

Community Microgrids Optimizing Grid Integration of Energy Storage



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Making Clean Local Energy Accessible Now

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



Service	Key to Delivering Service
Power Balancing	<u>Capacity</u> of real power (W)
Voltage Balancing	Location of reactive power (VAr)
Frequency Balancing	<u>Speed</u> of ramping real power (W)

The Duck Chart only addresses Power Balancing, but Distributed Energy Resources deliver unparalleled location and speed characteristics

Community Microgrids = the Grid of the Future



A Community Microgrid is a new approach for designing and operating the electric grid, stacked with local renewables and staged for resilience.

Key features:

- A targeted and coordinated local grid area served by one or more distribution substations
- High penetrations of local renewables and other Distributed Energy Resources (DER) such as energy storage and demand response
- <u>Staged capability</u> for ongoing renewables-driven power backup for critical and prioritized loads across the grid area
- A solution that can be readily extended throughout a utility service territory – and replicated into any utility service territory around the world



UCSB Community Microgrid – Area Map

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UCSB Community Microgrid – Phase 1





UCSB Community Microgrid – Phase 1 + 2

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Solar Siting Survey (SSS) for Montecito



Montecito Community Microgrid map view

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Montecito Community Microgrid block diagram

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Diagram Elements

Autonomously Controllable Microgrid Relay/Switch (open, closed)

Community Microgrids obviate gas peakers

- Thanks in part to our analysis, California regulators have rejected Ellwood and signaled their intent to reject Puente as well
- "Let's take this opportunity to move the Oxnard community into the clean energy future — which is here already." Carmen Ramirez, Mayor Pro Tem of Oxnard
- Significant opportunity to leverage this work to prevent future new gas plant proposals across the country



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Community Microgrids cheaper than gas peakers

 Leveraging our technical and economic expertise, the Clean Coalition conducted an analysis to determine the viability of solar+storage as a better alternative



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Community Microgrids cheaper than transmission

Transmission Grid Load Duration Curve



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"The old adage is that reactive power does not travel well."

Oak Ridge National Laboratory (2008)



Figure 1-1. Transmission line absorption of reactive power.

Source: Oak Ridge National Laboratory (2008)

Replace SONGS with Local Solar+Storage







\$80 million 2 Synchronous Condensers San Luis Rey Substation 450 MVAr (minus line losses = 300 MVAr) **600 MW** of local solar+storage with advanced inverters oversized by 10% set at 0.9 Power Factor = **300 MVAr**

CAISO proposed 320 MW DG solar + 580 MW storage = 900 MW (plus 1,400 MW of nat gas)

EV Charging Infrastructure with Local Balancing







Peek at the Community Microgrid future





Ecoplexus project at the Valencia Gardens Apartments in SF. ~800 kW meeting ~80% of the total annual load.