

# Inexpensive, Firm PV Without Conventional Backup: The Role of Supply Shaping Through Curtailment

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Clean Power Research

*For achieving high-  
penetration renewables!*



This work is based upon work supported by:

National Science Foundation GRF Grant No. DGE 1144155

DoE Sunshot Grant No. DE-EE0007669

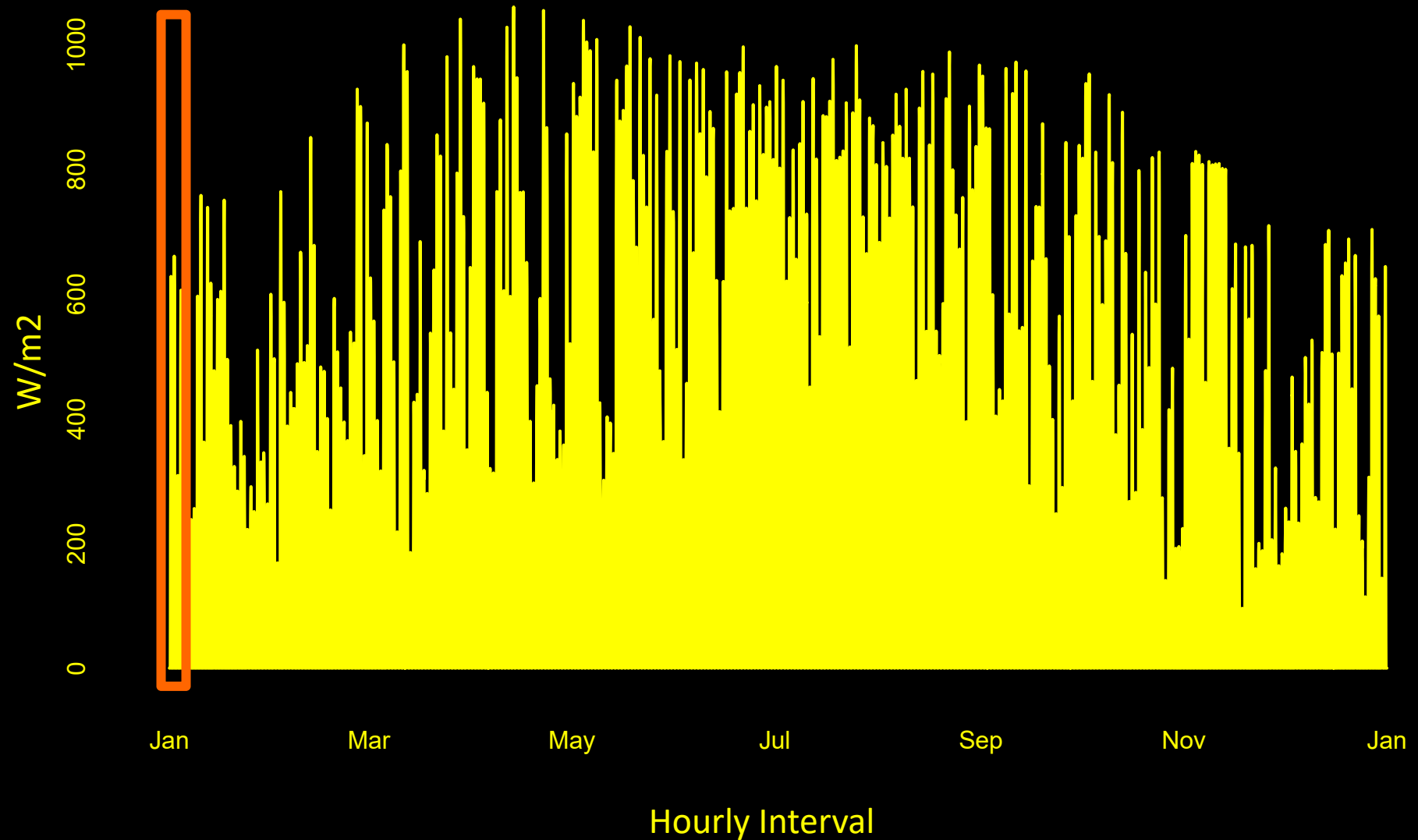
Columbia University Center for Life Cycle Analysis

Clean Power Research

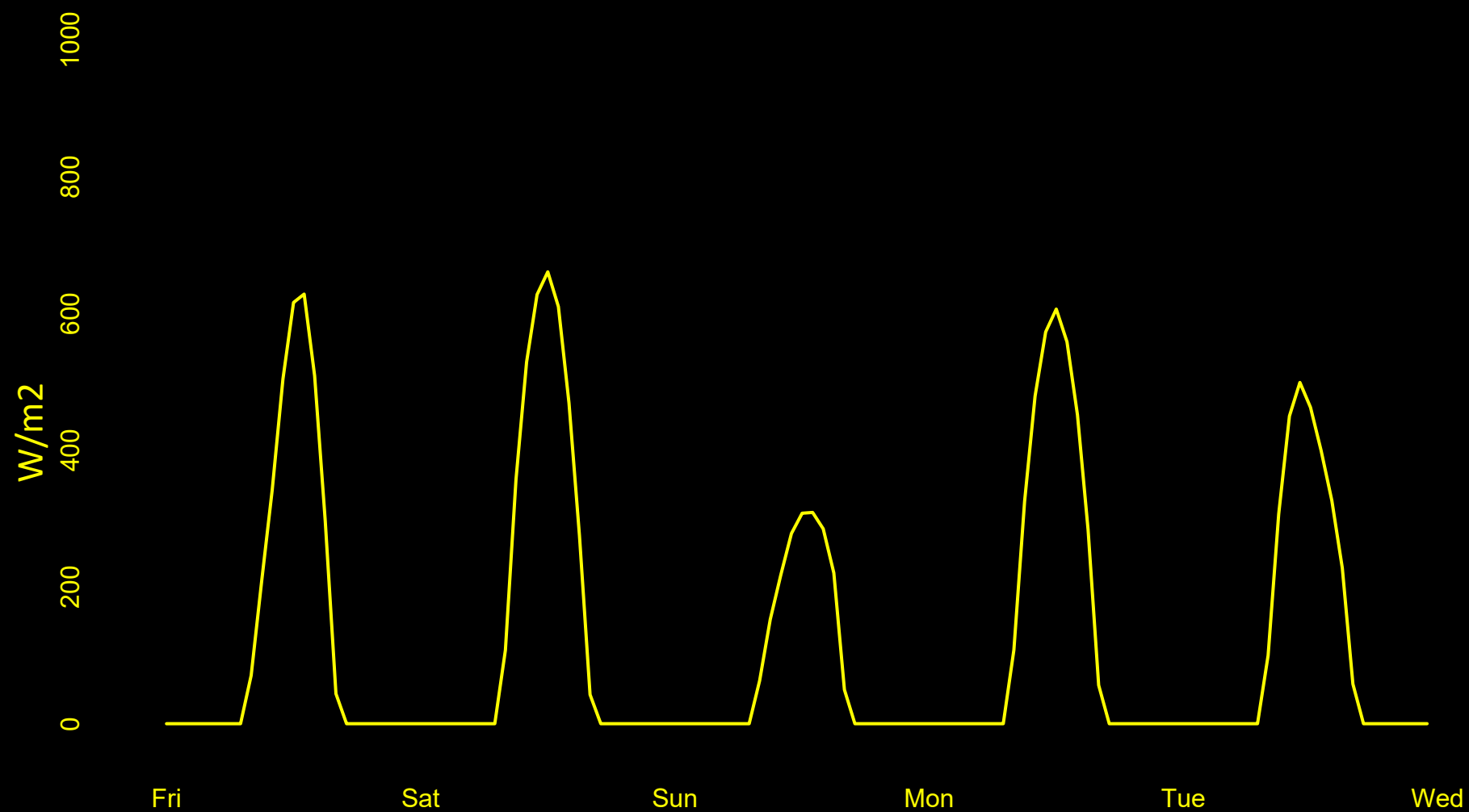
Why do we think we need backup to achieve high penetration?



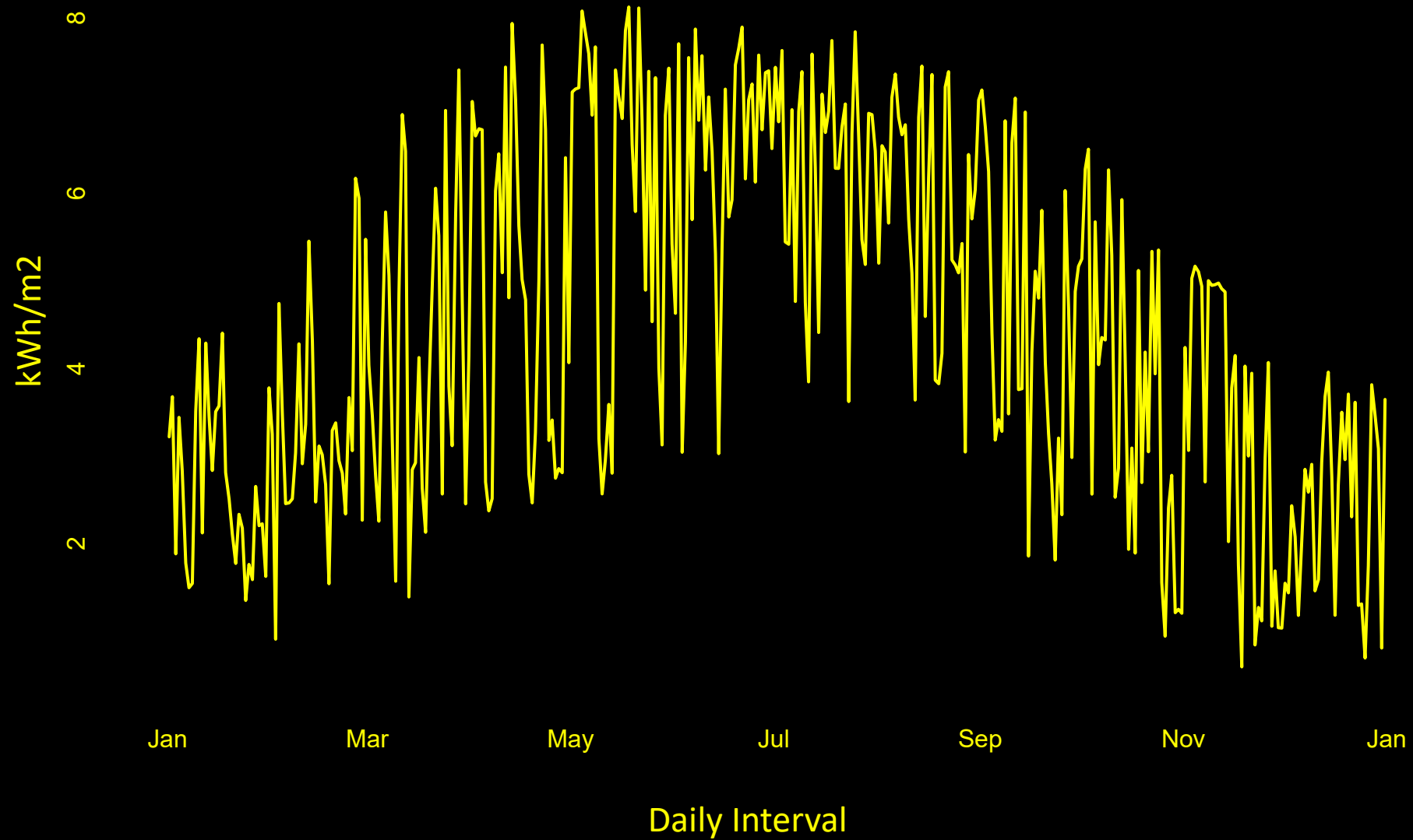
It's because wind + solar are intermittent and what we really need is **firm power**  
Storage is considered to be the keystone to mitigate variability on all timescales  
Intraday Variability



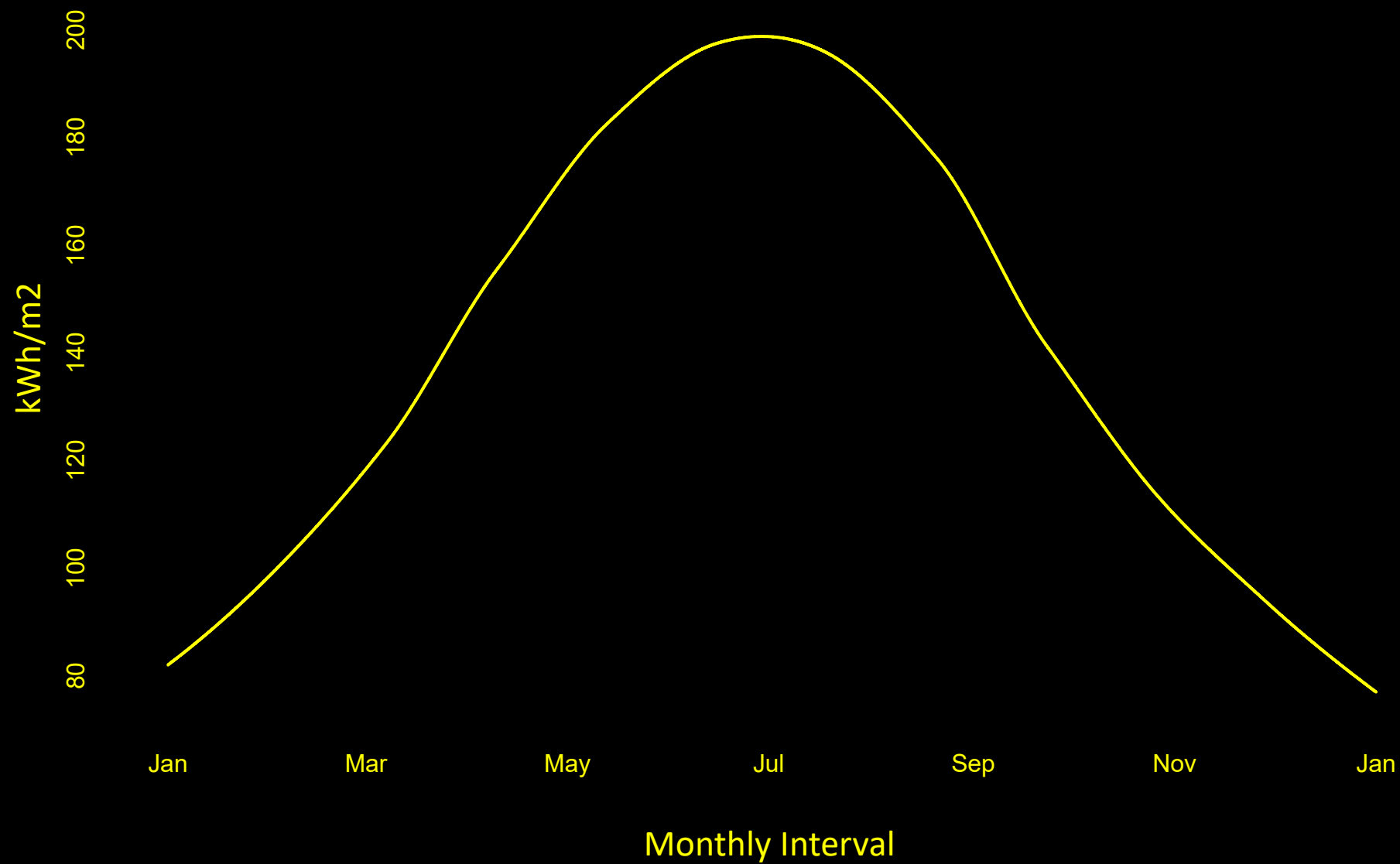
## Diurnal Variability + clouds

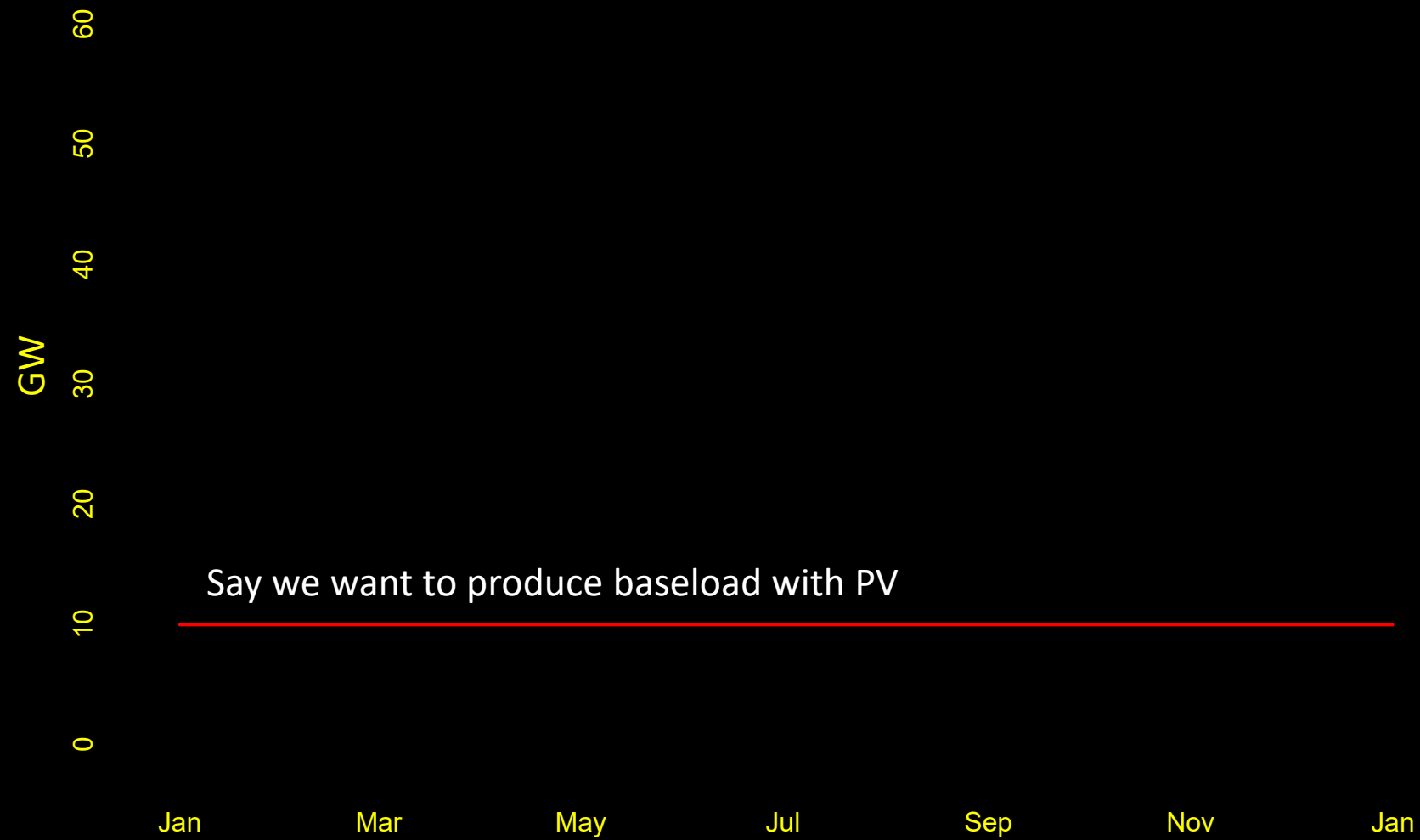


## Interday variability: mesoscale weather

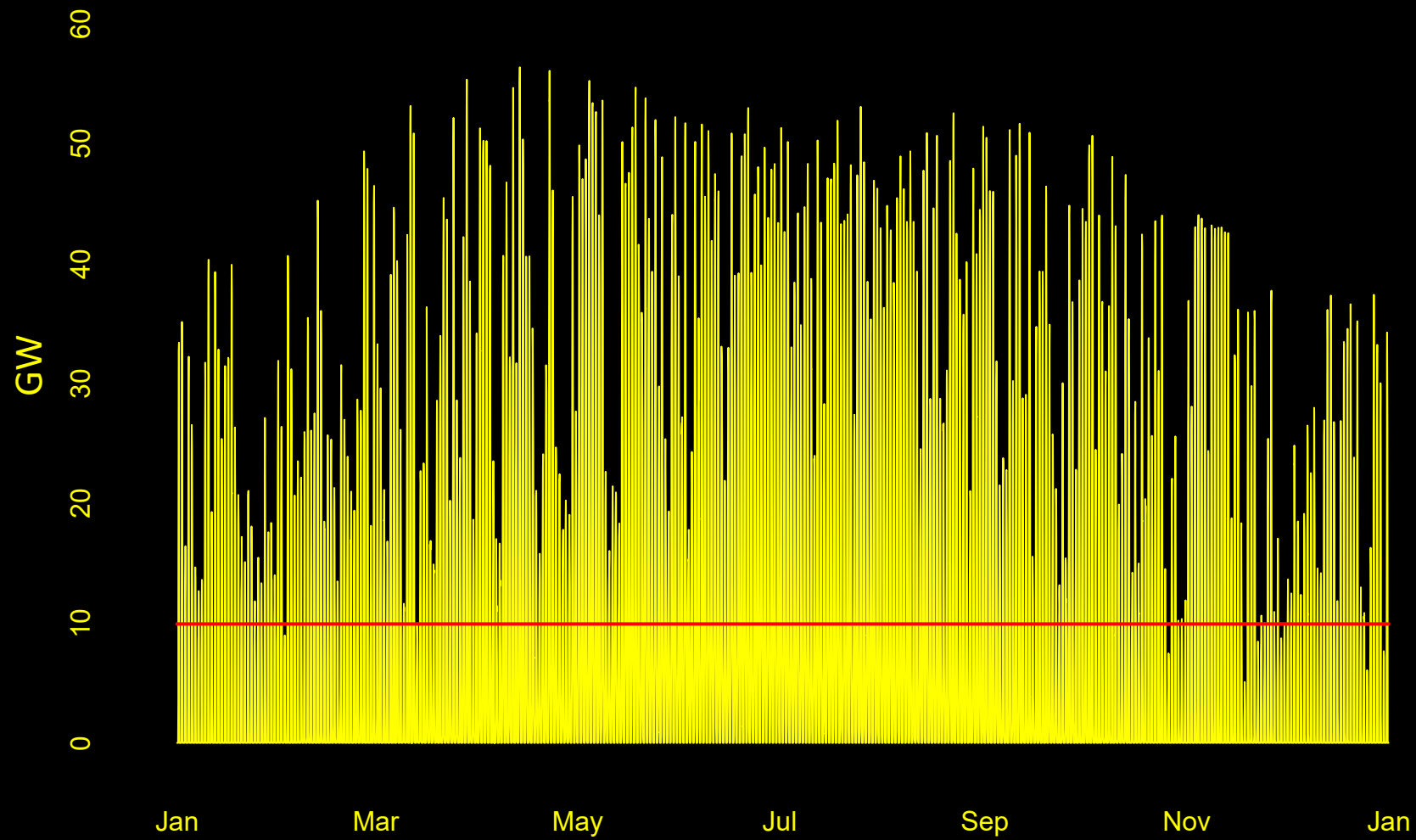


Seasonal variability: orbital



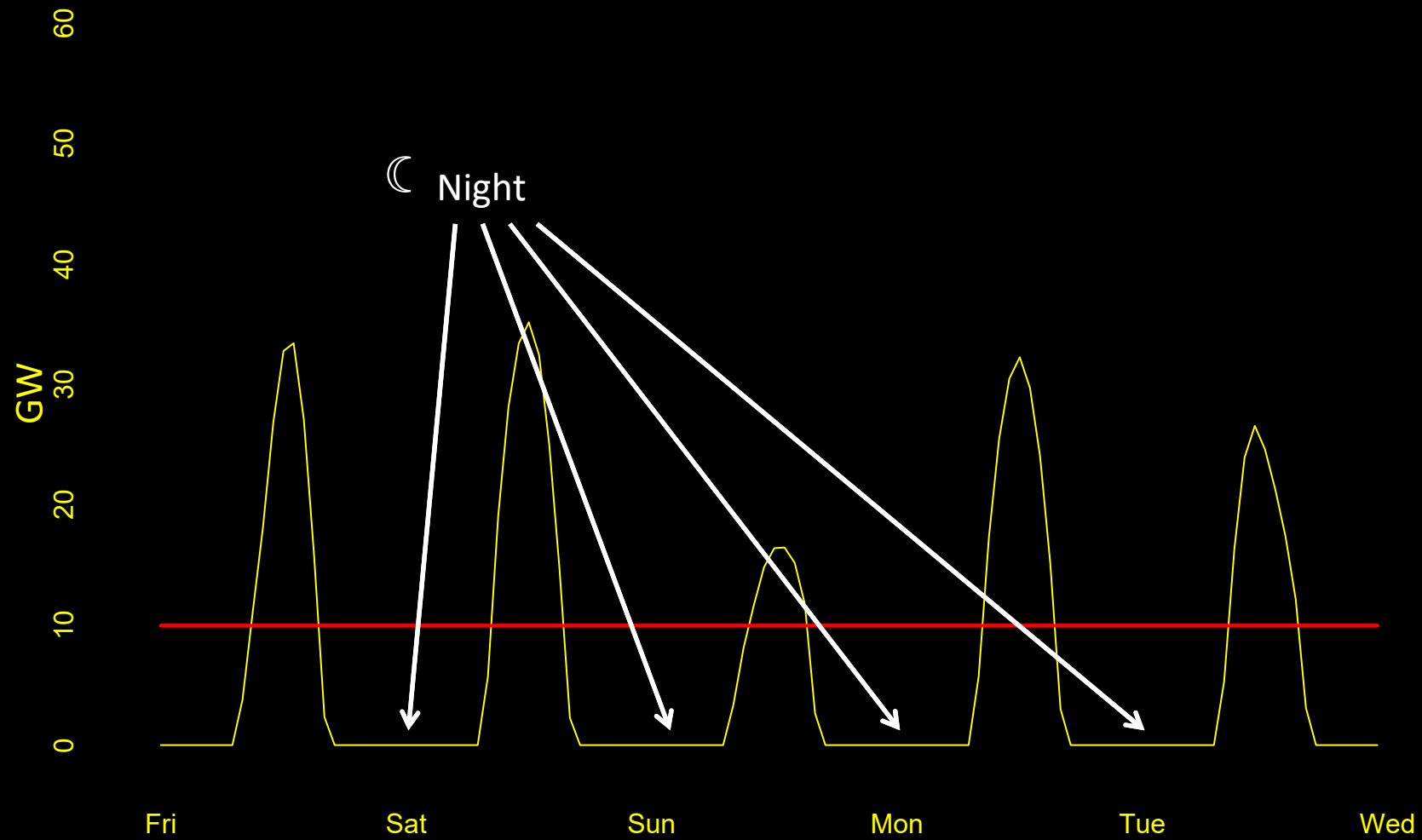


Possible on an energy basis:  $\int \text{yellow} = \int \text{red}$

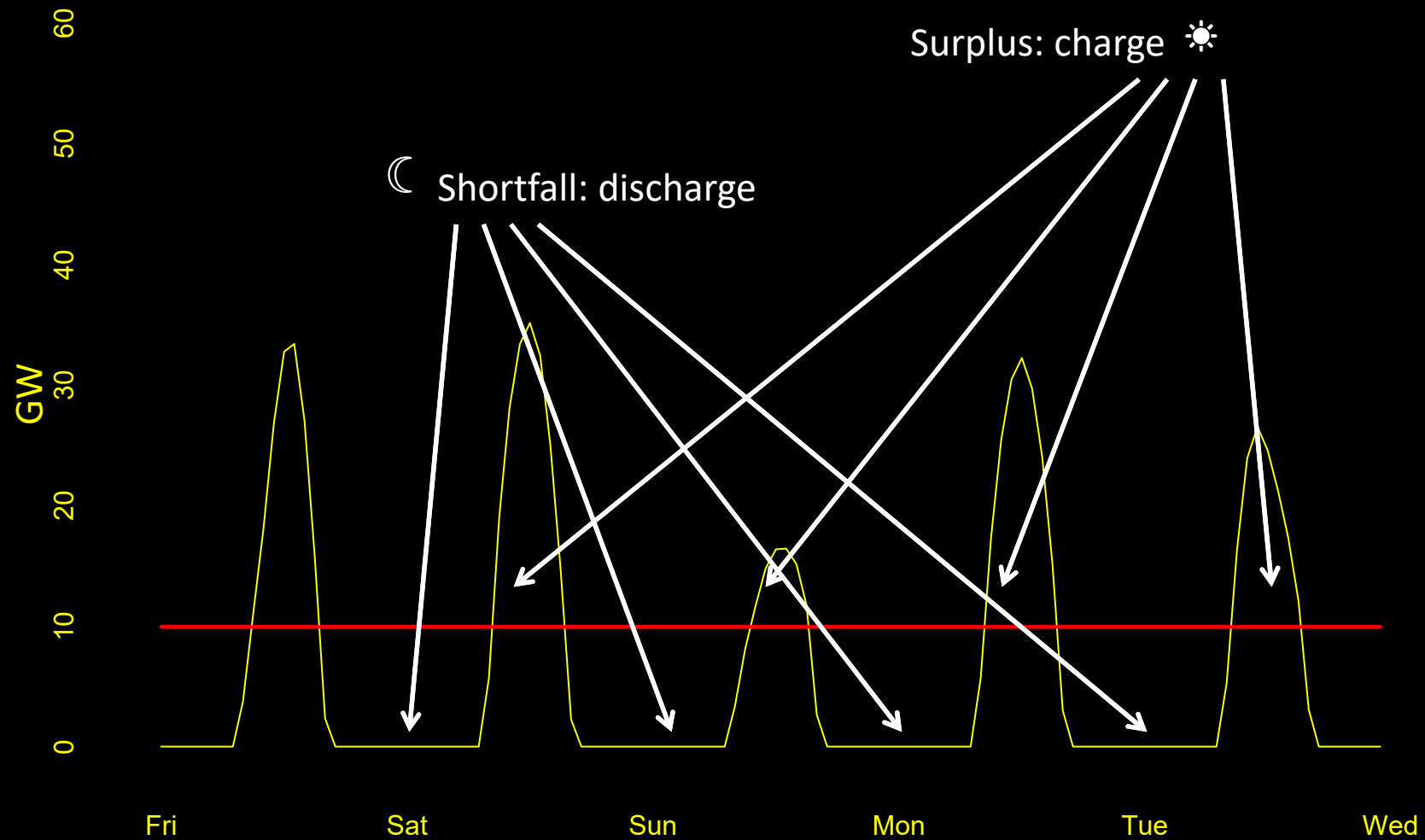




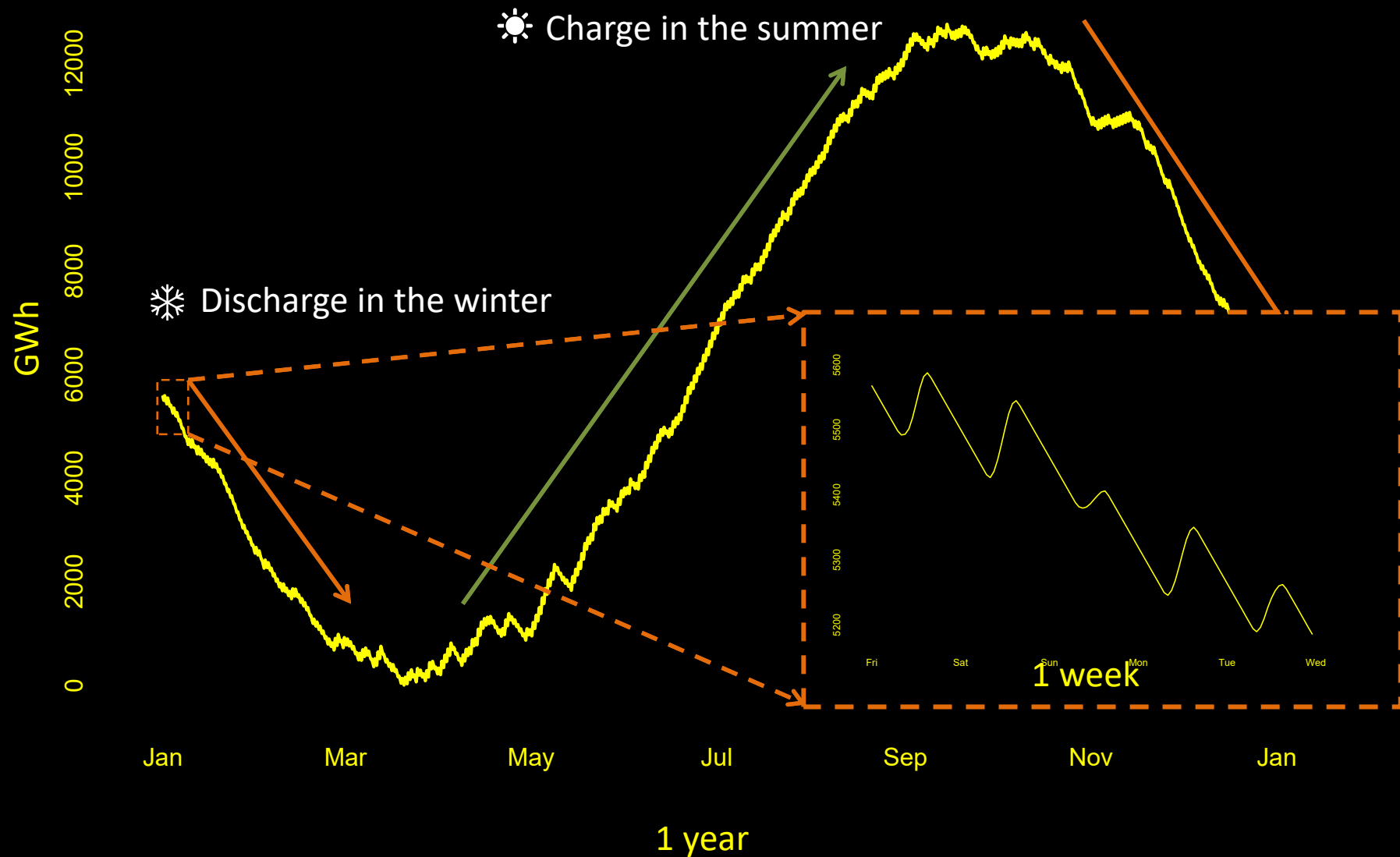
But impossible due to diurnal intermittency...



Possible with storage...



But how much? **Storage State of charge** for one year to produce baseload w/PV

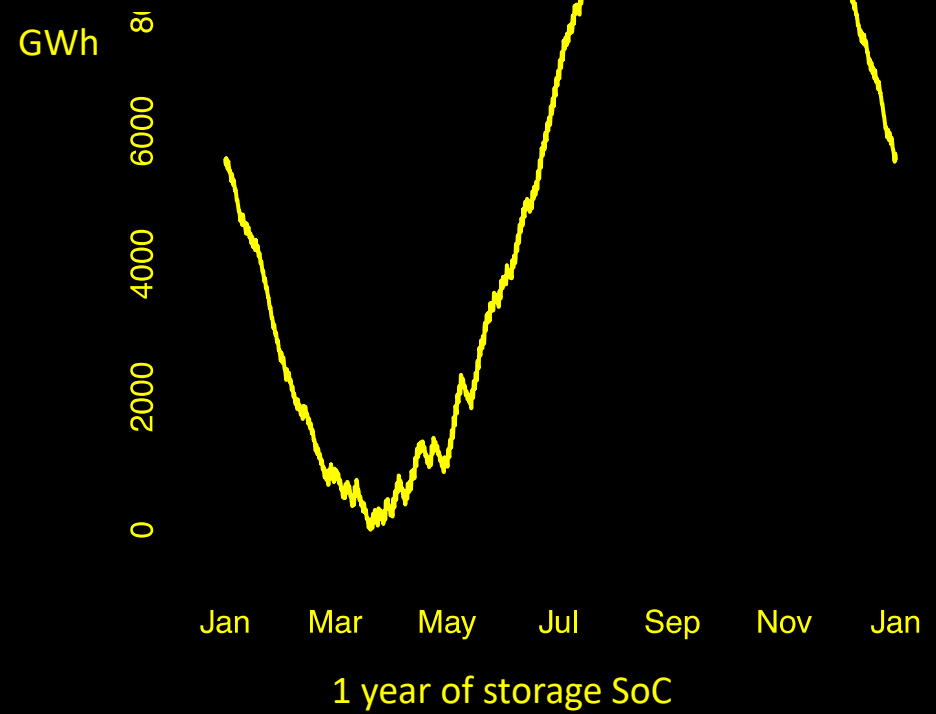
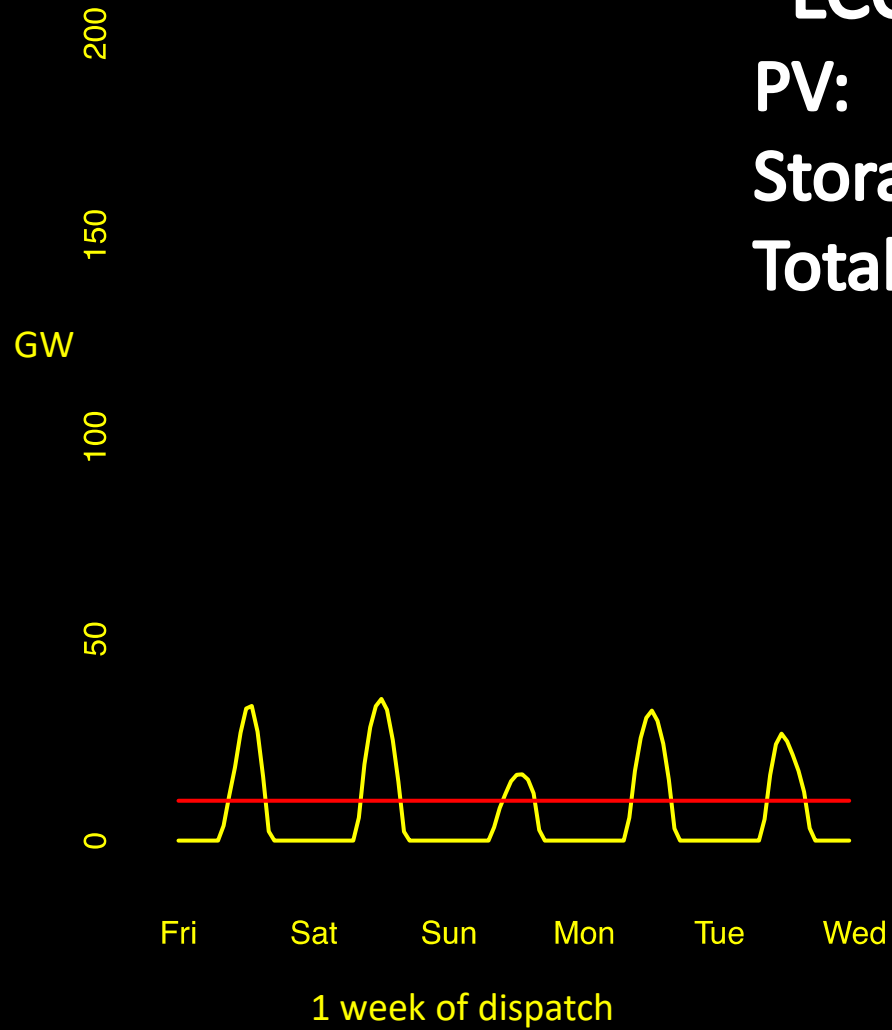


Seasonal trend > diurnal trend on an energy basis

1 x oversizing

LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	1.2
Storage:	71.6
Total:	72.8

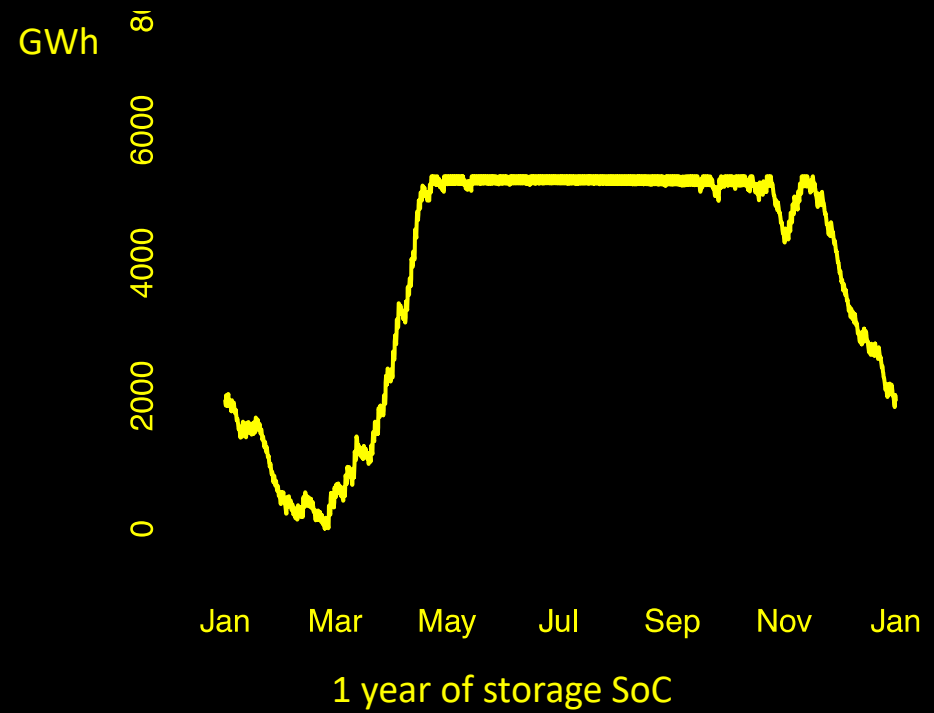
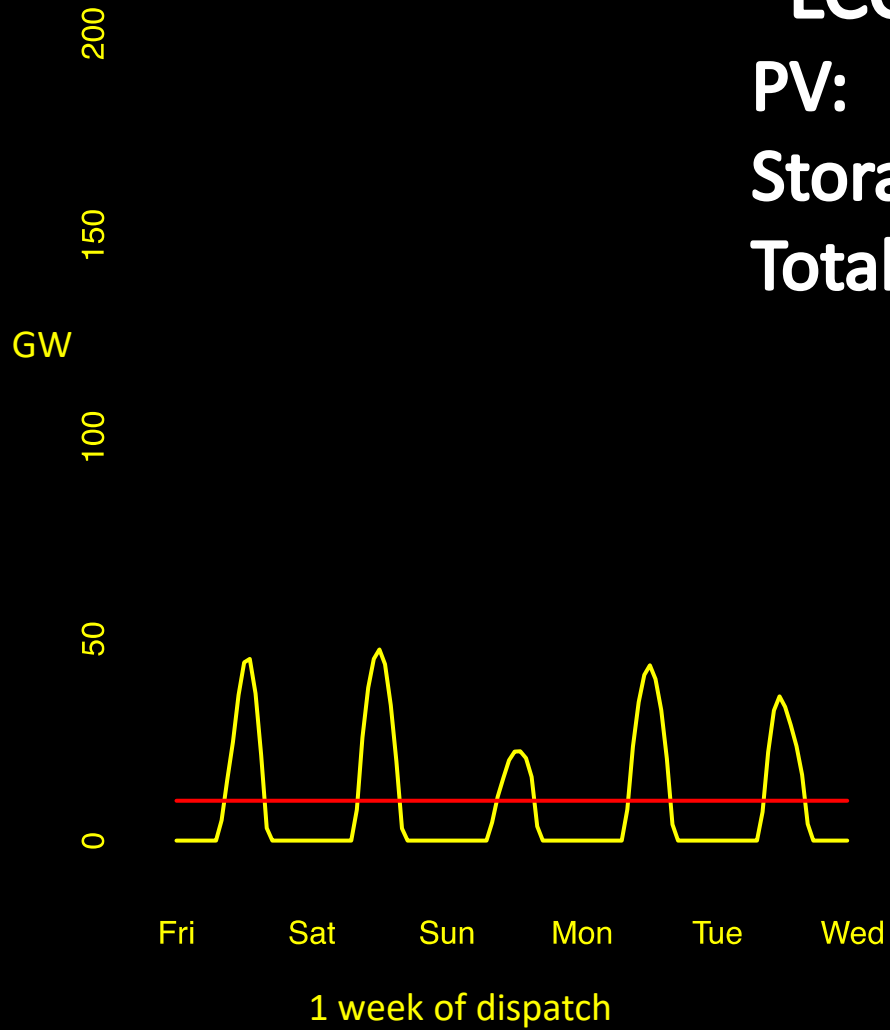


1.3 x oversizing

58.4 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	1.6
Storage:	30.1
Total:	31.7

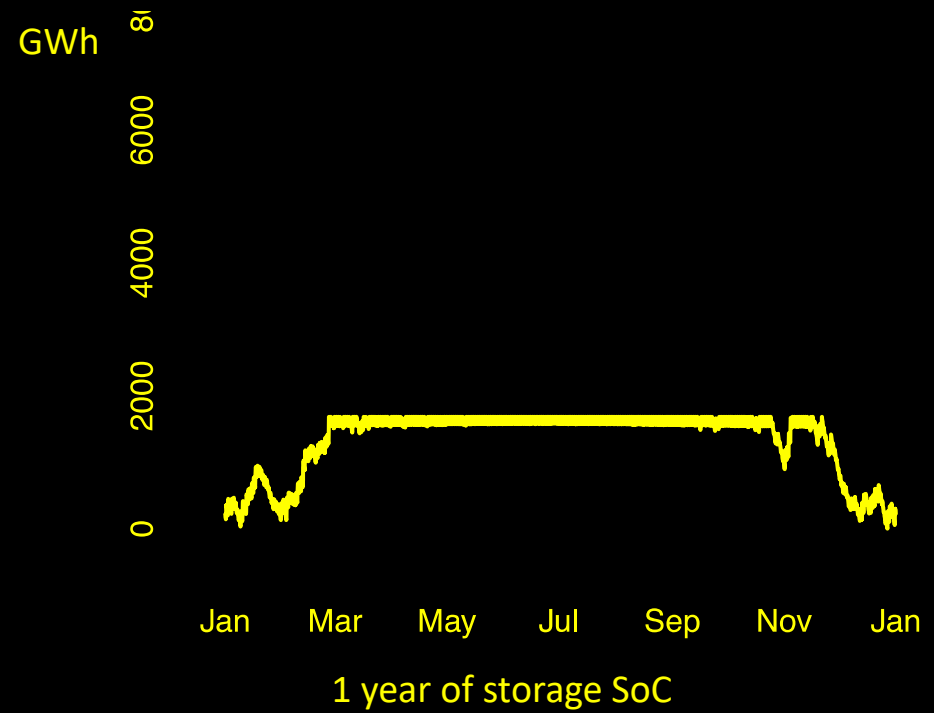
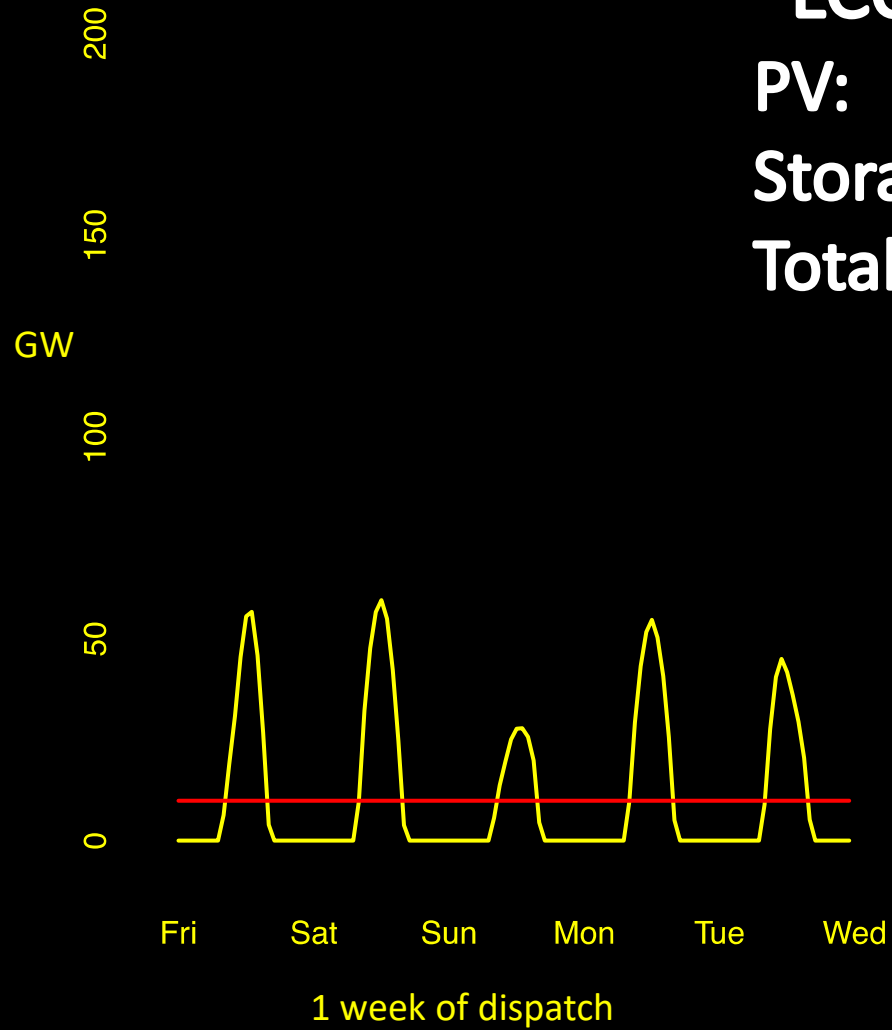


1.7 x oversizing

86.8 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	2.0
Storage:	9.9
Total:	12.0

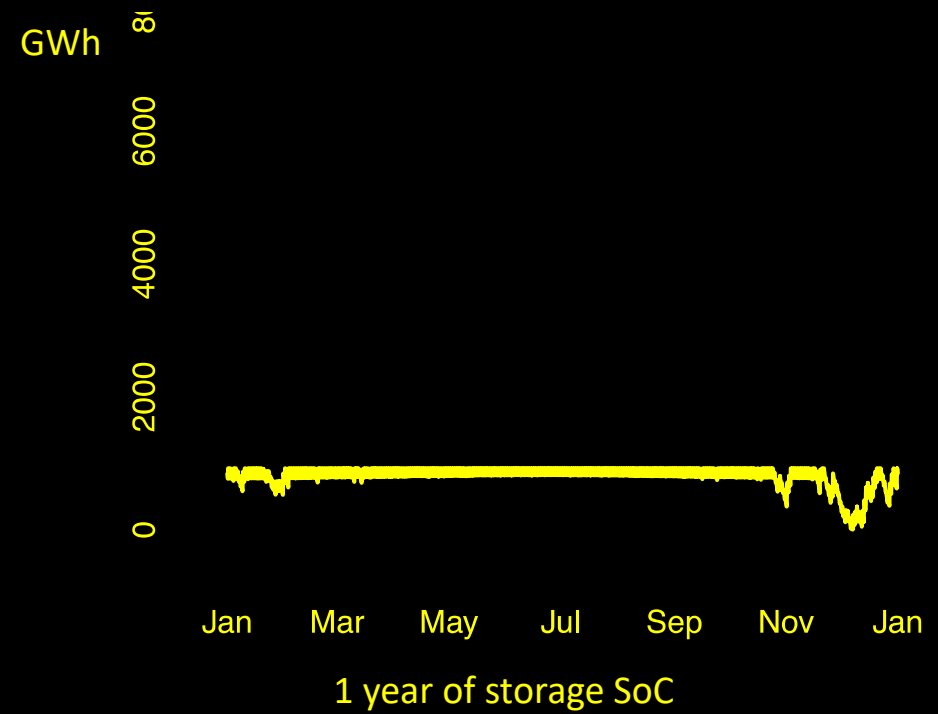
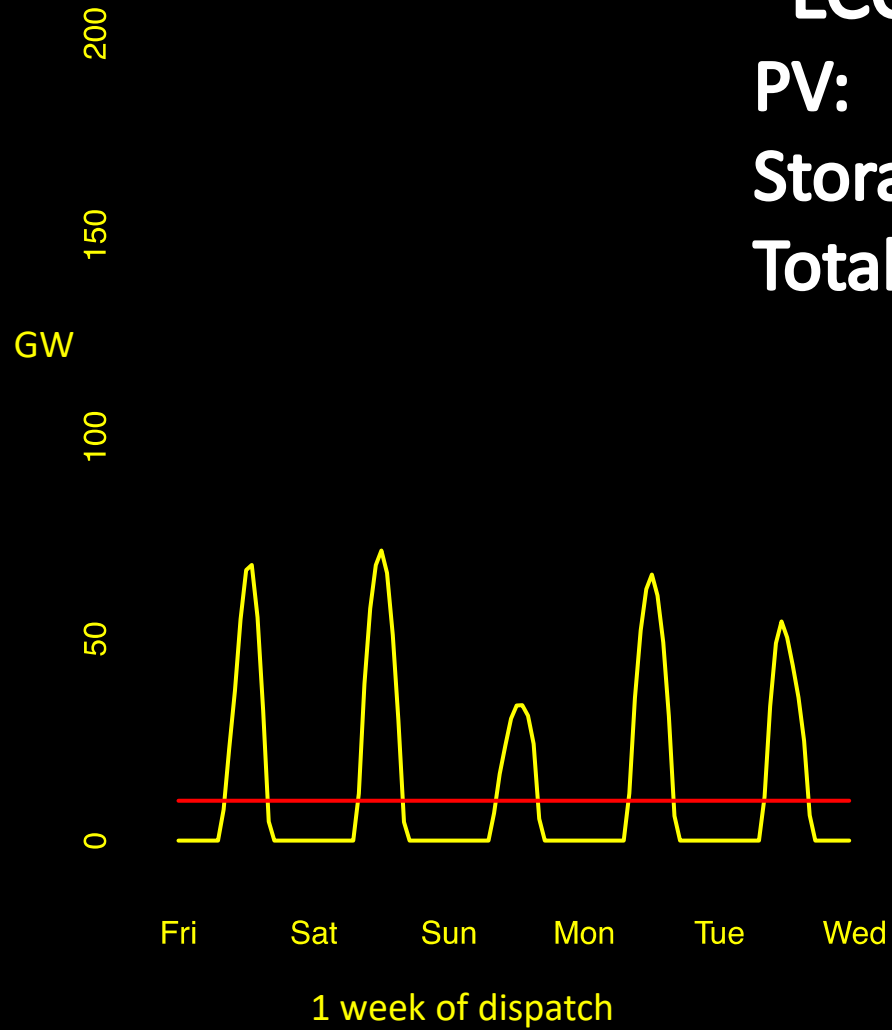


2 x oversizing

92.8 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	2.4
Storage:	5.7
Total:	8.1

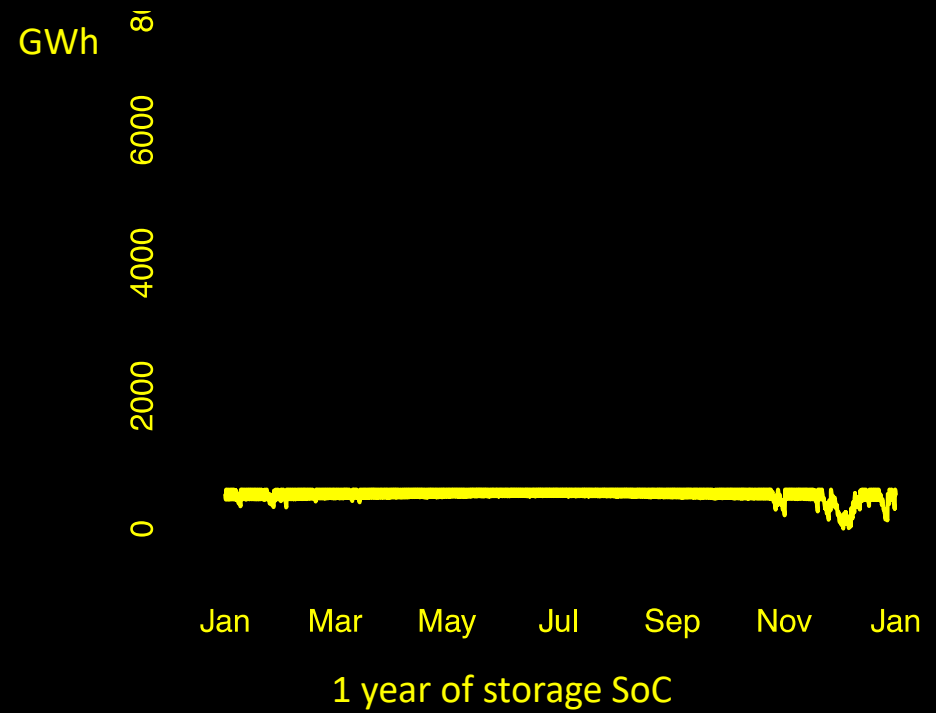
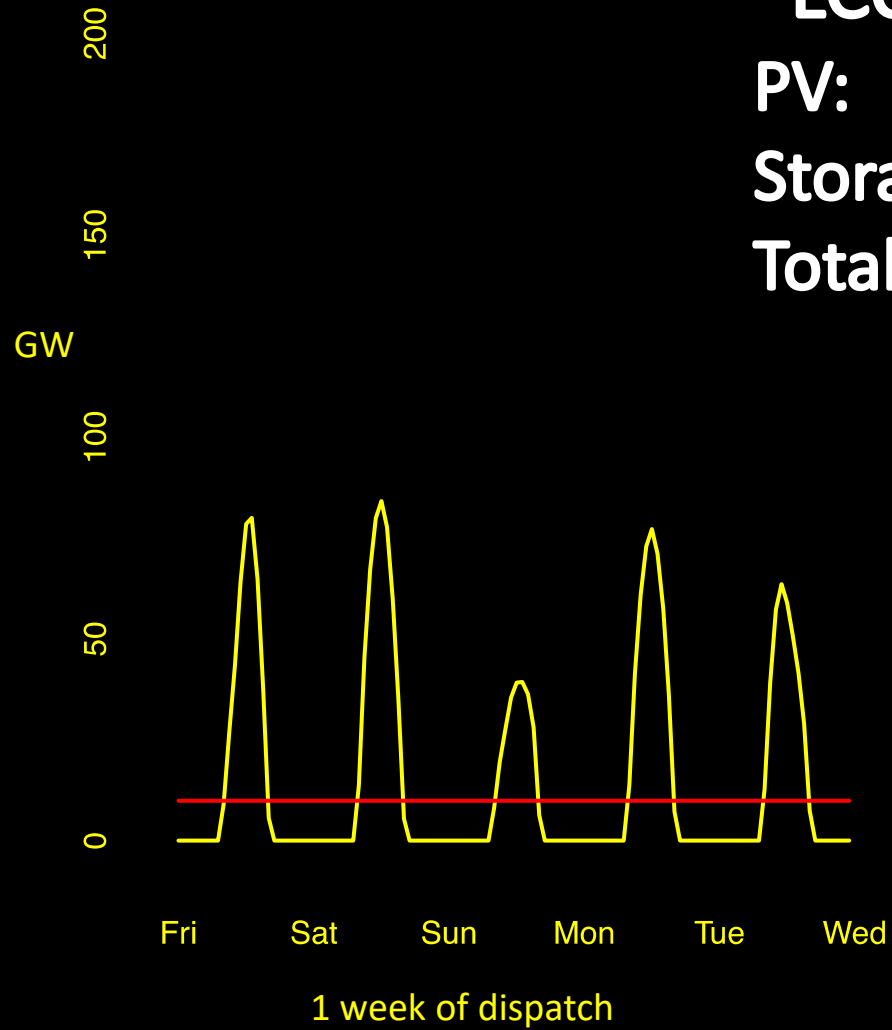


2.4 x oversizing

95.4 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	2.9
Storage:	3.9
Total:	6.7



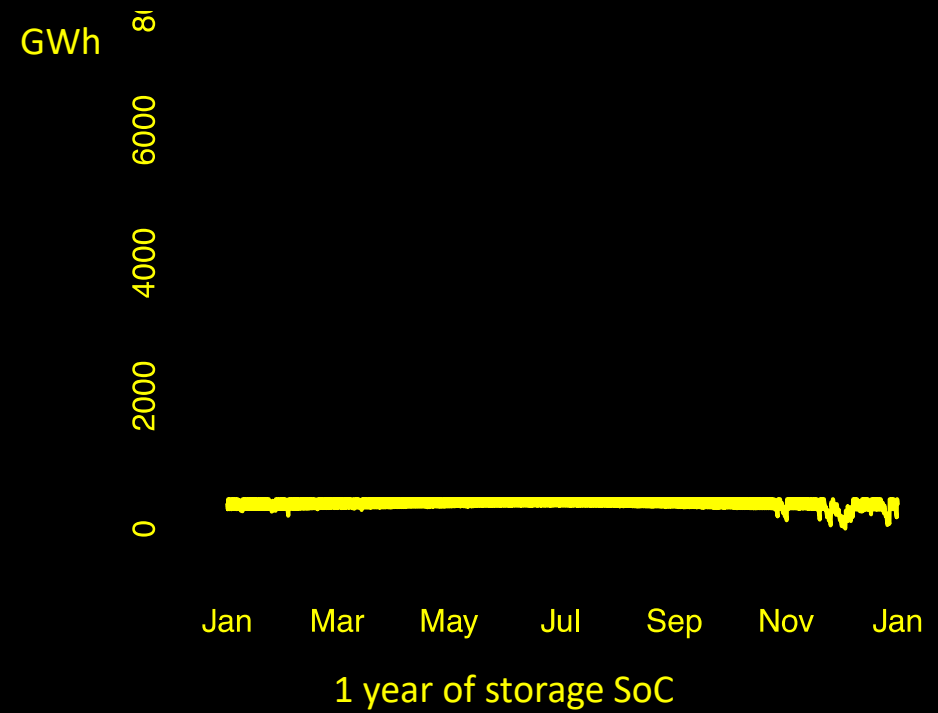
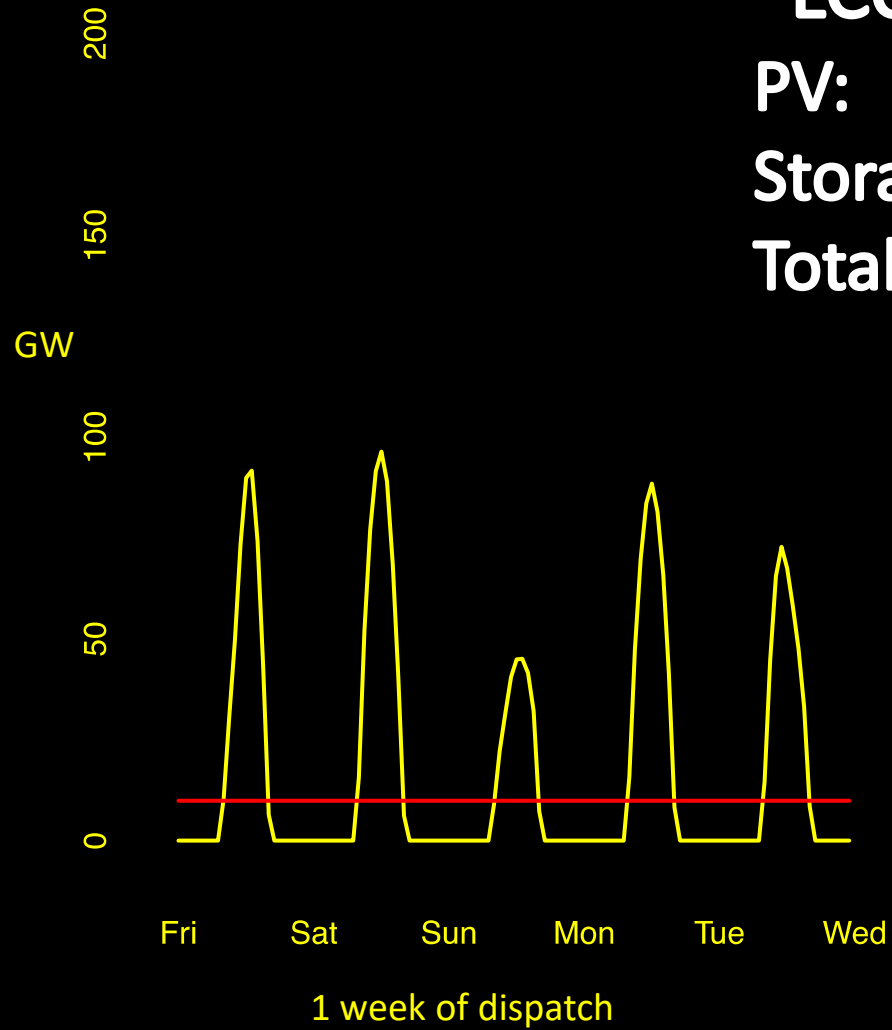


2.7 x oversizing

96.5 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	3.3
Storage:	3.0
Total:	6.3

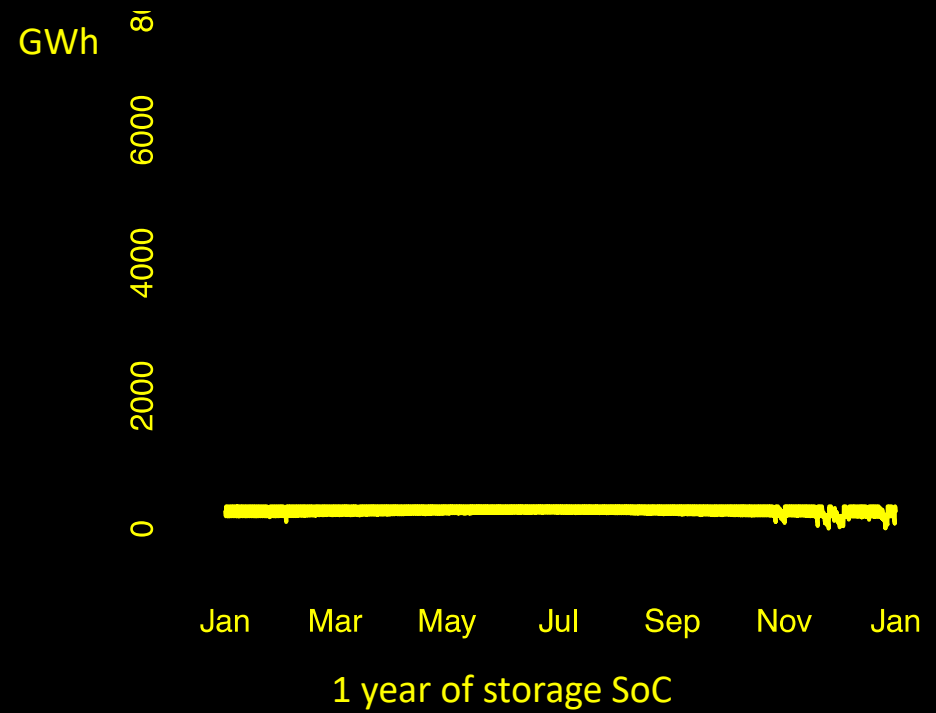
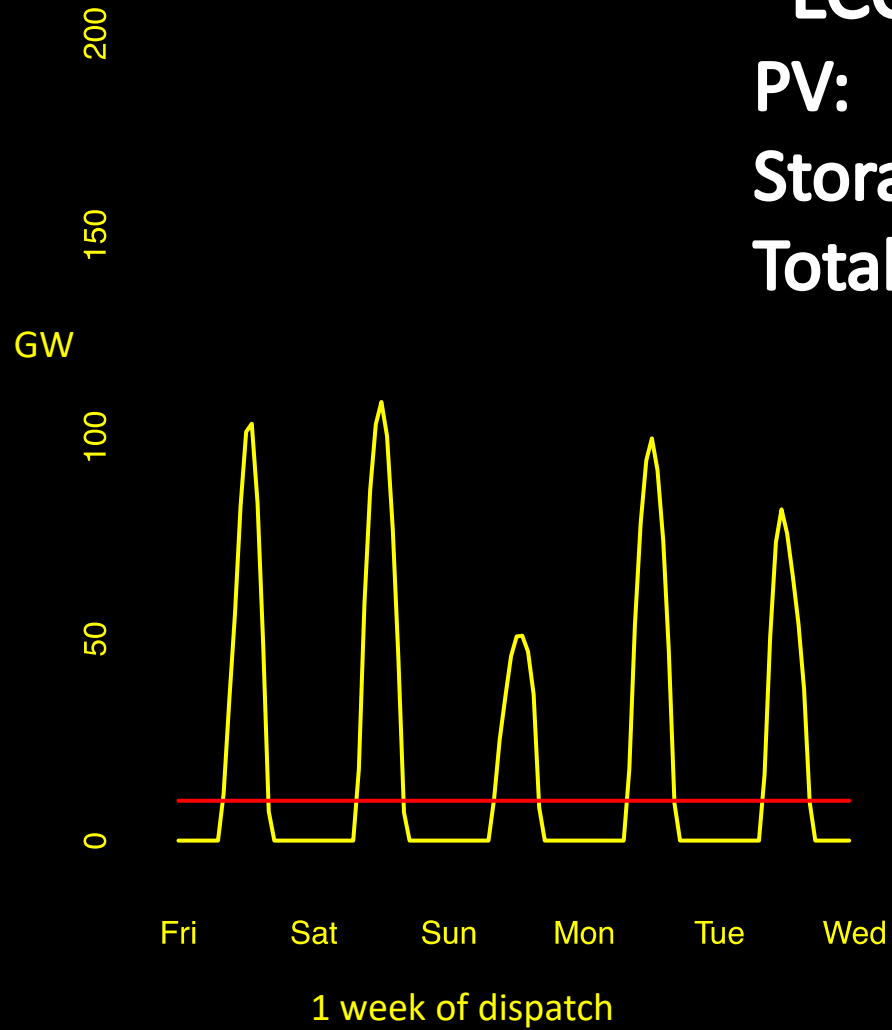


3.1 x oversizing

97.4 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	3.7
Storage:	2.4
Total:	6.1

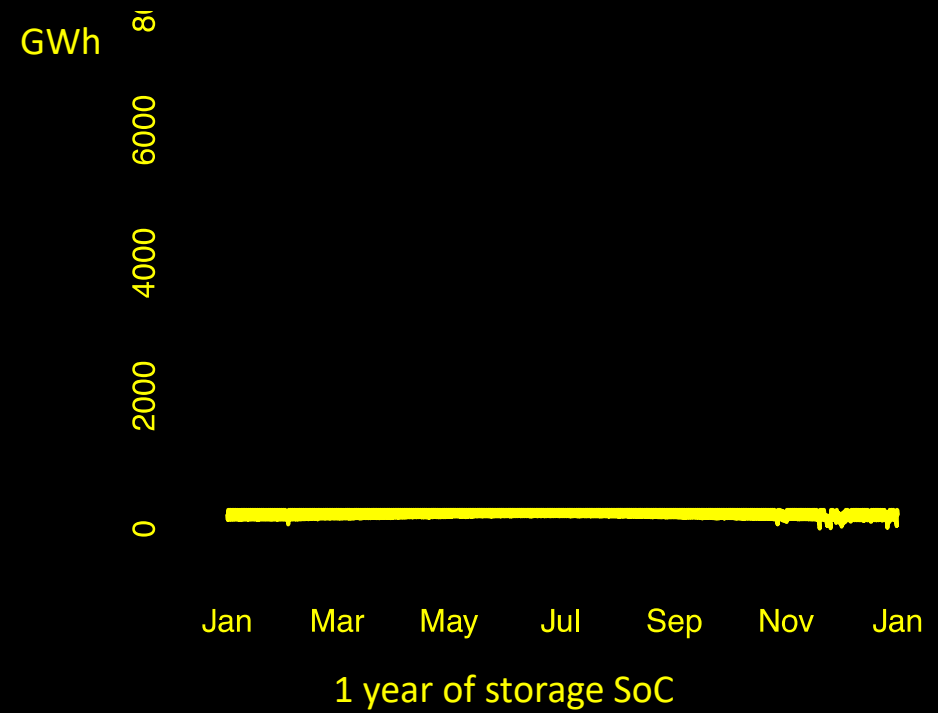
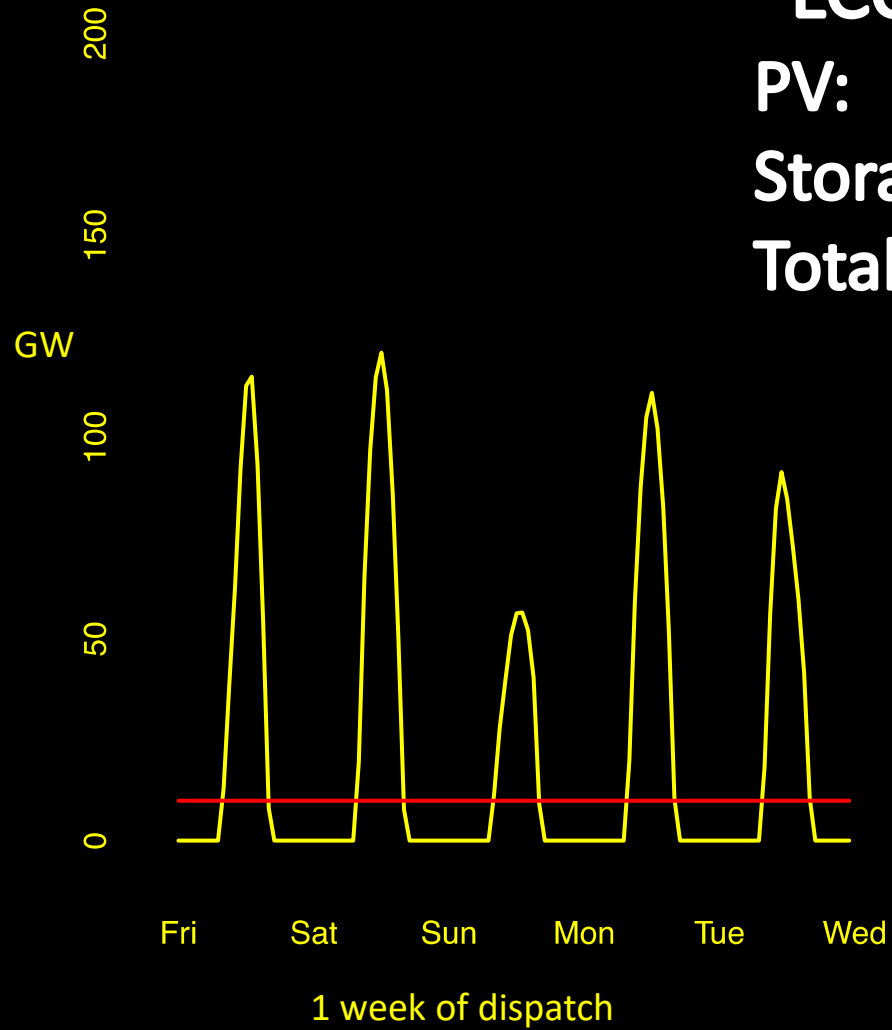


3.4 x oversizing

97.8 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	4.1
Storage:	2.1
Total:	6.2

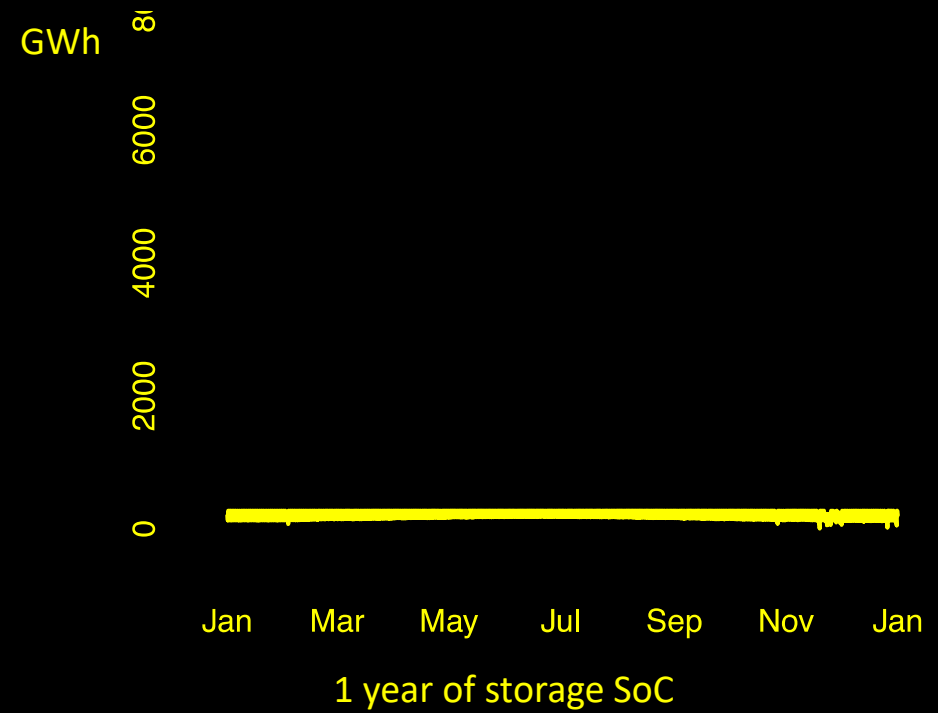
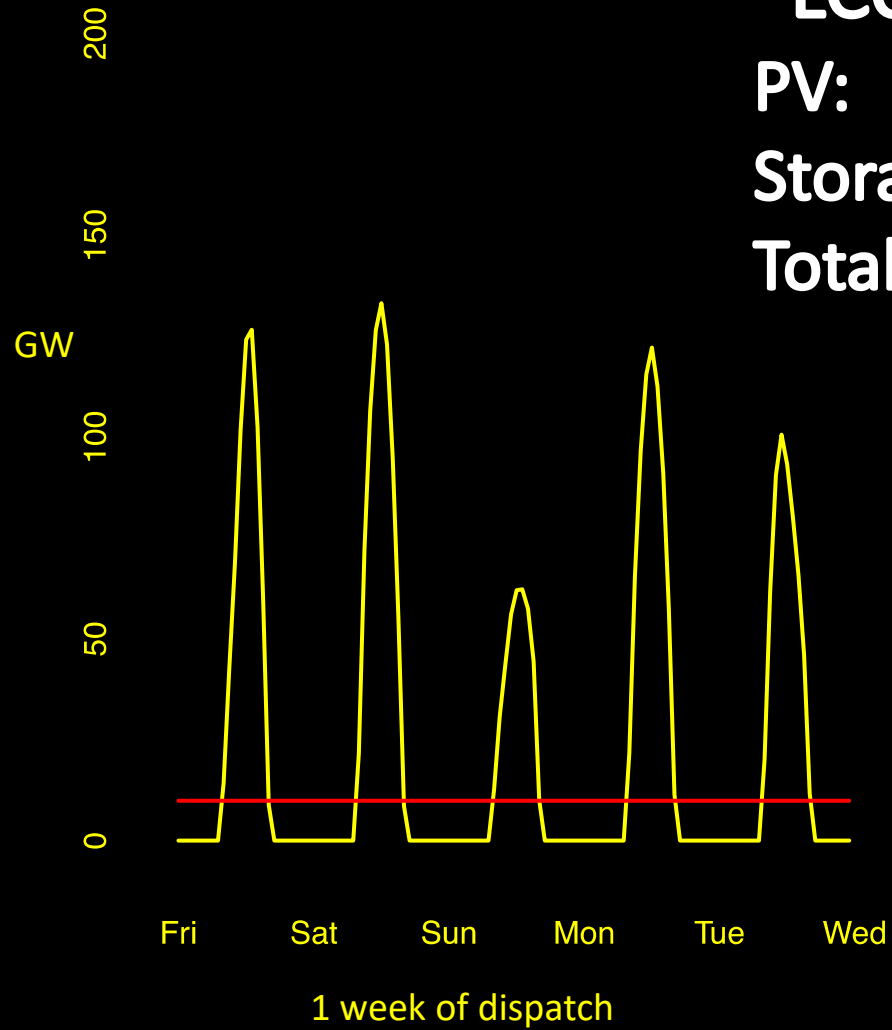


3.8 x oversizing

97.9 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	4.5
Storage:	2.1
Total:	6.6



4.1 x oversizing

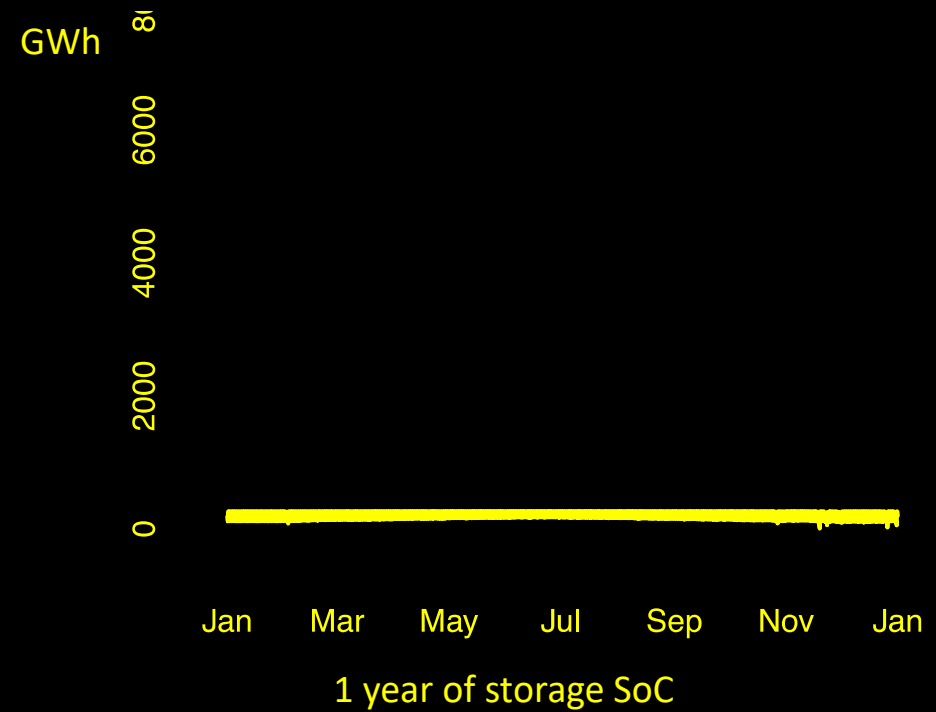
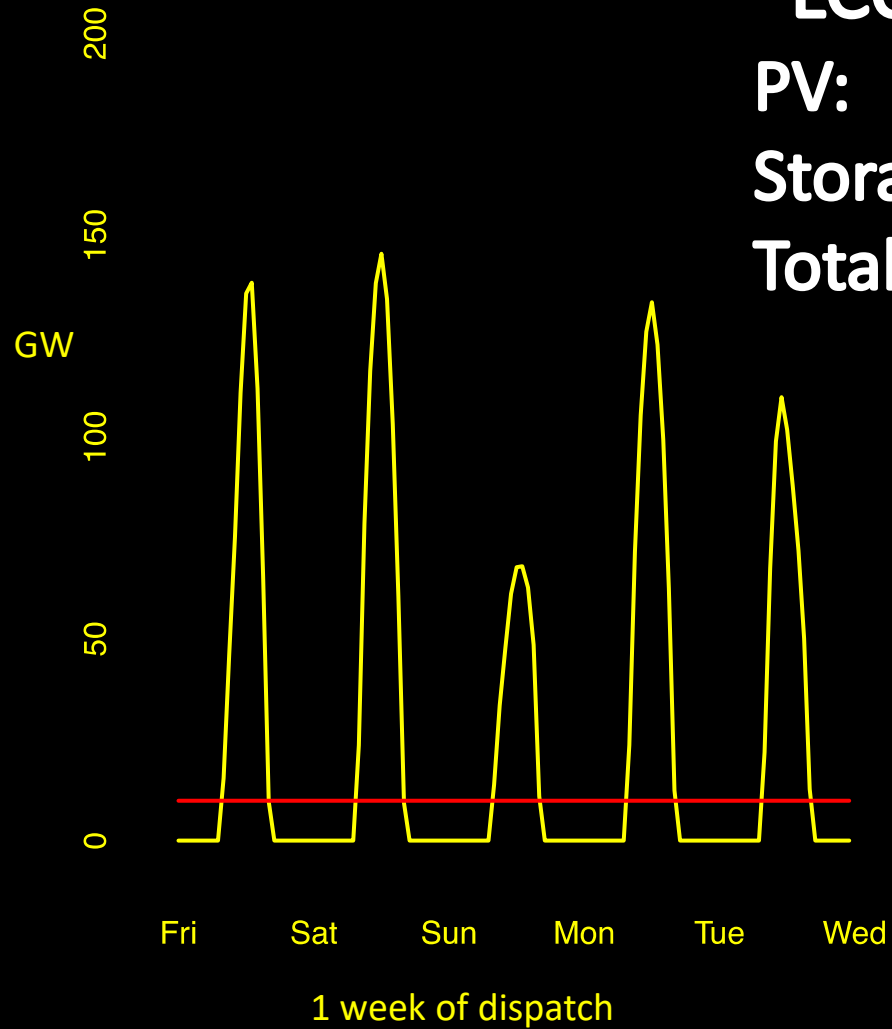
97.9 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV: 4.9

Storage: 2.0

Total: 6.9

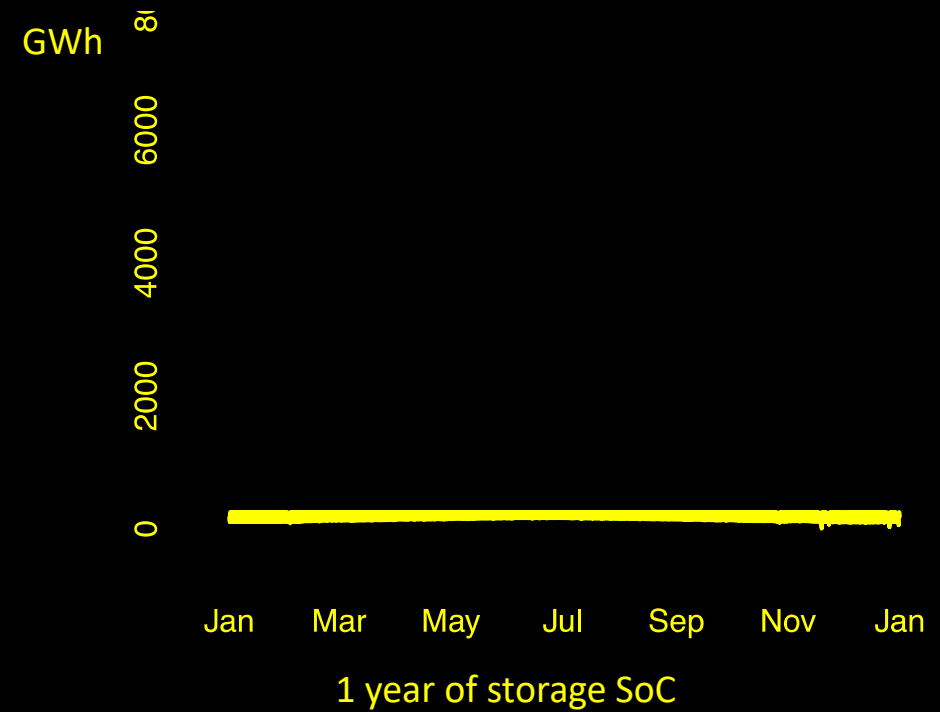
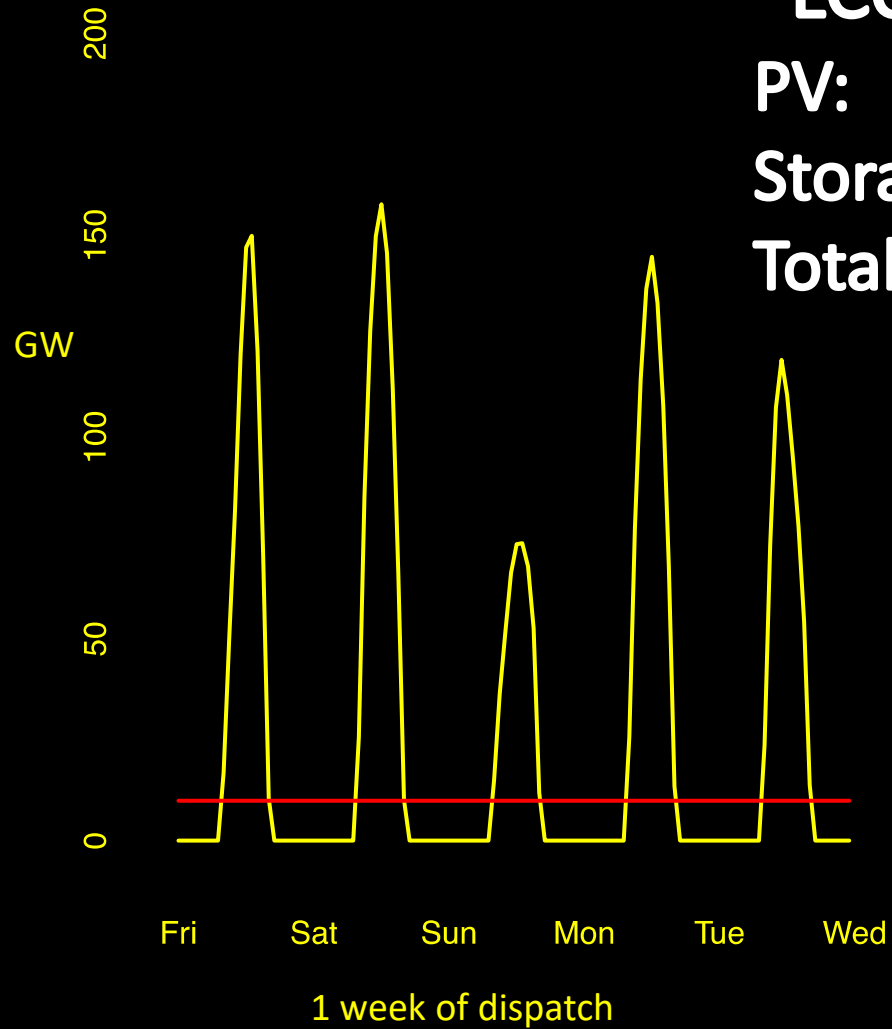


4.5 x oversizing

98 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	5.4
Storage:	1.9
Total:	7.3

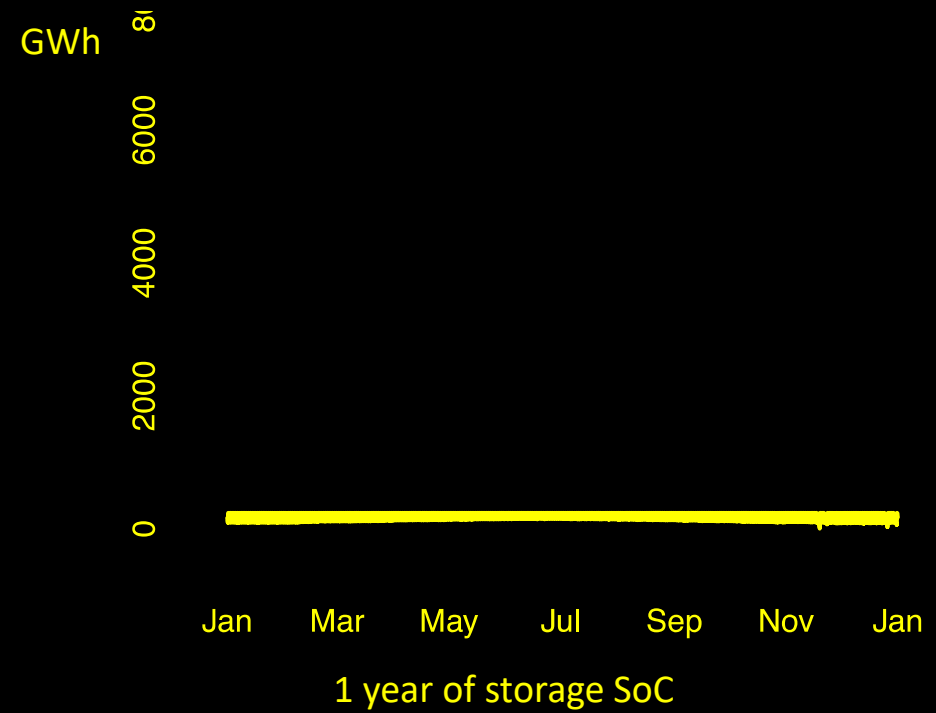
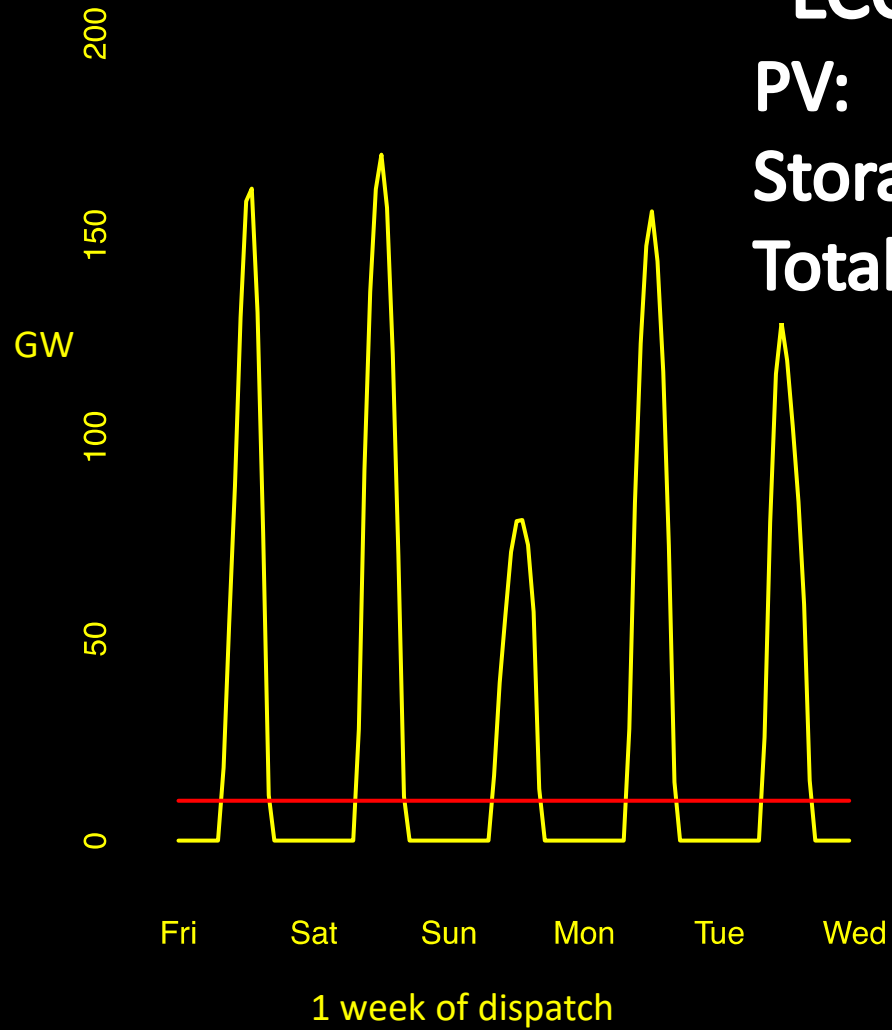


4.8 x oversizing

98.1 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	5.8
Storage:	1.9
Total:	7.6

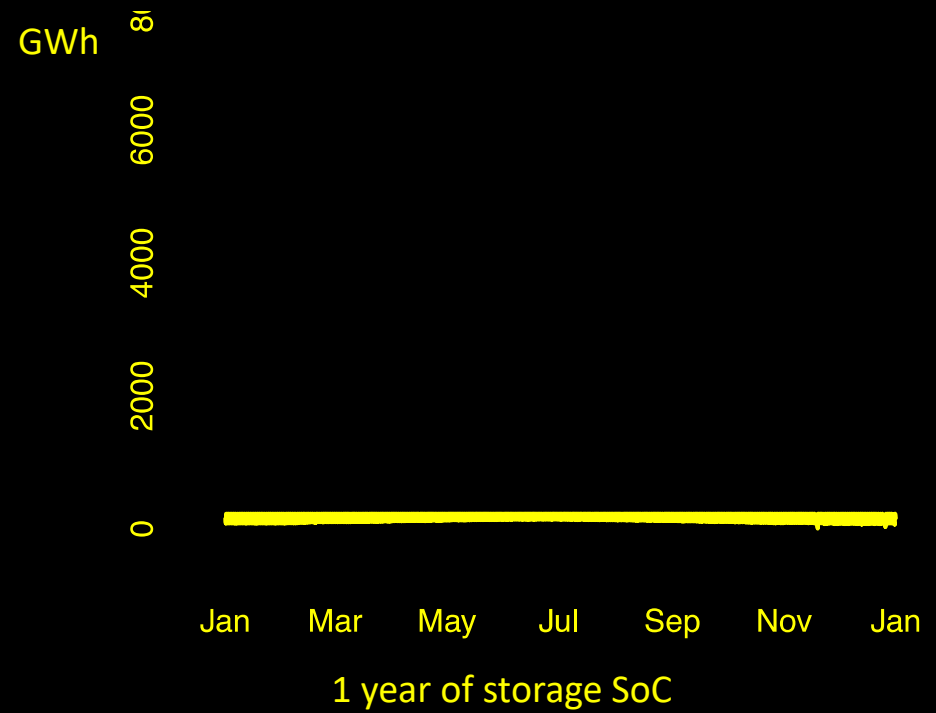
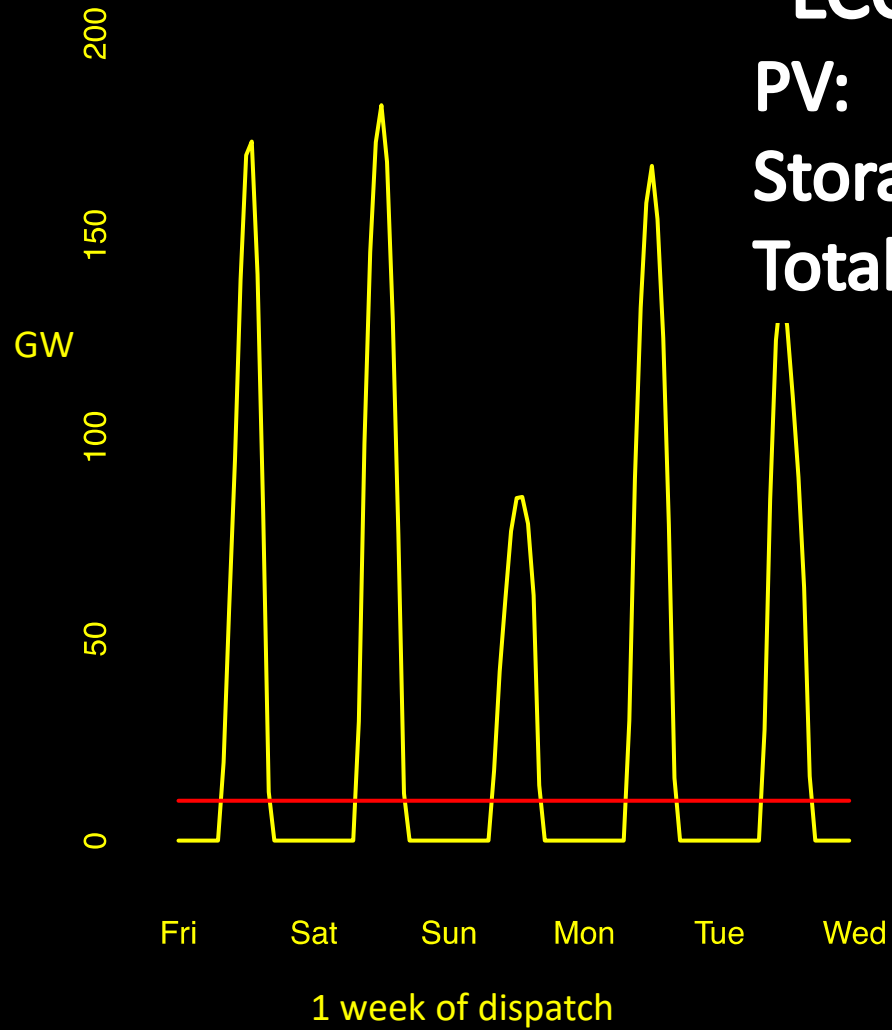


5.2 x oversizing

98.2 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	6.2
Storage:	1.8
Total:	8.0



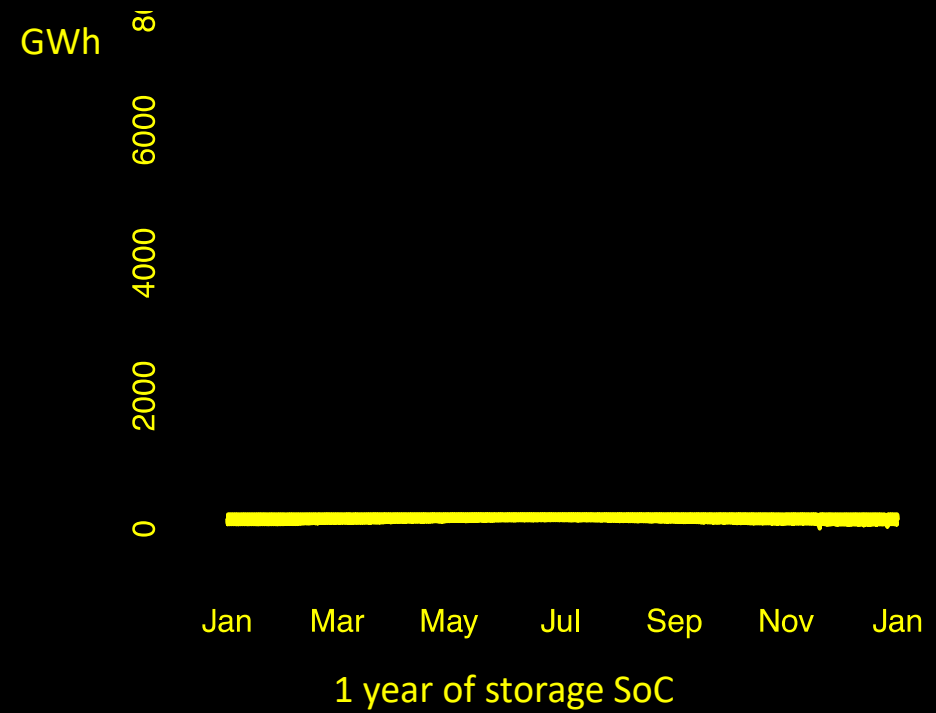
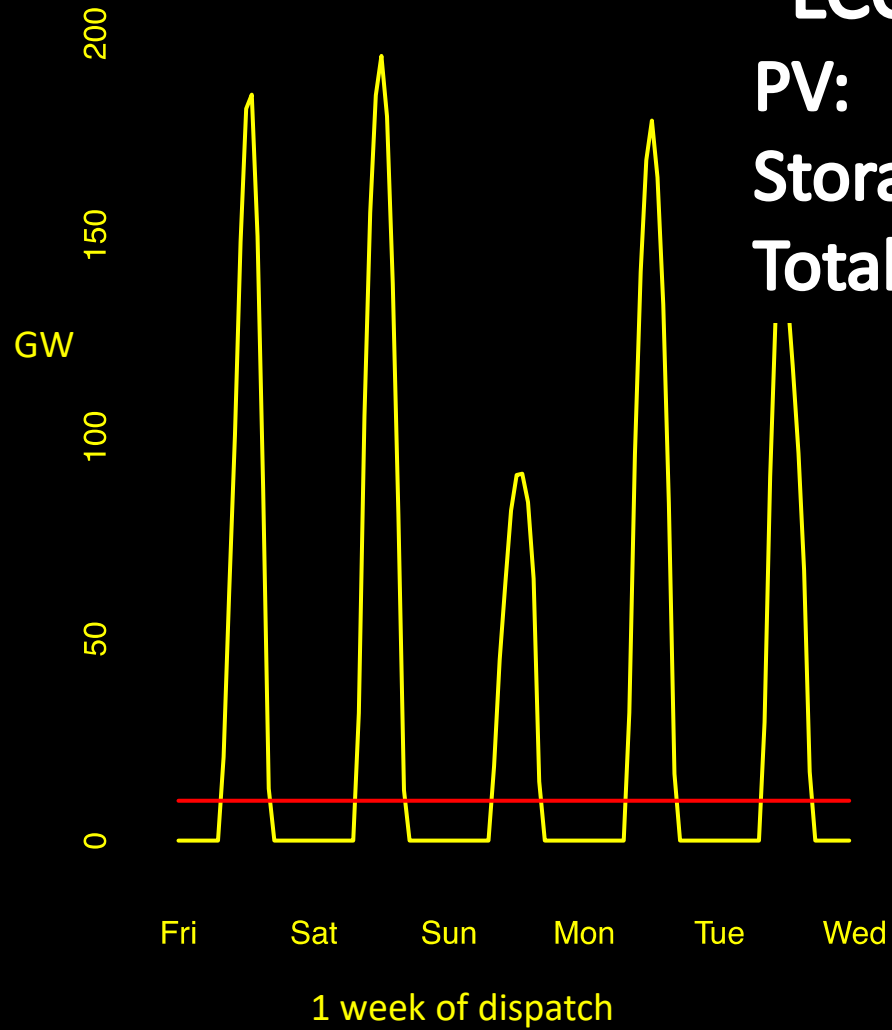


5.5 x oversizing

98.3 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

PV:	6.6
Storage:	1.7
Total:	8.3

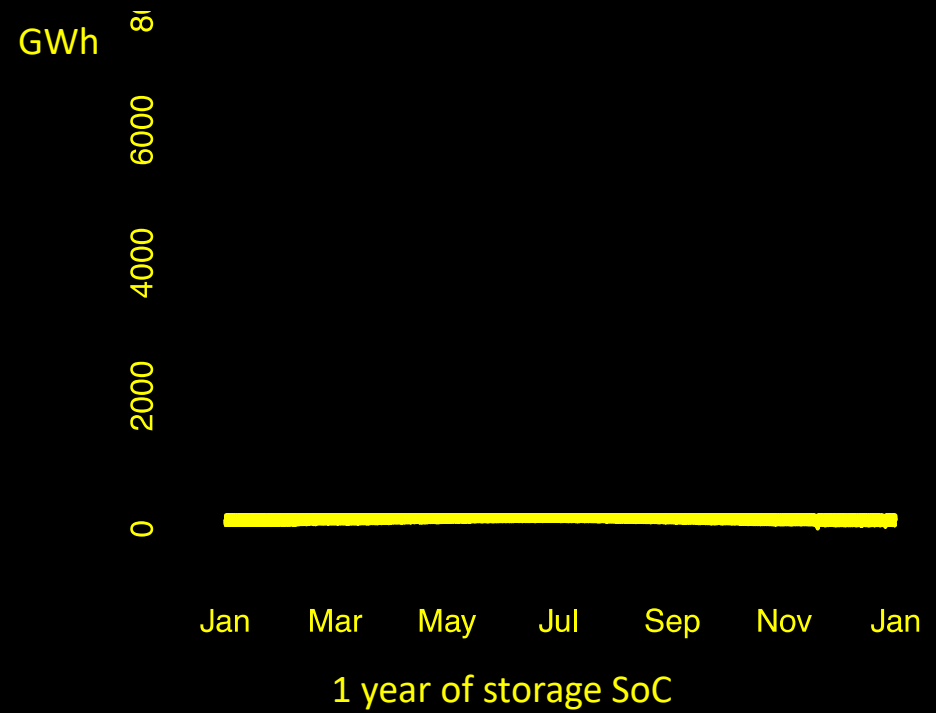
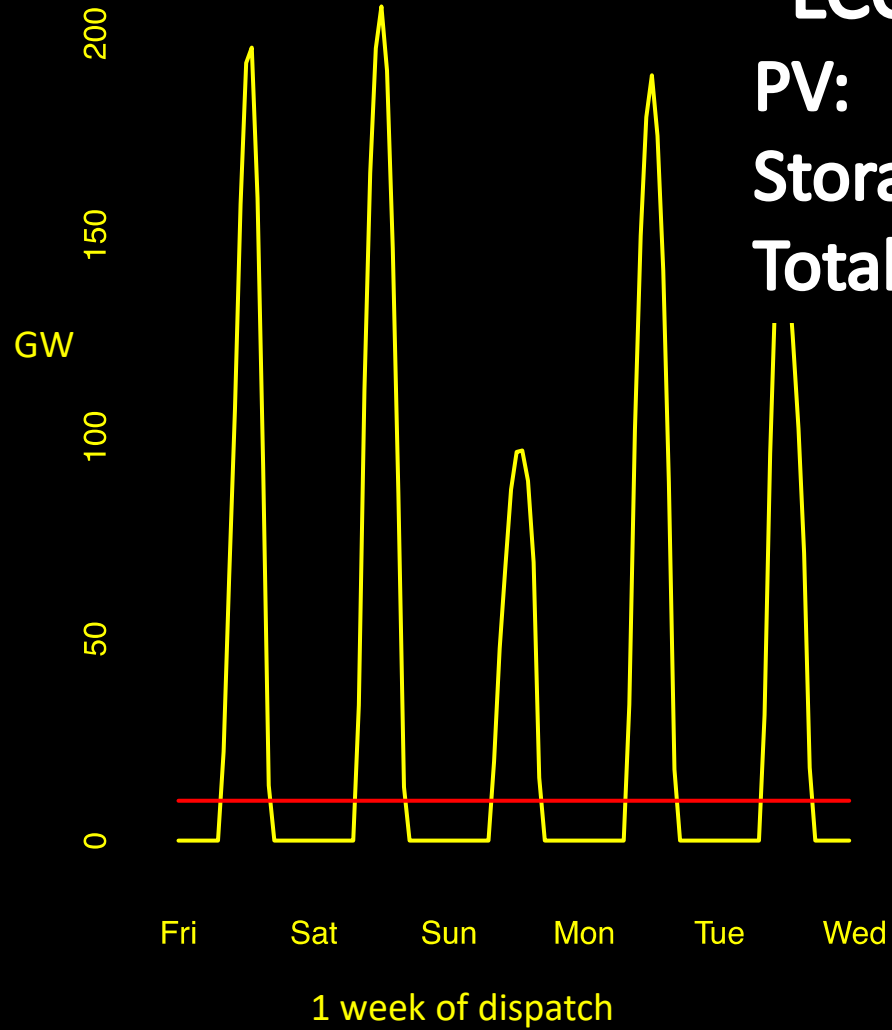


5.9 x oversizing

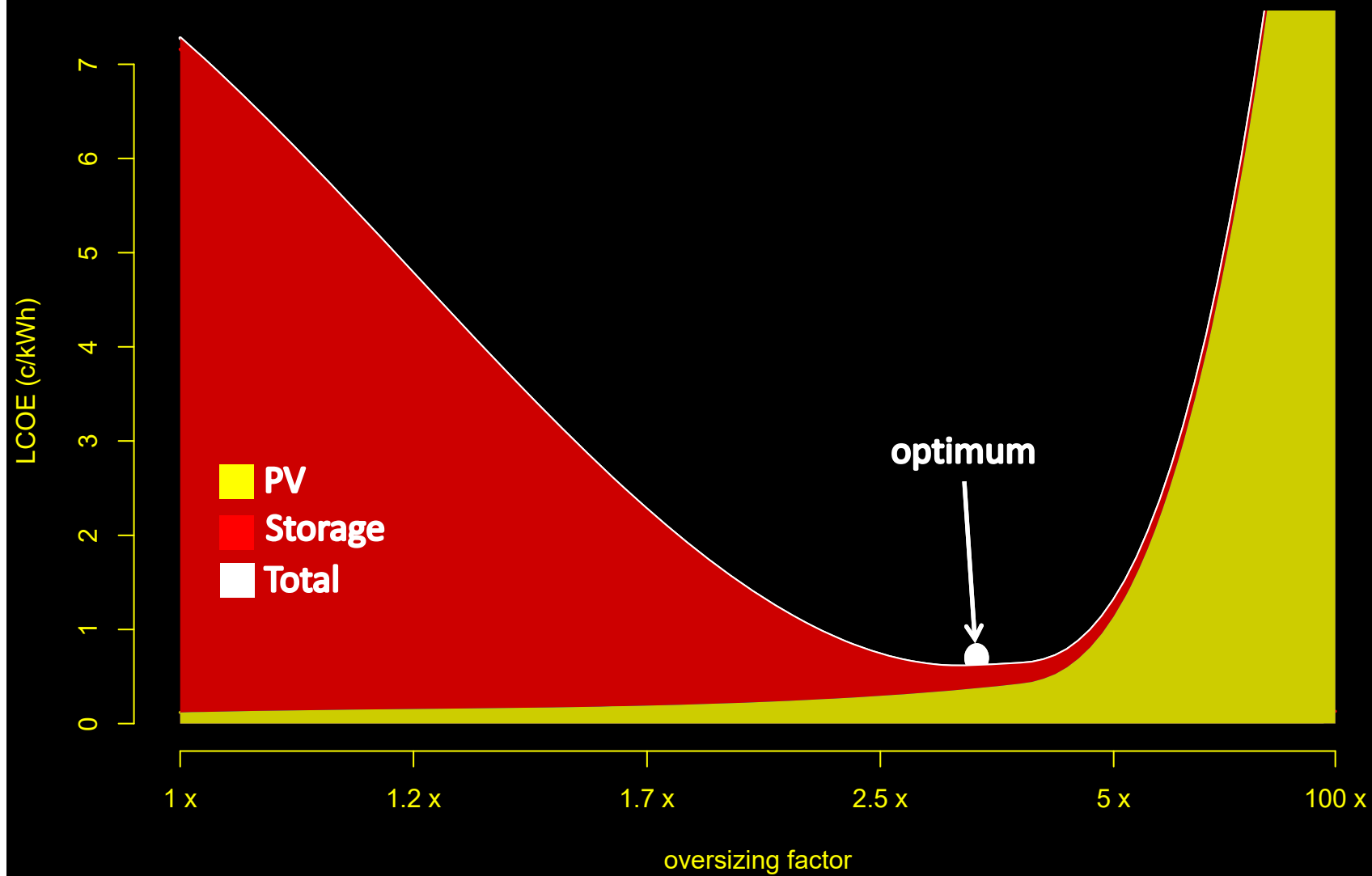
98.4 % reduction in storage

## LCOE (¢/kWh)

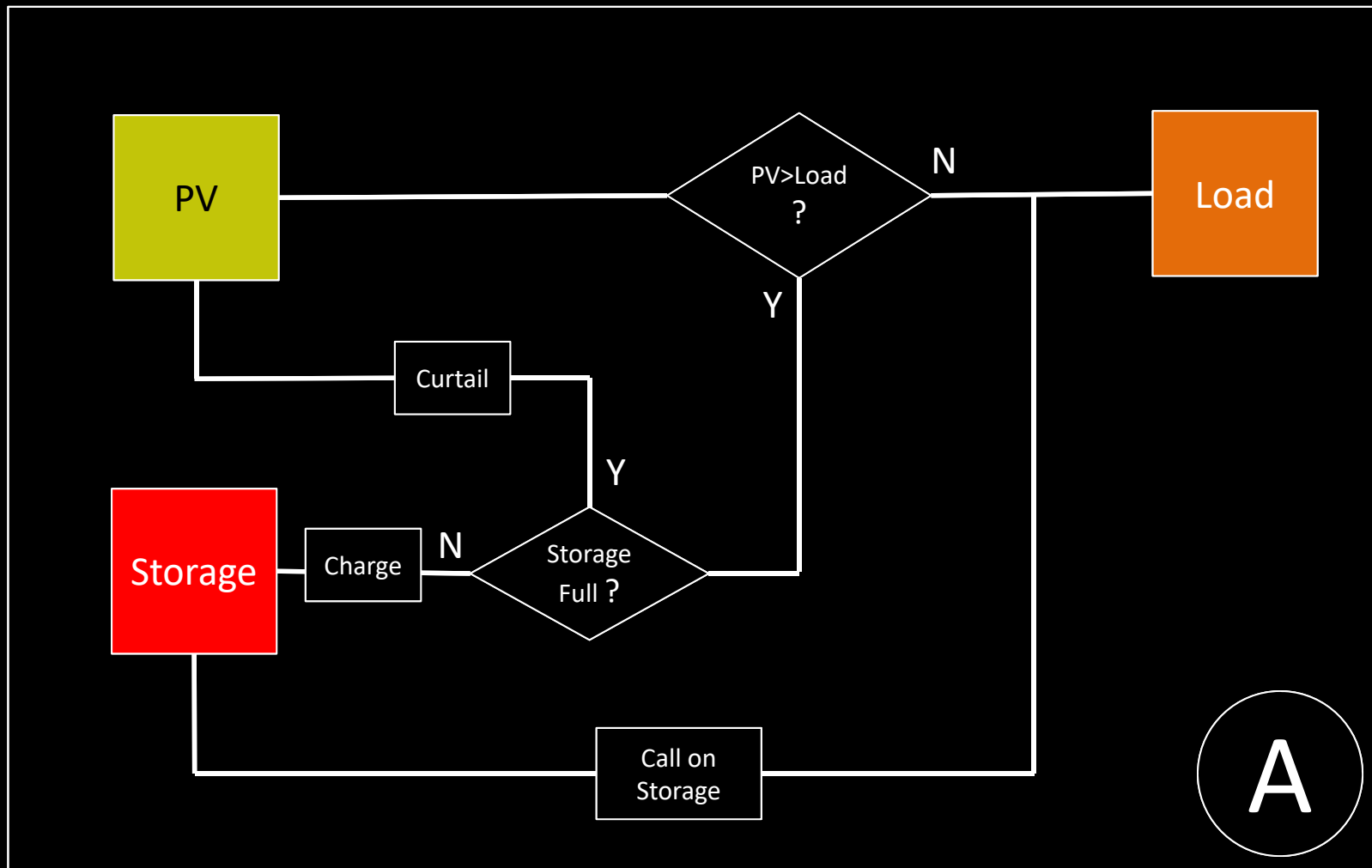
PV:	7.0
Storage:	1.7
Total:	8.7



## Oversizing Effect on Aggregate LCOE

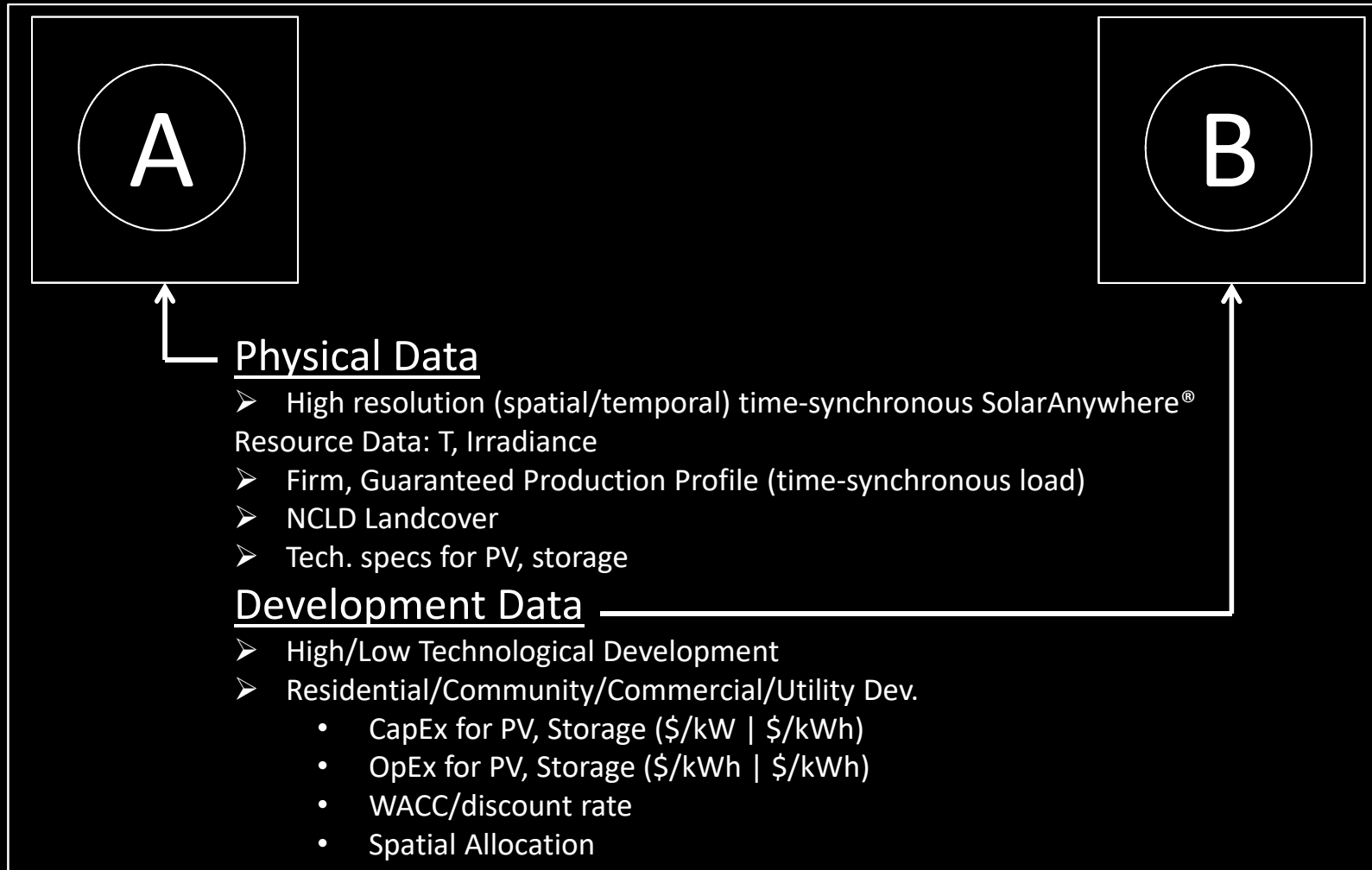


# Simplified PV/Storage Dispatch Schema



A

# Modeling Inputs



Boston  
Scientific

cee  
Center for Energy  
and Environment



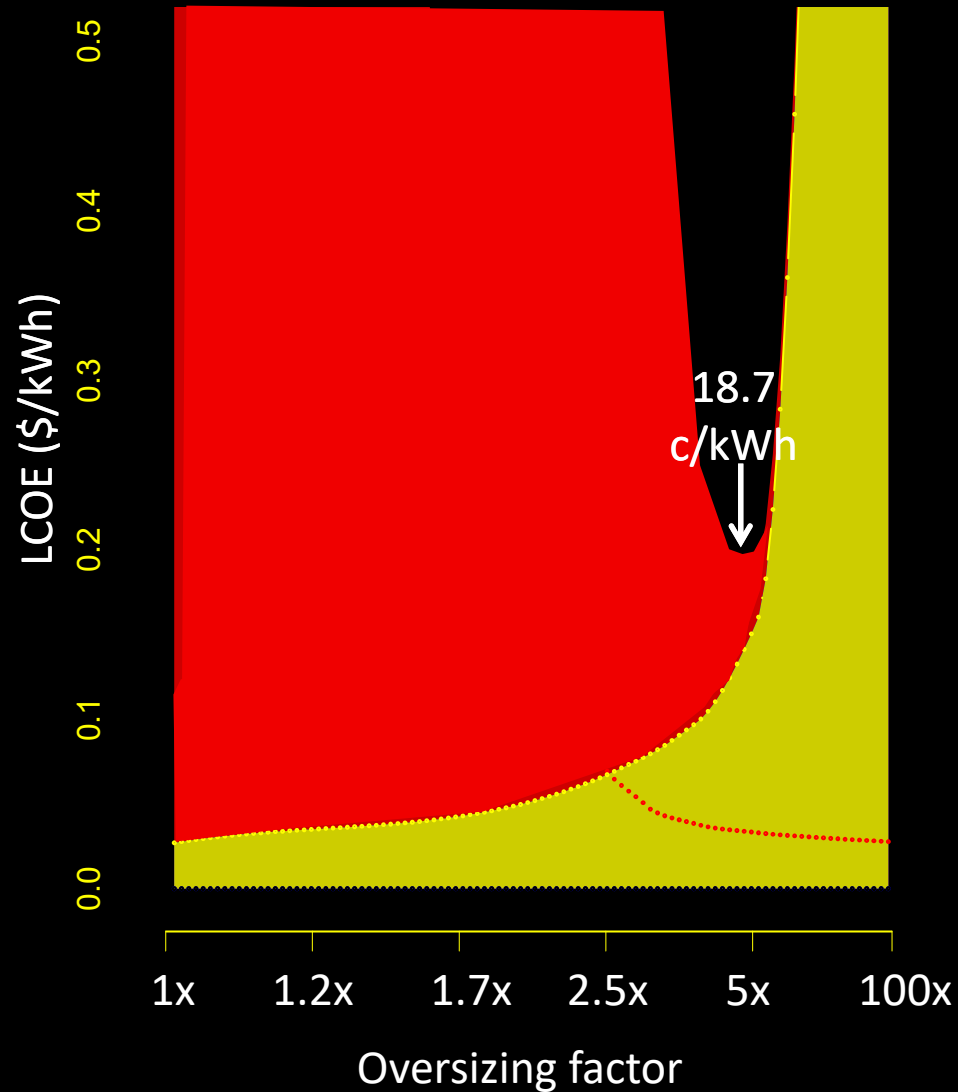
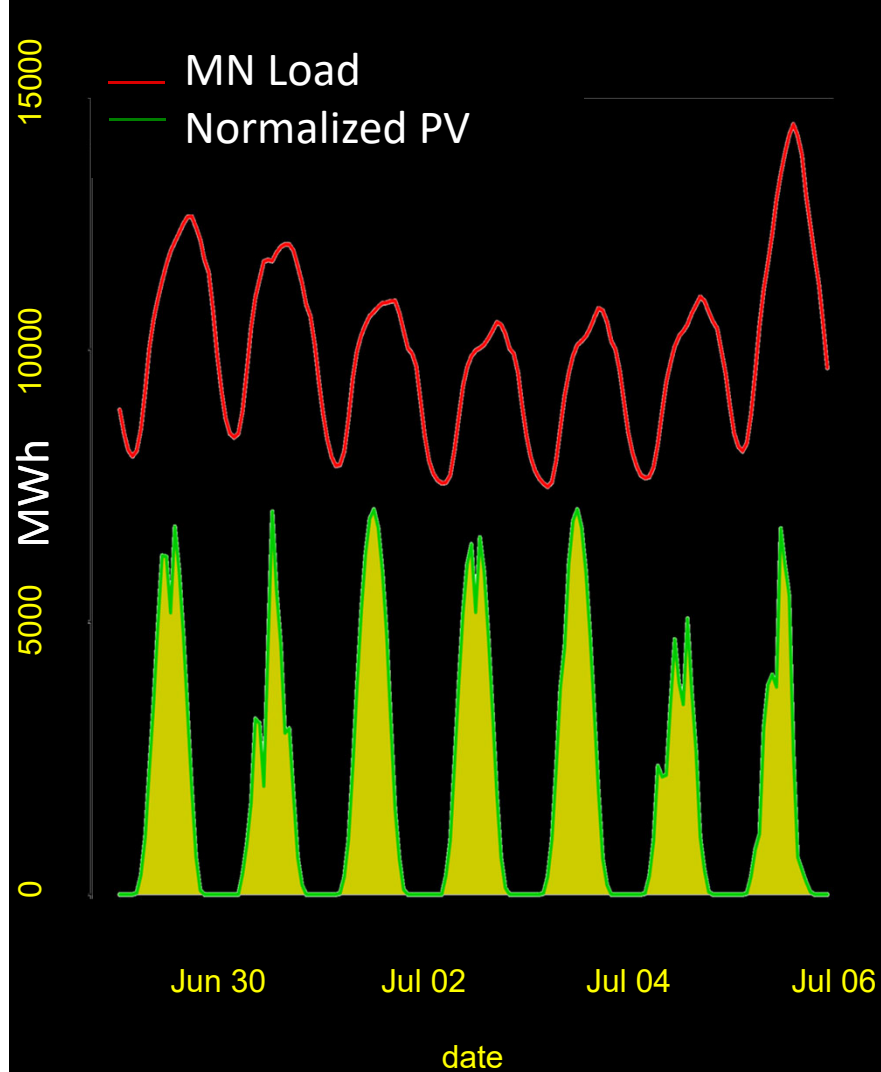
Fresh Energy



MN **SOLAR** PATHWAYS  
illuminating pathways to 10% solar

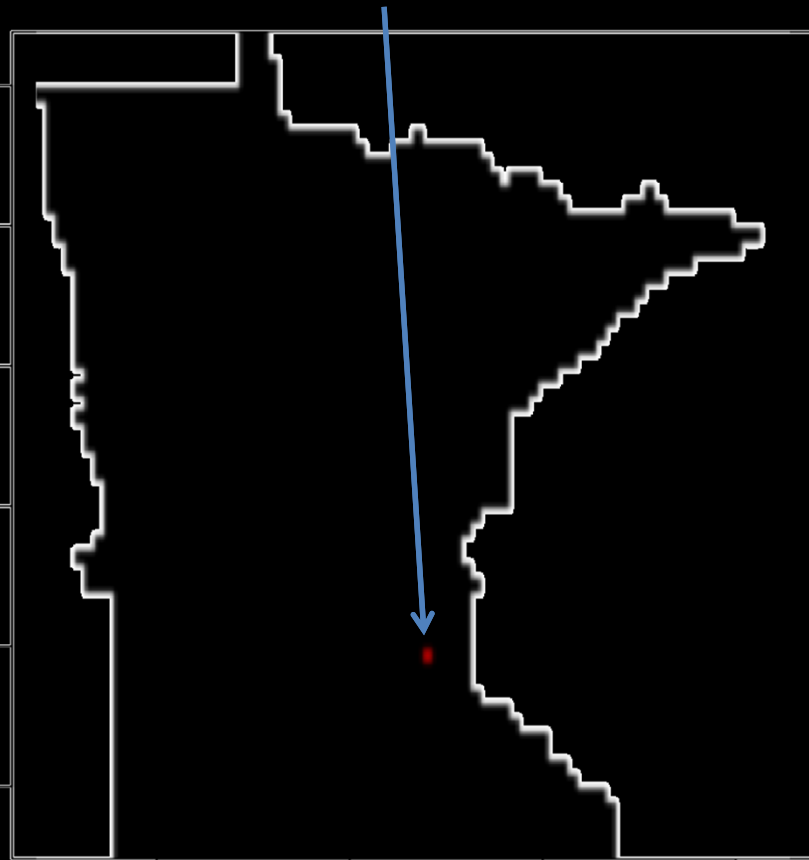


PV + Storage Meeting 100% of Hourly Load in MN, Utility-scale-led, Low Technological Development in 2050, WACC of 3% single point.

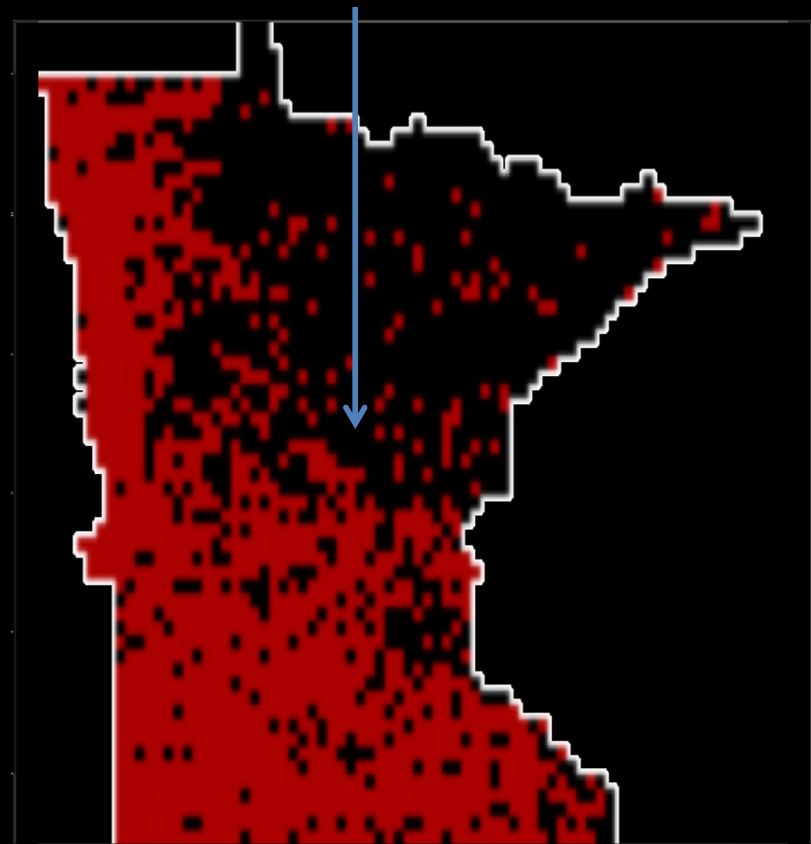


Non-official results

**PV Allocated just in Minneapolis**



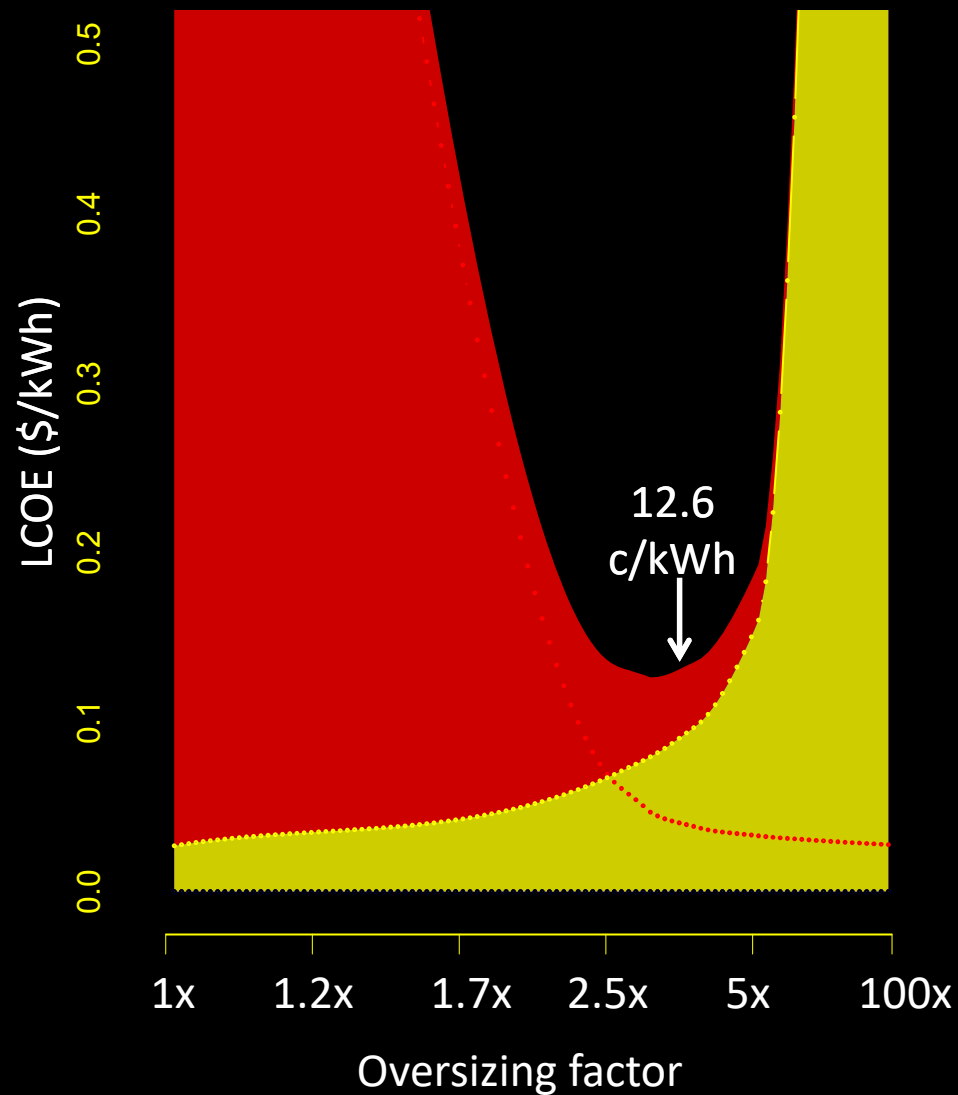
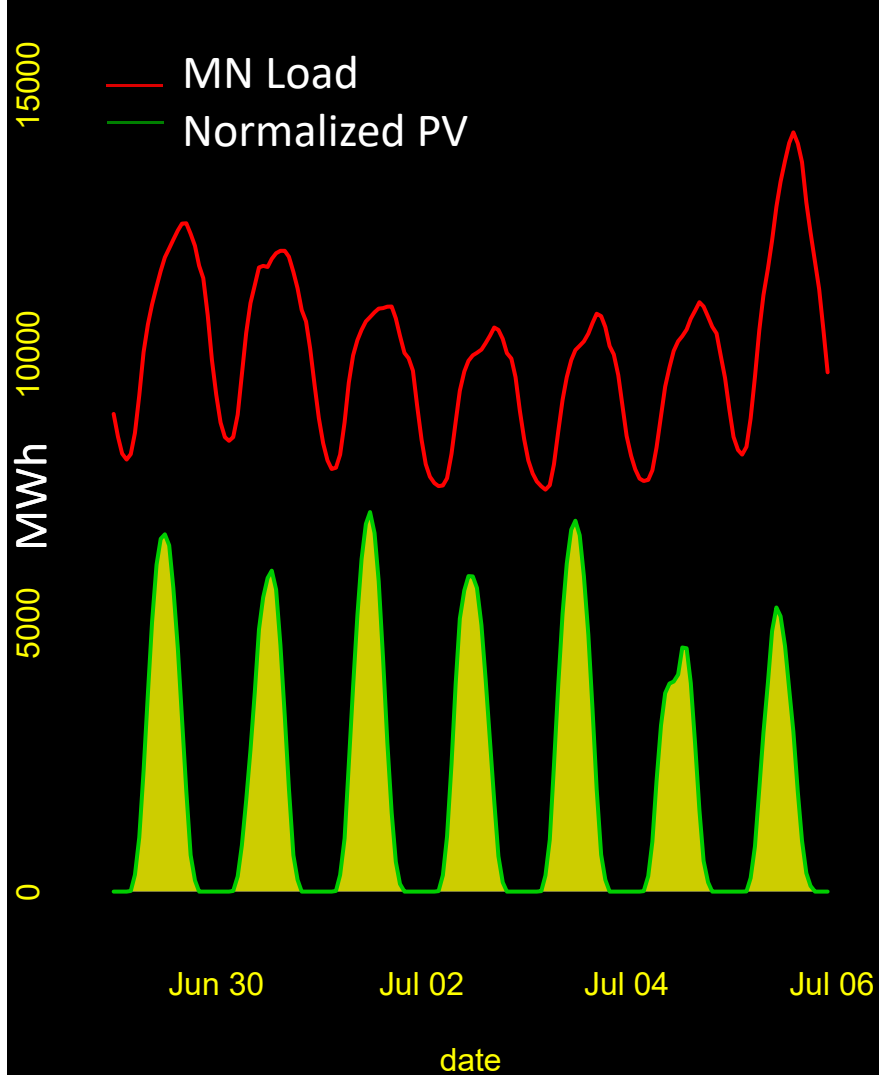
**PV Spread more evenly (yet still Avoiding sensitive landcover)**



**Geographic Dispersion Has an Effect on Cost**

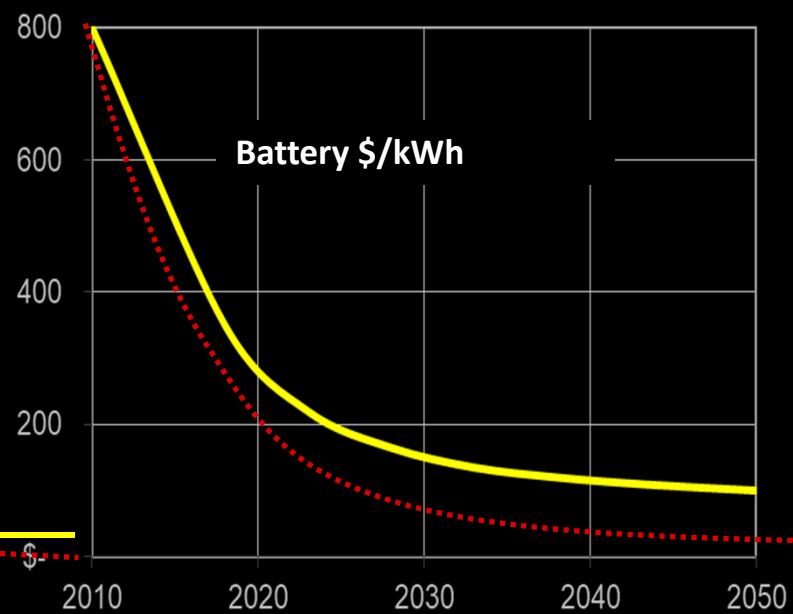
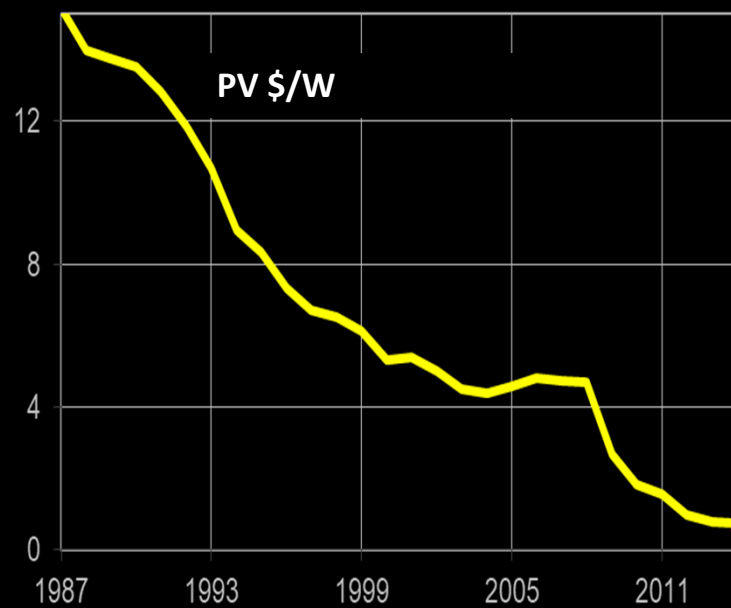


PV + Storage Meeting 100% of Hourly Load in MN, Utility-scale-led, Low Technological Development in 2050, WACC of 3% distributed.

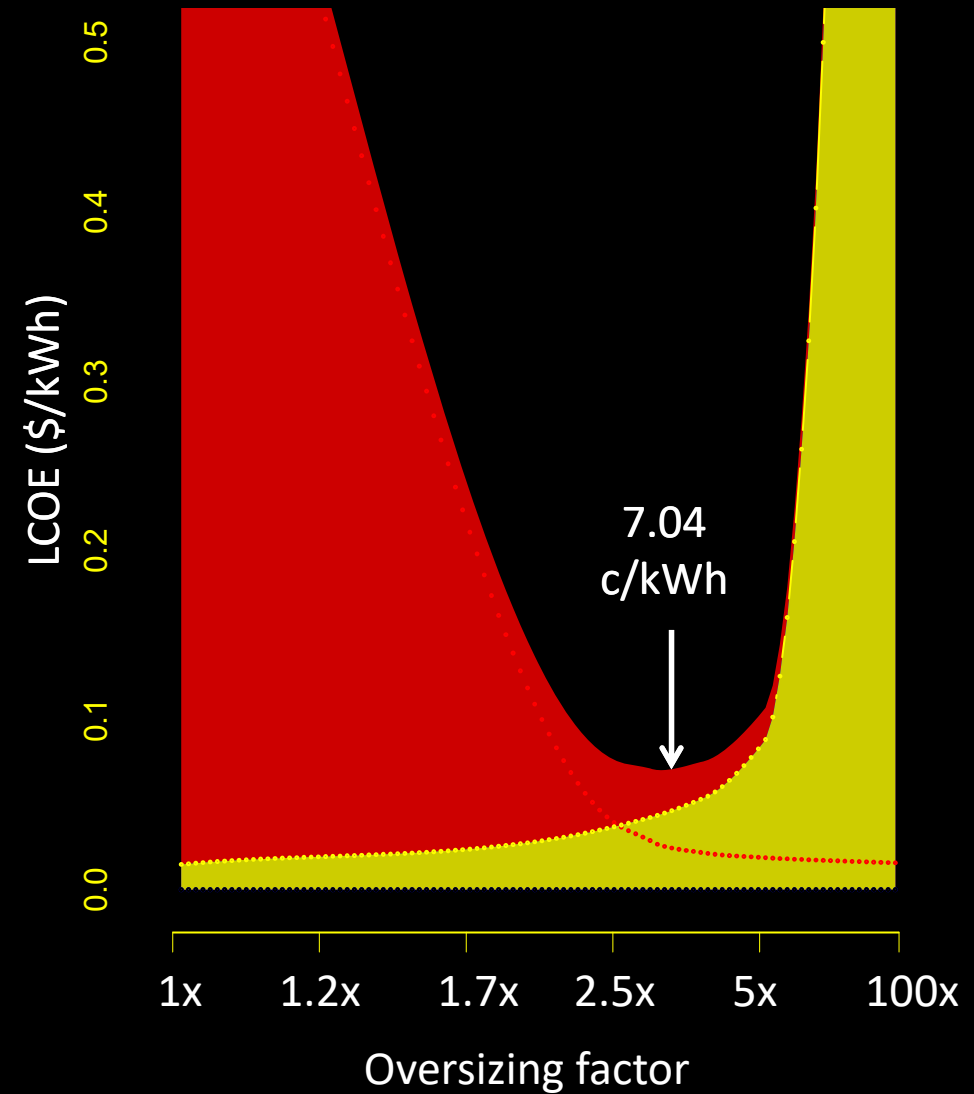
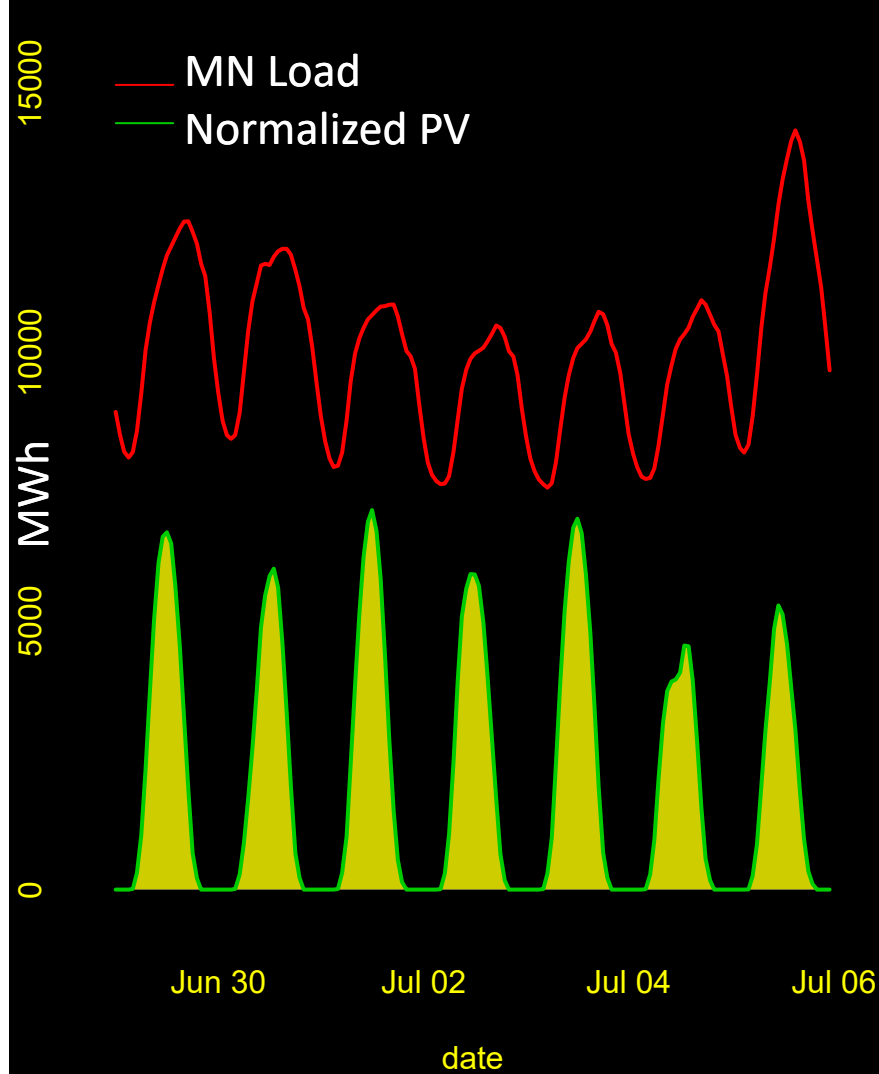


Non-official results

...As the degree of technological development

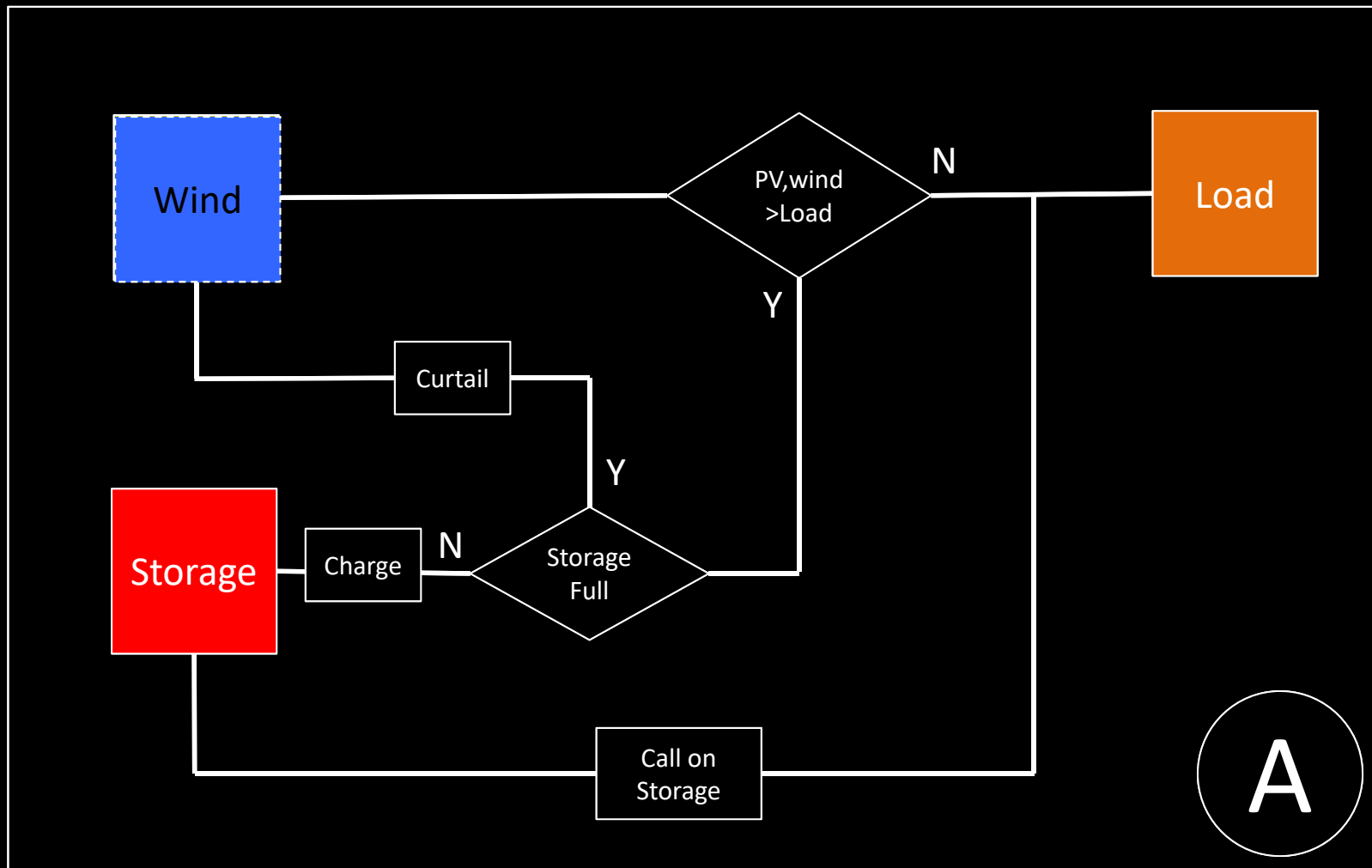


PV + Storage Meeting 100% of Hourly Load in MN, Utility-scale-led, High Technological Development in 2050, WACC of 3%

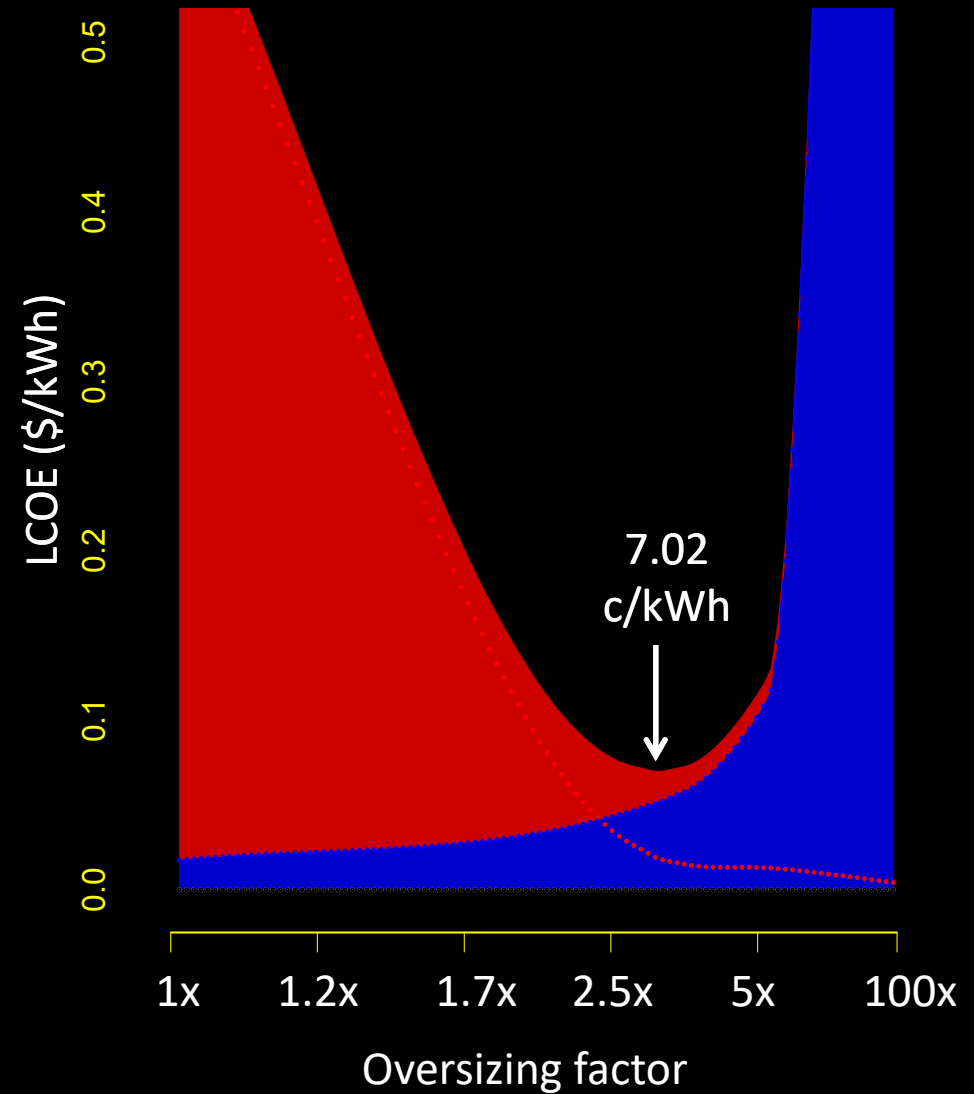
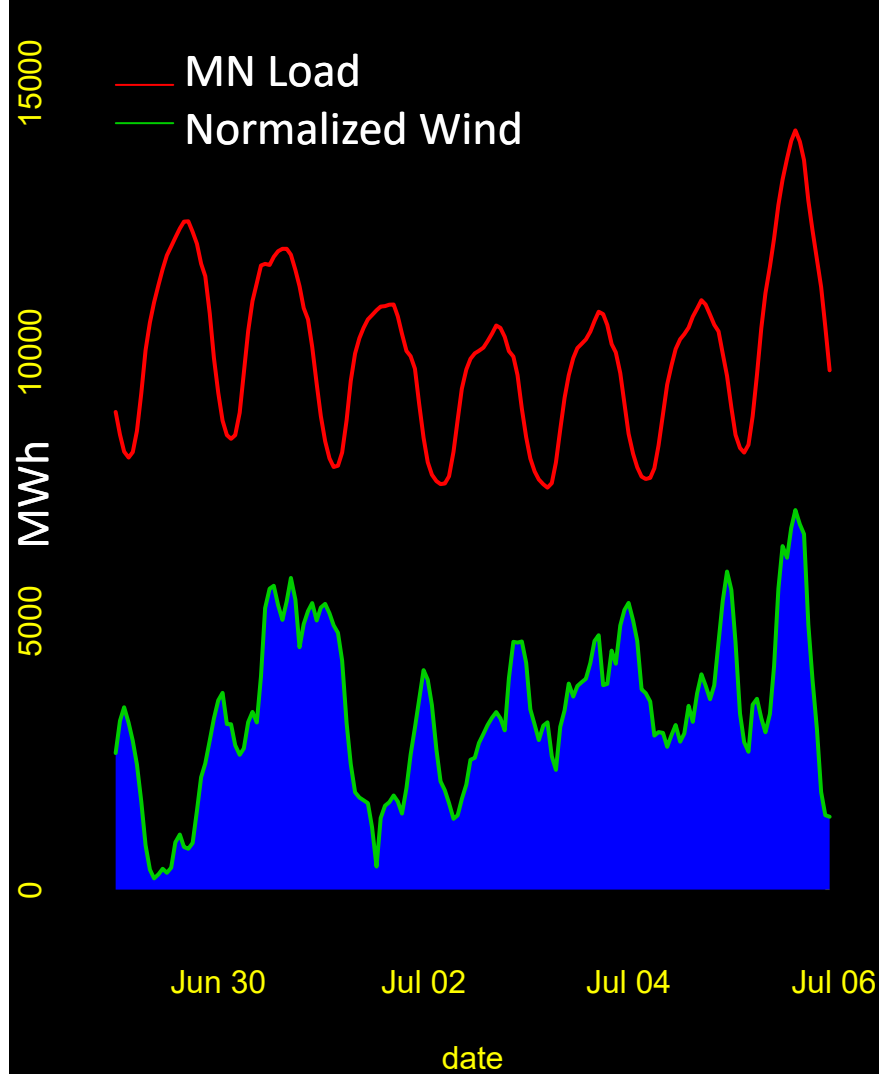


Non-official results

# Simplified PV/Storage Dispatch Schema



Wind + Storage Meeting 100% of Hourly Load in MN, Utility-scale-led, High Technological Development in 2050, WACC of 3%



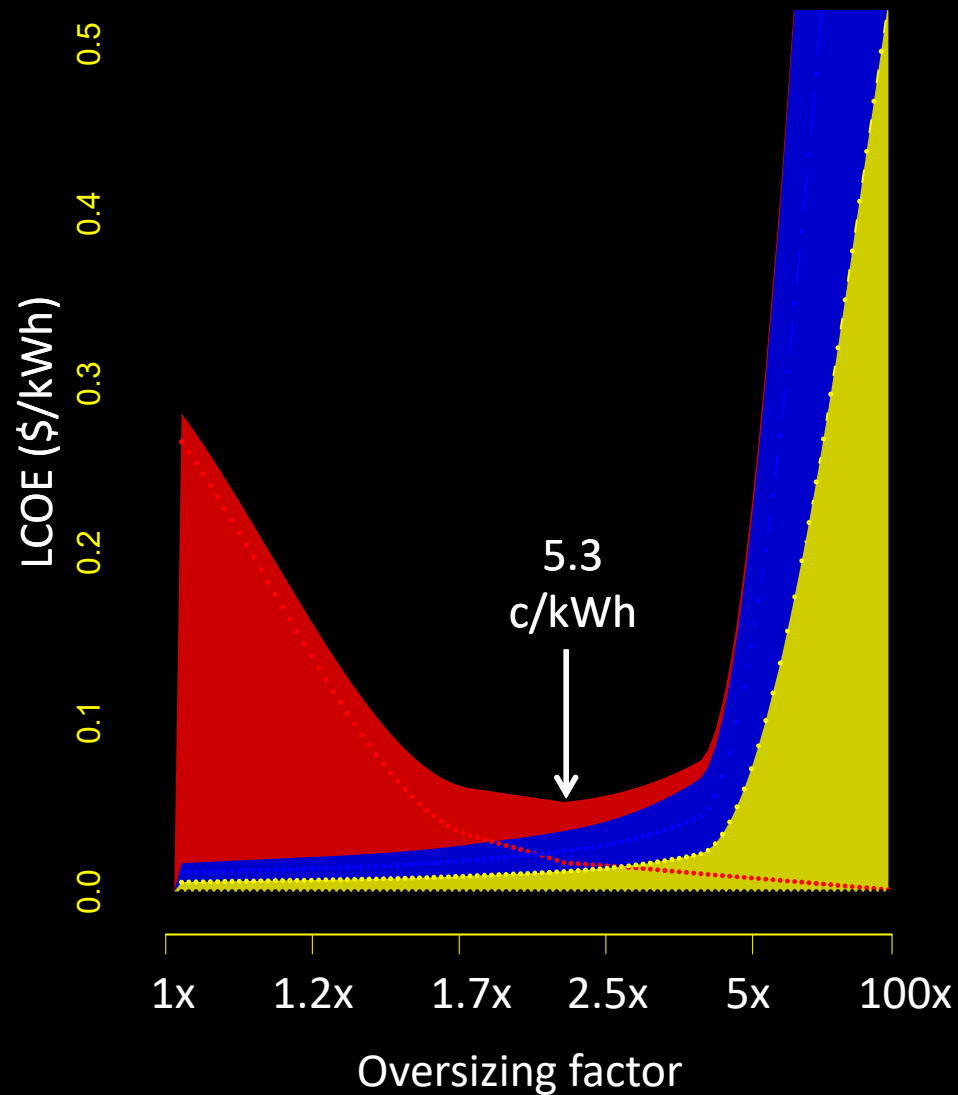
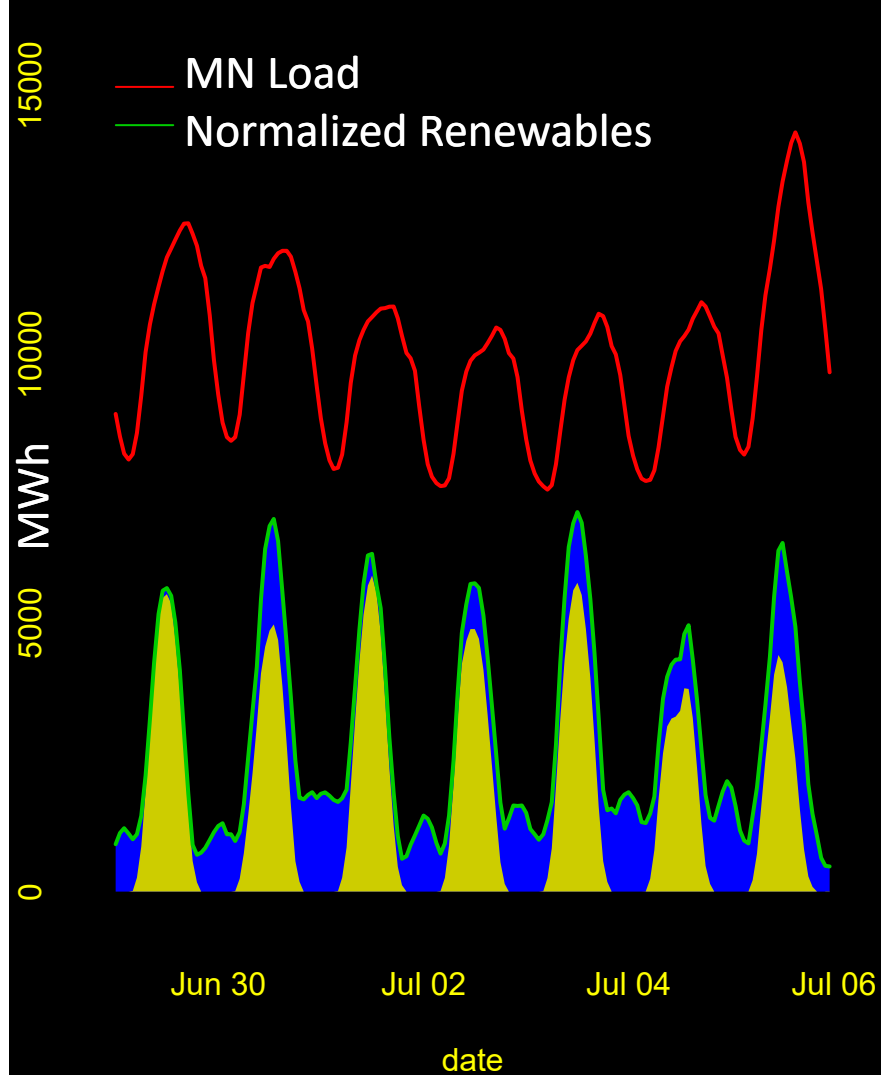
Non-official results

**Costs can be reduced further by blending the wind and solar resources**



**...where anticorrelated**

Optimal Wind/PV + Storage Meeting 100% of Hourly Load in MN, Utility-scale-led, High Technological Development in 2050, WACC of 3%



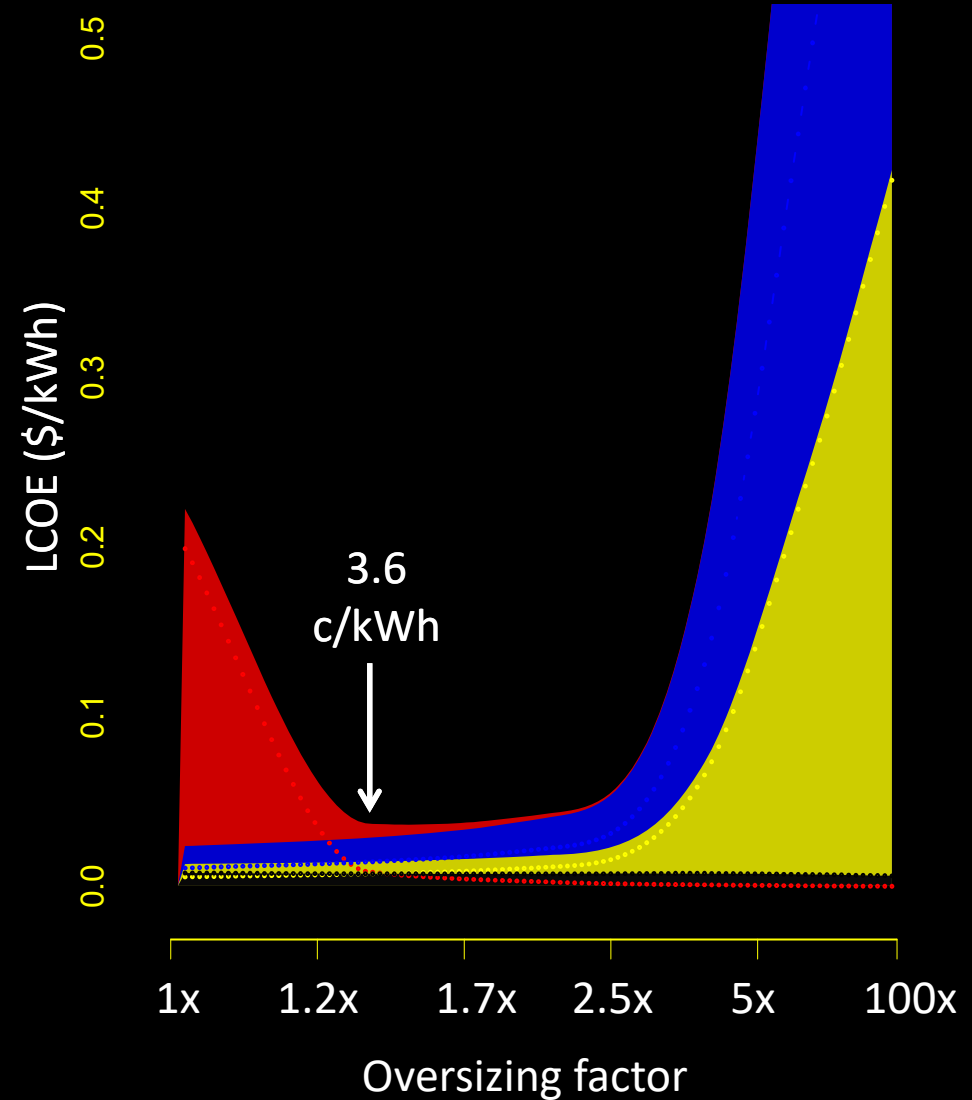
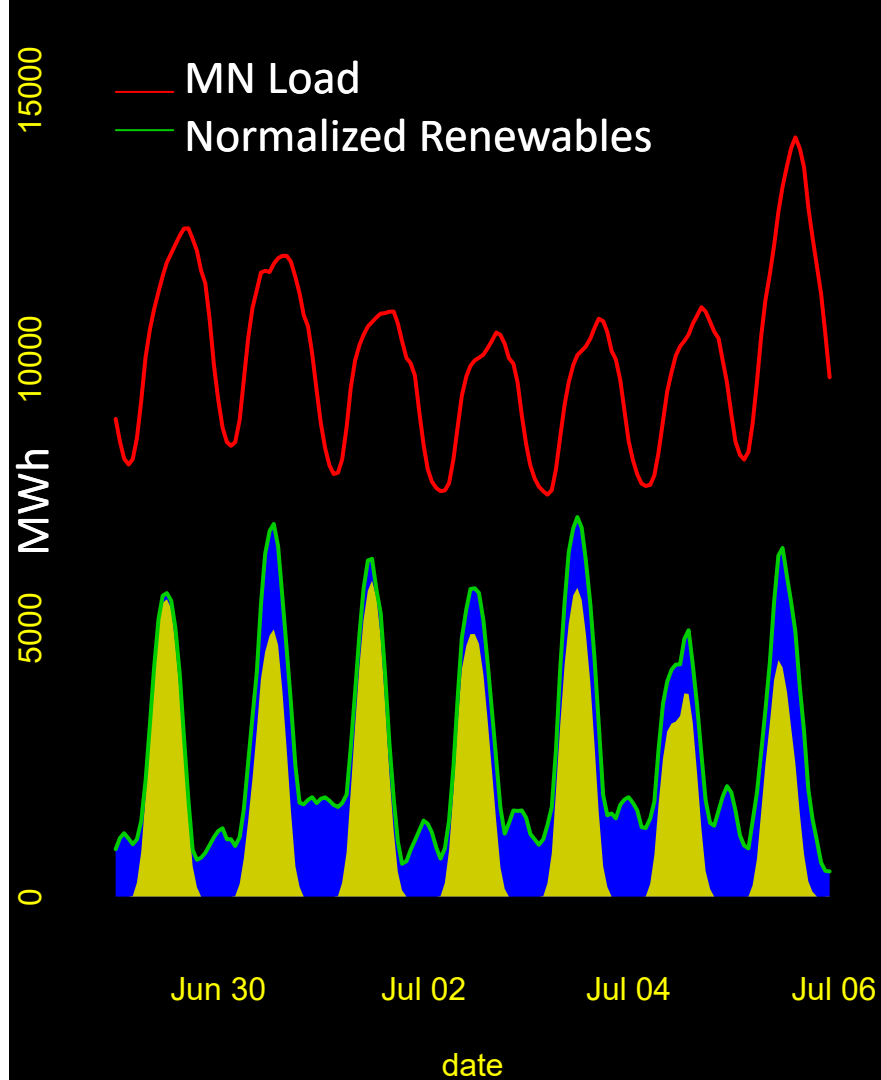
Non-official results

**Adding a small amount of conventional gas e.g. from stranded assets**





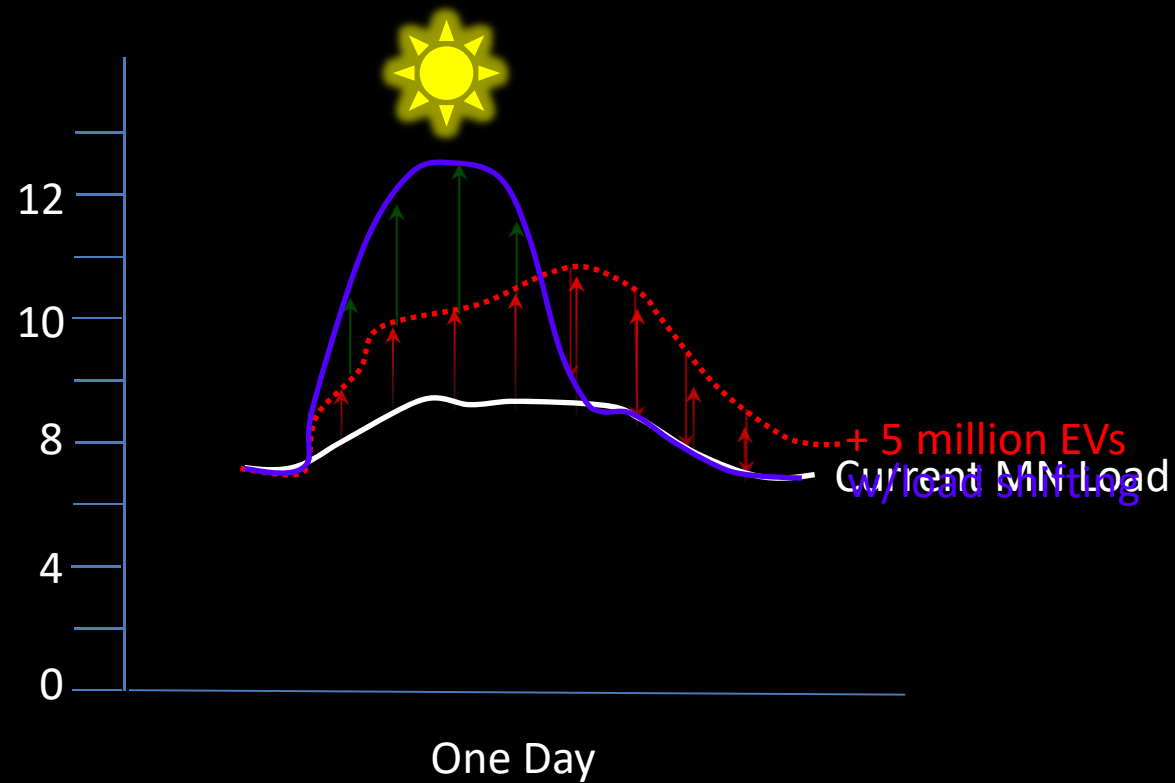
Optimal Wind/PV + Storage Meeting 95% Hourly Load in MN, 5% met by gas Utility-scale-led, High Technological Development in 2050, WACC of 3%



Non-official results

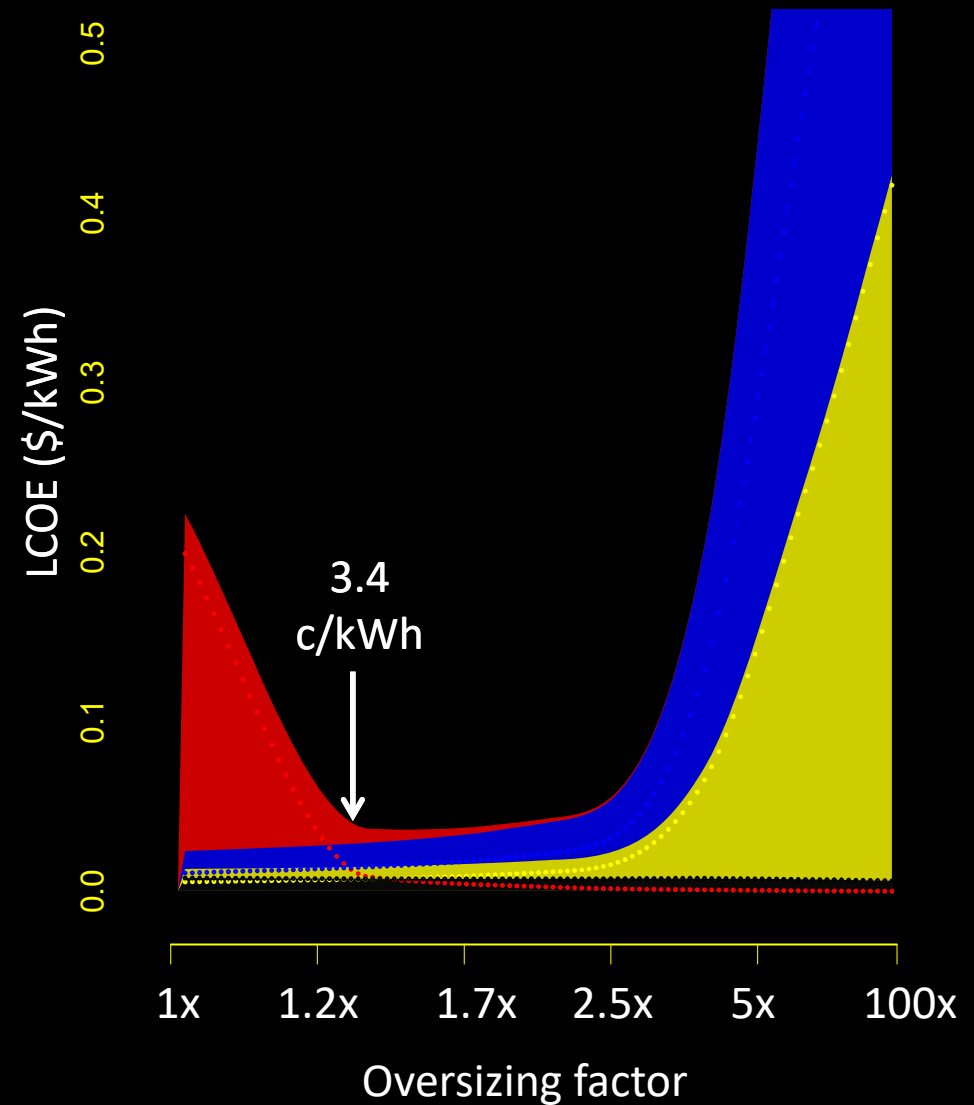
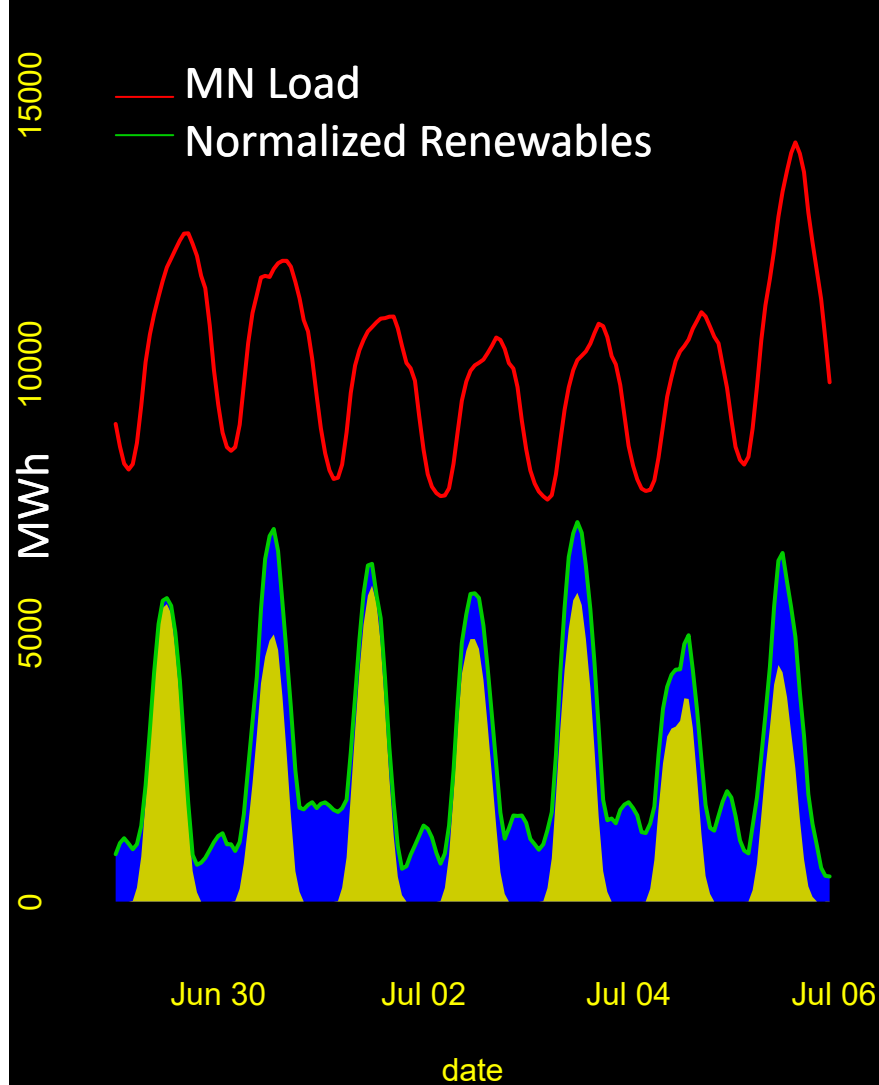


## EV Modeling in MN



**DSM Can shift load to surplus hours, but unless V2G is only intraday**

Optimal Wind/PV + Storage Meeting 95% Hourly Load in MN, 5% met by gas Utility-scale-led,  
High Technological Development in 2050, WACC of 3% +EV electrification & load-shifting



Non-official results

## Key Takeaways

- Supply shaping via oversizing + curtailment has significant value for minimizing cost at high penetration
- Major cost reduction by optimizing relative penetration of PV + wind
- Major cost reduction by including minor amounts of gas backup at key times to minimize need for storage

**55% PV, 40% wind, 5% gas**

**3.6 c/kWh**

**Thanks!**

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