

Energy-Water Nexus: Integrated Modeling and Scenario Analysis

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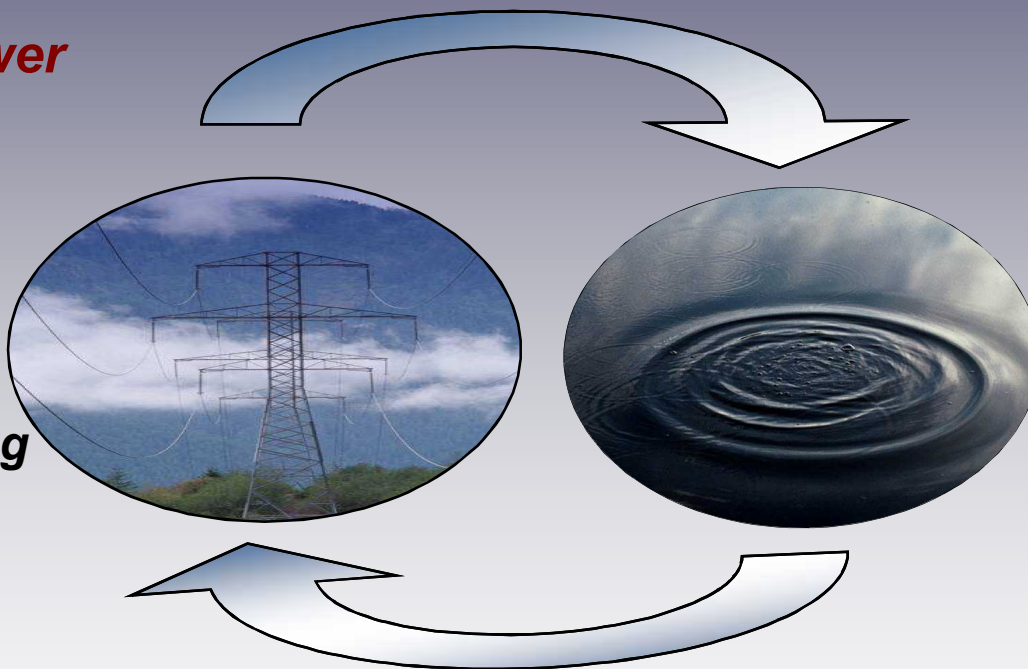


Water for Energy

Energy for Water

Energy and power production requires water

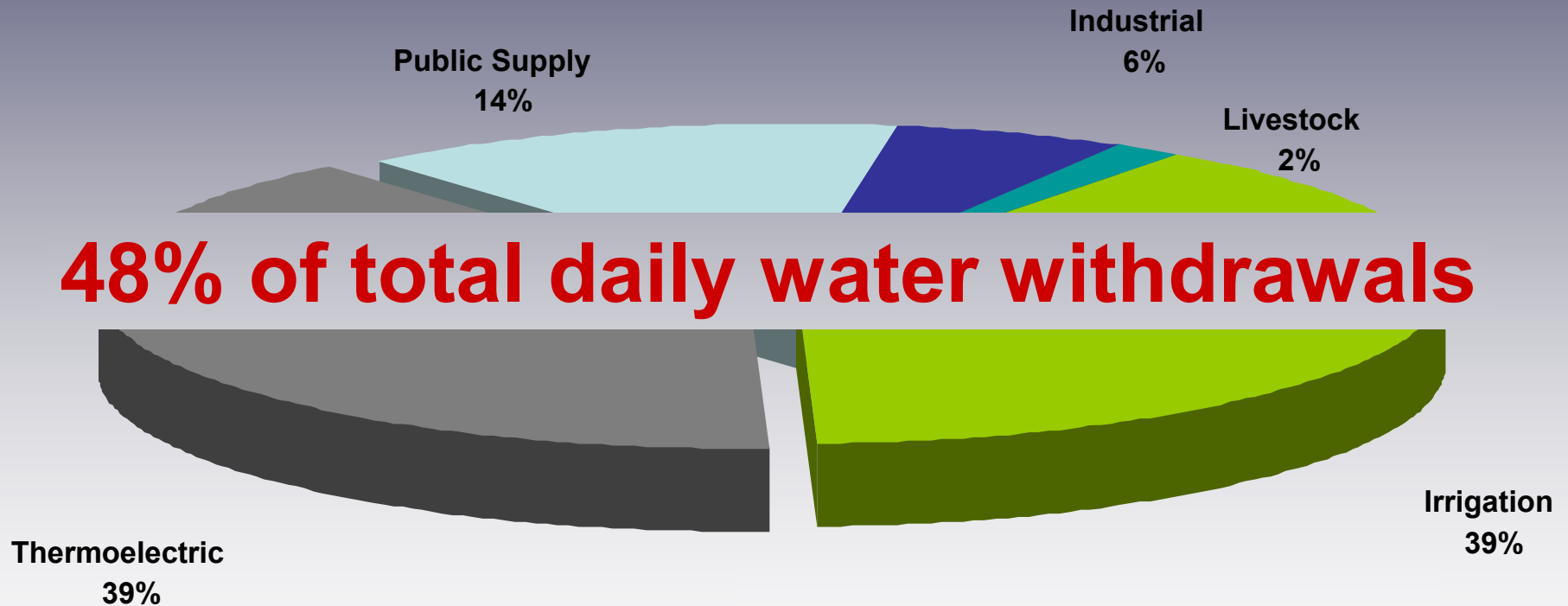
- Thermoelectric Cooling
- Energy Minerals Extraction/Mining
- Fuel Processing (fossil fuels, H₂, biofuels)
- Emission Control



Water production, processing, distribution, and end-use requires energy

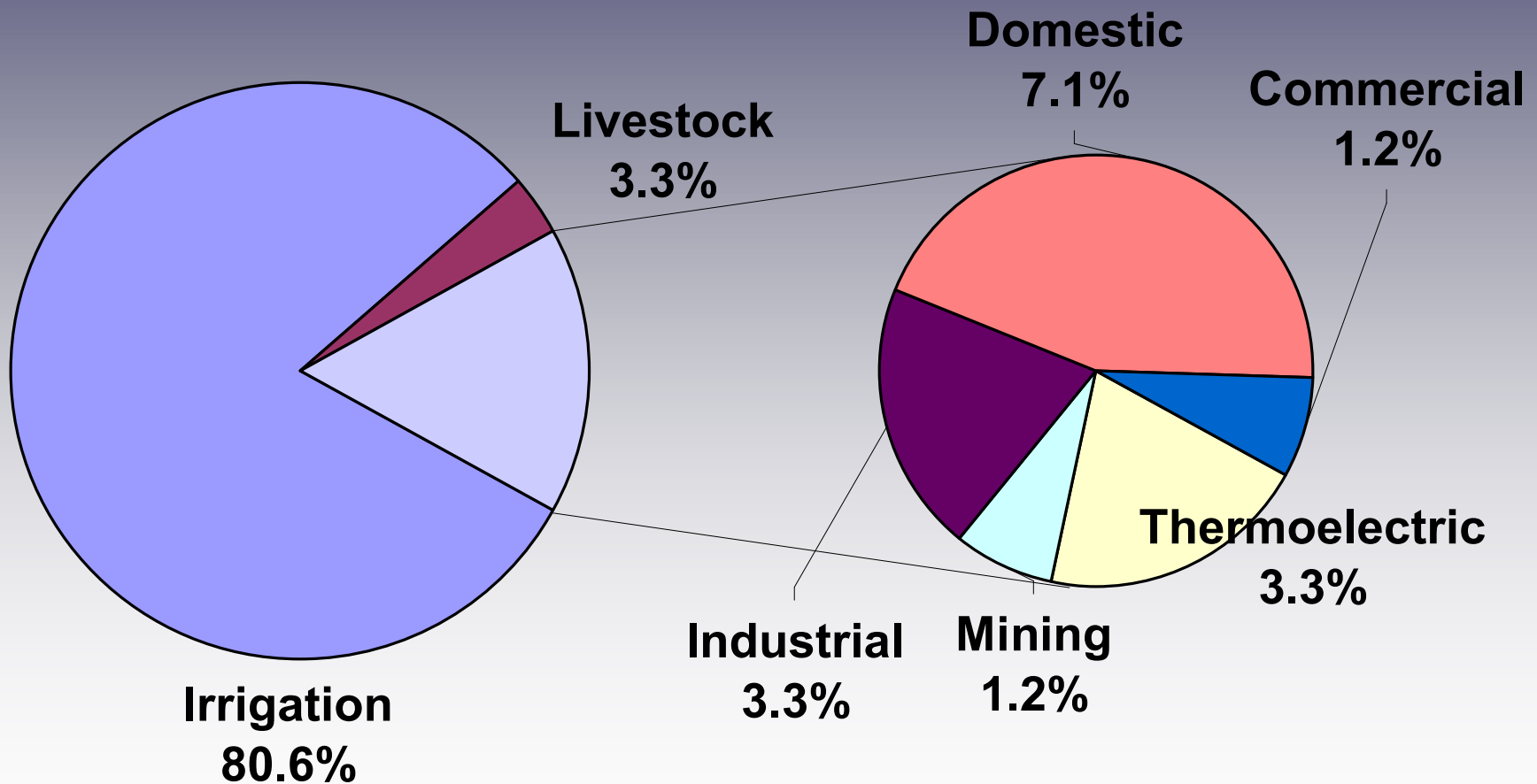
- Pumping
- Conveyance
- Treatment
- Distribution
- Use Conditioning

Estimated Freshwater Withdrawals by Sector: 320 BGD



Source: USGS Circular 1268, March, 2004

U.S. Freshwater Consumption: 100 BGD



Source: Solley et al., 1998



Energy-Water Roadmap

- Three regional needs assessment workshops: Nov 2005 through mid-January 2006



Produced by the Dept. of Geography
The University of Alabama

Project Impetus

- Energy-Water Roadmap findings:
 - Reduce fresh water consumption in electric power generation
 - Improved water efficiency in alternative fuels production
 - Treatment and use of non-traditional water for energy development
 - *Integrated energy and water resource planning and management*

Create an Energy-Water Planning Framework



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Home

National Totals

Water for Energy

Plant Renewal

Water by Supply

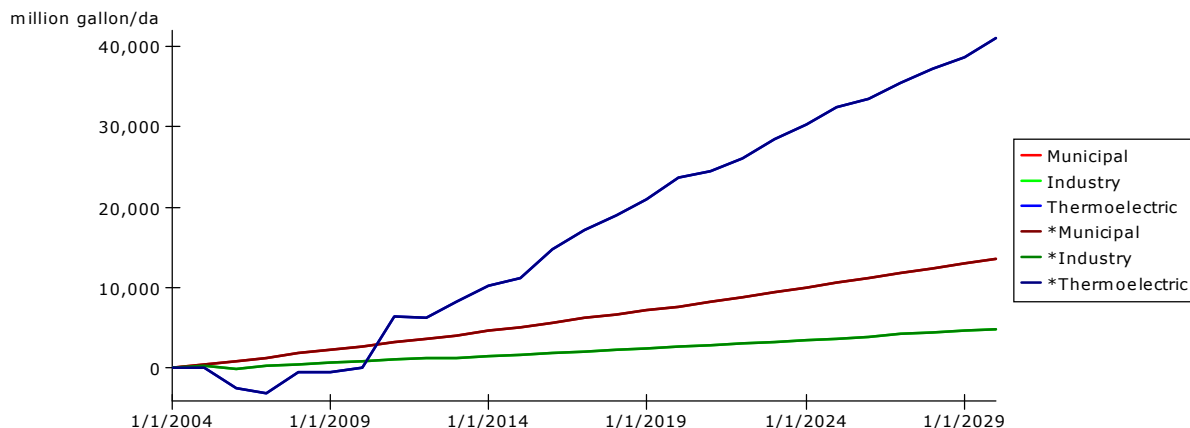
Energy for Water

Emissions

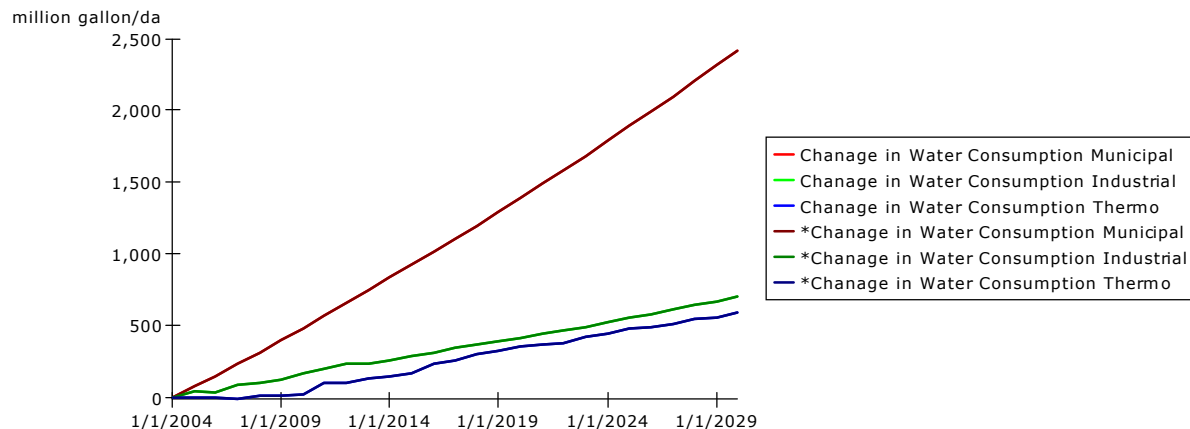
Population

Gross National
Product

Change in Water Use



Change in Water Consumption



36°28'52.85" N 95°58'29.17" W

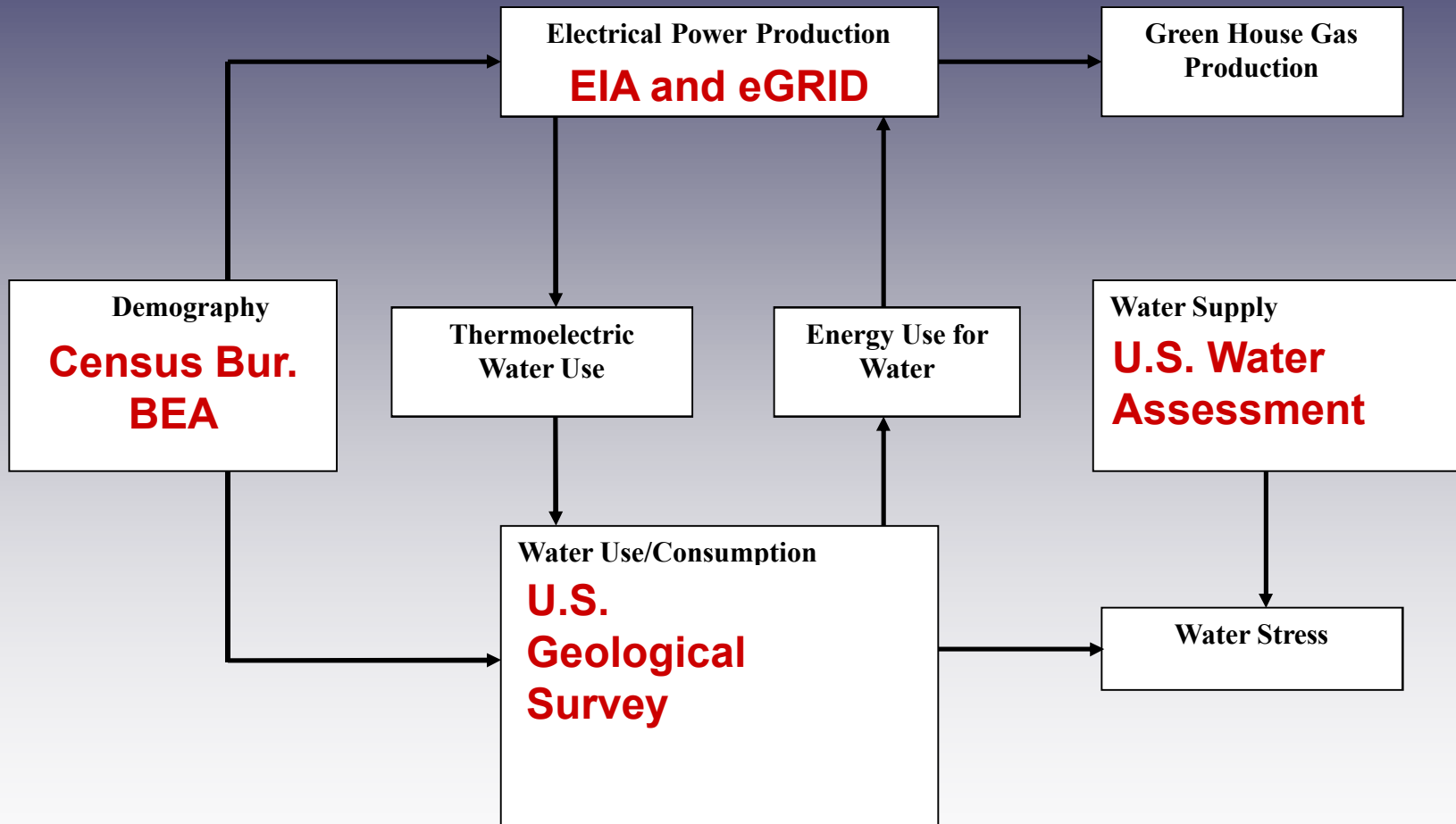
Eye alt: 2697.12 Km

LORD

LABORATORY DIRECTED RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

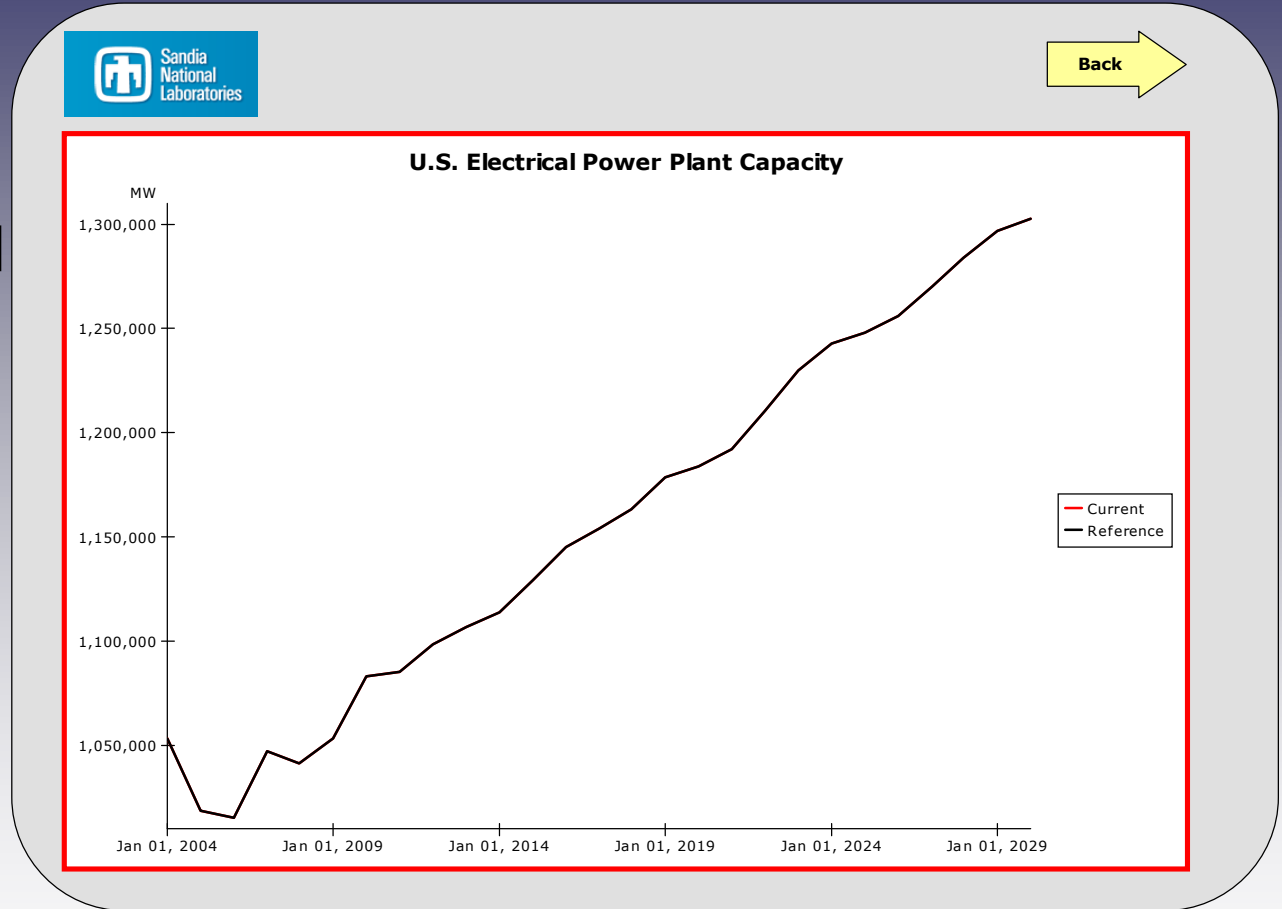
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General Model Structure



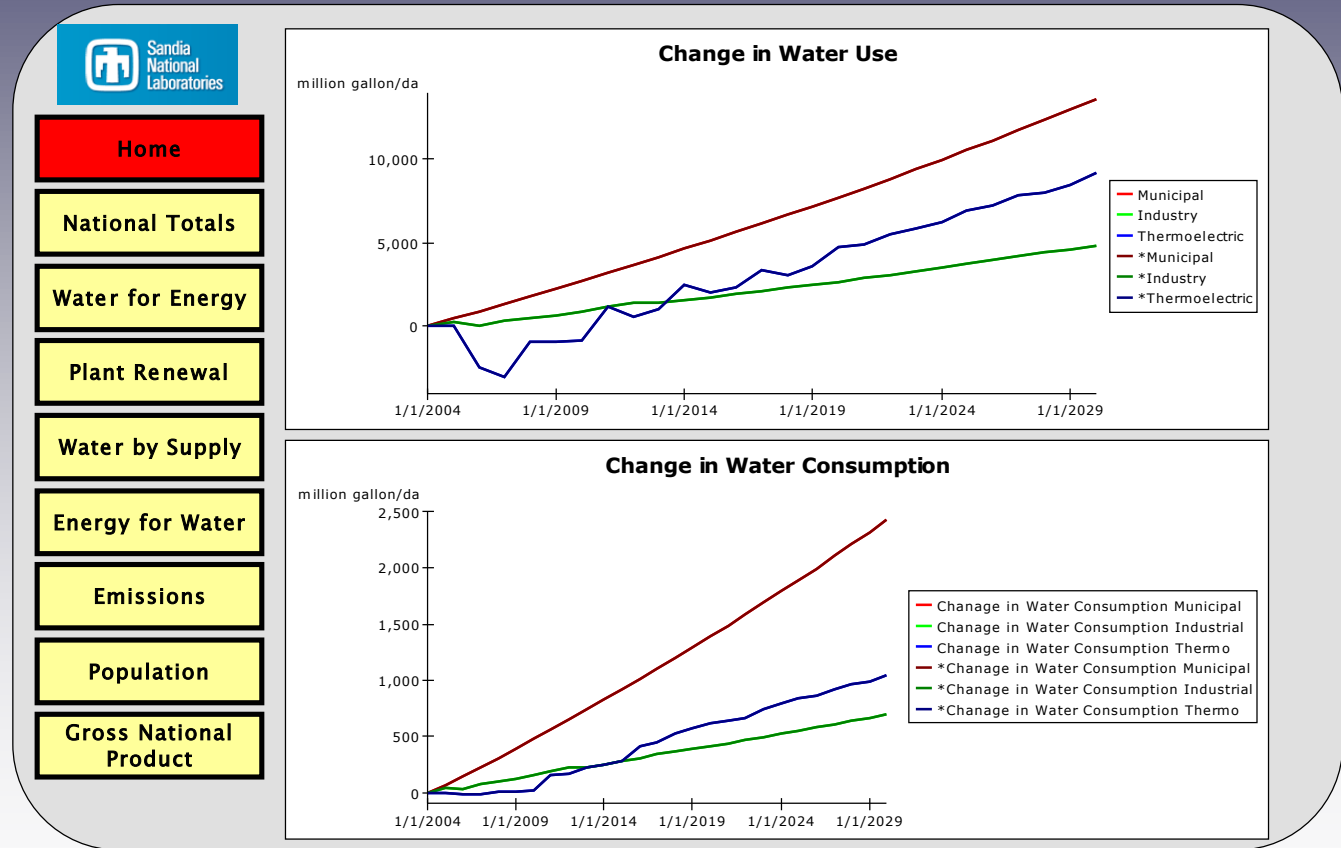
Plant Capacity at National Level

- Increase power plant capacity based on EIA projections (~25% in 27 years)
- New plants have same fuel type distribution as current

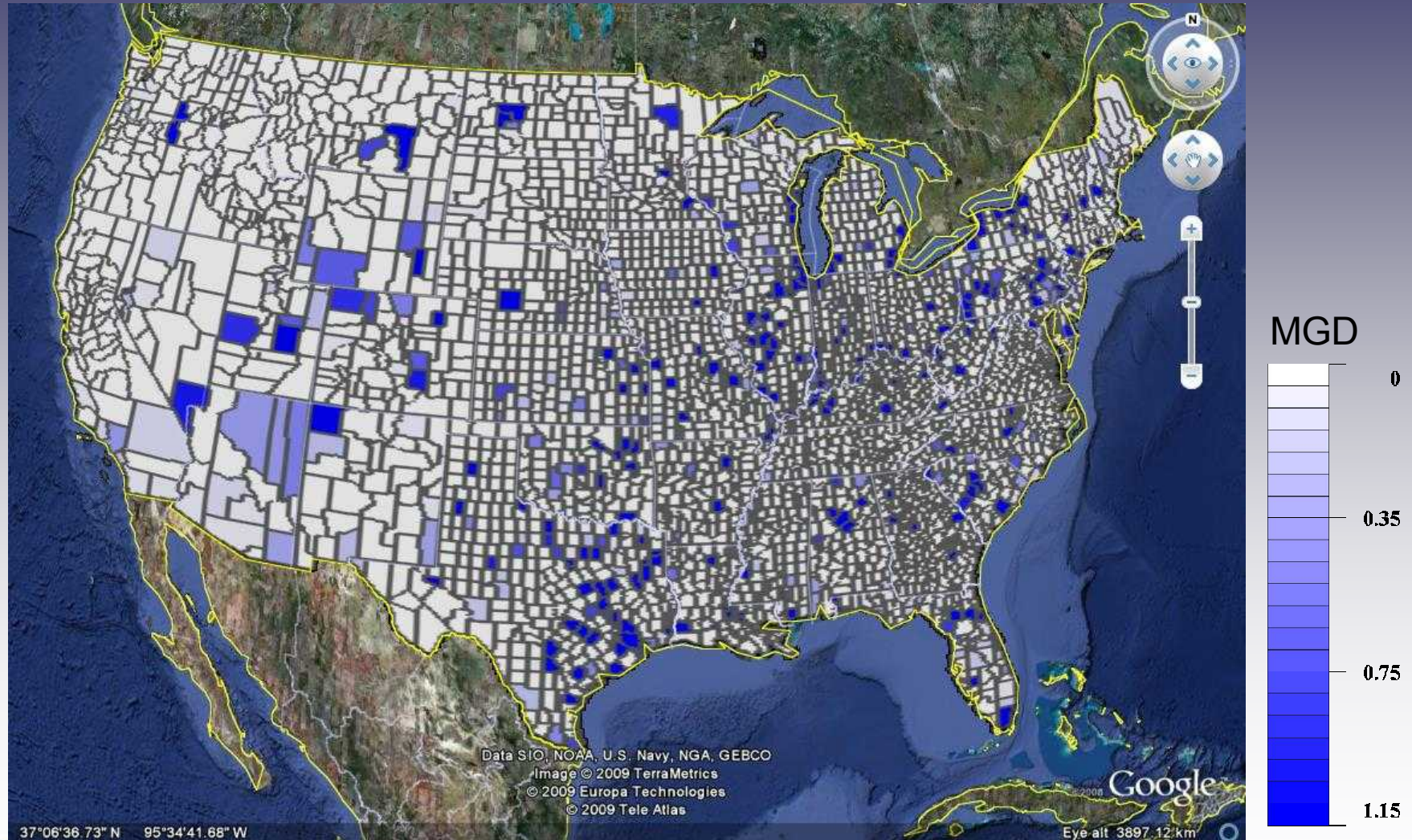


Water Use/Consumption at National Level

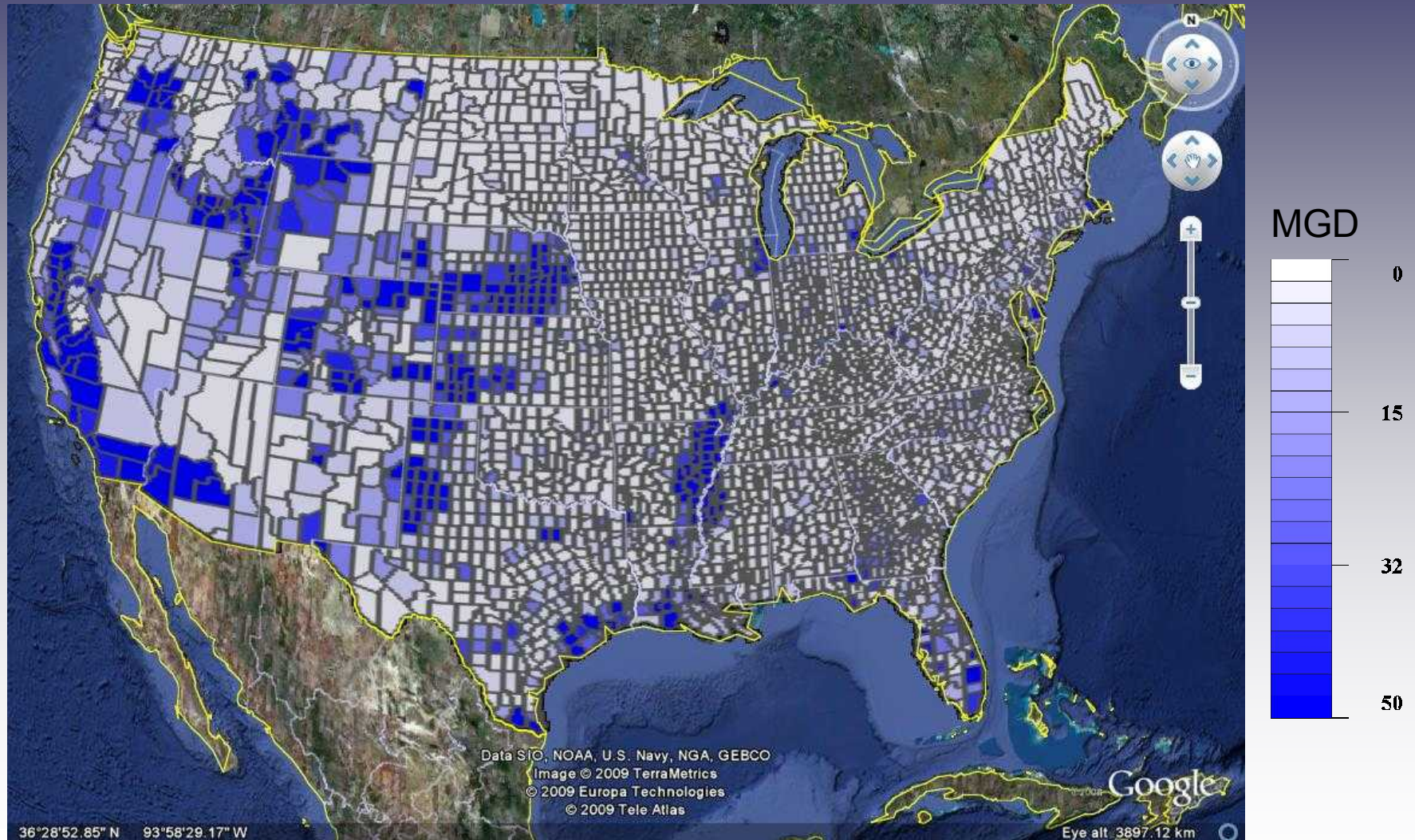
- Under this scenario growth in thermoelectric water use grows from 194.5 to 204.0 BGD (a 5% increase) with a more significant increase in water consumption 3.7 to 4.7 BGD (a 27% increase)



Thermoelectric Water Consumption in the Continental United States: 2004

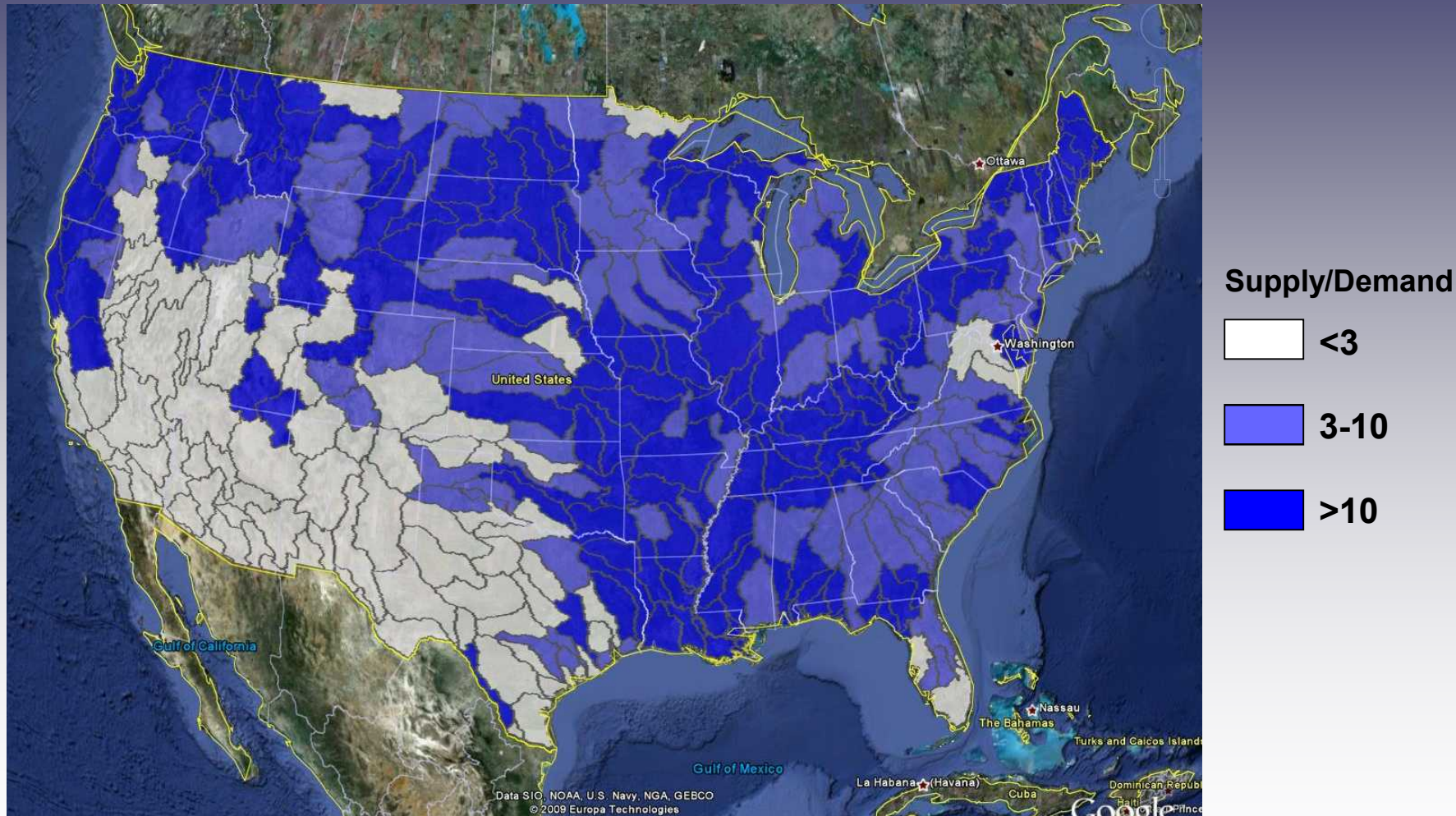


Total Water Consumption in the United States: 2004

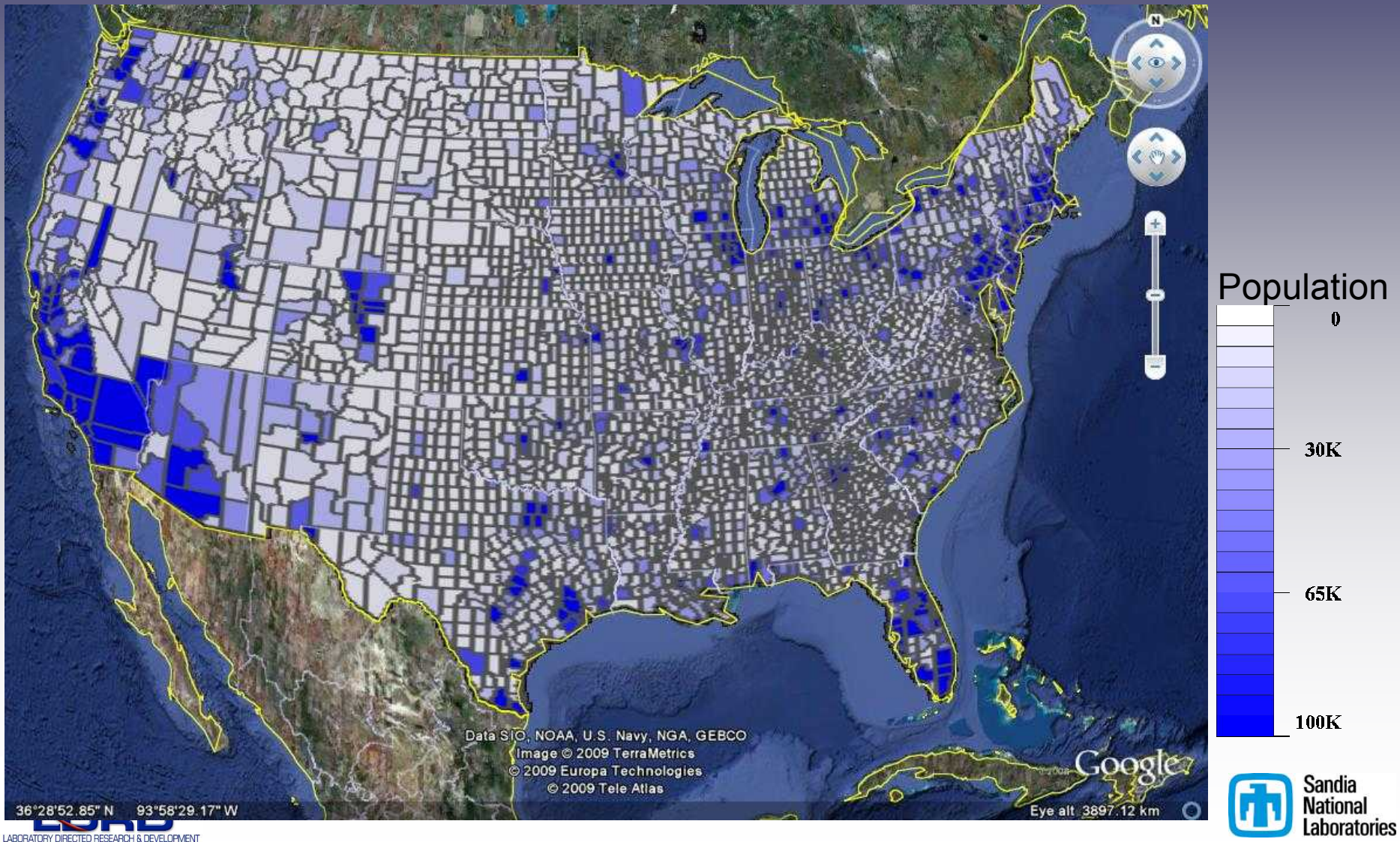


Ratio of Water Supply to Demand

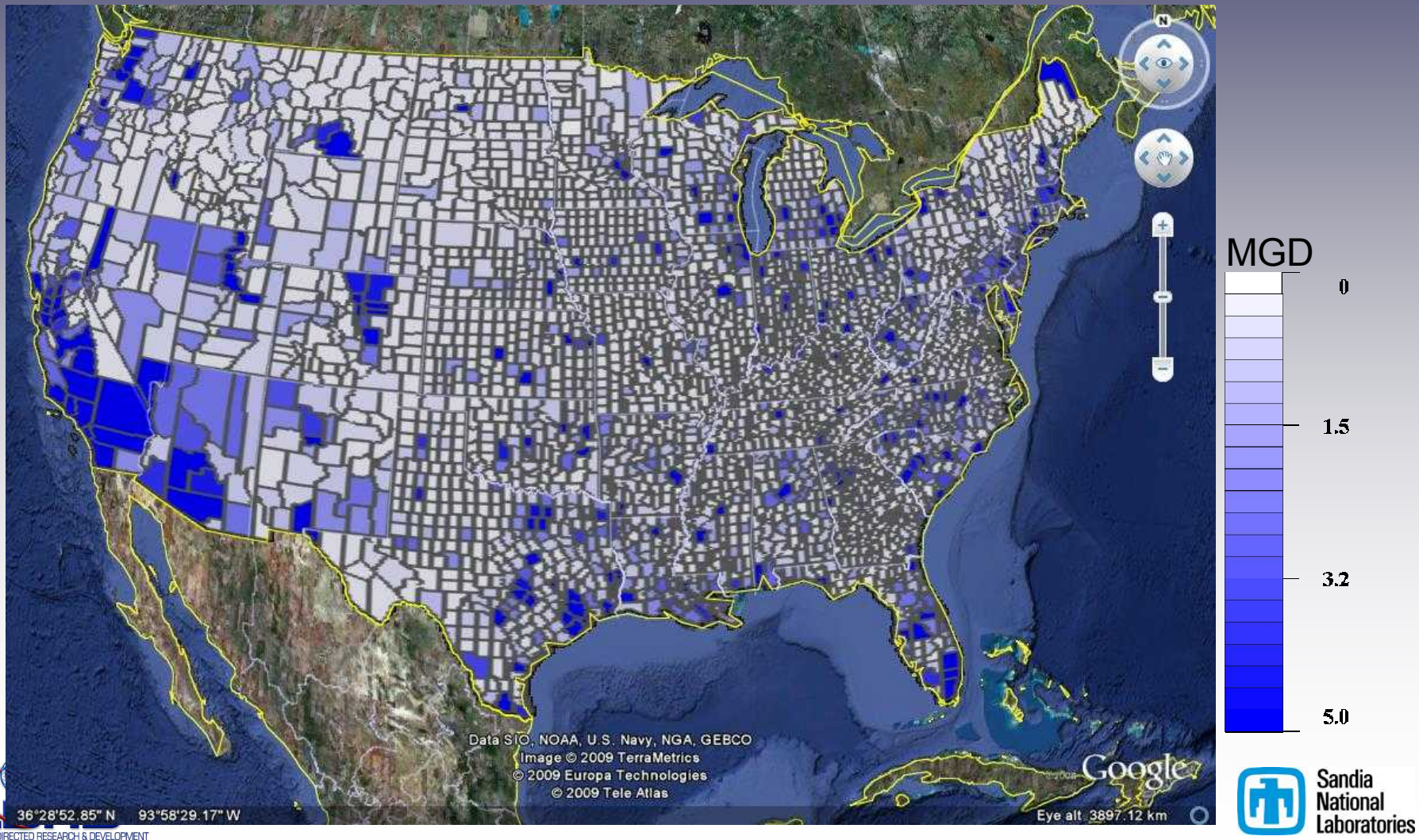
Mean Gauged River Flow



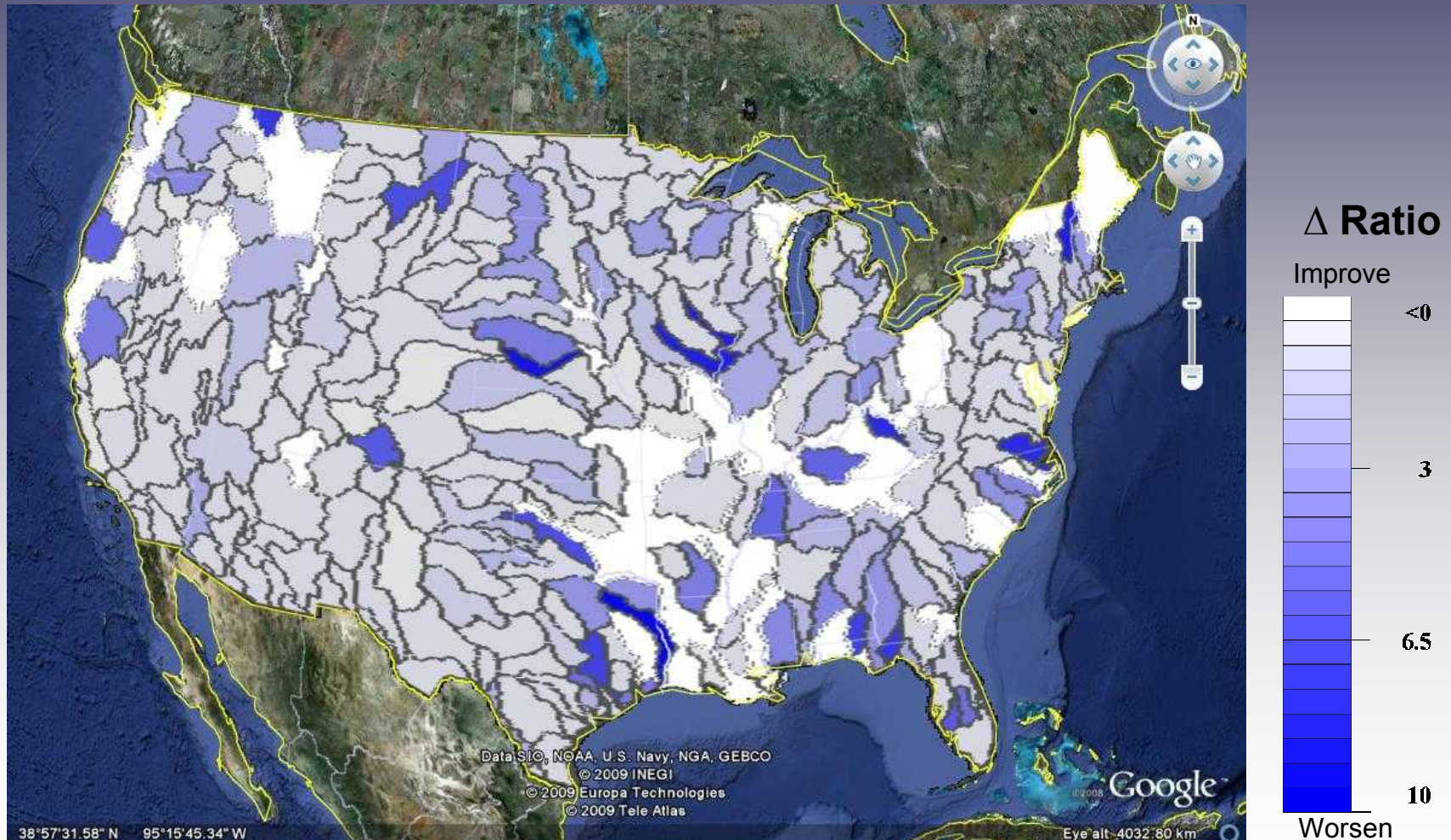
Projected Population Change 2004-2030



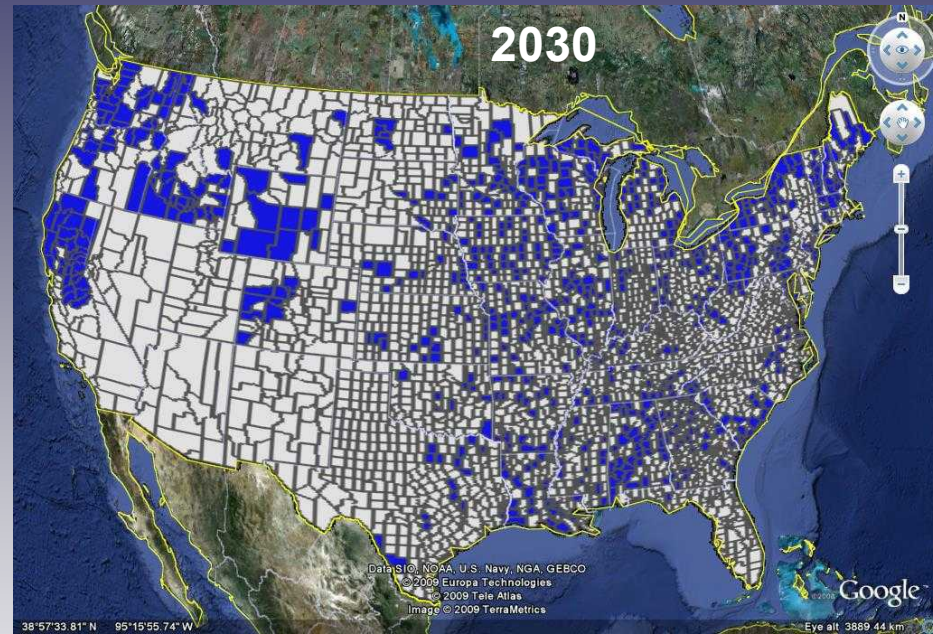
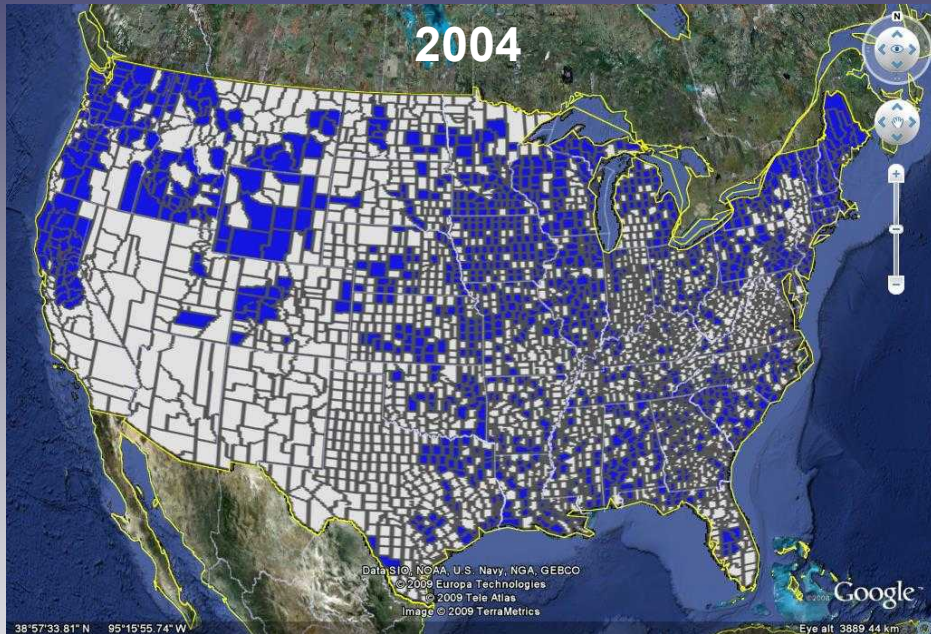
Projected Increase in Non-Thermoelectric Water Consumption 2004-2030



Change in Supply vs. Demand Ratio 2004 to 2030



Counties Meeting Siting Requirements

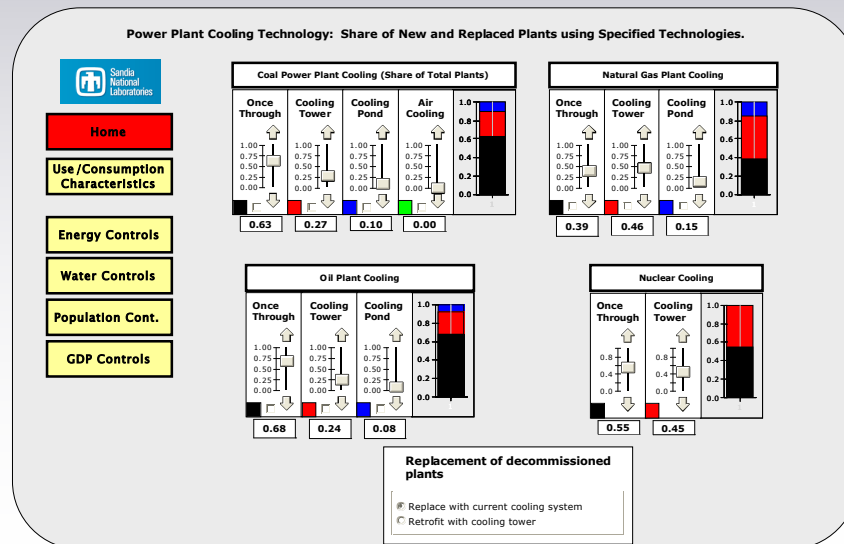


- Siting requirements
 - Supply vs. demand ratio above 5
 - At least one power plant sited in county in 2004
 - No more than 5 new plants sited in any one county

Cooling Technology Scenarios

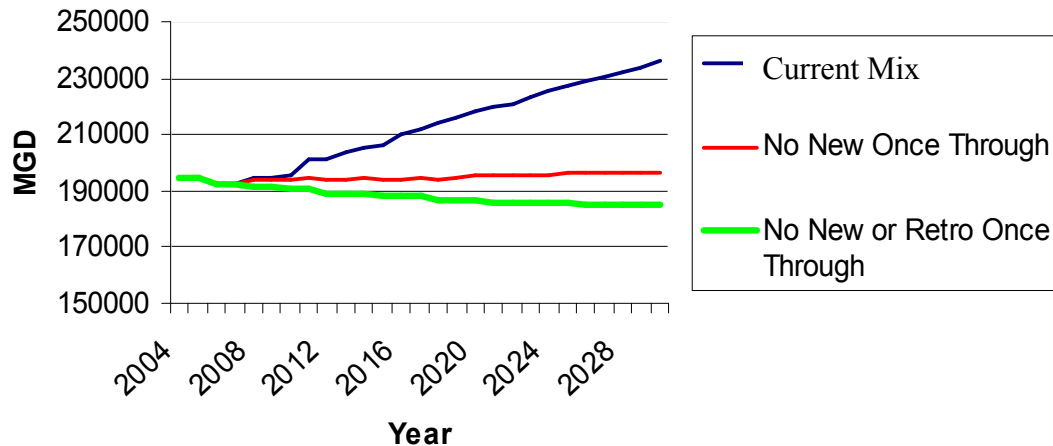
Investigated three different scenarios

1. Current case which assumes 2004 mix of cooling technology into the future.
2. Assumes all new plants are equipped with recirculating cooling tower technology.
3. Assumes all new plants and retrofitted plants are equipped with recirculating cooling tower technology.

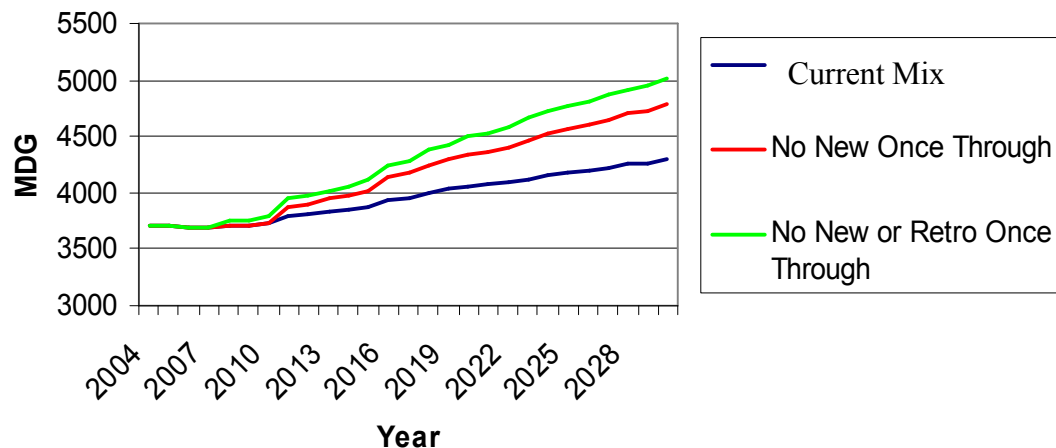


Cooling Technology Scenarios

Thermoelectric Water Use

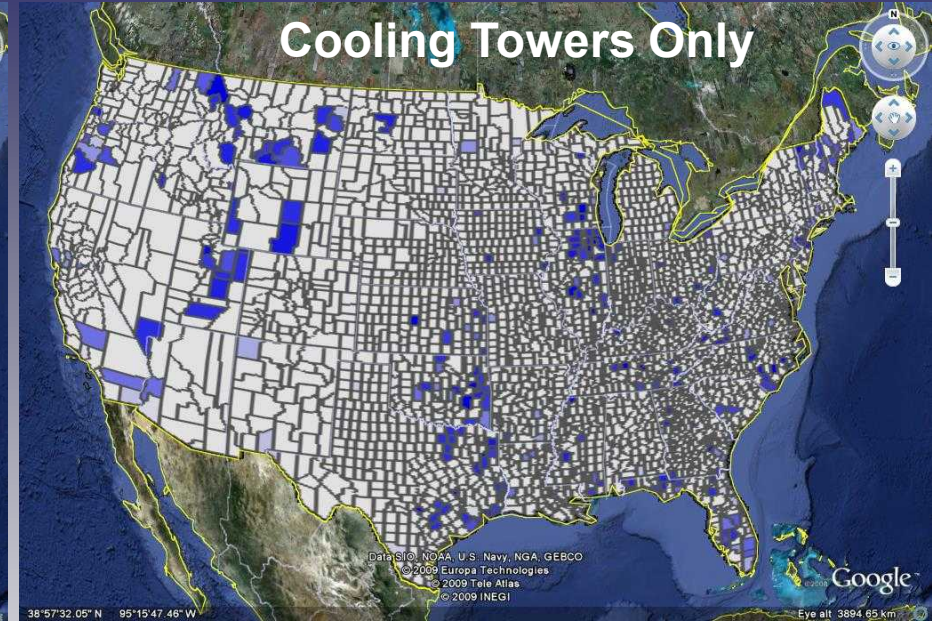
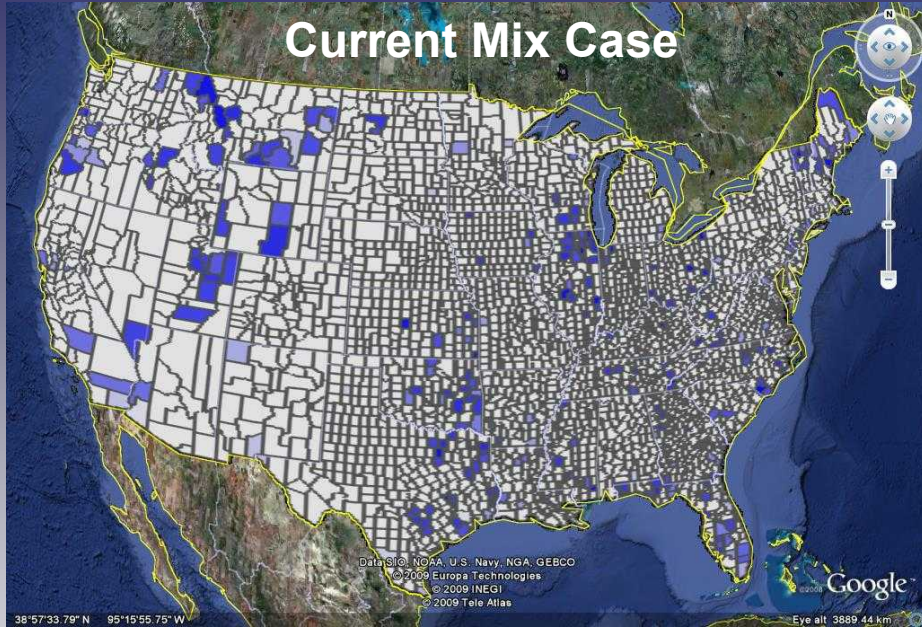


Thermoelectric Water Consumption

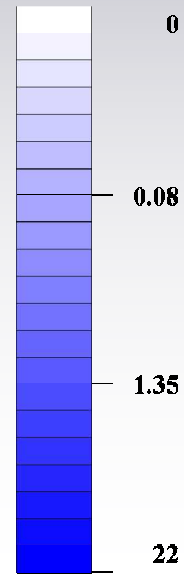


- Current mix has the highest water use, 236.1 BGD in 2030 and lowest water consumption, 4.3 BGD.
- Recirculating cooling towers in all new construction and recommissioned plants has the lowest water use, 184.8 BGD but highest consumption, 5.0 BGD.

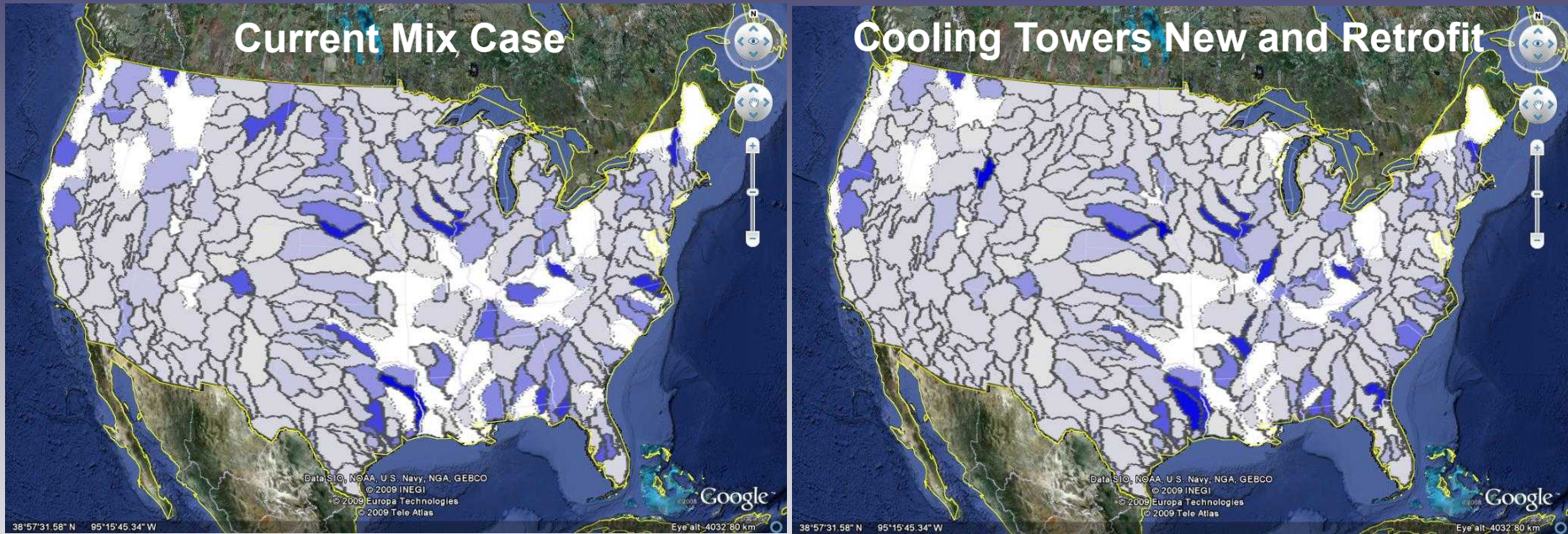
Thermoelectric Water Consumption in 2030



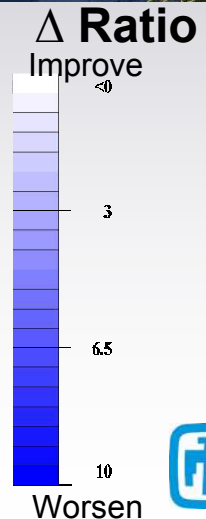
MGD



Change in Supply vs. Demand Ratio 2004 to 2030



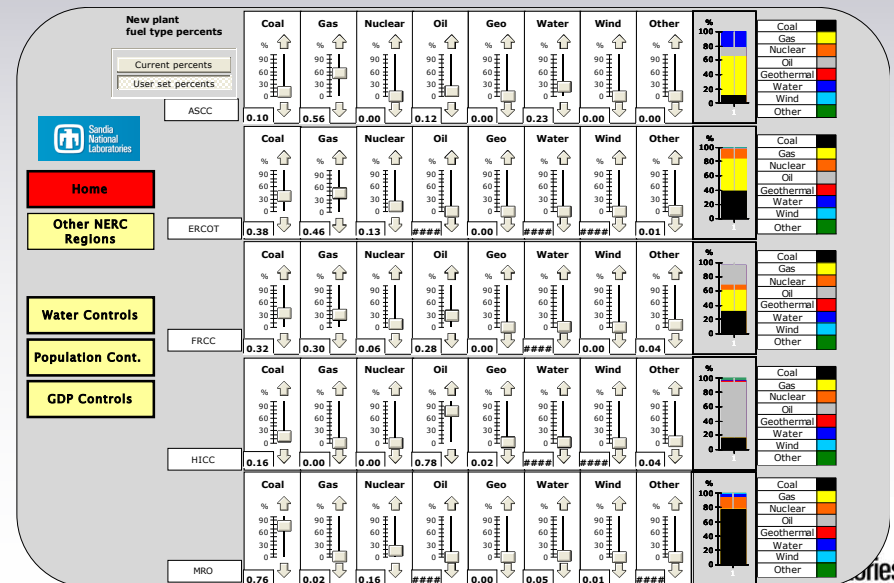
- The fact that water use is the basis for calculating demand while consumption plays heavily into supply, changes offset each other.



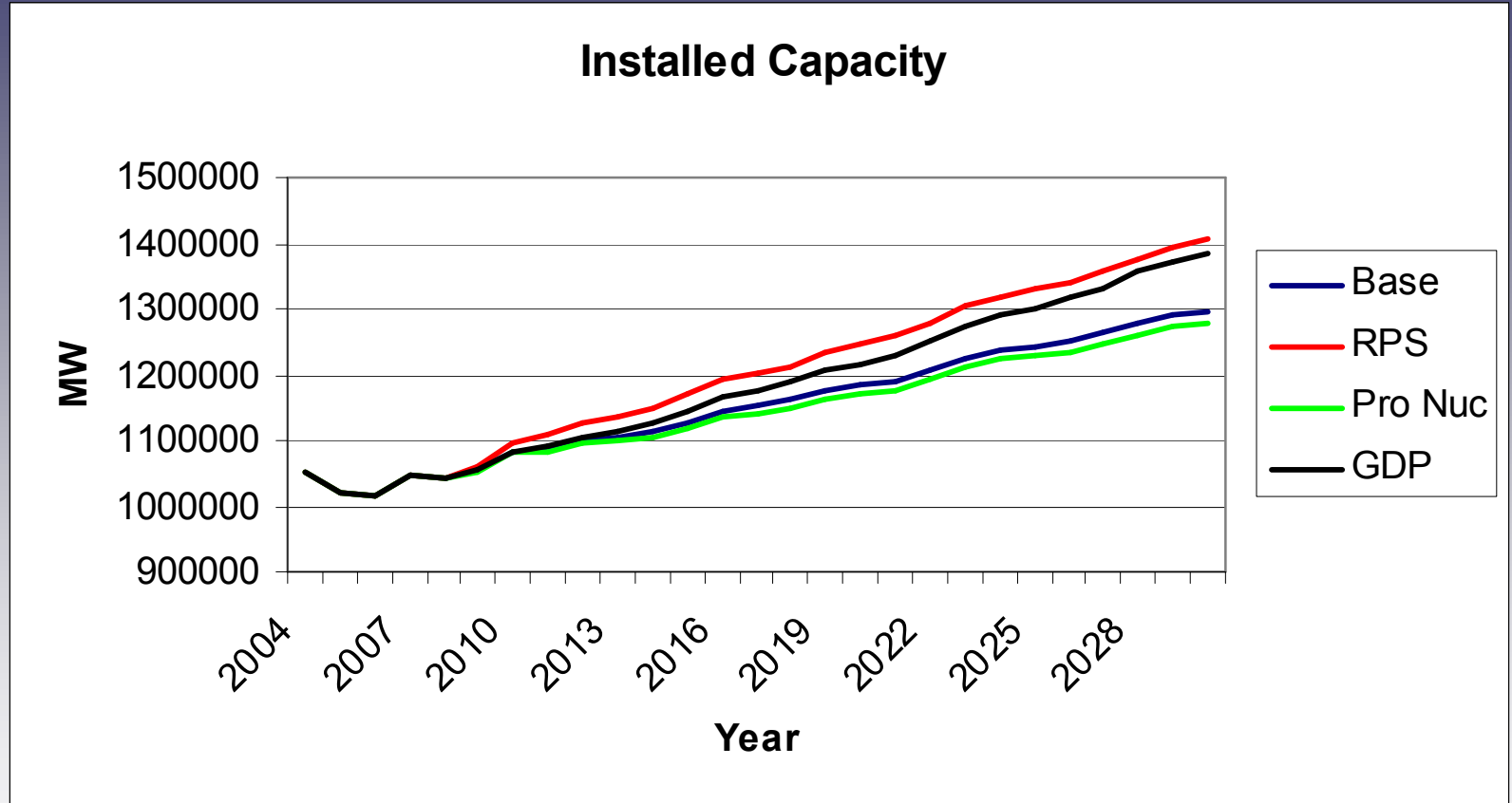
Fuel Mix Scenarios

Investigated four different scenarios

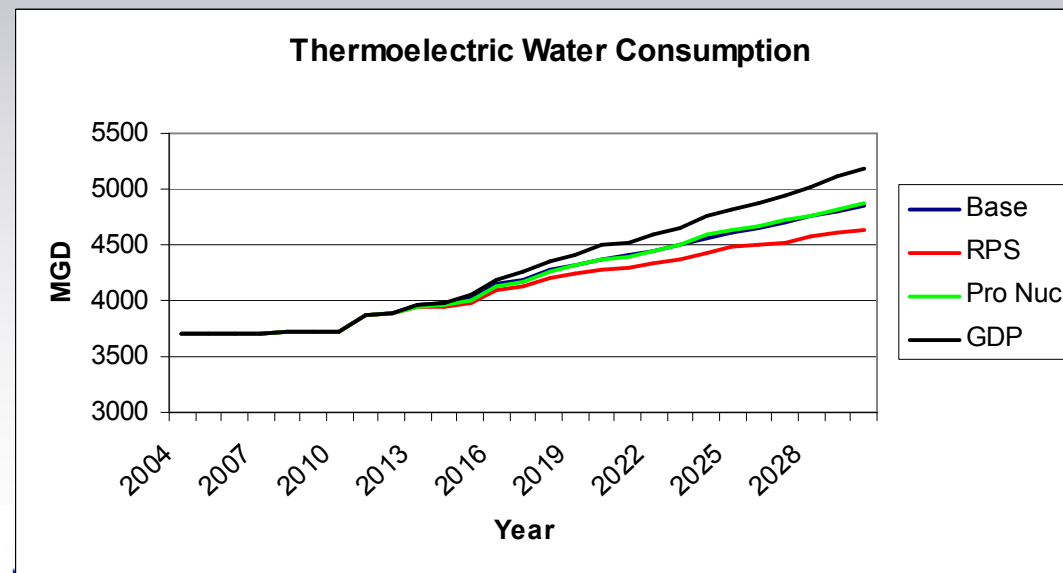
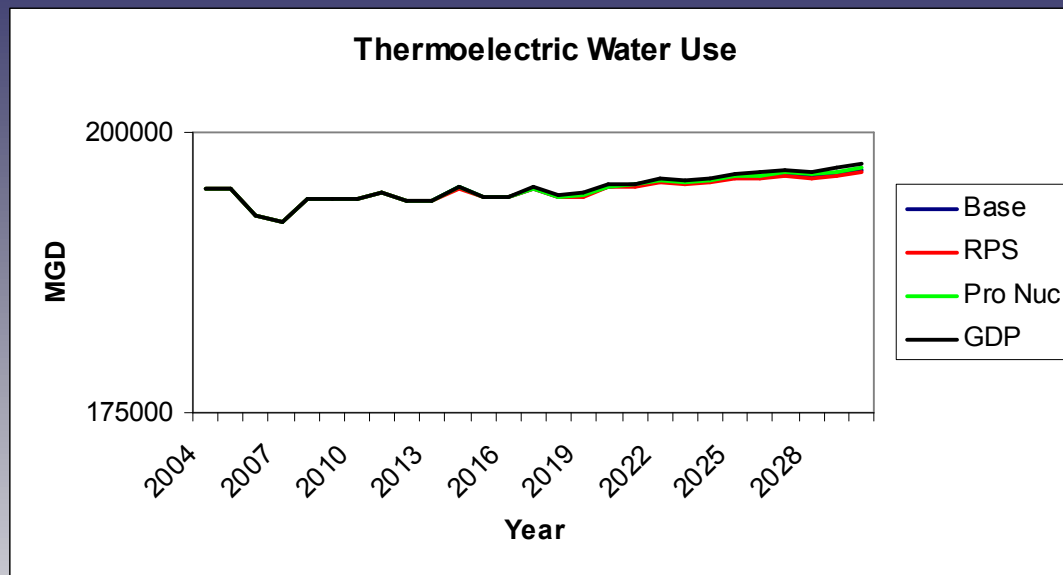
1. Base case which assumes current mix of fuel type into the future (but no new hydro).
2. Assumes a federal RPS of 25% by 2030.
3. Assumes a minimum of 25% nuclear by 2030 with states currently meeting mark increasing to 30%.
4. Assumes the base case but with GDP projection at AEO "high case".



Fuel Mix Scenarios

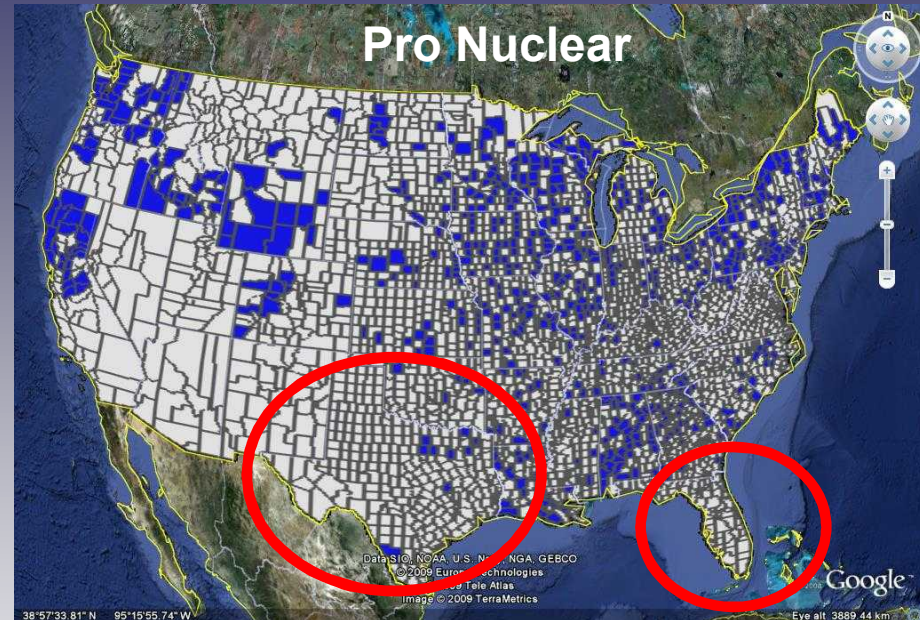
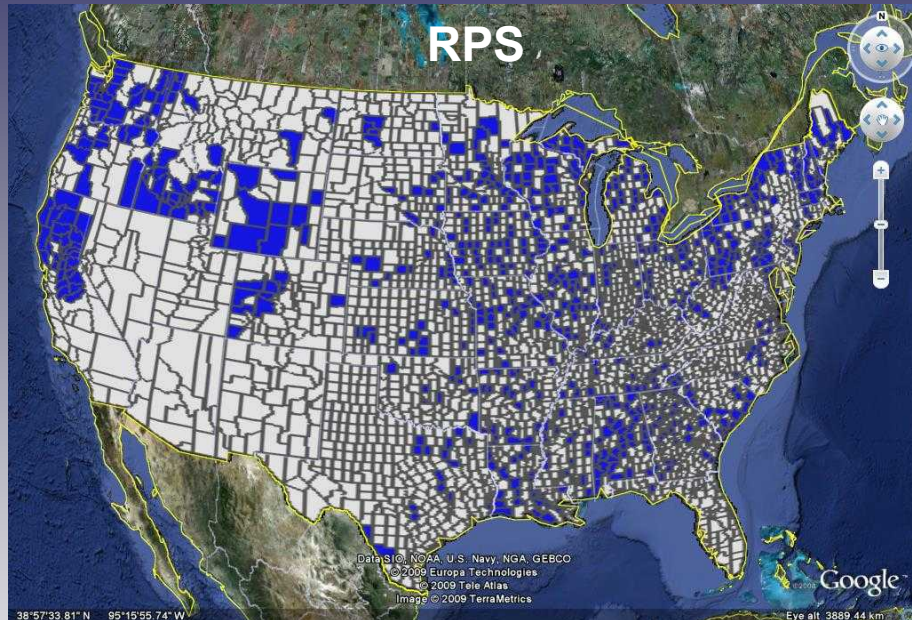


Fuel Mix Scenarios



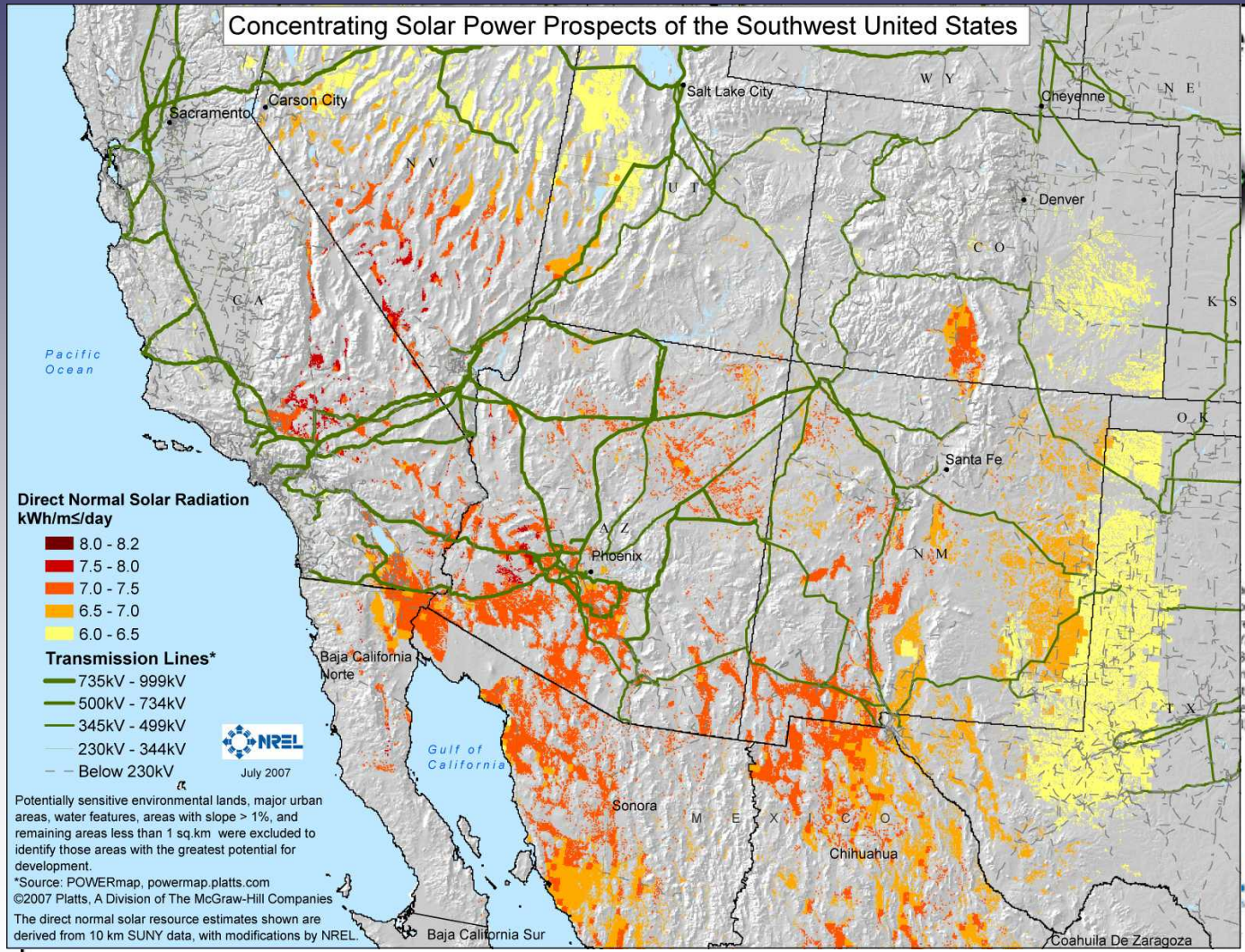
- The GDP case (increase of 6% in electricity demand) yields the highest water consumption at 5.2 BGD.
- RPS case yields the least at 4.6 BGD.
- Shift toward a richer renewables mix is capable of reducing overall thermoelectric water consumption by 5% in 2030, or 23% in terms of total post 2004 water consumption.

Counties Meeting Siting Requirements in 2030



- Florida Reliability Coordinating Council (FRCC) and Texas Regional Entity (TRE) have effectively exhausted siting counties by 2030
- There are large areas of the country with few or no suitable sites.
- While this does not suggest there is nowhere to place a new plant, it does suggest that new sitings will need to consider successively less attractive construction locations.

Next Steps: Constraining Siting



Next Steps: Emissions Control



Capture of 90% of carbon emissions using current near-commercial capture and storage (CCS) technologies will:

- Effectively double water consumption for coal-fired generators
- IGCC with CCS would require less water than current PC plants with no CCS
- Exploring potential options with waters produced through injection

NETL 2007