

2-MWh Flow Battery Application by PacifiCorp in Utah

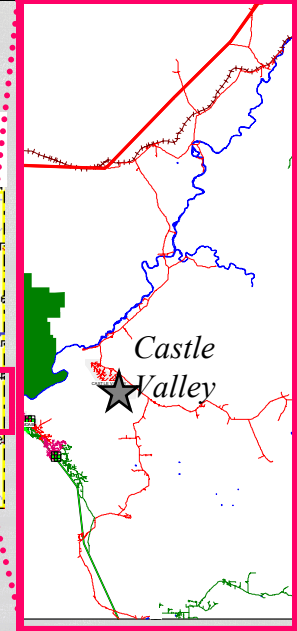
Mark T. Kuntz
VP Marketing & Business Development
mkuntz@vrbpower.com



California Energy Commission Staff Workshop:
Meeting California's Electricity System Challenges through Electricity Energy Storage
February 24, 2005

Rattlesnake#22

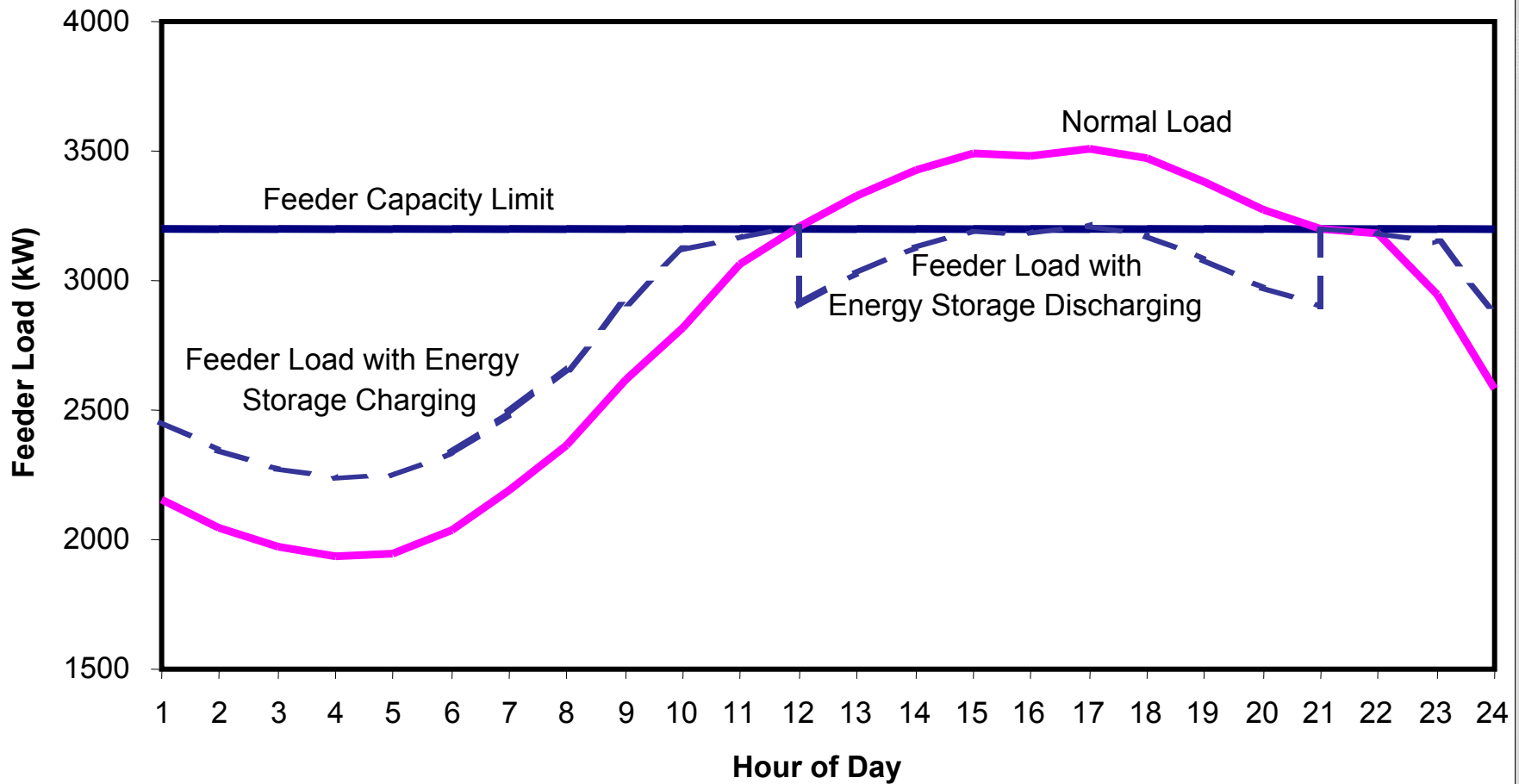
25kV Feeder



- **Environmentally Pristine Southeast Utah**
 - **East of Moab**
 - **East of Arches National Park**
 - **Along Colorado River valley**
- **209-mile long 25kV feeder, with 3-line regulators & 7-reclosers**
- **Possible denial of new connects because feeder cannot supply any significant amount of new load without causing low voltage to existing customers.**
- **Because feeder is so long, reliability and power quality led to Public Service Commission Complaints. PacifiCorp agreed to fix.**
- **Traditional alternatives to add capacity and improve service were very costly and environmentally difficult.**
- **Demonstrated distribution benefits of VRB energy storage as part of PacifiCorp's DG Strategy – 2 MWh, 250kW VRB-ESS (expandable to 1MW) in Castle Valley, Utah**

Daily Load Profile

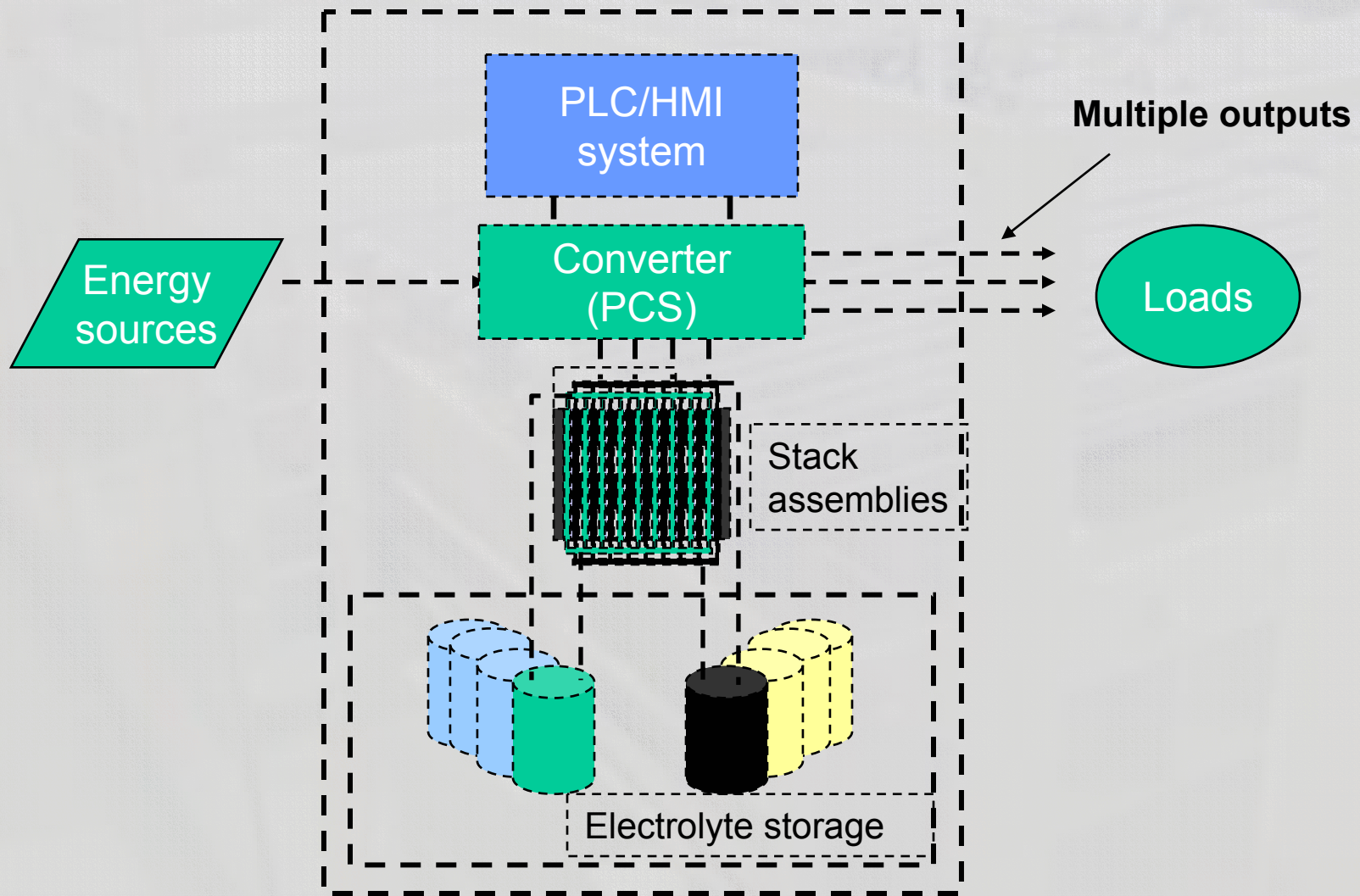
Energy Storage (250kW) Support of Feeder Load



What is a Flow Battery?

- **An electrochemical *energy storage system***
- **Electrolyte is stored outside the cell stack, so power and energy are independent**
- **Based on a reversible chemical reaction within a sealed system**
- **Electricity can be stored indefinitely in a liquid with very low self discharge**
- **Energy can be recovered almost instantaneously (< 5ms)**

Flow Battery Components



Technical Advantages of Flow Batteries

- **High-energy efficiencies: 70% round trip.**
- **Storage capacity can be easily increased by adding electrolyte.**
- **Designed for unattended operation with very low maintenance costs (\$0.008/kWh).**
- **Ambient/Low operating temperature.**
- **Can be discharged and charged >13,000 times without performance degradation.**
- **Intelligent, programmable PCS provides four-quadrant control and simultaneous real and reactive energy (VARs).**

Environmental Advantages

The Green Battery

- **No heavy metals such as lead, nickel, zinc and cadmium**
- **No air emission; minimal sound emissions**
- **Electrolytes have indefinite life**
 - **No disposal issues**
 - **Completely reusable**
- **PVC piping system**
- **Fiberglass tanks**









CAUTION
HOT SURFACES
IN COLLISION HAZARD
DURING OPERATION
SEE EXTREME CAUTION

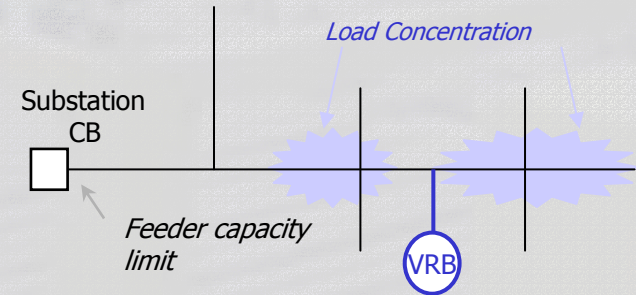
CAUTION
HOT SURFACES
IN COLLISION HAZARD
DURING OPERATION
SEE EXTREME CAUTION

TANK 12
WATER TREATMENT

Firestop
Firestop
Firestop

Cost Benefit Analysis

- **Alternate line and substation costs - \$4million with 3 year lead times**
- **Diesel Engine – (DG) - polluting , difficult to permit, long distance from fuel supply**
- **CAPEX \$500/kWh (first in USA)**
- **O&M \$0.008/kWh discharged**
- **VAR support – regulation control reduces need for switched capacitors**
- **Reduces line losses by ~40 kW**
- **Charge at night, discharge on peak – arbitrage value**



Cost Benefit - Capital Deferral (continued)

- **Capital deferral - 7.5%, 10 years. Cost of upgrade \$4 million**
- **Cost of VRB-ESS = \$1,000,000 (\$500/kWh)**
- **Arbitrage savings – 3 to 4 c/kWh = \$17,280/year**
- **Net Annual savings = (\$4 million - \$1 million) x 7.5% plus arbitrage savings = \$242,420**
- **IRR = 20% (before tax, unleveraged, 10 years)**

PacifiCorp Flow Battery Future Plans

- **Advanced application development:**
 - **Advanced power quality applications**
 - **Advanced islanded operations**
 - **Adaptive charge/discharge energy arbitrage control algorithms**
 - **Advanced dynamic voltage control algorithms**
 - **Dynamic stability control algorithms**
 - **Wind farm application studies**
- **Increases to capacity through:**
 - **Additional cell stacks**
 - **Higher capacity inverter**
 - **Increased molarity of the electrolyte**
- **Can relocate to new site once transmission line and sub is built**
- **Investigating future telecom site and substation battery replacements**