

# On the road to dispatchable variable resources

Prepared By:

**Vibrant Clean Energy, LLC**

*Dr Christopher T M Clack,*

Prepared For:

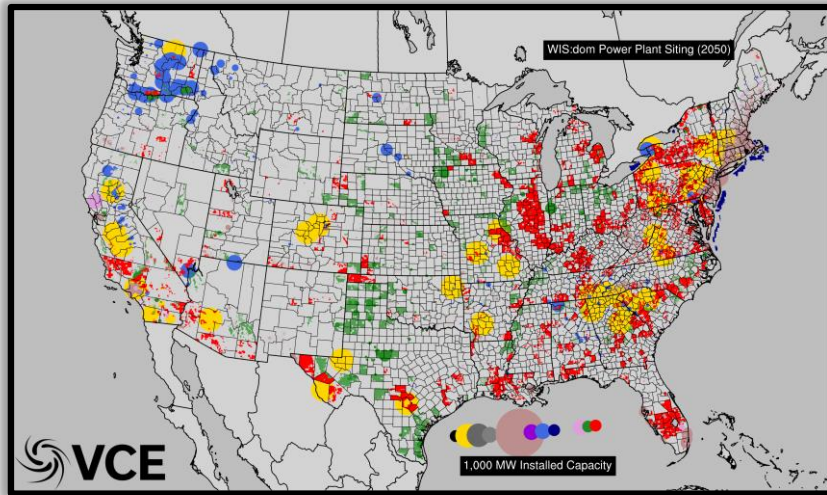
**Energy Systems Integration Group Fall Workshop**

*October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019*

Disclaimer:

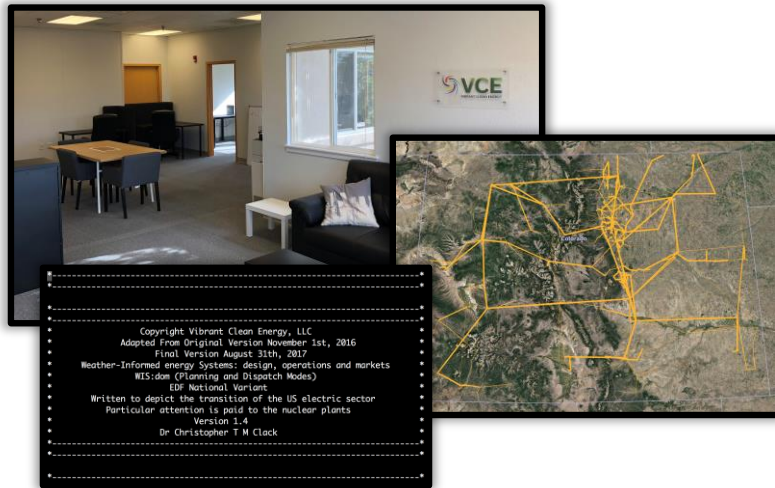
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# Who Are We: Vibrant Clean Energy (VCE®)



## Purpose of Vibrant Clean Energy, LLC:

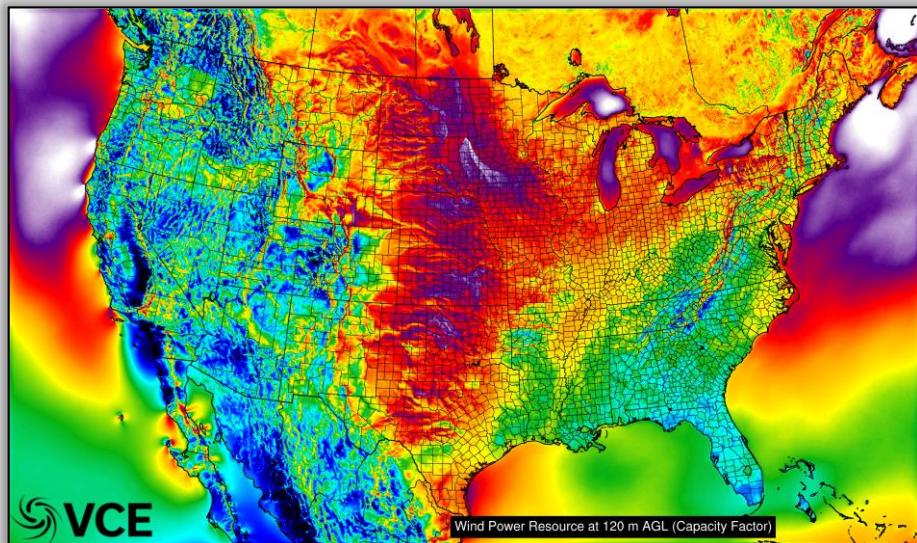
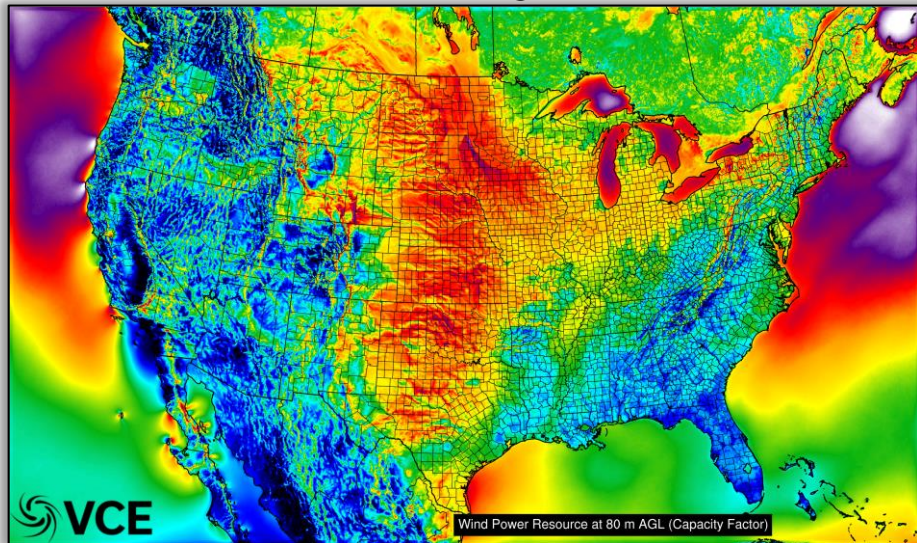
- Reduce the cost of electricity and help evolve economies to near zero emissions;
- Co-optimize transmission, generation, storage, and distributed resources;
- Increase the understanding of how Variable Generation impacts and alters the electricity grid and model it more accurately;
- Agnostically determine the least-cost portfolio of generation that will remove emissions from the economy;
- Determine the optimal mix of VG and other resources for efficient energy sectors;
- Help direct the transition of heating and transportation to electrification;
- License WIS:dom® optimization model and/or perform studies using the model;
- Ensure profits for energy companies with a modernized grid;
- Assist clients unlock and understand the potential of high VRE scenarios, as well as zero emission pathways.



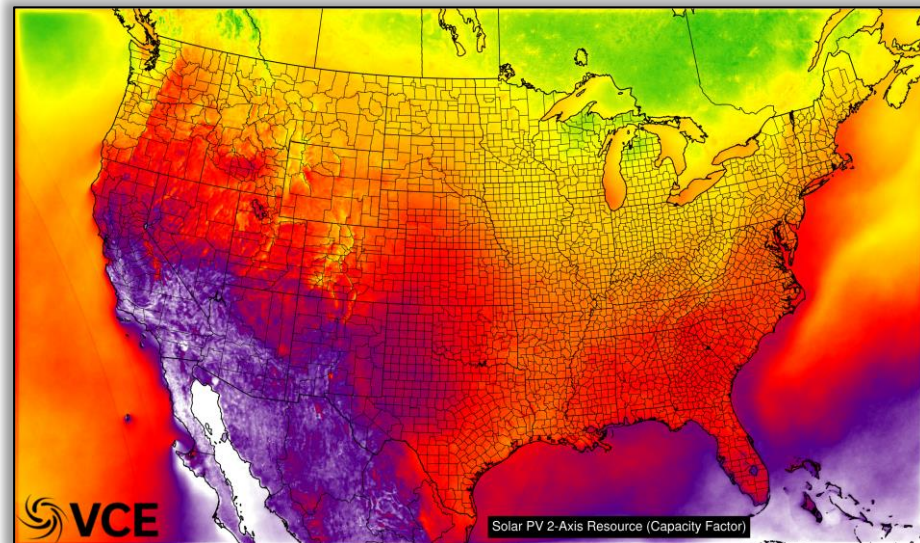
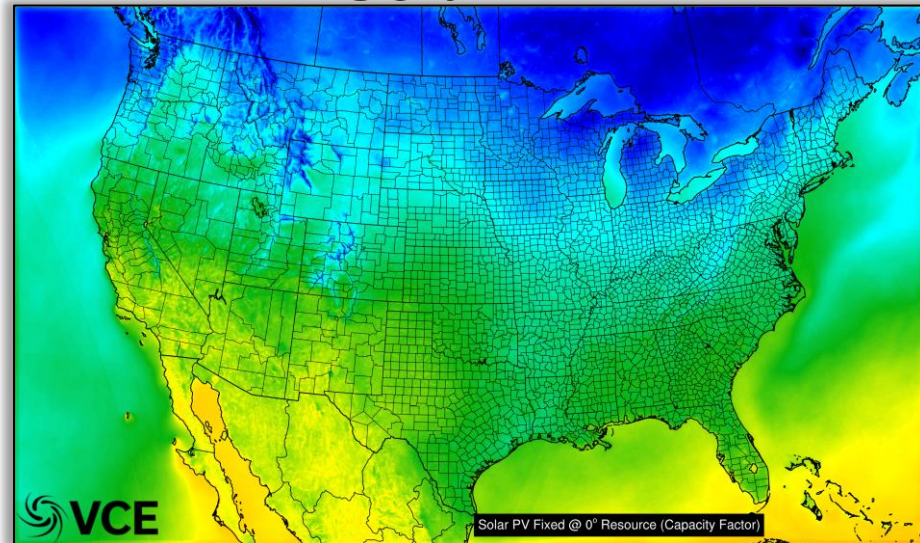


# VRE Power Data Incorporated

## Wind

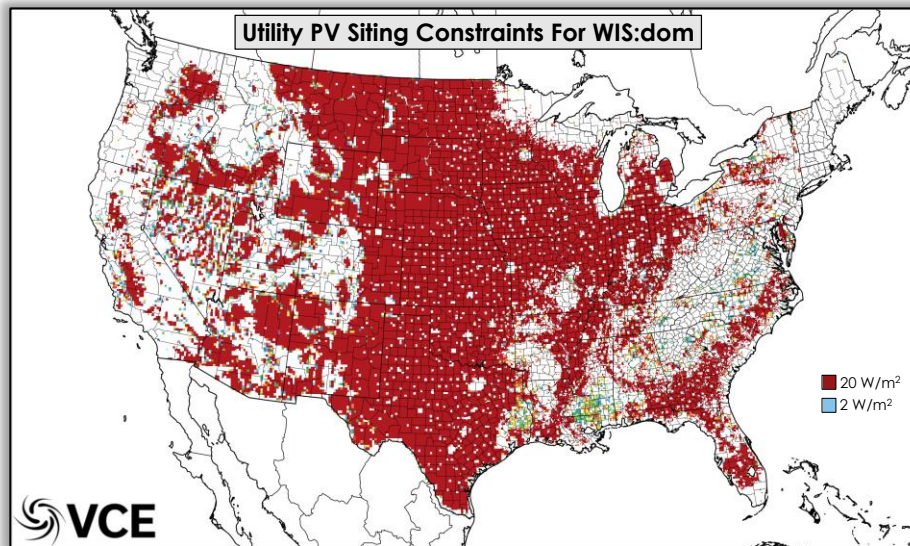
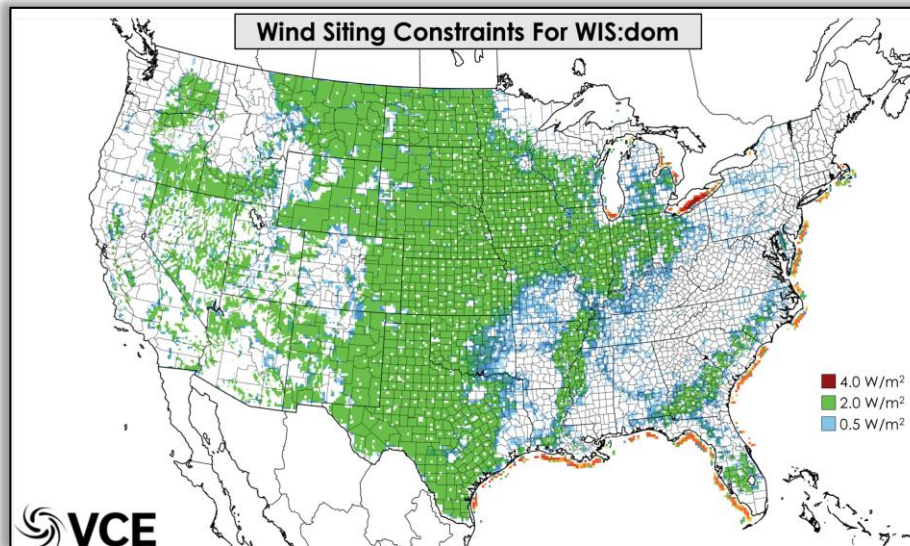


## Solar PV



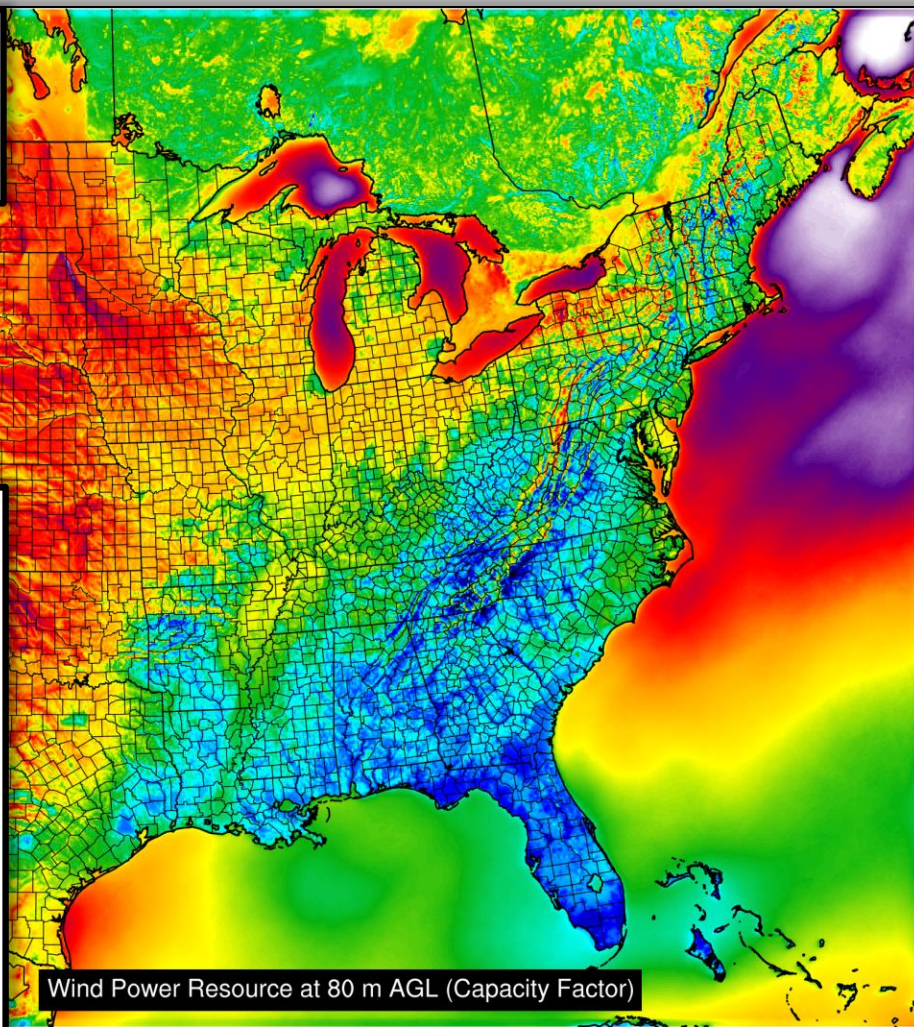
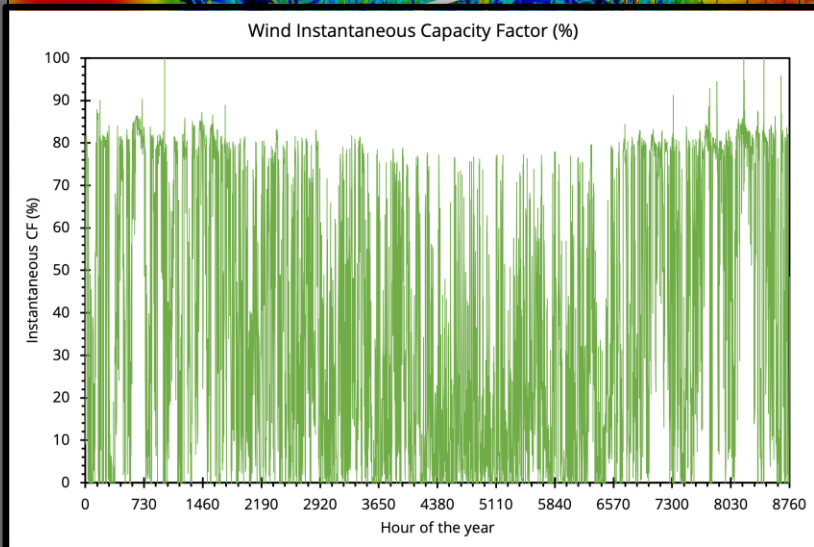
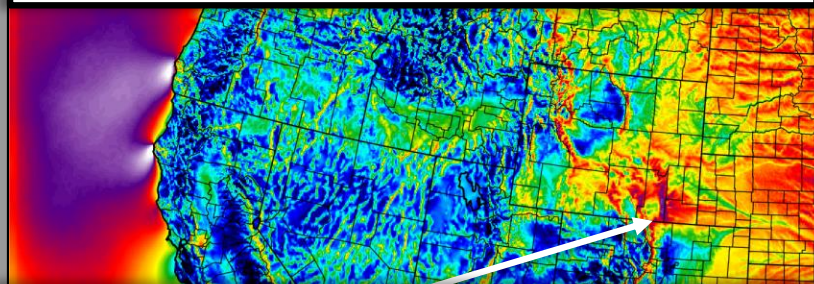


# Potential Siting Screening



# VRE Power Data Incorporated

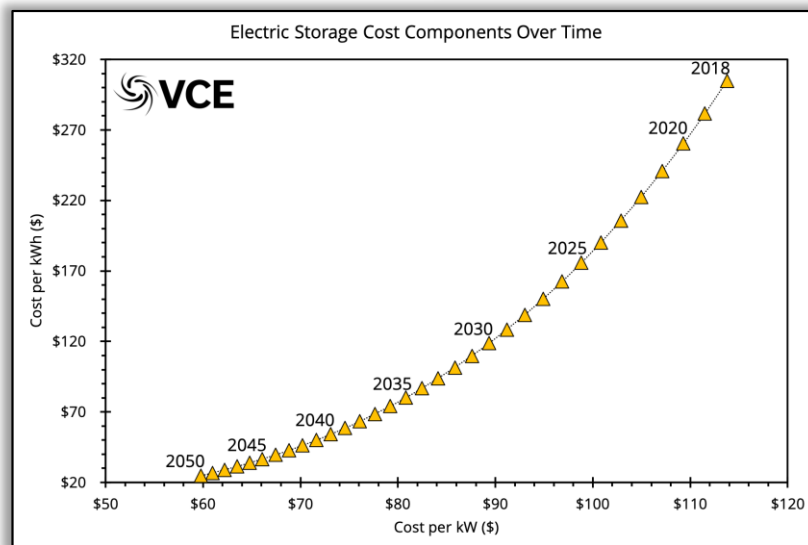
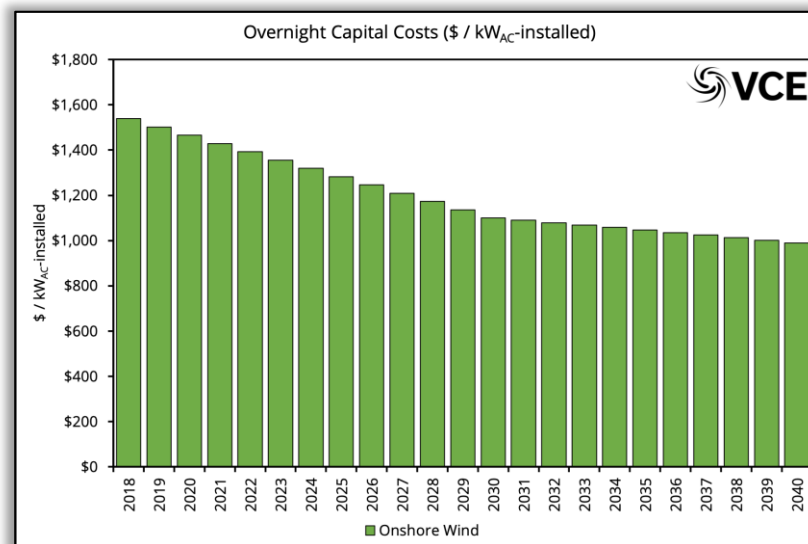
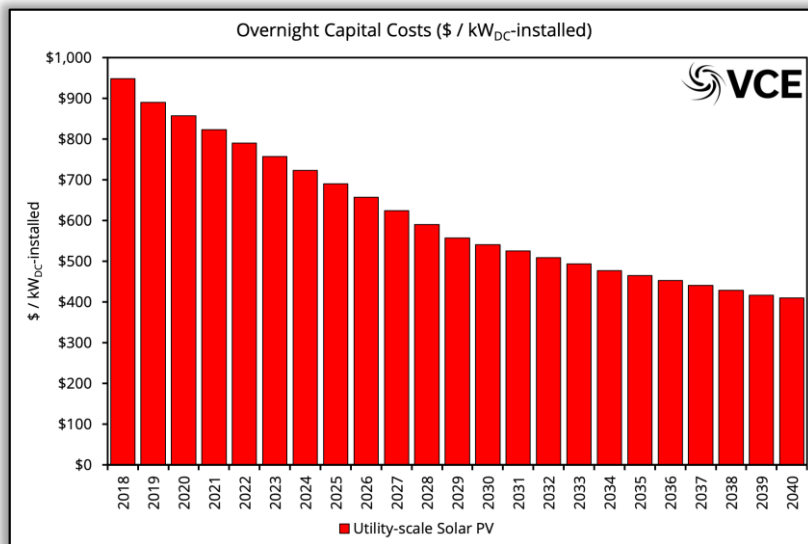
Each site has **5-minute data** for **2014 through 2018**. There are ~ 1 million unique sites.





# Cost Projections Used

✓ NREL ATB 2019

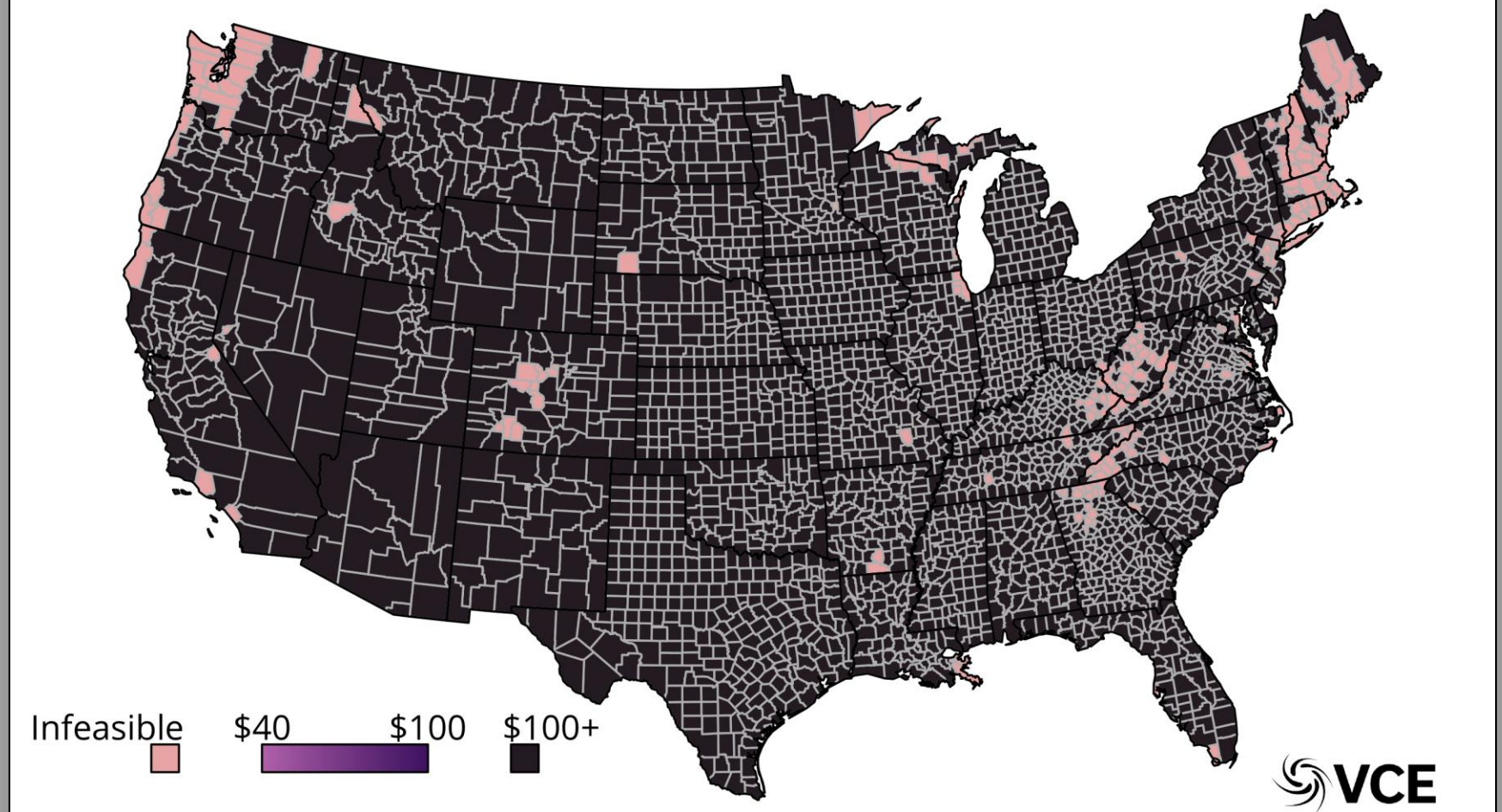


# Objective & Optimization

- ✓ Minimize the total annualized costs;
- ✓ Meet the prescribed load exactly each 5-minutes for all of the five years;
- ✓ Enforce self-discharge, charging losses, discharging losses, and state of charge metrics for the electric storage;
- ✓ Compute the amount of power able to be produced by scaling by the available land for construction;
- ✓ Determine the LCOE-baseload, \$/kW-baseload, reserves (hours), baseload capacity.

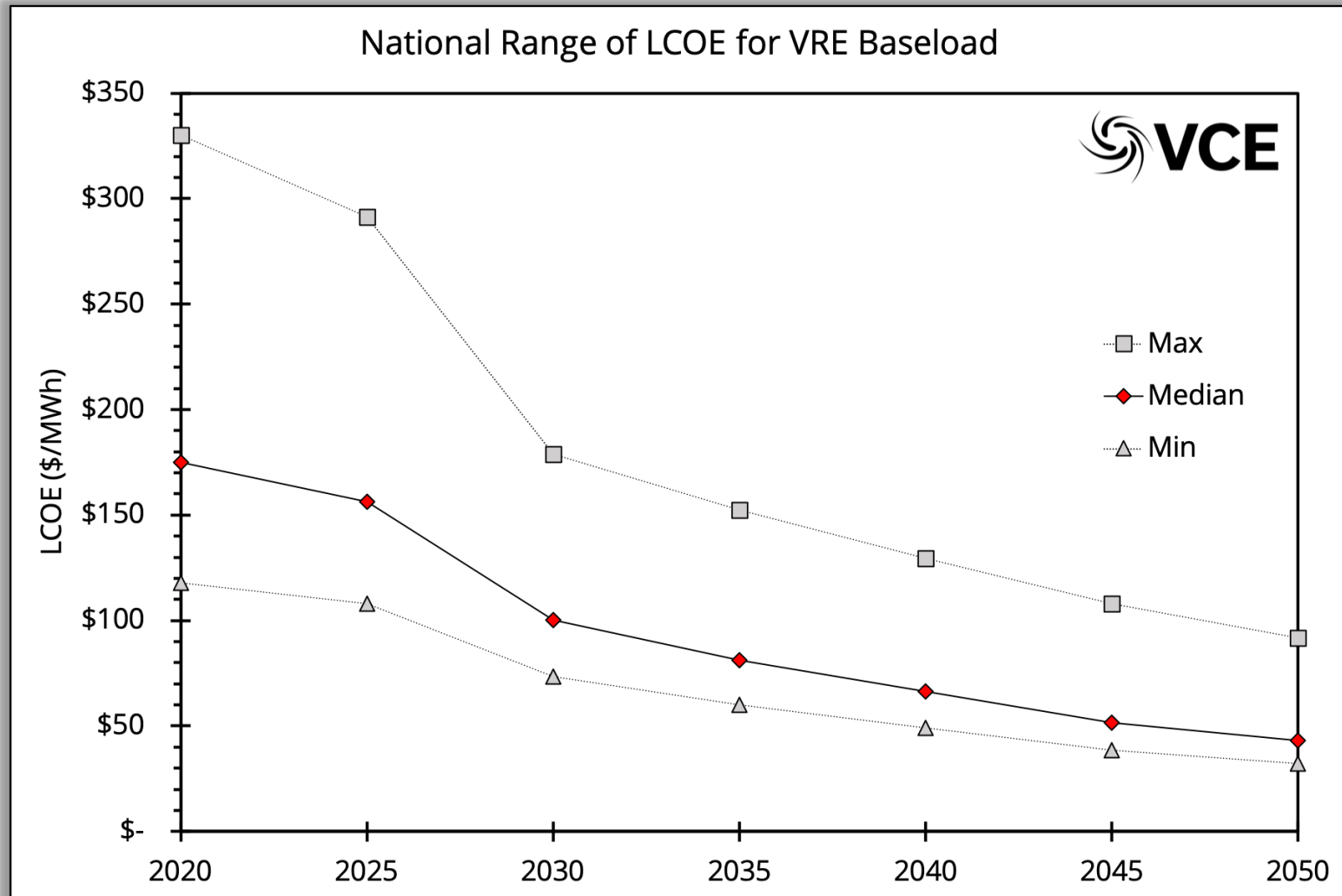
# Levelized Cost of Electricity (Baseload)

Optimal renewables + storage baseload LCOE in 2020 (\$/MWh)



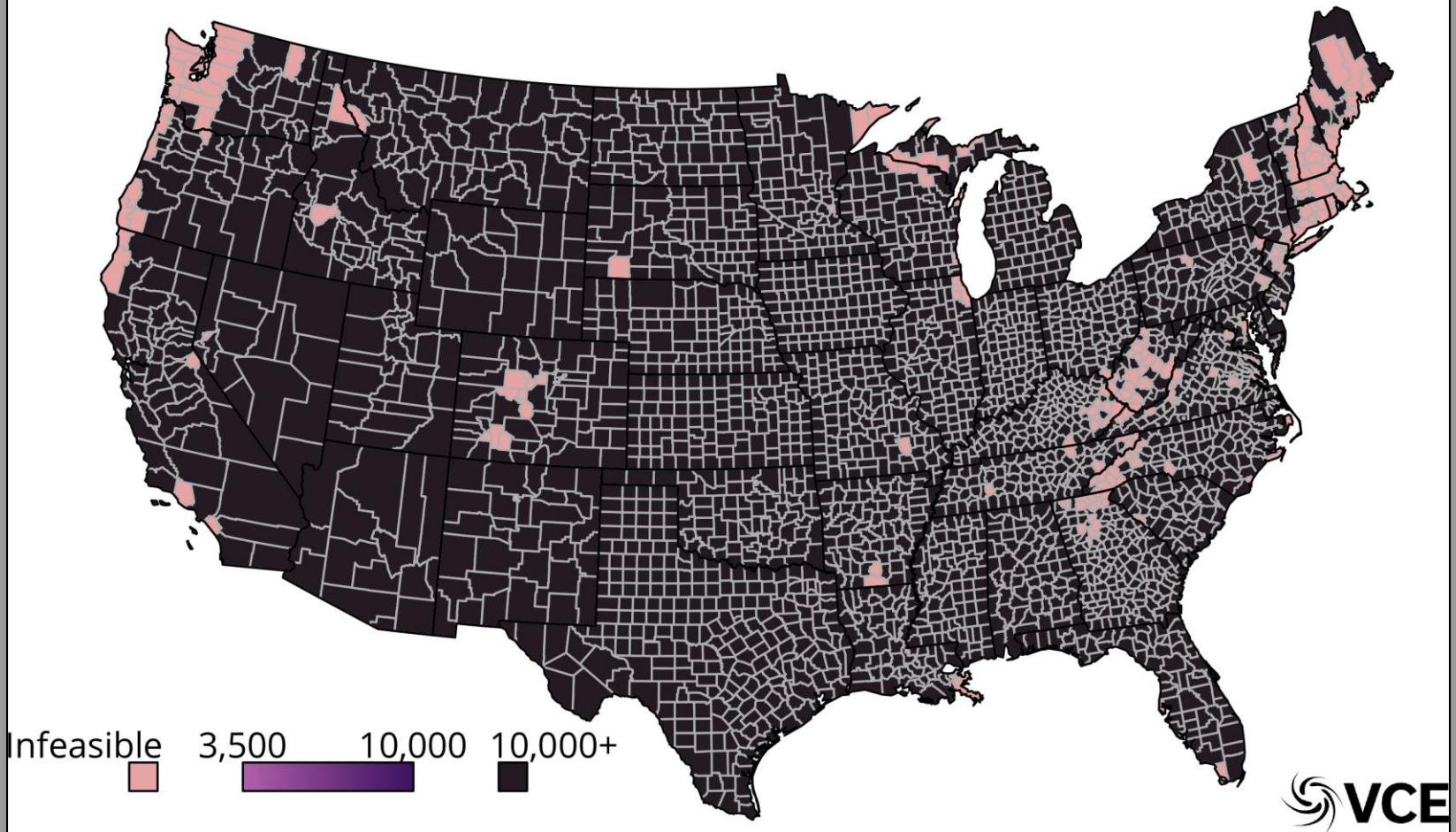


# Range of LCOE for Baseload VREs



# Capital Costs (\$/kW-baseload)

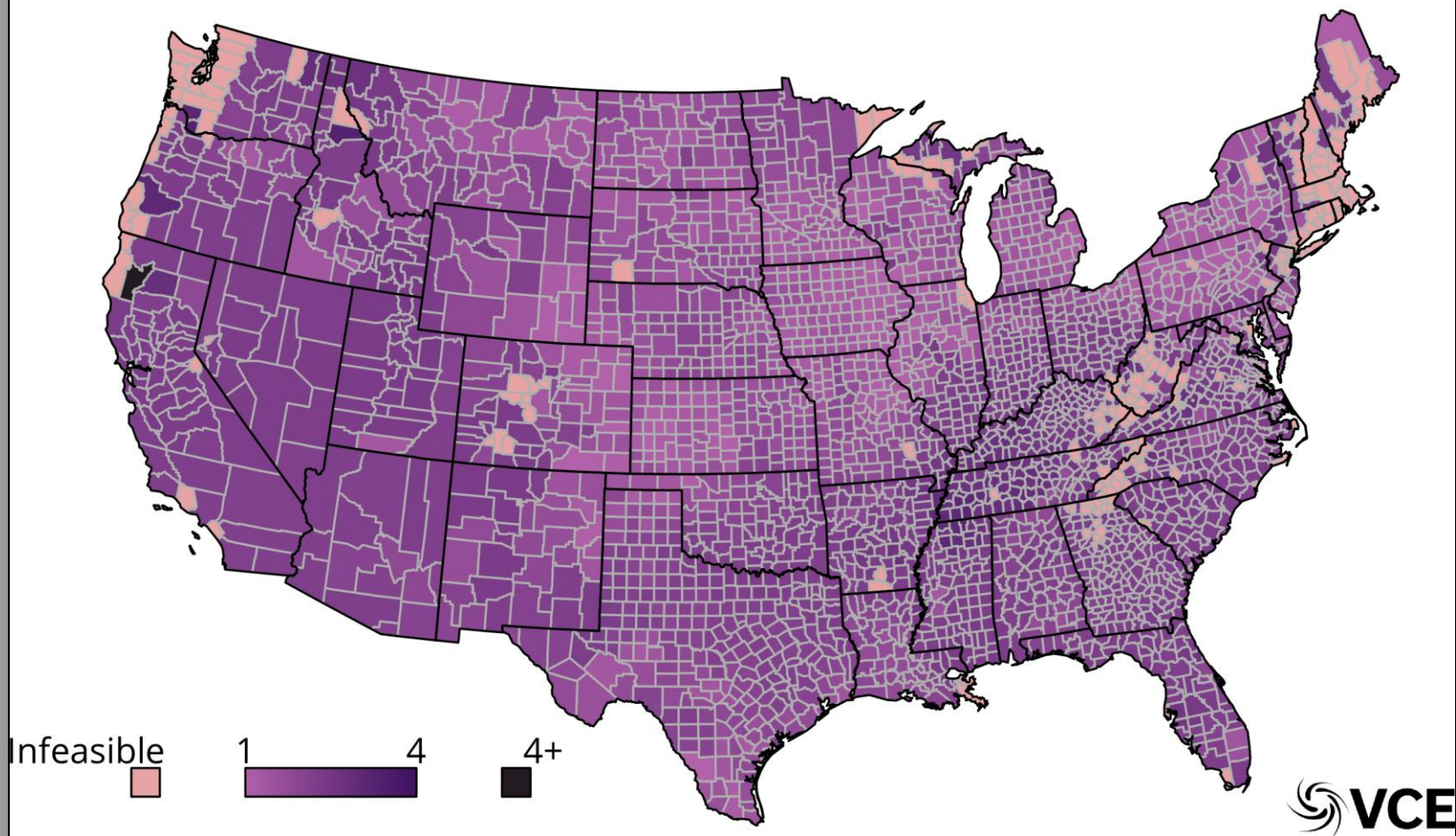
Upfront capital costs for RE baseload in 2020 (\$/kW)





# Reserves Available (hours)

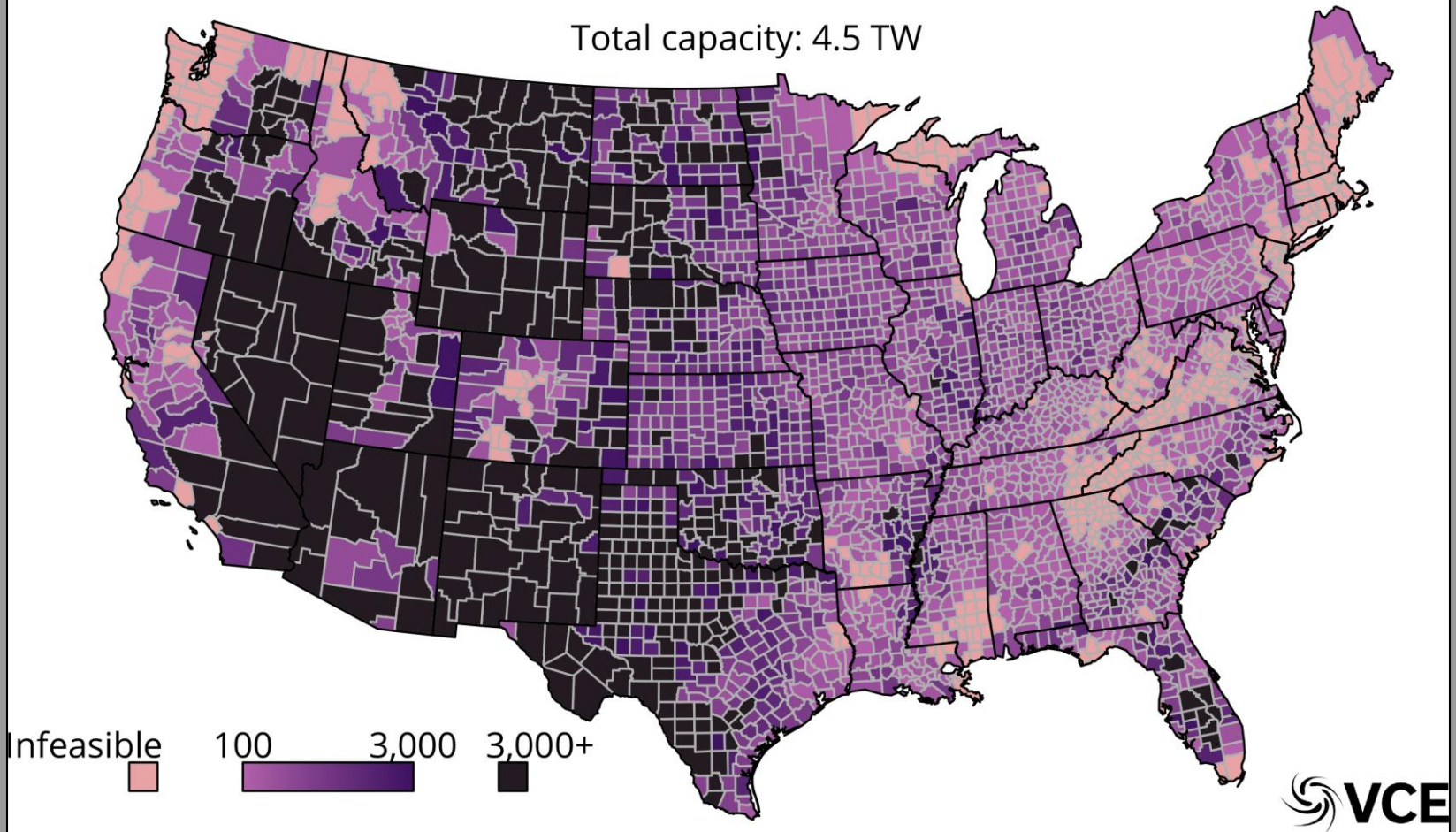
Available renewable baseload reserves in 2020 (hr)



# Baseload Generation Capacity (MW)

Available renewable baseload capacity in 2020 (MW)


Total capacity: 4.5 TW





# WIS:dom<sup>®</sup>-B Example (CO | Weld)





Input widgets

Solar costs, \$/kW (utility-scale single-axis tracking)

0 550 1,200

Wind costs, \$/kW (100m hub height)

0 1,000 2,000

Storage costs, \$/kWh (energy)

0 50 400

Storage costs, \$/kW (power)

0 75 250

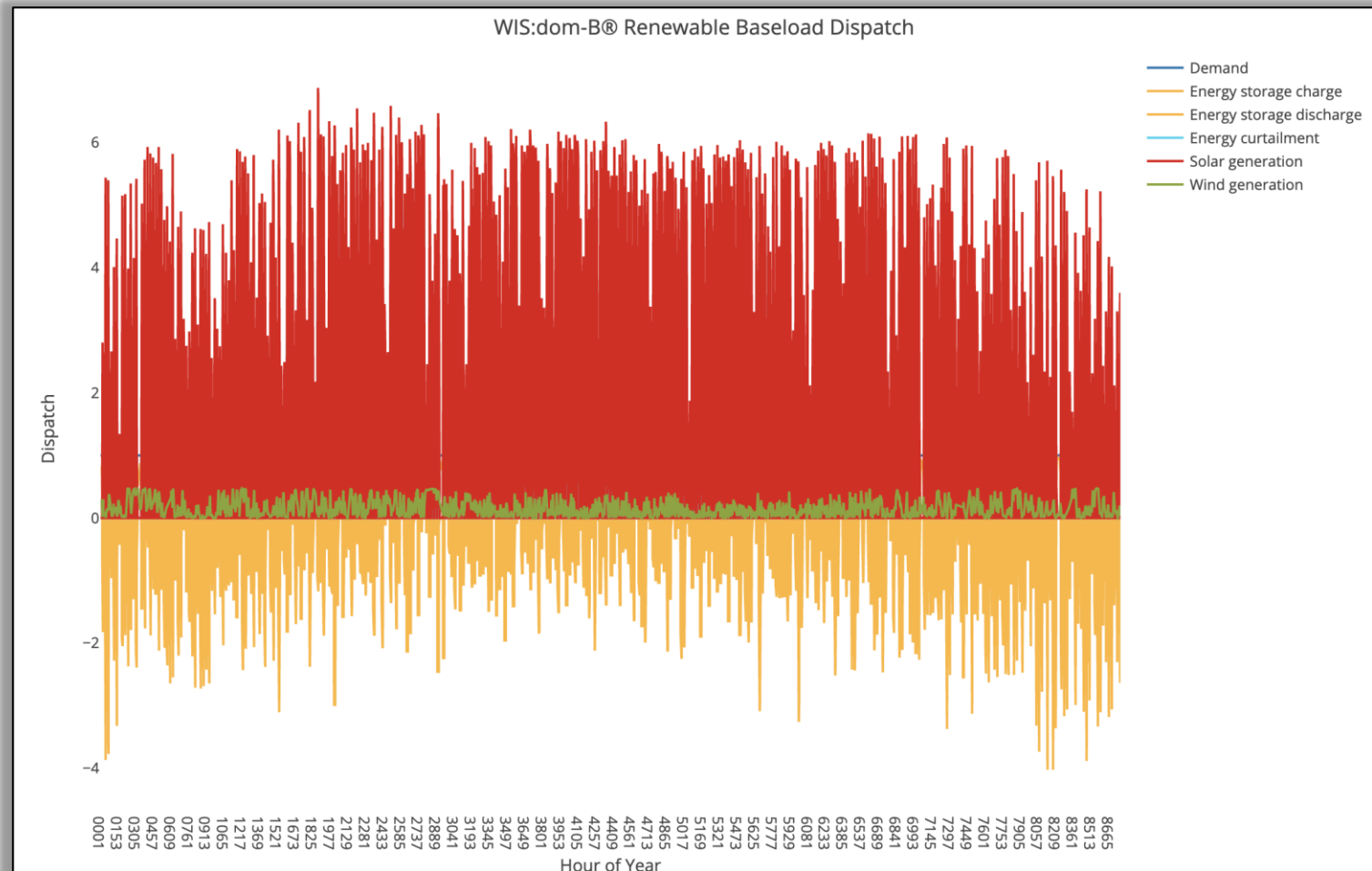
Investment Tax Credit (%)

0 20 30

Pick a county:

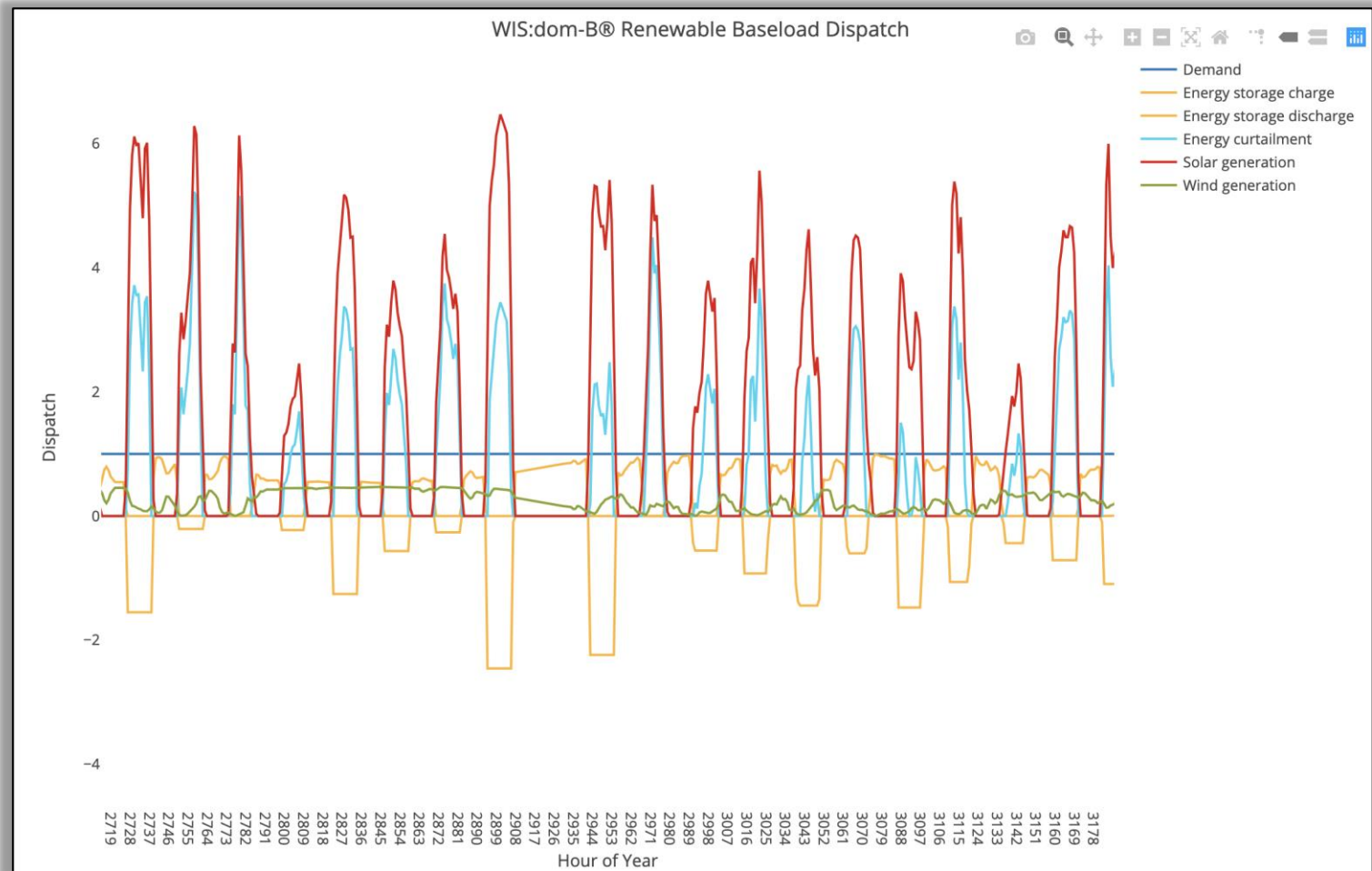
CO | Weld

# WIS:dom<sup>®</sup>-B Example (CO | Weld)

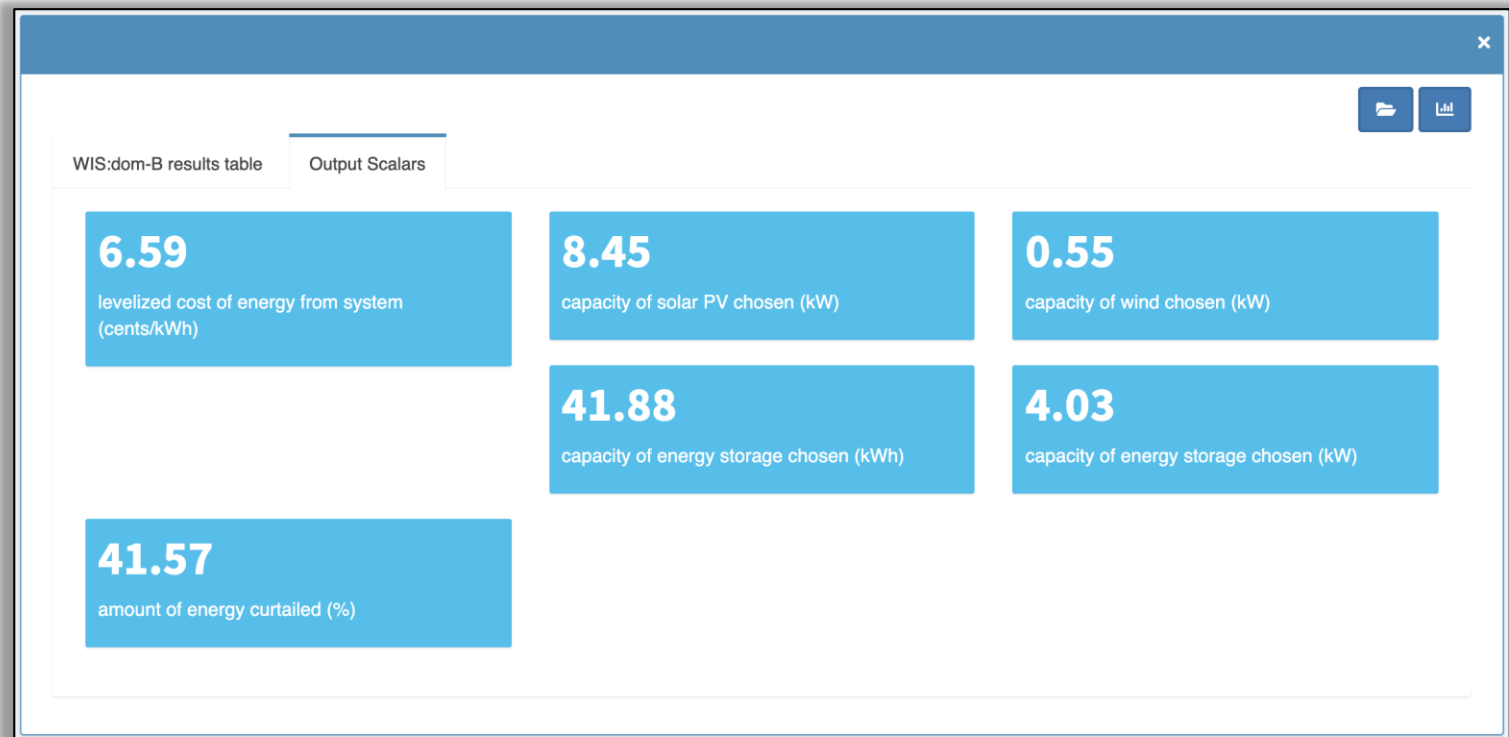




# WIS:dom<sup>®</sup>-B Example (CO | Weld)



# WIS:dom<sup>®</sup>-B Example (CO | Weld)



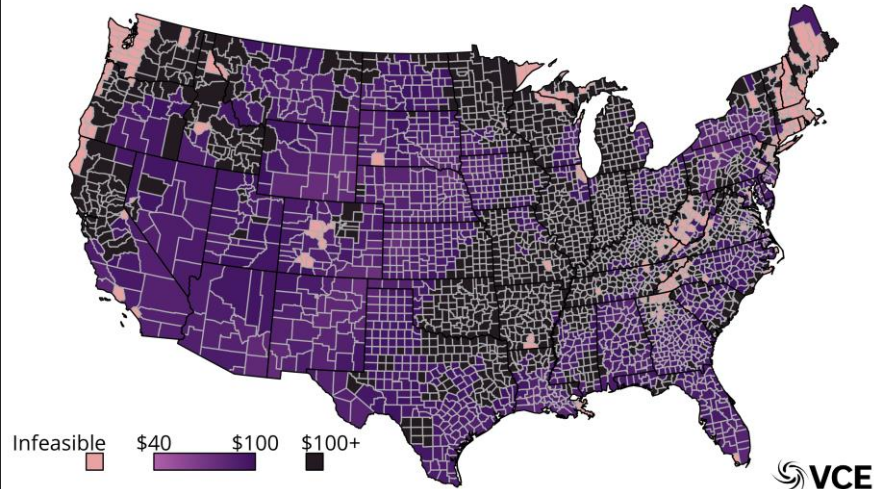


# Release Timeline

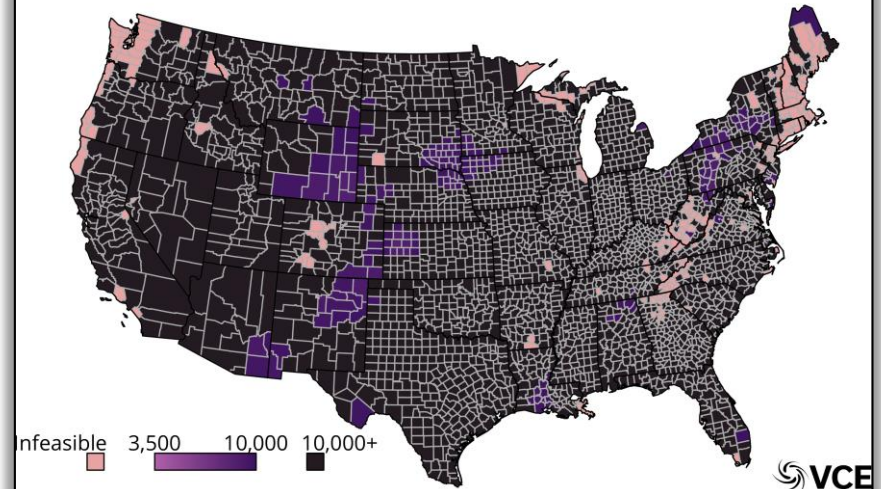
1. The WIS:dom<sup>®</sup>-B results will be released and open source with all accompanying data (county-level).
2. VCE<sup>®</sup> will be writing a report based on the results.
3. The WIS:dom<sup>®</sup>-B will match any input load profile shapes.
4. The timeline is early 2020 (Q1 or Q2).

# Overview (2030)

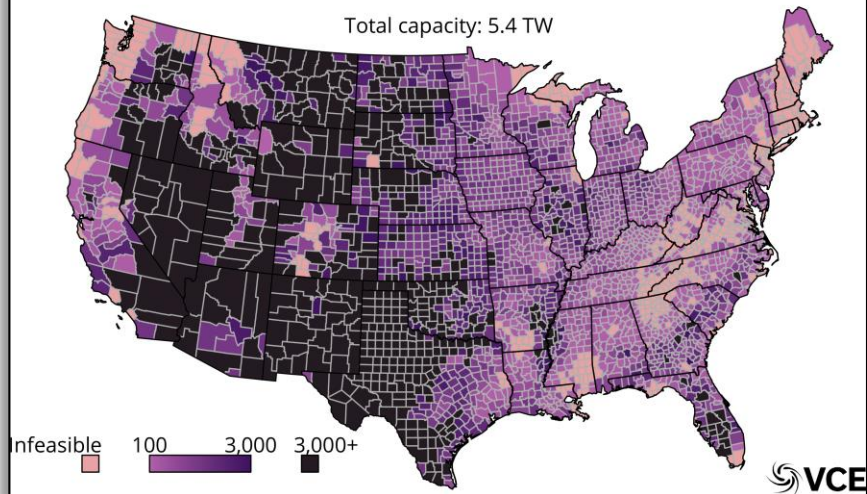
Optimal renewables + storage baseload LCOE in 2030 (\$/MWh)



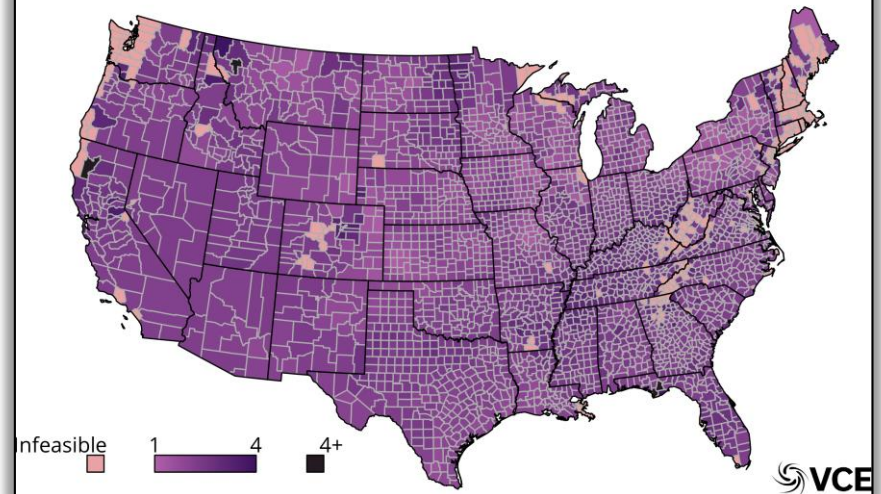
Upfront capital costs for RE baseload in 2030 (\$/kW)



Available renewable baseload capacity in 2030 (MW)



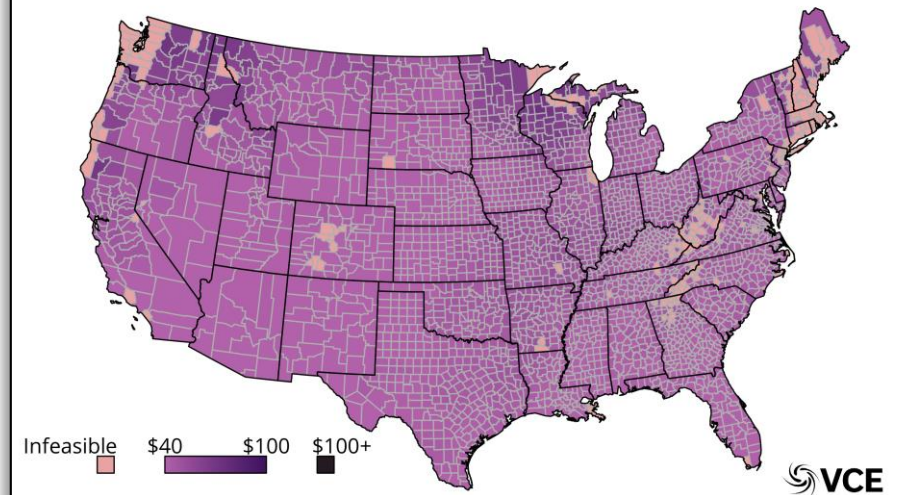
Available renewable baseload reserves in 2030 (hr)



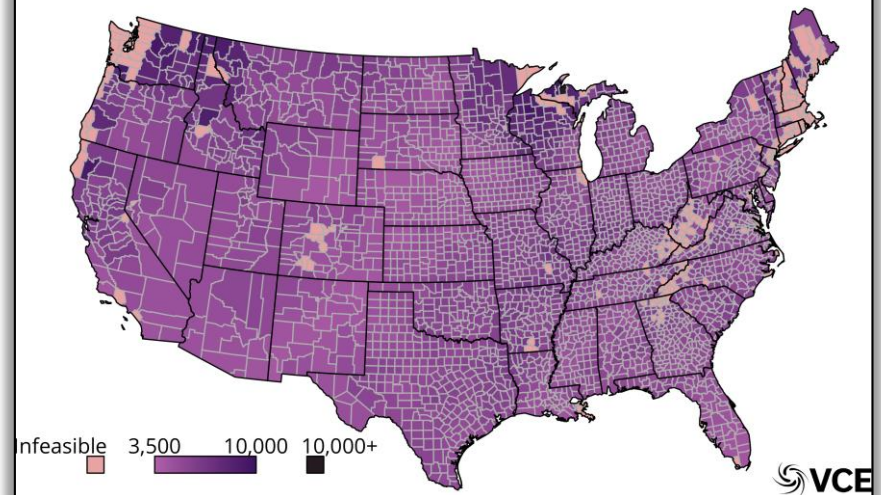


# Overview (2050)

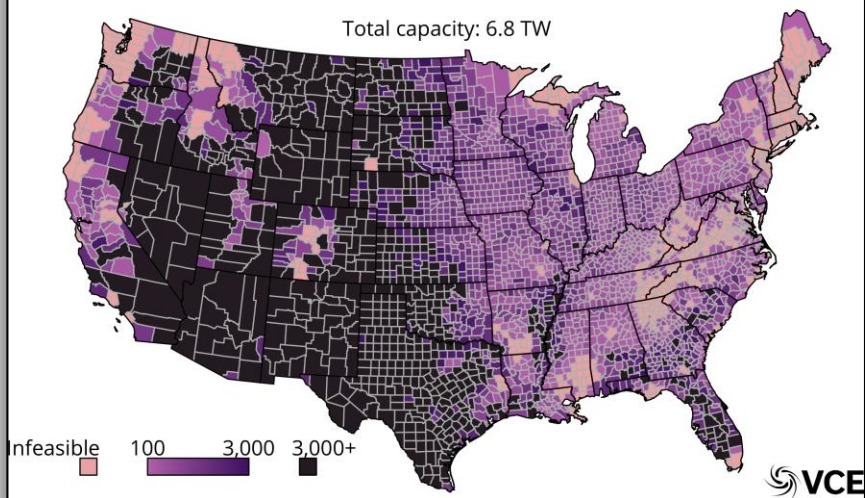
Optimal renewables + storage baseload LCOE in 2050 (\$/MWh)



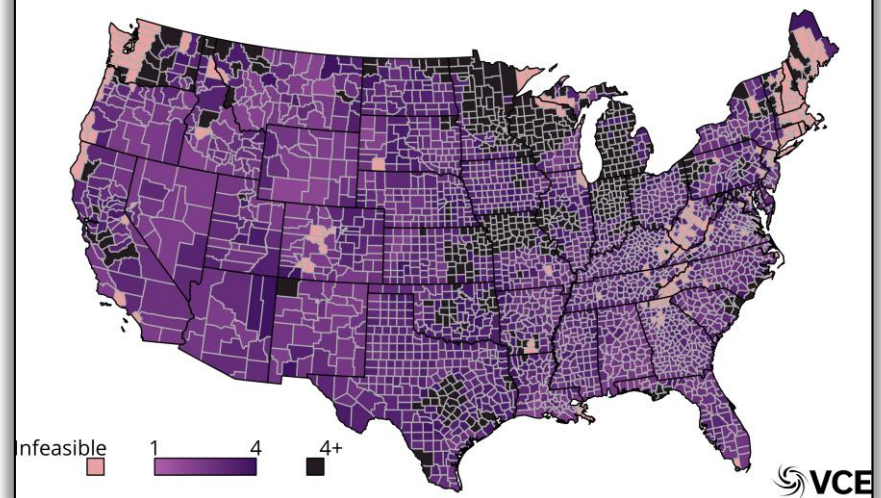
Upfront capital costs for RE baseload in 2050 (\$/kW)



Available renewable baseload capacity in 2050 (MW)



Available renewable baseload reserves in 2050 (hr)





# Conclusions

1. VRE hybrid systems coming down in cost, soon will be cheaper than anything else;
2. They will be more reliable than baseload generation from thermal because of the ability to hold “reserves” at all times;
3. The places with greatest resource do not have the demand to use it;
4. HVDC transmission (underground) in a super grid is likely most economically efficient means to move the low-cost electricity over the continent;
5. These systems can become energy centers to produce  $e^-$ ,  $H_2$ ,  $CH_4$ ,  $NH_3$ ,  $CO_2$  capture.
6. As our electricity needs grow, there will be a greater acceptance that we should use all the energy we can with fewest resources, that is reduce curtailment via other technologies.

# Thank You

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