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# What Does it Take to Achieve Carbon Neutrality in the Electric Network?

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# Agenda

## Pursuit of Green Energy and Carbon Neutrality

*What it means to be carbon neutral?*

## Locational Marginal Emission Rate

*Definition and computation of LMER*

## NYISO Case Study

*Modeling nodal LMER in a NYISO back cast simulation  
and study the effectiveness of different decarbonization  
strategies*



## Pursuit of Carbon Free Electricity and Carbon Neutrality

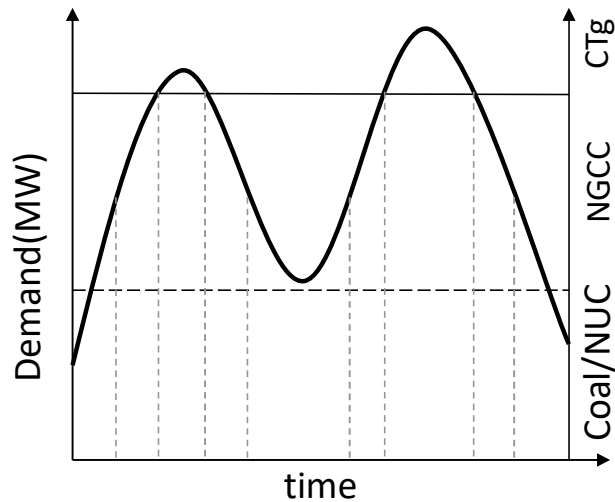
- There has been a growing appetite for 100% carbon free energy in local government and private sector
  - Nine states and more than 100 cities and communities
  - 200+ enterprise energy buyers have engaged in some level of carbon offsetting
- However, a true definition of carbon neutrality has yet to be defined
  - Most popular strategy is to match REC with load either annually or hourly
  - However, that is not true carbon neutrality
- True Carbon Neutrality means 0 net carbon emission



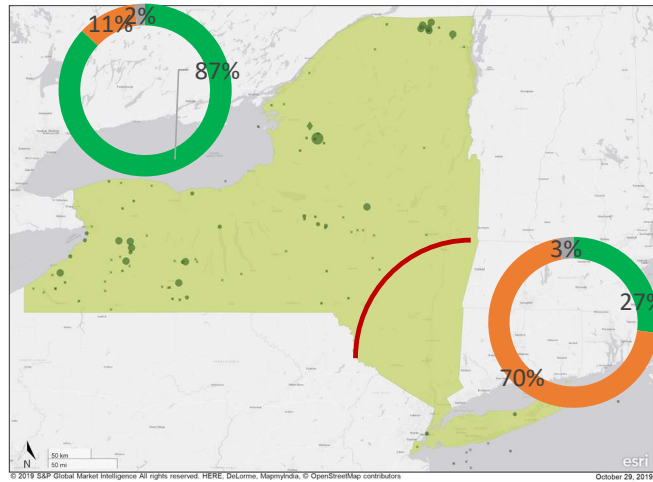
# Electrons are not Created Equal (From a Carbon Perspective)

- Factors Impacting Emission Rates

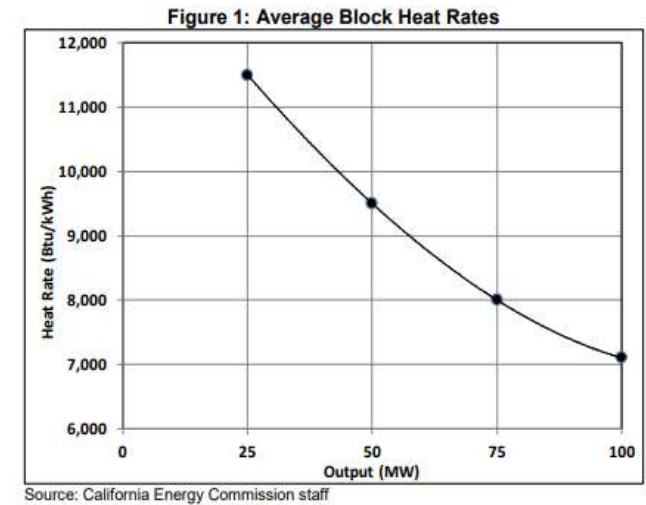
## Temporal Impact



## Locational Impact



## Asset Data Impact



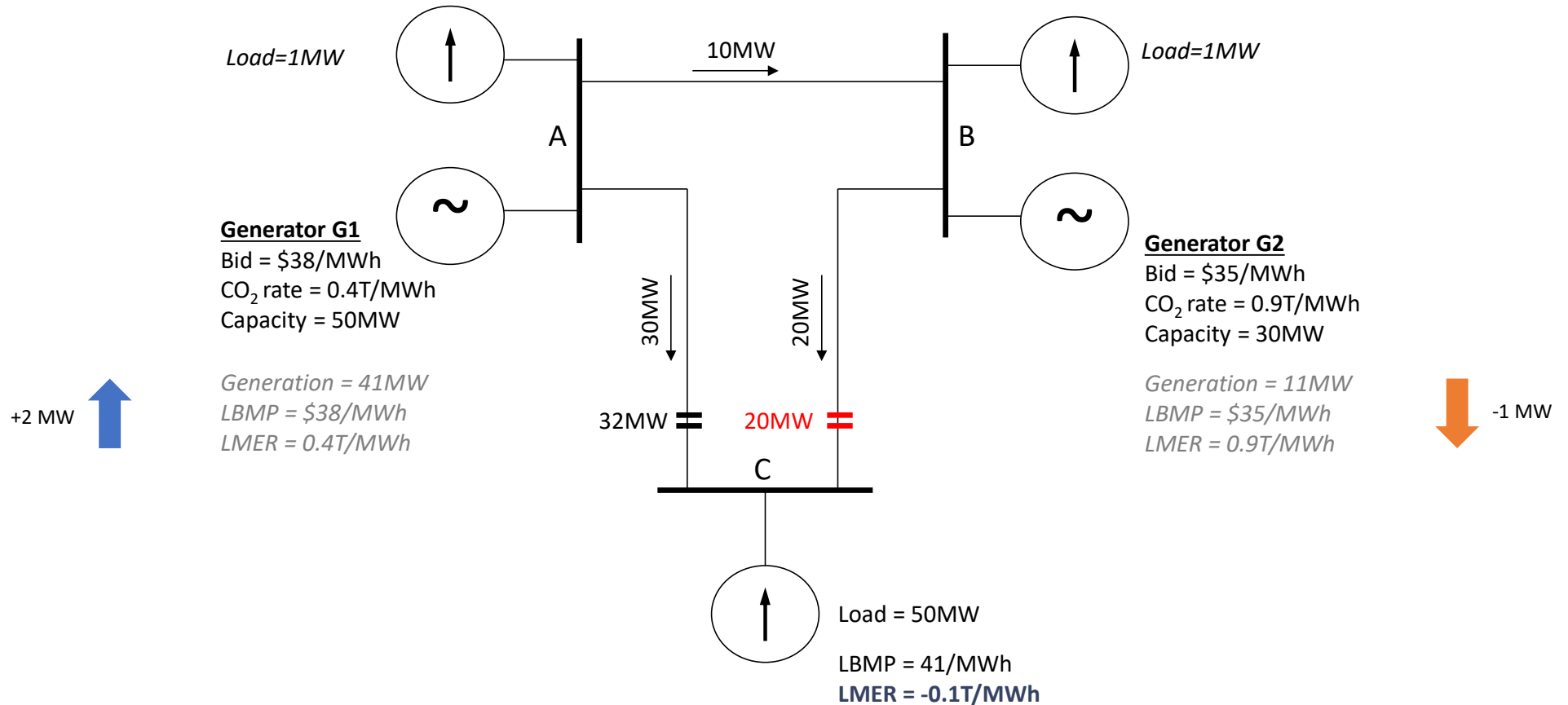
## Locational Marginal Emission Rate Definition

$$LMER_{node} = \frac{\Delta(CO_2)_{system}}{\Delta(Demand)_{node}}$$

Change in system CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for an incremental MW of load at

1. A given location; and
2. A given time

# LMER Can be Determined from Marginal Unit and Binding Constraints



## Computation of LMER in a Large System

- The Grid is much more complex than the example:
  - Marginal for energy vs. marginal for reserves
  - Inter-temporal constraints for energy limited hydro and pumped storage
  - Effect of optimized phased shifters
- Nodal LMER can be derived by changing emission price:

LBMP changes in response to small variations in CO<sub>2</sub> Price in proportion to LMER at that location

$$LMER = \frac{\Delta LBMP}{\Delta CO_2 Price}$$

## Computation Approach of LMER

$$\begin{aligned}LBMP &= Cost_{production} + Cost_{carbon} \\ &= Cost_{production} + LMER * Carbon Price\end{aligned}$$

**Case 1 :**  $LBMP_1 = Cost_{production} + LMER * Carbon Price_1$

**Case 2 :**  $LBMP_2 = Cost_{production} + LMER * Carbon Price_2$

$$LBMP_2 - LBMP_1 = LMER * Carbon Price_2 - LMER * Carbon Price_1$$

$$LMER = \frac{LBMP_2 - LBMP_1}{Carbon Price_2 - Carbon Price_1}$$



# Computational Approach to MER Calculation – an Example

**Scenario1: \$0/ton CO<sub>2</sub> Price**

**Scenario2: \$1/ton CO<sub>2</sub> Price**

**Generator G1**

Bid = \$38.4/MWh  
CO<sub>2</sub>rate = 0.4T/MWh  
Capacity = 50 MW

**Generator G1**

Bid = \$38/MWh  
CO<sub>2</sub>rate = 0.4T/MWh  
Capacity = 50MW

Generation = 41MW  
LBMP = \$38/MWh  
LMER = 0.4T/MWh

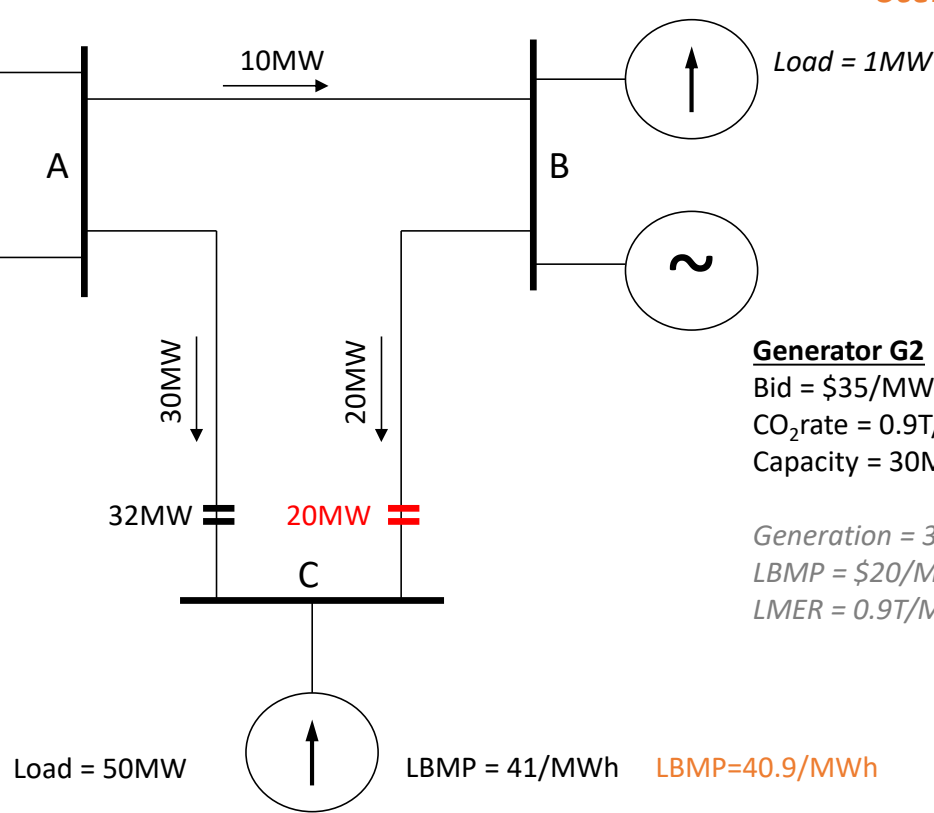
**Generator G2**

Bid = \$35/MWh  
CO<sub>2</sub>rate = 0.9T/MWh  
Capacity = 30MW

Generation = 35MW  
LBMP = \$20/MWh  
LMER = 0.9T/MWh

**Generator G2**

Bid = \$35.9/MWh  
CO<sub>2</sub>rate = 0.9T/MWh  
Capacity = 30 MW



$$LMER = \frac{(40.9 - 41) \frac{\$}{MWh}}{(1 - 0) \frac{\$}{ton}} = -0.1 \text{ ton/MWh}$$

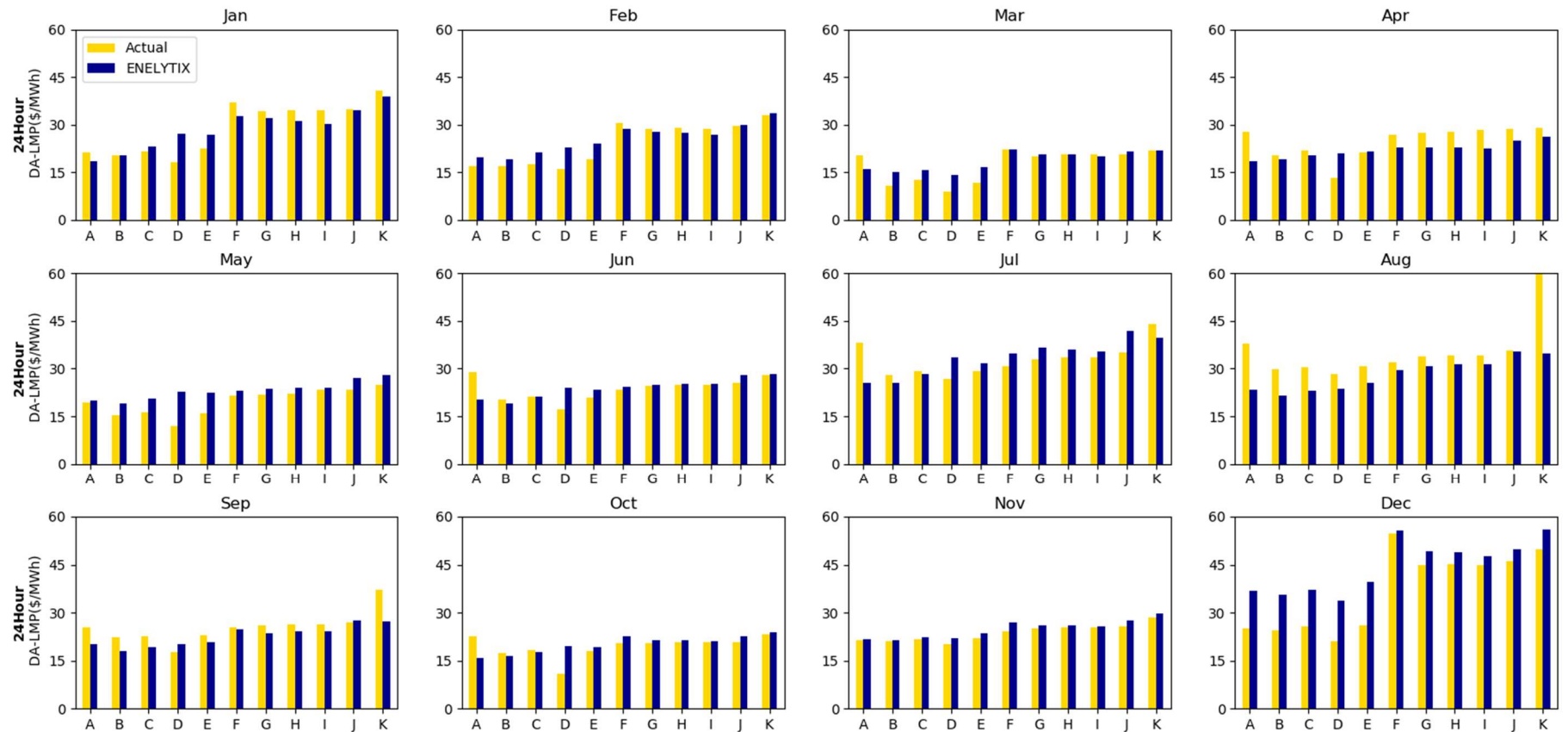


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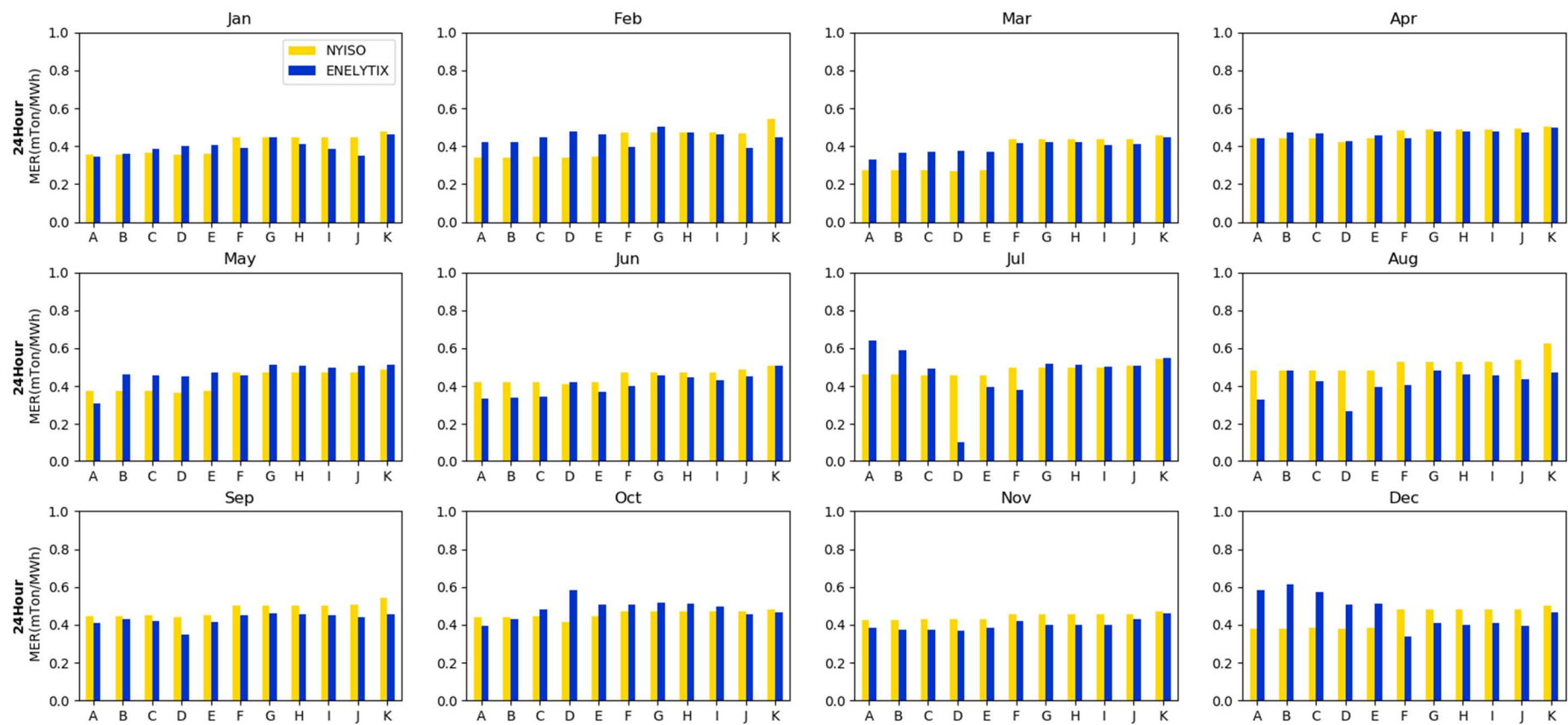
# A Case Study for NYISO

- Start with a NYISO back cast simulation
  - Nodal SCUC and SCED model **ENELYTIX**<sup>®</sup>  
powered by **PSO**
    - Historic NYISO data
    - Fuel prices
    - Transmission constraints
    - Asset data
    - Interchanges
    - ...
- Examine net carbon footprint of a small load under different decarbonization strategies
  - A hypothetical load in N.Y.C following zonal shape (8.76GWh/year)

# Model was Calibrated with Historic Zonal Prices

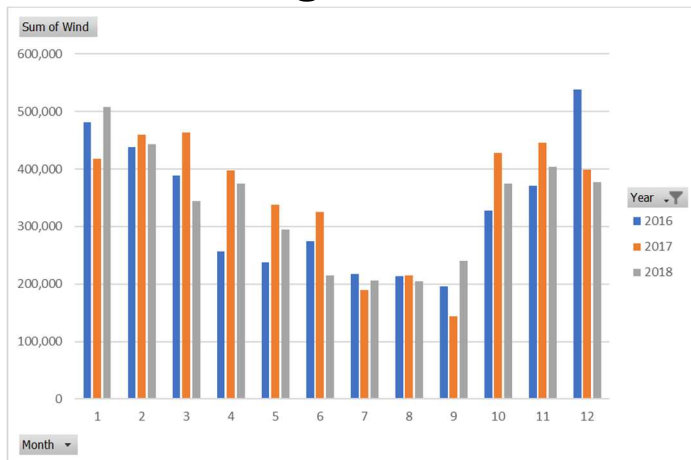


# LMER Benchmarked Against NYISO Study for 2016

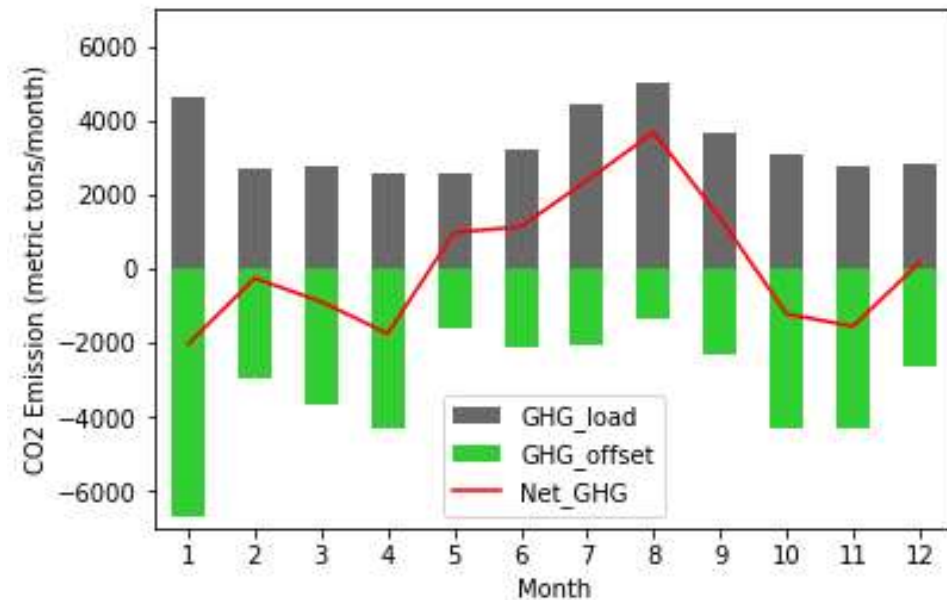


# Annual MWh Matching Strategy Still Leaves a Large GHG Footprint

- Results:
  - Net emission: 2,045 ton/year
  - Balanced by a large wind plant in upstate
- Wind production is low in the summer when LMER is high and load is high

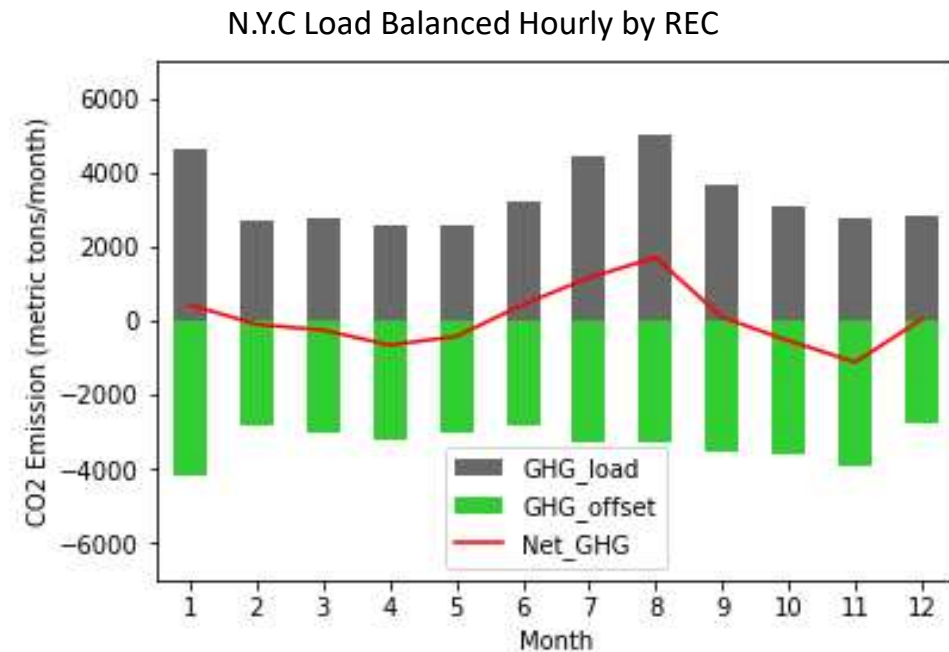


N.Y.C Load Balanced by Annual REC



# Hourly Matching is not Cost Effective

- Results:
  - Net emission: 787 ton/year
  - Hourly balance could not be achieved even with all NYISO wind and PV plants
    - Total wind generation was less than 10 MW for more than 200 hours in 2018(NYISO)
- Net positive carbon driven by locational difference in LMER
  - Upstate resource vs. N.Y.C load

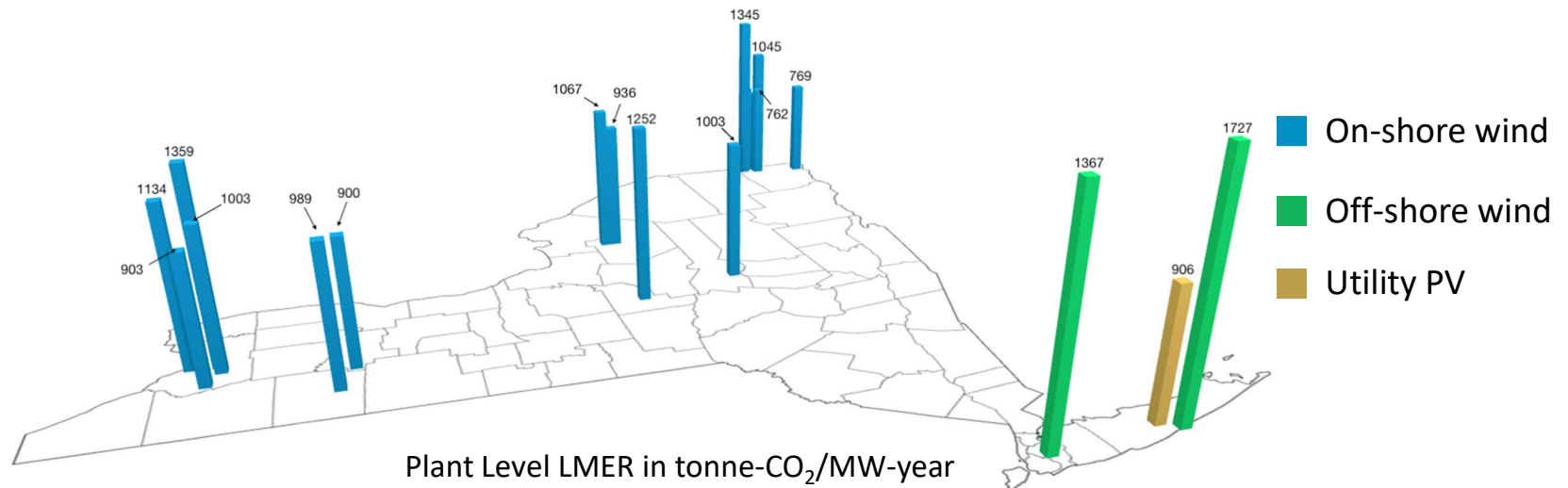


## Use LMER to Achieve True Carbon Neutrality

- Nodal LMER allows us to measure how much energy is needed to offset the load's carbon footprint
  - 87,600 MWh/year
  - 40,334 tons-CO<sub>2</sub>/year

| Power Plant               | Type       | Plant Capacity | Plant Carbon Offset (tonne/year) | Plant MW Required to Neutralize Load |
|---------------------------|------------|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Long Island Solar Farm    | Utility PV | 31.5           | 28,539                           | NA                                   |
| Moses Niagara (Fleet)     | Hydro      | 2860           | 6,979,103                        | 16.5                                 |
| St Lawrence - FDR (Fleet) | Hydro      | 1088           | 3,212,120                        | 13.7                                 |
| Maple Ridge Wind 1        | Wind       | 231            | 246,489                          | 37.8                                 |
| Marble River Wind         | Wind       | 215.5          | 225,332                          | 38.5                                 |
| Wethersfield Wind Power   | Wind       | 126            | 126,473                          | 40.2                                 |

# LMER Enables a Wide Range of Carbon Management Options



- By quantifying carbon intensity of load and generators on a nodal basis, LMRE enables a wider range of decarbonization strategy that is efficient both economically and operationally:
  - Carbon offset in other emission areas (i.e. Transportation, heating etc.)
  - Use LMER to quantify carbon offset capability of transmission projects





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