



# Developing Economically Viable and Resilient Microgrids

GE Distributed Grid Solutions



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November 2017

# What's a Microgrid?



**It has to  
island!**

**It should  
have  
renewables**

**Gotta  
include  
batteries**

**Net-zero  
energy!**

**It needs to  
interact with  
the market**

# What about Grid Resilience?

re·sil·ience  
ri'zilyəns/  
*noun*



1. the ability of a substance or object to spring back into shape; elasticity.
2. the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.

## *Grid Resilience...*

The degree to which an electrical grid is reliable, recoverable, & efficient



imagination at work



# Two ways of looking at resilience...

*Tenacity*



*Wisdom*



By wisely planning your energy system you can avoid being forced to rely on your capacity to react

# Trends Disrupting the Power Sector from Generation to T&D



## DECARBONIZATION

By 2040, **RENEWABLES** will represent **30%** of global net electricity

### IMPACT

- Generation is becoming difficult to forecast & variable
- Grid stability, Congestion Volatility on electricity markets



## DIGITIZATION

**GROWING THE NUMBER** of connected devices & **smart sensors**

### IMPACT

- Allowing decision making based on dynamic and nodal prices



## DECENTRALIZATION

**GROWING PENETRATION** of distributed resources (renewable, storage, efficient devices)

### IMPACT

- End user becomes an active actor of the power system ('prosumer')
- Growing complexity of distribution grids



## ELECTRIFICATION in energy ecosystem

**ELECTRIFICATION OF ENERGY USES**, transport (EVs) and heating

### IMPACT

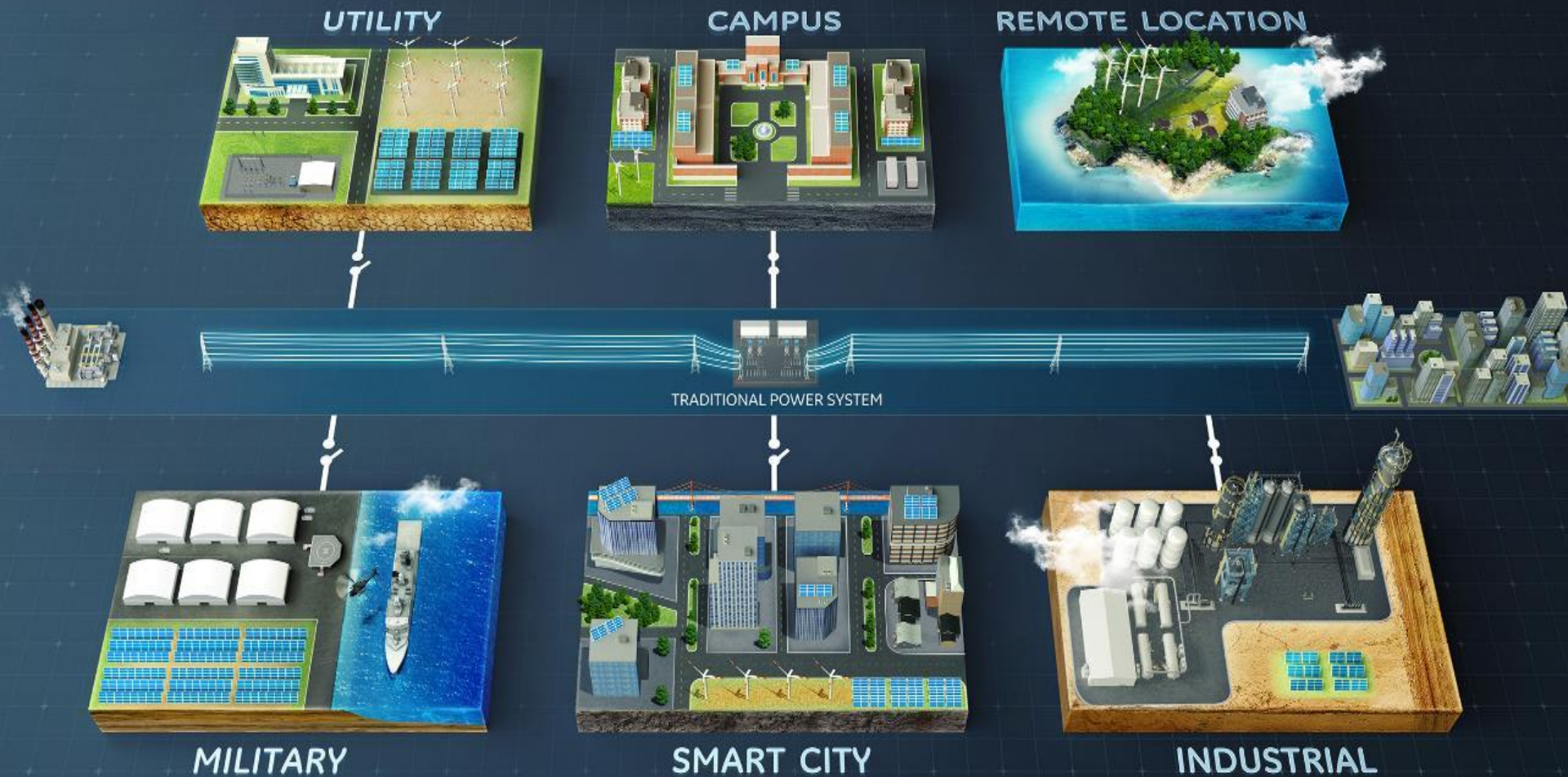
- Growth of Electricity demand, and an acceleration of decentralization of the power sector





# Microgrids In Many Forms

- Provides sufficient and continuous energy to meet internal demand
- Possesses independent digitalization that can island or reconnect with minimal disruption
- Presents itself as a single controlled unit to the bulk power system – revenue opportunities
- Offers flexibility in how the power delivery system is configured and operated
- Enables optimization of a large network of load, local Distributed Energy Resources and the broader power system



# Key Challenges in Developing Microgrids

## Complexity

- Integration of DERs
- Multiple stakeholders

## Economics

- Cost
- Business model
- Financing...particularly with multi-user microgrids

## Utility / Market Interaction

- Potentially competes with utilities
- Utility business models

## Technical

- Voltage & Frequency Control...managing stability
- Islanding & grid integration
- Protection & Control

## Regulatory

- Nascent regulatory environment
- Fragmented regulations

# An holistic approach is essential in developing economically viable microgrids

*Monetized interaction are necessary in order to pay for resiliency premium & attract private investment*

## Utility Needs

- Reliability and Stability Improvement
- Reduce System Losses
- Situational Awareness
- Optimal balance (supply and demand) of distributed resources to enable reliable and economic operation

## Microgrids need to:

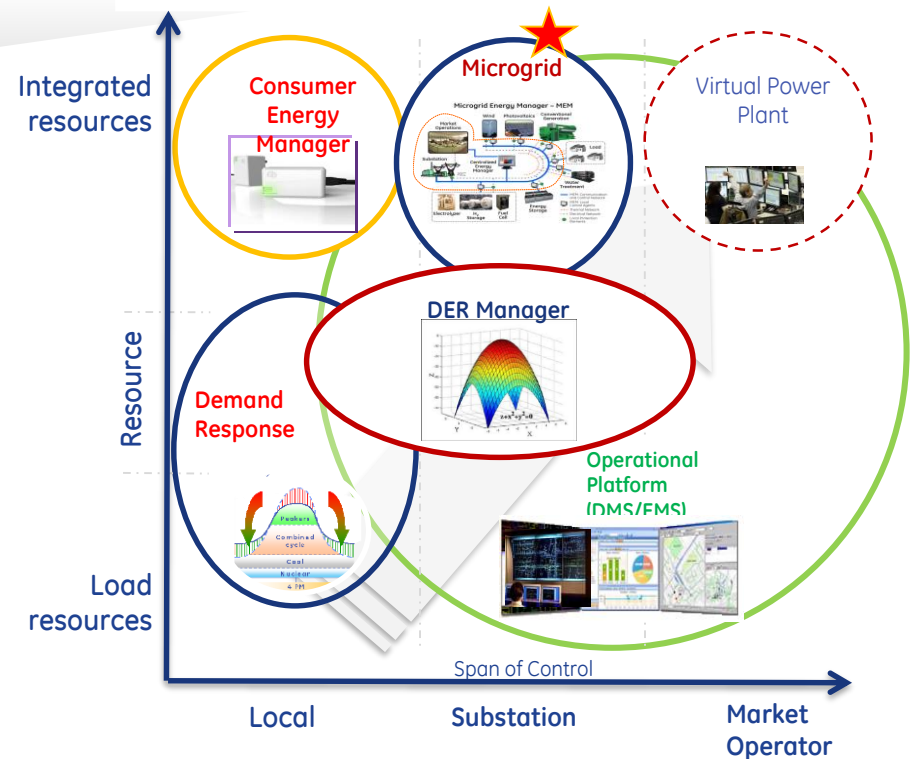
*Provide solutions and services to plan, forecast, schedule, and dispatch*

### What

- Load resources– dispatchable consumption
- Distributed generation - Renewable or non renewable generation
- Integrated resources – load and generation systems

### Where

- Local – residential, commercial, and industrial
- Substation /Feeder – distribution system
- Market Operator – electricity and balancing market



*Innovative business models at each level will drive market transformation*



GE imagination at work



The diagram illustrates the flow of power and data between different market levels and end users.

**Top Level: Wholesale Energy Market**

- ISOs & RTOs** (Independent System Operators & Regional Transmission Organizations)
- Wholesale Energy Market**
- Market Ops** (Market Operations)
- Power Ops** (Power Operations)
- Commercial Ops** (Commercial Operations)

**Bottom Level: Retail Energy Market**

- Customer Operation**
- Power Procurement**
- Asset Operation**
- Grid Operation**

**End Users**

- Energy Asset Developers (Owns Asset)**
- VPP – Microgrid Operator** (Virtual Power Plant - Microgrid Operator)
- Energy Merchant (Doesn't own Asset)**

**Flows:**

- Power (MW):** Indicated by a red dashed arrow pointing downwards from the Wholesale Energy Market to the End Users.
- Data (\$):** Indicated by green dashed arrows pointing both upwards and downwards between the Wholesale Energy Market and the End Users.

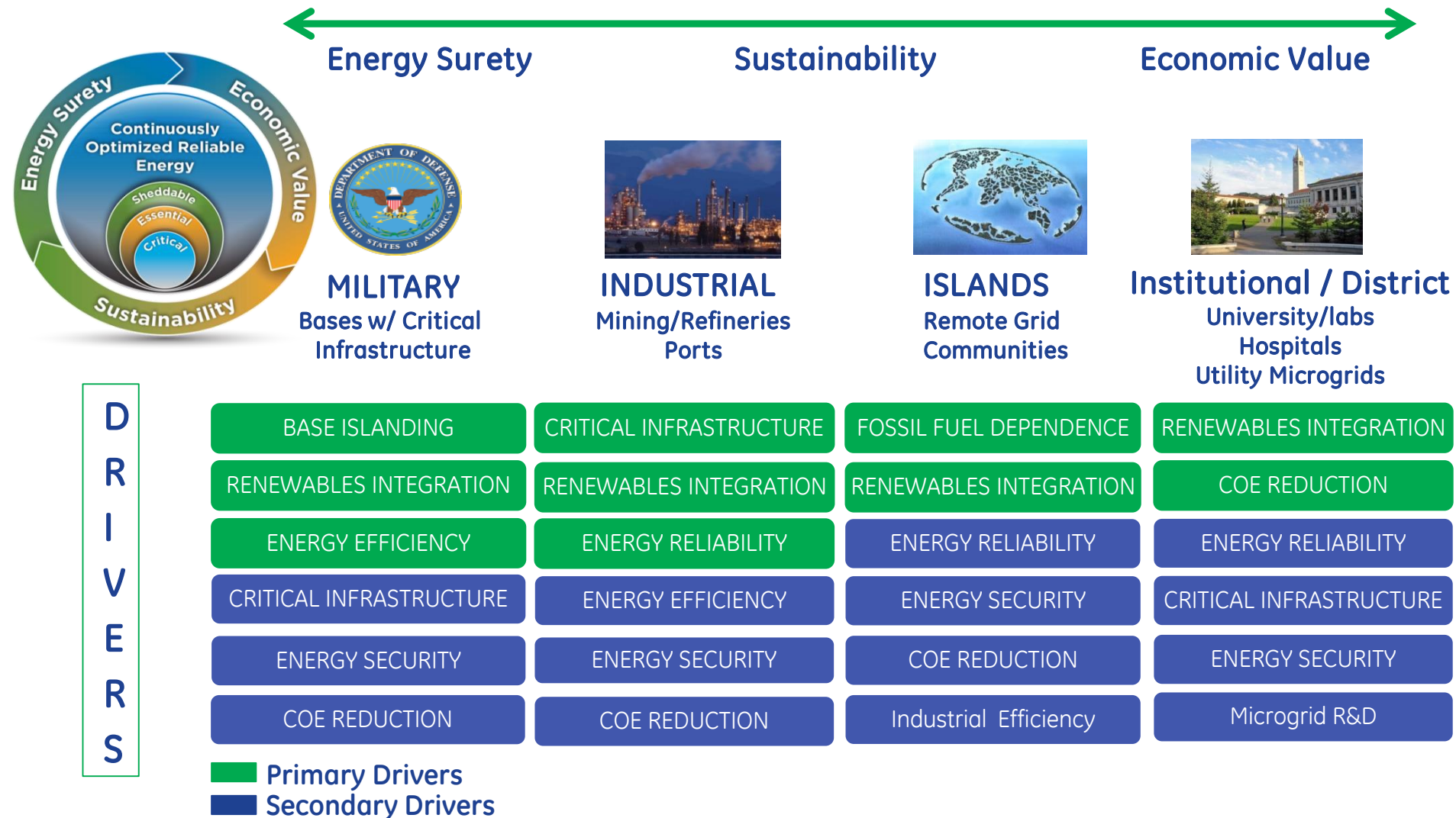
**End Users:**

- UTILITY**
- CAMPUS**
- REMOTE LOCATION**
- MILITARY**
- SMART CITY**
- INDUSTRIAL**

The diagram shows a **TRADITIONAL POWER SYSTEM** connecting these various end users.



# Market segments and drivers will drive the value proposition



# Correctly Design your Energy System

Aligning drivers, challenges, and resources to get to the correct type of system

## End-user & Utility Challenges

### Security

- Installation-wide energy & H2O security
- End-user operations resilience, assured fuel, reduced logistics tail, etc.
- Cyber security

### Regulatory

- Compliance now & future planning
- Federal/state mandates & regulations, NetZero initiatives, carbon legislation

### Financial

- Reduce cost through efficiency & intelligent system design
- Optimize energy-to-investment ratio
- Utility cost/benefit



GE imagination at work

## End-user Drivers

- ➊ Increased **energy independence** ... leads to energy efficiency improvement projects
- ➋ Multiple **recent regulations** instituted ... forces planning for current/future regs
- ➌ Growing **water scarcity** ... drive water consumption reduction projects
- ➍ Strong **operational performance** focus ... need to optimize full life-cycle costs
- ➎ Multiple other additional pressures ...

← Energy Surety      Sustainability      Economic Value →

*End-user & utility energy objectives will drive whether you will have a:*

- *Natural gas based microgrid*
- *Renewables based microgrid*



# GE Microgrid Functional Capabilities

## Supervisory Controls

- Optimal Dispatch to optimize electrical and thermal performance and cost
- Manage feeder connection to bulk grid
- Manage renewable intermittency
- Demand Optimization
- Integrated Volt / VAR Control

## Holistic Energy System

- Supply & demand
- Utility interaction/Cyber Security/IT Infrastructure

## Optimal Dispatch

The process of allocating the required load demand between the available resources such that the cost of operation is minimized.

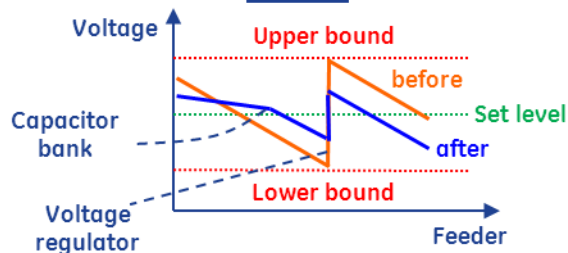
- The optimal dispatch algorithm implements *Model Predictive Control* using:
  - Load forecasts
  - Renewable generation forecasts (wind, hydro, solar, bio-mass)
  - and Stored Energy

## Demand Optimization

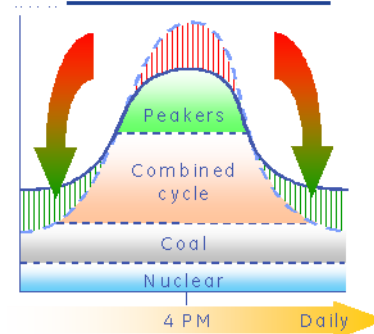
- Emergency Load Shedding
- Load as a Resource
  - Building Energy Management
  - Backup Gensets

## Grid Optimization & Utility Interaction

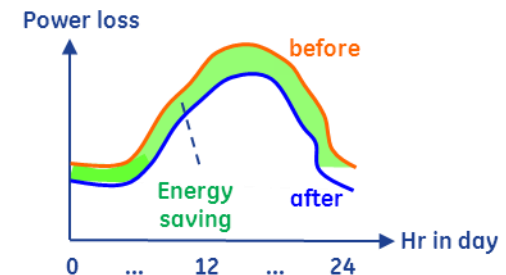
### Flatten voltage around a desired setting



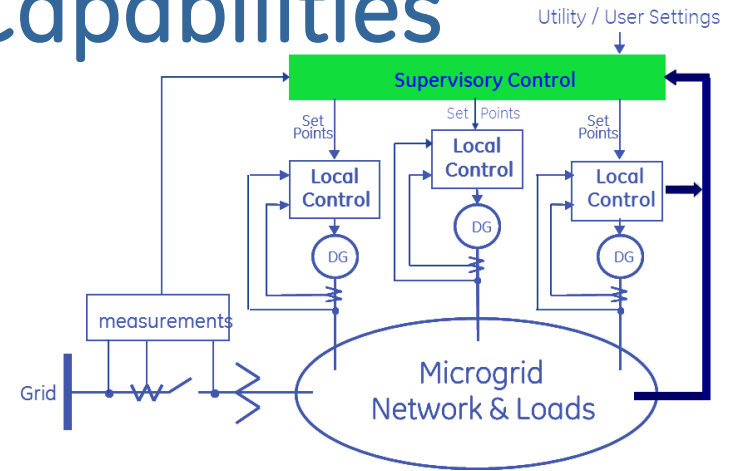
### Energy Balancing w/ peak demand reduction



### Power loss minimization



Power, Frequency, Voltage, VARs



Additional optimization constraints include:

- Unit Commitment, Start/Stop
- Min/max power/thermal output
- Generator Efficiency, Storage Efficiency
- Speed to ramp up/down output
- Electricity-to-thermal ratio in Combined-Heat-Power (CHP) source
- Market price of electricity (if connected to the utility grid) and fuel for DER Assets

# Leveraging microgrids as a foundation for economic development

## Examples

# Pearl Street Microgrid (1882)

- Primary driver was selling lightbulbs
- Ten 27 ton 100Kw steam generators
- DC Power Microgrid
- Served 59 Customers
- Islanded operation
- HMI enabled



GE imagination at work



# Modern day example

## *Urban vertical farming*

- Eastern Japan 2013, 25000 Sq. Ft.
- 18 racks each 15 levels, 17000 LED fixtures
- 10000 heads of Lettuce per day (100 fold density increase from outside)
- Grows 2.5X faster than outside
- Waste from 50% to 10% compared to outside
- 1% of water usage compared to outside
- LED 40% less power than florescent light



# The Philadelphia Navy Yard



# Location: The Navy Yard

- Centralized location
- Access to:
  - Major highway
  - Intermodal freight system
  - International Airport
  - Center City, University City, 30<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Sports Complex





# The Navy Yard **Then & Now...**

Philadelphia Navy Yard 1999, source PIDC



- **3,000** employees
- **10** Companies
- Limited private investment
- **20+** years deferred infrastructure

Philadelphia Navy Yard Today, source PIDC



- **12,500** employees
- **150+** companies; **3** Navy activities
- **7.5 million** SF occupied real estate
- **\$750+** mil of private investment
- **\$150+** mil of publicly funded infrastructure upgrades

# A New Model: The Smart City, Digital Urban Campus



# The Challenge



## THE SOLUTIONS

- Navy Yard Energy Master Plan
- GE Microgrid Controller & Solutions Team
- System that can acquire data & process with concluding actions
- A scalable platform for customer integration
  - 20% EE
  - 30% On-site DERs
  - PJM market participation



# The Navy Yard **Energy Master Plan** “Constitution”



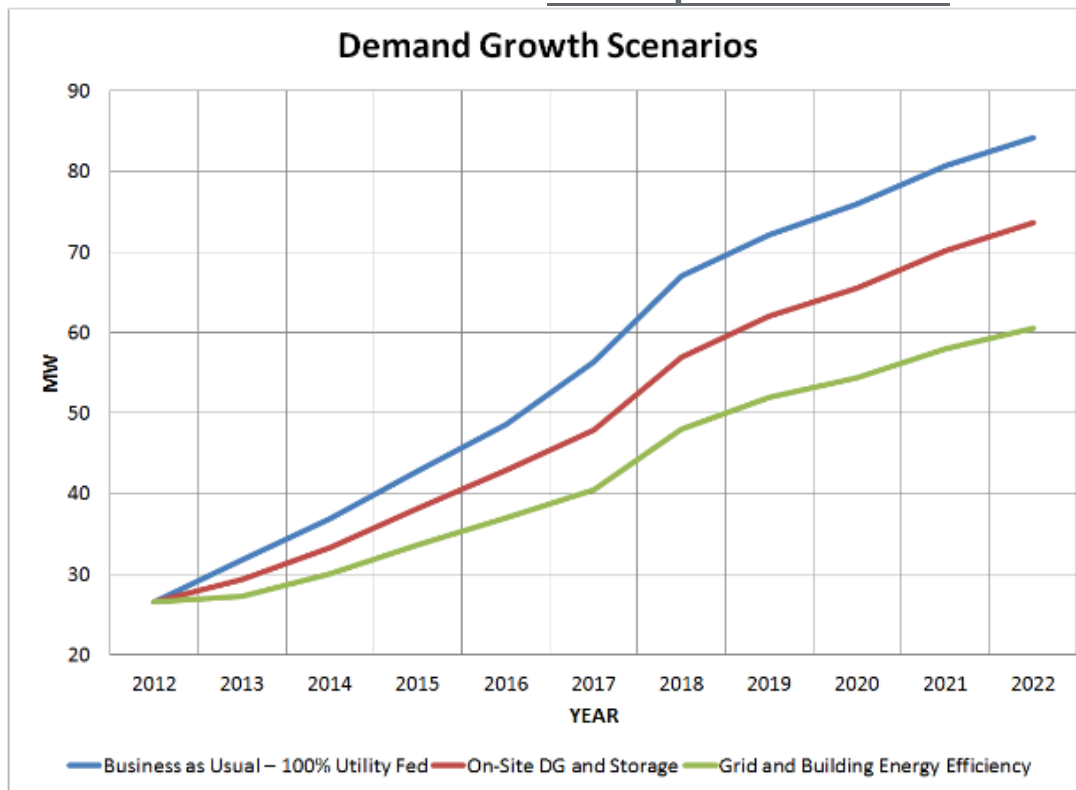
## The Five Point Action Plan

- ✓ **Infrastructure:** Capacity, Generation/Supply, Technology Microgrid
- ✓ **Business Model:** Forecasts, Tariffs, Procurement, O & M, Capital
- ✓ **Building Owner Opportunities:** DG, EE, DR – Programs & Partnership
- ✓ **Test Bedding Outreach and R&D:** Energy Innovation Campus
- ✓ **Carbon Reduction and Sustainability:** Reduce Carbon Intensity



# Reducing Demand & Usage Adding Supply

## Independence



Cumulative usage decrease – over 61,000 MWh

### Business as Usual – 100% Utility Fed

- All PECO supply
  - No On-site generation (DG)
  - No proactive EE or DR effort
- Utility Demand - 82 MW

### On-Site DG

#### Grid Programs:

- Natural gas DG
    - 6 MW Peak Reduction
    - 3 MW CHP (data center)
  - 1 MW Solar PV
  - 600 KW Fuel Cell
- Utility Demand - 72 MW

### Demand Response & Energy Efficiency

#### Customer programs:

- 20% EE goal by 2022
  - Navy DOD mandates
  - B-T-M Demand Reduction
- Utility Demand - 60 MW

# Key elements needed to successfully achieve economically viable microgrids

## Energy Surety & Renewable Energy Objectives Require Differing Approaches

- **Energy Surety Goal:** Most cost effective method will lean towards natural gas generation microgrids
  - MG functionality: Islanding, fast load-shed, net metering, ancillary services
- **Renewable Energy Goal:** Most cost effective method will learn towards wind / biogas biomass/ landfill gas generation Microgrids
  - MG functionality: Optimal dispatch, firming, DSM, ancillary services

## Utility Collaboration

- Microgrids need to interact and provide value to host utility
  - As well as supporting communities e.g. first responders, continuity of government, ...
- Provide ancillary benefits (Supply/demand management, frequency regulation, ...)
- Enable facility energy operator to contract with utility these services

## Privatized & Monetized Structures

- ESCOs, IPPs, Utilities need to be able monetize the smart-grid features of the microgrid in order to offset cost of energy surety & attract investment
- Capitalization of existing assets can create opportunities for financial support

## Unified Standards & Certification

- DOE needs to drive Microgrid/Smart Grid standards, interoperability, utility integration
- Cybersecurity & IT infrastructure standards
- Certification of technology, architecture, & functionality

## Develop a long-term energy roadmap with off-ramps for incremental development

- Establish long-term vision with short-term requirements



# Adoption, Policy, and Innovation Begins at the Local Level (You!)



*"I'll be happy to give you innovative thinking. What are the guidelines?"*