Smart Grids and Distributed Renewable Energy Generation: Innovation for sustainability

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<u>ustainable Energ</u>

Preserve & Create Energy Options Multi-Disciplinary Research Teams Economic Growth & Environmental Performance Business, Government, Industry, Civil Society Engagement







The Waterloo Institute for Sustainable Energy (WISE)



G2N Giga-to-Nano Lab - Andrei Sazonov, Electrical & Computer Engineering DG Distribution Generation Lab - Ehab El-Sadaany, Electrical & Computer Engineering HVEL High Voltage Engineering Lab - Shesha Jayaram, Electrical & Computer Engineering AGSL Advanced Glazing System Lab - John Wright, Mechanical & Mechatronics CAPDS Centre for Advanced Photovoltaic **Devices and Systems** - Siva Sivoththaman, Electrical & Computer Engineering STRL Solar Thermal Research Lab - Michael Collins, Mechanical & Mechatronics WIND Lab - David Johnson, Mechanical & Mechatronics **Biofuel/Biomass Lab** - Ray Legge, Biometric Engineering & Environmental Engineering

Fuel Cell Lab



- Michael Fowler, Chemical Engineering

Select Highlights

3 Signature Projects

Decreasing Diesel Dependency in Remote Northern Communities

 Off-grid hybrid power system provides a lower-cost, environmentally friendly solution for remote communities.

Energy Consumption Management System Gives Consumers Control

 A smart web-based tool gives consumers control to change the way they use energy, and move to on-site alternatives like solar and wind energy.

Connecting Solar Farms to the Grid

 UW and U Western are developing comprehensive solutions to help grid operators incorporate large-scale solar farms to their networks.

- Smart Grid Forum
- Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles Ontario Action Plan
- "Affordable solar for the masses"- A major international initiative
- Integration of Distributed Generation into system
- Advanced batteries and storage technologies



Enabling Tomorrow's Electricity System

Report of the Ontario Smart Grid Forum

Ontario Smart Grid Forum

- Industry leaders brought together to develop a smart grid vision for the province
- Vision designed to guide:
 - a co-ordinated approach across the sector
 - the mitigation of technology risks
 - the development of capital investment plans
 - a supportive regulatory framework



Forum Members

- Paul Murphy, IESO President and CEO
- Michael Angemeer, President and CEO, Veridian Corporation
- David Collie, President and CEO, Burlington Hydro
- Norm Fraser, COO, Hydro Ottawa
- Anthony Haines, President, Toronto Hydro Electric System
- David McFadden, Chair, Ontario Centres of Excellence
- Keith Major, SVP Property Management, Bentall LP
- Jatin Nathwani, Professor/Executive Director, Waterloo Institute of Sustainable Energy, University of Waterloo
- Paul Shervill, VP Conservation and Sector Development, OPA
- Wayne Smith, VP Grid Operations, HydroOne



Why Smart Grids?









What is a Smart Grid?

- Smart grids comprise sensors, monitors and information technology bringing together all elements of the electricity system
- They include distributed generation, accommodate electric vehicles and provide greater consumer choice





Smart Grid Benefits

Modernizing the electricity system to serve the digital age:

- Better integration of renewables and distribution generation
- More efficient use of energy infrastructure and reduced energy losses
- Empowered consumers with increased participation in conservation and demand response
- More reliable distribution service with reduced outages and quicker response times



Power flows one way: network to the customer





Domestic customers and small businesses who consume electricity



Paradigm shift: Power flows both ways

Distribution network - with distributed generation





Getting There: Innovation

New technologies need to be invented and brought to market

- opportunity to create green jobs
- Sustained and significant investments are required
 - All utilities required to develop Smart Grid plans for regulatory approval
 - Provincial government commitment to support R&D efforts
 - OEB proactive in facilitating these initiatives



Getting There: Discipline

Develop Standards and Standardized Approaches

- Significant work is already being done
- Industry needs to develop standards so that technology developers can work together
- Need a North American approach to standards

Ensure Fiscal Responsibility

Need to ensure investments are prudent



Getting There: The Customer

Achieving the benefits of smart grid requires social change

Provide consumers with tools so they can become more active energy users

- Offer access to timely consumption information
- Promote energy management devices, services and systems
- Raise smart meter standards
- Support "energy literacy" through education
- Offer dynamic price signals
- Create PHEV Plan



The Future

2011

- Smart meters and time of use rates
- More in-home displays and LDC smart technologies
- Preparing the grid for plug-in electric vehicles

2015

- Substantial increase in smart appliances
- Renewables, demand response, storage projects and LDC automation technologies are widespread
- Electric car infrastructure in place

2020

- Coordination across the sector complete
- Smart appliances standard
- Micro-grids begin to emerge





Microgrids for rural and remote needs

Vision: an integrated model of electrification to meet basic human needs at 1000kWh/person

- Abundant, clean, secure, reliable and a flexible energy source.
- Resource endowment, knowledge, economic base varies with each community
- Focus on renewable resources (solar, wind, water, bio)
- Community size can vary from 500- 50,000
- Modular system design from 500kW- 10MW
- Rapid installation; tailored to community needs
- Social & economic development capacity build-up to own, operate, maintain infrastructure

Microgrid Benefits

Choice: Extend Dx and Tx infrastructure (at a high cost) or provide local service through a microgrid

- **Reduced cost**—reducing the cost of energy service for affordability
- Reliability attain level of reliability comparable to grid system
- Green power—manage the variable nature of renewables and promote deployment and integration of energy-efficient and environmentally friendly technologies
- Service differentiation—tailor to specific needs of a wide range of communities; provide levels and quality of service at different price points
 When operating in grid parallel mode :
- Power system—assisting in optimizing the power delivery system, including the provision of Services
- Security—increasing the power delivery system's resiliency and security by promoting the dispersal of power resources



Microgrid: what is it?

- An aggregate of small loads and distributed generation resources
- Operates as a single system that provides both power and heat..
- An integrated system that must be able to provide sufficient and continuous energy to a significant portion of the demand internal to the microgird
- A microgrid's distributed energy resources can include
 - High-frequency AC (microturbines)
 - DC systems (e.g., solar, fuel cells)



Microgrids - technical and functional requirements

- 3 levels of control
 - Internal
 - External
 - Individual asset
- Greatest challenges are associated with protection, monitoring and control



Micro Grids: if and when operated in "grid-parallel" mode

- Distributed energy resources must operate as a single aggregated system
 - Present itself to the bulk power system as one "control area" that meets the local needs for reliability and security.
- Must possess independent controls that can island and reconnect with the electric power grid with minimal service disruption.
- Grid parallel mode provides flexibility in configuring and operating the power delivery system and the ability to optimize a large network of loads, distributed energy resources and the power system.



DG Technologies and Characteristics

- Wind power (small projects with outputs from 50kW to 10MW)
- Biogas and biomass (landfill sites, agricultural and livestock operations, wood forest residues, wastewater treatment facilities:1-10MW)
- Combined Heat and Power (CHP) schemes including micro-CHP (residential 1kW-25 kW) and Stirling engines (1kW to 55kW)
- Solar photo-voltaic (PV) cells (50kW- 1MW)
- Fuel cells (1kW to 1MW)
- Microturbines (20-100kW)
- Natural Gas reciprocating engines (30kW- 3MW) and dual fuel reciprocating engines (90kW- 2MW)
- Gas and diesel fired combustion turbines (>1MW)
- Large DG applications & mobile systems for standby generation
 - (0.5 to 2MW),
 - peaking (1-5MW)
 - T&D support (0.5-10MW modules) and crisis operations



Distributed Generation Resources: Reality Confronts Vision

- Performance has not equaled promise
- Fuel cells, microturbines, photovoltaics still too expensive
- Fundamental business case?
 - Availability of "cheap" fossil based energy?
- Transmission and Distribution
 - Capital deferral, utilization, congestion....







Benefits of Diversity and Distributed Resources

Seasonal Daily Generation





Summary- Vision is an integrated model of electrification to meet basic human needs at 1000kWh/person

Can we engineer this vision?

- Is a "smart micro-grid" capable of meeting specific needs of rural and remote communities primarily through use of renewable resources?
- Given multiplicity of size, resource endowment and economic capacity, how many projects would be required to establish feasibility of delivering tailored solutions?
- Reducing costs ("technology + transactional") is the key determinant; ease of installation is another.



Technology Innovations



- Powered by lithium-ion battery
- Charges in under 1 minute.
- Range: 15 km at 40 km/h.
- Cold weather testing in Sapporo next month.
- Uses 10% less energy than existing streetcars.

HOT POWER FROM MIRROR





WhisperGen Stirling mCHP system





igure 5: Transportability of 5.2-MW turbines to SRP substations

plar Turbines's 5.2-MW turbines and balance-of-plant equipment will be transportable by uck, allowing Salt River Project to move the units to areas with the greatest distribution stem need.



Source: David Gauntlett (25)



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