

# Baseload Generation Potential From Combined Wind, Solar and Storage Power Plants in the United States

Prepared By:

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***Vibrant Clean Energy, LLC***

Prepared For:

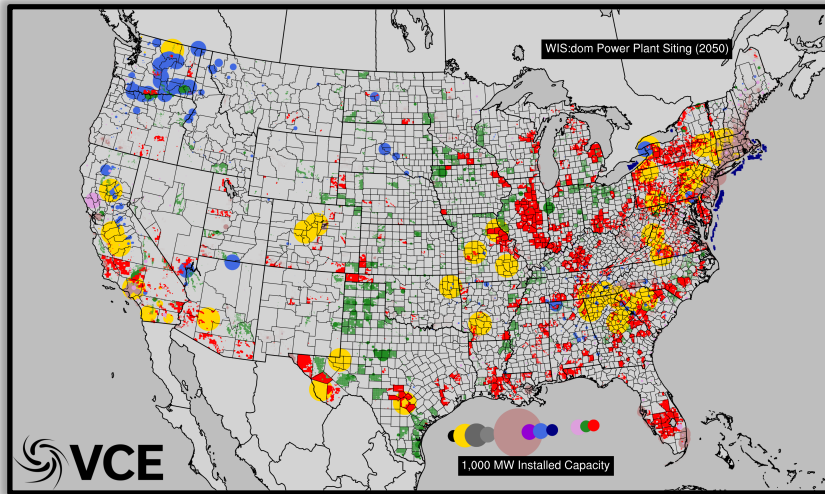
**AGU Fall Meeting 2019, GC23E: Near-Zero Emission Energy Systems**

*December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019*

Disclaimer:

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



## Purpose of Vibrant Clean Energy, LLC:

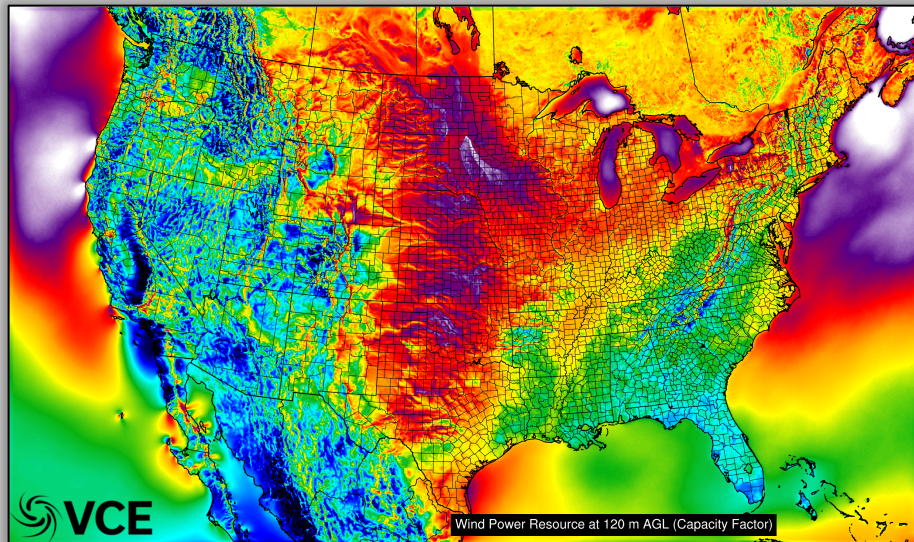
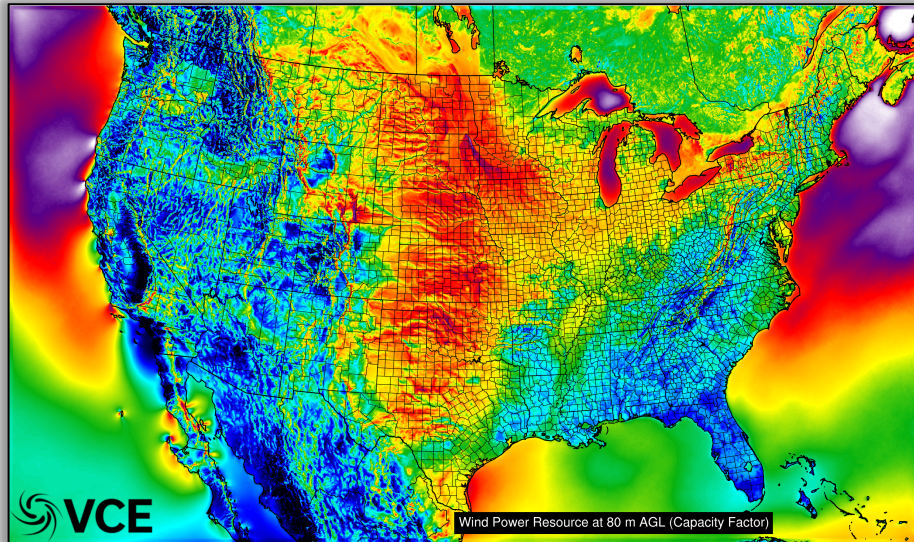
- Reduce the cost of electricity and help evolve economies to near zero emissions;
- Co-optimize transmission, generation, storage, and distributed resources;
- Increase the understanding of how Variable Generation impacts and alters the electricity grid and model it more accurately;
- Agnostically determine 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.



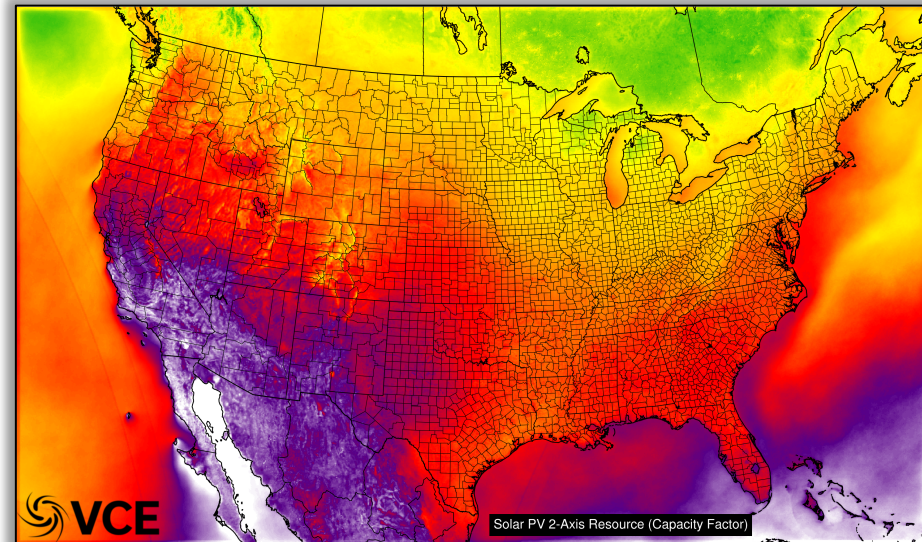
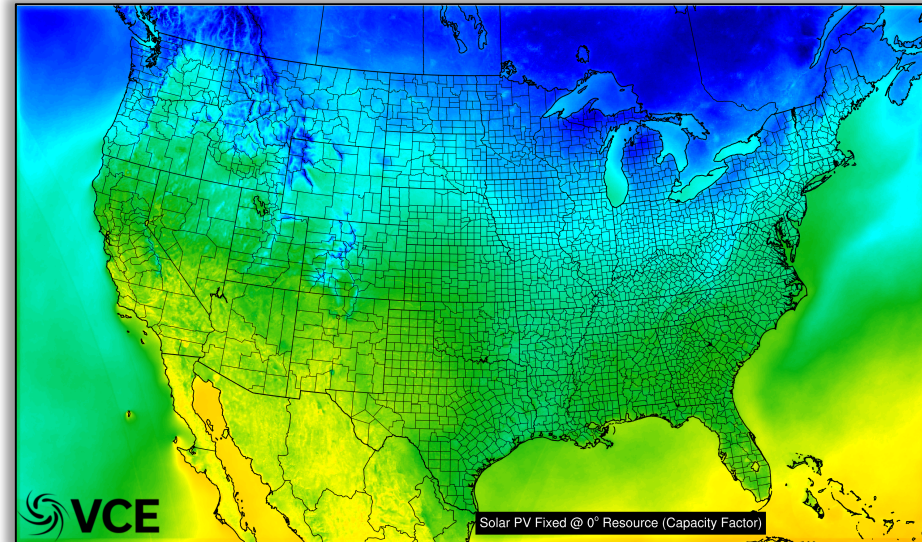


# VRE Power Data Incorporated

## Wind

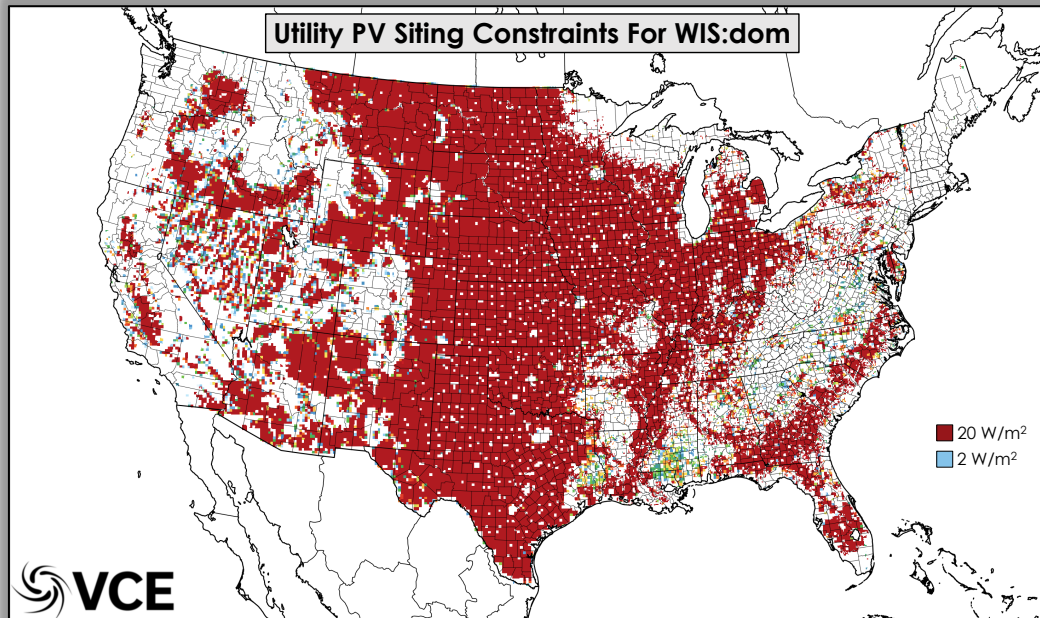
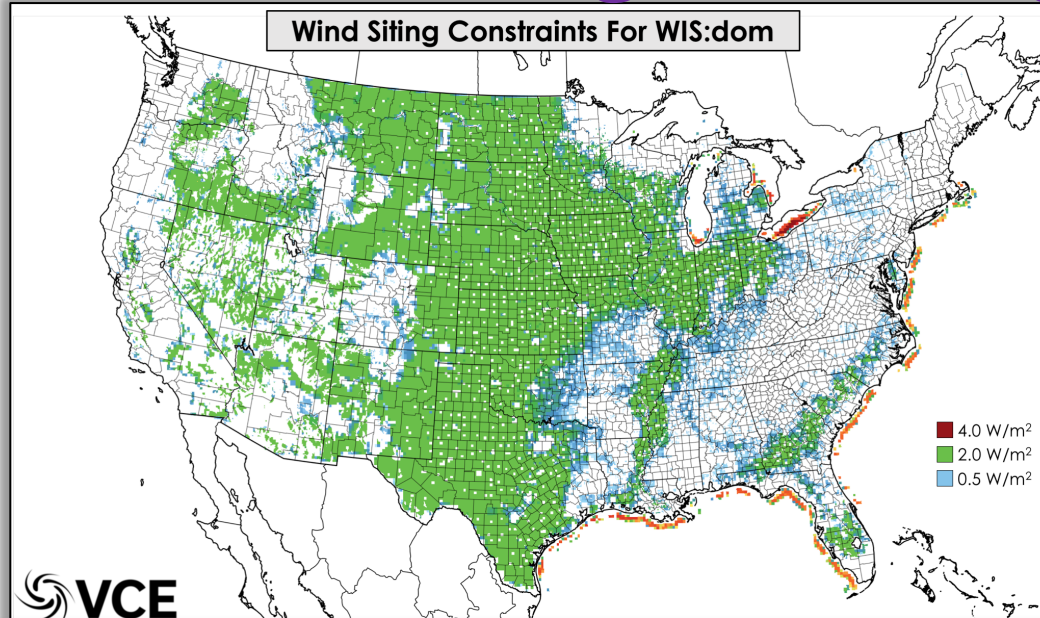


## Solar PV



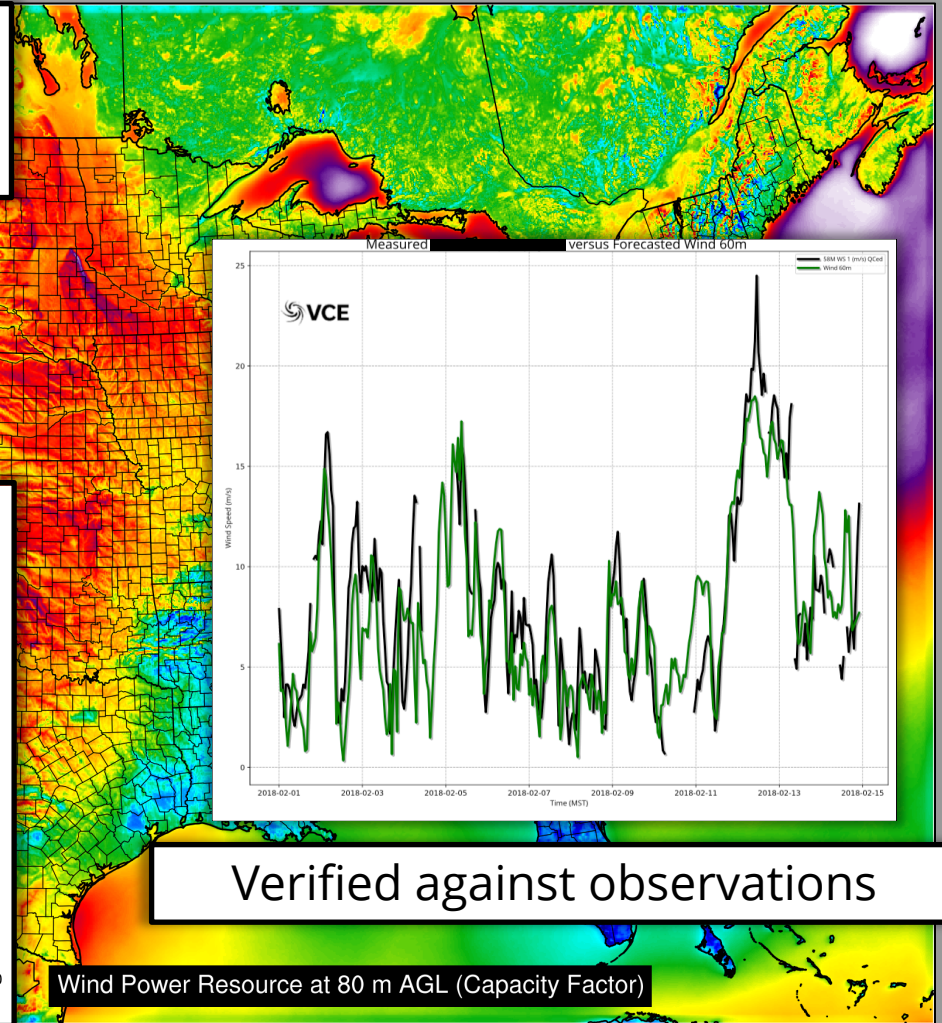
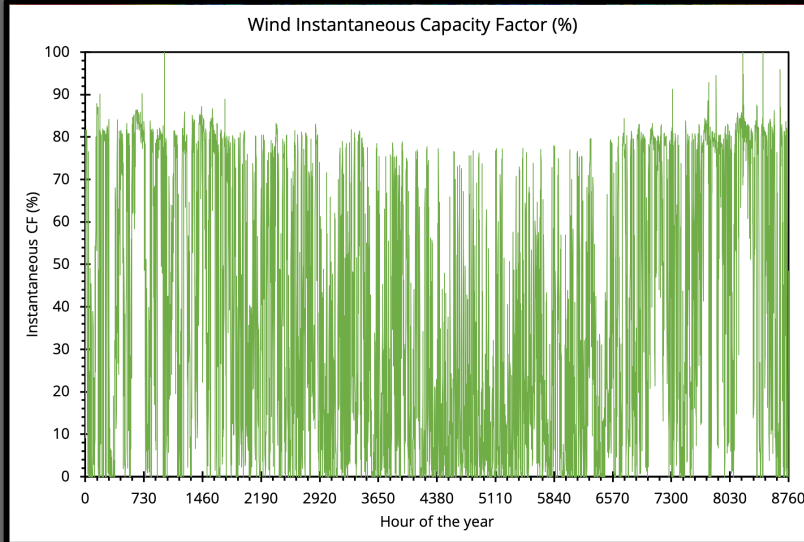
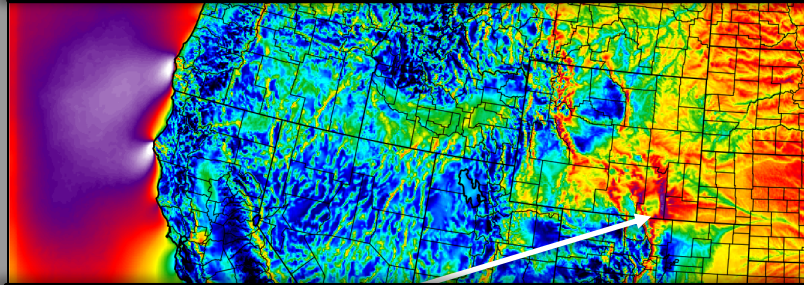


# Potential Siting Screening



# VRE Power Data Incorporated

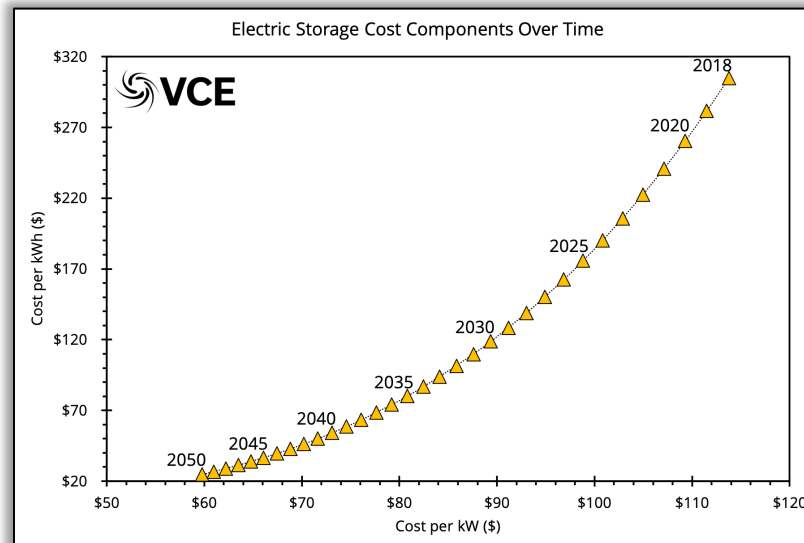
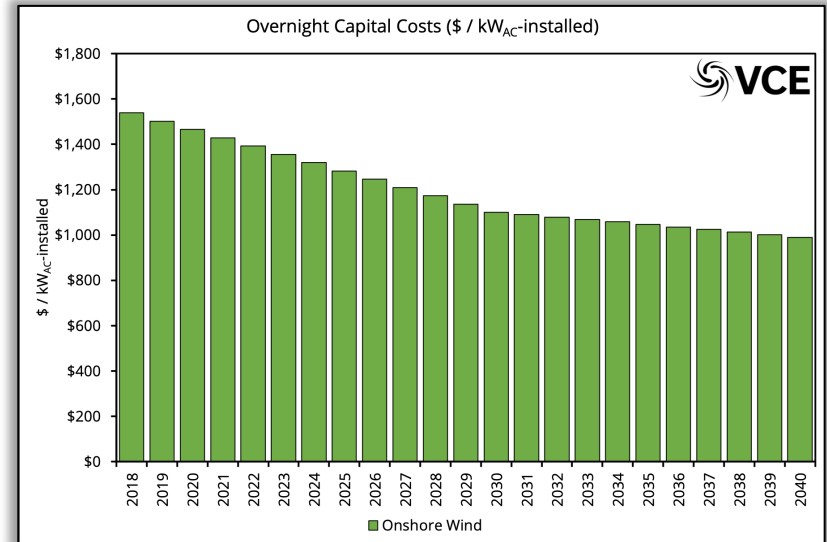
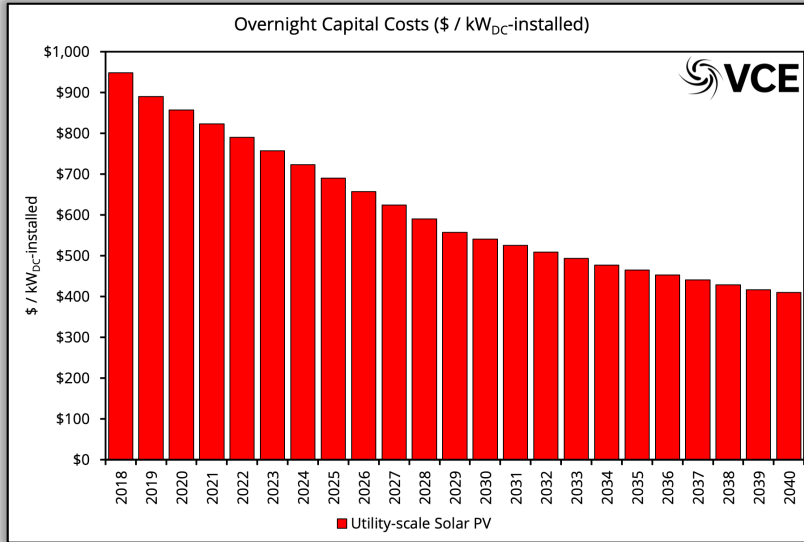
Each site has **5-minute data** for **2014 through 2016**. There are ~ 1 million unique sites.





# Cost Projections Used

✓ NREL ATB 2019

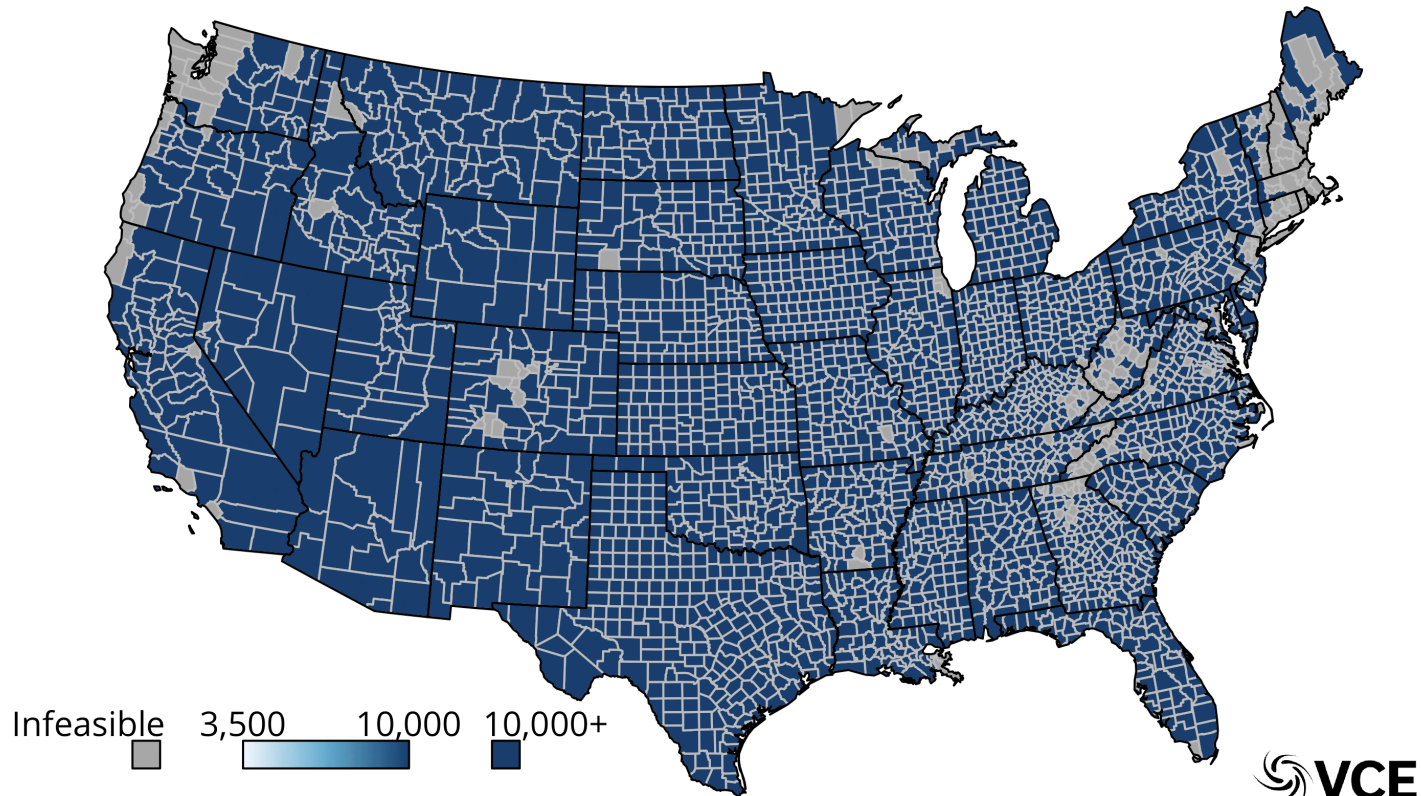


# Objective & Optimization

- ✓ Minimize the total annualized costs;
- ✓ Meet the prescribed load exactly each 5-minutes for all of the three 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.

# Capital Costs (\$/kW-baseload)

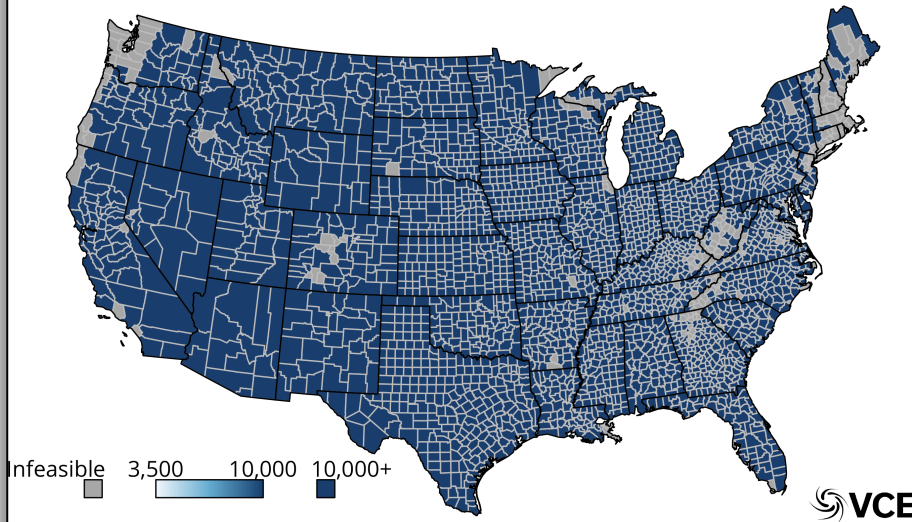
Upfront capital costs for RE baseload in 2020 (\$/kW)



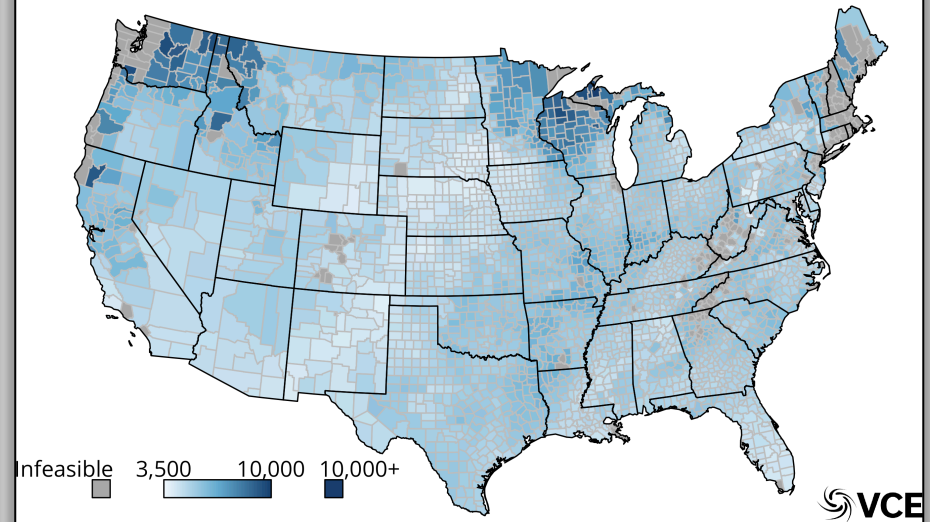


# Capital Costs (\$/kW-baseload)

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



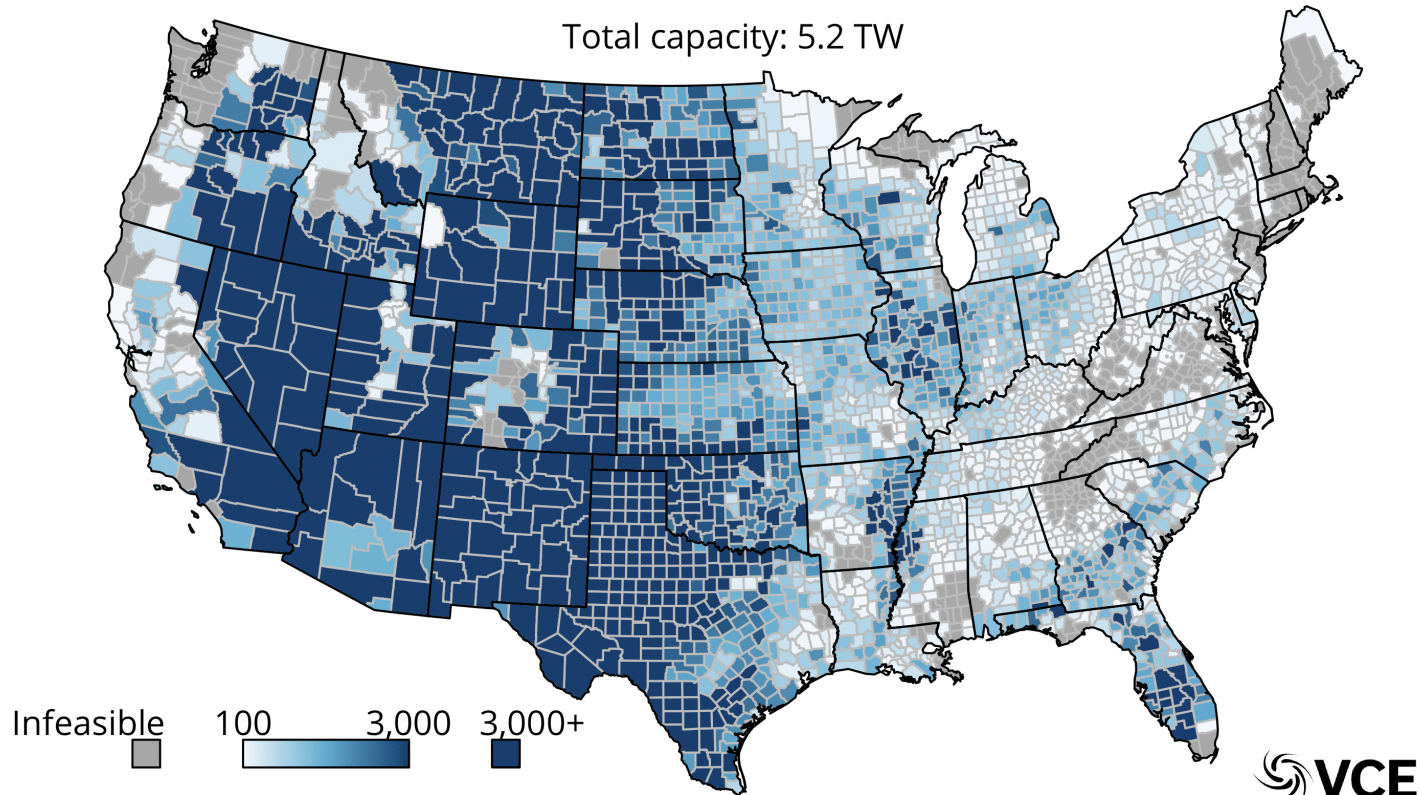
Upfront capital costs for RE baseload in 2050 (\$/kW)



# Baseload Generation Capacity (MW)

Available renewable baseload capacity in 2020 (MW)

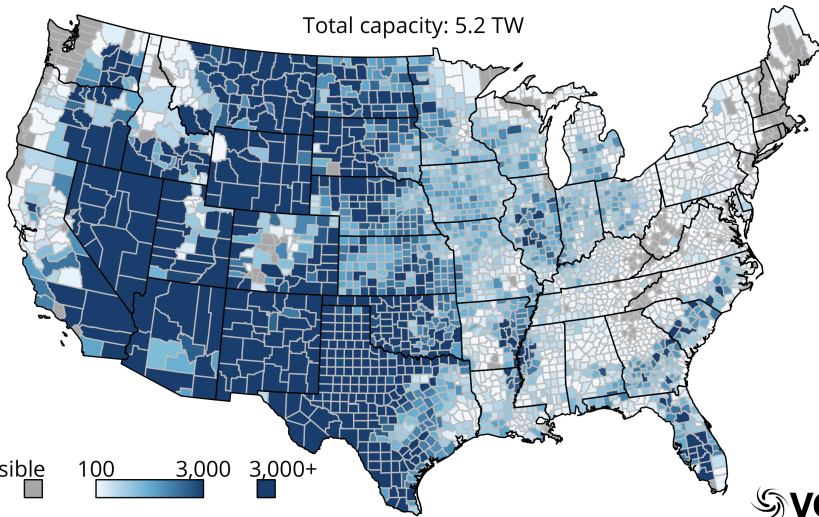
Total capacity: 5.2 TW



# Baseload Generation Capacity (MW)

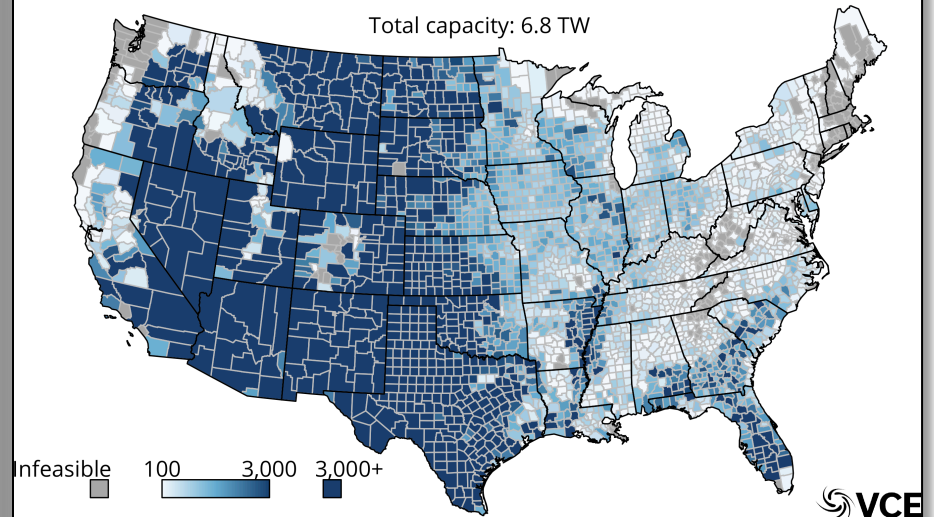
Available renewable baseload capacity in 2020 (MW)

Total capacity: 5.2 TW



Available renewable baseload capacity in 2050 (MW)

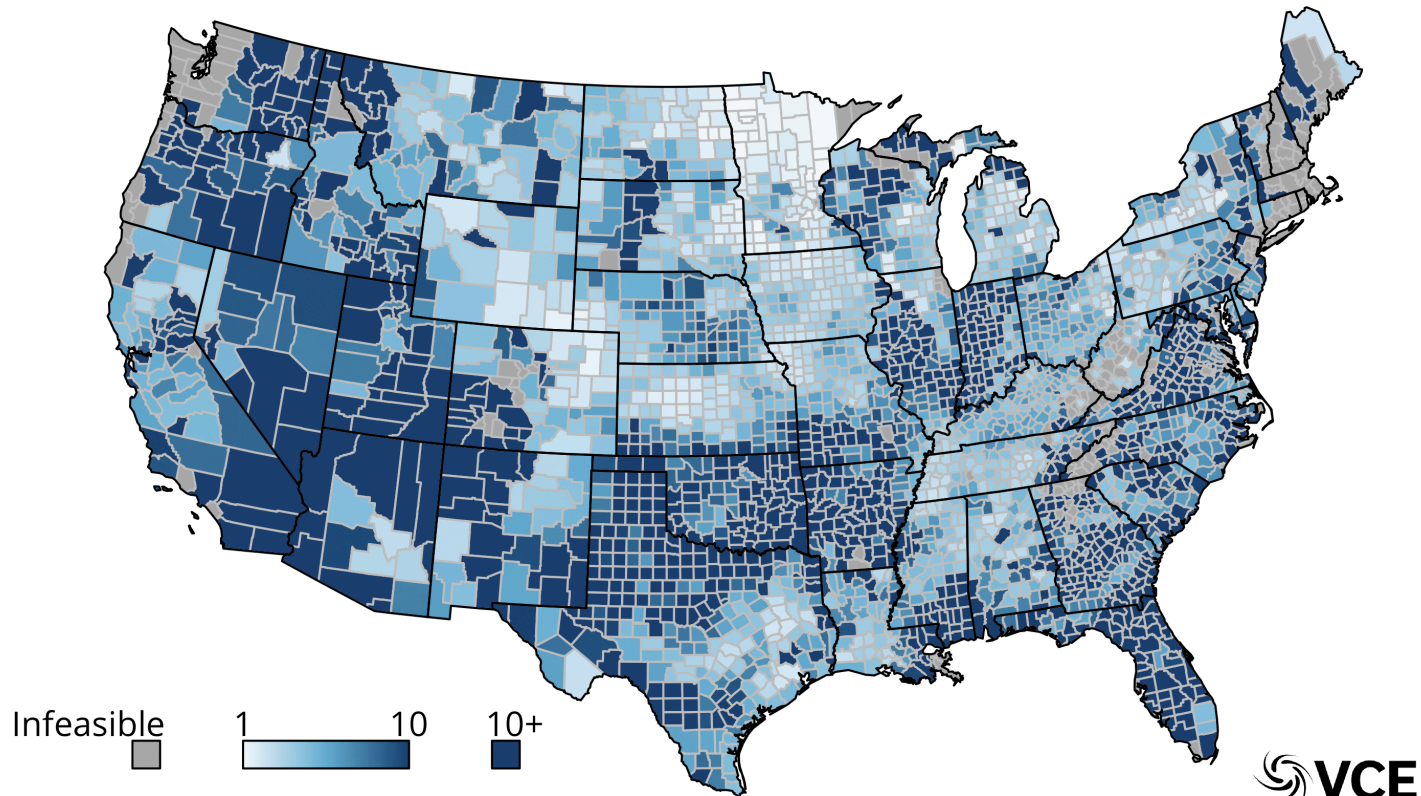
Total capacity: 6.8 TW





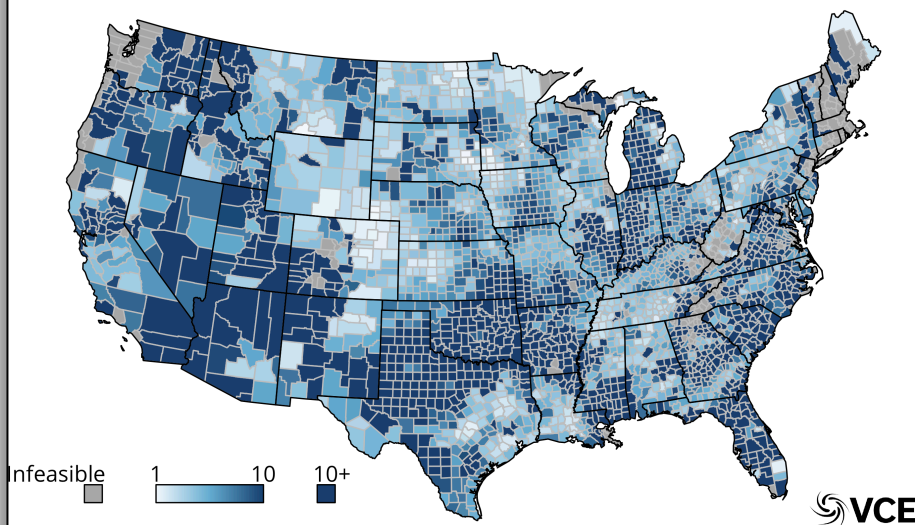
# Optimal Ratio of Wind & Solar

Optimal solar-wind ratio in 2020 (kW solar / kW wind)

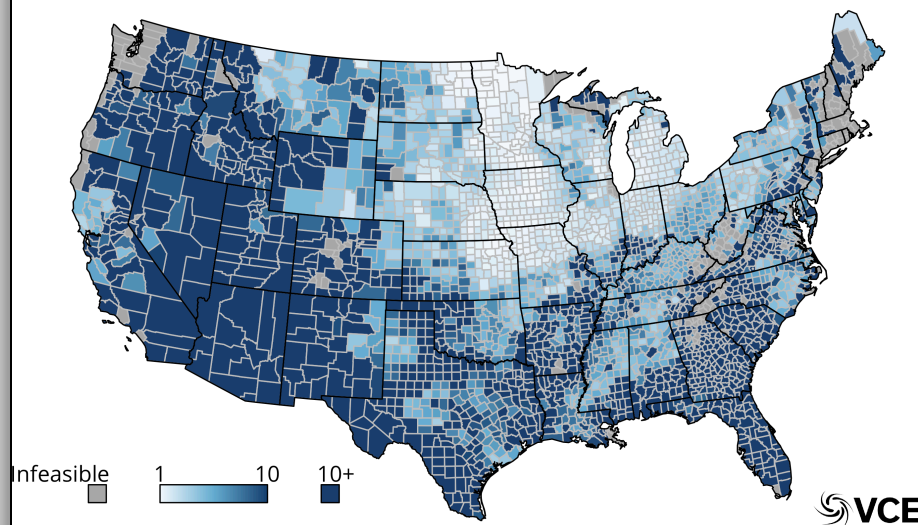


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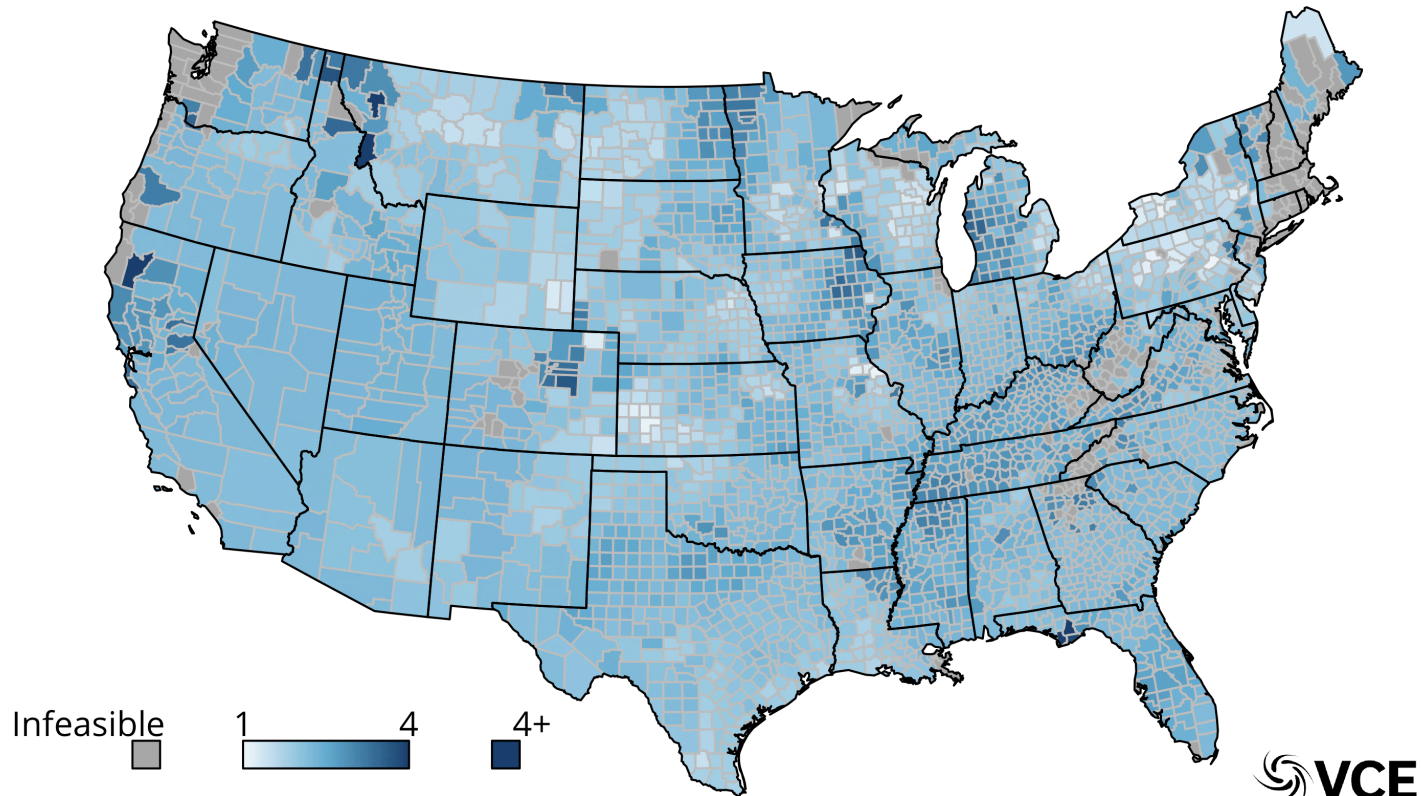


Optimal solar-wind ratio in 2050 (kW solar / kW wind)



# Reserves Available (hours)

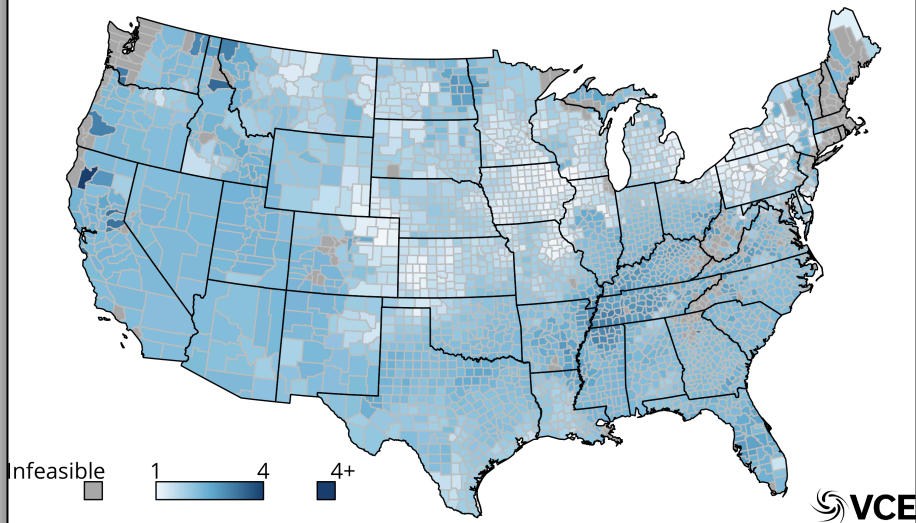
Available renewable baseload reserves in 2020 (hr)



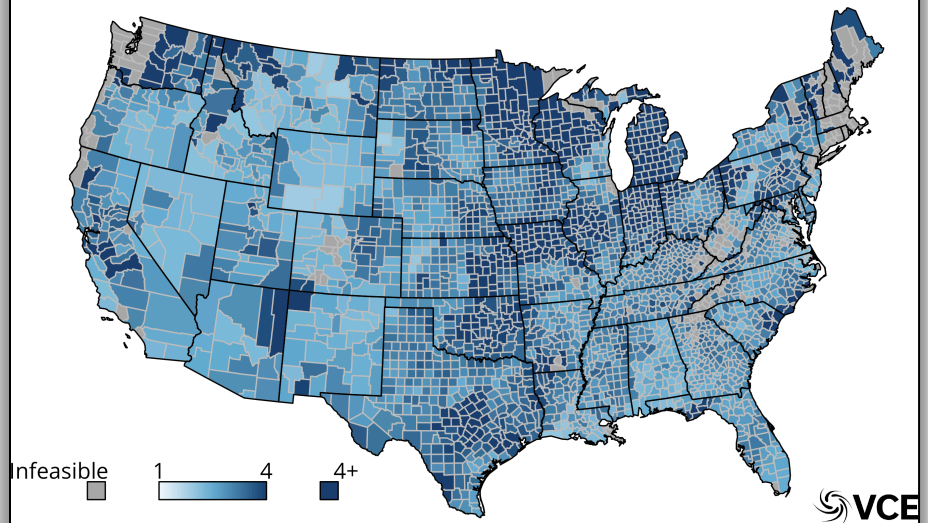


# Reserves Available (hours)

Available renewable baseload reserves in 2020 (hr)

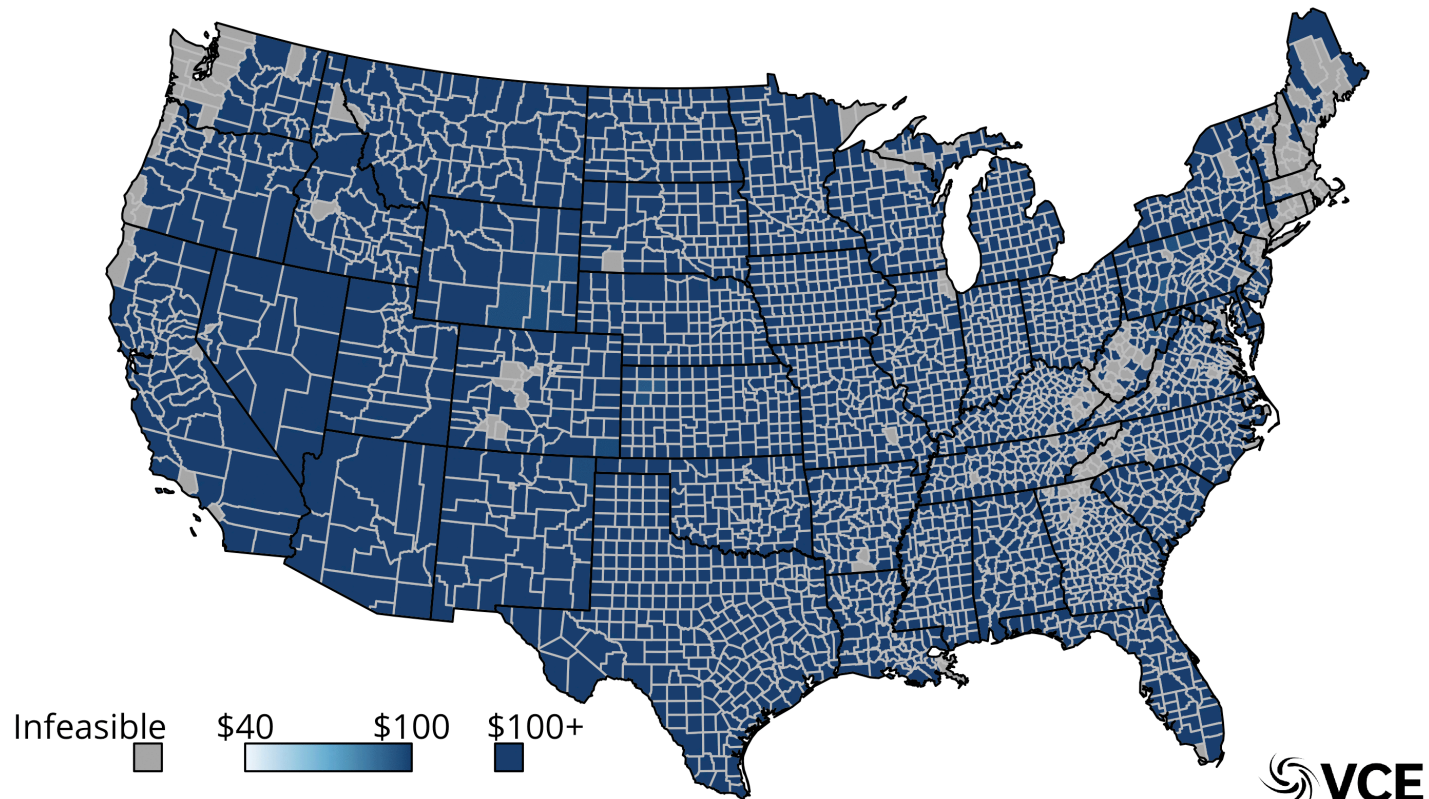


Available renewable baseload reserves in 2050 (hr)



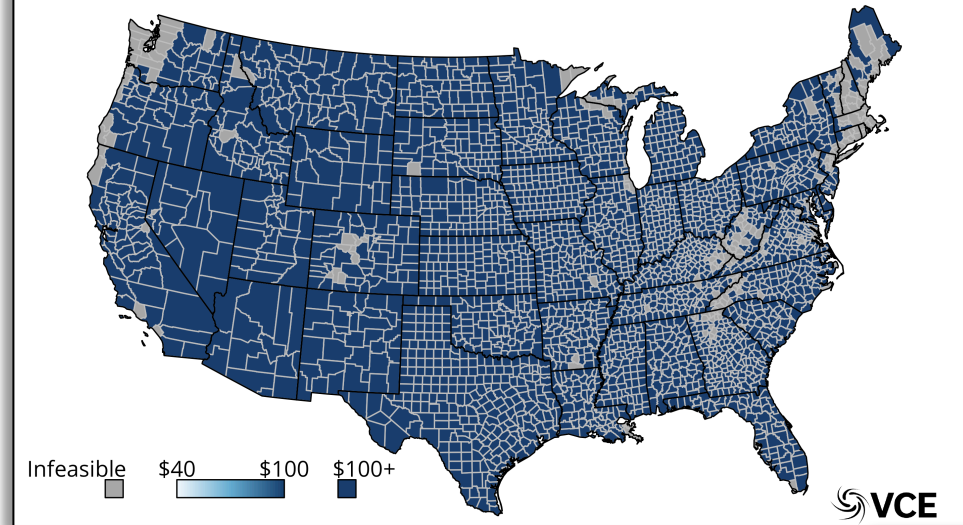
# Levelized Cost of Electricity (Baseload)

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

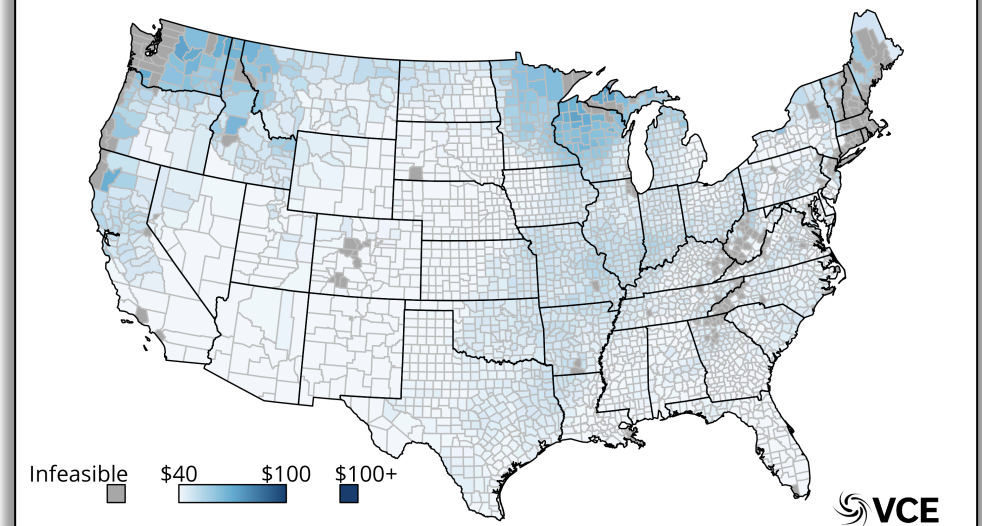


# Levelized Cost of Electricity (Baseload)

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



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



# 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 produce a peer-reviewed paper based on these results.
3. The WIS:dom<sup>®</sup>-B will match any input load profile shapes (peer-review paper to include county-level load shape matching).
4. The completion timeline is early 2020 (by Q2).



# Conclusions

1. VRE hybrid systems coming down in cost, soon will be ***cheaper*** than anything else (with current projections);
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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