

# Energy Storage

## Overview and Key Risks

BUILDING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE®



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**BLACK & VEATCH**

# Agenda



- Quick Black & Veatch Introduction
- Energy Storage Overview
- Key Risk Discussion
  - Supplier Risk
  - Development Risk
  - Equipment Performance
  - Investment Performance
  - Innovation and Technology Risk
  - Safety/Fire
- Questions



# Black & Veatch Introduction

# Black & Veatch Overview



**10,000+**  
**Professionals**

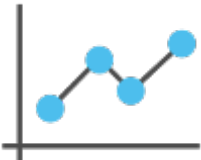
**110+** offices

**Six** continents

**7,000** active projects  
worldwide.



**\$3.5 Billion**  
in revenue in 2018.



**Safety**  
**Performance**

**0.35**

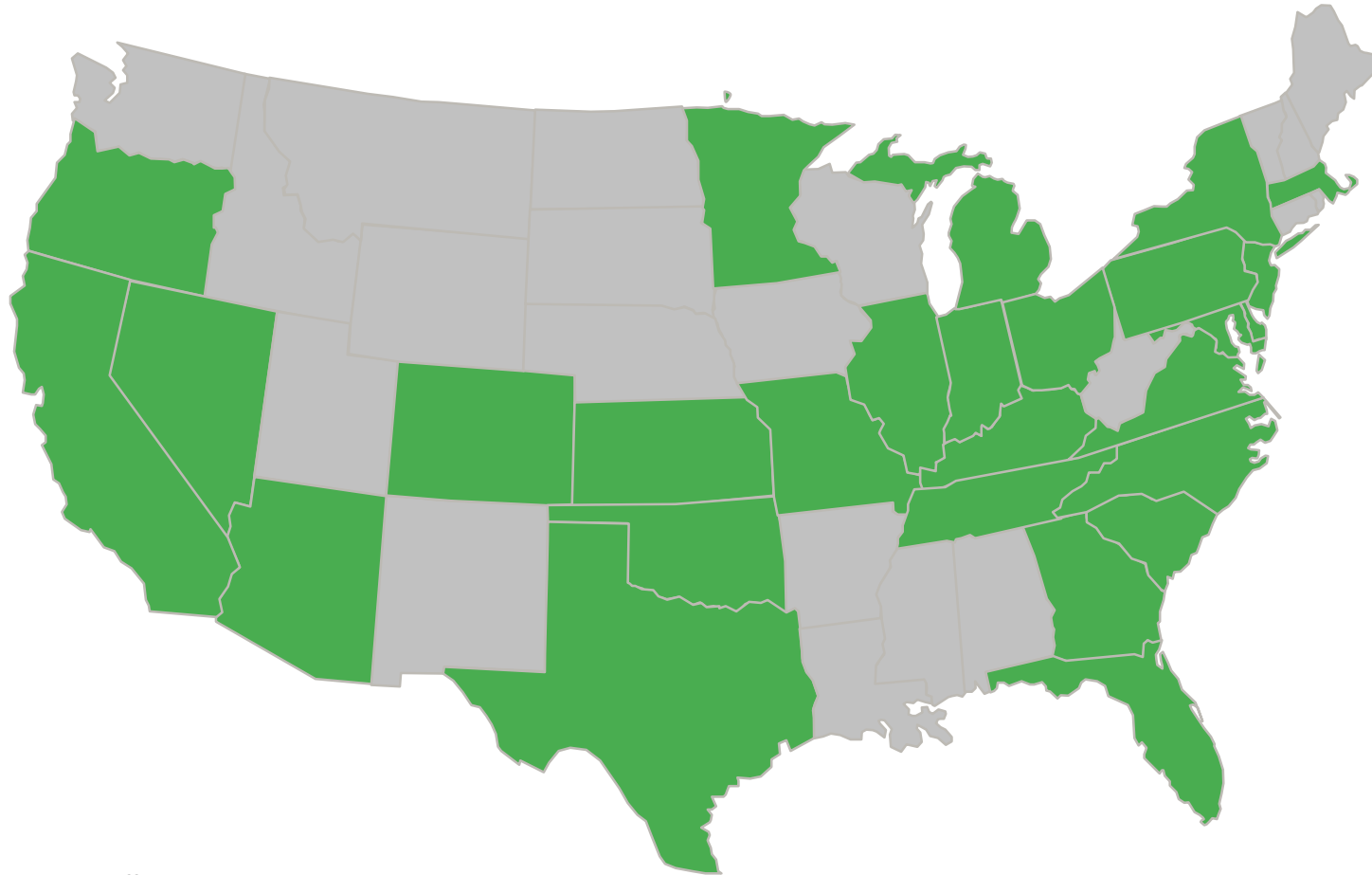
Recordable Incident Rate

**0.08**

Lost Time Incident Rate



# United States Presence



*Project offices are not included.*

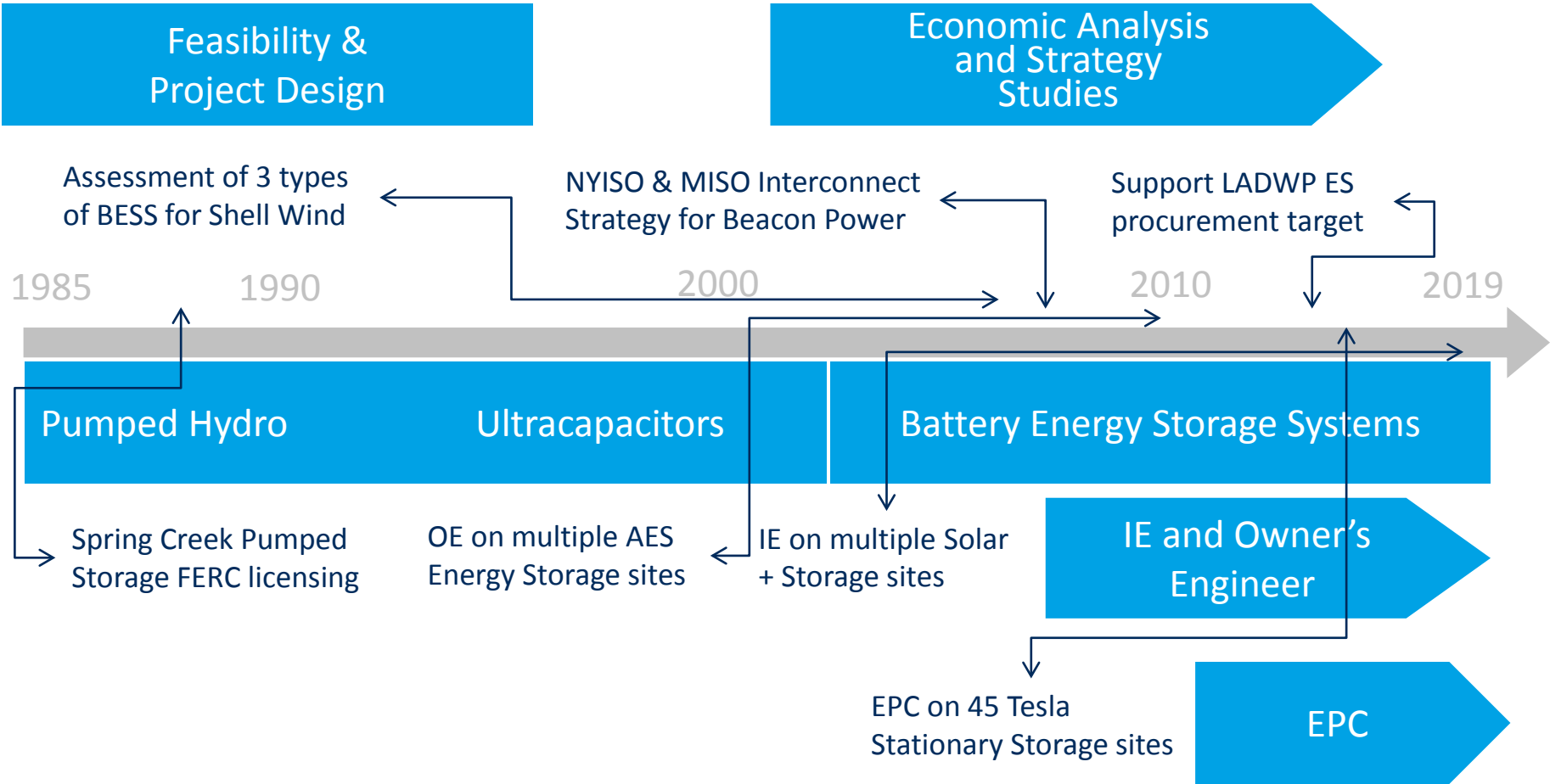
Arizona  
California  
Colorado  
Delaware  
Florida  
Georgia  
Illinois  
Indiana  
Kansas  
Kentucky  
Maryland  
Massachusetts  
Michigan  
Minnesota  
Missouri

Nevada  
New Jersey  
New York  
North Carolina  
Ohio  
Oklahoma  
Oregon  
Pennsylvania  
South Carolina  
Tennessee  
Texas  
Virginia

# B&V Has Been in Energy Storage for 30+ Years

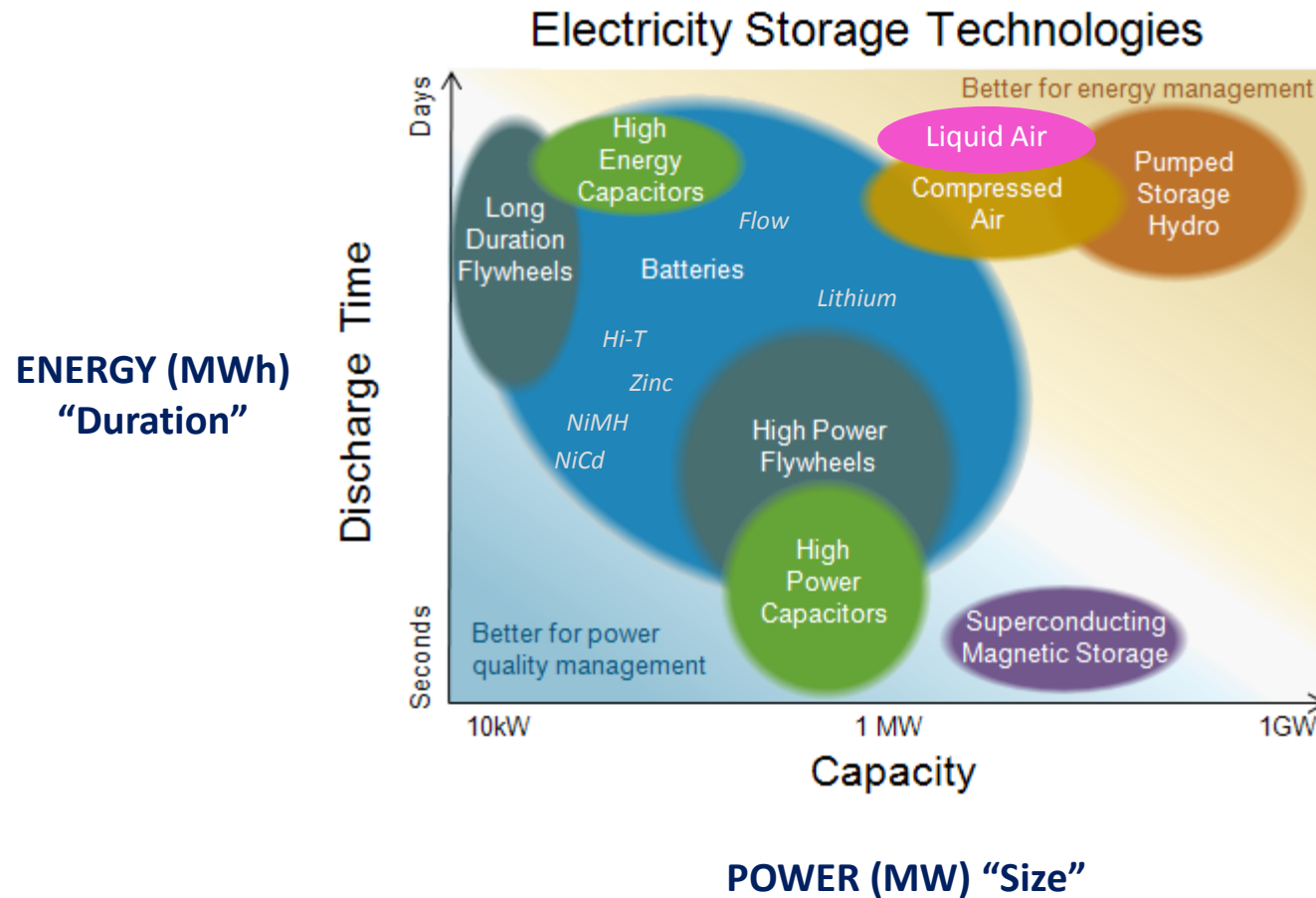


Lake Lenexa Dam  
Johnson County, KS



# Energy Storage Overview

# Storage Technology – Power & Energy, Size & Duration



- Others:
  - PtG: Power to Gas
    - SNG Synthetic Natural Gas
    - H2 Hydrogen for prime movers or fuel cells
  - CAES: Compressed Air Energy Storage. "Co-fire"
  - LAES: Liquefied Air Energy Storage. "Thermal"



# Benefits of Energy Storage

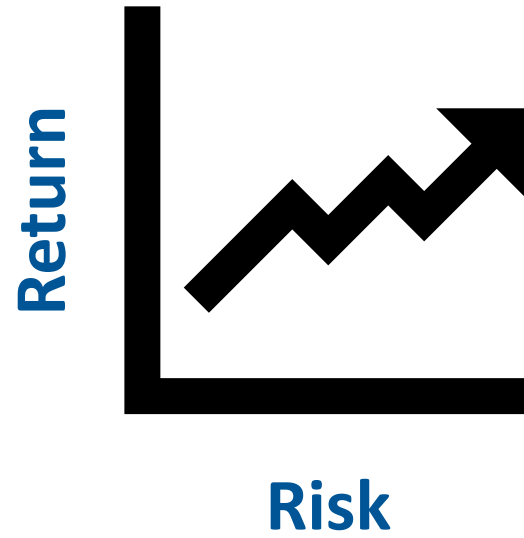
- **Store energy for later use (demand side)**
  - Emergency Back-up, Black Start
  - Time of Day energy price arbitrage
  - Reduce Demand Charges (storing power)
  - Reduce Peak Generation needs
- **Ancillary services**
  - Frequency Regulation; Add/Draw VAR; Ramp Rate Control; Capacity Firming
- **Manage capacity constrained production (supply side)**
  - e.g. store excess DC power at an oversized solar plant
- **Reduce need for transmission & distribution infrastructure**

# Recent Market Trends

- Prices for battery packs and power electronics as low as ever and declining by ~10% and ~5% per year for the next 3-5 years
- Hybrid systems that add value and avoid costs
  - Solar plus storage – value added by capturing clipped energy and curtailed energy
  - Gas turbine / Hydro plus storage – instantaneous spinning reserve (vs 5 or 10 minutes) / faster response, higher ramp rates
- Resiliency valuation (east coast Sandy, west coast Aliso Canyon)

# Hot Topics

- **How does energy storage compare to a natural gas peaker?**
  - Technically feasible: proven (Hawaii “PV-Peakers”)
  - Economically justified: more so in the future as storage equipment prices drop
    - *Far more so if gas price increases. Economic Justification  $\propto$  Gas price*
- **Li material supply. More abundant than Cu or Pb.**
- **Co material supply. Manufacturers racing to reduce.**
- **Recycling. Combination of 1) Second Life and 2) Maturation of Processing**



## Key Risk Discussion

# Company/Supplier Risk

- Investors want to be sure equipment will work and can be maintained adequately during its expected life
- Risk of Insolvency
  - Warranty duration & performance
  - O&M agreement performance
  - Spare parts availability
- Mitigation (3<sup>rd</sup> party replacements; Declining costs)
- Supplier Competition - good for industry and pricing, but challenges incumbents

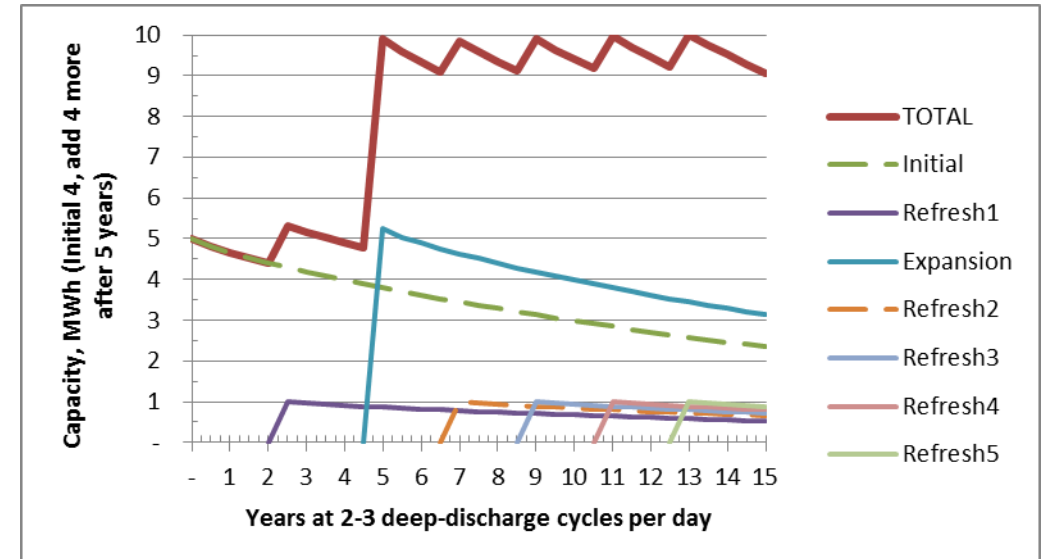
# Development & Construction Risk

- As with most energy infrastructure projects several risks exist during development
  - Design – review engineering so project operates as intended
  - Permitting and Siting
  - Delivery and Schedule (weather)
  - Worker Safety
- After commercial operation, risks arising from construction include
  - Useful life of the overall system & major maintenance expectations
  - Full wrap warranty of the whole system (typically a few years)
  - Some system suppliers also provide O&M services
- Decommissioning & reuse / recycling of cells



# Equipment Performance Risk

- Value Stack Challenges – Can't capture many
- Storage performance drivers include:
  - Duration and depth of cycles
  - Number of cycles
  - Design and technology used
- Mitigate with overbuild or additional racks for future upgrades



# Investment Performance Risk

- Expected Performance drives the economic decision to invest in a project
  - Production estimate modeling risk & uncertainties
- Off-taker risk is more broadly considered post PG&E
- Incentive Policy changes or step downs
  - ITC, state RPS standards
- Other Financing Risk
  - Underlying rates, credit risk
- Few projects to date have had bank/lender financing (deal size not yet there)



# Innovation and Technology Risk

- Industry currently focused on Lithium ion evolved from mobile devices and EV
  - Arrays of small modular cells may not be optimal for utility scale
- Other technologies may still come to prominence
  - Lithium Metal
  - Flow Batteries
  - CAES
  - Hydrogen

# Safety and Fire Risk

- Recent fires have drawn headline attention and focus on improvement
- Like other power technologies Energy Storage has safety risks
- Can be mitigated with proper training and procedures
  - Prevention (monitoring, shut-down)
  - Mitigation (protection, containment, training)
- Other safety risks:
  - high voltage risks (common to other electric equipment)
  - chemical burns or hazardous gases

## ESA: Investigation of Arizona fire will help inform industry's future



Source: Energy Storage News

# Safety and Fire Standards

- **UL 1973 - Safety Standard for Batteries used in Stationary... Applications**
- **UL 9540 - Standard for Energy Storage Systems and Equipment**
- **UL 9540 A – Large Scale Fire Test Method**
  - **Addresses requirements of IFC 608 and NFPA 855**
  - **Evaluates thermal runaway propagation at multiple levels: Cell, Module, Unit and Installation**

Challenges: Costly and lengthy regime for manufacturers, exacerbated by flux in products, standards and codes

# Key Themes

- **Energy Storage has multiple dimensions of complexity (contrasted to solar)**
  - This adds optionality and value but also increases risk
  - BESS can lean to grid asset (vs. power generation) so may want to finance as such
- **We're still at early stages of industry maturity**
  - Technology, Standards, Protocols are all still evolving rapidly
- **Sponsors and Lenders need reasonable surety of cash flows in order to invest**
  - Uncertainties and relative inexperience will make financing more costly

# QUESTIONS?

# BUILDING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

## Thank you

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