



# Energy-only markets with high renewables

*Can they work? Models for resource adequacy*

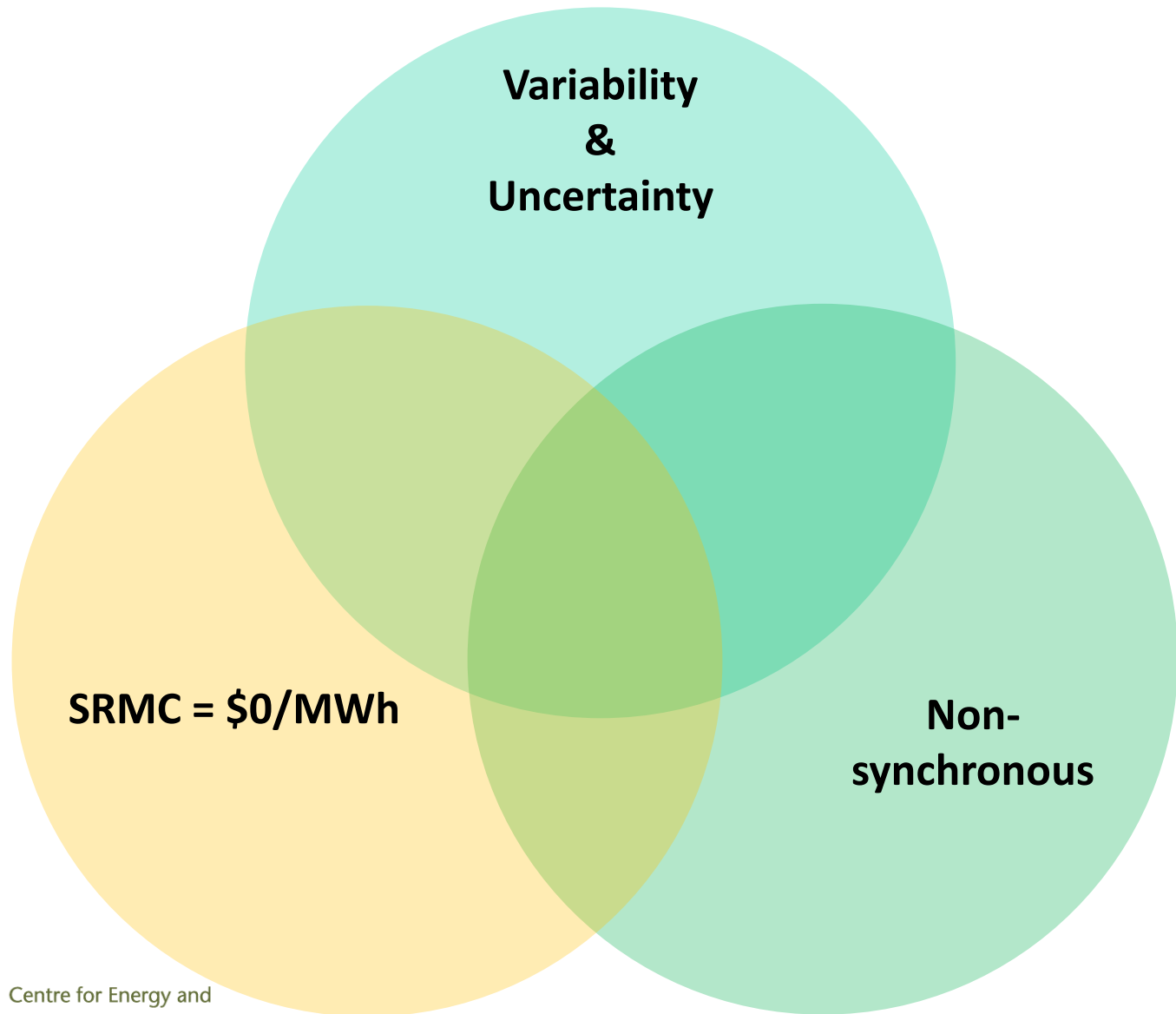
Dr Jenny Riesz

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015

*Electricity Markets with a High Share of Renewables – Experiences and Future Challenges*

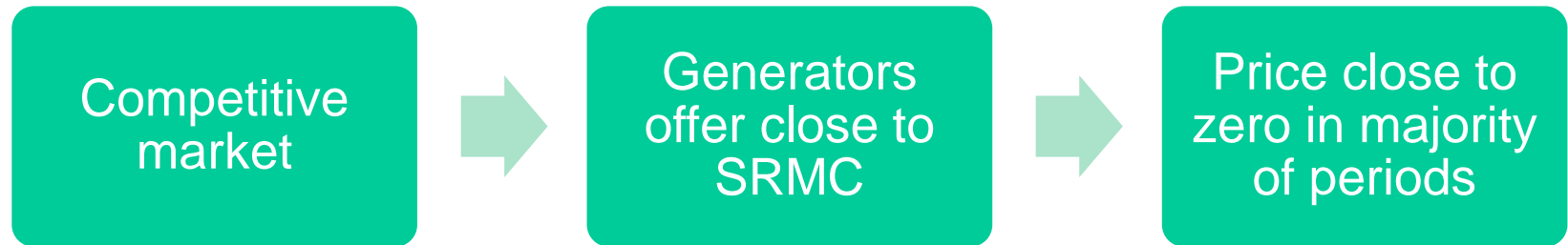
*Winterthur, Switzerland*

# What makes renewables different?



Reasonable evidence that 100% renewable systems are technically and economically viable.

But what about the *market*?

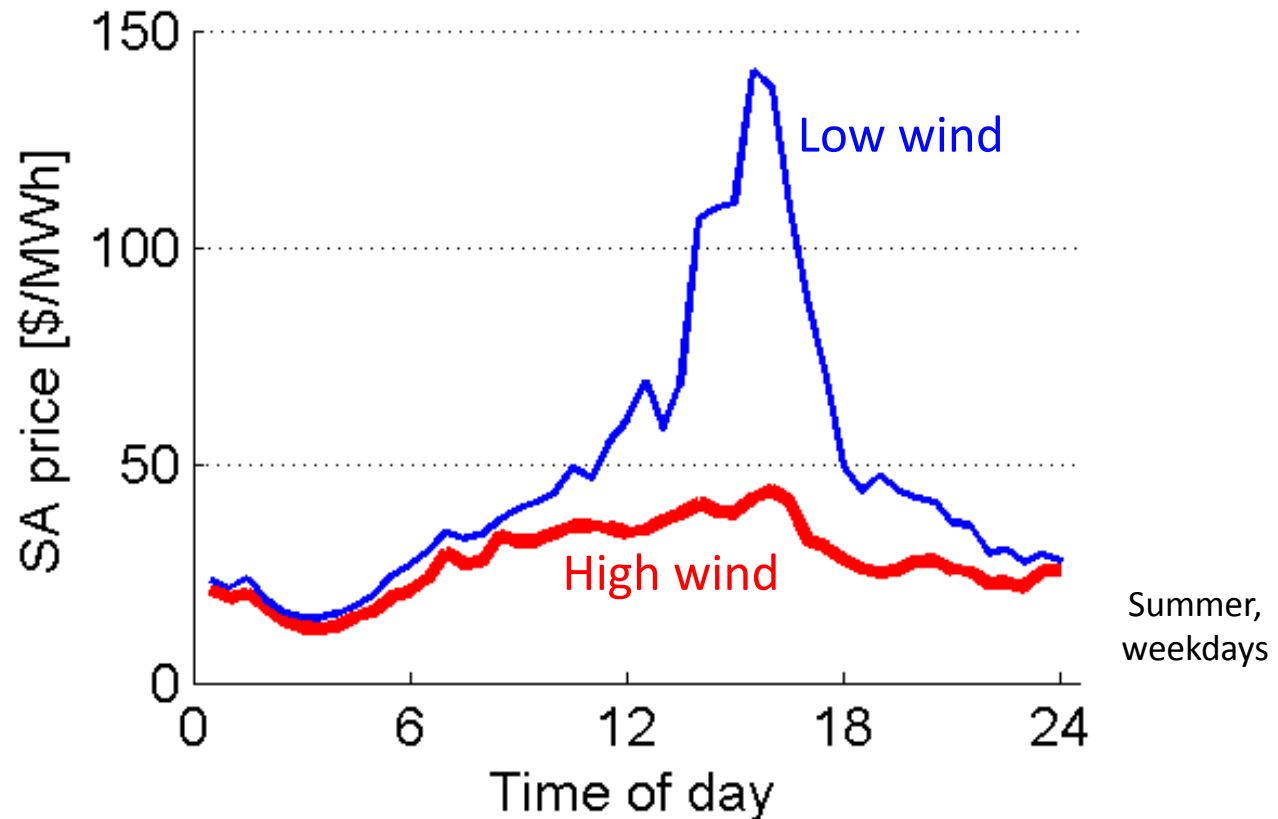


How do generators recover costs?

How do we maintain accurate investment incentives?

**SYSTEM ADEQUACY**

# Merit Order Effect - Observed



- Also in international markets
  - Texas (ERCOT), Denmark, Spain, Ireland

# Australian National Electricity Market (NEM)



- A useful case study?
- 15% RE at present (target 20% by 2020)
- Special market design features for integrating renewables
- Focus here on resource adequacy mechanisms (Energy-only Market)
- Will it be necessary to introduce a capacity market?

27% wind  
4% rooftop PV

More than 85%  
instantaneous penetration

# Managing resource adequacy in the Australian NEM

- Energy-only market
- Market Price Cap (MPC) = \$13,500 AUD (9,800 CHF)
- Strategic offers are permitted (few limits on exercise of market power)

## Determine Market Price Cap (MPC)

Simulate future market

adjust installed capacity to meet 0.002% USE

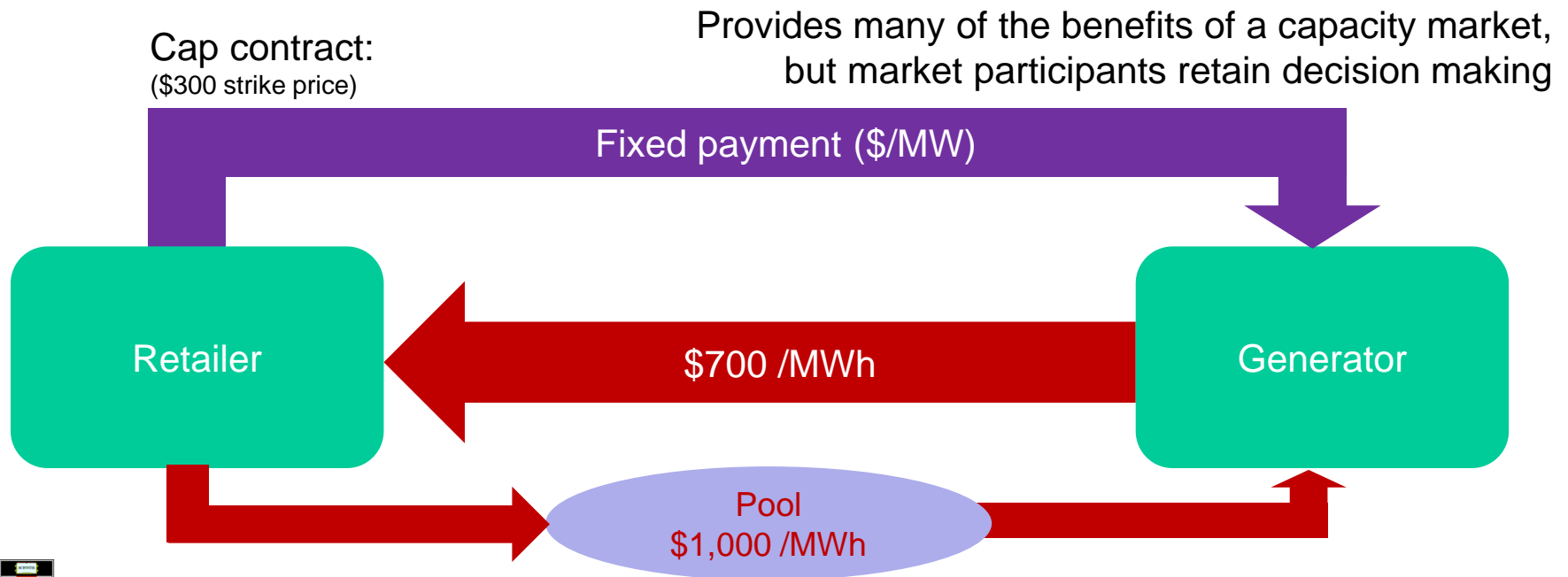
Adjust MPC to allow last generator to meet costs

Market participants make investment decisions

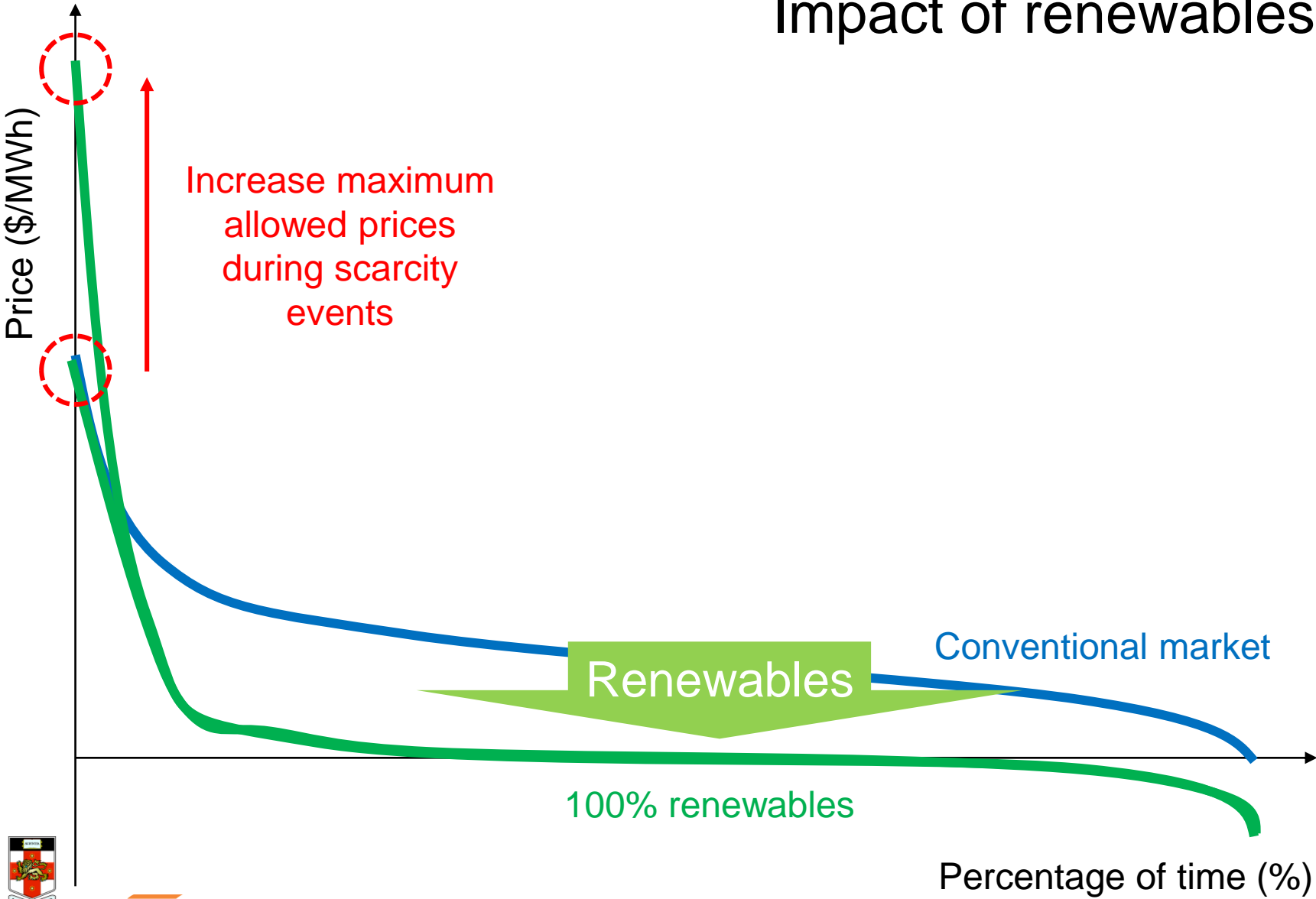
- Higher MPC rewards more investment

# Managing price volatility

- Energy-only markets should exhibit high price volatility
  - Periods of extreme prices necessary for recovery of fixed costs
- Market participants manage price volatility via:
  - Contractual arrangements – mature derivatives market, or
  - Vertical integration



# Impact of renewables





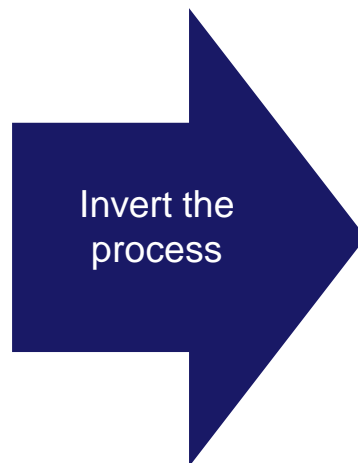
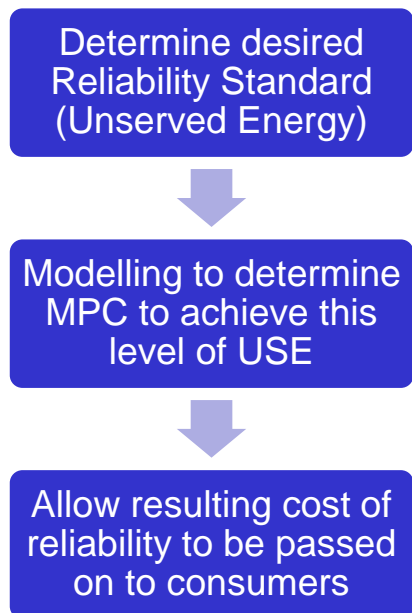
# How much would scarcity prices need to increase?

- Analysis for Australian NEM:

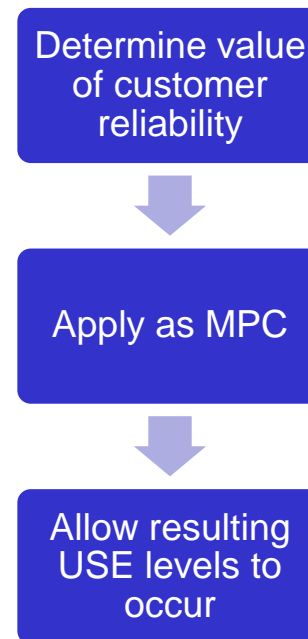
	MPC (AUD \$/MWh)	MPC (CHF /MWh)
Present Market Price Cap (MPC)	\$13,500	9,800
To maintain historical aggregate revenues (with move to 100% renewables)	~\$30,000	~22,000
Sufficient aggregate revenues to support 100% renewables	~\$60,000 to \$80,000	~43,000 to 58,000

# Perhaps this isn't crazy...

Process applied in the Australian NEM:



Theoretical “best practice”:



Renewables don't affect VCR, so shouldn't affect MPC

	Value of Customer Reliability (AUD \$/MWh)	Value of Customer Reliability (CHF /MWh)
Residential	20,710	15,000
Small business	413,120	300,000
Large business	53,300	39,000
<b>Average</b>	<b>94,990</b>	<b>69,000</b>

# Issues with allowing higher extreme prices

Increased costs of hedging

Increased prudential obligations

- Increased barriers to entry for retailers

Discouragement of inter-nodal contracting

- May interfere with generation locational decisions in the absence of perfect hedging with FTRs

# Increasing importance of the contracts market



## Consider:

- Close monitoring
- Mechanisms for increased transparency
- Disincentivise vertical integration?
  - Reduces liquidity and contracting options

# Demand Side Participation

Why have a  
Market Price  
Cap?

- Demand is inelastic
- Need to protect consumers

Increase DSP  
sufficiently



True representation  
of “value of lost  
load” in market, for  
each consumer

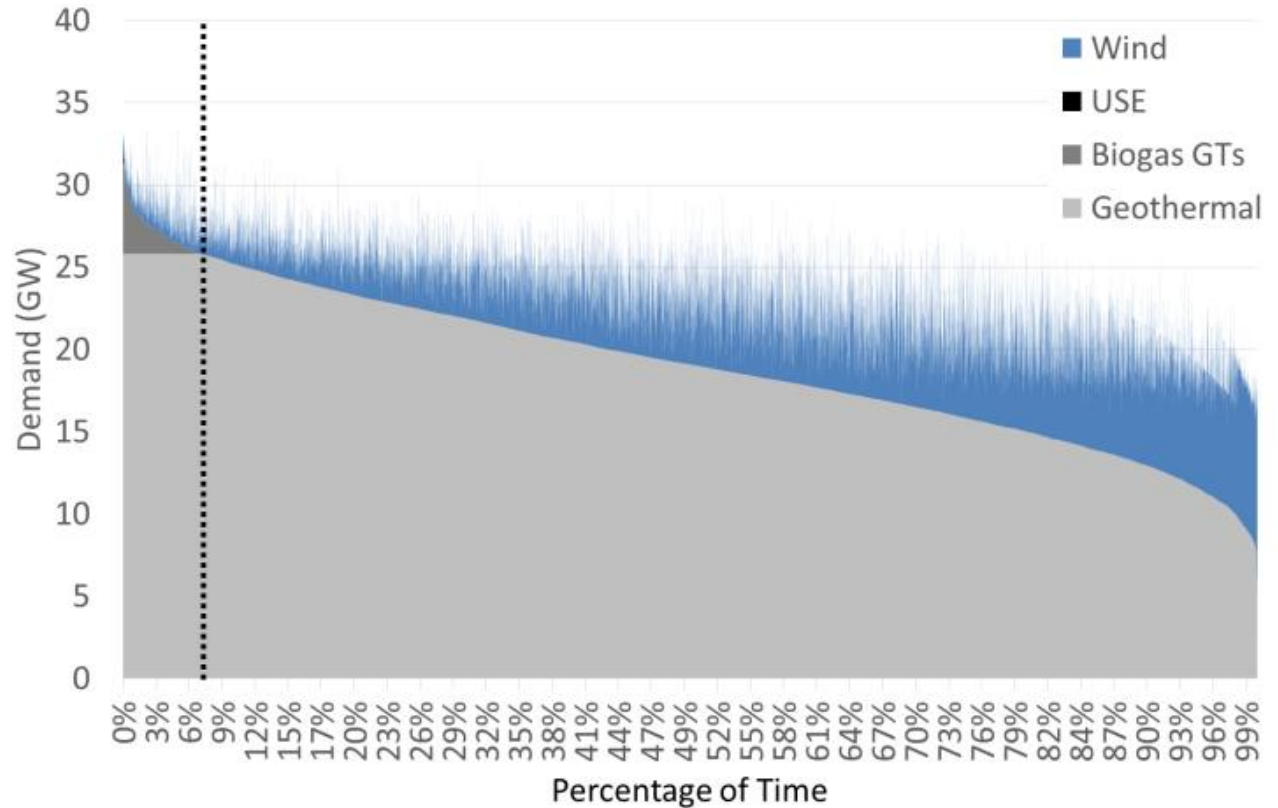


No MPC required

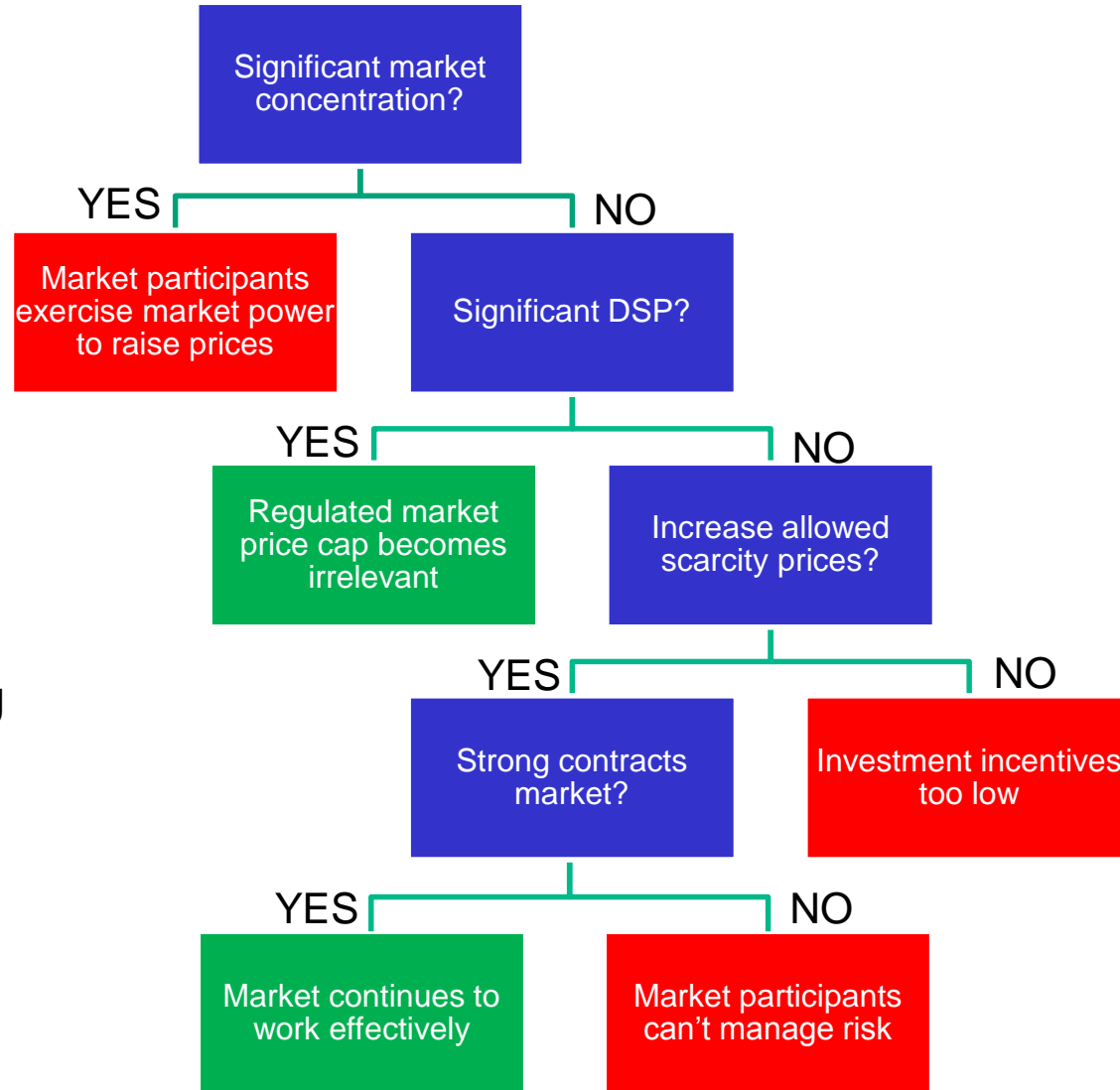


# Cost recovery – variable renewables?

If generation mix is least-cost optimised, all generator types earn revenues that precisely cover costs (in theory)



# Will the market work with high renewables?



Constant monitoring is wise – new issues will arise over time

# Caution around introducing capacity markets?

- Capacity markets have many challenges
  - Cross-border issues (many different designs, limited compatibility, double-counting capacity?)
  - Inter-regional issues (locational requirements for capacity due to network congestion?)
- May be especially poorly suited to renewable integration
  - How should variable renewables be valued? (changes with penetration level)
  - Assessment of total capacity requirement increasingly challenging (scarcity depends upon supply and demand, not only peak demand)
  - Remove or dilute incentives for flexibility (need to introduce explicit flexibility markets?)





Centre for Energy and  
Environmental Markets

**UNSW**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
SYDNEY • AUSTRALIA

Thank you

[ceem.unsw.edu.au](http://ceem.unsw.edu.au)

[jenny.riesz.com.au](http://jenny.riesz.com.au)