



A Presentation on Smart from the Start Renewable Energy Planning and Development

Presented to Nevada State Land Use Planning Advisory Council
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The Nature Conservancy 



The Wilderness Society 



Overview

1. Our ask of SLUPAC
2. Overview of Nevada's Renewable Energy Future
3. Renewable Energy and Land Use Conflicts
4. What is Smart from the Start and How Will it Help Nevada?
5. Smart Land Use Opportunities in Nevada
6. Discussion/Questions

A photograph of a desert landscape featuring prominent red rock formations in the foreground and middle ground. The terrain is arid, with sparse, low-lying vegetation. The sky is dark, suggesting a dusk or dawn setting. The text is overlaid on a dark grey rectangular background in the upper right portion of the image.

To ensure Nevada meets its
renewable energy goals in a
proactive way *we ask that*
SLUPAC endorse Smart from
the Start Renewable Energy
Planning and Development



Focusing On Our Renewable Energy Future

NATIONAL

- Executive Order: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad; Sec. 207

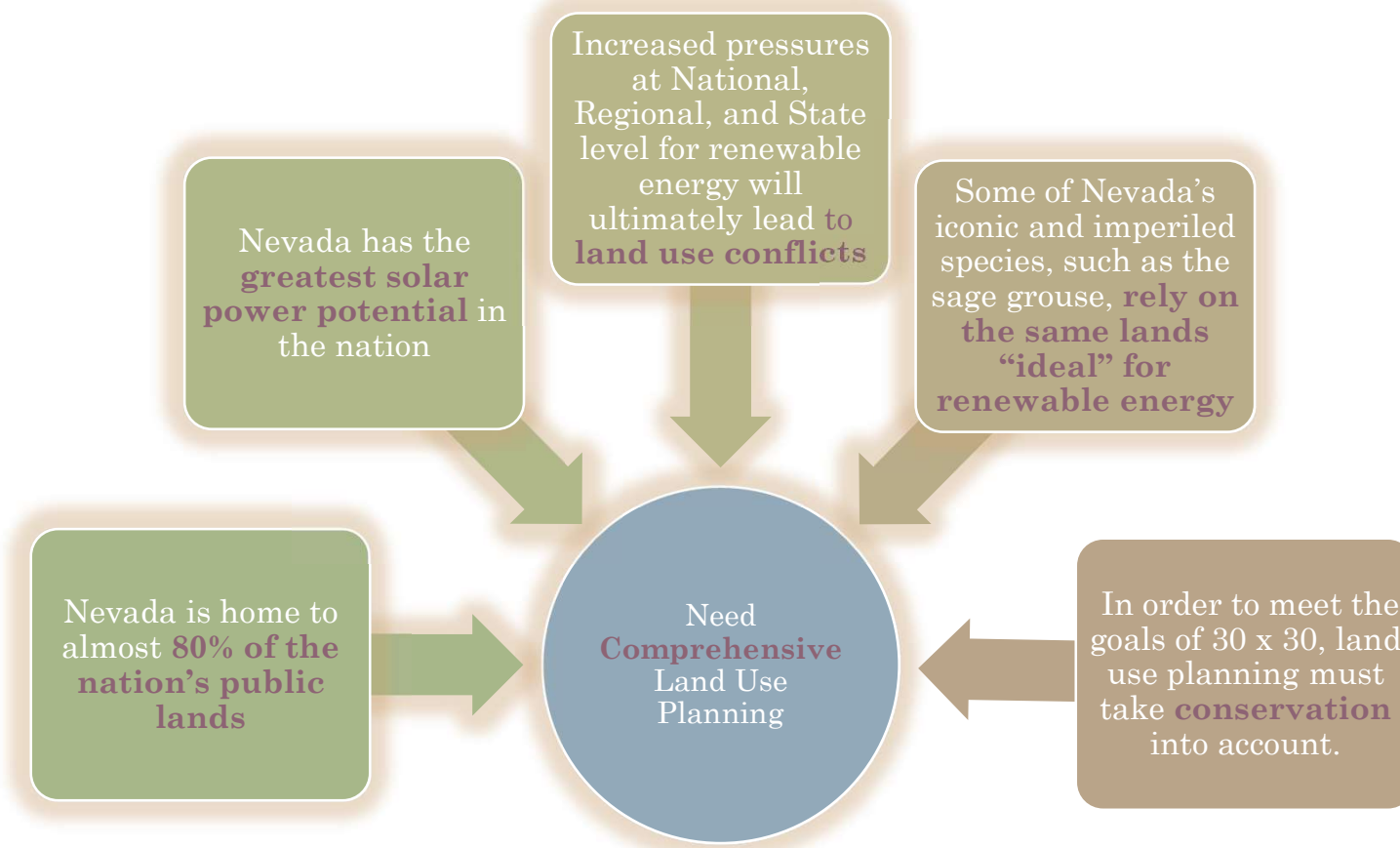
NEVADA

- SB254 and SB358
- Executive Order 2019-22
- Nevada State Climate Strategy
- Greenlink Transmission
- Nevada's Economic Growth

REGIONAL

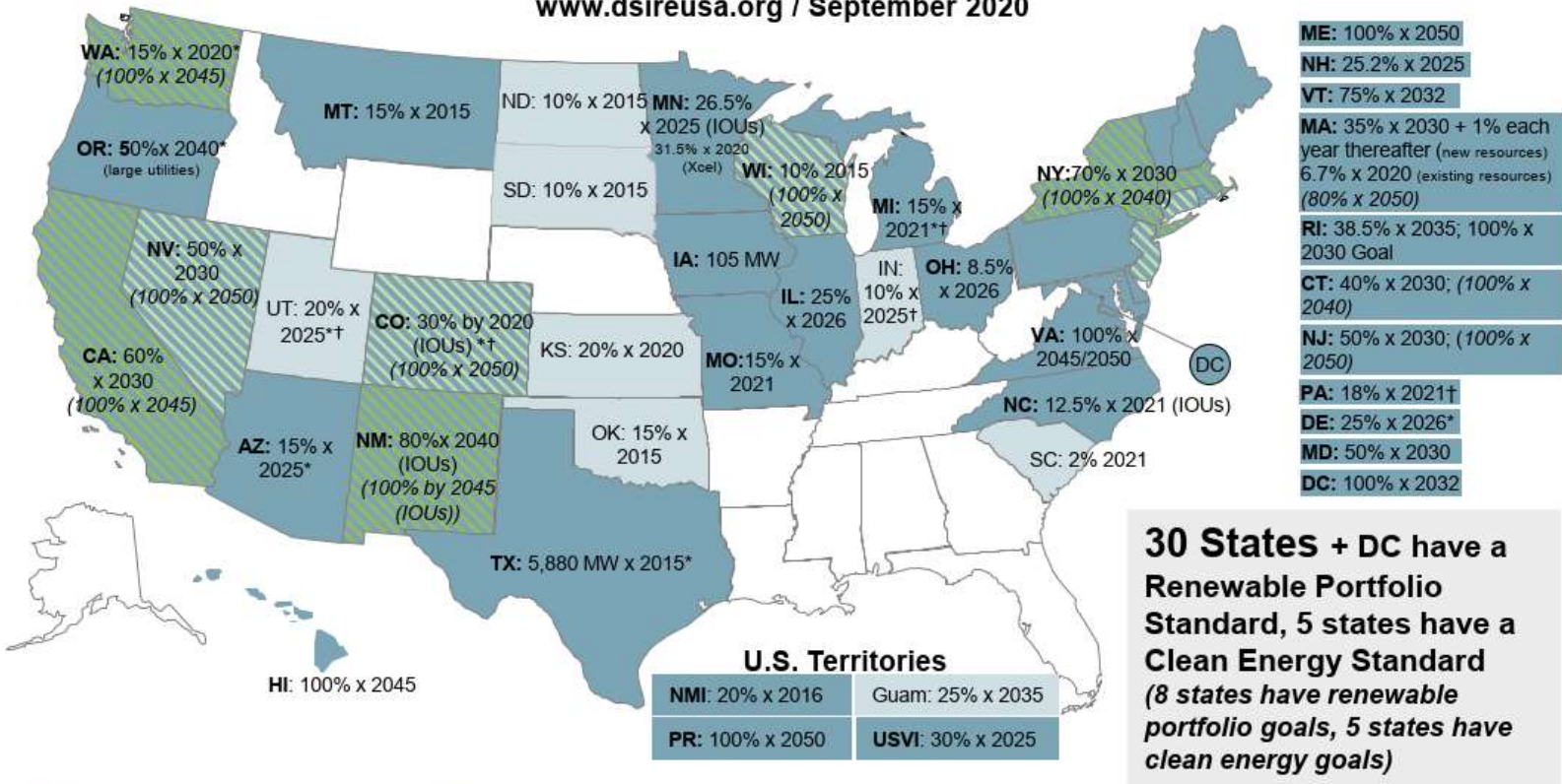
- Nevada to be a producer and transmitter in larger Western Grid
- Regional Economic Growth

Our Renewable Energy Future Relies on Nevada Lands and Energy



Renewable & Clean Energy Standards

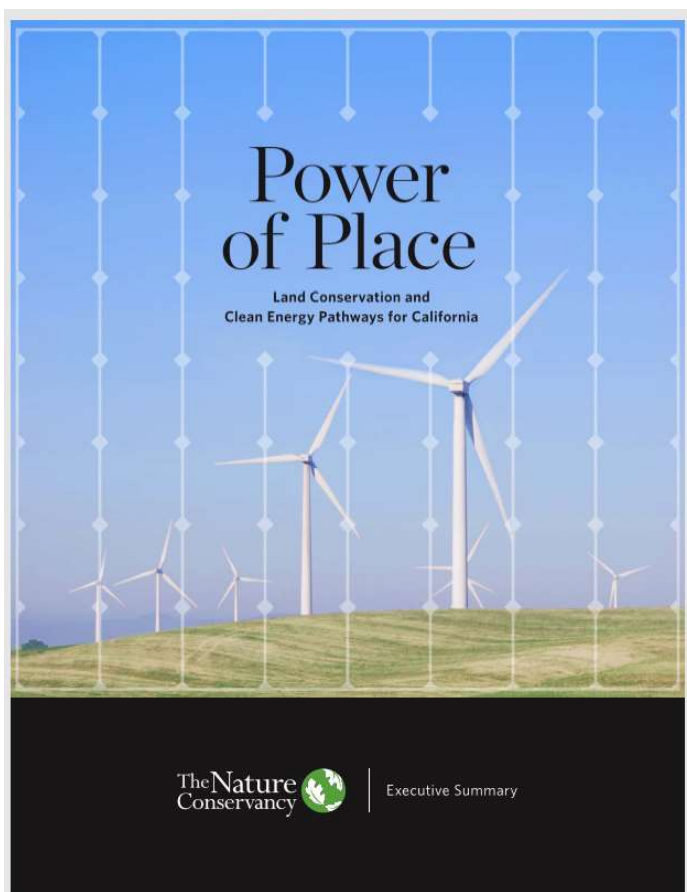
www.dsireusa.org / September 2020



■ Renewable portfolio standard ■ Clean energy standard * Extra credit for solar or customer-sited renewables
■ Renewable portfolio goal ■ Clean energy goal † Includes non-renewable alternative resources

30 States + DC have a Renewable Portfolio Standard, 5 states have a Clean Energy Standard (8 states have renewable portfolio goals, 5 states have clean energy goals)


Power of Place Policy Recommendations



- Incorporate conservation data into long-term energy planning
- Promote inter-state and inter-agency coordination
- Invest in new west-wide planning to improve outcomes
- Pursue policies and programs in increase energy efficiency, demand response and distributed energy resources
- Promote siting of clean energy technologies on already disturbed or degraded land, including brownfields

Smart from the Start:

Identifies and prioritizes lower-impact areas where renewable energy generation, storage, and transmission can be deployed with as little impact to natural lands, cultural resources, recreation and other land uses



“In addition, this engagement should shift to a more-proactive “smart from the start” planning posture to enhance the state’s support of optimized siting that better balances clean energy goals with impacts to natural lands, cultural resources, recreation, wildlife, and other conservation values.”

State of Nevada

TE
INITIATIVE



Smart Land Use Opportunities in Nevada

Mine Lands

- Reuse of land
- Maintain some jobs when mines close
- Allow communities to produce emissions-free electricity
- Decarbonizes mining industry

Brownfields

- Over 1 million acres of brownfields in Nevada with potential for renewable energy
- Provides a new, cleaner use for previously disturbed lands

Agri-Solar

- Addresses over-appropriated basins by converting followed land into renewable energy zones

Low-Impact Public Land

- Renewable energy can be prioritized on ecologically disturbed checkerboard lands as the state works to realign boundaries



Next Steps: How to create a *smarter* renewable energy future

- Work with state and federal agencies, industry, communities, Native American Tribes and other stakeholders to **identify and prioritize high-potential and low impact lands**
- Create opportunities to **develop on previously disturbed lands**
- Ensure transmission lines follow **lower-impact pathways to connect renewable energy zones**
- Incentivize and enact policies **that promote development in identified zones**
- **Ensure economic and environmental benefits and burdens are shared equitably**
- **Establish “mitigation” framework** to offset unavoidable impacts

A photograph of a desert landscape featuring prominent red rock formations in the foreground and middle ground. The terrain is arid, with sparse, low-lying vegetation and sandy soil. The background shows a vast, flat desert extending to the horizon under a clear sky. The overall color palette is dominated by warm, earthy tones of red, orange, and brown.

To ensure Nevada meets its renewable energy goals in a proactive way *we ask that SLUPAC endorse Smart from the Start Renewable Energy Planning and Development*

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Questions/Discussion?