

# Building and Community Microgrids: Designing for resilience

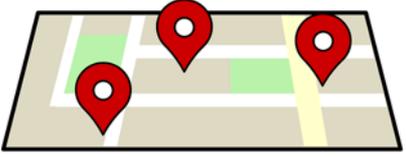


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## Analysis & planning

- Full cost and value accounting for DER; siting analysis
- PG&E
  - PSEG
  - SCE



## Grid modeling & optimization

- Powerflow modeling; DER optimization
- PG&E
  - PSEG
  - SCE



## Program and policy design

- Grid planning, procurement, and interconnection
- LADWP, Fort Collins, PSEG
  - City of Palo Alto (FIT and solar canopy RFP)
  - RAM, ReMAT
  - Rule 21 & FERC



## Community Microgrid projects

- Design and implementation
- San Francisco, CA
  - Long Island, NY
  - Montecito, CA
  - U.S. Virgin Islands

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

**Reaction** to disaster is how we have been operating, by declaring emergencies and implementing temporary emergency measures for rapid rebuilding after catastrophic events. This is *important*, however...



**Resilience** can be created by resolving to move forward proactively *for the long term* in ways that will increase our ability to strategize, rebuild in better ways, adapt, and better manage resources that stay powered and fully capable when catastrophe strikes again.

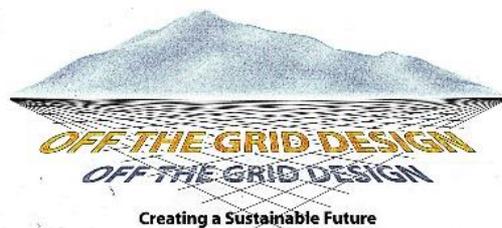
- Track, publicize, and support cutting-edge resilience-creating energy efficiency, electrification, and microgrid incentives, plus policy advancements by SCP, MCE, BayREN, BAAQMD, and others.
- Procure and develop a database of model structures with “Community Microgrid–ready” designs: For new and retrofit residential, commercial, and municipal bldgs.
- Develop “Electrification & Community Microgrid–Ready” (ECMR) document for homeowners and installers
- Develop Community Microgrid roadmap beginning with critical facility microgrid pilots such as fire stations, hospitals, and places of refuge.
- Position these pilots in areas that are conducive to expansion into Community Microgrids.
- Develop all as a model for resilience in rebuilding, and for **proactive resilience** and community modernization.



# North Bay Community Resilience Initiative: Team



Stone  
Edge Farm  
Microgrid



# Aim 1: Support and promote Advanced Energy Rebuild programs for homes and structures

## Support for rebuilding with efficiency, electrification, and resilience

- Sonoma Clean Power (SCP) and MCE Advanced Energy Rebuild: SCP, MCE, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), and Bay Area Air Quality Management District have joined efforts to help homeowners affected by the firestorms to rebuild energy-efficient, sustainable homes.
- The SCP program offers two incentive packages tailored to Sonoma and Mendocino Counties.
- Each package has a flexible performance pathway or a simple prescriptive menu. SCP offers up to \$17,500 in incentives to electrify, add solar + energy storage, Connected EV's, and upgrade to "connected" appliances
- MCE has similar "Advanced Energy Rebuild" program for the Napa fire rebuilding efforts.



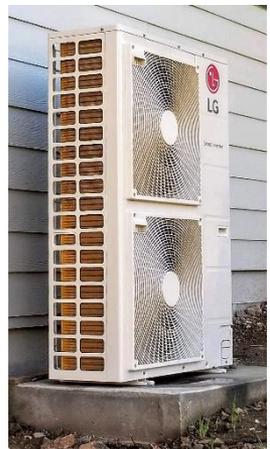
# Aim 2: Model Structures: Advanced Energy Rebuild homes

Showcase and provide case studies of homes being rebuilt utilizing the **Advanced Energy Rebuild** program. Up to \$17,500 incentives from Sonoma Clean Power and MCE, to go “all electric” and “microgrid ready”

Having a “microgrid” means when the power goes out, your power **stays ON**



Hirsch solar-powered residence



Mini-split heat pump



H.P water heater



L.G. Chem energy storage



Induction cooking

Developing a **design database** for model structures for new and retrofit residential, commercial, and municipal buildings

- In collaboration with high “performance based” building organizations in the USA:

- US DOE Zero Energy Ready Home Program & US DOE “Solar Decathlon” homes databas



- Passive House Institute US



- USGBC / New Buildings Institute “Grid-Optimal”



- Net Zero Energy Coalition



- Rocky Mountain Institute



- Developed by the Clean Coalition and a team of industry experts, as a guideline for homeowners and trades installers to easily install necessary wiring to be all-electric and microgrid-ready.
- All-Electric benefits; Safer and healthier homes and communities;
  - Elimination of natural gas which is highly flammable, and produces formaldehyde and other toxic gases within the home and community
  - EV adoption = Reduction and eventual elimination of all fossil fuels
  - EV's can become “mobile energy” assets, saving *and making* money
  - Reduced reliance on outside fuel & energy sources
  - Reduction of greenhouse gases
  - REVENUE for homeowners by using your connected assets as grid assets
- Microgrid benefits; Energy resilient homes and communities
  - Ability to stay powered in grid outages = **Resilience and Security**
  - Ability to use behind the meter and community energy storage as “grid assets” = revenue stream
  - Energy produced by local renewable sources = local jobs

# Resolution for Resilient Cities

- Drafted and intended as a statement of intention by a city, municipality, or region toward developing resilient infrastructure and buildings.
- Santa Rosa and Calistoga may be first adopters
- Open source and available to all civic and municipal bodies interested

## RESOLUTION FOR COMMUNITY RESILIENCE [2019-01]

Resolution of the City Council of the City of [\_\_\_\_\_] endorsing a commitment to enabling community resilience and requesting regional collaboration stemming from the catastrophic wildfire events of 2017 and 2018, and the continued threat of wildfires and earthquakes to our communities.

WHEREAS, The City of [\_\_\_\_\_] is concerned about the well-being and safety of its residents and businesses, and seeks to create a sustainable, livable, and resilient community, where resilience is defined as a community's ability to withstand chronic stresses and acute shocks while still maintaining essential functions and recovering quickly and effectively; and

WHEREAS, Extreme weather events are occurring more frequently; in 2017 the U.S. experienced 16 weather and climate related events that cost \$1B or more, and collectively caused damage totaling a record breaking \$312 billion (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) not including the loss of human life. The [North Bay region] and other regions of California have experienced deadly wildfires in the last two years, with damages exceeding \$30 billion, and affecting our community and neighboring communities; and

WHEREAS, Existing planning documentation such as the Climate Action Plan, Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, and/or Emergency Response Plan identify a range of strategies and policies designed to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and respond to emergency situations does not enable nor advance community resilience in the face of large-scale environmental threats; and

WHEREAS, Access to energy during and soon after a natural disaster can improve recovery timelines, and local renewable energy production and energy storage offers the single largest opportunity to reduce community wide GHG emissions and enable community energy resilience while also creating local jobs;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Council of the City of [\_\_\_\_\_] commits to actively support the goals of the North Bay Community Resilience Initiative (NBCRI) to:

- Track and publicize cutting-edge resilience-related energy efficiency and electrification incentives and policy advancements by government agencies to support Advanced Energy Rebuild and retrofits projects.
- Identify model structures (homes, commercial buildings and municipal buildings) with fully electrified and Community Microgrid-ready designs. Develop specifications for all-electric and Community Microgrid-ready buildings that are resilient to local environmental threats and that are compatible with near-term infrastructure advancements.

**Nanogrid:** A single site (residential) microgrid; single physical layer of power distribution with a localized energy control system, creating reliability, quality, and site based capacity. Coordinated behind-the-meter (BTM) site based renewable energy, and energy storage. It can be islanded (from the local grid) at the customer meter. The key attribute of a nanogrid is *simplicity*.



**Microgrid:** A coordinated set of behind-the-meter (BTM) local renewable energy, energy storage, and other Distributed Energy Resources (DER) *on a building or campus scale*, that can be islanded (from the local grid) at the customer meter.



**Community Microgrid:** A coordinated set of local renewables, energy storage, and other DER that can also be islanded, (from the larger grid) across a defined distribution grid area to provide indefinite renewables-driven resilience to critical community facilities, and other structures within the community.



## Financial impacts of building or unit-scale nanogrids

- Lower operation costs (near “0” energy bills)
  - Revenue from excess energy export (HOA **dividends**?)
  - Renewable transportation energy – (100% R.E. EV charging)
  - All electric and “tighter” buildings = better I.A.Q. = healthier homes
  - Energy “resilience”, and fire “resilience” (with fire resistive materials)
  - Home is a community resilience asset / and a grid asset
  - Elimination of fossil fuels (reduced GHG emissions )
  - Safer buildings and communities
- = Higher appraised property values**



- **Critical-facility microgrids;** “Island” from the Grid in the event of grid outage or disruption to power critical loads for community services, safety, and security. They include renewable energy, and energy storage assets:
  - **Hospitals:** Kaiser Permanente Richmond Microgrid
  - **Fire Stations:** City of Fremont Fire Station Microgrid
  - **Emergency shelters:** Seattle Community Center Microgrid
  - **Campus microgrids:** Stone Edge Farm Microgrid



[Kaiser Permanente Richmond Microgrid](#)



[Fremont Fire Station Microgrid](#)

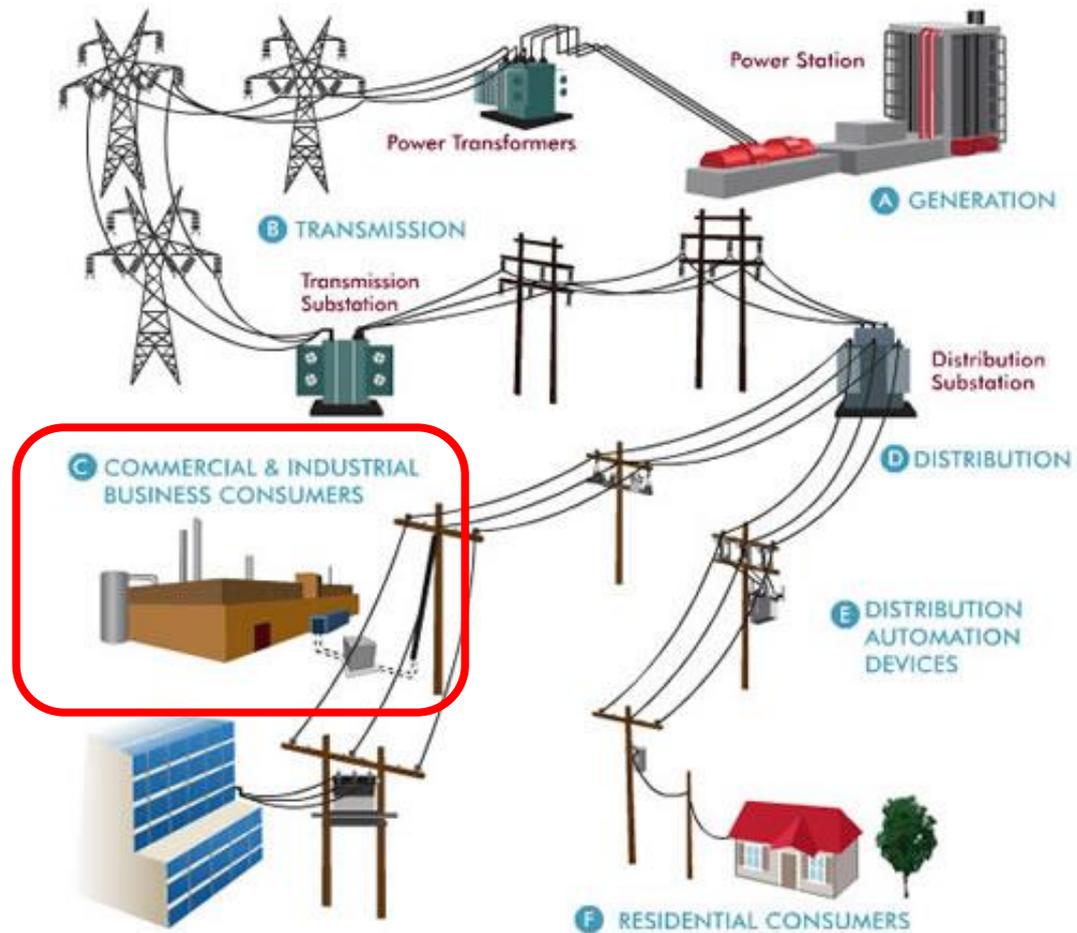


[Seattle Community Center Microgrid](#)



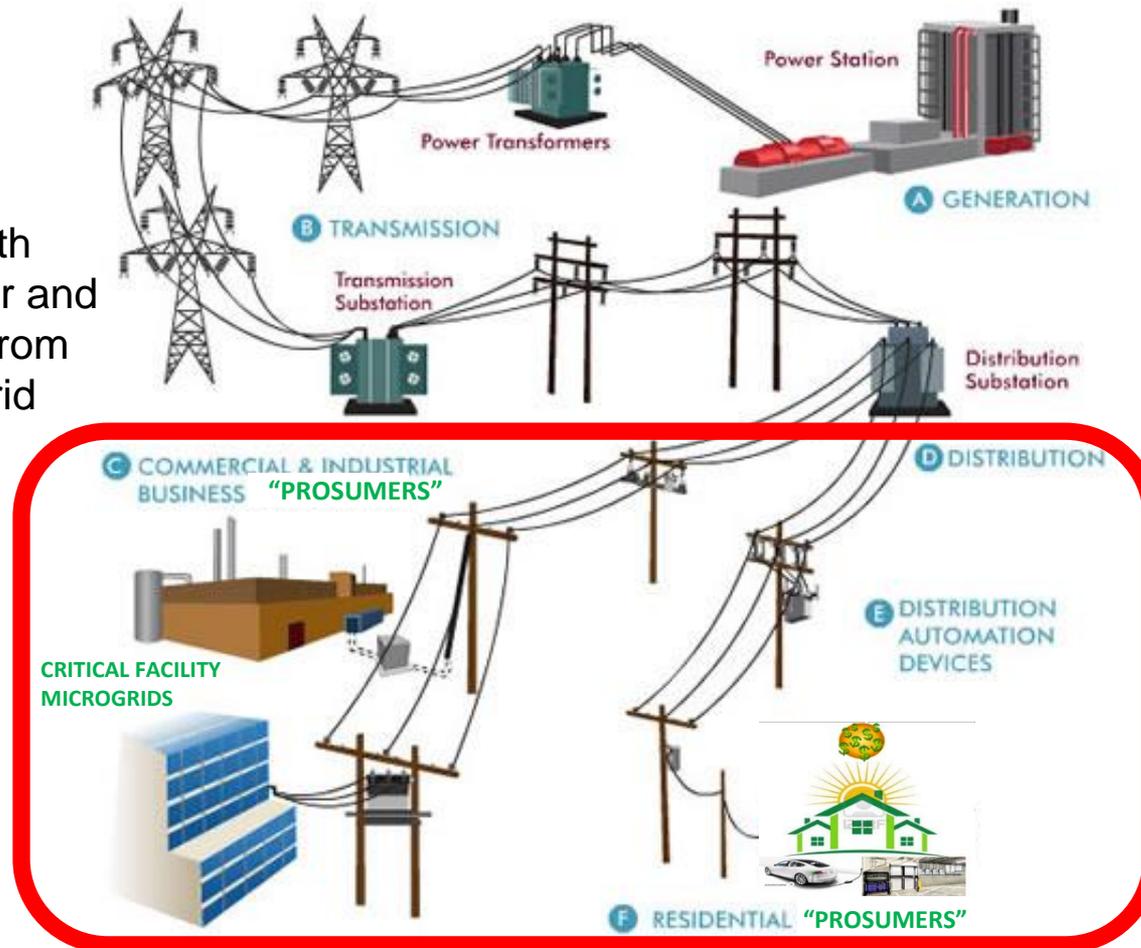
[Stone Edge Farm Microgrid](#)

# Critical-facility microgrids focus on single customers



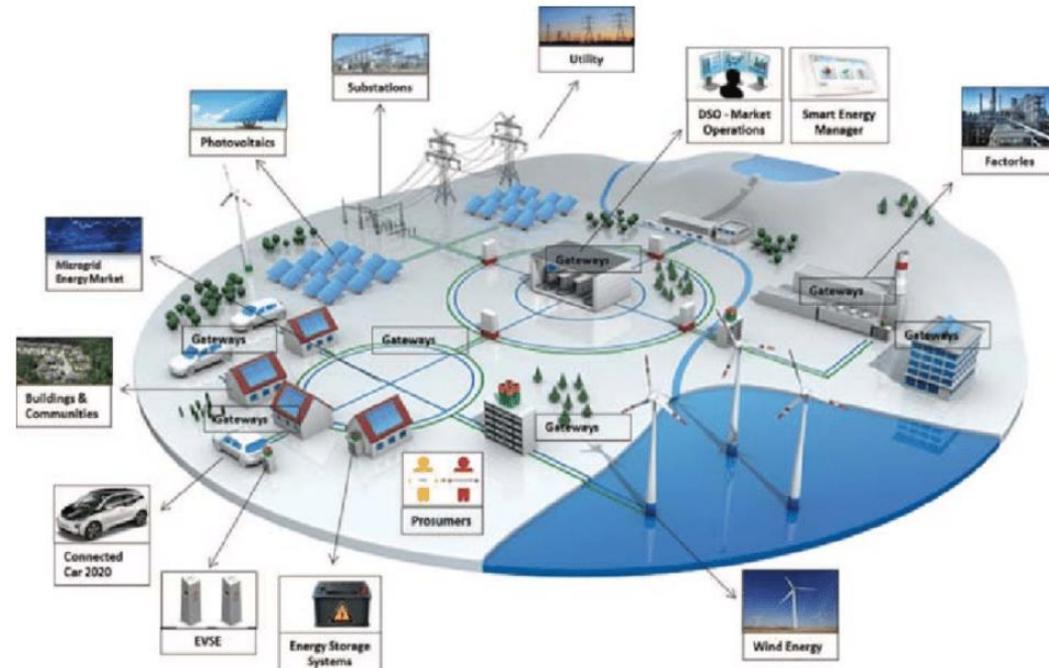
# Community Microgrids can serve up to thousands of “prosumer” and “consumer” utility customers

**Prosumer**: Utility customers that both produce energy for and consume energy from the grid or microgrid



# Community Microgrid benefits

- Reliability and power continuity
- Local control of energy
- Permanent local jobs in energy, installation, and maintenance
- Local energy for EV transportation systems
- Network of prosumers share the use, generation, and revenue of and from energy.
- No “peaker” power plants
- Reduced transmission losses
- Enhanced safety
- GHG reductions
- Resilience and energy security
- National security
- Reduced global conflicts
- Peacetime infrastructure spending



[CEC California microgrid roadmap](#)

# Building-scale microgrids, aka “nanogrids,” and Community Microgrids for resilience and revenue

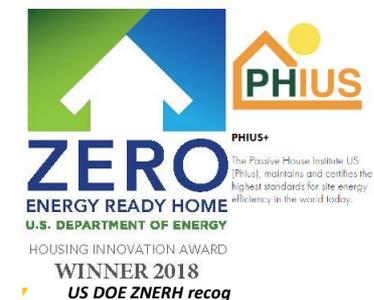


[www.solluxalpha.com](http://www.solluxalpha.com)

[Panasonic Microgrid Smart City, Japan](#)

## SOL LUX ALPHA – First PH Certified multi-unit nanogrid to US market

- 4 unit, 6 story, N+E using only PV within the building envelope
- All electric: Fossil-fuel free
- Passive House PHIUS + US DOE Zero Energy Ready Home program
- (Includes Energy Star, Indoor Air Plus, EPA “WaterSense”)
- **WINNER of the US DOE Housing Innovation Award for Multi-Family**
- **WINNER of 2018 PHIUS “Best overall Project” in North America**



**Energy Star**  
The US Energy Star program guides builders and homeowners to the highest efficiency home appliances and other home energy products available in the USA today.



**US EPA WaterSense**  
The US EPA WaterSense program helps save water and protects the environment by promoting WaterSense labeled products for homes, yards, and businesses, while taking various other simple steps to save water each day.



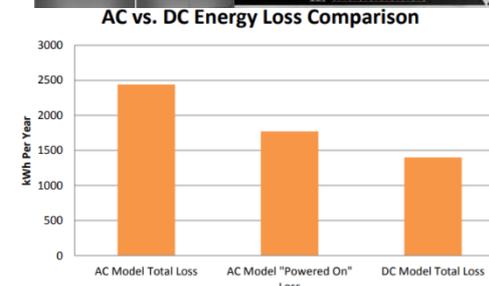
**Department of Energy**  
The United States Department of Energy has developed a pioneer program dedicated to the building of the science behind and the energy generation for Zero Net Energy and Net Positive Energy Homes in the US. Sol Lux Alpha was built to exceed even the DOE program's highest standards, which is measured and recognized a year after occupancy.



## Net Positive Energy: How do you get there?

Passive House Baseline + industry best efficient systems  
Passive House methodology reduces energy for HVAC by 80%

- Passive Solar design
- Air source heat pumps for HVAC, DHW, Clothes drying
- 100% L.E.D. lighting
- Automatic occupancy and vacancy sensors
- AEK – High efficiency Induction cooktops and Bosch “Benchmark” Appliances
- Next Gen projects - Moving to DC Appliances and systems



- **Sunprime GxB 380w Bifacial panels** (up to 25% boost) = 475w
- **Tesla Energy Powerwall x3** (triple redundancy, 2-3 days energy)
- **Blue Planet Energy “Blue Ion”** for 3 phase loads (elevator & commons)
- **VEHICLE-TO-BUILDING (V2B) ENERGY** enabled

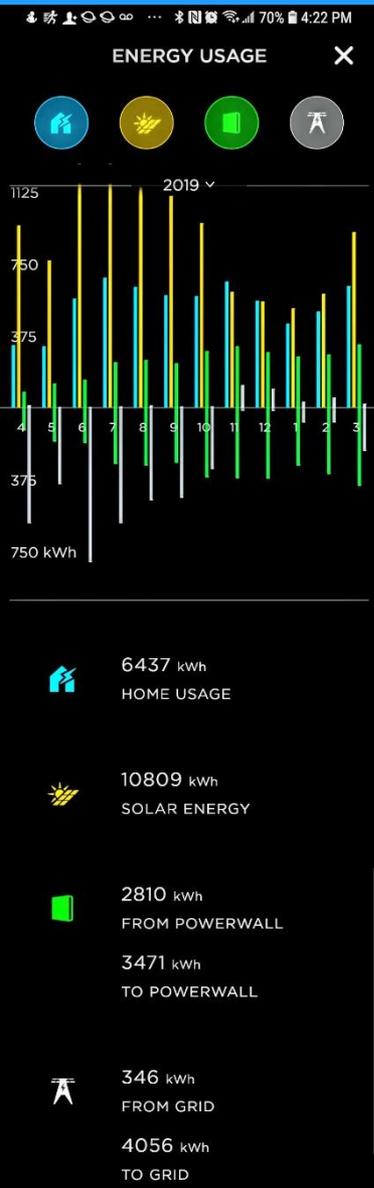


# Nanogrid to microgrid = resilience + revenue

## Sol lux alpha N+E “nanogrid” condominium zero carbon living + transportation San Francisco, Ca

- **6 story 4 unit building** – generating approx. 2x energy required from solar PV completely within the building footprint
- Excess energy = **4056 kWh** (4 Megawatts – 1 of 4 units)
- **SCP Excess Generation Tariff** – 4056 kWh X Retail rate + \$.01  
(up to \$5000 maximum annually)
- If retail rate is avg of \$.10/kWh - \$.11 x 4056 = **\$446.16**  
**check**
- Excess energy for approx 15,000 miles EV driving per unit (15,000 mi. / 30mpg = 500 gallons fuel x \$3.50 = **\$1,750.00**)
- **Add Energy Storage** – “Load shift”; charge from solar and during low TOU rate periods, **use** and **sell energy** back at **PEAK** TOU rates !

**HIGHLY RESILIENT MICROGRID STRUCTURES =  
PROSUMER NETWORK**



## V2B

(Vehicle to building energy transfer)

- Enables V2G
- Extends **energy** beyond the building
- **Reduces** need for site based ESS
- **Mobile energy assets** for community resilience

**Connected Vehicle Fleet**

- 2014 • 40,000+ Model S Vehicles  
• 4 GWh of Deployed Energy Storage
- 2019 • 1,000,000+ Tesla Vehicles x 10kW On-Board Charger  
• 75 GWh of Energy Storage  
• 10 GW Controllable Charging Load

ON-BOARD CHARGER +

Grid  
(Future Step) V2G  
PV  
Plug-in Hybrid EV  
Bi-directional charger (Charge / Discharge)  
BEMS integration

**Bidirectional Charging V2H + V2G**

TMH Swarm Management  
TMH Commercialization

V2G

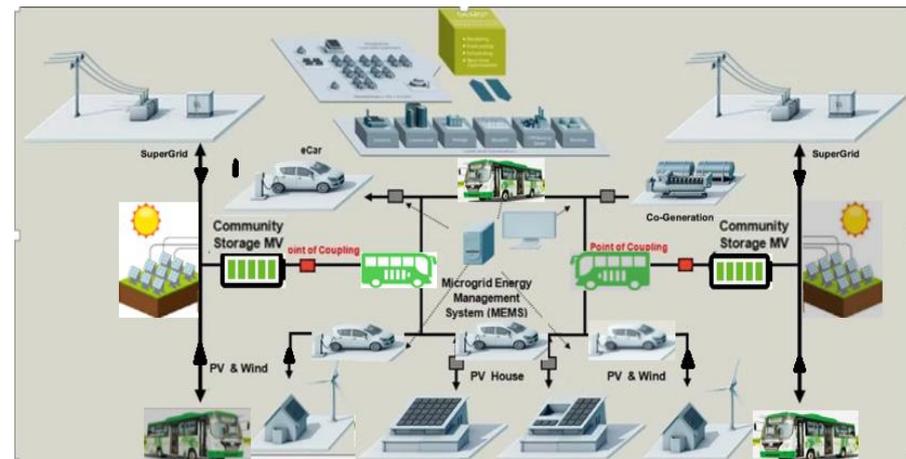
# Future trends: “Mobile energy” microgrids

## Microgrids + bi-directional EV’s = Aggregated “mobile” Community Microgrids

- Solar PV can export to grid or charge EV’s at daytime when solar energy is peaking
  - EV’s can bring that energy “home” and use for residential power at evening/night
- Charge EV’s when rates are low, and use in evening when rates are high (load shifting)
- Once stationary and mobile ancillary ESS grid services are enabled at scale, (and aggregated) fossil fuel peaker plants become unnecessary
- More behind meter ESS + mobile ESS assets results in reduced need for community scale solar / wind + ESS’s
- Greater resilience is created by virtue of distributed systems, and fewer single points of failure
- “Mobile energy” from bi-directional EV’s reduces need for site based ESS & transmission wires
- Add Community Scale R.E. & (mobile) storage at:
  - Points of grid connection to provide ancillary
  - Grid and microgrid services = revenue for the microgrid



[Volkswagen Announces: “Eli”](#)



Thank you for your time!

Questions?

# Electrification & Community Microgrid-Ready (ECMR) Document



- Developed with a team of microgrid industry experts: EPRI, LBNL, General Microgrids, former CAISO commissioner
- Guideline for owners, installers, electricians, and electrical engineers
- Template for necessary and suggested wiring, components, and communication protocol to be Community Microgrid-ready
- Best practice to install common components at time of building, rebuilding, remodeling, for optimal financing or refinancing

**Electrification & Community Microgrid-ready (ECMR) document**  
 Every community can benefit from resilience, and microgrids can be a key part of a comprehensive resilience solution. Whether facing a wildfire, earthquake, or hurricane, a well-planned microgrid enables continued access to energy by islanding from the utility grid during a grid outage. This page provides site definitions to support applying the specifications on the following page to various buildings and communities. Both microgrid types defined below electrically all on-site energy loads, incorporate high levels of local distributed energy resources (DER) like solar, energy storage, and load management, and provide resilience. Additionally, these solutions are cost-effective and can provide benefits to the grid and to other grid users by reducing the cost of grid operations and obviating the need for new grid infrastructure investments.

Microgrid-ready site definitions	
<p>Microgrids are capable of disconnecting from the grid in the event of a grid disruption (this functionality is known as "islanding"). Renewable energy microgrids must be equipped with on-site renewable generation (e.g. solar), energy storage (e.g. batteries), and a microgrid controller. Microgrids may include smart electric appliances and smart electric vehicle (EV) chargers, which provide additional functionality. The microgrid controller monitors, communicates with, and controls the DER and smart appliances; the microgrid controller must also be able to communicate with the grid operator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Microgrid Type 1 Single customer</b>— Loads and generation are behind a single customer's utility meter; islanding occurs behind the customer's utility meter.                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <b>Facility examples:</b> Single-family home, office building, hospital, or campus.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Microgrid Type 2 Community-scale</b>— Loads and generation are behind or in front of multiple customers' utility meters but are all downstream of a distribution substation. Islanding occurs in front of the customer's utility meters (such as at the distribution feeder) and includes multiple utility customers including Type 1 microgrids.                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <b>Facility examples:</b> Multi-family housing, housing subdivision, civic center with multiple buildings, or retail complex.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Critical loads:</b> When a microgrid is operating in island mode, load-shedding can extend the length of an outage through which a microgrid can maintain power continuity. Tier 1 loads are life-saving critical loads. Tier 2 loads are non-critical needs, and Tier 3 loads are non-critical.</li> </ul>	
Normal operations	
<p>On-site DER deliver energy to all loads and may export excess energy generation to the grid, depending on interconnection and tariff. Smart electric appliances and smart EV chargers can perform demand response by turning on or off according to grid needs; resources are dispatched based on signals from grid operators. Energy storage enables self-powering and/or load-shifting to off-peak times. Utilities, Community Choice Aggregators (CCAs), or Type 1 on-site users maintain control over site operations in accordance with operations contracts.</p> <p><b>Benefits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced customer utility bills during peak times, with both energy and demand charges reduced</li> <li>• Renewable energy for the broader grid</li> <li>• GHG reductions of up to 69% or more*</li> </ul>	<p><b>Emergency operations</b></p> <p>During a grid outage, the microgrid disconnects from the grid and operates in island mode. At minimum, DER serve predefined critical loads. Non-critical loads are powered based on real-time energy generation and storage availability. Increasing energy storage duration increases backup power capabilities.</p> <p><b>Type 1:</b> On-site resources serve on-site loads only.</p> <p><b>Type 2:</b> On-site resources may be used to power off-site loads and new users. Community-wide Tier 1 loads are prioritized.</p> <p><b>Benefits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased resilience</li> <li>• Energy and resiliency security</li> </ul>
<p>*Electricity, residential, commercial, and transportation comprise 69% of total GHG emissions, according to the 2018 CAARB report.</p>	

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 Electrification & Community Microgrid-ready Guidelines DRAFT NRCR (22\_mh\_1 Feb 2019).docx  
 Developed for the Clean Coalition's North Bay Community Resilience Initiative



**ECMR guidelines**  
 Residential properties participating in a microgrid and/or responding to emissions reduction targets are ideally all electric. All-electric homes may provide increased value for microgrids and backup power because they rely on electricity for more essential services however, all-electric homes may be impractical in some cold climates. If all-electric design is not currently possible, designs should at minimum include the electrical service features described below to facilitate future full electrification and on-site solar generation. The guidelines below vary by building; consult your electrician and/or engineer for site-specific recommendations.

- Wiring:** Install dedicated circuits and receptacles for all electric appliances in SPDs
- Connected **heat pump (HP) water heater** (15-30 amp, 240V)
  - **HP** clothes dryer (30 amp, 240V)
  - **Induction electric range** (50 amp, 240V)
  - Connected **HP space conditioner** (80-60 amp, 240V)
  - Connected **EV charger** (40-80 amp, 240V)

- "Solar-ready" electrical service for future solar array:**
- Main service panel (MSP) rated 225 amps (allows for a 200-amp main breaker plus bus bar capacity for a solar array of up to 70 amps)
  - Double-pole circuit breaker
  - Metallic conduit for future solar installation (from roof to inverter location/panelboard)

- "Energy Storage System (ESS)-ready":**
- Designated area for ESS. Size of this area will depend on required/desired loads to be served by system (i.e., critical loads for backup only vs. full operability in grid outage)
  - Main electrical main line "loop" to battery location, between electrical service meter and main panel or subpanel
  - Loop main subpanel power lead to designated ESS location
  - Separate subpanel for loads that require backup (can be added during remodel)
  - Capacity in sub panel for "Emergency Circuits" to serve critical loads (e.g., refrigerator, HVAC, water heating, microwave) and outlets with battery power during grid outages
  - Ethernet line from main router to ESS location
  - Conduit for communication from solar inverter(s) to ESS location

- Additional recommended features:**
- Main electrical panel sized for all existing and future loads, including solar and ESS
  - Conduit or wiring for level 2 V2B infrastructure
  - Eaton **"Power-Command"** main electrical panel (auto load sheds, monitors, and efficiency)
  - Conditioned space **air sealing** (less than 1.0 ACH<sub>50</sub> @ 50m Pascal)
  - **Heat recovery / energy recovery ventilation** (HRV or ERV; use w/ air sealing for high LAQ)
  - Communications conduit for demand response-capable electric appliances
  - Connectivity: **Open ABB-CTA 2043** @ appliances, **IEEE 2030.5** @ energy storage

- Microgrid-ready commercial structure/campus recommended features:**
- Interconnected Eaton **"Power-Command"** main electrical panel(s) and subpanels
  - Wiring for level 2 and 3 DC-FC EV charging
  - Wiring for level 2 (and 3 DC-FC) V2B and V2G

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