

Department of Energy
Quadrennial Energy Review
Storage – Is It Finally Coming of Age?



Snohomish PUD
Steve Klein
CEO/General Manager



Building a Renewables Portfolio

2

Power Supply *{we've got our sources}*

- **Multiple Initiatives** (*leaving no stone unturned*)

- **Conventional Resources**

- ✦ Bias for ownership
- ✦ Wind
- ✦ Geothermal
- ✦ Low Impact Hydro

- **Customer Distributed**

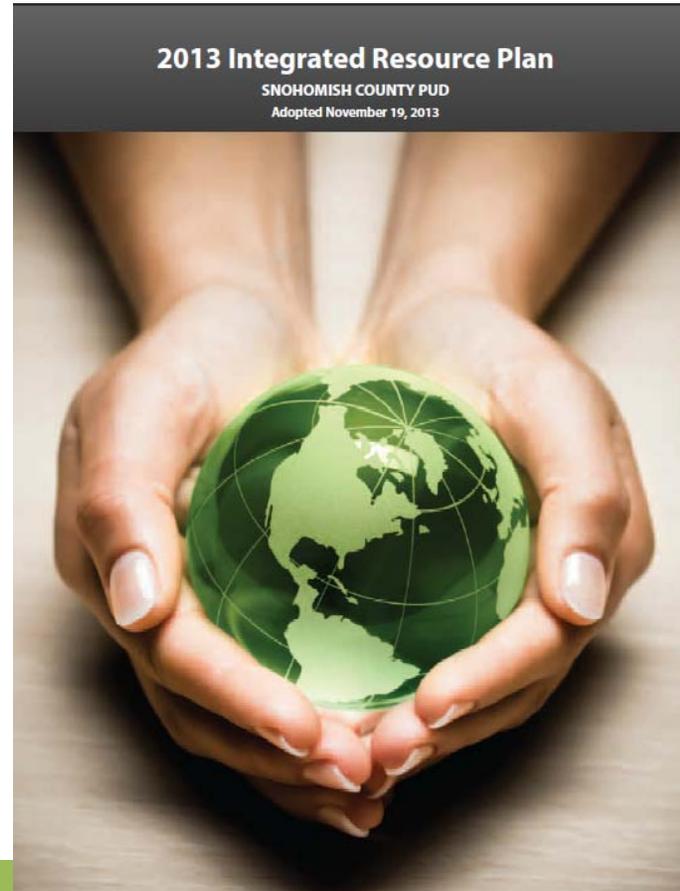
- ✦ Solar
- ✦ Small wind
- ✦ Small renewables program

- **Research & Development**

- ✦ Tidal energy
- ✦ Energy storage

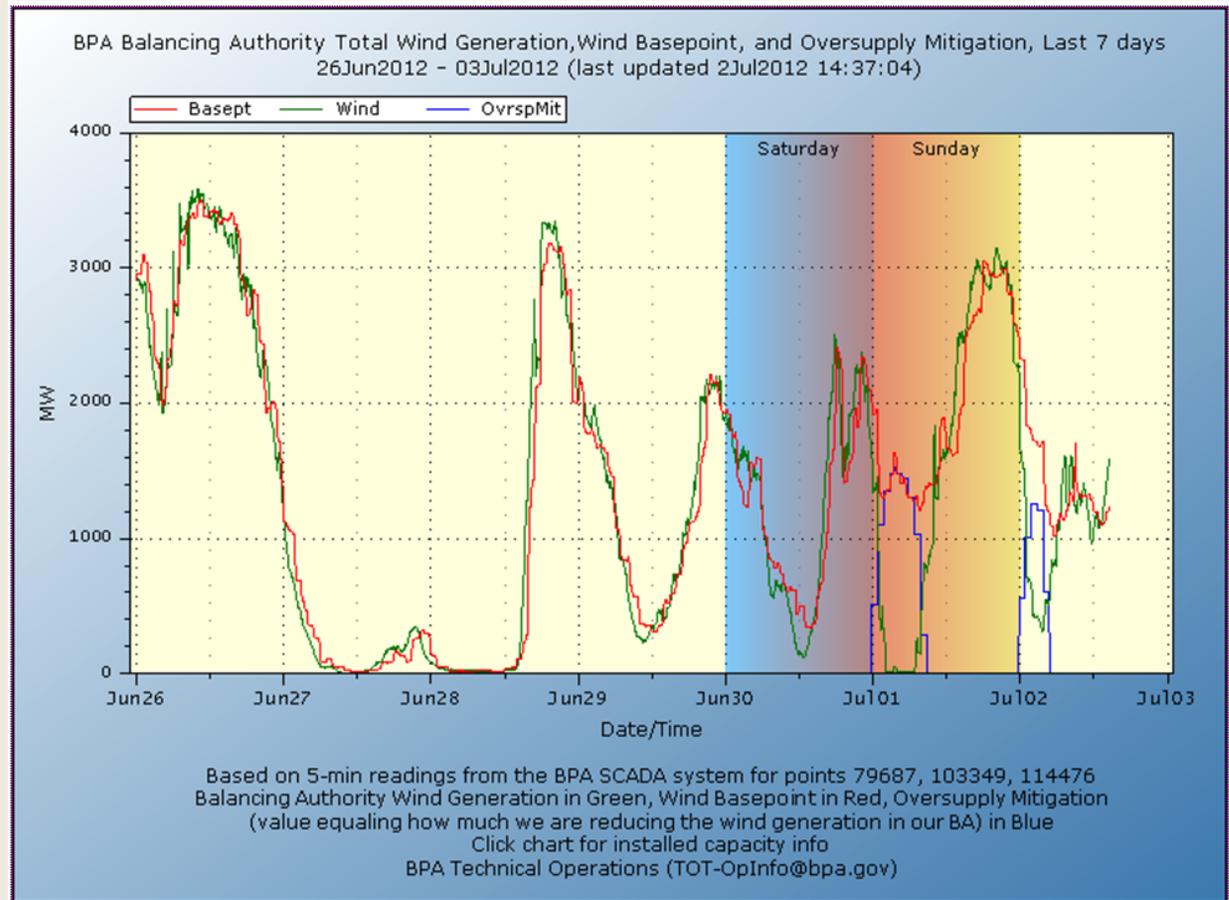
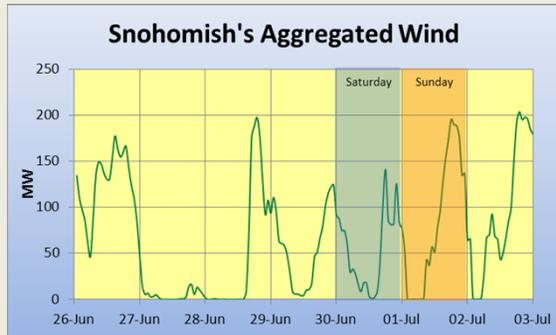
- **Tying it all together**

- ✦ Smart Grid



Wind Variability

3



Existing Challenges for Energy Storage

4

- **Current grid energy storage offerings**
 - Expensive (\$100k for 25 kw-hr system) →
 - Lack modularity
 - Lack interoperability
 - Lack scalability
 - Lack standardization
 - Monolithic; vendors operate beyond core expertise
- **Large gap between battery manufacturers and utilities**

For \$30k you can get 24kw-hr of Li-ion storage with a Nissan Leaf wrapped around it...



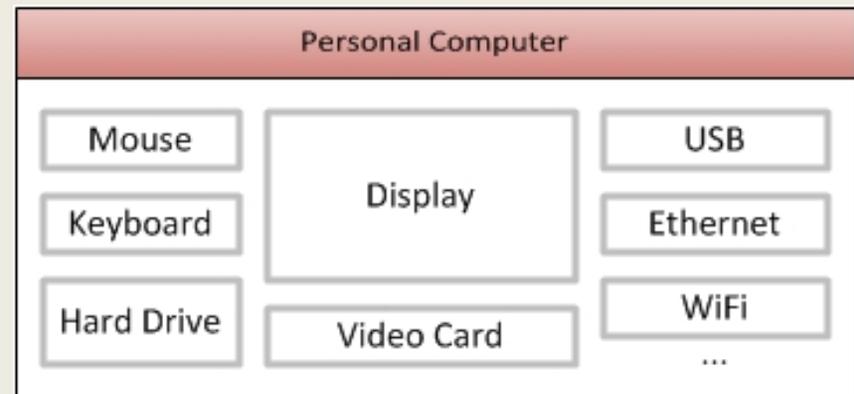
Vision

5

ESS \leftrightarrow {battery, PCS, ...}

Analogy: PC Industry

- **Utilities want:**
 - Standard components
 - Install, operate, maintain, upgrade, expand, ...
 - Functional, cost-effective supply chain
- **Standards must cover:**
 - Physical
 - Electrical
 - Communications
 - Think USB, Ethernet, etc.



Opportunity

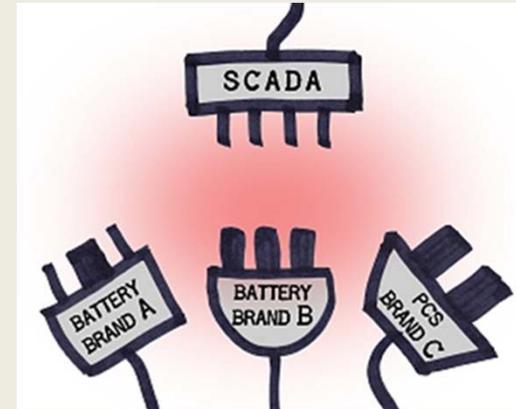
6

- **Implications:**
 - Utility market for significant-scale battery based storage is very small and slow growing
 - Projects to-date are either highly optimized one-off niche projects, or small learning/demonstration projects
 - Decreasing battery prices alone are unlikely to stimulate utility energy storage market growth significantly
 - Battery manufactures and other market players see the same landscape and agree there needs to be more done to effectively facilitate change
- **Opportunity: focus on architecture and standardization**
 - Develop and deploy “Modular Energy Storage Architecture” (MESA)

MESA Overview

7

- Current utility-grade energy storage systems (ESS) are project-specific, one-off solutions, built using proprietary components that are not modular or interoperable.
- *Modular Energy Storage Architecture (MESA) is an open, non-proprietary set of specifications and standards. Through standardization, MESA accelerates interoperability, scalability, safety, quality, availability, and affordability in energy storage components and systems.*



MESA Goals

8

- **Standardize components and interfaces**
 - Scalable, modular ESS from standard batteries, PCS, s/w
- **Give utilities real, long-term flexibility**
 - Avoid rigid, proprietary solutions
 - Enable true, large-scale **ES infrastructure**: scalable, manageable
- **Give suppliers more reach**
 - Core competencies, lower cost → grow customer base and revenue
- **Transform the energy storage market**
 - Standard components, more customers, lower risk for all

MESA Standards Alliance (www.mesastandards.org)

9

- Open Standards for Energy Storage
- Partnership with SunSpec
- Supporters

