



# The ARPA-E DAYS Program

Update on new long-duration storage  
technologies

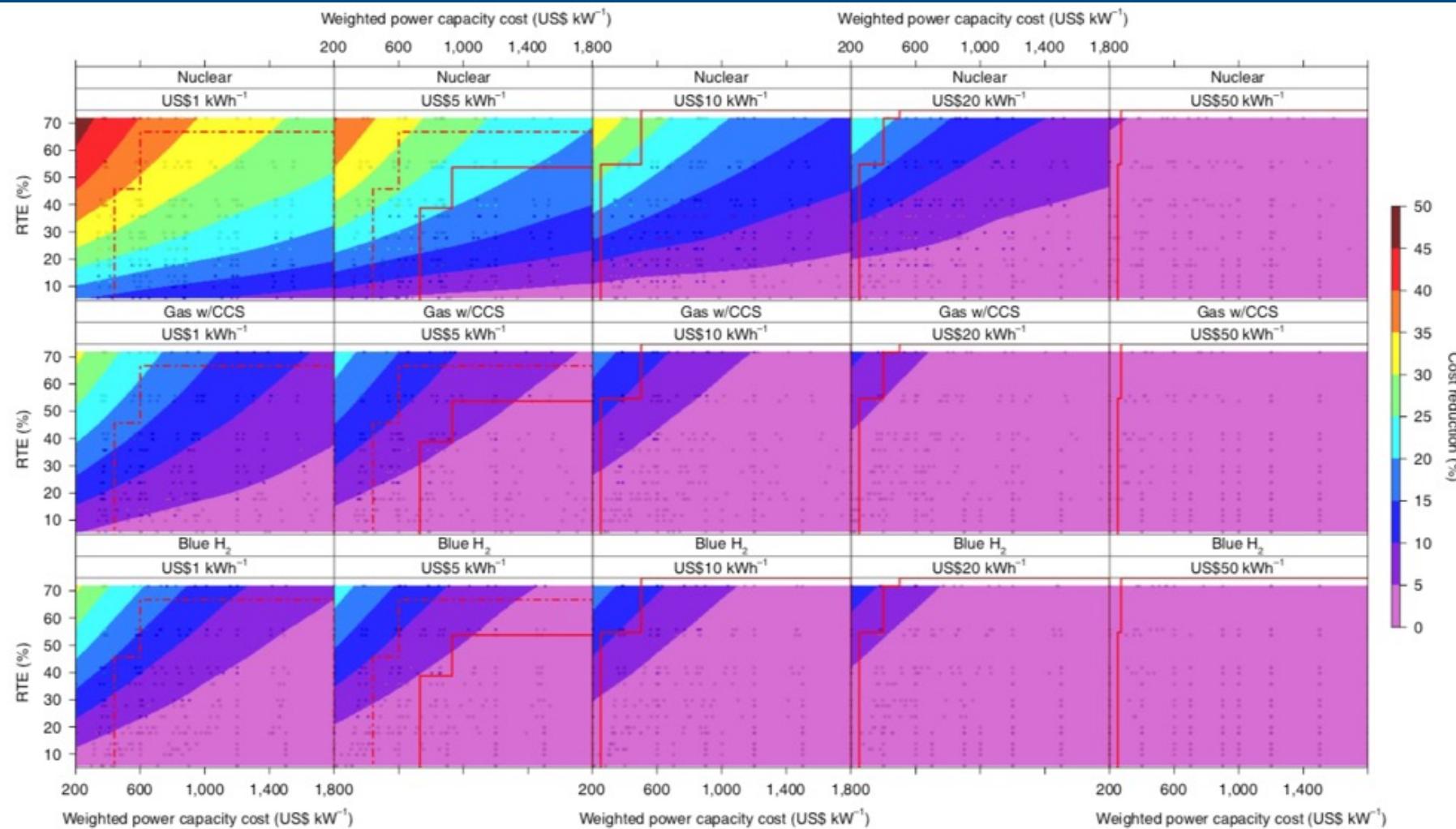
**Scott Litzelman, Ph.D.**  
**Program Director**

# Outline

The value of long-duration energy storage (LDES)  
and some early applications

Technology updates from the ARPA-E DAYS program

# LDES can reduce the cost of decarbonized systems



N.A. Sepulveda, et al., Nature Energy 6, 506-516 (2021)

# LDES applications coming into focus

## Capacity Resource for LSEs



### Seeking 500 MWs for long duration storage

The eight joint CCAs are seeking to acquire up to 500 MWs of capacity, energy and any associated ancillary products, and resource adequacy ("Full Toll") and/or simply Resource Adequacy ("RA Only").

## Interconnection Maximization for Developers

### L.A. Looks to Break Price Records With Massive Solar-Battery Project

The cheapest U.S. solar PPAs have been coming out of places like West Texas, but developer 8minute Solar has put the spotlight back on California.

JEFF ST. JOHN | JULY 01, 2019

8minute's project with LADWP will include about 65 MW of **additional solar PV beyond its nameplate capacity** to serve the battery storage to be added to the project, because the Kern County transmission corridor, already the home of about 1 GW of solar PV, has a maximum capacity for how much power it can carry to Los Angeles.

## Risk Management for Energy Marketers

### Large Scale, Long Duration Energy Storage, and the Future of Renewables Generation

Through this analysis, we provide a quantitative framework to demonstrate the ability of storage to manage risk and return for wind farms exposed to volume and basis risk factors... The results are persistent across the wind farms modeled and demonstrate the impact of bulk energy storage technologies to **effectively manage risks and maximize returns**.



## Backup Power for Critical Loads



### The Value of Battery Storage in Military Microgrids:

#### An Assessment for ESTCP

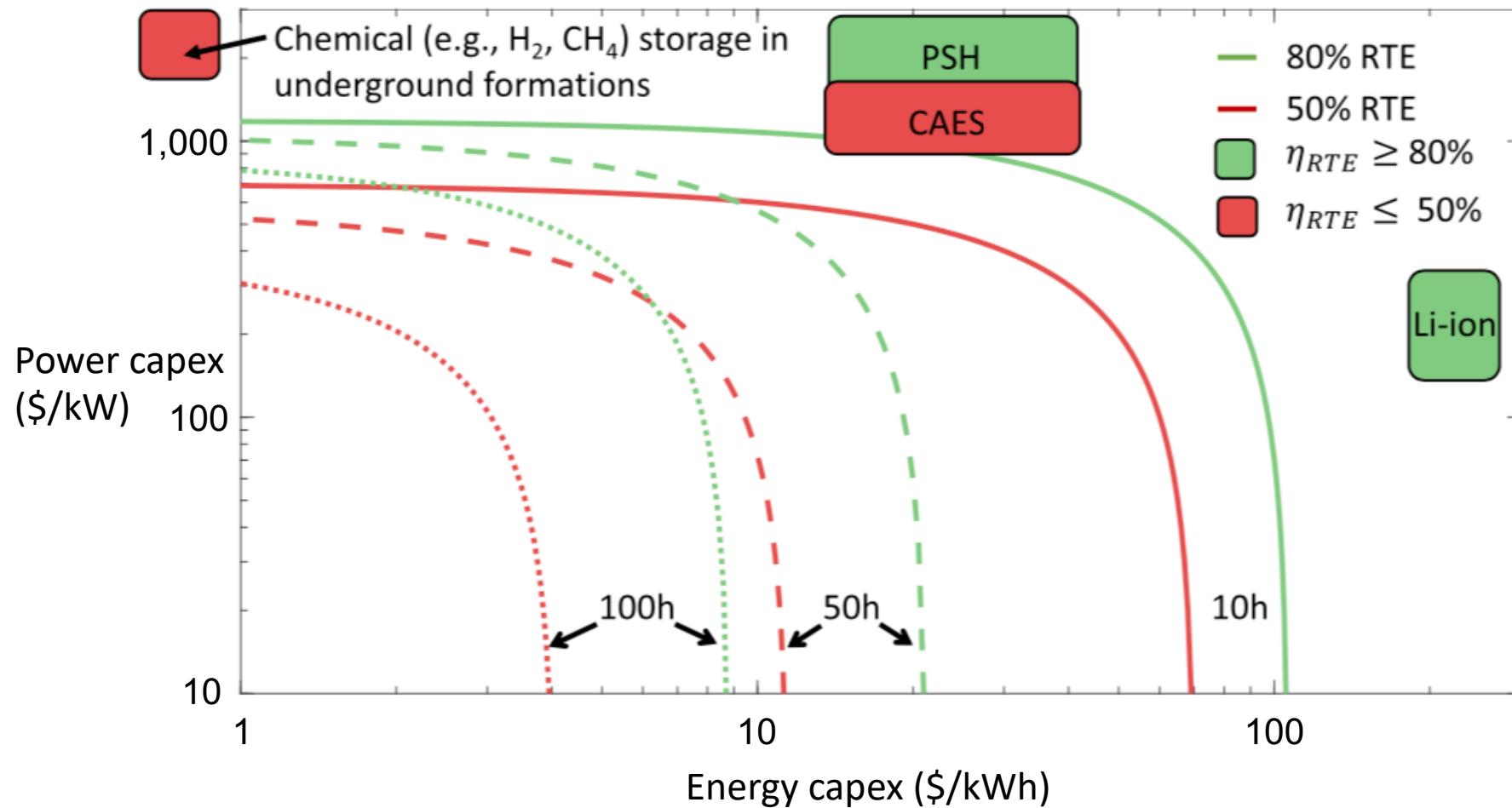
Jeffrey Marqusee, Dan Olis, William Becker, and Sean Ericson  
National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Craig Schultz  
ICF

Design and production by Noblis, Inc.

July 2020

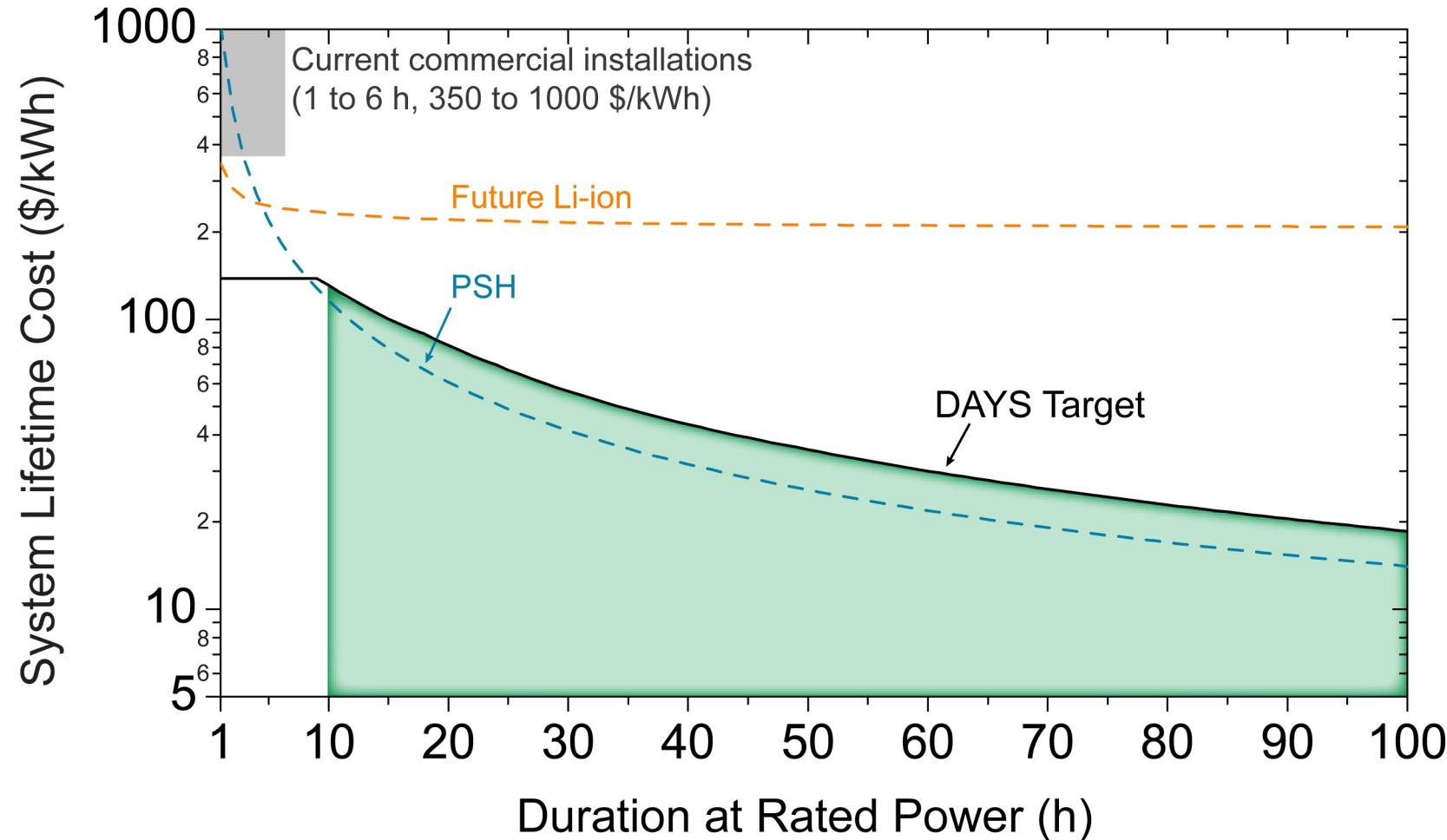
# Desired technology cost structure



Assumptions

- \$0.05/kWh differential per cycle
- Certain duty cycle
- \$25/kW-yr capacity payment

# DAYs: pumped hydro-like costs but sited anywhere



# The DAYS portfolio

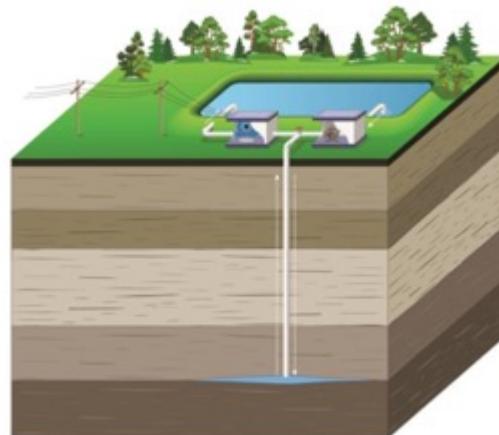
Thermal energy storage



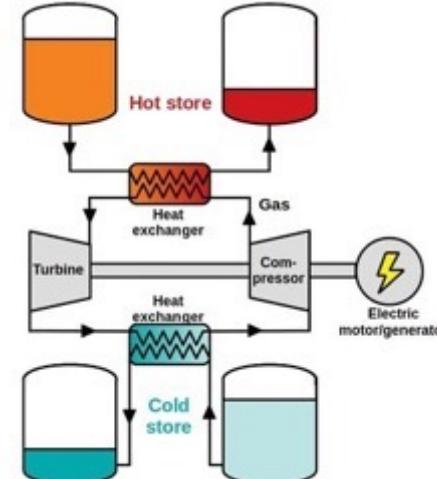
Thermophotovoltaic (TPV) storage



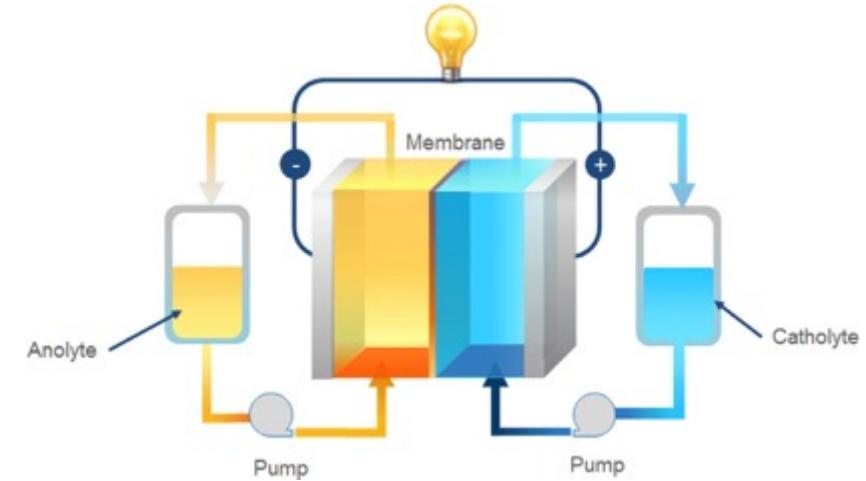
Geomechanical storage



Pumped thermal energy storage (PTES)



Electrochemical storage



# The DAYS portfolio

Thermal energy storage



Geomechanical storage



Pumped thermal energy storage (PTES)



Thermophotovoltaic (TPV) storage

Antora Energy



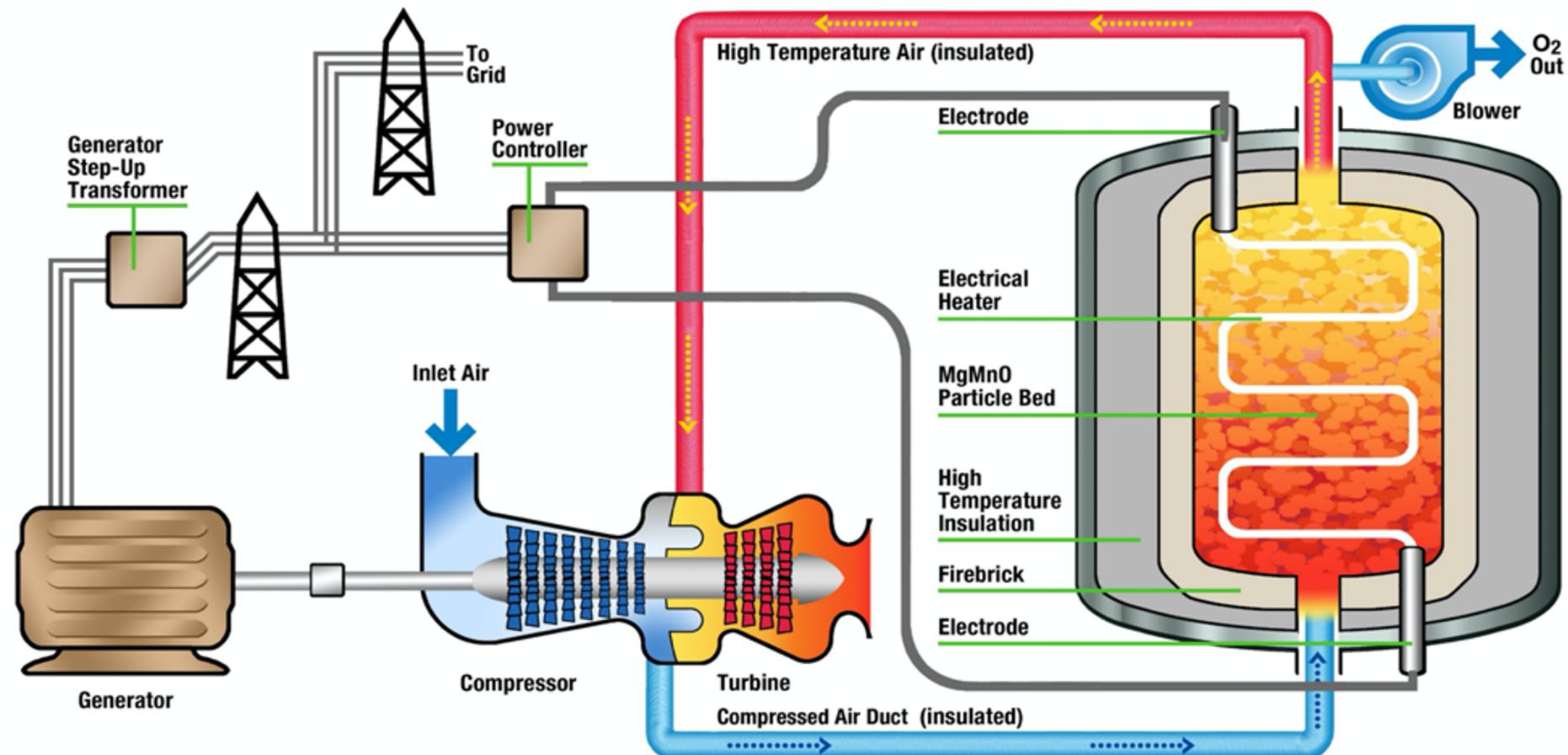
Electrochemical storage



SERDP ESTCP  
SYMPOSIUM  
#SerdpEstcp2021

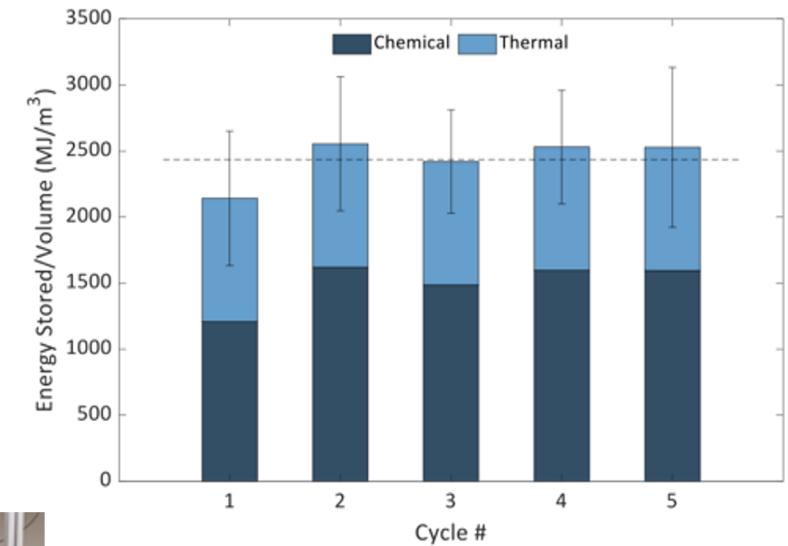
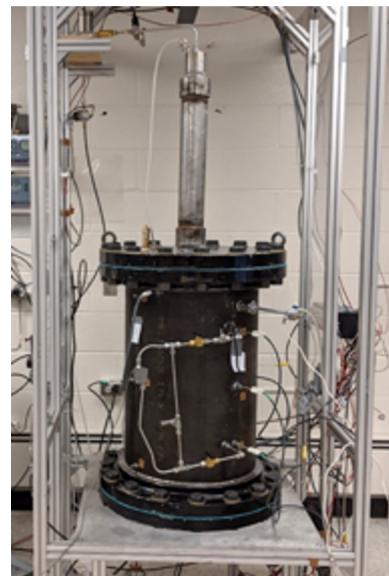
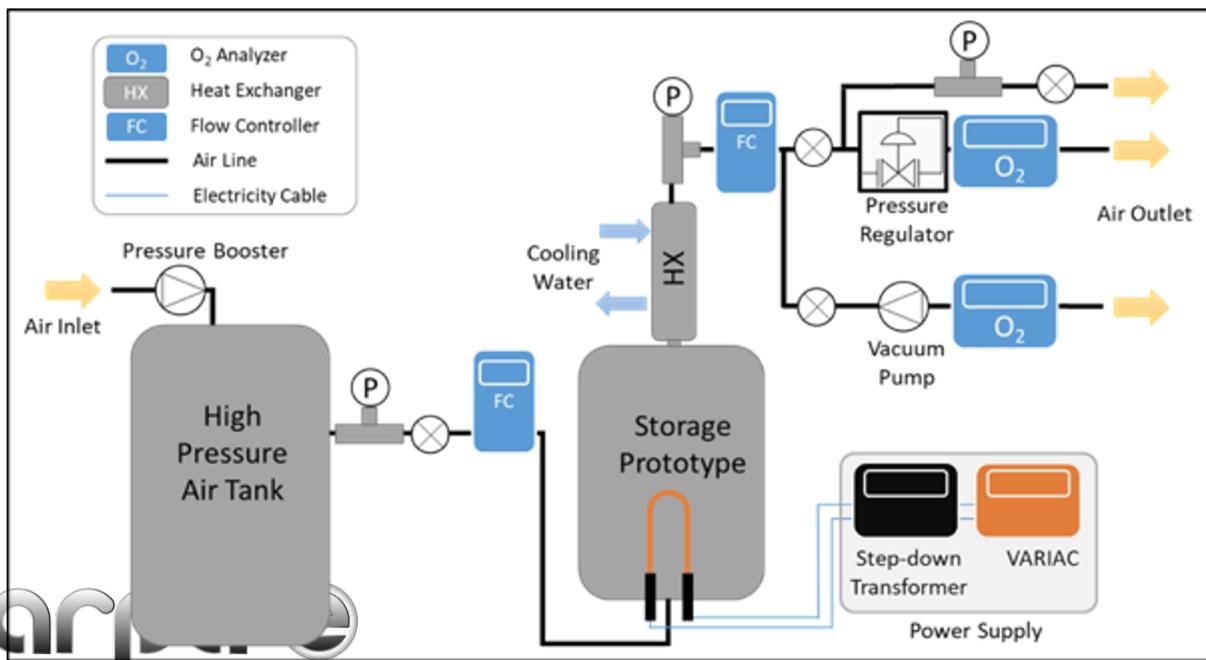
arpa-e

# Overview of the Technology: Thermochemical Storage



# Mg-Mn-O Particles Successfully Operated in Small System

- Storage demonstrated in bench scale reactor
  - Real-world conditions
  - 1 kW/0.25 kWh, 1000-1500 °C, 0.2-11 bar
  - 5 continuous cycles
  - 2400 MWh/m<sup>3</sup>
- Volumetric bed heating validated
- Started testing of scaled-up reactor with volumetric heating
  - 3 kW, 10 kWh



# Spinout company: RedoxBlox



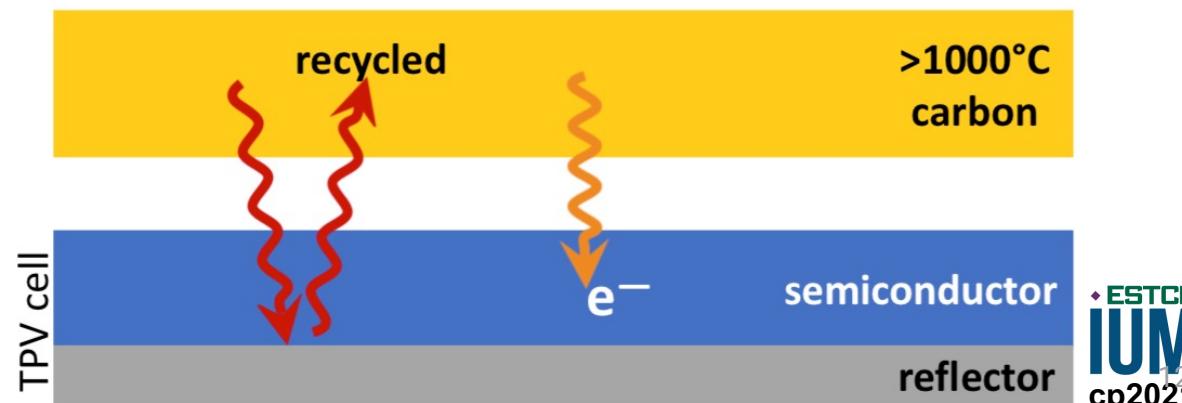
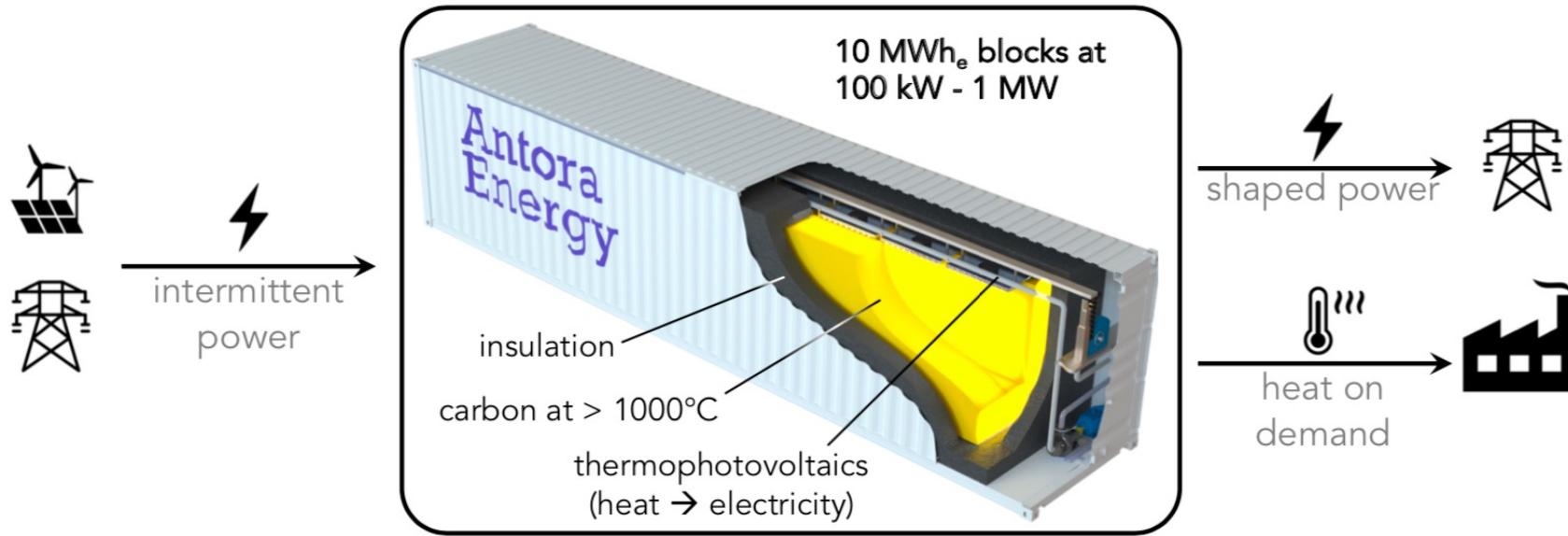
Decarbonizing the electric power grid for a sustainable future

## Partners

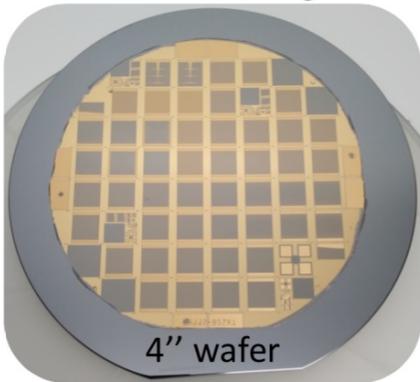


# Thermophotovoltaic (TPV) storage

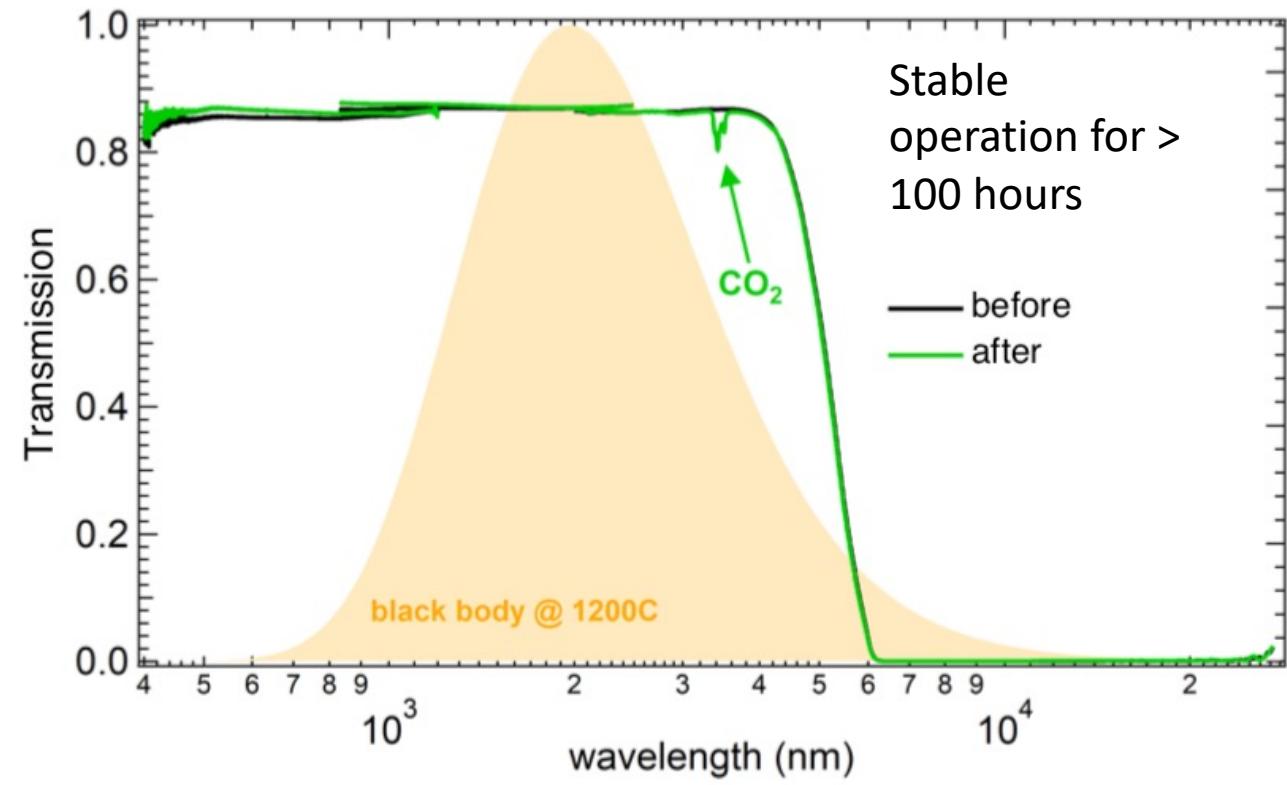
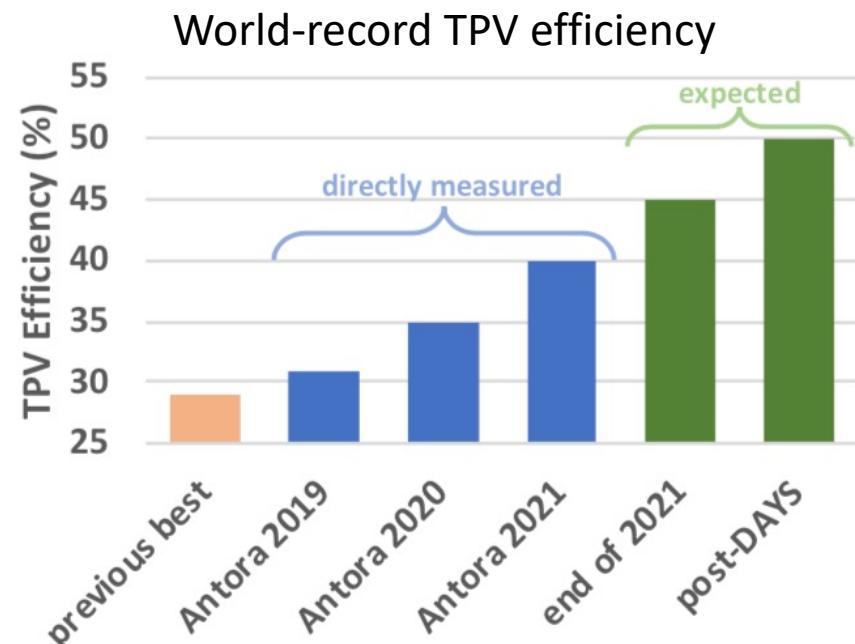
Antora's solid state thermal battery



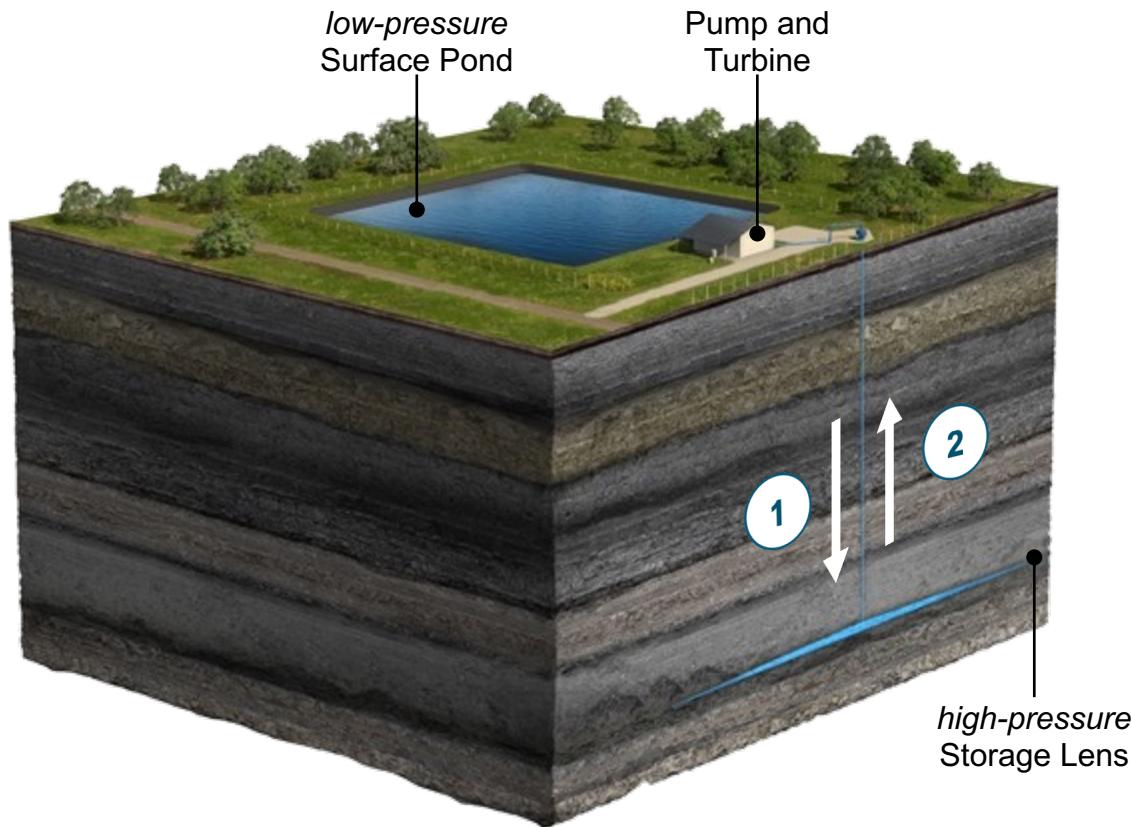
# High efficiency and stability



Fabricated TPV cells in commercial manufacturing environment; tested in high-accuracy TPV setup



# Quidnet stores energy as high-pressure water underground



- 1 Charge. Water pumped down the well into high-pressure storage lens
- 2 Discharge. High-pressure water flows up the well to drive a turbine

## Modular, long-duration storage

1-10 MW per well, 10+ hours

## Structural cost position

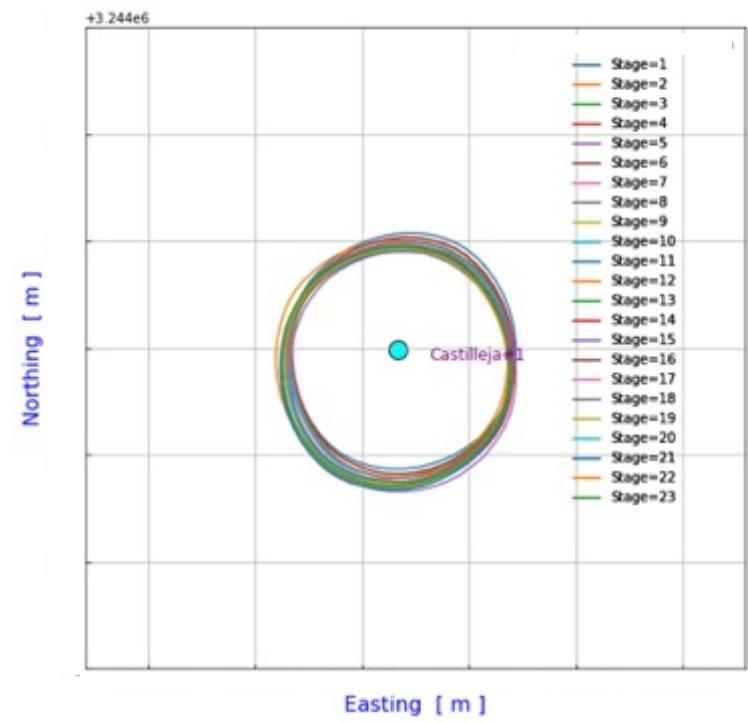
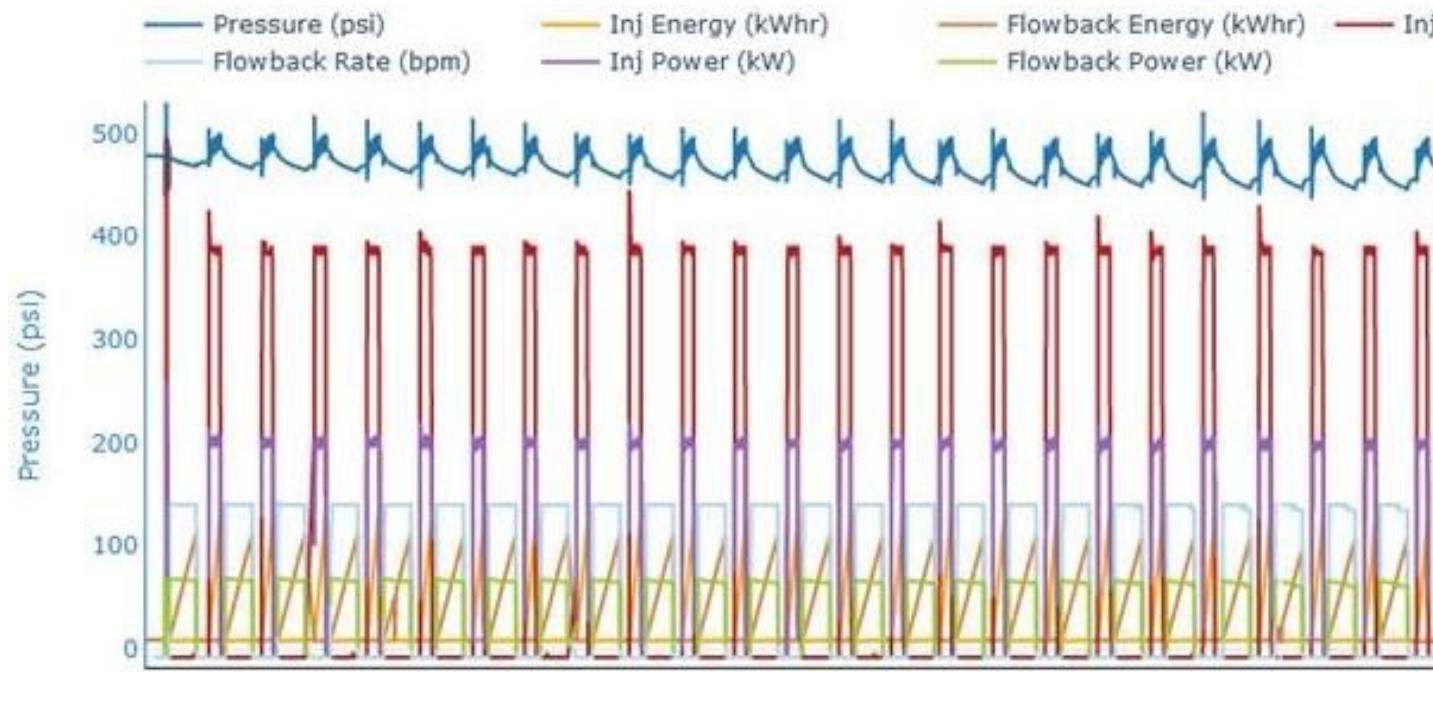
<50% capex of battery & pumped hydro, **<\$10 per marginal kWh**

## Broad geological footprint

100+ TWh across multiple US basins

## Mature execution supply chain

# Texas results – repeated charge/discharge cycling



# Pumped thermal energy storage (PTES)

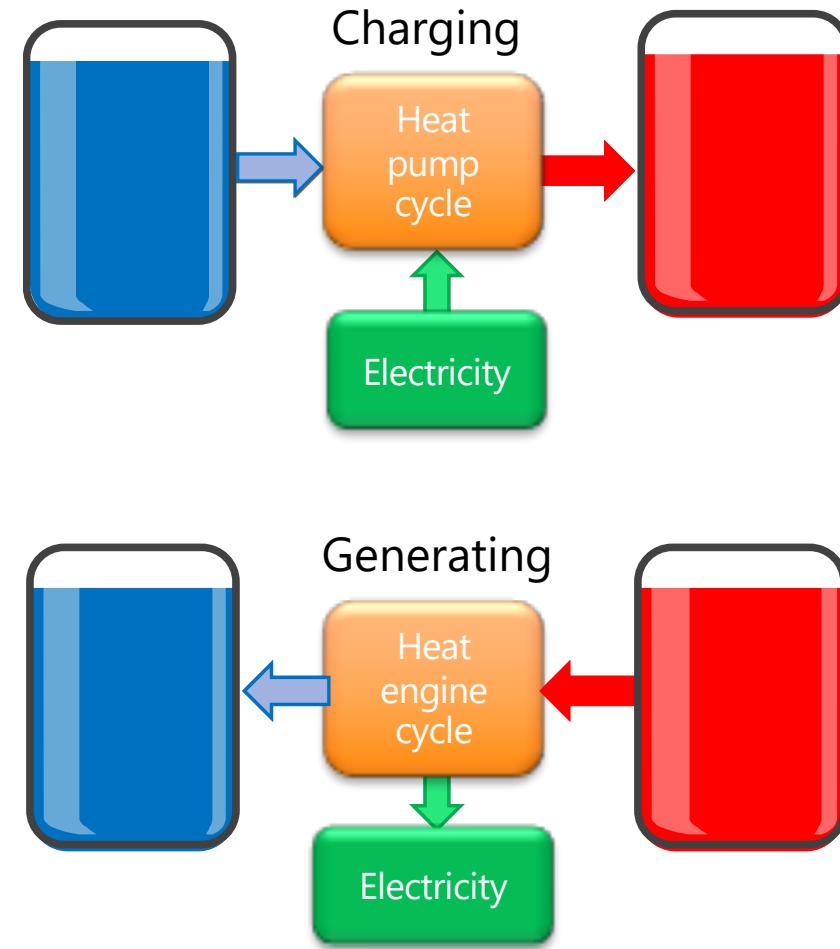
Thermodynamic cycles transform energy between electricity and heat

## Charging cycle

- Heat pump cycle
- Uses electrical power to move heat from a cold reservoir to a hot reservoir
- Creates stored energy as both “heat” and “cold”

## Generating cycle

- Heat engine cycle
- Uses heat stored in hot reservoir to generate electrical power
- “Cold” energy improves performance of heat engine



# PTES proof of concept

~200 kWth system, including both charging and generating cycles



Low-Temperature Reservoir (LTR)



CO<sub>2</sub> heat pump & power cycle

High-Temperature Reservoir (HTR)



Initial build

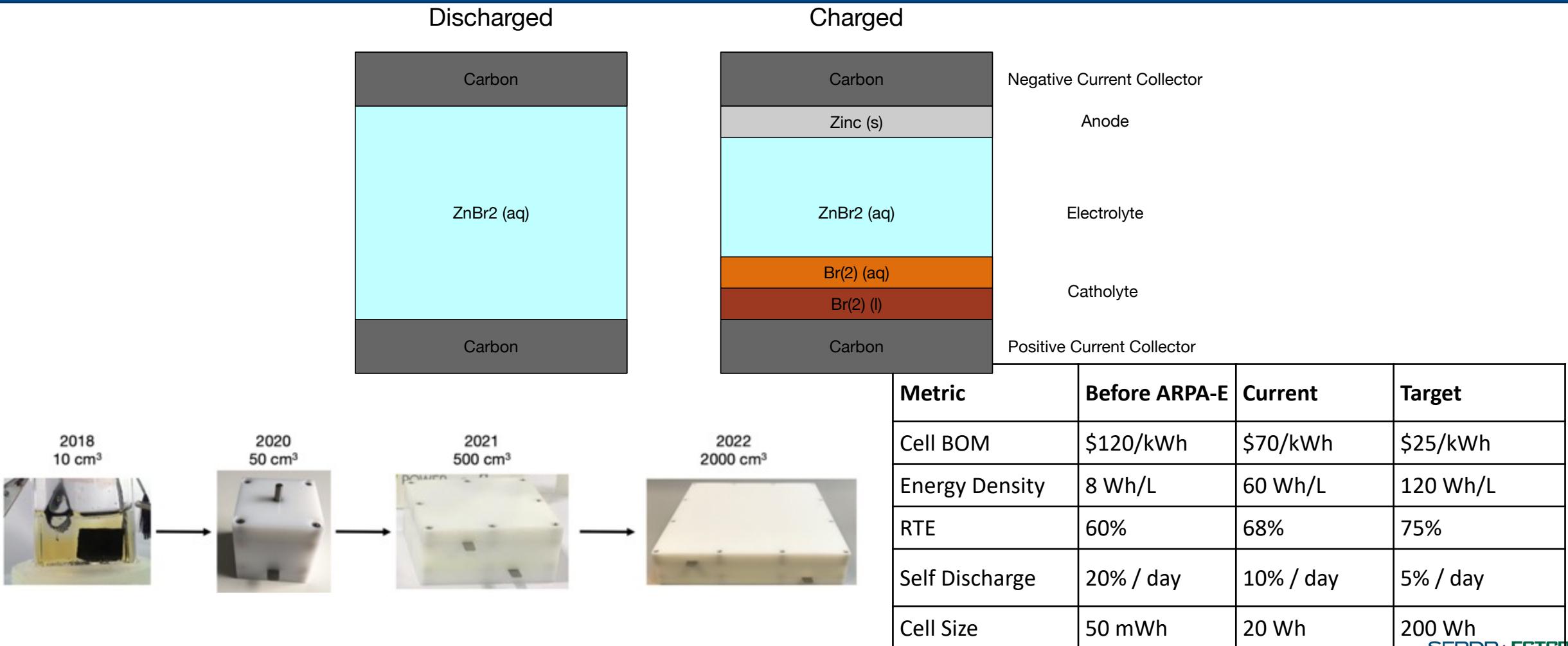
- 2-tank heat transfer fluid HTR
- Ice slurry LTR
- Commissioning end of Sept 2020
- Complete testing October 2020
  
- Build and test sand HTR system
- Complete April 2022

Primary developmental focus:

- HTR and heat exchanger (TRL 4)
- LTR performance (TRL 4)
- Operation and controls

25 MW, 8–10-hour system in prelim design

# ZnBr<sub>2</sub> battery: simple design, cheap materials



# Summary

- LDES assists in decarbonization
- To provide really long-duration storage for DoD applications, need much lower energy capex and high (enough) discharge efficiency
- The ARPA-E DAYS program and others (see right) are developing technologies to do this



# Thank you!



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