



Planning for the rise of distributed energy resources

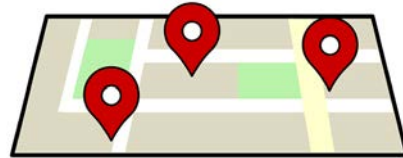
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To accelerate the transition to renewable energy and a modern grid through technical, policy, and project development expertise



Analysis & Planning

Full cost and value accounting for DER; siting analysis



Grid Modeling & Optimization

Powerflow modeling; DER optimization



Policy & Program Design

Grid planning, procurement, and interconnection



Community Microgrid Projects

Design and implementation

Some of our utility collaborators



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
EDISON



- The quickening evolution of the electric utility industry
- Key strategies for successfully navigating the rise of DER
 - 1) Proactively planning the distribution grid
 - 2) Thinking creatively about DER opportunities

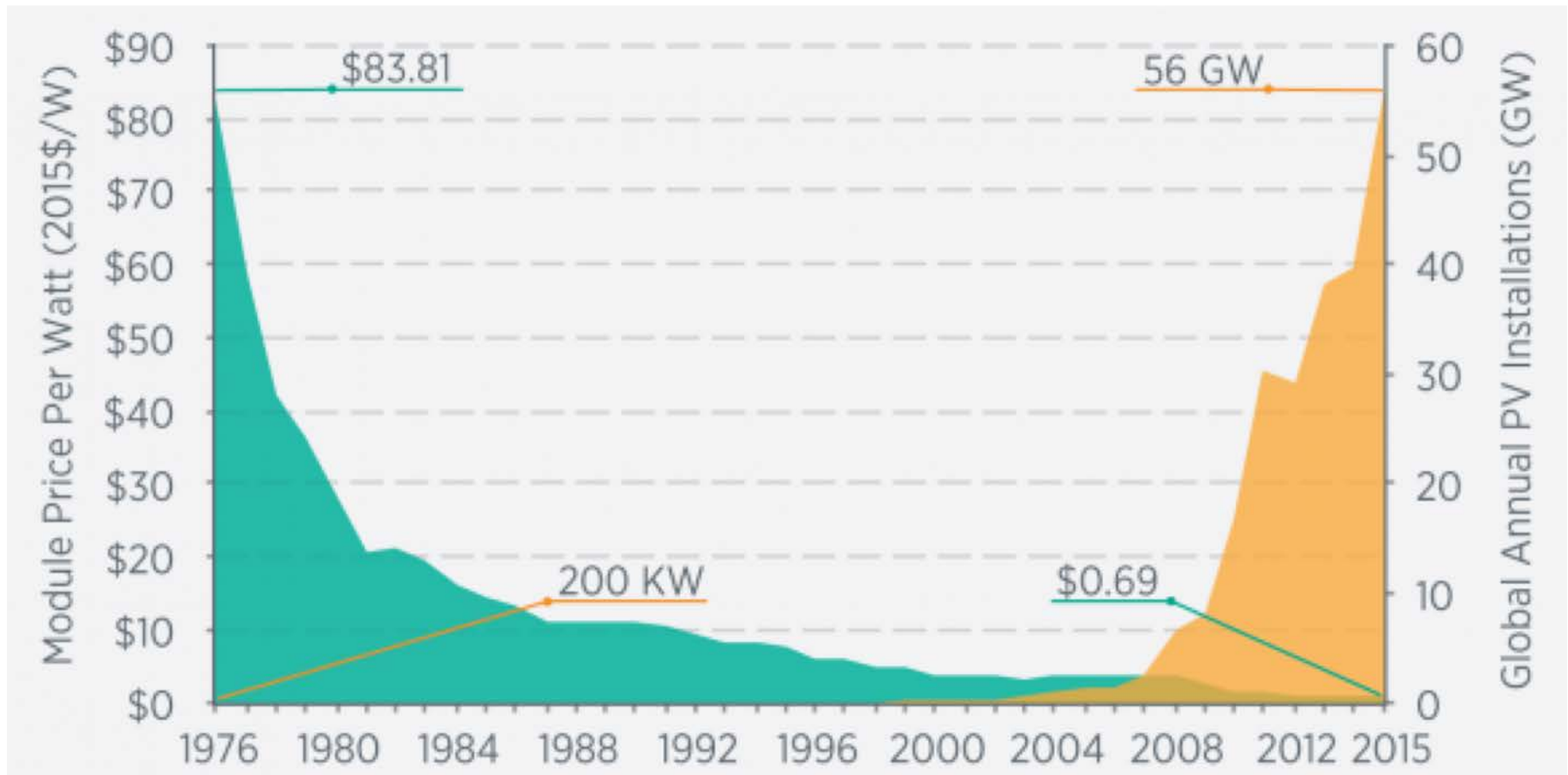
- From Utility Dive's *2018 State of the Electric Utility Report*, which surveyed 686 utility industry professionals

+ PRIMARY TAKEAWAYS:

1 | Utilities are moving to a cleaner, more distributed system. As in prior years, utility professionals report their companies are moving toward a power mix that emits less carbon and features more intermittent and distributed power sources. Respondents expressed the most confidence in growth for solar, DERs, storage, wind and gas, while most expect significant decreases in coal- and oil-fired generation.

Why is the power mix changing?

- Reason #1 — Dropping costs of renewables and other distributed energy resources (DER), like energy storage, are driving increased deployment



Source: U.S. DOE Sun Shot Initiative



BRIEF

Minnesota solar project beats natural gas on price, gets authorization

Source: Utility Dive (December 2014)



BRIEF

Hawaii co-op signs deal for solar+storage project at 11¢/kWh

U.S. residential electricity prices averaged ~12.9 cents/kWh in 2017

Source: Utility Dive (January 2017) and U.S EIA

Recent record lows for dispatchable renewables

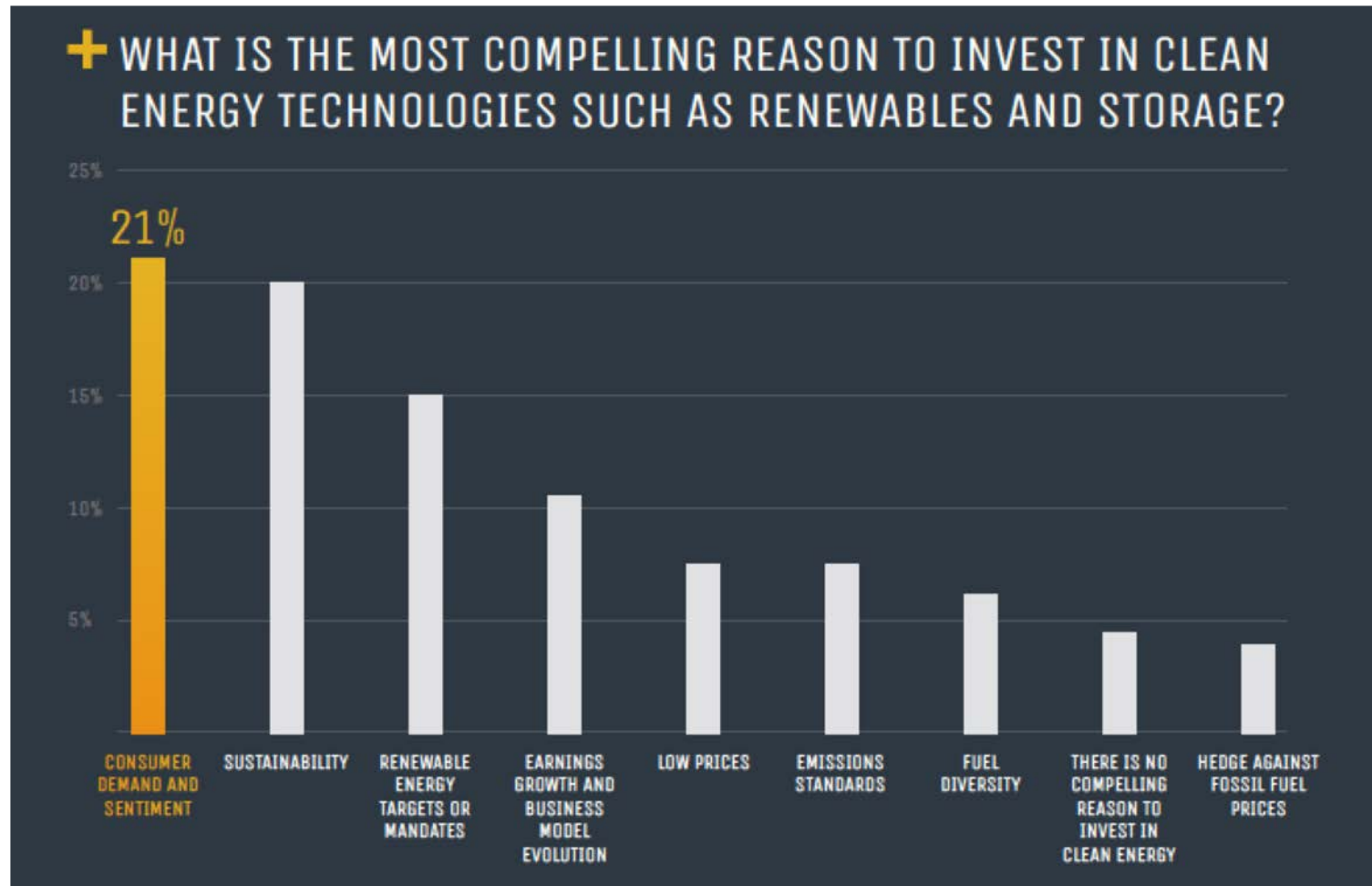
Median bid prices in Xcel Energy 2016 ERP All Source Solicitation 30 day report [🔗](#)

RFP Responses by Technology						
Generation Technology	# of		# of		Median Bid	
	Bids	Bid MW	Projects	Project MW	Price or Equivalent	Pricing Units
Combustion Turbine/IC Engines	30	7,141	13	2,466	\$ 4.80	\$/kW-mo
Combustion Turbine with Battery Storage	7	804	3	476	6.20	\$/kW-mo
Gas-Fired Combined Cycles	2	451	2	451	██████████	\$/kW-mo
Stand-alone Battery Storage	28	2,143	21	1,614	11.30	\$/kW-mo
Compressed Air Energy Storage	1	317	1	317	██████████	\$/kW-mo
Wind	96	42,278	42	17,380	\$ 18.10	\$/MWh
Wind and Solar	5	2,612	4	2,162	19.90	\$/MWh
Wind with Battery Storage	11	5,700	8	5,097	21.00	\$/MWh
Solar (PV)	152	29,710	75	13,435	29.50	\$/MWh
Wind and Solar and Battery Storage	7	4,048	7	4,048	30.60	\$/MWh
Solar (PV) with Battery Storage	87	16,725	59	10,813	36.00	\$/MWh
IC Engine with Solar	1	5	1	5	██████████	\$/MWh
Waste Heat	2	21	1	11	██████████	\$/MWh
Biomass	1	9	1	9	██████████	\$/MWh
Total	430	111,963	238	58,283		

Source: Xcel Energy Colorado

Why is the power mix changing?

- Reason #2 — Customers, from large corporations to cities to residential households, increasingly want (and demand) clean energy

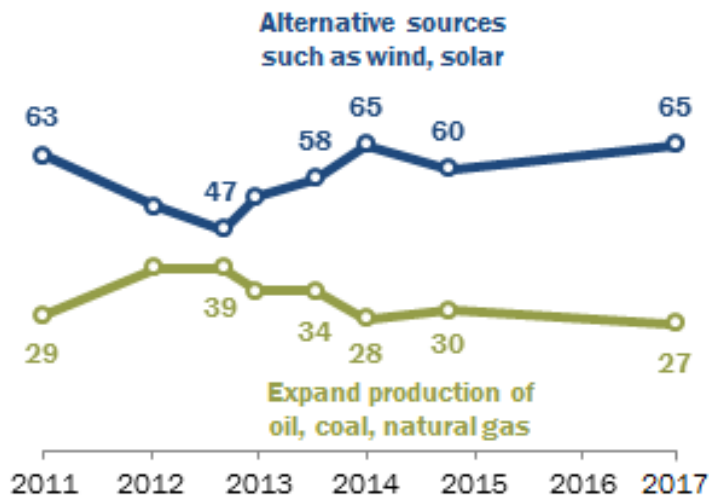


Source: 2018 State of the Electric Utility, Utility Dive

Strengthening demand for clean energy

Most in U.S. give priority to developing alternative energy over fossil fuels

% of U.S. adults who say ___ should be the more important priority for addressing America's energy supply

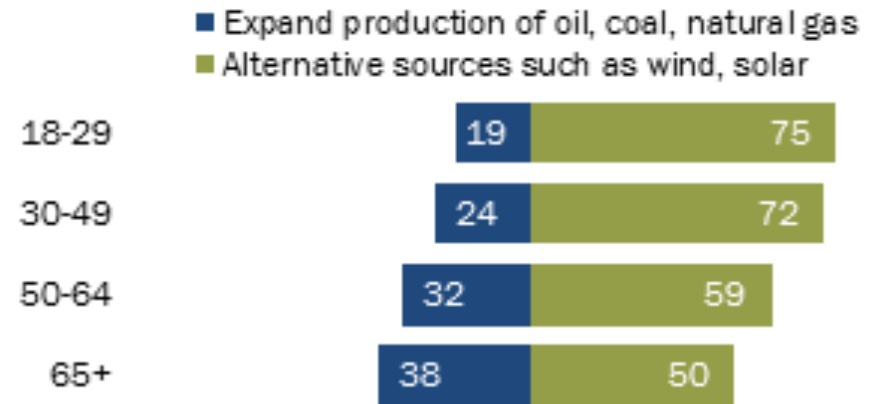


Note: Both/Don't know responses not shown.
Source: Survey conducted Jan. 4-9, 2017.

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Younger Americans more likely to prioritize alternative energy sources

% of U.S. adults who say ___ should be the more important priority for addressing America's energy supply



Note: Both/Don't know responses not shown.
Source: Survey conducted Jan. 4-9, 2017.

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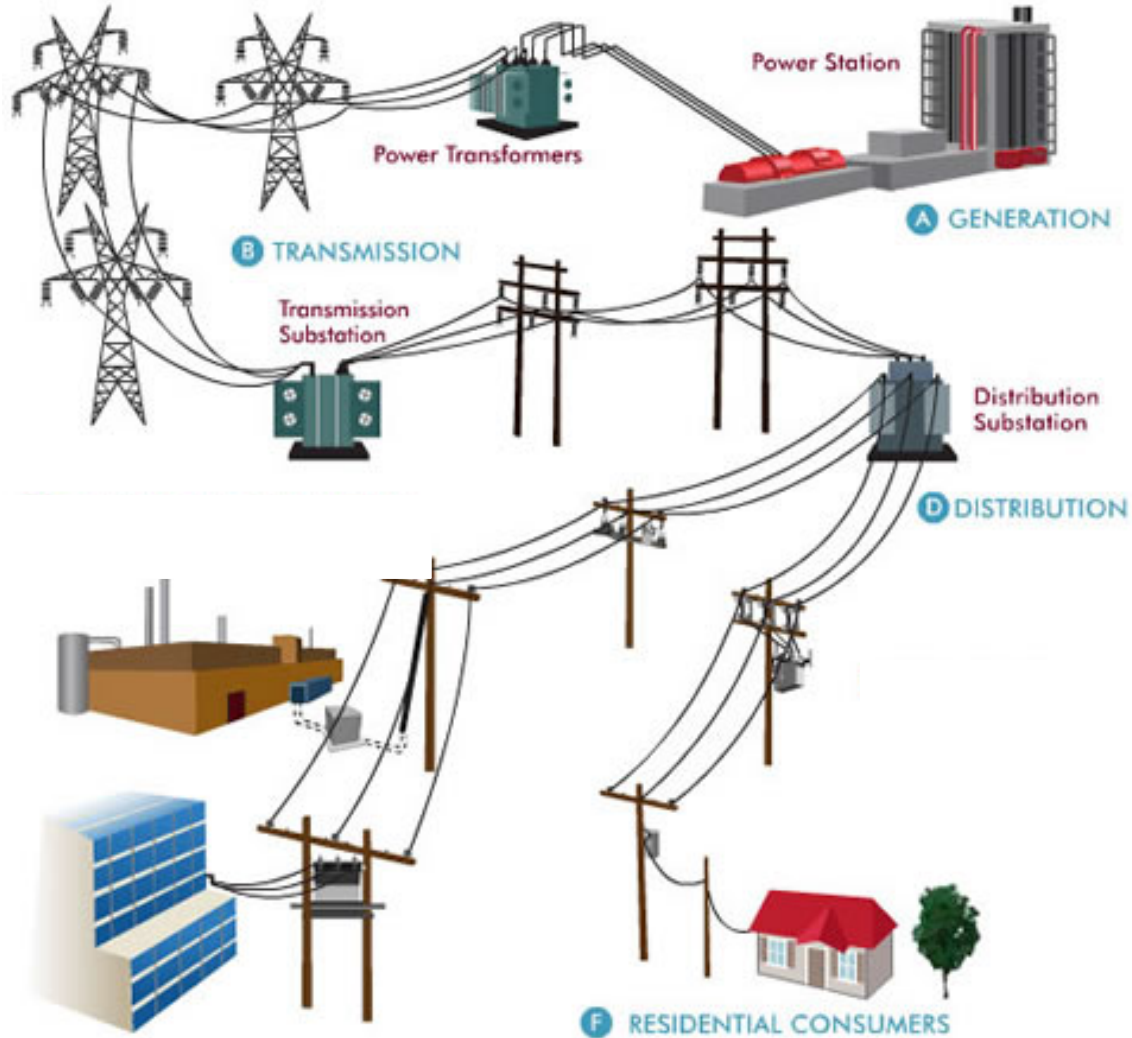


Key strategies to navigate the rise of DER

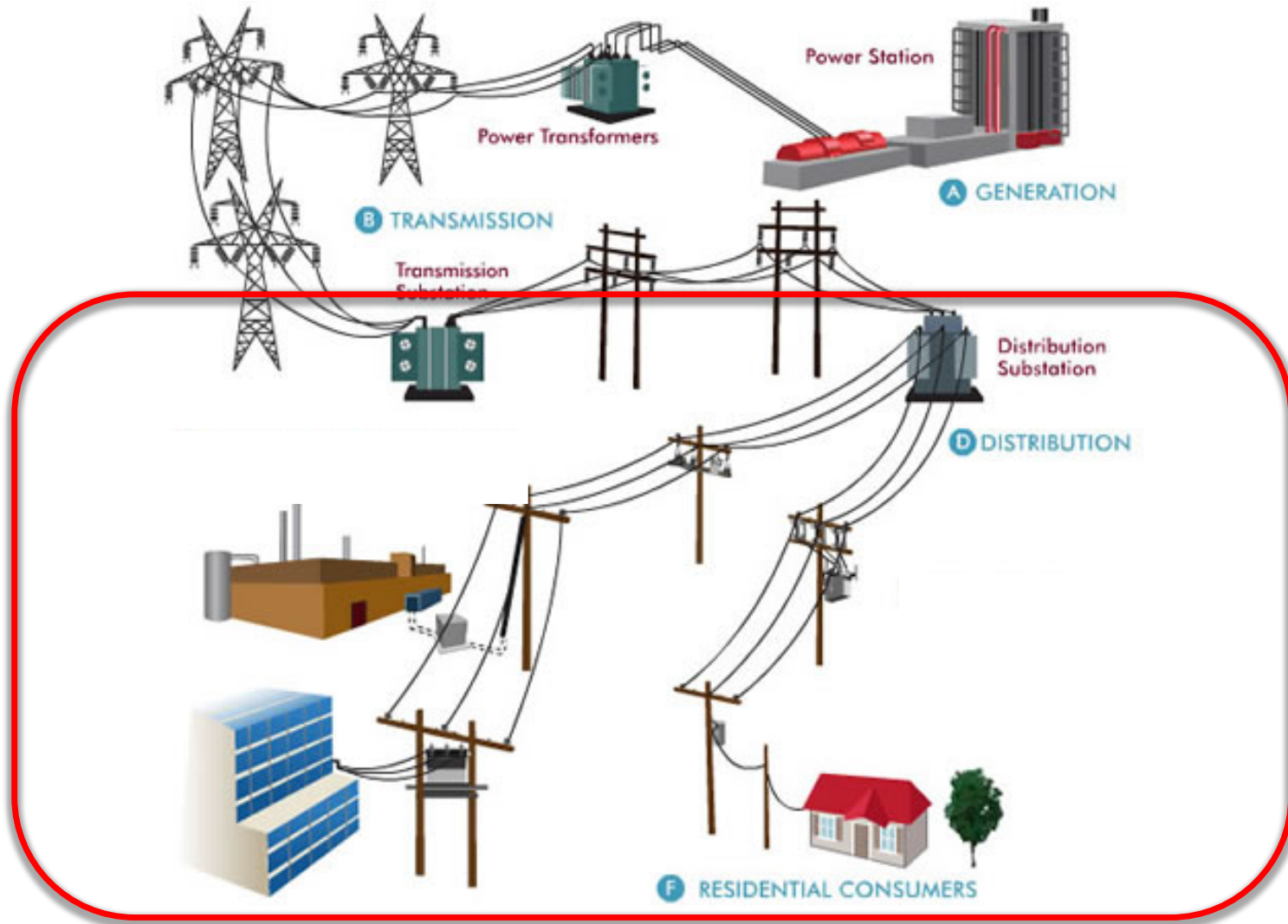
Two ideas for consideration

- Proactively plan the distribution grid
- Think creatively about DER opportunities

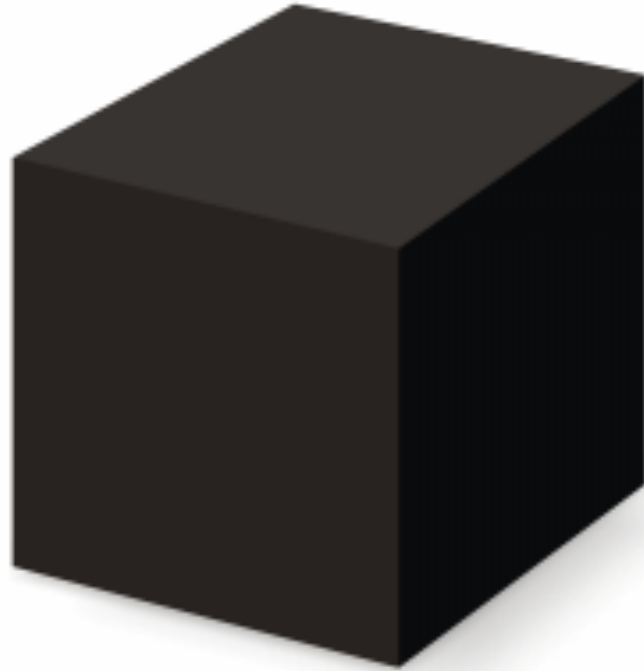
Where is the grid rapidly evolving?



Source: Oncor Electric Delivery Company



Source: Oncor Electric Delivery Company





- DRP is a foundational policy for modernizing the grid to provide cleaner, more affordable, and more resilient power
- DRP provides a pathway to:



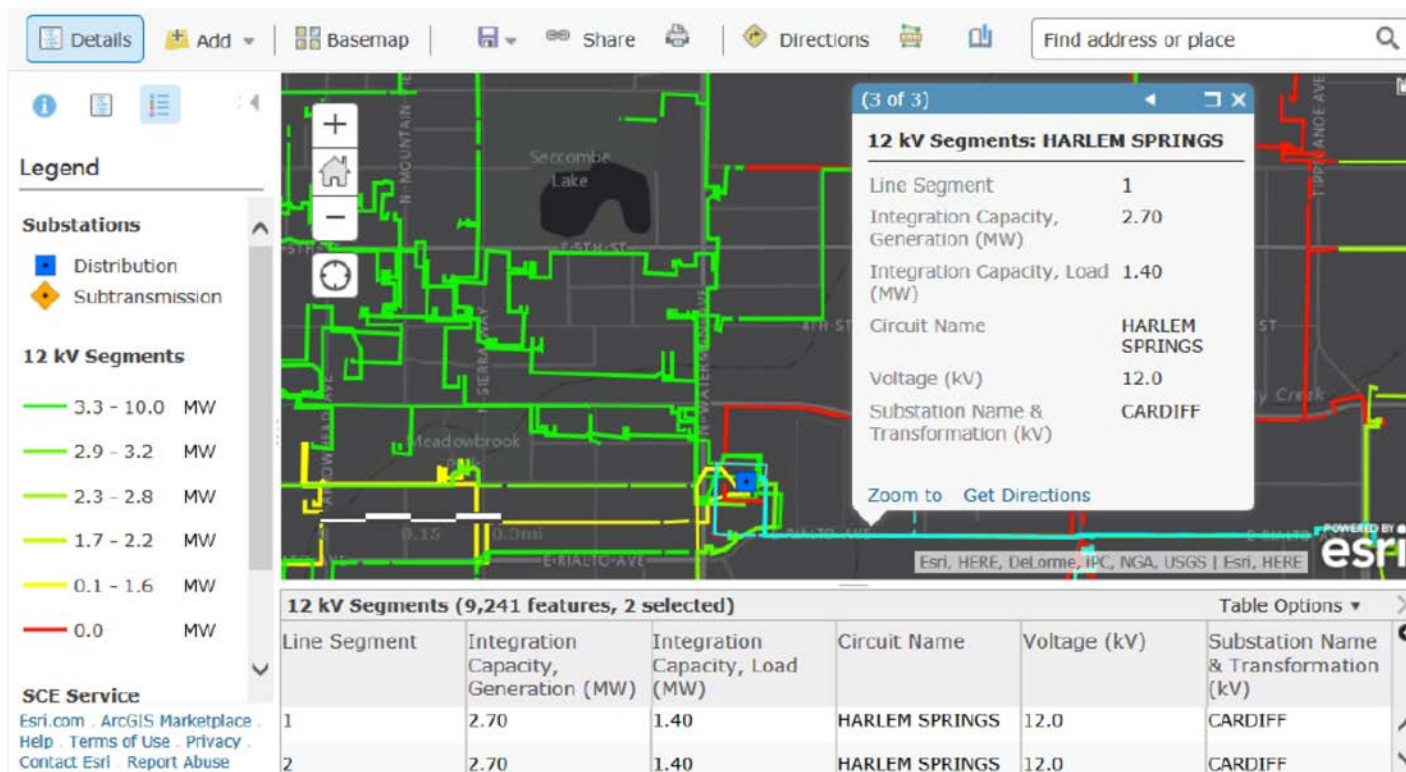
Source: Pacific Gas & Electric

Four key components of DRP

- Hosting Capacity Analysis
- Methodology to value DER
- Substation-level pilot projects
- DER and load forecasts

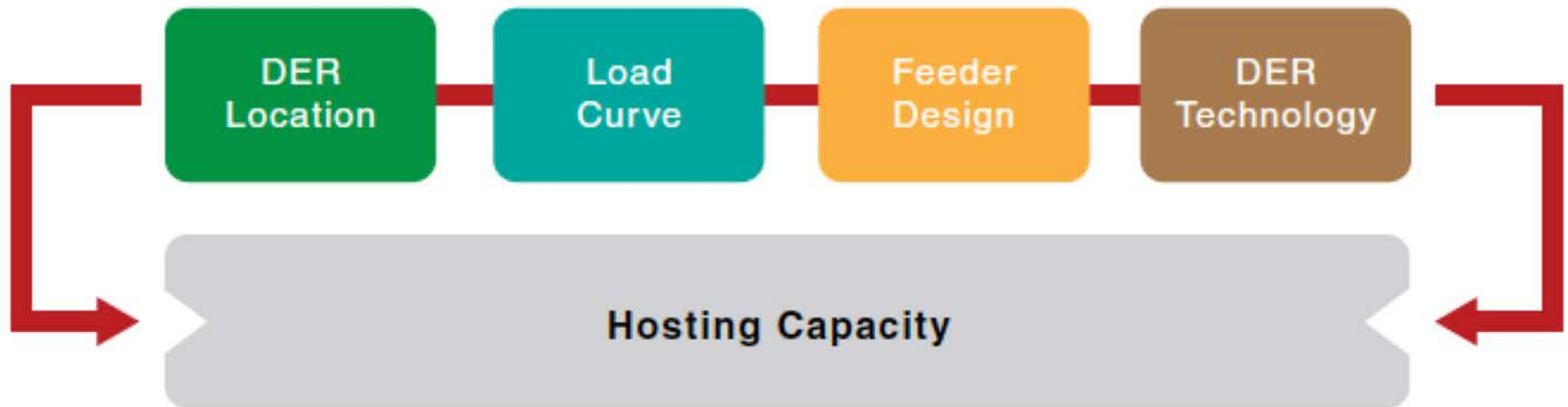
Hosting Capacity Analysis

- The maximum amount of DER that can be accommodated on the distribution system, at a given place and point in time, under existing grid conditions and operations without adversely impacting safety, power quality, reliability, or other operational criteria, and without requiring significant infrastructure upgrades.



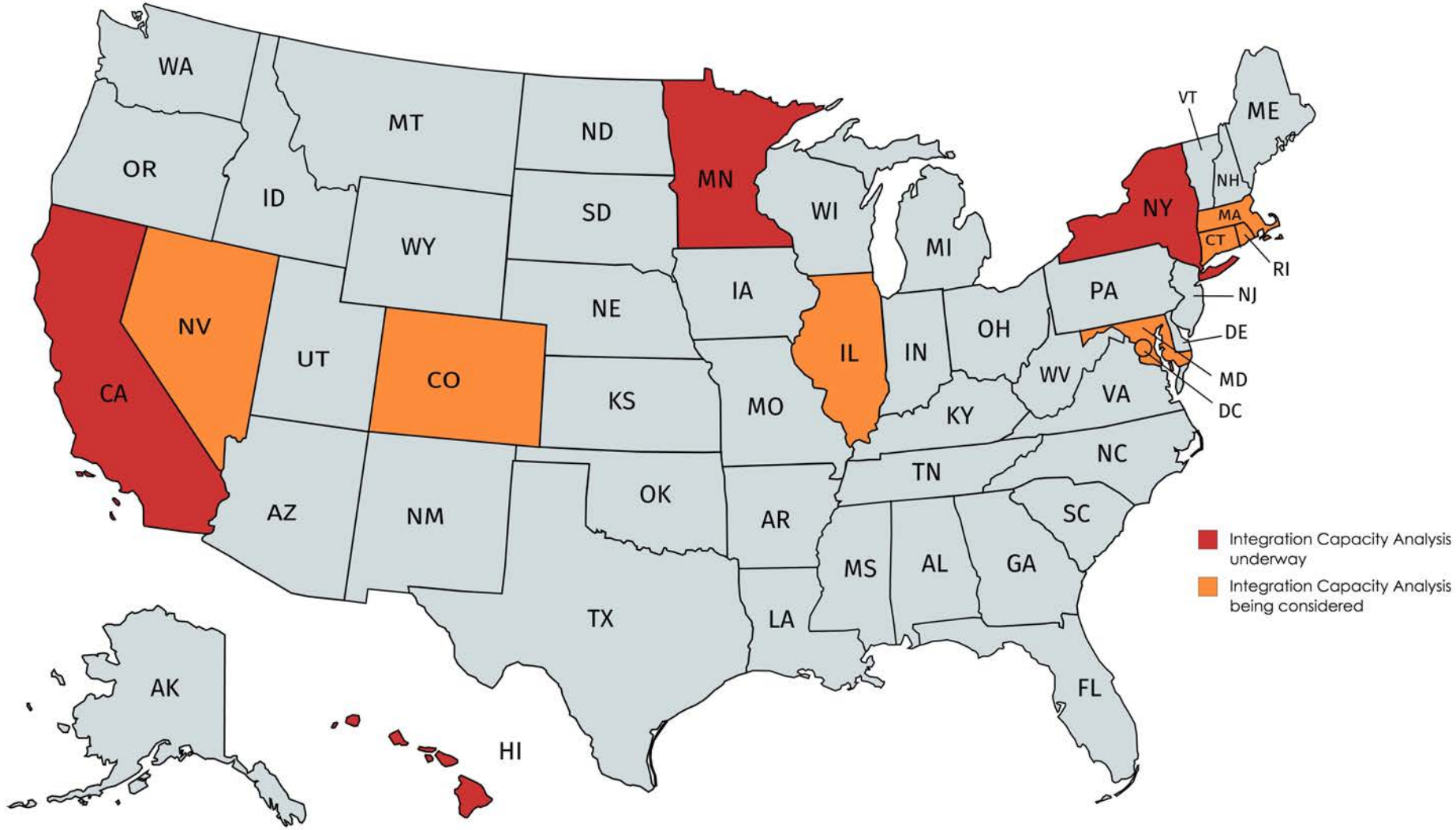
Source: Southern California Edison

- Factors that impact the results include:



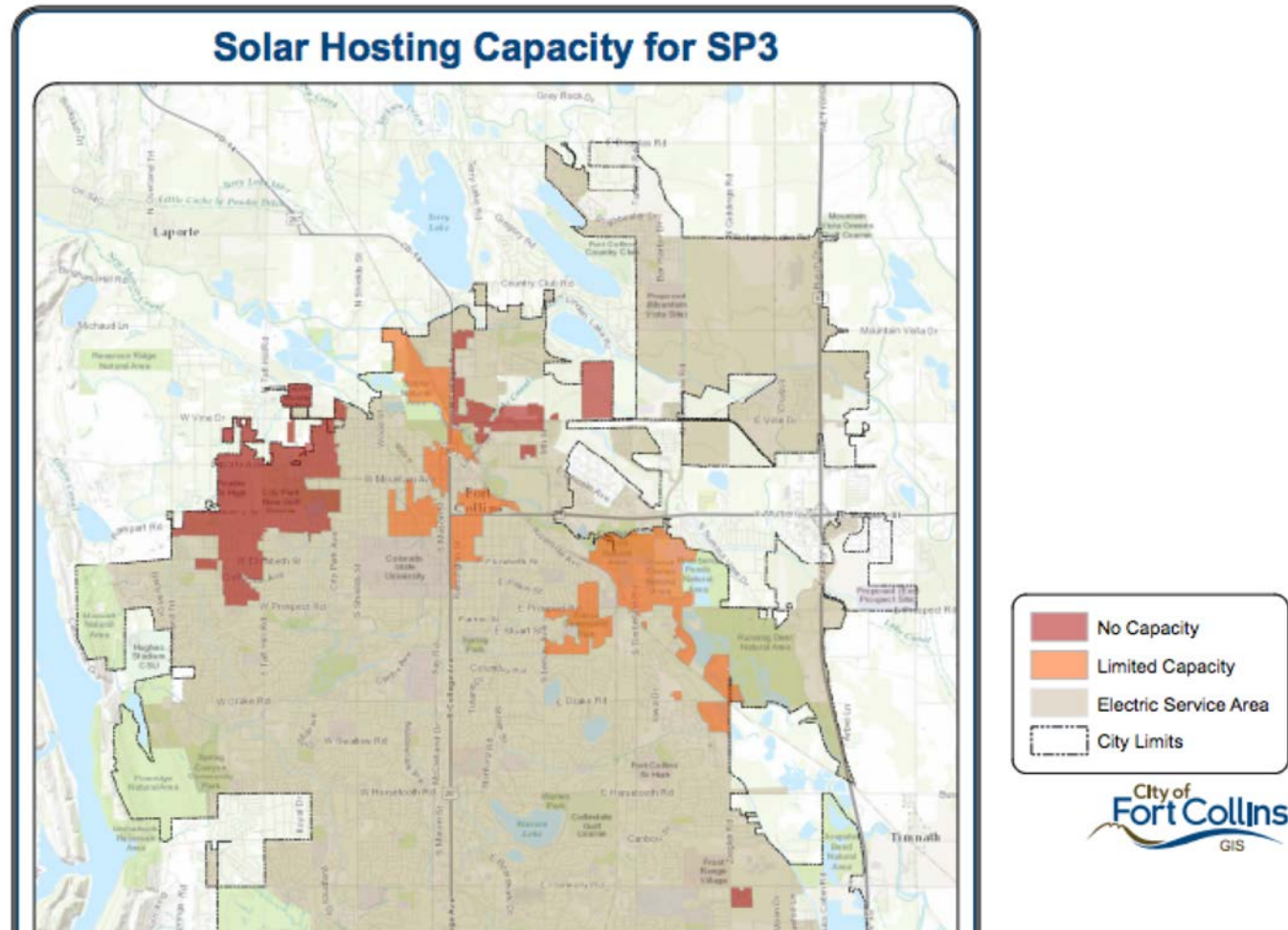
Source: Interstate Renewable Energy Council

Hosting Capacity Analysis is gaining steam



Utilities are voluntarily adopting this practice

- Assess distribution grid (substations + feeders) to direct project siting where it is most valuable: maximum benefits at minimum cost.



	Value Component	Definition
Distribution	Subtransmission, Substation & Feeder Capacity	Reduced need for local distribution system upgrades
	Distribution Losses	Value of energy due to losses between wholesale transaction and distribution points of delivery
	Distribution Power Quality + Reactive Power	Improved transient & steady-state voltage, reactive power optimization and harmonics
	Distribution Reliability + Resiliency+ Security	Reduced frequency and duration of individual outages & withstand and quickly recover from large external natural, physical and cyber threats
	Distribution Safety	Improved public safety and reduced potential for property damage
Customer, Societal & Environmental	Customer Choice	Customer & societal value from robust market for customer alternatives
	CO2 Emissions	Reductions in federal and/or state CO2 emissions based on cap-and-trade allowance revenue or cost savings or compliance costs
	Criteria Pollutants	Reduction in local emissions in specific census tracts
	Health Impacts	Reduction in societal health costs associated with GHG emissions
	Energy Security	Reduced risks derived from greater supply diversity
	Water Use	Synergies between DER and water management (electric-water nexus)
	Land Use	Environmental benefits & avoided property value decreases from DER deployment instead of large generation projects
	Economic Impact	State or local net economic impact (e.g., jobs, GDP, tax income)

Source: Newport Consulting Group

- Prove the technical and economic feasibility of DER
- Capitalize on opportunities in which DER can save ratepayers money in comparison to traditional grid investments

Con Ed Looks to Batteries, Microgrids and Efficiency to Delay \$1B Substation Build



A new demand-side program will be a training ground for future utility reforms in New York.

by Katherine Tweed

July 17, 2014

Source: Greentech Media

DER and load forecasts

- Establish method to project DER and load growth and potential impacts on the grid
- These forecasts can inform Hosting Capacity Analysis for the distribution planning use case

SCE Territory Amounts of DER Deployment by 2025

Growth Type	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
Base Load	27,019 MW	27,019 MW	27,019 MW
Solar PV (nameplate AC)	1,636 MW	1,905 MW	4,770 MW
AAEE (annual)	10,536 GWh	17,031 GWh	17,243 GWh
Demand Response	1,265 MW	2,087 MW	2,981 MW
CHP (annual)	6,350 GWh	8,576 GWh	13,612 GWh
EV (annual)	2,422 GWh	3,395 GWh	3,395 GWh
Storage (D&C)	270 MW	270 MW	637 MW
Storage (T)	310 MW	310 MW	731 MW

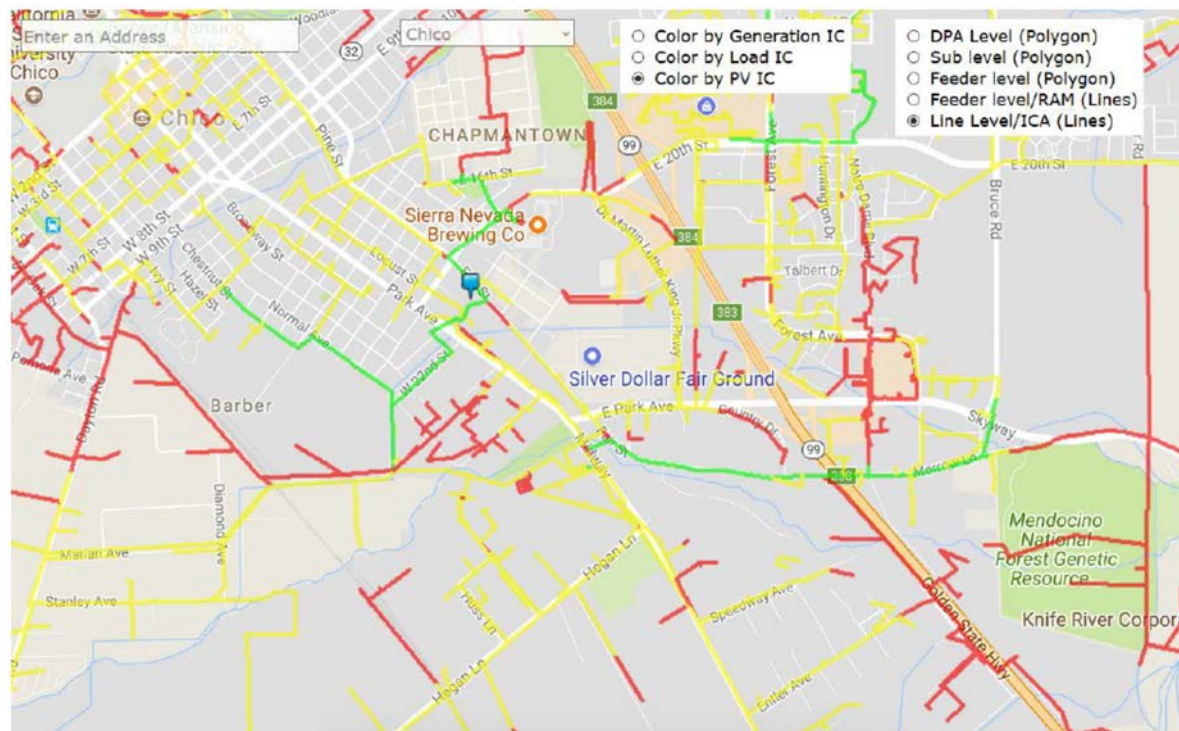
Source: Southern California Edison

- ▶ A DRP process seeks to:
 - ▶ “Maintain and enhance the safety, security, reliability, and resilience of the electricity grid, at fair and reasonable costs, consistent with the state’s energy policies;
 - ▶ Ensure optimized utilization of electricity grid assets and resources to minimize total system costs;
 - ▶ Increase transparency of utility investments and grid needs;
 - ▶ Ensure distribution investments will achieve a flexible, resilient grid and meet customer needs under a range of futures;
 - ▶ Evaluate cost efficient non-wires alternatives to proposed investments, including DER provided services; and
 - ▶ Improve inputs for utility Integrated Resources Plans.”

Source: “Minnesota’s Actions to Advance Distribution System Planning,” a presentation by Nancy Lange, Chair of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Streamlining interconnection of DER

- ▶ A DRP process proactively identifies optimal sites for DER project siting, which reduces project development costs and utility review time.
 - ▶ Eventually integrate these results into the interconnection process
 - ▶ Identify available capacity (kW) and primary constraint, so projects may be proposed to expand integration capacity through storage, smart inverters, etc.



Source: Pacific Gas & Electric

SCE Share of California's 12 GW Distributed Generation Goal

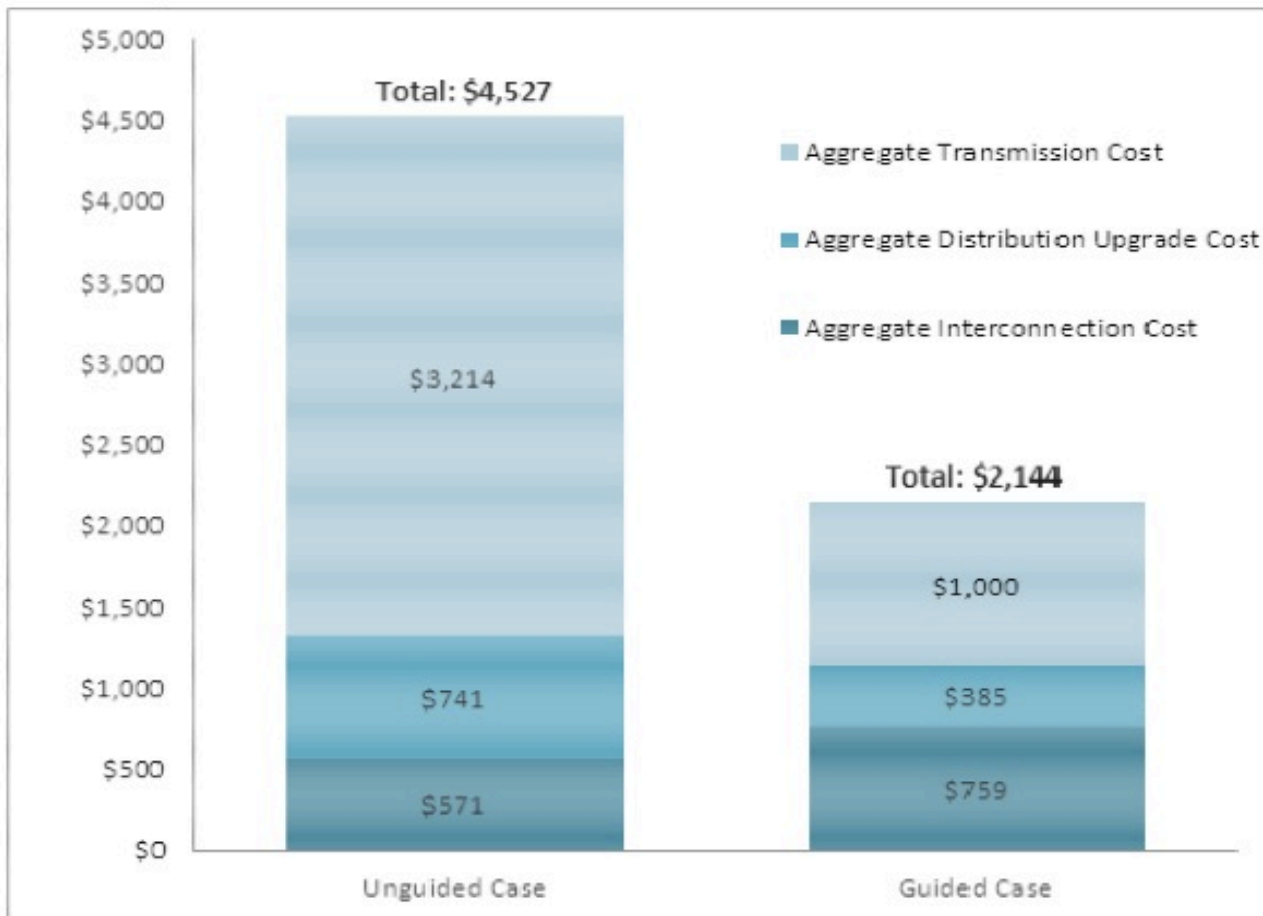


Figure 8: Total SCE System Costs of LER Proposal (Million USD)

- Locational value methodology should include transmission costs
- DRP should inform interconnection and compensation policies to guide DER deployment to optimal locations

Source: SCE Report May 2012

Californians Just Saved \$192 Million Thanks to Efficiency and Rooftop Solar

"This is really proof of what we and other energy advocates have been saying for some time."

JULIA PYPER | MAY 31, 2016

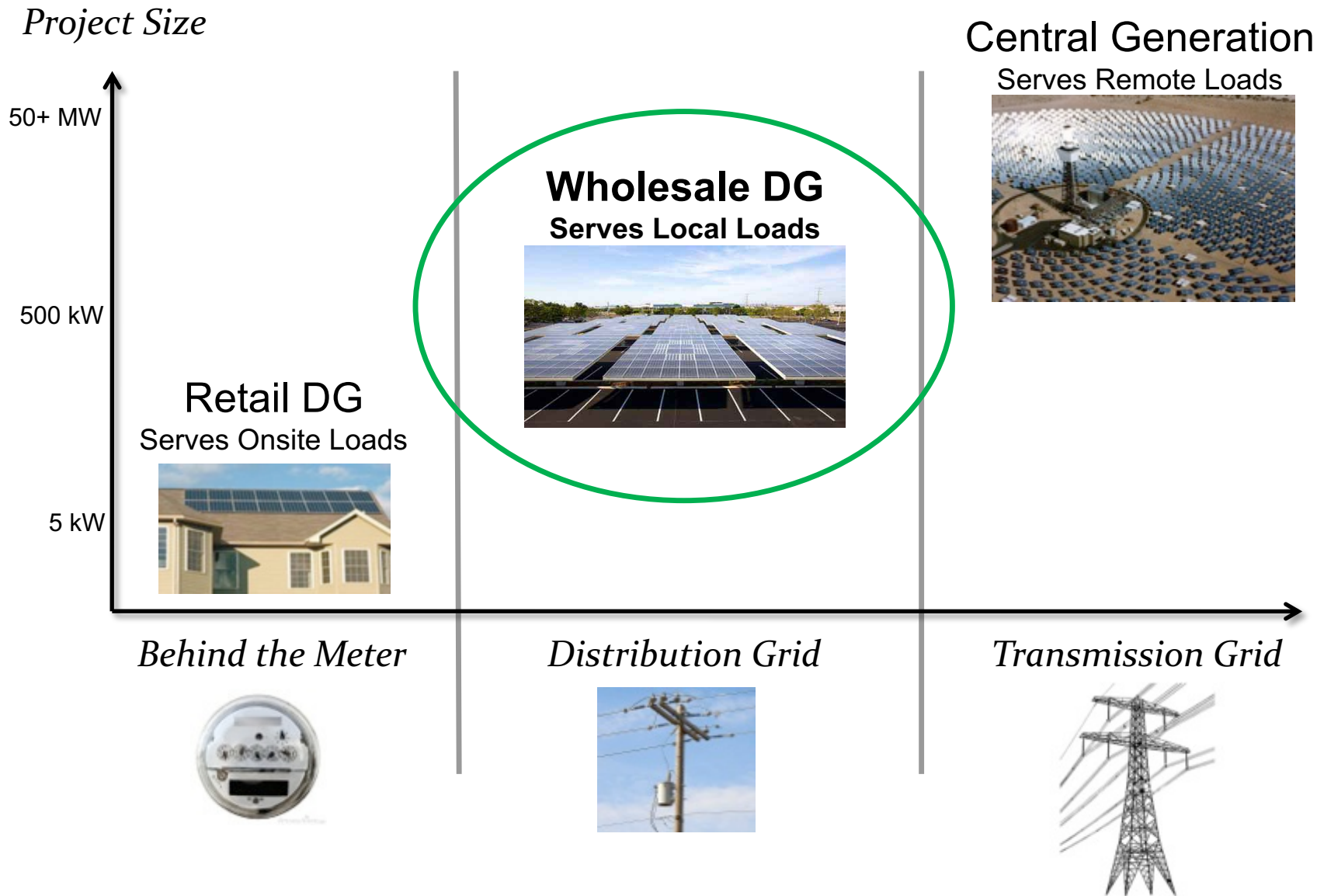


Californians Just Saved \$192 Million Thanks to Efficiency and Rooftop Solar

"The need for those [transmission projects] is just not there any more... load forecast has flattened in the service area from a combination of energy efficiency and rooftop solar, which eliminates the need for these upgrades."

- Eric Eisenman, PG&E's director of ISO relations and FERC policy

Source: Greentech Media



One example of a missed opportunity



- Standardized and guaranteed contract with a long-term, predefined rate paid for energy produced

FIT project



Utility customer

100% of the renewables
generation is purchased by
Georgia Power
at FIT rate



100% of customer energy
usage is purchased based on
a normal retail rate

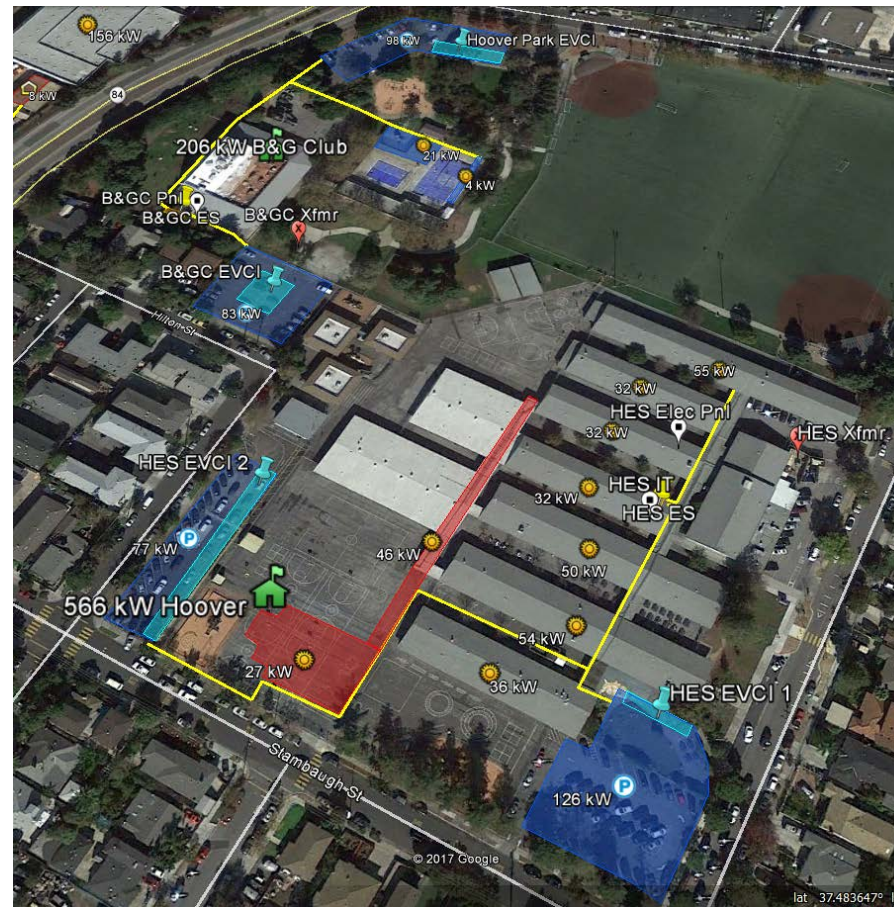


Understand the potential for local generation

- Identify prime siting opportunities, including municipal properties and critical facilities, of a minimum project size within a specific area



High-level, regional view



Detailed, site-specific view

Align that potential with existing grid capacity

PV Sites		ICA	
Substation Name	Substation Survey Siting Potential [MW]	Substation Minimal Impact [MW]	Substation Possible Impact [MW]
Feeder ID	Feeder Survey Siting Potential [MW]	PV Feeder Minimal Impact [MW]	PV Feeder Possible Impact [MW]
Border	52.59	6.48	43.17
533	30.61	1.35	8.99
534	5.63	1.03	6.87
535	5.01	1.41	9.40
1,160	11.34	1.46	9.76
Division	3.67	0.54	3.60
48	3.67	1.50	10.00
Genesee	24.02	1.50	10.00
268	4.22	1.49	9.95
271	3.47	1.49	9.90
272	2.32	1.34	8.95
273	9.56	1.48	9.89
270	4.45	1.50	10.00
Imperial Beach	3.59	7.95	52.99
723	3.59	1.40	9.33
Kearney	4.20	1.50	9.97
711	1.40	1.50	9.97
251	2.80	0.98	6.56
Kettner	20.92	8.39	55.92
134	13.40	1.50	10.00
135	5.35	1.41	9.40
458	2.17	1.40	9.33

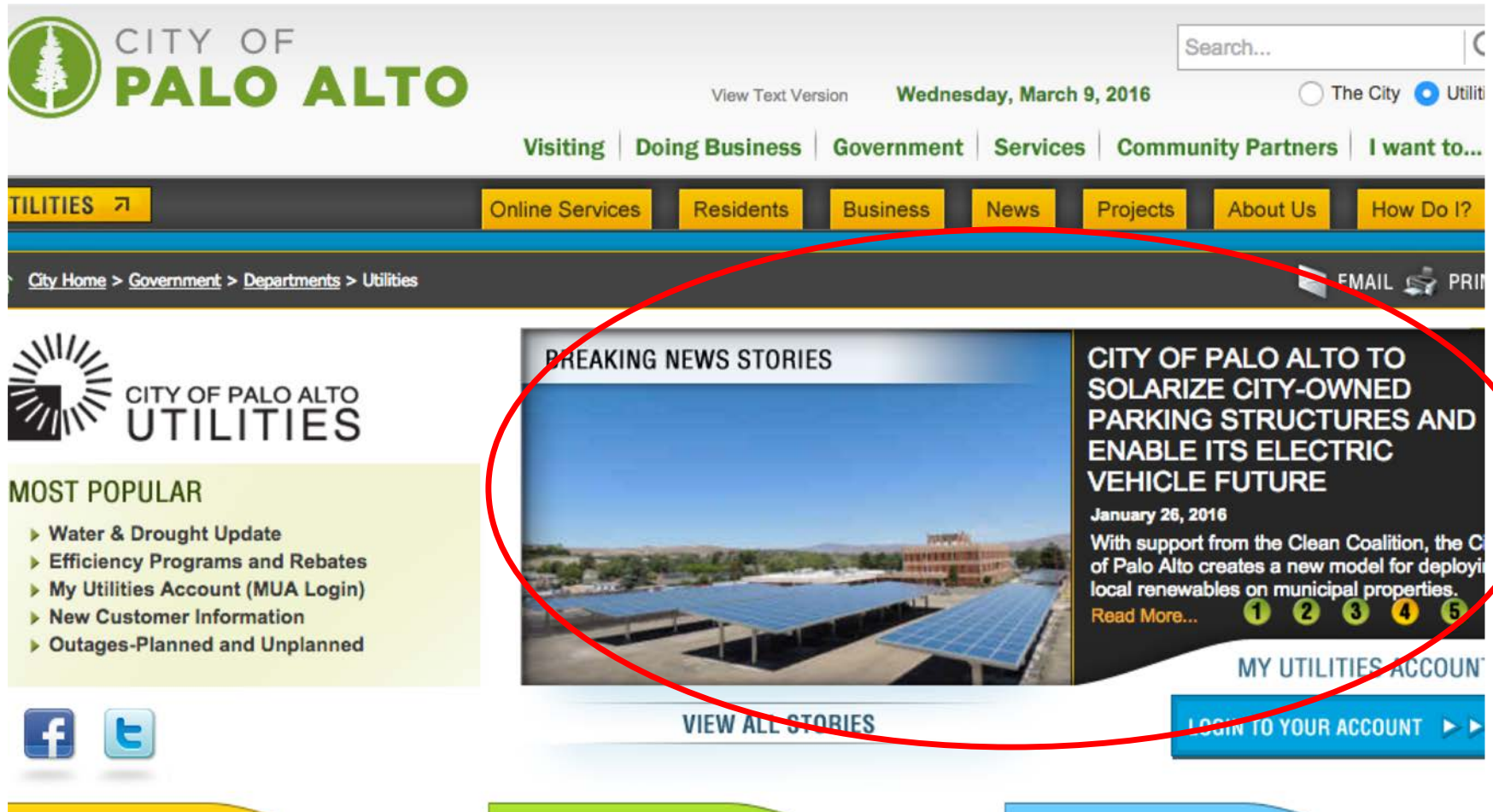
The end result

- Making it quicker, cheaper, and easier to build local renewables



Source: EcoPlexus

- Make it simple to develop local renewables on city-owned properties with innovative and effective site lease design that also secures EV chargers



- ▶ *“By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.”* – Ben Franklin
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