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# **Integrating wind farms and electricity storage towards 2030 goal in California.**

**Delft, March 27, 2020**

The report is divided into 3 chapters, which are further subdivided into various paragraphs.



## Integrating wind farms and electricity storage towards 60% renewable energy electricity goal in California by 2030

### **PROBLEM STATEMENT**

**Background**: The Californian government has set an ambitious target towards 2030: 60% of electricity is generated from renewable sources. However, there is huge gap between the current portfolio and required RES capacity, which indicates a huge investment potential.

**Client**: private investors, interested in wind farms and electricity storage **Outcomes**:

- 2030 Energy scenario: fuel mix and capacity mix
- Hourly elec price projection with supply-demand dynamics
- Financial evaluation and suggestion of the RES project
- Investment suggestions and institutional implications

### **MODEL STRATEGY**





### **INVESTMENT SUGGESTIONS AND INSTITUTIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

**Investment suggestion:** There is no economical feasibility to invest either the wind farm or the storage under the predictive price scenario. What's worse, the potential curtailment impose a enormous impact on the revenue of the wind farm where on average NPV decreases by around 25%. When adjusting the price, the break-even points for both wind farm and storage occur between +20% and 40%. In addition, the introduction of electricity storage will mitigate the negative impact under high price scenarios (positive NPV), and it showcases that the integrated project is more profitable and attracting compared to any single investment.

**Institutional implications:** In terms of market design, to deal with the low marginal cost of RES, the capacity mechanism could be introduced to mitigate the private investment risk and maximize the supply reliability; From the authority side, more subsidies or public-private partnership could be implemented to support renewable energy and storage projects in order to accelerate energy transition.

## California has set a 60% renewable electricity target by 2030.

### **SITUATION**

- California has set a goal for 60 percent zero-carbon electricity by 2045.
- Currently, 34% of the electricity comes from renewable energy sources, with 9.4% nuclear, 46.5% natural gas, 11.3% Large hydro.
- The major renewables are Solar (14.0%), Wind (7.2%), Geothermal (5.9%), Biomass (3.0%), Small hydro (2.2%).

### **TRIGGER**

- The transition towards 60% renewables has raised concerns regarding reliability requirements, resource adequacy and market economics.
- The redesign of the electricity network and market to accommodate increasing RES is costly and requires large investments.
- Congestion and volatile loading accompanying with fluctuating weather conditions are inevitable.

**OUESTION** 

- What is the required generation portfolio to achieve the ambitious target in 2030 for California?
- What is the impact of RES penetration on the electricity prices and supply reliability?
- Is there any investment opportunity in term of Wind farms and Storage units?
- What are the policy recommendations to empower the transition?

### **PROBLEM STATEMENT**

Towards 2030, the Californian government wants to reach at **least 60%** of all energy originating from renewable sources. Our client (problem owner), a private investor, is interested in investing in wind power plants and electricity storage in the form of batteries. By combining knowledge from both policy models, technical models and financial evaluation models, we aim to provide our client with **advise** on possible investment opportunities for in the sector. The proposed modelling strategy is depicted below.

## Four models are closely and strategically coordinated to address the research question.



Each model will be dissected into roughly three paragraphs clarifing the input, assumptions and output.



## **COMMENTS**

In order to dissect the utilised models, for each we broadly specified (1) the input, (2) the assumptions and the (3) output. These three paragraphs, are further subdivided as depicted in the graph above. For paragraph 1, both the external and internal values will be elaborated upon. The external input refers to the values retrieved from various sources of literature and data which were needed to run the models. The internal input refers to values retrieved from other models used within this project. With regard to the assumptions both the assumptions made by the model and the user of the model will be clarified. Finally, the output values will be presented and explained.

# CPT explores the effect of various policy settings on GHG emissions and Renewable Energy Target.

### **CALIFORNIA POLICY TOOL (CPT)**

## **DESCRIPTION**

California Policy Tool allows user to control a wide variety different policies that affect energy use and emissions in various sectors of the economy (such as a carbon tax, demand response, fuel economy standards for vehicles, reducing methane leakage from industry, and accelerated R&D advancement of various technologies). The model includes every major sector of the economy: transportation, electricity supply, buildings, industry, agriculture, and land use.

## **RATIONALE**

In this report, California Policy Tool is used for 2 main purposes. First, it predicts electricity generation in 2030 which is further used by Dispatch Model. Second, it **explores the effect** of few policies and make recommendations to achieve 60% electricity from renewables by 2030 popularly known as Renewable Portfolio Standard in California.

## **APPROACH**

The model has a **base case scenario also known as BAU(business-as-usual)** scenario which predicts the electricity generation in 2030 as a result of on-going policies being followed in California. This generation and capacity mix serves as an input to the Dispatch model. Furthermore, various policy levers viz. subsidies, carbon tax, grid scale battery storage, clean energy standard and their combinations are explored to see their effect on the renewable energy portfolio of California in 2030. Corresponding effect on GHG emissions, cash flows, levelized cost, renewable curtailment is also studied to support the recommendations. Any new policies chosen by the user are not a replacement but an addition to the policies that are in place in BAU scenario

# CPT is a dynamic computer model created in Vensim using variables to compute electricity requirements.

## **MODEL DIAGRAM**



## **COMMENTS**

- The model uses "stocks" or variables whose value is remembered from timestep to timestep and the output of the previous timestep serves as an input of the following timestep.
- Arrows in the adjacent diagram denote the order of calculation. For example, the amount of electricity required is calculated in the demand sectors (Industry, Buildings, Transportation) , and then this result is fed into the Electricity Sector, which determines how to generate the necessary quantity of electricity.

These policies were used as an external input to the CPT to evaluate their effectiveness in realizing the RPS target.



Renewable Portfolio Standard equal to 60% serves as a target for all the policy designs. California government sets continuously escalating renewable energy procurement requirements for the state's load-serving entities

Various assumptions are made for different sectors and variables pertaining to these sectors.

## **ASSUMPTIONS**

### **RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD FUELS AND POWER PLANTS**

- Tool calculates RPS required % as a function of generation. The state policy applies to sales. We adjust to account for the somewhat smaller requirement after transmission losses.
- It currently supports very high levels of zero carbon electricity, but the last few percentage points of the transition are beyond current scope. For this reason, the model does not eliminate natural gas peaker plants, currently.
- It does not account for small hydro which, for the purpose of this project, has been added explicitly based on California Energy Commission data.
- Because of the mismatch between the model structure and California realities, some calibration of the final values was carried out. Essentially, increments were added and subtracted to arrive at a value that serves as an approximation of the 60% RPS level in 2030

- Coal is retired over 4 years.
- All steam turbines are nonpeaking natural gas plants.
- Combustion turbines are natural gas peakers.
- Dispatch priority 1 to zero carbon resources, natural gas peaker and petroleum-fired plant have priority 2 and others have priority 3.

## **SOLAR, WIND AND HYDRO**

- Wind and Solar PV are handled differently in the model, relying on endogenous, capacity-based learning curves to determine cost declines.
- For hydro, it is very difficult to build new conventional hydro due to environmental concerns and permitting requirements.
- Curtailment from wind is assumed to be zero

## BAU scenario predicts generation and capacity mix in 2030 as a result of on-going policy efforts.

## **OUTPUT: 2030 SCENARIO**

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 TWh/year Generation mix – BAU scenario Geothermal Bio mass Solar Thermal Distributed Solar PV ■ Utility Solar PV ■ Onshore Wind Nuclear ■ Distributed Non-Solar Petroleum Natural Gas Peaker Natural Gas Nonpeaker Natural Gas Nonpeaker ■ Coal Imported Electricity

Capacity mix 2030



• Energy transition roadmap to 2030 with predictive generation capacity and fuel mix: the 60% RES target is achieved in the form of 23.3% Utility Solar PV, 11.5% Onshore wind, 11.7 % distributed solar, 3.65% Geothermal and 1.93% Biomass, accompanying with the phase out of coal and nuclear plants.

## Exploring the effect of subsidies, storage and other policies on the Renewable energy mix and CO2 emission.

### **INPUT**



## **OUTPUT**



### **OUTPUT**



## Exploring the effect of subsidies, storage and other policies on the Renewable energy mix and CO2 emission.

## **OUTPUT: 2030 SCENARIO**





## **INTERPRETATION**

- Huge subsidies on renewables will result in high government spending. Moreover, subsidies for biomass, solar thermal do not result into higher generation from these sources. In that case, they bring down the levelized cost of the electricity from these resources. (Policy 1 and 2)
- Carbon pricing coupled with subsidies is not enough to reduce GHG emissions. New innovative ways have to be used to reduce GHG emissions. (Policy 1 and 2)
- Storage facilities can significantly reduce curtailment and hence present a business opportunity in all scenarios.
- Strategy used in policy 3 can achieve the target and be most cost efficient for the government. Hence approach used in policy 3 can be thought of as an alternative to conventional policies.

## The DPM is developed to explore the impact on the electricity price in 2030 energy scenario.

### **DISPATCH MODEL (DPM)**

## **DESCRIPTION**

The dispatch model explores the electricity price change and supply reliability with **increasing** renewable energy (mainly solar & wind), and coordinates with TenneT storage and SAM to perform the investment analysis for wind turbine and electricity storage.

**RATIONALE**

In this report, the dispatch model is used as a **prediction tool** for electricity market in 2030. The key output -- hourly electricity clearing price is served as the main input/revenue for the financial evaluation for the wind turbine and storage. Besides, hourly power shortage or curtailments could be derived to indicate the supply reliability with the high renewable energy penetration.

### **APPROACH**

The fundamental principle of modelling is to meet the hourly demand with the least-cost generation technologies. The predictive generation capacity in 2030 from California Policy Model serves as the input portfolio for the Dispatch model. Besides, hourly system demand, renewables hourly availability, generation cost, 10-technology characteristic data are embedded in the model to calculate the expected market clearing price and other indicators such as power shortage and curtailment. Excel is used to perform such functions with simplified setting for the real market. The hourly price is used in the TenneT storage model to conduct the operation optimization, and the PPA price in the SAM model is set as the average price of the whole year.

## The DPM classified into Database, Calculation, Output sheets as well as Scenario parameters for adjusting.

## **MODEL DIAGRAM**



## **COMMENTS**

- The database sheets include all the collected data and sources to serve as the input and for comparison
- The generation sheet is to perform the hourly dispatch to calculate the electricity production for each technology
- The output sheets demonstrate the main charts and indicators, e.g. demand and price duration curves, energy mix, etc .
- The scenario analysis focuses on various transition efforts with different Solar PV and wind farm capacity

# The input data is derived from California Policy Model results, official statistics and credible literature.



**2018**

# Fixed dispatch priority and fluctuated availability factor are assumed to simplify the actual situation.

## **ASSUMPTIONS**

## **FIXED DISPATCH PRIORITY FLUCTUATED GENERATION**



- The dispatch order is fixed In term of the Marginal cost from the lowest to the highest.
- No storage, no ramping limit
- The market clearing price is equal to the marginal cost of the last operation unit.



Hydropower hourly generation in 2018 (Model) 9000 8000 7000 6000 5000

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introduced to simulate the hourly generation fluctuation. Take the geothermal as an example: The availability factor is set as 60% based on the average yearly generation over capacity\*hours from 2009 to 2018. Thus, the hourly available capacity ranges from 0.2 to 1.0 times capacity.

• A random availability factor is

• As for hydropower, a monthly variation is considered in line with history data with a random hourly availability factor from 0.5 to 1.5 to simplify the actual uncertainty.

## The 2018 case is utilized to validate the applicability and accuracy of the dispatch model.

## **OUTPUT: MODEL VALIDATION:2018 SCENARIO**

### **GENERATION FUEL MIX DURATION CURVE**



Hourly Load Duration Curve with Generation Mix



- The model results are consistent with the actual value in term of fuel mix and wholesale price
- Price spikes occurs in summer time (Jul.--Aug.)
- No power shortage due to the abundant back-up gas plant

**OUTPUT 18**

\*Daily day-ahead wholesale electricity prices during peak hours at CAISO SP-15

## The 2030 Scenario is studied using the predictive capacity from CPM.

## **OUTPUT: 2030 SCENARIO**



### **DURATION CURVE**

Hourly Load Duration Curve with Generation Mix



- 
- Renewable energy electricity accounts for 52% in total
- However, huge renewable curtailment occurs, 22% in average 21.5% for Solar, Wind and Geothermal
- For controllable gas plants, the capacity factor remains relatively stable with the phase out of some plants

\*Daily day-ahead wholesale electricity prices during peak hours at CAISO SP-15

## The average electricity price drops by 10% accompanying with increasing fluctuation and power shortage.

## **OUTPUT: 2030 SCENARIO**



## **COMMENTS**

- Demand price elasticity is introduced as -0.1 \$/MWh per MW with a price cap of  $250 \text{ E}/\text{MWh}$
- The average price decrease by 10% compared to that in 2018, but with higher fluctuation due to the weather dependency of renewables and decreasing back-up capacity (gas plants)
- Both power shortages and curtailment emerges with decreasing supply reliability, which indicates the necessity of electricity storage



## SAM models the performance and economics for both land-based and offhsore windfarms.

### **SYSTEM ADVISOR MODEL (SAM)**

## **DESCRIPTION**

SAM's Wind Power model is a software tool developed by the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) that models the performance and economics of renewable energy projects. For our project two large-sized centralized (land-based and offshore) wind farms are modelled and investigated.

## **RATIONALE**

In this report SAM is used as a decision-making tool to advice the problem owner. SAM provides an overview of the the monthly energy production and the levelized cost of electricity (LCOE). The LCOE can be defined as the total project lifecycle cost expressed in ¢/kWh of electricity generated by the wind farms. Both metrics combined can be used to **compare** the cost and performance of offshore and land-based wind farms is California. In addition SAM is used to determine the net present value (NPV) and internal rate of return (IRR) for both types of wind farms.

## **APPROACH**

First, the wind resource is characterized through an hourly data file. Secondly, the wind turbine's power curve is defined through its **technical characteristics**. Thirdly, the windfarm layout and associated wake effect losses are defined. Lastly, the electrical output of the wind farm is calculated in kWh for 8760 hours. In addition a **sensitivity analysis** is executed to determine the net present value (NPV) and the Internal rate of return (IRR) for the wind farm for varied values of the power purchase agreement (PPA) price. The base value for the sensitivity analysis is retrieved from the Dispatch Model.

# The external input values were used to determine the technical characteristics of the forecasted windfarms.

## **EXTERNAL INPUT (1)**

External input data is needed to describe the performance characteristics of physical equipment within the two windfarms. Additionally, project costs and financial assumptions are required to determine the LCOE. The section that follows gives an extensive overview in which each input value is defined .



## The external input values were used to determine the technical characteristics for the windfarm.

## **EXTERNAL INPUT (2)**

### **NAME**

**3. SYSTEM COSTS** The system costs specify the costs associated with both wind farm projects. The system costs are divided into (1) capital costs and (2) operation and maintenance costs. The capital cost are further

> subdivided into turbine costs and balance of system (BOS) costs. Based on the literature, the following values have been identified.

### **VALUE SOURCE**

- Wind Turbine Design Cost and Scaling Model. (Fingersh, M. Hand, and A. Laxson, 2006)
- Cost of Wind Energy Review. (Stehly, Beiter, Heimiller, and Scott, 2017)



# The internal input values are attained from the California Policy Tool and the Dispatch Model.

## **INTERNAL INPUT**

Internal input data is also needed to describe the performance characteristics of physical equipment within the two windfarms. The modelling strategy was structured such that certain output values from other models were needed to run others . The section that follows gives an extensive overview in which each input value is defined .



## The assumptions in the SAM can be subdivided into user assumptions and model assumptions.

### **ASSUMPTIONS**



## Based upon the input values, SAM produces the monthly energy for the designed windfarms.



are indicated for both types of windfarm. The significant difference in LCOE can be explained as the the total costs of building and operating a generating the offshore windfarm during its lifecycle is substantially higher.

#### **2. OFFSHORE ENERGY PRODUCTION**



#### **Capacity factor**:

39.6% **LCOE** 37.52 ¢/kWh

## The cashflow for both wind farm projects illustrate the the NPV after 25 years.



• The cashflow graphs for both land-based and offshore show a large negative number in year zero, which indicates the high initial cost. It is evident that the investment cost of the offshore windfarm is significantly higher as the technologies and installation cost are much more complex. This downward peak is followed by income generated from accelerated depreciation. Following this period, we notice the operating costs in the out-years. From both graphs it is clear that the both powerplants do not receives enough income to recover the initial costs.

# A sensitivity analysis was performed for various levels of the PPA price to study the effects on NPV and IRR.

## **OUTPUT(2)**

### **NAME**

### **SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS PPA PRICE FOR LAND-BASED WIND FARM.**

**SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS** 

**PPA PRICE FOR OFFSHORE WIND** 

**FARM.** 



results7



### **VALUES & FIGURES INTERPRETATION**

- Both tables highlight the sensitivity analysis performed with the price of the PPA varied in size simulations up to a 60%increase in price. The range taken for the PPA price is as follows [-40%,- 20%,0,20%,40%,60%]. The values have been chosen as on average the windfarm will have a curtailment of 20%, which means that -20% NPV price is the base case scenario.
- The most right column indicates the NPV associated with the various values of the PPA price.

## The TenneT Storage Tool is used to determine the financial feasibility of an electricity storage project.

### **TENNET STORAGE TOOL**

## **DESCRIPTION**

The TenneT Storage Tool is a financial evaluation tool for electricity storage projects. The tool has been developed by TenneT, the Dutch TSO. The tool is used to predict the financial feasibility of battery storage projects. For this assignment, three different sizes of Lithium-ion batteries have been investigated for the years 2018 (base-year) and 2030.

### **RATIONALE**

In this project, the TenneT Storage Tool has been used to give advice to the problem owner with regard to the battery project parameters. The tool optimizes charging and discharging of the battery according to price data, gathered from the dispatch model that has been used for this project. The output of the tool consists of many financial indicators with the most important ones being the yearly revenue, yearly cash flow and the net present value of the project in M\$. With these indicators, the financial feasibility of the project can be determined.

### **APPROACH**

First, the technical and financial input data is implemented in the project's formulae. Second, the hourly dispatch model is used to optimise the revenue from charging and discharging over the entire year. This means that the model assumes perfect information for that year's prices in advance. Then, the model calculates the financial flows for every year of the project's economical lifetime. These calculations result in the financial indicators mentioned above. Finally, these financial indicators give the modeller insight into the project's feasibility. After which the modeller is able to construct advice for the problem owner, regarding that specific project.

# The following external input data was used to determine the project parameters.

## **EXTERNAL INPUT (1)**

The external input data is needed to enable the tool to optimize the project's revenue according to the preferred parameters. Additionally, the price data from the dispatch model was used to ensure that the optimization was conducted over the investigated period of time. The section below provides an extensive overview in which each input value is defined.

# **NAME**

#### **1. TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

The TenneT storage tool requires technical input from the modeller in order to be able to calculate a project's feasibility. the technical data allows the modeller to model the differences in technology over the course of time. By setting all technical parameters equal for all model runs in the same year, an insight in the feasibility of the various sizes of projects emerges. Main technical parameters are the ramp rate, availability, round trip efficiency, and maximum number of full cycles.

### **2. FINANCIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF BATTERY**

In order to calculate the financial feasibility of the storage project, data on the costs of battery storage is required as input data. These data parameters are used to determine the overall yearly cost of the project. Together with the revenue, the net present value of the project can be determined. The most important financial input parameters are the capital expenditures, debt rate, economic lifetime

### **VALUE SOURCE**

• Technology Overview on Electricity Storage. (Sauer, D.U., Leuthold, M., Fuchs, G. & Lunz, B., 2012)

• State taxes (San Francisco Office of the Mayor, San Francisco Office for Economic and Workforce Development, San Francisco Office of Small Business, & San Francisco Department of Technology. 2020)

## The following external input data was used to determine the project parameters.

## **EXTERNAL INPUT (2)**

### **NAME**

#### **3. DISPATCH MODEL**

In order for the TenneT Storage Tool to determine the buy and sell strategy of the battery, the tool requires electricity prices. These electricity prices were generated by the Dispatch model that has been used for this modeling assignment. Two different sets of electricity prices were used for this investigation. One set of historical prices from 2018, and the other set was simulated by the Dispatch model for the year 2030. Both price sets were hourly electricity prices. Resulting from the earlier mentioned buy and sell strategy, yearly revenues are determined by the tool.

### **VALUE SOURCE**

- Wholesale Electricity and Natural Gas Market Data. (U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2020)
- Dispatch model

# The internal input values for the Tennet Storage Tool are attained from the California Energy Policy Tool.

## **INTERNAL INPUT**

Internal input data is required to determine the project feasibility. Input allows the tool to calculate the output of the defined project size and capabilities. The following section gives an overview of the internal input values.



# For the TenneT Storage Tool, two types of assumptions were applied: user assumptions and model assumptions.

## **ASSUMPTIONS (1)**

### **1. CHARGE/ DISCHARGE CAPACITY**

**USER**

For all model runs, the charge and discharge capacity has been fixed at 150 MW. This choice has been made to ensure that only the influence of changes in the technological characteristics and financial changes (costs, and prices.) were investigated.

## **MODEL**

**1. PRICE-TAKER**

The TenneT Storage Tool assumes that the battery storage has no market power. The storage is a price-taker. This means that the storage is assumed to have no influence on the electricity prices.

#### **2. PERFECT FORESIGHT**

**2. FINANCIAL PARAMETERS** In order to ensure that the model only evaluated changes in the capital costs of battery storage, and to make sure that most of the project's specifications were equal, the only financial parameter that has been changed between 2018 and 2030 was the maximum economic lifetime. All other financial parameters were kept unchanged.

The optimization of storage dispatch assumes perfect foresight of price curves which allows the unit to take maximum revenue. In reality the success rate may be lower.

## For the TenneT Storage Tool, two types of assumptions were applied: User assumptions and model assumptions.

## **ASSUMPTIONS (2)**

### **USER**

#### **3. MARKET TYPE**

The battery storage has only been evaluated for the dayahead market. The reasoning behind this is, that the tool has been created to evaluate the Dutch electricity market. It also has two other types of short-term markets that do not completely function in the same fashion as in California.

#### **4. BATTERY TYPE**

At the moment, Li-ion batteries are already used for largescale electricity storage. It is said that prices of Li-ion batteries will decrease in the coming years. At the same time, the performance of this type of batteries is expected to increase. Together with the fact that Li-ion batteries are not bound to specific locations (e.g. near water for cooling), the choice has been made to only consider Li-ion batteries for this study.

### **SOURCE**

• Implementation of large-scale Li-ion battery energy storage systems within the EMEA region. (Killer, M., Farrokhseresht, M., & Paterakis, N. G., 2020)

## Both the internal and external inputs allowed the TenneT Storage tool to determine the project feasibility.

#### **OUTPUT(1) NAME KEY RESULTS 2018 VALUES & FIGURES INTERPRETATION SCENARIO 460 MWH 1000 MWH 2360 MWH Revenue per year**  $[M\$/y]$  **2,3 3,1 3,4 Internal rate of return [%]**  $-100\%$   $-91\%$   $-36\%$ **Net present value [M\$]**  $-108.2$   $-200.6$   $-447.6$ **Full cycles per year [#]**  $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 554 & 379 & 182 \hline \end{array}$ **Operational lifetime [year]** 8 11 15 Based on the net present values of the different scenarios in the table on the left, it can be concluded that all three project sizes with the 2018 technical and financial specifications, as well as the 2018 price series, are financially infeasible. It is clear that the revenues fall short in covering the total costs, resulting in losses upwards of 108,2 M\$. Also, the lifespan of the two smallest projects is fairly short, with only 8 and 11 years respectively, considering that the construction of all projects takes 3 years. Moreover, the potential profits

on investment for all sizes, indicated by the internal rate of return, are clear in the negative values. Therefore, it's advisable not to invest in large-scale

battery storage just yet.

## Both the internal and external inputs allowed the TenneT Storage tool to determine the project feasibility.

#### **OUTPUT(2) NAME KEY RESULTS 2030 VALUES & FIGURES INTERPRETATION SCENARIO 460 MWH 1000 MWH 2360 MWH Revenue per year [M\$/y]** 8,3 14,0 15,8 **Internal rate of return [%]** 4%  $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 4\% & 5\% & -3\% \hline \end{array}$ **Net present value [M\$]**  $-11,7$   $-25,9$   $-170,4$ **Full cycles per year [#]**  $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 525 & 406 & 220 \hline \end{array}$ **Operational lifetime [year]** 16 20 20 From the 2030 project runs, it appears that the projects are much more feasible than the 2018 ones. Although the net present values of all three projects are still negative, the potential losses seem to be way smaller compared to the 2018 results. Furthermore, the internal rates of return are mildly positive, which indicates that there is a potential profit to be made for the investor. Also, the lifespan of the projects is longer, from which it can be concluded that more revenue can be made, with less full cycles per year. This is related to both higher prices and larger differences therein, as well as lower costs.

Considering the 2030 model results, the advice to an investor would be that investments in smaller sized storage batteries could potentially be profitable, depending on the right circumstances.

# A price-sensitivity analysis has been performed to identify the impact of price changes on the feasibility.



### **INTERPRETATION**

From the price-sensitivity analysis above, it can be concluded that changes in the prices can cause a shift in the profitability of the large-scale batteries. It is noticed that especially the change between the base-prices and +20%-prices is large in terms of the internal rate of return. That would mean that the project would potentially become a lot more profitable if the prices increase by 20%. The net present value is -1,2 M\$ which is positive, considering the base values presented earlier. Needless to say that the model heavily depends on the price series and, that small changes in the prices can cause large changes in the model results. Therefore, it needs to be mentioned once more that the 2030 prices for this study have been simulated in the dispatch model on the basis of current knowledge. An attempt was made to try to model possible changes in policies, taxes and subsidies as best as possible.

## The outcomes of four models provide valuable insights on the challenges to achieve the 60% RPS target by 2030

### **MODEL OUTPUT SUMMARY**

### **CALIFORNIA POLICY TOOL**

Energy transition roadmap to 2030 with predictive generation capacity and fuel mix: the 60% RES target is achieved in the form of 23.3% Utility Solar PV, 11.5% Onshore wind, 11.7 % distributed solar, 3.65% Geothermal and 1.93% Biomass, accompanying with the phase out of coal, nuclear and old gas plants . There is need for more policy interventions such as subsidies, carbon pricing and clean energy standard to reduce CO2 emission more radically.

#### **DISPATCH MODEL**

Renewable electricity only accounts for 52% of generation with an average 21.5% curtailment rate for Solar, Wind and Geothermal.. The average price decrease to 28.40 \$/MWh by 10% compared to that in 2018, but with higher fluctuation due to the weather dependency of renewables and decreasing back-up capacity. Both power shortages and curtailment emerges with decreasing supply reliability, which indicates the necessity of electricity storage.

#### **SYSTEM ADVISOR MODEL TENNET STORAGE TOOL**

The LCOE is 3.05 ¢/kWh for the onshore wind farm with 2000 MW capacity , while the offshore LCOE is at 37.52 ¢/kWh, over 10 times than onshore', due to the high CAPEX and accelerated depreciation. However, neither onshore or offshore project could recover the costs in the lifetime under the predictive price scenario. When the PPA price increases by 40% from 2.84 ¢/kWh, the NPV of the onshore project becomes positive at 234 M\$ with a 11.9% IRR.

As for investing electricity storage, the 2030 scenario is much better than 2018 one because of more fluctuated electricity price and better technical performance like lifetime. However, three projects from 460, 1000 to 2360 MWh volume still results in the negative NPV. It seems promising that if the hourly electricity price increases by 40%, the 460 MWh project obtains a positive NPV of 9.2 M\$ with a 11% IRR.

# A portfolio of wind farm and storage will potentially improve the profitability than the separate investment.

## **INVESTMENT SUGGESTIONS**



## **COMMENTS**

**OUTPUT SUMMARY 39** There is no economical feasibility to invest either the wind farm or the storage under the predictive price scenario. What's worse, the potential curtailment impose a enormous impact on the revenue of the wind farm where on average NPV decreases by around 25%. When adjusting the price, the break-even points for both wind farm and storage occur between +20% and 40%. In addition, the introduction of electricity storage will mitigate the negative impact under high price scenarios (positive NPV), and it showcases that the integrated project is more profitable and attracting compared to any single investment.

The further market design and additional policy interventions are required to incentivize the renewables investment towards the California renewable target

## **INSTITUTIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

### **MARKET DESIGN**

The demand for higher electricity price essentially indicates the demand for more revenue (sources). To deal with the low marginal cost of renewable energy, the capacity mechanism could be introduced to mitigate the private investment risk and maximize the supply reliability.

### **POLICY INTERVENTION**

From the authority side, more subsidies or public-private partnership could be implemented to support the renewable energy and storage projects. Meanwhile, according to California Policy Model, complementary policies such as fossil fuel tax, CO2 pricing, clean energy standard are also crucial to accelerate the energy transition. For example, the CPM Policy Scenario 3 as mentioned before:, the renewable energy mix increases by 6% and CO2 emission decreases by 18% compared to BAU case at the cost of a reasonable government expenditure.







# **Thank you!**

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