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Ontario Energy Board Stakeholder Meeting

Responding to DER

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About ICF

ICF has supported DER consultations in other jurisdictions, such as New York, California, Nevada and Oregon. Based on our experience, this presentation has been prepared to share some key insights and lessons learned. The concepts, figures, examples and insights shared are intended to generate discussion, not to presuppose or preclude any policy outcomes in Ontario.

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Overarching Focus: Customers

Ensure cost-effectiveness for customers, and/or decrease system costs.

Enable customers to choose innovative technologies.

Enhance the customer experience and create value for customers.



DER Services



DER SERVICES – 1/4

What Services Can DER Provide to the Distribution System?

	Value Category	Benefit (+) or Cost (-)	# of Studies	
Utility System Impacts				
	Avoided Energy Generation	+	15	
	Avoided Generation Capacity	+	15	
Generation	Avoided Environmental Compliance	+	10	
	Fuel Hedging	+	9	
	Market Price Response	+	6	
	Ancillary Services	+/-	8	
Toologia	Avoided Transmission Capacity	+	15	
Transmission	Avoided Line Losses	+	11	
	Avoided Distribution Capacity	+	14	
Distribution	Resiliency & Reliability	+	5	
Distribution	Distribution O&M	+/-	4	
	Distribution Voltage and Power Quality	+/-	6	
	Integration Costs	-	13	
Other Costs	Lost Utility Revenues	-	7	
	Program and Administrative Costs	-	7	
Societal Impacts				
Broador	Avoided Cost of Carbon	+	8	
broader	Other Avoided Environmental Costs	+	9	
Impacts	Local Economic Benefit	+	3	

- There is near consensus amongst regulators and utilities that DER can help avoid the need for new distribution capacity.
- A discussion is needed on distribution resiliency & reliability; O&M; voltage and power quality. Ontario could develop its own framework to evaluate these categories.
- The value to customers (i.e., choice, avoided outages, bill reduction) is highly customer specific and estimates vary.

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Image Source: ICF, The Hunt for the Value of Distributed Solar, February 2019

DER SERVICES – 2/4 Time Horizon for DER Services



Locational Net Benefits = Locational Value of DER - (System Integration Costs + Operational Risks)

Note: 3 Ps – Procurements, Pricing, Programs

- from the long-run avoided costs of distribution capacity.
 - Three main mechanisms exist today to procure DER in this early phase:

In the near term, the largest value is likely to come

The types of services that DER can provide will

evolve as system capabilities grow.

- Non-wires alternatives (NWA) procurement.
 NWAs can include a portfolio of DER such as solar PV, demand response and EE measures;
- Pricing of DER services (such as voltage and reactive power support) through tariffs; and
- Energy efficiency programs.
- In the longer term, value may accrue from the use of DER for real-time grid operations and to resolve dynamic operational constraints and reduce losses.

DER SERVICES – 3/4 Required Grid Modernization Investments

line of in out o	Stage 1: Grid Modernization	Stage 2: Operational Market	
invesiments	Reliability & Operational Efficiency	Enable DER Integration	DER Value Capture
Advanced Metering Infrastructure	✓	~	√
Distribution Automation	✓	~	
Advanced Distribution Management System	~	~	✓
Distributed Energy Resource Management System		~	~
Data Analytics		✓	✓
Geographic Information System ("GIS")	~	~	
Communications Infrastructure	✓	✓	✓
System Data Platform		✓	~
Volt/VAR Optimization/ Conservation Voltage Reduction	~	✓	✓

- Procuring services from DER will require investments in monitoring and control, communications, protection and data acquisition technologies.
- In some cases, the use of techniques such as feeder switching and load balancing and the use of low-cost equipment such as voltage regulators and capacitor banks may suffice for real-time operations.
- The net benefits of procuring operational services from DER may diminish as the need for system investment grows with increasing DER penetration.

DER SERVICES – 4/4 How May Distributors Facilitate DERs?



Note: The figure is meant to be illustrative and does not reflect all the distribution planning processes or feedback loops that may develop as the planning process matures.

- Depending on the type of DER, Distributors may facilitate DERs that add value in two ways:
 - Providing efficient access to the distribution system; and,
 - Providing data in an efficient and timely way.
- As DER penetration increases, especially generation, expanded SCADA, monitoring and protection and expanded or new control room functions, will be needed.
- Distribution companies can develop new techniques to forecast for load and DER.
- New market rules and participation models can facilitate DER participation in wholesale electricity markets.

Data and Information; System Planning and Operation of DERs



DATA AND INFORMATION - 1/3

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Data Requested by DER Providers

What data will provide the most value?Granular peak demand, load shapes, and load forecasts. Data at the substation level is recommended, but even more detail (e.g. at the feeder level) would be useful for appropriately developing and sizing DER resources to best meet system needs.		Required Data (GIS):	Substations : - Unique ID - Substation Name	Why does the data provide value?	- Online Mapping - Cross-reference data from many sources, allowing ties from GIS to Interconnect Lists
	Detailed insight into areas of the utility system that have or will require significant infrastructure upgrades - and where DER could provide benefit.		Distribution & Transmission lines: - Circuit ID - Substation ID/Name		 Allows GIS data to be tied to substation data Use GIS data to complete spatial analysis with developer customer data
	Detailed customer data, as near to real-time as possible.	Nice to Have:	Distribution & Transmission lines - distribution & transmission line attributes, such as conductor size		- Can be used to evaluate potential thermal capacity of a feeder and estimate re-conductoring costs
Presentation at Joint Utilities of New York, June 16, 2016, System Data EG Meeting		Joint Utilities Engagement	of New York (JUNY) August 17 Group (EG) Meeting	, 2017 , Syste	em Data Stakeholder

Moving from a general to specific request adds value for all parties

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Sources: NRG presentation at JUNY June 16 2016 System Data EG Meeting Joint Utilities of New York (JUNY) August 17 2017 System Data Stakeholder Engagement Group (EG) Meeting 11

DATA AND INFORMATION – 2/3

Examples of Utility Monitoring and Control Requirements for DER

DER Monitoring Requirements	Value of DER Monitoring for Utilities
Per Phase Voltage and Current	Distribution Planning: Aids in asset management – transformer sizing, phase balancing, load planning, protection.
Three Phase Real and Reactive Power	DER Interconnection: Future hosting capacity determination.
	Distribution Operations: Reconfiguration planning and circuit restoration.

DER Control Requirements	Value of DER Control for Utilities
Point of Common Coupling (PCC) recloser is mapped in accordance with DNP3. IEC	Distribution Planning: Safety, feeder reconfiguration, maintenance, restoration.
61850 etc.	High DER Penetration Scenario: Curtailment of DER during over-generation.
PCC recloser is capable of capturing sequence of events analysis	Advanced Control: Respond to control inputs for distribution level services.
PCC recloser must report the status of the disconnecting device	
ICE proprietary and confidential. Do not copy, distribute, or disclose	Sources: New York Interim JU Monitoring and Control Criteria (September 1, 2017) NREL, Monitoring and Control of PV Power Systems – Use Cases and Examples, presented at NY ITWG meeting on 1/18/2017 12

DATA AND INFORMATION - 3/3

Protocol Standardization – California Smart Inverter Rules Example

Inverter: A power electronics-based device that transforms a direct current (DC) electric signal into an alternating current (AC) signal. Energy exporting DERs such as solar PV and batteries produce DC signals, that must be transformed into AC prior to injection into the electric grid.

US jurisdictions are moving to standardized communication and monitoring protocols for inverters, DER and DER aggregators to make the DER integration process more efficient.



Valuation Of DER



The Concept of Suitability Criteria

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* Categories of project types suitable for NWA are on slide 5

Roles And Responsibilities



ROI ES AND RESPONSIBILITIES – 1/1

DER Integration Requires Increased Coordination for Efficient Grid Planning



* Policy requirements include mandates related to emissions reductions, increasing the penetration of a particular resource type etc. ** These forecasts include DER output forecasts and DER adoption scenarios.

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Source: Adapted from DSPx: Planning for a Modern Grid, Distribution Systems and Planning Training for Mid-Atlantic Region and NARUC-NASEO Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning

Final Thoughts

Walk-Jog-Run Framework; Focused on Value

Image Source: Adapted from NY JU SDSIP

