

# Issues in Integration of Renewables in Island and Regional Electric Grids

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Sandia is a multiprogram laboratory operated by Sandia Corporation, a Lockheed Martin Company, for the United States Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.

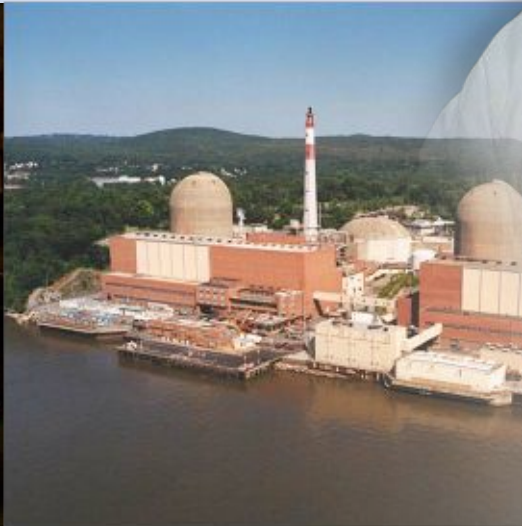
# Our Business: National Security

- **Core purpose**
  - to help our nation secure a peaceful and free world through technology
- **Highest goal**
  - to become the laboratory that the United States turns to first for technology solutions to the most challenging problems that threaten peace and freedom for our nation and the globe



# Four Mission Areas

- **Nuclear Weapons**
- **Defense Systems and Assessments**
- **Energy, Resources and Nonproliferation**
- **Homeland Security and Defense**



# Sandia's Sites

**Albuquerque,  
New Mexico**



**Livermore,  
California**



**Kauai,  
Hawaii**



**Yucca Mountain,  
Nevada**



**WIPP,  
New Mexico**



**Pantex, Texas**



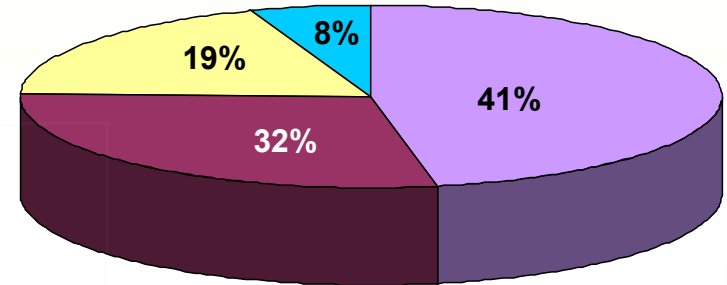
**Tonopah, Nevada**



# Sandia's People and Budget

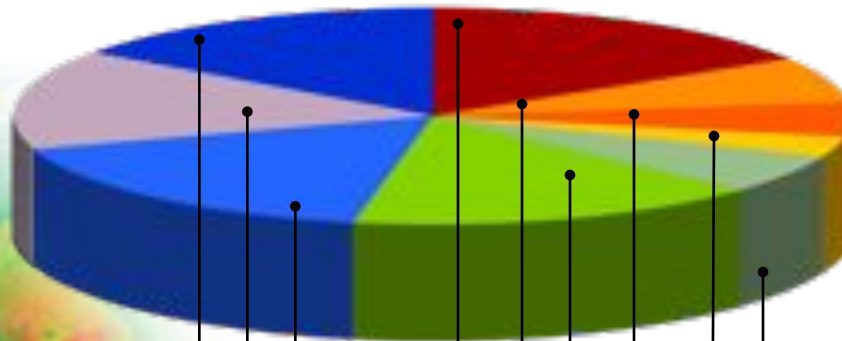
- On-site workforce: 11,415
- Regular employees: 8225
- Gross payroll: ~\$900 million

## FY09 Operating Revenue \$2.2 billion



- Nuclear Weapons
- Defense Systems and Assessments
- Energy, Resources and Non-proliferation
- Homeland Security and Defense

## Technical staff (3,850) by discipline:



- Physics 6%
- Math 2%
- Chemistry 4%
- Computing 16%
- Other Science 4%
- Other Fields 17%

- Electrical Engineering 19%
- Mechanical Engineering 16%
- Other Engineering 15%



# Solar Technology

## Technologies:

### Photovoltaics

- Modules/arrays
- Inverters
- Systems



### Concentrating Solar Power

- National Solar Thermal Test Facility (Tower)
- Troughs
- Dishes



### Solar Hot Water



## Activities:

### Advanced R&D

- New systems integrations
- Hydrogen production
- New “smarts”: controls, communications, power conversion

**Modeling** – performance prediction

**Reliability engineering**

**Evaluations/characterizations of new components/products**

**Barrier removal:** codes, standards, certification, design assistance, technical support

## Customers:

DOE/Solar

Industry

NASA

Working to expand with Military

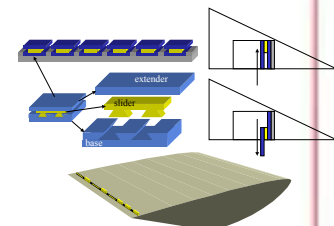
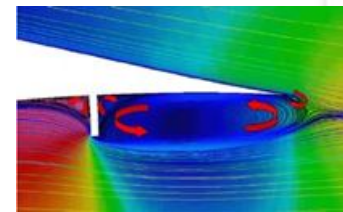
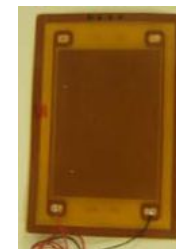
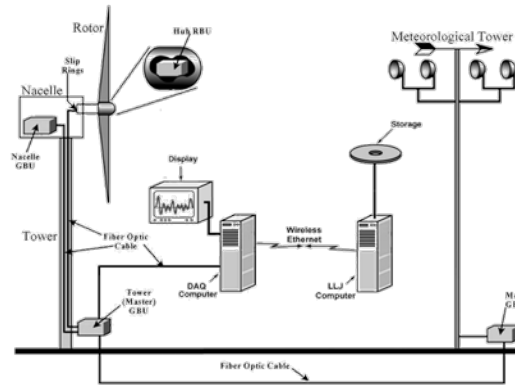
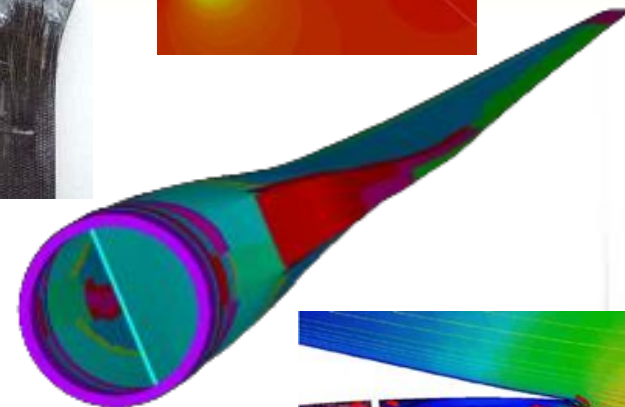
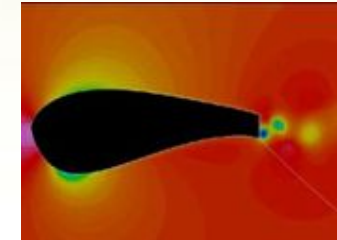
# Wind Energy Technology

## Blade Technology

- Materials and Manufacturing
- Structural, Aerodynamic, and Full System Modeling
- Lab - Field Testing and Data Acquisition
- Sensors and Structural Health Monitoring
- Advanced Blade Concepts

## System Reliability

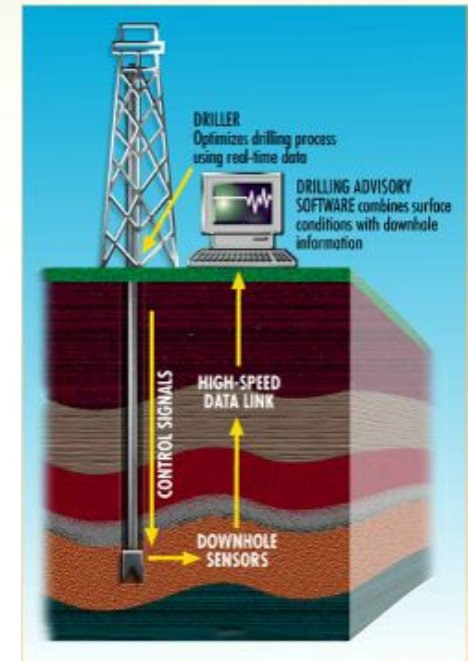
- Industry Data Collection
- Modeling and Testing of System-Critical Components



# Geothermal Research

## Drilling and Monitoring in Harsh Environments

- **Geothermal Well Construction**
  - High-Temperature Electronics
  - Diagnostics-While-Drilling
  - Rock Reduction Technologies
  - Wellbore Integrity and Lost Circulation
  - Drilling Dynamics Modeling and Simulation
  - Vibration Mitigation





# Energy Infrastructure and Distributed Energy Resources



- Distributed energy resources
- Power electronics
- Energy storage
- Energy Surety Microgrids

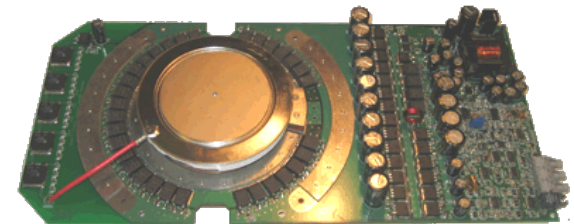
1.2 MW, 7.2 MWh Distributed Energy Storage System in Chemical Station, North Charleston



Started Operation on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**AEP APPALACHIAN POWER**  
A unit of American Electric Power

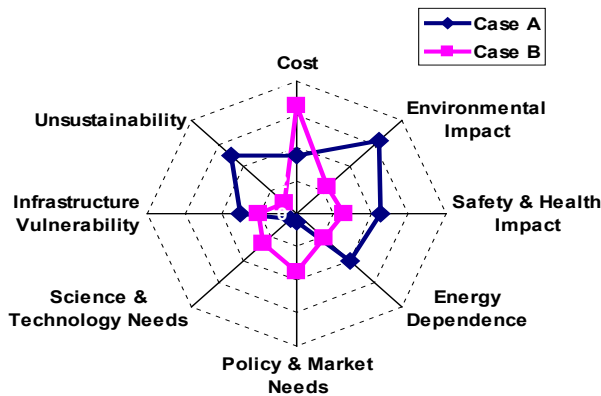
NGK Insulators Ltd  
S&C Electric Co.  
DOE / SANDIA



# Energy Systems Analysis

- **Competencies:**

- Power grid (generation, transmission, distribution) operations, modeling
- Renewables integration
- Energy transport security (pipelines, power grid, marine, railways)
- SCADA and control systems analysis and security
- Energy system vulnerability, safety, and risk assessment
- Energy system modeling and simulation
- Energy systems analysis



# Personal Background

- 20 years @ Sandia
- 12 years @ Public Service Company of New Mexico
- Energy Storage for electric utility applications
- Distributed Generation
- Energy Surety Microgrids
- Projects in:
  - Alaska
  - Hawaii
- Proud owner of 4<sup>th</sup> Prius
  - 2000 – 1<sup>st</sup> Gen
  - 2001
  - 2005 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Gen
  - 2010 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Gen

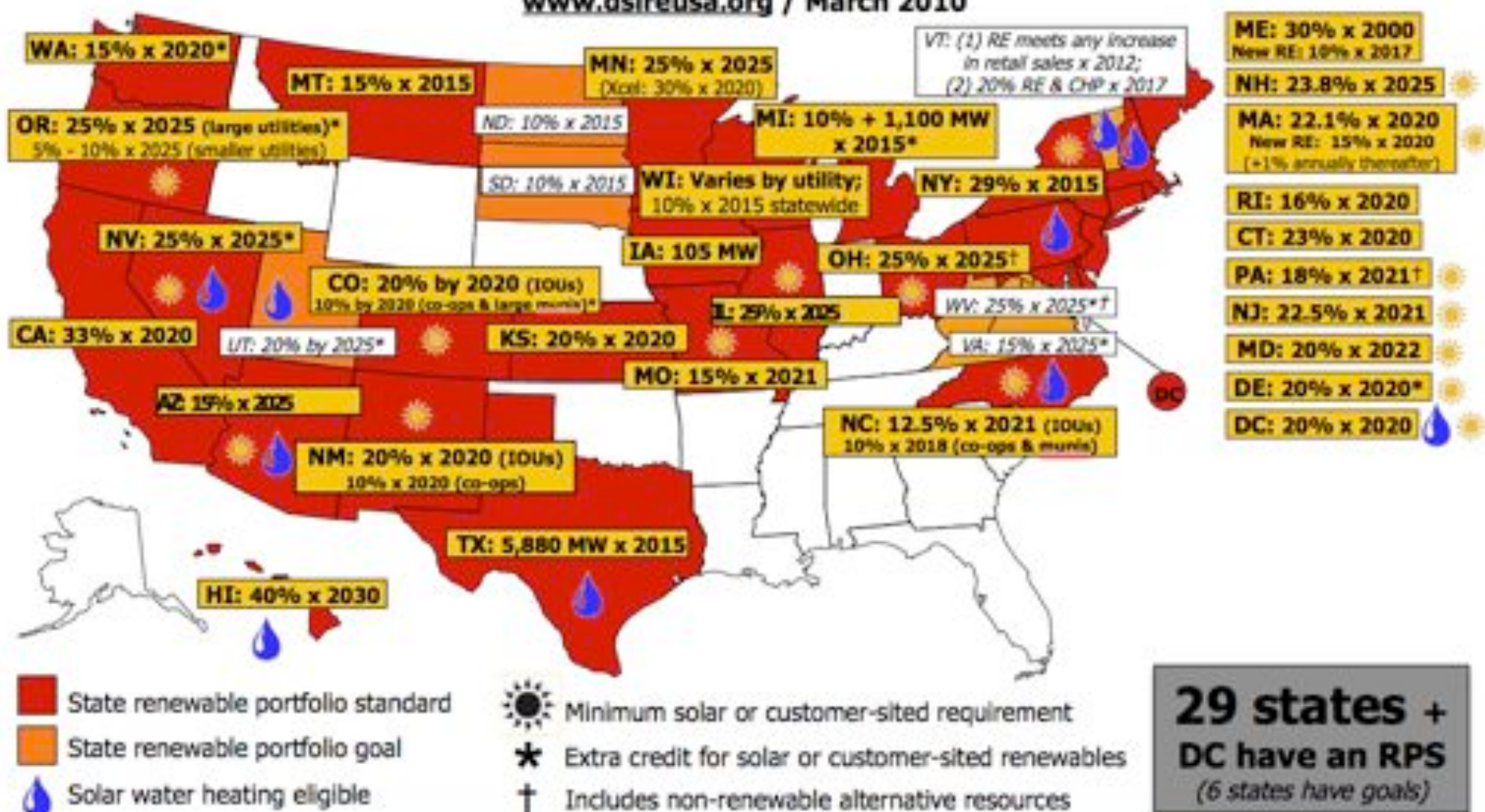


# Issues for Renewable Penetration

- **Policy and Regulatory**
  - Renewable Portfolio Standards
  - Rates: Feed-in-Tariff, Net Metering
  - Subsidies and incentives
- **Financial**
  - Cost of renewable technologies
  - Displacement of legacy infrastructure
- **Technical**
  - Intermittency: PV and wind
  - High penetration levels
  - Centralized and dispersed penetration
  - Control and dispatchability

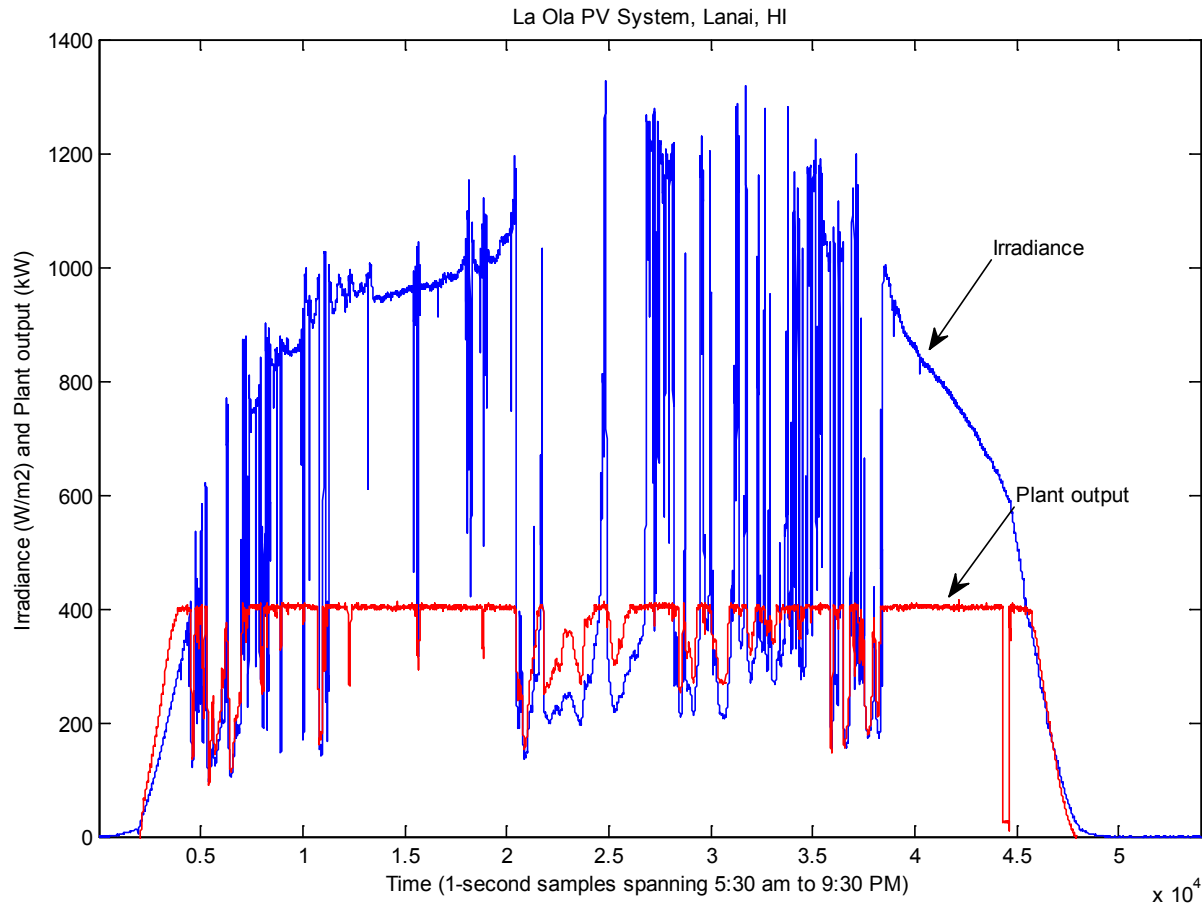
## Renewable Portfolio Standards

[www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org) / March 2010





# PV Variability in Actual PV System



- Irradiance and PV system ac output A typical partly cloudy day in July
- PV system rating: 1,300 kW ac, presently limited to 400 kW ac (intentionally)

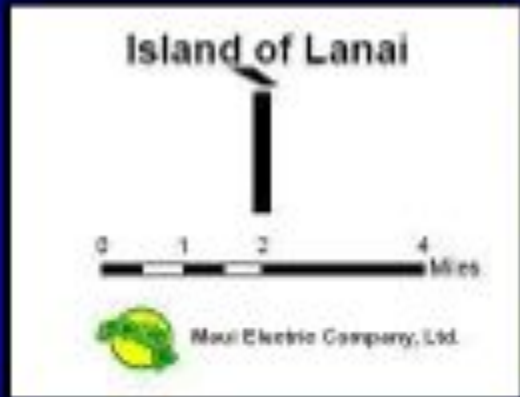
## 2008 Lanai 100% RE Study

- **Purpose is to define a pathway to help Lanai reach 100% Renewable Energy**
- **Study Partners: Castle & Cooke, MECO, NREL, Sandia, and Sentech**
- **Focused on how to develop a pathway to reach 100% renewable energy on Lanai**





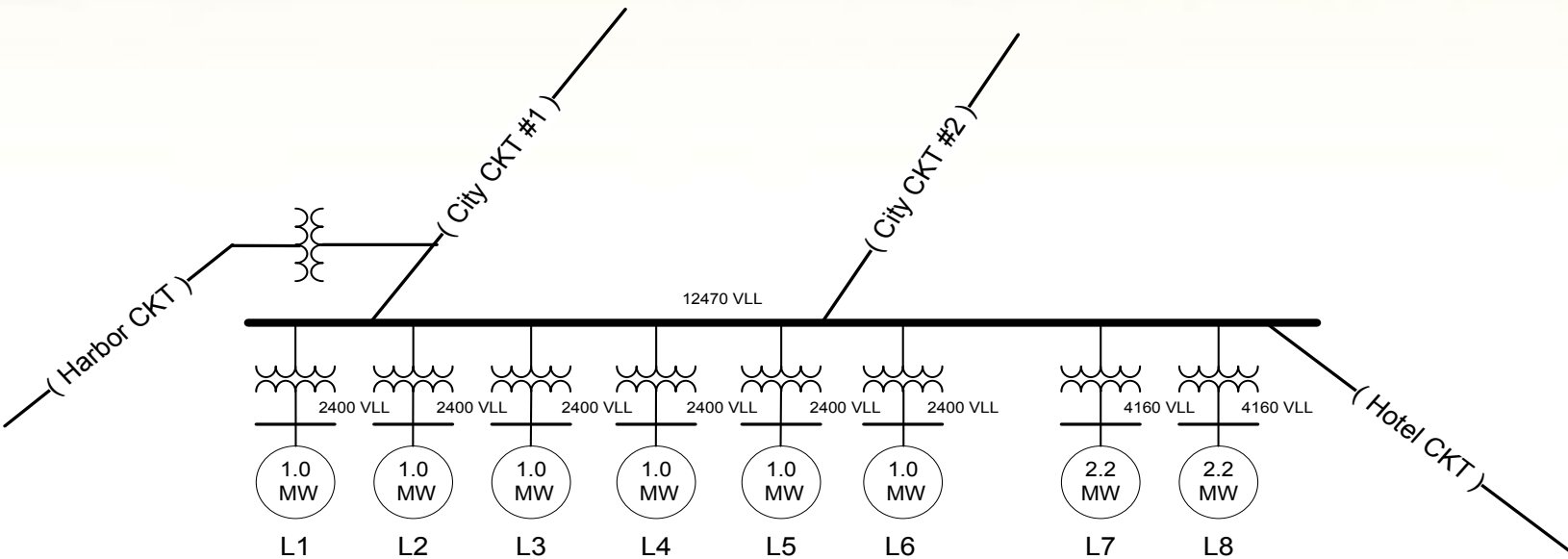
**Proposed  
Large  
Wind  
Farm  
area**



**Focus area of Lanai  
100% RE Study**

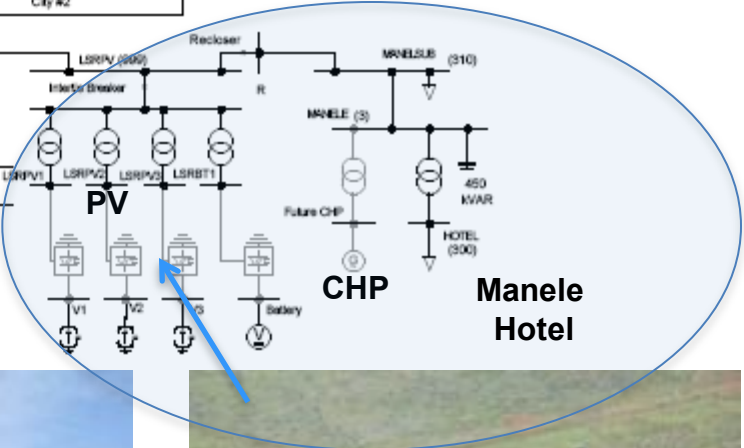
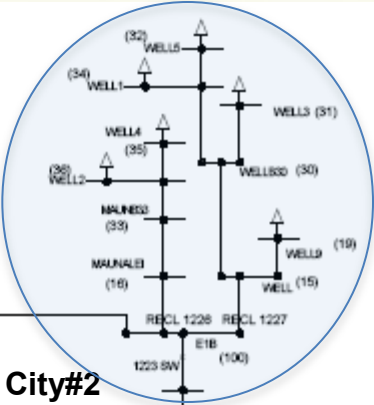
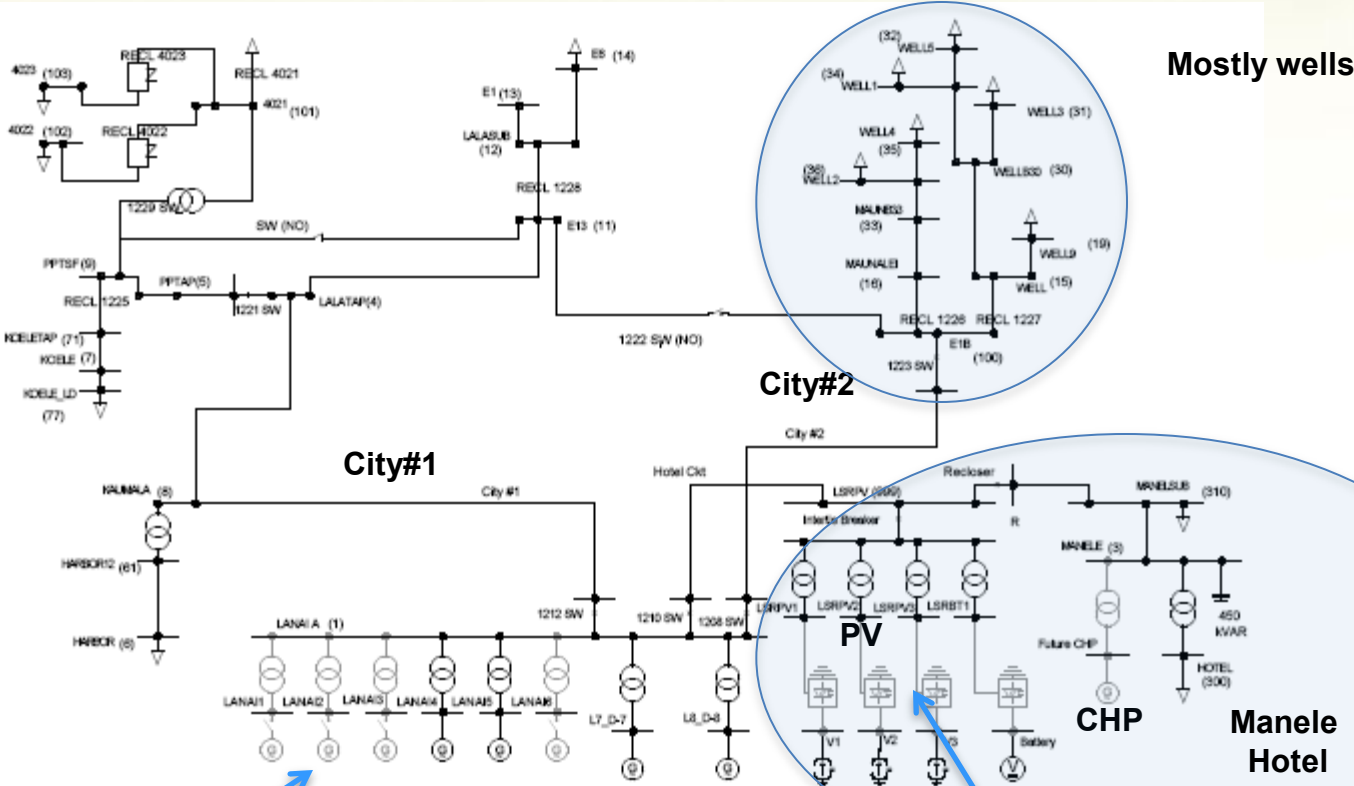


# Miki Basin Power Station

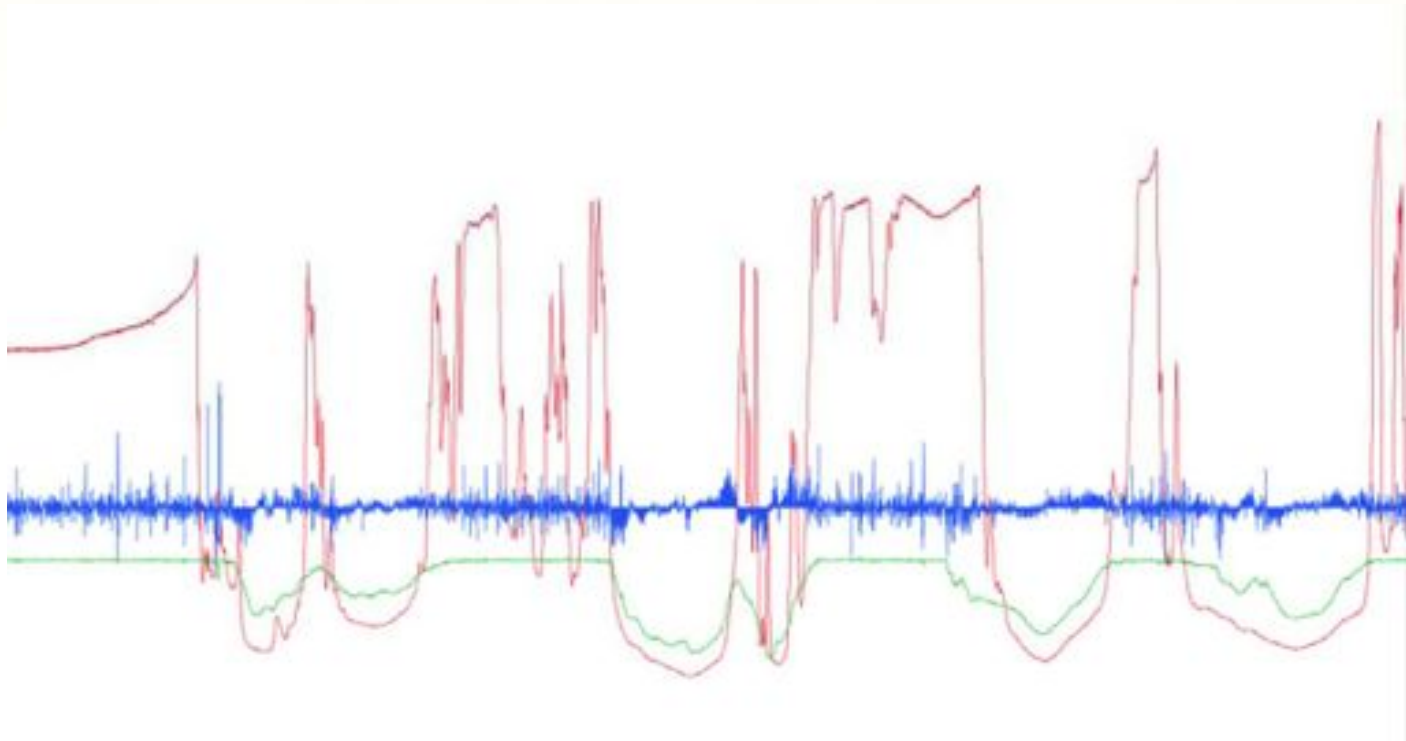


**(6) 1.0 MW EMD Diesel Generators**  
**(2) 2.2 MW Caterpillar Diesel**

# Lanai Current Electrical Power System



# Sample 1 sec Data



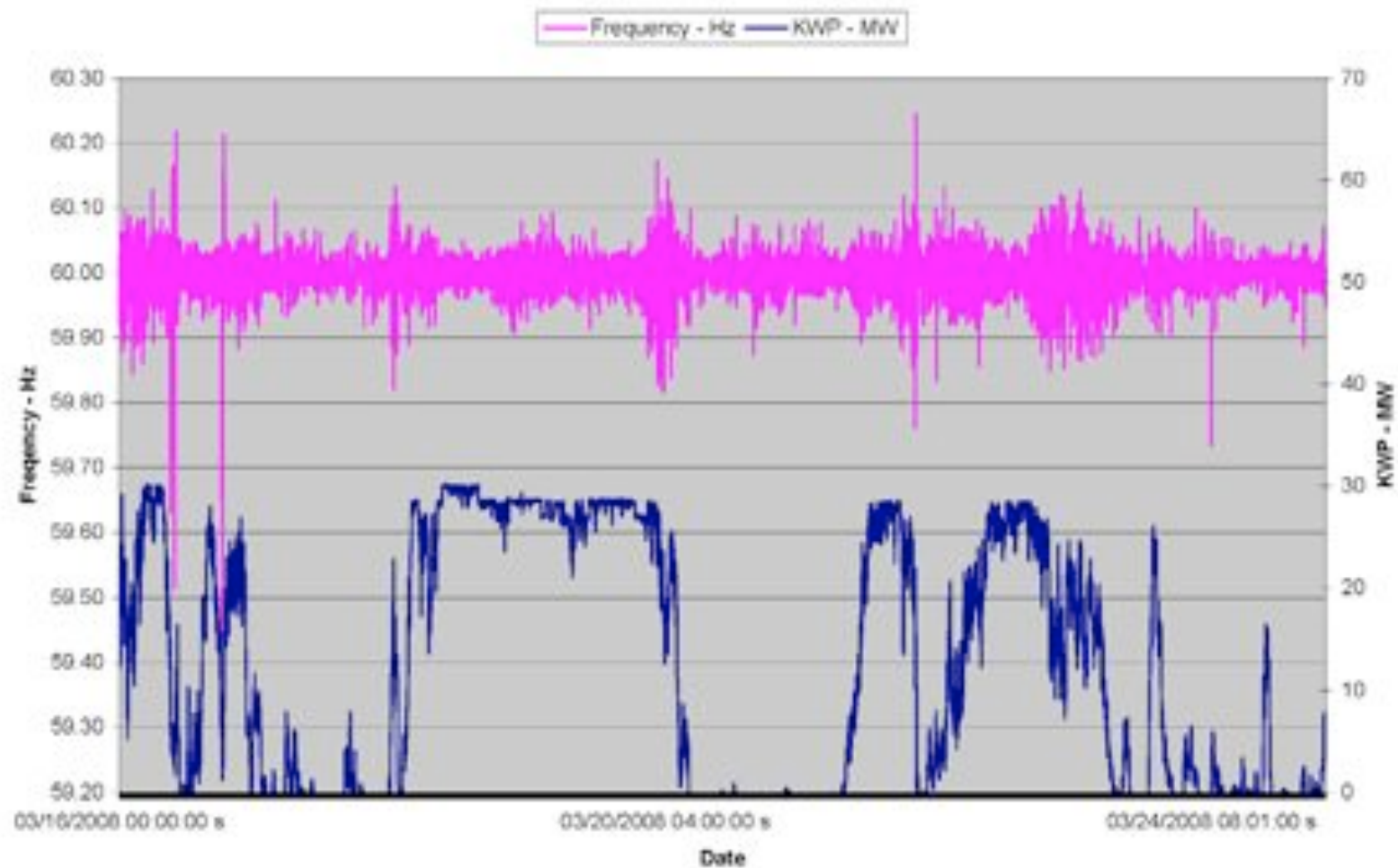
# Ramp Rate Characteristics

- **Large kW/sec ramps**
- **Duration of seconds to 3 minutes**
- **System effect depends on generating units on line**
  - Head room on generator
- **Mitigation approaches**
  - Cloud cover/movement prediction – 10 minutes
  - Energy storage – Power, not energy

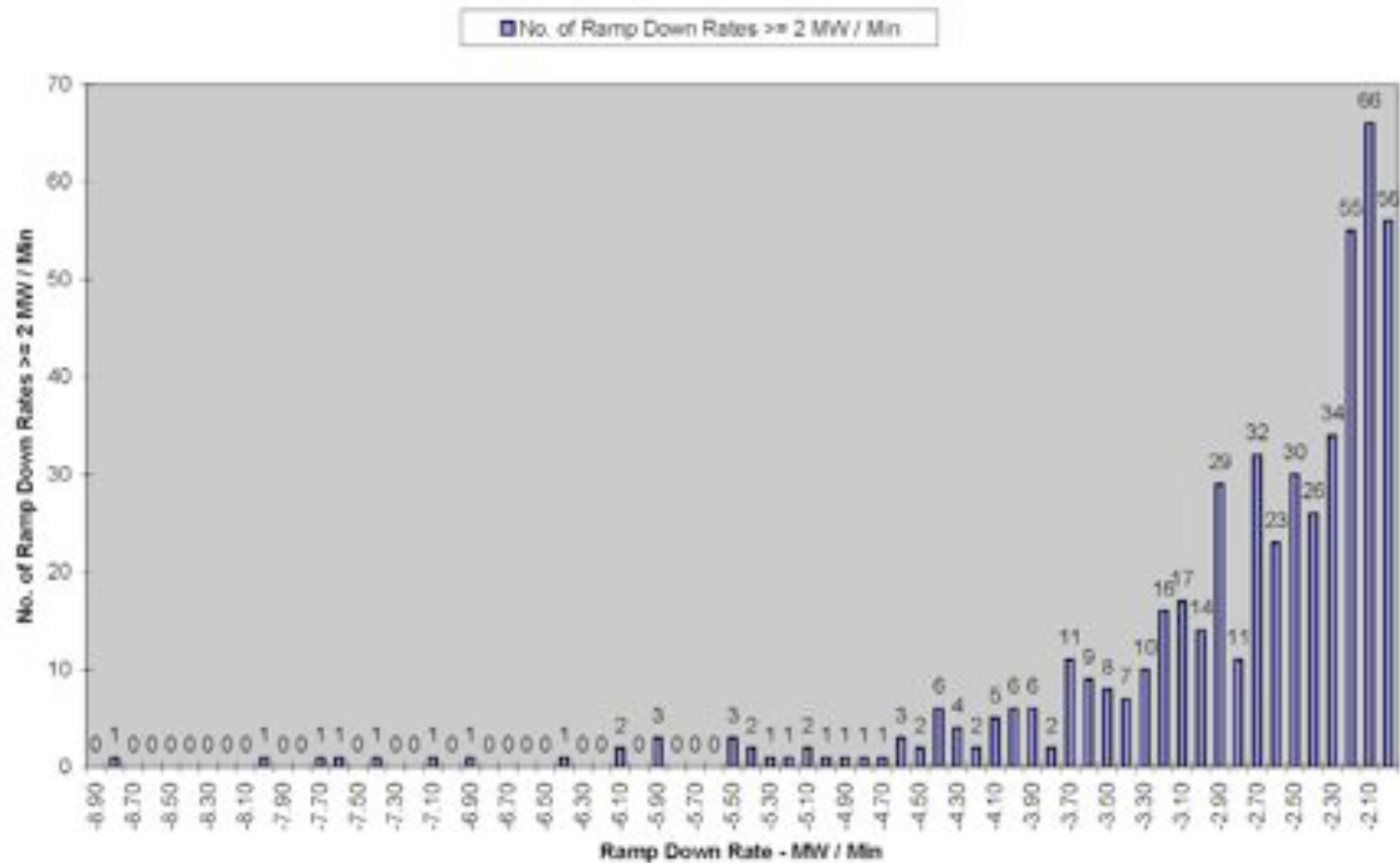
# Wind Farm Characteristics

- **Similar ramp behavior in wind farm output**
- **Mitigation approaches**
  - Wind speed prediction – 10 minutes to 1 hour
  - Energy storage – Power, not energy

March 16-25 2008 Frequency / KWP MW - One Minute Intervals

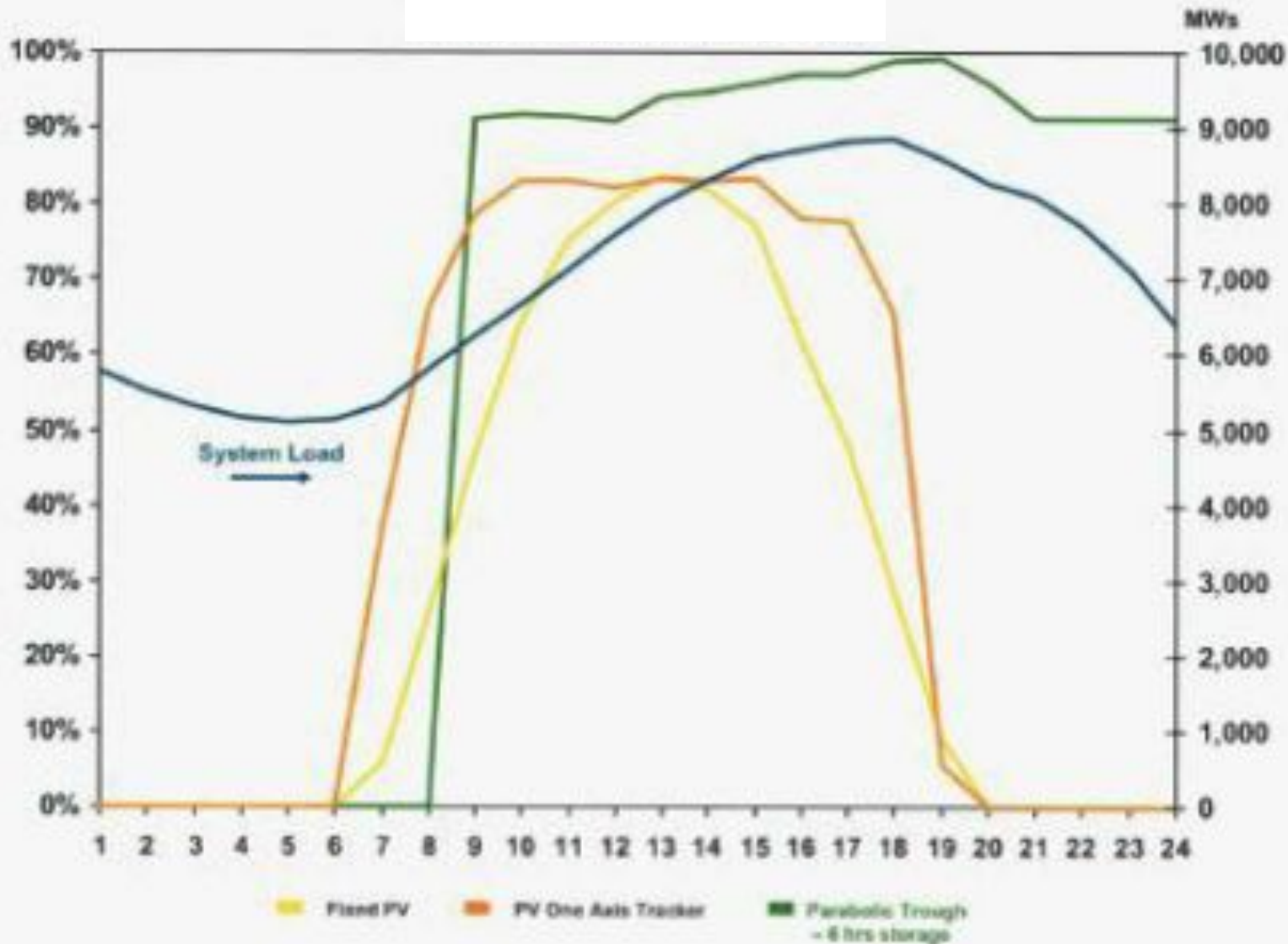


Ramp Down Rates  $\geq 2$  MW / Min Histogram for December 2007





# Comparison of PV and CSP Outputs



# CSP (Parabolic Trough) Systems

- **Large CSP systems are operational – 100's MW**
- **Smaller systems are emerging: 100 kW – 2 MW**
- **Energy storage is inherent in system**
- **Several turbine manufacturers, domestic and overseas**







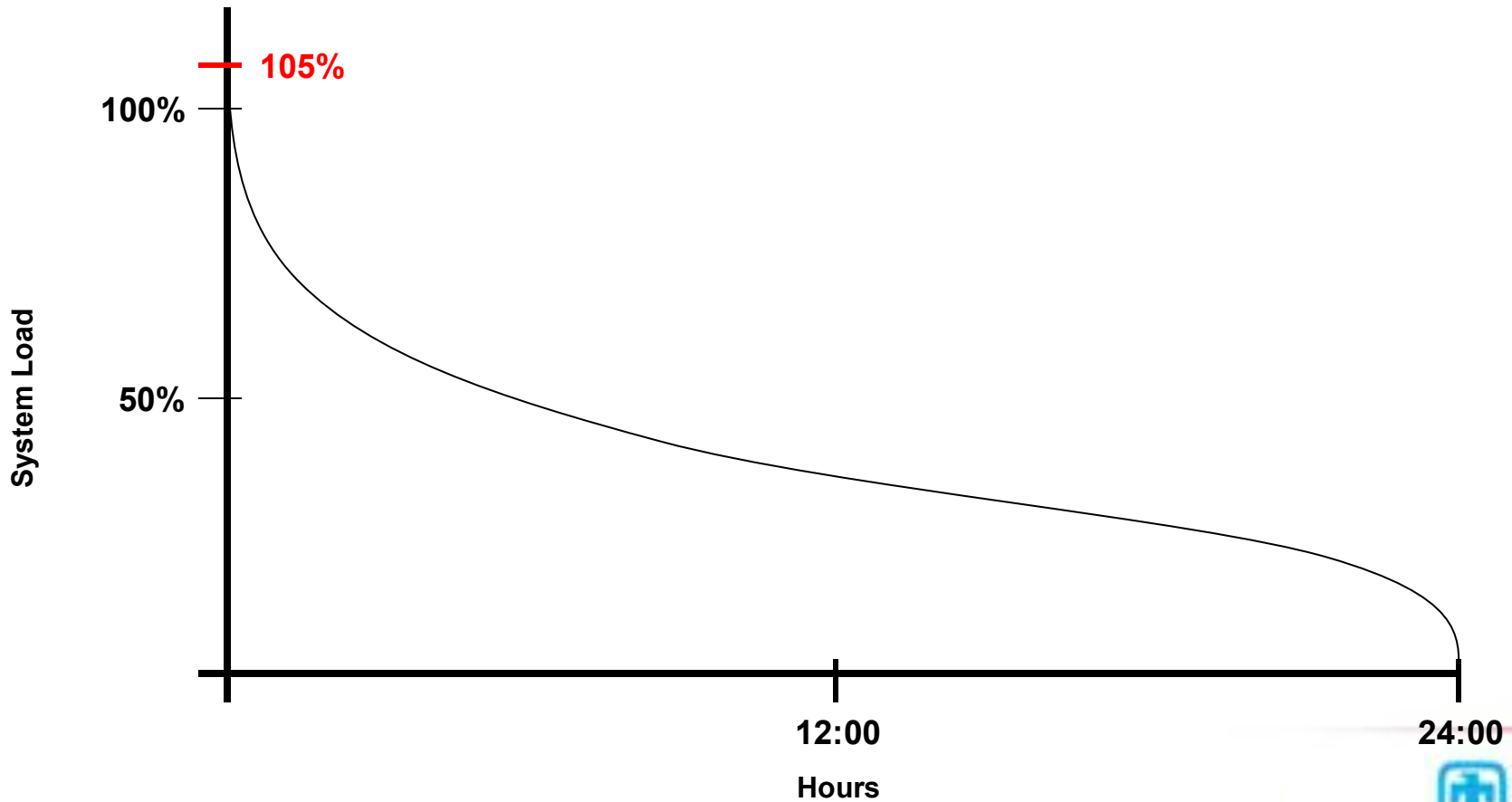
# Advantages of CSP Systems

- **Reduces intermittency by providing ride-through capability**
- **Energy storage is inherent in system: 1 to 6 hours**
  - Eliminates need for expensive battery energy storage
- **Disadvantages:**
  - Higher maintenance - ??
  - Larger land area - ??
  - Higher cost - ??

# Central vs. Distributed Generation

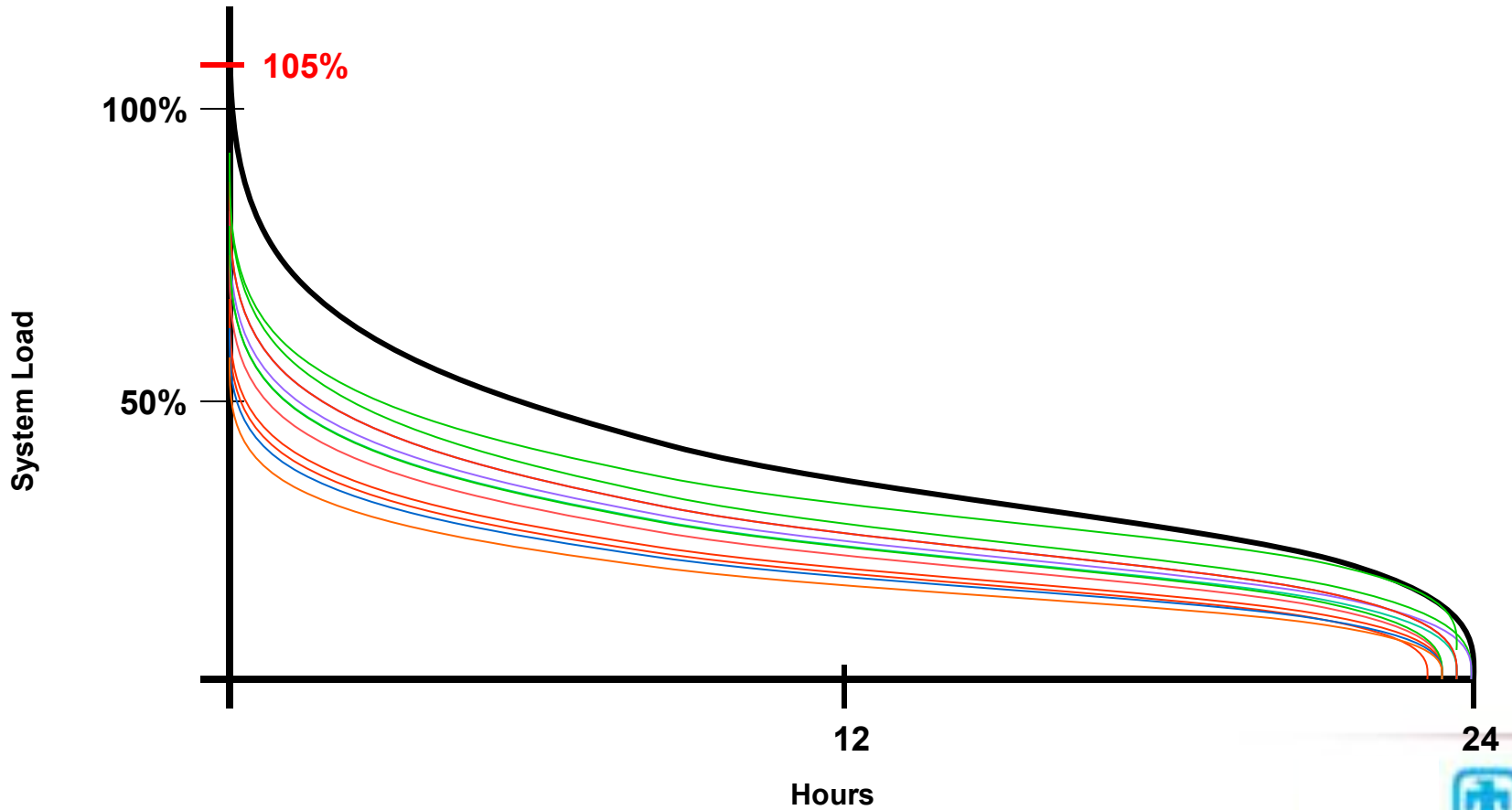
- **Increases efficiency**
  - Utilizes both electricity and heat
  - Reliability of electric grid: generation closer to load; reduces T&D losses, etc.
- **Asset Utilization**

# Typical Load Profile





# Load Shape Components



## Recommended Reading

- **Technology and Transformation in the American Electric Utility Industry by Richard Hirsh**
- **Small is Profitable by Amory Lovins**