

# Electricity Transmission and Railroads:

## A SYNERGY OF NEEDS AND RIGHT-OF WAYS

PREPARED BY

Johannes Pfeifenberger  
Michael Hagerty

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THE **Brattle** GROUP



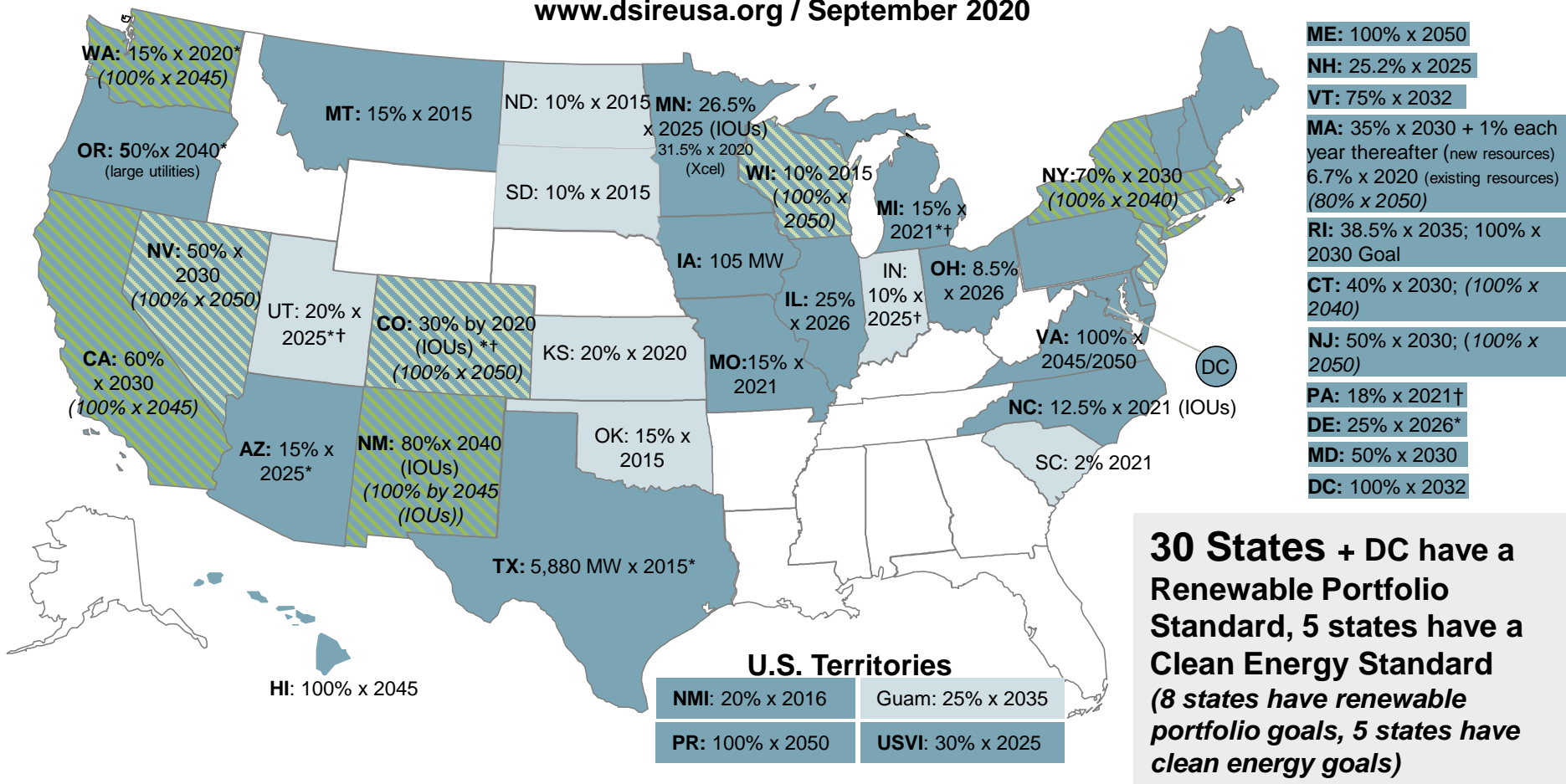
# The Need for Additional Transmission

## **Significant transmission investment needs will be driven by decarbonizing the economy:**

- Increased electricity loads from decarbonizing transportation, industry, and home heating
  - Replacing fossil fuel with electricity produced by non-emitting resources
  - Electricity needs are projected to increase by 50-100%
- Need to move low-cost renewable generation resources to load centers
  - Lowest-cost wind in Great Plains (TX to ND)
  - Lowest-cost solar in Southwest (TX-NM-AZ-NV-CA)
  - Population center loads located on coasts
- Need transmission system to diversify renewable generation variability
  - Span regions larger than typical weather systems
  - Interconnect regions with different renewable generation types (wind, solar, geothermal, hydro)

# Renewable and Clean-Energy Policies

www.dsireusa.org / September 2020



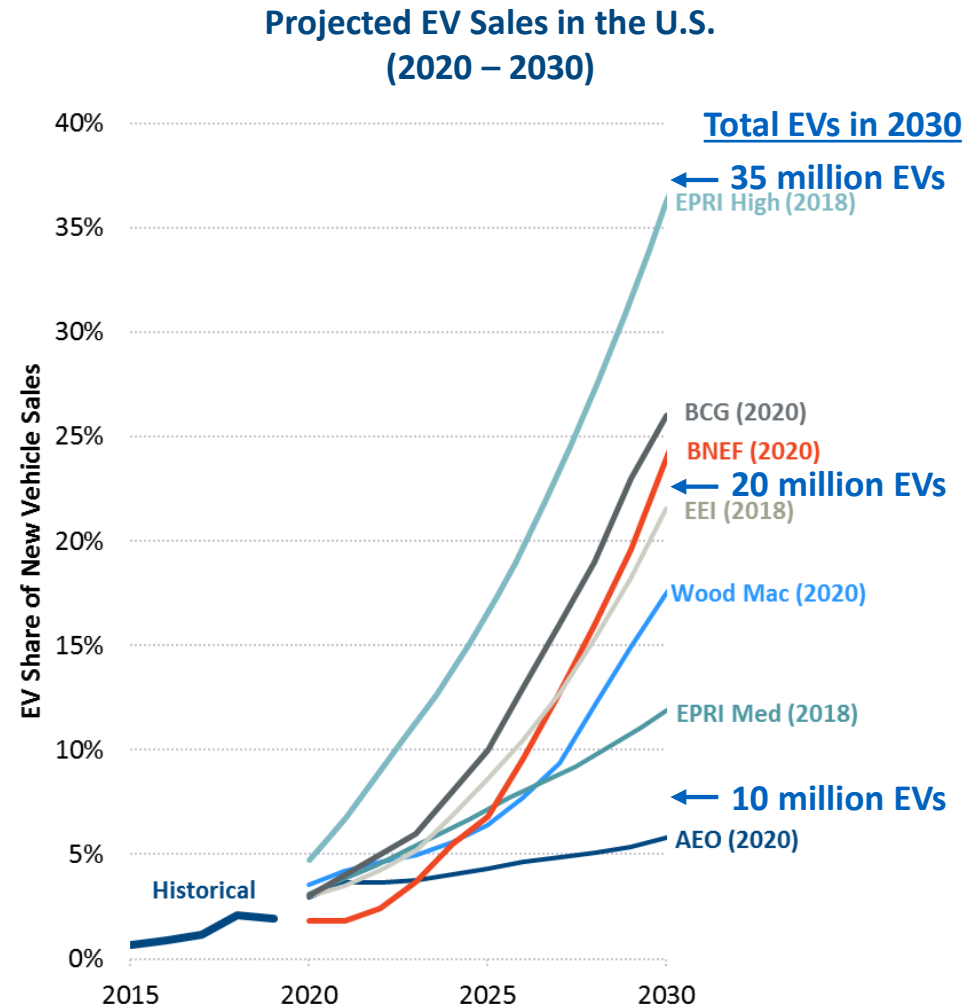
Renewable portfolio standard
  Clean energy standard
  Renewable portfolio goal
  Clean energy goal

\* Extra credit for solar or customer-sited renewables  
 † Includes non-renewable alternative resources

# Electrification of Passenger Transport

Recent studies predict EV growth to continue rapidly over the next decade

- Low-end of estimates suggest 10 million EVs in the U.S. by 2030; about 10x the number of EVs in the U.S. today
- High-end of estimate are at 35 million EVs by 2030; about 30x over today's level



**Source and Notes:** EPRI, PEV Market Projection Assumptions: June 2018 Update, June 2018. (EPRI Low forecast not shown because its 2030 forecast is below the levels already obtained.); BNEF, Electric Vehicle Outlook, 2019; IEI/EEI, Electric Vehicle Sales Forecast and the Charging Infrastructure Required through 2030, November 2018; Wood Mackenzie, Electric car forecast to 2040, accessed May 2020; EIA, Annual Energy Outlook: Light-duty vehicle sales by technology type and Census Division: United States, 2020; BCG.

# Regional and Long-Haul Fleet Electrification

Electric MDV and HDV trucks are also being developed and *purchased* to reduce transportation emissions

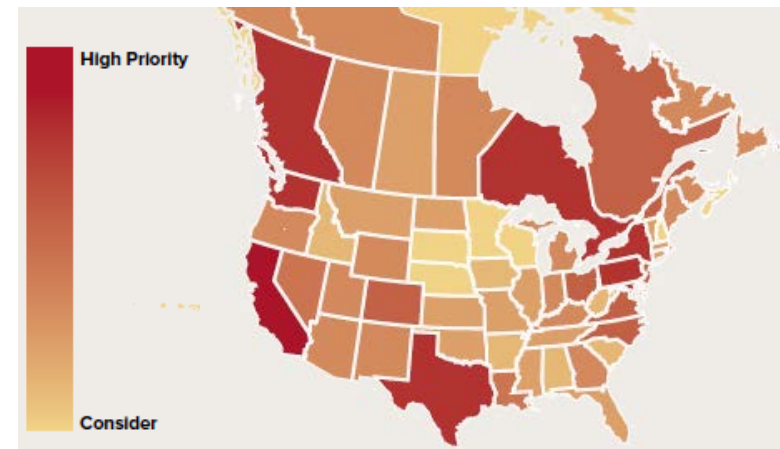
- Other vehicle types are likely to be beachhead markets for fleets
- Walmart recently increased its order of Tesla Semis to 130 trucks

Long-haul trucks will require DCFC capacity on major corridors

## Fleet Electrification Commercialization Pathways



## High Priority Regions for Electric Truck Deployments

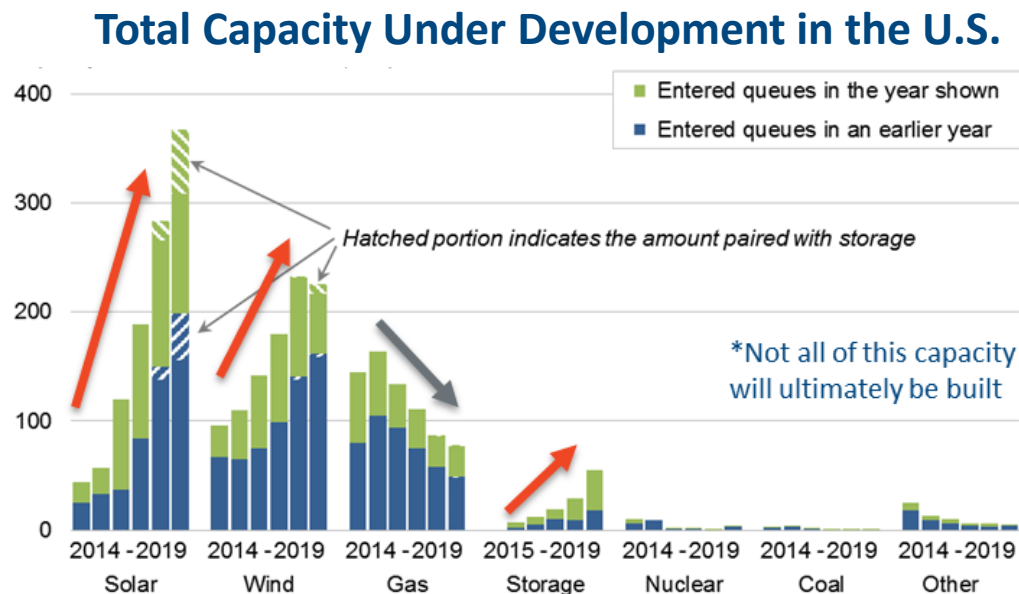


Source: Lundy and Roeth, [High-Potential Regions for Electric Truck Deployments](#), 2020.

# Renewable Generation and Storage are being Developed across the U.S.

While states have greatly expanded their clean energy goals to achieve decarbonization goals over the next decades, renewable development is occurring everywhere in the U.S.

- Renewables and storage make up 90% of capacity being developed *across the entire country*

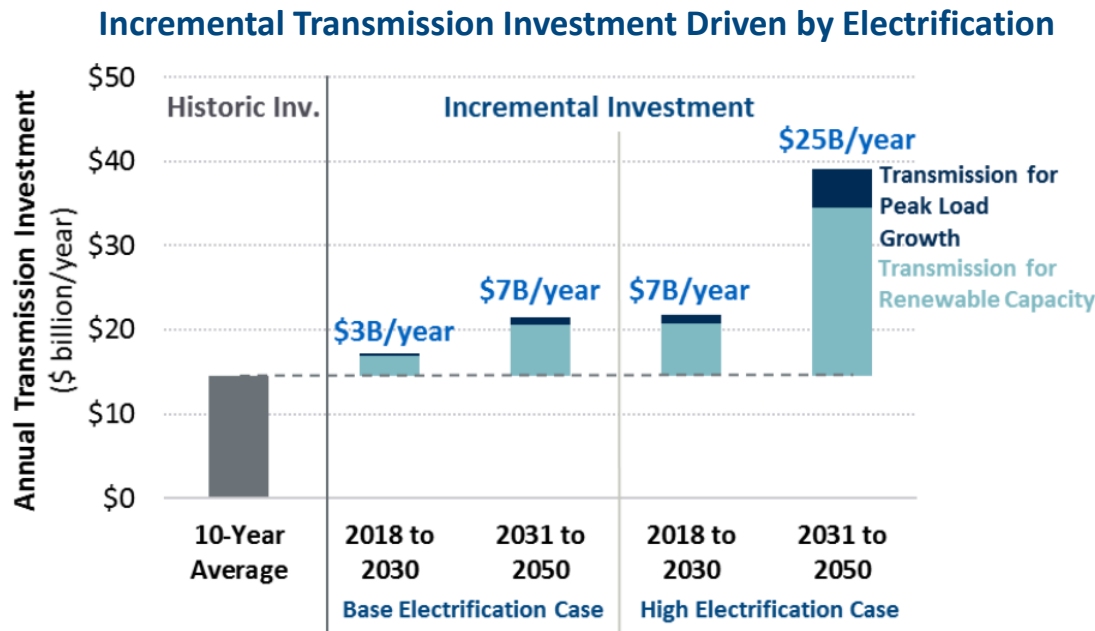


Source: Bolinger, et al., [Utility-Scale Solar 2020 Data Update](#), November 2020.

# US Transmission Investment Driven by Economy-wide Electrification

Brattle study found that electrification will drive \$3 billion/year of incremental transmission investment over the next decade

- Increases to \$7 billion/year between 2030 and 2050
- High electrification sensitivity finds \$7 billion/year in near term; \$25 billion/year from 2030 to 2050



Notes: The historical average reflects transmission investments from 2006 to 2016 based on transmission capital expenditures reported on FERC Form 1.



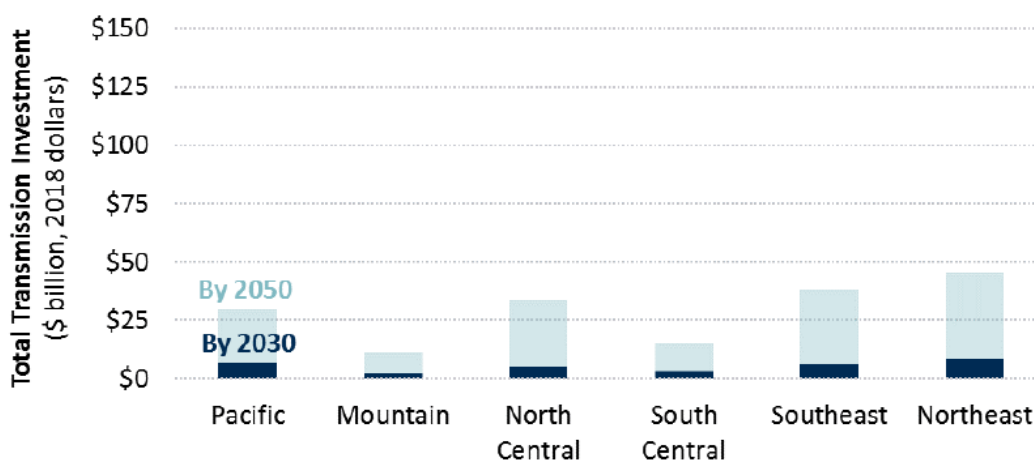
# US Transmission Investment Driven by Economy-wide Electrification

Transmission investment needs to meet electrification demand largest in North Central, Southeast, and Northeast regions

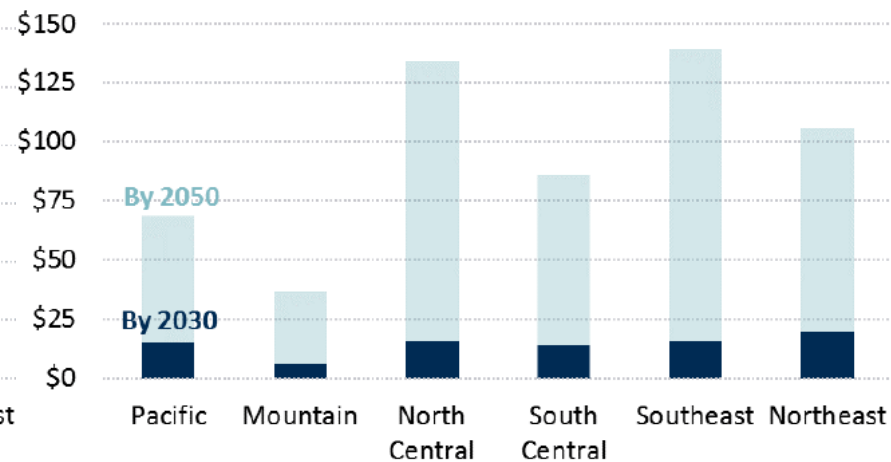
- Base case studied suggests regional needs of \$30-\$50 billion by 2050 in these three regions
- High electrification case find investment needs of \$100-\$125 billion by 2050 in those regions

## Transmission Investment Driven by Electrification by Region

(a) Base Electrification Case



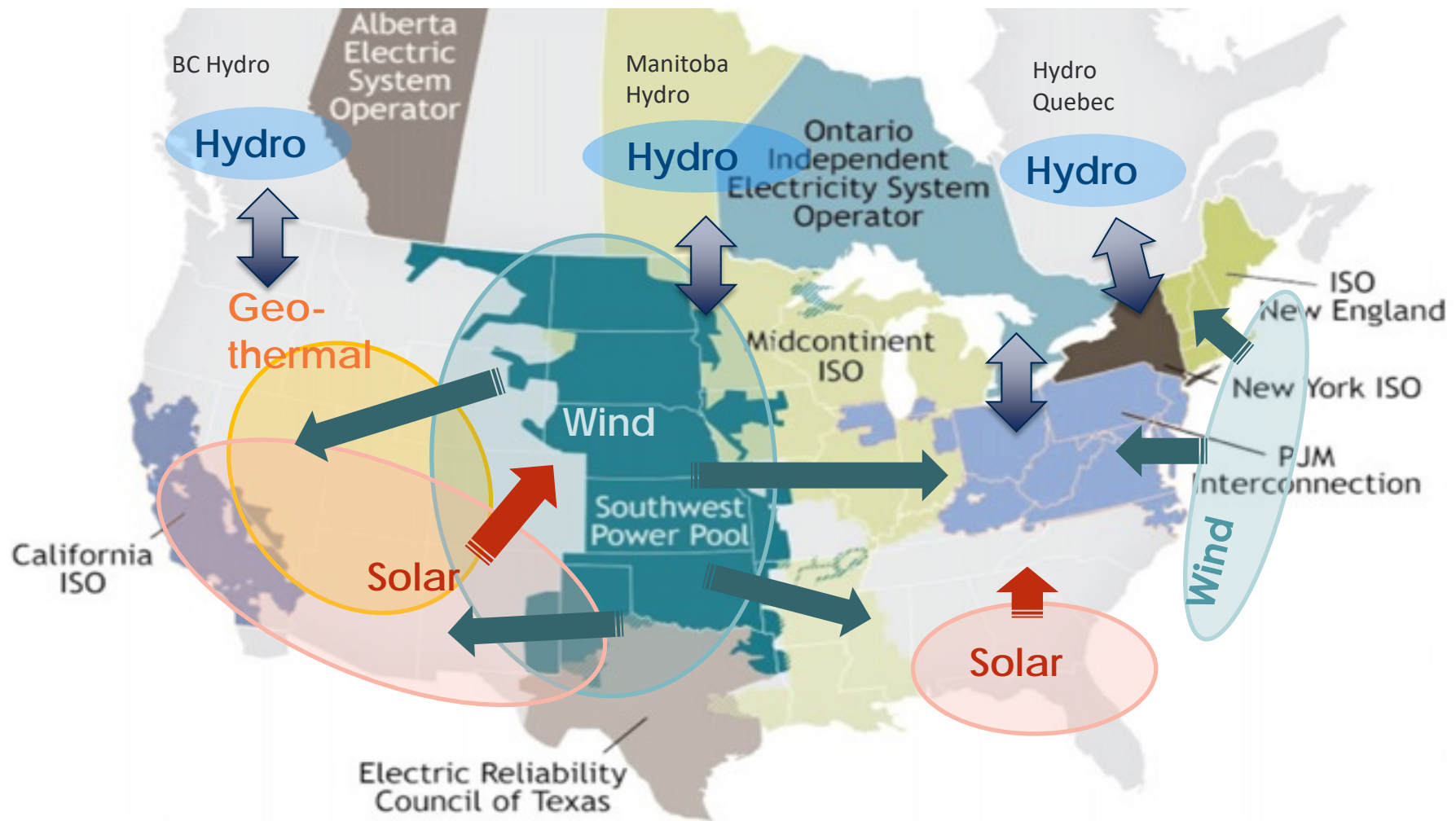
(b) High Electrification Case



Source: Weiss et. al., [The Coming Electrification of the North American Economy](#), WIRES, March 2019.



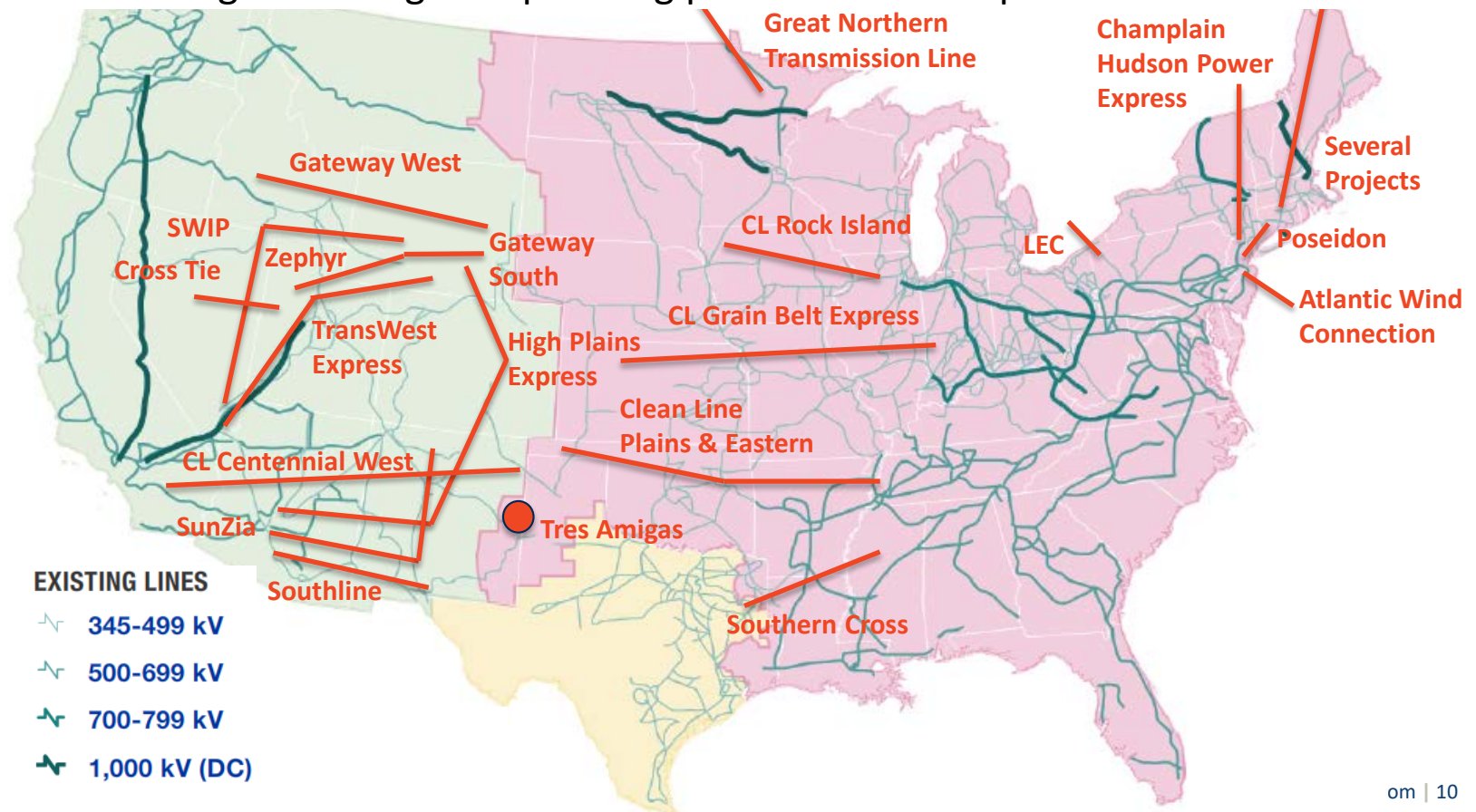
# Diversifying Low-Cost Clean Energy



# Proposed Transmission Projects Indicate High-value Paths

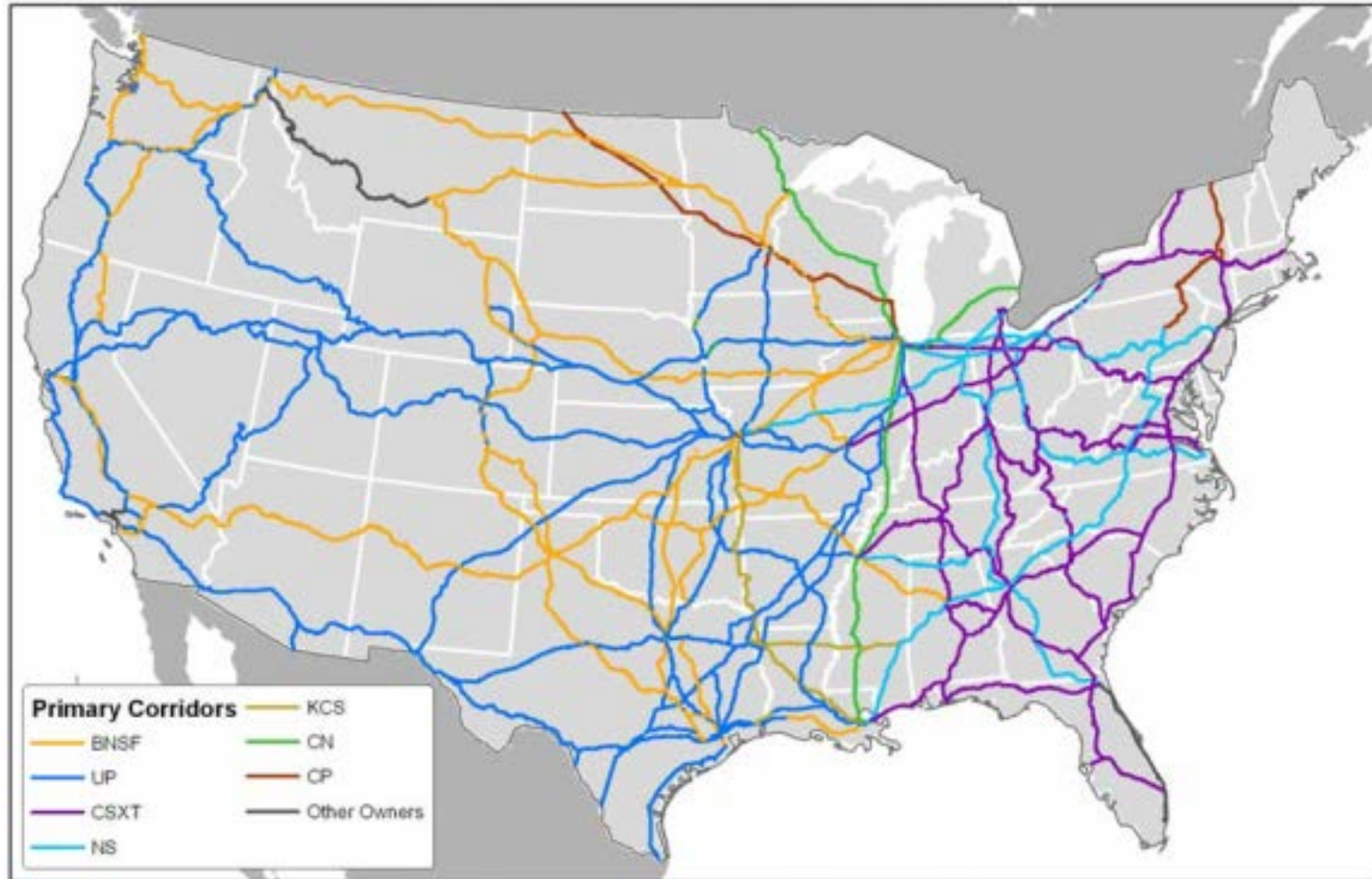
Existing inter-regional transmission proposals seek to capture available value; proposed projects indicate where developers believe the highest-value paths are.

- Few of these projects will get built unless permitting challenges are overcome and cost allocation through inter-regional planning process becomes possible



# Railroad Right-of-Ways Almost Perfectly Cover the Needed Transmission Corridors

## National Network of Class I Railroads



**Source:** Cambridge Systematics, Inc., National Rail Freight Infrastructure Capacity and Investment Study, September 2007.

# Takeaways

- The electricity sector is going through a rapid transformation with substantial growth in renewable resource development due to declining costs and clean energy policies
  - Personal and commercial transportation modes are starting to see accelerating electrification, increasing electricity demand
  - Electrification of transport, industry, and home heating will require an additional \$7 billion to \$25 billion per year of cost-effective transmission upgrades to access and integrate the renewable resources needed for electrification
- The railroad corridors provide a great opportunity for siting new transmission facilities that otherwise may not get built
- Synergies between transmission investments and railroad electrifications need to be explored more fully



# Additional Reading

## Well-Planned Electric Transmission Saves Customer Costs:

Improved Transmission Planning is Key to the Transition to a Carbon-Constrained Future

Link: <https://bit.ly/3dnKrx6>

PREPARED FOR



PREPARED BY

Judy W. Chang  
Johannes P. Pfeifenberger

May 2016

THE **Brattle** GROUP

## Toward More Effective Transmission Planning:

Addressing the Costs and Risks of an Insufficiently Flexible Electricity Grid

PREPARED FOR



PREPARED BY

Johannes P. Pfeifenberger  
Judy W. Chang  
Akash Shellendranath

April 2015

Link: <https://bit.ly/2GU4h7w>

## *The Brattle Group*

Link: <https://bit.ly/3jS0PsB>

## The Benefits of Electric Transmission: Identifying and Analyzing the Value of Investments

July 2013

Judy W. Chang  
Johannes P. Pfeifenberger  
J. Michael Hagerty

Link: <https://bit.ly/34slZai>



Boston University Institute for Sustainable Energy

The Value of Diversifying Uncertain  
Renewable Generation through the  
Transmission System

September • 2020



# Additional Reading

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- Pfeifenberger, "[Transmission Cost Allocation: Principles, Methodologies, and Recommendations](#)," prepared for OMS, Nov 16, 2020.
- Pfeifenberger, Ruiz, Van Horn, "[The Value of Diversifying Uncertain Renewable Generation through the Transmission System](#)," BU-ISE, October 14, 2020.
- Pfeifenberger, Newell, Graf and Spokas, "[Offshore Wind Transmission: An Analysis of Options for New York](#)", prepared for Anbaric, August 2020.
- Pfeifenberger, Newell, and Graf, "[Offshore Transmission in New England: The Benefits of a Better-Planned Grid](#)," prepared for Anbaric, May 2020.
- Tsuchida and Ruiz, "[Innovation in Transmission Operation with Advanced Technologies](#)," T&D World, December 19, 2019.
- Pfeifenberger, "[Cost Savings Offered by Competition in Electric Transmission](#)," Power Markets Today Webinar, December 11, 2019.
- Pfeifenberger, "[Improving Transmission Planning: Benefits, Risks, and Cost Allocation](#)," MGA-OMS Ninth Annual Transmission Summit, Nov 6, 2019.
- Chang, Pfeifenberger, Sheilendranath, Hagerty, Levin, and Jiang, "[Cost Savings Offered by Competition in Electric Transmission: Experience to Date and the Potential for Additional Customer Value](#)," April 2019. "[Response to Concentric Energy Advisors' Report on Competitive Transmission](#)," August 2019.
- Ruiz, "[Transmission Topology Optimization: Application in Operations, Markets, and Planning Decision Making](#)," May 2019.
- Chang and Pfeifenberger, "[Well-Planned Electric Transmission Saves Customer Costs: Improved Transmission Planning is Key to the Transition to a Carbon-Constrained Future](#)," WIRES and The Brattle Group, June 2016.
- Newell et al. "[Benefit-Cost Analysis of Proposed New York AC Transmission Upgrades](#)," on behalf of NYISO and DPS Staff, September 15, 2015.
- Pfeifenberger, Chang, and Sheilendranath, "[Toward More Effective Transmission Planning: Addressing the Costs and Risks of an Insufficiently Flexible Electricity Grid](#)," WIRES and The Brattle Group, April 2015.
- Chang, Pfeifenberger, Hagerty, "[The Benefits of Electric Transmission: Identifying and Analyzing the Value of Investments](#)," on behalf of WIRES, July 2013.
- Chang, Pfeifenberger, Newell, Tsuchida, Hagerty, "[Recommendations for Enhancing ERCOT's Long-Term Transmission Planning Process](#)," October 2013.
- Pfeifenberger and Hou, "[Seams Cost Allocation: A Flexible Framework to Support Interregional Transmission Planning](#)," on behalf of SPP, April 2012.
- Pfeifenberger, Hou, "[Employment and Economic Benefits of Transmission Infrastructure Investment in the U.S. and Canada](#)," on behalf of WIRES, May 2011.

# Speaker Bio and Contact Information



## **Johannes P. Pfeifenberger**

Principal, Boston

Hannes.Pfeifenberger@brattle.com

617.864.7900 office

617.234.5624 direct

### **Note:**

The views expressed in this presentation are strictly those of the presenter and do not necessarily state or reflect the views of *The Brattle Group, Inc.*

Johannes (Hannes) Pfeifenberger is an economist with a background in power engineering and over 20 years of experience in the areas of public utility economics and finance. He has published widely, assisted clients and stakeholder groups in the formulation of business and regulatory strategy, and submitted expert testimony to the U.S. Congress, courts, state and federal regulatory agencies, and in arbitration proceedings.

Hannes has extensive experience in the economic analyses of wholesale power markets and transmission systems. His recent experience includes the analysis of transmission benefits, reviews of RTO capacity market and resource adequacy designs, testimony in contract disputes, cost allocation, and rate design. He has performed market assessments, market design reviews, asset valuations, and cost-benefit studies for investor-owned utilities, independent system operators, transmission companies, regulatory agencies, public power companies, and generators across North America.

Hannes received an M.A. in Economics and Finance from Brandeis University and a B.S. and M.S. ("Dipl. Ing.") in Power Engineering and Energy Economics from the University of Technology in Vienna, Austria.



# Speaker Bio and Contact Information



## **J. Michael Hagerty**

Sr. Associate, Washington, D.C.

Michael.Hagerty@brattle.com

202.955.5050 office

202.419.3323 direct

### **Note:**

**The views expressed in this presentation are strictly those of the presenter and do not necessarily state or reflect the views of *The Brattle Group, Inc.***

Mr. John Michael Hagerty has 10 years of experience in the electric power sector, including analyzing the scale and impacts of electrification on the electric power system and developing a cost-effectiveness framework for beneficial electrification. Michael's experience with clients related to deep decarbonization and electrification includes analyzing the scale of transportation and heating electrification necessary to achieve 80% GHG reduction goals in New England for the Coalition for Community Solar Access, the nationwide transmission needs to support broad electrification through 2050 for the WIRES Group, and the benefits and costs of electric city buses and indoor agriculture for EPRI. He also has experience in transmission benefit cost analysis and wholesale market design.

Mr. Hagerty received his M.S. in Technology and Policy from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame. Prior to joining Brattle, Mr. Hagerty was a research assistant at the MIT Energy Initiative, an oil refinery process engineer at Honeywell, and a research chemist at GE Global Research.

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