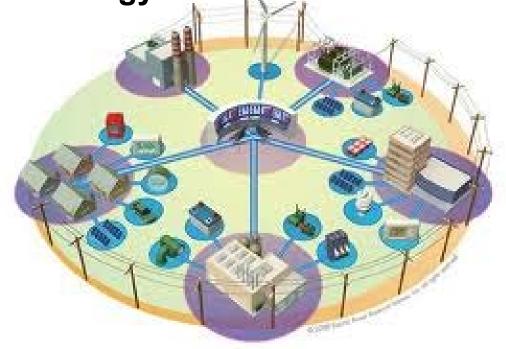


#### **Designing Affordable Mini-grids**

May 23, 2016 Nairobi, Kenya Dr. Peter Lilienthal CEO, HOMER Energy





### **Tariff Design**

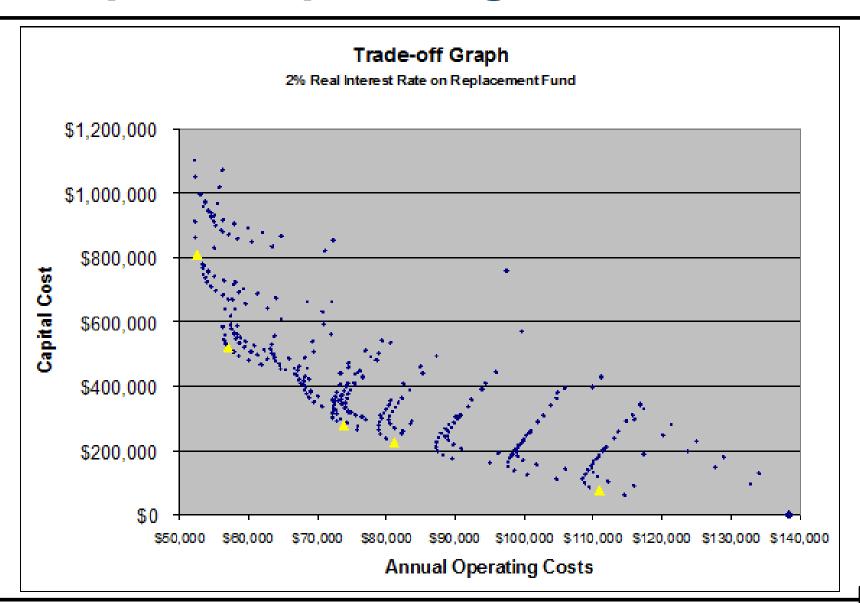
Subsidy Design System Design

Cost Structure Tariff Design

- Diesel systems
  - Low capital cost, high operating cost
    - Need for continuing subsidies
- Solar Systems
  - High capital cost, low operating cost
    - Need attractive financing
- Hybrid Systems
  - Optimize the tradeoff



# **Capital / Operating Cost Tradeoff**





#### **Sustainable Tariffs**

- Affordable
  - Consumers
  - Producers
  - Government
- Equitable
  - Subsidy goes to poor
- Efficient
  - Incentive to use most efficient appliances

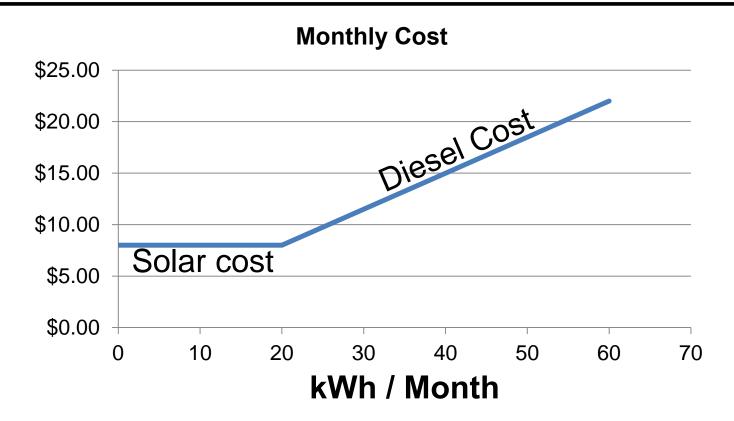


# **Tariff Design**

- What's wrong with a flat rate:
  - Wealthy households with more appliances get more subsidy
  - Subsidy grows faster than economy
  - No incentive for energy efficiency
- Two-part tariff
  - Subsidy goes to the poor
  - Limited fiscal burden
  - Maintains incentive for energy efficiency



### **Two-part Tariff**



- 2-part tariff
  - Lifeline rate for basic needs
  - Full cost recovery for increased load
    - Pays for system expansion



### **Two-part Tariff**

- Also called Lifeline Rate, Social tariff
- Fixed monthly charge
  - Covers basic consumption
  - Based on PV for daytime power
    - PV + Batteries for evening power
- Above threshold, based on diesel power



#### **Three Scenarios**

- Small, 30 kW peak load, no diesel
- Medium, 300 kW, peak load, backup diesel
- Large, 3 MW peak load, multiple diesels, no battery

- Tariff recovers operating costs
- Impact of load growth



#### 100% renewables without diesel backup

- Advantages:
  - -No fuel supply issues
  - Vastly reduced maintenance
- Disadvantages:
  - Unmet load
  - -Battery management
- Appropriate for very small systems