



# Integrating Renewable Energy onto the Electric Grid with Automated Demand Response Resources

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**STRATEGIC THINKING AND DELIVERY**

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# Saving Ourselves from too Much Renewable Energy

The  
Economist

European utilities

## How to lose half a trillion euros

Europe's electricity providers face an existential threat



Source: The Economist, October 12, 2013

### Germany—June 16, 2013

- » Renewables generation reached 29 GW—more than half of demand
- » Market prices fell to minus €100 per MWh

### Europe—2008 to 2013

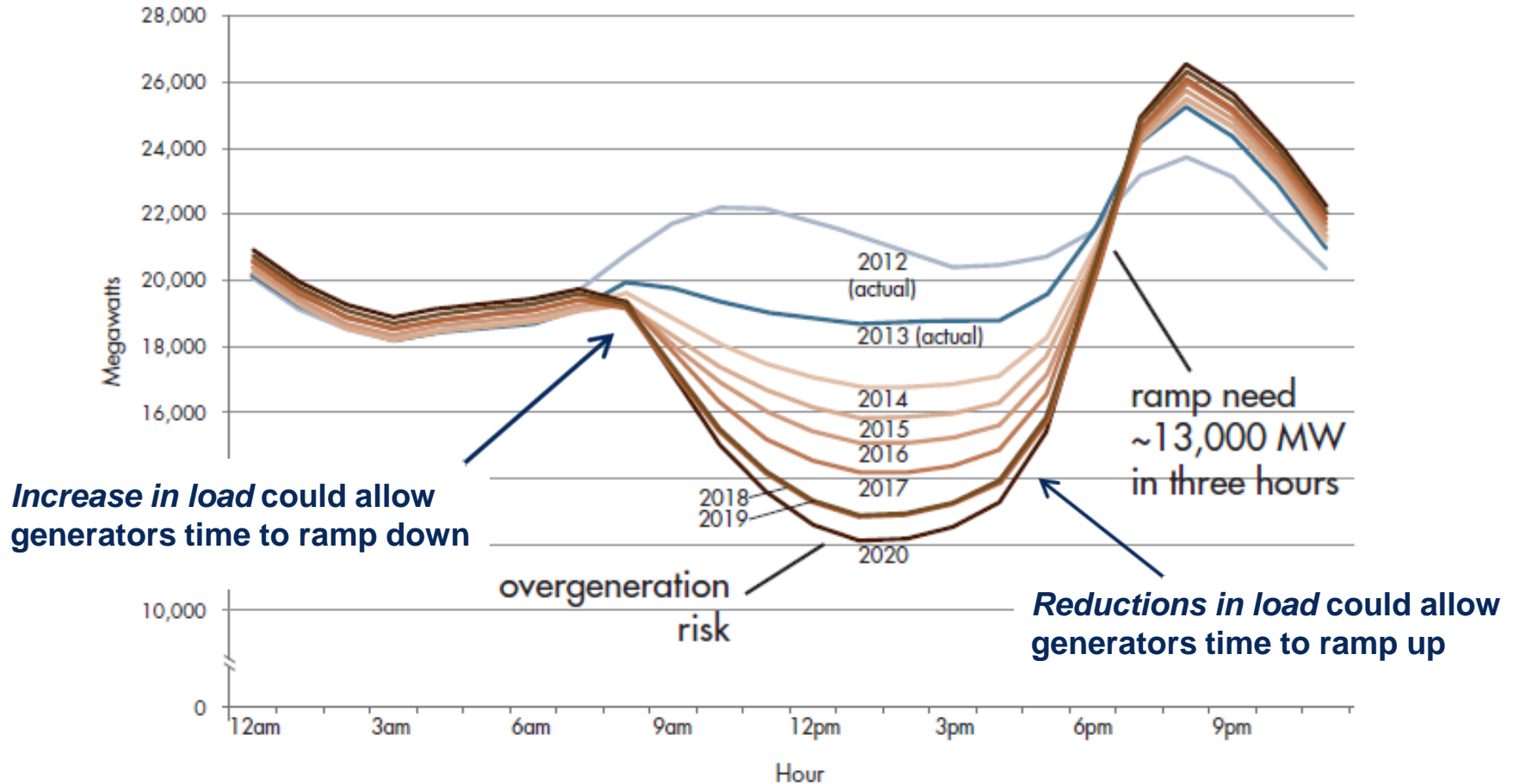
- » Utilities' market value lost ~ €700 billion
- » *Utilities "...worry that the growth of solar and wind power is destabilising the grid, and may lead to blackouts or brownouts."*

## Can "Demand Response" (DR) save utilities and save the grid?

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# Renewables Growth Creates Challenges for Supplying the “Net Load”

Net load - March 31



Source: California Independent System Operator

# Can “Fast DR” Keep the Grid Alive?



## *Hawaiian Electric Co. Fast DR Pilot*

“Quick-start bridge resource”  
to manage the intermittency of  
renewable energy generation”



- » Pilot period: January 2012 to December 2014
- » Participant Incentive: Up to \$10 per kW of reduction each month
- » Automated control linked to building energy management systems (EMS)

Fast DR Event Parameter	Characteristic
Advanced Notice	None (automated)
Speed of Response	Seconds to minutes Full commitment within 10 min.
Event Duration	Maximum one (1) hour
Event Frequency	Up to 40 or 80 times per year

# Fast DR Pilot Evaluation Objectives

## Market Assessment

- Barriers to participation
- Load reduction potential

## Technical Readiness

- Performance of communications
- Consistency of load curtailment mechanisms

## Operational experience

- Hawaiian Electric experience with Fast DR for grid management
- Magnitude, speed, and consistency of load impacts

## Cost-Effectiveness

- Relative benefits and costs of long-term, full-scale program

# Grid Operations – Testing “Fast DR”

## Phase I

Pre-planned  
schedule of events

- All hours & days
- Durations from 15 minutes to 1 hour

## Phase II

Day-ahead  
scheduled events

- Based on forecasted weather conditions
- Transition to “real-time” dispatch

## Phase III

Real-time dispatch  
based on system  
conditions

- To date used only as a “capacity” resource
- Objective to dispatch as a “bridge” resource

# Evaluating Load Impacts of Fast DR

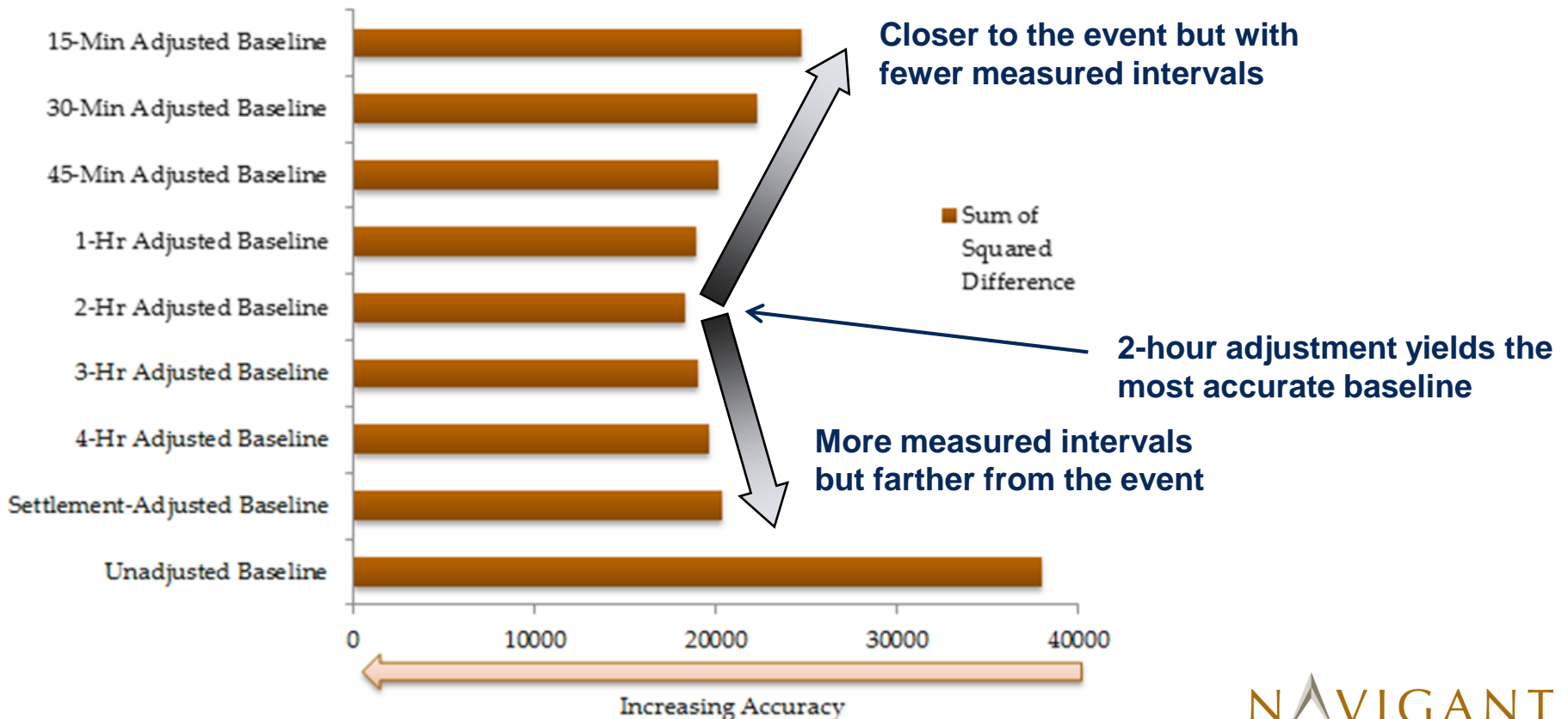
- » We can measure loads directly...but not load *reductions*
- » So we need to estimate ***baseline loads*** for comparison
  - › For incentive payment: compare to prior days, same hours
  - › For grid management planning: use econometric modeling

## Baseline Estimation Inputs

- ✓ Time of day
- ✓ Day of week
- ✓ Month
- ✓ Temperature
- ✓ Adjustment for same-day load prior to the event

# Baseline Load Estimates Adjusted for Loads in the Two Hours Preceding Each Event

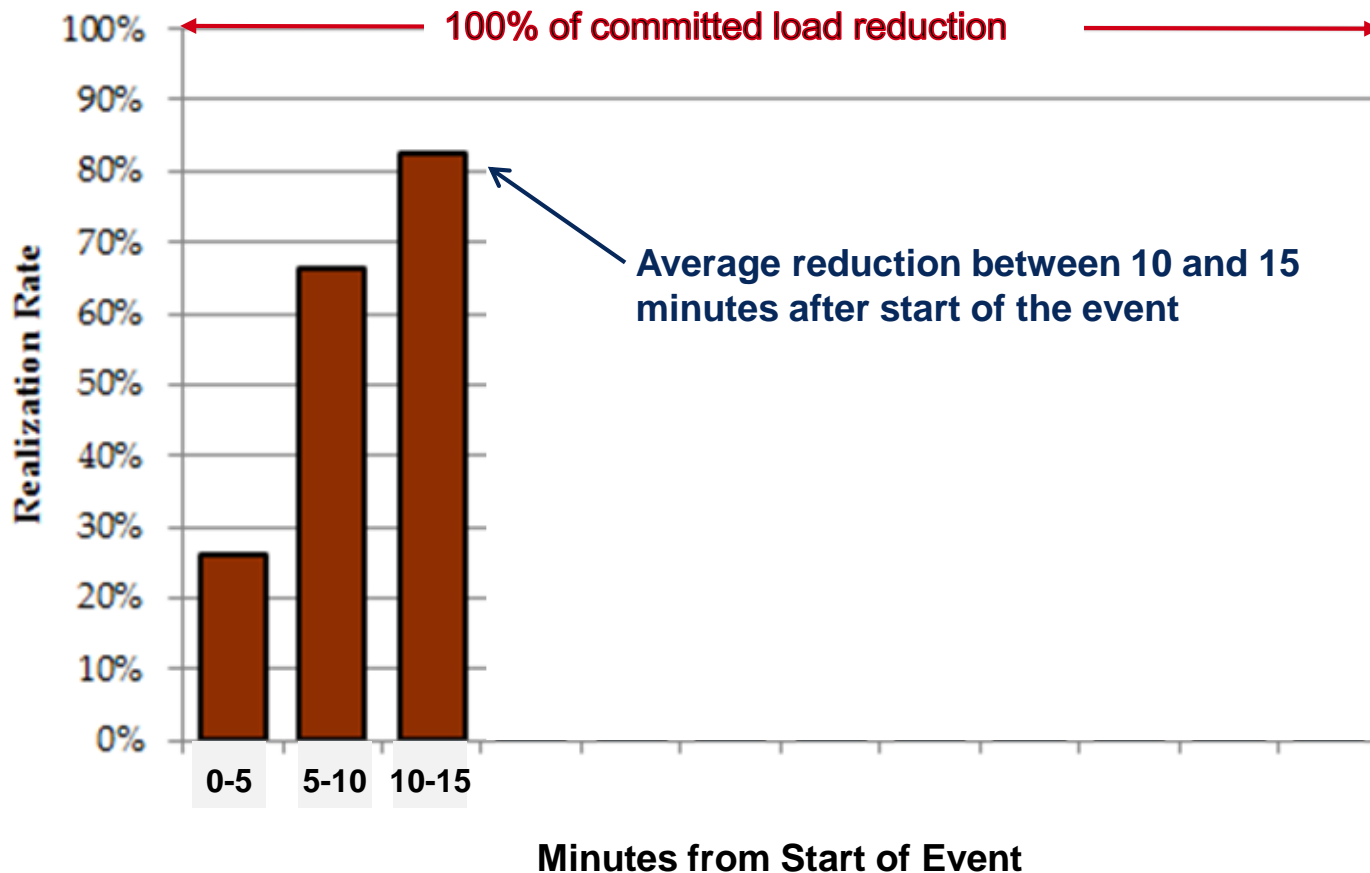
- » Accuracy of alternative baselines determined by comparing predicted loads to measured loads during non-event days
- » Adjusted baseline period is the length of time prior to an event that is used to predict usage during the event





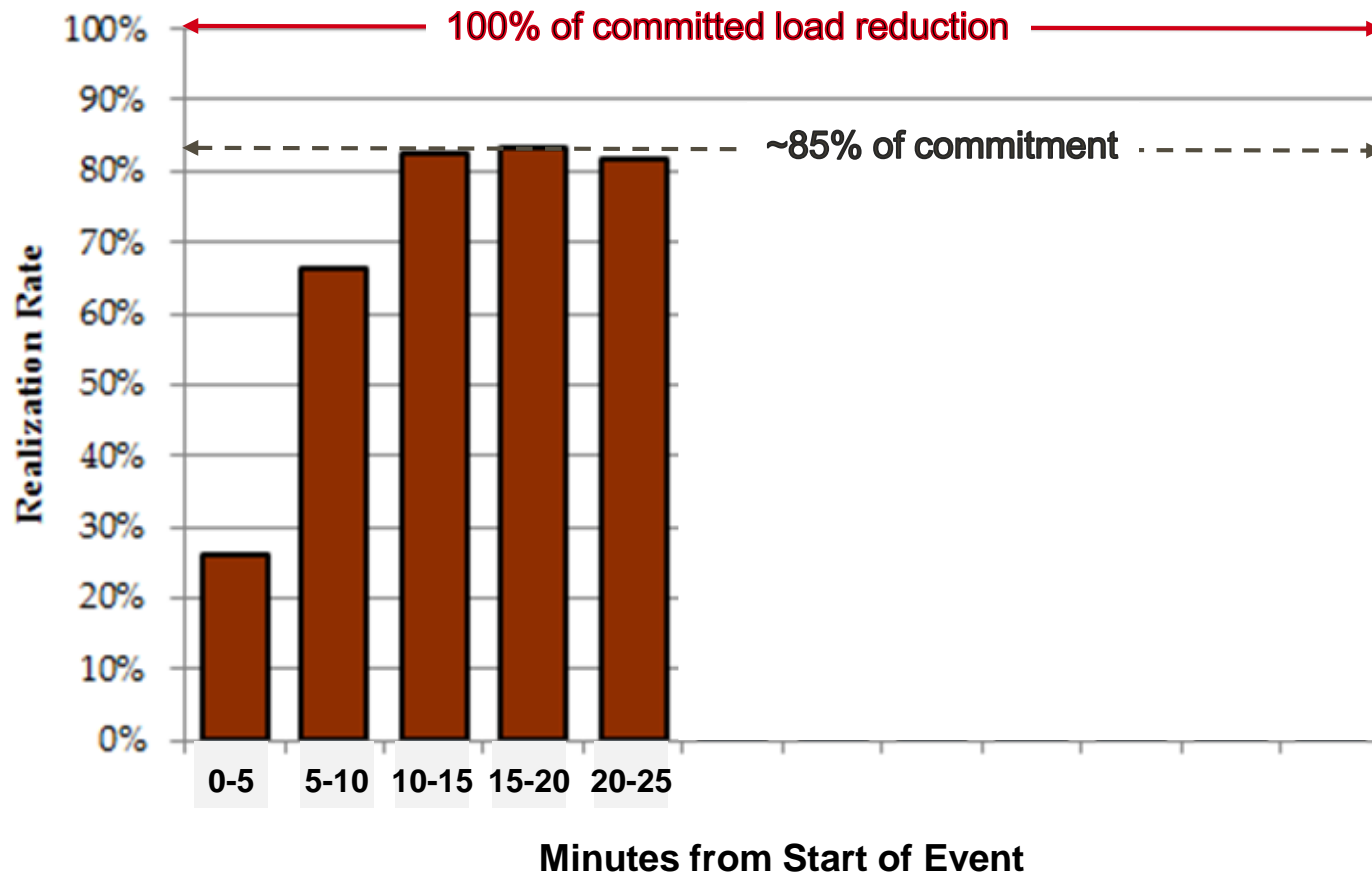
# Committed Reductions Not Achieved within 10 Minutes

Average Load Reduction Across All Participants and All Events for Each 5-Minute Interval of the Event



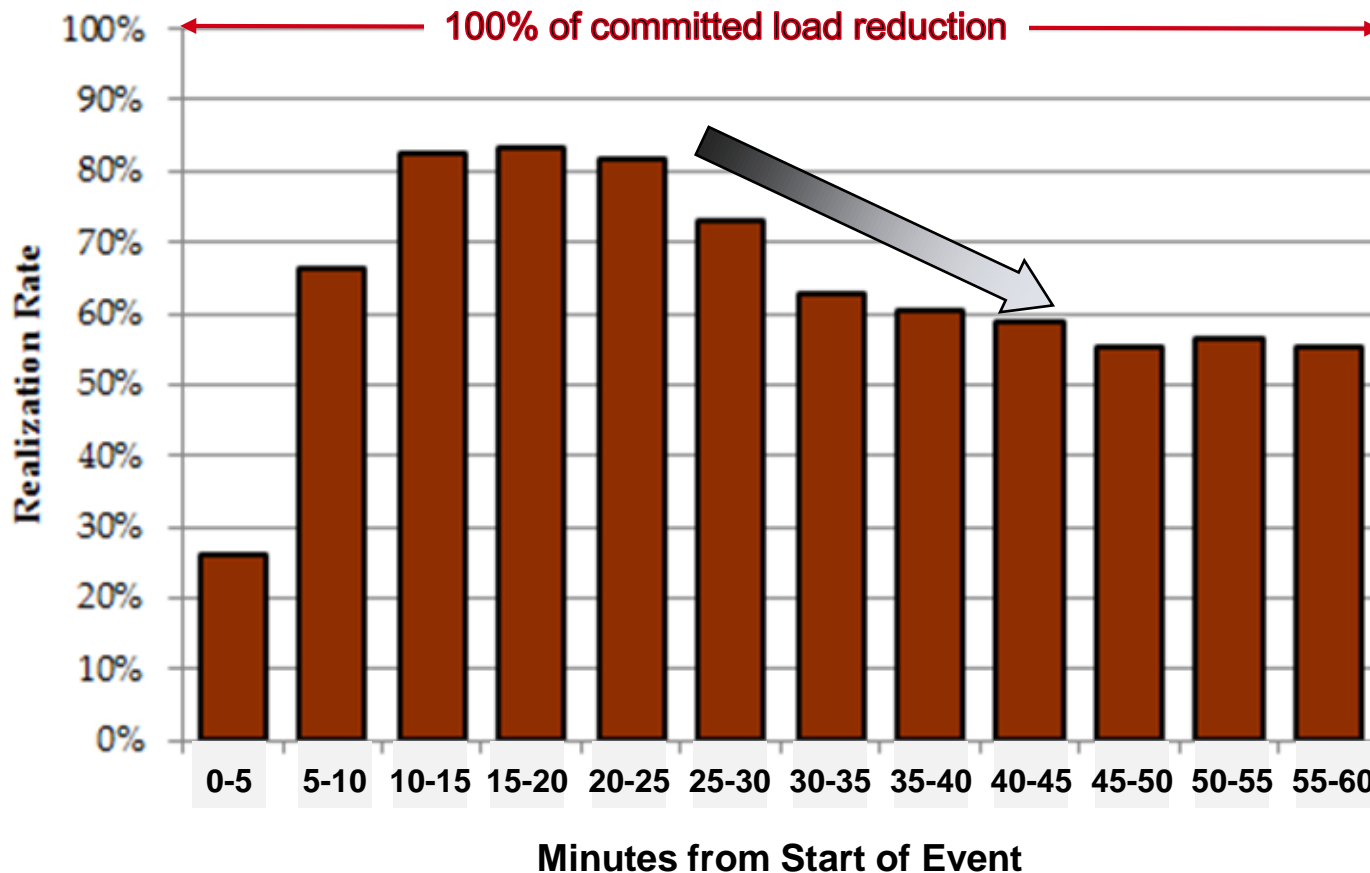
# Maximum Load Reduction Achieved within 10 Minutes, But Below Target

Average Load Reduction Across All Participants and All Events for Each 5-Minute Interval of the Event



# Load Reduction Drops Off After 30 Minutes

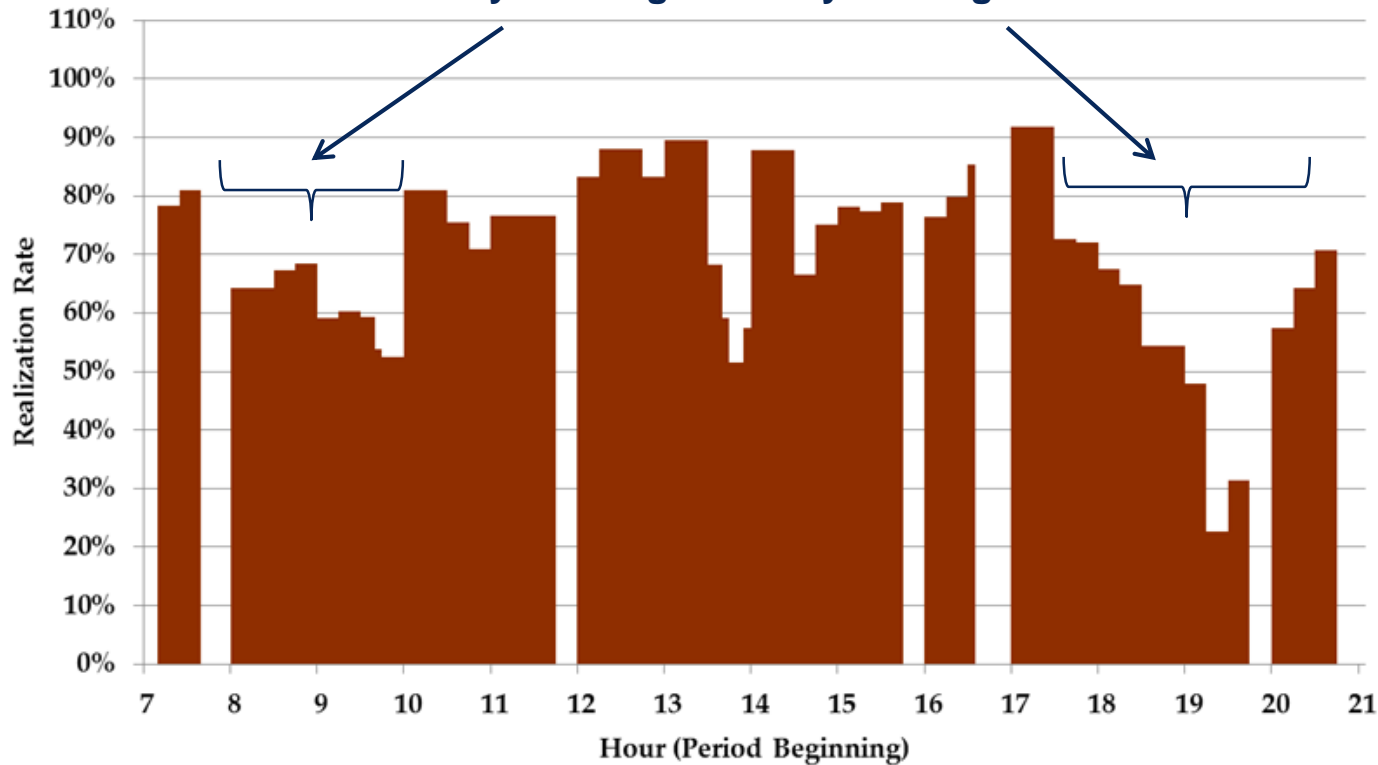
Average Load Reduction Across All Participants and All Events for Each 5-Minute Interval of the Event



# Will Maximum Load Reduction Be Available Early Morning and Evening?

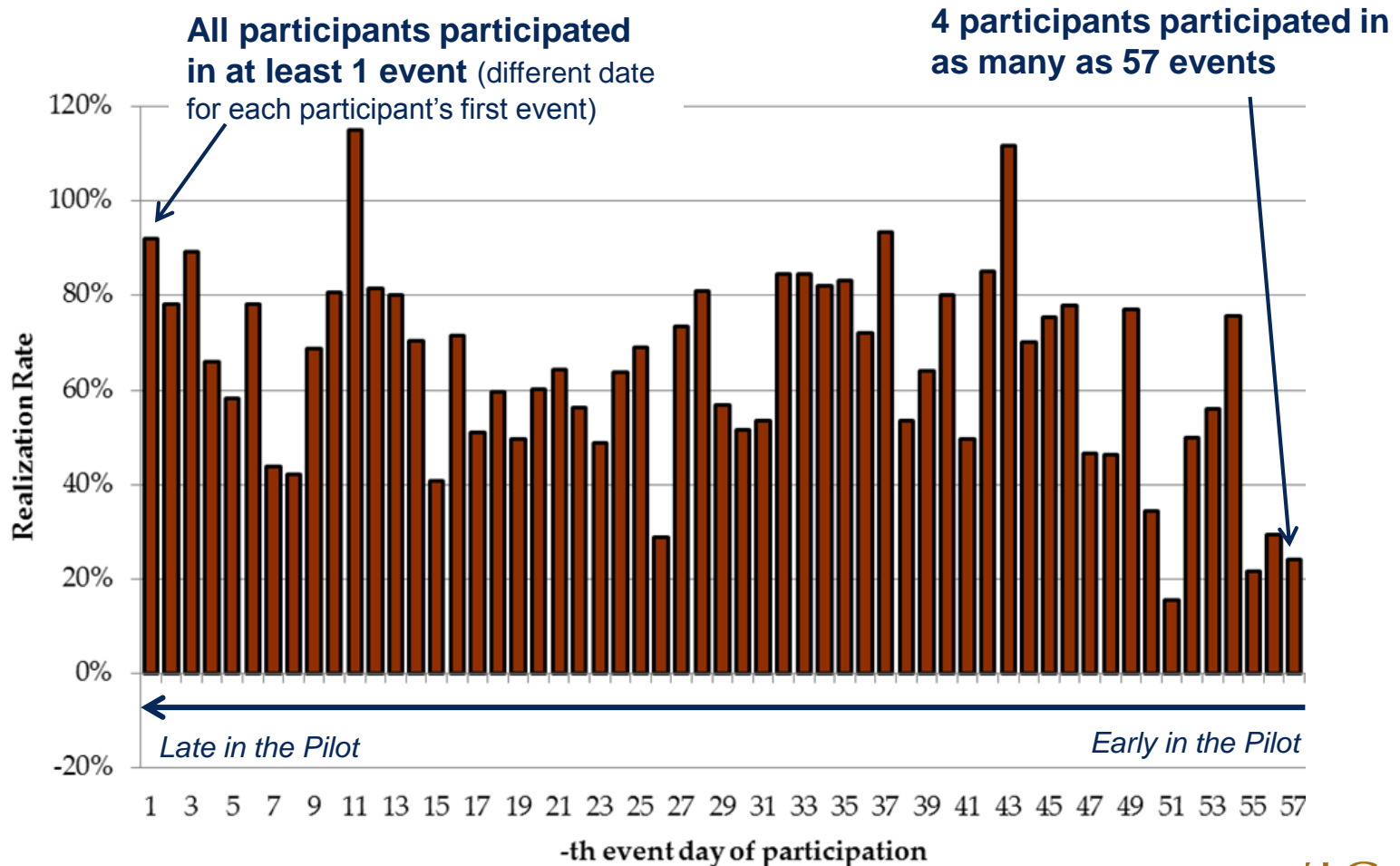
Average Load Reduction Across All Participants and All Events for Each 15-Minute Interval of the Day (07:00 to 21:00)

Pilot results suggest that customers may be able to provide less reduction in early morning and early evening



# Customers Sustained Reductions Over Many Events, but with Inconsistent Impacts

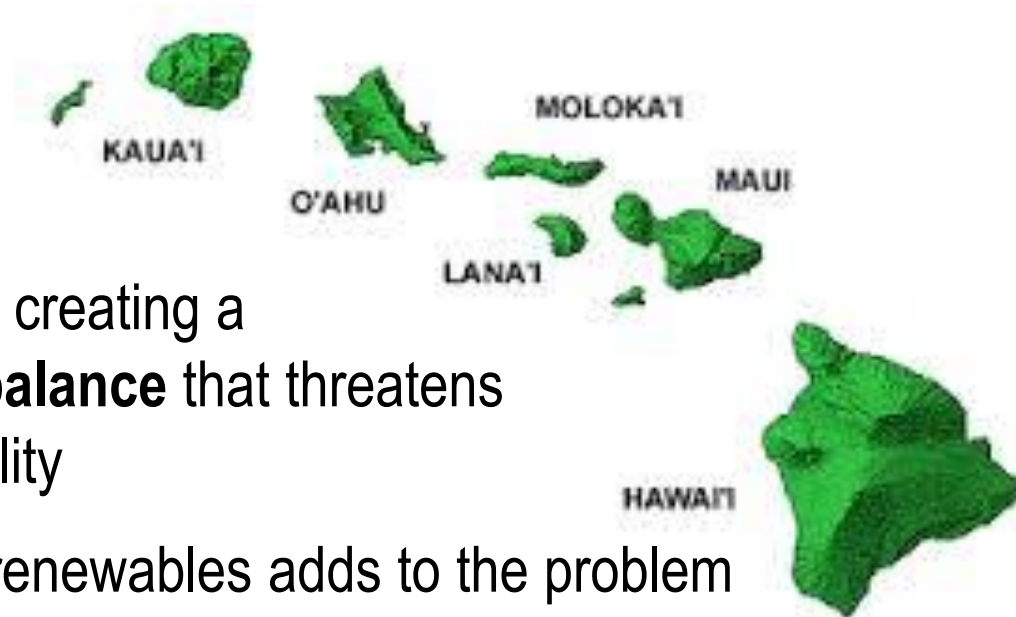
Average Load Reduction Across All Participants and All Events for Participant's 1<sup>st</sup> Event through 59<sup>th</sup> Event



# Future Fast DR Evaluation Needs

- » Success of *real-time dispatch* in response to changing grid conditions
- » Load impacts
  - › Achievement of more realistic load reduction targets
  - › Maintenance of load reductions for 60 minutes
  - › Consistency of reductions from one event to another
- » Customer acceptance/attrition over as many as 80 events
- » Value of grid benefits relative to cost of Fast DR program

# “Demanding” an End to Too Much Renewables



- » Renewable energy is creating a **supply-demand imbalance** that threatens utilities and grid stability
- » The intermittency of renewables adds to the problem by **increasing the need for balancing services** usually provided by generators
- » Fast DR holds promise to help address the imbalance, and could **save renewables from outgrowing the ability of the grid to integrate them**





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