

# Five Year Distribution Planning Stakeholder Meeting

Michigan Public Service Commission  
Lake Superior Hearing Room  
June 27, 2019  
9 AM – 4 PM



# Meeting Agenda

9:00 a.m.	Welcome & Introduction	MPSC Commissioner Dan Scripps & Paul Proudfoot, Director, Energy Resources Division
9:05 a.m.	Overview of Commission Order U-20147, Web Page, Email Distribution List, Today's Agenda	Joy Wang, MPSC Staff
9:10 a.m.	Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Overview: Modernizing Distribution Planning	Bruce Rogers, EPRI
9:30 a.m.	ICF Overview: Key Learnings from Integrated Distribution Planning	Tom Mimmagh & Walter Rojowsky, ICF
9:50 a.m.	Break	
10:00 a.m.	Topic 1: Load and DER Forecasting	Speaker: Walter Rojowsky, ICF Q&A – All Speakers
10:30 a.m.	Topic 2: Hosting Capacity	Speaker: Jeff Smith, EPRI Q&A – All Speakers
11:30 a.m.	Lunch (local restaurants available)	
1:00 p.m.	Topic 3: Non-Wires Alternatives	Speakers: Walter Rojowsky, ICF, and Jeff Smith, EPRI Q&A – All Speakers
2:00 p.m.	Topic 4: Cost Benefit Analysis	Speaker: Tom Mimmagh, ICF Q&A – All Speakers
2:45 p.m.	Break	
3:00 p.m.	Holistic Integration and Open Q&A: Reviewing Today's Topics	All Speakers
3:30 p.m.	Discussion: Integrating Today's Topics into Michigan Distribution Planning, Stakeholder Process, Next Steps	MPSC Chairman Sally Talberg & Patrick Hudson, Manager, Smart Grid Section
4:00 p.m.	Adjourn	

# U-20147: Commission Order

- Impetus for five-year distribution plans to allow comprehensive examination of distribution investments beyond 12 months.
- April 2018 Commission required five-year distribution investment & maintenance plans from:
  - DTE,
  - Consumers, and
  - Indiana Michigan Power
- Aug 2018 Technical conference with stakeholders
- Sept 2018 Staff report with draft distribution planning framework
- Nov 2018 Commission order on future guidance and next steps

# U-20147: Nov. 2018 Commission Order

- Details guidance on second round of five year distribution plans.
- Asks the utilities to:
  - Present progress report on core goals of:
    - Safety,
    - Reliability, and
    - Resiliency
  - Include additional components discussed in order:
    - Address Staff report recommendations
    - Additional comments

# Commission Order on Staff Recommendations

Staff Report Topics	Commission Decision/Recommendation	Today
1a. Dynamic System Load Forecasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage continued discussion of forecasting methods to inform next iteration of distribution plans</li> </ul>	✓
1b. Hosting Capacity Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold technical conference with utilities, stakeholders and experts to examine information needed to conduct such studies and its availability in Michigan.</li> </ul>	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interested in pilot balancing policy and technical issues that may need to be addressed to allow broader application of hosting capacity studies</li> </ul>	
2. Customer Data Access and Enablement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addressed in other dockets (U-18485, U-18120).</li> </ul>	
3. Non-Wires Alternatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further discussions on criteria for alternative analyses warranted.</li> </ul>	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourages development of more NWA's. Acknowledges opportunity pilot applications provide to inform policy and technical issues.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sharing of experiences and lessons learned related to NWA's in Michigan and other jurisdictions should be instructive for next iteration of distribution plans</li> </ul>	✓

# Commission Order on Staff Recommendations

Staff Report Topics	Commission Decision/Recommendation	Today
4. Cost Benefit Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Further discussion in future technical conference regarding common, yet flexible, cost-benefit methodology for alternatives.</li></ul>	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Especially interested in the planning and vetting of technology and communications solutions underpinning more modern grid. Cost-benefit analyses is a tool that can assist with examination of technology solutions.</li></ul>	✓
5. Replacement/Upgrade Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staff recommendation not adopted.</li></ul>	
6. Workforce Adequacy Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focus on implementation considerations generally, with workforce as component, sufficient for next iteration.</li></ul>	

# Commission Order – Other Comments

- Framework for next distribution plans to provide:
  - Focused discussion
  - Longer-term visibility than available in a rate case
  - Better understanding
- Framework as a guide, not prescriptive mandates
- Distribution planning cannot be conducted in a silo
  - Consider other issues
- Utilities should coordinate distribution planning efforts with Michigan Infrastructure Council (MIC)

# Commission Order – Other Comments

- Recommends stakeholder discussions on:
  - Longer-term vision for grid architecture and performance expectations
  - Benefits of consistent information presentation
- Next five year distribution plans, consistent with order, due June 30, 2020
  - From Consumers Energy Co. and DTE Electric Co.



# Accessing Five-Year Distribution Plans Website

- Go to the MPSC website at: [www.michigan.gov/mpsc](http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc)
  - Click on “Electricity” in the left sidebar



The screenshot shows the MPSC website interface. At the top right, there are links for "MPSC Home", "Contact Us", "Site Map", and "MI.gov". Below these is the "LARA Public Service Commission" logo and the text "Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs". A search bar is located to the right of the logo. The left sidebar contains a list of navigation items: "About the MPSC", "Consumer Information", "Documents Library", "E-Dockets", "Low-income Energy Assistance", "Energy Legislation", "Electricity", "Energy Waste Reduction", "MPSC Scorecard", and "Natural Gas". A red arrow points to the "Electricity" item, which is highlighted with a hand cursor. The main content area features a navigation bar with "News", "Hot Topics", "Utility Cases", "Consumer Tips", "How Do I", and "Meetings". Below this is the "MPSC News" section, which lists several news items: "MPSC approves Consumers Energy's integrated resource plan. It's the first long-term utility outlook OK'd under 2016 state energy laws", "Consumers Energy must explain gas safety practices", "MPSC schedules public forum in Detroit on DTE Electric's proposed integrated resource plan (June 20)", "MPSC urges Michiganders to stay safe, make free call to 811 before starting any digging project", and "Governor's Energy Assessment Request (Michigan.gov/EnergyAssessment)".

# Accessing Five-Year Distribution Plans Website

- Click on “Workgroups” in the subcategories.



The screenshot shows the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) website. The top navigation bar includes links for 'MPSC Home', 'Contact Us', 'Site Map', and 'MI.gov'. The main header features the 'LARA Public Service Commission' logo and the 'Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs'. A search bar is located on the right side of the header. The left sidebar contains a list of menu items: 'About the MPSC', 'Consumer Information', 'Documents Library', 'E-Dockets', 'Low-income Energy Assistance', 'Energy Legislation', 'Electricity', 'Resource Planning', 'Customer Choice', 'Data and Price Information', 'Document Library', 'Utility Information', 'Workgroups', and 'Energy Waste'. A red arrow points to the 'Workgroups' item, which is highlighted with a hand cursor. The main content area displays the 'Electricity' section, including a breadcrumb trail 'MPSC / ELECTRICITY', a title 'Electricity', and a paragraph describing the MPSC's role in electric and steam utility regulation. Below this, there are sections for 'Spotlight' and 'Online Services', each with a list of links. On the right side, there are sections for 'MPSC Links' and 'Electricity Links', each with a list of links. At the bottom right, there is a 'Compare MI GAS' logo and a small advertisement for discounted phone and internet services.

# Accessing Five-Year Distribution Plans Website

- Click on “Five-Year Distribution Plans” under “Active Workgroups”.



MPSC Home Contact Us Site Map MI.gov

**LARA** Public Service Commission  
Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

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Workgroups

MPSC / ELECTRICITY / WORKGROUPS

## Electricity Workgroups

The Commission has established workgroups (collaboratives) with the purpose of investigating specific electric issues or developing and streamlining various regulatory activities. These workgroups can include participants from Commission Staff, regulated utilities, electric industry, utility customers, and others. Information here is supplemental to that in [E-Dockets](#). A group becomes inactive when its mission is complete.

### Active Workgroups

- [Demand Response Aggregation](#)
- [Five-Year Distribution Plans](#)
- [MPSC Staff's Standby Rates](#)
- [PURPA Technical Advisory Committee \(U-17973\)](#)
- [Smart Grid \(U-15278\)](#)

### Inactive Workgroups

- [Solar Working Group](#)
- [Wind Energy Study \(no docket\)](#)
- [Under 10 kW Net Metering & Interconnection Procedures](#)
- [30 kW and Larger Interconnection Procedures](#)
- [Demand Response Programs \(U-15277\)](#)

**MPSC Links**

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# Five Year Distribution Plans Website

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MPSC / ELECTRICITY / WORKGROUPS

## Five-Year Distribution Plans

### Scope and Background

Michigan's aging distribution system is in need of significant investment to provide a safe, reliable and accessible distribution grid going forward all while maintaining reasonable rates for customers. In response the MPSC initiated a process to review the largest rate regulated electric utilities' distribution planning process as outlined below.

In the first quarter of 2017, the MPSC directed DTE Electric and Consumers Energy, through rate case Orders (as linked below), to develop and submit five-year distribution investment and maintenance plans. The intent of this directive was to increase visibility into utility distribution system needs and facilitate a comprehensive review of long-term distribution planning by the Commission, MPSC Staff, and other interested parties, with more transparency than one-year outlooks in contested rate case proceedings.

On April 12, 2018 in Case No. U-20147, the MPSC issued [an order](#) requiring DTE and Consumers to file their final distribution plans in that docket, asked for Staff and stakeholder comments on the final plan to be filed in the same docket, and required Staff to set up a technical conference to review comments. This technical conferences took place on [August 7, 2018](#). In a [November 2018 order](#), the Commission addressed the [Staff's September 1, 2018 recommendations](#) and provided other guidance on the next round of distribution plans which are scheduled for the second quarter 2020. Staff will continue to engage stakeholders on these topics.

### Related Content

- [Demand Response Aggregation](#)
- [MPSC Staff's Standby Rates](#)
- [PURPA Technical Advisory Committee \(U-17973\)](#)
- [Smart Grid \(U-15278\)](#)

# Email Distribution List: Stay Engaged!

- Scroll to the bottom of the website to enter your email to join.

## Other Documents

[MPSC Issue Brief Distribution Planning – October 11, 2017](#)

Those interested in receiving updates on five-year distribution plans, including opportunities for stakeholder participation, please join our Listserv.

## Join the five-year Distribution Plans Workgroup Mailing list

To sign up for updates or to access your subscriber preferences, please enter your contact information below.

★Email Address

\* Spam Block: [\(What's this?\)](#)

Add "nine" plus "three" and type the numeric (integer) answer here:

Submit

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# Overview – Modernizing Distribution Planning

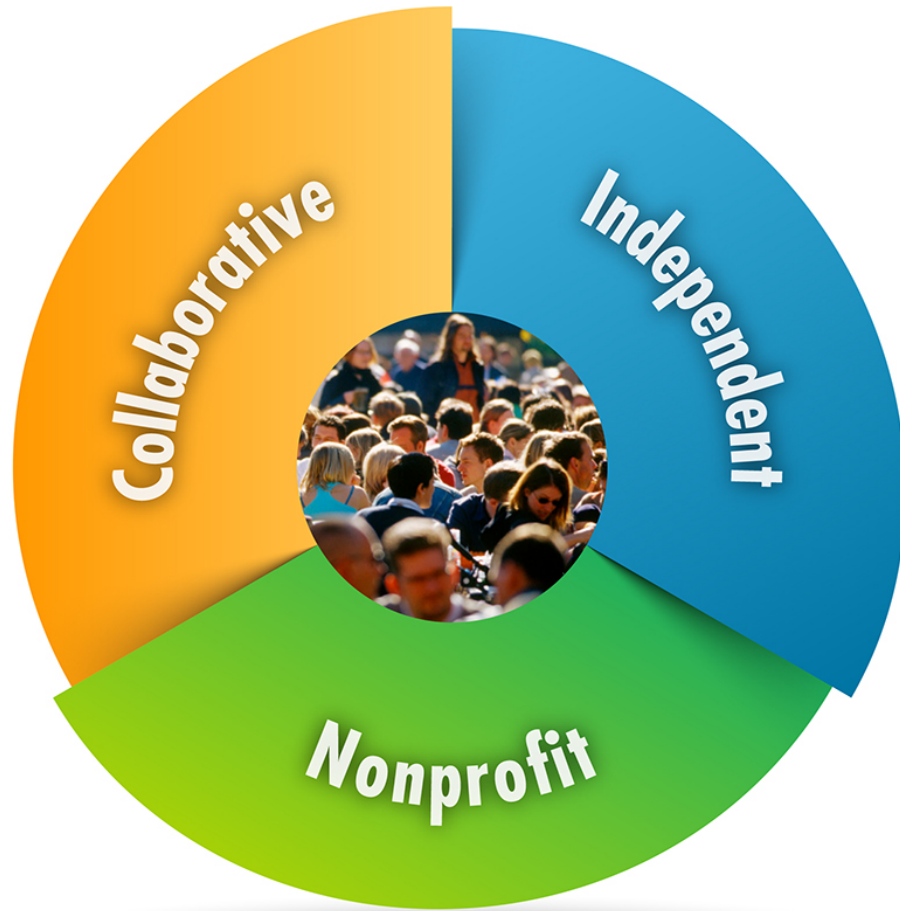
Bruce Rogers  
Technical Executive, Distribution  
[brogers@epri.com](mailto:brogers@epri.com)

MPSC Distribution Planning Stakeholder Meeting

6/27/2019 – Lansing, MI



# About the Electric Power Research Institute



## Independent

Objective, scientifically based results address reliability, efficiency, affordability, health, safety, and the environment

## Nonprofit

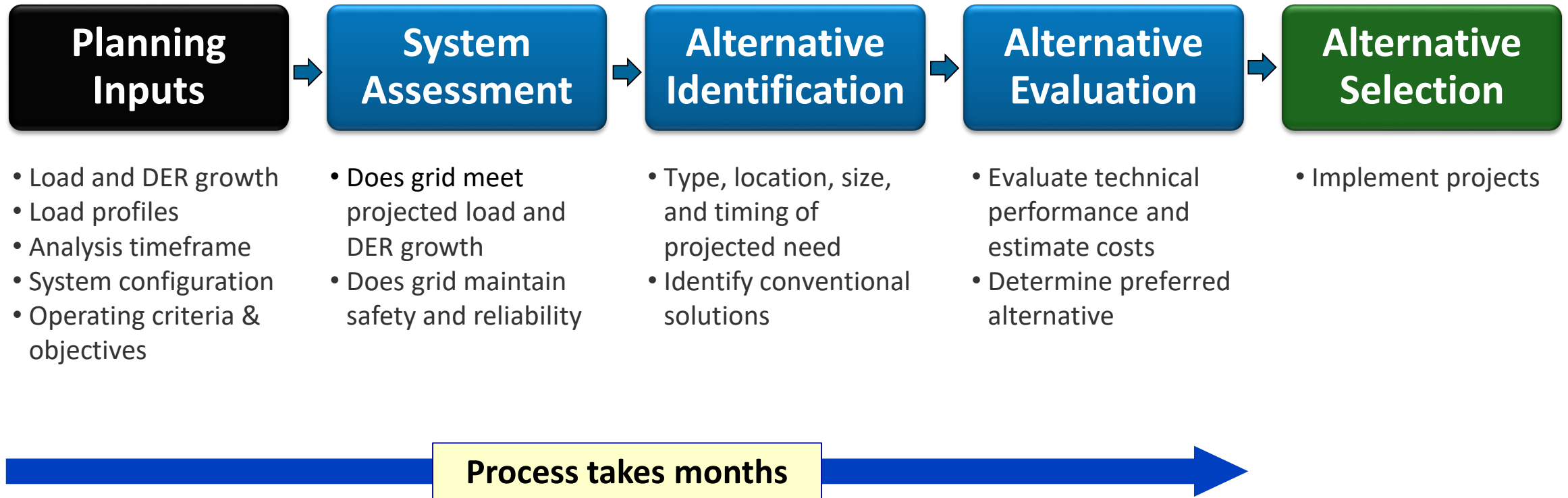
Chartered to serve the public benefit

## Collaborative

Bring together scientists, engineers, academic researchers, and industry experts



# Traditional Distribution Planning Process



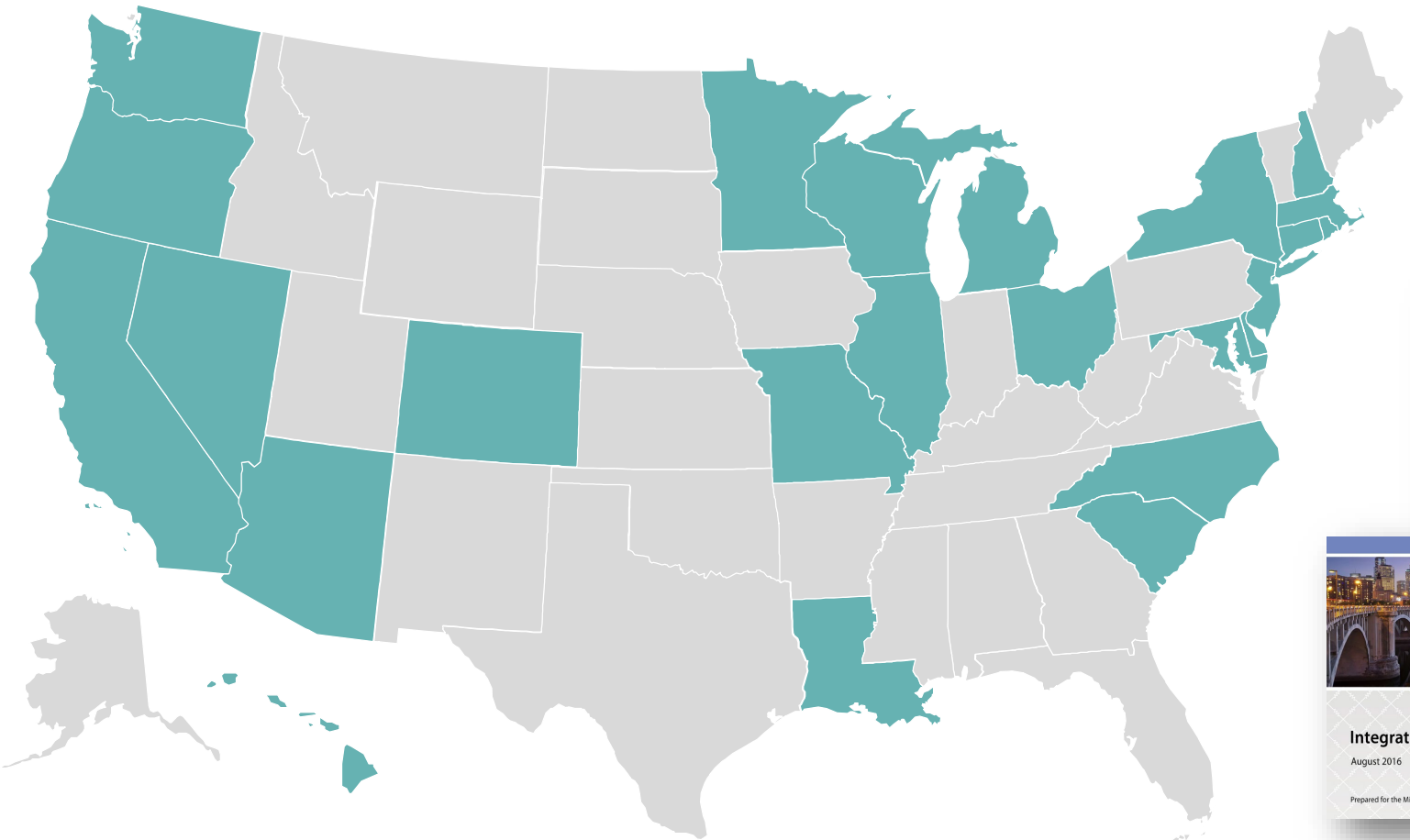
**Safety – Reliability – Cost**

# Context for Change – Customer Resources

- Customers are adopting higher volumes of DER and multiple types.
- Utilities will need to understand how DER interact with the grid to integrate cost effectively.
- The grid may become more reliant on customer devices providing grid services.



# Context for Change – Legislative/Regulatory Action



PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY  
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION RESOURCES PLAN  
JULY 1, 2015

STATE OF NEW YORK  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
CASE 14-M-0101 – Proceeding on Motion of the Commission in Regard to Reforming the Energy System

Planning Hawai'i's Grid for Future Generations  
Integrated Grid Planning Report  
MARCH 5, 2015

Central Hudson Initial Distributed System Implementation Plan  
June 30, 2016

MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
MINNESOTA INTEGRATED DISTRIBUTION PLANNING REQUIREMENTS  
For Retail Energy  
October 2015C 20-01

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
Report on Current Practices in Distributed Energy Resource Planning  
Operating Budget, Laws of 2017, Ch. 1, §142  
December 31, 2017

Integrated Distribution Planning  
August 2016  
Prepared for the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

MPSC Issue Brief  
Electric Distribution System Planning

PowerForward Ohio  
Public Utilities Commission  
A Roadmap to Ohio's Electricity Future

24 states pursuing action on future distribution planning requirements

# Most Common Actions Under Consideration

- Distribution system plan requirements
- Data sharing/transparency/consistency
- Integrated distribution planning
- Non-wires alternative requirements and consideration of DER
- Hosting capacity
- DER Locational value

**EPRI** | ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE 3002013411

## Modernizing the Distribution Planning Process: Current Activities and Lessons Learned to Date

**Technical Brief** — Distribution Operations and Planning Program (P200)

**Introduction**  
The distribution landscape is changing rapidly – introducing new opportunities along with increasing system complexity and uncertainty. This change is being driven by the need to accommodate and integrate distributed energy resources (DER), changing load patterns, increased stakeholder engagement, grid modernization, and other advanced technologies. Currently, distribution planning processes do not fully consider DER. Many distribution utilities only plan to meet peak demands and do not evaluate the use of non-wires alternatives. Non-wires alternatives, or NWA, are defined as any solutions to a distribution constraint that does not involve installation or upgrading of existing distribution assets such as transformers and lines. In addition, current planning processes cannot identify time and locational values required. To meet future needs, many states have efforts underway to modernize distribution planning. As a result, utilities are being asked to share system data and multi-year plans, develop new analytical approaches, and redefine the planning process itself. These advancements come with new challenges and have resulted in lessons learned for the industry. Table 1 provides an overview of some of the key insights collected from utilities at the forefront of these changes. This report expands on these insights by providing an overview of state activities across the United States related to distribution planning. Next, it summarizes the common components in these states and the range and scale of what is being required. Finally, it shares key lessons learned and insights from utility planners who are at the forefront of these efforts.

**Overview of Distribution Planning Activities**  
As of this writing, at least nineteen states (Figure 1) currently have regulatory or legislative efforts underway to modernize the distribution planning process. These have a range of focus areas from understanding the current planning process, to defining new analytical methods, to developing processes for non-wires alternatives. Some states, like California and New York, are several years into comprehensive modernization efforts. While others, like Illinois and Michigan are just beginning and focusing on certain areas within the planning process. This section summarizes some of these state activities to provide insights into what is being required.

**California Distribution Resource Plan**  
In 2014, the California (CA) Public Utilities Commission began activities to advance distribution planning. It required the investor-owned utilities to file plans to enable the optimal placement of DER on the distribution system. Since that time, there has been significant stakeholder engagement in working groups to progress several components including:

- Outlining the future process,
- Developing a hosting capacity method and releasing maps,
- Defining and developing new methods to consider NWA, and
- Developing and demonstrating methods for locational value of DER.

Currently, much of the activity is to implement the newly defined planning process referred to as the Distribution Investment Deferral Framework. Rather than develop a completely new planning process for the future, CA's efforts have sought to supplement the existing process with consideration for DER as shown in Figure 2. There are two new analyses and reporting requirements developed by the utility each year in parallel to traditional planning analysis – Grid Needs Assessment (GNA) and Distribution Deferral Opportunity Report (DDOR). The Grid Needs Assessment identifies the expected issues on the system for both thermal and voltage over a 5-year planning horizon. This assessment then informs identification of candidate deferral projects including the potential of non-wires alternatives. The projects are prioritized into four tiers indicating ones that

Component	Utility Insights
Data Sharing and Transparency	Understand the implications of sharing system data including the frequency of updates required and how the dataset will evolve as models improve.
Hosting Capacity	Begin studying leader models now to support hosting capacity analysis and determine which hosting capacity methodology to use.
Non-Wires Alternative (NWA)	Develop methods and tools to screen for and analyze the use of non-wires alternatives. Consider procurement process required to implement effectively.
Distribution System Plan Requirements	Document existing planning process and gaps in data and methods. Begin working to improve data/leader models and define future planning methods.
Locational Value	Develop methods and tools to perform analytics that consider locational value of DER. Consider how to implement.

Figure 1 – States with Regulatory or Legislative Efforts Related to Distribution Planning

States moving toward more holistic planning processes

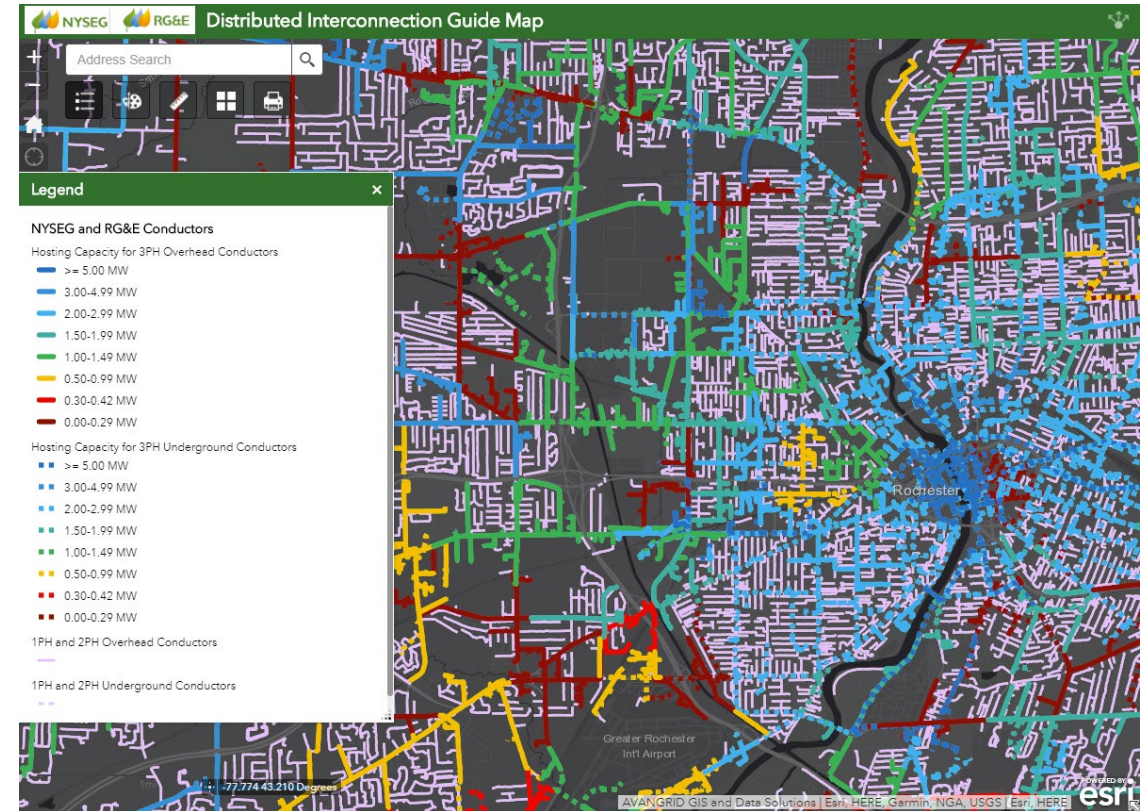
# Data Sharing/ Transparency

- Post spreadsheets or maps sharing system data
- Update frequency varies depending on state

Feeder	36_17_33351
Substation	SHERMAN
Operating Voltage (kV)	13.20
Summer Rating (Amps)	466.00
Peak Amps 2016	167.00
2016 Peak %	35.84
Peak Amps 2017	181.62
2017 Peak %	38.97
2016 Peak (MVA)	3.82
2017 Peak (MVA)	4.15
Historical Feeder Load Curve	<a href="#">More info</a>
Forecasted Feeder Load Curve	<a href="#">More info</a>

# Hosting Capacity

- Methodology and tool definition
- Analysis on all feeders or subset (> certain voltage), node and feeder level
- Post results through spreadsheets and/or public maps (primary application)
- Frequency of updates quarterly to annually
- Discussion of use for screening in some states
- Questions on consideration of smart inverters, all types of DER



Example Hosting Capacity Map using DRIVE™  
[www.epri.com/DRIVE](http://www.epri.com/DRIVE)

# Non-Wires Alternative

- Required to consider non-wires alternatives (always to >\$2M) in annual process
- Posting public maps on locations
- Defining suitability criteria
- Defining procurement process – timelines, cost, etc
- Developing screening process

# Distribution System Plan Requirements

- Document and share the current planning process
- Define changes to process, methods, tools to better incorporate DER in planning
- File distribution investment plans to ID planning methods
  - Annual grid needs assessments, 5-year capital investments



# Locational Value

- Working groups to develop methods/tools for locational value
- Demo projects of methods to test location specific values
- Replacement of NEM with value of DER – methodology to identify zones

# Distribution Planning – Rapidly Changing Landscape



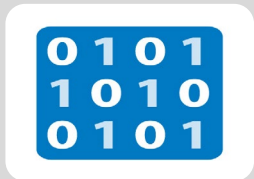
**DER accommodation & integration**



**Changing load patterns**



**Increased stakeholder engagement**

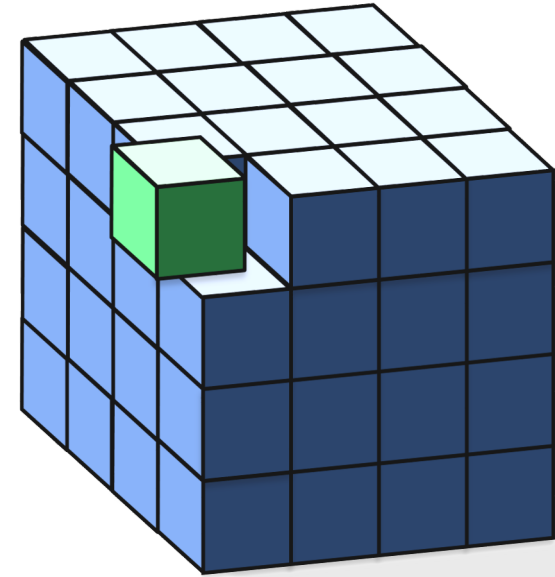


**Rapidly advancing controls**

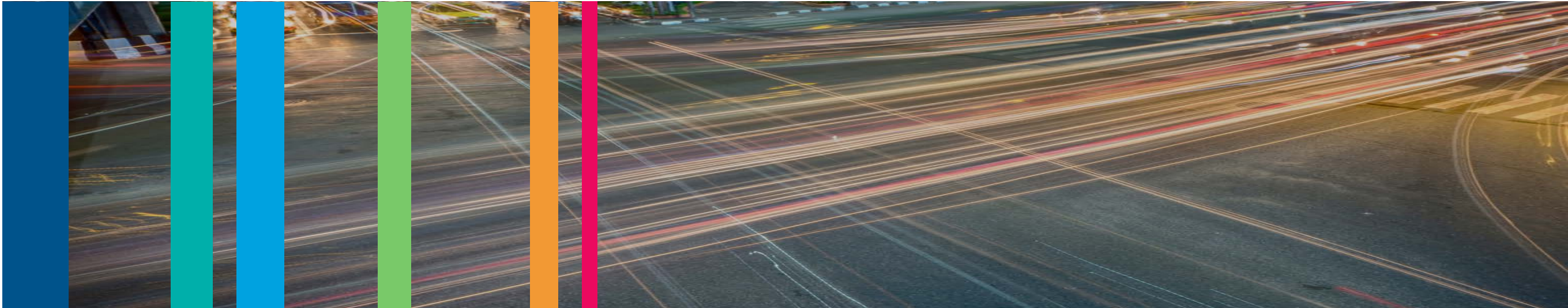


# Today's Tools Only Answer a Piece of the Puzzle

- Singular focus on system peak
- Static representation of system conditions
- Manual feeder by feeder analysis for full system
- Manual time intensive alternatives assessments
- Emerging technologies and resources not adequately modeled
- Cannot identify time and locational values
- Limited support for coordination with transmission planning/IRP



**New processes, methods, and tools are needed**



# ICF Overview: Key Learnings from Integrated Distribution Planning

Lansing, MI  
June 27, 2019

# ICF: We Make Big Things Possible



Energy



5,000+  
EMPLOYEES



Health



Environment



1 BILLION+  
IN REVENUES



Transportation



Global presence with more than 65 offices,  
headquartered in the Washington, DC area



# Today's Featured ICF Speakers



Tom Mimmagh is a Senior DER Project Advisor in ICF's Energy Markets team. In this role he is responsible for supporting client objectives as the industry plans for increases in DER technologies. Tom has 33 years of experience in the Utility industry, the last five of which involved supporting Utility interface with New York's REV proceeding.



Walter Rojowsky is an ICF Senior Manager whose work focuses on Integrated Distribution Planning, Non-Wires Alternatives, and Resiliency. Walter has 19-years of experience working in the electric T&D space, both in the US and abroad. Walter's work has included helping utilities with distribution system plans, NWA pilots, and internal change initiatives in planning and operations.

# ICF's Energy Practice



**Distributed  
Energy  
Resources**



**Grid  
Modernization**



**Demand Side  
Management  
Implementation**



**Customer  
Engagement &  
Recruitment**



**Strategic &  
Regulatory  
Support**



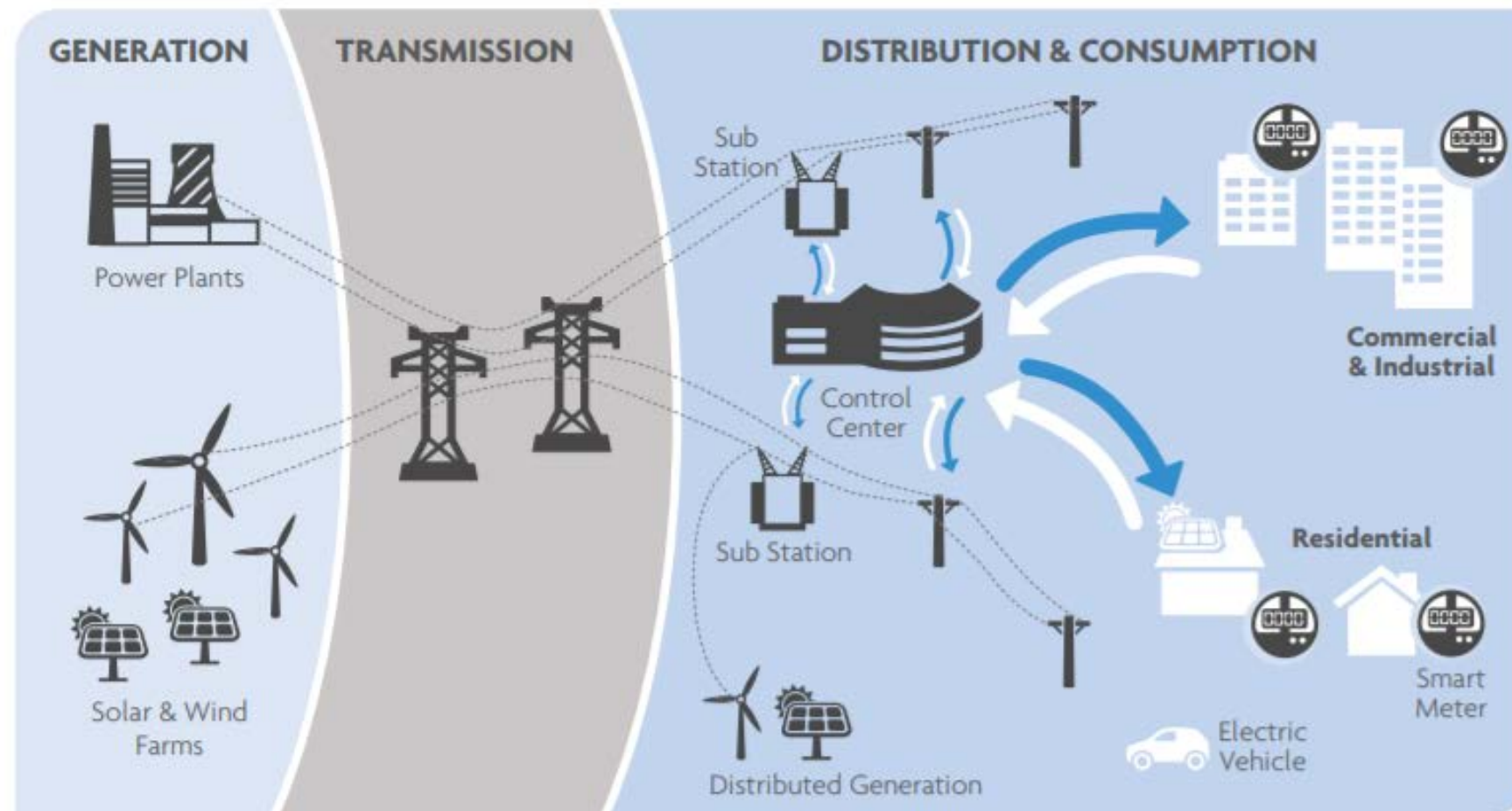
**Power Markets**



**Fuels Markets**



# Grid Evolution, From One-way To Multi-directional Network



Source: More than Smart

**Utility roles and models are changing – a more distributed future presents new challenges and opportunities**



# DER Drivers of Growth



Declining costs



Incentives/policies



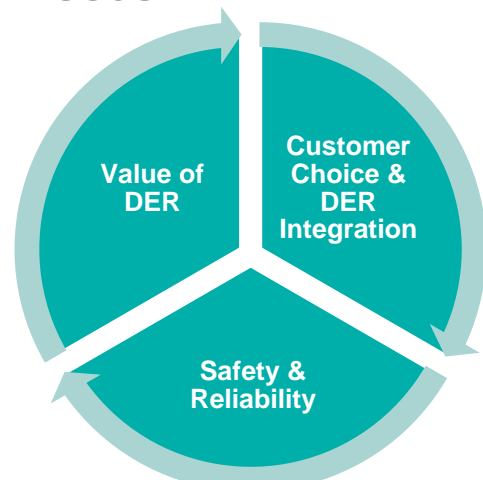
Changing customer preference and expectation

Possibility to provide grid services



# Evolving Distribution Grid

- Plan and operate the system to **enhance safety, reliability, resilience and security**, including replacement of aging infrastructure and modernization of the grid.
- Support customer choice and integration of DER** through interconnection process improvements, enhanced information sharing, and new products and services.
- Align the value of DER** to the realization of benefits for all customers through the use of DER-provided services to meet system needs.



## Align implementation of changes to pace of DER adoption & customer value

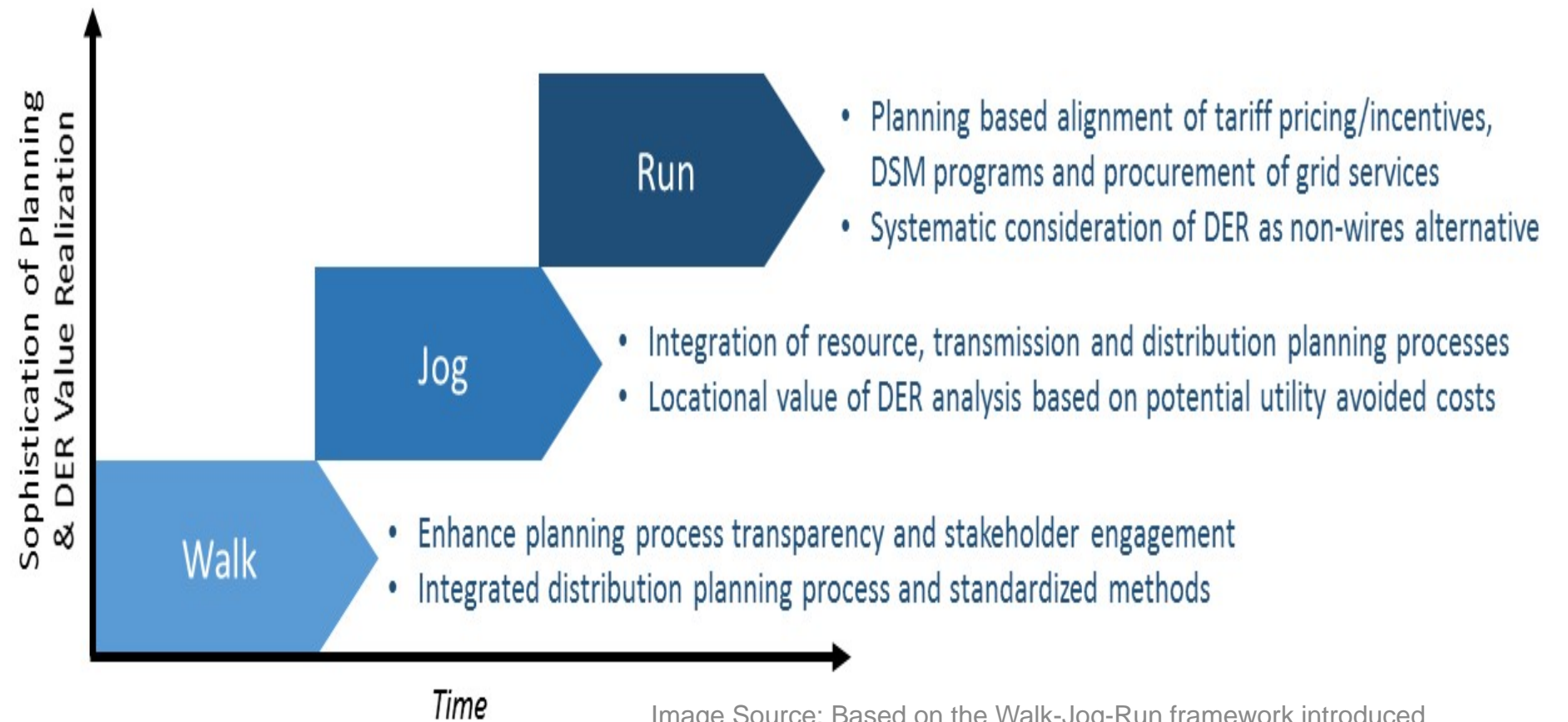


Image Source: Based on the Walk-Jog-Run framework introduced in the More than Smart Working Group

# Renewables Penetration

- DTE DG: 11.8 MW solar across 1,675 sites, system size 1-20 kW (DG Program Report, FY 2017)
- DTE IRP increases renewable goals through solar builds and voluntary green pricing programs (between 465 MW and 715 MW)
- GTM Solar Forecast for MI: Projected CAGR, 2019-2023
  - Non-Residential Solar: ~30%
  - Residential Solar: ~48%

DTE Renewable Energy Build Plan: 2019-2040

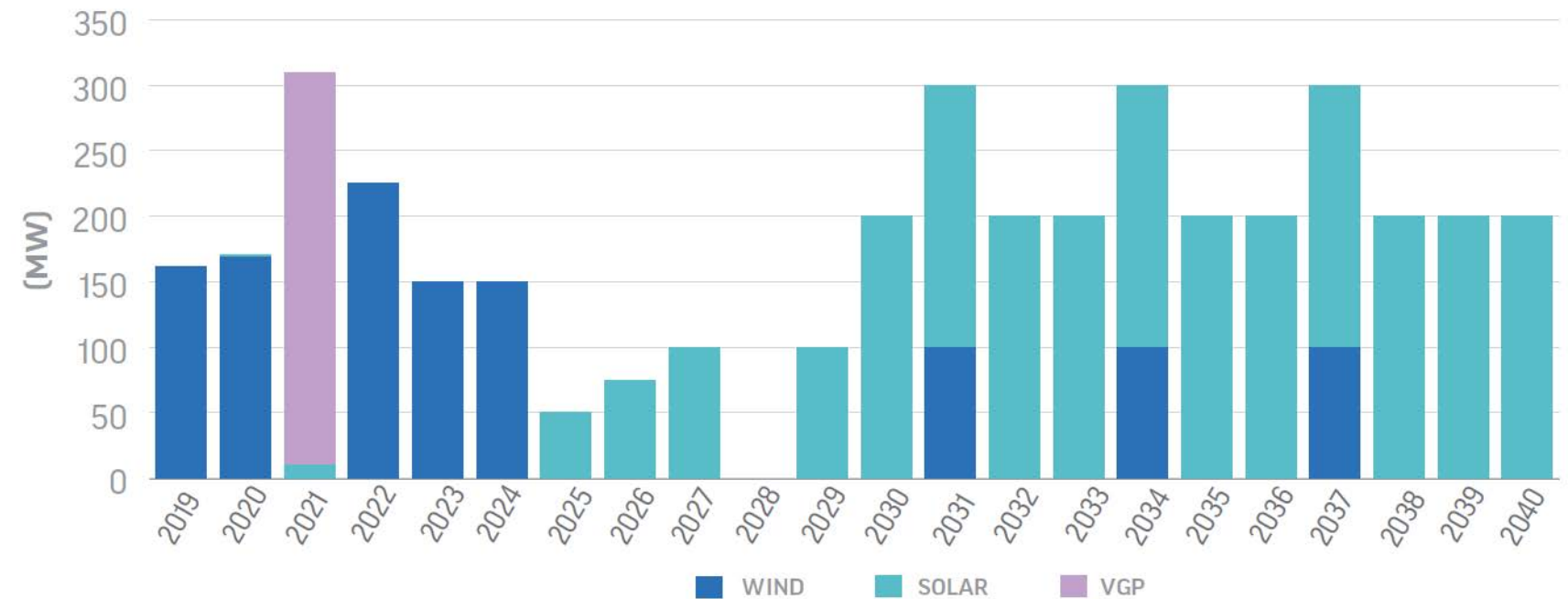
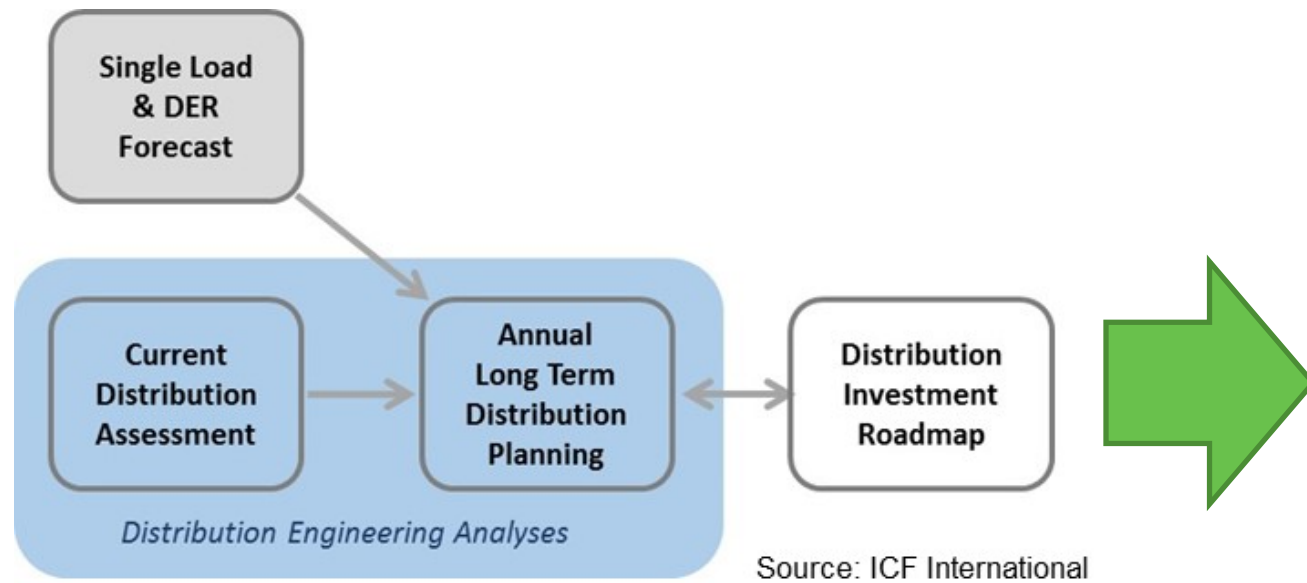


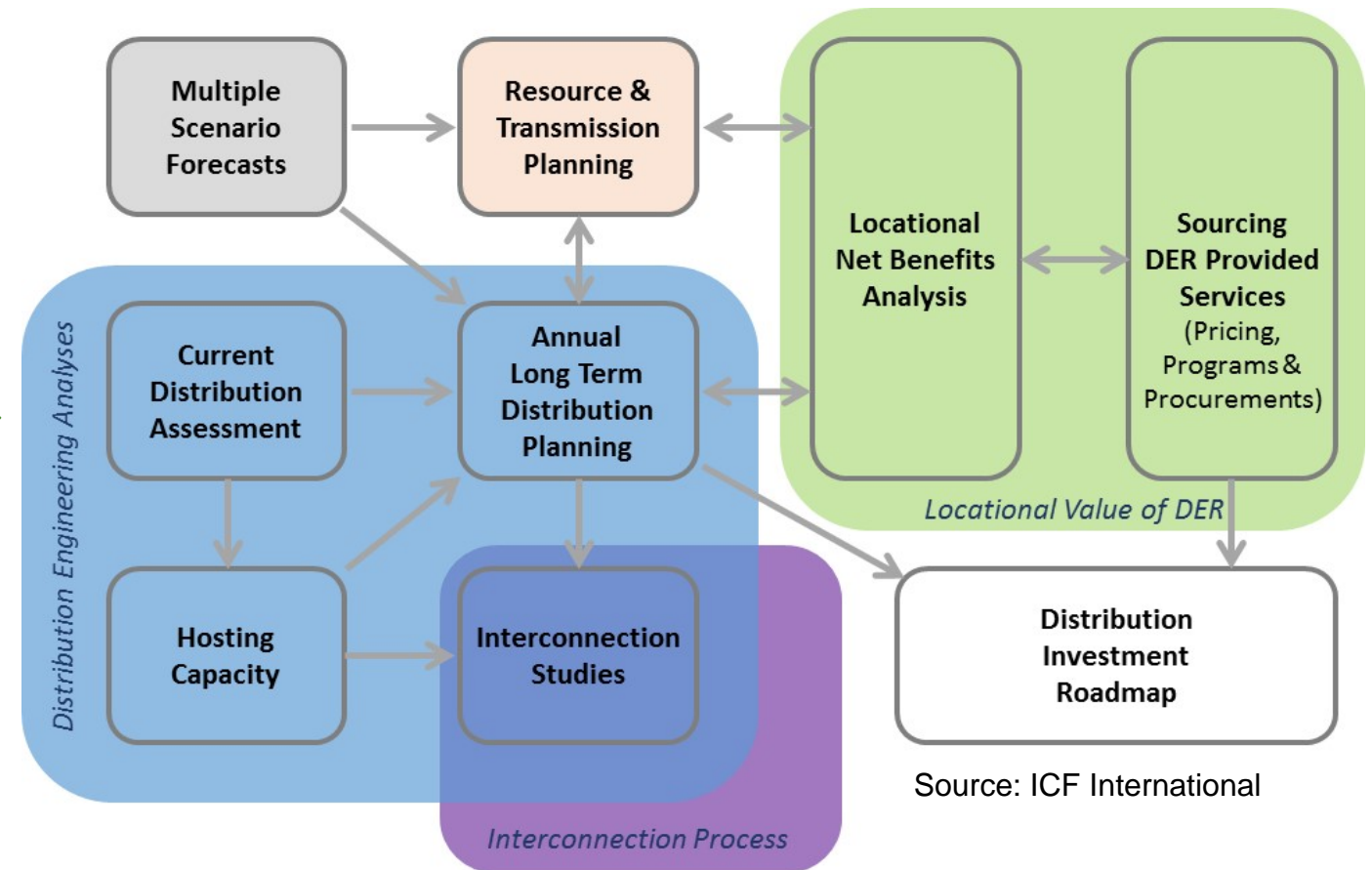
Image and Data Source: 2019 Integrated Resource Planning Report (CaseU-20471)  
 Data Source: GTM GTM Solar Markets Insight Report Q4, 2018

# Integrated Distribution Planning

## Traditional Distribution Planning



## Integrated Distribution Planning Framework



# Integrated Distribution Planning Elements



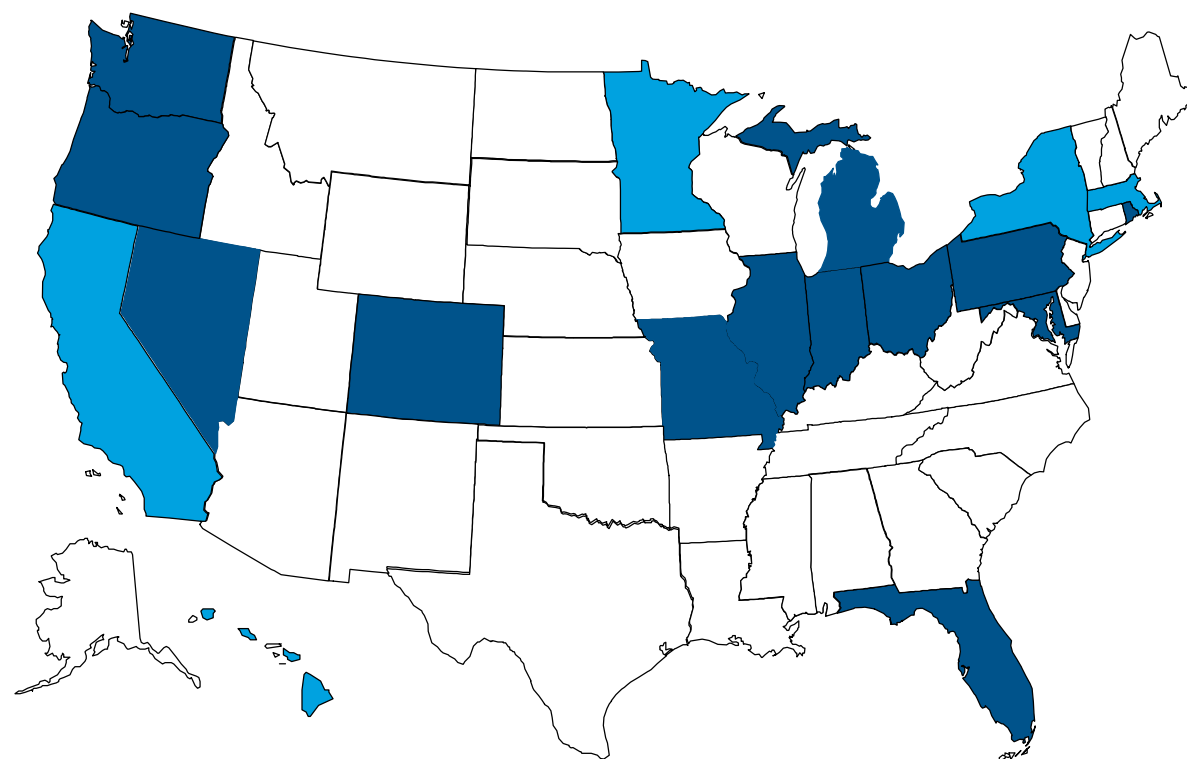
Source: ICF

# Illustrative Internal Touchpoints



Source: ICF

# Overview of National IDP Activity



- States Gaining Momentum
- States with Advanced Practices

Planning Approaches	States With Advanced Practices					Other States' Approaches										
	California	Hawaii	Massachusetts	Minnesota	New York	D.C.	Florida	Illinois	Indiana	Maryland	Michigan	Ohio	Oregon	Pennsylvania	Rhode Island	Washington
Distribution system plan requirement <sup>1</sup>	√	√	√	*	√					√	√					
Grid modernization plan requirement	√	√	√	√	√											
Incentives reflecting locational value	√				√											
Hosting capacity analysis requirement	√	√		√	√											
Non-wires alternatives requirements	√				√										√	
Standardized calculations / processes	√				√											
Storm hardening requirements							√			√						
No planning requirement but proceeding underway <sup>2</sup>						√		√				√	√		√	√
Requirement to summarize current practice				√	√					√						
Voluntary distribution or grid modernization plans supporting surcharge/rider cost recovery								√	√			√		√		
Improved alignment / linking processes	√			*											*	*
Required reporting on poor-performing circuits and improvement plans							√	√				√		√	√	

√ is used to indicate the planning approach is applicable under the present regulatory or statutory requirements.  
 \* is used to indicate that the planning approach would apply under pending proposals or proposed decisions.

<sup>1</sup> Requirements for one or more utilities.

<sup>2</sup> States noted in this row have processes underway which may result in adoption of one or multiple planning approaches listed in this table.

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Source: LBNL, State Engagement in Electric Distribution System Planning (2017)

# MORNING BREAK

9:50 – 10 AM

## Five Year Distribution Planning Stakeholder Meeting

Michigan Public Service Commission  
Lake Superior Hearing Room

June 27, 2019





# TOPIC 1:

## Load and DER Forecasting

Five Year Distribution Planning  
Stakeholder Meeting

Michigan Public Service Commission  
Lake Superior Hearing Room

June 27, 2019





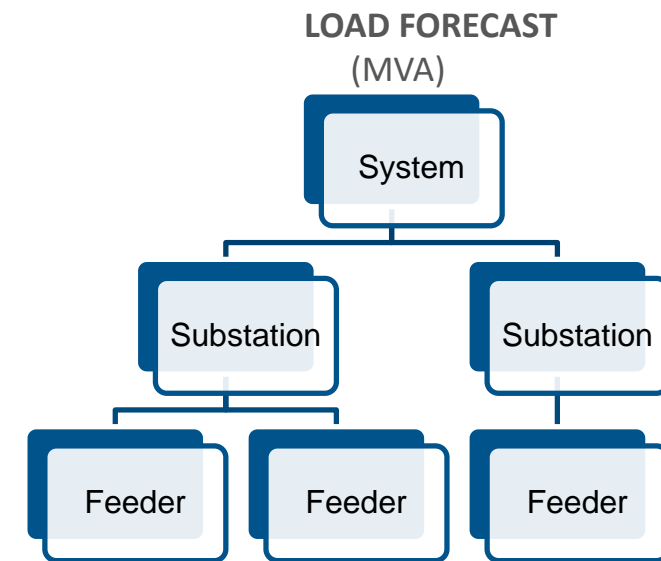
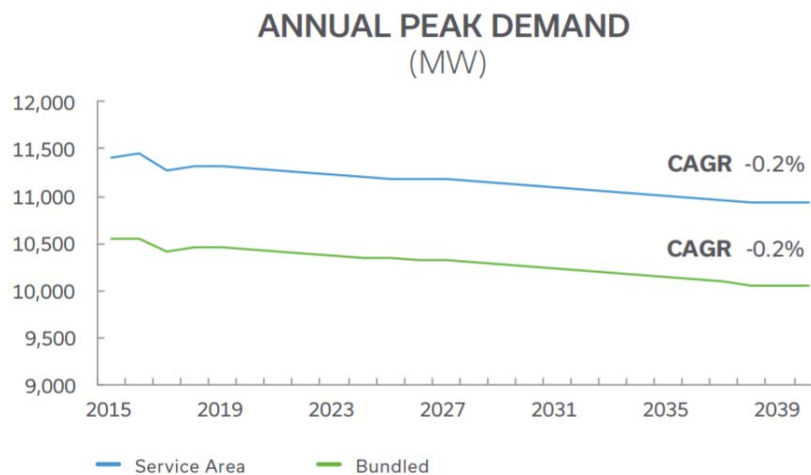
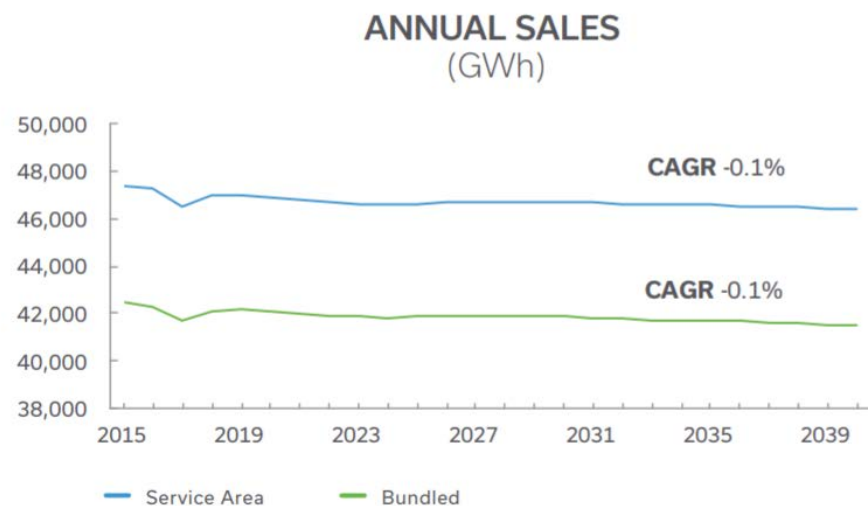
# LOAD AND DER FORECASTING

Lansing, MI  
June 27, 2019

# What is Load Forecasting?

Load forecasting is a projection of the actual amount of power that customers are expected to be using in a future period.

- It is one of several key forecasts continuously tracked by utilities



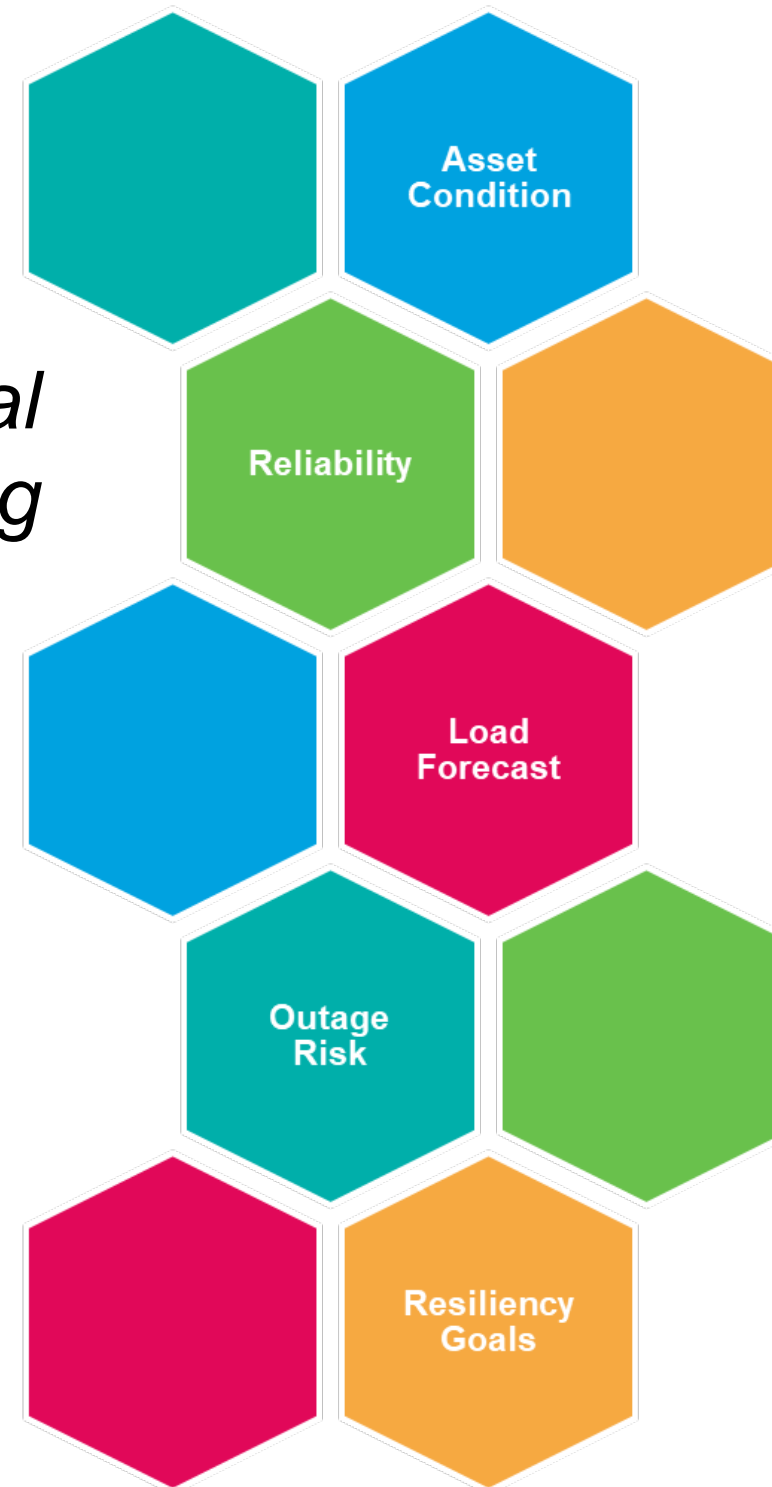
- Maintained at multiple levels: System; Substation; Feeder
- Deeply detailed as load varies across location and time
- Allows utilities to ensure that equipment ratings and distribution system planning criteria are maintained

Source for "Annual Sales" and "Annual Peak Demand" Charts: DTE Electric Company 2017 Integrated Resource Plan

# Significance of Load Forecasting

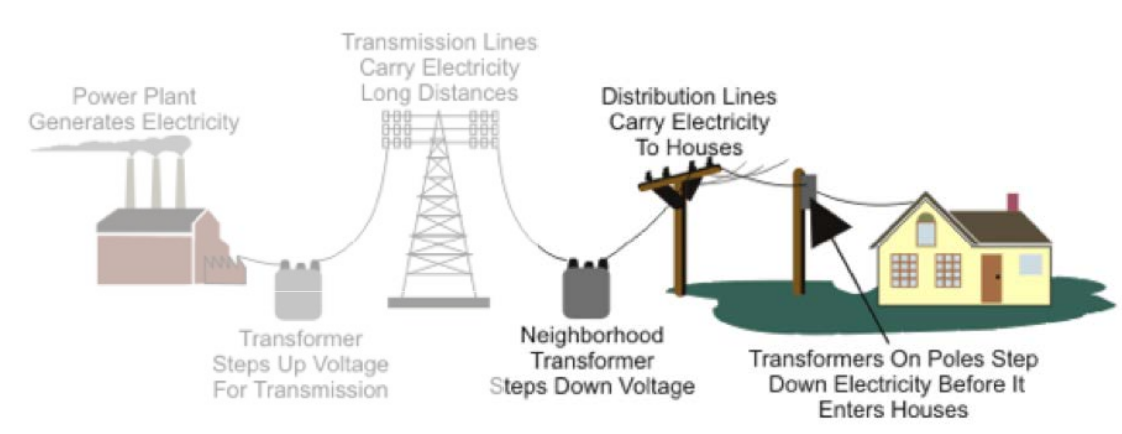
*Load Forecasting is a foundational component of the distribution planning process.*

- Utility distribution planning imperatives typically include providing capacity safely, reliably, and at reasonable cost
- Load forecasts are key to meeting these imperatives
- They also support utility investment decisions

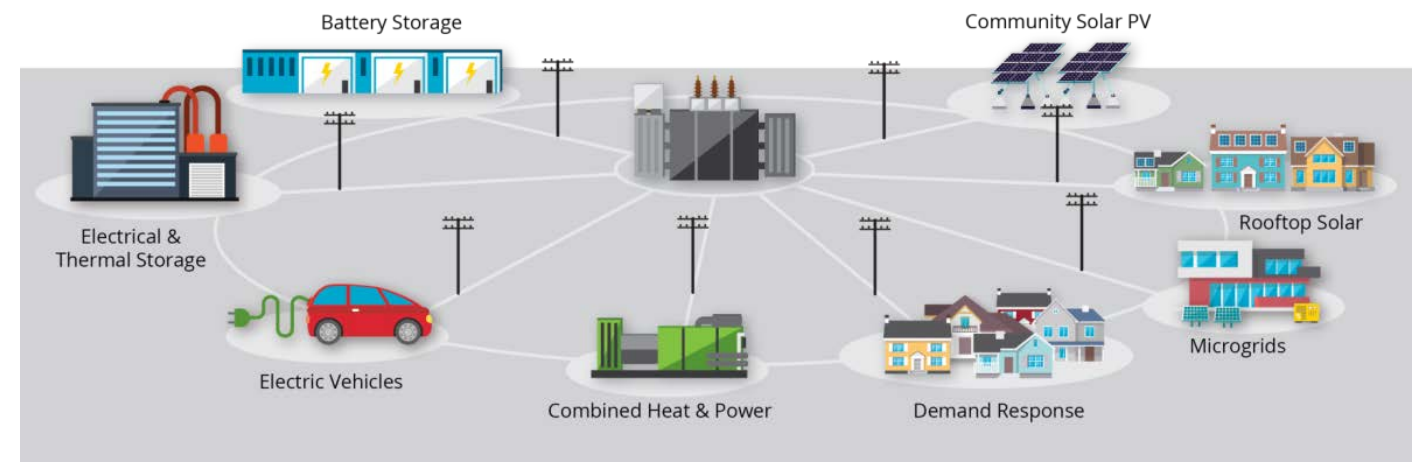


# Evolution of Forecasting

## Today: Load Forecasting



## Emerging: Load and DER Forecasting



- Ensure customer growth is accounted for
- Capacity and reliability planning is for peak loading conditions

- Integrate the presence and availability of Distributed Energy Resources (DER) into forecasts and planning processes
- Capacity and reliability planning extends beyond peak load periods

# What are DER?

**Resources located at the electric distribution system, either behind the customer meter or in front of the meter**



Source: ACEEE



Source: Nest

- Energy Efficiency
- Demand Response
- Solar PV
- Energy Storage
- CHP / Cogen
- Electric Vehicles
- Wind
- Microgrid
- Biogas
- Biomass
- Fuel Cells
- Geothermal



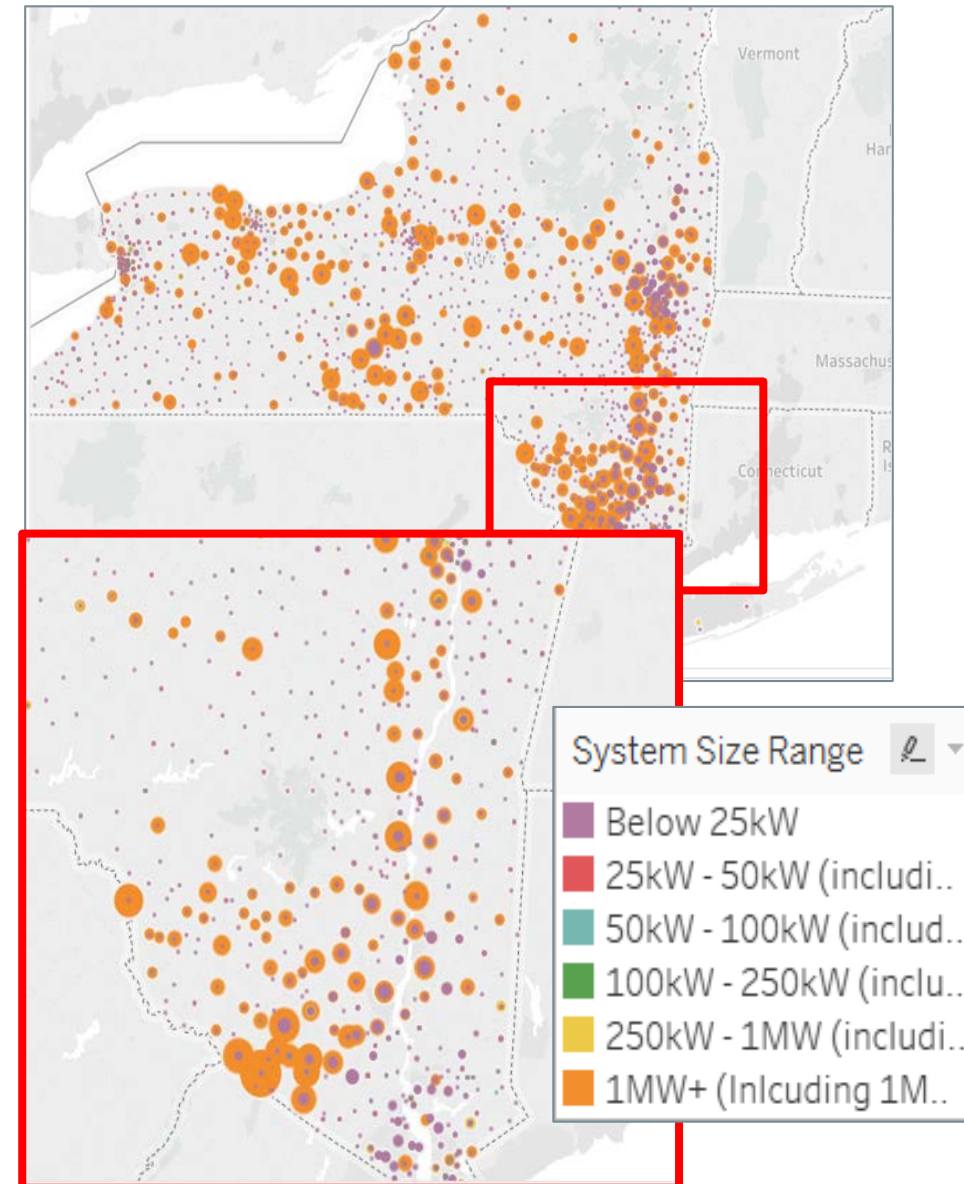
# What is DER Forecasting?

DER Forecasting is an emerging area concerned with understanding the geospatial and temporal qualities of future DER.

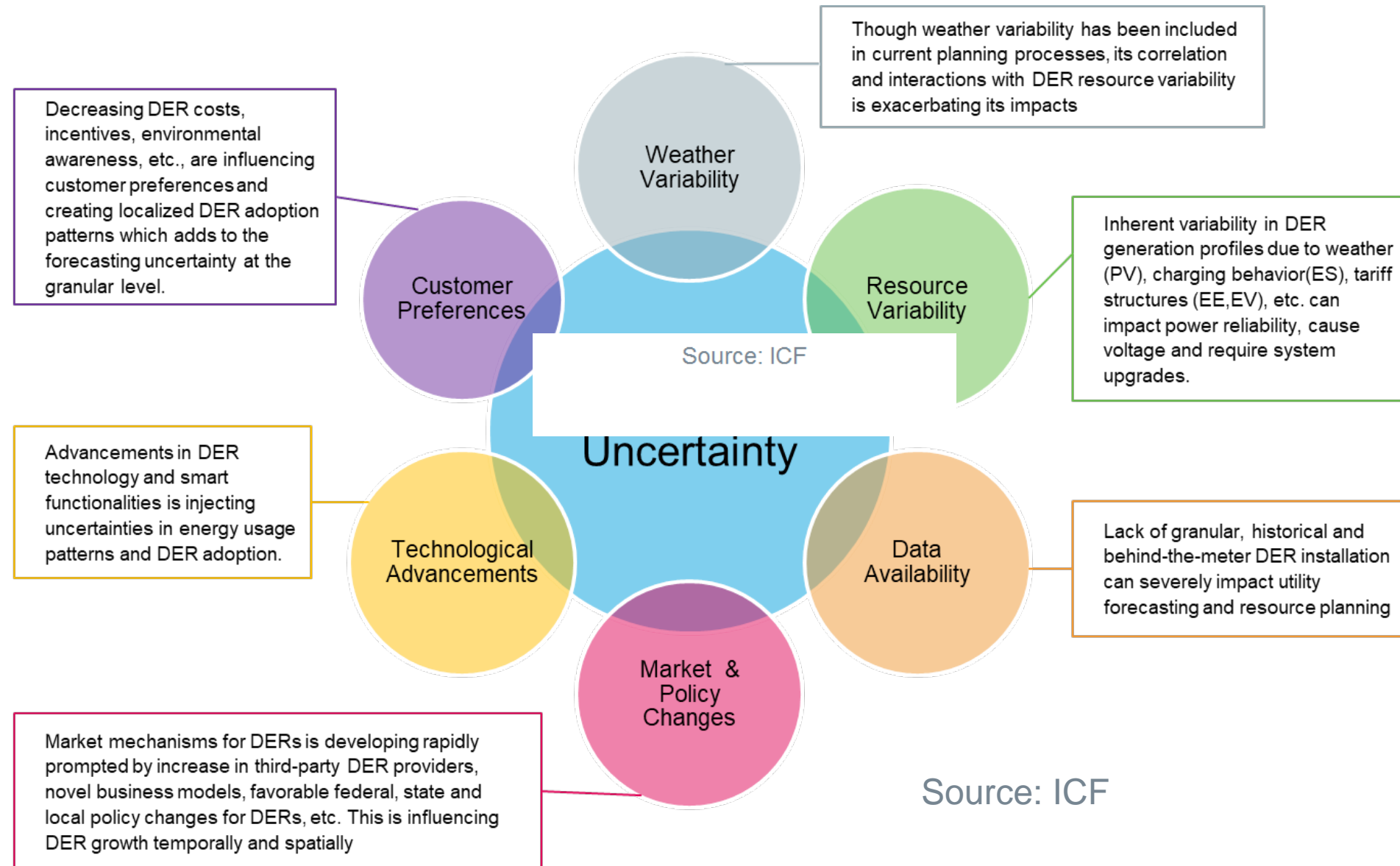
- How much DER is being adopted?
- Which customers are adopting?
- Where are these resources?
- What is the effect on the system?

There is significant uncertainty around these questions, given the nascency of DER deployment.

Because DER is expected to continue to grow, the industry is working toward tackling challenges in this domain.



# DER Forecasting Challenges

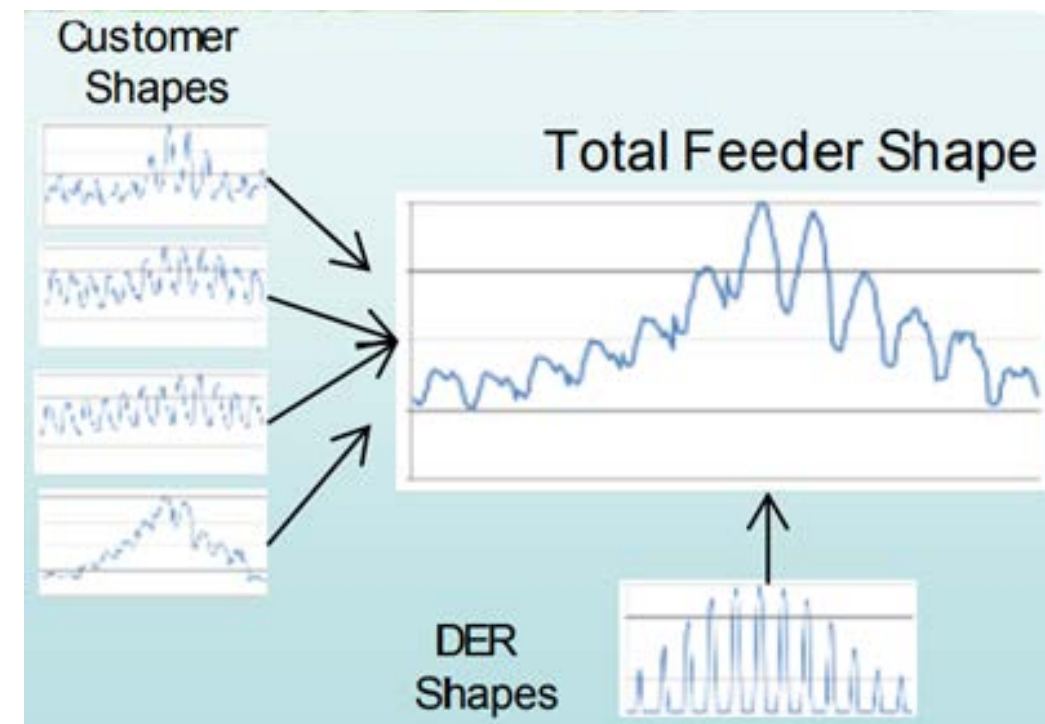
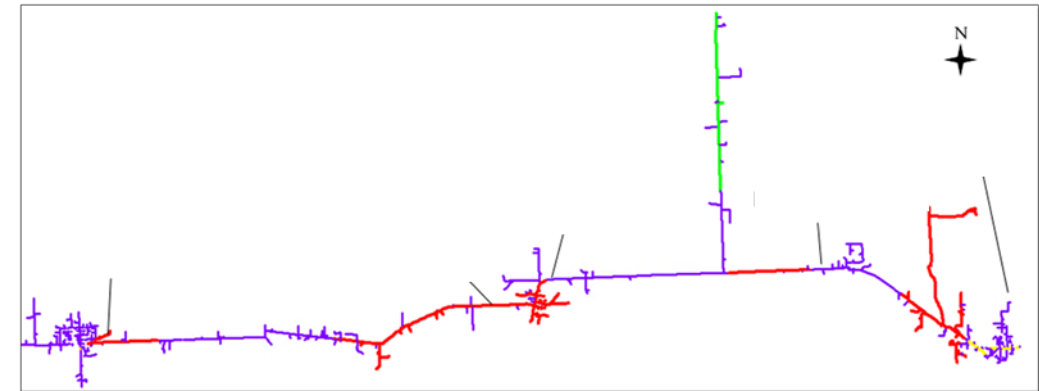




# Evolving Area #1 – Improving Temporal and Spatial Granularity of Load Forecasts

Some utilities are pursuing investments in distribution planning to yield such items as:

- Higher quality circuit information
- Improved load allocations through integration of AMI data with planning software
- Inclusion of DG and Energy Storage devices in circuit power flow models
- Seasonal load and resource profiles by distribution feeder
- Bottom-up compilation of distribution feeder-level forecasts inclusive of DER and EVs (gross and net load)



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Image source: DER Growth Scenarios and Distribution Load Forecasting Working Group Discussion, May. 3th, "Distributed Generation". [http://drpwg.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/GSWG\\_Distributed\\_Generation-FINAL.pdf](http://drpwg.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/GSWG_Distributed_Generation-FINAL.pdf)

# Evolving Area # 2 – Scenario Analysis and Probabilistic Forecasts

- Scenario Analysis – developing multiple possible scenarios to allow for forecasts to capture a full range of possible outcomes
- Probabilistic forecasts – incorporates the probability distribution of multiple inputs to produce a distribution of possible circuit loads that reflect possible outcomes in probability-weighted framework

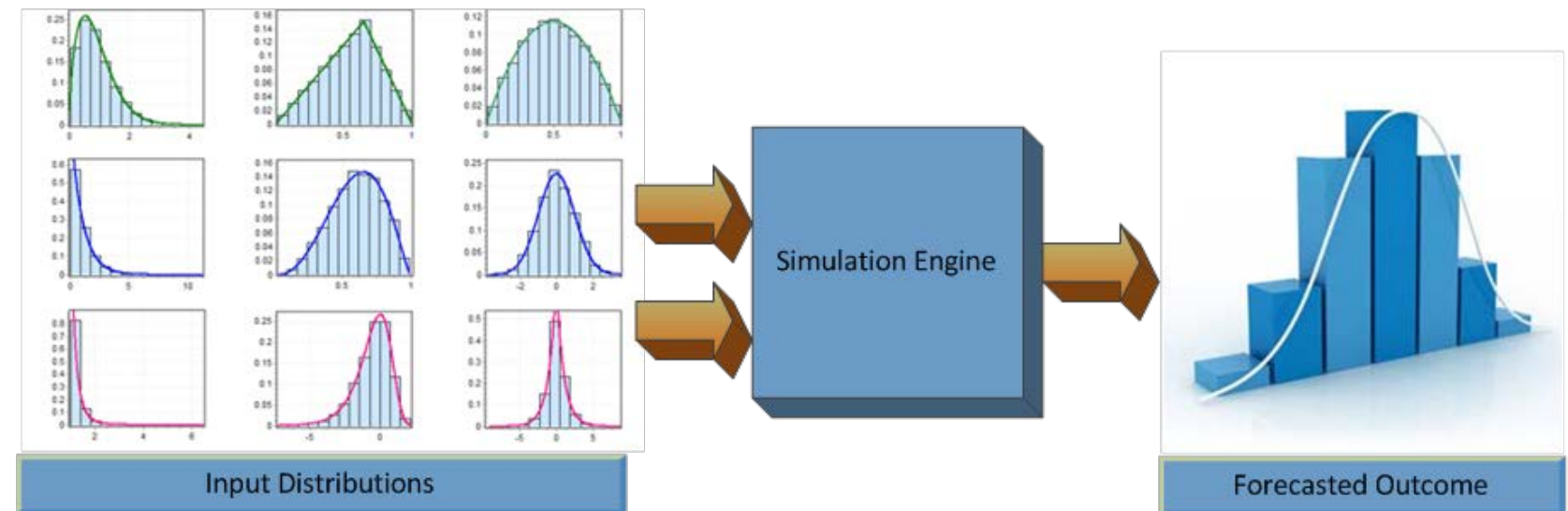


Image source: DER Growth Scenarios and Distribution Load Forecasting Working Group Discussion, May. 3th, "Distributed Generation". [http://drpwg.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/GSWG\\_Distributed\\_Generation-FINAL.pdf](http://drpwg.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/GSWG_Distributed_Generation-FINAL.pdf)

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# Conclusions

- Utilities are engaged in a continuous process of load forecasting and its refinement, which forms the foundation for distribution planning.
- These forecasting processes have supported the operation of a distribution system that has supplied needed capacity, reliably, safely, and affordably.
- Utility system level forecasting tied to peak hour demand has a long history with significant experience.
- Circuit level forecasting is undergoing change subject to DER presence. Utilities are seeking to evolve forecasting processes in a prudent manner
- Options exist for refining forecasting processes, however, the introduction of these must be balanced against the effort involved and customer value.
- Potential future increases in energy storage devices and/or electric vehicles will continue to require refinements to the utility forecasting process.
- Probabilistic methods and scenario assumptions are beginning to be used to bound the short- and long-term impacts of forecast variability.

# TOPIC 2: Hosting Capacity

Five Year Distribution Planning  
Stakeholder Meeting

Michigan Public Service Commission  
Lake Superior Hearing Room

June 27, 2019



# Hosting Capacity

## Methods, Applications, Opportunities and Challenges

Jeff Smith

Manager, Distribution Operations and Planning

[jsmith@epri.com](mailto:jsmith@epri.com)

MPSC Distribution Planning Stakeholder Meeting

6/27/2019 – Lansing, MI



# Outline

- Overview – what is Hosting Capacity?
- Methods
  - Approach evolution
  - Comparisons
- Data and Modeling Requirements
  - State of the industry
  - Implementation Challenges
- Applications

# What is Hosting Capacity and Why is it So Important?

- Definition:
  - Hosting Capacity is the amount of DER that can be accommodated without adversely impacting power quality or reliability under current configurations and without requiring infrastructure upgrades.
- Hosting Capacity is
  - Location dependent
  - Feeder-specific
  - Time-varying
- Hosting capacity considers
  - Voltage violations
  - Thermal overloads
  - Protection mis-operation
  - Safety/reliability/power quality
- Hosting capacity evaluations require distribution system modeling



Generation T&D Solar Storage Demand Response Distributed Energy Regs



FEATURE

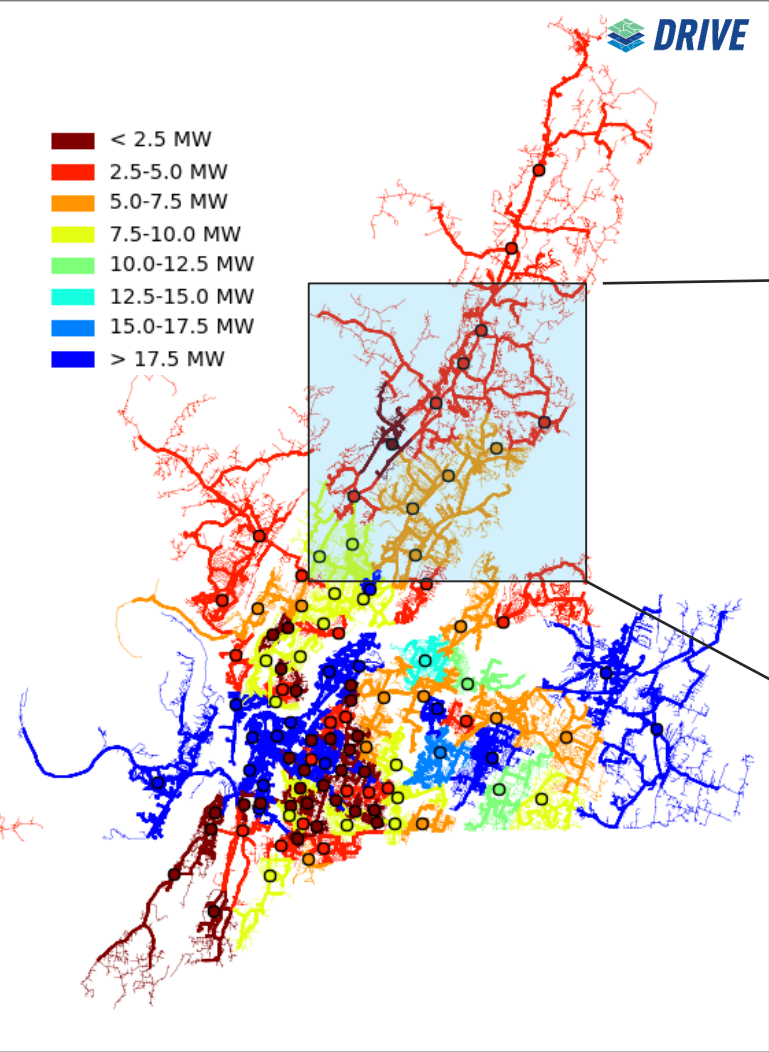
**Why are the newest distribution system buzzwords 'hosting capacity analysis'?**

[Link to Article](#)

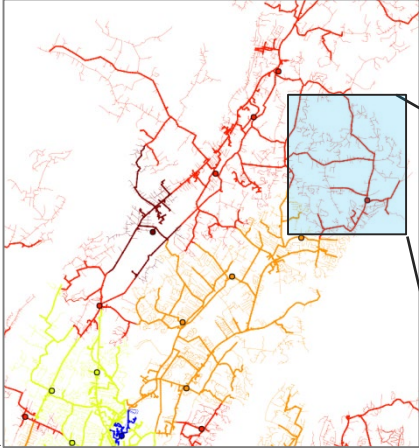
# Hosting Capacity Illustration

● Substation Marker

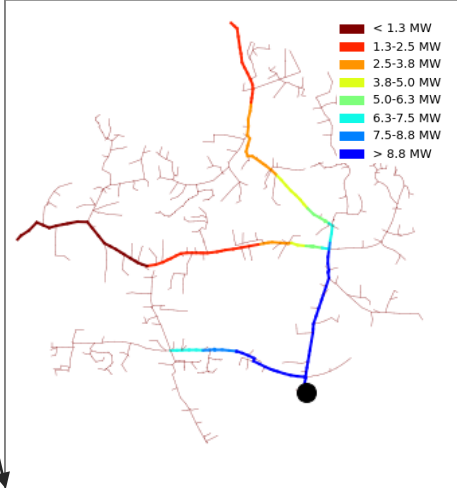
**System Hosting Capacity**  
(~ 300 distribution feeders)



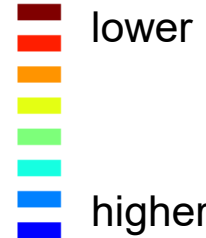
**Substation-level Hosting Capacity**



**Feeder-level Hosting Capacity**



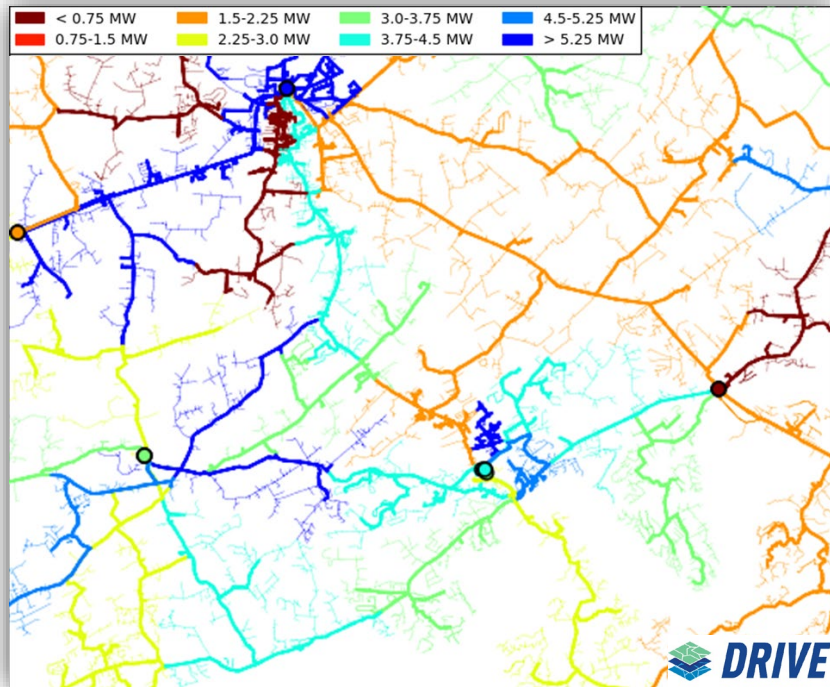
**\*Hosting Capacity**





# Hosting Capacity Methods

# Method Considerations



Granular

- Capture unique feeder-specific responses

Repeatable

- As distribution feeders change

Scalable

- System-wide assessment

Transparent

- Clear and open methods for analysis

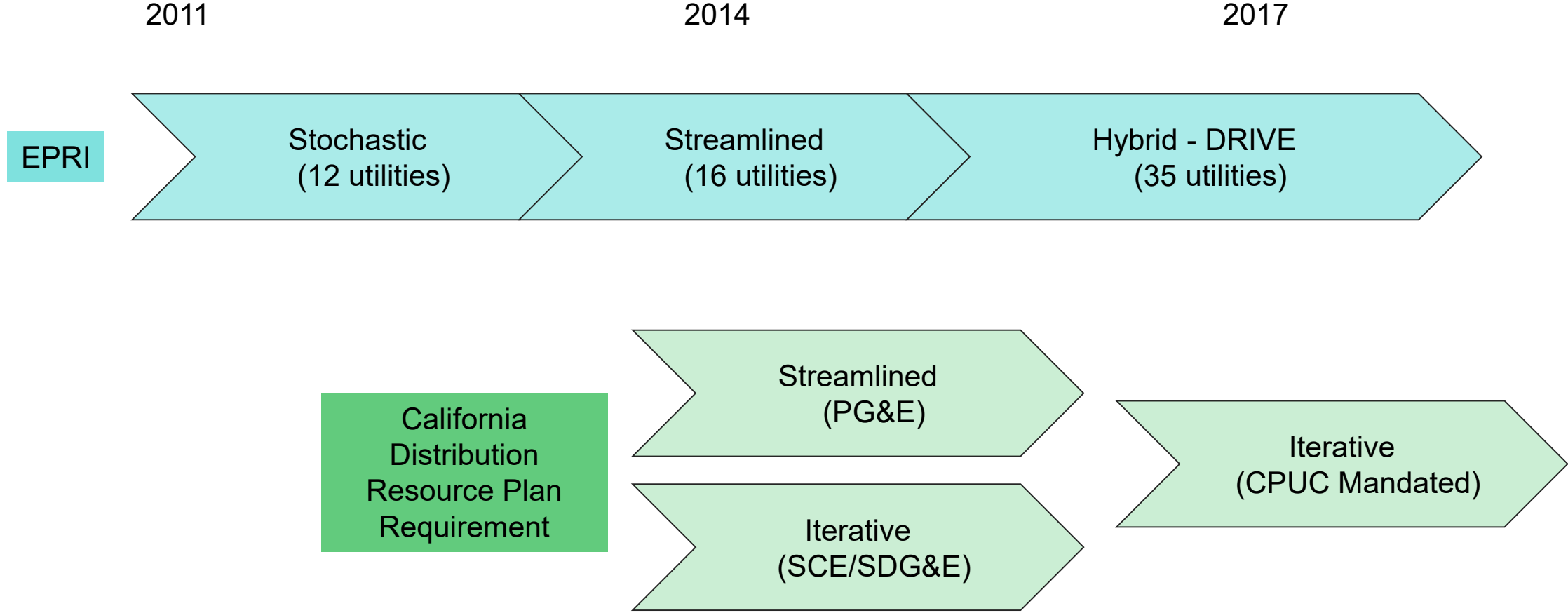
Proven

- Validated techniques

Available

- Utilize readily available utility data and tools

# Background on Hosting Capacity Methods and Evolution



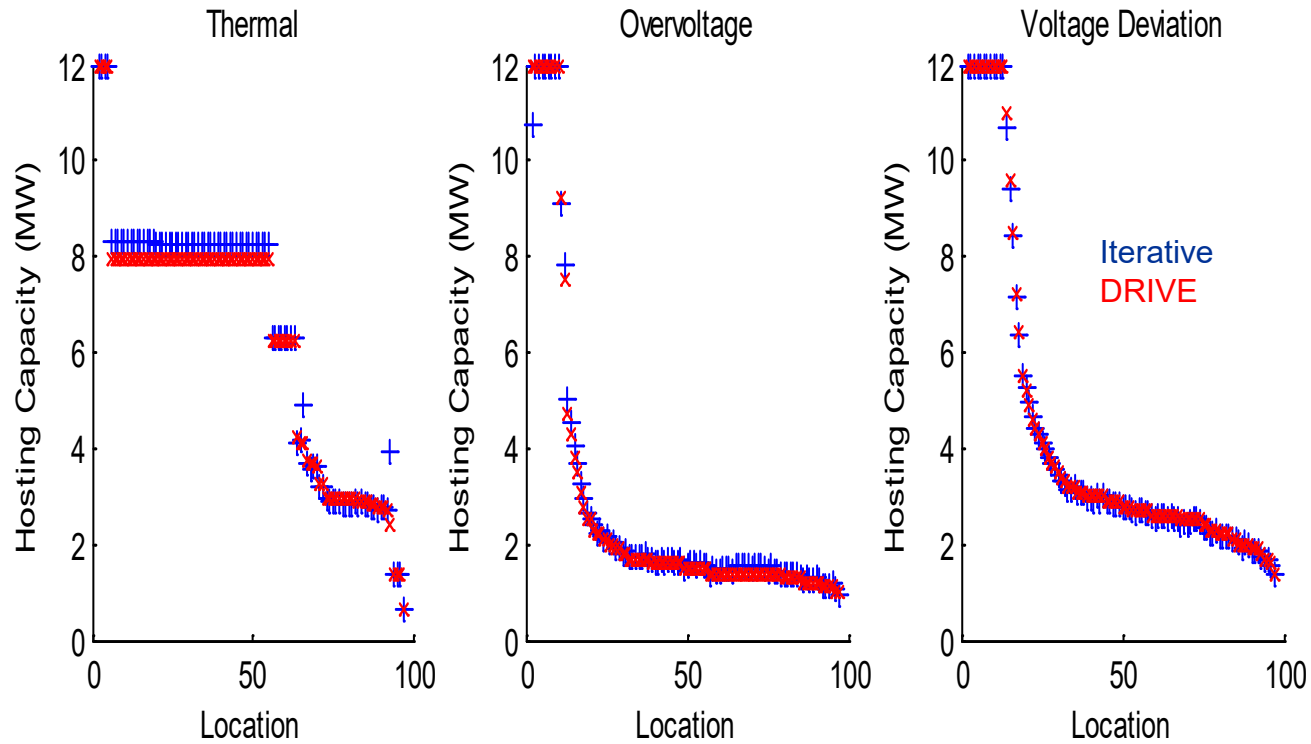
**Hosting Capacity methods have and will continue to evolve**

# Hosting Capacity Methods

Method	Approach	Advantages/Disadvantages	Recommended Use Case
Stochastic	Power flow for all cases	well understood technique, computationally intensive	+DER planning
Iterative (ICA)	Power flow for all cases	well understood technique, computationally intensive	+Inform screening +Inform developers
Streamlined (ICA)	Power flow + calculations	computationally efficient, not fully developed	+Inform screening +Inform developers
Hybrid (DRIVE)	Power flow + calculations	computationally efficient, not well understood method	+DER planning +Inform screening +Inform developers

**Different methods have different ramifications on computation time, data required, and application**

# Comparison of Methods



Different methods can produce similar results

**SDG&E “Iterative” and DRIVE show similar results across multiple feeders**

# Next Steps in Hosting Capacity Methods

- Continue to utilize all methods, encourages innovation
- Enhanced methods need to address new challenges (DER Value assessments, mitigation solutions, automation, etc)
- Perform ongoing validation to better understand each approach

## DRIVE User Group is an example of these efforts:

- Evolving hosting capacity methods and applications through broad industry engagement
- Over 35 utilities joined to date (US, Europe, Asia, Africa)

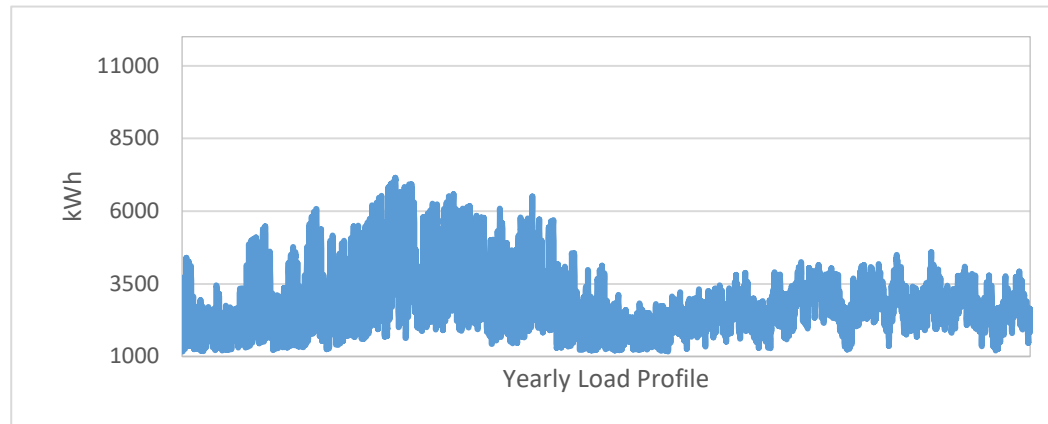


# Hosting Capacity Data Requirements

# System Data Requirements for Hosting Capacity

## Measurement Data

- SCADA information on each feeder to better inform modeling requirements
- Assists in identifying non-traditional planning periods (e.g., daytime minimum load)



## GIS Mapping of Distribution Infrastructure

- What assets are located where
- Ratings/capabilities
- Existing DER

### *EPRI Experience*

*Distribution utilities typically have sufficient GIS representation. However, utilities may not have 100% SCADA coverage.*

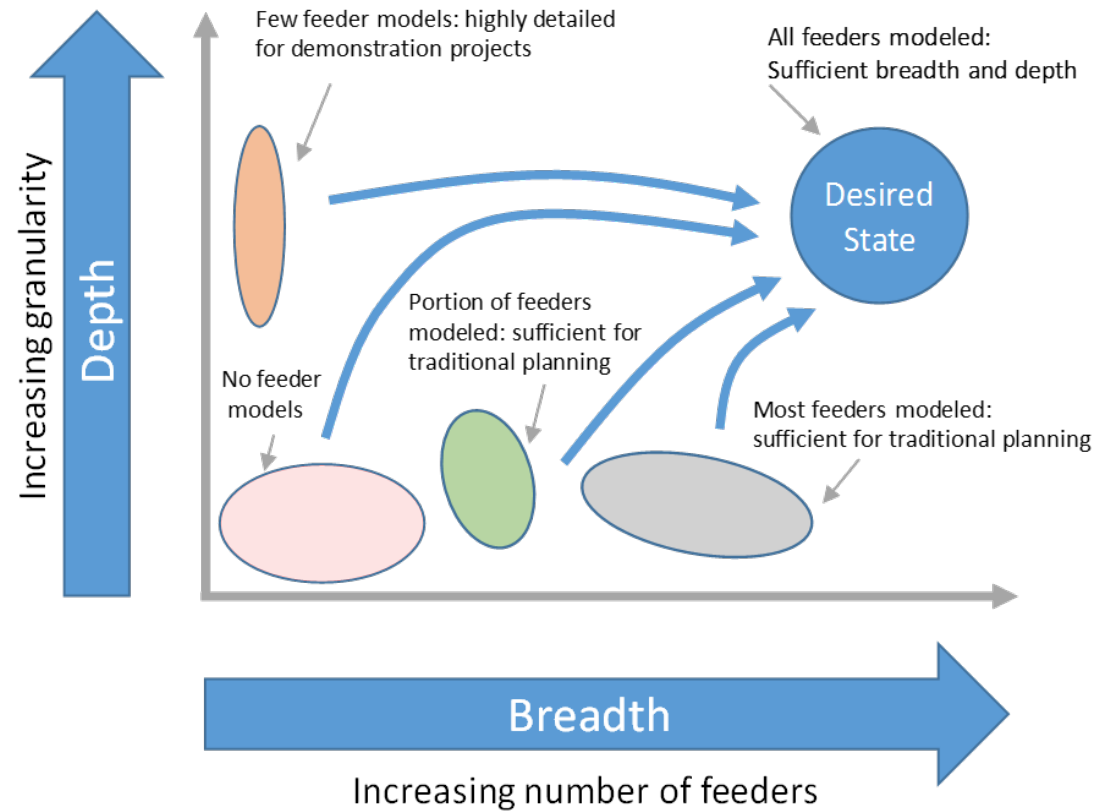


# Modeling Requirements for Hosting Capacity

- Individual feeder analysis
  - Medium-voltage assets modeled
  - Peak-load models represented (current capability for most utilities)
  - Off-peak models of distribution system (not historically needed)
  - Interconnected DER
- System-wide analysis
  - Models of all individual feeders

## *EPRI Experience*

*Significant variations across the industry regarding availability of distribution models*



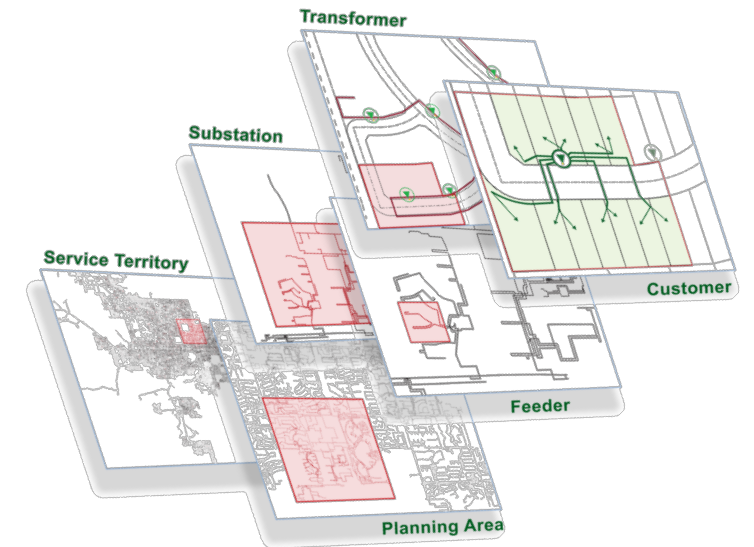
*Distribution Modeling Guidelines- Executive Summary: Recommendations for System and Asset Modeling for Distributed Energy Resource Assessments, EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2015. 3002008894.*

# Challenge: Distribution System is Immense” in Scale

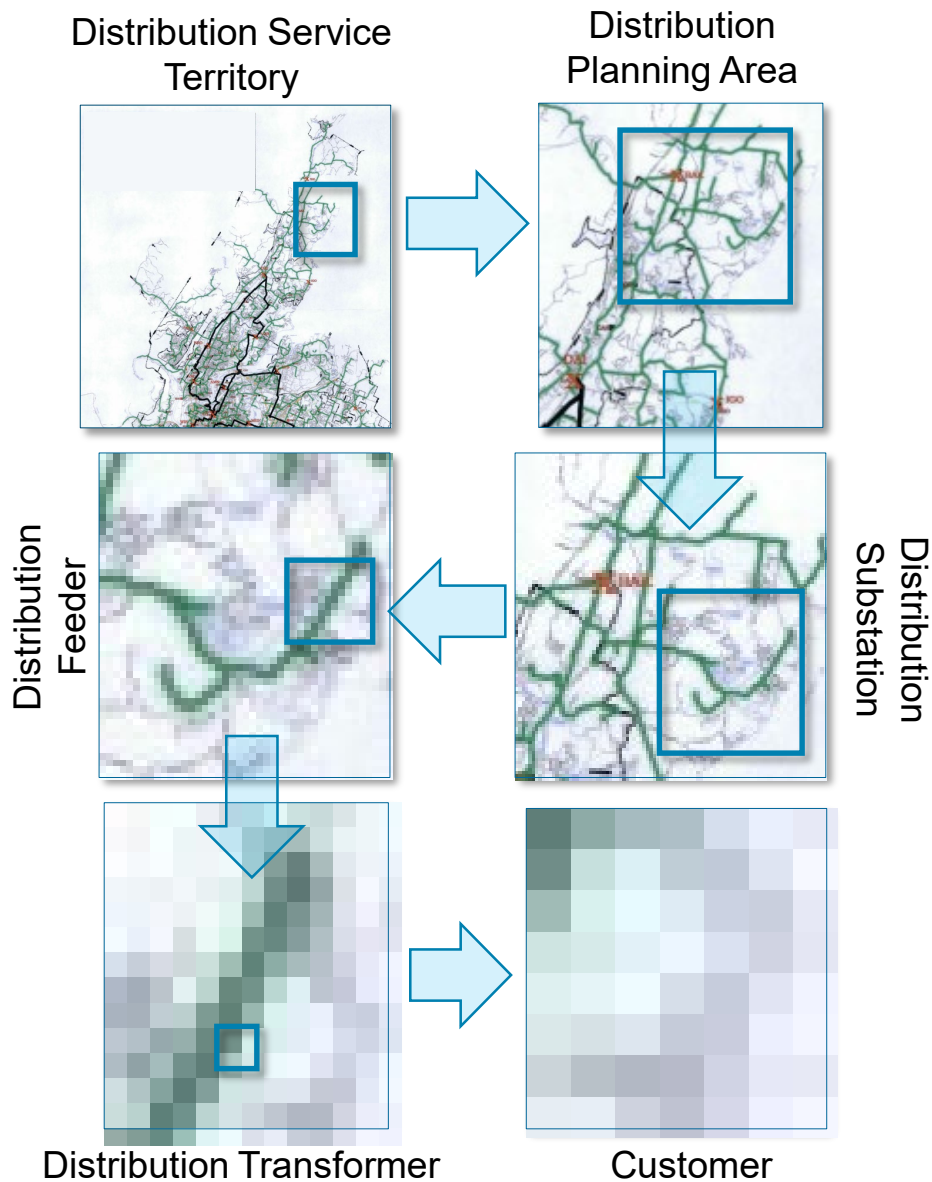
## Breadth

- Models of entire distribution area may not be available - some are developed on as-need basis
- Traditional planning techniques have been successful w/o models
- System-wide distribution models are difficult to develop and maintain

Typical Distribution Utility	Count
Service Territory	1
Planning Area	1's - 10's
Substations	10's - 100's
Feeders	100's -1000's
Transformers	1000s - 1,000,000's
Customers	100,000's - 1,000,000's



# Challenge – Grid-Edge Modeling and Measurements



## Depth

- “Edge” of grid is less known
- Models may not be available
- Metering/sensing data may not be available as well

# Additional Consideration: Connected DER and Queue

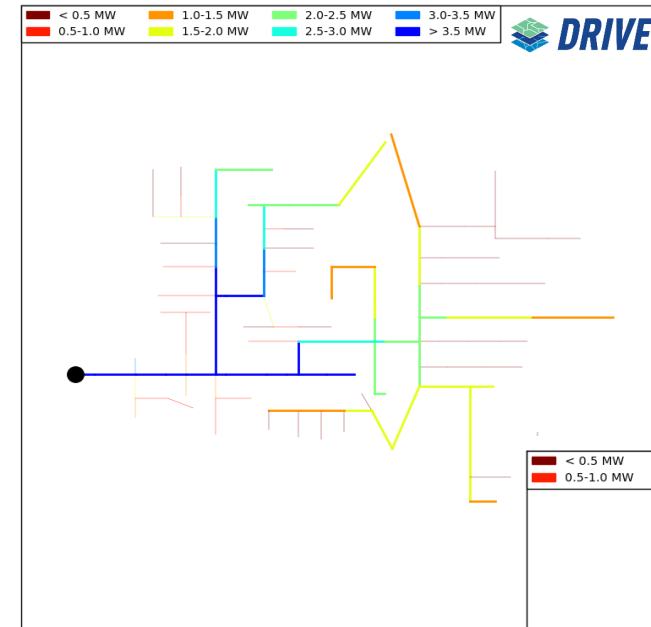
## Issue

- Hosting capacity should consider
  - Connected DER (existing)
  - Approved DER (in interconnection queue - this can be very difficult to manage)

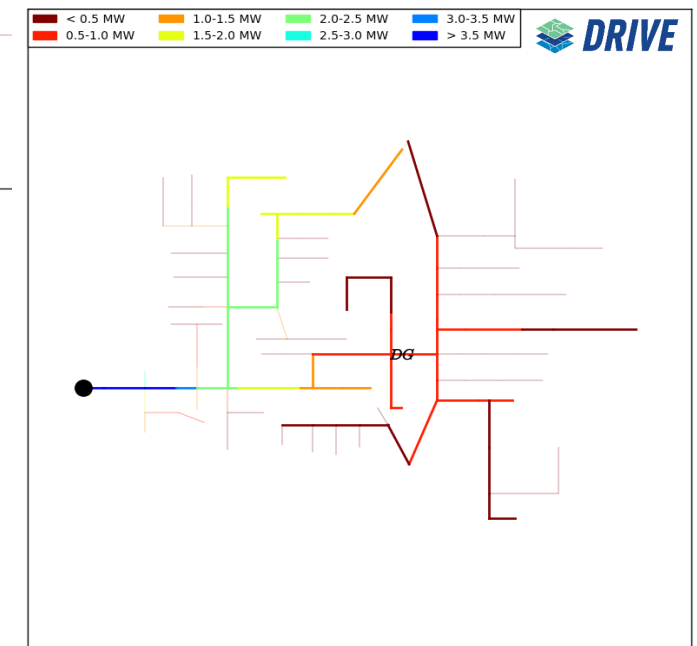
## Solution

- Mapping of existing and newly approved DER into planning models - requires new processes to be in place.
- Distribution models updated on regular basis (refresh cycle determined based upon need)

Without Connected DER



With Connected DER



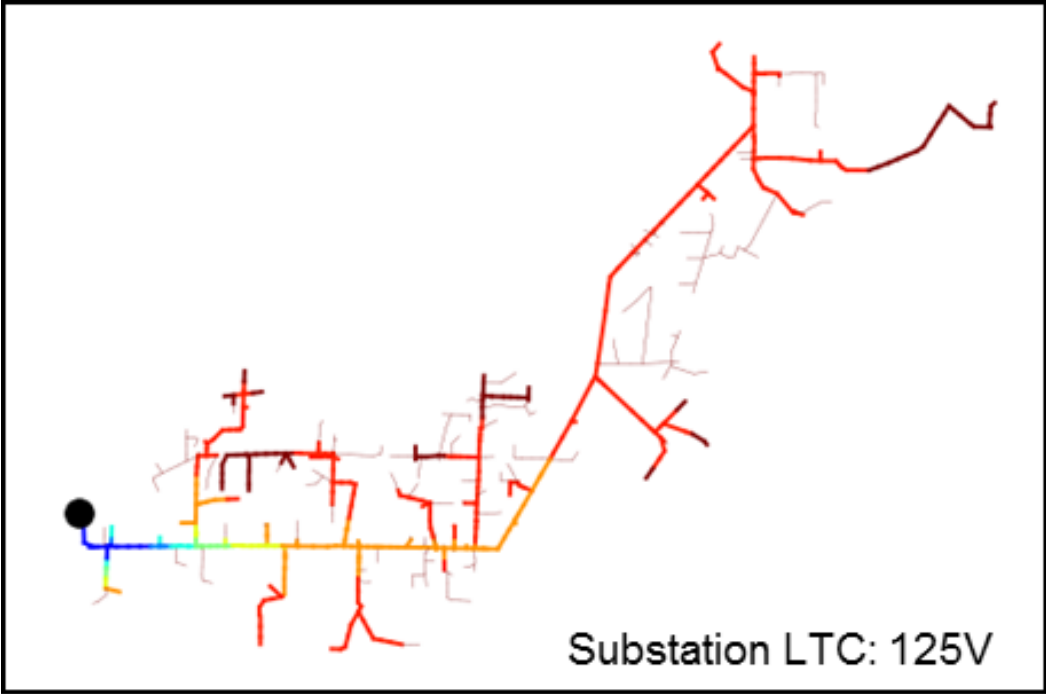
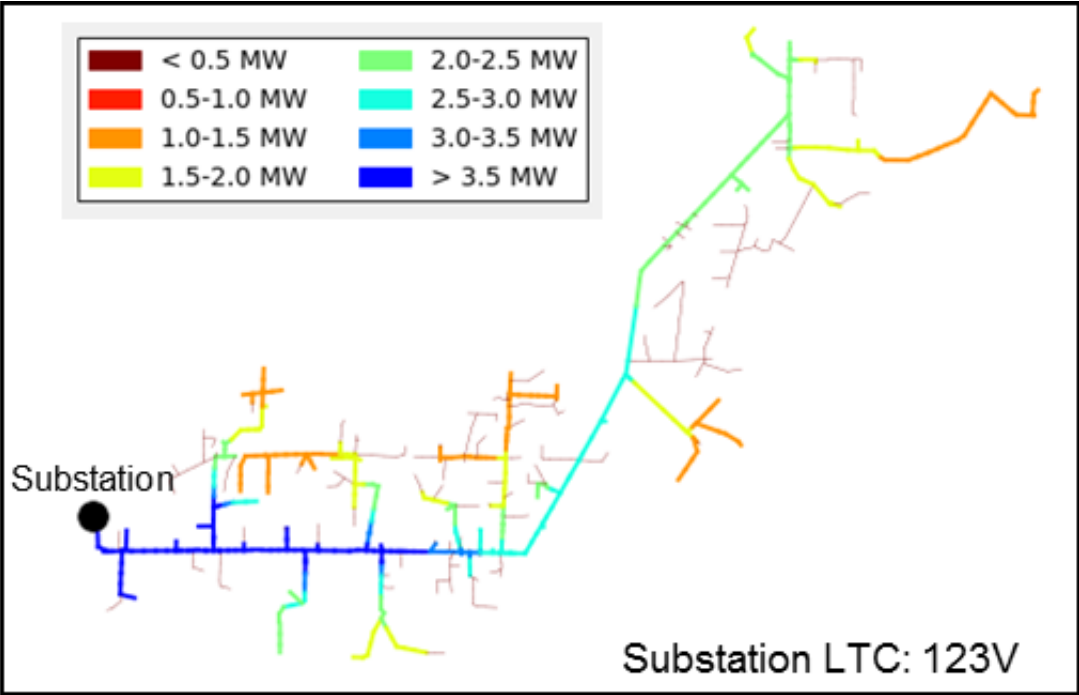
# Additional Consideration: Hosting Capacity Impact Factors

- Various factors impact hosting capacity
  - Some more important than others
  - Modeling all impact factors extremely difficult
- Modeling accuracy - Inaccurate/outdated data
  - Planning models not reflecting design and/or “as operated” conditions
  - Future (queued) DER and load uncertainty
  - All models are an approximation

Impact	Hosting Capacity Impact Factor	
High	DER	Location
High		Type/Technology/Portfolio
High		Smart Inverter
High		Communication and Control
High		Aggregation
Medium		Efficiency
Medium		Single-Phase
Low		Vendor
Low		Plant layout
Medium		local weather patterns (renewables)
Medium	Panel orientation (PV)	
High	Distribution	Voltage control scheme
High		Configuration/reconfiguration
High		Load level and allocation
High		Phasing information (load/laterals)
Medium		Protection system design
Medium		Granularity of MV models (# of nodes)
High		Grounding practices
High	Misc	Time
Medium		Modeling of service transformers
Medium		Modeling of services/secondaries
Low		Planning software platform
Medium		Transmission constraints
Medium	Transmission grid configuration/dispatch	

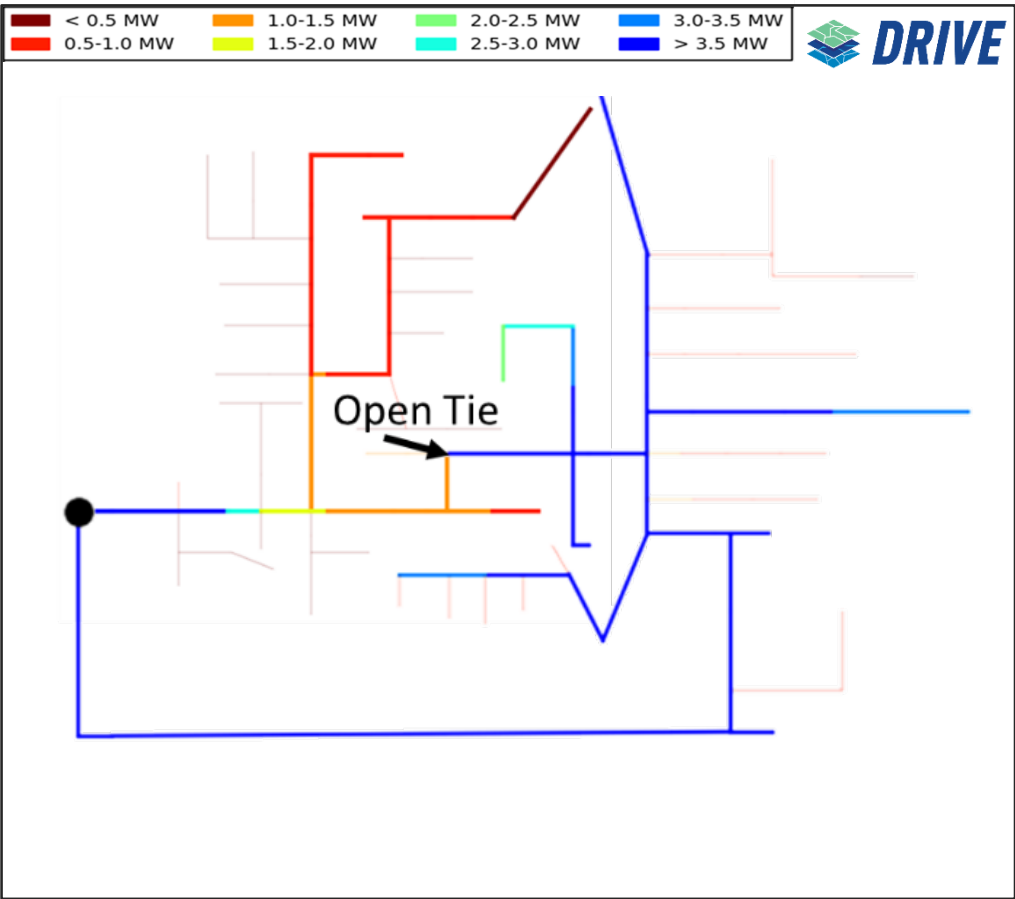
Minor variations in input assumptions and impact factors have greater impact on results than one method vs another

# Example: Impact of Voltage Regulation on HC

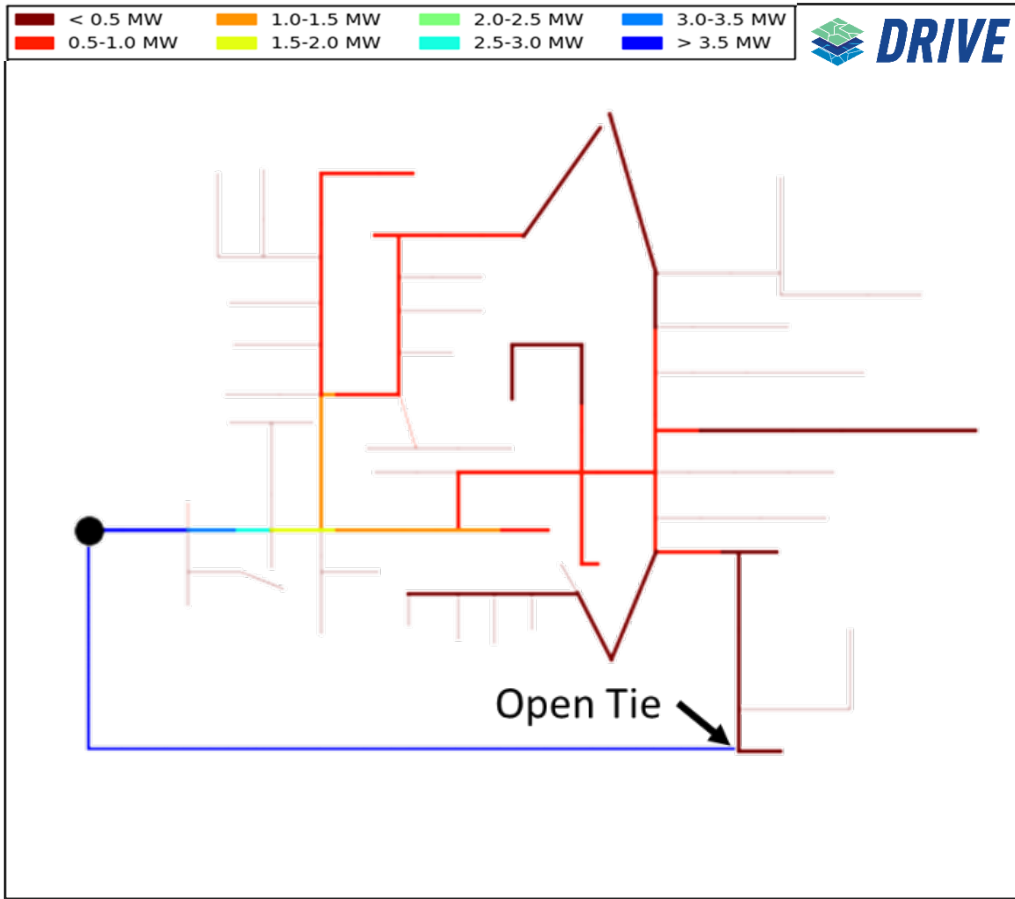


# Example: Impact of Feeder Reconfiguration on HC

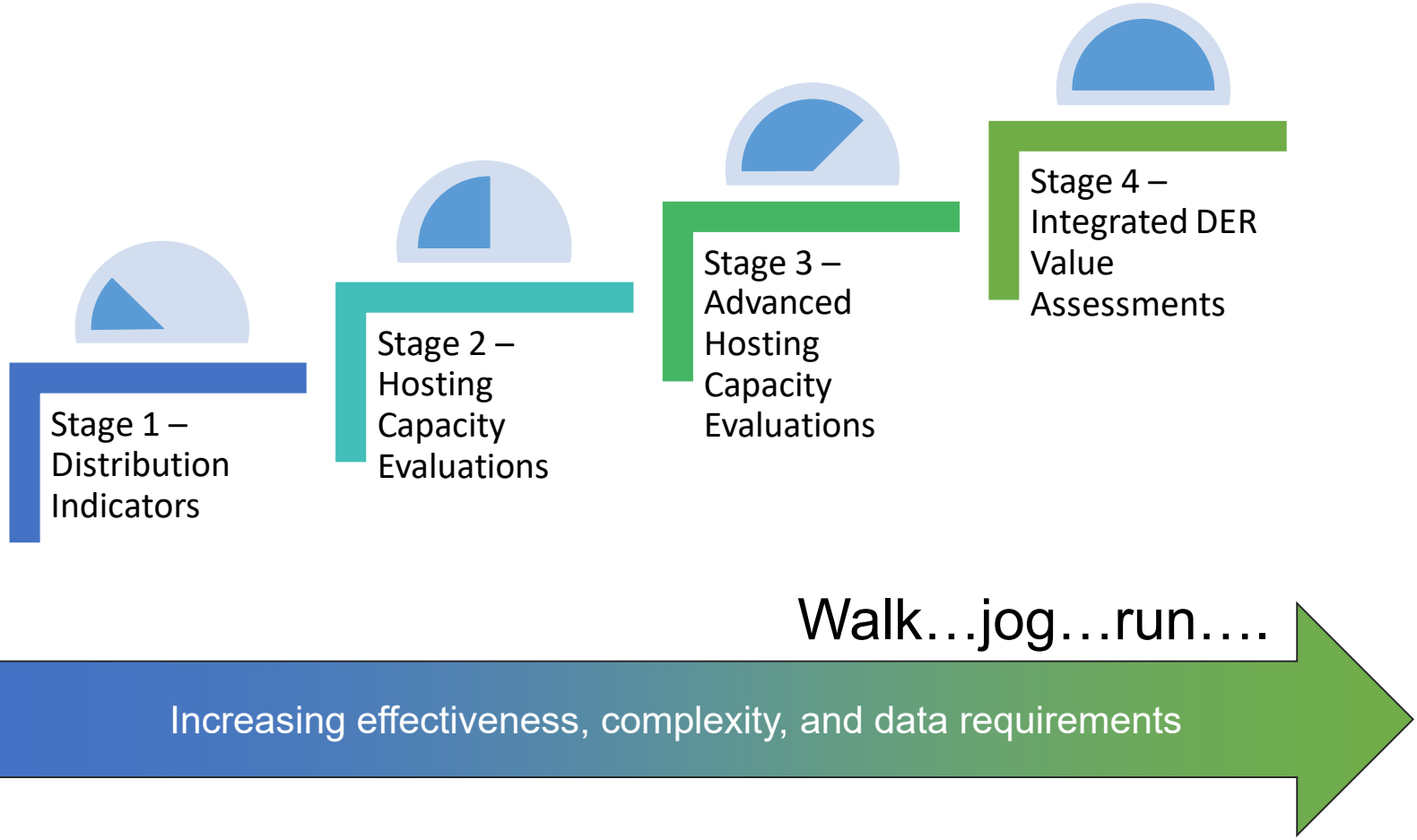
## Normal Configuration



## Alternative Configuration



# Example Implementation Roadmap



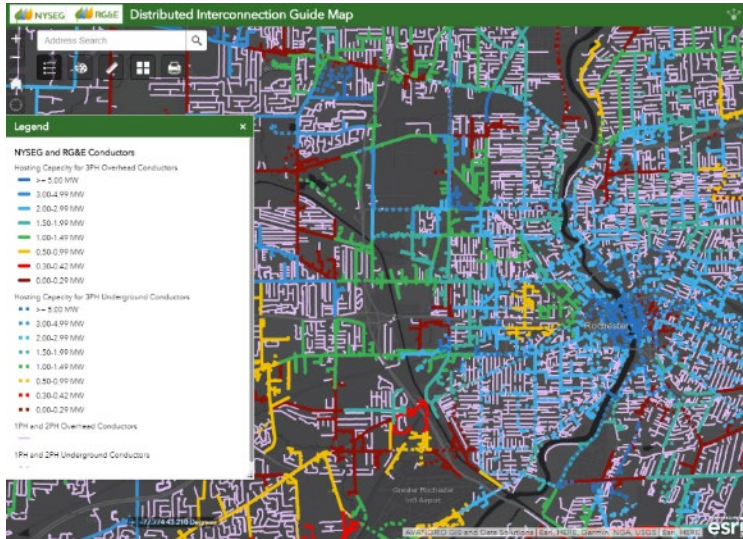
*Defining a Roadmap for Successful Implementation of a Hosting Capacity Method for New York State, EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2016. 3002008848*



# Hosting Capacity Applications

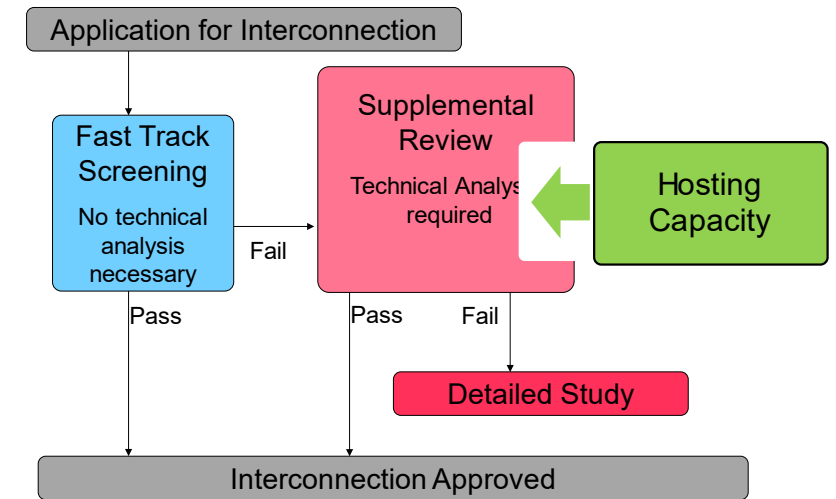
# How Utilities Are Applying Hosting Capacity

## Informing Developers

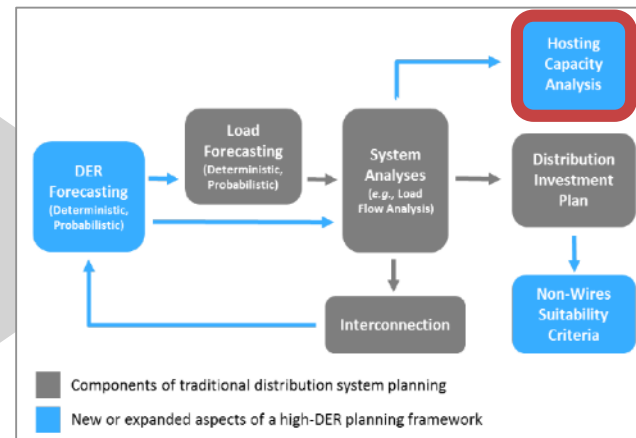
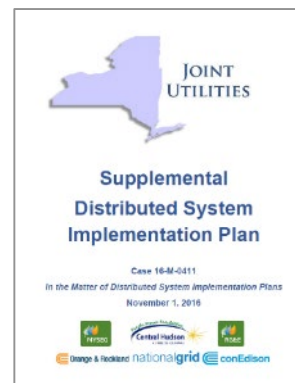


NYSEG/REGAE, [NY Utility Maps](#)

## Assisting Screening



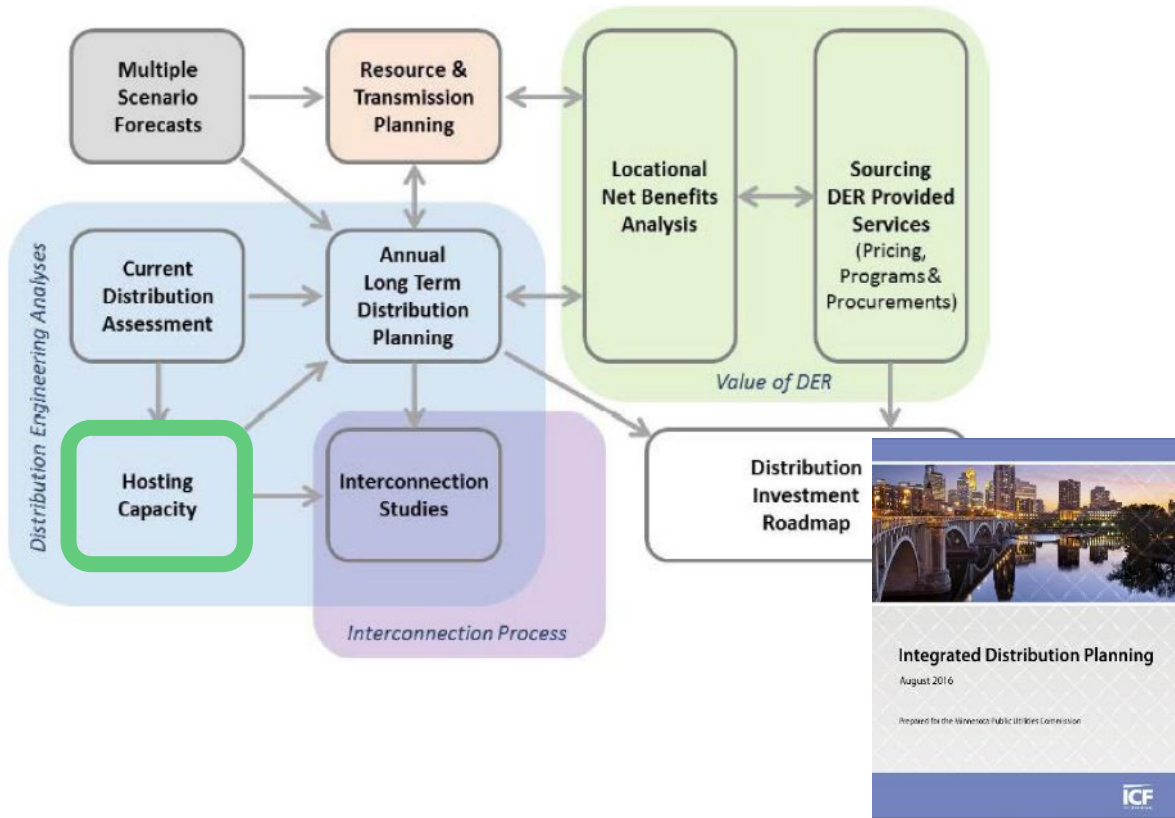
## Enabling DER Planning



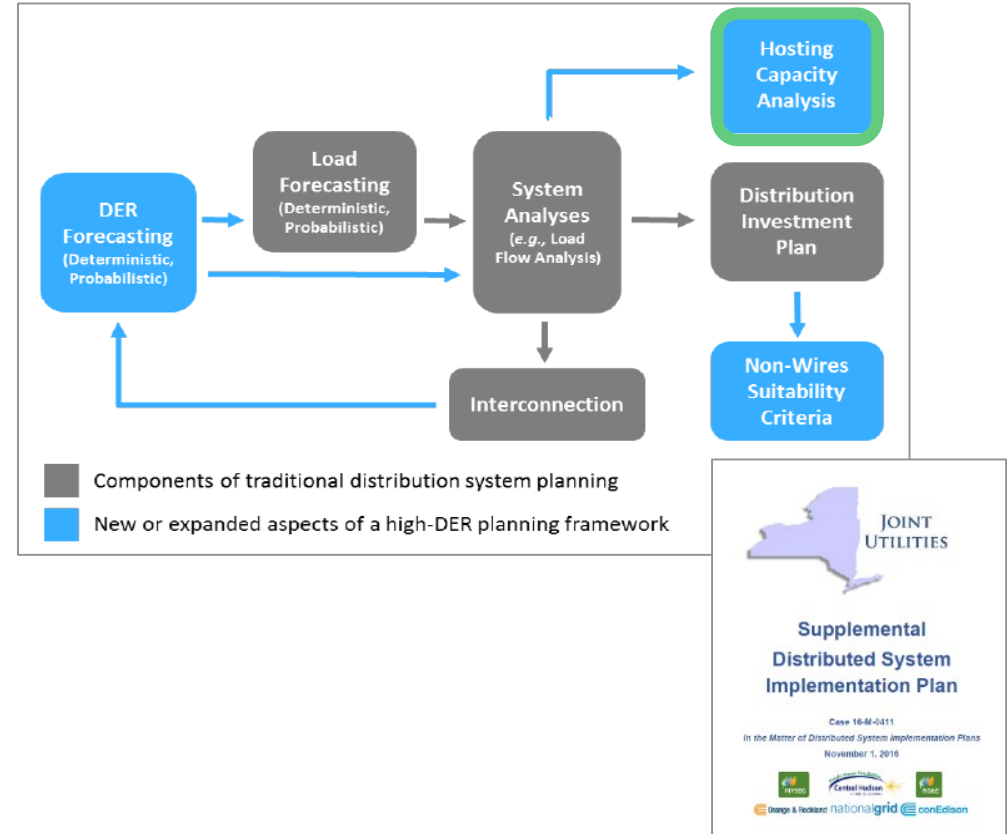
# Enabling DER Planning

## Key Considerations: Scalability of method, scenarios

### MN Integrated Planning

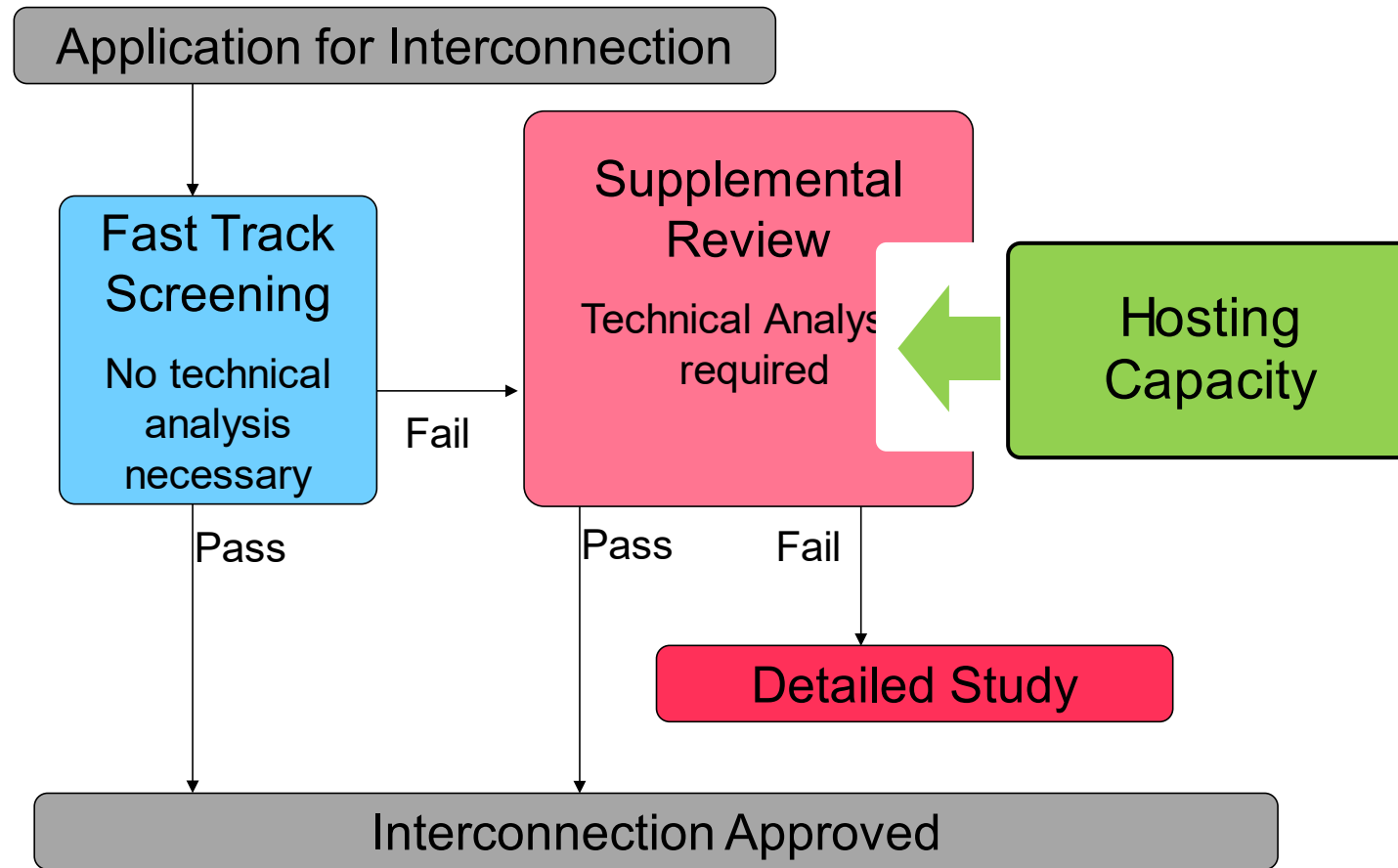


### NY REV DSIP



# Assisting in Screening

Key Considerations: Accuracy, impact factors, need for engineering judgement



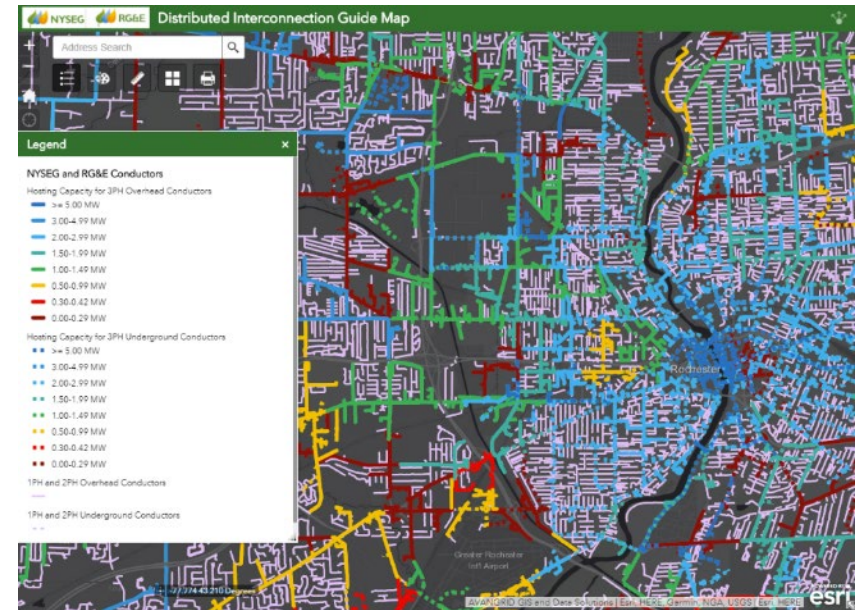
# Informing Developers

**Key Considerations: Granularity, frequency of updates, existing DER**



[Xcel Energy Hosting Maps](#)

Additional study is needed to evaluate developer usage of HC maps for siting DER



**NYSEG/RG&E**  
[View all NY Utility Maps](#)

# Summary

- Hosting capacity is a complex analysis that requires planners to analyze their distribution systems in a new manner
- HC methods are available but will evolve
  - Although matured through the years, methods are still relatively new and will continue to evolve
  - Different methods can produce similar results, however data and computational requirements vary
  - Methods are available in most planning tools
- HC applications are broad
  - Enabling planning for DER
  - Informing developers
  - Assisting with interconnection screening
- HC poses challenges
  - May require additional measurement data on each feeder
  - System-wide electrical models may not be readily available (if not, this could be time intensive to develop)
  - New processes are needed for model upkeep
- HC provides opportunities
  - Assisting planners dealing with future DER scenarios - knowing HC is critical for planners dealing with a “DER future”
  - HC can assist engineers with time-intensive interconnection screening
  - Assisting DER developers in siting DER...?

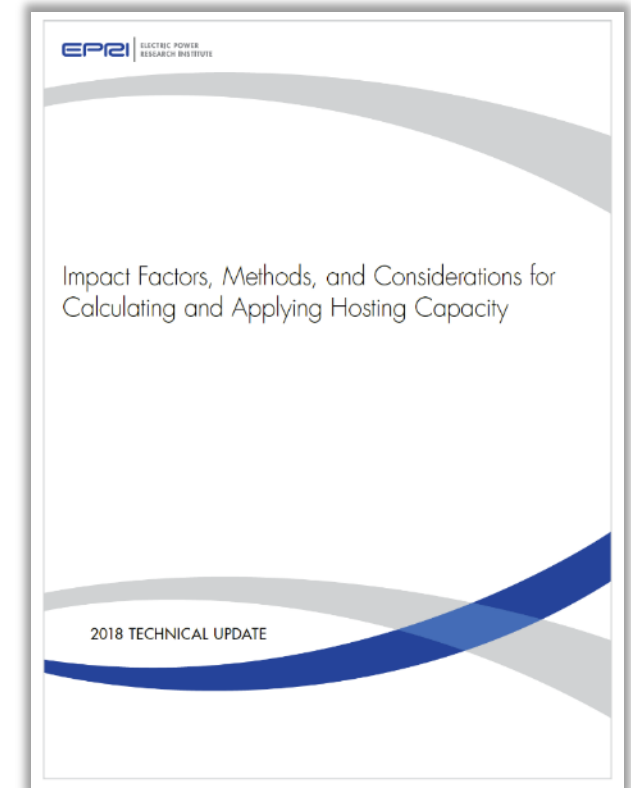
# Resources

## Detailed Hosting Capacity Method

- Impact of High-Penetration PV on Distribution System Performance: Example Cases and Analysis Approach. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2011. 1021982
- Analysis of High-Penetration Solar PV Impacts for Distribution Planning: Stochastic and Time-Series Methods for Determining Feeder Hosting Capacity. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2012. 1026640
- Rylander, M., Smith, J., "Comprehensive Approach for Determining Distribution Network Hosting Capacity for Solar PV", 2nd International Workshop on Integration of Solar Power Into Power Systems, Lisbon, Portugal, Nov 2012.
- Rylander, M., Smith, J., "Stochastic Approach for Distribution Planning with DER", 2012 CIGRE Grid of the Future Symposium, Kansas City, MO, 2012
- Rylander, M., Smith, J., "Comprehensive Approach for Determining Distribution Network Hosting Capacity for Solar PV", 2nd International Workshop on Integration of Solar Power Into Distribution Systems, 12-13 November, 2012
- Distributed PV Feeder Analysis: Preliminary Findings from Hosting Capacity Analysis of 18 Distribution Feeders. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2013. 3002001245.
- Alternatives to the 15% Rule: Modeling and Hosting Capacity Analysis of 16 Feeders. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2015. 3002005812.

## Hybrid Hosting Capacity Method

- **Impact Factors, Methods, and Considerations for Calculating and Applying Hosting Capacity. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2018. 3002011009.**
- EPIC 1 – Project 4 Demonstration of Grid Support Functions of DER: Demonstration and Comparison of the “EPRI Distribution Resource Integration and Value Estimation Hosting Capacity” and “SDG&E Iterative Integration Capacity Analysis” Tools, Mar. 2018.  
<https://www.sdge.com/sites/default/files/EPIC-1 Project 4 Module 3 Final Report.pdf>
- Integration of Hosting Capacity Analysis into Distribution Planning Tools. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2016. 3002005793
- Defining a Roadmap for Successful Implementation of a Hosting Capacity Method for New York State, EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2016. 3002008848
- A New Method for Characterizing Distribution System Hosting Capacity for Distributed Energy Resources: A Streamlined Approach for Solar PV. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2014. 3002003278.
- Rylander, M., Smith, J., Sunderman, W., “Streamlined Method For Determining Distribution System Hosting Capacity”, 23<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Electricity Distribution, CIRED, Lyon, France, 2015
- Rylander, M., Smith, J., Sunderman, W., “Streamlined Method For Determining Distribution System Hosting Capacity”, Rural Electric Power Conference, Asheville, NC, 2015 (accepted for IAS Transactions)
- Distribution Feeder Hosting Capacity: What Matters When Planning for DER?. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2015. 3002004777
- Smith, J., Rylander, M., Rogers, L., Dugan, R., “It’s All in the Plans: Maximizing the Benefits and Minimizing the Impacts of DERs in an Integrated Grid”, Power and Energy Magazine, March/April 2015.



## News Articles

- [Why are the newest distribution system buzzwords 'hosting capacity analysis'? - Utility Dive](#)
- [Exploring the Untamed Frontier of Hosting Capacity on the Grid Edge - Greentech Media Squared](#)
- [How Much DER Fits? Utilities Developing a Hosting Capacity Analysis Tool for DER - T&D world](#)

- Some food/restaurant suggestions
  - American
    - Buffalo Wild Wings
    - Chick-fil-A
    - Culver's
    - Frank's Press Box
    - Houlihan's
    - Jersey Mike's Subs
    - The Rusty Mug
  - Asian
    - Panda Express
    - Little Panda Chinese Restaurant
    - Sushi Moto
    - Ukai Hibatchi Grill & Sushi
  - Italian
    - Carrabba's Italian Grill
    - Cottage Inn Pizza
  - Mexican
    - Cancun Mexican Grill
    - Chipotle
    - El Burrito Mexicano
  - Mediterranean
    - Zaytoon Mediterranean
    - ChouPli Wood-Fired Kabob
  - Other
    - Horrocks (soup, salad, & pizza bar)



# TOPIC 3:

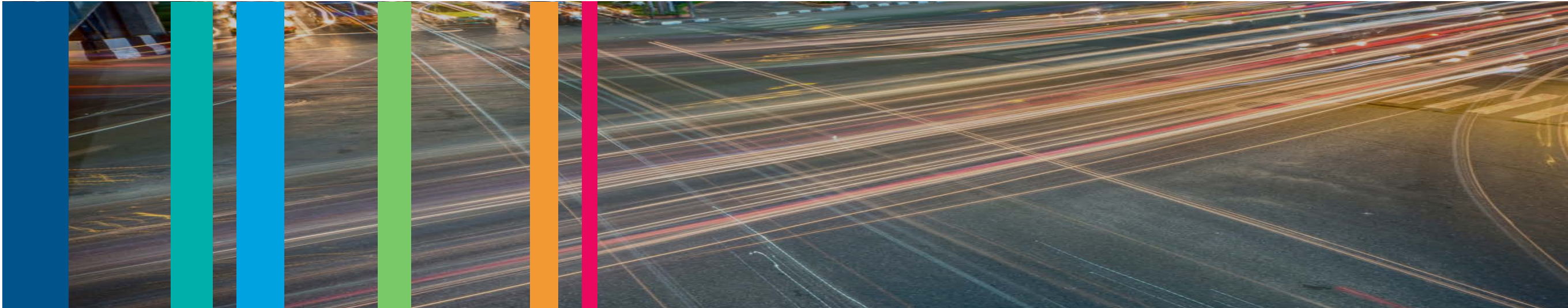
## Non-Wires Alternatives

Five Year Distribution Planning  
Stakeholder Meeting

Michigan Public Service Commission  
Lake Superior Hearing Room

June 27, 2019





# Non-Wires Alternatives

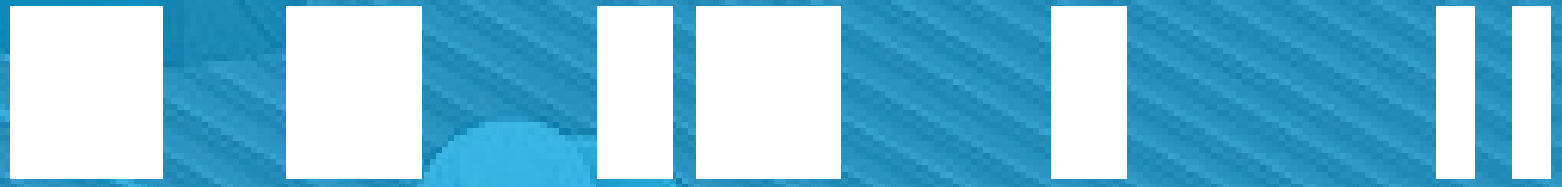
Lansing, MI  
June 27, 2019



# Agenda

This presentation seeks to answer:

- What is an NWA?
- Where are project occurring ?
- Why is this important?



# Overview

# What is a Non-Wires Alternative (NWA)?

**NWA:** a portfolio of distributed energy resources (DER) such as energy efficiency (EE), demand response (DR), solar PV, battery energy storage (BES), combined heat and power (CHP) etc. that can be used to help provide grid needs.

## NWA Drivers



Regulatory Policy



Environmental Goals



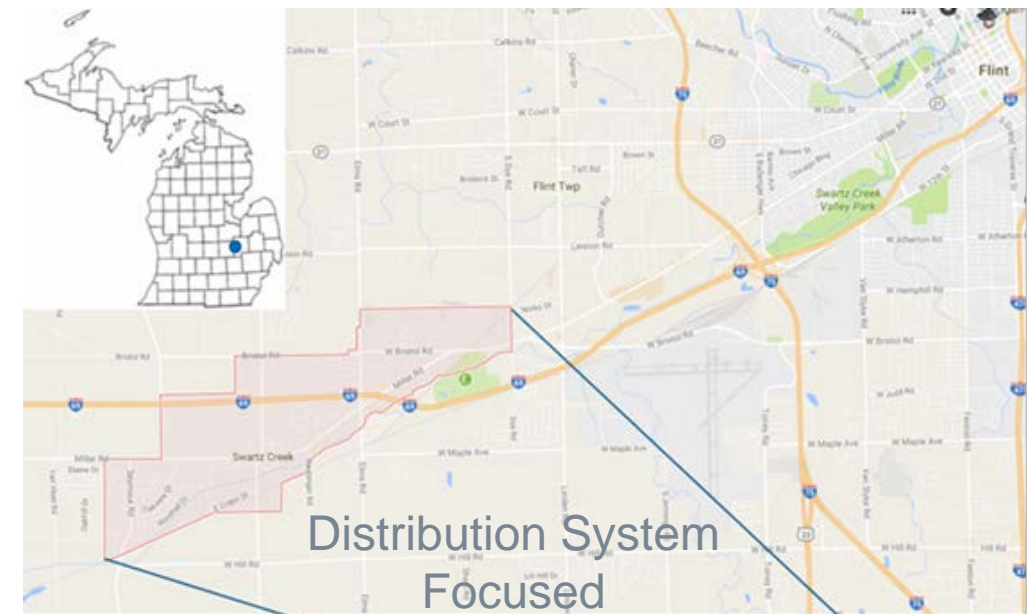
R&D / Innovation



Cost Reduction

## Example NWA: Town of Swartz Creek, Michigan

Source: Consumers Energy, Mark Luoma, Peak Load Management Association 36<sup>th</sup> Conference, 2017

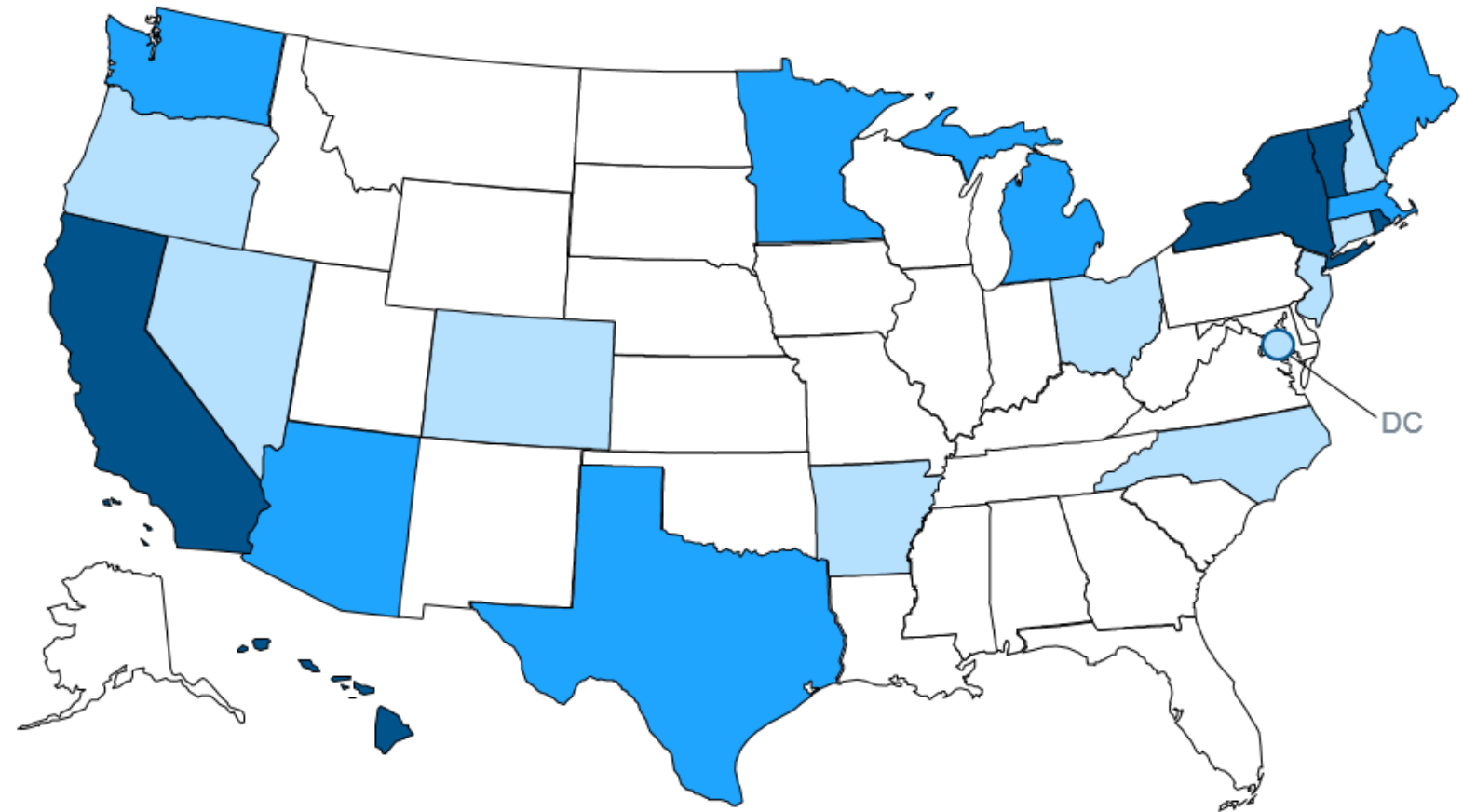


2013 population: 5,636

# NON-WIRES ALTERNATIVES TODAY

- ❖ Still in pilot phase
- ❖ Momentum is building
- ❖ Growing numbers of utilities are working on NWA projects
- ❖ Propelled by regulatory mandates, internal utility decisions, and public/stakeholder input
- ❖ Integrated Distribution Planning learnings are being generated

## Non-Wires Activities



Source: ICF

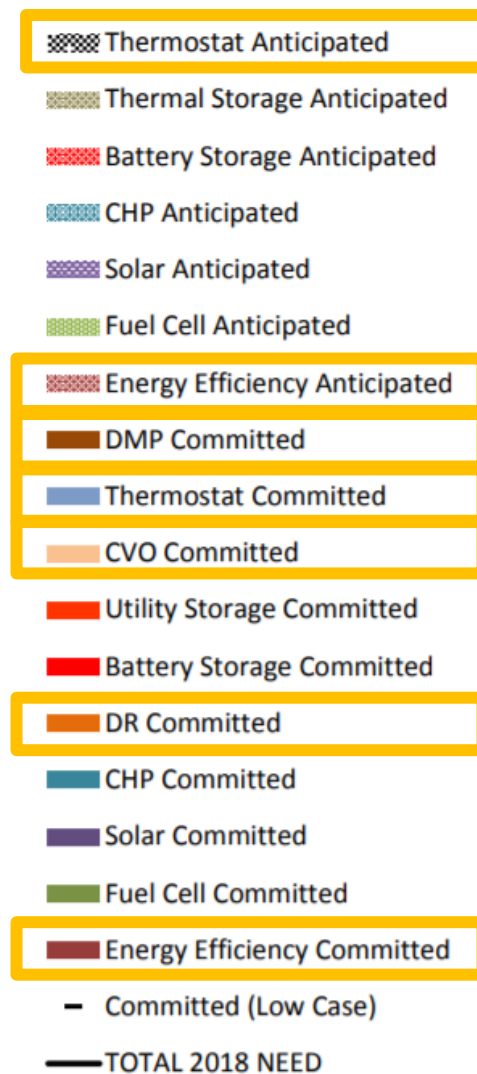
- Significant NWA Activity
- NWA Gaining Momentum
- Nascent Activity

# Example: Con Edison Brooklyn Queens Demand Management Program

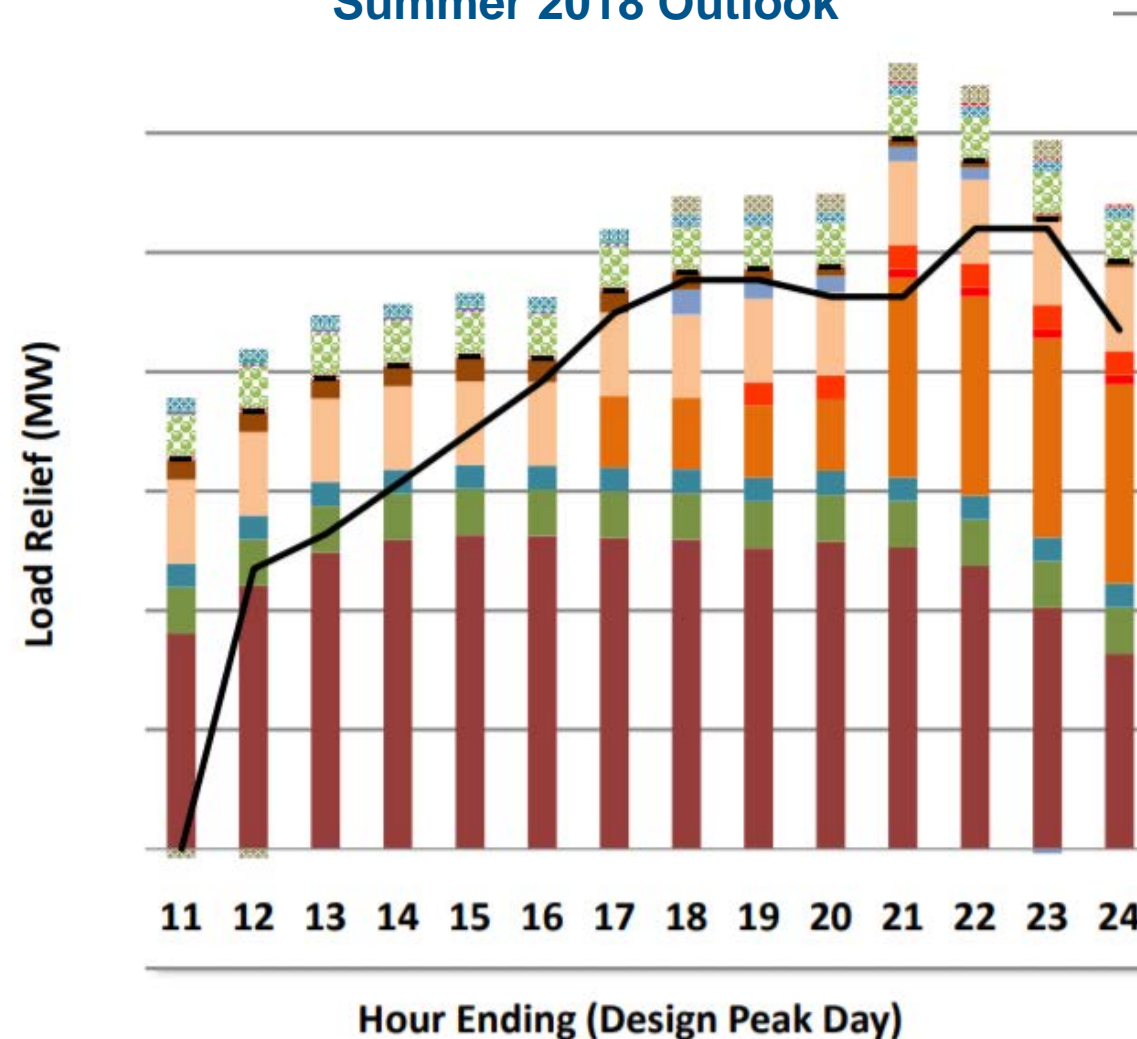
Goal: \$1.2 B Substation Deferral with DER portfolio

	2016	2017	2018	Total
Customer Side Solutions	9 MW	23 MW	9 MW	41 MW
Utility Side Solutions	3 MW	8 MW	-	11 MW
<b>Total</b>	<b>12 MW</b>	<b>31 MW</b>	<b>9 MW</b>	<b>52 MW</b>

An outlier in terms of its size, BQDM played an important role in NY REV and in propelling forward the NWA concept.



Con Edison BQDM DER Portfolio Summer 2018 Outlook



Source: Con Edison, Brooklyn-Queens Demand Management , Targeted Demand Management (April, 2017)

# Other Examples

## Arizona Public Service

- Punkin Center
- Thermal constraint on distribution feeder

## Bonneville Power Administration

- South of Allston
- Transmission constraint

## San Diego Gas & Electric

- Borrego Springs Microgrid
- Reliability issue related to sub-transmission line

## Central Hudson Gas & Electric

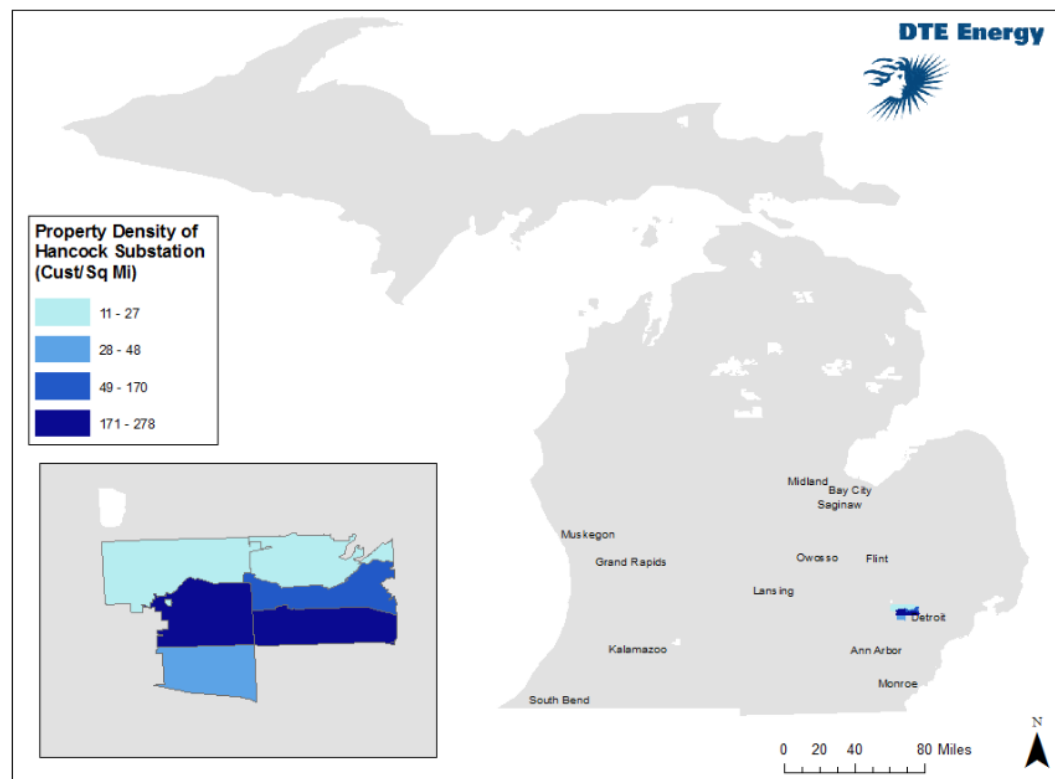
- Peak Perks Demand Management Program
- Distribution Constraint

**Projects have varied depending on the specific need.**



# Michigan Examples

## Example NWA: Commerce Township, Michigan

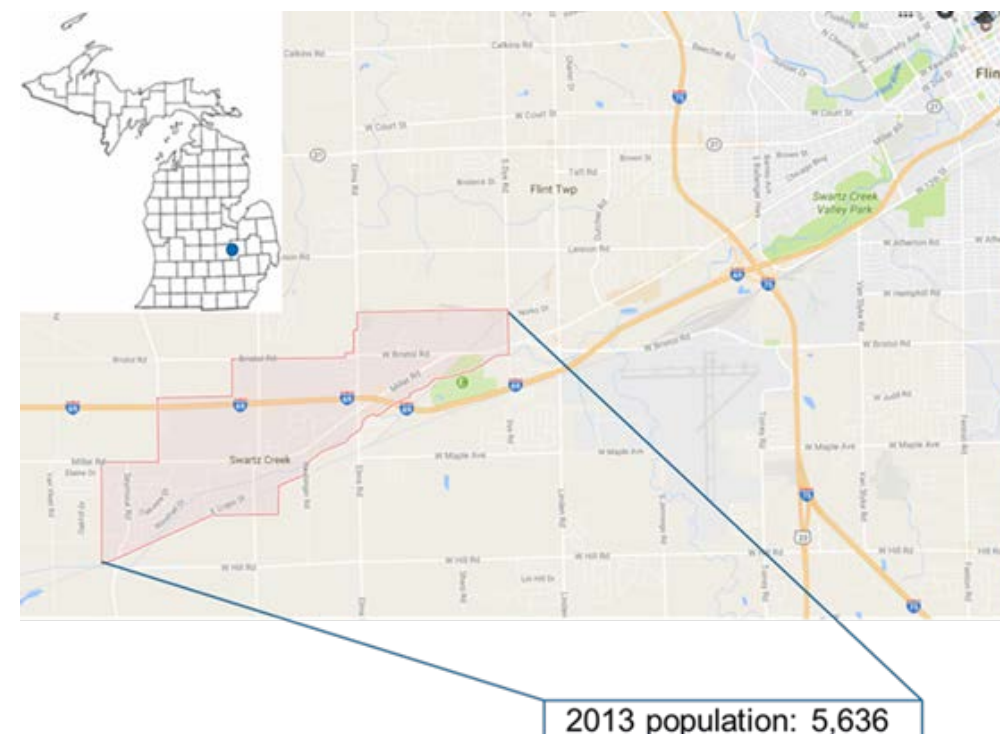


### Customer Premises

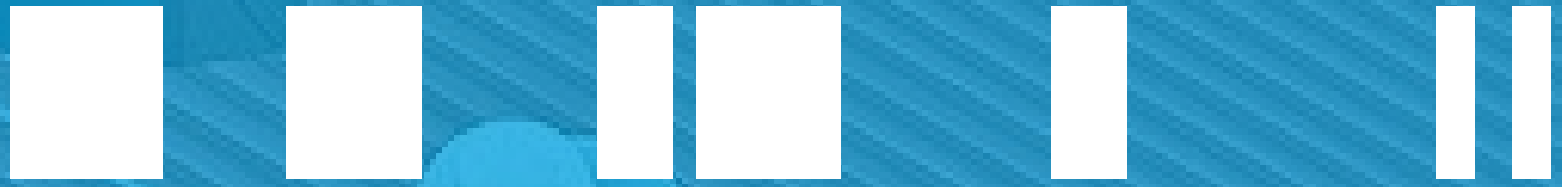
- 1,161 Commercial
- 7,589 Residential

Source: DTE Energy, Non-Wires Alternatives 2018 Working Group Meeting, 07/2018, Lansing, MI

## Example NWA: Town of Swartz Creek, Michigan

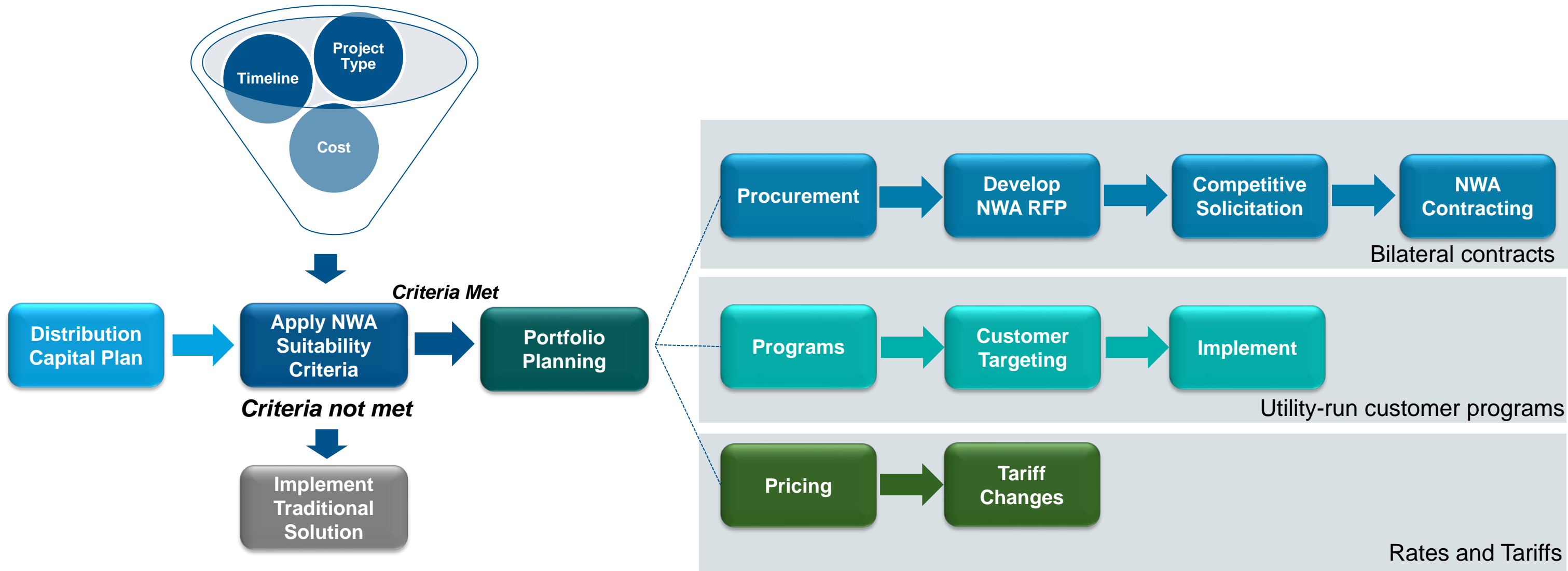


Source: Consumers Energy, Mark Luoma, Peak Load Management Association 36th Conference, 2017



# NWA Framework

# Prototypical NWA Framework



Source: ICF

# Programs

## Case study spotlight:



NWA Case Studies	Using EE	Using DR	Using Storage	Average Size Load Reduction
10	4	7	5	1-85 MW

DSM is proving to be a foundational component of NWA.

# Procurement

**Case study spotlight:**

**REV CONNECT**

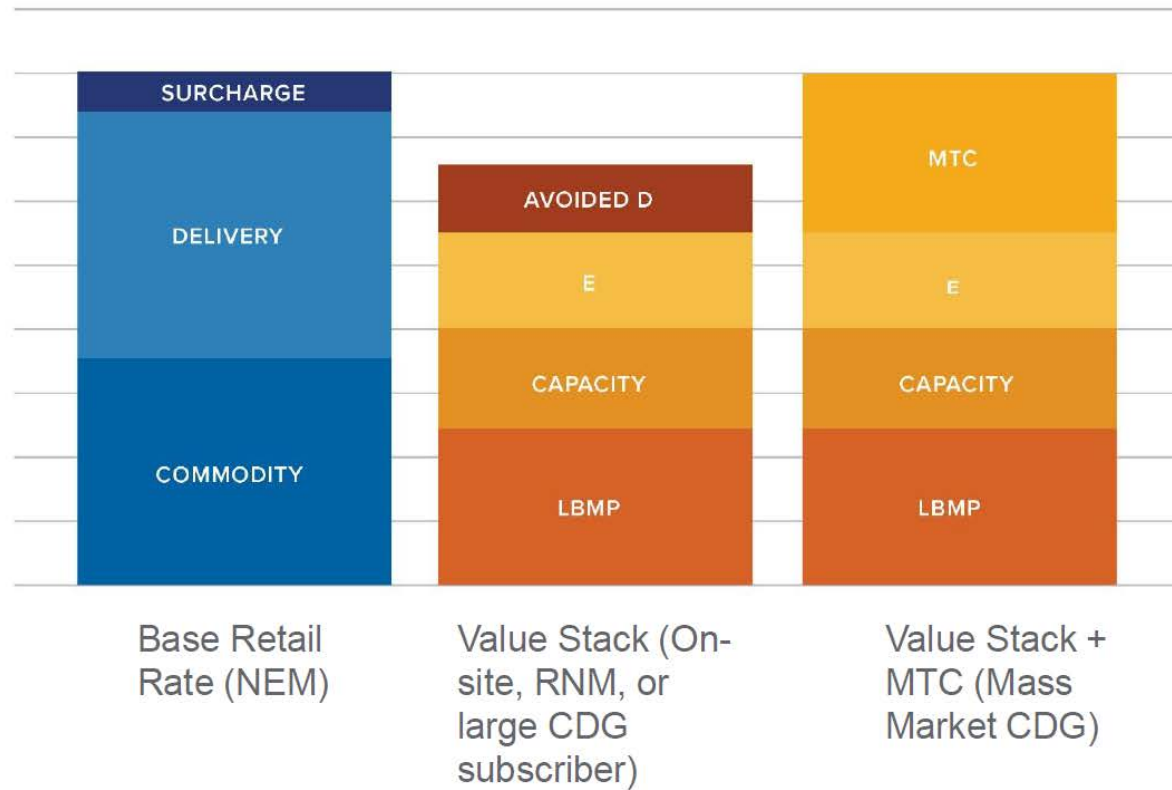
NWA Opportunities Listed	Listed and Successful	No Resolution Listed	Average Size Load Reduction
47	6	39	5-10 MW

Many jurisdictions are pursuing opportunities for procuring DER within NWA. However, these need ample lead time, lots of work in the contracting process.

Source: Data is from REV Connect website. <https://nyrevconnect.com>

# Pricing

## Value of DER (New York)

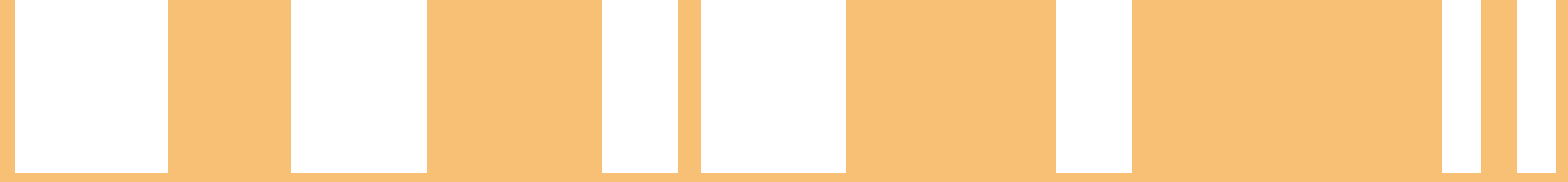


- Avoided D – avoided demand
- E – environmental benefit
- Capacity – ICAP
- LBMP – energy commodity
- MTC – market transition credit for CDG



Source: NYSERDA, *Summary of Updated Value Stack Order*, 04/25/2019

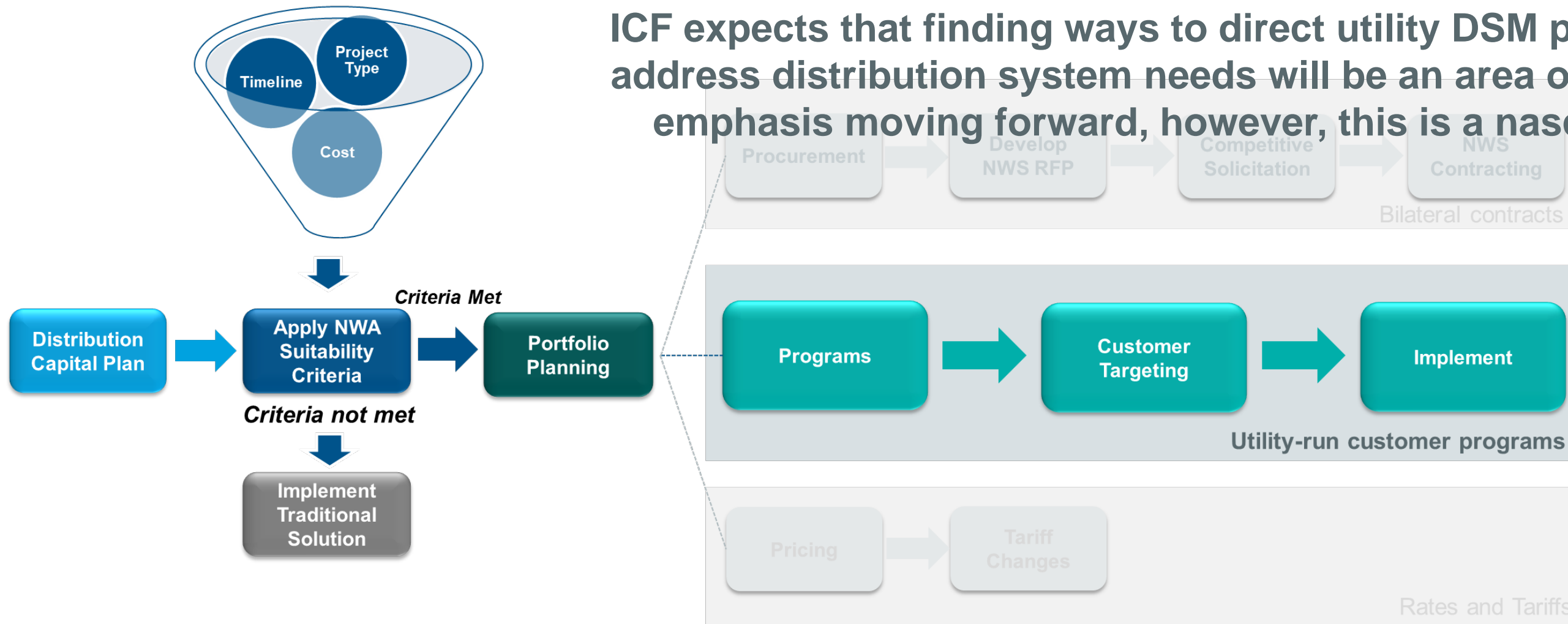
**Work is underway to use design tariffs for NWA. Challenges include capturing geospatial and temporal values and setting compensation levels sufficiently to mitigate grid investment.**



# Applying Utility Programs to NWA



# Shifting Emphasis in NWA



ICF expects that finding ways to direct utility DSM programs to address distribution system needs will be an area of increased emphasis moving forward, however, this is a nascent area

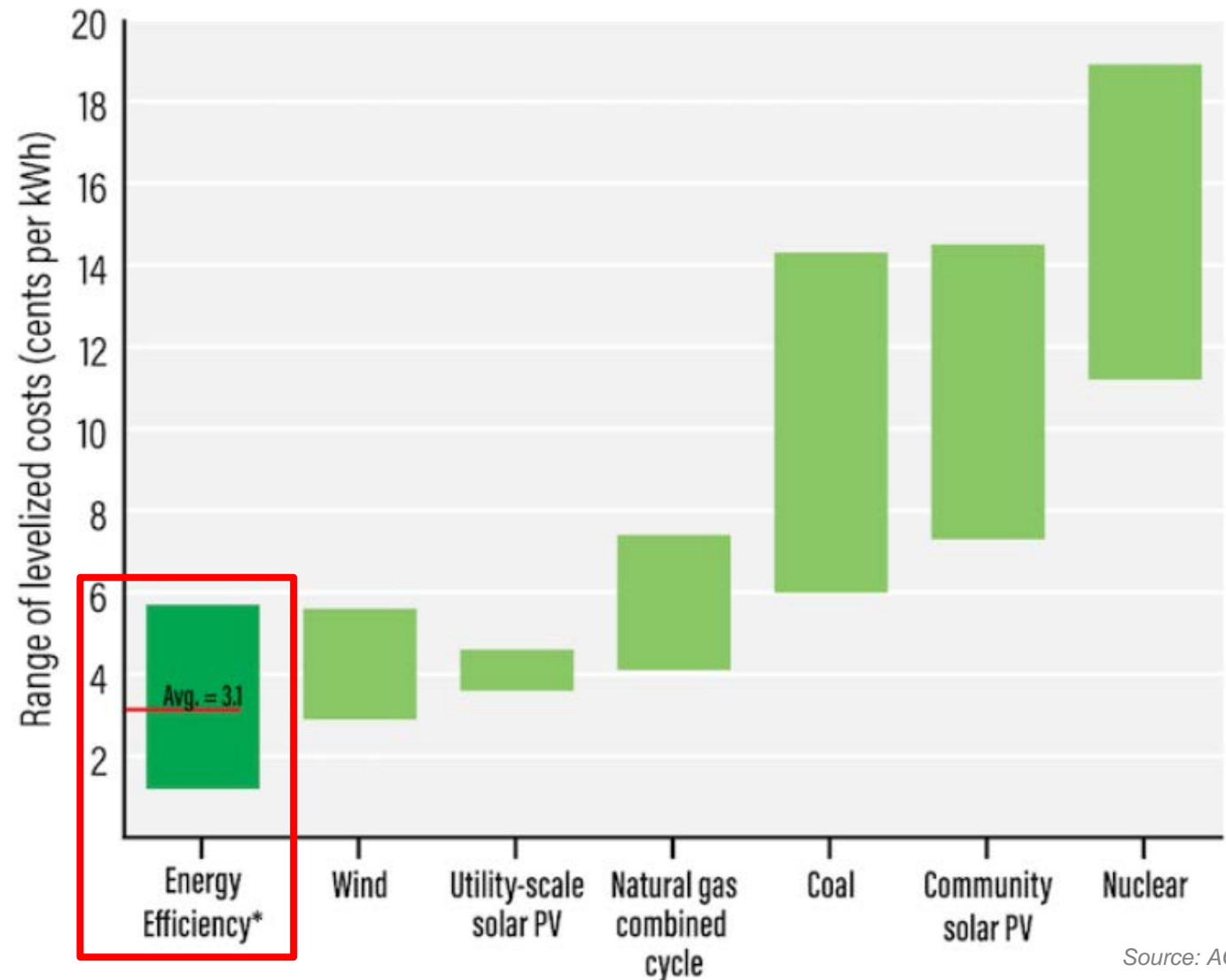
Source: ICF



# Energy Waste Reduction: Low Cost Resource (Energy)

- ❖ EWR continues to be a low cost energy (kWh) resource on a levelized cost basis
- ❖ Increasingly – there is recognition that EWR provides benefits on a locational and temporal basis
- ❖ Understanding how EWR contributes to load reduction is a challenge

Levelized Cost of Electricity Resources



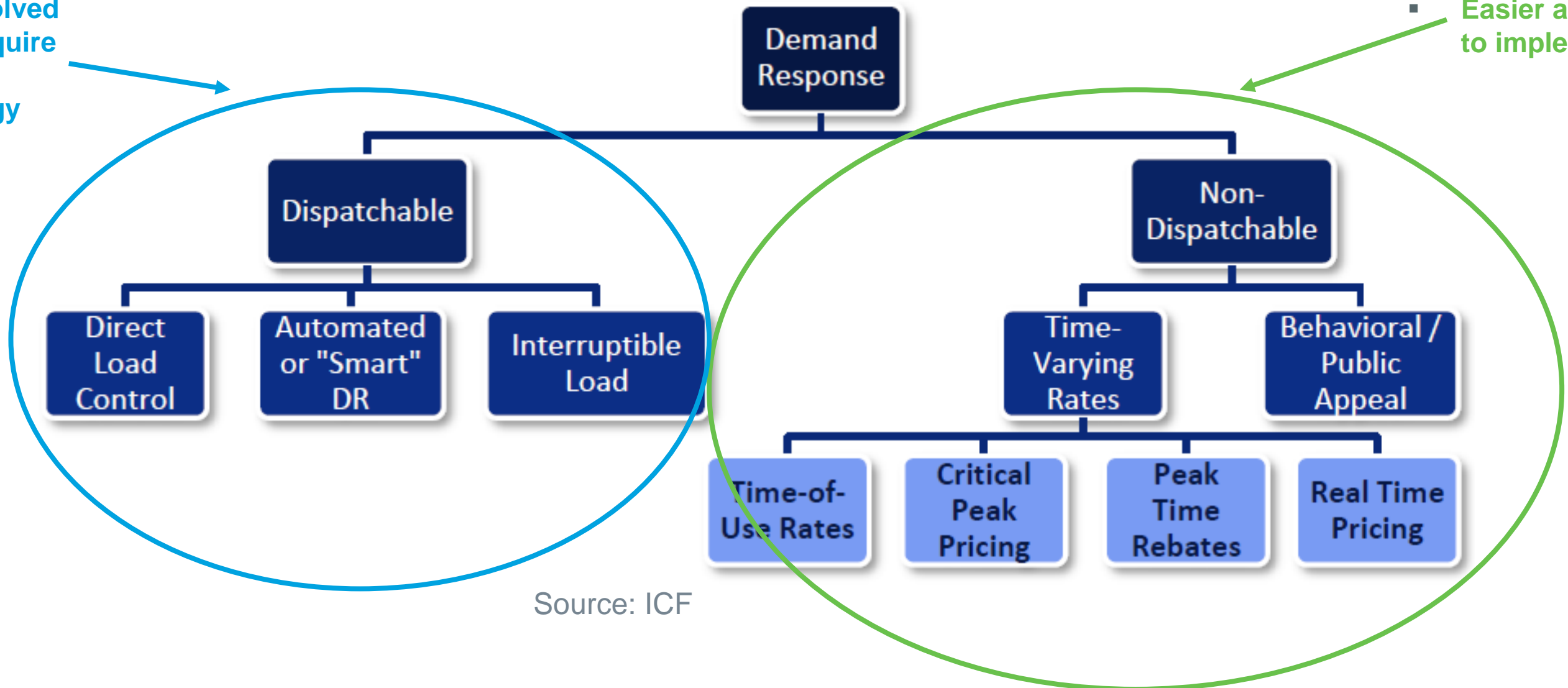
Source: ACEEE, 2018

\*Notes: Energy efficiency program portfolio data from Molina and Relf 2018. Represents costs to utilities or program administrators only, including shareholder performance incentives if applicable. All other data from Lazard 2018 Unsubsidized Levelized Cost of Energy Comparison.

# Demand Response: Has Potential for Local Needs

- More predictable, more certain load reduction
- More involved setup, require enabling technology

- Less reliable, more uncertainty around load reductions
- Easier and faster to implement

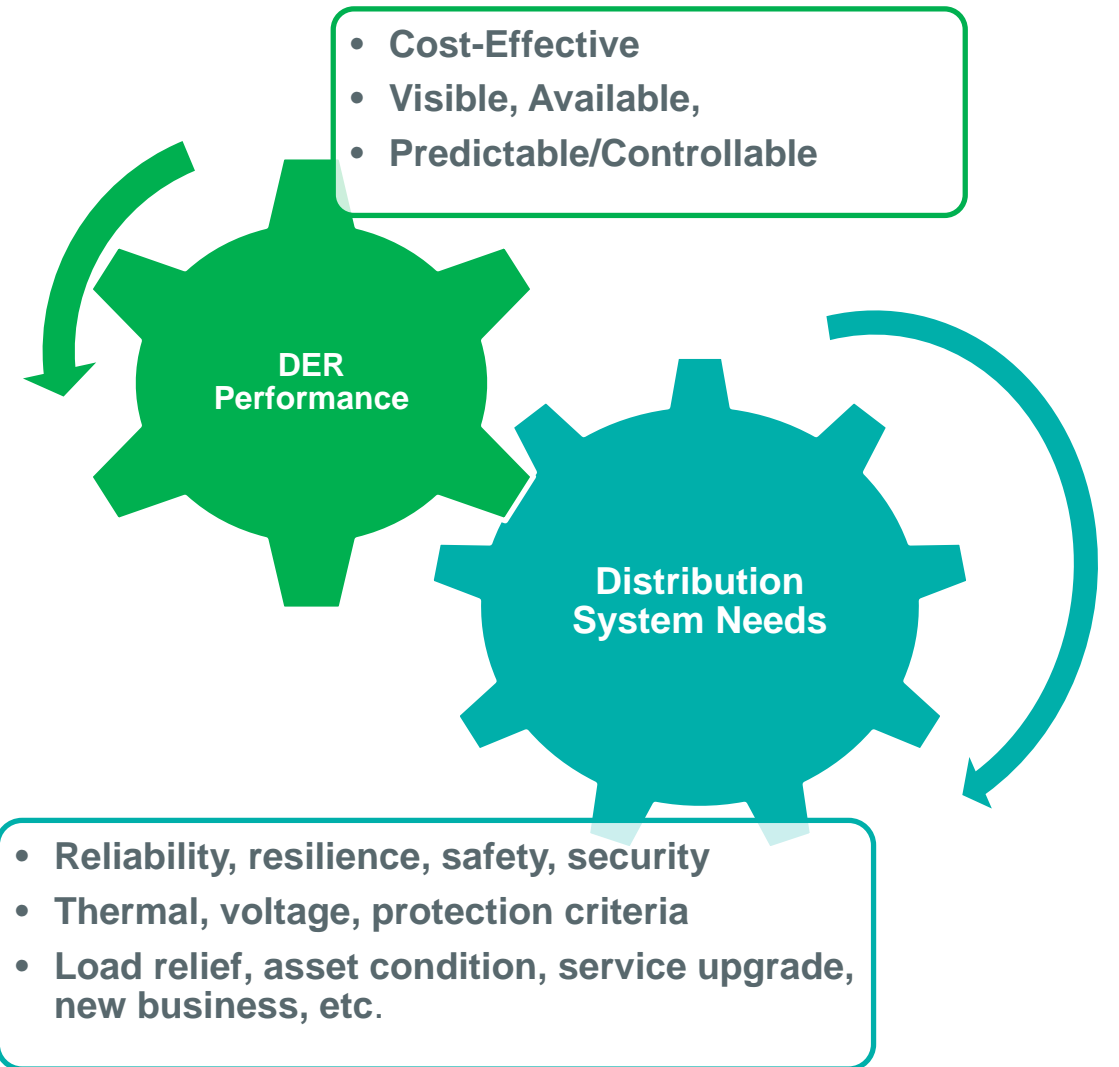
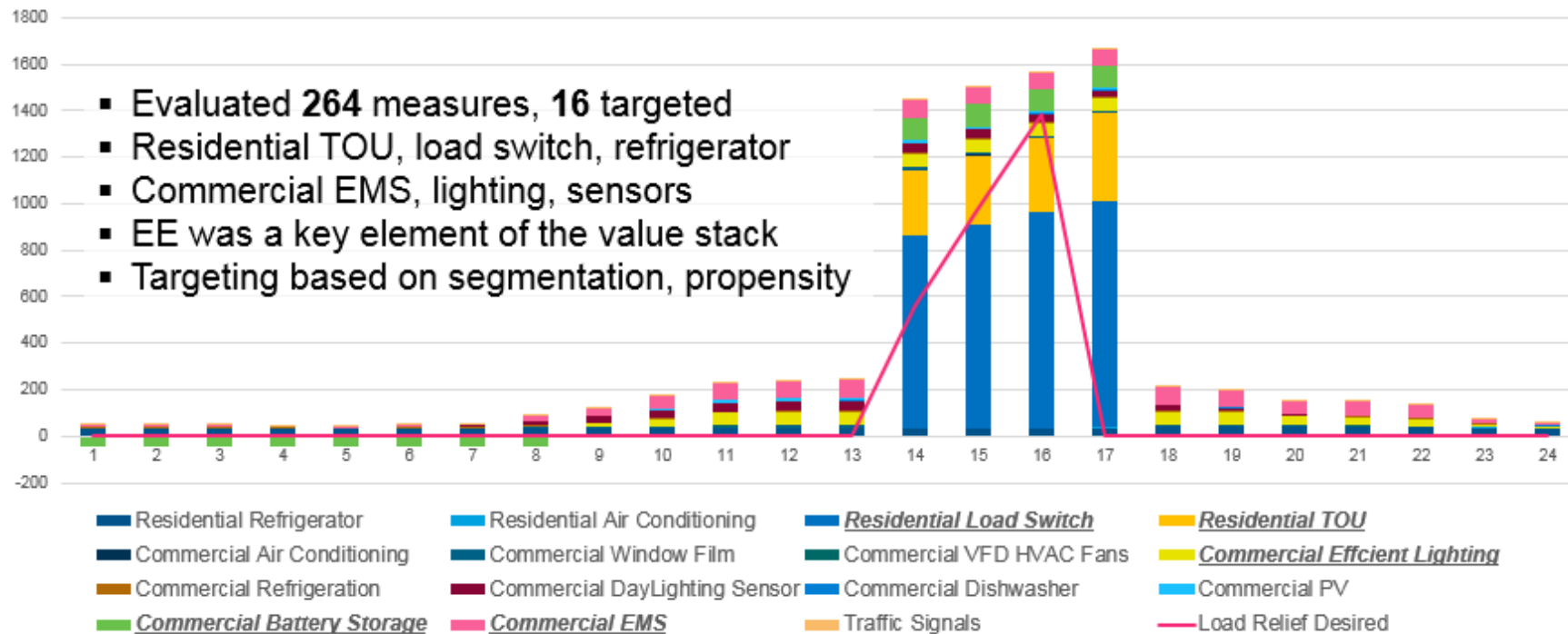


Source: ICF

# Connecting Distribution Planning and Program Analysis

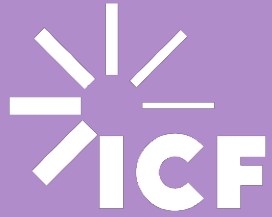
- Customer programs have potentially to be geographically targeted
- Potential to be flexible, manageable, fast
- There is an increased emphasis of enhancing analytics within utility planning organizations to be able assess these solutions in a comprehensive way, along with other DER

## Schwartz Creek: DER Demand Reduction

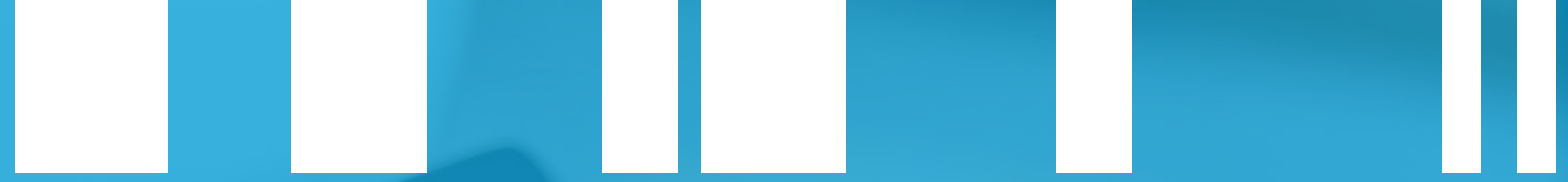


## Connecting Planning Criteria to DER Performance

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# The Role of Pilots and Analytics



# Conclusions



# Conclusions

- Non-wires-alternatives can encompass a broad array of potential DER solutions.
- The concept is gaining momentum and many jurisdictions are proceeding with pilots and implementation.
- Michigan is too!
- NWAs remain predominantly a strategy for managing capacity, and the number of such projects available depends in large part on capacity needs that exist within the planning horizon.
- There is an increased emphasis of enhancing analytics within utility planning organizations to be able assess DER and traditional solutions in a comprehensive way.
- ICF expects that finding ways to direct utility DSM programs to address distribution system needs will be an area of increased emphasis moving forward, however, this is a nascent area.
- Pilots remain important to gathering empirical learnings.

# Non-Wires Alternatives

## Advancing Distribution Planning Methods and Tools to Consider NWA

Jeff Smith  
Manager, Distribution Operations and Planning  
[jsmith@epri.com](mailto:jsmith@epri.com)

MPSC Distribution Planning Stakeholder Meeting

6/27/2019 – Lansing, MI

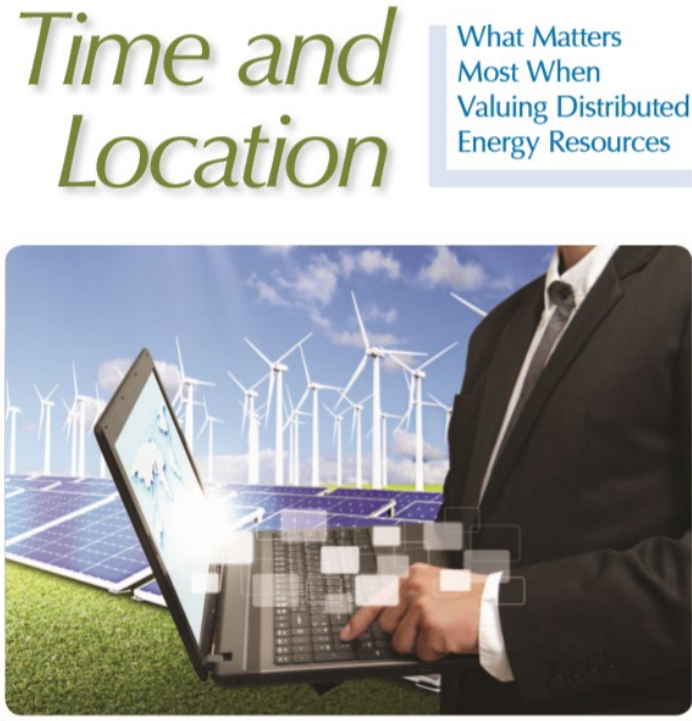


# Planning for DER: It's Not Just About Hosting Capacity

- Time and location matter
  - What does that mean exactly?
- Affective integration requires new processes, tools, and data
  - Analytical tool capabilities: not just peak planning
  - Additional data: additional data enabling “edge of grid” visibility (SCADA, AMI, etc.)

OpenDSS: EPRI's open-source tool developed specifically to enable smart grid analysis such as time and locational value assessments of DER

[www.epri.com/opendss](http://www.epri.com/opendss)



*Time and Location* What Matters Most When Valuing Distributed Energy Resources

By Jeff Smith, Bruce Rogers, Jason Taylor, Jeffrey Roark, Bernie Neenan, Thomas Mimmagh, and Erik Takayesu

THE ROLE AND OPERATION OF THE U.S. electric power system is changing as a result of policy incentives, technological improvements, and consumer choices in technology and service. Consumers have increasing choice and control over their electricity service. The range of choice is diverse: owning or leasing on-premises generating systems [such as solar photovoltaic (PV), wind, and combined heat and power systems], subscribing to services with dynamic pricing and undertaking energy efficiency measures to save money by controlling electricity use, and using storage devices to manage

Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/MPPE.2016.2639278  
Date of publication: 1 March 2017

march/april 2017 1540-7977/17©2017IEEE IEEE power & energy magazine 29

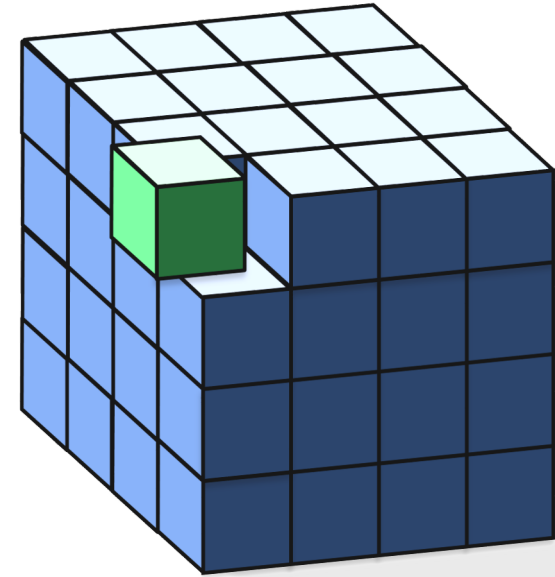
[Link to Article](#)

[Link to Full Report](#)



# Today's Tools Only Answer a Piece of the Puzzle

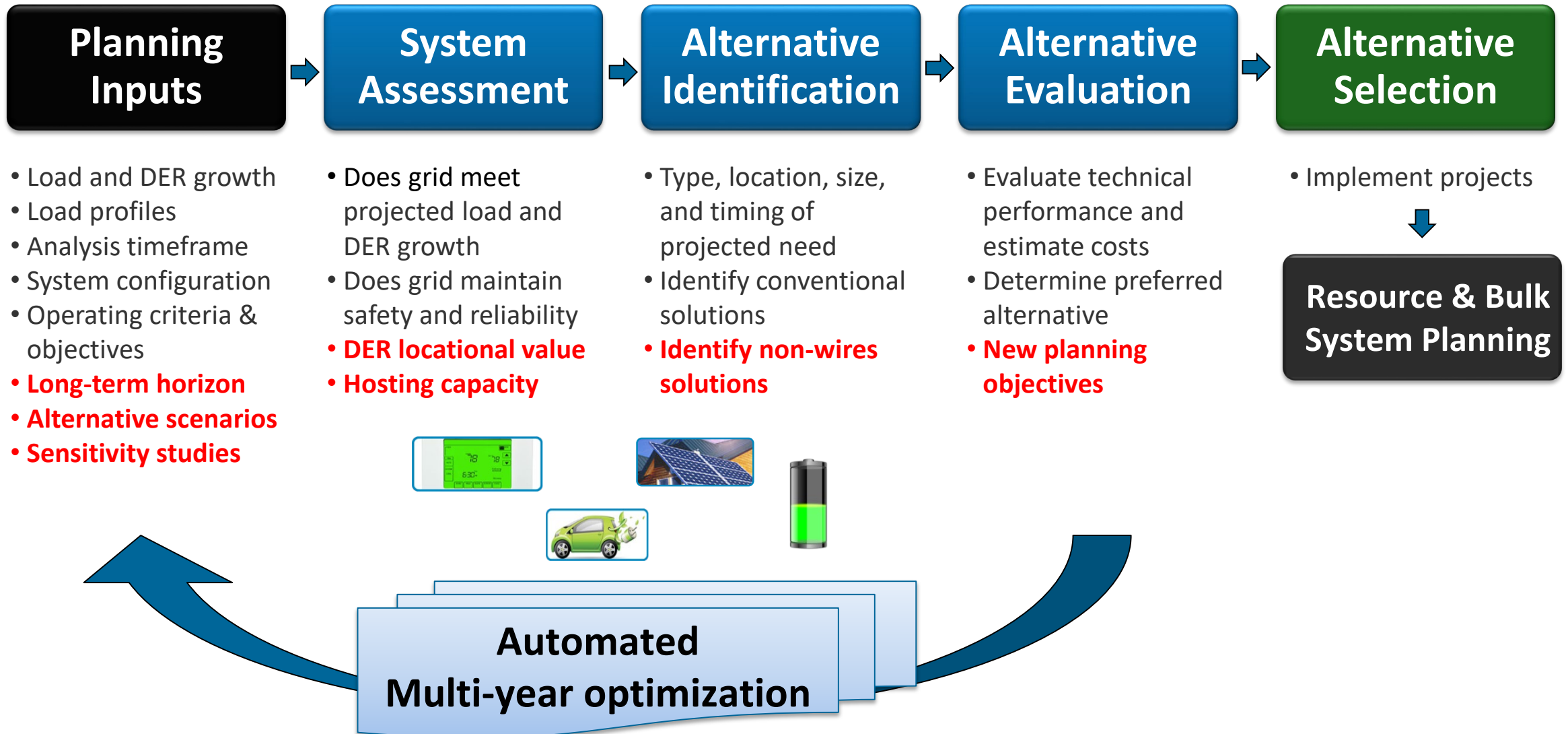
- Singular focus on system peak
- Static representation of system conditions
- Manual feeder by feeder analysis for full system
- Manual time intensive alternatives assessments
- Emerging technologies and resources not adequately modeled
- Cannot identify time and locational values
- Limited support for coordination with transmission planning/IRP



**New processes, methods, and tools are needed**

# EPRI Advanced Distribution Planning Platform Overview

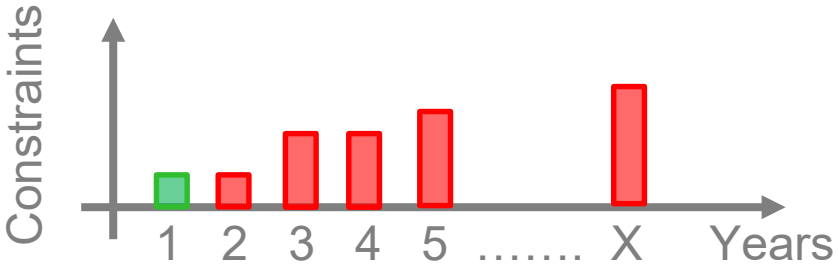
## Prototype Under Development



# Example Use Case – System and Alternative Analysis

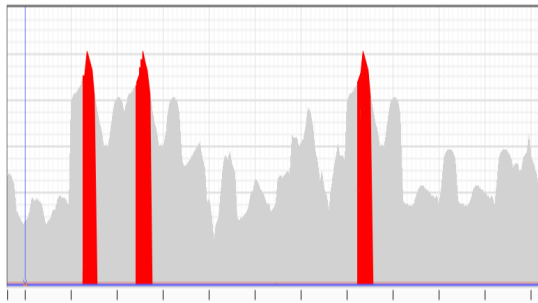
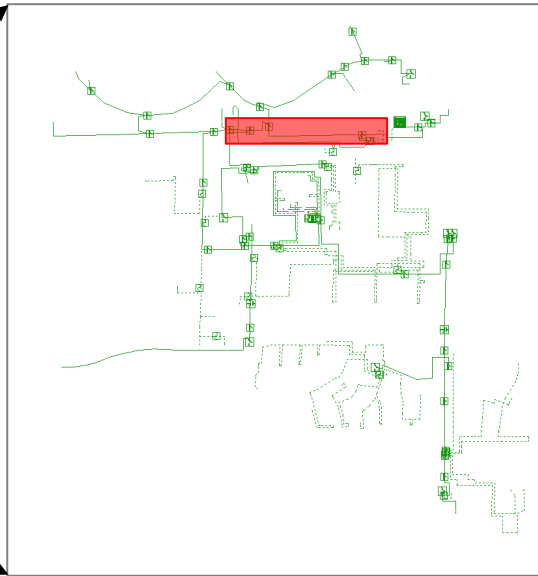
1

System-wide, multi-year constraint screening



2

Constraint severity analysis



3

Wires/non-wires alternative analysis

- Traditional Alternatives**
- Reconfiguration
  - Reconductoring
  - Transformer upgrades
  - Voltage regulation

&

- Non-wires Alternatives**
- DER placement / dispatch
  - Storage, solar, CHP, etc.
  - Demand response
  - Load dispatch
  - Customer incentives

# Project Objective

Develop, test, and demonstrate new methods and tools to automate planning assessments and support holistic decision making



# Advanced Planning Project - Overview

## Approach

- Work with industry-leading planners to develop a comprehensive and efficient process that captures the growing demands of distribution planning
- Leverage advanced capabilities present in OpenDSS and DRIVE to develop an initial prototype tool
- Test and validate new methods using real-world systems and use cases
- Work with industry to transfer new methods to existing planning tools

## Value

- Comprehensive planning method that meets the near and long-term needs of distribution planning
- Flexible and scalable planning method that can integrate into existing planning tools
- Proven, validated, and transparent method and tool for industry benchmarking

## Utilities Participating in Advanced Planning Project



# Answering Planning Challenges

## How do I.....

- Efficiently conduct system-wide studies?
- Optimize my investment decisions?
- Apply load and DER profiles across daily – annual time frames?
- Determine the real value of DER to the grid and maximize its value by sizing and locating where it is needed?
- Represent and analyze operational reconfiguration?
- Consider the affect of electrification?
- Integrate / coordinate with transmission planning/IRP?



# Key R&D Tasks



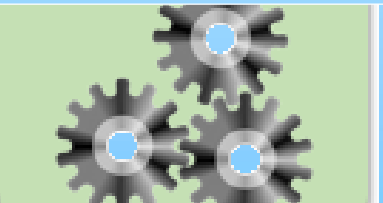
## Develop

- Work with industry to identify gaps, new objective functions, data needs
- Develop a flexible and comprehensive planning process



## Apply

- Apply new planning framework for specific utility-driven use cases
- Test, refine, and validate new planning solution



## Implement

- Implement in a prototype planning platform
- Leverage advanced distribution planning analytics available in OpenDSS and DRIVE™

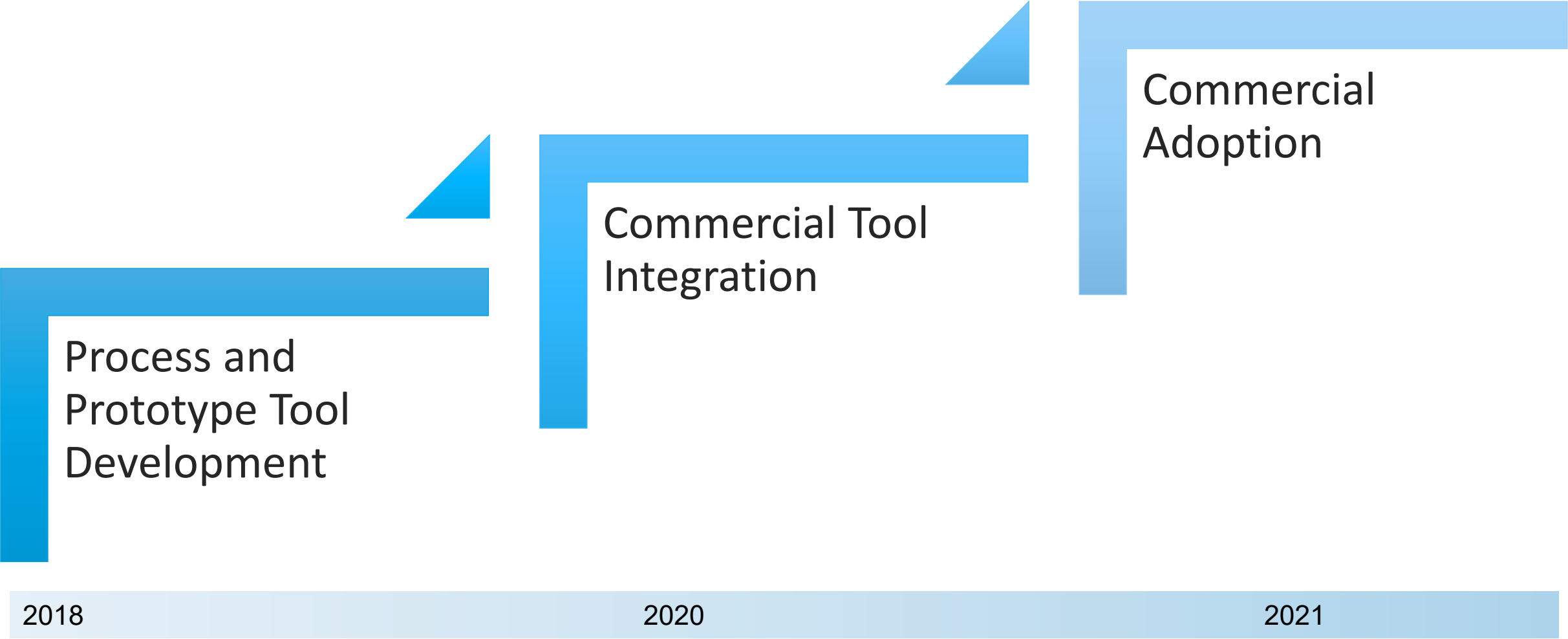


## Share

- Document/share vision and lessons learned
- Provide prototype software for application and direction for future development

# Prototype to Vendor Implementation

Long-Term Vision

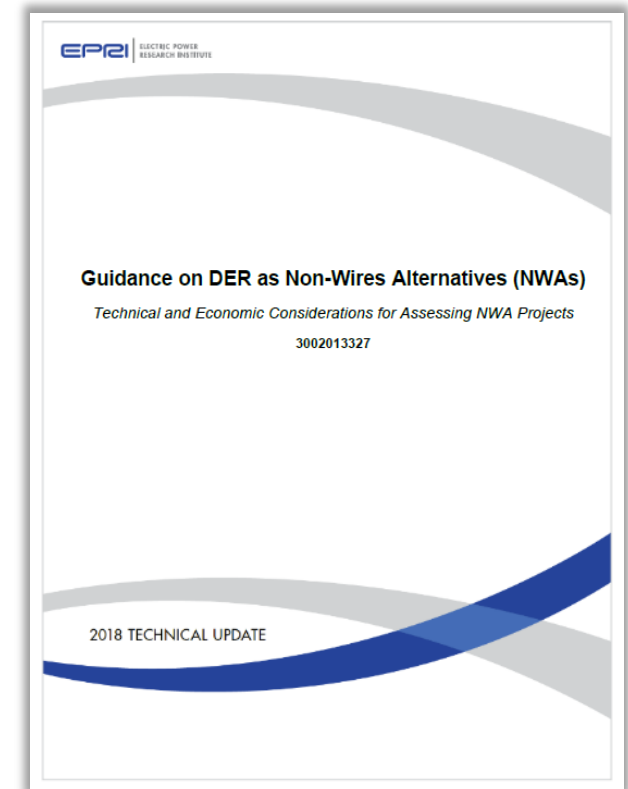




# Questions

# NWA Resources

- The Evolving Load Profile & Impact on Assets and Reliability. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2014. [3002003229](#)
- Time and Locational Value of DER: Methods and Applications. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2016. [3002008410](#)
- Incorporating DER into Distribution Planning. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2017. [3002010997](#)
- Distribution Planning Guidebook for the Modern Grid. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2018. [3002013384](#)
- Guidance on DER as Non-Wires Alternatives: Technical and Economic Considerations for Assessing NWA Projects. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2018. [3002013327](#)
- Modernizing the Distribution Planning Process: Current Activities and Lessons Learned to Date. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2018. [3002013411](#)
- Future Planning Process and Criteria: Optimizing Investment Decision. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2019. 3002015278
- Alternative Identification and Optimization Methods. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2019. 3002015279
- Value Assessment of DER Planning Alternatives. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2019. 3002015279
- Methods for Quantifying the Time and Locational Value of DER Solutions. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2019. 3002015284
- Non-Wire Solutions (NWS) Provided by Third-Parties: Business Arrangements & Regulatory Challenges. EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2019. 3002015767



# TOPIC 4:

## Cost Benefit Analysis

Five Year Distribution Planning  
Stakeholder Meeting

Michigan Public Service Commission  
Lake Superior Hearing Room

June 27, 2019





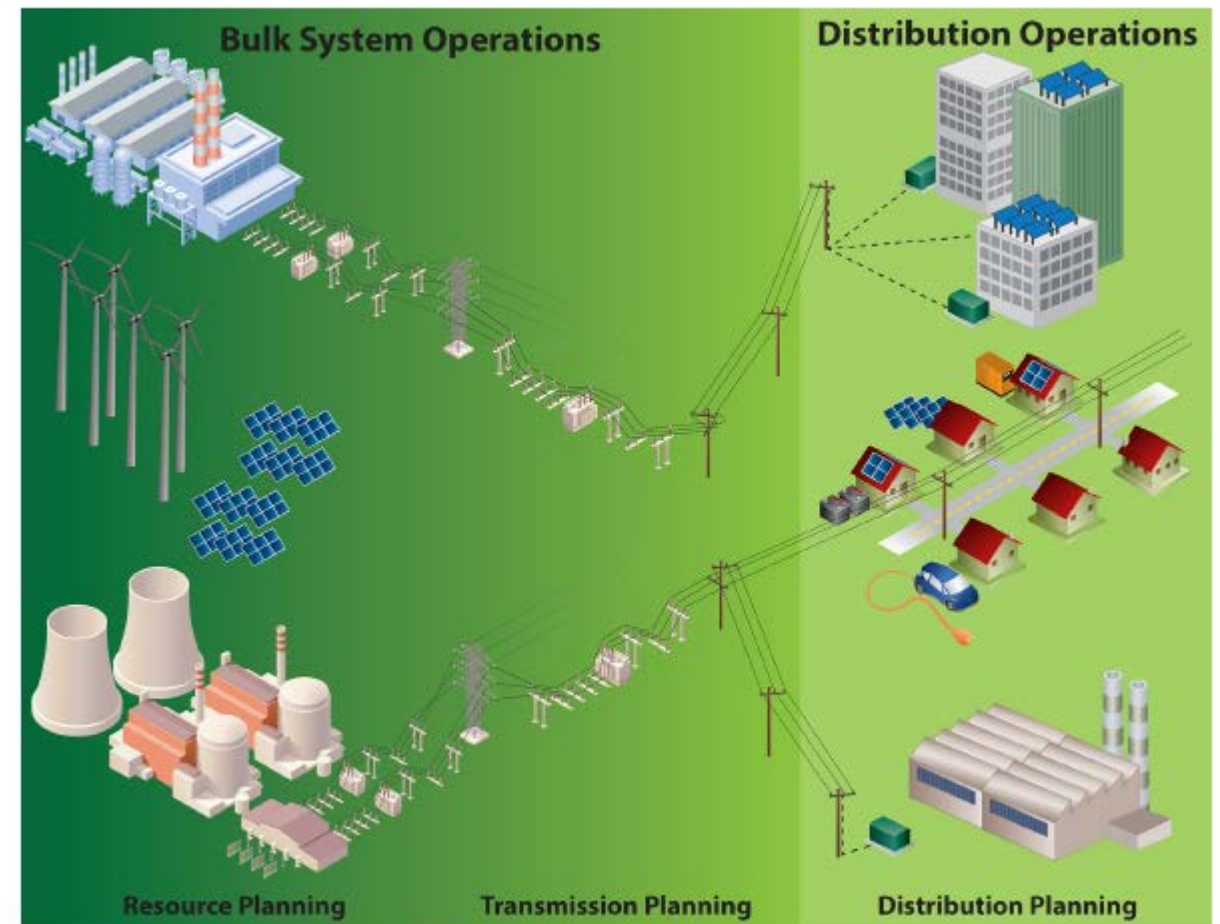
we are  **ICF**

# Benefit Cost Analysis

Lansing, MI  
June 27, 2019

# Utility Investments

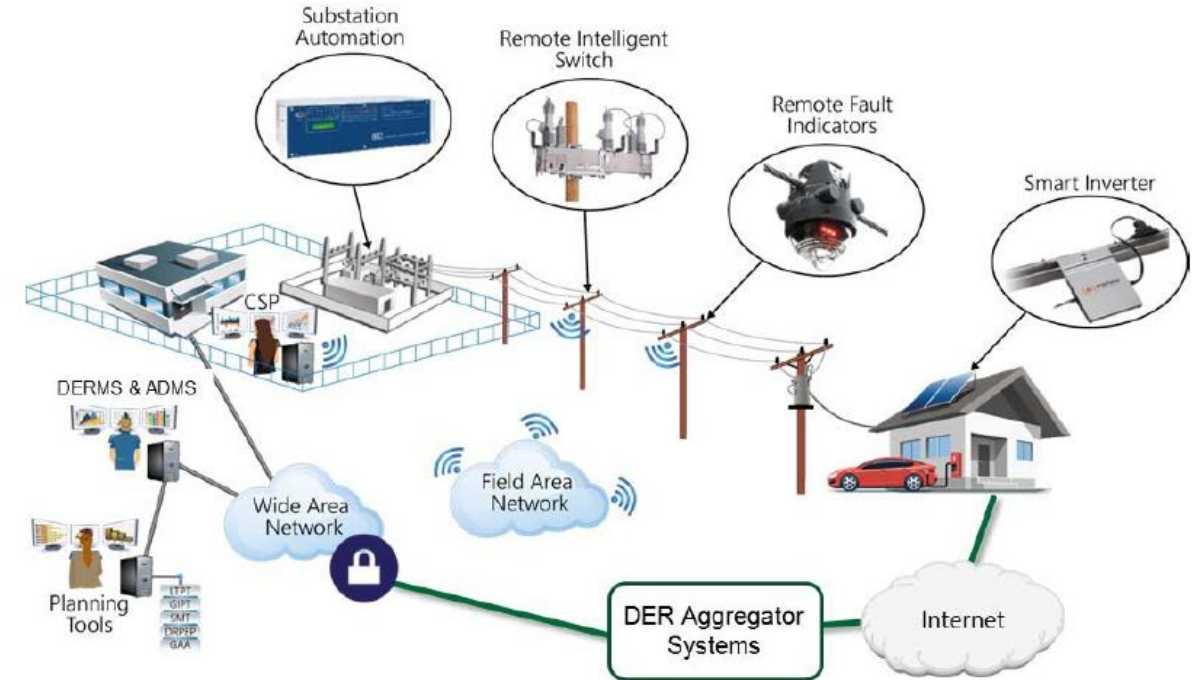
- Utilities already make choices internally on investments and prioritize those investments in terms of customer and corporate risks
- Rate cases are the mechanism to validate the prudence of investment portfolios
- A new set of utility investments have proliferated in the context of grid modernization, in some cases tied to policy objectives



Source: *Integrated Grid: A Benefit-Cost Framework*, EPRI (February, 2015)

# Grid Modernization Investments

- The definition of what constitutes a “grid modernization” investment/expenditure can be different in each state
- New frameworks are emerging to evaluate benefits and costs of some grid modernization investments
- Grid modernization investments may serve more than one purpose (i.e. safety & reliability, policy and customer choice)
- The benefit categories and quantification methodologies may vary by framework



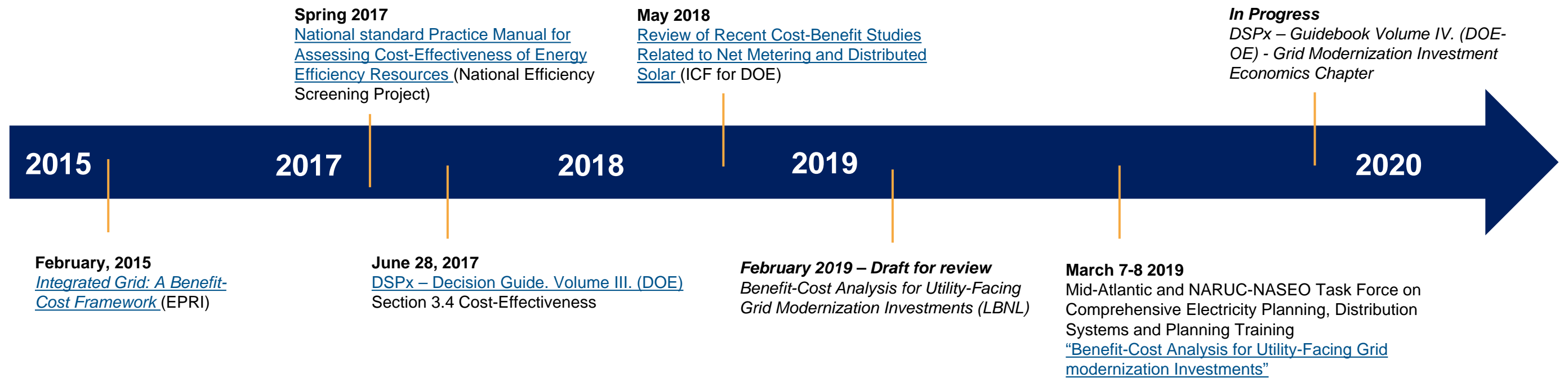
Source: U.S. DOE-DSPx Decision Guide, Volume III (June 28, 2017)

# Grid Expenditures Methodologies

- The U.S. DOE-DSPx Decision Guide (Volume III) outlines cost-effectiveness methods and their application by category of grid expenditure
- There are three (3) main types of methodologies used to evaluate grid expenditures

Methodology	Grid Expenditure Category
Least-cost, best-fit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Investments required to meet specifications and standards to maintain safety and reliability</li></ul>
Benefit Cost Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Investments for energy efficiency or demand side management (DSM) programs, non-wires solutions, and/or DG tariffs</li><li>• Other expenditures proposed to enable public policy or incremental societal benefits</li></ul>
Opt-in (no regulatory justification)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Investments deliberately paid by customers to integrate their distributed resource</li></ul>

# Cost-Effectiveness Resources





# Cost-Effectiveness Tests for Programs or Tariffs

Cost-Effectiveness Test	Focus	Approach
Total Resource Cost (TRC)	Utility + Customers who participate	Costs and benefits of the utility and customers who participate (may include quantifiable non-energy benefits)
Utility/Program Cost Test (UCT/PACT)	Utility	Costs and benefits of the utility that affect revenue requirement (only include environmental costs and benefits paid by the utility)
Participant Cost Test (PCT)	Customers who participate	Cost and benefits of customers who participate
Ratepayer Impact Measure (RIM)	Rate impacts to all customers	Cost and benefits that will affect utility rates (includes lost revenue)
Societal Costs Test (SCT)	Society	Costs and benefits experienced by society (includes non-monetary benefits)
Resource Value Test (RVT)*	Regulator	Costs and benefits of the utility, plus costs and benefits associated with achieving policy goals

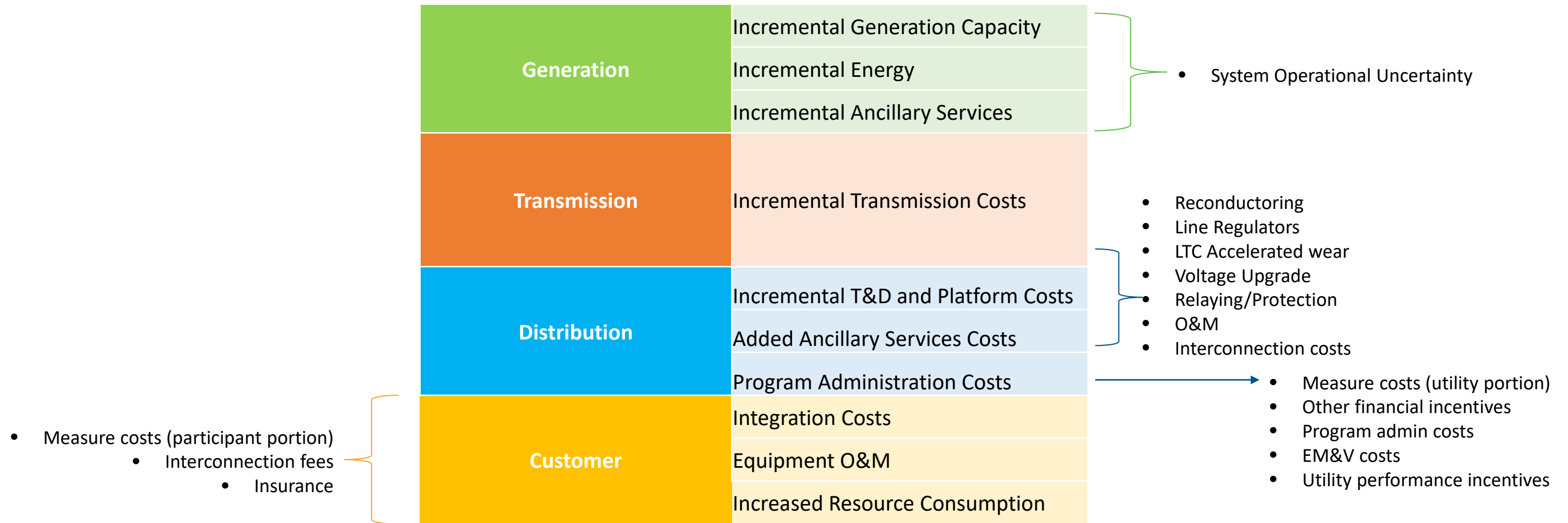
\*Emerging cost-effectiveness test for energy efficiency, introduces a [“Regulatory test”](#)

# Benefit Categories Examples

Generation	Avoided Generation Capacity
	Avoided Energy
	Avoided O&M
	Avoided Environmental Compliance
	Avoided Renewable Compliance
	Avoided Ancillary Services
	Fuel Hedging / Reduced Risk
	Wholesale Market Price Suppression
Transmission	Avoided Transmission Capital Infrastructure or Charges
	Avoided Transmission O&M or Charges
	Avoided Transmission Losses
Distribution	Avoided Distribution Capital Infrastructure or Charges
	Avoided Distribution O&M
	Avoided Distribution Voltage/Power Quality Costs
	Avoided Outages Costs
	Avoided Restoration Costs
	Reduced Revenue Cycle Service Costs / Reduced Staging Costs

Societal	Avoided GHG Cost (Social Cost of Carbon)
	Avoided Criteria Pollutants
	Avoided Water Impacts
	Avoided Land Impacts
	Avoided Public Safety Costs
	Local jobs and economic development
	Energy Security
Customer	Bill Savings
	Reduced Customer Outage Costs

# Cost Categories



# Takeaways

- DER penetration is still low in Michigan
- Leading states still continue to evolve their BCA frameworks
- Utilities already perform business case analysis on their investments
- Resources:
  - [Integrated Grid: A Benefit-Cost Framework](#) (EPRI)
  - [National standard Practice Manual for Assessing Cost-Effectiveness of Energy Efficiency Resources](#) (National Efficiency Screening Project)
  - [DSPx – Decision Guide. Volume III.](#) (DOE)
  - [Review of Recent Cost-Benefit Studies Related to Net Metering and Distributed Solar](#) (ICF for DOE)
  - Mid-Atlantic and NARUC-NASEO Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning, Distribution Systems and Planning Training [“Benefit-Cost Analysis for Utility-Facing Grid modernization Investments”](#)

# AFTERNOON BREAK

2:45 – 3:00 PM

## Five Year Distribution Planning Stakeholder Meeting

Michigan Public Service Commission

Lake Superior Hearing Room

June 27, 2019



# Holistic Integration & Open Q&A: Reviewing Today's Topics

Five Year Distribution Planning  
Stakeholder Meeting

Michigan Public Service Commission  
Lake Superior Hearing Room

June 27, 2019

