



**coalition for green capital**

# **Nevada Green Bank Study Deliverable 1 – Nevada Clean Energy Market & Policy Review**

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*April 2016*

# Project Deliverables

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*Review*

(1) Market &  
Policy Review

(2) Green Bank  
Review

(3) Market Sizing

*Synthesis*

(4) Financing  
Gaps & Needs  
Assessment

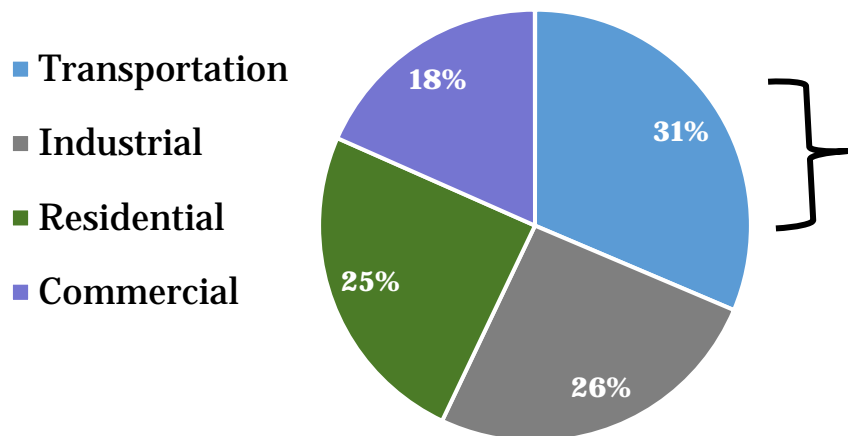
*Recommendations*

(5) Green Bank &  
Financing  
Solutions

(6) Next Steps

# Transportation is largest use of energy; electricity mostly from natural gas & coal

## Energy Use in NV by Sector

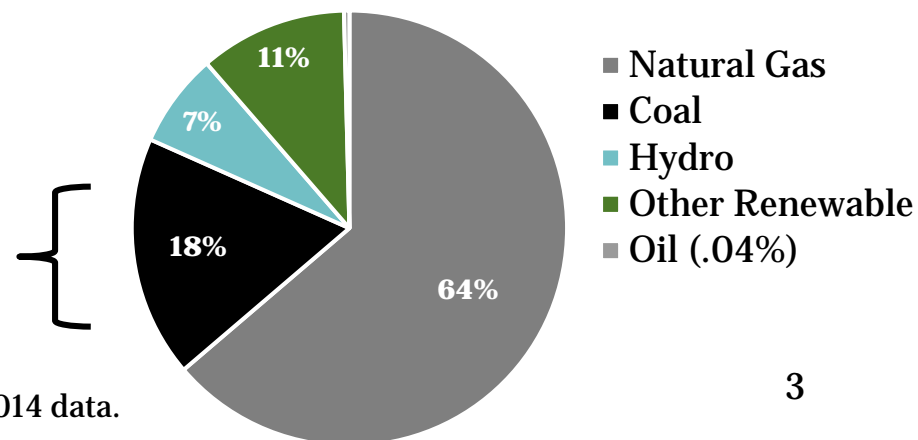


Transportation is single largest user  
Buildings and Industry is 69%

## Electricity Generation in NV by Source

Electricity generation dominated by fossil fuels, primarily natural gas.

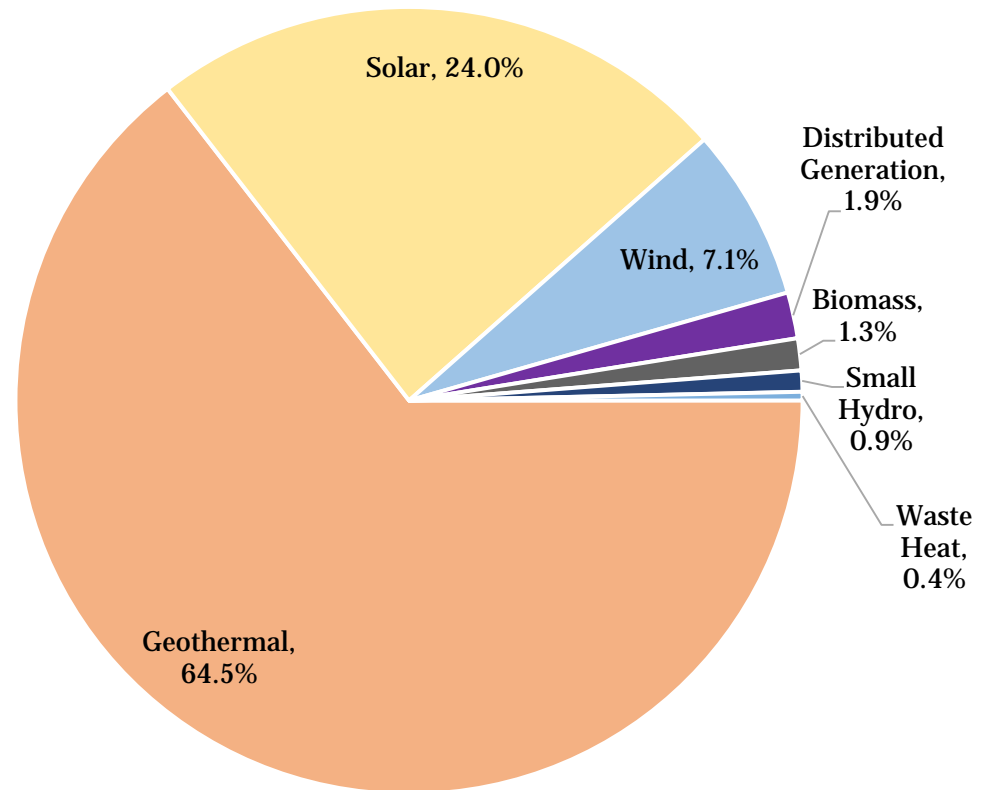
Coal second largest and falling



# Most renewable energy is large hydro, followed by Geothermal

- Largest single renewable energy source in Nevada is Hoover Dam, which has recently suffered declines
- Geothermal followed by solar are large contributors

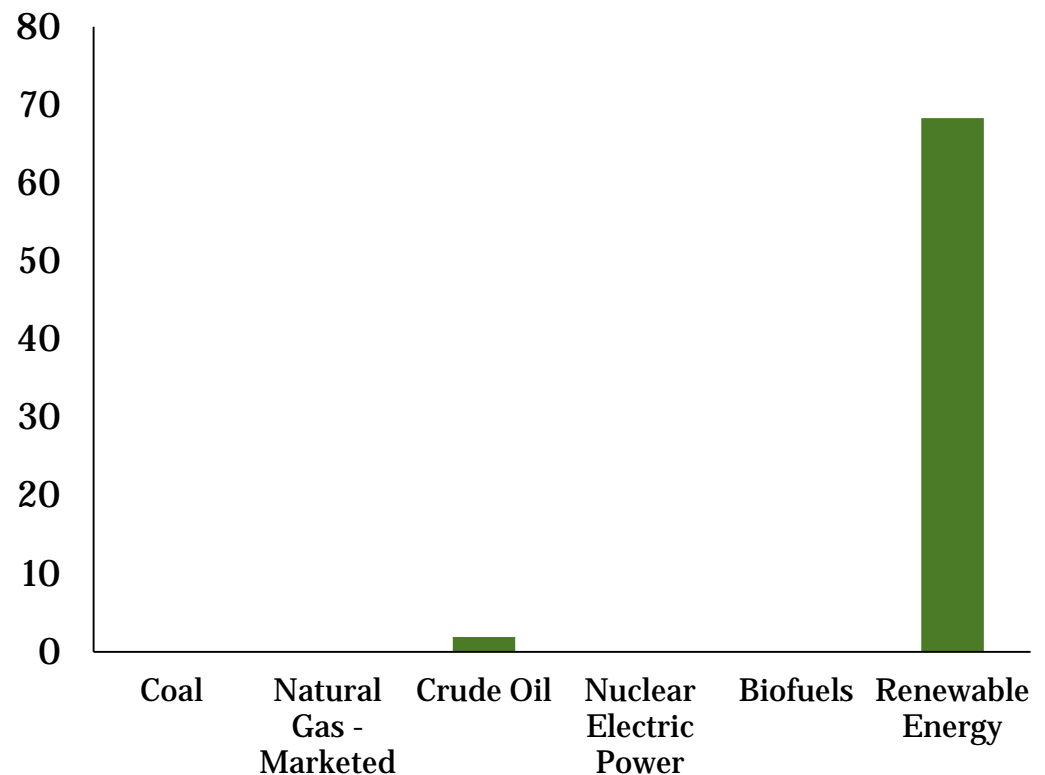
**Renewable Electricity generation in NV, excluding large hydro, 2014**



# Nevada highly dependent on energy imports

- About 90% of all energy (natural gas, coal, gasoline) used in Nevada comes from outside the state.
- Nearly 100% of all “home grown” energy in Nevada is from renewable sources

**Energy Resources Produced in Nevada, 2013 (trillion BTU)**



# Electricity prices below US average, but residential prices higher than others in Mountain West

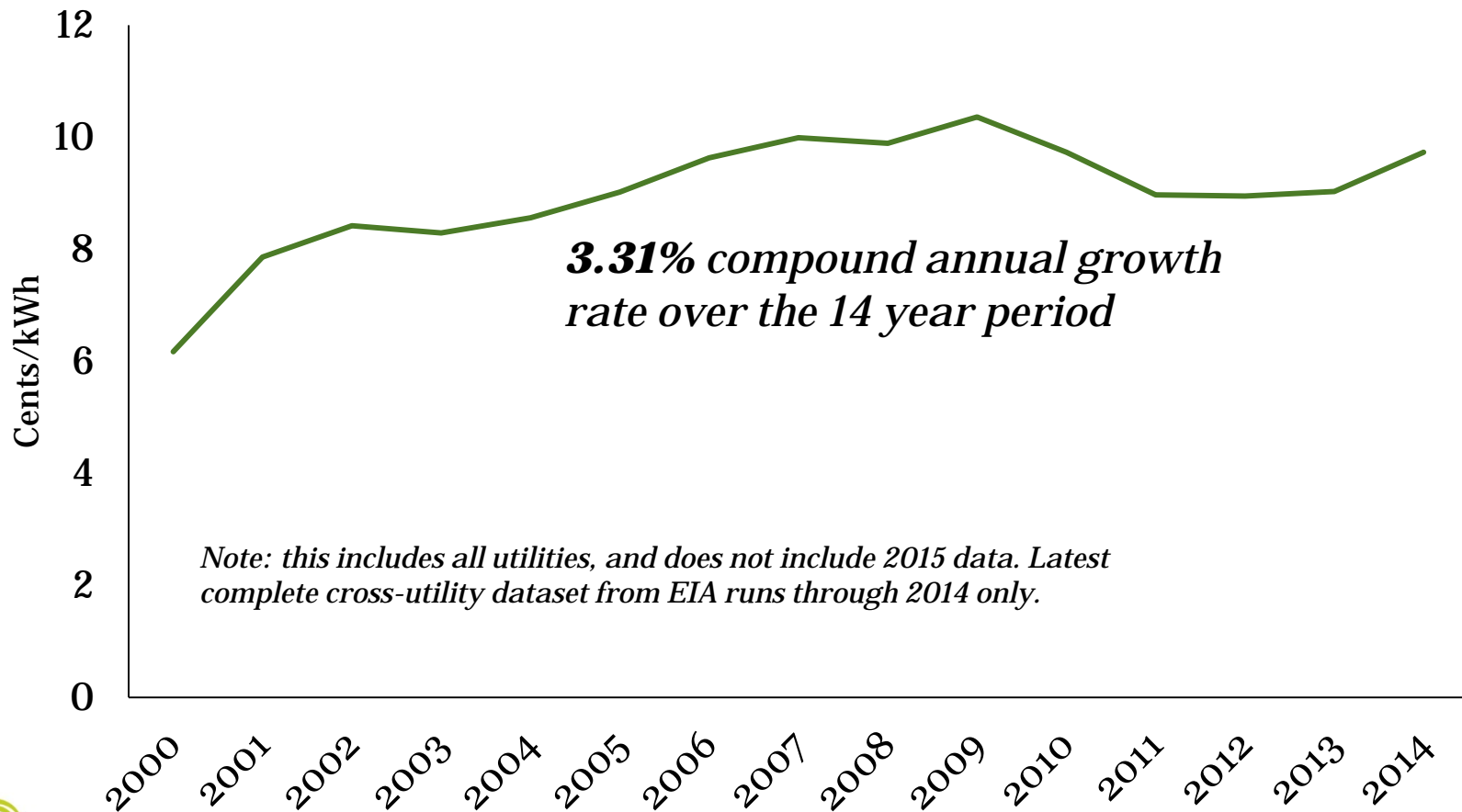
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- Residential retail electricity prices in NV are slightly below the US average
- Residential customers pay higher rates than other states in the Mountain West
- Commercial customers pay below Mountain West average

Average Residential Electricity Price 2014	
State	Cents/kWh
NV	12.93
NM	12.28
CO	12.18
AZ	11.90
UT	10.65
OR	10.47
ID	9.72

# Electricity rates in NV show modest uptick; future rates tied in part to variable prices of natural gas

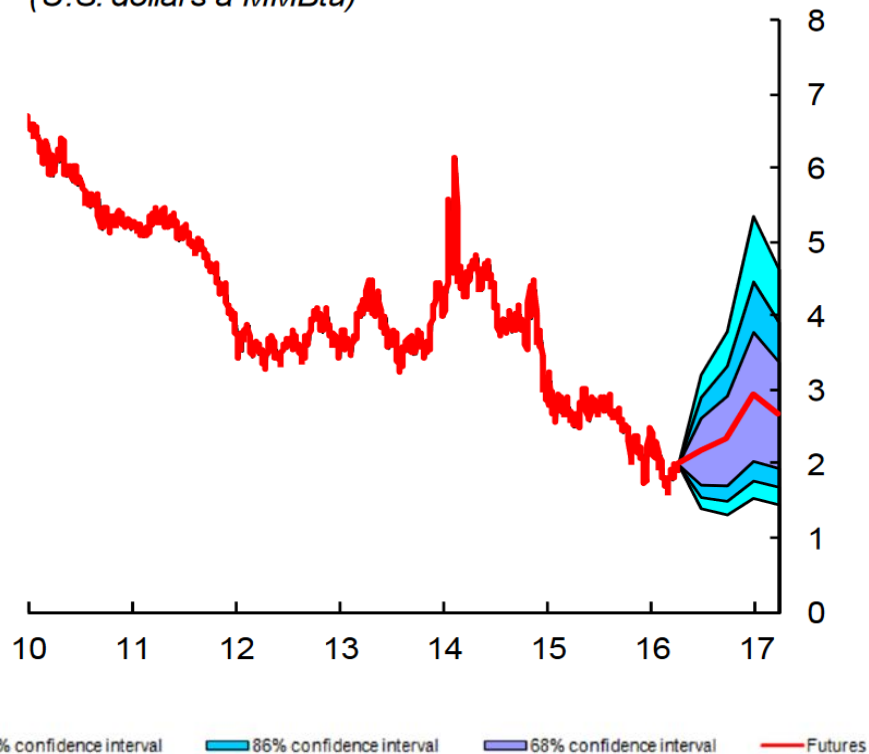
## NV Average Retail Electricity Price 2000-2014



# Nevada consumers exposed to natural gas price variability in commodity markets

- Natural gas prices are at historic lows, meaning lower prices for utility customers
- NV Energy does not engage in long term gas purchasing or hedging; customers exposed to any potential rise in gas prices dollar-for-dollar.

**Natural Gas**  
(U.S. dollars a MMBtu)





# SB 123 means NV more dependent on natural gas; large scale solar prices largely fixed & falling

## Impact & New Power Plants Driven by SB 123

- Nevada's grid will be cleaner
- Most new replacement generation from SB-123 coming from natural gas
- RPS currently has little effect on fuel mix

Owned capacity (not reflected in current rates):

Plant Name	Fuel	Capacity	Total Cost (million \$)
<b>LV Cogen</b>	Nat. Gas	274 MW	\$148.9
<b>Sun Peak</b>	Nat. Gas	210 MW	\$18
<b>Nellis Solar PV II</b>	Solar	15 MW	\$54.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>511</b>	<b>\$221.4</b>

Power Purchase Agreements: 100MW each

Plant Name	Fuel	PPA price	Notes
<b>Boulder Solar</b>	Solar	\$46/MWh	fixed price
<b>Playa Solar 2</b>	Solar	49/MWh	levelized

# Renewable Energy Tax Abatement program provides incentives to help grow utility-scale solar market

## Renewable Energy Tax Abatement Projects 2015

Plant Name	Company	Type	Electricity Offtaker	Tax Rebate (millions)
Nellis Solar	NV Energy	Solar	NV Energy Owned	\$6.8
Copper Mountain Solar 4	Sempra Energy Company	Solar	Southern Cal Edison	\$22.1
Playa Solar 2	First Solar	Solar	NV Energy	\$24.0
Nevada Valley Solar Solutions 2	Bombard	Solar	Valley Electric Authority	\$4.9
Don Campbell	Ormat	Geothermal	NV Energy	\$10.2
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$68</b>

- Incentives for large-scale projects help pay for power stations; help secure affordable costs for new utility-scale generation and PPAs
- Help utility comply with SB-123
- Help grow utility-scale solar and geothermal market

# Limited number of programs across Nevada offer clean energy support to other select markets



## Direct Energy Assistance Loan (DEAL)

- DEAL offers EE home upgrade loans to state employees
- Paid off via automatic monthly payroll deduction
- Interest-free loans
- Up to \$6,000 per homeowner
- Terms up to 60 months, with monthly payments of \$50 or \$100
- Simple & streamlined structure

## Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

- USDA program that offers grants and loan guarantees for rural clean energy projects
- From 2003 to 2014, wind project assistance worth \$150,832, and loan guarantees totaling \$8,319
- Energy efficiency: \$40,124
- Solar: \$961,361
- Biomass: \$105,703,595 – (one large biorefinery project)

# Many of Nevada's clean energy programs are run by the Governor's Office of Energy (GOE)



## Performance Contract Audit Assistance

- Funds financial grade audits for energy efficiency, which is the first step to a performance contract upgrade
- Since 2014, GOE awarded \$328,000
- As of 2015, has received three additional applications.
- Expects to process more than \$680,000 that will lead to performance contracts for efficiency

## Revolving Loan Program

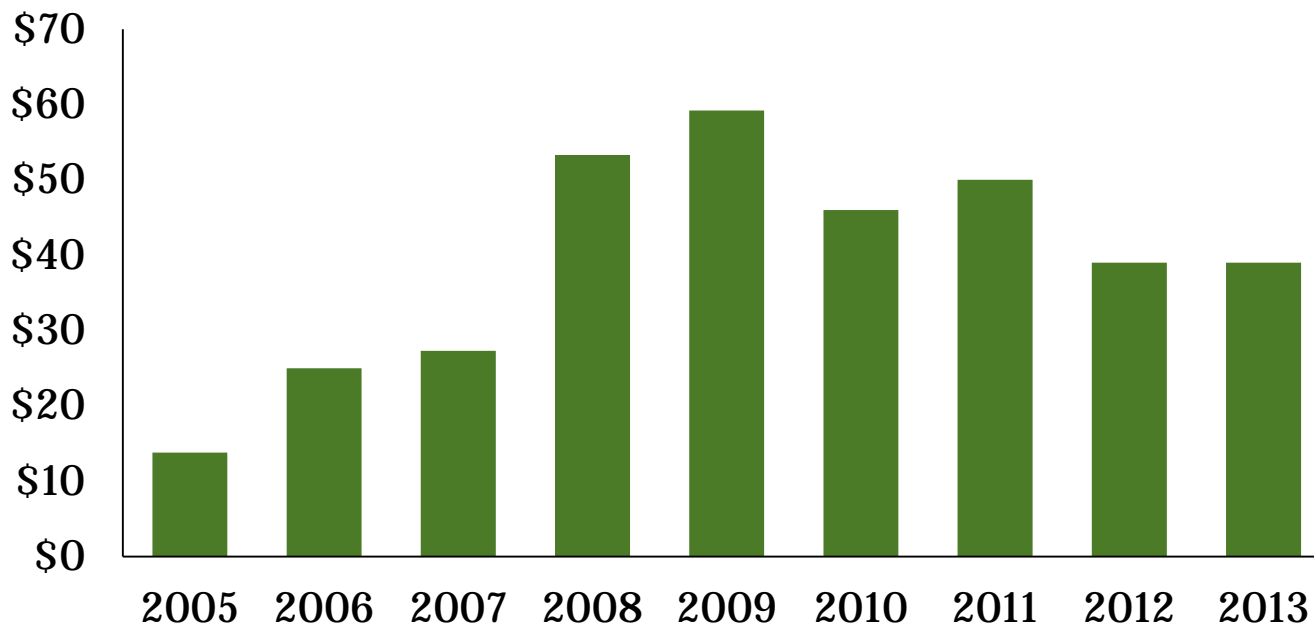
- Administered by GOE, originally funded by ARRA
- Standard loan terms and sizes for large projects \$100,000 – \$1 million
- Since 2009, more than \$17.4 million has been loaned to 20 projects.
- Original \$8 million in funding has revolved and increased to more than \$17 million, primarily due to moving unspent ARRA funds from other programs into the Loan Fund

# Ratepayer dollars used to support Demand Side Management rebates approx. \$50 million annually

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- Funded through charge on utility bills
- Nevada Power DSM program cut by \$11 million in Dec 2015

Nevada Power + Sierra Annual DSM ~Budgets (millions)



# NV Energy proposed annual budgets of ~\$70 million of DSM grants for 2016, but several programs denied

Nevada Power- DSM Programs Request 2016	
Program	Budget
Residential Lighting	\$4,500,000
Refrigerator Recycling	\$1,100,000
Residential AC	\$9,000,000
Pool Pumps	\$1,850,000
Home Energy Reports	\$ 700,000
Solar Water Heating	\$100,000
Non-Profit Agency Grants	\$150,000
Energy Smart Schools	\$1,800,000
Commercial Services	\$13,000,000
Energy Education	\$400,000
Energy Assessments	\$1,100,000
Market and Technology Trials	\$400,000
Demand Response - Residential	\$16,300,000
Demand Response - Commercial	\$5,600,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$56,000,000</b>

Sierra- DSM Programs Request 2016	
Program	Budget
Residential Lighting	\$1,400,000
Refrigerator Recycling	\$500,000
Home Energy Reports	\$520,000
Solar Water Heating	\$200,000
Non-Profit Agency Grants	\$110,000
Energy Smart Schools	\$400,000
Commercial Services	\$4,500,000
Energy Education	\$250,000
Energy Assessments	\$600,000
Market and Technology Trials	\$100,000
Demand Response - Residential	\$1,750,000
Demand Response - Commercial	\$2,677,000
Demand Response - Agricultural	\$690,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,697,000</b>

# Successful NV Energy renewable grant program gone through 90% solar funds, 75% hydro/wind funds

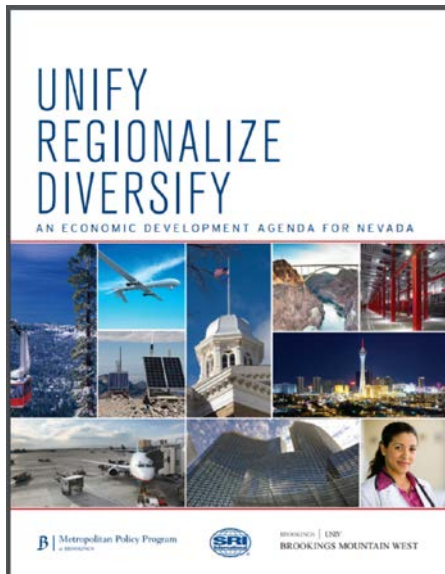
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- RenewableGenerations program created by 2003 legislature
- Supports distributed generation technology
- Funded through charge on utility bills
- Since 2003, over \$257 million spent

<b>NV Energy Renewable rebates 2003-2015 (million \$)</b>	
<b>Initial Program Funding</b>	<b>\$295.3</b>
<b>Amount Spent/Committed</b>	<b>\$257.1</b>
<b>Remaining Funding</b>	<b>\$38.2</b>



# EVs a growing part of Nevada's future, though penetration of EVs and charging stations still low



## Nevada EV Landscape

- Transportation uses more energy than any other sector in Nevada
- GOED and associated Brookings report name clean energy as one of the main pillars for a new diversified Nevada economy
- GOED worked with Tesla, and provided tax breaks to assure that new “gigafactory” built in Nevada
- Nevada’s economic future now more intertwined with the success of electric vehicles
- “Electric Highway” of charging stations announced for Route 95



# Key Takeaways

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- Nevada highly dependent on imported fossil fuels; only domestic energy sources are renewable; increasingly exposed to natural gas fuel price



- SB-123 driving increased natural gas and renewables; price of those renewables lowered by tax abatements for utility-scale plants



- Wide variety of programs in Nevada, through multiple entities, supporting both large- and small-scale clean energy and energy efficiency



- Support for distributed generation and efficiency is declining with reduced rebates and dwindling budgets



- Most state-level support for clean energy is in the form of grants/rebates, not financing; one state-supported financing program highly innovative



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# **Thank You**

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