

Solar Energy Technologies Office/ System Integration (SI) February 25 & 26, 2021

Moderator: Kemal Celik on Behalf of SI

## **DOE Participants**











- Alejandro Moreno is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Renewable Power (Acting).
- Dr. Becca Jones-Albertus is the Solar Energy Technologies Office Director within the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.
- Dr. Guohui Yuan is the program manager for the Systems Integration subprogram.

- Jeremiah Miller is a technology manager with the Systems Integration subprogram.
- Dr. M. Kemal Çelik is a technology manager in the Systems Integration subprogram.

# **Invited Project PI Speakers – Day 1**

#### Day 1:

- Matt Kromer is a Director, Grid Integration, Fraunhofer USA.
- John Powers is the Founder/CEO at Extensible Energy.

#### Day 2:

- Jeremiah Miller is a technology manager for the Systems Integration team.
- Dr. Aminul Huque is a Principal Project Manager at Electric Power Research Institute.
- Shari Ishikawa is the Smart Grid Program Manager at Hawaiian Electric Company.

#### Agenda

- Feb. 25, 2021:
  - EERE/SETO leadership opening remarks
  - SI PM will present an overview of SETO systems integration challenges, programs and vision
  - SI TM will introduce the Solar + X challenges and projects
  - Fraunhofer will discuss their centralized scheduling solution to optimize utility-scale PV generation, storage, DR around commercial and industrial flexible loads, and granular load forecasting
  - Extensible Energy will present their building energy management solution around optimized on-site solar, storage and flexible loads
- Feb. 26, 2021:
  - SI Technology Manager for Austin Energy's SHINES project will discuss their distributed energy resource management platform that can adapt to any region and market structure
  - EPRI team will present their work with five utilities to create technology that integrates storage and load management with PV generation on the grid
  - Hawaiian Electric team will present their demonstration of the system-level benefits of greater utility visibility and control of the distribution system
- There will be a 30 min. Q&A session on both days

# **Solar Energy Technologies Office**

#### WHAT WE DO

The Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) funds early-stage research and development in three technology areas: photovoltaics (PV), concentrating solar-thermal power (CSP), and systems integration with the goal of improving the affordability, performance, and value of solar technologies on the grid.

#### HOW WE DO IT

Advance solar technology to drive U.S. leadership in innovation and reductions in solar electricity costs.

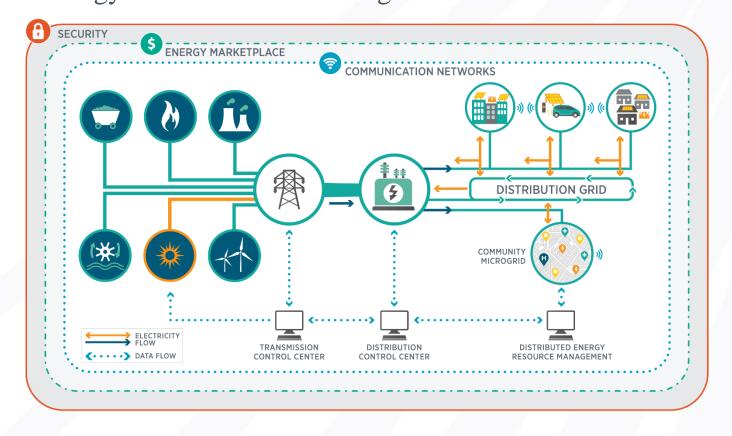
reliability and pair with storage to provide new options for community resilience.

Provide relevant and objective technical information on solar technologies to stakeholders and decision-makers.

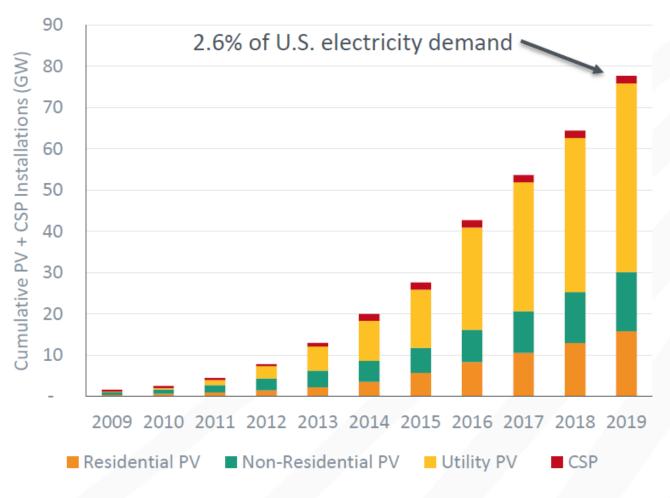


# **SETO Systems Integration (SI) Program**

The Systems Integration (SI) subprogram supports early-stage research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) of technologies and solutions – focusing on technical pillars data, analytics, control, and hardware - that advance the reliable, resilient, secure and affordable integration of solar energy onto the U.S. electric grid.



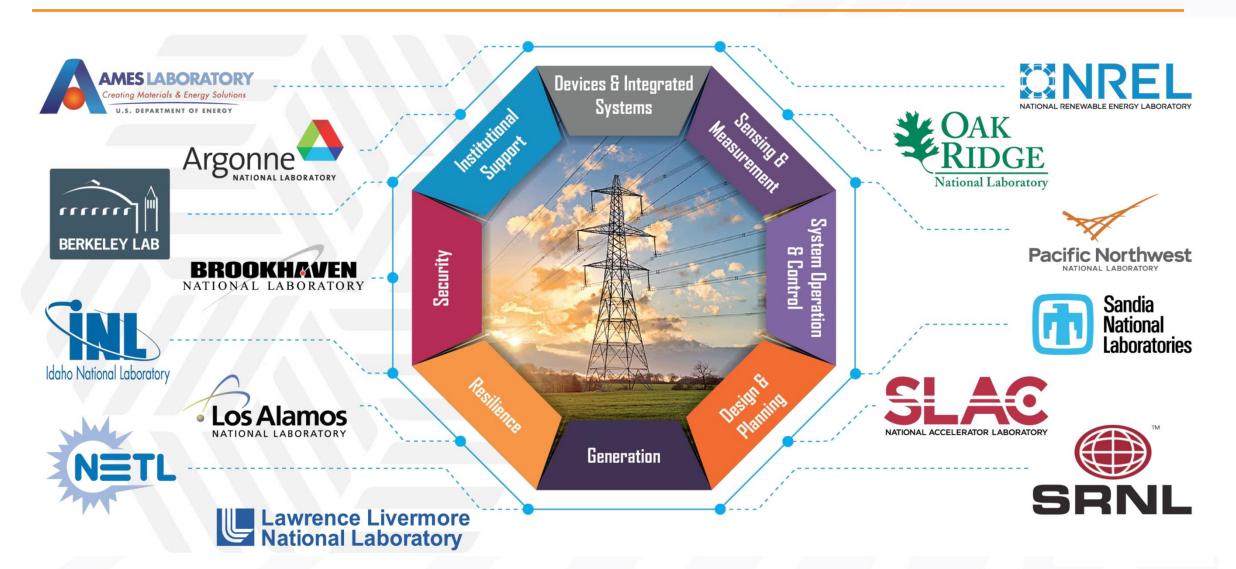
## The Big Picture: Many Challenges for Solar Grid Integration



Sources: Wood Mackenzie

- Weak grid and Low inertia
- Fast dynamics of IBR
- Variability and uncertainty
- Protection
- Situation awareness
- BTW DER control
- T&D interdependence
- Cybersecurity
- Resilience
- Cost/benefit
- Institutional challenges
- And others ...

#### **SETO SI: Part of DOE's Grid Modernization Efforts**



### The shifting grid paradigm

- Lower Inertia: Power electronics-connected generation and consumption reduce the mechanical inertia in the system.
- More Uncertain: Uncertainties increase due to variable generation, smart loads, electric vehicles, generation and network contingencies, weather and cyber events, and hidden failures.
- More Distributed: The grid trends to having many small active resources such as rooftop PVs, smart appliances, and electric vehicles.

- **Responsive:** The high-speed control capabilities of power electronics present new opportunities for achieving a more *responsive* power grid.
- Adaptive: The solutions can and should make the grid more *adaptive* ramping requirements, network reconfiguration, AC/DC hybrid operation and islanding at various granularities.

Scalable: Small resources are more scalable through various combinations as needed, e.g. against cyber or physical disturbances and during outage recovery.

- Integration of Solar PV with synergistic technologies to support dispatchability and provide grid services [with focus on smaller scale (BTM) solar]
  - Storage
  - Demand Response
  - Buildings Controls
  - Electric Vehicles
- Leverage innovative compensation mechanisms and flexible interconnection approaches
- Grid services by BTM solar co-located with other DER through innovative approaches for smart control and optimization technologies

## 2014 SETO/SI SHINES Program

- Consist of the solar PV plant and energy storage
- utilize smart inverters
- Be capable of operating in conjunction with smart loads (such as optimized operation of HVAC systems and other appliances),
- Enable demand response
- Incorporate solar and load forecasting into decisions
- Be interoperable internally and externally using standard protocols that satisfy communication and control capabilities
- Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)
  - highly competitive programs that encourage domestic small businesses to engage in Federal Research/Research and Development with the potential for commercialization

## **Summary**

- Grid is facing challenges in lower inertia, more uncertainties, and more distributed participation, shifting to a new paradigm responsive, adaptive, and scalable
- Grid integration of emerging resources is a system challenge and needs a system approach. All resources (solar, wind, buildings, etc.) can help, forming an energy ecosystem
- Control (in a broad sense) is at the core for grid integration, but also needs advancements in data, analytics, and hardware
- Solar+X has lots to offer to grid flexibility, reliability, and resilience (though how to manage and control the large number of devices is a challenge)