



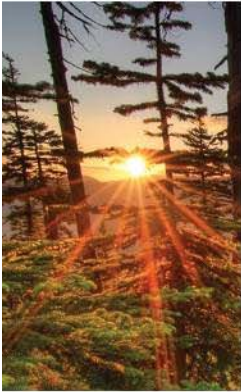
# ACEEE Hot Water Forum

A Utility Case for Continued Innovation in Storage Water Heating  
February 22, 2016

Holly Meyer, NW Natural  
Energy Policy and Sustainability Manager



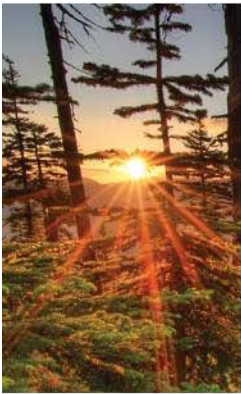
# WHY?



- Why does a gas utility care about efficient water heat?
- Three perspectives:
  - Environmental ethic
  - Marketing
  - Resource planning
- The embedded challenge
- An optimistic future



# Background: NW Natural



- Largest independent natural gas utility in the Pacific Northwest
- 700,000 customers
- 1100 employees
- Headquarters in Portland, OR
- Efficiency programs delivered by third party – Energy Trust of Oregon
- Usage/revenue decoupled





# Sustainability

## Electricity

SOURCE ENERGY

**100**  
MMBtu

EXTRACTION, PROCESSING  
& TRANSPORTATION

▼ **5% Energy Loss**  
**95** MMBtu



GENERATION

▼ **64% Energy Loss**  
**34** MMBtu



DISTRIBUTION

▼ **6% Energy Loss**  
**32** MMBtu



DELIVERED  
TO CUSTOMER

**32**  
MMBtu



*\*Based on 2007 actual generation mix of all energy sources*

## Natural Gas

SOURCE ENERGY

**100**  
MMBtu

EXTRACTION, PROCESSING  
& TRANSPORTATION

▼ **7% Energy Loss**  
**93** MMBtu



GENERATION



DISTRIBUTION

▼ **1% Energy Loss**  
**92** MMBtu



DELIVERED  
TO CUSTOMER

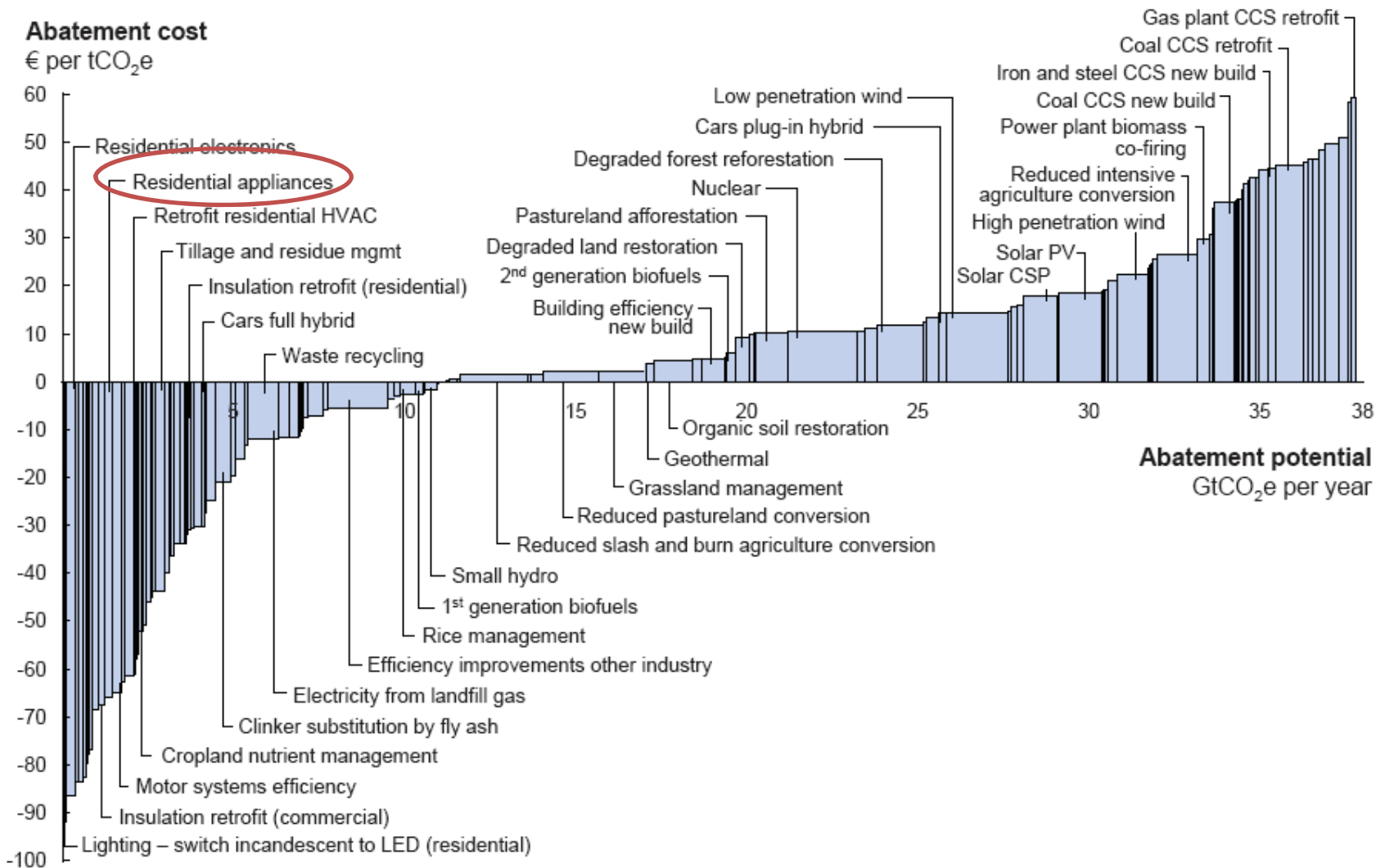
**92**  
MMBtu





# Carbon Reduction Costs

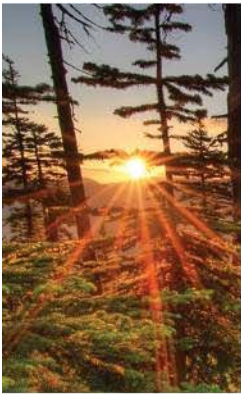
## Global GHG abatement cost curve beyond business-as-usual – 2030



Note: The curve presents an estimate of the maximum potential of all technical GHG abatement measures below €60 per tCO<sub>2</sub>e if each lever was pursued aggressively. It is not a forecast of what role different abatement measures and technologies will play.  
 Source: Global GHG Abatement Cost Curve v2.0



# Marketing



- Impacts of decoupling
  - Aligns shareholder and customer interests
  - New goal = More meters (not greater usage)
  - Path to goal = happy customers, low cost energy



	50 Gal (tank)	Eff	Annual Energy Cost
<b>Electric</b>			
Conventional	tank	0.95	\$501.57
Heat pump	tank	2.0	\$238.25
<b>Natural Gas</b>			
Conventional	tank	0.67	\$222.43
Tankless- non condense	tankless	0.82	\$181.74
Tankless- condense	tankless	0.95	\$156.87

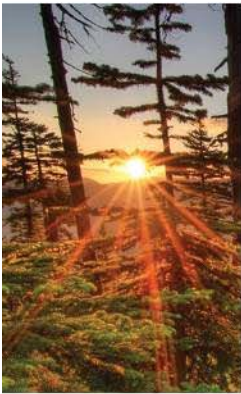
Assumptions

Therm price	99 cents
Kilowatt price	10.8 cents
Estimated use/day	64 gallons





# Least Cost Planning

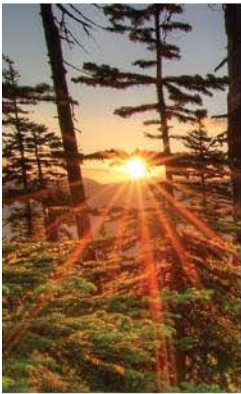


- Goal and mandate to acquire all “cost-effective conservation”
- EE delivery partner - Energy Trust of Oregon
- Stand alone utilities
- Incenting <1% of water heater replacements
- OAR vs reality on “conservation”
- Fuel switching delicate subject

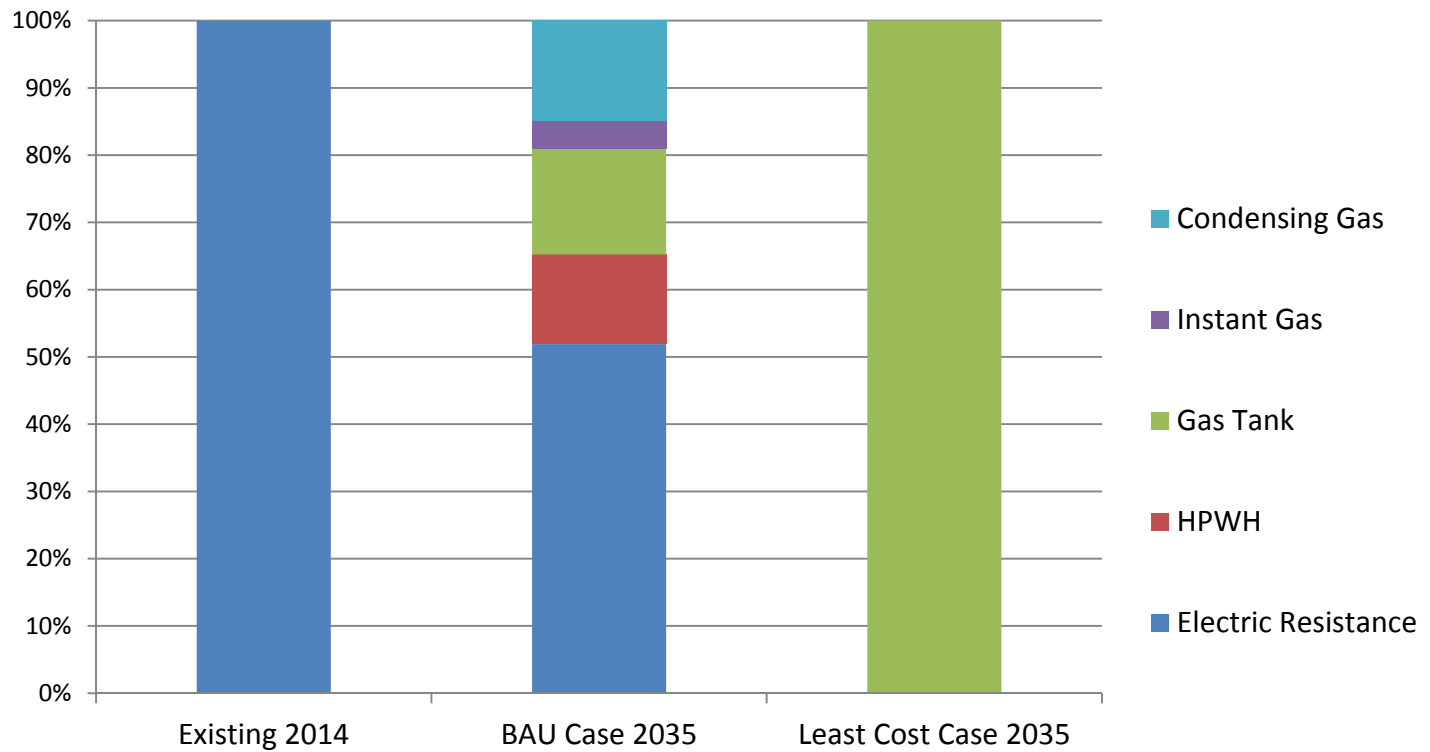




# The Challenge



**Marginal Market Shares (%) - Oregon, Single Family, Gas FAF, <=55 Gallons, Electric Resistance is starting water heater**

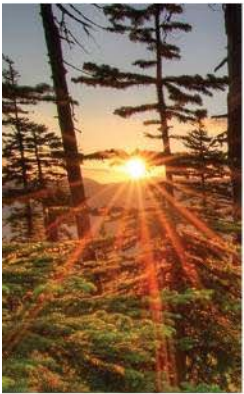


Source: NWPPC's "Direct Use of Natural Gas: Fuel Choice from the Consumer's Perspective" January 13, 2015





# The Future



Drop-in replacement  
for condensing and  
non-condensing gas  
water heaters



Energy Factor  $\sim 1.3$

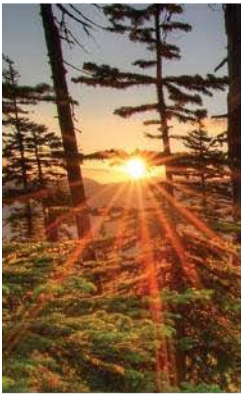
Field testing 2014-15

Lab testing 2016





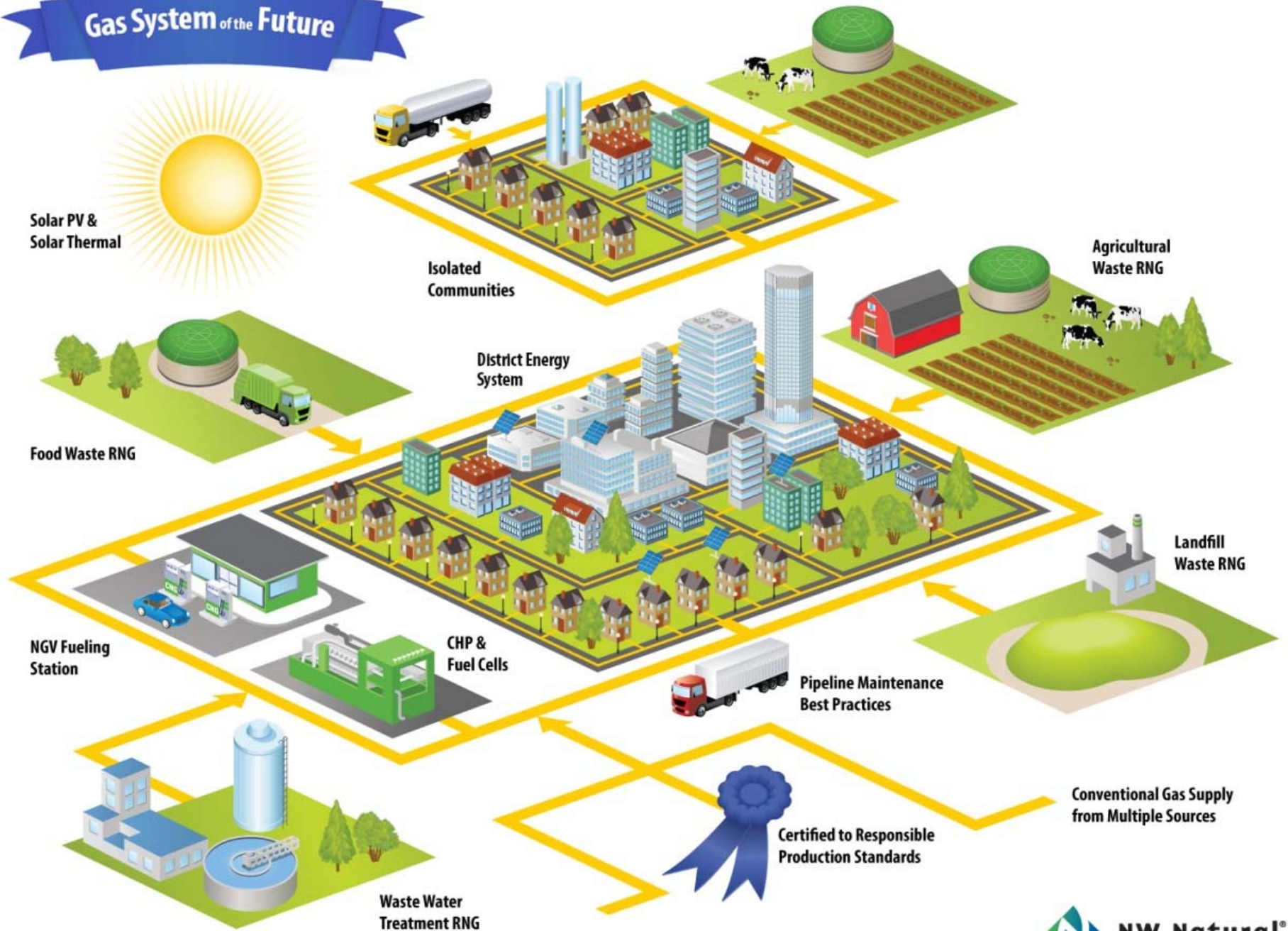
# It gets even better



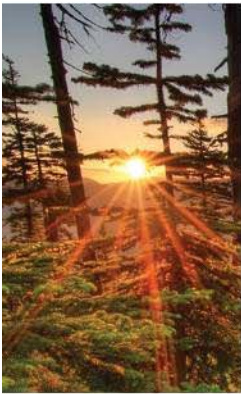
Approximate Cost To Heat 100 Gallons of Water					
Fuel	Heater Type	EF	\$	Savings	%
Natural Gas	Gas Heat Pump	1.30	\$0.59		
Natural Gas	Condensing Tankless	0.90	\$0.86	\$0.26	44%
Natural Gas	Tankless	0.82	\$0.94	\$0.35	59%
Natural Gas	Gas Storage	0.70	\$1.10	\$0.51	86%
Electric	Electric Heat Pump	2.00	\$1.13	\$0.54	91%
Natural Gas	Gas Storage	0.60	\$1.28	\$0.69	117%
Electric	Electric Resistance	0.95	\$2.37	\$1.78	301%

- ❖ Natural Gas: \$1.20 per Therm
- ❖ Electricity: \$0.12 per kW-hr
- ❖ Ambient: 68 °F
- ❖ Temperature Rise: 77F (53F-130F)

# Gas System of the Future



# Contact info



Holly Meyer  
Energy Policy and Sustainability Manager

[holly.meyer@nwnatural.com](mailto:holly.meyer@nwnatural.com)

503-319-7984



*Halloween 2011*