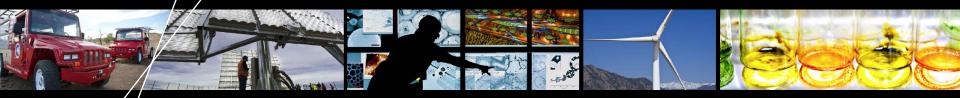


# Innovation: Enabling a Sustainable Energy Future



Dr. Dan E. Arvizu

**Laboratory Director** 

**SunShot Summit** 

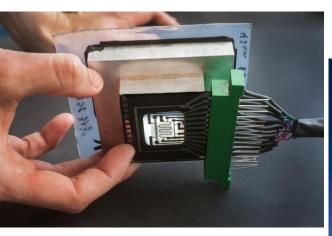
May 21, 2014



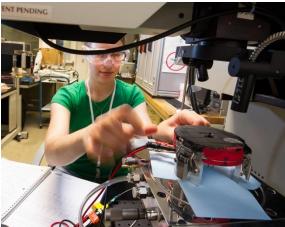
## **NREL Supports SunShot**



Our scientists are pursuing critical activities that will help to accomplish the goal of the U.S. Department of Energy's SunShot Initiative—to make large-scale solar energy systems cost-competitive with other energy sources by 2020.







## **Energy Market Dynamics**

Global renewable industry growing, still faces challenges

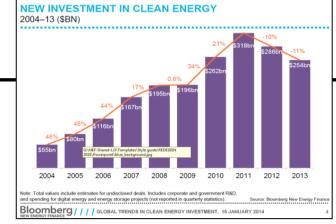
Public policy evolving

Effects of Great Recession still evident

Shale gas a growing focus in U.S. and elsewhere

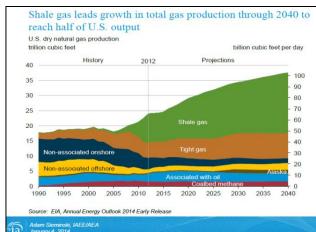
Infrastructure investments will be made, must focus on flexibility







http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2014/update/01/index.htm



Rev 5/14/14

## A Profound Transformation is Required

Today's Unsustainable Energy System Future Sustainable Energy System

## **TRANSFORMATION**

- Limited fuel diversity
- Subject to price volatility
- Inefficient and rigid
- Significant carbon emissions
- Delivery systems vulnerable
- Aging infrastructure

- Diverse supply options
- Affordable, stable and reliable
- Efficient and flexible
- Carbon neutral
- Secure and resilient
- Engine for innovation

1/13/2014

## **Change is Hard**

"Facts are important but not sufficient to change human behavior."

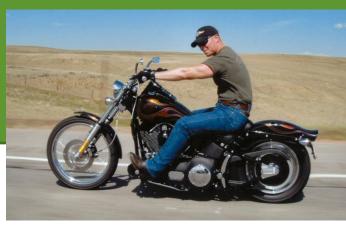
Dr. Arthur Caplan, Bioethicist2014 National Science Board AwardWinner for Public Service



Riding without a helmet is dangerous.

Vaccinations prevent disease and death.





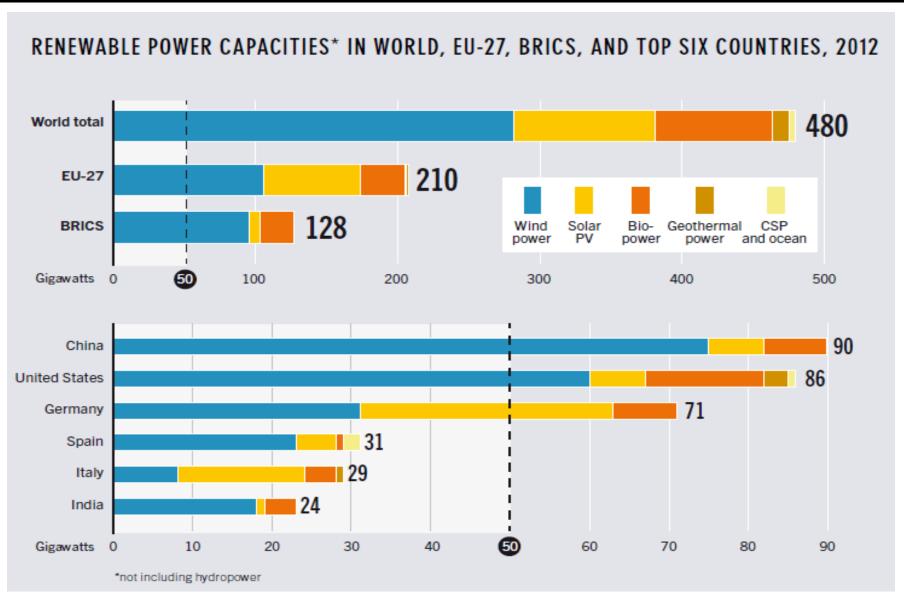


## **Transition to a Sustainable Energy Economy**

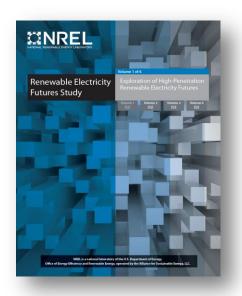
## What will compel a transition? Addressing the three myths....

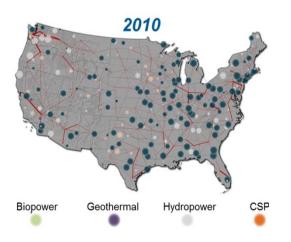
- You don't have to go without. No sacrifice required.
- You can still have choice. Choices are enhanced.
- Pace matters; there are consequences for not acting now. Security, cost and competitiveness, and environmental quality.

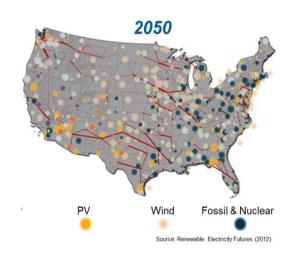
## **Worldwide Renewable Capacity**

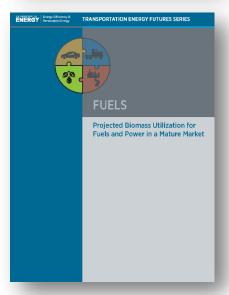


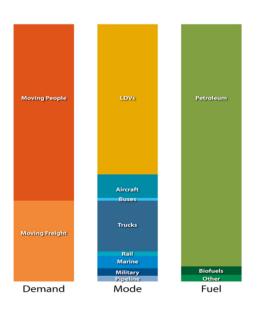
## Comprehensive Studies Validate Opportunity for U.S. Renewables

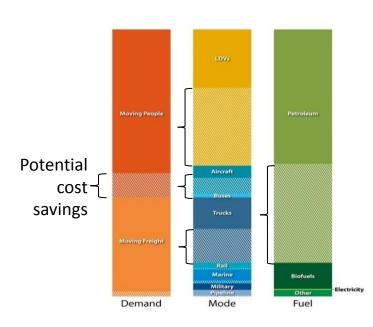




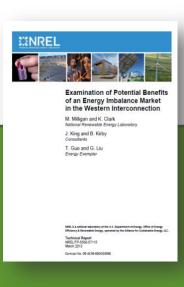


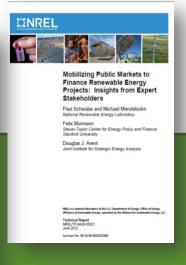


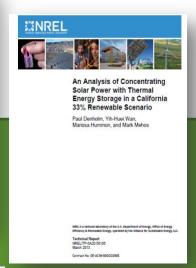


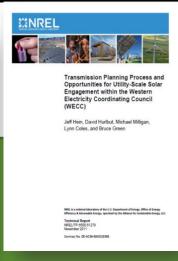


## **Looking Toward Implementation**



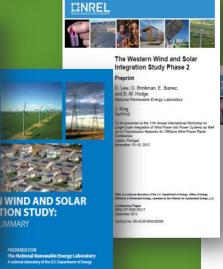














Contract No. DE-AC36-08/G028308

Benefits of distributed generation Economics of technical pathways Implications of high penetration renewables

Value of regional cooperation

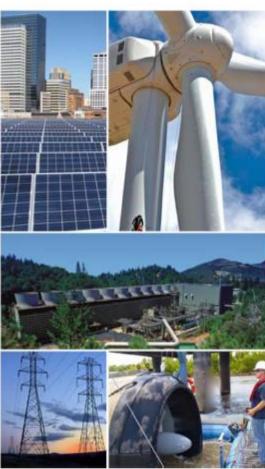
## **Technology Innovation**





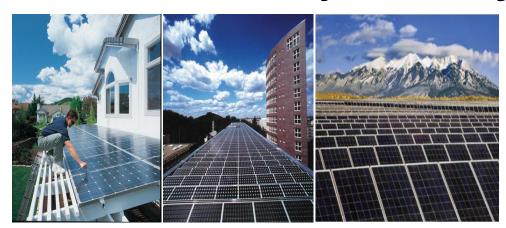








## Solar Electricity: State of the Technology



**Photovoltaics (PV)** 

- Market: Residential; Commercial, Utility
- Geographically diverse
- kWs to MWs to GWs
- U.S. Capacity: 12.1 GW
- U.S. Forecast: 40+ GWs in pipeline
- Costs: <\$2 to \$6/W: \*LCOE 7 to 16¢/kWr
- Technologies: Conversion; thin-films, crystalline silicon. Storage; battery

**Solar Thermal Electric (CSP)** 

- Market: Commercial; Utility
- Geographically confined to "sun bowls"
- MWs to GWs
- U.S Capacity: 1186 MW at year end 2013, 672 MW installed in 2013, 640 MW under construction in 2014
- U.S. Forecast: 3.5 GWs in pipeline
- Costs: \$4 to \$8/W<sup>†</sup>: \*LCOE 12 to 16¢/kWr
- Technologies: Conversion; parabolic troughs, central receivers, linear Fresnel, dish. Storage; thermal, up to 15 hours.

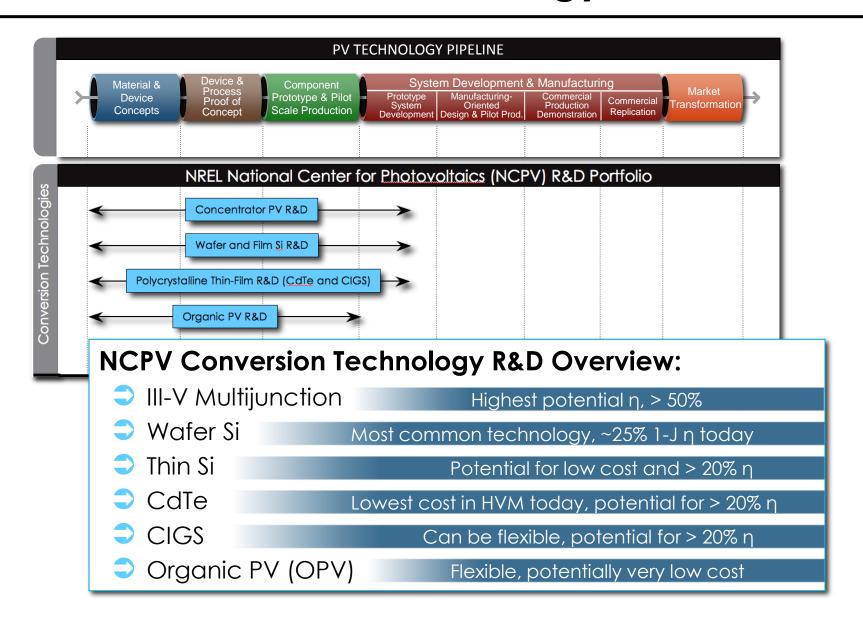
Updated: May 2014

Source: GTM/SEIA: U.S. Solar Market Insight 2011 - 2013 Year-in-Review

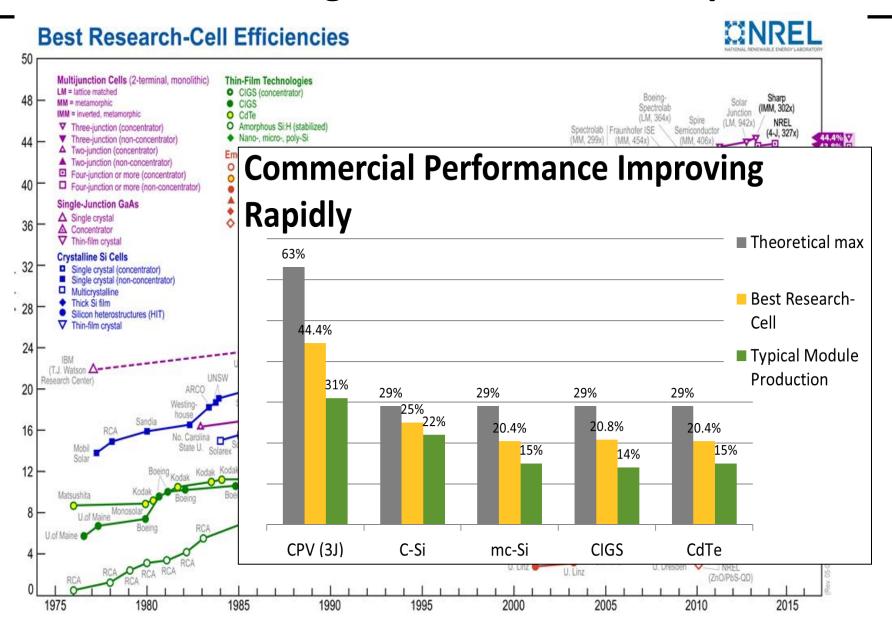
<sup>†</sup>Dependent on storage capacity

<sup>\*</sup>With federal incentives, e.g., the FTC.

## NCPV Conversion Technology R&D Portfolio

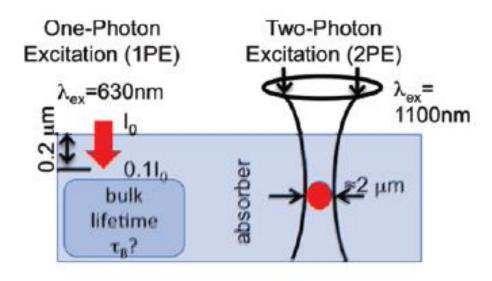


### **PV Research—Significant Innovation Space**



## Technique Reveals Critical Physics in Deep Regions of Solar Cells

NREL's improved time-resolved photoluminescence method measures minority-carrier lifetime deep within photovoltaic samples to help develop more efficient solar cells.



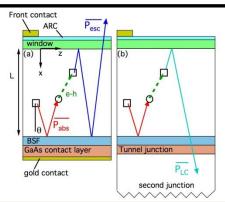
Using two-photon excitation (right side), light is absorbed in the laser-beam focus region, which can be either at the sample surface or in the bulk.

#### **Recent NREL Solar Cell Records**

#### III-V multijunctions:

31.1% one-sun record for two junctions

34.1% (467 suns) concentrator two junction record



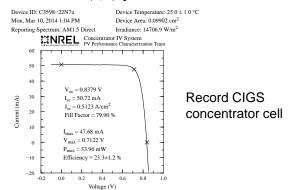
NREL model of internal cell optics guides development of world record cells

#### CIGS:

23.3% (15 suns) CIGS concentrator record

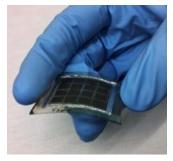
20.65% (near the 20.9% record)

#### NREL CdS/Cu(In,Ga)Se<sub>2</sub> Cell

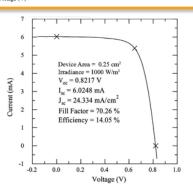


#### CdTe:

14.05% record for flexible CdTe cell



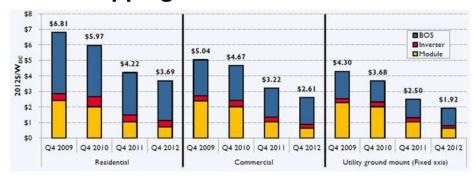
Record flexible CdTe cell



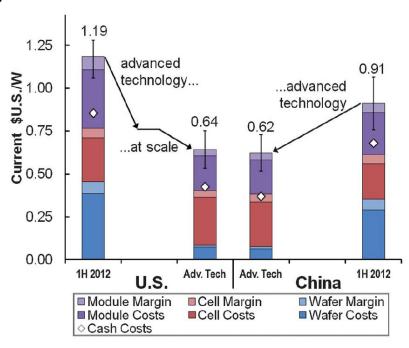
# Solar Manufacturing and Systems Cost Analysis

- Benchmark the cost of solar techs, evaluate the range of technical pathways being pursued, and reallocate R&D resources as necessary
- Evaluate technical improvements opportunities through detailed cost modeling
- Enhance understanding of the economic competitiveness of solar technologies and manufacturing locations.

## System Installation Costs Analysis and Roadmapping



#### **U.S. Competitiveness**



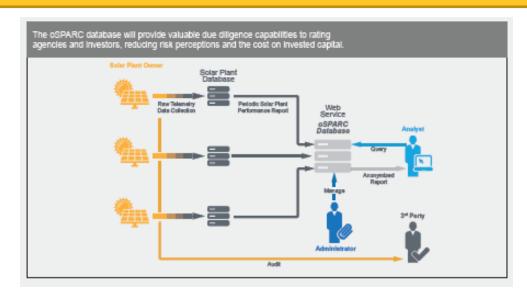
Modeled (Bottoms-Up) PV System Prices by Sector (2009-2012).

#### **Advanced Financing to Achieve SunShot Goals**

The Advanced Financing to Achieve Sunshot project seeks to expand the availability and lower the cost of capital to deploy solar in the United States.

FY13-15: NREL has assembled two working groups to perform its tasks under the DOE award.

- The Solar Access to Public Capital (SAPC) group facilitates solar securitization and opens the capital markets to the solar asset class.
- The Banking on Solar group increases the availability of loan products in the residential and commercial solar areas.



#### **Next Steps:**

- Standardize contract terms and documents
   Build endorsement among developers.
- Engage broader investment community.
- Expand mock securitization to commercial portfolio.
- Standardize loan document and develop education materials.

#### **NREL Mission Focus**

Systems Market Renewable Energy Integration Efficiency Focus Energy **Private Industry** Grid Solar Residential **Infrastructure Buildings Federal Agencies** Wind and **Distributed** Water Commercial State/Local **Energy** Buildings Govt. **Biomass** Interconnection Personal and **International** Hydrogen **Battery and Commercial Thermal Storage** Geothermal **Vehicles Transportation** 

## The New Frontiers: Integration and Scale

- Integration of high-penetration renewables requires enhanced system-wide flexibility
  - Variable supply and variable load
  - Increased distributed resources
  - Enhanced energy imbalance market cooperation
  - Changing roles of consumers, utilities, investors, power providers, vendors, and regulators
- Regional considerations continue to drive progress
- Production scale and supply chain crucial to lower manufacturing costs
- Investment in technology R&D imperative
  - Better monitoring and measurements
  - Advanced analytics processing and control
  - Demand-shifting and load profile shaping techniques
  - Two way power flow control electronics





## Innovation, Integration and Adoption

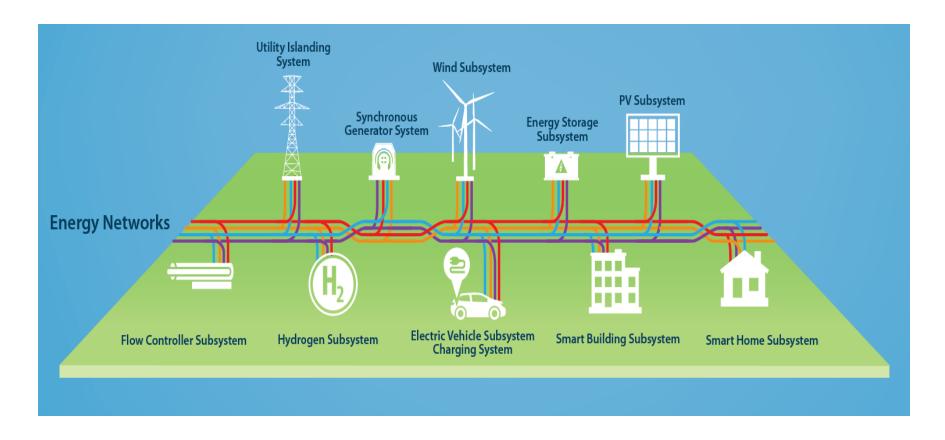
#### **Reducing Investment Risk**

- Enable basic and applied clean energy technology innovation
- Accelerate technology market introduction and adoption
- Integrate technology at scale
- Encourage collaboration in unique research and testing "partnering" facilities



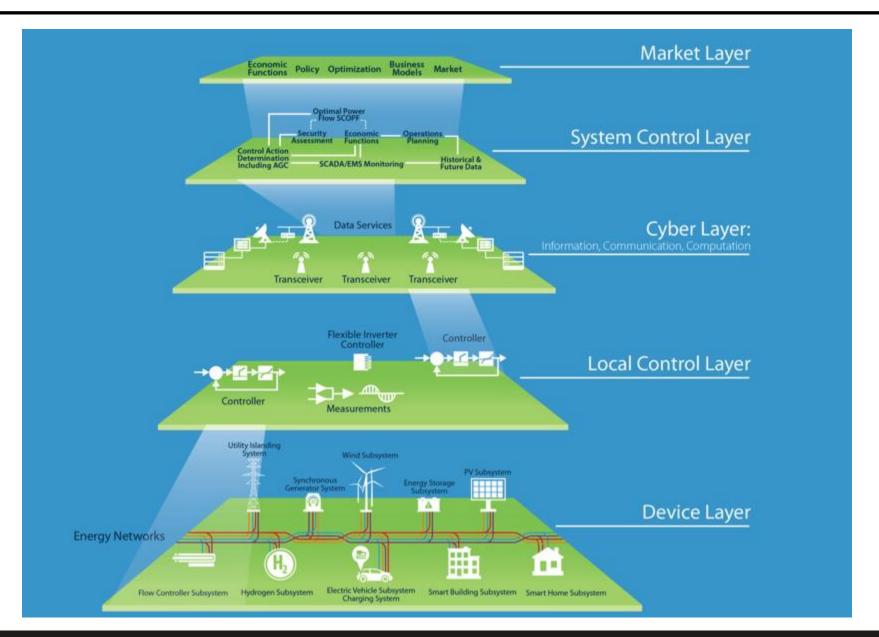
#### **Mobilizing Capital**

### **Integrate Technologies Into System**



Characterize and predict how components and devices will interact with the others in the system

### **Integrate Across Functional Layers**



## Systems Integration R&D Agenda

 Planning and simulation models **Grid management systems**  Data management, analysis and visualization Advanced grid control Grid measurement tools and technologies Grid integration in systems

## **Engaging Industry**







THE POWER OF ZERO

HPC Cooling
Thermal and optical performance
Electric vehicles
Green Hydrogen
Military apps
Control algorithms
Residential scale up
Storage systems







Innovative technology solutions for sustainability











## **NREL + Advanced Energy**



#### **TECHNOLOGY ADDRESSED**

Solar inverter controls validation for high penetration utility and commercial photovoltaics (PV).

#### **R&D STRATEGY**

Demonstrate 500 kW PV inverter performance by connecting the inverter to NREL's megawatt scale grid simulators, PV simulators, load banks and real-time electric distribution feeder models.

#### **IMPACT**

Increase PV saturation without negatively impacting the distribution grid through modifying the behaviors of inverters.





## **NREL + Toyota**



#### **TECHNOLOGY ADDRESSED**

Electrical distribution system impacts

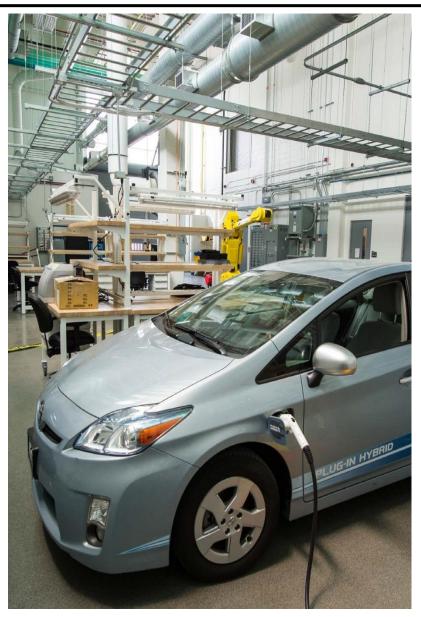
#### **R&D STRATEGY**

Collect data and conduct simulations to guide future experiments and projects that aid in the deployment of plug-in electric vehicles (PHEVs).

#### **IMPACT**

Correlation of individual vehicle power quality attributes to a system of PHEVs on a distribution network.





## NREL + Abengoa



#### **TECHNOLOGY ADDRESSED**

Molten Salt Heat Transfer Fluid

#### **R&D STRATEGY**

Provide reliable thermophysical property data over a temperature range for 2 different mixtures of salts. The two salts listed below are to be tested, along with some commonly accepted and previously tested characteristics.

#### **IMPACT**

Integrated thermal storage technologies with concentrated solar.



Innovative technology solutions for sustainability



#### **NREL + CSIRO**



#### TECHNOLOGY ADDRESSED

Advance microgrid technology for remote outback applications. 'Plug and play' discovery of components in a microgrid and optimization of energy use when incorporating distributed generation from solar.

#### **R&D STRATEGY**

Prototype testing of the microgrid controller to test the hardware's ability to manage the output power of a diesel generator in the presence of a load bank and solar simulator.





#### **IMPACT**

By simplifying the process of implementing, expanding and operating solar hybrid systems, this technology will assist system developers, owners and operators and help maximize the contribution of solar energy in these systems.

#### **NREL + Solectria**



#### **TECHNOLOGY ADDRESSED**

Advanced Inverter SmartGrid features

#### **R&D STRATEGY**

Loop the SGI-500 utility-scale photovoltaic inverter to ESIF's hardware-in-the-loop capability and test its controls and functionality at full power in a real-world simulated environment.

#### **IMPACT**

Increase the speed of response to grid emergencies and improve grid power reliability and quality.





#### Solar's Time has Arrived...



"If you sit on the porch with the big dogs, and occasionally bark like a big dog, the world will view you as a big dog."

- Professor Richard Tapia

