



**scottmadden**

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

**Smart. Focused. Done Right.®**

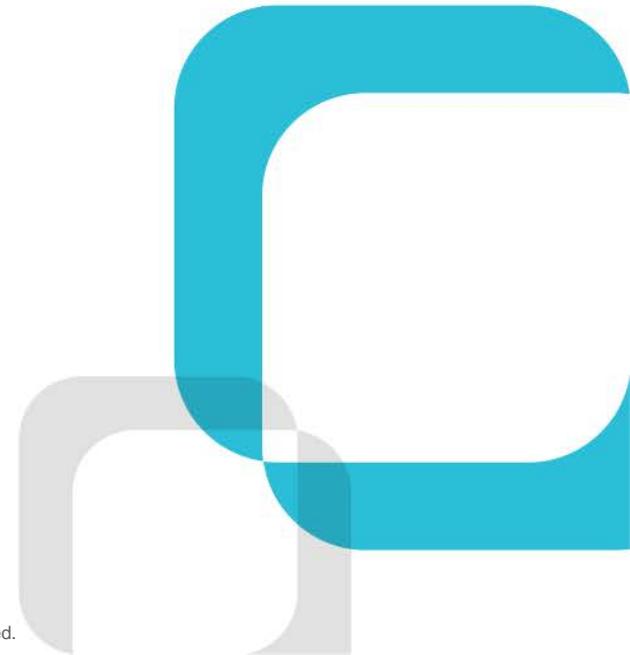


# Implications of Shuttering a Nuclear Plant

NAYGN Southeast Chapter

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September 19, 2019



# Introduction to ScottMadden



**Ed Baker**  
*Generation Co-Leader*



**Sean Lawrie**  
*Generation Co-Leader*

**We have helped the best be more successful and have assisted performance-challenged plants make meaningful improvements.**

## EXPERIENCE

- We have conducted engagements with five of the top-five fleet operators and eight of the top-10 U.S. nuclear operators, as well as all Canadian operators
- Our consultants have delivered projects to more than 80% of the operating and decommissioned commercial nuclear generation stations in the United States and Canada, from the largest fleet operators to single-station, stand-alone plants
- We share the same values as nuclear operators, with a strong commitment to safety demonstrated by many of our consultants having been previously badged at nuclear power plants
- Because we routinely deal with the integration of business strategy and detailed operating plans, we understand how to develop actionable strategies which drive operating improvements

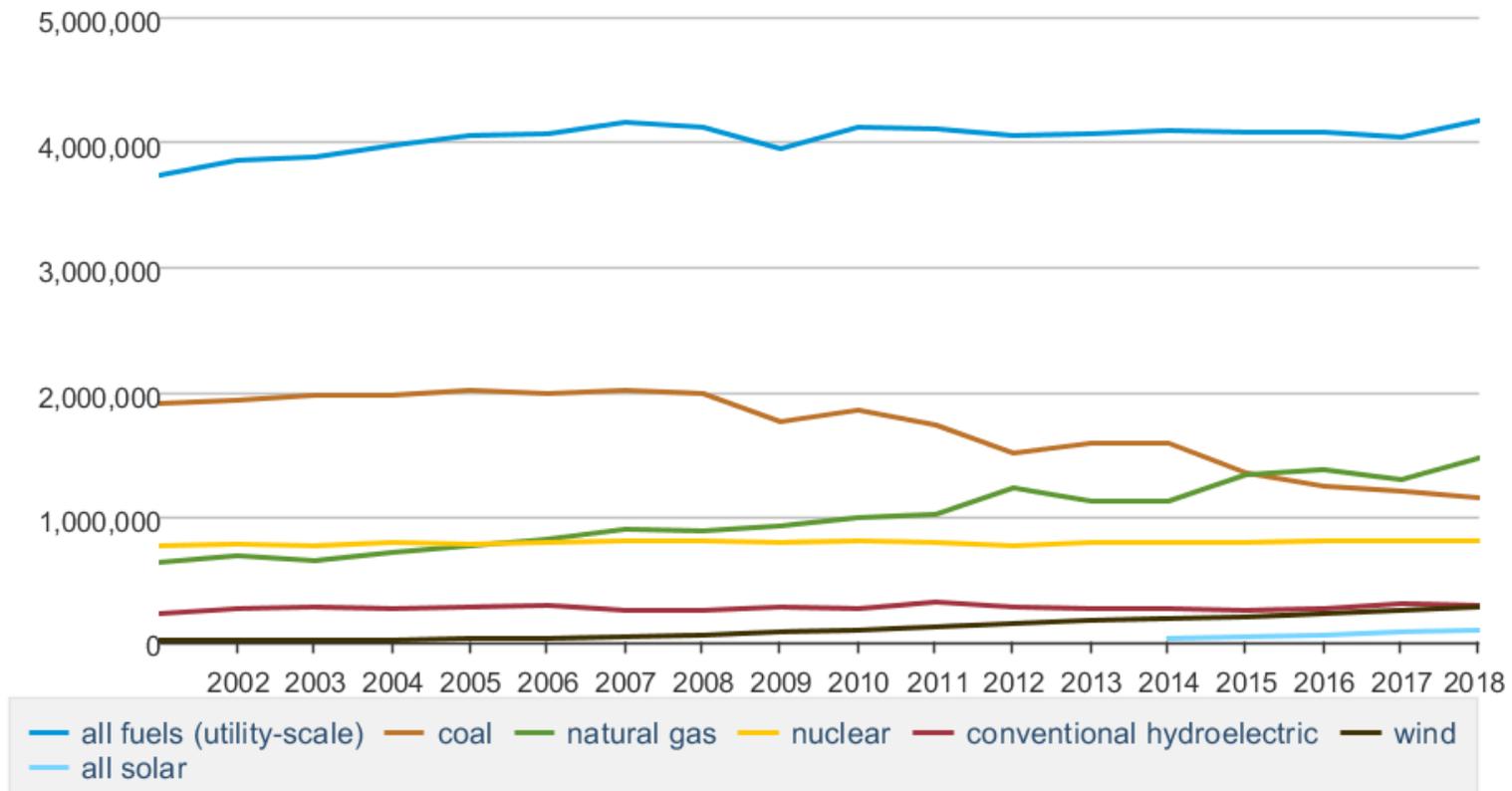
## SERVICES

- Business and cost management
- Peer-to-peer benchmarking
- Organization structure and staffing
- Targeted operational and process improvement
- Nuclear fleet operating models
- Plant turnaround/improvement efforts
- Merger and acquisition integration
- New build/refurbishment support
- Plant digitization strategy
- Operational Technology and Cyber Security

# Generation in the U.S., historical

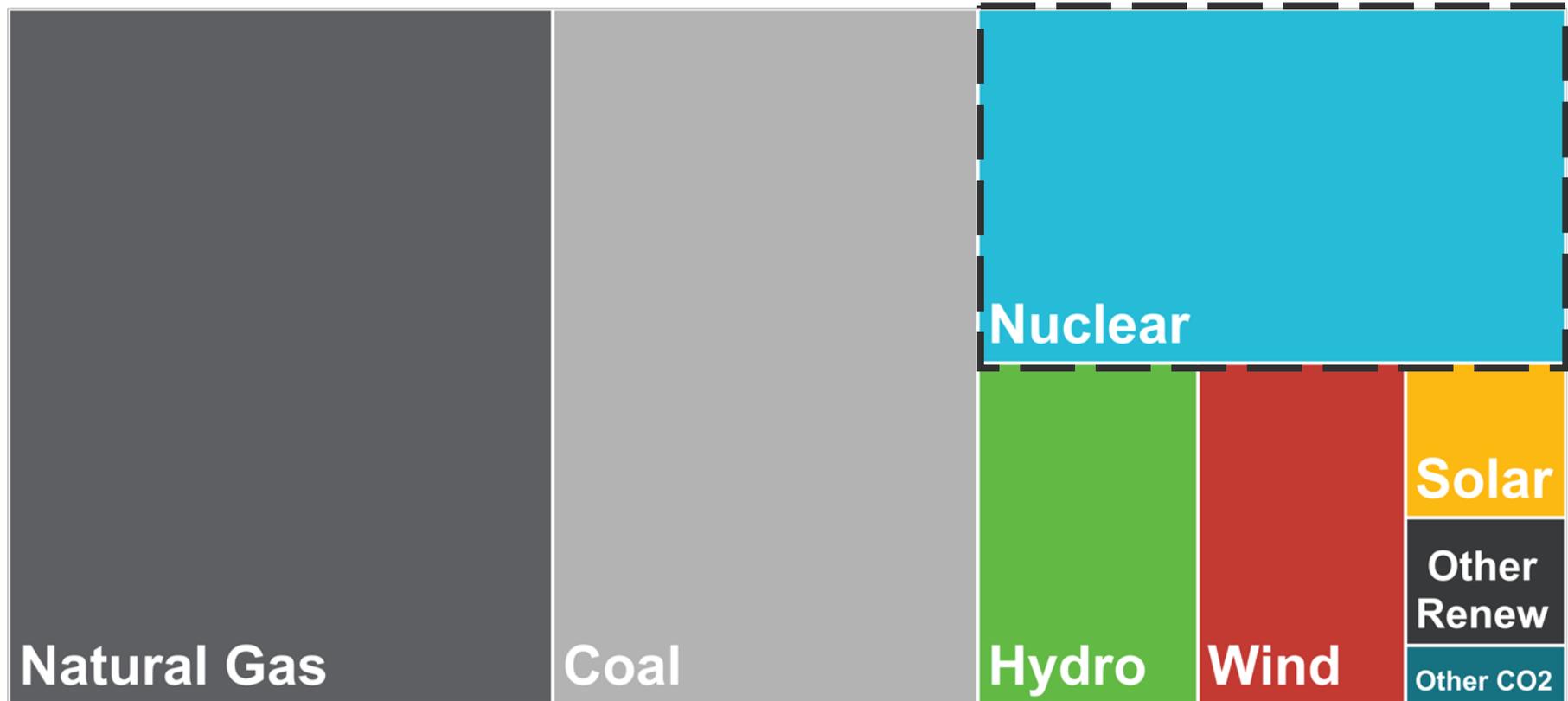
## Net generation, United States, all sectors, annual

thousand megawatthours



- While total generation has remained relatively flat, natural gas has replaced coal as the primary fuel for generation
  - Nuclear generation has remained steady

# Generation in the U.S., 2018



**Nuclear retirement is a major threat to our industry, the economy, and the environment**

# Nuclear is Facing a Tough Economic Environment

The nuclear industry is challenged by low natural gas prices and lack of support for its carbon-free generation

## Potentially "At Risk" Plants\*:

- Announced retirement
- Owner has indicated possible early closure
- Plants "rerieved" via state support
- Plants whose license expires in the next 20 years

1 = 1 unit

2 = 2 units

3 = 3 units

Operating; not currently "At Risk"

Operating and "At Risk"



To even come close to meeting the Paris agreement goal, we need every source of carbon-free generation

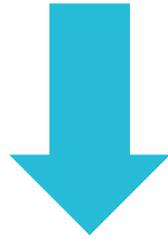
# Three Primary Implications of Nuclear Plant Closure

## The risks of losing nuclear power



Environment

Global



- Progress toward clean energy goals



• Carbon Emissions



Economy

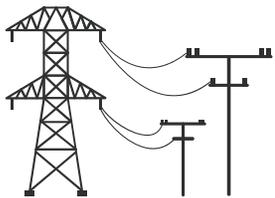
Local



- Jobs
- Home prices
- Property values



• Taxes



Grid Reliability

Regional

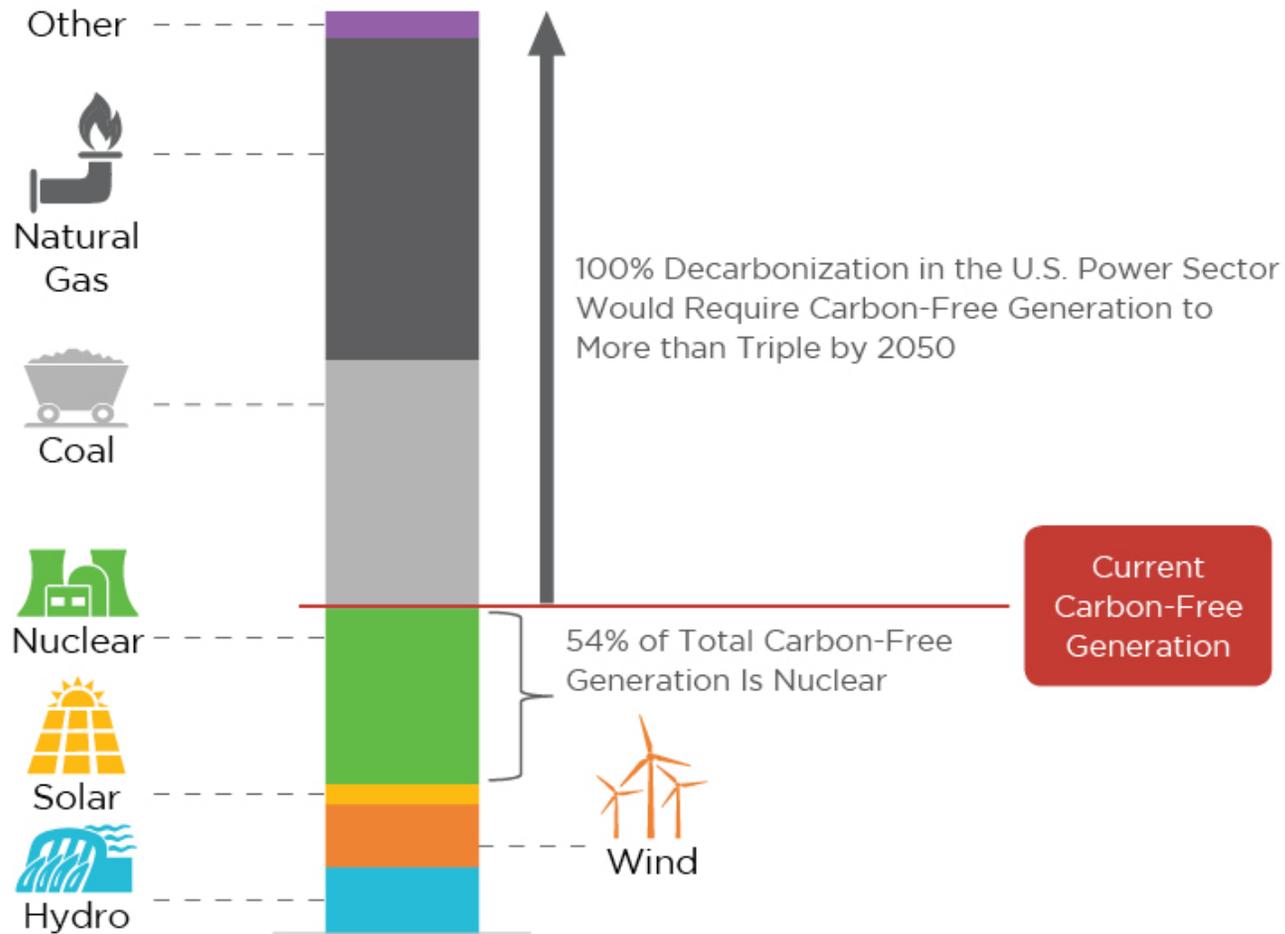


- Energy diversity



• Outage risk during natural disasters

# To Meaningfully Reduce Carbon Emissions...

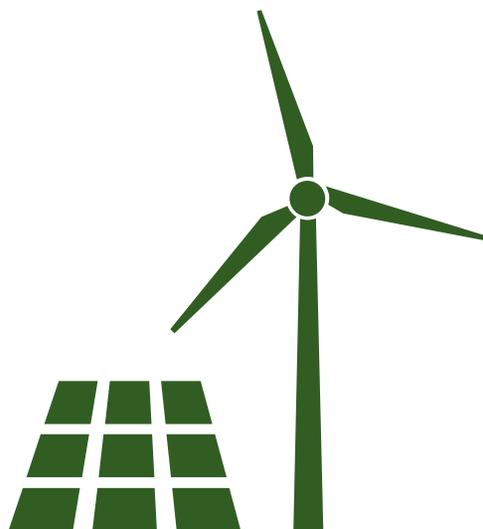


Note: 2050 target illustration based upon 2018 fuel mix

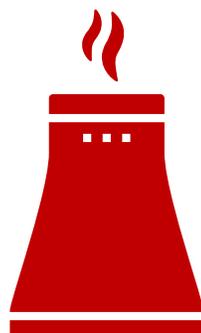
**...the U.S. cannot afford to lose any existing nuclear plant**

# Wind and Solar Are Not the Entire Solution

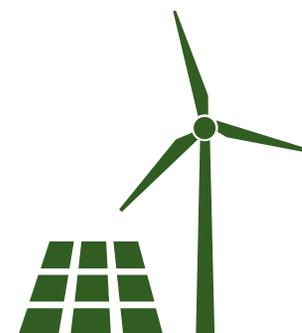
In 2018:



660,000 GWh



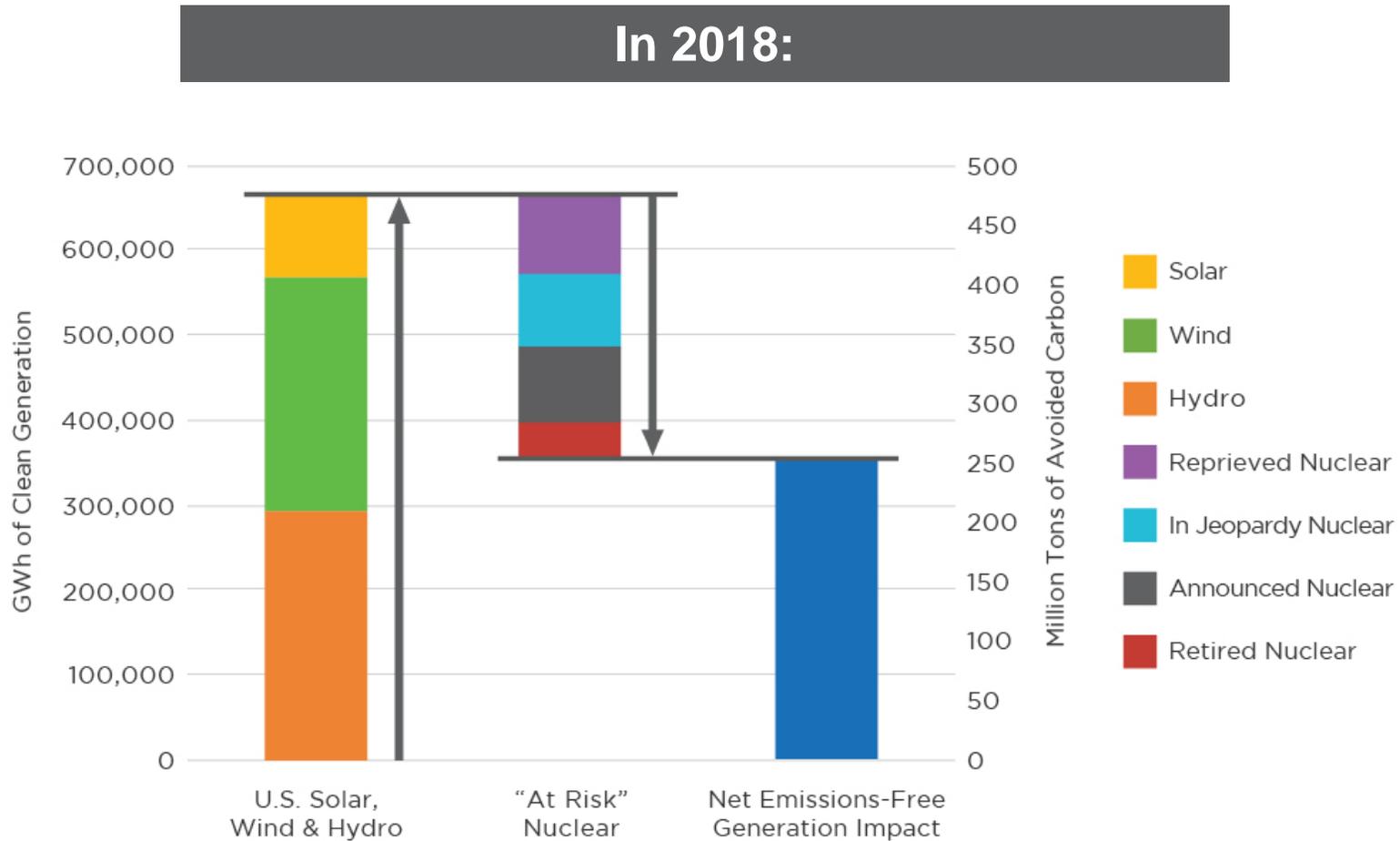
310,000 GWh



350,000 GWh

“Spinning Our Wheels”

# Wind and Solar Are Not the Entire Solution

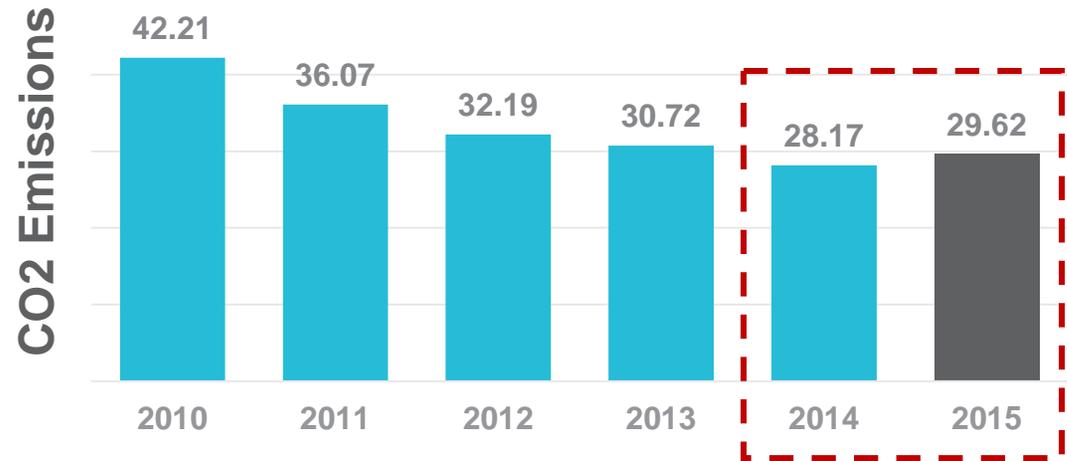


**“Spinning Our Wheels”**

# Two Case Studies

## New England

- **December 2014:**
  - Vermont Yankee retired
- **December 2015:**
  - CO2 emissions increased 5%
- **May 2019:**
  - Pilgrim retired



## Ohio/Pennsylvania

If these plants close:

- Perry
- Davis-Besse
- Three Mile Island

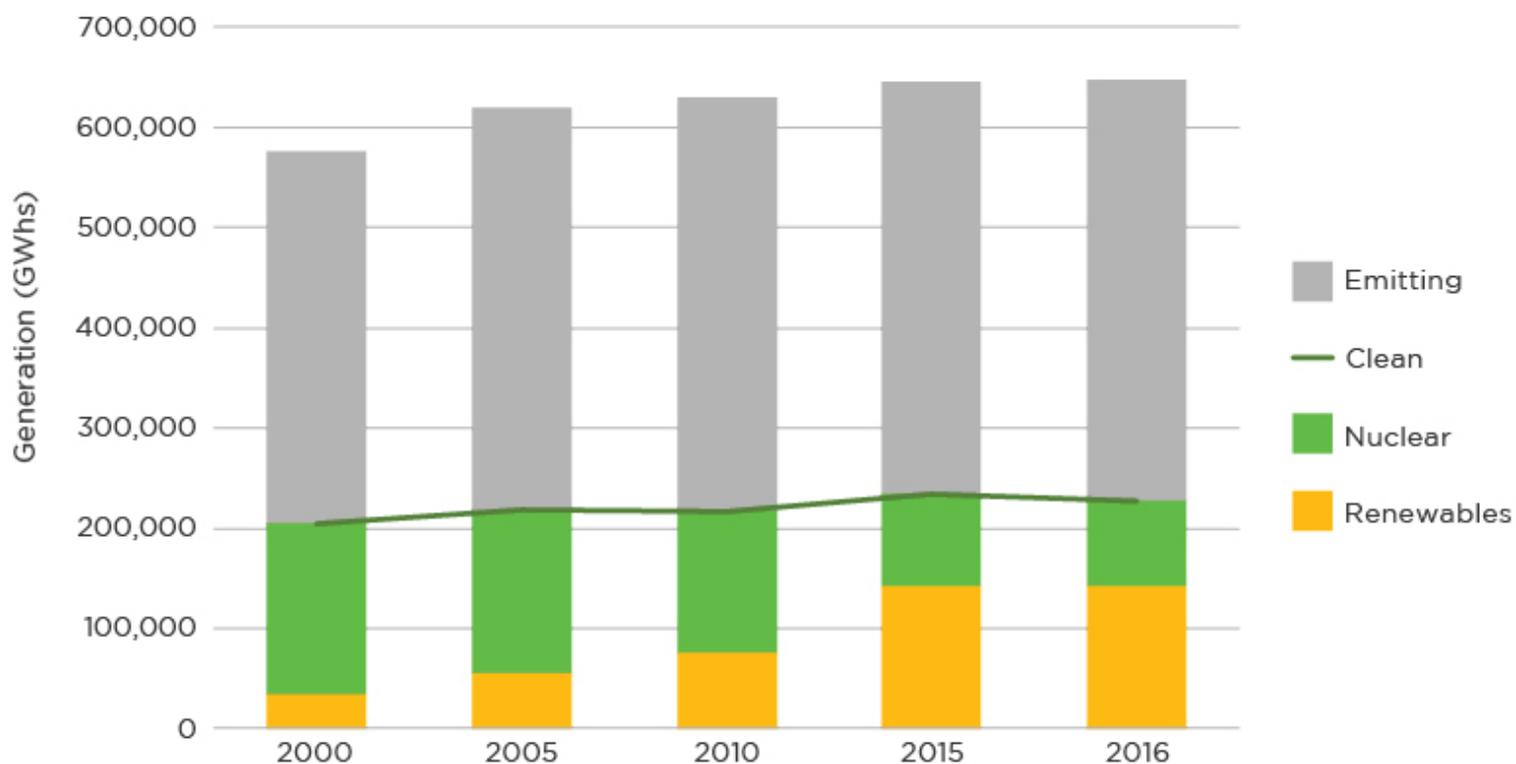
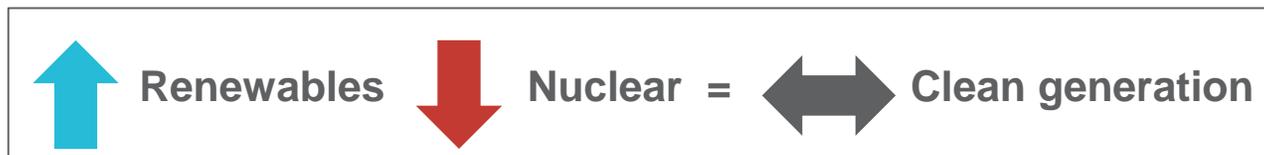


**Human health:**

- 126 deaths per year

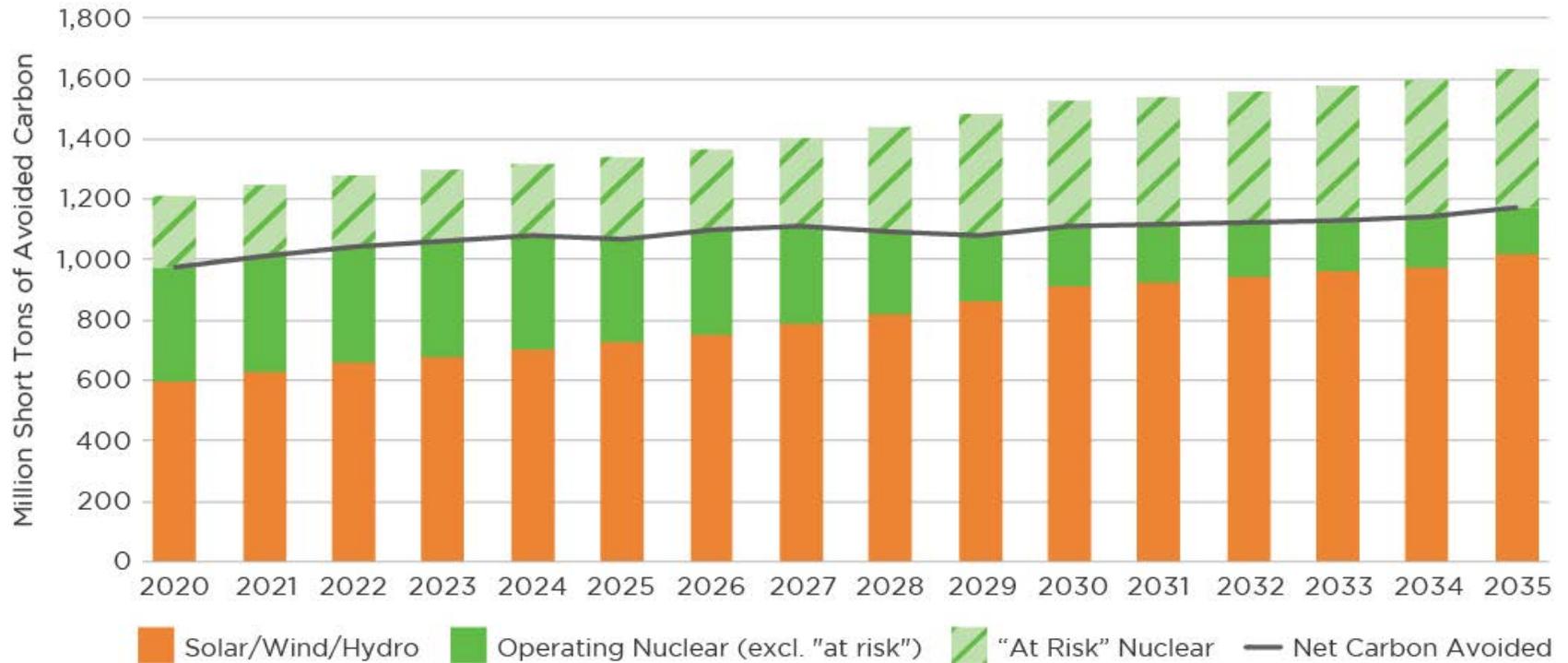
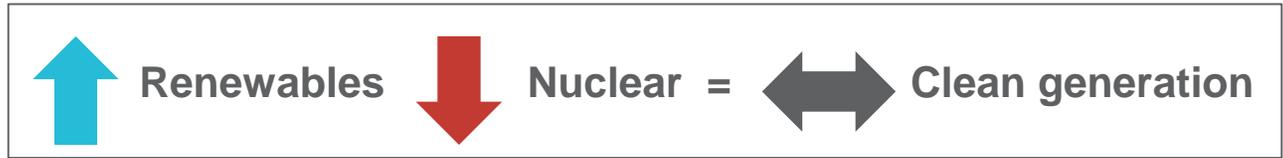


# In Germany



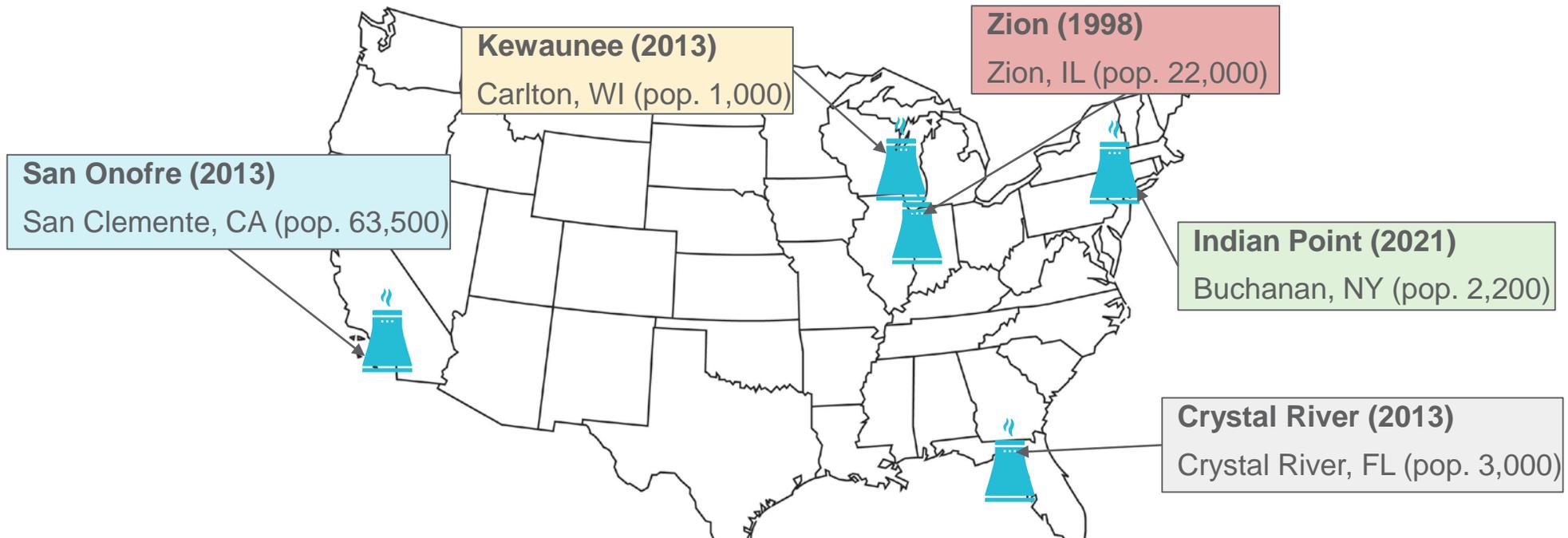
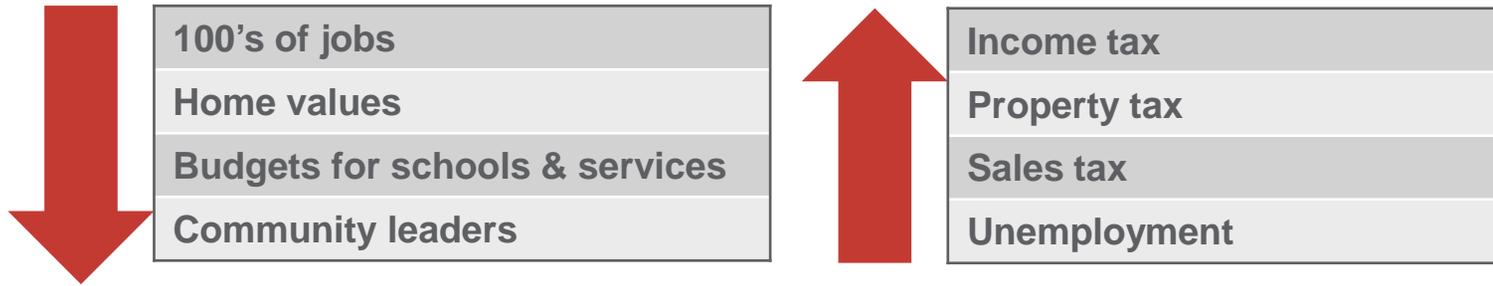
Germany may indicate where the U.S. is headed

# 15 years from now...



**...carbon-free generation is projected to grow *only 20%***  
***The choice is not nuclear OR renewables - it must be BOTH***

# Nuclear Retirement = Loss of vital economic engine



**Examples shown are indicate a troublesome pattern...**  
***Nuclear retirement is devastating for host communities***

## Case Study: Vermont Yankee

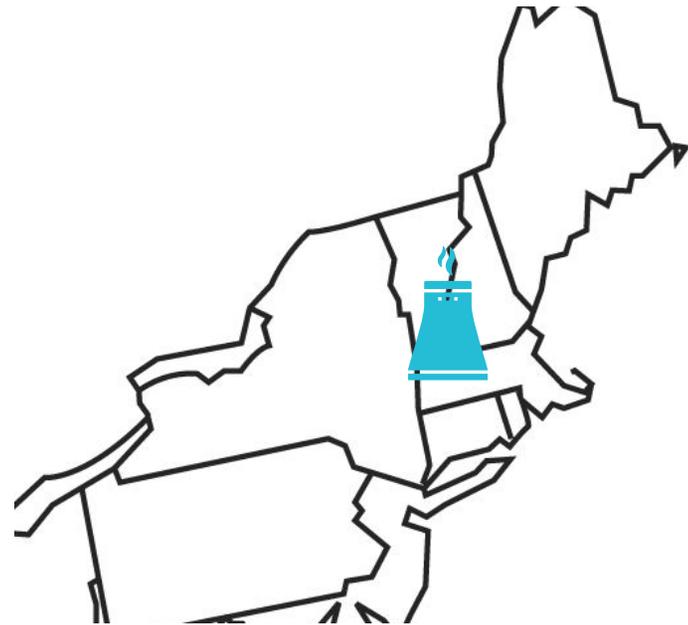
- Vernon, VT (pop. 2,200)
- Retired in 2014



- 620 jobs
- 50% of town budget
- Real estate market



- Negative effect on public institutions



# The Grid Cannot Depend on Natural Gas Alone



## 3 considerations unique to natural gas

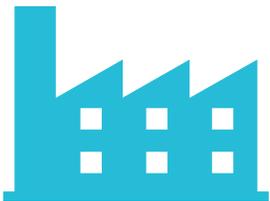


Natural gas generation relies on real-time delivery



Demand from other sectors affects supply of gas available to the power sector

- E.g., residential heating

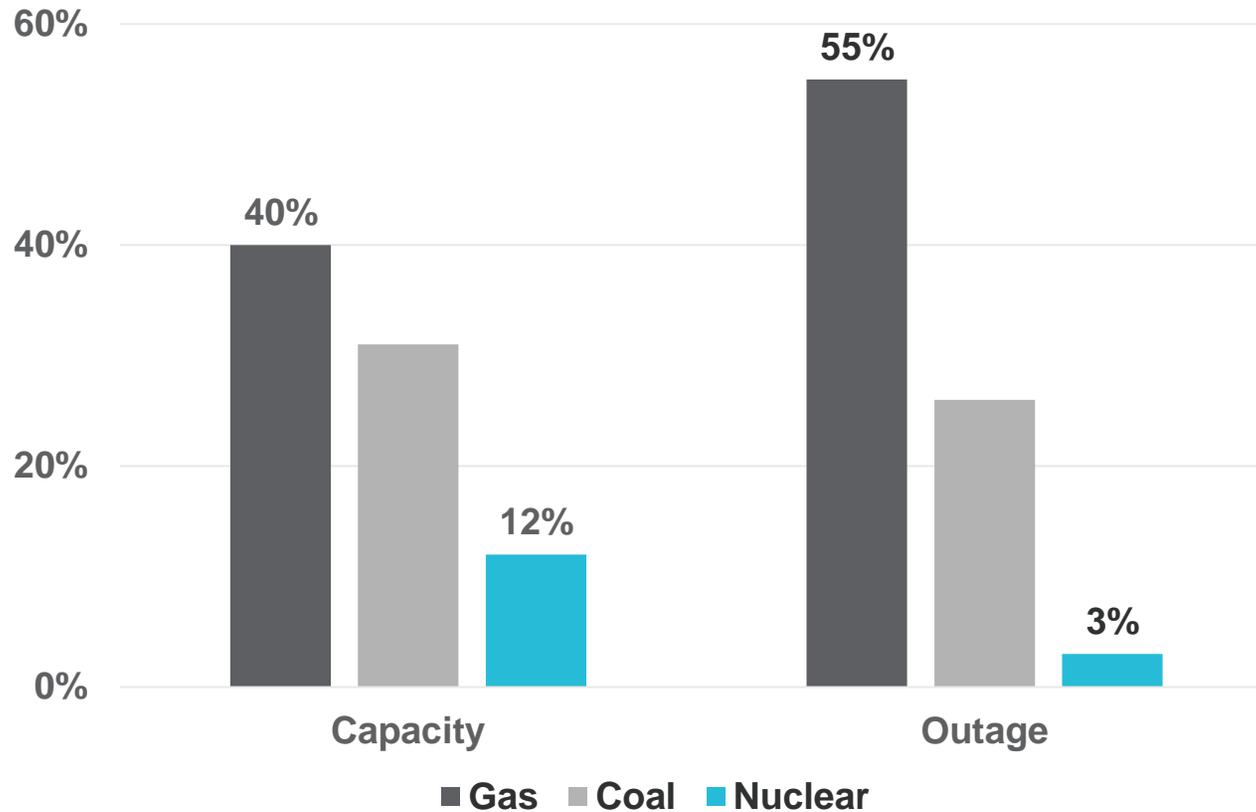


Demand for natural gas is expected to grow in other sectors

- E.g., manufacturing

# Less Diverse Generation Mix Harms the Grid

Capacity & Outages by Fuel Type, 2014 Polar Vortex



The US needs nuclear for grid reliability and baseload generation

# Natural Gas vs Nuclear

Elements to Consider	Natural Gas	Nuclear
Flexibility	✓	
Capacity Factor		✓
Carbon Emissions		✓
Resiliency		✓
Production Costs	✓	

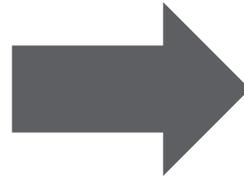
# What can NAYGN do?

## 1. External

- Partner and network
- Educate

## 2. Internal

- Challenge the status quo
- Innovate



## Implications for:

- Environment
- Economy
- Grid