ECOSYSTEMS, ENERGY AND THE RANGELAND RESOURCE

ASSESSING TODAY and PLANNING TOMORROW

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SUSTAINABLE RANGELAND ROUNDTABLE RANGELANDS ISSUES FORUM

PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS

- 2008 TX Survey Results (n≈1200)
 - 94% support research & development of solar energy sources
 - 91% support research & development of wind energy sources
 - 82 % support increased production of oil & gas in the US
 - 79% support research & development of biofuels



ENERGY & RANGELANDS

- Rangelands in the western 17 states hold significant potential for expanding domestic energy production.
 - Unconventional oil and gas,
 - Increase in solar and wind,
 - Expansion of biofuel, hydropower and geothermal
- Result increase capacity to aid the United States in its goal of energy independence.



UNCONVENTIONAL NATURAL GAS

Over 1,744 tcf technically recoverable reserves (DOE, 2006)
Currently provides 22% of Nation's energy (GWPAC, 2009)
Full realization must balance between production processes and environmental directives (GWPAC, 2009)



Source: William Harrison, Kansas Geological Survey

BIOMASS – Billion Ton Annual Supply

•Biomass consumption in the industrial sector will increase at an annual rate of 2% through 2030, up to 4.8 quads in 2030. •Biomass consumption in electric utilities will double every 10 years through 2030. Combined, biopower will meet 4% of total industrial and electric generator energy demand in 2010 and 5% in 2020.

-DOE/GO-102005-2135 -ORNL/TM-2005/66



WIND – 20% WIND ENERGY BY 2030

•The 20% Wind Scenario envisions 251 GW of land-based and 54 GW of shallow offshore wind capacity to optimize delivered costs, which include both generation and transmission.

•Wind power would be a part of broad and near-term strategy to substantially reduce

•air pollution,

•water pollution,

•global climate change

•As a domestic energy resource, wind power would also stabilize and diversify national energy supplies.





SOLAR

Figure 83. Nonhydropower renewable electricity generation by energy source, 2009-2035 (billion kilowatthours)





ASSESSMENT IS CRITICAL



Integrated Social, Economic, and Ecological Concept (ISEEC) for identifying linkages that affect the delivery of ecosystem goods and services on rangelands

THANKYOU!