



Session Objectives, Panelists, and Agenda

Panelists will explore short- and long-term locational planning and load forecasting approaches along with their associated tools and methodologies. Interactive discussion and brainstorming will identify the changes necessary to evolve future grid planning.



Erik Gilbert
Director, Grid
Modernization
Navigant Energy



President, Software Services Clean Power Research



Soorya Kuloor CTO, Advanced Grid Analytics Landis+Gyr



Elaine-Sisson Lebrilla Renewable Energy Program Manager SMUD

- 45-60 minute panel discussion
 - Mix of presentations and roundtable dialogue
 - Interactive polling and audience participation (specific topics)

- 15-20-minute audience Q&A (broad topics)
- Recap of day: key takeaways, knowledge gaps, next steps

Setting the Context: The Genie's Out of the Bottle

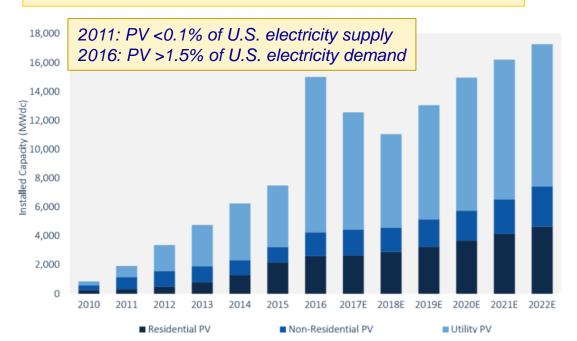
What is the cumulative installed capacity of solar in the U.S. today?

Answer (as of 1Q17): 44.7 GW

2015: **29.9 GW**

2012: 11.4 GW

2007: **4.4 GW**



Time to new installation:

- 2016 1-2 minutes
- 2015 < 2 minutes
- 2014 2.5 minutes
- 2013 4 minutes
- 2004 2 hours

Cumulative Systems Installs		
Q4 2016	1,300,000+	
2013	475,000	
2011	225,580	
2009	96,500	
2007	48,800	
2005	21,150	

Source: SEIA / SEPA

Source: GTM Research / SEIA

Setting the Context: It's the Economics, Stoopid

On average, how much does solar cost in the U.S. today?

Answer (as of 3Q16):

1. Residential: \$2.98/W_{dc}

2. C+I: \$1.69/W_{dc}

3. Utility (Tracking): \$1.21/W_{dc}

4. Utility (Fixed): \$1.09/W_{dc}



Source: GTM/SEIA, U.S. Solar Market

Insight, 4Q16

Note: National Average Turnkey PV Installation / EPC Price (\$/Wdc)

PV Price	Residential	Commercial	Utility-Scale
2009 Price	~\$8/W	>\$5.50/W	>\$3.50/W

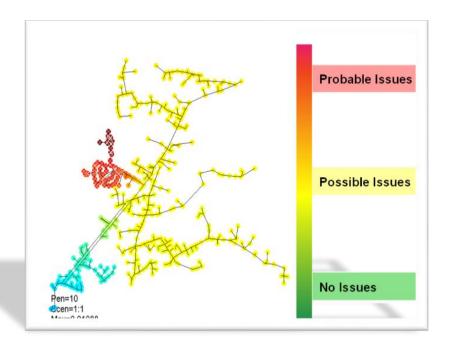
Source: EPRI, BNEF



Setting the Context: The Impact of Time, Location, Customer Adoption/Usage of PV on the Grid

Which factor has the most significant impact on distribution system value?

- A. Feeder Characteristics
- B. Location (Guided vs. Unguided Deployment)
- C. PV Penetration (High vs. Low)
- D. Scale (Rooftop vs. Centralized)



Answer: It depends

Setting the Context: DER as a Game Changer

DER as a catalyst: two-way power flows introducing challenges to existing utility planning approaches.

- DER operation not uniform across the system.
 - Production curves dispersed, influenced by factors not connected to loads.
- Spatial granularity required in forecasts. But how much?
 - What is the sweet spot between data granularity and forecast uncertainty?
 - Should load forecasts be at the same level of granularity as DER forecasts?
 - What are the data requirements/needs?
 - What tool capabilities are needed?
- Utility load forecasting as more art than science



EPRI Research: Preliminary Industry Survey Results

Survey Method / Objectives

- Identify approaches / tools / methodologies used today
- Current forecasting of DR, EE, and DER
- What information informs today's forecasts?
- Future Needs for Improved Load Forecasting
 - Data Needs and Sources
 - Customer Segmentation
 - Opportunities for Improvements

Status

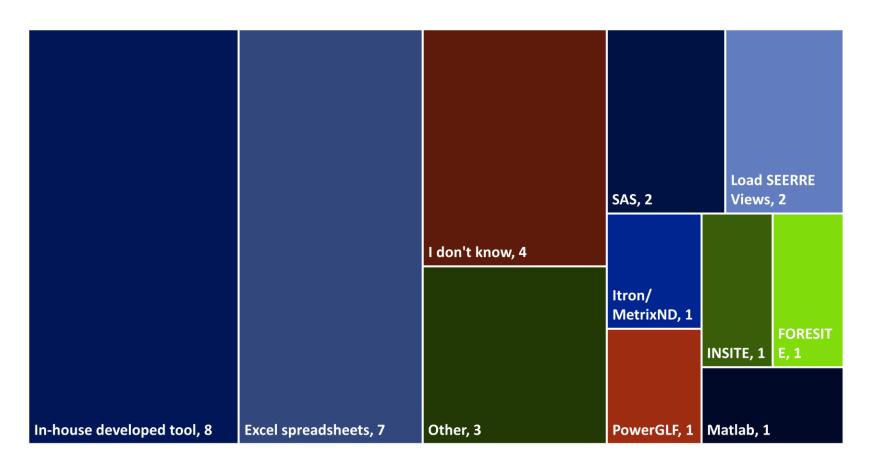
- 39 questions
- 21 utility responses
 - Domestic, international; IOU's, Muni's



Final survey results will be published in end-year deliverable

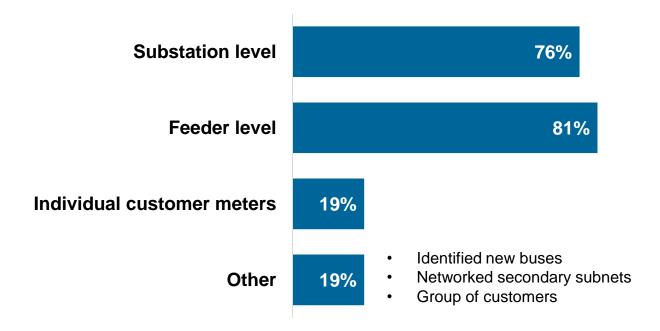


What Load Forecasting Software Do You Use?



Majority use in-house tools

What Levels Is Forecasting Performed?



Many utilities perform forecasts at multiple levels, with the majority performing feeder level



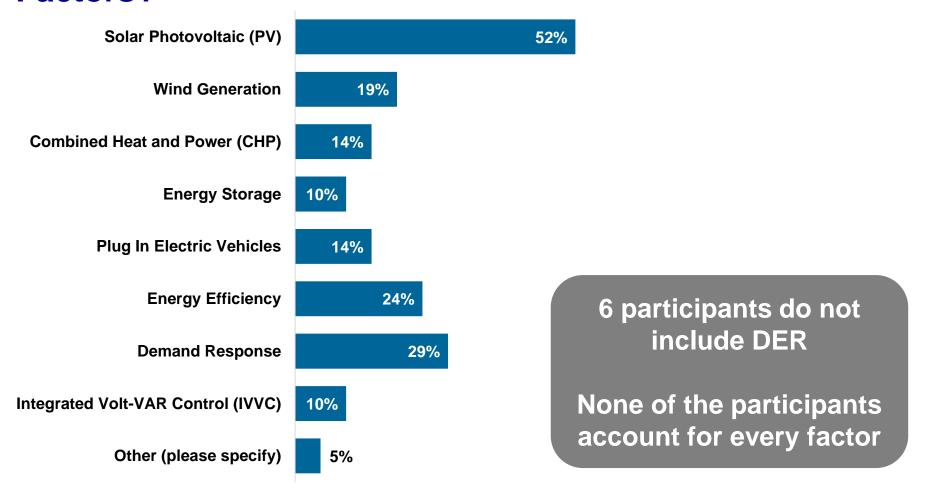
How Satisfied Are You with the Current Level of Your Forecast Accuracy?



Are there any efforts to verify past mid-term forecasts? Verify implies "checking the mid-term forecasts with the actual mid-term values"

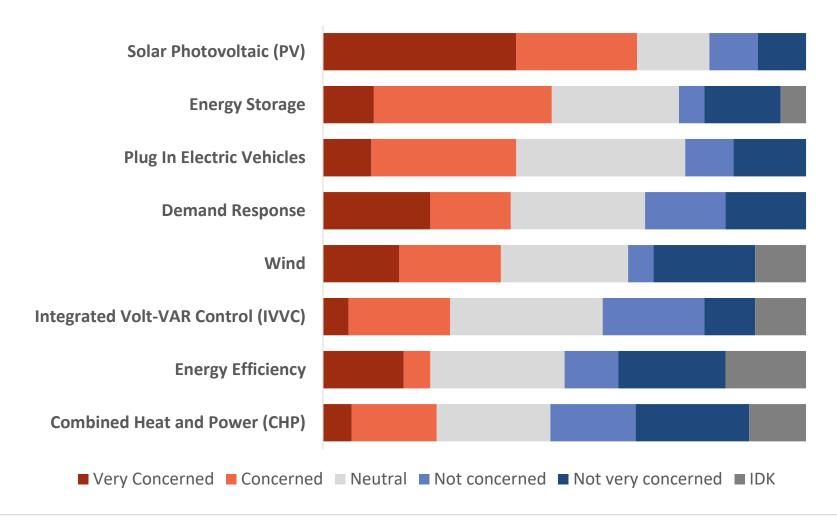


Do Your Forecasts Account for Existing DER and Other Factors?

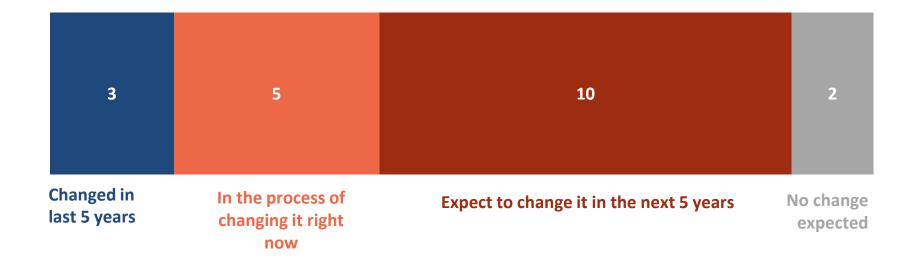




What Is Your Level of Concern Regarding Your Ability to Forecast the Following Technologies:



Preliminary ResultWhat is the Effect of DER on Changes in your Forecasting Methods?



Note: One respondent declined to answer.





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