



Growing the Grid:

*A Plan to Accelerate California's
Clean Energy Transition*

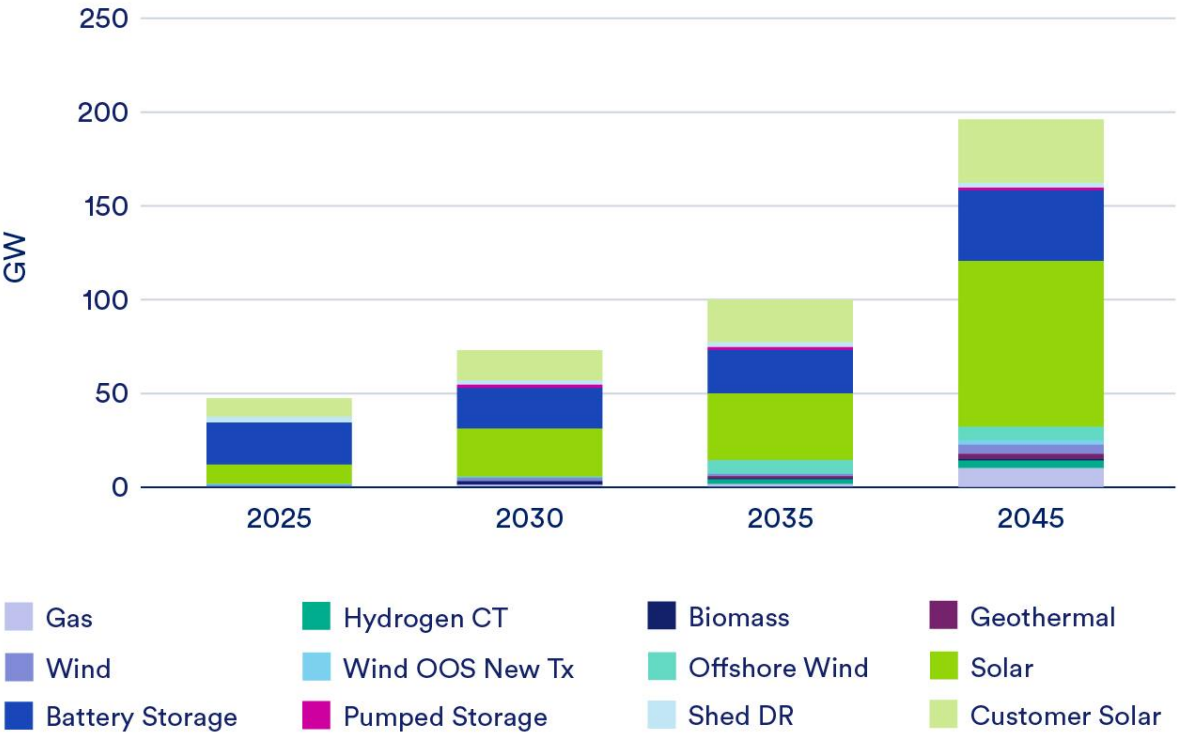
February 20, 2024

Testimony before
Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee

Achieving clean energy
goals requires
unprecedented action

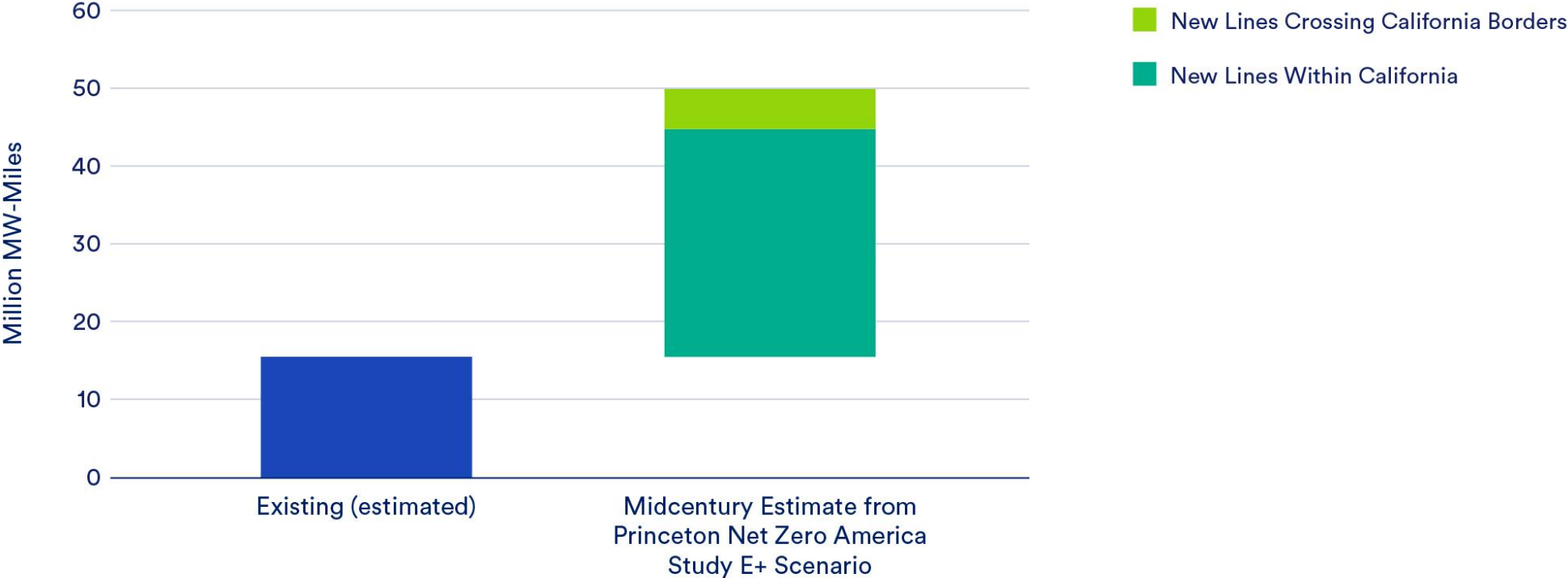
Meeting California's clean energy targets will require a rapid expansion of the grid

- 3.5x growth in total generation capacity in 20 years



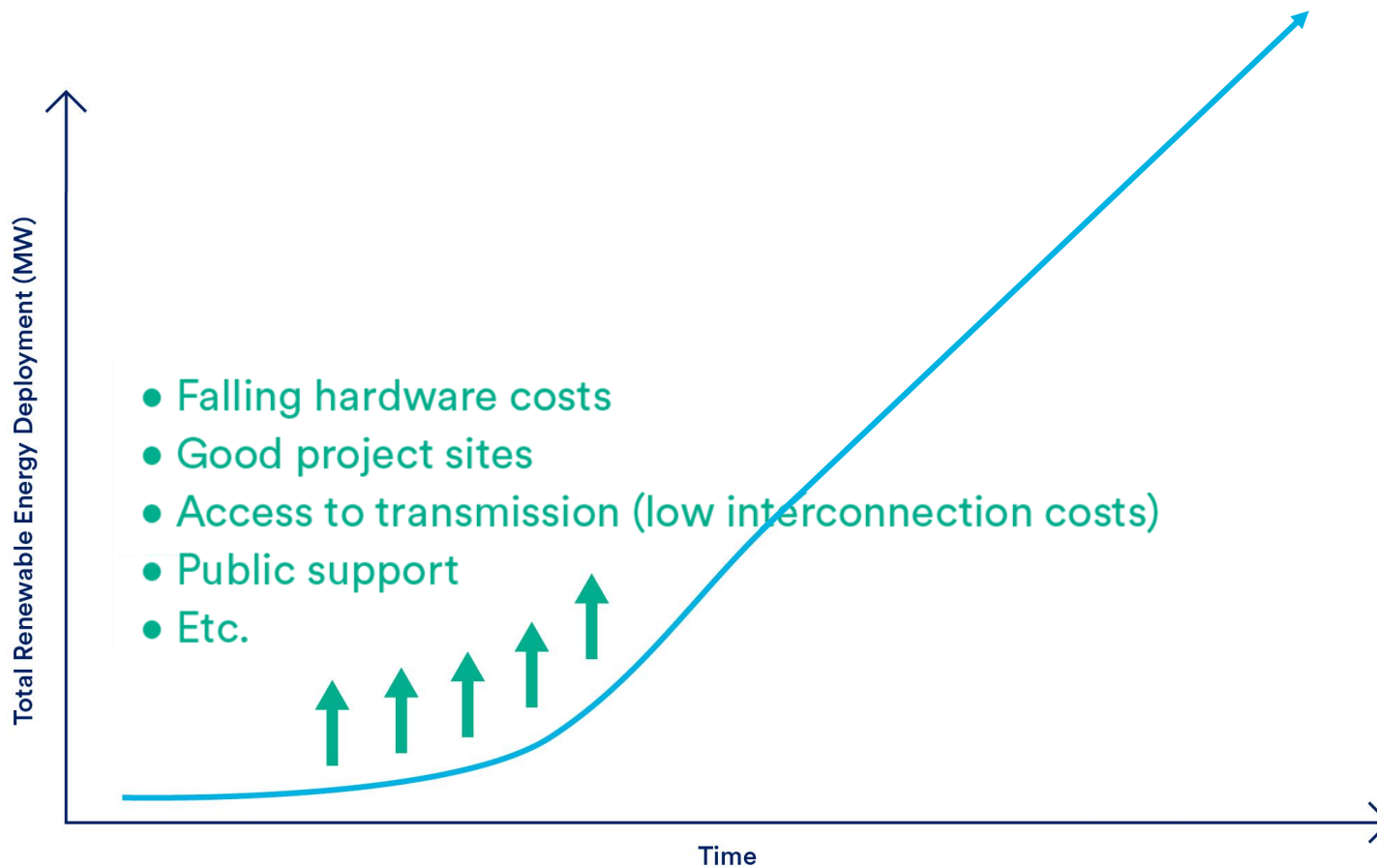
California Air Resources Board (CARB),
 "Draft 2022 Scoping Plan Update," page 162, May 10, 2022.
<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/2022-draft-sp.pdf>

Transmission capacity may need to triple



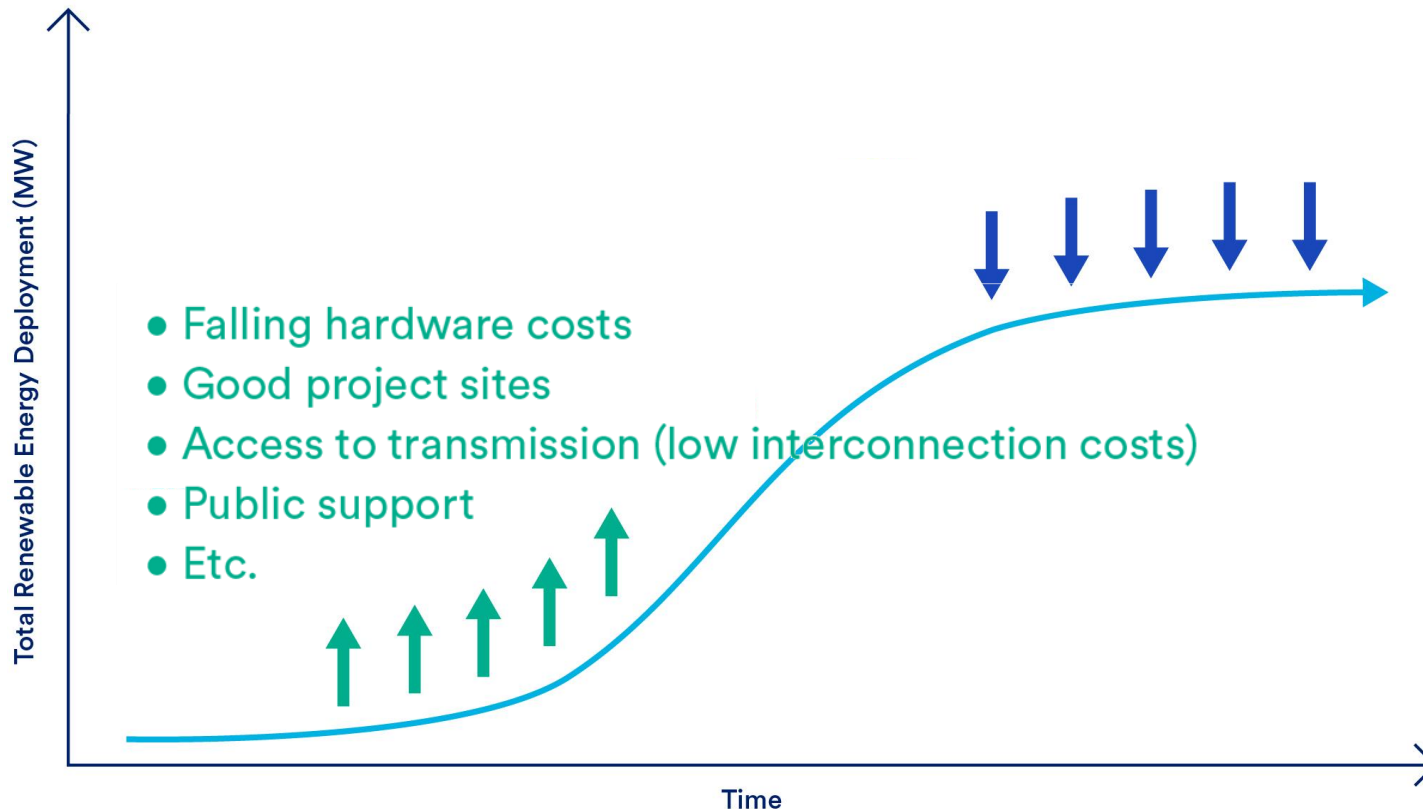
Headwinds to
deployment are likely
to increase

The real-world obstacles to clean energy deployment will likely grow if left unaddressed



Derived from: Cherp et al, "National growth dynamics of wind and solar power compared to the growth required for global climate targets," Nature Energy, Vol 6, July 2021.

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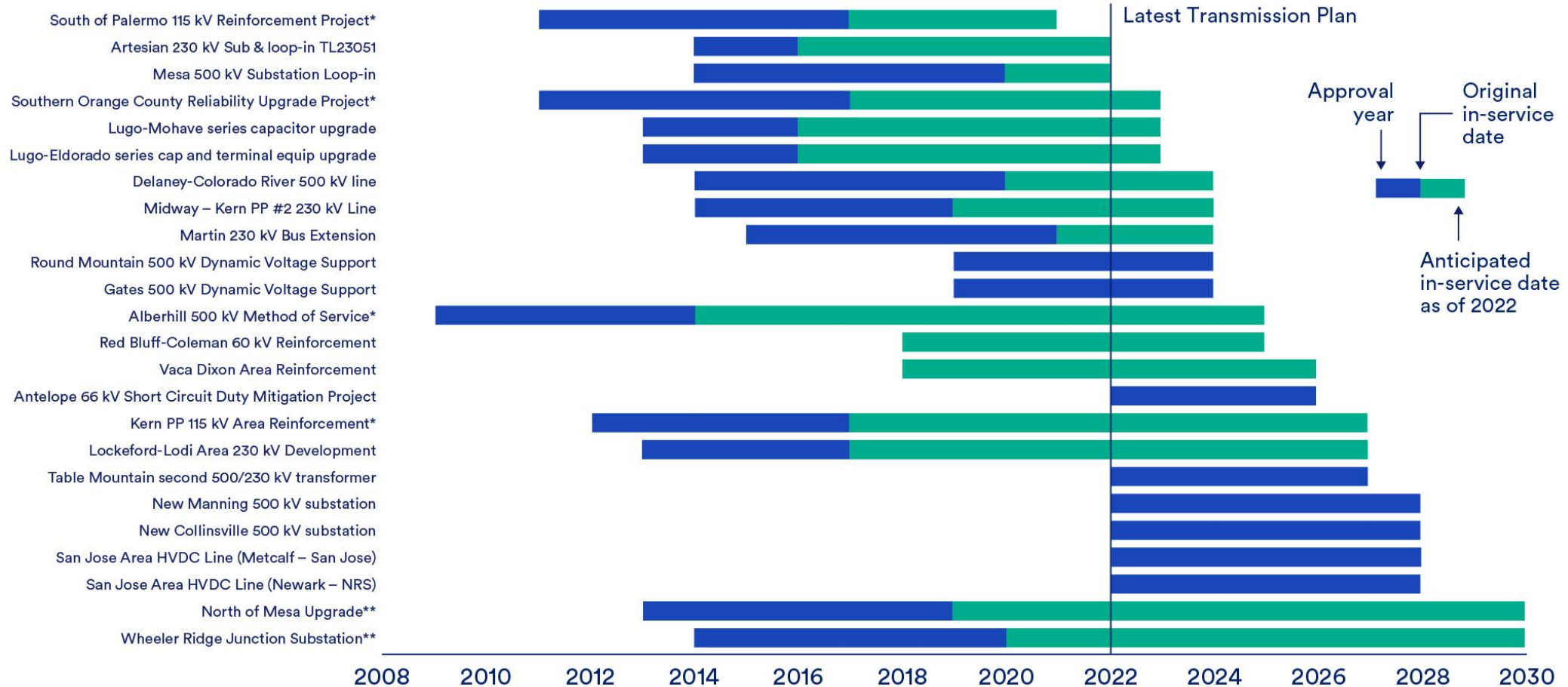


- Falling hardware costs
- Good project sites
- Access to transmission (low interconnection costs)
- Public support
- Etc.

- Increasing land costs & competing needs
- Fewer amendable landowners
- Further from transmission
- Lower capacity factors/poorer resource
- Public opposition
- Diminishing available transmission capacity
- Etc.

Derived from: Cherp et al, "National growth dynamics of wind and solar power compared to the growth required for global climate targets," Nature Energy, Vol 6, July 2021.

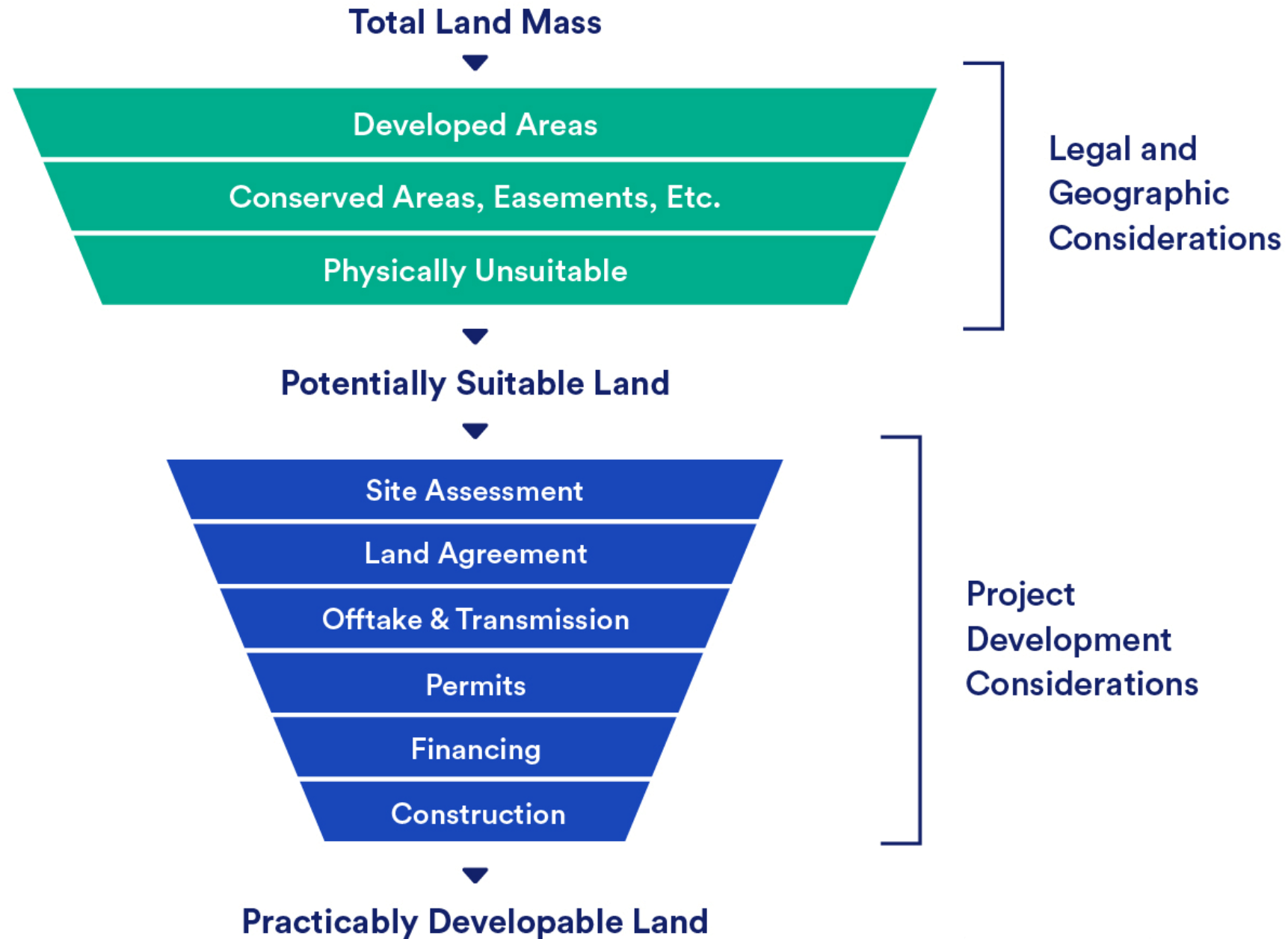
Transmission development often takes longer than anticipated



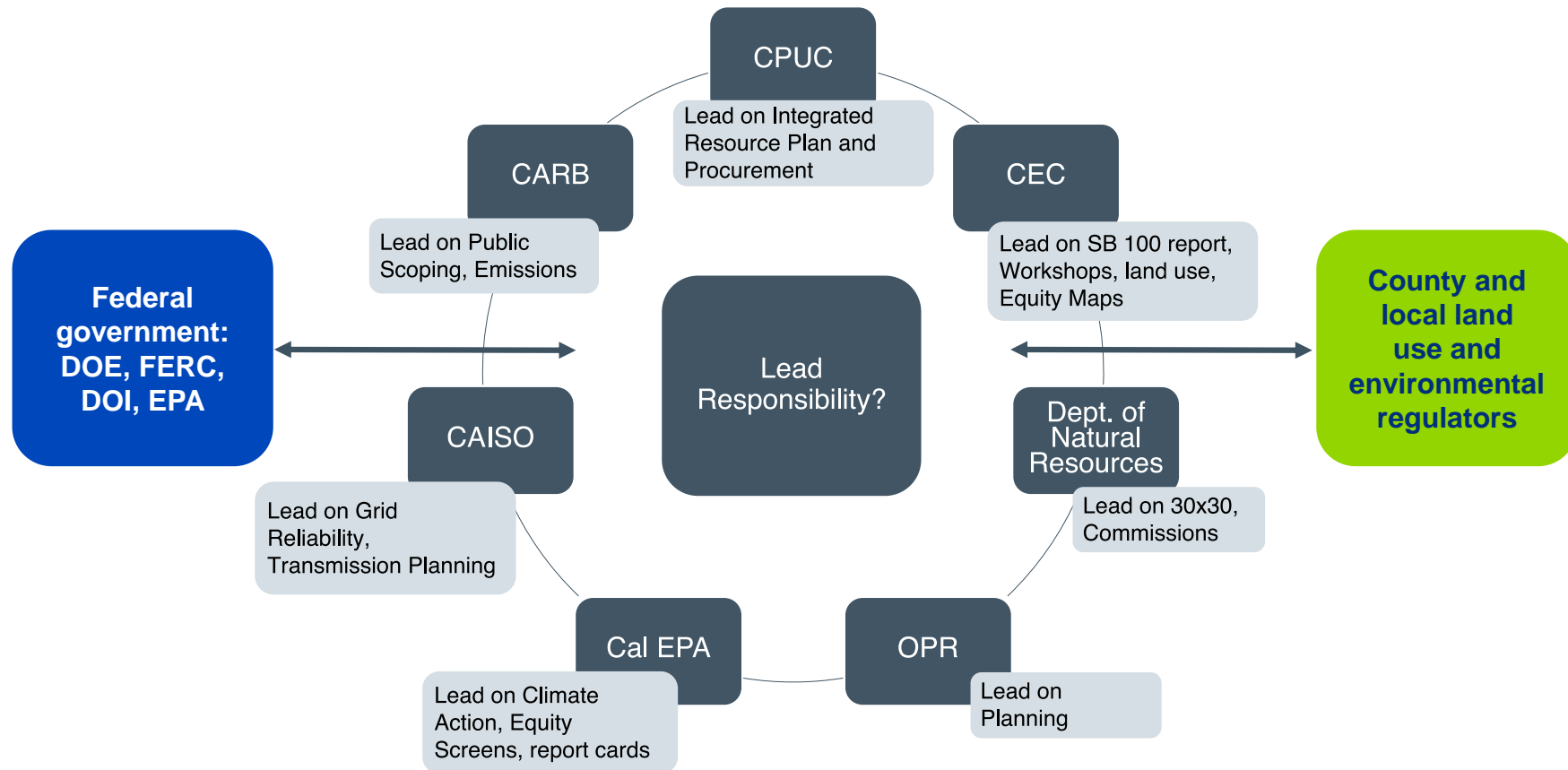
* Approval years and Original in-service date for projects approved prior to 2012 were taken from the 2011-2012 Transmission Plan, the oldest available on the California ISO's website

** As of the 2021-2022 Transmission Plan, these projects were listed as "on hold" with no definite completion date.

Not all potentially suitable land for clean energy is practicably developable land



There is no designated authority on clean energy deployment



Recommendations

The following **RECOMMENDATIONS** offer a path to accelerate California's clean energy transition

- ✓ **Develop a Clean Energy Deployment Plan** with specific quantities, locations, and timing of new resource development and infrastructure expansion.
- ✓ **Assign a lead agency** the responsibility for achieving the state's clean energy goals.
- ✓ **Develop a dashboard** to publicly track progress.
- ✓ **Advance supportive policy** for planning, permitting, financing, and building clean energy infrastructure.
- ✓ **Engage the public** by continuing and strengthening California's current public engagement efforts.

Thank you!

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