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# Wind GIS Analysis For China

Prepared for the Energy Foundation  
China Sustainable Energy Program

October 2009

## Overview

- Analysis Assumptions
- Analysis Results
- Comparison of Results with Other Analysis

## GIS Analysis Assumptions

- **Data Source:** 3Tier wind map of China
- **Regions:** Provinces
- **Exclusions:**
  - Land above 20% slope
  - Water bodies
  - Did NOT exclude urban areas, farmland, protected areas
- **Capacity Density:** 5 MW per km<sup>2</sup>
- **Capacity Factors**
  - Class 3 – 28%
  - Class 4 – 31%
  - Class 5 – 35%
  - Class 6 – 40%
  - Class 7 – 42%

## Sources for GIS Data

- **Wind Power Density** - 80 meter hub height, 5km x 5km resolution, from 3Tier
- **Slope** – Derived from a digital elevation model (DEM) from the Harvard's China Historical GIS (CHGIS) dataset V3. 30 arc-second resolution. Publicly available.
- **Bodies of water** – A combination of data from the Digital Chart of the World, and land use data from CHGIS dataset. Publicly available.

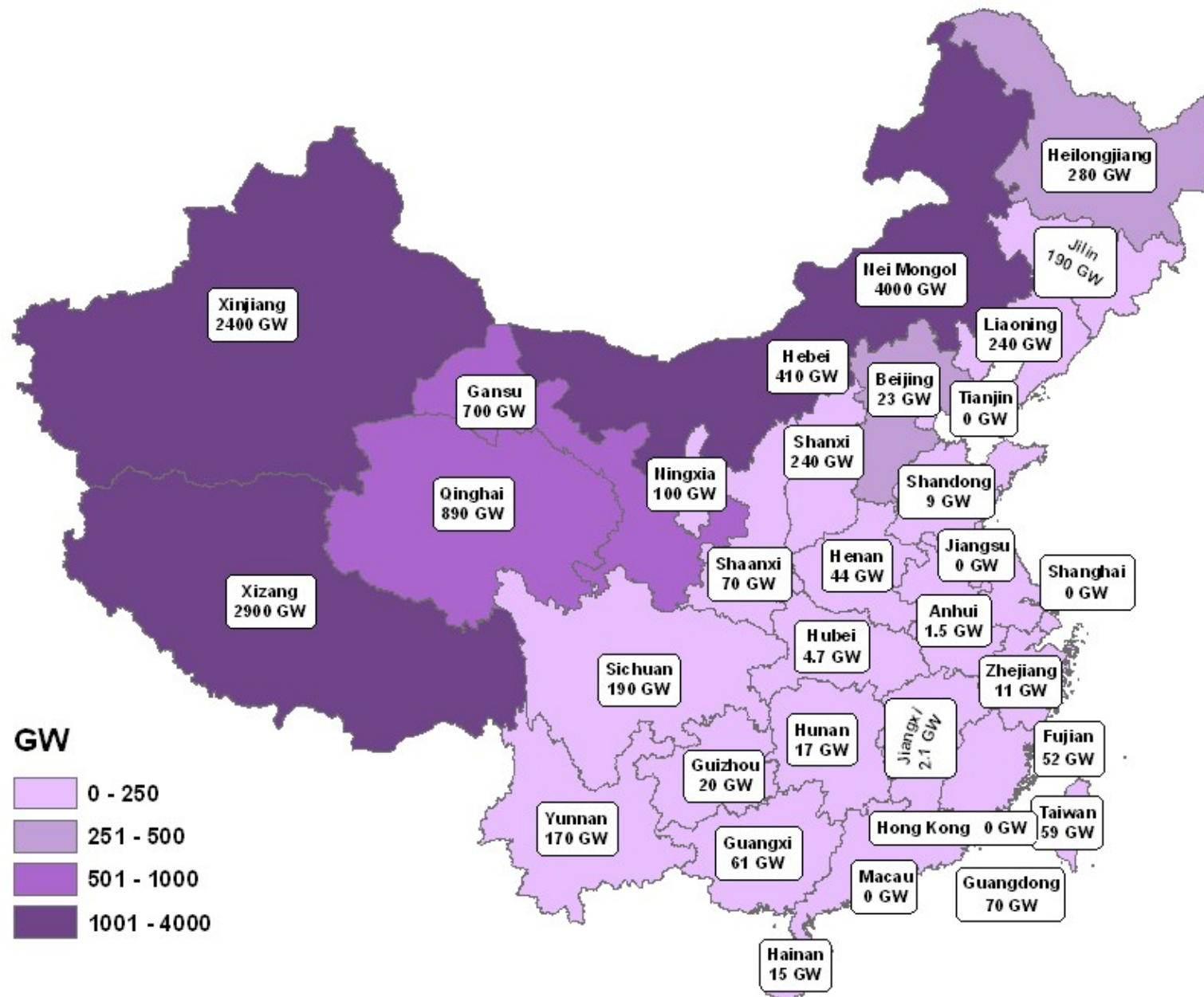
## Differences with Other Analysis

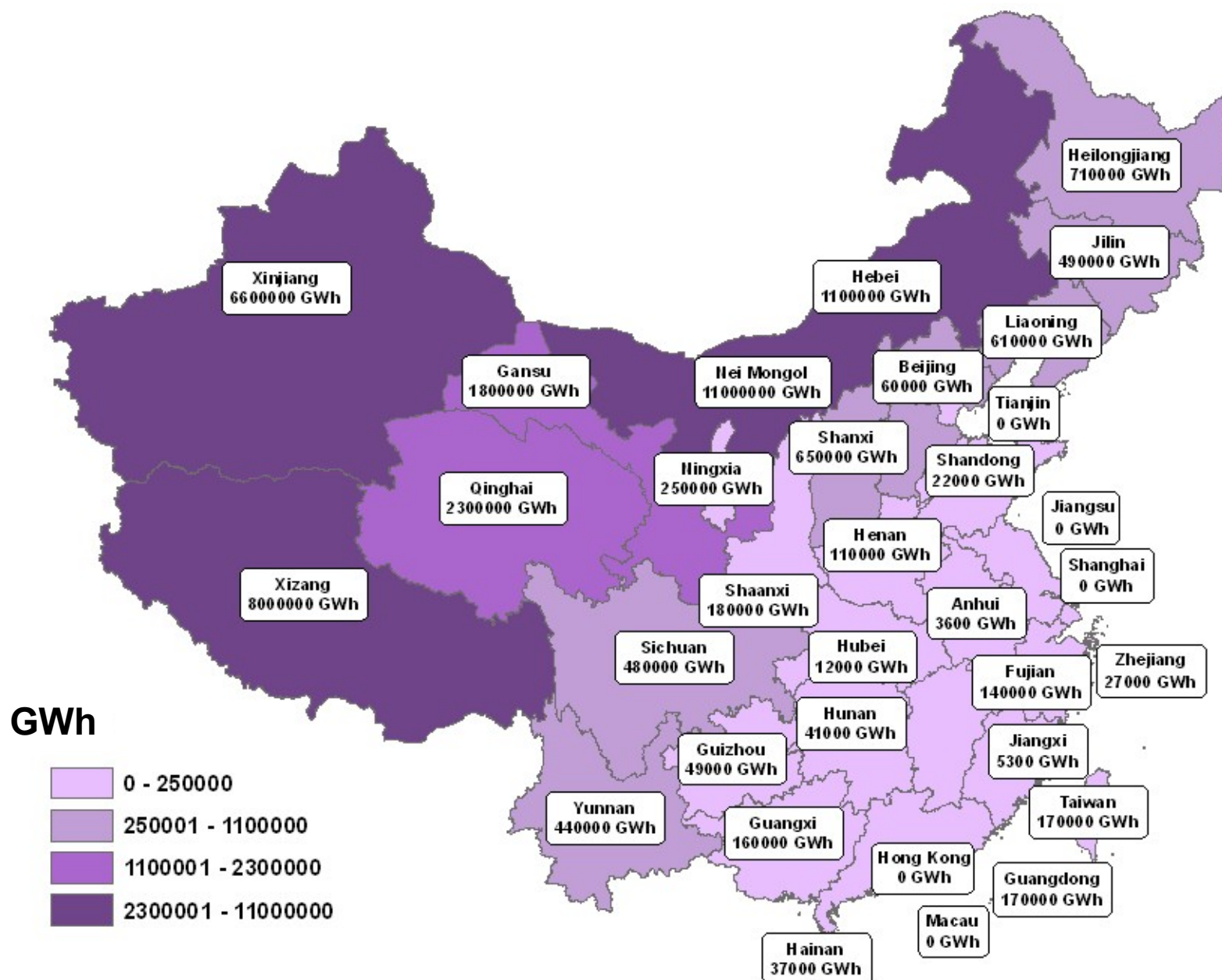
- Black & Veatch did not perform traditional supply curve analysis
  - Only reports potential GW and GWh, not costs
- Due to limited GIS layer information:
  - Black & Veatch reports all ***technical*** wind potential
  - Does not exclude land due to competing uses, except water bodies
  - Assumes a 50% discount for ***developable*** potential

## Results – No Discounts, All Provinces

	<b>GW Potential</b>	<b>GWh Potential</b>
Class 3	7,927	19,443,811
Class 4	2,897	7,867,661
Class 5	1,216	3,728,396
Class 6	901	3,158,290
Class 7	285	1,050,097
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,227</b>	<b>35,248,256</b>

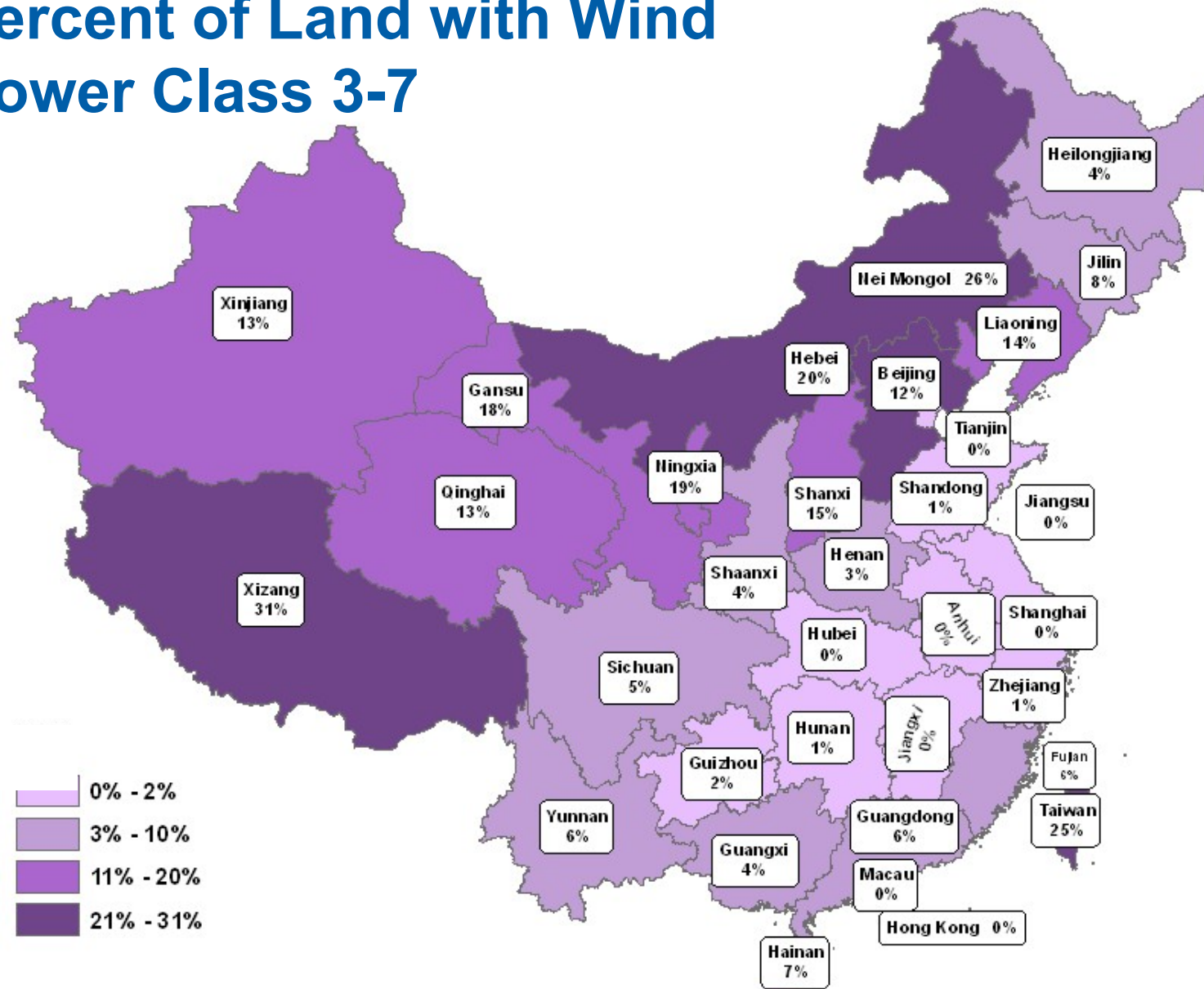
Significant wind potential in China







# Percent of Land with Wind Power Class 3-7



## Top 10 Provinces by Potential

Province	GW Potential	GWh Potential
Nei Mongol	4,020	10,547,243
Xizang	2,919	8,028,146
Xinjiang	2,419	6,607,865
Qinghai	886	2,294,301
Gansu	697	1,815,593
Hebei	412	1,127,568
Heilongjiang	279	708,812
Shanxi	243	645,330
Liaoning	240	608,117
Sichuan	191	484,284

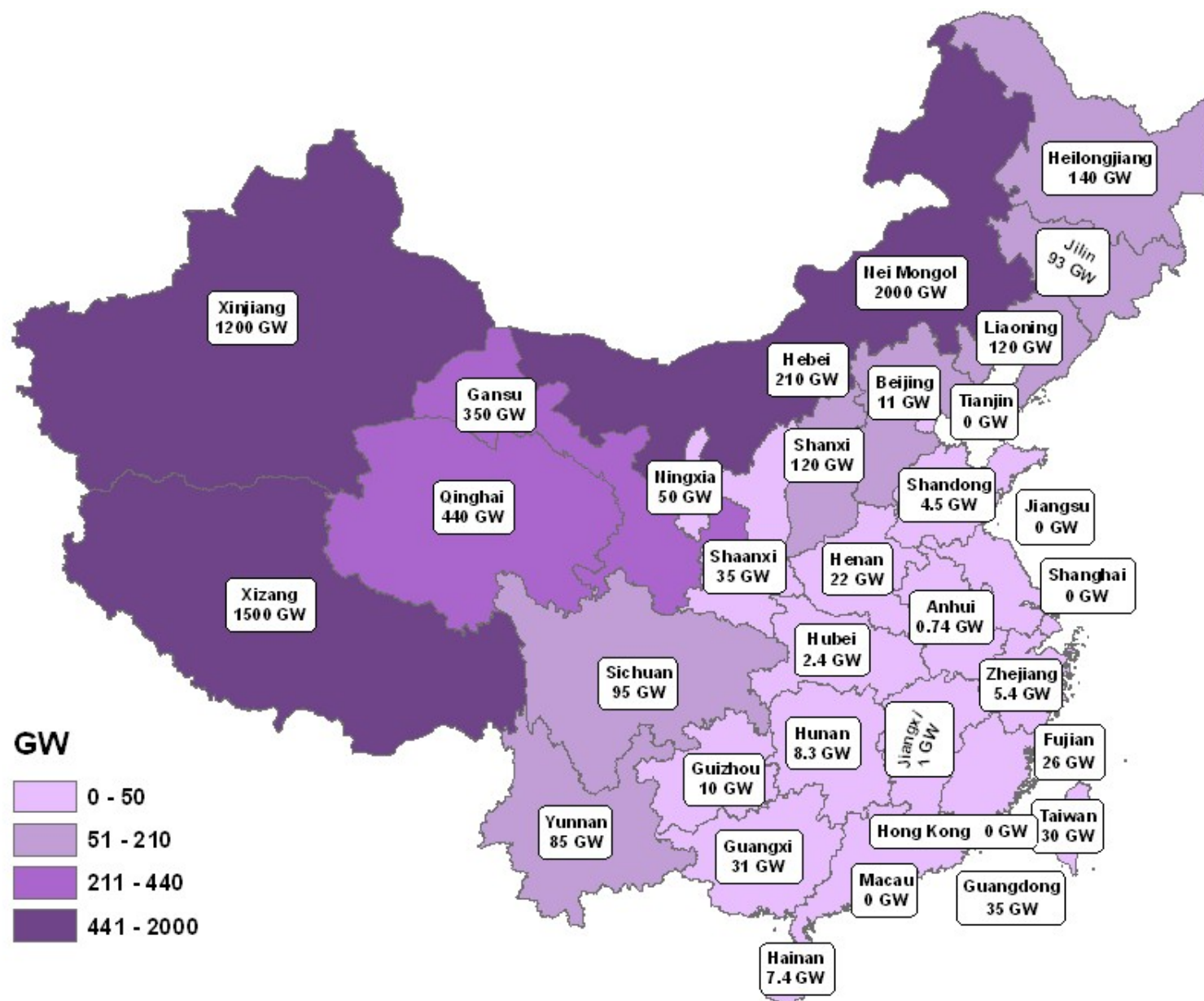
## Most Potential is in Class 3

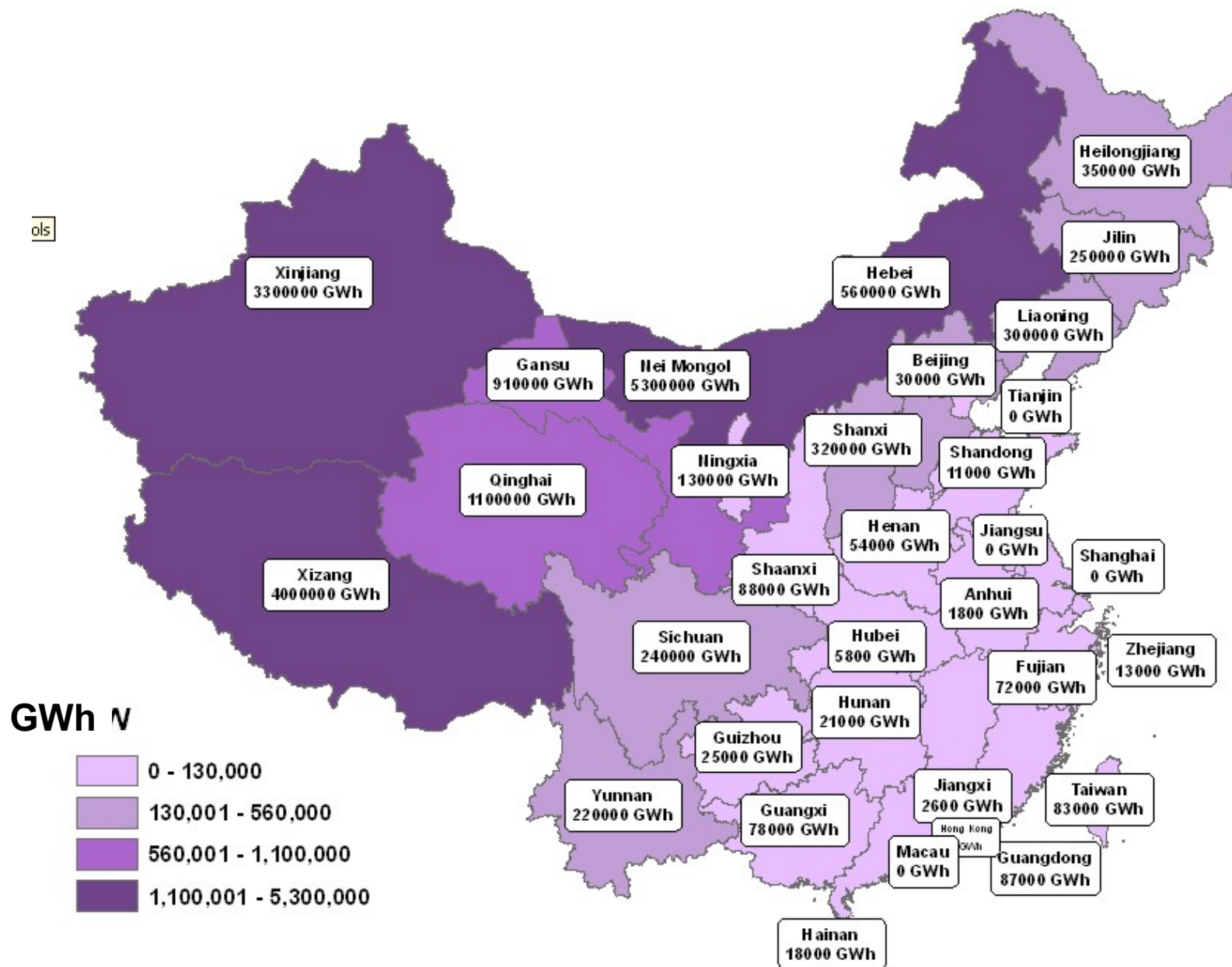
	GW Technical Potential				
Province	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6	Class 7
Nei Mongol	2,683	776	277	213	71
Xizang	1,435	696	372	301	115
Xinjiang	1,239	581	279	247	73
Qinghai	598	195	66	24	3
Gansu	439	174	68	15	1
Hebei	207	102	44	44	15
Heilongjiang	215	44	17	3	-
Shanxi	139	65	22	15	2
Liaoning	180	51	8	1	-
Sichuan	145	38	4	3	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,279</b>	<b>2,722</b>	<b>1,158</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>281</b>

## Assuming a 50% Developable “Discount”

	<b>GW Potential</b>	<b>GWh Potential</b>
Class 3	3,964	9,721,906
Class 4	1,449	3,933,831
Class 5	608	1,864,198
Class 6	451	1,579,145
Class 7	143	525,049
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,614</b>	<b>17,624,128</b>

Not all technical wind potential can be developed





## 50% “Discount” Less Tibet and Xinjiang

	GW Potential	GWh Potential
Class 3	2,627	6,442,530
Class 4	810	2,200,653
Class 5	282	865,414
Class 6	176	618,399
Class 7	49	179,126
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,944</b>	<b>10,306,122</b>

Two provinces distant from load centers have significant potential

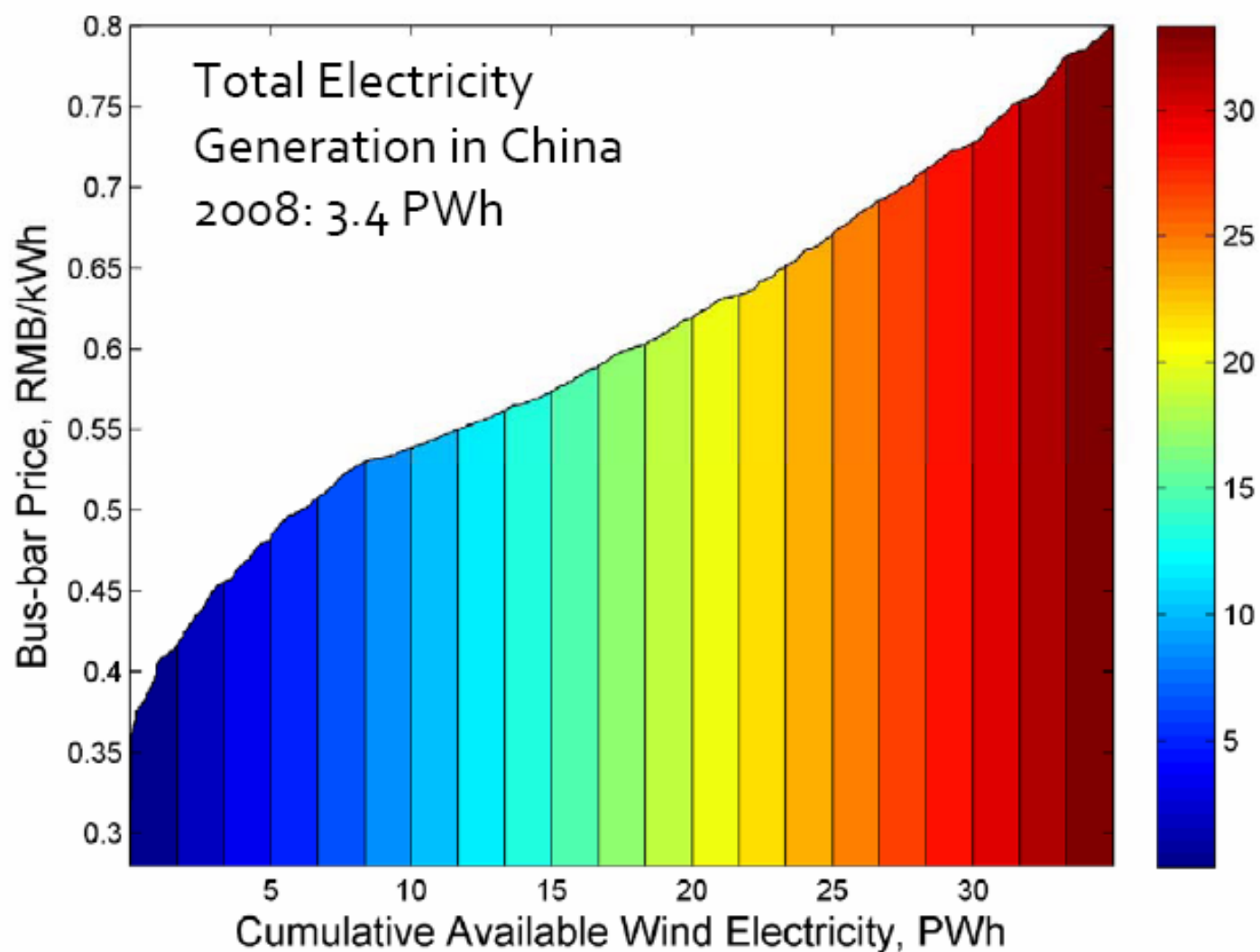
## Comparison with CHECC Analysis (GW)

	<b>CHECC (GW less than 0.6 RMB/kWh)</b>	<b>CHECC (Total GW)</b>	<b>Black &amp; Veatch (GW)</b>	<b>Black &amp; Veatch with 50% Discount (GW)</b>
<b>Inner Mongolia</b>	850	900	4,020	2,010
<b>NorthEast China</b>	160	187	705	353
<b>Hebei</b>	115	143	412	206
<b>Xinjiang</b>	190	311	2,419	1,210
<b>Gansu</b>	160	197	697	349
<b>Ningxia</b>	37	41	100	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,512</b>	<b>1,781</b>	<b>8,354</b>	<b>4,177</b>

CHECC appears to be assuming 25% developable potential;  
95% correlation, using same data source



## Harvard China Wind Assessment



# Harvard China Wind Assessment



## Comparison with Harvard Wind Assessment (GWh)

	Harvard	Black & Veatch
<b>China Total</b>	39,000,000	35,248,256
<b>Tibet</b>	6,486,000	8,028,146
<b>North West</b>	3,350,000	10,894,603
<b>North</b>	5,364,000	12,665,993
<b>North East</b>	9,051,000	1,809,540
<b>East</b>	284,000	171,251
<b>Central</b>	89,000	657,462
<b>South</b>	59,000	856,102
<b>Total</b>	24,683,000	35,083,097

Total reported GWh match relatively closely; many differences are based on how regions are defined (Harvard splits New Mongolia into North and Northeast).



# **China Concentrating Solar Thermal Electric Resource Assessment**

## **A Spatial Analysis**

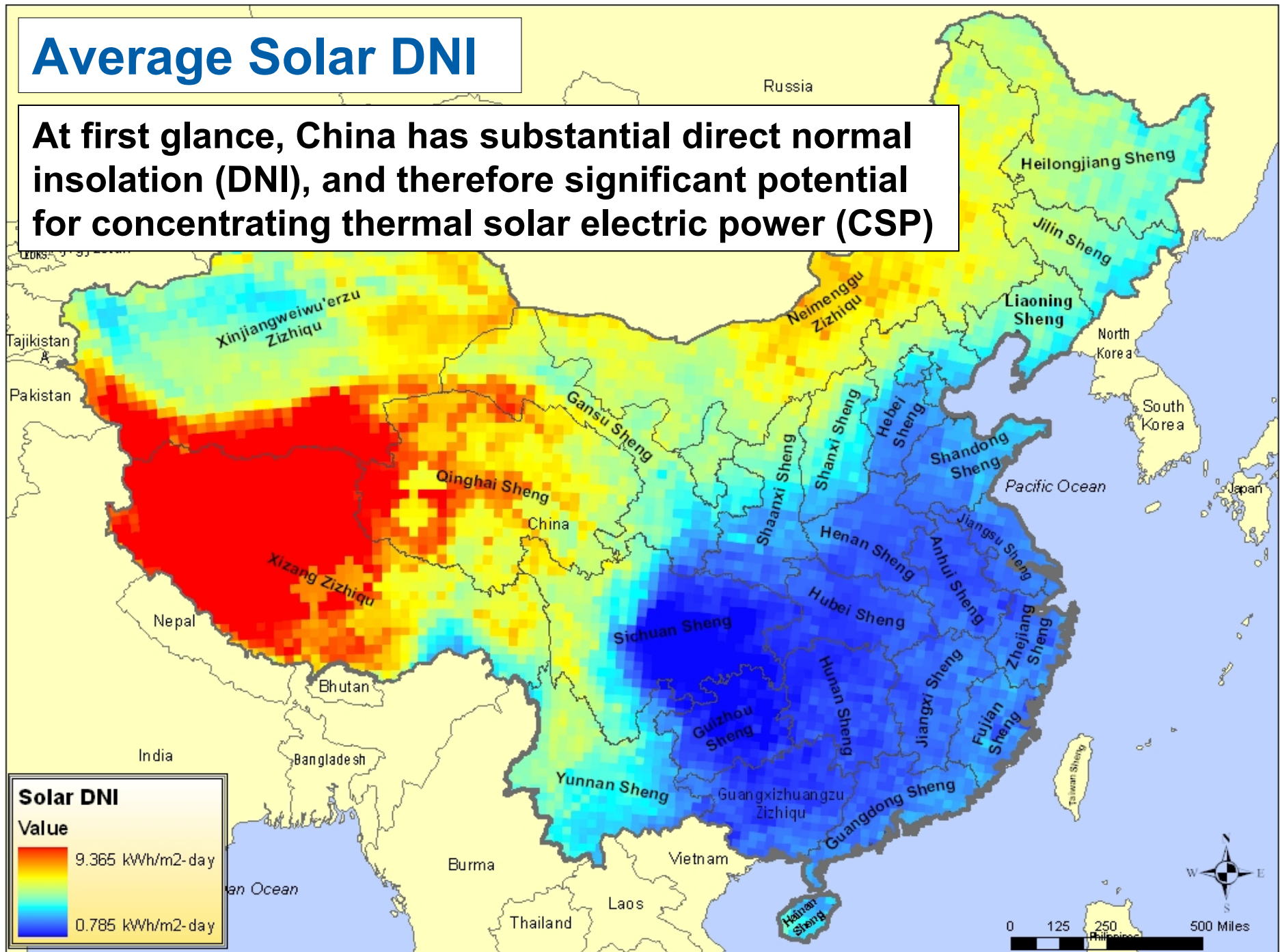
**Ric O'Connell, Sally Maki, Ryan Wiser**

**Prepared for the Energy Foundation's China  
Sustainable Energy Program**

**December 23, 2009**

# Average Solar DNI

At first glance, China has substantial direct normal insolation (DNI), and therefore significant potential for concentrating thermal solar electric power (CSP)





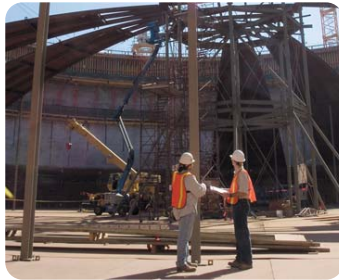
## Potential Barriers to Developing CSP

- Technological/Economic Reasons
  - Insufficient solar direct normal insolation (DNI)
  - Steep slopes make development challenging / expensive
  - Distance from and need for transmission and road access
  - Bodies of water that preclude development
  - Increased population density can increase costs
- Political or Land Use Reasons
  - Urban areas
  - Protected areas
  - Mining areas
  - Other competing land uses
  - Cooling water availability
- Many, but not all, of these barriers are addressed in the present assessment of China's CSP resource potential

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# Methodology

## Analysis Steps to Determine Resource Potential

1. Define necessary information
2. Procure relevant GIS data
3. Identify and define assumptions
4. Determine the area available for potential development in each province, by resource class
5. Perform calculations based on assumptions



## Analysis Steps to Determine Resource Potential

1. **Define necessary information**
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## Information for Our Analysis

- Solar DNI
- Bodies of water
- Land slope
- Urban areas
- Protected areas
- Mining areas
- Other land use
- **Present analysis does not include distance to roads and transmission, cooling water availability, population density**

## Analysis Steps to Determine Resource Potential

1. Define necessary information
2. **Procure relevant GIS data**
3. Identify and define assumptions
4. Determine the area available for potential development in each province, by resource class
5. Perform calculations based on assumptions

## GIS Data - Sources

- **Insolation** – Solar DNI, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), 40 km resolution
- **Slope** – Derived from a DEM from Harvard's China Historical GIS (CHGIS) dataset V3, 30 arc-second resolution
- **Land use** – China: The Environment / ERIM International, Inc., 1999, ~10 km resolution
- **Bodies of water** – A combination of data from the Digital Chart of the World (DCW), and land use data (mentioned above)
- **Urban areas** – A combination of Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CEISIN) GRUMP Urban Extents data, data from the DCW, and land use data
- **Protected areas** – The World Database of Protected Areas

## GIS Data – More About the Solar DNI Data

From NREL:

These data provide monthly average and annual average daily total solar resource averaged over surface cells of approximately 40 km by 40 km in size. The solar resource value is represented as watt-hours per square meter per day for each month. The data were developed from NREL's Climatological Solar Radiation (CSR) Model. This model uses information on cloud cover, atmospheric water vapor and trace gases, and the amount of aerosols in the atmosphere to calculate the monthly average daily total insolation (sun and sky) falling on a horizontal surface. Existing ground measurement stations are used to validate the data where possible. The modeled values are accurate to approximately 10% of a true measured value within the grid cell due to the uncertainties associated with meteorological input to the model. The local cloud cover can vary significantly even within a single grid cell as a result of terrain effects and other microclimate influences. Furthermore, the uncertainty of the modeled estimates increase with distance from reliable measurement sources and with the complexity of the terrain.

Data from 1985-1991

## Analysis Steps to Determine Resource Potential

1. Define necessary information
2. Procure relevant GIS data
3. **Identify and define assumptions**
4. Determine the area available for potential development in each province, by resource class
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## Power Plant Assumptions

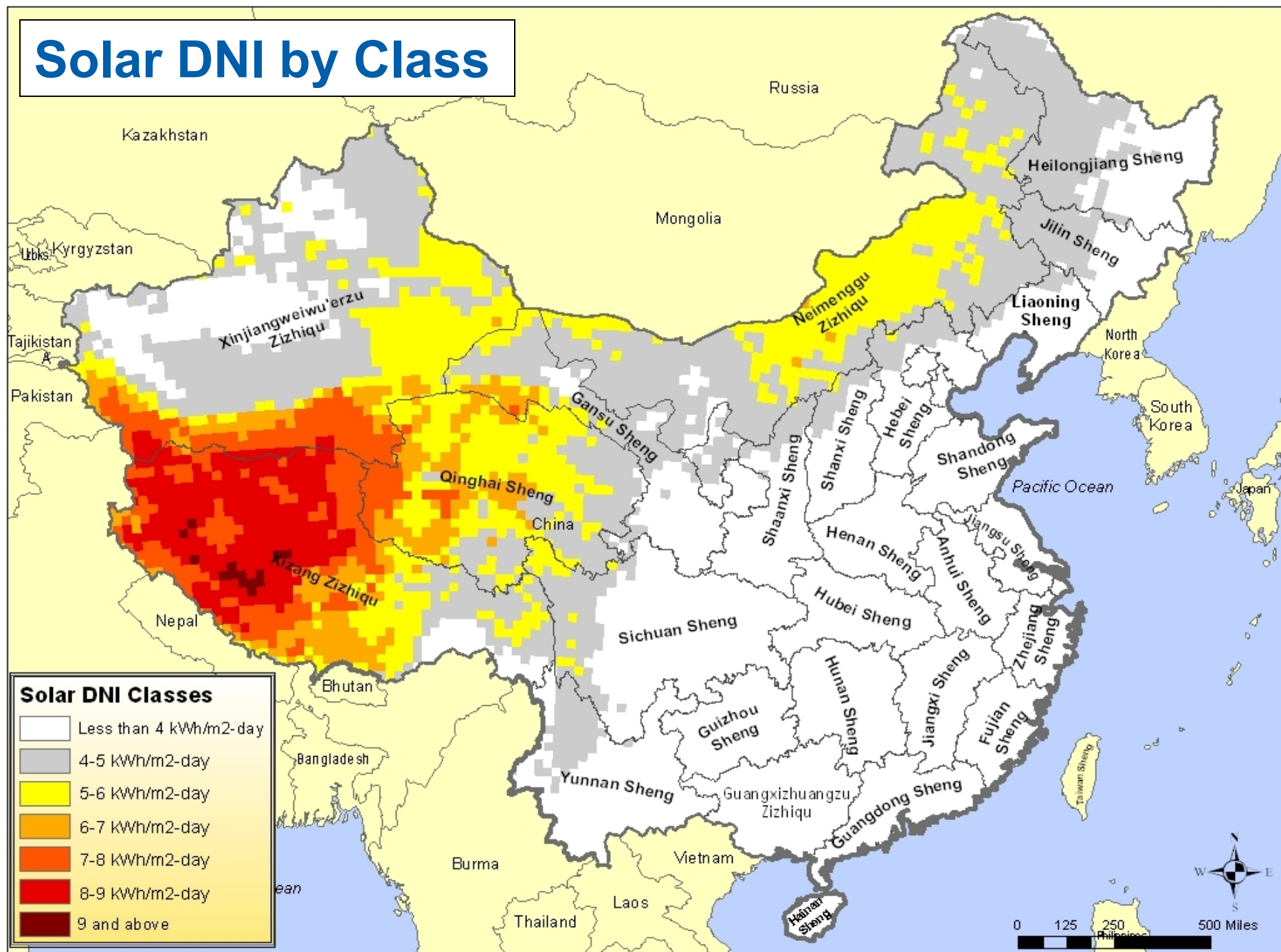
- Assumptions are for current *Parabolic Trough Technology*, without storage, and a Solar Multiple of 1.5:
  - Power Plant Solar to Electric Efficiency: 15%
  - Area: 30 MW/km<sup>2</sup>
  - Collector area to land area Ratio: 25%
- Technology assumptions can easily be modified for other CSP technologies.
  - Trough with storage would have less MW per km<sup>2</sup>
  - CLFR would have higher collector area to land area ratio

## Solar Potential Assumptions

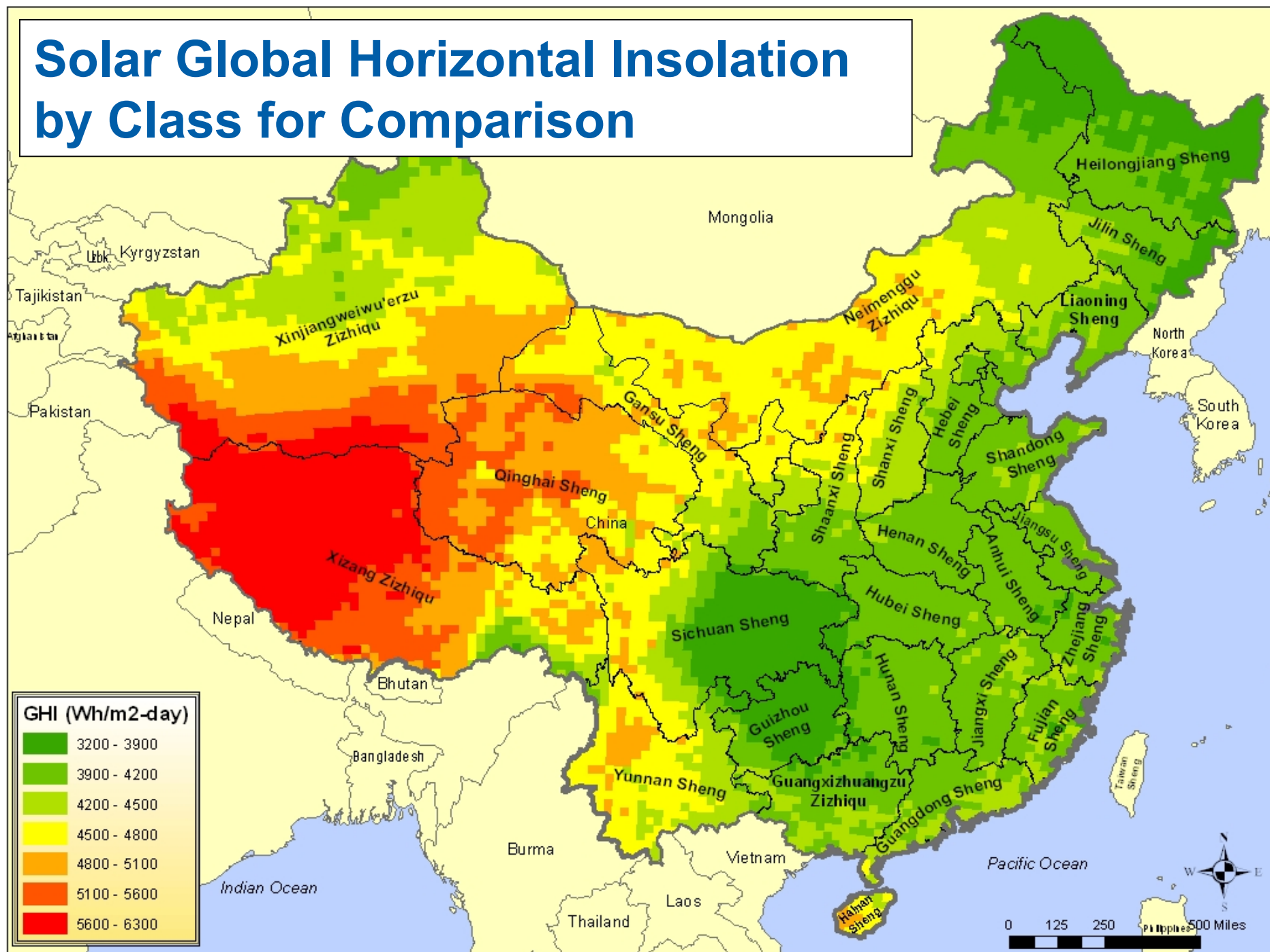
- Solar DNI aggregated into classes:
  - Below 5 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day → Excluded, or 0 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day
  - 5-6 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day → 5.5 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day
  - 6-7 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day → 6.5 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day
  - 7-8 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day → 7.5 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day
  - 8-9 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day → 8.5 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day
  - Above 9 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day → 9 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day



# Solar DNI by Class



# Solar Global Horizontal Insolation by Class for Comparison

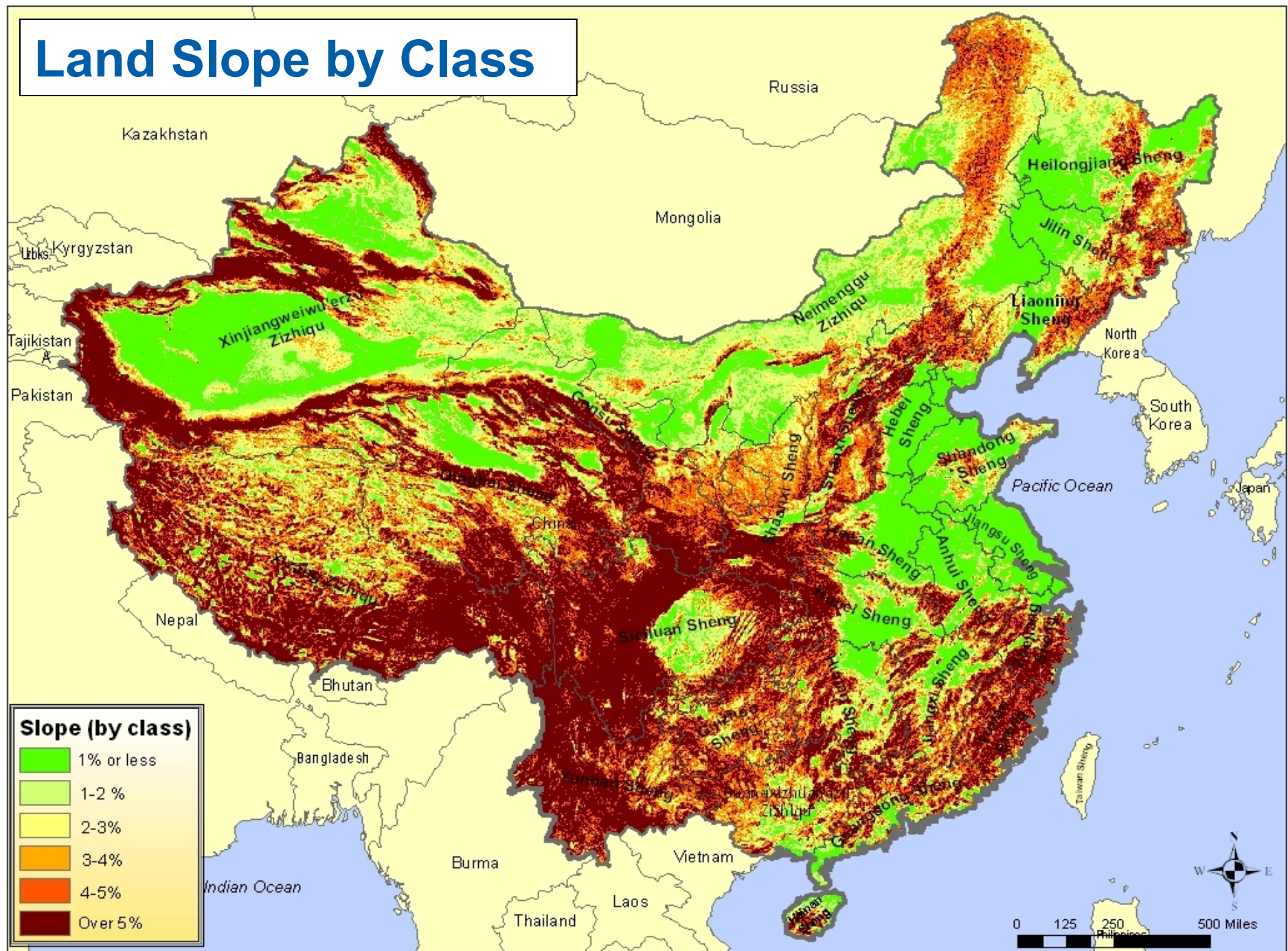


## Assumptions: Land Slope

- Two methods:
  - Everything less than a given slope is included 100%, and everything above is excluded
  - The areas can also be “discounted” based on slope
- Our assumption
  - Land with a 3% slope and less is included 100%
  - Land with a slope greater than 3% is excluded



# Land Slope by Class

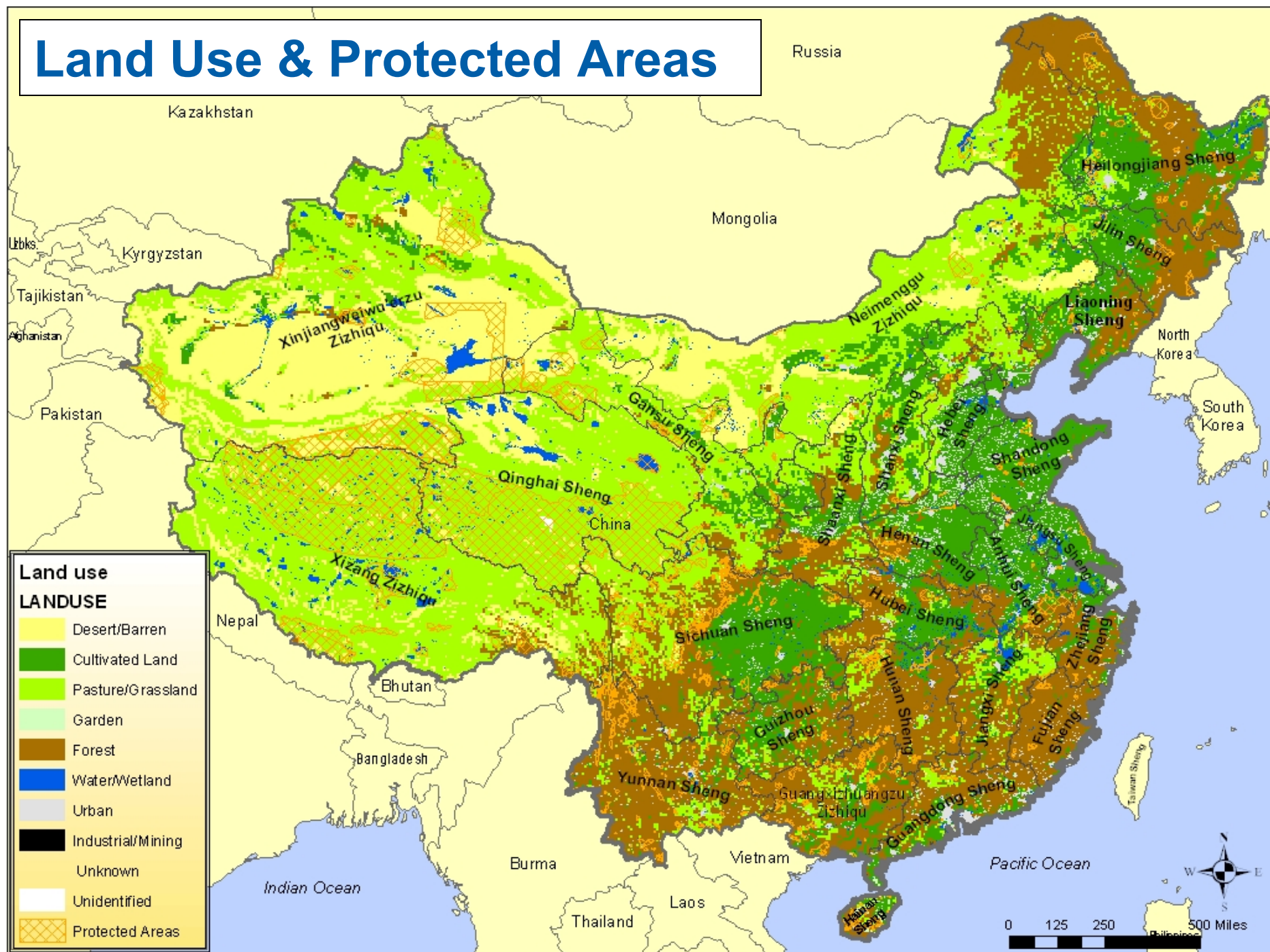


## Assumptions: Land Use & Protected Areas

- Bodies of water → Excluded
- Urban areas → Excluded
- Protected areas → Excluded
- Mining areas → Excluded
  
- Desert/barren land → 100% available
- Pasture/grassland, cultivated land, gardens → 50% available
- Forest/shrub land → 10% available



# Land Use & Protected Areas



## Analysis Steps to Determine Resource Potential

1. Define necessary information
2. Procure relevant GIS data
3. Identify and define assumptions
4. **Determine the area available for potential development in each province, by resource class**
5. Perform calculations based on assumptions

## Example Calculation for Xizang Zizhiqu

- 38,260 km<sup>2</sup> of 7-8 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day solar DNI

↳ ● 22,726 km<sup>2</sup> on ≤ 3% slope (100% available)

↳ ● 20,736 km<sup>2</sup> in grassland

↳ ● Grassland is 50% available:

$$20,736 \text{ km}^2 * 50\% = \mathbf{10,368}$$

***discounted km<sup>2</sup>*** on 7-8 kWh/m<sup>2</sup> DNI  
land with ≤ 3% slope in grassland



## Analysis Steps to Determine Resource Potential

1. Define necessary information
2. Procure relevant GIS data
3. Identify and define assumptions
4. Determine the area available for potential development in each province, by resource class
5. **Perform calculations based on assumptions**

## Calculations

- **GWh** = Zone area x DNI x Efficiency x Collector area to land area Ratio
- **MW** = Zone area x 30 MW per km<sup>2</sup>

### From our previous example (Xizang Zizhiqu)

- $10,368 \text{ km}^2 * 7.5 \text{ kWh/m}^2\text{-day} * 15\% * 25\% \text{ (w/ conversions)} = \mathbf{1,100 \text{ GWh/yr}}$ 

↓  
Efficiency

↘  
Collector area to  
land area Ratio
- $10,368 \text{ km}^2 * 30 \text{ MW/km}^2 \text{ (w/ conversions)} = \mathbf{320 \text{ GW}}$

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# Analysis Results

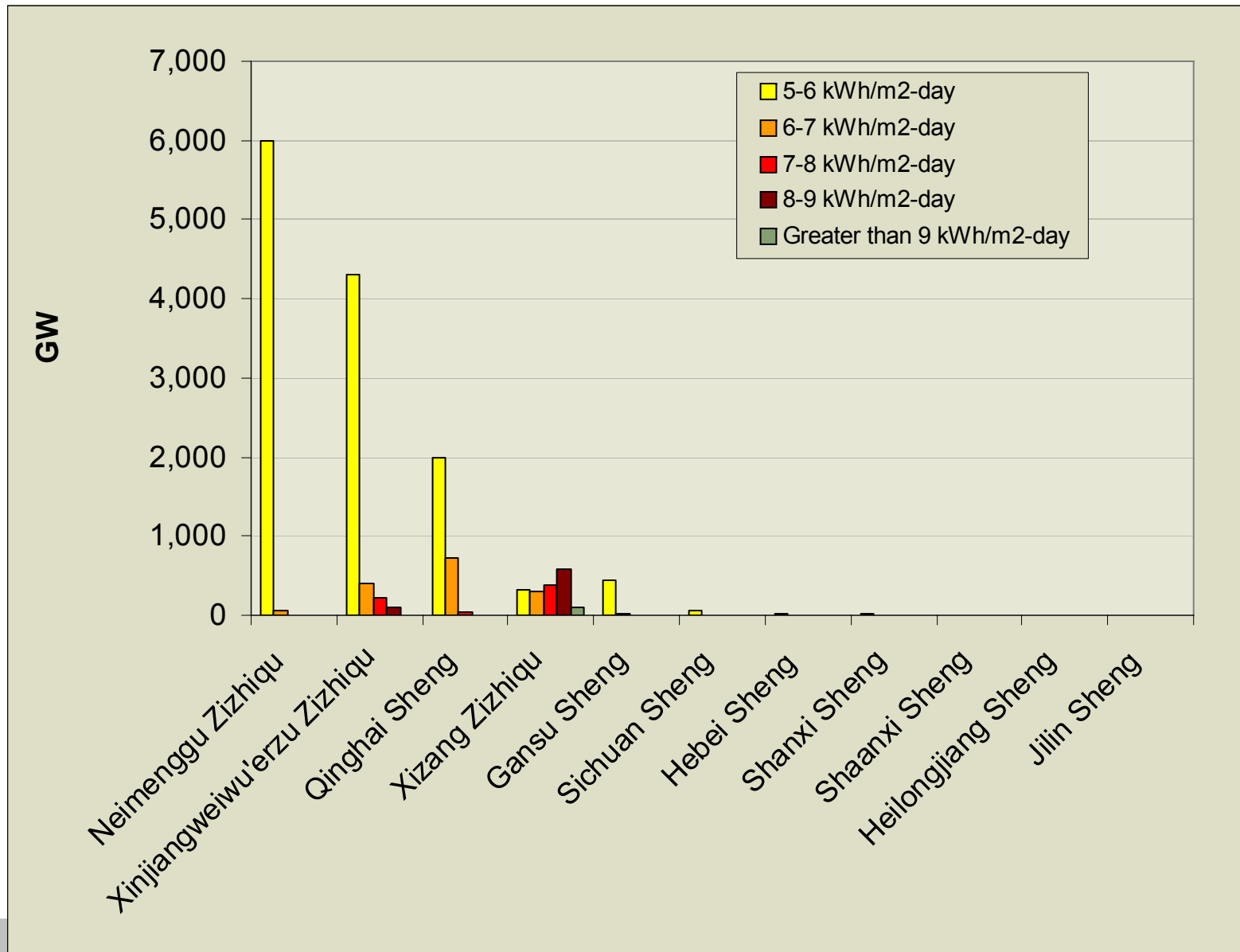
## Overall Results

- **16,000 GW** of potential at  $< 3\%$  slope, and DNI above 5 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>-day
  - 42,000 TWh/year
- This compares to China's current electricity use of 3,000+ TWh/year
- China has roughly similar CSP resources to the United States, though those resources are generally located farther from load centers

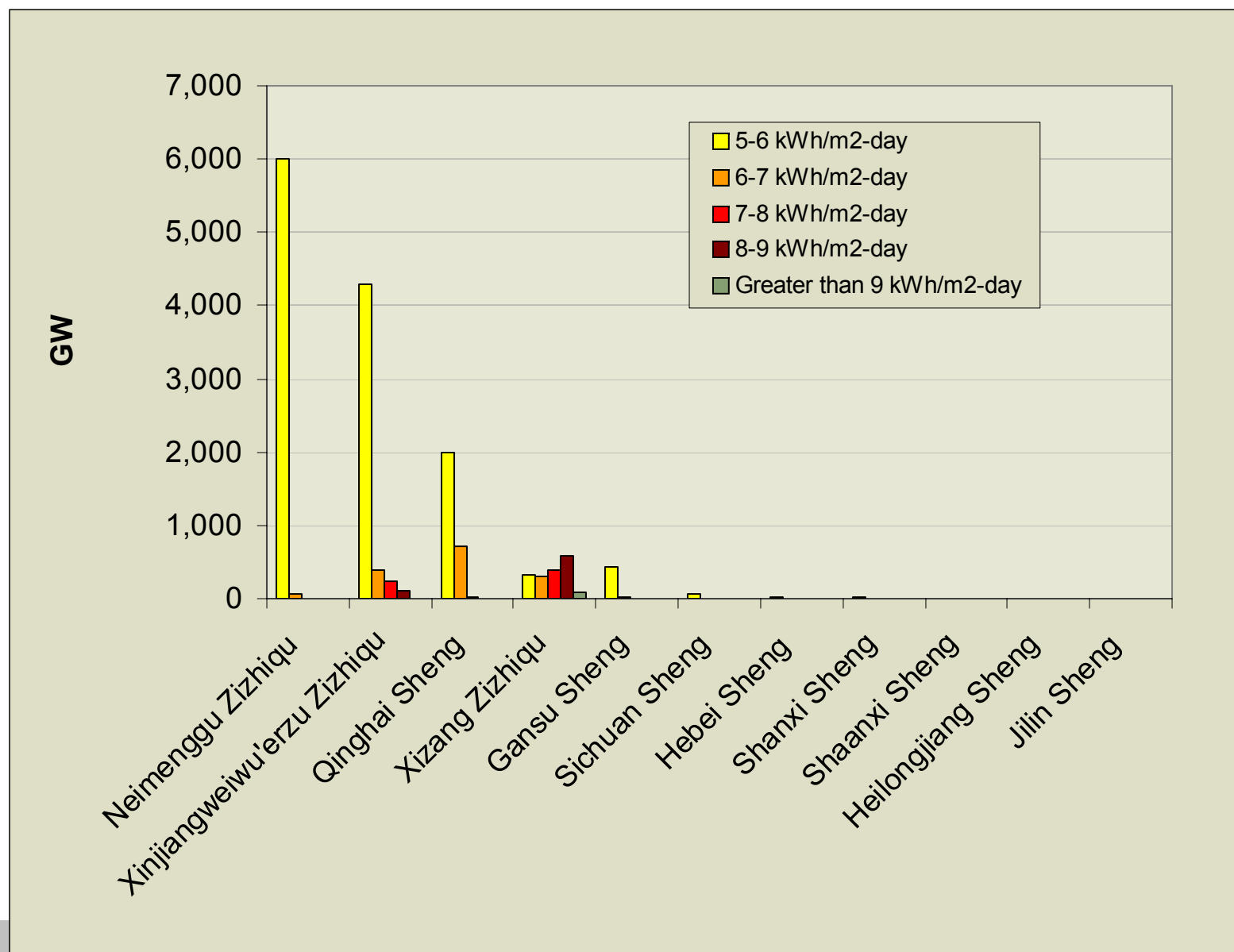
## Results – Solar Resource by Province by Class

	5 to 6 kWh/m <sup>2</sup> -day		6 to 7 kWh/m <sup>2</sup> -day		7 to 8 kWh/m <sup>2</sup> -day		8-9 kWh/m <sup>2</sup> -day		9 and up kWh/m <sup>2</sup> -day	
Province	GW	TWh/yr	GW	TWh/yr	GW	TWh/yr	GW	TWh/yr	GW	TWh/yr
Neimenggu Zizhiqu	6,000	15,000	59	170	0	0	0	0	0	0
Xinjiangweiwu'erzu Zizhiqu	4,300	11,000	400	1,100	230	780	110	420	0	0
Qinghai Sheng	2,000	4,900	720	2,100	31	100	0	0	0	0
Xizang Zizhiqu	320	770	300	860	380	1,300	580	2,200	93	370
Gansu Sheng	440	1,100	15	42	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sichuan Sheng	56	140	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hebei Sheng	26	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shanxi Sheng	18	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shaanxi Sheng	9	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heilongjiang Sheng	7	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jilin Sheng	4	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>370</b>

## Results – GW by Province by DNI Class



## Results – TWh/yr by Province by Class



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# **Comparison with the US and Spain**

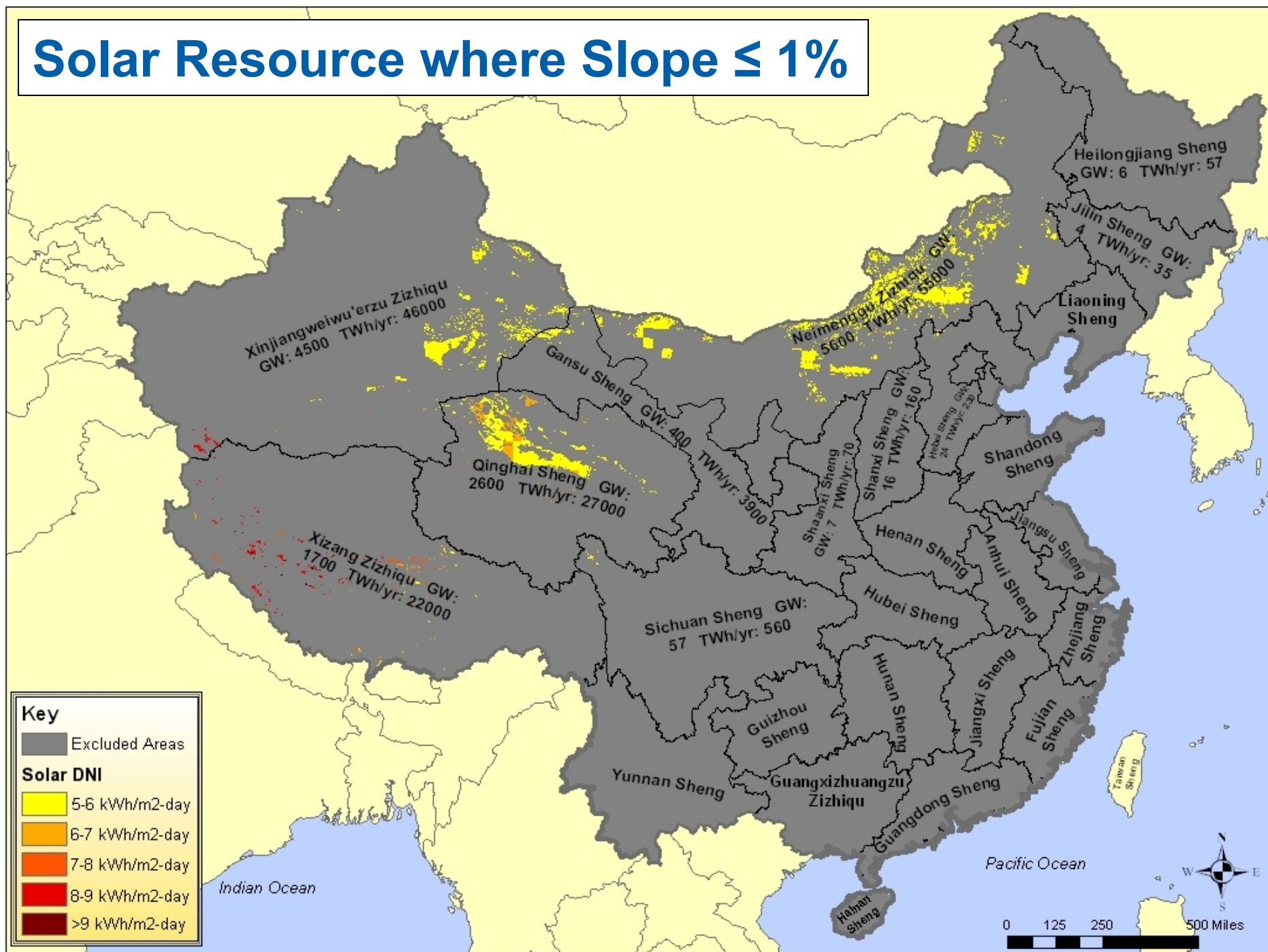


## Comparison with the US and Spain

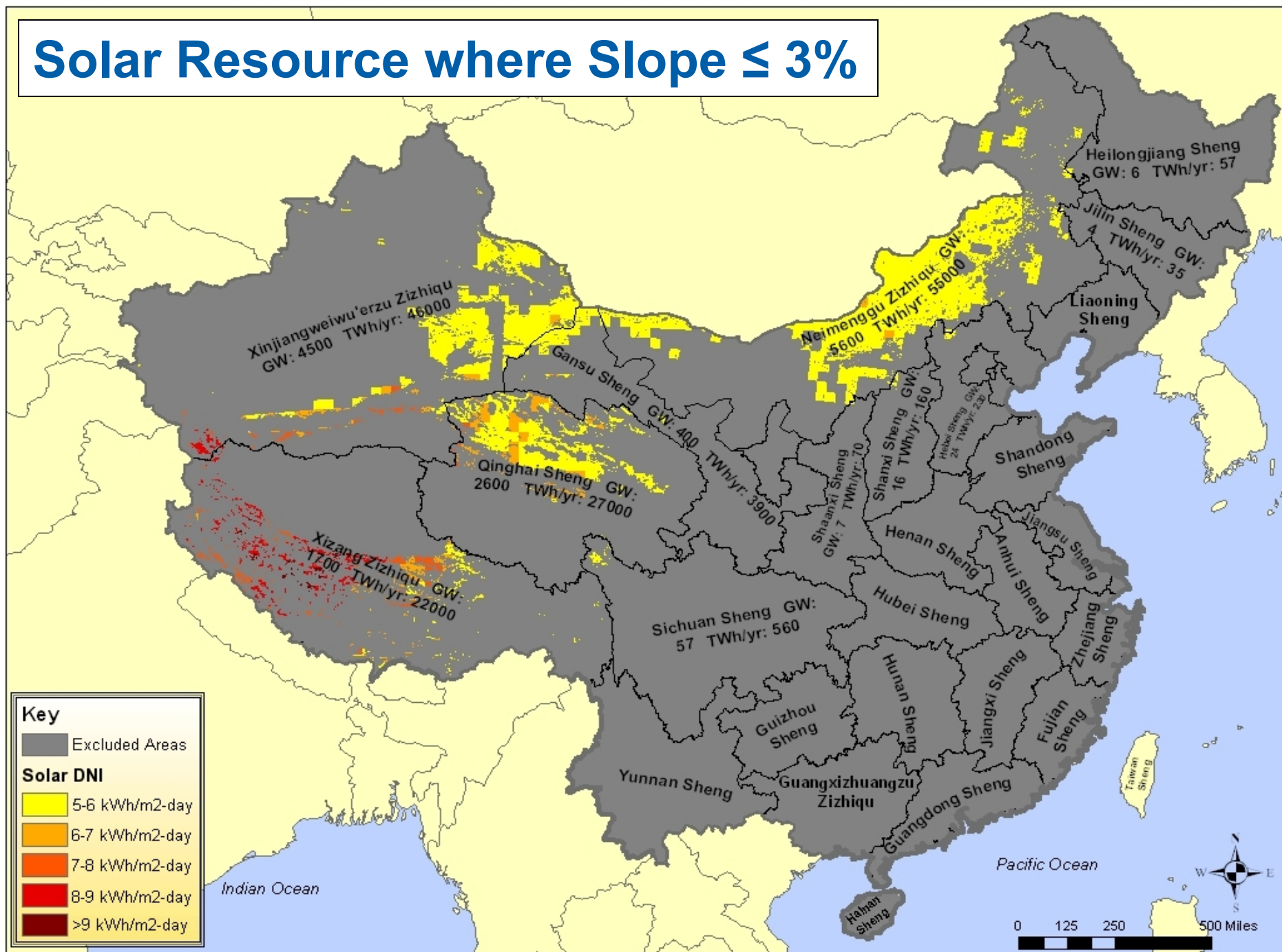
- Comparable analysis performed for the US and Spain
  - Slope  $\leq 3\%$ , DNI  $\leq 5$  kWh/m<sup>2</sup>
- China and US resources are comparable in size
- Spanish resource is much lower

	GW	TWh/yr	GW DNI $\geq 7$ kWh/m <sup>2</sup>
China	16,000	42,000	1,400
US	15,000	40,000	1,300
Spain	720	1,900	0.67

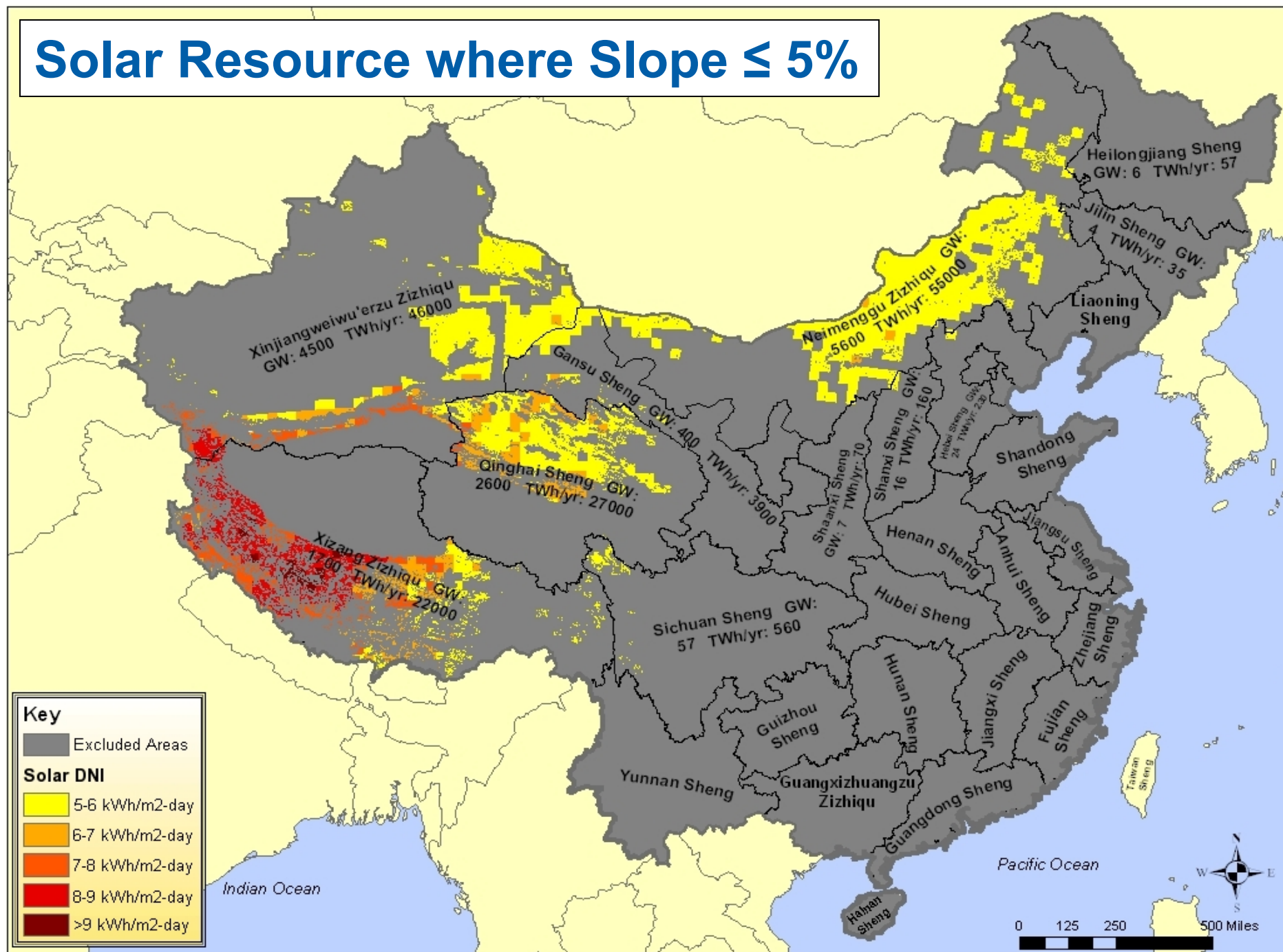
# Solar Resource where Slope $\leq 1\%$



# Solar Resource where Slope $\leq 3\%$

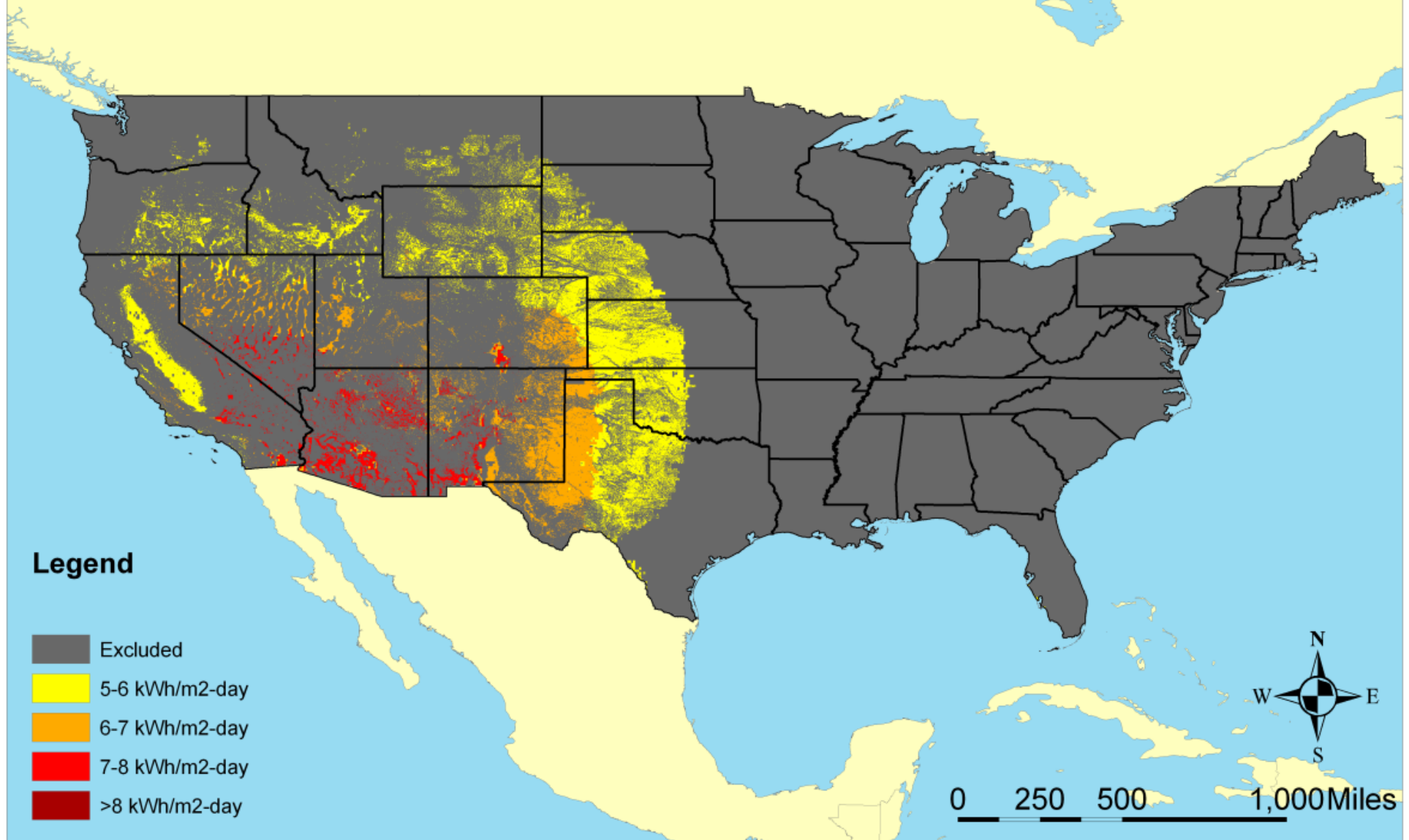


# Solar Resource where Slope $\leq 5\%$

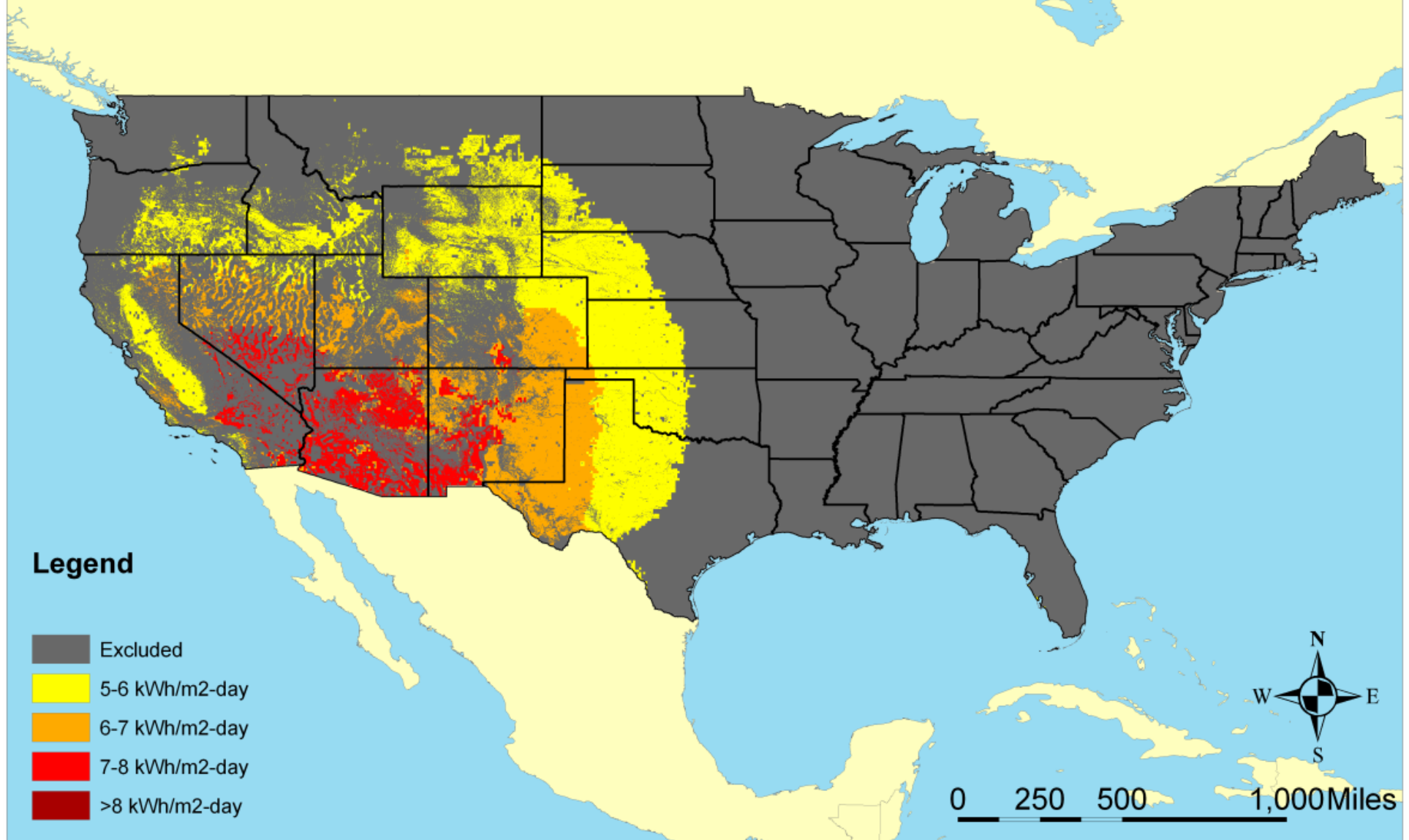




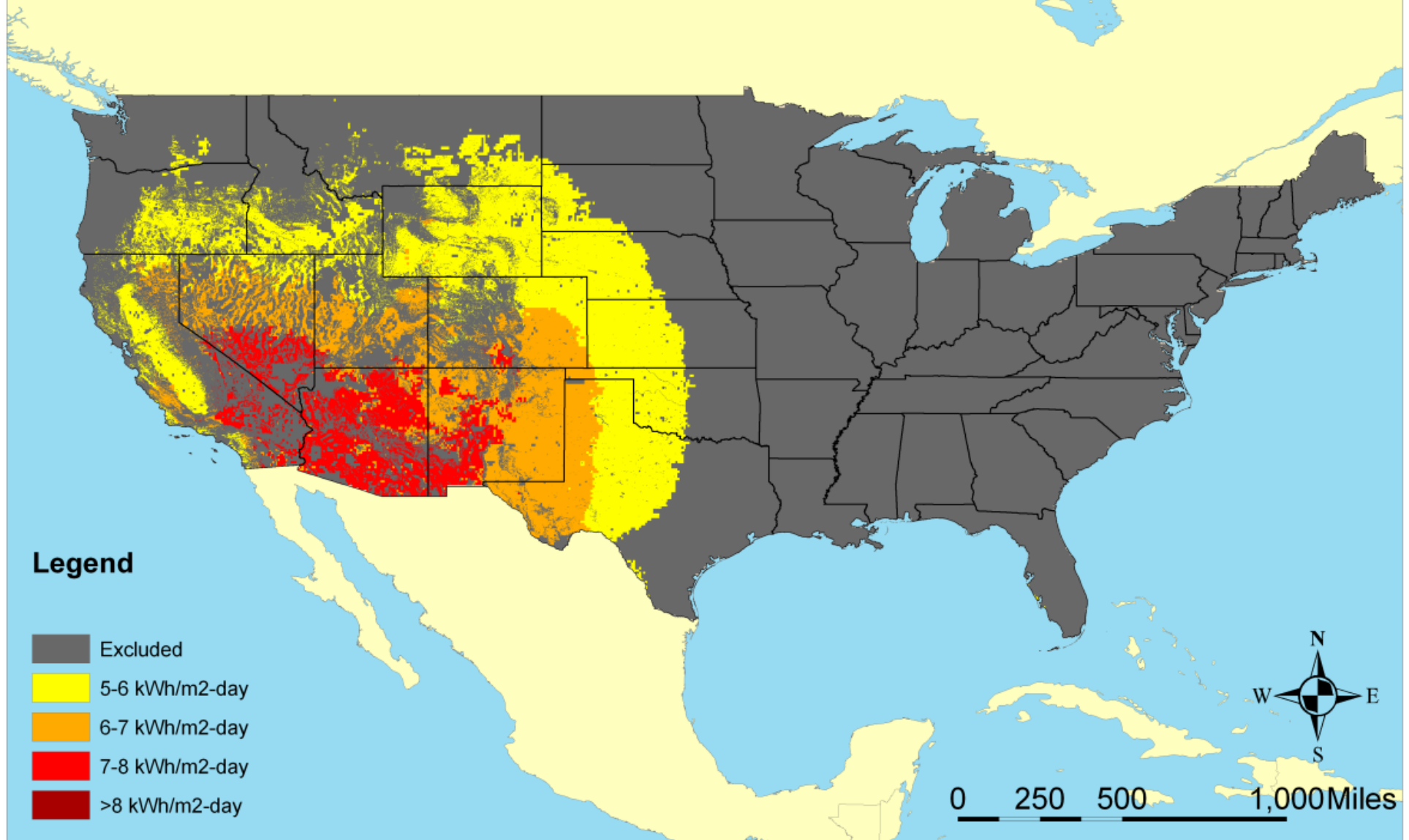
## Solar Resource where Slope $\leq 1\%$



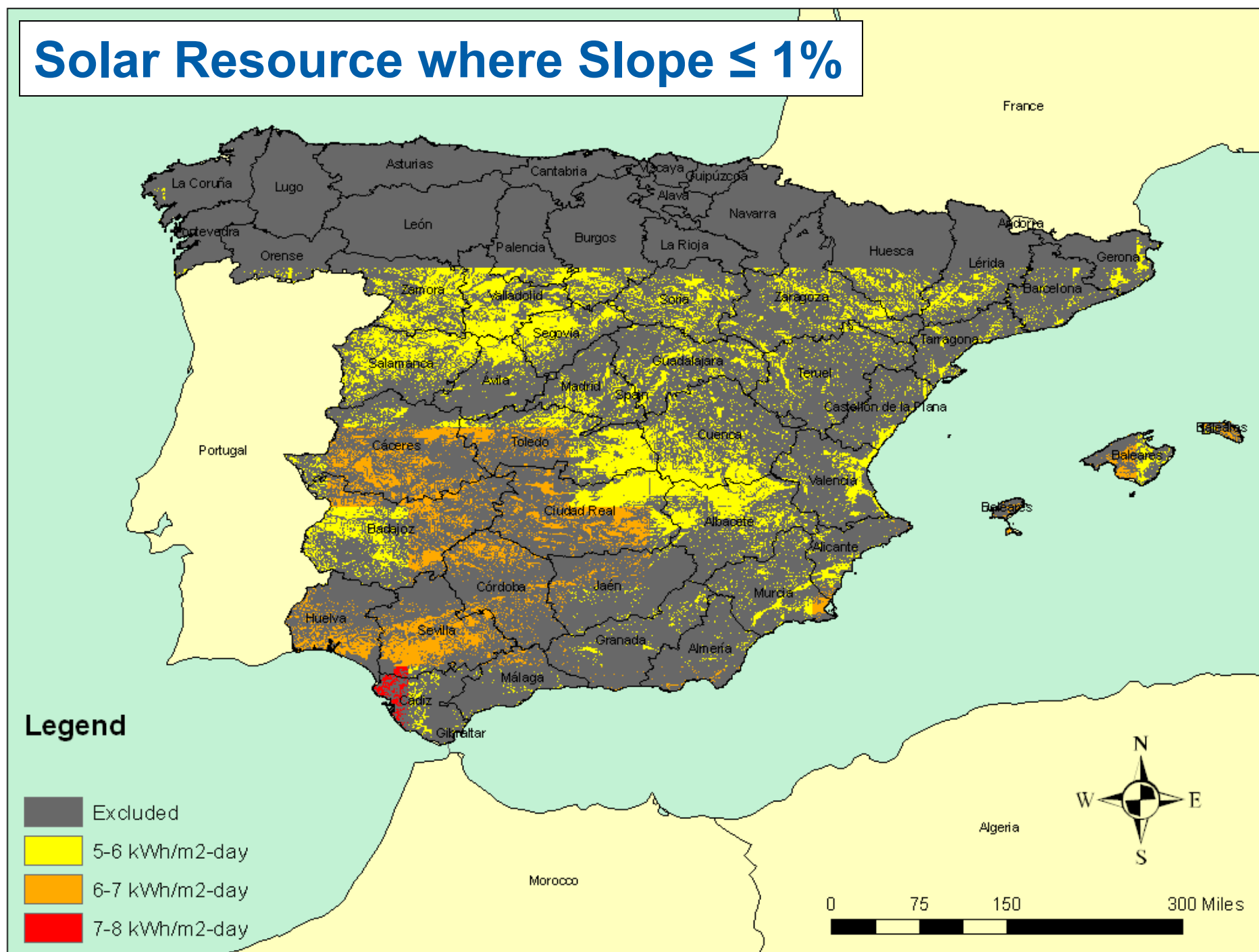
## Solar Resource where Slope $\leq 3\%$



## Solar Resource where Slope $\leq 5\%$

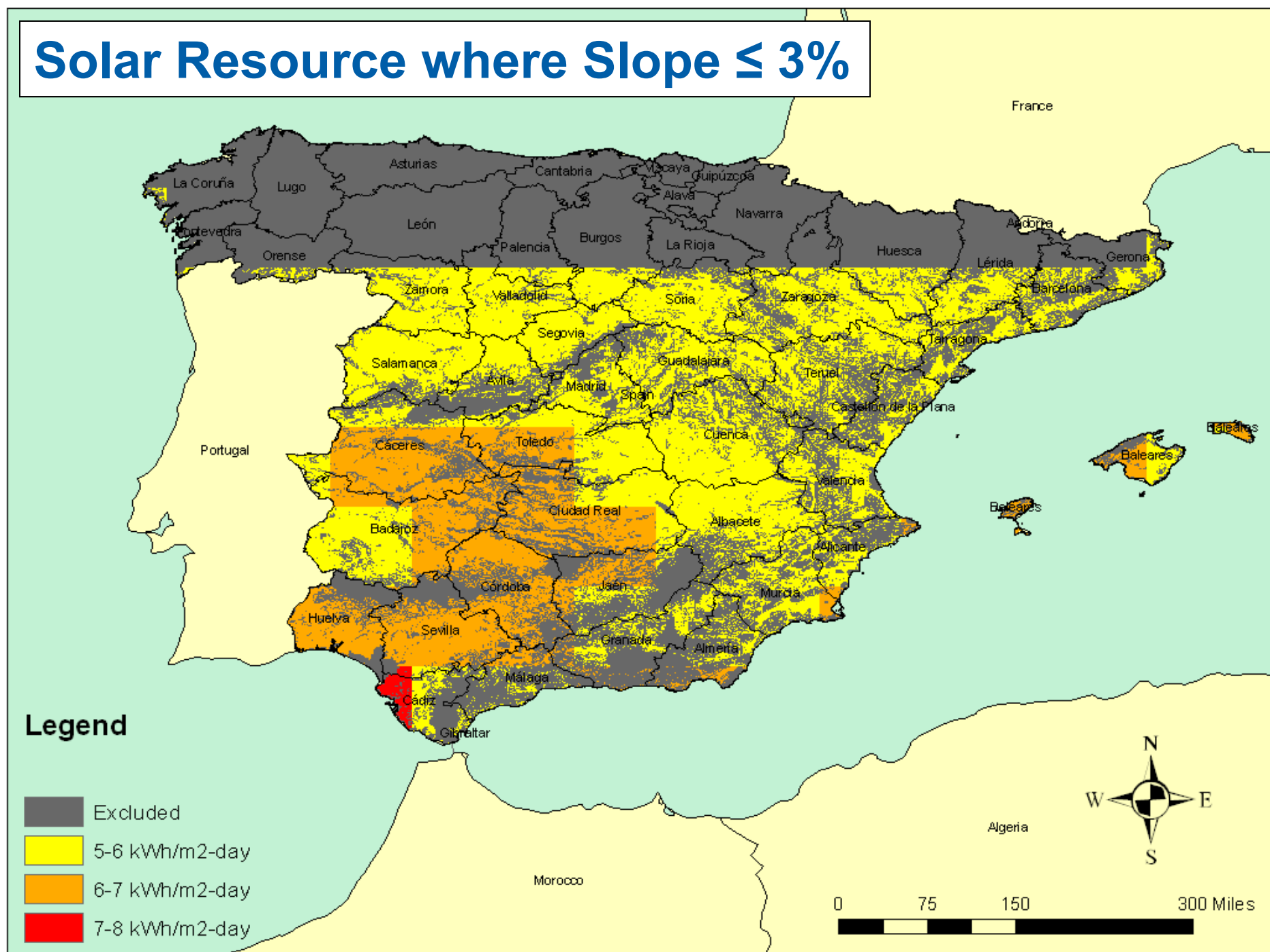


# Solar Resource where Slope $\leq 1\%$

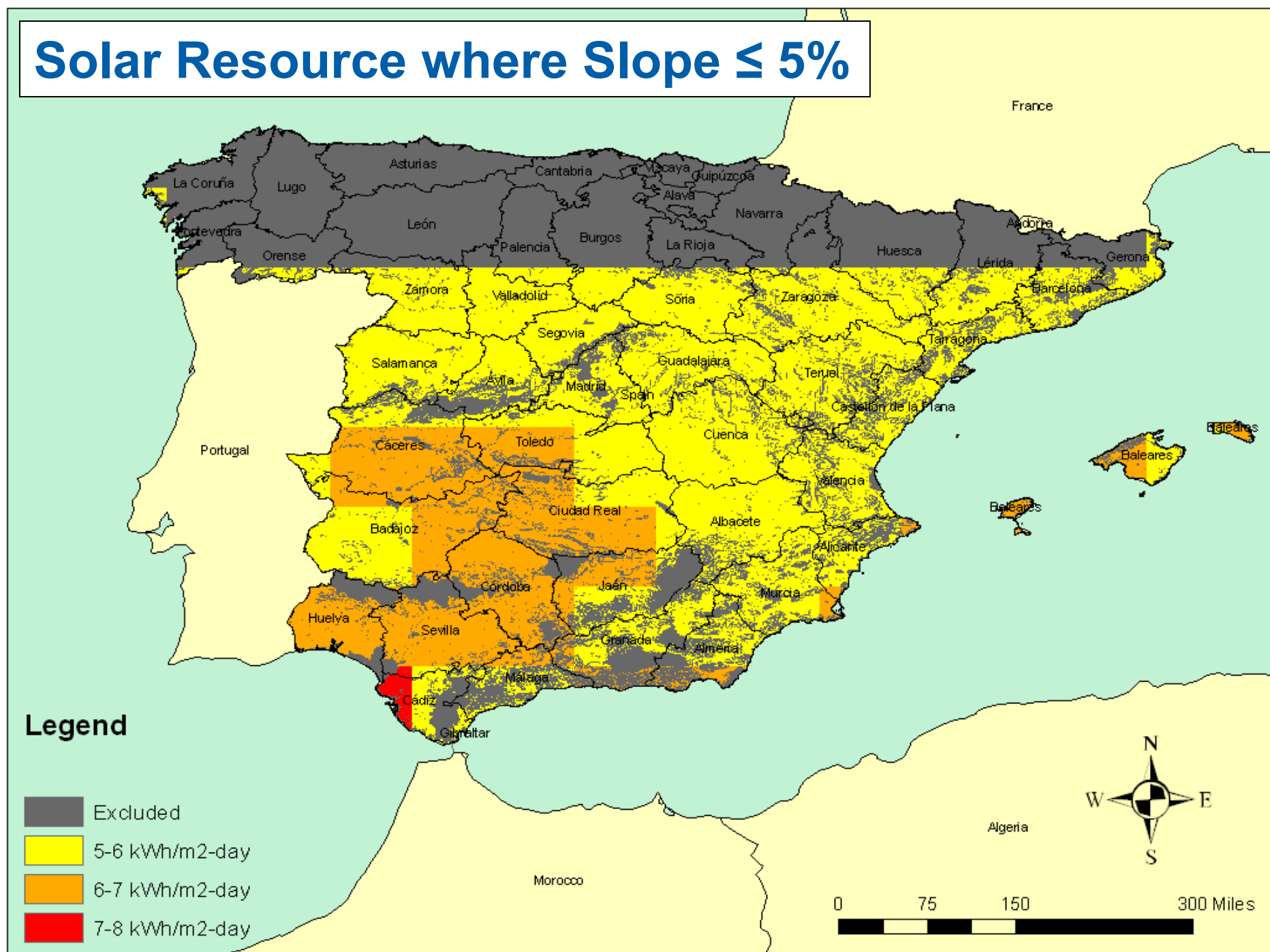




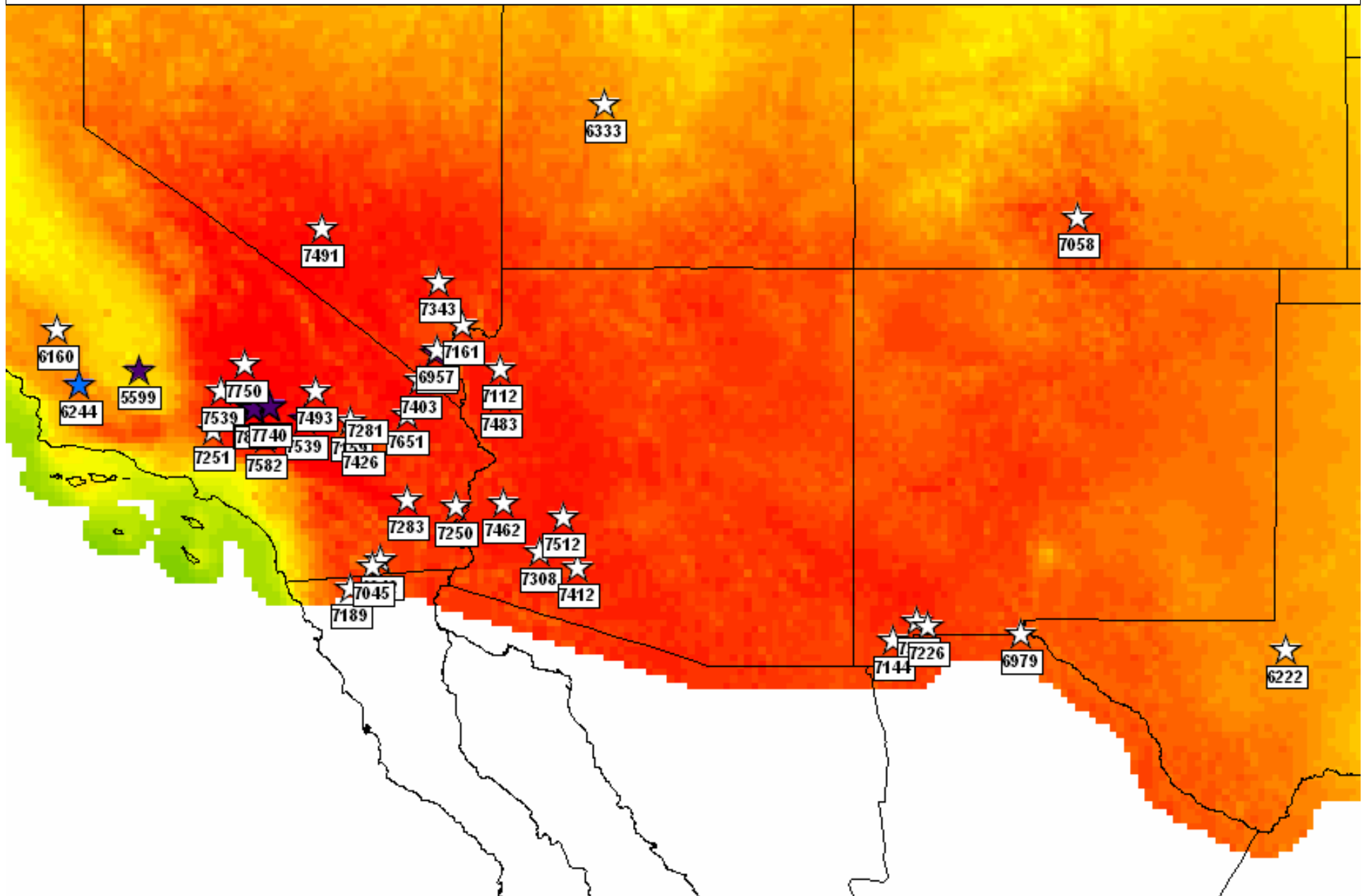
# Solar Resource where Slope $\leq 3\%$



# Solar Resource where Slope $\leq 5\%$



# DNI for Operating, Under Construction, and Planned US Solar Thermal Plants Typically Over 7,000 Wh/m<sup>2</sup>-day



## Conclusions

- The CSP resource in China is sizable, and is comparable to that in the US
- The CSP resource is much larger than current total electricity demand in China
- The location of the best CSP resources in China are not located near large load centers, necessitating transmission expansion