



# ***Protecting the Arctic by Running the World on Renewables: Alternatives for Transmission and Low-cost Firming Storage of Stranded Renewables as Hydrogen and Ammonia Fuels***

**AAAS Arctic Science Conference**

**27 September 2013      Kodiak, AK**

**Bill Leighty, Director  
The Leighty Foundation  
Juneau, AK**

**[wleighty@earthlink.net](mailto:wleighty@earthlink.net)**

**907-586-1426      206-719-5554 cell**



**Philosophers, like vegetables,  
are profoundly influenced  
by their environment.**

E. A. J. Johnson

1936

*Some Origins of the Modern Economic World*

**Bill Leighty**

**BSEE '65**

**MBA '71**





**Mendenhall Glacier, Juneau, AK**  
**June '71**





**Mendenhall Glacier, Juneau, AK**  
**10 October 10**





**Mendenhall Glacier, Juneau, AK**  
**10 October 10**



# Rapid climate change



**Spruce bark beetle kill, Alaska**





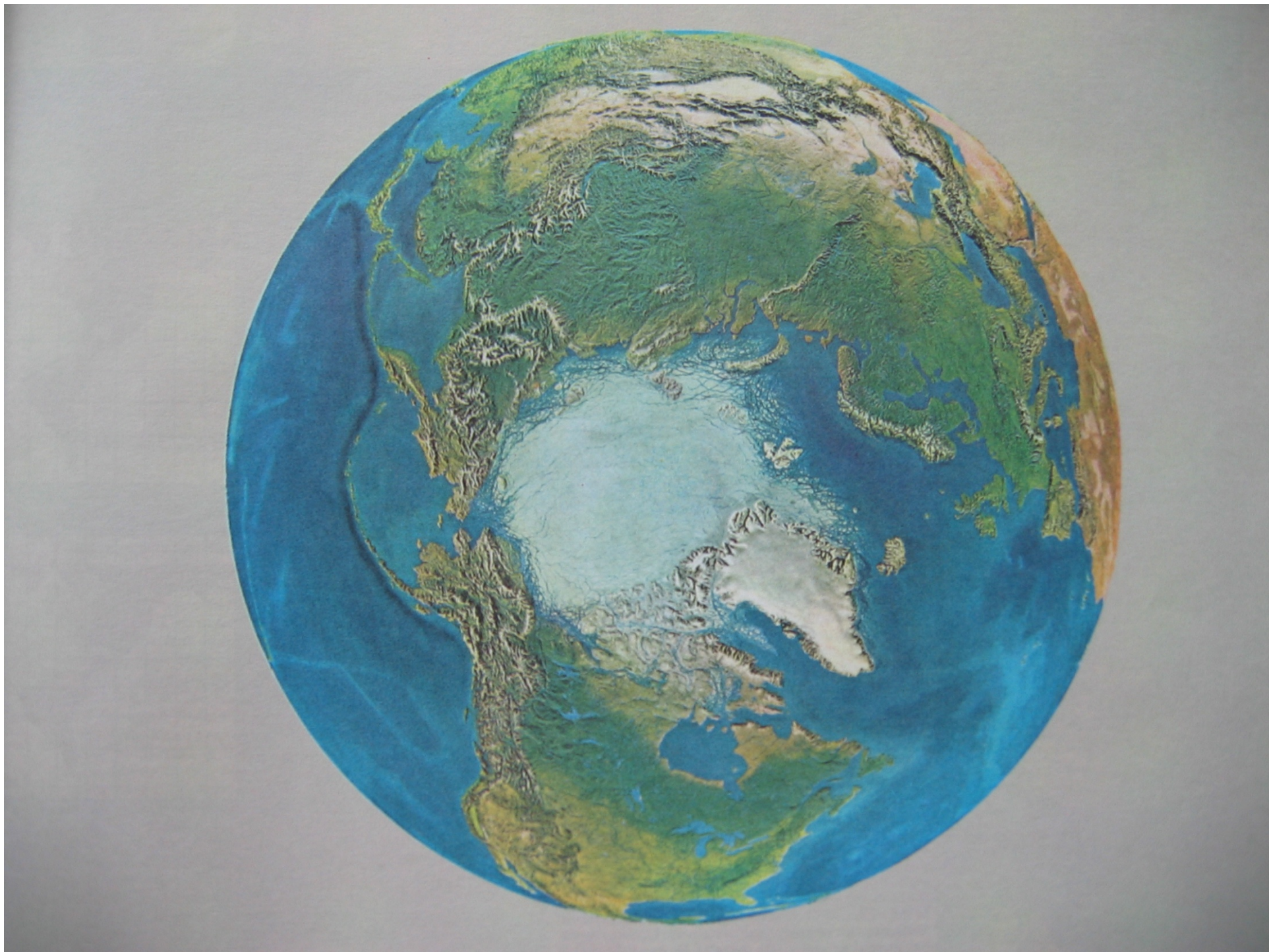
**Spruce bark beetle kill, Alaska**





**“Drunken Trees” on thawing permafrost**









**Shishmaref, Alaska**  
**Winter storms coastal erosion**



# MUST Run the World on Renewables – plus Nuclear ?

- Rapid climate change
- Ocean acidification
- Sea level rise
- Species extinctions



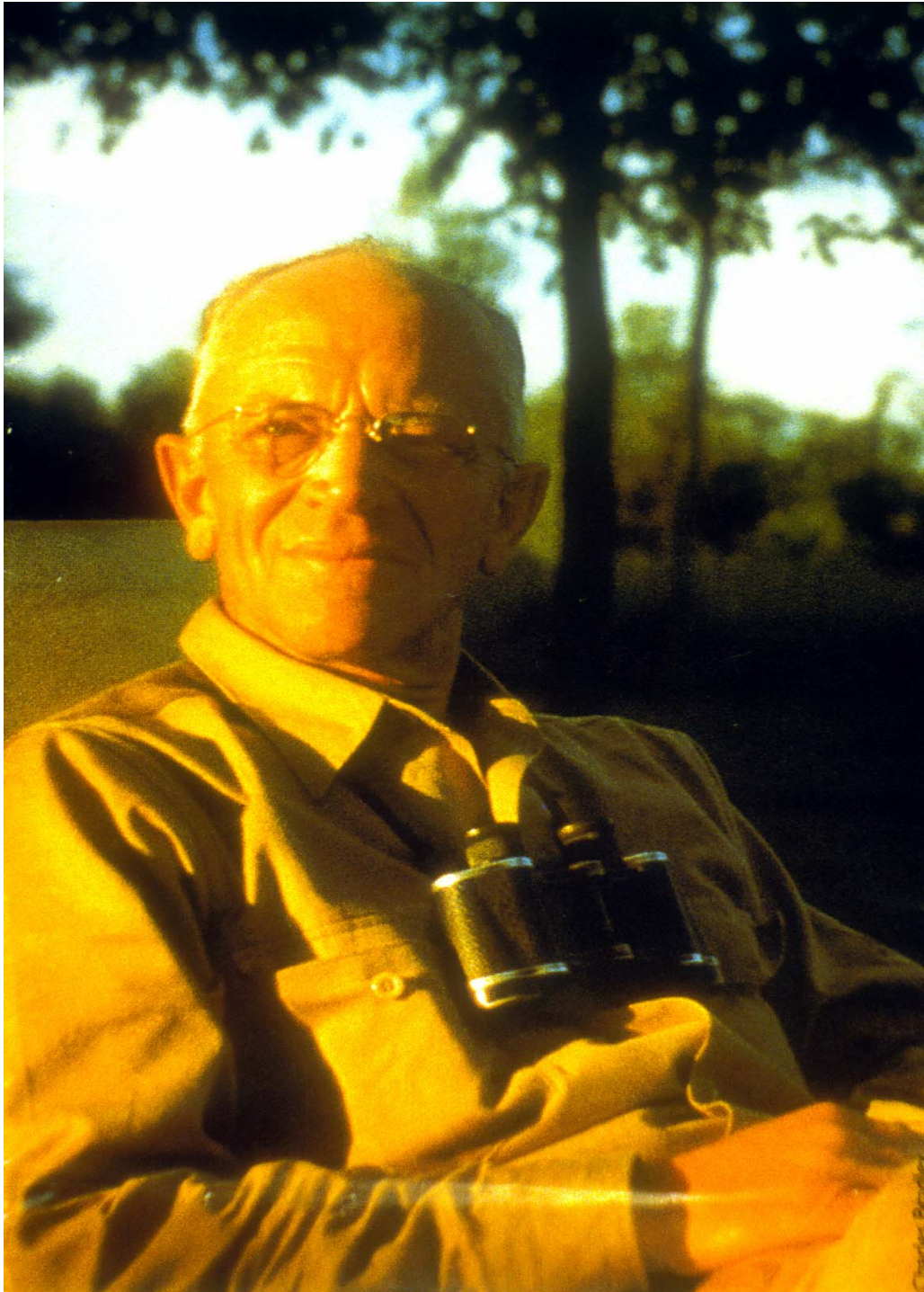


# MUST Run the World on Renewables – plus Nuclear ?

- Demand growth
- Water for energy
- War
- Depletion of Oil and Gas
- Only 200 years of Coal left
- Only Source of Income:
  - Sunshine
  - Tides
  - Spending our capital







# **Aldo Leopold**

**1887 - 1948**



**There are two spiritual dangers in not  
owning a farm:**

**One is supposing that breakfast  
comes from the grocery;**

**The other is supposing that heat  
comes from the furnace.**

*Aldo Leopold, "A Sand County Almanac"*

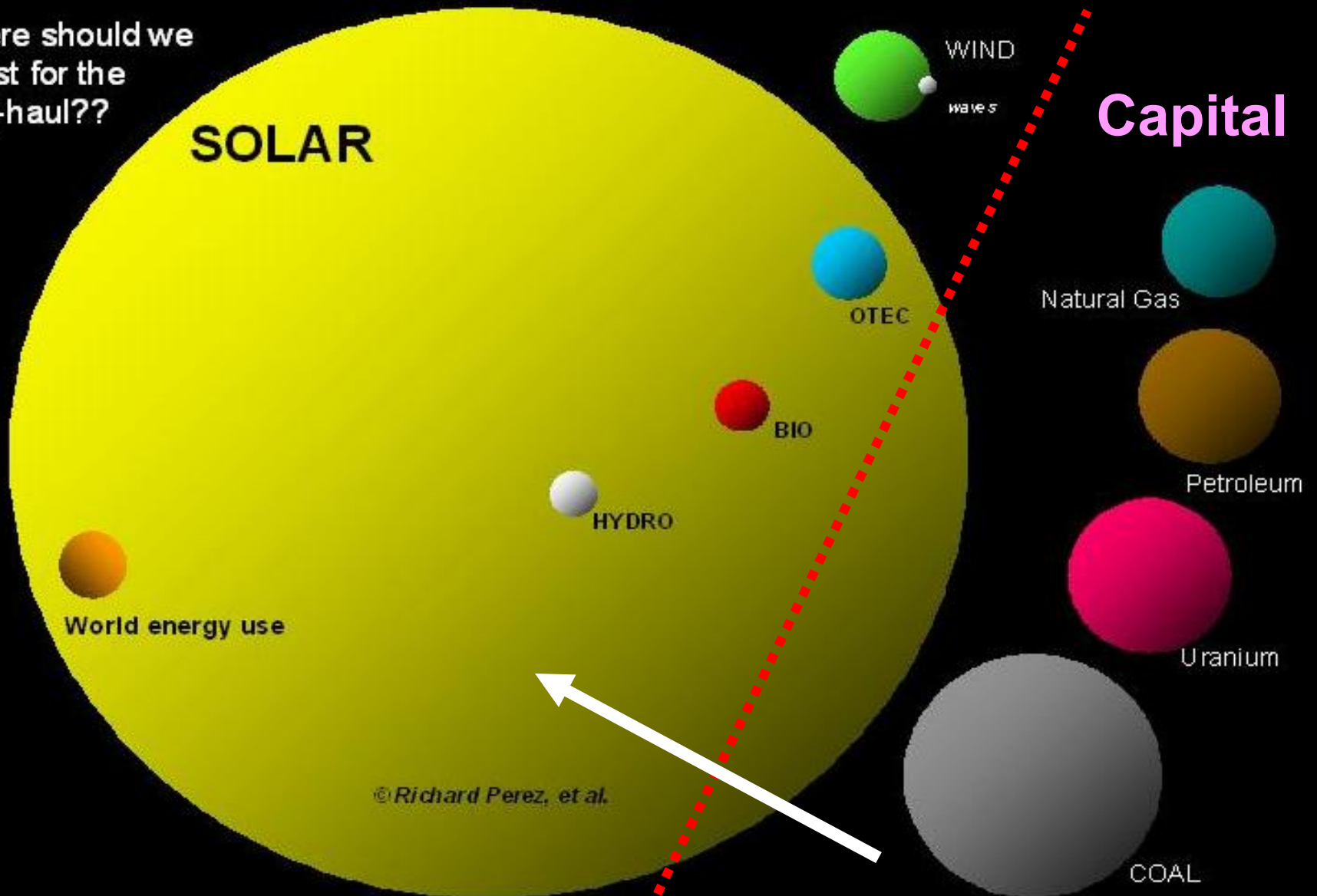


Comparing the world's energy resources\*

Annual Income

Where should we  
invest for the  
long-haul??

Capital



©Richard Perez, et al.

\*yearly potential is shown for the renewable energies. Total reserves are shown for the fossil and nuclear "use-them, lose-them" resources. Word energy use is annual.

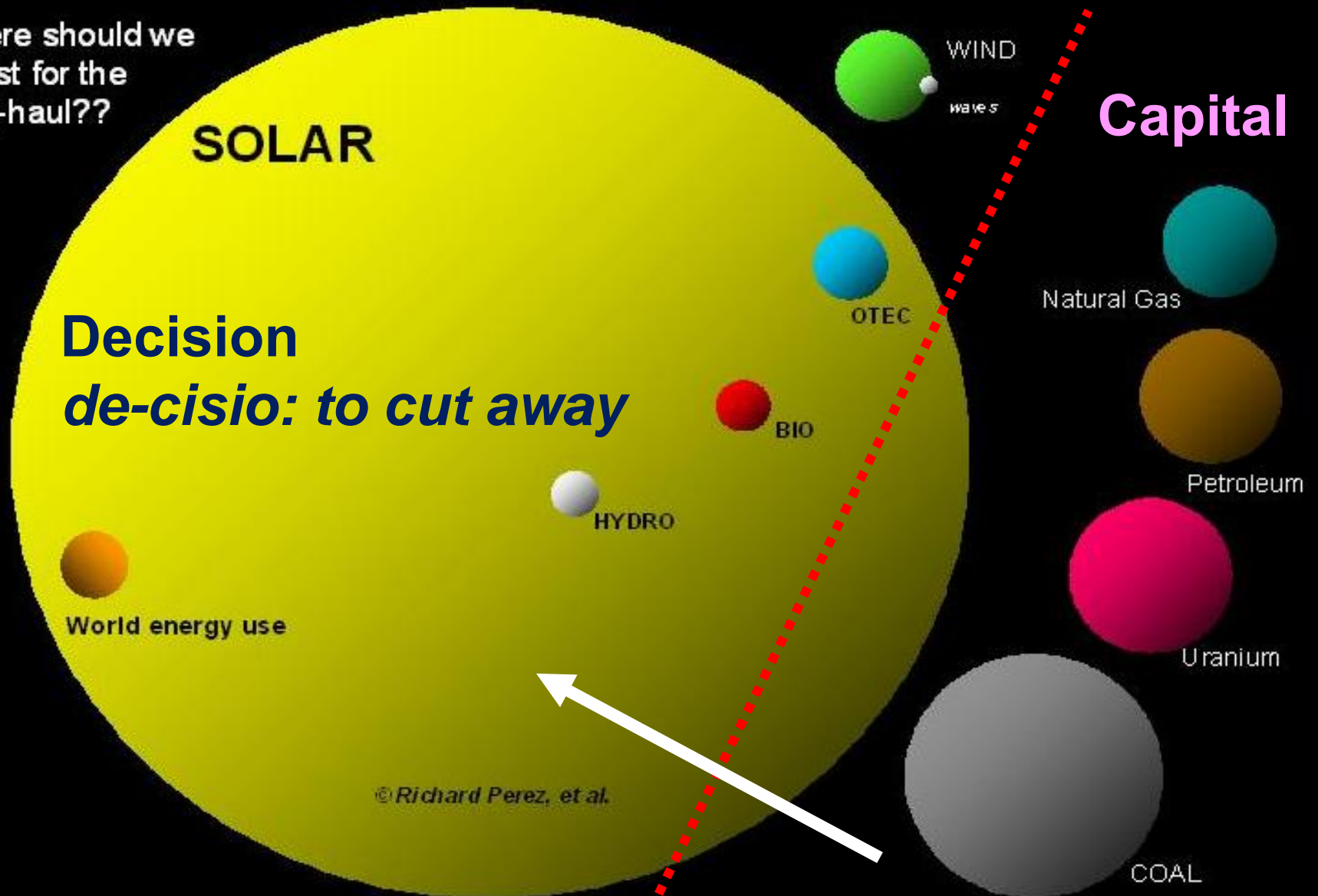


Comparing the world's energy resources\*

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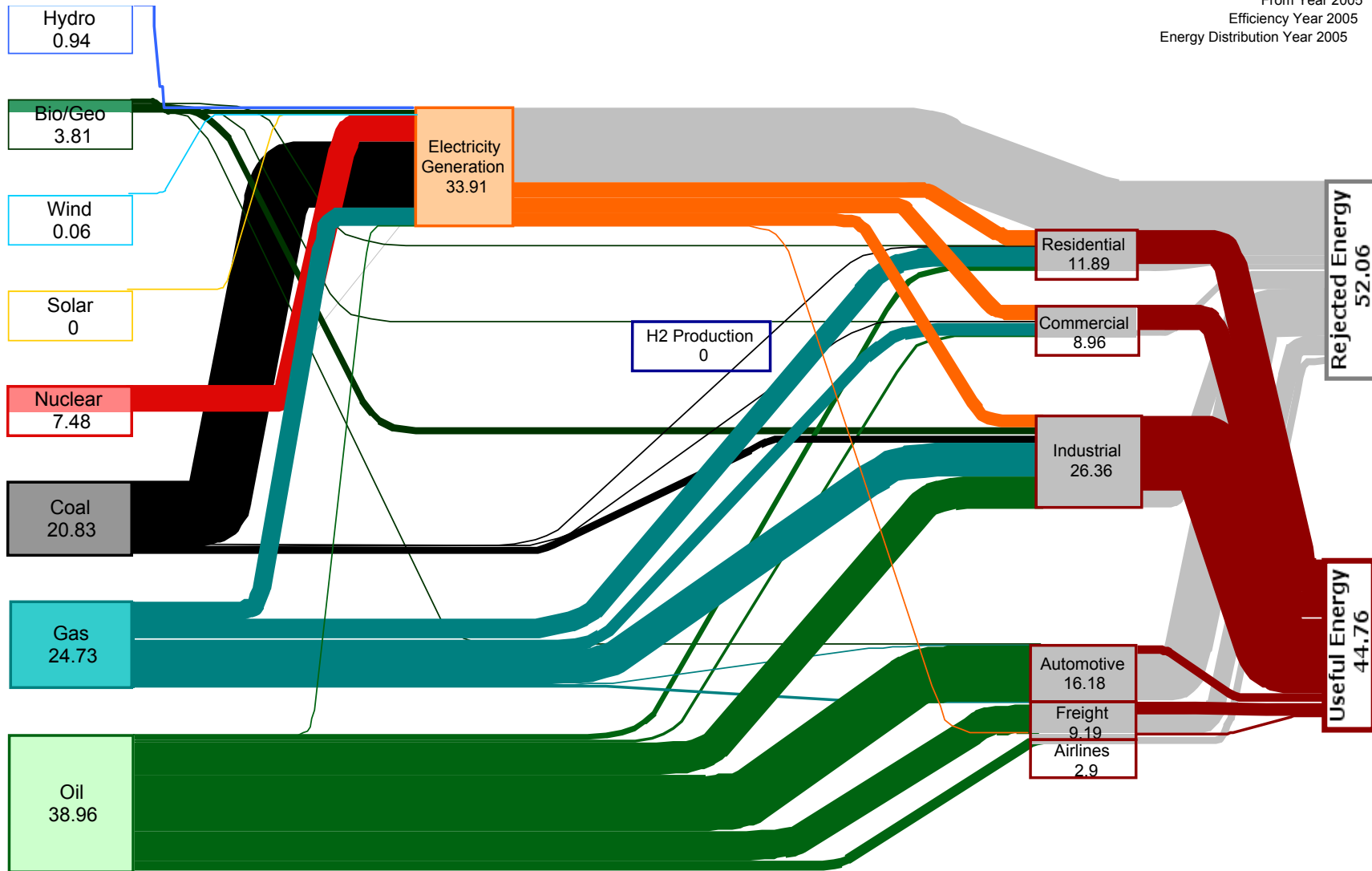
\*yearly potential is shown for the renewable energies. Total reserves are shown for the fossil and nuclear "use-them, lose-them" resources. Word energy use is annual.



# DOE-EIA: 2005 estimated US annual energy: ~ 100 quads = 100 TWh

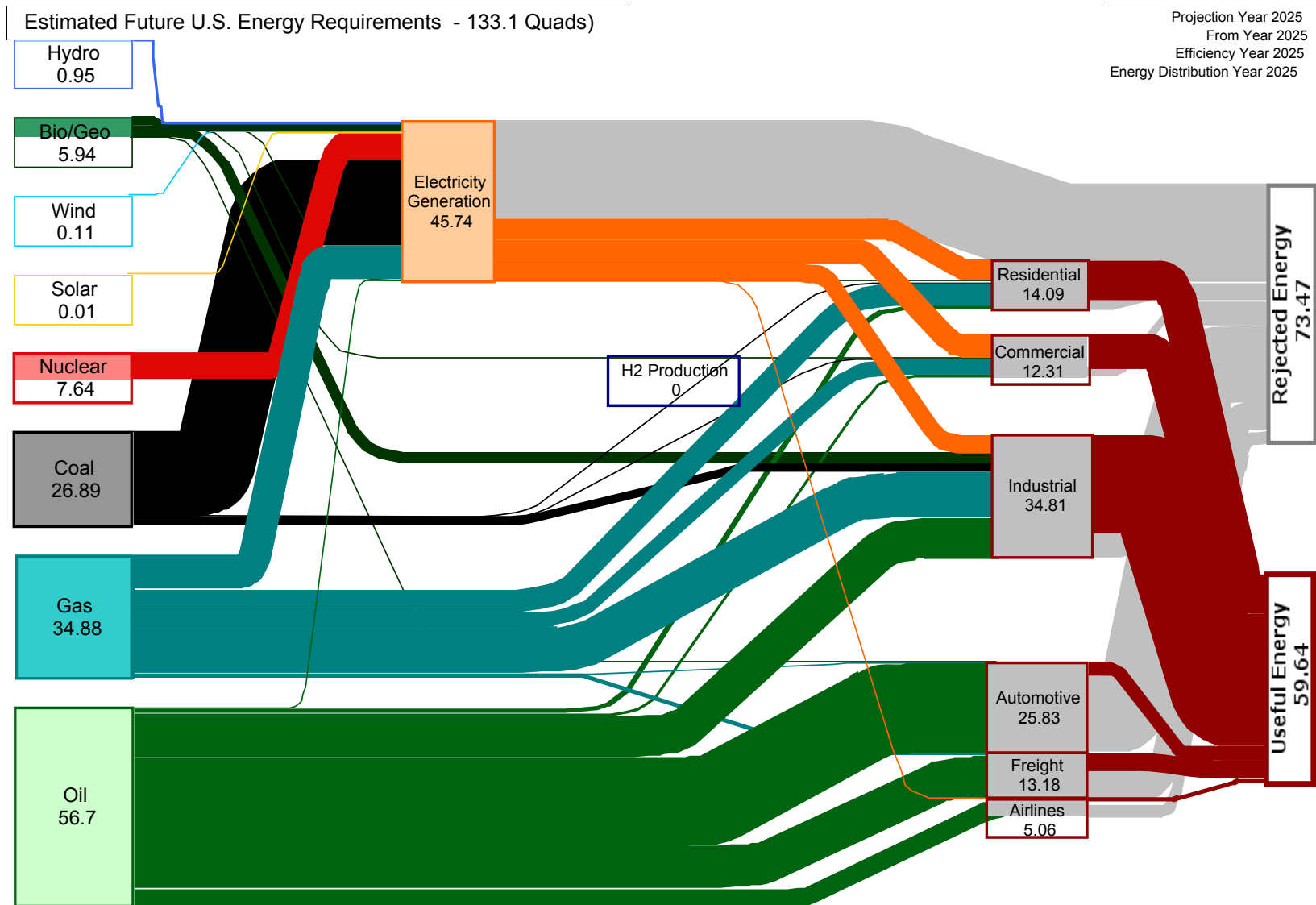
Estimated Future U.S. Energy Requirements - 96.8 Quads)

Projection Year 2005  
From Year 2005  
Efficiency Year 2005  
Energy Distribution Year 2005





# EIA estimated 2025 annual energy: ~ 130 quads = 130 TWh

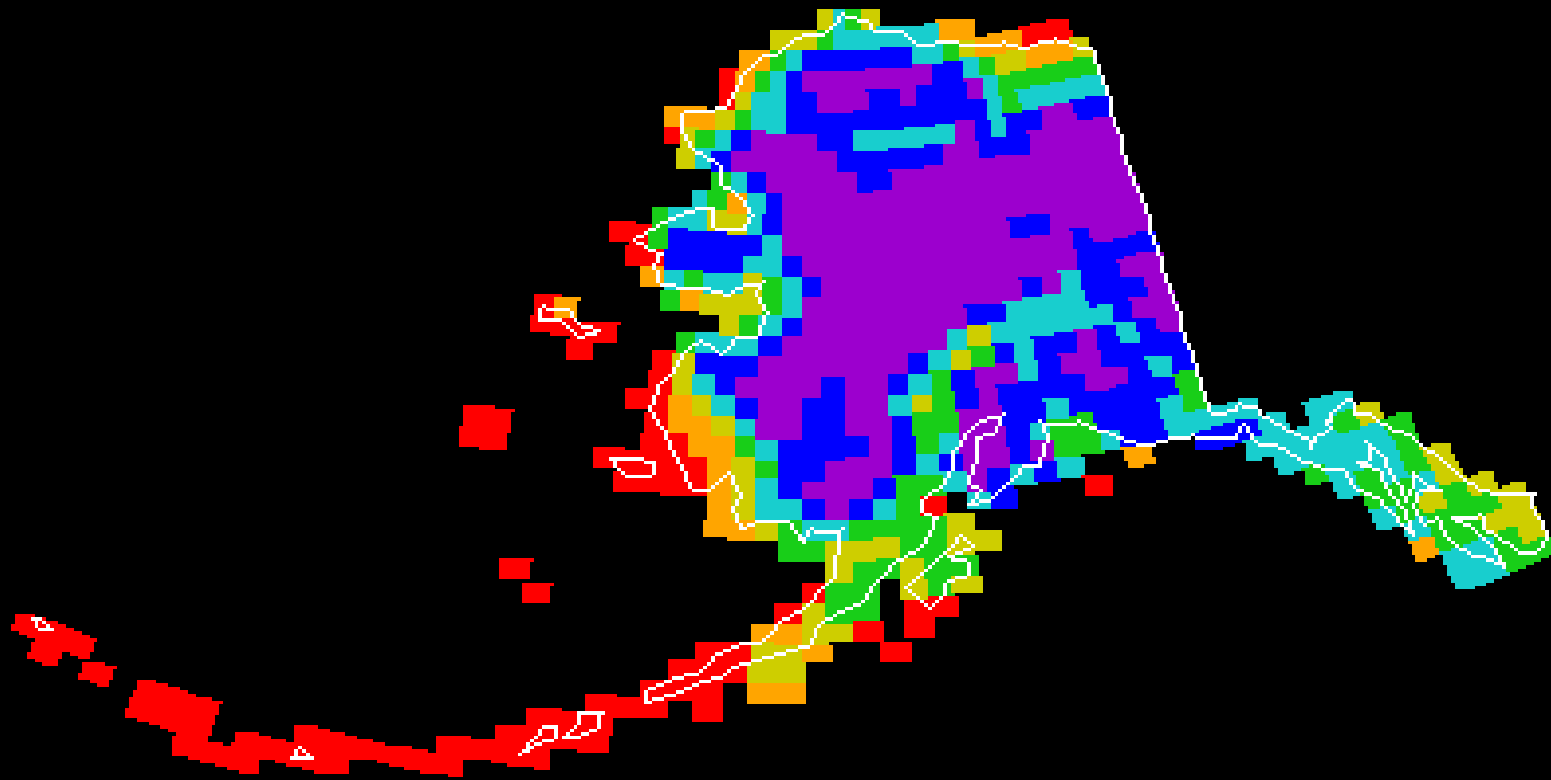















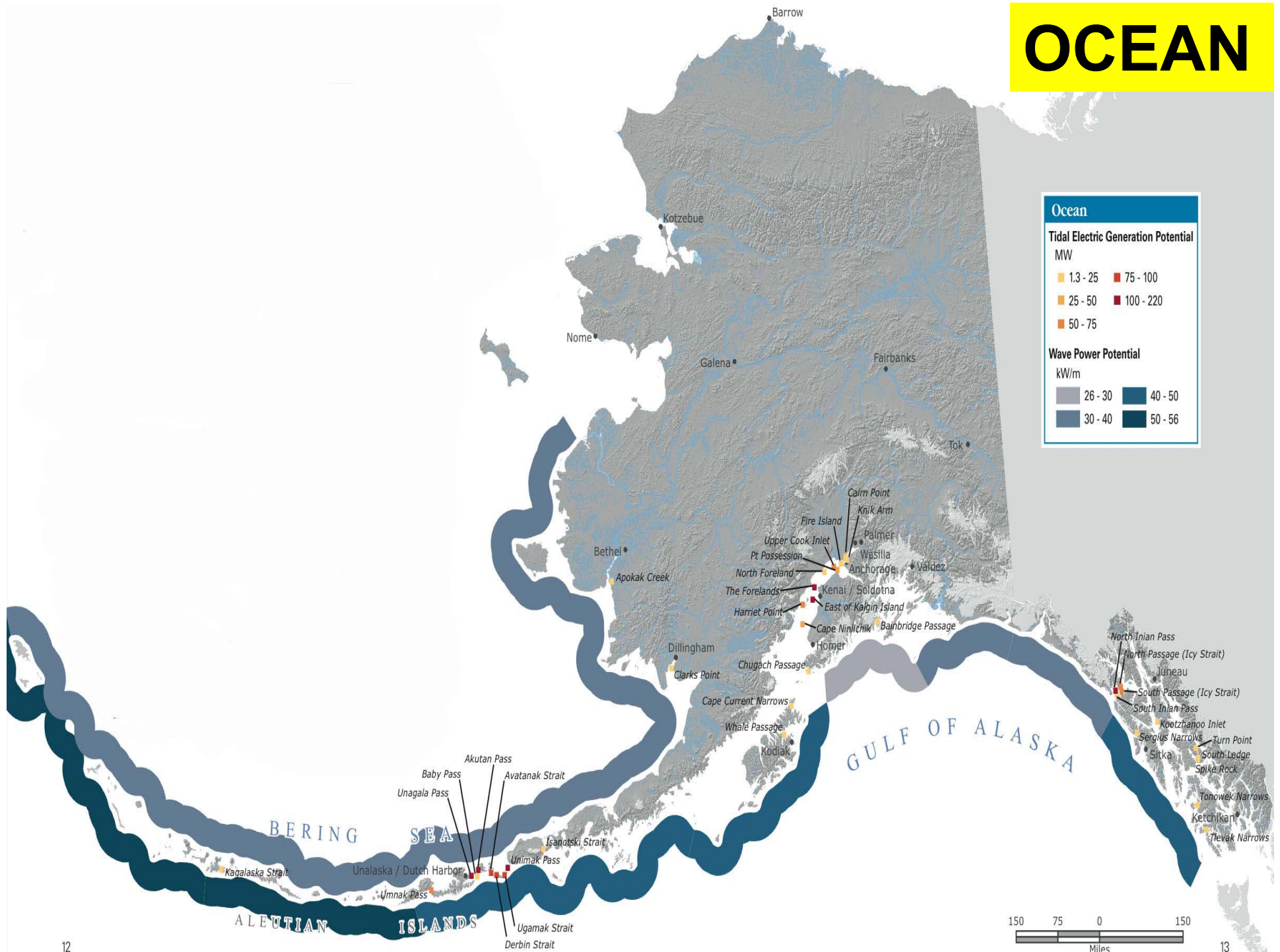
## *Wind Power Class*



	Power Class	Speed	Power Density
	1	0.0-5.6m/s	0-200W/m <sup>2</sup>
	2	5.6-6.4m/s	200-300W/m <sup>2</sup>
	3	6.4-7.0m/s	300-400W/m <sup>2</sup>
	4	7.0-7.5m/s	400-500W/m <sup>2</sup>
	5	7.5-8.0m/s	500-600W/m <sup>2</sup>
	6	8.0-8.8m/s	500-800W/m <sup>2</sup>
	7	>8.8m/s	>800W/m <sup>2</sup>

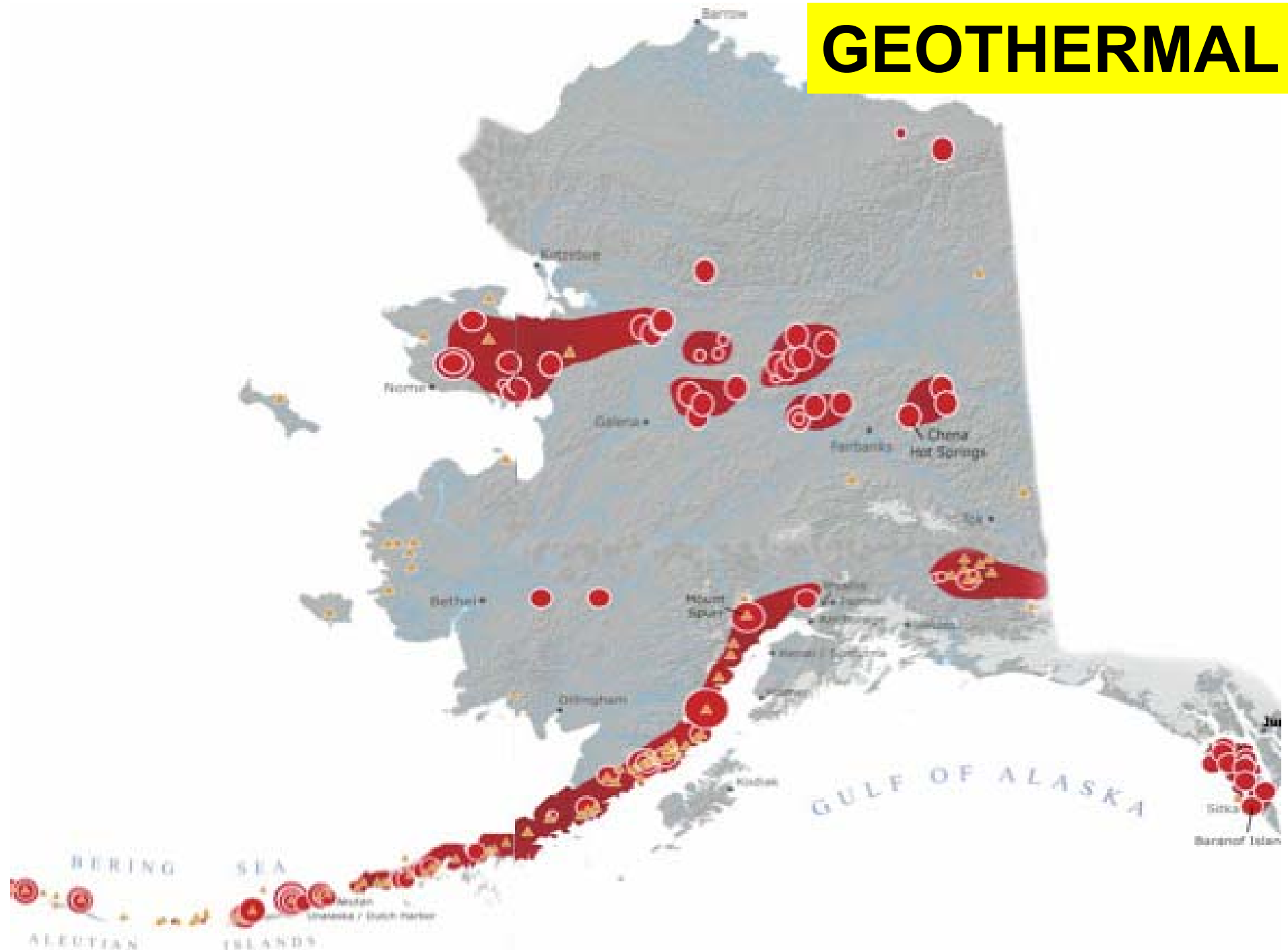


# OCEAN





# GEO THERMAL

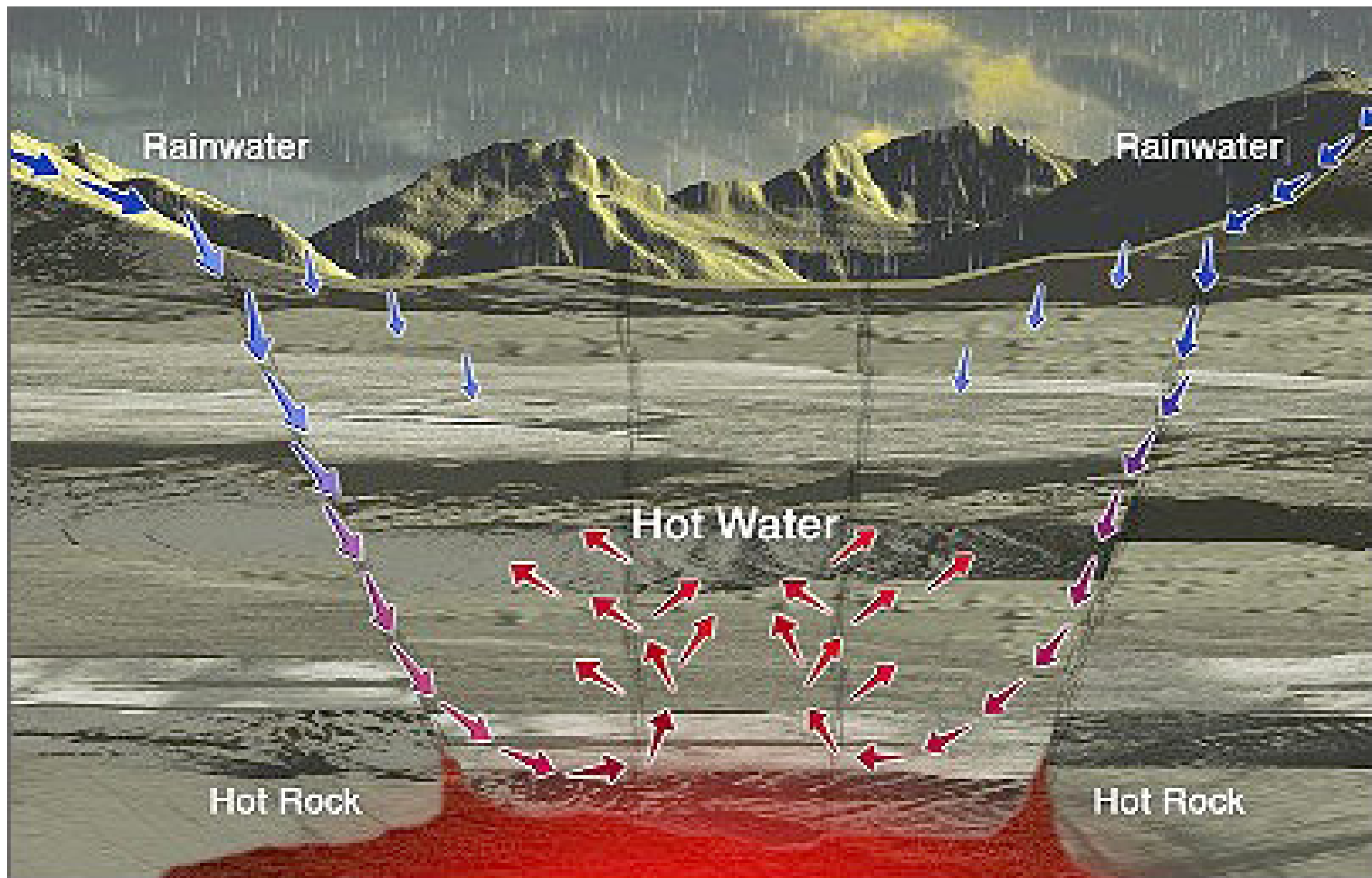






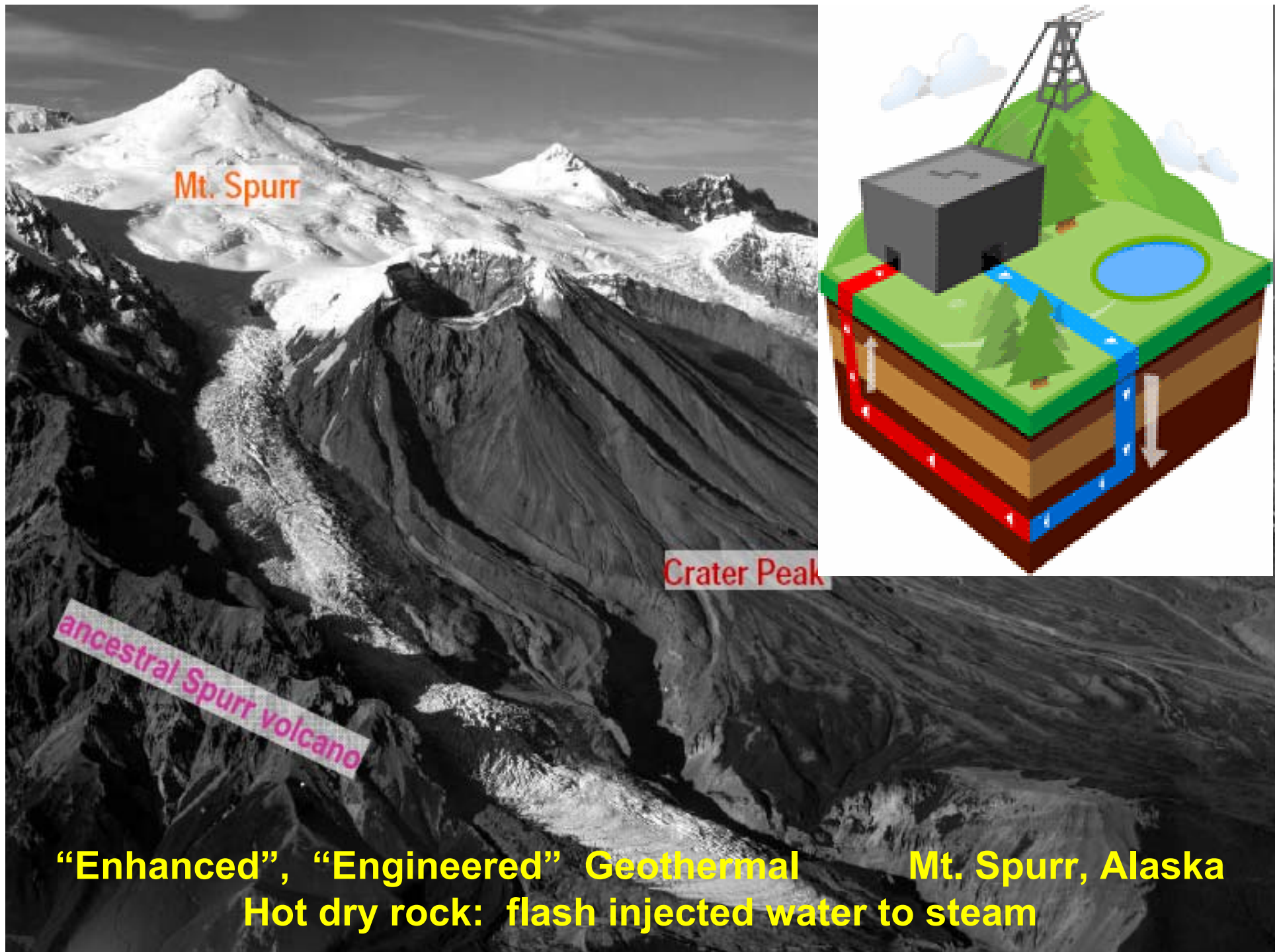
*Hydro*





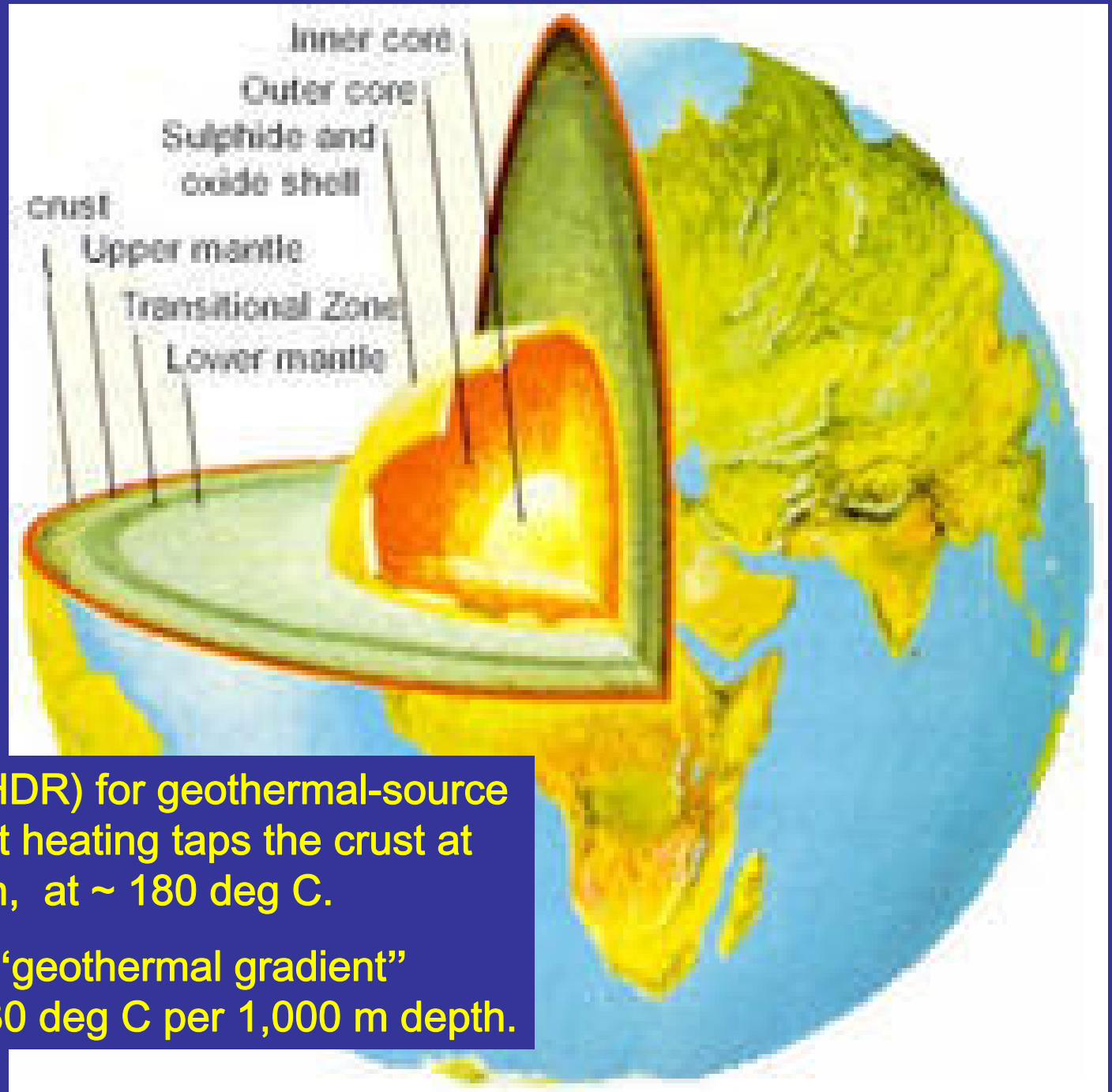
**Geothermal: hot water, surface recharge**





**“Enhanced”, “Engineered” Geothermal      Mt. Spurr, Alaska**  
**Hot dry rock: flash injected water to steam**



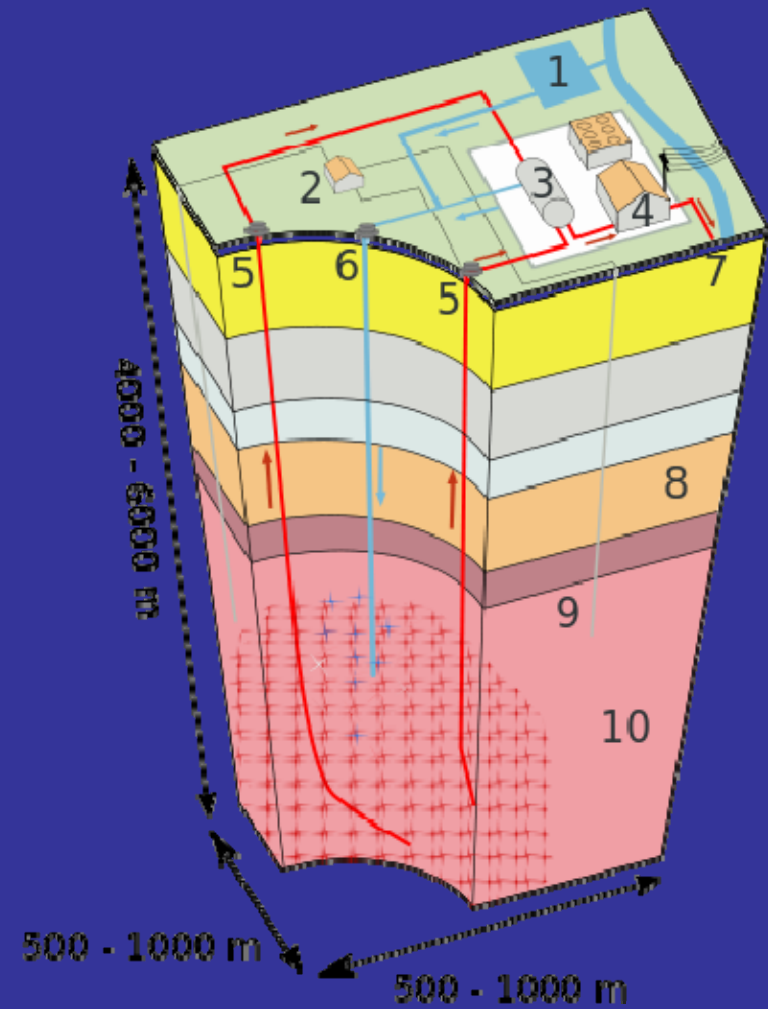
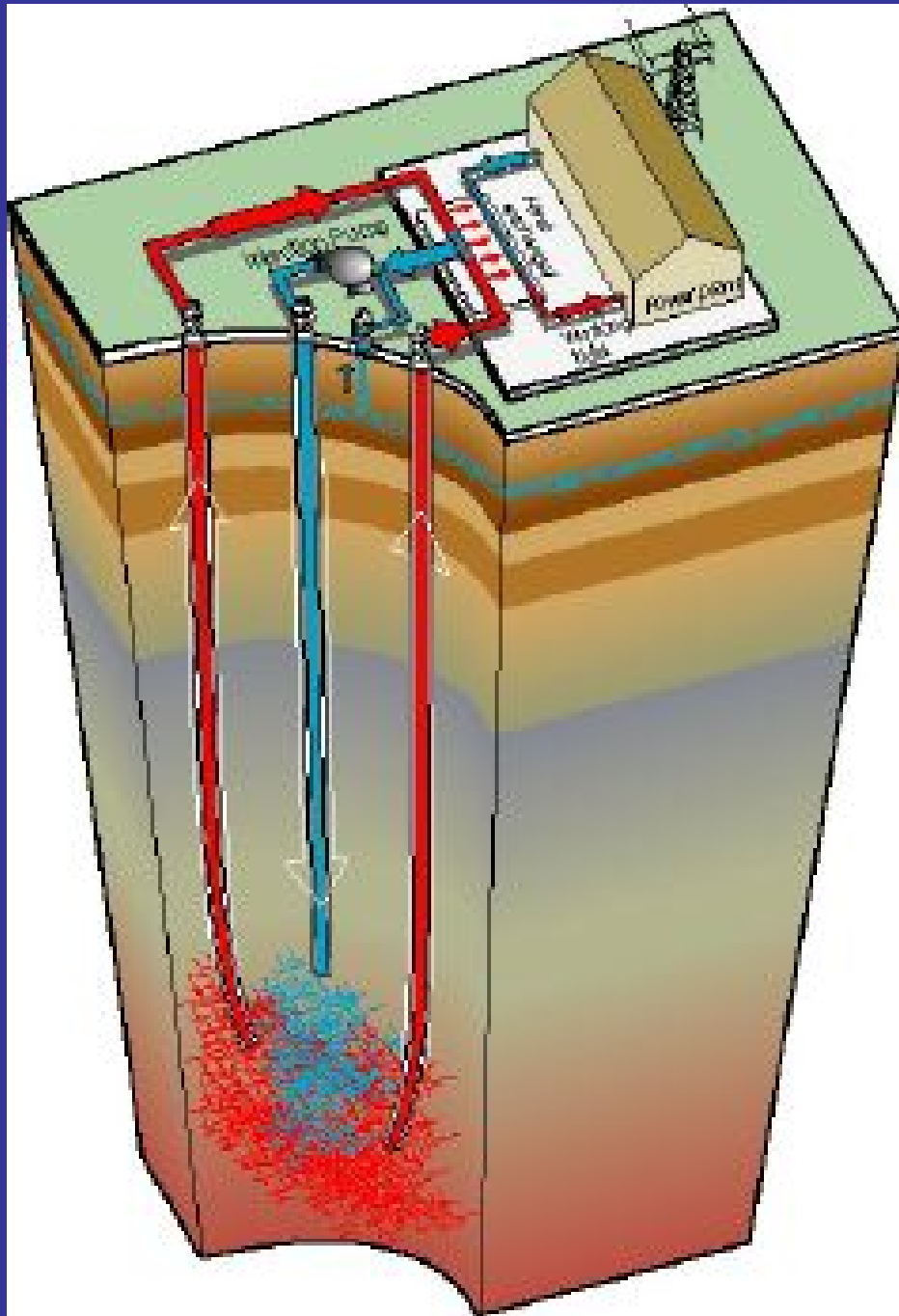


Hot Dry Rock (HDR) for geothermal-source hot water district heating taps the crust at ~ 6,000 m depth, at ~ 180 deg C.

The ubiquitous “geothermal gradient” worldwide is ~ 30 deg C per 1,000 m depth.



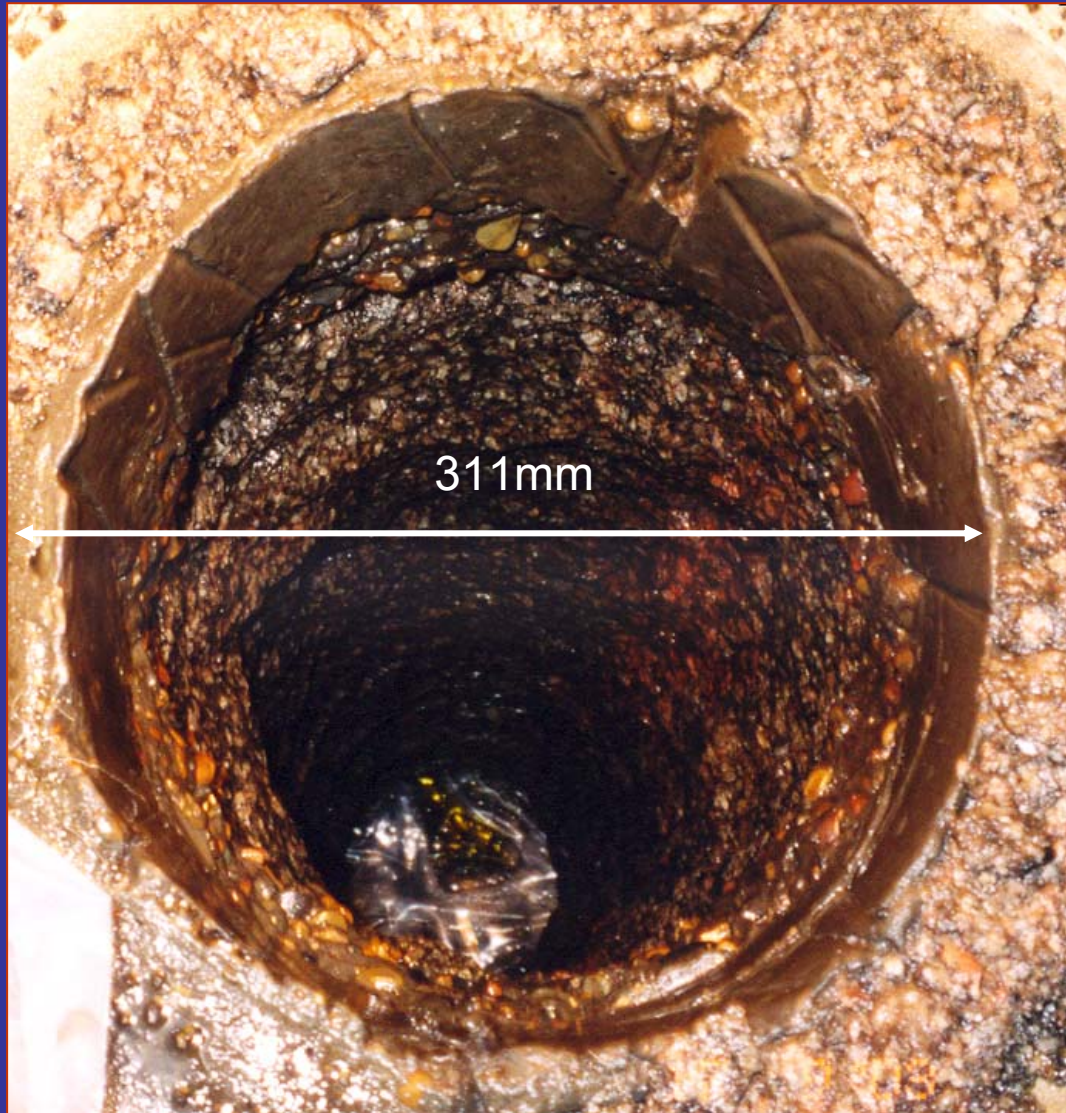
## “Engineered Geothermal Systems”



EPB might be used for this, at deep rock temp  $< 200$  deg C, but is probably most economical as a single borehole HDR “well”.



**2003 : EPB Drilling Full Scale in Granite**  
**311 mm = 12.25 "**





## 2006 BIT DESIGN

### PROTOTYPE 1 MULTIELECTRODE BIT

07.03.2006 13:17:31





# ***Cost Of Energy (COE) for EPB HDR hot water community DHS***

The following DRAFT calculations slides assume:

1. Single “simple” or “enhanced” geothermal well 6,000 m deep, 20” diam via EPB,
2. Well reaches HDR at 180 deg C, per geothermal gradient of 30 deg C per 1,000 m depth
3. Well boring costs \$150 / m x 6,000 m = \$ 900,000
4. Cuttings (produced gravel) from EPB = 1,200 cubic meters = 3,300 tons
5. 1 kWh = 3,410 Btu
6. 1 gallon of heating oil = 135,000 Btu gross = 39.6 kWh / gallon “equivalent” (at 100% energy content)
7. Oil-fired heaters (Toyo, Monitor) average 90% efficiency
8. SINTEF study for NTNU estimates for one EPB well of above size:
  - a. Net 25,000 MWht / year produced as hot water per “simple” HDR well
  - b. Net 50,000 MWht / year produced as hot water per “enhanced” 4-leg branched HDR well
  - c. Well output / input temps modeled at 70 / 30 and 90 / 20 degrees C



ORC = Organic Rankine Cycle, for lower-temp hot water sources

Chena Hot Springs, Alaska: Two 225 kW ORC generation sets

By: UTC – Carrier PurePower 225.

Input 165 F = 74 C, 480 gpm      Cold = 40-45 F = 7 C, 1,500 gpm



# ***Trouble with Renewables***

- **Diffuse, dispersed: gathering cost**
- **Richest are remote: “stranded”**
  - High intensity
  - Large geographic extent
- **Time-varying output:**
  - “Intermittent”
  - “Firming” integration + storage required
- **Distributed AND centralized**



# ***Trouble with Renewables: Big Three***

1. Transmission and gathering
2. Storage: Annual-scale firming
3. Integration
  - Extant energy systems
  - Electricity grid
  - Fuels: CHP, transportation



# ***Trouble with Renewables: Electricity Transmission***

- Grid nearly full: who pays?
- Integration
  - Continental energy system
  - Quality
  - Time-varying
- Costly “firming” storage: CAES, VRB, pump hydro
- Low capacity factor (CF) or curtailment
- Overhead vulnerable: God or man
- Underground: only HVDC, 6x cost
- FERC no interstate jurisdiction
- Wide ROW
- NIMBY: delay + cost, site + ROW



**Zion, IL**

**Near Zion nuclear plant, Oct 02**



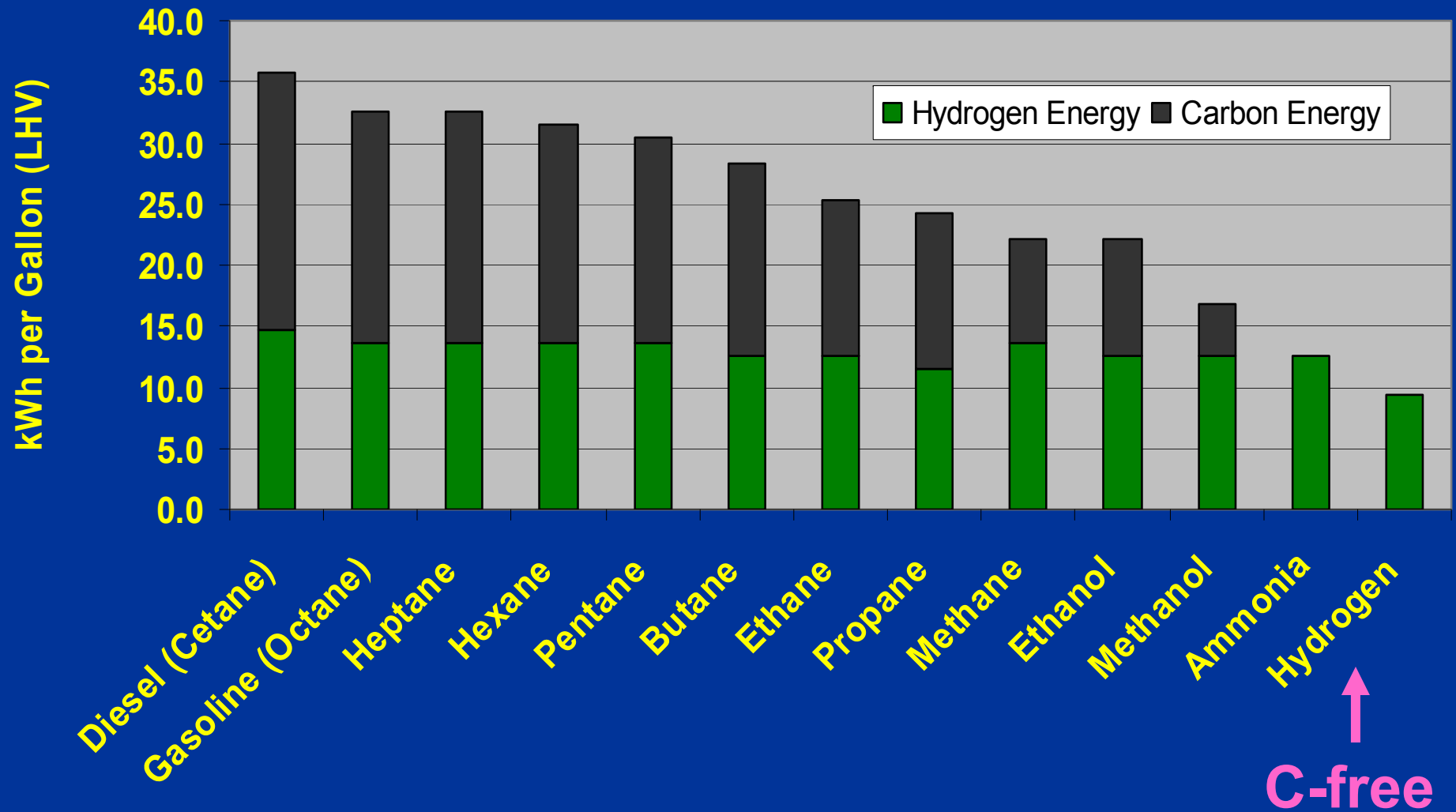


# ***Hydrogen and Ammonia Fuels***

- **Solve electricity's RE problems:**
  - **Transmission**
  - **Firming storage**
  - **Grid integration: time-varying output**
- **Carbon-free**
- **Underground pipelines**
- **Low-cost storage: < \$ 1.00 / kWh capital**
  - **Pipelines**
  - **GH2 salt caverns**
  - **NH3 tanks**



# Volumetric Energy Density of Fuels (Fuels in their Liquid State)

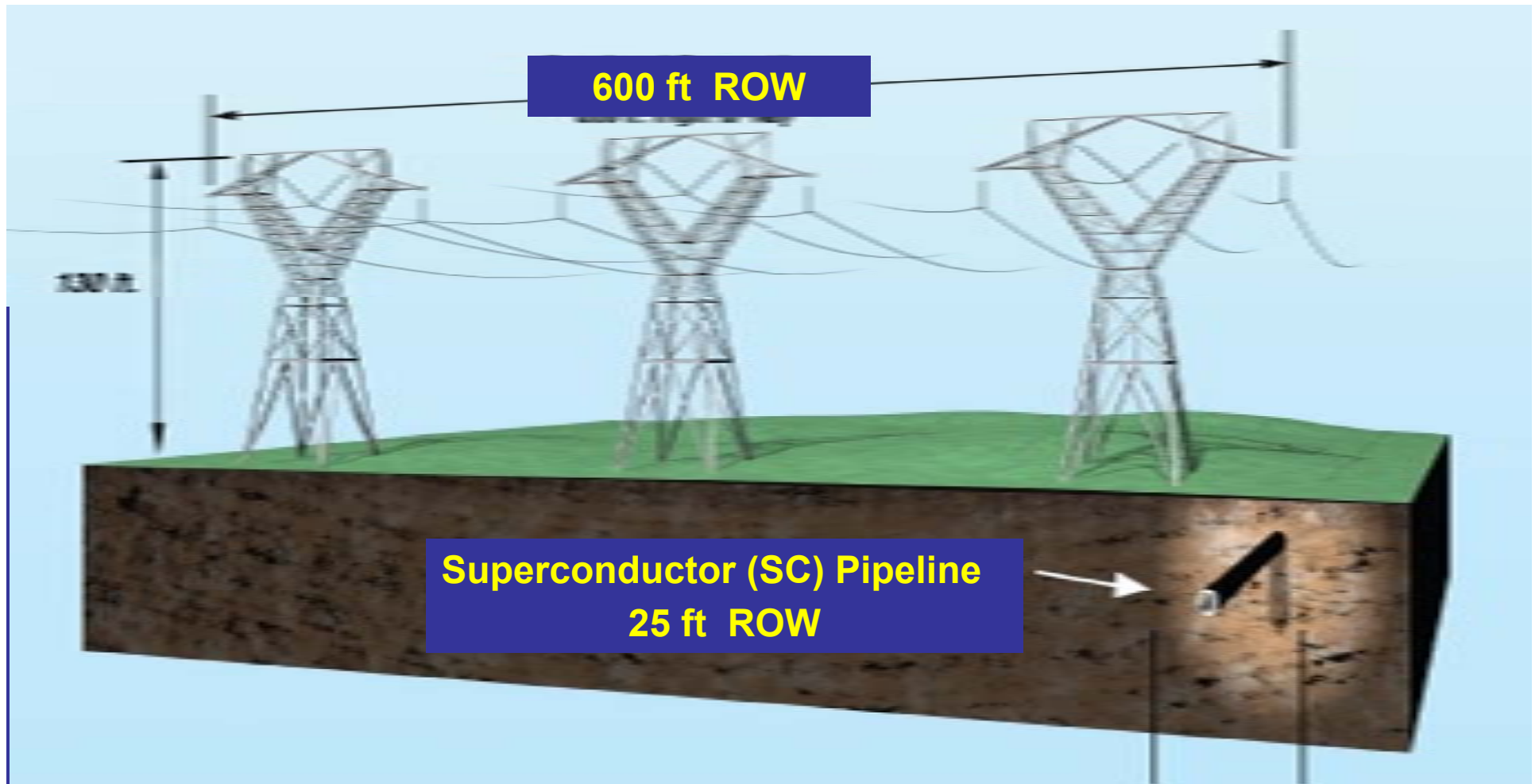




# ***Hydrogen and Ammonia Fuels***

- Delivering fuels: distribution
- ICE, CT, Fuel cell
- CHP on-site
- Utility substation wholesale
- Transportation
  - Rail
  - Truck
  - Personal
- Emissions:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{N}_2$





**Out of Sight, Out of Harm's Way**

**10,000 MW alternatives: HVAC vs HVDC superconductor**



# ***“Firm” Energy Essential***

- Every hour, every year
- Dispatchable
- Strategically: indigenous, secure
- Market price: worth more
- Bankable large projects
- Risk avoidance:
  - Rapid climate change
  - Economic chaos



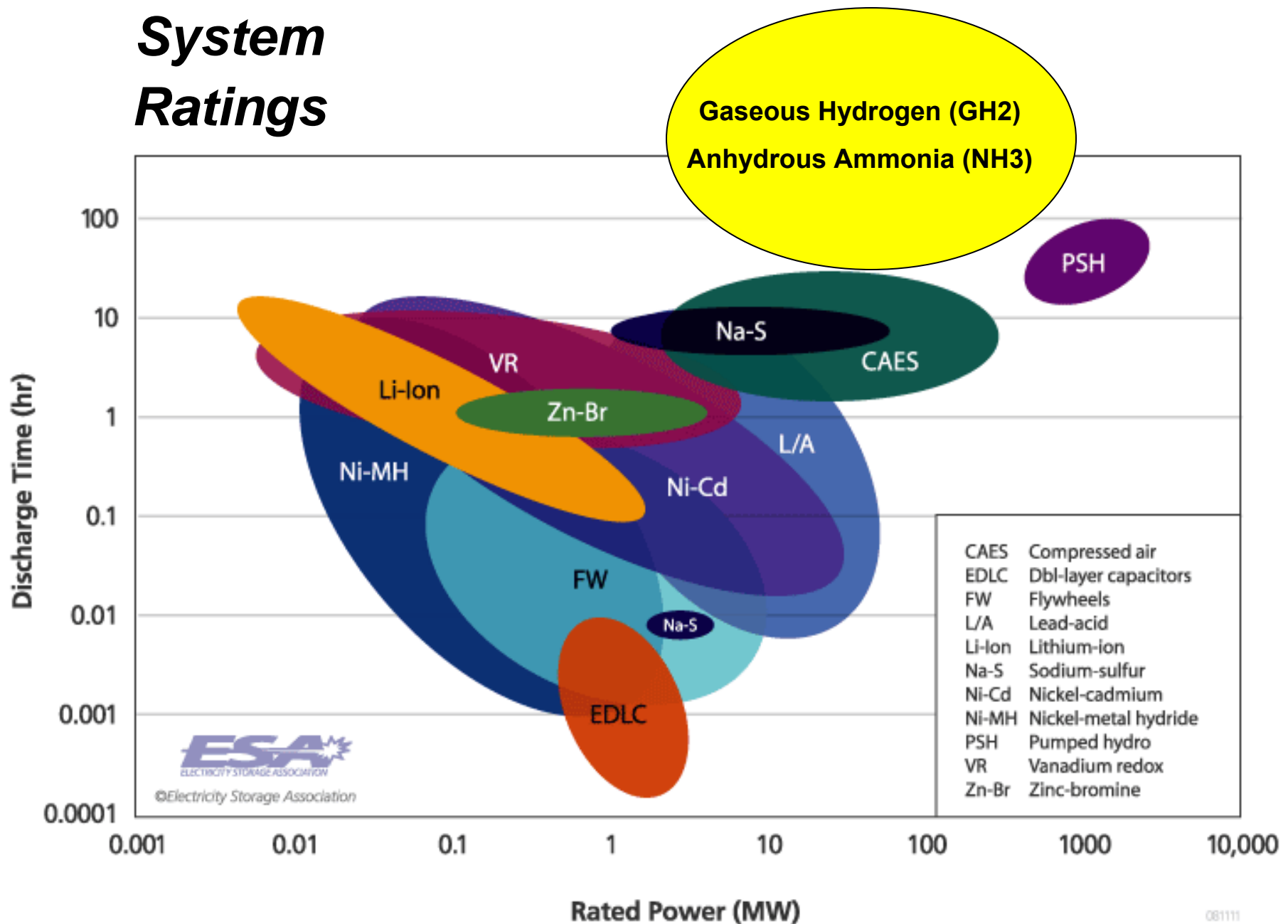
# ***Energy Storage System Characteristics***

## ***Hydrogen and Ammonia off the charts ?***

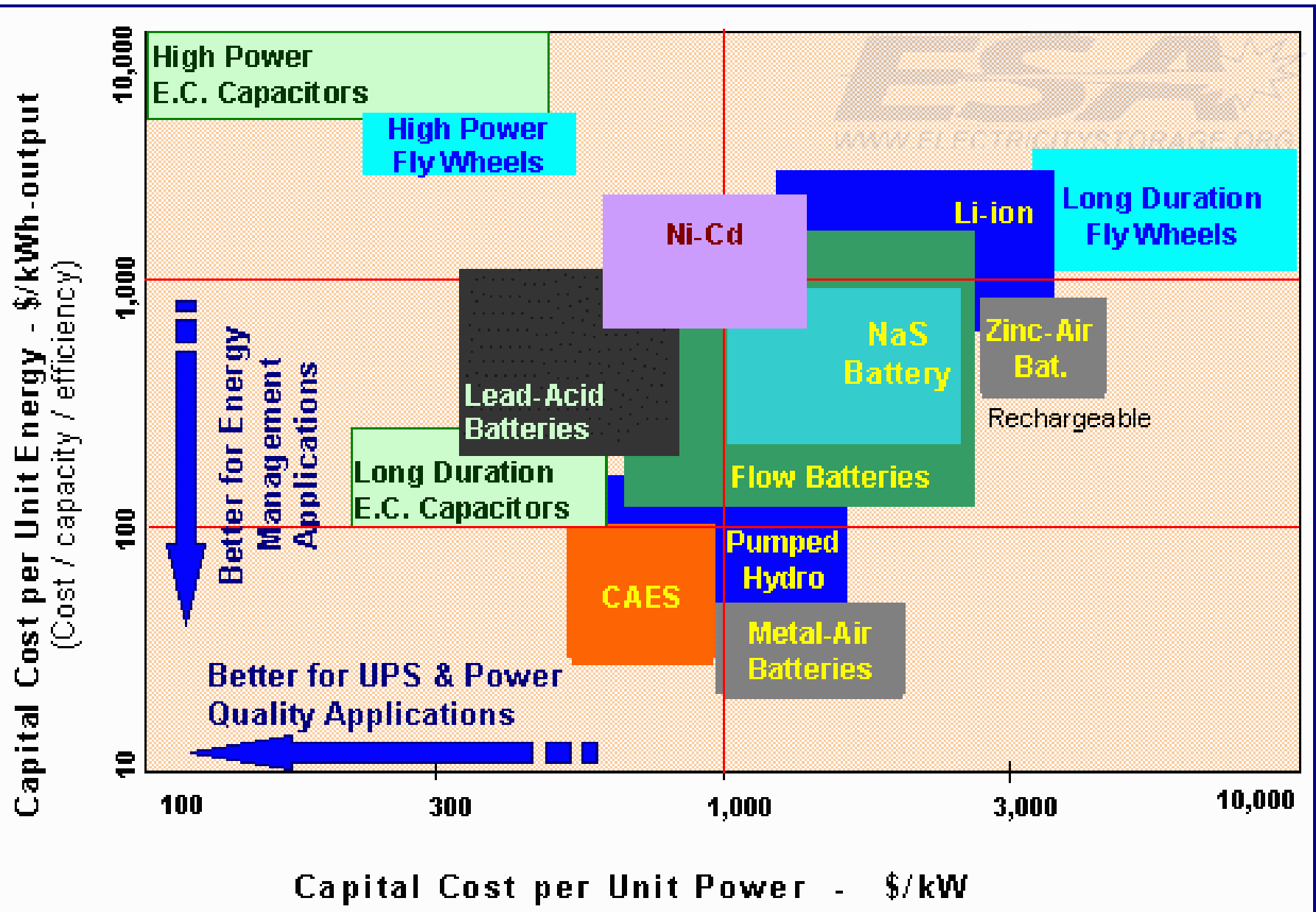
- ***Storage capacity (Mwh, scf, nM3, Mt, gallons .... )***
- ***Power (MW, scfm ....) In / Out rate***
- ***Costs***
  - ***Capital***
  - ***O&M***
- **Efficiency**
- **Response time**
- **Durability (cycling capacity)**
- **Reliability**
- **Autonomy**
- **Self-discharge**
- **Depth of discharge**
- **Adaptation to the generating source**
- **Mass and volume densities of energy**
- **Monitoring and control equipment**
- **Operational constraints**
- **Feasibility**
- **Environmental**



# System Ratings



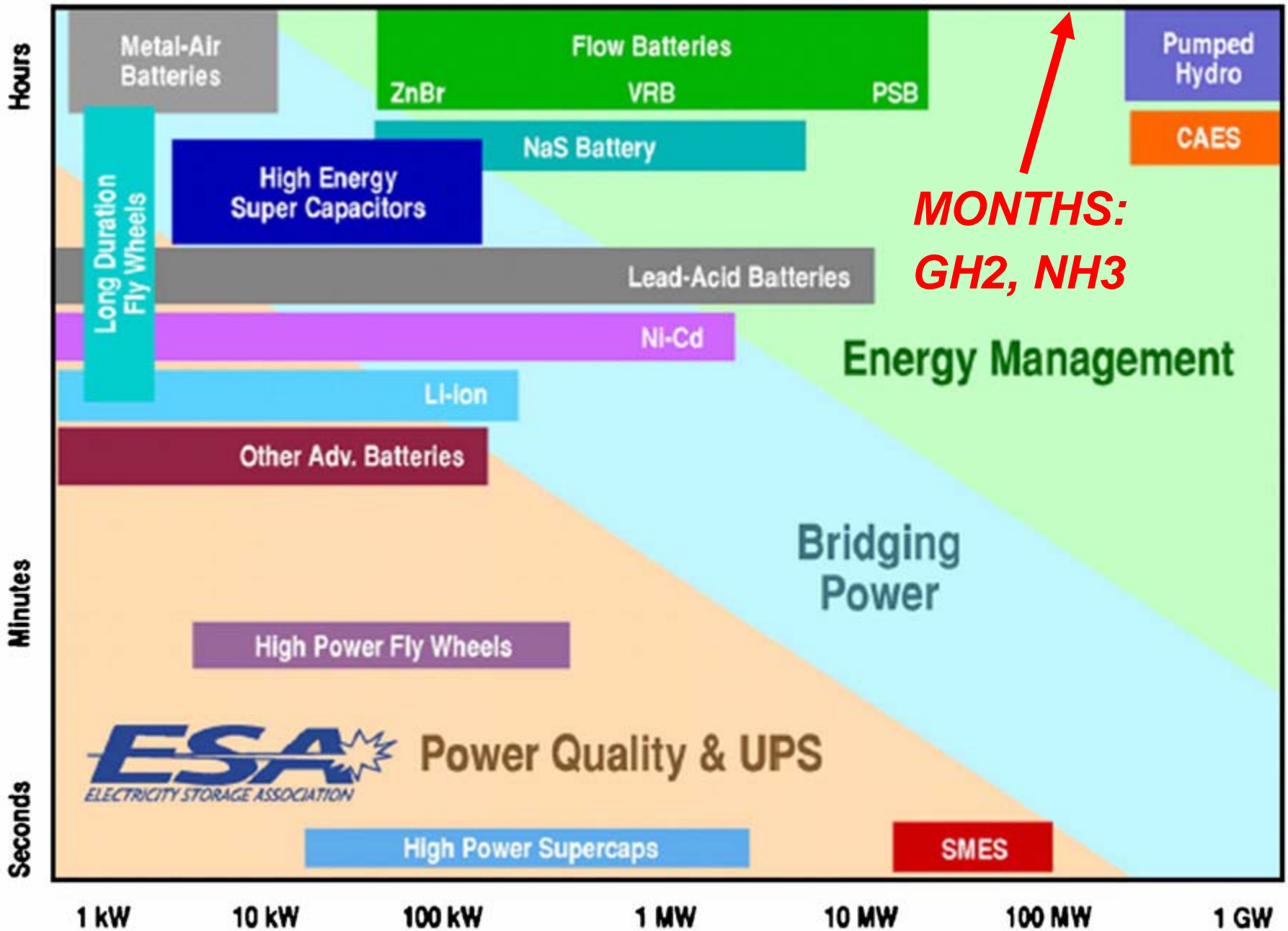




**GH2 and NH3**



Discharge Time



Power



# ***Beyond “Smart Grid”***

- **Primarily DSM**
- **More vulnerable to cyberattack ?**
- **Adds no physical:**
  - **Transmission, gathering, distribution**
  - **Storage**
- **Next big thing; panacea**
- **Running the world on renewables ?**
- **Must think:**
  - **Beyond electricity**
  - **Complete energy systems**
  - **ALL energy: Hermann Scheer**



# ***“Transmission”***

- **Electrofuels**
- **Renewable-source electricity**
- **Underground pipelines**
- **Carbon-free fuels: hydrogen, ammonia**
- **Low-cost storage:**
  - \$ 0.10 – 0.20 / kWh capital**
- **CHP, transport, industrial**
- **GW scale**





**“ Americans can be  
counted on to  
always do the right  
thing –**

**but only after they  
have tried  
everything else ”**

**Winston Churchill**

The dog caught the car.

Dan Reicher



**Sunlight from  
local star**

**Electricity**

**O<sub>2</sub>**

**Electricity**

**H<sub>2</sub>**

**Work**

**Electrolyzer**

**Fuel Cell**

PEM Electrolyzer  
 $2\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{Energy} \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2 + \text{O}_2$

Item: 2010  
Solar Hydrogen System JuniorBasic  
www.h-tec.com

PEM Fuel Cell  
 $2\text{H}_2 + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{Energy}$



**Solar Hydrogen Energy System**



**The Great Plains Wind Resource**

This map illustrates the Great Plains region of the United States, outlined in blue. A red dashed line traces a path from the northern plains, passing through the central states, and extending towards the Gulf of Mexico, likely representing a major wind resource corridor. A small green square is located in the northern plains, near the Canadian border. The map includes a legend for land use types and a scale bar in miles and kilometers.

**Legend:**

- Urban
- Cropland
- Cropland & Woodland
- Cropland & Grazing Land
- Grazing Land
- Forest, Woodland
- Shrub, Scrub, Grass
- Wetlands
- Water

**Scale:**

0 50 100 200 300 400 Miles  
0 125 250 375 500 Kilometers





# Exporting From 12 Windiest Great Plains States

Number of GH2 pipelines or HVDC electric lines necessary to export total wind resource

Capacity at 500 miles length

Capacity Factor (CF) = 30%

State	Annual Energy Production (TWh)	Nameplate Installed Capacity (MW)	Nameplate Installed Capacity (GW)	6 GW 36" GH2 Hydrogen Pipelines	\$ Billion Total Capital Cost	3 GW 500 KV HVDC Electric Lines	\$ Billion Total Capital Cost
Texas	6,528	1,901,530	1,902	317		634	
Kansas	3,647	952,371	952	159		317	
Nebraska	3,540	917,999	918	153		306	
South Dakota	3,412	882,412	882	147		294	
Montana	3,229	944,004	944	157		315	
North Dakota	2,984	770,196	770	128		257	
Iowa	2,026	570,714	571	95		190	
Wyoming	1,944	552,073	552	92		184	
Oklahoma	1,789	516,822	517	86		172	
Minnesota	1,679	489,271	489	82		163	
New Mexico	1,645	492,083	492	82		164	
Colorado	1,288	387,220	387	65		129	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>33,711</b>	<b>9,376,694</b>	<b>9,377</b>	<b>1,563</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>	<b>3,126</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>

Wind energy source: Archer, Jacobson 2003



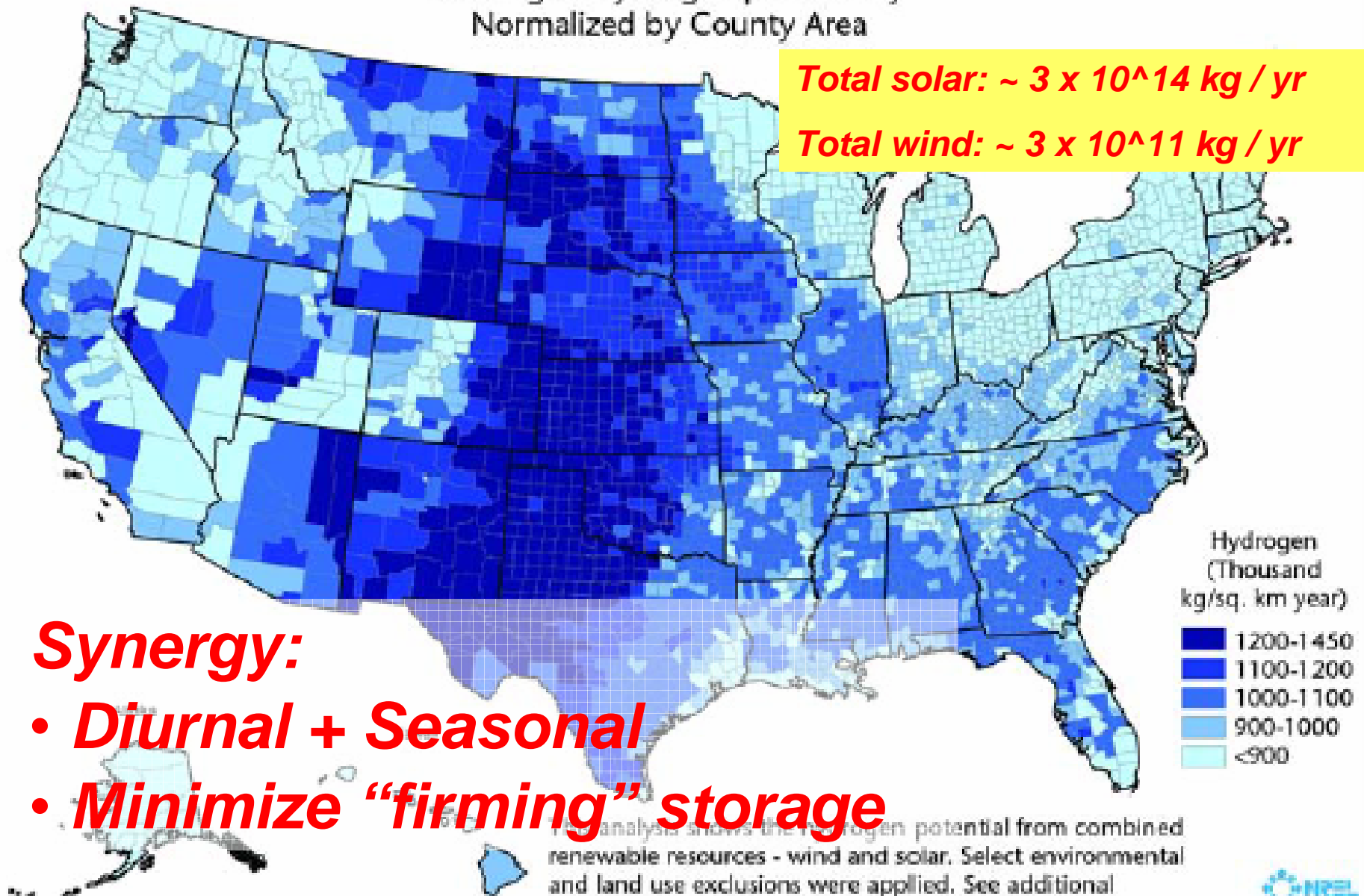
Figure 3

## Hydrogen Potential from Solar and Wind Resources

Total kg of Hydrogen per County  
Normalized by County Area

**Total solar:  $\sim 3 \times 10^{14}$  kg / yr**

**Total wind:  $\sim 3 \times 10^{11}$  kg / yr**

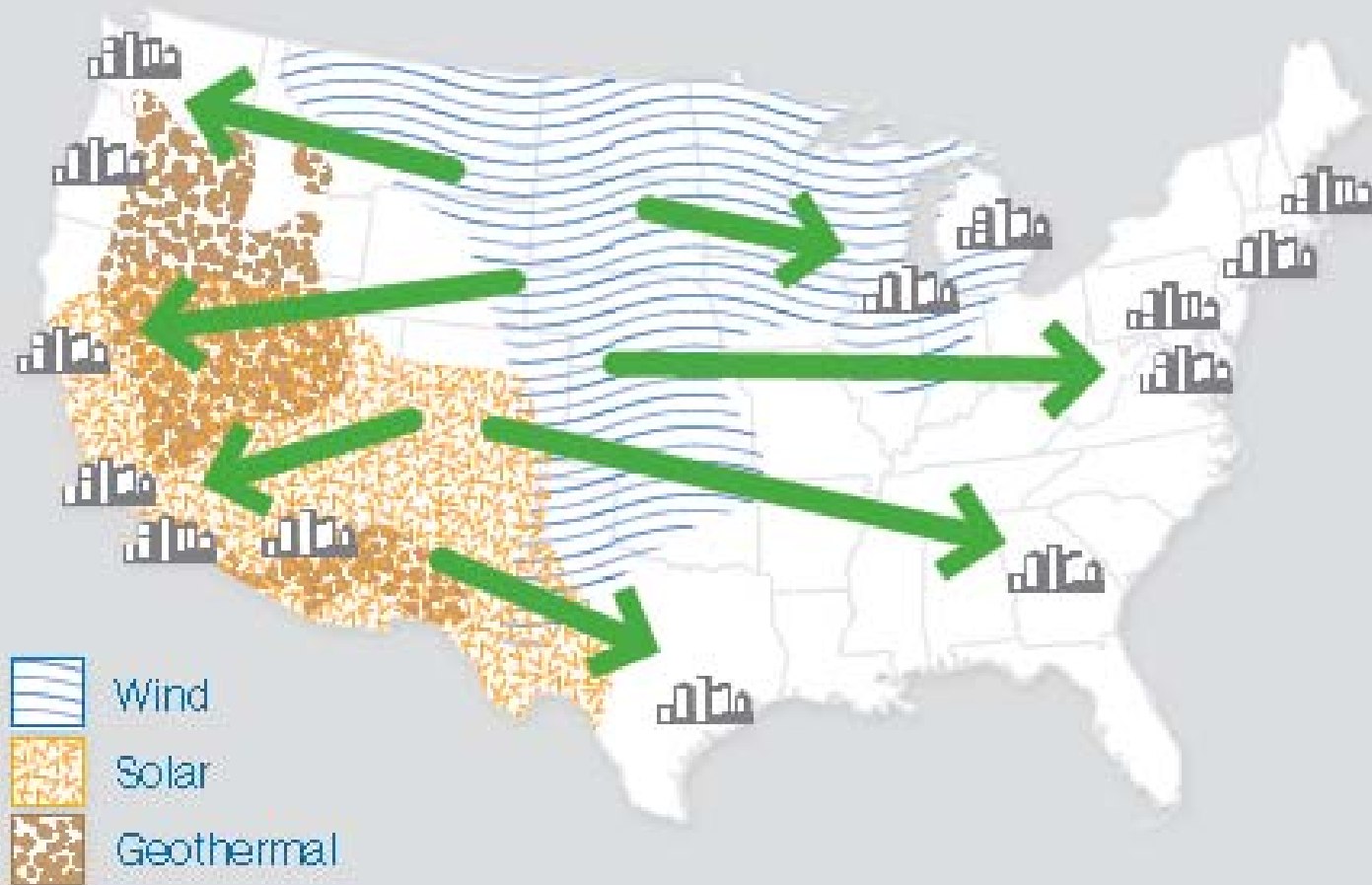


### **Synergy:**

- **Diurnal + Seasonal**
- **Minimize “firming” storage**

This analysis shows the hydrogen potential from combined renewable resources - wind and solar. Select environmental and land use exclusions were applied. See additional documentation for more information.





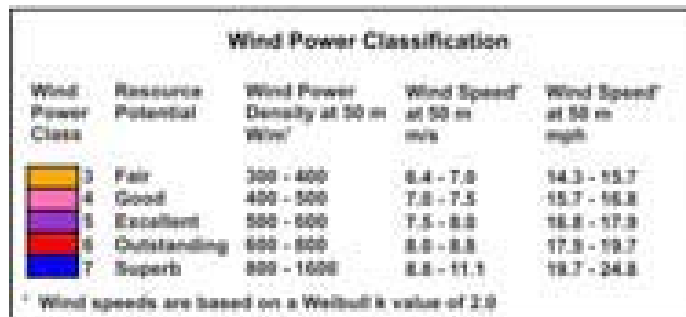
Source: AWEA and SEIA

**SEIA – AWEA      Feb 09**  
**“Green Power Superhighways:  
Building a Path to America’s Clean Energy Future”**

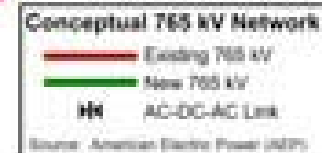
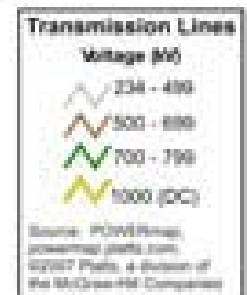


# AWEA 20% Wind by 2030

**“Never be built ...”**



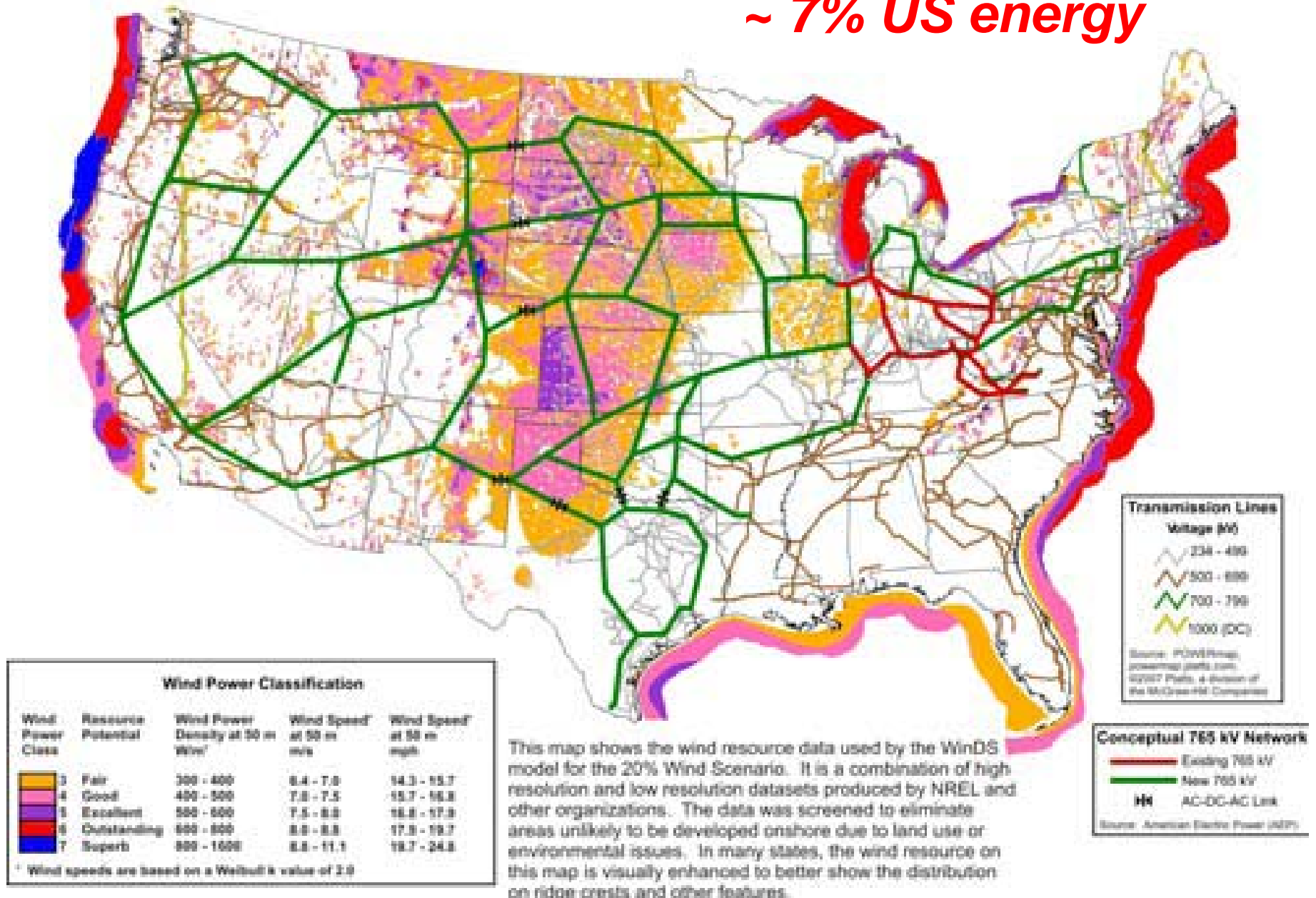
This map shows the wind resource data used by the WinDS model for the 20% Wind Scenario. It is a combination of high resolution and low resolution datasets produced by NREL and other organizations. The data was screened to eliminate areas unlikely to be developed onshore due to land use or environmental issues. In many states, the wind resource on this map is visually enhanced to better show the distribution on ridge crests and other features.





# AWEA: 20% Electricity from Wind by 2030

## ~ 7% US energy





## ***Electricity Capital Cost per GW-mile***

	<u>KV</u>	<u>Capacity MW</u>	<u>\$M / GW-mile</u>
• SEIA:	765	5,000	1.3
	345	1,000	2.6
• AEP-AWEA	765	5,000	3.2
<b>Consensus ?</b>			<b>2.5</b>





Atlantic  
Wind Connection



350 miles

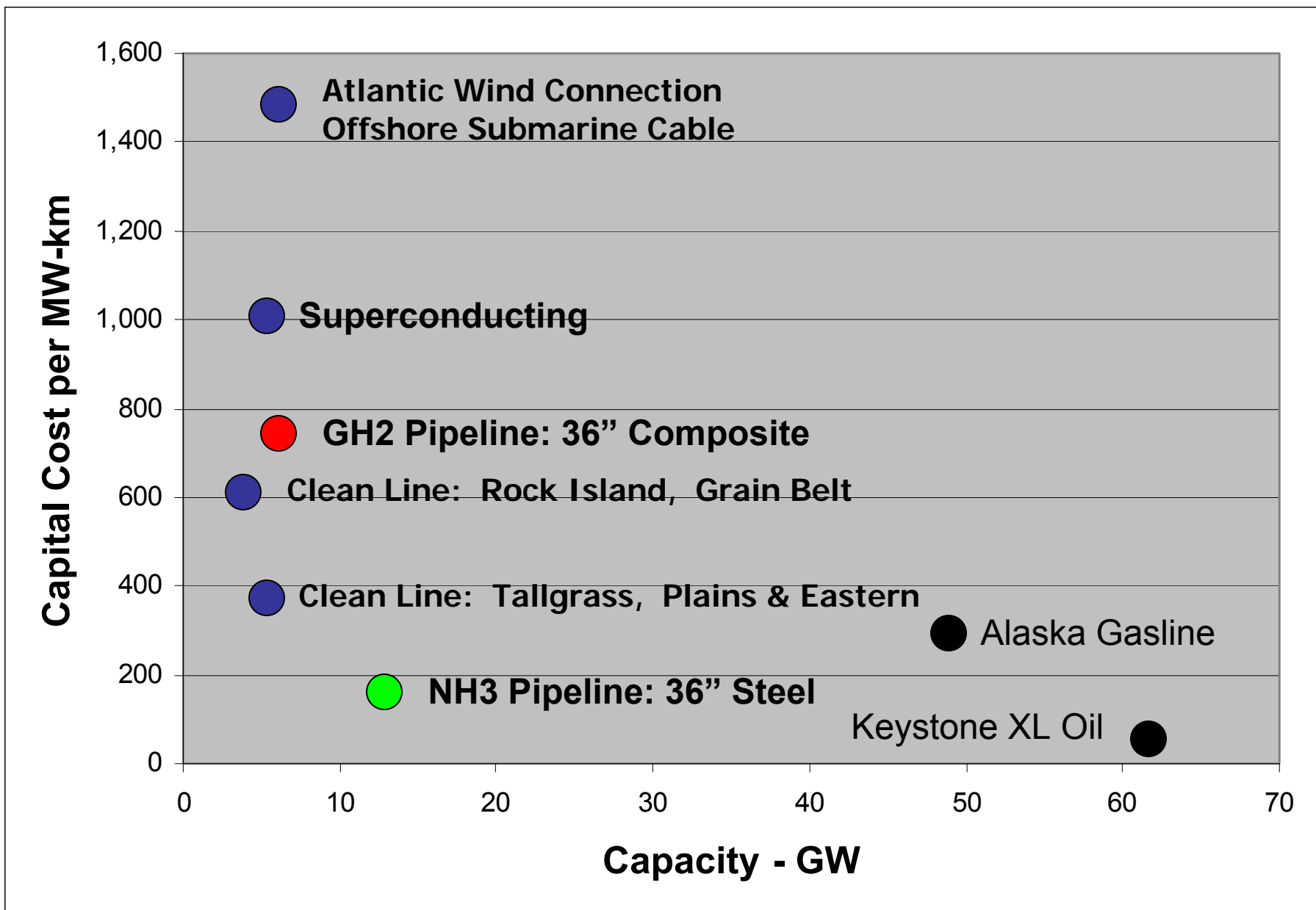
5 GW

\$ 5B

1,750 GW-miles @ \$5,000M =  
\$2.8M / GW-mile

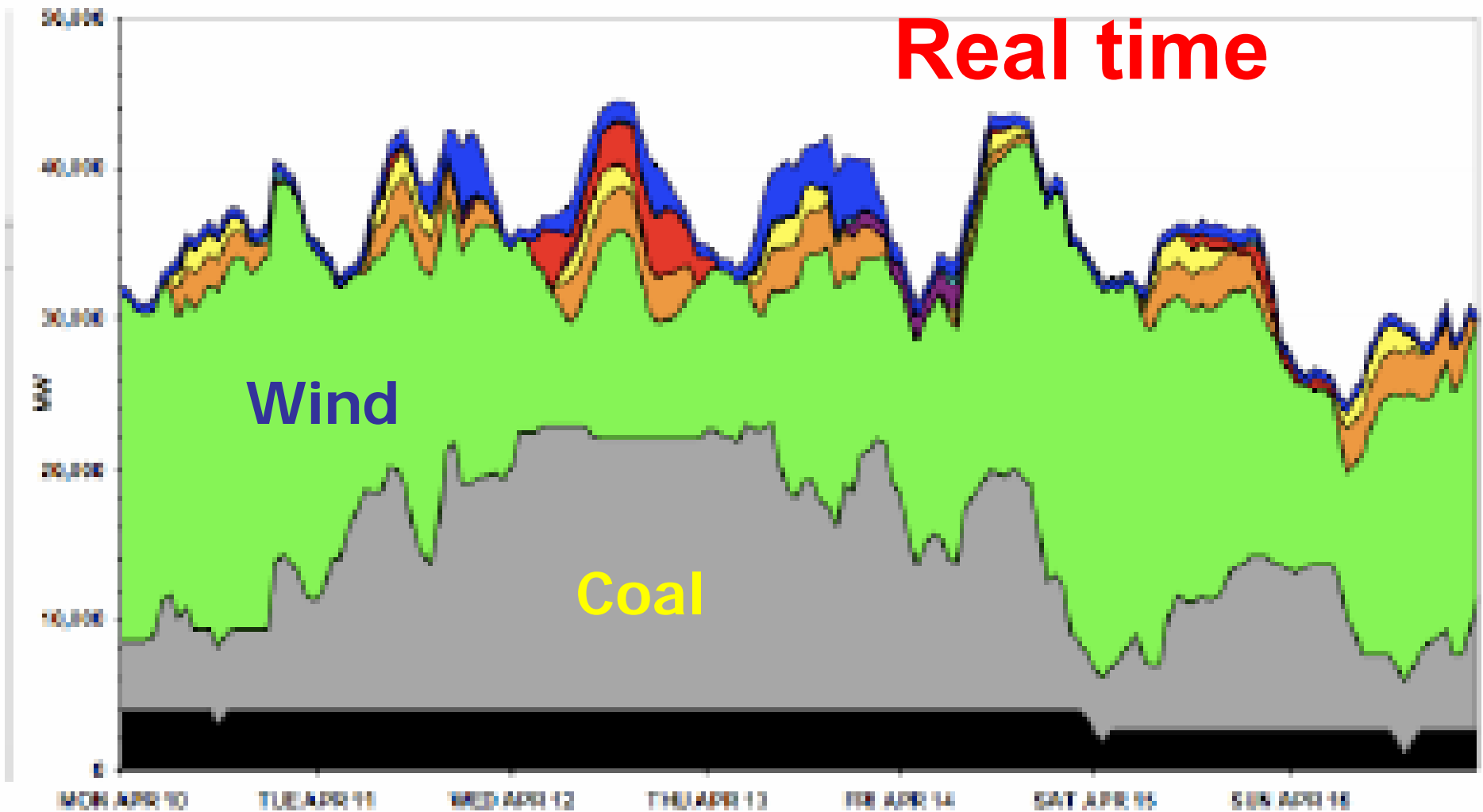
Google





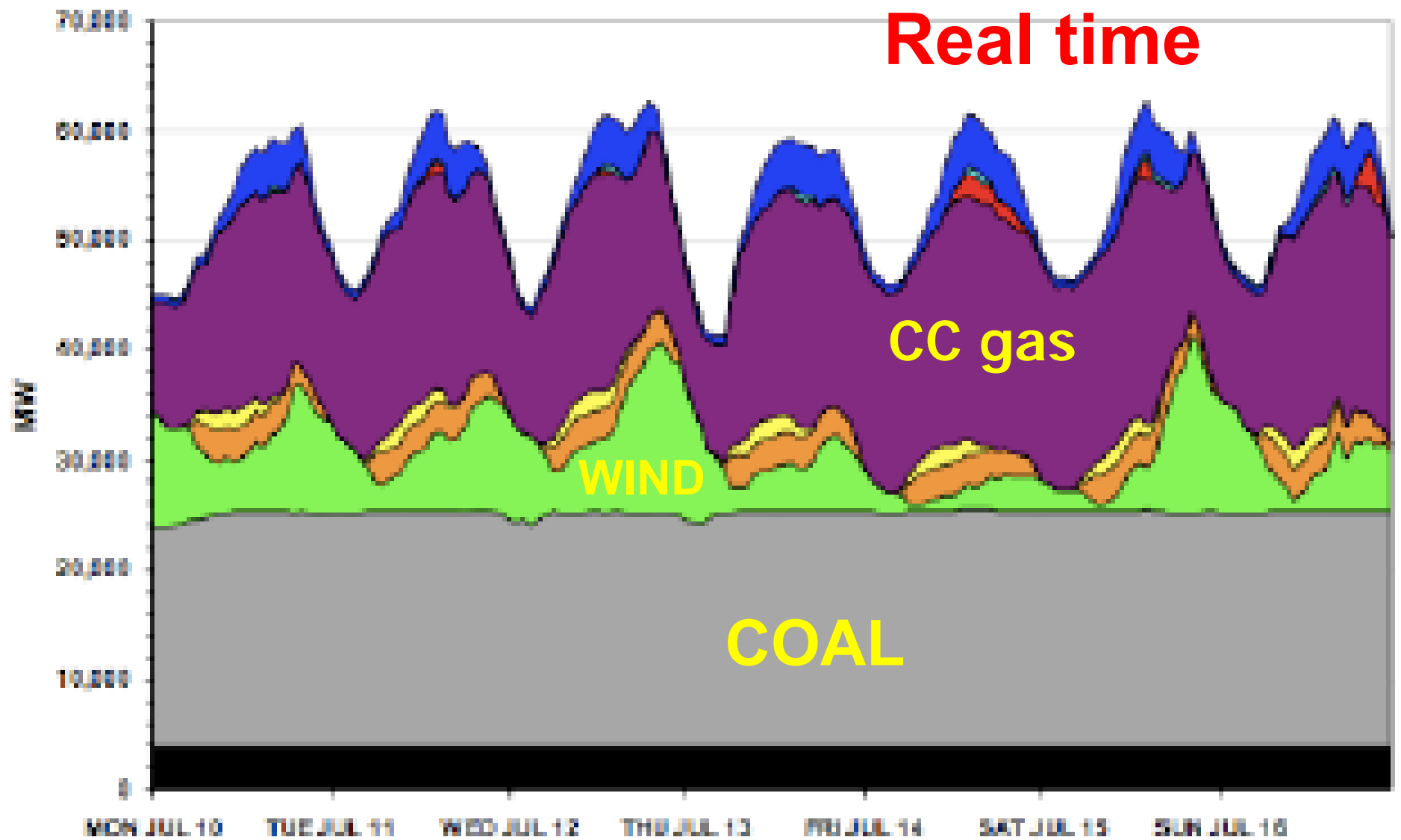


**Real time**



**WWSIS: April week: ~30% RE**





**WWSIS: July week: ~10% RE**



# ***Wind seasonality, Great Plains***

***Normalized to 1.0***

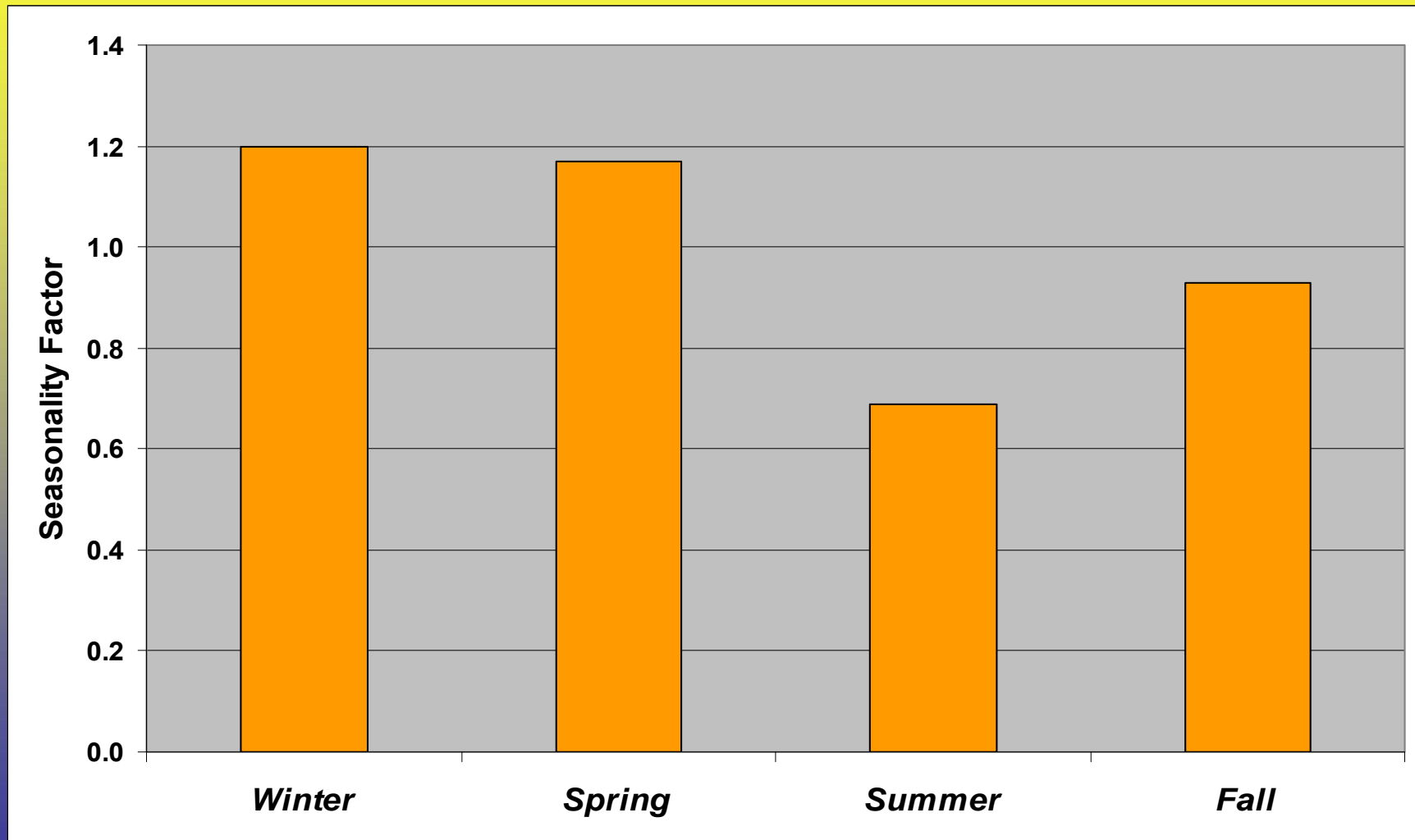
- **Winter**                      **1.20**
- **Spring**                      **1.17**
- **Summer**                      **0.69**
- **Autumn**                      **0.93**

Source: D. Elliott, et al, NREL



# ***Wind Seasonality, Northern Great Plains***

***Normalized to 1.0 per season***





# ***Wind Seasonality, Northern Great Plains***

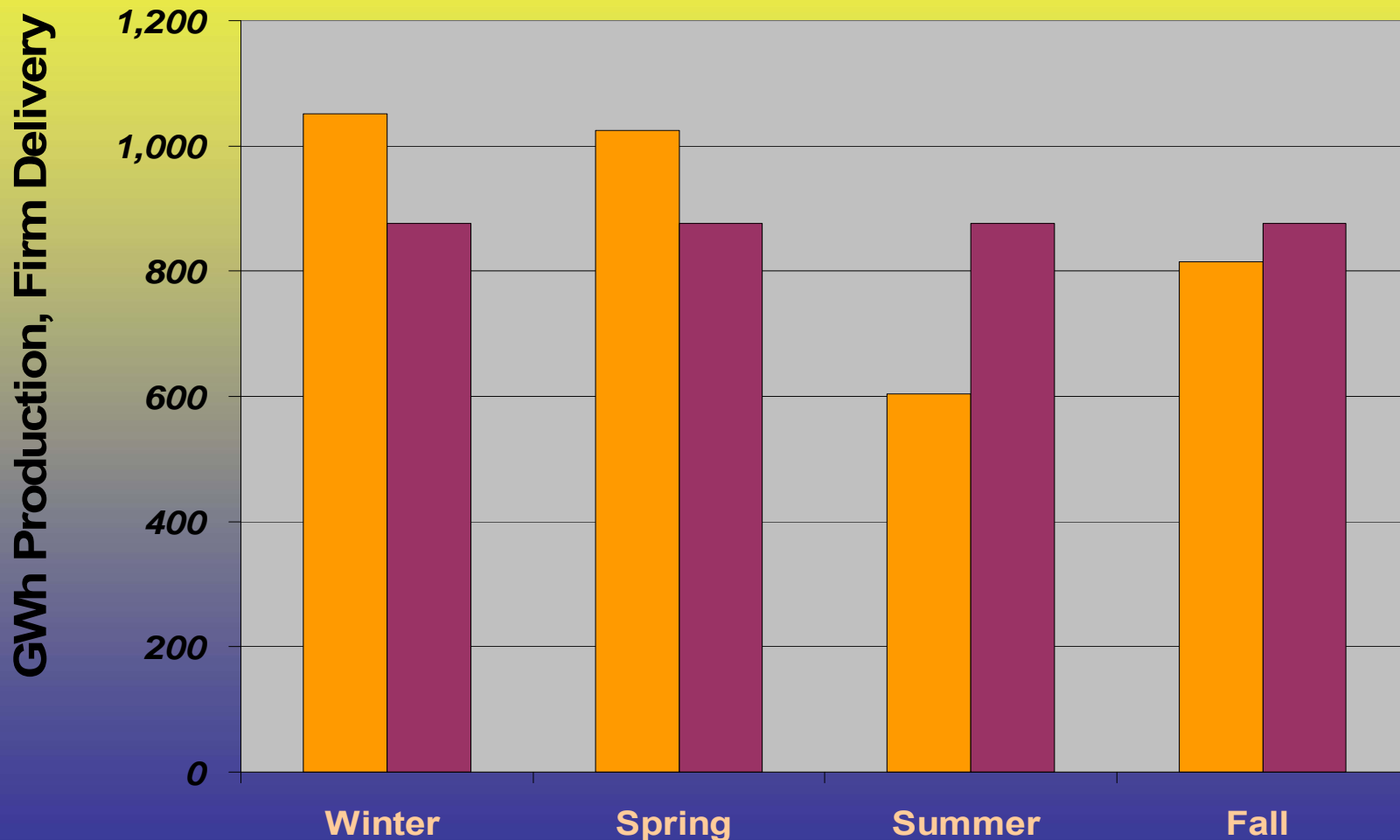
***1,000 MW windplant:***

***AEP = 3,500 GWh / yr***

***“Firm” goal = 875 GWh / season***

***Storage: 320 GWh per 1,000 MW wind***

Source: NREL, D. Elliott





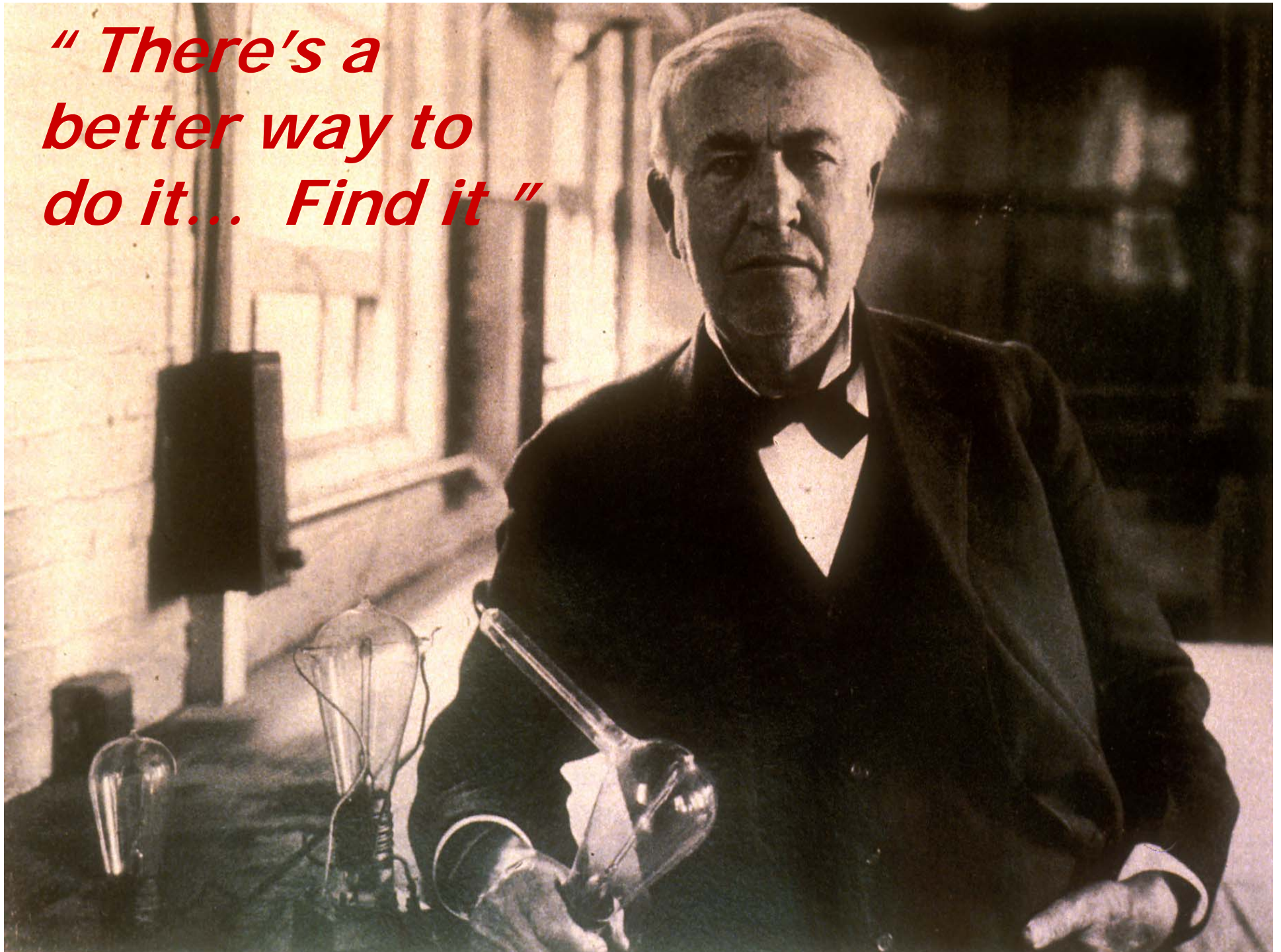
# ***320 GWh***

***Annual firming, 1,000 MW wind***

- **CAES (compressed air energy storage)**
  - **O&M: \$46 / MWh typical**
  - **Iowa: Power = 268 MW**
    - Energy capacity = 5,360 MWh**
    - Capital: 268 MW @\$800 / kW = \$214 M**
    - Storage @ \$40 / kWh = \$13 Billion**
    - Storage @ \$1 / kWh = \$325 Million**
- **VRB flow battery**
  - **O&M: 80% efficiency round-trip**
  - **Capital: \$500 / kWh = \$160 Billion**



***" There's a  
better way to  
do it... Find it "***





# ***Why Hydrogen, Ammonia ?***

- Transmission via underground pipeline
  - Easier to site, permit
  - Lower NIMBY
  - Protected: acts of God and man
  - FERC interstate jurisdiction
  - High capacity: 5 - 10 GW
  - Lower capital cost / GW - mile
- Affordable storage:
  - Annual-scale firming
  - Dispatchable fuel supply
- Zero-carbon fuels: RE
- Nascent markets: transport fuel, other
- Integration
  - Continental energy system
  - Elec grid quality

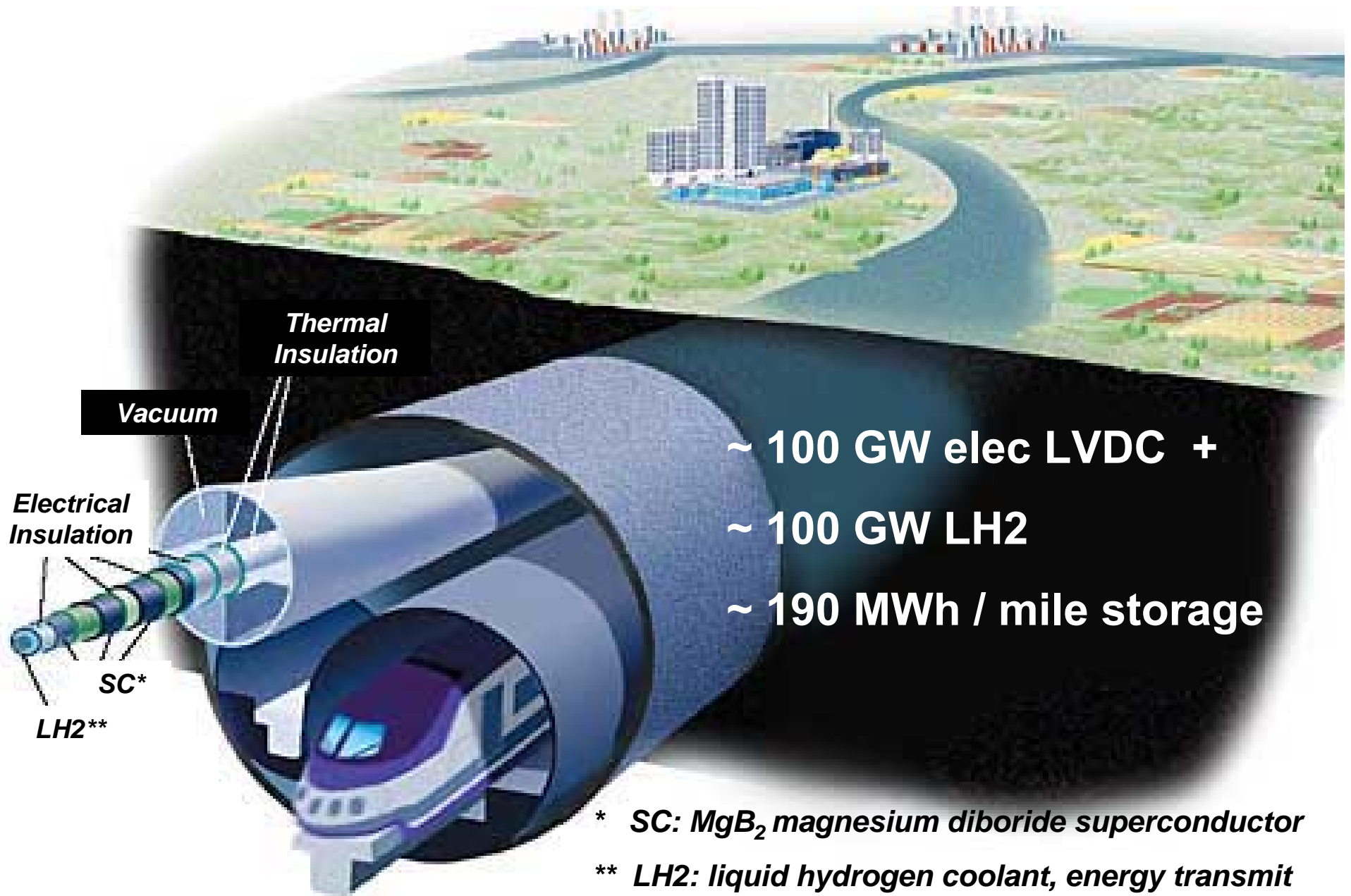


# ***Annual Fresh Water for Energy***

- USA today***
- All energy***

- 17,000 billion liters**
  - “Withdrawn”**
  - “Consumed”**
  - Include all NG “fracking” ?**
- If all via GH2 + NH3 fuels, required feedstock:**
  - Dissociated, disintegrated:  $\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{H}_2 + \text{O}_2$**
  - 900 billion liters**

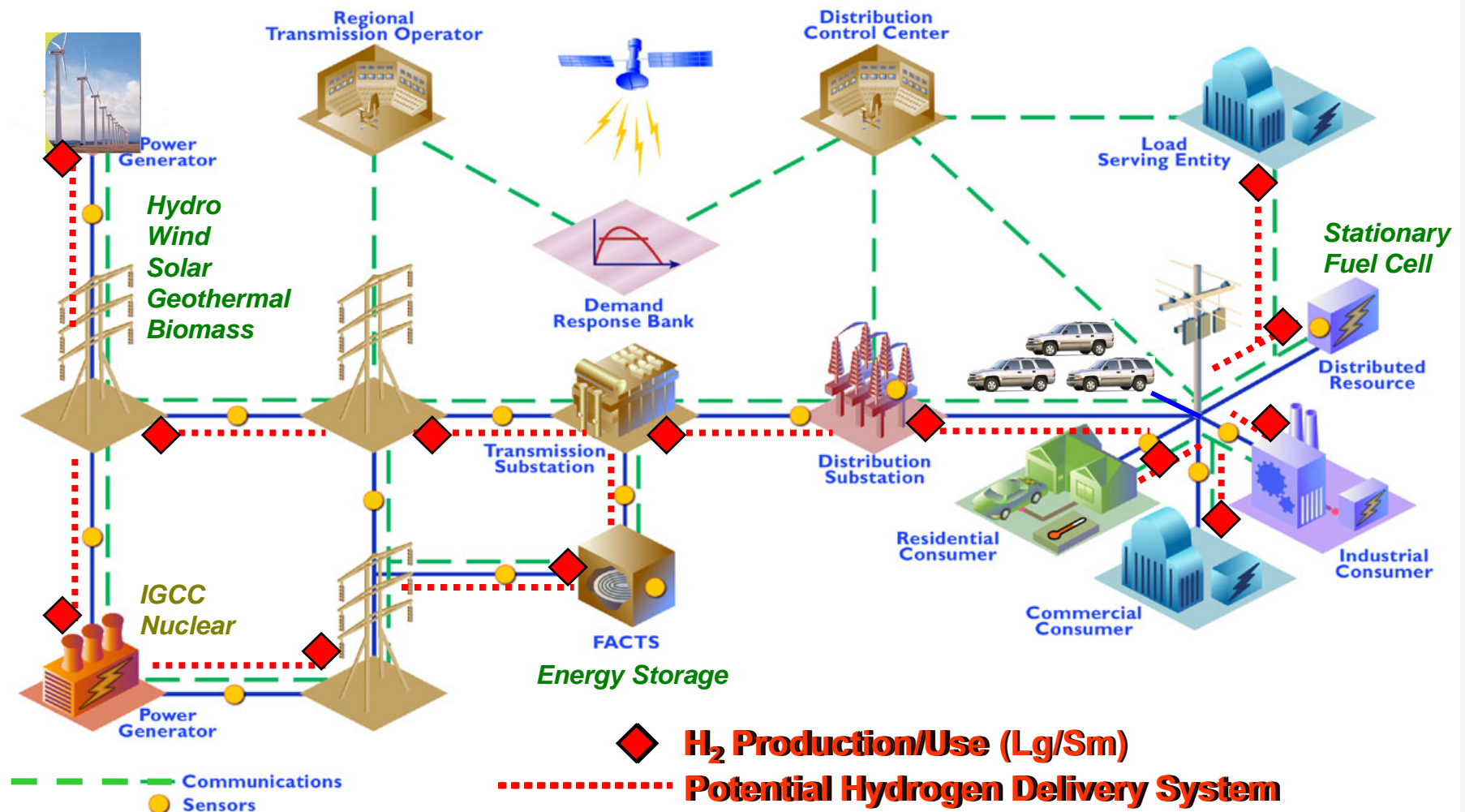




**Continental Supergrid – EPRI concept “Energy Pipeline”**



# Energy System *of the Future*



Frank Novachek, Director Corporate Planning





# ***Utsira Island, Norway***





# The wind – hydrogen plant at Utsira

A vision becoming reality



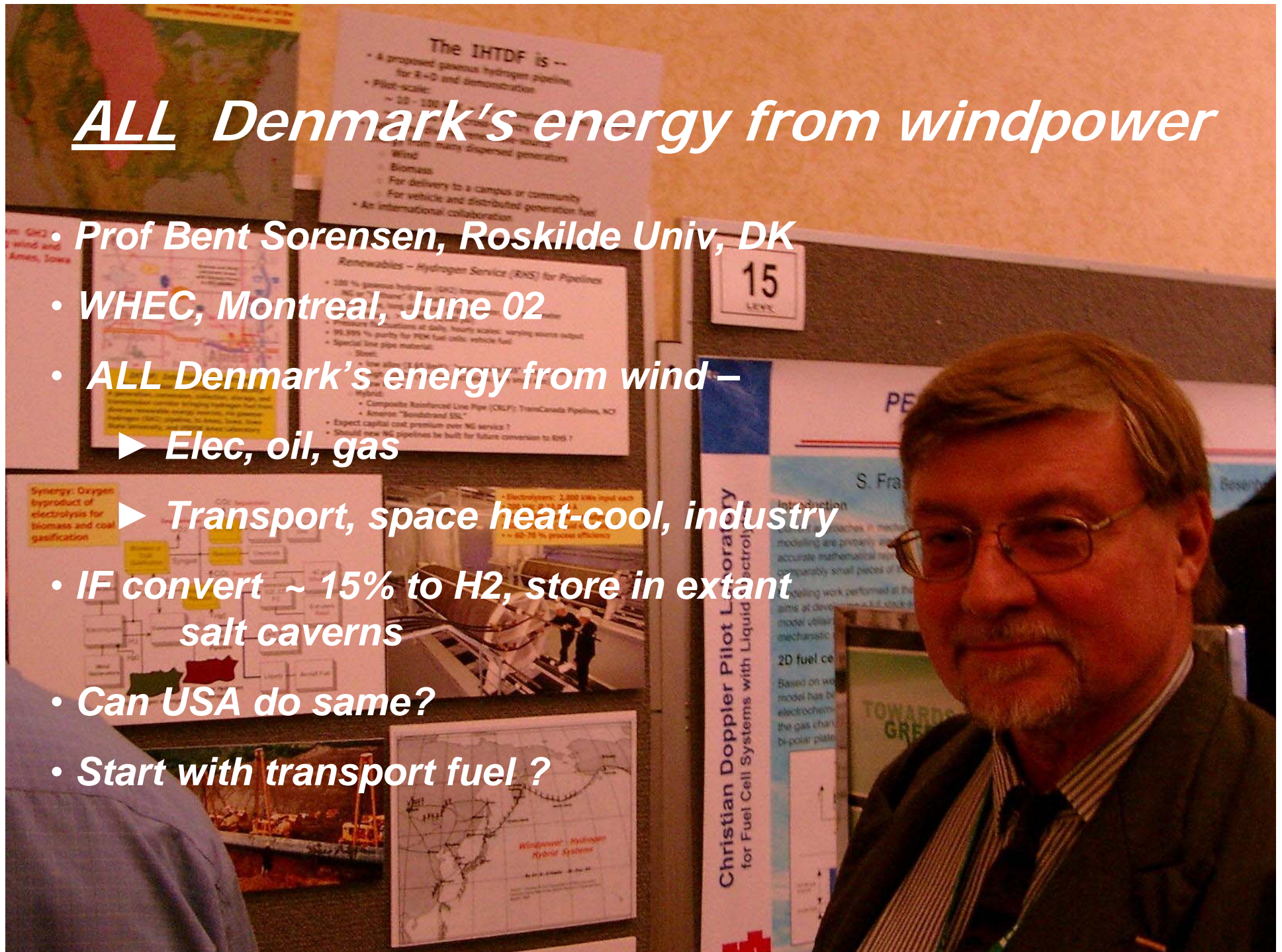


# ALL Denmark's energy from windpower

- Prof Bent Sorensen, Roskilde Univ, DK
- WHEC, Montreal, June 02
- ALL Denmark's energy from wind –
  - ▶ Elec, oil, gas

▶ Transport, space heat-cool, industry

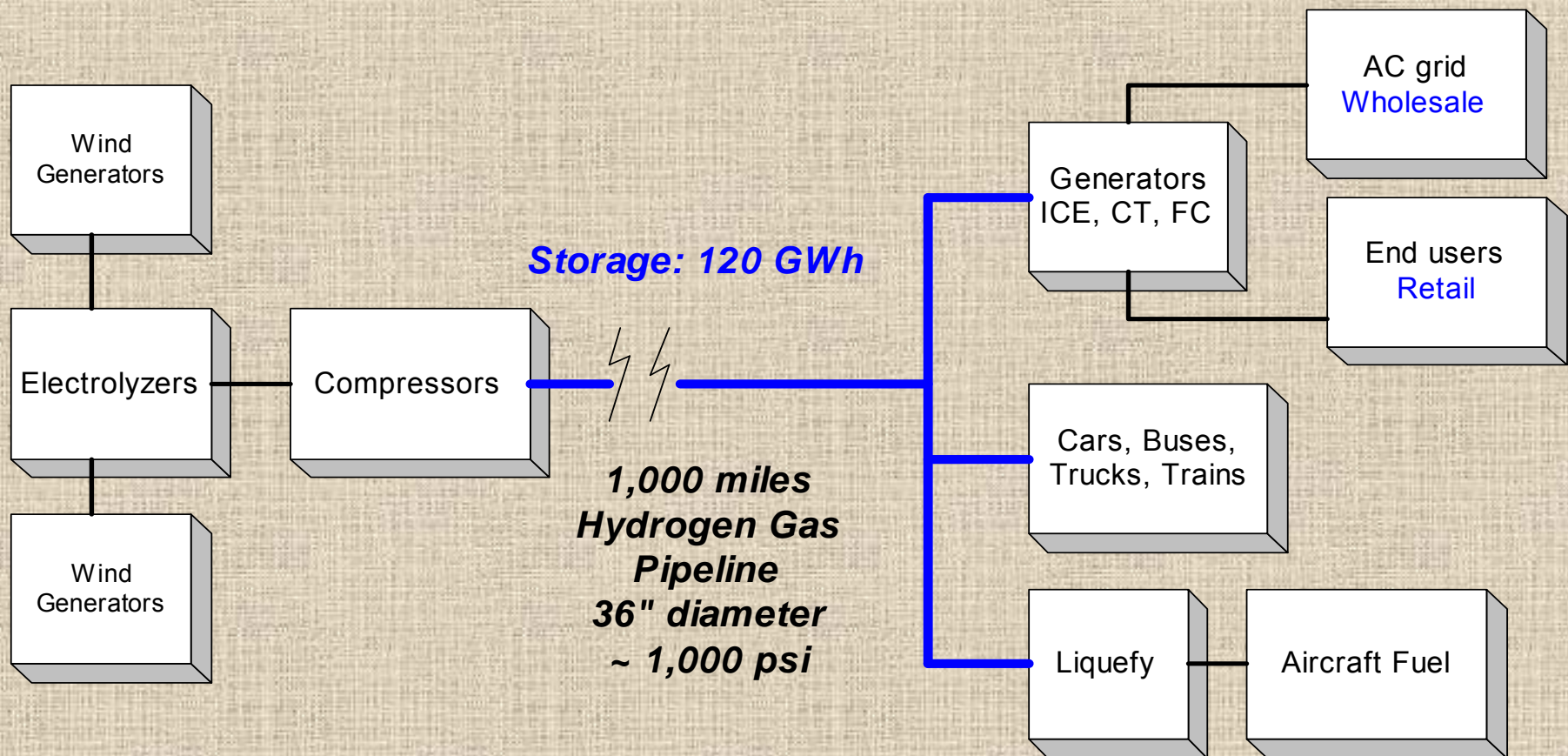
- IF convert ~ 15% to H<sub>2</sub>, store in extant salt caverns
- Can USA do same?
- Start with transport fuel ?



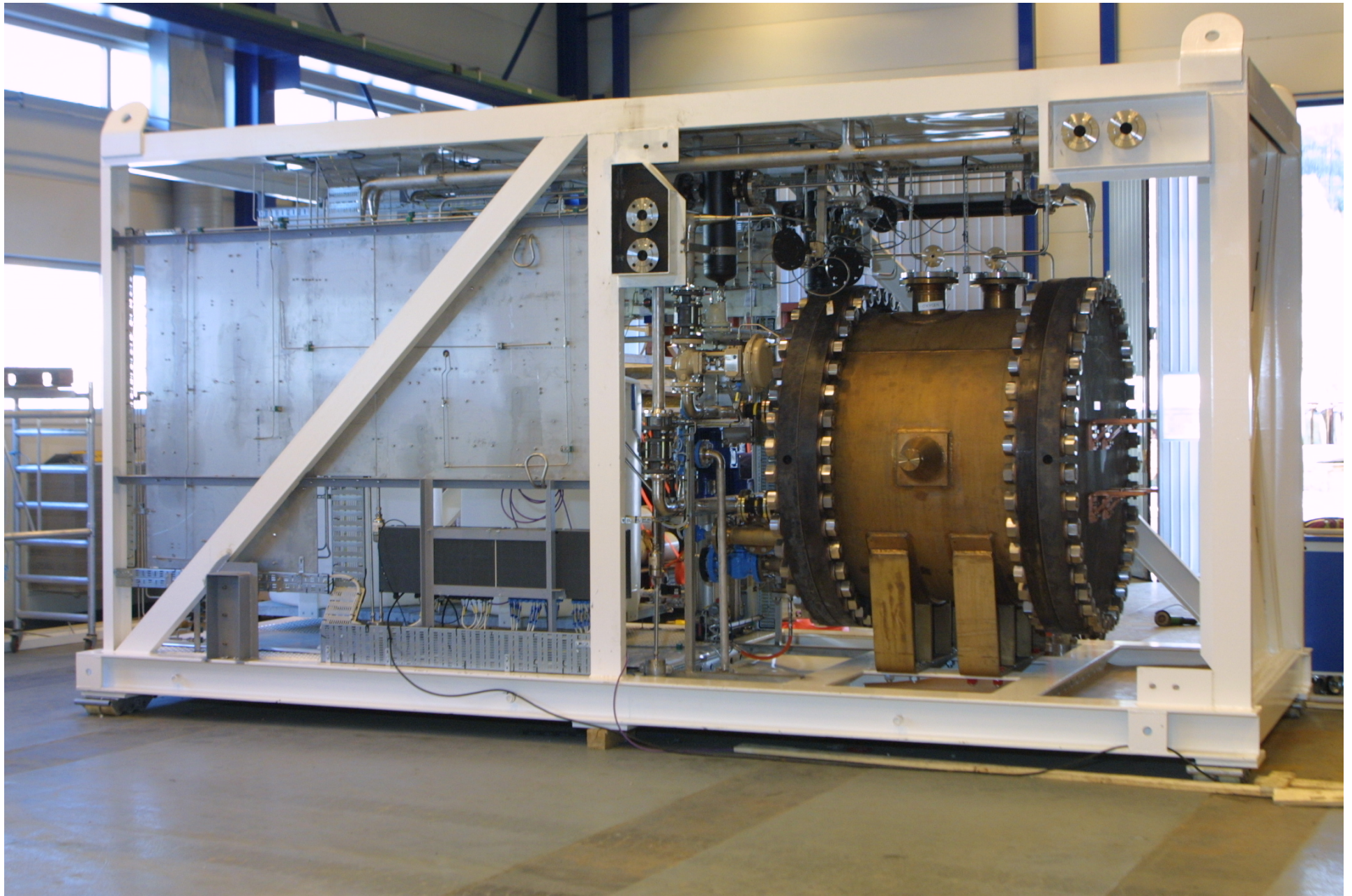


# Hydrogen Transmission Scenario

- *Low-pressure electrolyzers*
- *“Pack” pipeline: ~ 120 GWh*







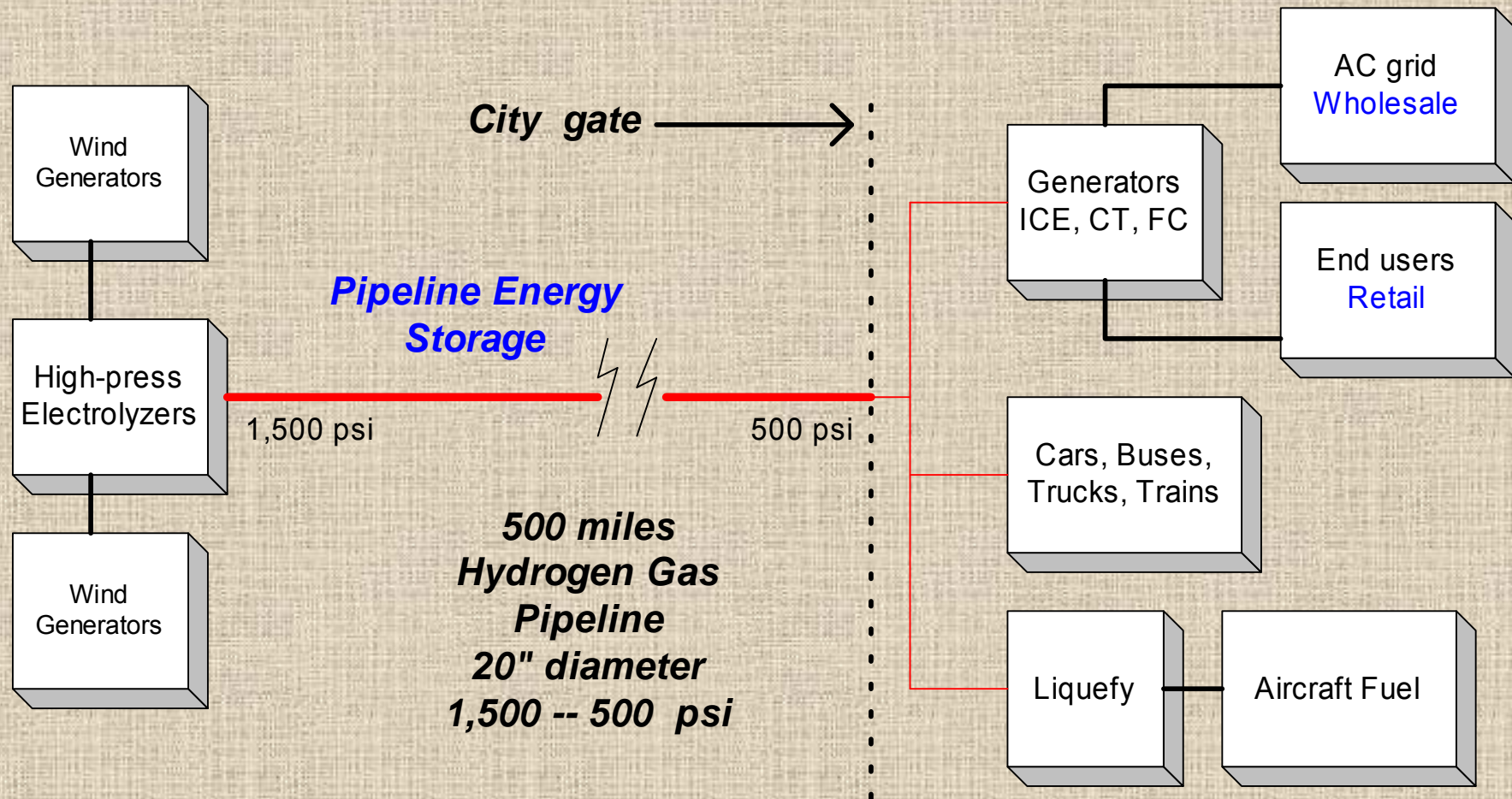
***Norsk Hydro electrolyzer, KOH type  
560 kW input, 130 Nm<sup>3</sup> / hour at 450 psi (30 bar)***



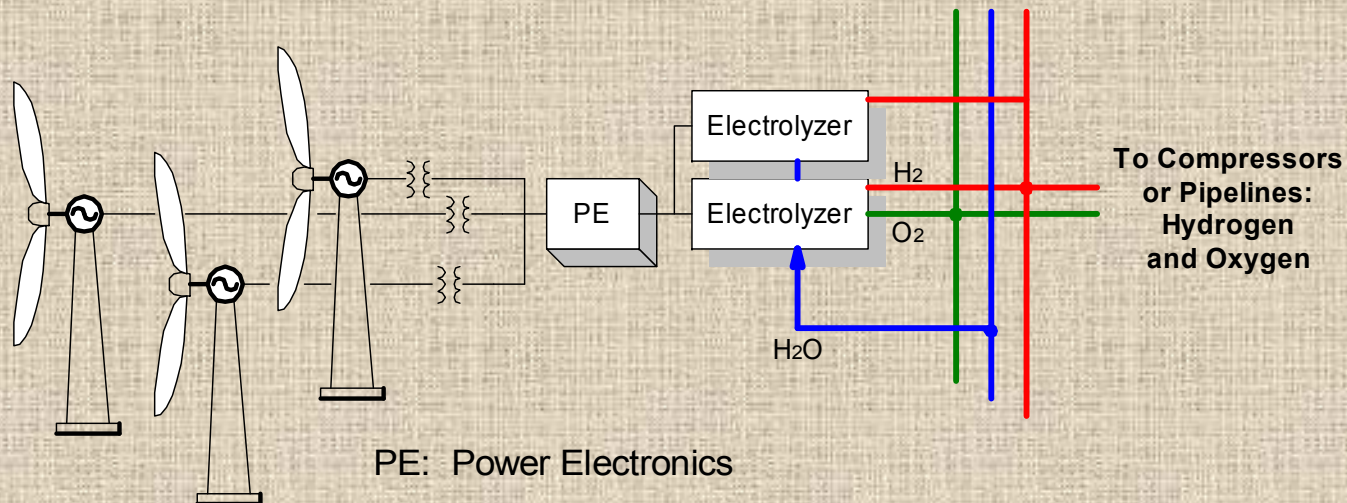
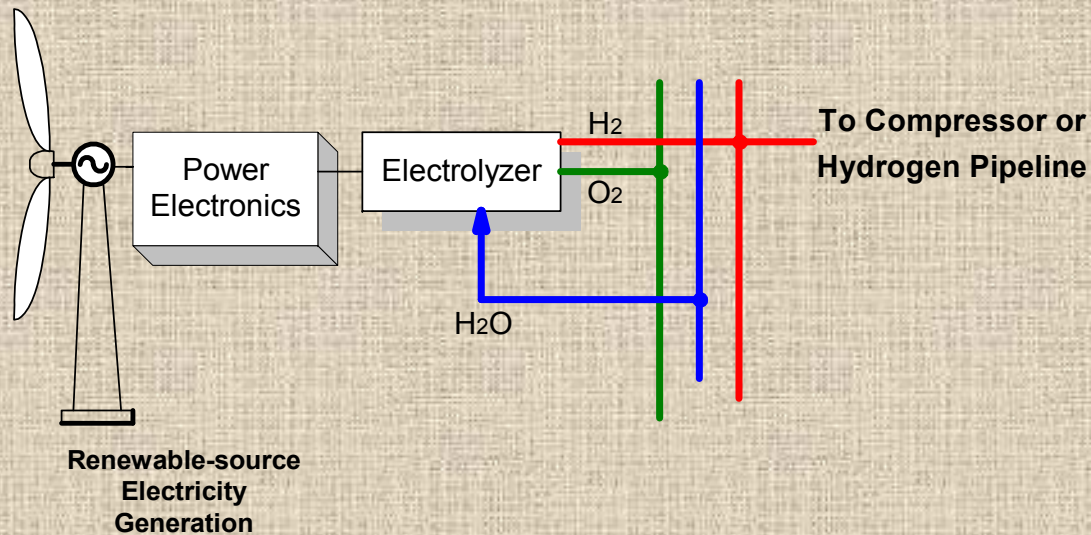
# Compressorless system: No geologic storage

## Transmission

## Distribution







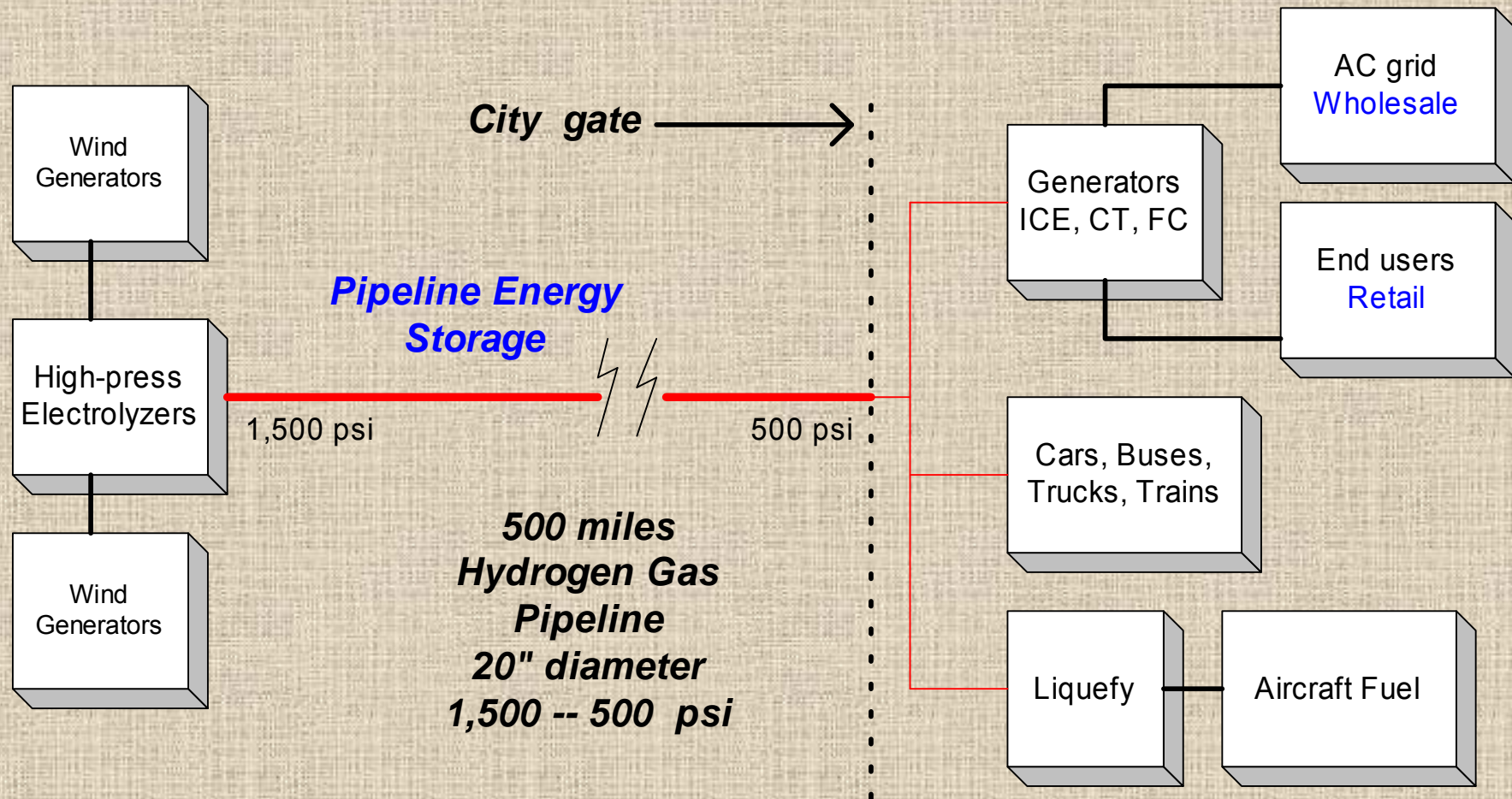
## Topology Options: H<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> Production and Gathering from Renewable Energy Generation



# Compressorless system: No geologic storage

## Transmission

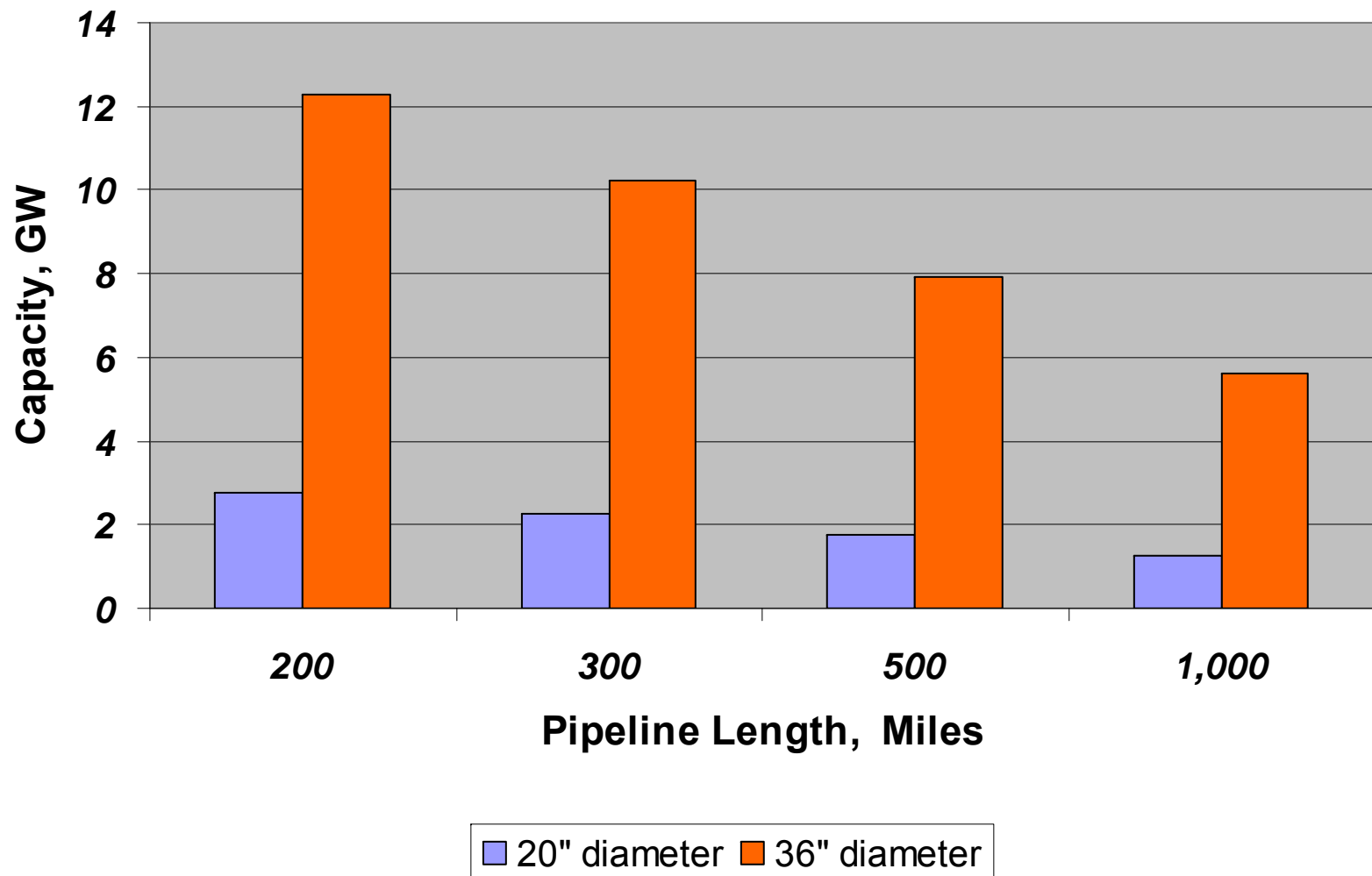
## Distribution





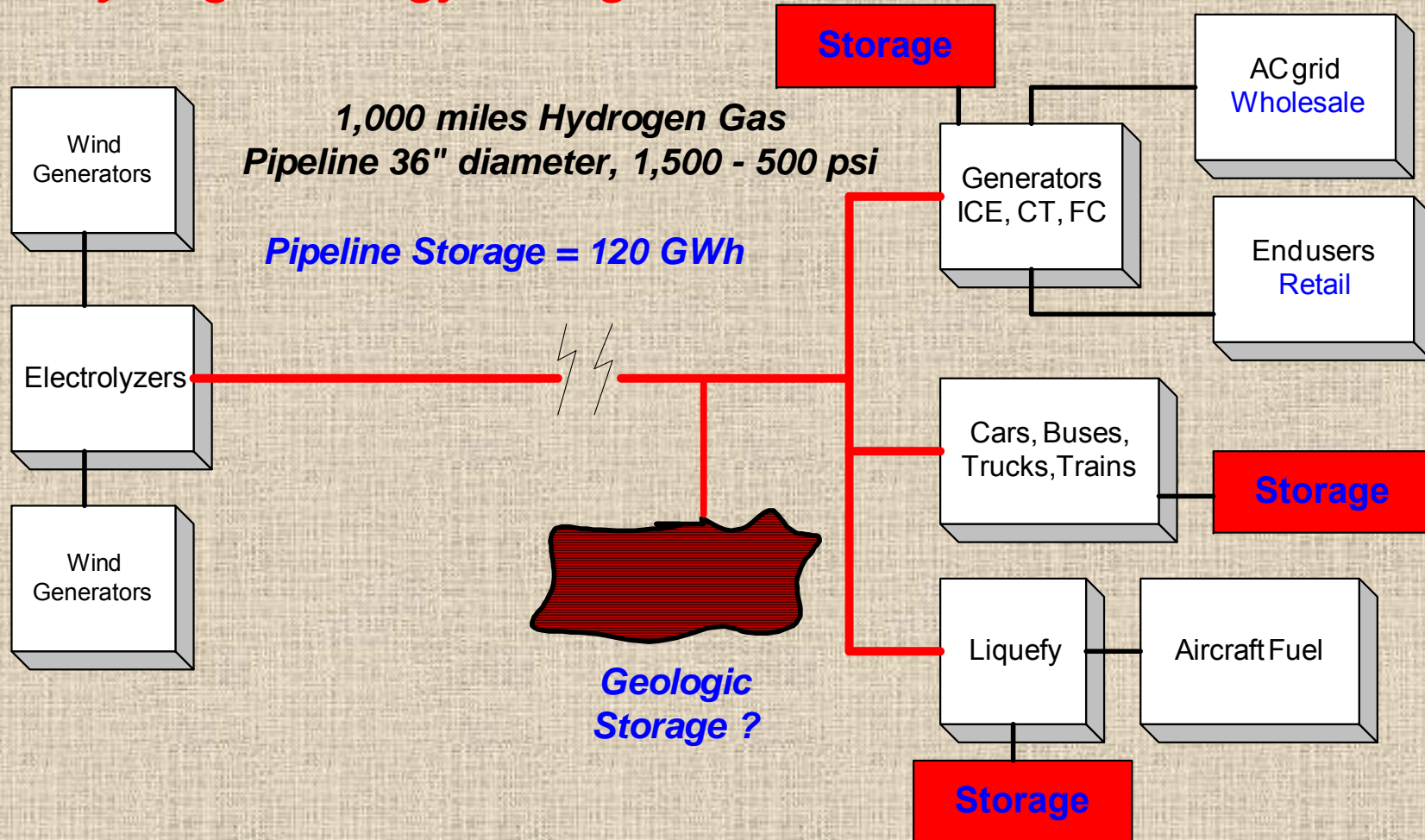
# Compressorless 20", 36" GH2 Pipeline Capacity

## 1,500 psi IN / 500 psi OUT

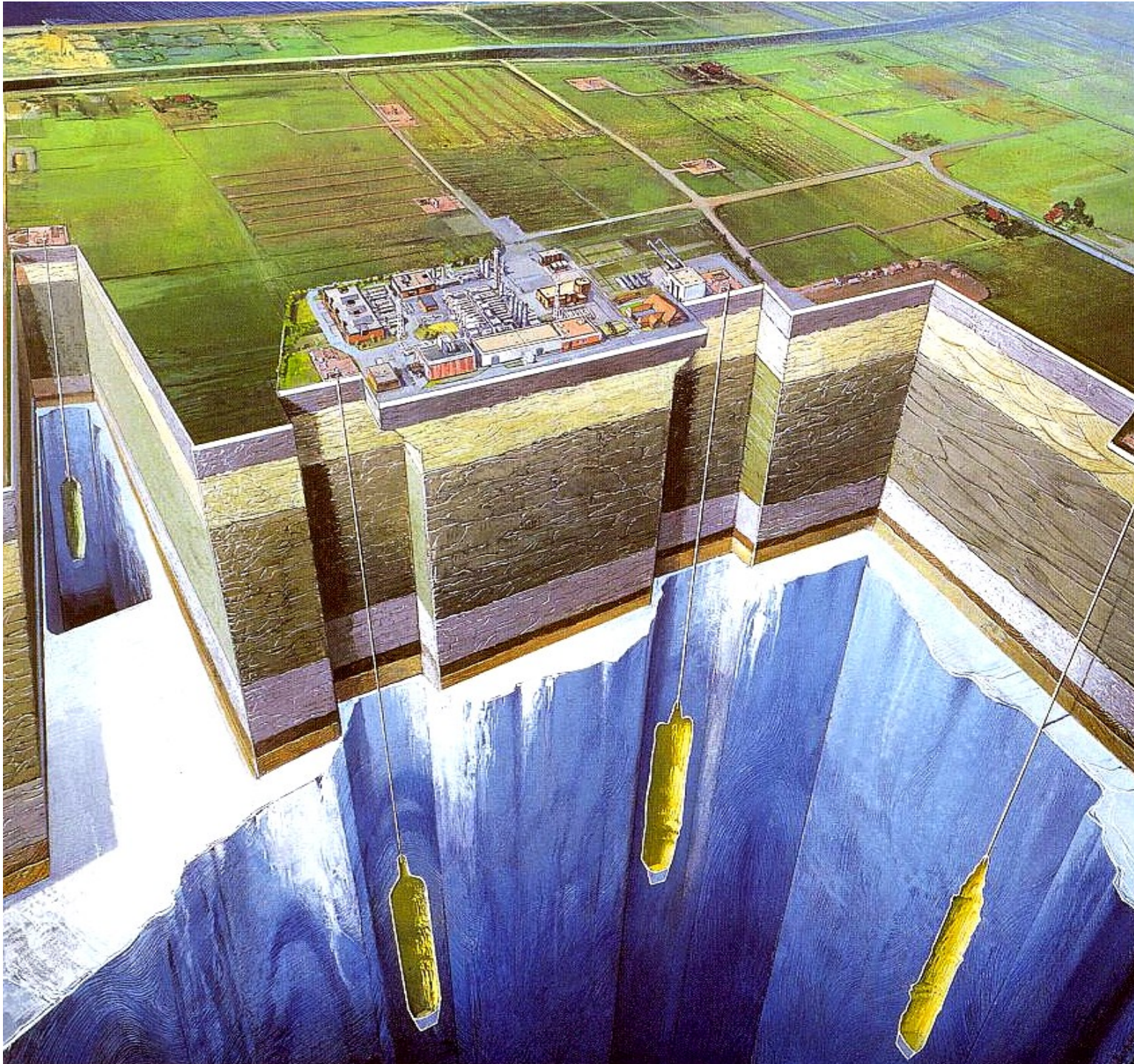




## Hydrogen Energy Storage



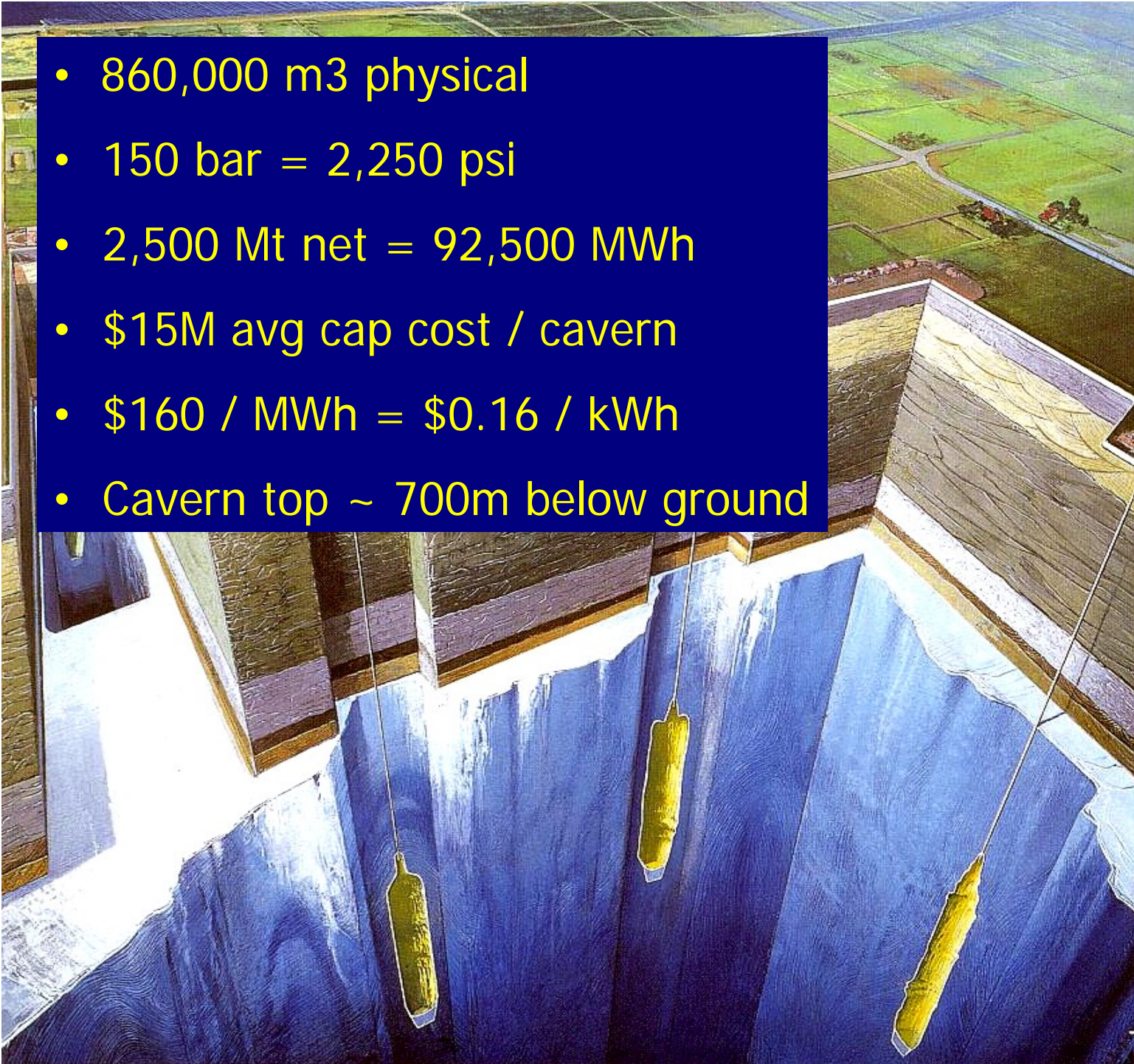




# Domal Salt Storage Caverns

PB ESS



- 
- The image features a large blue rectangular box on the left containing a bulleted list of technical specifications. To the right of this box is a vertical cross-section diagram of a salt cavern. The top of the diagram shows a green landscape with a road and some buildings. Below the ground surface, the cavern is depicted as a large, irregularly shaped cavity within a salt dome. Three yellow, elongated objects, likely salt pills, are shown hanging from the top of the cavern by thin lines. The cavern walls are a light blue color, and the floor is a darker blue. The overall image has a textured, painterly appearance.
- 860,000 m<sup>3</sup> physical
  - 150 bar = 2,250 psi
  - 2,500 Mt net = 92,500 MWh
  - \$15M avg cap cost / cavern
  - \$160 / MWh = \$0.16 / kWh
  - Cavern top ~ 700m below ground

## Domal Salt Storage Caverns

Texas

“Clemens  
Terminal”  
Conoco  
Phillips  
20 years

Praxair  
'07

PB ESS





Renewable-source GH2 geologic storage potential.  
Candidate formations for manmade, solution-mined,  
salt caverns







***Optimistic: Total Installed Capital Cost***  
***1,000 mile Pipeline***  
***“Firming” GH2 cavern storage***

Windplant size     **1,000 MW**

[million]

Wind generators     \$ 1,000

Electrolyzers     500

Pipeline, 20”     1,100

# storage caverns     [4]

Caverns @ \$10M ea     40

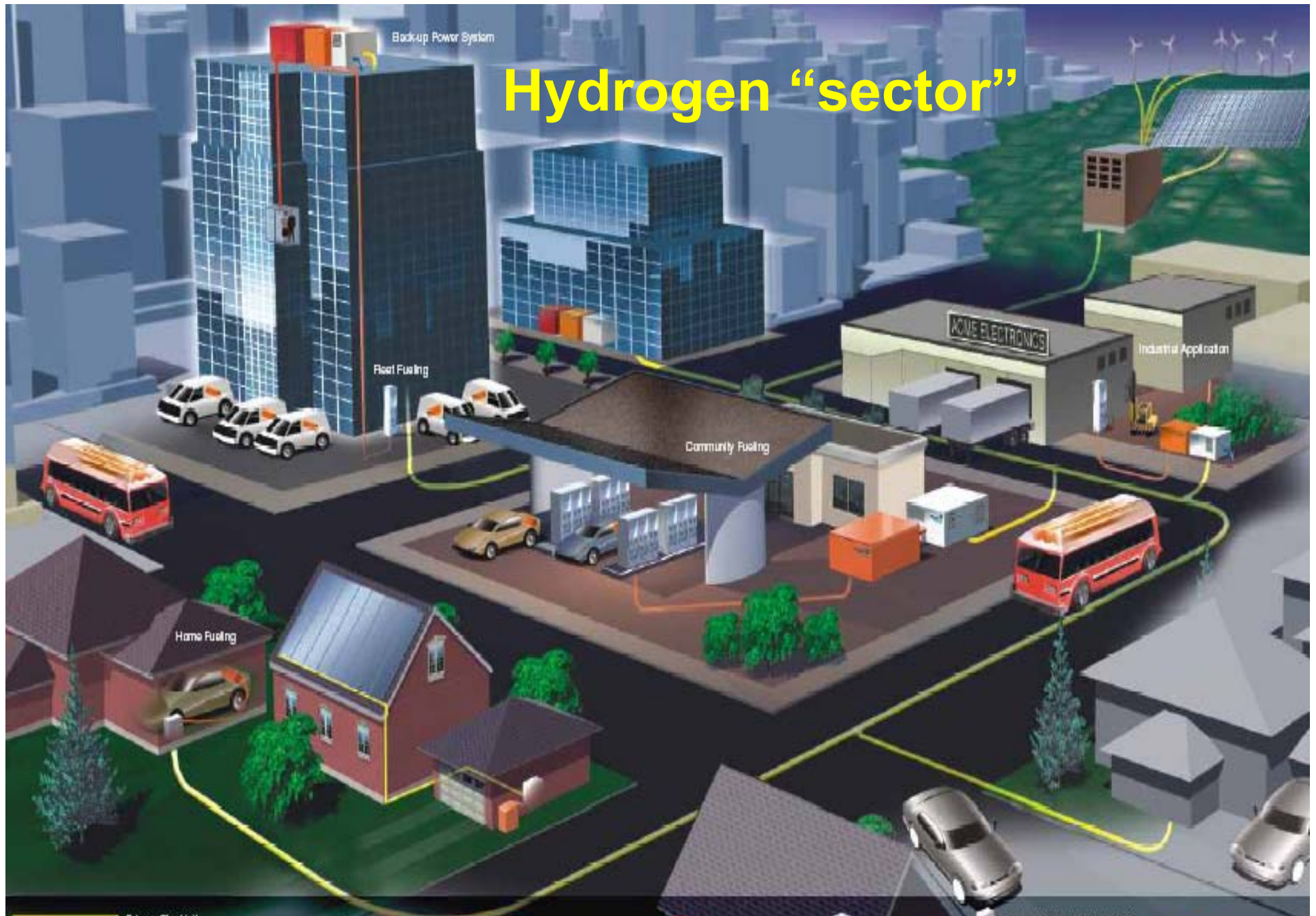
Cushion gas @ \$5M ea     20

TOTAL     \$ 2,660

Cavern storage: ~ 3 % of total capital cost



# Hydrogen “sector”



Hydrogen “sector” of a benign, sustainable, equitable, global energy economy



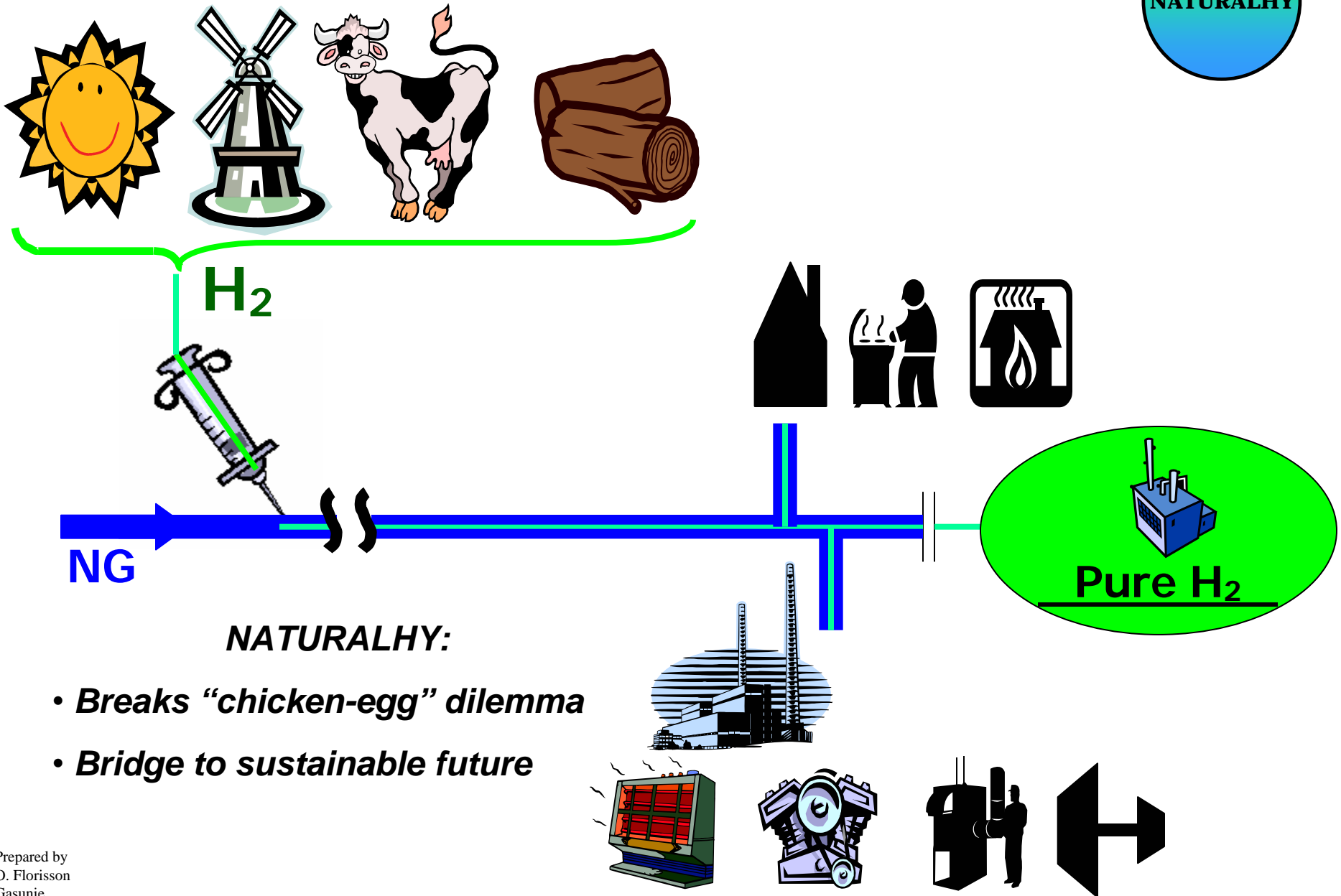


[www.qtw.com](http://www.qtw.com)

***Hydrogen - fueled  
2005 Prius  
ICE Hybrid***



# The NATURALHY approach: EC, R+D





# ***Carmakers Commit to Hydrogen Fuel Cell Cars ?***

- **9 Sept 09** “Letter of Understanding”
- Carmakers:

Daimler	Ford
GM/Opel	Honda
Hyundai/Kia	Renault
Nissan	Toyota
- Serial production ~ **2015**: “... quite significant number” of electric vehicles powered by fuel cells
- Vague; lobbying for fed FCV funds restore ?
- Will need H<sub>2</sub> fuel: “... hydrogen infrastructure has to be built up with sufficient density ...”

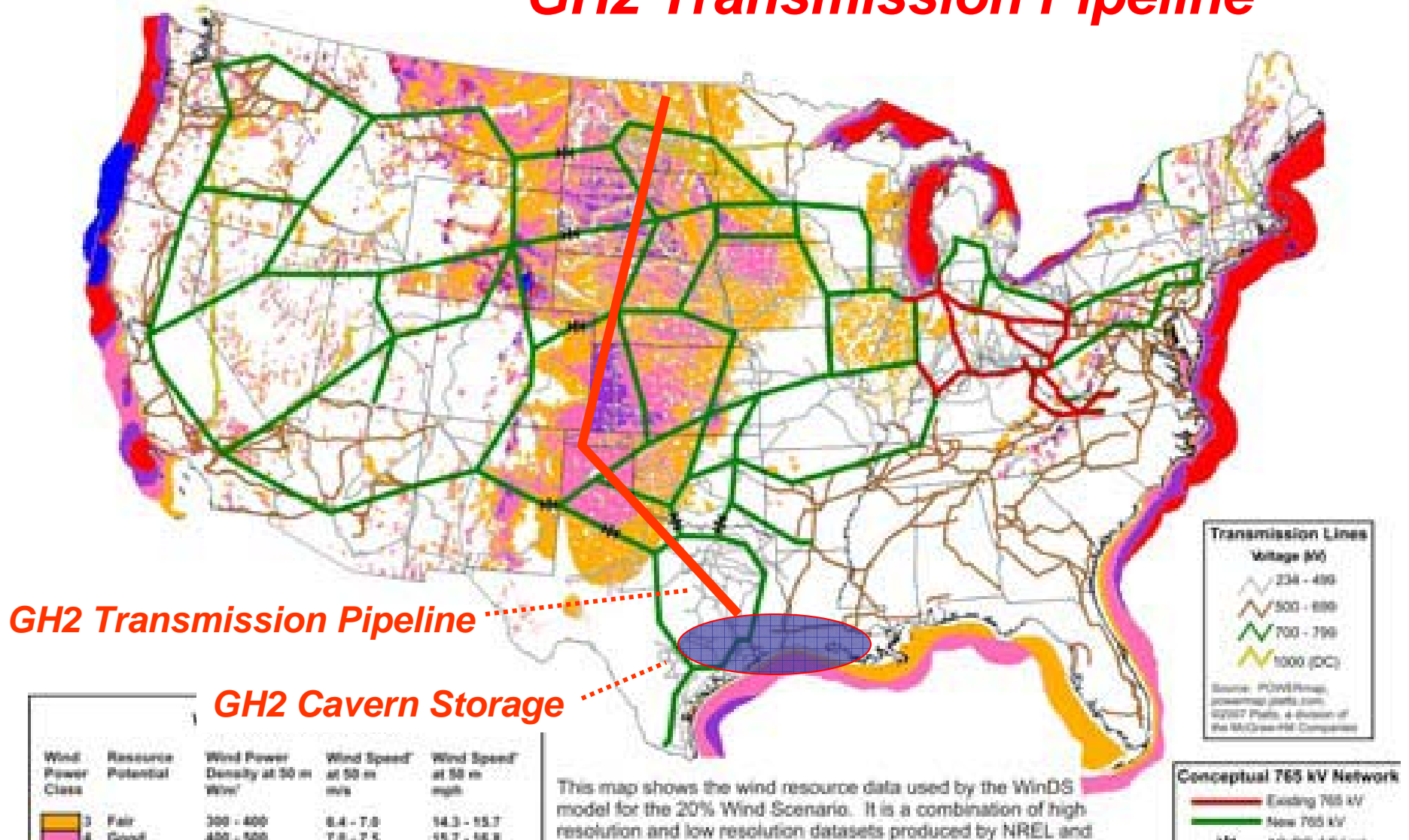


## ***CA: 20% of “cars” hydrogen fueled by 2030***

- 20% of 45M vehicles = **9M**
- @ 78 mpg = 78 miles / kg H<sub>2</sub>
- 12,000 miles / year = 150 kg H<sub>2</sub> / year
- 1,800 M kg H<sub>2</sub> / year = **1.65 MMt H<sub>2</sub> fuel**
- @ 50 kWh / kg at windplant gate:
  - 82,500 GWh / year
  - @ 40% CF = **23,000 MW nameplate wind**
  - Requires **3 GH<sub>2</sub> pipelines**, 36”, 500 miles long
  - PLUS @ 4 caverns / GW = **92 storage caverns**,  
to firm the supply at annual scale



# ***GH2 Transmission Pipeline***

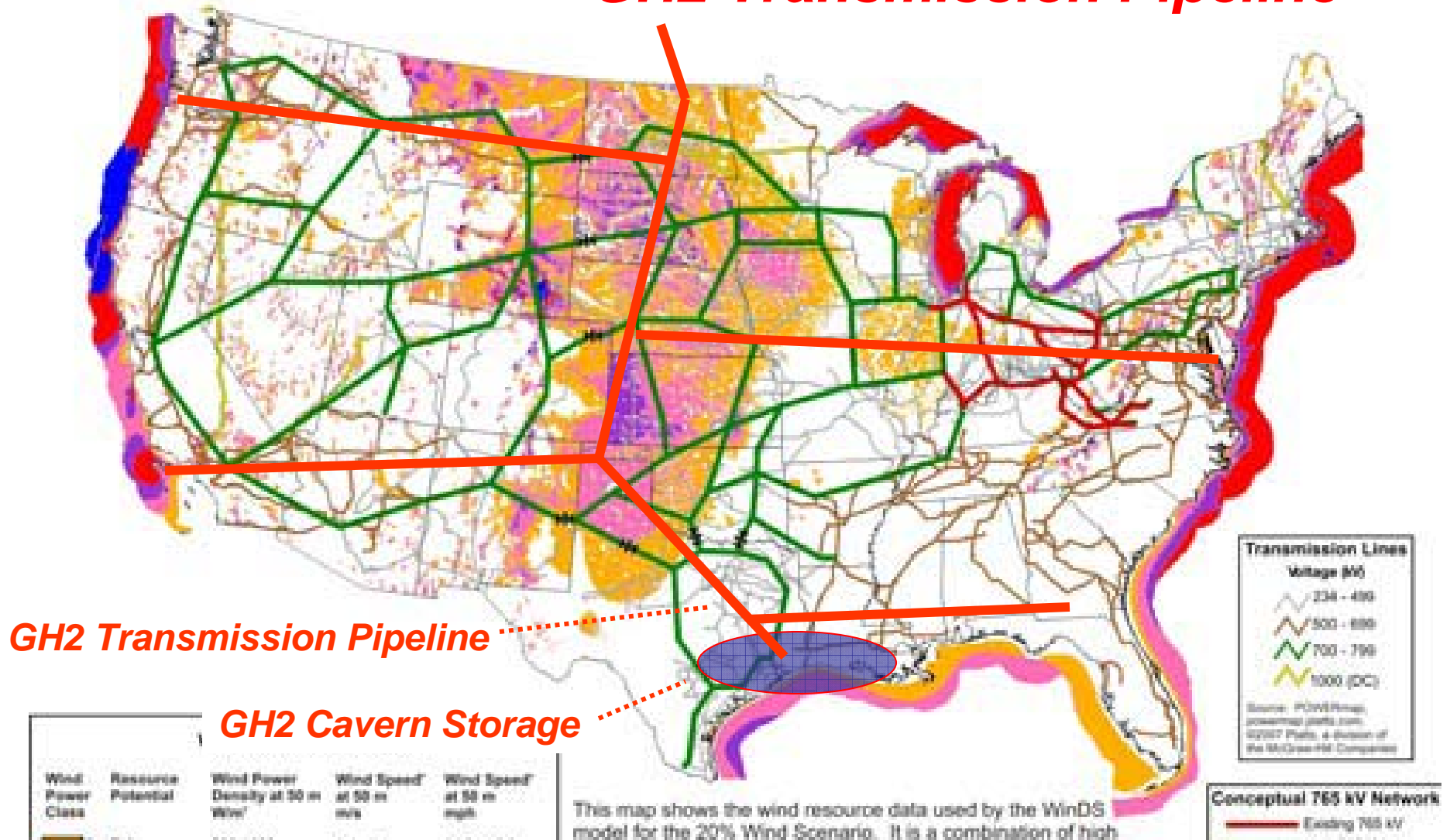


***Wind Potential ~ 10,000 GW***

***12 Great Plains states***



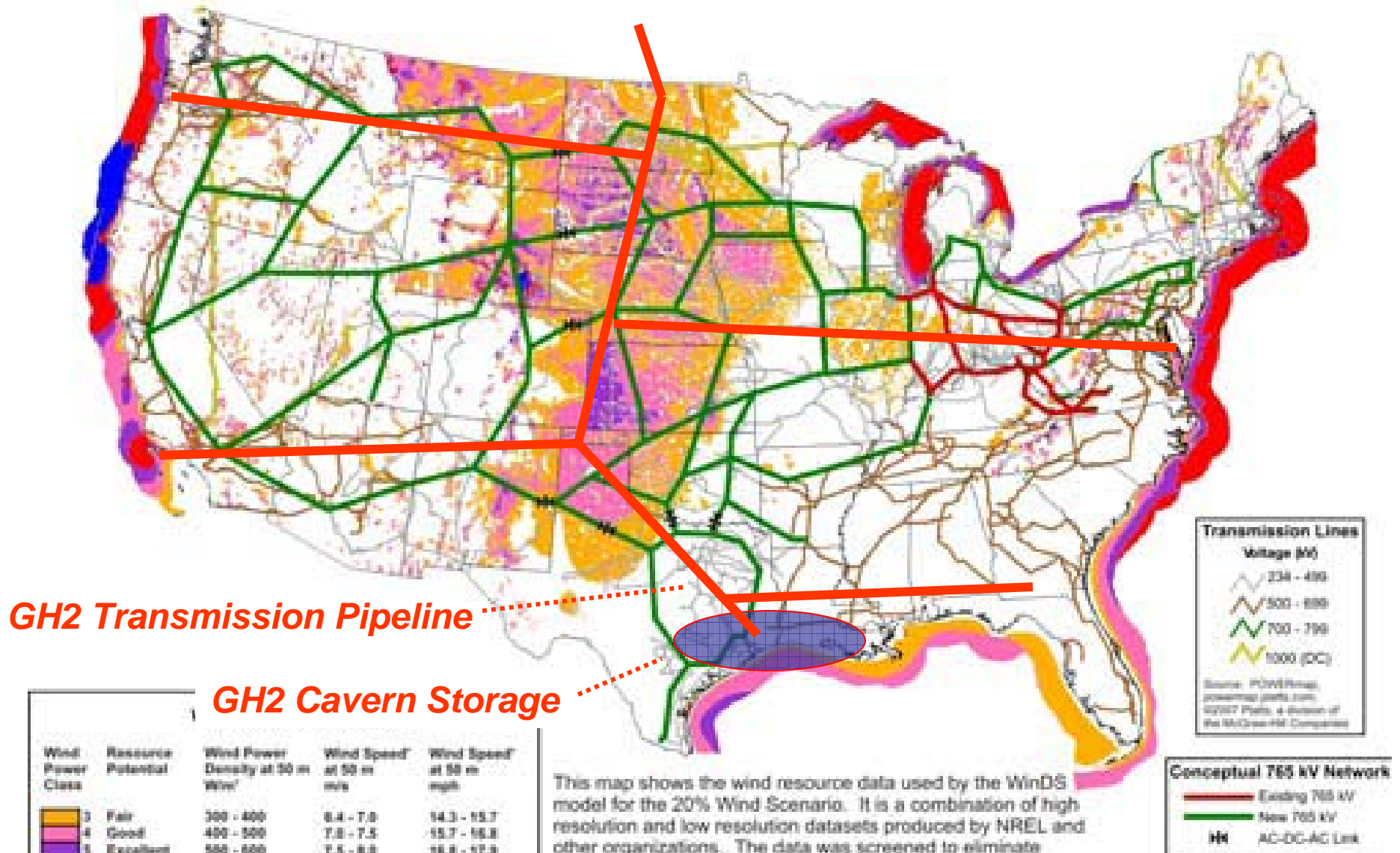
## ***GH2 Transmission Pipeline***



***Wind Potential ~ 10,000 GW***  
***12 Great Plains states***



# AWEA 20% Wind Electricity by 2030



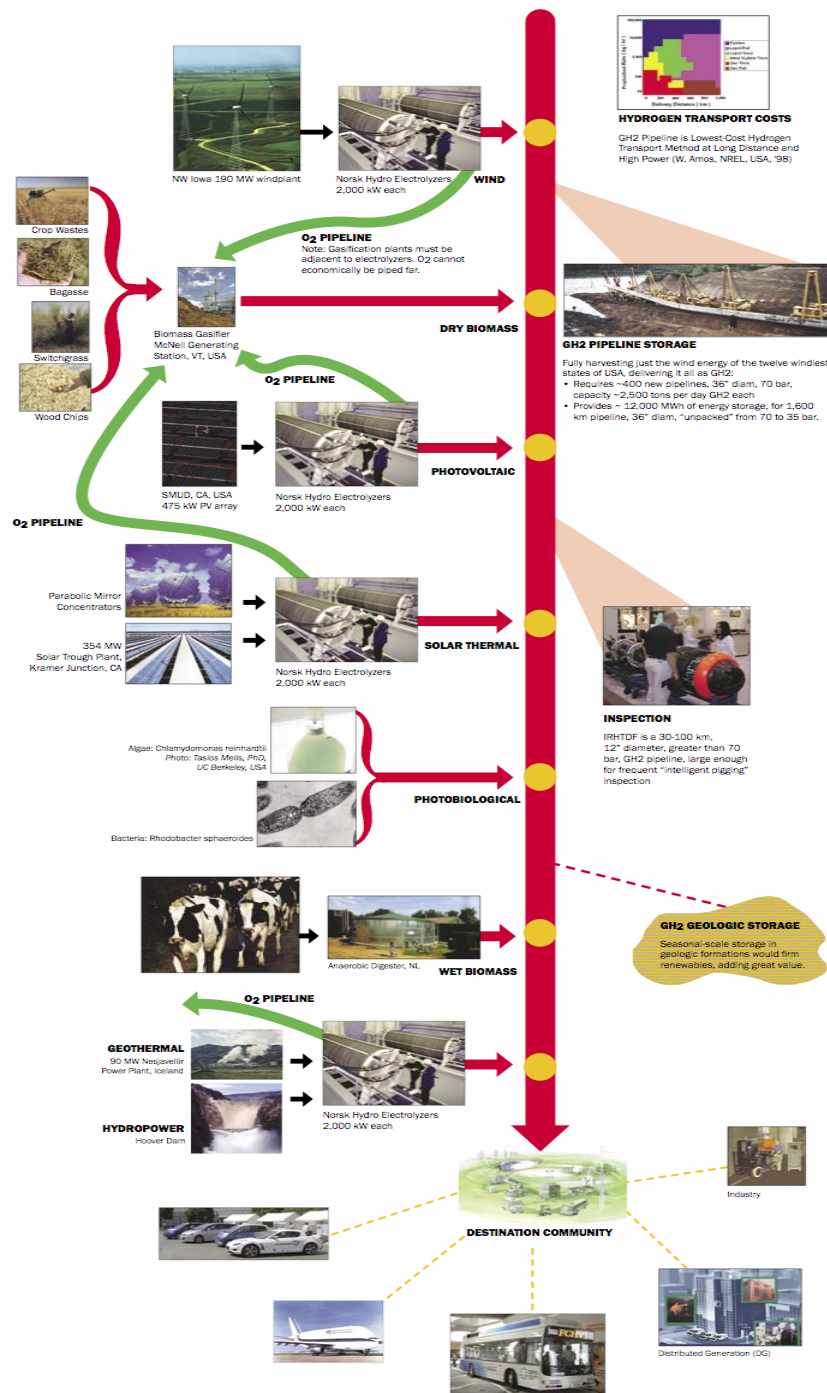
**Wind Potential ~ 10,000 GW**



## ***Pilot plant needed***

- **Every major new industrial process**
- **Renewables-source systems**
- **Diverse, large-scale, stranded**
- **US, Japan, Canada, IPHE → “ IRHTDF “**



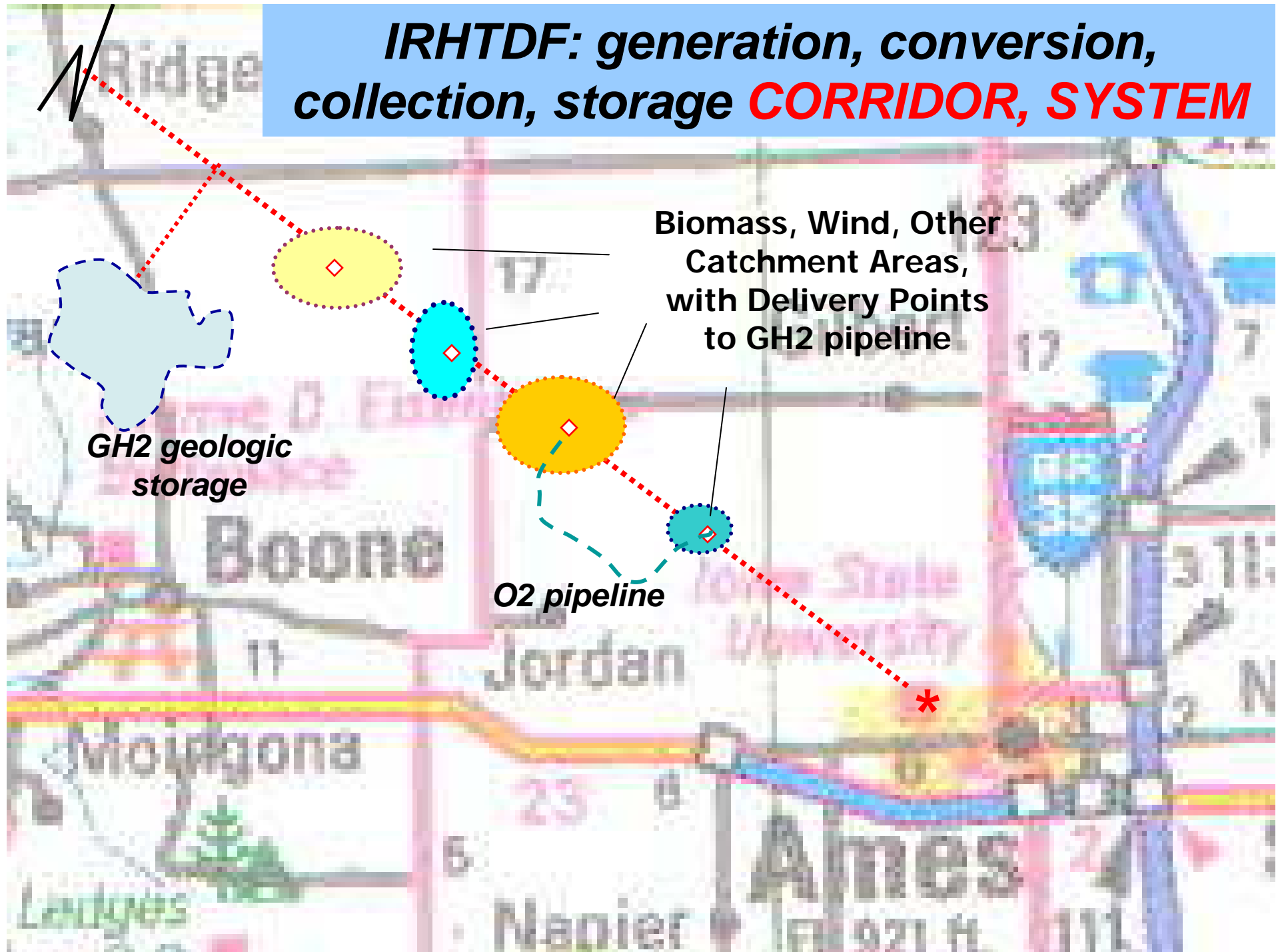


# Pilot-scale Hydrogen Pipeline System: Renewables

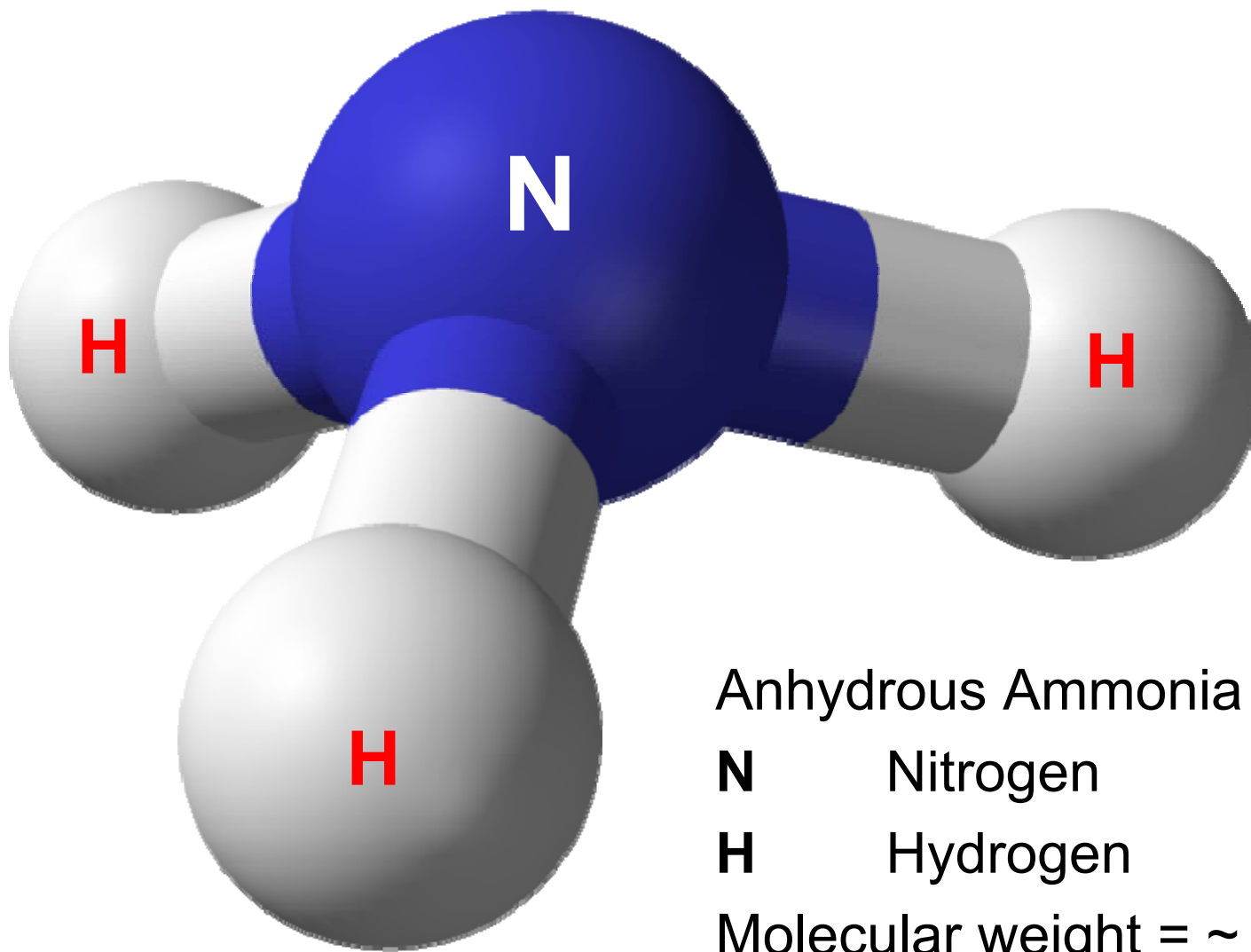
- **Diverse**
- **Dispersed, diffuse**
- **Large-scale**
- **Stranded**
  - **Remote**
  - **No transmission**



# IRHTDF: generation, conversion, collection, storage **CORRIDOR, SYSTEM**







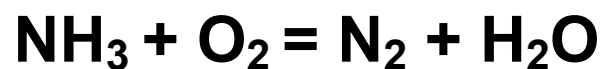
Anhydrous Ammonia **NH<sub>3</sub>**

**N** Nitrogen

**H** Hydrogen

Molecular weight = ~ 17

18% **H** by weight: “other hydrogen”





# ***Why Ammonia ?***

## ***Fertilizer and Fuel***

Only liquid fuel embracing:

- Carbon-free: clean burn or conversion; no CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Excellent hydrogen carrier
  - Easily “cracked” to H<sub>2</sub>
- Reasonably high energy density
- Energy cycle inherently pollution free
  - Potentially all RE-source: elec + water + Nitrogen
  - Cost competitive with hydrocarbon fuels ?
- Decades of global use, infrastructure
  - Practical to handle, store, and transport
  - End-use in ICE, Combustion Turbine, fuel cell
  - Safety: self-odorizing; safety regs; hazard

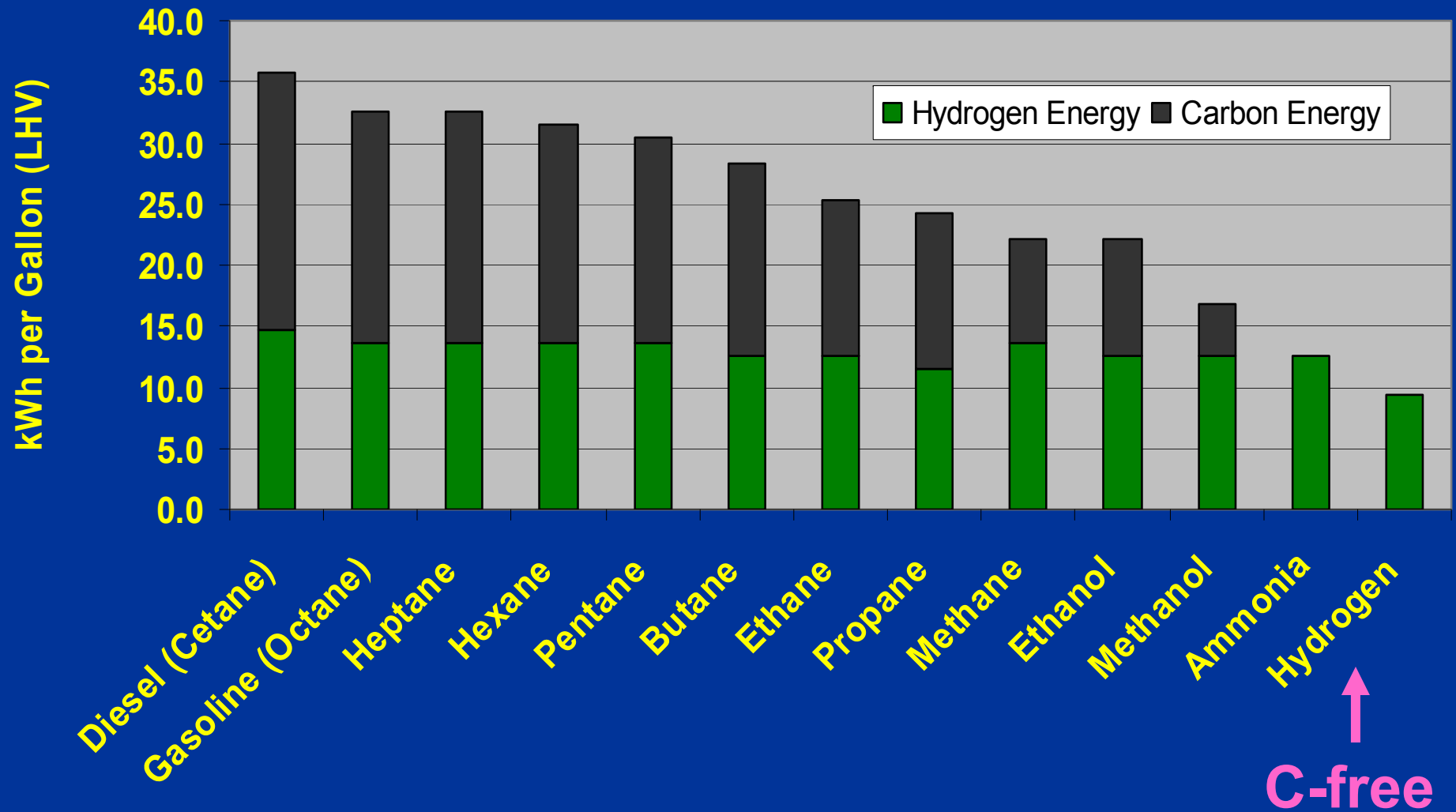


# ***Ammonia Fuel Uses***

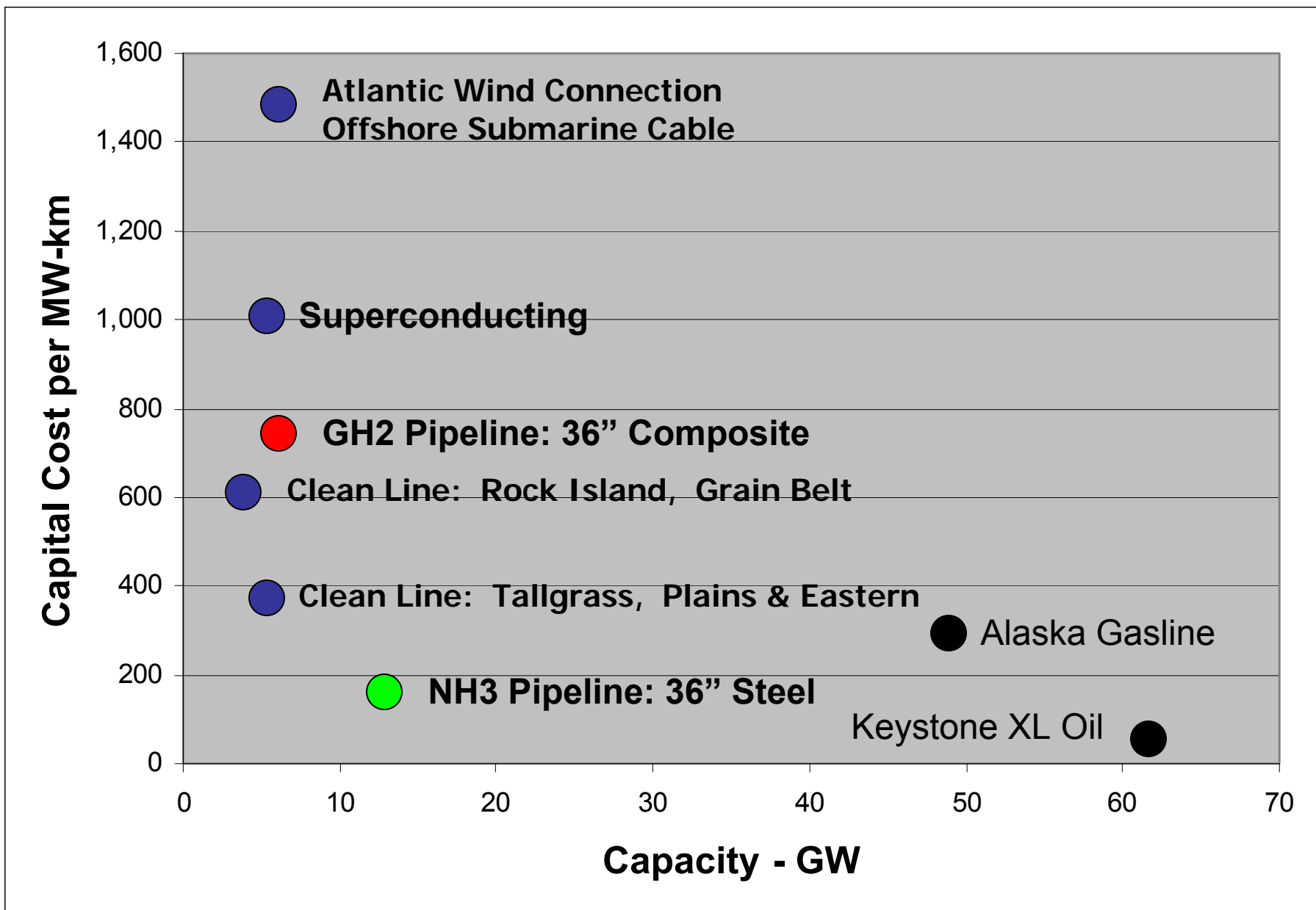
1. Internal Combustion Engine (ICE)
  - Diesel:  $\text{NH}_3$  gas mixed with intake air
  - Spark-ignition: 70%+  $\text{NH}_3$  plus gasoline, ethanol, propane, NG, hydrogen
  - $\text{NO}_x \sim \frac{1}{4}$  gasoline engines
2. Combustion Turbines
3. Direct Ammonia Fuel Cells:
  - Combined heat + power (CHP)
  - No  $\text{NO}_x$
4. Reform (“crack”) to liberate hydrogen for fuel cells:  
$$2\text{NH}_3 \rightarrow 3\text{H}_2 + \text{N}_2$$



# Volumetric Energy Density of Fuels (Fuels in their Liquid State)

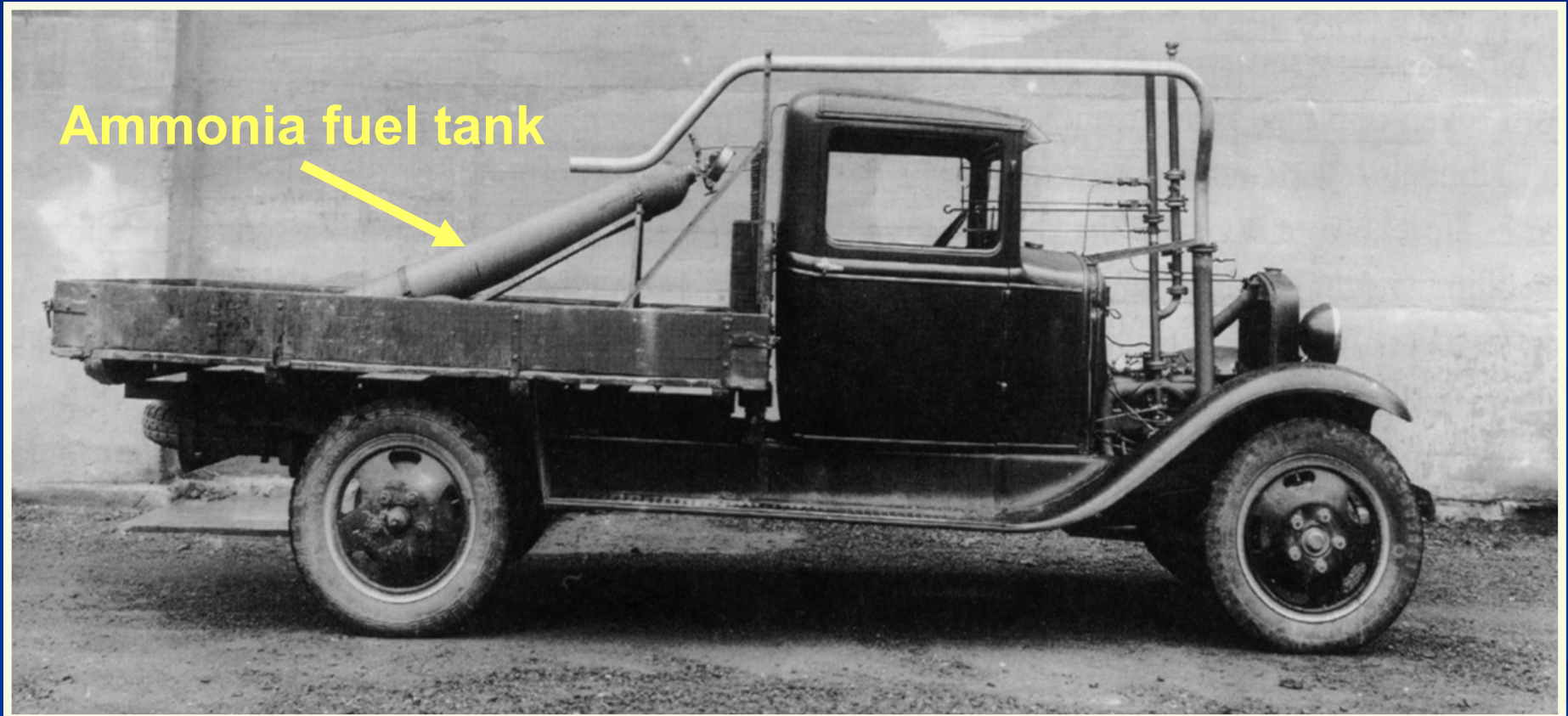








# *Ammonia fueled – Norway*



1933



**Belgium**



**Ammonia fuel tank**

**Ammonia Fueled Bus: Thousands of Problem-free Miles**

**1943**





**X-15 rocket plane: NH<sub>3</sub> + LOX fuel**

**Mach 6.7 on 3 Oct 67**

**199 missions**

**1959 - 68**





## University of Michigan

### Ammonia + Gasoline Powered

- Idle: gasoline
- Full power: 80% ammonia

Summer '07 Detroit → San Francisco

**2007**



*1,000 hours, ICE, 6 cyl, 100 hp  
75% ammonia, 25% propane*



**Irrigation pump  
Central Valley, CA**

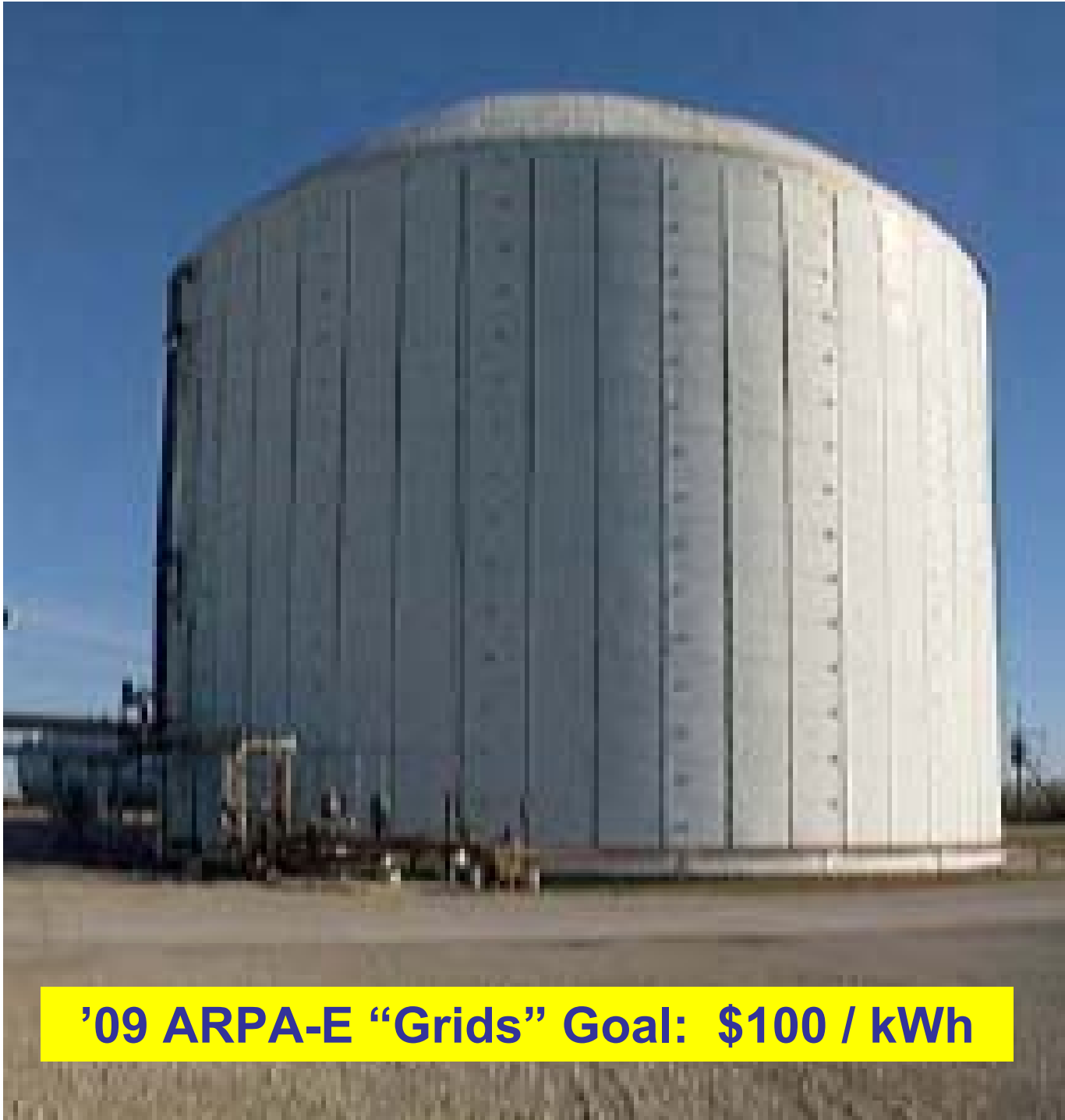
**2008**



# NH<sub>3</sub> Ag Fertilizer Tanks, Wind Generators, NW Iowa







***“Atmospheric”  
Liquid  
Ammonia  
Storage Tank  
(corn belt)***

***30,000 Tons***

***190 GWh***

***\$ 15M turnkey***

***\$ 80 / MWh***

***\$ 0.08 / kWh***

***-33 C***

***1 Atm***

**'09 ARPA-E “Grids” Goal: \$100 / kWh**

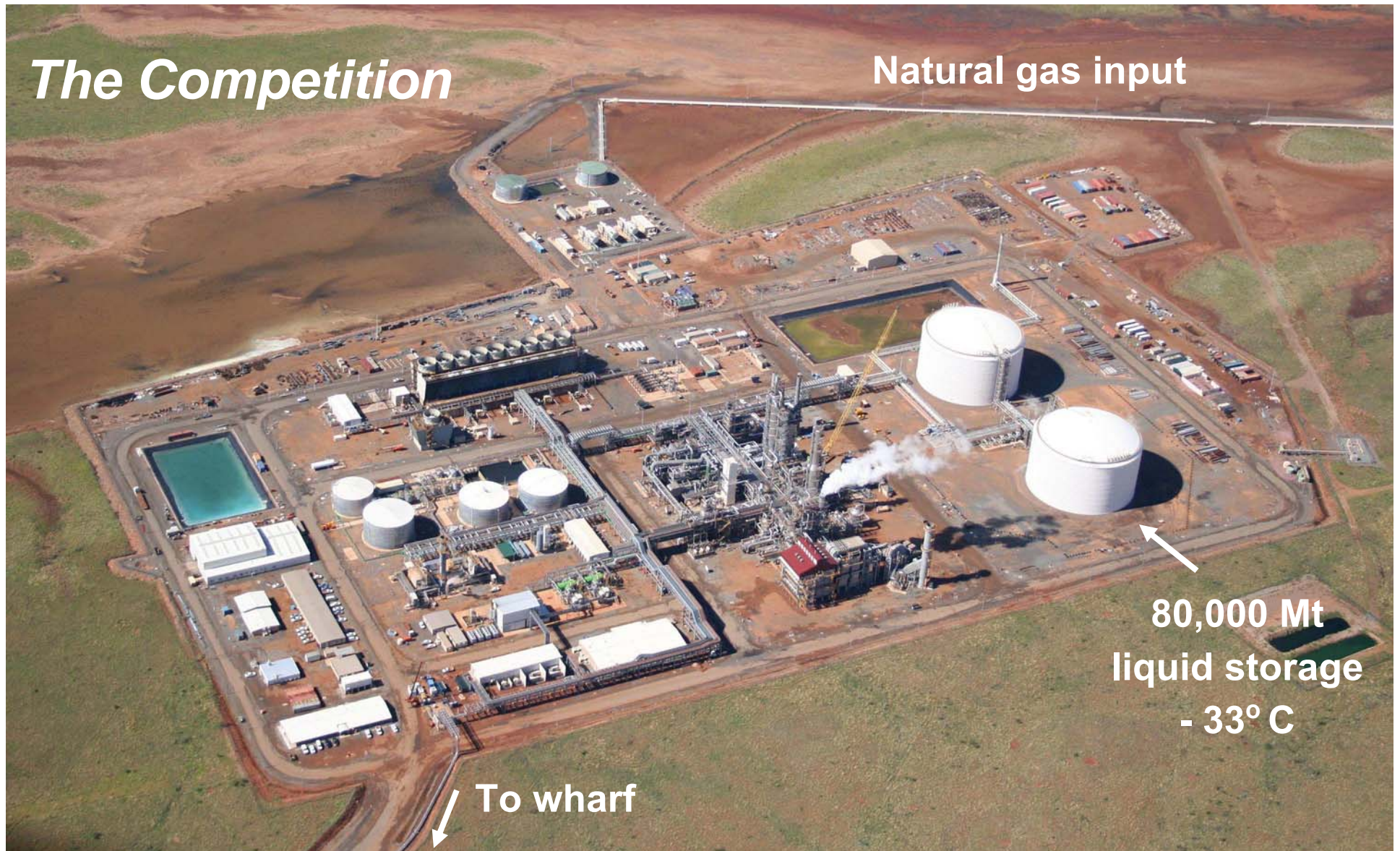


**Ammonia Storage Terminal  
Mississippi River  
Winona, MN**





# *The Competition*



**Burrup Peninsula, NW Australia, Natural Gas to Ammonia Plant**  
**760,000 Mt / year**  
**\$US 650 million capital cost '06**





***95% Global  
Ammonia***

***Synthesis  
Plant***

***Natural Gas  
1 – 3,000 tpd***

***Haber-Bosch  
process***





**Fritz Haber**



## **Haber-Bosch Process**

**1909 – 1913 BASF**

- **$\text{NH}_3$  synthesis**
- **Coal gasification  $\rightarrow \text{H}_2$**
- **WW I explosives**
- **40% humanity: N fertilizer**

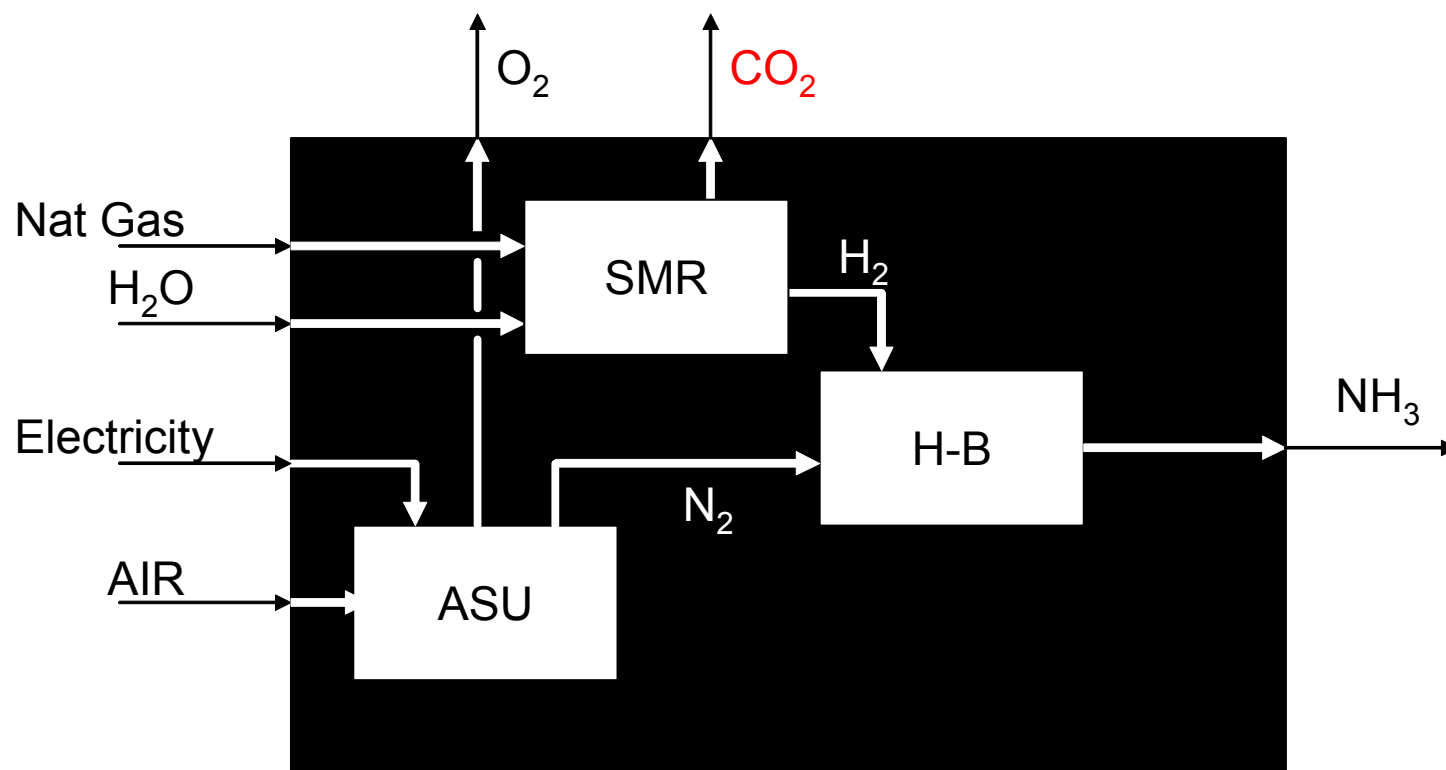
**Haber-Bosch Reactor**

**1921**

**Ludwigshafen, Germany**



## Inside the Black Box: Steam Reforming + Haber-Bosch (H-B)



**Energy consumption ~33 MMBtu (9,500 kWh) per ton NH<sub>3</sub>**  
**Tons CO<sub>2</sub> per ton NH<sub>3</sub> = 1.8**



***Ammonia Tanker  
Burrup Peninsula  
Western Australia***







**Ammonia or LPG Tanker**  
**To 35,000 Mt**  
**Refrigerated**

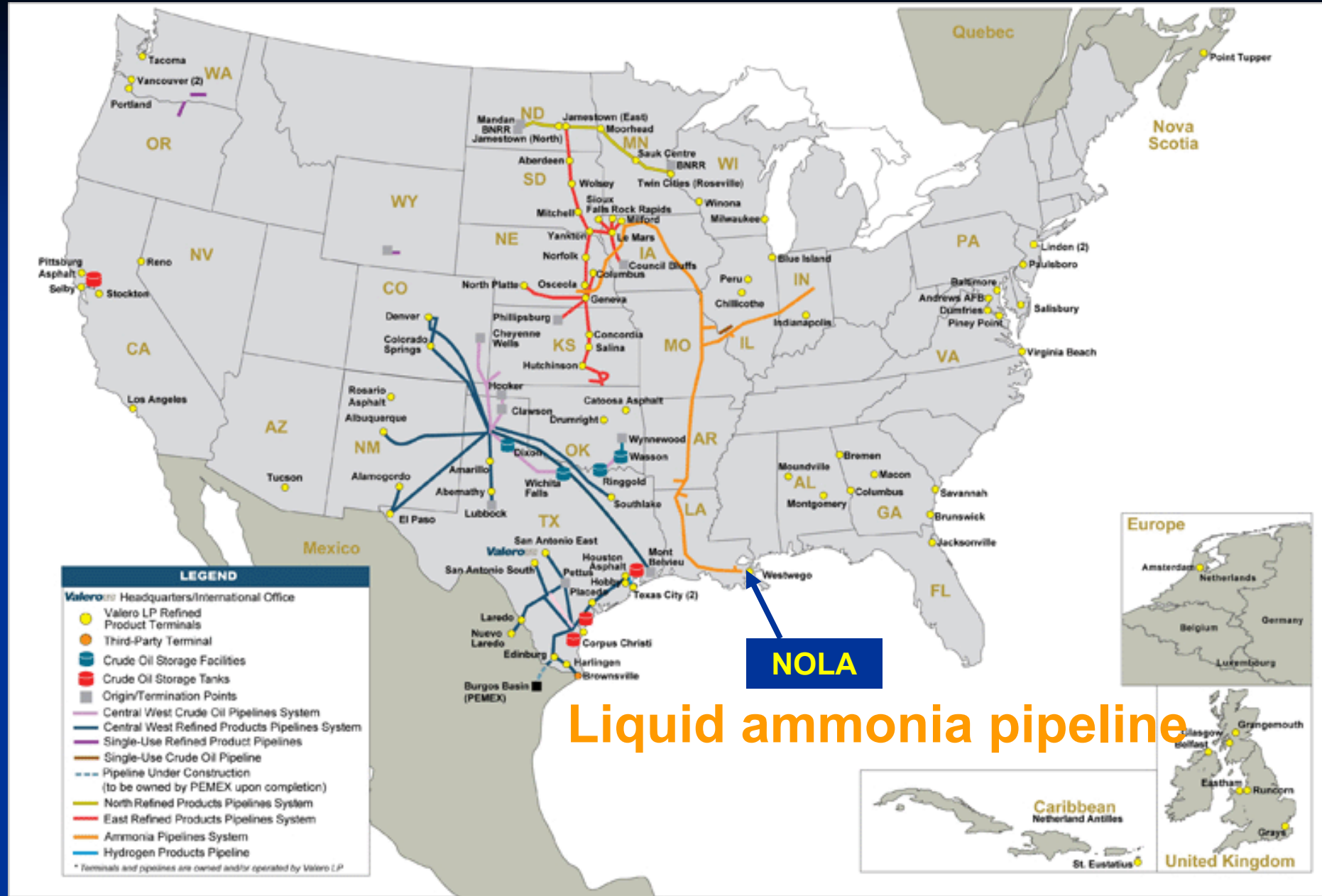




# ***USA NH3 Infrastructure***

- USA imports ~60% of 14 MMt / year
- ~ 3,000 miles pipelines
  - ~ 250 psi liquid
  - Smaller diameter than NG or hydrogen
- ~ 4.5 MMt large “atmospheric” tank storage
- Mild steel construction
  - Low cost
  - No corrosion or embrittlement





Valero LP Operations



## ***Capital Cost per GW-mile***

### ***Electricity :***

	<u>KV</u>	<u>Capacity MW</u>	<u>\$M / GW-mile</u>
• SEIA:	765	5,000	1.3
	345	1,000	2.6
• AEP-AWEA	765	5,000	3.2
Consensus ?			2.5

### ***Hydrogen pipeline:***

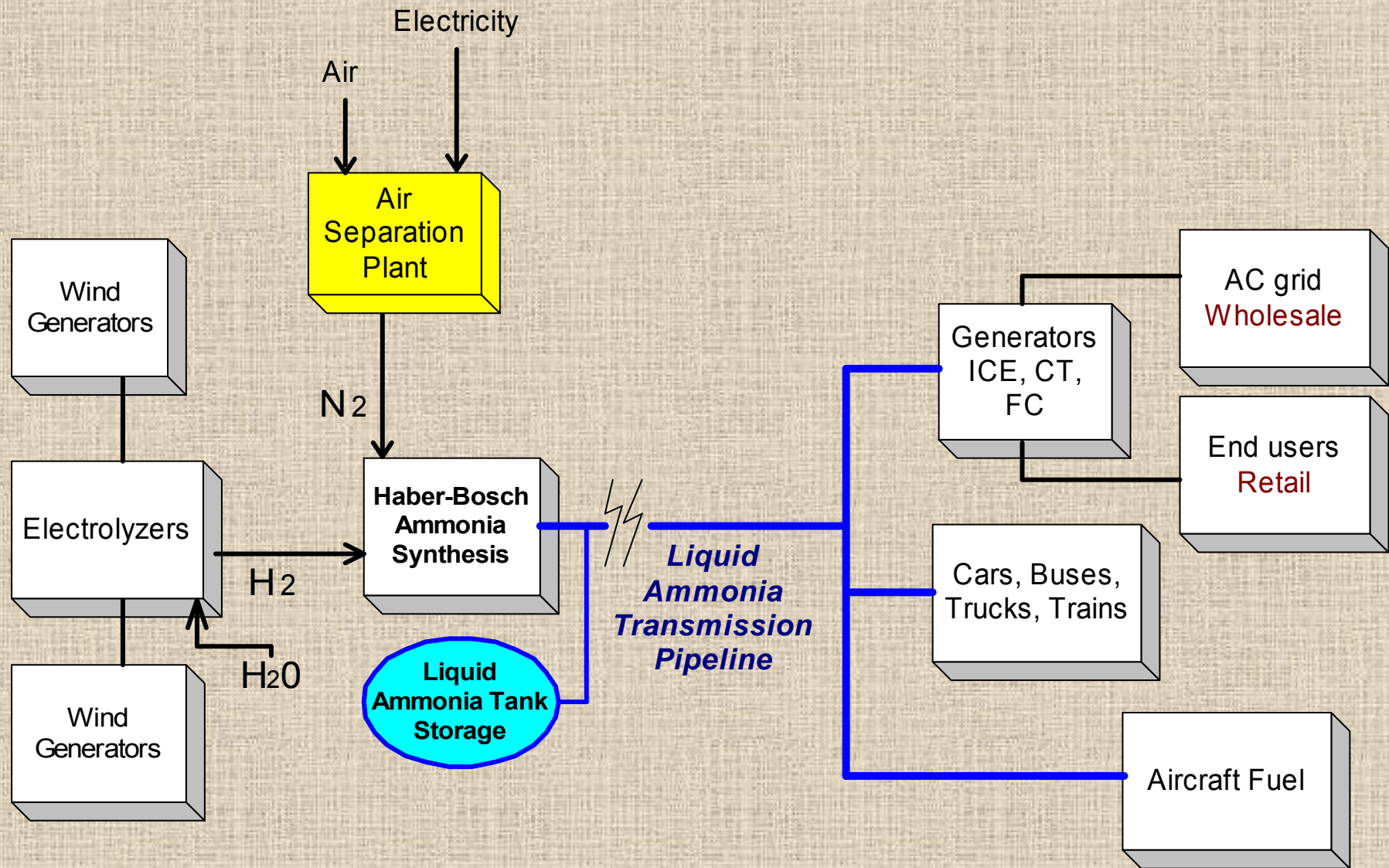
36", 100 bar, 500 miles, no compress 0.3

### ***Ammonia pipeline:***

10" , liquid, 500 miles, with pumping 0.2



# RE Ammonia Transmission + Storage Scenario





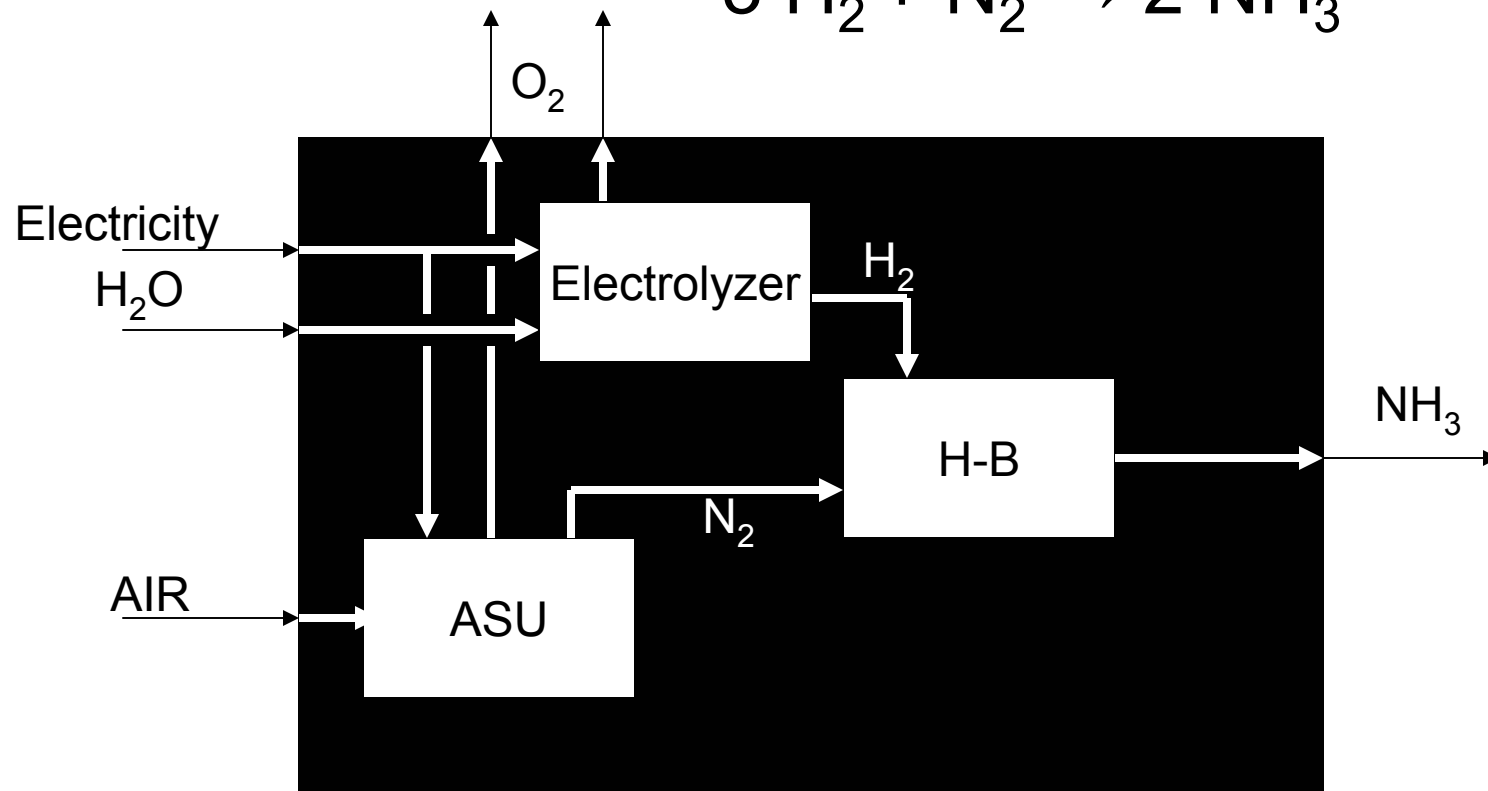
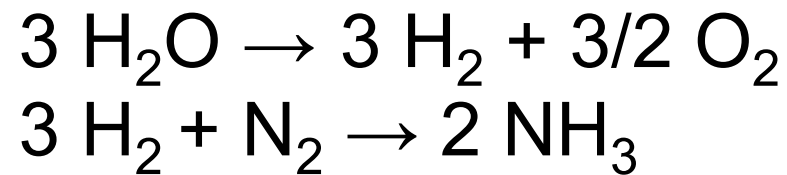
A photograph of two large, cylindrical industrial electrolyzers in a factory setting. The cylinders are white with a dark, ribbed exterior. They are mounted on a metal frame. In the background, there are several large white storage tanks and various pipes. Two workers in white hard hats and dark clothing are standing in front of the electrolyzers, looking at a document. The scene is brightly lit with overhead industrial lights.

# *Norsk Hydro Electrolyzers 2 MW each*

**Ammonia from  
hydrogen  
from zero-cost  
off-peak hydro**



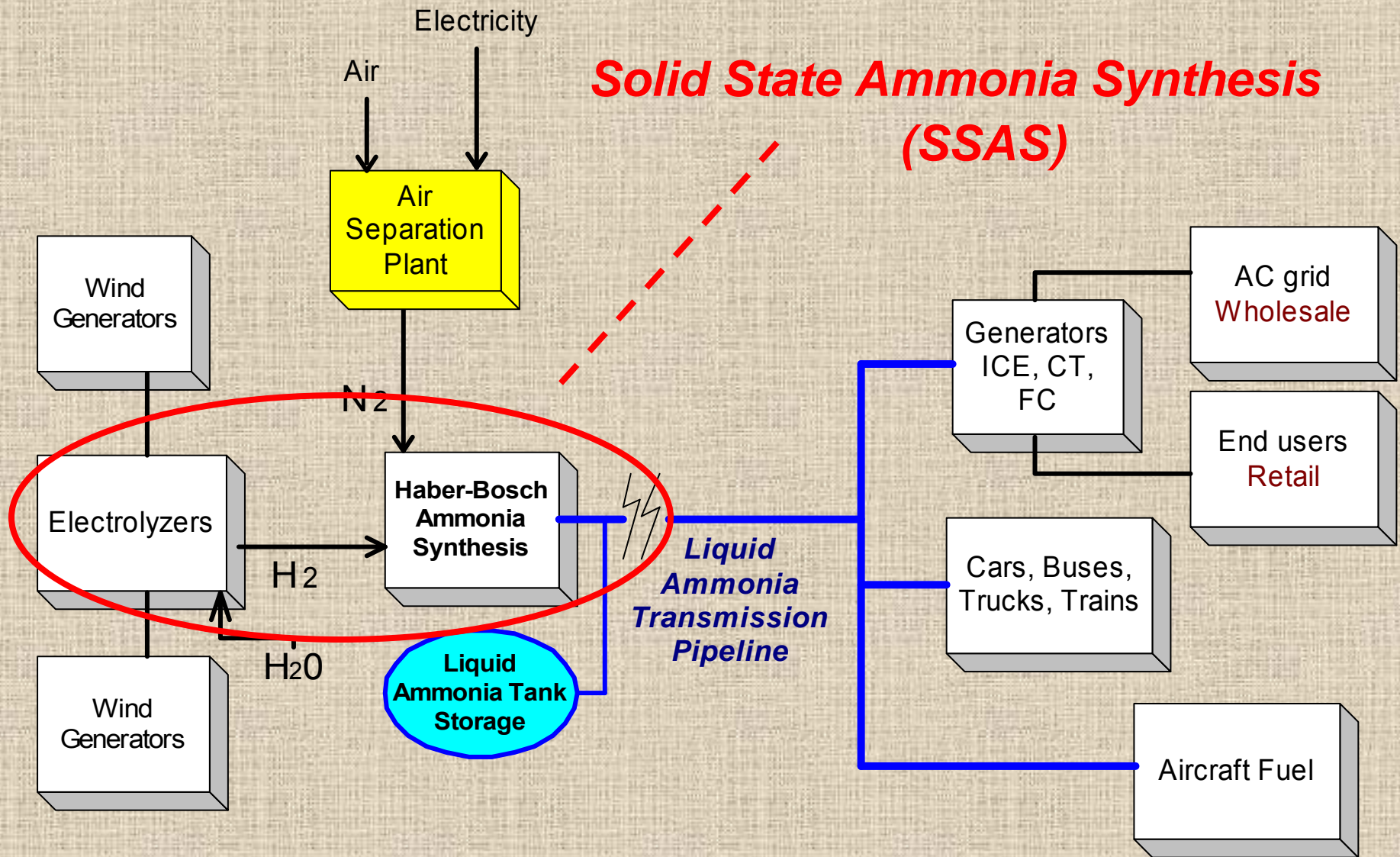
# Inside the Black Box: HB Plus Electrolysis



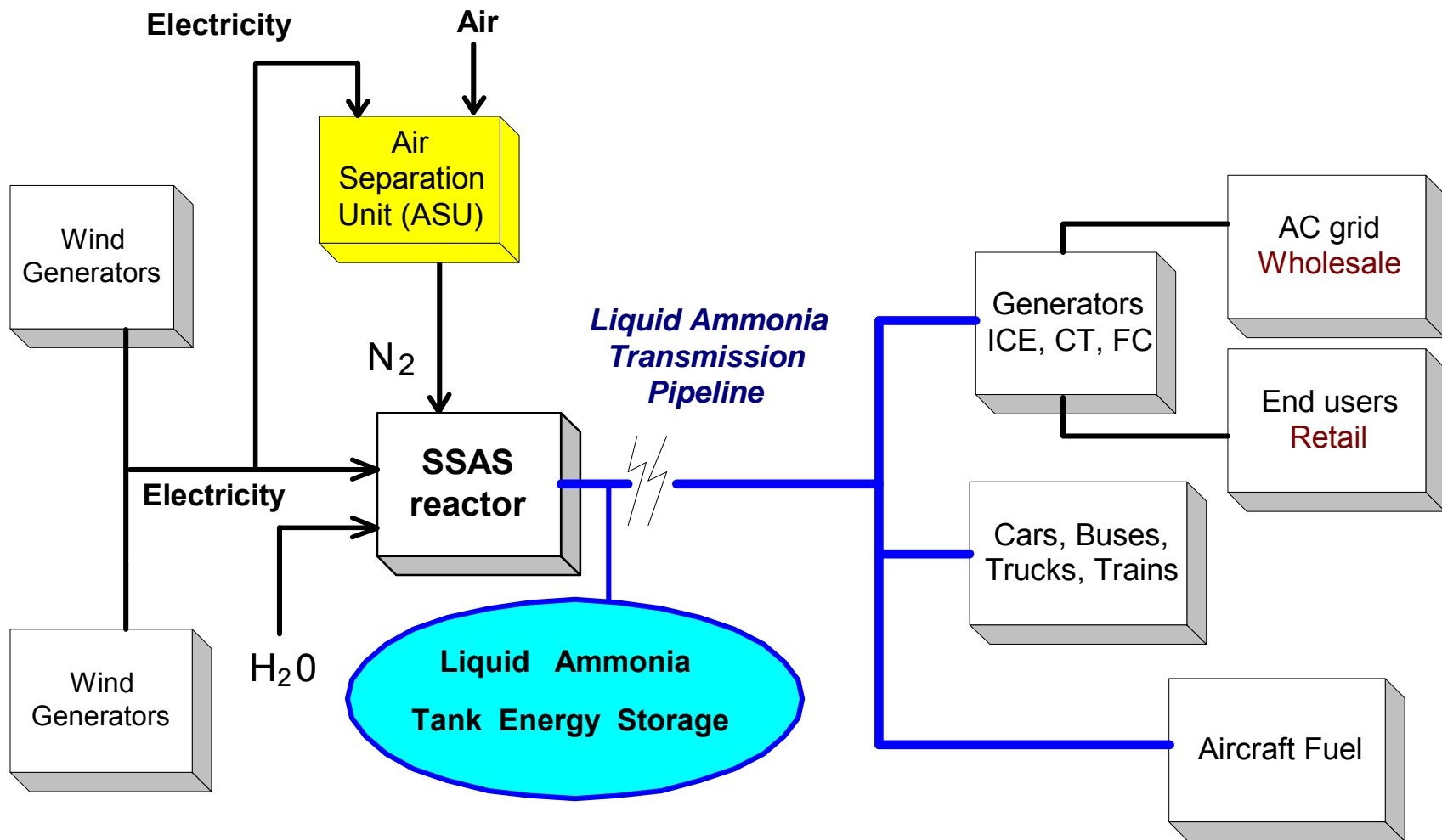
Energy consumption ~12,000 kWh per ton NH<sub>3</sub>



# RE Ammonia Transmission + Storage Scenario



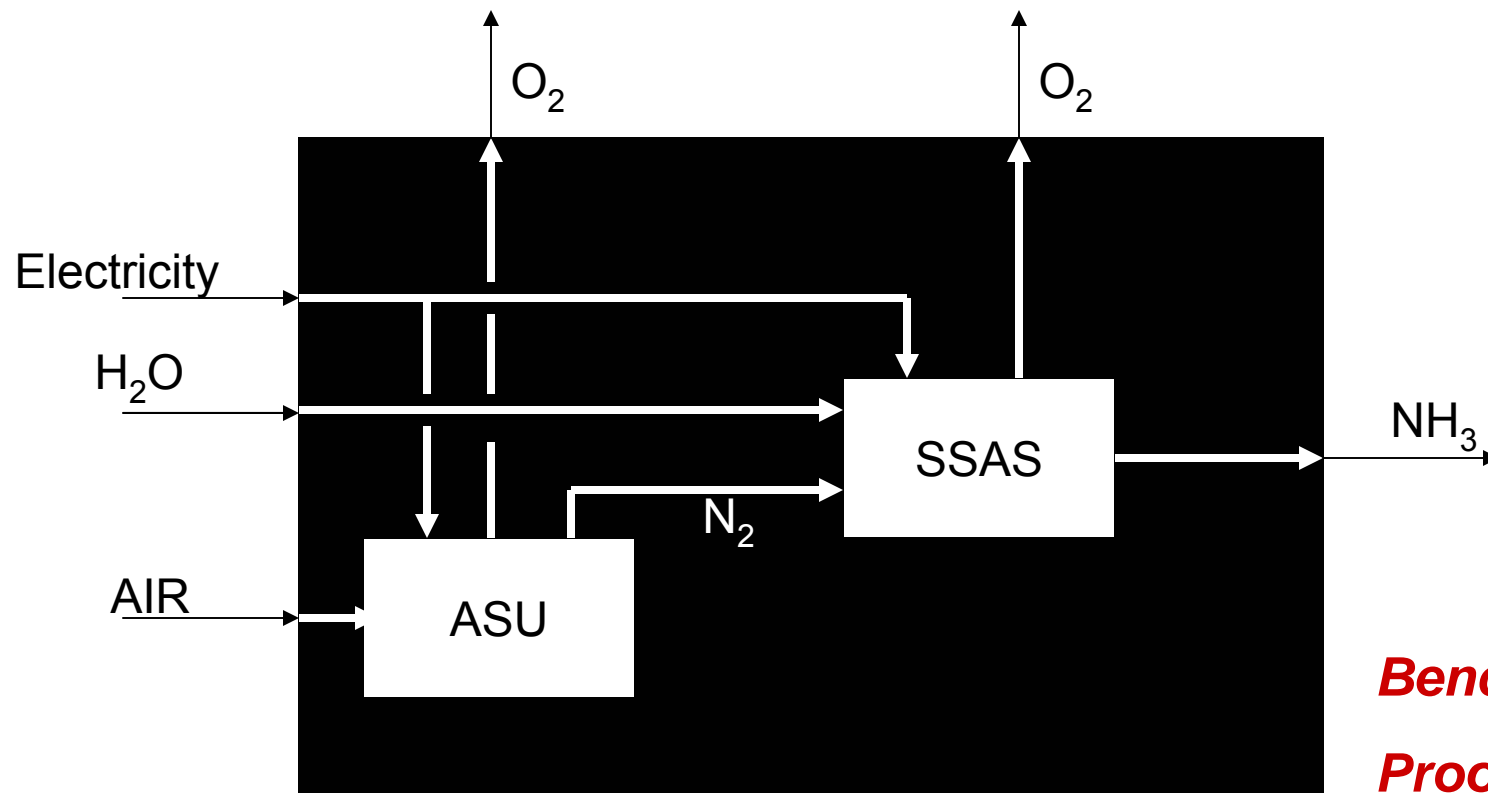
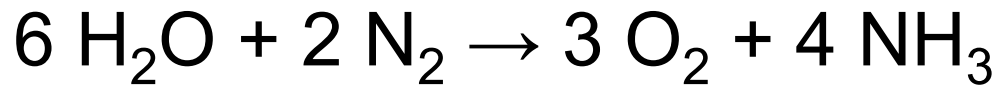




# Solid State Ammonia Synthesis (SSAS)



# Inside the Black Box: Solid State Ammonia Synthesis



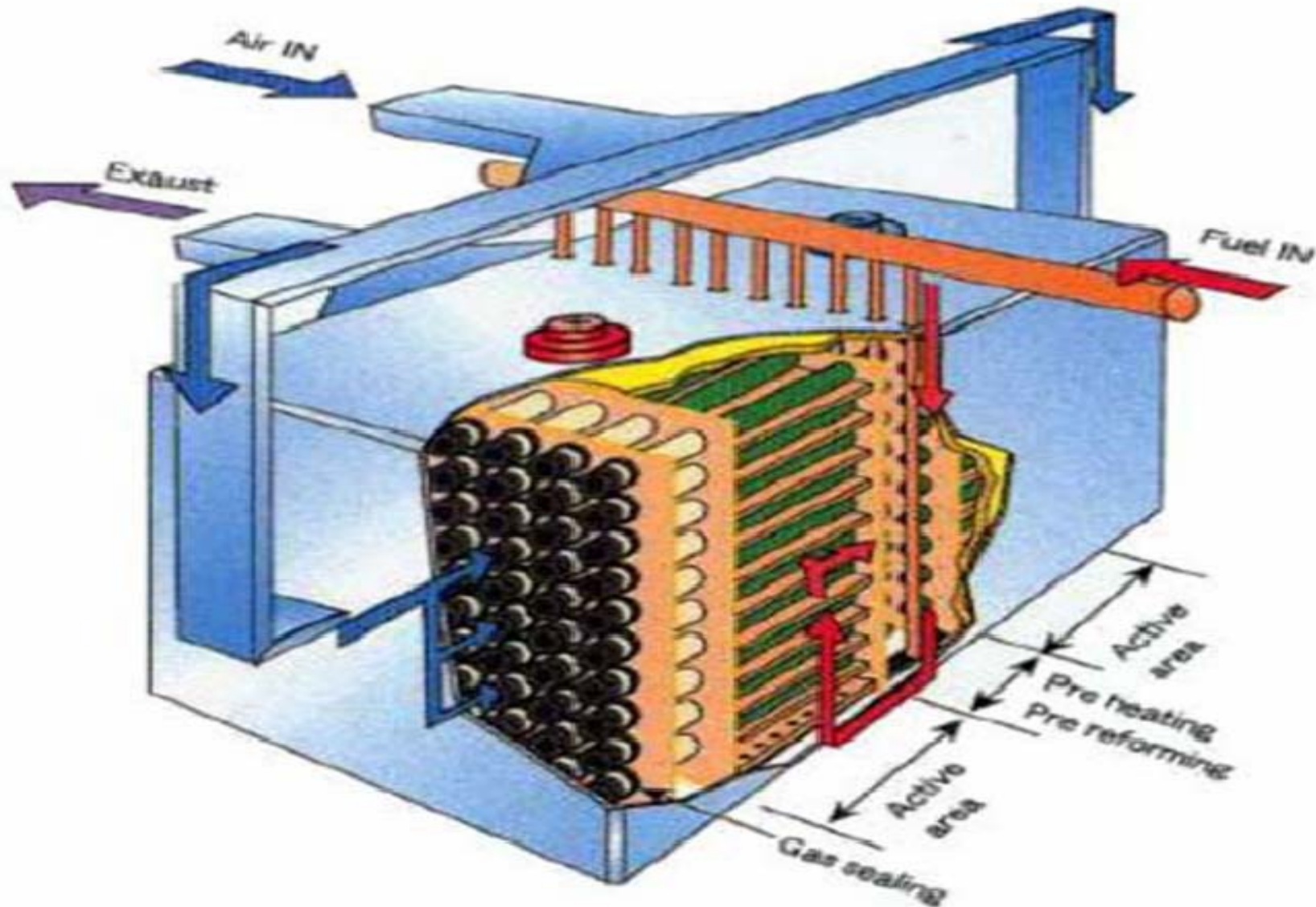
***Benchtop  
Proof-of-concept***

Energy consumption 7,000 – 8,000 kWh per ton NH<sub>3</sub>



# ***Solid State Ammonia Synthesis (SSAS)***

## ***NHThree LLC patent***





## *Why SSAS ?*

- Electrolysis + Haber-Bosch too costly
  - From RE electricity
  - Capital components at low capacity factor (CF)
  - Energy conversion losses
- Proton conducting ceramics (PCC) now
- Solid oxide fuel cell (SOFC) success
- Need stranded RE transmission
- Need RE storage



## *Wind – to – Ammonia Potential, NW Iowa*





***320,000 MWh storage***  
***Annual firming 1,000 MW wind***

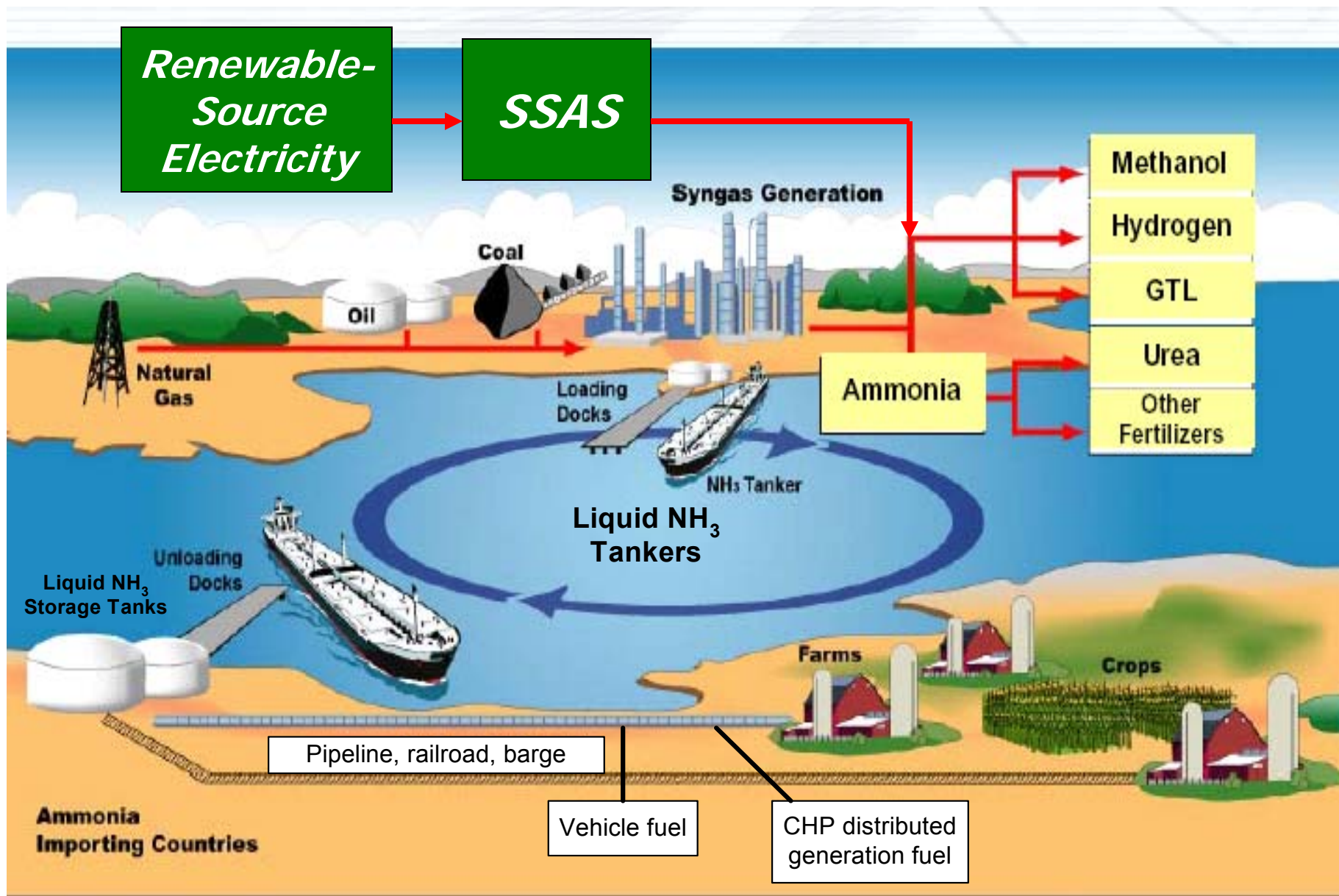
- **Electricity**
  - **VRB (Vanadium Redox Battery)**
    - **O&M: 80% efficiency round-trip**
    - **Capital: \$500 / kWh = \$ 160 Billion**
  - **CAES (Compressed Air Energy Storage)**
    - **O&M: \$46 / MWh typical**
    - **Iowa Stored Energy Park:**
      - **Power = 268 MW**
      - **Energy capacity = 5,360 MWh**
      - **Capital: 268 MW @ \$ 1,450 / kW = \$ 390 M**
        - @ \$ 40 / kWh = \$ 13 Billion**
        - @ \$1 / kWh = \$ 325M**
- **GH2 (3 hydrogen caverns)**      **Capital**      **\$70 Million**
- **NH3 (2 ammonia tanks)**      **Capital**      **\$30 Million**



# ***Opportunity: Alaska Applications***

1. Village energy “independence”: degree
  - a. Internal, external energy economies
  - b. Diverse renewable sources
  - c. Low-cost tank storage
  - d. CHP, transportation fuels
2. Firming storage: annual scale
  - a. Susitna hydro
  - b. Other
3. Export large, diverse, stranded renewables
  - a. Cryo tankers: global trade
  - b. “Green” NH<sub>3</sub> premium? C-tax required?
  - c. SE AK “Cluster Industry”
  - d. Aleutians cargo ship fueling
4. Military fuel: ground, marine
  - a. USCG, Navy
  - b. Other services
  - c. DOD Assistant Secretary Sharon Burke visit 3-7 Aug 12

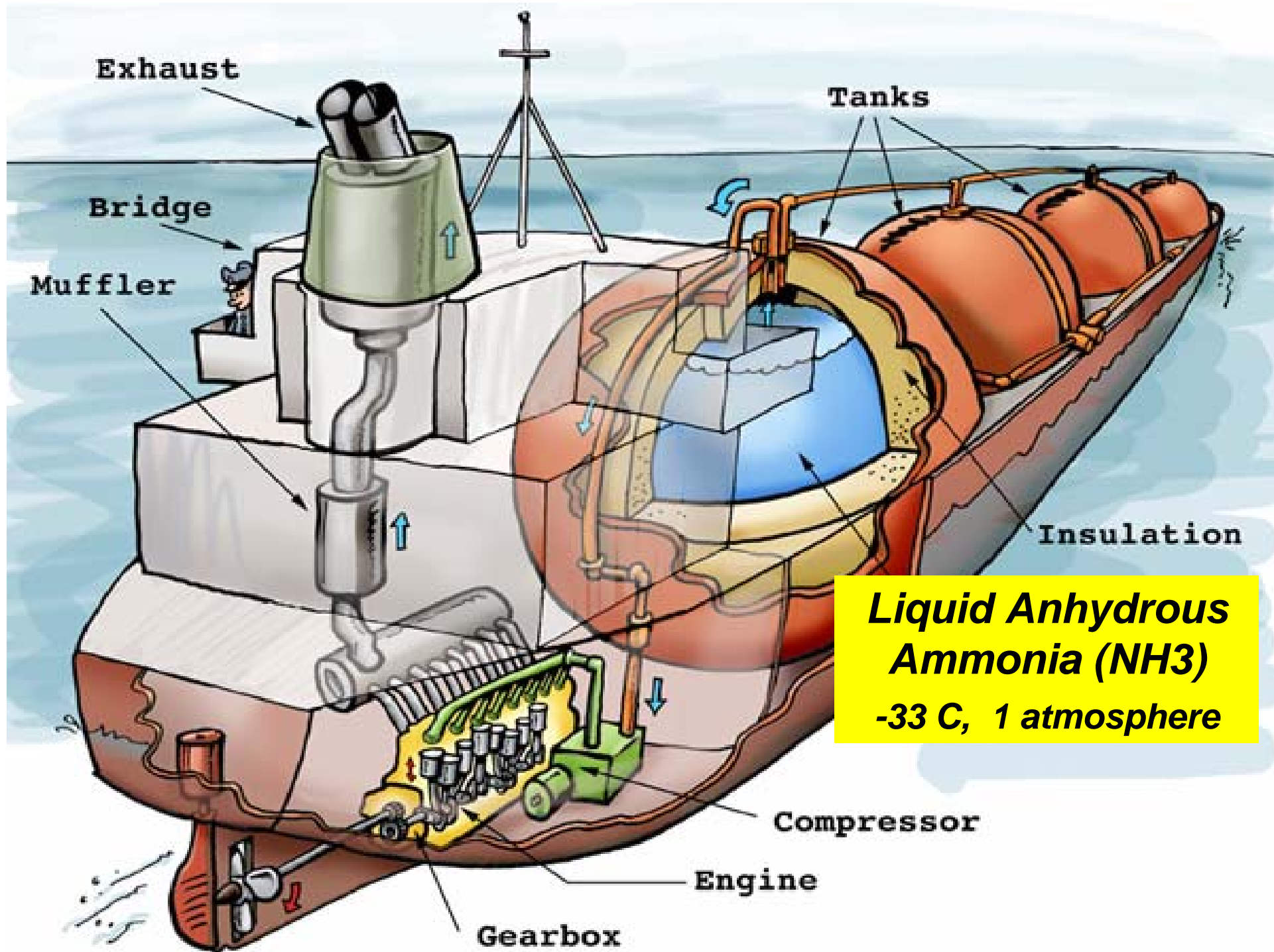




**KBR**

Energy and Chemicals





***Liquid Anhydrous  
Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)  
-33 C, 1 atmosphere***



# ***Humanity's Goal:*** ***“Run World on Renewables”***

**A global, sustainable,  
benign-source, equitable,  
energy economy**

- **CANNOT with only  
electricity transmission**



# ***“Transmission”***

- **Beyond “Smart Grid”, GW scale**
- **Electrofuels**
- **Renewable-source electricity**
- **Underground pipelines**
- **Carbon-free fuels: hydrogen, ammonia**
- **Low-cost storage:**  
\$ 0.10 – 0.20 / kWh capital
- **CHP, transport, industrial**



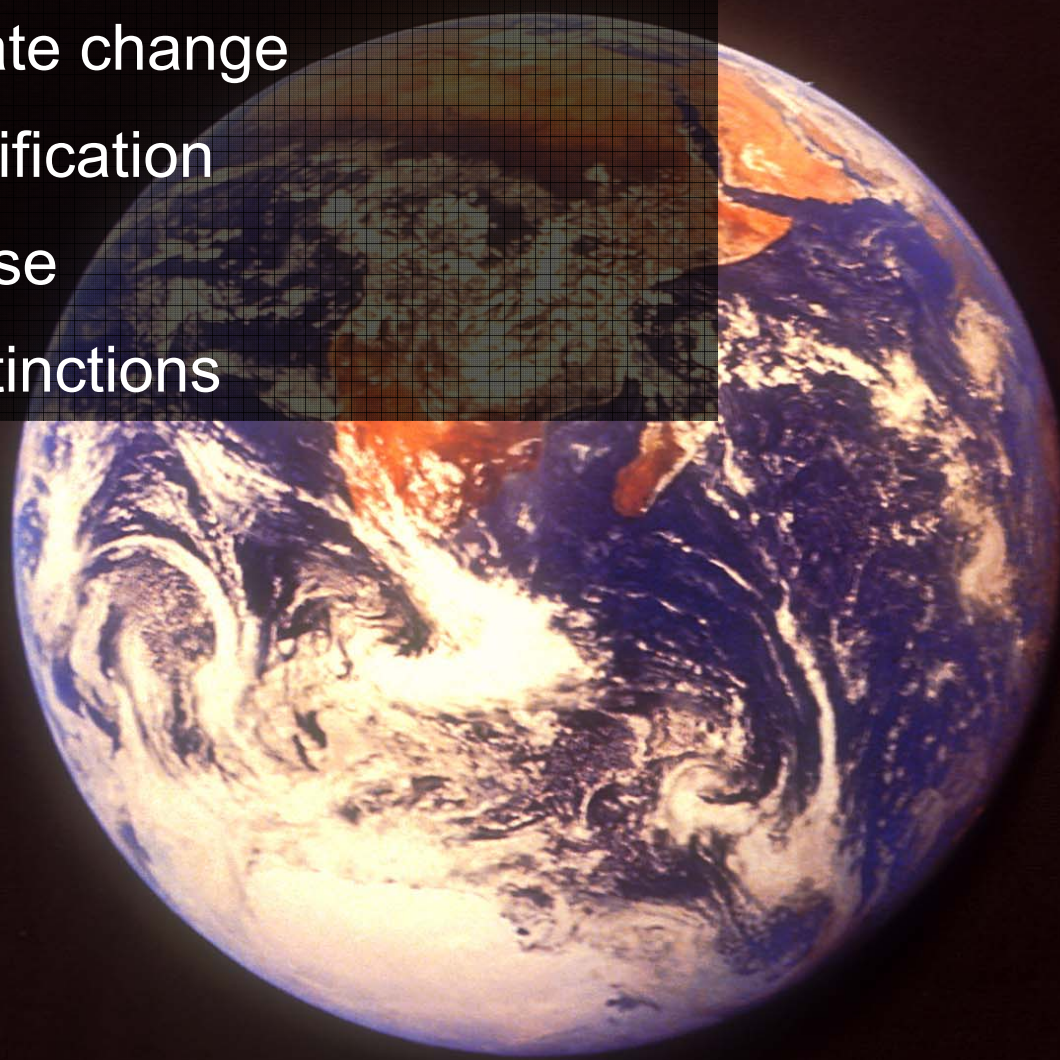
# ***Beyond “Smart Grid”***

- Primarily DSM
- More vulnerable to cyberattack ?
- Adds no physical:
  - Transmission, gathering, distribution
  - Storage
- Next big thing; panacea
- Running the world on renewables ?
- Must think:
  - Beyond electricity
  - Complete energy systems

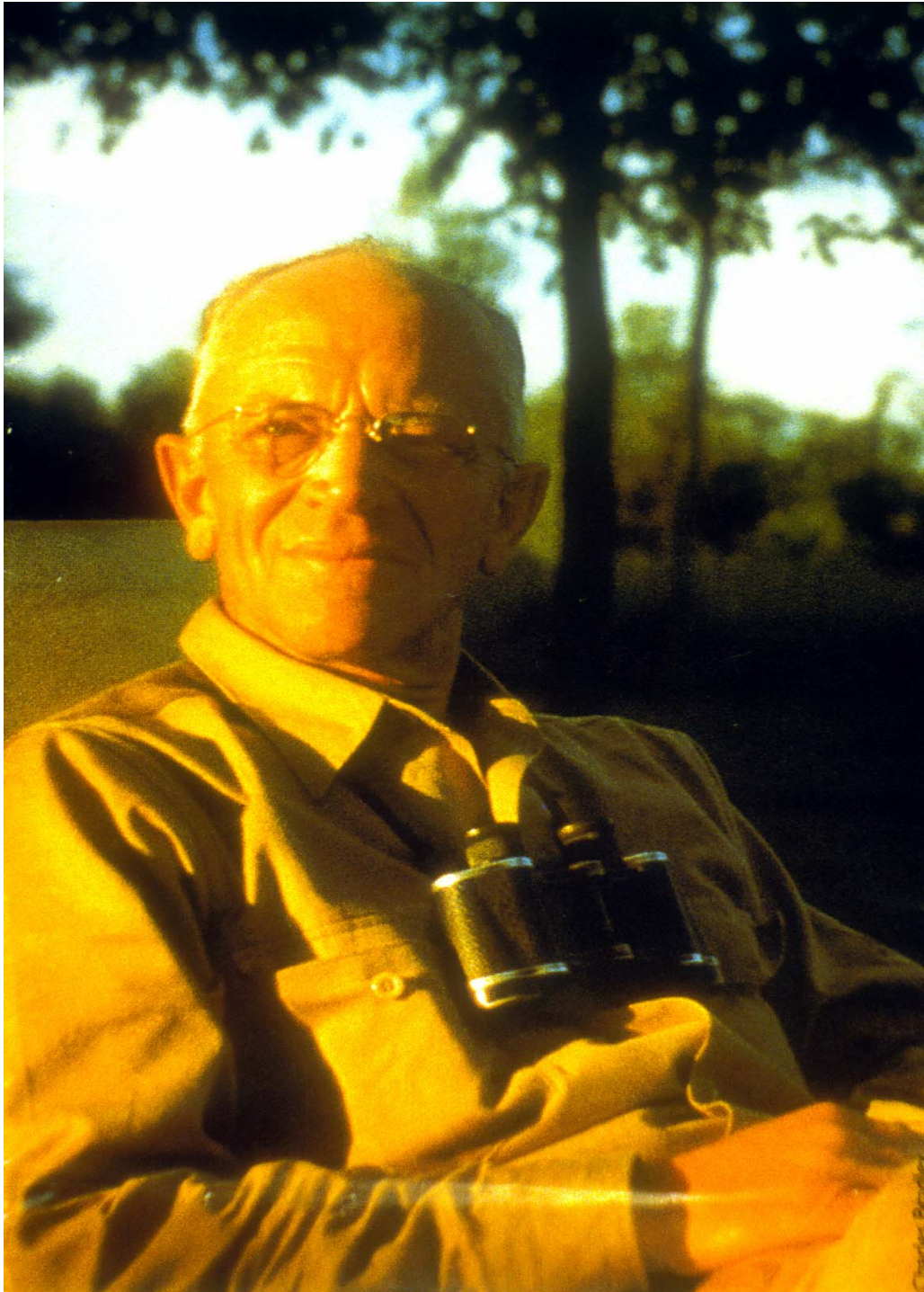


# MUST Run the World on Renewables – plus Nuclear ?

- Rapid climate change
- Ocean acidification
- Sea level rise
- Species extinctions







**Aldo  
Leopold**

**1887 - 1948**





# ***Protecting the Arctic by Running the World on Renewables: Alternatives for Transmission and Low-cost Firming Storage of Stranded Renewables as Hydrogen and Ammonia Fuels***

**DVD' s available**

**AAAS Arctic Science Conference**

**27 September 2013      Kodiak, AK**

**Bill Leighty, Director  
The Leighty Foundation  
Juneau, AK**

**[wleighty@earthlink.net](mailto:wleighty@earthlink.net)**

**907-586-1426      206-719-5554 cell**



**End of 27 Sep 13 presentation**

**Following slides are supplemental**



# ***Alaska Energy Authority Emerging Energy Technology Fund Project Fundamentals***

1. Does SSAS system “work” ?
2. Competitive with EHB ?
3. Useful in Alaska ?

SSAS Proof-of-concept pilot plant  
Two-year project  
Alaska Applied Sciences, Inc.



***Alaska Energy Authority  
Emerging Energy Technology Fund  
\$750K grant to  
Alaska Applied Sciences, Inc.***

- **SSAS Proof-of-concept pilot plant**
- **Alaska applications**
  - Village energy independence
  - RE export as NH<sub>3</sub> fuel
  - Hydro firming, annual-scale
- **2-year project**



# ***Project Fundamentals***

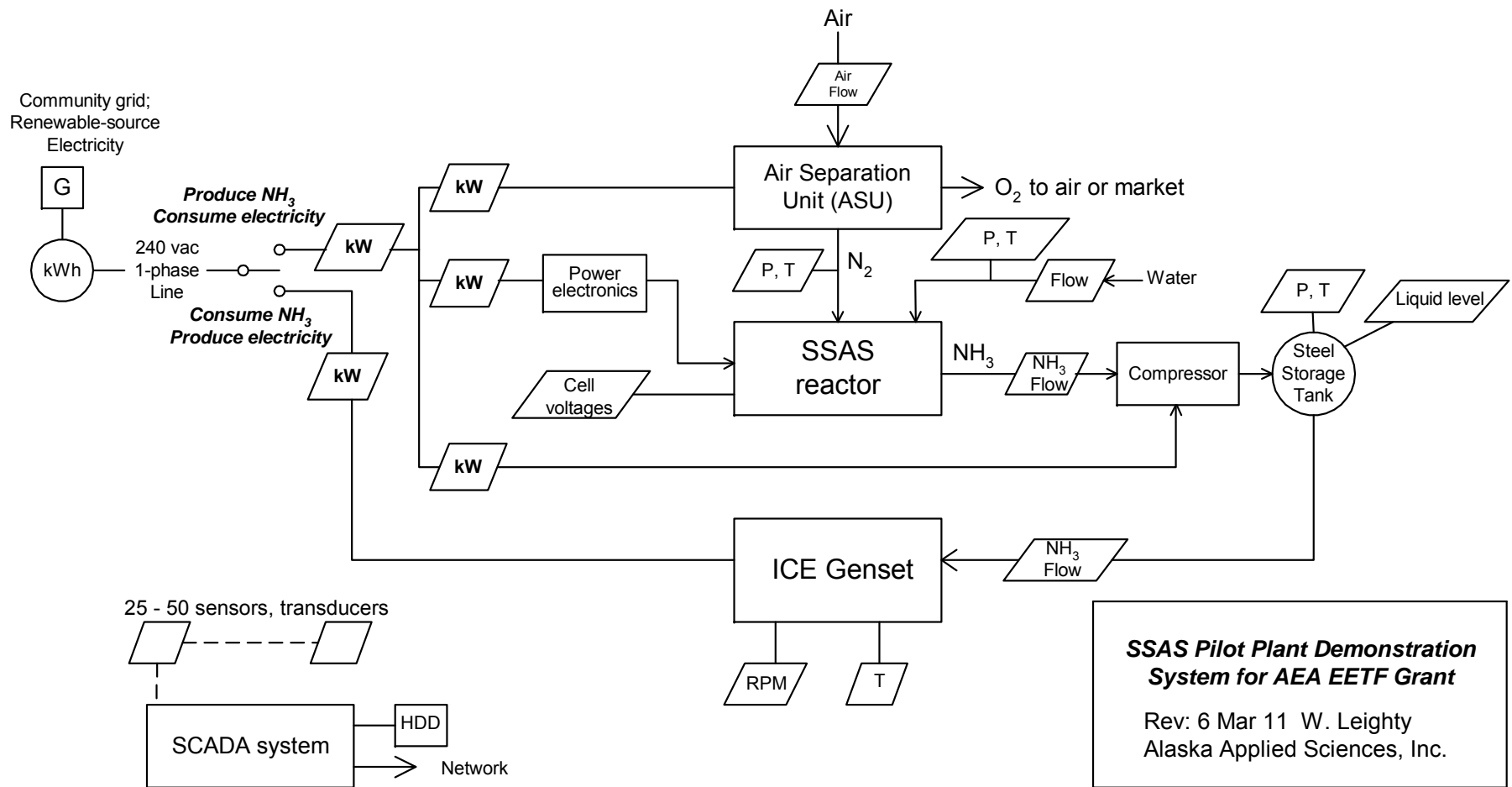
1. Anhydrous ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3$ ) is a fuel and transmission and low-cost energy storage medium
2.  $\text{NH}_3$  made from renewable energy (RE) electricity, water, and air (Nitrogen,  $\text{N}_2$ ) by:
  - a. Electrolysis + Haber-Bosch (EHB)
  - b. Solid State Ammonia Synthesis (SSAS)
3. SSAS should best EHB in:
  - a. Capital cost per kWe in, kg  $\text{NH}_3$  out
  - b. Energy conversion efficiency
  - c. System simplicity, low O&M cost
  - d. AK value



# ***Project Fundamentals***

- 4. SSAS unproven: needs proof-of-concept, small pilot plant**
- 5. Design and build pilot plant:**
  - a. Complete**
  - b. SCADA instrumented**
  - c. Containerized & transportable**
  - d. Upgradeable**
- 6. Success:**
  - a. Great value to AK, beyond**
  - b. Next steps to commercial**
  - c. SA AK “RE Cluster Industry” via USFS, JEDC**





## PROJECT: Complete RE – NH<sub>3</sub> SSAS Storage System

- > NH<sub>3</sub> synthesis from RE electricity, water, air (N<sub>2</sub>)
- > Liquid NH<sub>3</sub> tank storage
- > Regeneration + grid feedback
- > SCADA instrumentation → UAF - ACEP



**Alaska Applied  
Sciences, Inc.**

**560 kW windplant**

**Palm Springs, CA**



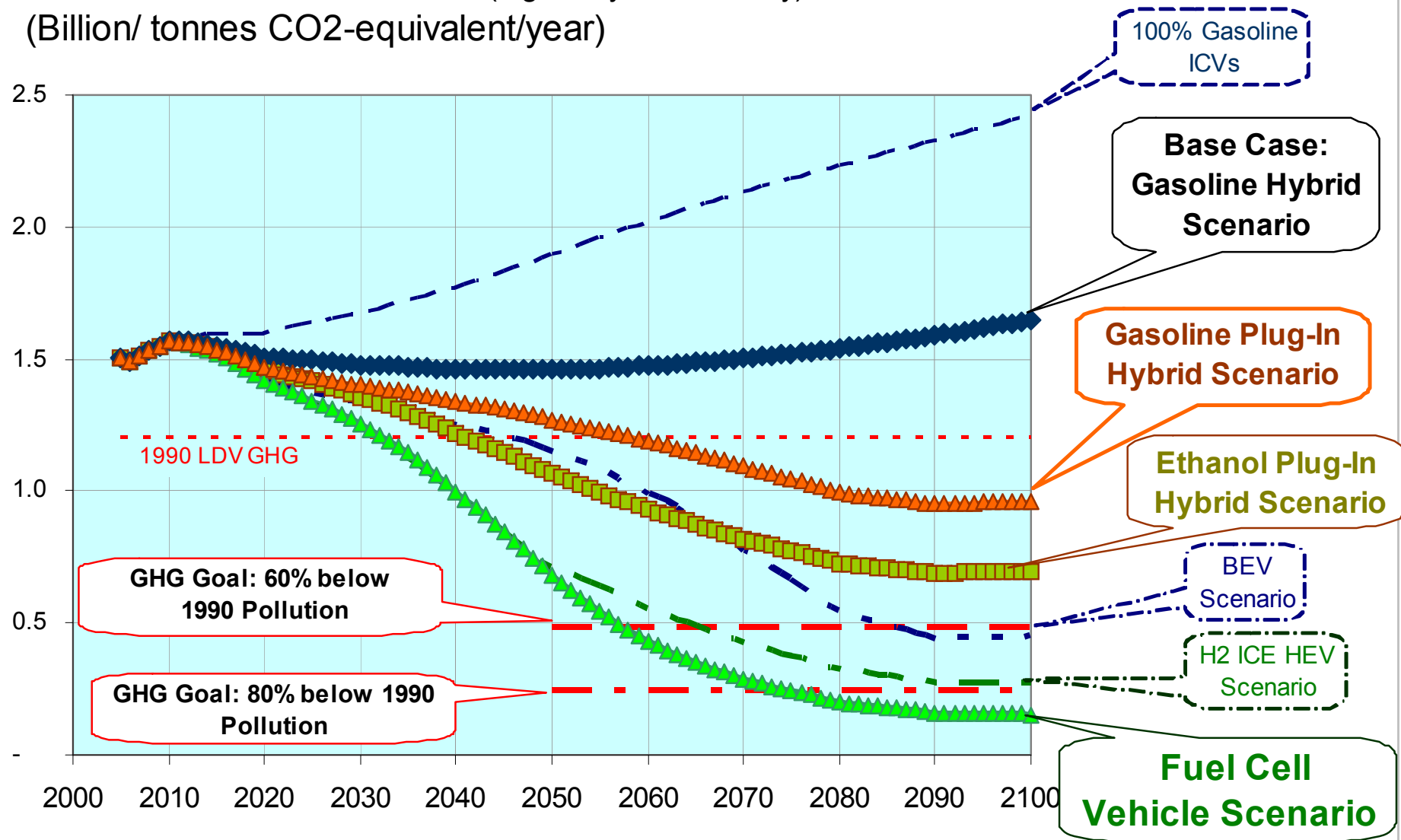




**Juneau: Thin shell concrete scale model, ~ 1 cm thick**



## Greenhouse Gas Pollution (Light duty vehicles only) (Billion/ tonnes CO2-equivalent/year)





## ***Capital Cost per GW-mile***

### ***Electricity :***

	<u>KV</u>	<u>Capacity MW</u>	<u>\$M / GW-mile</u>
• SEIA:	765	5,000	1.3
	345	1,000	2.6
• AEP-AWEA	765	5,000	3.2
Consensus ?			2.5

### ***Hydrogen pipeline:***

36", 100 bar, 500 mi, no compress      0.3

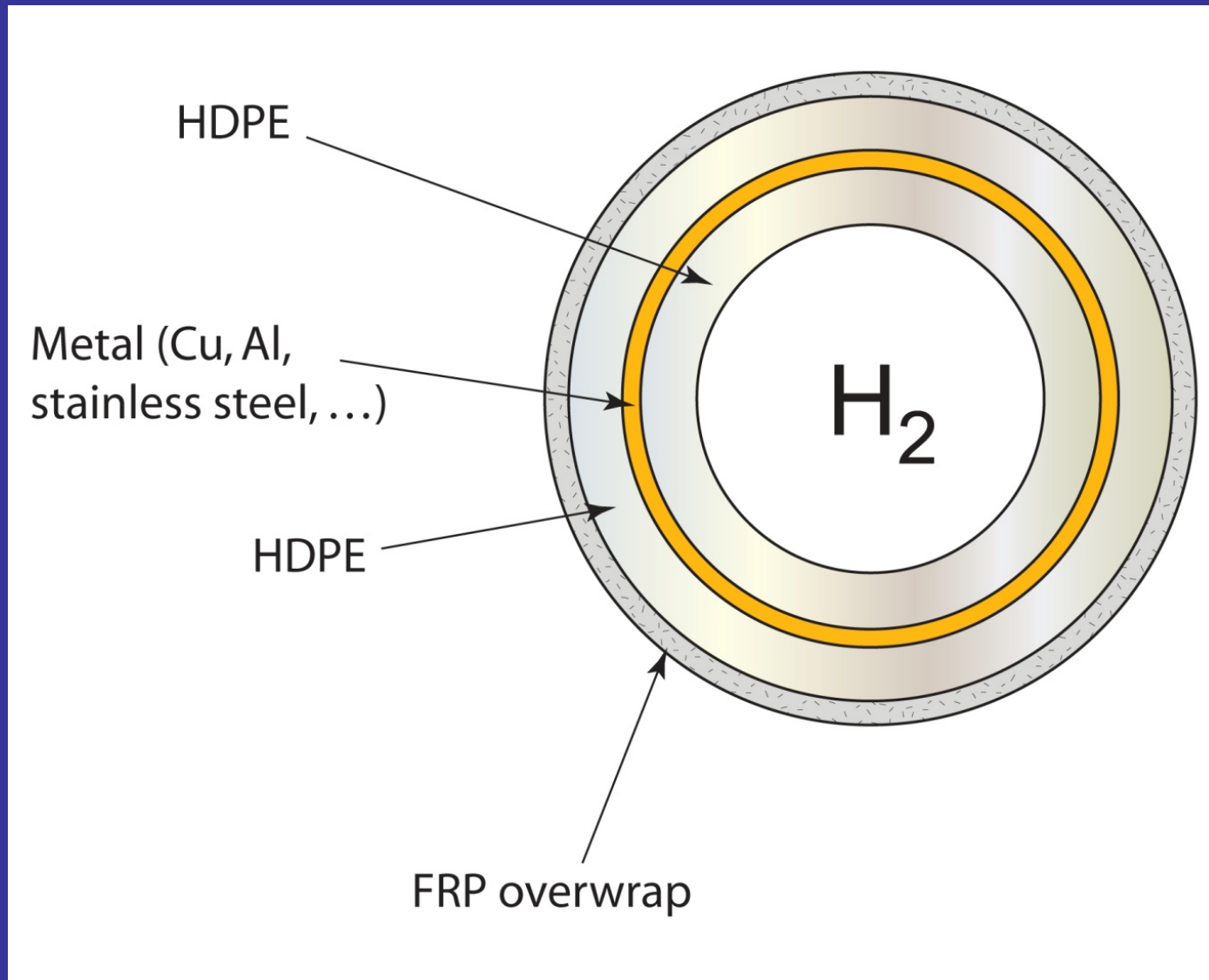
(100 bar = 1,500 psi)



## ***10" NH3 liquid pipeline cost***

- Industry sources, all costs:
  - \$750 – 900 K per mile, 10",  
“uncongested area”
  - \$250K per mile “small diameter”
- 1,000 mile pipeline @ 10" = \$ 400M
- Capacity 2 GW
- **Capital cost = \$200K / GW-mile**





*Polymer-metal linepipe avoids  
hydrogen embrittlement*





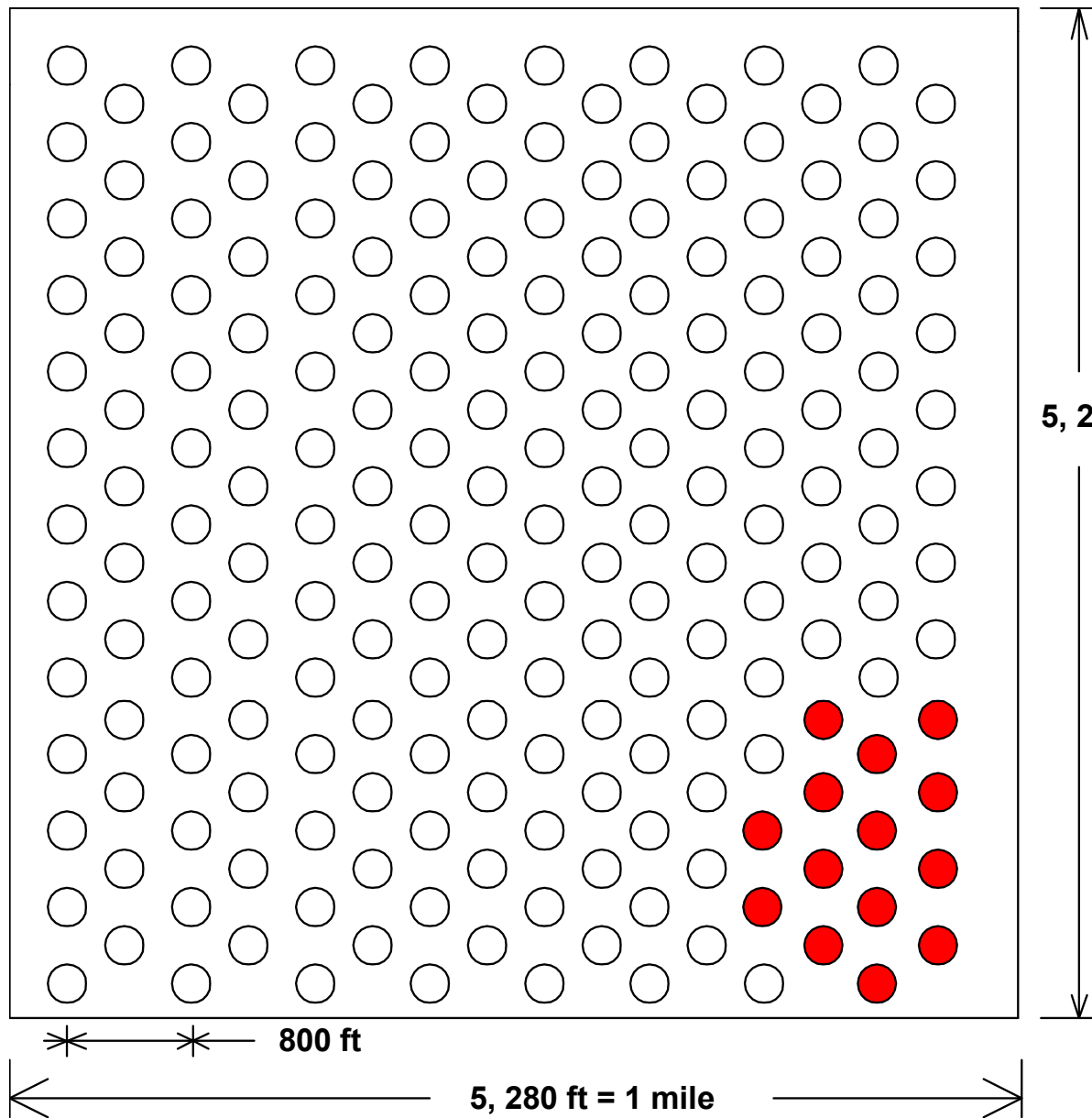
## **Gaseous Hydrogen (GH<sub>2</sub>)**

**36" diam,  
800 km  
No compression**

**8,000 MW**

CRLP™ is a trademark of NCF  
Industries, Inc.





5,280 ft = 1 mile

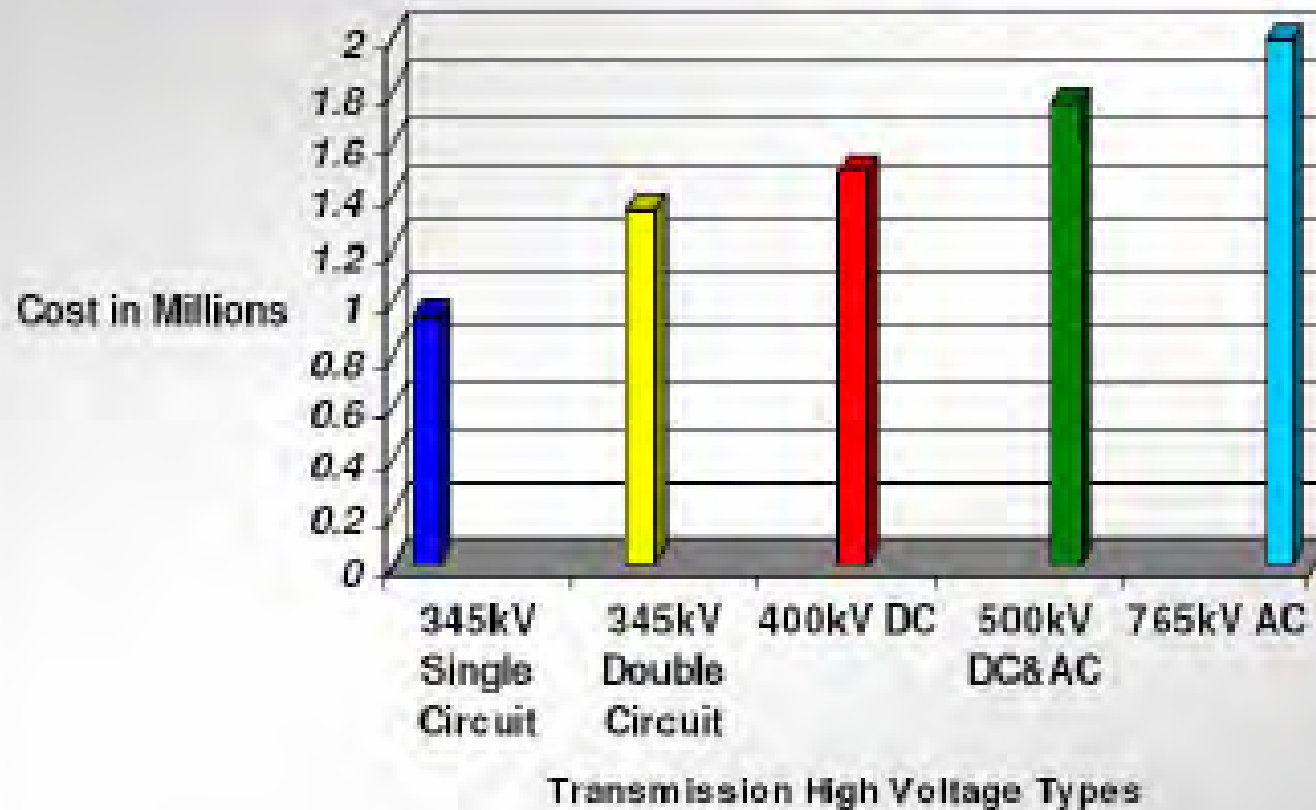
**“Firm” 4,000  
MW Great  
Plains wind  
14 caverns**

**Maximum Cavern  
Packing Density**

$(8 \times 13) = 104 + (8 \times 12) = 96$  Total = 200 caverns per square mile  
Each cavern is 200 ft diam, with minimum 200 ft web separation.



*Transmission Line Construction Cost Per Mile Estimates For SPP*



***Transmission Line Construction Cost  
\$ million per Mile  
Southwest Power Pool '07***



NOTE: Approximate relationship based on Surge Impedance Loading (i.e. reactive power balance point) 345 kV single circuit tower lines with two conductors per phase compared to 765 kV single circuit lines with six conductors per phase.

Transmission Voltage (kV)	Cost per Mile (\$/mile)	Capacity (MW)	Cost per Unit of Capacity (\$/MW-mile)
230	\$2,077 million	500	\$5,460
345	\$2,539 million	967	\$2,850
500	\$4,328 million	2040	\$1,450
765	\$6,578 million	5000	\$1,320



(Sources: Edison Foundation<sup>12</sup>, AEP<sup>13</sup>)

**SEIA – AWEA      Feb 09**  
**“Green Power Superhighways:  
 Building a Path to America’s Clean Energy Future”**



# Pipeline & Gas Journal



March 26, 2013

**Keynote Speaker:** Nick Stavropoulos,  
Executive Vice President, Gas Operations,  
PG&E.

**Guest Speaker:** Jack Weixel,  
Director, Client Services, BENTEK Energy

154<sup>th</sup> year • [www.pgjonline.com](http://www.pgjonline.com)

Volume No. 240 • Number 2 • February 2013

*The recognized authority on pipeline operations worldwide.*

A photograph of a pipeline construction site. In the foreground, there are several large white pipes and yellow cables. In the background, a deep trench has been dug into the earth, with wooden planks lining the sides. Two workers wearing white hard hats and safety gear are visible in the trench, working on the pipes. The overall scene is one of active construction in a rugged, outdoor environment.

## Cybersecurity & Your Pipeline



## 2012 AIChE Ammonia Safety Committee



*Front: Danny Franceus (Yara), Jim Richardson (Sud-Chemie), John Mason (Agrum), Venkat Pattabathula (Incitec Pivot), AK Singh (IFFCO), Dorothy Shaffer (Baker Risk), Ali Jama (QAFCO)*

*Back: Ruben Wagek (Vale Fertilizers), John Brightling (Johnson Matthey), Neal Barkley (Coffeyville Resources), Robert Collins (KBR), David Pierce (Southern Ionics), Harrie Duisters (OCI Nitrogen), Svend-Erik Nielsen (Haldor Topsøe), Reinhard Michel (Uhde GmbH), Ian Welch (PCS Nitrogen)*



# *Annual Fresh Water for Energy*

- USA today*
- All energy*

- 17,000 billion liters in today's "energy" system
  - "Withdrawn"
  - "Consumed"
  - Include all oil & gas "fracking" ?
- If all via GH<sub>2</sub> + NH<sub>3</sub> fuels, required feedstock:
  - Dissociated, disintegrated:  $\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{H}_2 + \text{O}_2$
  - 7,650 billion liters "consumed"



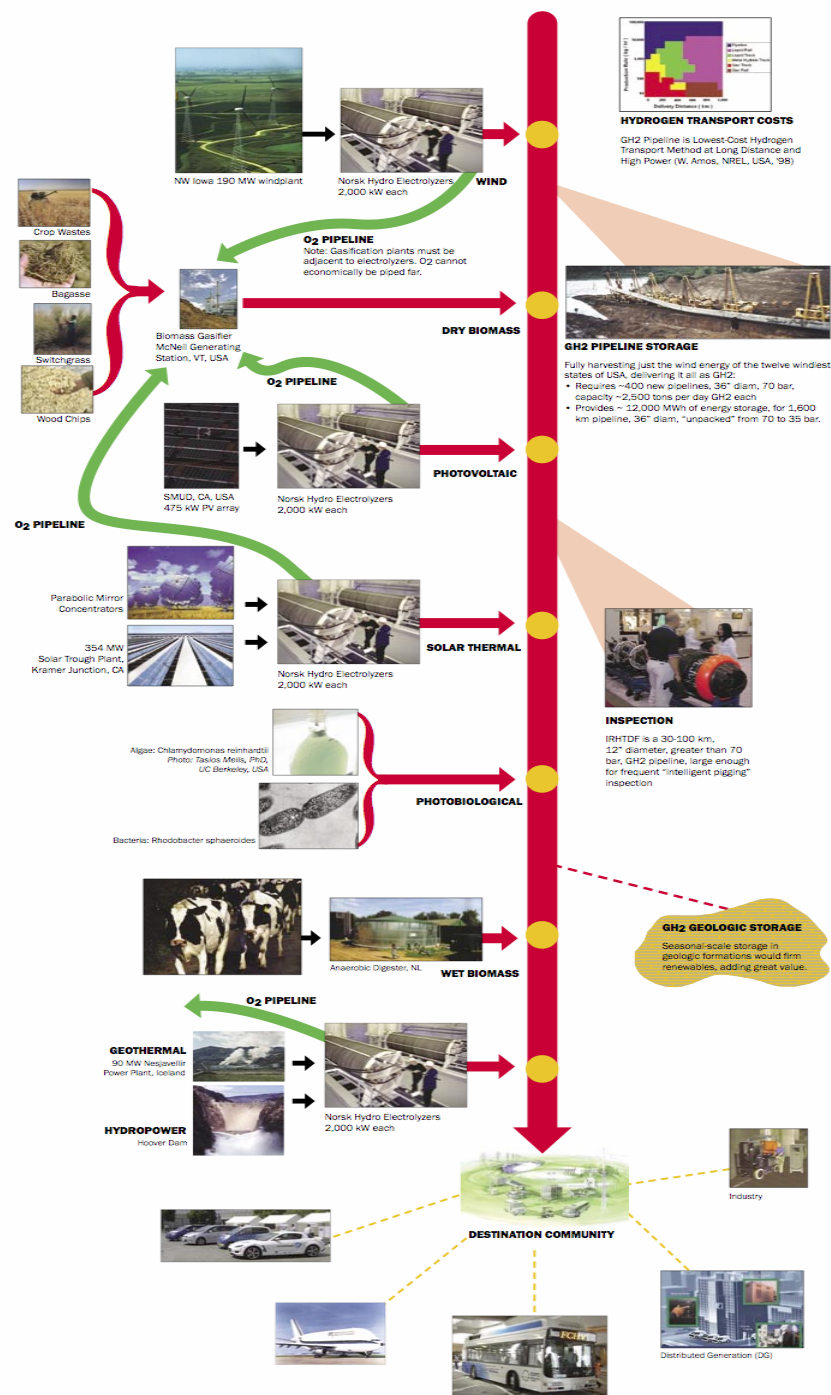
# Hydrogen Utility Group (HUG)



Frank Novachek, Director Corporate Planning







# International Renewable Hydrogen Transmission Demonstration Facility (IRHTDF) Pilot plant

Global opportunity: IPHE project



# ***Humanity's Goal***

- International Collaboration
- Alternatives to electricity
- R & D
- Pilot plant demonstrations

## **Funding?**

- China, Korea, others
- Big oil
- Military spending
- Global C-tax
- Capital markets

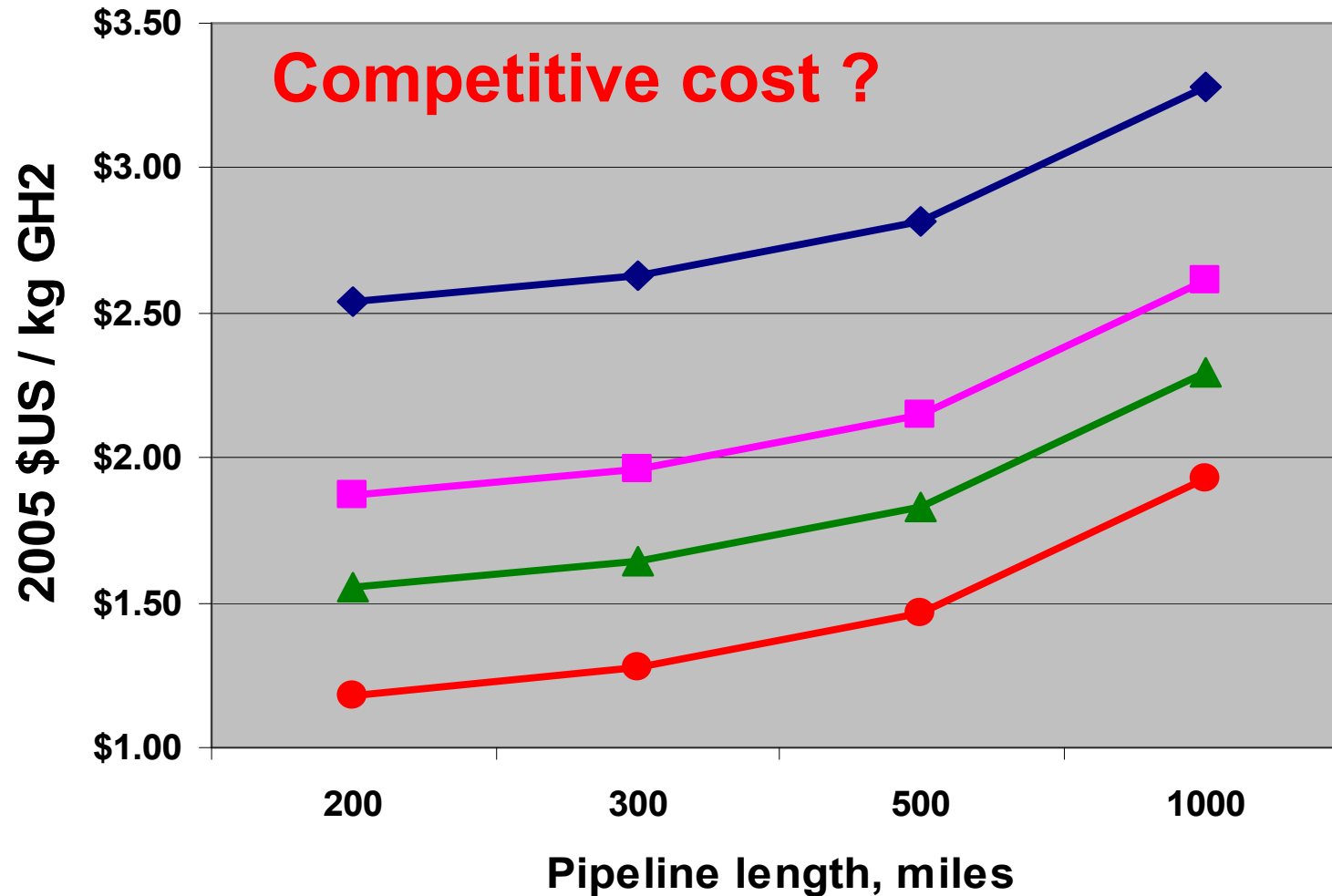


# ***GW-scale Transmission + Storage Options***

- **Electricity: HVAC, HVDC**
  - CAES compressed air energy storage
  - Vanadium Redox battery (VRB Power Systems)
  - Sodium-sulfur battery
  - PHEV, BEV (distributed)
- **Gaseous Hydrogen (GH<sub>2</sub>)**
  - Pipeline
  - Geologic: salt caverns (man-made)
  - Geologic: natural formations ? *Terra incognita*
- **Liquid Hydrogen (LH<sub>2</sub>)**
  - Pipeline, truck, rail car, ship
  - 1/3 energy to liquefy Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) liquid
  - Tank, refrigerated, 10K – 60K ton
  - Truck, rail car, ship
- **Liquid anhydrous ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)**
  - Pipelines
  - Tanks
- **Liquid synthetic HC's – zero net C**
  - Pipeline
  - Tank, truck, rail car, ship
  - Geologic: salt caverns (man made)
- **“Energy Pipeline”, EPRI: LH<sub>2</sub> in pipeline, SC LVDC electric**
- **Chemicals**
  - Hydrides
  - Al – Ga ← → Alumina



**OPTIMISTIC**  
**City-gate GH2 cost @ 15% CRF, 20" pipeline,**  
**from 2,000 MW Great Plains windplant**

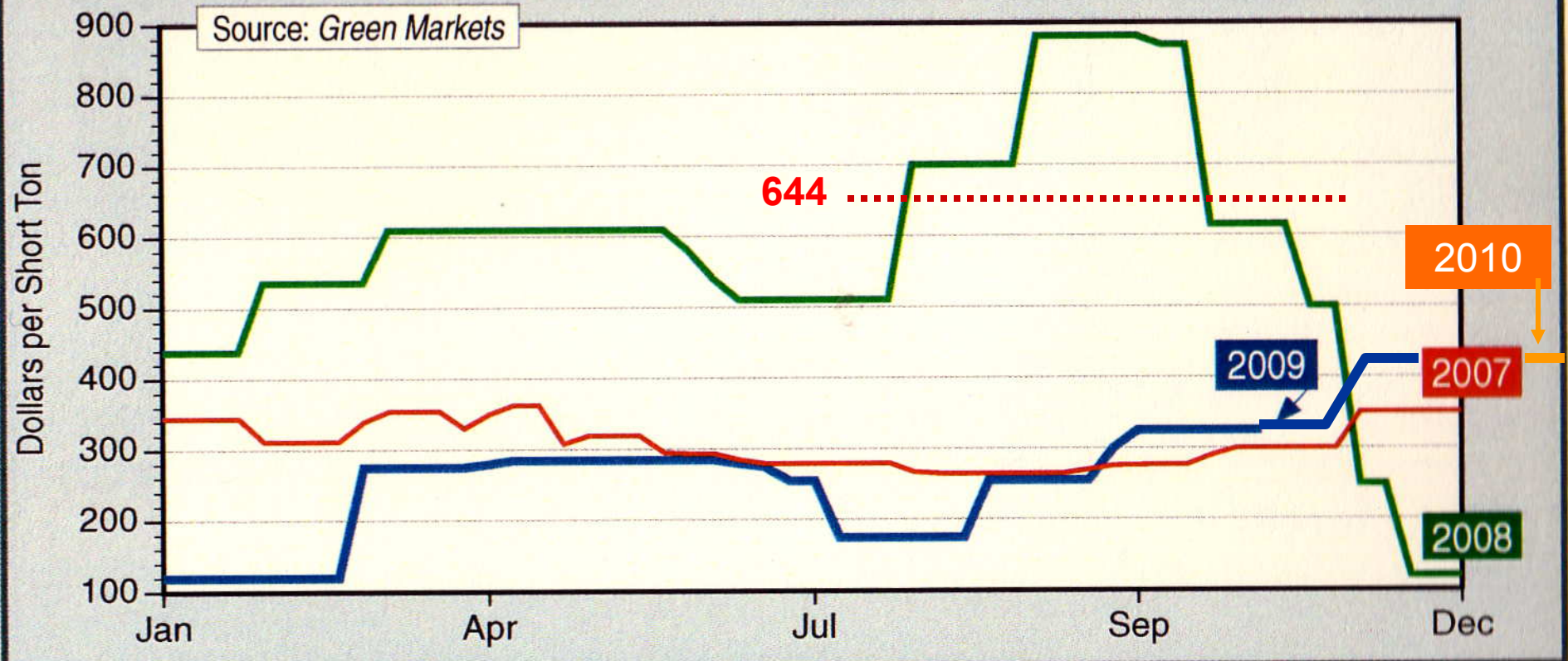


—◆— B1: Unsubsidized —■— B2: US fed PTC only —▲— B3: PTC + Oxygen sales —●— B4: PTC + O2 sale + C-credit



**Figure V**

**Ammonia Prices (Average, New Orleans)**

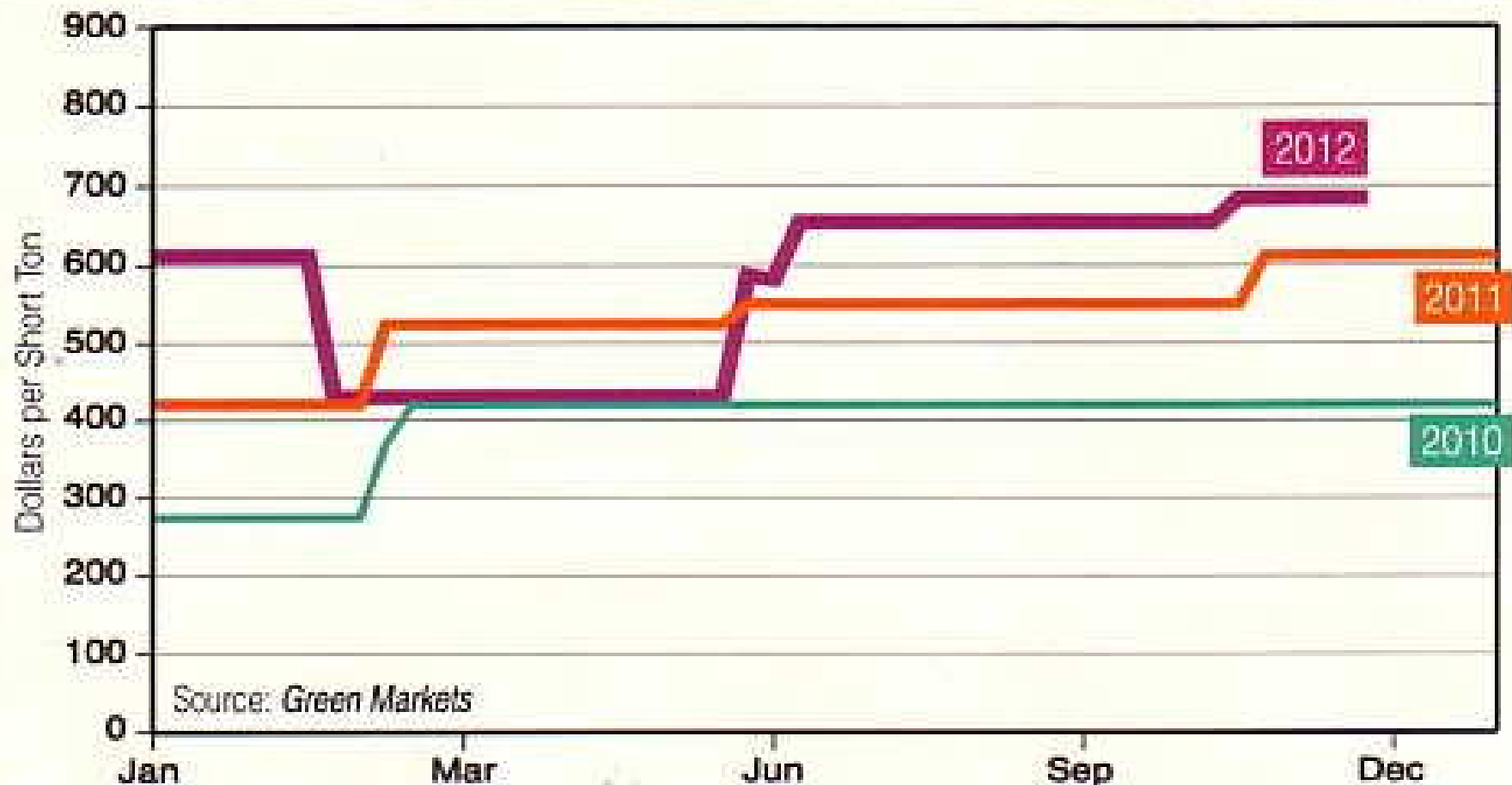


**Anhydrous Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) wholesale price,  
NOLA (New Orleans, LA)**



**Figure II**

**Ammonia Prices  
(Average, New Orleans)**

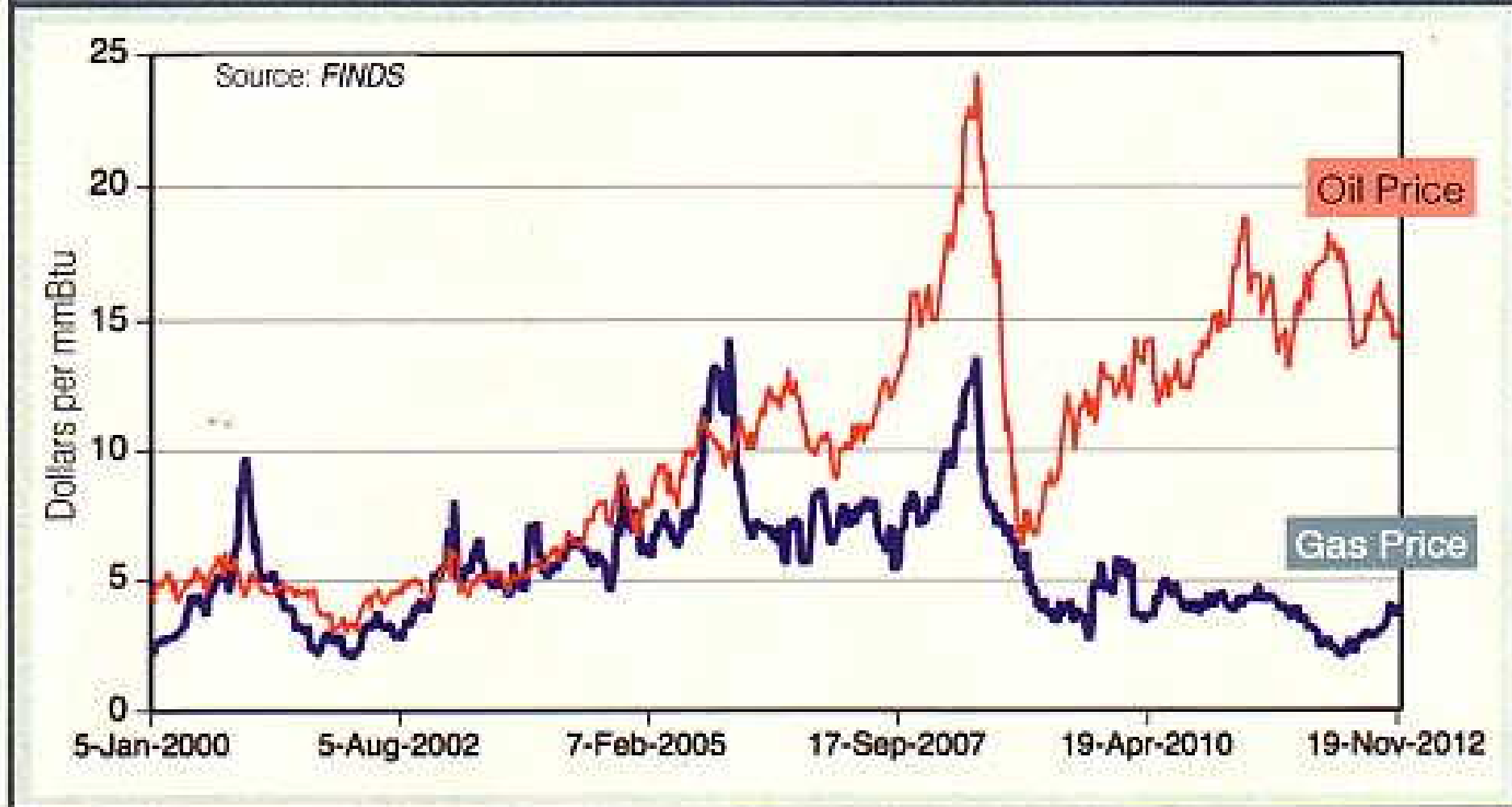


**Anhydrous Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) wholesale price,  
NOLA (New Orleans, LA)**



**Figure III**

**Oil and Gas Prices**



**Oil and Natural Gas Prices, late 2012**



# **1. Decrease Cash *OUT*: Village “Energy Independence” via RE Generation + Storage**

- What's Annual Average RE Cost of Energy (COE) ?
- Competitive ?
- What degree of “energy independence” ?
- Is SSAS required ?



## ***2. Increase Cash **IN**: Export AK GW-scale RE as “Green” Ammonia***

- Can RE compete with “brown” ?
- What would C-tax need to be ?
- What would global NG price need to be?



# ***Humanity's Goal***

**A global, sustainable,  
benign, equitable, energy  
economy**



# ***Humanity's Goal***

- International Collaboration
- Alternatives to electricity
- R & D
- Pilot plant demonstrations

## **Funding?**

- China, Korea, others
- Big oil
- Military spending
- Global C-tax
- Capital markets: Mike Eckhart, 19 Oct



# ***Trouble with Renewables: Electricity Transmission***

- Grid nearly full
  - New must pay for transmission
  - Costly: AC or DC
- Integration
  - Continental energy system
  - Quality
  - Generation O+M: fatigue, wear, low efficiency
- Low capacity factor (CF) or curtailment
- Costly “firming” storage: CAES, VRB
- Overhead vulnerable: God or man
- Underground: Only HVDC, 6x cost
- FERC no interstate jurisdiction
- Wide ROW
- NIMBY: site, ROW delay + cost

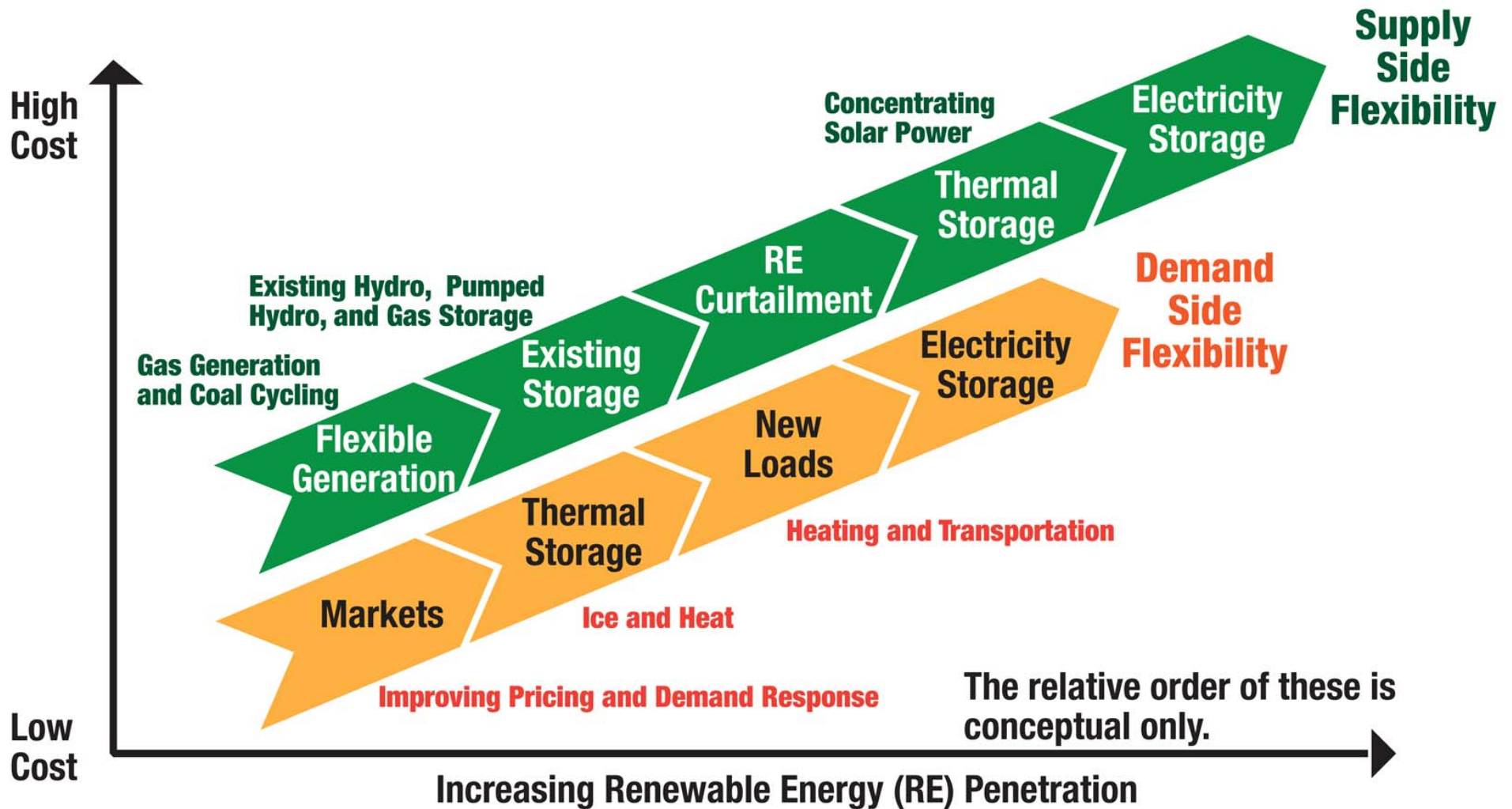


*Airbus Industrie concept: liquid hydrogen fueled*





# Flexibility Supply Curve



***NREL: Systems Integration***



# Exporting From 12 Windiest Great Plains States

Number of GH2 pipelines or HVDC electric lines necessary to export total wind resource

Wind energy source: PNL-7789, 1991

\* at 500 miles average length

State	AEP, TWh	Wind Gen MW (nameplate) (40% CF)	6 GW 36" GH2 export pipelines	\$ Billion Total Capital Cost *	3 GW export HVDC lines	\$ Billion Total Capital Cost *
North Dakota	1,210	345,320	50	50	100	60
Texas	1,190	339,612	48	48	100	60
Kansas	1,070	305,365	43	43	100	60
South Dakota	1,030	293,950	41	41	100	60
Montana	1,020	291,096	41	41	90	54
Nebraska	868	247,717	35	35	80	48
Wyoming	747	213,185	30	30	70	42
Oklahoma	725	206,906	29	29	60	36
Minnesota	657	187,500	26	26	60	36
Iowa	551	157,249	22	22	50	30
Colorado	481	137,272	19	19	40	24
New Mexico	435	124,144	17	17	40	24
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>9,984</b>	<b>2,849,316</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>\$ 401</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>\$ 534</b>



# *Stanford wind energy study: 2003*

- Underestimated: PNNL, NREL
- 80 m hub height
- 1.3 – 1.7 m / s faster windspeed
- IF transmission network:  
steady, reliable, abundant supply

*“Spatial and temporal distributions of U.S. winds  
and wind power at 80 m derived from  
measurements”*

JOURNAL OF GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH, VOL. 108, NO. D9, 4289, 2003



## ***Jan '09 Transmission Backlog***

- **California:** 13 GW wind  
30 GW solar
- **Upper Midwest** 70 GW wind
- **Lower Midwest** 40 GW wind
- **Great Lakes + Mid Atlantic** 40 GW wind
- **Texas** 50 GW wind

**Total**

**243 GW**

**Potential Great Plains Wind**

**3,000 GW**



## ***SSAS Pilot Plant Budget***

<b>EETF via AEA</b>	<b>\$ 750 K</b>
<b>NHThree LLC in-kind</b>	<b>\$ 100 K</b>
<b>Wind2Green (W2G) in-kind</b>	<b>\$ 100 K</b>
<b>AASI in-kind</b>	<b>\$ 50 K</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1 M</b>

**EETF**    Emerging Energy Technology Fund, State of Alaska

**AEA**    Alaska Energy Authority, State of Alaska

**AASI**    Alaska Applied Sciences, Inc.



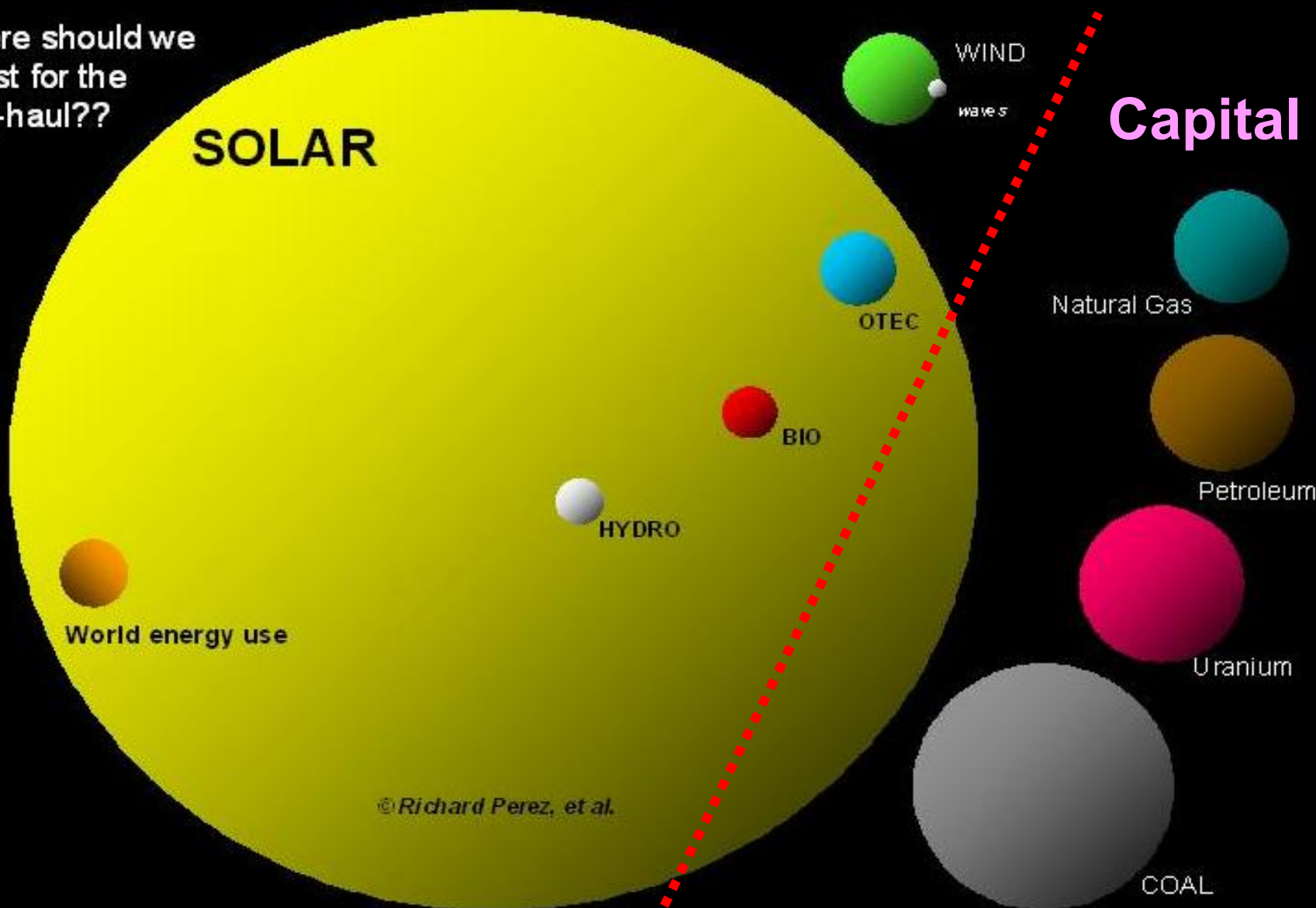
# ***SSAS Pilot Plant Schedule: 24 months from ~ Dec '12***

1. Test PCC tubes; accept
2. Build and test multi-tube reactor
3. Build and test BOS
4. Instrument with SCADA, remote read at UAF
5. Add regeneration:  $\text{NH}_3 \rightarrow$  electricity to grid
6. Package in insulated CONEX
7. Acceptance test
8. Transport to Juneau, AK for demo
9. Demo at other AK sites as budget allows
10. Upgrade as budget allows



## Comparing the world's energy resources\*

Where should we  
invest for the  
long-haul??



©Richard Perez, et al.

\*yearly potential is shown for the renewable energies. Total reserves are shown for the fossil and nuclear "use-them, lose-them" resources. Word energy use is annual.



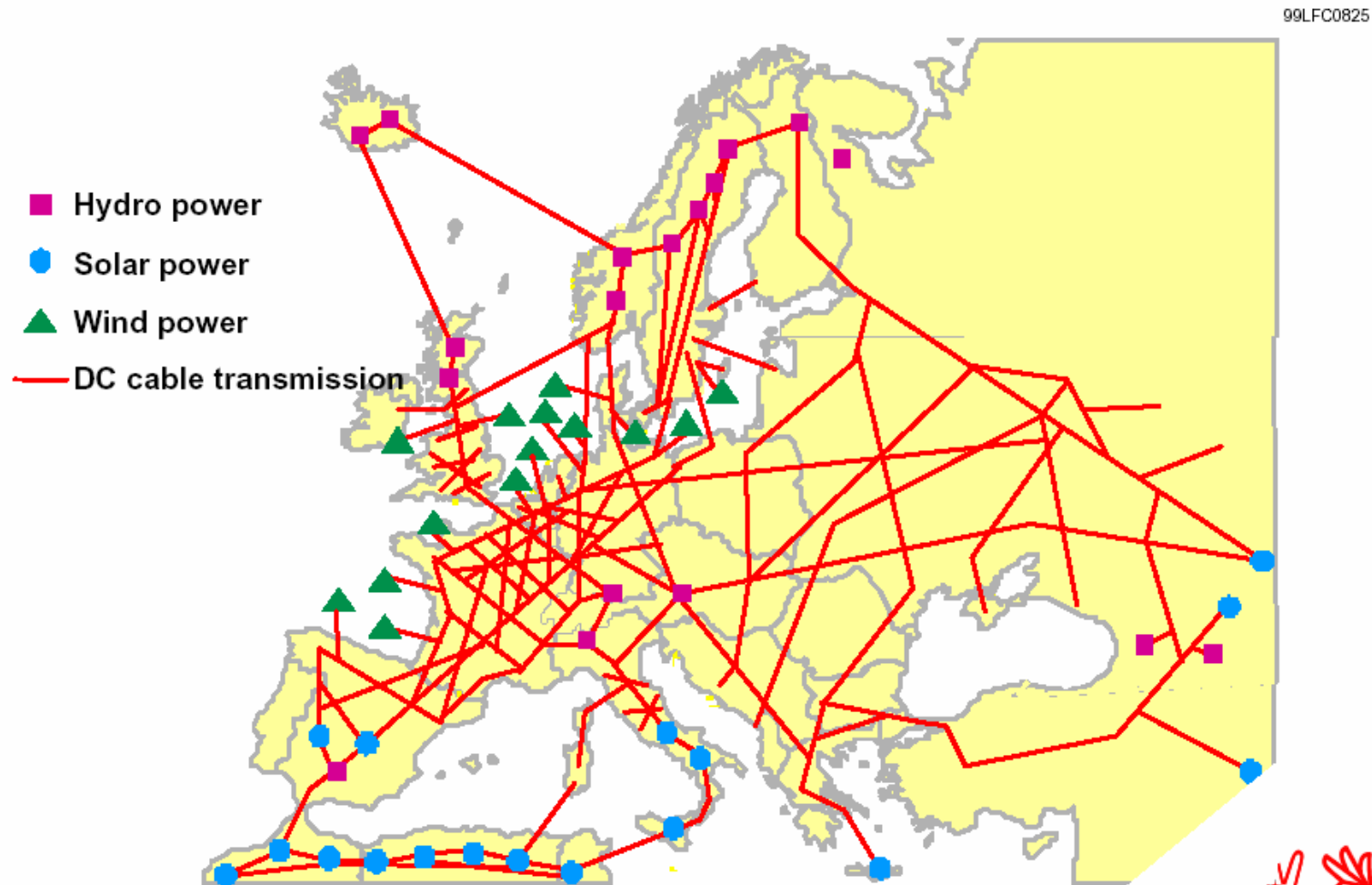
*Gaseous Hydrogen (GH<sub>2</sub>)*  
*36" diam, 500 miles*  
*No compression*  
*8,000 MW*





# Vision: Remote renewable energy sources

connected to loads by DC grid





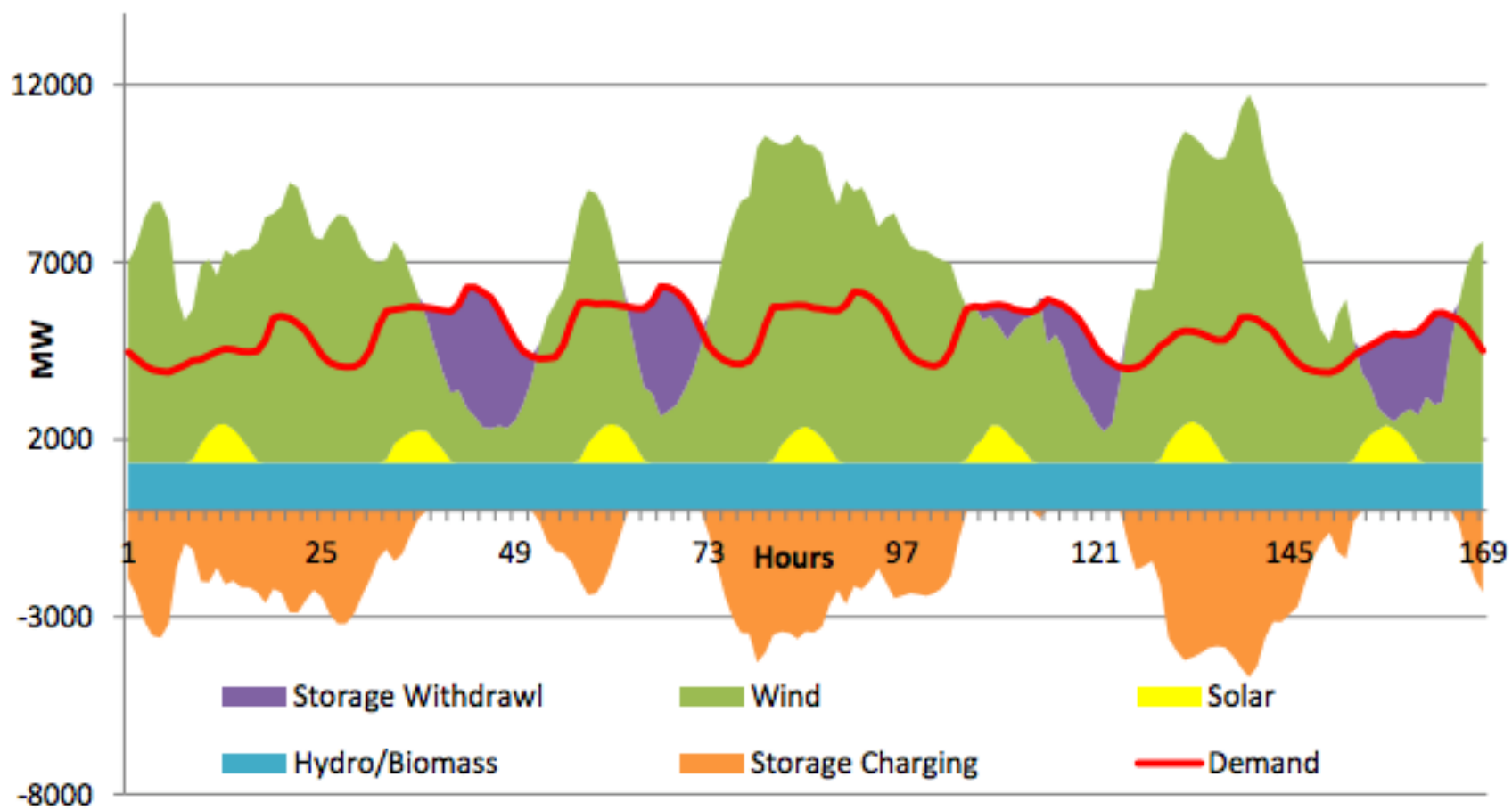
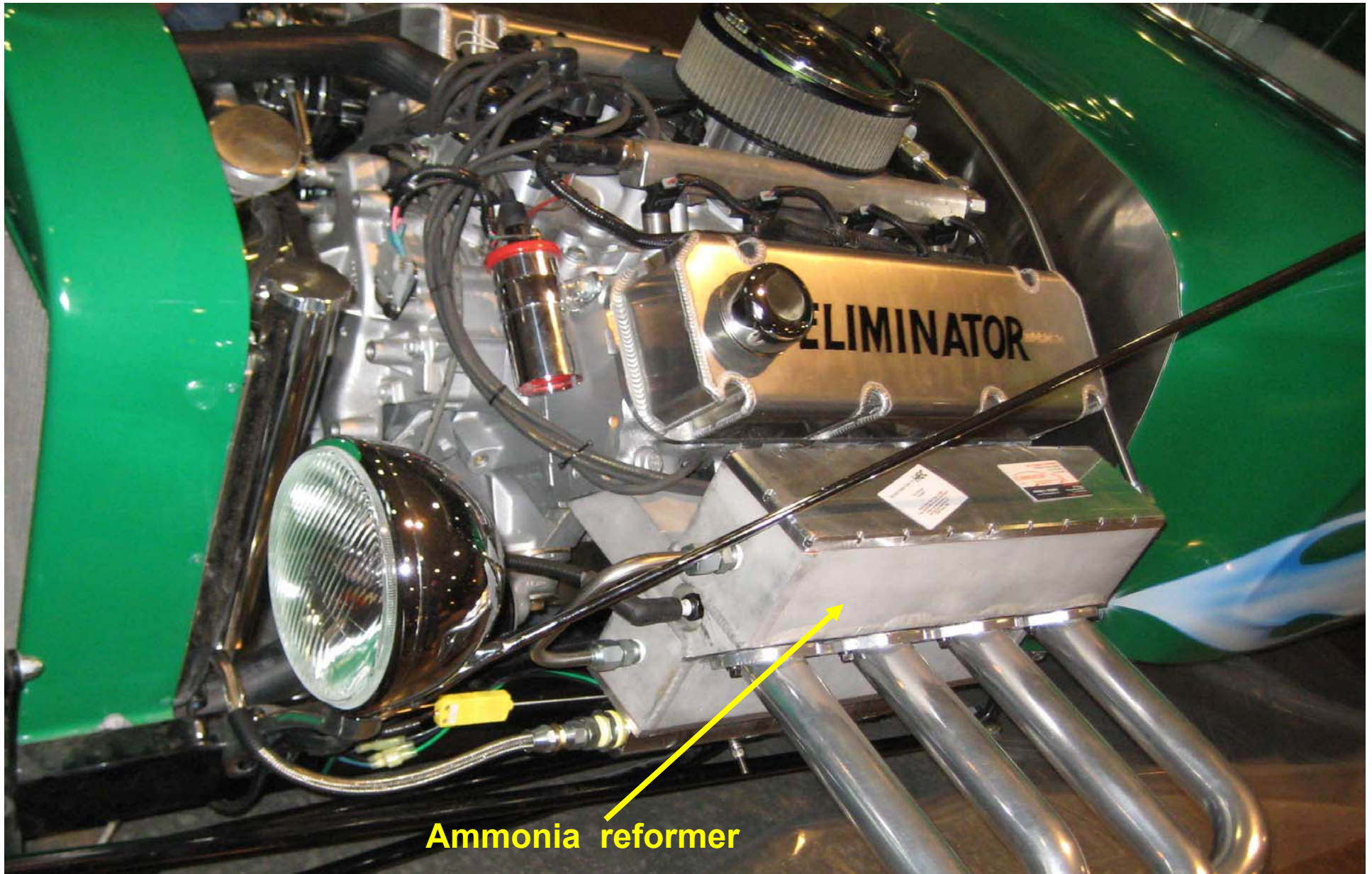


Figure III-6: Hourly supply and demand with storage, January 1-7, 2007. *Source: IEER.*





Ammonia reformer

Oct '09 Ammonia Fueled V-8 with Hydrogen Injection: Reformed from  $\text{NH}_3$   
Hydrogen Engine Center, Algona, IA

2009



# MUST Run the World on Renewables – plus Nuclear ?

- Global
- Indigenous
- Firm: available
- C-free
- Benign
- Abundant
- Affordable
- Equitable
- Perpetual:
  - solar
  - geothermal
  - tidal

