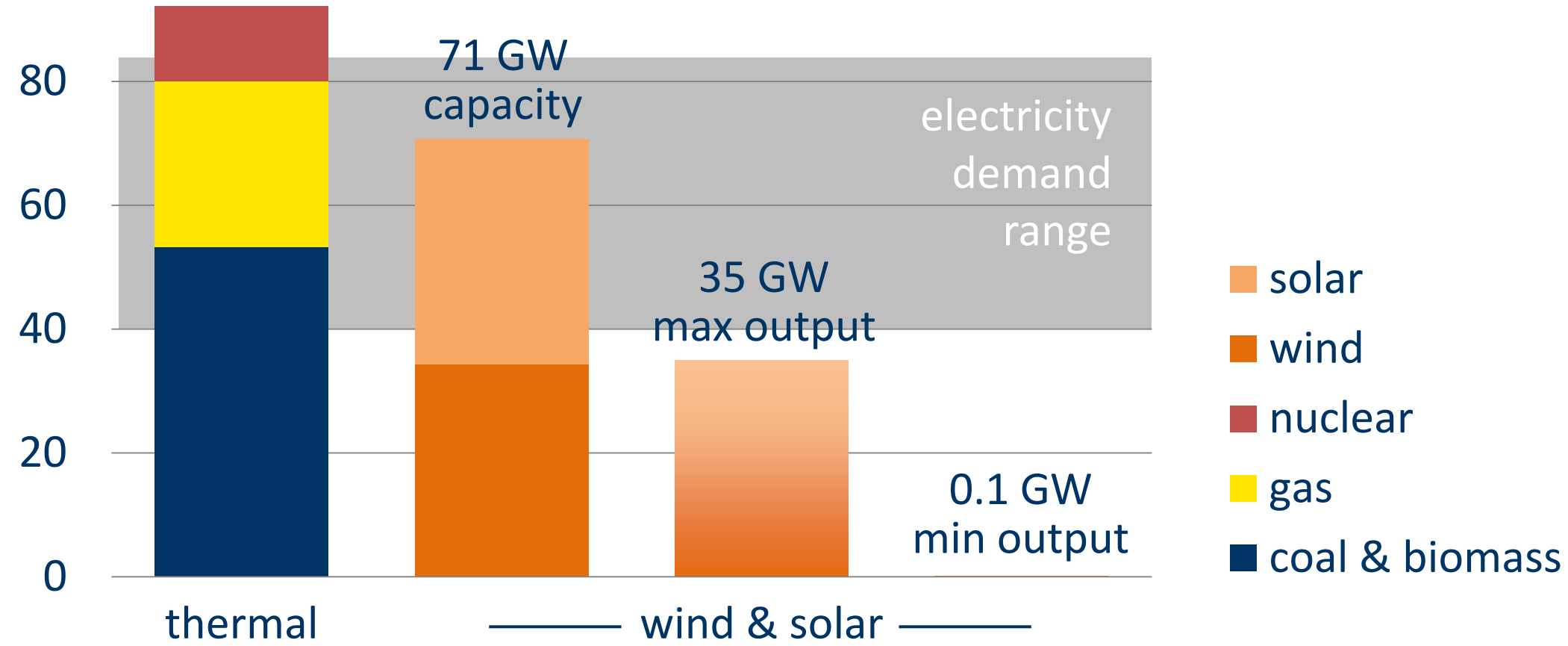


# Two systems, one task: balancing renewables

In 2013, German electricity demand was met by two systems: a reliable thermal one, mainly based on coal, and a new renewables one.



The 71 GW installed capacity of wind and solar was never able to supply more than 35 GW in 2013 and fell to just 0.1 GW on some nights. (AGEE-Stat / BDEW)

To keep the lights on when there is no wind or solar power, requires reliable **thermal power generation** based on fossil fuels.