



Americans for a  
**Clean Energy Grid**

**Regional Transmission Webinar Series**

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST**

# **Who we are and what we do:**

We support policies that will modernize the nation's electric power network and unlock clean energy and economic opportunities across the country. The backbone of a clean electricity system and a strong economy is a resilient and reliable transmission grid. Smart state and federal policies that improve the way the grid is developed, planned, and paid for will help it become a more robust, reliable, and secure network that supports expansion of renewable energy, competitive power markets, energy efficiency, and lower costs for consumers.

# Regional Transmission Summits

**St. Paul, Minnesota, October 21<sup>st</sup>**

- Oregon
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Massachusetts
- Ohio
- Tennessee
- Colorado

# **Regional Transmission Webinar Series**

- **Pacific Northwest**
- **Midwest**
- **Heartland**
- **New England**
- **PJM**
- **Southeast**
- **Rocky Mountain**

# Grid Operational Reforms to Integrate Renewable Energy

Roger Hamilton  
ACEG Webinar  
September 19, 2013



WESTERN  
GRID  
GROUP

[www.westerngrid.net](http://www.westerngrid.net)

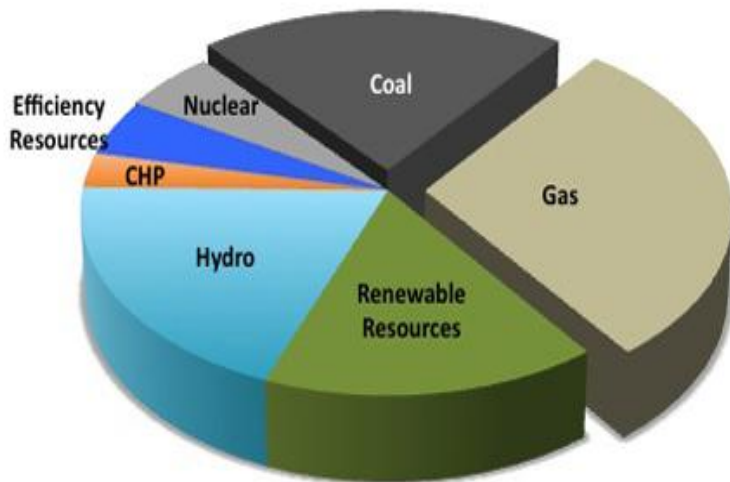
# WCEA guiding principles

- By 2050 West should achieve 80% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>
- Maximize Energy Efficiency and Distributed Generation
- Maximize use of existing system
- Plan generation & transmission smart from the start (environmental and economic standards)

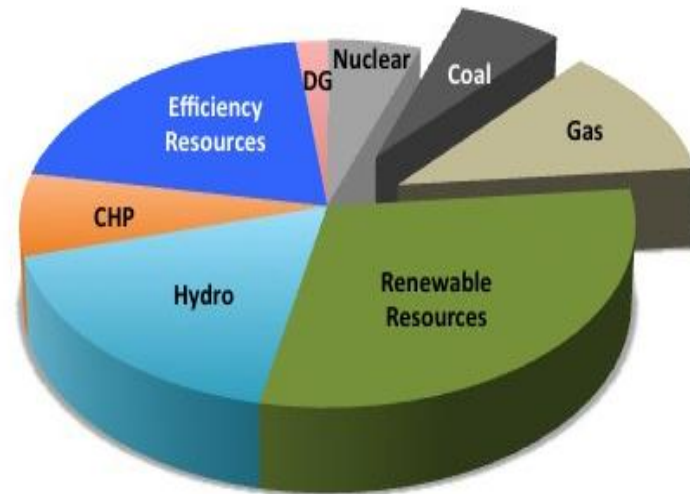
# BAU vs. CEV Portfolios in 2030

## Resource Mix 2030 Base Case

BAU



CEV



From Table 33. Western Grid 2050: Contrasting Futures, Contrasting Fortunes

# Priority Measures

- Expand subhourly dispatch and intra-hour scheduling.(FERC 764) Reduces need for reserves and provides better access to variable RE.
- Facilitate dynamic transfers between balancing authorities. Allows for access to RE outside of BA and reduces costs.
- Implement an energy imbalance market (EIM). Real time awareness improves reliability and captures benefits of geographic diversity of RE via access outside existing BA's.
- Improve weather, wind and solar forecasting. Reduces imbalance costs and increases efficiency.
- Take advantage of geographic diversity of resources. Wind and solar output varies across wide areas of west. Capture wind and solar complements and reduce variability of aggregate RE.



# Priority measures (continued)

- Improve reserves management. Reserves currently are over committed and costly.
- Retool demand response to complement variable supply. Demand response may reduce curtailment of variable generation and avoid need for fossil generation.
- Access greater flexibility in the dispatch of existing generating plants. Variable renewables are not fully dispatched and existing fossil generation plants are not operated as flexibly as they could be, leading to higher emissions.
- Focus on flexibility for new generating plants. New natural gas plants should be manufactured for increased flexibility for load following of variable generation.

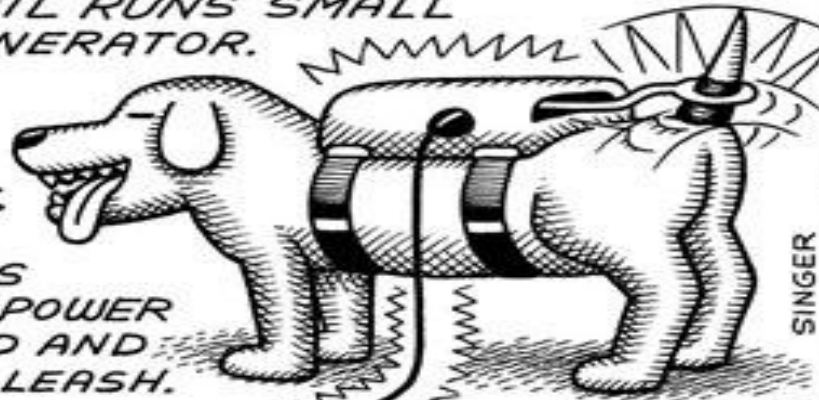
# We Need it All

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY IDEA #16

## DOG TAIL POWER GENERATORS

WAGGING TAIL RUNS SMALL  
ELECTRIC GENERATOR.

CURRENT IS  
STORED IN A  
FUEL CELL  
BATTERY PACK.  
A SCREW-IN  
PLUG ALLOWS  
DOWNLOAD OF POWER  
TO LOCAL GRID AND  
CAN SERVE AS LEASH.



SCRATCHING TWO  
DOGS BEHIND THE  
EARS FOR TEN  
MINUTES...

... CAN POWER  
A SMALL HOME  
OR OFFICE FOR  
SIX HOURS!



# The Cost of Not Building Transmission

Cameron Yourkowski  
ACEG Webinar  
September 19, 2013



**Renewable Northwest Project**

# Overview:

- Diversity benefits
- Efficient use of the existing system
- MT-WA transmission upgrade
- Access to low cost superior resources
- Siting
- Cost allocation

INL/EXT-08-14264  
Revision 2

## **The Cost of Not Building Transmission:**

**Economic Impact of Proposed Transmission Line Projects for the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region**

July 2008

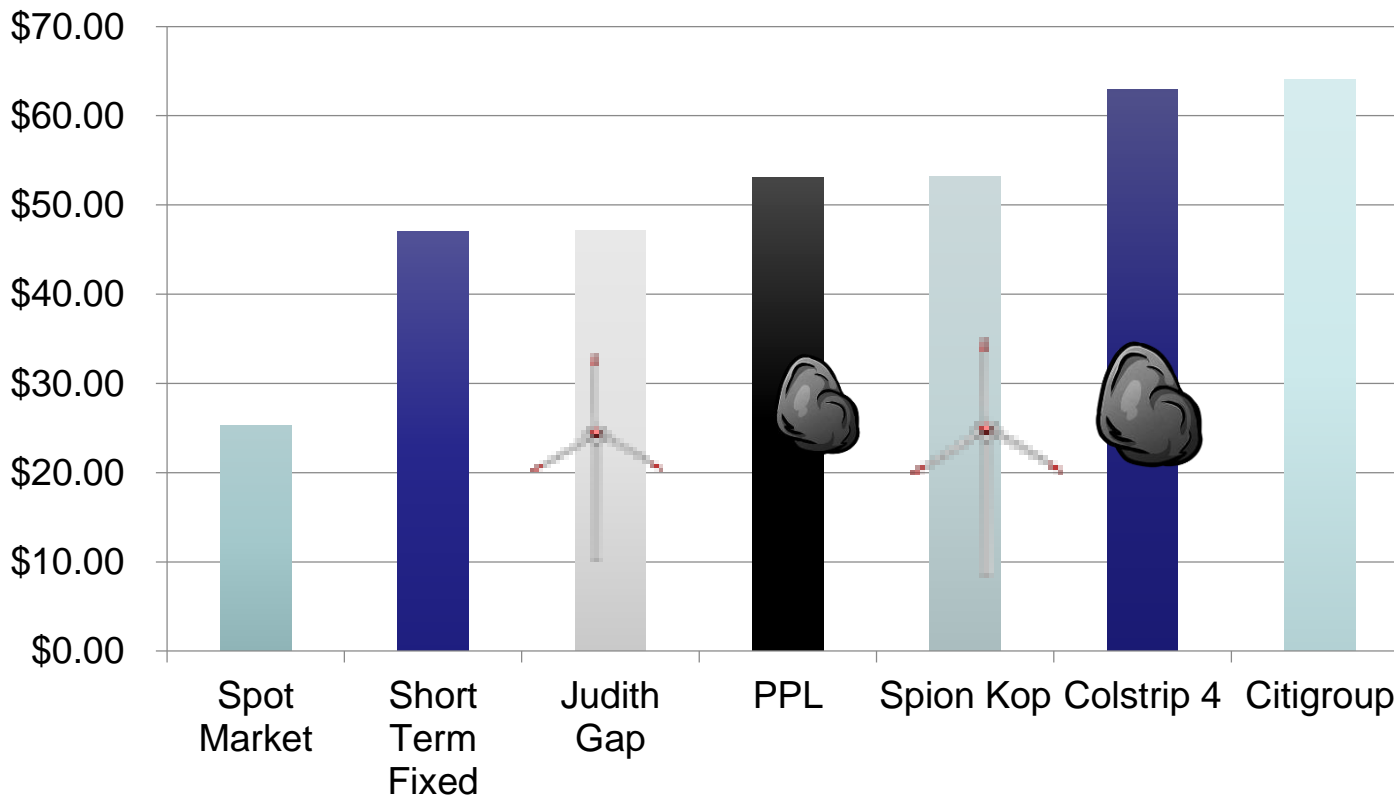
# MT-to-WA Upgrade

- 45% CF wind
- HLH/Winter peaking
- 600 MW new capacity
  - One new substation
  - Upgrade 4 substations
  - Reconductor 14 miles
  - \$100-200 million
- No new right-of-way
- NEPA review
- 2015 Construction?



# Transmission Investments Avoid More Expensive Generation Costs:

- Unit Prices of Selected Sources of NorthWestern's Electric Supply (January 2009 through June 2012) \$/MWh



# Discussion:

- Siting
  - <http://www.mstireviewproject.org/blog/msti-video/>
- Cost Allocation
  - Individual benefits
    - Utility contracts
    - Lower rates
  - Social Benefits
    - Reliability
    - Environmental



# THANK YOU

- Please visit our site at [www.cleanenergytransmission.org](http://www.cleanenergytransmission.org)
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