



# The State of Play for Renewable Energy

REFF-Wall Street

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# ACORE: Driving Investment and Deployment

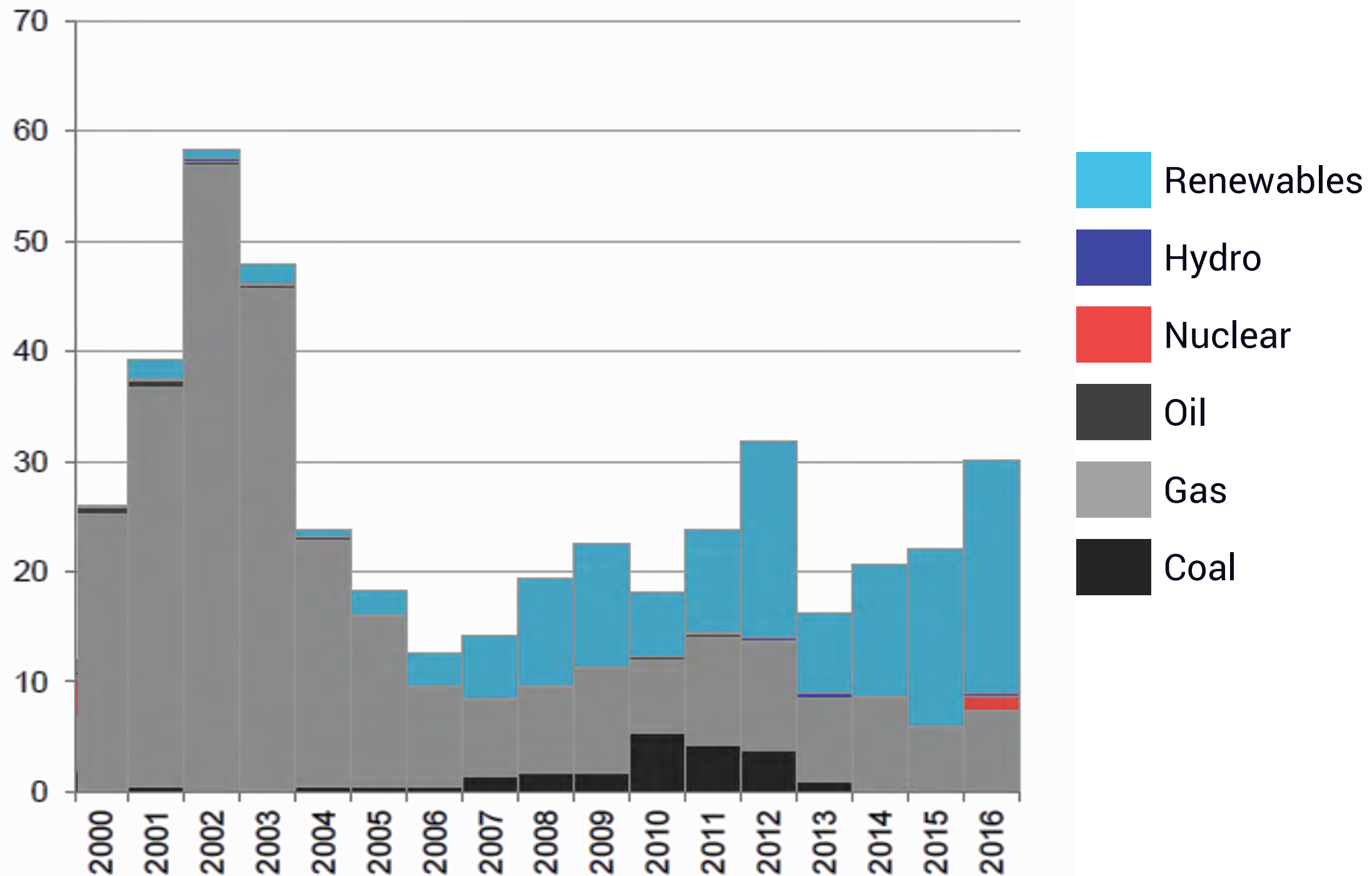
*Our Mission: Accelerate the Transition to a Renewable Energy Economy*





# The Transition to Renewables Is Well Underway

## Electric Generation Capacity Build by Fuel Type, 2000 - 2016



Source: Data courtesy of EIA, BCSE and BNEF

# Domestic Investment Remains High

## U.S. Total Renewable Energy Investment, 2004 - 2016

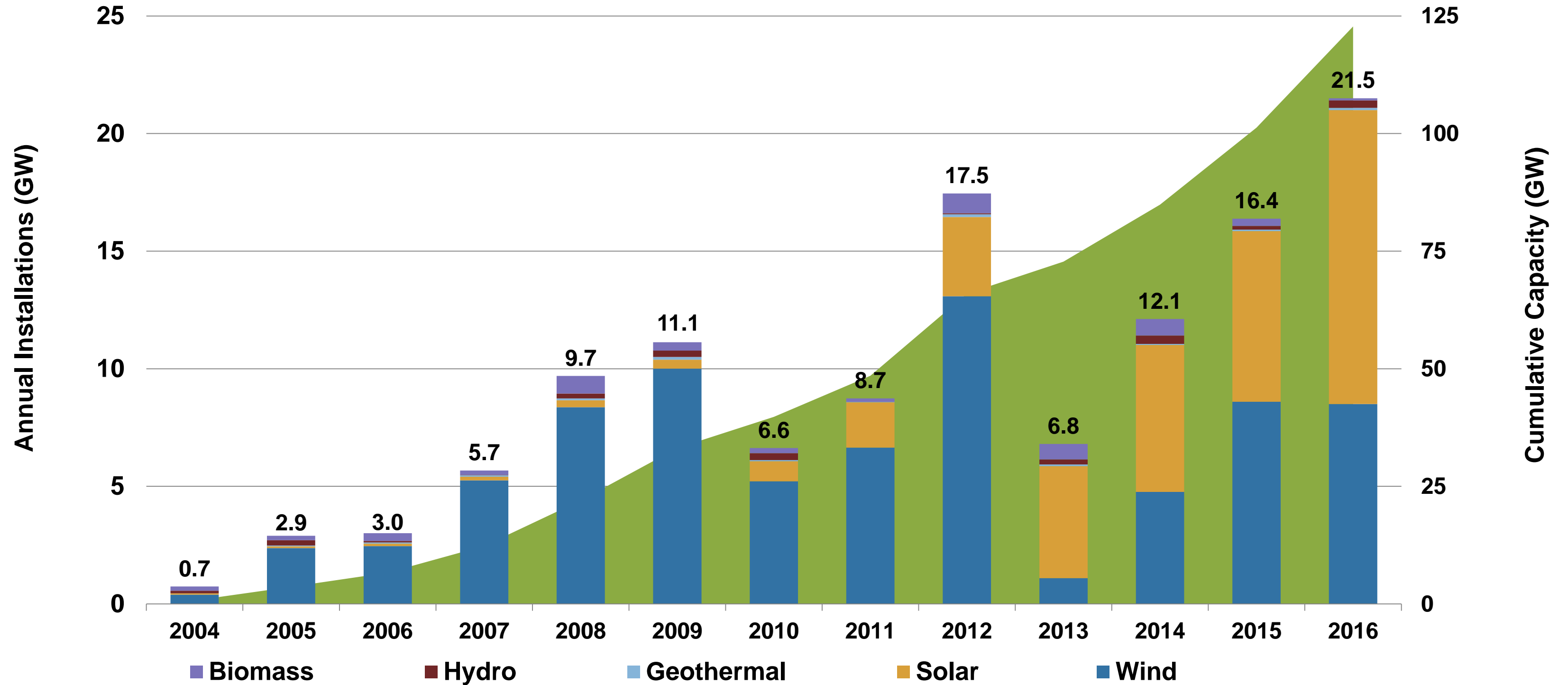


*Technologies include all biomass waste-to-energy, geothermal, and wind projects greater than 1 MW; all hydropower between 1 MW and 50 MW; all wave and tidal projects; all biofuel projects with a capacity of one million liters or greater per year; and all solar projects.*

*Source: Data courtesy of Frankfurt School, UNEP/BNEF*

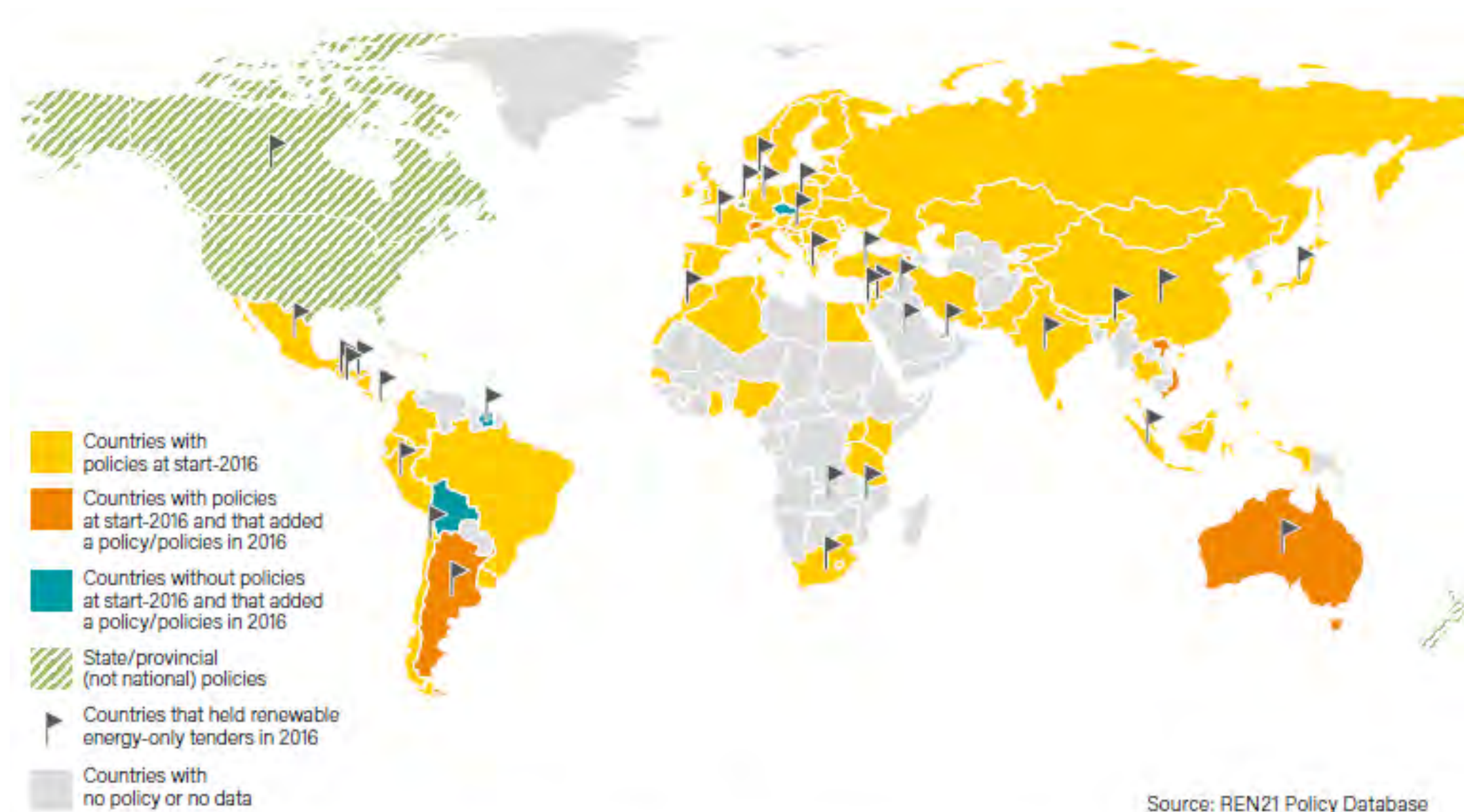
# New U.S. Renewable Energy Generating Capacity

## U.S. Renewable Energy Installations, 2004 - 2016



# Overview of Global Renewable Energy Policies

## Countries with Renewable Energy Power Policies (2016)



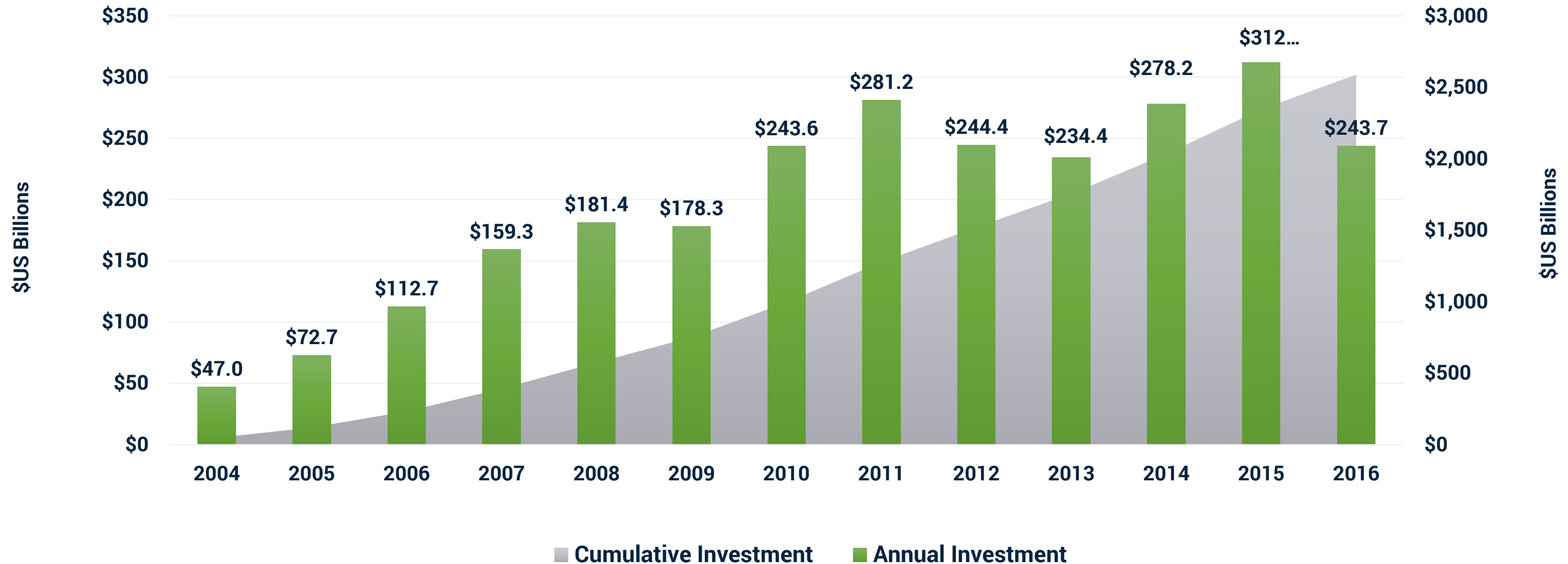
- 176 countries with renewable energy targets
- 191 of 197 countries have NDCs for the Paris Agreement (98% or emissions)
- 33 countries issued new tenders in 2016

Note: Figure shows countries with Renewable Portfolio Standards, feed-in tariffs/premium payments and net metering policies. Countries are considered to have policies when at least one national-level policy is in place; these countries may have state/provincial-level policies in place as well. Diagonal lines indicate that countries have no policies in place at the national level but have at least one policy at the state/provincial level.

Source: Chart courtesy of REN21

# High Levels of Global Investment

## Global Renewable Energy Investment, 2004 - 2016



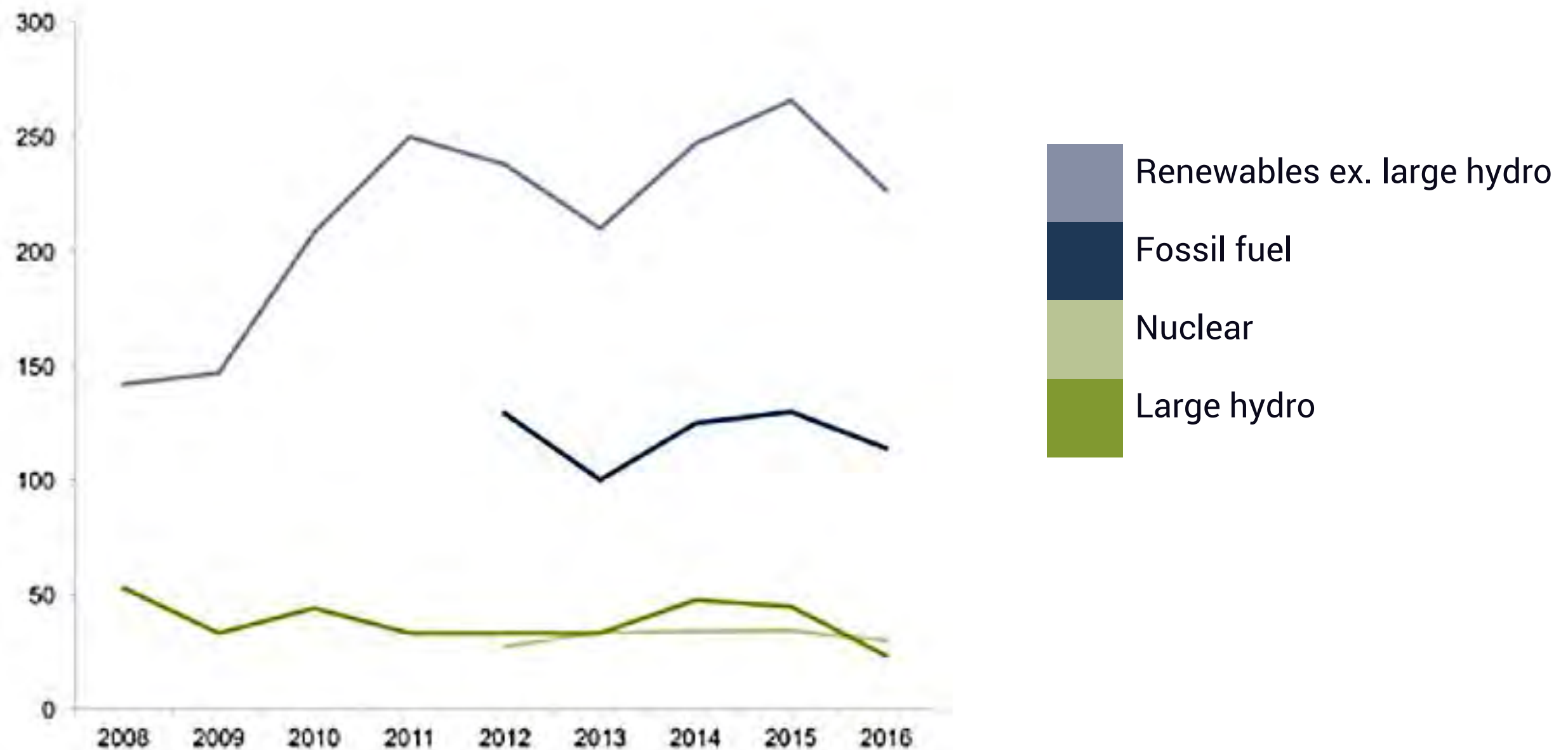
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Source: Frankfurt School – UNEP/BNEF



# Global Investment In Renewables Is Outpacing Other Energy Sources

Annual Renewable Energy Investment from 2008 - 2016  
Nearly Double That of Fossil Fuels (Power Sector, \$Bn)



Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance

Source: BNEF



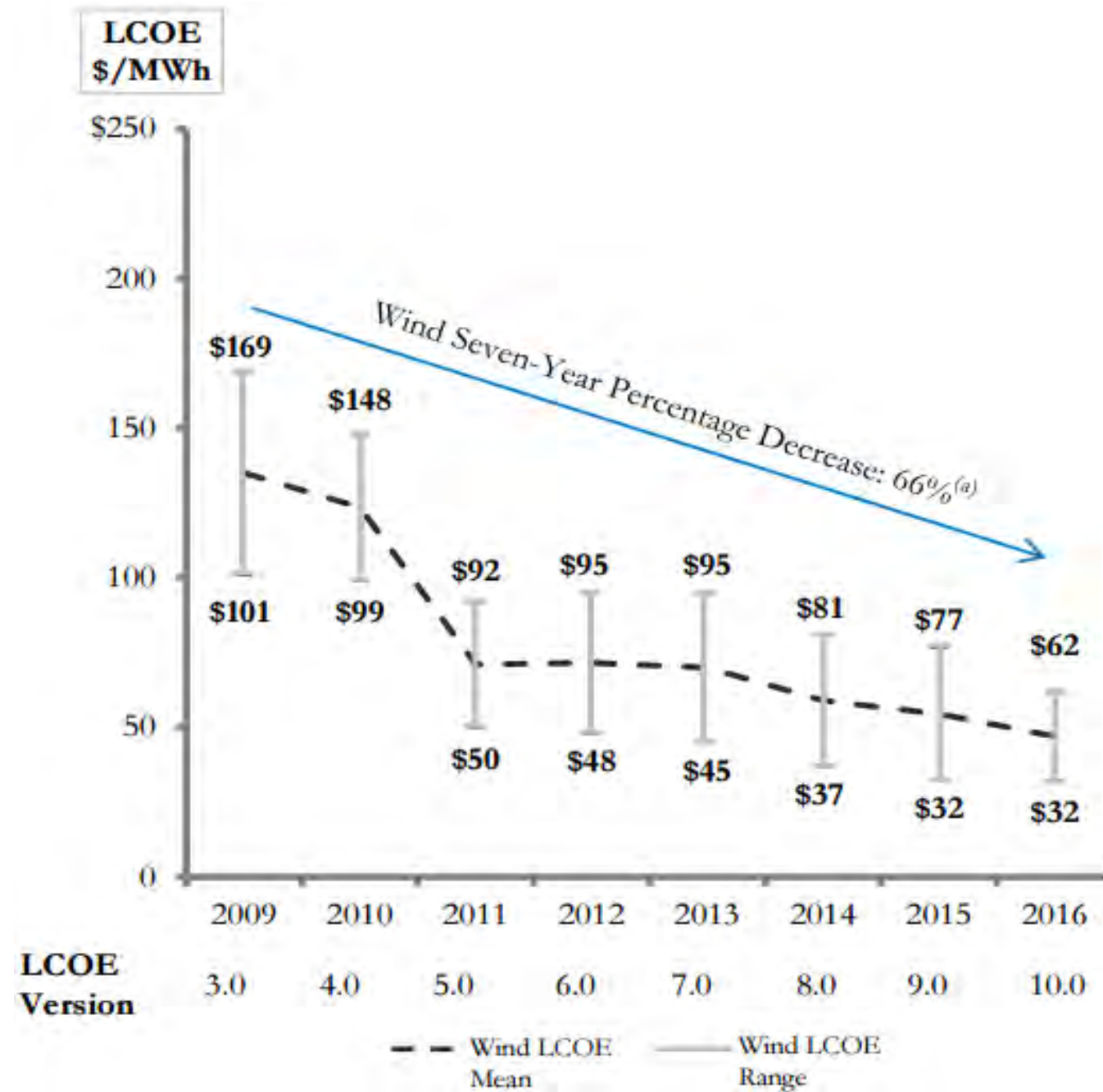
# Reasons for Rapid Renewable Energy Growth



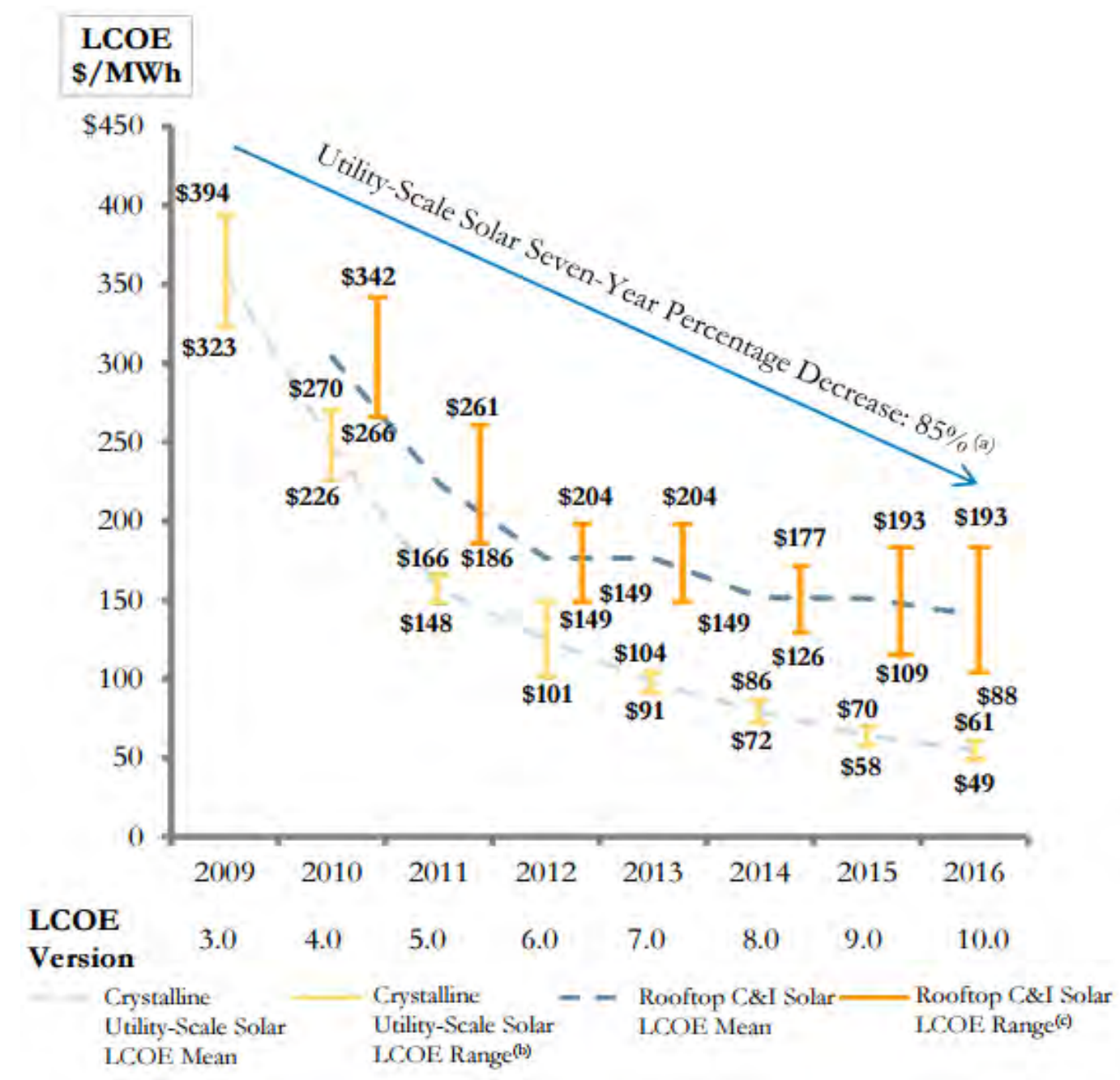
Dramatic improvements in cost effectiveness

# The Growing Cost-Effectiveness of Wind and Solar Power (Part 1)

66% Reduction in Wind LCOE since 2009



85% Reduction in Solar LCOE since 2009

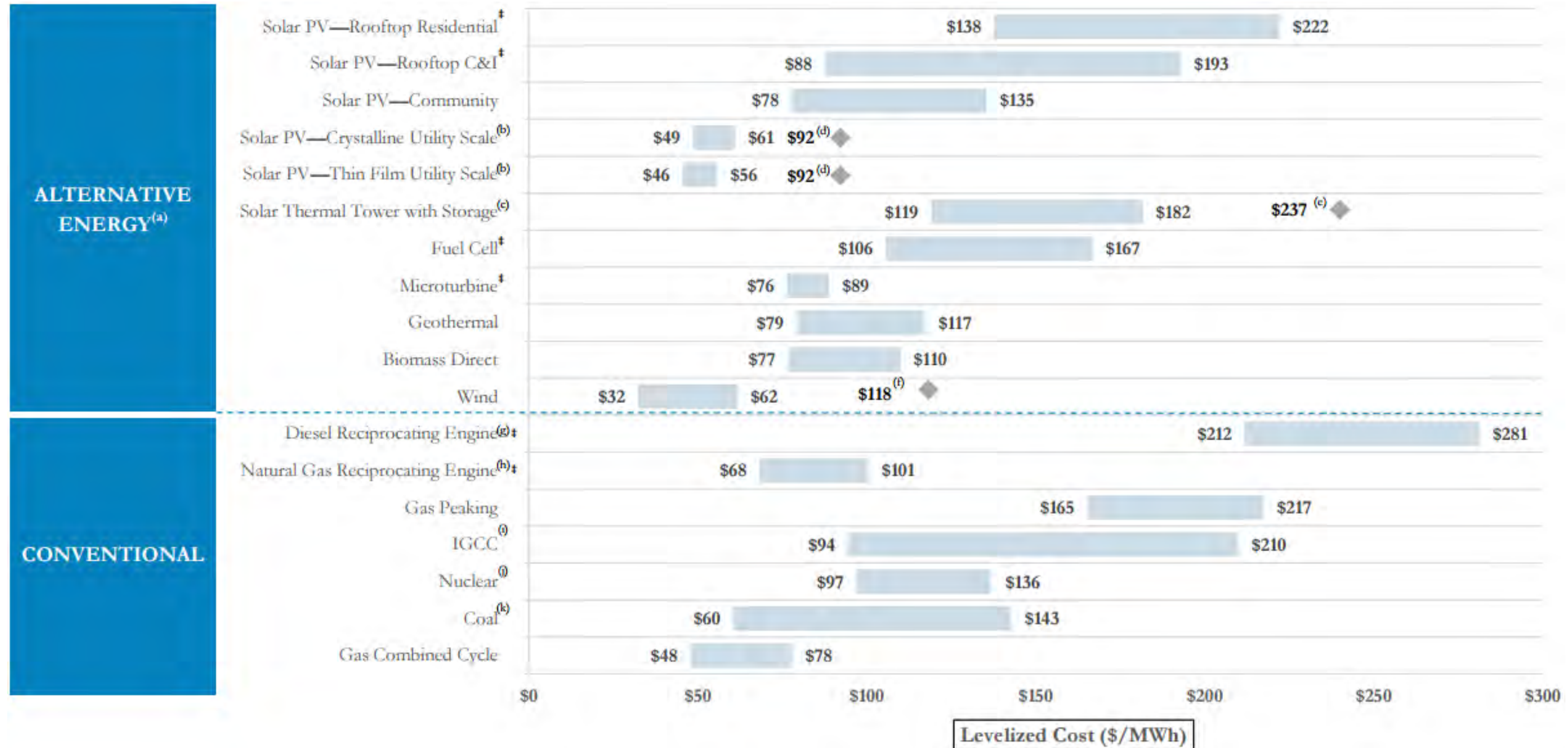


Source: Lazard



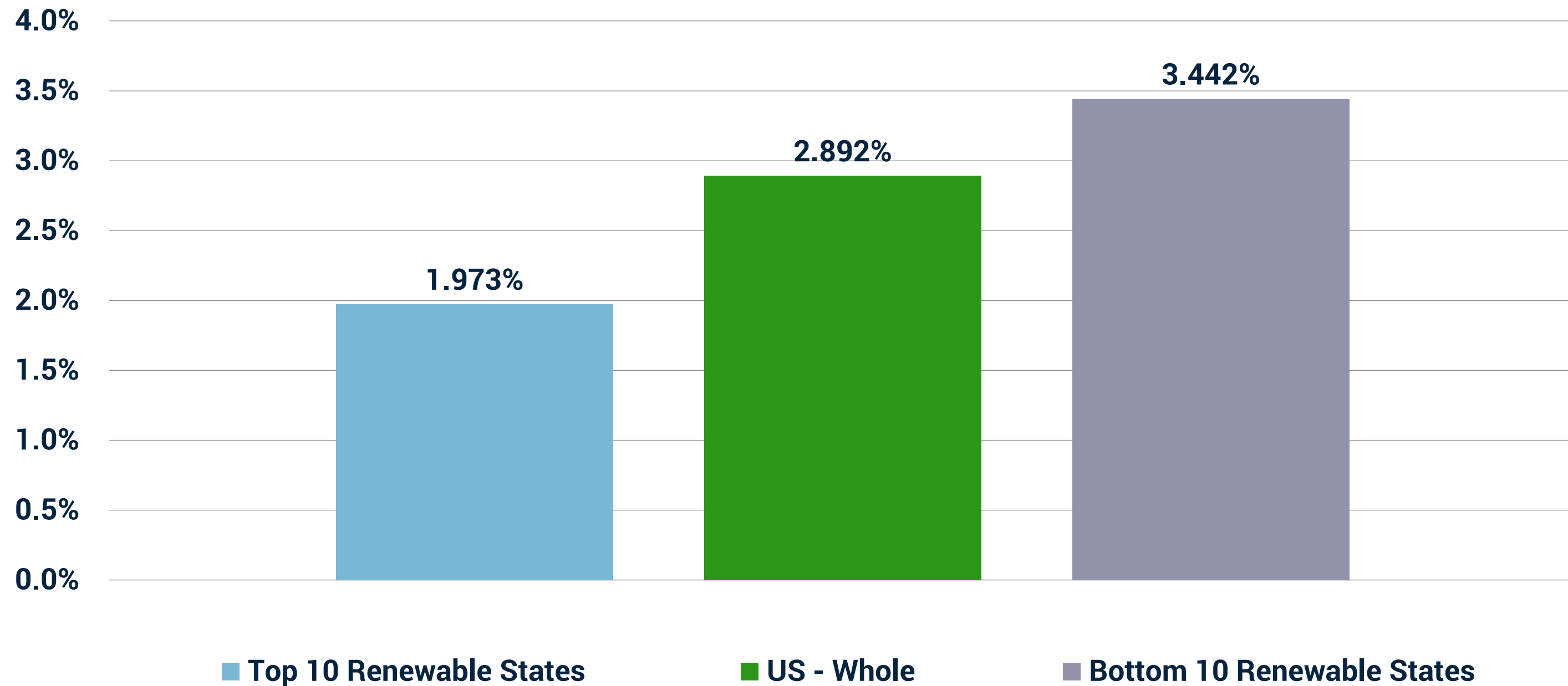
# The Growing Cost-Effectiveness of Wind and Solar Power (Part 2)

## Unsubsidized Levelized Cost of Electricity Comparison (U.S.)



# Wind and Solar Power and Electricity Rate Increases

Average Annual Increases In U.S. Retail Electricity Prices, 2002 - 2015





# Reasons for Rapid Renewable Energy Growth



Dramatic improvements in cost effectiveness



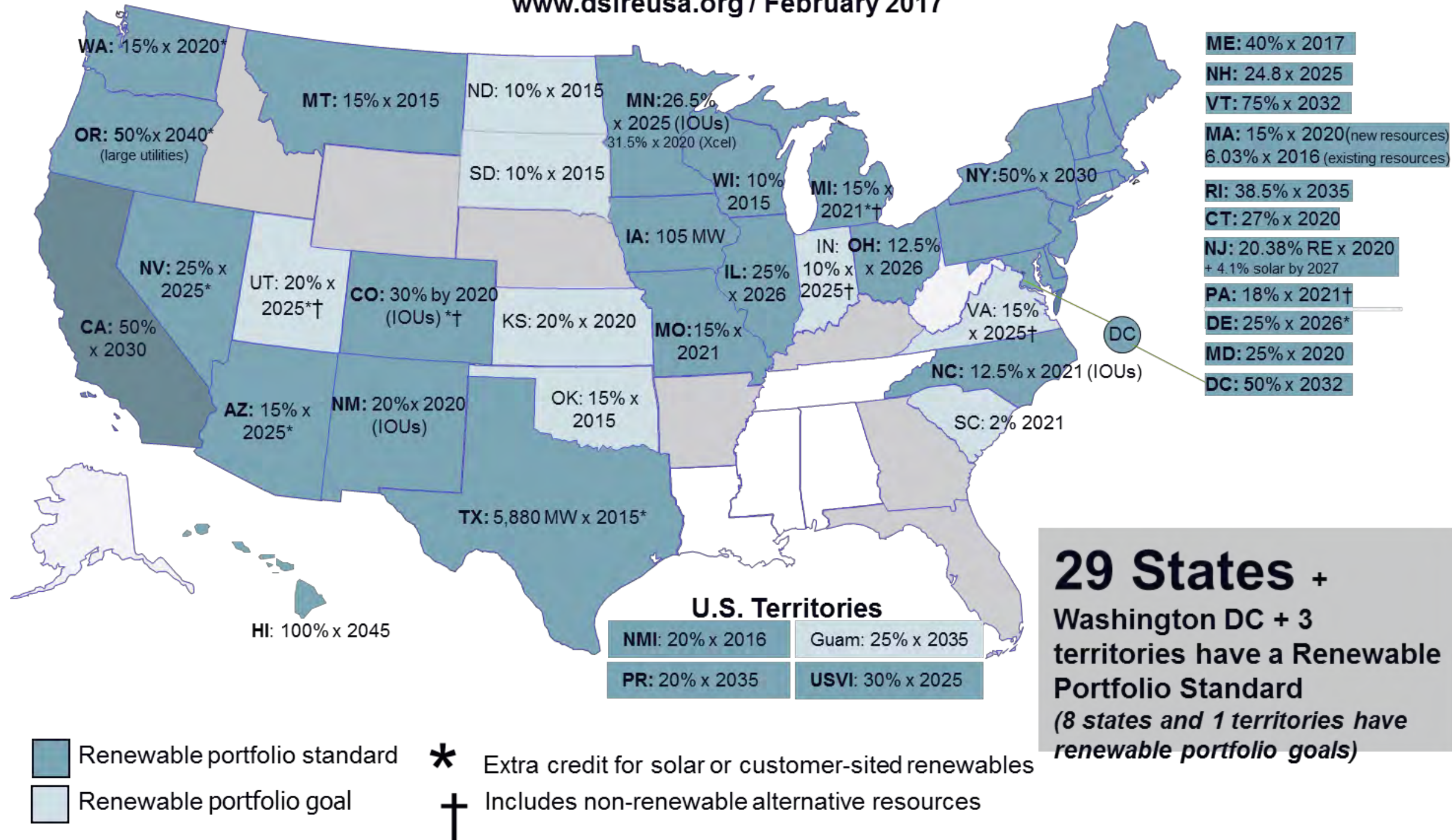
Aggressive state renewable standards in populous (big load) states



# State Renewable Energy Directives a Key Driver for Renewable Demand

## Renewable Portfolio Standard Policies

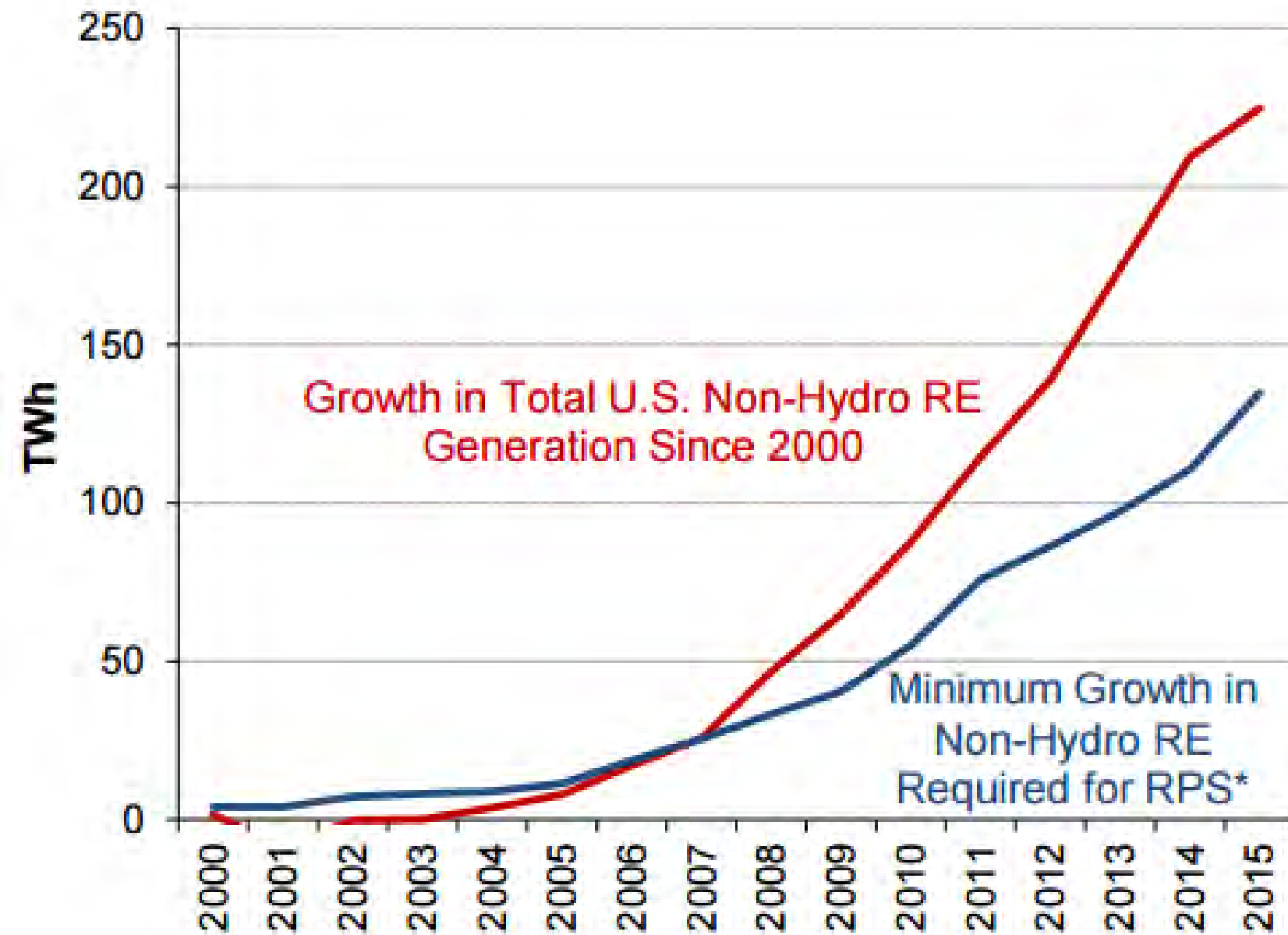
www.dsireusa.org / February 2017





# Market Evolution: Renewable Energy Growth Exceeds RPS Mandates

## Growth in US Non-Hydro Renewable Generation (TWh)



Source: NREL

# Reasons for Rapid Renewable Energy Growth



Dramatic improvements in cost effectiveness



Aggressive state renewable standards in populous (big load) states

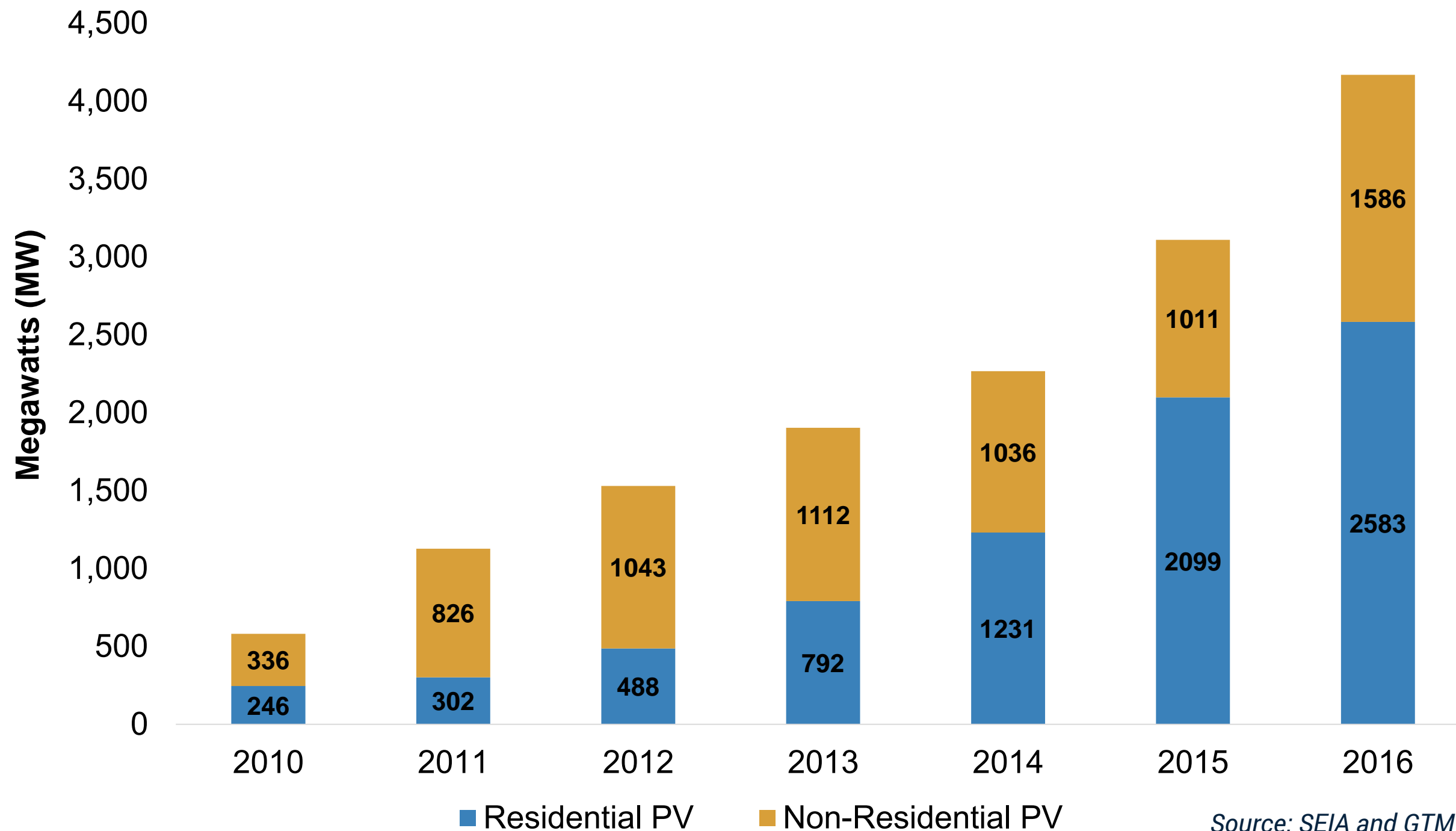


Increasing demand from residential consumers and American companies



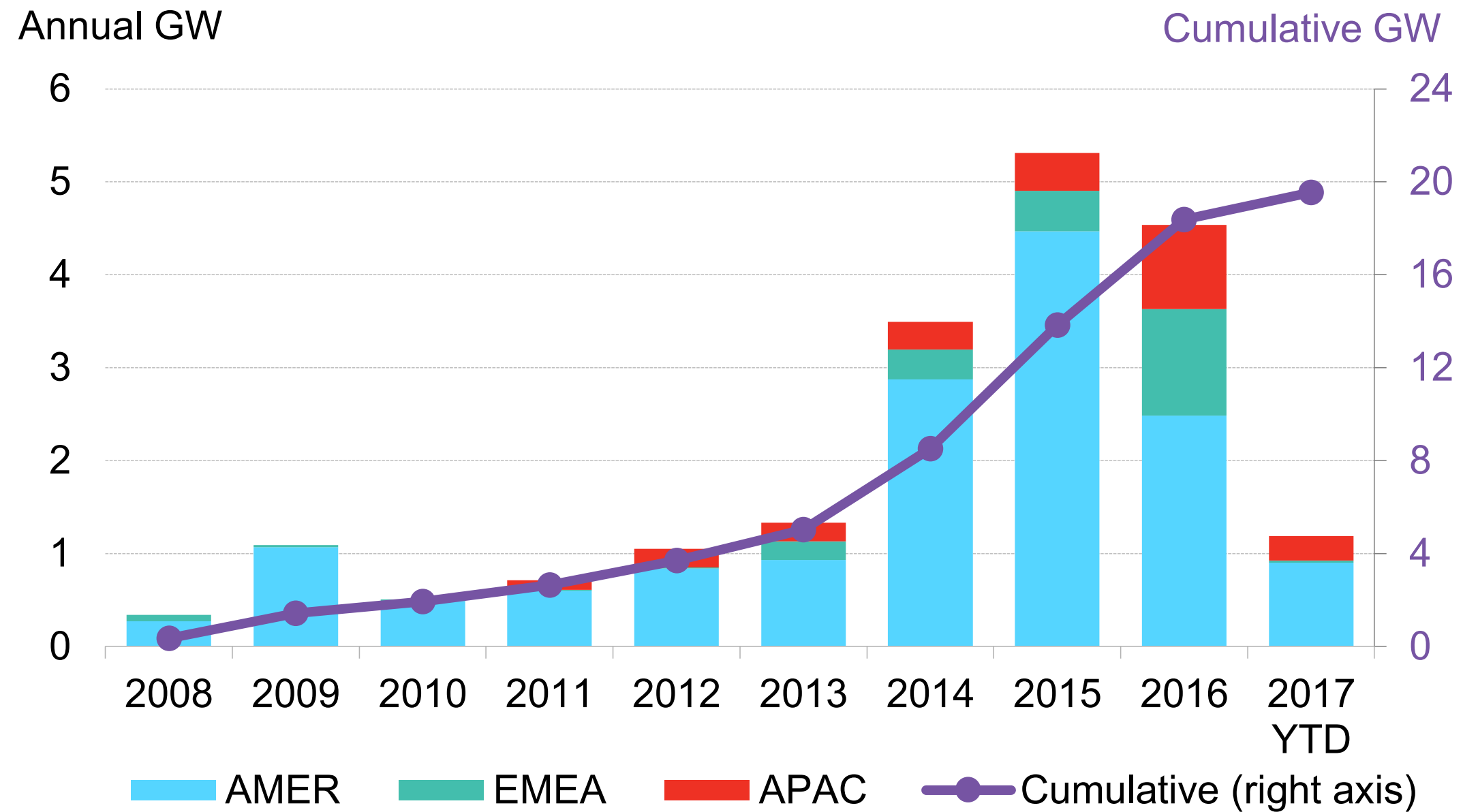
# Growing Consumer Demand: Part 1 Increasing Deployment of Distributed Solar

## Annual U.S. Distributed Solar Installations, 2010 - 2016



# Growing Consumer Demand: Commercial & Industrial PPAs

## Corporate Demand for Renewable Energy: New Market Entrants & Global Expansion



Source: BNEF





# Reasons for Rapid Renewable Energy Growth



Dramatic improvements in cost effectiveness



Aggressive state renewable standards in populous (big load) states

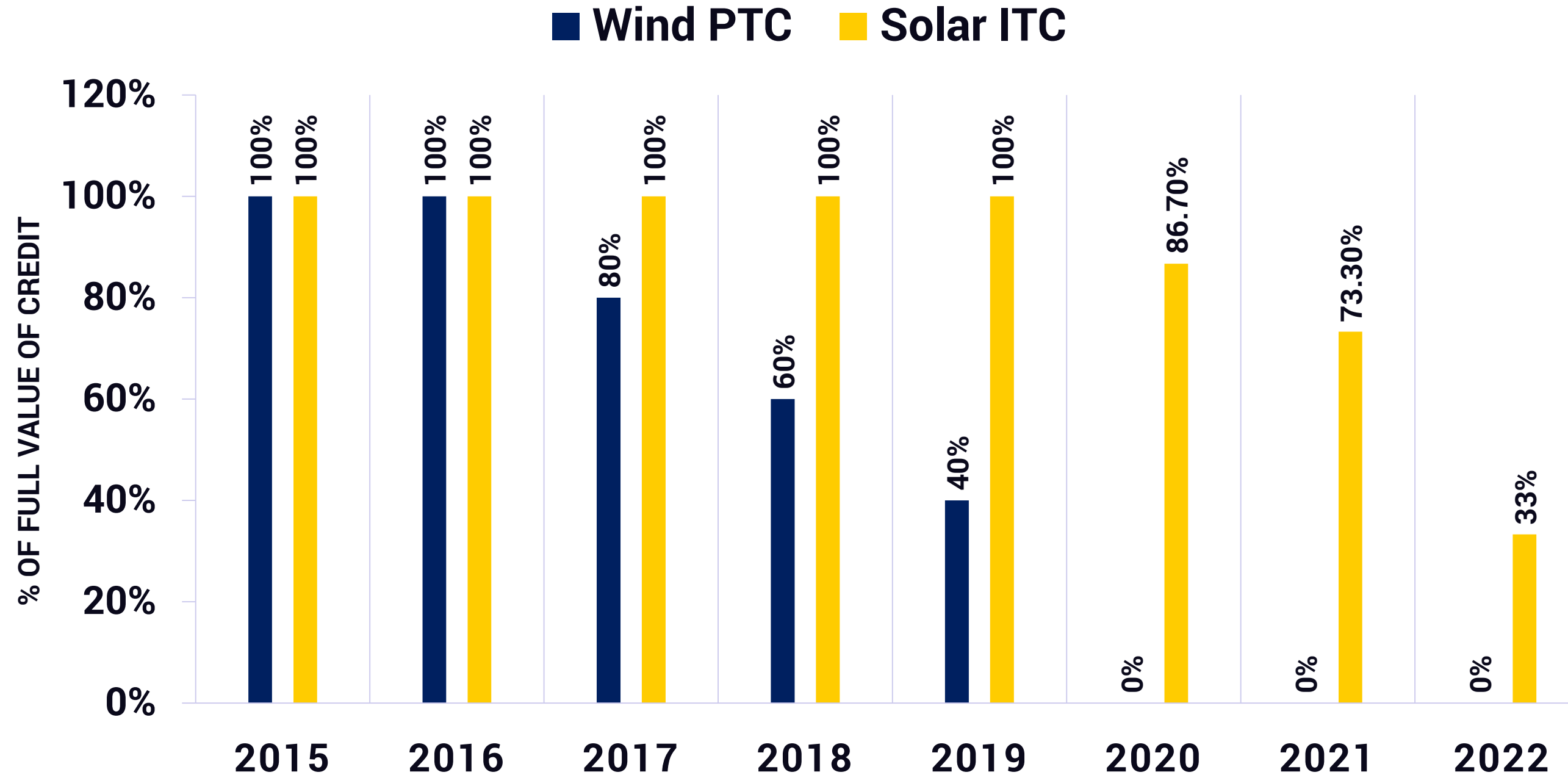


Increasing demand from residential consumers and American companies



A supportive tax platform

# Wind PTC and Solar ITC Phase-Down Schedules



- PTC guidance with four year safe harbor will delay the impact of the wind phase out
- Section 48 ITC continues permanently at 10%, while section 25 (residential) phases out
- ITC guidance still pending at Treasury



# Assessing Key Market Drivers Today

## 1. Dramatic improvements in cost effectiveness

*IMPACT: Costs have continued to decline, but Suniva ITC case could change the cost picture for solar*

## 2. Aggressive state renewable standards in populous states

*IMPACT: Unchanged and apparently growing, but headwinds in some states*

## 3. Increasing demand from residential consumers and American companies

*IMPACT: Unchanged and apparently growing*

## 4. A supportive tax platform

*IMPACT: unchanged, but tax reform effort creates uncertainties*



# Potential Impacts of Tax Reform on the Renewable Energy Sector

- The mere possibility of tax reform creates uncertainty that is already complicating deals and giving some investors pause.
- Changes to Wind and Solar Tax Credits (PTC/ITC) are highly unlikely, but not impossible.
- Reductions in corporate tax rates reduce the value of depreciation benefits for renewables and others.
- Lower tax rates could also reduce tax equity supply and increase pressure on market.



# Key Considerations



- **Tax reform is slow and difficult. Success is not a given.**
- **Tax reform also presents important opportunities to level the long-term playing field.**
- **Renewable energy sector today has unprecedented private sector support.**
- **Renewable energy sector is used to uncertainty.**



# Other Factors Creating Uncertainty

- **Pending DOE Grid Study and troubling rhetoric about a “national security” need for more coal and nuclear power.**
- **Suniva suit at International Trade Commission could impact PV prices.**
- **U.S. withdrawal from Paris and related isolationism could create complications in international trade.**
- **Political uncertainty could create broader economic instability.**



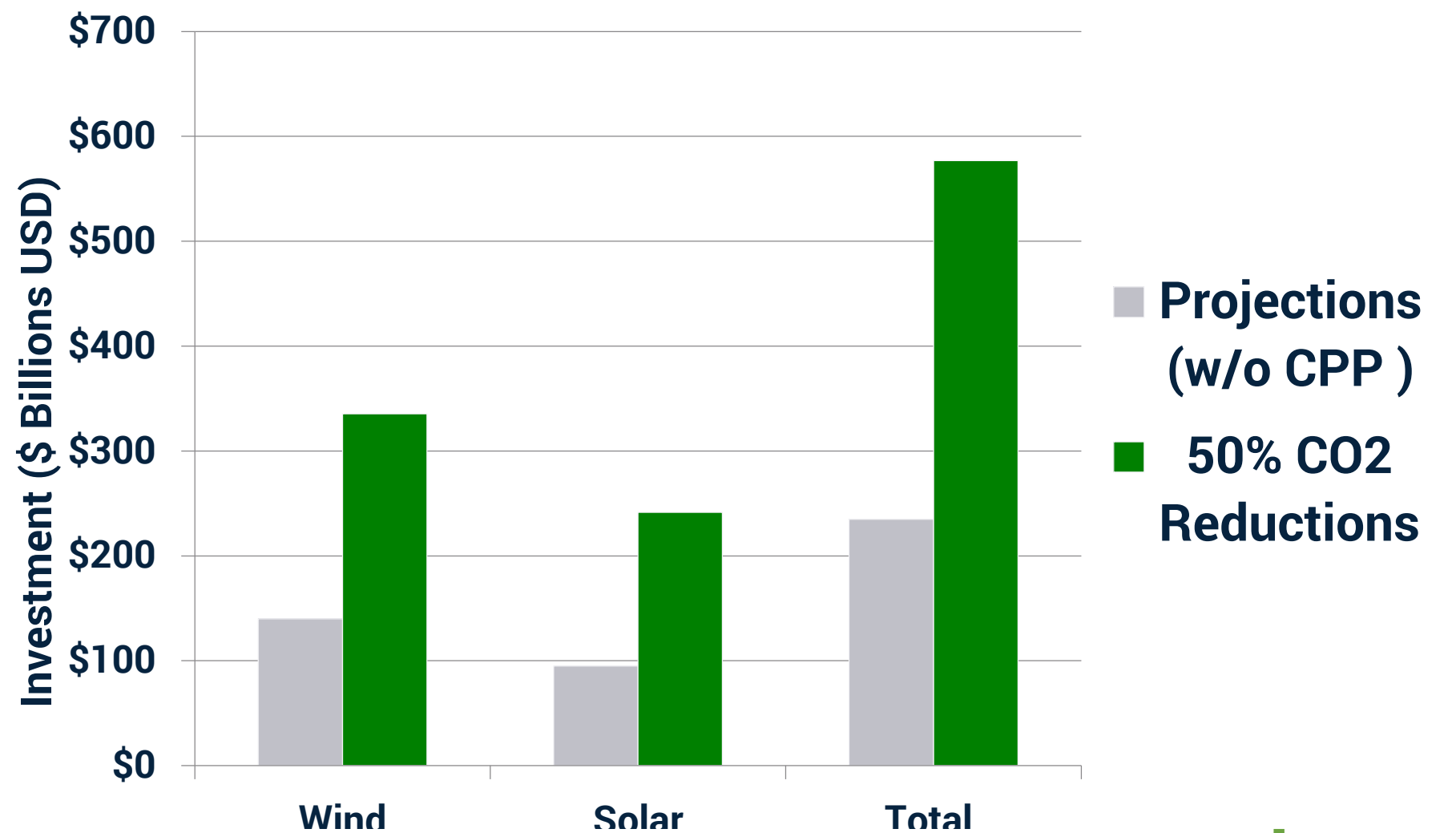
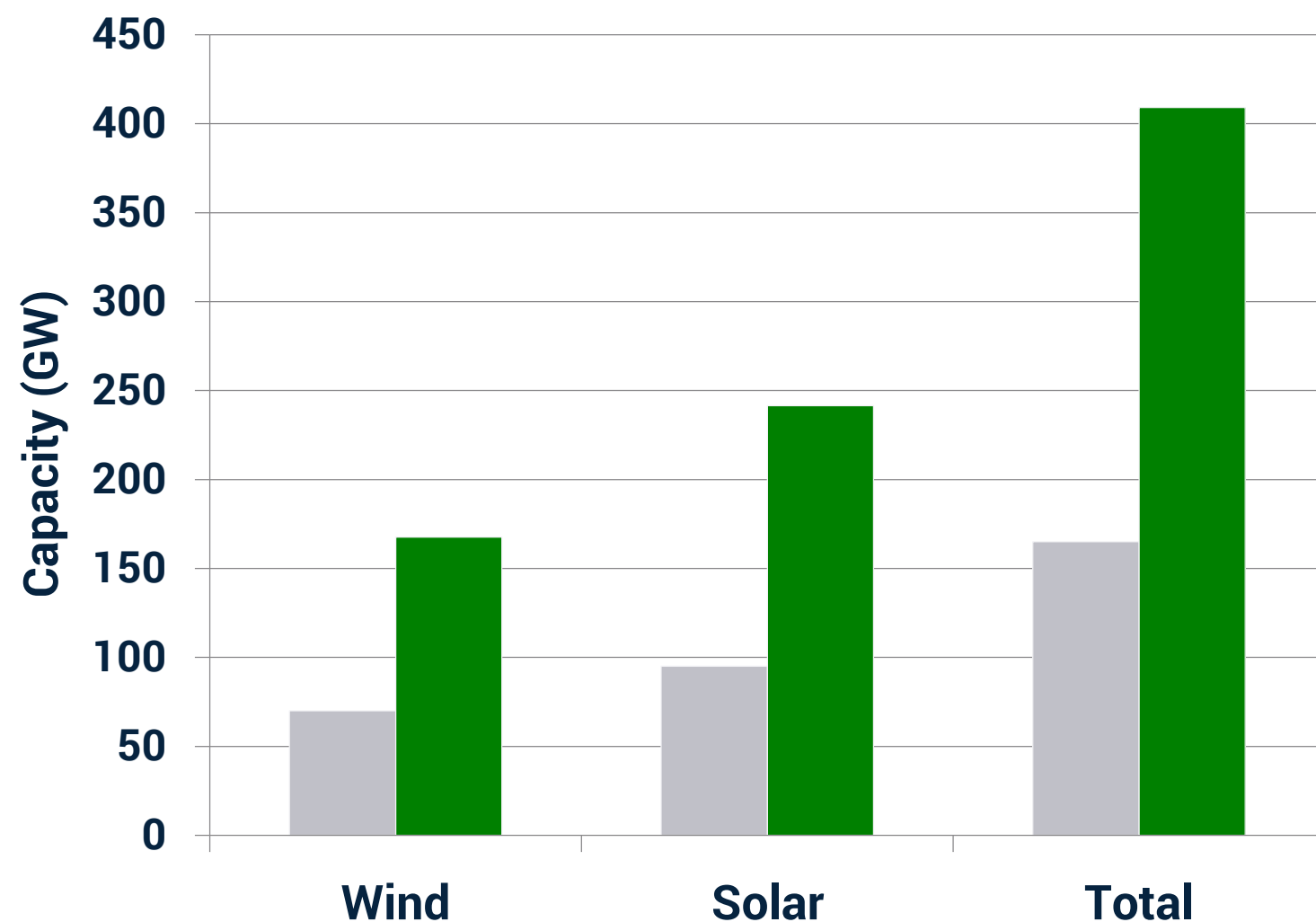
# We'll Always Have Paris



- **Decision to withdraw from Paris has galvanized dramatic new commitments to renewable energy from state and local governments and major corporations.**
- **US NDC required an economy-wide GHG reduction of 26-28% below 2005 levels by 2025.**
- **Reducing electric power sector GHG emissions by 50% provides a path to achieve economy-wide targets, despite retrenchments in GHG regulatory programs.**
- **Recent fossil plant retirements and renewable growth puts us in striking distance of that objective.**
- **Near-term investment in additional renewable capacity provide the only long-term path to the ultimate Paris milestone (2°C).**

# Achieving Paris: The Renewable Energy Gap

- ~400 GW of new U.S. renewable capacity will be required by 2025 to achieve a 50% GHG reduction in the power sector.
- This would require nearly \$600 billion in U.S. renewable investment over the next nine years. If we keep attracting investment at the same rate as 2016, we would be within \$200 billion of this target.





# Steps in Securing 400 New GW by 2025

- ✓ **Maintain Momentum:** Retain investor confidence in the face of today's uncertainty
- ✓ **Expand the Market:** Continue ambitious state and local programs; community aggregation; corporate and defense sector procurement; and electrification of the broader economy
- ✓ **Modernize the Grid:** Facilitate a combined state and federal effort to improve market design
- ✓ **Secure New Sources of Capital:** Broaden investor community, recruit additional participation of insurance and pension funds, expand tax equity market
- ✓ **Level the Federal Tax Playing Field for All Renewables:** Enact a technology neutral incentive post PTC/ITC for all renewable energy sources





**Thank You**

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