Life Is On Schneider



Scott Higgins

Director, Utility Distributed Energy and Microgrids Schneider Electric Microgrid Competency Center

North America Operations

Scott has 20 years experience at Schneider in Utility Distribution Solutions, including delivery of information and operational technologies and services to the Utility industry. Today, Scott directs microgrid solutions serving Utilities and Prosumers in North America in collaboration with Schneider's many partners in this space.

Energy Megatrends – 3D+E is setting the stage

Decarbonization

Digitization

Decentralization

+ More Energy

Historical Energy Value Chain



- Consumers responsible for their own MV/LV Traditional Power Distribution Assets and Operations "behind the meter", Many implement EE Measures
- Consumers have some partial base-load and traditional backup power generation of many varied capabilities, but few significant islanding systems (CHP and Solar do not Island from Grid)
- Beyond EE, Increasing Local, Efficient Self-Generation + Microgrid Islanding is the road ahead.

The New Energy Landscape



- Utilities house significant Grid-Connected 3rd party owned Solar PV plants with complementing BESSs. In some cases the developer is the utility, but in others it is a 3rd party or a new Energy "Prosumer".
- Larger Prosumers and Municipalities PPA/Lease models to leverage existing and build new DERs
- Reduction in costs for DER technologies, increase in reliable delivery + new business models for Energy Services result in the new Energy Landscape, both on Grid and at Prosumer sites



Distribution System "Hosting Capacity"

The amount of variable renewables that can be utilized at the grid tied location is dynamic at all points and times, different for every feeder



JOINT UTILITIES

Utilities must provide stability and reliability for all consumers Distribution Microgrid Topologies using Gensets and Solar PV/Storage Regulatory environment for "rate base" recovery of these assets is challenge for Utility



Providing key services from existing infrastructure during emergency

Life Is On Sc









Prosumer and IPP Assets may be curtailed by Utility

Interests of one may be disrupted by those of another, creating a "conflict" of best outcomes for all As Prosumers increase local energy independence, Utility loads drop, Traditional Grid Role Changes



Source: Oncor – May 27, 2015

Mixed Use Case example at the Prosumer Microgrid and Utility DR participant

- Prosumer optimization of battery charge, discharge and peak shaving
- However a utility demand response event may "interrupt" prosumer operation and execute based on what utility wants.
- Algorithm Abandons Peak Shaving, and must recharge to prepare for Utility DR event

We shift from Prosumer benefit to Utility benefit case, but only as long as this provides the best economics for Prosumer



Where does all this lead?.. Ask me tomorrow and I may say something different



- Behind the meter "Prosumer" solutions will evolve and increase in economic and technical viability. First C&I, Campus and Municipal, and over time to residential level
- Utilities will be challenged to integrate larger scale "Distribution" level DERs, owned by themselves or IPPs, given operational limitations like "hosting capacity" and regulatory issues about how rate-based asset investments are recovered. Smart Inverter and Energy Storage will allow for "increasing" hosting capacity, but the potential amount is finite.
- IPPs will move from building "Distribution" level plants, once hosting capacity is reached, to building "Prosumer" level solutions, accelerating the rise of the "Prosumer" and compounding Utility Grid and Business challenges.
- Utilities will consider how to rate-base, own and operate their own Prosumer offers, but this will require significant regulatory change before it can happen for many regulated wires companies.



Life Is (