



Renewable Energy

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Washington DC

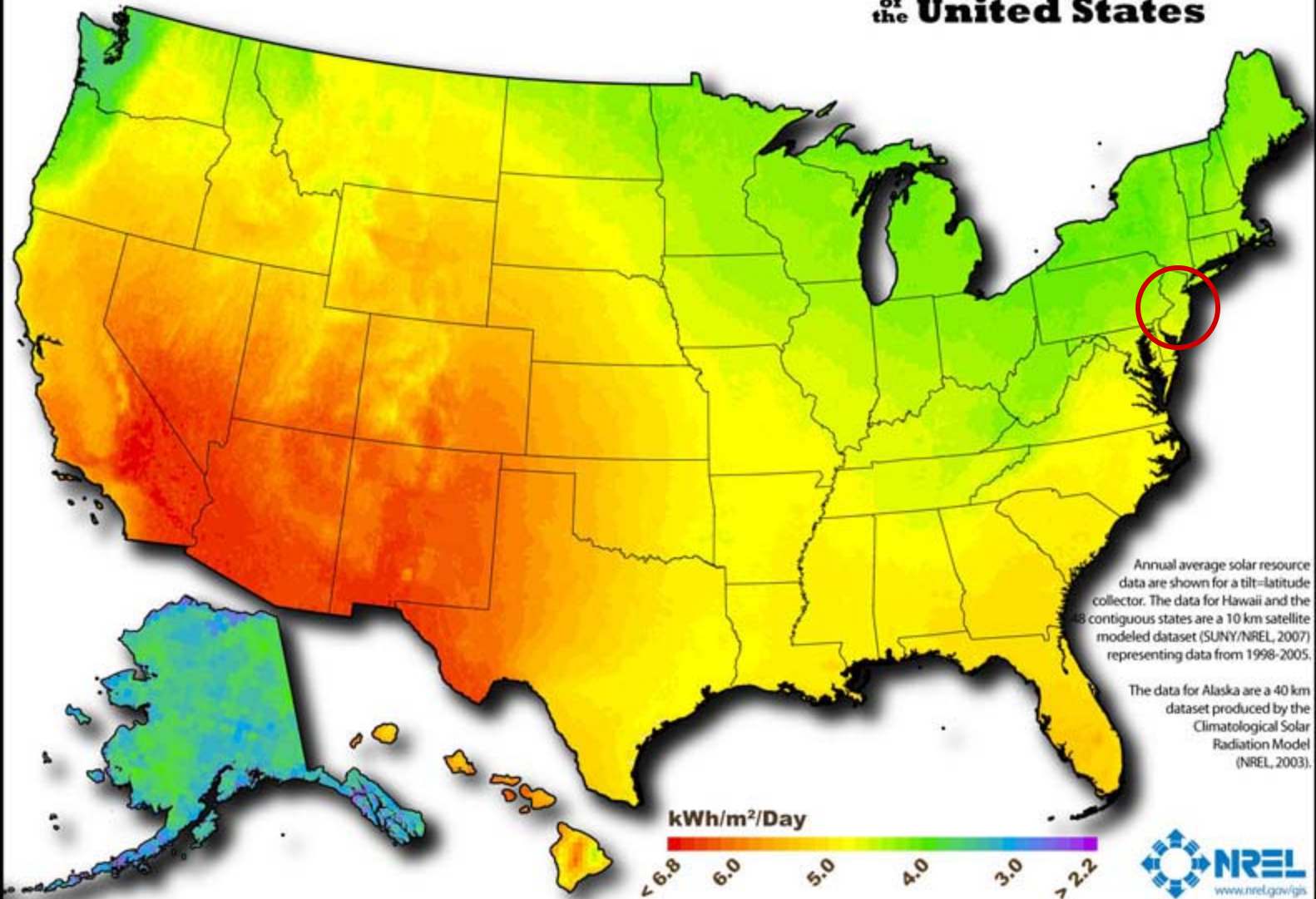
August 31, 2009

US Renewable Policies & Programs



- Federal Policies
- State Policies

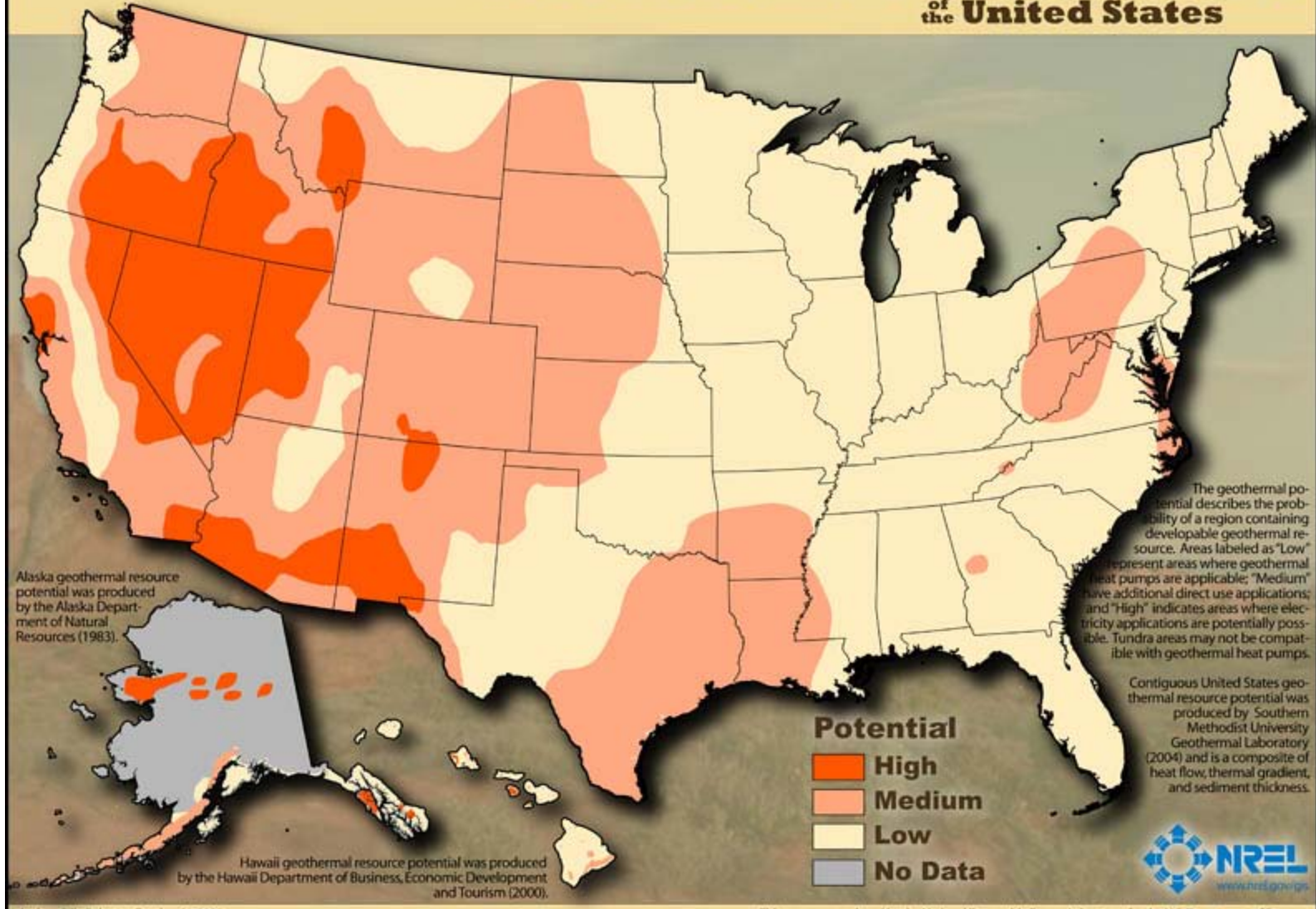
Photovoltaic Solar Resource of the United States



Author: Billy Roberts - October 20, 2008

This map was produced by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy.

Geothermal Resources of the United States



Alaska geothermal resource potential was produced by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (1983).

Hawaii geothermal resource potential was produced by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (2000).

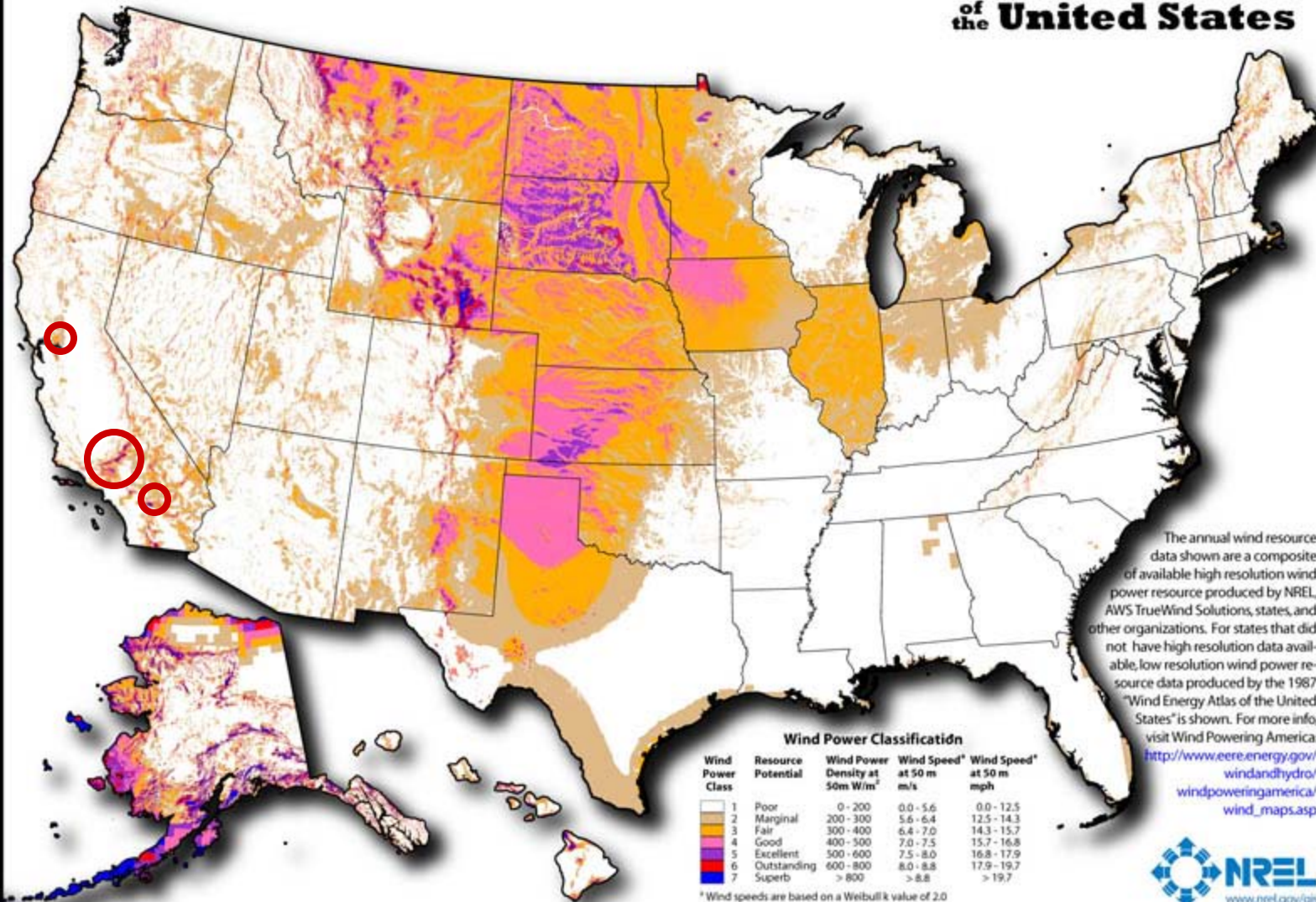
The geothermal potential of a region describes the probability of a region containing developable geothermal resource. Areas labeled as "Low" represent areas where geothermal heat pumps are applicable; "Medium" have additional direct use applications; and "High" indicates areas where electricity applications are potentially possible. Tundra areas may not be compatible with geothermal heat pumps.

Contiguous United States geothermal resource potential was produced by Southern Methodist University Geothermal Laboratory (2004) and is a composite of heat flow, thermal gradient, and sediment thickness.

- Potential**
- High
 - Medium
 - Low
 - No Data



Wind Resource (50m) of the United States



The annual wind resource data shown are a composite of available high resolution wind power resource produced by NREL, AWS TrueWind Solutions, states, and other organizations. For states that did not have high resolution data available, low resolution wind power resource data produced by the 1987 "Wind Energy Atlas of the United States" is shown. For more info, visit Wind Powering America: http://www.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/windpoweringamerica/wind_maps.asp

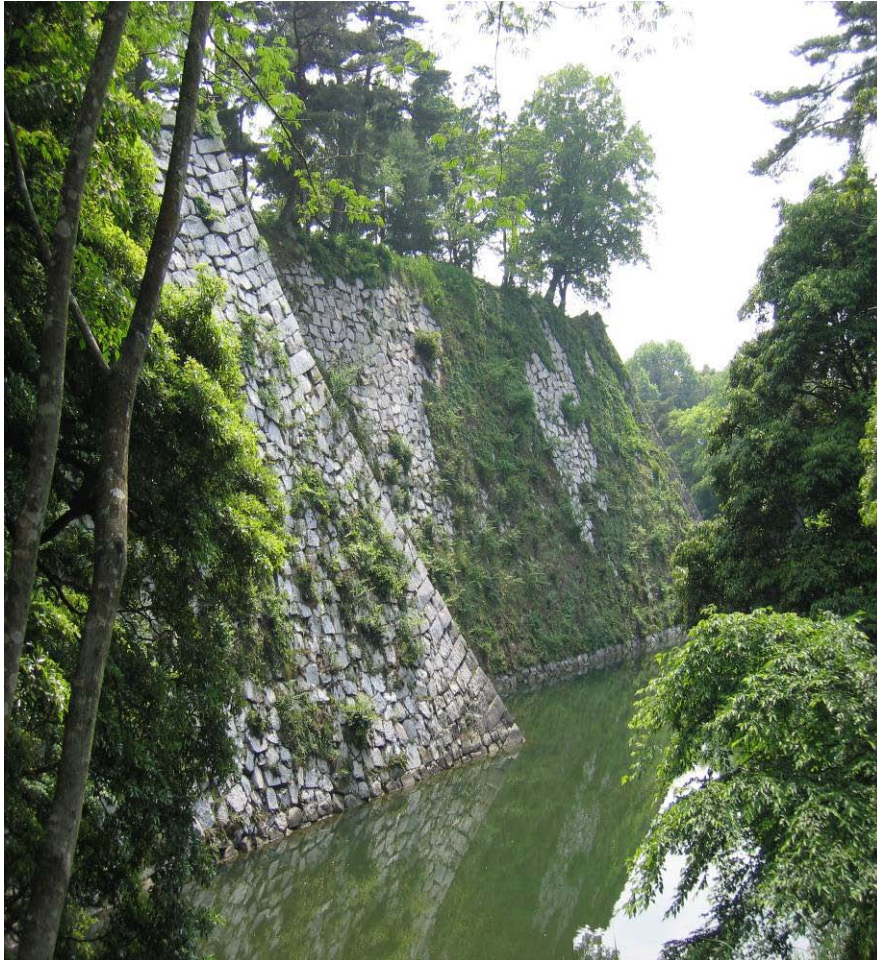
Wind Power Classification

Wind Power Class	Resource Potential	Wind Power Density at 50m W/m ²	Wind Speed* at 50 m m/s	Wind Speed* at 50 m mph
1	Poor	0 - 200	0.0 - 5.6	0.0 - 12.5
2	Marginal	200 - 300	5.6 - 6.4	12.5 - 14.3
3	Fair	300 - 400	6.4 - 7.0	14.3 - 15.7
4	Good	400 - 500	7.0 - 7.5	15.7 - 16.8
5	Excellent	500 - 600	7.5 - 8.0	16.8 - 17.9
6	Outstanding	600 - 800	8.0 - 8.8	17.9 - 19.7
7	Superb	> 800	> 8.8	> 19.7

* Wind speeds are based on a Weibull k value of 2.0



Key Barriers



- No market
- Utility culture & framework
- Lack of expertise
- Role of private sector
- Capital costs vs variable energy costs
- Transmission access & strength of grid

Strategies to Overcome Barriers

- Build a Market
- Support utility RE procurement
- Training for RE design & operation
- Encourage private investment
- Value RE attributes
- Long-term contracts
- Open transmission access & grid expansion

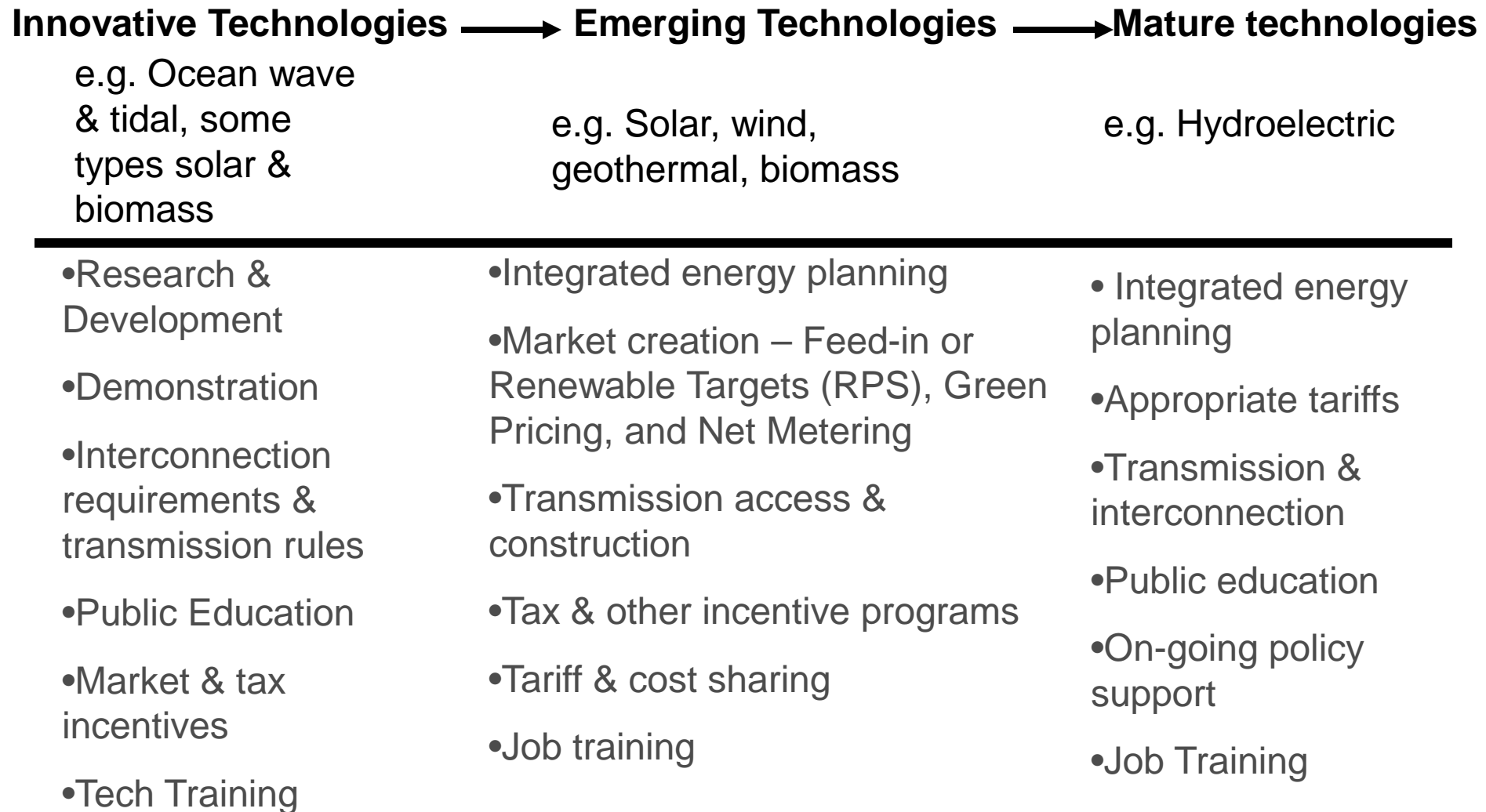


Climate Change: Resource Planning & Procurement

Concern about climate change is driving a reconsideration of electricity resource planning and procurement



Electricity Technology Development & Policy



Types of RE Promotion Policies

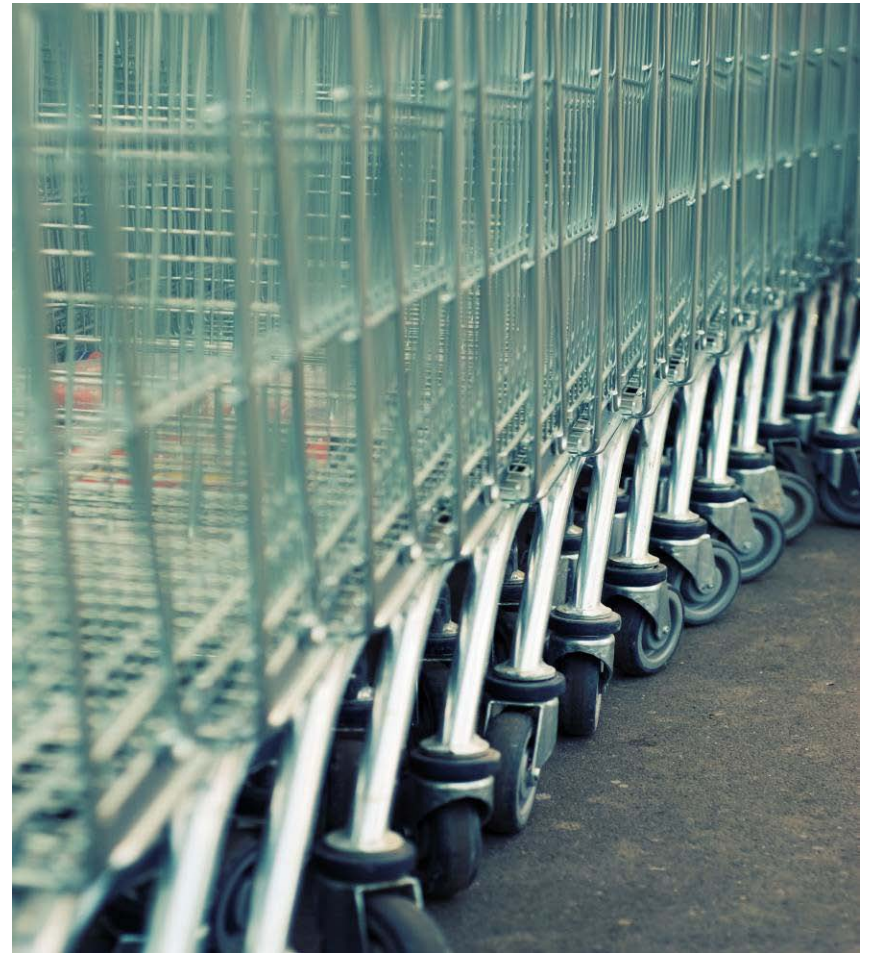
Market Building Policies

- Feed-in Tariffs (FIT)
- Mandatory Targets (RPS/RES)

Financial Incentives

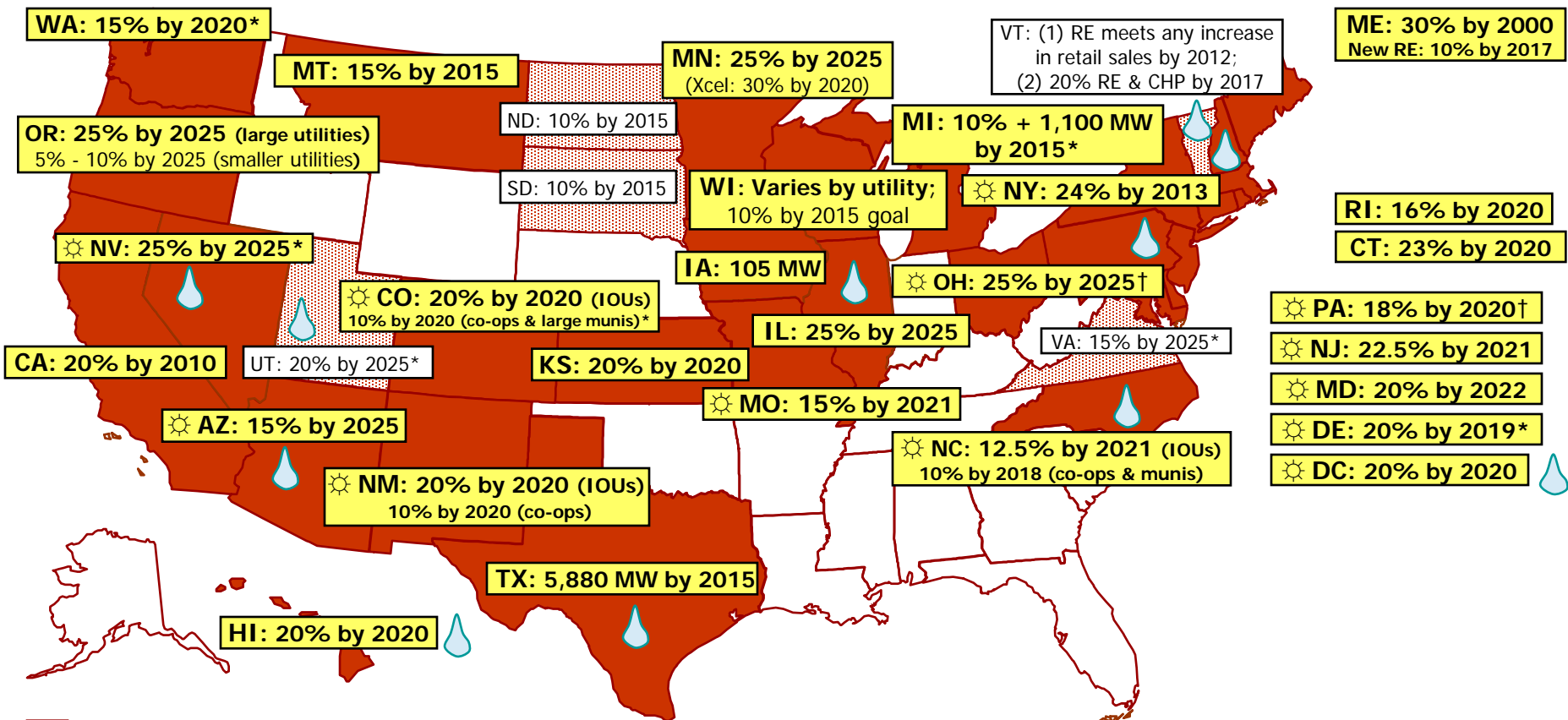
- Tax Policies

Technology Specific Policies





US State RPS Policies


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 State renewable portfolio standard

 State renewable portfolio goal

 Solar water heating eligible

 Minimum solar or customer-sited requirement

Extra credit for solar or customer-sited renewables

† Includes separate tier of non-renewable alternative resources

Financial Incentive Policies

Capital Subsidies

Grants

Rebates

Public Investment

Low-interest Loans

Loan Guarantees

Tax Credits

Tax Rebates

Tax Reductions

Accelerated
Depreciation
Allowance

US Federal Incentive Policies: Summary

- Tax incentives
 - Production tax credit (10 years, 2.1 cents/kWh)
 - Investment tax credit (30%)
 - Accelerated depreciation (5 years)
- Loan guarantees and zero-interest loans
- Research and development funding

Federal Incentive Policy (cont.)

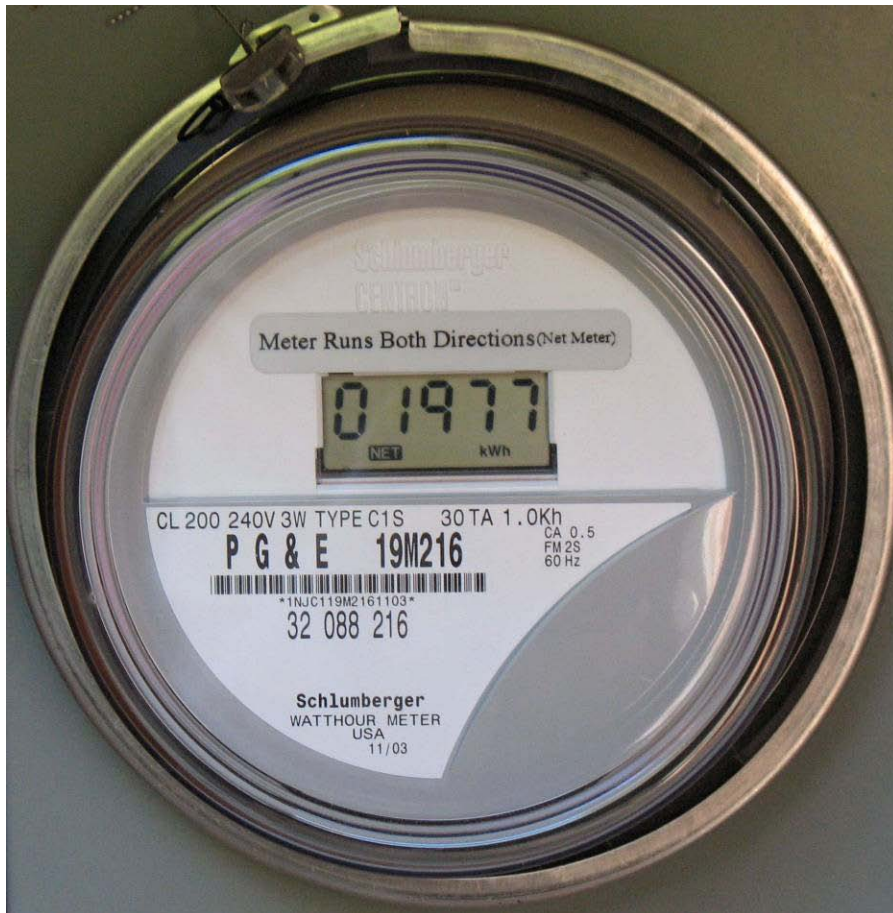
- Economic stimulus bills
 - Extension of tax incentives
 - Temporary conversion of tax incentives to cash grants
 - New financing options (e.g., loan guarantees)
- Federal RPS and federal climate legislation under consideration



US State Incentive Policies

- Primary Market Policies
 - Renewables portfolio standards (29 states + DC)
 - RE funds / rebate programs for distributed gen.
- Other Popular State Policies
 - Feed-in tariffs
 - State tax incentives
 - Integrated resource planning
 - Net metering
 - Carbon regulation and carbon taxes

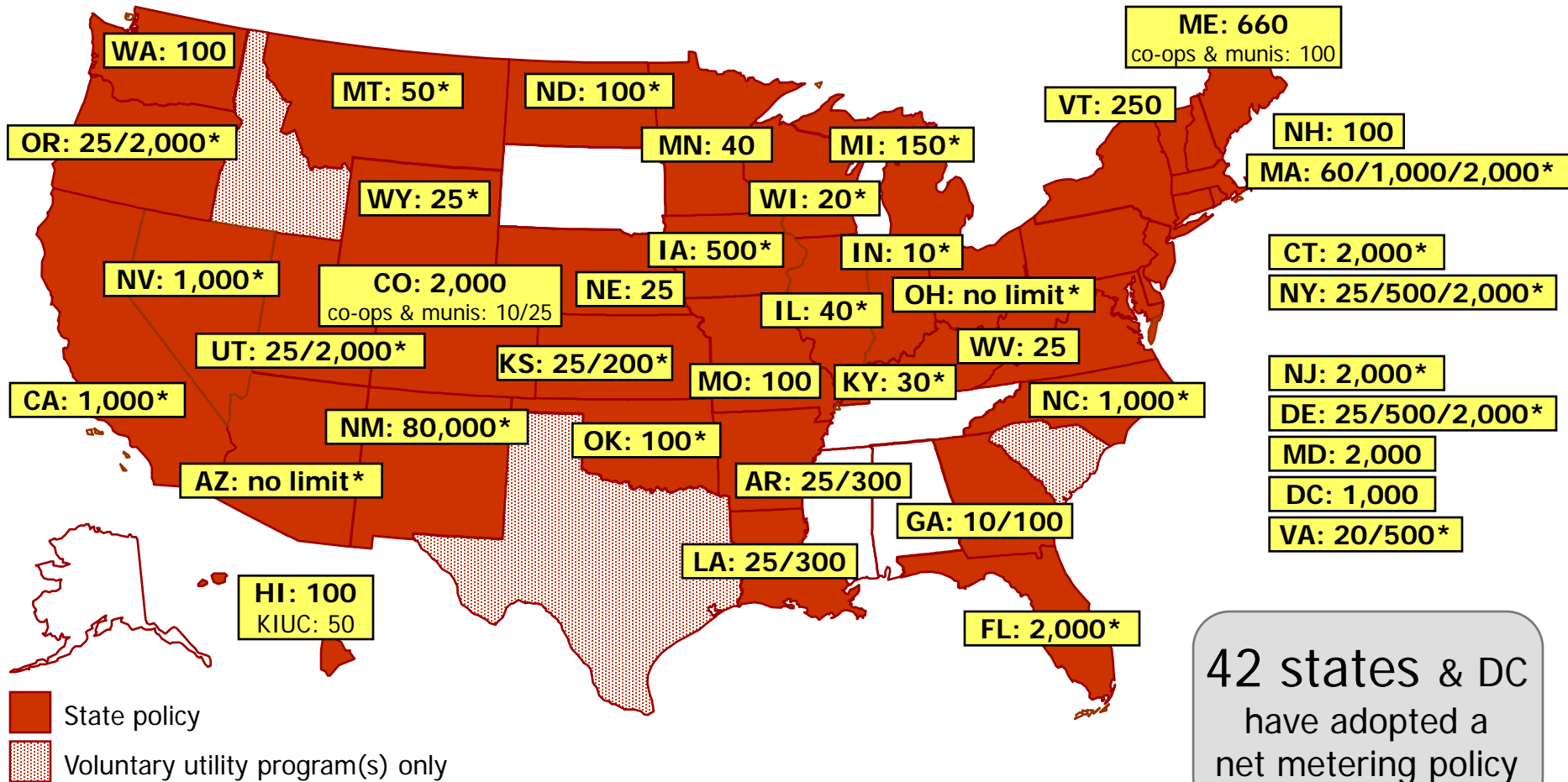
Technology Specific Policy: Net Metering



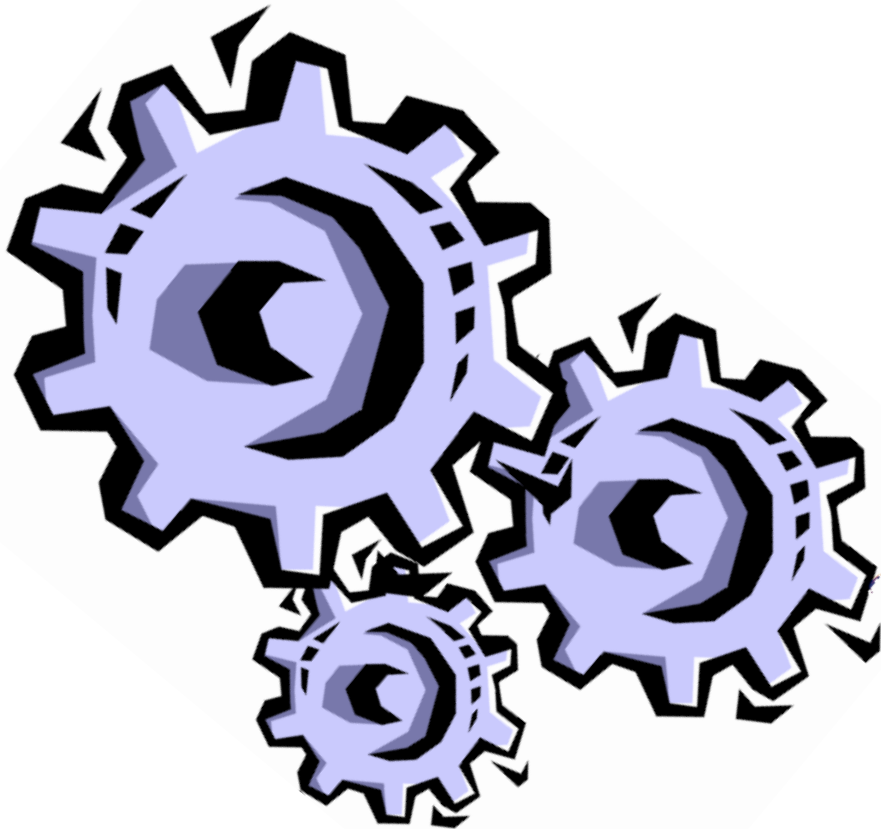
- A policy for on-site resources
- May be applied to commercial/industrial
- Most commonly used for PV but can apply to other RE technologies as well
- Benefits utility & customers

US State Net Metering Tariffs

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Other Important RE Policies



Regulatory Policies

- Resource Planning
- Resource Procurement
- Power Purchase Agreements
- Greenhouse gas reduction

Transmission Policies

Transmission Issues

- Sufficiency
- Rules for access
- Cost allocation
- Grid Integration



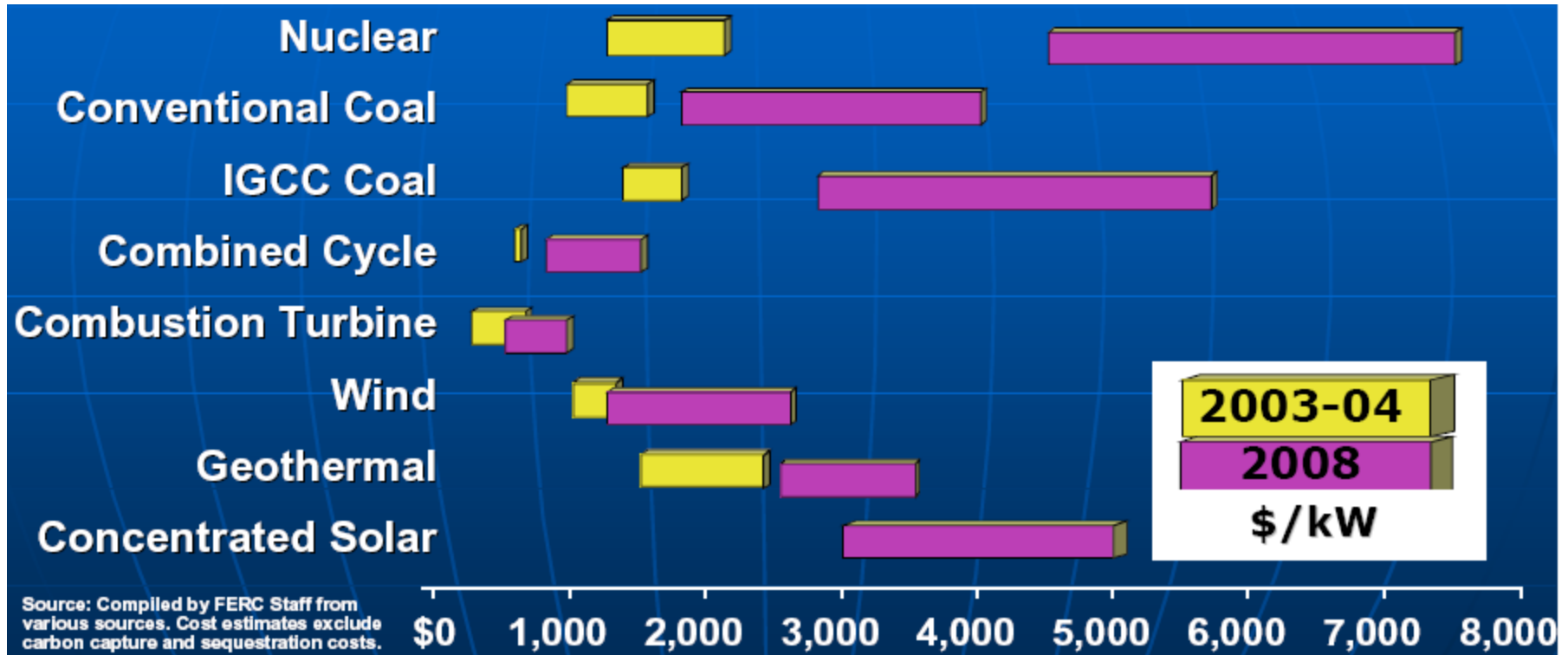
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Estimated Cost of New Generation



Source: FERC -- 6.08

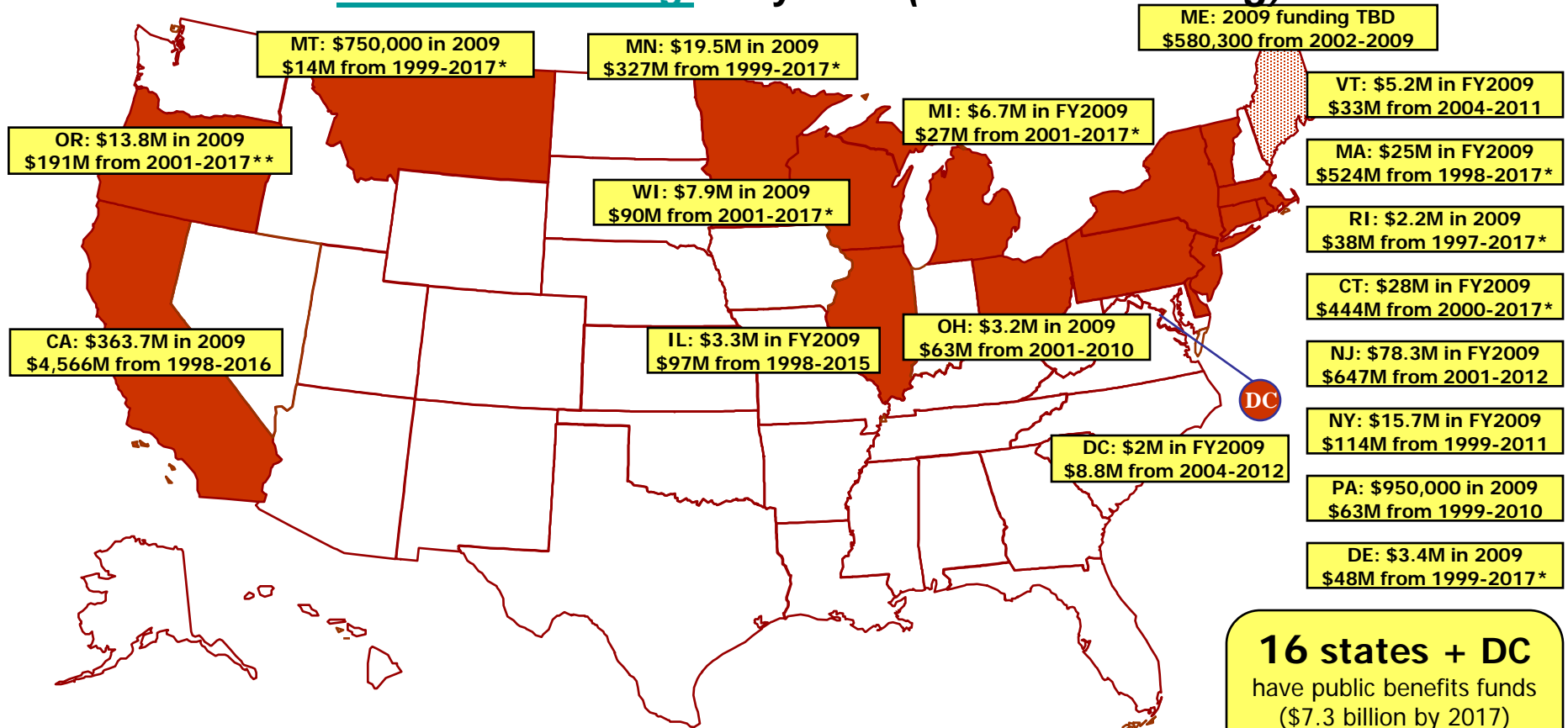
Levelized Renewable Energy Costs

	Levelized Energy Cost Range – 2009 (U.S. ¢/kWh)
Hydroelectric	1.8 ¢/kWh to 9 ¢/kWh
Wind	3 ¢/kWh to 6 ¢/kWh
Biomass	3.7 ¢/kWh to 6.6 ¢/kWh
Geothermal	5 ¢/kWh to 10 ¢/kWh
Solar	10 ¢/kWh to 20 ¢/kWh

* Represents commercially available technology applications

US State Public Benefit Funds

www.dsireusa.org / May 2009 (estimated funding)



16 states + DC
 have public benefits funds
 (\$7.3 billion by 2017)
ME has a voluntary public benefits fund

State PBF
 State PBF supported by voluntary contributions

* Fund does not have a specified expiration date
 ** The Oregon Energy Trust is scheduled to expire in 2025

Policies to Promote Local Industry Development

- Policies to support local industry development
 - * Local content requirements
 - * Preference or incentives for local content
 - * Favorable customs duties
 - Industry tax incentives
 - Export credit assistance
 - Certification and testing programs
 - Research, development and demonstration programs



* Some of these approaches may not be consistent with WTO and international trade agreements

Supportive Policies and Programs

- Research, Development & Demonstration
- Public Awareness & Information
- Capacity Building
- Technical Training
- Resource Maps
- Land-use Planning & Reform

