

A nighttime photograph of a city skyline, likely Los Angeles, featuring several illuminated skyscrapers. In the foreground, a multi-lane highway shows long-exposure light trails from cars in various colors (red, green, white).

THE PROMISE OF POWER-TO-GAS UC RIVERSIDE RNG CONFERENCE

May 17, 2017

Renewable and Zero-carbon Pathways

Natural Gas w/ CCUS

Organics Conversion

Power-to-Gas

Artificial Photosynthesis



Anaerobic Digestion

Thermo-chemical

Electrolysis



Renewable Natural Gas

Hydrogen

CO₂



Methanation

Reformation



Renewable Energy Goals

CA Renewable Electricity
Requirements:

33% by 2020

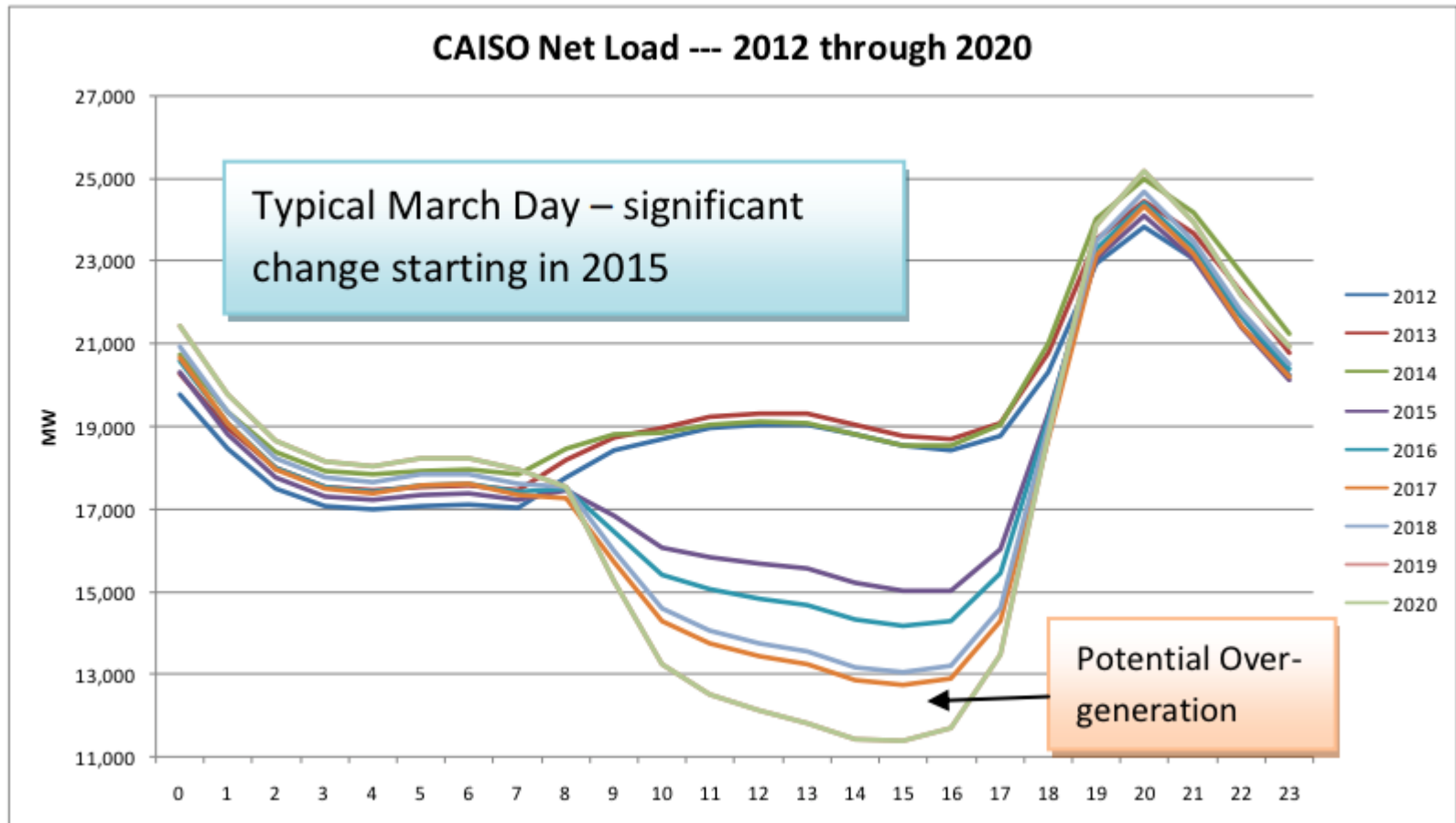
50% by 2030



100% by 2045?

Supply/Demand Mismatch

The Famous California “Duck Curve”

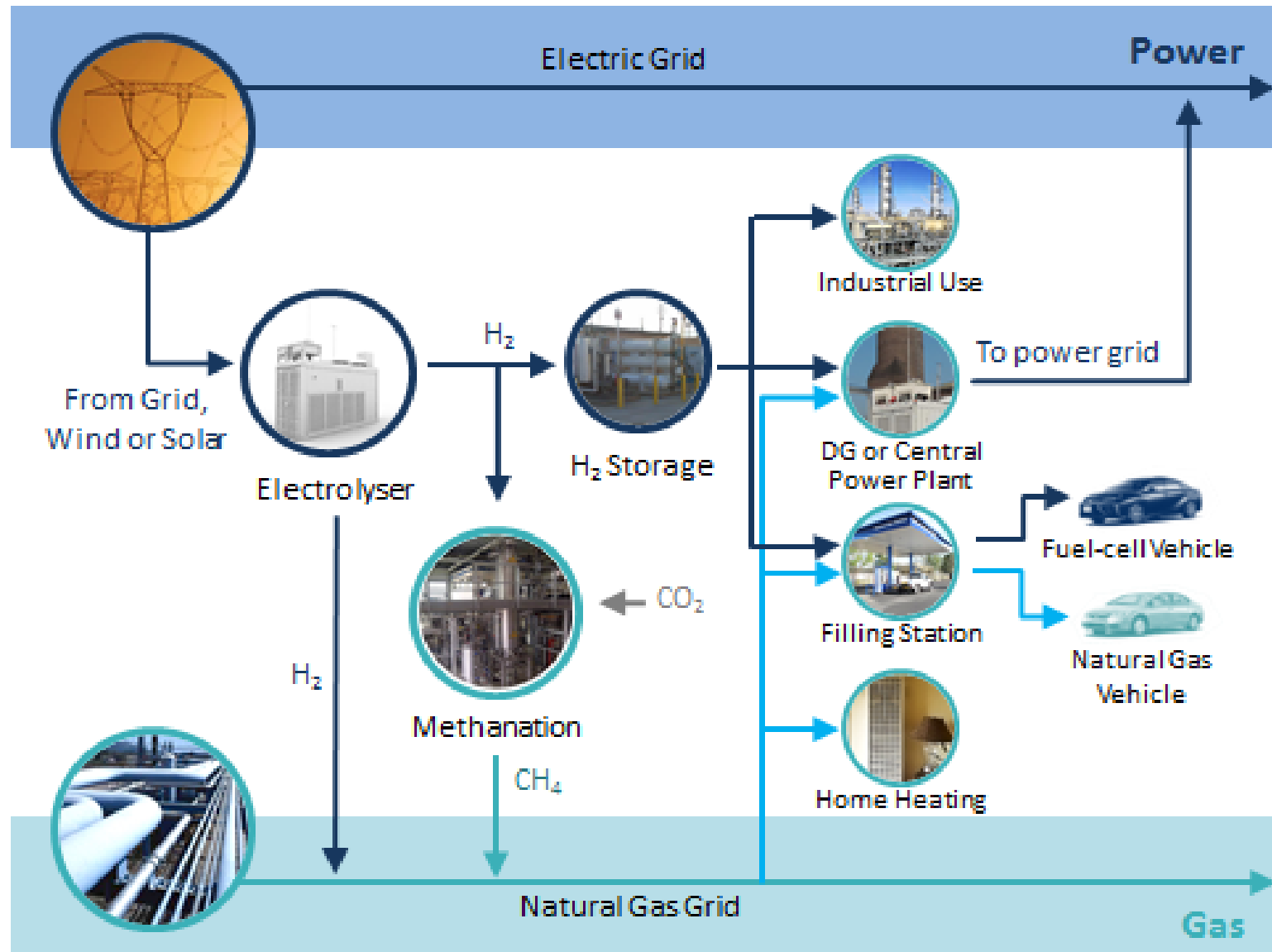


100% renewables requires massive supply shift mid day to evening and night... and summer to winter

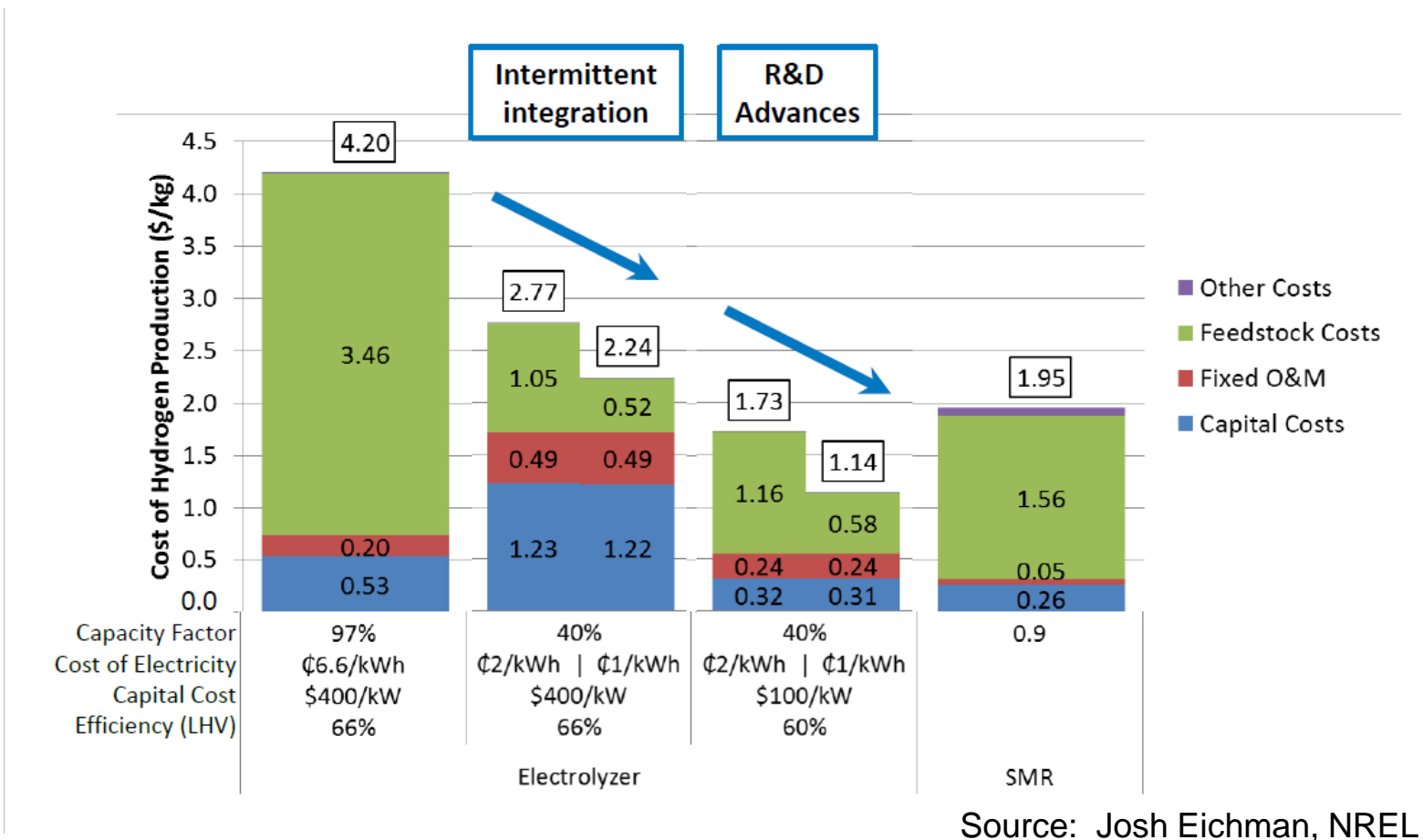
Supply/Demand Mismatch

- » As ZNE requirements increase the deployment of rooftop solar, the duck curve will become even more extreme as empty homes export large amounts for solar to the grid during the middle of the day.
- » The grid will need load shifting capacity of up to 12 hours and across days depending on weather patterns.
- » Intermittency will require the grid to have very fast responding load resources.
- » As time goes on and renewables go above 50%, seasonal variations in solar and wind will need to be leveled as well.
- » Power-to-Gas is a solution that addresses these challenges and, with advances in cost and performance, may do so less expensively than other resources such as batteries.

Power-to-Gas



Improving Economics of P2G



Recent Bloomberg forecasts:

- New-build solar <\$50/MWh
- Spot price for merchant solar \$16/MWh in 2027

A vision of what's possible GERMANY

GERMANY'S RENEWABLE ENERGY STORAGE

Potential for electrolysis
is estimated at up to

170GW

which could power

**114 million
homes.**

Source: Commercialization of Energy Storage in Europe, 2014



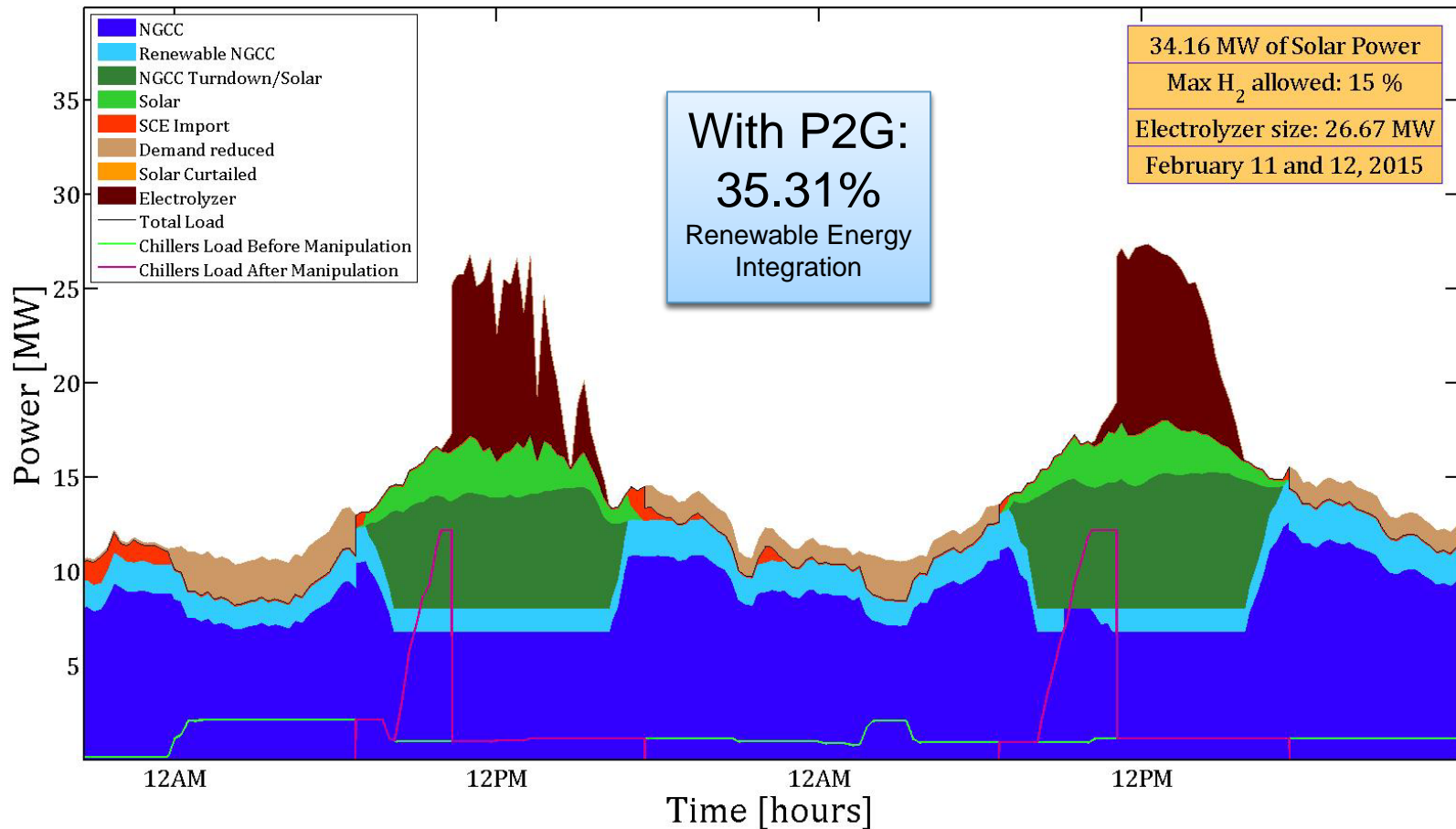
UC Irvine Electrolyzer Demo

- » 60kW Proton OnSite Electrolyzer
- » On-campus Pipeline Blending
- » NGCC Power Production



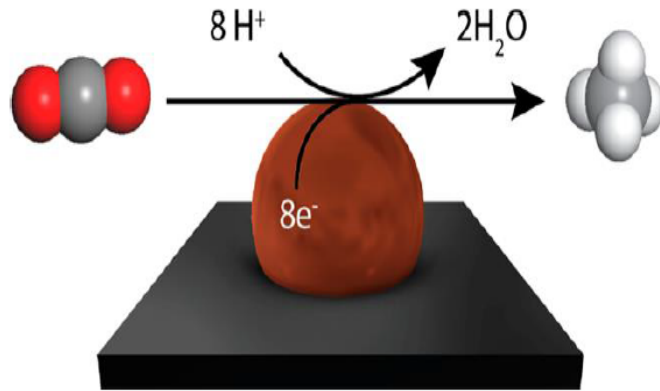
UC Irvine Microgrid P2G Project

» Simulation shows dramatic increase in solar utilization



Power to Methane

Electrochemical CO₂ Reduction



25 nm round copper particles have over 80% selectivity for methane

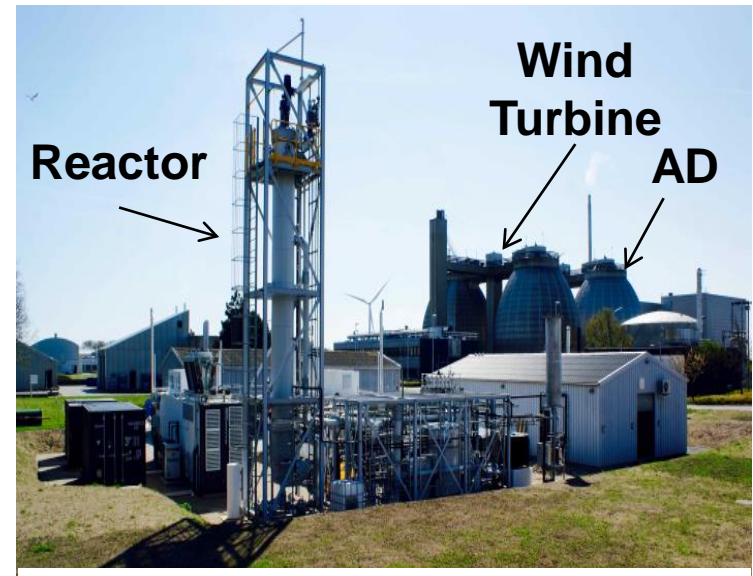
**Combine water, CO₂,
and electricity...**

To produce methane

Biomethanation



Archaea



1 MW Pilot P2G / Biomethanation

Path Forward

» P2G supports California renewable goals:

- Massive load shifting capability
- Added resource diversity
- Addresses “difficult to electrify” applications

» What’s Required:

- Cost-based, real-time rates
- Proper inclusion of power-to-gas in storage and grid services markets
- Standards for tracking and trading renewable content
- Fact-based dialogue



BRIEF

California solar spike leads to negative CAISO real-time prices in March

Panel Topics

- » Challenges to widespread deployment of P2G in California.
- » When will deployment begin to accelerate?
- » How will it look? Roles of public and private entities? Distributed or central facilities? Role of existing infrastructure?
- » Who are the stakeholders and what do they need to do?
- » What role can a center like CRNG play in helping the cause?



THANK YOU

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