Renewable Energy

What's next and why we need it Akshiv Bansal

1) Generation

2) Storage and Distribution

1) The Generation Problem



IEA Key World Facts https://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/KeyWorld2017.pdf

What's the problem?



Data from Oil Change International Graphics from Vox.com

Future?

Solar and wind attract 73% of new investment in power generating capacity

Investment, by technology, 2017-2040



Investment, by technology, 2017-2040



(\$ trillion - 2016 real)

Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance

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Why bet on renewables?

Solar technology is getting cheaper, faster





We have consistently been wrong



The underestimated potential of solar energy to mitigate climate change, Nature Energy 2017

Installed Wind Capacity

\$/MWh (2016 \$)





Figure 8. Projected costs for the SMART wind power plant at a range of different wind resource sites using the accelerated R&D pathway relative to future natural gas prices

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Fuel shares in power generation



BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2017







2) The Storage Problem

Variability



NREL - Flexibility in 21st Century Power Systems, https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy14osti/61721.pdf

Ducks?



Figure 2: The duck curve shows steep ramping needs and overgeneration risk



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Other Issues

- Predictability
- Synchronous Generation
- Location, location, location
- Resistance to collaboration and flexibility





PICK 2 Batteries?

- Dense
- Cheap
- High Power Output
- Durability

LITHIUM-ION BATTERY EXPERIENCE CURVE



Other Ideas

Solar Fuels

Artificial Photosynthesis

Flow Batteries

Vanadium Flow Battery Juices Onion Plant http://www.powermag.com/vanadium-flow-battery-juices-onion-plant/

