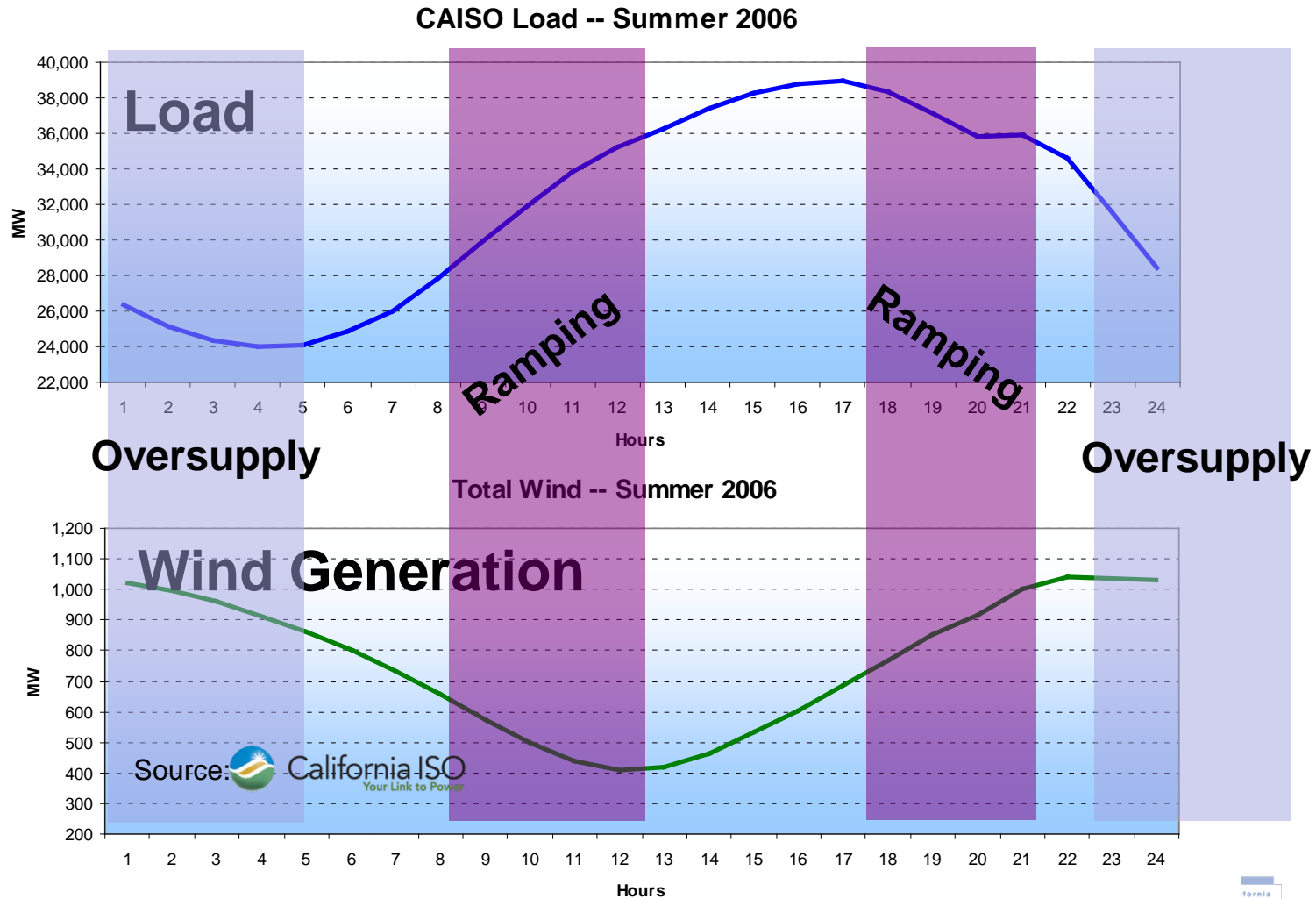


**PV output on partly cloudy day in NV**



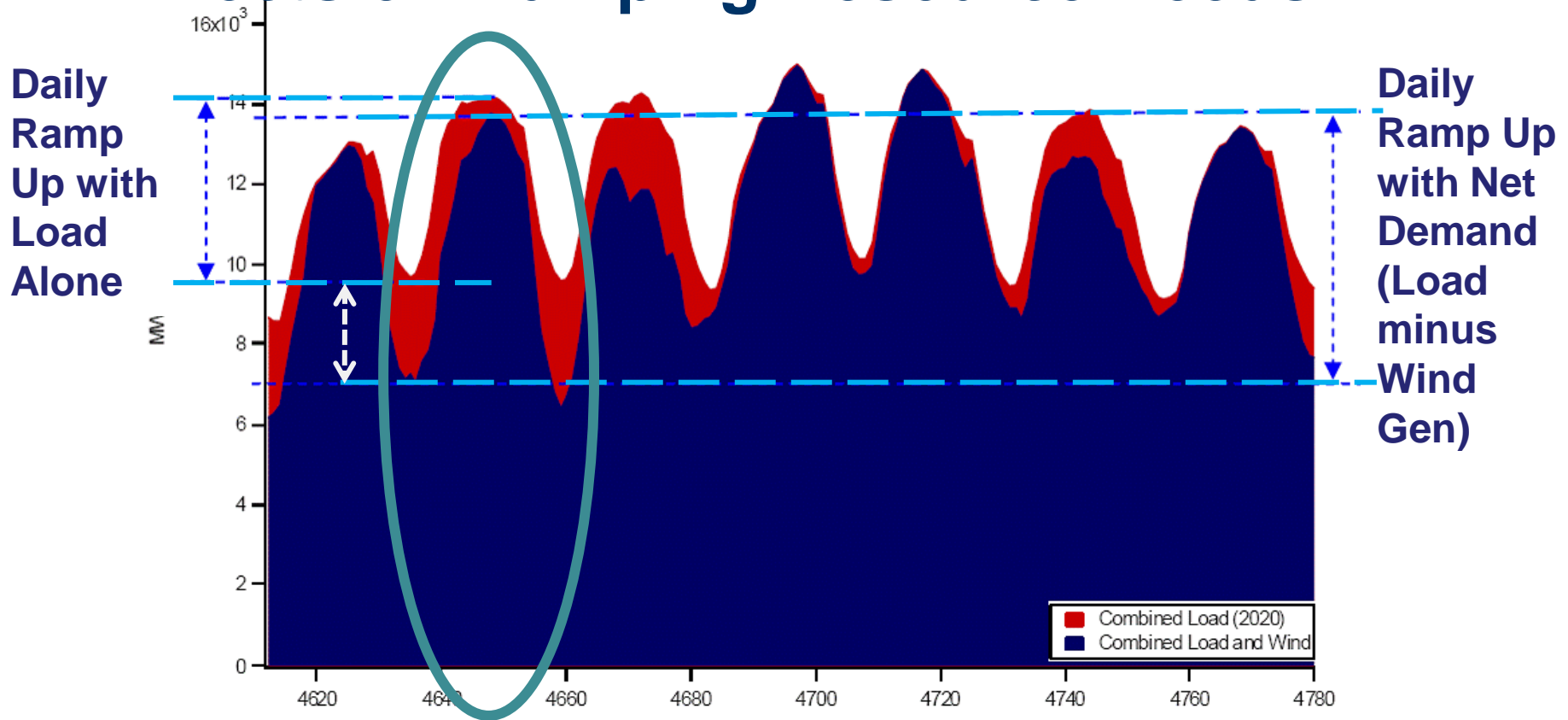
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# Typical load & wind profiles are almost inverse, creating oversupply and ramping challenges.





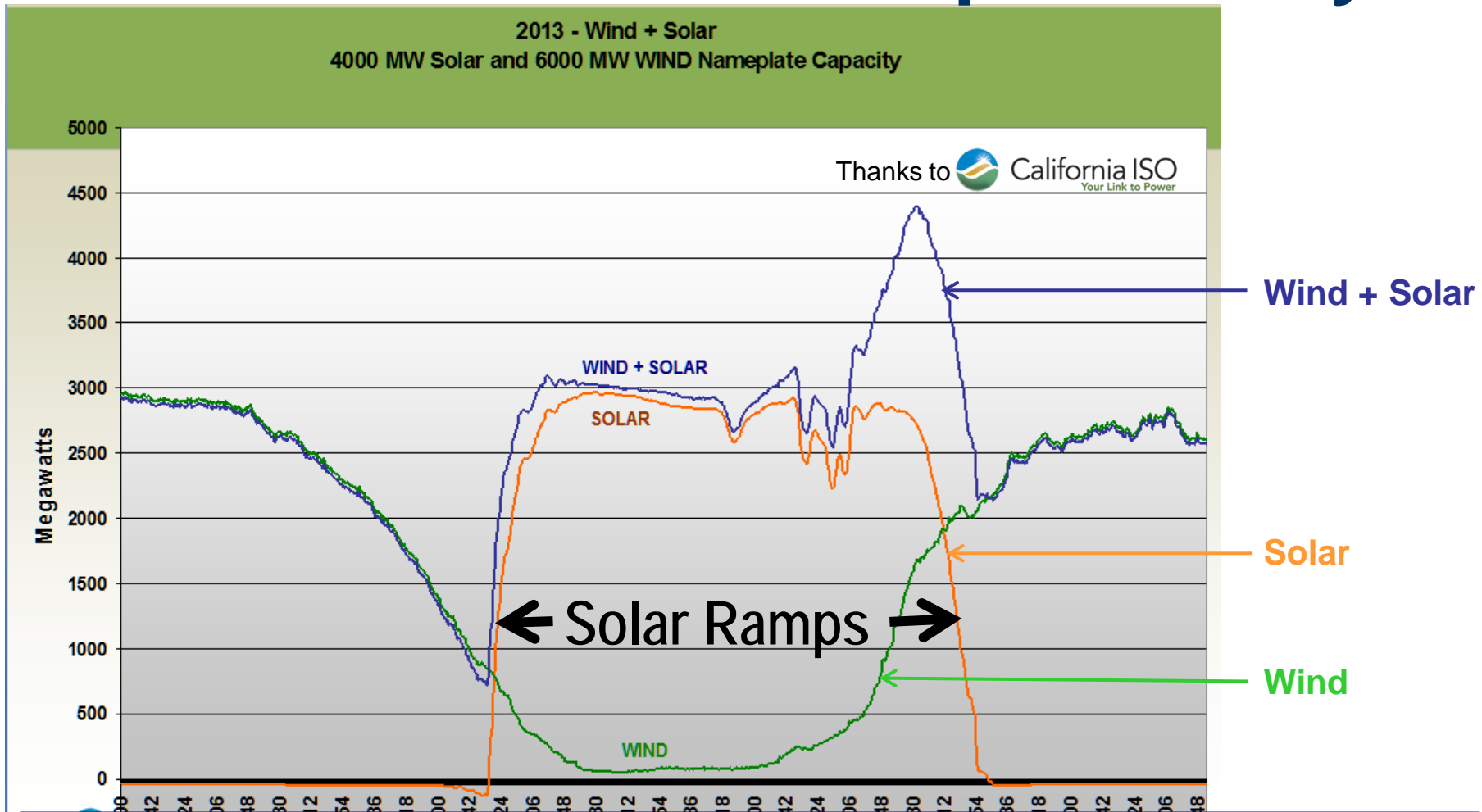
# Power Profiles with and w/o Wind Show Effects on Ramping Resource Needs



***~2,500 MW of new dispatchable generation required for ramping.***

Source: NERC Report - Accommodating High Levels of Variable Generation – March 2009

# Wind + Solar seem complementary...



***...But wind and solar generation combined appear to make ramping worse.***

# Renewable integration analyses agree that additional ancillary services will be needed.

**CAISO**



**NYISO**



**ERCOT**



**NREL**



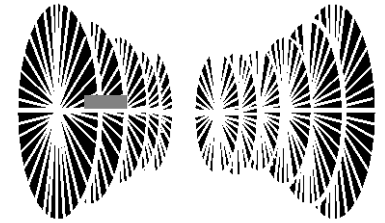
**SPP**



- Increased need for regulation, spinning reserves, and load-following
- Steeper system ramping requirements
- More frequent and serious over-generation events
- Less efficient dispatch of conventional resources
- Suppressed energy market prices

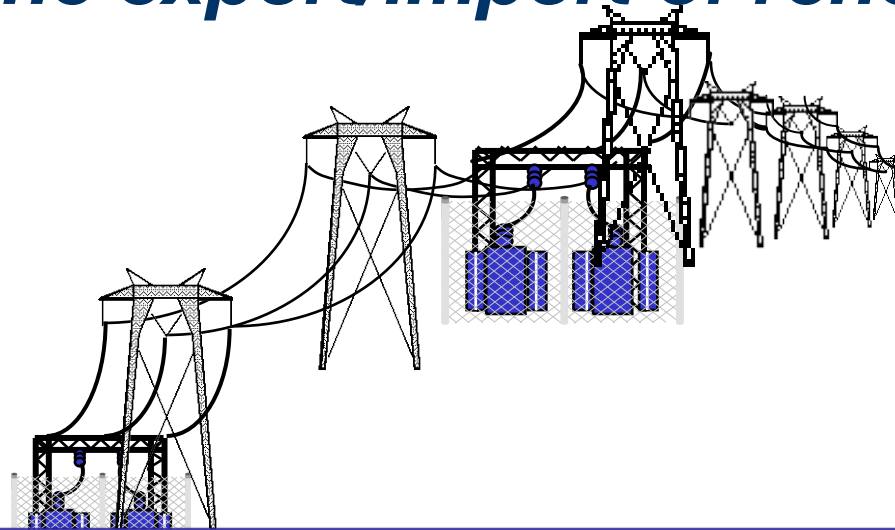
# *The power grid is designed and operated under the influence of inherent inertia.*

- The rotational mass of the turbine-generators in traditional (thermal) power plants create inherent inertia in the grid.
- Some renewables exhibit traditional inertia because they use turbines.
- But wind and some solar power plants exhibit little or no inertia.



***A growing concern is that increasing renewable deployment will reduce inertia, causing grid instabilities to worsen.***

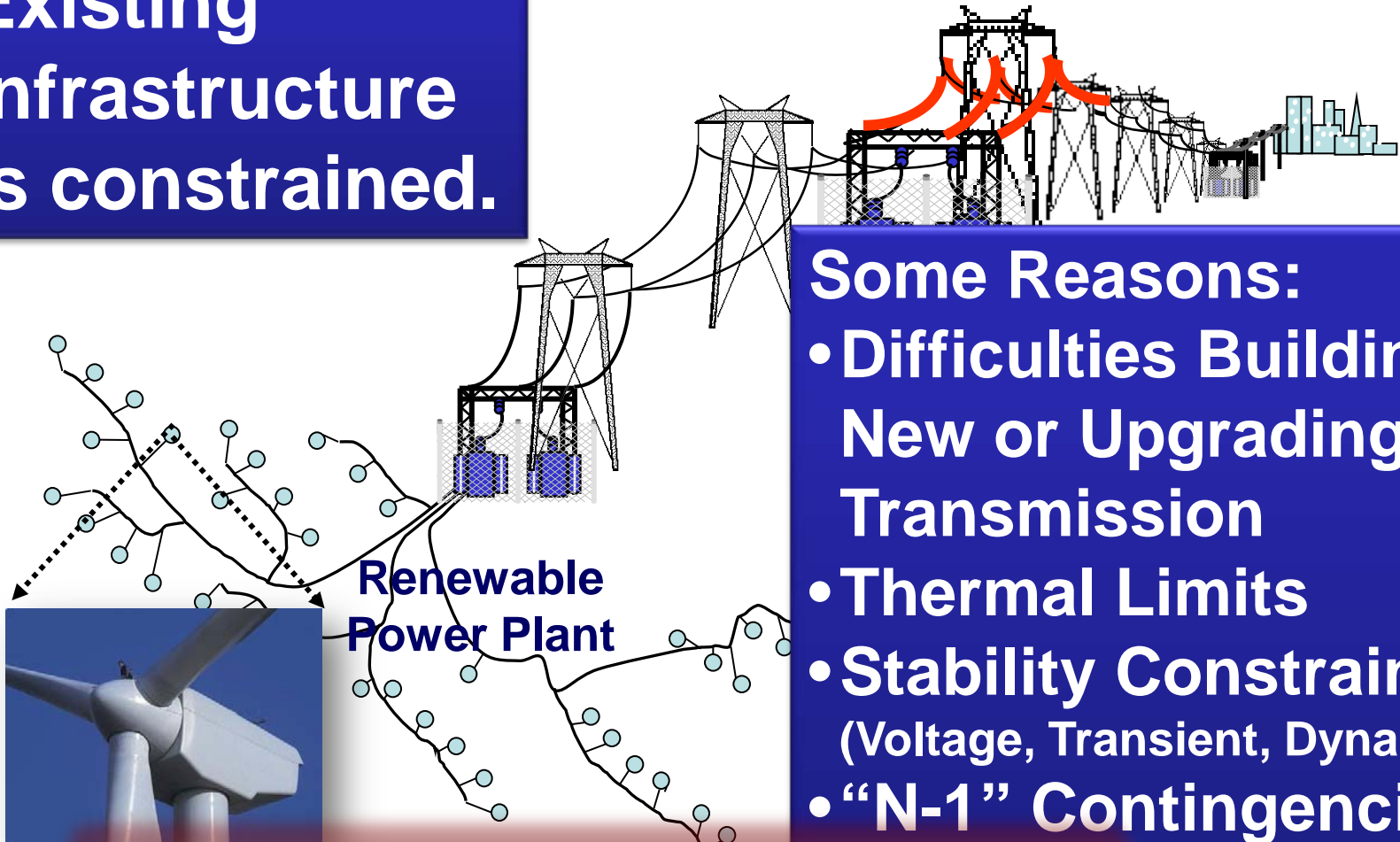
***Western transmission deratings of 1000s of MW, put into practice to reduce threats to reliability from grid instabilities, are already costing millions of dollars a year, and restricting the export/import of renewable power.***



***Will high penetrations of wind and solar force even higher deratings or risks to grid reliability?  
Can lower inertia be exploited to benefit grid stability?***

# Continuing The Saga of Renewable Generation and Grid Integration

**Existing infrastructure is constrained.**

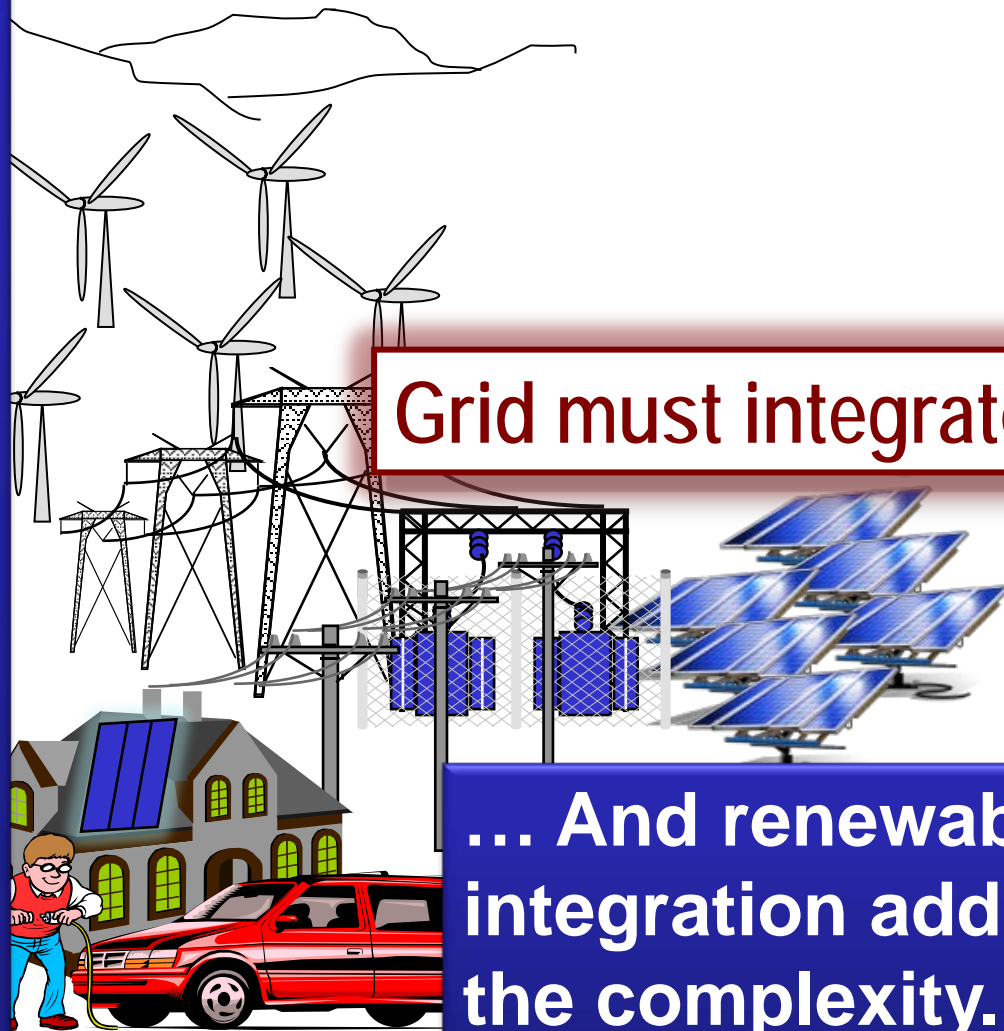


- Some Reasons:**
- Difficulties Building New or Upgrading Transmission
  - Thermal Limits
  - Stability Constraints (Voltage, Transient, Dynamic)
  - “N-1” Contingencies

**Grid capacity must be increased.**

# Continuing the Saga of Renewable Generation and Grid Integration

At the distribution end of the grid, distributed generation integration offers a significant class of challenges...



Grid must integrate DG.

... And renewable DG integration adds to the complexity.

# While the technical effects of renewable DG are grid-wide, they tend to be felt most locally.

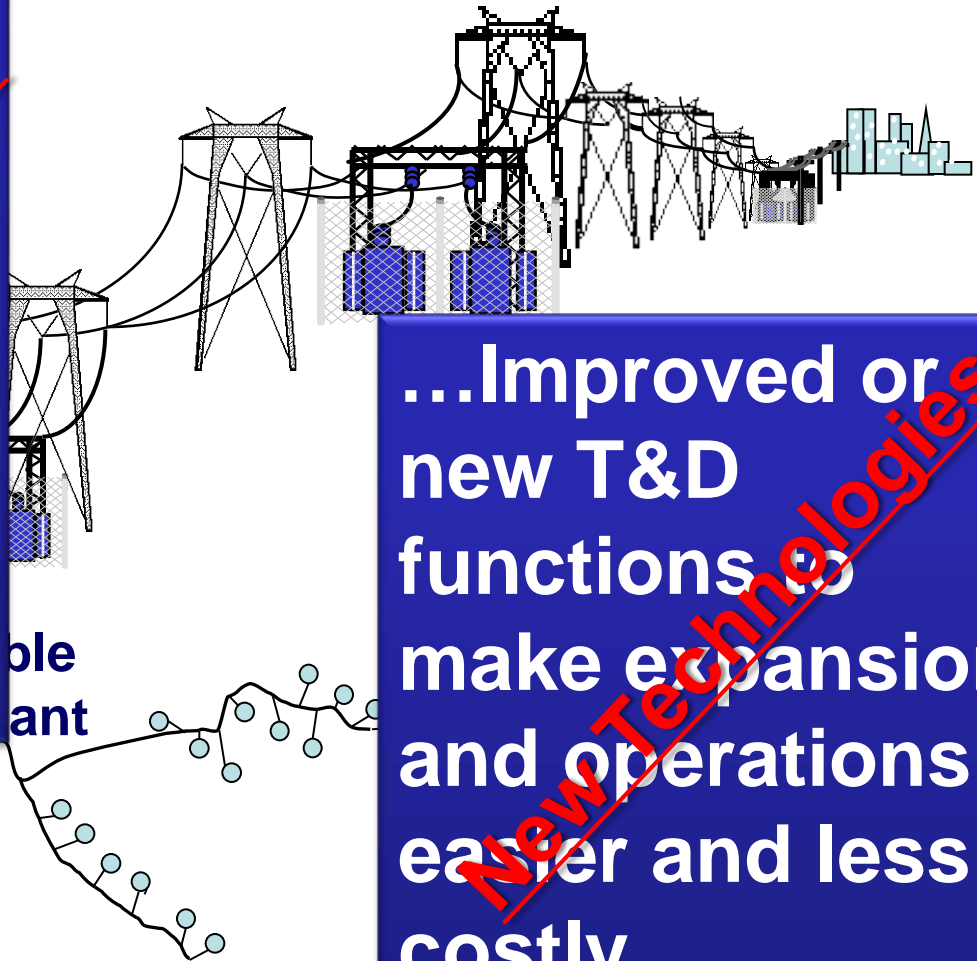
- **Clustering - uneven DG penetration**
- **Islanding/Safety**
  - preventing unintentional islanding
  - variable power quality and reliability
  - application of microgrid concept
- **Modeling - masking load with generation**
- **Transformers - local capacity limitations**
- **Protection**
  - back-feed (reverse power flow)
  - fault current contribution from DG
  - relay desensitization
- **Voltage regulation**
  - maintaining voltage in permissible range
  - voltage ride-through
  - wear on existing voltage regulation equipment
  - reactive power (VAR) support





# *There are essentially two options for successful expansion and operations of T&D:*

The traditional “build” solutions, i.e., investments in wires, towers, poles and power plants, and...



...Improved or new T&D functions to make expansion and operations easier and less costly.

**Assertions: For now we can “build” our way out of these problems, but at higher renewable penetrations...**

- ...traditional “build” solutions, i.e., investments in wires, towers and power plants, can’t do it alone.**
- New technologies will be needed to make renewable integration easier and less costly...**

**...especially technologies that make the grid smarter.**

# New technologies needed to...

Provide faster access for new renewable plant  
*... by putting new power lines in a better light.*

Accommodate renewable & distributed  
generator behaviors

*... by making the grid smarter and more  
flexible.*

Increase grid power capacity

*... by optimizing the grid for greater power  
flow.*

**Technologies come in many flavors:  
hardware, communications, and analytics.**

# Putting New Power Lines in a Better “Light”



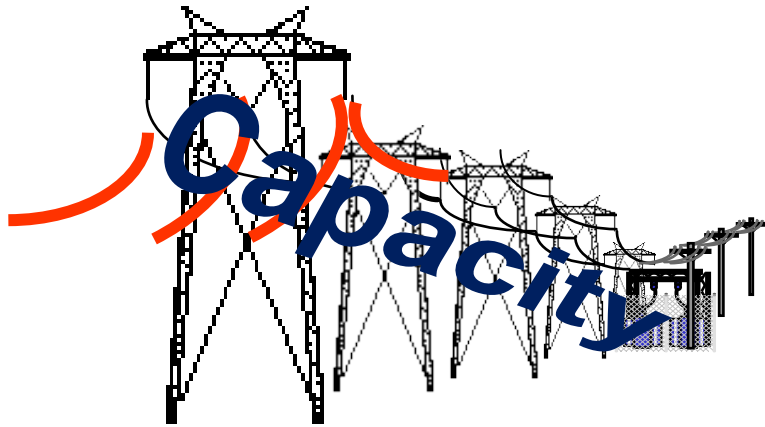
- Aesthetics - Reduce or eliminate T&D visual footprint
  - Compact Corridors
  - Underground Transmission
  - Distributed Renewables & Demand Response
- Values - Improve the benefit/cost via more knowledge, insight and transparency
  - Web-based Interactive Stakeholder Siting Tools
  - Cost Allocation & Strategic Benefit Analysis Tools

# *A Smarter, More Flexible Grid*



- **Situation Awareness**
  - **Wide-Area, Real-Time Monitoring**
  - **Visualization**
  - **“Smart Meters”**
  - **Telemetry**
- **Planning & Forecasting**
  - **Solar and Wind Forecasting Tools**
  - **Generator and Load Modeling**
  - **Statistical/Probabilistic Planning Tools**
- **Control**
  - **Energy Storage (temporal power flow control)**
  - **Ancillary Services Devices**
  - **Advanced Power Electronics**
  - **Advanced Intelligent Protection Systems**
  - **Demand Response**
  - **Distributed Generation (non-variable, variable)**

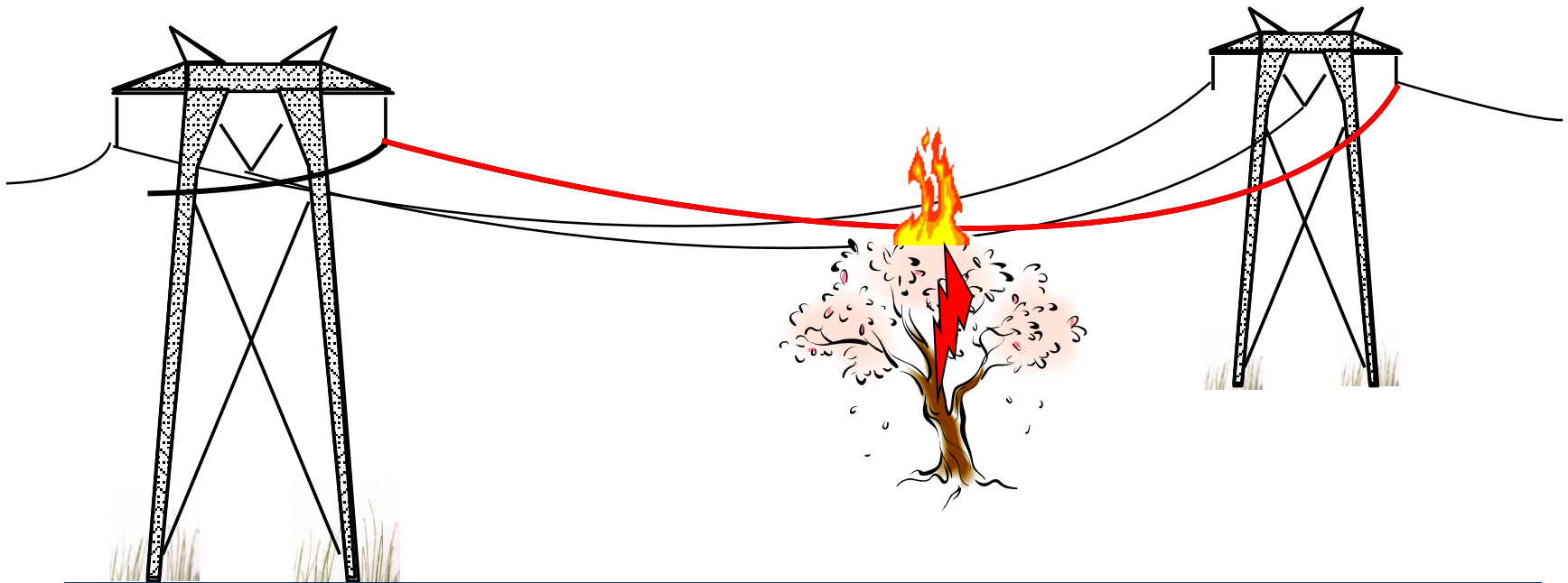
# *Optimizing the Grid for Greater Power Flow*



- **Situation Awareness**
  - **Dynamic Thermal Ratings**
  - **Wide-Area, Real-Time Monitoring**
  - **Visualization**
  - **“Smart Meters”**
- **Planning & Forecasting**
  - **Statistical & Probabilistic Planning Tools**
- **Control**
  - **Energy Storage**
  - **Power Flow Control (spatial)**
  - **Ancillary Services Devices**
  - **Advanced Intelligent Protection Systems**
  - **Advanced Fast, High-bandwidth Communications and Computations**
  - **Demand Response**
  - **Distributed Generation**
- **Physical Plant**
  - **Advanced Transmission Line Conductors and Designs**
  - **Advanced Grid Components**
  - **Fault Current Controllers**

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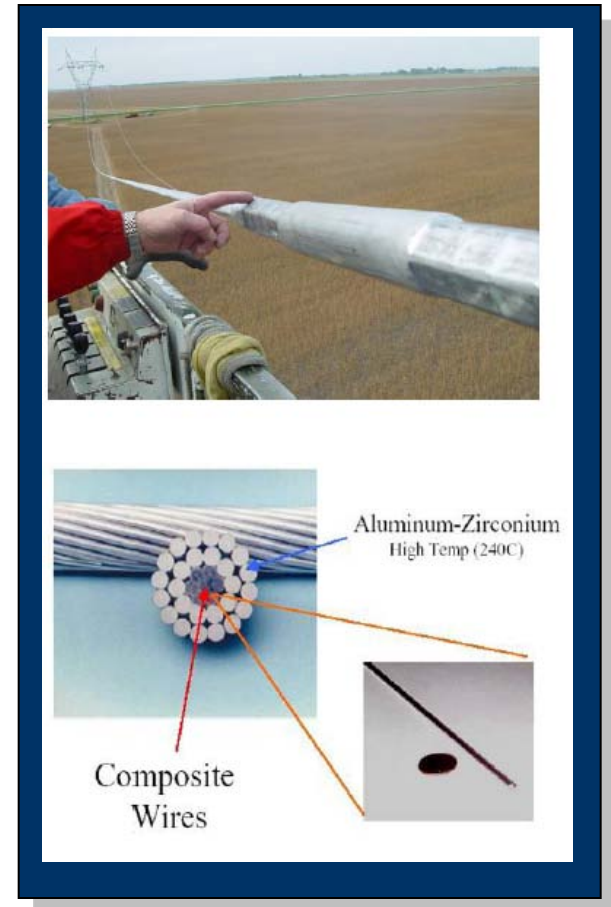
# Transmission capacity limited by high line temperatures caused by $I^2R$ .



High temperatures can damage line material or cause line to sag too low, creating safety hazards and/or outages.

# Example: Increase Capacity of Transmission Corridors via New Line Materials.

- **High-Temperature, Low-Sag Conductors: New composite core materials replace steel.**
- **> 2X power flow through transmission corridor.**
- **Upgrade transmission conductor without rebuilding transmission towers**
- **3M's version being tested at San Diego Gas and Electric.**



**3M High-Temperature  
Low-Sag Conductor**





# Example: Accommodate Renewable Generation Unique Behaviors via Modeling

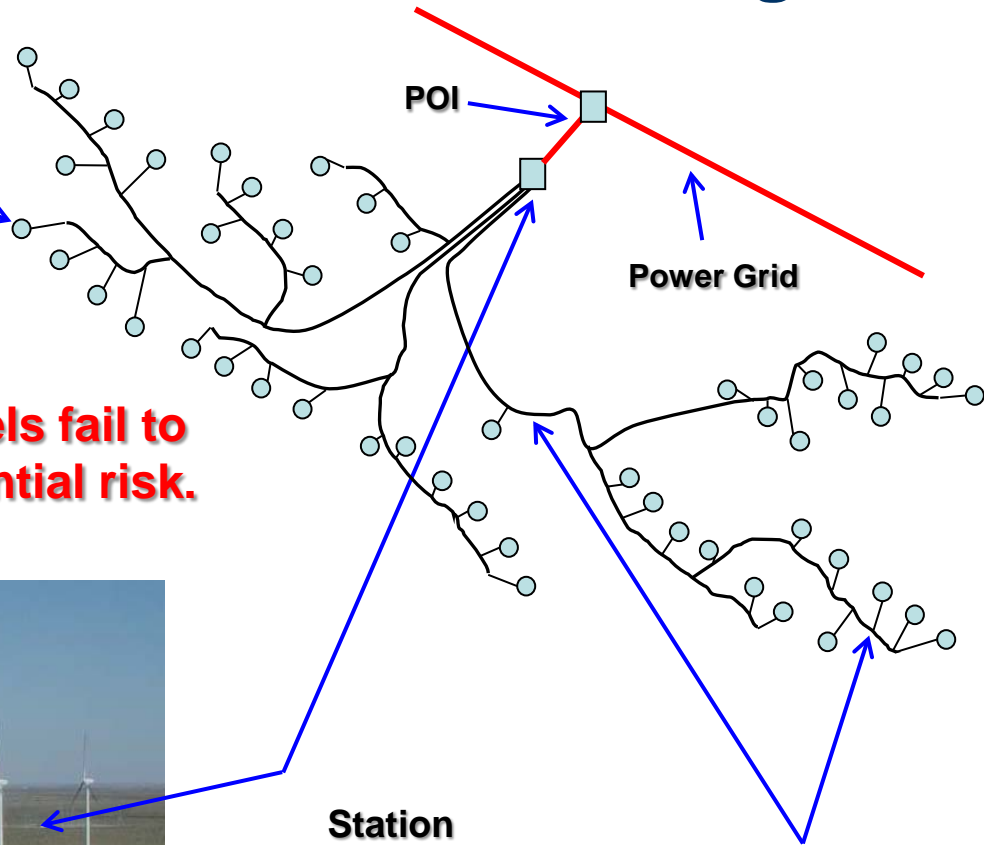
Individual wind turbines have specific dynamic model based on technology type.

**Invalid models fail to predict potential risk.**



**Updating dynamic wind power plant models reduces chances of grid problems.**

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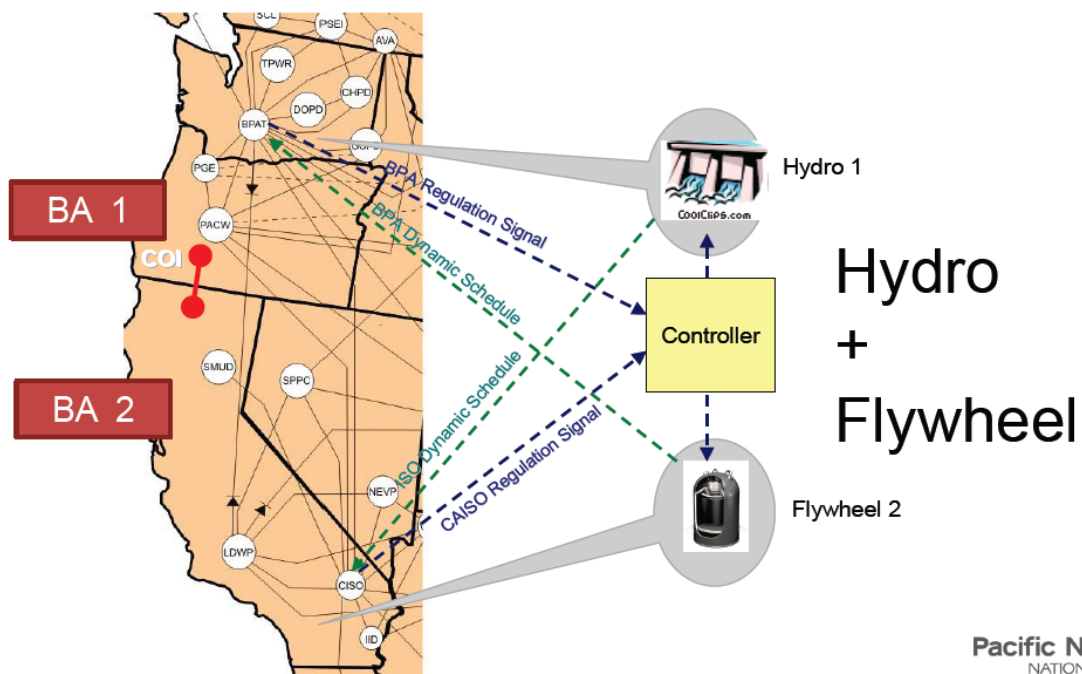
**Station transformer is where the individual wind turbines come together as a power plant**

**Collector system with several overhead and underground feeders**

# Example: Accommodate Renewable Generation Unique Behaviors via Energy Storage

## Wide Area Energy Storage Management System (WAEMS)

A WAEMS is a **centralized** control system that operates energy storage devices (ESDs) located in different places to provide energy and ancillary services that can be **shared** among balancing authorities (BAs).



*Combined flywheel/hydro resources shared between 2 control areas effectively ... reduced total regulation requirements by ~\$220M/yr. in 2020 w/33% renewables. (PNNL)*



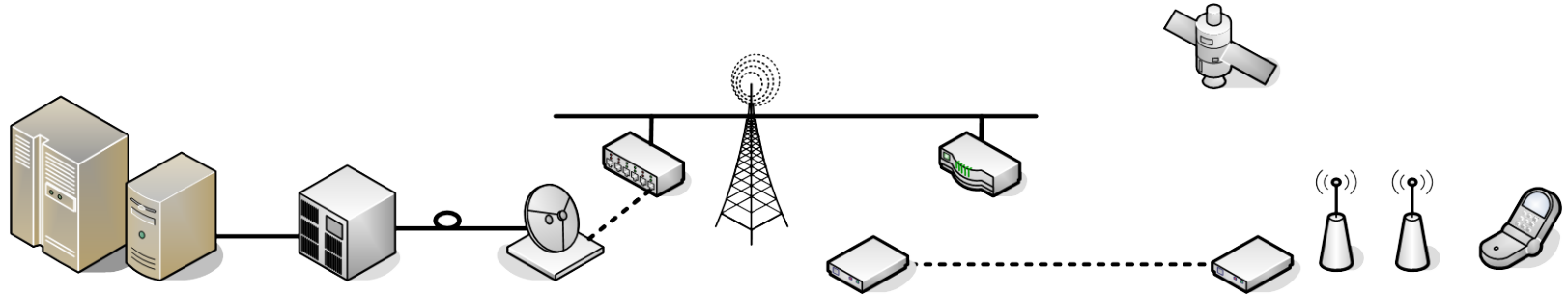
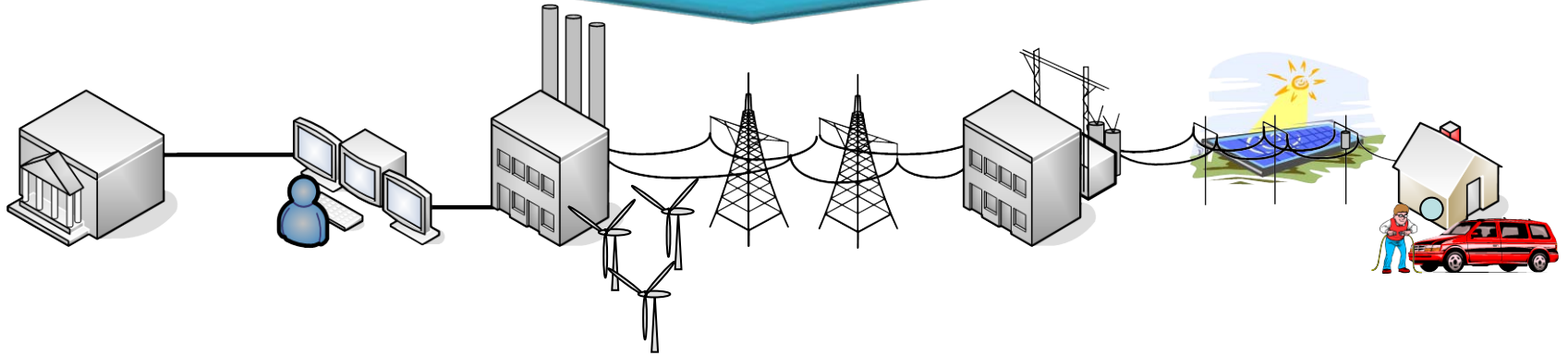
Proudly Operated by Battelle Since 1965

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# Example: Accommodate Renewables & Increase Capacity by Joining 2 Infrastructures

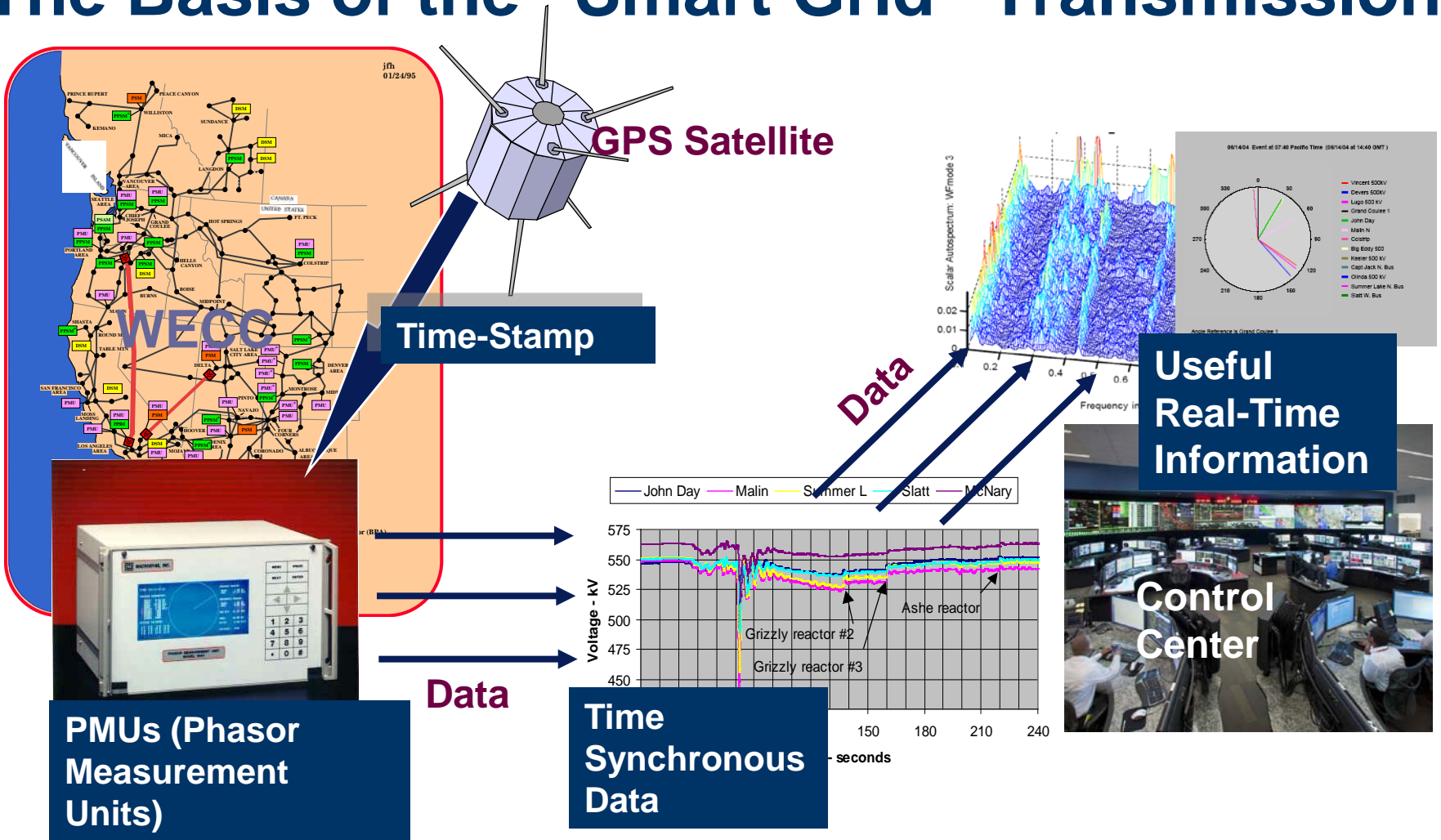
## Electrical Infrastructure



## “Intelligence” Infrastructure

**Equals the “Smart” Grid**

# Synchrophasor Measurements – The Basis of the “Smart Grid” Transmission



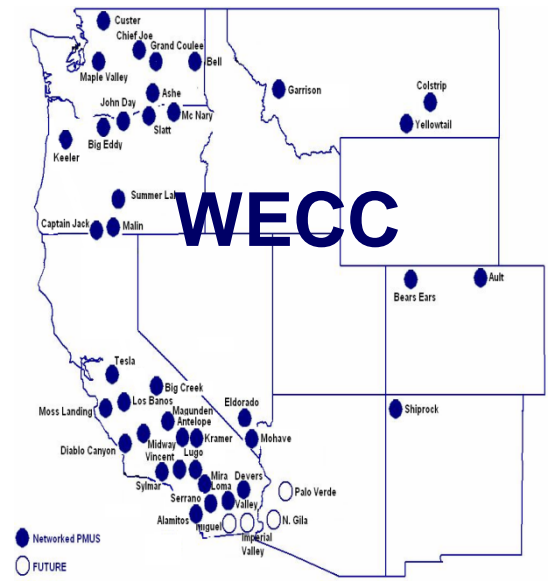
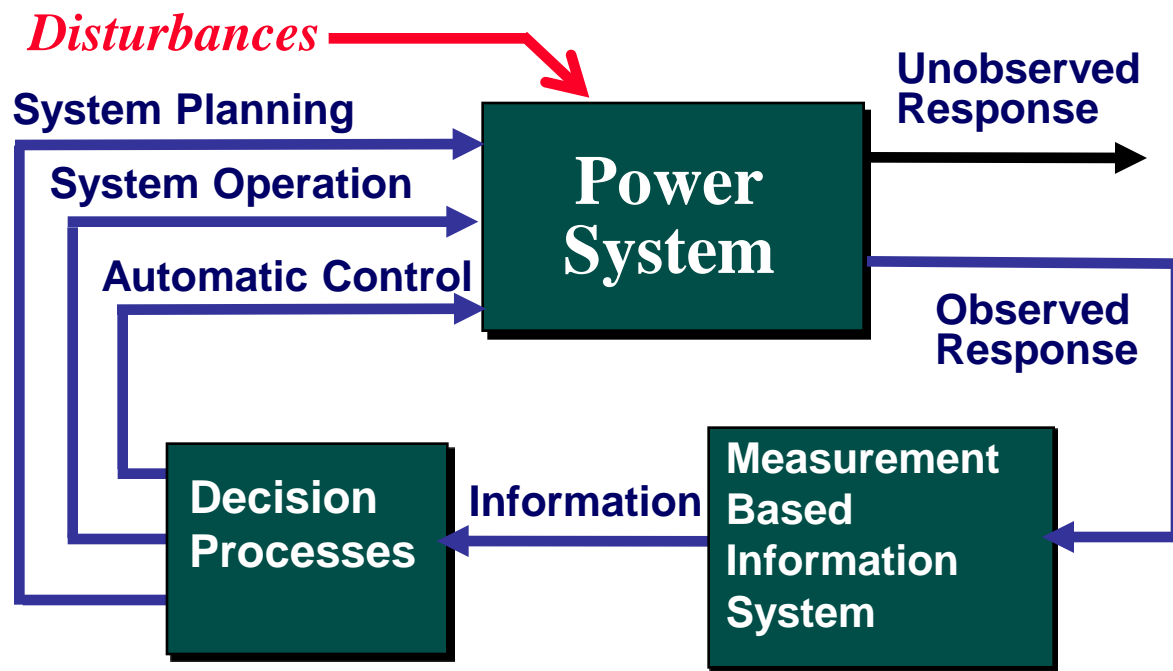
**Example: Accommodate Renewable Generation and Increase Grid Capacity via Real-Time Wide-Area Monitoring and Control.**

# The Before and After of Synchrophasor Measurements

Synchrophasors

30/second

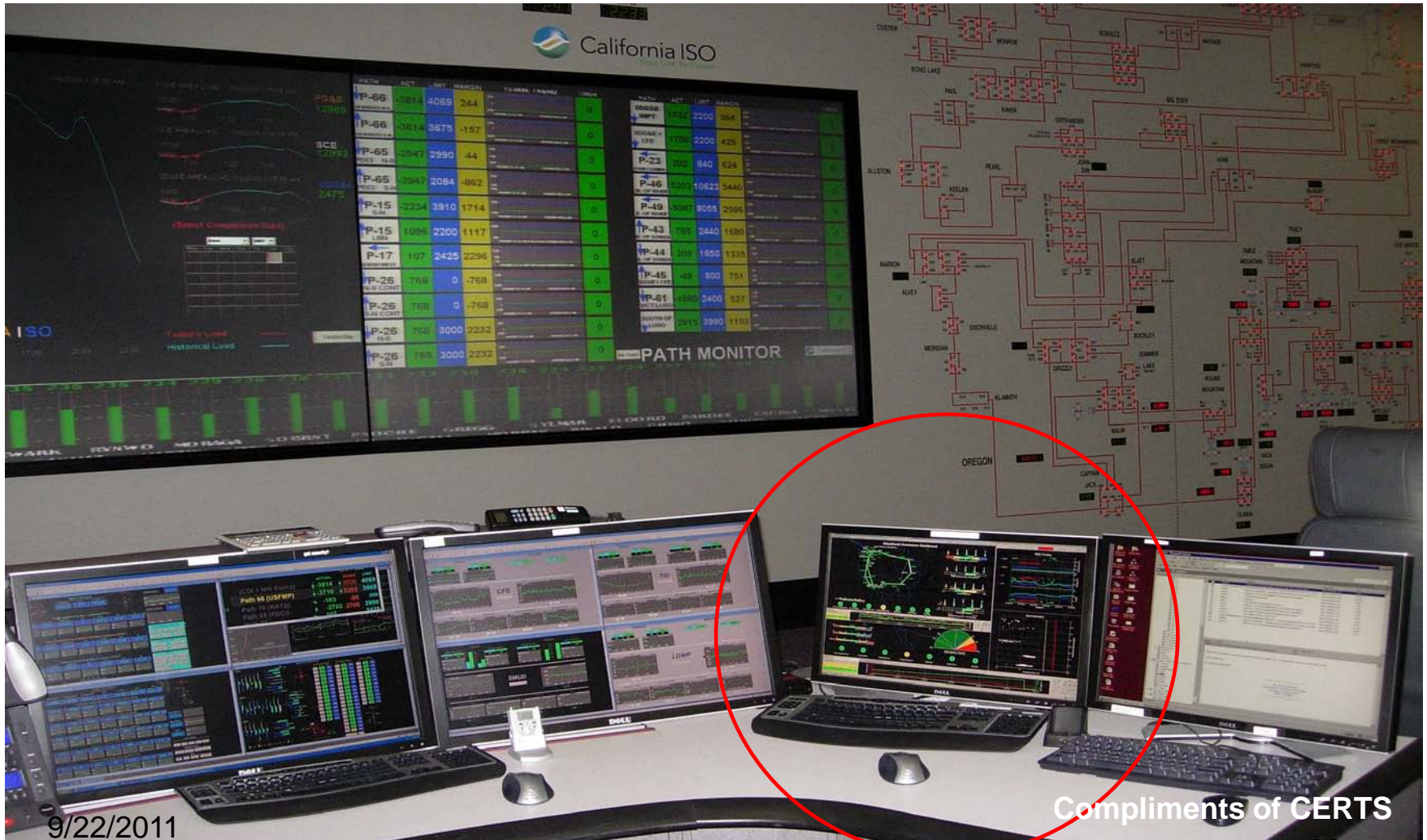
~~Traditional Real-Time Data Rate = Every 4-5 seconds~~



**An unprecedented ability to see, know, plan and control.**

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# CAISO, SCE, PG&E, and SDG&E Are Pioneering the Use of Synchrophasor Technologies in California

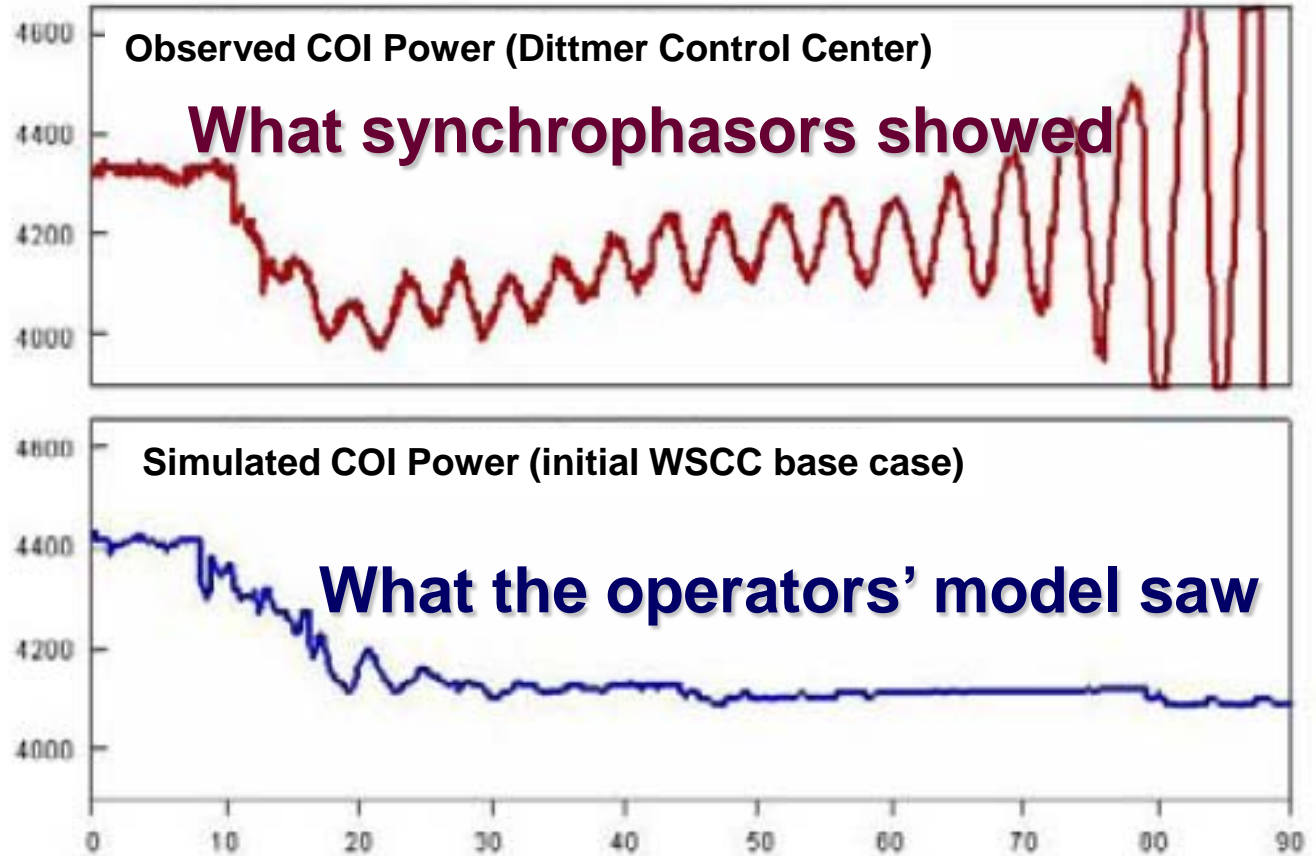


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Compliments of CERTS

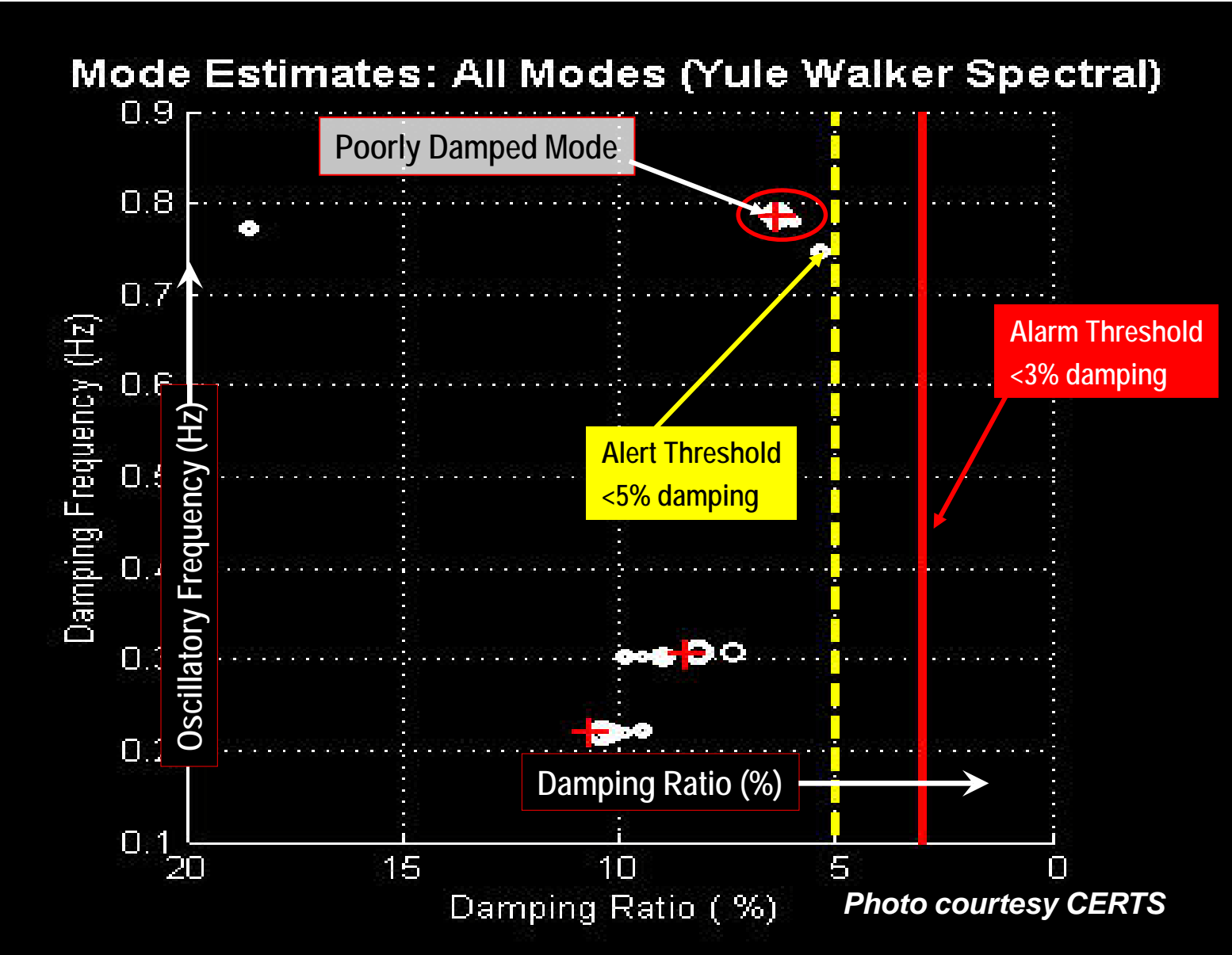
# Two Views: California-Oregon Intertie

**August 10th,  
1996, Power  
Flow During  
Generator  
Trip**



***This event triggered an inter-area power oscillation and ended in a wide-area power outage in western US.***

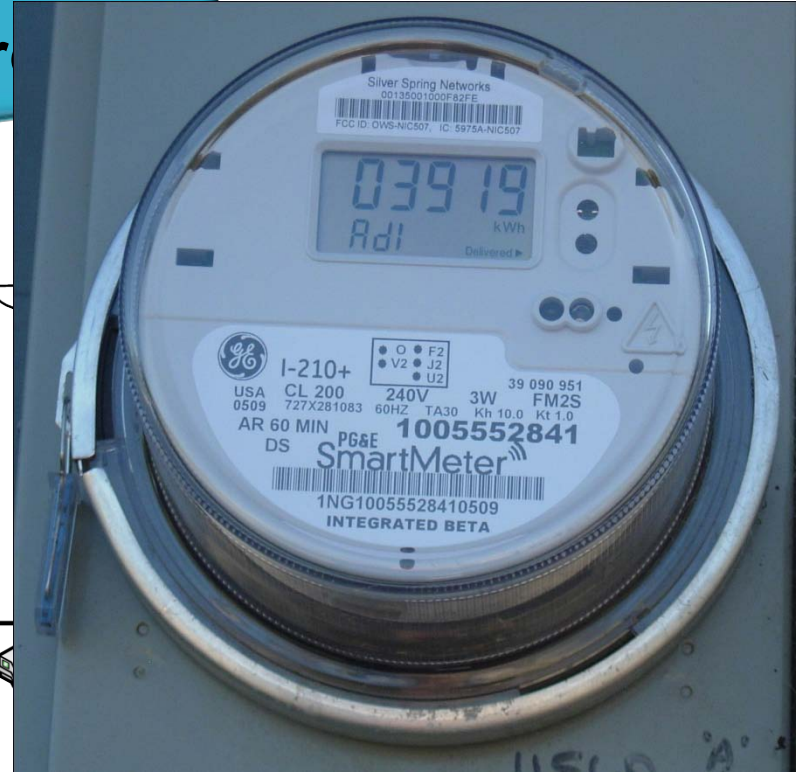
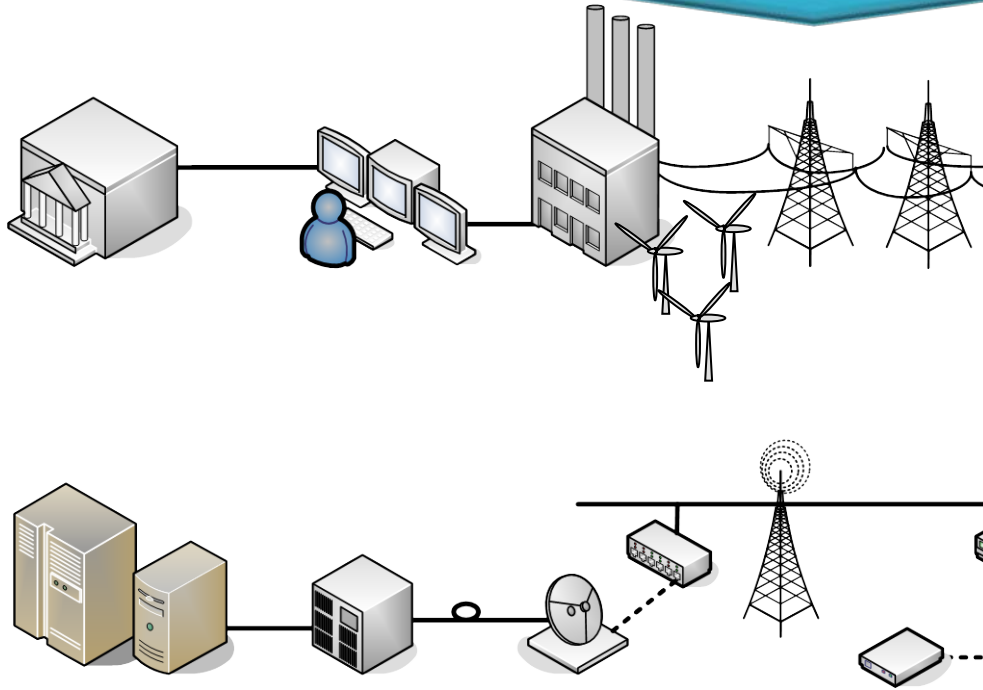
# Mode Estimate: Visualization Example





# Example: Accommodate Renewables & Increase Capacity by Joining 2 Infrastructures

Electrical  
Infrastructure



“Intelligence”  
Infrastructure

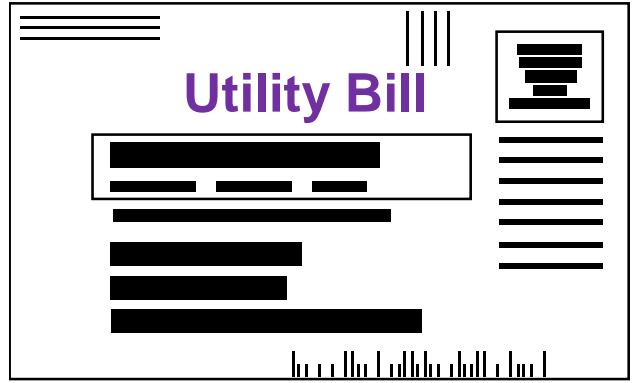
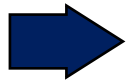
**Equals the “Smart” Grid**

# The digital “smart meter” makes the customer an integral part of the “smart” grid.

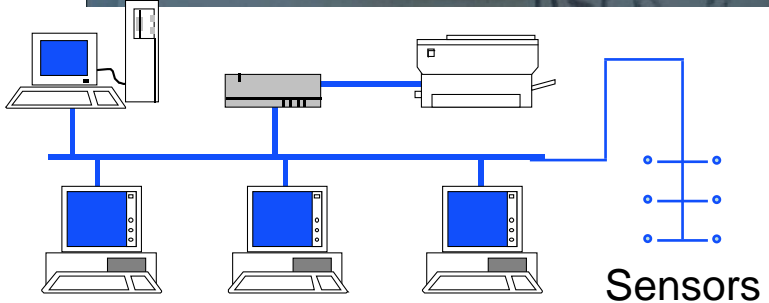
Past...



Future...



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# The Benefits of Smart Meters\*



- Allows for faster outage detection and restoration of service
- Provides customers with greater control over their electricity use when coupled with time-based rates
- Allows customers to make informed decisions by providing highly detailed information
- Helps the environment by reducing the need to build new, or use older peaking power plants.

***Can't have "smart" grid without "smart" customers.***

\*Source: CPUC website:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/Demand+Response/benefits.htm>.

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A large, jagged iceberg floats in the deep blue ocean under a clear sky. The iceberg's surface is textured with shadows and highlights, showing its massive scale. The water is a deep, dark blue, and the sky is a lighter, clear blue.

**CIEE Website: UC-CIEE.ORG**

**For additional information:**

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**[Merwin.Brown@uc-ciee.org](mailto:Merwin.Brown@uc-ciee.org)**

***And he'll find someone to help you.***

***“People tend to overestimate what can be accomplished in the short run but to underestimate what can be accomplished in the long run.”***

**Arthur C. Clarke**