

Energy Technologies Area Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

## China's Trajectories beyond Efficiency:

CO<sub>2</sub> Implications of Maximizing Electrification and Renewable Resources through 2050

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2017 ECEEE Summer Study

### China's energy system is coal-based

#### China Final Energy Consumption (2014): 3139 Mtce



## Thermal installed capacity and generation dominates China's power system



# First Priority: Decarbonization of the power system

## China's electricity generation has huge potential in decarbonization

**China's Electricity Generation by Fuel** 

Low Carbon Scenario

**Reference Scenario** 

#### 12,000 12,000 Geothermal Geothermal Biomass Biomass Solar Solar 10,000 10,000 Wind Wind Electricity Generation (TWh) Electricity Generation (TWh) Nuclear Nuclear 8,000 8,000 Hydro Hydro Thermal Thermal 6,000 6,000 63% 56% 38% 4,000 4,000 76% 76% 2,000 2,000 14% 0 0 2010 2015 2020 2025 2030 2035 2040 2050 2010 2015 2020 2050 2045 2025 2030 2035 2040 2045

Source: Khanna, N. et al. 2017. "China's Trajectories beyond Efficiency: CO<sub>2</sub> Implications of Maximizing Electrification and Renewable Resources through 2050." 2017 ECEEE Summer Study Conference Proceedings (forthcoming).

### Overview of China 2050 DREAM Modeling Methodology

Motivation and Purpose	<ul> <li>Few global energy models of energy demand by end-use</li> <li>China needs a model with end-use detail to plan and evaluate energy efficiency policies, programs and targets for:</li> <li><i>Short-term:</i> 2020, 2020 energy, CO<sub>2</sub> intensity reduction</li> <li><i>Long-term strategic planning:</i> 2050 development pathways</li> </ul>
Capabilities & Strengths	<ul> <li>Bottom-up model of energy demand by end-use captures:</li> <li>Stock turnover models</li> <li>Potential for efficiency improvement by technology</li> <li>Energy, CO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> emissions impacts of efficiency programs and technology trends</li> <li>Energy intensity reduction potential disaggregated by:</li> <li>End use sector</li> <li>Saturation, usage</li> <li>Technology size/scale</li> </ul>
Key Outcomes	<ul> <li>2010-2011 study - only modelers to show a peak and plateau in China's energy and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions</li> <li>Reinventing Fire: China – informed China's 13<sup>th</sup> FYP, INDCs, US-China negotiations running up to US-China Joint Announcement on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement</li> </ul>



## Second Priority: Electrification of the economy and Additional Renewables



### Scenarios are developed to evaluate impact of electrification and renewables

#### Reference:

Only considers policies in place as of 2010 with autonomous efficiency improvements and limited fuel switching

- Cost-effective Efficiency and Renewables:
  - Includes additional cost-effective efficiency improvements and fuel switch in demand and supply-side
- Maximum Electrification:
  - Maximized (additional) electrification in buildings for cooling, industry and transport
- Maximum Deployment of Renewable Energy:
  - Additional adoption of renewable heat and biomass in industry, solar in buildings



#### **Key Assumptions in Maximum Electrification Scenario**

	2010	2050 Reference	2050 Maximum Electrification
Transport			•
Passenger	0% EV shares	10% EV share in private cars,	75% EV share in private cars, 100%
Vehicles		30% EV share in taxis and fleet car markets	EV share in taxi and fleet car markets
Trucks	0% plug-in hybrid diesels	0% plug-in hybrid diesels	18% plug-in hybrid diesel share in medium-duty trucks, 50% plug-in hybrid diesel share in light-duty trucks
Industry		1	1
Glass Industry	0% electric melting	0% electric melting	30% electric melting to replace fossil fuel melting
Food and	0% electrification of	0% electrification of firing	10% electrification of firing to
Beverage Industry	firing		replace coal-firing
Pulp and Paper	0% electric dryers	0% electric dryers	5% electric dryers to replace heat
Industry			dryers
Commercial Buildings		1	1
Heating	1.5% air source heat pump	10-25% share for air source heat pump depending on climate zone	40-90% share for air source heat pump depending on climate zone
Cooling	0.5% ground source heat pump share	0% ground source heat pump share	20-25% share for ground source heat pump depending on climate zone
Water Heating	0% heat pump water heater share	0% heat pump water heater	48% heat pump water heaters
Residential Buildings			
Heating	1.5% air source heat pump	10%-80% share for air source heat pump depending on climate zone	40-100% share for air source heat pump depending on climate zone



### Maximum Renewable Deployment Scenario include additional non-conventional renewable deployment in buildings and industry

#### Industry: low-temperature renewable heat and biomass



**Commercial Buildings**: maximize adoption of solar thermal technologies for heating, cooling and water heating

- Heating: solar thermal heating share increase to 8% by 2050
- Cooling: solar thermal AC share increase to 15-30% (depending on climate zone) by 2050
- Water heating: solar water heater increase to 30% by 2050



#### Significant potential for electrification across all sectors, but electricity still only accounts for 45% of final energy use with maximized electrification





# Additional fossil fuel displacement feasible by maximizing renewable adoption in demand sectors



By 2050, additional renewables can displace annually:

- 85 Mtce Coal
- 7 Mtce Coke
- 54 Mtce Natural Gas
- 45 Mtce Heat
- 26 Mtce Electricity

#### Note: 1 Mtce = 29.27 petajoules



#### 550 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> can be displaced annually beyond cost-effective fuel switching by Max Renewable Deployment by 2050





# CO<sub>2</sub> could peak as early as 2023 with maximized efficiency, electrification and renewables



Cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> reductions beyond cost-effective efficiency and renewables to 2050:

- Max Electrification: 3.98 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>
- Max Renewables: 13.2 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>



# Non-fossil power could reach 30% of China's total final energy consumption by 2050





## **Conclusions and Policy Implications**

- China can achieve its 2030 CO<sub>2</sub> peaking target through several pathways, and reduce annual CO<sub>2</sub> by 60+% by 2050
- China's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can peak as early as 2023 with only costeffective efficiency and fuel switching, but must overcome barriers including:
  - Lack of resources and knowledge for efficiency improvements
  - Distorted tariff and energy prices
  - Regional unemployment concerns and limited alternatives for fuel switching in some sectors
- Additional research needed to disentangle impact of cost-effective efficiency versus fuel switching, supply-side vs. demand-side electrification



### Significant policy shifts needed to achieve additional CO<sub>2</sub> reductions from maximizing renewables and electrification:

- Interdependence between electrification and decarbonization of power sector, which requires resolving existing challenges and renewable integration
- Supporting policies and programs including subsidies, pilots can help promote distributed demand-side renewable technologies
- Greater awareness and capacity building on low temperature renewable heat use in industrial sectors needed – more crucial to start now given large scale and decentralized nature of Chinese industries



### **Thank You!**











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