



# Storage Plus: Exploring the Potential for Energy Storage and Generation Hybrids

April 20, 2021





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- Policy, planning, and deployment support.
- Global technical toolkits.

[www.nrel.gov/usaaid-partnership](http://www.nrel.gov/usaaid-partnership)

# Global Technical Platforms

The USAID-NREL Partnership's global technical platforms provide free, state-of-the-art support on common and critical challenges to scaling up advanced energy systems.



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[www.greeningthegrid.org](http://www.greeningthegrid.org)



[www.i-jedi.org](http://www.i-jedi.org)



[www.resilient-energy.org](http://www.resilient-energy.org)

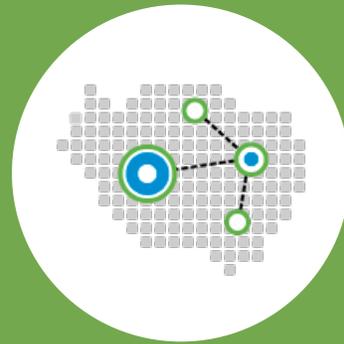
# Greening the Grid Toolkits



Grid  
Integration  
Toolkit



Distributed  
Photovoltaics  
(DPV) Toolkit



Renewable  
Energy Zone  
(REZ) Toolkit



Electric  
Vehicle (EV)  
Toolkit



Energy  
Storage  
Toolkit

Visit the [www.GreeningTheGrid.org](http://www.GreeningTheGrid.org) for more information.

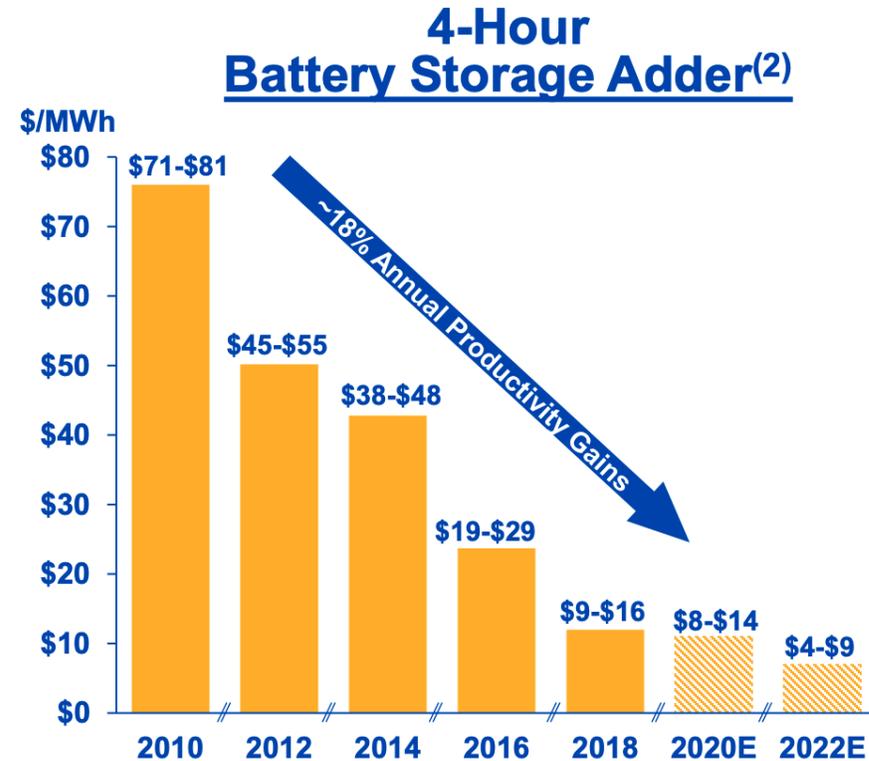
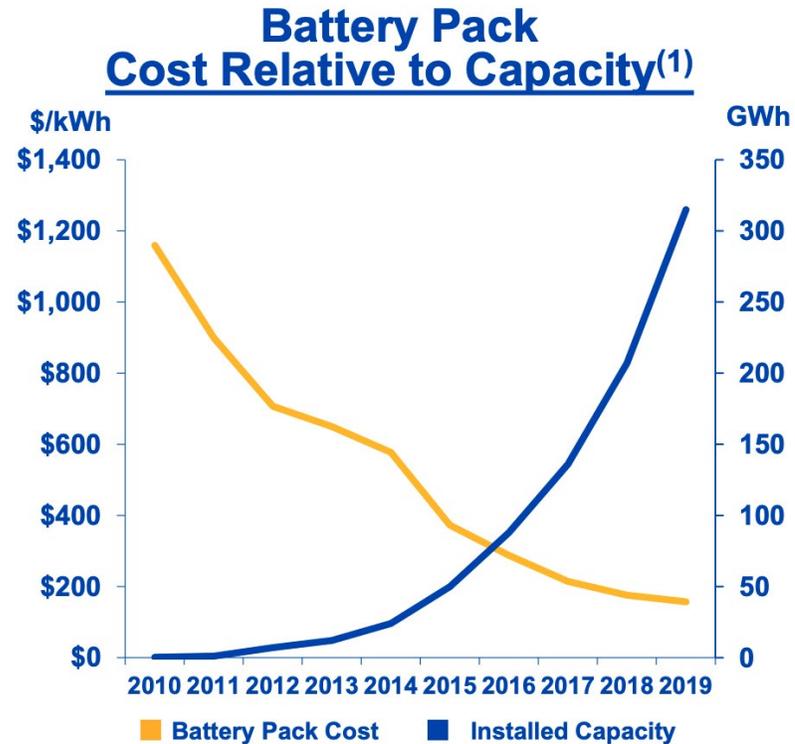


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# Exploring the Potential for Energy Storage and Generation Hybrids



**Adding battery storage is becoming cheaper and cheaper as the industry's learning curve improves**

Left Figure Source: Bloomberg NEF, Right Figure Source: Energy Resources' estimate based on Bloomberg NEF assumptions



# Exploring the Potential for Energy Storage and Generation Hybrids

- Hybrids can have several advantages over stand-alone projects, including cost savings and operational synergies.
- Hybrid co-location can provide **7-8% cost savings** by reducing costs related to site preparation, land acquisition, permitting, interconnection, etc.
- There may be trade-offs for the system performance and flexibility depending on the technical configuration

Source:

<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy19osti/71714.pdf>



**India:** Researchers predict India's wind-solar hybrid capacity will soar from its current 148MW level to nearly 11.7GW by 2023. Recent Round the Clock Tenders have integrated storage.

Source: <https://www.pv-tech.org/indias-wind-solar-hybrid-capacity-expected-to-reach-nearly-11-7gw-by-2023/>

# Today's Speakers

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Sarah Lawson  
Senior Energy Analyst,  
USAID



Caitlin Murphy  
Senior Energy Policy  
Analyst, NREL



Sika Gadzanku  
Energy Technology and  
Policy Researcher, NREL

## Poll Questions – Answer in Zoom

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1. Is your country or organization currently considering integrating storage plus generation hybrid technologies?
2. What hybrid technology combinations are being considered now or may be considered in the near future?
3. What are the biggest barriers you see to deploying hybrid technologies?



# Storage Plus

Exploring the Potential for Energy Storage and Generation Hybrids

Caitlin Murphy | Senior Energy Analyst, National Renewable Energy Laboratory | April 20, 2021



# Hybrid Energy Systems: A Broad Universe Spanning Many Technologies, Scales, and Products

A wide variety of energy generation and storage technologies

**Our scope focuses on:**

Systems that include commercially available renewable energy and/or energy storage technologies



coal



natural gas



nuclear



solar



wind



water



geothermal



biomass



chemical storage



magnetic storage



mechanical storage



thermal storage

Systems connected to the bulk grid, the distribution network, or remote microgrids

**Our scope focuses on:**

Systems connected to the bulk grid



bulk grid



homes



businesses



remote microgrids

Systems that provide a variety of energy services and products

**Our scope focuses on:**

Systems for which electricity is the only output



electricity



hydrogen



liquid fuels



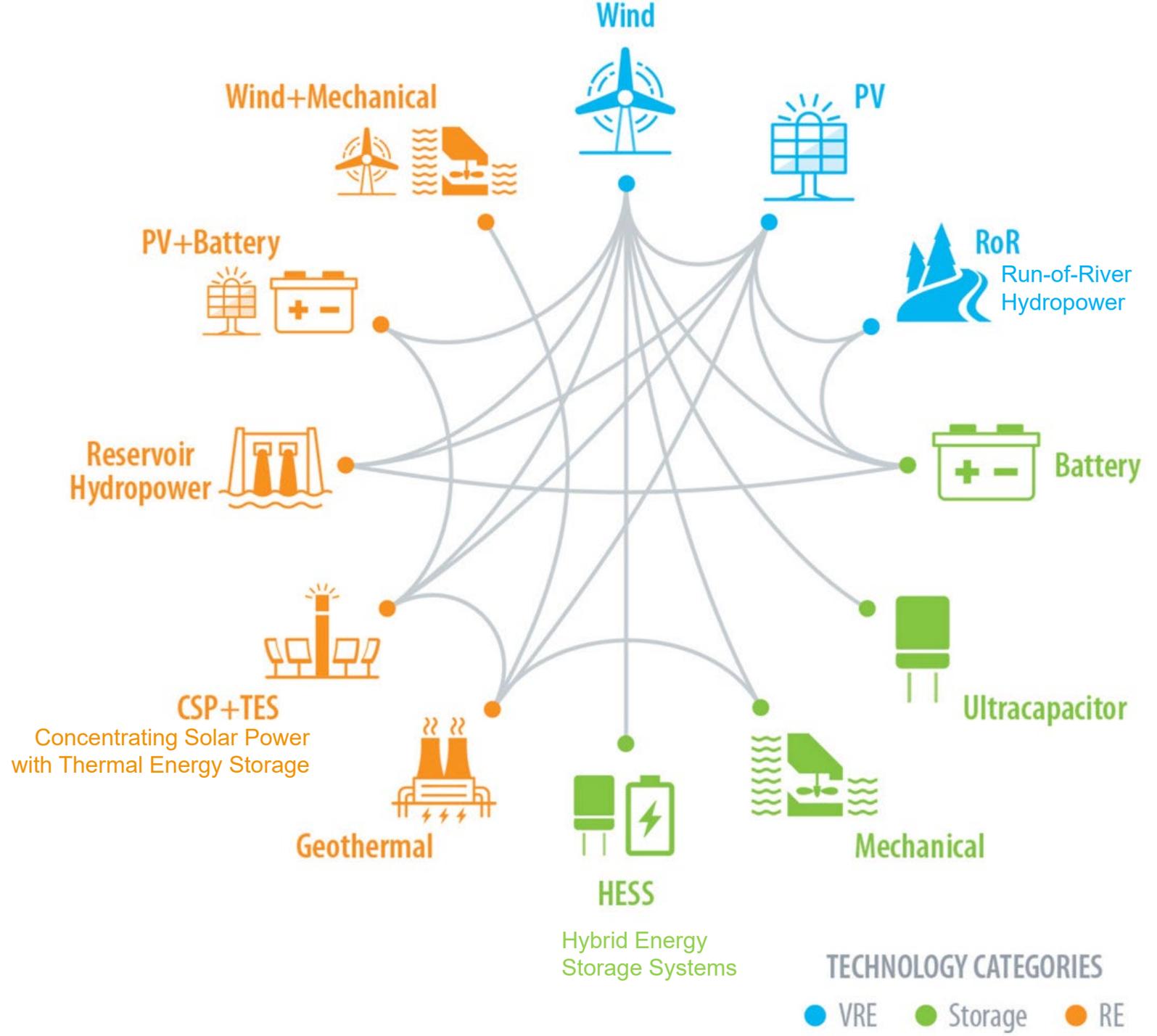
heat



freshwater

# Proposed Technology Combinations

There are commonalities among diverse technology combinations, which are often motivated by *complementary resource profiles or complementary capabilities.*



# Key Questions Related to Hybridization

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**Interest in utility-scale generation-plus-storage projects is growing rapidly...**

- What is the underlying motivation for such projects? Is industry interest driven by incentives or cost and value synergies?
- What are the most important aspects of hybridization that influence the competitiveness of hybrid vs. separate resources?
- Under what conditions does it make sense to combine multiple utility-scale generation and energy storage technologies?
- Does the optimal hybrid project vary based on perspective (e.g., plant-owner vs. system operator)?

# Key Takeaways

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- Hybrid projects combining PV-plus-battery, wind-plus-storage, and PV-plus-wind projects are commercially viable worldwide today, and a wider range of hybrid systems are likely viable in developing grids.
- Adding storage to variable renewable resources can facilitate many benefits:
  - **Renewable energy integration** by aligning the resource with load and mitigating short-term variability
  - **Increasing capacity factors** by utilizing generation that would otherwise be wasted
  - Localizing the provision of **high-value services**
  - **Cost savings** for cost categories that are applied once per project
- Many of the benefits attributed to hybrid systems can also be achieved through grid-level coordination of independent projects.

# Online and Proposed Projects: A U.S. Example

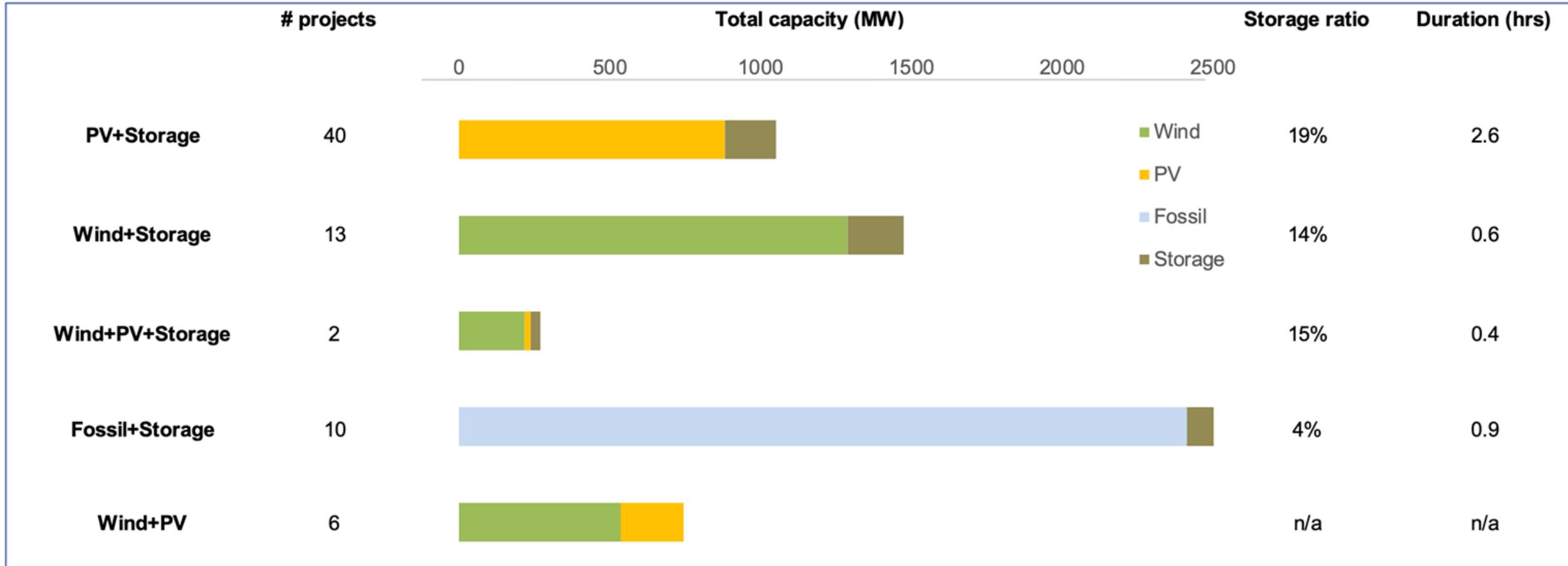
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Which technology combinations are commercially viable today?

What is a typical design, in terms of sizing and storage duration?

What is the expected role of storage-plus hybrids in the future?

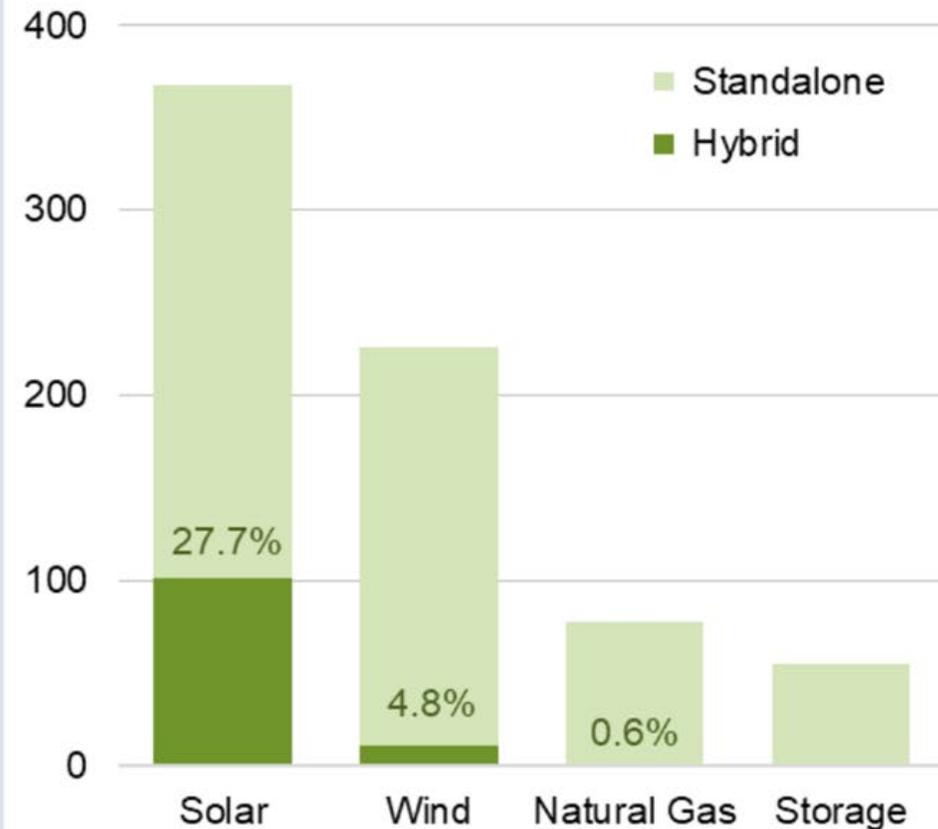
# Hybrids and Co-Located Resources: Example from the U.S.



- Co-locating multiple generation and storage technologies
- Varying degrees of operational coordination (joint scheduling)

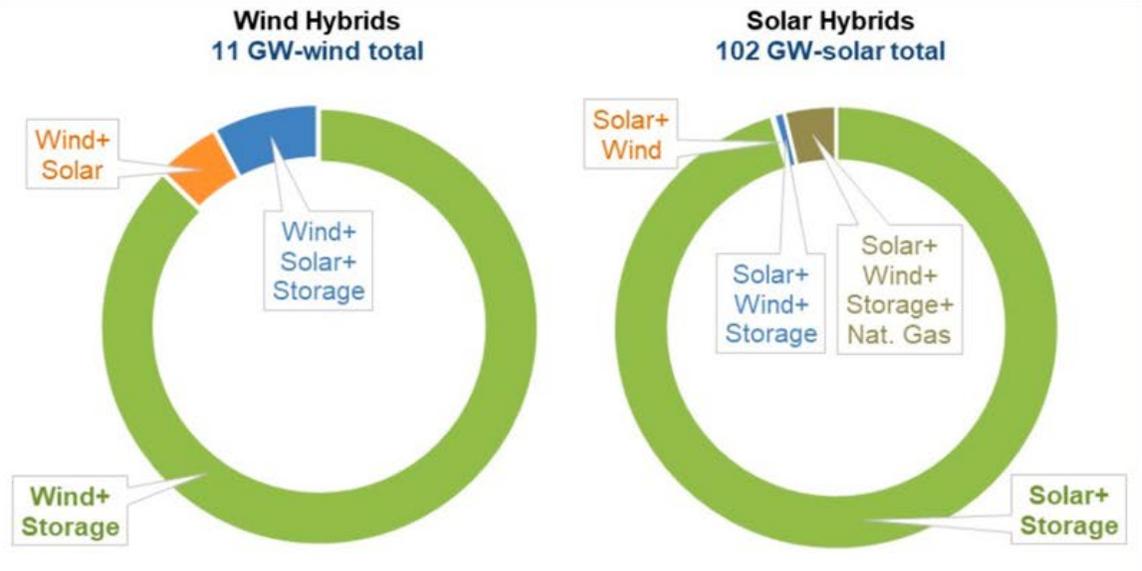
# Hybrids Represent a Significant Share of Proposed Projects

Capacity in Queues at end of 2019 (GW)



Source: Berkeley Lab review of interconnection queues

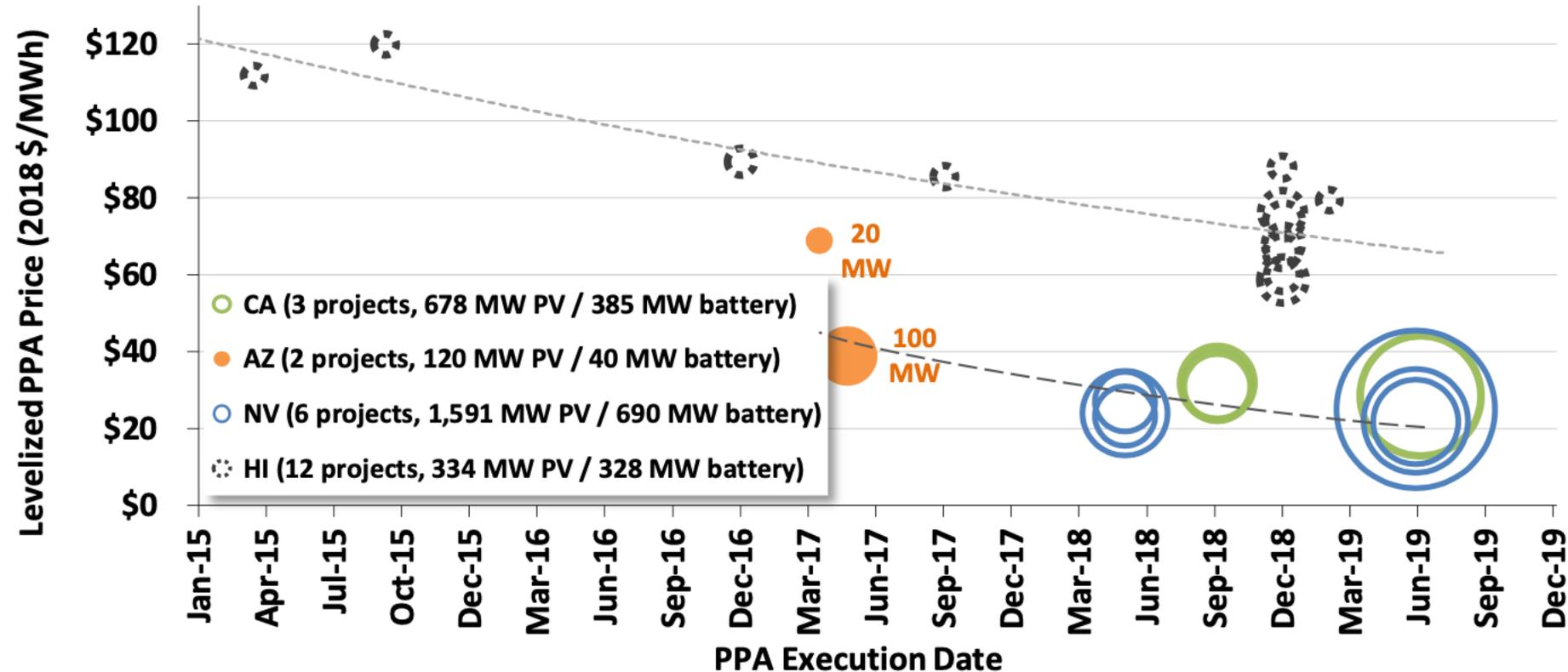
Solar+Storage and Wind+Storage configurations are more common than other hybrid types<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Emphasis was placed on identification of wind+storage and solar+storage: other hybrid configurations are likely undercounted.

# Power Purchase Agreements for PV-plus-Storage

- Bundle storage cost into the overall energy price
- Compensate storage through a separate fixed capacity payment
- Compensate storage only for certain hours throughout the year
- “Renewable dispatchable generation” PPA (unique to Hawaii) pays projects through a lump sum for being able to be dispatched by the offtaker



# Hybrids Across the Globe: A Larger & Broader Mix

## PV+Wind Hybrids in India



Recent research indicates “wind-solar hybrid capacity [in India] will soar from its current 148MW level to nearly 11.7GW by 2023.”

[PV Tech Article, October 2020](#)

## NOOR MIDELT HYBRID SOLAR PLANT

MOROCCO 

Consortium of **EDF Renewables, Masdar** and **Green of Africa** named as successful bidder for Morocco's landmark Noor Midelt Phase 1 hybrid solar project

The world's first advanced hybridisation of **concentrated solar power (CSP)** and **photovoltaic (PV)** technologies

The plant will be located 20km north of the town of **Midelt** in central **Morocco**



**800 MW**  
Total capacity

Tariff at peak hours set at a record-low **0.68** Moroccan dirhams per kilowatt-hour

Floating PV on hydropower reservoirs...

More to come!



# Motivations for Solar-Plus: Cost and Value Synergies

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How do you decide if a hybrid project is cost effective?

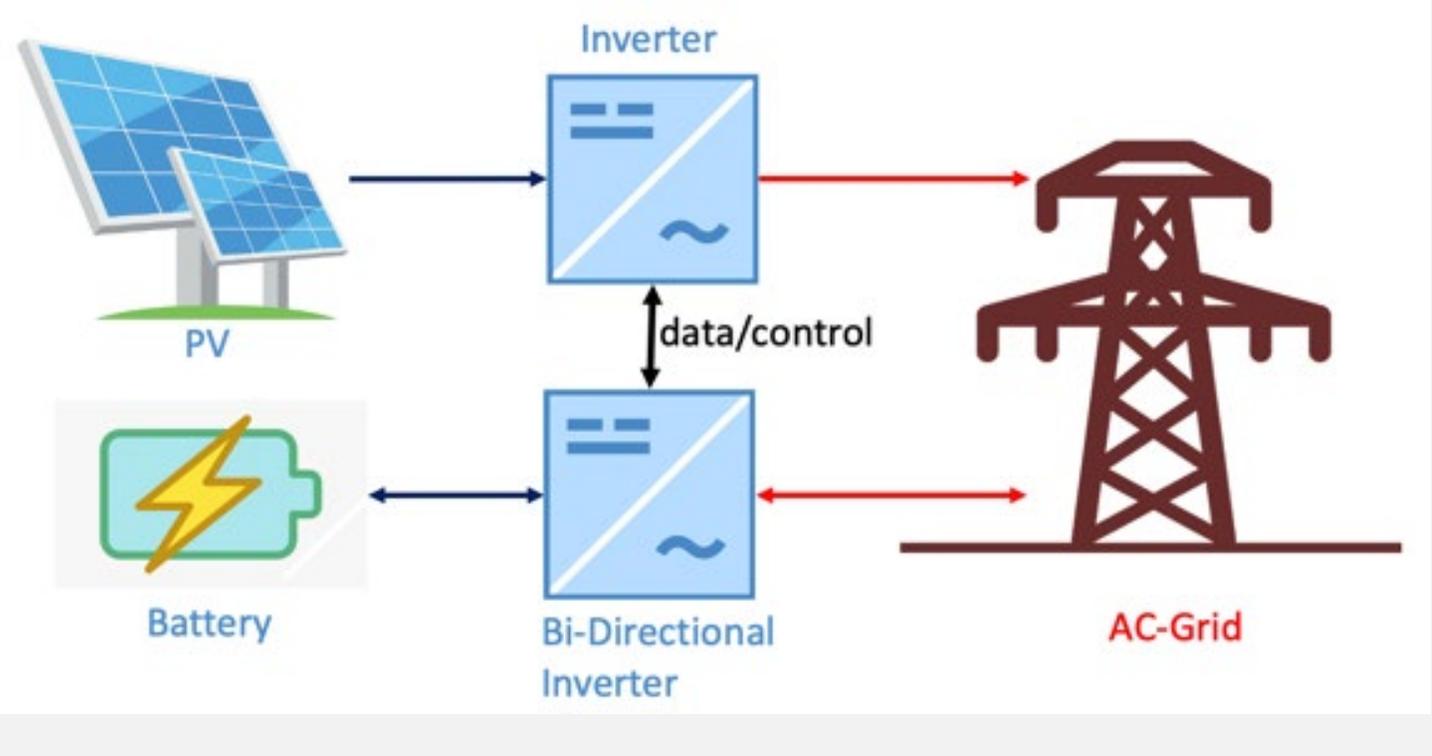
What *value* factors influence this?

What is the future deployment potential?

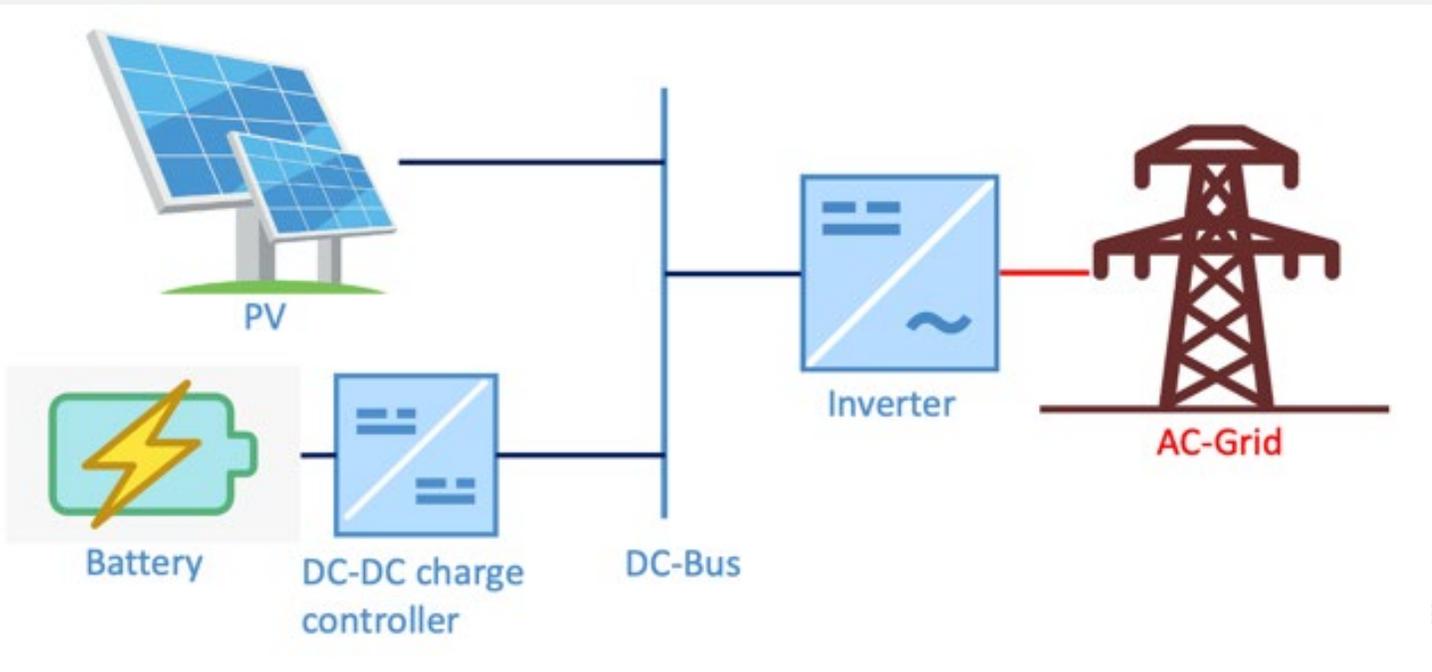
How might such projects be compensated?

## Separate Inverters:

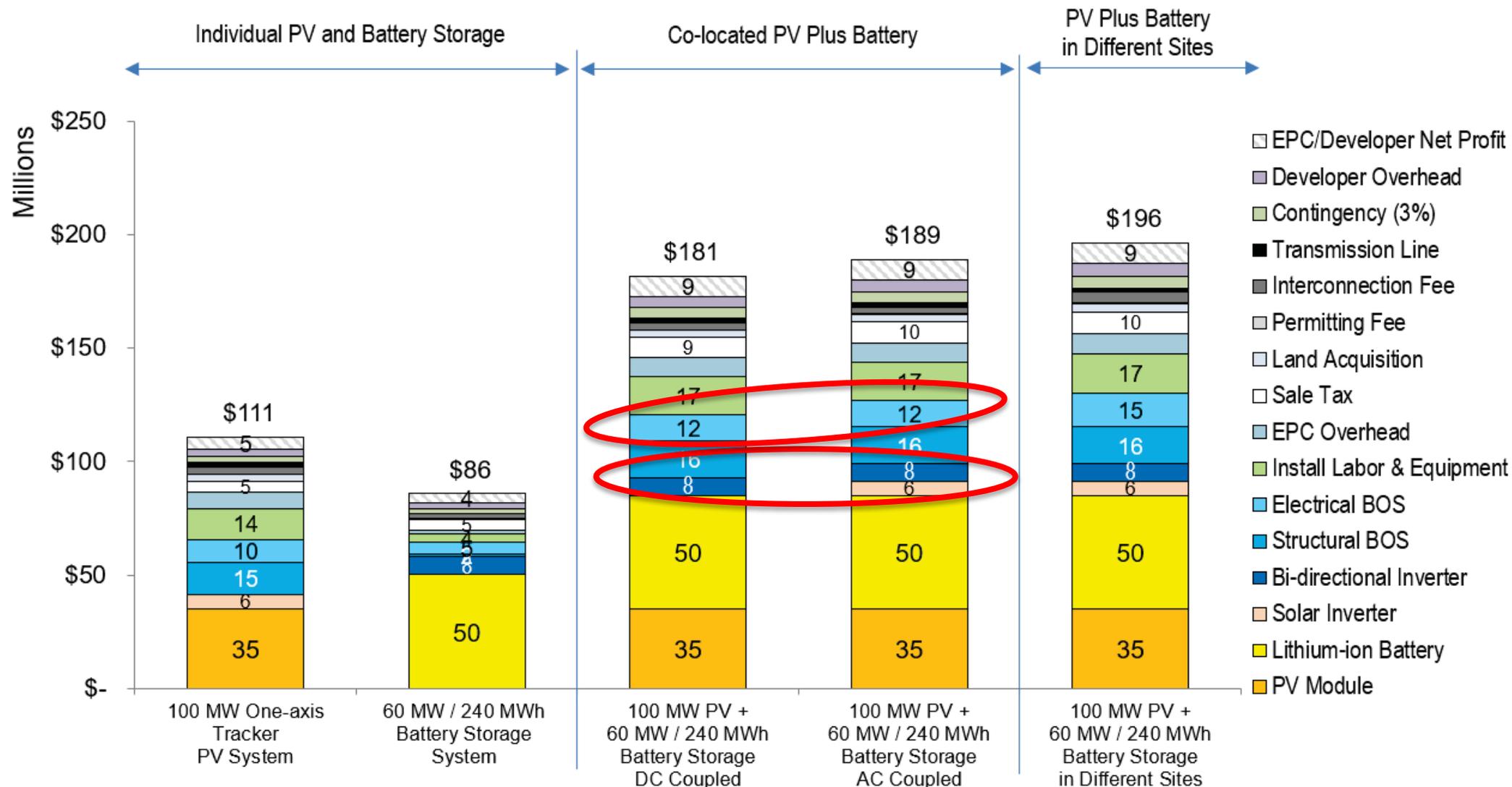
Value synergies may be limited in so-called “AC coupled” systems, but they also allow for more flexible operations and use of existing participation models



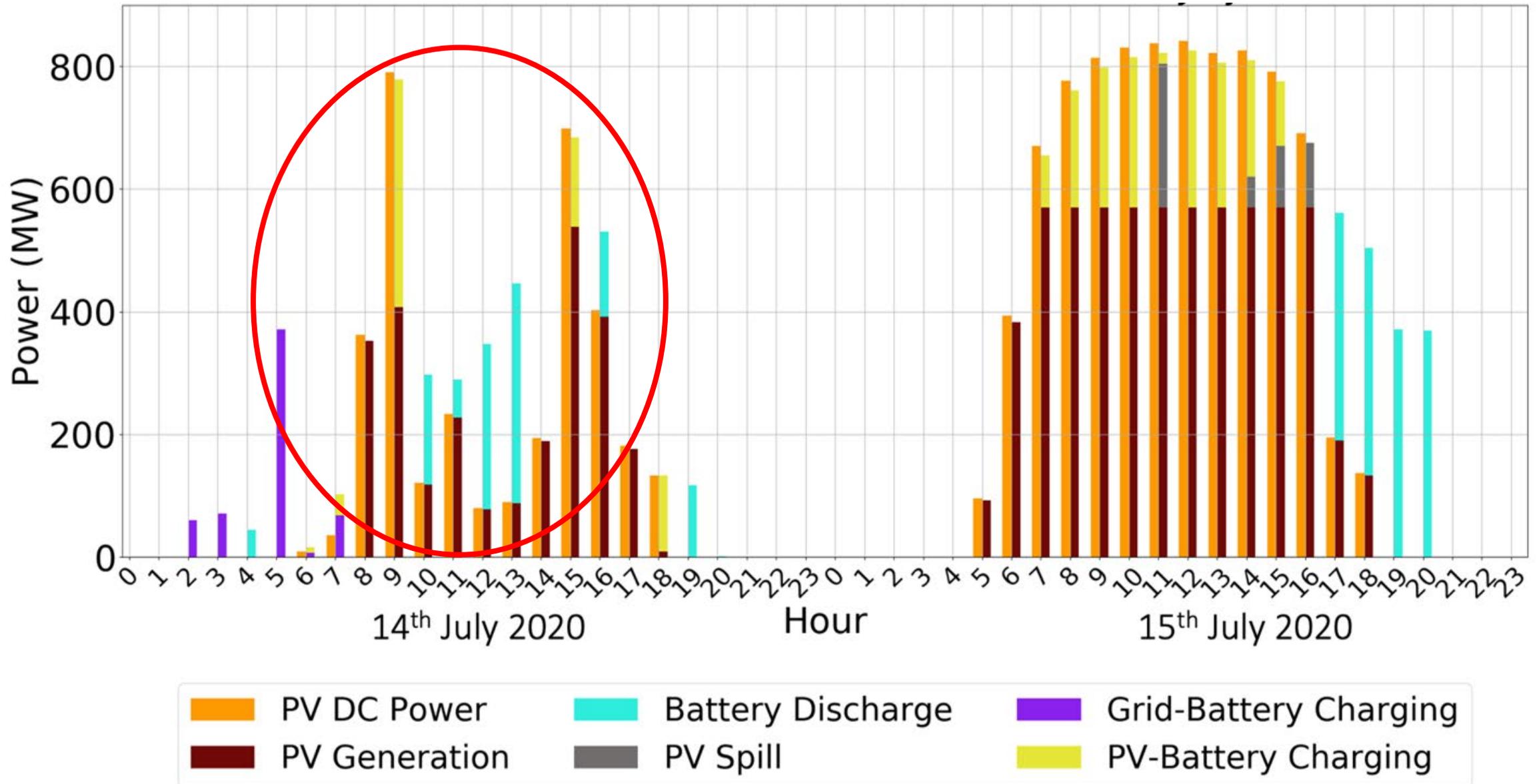
**Shared Inverter:** Using a single PV or battery inverter enables more value synergies in “DC coupled” systems, but it also introduces competition and potentially interconnection challenges



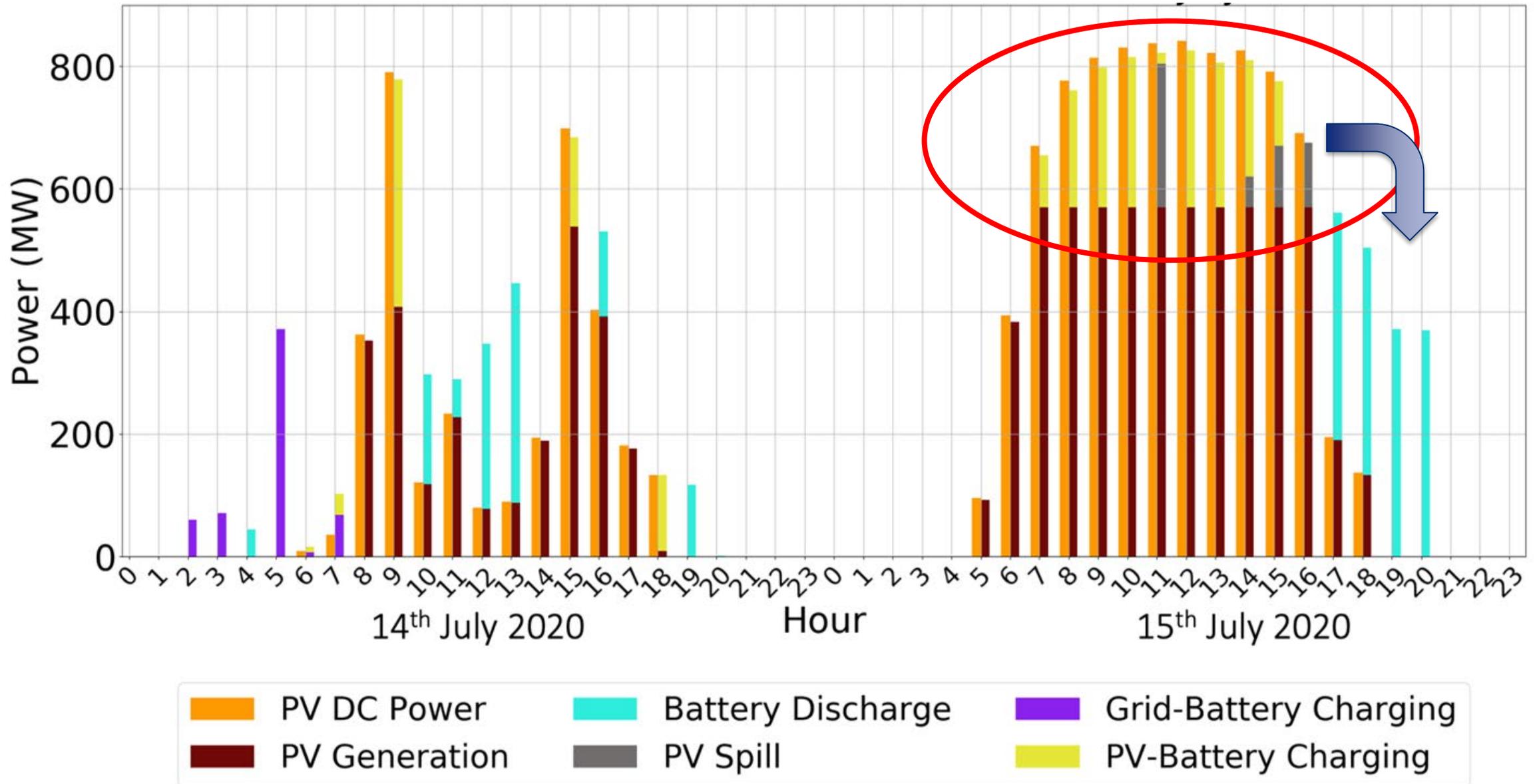
# Sources of Value: Shared Costs



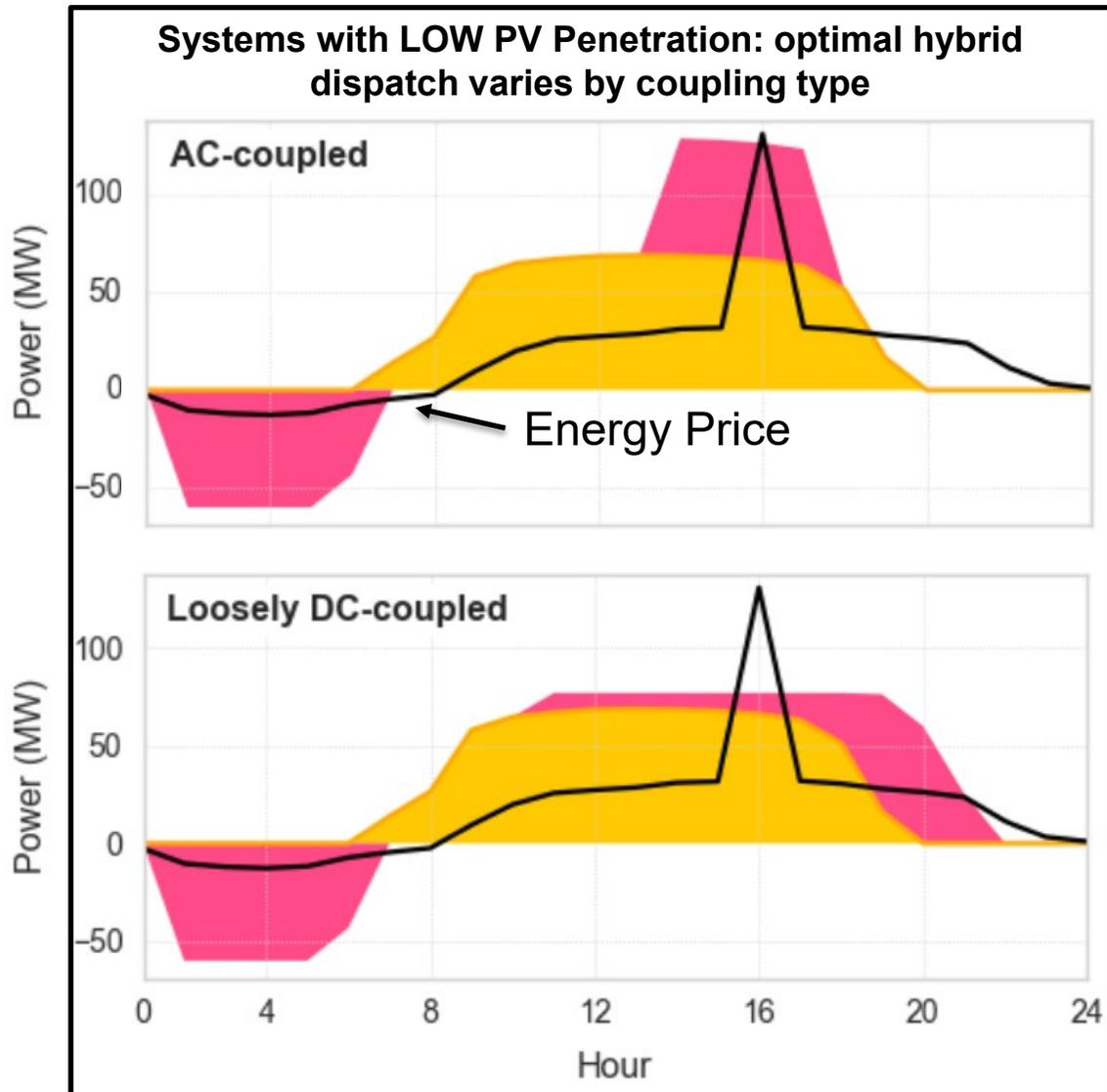
# Sources of Value: Dispatchability Improvements



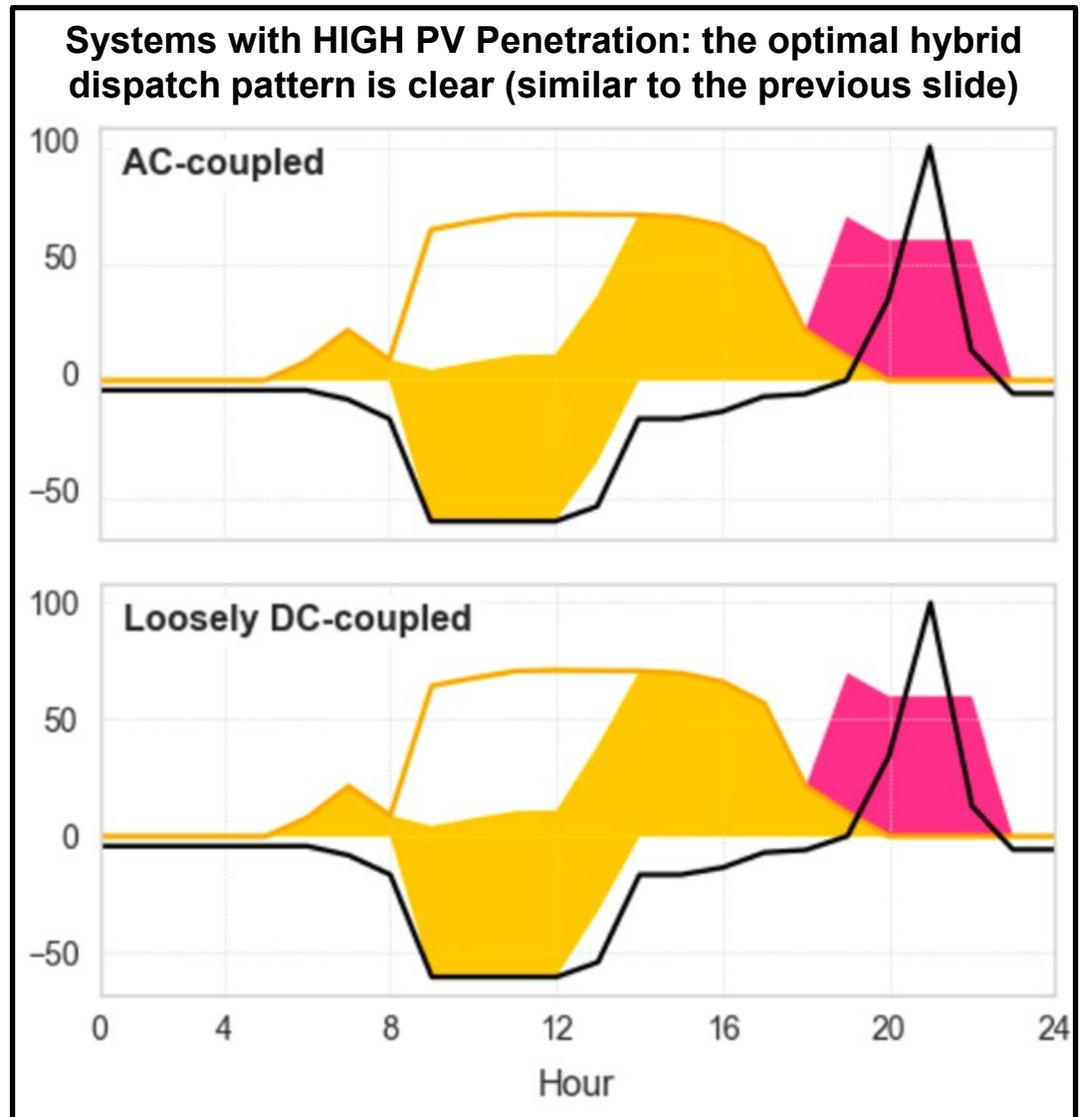
# Sources of Value: Capacity Factor Improvements



# Sources of Value: Aligning Resource and Load



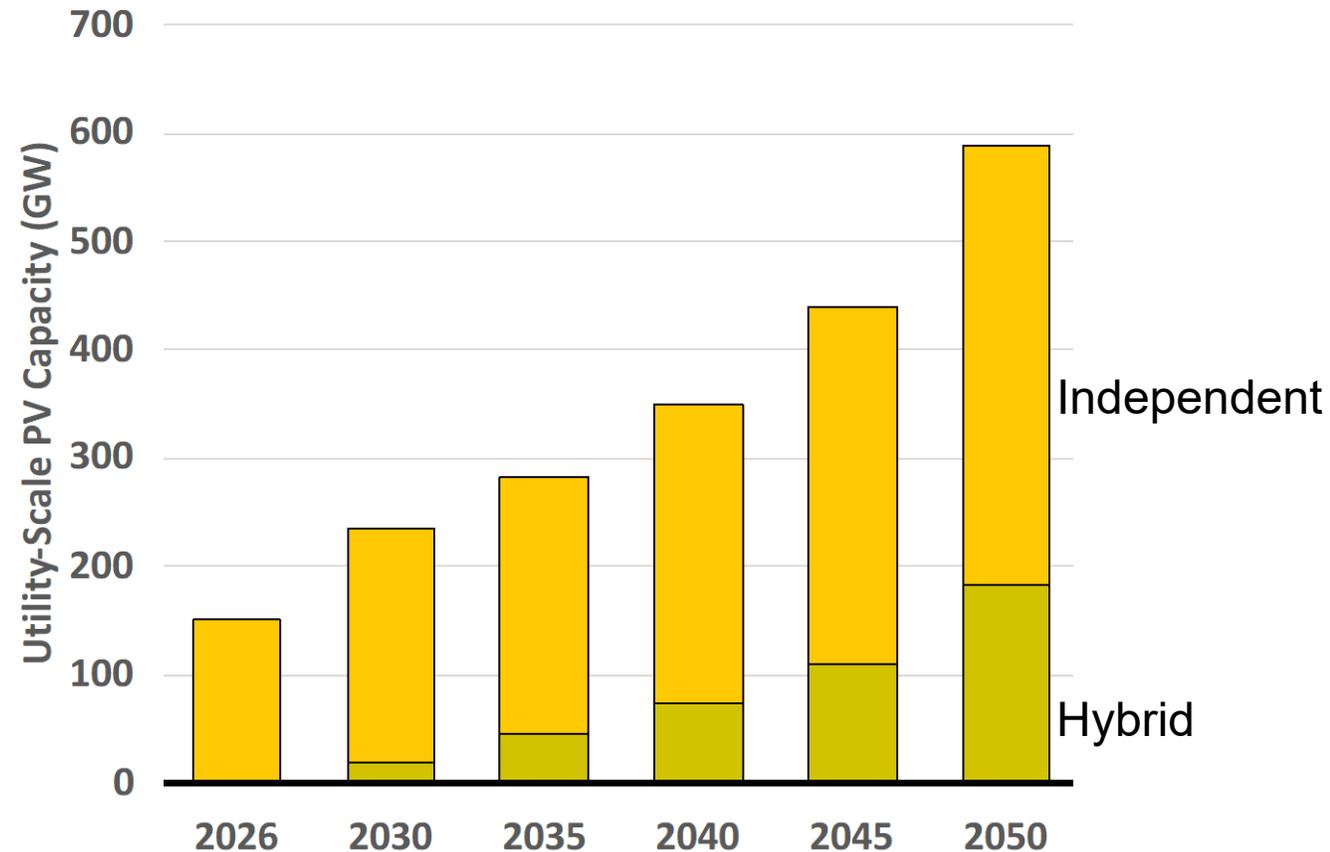
— Total PV    — PV to Grid (+) or Battery (-)



— Battery to (+) or from (-) Grid    — Energy Price

# Deployment Potential: PV+Battery

- Cost and performance improvements drive significant deployment potential, based on resource planning modeling.
- Increasing PV+battery deployment primarily displaces independent PV and battery projects.
- Total deployment and the share of hybrid projects grows as:
  - PV and battery technology cost and performance improve more rapidly
  - PV and battery components share more costs



# Key Takeaways

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- A “hybrid” project should combine technologies with complementary generation profiles or capabilities, which results in cost savings and/or operational synergies.
- Hybrid projects combining PV-plus-battery, wind-plus-storage, and PV-plus-wind projects are commercially viable worldwide today, and a wider range of hybrid systems are likely viable in developing grids.
- Adding storage to variable renewable resources can facilitate renewable energy integration, increase capacity factors, localize the provision of high-value services, and enable cost savings.
- Many of the benefits attributed to hybrid systems can also be achieved through grid-level coordination of independent projects.

# Thank you



NREL is a national laboratory of the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, operated by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC.



# Case Study: Exploring the Operational Benefits of Floating Solar-Hydropower Hybrids

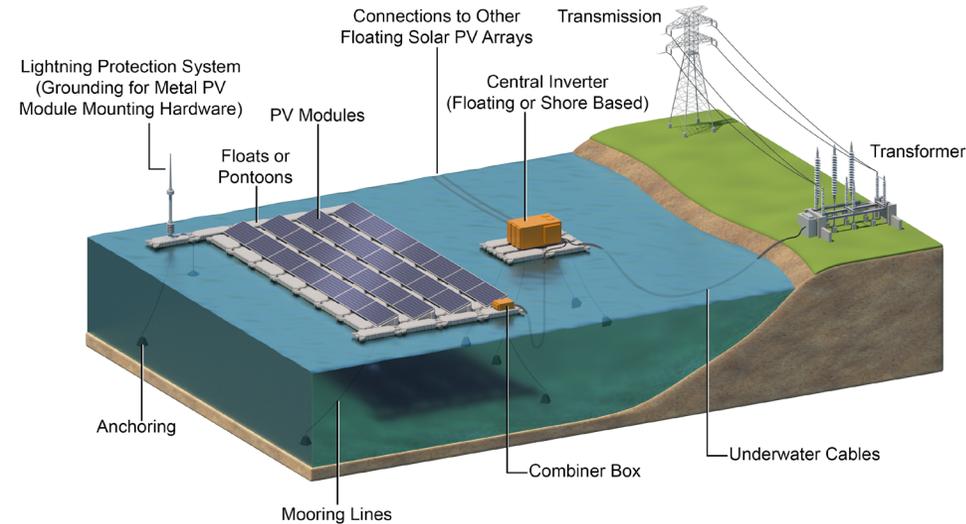
Sika Gadzanku | Researcher, National Renewable Energy Laboratory | April 20, 2021



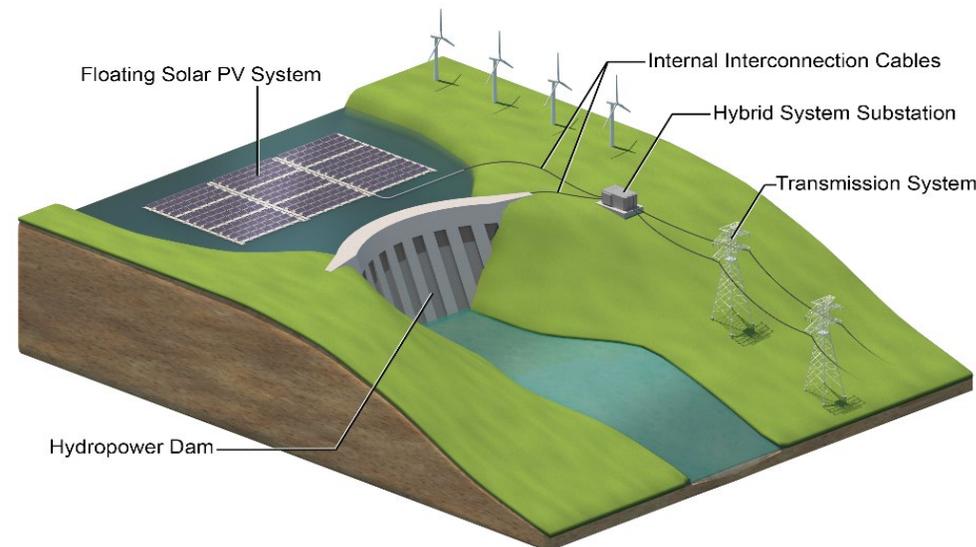
# What is Floating Solar (FPV)?

## Some Co-Benefits of FPV:

- Reduced land use
- Improved power plant operation
- Energy storage opportunities
- Transmission system benefits
- Reduced solar PV curtailment
- Water conservation



**Stand-Alone FPV System**



**Hybrid FPV-Hydropower System**

# What is the current state of global FPV deployment?

- Total installed capacity at 2.6 GW, up from 6 MW in 2013
- Estimated technical potential of 7 TW
- Majority of installed capacity located in Asia
- FPV system costs vary widely ranging from \$520-\$3,000/kWdc (depends on a variety of factors)

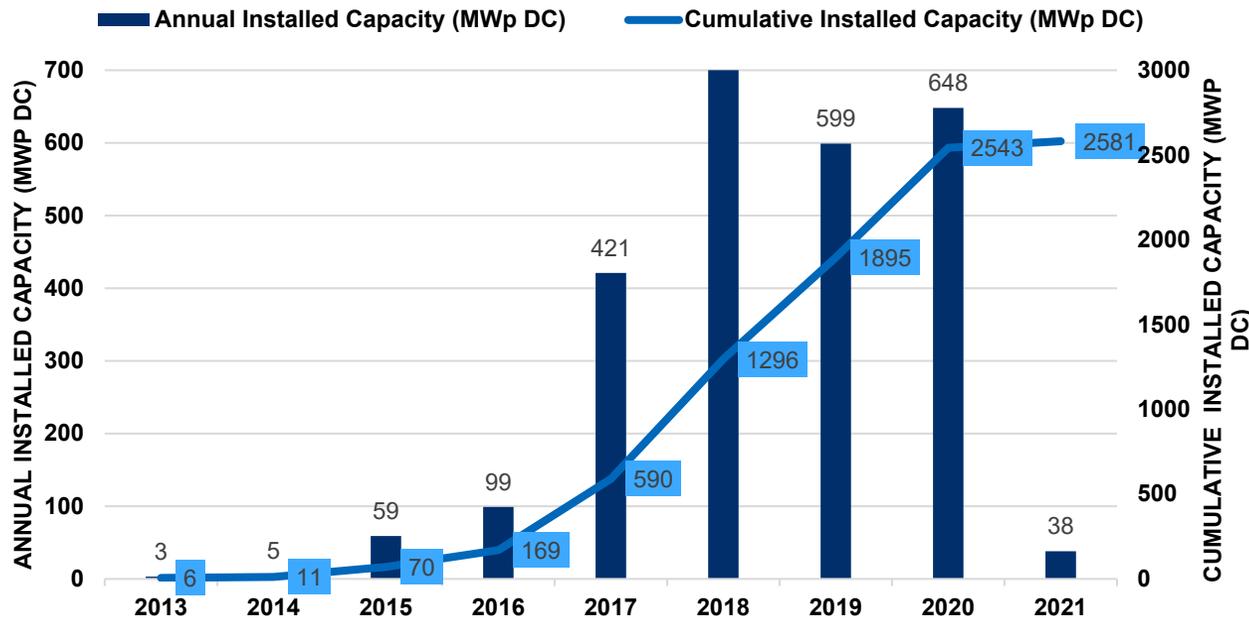


Fig. Annual FPV Deployment (2013 – present)

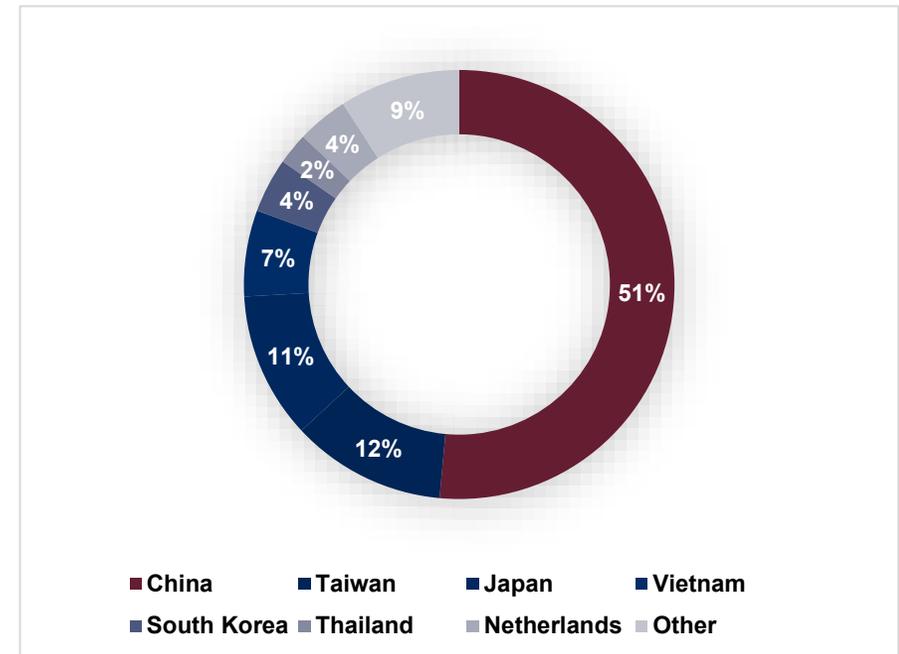


Fig. Installed Capacity

# Case Study:

## What are the operational benefits of hybridizing FPV with hydropower?

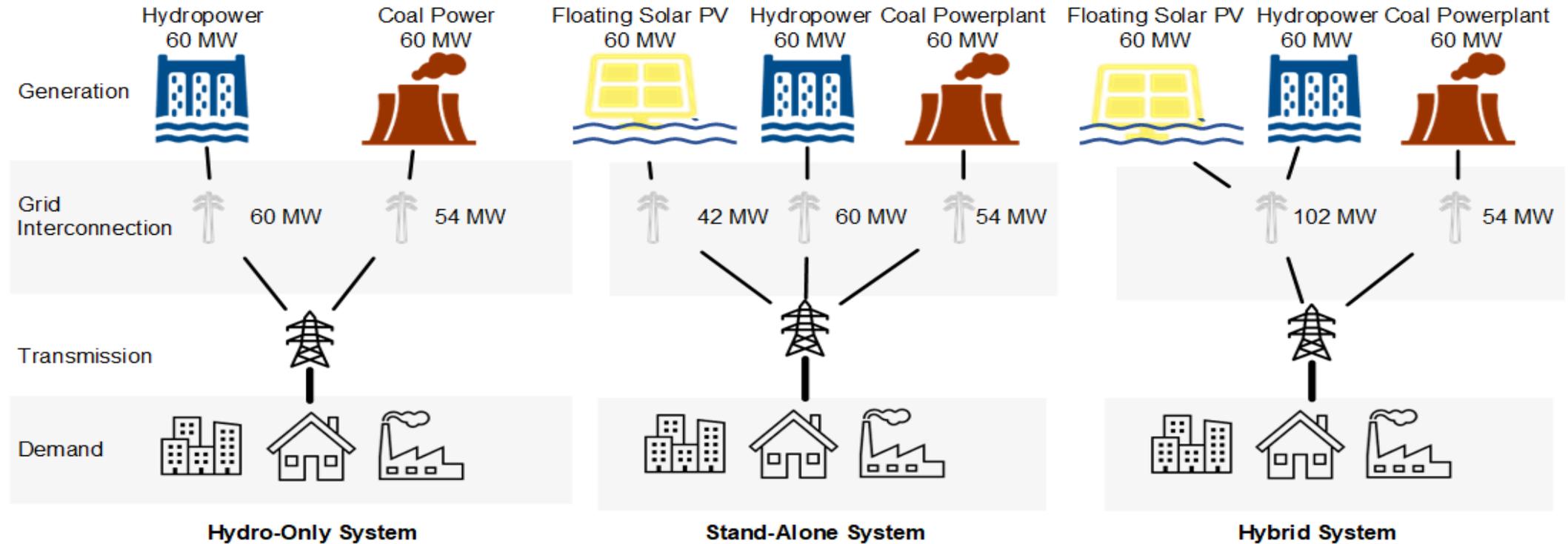
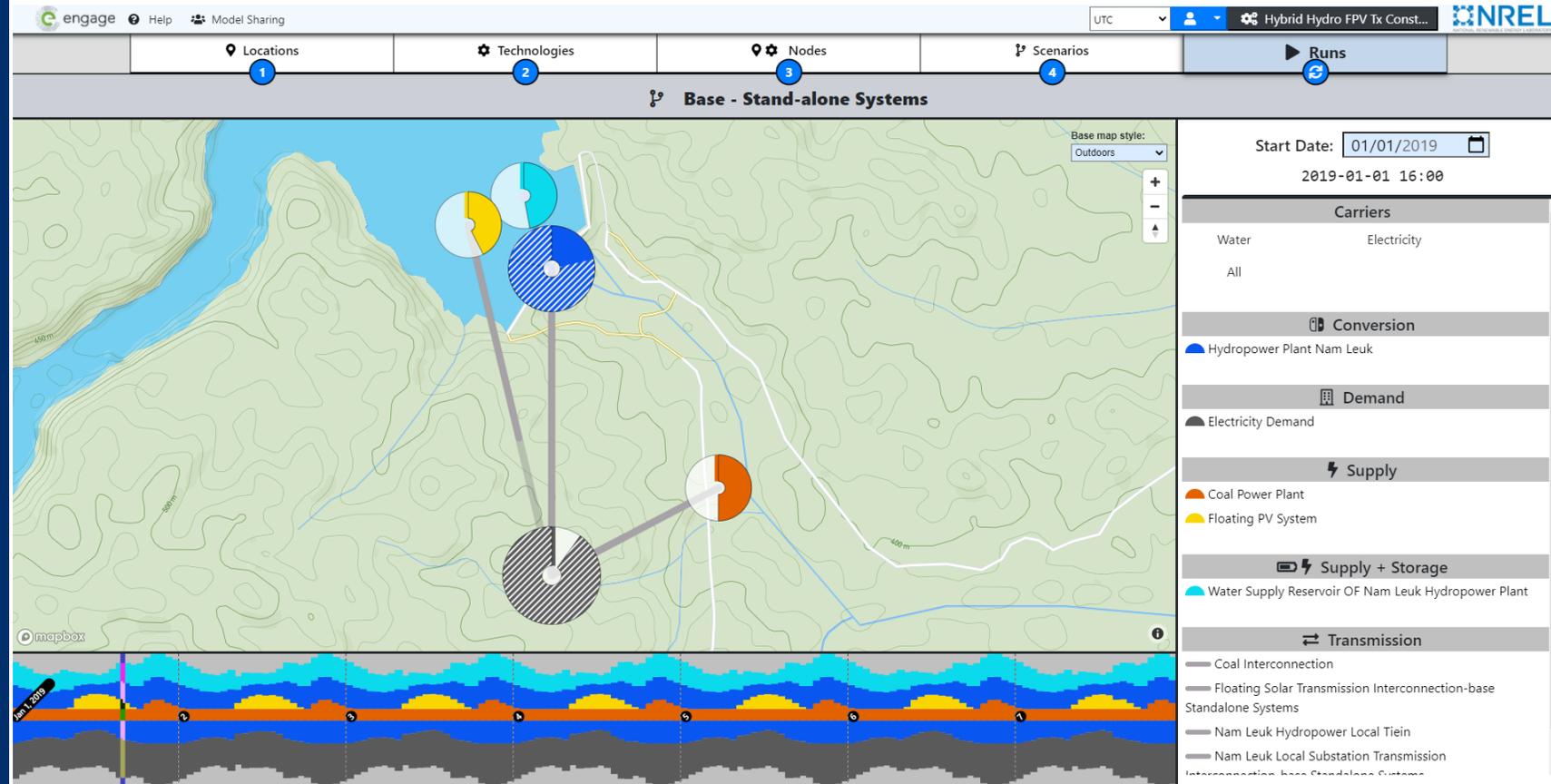


Fig. Example system configurations for the Hydro-Only (left), FPV Stand-Alone (middle), and Hybrid FPV-Hydropower (right) systems.

# How did we explore this research question?

We used the Engage™ model, a web-based modeling platform that enables multi-energy-sectoral planning.

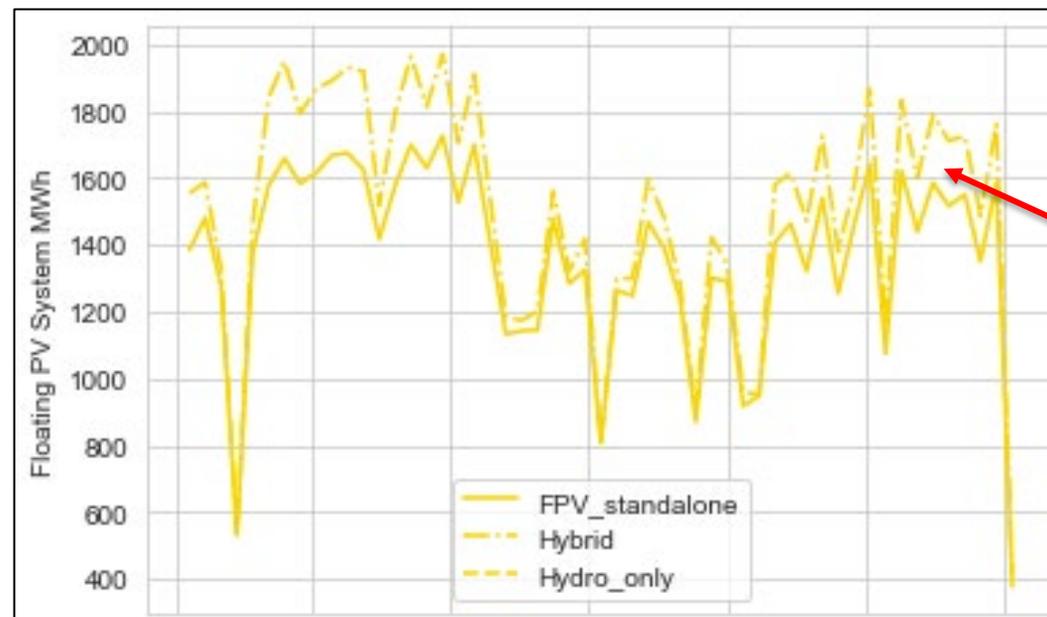
*We quantified the differences in PV and hydropower generation.*



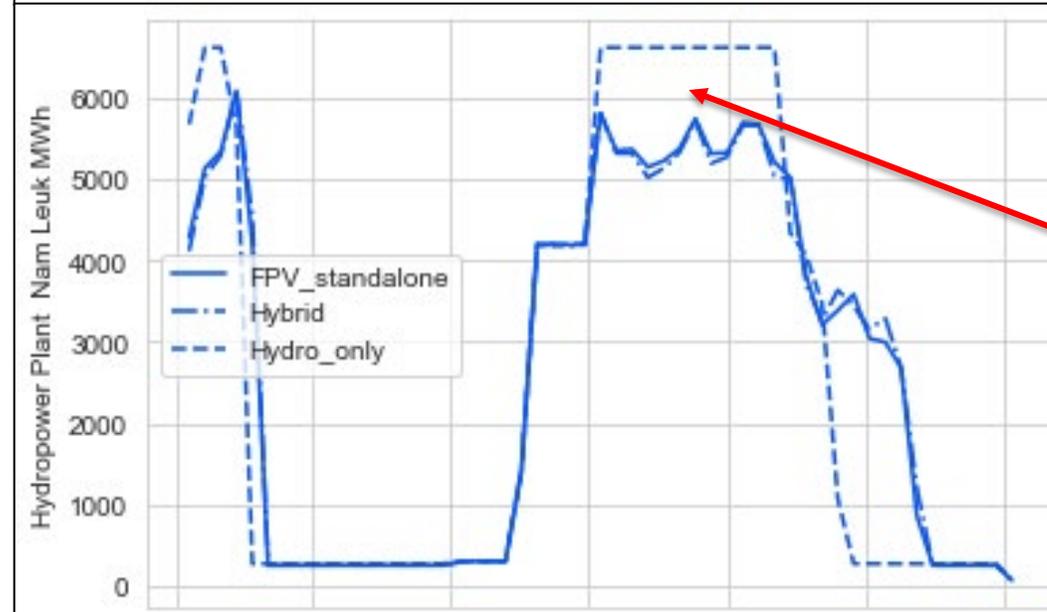
For more information on Engage, visit: <https://engage.nrel.gov/en/login/?next=/en/>



# What were some of our findings?



Differences in PV generation

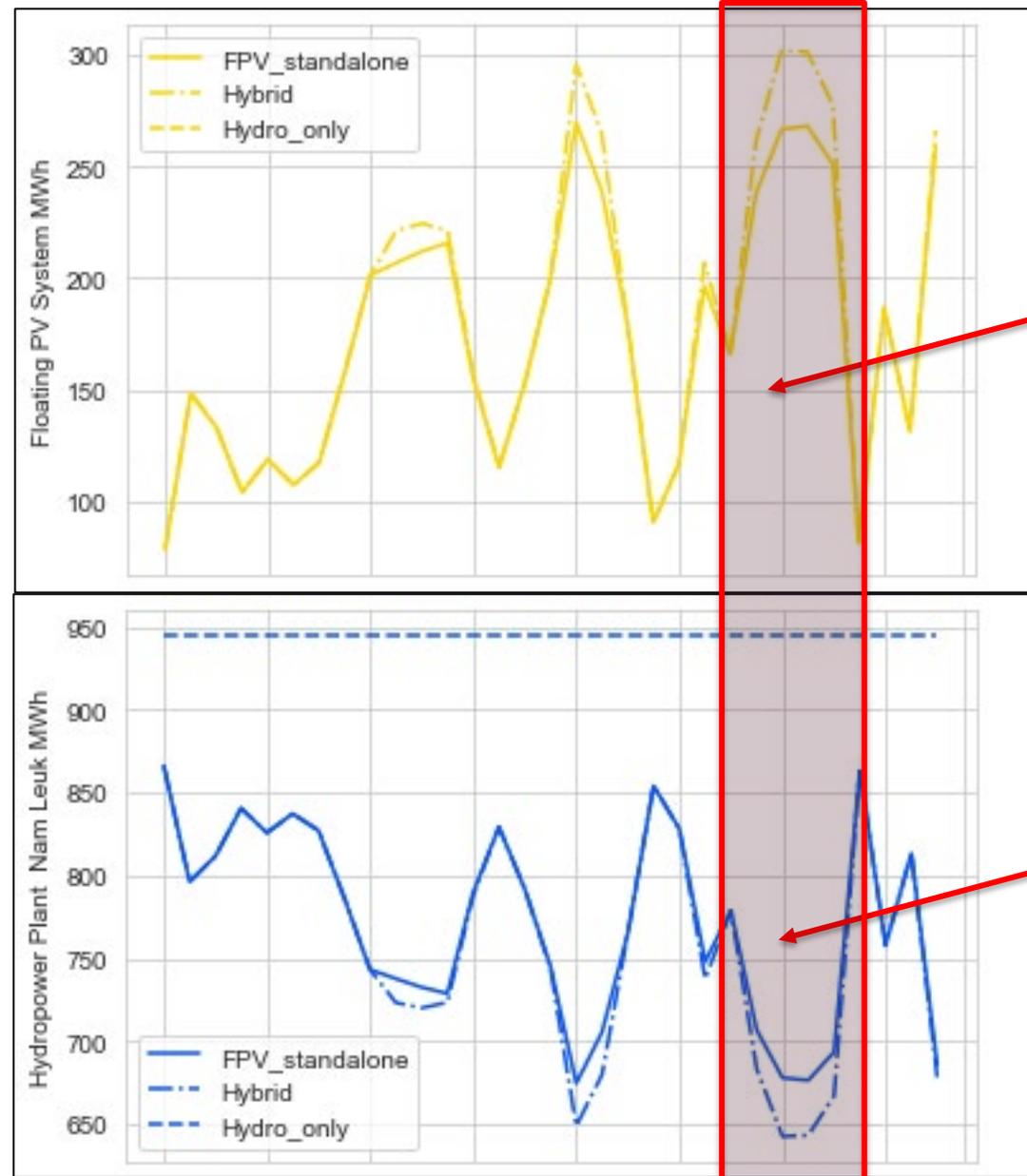


Differences in hydropower generation

January – December 2019

# What were some of our findings?

*PV and hydropower generation complement each other*



**PV generation increases**

**Hydropower generation decreases**

July 2019

# Where do we go from here?

Modeling results indicate that hybridizing FPV system with hydropower:

- Reduces PV curtailment.
- Conserves water resources by optimizing seasonal and daily electricity generation.

Overall:

- FPV is an emerging application of solar PV technology.
- FPV is especially of interest in Asia for several reasons including potential opportunity to hybridize with hydropower resources.
- Hybridizing FPV with hydropower could unlock several site-specific and grid-level benefits but additional research and development is needed to understand these well.

# Thank you!

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## Advanced Energy Partnership for Asia

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# Question and Answer



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Find more resources and webinars on [greeningthegrid.org](https://greeningthegrid.org)



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# Thank you!



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