



APERC's Research Activities: Outlook 5<sup>th</sup> edition

***Projection of Renewable Energy Supply in the  
APEC Region***

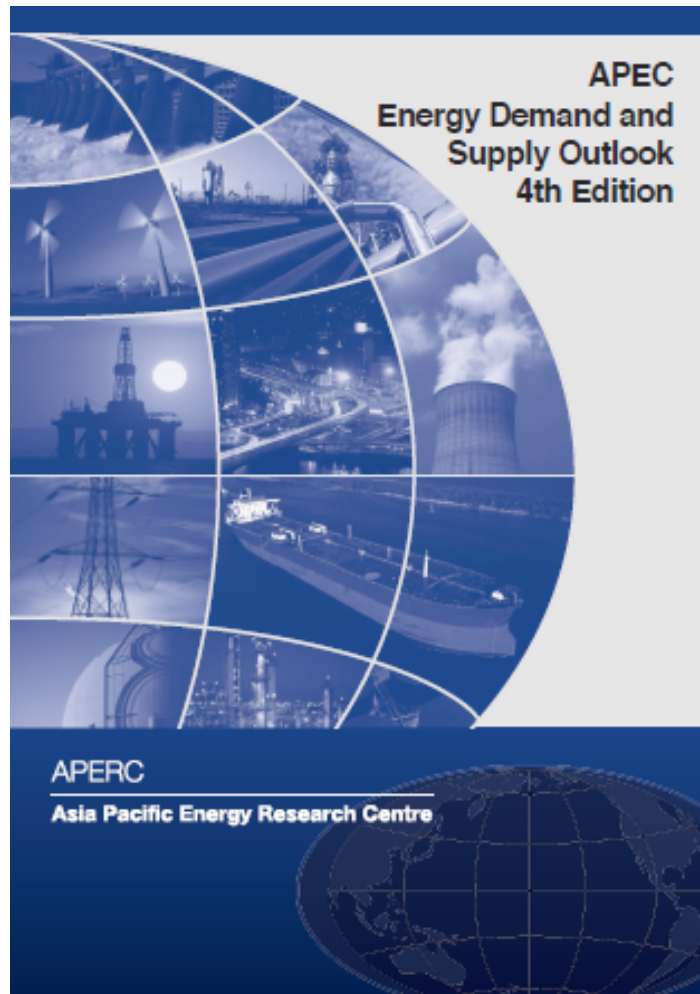
Luke Leaver, Researcher

EGNRET 39  
December, 2012



Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation

# APEC Energy Outlook

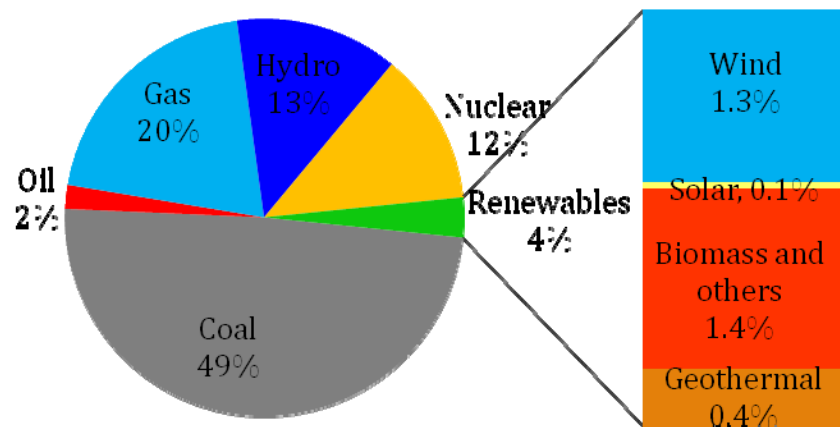


- APERC has historically produced an *APEC Energy Demand and Supply Outlook* every 2 or 3 years
- 5th edition is likely to be published in February 2013
- “Business As Usual” (BAU) – Assumes existing policy continues, including policies in process of implementation
- Three Alternative Cases:
  - High Gas Case
  - Better Urban Planning
  - Virtual Clean Car Race

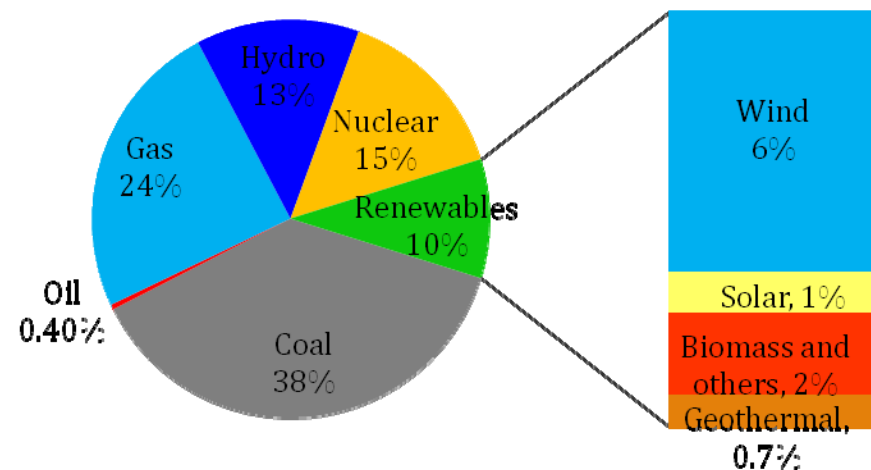
# New Renewable Energy (NRE) Goes Mainstream

- New Renewable Energy (NRE) goes mainstream led by continued policy support and technology cost reduction
- By 2035 NRE energy output will reach **10%** of power generation in APEC
- Wind energy leads but solar energy rises quickly

NRE Share in Power Generation  
2010



NRE Share in Power Generation  
2035

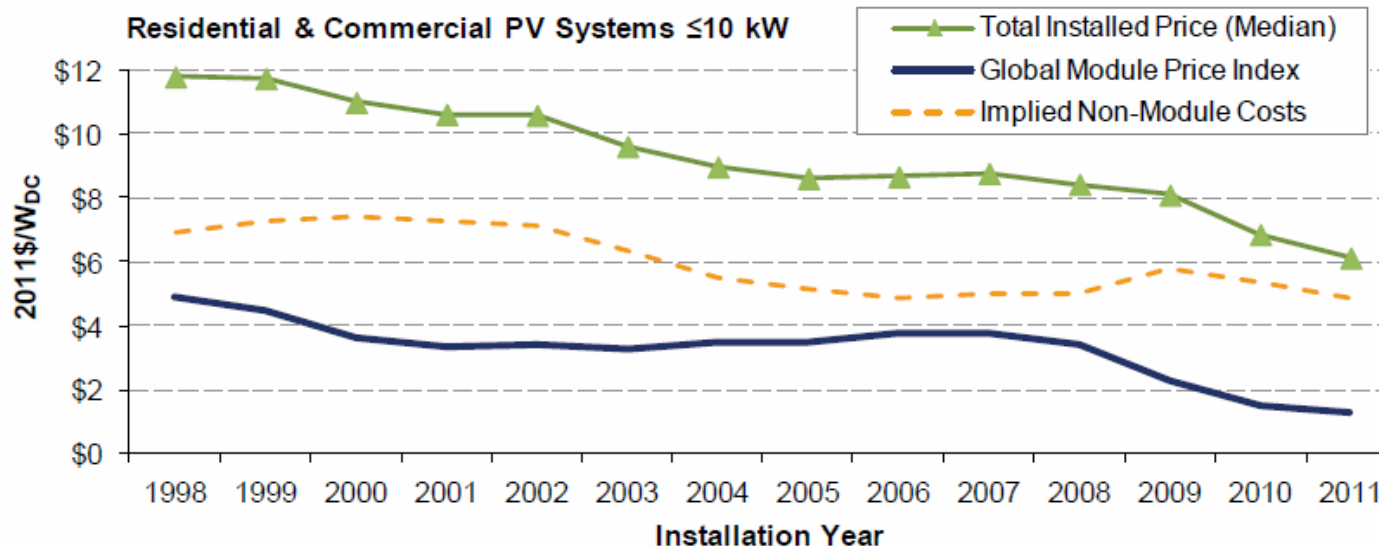


# APEC Renewable Energy Policy Support is Robust

1. ***Feed-in-tariffs*** – utilities required to buy electricity from renewables at a guaranteed price
2. ***Renewable portfolio standards*** – Requirement of utilities to obtain a minimum fraction of their electricity from renewable sources
3. ***Carbon pricing*** – Tax on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, which discourages the use of fossil fuels
4. ***Regulations limiting greenhouse gas emissions*** – Laws which prohibit the level of GHG emissions on certain fossil generation

# Decline in PV Solar Costs Continues

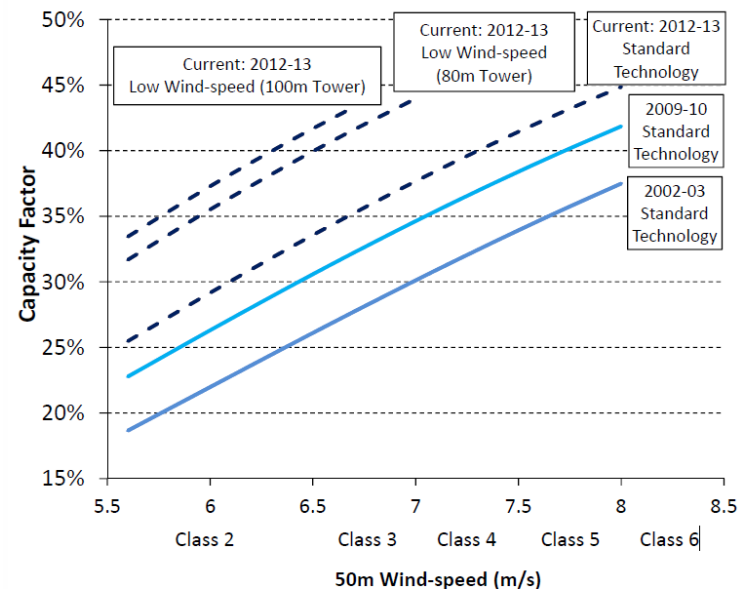
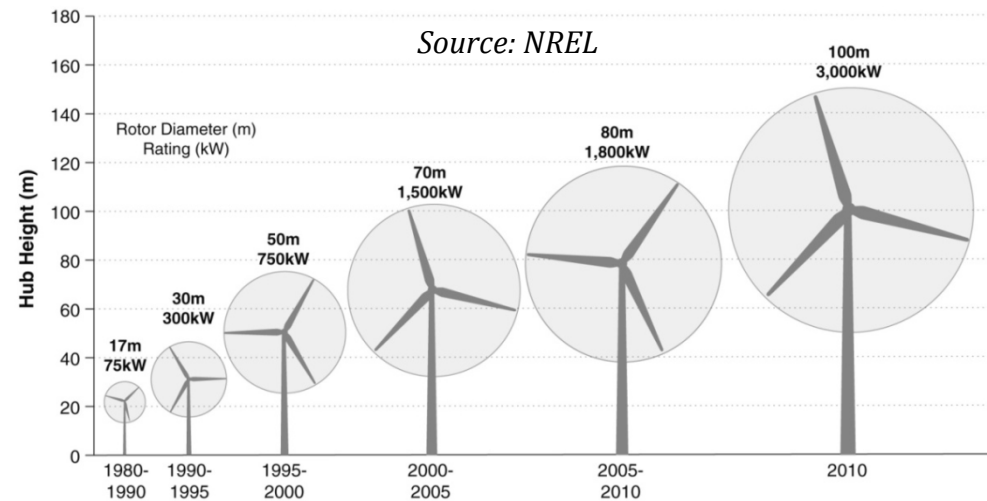
- Oversupply of PV modules caused a large drop (~70%) in prices between 2008-2011
- Low to negative profitability of PV module manufacturers will slow future module cost reductions
- Installation costs are the major expense



Source: Lawrence Berkeley Lab (2012), Tracking the Sun V

# Wind Energy Technology Still Improving

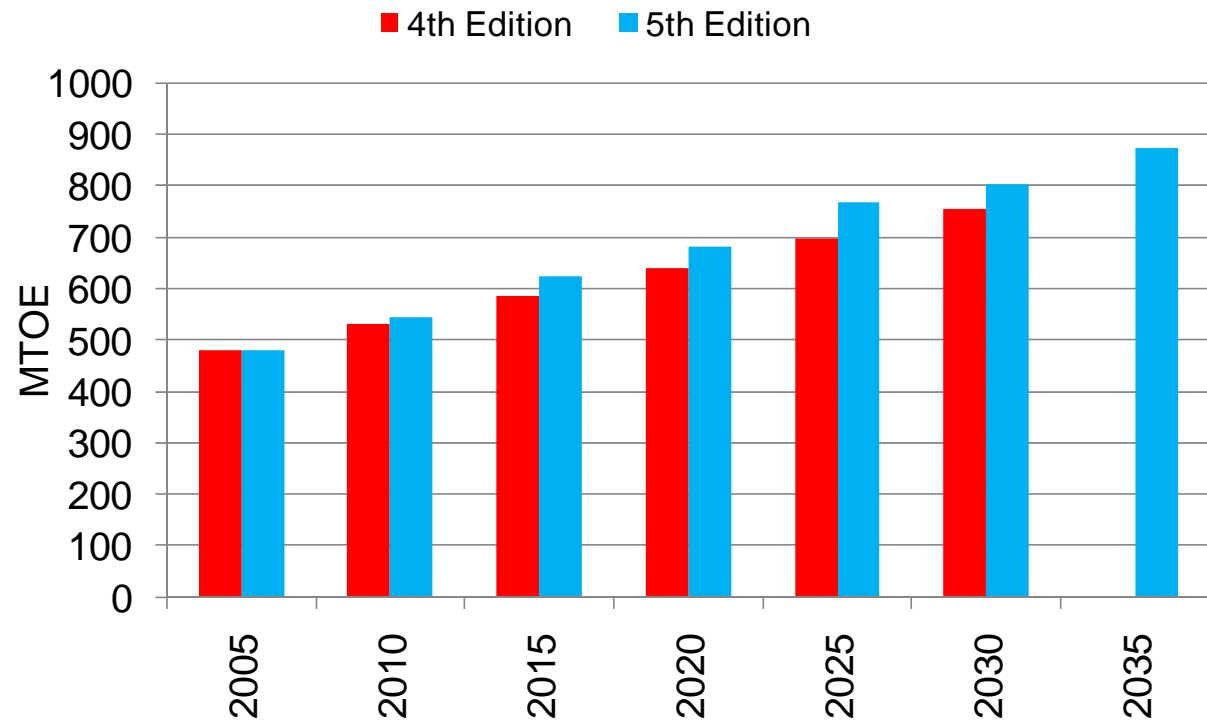
- Cost competition from China continues to reduce wind turbine margins
- Technology innovation with *lighter* and *larger* turbines and higher energy capture
- Carbon fiber replacing steel reducing installation costs
- Offshore super turbines development ~10MW



Source: Wiser et al. 2012 Recent Developments in the Levelized Cost of Energy From U.S. Wind Power Projects

# Outlook for Renewable Energy has Improved

- Higher projection of NRE growth than our last edition in 2009
- China and the USA account for much of the expected growth

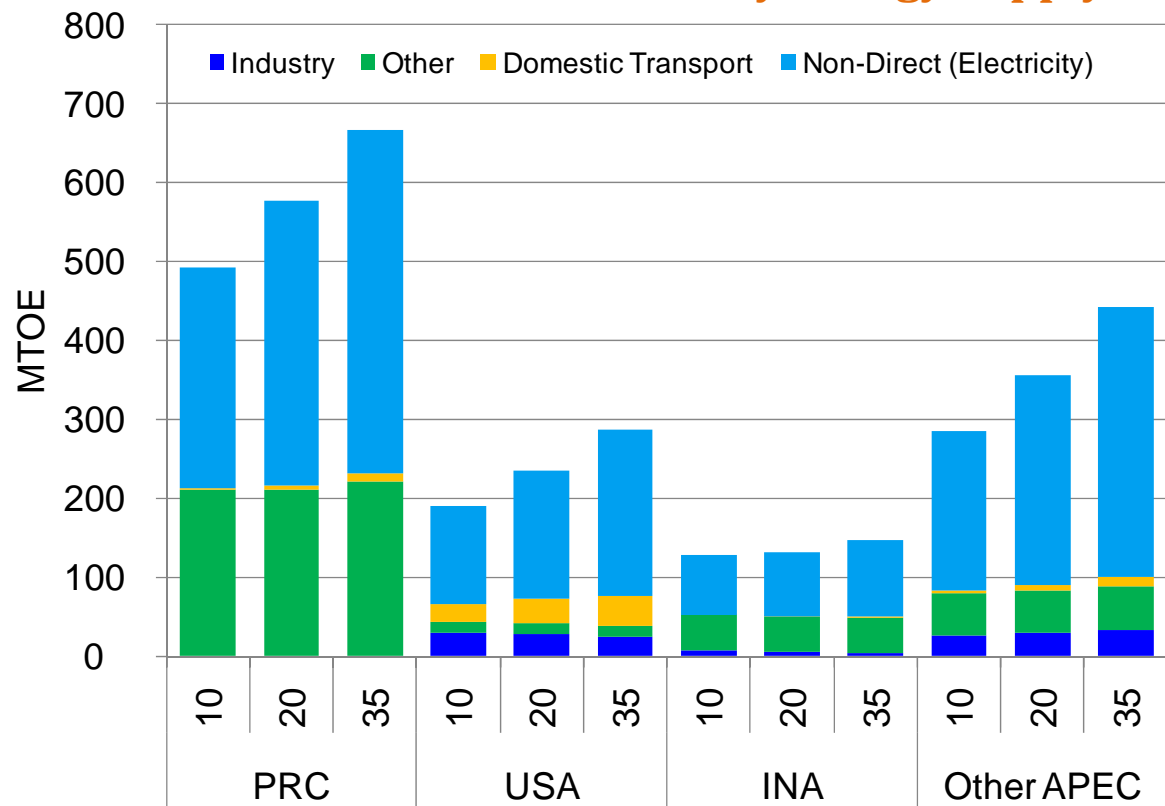


Source: APERC Analysis

# Electricity Sector Leads Growth in Renewables

- **High growth** in renewable energy in the electricity sector
- Biomass for cooking and heating usually large in early economic development
- Growing use of geothermal/solar for direct heating

**Renewable Primary Energy Supply**

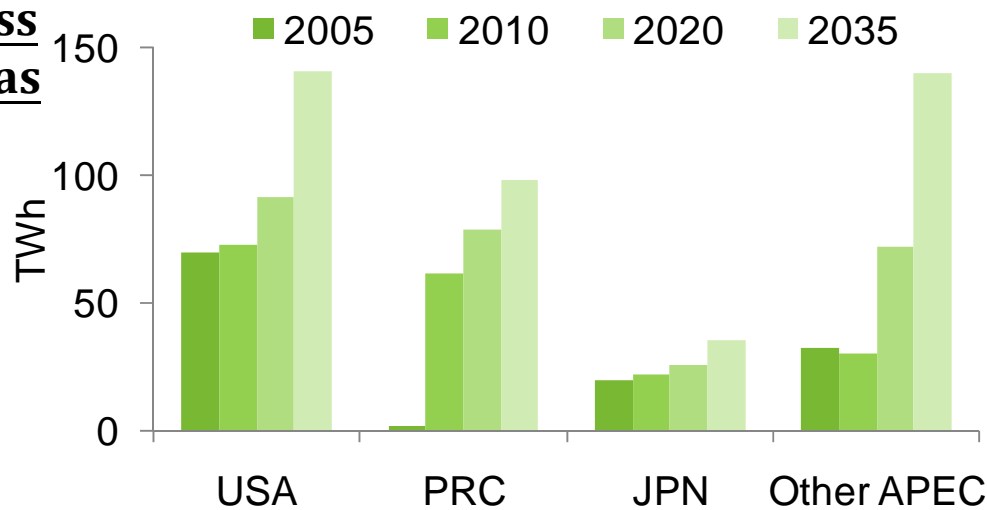


Source: APERC Analysis



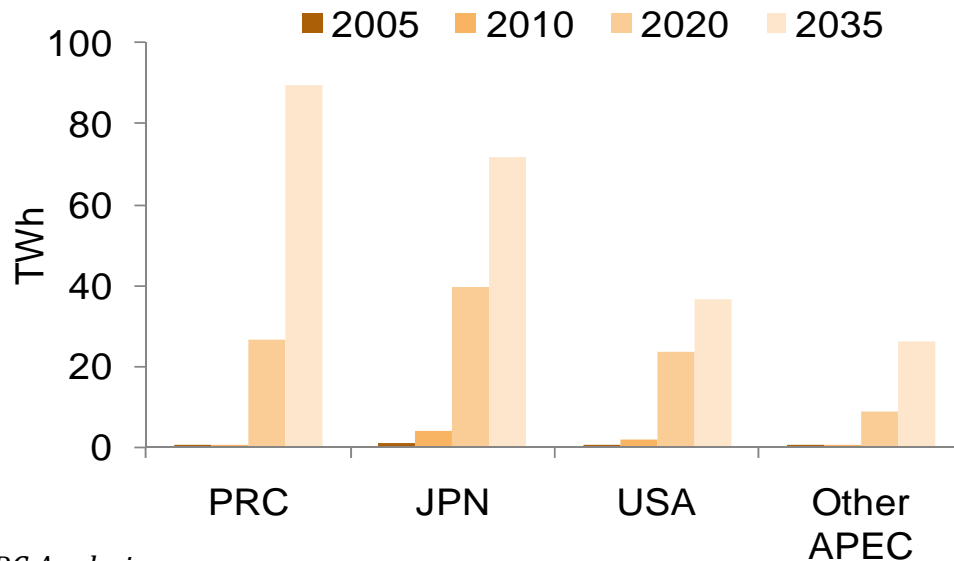
# APEC NRE Outlook in the Power Sector by Technology

## Biomass & Biogas



- US EPA regulations on Coal emissions will increase the blending of biomass
- Growth projected within a number of APEC economies

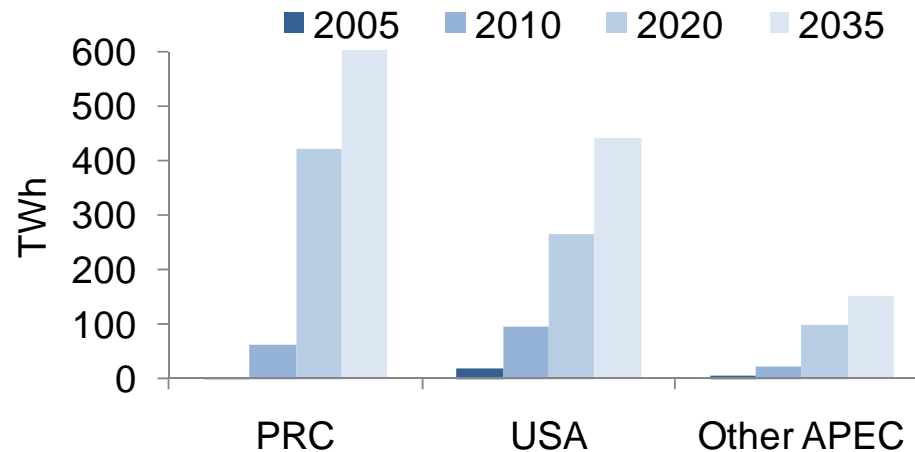
## Solar



- Solar installations lead by China, Japan and US
- Strongly supported by policy incentives

# APEC NRE Outlook in the Power Sector by Technology

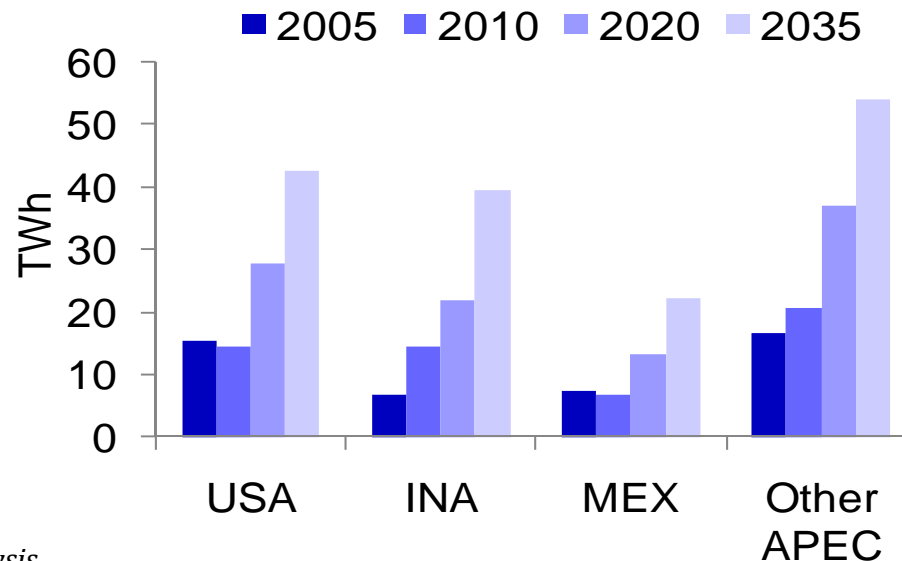
## Wind



➤ Rapid wind energy growth in China and US continues

➤ Wind energy moves mainstream in many APEC economies

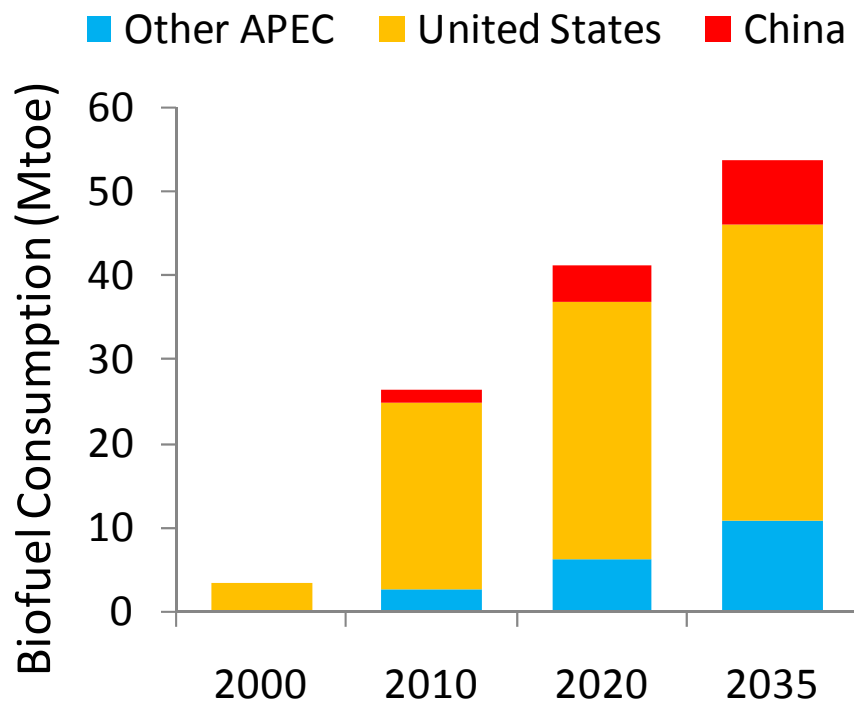
## Geothermal



➤ Geothermal gains traction from attractive economics

➤ Conventional resource potential is limited

# Moderate Growth in Biofuels

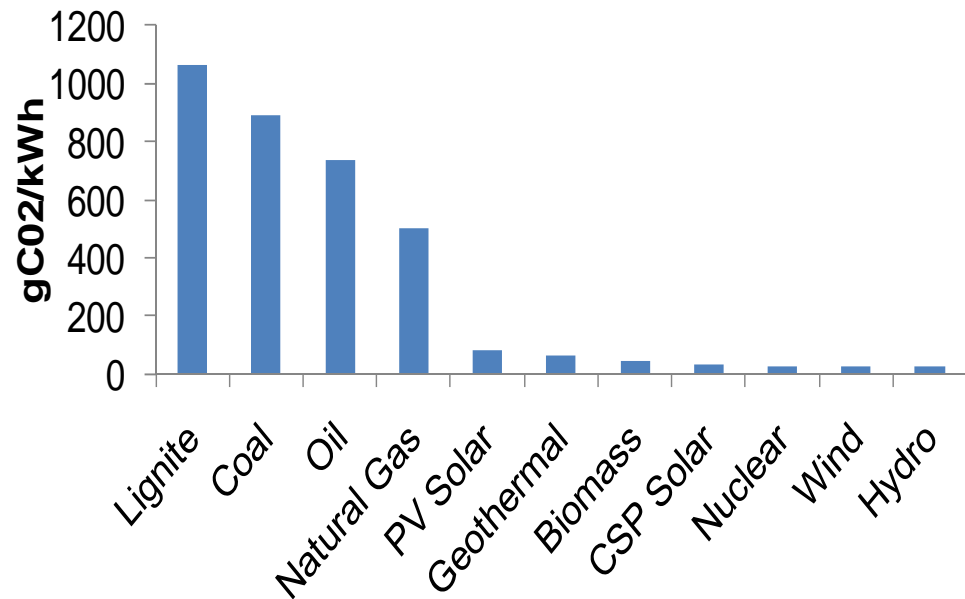


Source: APERC Analysis

- Biofuels for transport constrained by current biomass resource
- 2nd generation (forest based) resources in APEC are immense but the technology is expensive
- Limited production of cellulosic biofuel expected from USA post 2020

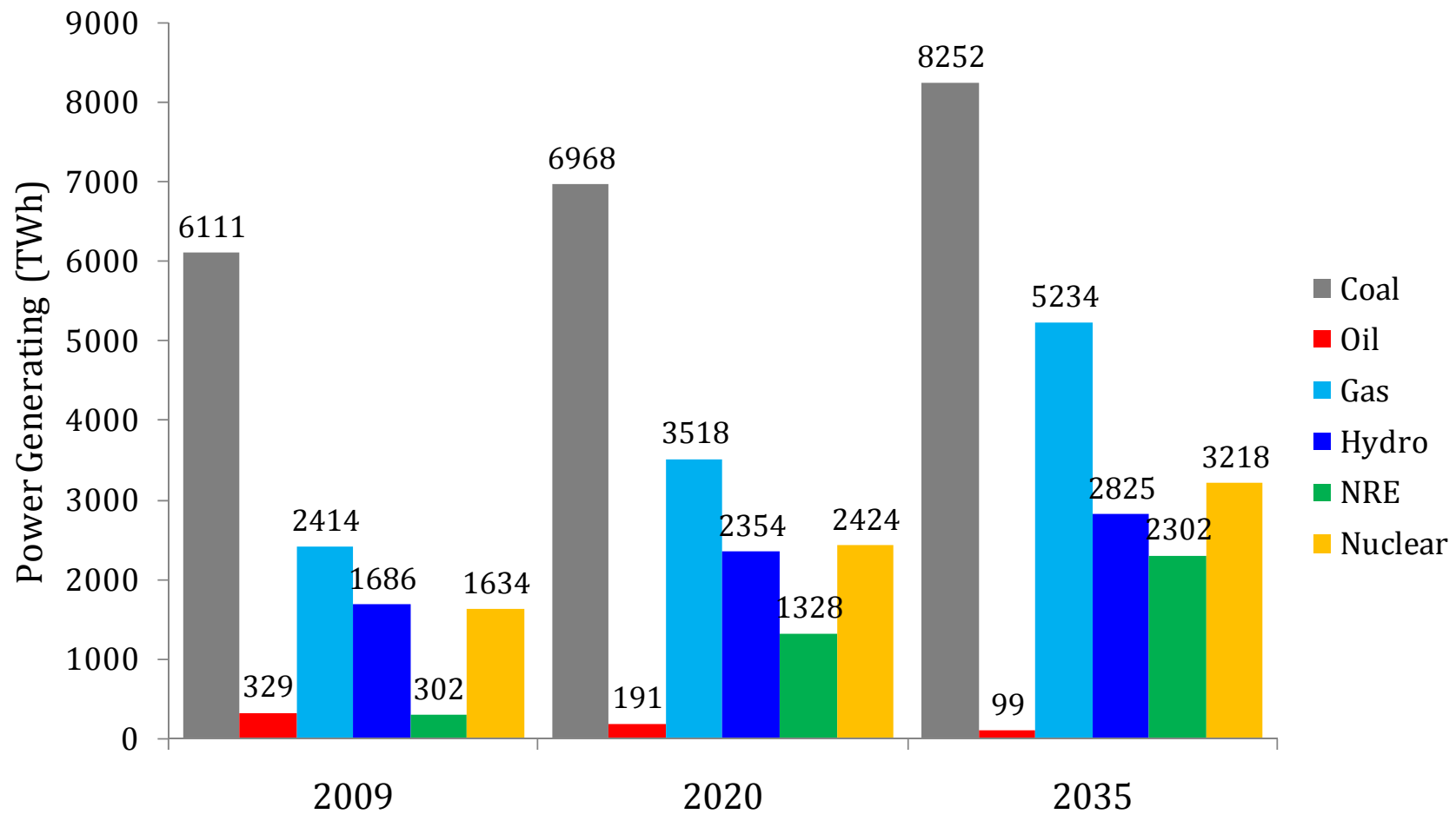
# Putting to Rest Lifecycle Emissions Concerns of Renewable Generation

- Emission from PV solar has declined with advances in manufacturing
- Clear difference in lifecycle CO<sub>2</sub> emissions between fossils and renewables
- Lifecycle emissions from natural Gas are 5x higher than PV Solar



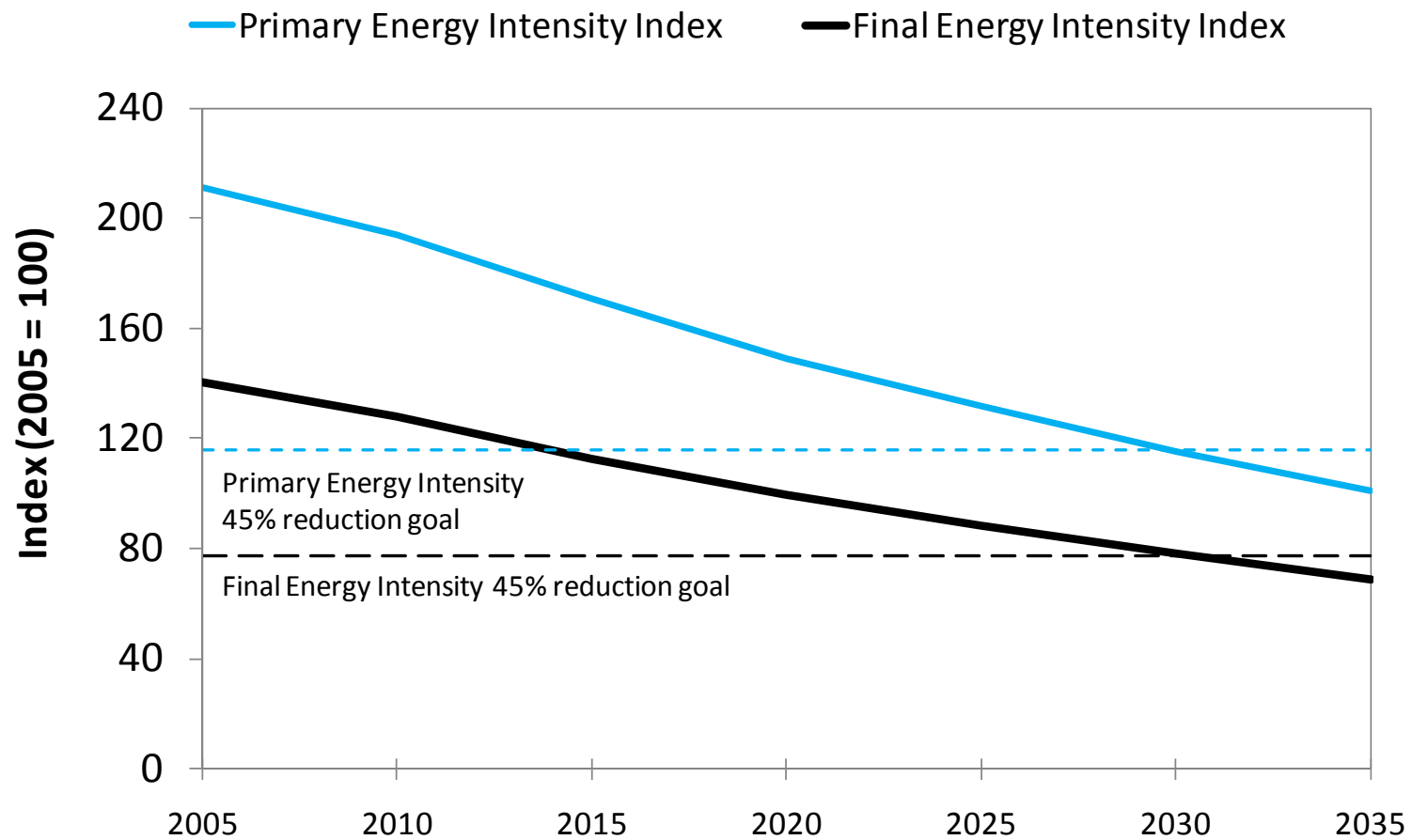
Source: Adapted from WNA (2010) and (IPCC, 2011 p.732)

# But Coal is still Increasing in the APEC Power Sector



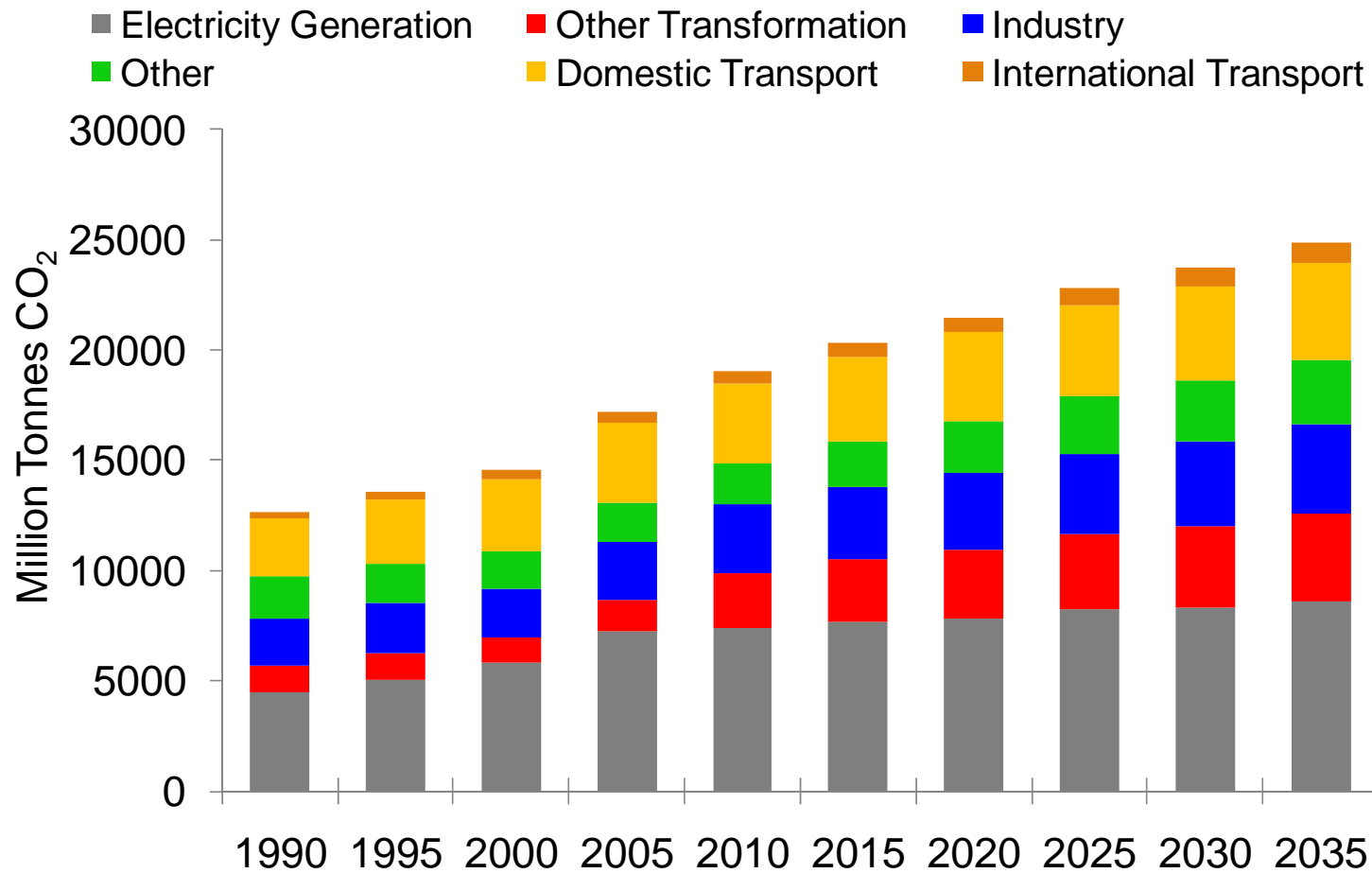
Source: APERC Analysis

# APEC Emissions Intensity Goal looks Plausible



Source: APERC Analysis

# APEC CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Still Increasing



Source: APERC Analysis

**Thank you for your attention**

<http://www.ieej.or.jp/aperc>

