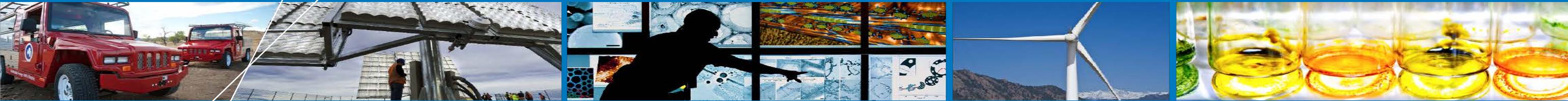


Status of the Voluntary Green Power Market



Eric O'Shaughnessy

January 27th, 2016

Outline

- **Key Numbers**
- **Market Summary**
- **Utility Green Pricing**
- **Competitive Suppliers**
- **Unbundled RECs**
- **Community Solar**
- **Community Choice Aggregations**
- **PPAs**
- **Market Outlook**

Key Numbers

74M
MWh sales



4.9M
customers



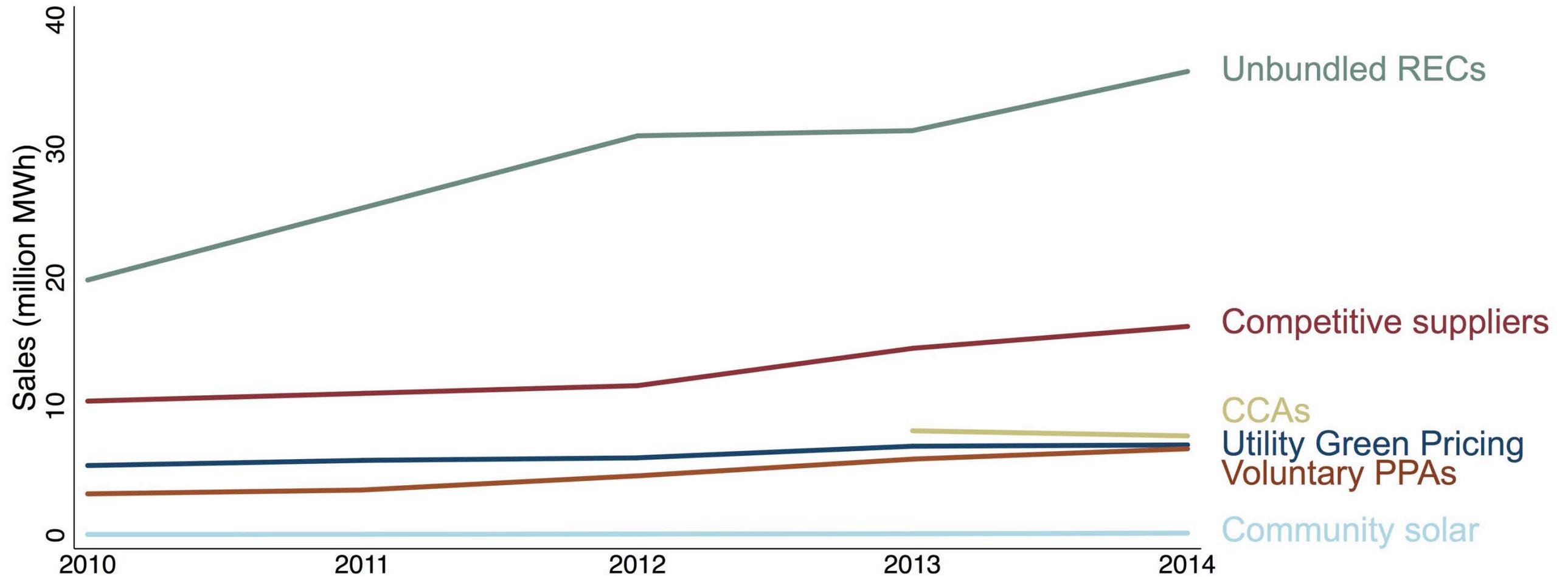
26%
of U.S. non-hydro
RE sales



10%
increase in sales from
2013 to 2014

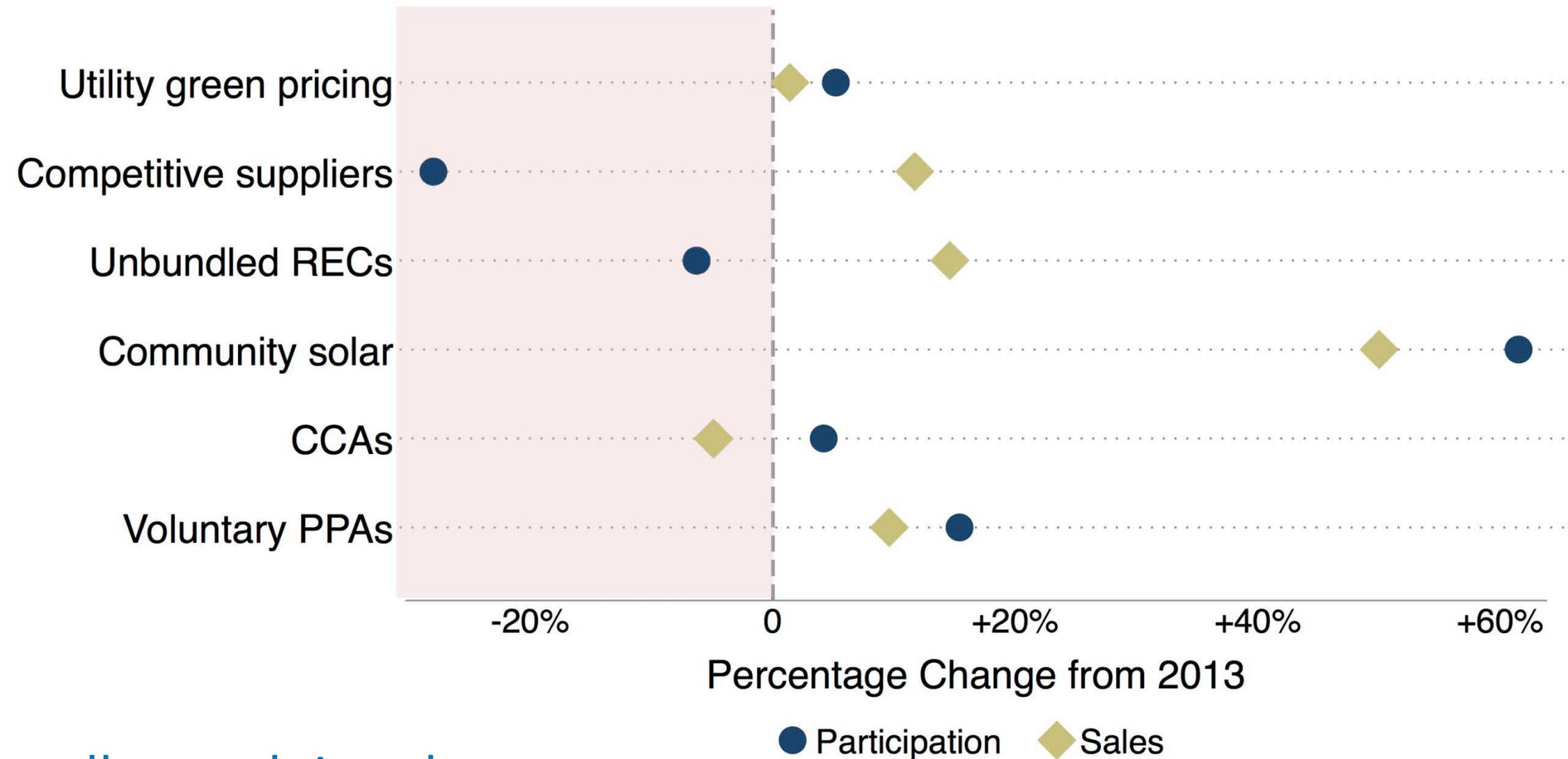


Market Summary



Continued sales growth, reaching 74 million MWh in 2014

Market Summary



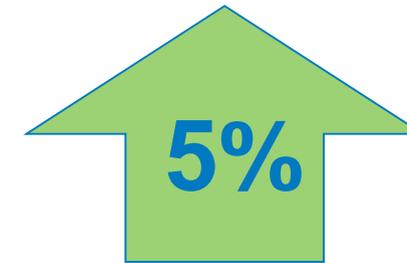
- 10% overall growth in sales
- 9% drop in participation, driven by dynamics in the competitive supply market

Utility Green Pricing

7,040,000 MWh



**743,000
customers**

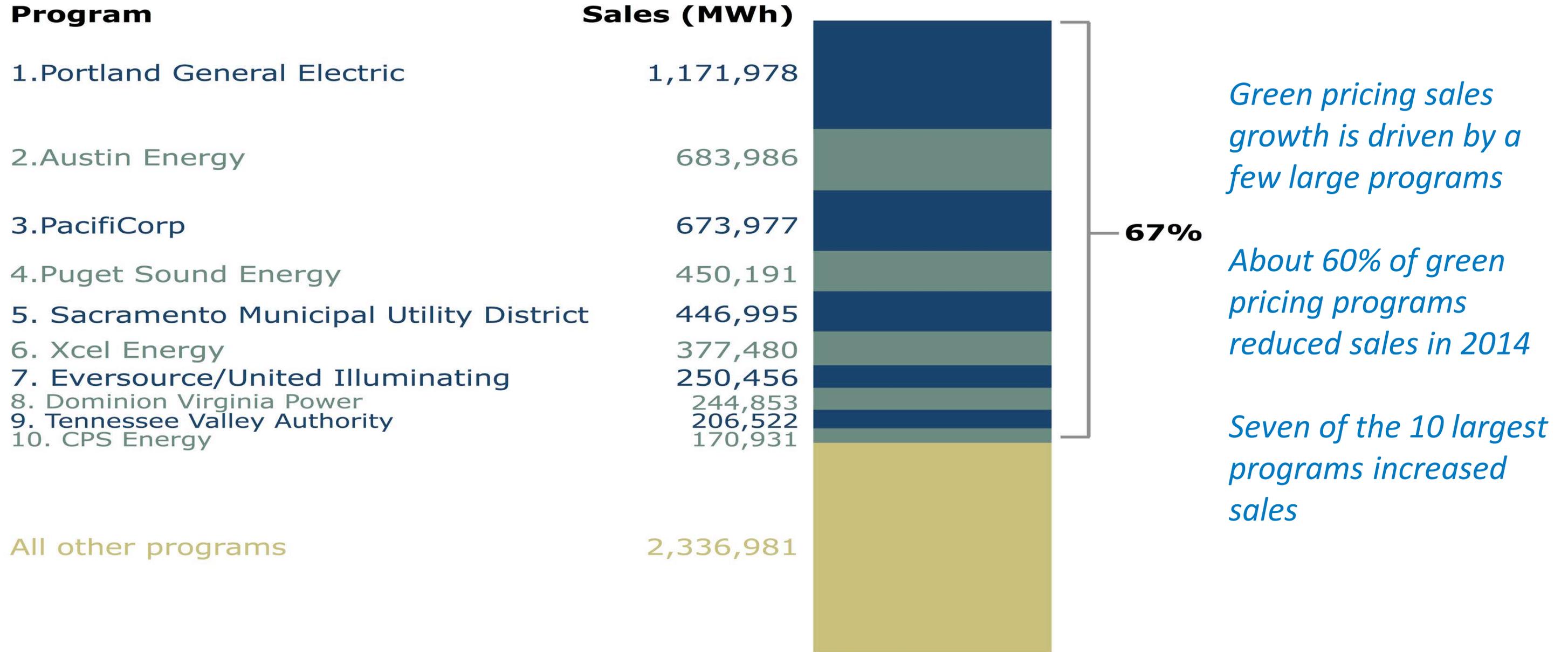


40 states



No change

The top 10 utility green pricing programs, by sales, represented 67% of the green pricing market in 2014



Competitive Suppliers

16,200,000 MWh



**1,584,000
customers**



15 states



No change

Unbundled RECs

36,047,000 MWh



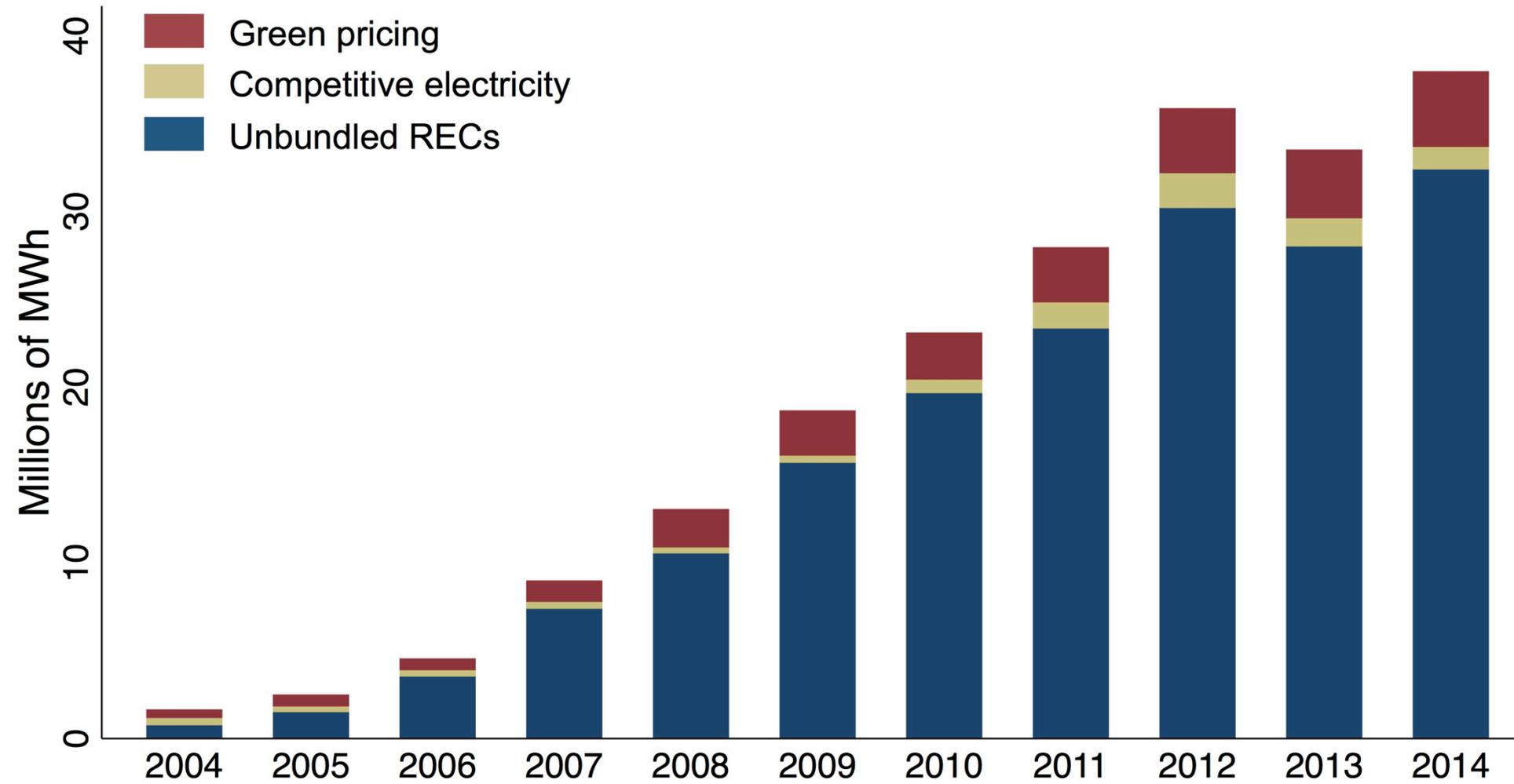
88,608 customers



50 states



Green-e Certified Sales



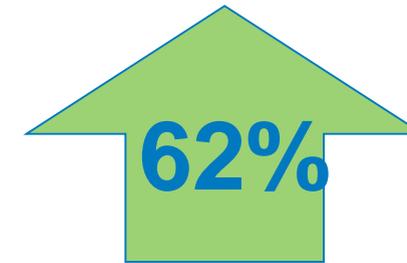
Total retail sales of Green-e certified renewable energy
Source: Terada 2015

Community Solar

150,000 MWh



42,000 customers



25 states



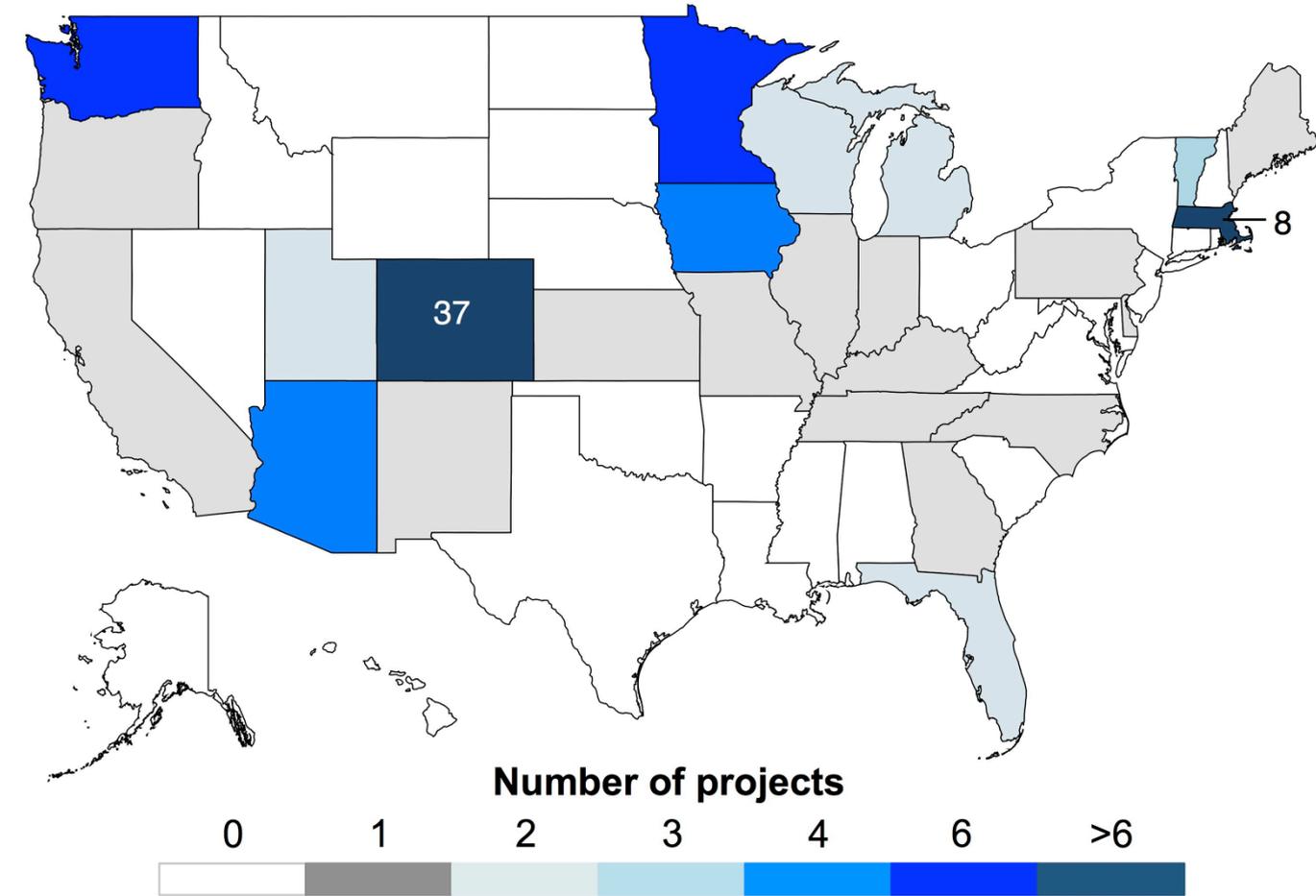
+7 states

The Geographic Expansion of Community Solar

States with new community solar projects

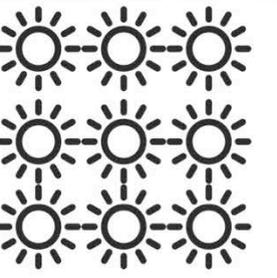
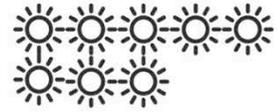
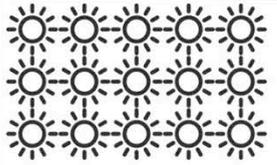
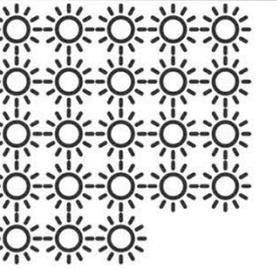


States with new community solar legislation



Staying Community Scale

- Project size hasn't increased over time
- Some state policies include size limits (e.g., 2 MW in Colorado)
- Developers may focus on re-purposed sites with size constraints
- Access to credit may limit project size

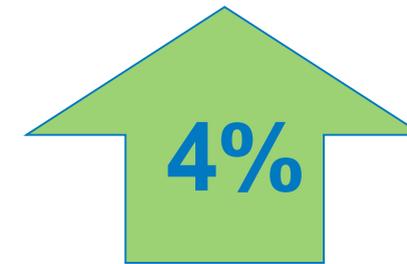
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Average project size	0.3 MW	2.5 MW	1.3 MW	0.5 MW	0.8 MW
Large projects (>10 MW)					
Medium projects (1-10 MW)					
Small projects (<1 MW)					

Community Choice Aggregations

7,700,000 MWh



2,500,000 customers



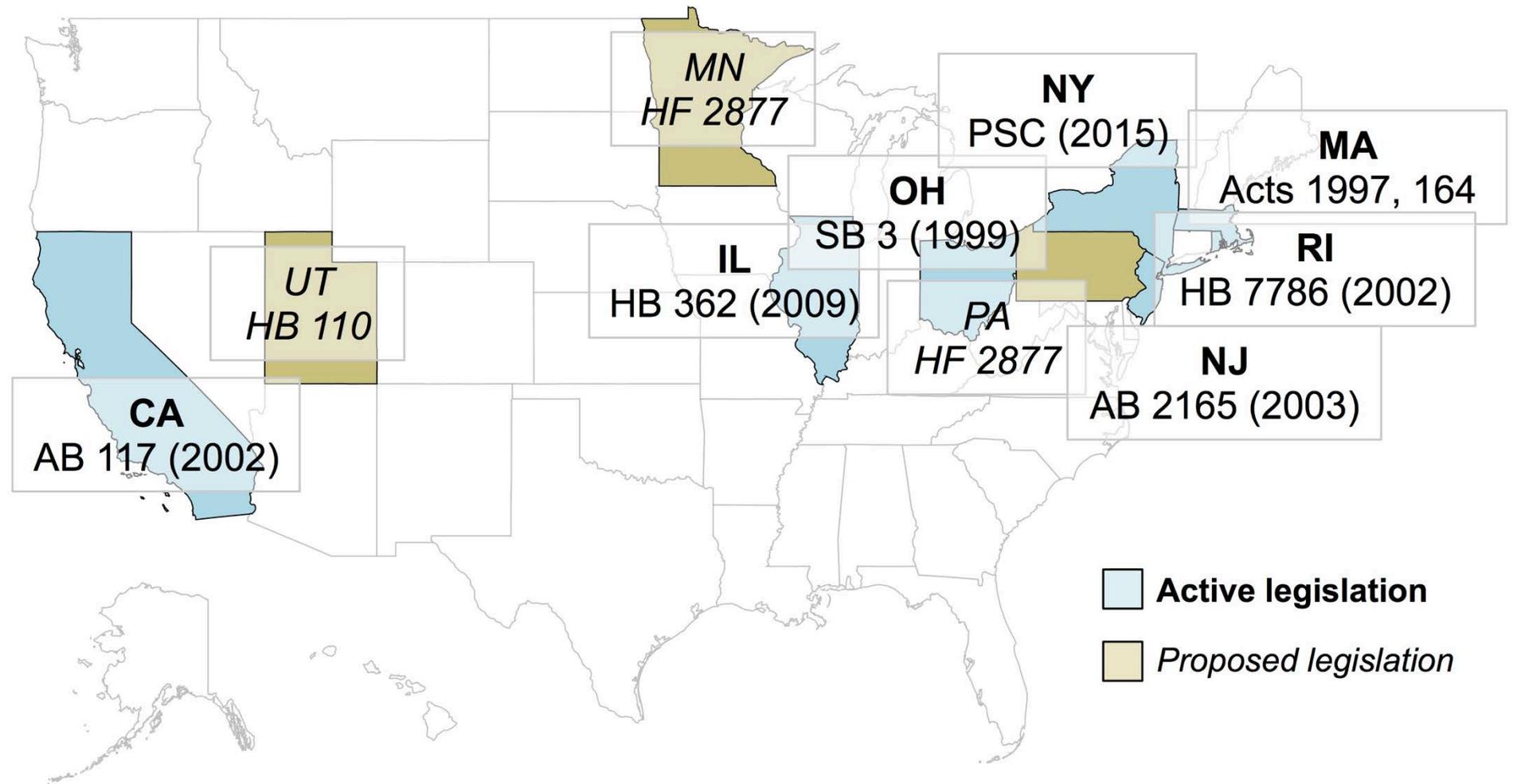
7 states



+1 state

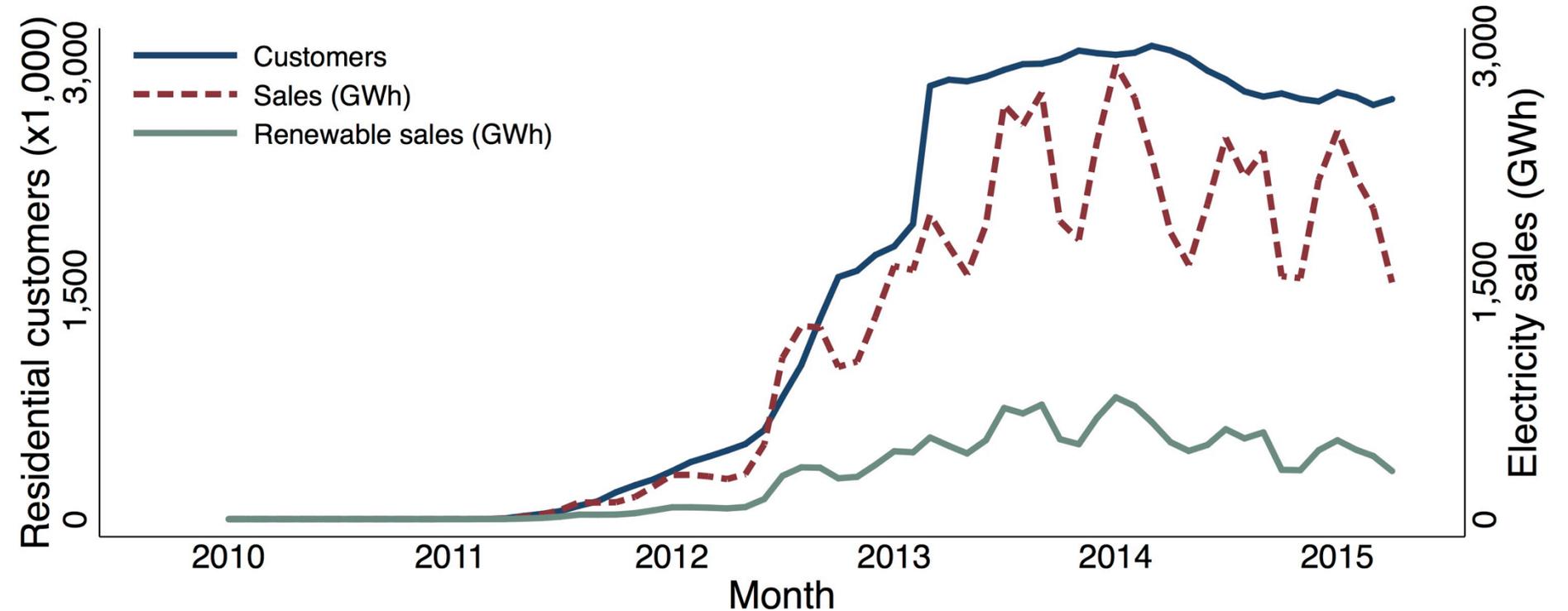
CCAs: Limited by Legislation

- New York became the 7th state to allow CCAs
- Communities in CA, IL, MA, and OH have used CCAs to deliver green power products



CCAs: Plateauing in Illinois

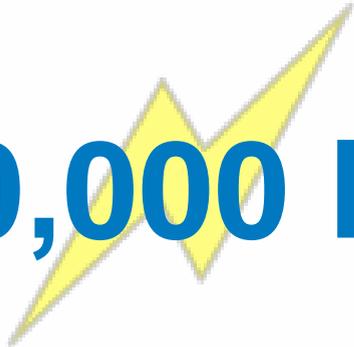
- Illinois CCAs peaked at 68% of residential market in early 2014
- About 27% of CCAs deliver a green power product
- In response to falling “prices to compare,” at least 35 CCAs discontinued renewable products in 2014



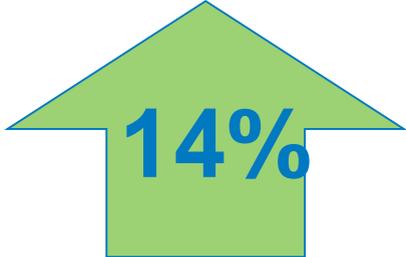
Number of customers and electricity sales associated with Illinois CCAs by month

Source: NREL estimates based on ICC 2015

Voluntary PPAs



6,700,000 MWh



14%

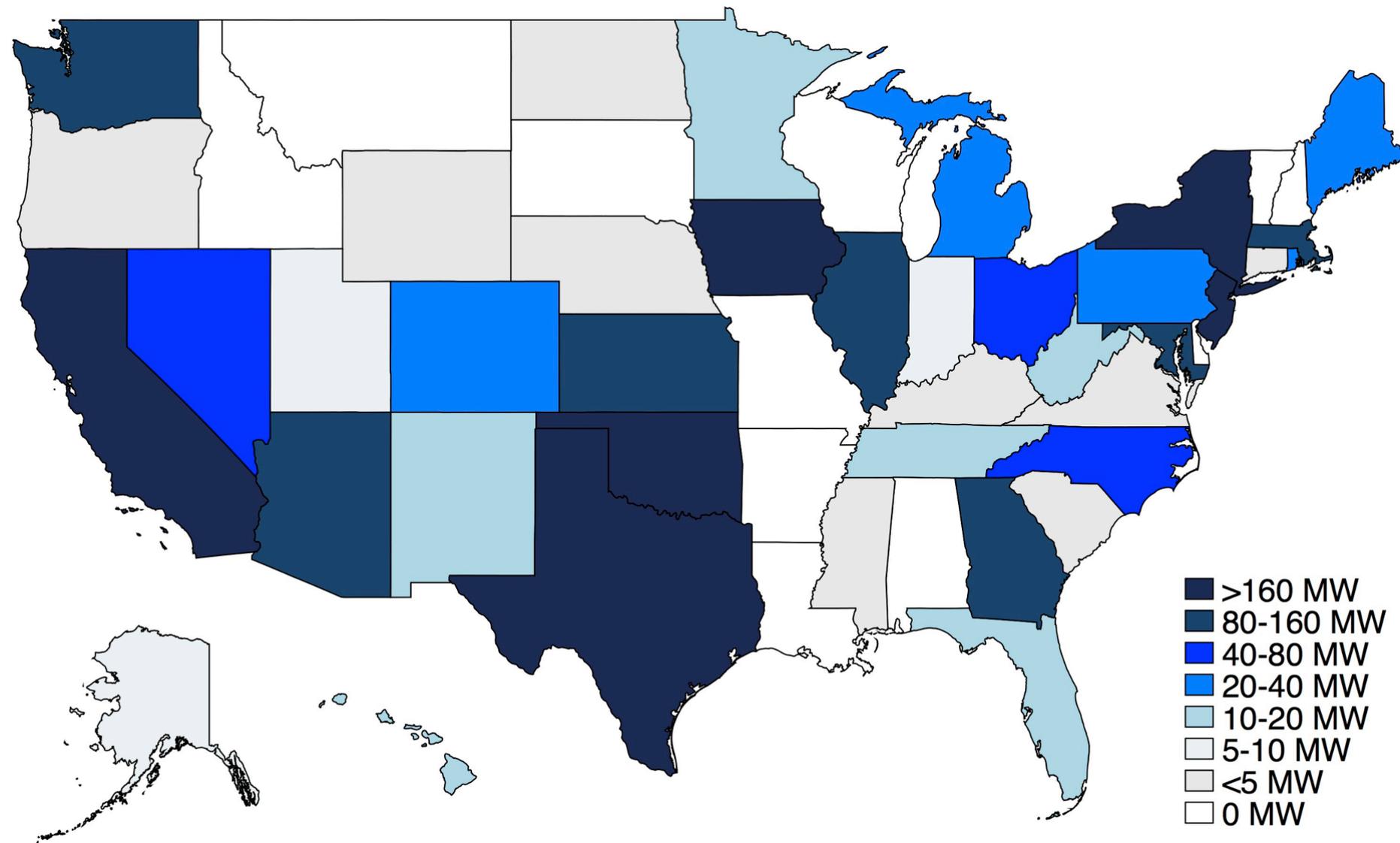


295 customers



15%

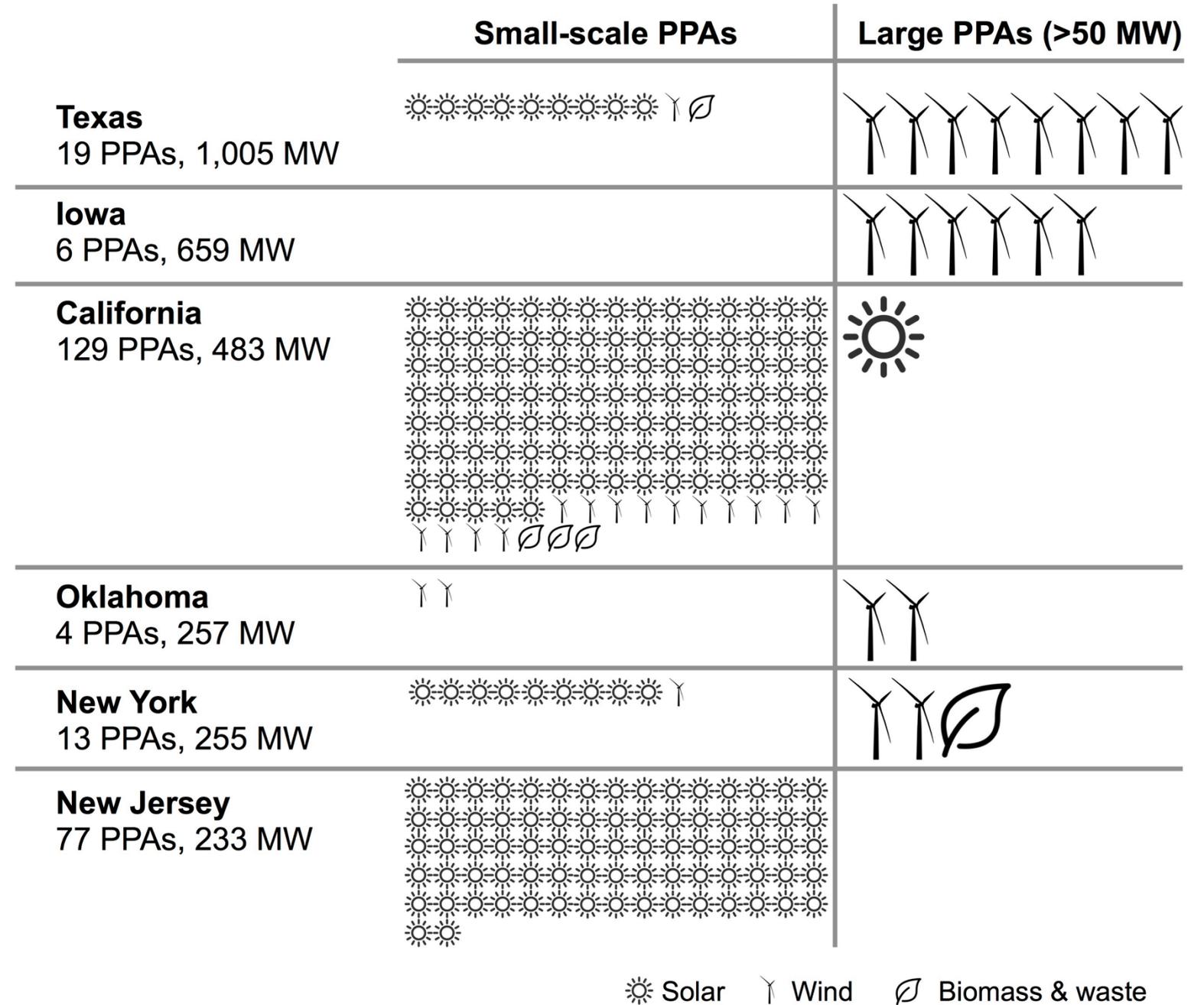
Voluntary PPAs by State



Source: Data from BNEF

Voluntary PPA Resources

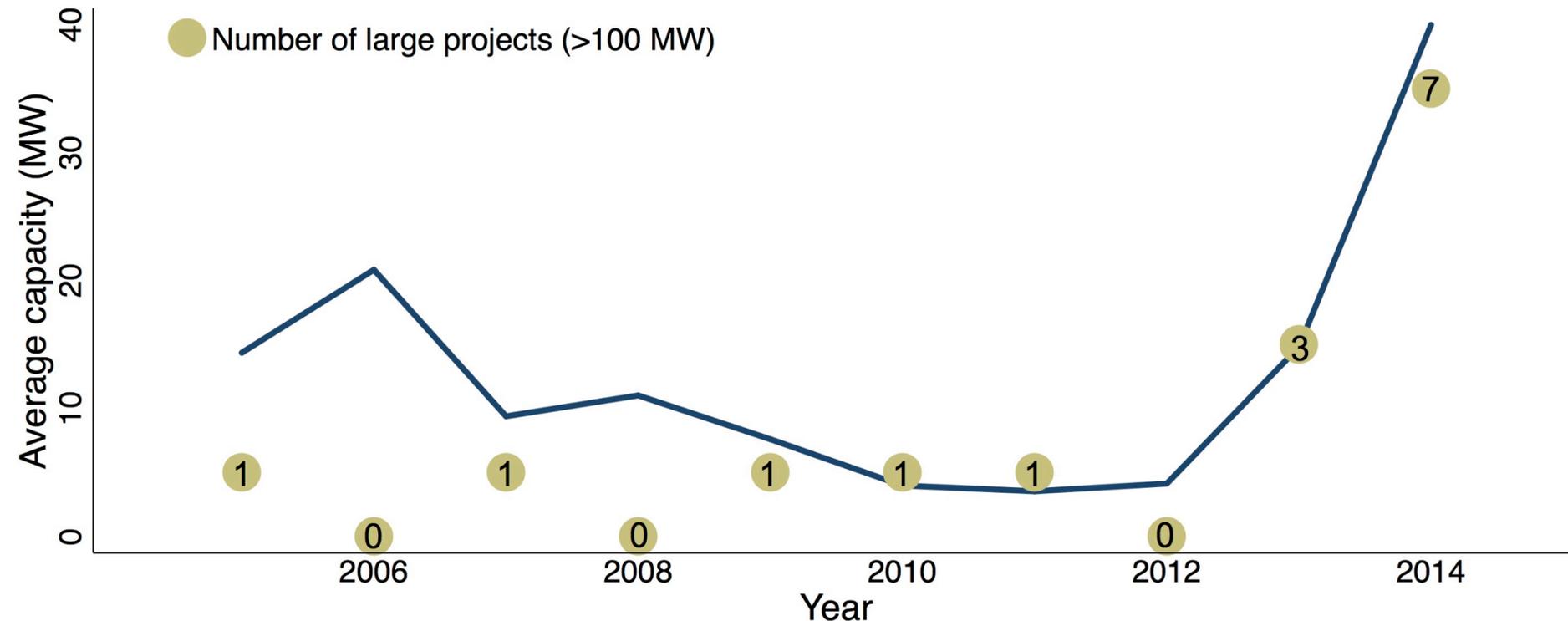
- Solar is the primary PPA resource in terms of number of projects
- Wind is the primary PPA resource for large projects



Source: Data from BNEF

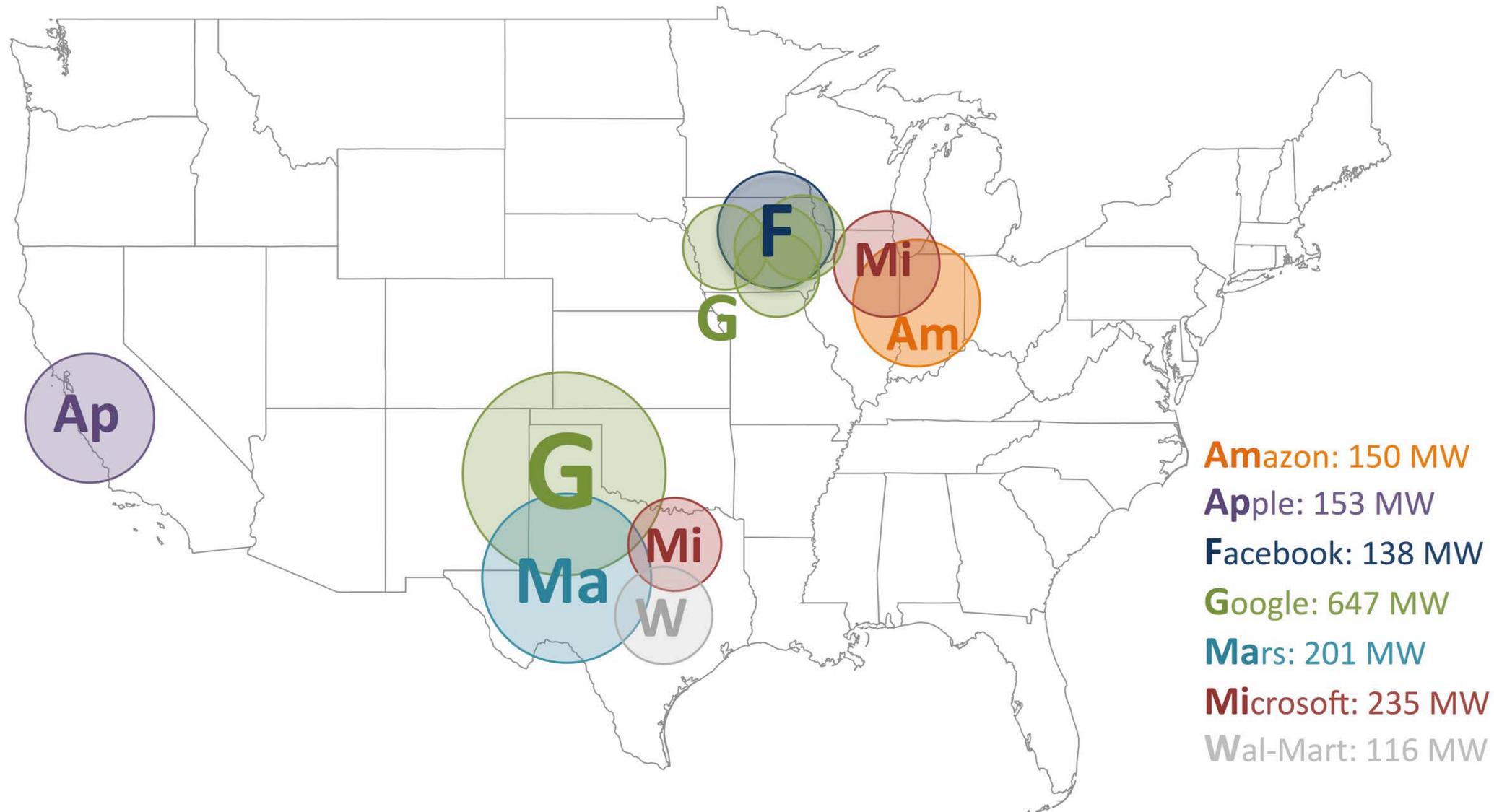
Trending toward Large Projects

- Average PPA capacity increased from 15 MW in 2013 to 40 MW in 2014
- The number of >100 MW PPAs nearly doubled in 2014
- 5 of the 7 >100 MW PPAs were signed by the ICT sector



Average capacity and number of large projects
Source: Data from BNEF

The Large-Scale PPA Landscape



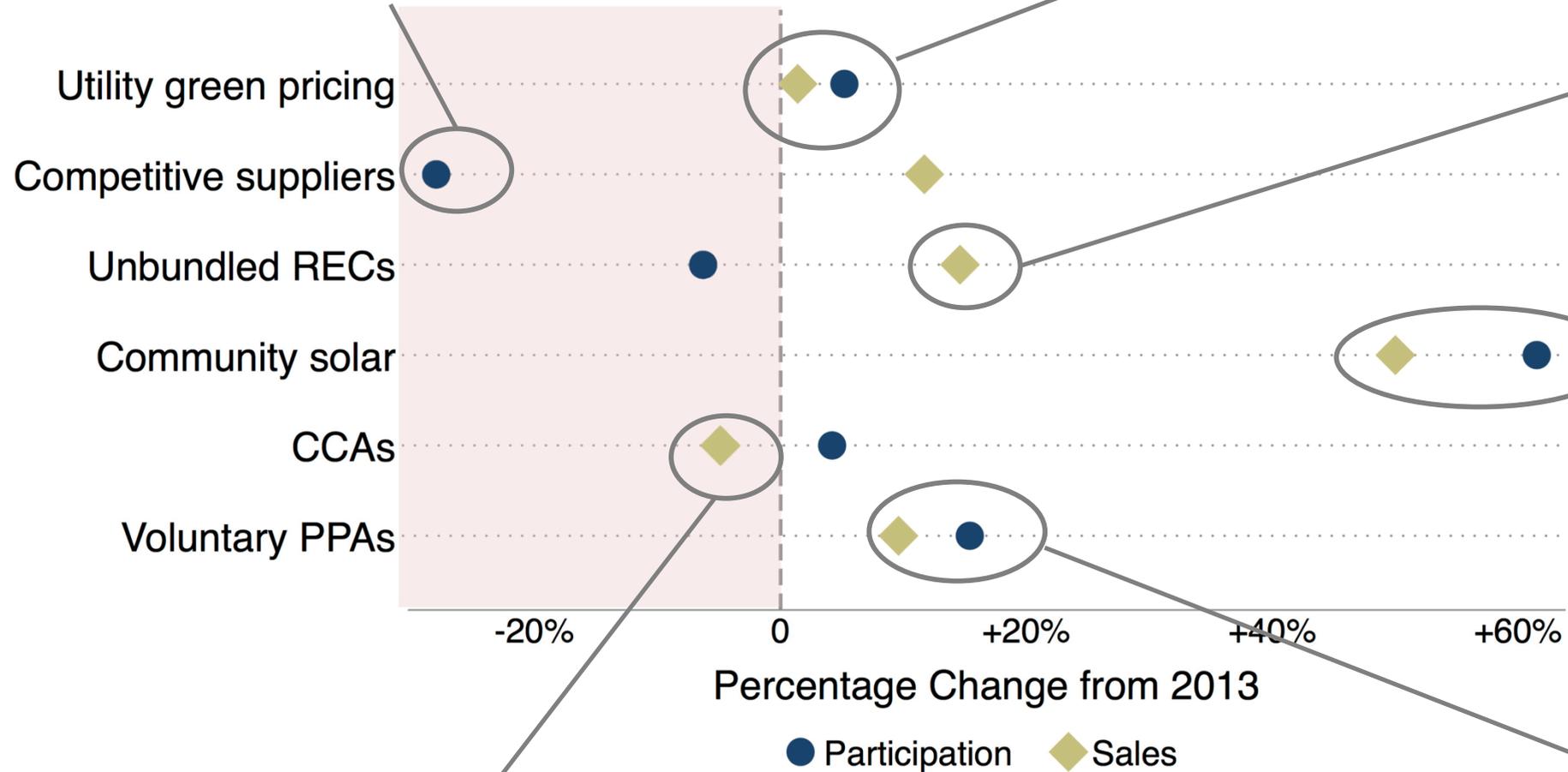
Source: Data from BNEF

Using 2014 trends to forecast future trends

Will participation in competitive markets rebound in 2015?

Are utility green pricing programs satiated?

Will low REC prices increase unbundled REC sales?



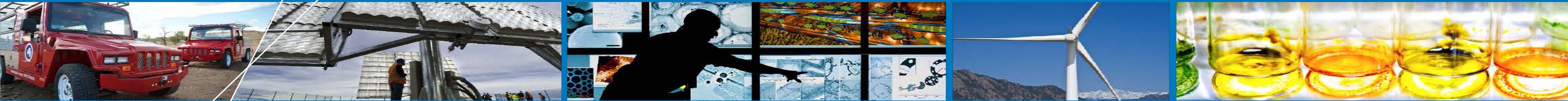
Projections for continued strong growth in community solar

Will CCA renewable energy sales in Illinois rebound with rising utility rates? What will we see in California?

Will voluntary PPAs continue to get bigger?

Full report available:

<http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy16osti/65252.pdf>



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