

Role of the Smart Grid in Facilitating the Integration of Renewables into the Power Grid



Keynote Speech

Professor Saifur Rahman

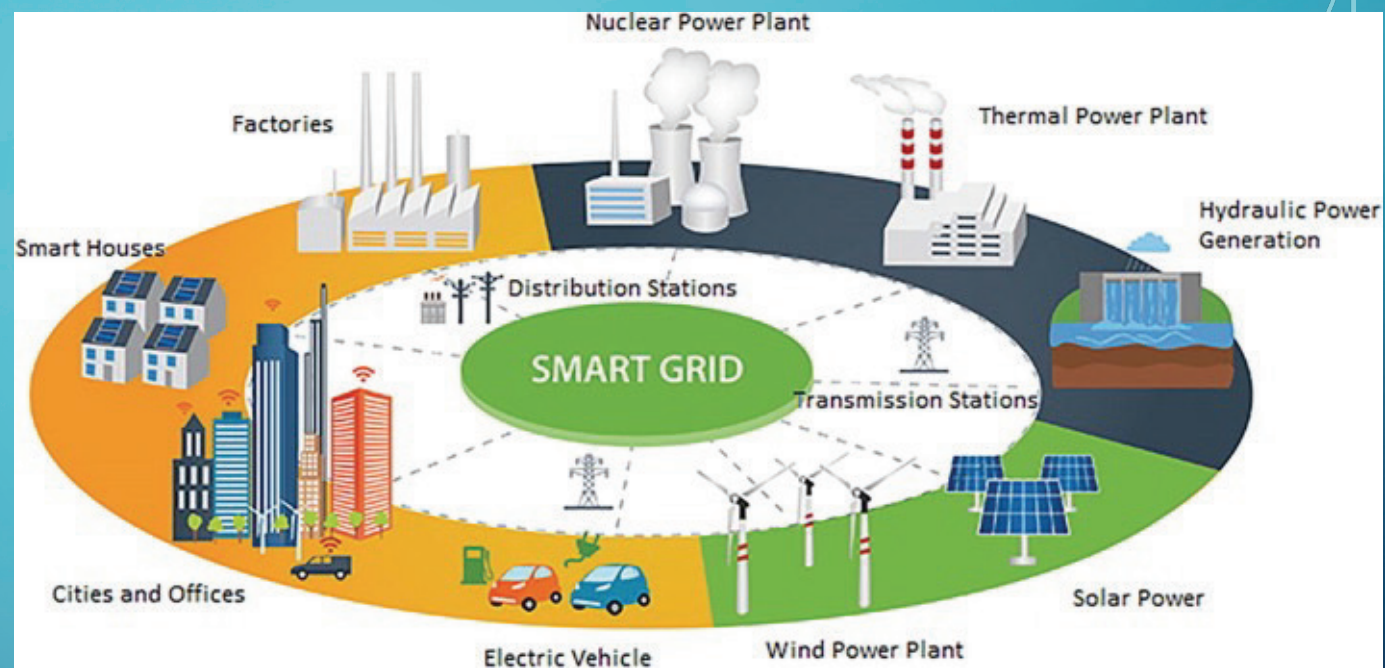
Director, Virginia Tech Advanced Research Inst., USA
2023 IEEE President

IEEE ICREGA'24, PMU, Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia 22 April 2021

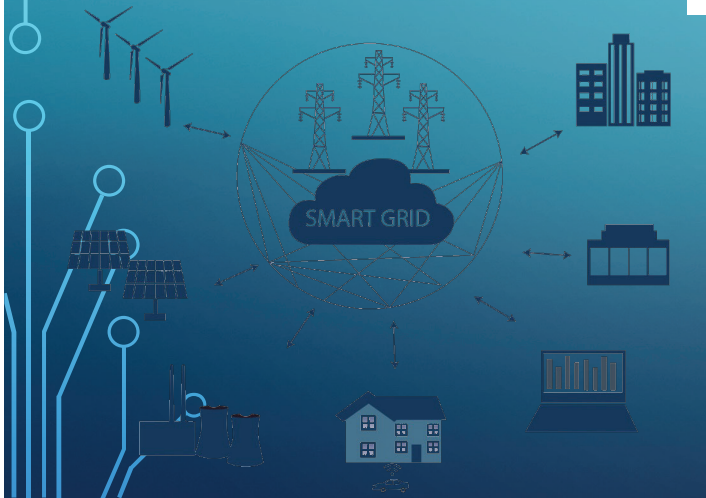


PPT slides are available at
www.srahman.org

What is a Smart Grid

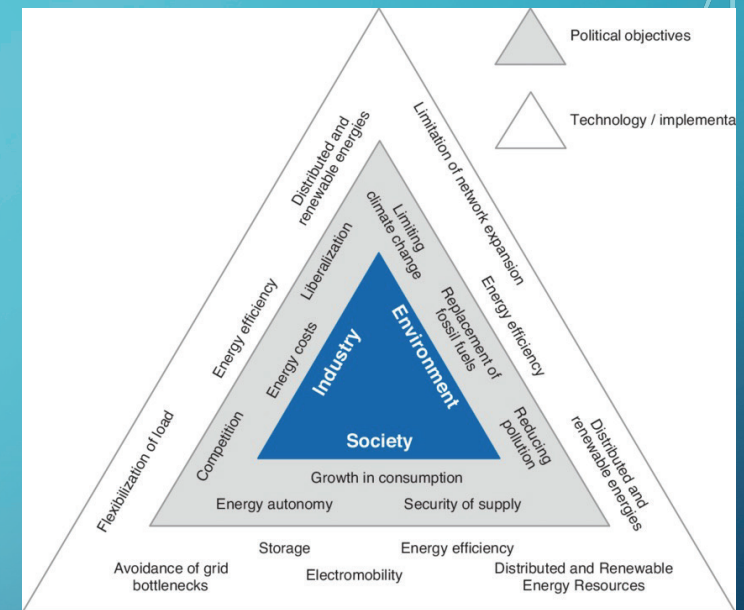


"Smart grid" is a concept with many elements where monitoring and control of each element in the chain of generation, transmission, distribution and end-use allow the electricity delivery and use to be more efficient.

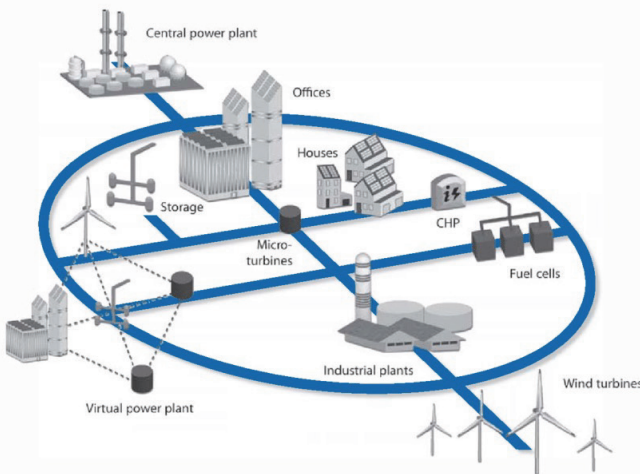


Motivation for a Smart Grid

Motivation for a Smart Grid on the basis of the energy management triangle - political objectives and technical implementation.



https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Motivation-for-a-Smart-Grid-on-the-basis-of-the-energy-management-triangle-political_fig1_263264024



Desire to make the grid smarter, safer, reliable and more cost-effective using advanced sensors, communication technologies and distributed computing.

Difference Between a Normal Grid and a Smart Grid



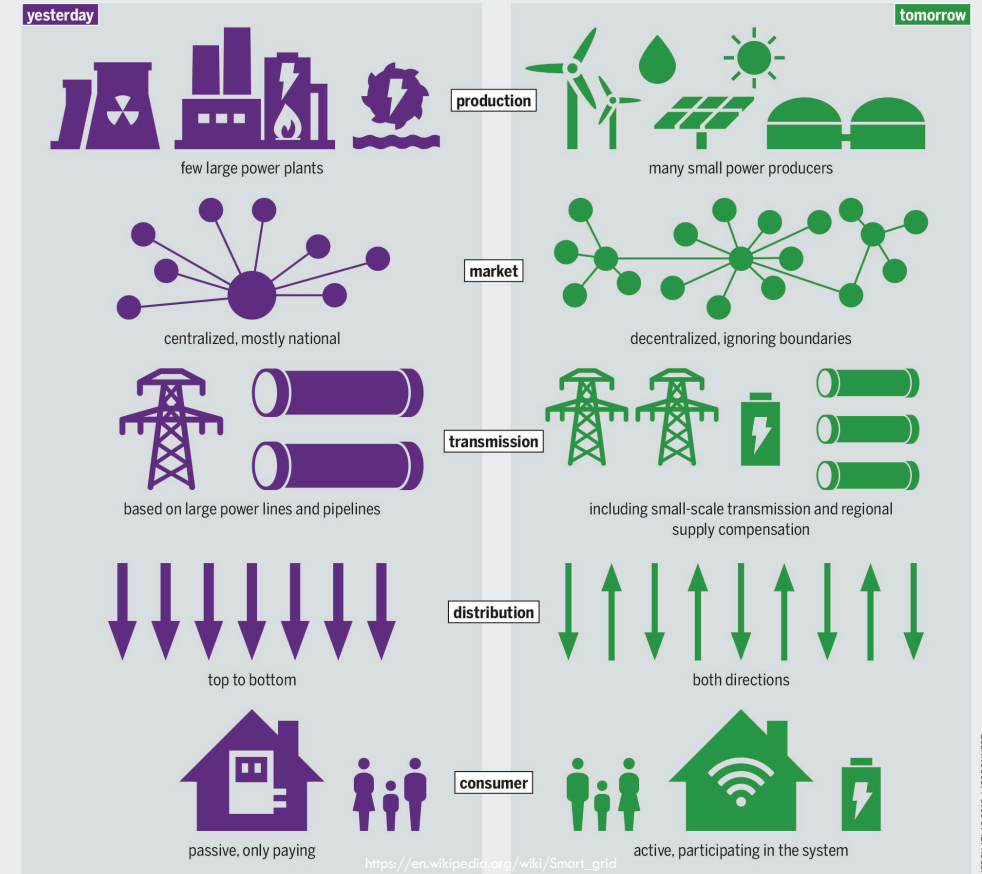
Normal Phone



Smart Phone

STAYING BIG OR GETTING SMALLER

Expected structural changes in the energy system made possible by the increased use of digital tools



Starting and End Points of a Smart Grid

It starts at the Generator and ends at the Refrigerator



Power Plant



Transmission



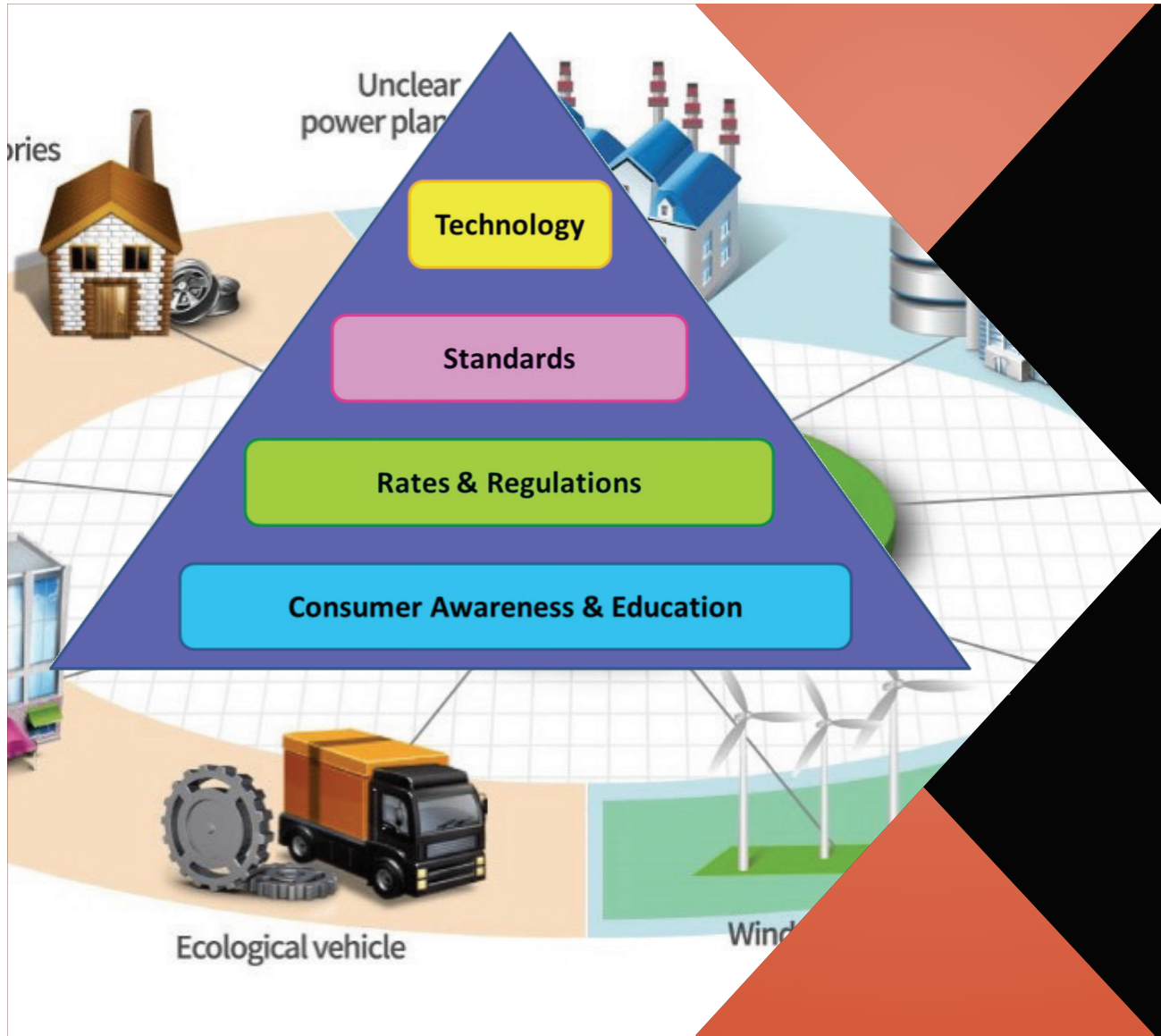
Distribution



Home Business



End-use Appliances



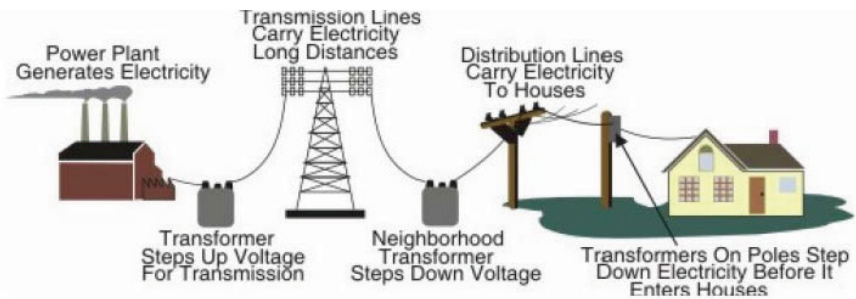
Smart Grid Building Blocks

Evolution of the Grid

Smart Grid

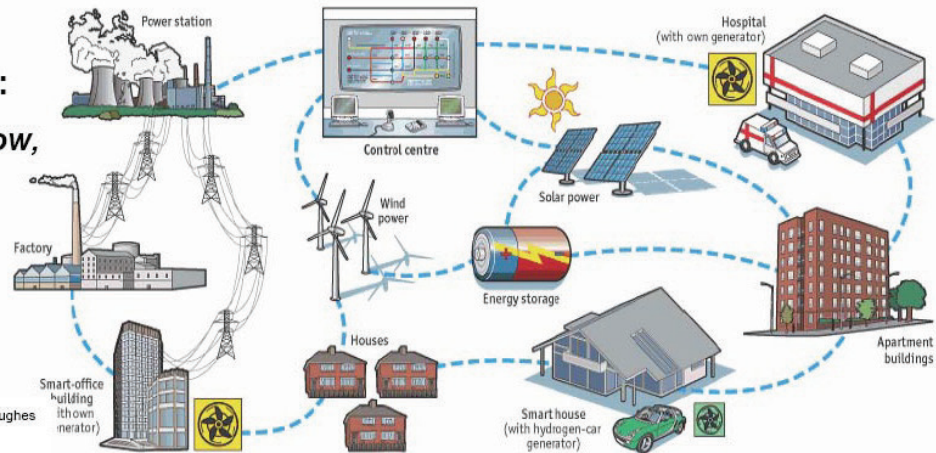
Before Smart Grid:

*One-way power flow,
simple interactions*



After Smart Grid:

*Two-way power flow,
multi-stakeholder
interactions*



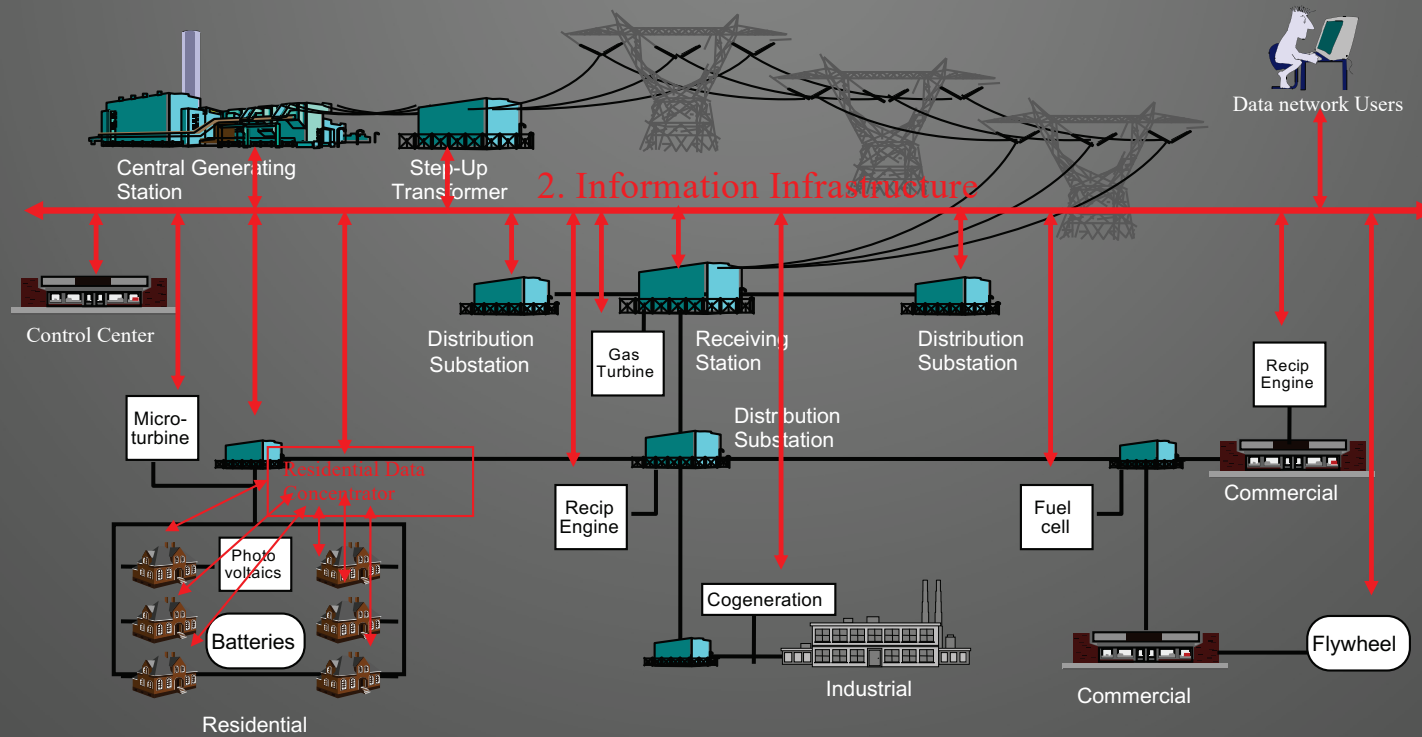
Adapted from EPRI Presentation by Joe Hughes
NIST Standards Workshop
April 28, 2008

Sources: *The Economist*; ABB

Source: Altlank, Alberta, Canada

Electric Power and Communication Infrastructures

1. Power Infrastructure



Source: EPRI

Changing Landscape
for the Electric Utility



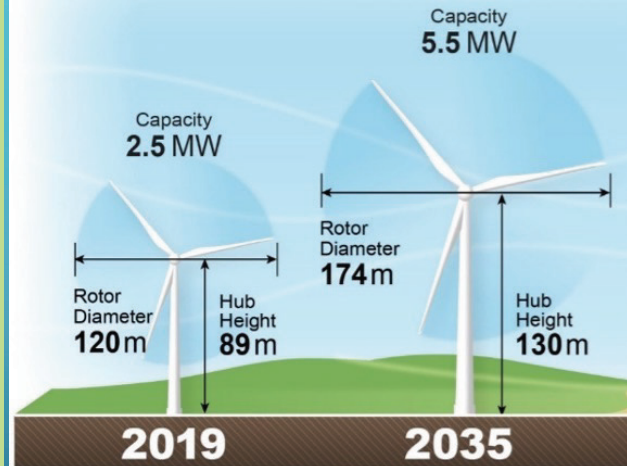


Issues with Distributed Generation

- Wind and solar are intermittent
- Hydro is space limited
- Resource is free but not always usable

Wind Energy

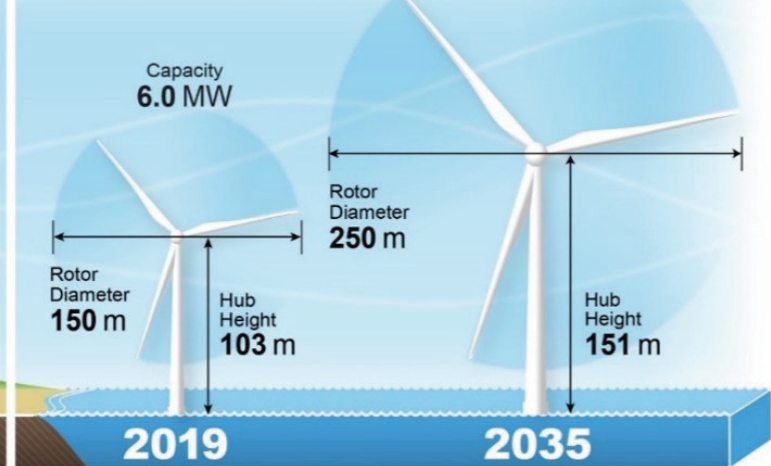
Onshore Wind Turbines



Specific Power
221 W/m²

Specific Power
231 W/m²

Offshore Wind Turbines

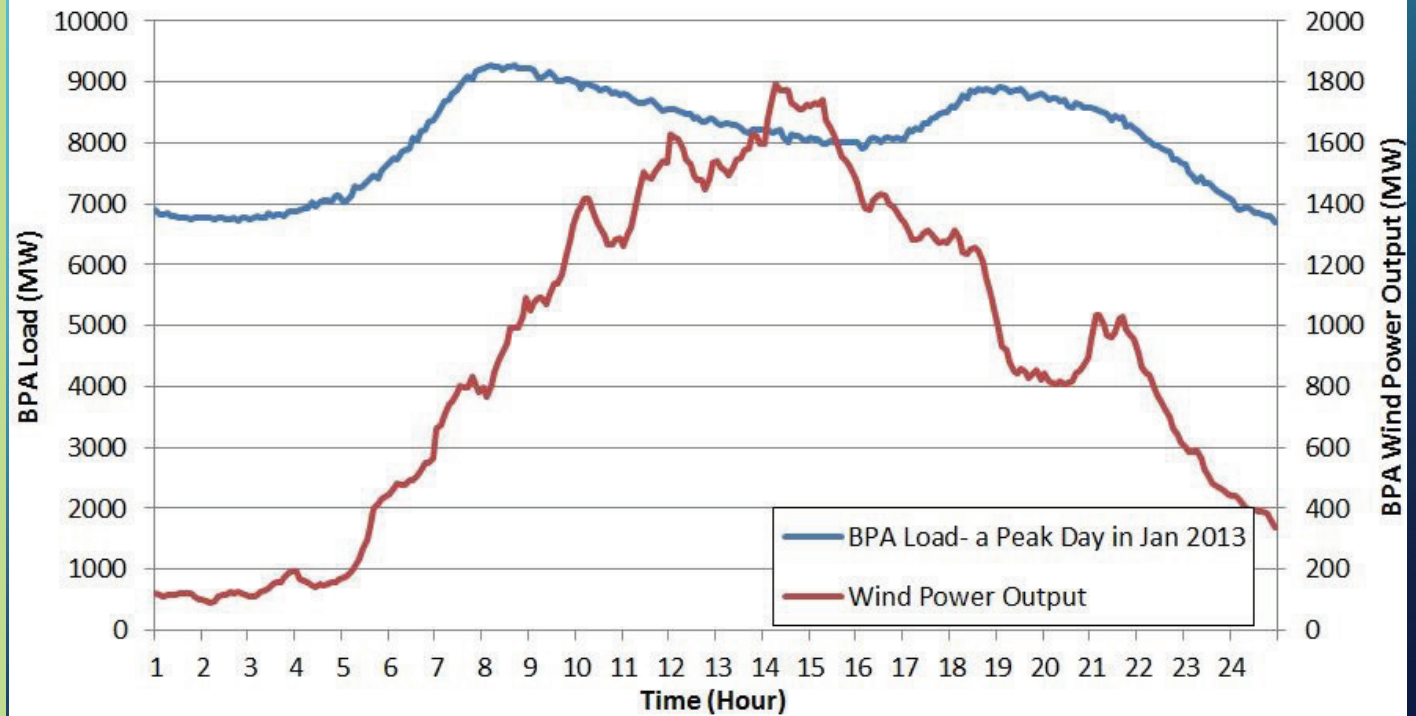


Specific Power
340 W/m²

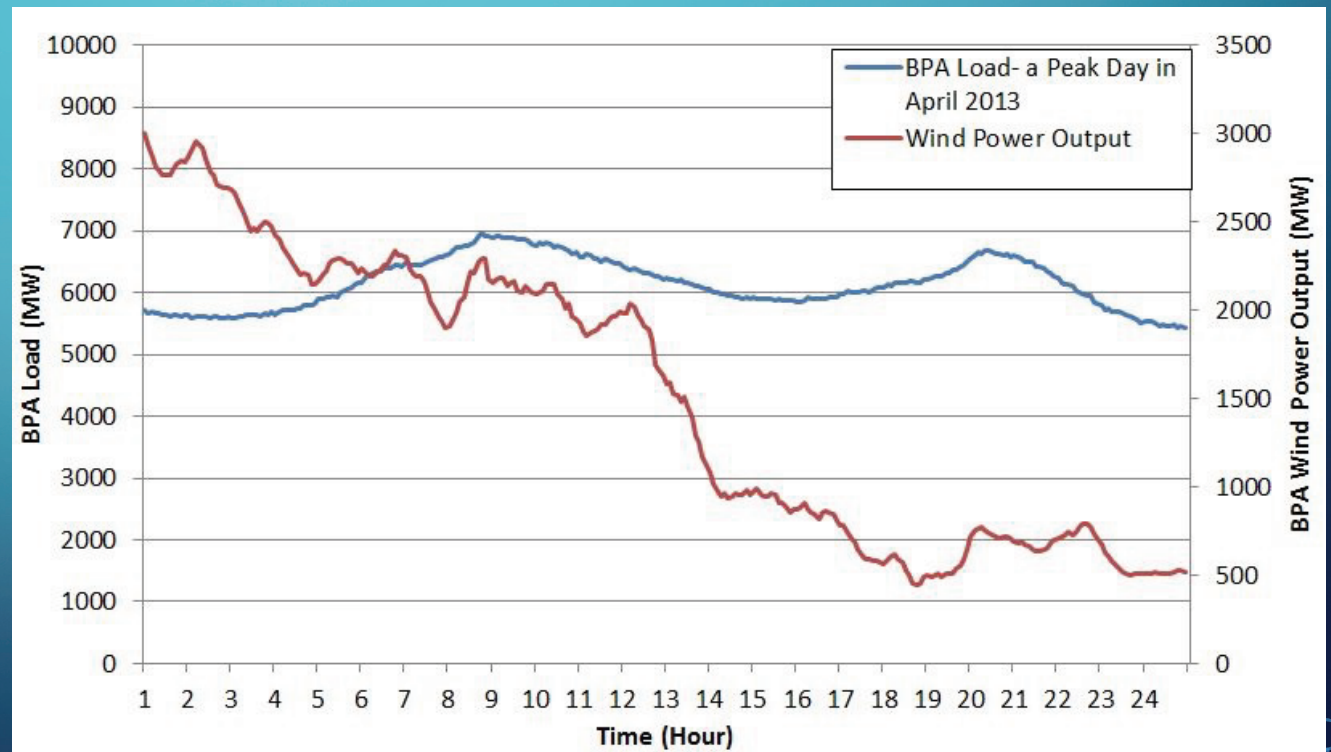
Specific Power
346 W/m²

<https://www.renewableenergyworld.com/wind-power/wind-power-experts-expect-wind-energy-costs-to-decline-up-to-35-by-2035/#gref>

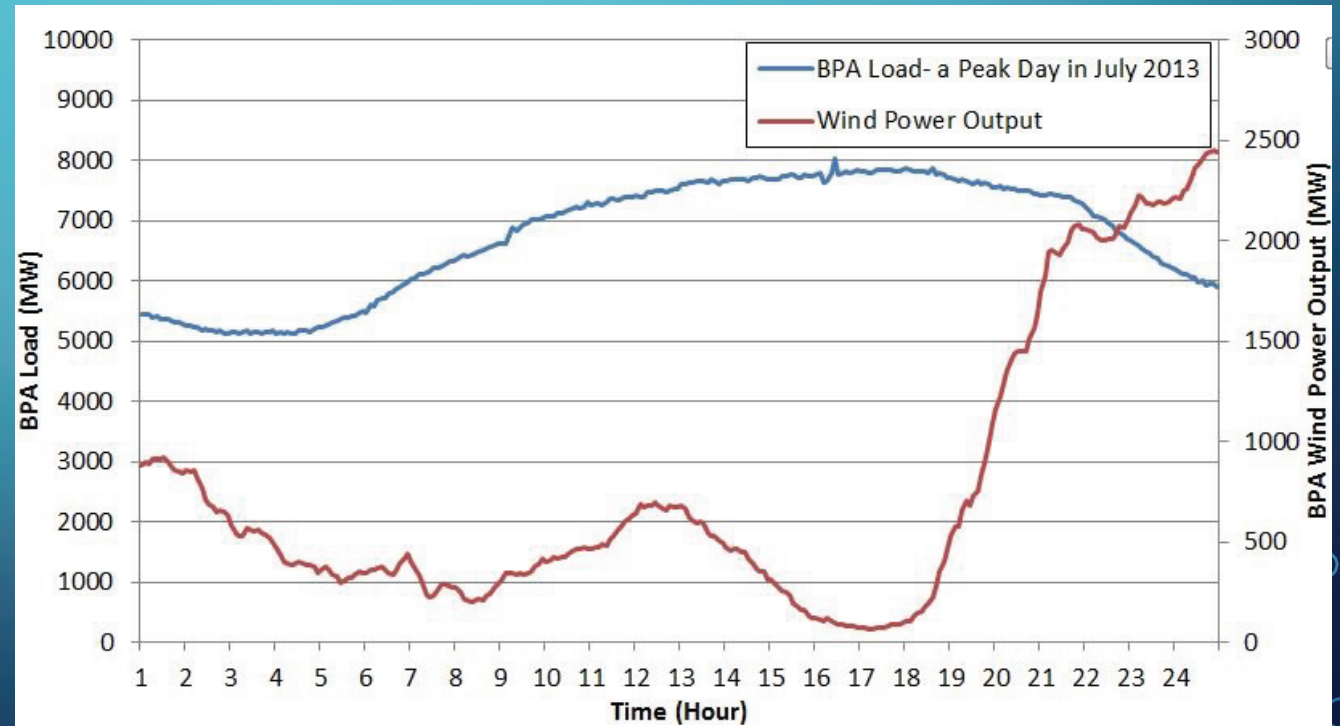
BPA Wind Output and Load Mismatch (A typical day in January)



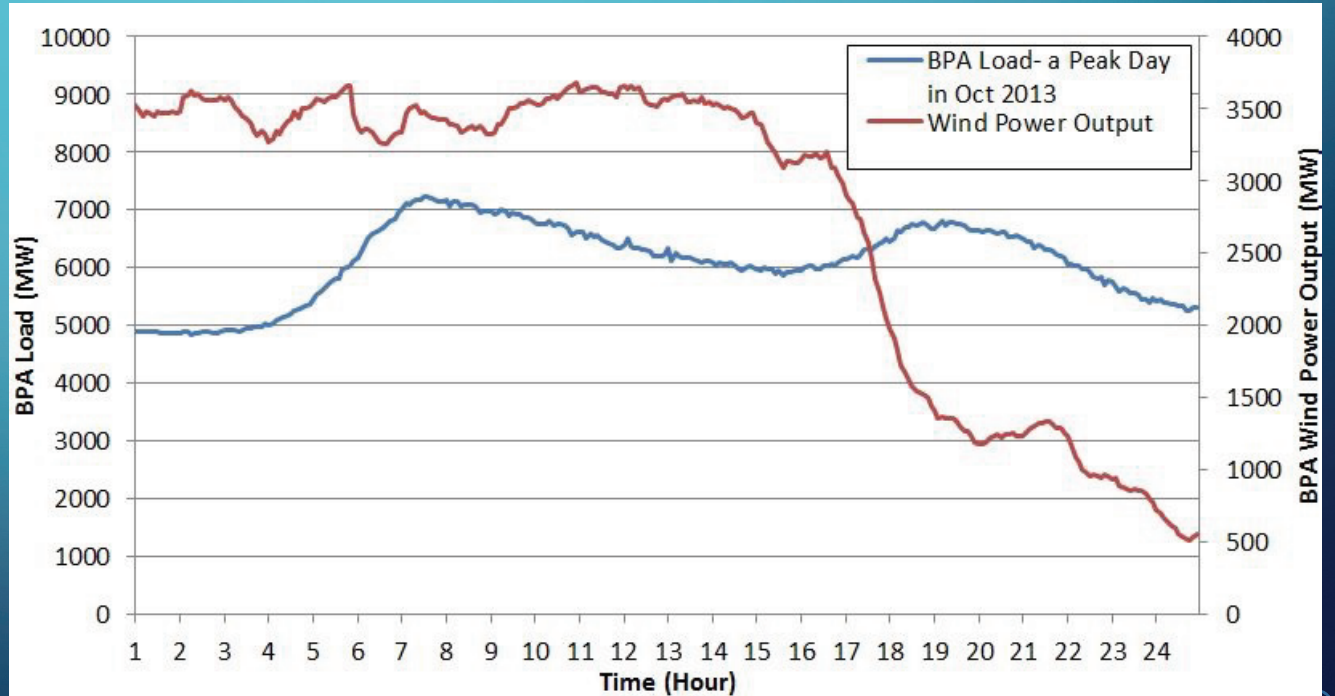
BPA Wind Output and Load Mismatch (A typical day in April)



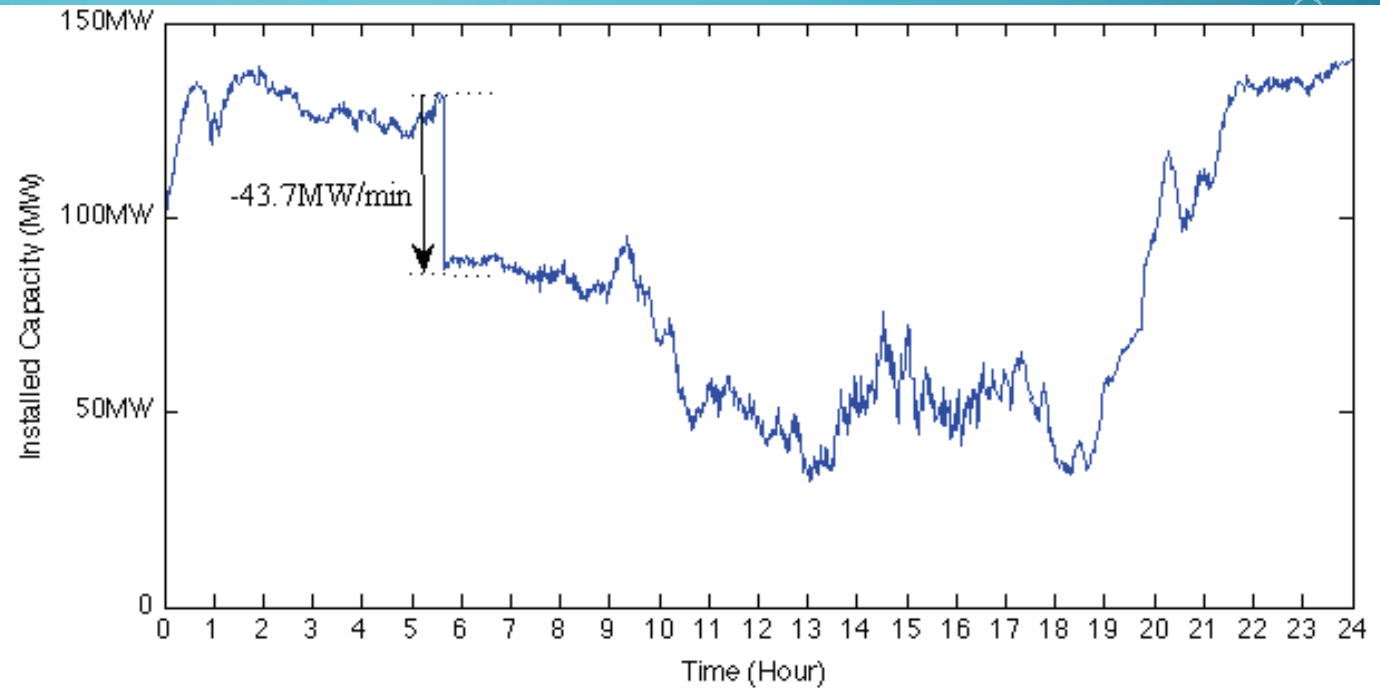
BPA Wind Output and Load Mismatch (A typical day in July)



BPA Wind Output and Load Mismatch (A typical day in October)



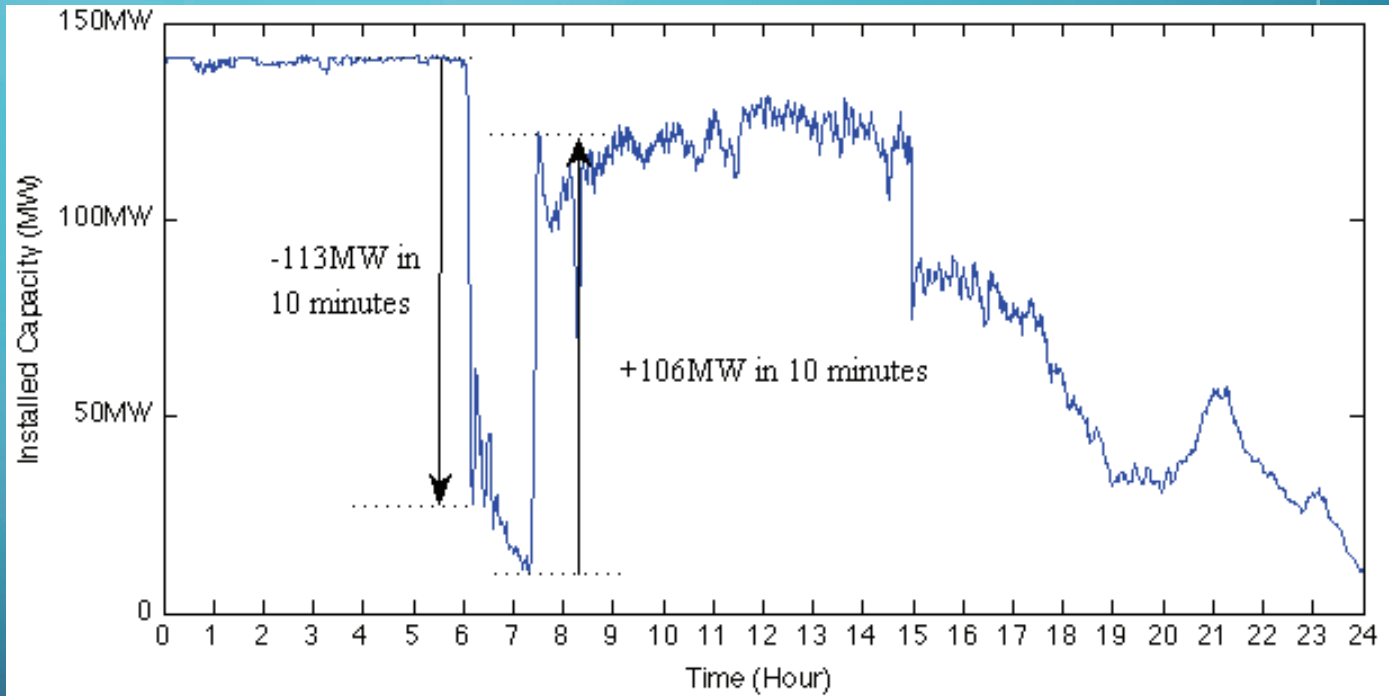
1-minute Variation of a 150MW Wind Farm Output in Texas



Wind output can drop 43.7 MW in 1 minute for a single 150-MW wind farm

Source: NREL

10-min Variation of a 150MW Wind Farm Output in Texas



Wind output can drop 113 MW in 10 minutes, and increase 106 MW in 10 minutes

Solar Energy



Roof-top Solar Photovoltaics in Virginia



Solar Panels in Winter



Intermittency Caused by Weather Events



Solar PV Project in UAE



Sand Storm in Abu Dhabi

In-depth look at Solar PV in Saudi Arabia



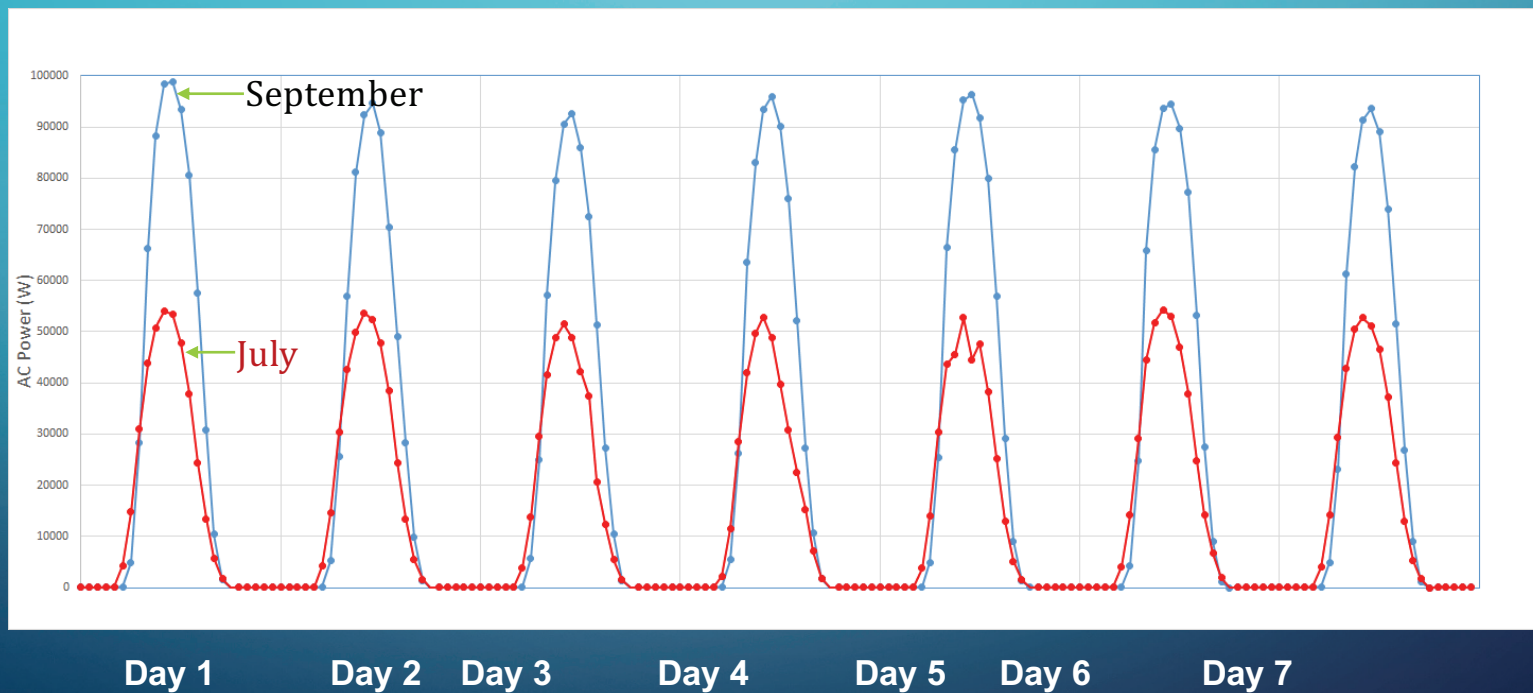
2-MW Roof-top Solar PV plant at KAUST

Solar PV Panels in Saudi Arabia



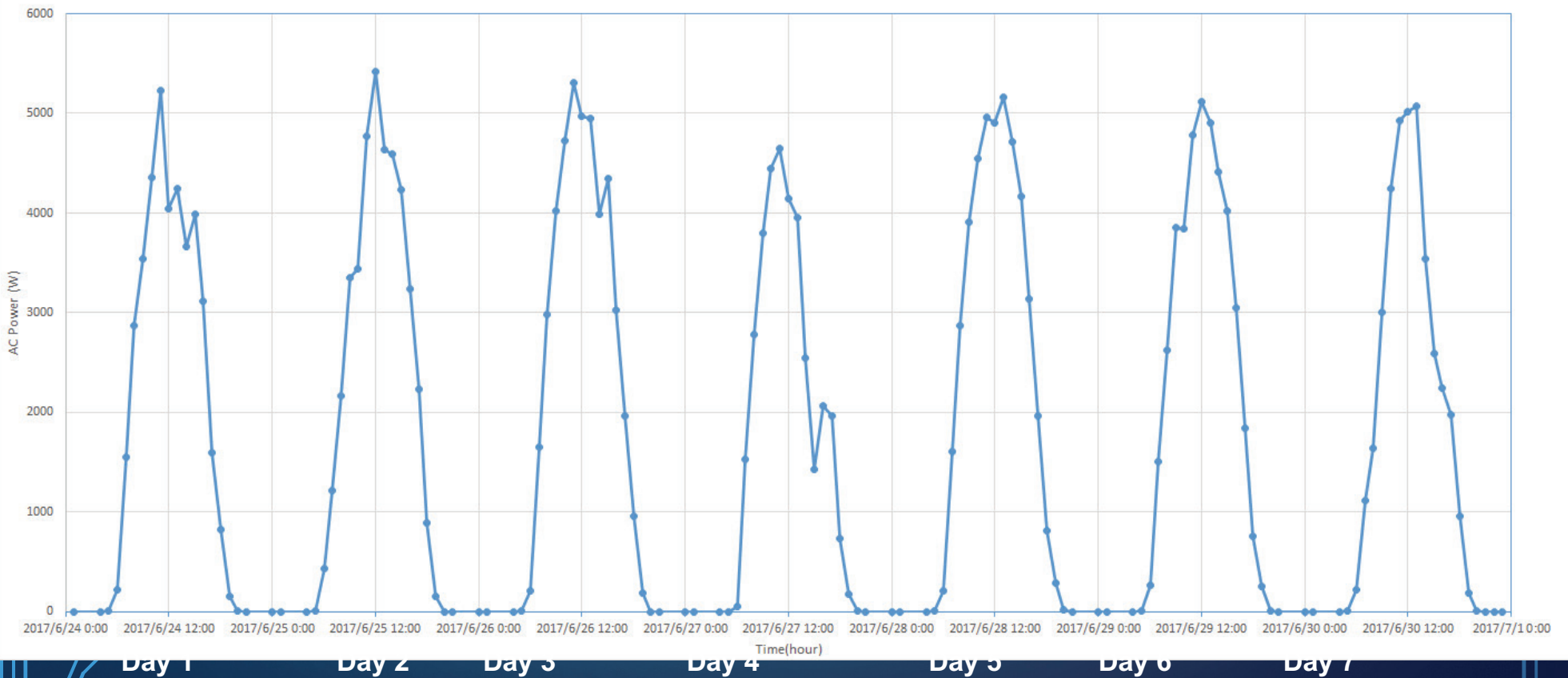
Reality Check

Solar PV Array (100kWp) Riyadh Area



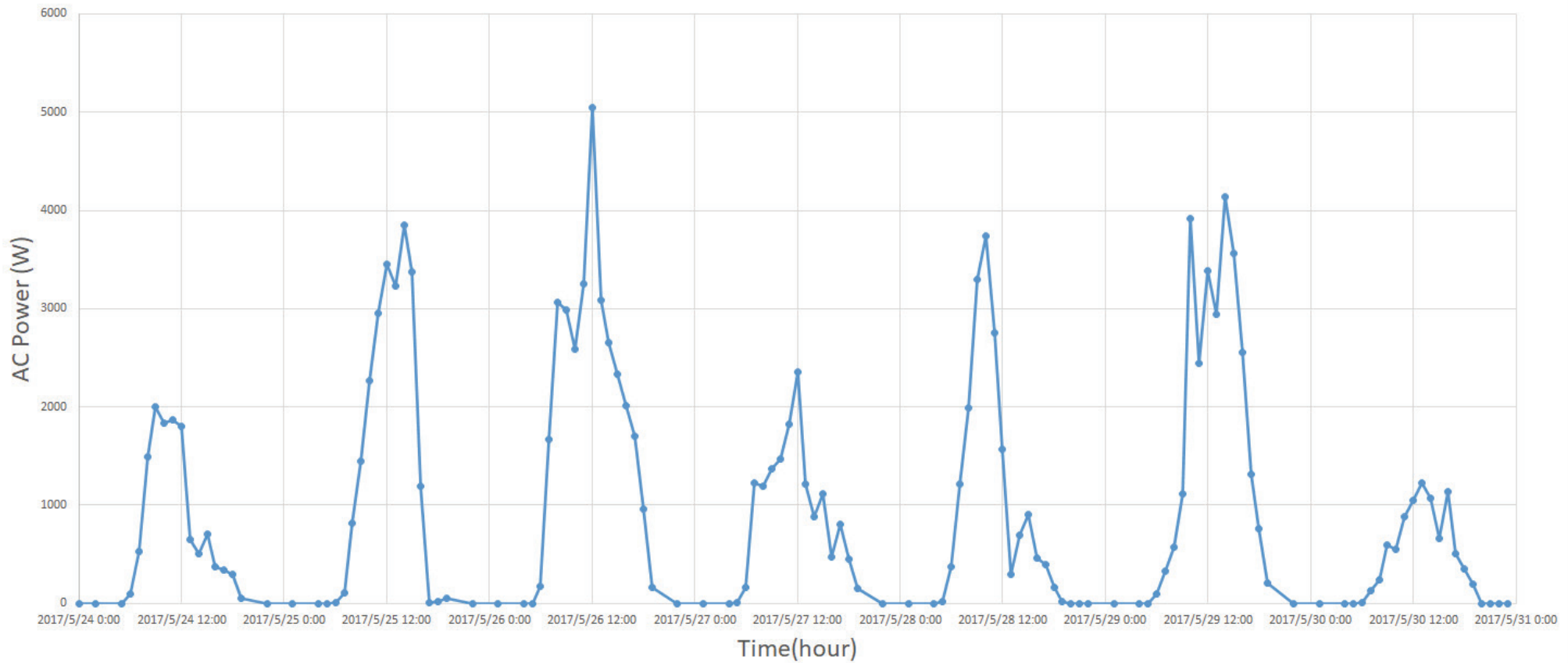
7-Day Solar PV Output (Virginia)

PV AC Power Output During One Sunny Week

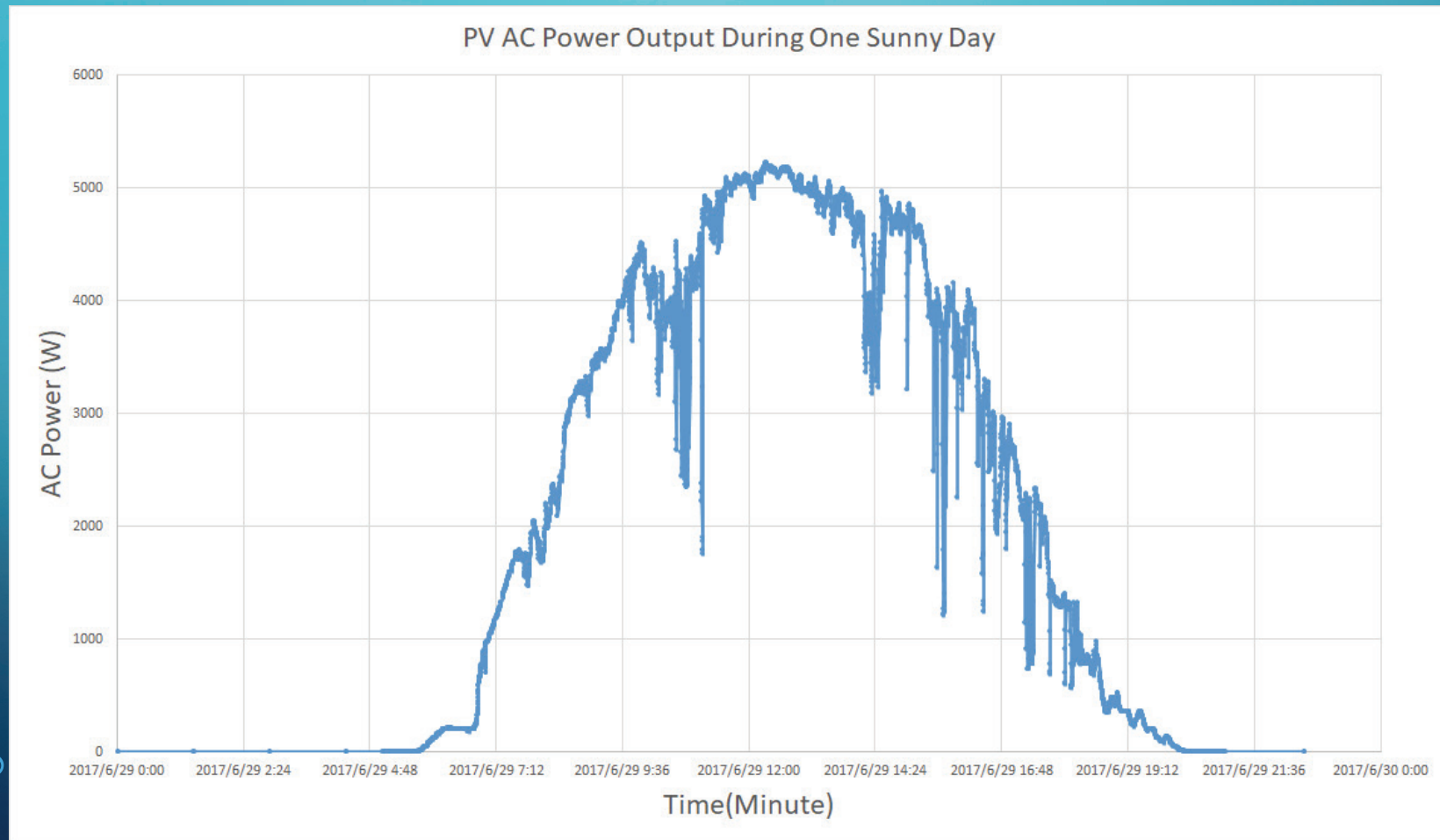


7-Day Solar PV Output (Virginia, cloudy)

PV AC Power Output During One Cloudy Week

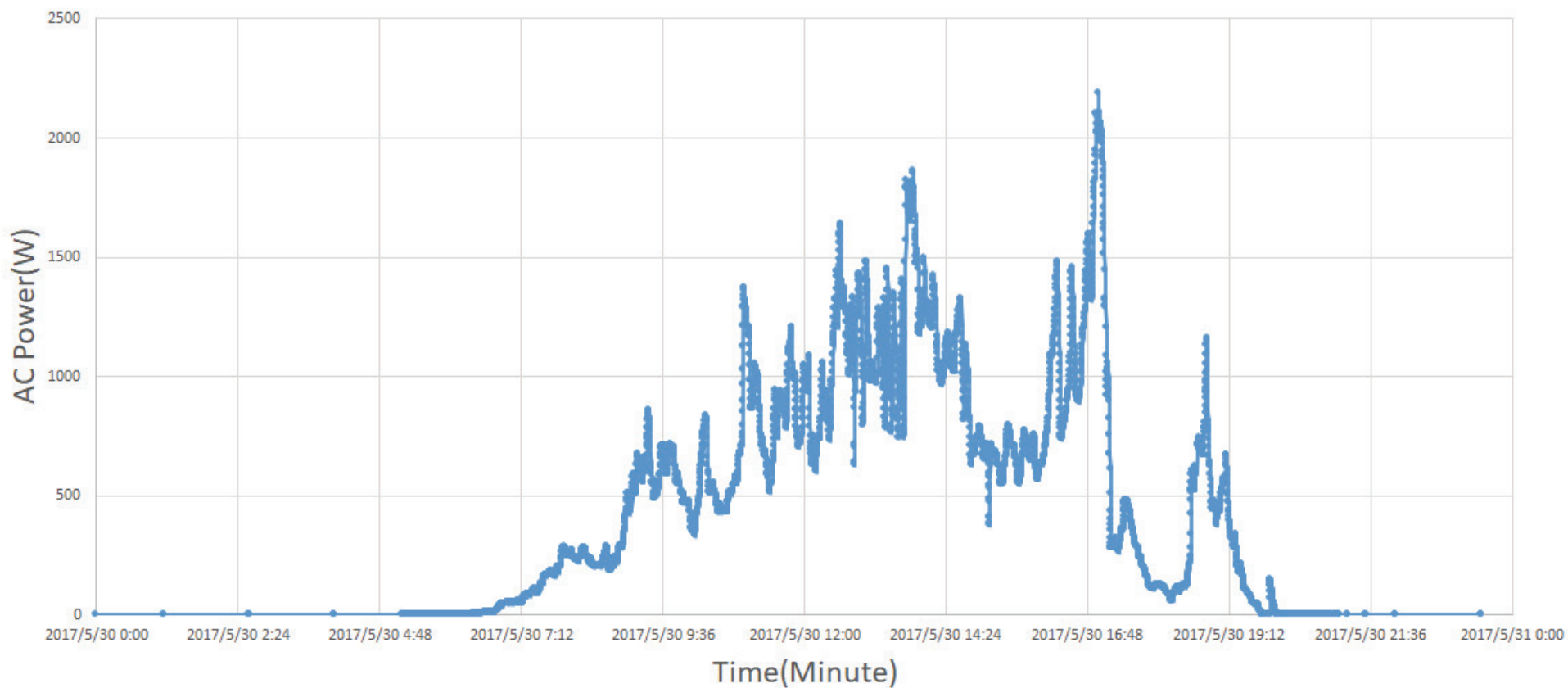


Daily PV Output (Virginia)



Daily PV Output (Virginia, intermittent)

PV AC Power Output During One Cloudy Day



Some Intermittency can be Absorbed by the Network with no or Little Storage

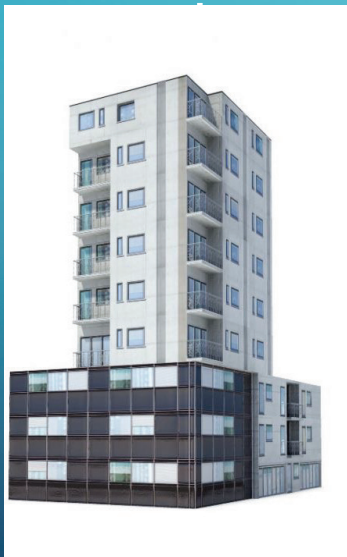
Demand Response can Provide Significant Support to Manage Intermittency



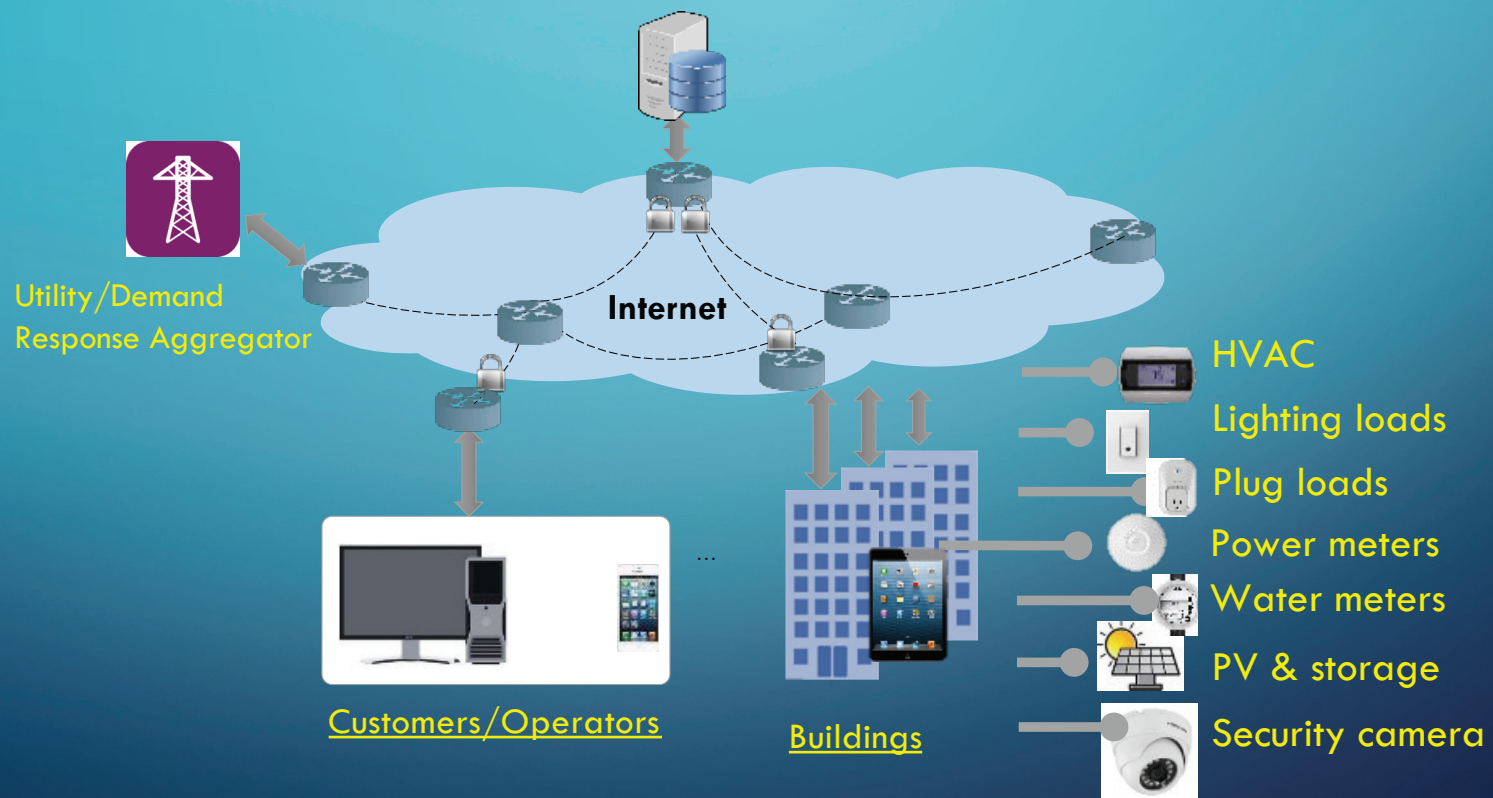
Demand Response Requires Sensor/Controller Connectivity

ICT can Provide the Platform
for this Connectivity

An Open-Architecture Platform for IoT Device Integration in a Building



Smart Campus



Field Implementation: Intelligent Interconnected Microgrids

Intelligent Load

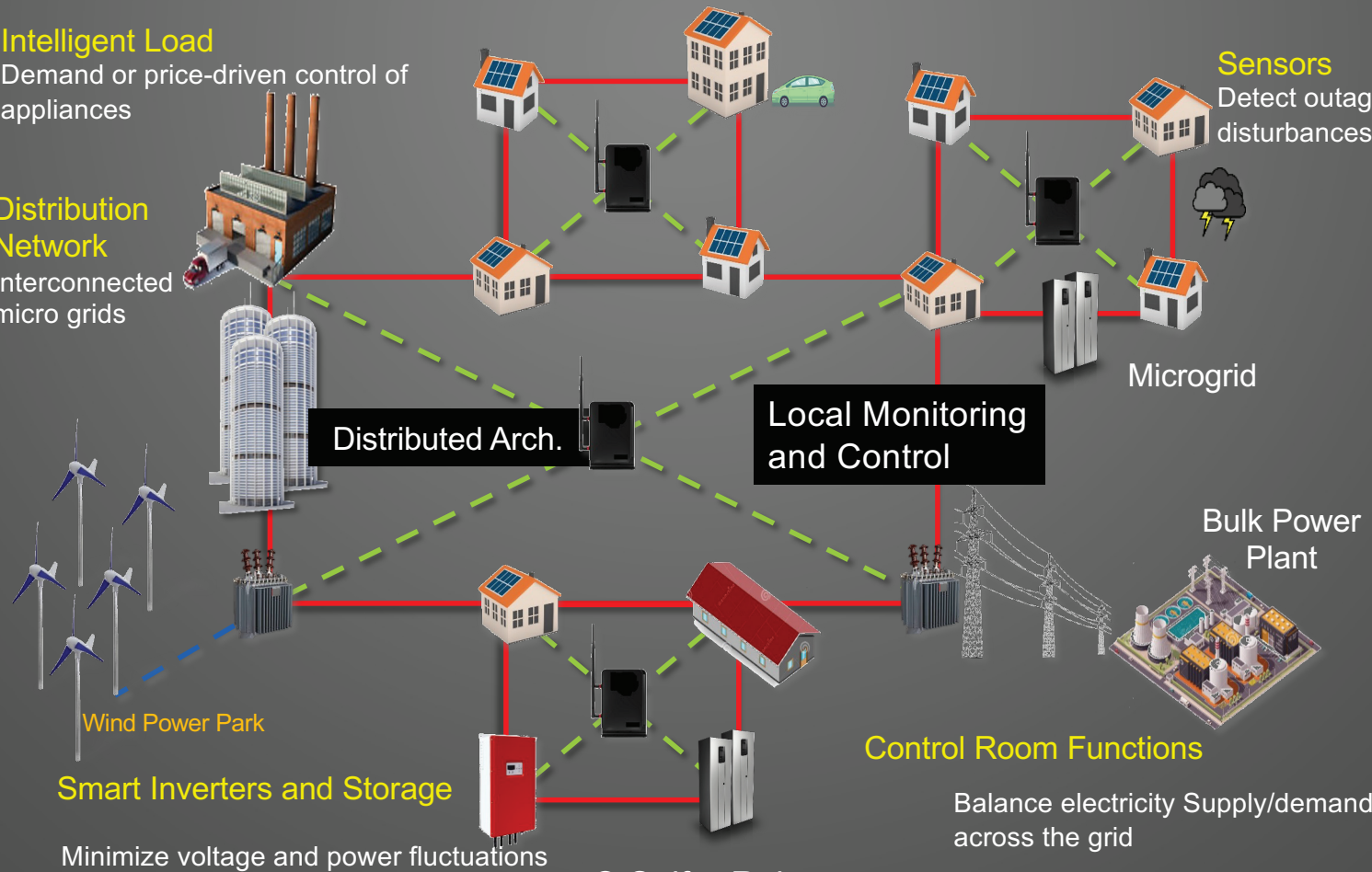
Demand or price-driven control of appliances

Distribution Network

Interconnected micro grids

Sensors

Detect outages, fluctuations, and disturbances



Smart Inverters and Storage

Minimize voltage and power fluctuations

Control Room Functions

Balance electricity Supply/demand across the grid

© Saifur Rahman

New Paradigm for the Electric Power System

Historically: Demand driven supply (supply responds to demand)



New Reality: Supply driven demand (demand needs to adjust to meet fluctuating supply with storage)

The Smart Grid Ecosystem

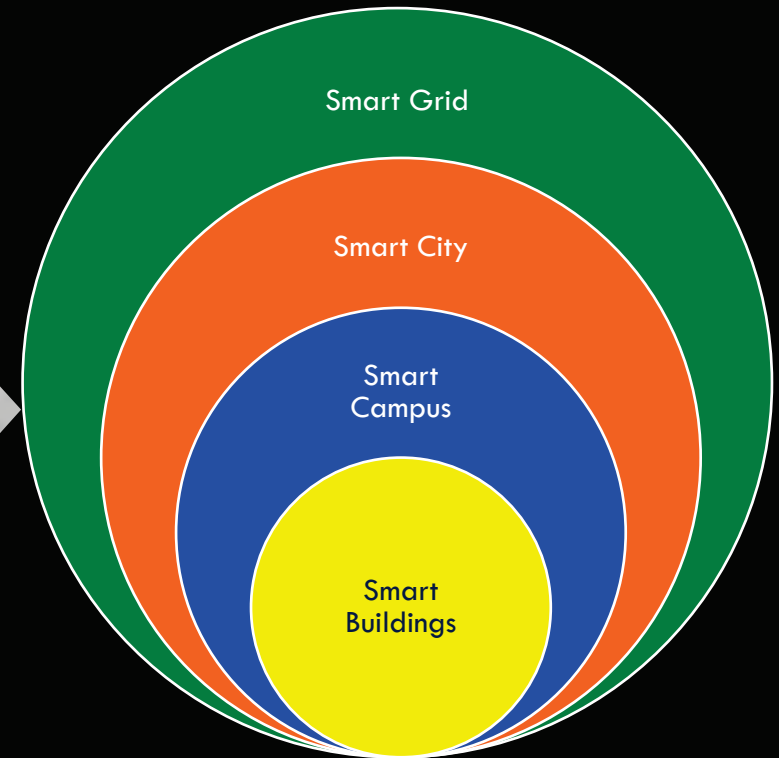
Smart grid: Bi-directional flows of energy, remote control/automation of power, integrated distributed energy...

Smart city: Complex system of interconnected infrastructures and services...

Smart Campus: A collection of buildings managed by the same facility manager...

Smart buildings: Intelligent building automation systems, smart devices, productive users, grid integration...

Ecosystem



Supported by ICT and distributed networks of intelligent sensors, data centers/clouds

