

Influence of household prosumage growth on utility generation and storage portfolios in Western Australia

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Electricity customers are changing.

The Sydney Morning Herald

Too much of a good thing: Solar power surge is flooding the grid

By Cole Latimer

June 6, 2018 ~ 4:42pm

Bloomberg

Australians Love Rooftop Panels. That's a Problem for Big Solar

By James Thornhill

December 16, 2019, 6:00 AM GMT+11

Updated on December 16, 2019, 10:00 PM GMT+11

- ▶ About one in four Australian households has solar panels
- ▶ Surge in residential uptake set to hurt profits of big plants

9 NEWS

The rise of solar power is jeopardising the WA energy grid, and it's a lesson for all of Australia

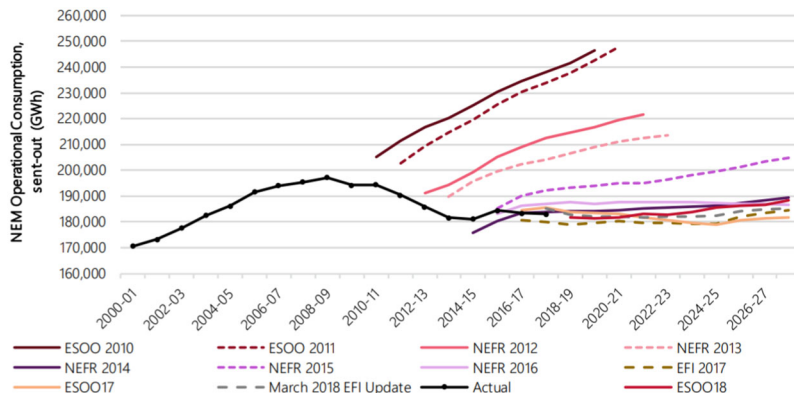
By Daniel Mercer

Updated 4 Dec 2019, 5:28pm



What could happen with household batteries?

Figure 41 Operational consumption forecasts versus actual, 2010-18

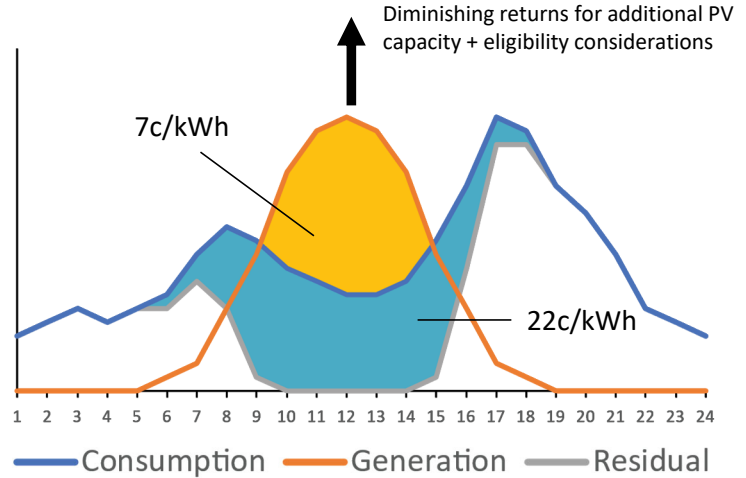
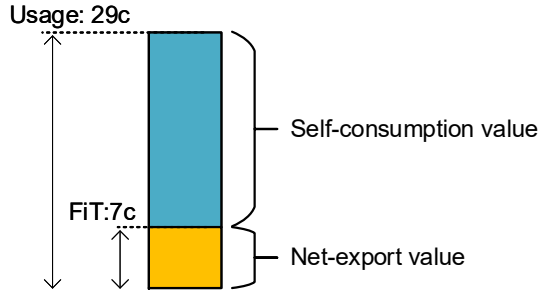


Outline.

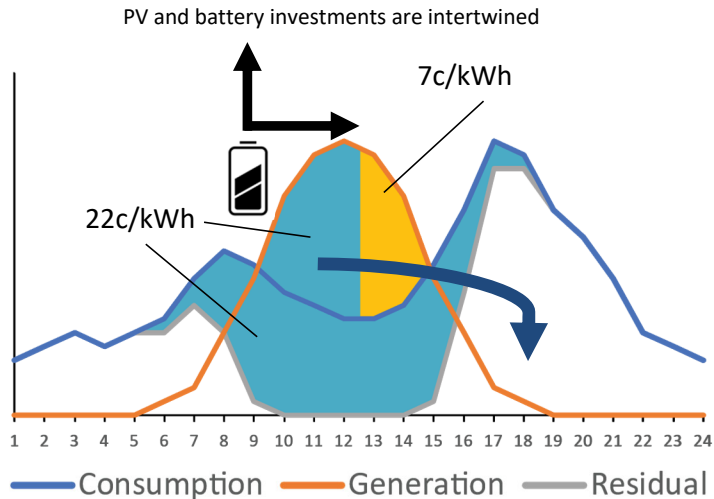
- Introduction
- Research question
- Context of the case study
- Methodology
- Results
- Conclusions

Derivation of customer value.

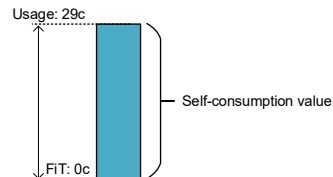
Retail usage charges/kWh:



The value shifts with PV-battery prosumage.

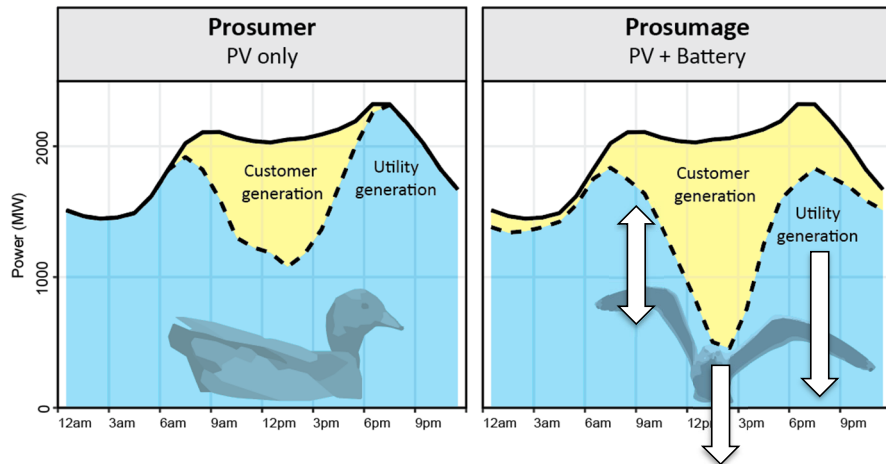


- Batteries revalue excess PV generation (minus losses)
- Prosumage adoption becomes a combined consideration of PV and battery capacity
- Interaction with FiT eligibility
- FiT incentives are “flipped”



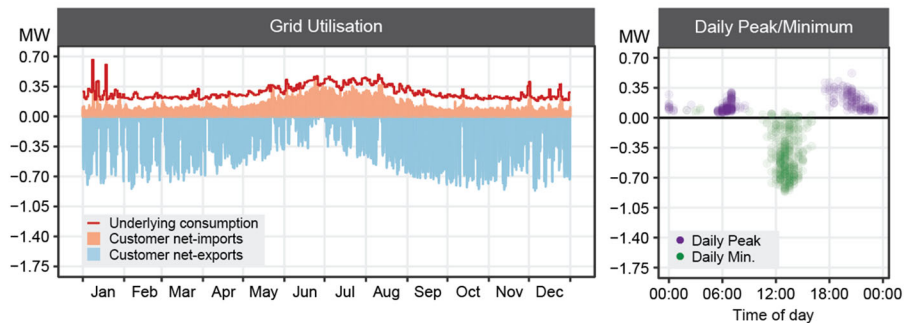
* Assuming batteries only operate to maximise self-consumption

Changing shape of residual network demand.



1. Batteries incentivise additional PV capacity
2. Declining minimum demand
3. Declining late-afternoon peak
4. Emerging residual morning peak
5. Increased morning to midday down ramping

Changing shape of residual network demand.

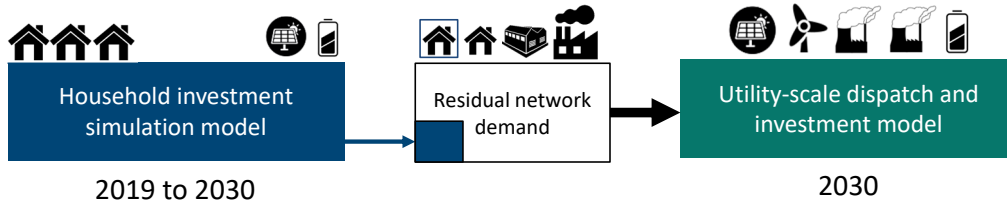


6. Shifting into winter dominant demand



Research question.

With costs of battery systems declining and electricity prices rising, **what impacts could household PV-battery adoption have on the optimal least-cost portfolio of the power sector?**



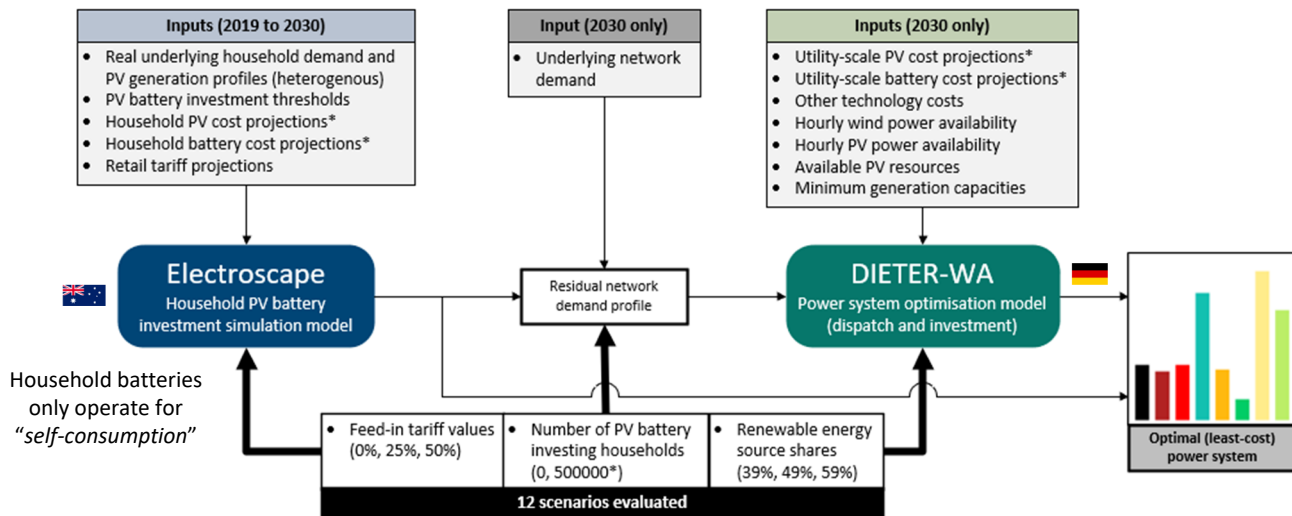
The case study.

Western Australia's South-West Interconnected System (SWIS) Network

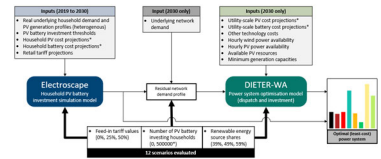
- Islanded network, currently unable to export elsewhere or curtail household PV
- Significant wind and solar resources
- Around 18 TWh of annual energy consumption (and 4.4 GW peak) with households consuming around 30%
- Over 1.5 GW of rooftop PV installed (2021) and growing
- Instantaneous contribution to underlying demand recorded above 60% (13 March 2021)
- In 2030 it is estimated that 50% of households will have PV installed



The research setup.



Data sources.

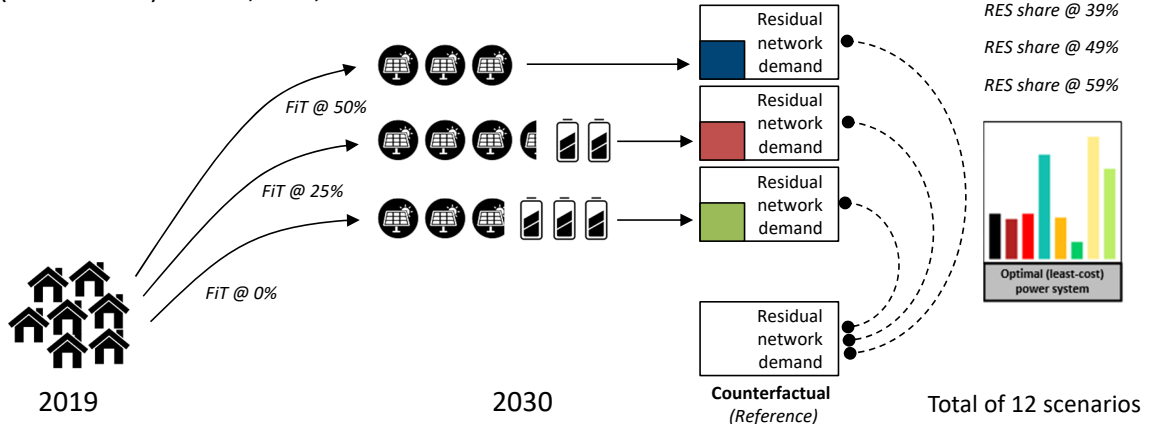


Input Parameters	Value	Source
Household underlying demand and generation (heterogenous)	261 Sydney homes via half-hourly <i>gross</i> meter data 2012-13	(Ausgrid)
Residential/utility PV cost projection curves	Scaled by 0.78	(Solar Choice, GenCost 2018)
Residential/utility battery cost projection curves	Scaled by 0.73	(Solar Choice, Schmidt et al. 2017)
Retail usage charge projections	29c/kWh +4%pa	(Synergy, ABS)
Underlying network demand	SWIS operational demand 2012-13	(AEMO)
Number of investing households	500,000	Forecasted number of PV installations in 2030 (AEMO)
Other technology costs	Conventional, wind, hydrogen, biomass	(GenCost 2018)
Wind resource	Time-series	(AEMO)
Solar resource	Time-series average of household insolation data	(Ausgrid)

The scenarios investigated.

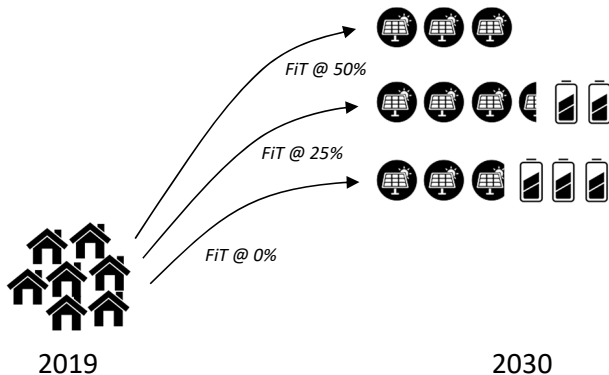
We compare scenarios with varying FiT and RES shares to a counterfactual setting without prosumage.

- FiTs at 0%, 25%, 50% of retail usage charge
- RES share (constrained) at 39%, 49%, 59%



Various degrees of **prosumage**.

- 261 real household load and PV generation profiles
- Path dependency evaluated through a brownfield investment simulation
- Investment opportunities run annually using a 10-year financial horizon
- The PV-only, PV-battery, battery-only configuration with the highest NPV is selected, but only after a perceived risk check



Various degrees of **prosumage**.

- Higher FiTs discourage battery adoption and keeps households at the eligibility limit (5 kW_p)
- Lowering FiTs encourages battery adoption
- Larger consumption households may exceed FiT eligibility limit

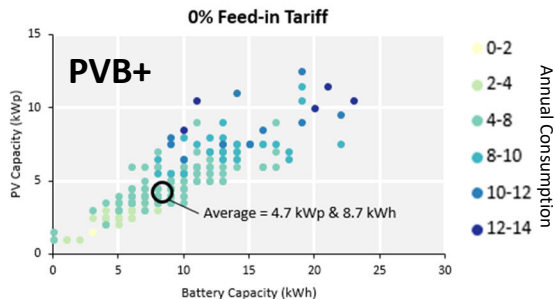
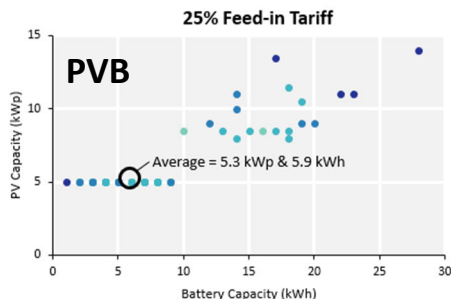
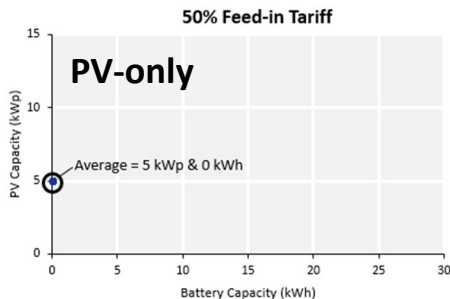
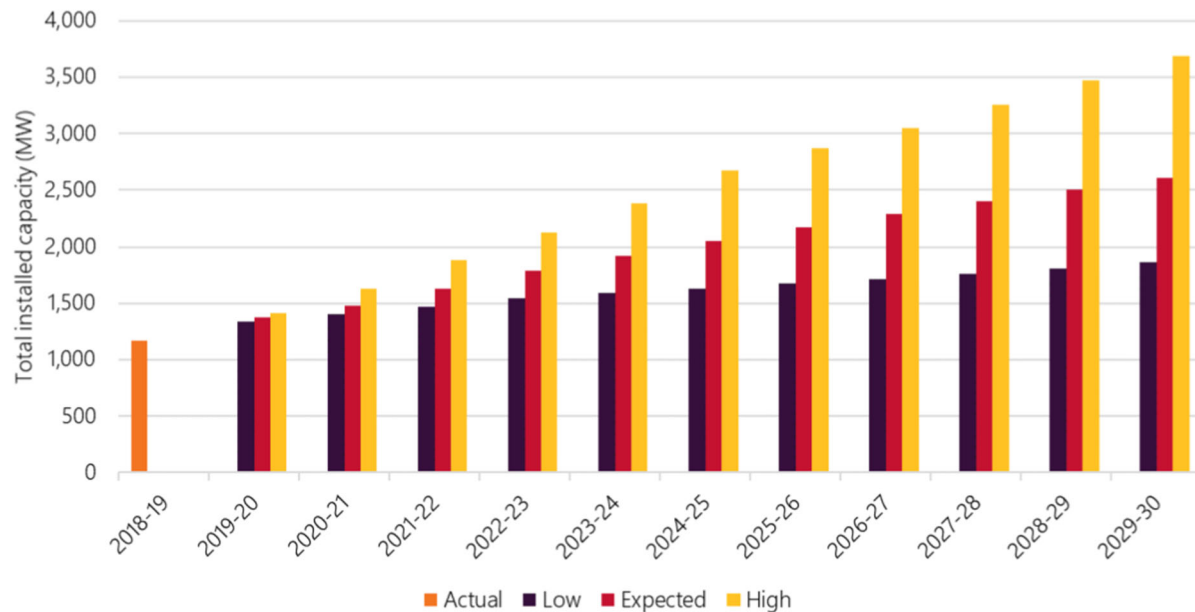


Figure 23 Installed behind-the-meter PV capacity, 2018-19 to 2029-30 financial years^{A,B}



A. Cumulative installed capacity forecasts account for degradation of solar panel output over time. CSIRO applied a degradation rate of 0.5% per annum and GEM applied a degradation rate of 0.7% per annum.

B. Historical monthly behind-the-meter PV capacity data is provided in the 2020 WEM ESOO Data Register.

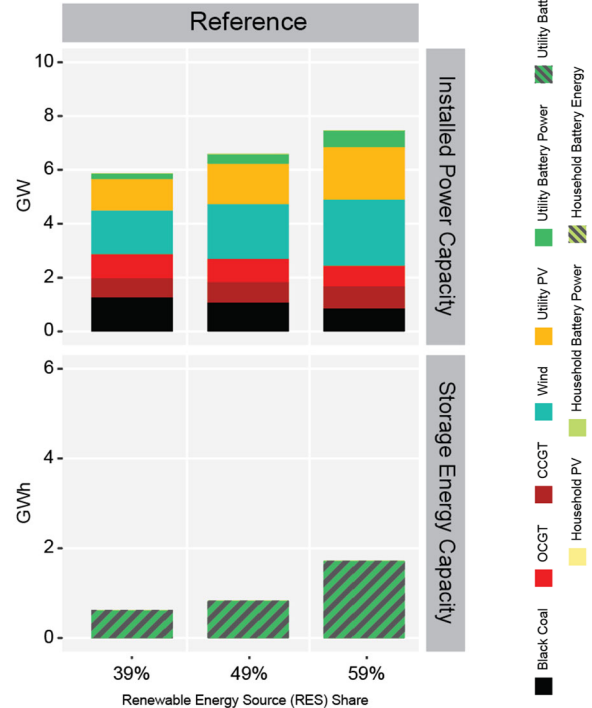
Source: CSIRO and GEM

Capacity impacts.

Reference (counterfactual) scenario

No PV battery investing households

- More wind than utility PV capacity
- Increased utility battery capacity as RES share rises

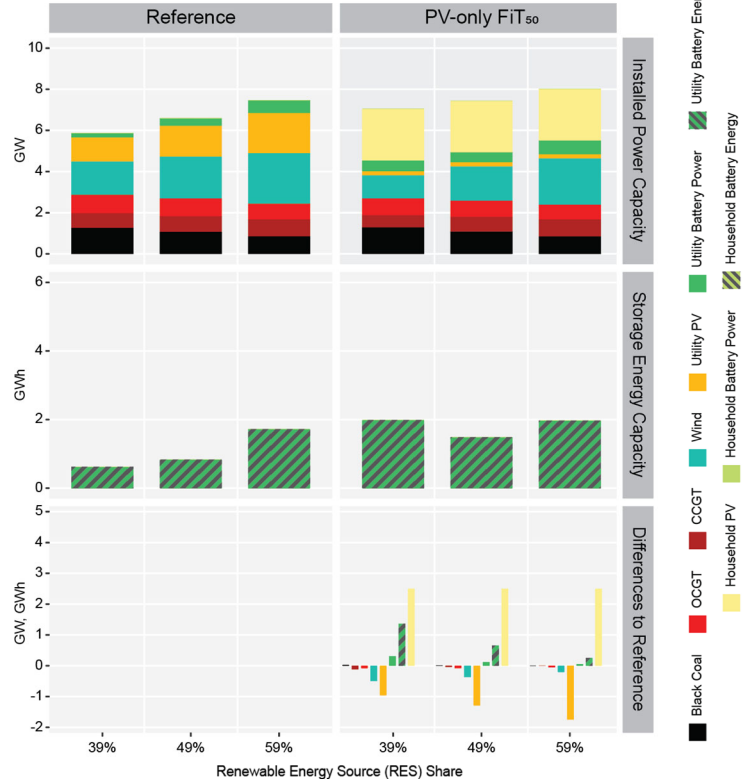


Capacity impacts.

PV-only FiT₅₀ scenario

Average 5 kW_p with no batteries

- Displacement in both utility PV and wind capacity
- Wind capacity recovers as RES increases
- Greater utility PV capacity displacement as RES increases
- Further utility battery capacity added

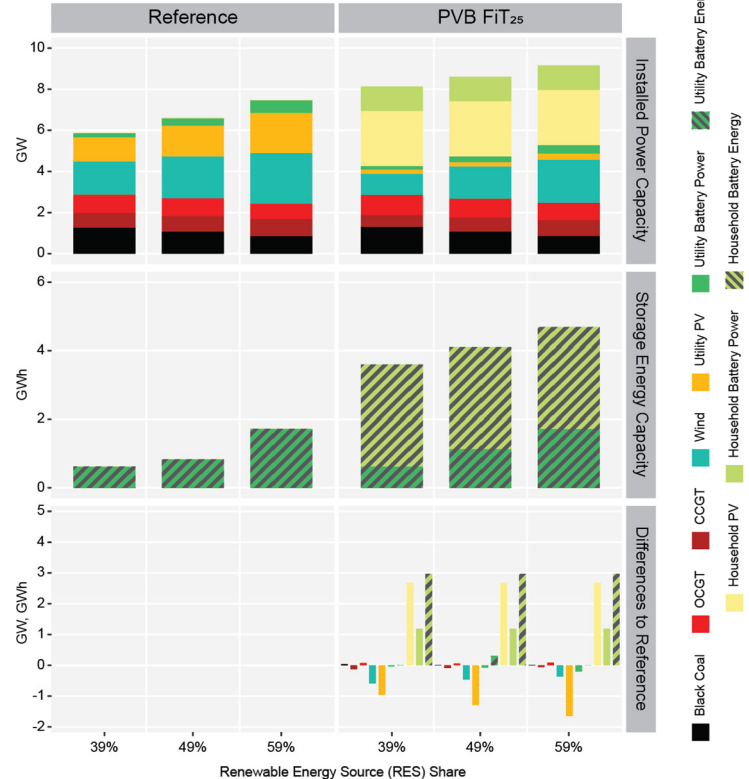


Capacity impacts.

PVB FiT₂₅ scenario

Average 5.3 kW_p + 5.9 kWh

- Displacement in both utility PV and wind capacity
- Wind capacity recovers as RES increases
- Greater utility PV capacity displacement as RES increases
- Little effect on utility battery capacity

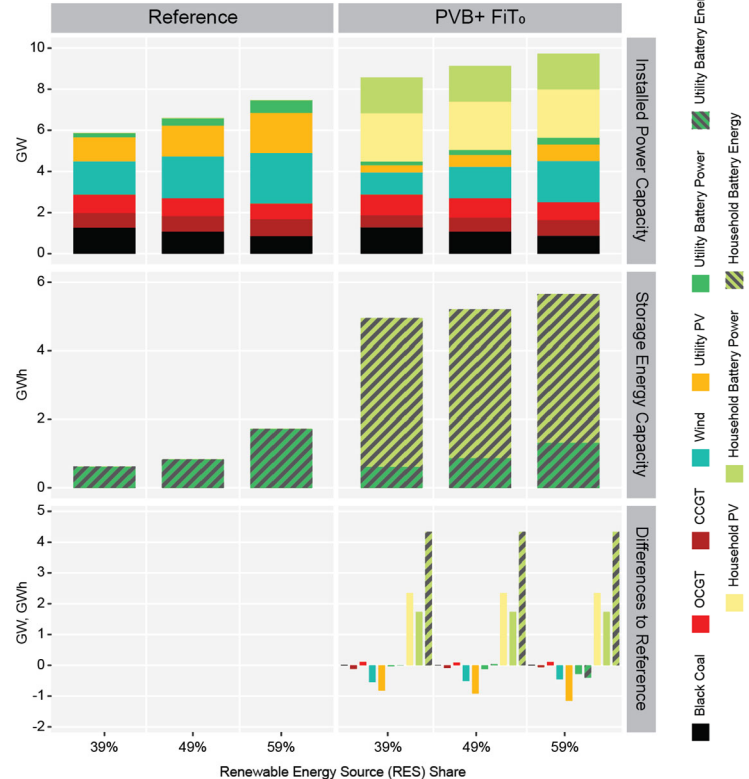


Capacity impacts.

PVB+ FiT₀ scenario

Average 4.7 kW_p + 8.7 kWh

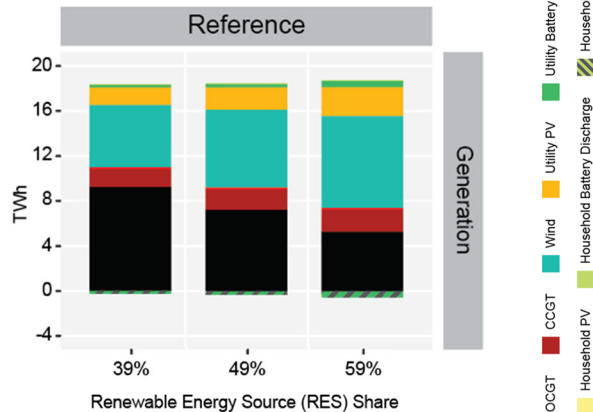
- Reduced displacement of utility PV capacity
- Wind capacity recovers as RES increases
- Greater utility PV capacity displacement as RES increases
- Little effect on utility battery capacity



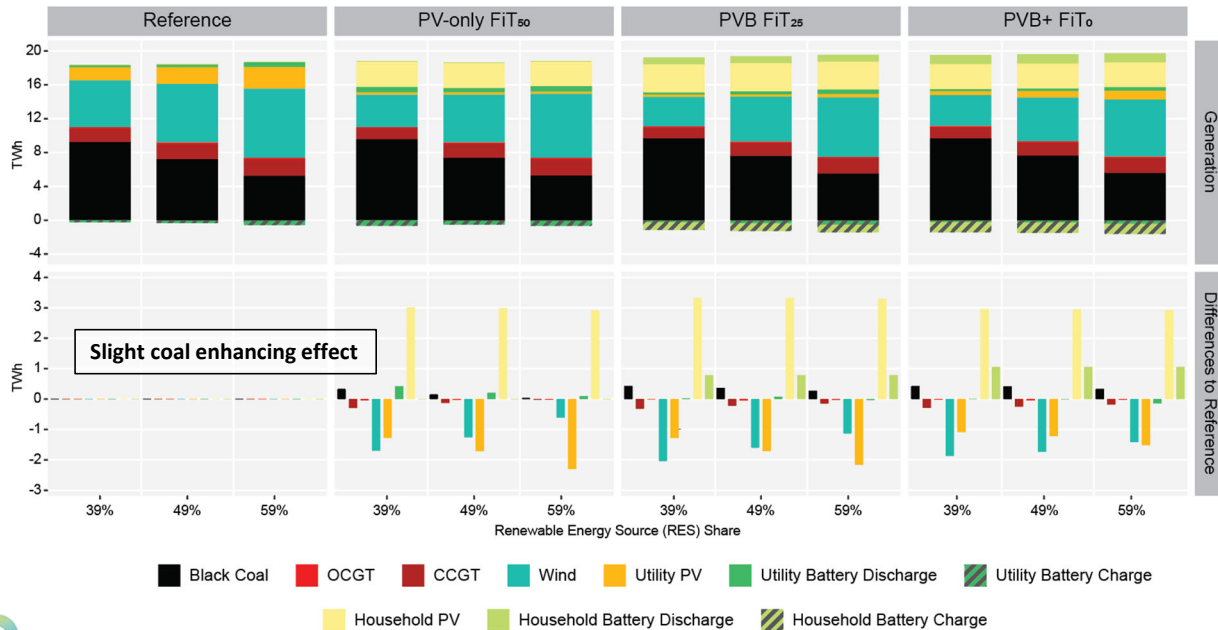
Generation impacts.

Reference (counterfactual) scenario

- No PV battery investing households
- Wind is an increasingly important resource, higher capacity factor of wind means that wind contributes more to the generation mix
- Coal has greatest reduction
- OCGT, CCGT generally unaffected



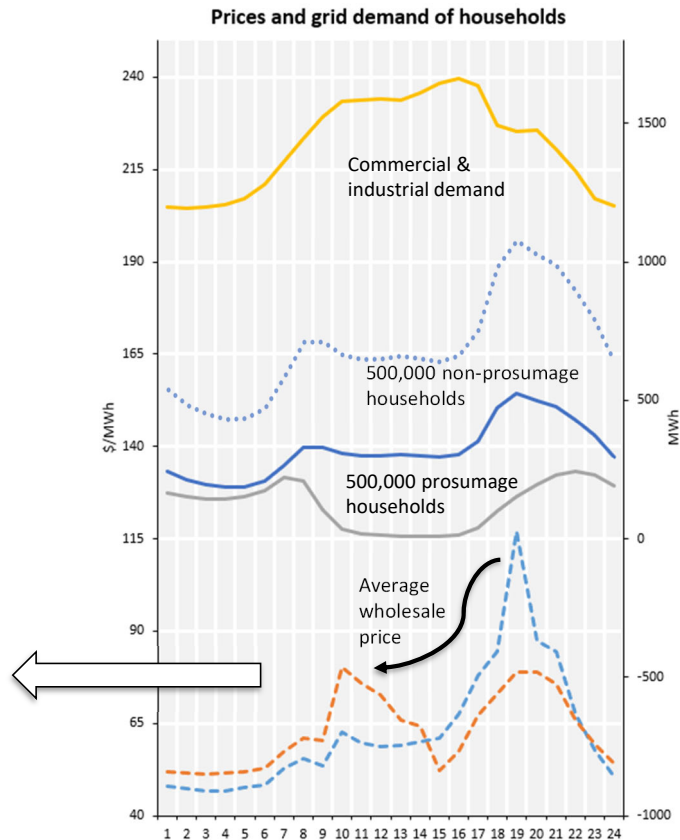
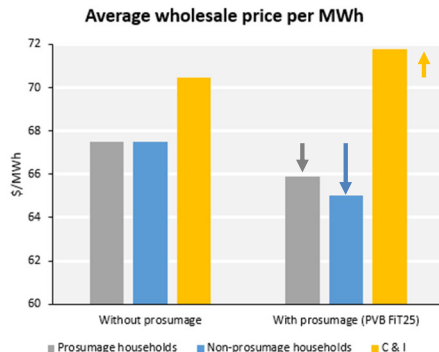
Generation impacts.



Wholesale price impacts.

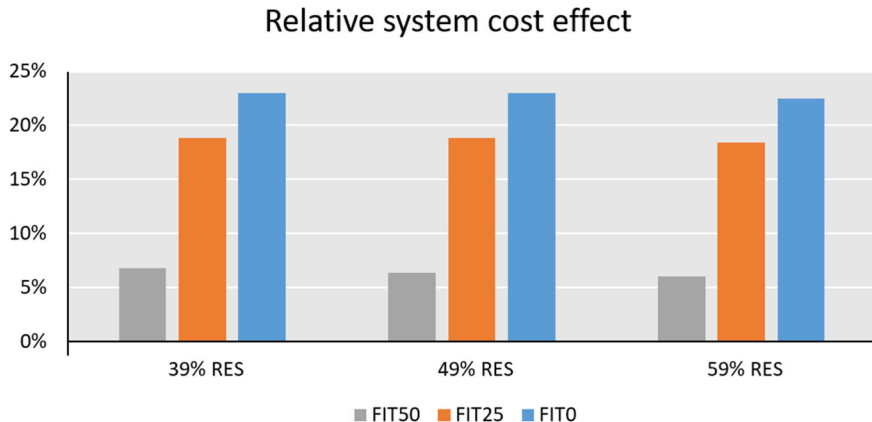
Considering PVB FIT₂₅ and 49% RES share:

- Late-afternoon peak prices fall
- Mid-morning prices rise
- Wholesale prices for non-prosumage also falls slightly
- Cost of supply to C&I rises slightly



Overall system cost effects.

- Higher PV battery investment costs for customers leads to sub-optimal allocation of capital across the power sector



Conclusions.

- Utility PV generally substituted by household PV capacity
but less so as additional household batteries are installed
- Wind power is less affected
especially in scenarios with higher shares of renewables
- Utility battery capacities are hardly substituted
with household batteries operating to maximise self-consumption
- Slight decrease in wholesale prices faced by non-prosumage households
less so with prosumage households, while other consumers are slightly increased
- Potential system benefits from more system oriented household battery operations
that have near-zero marginal costs (from the consumer perspective)