

# Energy Storage: What's the Next Big Thing?

---

Paul Denholm

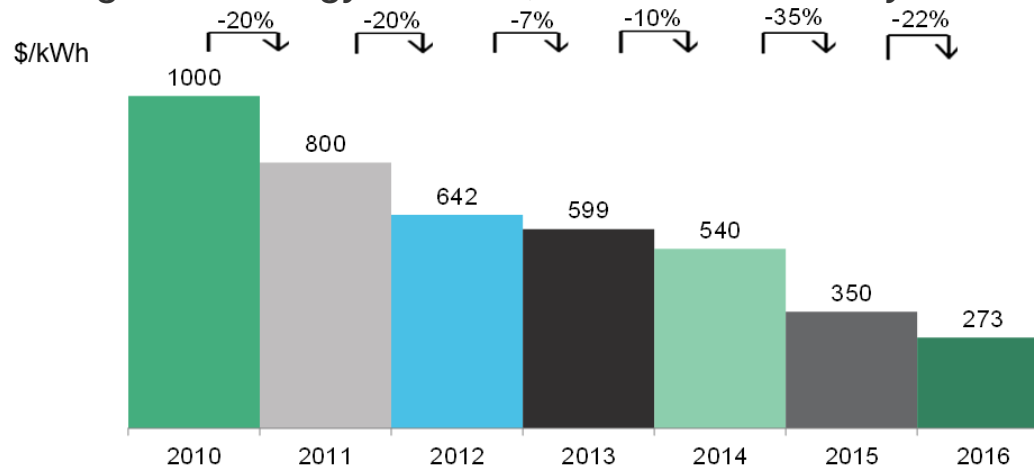
June 5, 2018

# Storage

- Its becoming difficult to ignore the dramatic cost reductions.
- But what are the market opportunities?
- How big are they?

## BNEF lithium-ion battery price survey, 2010-16 (\$/kWh)

[Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance, *Lithium-ion Battery Costs and Market* (July 2017)]



# Applications of Utility-Scale Energy Storage

Application	Description	Timescale of Operation
<b>Load Leveling/ Arbitrage</b>	Purchasing low-cost off-peak energy and selling it during periods of high prices	Hours
<b>Firm Capacity</b>	Provide reliable capacity to meet peak system demand	4 + Hours
<b>Operating Reserves</b>		
Regulation	Fast response to random, unpredictable variations in demand	15 minutes to 1 hour
Contingency Spinning	Fast response to respond to a contingency such as a generator failure	30 minutes to 2 hours
Replacement/ Supplemental	Units brought on-line to replace spinning units	Hours
<b>Ramping/Load Following</b>	Follow longer term (hourly) changes in electricity demand	30 minutes to hours
<b>T&amp;D Replacement and Deferral</b>	Reduce loading on T&D system during peak times	Hours
<b>Black-Start</b>	Units brought online to start system after a system-wide failure (blackout)	Hours

# Value Capture?

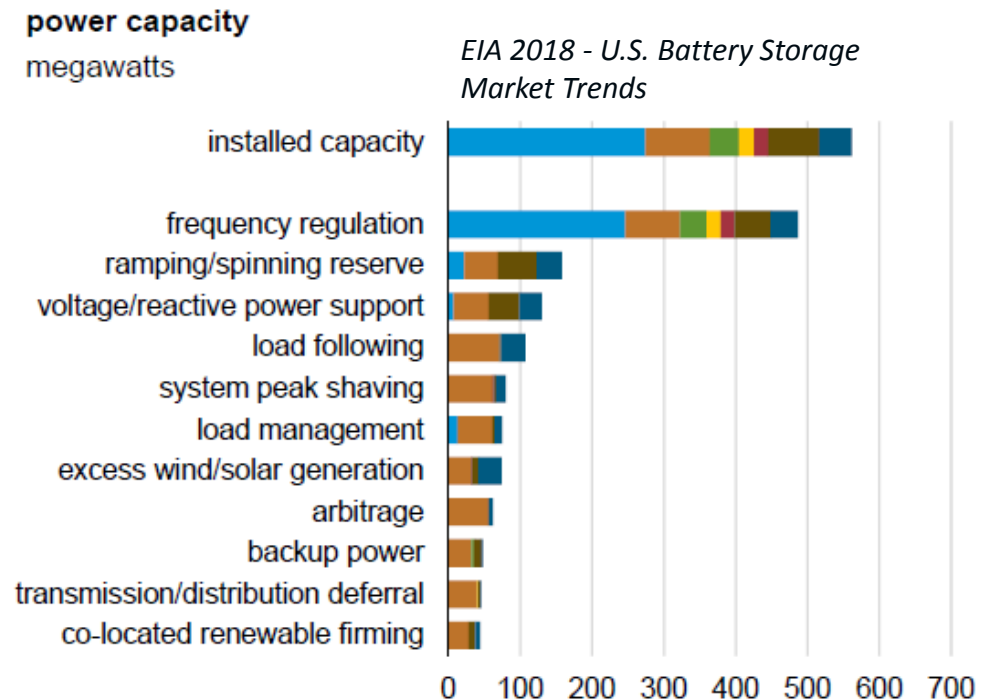
- The concept of stacked services is well documented
- But so are the challenges
- Depending on location, these values are captured by 1-4 different entities under different regulatory framework
- What are the likely market applications that can achieve significant market share from a limited number of revenue streams?

# Applications of Utility-Scale Energy Storage

<b>Application</b>	<b>Valued in A Single Restructured Market?</b>
<b>Load Leveling/ Arbitrage</b>	Yes
<b>Firm Capacity</b>	Via scarcity pricing, combined scarcity plus capacity markets, or through resource adequacy payments
<b>Regulation Reserves</b>	Yes
<b>Contingency Spinning Reserves</b>	Yes
<b>Replacement/Supplemental/ Non-Spinning</b>	Yes but values are very low
<b>Primary Frequency Response / Inertia</b>	No. Early-stage proposals
<b>Ramping/Load Following</b>	No. Proposed in several markets
<b>Transmission Replacement and Deferral</b>	Only partially via congestion prices
<b>All Distribution Specific Applications</b>	No. Will likely remain cost of service through regulated entities
<b>Renewable Integration</b>	Captured through other services

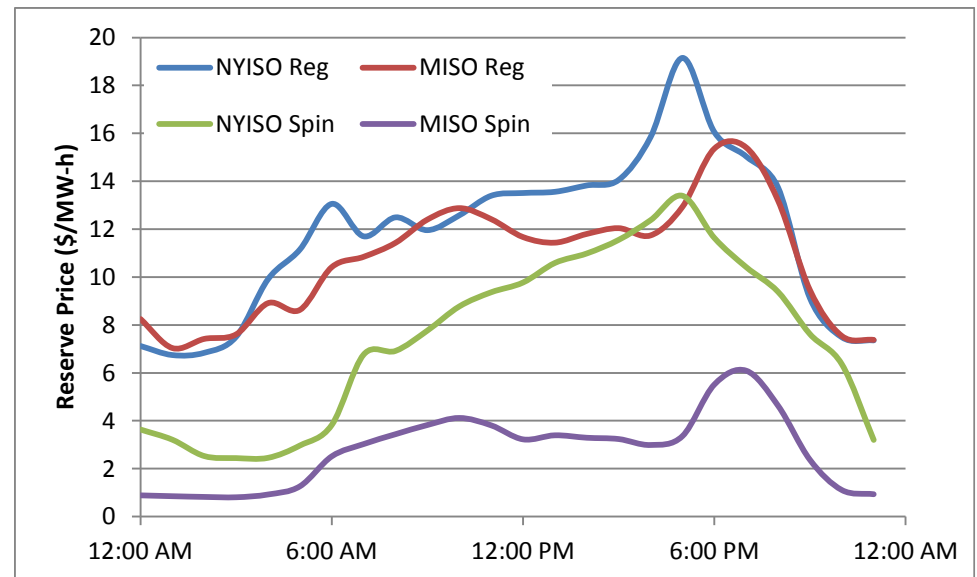
# Frequency Regulation?

- Total market for regulating reserves in all RTO/ISO markets is ~2.5 GW
- Already have ~500 MW of battery storage providing FR
- Several hundred MW that are capable of providing FR (and probably is)

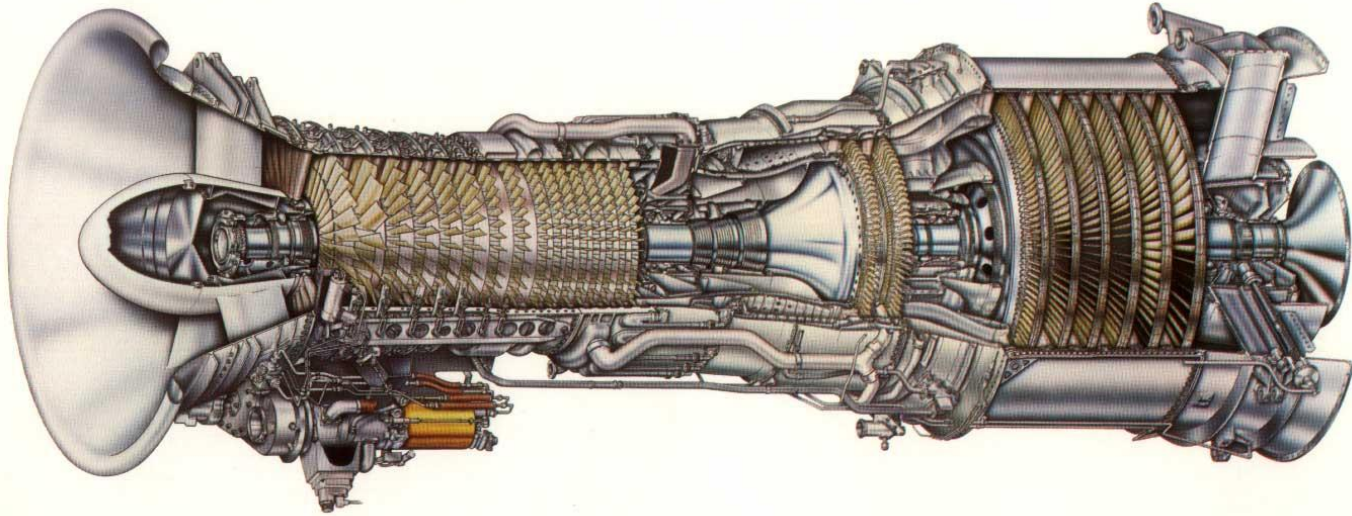


# Other Ancillary Services

- Perhaps, but much lower prices for spinning reserves
  - Non-spin is basically worthless
- Increased competition from DR

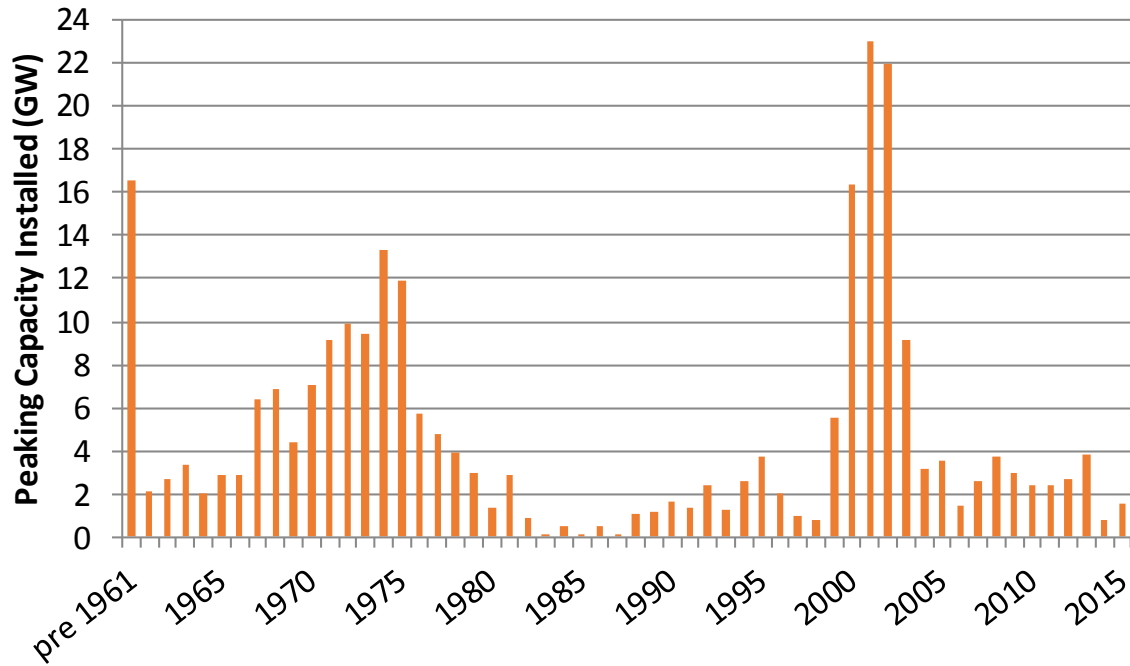


# The Next Big Thing?





# U.S. Peaking Capacity



Installation dates of U.S. peaking capacity  
(non CHP CT, IC, oil/gas steam)

Data from EIA 860

# U.S. Peaking Capacity



Age of retirement  
for U.S. peaking  
capacity (EIA-860)

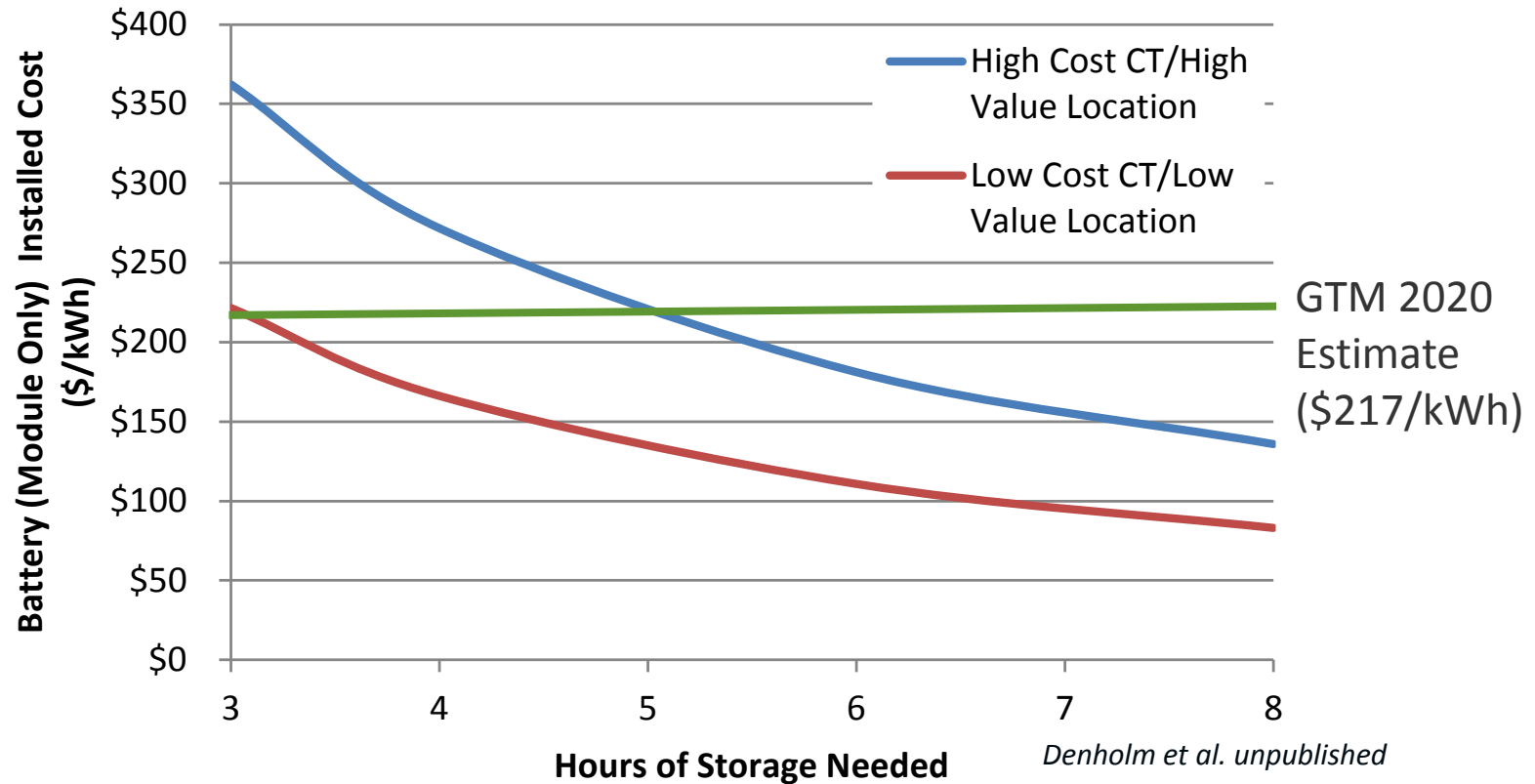
Significant peaking capacity now over 40 years old. Over the next 20 years, we would expect about 152 GW of peaking capacity to retire



# How to Compare Costs

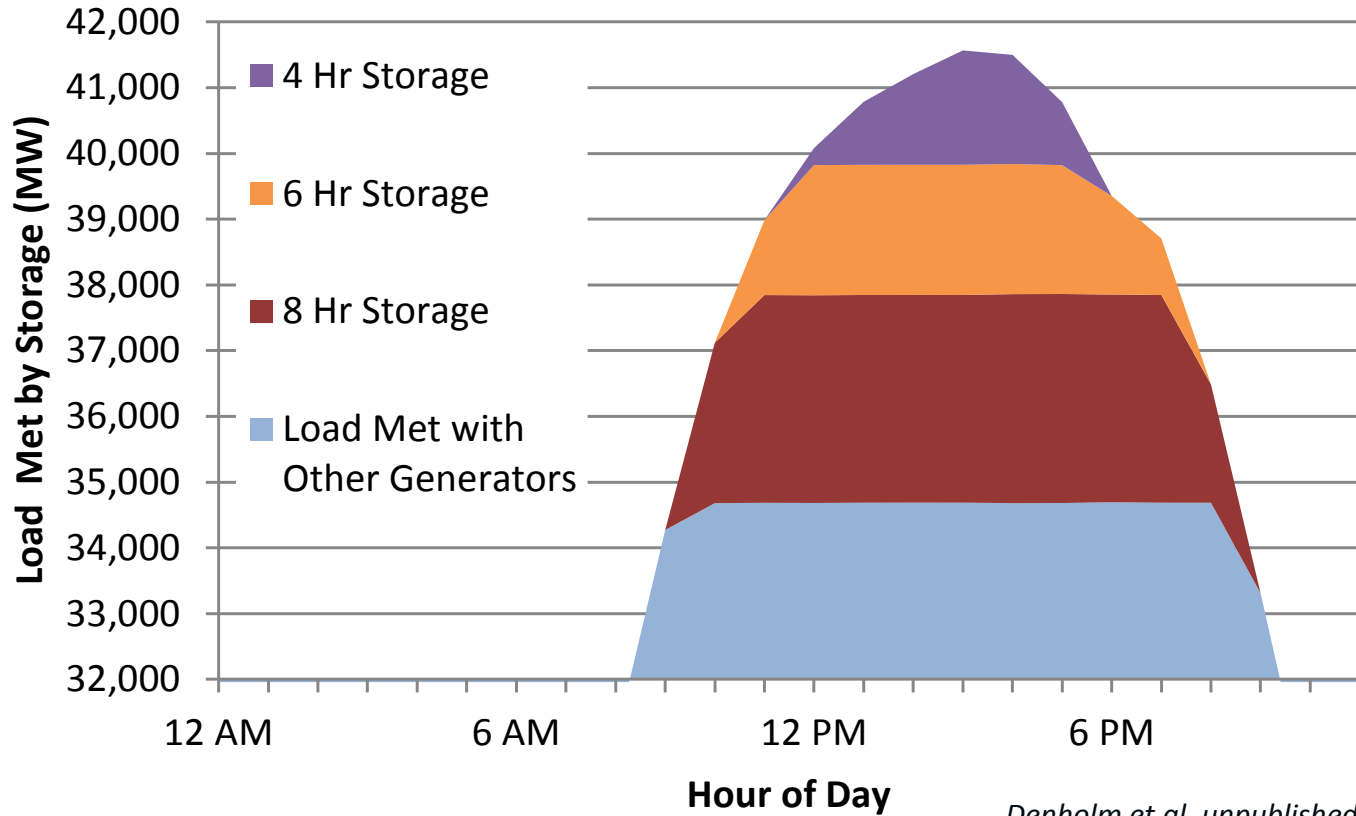
- Difficult for storage to compete purely on capital cost
- CT: \$700/kW (frame) - \$1200/kW (aeroderivative)
- Translates to \$75 to \$200/kWh for battery module if we assume \$400/kW BOS
  - Assumes 4-hour duration
  - And before accounting for limited lifetime
- But storage provides other values that can be captured in an energy market

# So How Cheap Does Storage Have to Be?



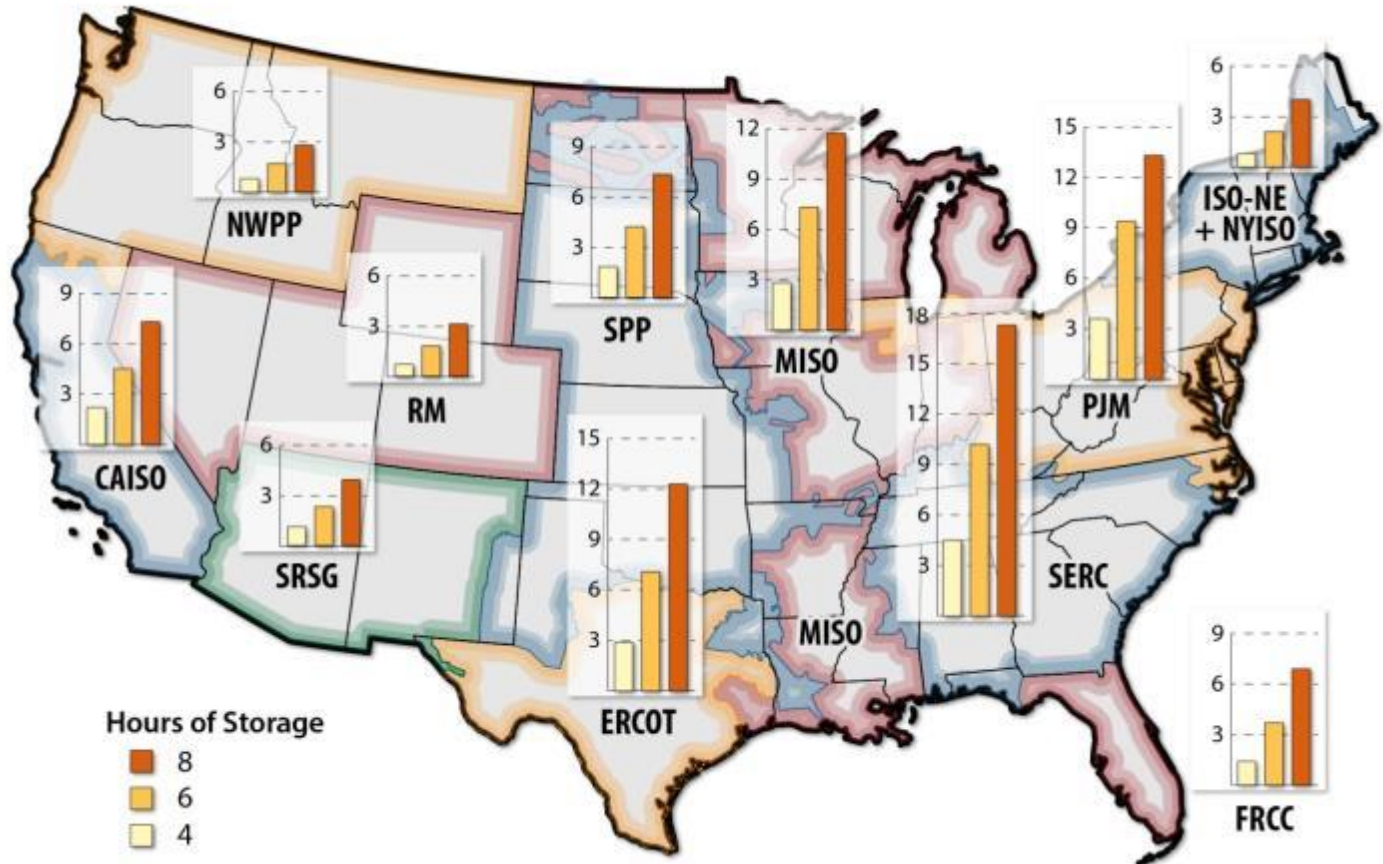
We are nearing a tipping point for 4-hour storage providing capacity services – but how big is this market?

# But How Big Is the Market?



CAISO and MISO allows 4-hour storage to provide resource adequacy. But only a limited market size due to “widening” of net demand peak.

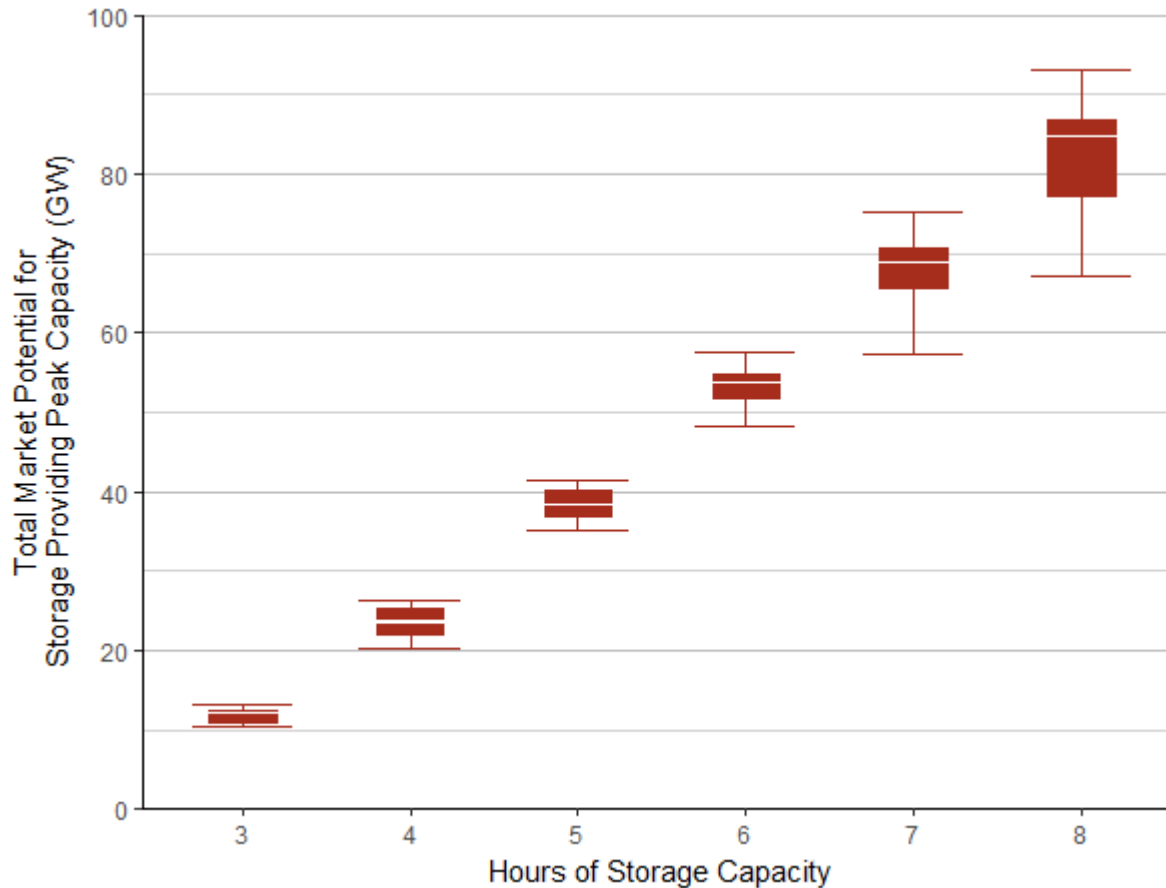
# Market Potential?



Denholm et al. unpublished

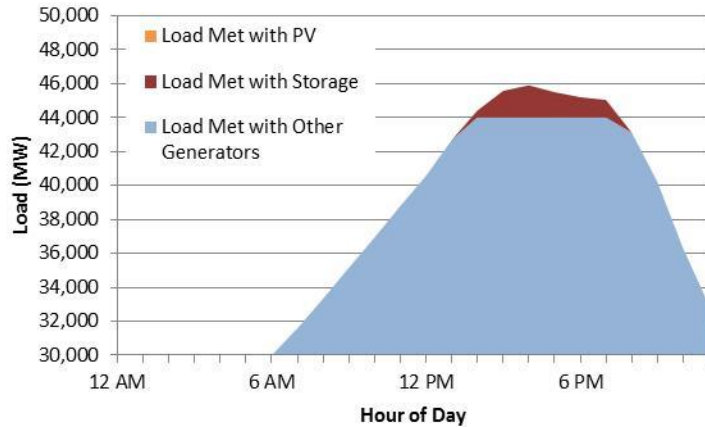
Total market potential for energy storage as a peaking capacity in the U.S.

# Total U.S. Market Potential for Storage as Peaking Capacity

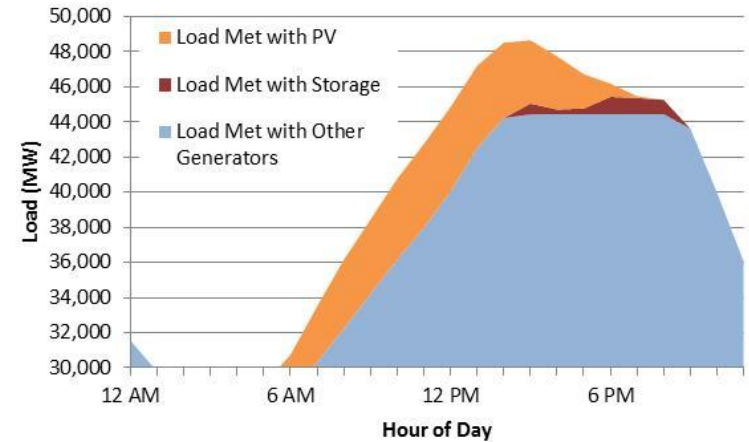


Total market potential for energy storage as a peaking capacity in the U.S.

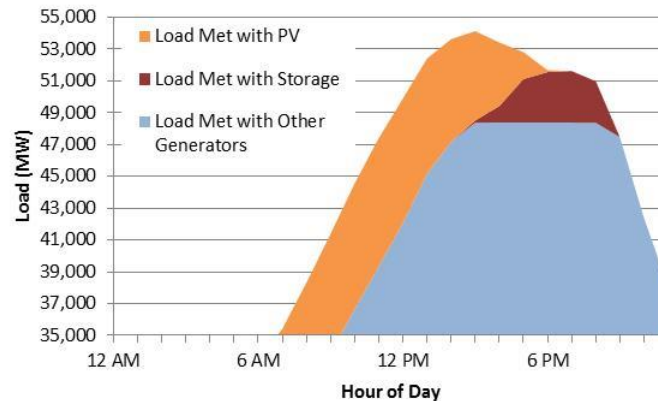
# How Do Renewables Affect This?



Zero PV



5% PV

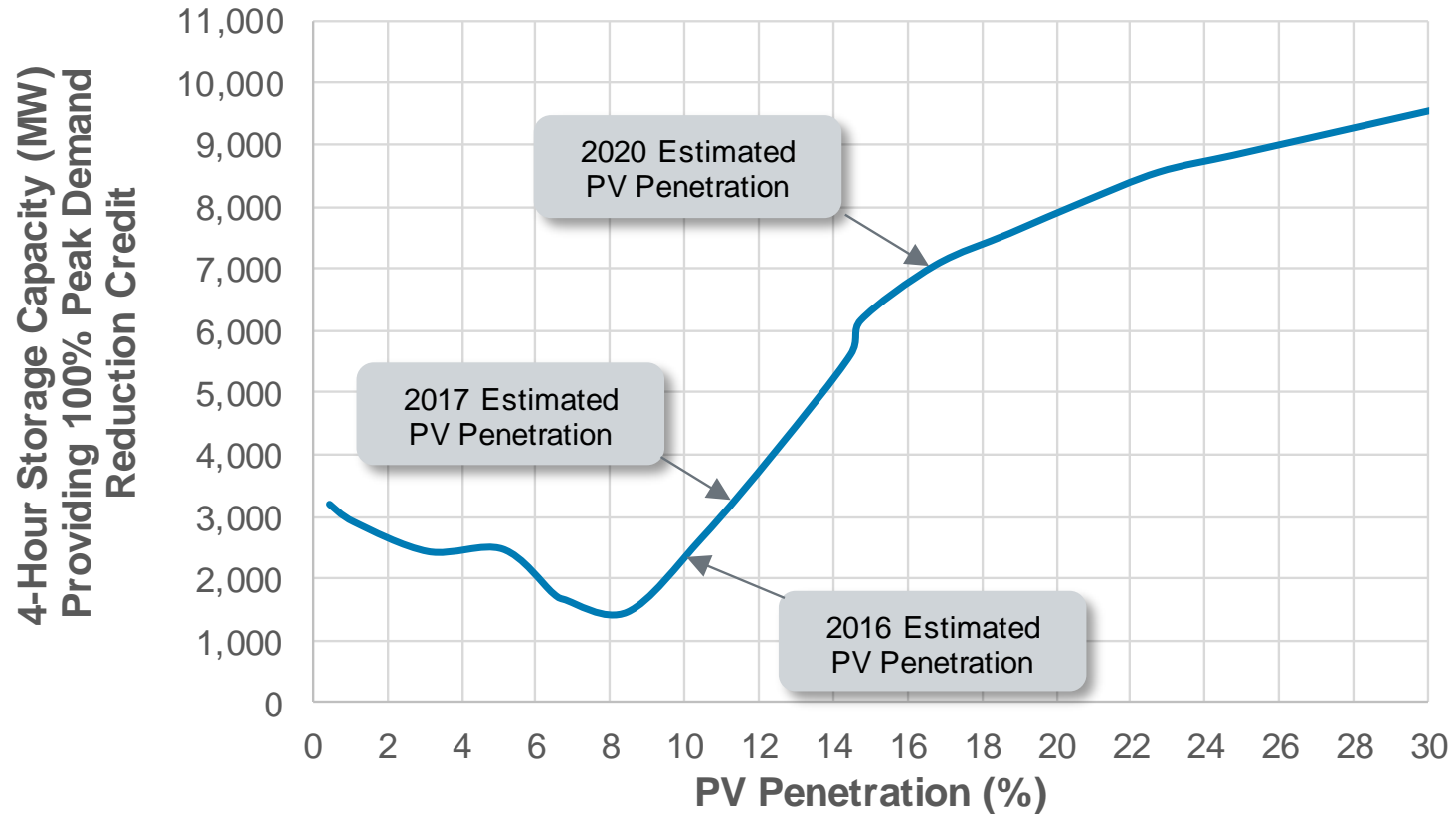


10% PV

With increased PV penetration, the capacity credit of PV decreases while the capacity credit of storage increases

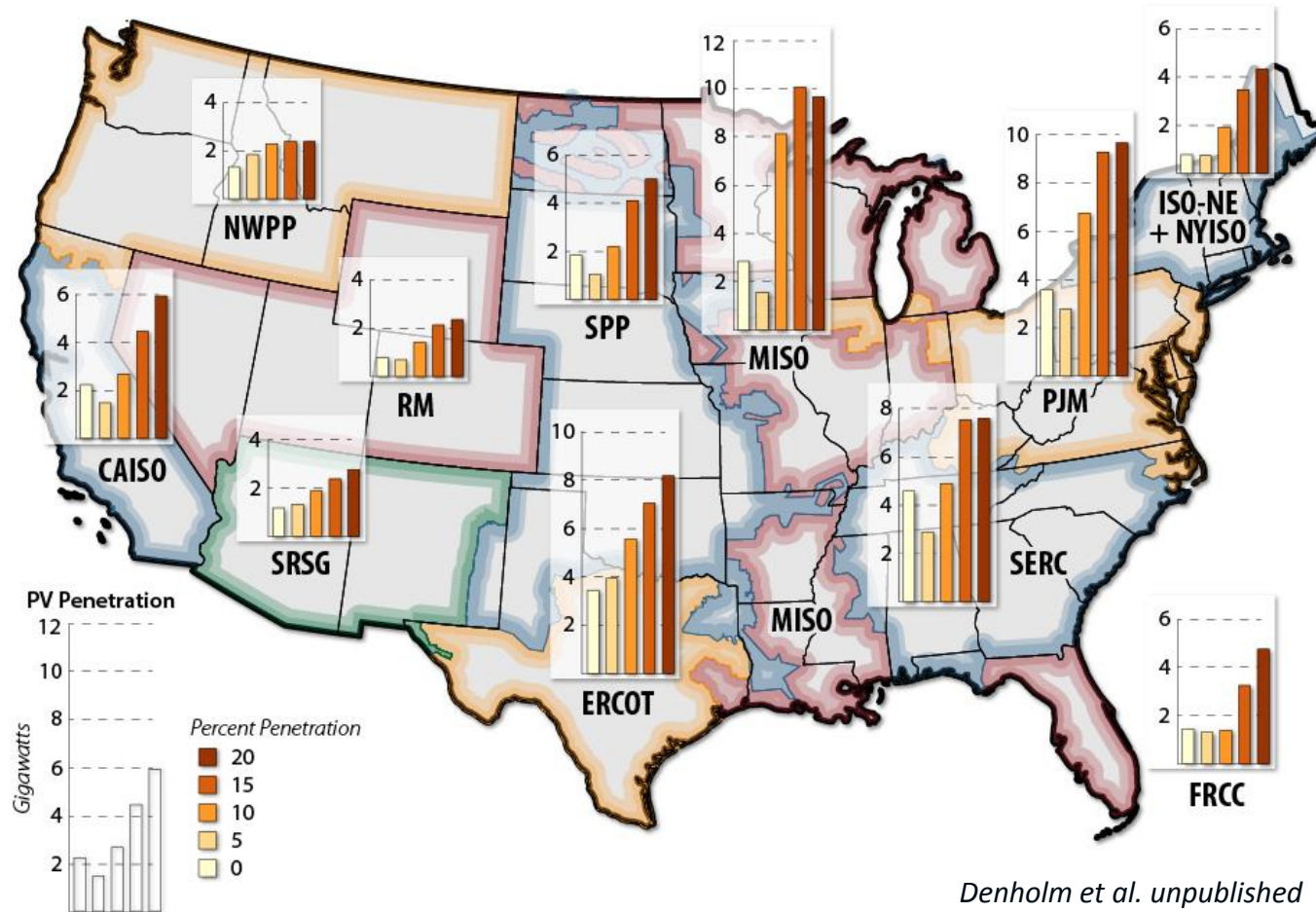


# Impact of PV in California on Potential



*Denholm and Margolis 2017*

# Increase in 4-hour storage technical potential



Preliminary, non-bankable results

# Conclusions / Opinions

1. When properly scheduled, long-duration (several hours of capacity) batteries provide an alternative to combustion turbines for meeting peak capacity requirements
2. We are at or close to a tipping point for storage as peaker alternative
3. This market is 10s of GWs for 4-hour storage and could be >100 GW for 8 hour storage after considering growth in PV
4. **MANY CAVEATS**
  - Current markets long on capacity, still need to address missing money in energy-only markets, etc.

Contact:  
Paul Denholm, [Paul.Denholm@nrel.gov](mailto:Paul.Denholm@nrel.gov)

---

[www.nrel.gov](http://www.nrel.gov)

This work was authored by Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC, the manager and operator of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) under Contract No. DE-AC36-08GO28308. Funding provided by U.S. Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office. The views expressed in the article do not necessarily represent the views of the DOE or the U.S. Government. The U.S. Government retains and the publisher, by accepting the article for publication, acknowledges that the U.S. Government retains a nonexclusive, paid-up, irrevocable, worldwide license to publish or reproduce the published form of this work, or allow others to do so, for U.S. Government purposes.

