



# High-Penetration PV Integration Distribution System Modeling Challenges



**PV Grid Integration  
Workshop**

**Tucson, AZ**

**Barry Mather Ph.D.**

**NREL- Distributed Energy  
Systems Integration  
Group**

**April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

# Presentation Overview

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- Background and update on the SCE High-Penetration PV Integration Project
- Introduction to the impacts of high-penetration PV integration on the distribution system
- Quasi-static time-series test feeder based evaluation of the impacts of PV variability
  - Distribution circuit voltage profile impacts
  - Line voltage regulator operational impacts

# SCE Hi-Pen PV Integration Project

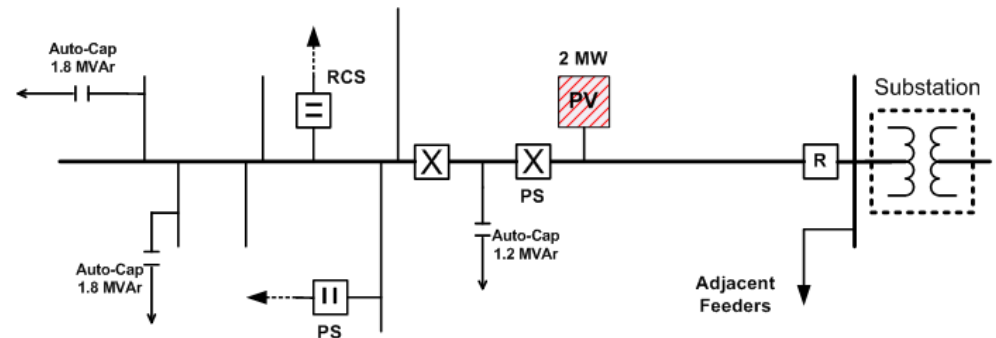
## Project Overview:



- SCE is interconnecting 500MW of rooftop PV by 2015
- Three hi-pen PV feeders are being studied to develop a hi-pen interconnection handbook for utilities

## Fontana, CA Study Circuit:

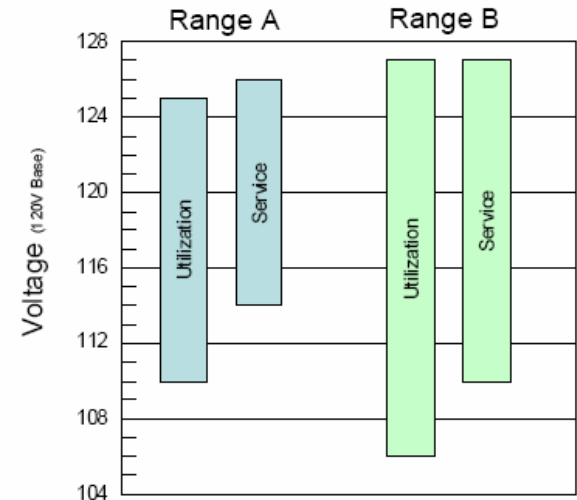
- 12.47 kV feeder, 7.8 miles
- Feeder rating: 12 MVA
- PV AC rating: 3.5 MW, 5.5 MW total in interconnection queue
- PV capacity penetration: 83%, 131% with 5.5 MW build out
- Voltage regulation via switched capacitor banks: 4.8 MVAR



# Introduction: Hi-Pen PV Impacts

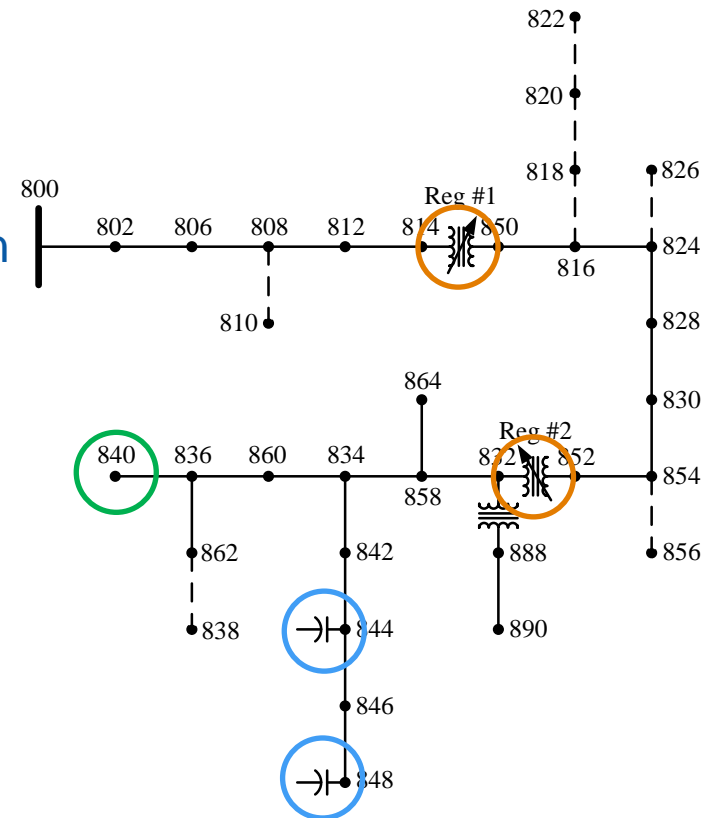
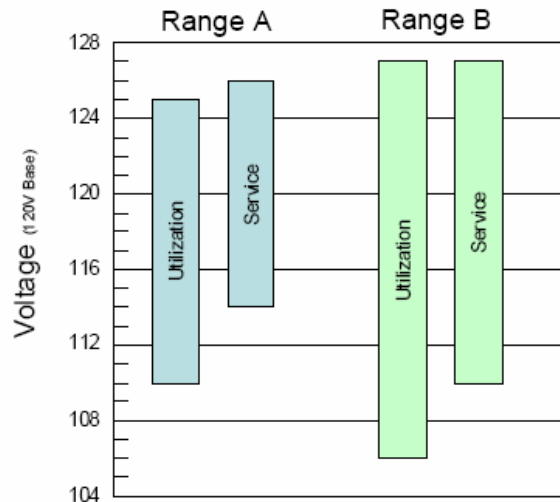
## Distributed Generation Interconnection Technical Impacts:

- Voltage regulation
  - Service voltage within acceptable range along the entire circuit
  - Regulation equipment (LTCs, line regulators, switched capacitors) frequency of operation / cycling
- Protection coordination
  - Relay desensitization
  - Increased fault current
- Power quality
  - Current harmonics
  - Flicker
- Unintentional islanding
  - Crew/public safety
  - Recloser operation



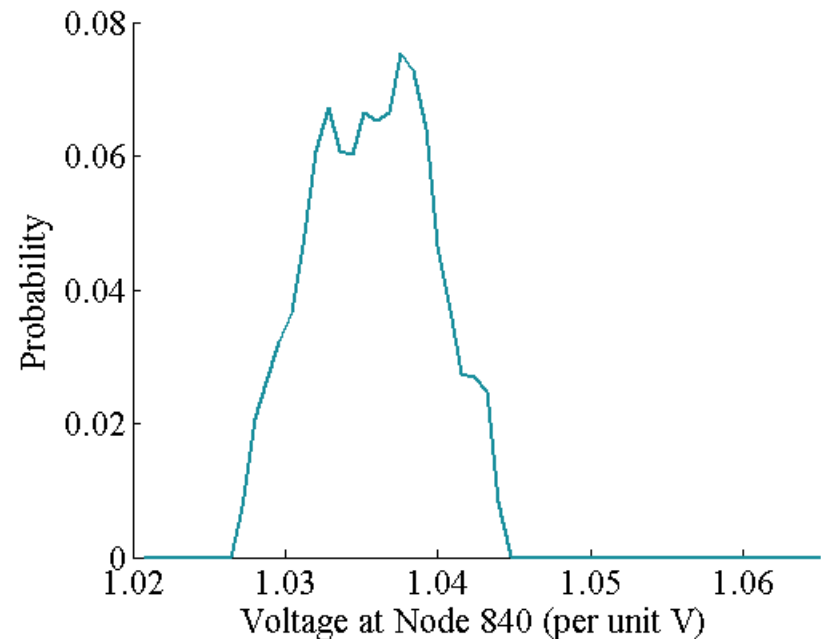
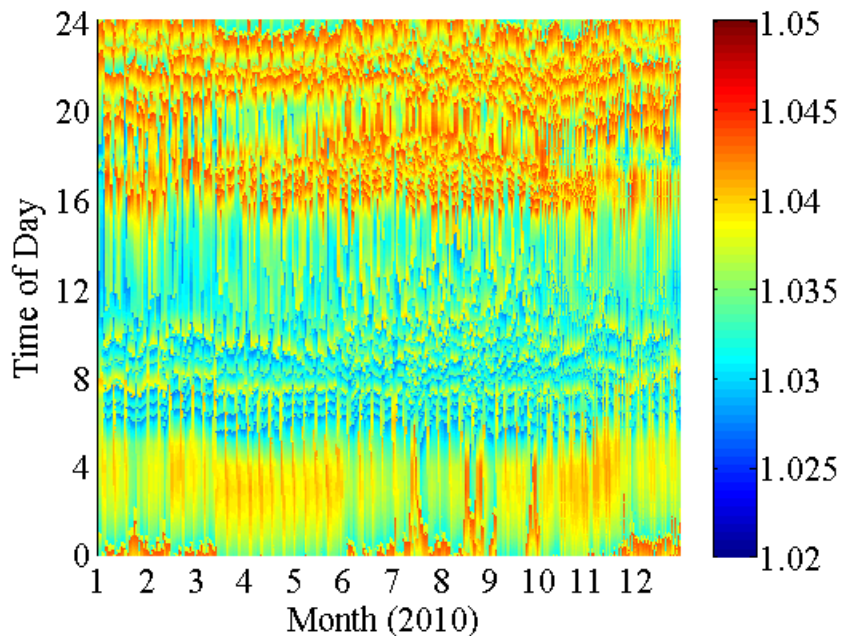
# Model-Based PV Impact Study

- Circuit based on the IEEE 34 Node Test Feeder
- PV resource based on NREL one resolution min data
- Load profiles based on load research statistics
- Line regulators have R+jX compensation and inherent one minute tap change lockouts



# Baseline Dist. Circuit Operation

## End of Circuit Voltage (840)

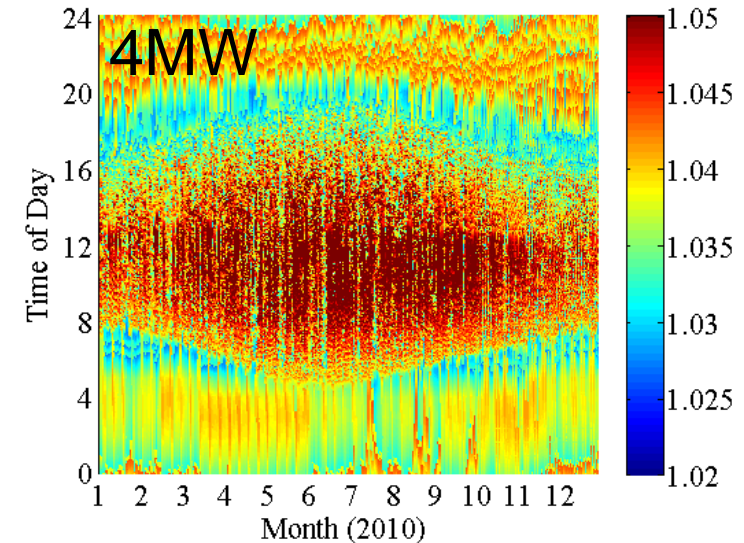
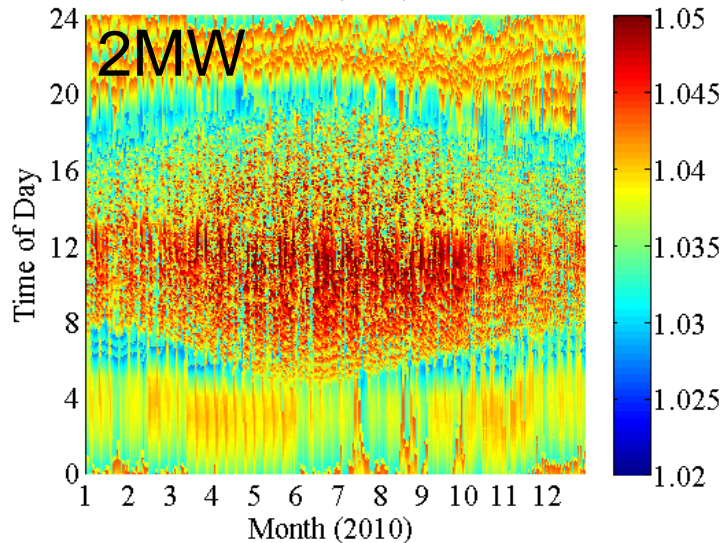
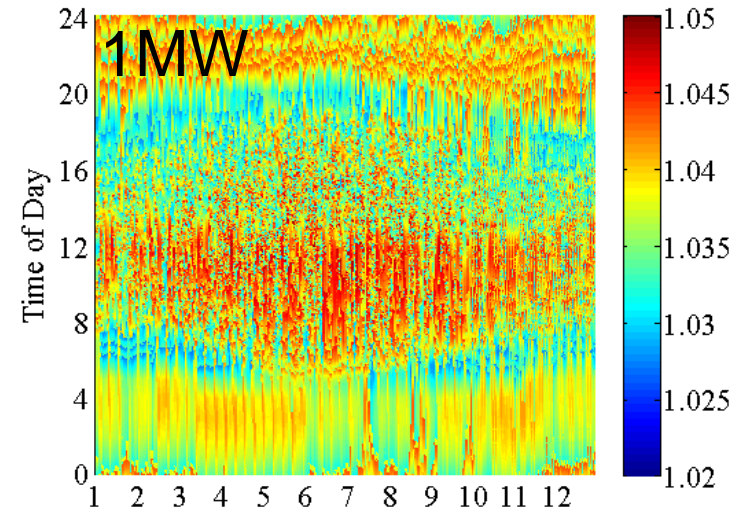
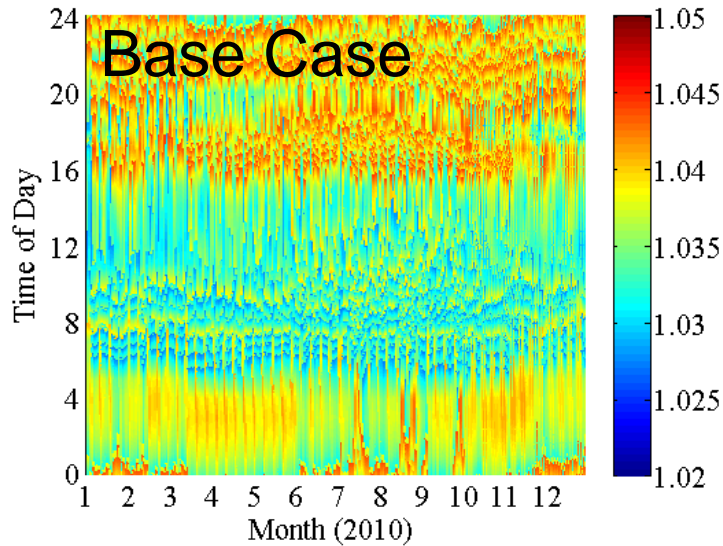


- High voltage in the night and evening, low voltage during the day
- About 8 line regulator tap changes per day

Reg.	R+jX Comp.
1A	3009
1B	1499
1C	1719
2A	2978
2B	3009
2C	2907

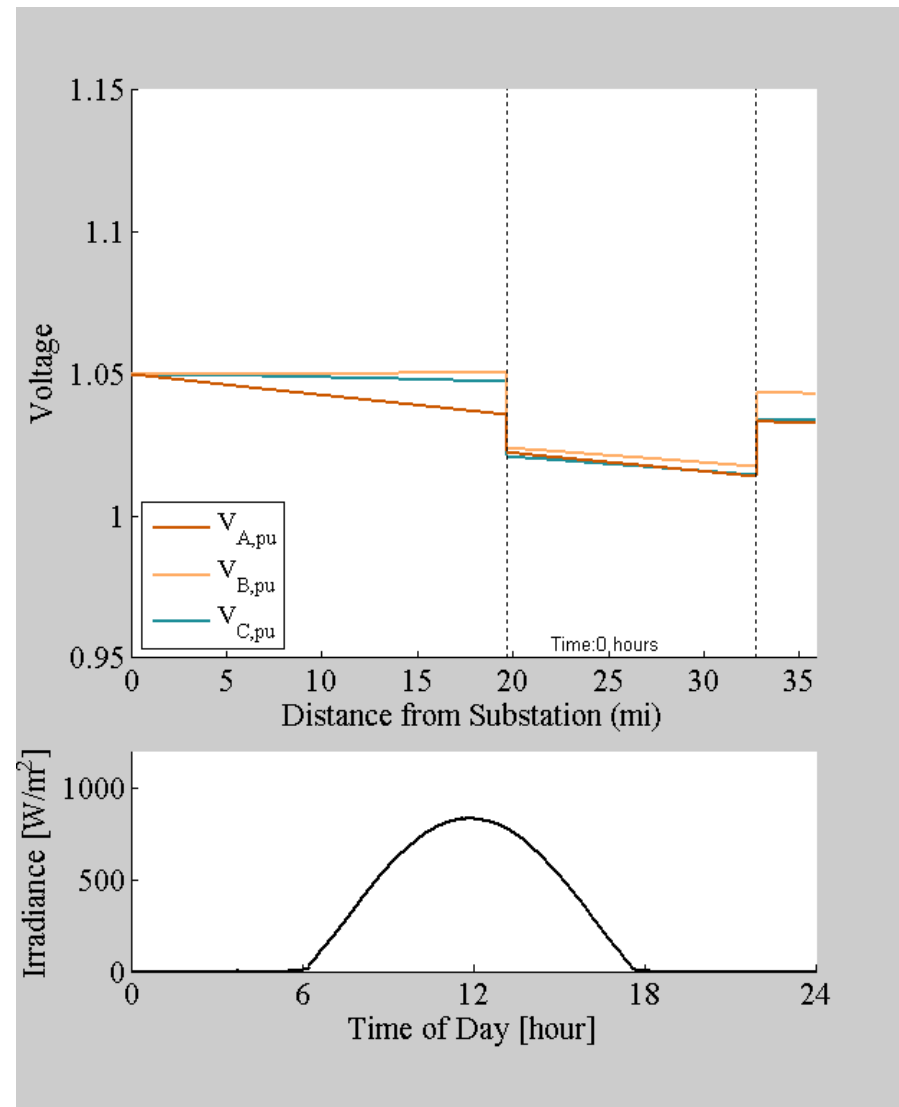
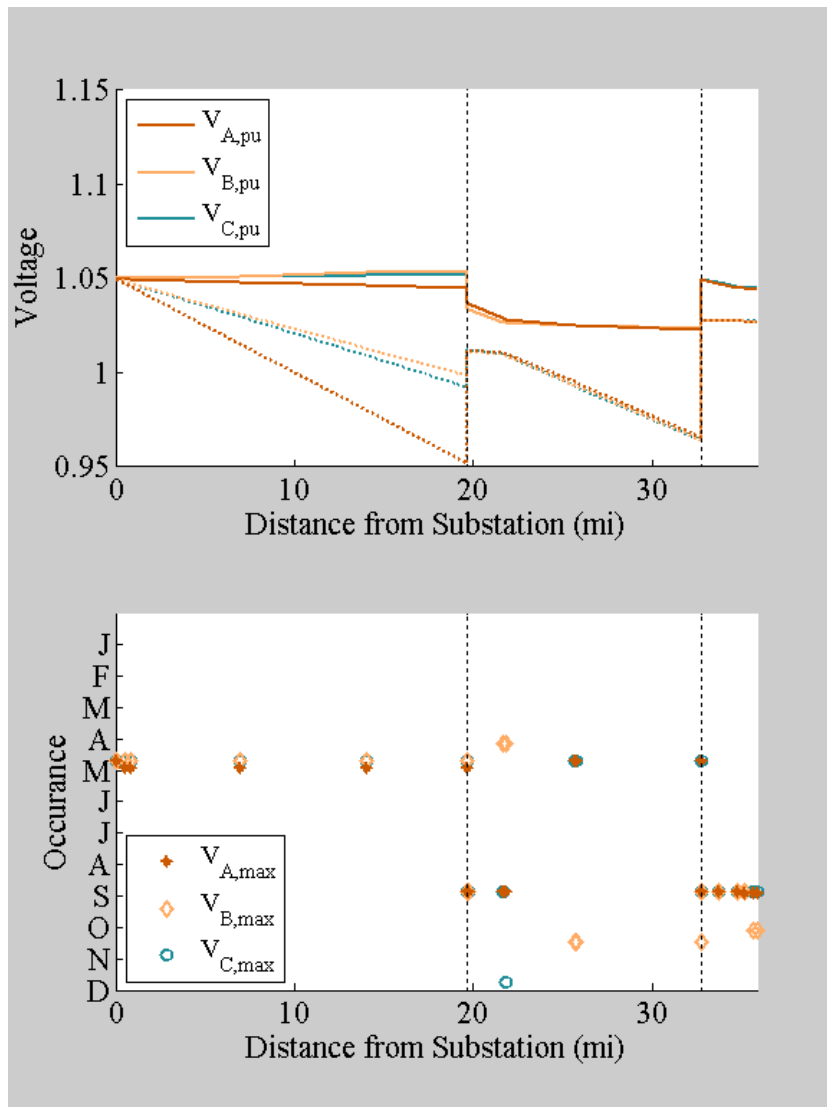
# 1- 4MW PV DG at End of Dist. Circuit

## End of Circuit Voltage (840)



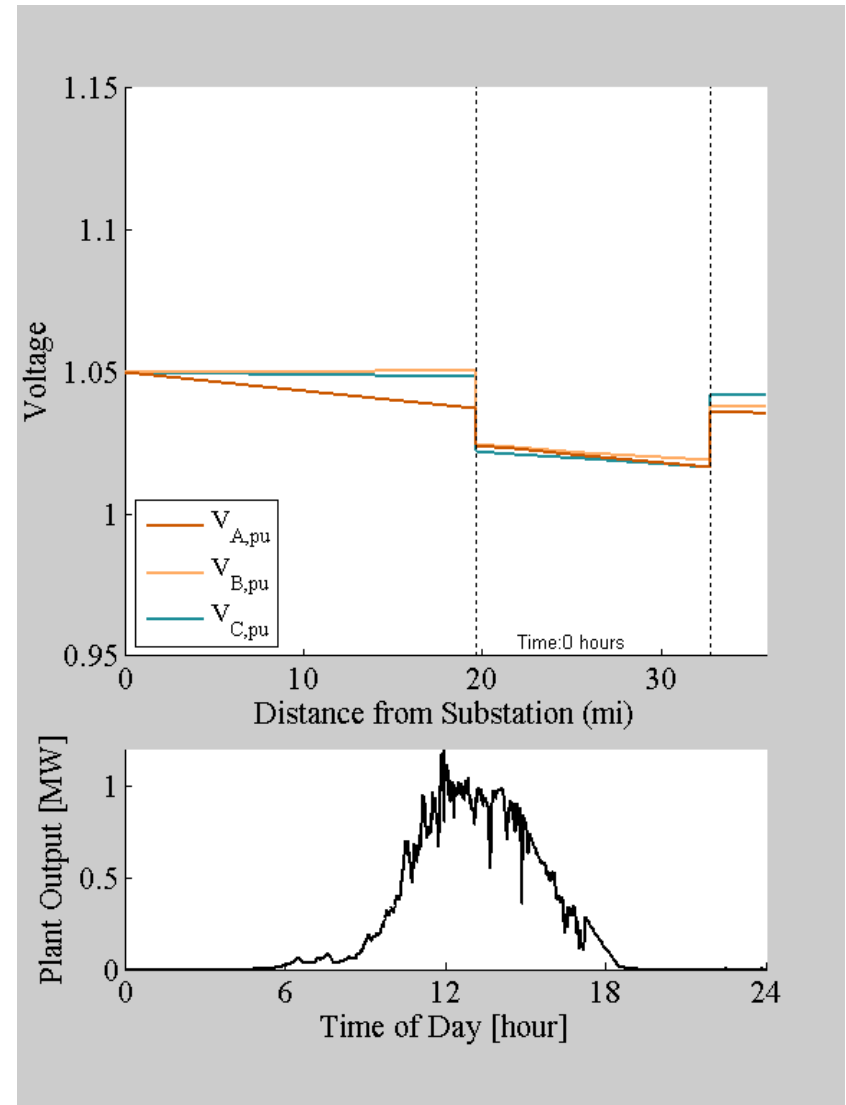
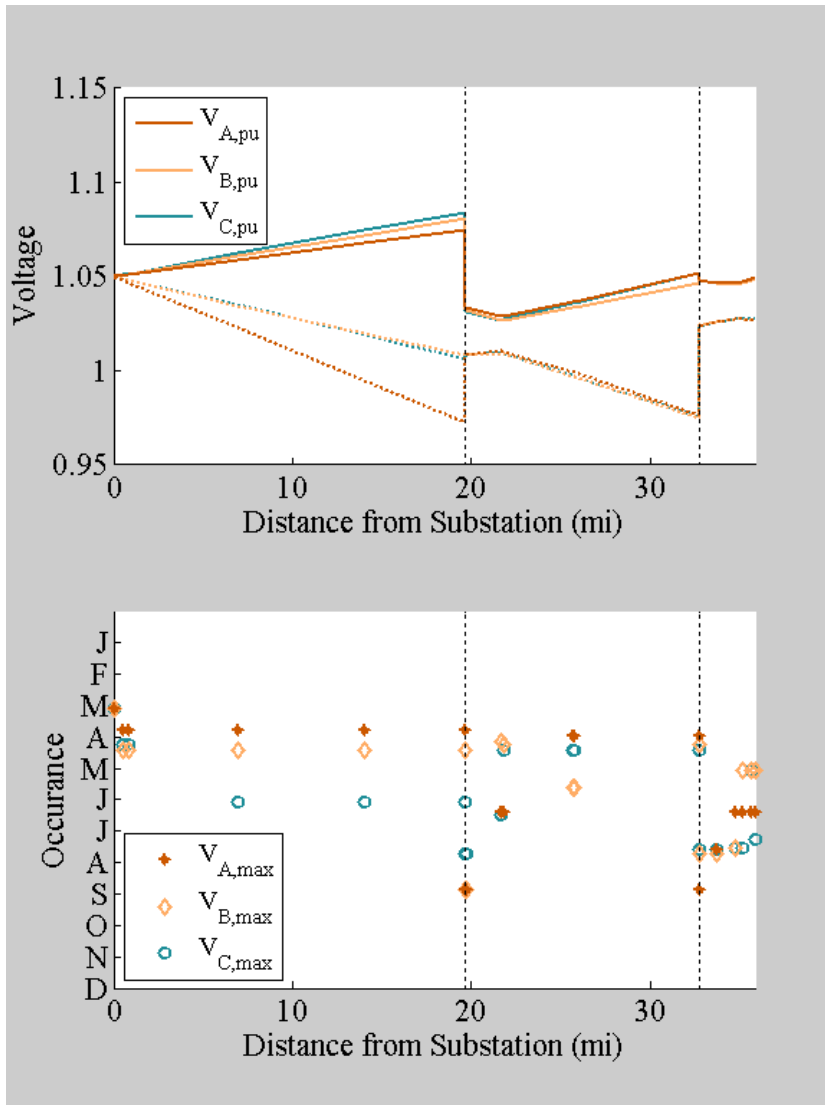
# Base Case Circuit Operation

Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010



# Circuit Operation: 1MW PV at Node 840

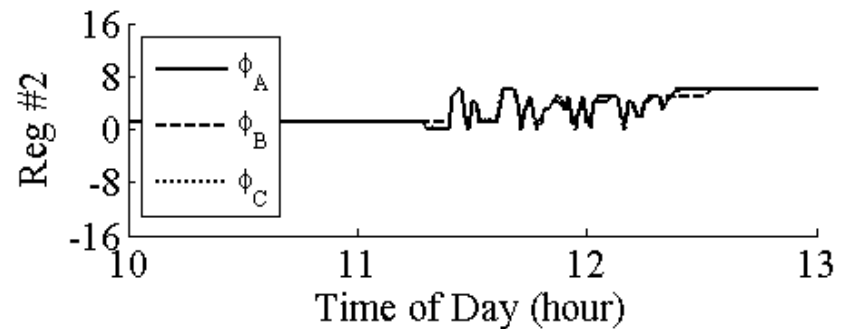
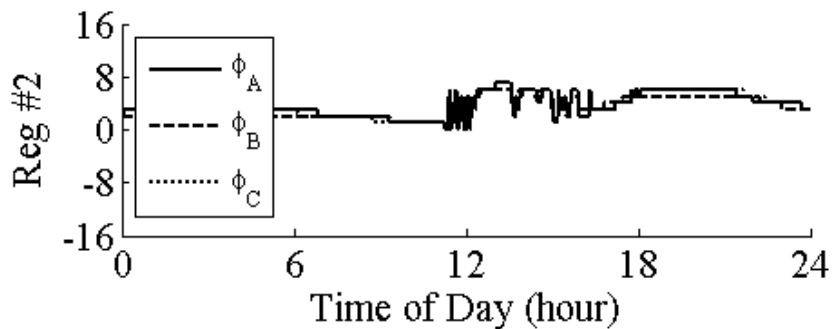
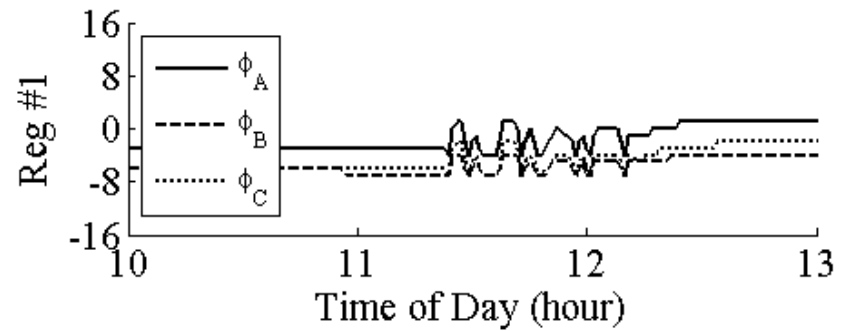
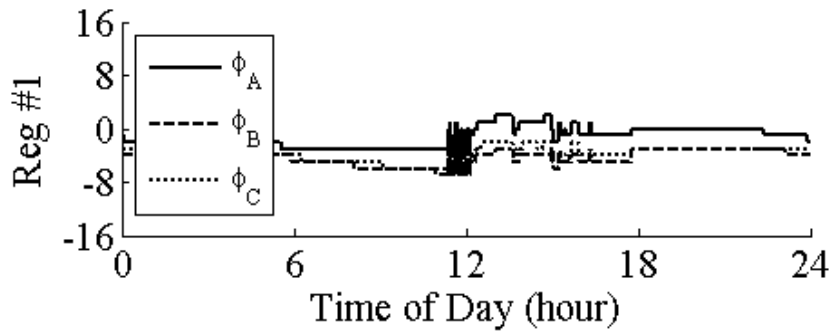
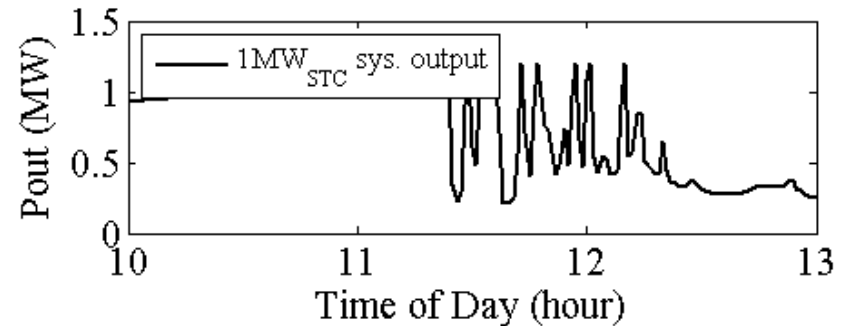
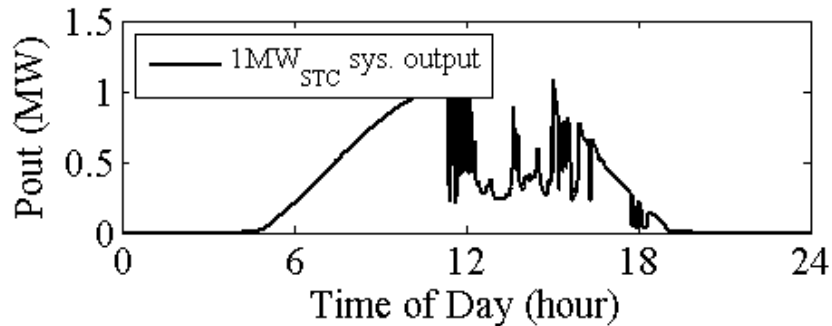
April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010



# Line Regulator Operation (1MW)

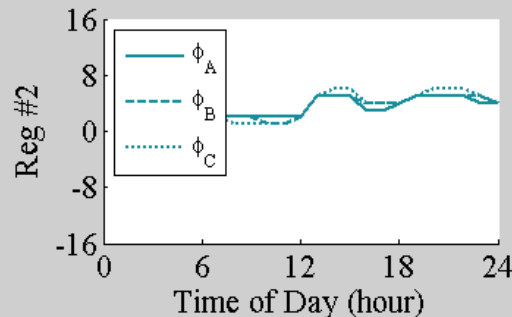
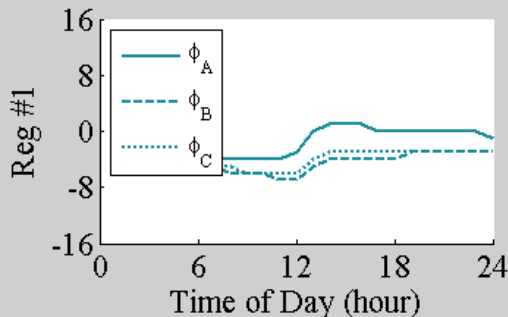
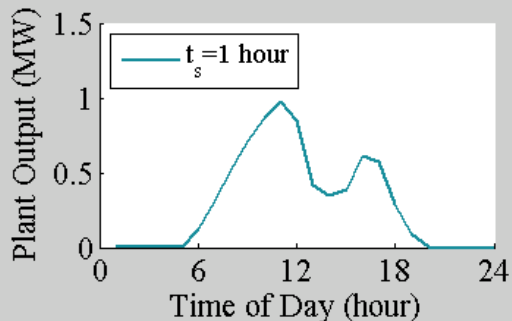
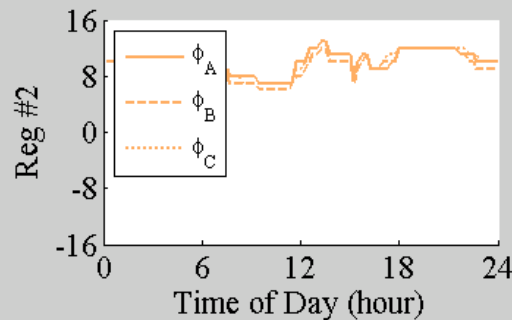
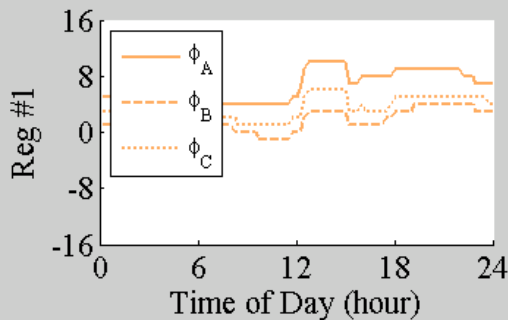
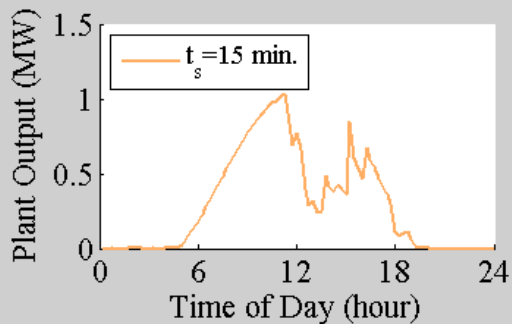
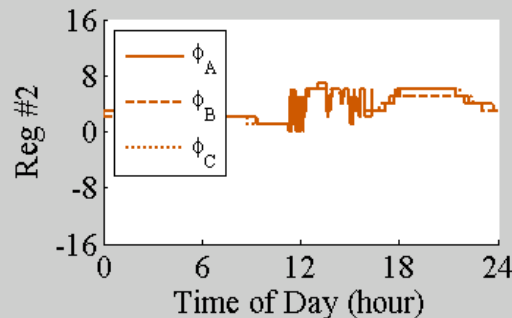
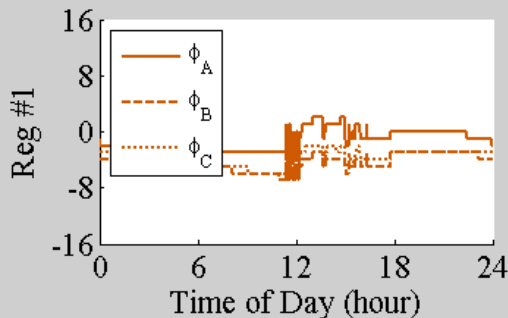
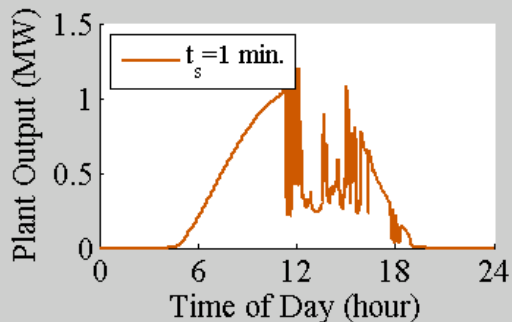
1MW PV at End of Circuit (840)

June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010



# Line Reg. Operations at Various Simulation Temporal Resolutions

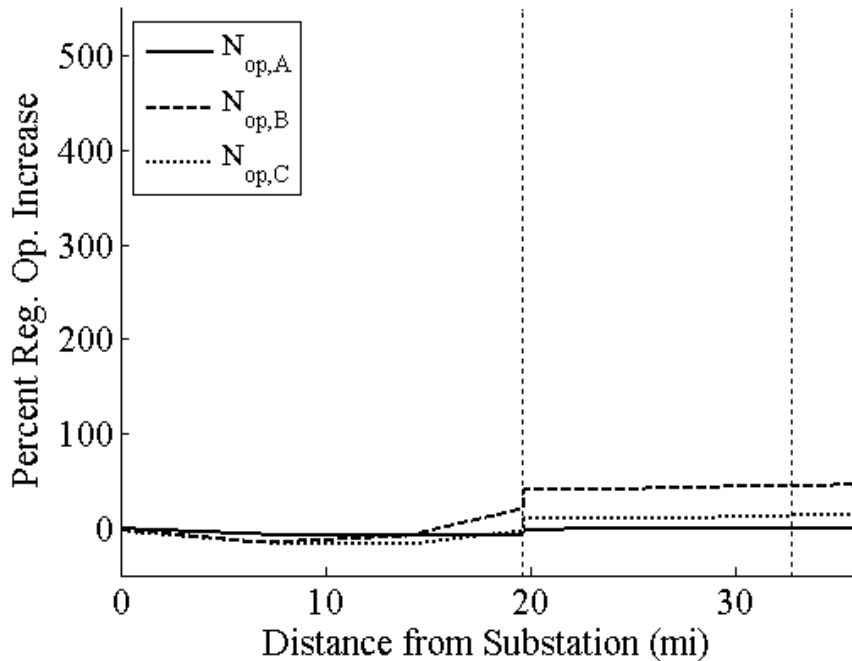
1MW PV at End of Circuit (840) June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010



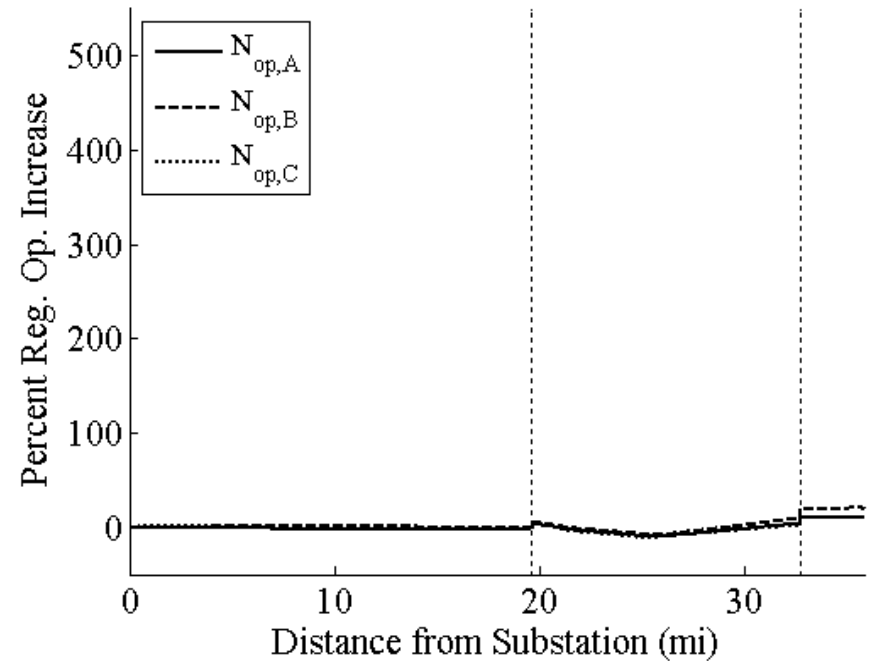
# Developing Insight for PV Interconnections

## 1MW PV Interconnected at Any Point Along Circuit

### Regulator #1



### Regulator #2

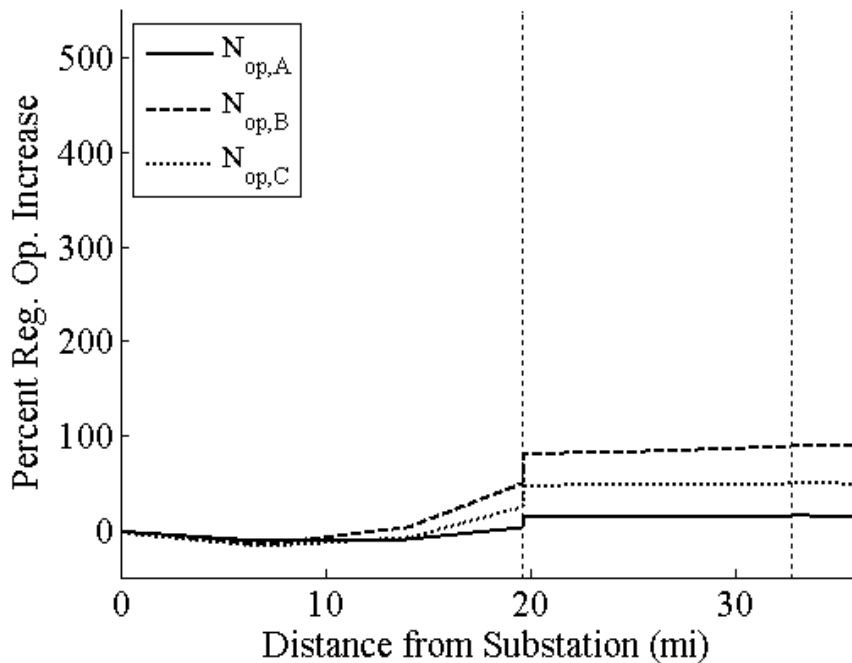


$$t_s = 1 \text{ hour}$$

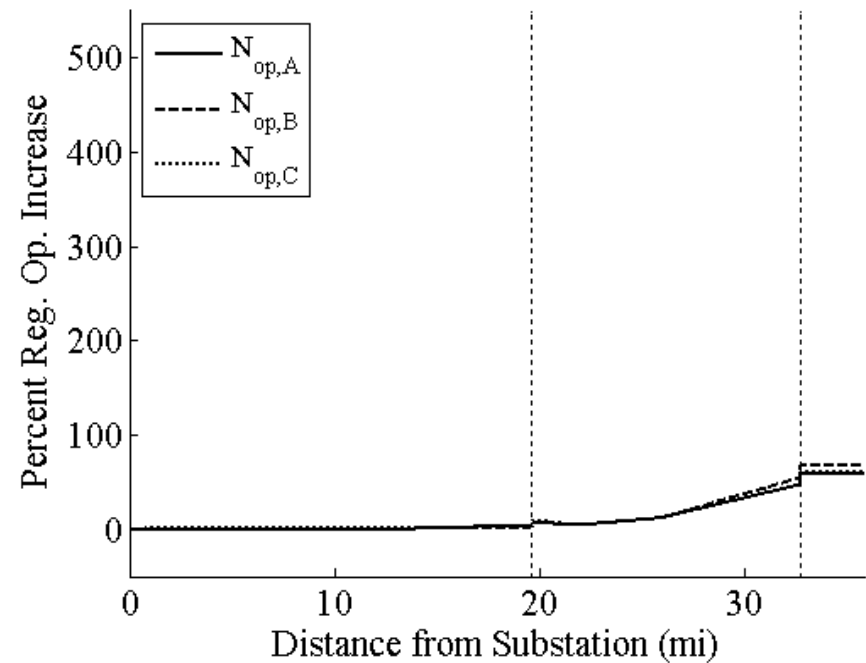
# Developing Insight for PV Interconnections

## 1MW PV Interconnected at Any Point Along Circuit

### Regulator #1



### Regulator #2

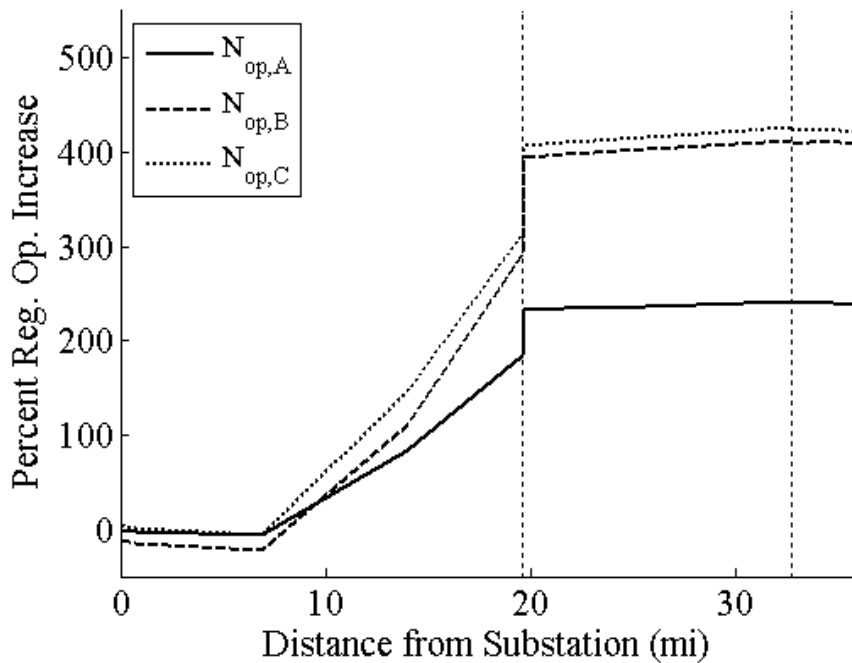


$$t_s = 15 \text{ min.}$$

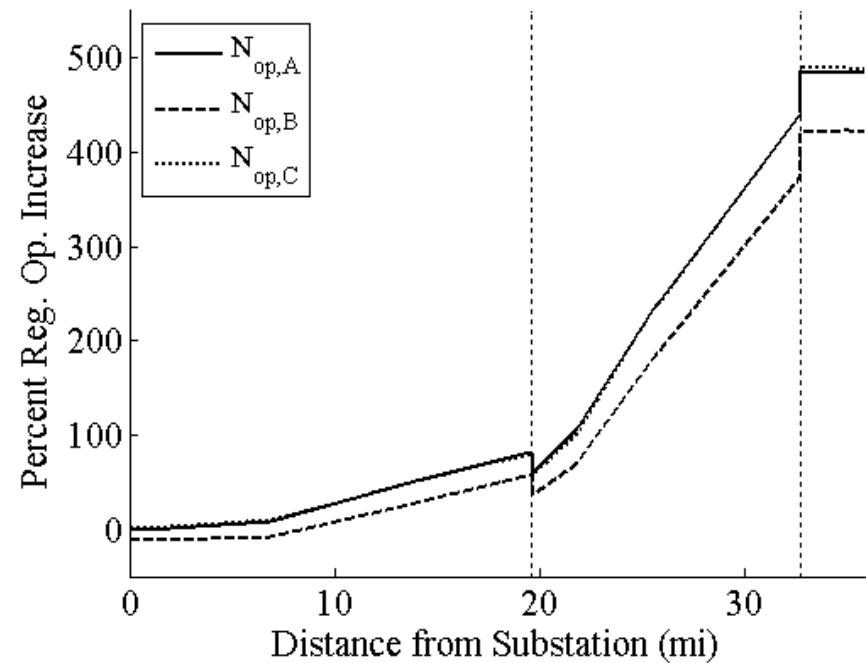
# Developing Insight for PV Interconnections

## 1MW PV Interconnected at Any Point Along Circuit

### Regulator #1



### Regulator #2



$$t_s = 1 \text{ min.}$$

**Thank you for your attention.**

Barry.Mather@nrel.gov



# **EPRI Distributed PV (DPV) Feeder Impact Studies**

*Analysis and Case Study Results*

**Jeff Smith**, Manager, Power System Studies

**Matt Rylander**, Senior Project Engineer

**PV Grid Integration Workshop**

Tucson, AZ

April 19, 2012

# Distributed PV (DPV) Feeder Impacts Analysis

- Objective
  - Determine practical circuit limits (hosting capacity) for high penetration PV
- Addressing
  - Feeder limitations and why
  - Different circuit topologies
- Approach
  - Detailed analysis of each feeder in OpenDSS
  - High-res solar data
- Breadth
  - 12 utilities
  - 40 feeders
  - Utility, EPRI, DOE, and CPUC funded projects

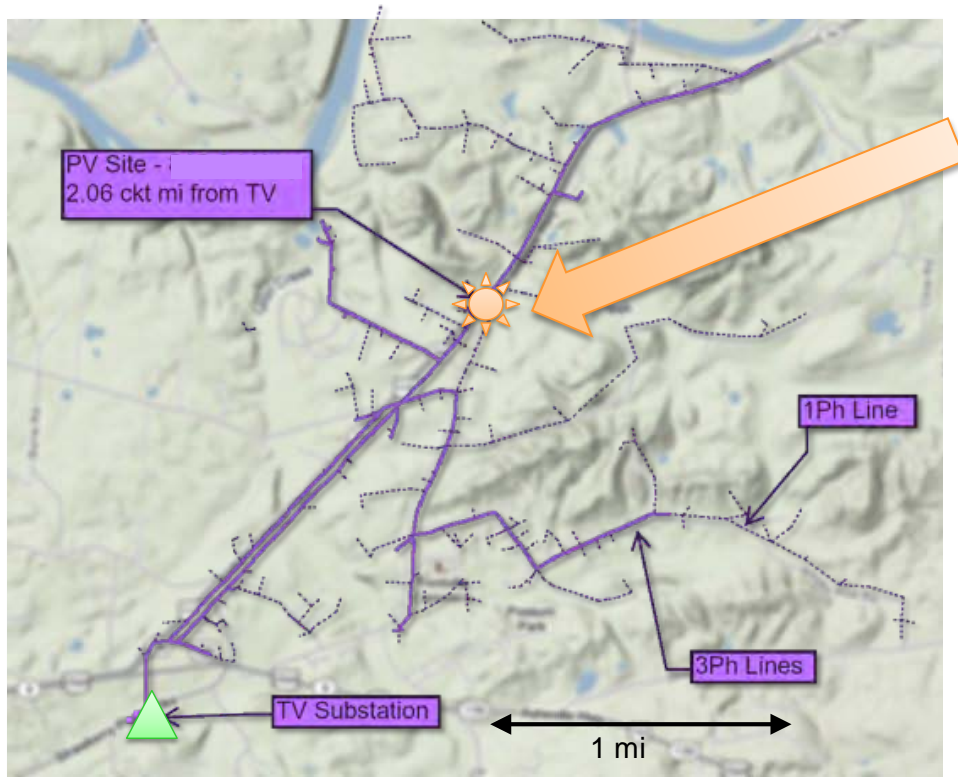
- Addressing
  - overvoltage
  - Voltage variations
  - Protection
  - Unintentional islanding
  - Demand “masking”
  - Power quality

## Important Factors that Impact Hosting Capacity

- Size of PV
- Location of PV
- Feeder characteristics
- Utility requirements
- Electrical proximity to
  - Other PV on feeder
- Regulation equipment

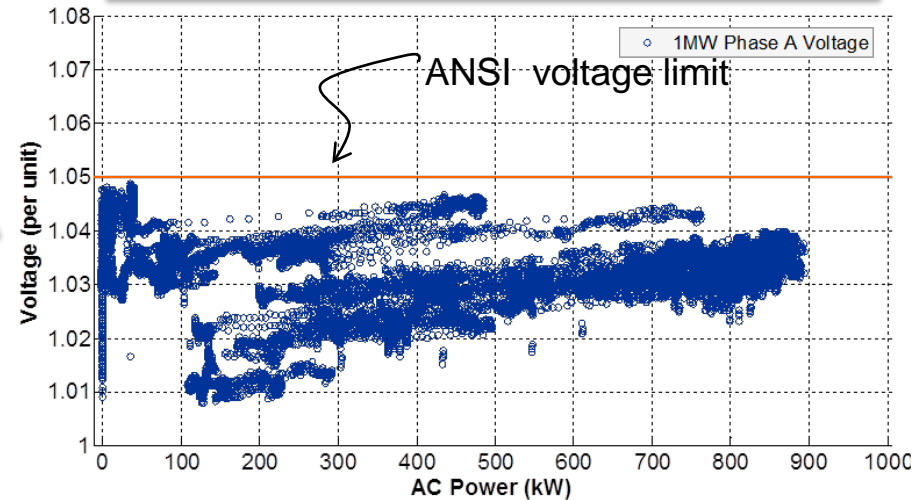
# Location, Location, Location

## Feeder 1: 1 MW PV 2 miles from Distribution Substation



Circuit Diagram

Measured Voltage as Function of PV Output

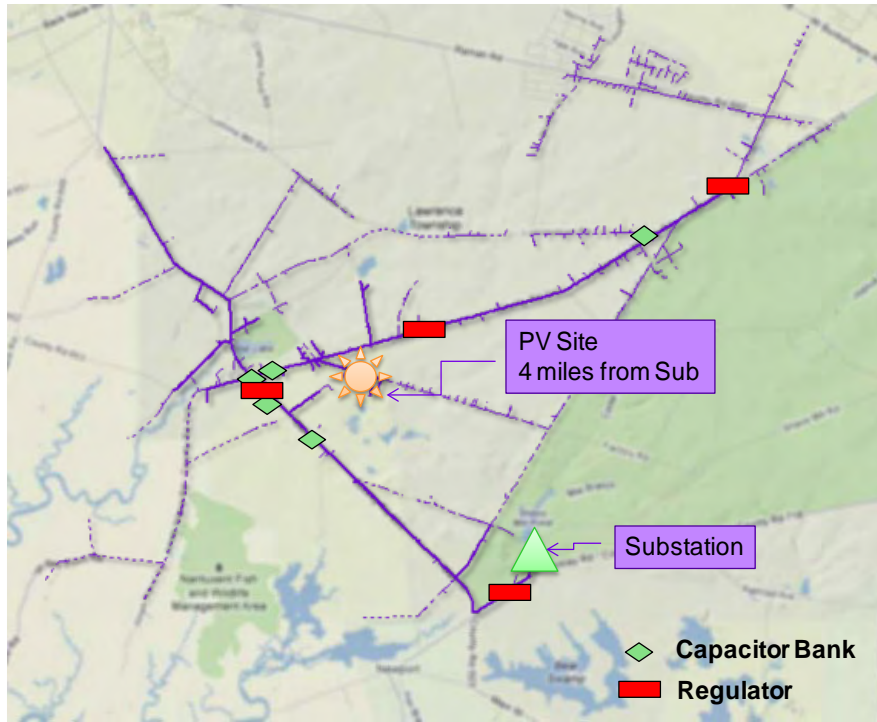


Feeder Characteristics	Value
Voltage (kV)	13.8
Peak Load	~ 6 MW
Existing PV (MW)	1.0
Substation LTC	Yes
Feeder Regulators	0
Capacitors	1 - fixed
Total Circuit Miles	28
Feeder "Footprint"	7mi <sup>2</sup>

PV has minimal impact on feeder voltage

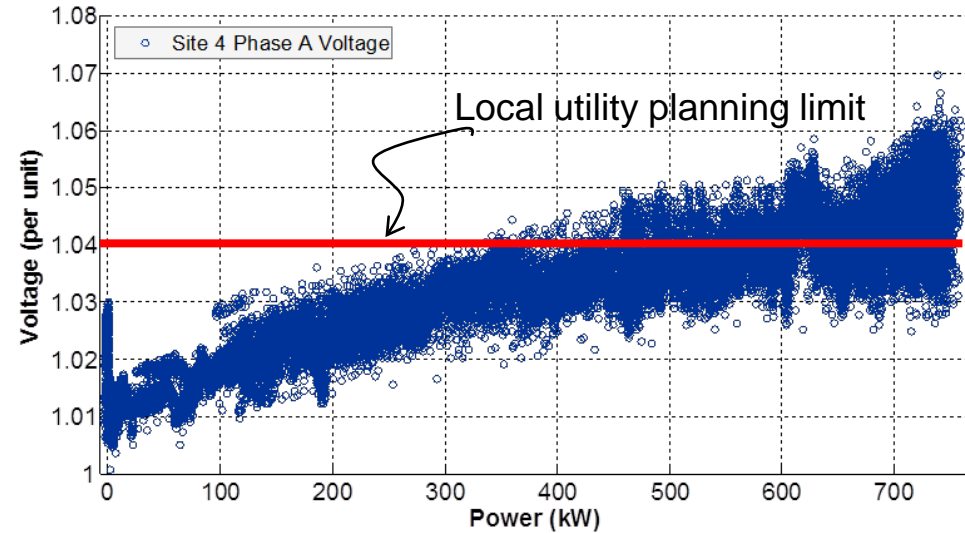
# Location, Location, Location

Feeder 2: 1.7MW PV, 4 miles from Distribution Substation



Circuit Diagram

Measured Voltage as Function of PV Output

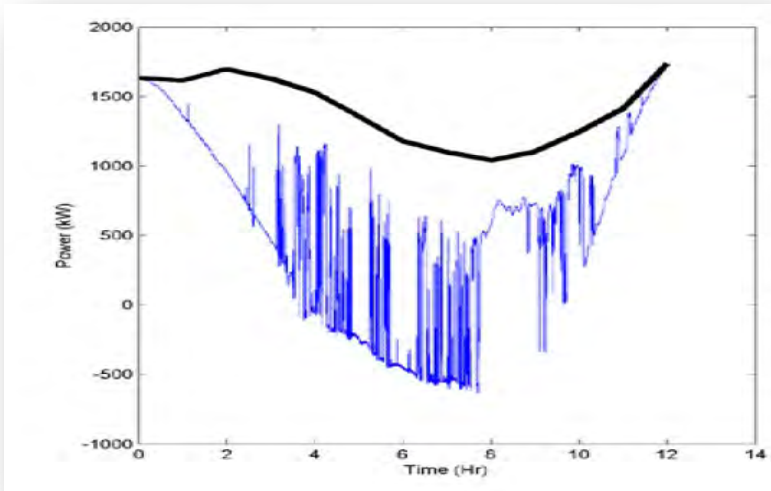


Feeder Characteristics	Value
Voltage (kV)	12.47
Peak Load	~ 6 MW
Existing PV (MW)	1.7
Substation LTC	Yes
Feeder Regulators	3
Capacitors	2 – fixed 3 - voltage controlled
Total Circuit Miles	58
Feeder "Footprint"	35mi <sup>2</sup>

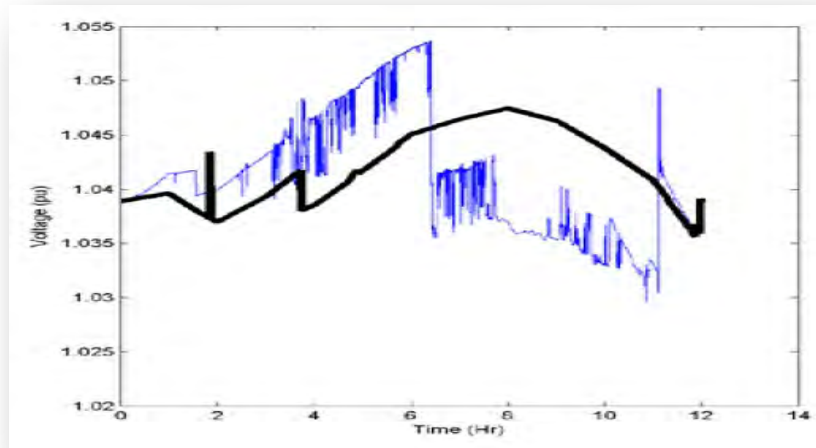
PV has significant impact on feeder voltage

# Feeder 2 - OpenDSS Simulation Results using Field Measurement Data

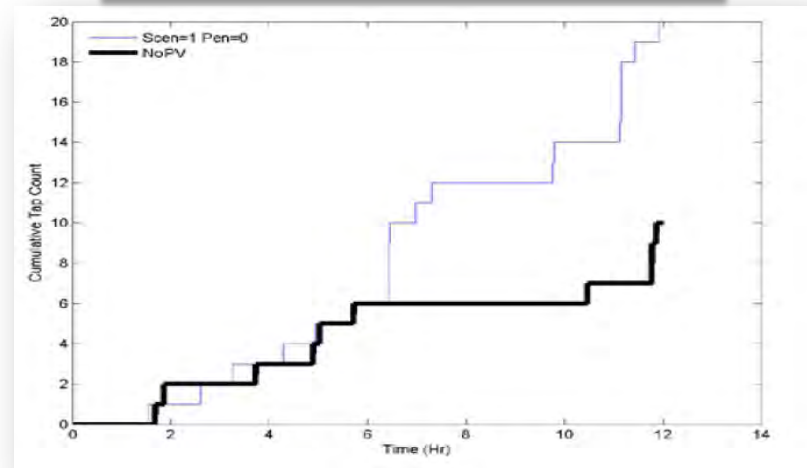
Total Demand (Feeder Head)



Maximum Feeder Voltage



Regulator Tap Operations



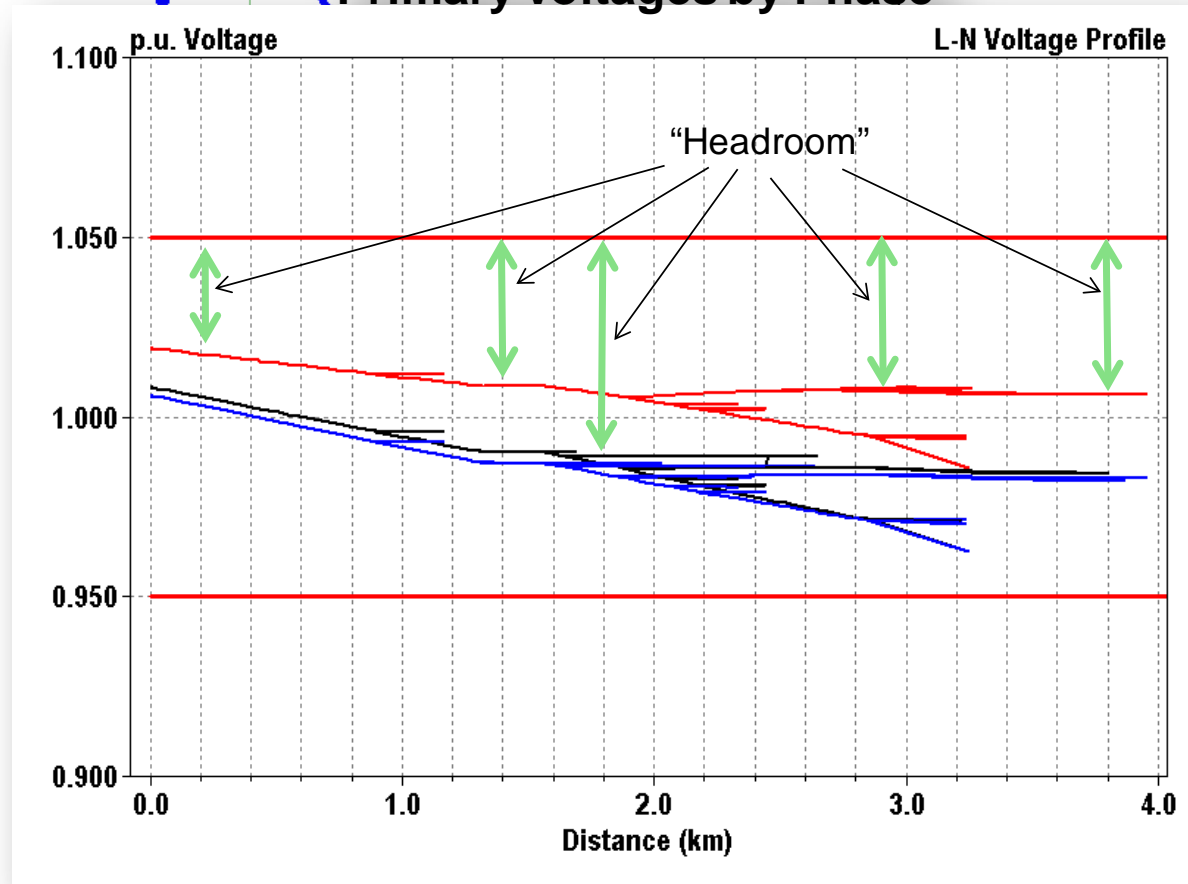
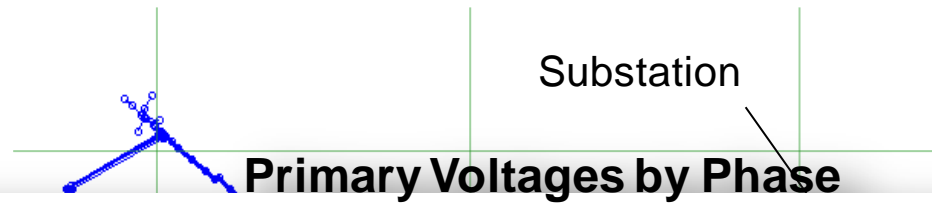
Existing PV  
increased regulator  
operation by 100%

— No PV  
— With PV

# Example 1 – “Small” Feeder

## Key Characteristics

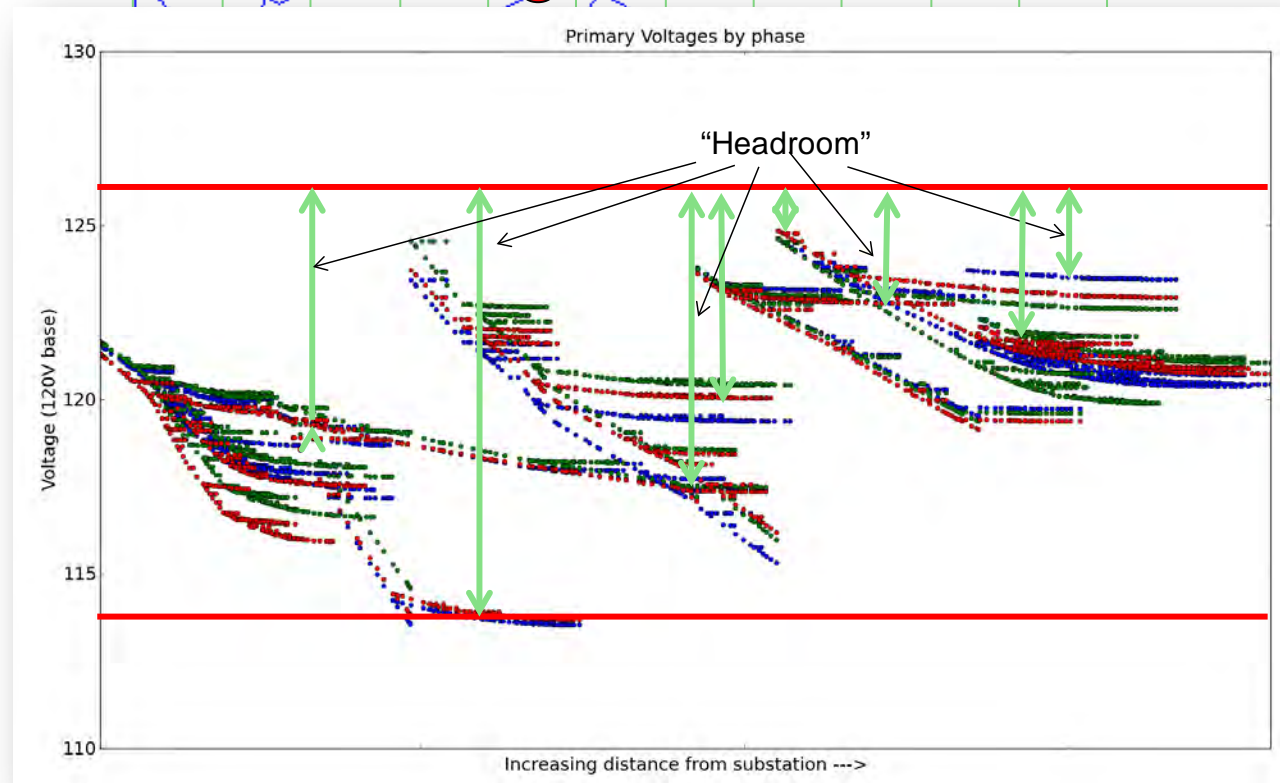
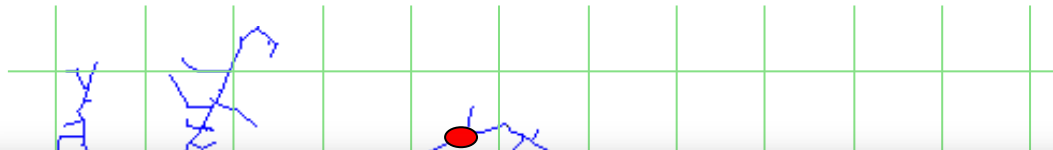
- Voltage class: 15kV
- Peak Load: 7.5 MVA
- Total 3Phase Miles: 6
- Total 1-2Phase Miles: 6
- Feeder Regulation:
  - Substation LTC
  - No feeder regulation
  - Fixed cap banks
- Total Customers: 600
- Small “footprint”



# Example 2 – “Large” Feeder

## Key Characteristics

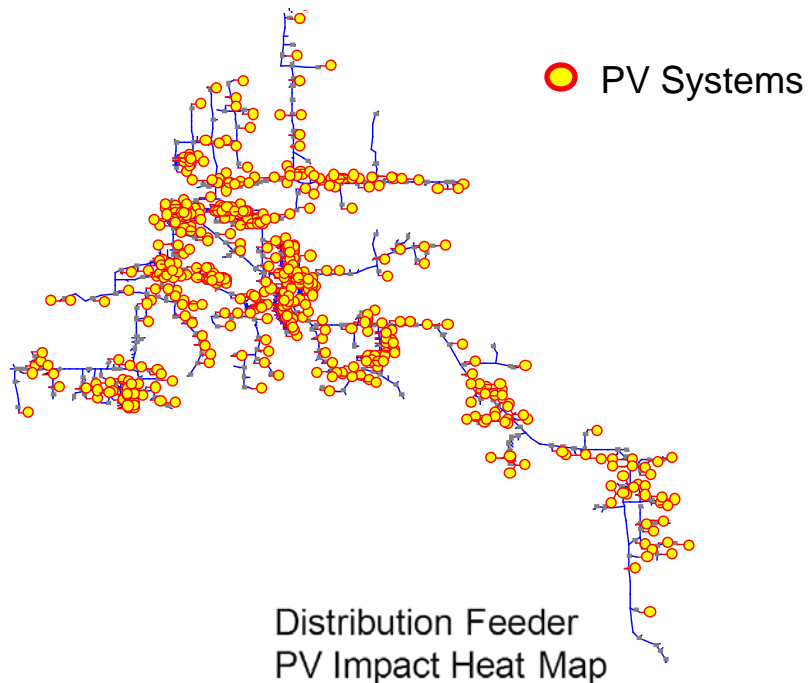
Voltage Class: 15kV  
Peak Load: 11 MVA  
Total 3Phase Miles: 60  
Total 1-2Phase Miles: 50  
Longest Distance: 11 miles  
Feeder Regulation  
- Substation LTC  
- 6 feeder regulators  
- switched capacitor banks  
Total Customers: 6700  
Large “footprint”



 = 1 km<sup>2</sup>

 = Line Regulators

# Analyze Multiple Scenarios and Penetration Levels (Stochastic)



Baseline – No PV

20% PV

30% PV

50% PV

Beyond...

Increase Penetration  
Levels Until Violations  
Occur

# Evaluation Criteria

## Voltage

- Overvoltage
- Voltage deviations @ regulation equipment

## Protection

- Increased fault current contribution
- Unintentional islanding
- Sympathetic tripping + fuse saving
- Reduction of reach

## Power Quality

- Total harmonic distortion
- Individual harmonics

## Loading

- Thermal overloads
- Demand masking
- Power factor reduction

## Operational

- Load tap changers
- Regulators
- Capacitor banks

Stochastic Analysis

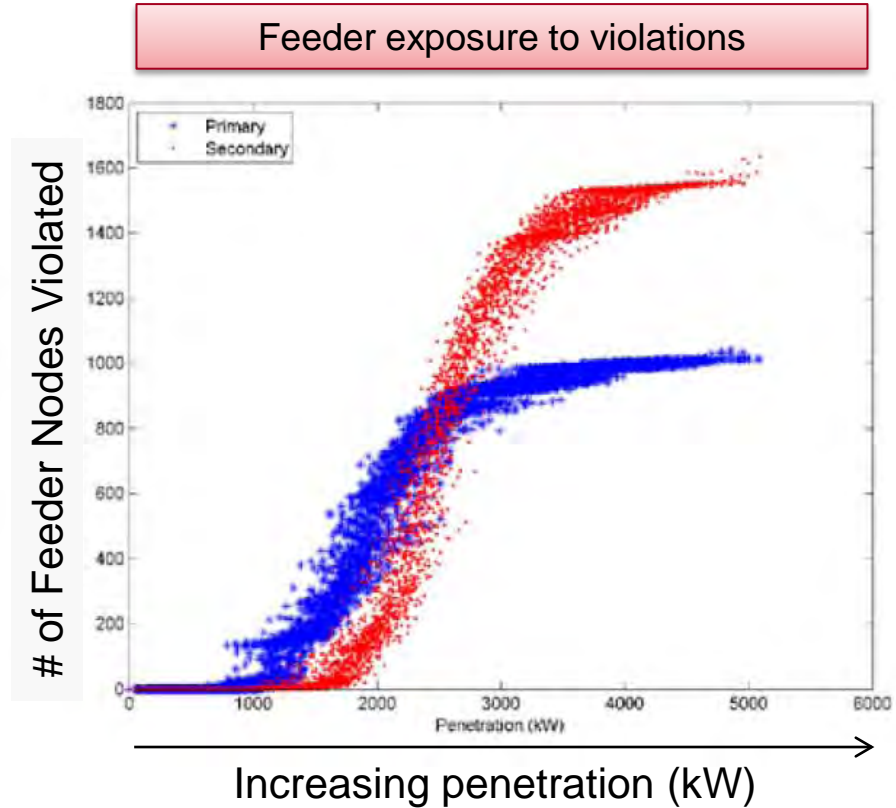
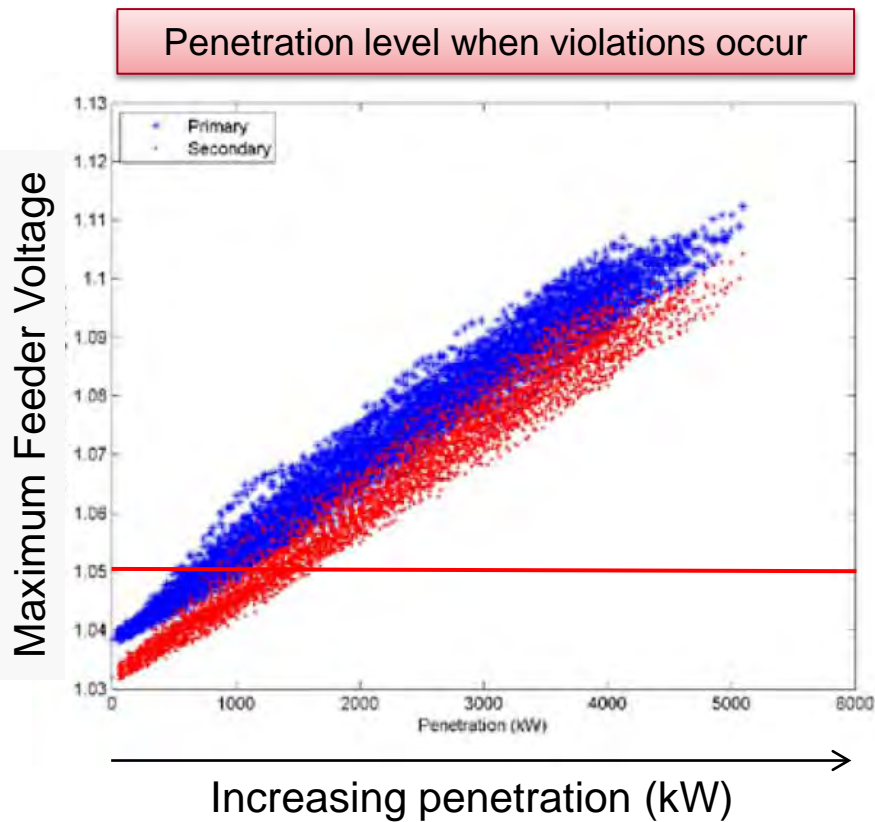
Time Series Analysis

Combination of stochastic and time series analysis

- Location specific impacts
- Time-varying impacts

# Sample Feeder Results – Overvoltage Violations

## Maximum Voltage Observed for Each Case



- Each point represents the worst-case violation for a single case
- 5000 cases shown

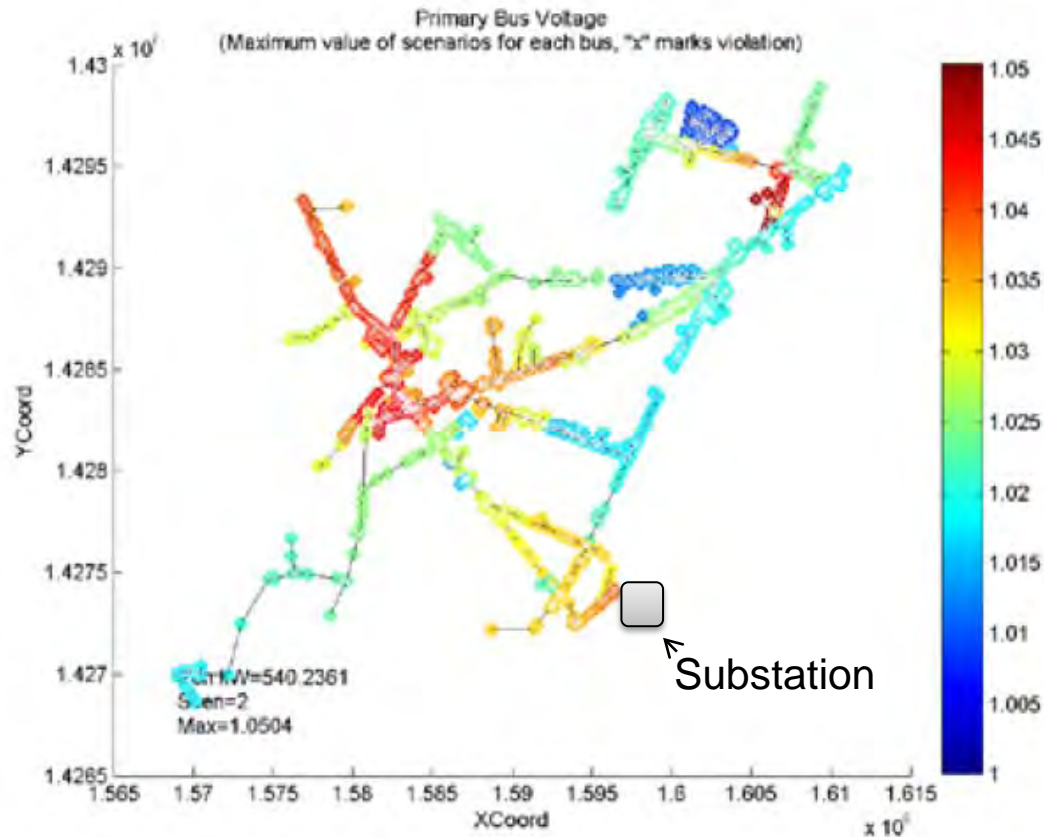
Blue – primary voltage

Red – secondary voltage

# Sample Feeder Results – Overvoltage Violations

## Maximum Voltage Observed for Single Case (540kW distributed)

Where violations occur within the feeder



# Sample Results from Stochastic Analysis

## Voltage Impacts

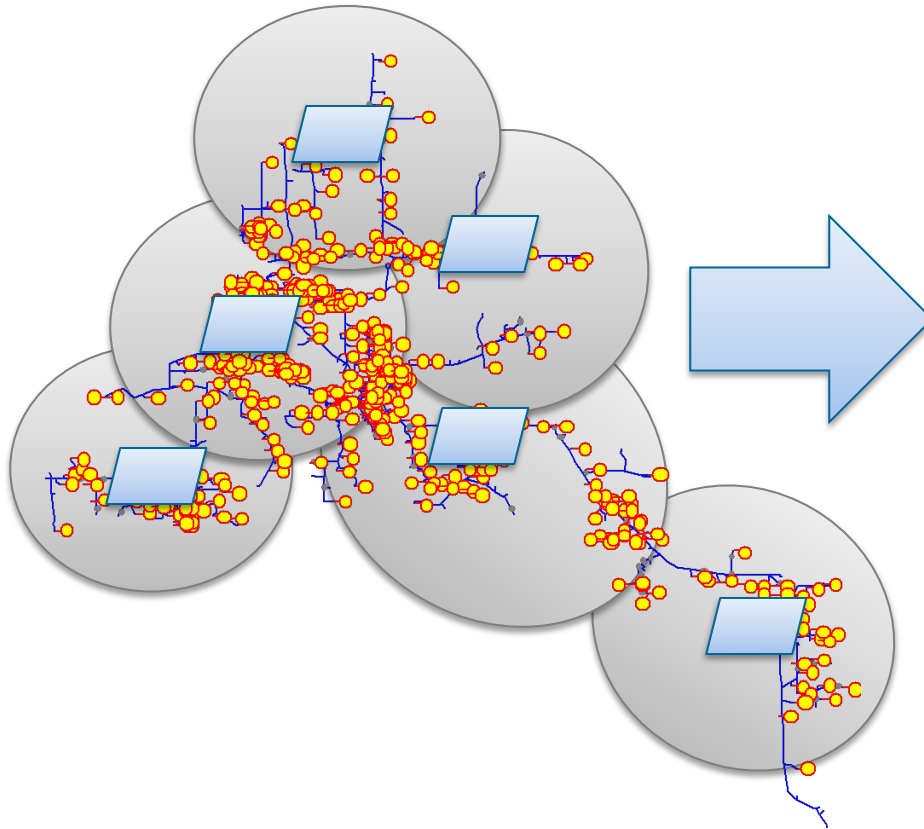
Feeder	A	B	C	D
Voltage Level	12.47	12.47	12.47	12.47
Total Ckt Miles	12	6	8.5	<b>58</b>
Peak Load (MW)	8	4.6	4.5	6
Voltage Regulation	1	1,2	1	1,2,3
Results				
Max PV* (MW)	>5	3.2	>4	0.3

\*First occurrence of overvoltage/voltage deviation violations – small scale PV results shown

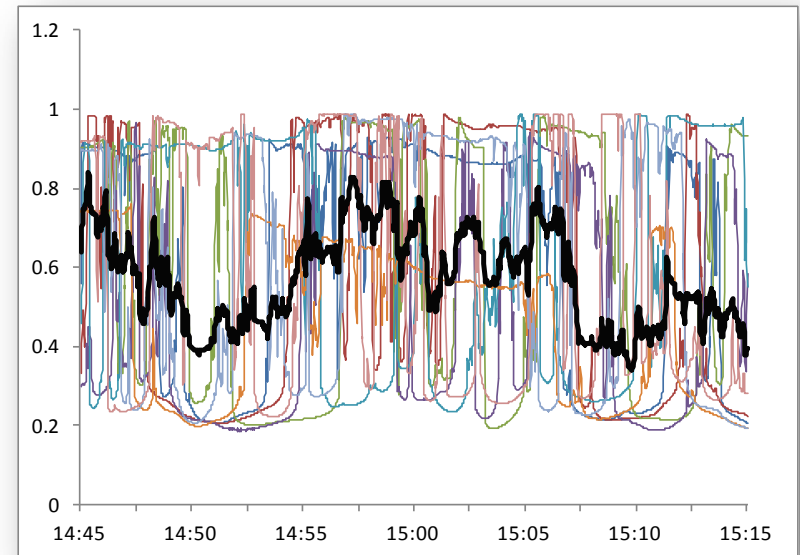
### Voltage Regulation

- 1 – LTC
- 2 – switched caps
- 3 – feeder regulator

# Solar Measurement Data for Time Series Analysis





Measured Solar Data from Pole-Mounted PV Modules



**(color)** – individual solar measurement points

**(black)** – average of all measurements

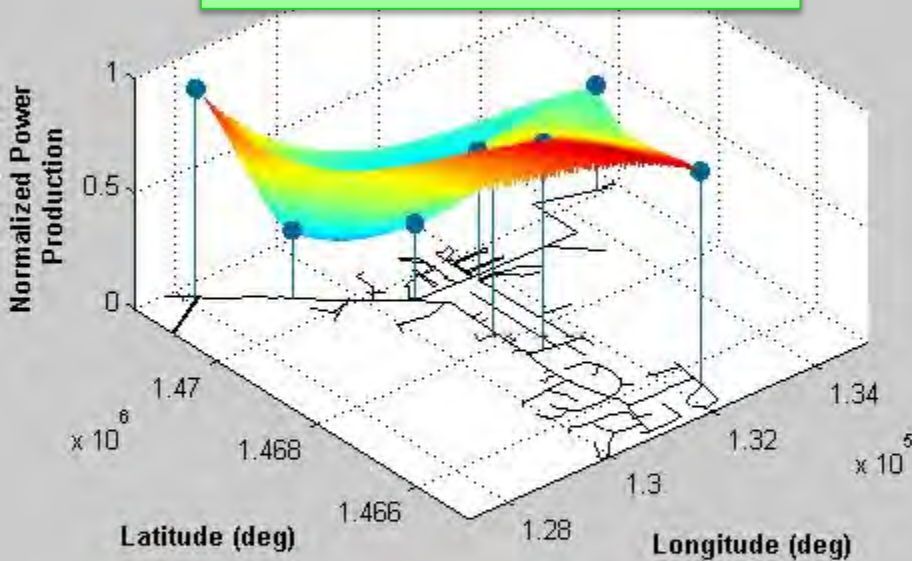
-  Modeled PV Systems
-  Pole-Mounted PV Modules

# Voltage Variations with PV Intermittency

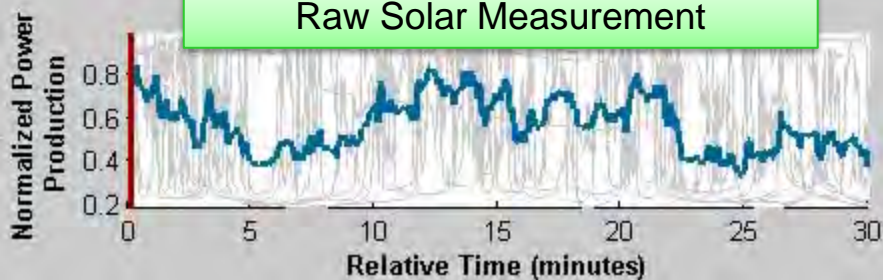
© 2011 Electric Power Research Institute, Inc. All rights reserved.



3D Visualization of PV Measurement



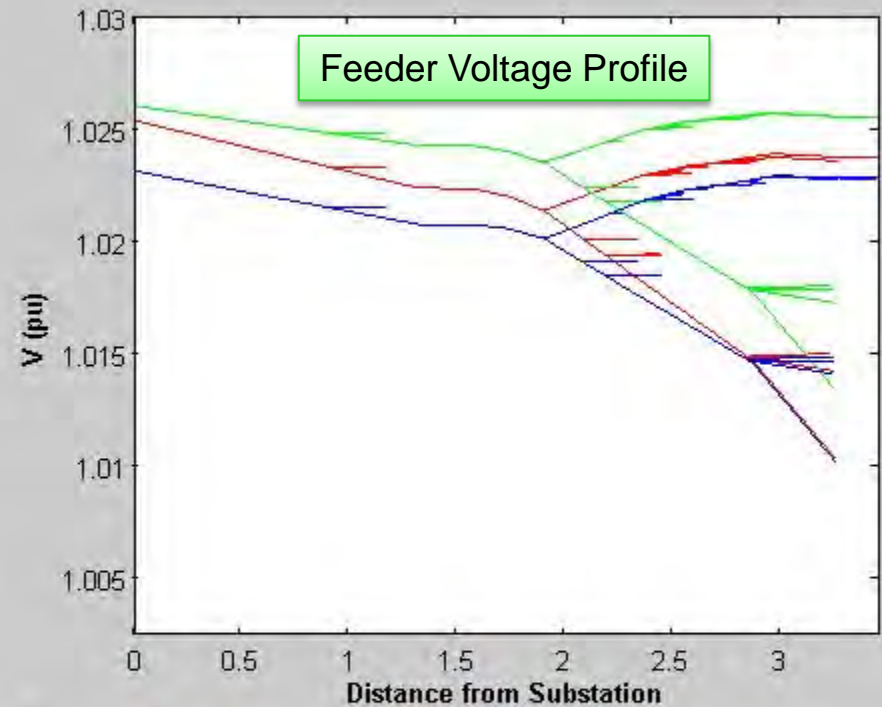
Raw Solar Measurement



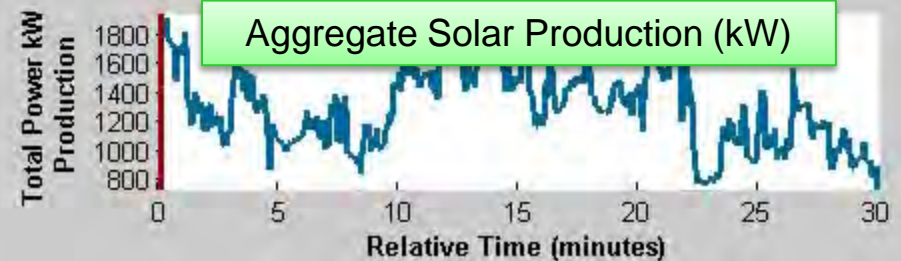
1 fps

0:01 min:sec

Feeder Voltage Profile



Aggregate Solar Production (kW)



# Summary

- PV hosting capacity strongly dependent upon
  - Feeder characteristics
  - Location of PV
  - Utility planning criteria
- Integration of high-penetration PV into Dx system can be a challenge
  - Voltage
  - Protection
  - Lack of visibility (demand masking)
- Feeder impact analysis is ongoing
- Challenges can be overcome
  - Developers working with the utility
  - Utilization of advanced inverter functions (Standards!!!)
  - Communication/control

# High Penetration Case Studies

**Jihad Zaghloul, P.E., CEM**  
**Manager, APS Technical Solutions Department**

4/19/12



# Agenda

- Overview of APS
- Renewable Energy Context
- Renewable Generation Integration
- Case Studies

# APS – Arizona's Largest Utility

## Service Territory

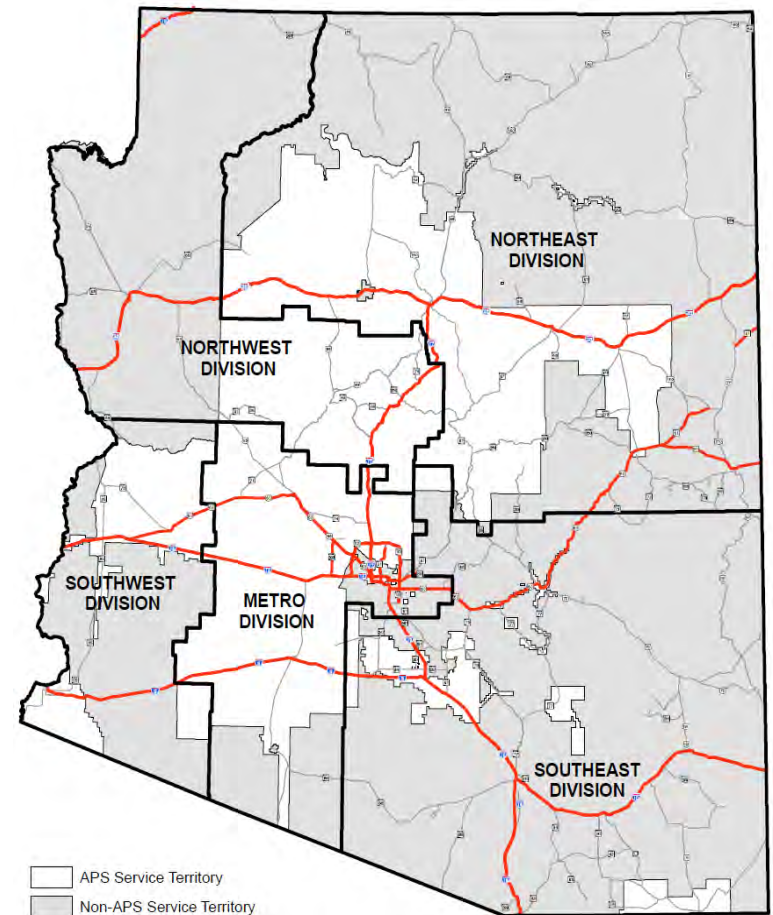
- 1.1 million customer accounts
- 34,646 square miles

## Scope of Energy Delivery

- 28,000 distribution miles
- 5,300 transmission miles
- 1200 distribution feeders
- 410 substations

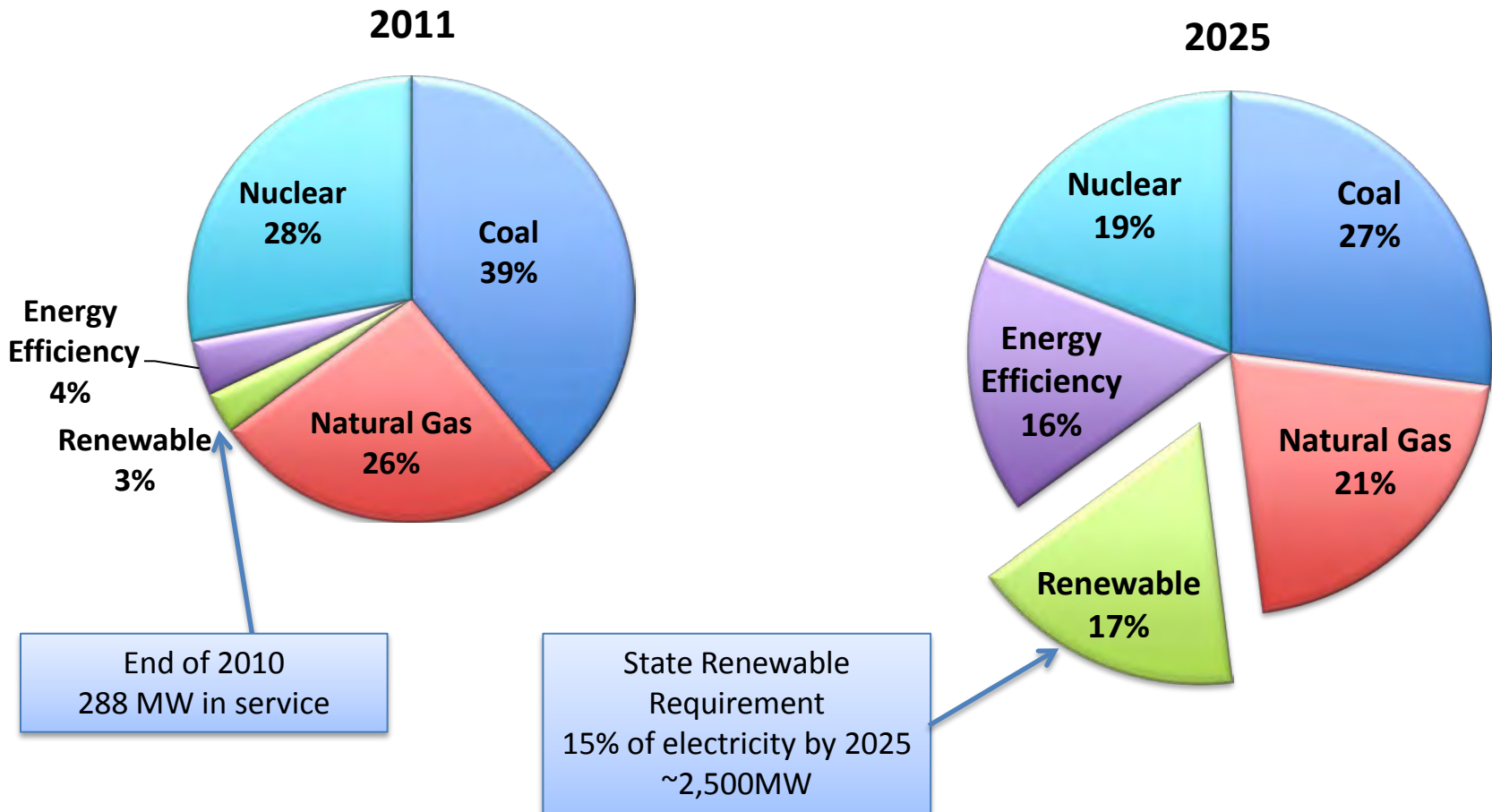
## Resources

- 8,600 MW total capacity
- Peak Demand – 7,100 MW
- Over 1,000 MWs of renewables owned or in development



# APS Energy Sources 2011 vs. 2025

Focused on a diversified portfolio of generation resources for our customers

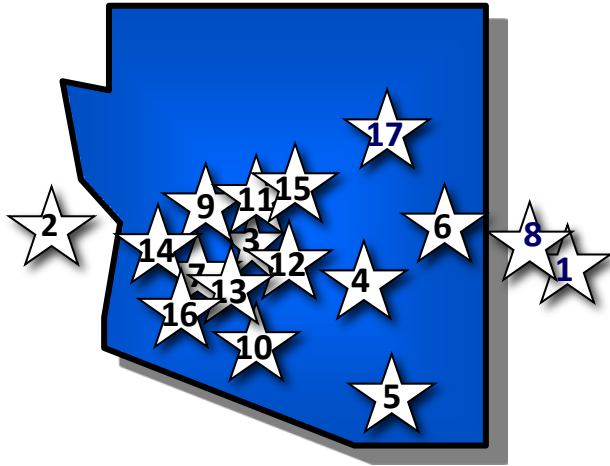


# Renewable Energy Standard (RES)

- 15% of Retail Sales by 2025
  - < 70% from Utility Scale
  - > 30% from Distributed Energy
    - 50% from Residential
    - 50% from Non-Residential
- Within next year, 200 MWs of DE
- Over 400 MWs of DE in next 5 Years
- Utility Scale PV - 200 MWs Approved
- 280 MWs of Concentrating Solar
- Schools & Governmental Program – 15 MWs



# APS Renewable Generation Portfolio



<u>Projects</u>	<u>Net Capacity</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Status</u>
2. Salton Sea (CA)	10 MW	Geothermal	In operation
5. Saguaro	1 MW	CSP	In operation
6. Snowflake White Mt.	15 MW	Biomass	In operation
11. City of Glendale Landfill	3 MW	Landfill	In operation
7. Solana	250 MW	CSP	Under development
			~280 MW
1. Aragonne Mesa (NM)	90 MW	Wind	In operation
2. High Lonesome (NM)	100 MW	Wind	In operation
3. Perrin Ranch	99 MW	Wind	In operation
			~ 290 MW
9. Agreement 1	4.5MW	Solar – PV	In operation
10. Agreement 2	10 MW	Solar – PV	In operation
11. Agreement 3	15 MW	Solar – PV	In operation
12. Agreement 4	15 MW	Solar – PV	Under development
13. Agreement 5	15 MW	Solar – PV	Under development
3. Prescott Airport	3.6 MW	Solar - PV	In operation
4. Distributed PV (STAR)	1.0 MW	Solar - PV	In operation
5. Paloma	17 MW	Solar – PV	In operation
9. Cotton Center	17 MW	Solar – PV	In operation
10. Hyder	16 MW	Solar – PV	In operation
9. AZ Sun Additional	100 MW	Solar – PV	ACC approved 1/18/12
10. Chino Valley (69kV)	19 MW	Solar – PV	Under development
11. Hyder II	14 MW	Solar – PV	RFP Meeting March 21
			~ 265 MW
9. Distributed, Customer	120 MW	Solar – PV	In operation
10. Distributed, Customer	80 MW	Solar – PV	expected within 1 yr
11. Distributed, Customer	200 MW	Solar – PV	expected within 5 yrs
			~ 400 MW

~ 1200 MW Renewable generation within 3-5 yrs

# Segmented Renewable Strategy

Renewables allow more flexible deployment than traditional generation



## Distributed Energy

**3kW – 10MW**  
**Customer Sited**

- Solar Incentive Programs
- Flagstaff Community Power Project
- Schools and Government Program



## Small Utility-Scale

**1 – 20MW**  
**Distribution Level**

- Paloma Solar Facility
- Hyder Solar Facility
- Cotton Center Solar Facility
- Chino Valley Solar Facility



## Large Utility-Scale

**21 – 250MW**  
**Central Station**

- 250MW Solana Power Plant
  - Aragonne Wind Farm
- High Lonesome Wind Farm
- Perrin Ranch Wind Farm

# Study and Demonstration Roadmap for Examining Renewable Integration

## Distributed Generation Integration Studies

Beck Study

Smart Grid

Forecasting  
Planning

Solar  
Variability

DOE  
HPSD

Energy  
Storage

Community  
Power

Flagstaff  
Smart Grid  
Demo

Solar Water  
Heating

Distributed  
Solar/Wind  
Forecast

# Prescott Variability Study

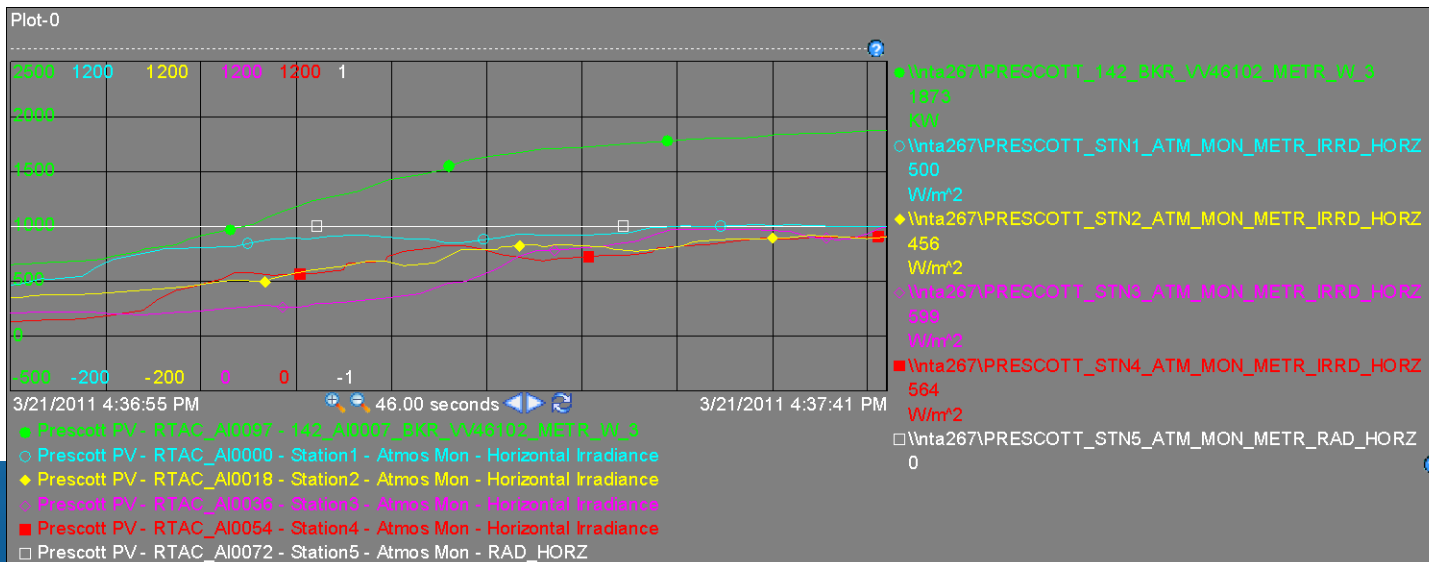
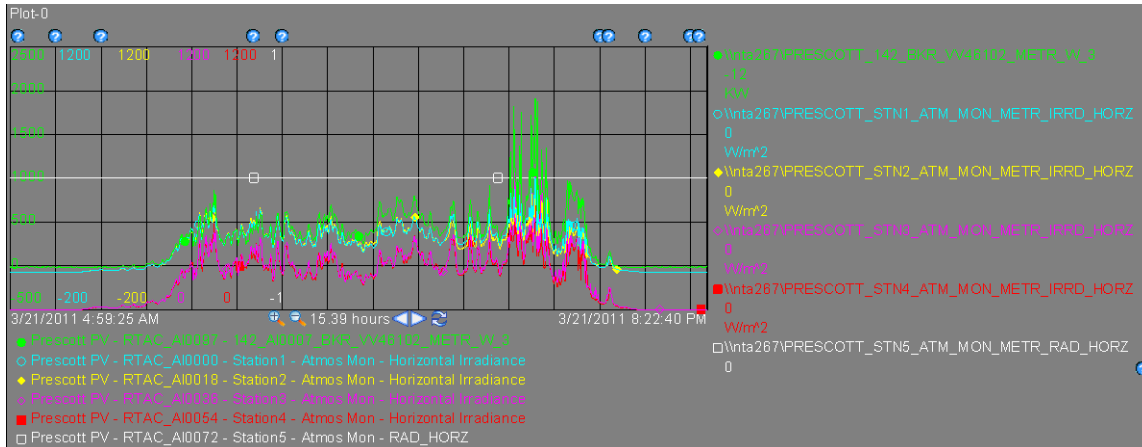
- Evaluate different techniques for analyzing variability
- Experience with analytic instrumentation and tools
- Correlations with irradiance to overall output
- Effects of variability on distribution system voltage
- Provide raw data for additional studies (think Solar Integration Cost Study)
- Determine any further issues to study in the Flagstaff Community Project
- Provide opportunity for comparisons of solar forecasts to actual performance

# Preliminary Prescott Findings

- Penetration was about 23% on feeder
- Learned how to manage large quantities of data into PI database and transfer to analytic tools (applications transferable to additional studies)
- Raw 1 second data used in setting up Energy Storage control simulations
- Demonstrated smoothing of power output even with a smaller solar facility
- No voltage events with variability outside the regulation requirements of the feeder or substation
- Analyses on variability provided some categorization that may assist in establishing methods for Solar Forecasting application (both utility scale and large scale distributed)
- These and other preliminary findings being evaluated for further study within Flagstaff Community Power Project analyses

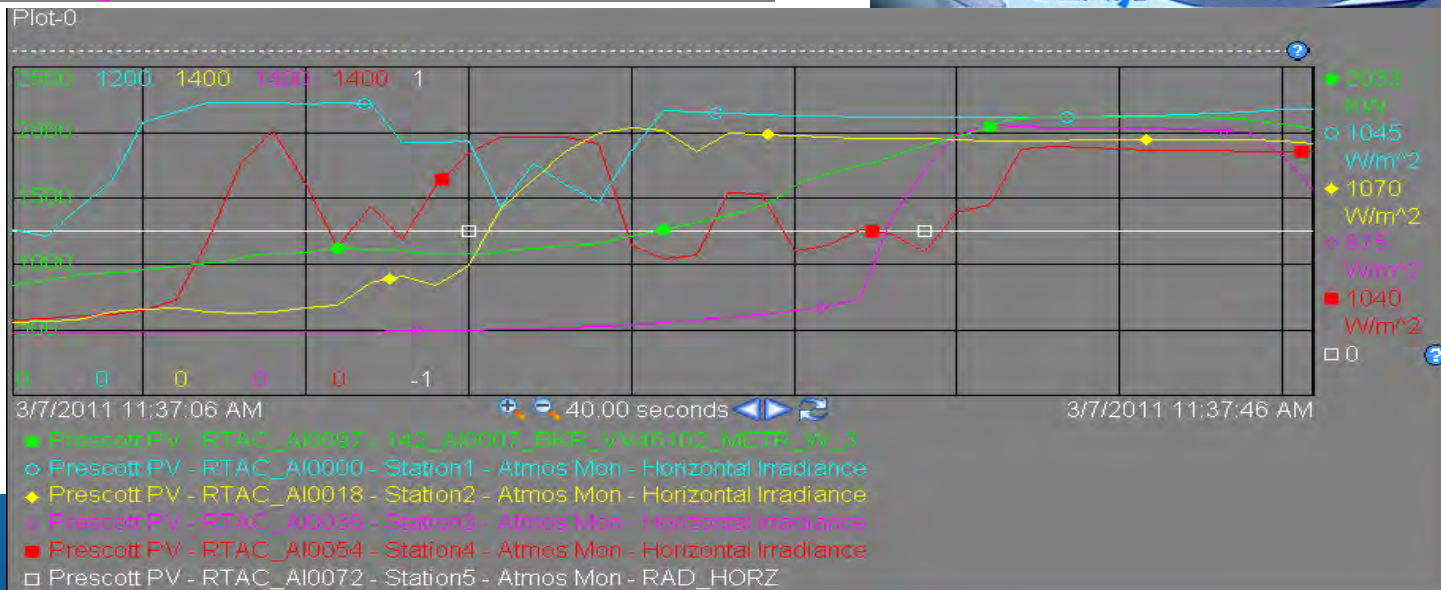
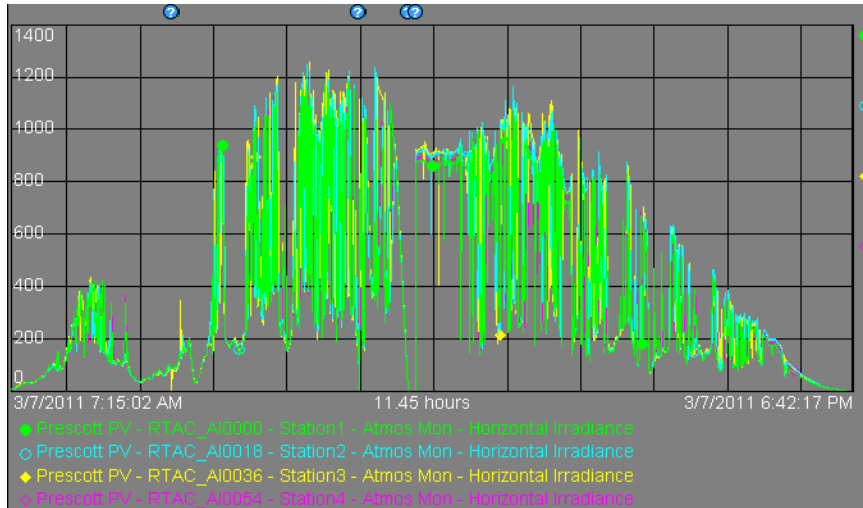
# Example of Smoothing

## March 21, 2011 Rainy



# Example of Smoothing

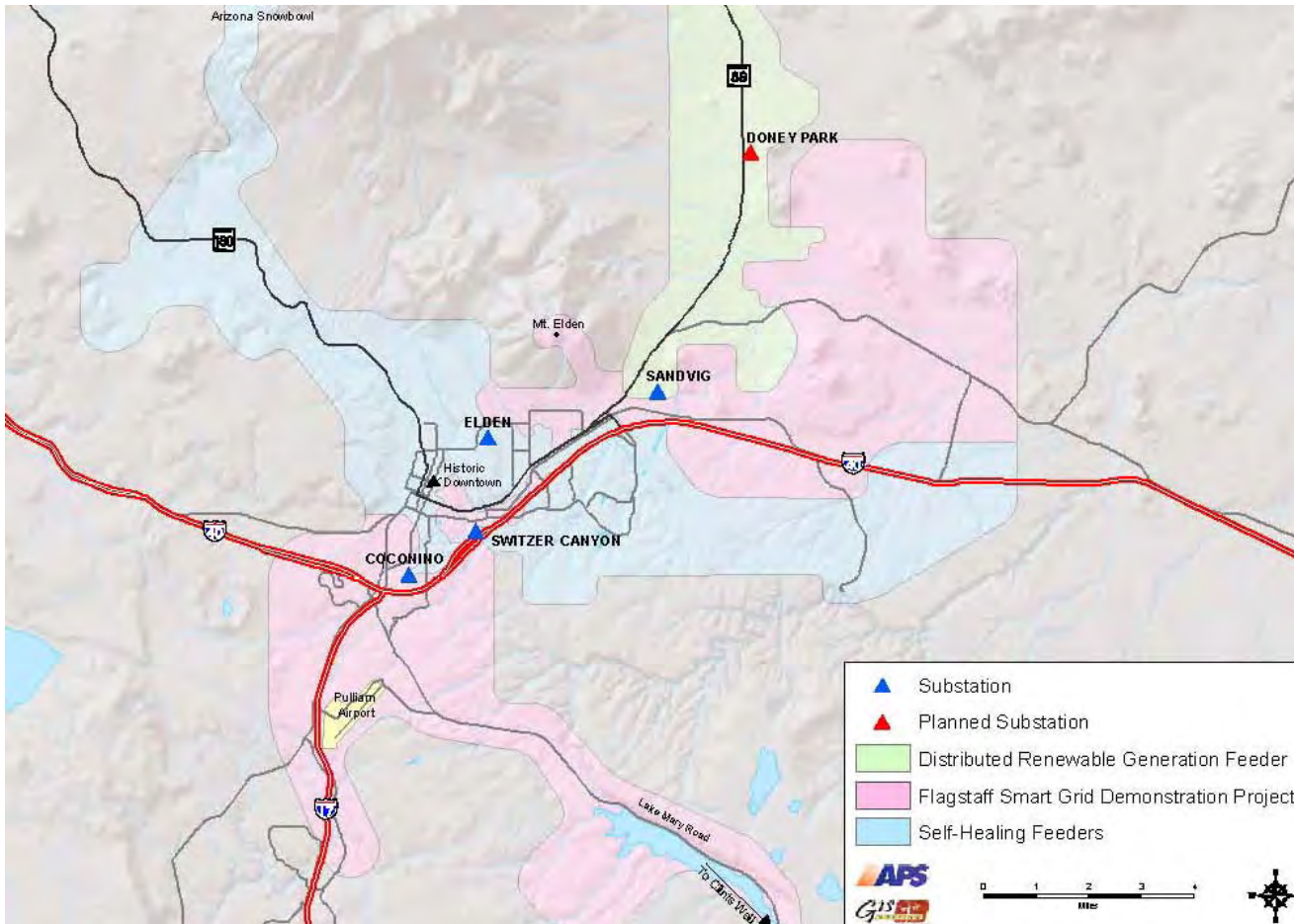
## March 7, 2011 Partially Cloudy



# Flagstaff High Penetration Solar Study

- High penetration of distributed variable generation on a small feeder. (reach or exceed 30% of feeder capacity)
- Evaluate the effects
  - The substation transformer
  - The feeder
  - Any of the loads (customers)
  - Analyze the effects on other distribution system devices (cap banks, reclosers)
- Deployments completed, Modeling and Data collection in progress

# Flagstaff Demonstration Projects



Flagstaff provides a living, safe and reliable laboratory for data collection and demonstration of technologies.

Provide insight on how to assure continued reliability and value to the customer and the APS system.

# Community Power Project – Flagstaff

## Customer Value Proposition:

- 20 year program
- APS owns & maintains systems
- Interconnected on APS side of meter
- Customer eligible for Solar Rate in exchange for easement
- Experienced solar installers contracted for installation and maintenance

## Residential Requirements:

- Minimum 4,800kWh annual average usage
- Minimum 10 years roof life remaining
- Single family, detached homes
- Eligible for 2, 3 or 4kW system, based on average annual usage
- Full-time resident



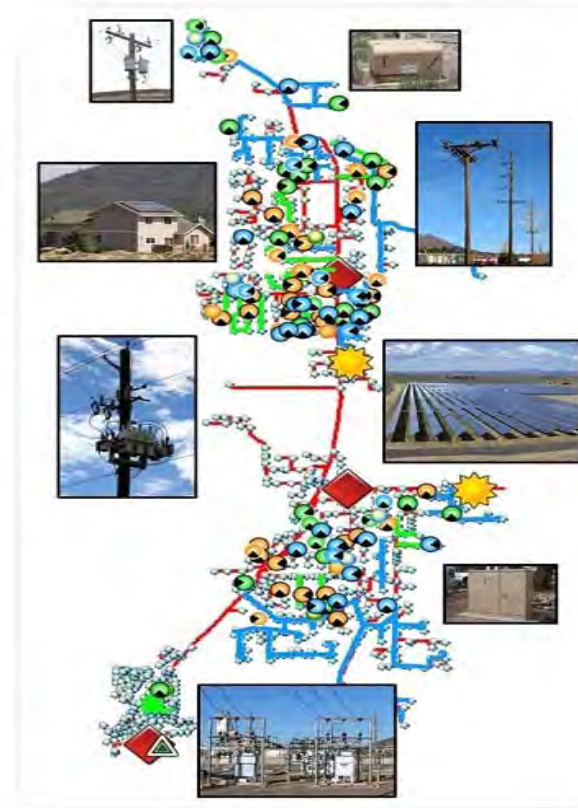
# High Penetration Study – DOE Funded

## Primary Objective & Deliverables

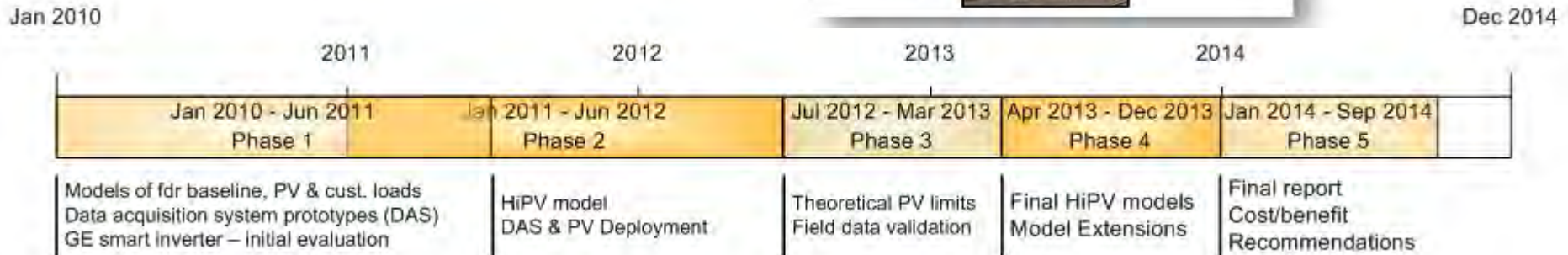
Determine how high penetration of PV affects a working utility distribution feeder

- Validated feeder, PV inverter and load models
- High penetration PV data acquisitions methodology and field deployment
- High penetration PV paired with grid-support inverter, energy storage

Phase 1 results available soon



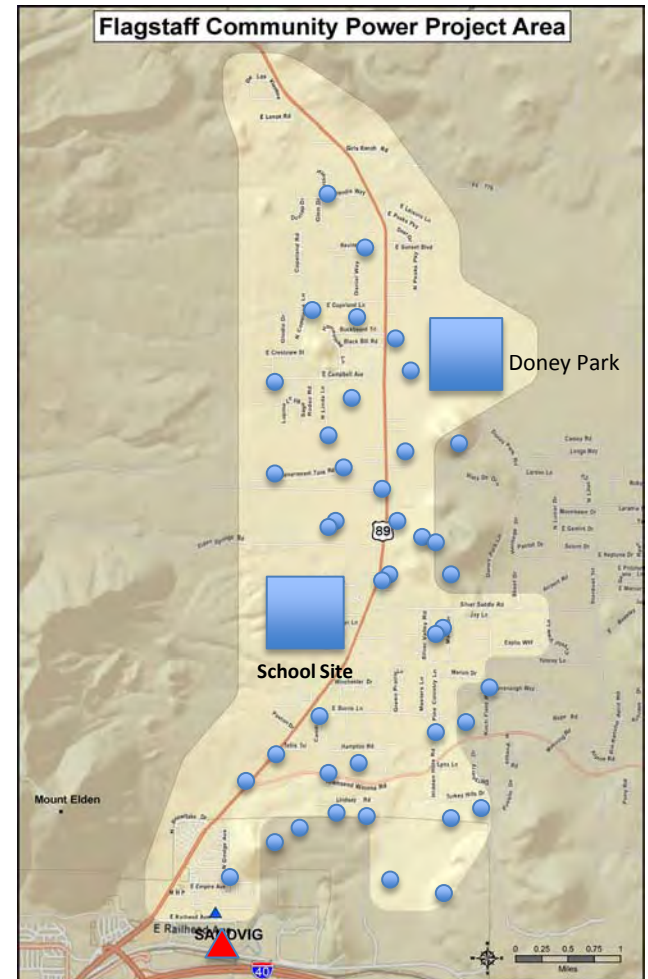
U.S. DOE



# Energy Storage Study

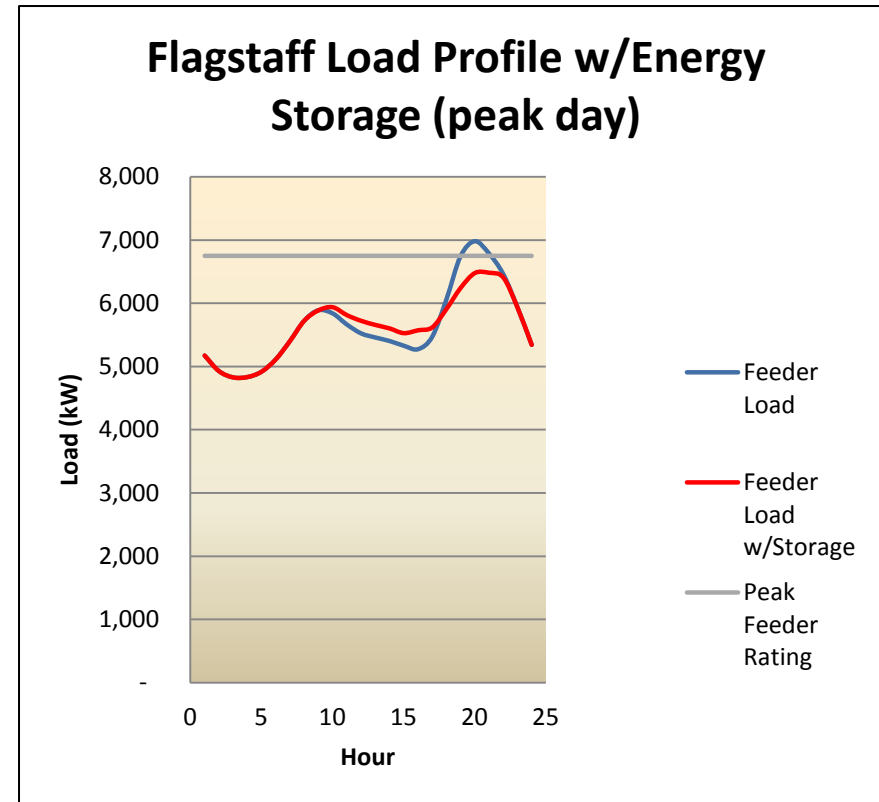
- **Partners- Electrovaya, ABB, ASU**
  - Lithium-Ion battery technology/ABB grid interface
  - 500 kW, 1.5 MWh (3 hour) storage capacity
- **Phase I: Substation Application (Elden)**  
(bulk storage, smoothing, peak shaving, control)
  - Communications infrastructure
  - Location & site layout
  - Smart Grid substation

Currently in commissioning
- **Phase II: PV Site Application (DPRES)**
  - Part of High Penetration Solar Deployment
  - Opportunity for PV Variability mitigation
  - Opportunity for “down-the-feeder” operation

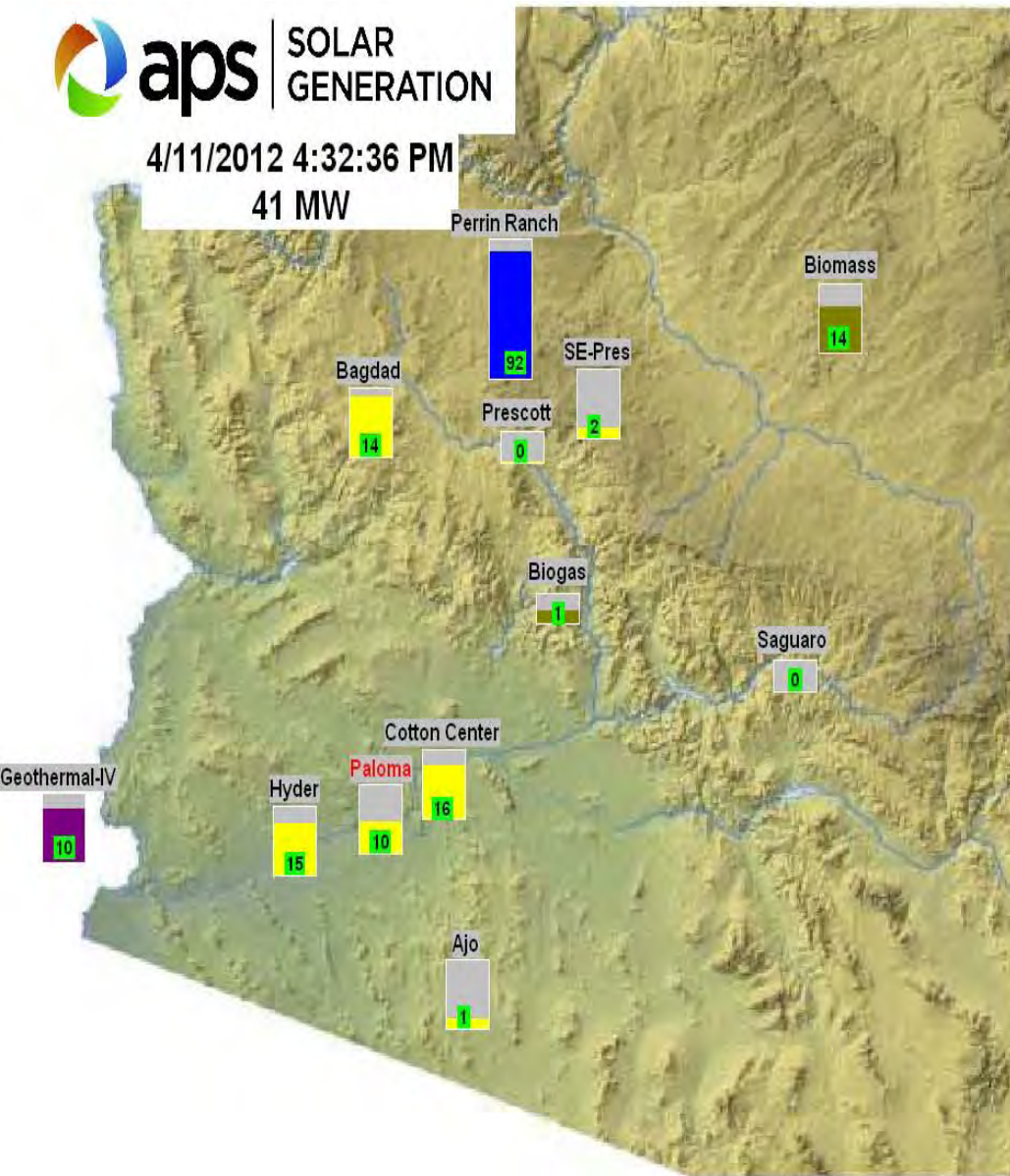


# Phase I Operation- Peak Shaving

- Function- off peak storage, peak dispatch
- Why test this? Potential benefits:
  - Asset utilization, reduce stress
  - Levelize load, improve feeder load predictability
  - Potential to defer asset upgrades
  - Dispatchable energy
- Control Modes
  - Scheduled dispatch
  - Remote dispatch (non AGC)
  - Grid monitoring (setpoint)
- Schedule
  - Q1 2012 – Q4 2012



4/11/2012 4:32:36 PM  
41 MW



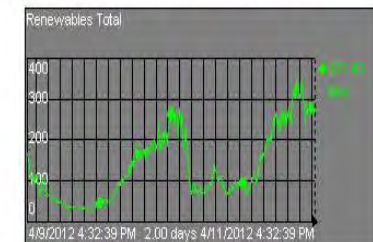
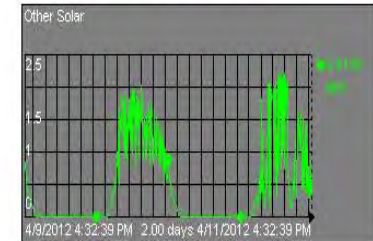
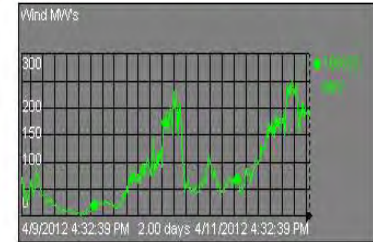
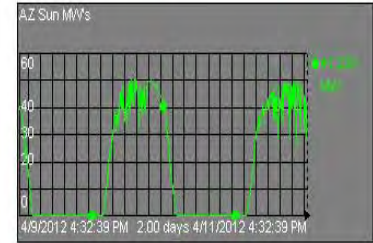
Aragonne



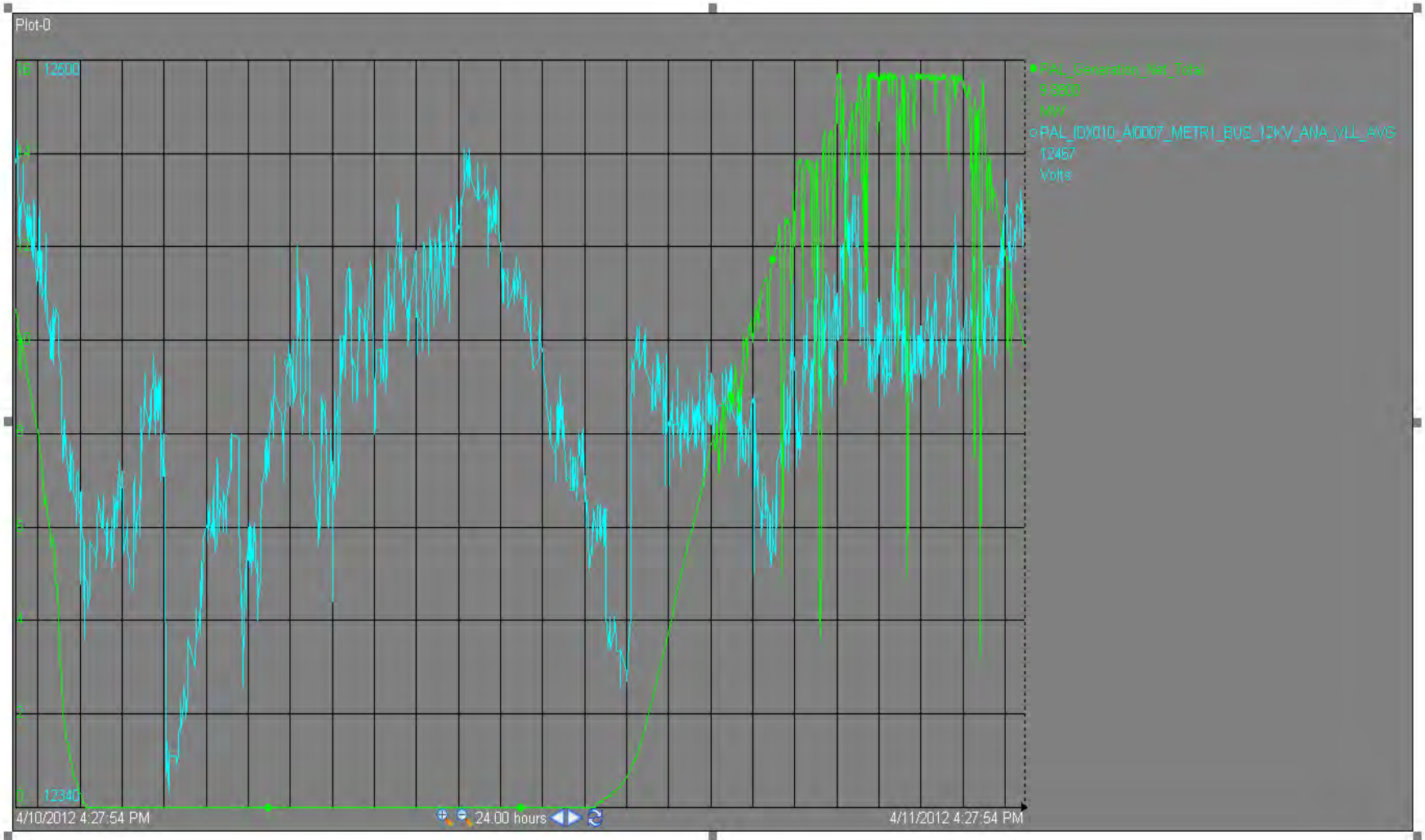
High Lonesome



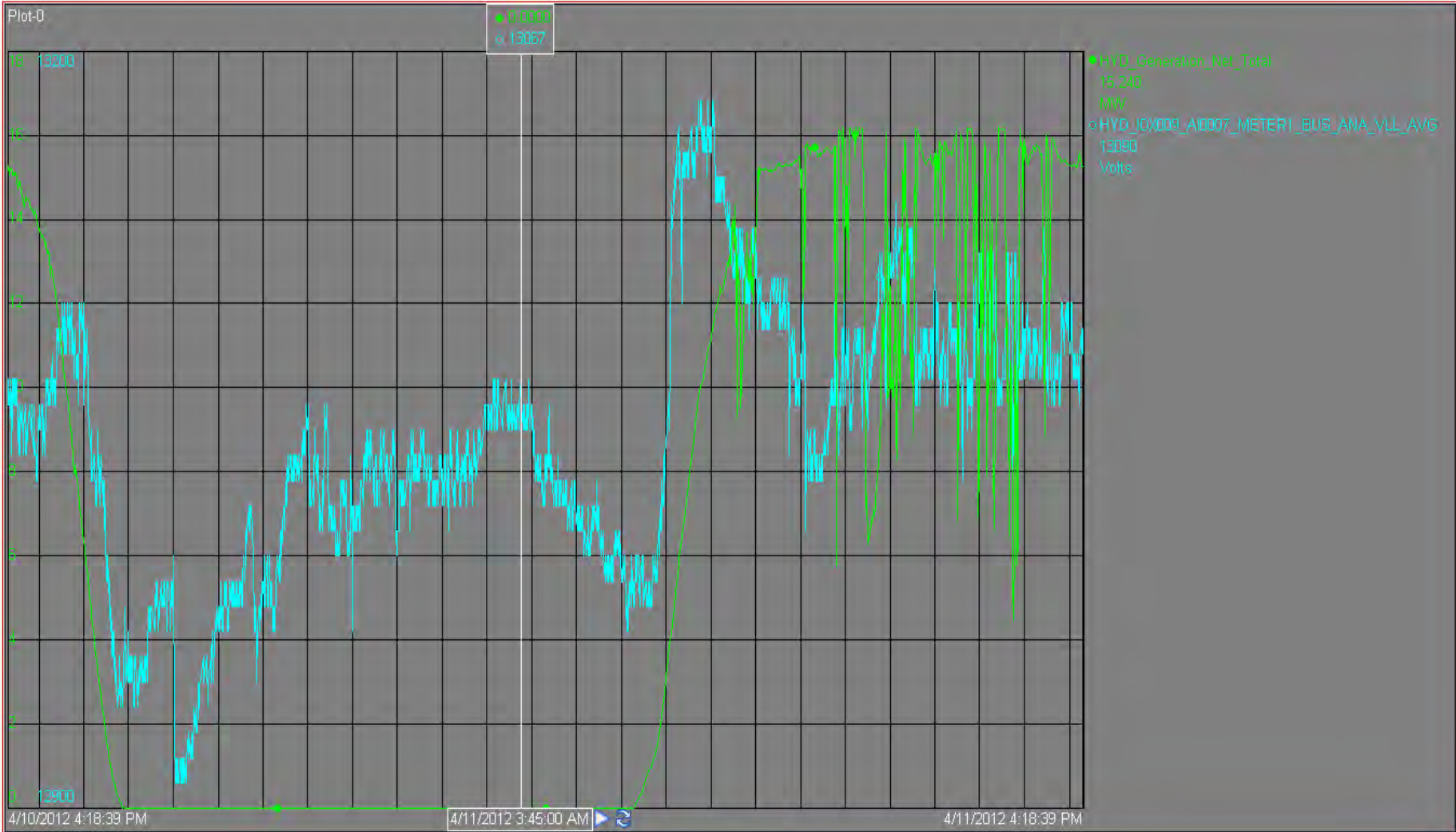
Two Day Trends



# Paloma PV Plant (17 MW)



# Hyder PV Plant (16 MW)



# Thank you for your time!

## More Information:

### **APS High PV Penetration:**

<http://www.aps.com/main/green/choice/solar/highpenetration.html>

### **U.S. Department of Energy Solar High Penetration Portal**

<https://solarhighpen.energy.gov/>

### **APS YouTube Channel (Energy Storage featured):**

<http://www.youtube.com/user/arizonapublicservice>

### **APS Energy Storage- How it Works:**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/apspics/6921479361/in/set-72157629066368860/>

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