

Energy & Environment: Public Policy & Political Perspectives

POWER SUMMIT
OCTOBER 1, 2025

John C. McClure

Executive VP External Affairs &
General Counsel

Slides and comments are mine and may or may not reflect NPPD policy positions



Nebraska Public Power District

Always there when you need us

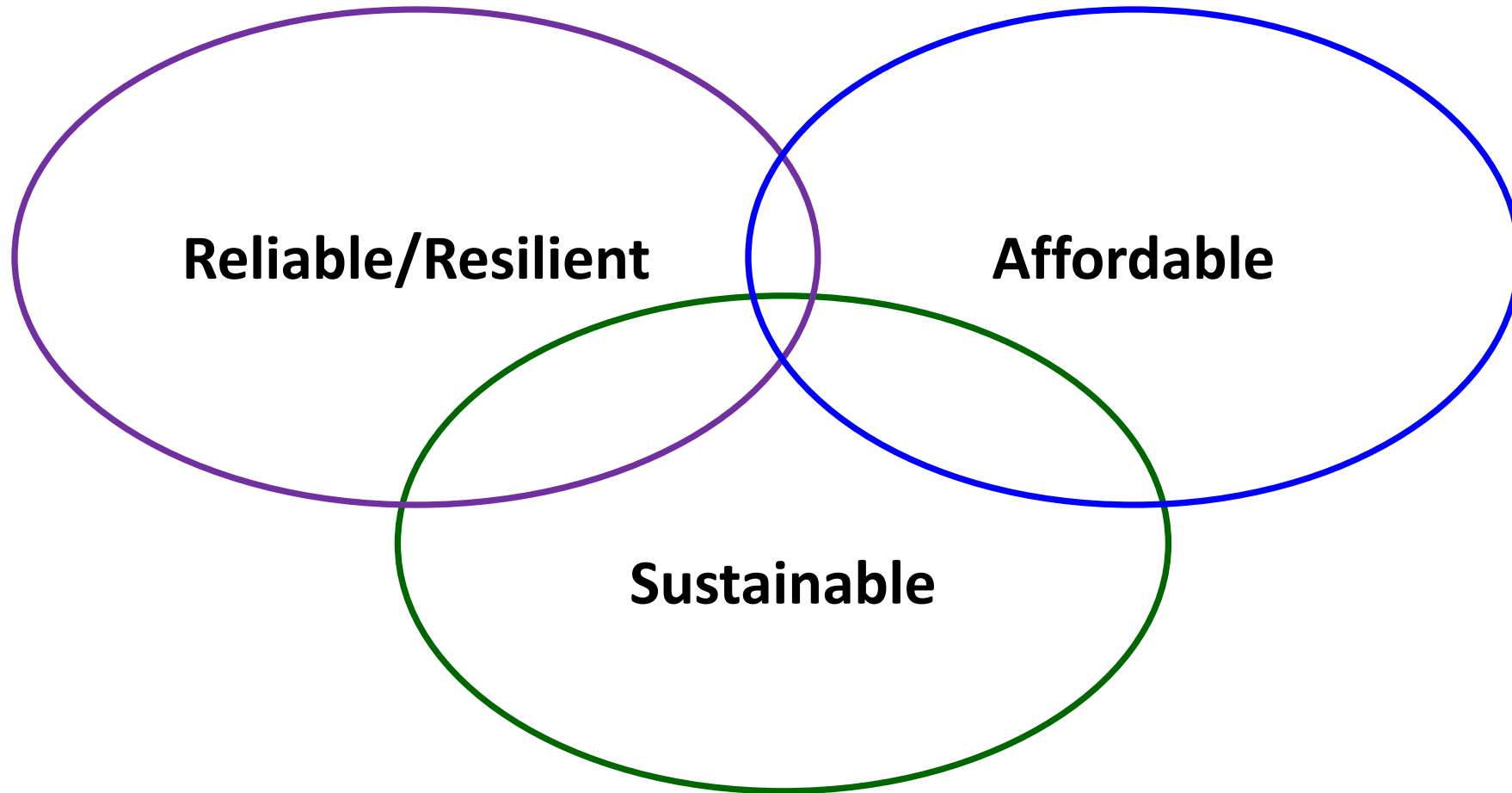
Memory Lane

My “Conclusions” from 2015 Presentation

- The Nation remains deeply divided politically, socially and geographically.
- National energy policy is increasingly made by federal regulatory agencies and not by Congress.
- The use of coal to produce electricity will continue to decrease nationally; but remain significant in certain geographic regions.
- Renewables and distributed generation will continue to grow; but will face increasing integration challenges in some regions.
- Natural gas will continue to play a growing role in the production of electricity.
- Transmission expansion will be required to incorporate more renewables.
- Litigation over the Clean Power Plan will leave a cloud over the program until addressed by the Supreme Court (2018/19).
- Tax subsidies have major impacts on electricity markets.

Three Simple Questions

How can we provide electricity that is....

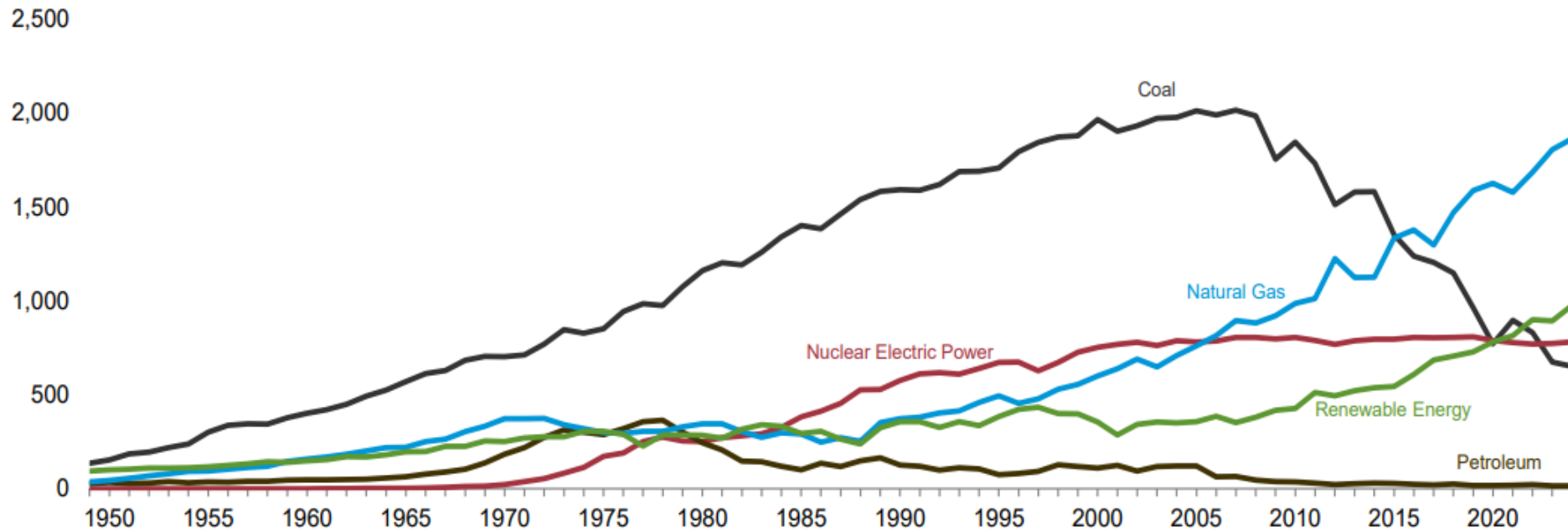


The Answers are Complex

U.S. Electricity Generation by Major Energy Source, 1950-2024

Figure 7.2 Electricity Net Generation
(Billion Kilowatthours)

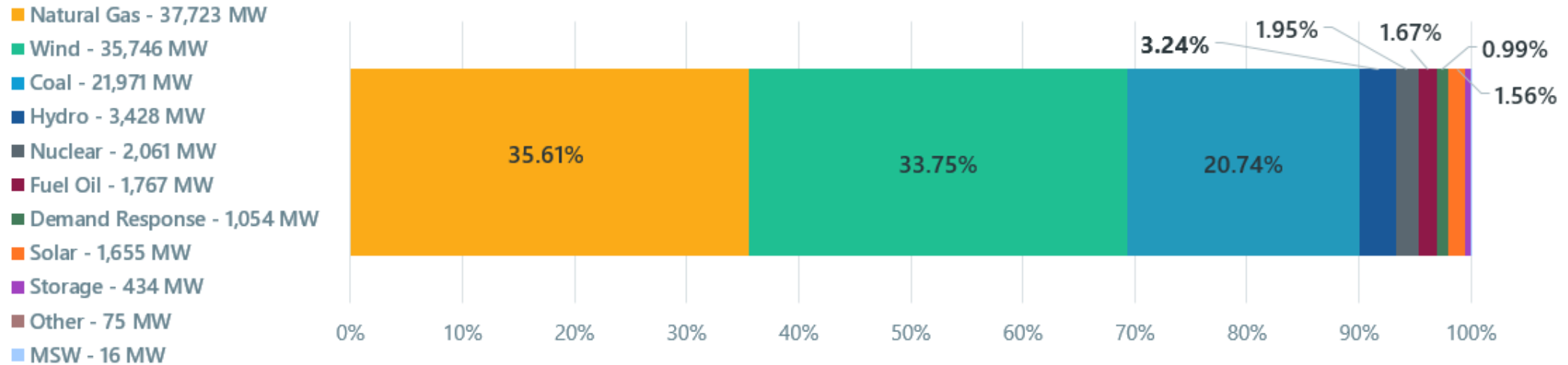
Total (All Sectors), Major Sources, 1949–2024



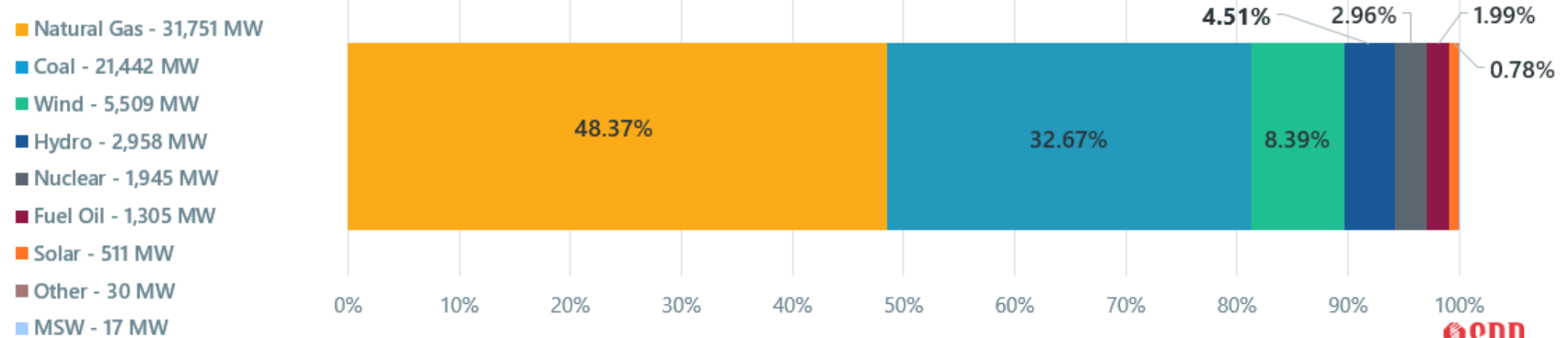
Source: EIA

SPP Generating Capacity

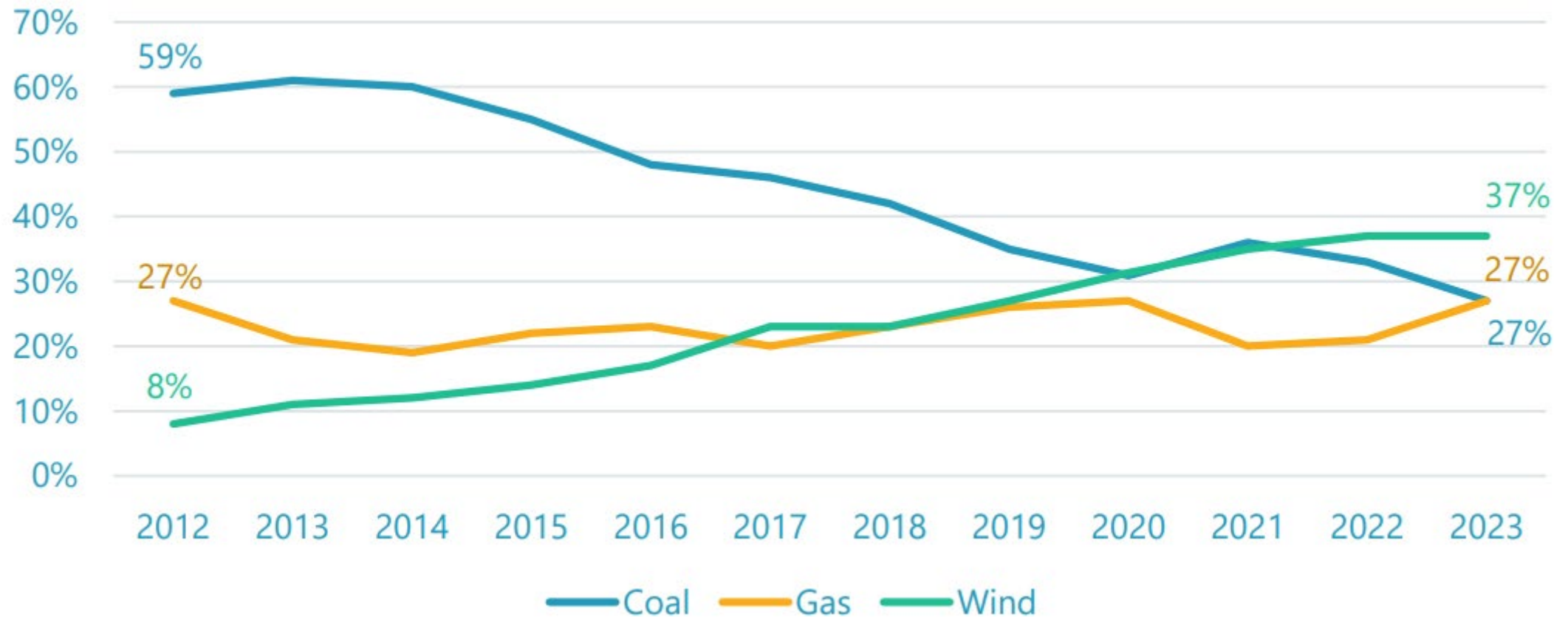
NAMEPLATE GENERATING CAPACITY – 105,927 MW *(As of August 2025)*



ACCREDITED GENERATING CAPACITY – 65,639 MW *(As of Summer 2025)*

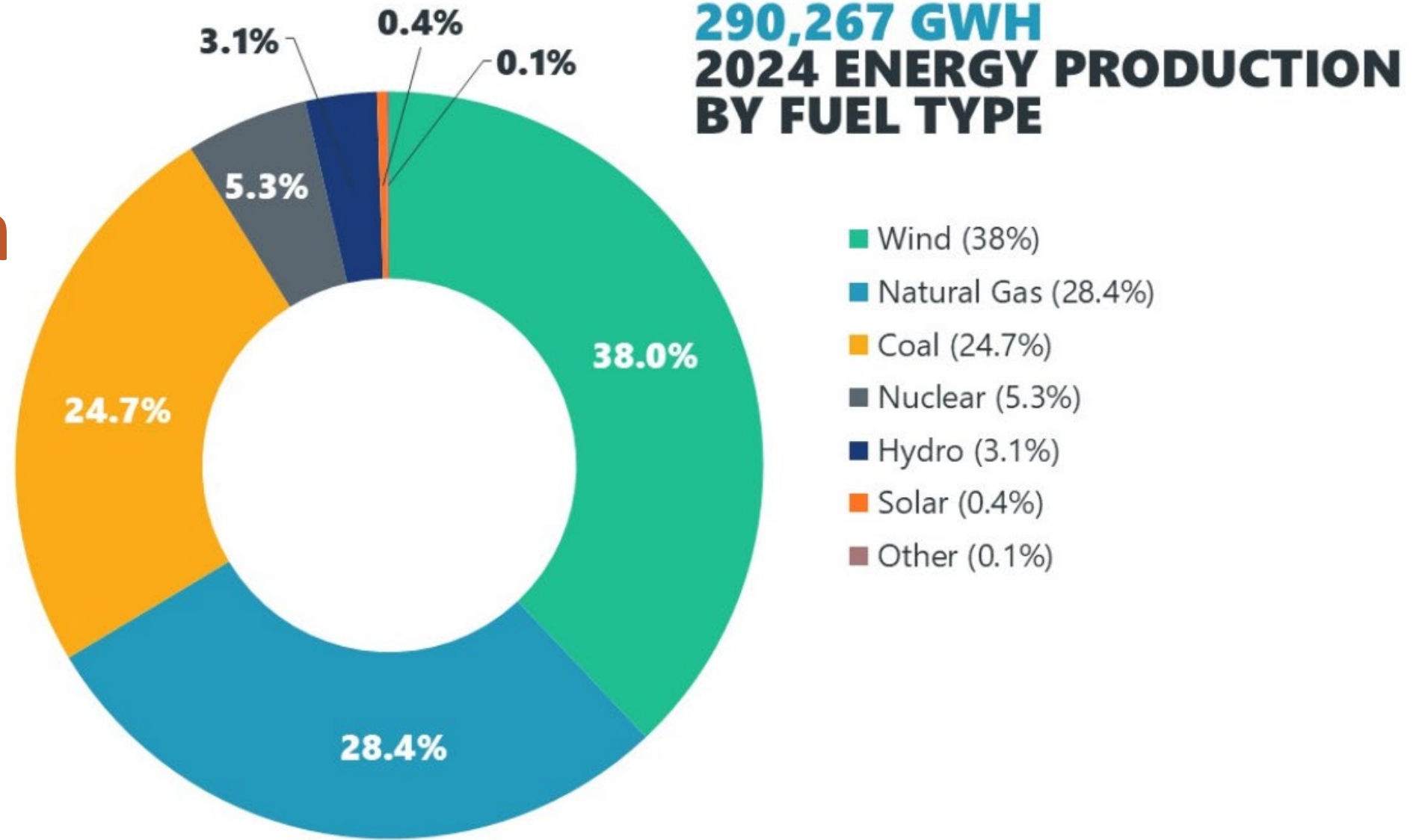


SPP's Top Three Energy Producers 2012 - 2023



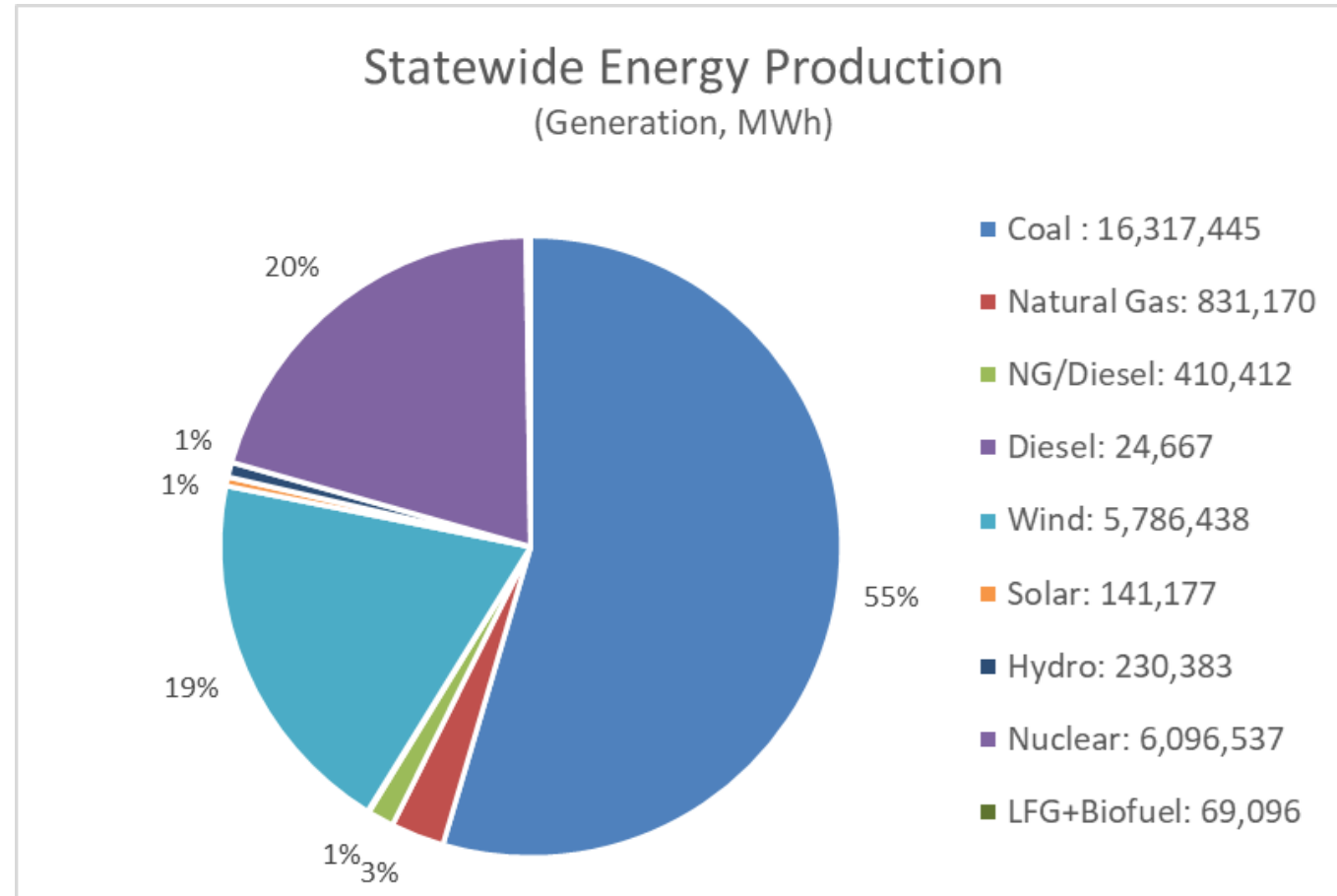
Source: SPP

2024 SPP Energy Production



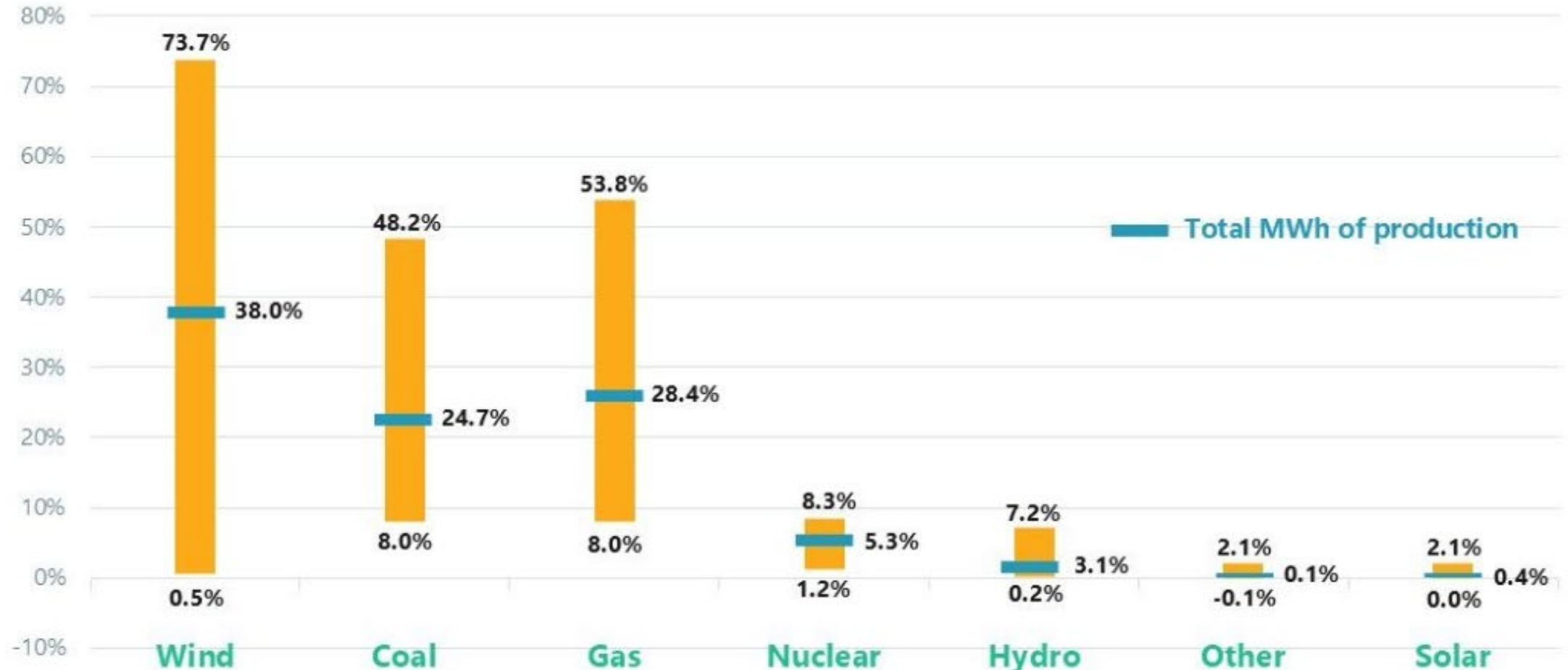
2024 Nebraska Electricity Mix

In 2024, about 55% of the electrical energy produced by Nebraska utilities came from coal, with the next highest categories in 20% from nuclear and 19% from wind. ⁽¹⁾

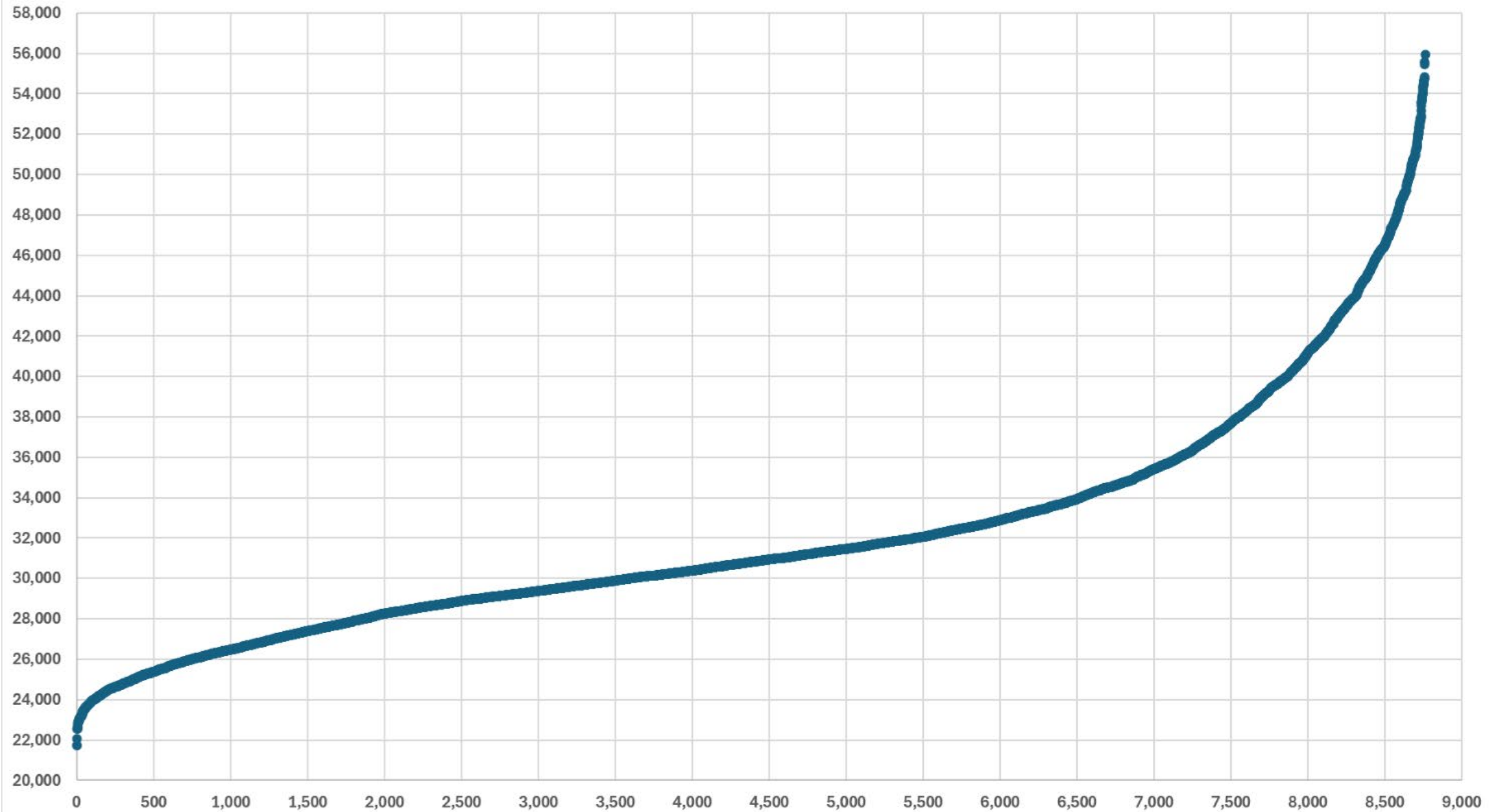


2024 SPP Energy Min / Max

MIN AND MAX PERCENT OF GENERATION BY FUEL TYPE JANUARY 2024 – DECEMBER 2024

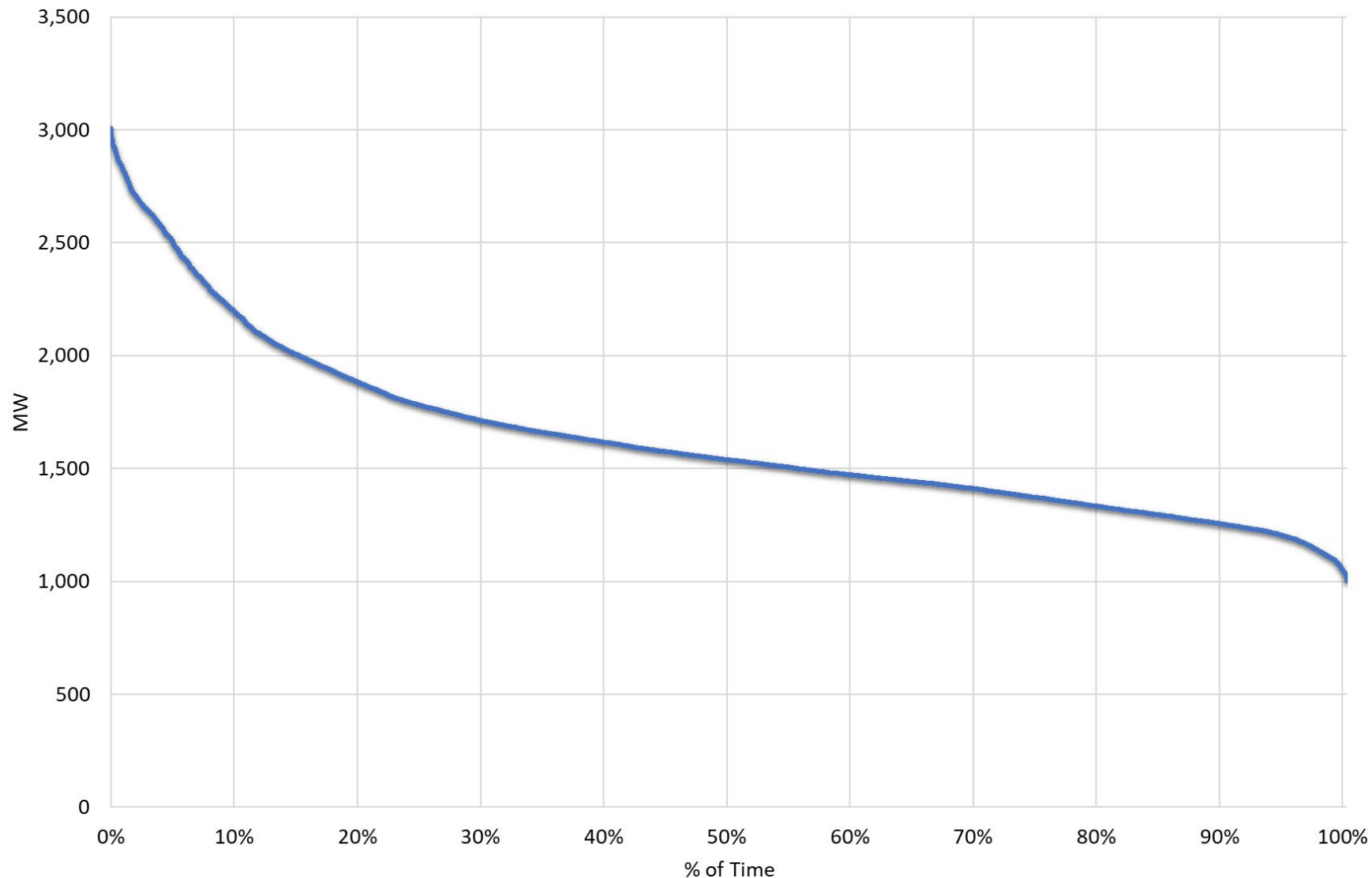


SPP BA: Load duration curve 2023



Source:
SPP

NPPD Hourly Load Duration Curve – 2024



Nuclear Renaissance?

- **Vogtle 3 & 4**
- **Restart Closed Units**
 - ✓ Palisades
 - ✓ Three Mile Island
 - ✓ Duane Arnold
- **Subsequent License Renewal Process**
- **Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)**
- **Regulatory Reform**
- **Nebraska Nuclear Siting Study**
- **Costs / Schedule**
 - ✓ Supply chain for equipment
 - ✓ Supply chain for workforce
 - ✓ Financial predictability

Growing Challenges to Transmission and Renewable Energy Siting

- **Transmission projects increasingly protracted and expensive**
- **Local zoning challenges for renewable projects**
- **Local opposition to renewables and transmission projects**
- **Trump Administration generally opposes wind and solar**

Bulk Electric System Reliability

- RTO concerns
- NERC concerns
- Increasing SPP advisories and aAlerts
- Over reliance or under reliance on renewables?
- Role for legacy thermal (dispatchable) plants
- Challenges to building new transmission
- Aging infrastructure
- Unprecedented load growth following 20 years of minimal growth

Biden's Administration Energy Policy Goals

- **Invest in projects to promote clean energy and decarbonization**
- **Make the energy system more resilient to address climate/ extreme weather hazards**
- **Promote environmental justice**
- **Create good paying jobs**

Major Federal Legislative Actions Last Four Years

- **Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA) – November 2021**
- **Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) – August 2022**
- **One Big Beautiful Bill – July 2025**

Trump 47

- **Significant U-turn from Biden's policies**
- **Extensive use of executive orders**
- **Unleash fossil and nuclear energy growth**
- **Energy dominance!**
- **Remove burdensome regulations**
- **Seek to quickly build new generation to support AI and meet national security concerns**

Congress

- **Several major energy policies of Inflation Reduction Act were gutted through One Big Beautiful Bill**
 - ✓ Deep cuts to renewable incentives
- **Razor thin Republican majority in House and narrow margin in Senate**
- **Permitting reform**
- **Bipartisan support for nuclear power**

U. S. Supreme Court

- **Trump has sympathetic conservative majority**
 - ✓ Dismantle the “Administrative State”
- **Favorable decisions on**
 - ✓ Clean Power Plan (West Virginia v. EPA)
 - ✓ NEPA (Seven County Infrastructure Coalition v. Eagle County)
 - ✓ Chevron Doctrine (Loper-Bright v. Raimondo)
- **Coming up?**
 - ✓ GHG endangerment finding

Conclusion

- A diverse fuel mix serves Nebraskans best.
- Renewables expansion will slow down but will require transmission expansion.
 - ❖ Siting both is increasingly challenging
- Nuclear energy is clean, constant and must be preserved and expanded, but new nuclear is expensive.
- Coal will play an important role in Nebraska, but diminished role in the regional energy mix.
- New technologies are important and must be implemented economically and reliably considering existing infrastructure, future needs, and regulatory factors.
- Federal financial incentives and grants will help facilitate significant electric industry expansion, especially nuclear.
- We must properly balance reliability, affordability and sustainability in the electric industry.
- Period of unprecedented load growth following decades of relatively flat electricity demand creates significant challenges and opportunities.

Questions?
