

# Advanced Energy Communities: Enabling the customer centered grid

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Presentation at the Fresno USGBC Summit

11-1-2017



## What is an Advanced Energy Community

Advanced Energy Communities (AEC) are customer centric demonstrations that integrate multiple customer resources such as Energy Efficiency, Demand Response, Customer storage, PV (or other local generation), electrification and electric vehicles in an electrically contiguous area to achieve larger utility and societal goals such as decarbonization, grid hardening and grid support while enabling customer comfort, convenience and cost benefits



## **Building Blocks of Advanced Energy Communities**

Develop toolsets for controls architectures, customer analytics, and distribution planning

> Deploy controls platform for DR/DER management for distribution and bulk grid

Measure and analyze load demand, customer behavior, impact of rates and customer technology adoption

Implement demonstrations of customer DERs working with multiple stakeholders



## **Key aspects of AEC demonstrations**

- Customer driven DERs including EE, DR, PV, DG and EV
- Focus on scaled field placements of high TRL technologies
- In-depth monitoring and analysis of energy generation and use, and customer comfort and behavior
- Distribution system impact measurements
- Resource aggregation for renewable balancing





## **Advanced Energy Communities White Paper**



#### AN OVERVIEW OF ADVANCED ENERGY COMMUNITIES



- Published Advanced Energy Communities White Paper
- EPRI Product Number: 3002011115
- <u>https://membercenter.epri.com/abstrac ts/Pages/ProductAbstract.aspx?Produ ctId=00000003002011115</u>



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## **Ongoing examples of Advanced Energy Communities**





## **AEC requires coordination of many stakeholders**



Need to work with field partners and end customers

Manage multiple subcontractors and local authorities

Customer centric connectivity architectures

Engage distribution planning and operations



## Integrated Solutions are key to access full range of DER **Benefits**



Planned residential demo with multiple roof-top PV and a single storage system

LTC, Capacitor, ontro Regulator Local Controller System Controller Service Transformer Hybrid PV Battery Smar Solar and Load Forcasting nverte



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- Need to develop *integrated* control and management systems for distribution systems
- Address high penetrations of interconnected DER
  - Planned commercial demo with co-located PV ٠ and energy storage system

## An example - Smart, Connected, Controllable Home





Solar & Storage



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**Controllable Loads** 

Smart Heat Pump Water Heater

#### **Combining Efficient electrification with** controllable loads, local generation and storage



## **Controls to Integrate EE, DR, PV and Storage**





## **Example use cases for AEC results**

## **IDSM Use Cases**

Modeled vs. measured building energy use performance

Customer acceptance of utility energy management services

Electrification of building energy systems and impact on energy use and emissions

Control systems for aggregation of customer owned resources

Energy management for energy cost and rate optimization

Usage patterns for electric vehicles and other customer systems

Measurement of building capacitance for grid services

### Grid Management Use Cases

Community scale distribution impacts Demand management technologies for distribution Microgrid technology and benefits Load aggregation for ISO benefits Recommendations for distribution planning practices

### **Utility Services Use Cases**

Smart Home services and Advanced User Experience

Understanding customer preferences for DERs

Enabling utility IDSM programs through services and targeting



## Examples of Advanced Energy Communities



## **Alabama Power Smart Energy Neighborhood**



A 62 home Smart Home Community

- With Smart appliances, HEMS, 2x6 walls

A full scale microgrid with 300 kW solar and storage (size TBD)

Dedicated distribution line to neighborhood





## **Grid Integration of ZNE communities**

Project Location 60 miles east of Los Angeles

Climate Zone 3B (warm and dry)

Annual peak temperatures ~ 105 F

20 homes on 2 transformers







## **Integrated Home Control System**





# Summary of Lessons learned from Southern California neighborhood



Interactive and competing impacts from electrification, energy efficient construction, solar PV, battery storage

#### "Duck Curve" at transformer.

- Storage makes small notch in peak and shifts by 2 hrs
- More capacity value for EE vs. PV
- EE helps distribution capacity limits





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# Community Scale integration of Solar, EE, DR, EV (and maybe storage)



	S-Facing PV				W-Facing PV				
Plan	North	West	South	East	North	West	South	East	No
170	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	
175	12	12	12	12	13	13	13	13	
185	12	12	12	12	12	12	13	13	
205	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	
210	13	13	13	13	14	14	14	14	
220	13	13	13	13	14	14	14	14	
240	14	14	13	14	14	14	14	14	
260	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	16	
320	16	17	16	17	17	17	17	17	
350	18	18	18	18	19	19	19	19	

Exploring technology integration (e.g., Blockchain), economic value and market barriers





## **Orlando Buildings – Grid Home**

New technology for high thermal mass to provide grid balancing All electric home with HPWH, HP, smart appliances and 8 kW PV

Energy storage included to test building capacitance with combined electrical and thermal storage for load balancing



EPRI will install Transformer Monitoring system to look at "edge of grid" impacts







## **EPRI Microgrid Feasibility Projects**







## **Together...Shaping the Future of Electricity**



