

# ROLE OF GAS TURBINES IN THE CHANGING ENERGY MARKET

**Worldwide Perspective** 

**Bobby Noble** 

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### **EPRI**

## Leading Collaborative Energy R&D Around the World

EPRI advances energy technologies and informs decision-making through ~\$420M in collaborative annual research involving nearly 400 entities in ~40 countries - spanning the generation, delivery, and use of electricity.



#### **ENGAGING**

- Utilities
- Academia
- OEMs
- Regulators



#### LISTENING

- Financial Community
- Policy Makers
- Consumer Advocates
- Media



years

10-15

#### The Energy Transition

#### **Decarbonization**

Accelerate economy-wide, low-carbon solutions

- Electric sector decarbonization
- Transmission and grid flexibility: storage, demand, EVs
- Efficient electrification

Achieve a net-zero clean energy system

- Ubiquitous clean electricity: renewables, advanced nuclear, CCUS
- Negative-emission technologies
- Low-carbon resources: hydrogen and related, low-carbon fuels, biofuels, and biogas

Clean



#### **Transformation**

Drive affordability of a clean and resilient energy system through digital transformation

- Power system modernization: pervasive sensors, monitoring, advanced analytics using AI
- Upgraded and expanded communications infrastructure and control systems

Making Energy More
Affordable

#### Resiliency

Mitigate climate impacts and cyber/physical risks

- System and asset hardening
- Improved response
- Faster recovery
- Cybersecurity

Future proof energy system design basis

- Resilient power system design
- Advanced asset design and strategic undergrounding
- Smart integration of energy carriers

Reliable



#### Decarbonization Pathways Enabled by Innovation

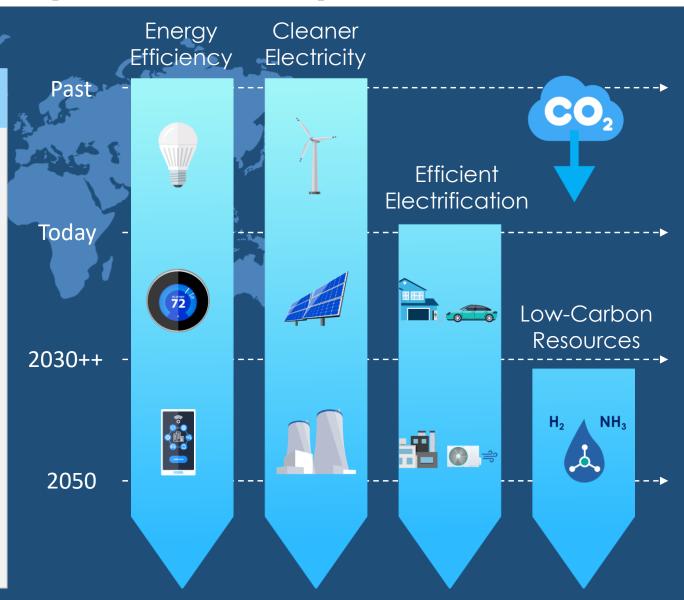
#### **Decarbonization**

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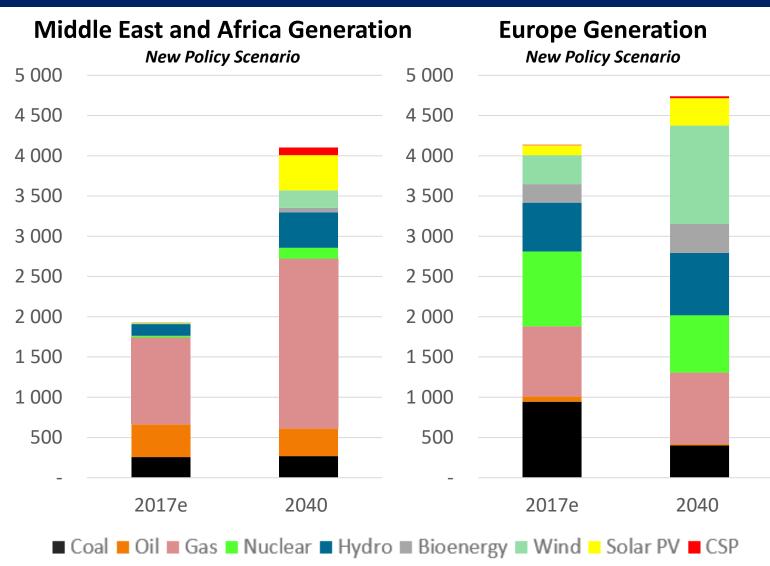


#### International Generation

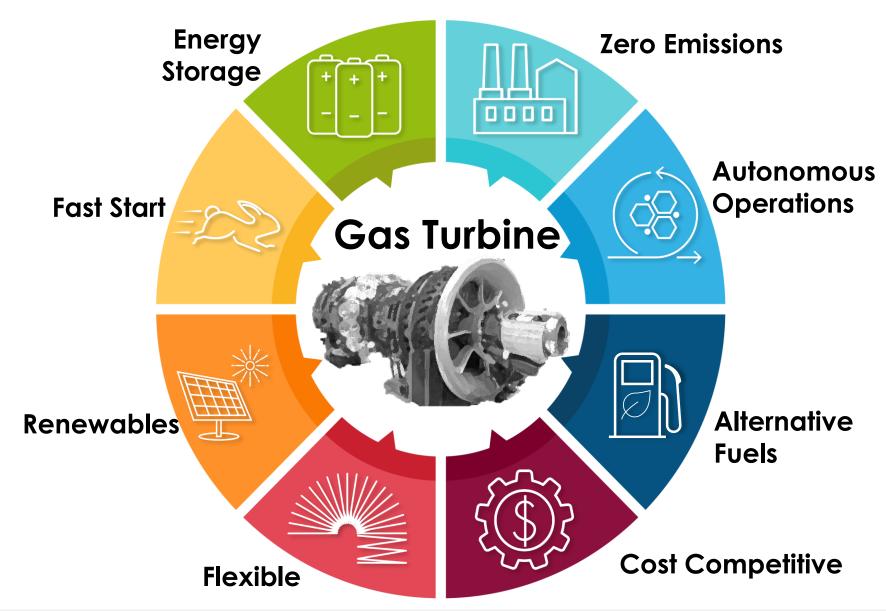
## Significant Variation Large Reliance on Gas

- Evolving Generation
  Forecasts Internationally
  - World Energy Outlook (2018)
- ➤ Growing Gas Reliance in Middle East and Africa

➤ Continued Gas Reliance in Europe

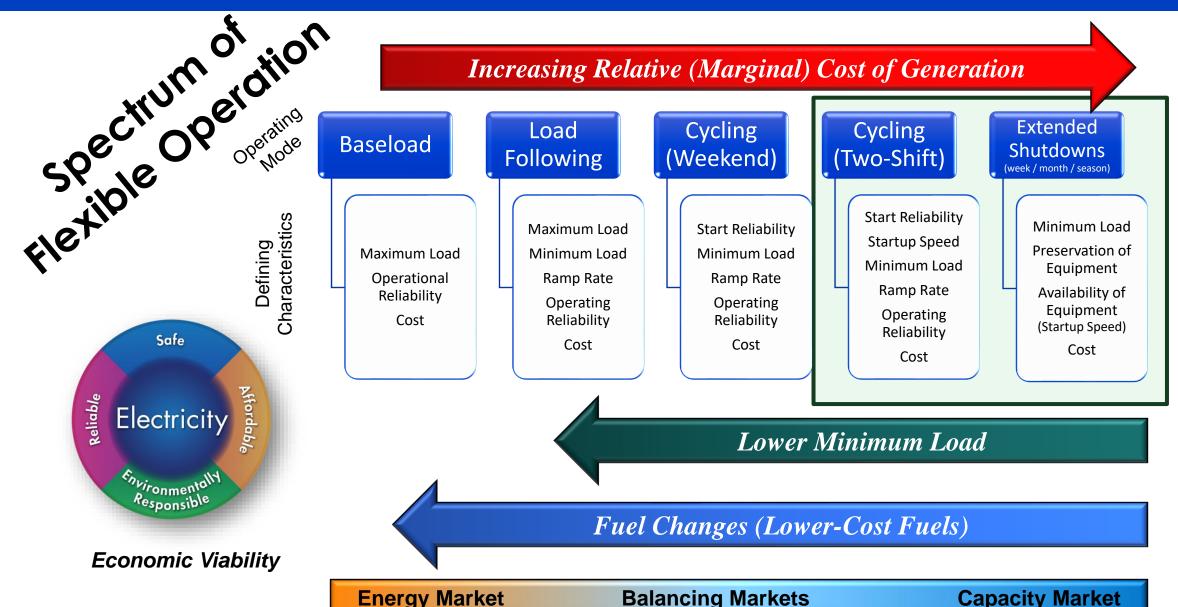


#### What is the Role for Gas Turbines in the Future?

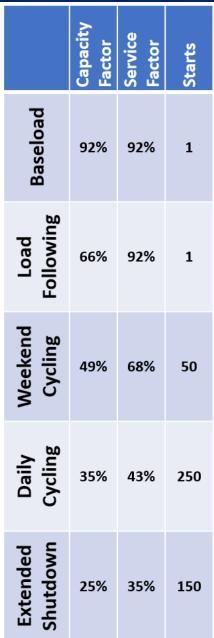




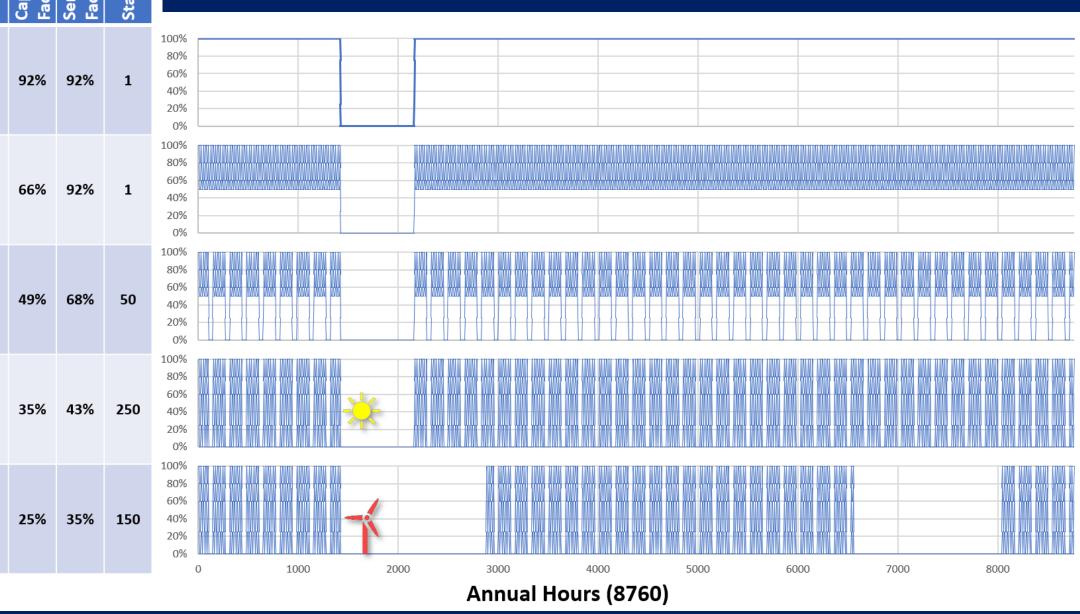
The Flexible Gas Turbine



Retrofits for flexibility are possible but economics can be challenging (especially for ramp rate)



#### Different Thermal Plant Annual Operation Modes

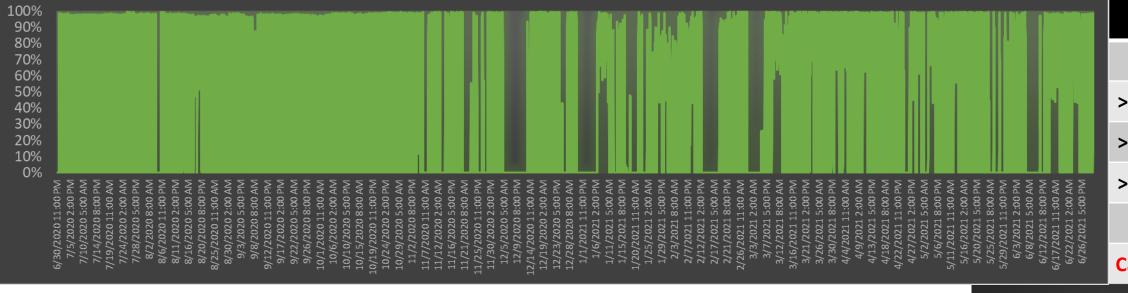


#### New 600MW CCGT

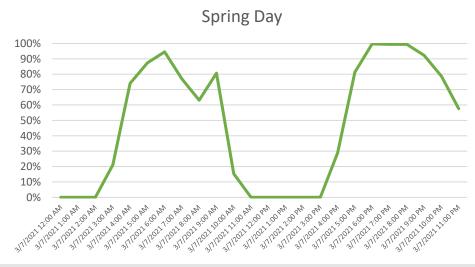
#### California Operation

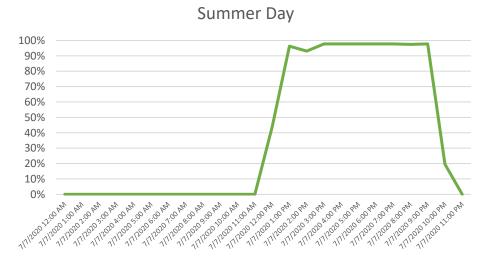
**Built on Capacity Contract** 

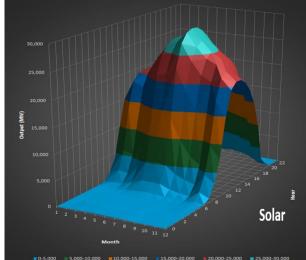
Daily on/off Operation -



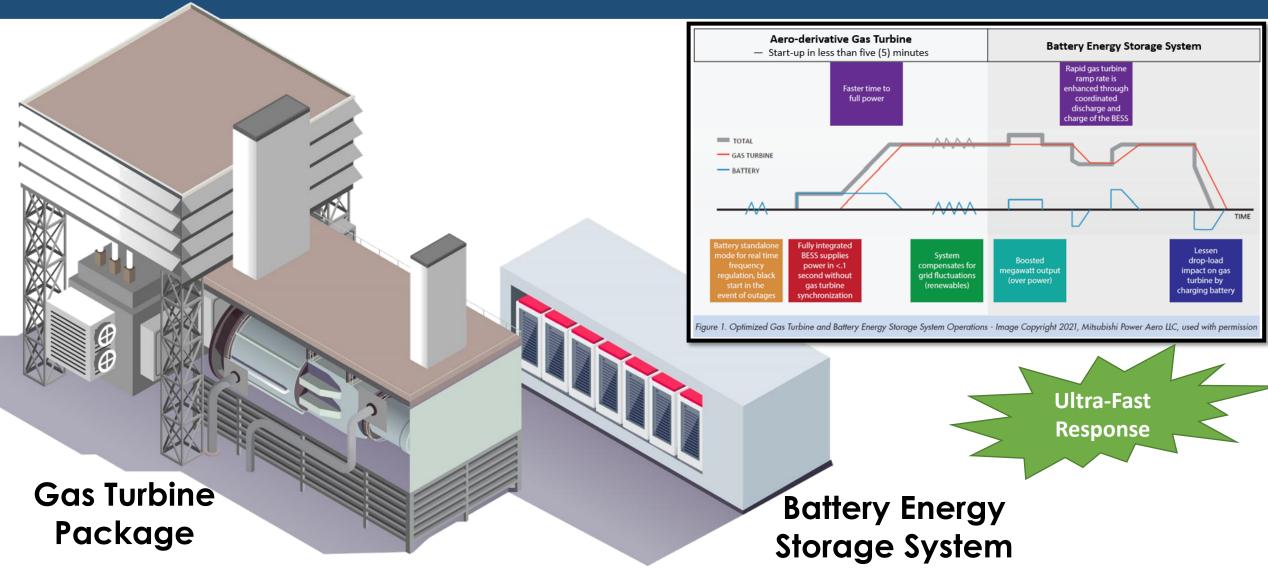








## Gas Turbine + Battery + Hybrid System Controller = Hybrid Gas Turbine (Hybrid GT + BESS)



#### The Carbon-Free/Neutral Gas Turbine



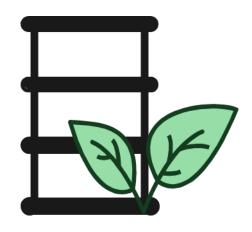
#### CO<sub>2</sub> Mitigation for Natural Gas

## **Different Interventions**Optimal Solutions?

The Fuel

The Process

The Destination



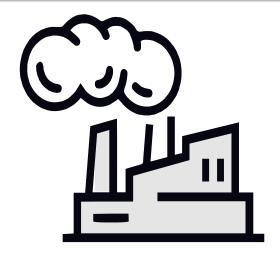


Renewable Natural Gas

Hydrogen

Ammonia

Biofuel/HVO



#### CO<sub>2</sub> Capture

Pre-combustion

Post-combustion

Oxy-combustion



#### **Carbon Dioxide Removal**

**Direct Air Capture** 

Bio-energy with CCS



#### Gas Turbine Hydrogen Challenges



⇒ Full Range H<sub>2</sub> Capabilities

⇒ High NOx



⇒ Limited H<sub>2</sub>
Capabilities

⇒ Low NOx

Next Gen DLN Technology

⇒ Full Range H<sub>2</sub>
Capabilities

⇒ Low NOx





Current Development Focus & Need



Click Here for Article

# Hydrogen substitution for natural gas in turbines: Opportunities, issues, and challenges

6.18.2021

By Ben Emerson and Tim Lieuwen, Georgia Institute of Technology

Bobby Noble and Neva Espinoza, Electric Power Research Institute



Purpose to identify the opportunities & challenges associated with utilizing hydrogen in energy conversion devices

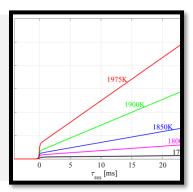


#### **EPRI Supporting Low Carbon Future**



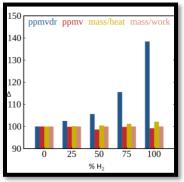
H<sub>2</sub> Combustion Fundamental NOx Production Limit Study

- Current high hydrogen capabilities are for older, diffusion-based GT combustion systems
- Questions to Resolve:
  - How low can we expect NOx for future dry, low-NOx (DLN) H<sub>2</sub> systems?
  - What is the fundamental NOx limit for premixed H<sub>2</sub>/Air combustion?



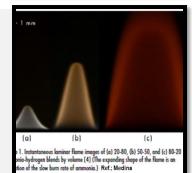
Fuel % H<sub>2</sub> vs. Emissions
Correction

- Even with equal mass of NOx, typical corrected values are skewed w/ H<sub>2</sub> in the fuel mixture
  - Scaling by work produced can minimize this effect
    - These effects are a result of replacing CO<sub>2</sub> with H<sub>2</sub>O and increasing excess O<sub>2</sub>



**Ammonia Combustion Kinetics Project** 

- Opportunity for NH3 and/or NH3+H2 blends as a carbon-free fuel for gas turbine power generation
  - Current combustion physics models for NH3 and NH3+H2 blends not anchored to higher pressure data
  - Detailed understanding of the combustion kinetics is necessary to better design for inclusion, specifically for determining possibilities for low NOx technology







#### **EPRI Hydrogen Blending Demonstration Projects**

Recent Aeroderivative and Frame Unit Demonstrations



- 44% Green Hydrogen Blend
- Standard Combustors/Water Injection
- Maintained NOx & CO reduction



• DLN Combustion System

• Increased Turndown Capability

Maintained NOx

