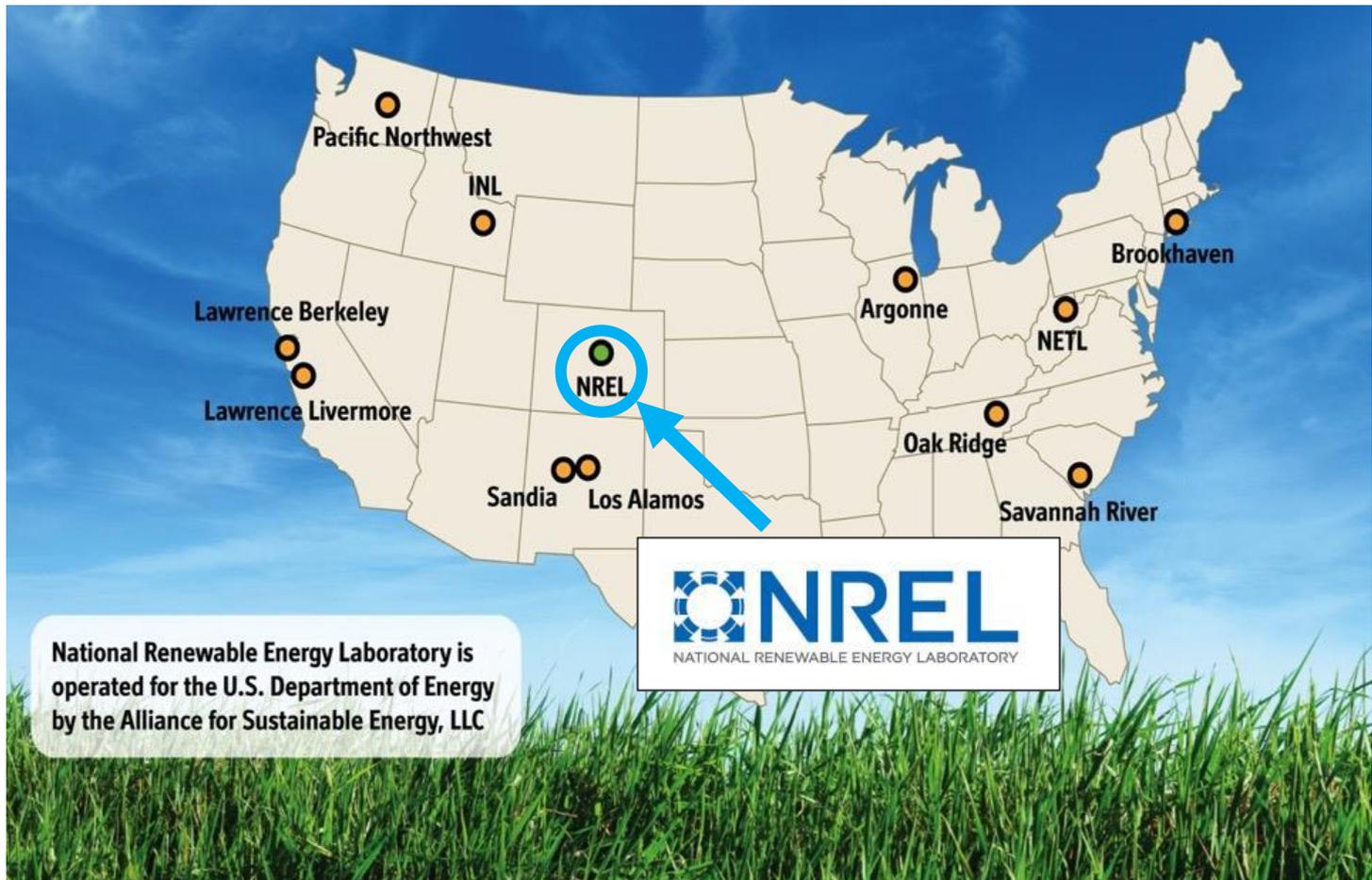


The Role of Transmission in Achieving Least-Cost Reliable Electricity in Missouri

Paul Denholm
May 9, 2024

About NREL



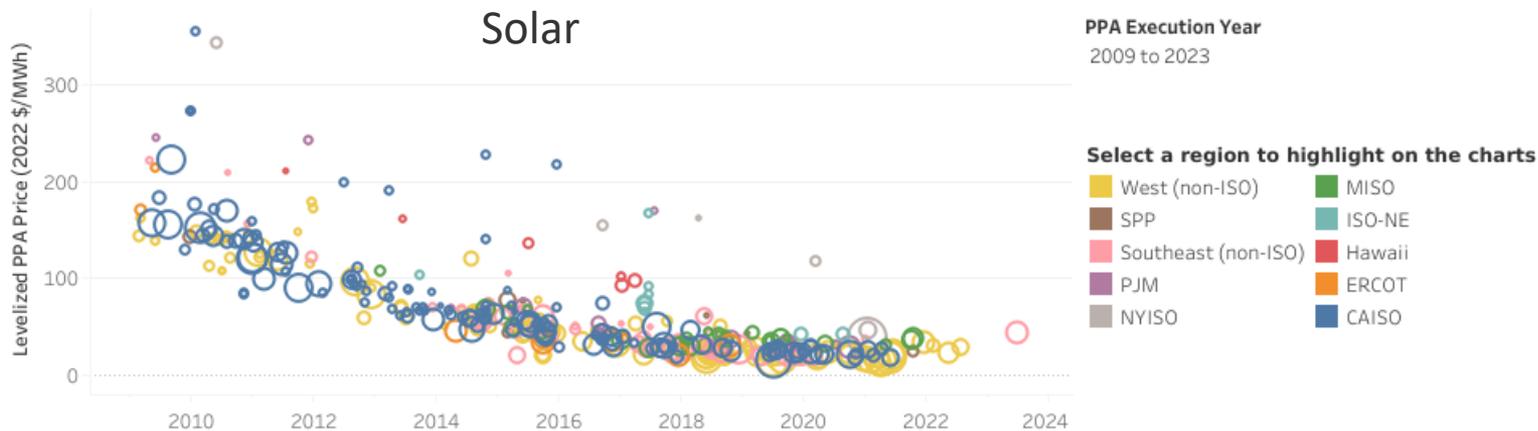
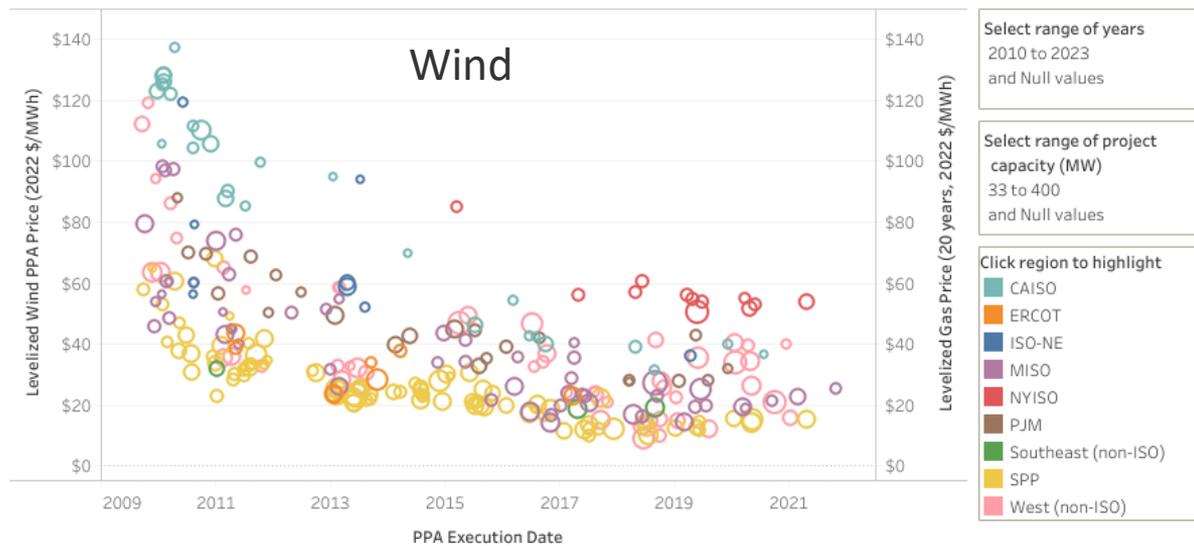
National Renewable Energy Laboratory is operated for the U.S. Department of Energy by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC

Agenda

- Growing Opportunities for Renewable Energy
- National Trends
- Opportunities in Missouri
- The Role of Transmission

What is Driving the Growth in Renewable Electricity – Cost and Performance Trends

National Cost and Performance Trends



Components of Least-Cost System Planning

SCENARIO CREATION MODELS

DETAILED SCENARIO ANALYSIS TOOLS



National Analysis Using NREL's Standard Scenarios

9th edition of an annual projection of the U.S. electric sector
across a wide range of possible futures



Mid-case Assumptions

- Central estimates for technology costs, fuel prices, and resource availability
- Moderate Electrification Demand Growth
- Existing Policies as of September 2022

Sensitivities

Generator Costs

- Low RE and Battery Cost
- High RE and Battery Cost
- Low Nuclear and CCS Cost

Electricity Demand Growth

- Low Demand Growth
- High Demand Growth

Other

- High Transmission Availability
- Reduced RE Resource
- Hybrid PV + Batteries
- Electricity-powered Direct Air Capture

Fuel Prices

- Low Natural Gas Prices
- High Natural Gas Prices

Policies

- PTC and ITC Extension
- No Inflation Reduction Act

Generation Technology Sets

Expansive Set of Technologies, Including Nascent Technologies

Conservative Technology Set Without Nascent Technologies

Nascent technologies are enhanced geothermal systems, floating offshore wind, coal CCS, gas CCS, biopower CCS, nuclear small modular reactors, and renewable energy combustion generators

Electric Sector CO₂ Emissions Trajectories

No New CO₂ Policy

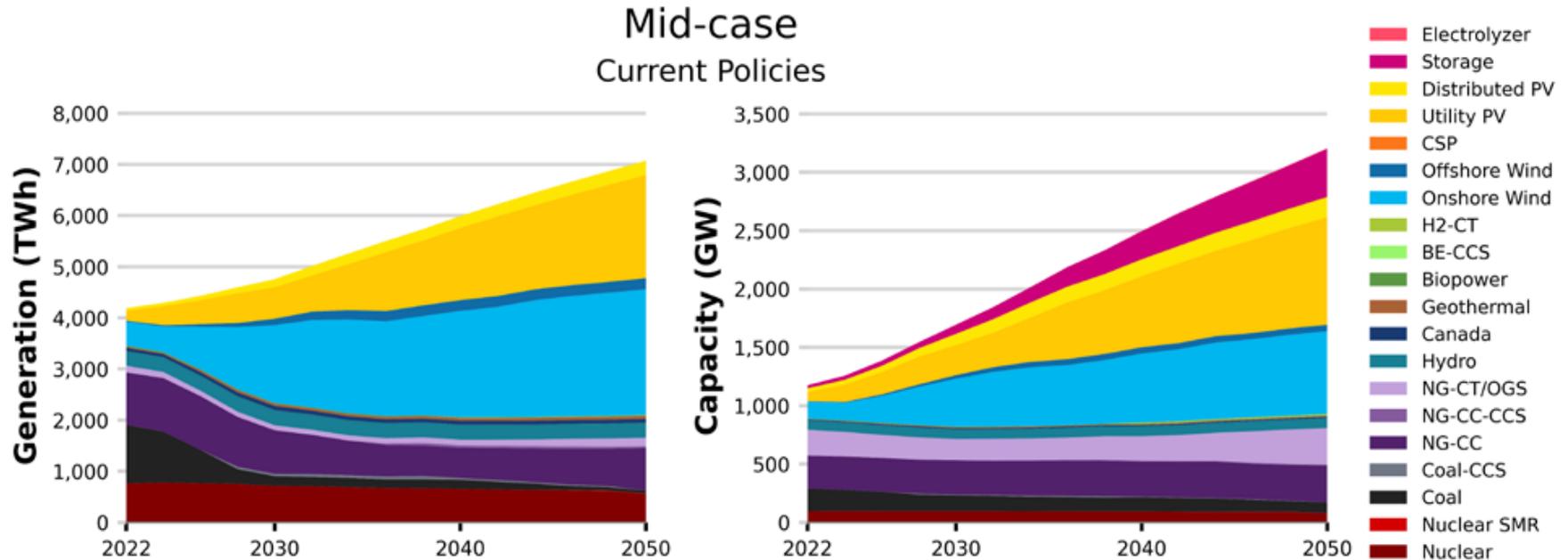
95% Reduction by 2050

100% Reduction by 2035

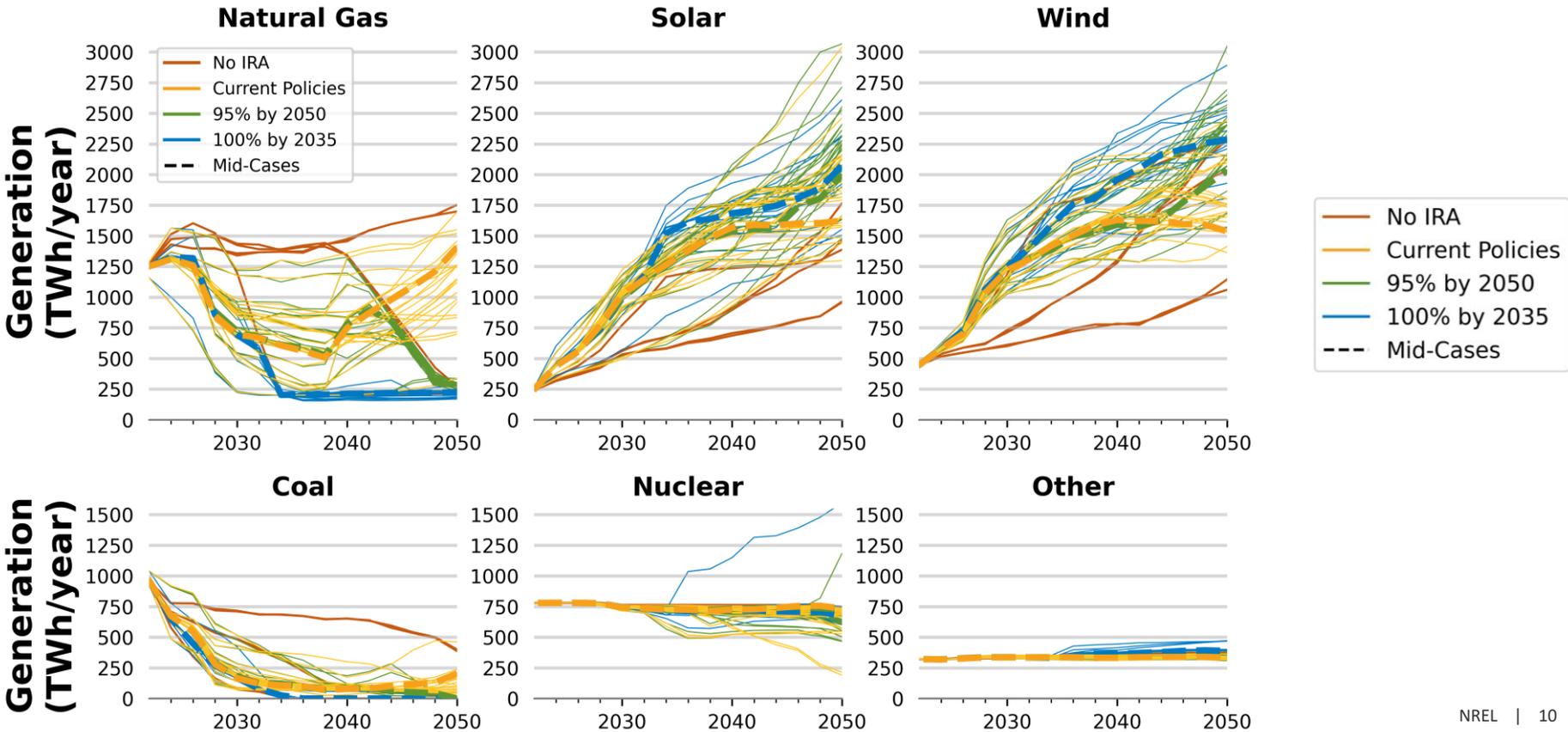
No New CO₂ Policy

95% Reduction by 2050

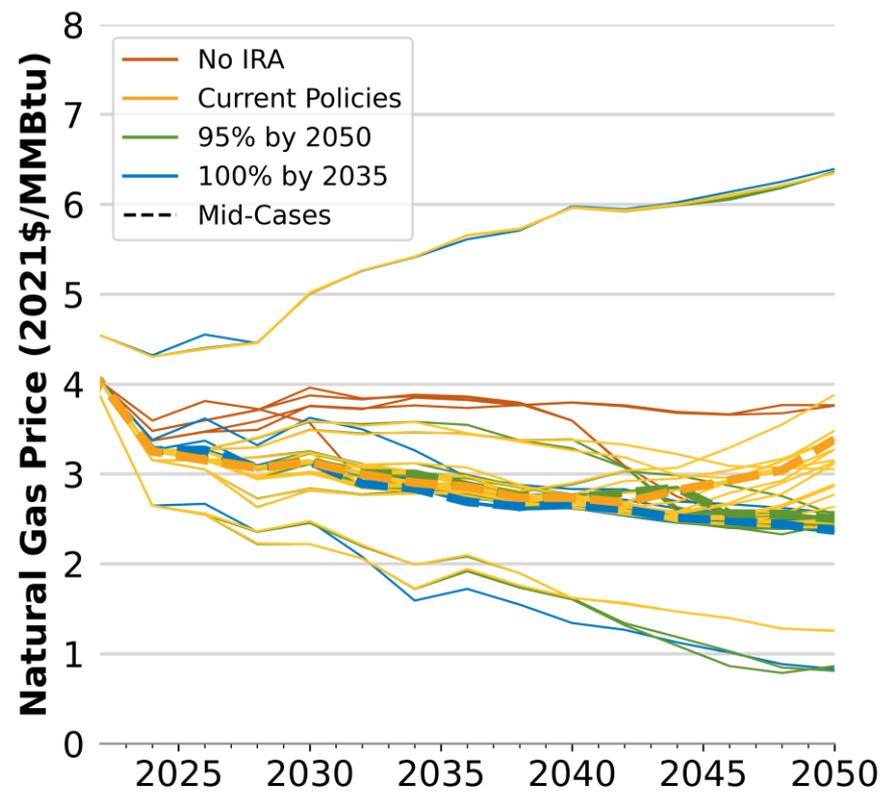
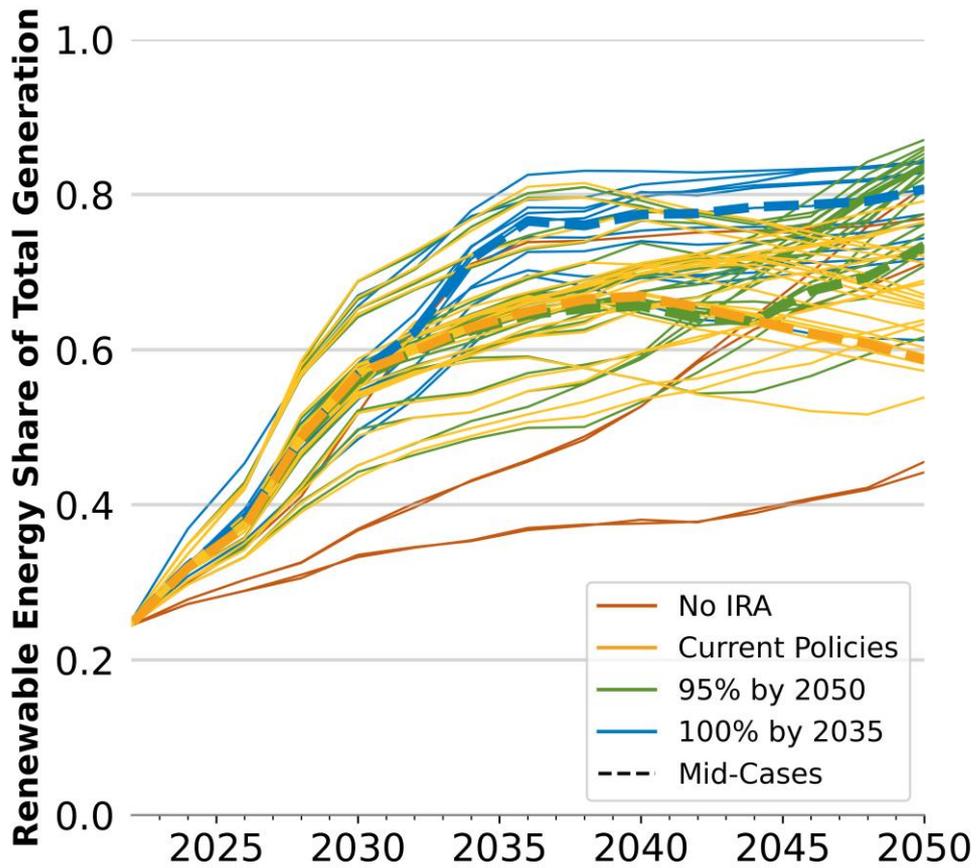
Significant growth in wind, PV and storage in the least-cost mix



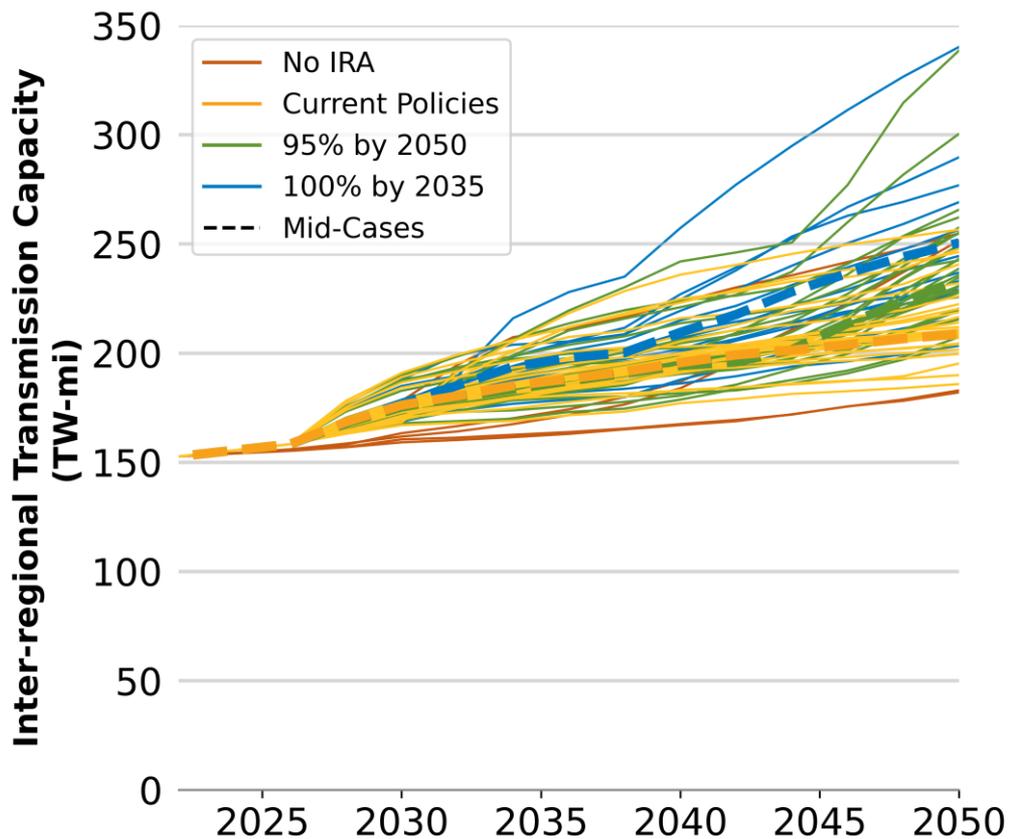
Significant growth in wind, PV and storage in the least-cost mix



Least-Cost Mixes of Electricity Supply Exceed 50% Renewables by Early Next Decade



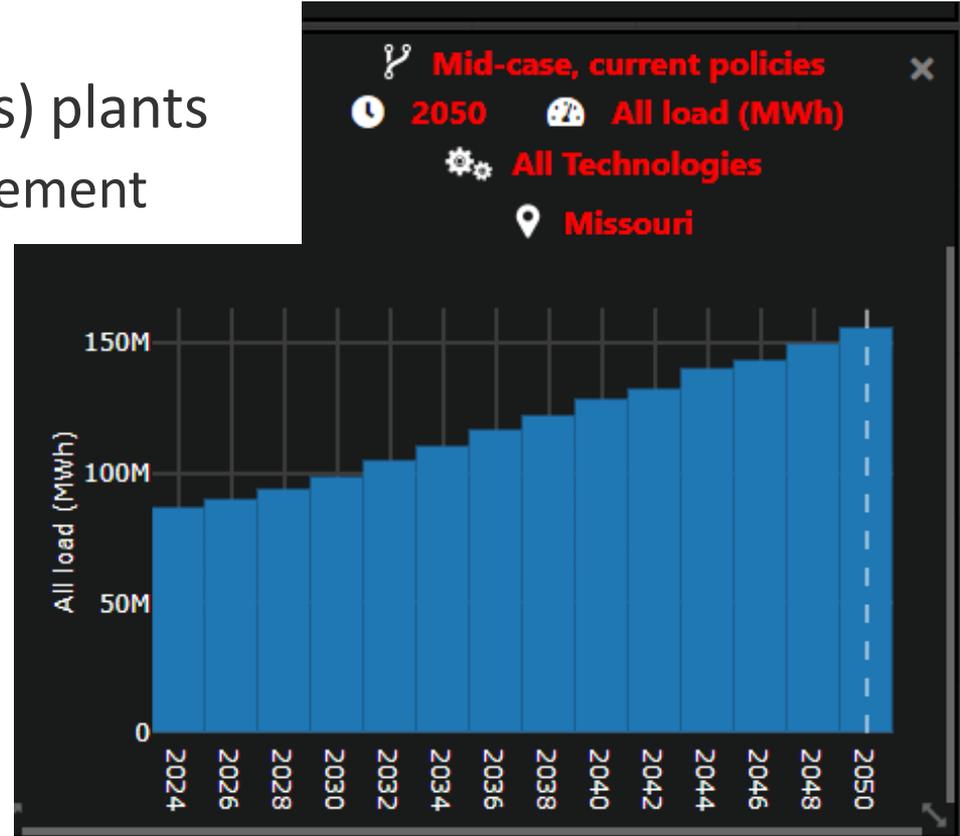
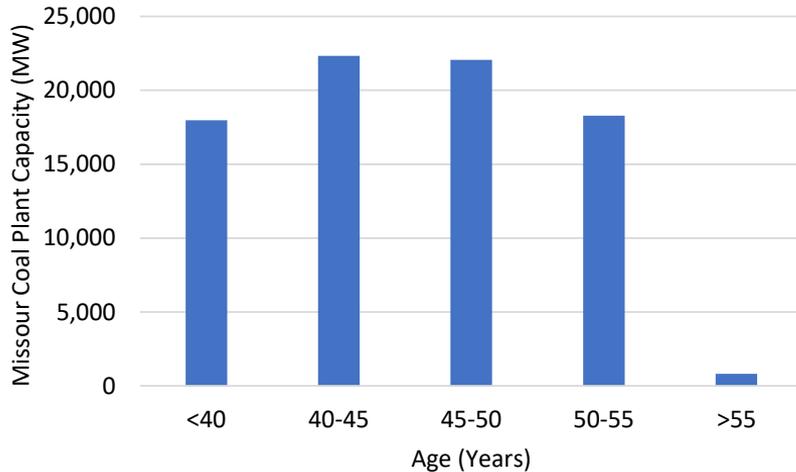
Least-Cost Mixes Driven In Part by New Transmission



Potential Role of Renewables and Transmission In Missouri

Challenges

- Significant load growth
- Retirement of old (50+years) plants
 - Potential accelerated retirement

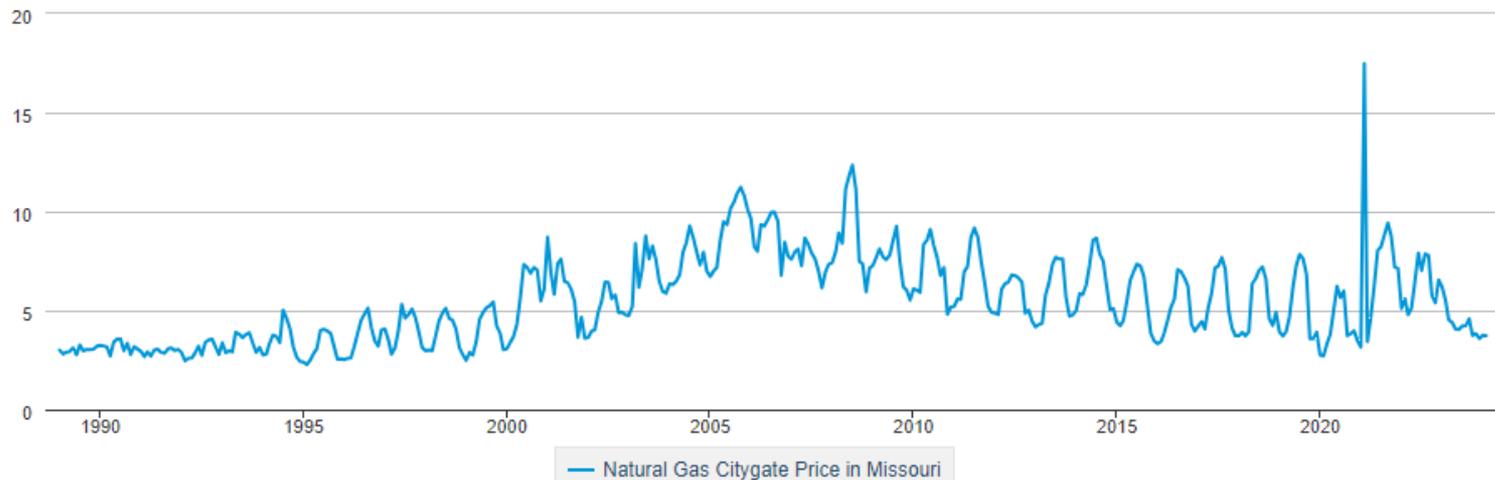


Long-Term Price Volatility

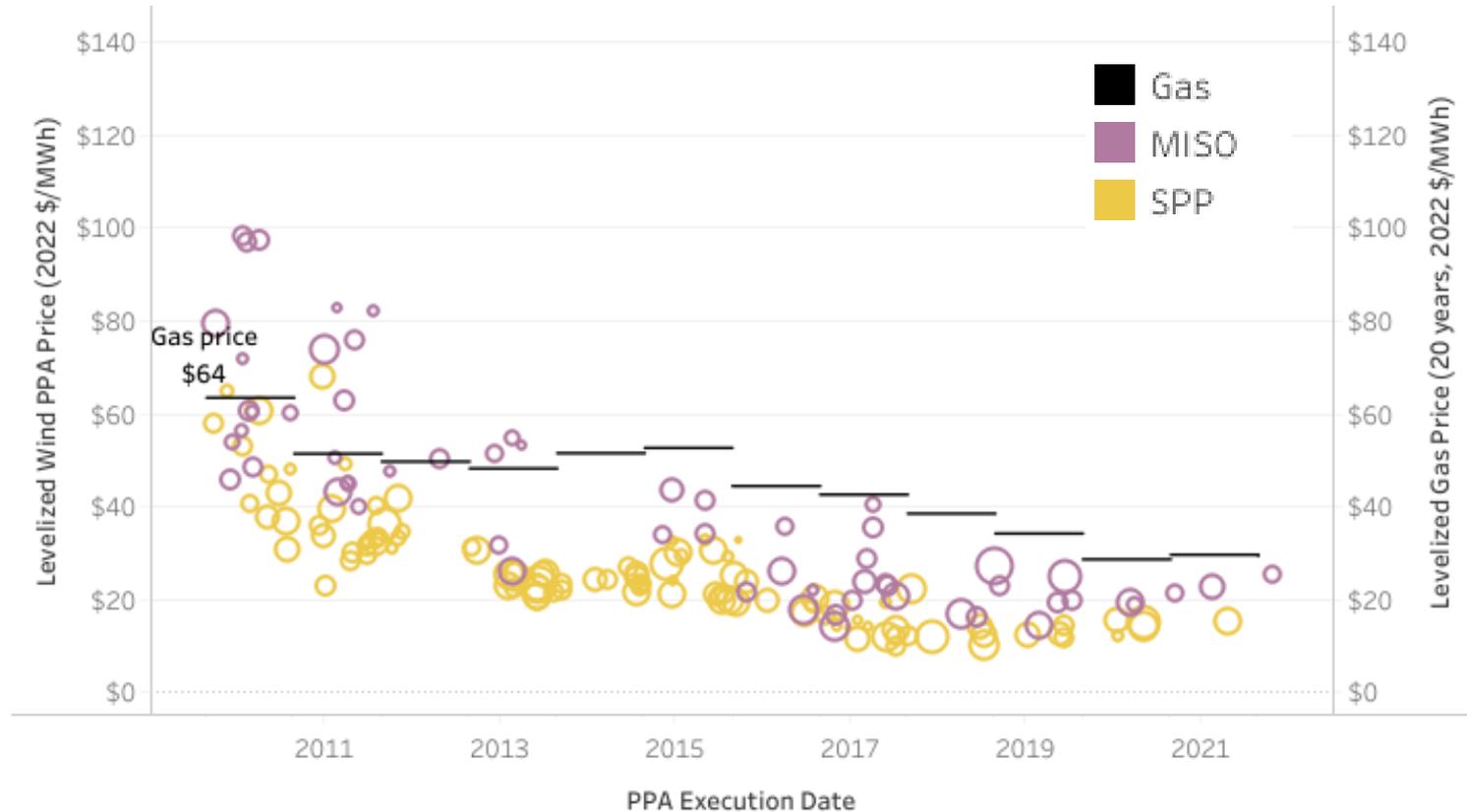
Natural Gas Citygate Price in Missouri

 [DOWNLOAD](#)

Dollars per Thousand Cubic Feet



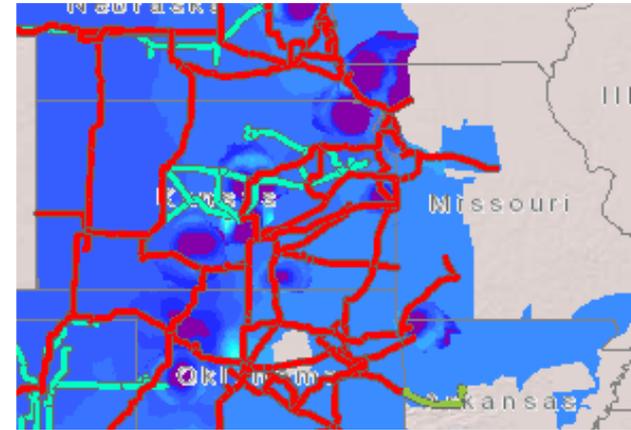
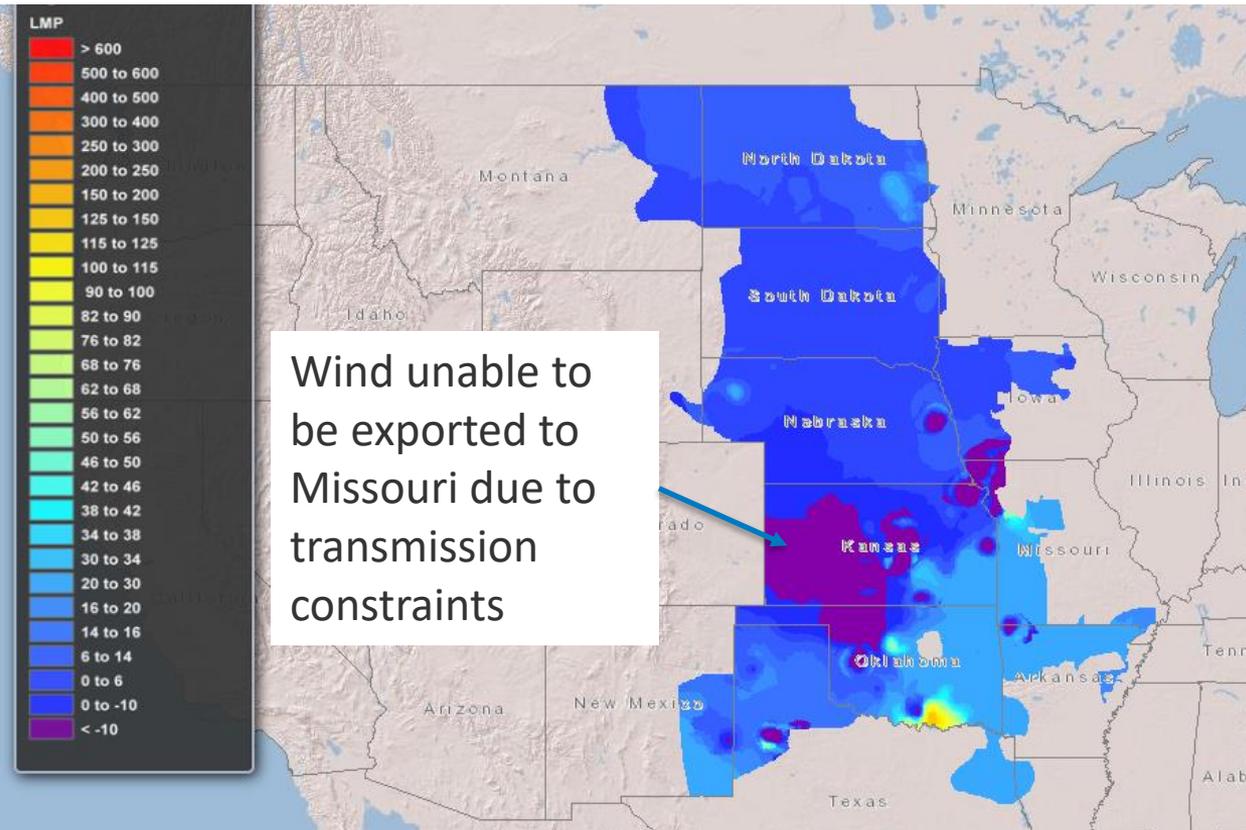
Opportunities - Wind Cost Trends in the Midwest



The Role of Transmission

- Tap into Missouri's significant wind resources
- Gain access to even lower cost resources in Kansas
- Provide an export mechanism

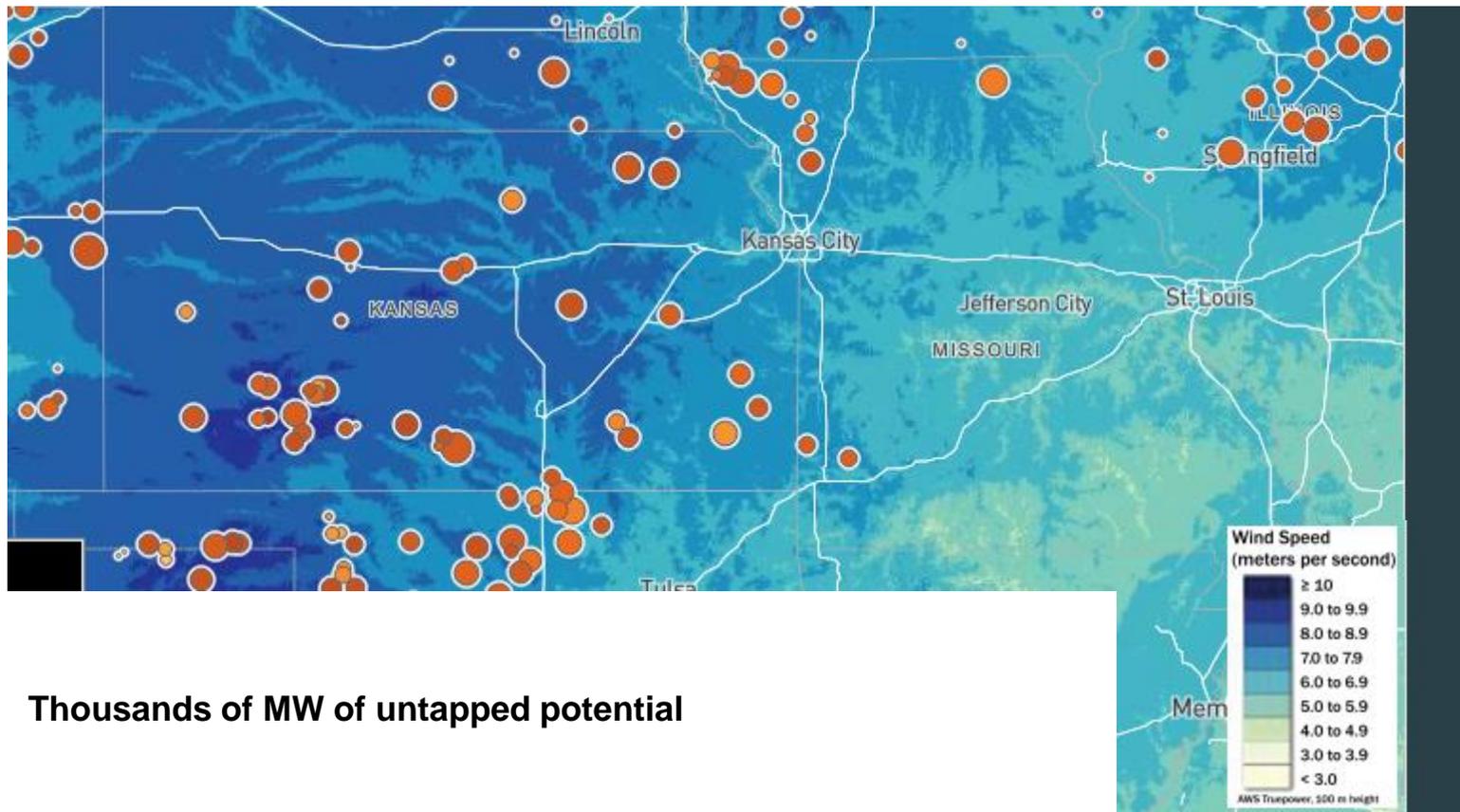
There is already a problem...



Very little high voltage capacity into Missouri from Kansas

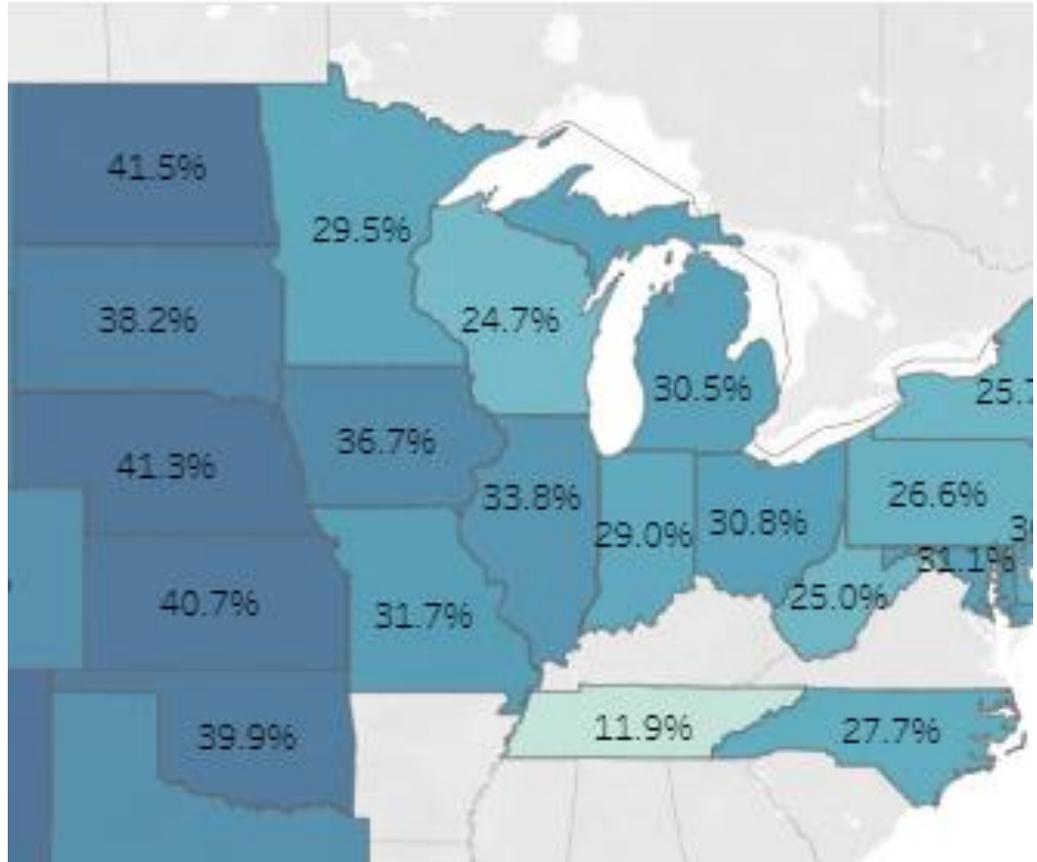


Why Missouri's best wind is in Kansas....



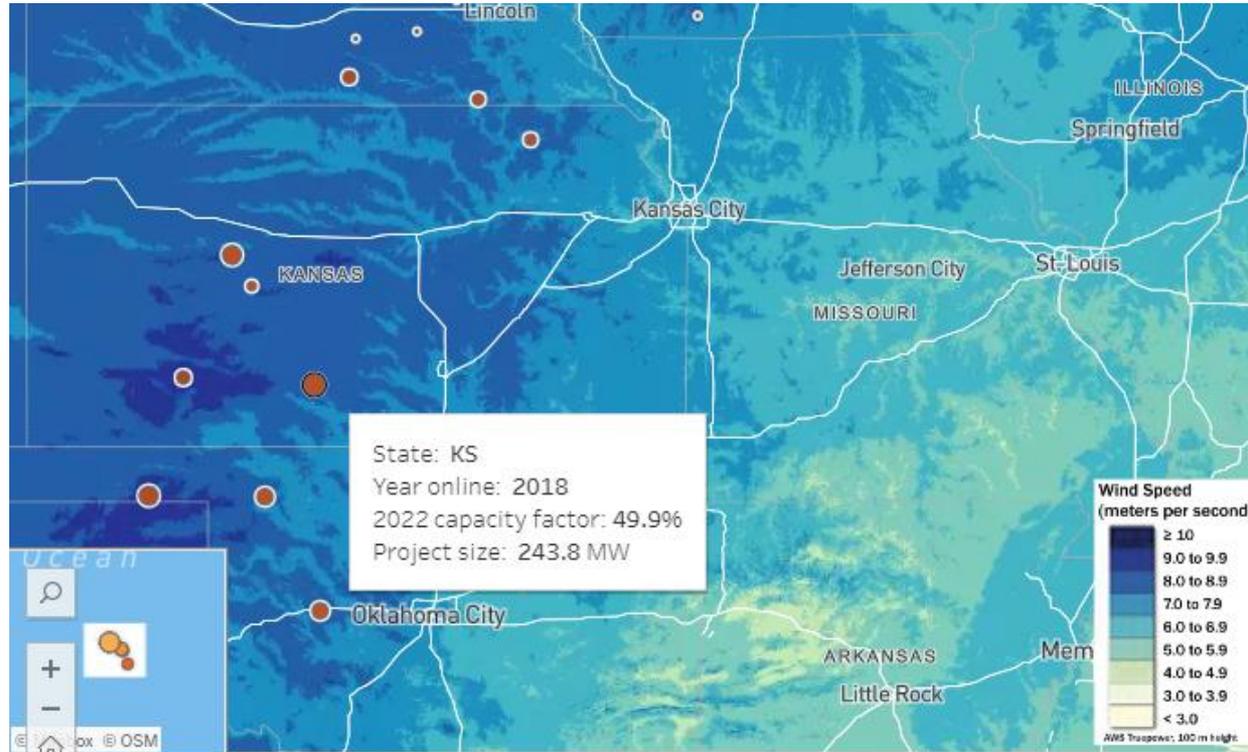
Thousands of MW of untapped potential

Average capacity of the existing wind fleet

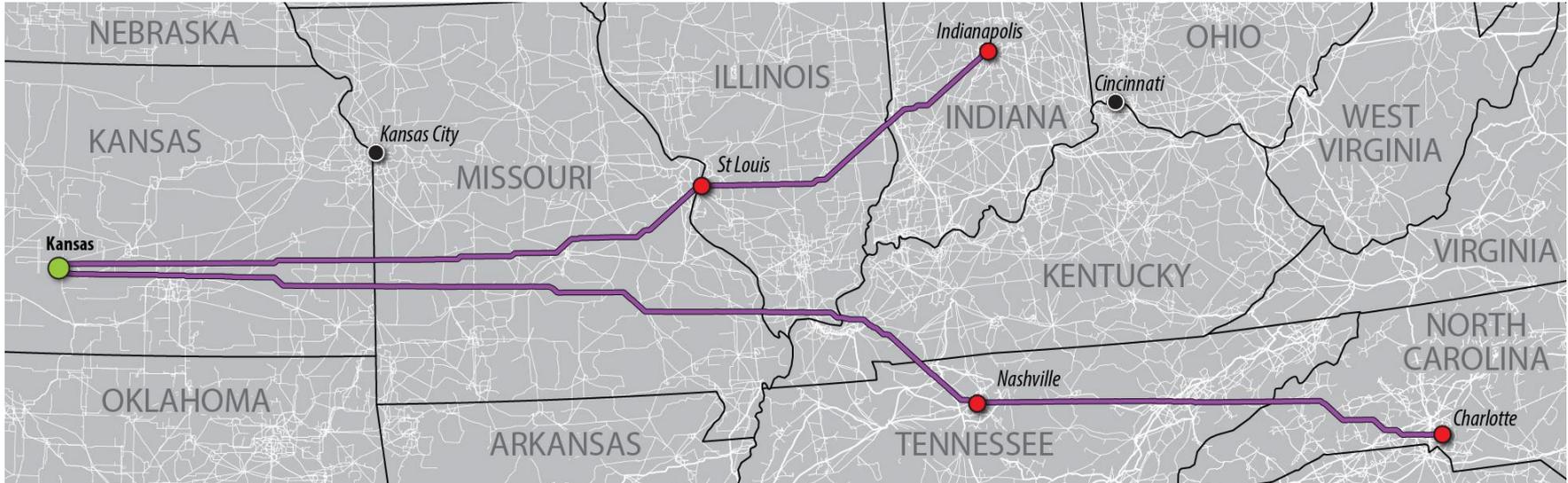


4 turbines in Kansas requires 5 turbines in Missouri

Very high capacity factor resources are available in Central/Western Kansas



Benefits/Cost Example - Kansas Interstate Renewable Energy Zone (IREZ)



Assuming 500kV (or greater) transmission

Example - Kansas IREZ

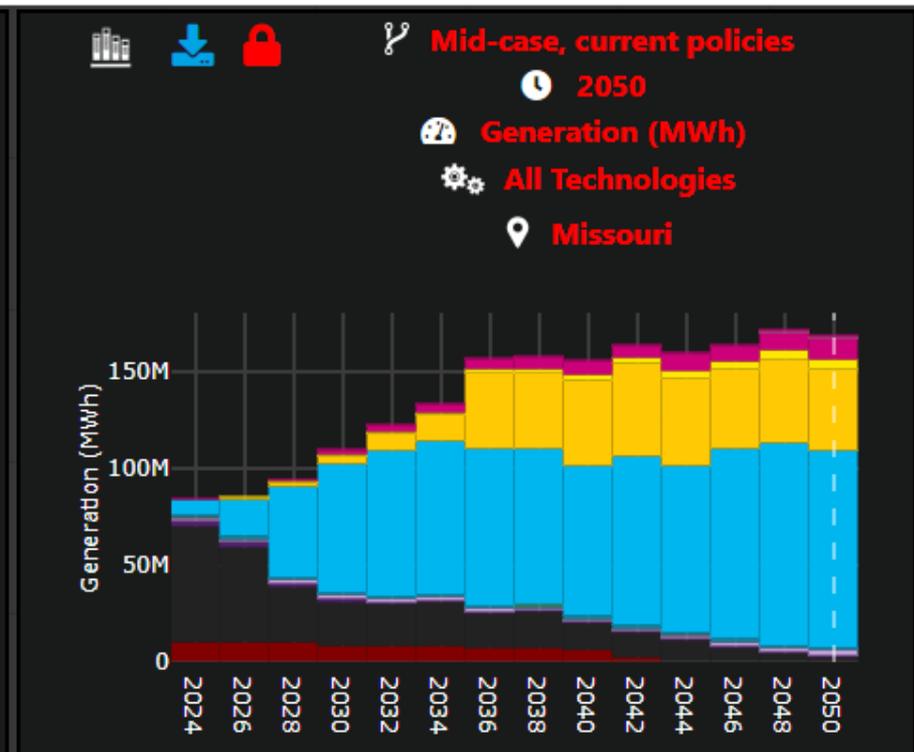
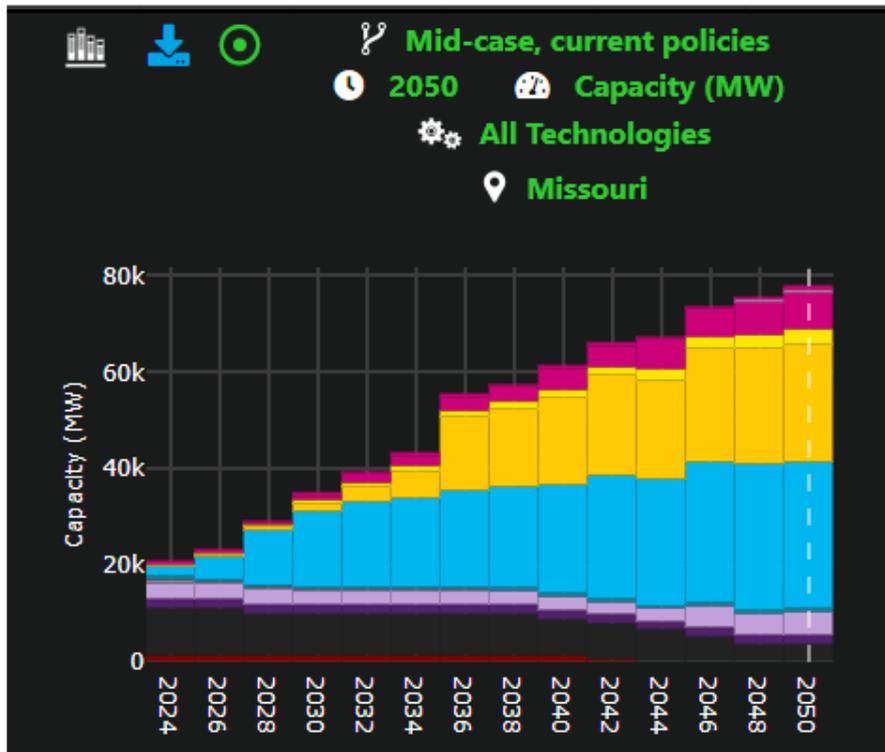
	St. Louis	Indianapolis
Energy cost savings ^a (\$millions)	\$603	\$595
Annual revenue requirement for transmission ^b (\$millions)	\$212	\$215
Benefit/cost ratio (energy savings only)	2.85	2.77
Expected unserved energy (IREZ vs. local renewables) ^c	Better	Better
3 GW as % of 2022 peak (included load zones)	18% (Ameren MO and IL)	18% (MISO: LRZ 6)

^a Based on actual local energy costs in 2022. Energy costs will almost certainly be different when an IREZ corridor is built and energized. Decision makers and stakeholders should consider how their own expectations for future energy costs in their areas might affect benefit/cost ratios going forward. See report Section 5.2 for an explanation of the methodology used.

^b Based on a 600-kV HVDC transmission line from the IREZ to the load center. Decision makers and stakeholders should regard this as a benchmark for considering other transmission options that might be more cost-effective. See report Section 5.1 for a description of assumed transmission costs. ^{NREL} | 24

^c Percent unserved energy (PUE) estimated by increasing simulated load to the point where PUE is approximately 0.001% of load, then

Example –Renewable Energy in Missouri in a NREL Least-Cost Planning Scenario



Conclusions

- Renewables are now the least cost generation resource in most parts of the U.S.
- Significant opportunities for wind, solar and storage to be part of the lowest cost resource mix for Missouri
- But unlocking this resource (especially wind) depends largely on new transmission deployment

Paul.denholm@nrel.gov

www.nrel.gov

References

- NREL Standard Scenarios. <https://www.nrel.gov/analysis/standard-scenarios.html>
- Cole, W., N. Gates, T. Mai. 2021. “Exploring the cost implications of increased renewable energy for the U.S. power system.” *The Electricity Journal*. Vol. 34(5); 106957.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tej.2021.106957>.
- Mai, T., A. Lopez, M. Mowers, E. Lantz. 2021. “Interactions in Wind Energy Project Siting, Wind Resource Potential, and the Evolution of the U.S. Power System.” *Energy*. Vol. 223; 119998.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2021.119998>.

