

# ACEEE Market Transformation Conference

## ZNE Buildings and the Grid: *Least Cost Pathways for Every Building*

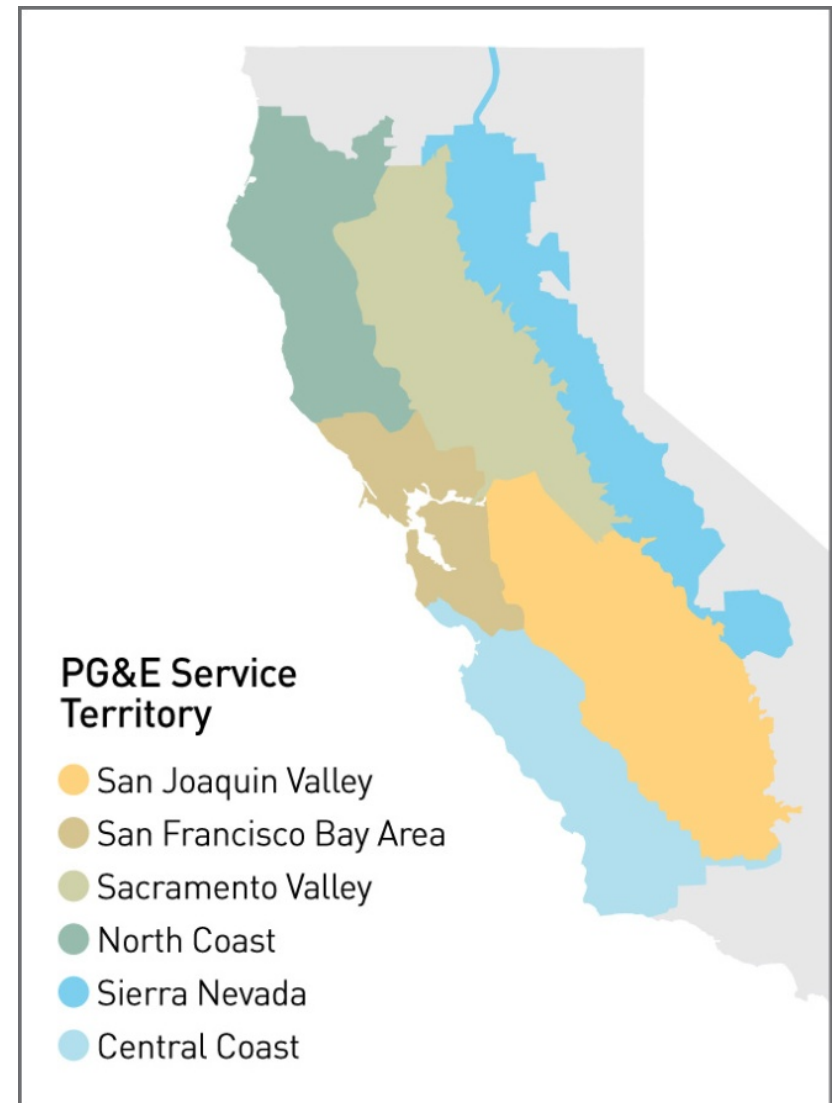
Peter Turnbull, Principal, PG&E



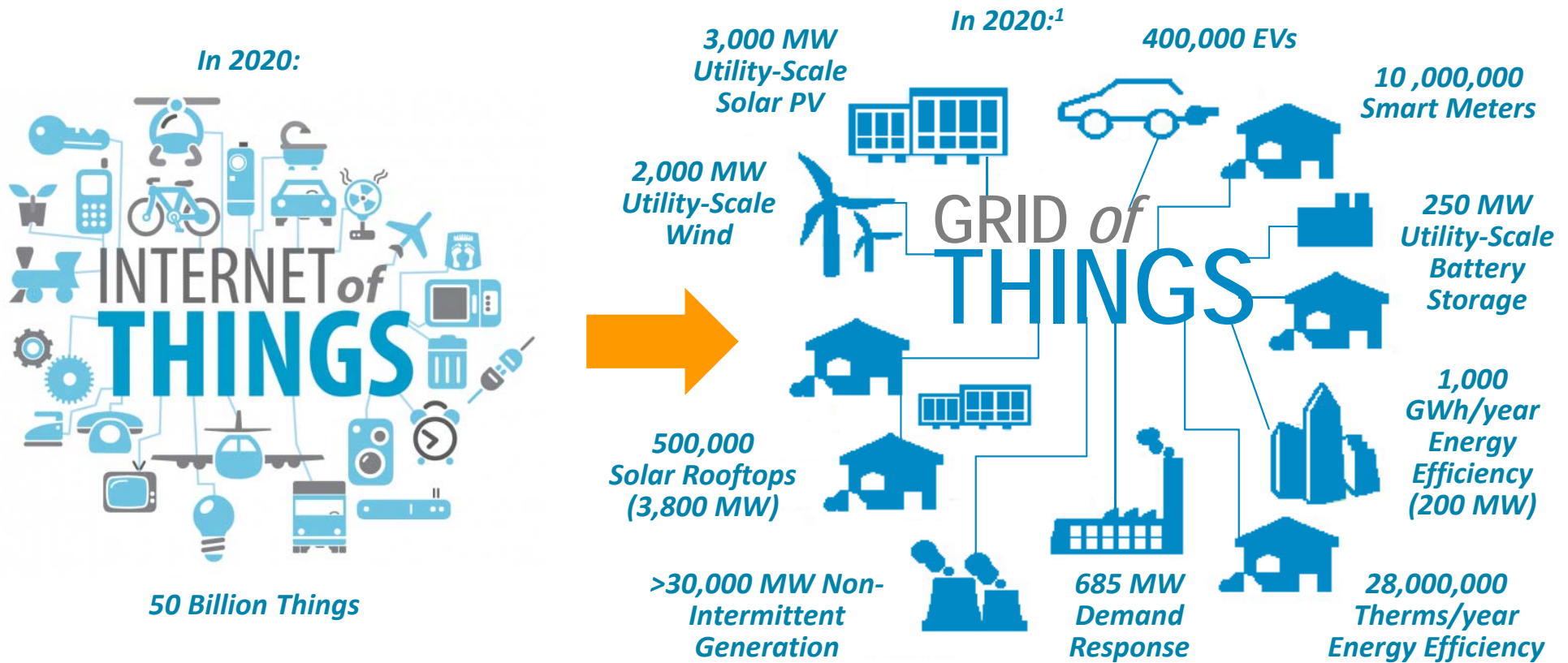
April 22, 2015



**Our mission:**  
*To provide safe, reliable, cost-effective, and clean gas and electric service to the 15 million residents of Northern and Central California we serve*

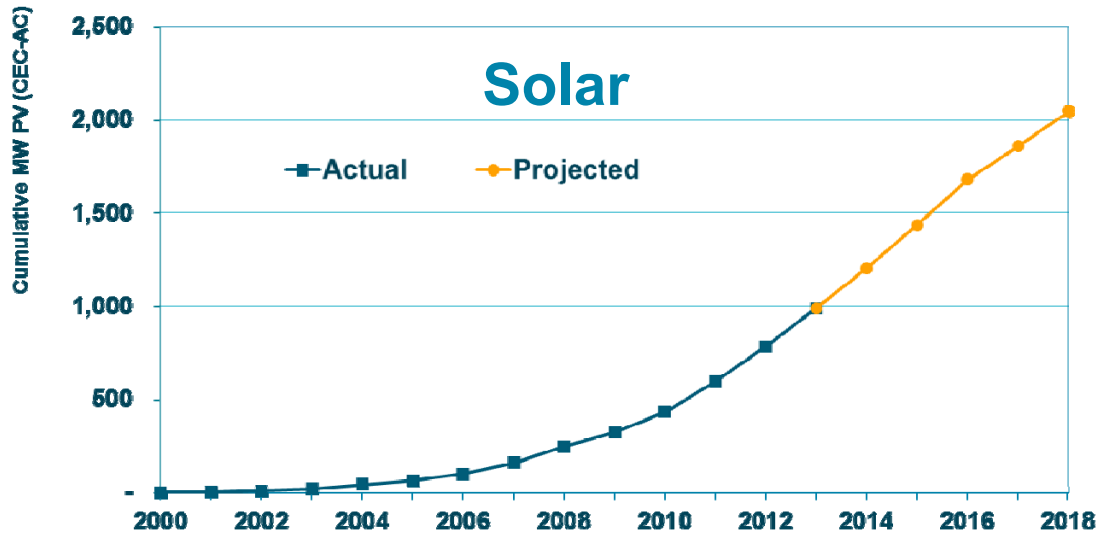


The Grid of Things: the always there, always on platform that enables all the products and services customers need to engage with and use energy



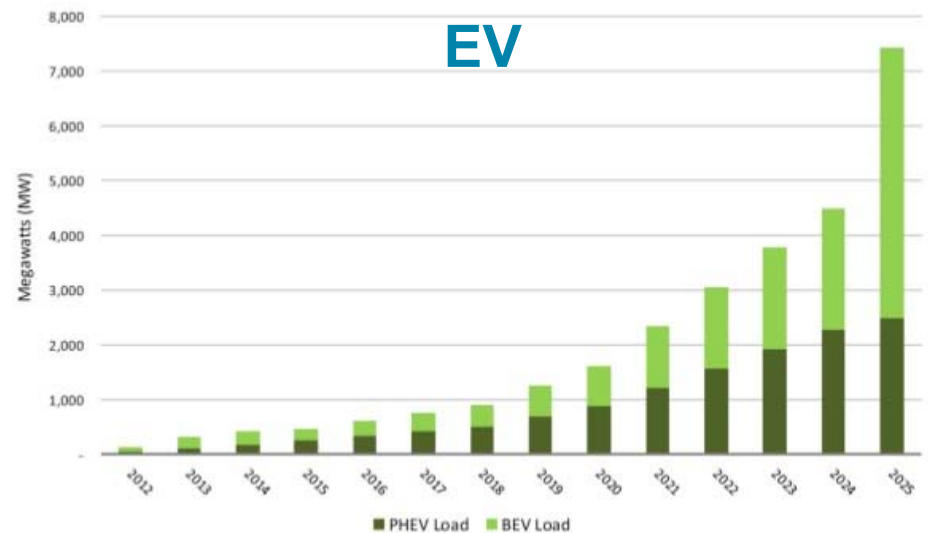
<sup>1</sup> Grid facts represent PG&E-specific, internal 2020 estimates for items in PG&E's service territory, excepting: 1) utility-scale solar and wind amounts, which include all resources under or expected to be under contract to PG&E in 2020; 2) utility-scale battery storage amounts, which use PG&E's transmission and distribution storage targets resulting from Assembly Bill 2514, assuming projects come online 2-3 years after the date procured; 3) energy efficiency estimates, which are based on 2014 PG&E goals; and 4) non-intermittent generation in PG&E's territory, which is sourced from the California Energy Commission's Energy Almanac ([http://www.energyalmanac.ca.gov/powerplants/Power\\_Plants.xlsx](http://www.energyalmanac.ca.gov/powerplants/Power_Plants.xlsx)).

Capacity of Solar PV Interconnected with PG&E's Grid



PG&E is adding about 4,000 customer-side solar systems per month, and has over 150,000 installations

Forecast Load Growth from Electric Vehicles in California





## **Key Points—Three Important ZNE Cost Considerations**

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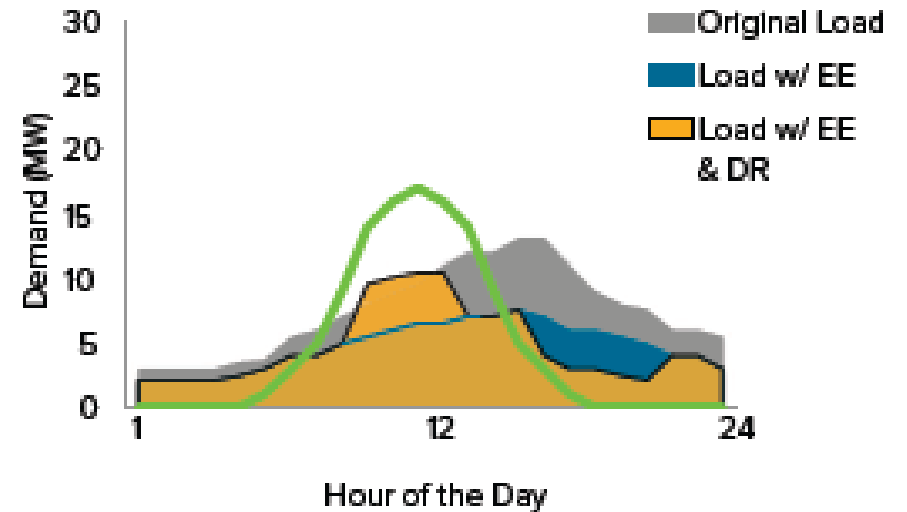
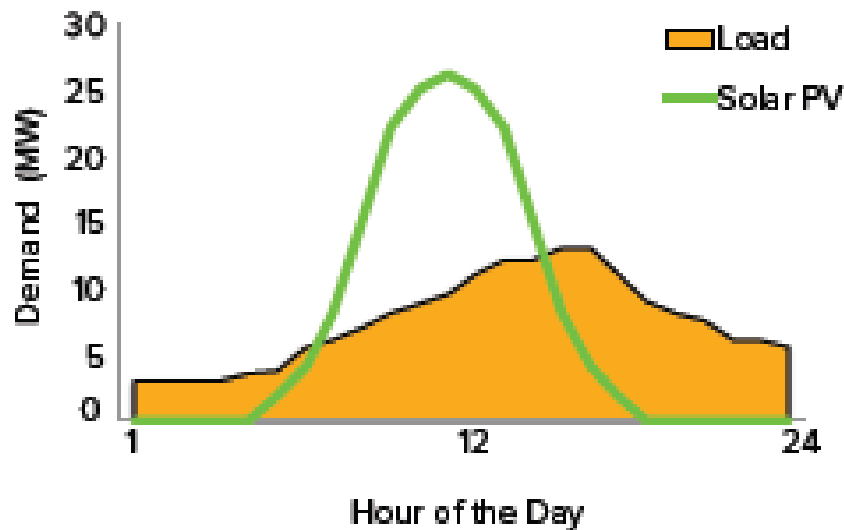
- **Least cost, efficient building design matters to the grid and to society.**
- **The cost/configuration of renewables matters the same way**
- **The cost of grid integration likewise matters**

***We need careful attention to least cost approaches in all three areas to succeed “at scale”***



Solar PV

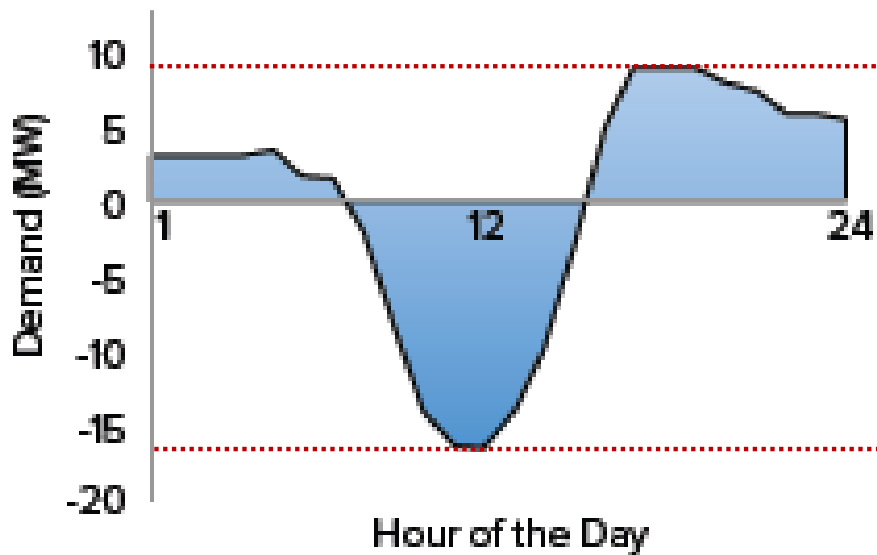
Energy Efficiency, Demand Response, then Solar PV



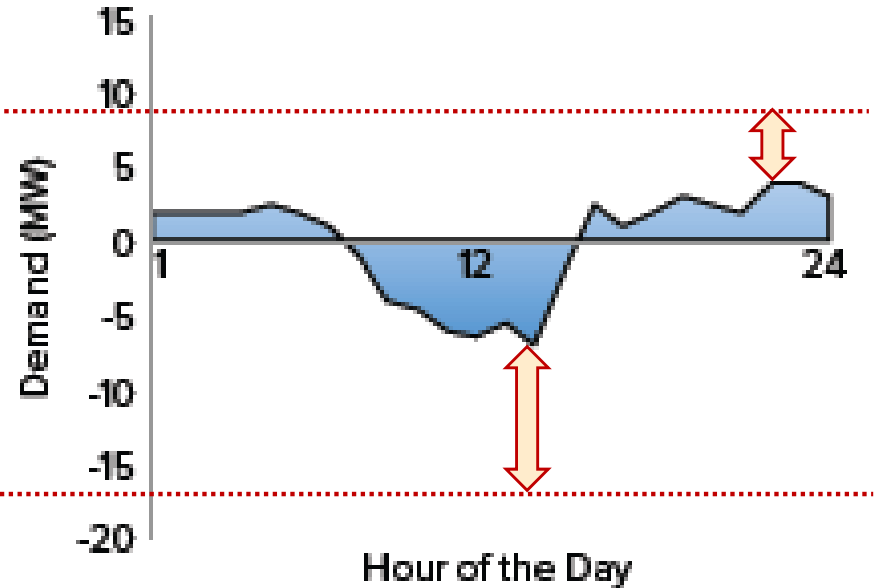
# A Tale of 2 Buildings (credit to RMI)

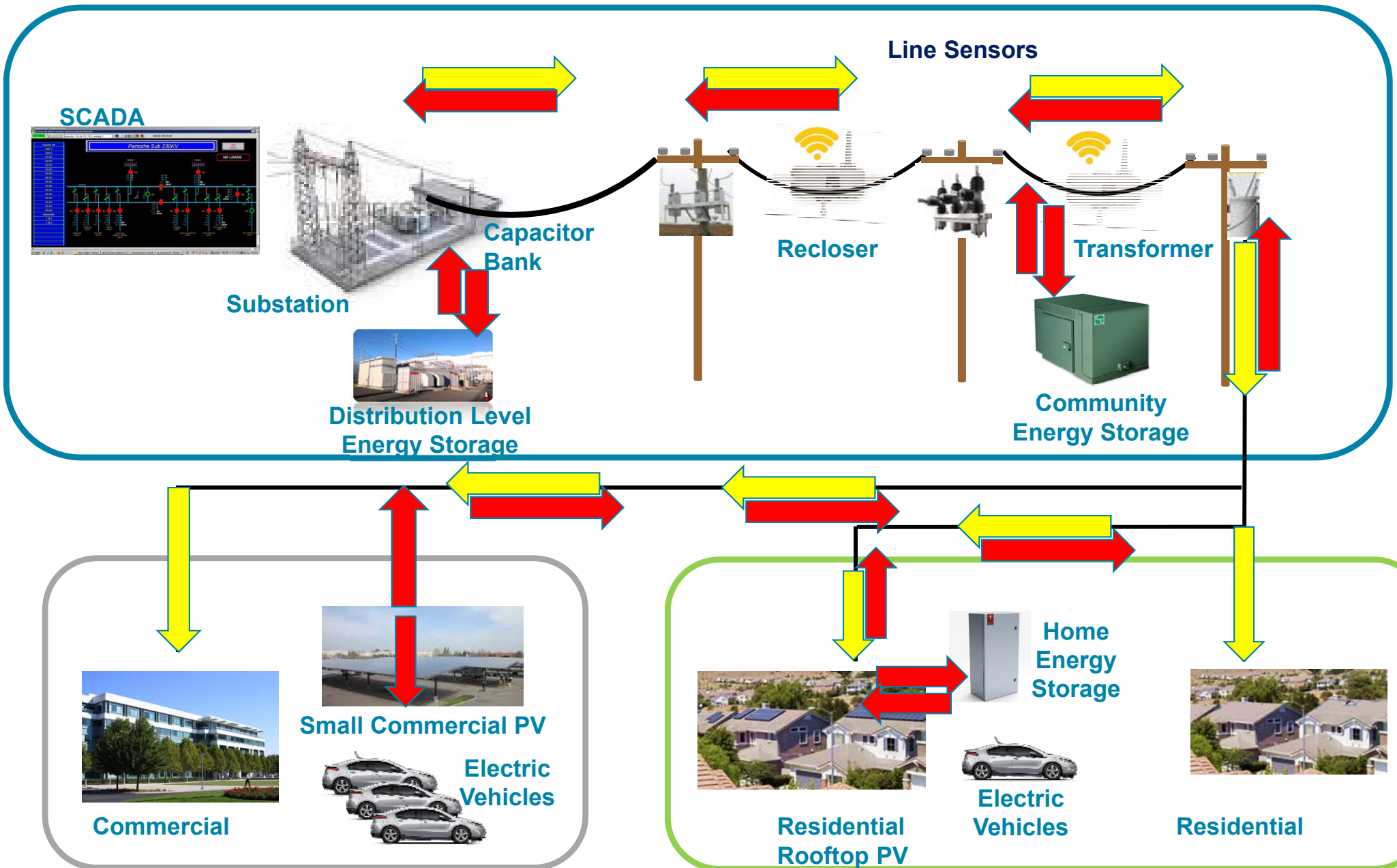


Solar PV



Energy Efficiency, Demand Response, then Solar PV









# Process Steps to ZNE

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- **Set Targets Up-front**
- **Design to the Targets**
- **Build to the Design (no “de”-value engineering)**
- **Monitor, diagnose, correct, validate**



# Process Steps to ZNE

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- Set Targets Up-front
- Design to the Targets
- Build to the Design (no “de”-value engineering)
- Monitor, diagnose, correct, validate

## Key: Integrated Design

The building shell, the lighting system and the mechanical system all “talk to” each other

Take advantage of what’s available at the site  
“for free”—orientation, weather

*The Great Figure*

Among the rain  
and lights  
I saw the figure 5  
in gold  
on a red  
firetruck  
moving  
tense  
unheeded  
to gong clangs  
siren howls  
and wheels rumbling  
through the dark city.

--William Carlos Williams



**What he really meant:**

**If electric only: 5 kWh/sf/yr**

**In kBtu/sf/yr: 16-22 is the range to shoot for**

**This is without the addition of renewables**

# Richardsville Elementary (Kentucky)

Owner – Warren County Schools

Building Occupied – 2010

72,285 sf, 500 students

Total Construction Cost - \$14,927,000

Total Cost/sf - \$206.50

Solar PV Size – 348 kW

Performance EUI: 18 kBtu/sf yr



Kenneth L. Seibert, PE, LEED AP  
President, CMTA Inc.



**Sacred Heart Lower and Middle School, Atherton CA**  
84,000 sf on 10 acres

**Stevens Library 6,300 sf**  
**Target: low energy at low cost**

**Living Building Challenge Petal targets: Water and Energy**  
**LEED Platinum submission**  
**PG&E Net Zero Pilot Project**  
**PG&E Case Study**

**Great daylighting story**

**Strongly positive (net)**  
**large solar array serving additional buildings**

**Performance EUI: 16-17 kBtu/sf/yr**



# What About Incremental Cost?

## Let's look at some northern California Library projects . . .

### Costs Comparisons for Recently Completed Libraries in California

Date: 11/8/2013

Library	Gilroy Library*1	West Berkeley Library	Pico Branch Library*2	Berkeley Claremont Branch library *3	Berkeley North branch *4	Berkeley South Branch *5
ZNE (zero net energy)	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
LEED	Gold	Gold*	Platinum*	Silver	Silver	Silver
New/ Remodel	New	New	New	Remodel/ addition	Remodel/ addition	New
Completion Date	April, 2012	Dec-13	early 2014	2012	2012	May,2013
Area (sf)	52,600	9,399	8,690	7,800	9,900	8,700
Estimate	\$18,200,000	\$7,500,000	\$6,900,000	\$3,230,000	\$4,560,000	\$4,300,000
Bid	\$18,177,226	\$5,500,000	\$6,915,020	\$3,300,000	\$4,360,000	\$4,963,000
Final Construction costs	\$19,200,000	N/A	\$7,278,020	\$4,600,000	\$5,900,000	\$5,000,000
costs/sf	\$365	\$585.17	\$837.52	\$589.74	\$595.96	\$574.71



## Communications “Imperatives” to Reach ZNE at Scale

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- **Integrated design**
  - Taking advantage of what’s available “for free”
  - Reducing loads with shell and equipment improvements
  - Using integrated design to pay passionate attention to the needs of the occupants
- **ZNE (and high performance) buildings are better places for occupants**
  - Daylight and occupant delight
  - Health benefits—better space conditioning
- **ZNE is achievable within typical construction budgets for like facilities in a given area**
  - West Berkeley Public Library
  - Kentucky schools example



## **Summary Points and “Takeaways”**

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- **Technical feasibility of ZNE no longer in doubt**
- **Target setting up front is essential**
- **Integrated design is essential**
- **“Least cost” matters for**
  - Building design and construction
  - Renewables procurement
  - Grid integration
- **Lots of examples are popping up all over the country**
- **ZNE can be achieved for within typical construction costs for a given building type in given area**