



# GLIMPSE

A modeling system for  
coordinated air, climate,  
and energy planning

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# Foreword

- Acronyms
  - GCAM-USA: Global Change Analysis Model with state-level resolution
  - GLIMPSE: GCAM Long-term Interactive Multi-Pollutant Scenario Evaluator
- Intended audience
  - Air quality integrated assessment modeling community
- Disclaimers
  - The views expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the US EPA.
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# U.S. EPA Office of Research and Development Air Quality IAM Research Activities

- Objective

- Develop a decision support tool for:

- Projecting Greenhouse Gas (GHG) and air pollutant emissions for specific scenarios
    - Estimating the impacts of potential federal, regional, and state policies
    - Designing holistic policies that account for “upstream” and “downstream” emissions
    - Identifying cost-effective strategies for meeting air, climate, and energy objectives
    - Assessing the impacts of new and emerging technologies

- Potential users:

- EPA regulatory offices
  - Regional Planning Organizations (RPOs)
  - State environmental, climate, and energy planners
  - University researchers

# U.S. EPA Office of Research and Development Air Quality IAM Research Activities

## • Requirements

- Generally consistent with EPA inventories and technology projections
- Technology-rich, particularly in energy supply and demand
- Able to capture multi-sector, multi-pollutant dynamics
- State-level resolution, global context
- Policy-relevant levers
- Low-to-zero cost (software and computing)
- Transparent/open source
- Easy to use



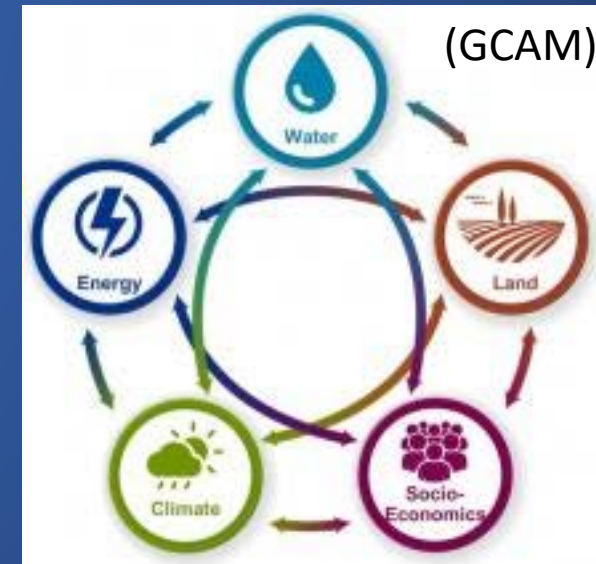
# U.S. EPA Office of Research and Development Air Quality IAM Research Activities

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Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)'s GCAM-USA met most of these requirements

Global Change Analysis Model



# Addressing consistency: PNNL activities

- The Community Emissions Data System (CEDDS)

- Development led by Steve Smith of PNNL
- Calculates emission factors (EFs) used in GCAM-USA

$$EF_{s,c,p} = \frac{Emissions_{s,c,p}}{Activity_{s,c}}$$

Where:

S is the state

c is the source category

p is the pollutant



U.S. EPA National  
Emissions Inventory



U.S. EIA fuel use  
or service data

EIA is the Energy Information  
Administration

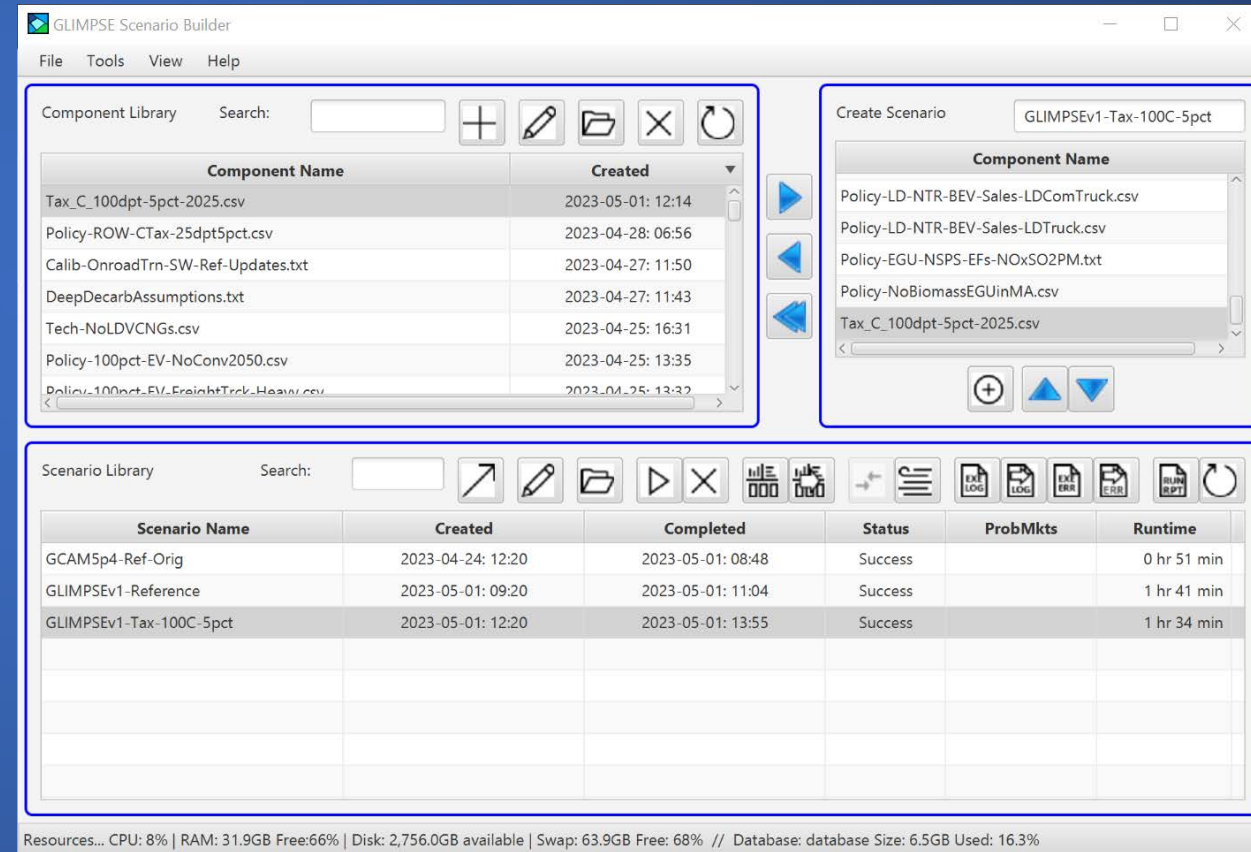
# Addressing consistency: EPA activities

- Improving future-year EFs:
  - Emission standards for various source categories
  - Electric sector EFs from the Integrated Planning Model (IPM)
  - Onroad mobile EFs developed from EPA's Motor Vehicle Emissions Simulator (MOVES) model
- Other modifications:
  - Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative in the Northeast U.S.
  - Electric vehicle (EV) market share estimates from finalized EPA regulatory actions
  - Inclusion of state-level policies
    - GHG mitigation targets
    - Renewable Portfolio Standards updates
    - Onroad EV targets

# Addressing usability: EPA activities

- Supporting modeling
  - Easily construct policies
    - RPSs, EV targets, caps, taxes, and subsidies
  - Combine to create scenarios
  - Manage and monitor runs
  - Assist with Quality Assurance
    - Creates metadata
    - Checks inputs for conflicts
    - Monitors resources
    - Assists with debugging
    - Manages files
    - Creates archives for storage and repeatability

## GLIMPSE Scenario Builder



Component Library

Component Name	Created
Tax_C_100dpt-5pct-2025.csv	2023-05-01: 12:14
Policy-ROW-CTax-25dpt5pct.csv	2023-04-28: 06:56
Calib-OnroadTrn-SW-Ref-Updates.txt	2023-04-27: 11:50
DeepDecarbAssumptions.txt	2023-04-27: 11:43
Tech-NoLDVcNGs.csv	2023-04-25: 16:31
Policy-100pct-EV-NoConv2050.csv	2023-04-25: 13:35
Policy-100pct-EV-FreightTrk-Heavy.csv	2023-04-25: 13:32

Create Scenario

GLIMPSEv1-Tax-100C-5pct

Component Name

- Policy-LD-NTR-BEV-Sales-LDComTruck.csv
- Policy-LD-NTR-BEV-Sales-LDTruck.csv
- Policy-EGU-NSPS-EFs-NOxSO2PM.txt
- Policy-NoBiomassEGUinMA.csv
- Tax\_C\_100dpt-5pct-2025.csv

Scenario Library

Scenario Name	Created	Completed	Status	ProbMkts	Runtime
GCAM5p4-Ref-Orig	2023-04-24: 12:20	2023-05-01: 08:48	Success		0 hr 51 min
GLIMPSEv1-Reference	2023-05-01: 09:20	2023-05-01: 11:04	Success		1 hr 41 min
GLIMPSEv1-Tax-100C-5pct	2023-05-01: 12:20	2023-05-01: 13:55	Success		1 hr 34 min

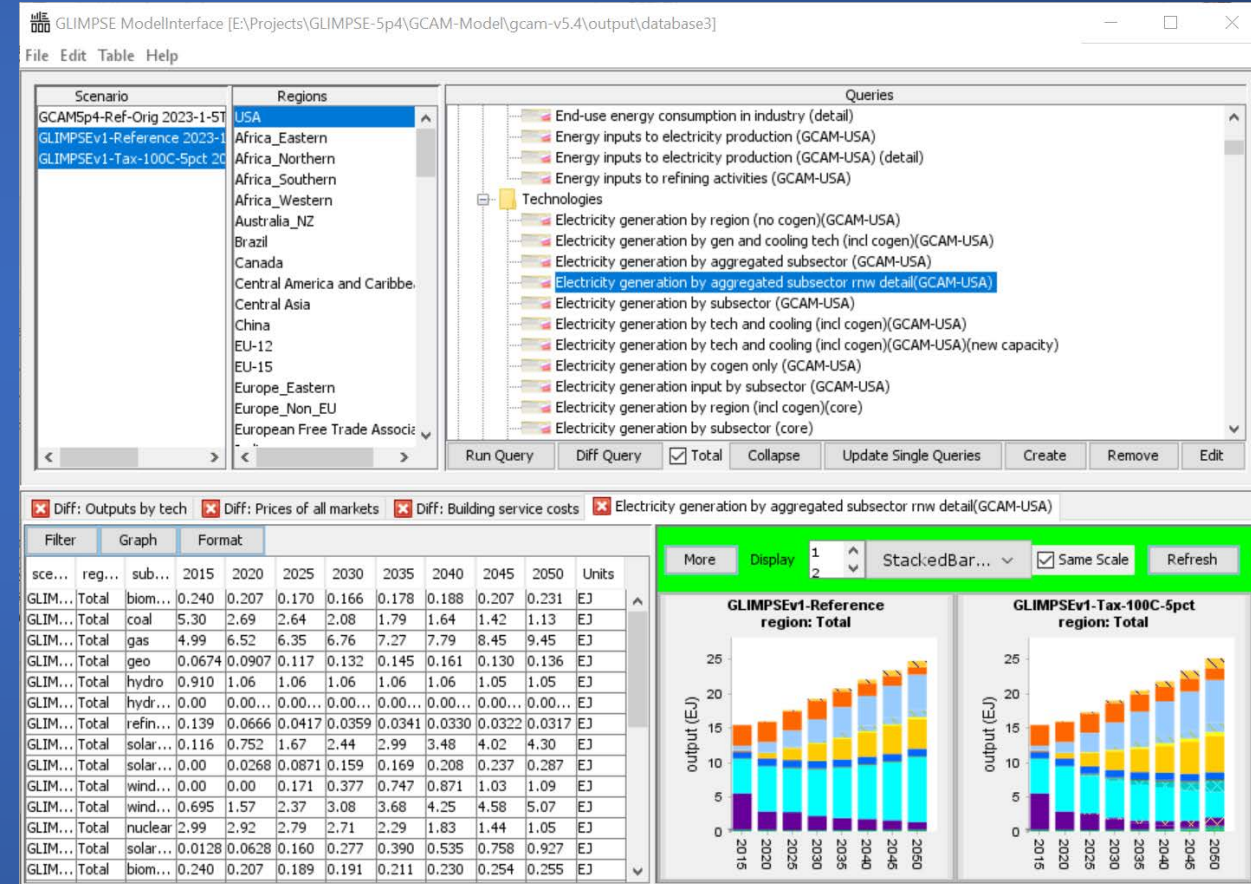
Resources... CPU: 8% | RAM: 31.9GB Free:66% | Disk: 2,756.0GB available | Swap: 63.9GB Free: 68% // Database: database Size: 6.5GB Used: 16.3%



# Addressing usability: EPA activities

- Supporting analysis
  - On-demand graphing
  - Filtering and sorting
  - Identify major differences
  - On the horizon
    - Sankey diagrams
    - Maps
    - Customizable units
    - Favorites
      - Queries
      - Regional groupings

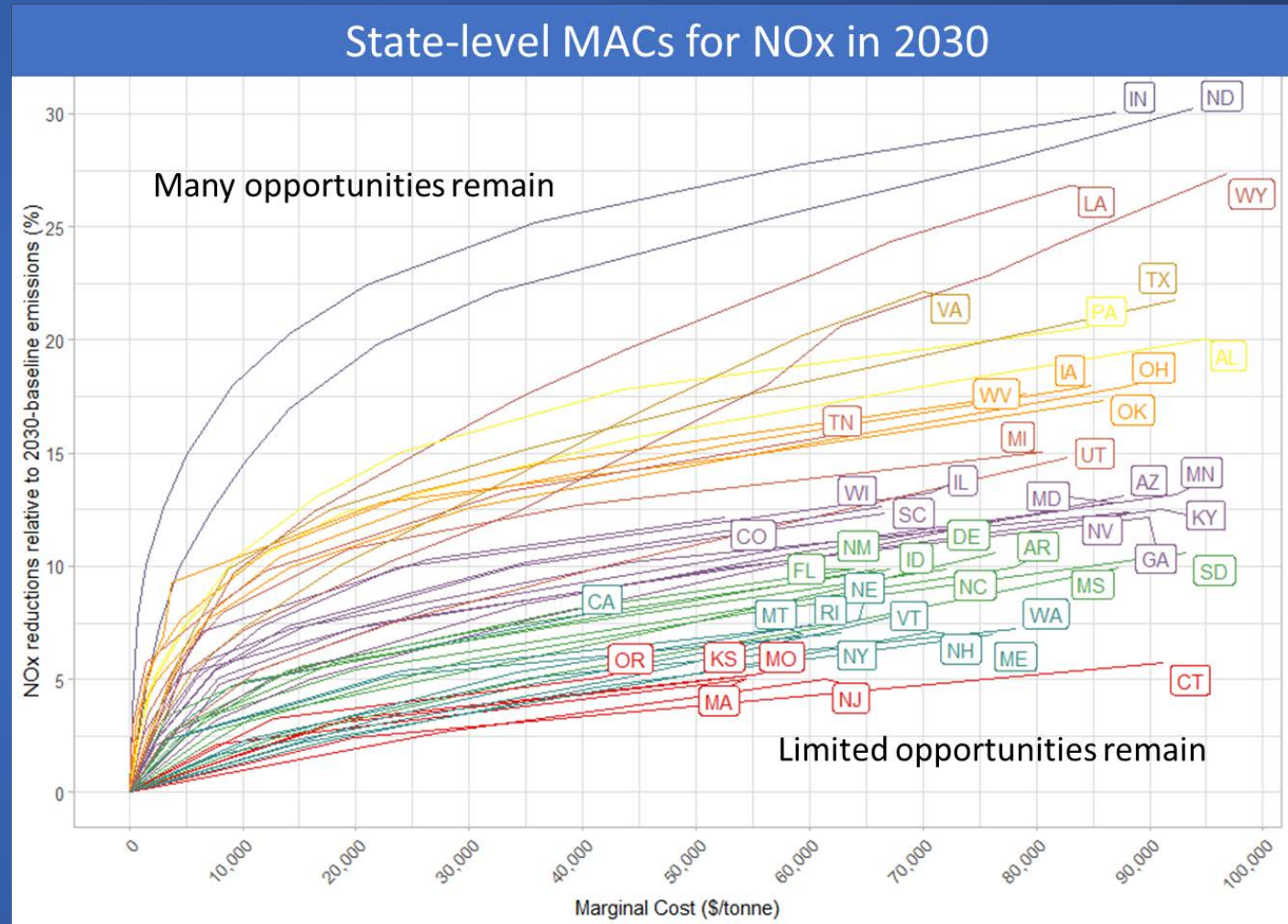
## GLIMPSE Model Interface



Derived from PNNL's Model Interface

# Air pollution-related activities

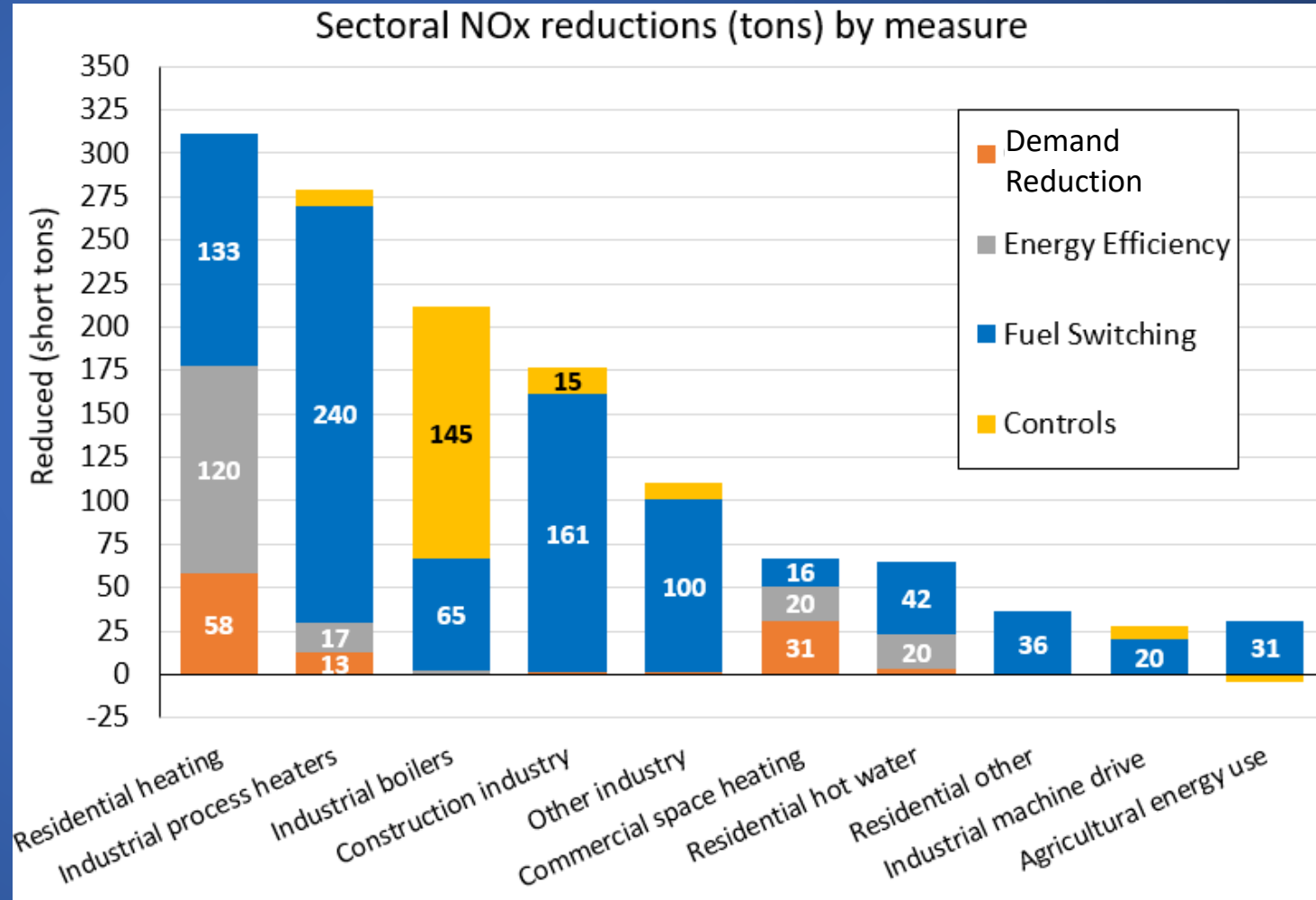
## Development of state-specific Marginal Abatement Curves (MACs) for NO<sub>x</sub>



Jia, F., S. Smith, A. Macpherson, D. Bielen, C. Nolte, and D. Loughlin. Using Marginal Abatement Cost Curves to Identify Optimal Control Strategies for Meeting State-level NO<sub>x</sub> Abatement Targets. 19th Annual CMAS Conference, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, October 26 - 30, 2020.

# Air pollution-related activities

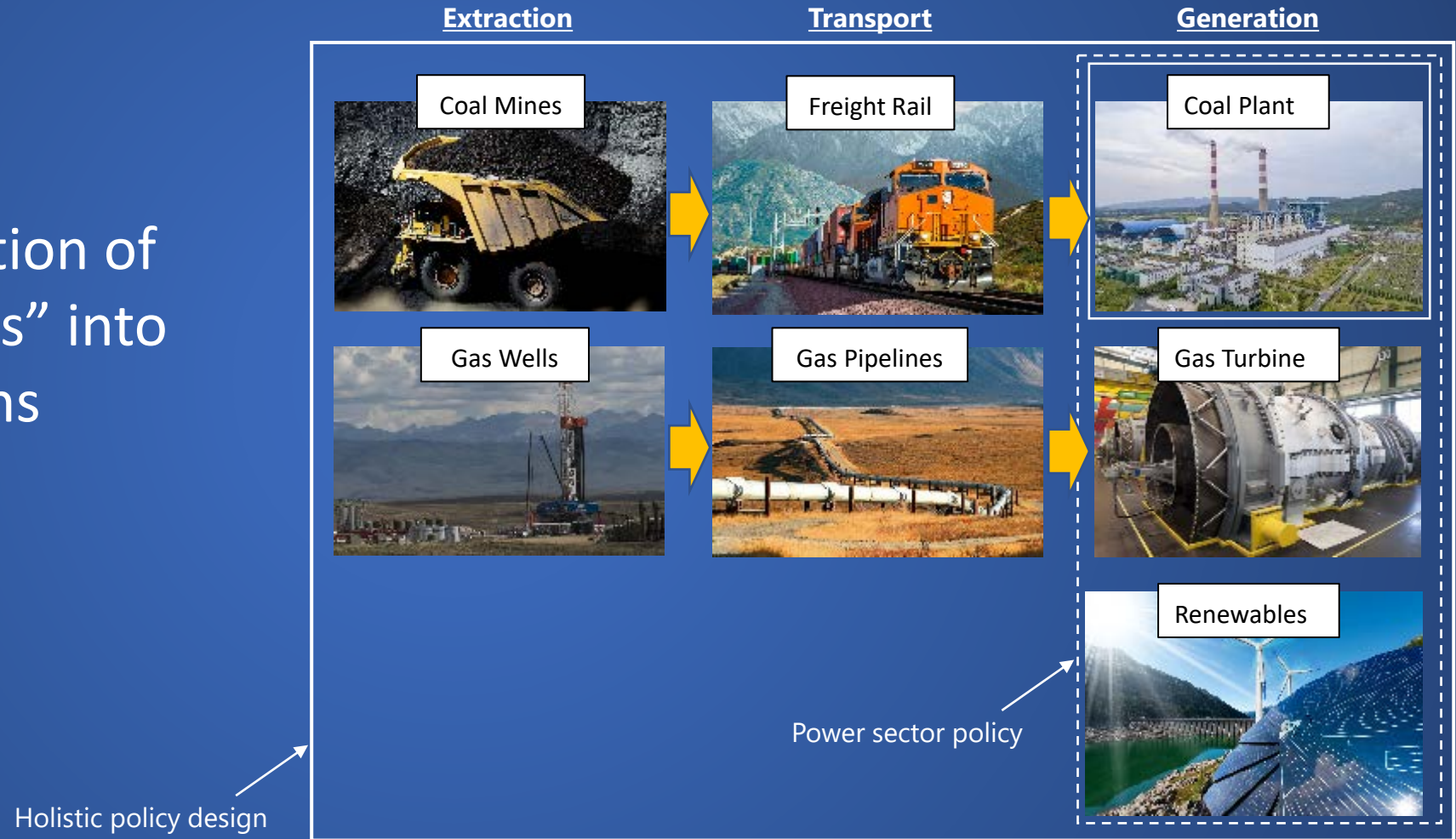
Decomposition of the MACs via the Kaya Identity to understand sectoral opportunities by state





# Air pollution-related activities

Exploring incorporation of  
“upstream emissions” into  
holistic policy designs

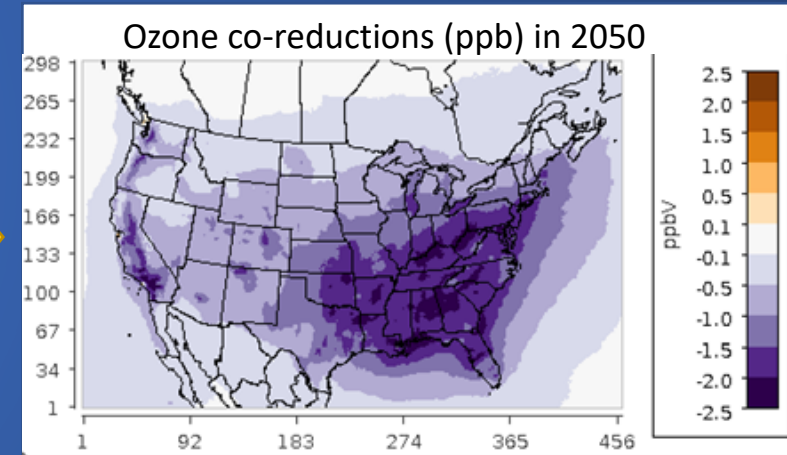




# Air pollution-related activities

Linkage of GCAM-USA to full-scale air quality models to assess air pollution and health impacts

Decarbonization  
Scenario

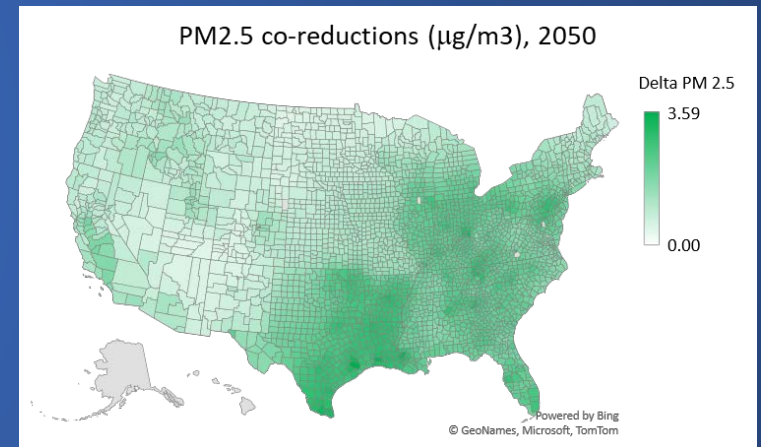
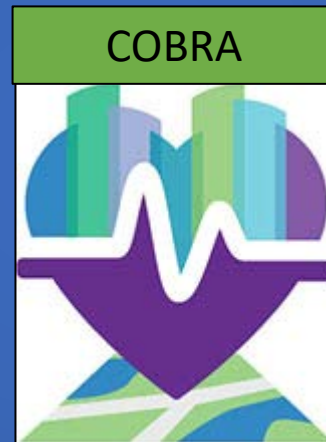


\* DESID is the “Detailed Emission Scaling, Isolation, and Diagnostic” module

# Air pollution-related activities

Linkage of GCAM-USA to reduced-form models  
to assess air pollution and health impacts

Decarbonization  
Scenario



Health benefits

# Air pollution-related activities

Incorporation of health impact factors directly into GCAM to explore health-focused management strategies

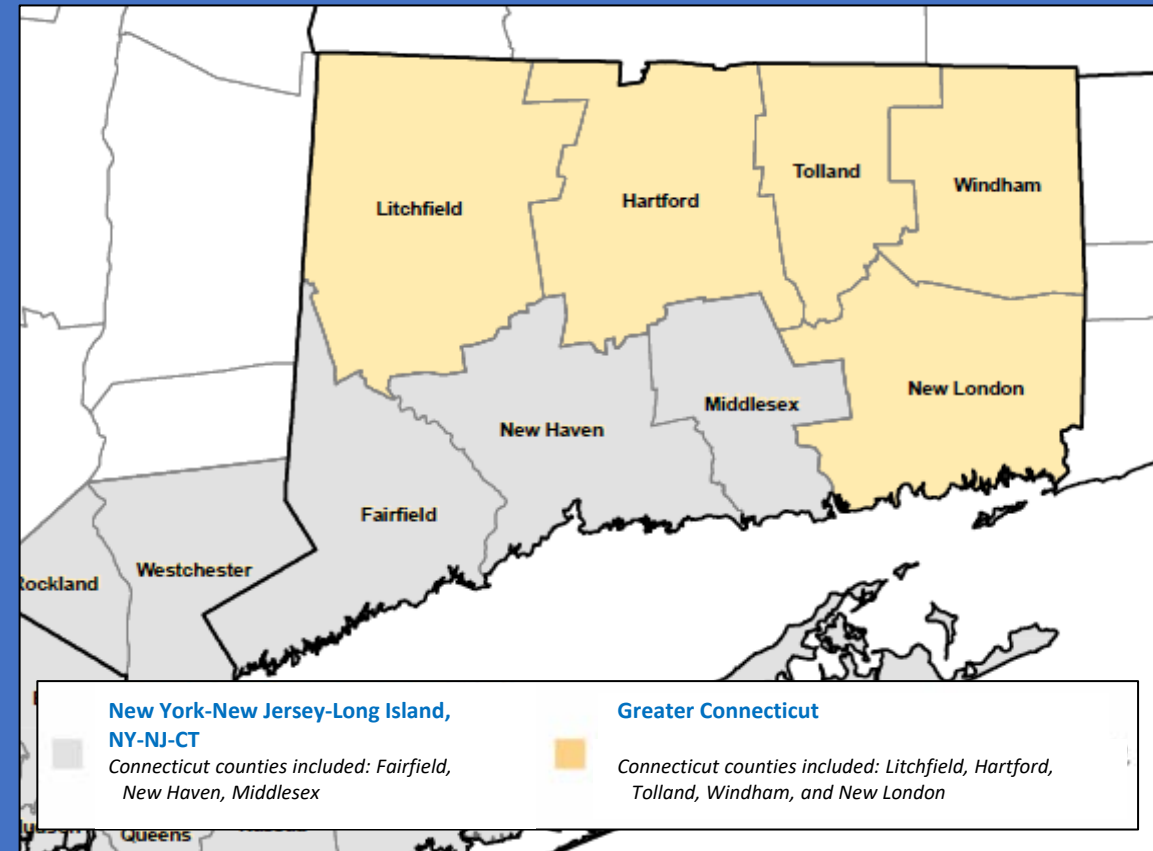


# Air pollution-related activities

## Multi-pollutant planning with Connecticut (CT)

- CT does not meet ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) standards
- Most of CT ozone is attributable to emissions upwind states
- Most of these states have GHG reduction goals
- What impact may these targets have on CT O<sub>3</sub> attainment?

All CT counties designated in “nonattainment” of the 2015 O<sub>3</sub> NAAQS as of Feb. 2022



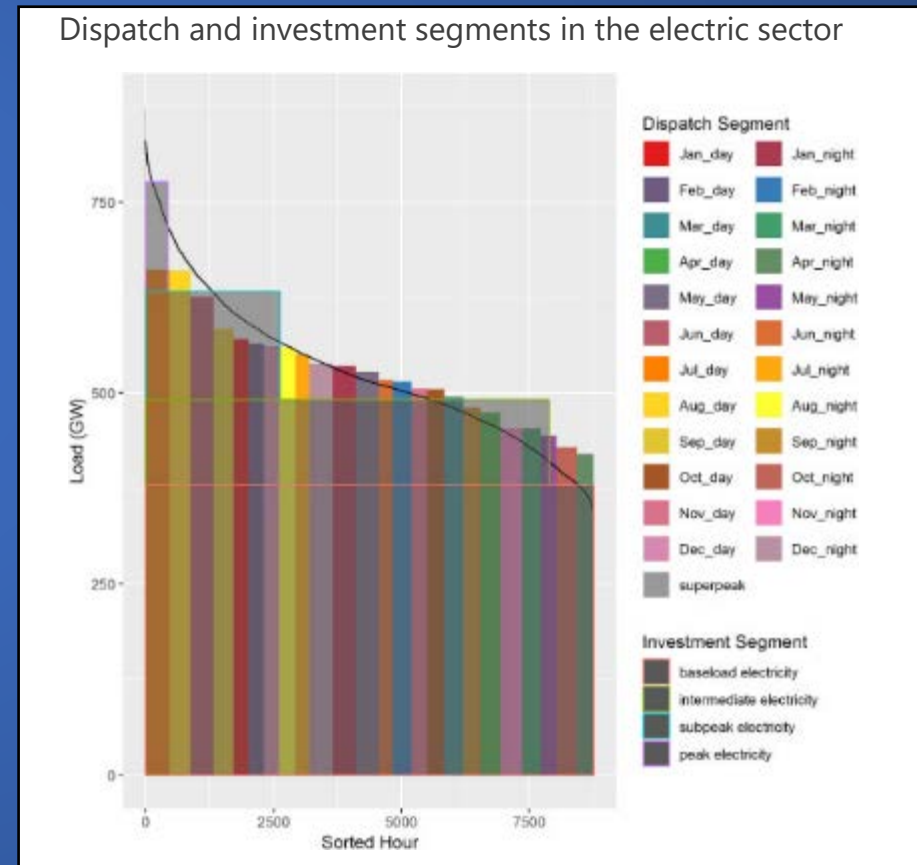
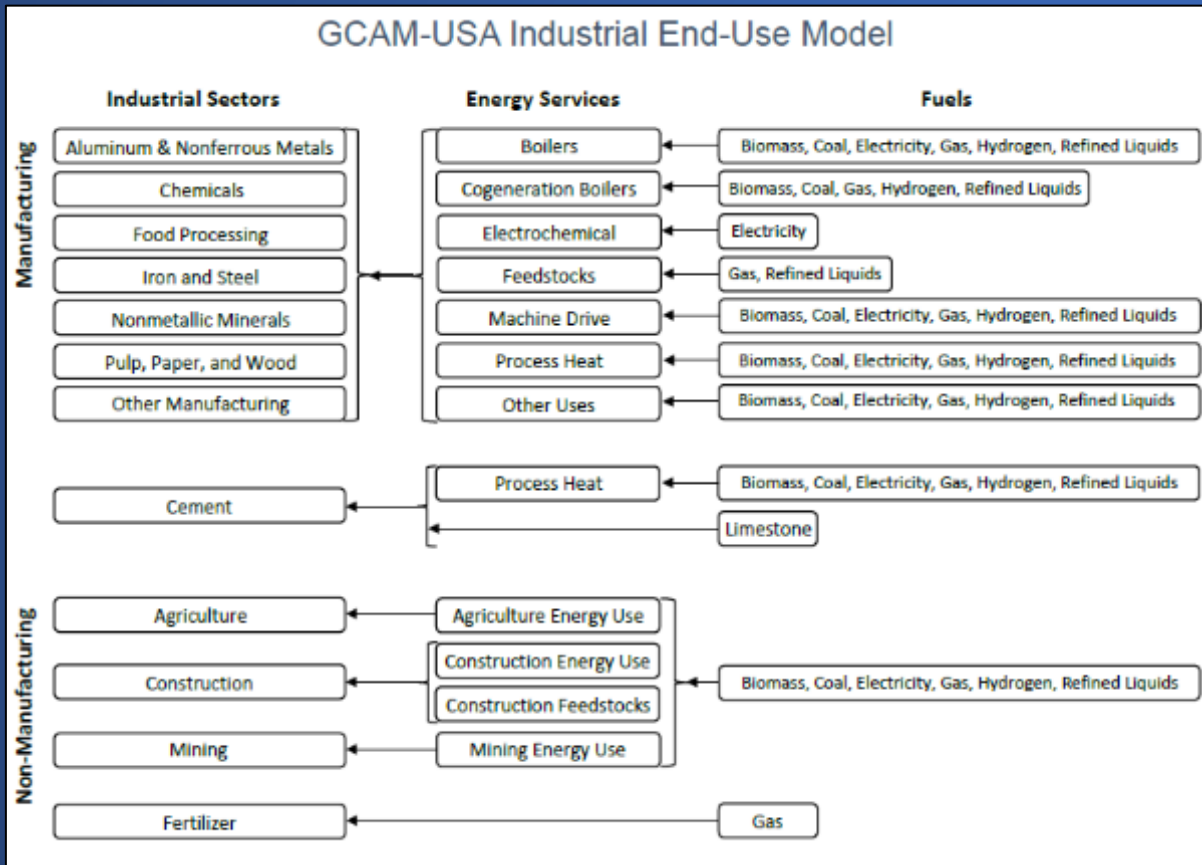


# Relevant GLIMPSE project citations

- Ou, Y., Kittner, N., Smith, S.J., Babae, S., Nolte, C.G., and D.H. Loughlin (2021). “Evaluating long-term emission impacts of large-scale electric vehicle deployment in the US using a human-earth systems model.” *Applied Energy*, 300(2021), 117364. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2021.117364>.
- Babae, S., Loughlin, D.H., and P.O. Kaplan (2020). “Incorporating upstream emissions into electric sector nitrogen oxide reduction targets.” *Cleaner Engineering and Technology*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clet.2020.100017>.
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- Ou, Y., Shi, W., Smith, S.J., Ledna, C.M., West, J.J., Nolte, C.G., and D.H. Loughlin (2018). “Estimating environmental co-benefits of U.S. GHG reduction pathways using the GCAM-USA Integrated Assessment Model.” *Applied Energy*, 216C(2018) pp. 482-493. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2018:02.122>
- Shi, W., Ou, Y., Smith, S.J., Ledna, C., Nolte, C.G., and D.H. Loughlin (2017). “Projecting state-level air pollutant emissions using an integrated assessment model: GCAM-USA.” *Applied Energy*, 208(2017), pp 511-521. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2017.09.122>.

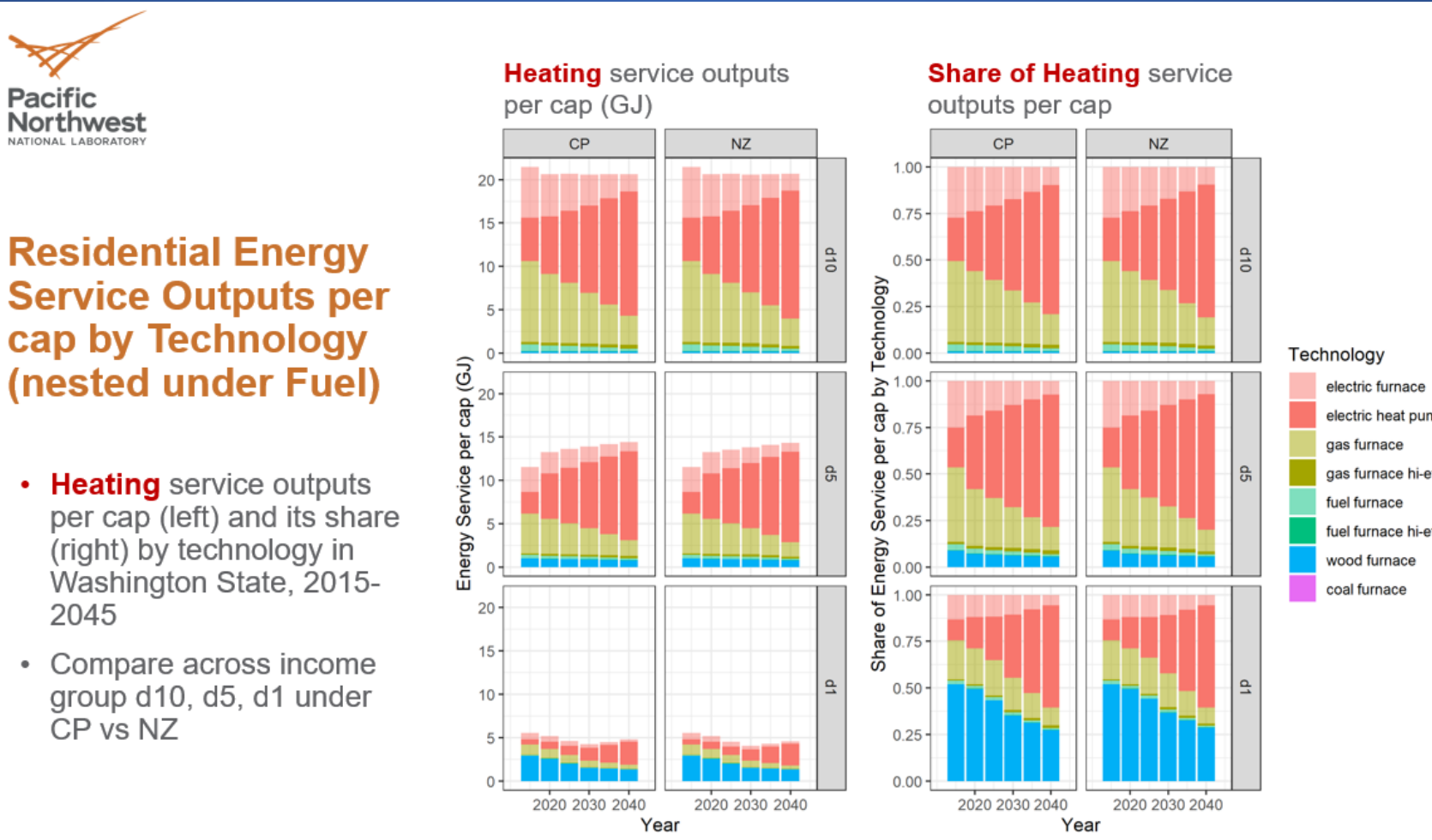
# On the horizon

Improvements that we expect to be available over the next year



# On the horizon

Improvements that we expect to be available over the next year +



# Next steps for GLIMPSE

- Public release of GLIMPSE in June of 2023
- Trainings
- Interest from states and regions
  - Climate Action Plans
  - Ozone attainment strategies
  - Coordinated planning
- Interest from universities
  - Research and teaching
- Update later this year
  - Update to GCAM-USA 6.1
  - Incorporation of Inflation Reduction Act provisions, Good Neighbor Rule, new onroad vehicle emission standards
  - Adoption of new detailed industrial sector



# Thank you!

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