Transmission Siting and Community Engagement

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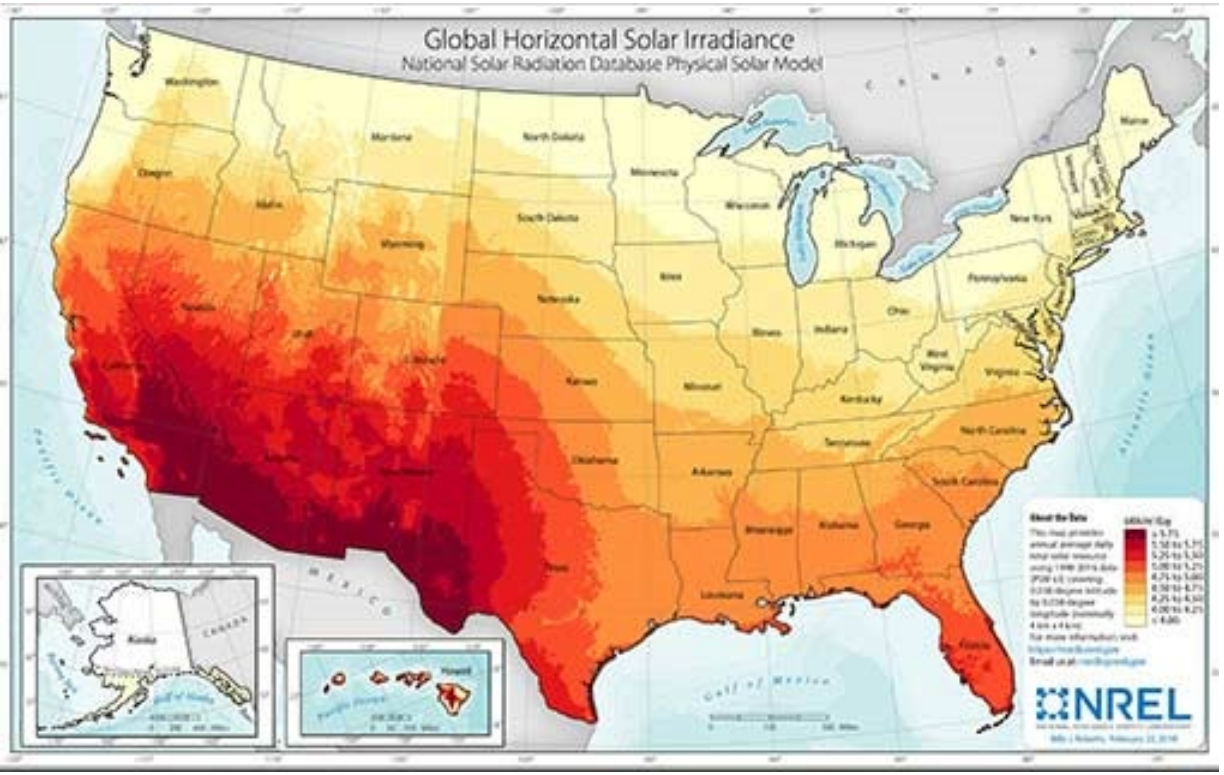
Solar and Wind Resources (NREL)

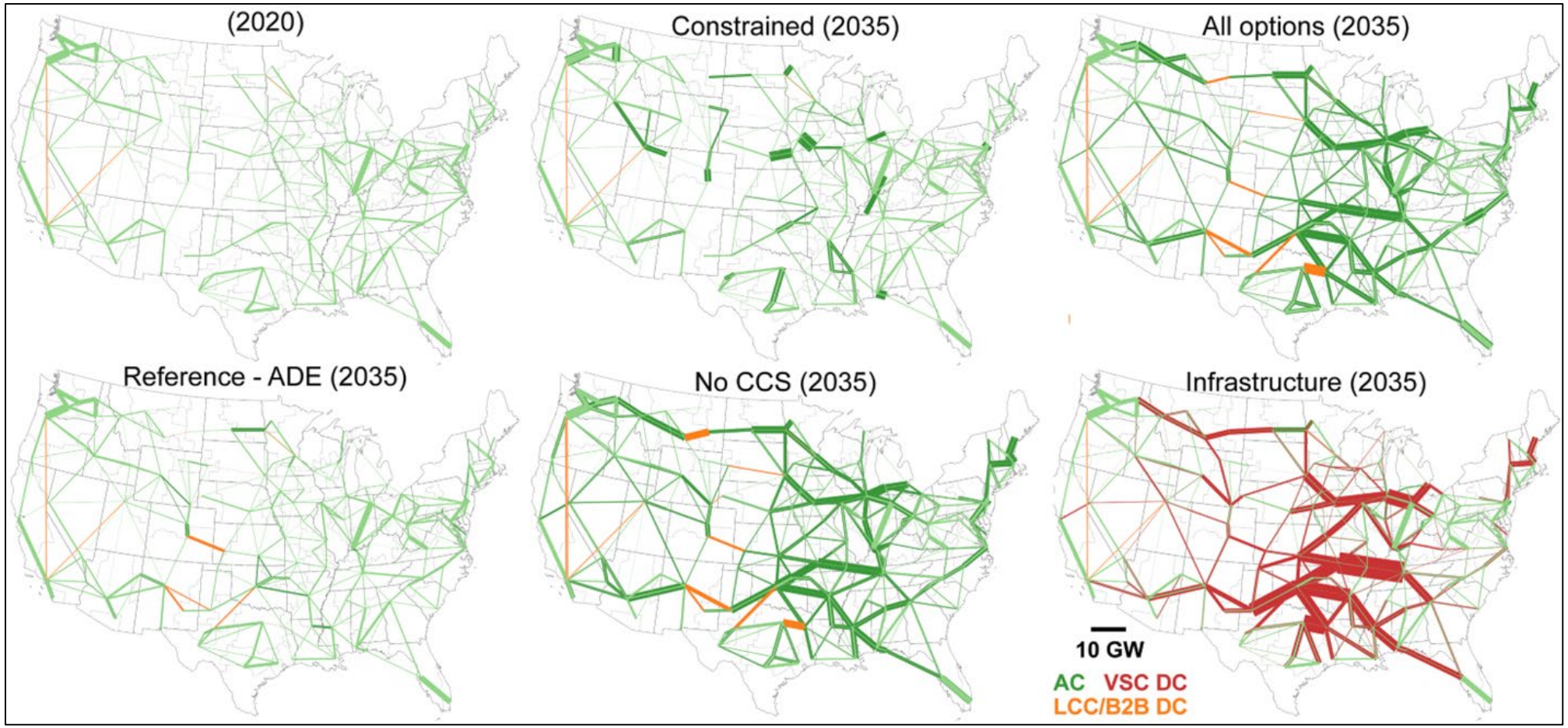


20% of US electric demand in Western Interconnect

6% of demand in ERCOT

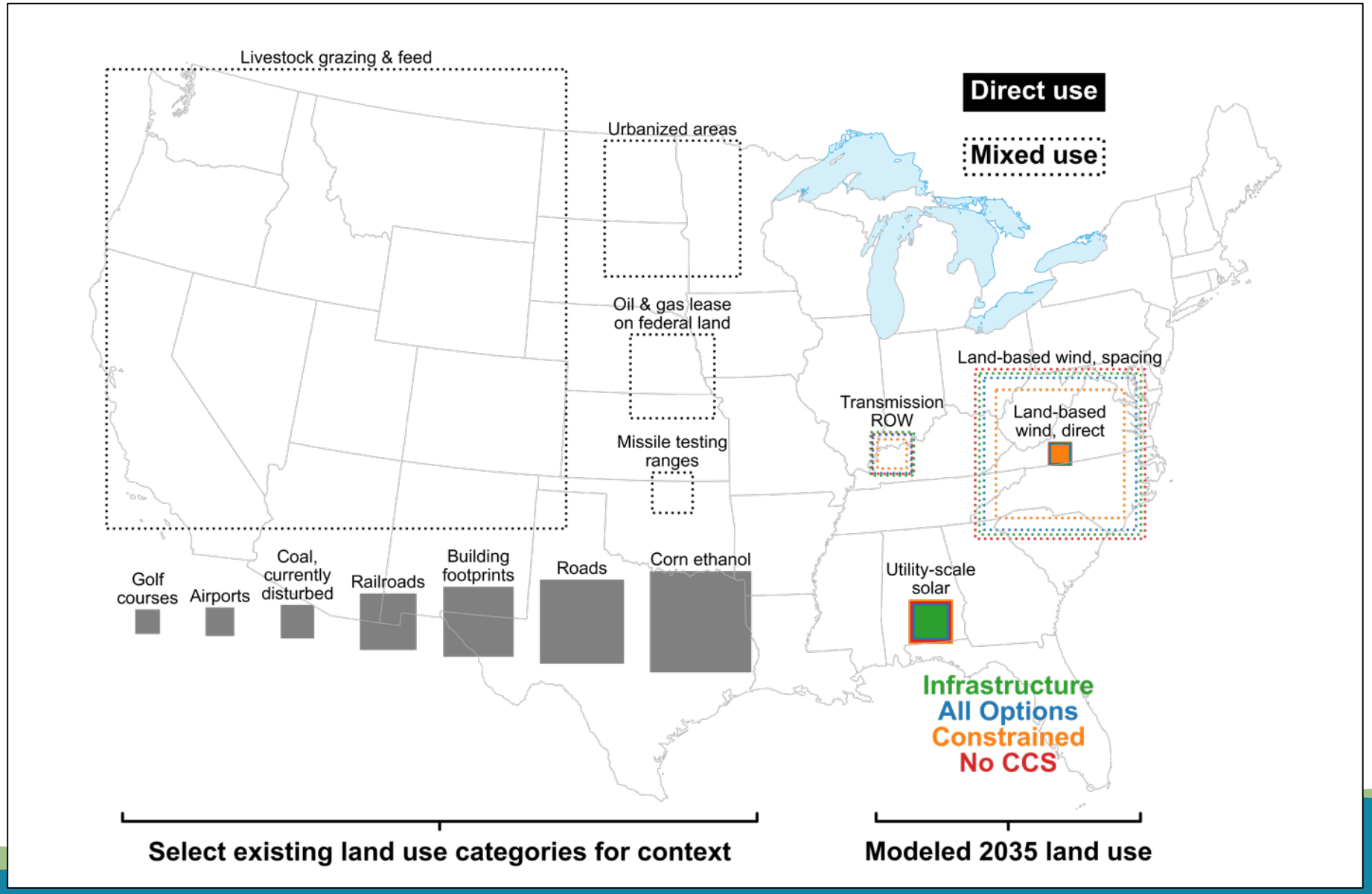
72% of demand in Eastern Interconnect

The Energy Transition Requires New Clean Energy Generation – and Transmission



NREL Report: *Examining Supply-Side Options to Achieve 100% Clean Electricity by 2035*
Lead authors: P. Denholm, P. Brown, W. Cole, T. Mai, B. Sergi
Supporting Authors: M. Brown, P. Jadun, J. Ho, J. Mayernik, C. McMillan, R. Sreenath

Most of the impacted land area can be shared with other uses. Compare impacts with other land uses (NREL)



As we get closer to people, and other considerations, siting gets more challenging.

Involving Impacted Communities in Siting

- Require community involvement and a public outreach plan. Inclusion is intentional. Build trust.
- Have a neutral party (university, community college, someone trusted) provide information (need, cost, benefits) and plans so the community members feel included. How can you tell if this worked?
- Invite community comments and listen, early on (pre-scoping). Allow participants to have a say in routing or alternatives.
- Minimize impacts to assets communities value. Map their assets first; then do the routing.
- Community benefits help (electricity, broadband, payments, etc.).
- Utilize new state and federal funding (regional, rural, planning, etc.).

Sources: Mountain States Transmission Intertie (2012), Knudsen (2015), Ciupuliga and Cuppen (2013)

References compiled by Lisa Dilling

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Thank You

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