

Community Microgrids

Renewables-driven resilience for an inherently vulnerable grid



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Making Clean Local Energy Accessible Now

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Mission

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

Renewable Energy End-Game

100% renewable energy; 25% local, interconnected within the distribution grid and ensuring resilience without dependence on the transmission grid; and 75% remote, fully dependent on the transmission grid for serving loads.



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 distribution grid area served by one or more substations – ultimately including a transmission-distribution substation that sets the stage for Distribution System Operator (DSO) performance.
- High penetrations of local renewables and other distributed energy resources (DER) such as energy storage and demand response.
- <u>Staged capability</u> for indefinite renewables-driven backup power for critical community facilities across the grid area – achieved by 25% local renewables mix.
- A solution that can be readily extended throughout a utility service territory and replicated into any utility service territory around the world.



Goleta Load Pocket (GLP)

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The GLP is the perfect opportunity for a comprehensive Community Microgrid



- GLP spans 70 miles of California coastline, from Point Conception to Lake Casitas, encompassing the cities of Goleta, Santa Barbara (including Montecito), and Carpinteria.
- GLP is highly transmission-vulnerable and disaster-prone (fire, landslide, earthquake).
- 200 megawatts (MW) of solar and 400 megawatt-hours (MWh) of energy storage will provide 100% protection to GLP against a complete transmission outage ("N-2 event").
 - 200 MW of solar is equivalent to about 5 times the amount of solar currently deployed in the GLP and represents about 25% of the energy mix.
 - Multi-GWs of solar siting opportunity exists on commercial-scale built-environments like parking lots, parking structures, and rooftops; and 200 MW represents about 7% of the technical siting potential.
 - Other resources like energy efficiency, demand response, and offshore wind can significantly reduce solar+storage requirements.

Calistoga Community Microgrid





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Wholesale Distributed Generation (WDG) defined

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Direct Relief Microgrid – onsite resilience only



- Resiliency is top concern:
 - 320 kW solar
 - 676 kWh storage
 - 600 kW diesel genset
 - 4,000 gal of diesel fuel
- Solar net zeros the site with annual solar generation equaling the site's total annual electricity consumption.
- Storage designed to provide daily solar optimization by maximizing solar energy through time-shifting and minimizing demand charges -- and to ensure indefinite solar-driven backup power.
- Diesel genset provides backup to the back-up but only typically runs for required bi-weekly maintenance.



WDG and FIT drove huge solar use in Germany



Solar Markets: Germany vs California (2002-2012)



Germany deployed over 10 times more solar than California in the decade from 2002 — despite California having 70% better solar resource.



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Dispatchable Energy Capacity Services (DECS)



Load Serving Entity (LSE)

- LSE contracts for dispatchable <u>daily</u> cycling of energy capacity (kWh), at a fixed \$/kWh fee, used or not.
- LSE optimizes fully flexible energy capacity, dispatching for any purpose, which could be based on time of day, day of week, season, event, and/or other optimizations over the DECS contract period.
- Initial DECS contracts are priced at Cost of Service (COS) while subsequent DECS contract pricing is adjusted for market response.

Three COS components:

- 1. Net Cost of Energy (NCOE).
- 2. Capital expenditure ("capex").
- 3. Operating expenditure ("opex").



Storage Asset Owner

- Owner retains discretion over any capacity not under DECS contract.
- Owner earns guaranteed \$/kWh payments for the DECScontracted energy capacity.
- Owner retains discretion over any capacity not under DECS contract.

DECS offers a single <u>bankable revenue</u> stream for energy storage owners and a <u>fully flexible & dispatchable</u> energy source for LSEs available <u>daily</u>.