

# Community Microgrids: The Path to Resilience & Sustainability

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## Introduction: Energy is critical infrastructure

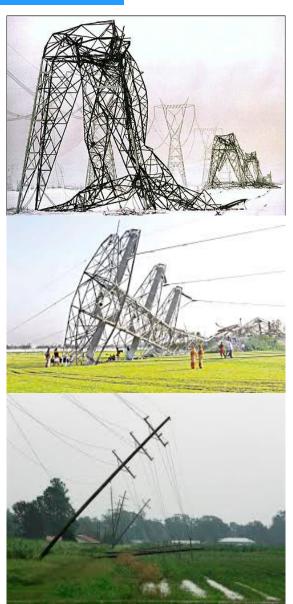


**Energy is critical infrastructure.** 

And yet, our legacy, centralized energy architecture carries multiple <u>critical</u> <u>risks</u>.

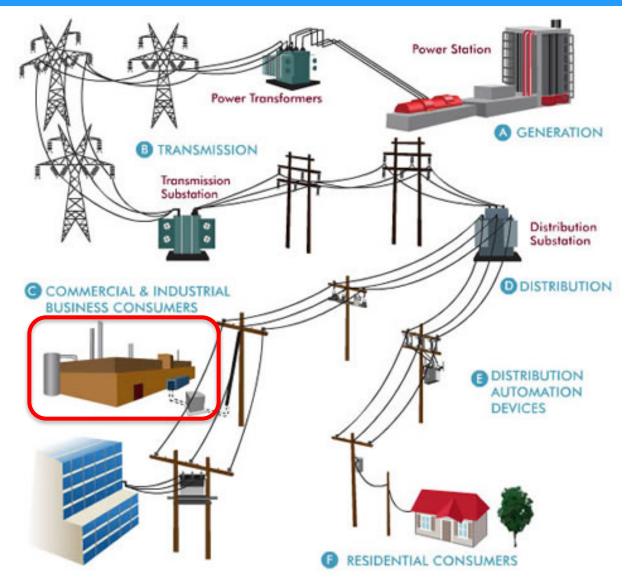
- This architecture is costly, aging, inefficient, and a highly vulnerable security risk
- Extreme weather events are occurring more frequently, further demonstrating the vulnerability and high cost
- Cyber attacks are a growing risk, and an attack on a centralized system can affect millions
- To accomplish both local and national security, we must move more quickly to a new solution

Community Microgrids:
Cleaner, More Reliable & Resilient, More Affordable



#### Traditional Microgrids focus on single customers

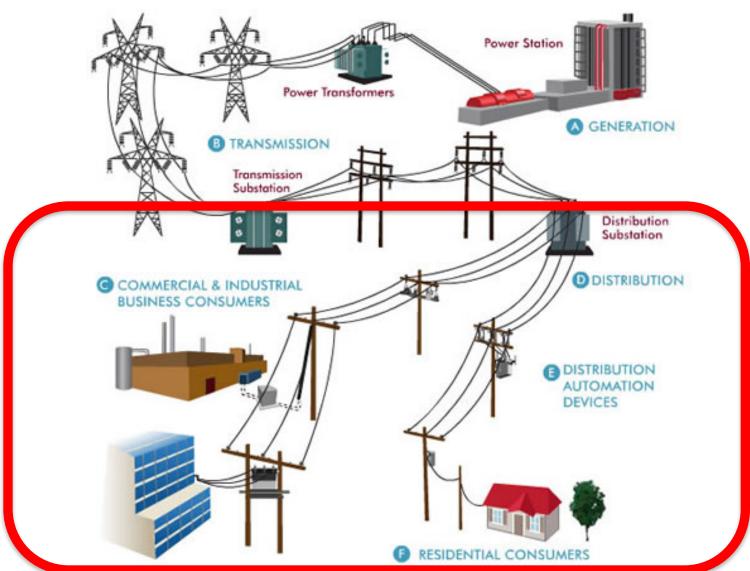




Source: Oncor Electric Delivery Company

#### **Community Microgrids serve thousands of customers**





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## **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:**

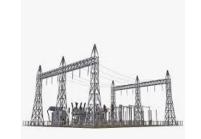
- A targeted and coordinated local grid area served by one or more distribution substations
- High penetrations of local renewables and other Distributed Energy Resources (DER) such as energy storage and demand response
- <u>Staged capability</u> for ongoing renewables-driven power backup for critical 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



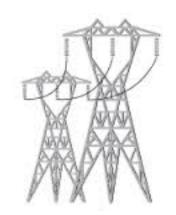
# Community Microgrids deliver Local Balancing



- Local Balancing as a system solution for the grid analyzes the load amounts and load shapes at each substation
- Based on this analysis, we can determine the optimal load shape (flatter) and load amount (lower) for each substation, thus reducing system wide costs and inefficiencies



- Based on local resources, DER is integrated into the substation plan specifically to achieve the desired flatter load shape and reduced load amounts, while also adding local resilience and energy security at critical & desired locations
- The substation becomes a combined load & generation ecosystem – a local balancing solution – that reduces remote grid costs while simultaneously strengthening the local grid



### Local Balancing offers multiple economic benefits



#### The six economic benefits of Local Balancing via Community Microgrids

- **1. Cost Reductions Due to** *Peak* **Management**: Protection against the high cost of peak energy
- **2. Cost Reductions Due to** *Demand Charges*: Protection against additional fees charged by utilities for peaks
- **3. Cost Reductions Due to** *Rate* **Management:** Protection against future rate changes, e.g. evening ramp
- **4. Cost Reductions Due to** *Investment Deferrals*: Deferral of substantial costs for centralized infrastructure
- **5. Cost Certainty**: Keeping rates and costs constant for consumers as well as grid operators.
- 6. Increased Economic Investment in Communities



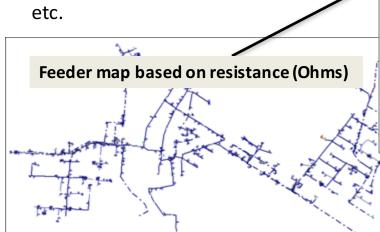
These Cost Issues Are Caused by Our Mostly Centralized System

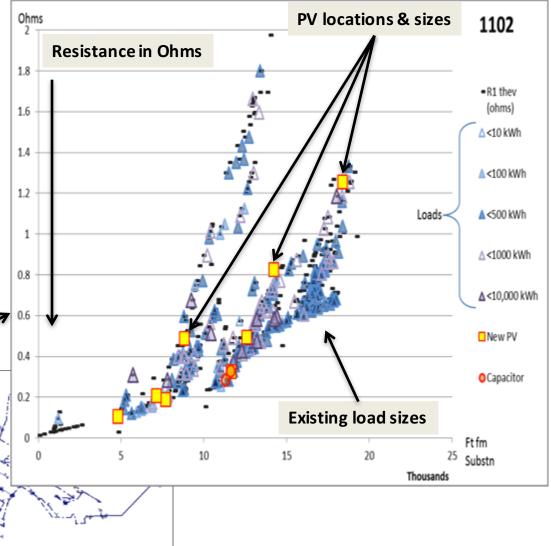
# **Local Balancing optimizations**



# Optimal locations for PV, to help reduce daytime peaks across the system:

- Matching load types: e.g. higher loads during daytime means better match for PV
- Robust feeder locations: less resistance (lower Ohms) means more capacity for local generation
- Avoided costs: service transformers, etc





## **Local Balancing optimizations**



# Opportunity: Vastly Untapped Commercial & Industrial Energy Assets





The formula for low carbon cities:

#### Example: solar on 25% of C&I rooftops = 25%+ local annual energy use

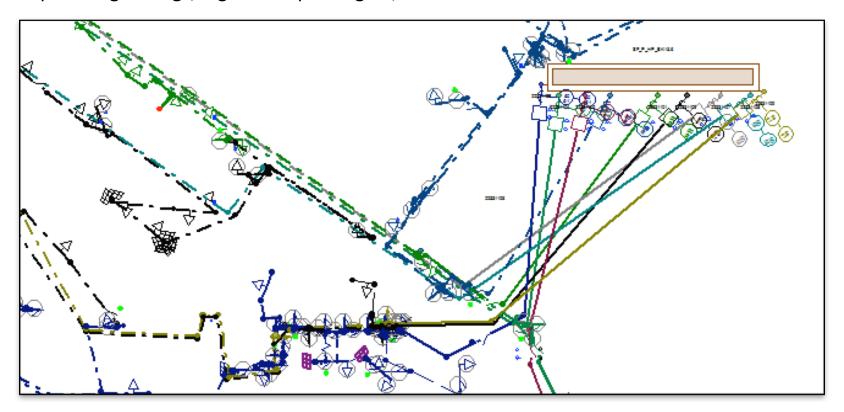
- ✓ Largest financial opportunity largest DER systems
- ✓ Largest rooftops & parking lots most generation
- ✓ Largest daytime loads matching solar
- ✓ Largest utility bills incl. demand charges motivated
- ✓ Best solution for grid system peak reduction, strong feeders
- ✓ Most carbon emissions within cities

### **Local Balancing optimizations**



# Connected feeders enables substation-wide optimizations and balancing across a substation, such as:

- 1. "Crossfeeding," e.g. over-generation on certain feeders consumed by load on other feeders within the substation area
- 2. Optimizing DER such as storage and demand response across the substation feeders
- 3. Optimizing settings, e.g. load tap changers, across the substation feeders



# **Example: New York**



Superstorm Sandy. And, New York State uses peak power only 100 hours each year – costing ratepayers \$1.7 billion to serve less than 1% of the system's needs.

- In response, on Jan 2, 2018 Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced that the state is launching an initiative to deploy 1,500 MW of energy storage by 2025.
- Includes utility procurements, changes in utility rates and wholesale energy markets, and storage for large scale renewable procurements
- The Marcus Garvey affordable housing complex in Brooklyn, NY uses a new solar+storage microgrid system to cut costs, improve grid reliability, and provide resilient backup power
- NY Green Bank to commit at least \$200 million for storagerelated investments





# **Example: New York**



#### **Long Island Community Microgrid Design**

- The LICMP would **avoid \$29-38 Million** of new transmission capacity resulting in a net cost benefit for all ratepayers.
- NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY.

  NYSERDA
- The combined Solar + Storage system would also reduce
   NYISO capacity charges by \$6 Million through 2022, and at a rate exceeding \$1 Million annually thereafter.
- The system would also shift wholesale power purchases from peak to off peak periods, realizing net energy savings of \$2.5
   Million by 2022 and more than \$500,000 annually thereafter.

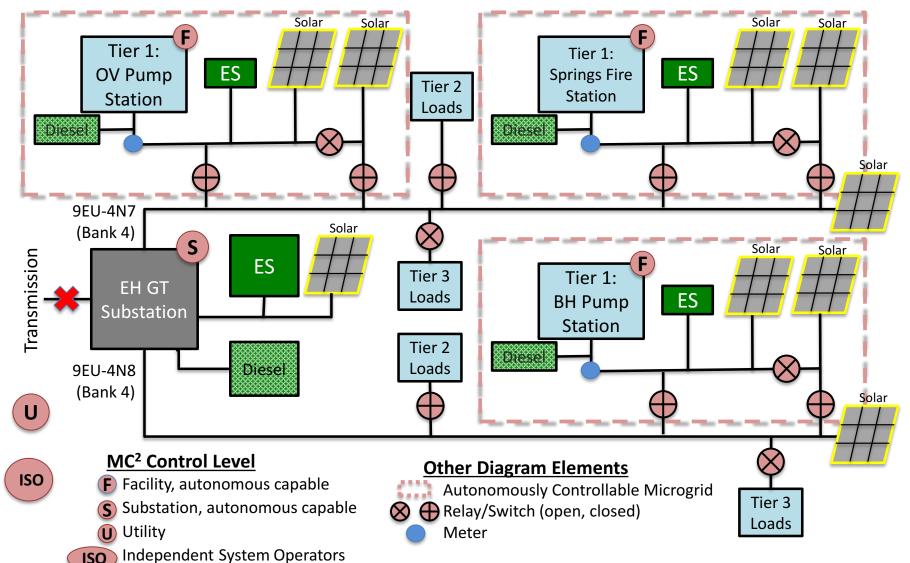


- Resiliency savings from avoided outages would exceed
   \$330,000 per outage day
- These savings would be reflected in lower electric rates for all PSEG-LI utility customers.



# **Long Island Community Microgrid Design**

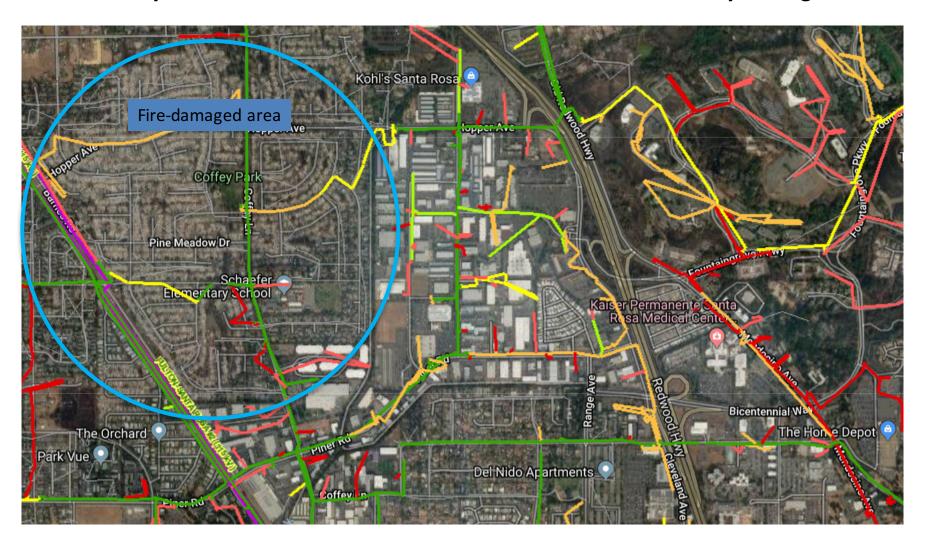




# **Moving Forward: Sonoma Initiative**



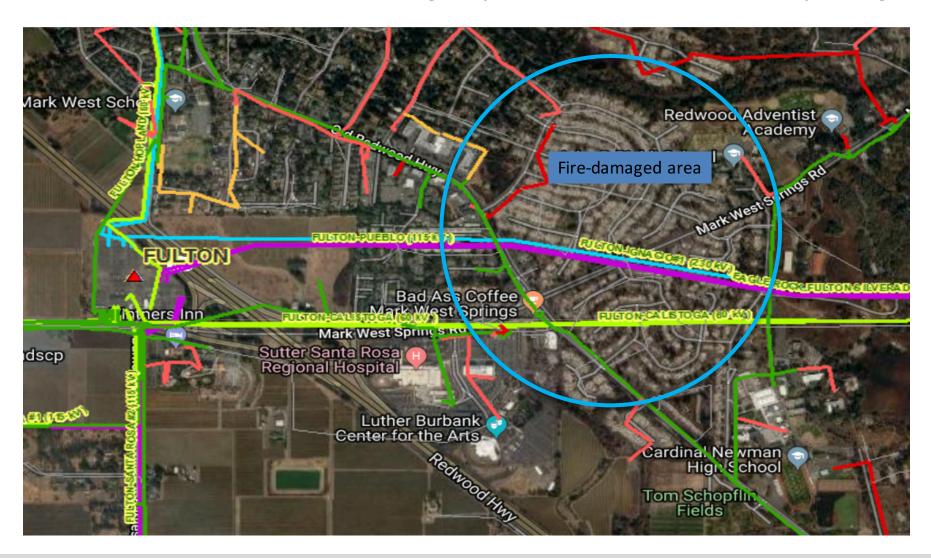
Area 1: Coffey Park and the Bicentennial Corridor – ideal for Community Microgrid



# **Moving Forward: Sonoma Initiative**



Area 2: Larkfield and the Old Redwood Highway Corridor – ideal for Community Microgrid



# **Sonoma Community Microgrid Initiative**



# Objective: make energy abundant, affordable, resilient, and sustainable

- 1) Re-build fire-destroyed areas with high levels of resilience and sustainability in both the building stock and the grid, enabling a modern, distributed, and carbon free system that delivers substantial economic, environmental, and resilience benefits.
- 2) Establish a blueprint for re-building disaster-destroyed areas in a timely and cost-effective manner that also maximizes the economic and resilience value of energy as a critical resource to ratepayers, property owners, and municipalities.
- 3) **Provide a model for operating a modern distribution grid** covering an entire substation area that incorporates optimal distributed energy resources, cost-effective local balancing, full interaction with the transmission system, and local energy markets with resulting benefits across both grid operations and economics.
- 4) **Ensure that building codes are advanced** to achieve more resilient, safer, and cleaner building stock and communities.



