



Overview of Wave and Current Energy:

Resource, Technology, Environmental and Business Issues

For: LSU

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Two of the Basic Forms of Ocean Energy



CURRENTS

- Tidal, river, and ocean variants
- Conversion technology is some sort of submerged turbine

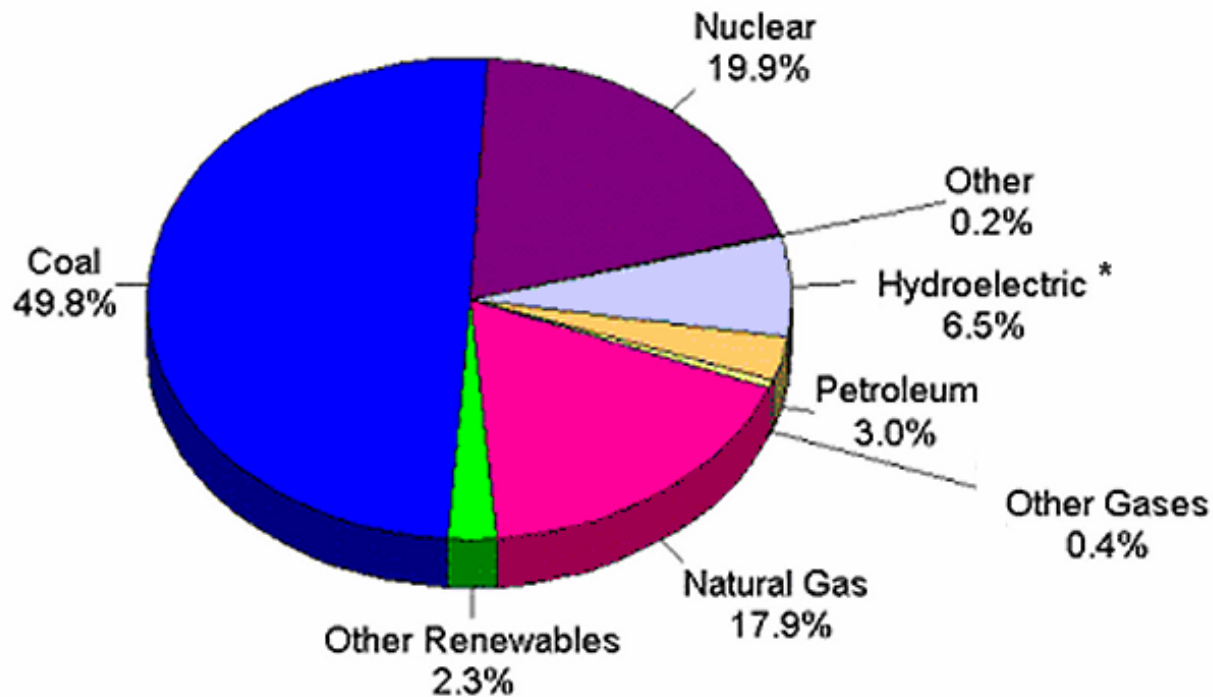


WAVES

- Conversion technology can be floating or submerged, with a wide variety of devices still being invented and developed

U.S. Wave and Current Energy Potential

**U.S. Annual Electric Power Generation
by fuel type in 2004 was 3,971 Terawatt-Hours (TWh)**



* Note: Hydroelectric includes generation from pumped-storage facilities after subtracting energy used for pumping

U.S. conventional hydro-electric generation in 2004 was ~260 TWh/yr

Wave and current generation potential

- Offshore wave 250-260 TWh/yr if 15% utilized
- Tidal, river, and ocean currents TBD but maybe half of wave

Credible potential to meet nearly 10% of national demand

Advantages of Wave and Current Energy

High power density as compared to most renewable resources – translates to lower installed cost

With proper siting, installation, O&M and decommissioning, could be one of the more environmentally benign of electricity generation technologies

Minimizes NIMBY – submerged or barely visible

No emissions – including CO₂

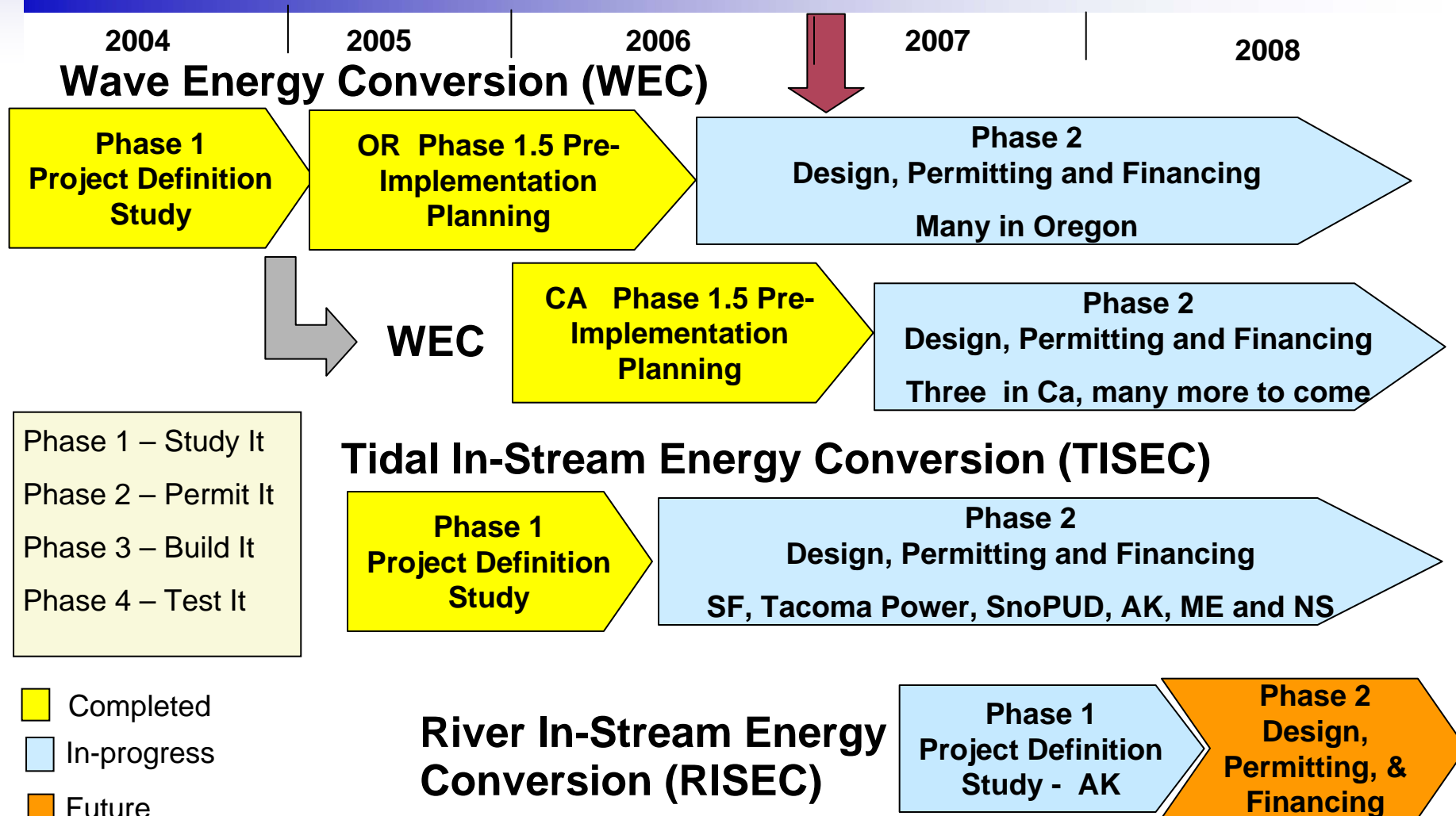
Job creation and economic development for maritime communities

Decrease national dependence on foreign fuel suppliers and risk of future fuel price volatility

Assimilates well into grid load balancing because of predictability

Increases diversity and robustness of electricity energy supply portfolio

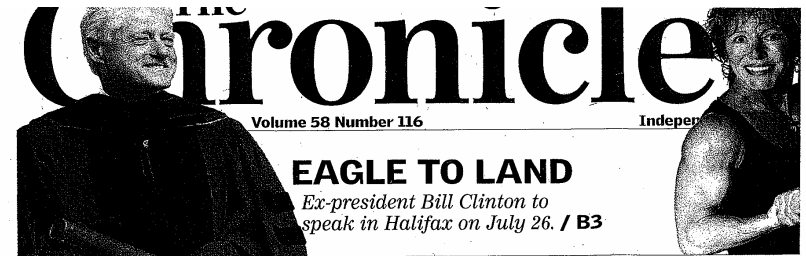
EPRI Pilot Demonstration Projects



EPRI Feasibility Studies are Having an Impact

- Investors filed >40 FERC applications for ocean energy preliminary permits
- May, 2006, NSPI announced a multi million dollar pilot tidal plant project
- June 2006, OPT filed for the 1st US commercial wave plant; a 50 MW plant at Reedsport OR, the site we selected in 2004; Coos Bay and Newport filings
- July 2006, Lincoln and Douglas County OR applied for FERC preliminary permit for multiple wave plants
- December 2006, Finevera AquaEnergy filed preliminary permit applications for plants in southern Oregon and northern California
- February, 2007, PG&E filed two preliminary permit applications for Northern California Wave Plants
- Forecasting a very wet 2007

May 16, 2006 Halifax Chronicle



Ralph Tedesco, president of Nova Scotia Power, responds to the release of an international study on potential tidal power project sites at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Dartmouth on Monday afternoon. Nova Scotia was identified as the best location in North America to develop tidal power, with possible commercial implications. (ERIC WYNNIE / STN)

Turning the tides of power

NSP boss 'bullish' on alternative energy source, N.S. vows go-slow approach on tidal potential

By JUDY MYRDEN
Business Reporter

Nova Scotia is going to take a go-slow approach to developing its tidal power potential, Energy Minister Bill Dooks says, after an international study found it to be the most promising location

needs to be protected." The \$400,000 study, conducted by the Electric Power Research Institute of California over the past 15 months, identified eight potential sites for tidal power projects on the Nova Scotia side of the Bay of Fundy, which has among the most powerful tides

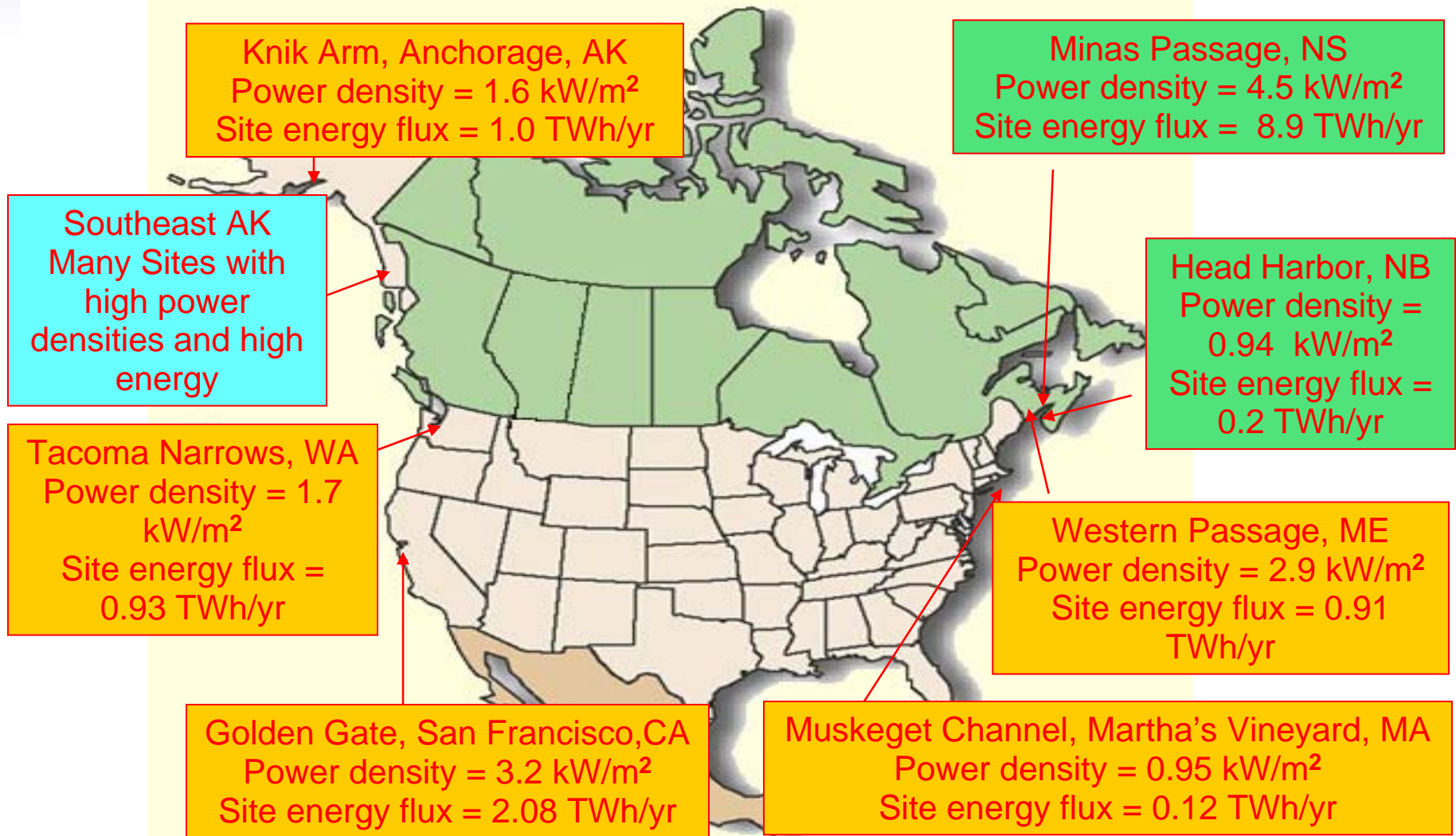
288-megawatt project would be roughly \$485 million. Ralph Tedesco, Nova Scotia Power's president and chief executive officer, said he is "bullish" on tidal power and is keen to undertake a demonstration project in the Bay of Fundy with other partners to pay for the



Currents



Tidal Resources at EPRI Study Sites



Tidal Current Turbines

EPRI state and provincial Advisory Groups selected turbines in **bold font** for more detailed study



- GCK (vertical-axis, Gorlov helical rotor)
- **Lunar Energy (h-axis, shrouded rotor)**
- **Marine Current Turbines (h-axis, open rotor)**



- Open Hydro (h-axis, open rotor, rim-drive)
- SeaPower (vertical axis, Savonius rotor)
- SMD Hydrovision (h-axis, open rotor)



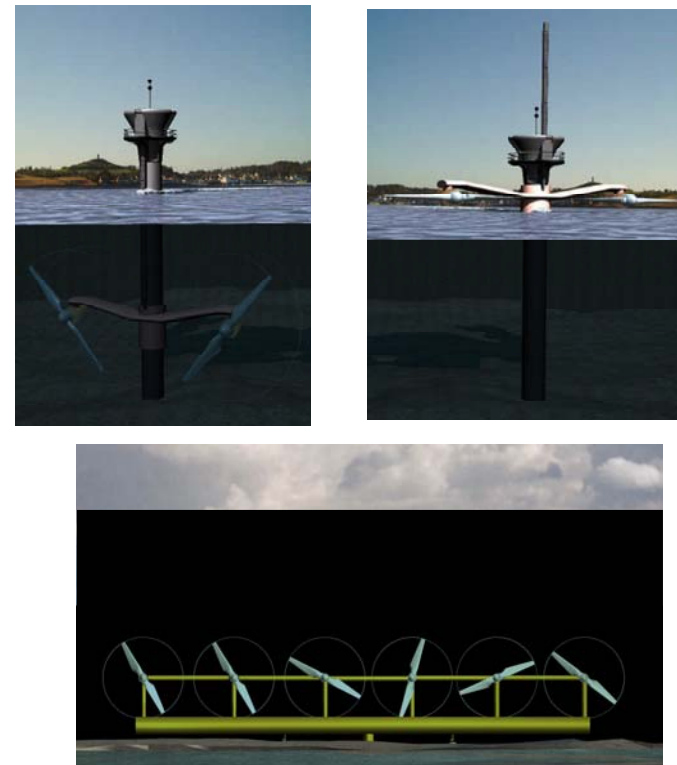
- UEK (h-axis, shrouded rotor)
- **Verdant Power (h-axis, open rotor)**



UK-Based Marine Current Turbines



SeaFlow experimental 300 kW prototype (11-m rotor diameter) operating in Bristol Channel since May 2003; not connected to grid)

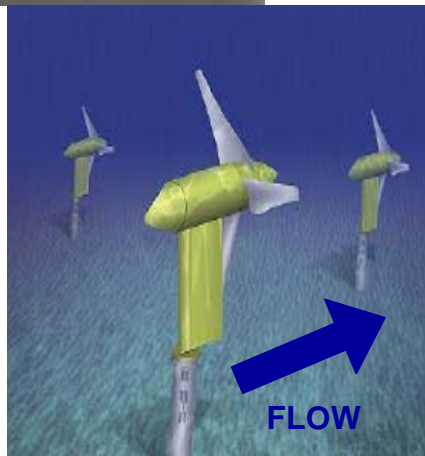


SeaGen commercial 1.2 MW prototype consists of dual 16-m rotor diameter unit being installed at Strangford Lough, No Ireland

US-Based Verdant Power



Six-turbine, 200 kW array
– first 2 deployed Dec
2006 – next 4 in April
2007 in East River, New
York City for 18 month
environmental monitoring
pursuant to FERC project
licensing



Downstream, 3-blade rotor
5-m in diameter, yaws to
accommodate reversing flow

Open Hydro – 1st in EMEC – Dec 2006

Caldale substation, Eday
Housing main switchgear, back-up generator and communications room, controls for supply from each tidal device and connection to the national grid. A laydown area provides options for alternative test power configurations.

Conditions can be challenging

Kirkwall harbour

Firth of Clyde

Strongest currents are well defined

Current meters
A series of current meter deployments have taken place to help characterise tidal and wave conditions in the test area. The data has been used to validate a predictive model for tidal streams in the area.

Test berths
Five 11 kV, 5 MW subsea cables extend to the centre of the tidal stream. Developers will be responsible for installing their devices, connecting to the test designated cable and removing their devices when testing is complete.

EMEC offices/data centre
In Stromness EMEC has a suite of offices and data acquisition facilities, including areas dedicated to specific developers. Fibre-optic and data networks provide developers with direct and secure access to their own devices.

Cable lay vessel

Various workboats available



River Current Energy

- **Resource characteristics**
 - Stochastic – governed by precipitation
- **U.S. production potential**
 - ~110 TWh per year (NY University, 1986)
 - EPRI feasibility study for Alaska rivers in 2007
- **General types of conversion technology**
 - Underwater turbines in various configurations

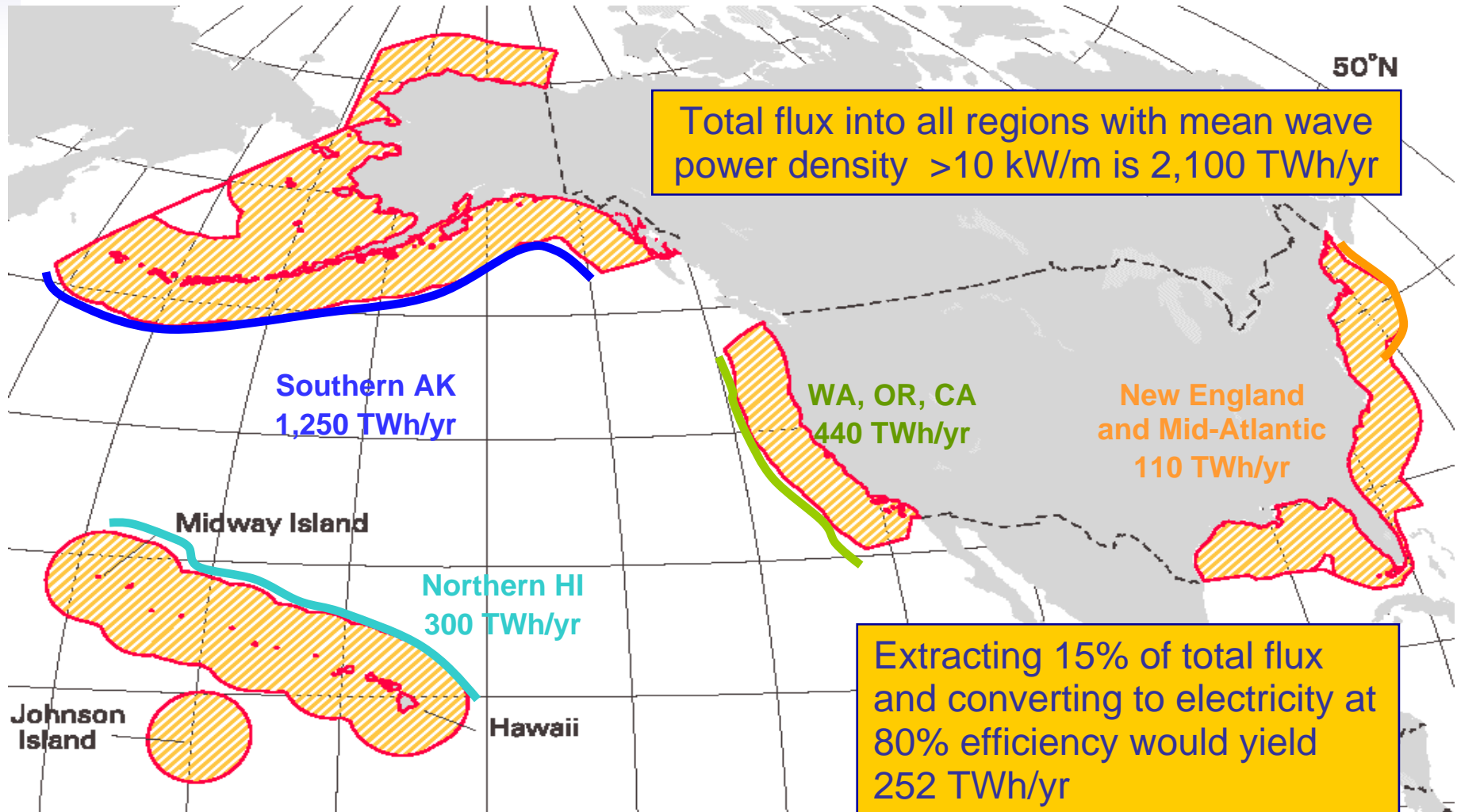
Ocean Current (Florida Gulf Stream) Energy

- **Resource characteristics**
 - Gulf Stream relatively steady
- **U.S. production potential**
 - EPRI not engaged in ocean current
- **General types of conversion technology**
 - Underwater turbines in various configurations
- **Conversion technology status**
 - Challenges: potential climate impacts, large water depths (350-450 m), long submarine cable distances (20-35 km), single state resource

Waves



U.S. Offshore Wave Energy Resources

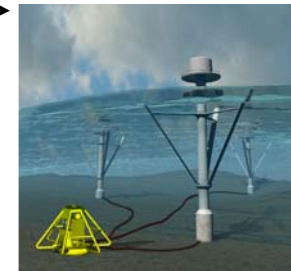


Wave Energy Conversion Devices

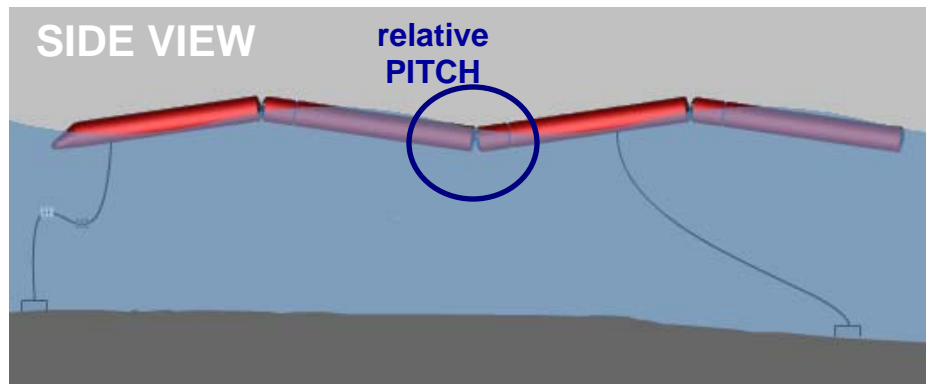
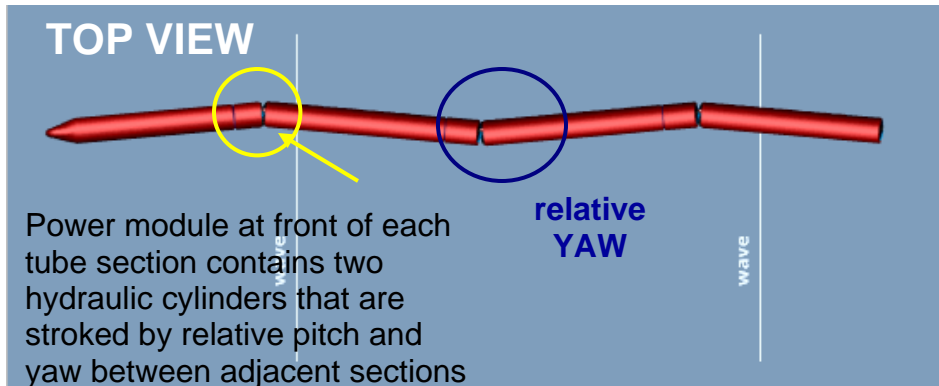
EPRI December 2006 WEC Device Survey – 14 Respondents

The two in bold were used in 2004 Feasibility Studies

- Able Technologies - Electricity Generation Wave Pump
- AquaEnergy Group, Finevera - AquaBuOY
- AWS Energy - Archimedes Wave Swing
- Ecofys - Wave Rotor
- **Energetech - Uiscebeathe**
- Fred Olsen - FO Research Rig “Buldra”
- Independent Natural Resources Inc - SeaDog™
- **Ocean Power Delivery - Pelamis**
- Ocean Power Technologies - PowerBuoy®
- Renewable Energy Holdings - Cylindrical Energy Transfer Oscillator (CETO)
- Wavebob Ltd - Wavebob WEC
- Wave Dragon Ltd - Wave Dragon
- Wave Energy AS - Sea Wave Slot-Cone Generator (SSG)
- Wave Star Energy - Wave Star



UK Based Ocean Power Delivery Pelamis



Pelamis 750 kW prototype installed in August of 2004 in 50 m water depth, 2 km offshore the European Marine Energy Centre, Orkney, UK



Pelamis 1st commercial sale occurred 2005 – OPD Pelamis in Portugal – contains an early 3 unit qualification

Energetech



Port Kembla Prototype

Size: 25 x 35 m

Average power: 500 kW @
avg wave resource of 35 kW/m

Max rated power: 1.5 MW

Structural Steel Wt: 150 ton

Deployed Water Depth: 9 m



Milestones

2005 - Completed installation of a 500 kW prototype at Port Kembla Australia

2006 - Energetech begins development of a slack moored floating version of the PK prototype with an expected completion of the first project using the floating technology in Q1 2008.

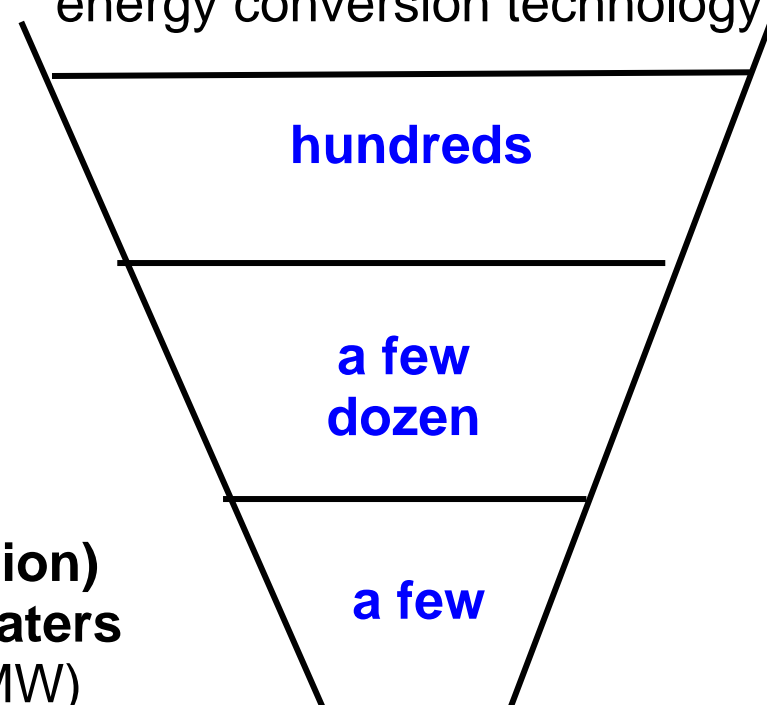
Technology Development Status

**Rigorous laboratory
tow- or wave-tank
physical model tests**
(1/50- to 1/5-scale)

**Short-term (days to months)
tests in natural waters**
(typically 10 kW to 100 kW)

**Long-term (>1 yr duration)
prototypes in natural waters**
(typically 100 kW to 2 MW)

Thousand of concepts and patents on ocean energy conversion technology



It typically takes 5 to 10 years for a technology to progress from concept-only to deployment of a long-term prototype

Will these devices affect the environment?

Ocean power may be one of the more environmentally benign of the known electricity generation technologies.

The Environmental Issues

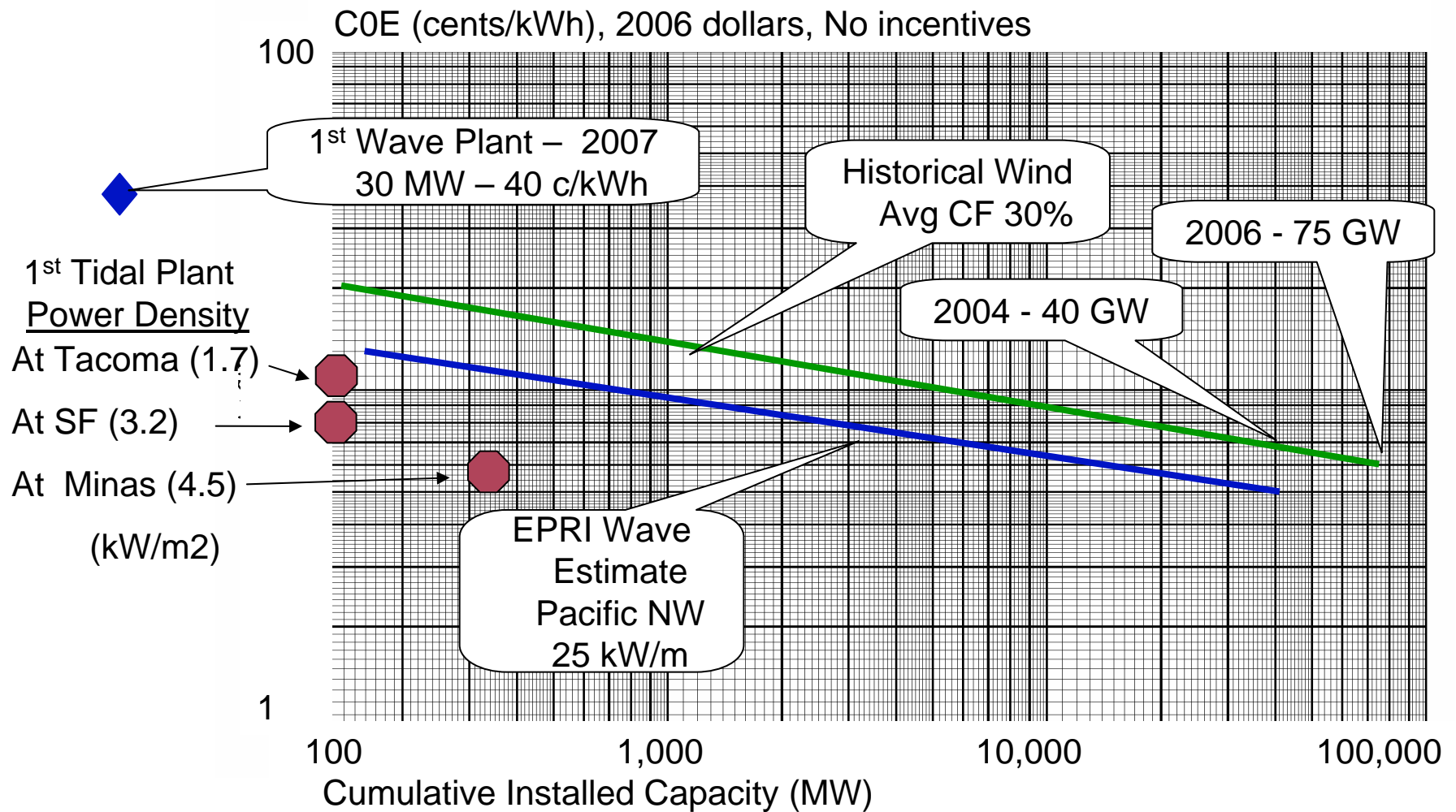
- Withdrawal of wave and tidal flow energy on the ecology
- Interactions with marine life (fish and mammals)
- Atmospheric and oceanic emissions
- Visual appearances
- Conflicts with other uses of sea space (fishing, boating, shipping, clamming, crabbing, etc)
- Installation and decommissioning

Wave Energy Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)

- Belt Collins EIS for Navy Hawaii WEC Project - FONSI#
- Devine Tarbell EIS for AquaEnergy Makah Bay WA Project – FONSI#
- Many European EIS - FONSI#

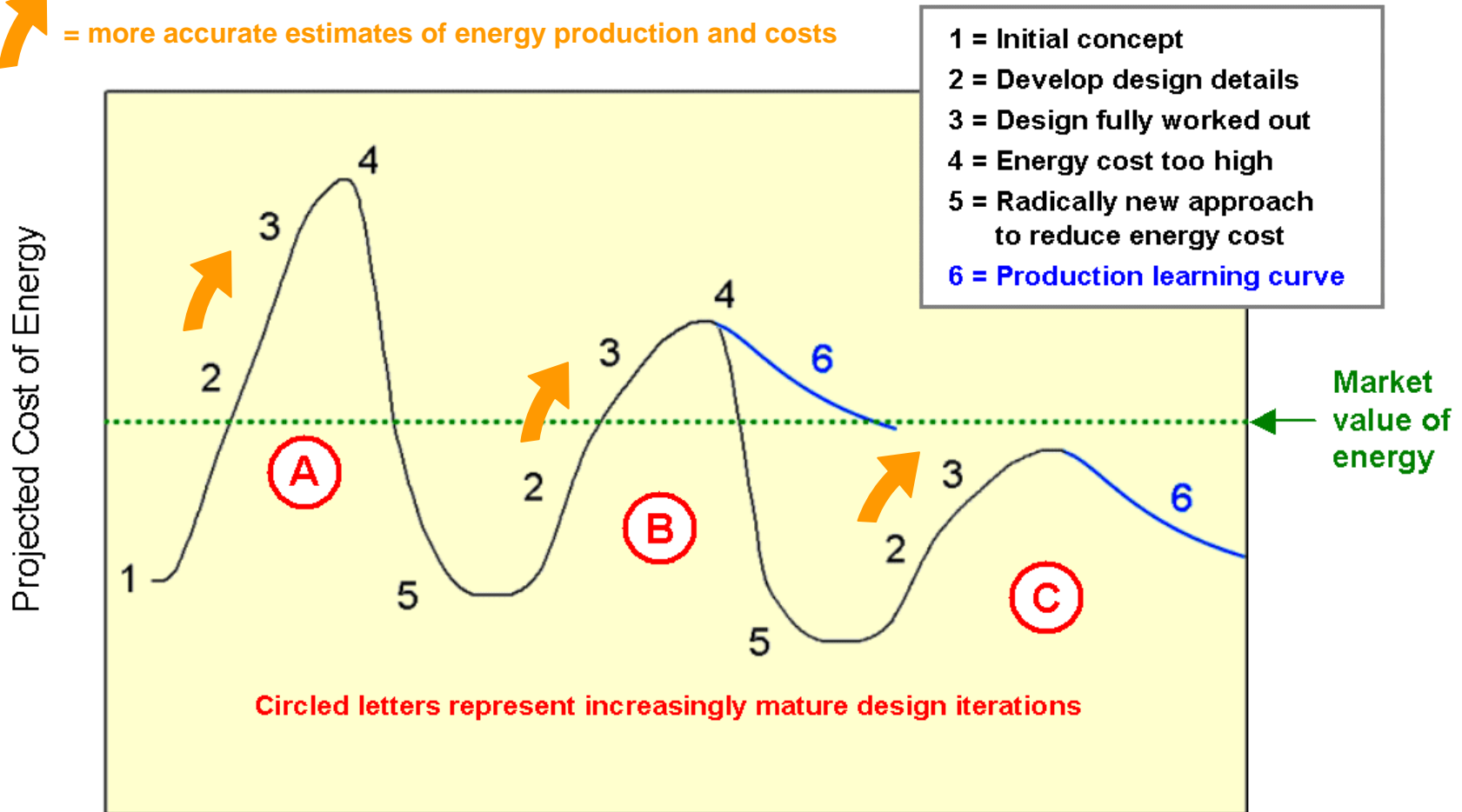
- Finding of No Significant Impact

Notional Cost of Electricity as a Function of Cumulative Installed Capacity



Where is the Project Business Case?

 = more accurate estimates of energy production and costs



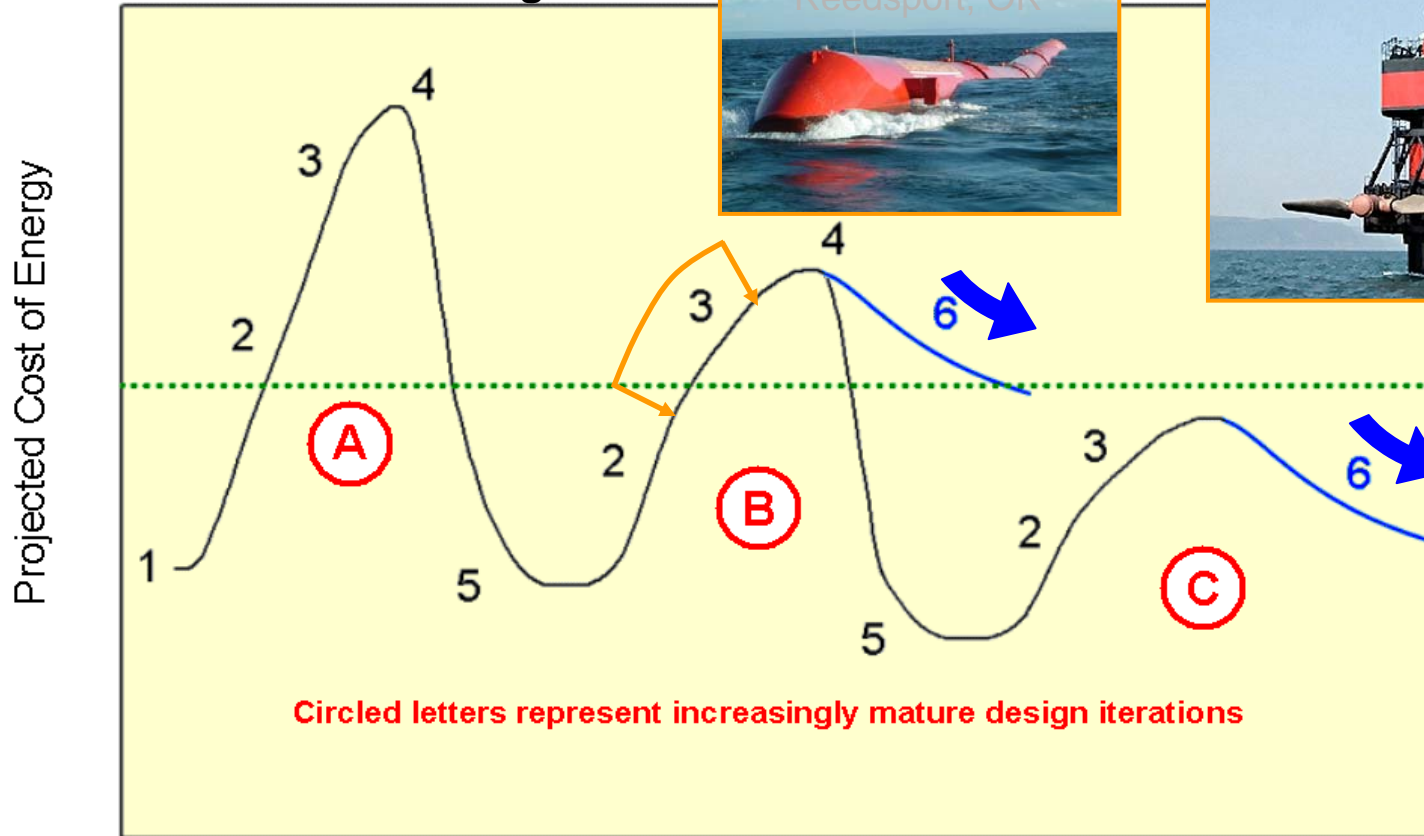
Commercial-Scale Project Design History

Where are the EPRI Case Studies?

EPRI results cannot be generalized to other sites and technologies



MCT – Dog Island Transect, Western Passage, ME



Commercial-Scale Project Design History

Cost to Society – Fossil Fuel-based Emissions

- Nearly 70% of US electricity is fossil fuel-based
- Current costs some are paying is a pragmatic approach to monetizing the emissions cost

CO2 <u>\$/ton</u>	SOx <u>\$/ton</u>	NOx <u>\$/ton</u>	Mercury <u>\$/lb</u>
10-20	500-1,000	3,000-4,000	10,000-25,000

- For a standard 500 MW Coal Plant, the effect of COE is
 - Monetizing SOx, NOx and Mercury
from 4.8 to 5.0 cents/kWhr
 - Monetizing Carbon at \$15/ton
from 5.0 to 6.2 cents/kWhr

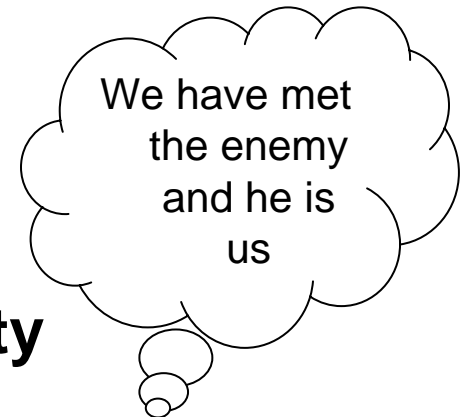
Key Points and Concerns

- Basic oceanography and hydrology are well understood, but “extractable” resource (percent utilization) is not
- Energy conversion technology is well understood and continues to evolve
- Environmental effects of commercial projects uncertain – commercial-scale units must be deployed in “pilot” arrays before full build-out and adaptively managed

The Barriers

The primary barriers to wave and current energy applications are :

- **U.S. Government regulatory uncertainty**
- **No U.S. Government Incentives to Allow Ocean Energy to Compete on a Level Playing Field with:**
 - **Fossil fuel generation with its externalities**
 - **Other Renewables such as Wind and Solar Tax Credits**



[PogoPossum.jpg](#)

And Now, Let's All Work Together to Move Ocean Energy Technology Forward

EPRI Reports available at: www.epri.com/oceanenergy



Any questions?

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